



Win A  
**FREE**

# NIGHTHAWK 12-GAUGE

SHOTGUN & ACCESSORIES PACKAGE VALUED AT **\$2,628**

**SHOTS**  
MAGAZINE

# GUNS

MAGAZINE

\$4.95  
OUTSIDE U.S.  
\$7.95  
**JANUARY**  
2011

**COLT'S NEW AGENT**

**COLT**  
**A.45ACP**  
**FOR THE NEXT**  
**100 YEARS**

**DS ARMS**  
**FN/FAL**  
**PARATROOPER**  
**.308**

**SIG SAUER**  
**P250 2SUM**  
**2-IN-1**  
**9mm**

**SURPLUS VALUE**  
**YUGO M24/47 & M48**  
**MAUSER 7.92x57mm**

**2-SHOT**  
**ADVANTAGE**  
**EAA'S .45-70**  
**DOUBLE RIFLE**

**SPECIAL GEAR**

- AIMPOINT MICRO DOT
- SUPPRESSORS
- LIGHTS & TECH TOOLS
- LEATHERMAN MUT
- ARMALITE SPR-1





MADE IN U.S.A.



**YOU FIRED  
FROM HERE.**

**THE ENEMY SWEARS  
YOU FIRED FROM WAY  
← OVER THERE.**



Muzzle blast impairs or destroys hearing and mission-critical communications. Flash and dust signature can give away your position, drawing enemy fire. With a SureFire suppressor all these factors are minimized—significantly—to increase operator lethality. And at only 5 inches—adding just 2.75 inches to your weapon—and 14 ounces, the new SureFire MINI won't bog down your weapon. It also offers negligible shift in point of impact from unsuppressed zero, attaches/detaches in seconds, and with its high-temp alloys and redundant welds, it will typically outlast the barrel it's attached to.

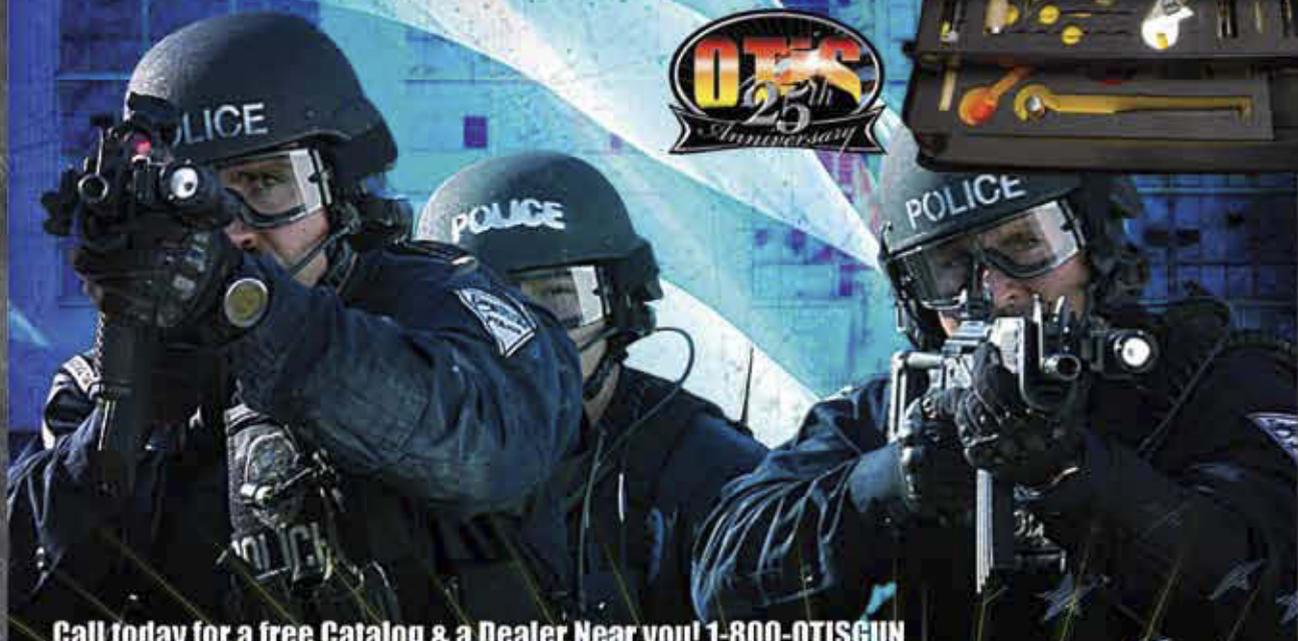


See the video at: [www.surefire.com/ReinventingtheSuppressor](http://www.surefire.com/ReinventingtheSuppressor)

# THE MOTHER OF ALL GUN CLEANING KITS!

## THE ARMORER'S TOOL CASE

The Armorer's Tool Case properly services every firearm in existence today including the M4, M16, M240B, M249SAW, MK19 and all shotguns and service pistols. The Case includes the needed disassembly and maintenance tools for full gun care no matter how remote your armoring station may be. For 25 years, no matter what you fight with, OTIS makes a kit to clean it. See [www.otisgun.com](http://www.otisgun.com) for full contents!



Call today for a free Catalog & a Dealer Near you! 1-800-OTISGUN

### THE MOST ADVANCED GUN CARE SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD!

# OTIS

OTIS TECHNOLOGY, INC.

OTIS TECHNOLOGY, INC. 6987 LAURA ST. LYONS FALLS, NY 13368 (800) OTIS-GUN (315) 348-4332 FAX [WWW.OTISGUN.COM](http://WWW.OTISGUN.COM)

© Pyramont GMC 2002

# GUNS

MAGAZINE

**JANUARY 2011**  
Vol. 57, Number 1, 662th Issue

**84!** ENTER TO  
**WIN!**



**SHOTGUN AND ACCESSORIES  
PACKAGE VALUED OVER  
\$2,628!**

## COLUMNS

- 6** CROSSFIRE  
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**
- 8** MONTANA MUSINGS  
**MIKE "DUKE" VENTURINO**
- 10** HANDLOADING  
**JOHN BARSNESS**
- 14** RIFLEMAN  
**DAVE ANDERSON**
- 18** RIMFIRES  
**HOLT BODINSON**
- 20** UP ON ARs  
**GLEN ZEDIKER**
- 24** RANGING SHOTS™  
**CLINT SMITH**
- 26** HANDGUNS  
**MASSAD AYOOB**
- 64** KNIVES  
**PAT COVERT**
- 66** VIEWS, NEWS & REVIEWS  
**RIGHTS WATCH: DAVID CODREA**
- 86** ODD ANGRY SHOT  
**JOHN CONNOR**
- 90** CAMPFIRE TALES  
**JOHN TAFFIN**

**24!**



**8**



**34!**



**66**



## DEPARTMENTS

- 28** SURPLUS LOCKER™  
**HOLT BODINSON**
- 34** OUT OF THE BOX™  
**AIMPOINT MICRO SIGHTS**
- 38** QUESTIONS & ANSWERS  
**JEFF JOHN**
- 76** QUARTERMASTER  
**FEATURING GUNS ALLSTARS!**  
THIS MONTH:  
• **JOHN CONNOR**
- 80** GUNS CLASSIFIEDS
- 82** NEW PRODUCTS
- 84** GUN OF THE MONTH
- 88** AD INDEX

GUNS Magazine (ISSN 1044-6257) is published monthly by Publishers' Development Corporation, 12345 World Trade Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Diego, CA and at additional mailing offices. SUBSCRIPTIONS: One year (12 issues) \$24.95. Single monthly copies, \$4.95. CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Eight weeks notice required on all changes. Send old address as well as new. SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS: For immediate action write GUNS Magazine, Attention: Circulation Dept., 12345 World Trade Drive, San Diego, CA 92128 or call (858) 605-0250. CONTRIBUTORS submitting manuscripts, photographs or drawings do so at their own risk. Material cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. PAYMENT will be made at rates current at time of publication and will cover reproduction in any or all GUNS Magazine editions. ADVERTISING RATES furnished on request. Reproduction or use of any portion of this magazine in any manner, without written permission is prohibited. All rights reserved. Title to this publication passes to subscriber only on delivery to his address. The opinions and recommendations expressed by individual authors within this magazine are not necessarily those of Publishers' Development Corporation. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to GUNS Magazine®, ATTN: Circulation Dept., 12345 World Trade Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. Copyright © 2010 by Publishers' Development Corporation.

# 44



**ON THE COVER**  
**COLT'S**  
**NEW AGENT**  
**.45 DAO**



PHOTO: ROBBIE BARRKMAN

# 50



## FEATURES

### 40 MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

The SIG 2SUM 2-guns-in-1 kit offers fascinating options.

**MASSAD AYOOB**

### 44 COLT'S NEW AGENT .45 DAO

The next 100 years starts right here, right now!

**JOHN TAFFIN**

### 50 ALL THINGS SUBLIME

EAA's .45-70 Sabati Double Rifle.

**ROY HUNTINGTON**

### 56 NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

About lightweight hunting rifles.

**JOHN BARSNESS**

### 60 FN/FAL PARATROOPER

DS Arms SA58 .308.

**MIKE "DUKE" VENTURINO**

NEW ONLINE EXTRAS ONLY AT  
[WWW.GUNSMAGAZINE.COM](http://WWW.GUNSMAGAZINE.COM)

SEE WHAT YOU'RE MISSING  
IN THE 2011 GUNS ANNUAL!

### SABRE DEFENCE

M4 CARBINE XR15A3

**PAT CASCIO**

# 40

PHOTO: JOSEPH R. NOVELOZO



Go to:

[www.gunsmagazine.com/productindex](http://www.gunsmagazine.com/productindex) for complete product info and manufacturer's links for products featured in FMG magazines!

**WARNING:** FIREARMS ARE DANGEROUS AND IF USED IMPROPERLY MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. DUE TO THE INHERENT VARIABLES IN THE RELOADING OF AMMUNITION, BE SURE TO VERIFY ANY PUBLISHED LOADS WITH MANUFACTURER'S DATA. PRODUCTS MENTIONED OR ADVERTISED MAY NOT BE LEGAL IN ALL STATES OR JURISDICTIONS. OBEY ALL FIREARMS LAWS. ALWAYS CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL GUNSMITH WHEN MODIFYING ANY FIREARM. BE A SAFE SHOOTER!

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Thomas von Rosen, CEO; Thomas Hollander, Randy Moldé, Marjorie Young

**PUBLISHER** Roy Huntington

**Editor** Jeff John  
**Managing Editorial Assistant** Stephanie Jarrell  
**Editorial Assistant** Amberly Dressler, Mckenzie Whitmer

**Art Director/Staff Photographer**

Joseph R. Novelozo

**Art Assistant** Jennifer Lewis

**Advertising Sales Director** Anita Carson

**Advertising Sales Assistant** Dana Hatfield

**Production Manager** Linda Peterson

**Website Manager** Lorinda Massey

**Promotions Coordinator** Elizabeth O'Neill

**CONTRIBUTING EDITORS**

John Taffin, Holt Bodinson, Dave Anderson,

Clint Smith, Massad Ayoob,

Mike "Duke" Venturino

**FIELD EDITORS**

Sam Fadala, David Codrea, John Morrison,

Glen Zediker, John Sheehan, Jacob

Gottfredson, Mike Cumpston, John Barsness,

Dave Douglas



**FMG PUBLICATIONS**

shootingindustry.com

**SHOOTING INDUSTRY**

**Publisher & Editor:** Russ Thurman

**Advertising:** Delano Amaguin, 888.732.6461

email: delano@shootingindustry.com



americancopmagazine.com

**Editor:** Suzi Huntington

**Advertising:** Denny Fallon, 800.426.4470

email: denny@americancopmagazine.com

**HANDGUNNER**

americanhandgunner.com

**Publisher & Editor:** Roy Huntington

**Advertising:** Steve Evatt, 800.533.7988

email: steve@americanhandgunner.com

**GUNS**

gunsmagazine.com

**Editor:** Jeff John

**Advertising:** Andrew Oram, 866.903.1199

email: andrew@gunsmagazine.com

**Special Editions**

fmgpublications.com

**Editor:** Sammy Reese

**Advertising:** Scott McGregor, 800.553.7780

email: scott@gunsmagazine.com

**ONLINE ADVERTISING MANAGER:** Tracy Moore,

TEL: 888.651.7566, FAX 858.605.0205

tracy@fmgpublications.com

**NATIONAL ADVERTISING:** 12345 World Trade Dr.,

San Diego, CA 92128, TEL: 866.972.4545, FAX 858.605.0211,

anita@shootingindustry.com

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:** Lori Robbins,

TEL: 800.633.8001, FAX 858.605.0247,

classads@fmgpublications.com

**FMG EAST COAST SALES:** Sig Buchmayr, Buchmayr &

Associates, 28 Great Hill Rd., Darien CT 06820,

TEL: 203.662.9740, sigbuch@optonline.net

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
www.gunsmagazine.com

**SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES** ..... 858.605.0252

Express Service ..... www.gunsmagazine.com and click "contacts"

**EDITORIAL** ..... 858.605.0243

Email: ..... ed@gunsmagazine.com

**PRODUCTION** ..... 858.605.0216

Email: ..... production@gunsmagazine.com

**BOOKS/MERCHANDISE** ..... 888.732.2299

Email: ..... rachel@fmgpublications.com

**General Counsel/Legal Affairs:** Steele N. Gillaspay

Email: ..... sng@g-glaw.com



PRODUCED IN THE U.S.A.

**GUNS Magazine**® welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit all published letters for clarity and length. Due to the volume of mail, we are unable to individually answer your letters or e-mail. In sending a letter to *GUNS Magazine*, you agree to provide Publisher's Development Corp. such copyright as is required for publishing and redistributing the contents of your letter in any format. Send your letters to *Crossfire*, *GUNS Magazine*, 12345 World Trade Dr., San Diego, CA 92128; www.gunsmagazine.com; e-mail: ed@gunsmagazine.com

### F-100

November's Campfire Tales "We Walk Among Heroes" by John Taffin was a fine tribute to a deserving man, but in the interest of accuracy I must submit the following: The Bell P-39 was the Airacobra rather than the Air Cobra, and the F-100 was the Super Saber, the Lightning was the Lockheed P-38. Please accept these as technical corrections and in no way meant to detract from or denigrate John or the memory of Robert Flagg.

Frederick Fass CMsgt, USAF,  
Ret'd  
Denton, TX

*Thank you sir. I was sure I remembered it as the Lightning from my childhood. When I was in the 8th grade in 1951 our textbook had a story on the P-38 Lightning. Bet you can't find such a thing in any public school textbook today! Good shootin' and God bless—John Taffin*

### Taffin On The Mend

*John Taffin had a near-brush with death near the end of September. Thankfully, he survived and is at home getting better. —Jeff John*

In John's own words:

"On Thursday, Sept. 23 I got up at six for a fun day shooting with a 7x57, .32 Marlin levergun and .41 Magnum levergun. At the gun show the previous Saturday John French gave me an old box of 175-grain RN 7x57s and my friend Denis and I were going to shoot them through a Win. M70 and a Ruger No. 1 to see which did the best.

I came out of the bathroom dressed—and then it hit me. Excruciating pain in what seemed to me my back and throat. Normally I would tough it out but this was so bad and I was so dizzy I told Dot she'd better call 911.

I do not recall arriving at the hospital so they must have already had me out. The operation took almost six hours. The artery to the aorta had split. The doc told me later if I had not come in immediately, I would have died. I spent three days in ICU and then three more days resting up, and was released. I was told not to

do anything physical for 2-3 months, as it will take that long for the split sternum bone to heal, so probably around Christmas I'll ease back into some light work. I have done the shooting for several articles so I can write, but no shooting anything bigger than a .22 for the rest of the year.

Over 30 people came to visit me in the hospital, and I have a long list of phone calls and e-mails to return. A chaplain and his group in Iraq are praying for me, my kids and grandkids went to the hospital several times, and of course, there she always is, Diamond Dot.

I am thankful for all the support and all the wonderful young nurses—male and female!—assistants and therapists who took care of me while I was in the hospital, and especially my great doctor, without whom I would no longer be alive. Right now, I'm just home (Sept. 29th) and am terribly tired, as no gets any rest in a hospital! I'm on the way back.

Good Shootin' and God Bless, John T."

*If you want to drop John a note, send it to me at ed@gunsmagazine.com and I'll send it along to him.—Jeff John*

### Gifts To Our Troops

I just finished John's article on Christmas gifts for our troops and it really hit home to me. I want to do something for an unknown (to me) soldier, but how do I go about doing this? I think I would like to send a package to a Marine serving in Afghanistan, I guess, but am open to suggestions. I always say I have a real good life and I have only one regret. I never served in our military and the older I get the more regretful I become. I would like to do something and a nice Christmas package to a total stranger seems to be the least I could do.

Christopher P Rosati  
Toms River, NJ

*Nope; didn't forget—problem is never enough room. There are lots of good soldiers/vets charities and programs. One excellent one is www.anysoldier.com. It has expanded to "any SOLDIER," "any MARINE," etc.—John Connor*

# WITNESS PURE PLEASURE

## **Witness Match**

Barrel-4.75"  
Width-1.4"  
OAL-8.75"  
Weight-33 oz  
Custom Shop Built,  
Over Travel Stop, Extended  
Safety & Mag Release  
\$667 MSRP  
9mm, .38 Sup., .40 S&W,  
.45 ACP, 10mm

## **Witness Limited**

Barrel-4.75"  
Width-1.4"  
OAL-9"  
Weight-37 oz.  
Drilled & Tapped for Optics,  
Adjustable Rear Sight  
\$1,288 MSRP  
9mm, .38 Sup., .40 S&W,  
.45 ACP, 10mm

## **Witness Elite Gold Team**

Barrel-5.25"  
Width-1.4"  
OAL-10.5"  
Weight-44 oz.  
12 Hole Porting System, Optics  
Ready - Drilled & Tapped,  
Polygonal Barrel  
\$2002 MSRP  
9mm, .38 Sup.,  
.40 S&W, .45 ACP

ENJOY SPORT SHOOTING LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

Take a trip to the range for a pleasurable shooting sports day with your EAA Tanfoglio Witness pistol. Each Witness Pistol is designed for reliability, accuracy, comfort and the maximum shooting pleasure. You will want to shoot all day just because they are fun to hold, feel great in your hand and are consistent from shot to shot to shot. Learn why Tanfoglio Pistols have won the World Shoot for the last several years. Get an EAA Tanfoglio Witness Pistol and enjoy your range time and discover what the pros know.

Witness Tanfoglio Pistols from EAA for pure pleasure, fun and winning.

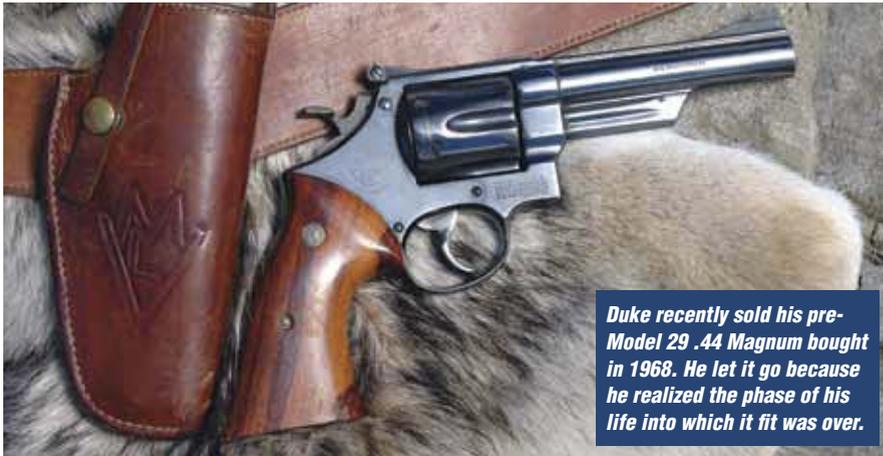
If your dealer cannot get you an EAA Witness, have them contact us directly at 321-639-4842 or write us at: EAA Corp., P.O. Box 560746, Rockledge, Florida 32956

EUROPEAN **EAA** CORP  
AMERICAN ARMORY CORPORATION

Log on to see it all.  
[www.eaacorp.com](http://www.eaacorp.com)

# MONTANA MUSINGS

• MIKE "DUKE" VENTURINO • PHOTOS YVONNE VENTURINO



*Duke recently sold his pre-Model 29 .44 Magnum bought in 1968. He let it go because he realized the phase of his life into which it fit was over.*

## A GUN GUY'S LIFE PHASES Growing in both hobby and sport.

**R**ecently I sold a handgun in my possession for more than 43 years. It was a Smith & Wesson (pre-Model 29) .44 Magnum. Why let something like that go? Because it hadn't been fired in many years. Its primary purpose in my youth had been as a sidearm when much of my horseback activities were in the grizzly bear habitat north of Yellowstone National Park. A good friend who will actively use that big revolver wanted it and the realization finally dawned on me the phase of my life into which it fit was over. I would never roam around the mountains of Montana on horseback again. That handgun went to a better home than I was giving it.

In a way the above sounds sad. It is not. I've realized my life as a shooter has been comprised of many such phases. Age, health, and not the least of all economics, have been factors in those phases. For instance, the area I grew up in had little in the way of rifle shooting or big-game hunting tradition. Therefore, as soon as I was issued a driver's license much of my time was spent at the local gun club where pistol target shooting reigned. Therefore, two of my early handguns were a Ruger Mark I .22 LR target semi-auto pistol and a Smith & Wesson K38 revolver. Soon after buying that second handgun, I saw it was necessary to also become a handloader and a bullet caster. Otherwise economics made it absolutely impossible for me

to achieve any degree of skill with a centerfire handgun. Therefore, when other boys my age were sitting in front of a TV watching ball games, I was sitting in front of a lead pot or reloading press building .38 Special



*Just a few years back if anyone had told Duke he would be handloading for the 7.92mm Kurz round to fit in a World War II German MP44 he would have called them crazy. Now he is because it fits in this phase of his shooting life.*

ammunition.

Searching for the utmost in firearms freedom, life drew me to Montana, where it was not only possible to own guns, but also to actively take them outdoors and use them. Thus began another phase of my shooting life both in regard to varmint and big-game hunting. Because shooting meant more to me than the actual hunting, I tried to experience as many suitable rifles as possible for those endeavors.

I learned the various small-capacity .222/.223 cartridges were better for me than the big ones like .220 Swift or .25-06. And in big-game hunting, I wasn't prone to try flinging bullets out to long range. Therefore, a .308 Winchester or .30-06 found favor with me much better than one of the big magnums. I also learned that although I was never a very good hunter, just getting a critter in my scope and shooting it got rather boring.

That's when the firearms of the 19th century grew so attractive. Not only did using the big, single-shots and leverguns of the late 1800s put spice back into hunting, but also figuring out the intricacies of making ammunition for those fascinating and long obsolete calibers hooked me. Time spent at the reloading bench had never seemed onerous so all the case forming, bullet casting, and even paper patching chores were labors of love.

To that end, a couple dozen modern bolt-action rifles were sold, with only a Remington Model 700 .222 Remington Magnum and custom-stocked Winchester Model 70 Featherweight .308 sticking. In

their places came original and replica Winchester leverguns, Sharps and Remington single shots and even military trapdoor Springfield .45-70s and .50-70s. All were put to use in hunting big game, some even in Africa. Not as many hunting days were successful as with scoped rifles but there was “spice” in it again.

Then in 1984 and 1985, I was, respectively, invited to my first cowboy-action event and the very first experimental NRA Black Powder Cartridge Rifle (BPCR) Silhouette match. Both types of shooting—the first fast and flashy and the second slower and geared to precision—hooked me. The first provided a purpose to use many of the Old West firearms I owned anyway. The second dictated that we BPCR hunters refine our rifles and ammunition if we actually intended to hit those distant metallic silhouettes.

In my passage through life I’ve managed at different times to break both my right ankle and my right kneecap. Along with normal aging (I’ll soon be eligible for social security), those injuries and a lifelong battle with weight have contributed to less interest in physically trying pursuits. No longer do I climb the ridge behind



**One phase of his shooting life Duke thinks will never end is competition in the NRA’s BPCR Silhouette game. He has been in it literally since its very first day and always plans to participate.**

my house every afternoon in hunting season. Nor do I care to stand out in the heat at a cowboy-action match, not to mention running about from firing position to firing position during a stage. The fact that 3/4 of a BPCR Silhouette match entails laying prone on a shooting mat and firing over cross sticks is very enticing nowadays. I doubt if that phase of my shooting life ever ends.

History was always my best subject in school and being a “baby-boomer” I grew up when World War II was still fresh in peoples’ minds. Studying the history of that conflict has been a

lifelong pursuit for me. As with many people my age, as physical infirmities became worse, one’s economic position became better. That along with selling off BPCRs meant for hunting and some of my “cowboy” arsenal enabled my most recent firearms phase. That is amassing a “shooting collection” of WWII’s major combatant nations’ most significant weapons. To that end, I’ve added literally scores of vintage military firearms to my gun vault. These make a fascinating field of study, so whenever a type of gun is bought so are books pertaining to it.

A mere few years back if anyone had told me I would actively be handloading for a Japanese 8mm Nambu semi-auto pistol, or a Soviet SVT40 7.62x54mm semi-auto rifle or a German 7.92x33mm Kurz MP44 select-fire “assault rifle” I would have deemed them nuts. Now I’m happily doing so.

Therefore, the realization dawned on me the evolution of one’s shooting-life phases aren’t bad. What is good is that new phases keeps one’s mind and interests active. And active I am, even if it’s not the same type of active as climbing up the ridge behind the house, as I was prone to do a couple decades back.

**GUNS**

# SXP™ FAST. FASTER. AND FASTEST.

Fast on the target. Faster follow-through. Fastest cycling pump ever.



Super X® Pump Black Shadow



Super X® Pump Defender

**WINCHESTER**  
REPEATING ARMS

Winchester is a registered trademark of Olin Corporation

[winchesterguns.com](http://winchesterguns.com)

# HANDLOADING

• JOHN BARSNESS •

## SAVING TIME AND MOTION Load more efficiently and shoot even more.

**A** couple of years ago a friend of mine named Jay decided to buy an electronic powder scale/powder dispenser, primarily to help him load the 1,000-odd rounds of .223 ammunition he shoots every year at prairie dogs. He figured the e-scale would save a bunch of time.

After figuring out how to get the machine going, he started loading brass. The first thing he noticed was the e-scale took more time than his powder measure to dispense each 25-grain charge of powder. Most of the powder went into the pan quickly, but the machine slowed down as it neared the charge-weight.

That's OK, Jay thought, I'll seat the bullet while the next case is being filled. Even then he had to wait a few seconds for the next case to fill with powder, and it seemed like it took a lot longer to load the first 500 rounds than it usually did.

At that point, he decided to do a little timing and figuring. Even with seating a bullet while the next case filled, it took a little more than two hours and 45 minutes to fill 500 rounds with powder and seat the bullets.

### Old Way Faster

Then he timed how long it took to load each round the way he had before. It turned out each case could be filled with powder in an average of three seconds, and each bullet could be seated in an average of eight seconds. Thus doing it the old fashioned way saved an hour and 15 minutes when loading 500 rounds.

"I also had to re-zero and set the electronic scale each time it got used," he told me. "That took about the same amount of time it took me to set my powder measure." Jay still has his e-scale, but only uses it for weighing cast bullets, since for that use it is quicker than his beam scale.

He also uses the new scale when loading 20 rounds of .270 Winchester

ammo for the upcoming deer and elk season. When loading only a few rounds the e-scale is definitely more convenient than the powder measure, especially since Jay still uses the old-fashioned, large-kernelled H4831 that's notoriously cantankerous in powder measures. (He bought an



*This loading room is very neat and organized because it's the loading room at the Western Powders ballistic laboratory, where Keith Anderson can't afford to waste time looking for anything.*

8-pound keg on sale a few years ago.)

In 2007 I visited a huge optics factory that had just spent a good chunk of money on a time-and-motion study. The study found dozens of ways the factory wasted time. One of the biggest was due to various parts being scattered all over the plant, requiring long carting distances to the final assembly room. This required

extra hours of pay for the cart drivers and more maintenance on the electric carts. The factory rearranged its machinery so the parts ended up near the final assembly room, and in the first two months of operation saved enough money to pay for the study.

I don't load as much ammo as some people, but I load a very wide variety of ammo, due to experimenting for articles. When I started applying a little time-and-motion study to my own loading, it turned out I was wasting a lot of time looking for stuff, especially since some of the stuff was in the wrong place.

This didn't mean it was misplaced, but, for example, my loaded ammo shelves were near my loading bench, while the shelves of empty cases were across the room. When loading I need empty cases, while loaded ammo often sits for a few weeks or even months until it's used. So those items were switched around. Now the empty brass is stored right next to the presses, and the ammo across the room. Similarly, the powder is stored (in cheap coolers from Wal-Mart) right under the part of the bench where the powder scale and measure are located.

### Comparisons

Recently my wife Eileen started handloading, setting up her own loading bench. (She was always free to use mine, but often I was using it myself, due to an approaching deadline.) As a result she became interested in other loading rooms, and started taking photos of those of friends. Some are very austere and well-organized, while others have obviously been randomly filled with stuff over many years.

This often results in something very much like utter chaos, one reason it takes so long for some handloaders to get anything done. It can also result in spending extra money, because you can't find something you already have, so have to go out and buy more. I once spent \$50 for 100 rounds of new 7x57 brass, only to "discover" a few weeks later I already had 100 rounds of new 7x57 brass that had never made it into



# THAT'S SAVAGE ACCURACY.

When James Italiano of Mission Viejo, CA cuts the deck, he likes to show off a little bit. He uses his Savage Model 12 F-Class target rifle to split them edge-to-edge at 100 yards. Of course every one of our hunting guns has that Savage target-gun heritage built in; like the new Model 10 Predator Hunter Max 1 with AccuStock. This revolutionary system gives you the same stability and bedding of a target gun in a lightweight field gun. Best of all, it makes coyotes fold like a bad hand.

Card courtesy of James Italiano, Mission Viejo, CA



Model 10 Predator Hunter, Max-1



**Savage Arms**  
The Definition of Accuracy

savagearms.com savageaccuracy.com

the 7x57 box on my shelves. As with the factory time-and-motion study, an afternoon spent reorganizing will save far more time (and even money) in the long run.

### Really Necessary?

It also helps to analyze the steps that are truly necessary. After some testing, I quit cleaning primer pockets in handgun and rifle brass several years ago. Part of this was inspired by progressive presses, where primer pockets are never cleaned (unless, of course, the handloader is anal enough to spend extra time decapping primers and clean the pockets before running the cases through his time-saving press).

Carbon from primers builds up around the flash-hole, not the edge of the primer pocket where the legs of the primer anvil sit, and the flash-hole is automatically cleaned out during decapping. Now, if I were a competitive benchrest shooter, clean primer pockets might be a necessity, but I haven't noticed the slightest difference in my hunting loads.

Similarly, I only clean cases every few firings. Throwing them in the shaker doesn't take time, but taking them out and making sure each case



*This is not an untypical loading room, that's "evolved" over decades to its present state of utter chaos.*

is emptied of media does. If possible, I don't lube rifle cases either. I load more .22 Hornets than any other rifle round, since it's my favorite small-varmint cartridge. The Hornet's case, as with many older rounds, is tapered enough that turning a full-length die about 1/10" out of the press allows

partial sizing without lubing. This saves the time spent both in lubing and de-lubing each case.

I also quit "uniforming" brass for hunting rifles many years ago, except for (sometimes) sorting for uniform neck thickness. Deburring flash-holes and weight-sorting brass simply don't make any difference in anything less than a super-accurate target rifle.

Many handloaders also measure each case to find the ones that need trimming, then trim those as they load the ammo. When loading big batches, however, it's more efficient to set up a caliper as a snap-gauge, separating the too-long cases and trimming them all later in one session. (Another advantage of neck- or partial-sizing is that cases don't require trimming nearly as often.)

On the other hand, I've noticed many handloaders actually like "wasting" time. Uniforming brass, cleaning primer pockets, or loading ammo the slowest way possible all result in extra time in the loading room, away from the noise and chaos of everyday life—or the boredom of everyday retirement. If you're one of those handloaders, then you wasted time reading this, which might not be a bad thing. **GUNS**

INTRODUCING THE  
**ISSC M22**



22 LR CALIBER

RUGGED / ACCURATE  
**AUSTRIAN**



[WWW.ISSC-AUSTRIA.COM](http://WWW.ISSC-AUSTRIA.COM)  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ISSC-AUSTRIA](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ISSC-AUSTRIA)  
[WWW.TWITTER.COM/ISSCAUSTRIA](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/ISSCAUSTRIA)

# PERFECTION AND INTEGRITY

SINCE THE FIRST GLOCK PISTOLS WERE SOLD IN AMERICA  
25YRS AGO, WE HAVE WORKED CONSTANTLY TO  
PROVIDE A SUPERIOR PRODUCT AT A REASONABLE PRICE,  
WHILE DELIVERING WORLD RENOWNED  
CUSTOMER SERVICE.

PERFECTION: WE STRIVE FOR IT.

INTEGRITY: WE HAVE IT.

IT IS THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS, PERIOD.



PERFECTION

GLOCK, INC. SMYRNA, GA

# RIFLEMAN

• DAVE ANDERSON •

## ARMALITE SPR-1 The 1-piece COP scope rail forever ends the problem of scope mis-alignment.

**J**ust when you think there can't possibly be any more versions of the AR-style rifle someone comes up with a new idea. We've all seen AR uppers with round handguards (comfortable to handle and shoot) and with 4-way accessory rails (handy for hanging accessories on the rifle, but hard on the hands).

Of course if you don't mind the cost, you can always have a choice with completely assembled uppers in both styles, as uppers can be interchanged in seconds.

ArmaLite's new idea is an upper, which allows either handguard style on one assembly. The upper receiver and the top of the handguard are 1-piece forged alloy. An integral Picatinny-style sight rail runs from the back of the receiver to the front of the handguard.

ArmaLite calls the concept the "Continuous Optics Platform" (COP). Unlike other systems, in which part of the rail is on the receiver and part

attached to a separate handguard, the COP system can't be misaligned. Scope rings are always in alignment to eliminate any possibility of stress on the scope tube.

The three other "sides" of the handguard (left, right and bottom) are assembled around the handguard extension of the upper receiver. The barrel is free-floating, as it should be for best accuracy and consistency.

### Versatile

Using the components provided, you have the option of either accessory rails or smooth rails on the sides and bottom of the forearm, or



*The ArmaLite SPR Mod 1 has a top handguard extension integral with the upper receiver. A cleverly designed assembly system lets the shooter tailor the forearm to meet specific needs with either smooth or Picatinny rails.*

any combination of rails desired. You could, for example, have smooth rails on the sides, and an accessory rail on the bottom to attach (for example) a bipod or handgrip.

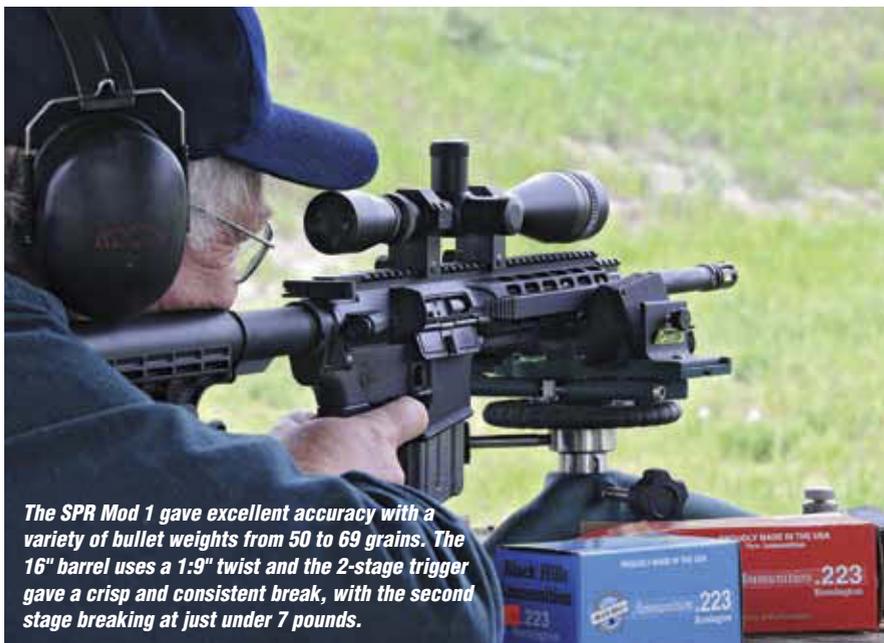
Each rail section is secured by a total of 12 heavy-duty Allen head screws (six on each side). Switching rails takes longer than just interchanging uppers on a lower receiver. Once I tried it a time or two, it took maybe 10 minutes to remove and replace all the rails. All components are very well made to close tolerances, with excellent parts fit.

For my own use, I like the smooth rails. They are more comfortable to hold while shooting offhand, and they don't have sharp edges to tear up my sandbags when shooting from the bench. For those who want or need to hang a variety of accessories on their rifle, the Picatinny rails offer lots of options.

### SPR MOD 1 KIT

*COP upper receiver with forward assist, port door, port door rod, barrel nut, two center inserts, three smooth and three Picatinny rails, two, 1/2-smooth, 1/2-Picatinny rails, 18 screws, Torx wrench.*

**RETAIL:**  
\$480



*The SPR Mod 1 gave excellent accuracy with a variety of bullet weights from 50 to 69 grains. The 16" barrel uses a 1:9" twist and the 2-stage trigger gave a crisp and consistent break, with the second stage breaking at just under 7 pounds.*

Sure Hits.  
When Others Strike Out.



THE TAURUS 800 SERIES  
FULL 9MM, .40 OR .45 CAL.  
POWER MEETS HIGH-END  
PERFORMANCE

With "Strike Two" capability, the Taurus 800 Series delivers the next evolution in semi-autos. Exclusive features include an external hammer, unique take down levers for quick field stripping, customizable backstraps and genuine Novak® sights. Pure performance in any situation.

[www.TaurusUSA.com](http://www.TaurusUSA.com)

**"Strike-Two" Capability.**

Industry-leading reliability that provides you with a second chance at striking a faulty round. No need to do anything else, just pull the trigger.



**NRA**

FREE one-year NRA membership with the purchase of any new Taurus firearm.



**TAURUS**

WORLD'S FOREMOST PISTOL MAKER™

# When you can't be there to protect her ...

At the shopping center, in the parking lot, at work, in her car or at home – there is a solution.

## Make sure she can protect herself

The new Concealed Carry for Ladies training course from Thunder Ranch offers a comprehensive look at concealed carry from a woman's perspective.

Expert instructor Heidi Smith presents her concepts on gun selection and carry options in an easy-to-follow, relaxed format.

What's the best way to carry a gun in a purse? How do you draw a gun from an ankle holster? What happens when a gun is fired at point blank range?

Heidi's range demonstrations, guided by husband Clint Smith, provide a complete picture on how to safely carry a concealed handgun, and draw and fire from several effective platforms.

Give that "special lady" in your life the tools she needs to protect herself when you're not around.

**NEW  
Special  
Offer!**

Two-disc set only  
**\$29.95**

Includes nearly two hours of video!



**CONCEALED CARRY**  
*For Ladies*

**THUNDER RANCH**  
TRAINING SERIES

**Ladies Basic Guide  
To Concealed Carry**  
From Firearms Training Experts  
**Clint & Heidi Smith**

DVD Two-Disk Set Includes:

- Mental Preparation Lecture
- Gun Choices
- Carry Options
- Drawing Technique

**FMG**  
© 2009 Publishers' Development Corp.



*"Although this may seem like a good concept, it isn't logical. I'll show you concealed carry options that make sense and will fit your lifestyle."*

~Heidi Smith

Order Today! (800) 628-9818 (M-F 8am-3pm PST) • [www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html)



**The ArmaLite SPR Mod 1 has a top handguard extension integral with the upper receiver. A cleverly designed assembly system lets the shooter tailor the forearm to meet specific needs with either smooth or Picatinny rails.**

Other than the clever upper receiver/handguard design the rifle is the well-proven ArmaLite SPR, which has been around for several years. It uses the standard operating system with direct gas impingement on the carrier.

### Trigger

The trigger pull is a 2-stage design. My first centerfire rifle, some 45 years ago was a Lee Enfield, so 2-stage pulls are familiar. The ArmaLite trigger requires about 3.5 pounds pressure to take up the smooth first stage, then broke crisply at just less than 7 pounds. It is crisp and consistent enough to permit good shooting, though a bit heavier than I personally prefer.

For accuracy testing I fitted a Leupold 6-18X VX-II scope using a set of Les Baer rings I had on hand. The ArmaLite's 1:9" twist barrel gave excellent accuracy with bullet weights from 50 to 69 grains (the heaviest I had available). Five-shot, 100-yard groups averaged around 1.2" for all loads tested.

The ArmaLite rifle proved completely reliable in the course of firing around 400 rounds. It's a very well-made, accurate and reliable rifle, one of the best in the highly competitive AR-style field.

### Kit, Too

Maybe you're thinking the COP upper receiver and versatile handguard options are a neat idea but you already have an AR-style rifle you like. ArmaLite has an option for you as well. Currently they are offering an SPR Mod 1 Kit. It includes the COP upper with forward assist and port door cover, barrel nut, three smooth and three Picatinny-style rails, plus two, 1/2-plain, 1/2-Picatinny rails and the appropriate mounting hardware and screws.

### SPR MODEL 1

**MAKER: ARMALITE, INC.**  
P.O. BOX 299, GENESEO, IL 61254  
(800) 336-0184, WWW.ARMALITE.COM

**CALIBER:**

5.56mm

**CAPACITY:**

30

**BARREL:**

16"

**UPPER/LOWER RECEIVERS:**

Forged 7075-T6 aluminum alloy

**SIGHTS:**

None, Continuous Optics Platform

**STOCK:**

Collapsible

**OVERALL LENGTH:**

32" (collapsed) 35.5"

**WEIGHT:**

6.5 pounds

**RETAIL:**

\$1,554

### 6-18X40 VX-II

**MAKER: LEUPOLD & STEVENS**  
1440 N.W. GREENBRIAR PKWY.  
BEAVERTON, OR 97006  
(503) 646-9171, WWW.LEUPOLD.COM

**OBJECTIVE:**

40mm

**TUBE DIAMETER:**

1"

**EYE RELIEF:**

4.7" (6X), 3.7" (18X)

**LENGTH OVERALL:**

13.5"

**INTERNAL ADJ.:**

56 MOA elevation & windage

**FINISH:**

Matte black

**RETICLES:**

Fine Duplex, Target Dot

**PRICE:**

\$689

With this kit you can assemble your own upper using the barrel, bolt carrier and components from your current AR. The kit currently lists at \$480 and a barrel wrench, if you don't already have one, is \$19.

GUNS



### SR737 NEW FOR 2010 Tumbler Nano



New for 2010! Do you really need a tumbler that fist 600 9mm cases? Just think about it and think about how much money you could save buying our new SR737, how much media you would save and most important the electricity that a bigger and unneeded tumbler will consume. The tumbling action of the SR737 is as good as a bigger one but comes with so many advantages that the small money you will pay for it you will get it back after few times you used it. Covered by 2 Years of Full Warranty!

**MSRP \$37.99**



### SR787 Dream Tumbler

- Fits 600 cases 9mm or 250 .223R
- Excellent Tumbling action
- Designed in Italy
- Tested during over 700 hours!
- Covered by 2 years of Full Warranty

**MSRP \$48.95**

### SR787 Spare Bowl

Ideal for reloaders who like to use different media types to clean or polish their cases or have a bowl for each caliber.

**MSRP \$12.95**

### SR405 Media Separator



Separate the brass from media just turning the handle. In seconds your brass will be ready to be reloaded and your media to be re-used! Made from heavy highest quality plastic, the SR405 Media Separator can hold 400 cases 9mm or 180 .30-06 cases with media. Covered by 2 Years of Full Warranty!

**MSRP \$32.95**

### SR777 Bench Rest Case Trimmer



The SmartReloader SR777 Trimmer features a steel body and steel precisely machined parts for an accurate and precise trimming of your cases. Turn the case while the hard cutter is held! This System will grant an excellent trimming action and the best results for your next reloads. Cutter is replaceable. The SR777 comes with 12 pilots for any caliber, 2 cleaning brushes and 2 primer pocket cleaners (S & L). Covered by 2 Years of Full Warranty!

**MSRP \$73.95**

### AMMO BOXES

Rifle, Handgun & Rimfire Highest Quality Hinged Ammo Boxes. Made from Great Quality Plastic. 10 Million of Openings Guaranteed!

Starting from

**MSRP \$1.30**

Covered by 2 Years of Full Warranty

Universal Hunter's Ammo Box. Fits 10 Ammo in your Pocket. Adjustable from caliber .223R up to 9.3x74R.

**MSRP \$1.70**

**All of the SmartReloader products are Covered by a 2 Years Warranty**

The SmartReloader products are imported and distributed by Helvetica Trading USA, LLC.  
701 Lawton Rd. Charlotte, NC 28216

To learn more about our products, to contact us or ask for a free catalogue please visit us at [www.SmartReloader-USA.com](http://www.SmartReloader-USA.com)

VISIT THE NEW WEBSITE

[www.SmartReloader-USA.com](http://www.SmartReloader-USA.com)

# RIMFIRES

• HOLT BODINSON •



Arthur Langsford at his gun shop in Broken Hill, Australia.

## LANGSFORD'S SQUEEZE-BORE RIMFIRES

Is this near-forgotten idea too good to die?

**T**aper-bores are the stuff dreams are made of. Imagine firing a bullet that begins life as one caliber down a bore that progressively gets smaller and smaller in diameter. What emerges is a bullet of smaller caliber with an improved ballistic coefficient at a relatively high velocity. The late Australian gunsmith and cartridge designer, Arthur Langsford, had a better idea. Why not just dispense with the taper-bore design and simply fire a conventional .22 Long Rifle cartridge down a 17- or 20-caliber barrel and see what you get? What he got is one of the most intriguing stories in rimfire history.

Langsford's earliest rimfire experiments centered around the development of sub-caliber wildcats using unloaded ICI .22 LR shot cases, no less, necking them down to .17 as his "Minor-Mite" and "Vixen" cartridges as well as his "Tini-Mite" series in .08, .11, .14 and .17 calibers. The .17 Tini-Mite was actually produced and sold in some quantity through his Myra's Sports Store in Broken Hill, Australia. None was quite the commercial success he had hoped for, but Langsford was 20 years or so ahead of the commercial appearance of the 5mm Remington Rimfire Magnum, .17 HMR and .17 Mach 2. Arthur Langsford just went

on to pursue a better idea.

He reckoned if using a soft lead bullet he might be able to squeeze it down in caliber and still achieve reasonable accuracy as well as higher velocity and an improved bullet form. Jacketed bullets had always proved a problem in taper-bore guns. Some of the better known experiments included the German Gerlich gun using a flanged bullet that gradually collapsed as it progressed down a tapered-bore barrel.

While taper-bore barrels proved expensive and a pain to make and were subsequently abandoned, during WWII, Germany did field squeeze-

bore, anti-tank cannons like the 42mm PAK 41 that fired a 42mm Gerlich-type projectile that left the muzzle as a 30mm shell after having been squeezed down in a smaller diameter, smoothbore portion of the barrel.

In the US, there was also some early work in 1942-43 at the Frankfort Arsenal Laboratory, which focused on the .50 BMG cartridge loaded with sub-caliber 30- and 35-caliber bullets encased in either ventilated, collapsing jackets or disintegrating sabots. While the experiments were terminated in 1943 for more pressing war time priorities, the sabot design did reemerge later as the current .50 BMG Saboted Light Armor Penetrator "SLAP" round.

### Extruders

But back to Mr. Langsford and his "Extruders." That's what he called his new cartridge series—the Extruders—actually the "Myra Extruders"—Myra being his wife. Langsford's solution to the squeeze-bore challenge called for the use of a standard diameter 17- caliber or 20-caliber barrel with 1:6.5" to 1:8" twist. While the barrel was chambered for the conventional .22 Long Rifle cartridge, the secret lay in the form of the throat or lead. Langsford designed a forcing cone in the throat that eased the bullet into the smaller bore without damaging it. The picture (sorry, but these were Langsford's original photographs) illustrating the gradual transformation of a .22 bullet into .17 projectile clearly shows the angle and structure of the forcing cone. He called his squeeze-bore design the "Myra

**Myra "Extruder" Rimfire Rifles**  
incorporate predetermined  
breech pressures and muzzle velocities.

20 Cal. (5mm) "Extruder" Rimfire Barrels ARE compatible with Bolt, Lever, Pump, Semi-Autos, Small-bore (Target), Single Shots, Mini-Silhouette, Contender and Martini Cadet actions in serviceable condition.  
ENVISAGED HANDGUN CONVERSIONS -Ruger, Marolin, Hi-Standards, Colt, OSP and GSP Walther, Hammerli and all other 22LR. Cal Semi-Auto's.

Sony's Revolvers NOT suitable for conversion.  
For further information contact THE FIREARMS SPECIALISTS!  
**MYRA A&F PTY LTD**  
PO Box 78 Broken Hill South  
NSW 2880 Australia  
ACN 001 549 426  
Phone (080) 875684

*Did Langsford ever build and use his pressure gun? We'll never know.*

Extruder” and indeed that’s just what the process did, it extruded a bullet into a completely new form. Because the extruding process elongated the bullet, the faster twist barrels he used were essential.

In fact, he got a bit carried away with the idea that a faster twist imbued the bullet with greater hydraulic shock, penetration and lethality. It was good marketing, although he seemed to be right about penetration if the photo he sent me showing the comparative impacts of a conventional .22 LR Mini-Mag, .20 and .17 “extruded” Mini-Mags on a 6” steel post is accurate. The .22 LR just splashes against the post while the “Extruders” penetrate fully. Unbiased, third-party tests later did confirm Langsford’s claim for improved penetration with the Extruders.

The chronograph and ballistic data Lansford furnished me is interesting. The test gun was a Model 2 Brno fitted with a standard factory barrel and subsequently with .20 and .17 Extruder barrels. The test cartridge was Winchester’s Super-X Power-Point with its 40-grain HP clocking 1,248 fps at the muzzle from the Brno barrel. When “extruded” from the 20-caliber barrel, the muzzle velocity was 1,337 fps and from the 17-caliber barrel, 1,445 fps. Retained energy at 100 yards for the three bullets was 84, 99 and 124 ft-lbs respectively. Drop at 100 yards, 13.6”, 11.6” and 9.6” and with a 10 mph crosswind; deflections at 100 yards for the three bullets were 6.3”, 5.4” and 4”.

Langsford claimed, when compared to the standard Power-Point, the .17 Extruder from the muzzle to 150 yards averaged 20 percent more velocity, 47 percent more energy and 47 percent less wind deflection.

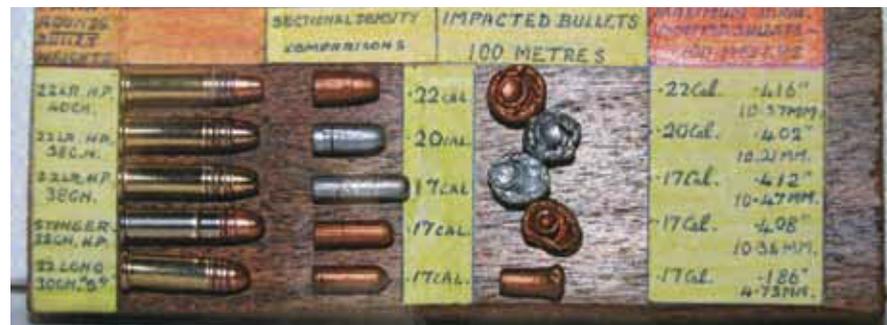
The first question many raised to his Extruders was what about pressure? Squeezing a .22 caliber bullet down to .20 or .17 had to raise pressures. Langsford addressed concerns about excessive pressures in two different ways.



Here’s what a .22 LR (above) looks like after being “extruded” down a 17-caliber barrel. The Langsford squeeze-bore, chamber throat (below) eased a .22 LR bullet into a .17 caliber bore.



When a CCI Mini Mag .22 LR was fired through the three barrels, the .17 Extruder made the big hole on the left and .20 Extruder made the smaller hole on the right (above). The Mini Mags fired through the Extruders torched through a 6” steel post while the parent CCI Mini Mag .22 LR fired in a .22 barrel simply splashed. Distance was 30m. Langsford carefully documented the terminal effects of his .20 and .17 Extruders (below).



chamber throat and seated fully in the breech of the 20-caliber barrel. He found it took only 2.5 percent of the original charge to complete the short extrusion. The second was an ad he ran in the April, 1994 issue of the *Australian Shooters Journal* illustrating a simple, but rather unconventional, pressure gun fixture he invented and presumably was using as a control instrument. The ad copy he sent me had his handwritten note on it, reading “Our latest pressure deflating ad! Regards, Arthur.”

Third party testers, experienced no pressure signs when working with the .20 Extruder, but Langsford admitted the .17 Extruder was not consistent when it came to pressures and that possibly an 18-caliber barrel might be optimum; however, he never indicated he had actually built an .18 Extruder.

Langsford sent me a very professional

and balanced article on the Myra Extruders, written by Warwick Mitchell, and published in Australia’s *Guns & Game* magazine. Mitchell had an opportunity to really wring out the .20 Extruder. He found that depending on the type of .22 LR round being fired, velocities did increase in the Extruder from 25 to 60 fps; penetration in wet newspaper increased from 3-4 cm; trajectories were flatter by about 1” at 100 yards; accuracy ranged from excellent to fair depending upon the parent brand of .22 LR being fired, and the .20 Extruder did deliver more impact energy on the distant rams at the silhouette range.

Mitchell’s conclusions were the real potential of Langsford’s squeeze bore Extruders lay in developing the smaller, more effective, .17 or .18 bore sizes, but that the \$475 cost of a new Myra barrel hardly justified the slight improvement offered by the .20 Extruder over a conventional .22 Long Rifle.

While the appearance of the .17 HMR and the .17 Mach 2 made the further development of the Extruder concept unnecessary, the late Arthur Langsford with his remarkable “Extruders” deserves a prominent place in the archives of rimfire history.

# UP ON ARs

• GLEN ZEDIKER •



*This upper started as a DPMS Hi-Rider. This is a high-quality competition-use upper with no forward assist and increased wall thickness. Its rail sits 1/2" higher than usual. Gary Eliseo machined the Picatinny rail into an 11mm dovetail to match the Anschutz rear sight mount, then machined a slot aft of the ejection port to provide clearance for a bolt knob to retract the carrier. The knob works better. Photo: Ichiro Nagata*

## WHY I LIKE THE AR-15 Mostly it's the "Mr. Potato Head" part.

**I've been doing this department for six years. Crazy. Still haven't run out of things to say, not nearly. I thought this time around I might take a poke at why that is.**

My Little Man has developed a very strong interest in the world's military firearms. About the same I did. And, at about the same time he started to continually ask me, "Dad, what's the best—what would you want?" Carefully considering that question, I answer, "Well, it would be some form of AR-15..." I stand by that because he keeps mentioning others, I consider them (there are few out there I haven't pointed at a target), and then reaffirm my answer: some form of AR-15. That, all by itself, is the key to the reason. I also keep telling him also that different ones have different purposes, and that, again, only increases my conviction. (The only drawback, I have to accept I can't own a .30 mini-gun. Oh well.)

### Mr. Potato Head

I started off this department those years ago saying that the AR-15 is Mr. Potato Head. Make it what you want it to be. Get a short barrel and stock and plug in its mad face. Get a long barrel and tube fore-end and work up its serious face. Pin on a .22 LR upper and outfit the happy face. Keep

mixing and matching pieces, parts and its faces change right along with your needs in a rifle.

The essential platform is a lower and upper receiver, each to which can be affixed a myriad of differently designed hanger-ons. Assembled lowers and uppers are simply pinned into place, one under and one over, no tools needed. There's no bedding, no zero change. It can be anything from a plinker to a tactical entry gun to a competition firearm to a varmint rifle to a dag-gone pistol (of sorts). It's been chambered in everything from .22 rimfire through .50 centerfire. It can be everything but a shotgun, although I've seen them with shotguns affixed to their fore-end undersides. It may not be the world's "ultimate" in every form it's had or use it's been put to, but it is an amazingly capable firearm done up as everything I've seen it become.

Beyond piecing an AR-15 into the essential format or formula that determines its primary function, it's one of the most "accessorized" firearms on the planet. It's popular and, therefore, we have a huge array of options to fully customize and

personalize anyone's gun. Change the grip, change the trigger, choose buttons and levers, clamp on a flashlight, scope or scopes, and, well, the list is virtually endless.

### Easy To Shoot Well

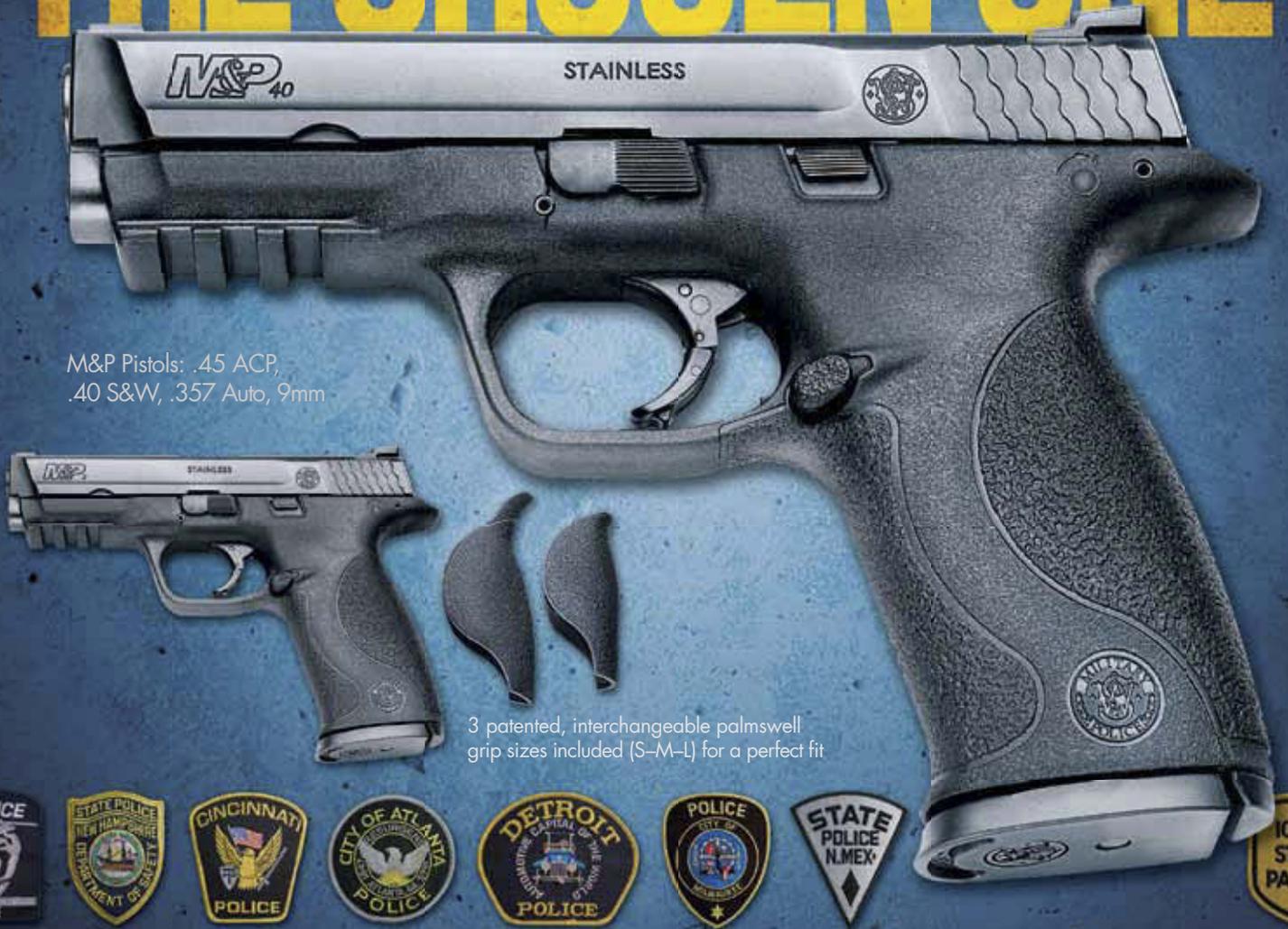
For me and my way of thinking, the ultimate appeal of AR-15s is on-target performance. Built right, I have yet to encounter a military-spec-based firearm that can run with one downrange. I'm excluding anything with a turn-bolt operating system. Compared to any Kalashnikov-based variant, or one of the HKs, group size at distance (especially at longer distance) favors the AR. So does deployment. ARs are easy to shoot, and shoot easy.

Now, if we have to include things with manually-operated bolts, that race is closer. As all know, my focus, experience, and impetus for shooting is competition. I choose an AR-15 for centerfire competition for a few reasons, and the first is that they will shoot really, really well. Premium components and thoughtful construction combine to produce a target arm that's capable of shooting under one minute of angle at any realistic distance. My best will group about 4" at 600 yards. That is not quite as good as a purpose-built bolt-gun. However! It's no excuse for landing a shot outside the 12", 10-ring we're up against on that target. And running a 12-pound AR-15 in rapid-fire events is almost like cheating.



Smith & Wesson®

# THE CHOSEN ONE



M&P Pistols: .45 ACP,  
.40 S&W, .357 Auto, 9mm

3 patented, interchangeable palmwell  
grip sizes included (S-M-L) for a perfect fit

## TESTED. PROVEN. SELECTED BY PROFESSIONALS.

smith-wesson.com  
NASDAQ: SWHC



MADE IN THE USA

Smith & Wesson®  
**M&P**  
MILITARY & POLICE

# TRADE UP TO LEE QUALITY



**TRADE IN YOUR COMPETITORS' DIE SET AND RECEIVE A BRAND NEW, SHINY LEE DIE SET FOR HALF PRICE!**

It has been busy the past two years and we're hearing from customers who would have preferred to buy Lee dies instead of another brand.

There are a lot of similar looking dies, as Lee Dies are the most copied. Sadly, the copy cat dies come up short. Only our originals have all the features serious reloaders want — like powder through expanding dies, built-in stuck case remover, the tightest tolerances in the industry, free shell holder, factory crimp die, the largest, most complete load data. This data alone is priceless on some hard-to-find and special purpose calibers.

Suffer no longer. Trade in your competitor die set and receive a brand new, shiny Lee Die Set for half price! Even without a trade in, you'll find Lee Dies priced 1/3 to 1/2 of the competition at your dealer.

Sincerely,

John Lee, President

If you're ready to trade up, send us your competitors' die set and payment of 1/2 the Lee suggested retail price. Limit one die per customer. Die set requested must be for the same cartridge. Available factory direct only. Include \$4.00 S&H.

LEE PRECISION, INC. DEPT 401 4275 HIGHWAY U HARTFORD WI 53027

Send \$1 for your 32-page Lee catalog full of reloading bargains! [www.leeprecision.com](http://www.leeprecision.com)



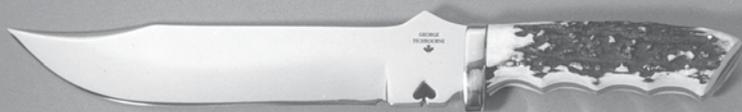
Lee Pace Setter Rifle Dies **34.98**



Lee Carbide Pistol Dies **39.98**

# LEE

## George Tichbourne KNIFEMAKER



RIVERBOAT GAMBLER

<http://www.tichbourneknives.com>

(905) 670-0200

7035 Maxwell Rd., # 5, Mississauga, Ontario L5S 1R5 CANADA

UP ON ARs

The AR's all-metal construction has decided advantages too. One of those is just how well an AR-15-based NRA Match Rifle can be adjusted and fit to the shooter. "Tube" style adjustable buttstocks, combined with a well-designed tubular fore-end, let the shooter literally mold the rifle to the self.

Essentially, as an NRA High Power rifle tool, an AR-15 is "easy." Easy is good.

Back to the start—it really is how you set up an AR-15 that determines how much you will like it. It is also taking that step, choosing components and assemblies, that has occupied the majority of the space in this department. That will continue.

Last bit. Last weekend I took Little Man out to the shop and he helped me put together his new smallbore rifle. It's a 16" match-barreled AR-15 with a proprietary DPMS .22 LR upper, Titan Ordnance lower, adjustable Eliseo stock, Geissele trigger, Accuracy Speaks free-float tube, Medesha Firearms sight extension tube, and on down the list of target parts standard on most any match rifle build. It hammers. In a couple of years we'll put a centerfire upper on that same lower and it will be his across-the-course rifle. If he wants to try his eye in the field, we'll take the sights and sight tube off, install a scope, and knock down some prairie dogs.

That's why I like AR-15s.



ACCURACY SPEAKS, INC.

DERRICK MARTIN

3960 N. USERY PASS RD., MESA, AZ 85207  
(480) 373-9499, [WWW.ACCURACYSPEAKS.COM](http://WWW.ACCURACYSPEAKS.COM)

GARY ELISEO

COMPETITION MACHINE

3121 E. LA PALMA AVE. UNIT Q

ANAHEIM, CA 92806

(714) 630-5734

[WWW.COMPETITIONSHOOTINGSTUFF.COM](http://WWW.COMPETITIONSHOOTINGSTUFF.COM)

GEISSELE AUTOMATICS

603 CAROLINE DR., NORRISTOWN, PA 19401

(610) 272-2060, [WWW.GEISSELE.COM](http://WWW.GEISSELE.COM)

DPMS FIREARMS, LLC

3312 12TH ST. S.E., ST. CLOUD, MN 56304

(800) 578-3767, [WWW.DPMSINC.COM](http://WWW.DPMSINC.COM)

TITAN ORDNANCE

2110 N.E. CORNELL RD. SUITE E

HILLSBORO, OR 97124

(503) 701-2670

MEDESHA FIREARMS

SCOTT MEDESHA

10326 E. ADOBE RD., MESA, AZ 85207

(480) 986-5876

[WWW.MEDESHAFIREARMS.COM](http://WWW.MEDESHAFIREARMS.COM)

**WALTHER**<sup>®</sup>

# GERMAN SPECIAL FORCES

9mm • .40 S&W



# SECRET

CONCEALABLE, POWERFUL AND THIN



9mm • .40 S&W

# SERVICE

CHOICE OF PROFESSIONALS WORLDWIDE



.32 ACP • .380 ACP

# AGENT

FAVORITE OF UNDERCOVER OPERATIVES

STRATEGIC  Smith & Wesson  
 ALLIANCE

Ultimate in German Engineering & Performance

See [WaltherAmerica.com](http://WaltherAmerica.com) for the latest on special offers and production information.

# RANGING SHOTS™

• CLINT SMITH •



*Lined up on parade with cans attached are (front to back) the Noveske AR-15 .223, GAP AI-stocked .308 and Heidi's GAP .338 Lapua. All the cans are also fitted with Tony Burkes' TAB covers, which help keep mirage down as the cans heat up.*

## SHHHH! QUIETLY NOW Goin' to the Can.

**Y**eah, I know it's a weird subtitle, but, for me, there is truth in it. With an issue of a "neck rebuild" last year, I was in a state where I couldn't shoot rifles much. In fact, for a while, I was limited to .22 rimfire.

The rimfire gig in and of itself wasn't bad. I learned a lot, got to get a couple of new guns and found some great transition gear like the CMMG .22 LR bolt for the AR rifle. After some repair time, I got to go back into rifle, but the days of the big rifles are probably over for me. I still need to shoot some medium guns if for no other reason

but to work. In an effort to reduce recoil I signed on board with the government and all the goofy forms to have ownership of suppressor, silencers or, in our jargon, a can... hence in the last year I have been "going to the can" mode to be able to shoot rifles and realized two benefits: reduction of recoil and reduction of noise.

Since we "signed" on to be on someone's list somewhere, I went ahead and signed up for cans for Heidi's .338 Lapua, we each got a .308 and, in the "no guts, no glory" mode, we got two for 5.56 calibers. Putting cans on several rifles required minor changes in muzzlebrake-type attachments, but then this subtle change also allowed us to move the cans from gun to gun allowing for different guns to be used for different reasons. All of this in the end being more simple than it sounds, except all the waiting for the government approval thing. Having received it, I placed them on three different guns, so here is a brief summary.

The AR platform caliber .223 is based on a Noveske N4 Reece rifle topped by a Schmidt & Bender 4-16x50 PMII scope shooting Black Hills 77-grain projectiles. The can is the AAC SPR/M4 with nominal overall length (OAL) of 8.4" and a diameter of 1-1/2". On an AR, the can makes the rifle a bit heavy but the combination is maxed out in the "see" department and the 77-grain projectile stuff stretches the rifle's effectiveness way over what the book and or "experts" say it should down range.

The rifle is not too heavy, you can see like a hawk with the glass and drill the crud outta targets that in theory you should not be able to hit with this rifle/caliber combo. The can just adds some class to the rig (like wearing a tux to a street fight) and today the world as a whole could use a bit more class.

*Before the day of the can, Heidi and her GAP .338 Lapua get a workout high on the hills. The FTE muzzlebrake works great, but the rifle is loud.*



The Advanced Armament 762-SD "can" attached to the GAP rifle. Clint is sold on their utility in making rifles more shootable.



The .308 Win GAP conversion of a Remington 700 bolt action mounted to Accuracy International stock is my attempt to make the rifle smaller by being able to fold the stock over for transporting purposes. The rig is mounted with Schmidt & Bender 4-16x50 PMII scope and I shoot home-grown 168-grain Sierra MatchKing bullets over 43.4 grains of IMR 4064 powder. The can is the AAC 762-SD model with an over all length of 8.75" and a diameter of about 1-1/2". Overall the rifle comes in right at 48" long.

Heidi's GA Precision .338 Lapua bolt-action rifle is built on a Templar action spun up with a Bartlein 26" No. 7 contour barrel. The action is set up with a Remington trigger and placed in a Manners MCST-2A adjustable cheekpiece stock. The rifle has a slightly oversized bolt knob, Badger triggerguard and magazine system and is fitted with the Badger FTE muzzlebrake. A 5-25x50 Schmidt & Bender PMII scope directs the 300-grain Sierra MatchKing projectiles Heidi loads and fires in Lapua cases. The quiet and recoil reducing AAC can she has mounted is called the Titan and is just short of 10" long. The outside can diameter is about 2". With an over length of 56" the rifle is not small... but then again it shoots a very lo-o-ong way... quietly.

### General Stuff

I don't think the rifles shoot better and they do not shoot worse with the cans hanging on the front. That said, I think some people would or might shoot *better* with the cans in place because of a lack of recoil and the noise issue that might affect *how* they shoot. From an accuracy standpoint, the rifles were accurate before, after, during and with or without the cans being used. For all the techies hounding Editor Jeff for details, the rifles all shot under a minute of angle from a benchrest, and all shot under a minute of angle out to 700 yards.

The rifle/suppressor combinations in all calibers were quiet enough that no ear protection was required. I

cover the cans with Tony Burkes' TAB covers, which protect the cans, look cool and keep the mirage down. As the cans get warm, the "mirage wave" above the can often gives you visual grief while looking through the scope. It is not catastrophic, but it can be annoying.

### Specific Can Stuff

All this cool tech stuff, the decibel reduction or sound level stuff, can size, weight, capability potentials etcetera you can find on Advance Armament's website, which has a lot of other very interesting information. Be sure to check out the lifestyles section.

All in all, the guns and cans are good tools and great fun. If you have an interest and the opportunity shoot a rifle with a suppressor, my guess is you'll quietly figure a way to fill out the forms and get one for yourself! **GUNS**

AAC  
1434 HILLCREST RD.  
NORCROSS, GA 30093  
(770) 925-9988  
WWW.ADVANCED-ARMAMENT.COM

CMMG INC.  
P.O. BOX 369  
FAYETTE, MO 65248  
(660) 248-2293, WWW.CMMGINC.COM

NOVESKE RIFLE WORKS  
P.O. BOX 1401  
GRANT'S PASS, OR 97528  
(541) 479-6117  
WWW.NOVESKERIFLEWORKS.COM

G.A. PRECISION  
1141 SWIFT ST.  
NORTH KANSAS CITY, MO 64116  
(816) 221-1844  
WWW.GAPRECISION.NET

RIFLES ONLY (TAB GEAR)  
188 SOUTH F.M. 772  
KINGSVILLE, TX 78363  
(361) 522-4165, WWW.RIFLESONLY.COM

SCHMIDT & BENDER  
P.O. BOX 134  
MERIDAN, NH 03770  
(800) 468-3450, WWW.SCHMIDTBENDER.COM

**FENIX**  
Fenix Flashlight  
Illuminate Your Adventure

**TK11**  
Max 385 Lumens

- Cree XP-G LED(R5)
- uses one 18650 li-ion or two CR123A lithium batteries
- Anti-reverse protection circuit

Fenix TK11 features a powerful, solid, durable design intended for rugged outdoor and military use. TK11 uses one 18650 li-ion or two CR123A batteries and maintains excellent constant brightness with two output modes which can be used whenever high-powered light is needed-search and rescue, long-range target identification, etc.

**FENIXLIGHT LIMITED**  
Tel: +86-755-29631163/83/93  
Fax: +86-755-29631181  
E-mail: info@fenixlight.com  
**www.fenixlight.com**

# HANDGUNS

• MASSAD AYOUB •

## THE LIGHT AND THE HANDGUN

Obviously, you don't want to shoot at a target you can't see to identify. But should the light be in the hand or on the gun?

“**B**lind man with a gun” is the law school exemplar for recklessness. In the darkness of night, with even perfect 20/20 vision, we are all the equivalent of legally blind without artificial illumination. The potential for shooting someone we shouldn't have shot—the potential for creating negligence, the key ingredient for a manslaughter conviction in criminal court or a wrongful death judgment in civil court—is obvious.

This is why the use of illumination with guns goes back to at least the 19th Century. In the 1880s, historians spoke of lawmen hunting criminals in dark alleys trying to see by the light of a kerosene lantern in one hand, and holding a six-shooter in the other. By the 1930s, FBI had developed a technique of shooting 1-handed while holding a flashlight out sideways at arm's length, in hopes of tricking

*Best of both worlds (below, left), suggests Mas, is one light on the pistol and another, separate hand-held. Lights by SureFire, XD .45 by Springfield Armory. The old-school approach going back to the early 20th century is separate gun and flashlight, here (below, right) a Kimber Custom II .45 and SureFire Aviator.*

your opponent into thinking you were someone you weren't if he chose to fire at the glow in the dark.

Guns with flashlights attached were patented in the early 1900s, but the concept didn't become practical until the latter part of the 20th Century. Today, one of the big trends in law enforcement is to issue all personnel a pistol with “white light” unit already attached and a holster to accommodate it. This has worked out well, and today we even have concealment holsters that can carry such a setup with reasonable comfort.

### Tactical Balance

For the armed citizen—as opposed to, let's say, the raccoon hunter who



*Security professional Devin Wulle, left, shows Mas the Gen 4 Glock 17 he wears daily with SureFire X300 light attached in a Safariland security holster.*

traditionally stalks at night—there is one big worry that accompanies the gun with a light mounted: anything you're pointing the light at, you're pointing a loaded gun at!

Before anyone says, “It'll be OK so long as you keep your finger off the trigger until you decide to shoot,” let's consider some real world factors. One is that tests in Europe showed that highly-trained, highly-competent professional gun-wielders frequently touched their triggers without realizing it in just simulated high-stress situations. None of us are perfect.

Moreover, you don't have to fire a shot when you “muzzle” someone with a gun, to cause bad things to happen on both sides of the pistol. Let's say the stranger you identified at the point of your loaded, flashlight-equipped pistol in the dark was the



electrician your spouse called because the lights went out, just before you returned to an unexpectedly darkened house and decided to do a house-clearing. The electrician is unlikely to feel warm and fuzzy about having had a loaded, lethal weapon pointed at him. If he makes a criminal complaint, you can wind up charged with the felony of aggravated assault, even with no trigger touched and no shot fired. If the person who caused "the bump in the night" turns out to be the kid you forgot was home from college for a week, and you take your progeny at gunpoint, it's going to be a psychologically traumatic act with profound long-lasting repercussions for both of you.

### Multiple Options

It's with this in mind that, like many others in the tactical-training business, I prefer to have a light on the gun and a separate flashlight kept next to it for home-defense planning. The gun can be kept muzzle down as the hand-held light is used for searching. No one gets placed at gunpoint unintentionally. Yet, if you've heard the front door come crashing down, you have the advantage of the light being already on the gun when you scoop it up.



**Once the shooting starts, there's no better way to hit in the dark than with 2-hand hold on light-equipped pistol. This is Devin Wulle's Gen 4 Glock 17 with SureFire X300 light.**

None of us can argue about the fact you'll get more speed and more accuracy firing with a 2-hand hold on the gun and using nothing more than the support hand thumb to keep the light on target, than you'll get out of any "flashlight in one hand, gun in other hand" combined technique.

It amazes me how many people, both in the private citizen sector and in law enforcement, miss a key advantage of the light mounted on the pistol. Some of the deadliest self-defense situations occur at contact distance where there is no option but to ram your gun muzzle against the head or torso of the man about to kill

you, and pull the trigger. With most semiautomatic pistols, this will push the slide out of battery and prevent your pistol from firing at all. However, since it usually protrudes from below the muzzle, the flashlight mounted on the gun creates "stand-off capability" and allows you to reliably fire and save your life with a "press-contact shot" in this situation.

It isn't so much "either/or" when considering light in hand or light on gun. It's more, "Have both, so you can use either one where indicated." **GUNS**

GLOCK INC.  
6000 HIGHLANDS PKWY.  
SMYRNA, GA 30082  
(770) 432-1202, WWW.GLOCK.COM

KIMBER  
1 LAWTON ST., YONKERS, NY 10705  
(800) 880-2418, WWW.KIMBERAMERICA.COM

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY  
420 W. MAIN ST., GENESEO, IL 61254  
(309) 944-5631  
WWW.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM

SUREFIRE  
18300 MT. BALDY CIR.  
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708  
(800) 828-8809, WWW.SUREFIRE.COM

**When you need  
it most, will  
you have  
access?**



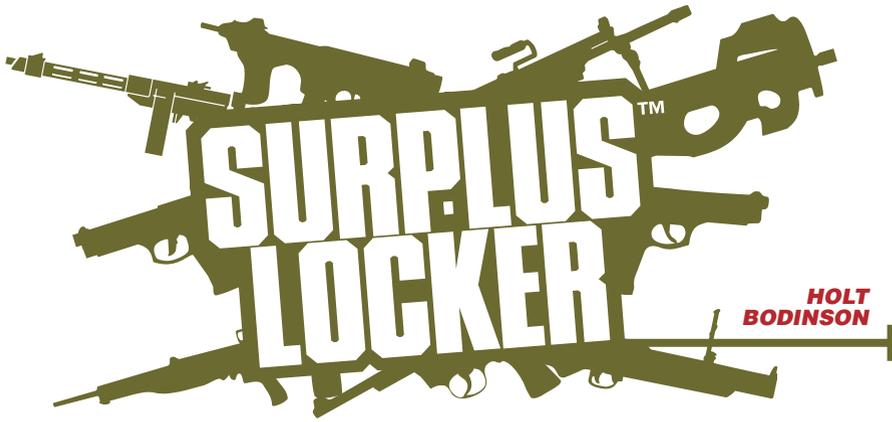
The LockSAF PBS-001 Personal Biometric Safe is designed to protect and give quick access to your firearm and valuables. Easy to program and use, it takes one press of a button and a programmed fingerprint to open. The PBS-001 is made with 9 gauge steel that is twice the thickness of other similar products and four pilot holes in the bottom panel make it easy to mount in a drawer or any flat surface. Secure and reliable in every way, it is the fast access safe you can depend on.

- No more keys or combinations • Safe and secure
- Instant Access • Non-volatile 10 fingerprint memory
- CA DOJ Approved Firearm Safety Device

For more information, please visit your local dealer or [www.LockSAF.com](http://www.LockSAF.com)  
Toll Free: (877) 568-LOCK  
Email: [customerservice@LockSAF.com](mailto:customerservice@LockSAF.com)

WWW.GUNSMAGAZINE.COM

**GUNS ONLINE!**  
MAGAZINE  
[www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com)



## THOSE LOVELY YUGOS Model 98 Mausers, of course.

**C**urrently, the greatest milsurp bargains looking for new owners are the Model 24/47 and Model 48 Yugoslavian Mausers. Ranging from brand new Model 48s to stunningly rebuilt Model 24/47s, I've seen recent prices for Model 24/47s in very good condition for as low as \$169. Plus, the shelves are overflowing with Yugoslavian 8x57 standard 198-grain ball and sniper-grade ammunition made by Prvi Partisan. This is one Yugo and one time a Yugo is worth buying.

If there were one compelling reason to study geography, the former Yugoslavia is it. Pasted together after WWI, the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, later to become Yugoslavia in 1929, consisted of Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia,

Montenegro and Kosovo. If there ever was a polyglot country, seething with latent multicultural and multiethnic animosity, this was it. On the other hand, they did agree on one vital issue, the selection of military small arms and adopted the Mauser action and the 7.92x57 Mauser cartridge.

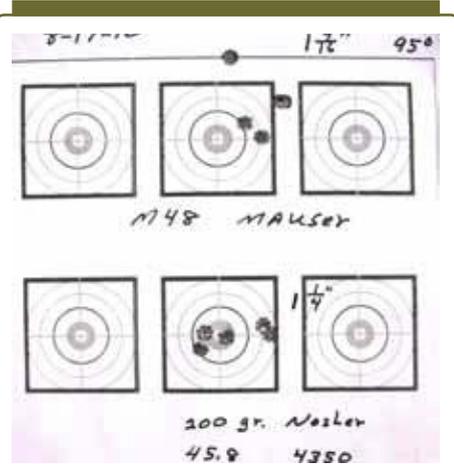
Consequently, they built a major arms and ammunition industry around both the Mauser 98 action and the 8mm Mauser cartridge.

The Yugoslavian Model 24 is based on the FN Model 1924 short rifle. When the Treaty of Versailles prohibited Germany from resuming the production of military arms following WWI, the Belgians in charge of Fabrique Nationale d'Armes de Guerre were quick to seize an immense opportunity in the small arms business. Their most successful and early post-war design was the FN Model 1924, chambered for the 7x57, 7.65x53 and 7.92x57. It was offered as a rifle as well as a carbine with a 17.52" barrel.

Although the newly formed Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (1918-1929) inherited hundreds of thousands of various models and calibers of military small arms at the conclusion of WWI, much of which they rebuilt over the ensuing years, they pursued a post-war policy of upgrading their inventory with the latest Model 98-type firearm available, which just happened to be FN's Model 1924.

### Turnkey Operation

In 1925, the Kingdom struck an unusual and very advantageous business deal with FN. It ordered 100,000 Model 1924s and 110,000,000 rounds of 7.92x57 plus all the machinery, gauges and training necessary to produce the Model 1924 and 7.92 ammunition. In short, a



*M.24/47s are very accurate with inexpensive surplus Yugoslav 7.92 ammunition.*



*The M.24 Mauser is still reasonably priced when found at gun shows or gun shops specializing in milsurps and are usually in pretty good shape.*



*John Johnson's favorite Model 48 is a Mauser tack driver with his 8mm handloads using Nosler bullets and IMR 4350 (see target on top of preceding page).*

complete FN production line system was duplicated and soon in place at Kragujevac. Under FN supervision, training of indigenous personnel took place between 1925-1927, and by 1928, full production was underway, reaching 200 rifles or carbines and 200,000 cartridges per day.

From a collector's and shooter's perspective, the Yugoslavian 1924 action is intriguing. It is not just another Model 1898, although just looking at it, you would assume it is. It does share all the design and mechanical features that have made the inspired Model 98 so successful, but there are two distinct differences between parent and child.

The Model 1924 action is classified

as an "intermediate" length Model 98 action, like those often seen on the elegant Oberndorf Mauser sporters in 7x57 caliber. The standard Model 98 action has an overall length of 8.75" and the distance between the floorplate screws measures 7.84". The Model 1924 action on the other hand has an overall length 1/4" shorter at 8.50" and measures only 7.62" between the floorplate screws. The effect of these dimensional differences is the bolts of the standard and intermediate length actions will not interchange nor will the stocks.

More intriguing yet is the Yugoslavian Model 1924 features a unique enclosed cartridge, head-type breeching seen only on one other

Mauser model that I am aware of—the Costa Rican Model 1912.

Even in the standard Model 98, the cartridge is deeply seated and supported in the chamber with only .105" of the case head protruding. Surprising to most, this is actually less than the chamber case head protrusion found in a thoroughly modern action like the Remington Model 700. Paul Mauser came up with even a better idea he patented in February, 1898.

He eliminated the two finger-like projections protruding from the face of the Model 1898 bolt just forward of the left hand, split locking lug. The purpose of these fingers is to better support and guide the cartridge during feeding and extraction,

## CW Series: Uncompromised Performance

The Kahr CW series (available in 9mm, .40 S&W and .45 ACP) has the combination of features that makes it the best Concealed Carry Pistol in the market.

It has the ideal combination of stopping power and shooting comfort, and is smaller, slimmer and lighter than competitive brands. Its smooth double-action trigger reduces flinch, improving shot placement, and is safer. In stressful situations, fine motor control is impaired contributing to the possibility of accidental discharge with traditional single-action triggers found on many semi-autos and revolvers. The CW Series' natural point of aim and low-felt recoil make them the ideal guns to shoot and carry.

With the introduction of new manufacturing processes in the production of the CW series, the Kahr pistol represents an unrivaled value.



Made with Pride  
in the U.S.A.

CW9093

CW4043

CW4543



**KAHR ARMS:** 130 Goddard Memorial Drive, Worcester, MA 01603

Sales Support & Service: 508-795-3919

Websites: [www.kahr.com](http://www.kahr.com) / [www.kahrshop.com](http://www.kahrshop.com)

# I'll Have a Dillon-Blue Christmas!



Visit our website  
[ah.dillonprecision.com](http://ah.dillonprecision.com)  
 for a free catalog.

SURPLUS LOCKER



*The bolt of the M.24 "intermediate" length action is shorter than that of a standard 98K (top).*

but they're not essential. Having eliminated these supports, Mauser was then able to recess the front of the extractor into the rear of the barrel so the full face of the bolt was flush with the rear of the breech. The result was that only the very thin rim of the case was unsupported in the chamber. It's a remarkably strong design. Frankly, when you review all of the Mauser patents, you realize Mauser anticipated practically every possible design feature that could be applied to a bolt-action system.

### Post WWII

Beginning in 1946 and extending at least through 1952, an impressive small arms rebuilding program was initiated at VTZ Kragujevac, now renamed Red Flag Enterprise (Preduzece Crvena Zastava). The program included rebuilding Model 24s, captured German 98Ks and Czech vz. 23s and vz. 24s.

The Model 24/47 illustrated here is typical of a rebuilt Model 24. It's in excellent condition. The barrel is either brand new or gently used, and all metal parts are polished and refinished. The stock and bolt are serial numbered to the gun. M.24 stocks can be found made of walnut, elm, beech or laminates. The front receiver ring carries the crest of Communist Yugoslavia, the serial number and designation "M.24/47," while the side rail indicates the arsenal, Kragujevac, now referred to as "PREDUZECE 44." The only part on the rifle that immediately gives it away as a "rebuild" is the bottom metal that carries an older serial number struck through and then renumbered to the rifle.

I paid \$174 for this M.24/47 at a local gun shop not more than three months ago. On a good day, fed with



*The M.24 bolt (left) does away with the twin fingers of earlier models and features a unique, enclosed cartridge, head-breeching system.*



*The left side of the M.24 action typically carries the model and arsenal designations. The stock and bolt are serial numbered to the receiver.*

my favorite lot of Portuguese FNM 7.92 ball, the Yugo will keep three shots within 2" at 100 yards. By any measure, the M.24/47 is a bargain and a definite keeper.

### Model 48

In the early 1950s, Yugoslavia began the production of a brand new Mauser variant, the Model 48, also imported in quantity. The Model 48 keeps the "intermediate" length receiver of the Model 24, but adds the turned-down bolt handle and stocking of the German Kar 98K. The top of the front receiver ring carries the Yugoslavian crest and the model designations of "M.48," "M.48A" or "M.48B." The "A" and

# EMP™

## ENHANCED MICRO PISTOL

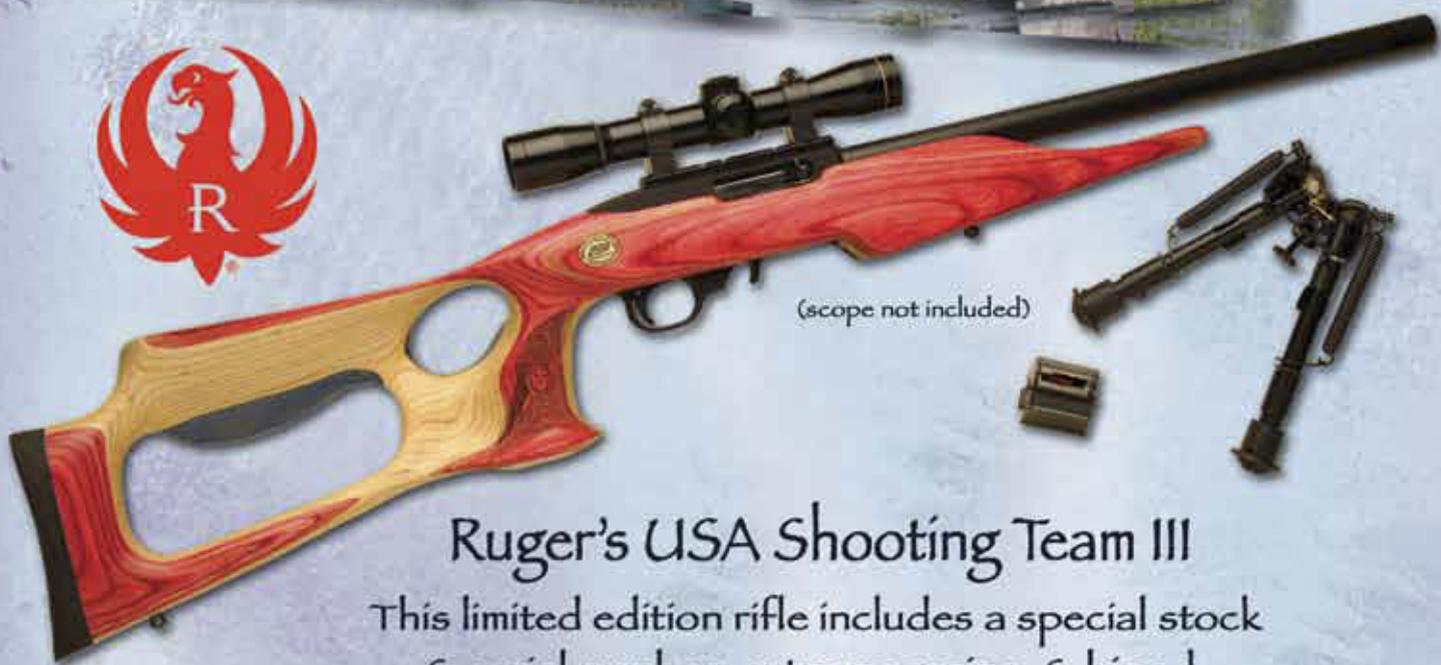


**COMFORT CAN BE POWERFUL  
AVAILABLE IN 9MM & .40CAL.**

[WWW.SPRINGFIELDARMORY.COM](http://WWW.SPRINGFIELDARMORY.COM)

800.680.6866

A Very COOL Way  
To Support Your  
Team



(scope not included)

### Ruger's USA Shooting Team III

This limited edition rifle includes a special stock  
& serial number, extra magazine, & bipod.

A donation will be made to the USA Shooting Team for each rifle sold.  
Limited to 650. Ask your dealer for Ruger #1244.

Visit [www.taloinc.com](http://www.taloinc.com) for more information

## SERBIAN M.48

**IMPORTER:**  
MITCHELL MANUFACTURING CORP.  
P.O. BOX 9295  
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92728  
(800) 274-4124, WWW.MAUZER.ORG

**PRICES:**  
\$399-\$649

## MODEL 24/47

**MAKER:**

*Yugoslavian arsenals*

**ACTION:**

*Bolt-action*

**CALIBER:**

*7.92x57*

**CAPACITY:**

*5*

**BARREL LENGTH:**

*23.25"*

**OVERALL LENGTH:**

*42.9"*

**SIGHTS:**

*Tangent rear (200-2,000 m), blade front*

**WEIGHT:**

*8.6 pounds*

**FINISH:**

*Blue*

**STOCK:**

*Walnut, beech, elm or laminate*

**PRICE:**

*\$169-\$199*

"B" designations indicate the rifle incorporates some stamped parts, rather than milled, in its assembly.

By 1967, the Yugoslavian army had approximately 932,000 Model 48s on active duty while the refurbished Model 24s were relegated to reserve status. The Model 48 was also successfully exported in large quantities, including unmarked models that ended up in the hands of various national liberation movements.

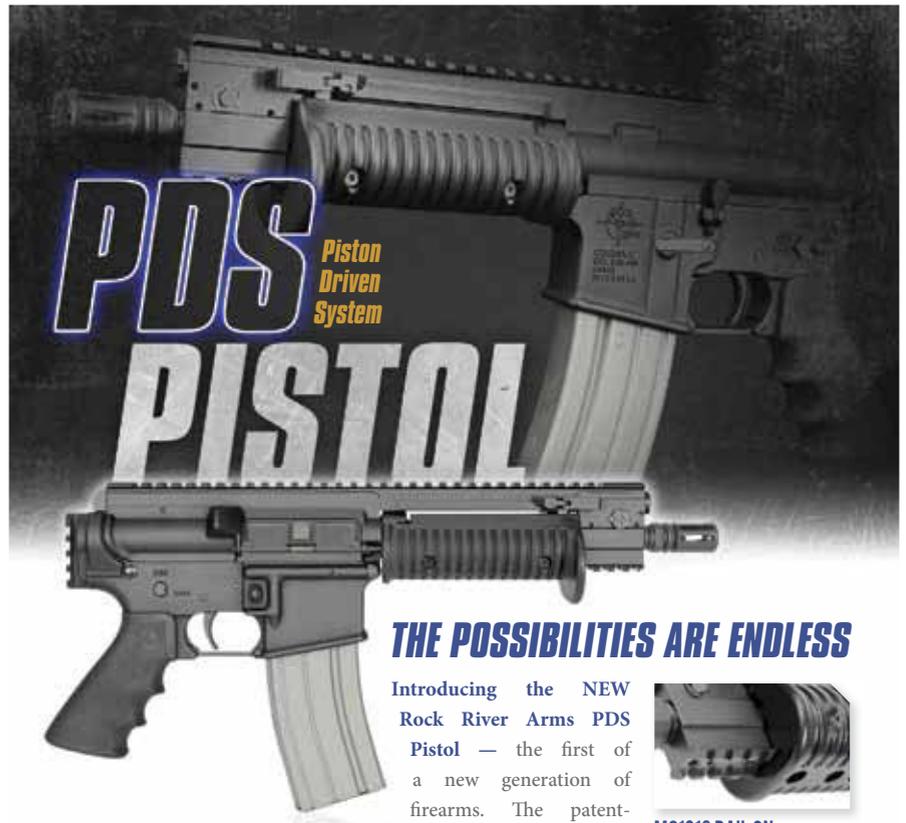
The most accurate Model 48 I've seen in action belongs to my shooting partner and range master, John Johnson. John scoped his M.48, and with a handload built around the 200-grain Nosler AccuBond and 45.8 grains of IMR 4350, his 5-shot, 100-yard groups range from under an inch to just over 1-1/2". Does he love that M.48? He sure does. He shoots it weekly.

Mitchell's Mausers still offer Yugoslavian Model 48s and the milsurp market is still filled with Model 24/47s.

This is one Yugo, and one time a Yugo is worth buying. Don't pass them up. **GUNS**

### FURTHER READING:

Serbian and Yugoslav Mauser Rifles by Branko Bogdanovic, softcover, 271 pages. ©2005, \$19.95, North Cape Publications, P.O. Box 1027, Tustin, CA 92781, (800) 745-9714, www.northcapepubs.com.



# PDS PISTOL

## THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Introducing the NEW Rock River Arms PDS Pistol — the first of a new generation of firearms. The patent-

pending Piston Driven System, with a 2-position gas port regulator, eliminates the need for a traditional AR-style recoil mechanism. The multiple mounting rails also include RRA's exclusive full-length top rail system.



MS1913 RAIL ON REGULATOR HOUSING



FOLDING AMBIDEXTRIOUS NON-RECIPROCATING CHARGING HANDLES



REAR SLING/ ACCESSORY MOUNTING RAIL

### PDS CARBINE ALSO AVAILABLE



DISCOVER THE POSSIBILITIES AT [WWW.ROCKRIVERARMS.COM](http://WWW.ROCKRIVERARMS.COM)

## Springfield® XD Plus Magazine Extension

This Product Replaces The Magazine Floor Plate Providing Additional Grip Length And Added Magazine Capacity.

**Suggested Retail \$9.95**

See Your Local Dealer Or Contact



### PEARCE GRIP

Specializing in Replacement Grips for Firearms

P.O. Box 40367

Fort Worth, Texas 76140

(800) 390-9420 (817) 568-9707 fax

<http://www.pearcegrip.com>

Available For  
45 ACP  
and  
9MM/.40SW/.45GAP

Ask For Product  
# PG-XD45+  
or  
# PG-XD9+



# OUT<sup>TM</sup> of the BOX

JOHN TAFFIN

## AIMPOINT MICRO SIGHTS

### The H-1 and R-1 set a new standard for compact, durable red-dot sights.

**F**or those among us who may not be familiar with red-dot “scopes” they began looking much like a regular scope though somewhat shorter. Today’s red dots are very compact, normally 2” or 3” in length with no magnification. There are no crosshairs but simply a red dot in the middle of a plain field. The red dots are powered by a battery and allow varying degrees of intensity for varying situations.

A leader in innovation has been Aimpoint. Their red-dot scope sights can easily be found at combat and bull’s-eye matches where red dots are used almost exclusively unless a particular phase calls for iron sights. I also know of several handgun hunters who regularly use Aimpoints on their sixguns including those chambered for the .454 Casull. Thanks to Aimpoint, red-dot scopes are no longer the fragile things they once were.

My first real positive experiences with red-dots sights took place 20

years ago when I tested two of them on a Voltquartsen Custom Ruger MK I Stingray .22 and a fully-custom Smith & Wesson .45 ACP Model 625 provided by Cameron Hopkins who was then the editor of our sister publication *American Handgunner*. I was impressed at the usefulness of both of these Aimpoints and how easy it was to hit targets with these red dots in place. As I look back at pictures, I am somewhat stunned at how compact current Aimpoints are by comparison.

You might say Aimpoint wrote the book on red-dot sights as they were the first to market such a radical idea and have been at it for more than 30 years. As this is written, Aimpoint has announced a new contract with the

*The black matte finished H-1 Aimpoint was mounted on a Browning Buckmark and the silver finished R-1 on Ruger MK III. At 3 ounces each in weight, the Aimpoints don't affect the handling qualities of either pistol.*



*Shooting accurately at 25 yards with the Ruger MK III Hunter Model with Aimpoint's R-1 in place was a snap (above). The red-dot Aimpoints (below) work well for squirrel hunting in deep woods where a conventional crosshair might get lost.*



United States Army to supply more than half a million Close Combat Optic rifle sights. Several sights were put through rigorous testing, however the Army's Research & Development Command chose the Aimpoint as the best sight available for use by our troops. Aimpoint also supplies sights for the US Air Force and five of our allied armies.

### R-1 & H-1

On the civilian side, Aimpoint offers two new sights, the Micro R-1 and Micro H-1. These sights differ only in finish with the former being a silver metallic and the latter being finished in matte black. Aimpoint says the R-1 is designed for competition on pistols and revolvers while the more subdued finish of the H-1 is more adaptable to hunting rifles and revolvers. However, either can be used in both situations and also be adapted



# 1-800-351-8900

# JANTZ SUPPLY

## FINGERPRINT SAFE



Uses fingerprints giving you the control of who can or cannot have access. Store papers, firearms, knives or anything you want hidden. 16 1/2" x 14 1/2" x 7", weight 31 lbs.  
**BX100 Fingerprint Safe.....199.95**

## LEATHER SHEETS



Top quality vegetable tanned leather. We offer a complete line of leather making tools and supplies.  
**AG512 12" x 12".....11.95**  
**AG524 12" x 24".....22.95**

## RIVETS, PINS, DRILLS



Corbys are precision machined with 5/16" slotted heads. Cutlery rivets have 5/16" beads, 1/2" long shanks.  
**CP601 12 Brass Corby Rivets.....15.95**  
**CP611 12 NS Corby Rivets.....27.95**  
**RD3 Corby Rivet Drill.....19.95**  
**RV125 25 Brass Cutlery Rivets.....7.95**  
**RV225 25 NS Cutlery Rivets.....9.95**  
**RD4 Cutlery Rivet Drill.....19.95**  
**AB118 12 Brass 1/8" Pins.....2.95**  
**AN118 12 NS 1/8" Pins.....3.50**

## MOSAIC PINS & TUBES



**5/32" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP510 MP530 MP520**  
**\$19.95 \$19.95 \$19.95**



**7/32" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP972 MP976 MP785**  
**\$29.95 \$29.95 \$31.50**



**1/4" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP945 MP485 MP465**  
**\$34.95 \$36.50 \$36.50**

## KNIFE KIT DVD



**VL125 Gene Osborn VL126 Gene Osborn VL127 Gene Osborn**  
**VL125 Kit 1-Taper Tang Hunter....19.99**  
**VL126 Kit 2-Hidden Tang Hunter....19.99**  
**VL127 Kit 3-Lockback Folder.....19.99**

## 550 PARACORD

Sold in 100' bundle. Genuine 550 lb. Type III, 1/8" diameter nylon Paracord has a seven strand core.

- PC102 Black.....9.95**
- PC103 Olive Drab.....9.95**
- PC104 Coy. Brown.....9.95**
- PC108 Burgandy.....9.95**
- PC112 Deep Red.....9.95**
- PC116 Colonial Blue.....9.95**
- PC118 Neon Orange.....9.95**
- PC120 Neon Pink.....9.95**
- PC126 Woodland.....9.95**
- PC127 Desert Camo.....9.95**
- PC128 Foliage Camo.....9.95**

## PRE-SOLDERED GUARD KIT

8A Stainless Steel Blade with a pre-soldered nickel silver bolster. Kit includes blade, pins, dymondwood handle material and instructions.

### Bearcat

**8 3/8" overall, blade 3 3/4" x 7/8", 1/8" thick.**  
**SS874 Blade Only.....19.95**  
**SS874K Bearcat Kit.....25.95**

### Nevada Drop Point

**8" overall, blade 3 3/8" x 1", .144" thick.**  
**SS650 Blade Only.....19.95**  
**SS650K Nevada Drop Point Kit.....25.95**

## WEEKEND PROJECTS

440C Stainless Steel Blades. Kits include blades, pins, dymondwood handle material and instructions.

### Renaissance Dagger

**6 1/4" overall, blade 3 3/4", 1/8" thick.**  
**SS167 Blade Only.....11.95**  
**SS167K Renaissance Kit.....14.95**

### Cobra

**7 3/8" overall, blade 3 3/4", 1/8" thick.**  
**SS166 Blade Only.....12.95**  
**SS166K Cobra Kit.....14.95**

### Sportsman

**7 3/8" overall, blade 3 1/2", 1/8" thick.**  
**SS164 Blade Only.....12.95**  
**SS164K Sportsman Kit.....14.95**

### Ringtail

**7" overall, blade 2 5/8", 3/32" thick.**  
**SS873 Ringtail Only.....12.95**  
**SS873K Ringtail Kit.....14.95**

## STERLING SILVER BEADS



**LY101 LY102 LY103 LY104**  
Sterling Silver beads used to accent lanyards and many other craft projects. Approx 3/8" dia. with 5/32" - 3/16" center holes. Each marked with the 925 sterling stamp.  
**LY101 Aztec Bead.....4.95**  
**LY102 Cobble Stone Bead.....4.95**  
**LY103 Meteor Bead.....4.95**  
**LY104 Rose Bead.....4.95**

## BISON SKINNER KIT

Pioneer style skinner ground from high carbon stainless. Includes blade, dymondwood handle material, pins and nylon sheath.  
**8 1/2" overall, blade 3 3/8" x 1/8" thick.**  
**SS635 Bison Skinner Kit.....12.95**

## WYOMING HUNTER KIT

High carbon stainless blade has a false top edge and thumb notches. Includes blade, handle material, pins and nylon sheath.  
**8 3/4" overall, blade 3 1/2" x 7/8" thick.**  
**SS642 Wyoming Hunter Kit.....12.95**

## KNIFEMAKING BOOKS



**BOK101 Richard W. Barney Robert W. Lovelace**  
**BOK117 Wayne Goddard**  
**BORSSK David Boye**  
**BOK101 How To Make Knives.....11.95**  
**BOK117 \$50 Knife Shop.....15.95**  
**BORSSK Step - Step Knifemkg.....19.97**

## KNIFEMAKER FORGE



Regulator and Hose included, uses a standard 20lb propane tank. Reaches 2350 ° Heat Chamber 4" x 4 1/2" x 13 1/2". Exhaust port on one door is 3" x 2". Weight is 48lbs.  
**NC111 Knifemaker Forge..... 525.00**

## STEEL

Call for other steels and sizes available.  
**440C Flat Stock**  
**CF118 1/16 x 1 1/2 x 18" 440C.....17.95**  
**CF518 1/8 x 1 1/2 x 18" 440C.....17.95**  
**CF618 5/32 x 1 1/2 x 18" 440C.....19.95**  
**D2 Blanchard Ground**  
**XD318 1/8 x 1 1/2" x 18" D2 Blanchard.....15.95**  
**XD518 .150" x 1 1/2" x 18" D2 Blanchard.....19.95**

## 15N20 Steel

**XN152 .049 x 1 1/2 x 12" 15N20 Steel.....2.95**  
**XN252 .049 x 2 x 12" 15N20 Steel.....3.95**

## evenheat

The Knife Makers Brand



Heat treat your own blades with ease.  
**240 volt**  
**KF135 13.5 Depth 240vt.....899.00**  
**KF180 18.0 Depth 240vt.....948.00**  
**KF225 22.5 Depth 240vt.....999.00**  
**120 volt**  
**KF414 13.5 Depth 120vt.....979.00**  
**KF418 18.0 Depth 120vt.....999.00**

## KNIFEHOLDERS



**KF688 Fits 120 & 240vt Ovens.....22.95**  
**KF689 Fits 240vt Ovens.....28.95**

## BEAR PAW HATCHET

Stainless hatchet with 3/16" tang holes. Kit includes hatchet, handle material and pins.  
**9-5/8" overall, blade 2 5/8" x 3/16" thick.**  
**SS631 Bear Paw Hatchet.....14.95**  
**SS631K Bear Paw Hatchet Kit.....18.95**

## ALASKAN ULU BLADE U-Style Ulu

440 stainless steel. Blades 3 1/4", cutting edge 6", 1/16" thick with 7/32" holes.  
**SS271 U-Style Ulu.....6.95**

## FILLET BLADES

8A Stainless steel fillet blades. Kit includes blade, pins, handle material and instructions. Optional leather sheaths sold separately.

### Fisherman's Fillet

**12" overall, blade 7", 1/16" thick.**  
**SS910 Blade Only.....7.95**  
**SS199K Fisherman's Fillet Kit.....10.95**

### Alaskan Fillet

**16" overall, blade 10 1/2", 1/16" thick.**  
**SS912 Blade Only.....12.95**  
**SS912K Alaskan Fillet Kit.....15.95**

### Trout Fillet Blade

Thin, flexible 8A Stainless fillet blade Overall 10-1/2", blade 5-3/4" x .045" thick. Kit contains blade, pins and dymondwood.

**SS920 Blade Only.....9.95**  
**SS920K Trout Fillet Kit.....12.95**

**JANTZ SUPPLY**  
309 W MAIN, DAVIS OK 73030  
**www.knifemaking.com**

**ADD \$9.95 FOR SHIPPING**  
DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA  
PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THIN  
is  
SEXY



Nothing fits better  
undercover

**Kahr Arms** www.kahr.com

OUT OF THE BOX



*Shooting the long 10"-barreled Ruger .22 with Aimpoint R-1 helps wring all the potential out of the pistol without increasing the weight or changing the balance of the pistol.*

to a bow for archery hunters.

The Aimpoint Micro, no matter what the finish, weighs 3 ounces and has an integral Weaver-style base, which fits most of the rails offered on handguns and rifles. For my current use, the R-1 is on a stainless steel Ruger MK III while the H-1 is on a matte black Browning Target Buckmark. The R-1 is also easily switched to another Ruger MK II which has a 10" lightweight Tactical Solutions barrel. This gives me a long barrel to coax everything out of a .22 Long Rifle and a sight which adds very little weight.

### Long Life

Technology has not only given us a very compact sight, battery life is reported to be 50,000 hours of operation—or nearly five years of continuous use! It is also rated submersible to 15' of water (something I hope I never test). Adjustment for windage and elevation is unique. The protective caps on the top and side of the elevation adjustments each have two little raised points that fit into corresponding holes on the adjustment screws. Simply remove the cap, make the adjustment, put the cap back on. There is no wrench to lose or misplace. The red dot itself is 4 MOA and there are 13 settings of brightness for use in any lighting condition.

Since there is no magnification, the field of view is virtually unlimited as is the eye relief. Any Aimpoint Micro can be placed on any handgun, rifle or shotgun at any position you desire. On a rifle it can be placed close to the eye or in a Scout Rifle position. The Micros are impervious to extreme weather conditions, another feature I have no desire to test, and there are no hazardous materials involved. Adjustments for windage and elevation are plus or minus 3' at 100 yards. Length is 2.4", width 1.6" and

### MICRO H-1 & R-1

**MAKER:** AIMPOINT INC.  
14103 MARIAH CT.  
CHANTILLY, VA 20151  
(703) 263-9795, WWW.AIMPOINT.COM

**MAGNIFICATION:**

1X

**OVERALL LENGTH:**

2.4"

**WEIGHT:**

3 ounces

**EYE RELIEF:**

Unlimited

**INTERNAL ADJUSTMENTS:**

36" elevation & windage

**BATTERY:**

1, 3V lithium battery CR2032

**BRIGHTNESS SETTINGS:**

13

**RETICLE:**

4 MOA red dot

**FINISH:**

Matte black (H-1), matte silver (R-1)

**PRICE:**

\$676 (H-1), \$700 (R-1)

height, 1.4".

For my use on Rugers and the Browning, both of which are equipped with mounting rails, installation is exceptionally easy requiring only loosening of the base screw, placing the sight in the desired position, and then re-tightening. Although I normally use these on a .22 for target shooting, they are also easily adapted to hunting handguns. Anyone who has ever hunted squirrels or hogs, or even deer for that matter, in deep cover knows how valuable a red dot can be.

**GUNS**

BROWNING  
ONE BROWNING PL.  
MORGAN, UT 84050  
(800) 333-3288, WWW.BROWNING.COM

STURM, RUGER & CO.  
200 RUGER RD.  
PRESCOTT, AZ 86301  
(928) 778-6555, WWW.RUGER.COM

# Original MAUSER for Christmas

**Perfect Gift for the Man Who Has Everything!**

**The Right One to Buy.** The Original Mauser K98k from WWII Germany that everybody wants at the center point of their rifle collection. The First and still recognized as the Best bolt-action rifle - Period! Still copied by every manufacturer, even today. More Value for your dollar than a new rifle.

**The Right Time to Buy.** Prices are still low, but not for long. Prices will continue to rise. Plus, right now, you get all those free accessories - like getting the rifle for only \$199! Merry Christmas!

**The Right Place to Buy.** Mitchell's delivers the most Beautiful and Original K98k's available today. Your Mauser is carefully cleaned, inspected, graded and only then certified. The exclusive Mitchell Money-back Guarantee makes your purchase Risk-Free.

Your Satisfaction is Guaranteed



**Ideal for Shooting,** because it is a Mauser! Strong, Reliable, Safe and Accurate.

**Ideal for Collecting.** It will only go up in value. There are no more in Europe, and Hitler is not making any more.

**Ideal for Preserving History.** It was present at every critical juncture of the WWII era, a surviving witness to the events of a history not to be ignored.



**FREE for Christmas**  
\$300 of Accessories



**FREE** Accessories worth Over \$300 with a Mauser purchase, as shown here - Free - while supplies last.



Ammo is available, Call us.  
Don't use Dangerous and Corrosive surplus ammo. For the Best 8mm Mauser Ammo, call Mitchell's.



As seen on the History Channel. Ask for the Video

These Original Mauser Rifles from WWII Germany are in beautiful condition with bright bores, original stocks, excellent bluing and matching serial numbers on all six major parts. Factory overhauled, preserved in military storage after the war and now delivered to you in American Packaging with American manuals.

You'll Never Again See this K98k and these Accessories, All Together for **Only \$499\***

Buy Now, before Prices Go Up!

Call Direct: **800-274-4124**

Offer only valid thru Jan. 31, 2011, or until supplies run out.

\* Other Mauser Models and Grades also available starting from only \$299.

Every rifle and pistol is examined to assure safety, quality and function to US standards. They come clean and ready for you, in American packaging with American manuals.

**Mitchell's Mausers**  
P.O. Box 9295, Fountain Valley, CA 92728  
714-596-1013 Fax 714-848-7208 [www.Mauser.net](http://www.Mauser.net)



**The Original German Luger.** Presentation Grade \$3,995.



Typical German WWII Military Acceptance Markings found on every Rifle and Pistol document their authentic place in history.



**RARE!** **K98k Sniper Rifles**  
While the Collector Grade rifle shown above is the most popular, we have a few Original German K98k Snipers.  
Collector Grade K98k Sniper \$2,995.  
Presentation Grade (Shown here) \$3,995.

# Q&A

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### Sharps Company History

**Q:** I enjoy Mr. Venturino's writing, but I question the dates of the Sharps Co.'s time in business. From what Wiley Sword states in his book *Sharpshooter*, Col. Berdan wanted the Sharps rifles for his troops in the Civil war, but was given the Colt revolving rifle muskets, which didn't go over too well.

In Nov. 1862 they received the Sharps rifles and turned in the Colts. My copy of *Sharps Firearms* by Frank Sellers "walked" away from my house, and I would like to know how long Sharps was in business.

Scott Schindehette  
via e-mail

**A:** The Sharps Co. evolved and reorganized several times over its life. Mike's column was about the cartridge era, which began in the post Civil War years. The original patent was issued to Christian Sharps on Sept. 12, 1848 and the Model 1849 was made by Albert Nippes in Penn. Sharps sold 9/16 of the rights to build his rifle

and the Sharps Rifle Manufacturing Co. eventually contracted the manufacturing to Robbins & Lawrence, who were pioneers in tool making and had a factory employing 125 men in the 1850s. Christian Sharps left after a dispute with Lawrence in the early 1850s. The Sharps Rifle Manufacturing Co. plant was built in Hartford, Conn., under the direction of Robbins & Lawrence and operated until well after the Civil War. More than 100,000 percussion Sharps rifles were issued to Union troops, including Col. Berdan's Sharpshooters. The firm reorganized in 1874 as the Sharps Rifle Co. and operated until its demise in the 1880s.

That's it in a nutshell and, as you can imagine, much has been left out. The Sharps story is involved and intricate.

*SHARPS FIREARMS* BY FRANK SELLERS, ©1978, HARDCOVER, 358 PAGES, ISBN-10: 0960812202, OUT OF PRINT, BUT GENERALLY AVAILABLE FROM ARMS BOOKS SELLERS.

### More On Favorites

**Q:** This is in reference to the letter by Mr. Edward Byrne concerning his Stevens Favorite in the July 2010 issue. I think you sold him short, probably not intentionally,

but there are other options available. I believe MCA Sports has cartridge conversion kits for just about any caliber imaginable. I don't have a reloading manual old enough to show the specs on the two rounds, but could he possibly shoot .32 S&W in that gun? Secondly, you can reload rimfire ammo. The article I read on the Internet dealt with .22 rimfire in an emergency situation but .32 rimfire would be infinitely easier. If he doesn't really care about the collector value and still wants a shooter, there's always rechambering.

Ken Juhasz  
Sagamore Hills, Ohio

**A:** Most gunsmiths won't convert a Stevens Favorite to centerfire because of liability concerns. The breechblock doesn't actually lock closed, although it is perfectly adequate for rimfire pressures. Once converted to a centerfire, the chances of a dangerous handload being employed is just too great. (The .32 S&W wouldn't be the parent case, .32 Colt would be.) As for reloading rimfire cartridges, anyone who values their fingers and eyes should stay away. The danger, time and effort involved isn't worth the risk.

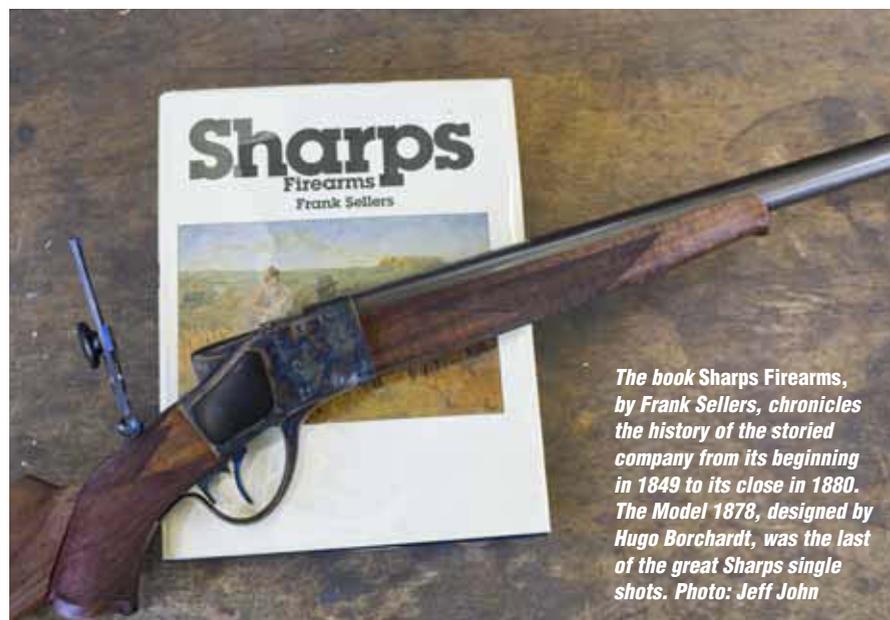
But you're right, there is an alternative I neglected to mention and one not too expensive or difficult. Dixie Gunworks has brass cases (part No. KA1202) designed to take a .22 Short Blank, a pinch of black powder and .310" roundball for \$5 each, six for \$25.50. The firm offers such cases for a wide range of otherwise difficult-to-find rimfire rounds.

PS: MCA doesn't offer cartridge conversions from rimfire to centerfire, but they do have a lot to offer. Thanks for the tip.

**GUNS**

DIXIE GUN WORKS  
P.O. BOX 130  
1412 W. REELFOOT AVE.  
UNION CITY, TN 38282  
(731) 885-0561  
WWW.DIXIEGUNWORKS.COM

MCA SPORTS/ACE BULLET  
2800 W. 33RD RD.  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99517  
(907) 248-4913, WWW.MGACE.COM



*The book Sharps Firearms, by Frank Sellers, chronicles the history of the storied company from its beginning in 1849 to its close in 1880. The Model 1878, designed by Hugo Borchardt, was the last of the great Sharps single shots. Photo: Jeff John*

# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER

ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION ONLY \$19.75!

Includes a FREE  
Digital Edition CD

AMERICAN HANDGUNNER

AMERICAN  
HANDGUNNER

2010 Publishers  
Development Corp.  
All rights reserved.  
Reproduction by permission  
is a violation of  
applicable laws.

www.americanhandgunner.com

AMERICAN  
HANDGUNNER  
35  
1976 YEARS 2011

Subscribe Now to enjoy last  
year's fun and this year's "WOW!"

If you've experienced the "cool" factor of American Handgunner and want to see what you missed last year, you're in luck.

Get all six 2010 issues in digital format on one easy-to-use CD-ROM when you subscribe to American Handgunner through this offer.

Catch up on a year's worth of Clint Smith, John Connor, Massad Ayoob, Dave Anderson, "Duke" Venturino and others. And with a subscription you can count on even more in the months ahead.

Fun Rewind!  
FREE 2010  
Digital Edition  
CD when you  
subscribe.

One Year ONLY \$19.75  
Call (888) 732-2299

www.americanhandgunner.com

M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$59.76 outside U.S.)  
P.O. Box 509093, San Diego, CA 92150

**Massad Ayoob**

**Photos: Gail Pepin & Joseph Novelozo**

**T**he P250 pistol has generated quite a bit of interest since its introduction here a few years ago, and SIG SAUER continues to advance the concept. It's presently available in compact- to full-size configurations, and in a range of four calibers including 9mm Luger, .357 SIG, .40 S&W and .45 ACP. This year alone, we've seen two distinctly new variations of the P250 offered.

One is a manual safety version, its ambidextrous levers mounted at the rear of the frame. Initially, it was developed upon the request of a Peruvian agency, but will be appreciated by us old traditionalists who just grew up expecting semiautomatic pistols to have manual

thumb safeties. It will also appeal to those at risk of being disarmed. On-safe pistols have a history of confusing those who snatch them and try to murder the legitimate owners. For long enough, said original owner has more time to rectify the problem.

The other big news in the P250

line is the subject of this article: the 2SUM, so called because it is basically two guns sold as one.

Well, make that two potential handguns sold as one, since between them, there is only one fire-control mechanism. What is unique about the P250 platform is not only that it is modular, but also the heart of the beast is a serial-numbered, hammer-and-trigger assembly, which legally constitutes the gun itself. This assembly sits inside the chassis of a polymer pistol frame, which the company calls a grip shell. It takes a paradigm shift for us old gun geezers to wrap our heads around this disembodied hammer-trigger linkage

# MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS



*The SIG P250 2SUM features a polymer grip shell with the firing mechanism—which is the serial numbered part—removeable for use in a compact version. Shown is the full-size version. Photo: Joseph R. Novelozo.*

being a “frame” or “receiver,” but that’s just how it is, and we have to get used to it.

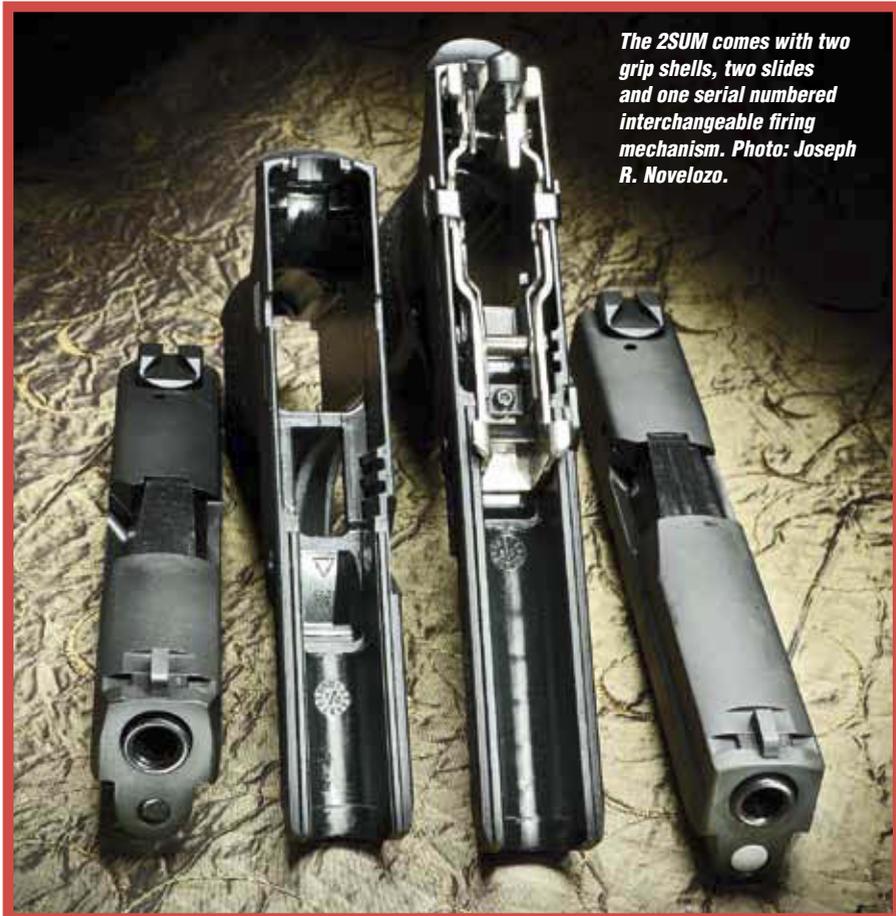
The design—for which we can thank Michael Mayerl, Thomas Metzger, Adrian Thomele and the brilliant American Ethan Lessard—brings handgun modularity to a new level. Compact- or full-size “handle.” Big grip, small grip. Long barrel or short, each of course with commensurate length slide. Short-reach or standard-reach triggers. Caliber choices. WooHoo!

### A Matter Of Need

Some people need multiple gun capability, on one serial number, more than others. Let’s say you are a citizen in the Republic of South Africa where firearms restrictions have become increasingly Draconian over the years since the current government there came into power. You may be allowed to own only one handgun for self-defense. If it’s a SIG 2SUM, you have a compact and a full-size, and are technically in legal compliance.

Let’s say you’re one of those privileged citizens of New York City who has been fortunate enough to obtain an unrestricted concealed carry permit. The general custom there seems to be to put one specific gun on the permit, by serial number. I’m told some few permit holders have been able to extend theirs to a second firearm, but more than that is extremely rare. You just got the permit, and the city has basically told you, “Pick one carry gun” and we’ll record its serial number. With the SIG 2SUM, at least theoretically, you have your compact, 13-round, warm-weather carry gun, and your full-size, longer-barrel, 18-round pistol in the same 9mm chambering for carry under more concealment-friendly cold weather garb.

I’m reminded of the Dan Wesson revolver, a double action that burst on the scene in the late 1960s and was chambered initially for .357 Magnum. The namesake designer,



*The 2SUM comes with two grip shells, two slides and one serial numbered interchangeable firing mechanism. Photo: Joseph R. Novelozo.*

a descendant of S&W co-founder Daniel Baird Wesson, crafted the gun with interchangeable sleeved barrels. The deluxe outfit was the Dan Wesson Pistol Pac, which came with multiple-length barrels and the changing tools... kinda like a SIG 2SUM, except the latter doesn’t need proprietary tools to change configurations.

SIG’s hope was departments and individual cops would buy P250s, as well as private citizens, for the versatility. The theory was a police officer would wear the pistol to work in full-size configuration, and then change it to a compact in the locker room or at home, for off-duty concealed carry. Looking at the Dan Wesson experience with the same market decades ago, we know that it didn’t work out that way. After an exhausting 8- to 12-hour tour of duty, the last thing a tired cop wants

to do is unload his gun, take it apart, reassemble it differently, and reload before going about his business on his own time. Thus, cops of the period simply invested in a second, smaller revolver for off-duty, which could also be carried as backup to their service revolver at work.

Those of us who learned to appreciate the Dan Wesson for its fine accuracy and its potential for an extremely smooth action, and desired them in different barrel lengths, found changing barrels meant the revolver had to be sighted in again after each barrel change, or there could be subtle changes in point of impact. It was something of a hassle, and serious shooters, who liked the Dan Wesson, simply bought another one in the additional barrel length they wanted.

I see the same happening with the P250. One friend of mine who likes

# THE SIG 2SUM 2-GUNS-IN-1 KIT OFFERS FASCINATING OPTIONS.

the P250 now has two whole guns, plus two change-out kits. The fact is, the majority of P250 owners I know like the gun just as it is, as a stand-alone pistol, and the modularity element just didn't factor into their purchasing decision that much.

### 2SUM On The Firing Line

Our test 2SUM came in 9mm, with a compact/subcompact grip module with smooth dust cover, and a full-size one replete with light rail. The little one came with a short slide assembly housing a 3.6" barrel, and with a single, 12-round magazine. The larger came with a 4.7" barrel, proportional slide, and a 17-round magazine. Both slides were equipped with 3-dot tritium night sights, generously proportioned to give a good, fast-sight picture in daylight or dark.

Each gun was tested for grouping from the bench, using an MTM handgun rest. Every 5-shot group was measured once overall and then again for the best three shots. The second measurement factors out enough unnoticed human error to give a good approximation of the gun's inherent accuracy, while the whole 5-shot group offers a good preview of practical accuracy in experienced



*Federal 9BP JHP out of the subcompact proved to be the most accurate combination (above) of the test. This group was fired from bench at 25 yards with the "shorty." The longer version also shot its best (below) with the Federal 115-grain JHP.*



human hands, given calm conditions and a braced firing position.

The 2SUM was tried in each configuration with the three most popular 9mm bullet weights. For 124

grain, I picked the very accurate Black Hills 124-grain JHP. Out of the longer "kit," that load gave us 2.95" for five shots, with the best three in 1.2". In the subcompact, the overall Black Hills group was actually a smidgen tighter: 2.90", with a 1.35" measurement for the best three.

For 115 grain, the choice was Federal's famously accurate 9BP, a standard pressure jacketed hollowpoint. It lived up to its reputation with the best groups, irrespective of gun configuration. The service-size half of the 2SUM twosome gave a 2.1", 5-shot group, while the best three (including a double) went into 1.8". When morphed into subcompact form, the P250 shot the best group of the test with the Federal 9BP: 1.7" for all five shots, and a sweet .65" for the best three, a cluster, which also included a double.

The 147-grain subsonic entry was a low-priced generic, but one proven to be an IDPA match-winner for me: Remington's UMC full metal jacket truncated cone. It delivered a 3.8" 5-shot group, with most of the spread horizontal, and a 1.85" best 3-shot group, with the long top end in place. But the subcompact "kit" completed

FOR CONFIDENCE WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST

**NEW!**

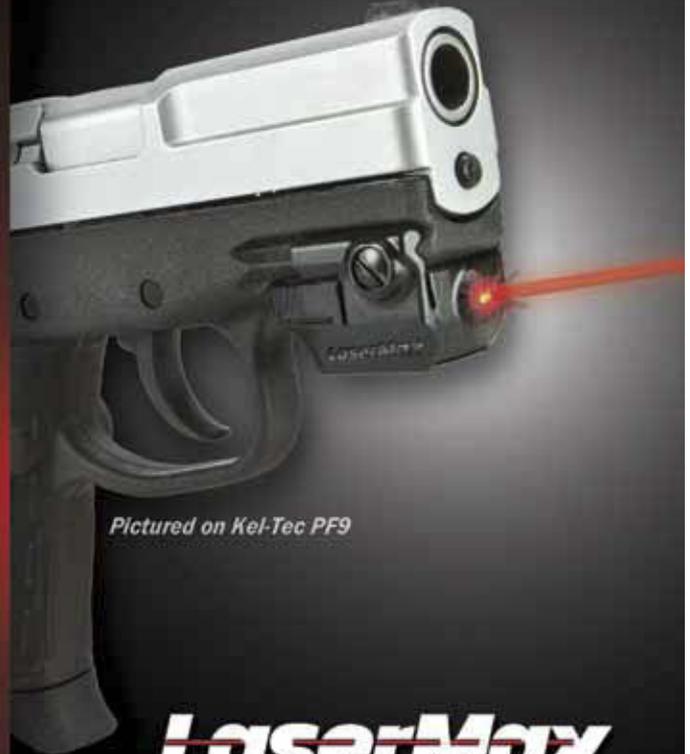
**UNI-MAX® MICRO**

- THE SMALLEST, MOST LIGHTWEIGHT RAIL MOUNT LASER
- SLEEK CONTOUR FOR COMFORTABLE CONCEALED CARRY
- FITS VIRTUALLY ALL FIREARMS WITH AN ACCESSORY RAIL - A PERFECT MATCH FOR COMPACT & SUB-COMPACT PISTOLS



Proudly Made in the USA  
by Americans

800.527.3703  
www.lasermx.com



*Pictured on Kel-Tec PF9*

**LaserMax**  
FIRST SHOT CONFIDENCE



**A happy Mas, with 2SUM set up as subcompact, and 25-yard target. The shorter version delivered tighter groups. Go figure.**

its clean sweep of the accuracy testing, with a group measuring 3.25" for five shots and 1.2" for best three.

Why the counterintuitive outcome? I had expected the longer kit to outshoot the shorter if only because of the longer sight radius. However, it's not the first time I've seen a shorter, polymer-framed auto outshoot its longer sibling. It is theorized in the shorter guns there is proportionally more rigidity in the barrel/slide area, enhancing inherent accuracy.

With the P250 2SUM, I noticed "lighter was tighter" with the 115 grain ahead of the 124 and well ahead of the 147 grain in both barrel lengths. The long one grouped a tad right and the short one, a bit left with some loads, but either gun would have shot a perfect police qualification score at 25 yards, out of the box with a center hold.

### Reliability

The P250 recently passed a torture test by a large West Coast agency with flying colors, and insiders there tell me it will soon be approved for their personnel (they're just waiting to test a striker-fired version of the P250 now in development). I've tested three of the four calibers, but not the .357 SIG. The Federal Air Marshals have adopted the .357 version of the P250, and FAM has very high reliability testing standards. The several P250s I've seen in the hands of my students in classes and fellow shooters at matches have all worked fine.

Imagine my surprise, when one of my staff testers had the 2SUM break while he was shooting it in full-size mode. He called to tell me the trigger was no longer raising the hammer. A phone call to SIG got fast delivery of a replacement. Dissecting the failed "receiver" module, our resident SIG armorer found the trigger draw bar had become rounded at a critical point and was slipping, causing the problem. I emailed a close-up picture to the production manager Eric von Bosse at SIG who confirmed our diagnosis. He determined a small number of trigger bars had come in out-of-spec from the vendor. Problem caught and solved.

That said, I consider it an anomaly. The failure occurred at around the 180th shot. The part was replaced, and both long and short configurations ran fine, as they had before the failure: no misfires, no failures to feed or extract or eject.

### 2SUM

**MAKER:** SIG SAUER  
18 INDUSTRIAL DR.  
EXETER, NH 03833

(603) 772-2302, WWW.SIGSAUER.COM

#### ACTION TYPE:

*Locked breech semi-auto*

#### CALIBER:

*9mm (tested), .40 S&W*

#### CAPACITY:

*17 (full size), 12 (subcompact)*

#### BARREL LENGTH:

*4.7" (full size), 3.6" (subcompact)*

#### OVERALL LENGTH:

*8" (full size), 6.7" (subcompact)*

#### WEIGHT:

*28.4 ounces (full size), 24.9 ounces (subcompact)*

#### FINISH:

*Nitron*

#### SIGHTS:

*SIGLITE night sights*

#### GRIPS:

*Integral polymer*

#### PRICE:

**\$945**

### Value

Retail on the 2SUM set is \$945. Buying each individual P250, the compact and the full-size each with their own firing mechanism, would cost you \$640 per gun. Buying the 2SUM gives you a \$335 savings. This includes the \$100 per-gun price cut SIG gave the P250 pistols in late 2009. A \$335 saving when you buy one good small gun and one good larger one is a nice taste of savings: it makes the 2SUM a toothsome twosome. Just bear in mind that you won't have both formats working together at any one time.

The choice is yours. And choice is good.

**GUNS**

**WICKEDGRIPS.COM**

The ONE....  
The ONLY....  
The ORIGINAL....

Creating custom, one of a kind grip sets for the 1911, S&W revolvers, and the SIG 238

Wickedgr@WICKEDGRIPS.COM



From the highest grade woods, to our signature custom inlays, We are a TRUE Custom Grip Maker!



Be sure to check out our new handgun accessory company at:

**GRIPWERX.COM**

**810-412-4037**

# NEWAGEN

COLT'S



**John Taffin PHOTOS: Robbie Barrkman**

**Y**ou've been building the world's greatest semi-automatic pistol for 100 years. If imitation really is the sincerest form of flattery, it is the most flattered pistol of all times with dozens of other manufacturers and custom gun builders copying the original design. Since 1911 it has been applauded, denounced, chopped, channeled, tuned, tightened, melted, Commander-ized, miniaturized, barrel-shortened, barrel lengthened, fitted with sights of all different descriptions, Picatinny-railed, guide-rodged, turned into a superbly accurate target pistol, emerged as the world's finest combat pistol, and in addition to the original .45 Automatic Colt Pistol cartridge, has also been chambered in a long list of cartridges from .22 LR to .50 GI.

In spite of the preponderance of "plastic pistols" especially during the last two decades it still remains the number one choice of shooters and more pistolsmiths specialize in the 1911 than all others combined. So what do you do for the next 100 years?

My friend Gary Reeder, who builds some of the finest custom revolvers, has perhaps basically said it best with the statement there are no finer pistols made today than Colts. In the past year I have tested five brand new, factory built 1911s in .45 ACP,

.38 Super, and 10mm, and I have to agree with him. Now Colt stands on the threshold of the second century of semi-automatic pistols.

Do they just build a commemorative model and continue going on as normal, or do they do something different, really radically different? They have chosen the latter path and shooters will reap the benefits. Of course, along with Commemorative Models, they will continue to produce a long line of excellent pistols based on the 1911 platform. However,

## THE NEXT 100 YEARS STARTS RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!



# T.45 DAO

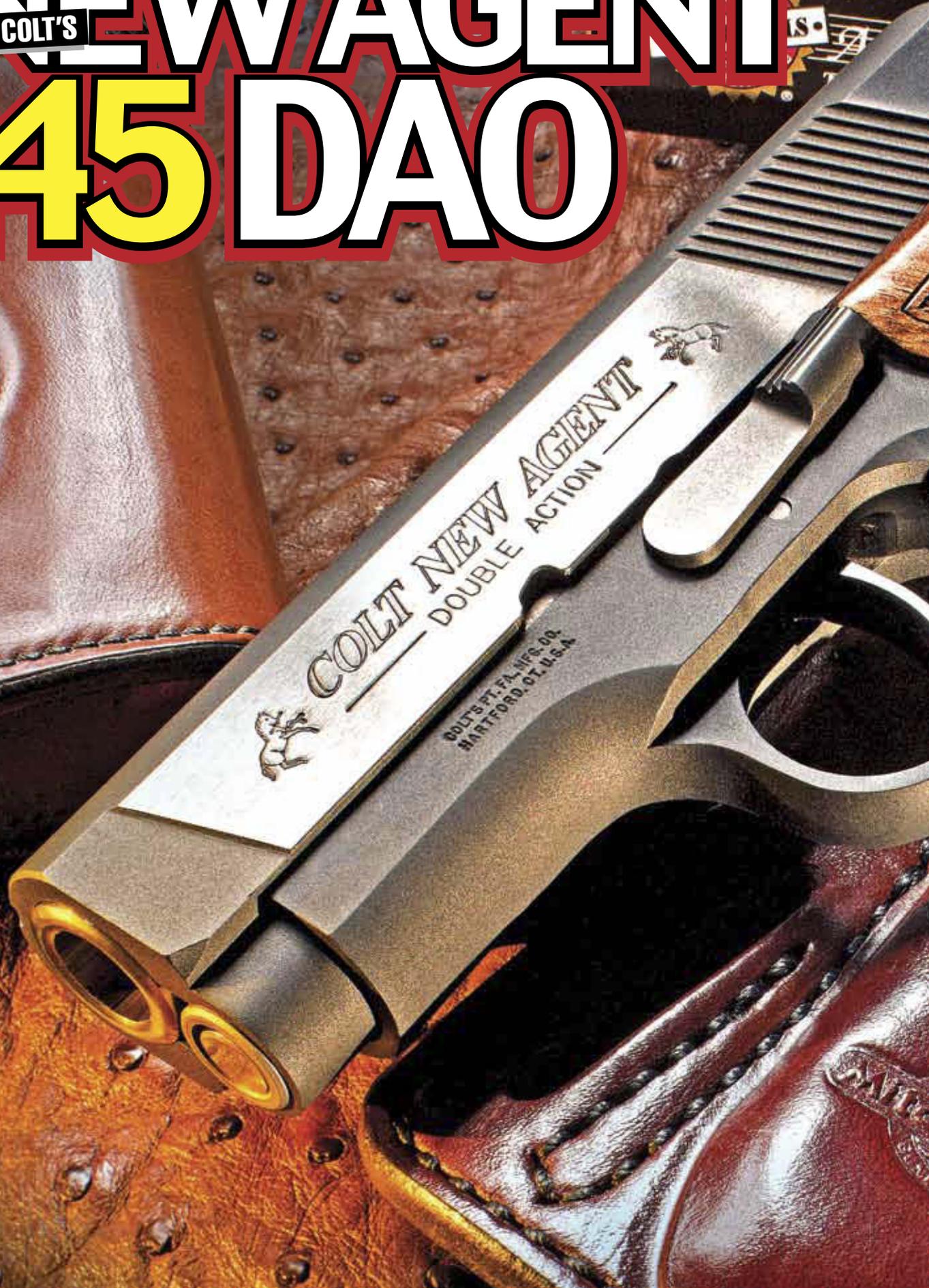


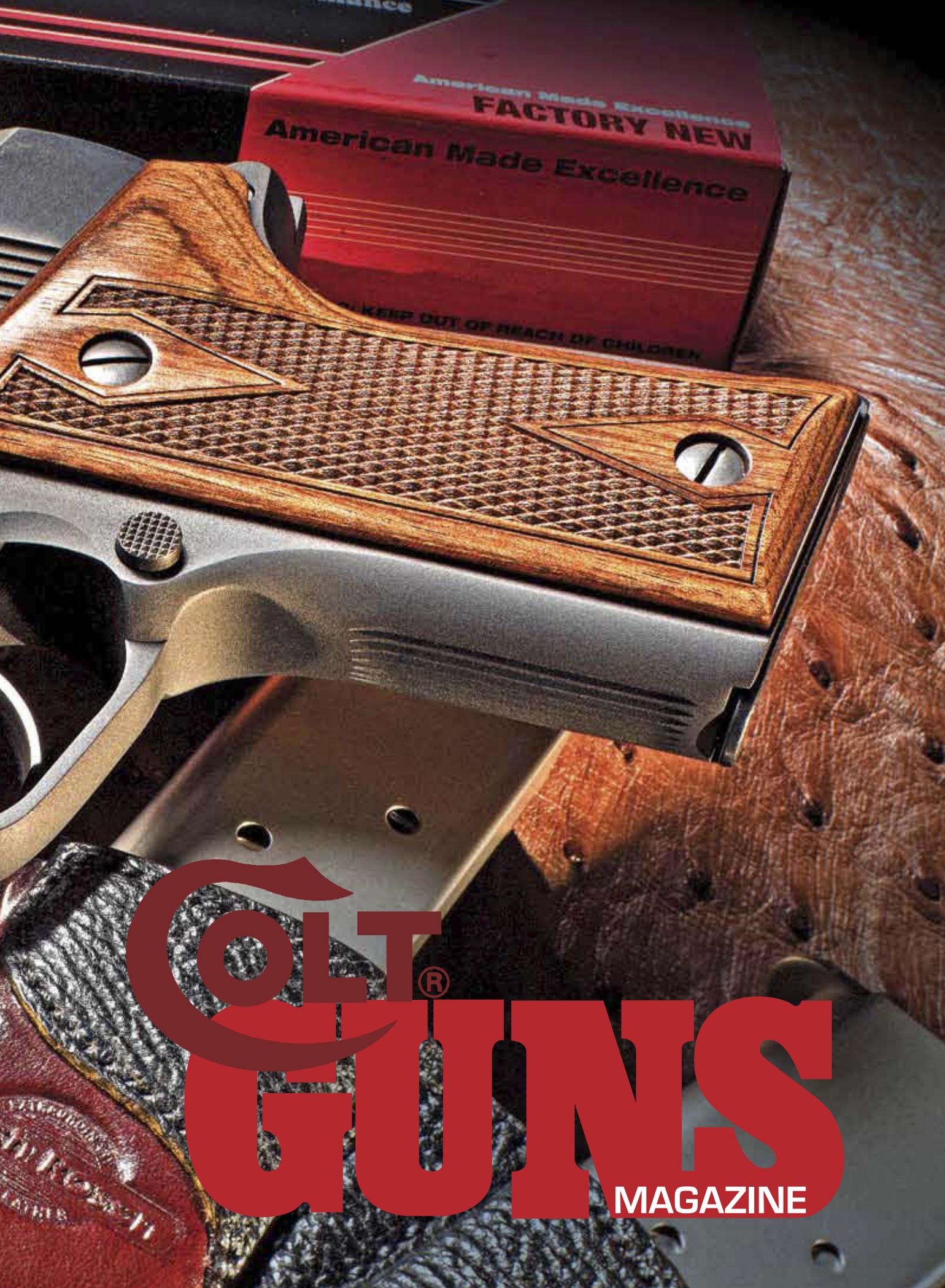
By the time Taffin had expended 100 rounds he was able to get offhand groups like this at 7 yards. The absence of traditional sights and a long, heavy pull requires a little more learning than a conventional pistol, but decent combat accuracy from a snag-free draw is the result of practice.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** A) Sighting is accomplished by looking down the top of the slide through a trough. It is snag free and the pistol is still accurate at combat distances. B) The double recoil spring is of the captured variety. C) A true Double-Action-Only pistol: the hammer can't be cocked and fits flush with the back of the slide. D) The DAO trigger pull was right at 12 pounds—about the same as a trigger found on a stock revolver. Note the undercut to the triggerguard to keep your hand high in the hold.

# COLT'S NEW AGENT .45 DAO

Mitch Rosen





American Made Excellence  
**FACTORY NEW**  
American Made Excellence

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

# COLT<sup>®</sup> GUNS

MAGAZINE

EXTRAORDINARY  
LEATHER

to usher in their next century the engineers at Colt have come up with something completely different. It is still a .45 ACP and it still says Colt on the slide. It is the Colt New Agent and those are about the only two ways it resembles the 1911.

Where does the name "New Agent" come from? Colt was one of the first to offer a truly modern pocket revolver with the advent of the Detective Special .38 in 1927. In the early 1950s the Detective Special was fitted with an alloy frame and became the Cobra. Then in 1955 the butt of the Cobra was shortened to become the Agent. All of these were fine pocket revolvers, however, they disappeared from the Colt product line in the 1980s. Just about the time the Colt pocket revolvers disappeared, the era of the CCW began to emerge until today, when we find pocket pistols are among the most desired firearms with almost every state having a provision for concealed carry licenses. The New Agent, unlike the 1911, is a true pocket pistol.

The New Agent is somewhat reminiscent of the Colt Officers Model .45 ACP. What makes it totally different is the fact this is a double-action-only .45. Many double-action pistols are double action for the first shot, and then become single actions for subsequent shots. When carried with the hammer down on a loaded cartridge the first shot is fired by a

long pull of the double-action trigger and then after that the hammer is automatically cocked and the trigger is set in single-action mode. With the New Agent it is pure Double-Action-Only, meaning every pull of the trigger is the same. The spurless, bobbed-off hammer is not concealed but fits into a channel at the back of the slide.

The New Agent has a matte-black alloy frame mated up with a steel slide, which is polished on the sides but flat black on the top. The total weight empty is 24 ounces. With its relatively lightweight and small grip, I expected more felt recoil that I experienced.

Of course, it recoils more than a 1911 weighing almost twice as much, however it is not at all excessive. Grips are diamond-checked wood with extensions at the top going back to the end of the slide. I also expected the checkering to be bothersome, but this did not prove to be a problem.

The hammer is almost flush with the back of the slide with absolutely no edges or corners to catch on clothing. Instead of a beavertail grip safety, there is in fact no grip safety and the whole affair from the bottom of the butt up to the top of the frame is one piece. There is no protrusion,

## **.45 ACP** **FACTORY AMMO PERFORMANCE**

<b>LOAD (BRAND, BULLET WEIGHT, TYPE)</b>	<b>VELOCITY (FPS)</b>
<b>Black Hills 185 JHP</b>	828
<b>Black Hills 200 JHP</b>	846
<b>Black Hills 230 JHP</b>	727
<b>Black Hills 230 FMJ</b>	722
<b>Federal 185 JHP</b>	814
<b>Federal 230 FMJ</b>	739
<b>Federal 230 Hyra-Shok JHP</b>	790
<b>Speer Gold Dot HP</b>	795
<b>Winchester 230 FMJ</b>	757

*Notes: Chronograph set at 10' from muzzle*



found such as the normal grip safety or beavertail safety and, in fact, once again there is absolutely nothing to catch on clothing.

No matter how much is done to a pistol to make it totally pocket friendly (as in nothing to catch on clothing), the problem always remains with the sights. Sights normally stick up above the slide and several things have been tried to make them totally pocket friendly also. They have been rounded, ramped, melted, set low, however no matter what is tried they are still sights and not 100-percent pocket friendly. Colt has solved this problem by eliminating them all together. The first thing you notice when looking at a side view of the New Agent is the absolute absence of sights.

There are sights of a sort, actually I should say sight. Instead of the traditional sights, the New Agent has a reference point consisting of a trough, gutter, channel or trench, whatever you decide to call it. From the back of the slide to the front, and only interrupted by the ejection port, is a shallow channel approximately 1/8" in width, which serves as a reference point for sighting. That alone boldly says this is not a hunting, target or plinking pistol or anything else except a pure self-defense pistol. It may look "cute" but this is a serious pistol for nasty situations—up close situations where sights are really not necessary. At what are normally considered self-defense distances from 15' to 20' it is just a matter of drawing with no danger of catching on clothing, point and shoot.

### Learning Curve

This is also not a pistol you buy for grandma, load it, and figure she is well armed. As a grandpa, who has been shooting for well over 50 years, I discovered a learning curve with the New Agent that does not exist with most .45 semi-automatics. It took me approximately 100 rounds to really feel comfortable shooting what is basically a sightless pistol. The combination of double-action only and lack of conventional sights require some training and/or practice to effectively use this little pistol. At 7 yards I can now place a magazine of .45s in a 2" group in the center of a reduced silhouette target. We need not ask anything more from a self-defense pistol.

The double-action pull measures 12 pounds. This is not a problem when shooting the first round, or 10 rounds, however, when firing a box or more of shells my trigger finger becomes fatigued. This, of course, is of no

*There is no conventional barrel bushing as on the 1911. Instead, the barrel is slightly bell shaped to fit the slide. A full-length guide rod is present. A conventional slide stop and 1-side mag release is present on the left side.*



consequence as it is that first shot that counts. In self-defense situations, you rarely ever need more than two or three shots. I thought the 12 pounds was excessive until I measured my 60-year-old Smith & Wesson double-action .44 Special. Its double-action trigger pull is 11-1/2 pounds. The Smith & Wesson pull seems lighter as the .44 is larger and heavier.

If desired, I'm sure a competent gunsmith could lighten the double-action trigger pull of the New Agent by a few pounds. For normal self-defense use I don't think it is necessary. However, this is a pistol for someone with a strong hand and trigger finger. It is not for the young or elderly, scratch that, I guess I'm in the elderly phase of my life, but I still have relatively strong hands and fingers and have no problem operating the New Agent. Along those same lines, many semi-automatic pistols are difficult, at least for me, to operate the slide to chamber that first round from the magazine. However, the slide of the New Agent is easy to operate. This is helped by serrations at the back of the slide.

### No Bushing

The New Agent does not have the traditional 1911 bushing. The barrel has a step down just over 1" from the muzzle and then tapers to a bell shape for positive lock up. It is also fitted with a guide rod. The magazine holds seven rounds. However I prefer to load seven rounds and then feed the first one in the chamber leaving six rounds in the magazine. The New Agent also works with the longer, standard 1911 magazines.

There are no external safeties of

any kind and the slide locks open when the last shot is fired. I fired nine different .45 ACP factory loads in the New Agent utilizing everything from 185-grain JHPs through 230-grain FMJs. The New Agent fed everything flawlessly with never a stutter or hesitation and never a failure to eject fired cases positively. Operation was 100-percent perfect with every load tried. The accompanying chart gives muzzle velocities only with no group sizes for the simple reasons stated above: This is not a pistol for shooting small groups on paper.

Regular readers know of my age-old search for the Perfect Packin' Pistol, or PPP; call the New Agent the PPPPP, or Powerfully Potent Perfect Pocket Pistol.

**GUNS**

### NEW AGENT

**MAKER:** COLT MFG. CO.  
P.O. BOX 1868, HARTFORD, CT 06114  
(860) 236-6311, WWW.COLTSMFG.COM

#### **ACTION TYPE:**

*Semi-automatic DAO  
(Double-Action-Only)*

#### **CALIBER:**

*.45 ACP*

#### **CAPACITY:**

*7+1*

#### **BARREL LENGTH:**

*3"*

#### **OVERALL LENGTH:**

*6-1/4"*

#### **WEIGHT:**

*24 ounces*

#### **FINISH:**

*Matte black*

#### **SIGHTS:**

*U-shaped trough*

#### **GRIPS:**

*Diamond checkered wood*

#### **PRICE:**

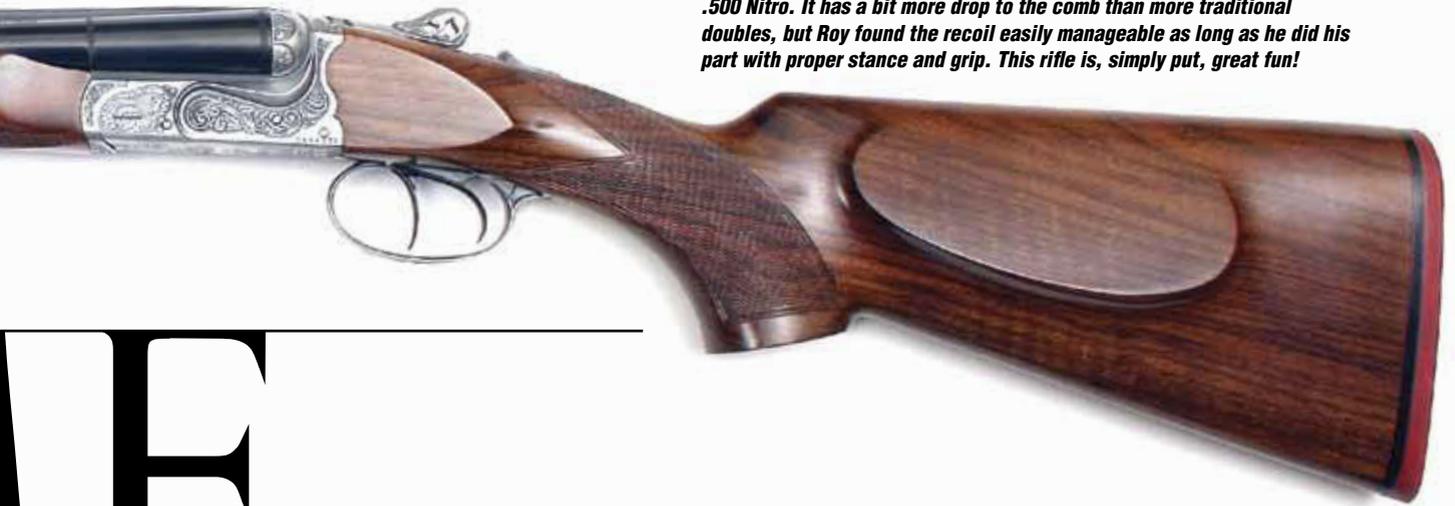
*\$995*



# ALL THINGS SUBLIME



*The EAA Sabatti SAB92SF is an elegant, handsome double rifle, available in two action sizes to fit anything from .45-70 (test rifle) up to the brawny .500 Nitro. It has a bit more drop to the comb than more traditional doubles, but Roy found the recoil easily manageable as long as he did his part with proper stance and grip. This rifle is, simply put, great fun!*



# THE EAA'S .45-70 SABATTI DOUBLE RIFLE

## Roy Huntington

I'll say it up front—I hardly know a thing about double rifles. Having said that, probably like you, I've wanted one as long as I can remember. My experience has consisted mainly of reading hunting stories about Africa and any article or book I could lay my hands on about doubles.

My mind has reeled a continuous-loop video of charging Cape buffalo, the low rumbling growl of a lion in the darkness, the snick of an action closing and the dream of actually, one day, just maybe—feeling those double barrels under my hand as I carried the rifle on my shoulder in Africa. And now, after all that wishing, hand-wringing and research, I finally own one.

## Africa

I'm blessed with having been to Africa twice now, but alas, sans double rifle. Of course, that simply means I have to return now. My experience, although limited to plains game, clearly showed the value of those all-important two, fast, stopping shots. My professional hunter, "Zayne" on my first trip to Zimbabwe, carried a .500 Nitro Express double. We were in elephant and lion country, and he needed it.

He once said, "If a lion charges, drop to your knee and shoot until you stop it." I had a short, .308 bolt rifle. I felt just a bit queasy when he said it.

"Um, uh... shouldn't you stay on your feet so you can get away?" I said, sounding like the novice I was.

"No, you can't get away—he'll kill you," he said. "If you



*In Zimbabwe, while testing a .308 bolt-action, Roy often wished he'd had a bigger gun. "When you're in the bush and you hear the low roar of a lion or the crashing of an elephant, suddenly that .308 just doesn't seem adequate!"*

drop to one knee you are shooting flat at him, if you stand, the angles are constantly changing as he runs at you—and you'll miss." And he was right. And at that moment, I understood a .500 Nitro double rifle.

There was one moment involving a young bull elephant

*"A double rifle, just as Africa herself, has no equal."  
— Dwight Van Brunt.*

that caused Zayne to “un-shoulder” the .500 as I stood behind him. The young bulls bluster, bully and practice being tough—but you never know.

“If I tell you, shoot his ear,” said Zayne. I simply said “OK” and readied my short .308.

The bull got bored and left. Then I asked, “Why the ear?”

“It turns them sometimes,” he said. “They get distracted by the pain and will turn their head and forget they were charging.”

I noticed the young bull had several bullet holes in his ears as he walked away, flapping them slowly.

My .308 felt silly then. The .500, as he held it out in front of us, was like a concrete block wall between the elephant and where I was standing. I itched to have one in my hands. When I returned to the states, I found the cheapest double I could find was around \$10,000 in real money. I knew it before, but needed to check again. I dreamed on.

### Trip Two

The next trip found my wife, Suzi, and me in Namibia. Another plains game hunt and I was along for the ride, taking pictures. Suzi had a Ruger No. 1 in .45-70 as customized by Gary



*While it didn't quite show the kind of detailed handwork a \$50,000 rifle might, the Sabbatti was neatly fitted and rugged. These action parts are after Roy put about 200 rounds through the rifle without cleaning it.*

Reeder. It was short, light and serious. I was anxious to see how it worked. Suzi took two Kudu with it. One shot each, using 300-grain Barnes bullets. The strikes sounded like a heavy wet towel hitting a brick wall, and they went down—now. A lesson for sure. Even our PH raised his eyebrows at the shots.

When I returned, the quest for my own rifle continued. There was talk

of an eastern European rifle being brought in, a double in .45-70, but I was unhappy with the quality. The real thing remained out of reach.

### The Call

“Roy, I have something I know you'll like. I know how you feel about double rifles,” said Paul Richter of EAA. Yes, that's EAA (European American Armory). “I'm sending



*The rifle features double triggers, with the right shooting the right barrel. Ergonomics were solid, and the slender wrist felt good. The rifle shouldered like a fast 20-gauge side-by-side. Fortunately, Sabbatti and EAA treats us like adults when it comes to the safety. It doesn't automatically re-engage when the rifle is opened; critical on a dangerous game rifle.*

you something I know will get your attention, and it's in .45-70, your favorite cartridge." He hinted at more... scrollwork, double barrels, fine finish and more.

"How much is it though?" I asked, worried.

"Look at it, then call me and tell me what you think it's worth," he said laughing.

A very long month or so passed before Brandon's Guns, here in Joplin, phoned.

"Hey Roy," said Brandon, "I've got a funny rifle here with two barrels on it. Come get it because people keep staring at it. I don't think these deer hunters have ever seen anything like this!"

### The Rifle

EAA's double rifle is made in Italy by Sabatti and comes in a hard-shell plastic, fitted case, with a target, sling swivels and scope base. I uncased it at home and found a compellingly beautiful work of art. Nicely fitted, wonderful to behold, it shouldered smoothly, like a 20-gauge double-barrel shotgun might. The stock is nicely figured walnut, has a solid recoil pad, blued barrels and triggers and a silvered action and triggerguard. The "engraving" can't be hand cut, but it's elegant, cleanly done and looks smashing. A nice touch, I thought, was the "animal" figure on the lever used to open the action. The checkering appeared hand-cut and while the sights were not traditional, the bold, fiber-optic setup could be seen clearly and were quick to pickup.

I was in love, badly.

I have a favorite reload for the .45-70 I use. A 405-grain hardcast lead bullet with enough 3031 to chronograph at an honest 1,350 fps or thereabout. I ran a patch down both barrels, dropped a dab or two of oil on the moving parts, grabbed a few of my reloads and went outside. I'm blessed with living on 20 wooded acres in Missouri, and we can shoot on our property. At that very minute, what I had paid for our land was worth every penny. I could shoot this rifle *now*.

I keep a 100-yard gong outside my office door. It's in our walnut grove and often in shade. I dry-fired the Sabatti a few times with snap-caps I use in my Sharps. My head was reeling—this was it! The rifle felt light, but heavy at the same time. I had never fired a double rifle before, had a head-full of imaginations—that video loop that kept playing—but confess it felt just right as I loaded it, snicked the action closed and shouldered it.

The sights, bright, showed right up and I found the gong in the shade. Was



*The Sabatti 92SF double has extractors rather than ejectors. Roy didn't feel it hindered his work with the rifle in the least. Note the interesting treatment of the lever.*



*The front and rear sights (above, left and right) are non-traditional fiber-optic but Roy found them fast, clear and very useable. The rear is adjustable for windage, but the rifle was spot-on as received.*



*Check out the wood-to-metal fit. Nothing to argue about here!*

I asking too much for the first shots? One hundred yards with a double rifle? Unproven? Who knew where it was sighted in? I rolled my shoulder forward slightly, made sure my stance was secure and slowly, gently, squeezed the right trigger for the right barrel.

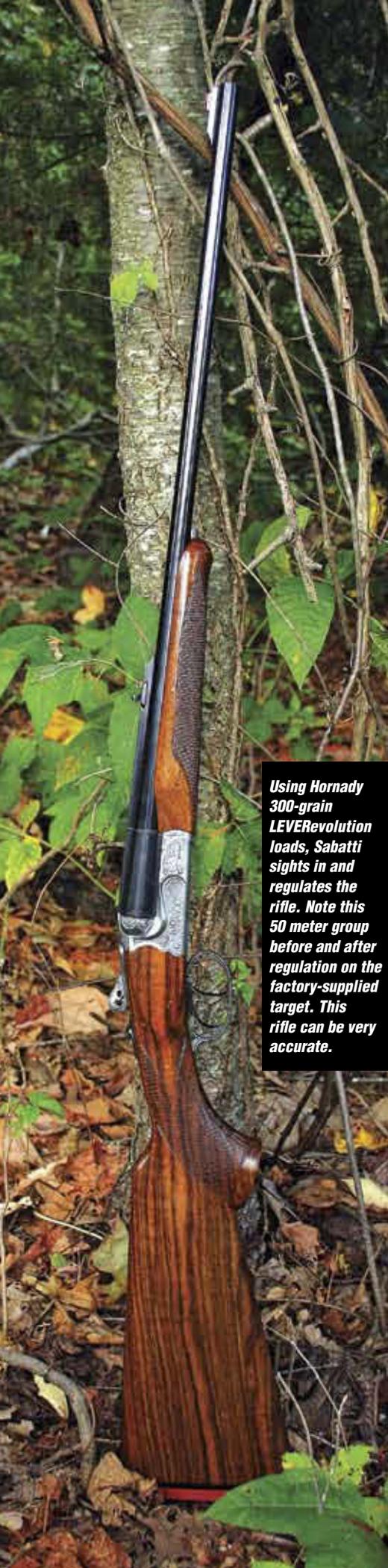
The thump was satisfying—not too much, not too little—but the sound of the gong hit was even more satisfying. I glanced at it as it swung. Only a big round makes it swing. A re-shoulder and with a press of the second trigger, the left barrel spoke and yes, I swear on all things holy to shooters and dreamers alike, the gong sang again.

I had my rifle.

### Details

Sabatti makes barrels for other companies so has a history of metallurgy knowledge and barrel-making excellence. The hammer-forged chrome-moly barrels, carefully crafted monoblock action, walnut stock, tang-mounted safety and overall feel makes a complete package pleasing to the touch.

They offer two "sizes" in the rifles. The smaller version (like our test gun) is in .45-70. The larger action is offered in .375 H&H, .416 Rigby, .450 Nitro, .458 Win Mag, .470 Nitro and even the exalted .500 Nitro Express!



**Using Hornady 300-grain LEVERevolution loads, Sabatti sights in and regulates the rifle. Note this 50 meter group before and after regulation on the factory-supplied target. This rifle can be very accurate.**



**Using Hornady 300-grain LEVERevolution loads, Sabatti sights in and regulates the rifle. Note this 50 meter group before and after regulation on the factory-supplied target. This rifle can be very accurate.**



**The top group was shot offhand at 50 yards with the .45-70 Garrett 420-grain HCFP, which chronographed 1,750 fps. The group is about 4". The same load, from a bench, often delivered 5" to 6" groups at 100 yards. Lower group is with a 405-grain HCFP reload of 37 grains of 3031, chronographing at near 1,350 and delivered reliable 3" to 4" groups and was very soft shooting.**

All versions come with 24" barrels. The rifle offers extractors rather than ejectors, and I didn't find it to bother me at all.

### Ammo

I phoned Randy Garret of Garret Cartridges. Randy is known for loading a wide cross-section of .45-70 loads. He sent loads from heavy to light, and I worked the .45-70 rifle with them, along with a couple of factory loads I had and my own reload. The Sabatti is rated for 28,000 CUP so Randy's 420-grain Hardcast with a big meplat at about 1,750 fps over the chrono in my rifle became my favorite load, and it's well within the capability of the rifle. And, it delivered 5" to 6" groups at 100 yards!

"That round has taken African game animals, including Cape buffalo," said Randy. "Should be more than anyone would ever need for anything in the US or most things in Africa." I agreed after seeing the performance of Suzi's .45-70. Despite being an elder statesman among cartridges, the .45-70 performs with gusto with today's ammo.

I tried the Federal 300-grain Sierra Pro Hunter HPFN at 1,860 fps and found it manageable and accurate. A near-perfect whitetail load. The test target with the rifle said they used 300-grain Hornady "LEVEReloution" but I didn't have any onhand to test it with. I'm sure, with the test target group as evidence, it would make a dandy deer load too.

### Using It

I used the rifle on two "meat" deer on our land here. Shots were at about 50 yards and 65 yards respectively. One shot each with the 420 Garret load. It wasn't Africa, but actually using the rifle showed me some things. The hunting experience is completely different with a double. Iron sights, close-in, fast work, it was great fun, and as I used it I realized it was a perfect pig rifle. It was fast and easy



**The magic load for this rifle: Garrett's SuperHardCast Hammerhead at a rated 1,650 fps and 27,000 CUP (under the 28,000 CUP the rifle is rated for). The 24" barrels of the 92SF delivered around 1,750 fps from this same load.**

to manage, quick to come onto target and those fiber-optic sights worked, regardless of how traditionalists might sneer at them. My own shots were taken near dusk and they made a huge difference. I will definitely use them when I take this rifle to Africa. I'm looking forward to this rifle getting serious wear marks near the end of the barrels—from my carrying it for hours in the field, over my shoulder.

As dear friend and multiple Africa-veteran Dwight Van Brunt says: "Without question, following a trusted professional hunter through the thorns with a double rifle riding your shoulder is something every hunter should experience."

### The Price

Keep in mind even a "cheap" double is more costly than a simple bolt gun. But—and this is important—how many of your current rifles or handguns languish, essentially unused, in your safe or gun locker? I say, sell them and put that money to good use on a double gun.

"OK Paul, I'm sold. That's a nice rifle. What's it going to cost me?"

"What do you think?" said Paul.

"I knew you'd say that. OK, it's

**SAB92SF**  
**MAKER:**  
**SABATTI S.P.A.**  
**VIA ALESSANDRO VOLTA, 90 - 25063**  
**GARDONE VAL TROMPIA (BRESCIA) ITALY**

**IMPORTER: US SPORTING GOODS, INC.**  
**P.O. BOX 560746**  
**ROCKLEDGE, FL 32956**  
**(321) 639-4842,**  
**WWW.USSGINC.COM**

**ACTION TYPE:**

*Box-lock SxS*

**CALIBER:**

*.45-70 (tested)*

**CAPACITY:**

2

**BARREL LENGTH:**

24"

**OVERALL LENGTH:**

40.5"

**WEIGHT:**

72 pounds

**FINISH:**

*Blue barrels, silvered receiver*

**SIGHTS:**

*Fixed fiber optic*

**STOCK:**

*Walnut*

**PRICE:**

\$3,500 - \$6,000

*Additional calibers: 9.3x74R, .375 H&H, .416 Rigby, .450 Nitro, .458 Win Mag, .470 Nitro, .500 Nitro. (Nitro Mags are on a larger action with leaf sights.)*

nicely made, by an old time Italian company who knows what they're doing, and it's regulated beautifully. It's sublime in its nature and clearly stops conversation when I bring it out of the safe. I'll say \$8,000."

"Ha!" laughed Paul. "Are you sitting down? It's about \$6,000 for the fancy one you have, and about \$3,500 for the blued, case-hardened basic model. The bigger bores cost a bit more. Fooled you, didn't we?"

And they did. While \$6,000 is still a lot of money, so is a \$1,200 shotgun, or a \$2,500 1911. Just maybe—maybe—you can manage one if you're smart. Sell off those safe queens! Think about it.

As Dwight told me before I got this rifle:

"Beg, borrow, barter or trade. Get a double and shoot it. Better yet, shoot it until it becomes an old friend and then take it hunting. The thrill is indescribable."

Indescribable.



GARRETT CARTRIDGES  
P.O. BOX 178  
CHEHALIS, WA 98532  
(360) 736-7861  
E-MAIL: INQUIRIES@  
GARRETTCARTRIDGES.COM

# WHEN TROUBLE COMES CALLING.

## SIDE MOUNT LASER

Only the SML offers intelligent activation and laser precision without having to replace your grips. Available for virtually all S&W® J-frames and all Taurus® revolvers including the Taurus Judge®.



# NOTHING

# BUT THE

# TRUTH

## ABOUT LIGHTWEIGHT HUNTING RIFLES.



*Lighter actions are the secret to many modern lightweight rifles, such as this New Ultra Light Arms Model 28 in .257 Weatherby Magnum (top) and Weatherby Mark V Ultra Lightweight in .240 Weatherby Magnum. Both weigh around 6-3/4 pounds despite having 24" barrels.*



*It used to be difficult to make a really light rifle with a nice walnut stock, but that's no longer impossible, thanks to lighter actions. Both of these rifles feature Kimber Model 84 actions. On top is a factory .257 Roberts (7 pounds), on bottom a custom .308 Winchester built by Kilimanjaro Rifles (6-1/2 pounds).*

### John Barsness

**T**he history of lightweight hunting rifles, like that of most human dieters, has had its ups and downs.

Most so-called "Kentucky" rifles were very slim and relatively light, but by the time European-Americans had pushed their way west of the Mississippi, the Kentucky rifle had morphed into the shorter, heavier and stouter "Plains" rifle, exemplified by those made by the Hawken brothers in St. Louis, that 19th-century departure point for the West.

The same dichotomy showed up later in the west. By the 1870s many cowboys and Indians carried relatively light lever-actions chambered for cartridges such as the .38-40 and .44-40, suitable for shooting each other and smaller big game such as pronghorn, deer and bighorn sheep. The hide hunters nearly wiped out the plains buffalo with heavy single-shots chambered for much larger rounds.

In the first half of the 20th century, Eastern deer hunters also really liked light lever actions. While some Western hunters also carried Winchester and Marlin .30-30s (especially cowboys who liked the way the flat receivers fit under stirrup leather), other hunters started using bolt-actions chambered for the .30-06 and similar rounds, especially on elk. Many European hunters liked lightweight Mannlicher-Schoenauer carbines, some even taking them to Africa, Alaska and the Arctic—though some also owned and used a heavier rifle for bigger game, whether an inexpensive Mauser 9.3x62 or a double rifle in a big Nitro-Express cartridge.

If the lightweight hunting rifle isn't exactly new, why do so many hunters still have so many misconceptions about light rifles? You've heard them, and may have even voiced them yourself: Light rifles are hard to shoot accurately, kick too much and are chambered for wimpy cartridges unsuited for truly large game.

Let's look at the inaccurate part first, since it's tied to the major reason hunting rifles suddenly gained weight in the middle of the 20th century—the telescopic sight. In 1935 most hunting rifles didn't have scopes, but by 1965 most did. The mounts and scope added about a pound to rifles that already weighed, on average, around 8 pounds.

Now, 8 pounds isn't a bad weight for a hunting rifle, but even a century ago it wasn't exactly light. Winchester Model 94 and Mannlicher-Schoenauer Model 1903 carbines weighed around 6 pounds. Even so, most of their users didn't find them inaccurate.

Back then, accuracy in a hunting rifle did not mean the ability to shoot 1/2" groups off a benchrest at 100 yards. It meant the ability to put a bullet into a game animal's chest, and that task became much easier with smokeless powder, even if the rifle itself was only capable of grouping into 3" at 100 yards. It was a lot easier to hit game animals beyond 100 yards with a .30-30 WCF or 6.5x54 M-S than with a .45-70 or 9.3x72R, due to the flatter trajectory made possible by higher velocity. Both carbines became popular, partly because they were so light and handy.

Even so, many hunters believed firmly in heavier rifles, and during the mid-20th century, quite a few hunters considered the rifle now known as the "pre-'64" Model 70 Winchester the ideal hunting rifle. I've owned a number of pre-'64s, and even without a scope they weigh around 8 pounds. Put a scope and sling on a pre-'64 "standard" rifle, then fill up the magazine and many weigh close to 10 pounds.

Many influential shooting writers claimed this weight was an advantage, allowing steadier holding, especially when the shooter's pulse rate climbed with excitement or exercise. If that's so, how did so many hunters use much lighter rifles successfully in the same sorts of circumstances? The famous elephant hunter W.D.M. Bell really liked lightweight rifles, and often ran after elephants to get in a killing shot. How did he manage this without using 9-pound rifle? How did American explorer-naturalist Charles Sheldon take so many animals from mountain sheep to grizzlies with a light Mannlicher-Schoenauer carbine? How did so many deer hunters shoot whitetail bucks, often running, with Winchester 94 carbines?

### Balance

One big reason was weight-forward balance. The Winchester featured a tube magazine under the barrel. When filled with cartridges, this moved the balance point even further forward. The Mannlicher-Schoenauer carbine had a full-length stock, the reason today's hunters still call such stocks "Mannlicher." Any rifle holds steadier when the balance point is further forward.

It was only after the telescopic sight became popular that gunsmiths and manufacturers started making lightweight rifles by shortening and slimming barrels. There really wasn't any other way to lighten a typical bolt-action rifle—or at least that's what designers thought, because they were trapped in the box of the 1898 Mauser, 1903 Springfield and pre-'64 Model 70.

All three actions weighed close to 3 pounds. A light scope and mount added close to another pound. It's just about impossible to make a hardwood stock weighing less



*This big Wyoming mule deer (above) was taken at almost 400 yards with a New Ultra Light Arms .30-06 weighing only 6-1/4 pounds with a 3-9X Trijicon AccuPoint scope—from sitting, with the rifle rested over a sagebrush. This big New Zealand red stag (below) was taken with a New Ultra Light Arms Model 24 in .30-06 by shooting across a canyon, using a handload with Berger bullets that groups under 1/2" at 100 yards. Light doesn't mean inaccurate anymore.*





**This New Ultra Light Arms Model 28 in .257 Weatherby Magnum (above) weighs only 6-3/4 pounds with scope, yet the balance point is further forward than on many normal-weight rifles. This little Ruger 77 (below) is typical of the type of light rifle that's often criticized. The 20" barrel only measures .5" at the muzzle, so the balance point is 2" to 3" further back than on a "normal" rifle.**



## WEIGHTY MATTERS

Here are some sample rifle weights and balances, divided into light rifles weighing 7 pounds or less, and rifles weighing more than 7 pounds.

<b>RIFLE</b> (model, caliber)	<b>WEIGHT WITH SCOPE</b> (pounds, ounces)	<b>BALANCE POINT</b> (inches in front of trigger)
NULA M24 .30-06	6, 4	6-3/4
NULA M20 .257 Roberts	6, 6	6-3/4
NULA M28 .257 Weatherby	6, 12	7
Weatherby, Mark V ULW .240	6, 11	6
Mannlicher-Schoenauer 6.5x54	6, 12	5-3/4
Kilimanjaro .308 Winchester	6, 8	5
Kimber Model 84 .257 Roberts	7, 0	4-3/4
Ruger RL .250 Savage	7, 0	4-1/4
Win 94 .25-35 (rifle)	8, 2	8
ER Shaw 6.5-06	10, 2	7
Mark X Mauser .375 H&H	9, 0	6-5/8
Rem 700 BDL 7mm SAUM	8, 3	6-1/2
Win M70 .30-06 (pre-'64)	9, 1	6-3/8
Wby Vanguard .257 Wby	8, 7	6-1/4
Mauser 98 Sporter 8x57	7, 7	5-1/2

than 1-3/4 pounds. The total weight was now up to 5-3/4 pounds, and the only other place to trim a few ounces was in the barrel. This was why so many post-war lightweight rifles were made with very slim barrels no more than 20" long—and is the main reason lightweight rifles suddenly acquired the reputation of being difficult to aim.

The typical walnut-stocked, bolt-action hunting rifle, with a medium-weight barrel 22" to 24" long, weighs 8 to 9 pounds with a 1-pound scope and mount, and the rifle's balance point is around 6" in front of the trigger, give or take 1/2". Perhaps not so oddly, this is also about the balance point of a Mannlicher-Schoenauer full-stocked carbine, or a Winchester 94 carbine with the magazine full of .30-30 rounds.

But cut a bolt-action's barrel back to 20" or less, with a really slim contour, and the balance point shifts dramatically. In my collection is a Ruger 77 RL in .250 Savage, with a 20" barrel measuring .5" at the muzzle. The balance point is only 4-1/4" in front of the trigger, and yes, it is noticeably more difficult to shoot offhand than a rifle with the balance point 6" in front of the trigger.

The two big-game rifles in my collection with the furthest-forward balance points are an E.R. Shaw Mk-VII in 6.5-06 with a 26" barrel measuring .70" at the muzzle, and a Winchester 1894 rifle in .25-35 with a 26" octagon barrel. The 6.5-06's balance point is 7" in front of the

trigger, while the .25-35's is a full 8". And yes, the .25-35 is really easy to shoot from any field position, despite weighing 2 pounds less than the 6.5-06.

Things started changing in the 1980s because of synthetic stocks and lighter actions. The lightest synthetic stocks could take a pound off a rifle's weight just by themselves, and some gunsmiths started whittling away at actions as well. For a long time, the primary action used in lightweight rifles was the Remington 700. The long action weighed about 38 ounces, and the short action 35 ounces. Some intense gunsmithing could drop a few more ounces.

But the big step came when Melvin Forbes brought out his Ultra Light Arms rifles, with custom-made bolt-actions that trimmed away everything that wasn't needed to contain pressure and feed cartridges from the magazine. The shortest action was the Model 20, with a 3" magazine. The name came from the weight of the entire action, almost a pound less than a short Remington 700.

Add a very strong Kevlar-based synthetic stock weighing 18 to 20 ounces, and the barrel could be normal sized without compromising weight. As an example, my wife's Model 20 in .257 Roberts has a 24" stainless Douglas barrel that's .6" at the muzzle, yet with a 3-9x40 Leupold Vari-X II the entire rifle weighs 6 pounds, 6 ounces. This is more than half a pound less than my skinny-barreled Ruger 77 .250

**As long as they balance correctly, lightweight hunting rifles aren't much more difficult to shoot from field positions than heavier rifles.**

Savage, yet the balance point is almost 7" in front of the trigger. Shooting one of these rifles offhand is not quite like shooting an 8-pound Winchester .25-35, but it isn't all that difficult. Eileen has killed two deer offhand at 150 yards or a little more.

Ultra Light Arms is now New Ultra Light Arms, after a company reorganization several years ago. Around 6,000 old and new Ultra Light rifles have been made, but their influence spread throughout the industry.

Soon several major rifle makers also designed lighter actions. Remington did it by substituting titanium for steel in their 700, while Kimber and Weatherby designed slimmer, smaller actions for their Model 84 and Ultra Light Weight rifles. Of all these rifles, the Weatherby ULW comes closer to balancing like a NULA. My own .240 Weatherby Magnum weighs 6-3/4 pounds with scope, and the balance point is 6" in front of the trigger, thanks in part to a 24" barrel. The Kimbers use slim 22" barrels and in the walnut-stocked versions the balance point is normally a little less than 5" in front of the trigger.

Not so oddly, all of these 21st century lightweights tend to shoot very well. Almost all NULAs will group into the magic 1/2" for three shots at 100 yards, and often less. The .240 Weatherby will do almost as well with several loads, including Weatherby factories using the 100-grain Nosler Partition. The Model 84 Kimbers I've shot seem to be a little more finicky, but I've always been able to find one or two loads that will shoot into an inch.

All of these actions have been used on a quite a few custom rifles as well, some with walnut stocks. Yes, it is possible to make a walnut-stocked hunting rifle that weighs well under 7 pounds with scope. My wife Eileen's own .308 Winchester, made by Kilimanjaro Rifles, weighs 6 pounds, 8 ounces with a rather stout 21" Lilja barrel. It's made on a Kimber Model 84 action (28 ounces) and shoots very well, as you might expect from a .308 with a Lilja.

### Shooting Tips

One trick I discovered for shooting lightweight rifles off the bench is to place a folded terrycloth towel over the front rest. Light rifles react more to a rest, and even a compacted sandbag can cause fliers. With a towel over the front rest, my own NULA Model 24 in .30-06 is so accurate I often use it as a test rifle for scopes and ammunition.

As for lighter rifles kicking too much, today's miracle-rubber recoil pads take a lot of sting out of recoil, and today's improved bullets also make



**One objection to light rifles is recoil, but most of the "big" game taken by hunters doesn't require hard-kicking cartridges. Eileen Clarke took this non-typical pronghorn in Wyoming with a lightweight custom rifle in .250 Savage by Texas gunsmith Charlie Sisk.**

a big difference. Many 21st-century hunters have realized they don't need a 7mm Remington Magnum to kill whitetails, or a .338 Winchester Magnum for elk—and even in the .338 most hunters are using 200- to 225-grain bullets rather than the 250- or 300-grain bullets popular half a century ago. I don't even use a .300 magnum on elk and moose anymore, instead usually carrying a 7x57 or .30-06—and my last bull of each species went less than 20 yards from where it was hit.

My hunting notes show Eileen and I have so far taken over 50 big-game animals with our various sub-7-pound sporters, both in the woods and out to over 400 yards on the prairie and tundra. There hasn't been any problem at any range caused by the rifles themselves, mostly because we use the same shooting techniques used by hunters with standard-weight rifles. At anything beyond sure offhand range we use some sort of rest, whether shooting sticks, a daypack or bipod—or whatever natural rest is handy. And when we have to hunt day after day in steep country, whether the Rockies and badlands near our Montana home, or the kloofs of the Eastern Cape in South Africa or the glacial ridges of the Far North, the lighter burden feels pretty good, just as it does in our other equipment, whether boots or packs.

**GUNS**

Photo: "The Gunny" R. Lee Erney, USMC/Veteran, TV Show Host, Film Star

**WORTHY OF BEING CARRIED ON ANY FRONT IN THE WORLD... EVEN YOUR OWN BACKYARD.**

The PowerAssist takes multi-tools to the next level. It's earned the right to be called Gunny Approved™. With patented technology, such as SOG's Assisted Fast Opening Action, and Compound Leverage, it packs what no other multi-tool does. The PowerAssist comes with over a dozen components that you can depend on in any situation. That's just one of the many reasons why R. Lee Erney has carried SOG Knives and Tools around for over 10 years.

**SOG**  
Specialty Knives & Tools

**GUNNY APPROVED**

www.sogknives.com  
888-SOG-BEST



*Duke found the SA58 comfortable to shoot and plenty accurate for its sights.*

# FN/FAL PARATROOPER

## DS ARMS SA58 .308.

**Mike "Duke" Venturino**  
**Photos: Yvonne Venturino**

**B**ack in the dim, distant recesses of my mind I think my first exposure to the FN/FAL rifle came during the civil unrest that hit the former Belgian Congo in the early 1960s. As I remember, Belgian paratroopers dropped into a city there to protect Europeans and somewhere I saw a photo of one of those tough-looking gents standing on a street corner holding what seemed to my young, American mind an odd-looking rifle. Of course, it was a version of their domestically produced FN/FAL and would have chambered the 7.62mm NATO round. Those letters stand for Fabrique Nationale and Fusil Automatique Leger and, of course, 7.62mm NATO is dimensionally *almost* identical to our civilian .308 Winchester.

And to be honest that was about the full extent of my knowledge about such a rifle until holding this SA58 made by DS Arms. Perhaps that's why Editor JJ asked me if I wanted

to write up this rifle—I had absolutely no preconceived notions about the type. As things have turned out, I'm glad he did. Not only have I enjoyed shooting a good rifle, but I've also

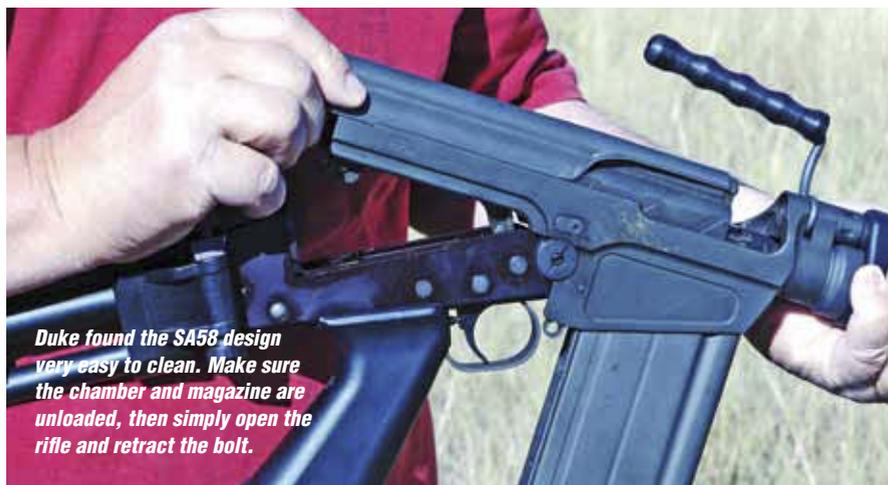
started filling a considerable gap in my basic firearms knowledge.

Let's get one thing straight first off. The SA58 as produced by DS Arms is a semi-auto, made-in-America version of the famous FN/FAL. If you visit the DS Arms website, photos are available of the very modern factory wherein the SA58s are produced. (Along with many other products not pertinent to this article.) Also, on that website are profiled no less than 35 different variations of SA58. There are even California legal ones and a few that chamber the .243 Winchester.

But, let's back up just a bit. In the early 1950s, several things happened that eventually created the SA58. For starters, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed for defense against the Communist Bloc nations. One aim of NATO was at least the standardization of ammunition, if not weapons themselves. Several experimental cartridges were developed, but due to heavy pressure from the United States, the one picked in 1954 became known as the 7.62 NATO. (Winchester actually introduced the sporting version of it in 1952 as the .308 Winchester.)

By caving in to American desires on the cartridge other NATO nations hoped (perhaps even expected) the United States would in turn adopt the Belgian developed FN/FAL. Besides a natural reluctance from the American military hierarchy to adopt a foreign rifle, there was one other major stumbling block. The United States, Great Britain and Canada used the Imperial (inches) system of measurement, while the other NATO nations used the metric system by which FN had designed and built the FAL.

Canada met the challenge head on and converted FN's plans to the Imperial system of measurement (inches) and adopted the FAL as early as 1953. With Canadian aid in the form of plans and drawings, the US Government contracted with Harrington & Richardson to build a quantity of FALs for testing by both the US Army and the US Marine



*Duke found the SA58 design very easy to clean. Make sure the chamber and magazine are unloaded, then simply open the rifle and retract the bolt.*



**In trials held in 1955, the US Army and US Marine Corps pitted the FN/FAL against the M14 with the latter rifle being the winner.**

Corps. These were designated the T48. In 1955, the T48 went head-to-head with the Springfield Armory-designed T44E4 in severe testing.

Of course, the American-designed T44E4 rifle won, which surprised almost no one. Some critics even said the entire testing program had been a sham and the result was preordained. Regardless, the T44E4 became the US M14. The ironic part of the whole endeavor was this: The first M14 rifles did not get into US soldier's hands until 1959, yet the US Army began withdrawing them from service in 1965 with the USMC following shortly. That made the M14 the shortest-lived standard American service rifle. They were replaced with the M16, which, albeit in different designations, remains in basic form the standard today. And that makes them the longest-lived standard American service rifle. There is even more irony in that the US military has

been scraping up M14s to use in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Here's one last bit of irony to the entire story. Eventually the FN/FAL was adopted by more than 90 different nations as their standard infantry rifle. Besides those already mentioned, a few nations that actually put theirs in action have been Israel, Australia, South Africa and Argentina. The variations to FN/FALS decreed by individual nations are far too numerous to detail here. Some were fitted entirely with synthetic stocks, some entirely with wooden stocks and some with portions of each. There were FN/FALS with folding paratrooper stocks and some with heavier barrels and bipod. As far as my limited research has shown all FALS adopted by any nation as standard issue were chambered for 7.62mm NATO.

And that brings us back to DS Arms' SA58. When asked which model I would like sent out here, I replied, "One as close as possible to the FN/FAL I remember being held by that Belgian paratrooper in the '60s." And so I received the "Para" model with folding stock and "trigger frame" (lower in our current parlance) both made of aluminum alloy. As I understand things, original FN/FAL "Para" models also came with alloy magazines. This SA58 came with a standard steel one. Minus the magazine, this SA58 weights about 8-1/2 pounds with a folded length of 33". With buttstock extended overall length is 43". Actual barrel length is 21".

My first impressions were all positive, especially about the skeleton buttstock. There are no little latches or buttons to activate it. Instead, it



**This view from the top shows the SA58 "Para" front sight and immediately behind it the gas port adjustment ring. Both items require special tools for adjustment available from DS Arms or Brownells.**



**The DS Arms SA58 "Para" comes with an L-shaped rear peep sight. One leg is set for 250 meters and the other for 150 meters.**



**This photo shows the DS Arms SA58 "Para" with buttstock folded. Note where ejected brass banged off the back of the ejection port.**

### **SA58 "PARA"**

**MANUFACTURER:** DS ARMS  
P.O. BOX 370

**LAKE BARRINGTON, IL 60011**  
(847) 277-7258, WWW.DSARMS.COM

#### **ACTION TYPE:**

Gas-operated semi-auto

#### **CALIBER:**

.308 Winchester

#### **CAPACITY:**

20 (10-shot California legal model)

#### **STOCK:**

Synthetic, folding buttstock

#### **BARREL LENGTH:**

21"

#### **OVERALL LENGTH:**

43" (extended), 33" (folded)

#### **SIGHTS:**

Adjustable front and rear

#### **PRICE:**

\$1,700

**BURGER KNIVES**  
distinguished craftsmanship  
Est. 1987

Renowned worldwide for our quality range of sword canes/tactical walking sticks and superior range of knives.

info@swordcane.com  
Box 436, Munster, 4278, South Africa  
www.swordcane.com

**FREE**  
**Gunsmithing School DVD**  
**The Fastest Way To Become A Certified Gunsmith!**

Make Money Part-time, Full-time, Or As A Retirement Income Doing What You Love - Puts Freedom and Control In Your Life!!

You will learn how you can get Certified as a Gunsmith in as little as 90 days through AGI's Exclusive Professional Gunsmithing Home Study Course taught step-by-step by Master Gunsmiths on DVD video. It's the ONLY Professional Gunsmithing Course using this up-to-date and proven method. \*The information package and 1 hour DVD are FREE, we only ask that you cover the \$3.97 shipping, which is FULLY REFUNDABLE! Call 1-800-797-0867 Today!

For FREE DVD go to:  
[www.agiguns.com/b01](http://www.agiguns.com/b01)

**AGI** AMERICAN GUNSMITHING INSTITUTE

<b>.308 FACTORY AMMO PERFORMANCE</b>	
LOAD (BRAND, BULLET WEIGHT, TYPE)	VELOCITY & VARIATION (FPS)
147 FMJ Winchester	2,817 & 40
150 Nosler Black Hills	2,825 & 59

always has upward spring pressure. Pushing it firmly downward allows it to fold forward against the right side of the receiver and pushing it firmly downward again allows its return to its fully-extended position. When extended, the buttstock is firm. I mean with no wobble or play. It gives up nothing to a standard buttstock in shootability.

Next, the sights were examined. The rear is an L-shape peep sight. One leaf is marked 150 (meters) and the other 250. The rear sight is dovetailed into the receiver and can be adjusted by "chase" screws. In other words,



Duke used these factory loads (above) in the SA58 along with selected handloads. Note the differing nomenclature on the boxes. Duke coupled these five jacketed bullets (below) and these two powders for .308 Winchester handloads to shoot in the DS Arms SA58 "Para."



<b>.308 HANDLOADED AMMO PERFORMANCE</b>			
BULLET (BRAND, BULLET WEIGHT, TYPE)	POWDER (BRAND)	CHARGE (GRAINS WEIGHT)	VELOCITY & VARIATION (FPS)
150 Sierra spitzer	Varget	45	2,616 & 49
150 Hornady spitzer BT	Varget	45	2,633 & 61
150 Speer FMJ-BT	Varget	45	2,643 & 43
150 Speer spitzer BT	Varget	45	2,621 & 57
155 Sierra HPBT	Varget	45	2,633 & 61
150 Sierra spitzer	IMR 4895	45	2,648 & 59
150 Hornady spitzer BT	IMR 4895	45	2,673 & 61
150 Speer FMJ-BT	IMR 4895	45	2,667 & 30
150 Speer spitzer BT	IMR 4895	45	2,632 & 44
155 Sierra HPBT	IMR 4895	45	2,686 & 70

Notes: All handloads used brass Black Hills Ammunition brass, CCI-200 Large Rifle Standard Primers. Chronograph readings taken with PACT Model IV Timer set in chronograph mode with start screen at approximately 6'.

releasing the screw on one side allows turning the screw on the other side to chase the sight when tightened. The front sight is a post type that can be raised or lowered to adjust elevation by means of a special spanner wrench. DS Arms did not send one with the rifle, but I figured my friend and gunsmith Tom Sargis of Bozeman Trail Arms would have one. He owns several of these rifles.

He did not have one, but he does have some ingenuity. He uses a very small pair of needle-nose pliers to insert in the sight holes for adjustment. As the DS Arms SA58 "Para" hit very low as received we cranked the front sight down to bring point of impact up. (As it happens, DS Arms sells the tools for adjusting the sight. Brownells has them, too.)

An instant glance at the SA58 shows the gas operating system is located above the barrel instead of beneath it as with the American M1 Garand and M14. Also, that glance shows there is an adjustable ring just behind the front sight. Not until reading the accompanying manual did I see the reason for the adjustable ring. The SA58 can be changed from semi-auto fire to a single shot if the gas ports are adjusted properly. Also, I should mention that the basic FAL as designed originally by FN was a select-fire rifle. That is by the flip of a switch it could be changed from semi-auto to full-auto. However, as anyone knows, who has fired a standard-size .308/7.62mm NATO rifle in full-auto mode, it is almost impossible to hit anything after the first shot or two. Muzzle climb is extreme.

Another glance began to show me how easy a SA58 is to tear down for basic cleaning. A button at the rear

left of receiver is pushed forward. That allows the upper and lower halves to break apart on a hinge. *This should only be done with the rifle uncocked.* Otherwise the bolt is under pressure and will pop backward with some force. This was brought to my notice by the loss of some skin on one of my hands. Anyway, when the rifle is broken open the entire bolt assembly along with its upper cover slides right out. Cleaning the bore and chamber can be done from the rear. Another good feature is the SA58's gas piston can be dismounted and cleaned simply pressing a spring-loaded lock immediately ahead of the front sight and turning it.

In essence, I must say the SA58 is much easier to clean than an M14 (or its civilian counterpart such as the M1A) whose barrel must be cleaned from the muzzle. Also M14s and M1 Garands for that matter must have their barreled actions completely removed from the stock to get to the gas system. That does nothing for keeping the rifles' zero intact.

All DS Arms' SA58s are built on the metric pattern of FN/FAL. Therefore, their parts will interchange with all built by FN, but not with FALs built using the Imperial form of measurements. Neither will their magazines interchange. That's something to keep in mind if a buyer of the SA58 goes looking for bargains on magazines. A minor point of interest to readers might be that DS Arms caliber marks the SA58 as .308 and not 7.62mm NATO. DS Arms website also has some information on types of 7.62mm NATO ammunition of which SA58 shooters should beware of for various reasons.

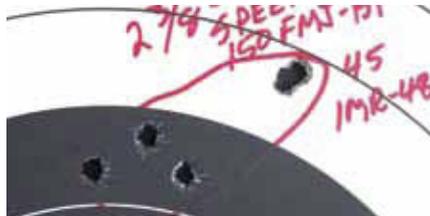
### Performance

And that brings us to the topic of just how our individual specimen performed. Before actually shooting the sample, I consulted DS Arms website. Therein was mentioned that, in general, iron sighted ones should give groups of about 3" to 4" at 100 yards. I was pleased that this sample kept its bullets well within the parameters set by the company. In the firing of a couple dozen 5-shot groups at 100 yards, most hovered right at the 3" mark give or take 1/4". Not one went as large as 4", and a few were little more than 2". I consider that sort of precision just fine, especially when my senior citizen eyes are factored in.

This part is even better. Along with a few factory loads, I fired no less than 10 handloads using IMR 4895 and Varget powders under five, 150- to 155-grain bullets. All of those handloads fed and functioned



*The DS Arms website says their off-the-shelf rifles should shoot into about 3" to 4" at 100 yards with good ammunition. Duke found that was easily the case.*



perfectly through this rifle although no special pains were taken in their preparation. No special "small-base" resizing die was used. All brass I handloaded was commercial .308 Winchester headstamped BHA for Black Hills Ammunition. It had been previously once fired in no less than three different rifles but normal full-length resizing still allowed it to function perfectly in this sample SA58. Oddly enough, the bullet that seemed to give the tightest groups was the Speer FMJ-BT (full metal jacket boattail). I say odd because I've seldom had FMJs outperform target grade bullets such as the 155-grain Sierra HPBT (hollowpoint boattail).

Once the SA58 had been properly sighted in, and enough groups fired to be sure of its accuracy potential, I sent scores of rounds dinging steel plates out to 300 yards. Pulling the trigger as fast as I could align the sights, and switching aim from 100, 200, to 300 yards, there were few misses.

These SA58s are not cheap rifles. Prices start at \$1,700 for a basic model such as this "Para" and go up to several grand for more complex models. Cost aside, the only negative thing I could think of to say about this one is that the folding stock displaced my muff-type ear protectors at every shot. Otherwise, I'm going to hate to send this rifle back at the end of the consignment period. It's fun to shoot, and I greatly enjoyed the change of pace.

**GUNS**

TOM SARGIS, BOZEMAN TRAIL ARMS  
28 LAKE DR., LIVINGSTON, MT 59047

BROWNELLS  
200 S. FRONT ST., MONTEZUMA, IA 50171  
(641) 623-4000, WWW.BROWNELLS.COM

## KWIK-SITE has taken Weaver® style rings to new heights and new lengths Our Caps Will NOT Scratch Your Scope Or Rust

Special aircraft alloy metals won't scratch your scope, and they are kwik-detachable for easy remounting.

A satin smooth finish available in brite black, silver, and black matte. They set the standard for looks in the industry.

If you can't find our rings at your favorite dealer or distributor, contact KWIK-SITE and we'll make SURE you get them.

We can fit any scope in a 1" tube, long or short, low or high, with our new extension rings. Adjustable extension rings are the same quality as our top mount rings.



Up to 64 mm objective lens  
KS-305

**4 HOLE CAP**



Up to 52 mm objective lens  
KS-304

**AIRCRAFT ALLOY**



Up to 44 mm objective lens  
KS-303

**GREAT PACKAGING**



Up to 32 mm objective lens  
KS-302

**AND THE BEST PRICE!**



Up to 64 mm objective lens  
Extended offset base



Up to 64 mm objective lens  
2 position, extended offset adjustable base

Patent Pending

**KWIK-SITE** CO.

Leading U.S. Manufacturer  
of Scope Mounts Since 1967

5555 Treadwell, Wayne, MI 48184  
(734) 326-1500 Fax# (734) 326-4120  
www.kwiksitecorp.com

Weaver® is a trademark of the ATK Co.

# KNIVES

• PAT COVERT •

## LEATHERMAN MUT Not your average utility tool.

**M**ulti-tools have been undergoing a revival for the last decade due in large part to the war in Afghanistan, which kicked off in October 2001, and ensuing crisis in Iraq two years later. Never before have our troops been so well outfitted, and never before have so many carried multi-tools. Although Leatherman Tools did not invent the multi-tool (there are some interesting examples dating back to the early 1900s and even earlier), the company certainly put the genre on the map with their Pocket Survival Tool (PST) in 1983 and sold 30,000 the first year. Now Leatherman has jumped into the firearms arena in a big way with the release of their new MUT (Military Utility Tool) multi-tool.

All it takes is a sidelong glance to realize this isn't the Leatherman multi-tool of old. Compared to the company's original multi-tool, this one more resembles something out of the movie *Alien*. The MUT is an interesting structural composite of skeletal steel, beefy oversized pivots, and a dash of plastic for weight savings.

The MUT has an array of tools, several geared specifically for the M16/AR-15 family of rifles. These include a firing pin removal punch, bolt override tool, bronze carbon-scraping tool and a scope removal/adjustment wrench (with 3/8" and 1/2" head sizes) separate from the main multi-tool. To the design team's credit, all of these tools are



*Not the standard Leatherman tool of old, the MUT is thoroughly modern with a load of firearms specific and generic tools. The needle-nose pliers will come in handy for firearms and field use. Note the replaceable 153 CM steel wirecutting blades.*

replaceable should they break, be worn out or lost.

Other features are useful for the shooter as well, including a group of exchangeable screwdriver components with single blade, Phillips, Allen, and Torx heads, and a screw tap for attaching a cleaning rod. Also included in the main tool are the usual suspects: Needle-nose pliers, knife and saw blades, wire cutters/strippers, cord and webbing cutter, and a carabiner that also serves as a bottle cap opener. One impressive feature of the wire cutters/strippers is the blades are replaceable, made even niftier by the fact that they are made from premium 154CM knife steel.

### Walking The MUT

At 5" in length, the multi-tool stows easily either in its ballistic nylon, velcro-flapped MOLLE pouch (no coincidence it's sized to hold an M9 magazine) or can be carried using the heavy-duty pocket clip on its hind side. The MUT can also be clipped to anything within the limits of the carabiner's 1/2" maw. The prototype I tested is very close to the final product. An addition on the production models will be a latch to keep the tool securely closed when not in use. A variant to this tool, the MUT EOD model, is also available. The main differences being the needle-nose pliers have a cap crimper configured into the jaws, plus fuse wirecutters and a C4 punch.

Although I've tested many generic multi-tools, I wanted to put the MUT



*Leatherman's new MUT Utility multi-tool is the company's first venture into the firearms accessory market. The MUT comes with a MOLLE adjustable ballistic nylon sheath and a separate scope wrench that slips into a pocket in the rear.*



**Here Stephen Phillips demonstrates how the firing pin removal punch is used. The base of the MUT is stoutly made to take a hammering. Stephen, a gunsmith at Mark's Outdoor Sports in Birmingham, Ala., describes the MUT as a useful tool for the AR-15/M16 user, and for other firearms as well.**

in the hands of a qualified gunsmith to get a true impression of its capabilities. Mark Whitlock, owner of Mark's Outdoor Sports in Birmingham, Ala. ([www.marksoutdoors.com](http://www.marksoutdoors.com)), volunteered one of his gunsmiths to put the MUT through its paces. I met Stephen Phillips at their shop and showed him the MUT brochure and let him ogle the tool. Stephen selected an AR-15 from one of the gun-packed racks and in no time had the firing pin removal punch out, hammering away at the MUT's butt. The tool worked exactly as prescribed with no problems encountered, so we moved on to the bolt override tool. This may be the handiest—and most crucial—feature of all the proprietary tools. Chamber jams can render an M16 or AR-15 useless. The MUT override tool allows the bolt to be easily pulled back and held in position so an errant cartridge can be quickly removed and shooting resumed. Better yet, it does the job extremely well.

We then checked out the bronze scraping tool, a nice feature because bronze, being softer than steel, can be used to remove carbon from a chamber without scratching. This tool works very well and will eliminate the worry of inflicting damage on your rifle. Stephen then chucked a barrel in the vise. A standard cleaning rod and brush simply screws into a threaded plate on one side of the tool and the MUT becomes the handle. It worked like a champ. The scope wrench did its job in short order as well.

After we'd put the MUT through the motions, I asked Stephen to give me his assessment of the multi-tool. "This is perfect for a guy who doesn't want to spend a lot of money. It has all the tools you need on the range with any rifle. I'd recommend it for the AR-15 and M16 owner, or any standard-rifle user for that matter." In other words, it's like having an affordable toolbox in your hand.



**The bolt override tool, cord/webbing cutter and carabiner (above) are all placed at the butt of one handle. The Phillips bit is removable for better access. The MUT includes a wide assortment of bits stowed in the handles including standard blade, Allen, Torx and Phillips heads. Many will consider the bolt override tool as one of the most essential tools on the MUT, especially under stress.**



**Two tools AR-15 and M16 users will find handy are the firing-pin removal punch and the bronze carbon-scraping tool. The bronze scraping tool can get rid of heavy carbon buildup without scratching the steel parts of the bolt.**

The MUT's firearms-specific tools all worked as designed, and the icing on the cake is all the other tools that come with it. We all need a knife, pliers, assorted screwdrivers, wire strippers, saw, file and a cord/webbing cutter from time to time, and the MUT delivers here on all accounts. All tools stow out of the way when not in use. Particularly clever is the unusual way Leatherman hid the assortment of screwdrivers inside the handle. It may look like origami at first, but once you figure out the method to their madness it all makes sense.

This is Leatherman's first venture into the firearms trade, and it's long overdue. To their credit, the company did it right, working directly with military experts and other end-users to design a multi-tool to meet a multitude of demands. Suggested retail for the Leatherman MUT is \$160, worth every penny if it can get you out of a jam—especially under extreme pressure. **GUNS**

LEATHERMAN TOOL GROUP, INC.  
P.O. BOX 20595, PORTLAND, OR 97220  
(800) 847-8665, [WWW.LEATHERMAN.COM](http://WWW.LEATHERMAN.COM)

# THE NEW RUGER LCR



## ANKLE HOLSTER

LIGHTWEIGHT ANKLE HOLSTER | LOW PROFILE DESIGN  
FOR PANT LEG CONCEALABILITY | SUEDE LINED  
CORDURA PAD | PASSIVE RETENTION ALLOWING RAPID  
PRESENTATION | RETENTION ADJUSTMENT SCREW



[WWW.FOBUSHOLSTER.COM](http://WWW.FOBUSHOLSTER.COM)  
1-866-611-9576

## Who Needs “Gun Control” When You Can Simply Ban Ammo?

**G**un owners dodged a bullet—or at least a proposed ban on them—in August. The Environmental Protection Agency announced opening of public comments on a petition submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity, charging bullets and shot made of lead were environmental hazards, and seeking to forbid their use under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

Leading the mobilization to protest this scheme was the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).

“If the EPA approves the petition, the result will be a total ban on all ammunition containing lead-core components, including hunting and target-shooting rounds,” Senior Vice President/General Counsel Larry Keane warned on the NSSF blog, urging gun owners “to submit comment to the EPA opposing any ban on traditional ammunition.

“There is no scientific evidence that the use of traditional ammunition is having an adverse impact on wildlife populations,” Keane reminded readers.

The gun community was quick to make NSSF’s message go viral. Blogs and forums picked it up, directing activists to the EPA public comment website. Likewise, “gun lobby” groups reacted swiftly, alerting their members and urging action.

Key in this was a letter to

EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson from NRA’s Institute for Legislative Action Executive Director Chris Cox, who reminded her that Congress had “explicitly excluded” ammunition from the TSCA.

“If EPA can regulate each individual component of ammunition,” Cox argued, “then EPA can effectively regulate shells and cartridges themselves.

“To interpret the exemption any other way would defeat a purpose well understood since 1976 and impute an absurd intention to Congress,” he concluded.

The uproar had the desired effect. Two days after the initial NSSF alert was issued, Fox News reported “The Environmental Protection Agency has denied a petition filed by environmental activists seeking to ban lead in ammunition, saying such regulation is beyond the agency’s authority.”

I would not be surprised if someone took Administrator Jackson aside, reminded her of the November elections and asked if she’d lost her mind.

Gun owners were jubilant. A seemingly easy victory had been won. Still, for some of us, there was a sense that this had been a known danger (see “Rights Watch” column “Getting the Lead Out” in the Sept. 2008 issue), and it should not have caught so many of us by surprise. After all, NSSF claimed Jackson “was responsible for banning bear hunting in New Jersey,” and yet she was confirmed by the Senate despite that established history. Supporting such candidates should always be graded as an anti-gun vote. We just can’t afford to let them slip under the radar.

And while we may have won a partial victory this time, this particular assault has not been completely repelled.

“Though the EPA has denied the petition... to ban traditional ammunition, it has maintained the petition to ban lead fishing tackle,” NSSF advised in an early September alert, “encouraging all sportsmen to oppose this ban.”

Agreed. Aside from it being the right thing to do, what better way to promote good will than to come to the aid of those in need, especially those who should be our natural allies?

## NEWS

## HMS Gloucester Foils Drug Smugglers

**T**he crew of HMS Gloucester has intercepted a yacht in the mid-Atlantic smuggling cocaine with a UK street value of at least £4 million.

The incident happened in the early hours of Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, when a Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) from Cape Verde, embarked on HMS Gloucester, boarded the suspect yacht.

The vessel, Tortuga, registered in Florida, was taken to Cape Verde where authorities discovered cocaine hidden within the rudder.



**HMS Gloucester, a type 42 Royal Navy Destroyer, intercepts the drug-smuggling yacht Tortuga in the Atlantic Ocean. Photo: Crown Copyright/MOD 2010**



**The cocaine found hidden within the Tortuga’s rudder was valued at £4 million in street value. Photo: Crown Copyright/ MOD 2010**



**A sailor on HMS Gloucester provides cover whilst the Cape Verde law enforcement team is aboard the Tortuga. Photo: Crown Copyright/MOD 2010**

The operation was co-coordinated by the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre - Narcotics (MAOC-N) based in Lisbon, Portugal, acting on intelligence from a French Central Office against Illegal Narcotics Trafficking investigation.

The Royal Navy was asked for assistance and HMS Gloucester, en route south to the Falklands where she will spend the next seven months

# 12 ISSUES + ONE CD

**GUNS MAGAZINE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION  
AND FREE DIGITAL EDITION**

**ONLY \$24.95**

**FREE** AMERICAN SPIRIT ARMS AR-15 .223  
ENTER TO WIN

**GUNS**  
MAGAZINE

**GUNS**  
MAGAZINE

\$4.95  
OUTSIDE U.S.  
\$7.95  
SEPTEMBER  
2010

**SOLID  
DEFENSE!**  
NIGHTHAWK-CUSTOM  
1911 .45 ACP  
& 870-12-GAUGE

**CLASSIC  
REBORN**  
S&W MODEL 58  
.41 MAGNUM

**ELK RIFLES**  
WHAT YOU NEED

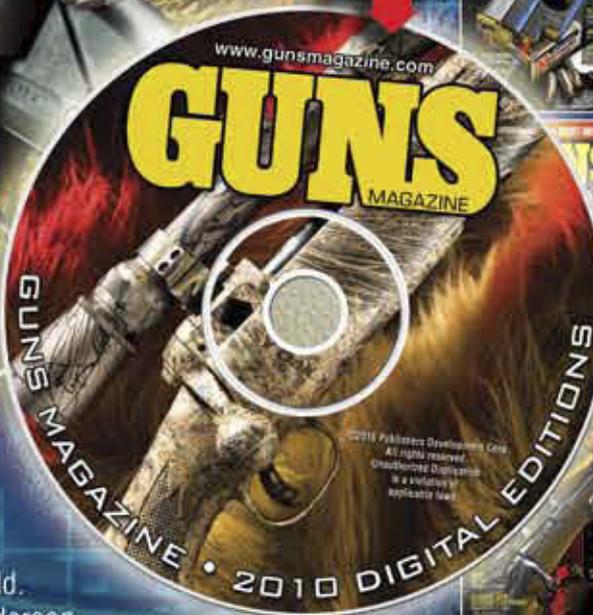
**RIMFIRE  
FUN**  
S&W  
M&P15-22  
.22 LR

**LEVERGUN  
PERFECTION**  
MARLIN 1895 SBL  
45-70

**MIGHTY MICE**  
RUGER'S .327 FEDERAL  
7-SHOT GP-100 &  
8-SHOT BLACKHAWK

**ALL USA-MADE AK**  
C.I.A.'s CENTURION AK-47  
7.62x39

Plus  
**FREE 2010**  
Digital  
Edition  
CD with  
your paid  
order



Every issue of GUNS Magazine can help you identify the next worthy candidate to take to the range or into the field.

A team of writers that includes Dave Anderson, Clint Smith, John Taffin and Mike Venturino can help make the decision easier. Their insightful reviews and countless hours of research have refined the selection process. They've spent a lifetime moving from grip to trigger, one gun at a time.

**Now it's your turn.**

**Use GUNS Magazine Today to Stay Informed for Tomorrow.**

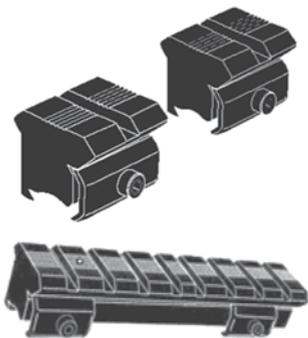
Subscribe for **ONLY \$24.95**  
Call toll-free (888) 732-2299  
M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$44.95 outside U.S.)  
[www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com)  
P.O. Box 509094, San Diego, CA 92150

**KWIK-SITE**  **CO.**

**DOES IT  
AGAIN!**

With The **NEW** One And Only  
Don't Be Fooled By Imitations

**KWIK-MOUNT®/  
22 ADAPTER FOR RIFLES  
with GROOVED RECEIVERS**



**New Long Adapter Works  
For Air Rifles**

Universal mounts enabling scopes  
to be interchanged easily onto a  
variety of receivers.

Satin smooth finish available  
in brite black, silver, and black  
matte, all at the same price.

Sets the standard for looks in the  
industry.

If you can't find our bases at your  
favorite distributor or dealer,  
contact KWIK-SITE and we'll  
make SURE you get them.

**KWIK-SITE**  **CO.**

Leading U.S. Manufacturer  
of Scope Mounts Since 1967

5555 Treadwell, Wayne, MI 48184  
(734) 326-1500 Fax (734) 326-4120  
[www.kwiksitecorp.com](http://www.kwiksitecorp.com)

patrolling around UK overseas territories, was diverted to embark the Cape Verde LEDET and intercept the suspect yacht.

HMS Gloucester's Commanding Officer, Commander David George, said, "The last thing a drug smuggler wants to be seeing as the sun comes up is a Royal Navy warship bearing down on him. He can't run and he can't fight.

"HMS Gloucester provided the ideal launching pad for the Cape Verde law enforcement team to intercept these drugs. It's fast, has long-range detection radar, and one of the fastest helicopters in the world, the Lynx Mk8."

HMS Gloucester is a Type 42 destroyer with a lengthened hull for better sea-keeping qualities and greater endurance. The ship was built by Vosper Thornycroft at Woolston, Southampton, UK, and launched on Nov. 2, 1982 by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester. The ship retains links with The Rifles regiment and the city of Gloucester.

MAOC-N is an international agency set up to co-ordinate counter-drug operations, targeting trans-Atlantic cocaine traffic by air and sea. The participating states are France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The USA has permanent representation and Cape Verde recently became observers. Other observers include Europol, the European Commission, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Brazil, Morocco, Germany and Canada.

The centre has been operational since April 1, 2007 and in that time has co-coordinated the seizure of over 45 tons of cocaine destined for the European market as well as more than 30-plus tons of hashish.

Specialists from all the partner countries work side-by-side sharing and fusing intelligence before planning and co-coordinating the interdictions by air or sea. Its area of operations is the eastern Atlantic, from the Cape of Good Hope in southern Africa to the Norwegian Sea.—*Courtesy MoD*

## Unique CCW Class

**X**S Sights Systems and SureFire recently hosted women from the industry and writers for a unique concealed carry class focusing on pocket pistols and purse guns. Women from Colt, Ruger, NSSF, SureFire, Kimber and Gunsite were in attendance at Gunsite Academy in Paulden, Ariz., to learn techniques for shooting with flashlights and drawing from purses with handguns from Ruger, Smith & Wesson, Kahr Arms,

## "Gun Fit"



It's NOT  
something  
she does  
after missing  
a target.

Choosing the right gun  
and making sure it fits  
a lady is important.

**Shari can help.**

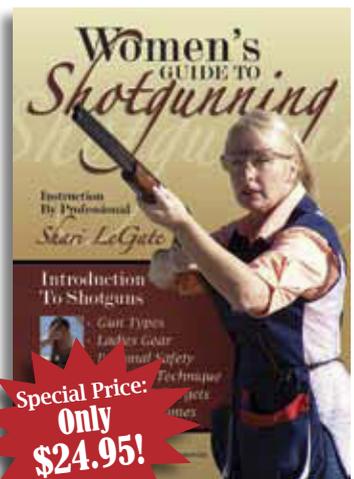
Shooting champion Shari  
LeGate provides all the  
information needed for  
any lady to get started in  
shotgun sports through  
her new DVD, *Women's  
Guide To Shotgunning*.

**Order Today!**

**(800) 628-9818**

(M-F 8am-3pm PST)

[www.gunsmagazine.com/  
fmgvideo.html](http://www.gunsmagazine.com/fmgvideo.html)



North American Arms and SIG SAUER, all outfitted with XS Sights.

Instructor Il Ling New provided lessons on safe-draw techniques for various types of carry, including from the holster purses provided by Galco. Ladies had the chance to try various handguns. SureFire provided flashlights and instruction on proper handgun techniques and Ed Head, Gunsite operations manager, was on hand to ensure a successful event. Many of the attendees are strong supporters of NSSF's First Shots program, [www.nssf.org/firstshots](http://www.nssf.org/firstshots).—  
*Courtesy NSSF*

## Lone Gun Store

San Francisco's lone firearms retailer is set to re-open, but not without some neighborhood flak, *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Phil Bronstein reports. "The Northwest Bernal Alliance and three other local groups are urging authorities to deny a permit to High Bridge Arms gun store on Mission Street after a brief closure because its members don't want such a place 'near our homes and/or schools,'" Bronstein writes. "Officially, the organizations are not opposed to people owning guns, Alliance member Jaime Ross told me. They'd just 'rather have something the neighborhood could enjoy—a laundry or wine and cheese shop.'" —  
*Courtesy NSSF*

## Firearms In Political Ads

National Public Radio made it clear in a report last week that some candidates running for office this fall are eager to be seen with a firearm. So far, 2010 "has been a big year for guns in political ads," says Darrell West, director of Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution, in the NPR report. —  
*Courtesy NSSF*

## Montana Appeals Relisting Wolves

Joe Maurier, director of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, confirmed his agency will appeal the recent district court ruling that returned the region's recovered wolves to the federal endangered species list, reports ESPN.com. He addressed representatives of livestock producers, outfitters, hunters and wildlife enthusiasts, who have pledged to present a united front to regain tools needed to control growing gray wolf populations.—  
*Courtesy NSSF*



Grips in Exotic Hardwood, Soft Rubber, G-10 and Aluminum

OverMolded™ Rifle & Shotgun Stocks in Black, OD Green and Camo  
AR-15/M16 grip and forend with our exclusive cargo management system  
Recoil pads - Slings, Swivels and other fine firearm accessories.

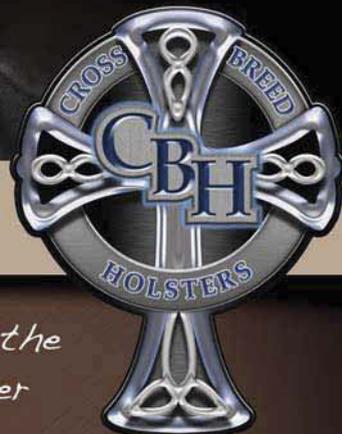
For the Location of your nearest dealer or a free catalog call 1-800-Get Grip  
HOGUE INC. P.O. BOX 1138 PASO ROBLES, CA 93447 - 805-239-1440

## WILL YOU BE READY?

Uncomfortable holster keeping you from carrying as much as you would like?



Why not try a CrossBreed TODAY!



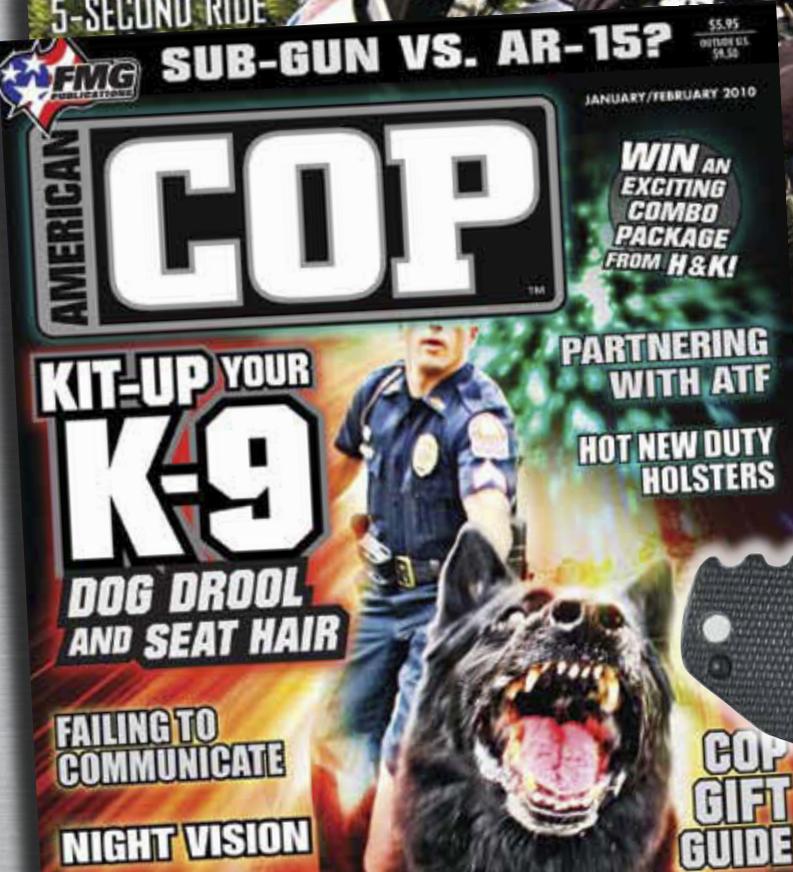
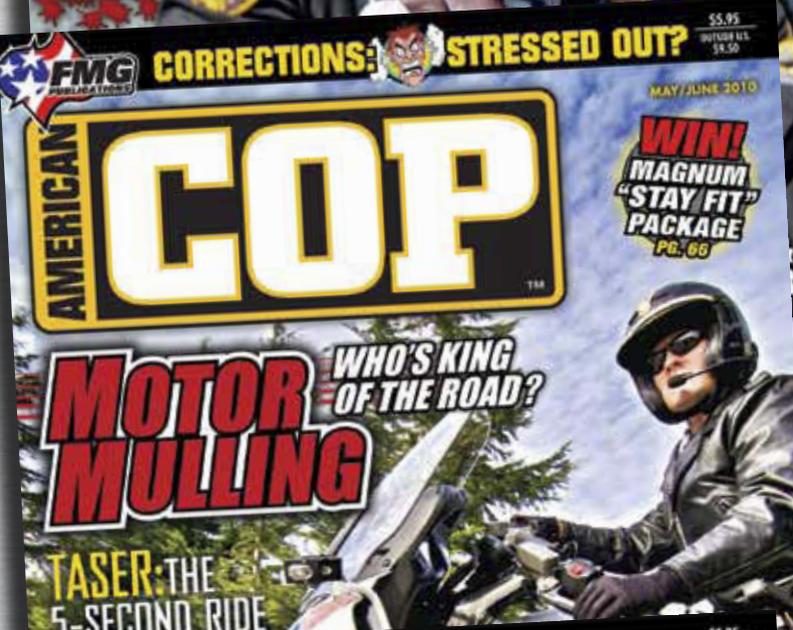
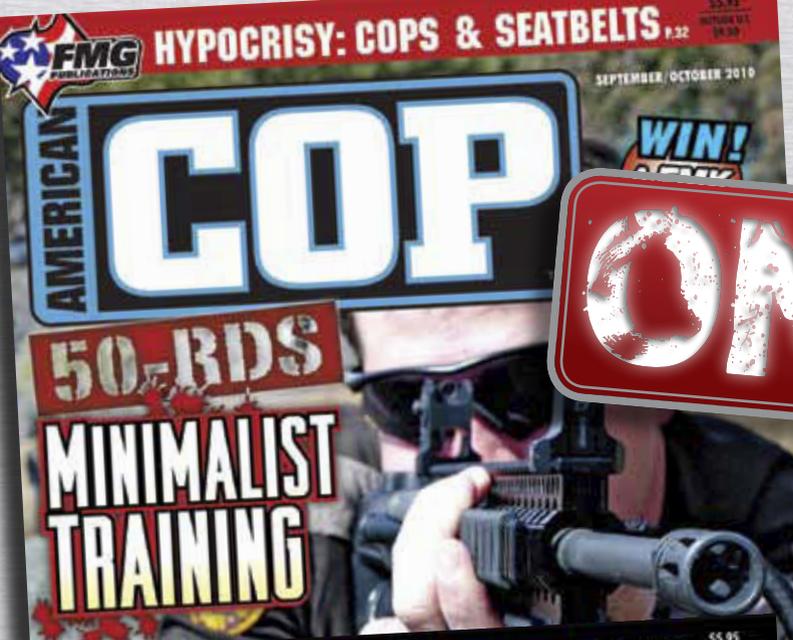
"ABSOLUTELY the most comfortable holster

I have ever worn." *Semper Fi*

Lifetime Warranty!  
Try-It-FREE Guarantee!

**CrossBreed Holsters LLC.**

[www.crossbreedholsters.com](http://www.crossbreedholsters.com) • 888.732.5011



# ALWAYS

# ON DUTY

## ONE TOOL You Can Rely On

Whether you're a 20-year veteran or new recruit, American COP has something for you.

Inside each issue is the best mix of new gear, humor and in-your-face features available – by cops, for cops.

### Street smart

Officer survival tips and weapon options give you the edge when you're nose to nose with trouble.

Detailed reviews of the latest guns and gear help you choose the best tools to get the job done.

### Just what you need

A lighthearted look at the job, life and events only a cop can understand – inside when you need it most.

**American COP**  
Always on duty for YOU

## SPECIAL OFFER

Two Year Subscription  
Only \$19.95  
Plus **FREE** Tactical Knife!\*

(Regular Price \$39.95) Includes 12 bi-monthly issues  
Outside U.S. \$64.95 for two full years

Order Online!

[www.americancopmagazine.com](http://www.americancopmagazine.com)

Call toll-free (888) 732-2299

\*With your paid subscription



## Marines Recapture Ship From Pirates

At approximately 5 a.m. local time, Sept. 9, 2010, 24 US Marines from the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit's Maritime Raid Force (MRF) aboard USS Dubuque (LPD 8) operating under Combined Task Force 151 (CTF-151), boarded and seized control of Antigua-Barbuda-flagged, German-owned vessel M/V Magellan Star from pirates who attacked and boarded the vessel early Sept. 8.

This successful mission by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) secured the safety of the ship's crew and returned control of the ship to the civilian mariners. Nine pirates are currently under control of CTF 151, pending further disposition. This ship's crew has not reported any injuries or casualties. There were no reported injuries from the US Maritime Raid Force.

The CTF-151 flagship, TCG Gökçeada, a Turkish frigate, was the first ship on scene, responding to a distress call received from Magellan Star, Sept. 8. Two additional warships assigned to CTF-151, USS Dubuque (LPD 8) and USS Princeton (CG 59) arrived in the vicinity of the attack to provide support to Gökçeada.



**The US Navy amphibious transport dock ship USS Dubuque (LPD 8), center, deploys US Marine Corps Cobra attack helicopters last Sept. 9, 2010 during a board and seizure operation by the US Marine Corps 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Maritime Raid Force, embarked aboard Dubuque, after the motor vessel M/V Magellan Star was attacked and boarded by pirates Sept. 8. USN photo: Cryptologic Technician 2nd Class William Farmerie**

Turkish Navy Rear Adm. Sinan Ertugrul, Commander, CTF-151 said, "Units from the multi-national maritime force, under Combined Task Force 151, are actively engaged in anti-piracy operations. This regional problem, truly, has global impact and we are completely committed to bringing the disruptive acts of piracy to an end. We have full support of the international community and will continue to do everything possible to bring security to the Gulf of Aden and Somali Basin."

CTF-151 is one of three task

# WARNING



**MatchKing**

## Want to win?

**Sierra MatchKing bullets are used by more shooting champions at more long-range matches than any other rifle bullet in the world.**

In fact, 48 out of 58 NRA Hi-Power Rifle Champions used MatchKing bullets in 2009 to win at Camp Perry.

MatchKing's hollow point Boat Tail design provides that extra margin of ballistic performance match shooters need at long range, under adverse conditions.

Put MatchKing to work for you, but be warned. Winning has interesting side effects.

Contact your dealer for the complete line of Sierra bullets or visit [www.sierrabullets.com](http://www.sierrabullets.com)



**SIERRA**  
The Bulletsmiths®

1400 West Henry Street  
Sedalia, MO 65301  
Tech support: 1-800-223-8799  
Other calls: 1-888-223-3006

## Recoil Can Get Nasty!

Reduce Recoil, Reduce Muzzle Jump. For accuracy, dependability, and quality.



**Mag-na-port**  
International, Inc.

41302 Executive Drive  
Harrison Twp., MI 48045-1306

**Phone: 586-469-6727**  
**Fax: 586-469-0425**

[www.magnaport.com](http://www.magnaport.com)  
[email@magnaport.com](mailto:email@magnaport.com)



# KIRKPATRICK LEATHER COMPANY

Kirkpatrick's T-CC holster.



- FBI-style cant
- Narrow profile
- Double straps for stability
- Reinforced opening
- Leather shirt guard
- Molded sight rail

Available for the HK P2000 and USP Compact

**T-CC**  
\$78.<sup>00</sup> + S/H

[www.kirkpatrickleather.com](http://www.kirkpatrickleather.com)

**1-800-451-9394**

P.O. Box 677GM Laredo, TX 78042

# REST ASSURED

- Guns
- Heirlooms
- Cameras
- Photos
- Inventory
- Legal Paper
- Records
- Jewelry



- Coin
- Card
- Collections
- Sentimentals
- Investments
- Safe from
- Fire and
- Theft

**FORT KNOX**  
SECURITY PRODUCTS  
"THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN SECURITY"

[www.FtKnox.com](http://www.FtKnox.com)

Call Us Today For Your Free Brochure

**1-800-821-5216**

993 North Industrial Park Road  
Orem, Utah 84057

**TACTICAL RIFLES.net**  
Custom built precision

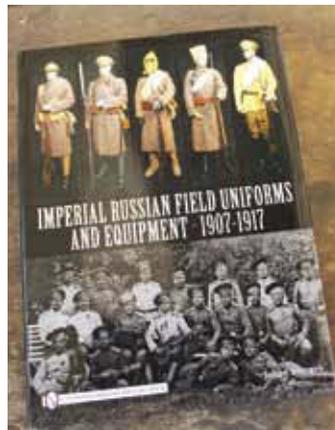
forces operated by the 25 nation Combined Maritime Forces (CMF). CTF-151 was established in January 2009 in order to deter, disrupt and suppress piracy, protecting maritime vessels of all nationalities and securing international freedom of navigation.—*US Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs*

## Virginia To Restore Elk

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has decided to restore a wild elk herd in Buchanan County in southwest Virginia, and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has pledged support for the effort. The plan calls for relocating 75 elk, with releases possibly beginning as early as 2012. Biologists are hoping for a sustainable elk population and a limited elk-hunting season within four years. Buchanan County officials are expecting significant economic and tourism benefits similar to those in neighboring Kentucky, which launched its own restoration program more than a decade ago and now boasts the largest elk herd east of the Rockies.—*Courtesy NSSF*

### REVIEWS

## Russian WWI Uniforms & Equipment Documented



*Johan Somers study on Russian WWI uniforms and equipment is thorough and complete with more than 800 color and original B&W photos.*

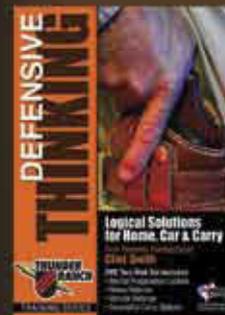
The new book by Johan Somers, *Imperial Russian Field Uniforms and Equipment 1907-1917*, is a comprehensive study in full color of how the Czar's army was clothed and armed during the Great War, including a comprehensive study of the small arms issued (which were sourced from around the world in the

## Clint on Vehicle Defense:



**"Either Drive Or Draw ... not BOTH!"**

Learn how to defend yourself from inside the car with help from Clint Smith's NEW Thunder Ranch DVD course.



Three Course **BONUS**

Includes:

- ✓ Concealed Carry Options
- ✓ Home Defense
- ✓ Vehicle Defense

Two-disc set only \$49.95 — Order Today:

**(800) 628-9818** (M-F 8am-3pm PST)

[www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html)

later stages of WWI). In between the study of buttons, buckles, gear and clothing from private and museum collections worldwide (including *GUNS* contributor John Sheehan), are many original B&W photos from the front and from Russian studios.

The book is logically laid out and the pages allow you to study the equipment in pictures free from clutter. Even construction and hidden markings on belt plates are documented. Such minutia might seem of interest only to serious collectors, but it's fascinating to see how these items were made and the unbelievable variety issued in such a short time.



**The gun section shows the evolution of the Russian 1891 3-Line rifle and bayonets and chronicles the arrival of arms from around the world to make up Russia's severe shortage of small arms.**

Of perhaps greater interest to *GUNS* readers is the extensive section on firearms issued to Russian troops detailing the wide variety of arms both current and woefully obsolete from every combatant nation in the conflict. It must have been a nightmare of supply as all these arms were still chambered in their native rounds. Included are the bayonets, knives and swords and how to identify them, although some of the imported firearms were issued with Russian markings applied and others weren't.—*Jeff John*

*IMPERIAL RUSSIAN FIELD UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT 1907-1917*, BY JOHAN SOMERS, HARDCOVER, 9"X12", 800 COLOR/B&W IMAGES, 336 PAGES, ISBN: 9780764335228, ©2010 SCHIFFER PUBLISHING, 4880 LOWER VALLEY RD., RTE. 372, ATGLEN, PA 19310, (610) 593-1777, WWW.SCHIFFERBOOKS.COM.

**NEWS**

**IFP Partner With Task Force Eagle**

**A**MARA, Iraq – Soldiers of Task Force Eagle, Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division recently instructed several classes in an effort to further assist the Iraqi Federal Police as they conduct operations throughout Maysan

**INCAPACITATION IS JOB ONE.**

Glaser Safety Slug® has been around since 1974! It's distinctive design provides smooth feeding, limited penetration and reduced ricochet where over penetration is a major concern. Glaser Safety Slug has often been imitated but never equaled.

See us at the Shot Show in Las Vegas! **Booth 14571**

**CORBON**

605.347.4544 [corbon.com](http://corbon.com) 800.626.7266

**De Santis GUNHIDE**

**SOF-TUCK™**  
Style #106  
**\$25.99**

- Fully adjustable cant for strong side, small of back or cross draw carry
- No-slip suede
- Tuck-able "J" clip
- Reinforced top allows for easy one hand reholstering

(800) GUNHIDE DEPT GM11 431 BAYVIEW AVENUE, AMITYVILLE, NY 11701  
[www.desantisholster.com](http://www.desantisholster.com)

**"Clintism" No. 7:**

**"Carrying a gun is not supposed to be comfortable, it's supposed to be comforting."**

# CONCEALED CARRY OPTIONS



TRAINING SERIES



## Logical Solutions for Concealed Carry

From Firearms Training Expert  
**Clint Smith**

DVD Two-Disk Set Includes:

- Mental Preparation Lecture
- Gun Choice
- Carry and Clothing
- Drawing Technique



© 2009 Publishers' Development Corp.

You've decided to carry a concealed handgun.

### Now what?

Clint Smith of Thunder Ranch can help you adjust to this change in your lifestyle through the NEW Concealed Carry Options two-disc DVD set.

Clint will help you choose which gun to carry, how to carry it, what to look for in clothing and how to draw the gun correctly.

He also discusses the assets and liabilities of a concealed handgun and how they affect you.

**Would you bet your life on your equipment and skills?**

Clint Smith has taught thousands of students how to think defensively and refine their skills with all types of firearms.

The Thunder Ranch Concealed Carry Options DVD set will help you discover logical solutions that fit your lifestyle.

Order your copy today!

Two-disc set only

**\$49.95**

Includes over two hours of video!

(800) 628-9818 (M-F 8am-3pm PST)

[www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html)

Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery



**"Clintism" No. 3:**

**"The gun that's with you is better than the one that's home in the safe."**

Province and potentially all of Iraq.

The Federal Police requested specific training from Co. A to facilitate their development and overall abilities. The US Soldiers responded with a series of training programs designed to meet the unique nature of the Federal Police mission in Maysan.

Sgt. Brian Koss, a medic with Co. A, taught the first class on medical treatment for casualties of vehicular accidents. The Federal Police were given a checklist of priorities as a way to assess the casualty. After learning to conduct an assessment and treat a casualty for various injuries, they learned to use a spine board to remove a casualty from a vehicle without creating further injury.



**A Soldier, from Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, demonstrates to members of the Iraqi Federal Police the concept of a 10-digit grid coordinate on a GPS unit, familiarizing them with its different functions. Photo: 1st Lt. Conor Trulsson**

Following the medical training, the Soldiers held classes on using handheld GPS units, map reading, and plotting grid coordinates on a map.

Next, the American troops conducted checkpoint training, focusing on planning considerations for a checkpoint and search of vehicles and personnel. This instruction was specifically based on the importance of using only the appropriate amount of force necessary. The FP conducted several search exercises with personnel and vehicles and did well thanks to their past experience, Wistoski said.

Task Force Eagle is planning additional training to cover battle tracking, check point operations, and troop leading procedures. The training is geared toward key leaders that visit the US base in Amara. — 1st Lt. Conor Trulsson, 1st Bn., 8th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div.



FUNNY THING ABOUT SELF-DEFENSE: YOU DON'T PUT YOURSELF IN A SITUATION—IT FINDS YOU. BE AT THE READY



WITH THE CRIMSON TRACE MVF-515. IT COMBINES OUR CRIMSON TRACE LASER WITH A TACTICAL LIGHT AND VERTICAL FOREGRIP. WHEN YOU NEED IT, EITHER LIGHT LEAPS TO LIFE INSTANTLY. HANG THAT OFF YOUR RAIL WITH CONFIDENCE.



Upgrade your odds for survival by getting our NEW FREE DVD with a catalog request. "The Art of Survival: Real-World Laser Tactics" is loaded with laser tips and techniques. Savvy experts take you through actual live-fire scenarios, all in the name of making you even more effective with a gun in your hand. Call or go online to get yours. Now.

**Crimson  Trace**

[WWW.CRIMSONTRACE.COM](http://WWW.CRIMSONTRACE.COM)

1.800.442.2406

# QUARTER MASTER

JOHN CONNOR

## TECH-TOOLS & DAZZLING LIGHTS

Buck Rogers never had it this good.

**W**e might be trading on the Turnip Standard and hunting whitetails with sharp sticks in a few years, but right now even those of us who flick moths out of our wallets can use and enjoy technology our grandfathers could hardly conceive of.

**H**ow 'bout being able to punch a button and transmit your exact position anywhere in the world to assure friends you're safe or call for help? An outdoor adventure audio and video camera that sits on your nose? A flashlight that never needs parts; a firearm which never needs oil or grease? A pocket-size purifier that can render sewer water safe to drink? It's not future-tech, folks; it's already here and getting smaller, lighter and more capable all the time. Let's look at a few of these wonder-widgits, OK?



*The iKam Xtreme video-audio glasses can capture all your outdoor activities. Well, not deep-sea diving, but....*

Hunting, fishing or tootling trails, wouldn't you like to record that view in front of your eyes? You can with the iKam Xtreme from Hunter's

Specialties. The 3-megapixel camera is in the center of the brow bar, and easy to use controls are on the temple bars. Add an 8 GB Micro SD card to 4 GB of built-in memory for over six hours of amazingly good video. Use the included USB transfer cord to hook right up to your computer. The iKam glasses weigh only 1.4 ounces and come with four sets of different shatter-resistant lenses to adapt to any lighting condition. Prescription lenses are available too.

**O**ver half of the HD Torch's 9" length is packed with sophisticated electronics, which produce a perfectly square, absolutely consistent 165-lumen bright white light. Yep; square—high-definition has come to flashlights! Not a gimmick, the sharp edge and clarity have tremendous practical, even life-saving value. Power it on and off with the tailcap switch, turn it on and change modes from steady light to strobe with the sabre-grip switch. When power is on, there's even a glowing "find me" capital B in the tailcap.

Fenix Light's TK45 Mini-Gun is a triple-barreled 760-lumen light-

cannon, which also uses a unique "Sidewinder" switch to step down to 312, 95 and 8 lumens, plus activating strobe, SOS and warning flash modes. Digital regulation provides constant brightness from 3 Cree LED's powered by eight AA batteries. It's waterproof, tough and can even be stood up for use as a vertical lantern!



*Three tricky-techie lights include (from top to bottom) Bushnell's HD Torch, the TK45 Mini-Gun by Fenix Light and 5.11 Tactical's Light for Life.*

The name of 5.11 Tactical's UC3-400 flashlight tells the tale: It's the Light for Life, and it never needs batteries or other parts, never needs disassembly, and never needs service aside from exterior cleaning. After 90 seconds in the charger you're powered up for 270 lumens max output, or lower standard, reserve and standby levels, plus, a double-click on the switch produces a 170-lumen stunning strobe, for defense or signaling use. The UC3-400 contains no batteries. High-tech capacitors and a proprietary energy management system can handle a full charge per day for over 135 years.



*What's so high-tech about gun parts? It's not the parts, it's the FailZero coating on 'em.*

**H**ave you ever dreamed of owning a gun that's a breeze to clean, and never, ever needs oil or grease?

FailZero's EXO Technology coating is harder than the underlying metal it's on, and creates a permanent highly lubricious surface, which will never rub off, flake off or build up crud. FailZero-treated components have been exhaustively tested by our Department of Defense, yielding results like 50,000 lube-free rounds through an AR-15. FailZero offers EXO coated 1911 and AR parts, and is now licensing a few outfits like Cylinder & Slide to coat entire guns.



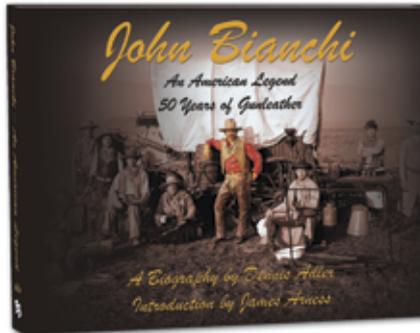
Three life-savers include A) The SPOT Satellite Personal Tracker, B) Garmin's Rino 530HCx and C) Bushnell's newest BackTrack, the Point >5.

About the size of a fat cell phone, the SPOT Satellite Personal Tracker allows its owner to mark and record locations and waypoints around the world, send "I'm here; I'm OK" messages, transmit help requests for non life-threatening situations and summon serious rescue and medical help when you're in deep trouble. SPOT works even where there is no cell service, and a full array of programs, like international rescue insurance, are available.

With a GPS system you can find out where you are. With a radio you can contact someone. But with Garmin's Rino 530HCx you can do both, and send your precise location to another Rino user while talking to them! It's a full-featured GPS with big capacity for easily read maps, a powerful radio, and absolutely worth your life if you're alone and injured in the Big Lonely.

# John Bianchi

An American Legend - 50 Years of Gunleather!



This new biography tells the story of the man who founded Bianchi International - the world's largest manufacturer of gunleather for police, military, and sportsmen. Written and photographed by award-winning photojournalist Dennis Adler, *John Bianchi - An American Legend - 50 Years of Gunleather* features nine full color chapters covering the extraordinary life of John Bianchi, a firearms industry innovator, former police officer, citizen soldier, industrialist, Western personality, and great American.

Only \$39.95 + S/H!

Do not miss this opportunity to experience the intriguing story of one of the most legendary figures in the firearms industry. Foreword by James Arness, *Gunsmoke's* Marshal Matt Dillon.

[www.bluebookinc.com](http://www.bluebookinc.com) • 800.877.4867

Blue Book Publications, Inc. • 8009 34th Ave S. #175 • Minneapolis, MN 55425 • Phone: 952.854.5229 • Fax: 952.853.1486 • Email: support@bluebookinc.com

AWARDED  
US ARMY CONTRACT:  
W91CRB-09-D-0074  
FOR PFI RR-900-4

## PFI RAPID RETICLE

DEMANDED BY PROFESSIONALS. NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOU.

SOPS-33MM    SOPS-COMPACT    RR-CQLR-1    RR-800-1    RR-900-4

PFI HAS DESIGNED A LINE OF BALLISTIC OPTICS THAT IS REVOLUTIONARY IN THE FIELD OF SHOOTING. THE RAPID RETICLE SCOPE AND REFLEX SIGHT LINE ALLOWS A SHOOTER TO ZERO-IN AT A CERTAIN DISTANCE, THEN ACQUIRE TARGETS AT SPECIFIC DISTANCES, AND SHOOT WITHOUT MAJAL ADJUSTMENTS. THE RAPID RETICLE LINE OF OPTICS IS ACCURATE, FAST, STATE OF THE ART, AND DESIGNED BY SHOOTERS, FOR SHOOTERS.

877-817-6019    WWW.RAPIDRETICLE.COM    SALES@RAPIDRETICLE.COM

## Plan Your Own Custom Piece

### Firearms Engravers & Gunmakers Exhibition<sup>SM</sup>

January 28-29-30, 2011  
Fri 12 pm - 9 pm  
Sat and Sun 10 am - 5 pm  
Admission \$20/day

**John Ascuaga's Nugget**  
Reno/Sparks, NV  
1-800-648-1177 - Reservation Code GFIRE11

ACGG #26 The Hunter's .470 Double Rifle

[www.ACGG.org](http://www.ACGG.org) | (307) 587-4297 | [www.FEGA.com](http://www.FEGA.com)

**B**ushnell scored a huge hit with the original BackTrack, with its simple, straightforward satellite-based "GPS made easy" system. Just designate a start point, and with the Point >5, four other waypoints. At any one of them simply hit your way-back button, and it will give you a North reference, your return heading, and the distance in miles and feet or kilometers and meters. There are simpler models of the BackTrack too, but the Point >5 adds a digital compass, longitude, latitude, time, temperature and altitude. Easy, but really, really smart....



**KPR AdCor's Daubrite VCI Emitter Disks may not look high-tech, but they are, and if you own guns, ammo and tools, you need 'em!**

**A** couple of degrees in metallurgy and chemistry may help you understand how Daubrite VCI Emitters work, but essentially, they put vapors into your storage spaces that inhibit corrosion and rust to an amazing degree. In your gun safes and cases, ammo containers, and even in soft-sided firearm transport cases, they can deny rust a foothold for about two years. The military has been using Daubrite for years, and now many firearms manufacturers are too. Shown is a Daubrite-5 adhesive-backed disk, which protects metals within 5 cubic feet of space, and there are other sizes and types of VCI emitters. This stuff really works, folks.



**The light, compact SteriPen Journey purifies the nastiest water and protects your health.**

**S**teriPen products use ultraviolet radiation to kill more than 99.9 percent of bacteria, viruses and protozoan cysts such as giardia and cryptosporidia, and the Journey is their top-of-the-line outdoor purifier. Basically, you just dip it into a container of water, turn it on, and stir until the LCD screen tells you the Journey's job is done—about 48 seconds for 16 ounces. The screen also displays your battery status, tracks the number of uses and signals when lamp usage approaches its life limit. With an 8,000 dose lamp life, if you purified 4 liters of water every day, your Journey would last almost six years!

SteriPen also offers a pre-filter for use with turbid, particle-filled water, just to keep that foul color and mystery yuck outta your drink. Great gear!



**You asked for it, and SureFire delivered: A new CombatLight with defensive strobing capability, the Z2-S.**

**ELITE SPORTS EXPRESS**

Visit one of our three traveling showrooms at a dealer near you and get your hands on the hottest new products from today's top manufacturers.

See our 2011 show dates online at [www.elitesportsexpress.com](http://www.elitesportsexpress.com)  
 To book the ESE or get your products on board, call Don at 702-528-6771

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®** Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation  
 (All Periodicals Publications Except Biweekly Publications)

1. Publication Title: GUNS MAGAZINE

2. Issue Date: SEP 2010

3. Issue Frequency: MONTHLY

4. Issue Number: 12

5. Annual Subscription Price: \$24 US

6. Number of Copies: 98,270

7. Total Number of Copies: 143,241

8. Paid Distribution: 24,400

9. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

10. Total Distribution: 98,270

11. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

12. Total Distribution: 98,270

13. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

14. Total Distribution: 98,270

15. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

16. Total Distribution: 98,270

17. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

18. Total Distribution: 98,270

19. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

20. Total Distribution: 98,270

21. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

22. Total Distribution: 98,270

23. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

24. Total Distribution: 98,270

25. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

26. Total Distribution: 98,270

27. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

28. Total Distribution: 98,270

29. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

30. Total Distribution: 98,270

31. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

32. Total Distribution: 98,270

33. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

34. Total Distribution: 98,270

35. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

36. Total Distribution: 98,270

37. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

38. Total Distribution: 98,270

39. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

40. Total Distribution: 98,270

41. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

42. Total Distribution: 98,270

43. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

44. Total Distribution: 98,270

45. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

46. Total Distribution: 98,270

47. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

48. Total Distribution: 98,270

49. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

50. Total Distribution: 98,270

51. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

52. Total Distribution: 98,270

53. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

54. Total Distribution: 98,270

55. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

56. Total Distribution: 98,270

57. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

58. Total Distribution: 98,270

59. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

60. Total Distribution: 98,270

61. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

62. Total Distribution: 98,270

63. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

64. Total Distribution: 98,270

65. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

66. Total Distribution: 98,270

67. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

68. Total Distribution: 98,270

69. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

70. Total Distribution: 98,270

71. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

72. Total Distribution: 98,270

73. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

74. Total Distribution: 98,270

75. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

76. Total Distribution: 98,270

77. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

78. Total Distribution: 98,270

79. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

80. Total Distribution: 98,270

81. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

82. Total Distribution: 98,270

83. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

84. Total Distribution: 98,270

85. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

86. Total Distribution: 98,270

87. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

88. Total Distribution: 98,270

89. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

90. Total Distribution: 98,270

91. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

92. Total Distribution: 98,270

93. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

94. Total Distribution: 98,270

95. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

96. Total Distribution: 98,270

97. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

98. Total Distribution: 98,270

99. Total Paid Distribution: 24,400

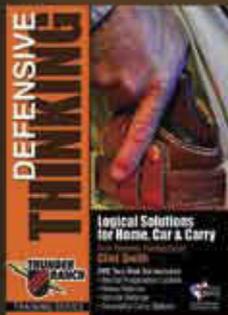
100. Total Distribution: 98,270

## Clint on Concealed Carry:



"It's a BIG gun when I put it on and it's a BIG gun when I pull it out."

Learn how to choose a gun, carry concealed and draw carefully. Get Clint Smith's NEW Thunder Ranch DVD.



### Three Course **BONUS**

- Includes:
- ✓ Concealed Carry Options
  - ✓ Home Defense
  - ✓ Vehicle Defense

Two-disc set only \$49.95 — Order Today:  
**(800) 628-9818** (M-F 8am-3pm PST)  
[www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids.html)

The shape is familiar and trusted, but this CombatLight pumps out 160 lumens of bright, even light from a tank-tough package only 5" long and weighing less than 5 ounces with two 123A batteries on board. The patented stepped-down body and rubber grip ring of the Z2-S makes it ideal for pairing up with a handgun in low-light situations, and microprocessor control assures an even application of power and maximum runtime. Of course, it's built to SureFire's high standards, featuring an aerospace aluminum body and mil-spec hard-anodized surface. Press the tailcap switch once for steady light, three times rapidly for the disorienting strobe mode. **GUNS**

BUSHNELL OUTDOORS  
 9200 CODY AVE.  
 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66215  
 (800) 423-3537, [WWW.BUSHNELL.COM](http://WWW.BUSHNELL.COM)

FAILZERO  
 7825 S.W. ELLIPSE WAY  
 STUART, FL 34997  
 (866) 214-6926, [WWW.FAILZERO.COM](http://WWW.FAILZERO.COM)

FENIX LIGHTS  
 (888) 775-9996  
[WWW.FENIXLIGHT.COM](http://WWW.FENIXLIGHT.COM)

5.11 TACTICAL  
 4300 SPYRES WAY  
 MODESTO, CA 95356  
 (209) 527-4511  
 (866) 451-1726  
[WWW.511TACTICAL.COM](http://WWW.511TACTICAL.COM)

GARMIN INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
 1200 E. 151ST ST.  
 OLATHE, KS 66062-3426  
 (913) 397-8200, [WWW.GARMIN.COM](http://WWW.GARMIN.COM)

HUNTER SPECIALTIES  
 6000 HUNTINGTON CT. N.E.  
 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52402  
 (877) 393-4526, [WWW.IKAMOPTICS.COM](http://WWW.IKAMOPTICS.COM)

HYDRO-PHOTON, INC.  
 P.O. BOX 675  
 BLUE HILL, ME 04614  
 (207) 374-5800, [WWW.STERIPEN.COM](http://WWW.STERIPEN.COM)

KPR ADCOR INC.  
 1711 CUDABACK AVE. #1048  
 NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14303  
 (866) 577-2326, [WWW.CORROSIONVCI.COM](http://WWW.CORROSIONVCI.COM)

SPOT INC.  
 461 S. MILPITAS BLVD.  
 MILPITAS, CA 95035  
 (408) 933-4518  
[WWW.FINDMESPOT.COM](http://WWW.FINDMESPOT.COM)

SUREFIRE  
 18300 MT. BALDY CIR.  
 FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708  
 (800) 828-8809, [WWW.SUREFIRE.COM](http://WWW.SUREFIRE.COM)

# KWIK-SITE CO.



## TOMORROW IS HERE NOW!

Check out the new **SUPER LONG BASE** from Kwik-Site.

Made from aircraft aluminum, solid & strong!

Good looks at a fantastic price!

See it at your favorite dealer.

**NOW ON SALE!**

Retail Price  
**\$17.94**  
 or less.

Available in Matte, Brite or Stainless.



**SUPER LONG BASE**

# KWIK-SITE CO.

Leading U.S. Manufacturer of Scope Mounts

5555 Treadwell  
 Wayne, MI 48184

Phone: **(734) 326-1500**

Fax: **(734) 326-4120**

E-mail: [kwiksiteco@aol.com](mailto:kwiksiteco@aol.com)

[www.kwiksitecorp.com](http://www.kwiksitecorp.com)

Classified ads \$2.00 per-word insertion. (\$1.50 per-word insertion for 3 or more) including name, address and phone number (20 word minimum). Minimum charge \$40.00. **BOLD WORDS add \$1.00 per word.** Copy and rerun orders must be accompanied by **PAYMENT IN ADVANCE. NO AGENCY OR CASH DISCOUNTS ON LISTING OR DISPLAY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING.** All ads must be received with advance payment **BY NO LATER THAN THE 1st OF** each month. **EXAMPLE:** Closing for DEC. 2008 issue (on sale NOV.

5th) is SEPT 1st, 2008. Ads received after closing will appear in the following issue. Please type or print clearly. **NO PROOFS WILL BE FURNISHED.** Include name, address, post office, city, state and zip code as counted words. Abbreviations count as one word each. Mail to GUNS MAGAZINE CLASSIFIEDS, 12345 World Trade Drive, San Diego, California 92128. **NOTE: WE NOW HAVE DISPLAY CLASSIFIEDS IN BOTH GUNS MAGAZINE AND AMERICAN HANDGUNNER. ASK FOR OUR NEW RATE CARD. (858) 605-0235.**

## ACCESSORIES

When conceal matters!

PS31 Speed Loader  
PS30 6 round belt slide  
PS6 Series Systems Include... Belt, Mag Pouch, Holster  
PSB5A Holster  
PS6DA Holster  
PS6 System 1

**Mernickle Custom Holsters**  
1875 View Court, Fernley, Nevada USA 89409 Phone: 775-572-3166  
Fax: 775-575-3188 Email: sales@mernickleholsters.com  
Internet: www.mernickleholsters.com Phone: 1800-497-3166

**Getting a stomach-full of conetrol mount imitators? How about the real thing!**  
Call: 800-CONETROL for Free Brochure  
www.conetrol.com

**FREE CATALOG!** Make your own kydex gun holster or knife sheath. Over 1200 items. Visit [www.knifekits.com](http://www.knifekits.com) or call 1-877-255-6433 today.

## AMMUNITION

## APPAREL

**THE BELTMAN** makes sturdy, top quality, **DUAL LAYER**, Bull Hide belts for dress wear, concealed carry, or competition. Options include: Horse, Shark, Elephant, Velcro, tapering, stiffeners, etc. Handmade in three widths, and five colors from \$69.95, any length! Catalogue -

\$3.00 (refundable) PO Box 1302, Apex, NC 27502. 919-387-1997. [www.thebeltman.net](http://www.thebeltman.net).

## AUCTIONS/SHOWS

## BOOKS

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

## COLLECTORS

## EMBLEMS & INSIGNIA

## FIREWORKS

## FOR SALE

## GUN PARTS

## GUNS FOR SALE

## GUNSMITHING

**GUNSMITHING INSTRUCTION AT PCC.** Two-year hands-on program; excellent facilities; financial aid available; VA approved. Piedmont Community College, P.O. Box 1197, Roxboro, NC 27573 (336)599-1181; [www.piedmontcc.edu](http://www.piedmontcc.edu)

## INSTRUCTION

## KNIVES & SWORDS

FINEST QUALITY  
OUTDOORSMEN'S KNIVES

**KNIVES OF ALASKA**

800/572-0890 • 903/783-7366  
[www.knivesofalaska.com](http://www.knivesofalaska.com)

**FREE POCKET KNIVES.** Collectibles, Bowies, Swords, Tacticals, And Much More. For More Information Visit Our Web Site And Click On The Featured Product For The Week. [www.dovadistributors.com](http://www.dovadistributors.com)

## LEATHERCRAFT

## MILITARIA

## MILITARY SURPLUS

## MISCELLANEOUS

**BEAR HUNTS - ALASKA, CANADA, CALIFORNIA & IDAHO; 100% SUCCESSFUL BROWN BEAR, GRIZZLIES & BLACK BEAR SPRING AND FALL HUNTS; CHASE's (THE BEAR GURU) 435-881-2143 EMAIL: CHASESHUNT@AOL.COM**

## OPTICS

## POLICE EQUIPMENT

## REAL ESTATE

## SURVIVAL

## VIDEOS

## WANTED TO PURCHASE

**AMERICAN COP AND AMERICAN HANDGUNNER ONLINE!**

[AMERICANCOP.COM](http://AMERICANCOP.COM)  
[AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM](http://AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM)

# “Shopping?”



Want to get her to the range? Tell her there's shopping involved.

Getting involved in the shooting sports can be a great new shopping experience for ladies.

### Shari can help.

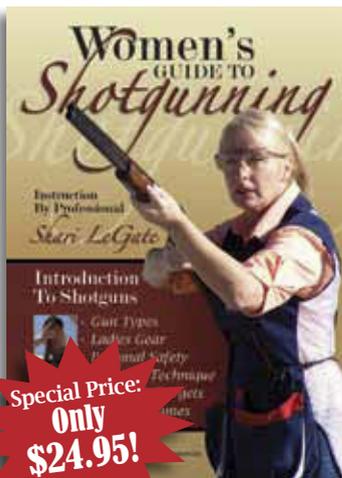
Shooting champion Shari LeGate provides all the information needed for any lady to get started in shotgun sports through her new DVD, *Women's Guide To Shotgunning*.

### Order Today!

(800) 628-9818

(M-F 8am-3pm PST)

[www.gunsmagazine.com/fmgvideo.html](http://www.gunsmagazine.com/fmgvideo.html)



# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER®

## 2010 SPECIAL EDITION



## Order Your Copy While Supplies Last!

# Only \$9.95

(outside U.S. \$17.95)

### A Look Inside:

• Flying Ashtray • Pocket Pistols  
2010 Buyers Guide • The Skinner • Packin' Heat

### Call Toll Free

Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. PST

# 888.732.2299

Order at [www.americanhandgunner.com](http://www.americanhandgunner.com)

P.O. Box 502610 • San Diego, CA 92150-2610

# GUNS

MAGAZINE

For more information on seeing your product featured in New Products, Contact: Andrew Oram (866) 903-1199. For more New Products visit us online at [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com)

## NEW PRODUCTS

### FENIX FLASHLIGHTS

#### FROM FENIX

Introducing the TK12R5, the TK45 and the TA21. The TK12 R5 (shown) offers a lifespan of 50,000 hours for long, reliable service. The TK45 features three lighting heads and a mini-gun appearance. The medium-sized TK45 is your best option for outdoor searching, caving, offroad trailing, etc. The TA21 is a solid, impact-resistant flashlight that will burn for up to 165 continuous hours. FENIX, [info@fenixlight.com](mailto:info@fenixlight.com) (email), [www.fenixlight.com](http://www.fenixlight.com)



### GRIPS FOR S&W J-FRAME & SIG 238

#### WICKED GRIPS

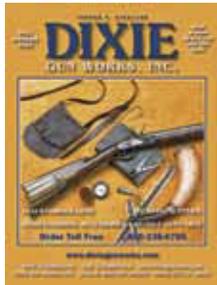
Wicked Grips has broadened their offerings in the custom grips world by debuting custom, hand fit and finished revolver grips for the S&W J-frame, as well as the hot, new SIG 238. Continuing to work with high-end "wild" burls, as well as more traditional offerings. Wicked Grips, [www.wickedgrips.com](http://www.wickedgrips.com).



### 2011 CATALOG

#### FROM DIXIE GUN WORKS

This blackpowder/muzzelloading catalog features more than 600 pages of replica guns, antique gun parts, accoutrements and supplies for the shooter, hunter and historical enthusiast. The Dixie Gun Works catalog also features a section of general info of facts and figures. In the USA — \$5; International — \$20. Dixie Gun Works, Inc., P.O. Box 130, Union City, TN 38281, (800) 238-6785, [www.dixiegunworks.com](http://www.dixiegunworks.com).



### BRT TACTICAL RETICLE

#### FROM SWAROVSKI OPTIK

The BRT Tactical reticle, for short- to medium-range tactical shooting, was designed with the tactical shooter's needs in mind and is available in the Z6(i) 1-6x24 riflescope (illuminated and non-illuminated). The 1X magnification allows the shooter to keep both eyes open for faster target acquisition during close-range shooting. The ends of the marker bars are designed for wind compensation up to 20 mph. Swarovski Optik, 2 Slater Rd., Cranston, RI 02920, (800) 426-3089, [www.swarovskioptik.com](http://www.swarovskioptik.com).



### 3D SERIES BINOCULARS

#### FROM CARSON OPTICS

The lightweight 3D Series binoculars with precisely placed thumb grooves, "just right" texturing and all-over body ergonomics, can be compared to your favorite pair of jeans or boots that are broken in "just right." Simply put, Carson says they are the most comfortable and easy to carry pair of binoculars you'll ever own. Four models are available, all with a neck strap, harness system and binocular wrap/case. Retail: \$250 - \$300. Carson Optics, 35 Gilpin Ave., Hauppauge, NY 11788, [www.carsonoptical.com](http://www.carsonoptical.com).



### WTG FROM PHASE 5 TACTICAL

The WTG is an aggressively-styled triggerguard, which creates more space in the trigger area. This extra space is useful when wearing gloves or when running other components like the Extended Bolt Release V1 or EBRv2. The WTG combines form and function. Finished in a satin black anodizing to match your lower receiver. Phase 5 Tactical, 4960 Almaden Expy Suite 271, San Jose, CA 95118, [sales@phase5tactical.com](mailto:sales@phase5tactical.com) (email), [www.phase5tactical.com](http://www.phase5tactical.com).



### 32 AUTO DPX LOAD

#### FROM CORBON

The new, high-performance load launches a 60-grain, solid copper hollowpoint bullet at 1,050 fps. Testing of the new DPX load, when fired into 10-percent ballistic

gelatin with a 4-layer denim barrier, shows penetration at 9" and consistent recovered diameters of .60". CORBON, 1311 Industry Rd., Sturgis, SD 57785, (800) 626-7266, [www.dakotaammo.net](http://www.dakotaammo.net).





**CUSTOM-FIT KYDEX HOLSTER**  
**FROM VIRIDIAN**

Viridian Green Laser Sights ships every gun-specific laser with a free, custom-fit KYDEX holster, a \$39 value. Viridian is the first rail-mounted accessory company to offer a free holster as a permanent change to their products. Viridian produces gun specific laser/holster systems for Glock, Springfield XD/XDm, Smith & Wesson M&P, Ruger SR9, Taurus 24/7 and Walther P22/PK380. Retail: \$199-\$279. Viridian Green Laser Sights, 5929 Baker Rd., Suite 440, Minnetonka, MN 55345, (800) 990-9390, www.ViridianGreenLaser.com.

**READYSHOT**  
**FROM READYSHOT**

ReadyShot enables gun owners to practice where it counts, in their home, with their own gun, using their own realistic tactical scenarios. ReadyShot's GunKit laser kit can be used at home by setting the target anywhere while building muscle memory to access the gun, bring it on target, all while practicing strategies, tactics and responses. ReadyShot, 1609 W County Rd. 42, Suite 259, Burnsville, MN 55306, (877) 973-2399, www.readyshot.com.



**UNIVERSAL VEHICLE  
HANDGUN HOLSTER MOUNT**  
**FROM GUM CREEK CUSTOMS**

Quick and accessible, this universal steering column mount works with any type of holster with a belt loop, belt clip or slotted belt attachment. Works with commonly-sized holsters and small-to-large handguns. Release mount in seconds. No tools required. No modifications to vehicle. Price: \$34.95. Gum Creek Customs, P.O. Box 859, Oxford, GA 30054, (888) 381-7872, www.gumcreekcustoms.com.

**ECO LITE SERIES**  
**BUCK KNIVES**

Buck Knives' new EcoLite series, available in two models, offer handles made of eco-friendly PaperStone, made from 100-percent waste paper. The 110 EcoLite model has a positive-action locking system, is equipped with a 3-3/4" hollowground clip blade, is made of 420HC stainless steel and weighs 4.1 ounces. Retail: \$45. The EcoLite 112 Ranger weighs in at 3.4 ounces with a 3" clip blade. Retail: \$42. Both models come in a nylon sheath. Buck Knives, 660 S. Lochsa St., Post Falls, ID 83854, (800) 326-2825, www.buckknives.com.



**BURGLAR BLASTER**  
**FROM HERACLES RESEARCH**

A single Burglar Blaster unit can control areas up to 2,000 square feet. When triggered, the unit releases 4 ounces of irritating OC (pepper) spray, to stop an intruder in seconds. The Burglar Blaster can be installed in minutes with no electrical experience required. Heracles Research Corporation, P.O. Box 346, Spokane, WA 99210, (509) 624-2555, www.bedgunsafe.com.



**FIREARM STORAGE  
& PRESERVATION BAGS**  
**FROM ZCORR**

ZCORR Firearm Storage & Preservation (FSP) Bags utilize military-proven technology and are simple to use. Slide a clean firearm or ammunition into the puncture resistant, non-abrasive ZCORR FSP bag and seal it shut with the re-useable Velcro closure. Retrieve your firearm up to 20 years later, and it's ready to use. ZCORR Products, 625 Fishers Run, Victor, NY 14564, (585) 742-3310, www.zcorrproducts.com.



**GLUE STAND**  
**FROM GOAT TUFF**

Whether it's fletching arrows or any job or hobby that requires the repetitive use of a bottle of glue, it can be an aggravation when the glue constantly flows from the tip, back into the bottle when set down between uses. The new "Glue Stand" fixes this problem by holding the bottle with the tip at the optimal angle, so the glue is always in the tip and ready to use. GOAT TUFF Products, 9375 N Hampshire Dr., Tucson, AZ 85742, (520) 742-1701, www.goattuffproducts.com.

**ONLINE AMMO SHOPPING**  
**FROM AMMOTOGO.COM**

Online shopping 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. Let the ammo experts at AmmoToGo.com be your 1-stop shop, 1-shot resource for all your ammo needs (rifle, pistol, shotshell, rimfire and specialty ammo with all

major brands available at great prices). It's easy, fast, convenient, safe and secure. Check out the "Hot Deals" and monthly specials. Ammunition To Go, 6360 FM 50, Brenham, TX 77833, (979) 277-9676, www.AmmoToGo.com.



# ENTER



### 318LM WEAPON LIGHT

MAKER: SUREFIRE  
18300 MT. BALDY CIRCLE, FOUNTAIN VALLEY,  
CA 92708, (800) 828-8809, WWW.SUREFIRE.COM

Max Output: 100 lumens, Runtime: 1.4 hours, Bezel  
Diameter: 1", Weight w/Batteries: 1.1 pounds,  
Batteries: 1 CR 123A, Value: \$350

### SOLO-VAULT

MAKER: SHOTLOCK (A DIVISION OF TRUCKVAULT)  
P.O. BOX 734, SEDRO WOOLLEY, WA 98284  
(800) 967-8107, WWW.SHOTLOCK.COM

Material: 14-gauge steel, Lock: Push button,  
programmable, Size: 7.5"x5.75"x2.25", Value: \$169



### SPECIAL OPS COMPACT SIGHT

MAKER: PRIDE-FOWLER INDUSTRIES, INC.  
P.O. BOX 4301, SAN DIMAS, CA 91773  
(909) 599-0928, WWW.RAPIDRETICLE.COM

Body: 6061 T6 Aluminum, Finish: Black anodized, Screen:  
Coated laminated parabolic glass, Lens dimensions:  
10/16" H x 14/16" W, Overall length: 1-7/8", Red Dot:  
5 MOA Pulse LED, Weight: .93 ounce, Battery: 1x1632,  
Value: \$329.99



### PH-35 & KAGAMUSHA

MAKER: KATZ KNIVES  
P.O. BOX 2217 BANKS CENTER RPO,  
KELOWNE BC V1X 4K6, CANADA  
(480) 786-9334, WWW.KATZKNIVES.COM

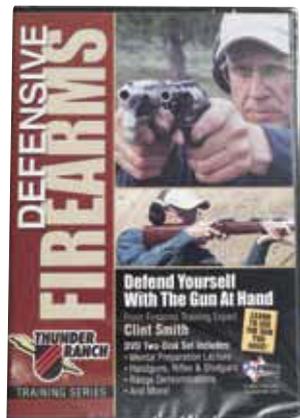
### PHANTOM TACTICAL FOLDER PH-35

Material: XT 80 Stainless Steel, Blade Length: 3.5", Overall length: 8",  
Scales: Stippled Kraton scales, Value: \$185

### KAGAMUSHA FIXED BLADE

Material: XT80 stainless steel, Blade length: 3.5" in length, Scales:  
Black Kraton, Overall length: 8.13", Weight: 6 ounces, Value: \$195

### THUNDER RANCH DEFENSIVE FIREARMS TECHNIQUES DVD VALUE: \$49.95



# TO WIN!



## TACTICAL 870 PUMP SHOTGUN

MAKER: REMINGTON ARMS  
 P.O. BOX 700, MADISON, NC 27025  
 (800) 243-9700, WWW.REMINGTON.COM  
 CUSTOMIZER: NIGHTHAWK CUSTOM  
 1306 W. TRIMBLE, BERRYVILLE, AR 72616  
 (877) 268-4867, WWW.NIGHTHAWKCUSTOM.COM

Barrel length: 18", Capacity: 6+1, Overall Length: 39", Weight: 8 pounds, Sights: LPA adjustable peep rear, fiber optic front, Safety: Vang "Big Dome", Stock: Hogue Rubber OverMolded, Shotshell carrier: Receiver mounted, 4 round, Value of Shotgun: \$1,350, Value of Package: \$2,628.94

# GUNS MAGAZINE JANUARY 2011

# GUN GIVEAWAY!

PACKAGE VALUE: \$2,628.94

GUNS MAGAZINE GUN GIVEAWAY!

**You can win a free Nighthawk Custom 12-gauge shotgun built on the Remington 870 (see the August 2010 issue).**

**A**dd-ons include the nifty Pride/Fowler Spec Ops Compact Red Dot sight, a SureFire 318LM Weapon Light Fore-end with 100 lumen light and built in pressure switch, ShotLock Solo-Vault, which is a universal shotgun vault made of 14-gauge steel, mounts on a wall or in a vehicle and has a 1000+ combination programmable

push-button lock. And just in case you need to do a little cutting, two Katz Knives will fill out this combo nicely—a fixed-blade Kagemusha and a Phantom Tactical Folder.

You can't win if you don't enter, so send those postcards in pronto or take the survey and enter online at [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com). Photos: Joseph R. Novelozo. **GUNS**

This contest is open to individuals who are residents of the United States and its territories only. Agents and employees of Publishers Development Corporation and their families are excluded from entering. Contest void where prohibited or restricted by law. Winners must meet all local laws and regulations. Taxes and compliance with firearms regulations will be the responsibility of the winners. Winners will be notified by CERTIFIED MAIL on official letterhead. ATTENTION DEPLOYED MILITARY: USE STATESIDE ADDRESS! No purchase necessary to enter.

### TO ENTER CONTEST:

Log onto [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com) or use YOUR OWN postcard (no envelopes, please)

Follow sample card to right. Mail postcard to: GUNS Magazine, GOM JANUARY

P.O. BOX 502795, San Diego, CA 92150-2795. Entries must be received before **FEBRUARY 1, 2011**. Limit one entry per household.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH:** Are you as concerned about national gun control laws as you were two years ago?

(A) Yes  
 (B) No

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ANSWER(S) TO QUESTION OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2011:  
 (A) (B)

### IF I WIN, SHIP MY PRIZE THROUGH:

FFL Dealer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Store Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. thru \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

Attention Deployed Military: USE STATESIDE ADDRESS!

SAMPLE ONLY

# ODD ANGRY SHOT

• JOHN CONNOR •

## “TOP TICKOFFS OF 2010” There will be more in 2011.

**Yes, I have and I wear “Infidel” caps and shirts, and yes, some people appear offended. Or perhaps, they’re just made very uncomfortable, not wanting to be around someone who may attract bullets, firebombs, howling mobs of mindless jihadists or “governmental attention.”**

I point out, “That’s what they call me—and by the way, they call you an infidel too. I’m an unrepentant infidel. Stand up and fight or kneel down and beg, but don’t just crouch there sniveling and whining.”

I’ll be wearing my infidel gear more as the grand mosque at Ground Zero climbs skyward. I know; it’s being touted by apologists as “a wonderful example of our commitment to religious freedom,” blah-blah-blah. But it’s not being built as an effort to “reach out and heal the wounds of 9-11”; far from it. It’s stepping on the necks of the survivors, families and friends of 3,000 victims—and crowing about it. Historically, where there has been a great slaughter of infidels and a victory for Islam, grand mosques have been triumphantly erected. Simple as that.

Those who object; those who decry the sheer, maddening offensiveness of it are labeled “Islamophobics.” The dozens who leaped to their deaths from the twin towers weren’t acting out of Islamophobia: they were being immolated by Islamic extremists. To suggest the mosque at Ground Zero is anything other than a mark of conquest is ludicrous—and offensive.

### PC

Politically correct cowardice offends me too. Examples abound, but the Cinco de Mayo incident at Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill, Calif. takes the cake—at least, a cupcake. Five American students were caught wearing T-shirts blazoned with

the US flag on that Mexican holiday. According to their parents, they wear ’em frequently. Such images are not prohibited, but the assistant principal, Miguel Rodriguez, escorted them to the school office.

Principal Nick Boden offered to



*Oh, my INFIDEL cap offends you? Let me tell you what offends me.*

let them remain on campus if they turned their shirts inside out, hiding the flags. The boys said that would be disrespectful—not to mention making them complicit in shameful conduct for Americans on American soil. School officials declared wearing those shirts would be “incendiary” on a Mexican holiday, and they feared violence. Violent response to Americans displaying the American flag in America? Oh please, may I say—Bring it on!?

In the same vein but illustrating

more arrogance than cowardice: Of all the nations which came to Haiti’s aid after the catastrophic January 2010 earthquake, only one did not fly their national flag over their central aid compound. France did. Britain did. Even little Croatia did. The single greatest contributor of manpower, materials and money to the relief effort did not. Our troops were ordered not to raise our flag. It’s too imperialist, they were told.

It’s bad enough when a president fails to honor our flag. But, he won the election; he can behave as disgracefully as he likes. The media and his socialist sycophants won’t object; he’s singing their tune. Forcing our troops to mirror his malaise, however, is manifestly immoral. Go apologize to France again for liberating them. Take over another industry. Spend another trillion or two. But leave us our symbol of freedom as a souvenir of a once-proud republic.

### Other Top Tickoffs

The stars and stripes are gone too from the US Department of Justice website. Having borne a flag motif for decades, the backgrounds of pages on what some call “Eric Holder’s Facebook” are stark black and white, and almost every page bears this quote: “The common law is the will of mankind issuing from the life of the people.” Has a kinda nice tone to it, doesn’t it? Vague and nonspecific, but that “will of mankind” and “life of the people” stuff sounds really touchy-feely, doesn’t it? It’s meant to, and it does not invite further inquiry. But let’s, OK?

So what exactly is “the common law,” and who gets to say what it is? Who decides what “the will of mankind” is? Those in power? Those who know best what’s good for the people? Kindly, indulgent superior beings? There is no mention of constitutional law, statutory law, inalienable God-given rights—or any rights whatsoever. It refers to no

document, even one so deftly shredded as the Constitution of the United States of America. That omission was purposeful.

There is no name appended to that quote, and that omission, too, was intentional. I'm guessing the feeling was that the people aren't quite ready for that yet—just wait until more power is consolidated; the people more—tractable.

The author, some career DOJ official said under cover of anonymity, was C. Wilfred Jenks. Don't recognize him as one of our founding fathers? He wasn't. A British lawyer, he was the darling of communists and socialists of all stripes in the 1930s and '40s. He quickly became influential in the International Labor Organization of the UN, where his burning cause was the imposition of "global common law." In other words, he was a front man for the Marxists, or at the least, one of the most effective of Lenin's "useful idiots." Now his words are on the pages of our Department of—what? Justice?—website.

Can we all stop playing "let's pretend they're not rabid socialists" now?

The Border Fence: What border fence? Disjointed sections of easily stepped-around walls and some chain link rabbit-barriers are not a fence, they're a disgrace. Once upon a time in America, we built dams requiring more material, an interstate highway system which dwarfs the farcical fence, and went from kickoff to landing a man on the moon in less than a decade. We can't secure our borders—or we won't?

Just for comic relief, did you know Golden State Fence Company, one of the contractors receiving mega-bucks to build a fence to keep illegal aliens out, was fined for employing illegal aliens? It is rumored that at the behest of drug cartels—and well paid by them—the illegals built in significant, well thought out bypasses. But those must be just rumors, right?

### Too Many Tickoffs

So many tickoffs, so little space: The cupidity and calumny of the UN, where Iran was recently seated on the Commission on the Status of Women—no kidding—that's not a bitter joke; the taxpayer-funded assaults on liberty by the American Civil (choke!) Liberties Union; the Constitution-trashing social engineers of the Supreme Court; the hypocrisy of Hollywood. But maybe I should toss the 2010 tickoffs, because 2011 looks like it might be a bumper-crop year. And that offends me too. Connor *OUT*.

**GUNS**

# HOLIDAYS ARE NUTS

And so are we!

Buy an AirForce Condor by the end of 2010 and get this \$100 CO2 Adaptor totally FREE!

Even better, get your warranty registration in by 1/15/11 and you may win a free tactical carry case. Call us today at 877-247-4867 and start protecting your nuts right away.

Visit us at [www.airforceairguns.com](http://www.airforceairguns.com) for more information or to find a dealer near you.



# AIRFORCE

airguns



## S&K SCOUT-MOUNT

No Drilling or Tapping!

The absolute best scope mount made for the Argentine 1891. Easy installation without modifications to your gun. Machined from solid bar stock & made in the USA. See [www.scopemounts.com](http://www.scopemounts.com) for a list of our other mounts & scopes.

Argentine 1891 Scope Mount

S&K  
Scope Mounts

70 Swede Hollow Rd  
Sugar Grove, PA 16350  
**800-578-9862**  
[www.scopemounts.com](http://www.scopemounts.com)



## Installation a Problem?

Not Any More!



6  
Piece  
Modular  
Design

Five Sizes

Capacities from 8-52 Guns

## Zanotti Armor Safes

123 W. Lone Tree Rd., Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 232-9650 • [www.zanottiarmor.com](http://www.zanottiarmor.com)

DIXIE 2011 CATALOG ONLY \$5.00!

# DIXIE

## Everything Blackpowder

From replica firearms of yesteryear to today's blackpowder hunting and sport equipment...

**Dixie's 2011 catalog** is packed with more than 10,000 items including blackpowder shooting supplies, antique gun parts, and accouterments.



PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE  
AND EXPERTISE  
GUARANTEED

VIEW ITEMS AND ORDER ONLINE!  
[www.dixiegunworks.com](http://www.dixiegunworks.com)

Major credit cards accepted  
**FOR ORDERS ONLY (800) 238-6785**

DIXIE GUN WORKS, INC.

P.O. Box 130 Dept. 2 Union City, TN 38281  
INFO PHONE: (731) 885-0700 FAX: (731) 885-0440  
E-MAIL: [info@dixiegunworks.com](mailto:info@dixiegunworks.com)

# GUNS

MAGAZINE

JANUARY 2011

The companies listed have featured advertisements in this issue. Look to them first when you are ready to make a purchase.

ADVERTISER	PAGE
AirForce Airguns	87
American COP Subscription	70
American Custom Gunmakers Guild	77
American Gunsmithing Institute	62
American Handgunner Subscription	39
American Handgunner T-Shirts	88
Blue Book Publications Inc.	77
Bond Arms	27
Burger Knives	62
CorBon/Glaser	73
Crimson Trace Corp.	75

ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE
CrossBreed Holsters LLC	69	LockSAF	27
DeSantis Holster	73	Mag-na-port International Inc.	71
Dillon Precision	30	Mitchell's Mausers	37
Dixie Gun Works	87	Otis Technology Inc.	3
El Paso Saddlery Co.	89	Pearce Grip	33
Elite Sports Express	78	Pride-Fowler	77
European American Armory	7	Rock River Arms	33
FenixLight Limited	25	S & K ScopeMounts	87
FMG Special Editions	81	Savage Arms	11
Fobus USA	65	Sierra Bullets	71
Fort Knox Security	72	Smith & Wesson	21
Glock Inc.	13	SOG Specialty Knives	59
GUNS Magazine Subscription	67	Springfield Inc.	31, C3
Helvetica Trading USA	17	SureFire LLC	C2
Hogue Inc.	69	Tactical Rifles	72
ISSC-Austria	12	Taurus International	15
Jantz Supply	35	Thunder Ranch Training DVDs	16, 74
Kahr Arms	29, 36	Tichbourne Knives	22
Kimber	C4	USA Shooting Team	32
Kirkpatrick Leather Company	72	Walther USA	23
Kwik-Site Co.	63, 68, 79	Wicked Grips	43
LaserLyte	55	Winchester Repeating Arms	9
LaserMax	42	Zanotti Armor Safes	87
Lee Precision Inc.	22		

**New <sup>AMERICAN</sup>HANDGUNNER Gear!**

# GET SOME!

**Only \$21.99 each!**  
with Free shipping  
(within the continental U.S.)

American Handgunner USA  
Style #HGUS

Tactical Division  
Style #HGTD

Keeping The Peace  
Style #HGPC

Shoot To Live  
Style #HGSH

New American Handgunner T-shirts. Only \$21.99 with FREE shipping.  
www.AMERICANHANDGUNNER.com or call (800) 628-9818

so it goes without saying most will be older than the vast majority of our readers, or they are written about those who lived long ago. All of them are dated, but all of them still teach basic ideas and principles.

Theodore Roosevelt was the most traveled president up to his time. However, his travels were not political but rather on a much higher plane. He hunted all over the United States, and then after leaving the presidency went on a long African safari to collect mostly museum specimens and then followed that up with his nearly ill-fated Brazilian adventure; the latter almost cost him his life and certainly sapped his strength to the point he died in 1919.

### Traveling Reader

On all of his trips Roosevelt took great pains to plan everything he was to take, especially books. No matter how rough the trip he always had plenty of good books along. I just finished a new book about him titled *Wilderness Warrior*, which tells of his setting aside so much of America to make sure it was preserved for future generations. During his eight years in office, he accounted for the preservation of 234 million acres consisting of 150 national forests, 51 federal bird reservations, 18 national monuments, six national parks and four national game preserves. He visited many of these areas personally, hunted on many of them, and always took good books along with him. He even wrote a book titled *A Book-Lover's Holidays in the Open* (1916).

Reading *Wilderness Warrior* opened up other books I did not know about. Roosevelt was the founder of the Boone & Crockett Club in 1897; this is pretty common knowledge but what I did not know is he edited the first three publications sponsored by B&C.

These books are *American Big Game Hunting* (1893), *Hunting in Many Lands* (1895), and *Trail and Campfire* (1906). If I had not read the new book on his conservation efforts I would not even know these three ever existed. The great news is every one of them has been reprinted and is readily available. I was also led to a book by T.R.'s son Kermit titled *The Happy Hunting Grounds* (1920), and I found a couple of things that made me feel just a little bit better about myself. I have never been very interested in fishing nor am I much of a hand at shotgun shooting. Guess what? Theodore Roosevelt detested fishing and was a very poor hand with

a shotgun.

One of my old heroes from my youth has just been rediscovered thanks to a new book titled *Still Life* about, of all things, taxidermy. As a teenager I dabbled in taxidermy mounting a few squirrels and had hope some day of being a world-renowned taxidermist thanks mainly to Carl Akeley, who was a contemporary of Theodore Roosevelt having been born in 1864. I read everything I could about his African adventures when I was a teenager and Akeley is important for several things. He turned taxidermy into a high art and insisted on total perfection and authenticity.

Before his time, many museum exhibits consisted of skins and horns and such. That was not good enough for Akeley. He began to actually sculpture authentic forms of animals and spent years collecting specimens for the American Museum of Natural History's "Akeley Hall of African Mammals." He survived a bull elephant charge, killed a leopard with his bare hands and had adventures that would more than rival Indiana Jones. He died in 1921 of fever and hemorrhaging while gathering Mountain Gorilla specimens. He was buried in the mountains of Africa. Every time I look at a mount, especially a full body mount of a magnificent big-game animal, I think of Carl Ethan Akeley.

Since the American Museum of Natural History is in New York I don't imagine I will ever get there, but thanks to a book I can enjoy

many of the wildlife dioramas found in this grand building. The book is *Windows On Nature* and consists of historical information with many full-color pictures including "The Hall of African Mammals."

Books are as important to me, maybe more so, than my reloading room. I know they take up more space as between Diamond Dot and I we have filled 25 bookcases with well over 2,000 volumes. I think back to my first school library and how few volumes they actually had, but there were enough to start me on a lifelong enjoyment of great books. If I live long enough, there will probably come a day when I can no longer shoot; at that time I hope I can still read.

In 1933 William Lyon Phelps, a professor from the Yale English Department gave a speech titled "The Pleasure of Books" and said the following "If you develop the absolute sense of certainty that powerful beliefs provide, then you can get yourself to accomplish virtually anything, including those things that other people are certain are impossible. The happiest people are those who think the most interesting thoughts. Those who decide to use leisure as a means of mental development, who love good music, good books, good pictures, good company, good conversation, (I would add in good guns!) are the happiest people in the world. And they are not only happy in themselves, they are the cause of happiness in others."

Got books?

**GUNS**

**1930**  
"Austin"

- forward cant standard
- suede lined

Available for  
Single Actions  
Double Actions,  
and  
Semi-Automatics

**\$112**

*Shown in  
Basketweave  
Stamping*

**1920**  
"Tom Threepersons"

- lining standard
- forward cant standard

Available for most  
Single Actions,  
Double Actions  
and  
Semi-Automatics.

**\$72**

*Shown with  
Floral Carving.*

**www.epsaddlery.com**  
2025 E. Yandell, El Paso, Texas, 79903  
Ph. (915) 544-2233, Fax (915) 544-2535

# CAMPFIRE TALES

BY JOHN TAFFIN

## GOT BOOKS? They open new worlds.

**A**s you can well imagine I get a lot of interesting mail. This excerpt is from one of the most interesting pieces I have received in quite a while. What makes it so special is the age of the writer. "I saw on Gary Reeder's forum that you had the last of your books from the warehouse, so I decided I had better order one. I hang around there quite a bit, and I am the youngest one there at 19. I am just getting started in my handgun adventure, gaining experience as I go. My handgun collection is very small now consisting of only two. In the short time I have had them I have managed to get a few squirrels with my .22 Single-Six and this past December I got a deer with my .44 Magnum Redhawk.

"I enjoy it a lot when you post on the forums and would love to meet you sometime, but I don't imagine you're going to be in Michigan anytime soon and it doesn't look like I will make it to Idaho anytime soon either. But I can start collecting your books and reading what I can on the vast expanses of the Internet. The influence you have had on the sixgun community is immeasurable and unfortunately the younger generation does not recognize or appreciate that. I have yet to meet someone my age that knows about you or Elmer and to me that is a shame because if everyone could be influenced by men like you this country would be a much better place and heading in a much better direction. Hopefully you can read all my bad writing and not get lost in the words I wrote and the way I wrote them. God Bless, Zach."

### Distractions

I, of course, thank young Zach for his undeserved words about me but most important are his words about the lack of knowledge and understanding of our great history by younger shooters, or a lot of older shooters for that matter. Our lives are shaped by our



heredity over which we have no control and also by our environment upon which we have a great deal of control. I am thankful I have always had the urge to learn about things that many others find unimportant. When I was young, things were no different than they are with Zach's generation except there were a lot fewer distractions and time-wasters pulling at me. Fortunately for me, I mostly grew up before television was such an influence, and I found books extremely important. I was also fortunate in that political correctness had not yet raised its evil head and school libraries were stocked with books that for all intents and purposes don't even exist on their shelves today.

I think I read every dog and horse

book of fiction remembering such names as *Big Red*, *Bob*, *Son Of Battle* and the *Black Stallion*. I don't even know if these books exist anymore or if they would be read if they did.

Several years ago I found a copy of *The Boys Life of Theodore Roosevelt* marked "discarded" by a local library. It was in excellent shape, however, had not been checked out for several decades. I guess they needed the shelf space. Just recently I have been re-reading about some of the men who shaped my life and my ideas and, dated as those older books may be, basic ideas never change or they shouldn't at least.

Early influence of youngsters, especially boys, has been under a terrific assault the past few decades; an assault aimed at changing their basic nature. The old saying, "Boys will be boys," is somehow found to be very offensive to those who want to change what has always been. Boys will be boys, or at least they should be, and they will be with the right influences. My first influences, at least for the most part, were not in movies (except for Roy, Gene, and Hoppy, and maybe a little Tarzan thrown in during my early grade school years), or television, or music but rather in books about real men. I'm still thankful for the grade school teacher who forced me to read biographies and autobiographies, especially those about our Founding Fathers and the early leaders in our republic and the westward march.

If I have had influence as Zach as said, I hope it transcends just firearms knowledge and any influence I have had can be attributed directly to those who influenced me. I did a series a while back on learning, which comes in many ways by seeing, by listening, by doing and certainly by reading. There are so many books I have found to be extremely valuable to me personally. Many great books are older than I am,

*continued on page 89*

# X<sup>M</sup>-45ACP



**GET YOUR HAND ON ONE NOW!**  
1.800.680.6866 • [WWW.THE-M-FACTOR.COM](http://WWW.THE-M-FACTOR.COM)

# UNEQUALED PERFORMANCE. UNCOMPROMISING QUALITY.

*Super Carry .45 ACP pistols from the Kimber Custom Shop™ are an extraordinary blend of function, power & elegance. The Super Carry Pro™ has a 4-inch barrel.*



Super Carry pistols have specialized features like night sights with cocking shoulder, round heel frame and unidirectional serrations.



Super Carry Ultra™ .45 ACP weighs just 25 ounces, and a 3-inch barrel makes it easy to conceal. Magazine capacity is 7 rounds.



Super Carry Custom™ .45 ACP has a 5-inch barrel but weighs just 31 ounces. As a full-size carry pistol, it has no peer.

Kimber® designed the Super Carry series with singular purpose – to be the finest concealed carry pistols available today. Special frame and slide serrations engage directionally, locking the grip and ensuring flawless slide operation. A round heel frame provides snag-free comfort. Stainless steel slides and light weight aluminum frames wear KimPro II™, a proprietary high-tech finish that is self-lubricating and extremely durable. Night sights, ambidextrous thumb safety and match grade barrel, chamber and trigger are included. Super Carry – the new standard of personal defense.



©2010 Kimber Mfg., Inc. All rights reserved. Kimber names, logos and other trademarks may not be used without permission. Names of other companies, products and services may be the property of their respective owners. Kimber firearms are shipped with an instruction manual and California-approved cable lock. Copy of instruction manual available by request.

Kimber, One Lawton Street, Yonkers, NY 10705 (800) 880-2418

THE CHOICE OF AMERICA'S BEST  
[kimberamerica.com](http://kimberamerica.com)