



**.45-70 BUSH PILOT:**

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

**SKINNER SIGHTS  
LIGHTS OUT LEVERGUN**

# GUNS<sup>®</sup>



*A Classier  
Chassis*

**T/C's LRR**

**6.5**

**CREEDMOOR**

## **SPECIALTY ARs**

- BROWNELLS  
BRN-10 .308
- ATO'S ULTIMATE  
HOG SLAYER

## **RUGER RIMFIRES**

- A SLICKER  
SINGLE-SEVEN
- COLLECTIBLE  
COMMEMORATIVE  
10/22s

## **THE ROSS RIFLE**

CANADA'S  
LEGENDARY  
STRAIGHT-PULL

**WIN!**



**WALTHER  
ARMS  
PPQ SC LE  
PACKAGE!**

**JULY 2019**



# PATRIOT

PROFESSIONAL GRADE WEAPONRY®

[BRAVOCOMPANYMFG.COM](http://BRAVOCOMPANYMFG.COM)



# SHOOT MORE. SHOOT BETTER.

## SYNTECH®



Shoot more thanks to a synthetic coating that reduces heat and friction in the barrel. Shoot better because Syntech® loads feature a cleaner burning powder that creates less smoke. It's an overall better shooting experience you have to see to believe.

Learn more at [federalpremium.com/shoot-more-challenge](http://federalpremium.com/shoot-more-challenge).

Available in  
9mm Luger, 40 S&W and 45 Auto

**FEDERAL** 



2017 SHOOTING ILLUSTRATED GOLDEN BULLSEYE  
"AMMUNITION PRODUCT OF THE YEAR" AWARD

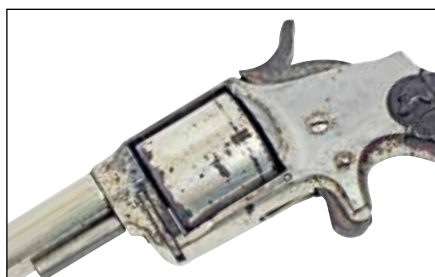


[FEDERALPREMIUM.COM/SHOOT-MORE-CHALLENGE](http://FEDERALPREMIUM.COM/SHOOT-MORE-CHALLENGE)



# 44

## T/C LRR 6.5 CREEDMOOR



42

### Miss Lilly's Revolver

Resurrecting a .38 Rimfire with a rich Mississippi past.

David Freeman



44

### T/C LRR 6.5 Creedmoor

Performance Center Chassis Rifle delivers long-range perfection.

Mike Cumpston



50

### Brownells BRN-10

Honoring Stoner's original .308 breakthrough.

Jeff John



54

### Advanced Tactical Ordnance UHS-6.5

A bacon makin' 6.5 Creedmoor in AR format.

Will Dabbs, MD



58

### Skinner Sights Bush Pilot .45-70

Crushing levergun power in takedown format.

Jeff "Tank" Hoover



62

### Eight Great Straights

Our resident slicemeister picks his top fixed-blades.

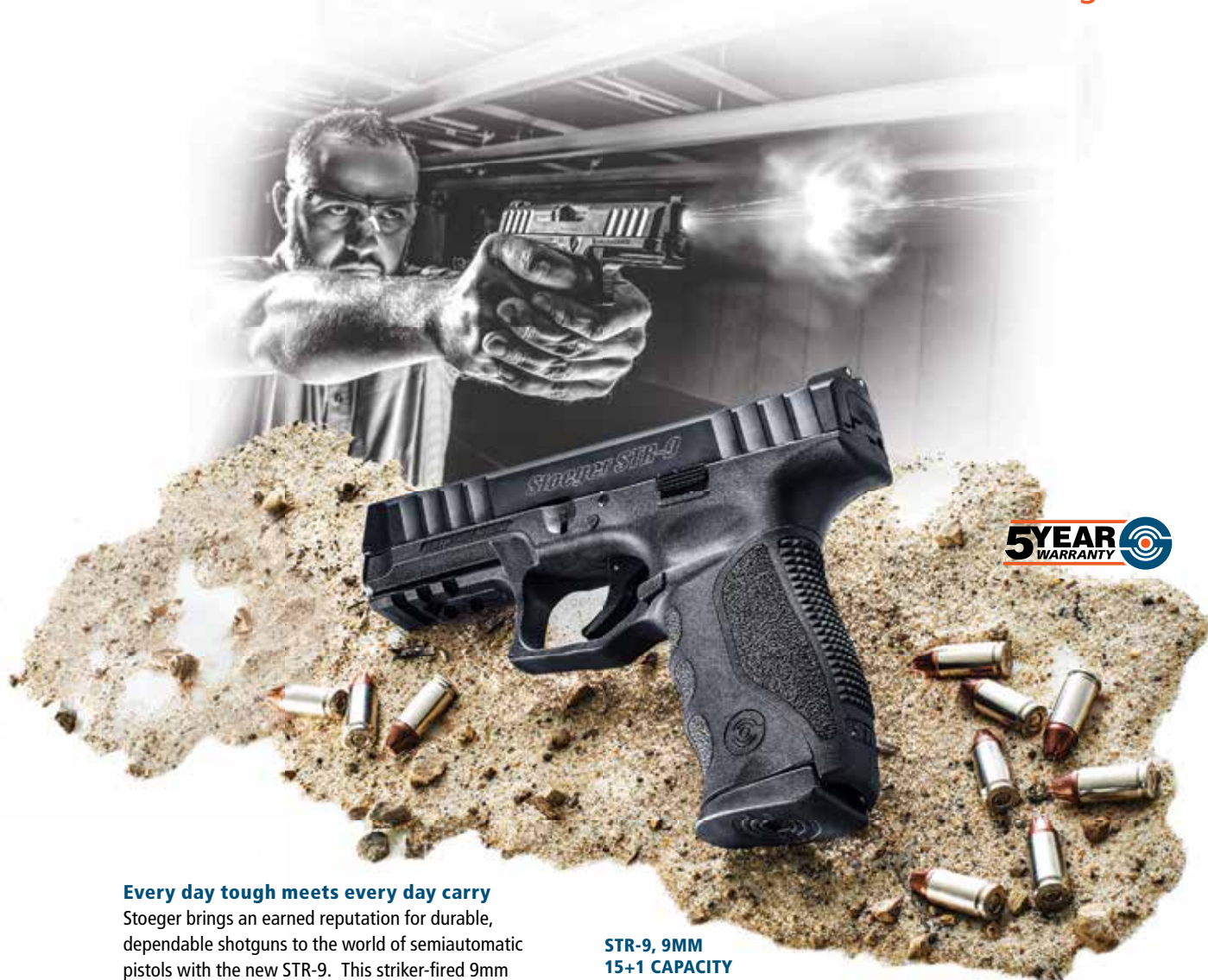
Pat Covert





# Rugged and Reliable Protection

The all-new STR-9 from Stoeger



## Every day tough meets every day carry

Stoeger brings an earned reputation for durable, dependable shotguns to the world of semiautomatic pistols with the new STR-9. This striker-fired 9mm comes packed with features you'd expect in a pistol costing twice as much. Its integrated rail, internal safety, reversible magazine release, optimized slide serrations, three-dot sight system and enhanced ergonomics deliver consistent performance and comfort. Three interchangeable backstraps offer a custom fit to get you on target quickly. To experience its fit, feel, balance and quality first hand, ask your firearm dealer to show you the new Stoeger STR-9. For more information, please visit [StoegerIndustries.com](http://StoegerIndustries.com).

**STR-9, 9MM**  
**15+1 CAPACITY**

 **Stoeger®**  
Every Day Tough

Shotguns • Pistols • Air Guns



**34 SURPLUS, CLASSIC & TACTICAL FIREARMS™**  
Canada's straight-pull  
Ross Sporter is elegantly accurate.  
*Holt Bodinson*

**36 AIR POWER**  
Benjamin's powerhouse  
.357 Bulldog and 467 fps Airbow.  
*Tom McHale*

**68 2A DEFENSE**  
SCOTUS to revisit  
the Second Amendment.  
*Dave Workman*

## QUARTERMASTER

**72** Auto-Ordnance GI 1911A1:  
Our greatest service pistol gets colored.  
*Jeff "Tank" Hoover*

**74** Firebird Pyrotechnic Targets:  
A big bang boom at the range!  
*Will Dabbs, MD*

**76** Kershaw Natrix Copper  
and Russell Woodswalker:  
Quality cutters at comfortable prices.  
*Payton Miller*

**78 GUNS CLASSIFIED**  
**80 NEW PRODUCTS**  
**84 GUN OF THE MONTH**  
**88 ADVERTISER INDEX**

**8 CROSSFIRE** ..... *GUNS Staff*  
*Letters To The Editor*

**10 GUNS INSIDER** ..... *Brent T. Wheat*  
*Common sense beats crazy anytime.*

**14 UP ON ARS** ..... *Glen Zediker*  
*Geissele URG-I is the real deal.*

**18 HANDGUNS** ..... *Massad Ayoob*  
*Old-school bulls-eye target still a great teaching tool.*

**24 HANDLOADING** ..... *John Taffin*  
*The .256 Winchester: Shoulda been a contender!*

**28 MONTANA MUSINGS** ..... *Mike "Duke" Venturino*  
*The .38 Special is still Special ...*

**30 RIFLES** ..... *Dave Anderson*  
*Light up the night with Streamlight.*

**32 RIMFIRES** ..... *Holt Bodinson*  
*Ruger's 10/22 is commemoratively collectible.*

**66 KNIVES** ..... *Pat Covert*  
*Dozier Titanium folder: All the knife you need.*

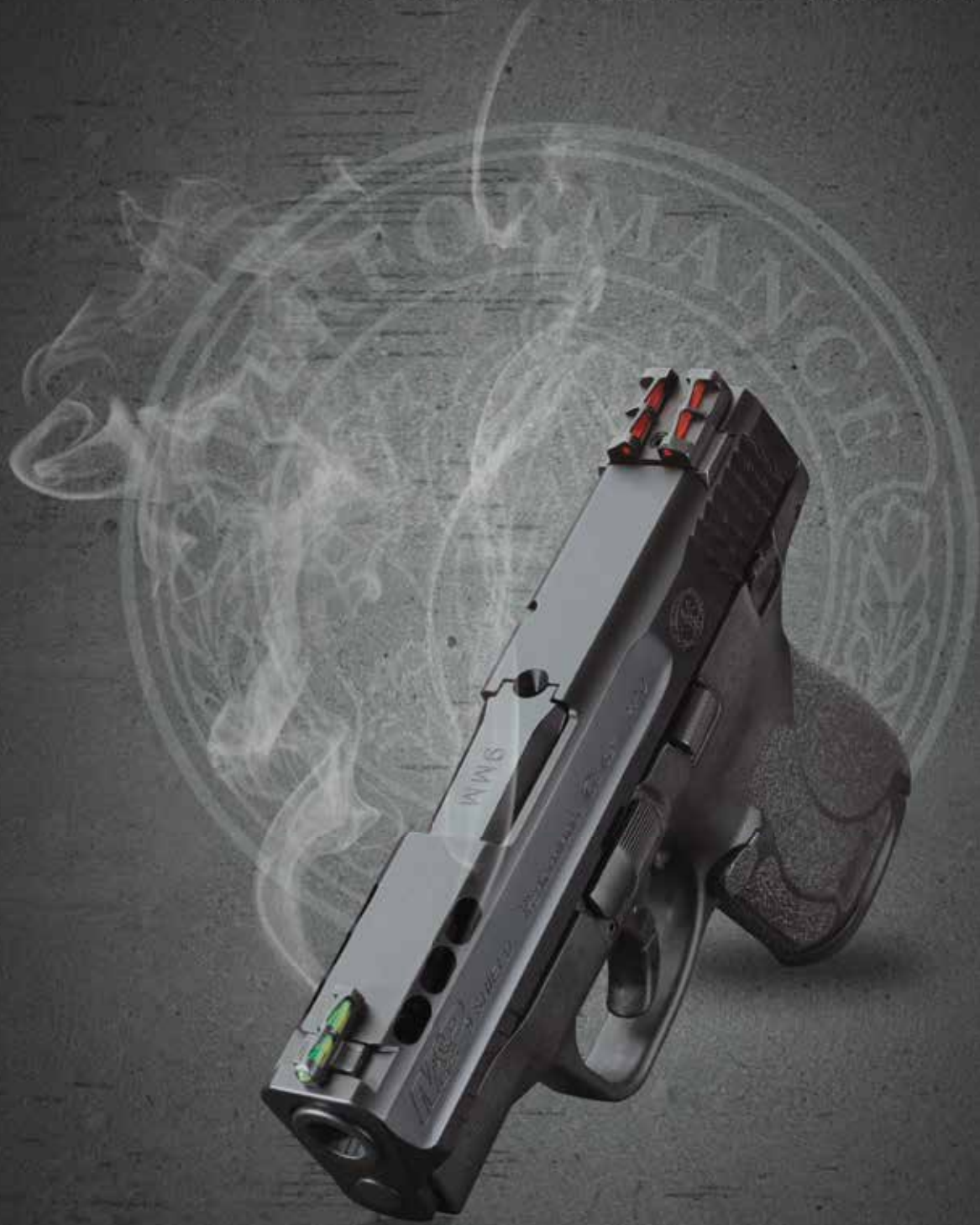
**86 THINK TANK** ..... *Jeff "Tank" Hoover*  
*Easy upgrades to improve your Ruger Single-Six or Seven.*

**90 CAMPFIRE TALES** ..... *John Taffin*  
*Voices from the Past Part II: The DA revolver.*



# PERFORMANCE CENTER®

## PORTED M&P SHIELD® M2.0™



#PORTED  
#MPPORTED

AVAILABLE IN  
9MM • 40 S&W • 45 AUTO



[Smith-Wesson.com/PC](http://Smith-Wesson.com/PC)

# GUNS

## CROSSFIRE

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**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, 13741 Danielson St., Ste. A, Poway, CA 92064; [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com); e-mail: [ed@gunsmagazine.com](mailto:ed@gunsmagazine.com)

#### TRANSPLANTABLE HUMOR

I read the letter from Dr. Sylvia M. Rafels in which she expresses her feelings about Will Dabbs' February article on the FN 509. Since she's a doctor, maybe she knows someone she could speak to about her "issues" and perhaps could be directed to a facility where she might receive a "sense-of-humor" transplant. Thanks for a great magazine and keep up the good work! If you're not offending someone, you're probably pretty boring. Just sayin' ...

Joe Walker  
Via email



#### PAGING DR. TAFFIN

I just bought a pre-war Colt .38 revolver. The last patent date is Oct. 5, 1926 and the serial number is L615XXX. It has mother-of-pearl grips and the Colt medallion in silver. It's blued with a 4" barrel and — I believe — it's a .38-40. It has some holster wear but the action is as smooth as butter. I loved John Taffin's May "Handloading" column on reloading the .38-40. I'd like to know if you

can still buy factory .38-40 or do you have to handload for it?

Chris G.  
Via email

*Chris: Thank you for writing and for the kind words. If you have a .38-40, it should be marked on the barrel ".38 WCF." In this case it would be the large-framed Colt New Service. I'm guessing you have an Official Police chambered in .38 Special. Check the barrel markings as to caliber and model. If it's a .38-40, Black Hills and several other companies offer .38-40 loads for Cowboy Action shooters. I use a lot of them in my New Service and SAA .38-40s. Attached you'll see a picture which shows why I like the .38-40 so much! Good Shootin' and God Bless. —John Taffin*

I've known for a while that I don't shoot enough. I have NIB guns just idling in storage. Anyway, when John Taffin recently wrote about .38-40 revolvers, he also mentioned a Winchester M92 of the same caliber. Of the many guns I seldom shoot, I have a Marlin Safety saddle gun in .38-40. My grandfather bought it in 1899. I never knew him so I don't know how much it was fired. It passed to my father who never used it. After John's article, I took it out. It's in good condition and accurate. The only load I had on hand was one designed for Cowboy Action, which I presume is on the light side. The rifle has an adjustable rear sight that may be common for this model. Before I fire at a distance, I was wondering

*continued on page 70*

Check out [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com) for our digital edition, news, our exclusive Product Index, web blasts, online features, to enter the Giveaway Package and more! And if you have any news about hot new products you've found, or anything you think we need to know about, drop me a line at [ed@gunsmagazine.com](mailto:ed@gunsmagazine.com)!

**GUNS**  
MAGAZINE  
THE FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD SINCE 1955

#### CORPORATE OFFICERS

Thomas Hollander  
Randy Moldé • Marjorie Young

#### PUBLISHER

Roy Huntington

#### EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Michael O. Humphries

EDITOR Brent T. Wheat

EXECUTIVE EDITOR Payton Miller

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Jazz Jimenez

ART DIRECTOR/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joseph R. Novelozo

ADVERTISING & MARKETING MANAGER Paula Iwanski

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Kevin Lewis

WEBSITE MANAGER Lorinda Massey

GRAMMARIAN GURU Gwen Gunn

#### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

John Taffin • Holt Bodinson • Dave Anderson

Massad Ayoob • Mike "Duke" Venturino • Will Dabbs, MD

Shari LeGate • Dave Workman • Jeff "Tank" Hoover

#### FIELD EDITORS

Sam Fadala • Mark Hampton • Glen Zediker

John Sheehan • Mike Cumpston • Aimee Grant

David Freeman • Dave Douglas • J.B. Wood



**FMG PUBLICATIONS**

**GUNS**  
MAGAZINE

[GUNSMAGAZINE.COM](http://GUNSMAGAZINE.COM)

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Michael O. Humphries

EDITOR: Brent T. Wheat

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Payton Miller

**HANDGUNNER**

[AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM](http://AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM)

PUBLISHER & EDITOR: Roy Huntington

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Michael O. Humphries

**COP**

[AMERICANCOPMAGAZINE.COM](http://AMERICANCOPMAGAZINE.COM)

**SHOOTING INDUSTRY**

[SHOOTINGINDUSTRY.COM](http://SHOOTINGINDUSTRY.COM)

EDITOR: Jade Moldae



**SPECIAL EDITIONS**

[FMGPUBLICATIONS.COM](http://FMGPUBLICATIONS.COM)

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Michael O. Humphries

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE

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

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

**866.820.4045**

EXPRESS SERVICE [www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com) (click "contact")

EDITORIAL 858.842.3943 • EMAIL: [ed@gunsmagazine.com](mailto:ed@gunsmagazine.com)

#### PRODUCTION

858.842.3941

EMAIL: [kevin.lewis@pubdev.com](mailto:kevin.lewis@pubdev.com)

NATIONAL AD SALES 800.537.3006

**NORTH EAST** Tom Vorel • [tom.vorel@fmghq.com](mailto:tom.vorel@fmghq.com)

**SOUTH EAST** Paula Iwanski • [paula.iwanski@fmghq.com](mailto:paula.iwanski@fmghq.com)

**WEST** Delano Amaguin • [delano.amaguin@fmghq.com](mailto:delano.amaguin@fmghq.com)

#### ONLINE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Lori Robbins • 858.842.3934 • FAX 858.842.3916

[lori.robbs@pubdev.com](mailto:lori.robbs@pubdev.com)

#### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Amy Tanguay • 888.651.7567 • FAX 858.842.3916

[classads@fmgpublishings.com](mailto:classads@fmgpublishings.com)



PRODUCED IN THE U.S.A.



# M17

THE CHOSEN ONE



Selected as the official sidearm of the U.S. Army for its uniquely innovative modularity, uncompromising performance and unmatched capability the M17 has redefined the definition of the combat handgun forever. Now, SIG SAUER® is proud to introduce the new P320® M17. The same innovation and versatility as the U.S. Army's M17 available in a civilian version.

- ★ Removable night sight rear plate
- ★ U.S. Army Coyote tan PVD coated stainless steel slide
- ★ SIGLITE® front sights
- ★ (2) 17-round magazines

Learn more at [sigsauer.com](http://sigsauer.com)

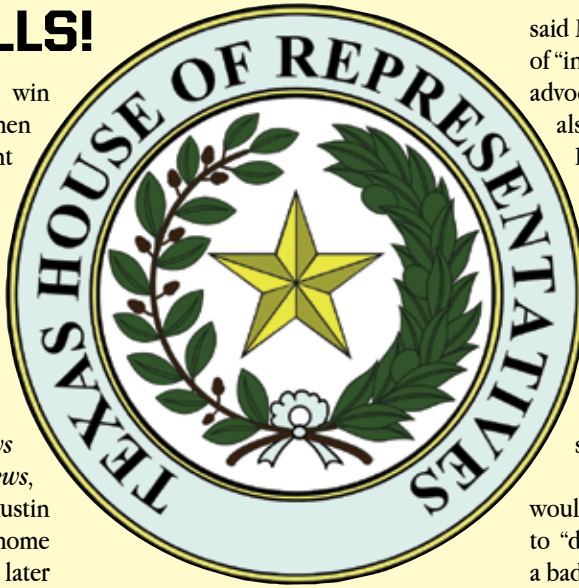
**SIG SAUER**  
NEVER SETTLE

## NO HOUSE CALLS!

**Y**ou want to know how *not* to win friends and influence people when discussing Second Amendment issues? Try showing up at their house!


This recently happened in Texas where a furious Republican House Speaker Dennis Bonnen killed a proposed “constitutional carry” bill after gun-rights activist Chris McNutt showed up at Bonnen’s house to press the speaker about the law.

According to stories from *Fox News Network* and the *Dallas Morning News*, Bonnen was at the state capital in Austin but his wife and sons were inside the home when McNutt arrived. The legislator later



said McNutt’s actions were a demonstration of “insanity” and called him an “overzealous advocate for criminals to get a gun.” McNutt also visited the homes of Representatives Dustin Burrows and Four Price.

While I’m not sure about the accuracy of Bonnen’s comment regarding Mr. McNutt “wanting criminals to own firearms,” I completely sympathize with his concerns about people showing up on his doorstep to rant about their pet causes (even if the cause is one I support).

Just stop and think: if Sarah Brady would smile when she heard of your plans to “demonstrate your rights,” it’s probably a bad idea. 



## TAURUS “HERE TO PLAY”


**B**oth myself and *American Handgunner* Editorial Director Michael Humphries just returned from a short trip to the new Taurus factory in Bainbridge, Georgia. The company is moving all U.S. production from Miami to south Georgia where the local folks are simply ecstatic about the project.

Aside from the building tour, we also got to meet many of the folks from both

the executive and engineering side of the U.S. house of the Brazilian gunmaker. The thing that struck me was the openness of the entire team in acknowledging Taurus has had some quality issues in the past, but they want to overcome them.

As Taurus President David Blenker told me, “We’re here to play,” meaning the company wants to become known for innovative, quality guns rather than just

inexpensive ones. Speaking as someone who is pretty good at shoveling through bull excrement, it seems like there really is a sense of both family and mission in the Taurus team.

While there, we also got to shoot some new guns that will soon be unveiled. I’ve promised to keep them under wraps until a future date, but I will say one in particular is going to be a real eye-opener. As they say on television, “Stay tuned . . .” 



# [brace yourself]<sup>®</sup>



## THE INVENTORS OF THE PISTOL STABILIZING BRACE<sup>®</sup>

Providing all the advantages of a handgun with improved control  
by adding a third point of contact for stabilization



US veteran designed and proudly  
made in the USA



State law permitting, transport your  
pistol across state lines without  
ATF notification



Does **NOT** require a tax stamp



Carry your pistol like any handgun,  
in a get-home-bag or inside a vehicle  
where permitted



[www.sb-tactical.com](http://www.sb-tactical.com)



**sb tactical<sup>®</sup>**  
[BRACE YOURSELF]<sup>®</sup>

## DOWN AND DIRTY, THAT'S US!

We recently got an email from a reader commenting on the fact that GUNS, unlike most other magazines, will occasionally show a dirty firearm in our photos.

I'm not referring to mud, blood or crud, but rather the normal powder, lead and range gunk that accumulates from hours on the firing line. While you'll never see



dirt or fingerprints on our professionally shot, showcase cover guns (kudos to lensman extraordinaire Rob Jones), it's

quite common for a story to include "real world" gun photos!

The idea here is you can see where powder or fouling accumulates, fingerprints come to rest or muck collects in crevices. This allows eagle-eyed readers to get a better sense of how the gun performs and how much cleaning/maintenance it will require at home.

Therefore — if you like your prose clean (well, kinda) and your guns dirty — we're your magazine!

## ANYBODY ELSE FALL FOR IT?

On April 1, aka "April Fools Day," our friends from Brownells sent out a press release touting their BRN-134D semi-automatic minigun. The "six-barreled, belt-fed beast is backwards compatible with the Dillon Aero M-134D Minigun" and has a capacity of 3,000 rounds of 7.62x51mm NATO ammo. It also includes six chamber flags, all for the low, low price of \$125,000.

For those who don't get the joke, a semi-auto minigun would be like taking your kids to soccer practice in an Indy car — a real waste of potential!

On the same day, body armor maker BulletSafe sent out a press release on their "Ear Tuffs Bulletproof Ear Muffs."

The release starts with standard glowing "sell copy" regarding the muffs, until you reach the paragraph where it discusses construction. Instead of lightweight aramid fibers or polyethylene panels, BulletSafe decided to keep it simple by using AR500 steel plates. As the release says, "For this reason Ear Tuffs give you 19.8 lbs. of protection!"



Both are pretty funny — unless you are a harried magazine editor sorting through the daily deluge of emails and press releases, and decided to save the media releases for possible articles.

Yeah, I bought it. Totally and completely — but, come to think of it, either item *would* be really cool!

## WEATHERBY TO WYOMING

Taurus isn't the only gun manufacturer packing up and moving to greener pastures! Family-owned Weatherby has turned on the lights in their new Sheridan, Wyoming, manufacturing plant.

The first guns out of the new facility will be the Wyoming Commemorative rifles. Available in a gold or silver version, the rifle will be chambered for the .300 Weatherby Magnum and feature fine checkering of the Exhibition- or AAA- grade walnut stocks along with the state's "Bucking Horse and Rider" engraved on the floor plate.

Weatherby will be holding a grand opening of the new plant this summer and FMG Publications will be there!





# THE NEW AMMUNITION FOR THOSE WHO DON'T DEPEND ON "LUCK."

## GAMECHANGER™

The game has changed. After 70 years of bullet innovation, Sierra® introduces the perfect combination of legendary match-grade accuracy and bone-punching terminal performance featuring Sierra's new GAMECHANGER™ bullet—

**ALL PACKED IN A PRECISELY-TUNED, DEPENDABLE CARTRIDGE.**

Sierra® Premium Ammunition is loaded with the same dedication to perfection. The Bulletsmiths® at Sierra® are famous for. Depend on it for your next hunt. Confidence in your bullet, confidence in your load and confidence when you pull the trigger. You'd expect nothing less from Sierra®.



TIPPED  
GameKing®

# SIERRA®

The Bulletsmiths®  
SIERRABULLETS.COM



## GEISSELE AUTOMATICS URG-I LOOK NO FURTHER FOR THE REAL DEAL!

Folks, I've known William H. Geissele for a good many years. Way back, I was one of the first kids on the block with his then-new two-stage match trigger, their first product. When Bill asked me if I wanted to see an "Urgie" I said "yes" before I knew even what it was!

An "Urgie" is an AR15 complete upper assembly available through Geissele Automatics and it's also the latest evolution of the M4. The URG-I (Upper Receiver Group, Improved) resulted from a USASOC contract project (United States Army Special Operations Command; no more "SOCOM") to develop an upgraded M4 for issue.

### WHAT'S THERE?

Specs? You want *specs*? How about a 14.5" Daniel Defense hammer-forged barrel (1:7) and Colt's M4 upper receiver and M4 mil-spec bolt carrier group. Then there's a Geissele Airborne charging handle,

**SureFire SOCOM flash hider "permanently" attached giving 16" OAL for maneuverability.**

Geissele Super Modular Rail, MK16, 13.5" SureFire SF4P flash hider, Geissele gas block (pinned) and a mid-length gas port location.

Mine has the flash hider permanently attached — all NFA-legal. This means it's the minimum 16" barrel when measured to the end of the muzzle device. I really like that. It's very noticeable when you're negotiating "here to there."

It's easy enough to look at the build sheet and calculate right quick it's feasible (easily, for the most part) to mimic those specs. However, there's a step between mimic and mirror. There is, or can be, a difference between mil-spec, mil-standard and mil-issue.

Which is why it's a very big deal to me to get one. The only difference in mine and "theirs" (meaning the military) is they don't have to get the flash hider pinned. So mine technically is called a "near-clone."

### FEATURES AND FUNCTION

The standout departure in this gun compared to previous M4 configurations is the mid-length gas system. It is the hands-down best thing ever for a carbine. The mid-length was incorporated in part as a hedge against the "full rigors" — as says

the literature — of the M855A1 (AB57) ammo. The stuff is hot! NATO, overall, is hot and getting hotter.

I've written many words identifying and solving carbine-length AR15 issues. They all stem from an overage of gas pressure at the gas port in the barrel (i.e. "port pressure"). Gas port location on an original-style carbine is 7" forward. The mid-length system is 9", which is a world of difference! AR15s in all configurations operate in a little universe where fractional milliseconds define "too much" and "not enough." Additionally, the barrel length ahead of the port (toward the muzzle) influences how long the entire system is under pressure.

Standard carbine post-port length is 9"; the URG-I is 5.5". Another world of difference: Increasing distance to the port gives a relatively huge reduction in port pressure. Alleviating the pressure sooner after the bullet leaves the muzzle lets the URG-I accept a whopping lot more ammo pressure without ill effects. It's as soft shooting as any carbine I've had.

I assembled a lower set for it which closely mimics the issue USASOC gun as I could. As I built it, total gun weight (no sight) is 6 lbs., 9.5 oz. *Nice!* How does it shoot? How about one MOA at 100 yards with 62-gr. Hornady Black 5.56 NATO?

### CIVILIAN/MILITARY JOINT EFFORT

There's been a different development path leading the AR15 to become all the things it's become. Much of it has come from civilians, starting back in the early '90s with





© 2019 O.F. Mossberg & Sons

# LET FREEDOM RING... AT 1000+ YARDS.



**ENJOY THE RING OF SUCCESS ALL-DAY**

finding steel from downrange with the new MVP Precision rifles from Mossberg®. As America's oldest family-owned and operated firearms manufacturer, we've been building dependable, hardworking rifles and shotguns since 1919. American built. American strong.

**ARM YOURSELF WITH MOSSBERG.**

**MVP® PRECISION RIFLE**

MAGPUL® PMAG® 6 M-LOK® FOREARM, LUTH-AR® ADJUSTABLE STOCK  
6.5 CREEDMOOR & 7.62MM NATO

[MOSSBERG.COM/ARMYOURSELF](http://MOSSBERG.COM/ARMYOURSELF)

**MOSSBERG®**  
**ARM YOURSELF.**



ARM YOURSELF WITH SAFETY ⚠️ STORE FIREARMS SECURELY, INACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN AND UNAUTHORIZED USERS.



the rise to dominance of the AR15 in NRA High Power Rifle Service Rifle division. Much input for military team competition guns came from "private sector" performance pioneers.

This is where much of what defines the

The URG-1 below Glen's BOB ("Best of the Best"). Both have mid-length systems but the URG-1 shoots softer than the BOB's 16.5" Krieger barrel.

URG-1 came from also. I know many parts are built to military specs, derived from military requests, which are in turn derived from feedback from field experience.

But every "carbine problem" we've been

seeking different ways to find solutions for has been solved in the URG-1. Bill Geissele has always looked at improved parts with consideration for combat use (i.e. his Airborne charging handle and handguard rails).

What I see in the URG-1 is a few ideas "we" developed and a specific collection of parts "they" know they can count on. We did the "trick," they did the "tough."

The URG-1 is a good example of the design refinement keeping the AR15 platform in service this long. Cost: About \$1,500. Worth it? If you want The Real Deal, yes.



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

# GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

**MATCH GRADE PROJECTILES**, the first choice of long range shooting and accuracy enthusiasts.

**SELECT PROPELLANTS** known for extreme temperature stability, lot-to-lot consistency and clean burning characteristics.

**SUPERIOR CASES** offering the highest quality materials, with the tightest dimensional specifications.

**BERGER**  
SHOOT BETTER

Visit [BergerBullets.com](http://BergerBullets.com) to find an authorized dealer near you.

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

#ShootBetter





# **FIOCCHI** *Of America*

THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN THE FIELD



Fiocchi is proud to announce a partnership with Swift Rifle bullets. Fiocchi of America has added these incredible projectiles to our current Extrema Rifle Hunting line in calibers ranging from 270 Winchester to 300 Winchester Magnum. Swift Scirocco® II, with the Signature Black Tip™, is a superbly accurate hunting bullet designed for long-range efficiency. It carries velocity and energy better than any of its competitors. Its sleek design and high ballistic coefficient produces the flattest trajectory in downrange hunting, making it a perfect match for long-range cartridges. The Scirocco® II produces positive expansion at minimal velocities as well as controlled expansion and high weight retention at close range. No other tipped bullet offers the terminal range of Scirocco™ II. Combine that projectile performance with Fiocchi's reputation for accuracy and consistency and you have a truly unbeatable combination.



@Flocchi\_Ammunition



@FlocchiAmmo

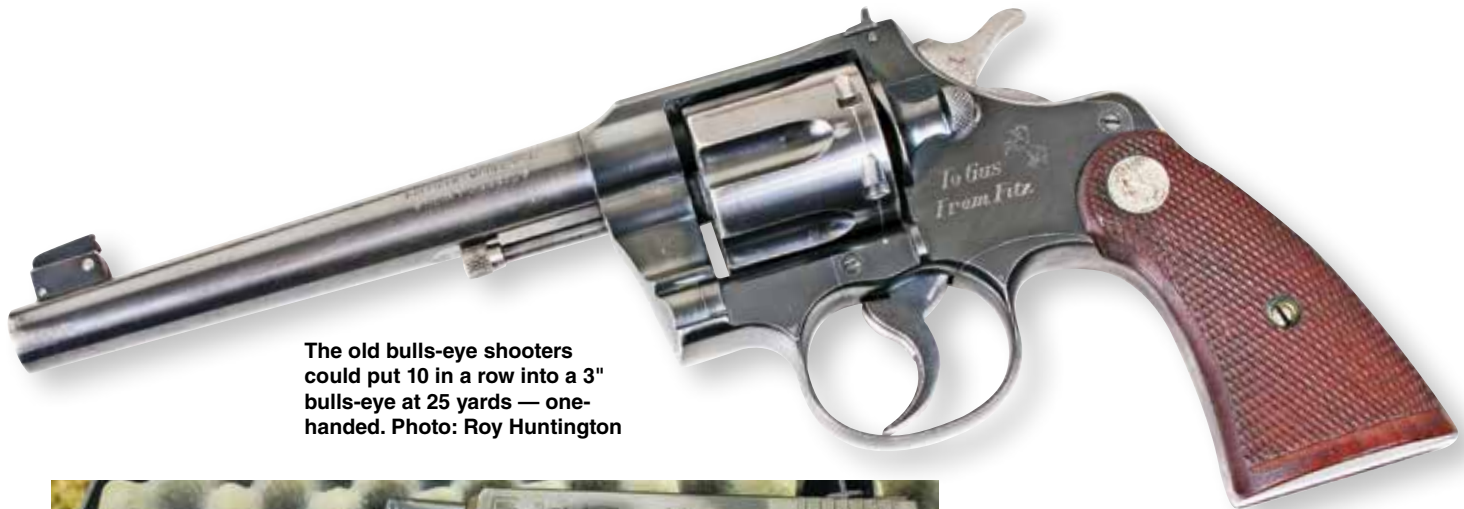


@Flocchi\_Ammunition

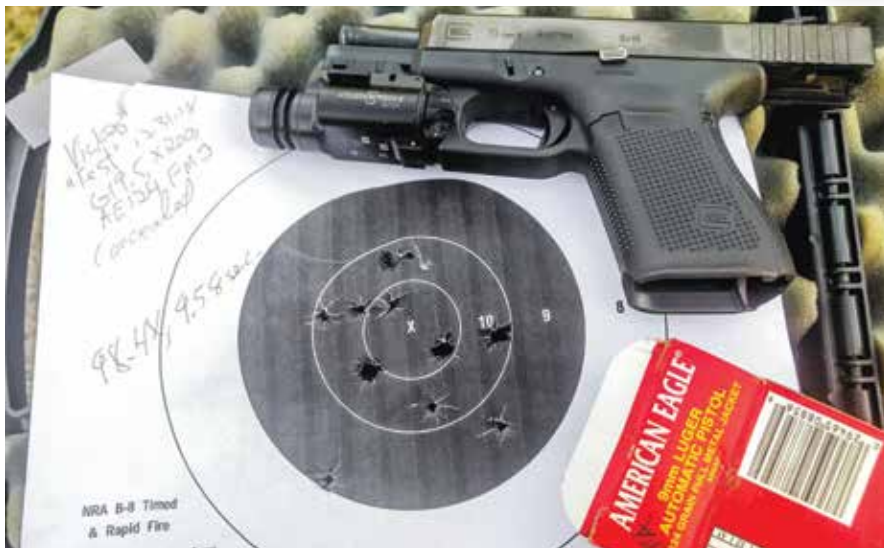


www.fiocchiusa.com

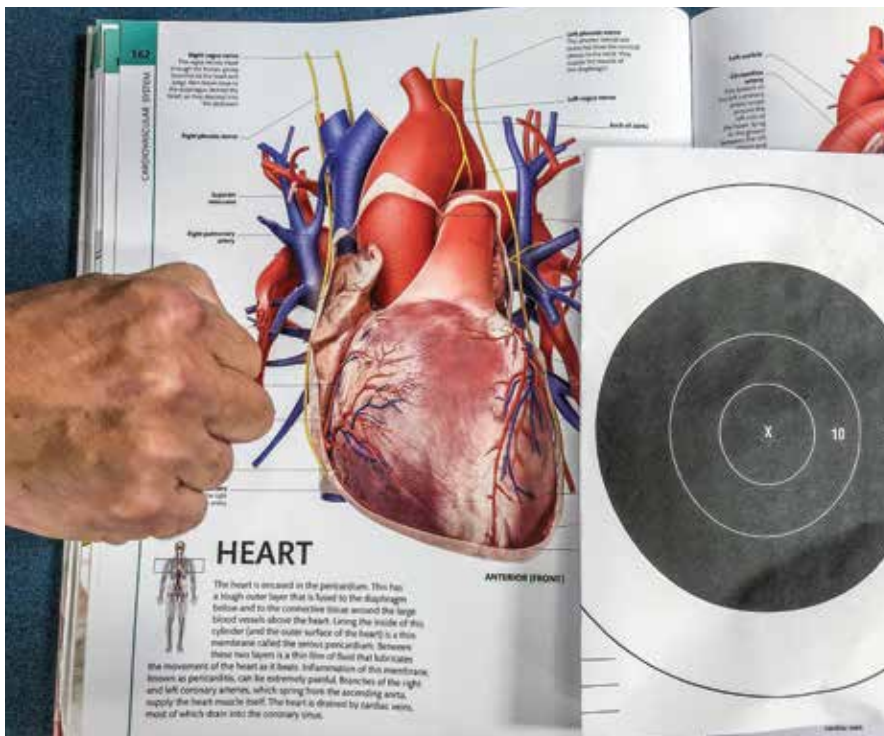




The old bulls-eye shooters could put 10 in a row into a 3" bulls-eye at 25 yards — one-handed. Photo: Roy Huntington



The Test: Ten shots in just under 10 seconds at 10 yards (above) — from concealment. The human heart is about the size of a fist (below) — or the black bull of a B8 target.



## THE BULL IS BACK

B8 = HUMAN HEART.  
SEE THE CONNECTION?

The round, black bulls-eye target with tight scoring rings comes from traditional one-handed target shooting. It has long since fell into disfavor with defensive shooters who find a humanoid silhouette more appropriate for the purpose. Yet, at a time when virtually all agree shot placement is the most critical element in surviving a gunfight, many of our leading experts have rediscovered the bulls-eye, specifically the NRA B8, designed originally for one-hand timed and rapid fire at 25 yards.

NRA specifies "timed fire" as two strings of five shots in 20 seconds, and "rapid fire" as two strings of five shots in 10 seconds. The diameter of the black bulls-eye is 5.2" at its outer (9-point) ring, encompassing a 3" "10-ring" and at the center, a 1-1/2" "10-X" tiebreaker circle. Let's look at how some top self-defense gurus are using this classic target to reinforce fundamentals and improve hits.

**LARRY VICKERS,  
KEN HACKATHORN**

Ken and Larry are old masters who should need no introduction here. Larry Vickers writes at [www.soldiersystem.net](http://www.soldiersystem.net):

*"One of my favorite handgun skill drills is called The Test. Also known as the 10-10-10 drill; it goes like this — put a B8 replacement center bulls-eye at 10 yards*



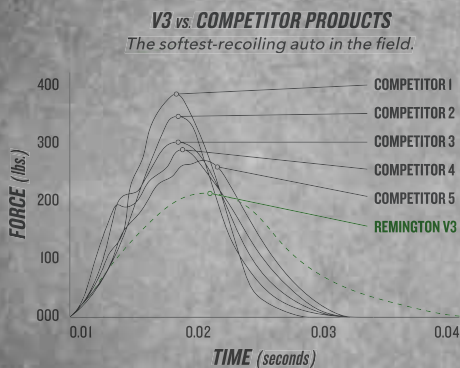


# INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW V3 TAC-13.

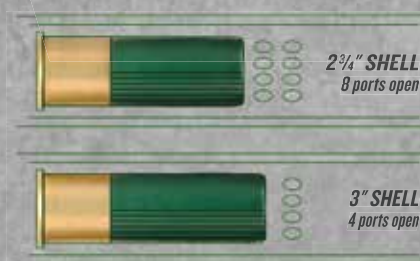
HITS LIKE A 12-GAUGE. RECOILS LIKE A 20-GAUGE. HANDLES LIKE NOTHING ELSE.



## THE VERSAPORT ADVANTAGE



## TWO-CUSTOM TUNED ACTIONS INGENIOUSLY DISGUISED AS ONE.



It's the ultimate defense. The lightest recoil. In an all-new, lightning-quick 26½" platform. Its self-regulating VersaPort gas system flawlessly cycles everything from the lightest 2¾" loads to the heaviest 3" magnums with rock-solid recoil control and next-level shooter comfort. The new V3 Tac-13. Only from Remington.

**Remington®**  
A NEW ERA



# No hype. Just help.

## Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network Members Stand Together to Fight the Legal Aftermath of Self Defense.

### We're Experts in Self-Defense Legal Issues

Network President Marty Hayes, J.D. and the heavy hitters in the self-defense field comprise our blue-ribbon Advisory Board:

**Massad Ayoob**

**John Farnam**

**Tom Givens**

**Dennis Tueller**

**Emanuel Kapelsohn**

**James Fleming**

### Documented Training

Receive documentable use of force education by recognized armed self defense experts. Designed for court admissibility, if this knowledge plays a role in your deadly force decision, it can help educate the jury about what guided your actions. If you want a fighting chance in court, you need this lecture series and book. Reserved for members only.

### Help When You Need It

No delays. The Network pays up to \$25,000 for the attorney of your choice to represent you after self defense. Don't face police questioning and court hearings alone! We pay your attorney to determine the facts and how best to defend you. If more funding is needed to go to trial, we will support your defense up to 1/2 the balance of our Legal Defense Fund.

### What Are You Waiting For?

You need the benefits the Network provides but you've got to join so we can help when you need it. Dues are just \$135/yr.

**Join online at [armedcitizensnetwork.org/join](http://armedcitizensnetwork.org/join)  
or call 360-978-5200 for our free booklet.**

*Armed Citizens'*  
**LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK, INC.**



Find us on Facebook ♦ Call 360-978-5200 ♦ learn more at [www.armedcitizensnetwork.org](http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org)



Action targets are fine, but shooters need to practice precise shooting too. "Aim small, hit small" as they say.

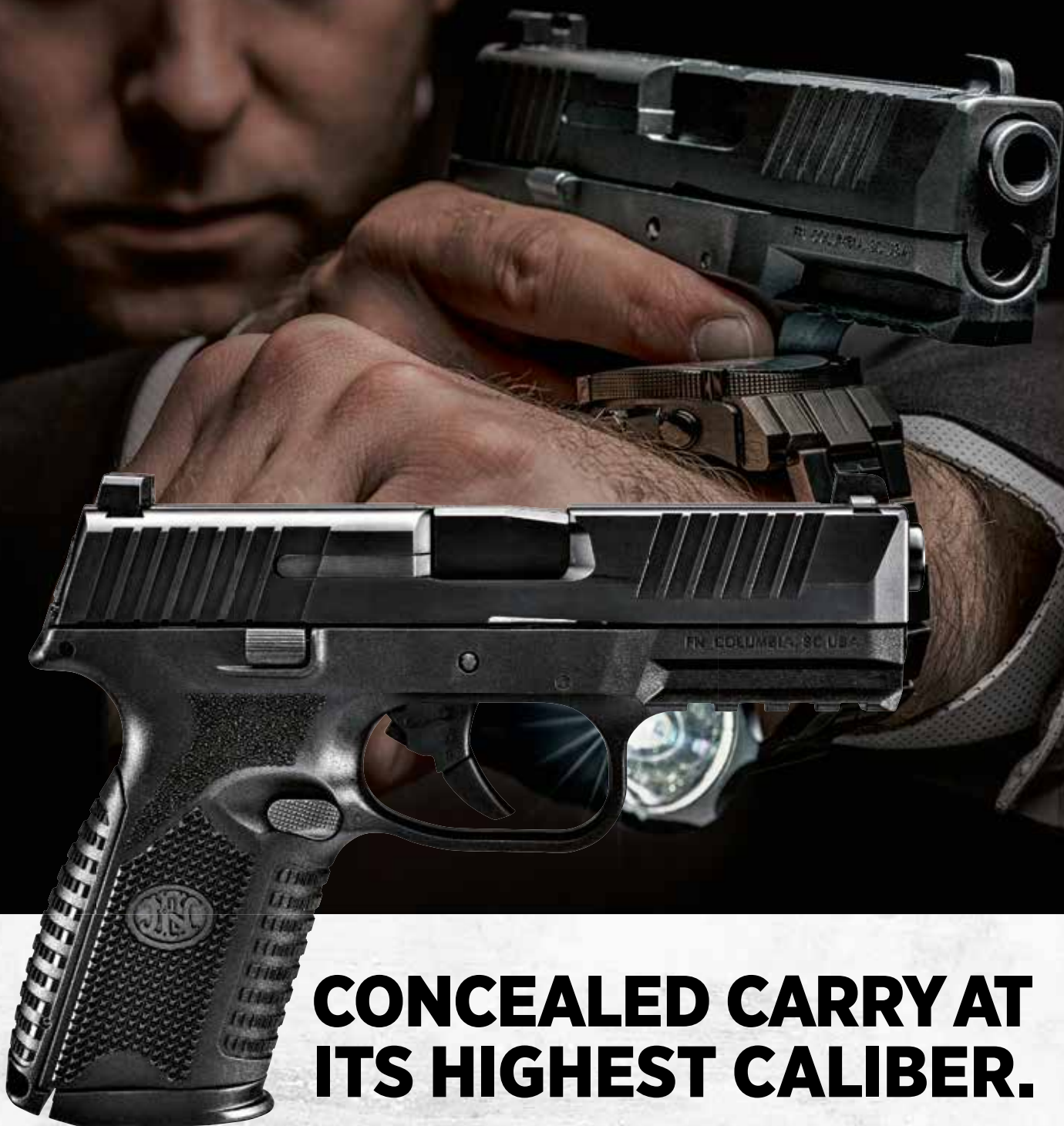
*and in a max of 10 seconds shoot 10 shots from the low ready position. The goal is to put them all in the black within the maximum time limit — once you become proficient, try using the scoring rings and try to score a minimum of 90 with 95 and above being ideal. As my students can tell you, this drill is no joke and serves as an excellent yardstick to measure handgun skill by; you can find out where a student is at skill-wise real fast with this quick drill. I got it from Ken Hackathorn years ago and it is a classic."*

### HEARNE, BLOWERS

At the excellent [www.pistol-forum.com](http://www.pistol-forum.com) site, star instructor John Hearne writes:

*"My favorite drill right now is the **Hateful Eight** by Bill Blowers. Shot at 8 yards using a B-8 repair center as a target. Gun is set up with four rounds and you have two reloads of two rounds each. You have eight seconds to draw and fire all eight rounds. There are three standards: all eight in the 8 ring; all eight in the 9 and 10 ring; (or) at least 76 points. At first, this sounds like a reload intensive drill with no marksmanship benefit. What I've found is the number of reloads creates a lot of mental pressure to go faster than one can hit the black of the bulls-eye. It is a great drill for making you focus on the task at hand. If you're drawing and shooting, you can't think about the reloads. If you're reloading, you can't be thinking ahead to the shooting, as soon as*





## CONCEALED CARRY AT ITS HIGHEST CALIBER.

Introducing the million-rounds-tested FN 509® Midsized pistol. Modeled after the FN 509® and the rest of the world's most battle-proven firearms, the FN 509® Midsized pistol features a shorter grip frame, includes two 15-round magazines, and naturally improves concealability. This pistol is truly a natural fit for a legendary concealed carry lineup. To see all the battle-proven features, visit [FNAmerica.com](http://FNAmerica.com).

**THE WORLD'S MOST BATTLE-PROVEN FIREARMS:®**



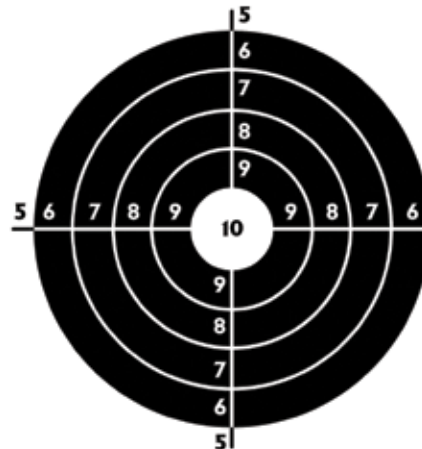
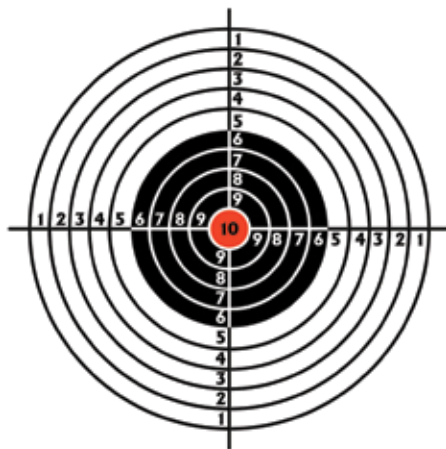
*the gun is reloaded, you must make a 100 percent shift back to shooting ... I find the mental discipline required for this drill to be very high and hard to generate from any other easily conducted drill. In the day and age of 15-round service pistols, the reload is a rarely necessary skill. However, if you have an empty pistol, there is no such thing as a 'too fast' successful reload. Also, you're going to reload your pistol anyway, you might as well practice it in a serious fashion."*

### MACNAMARA, DOBBS, BOLKE, DYAL

Noted combat instructor Pat MacNamara wrote an article in *Combat Handguns* (March-April 2019) called "Quick Hits: Get Strong By Going Long." There he writes:

*"I cannot overemphasize the importance of working on accuracy. Shooting bulls-eye drills allows us to slow down and perform the perfect repetition. It allows us to be introspective and exercise some constructive criticism."*


Wayne Dobbs and Darryl Bolke skillfully teach the defensive handgun, and use



the B8 as part of their curriculum. Dobbs notes the human heart is about the size of a grapefruit and, coincidentally, so is a B8 bull. They, like other top instructors, emphasize accuracy is vital.

Justin Dyal, a recently retired combat Marine officer, is writing some of the most practical stuff out there on defensive shooting. He created the "Five-Yard Roundup" using the B8 that I covered in my November column. It's comprised of four strings, each accomplished in separate two-and-a-half second intervals. (1) Starting

with hands at sides, draw and fire one shot, free style; (2) At low ready, free style (hopefully two-handed), raise the gun on the signal and fire four shots; (3) From low ready, three shots dominant hand only; (4) From low ready, two shots non-dominant hand only.

The above drills are quick, cheap landmarks for skill testing. And, before you call a true bulls-eye shooter an old Fudd, just remember some of them can put 10 in a row — timed and rapid — into that 3" 10-ring from 25 yards. One-handed. 

*Dan Wesson*  
DAN WESSON FIREARMS®



DANWESSONFIREARMS.COM

# TCP & ECP



- MATCH-GRADE BULL BARREL
- FORGED ALLOY FRAME
- HAND-FIT AND HAND-POLISHED
- CUSTOM GRADE WITHOUT THE CUSTOM PRICE TAG





# INTRODUCING THE PERFECT BLEND OF SHOTGUN POWER, AR PLATFORM ERGONOMICS WITH OPTIONS TO CUSTOMIZE FRONT TO BACK

Get to know the all-new VR80 semi-automatic shotgun. Made from rugged 7075 T6 aluminum, this beast is compatible with most commercial buffer tube stocks and pistol grips. As long as we're talking compatibility, the forend is also compatible with most aftermarket accessories. The VR80. It's a must-have.

// [ROCKISLANDARMORY.COM](http://ROCKISLANDARMORY.COM)

Accessories sold separately.  
9- and 19-round aftermarket  
magazines also available.

**RIA**  
IMPORTS

## THE .256 WINCHESTER MAGNUM OUT OF PRINT, BUT ONE HOT NUMBER

In the early 1960s there was a great deal of interest in long-range, small-bore handgun cartridges. Remington introduced the radical (at the time) XP-100 bolt gun chambered in .221 Fireball. Smith & Wesson contributed the ill-fated .22 Jet, and Marlin brought out a modernized lever-action rifle chambered in .256 Winchester Magnum.

Both of the latter two cartridges were based on the .357 Magnum necked down. The .256 was at least prototyped by Colt — in 1963 they produced a brochure showing four .256 sixguns — a Colt SAA, a Buntline Special and a Python, all priced at \$125 each, plus their \$89.95 .357 Magnum. I have no idea how many, if any, were actually produced and sold as they simply couldn't get it to work right; case setback with the cartridge case jamming the cylinder was the problem.

### RUGER HAWKEYE, MARLIN LEVERMATIC

Ruger made the .256 work in their single-shot Hawkeye "revolver." Instead of a cylinder, Ruger went with a single-shot breechblock fitted to a Blackhawk frame. The cartridge is a good one, however, the Marlin Model 57 Levermatic did not go over well perhaps because it was too modern-looking a departure from the traditional Marlin levergun. The Levermatic was hammerless and designed with a short action and very short lever throw which takes some getting used to for those of us raised on standard (and far smoother) Marlins and Winchesters.

Although the operation of the action is nothing to get excited about, the Levermatic shoots quite well with the .256 — a modernized version of the old .25-20. It was



John's preferred powder? Alliant 2400.

made to be scoped and gives me excellent results for three shots at 50 yards using the Speer 75-gr. JFN over 14 grains of IMR 4227 for just under 2,300 fps and a group of 5/8". The Hornady 60-gr. JSP over one more grain of the same powder gives the same muzzle velocity and the same accuracy.

### JOHN'S CONTENDER CONCOCTIONS

Thompson/Center also chambered their Contender in .256. Mine has a 10" bull barrel and is topped with a Burris 4X LER, my scope of choice. I do not know of anyone offering .256 Winchester brass today, however, I've always tried to keep a good supply of *all* pistol brass on hand and have often purchased brass found at reasonable prices long before I ever had any gun to accept it.

Since the .256 Winchester is based on the .357 Magnum case, I surmise you could make brass from the latter, but I'm guessing cases made thusly would need to be inside necked reamed. Fortunately, I have enough brass so this should never be a problem. Dies are available from RCBS and with the .256 being a bottlenecked case, only a full-length sizing and seating die are required.

My powders of choice for the .256 are the same two I use for most handgun loads — Alliant 2400 and IMR 4227. Hornady, Sierra and Speer all offer .25 caliber bullets in the proper weight range (60-75 grains). Accuracy is excellent with all loads I have used with three shots at 45 yards. They all average under — *well* under — 1". Factory loads from Winchester use a 60-gr. JHP that clocks out just under 2,500 fps from the 10" Contender barrel and places its shots in 7/8".

My favorite loads include the Hornady 60-gr. JFP over 14.0 grains of 2400 for 2,440 fps. One grain more gives me just over 2,500 fps with both loads grouping 5/8" for three



The "out-of-print" .256 Winchester is an excellent performer in John's T/C Contender.



Marlin's Model 57 .256 Levermatic was a modernized, box-magazine short-throw levergun.



# WIN THIS GLOCK!



**TO ENTER, JUST TEXT "GLOCKSTORE" TO 33233  
AND THEN REPLY WITH YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. IT'S JUST THAT SIMPLE.**

**We the People...** In 1776, it was this opening statement that set America apart from other governments and monarchies of the world. It proclaimed that it is indeed "We The People" that give our government its rights and responsibilities... not the other way around.

To celebrate the brilliance of our forefathers and the pride we share as Americans, the GlockStore is proud to sponsor the "We The People" Custom Glock Giveaway.

On July 5th, one lucky American will win this incredible "We The People" Glock 41, Gen4 MOS... fully customized by the GlockStore Custom Shop. That's over \$2,100 worth of .45 Caliber goodness... free. Another ten lucky Americans will win a one-year subscription to an FMG magazine of their choice. Yeah, you should enter now.

For Complete Sweepstakes Rules go to [GlockStore.com/WeThePeople](http://GlockStore.com/WeThePeople)

**GS** **MAGILL'S**  
**GLOCKSTORE**  
PERFORMANCE & CUSTOM

**GLOCKSTORE.com (800)601-8273**

**4770 RUFFNER ST • SAN DIEGO, CA 92111**



# FINISH STRONG™

- THE LEADER IN CERAMIC COATING
- EXTREME IMPACT & SCRATCH RESISTANCE
- UNRIVALED CORROSION PROTECTION

FIND A CERTIFIED APPLICATOR NEAR YOU...  
CERAKOTE.COM | 1-866-774-7628

## CERAKOTE

# LIGHTS OUT ACCURACY.



**Lanny Barnes** stands by the new Litewave H3™ for its speedy transition from light gathering fiber optics to light emitting Tritium. The 3-time Olympic biathlete and pro 3-gunner loves the reliable accuracy in all light conditions. Who are we to disagree?

HIVIZSIGHTS.COM ◀

SEE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING

# HIVIZ®

SHOOTING SYSTEMS

NEW—LITEWAVE H3™

BETTER BUILT & BRIGHTER + VISIBLE SOONER IN ALL LIGHT CONDITIONS + PATENTED

## HANDLOADING



John's favorite bullets for the .256 Winchester are the Hornady 60-gr. FP, Speer 75-gr. FPFN and Sierra 75-gr. JHP.



Bottleneck golden oldies: The .256 Winchester (right) is a modernized version of the .25-20.

shots. The most accurate load I've found is the Speer 75-gr. FP over 14.0 grains of 2400 (3/8" at 2,250 fps).

## MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

The plan behind the .256 Winchester was to come up with a 2,500 fps small-bore sixgun load. It was an excellent idea. It's unfortunate the engineers on the project did not do all the homework necessary to make this cartridge work in a revolver chamber. My friends Gary Reeder and J.D. Jones learned how to make bottlenecked cartridges work in sixguns, so you have to wonder why the original engineers couldn't figure it out.

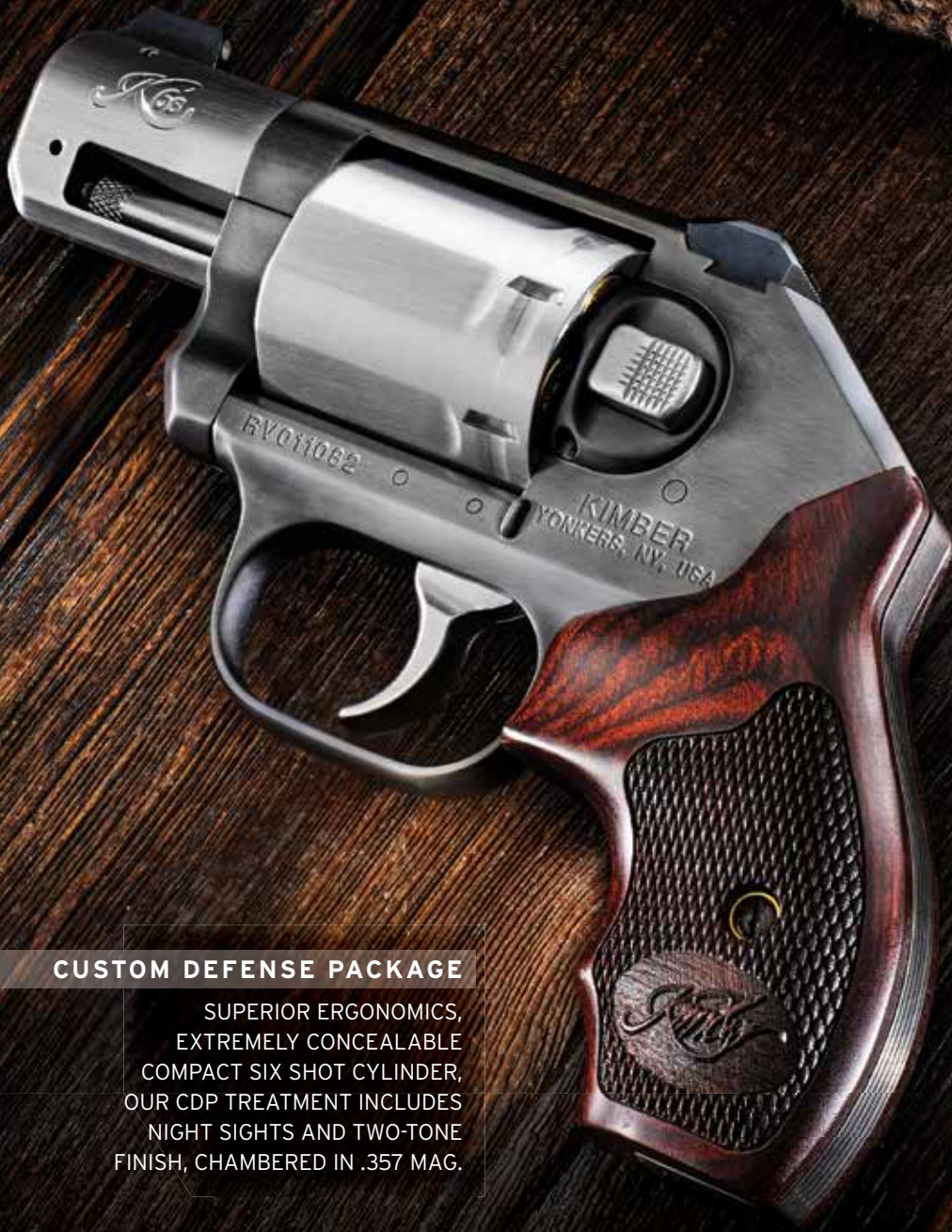
The Contender-chambered .256 Winchester is an excellent choice for small game and varmints as is the Marlin Levermatic (which is certainly more powerful than my old Marlin 1894 .25-20). The cartridge itself is quite potent for such work and — combined with its accuracy potential — gives everything needed.

This cartridge should not have died. 🦅



# Kimber®

K 6 s C D P



## CUSTOM DEFENSE PACKAGE

SUPERIOR ERGONOMICS,  
EXTREMELY CONCEALABLE  
COMPACT SIX SHOT CYLINDER,  
OUR CDP TREATMENT INCLUDES  
NIGHT SIGHTS AND TWO-TONE  
FINISH, CHAMBERED IN .357 MAG.



MADE IN  
AMERICA

WHAT ALL GUNS SHOULD BE™

(888) 243-4522  
KIMBERAMERICA.COM

©2019, KIMBER MFG., INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. INFORMATION AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



## A "SPECIAL" LOVE THE GREAT .38 STILL MAKES SENSE!

**L**ike so many shooters my age, I began handloading with the .38 Special in 1966. Throughout life I've been a "lister" — my made-up word for someone who keeps lists. By 1980 I'd loaded over 50,000 .38 Special rounds but by then I was handloading enough different cartridges the act of trying to keep a list of them was too involved.

In my early adult years, by now living in Montana, .38 Specials didn't greatly appeal to me. Going out into grizzly bear habitat north of Yellowstone National Park, I always packed a magnum revolver of some sort — a .357 or .44. Although my .38 Special handguns got shoved to the backburner in those days, I've seldom been without one.

Also during this time period I still fired quite a few .38 Specials through various .357 Magnums.

### MANAGEABILITY, ACCURACY

In 1966 my very first .38 Special was a Smith & Wesson K38 (aka the Model 14) with a 6" barrel. My most recent — purchased in 2018 — is a Colt SAA 2nd Generation with a 5-1/2" barrel. In between have been virtually every all-steel Smith & Wesson .38 Special and many of their "light-weights" with alloy frames. A single Colt Detective Special graced the line-up.

In my experience .38 Special revolvers are — in general — capable of near phenomenal precision (as in 1" groups at 25

yards). Once I did an experiment with a late '50s or early '60s Colt SAA .38 Special with 7 1/2" barrel. Using a Ransom Pistol Machine Rest, each chamber was fired for five 5-shot groups at 25 yards.

I then fired all the chambers for the same number of groups. Count 'em — 30 groups fired in one afternoon. No cleaning was done between strings of shots and the ammo was Remington 148-gr. Match Wadcutters. As I remember the total average for 30 groups was about 1.10".

One reason I've always liked the .38 Special because it's a pussycat in the recoil and noise department, at least in full-size revolvers. In small-frame 5-shooters it can be a bit much for extended shooting. With medium-frame guns it's easy to train people to shoot to a minimum of proficiency, which, I assume, was one reason it became the standard of most American law

K-Frame extremes:  
bottom is a 2"  
Model 15. Top is an  
8-3/8" Model 14.



Duke's current line-up of .38 Special revolvers includes a 5-shot S&W J-Frame Model 442 and a 6-shot S&W N-Frame Model 23.



The .38-44 was a higher-pressure load intended only for large-frame .38 Special revolvers.



Accuracy plus: This 25-yard 12-shot group was fired from machine rest with an S&W Model 23.



enforcement outfits for many decades. I remember my hometown, which had about a dozen officers — they were allowed to carry .357 Magnums but loaded with .38 Specials.

## POWER BOOST!

My only real shooting buddy was named Mike Bucci (nicknamed “Butch”). His dad was chief of police for our little town. So Butch could have his own .38, his father passed onto him a fine Smith & Wesson Model 20 Heavy Duty, built on the large N-Frame. Those first appeared in 1930 so cops could have a more powerful sixgun. The cartridge introduced especially for it was the .38-44. In all dimensional aspects the .38-44 rounds were identical to ordinary .38 Specials except for their headstamp and a velocity increase from about 850 to 1,150 fps.

At first Butch felt slighted because my K38 had adjustable sights but his Heavy Duty wore fixed ones. To show him the truth of the matter I made some .38-44 equivalent handloads. I wasn’t guessing how



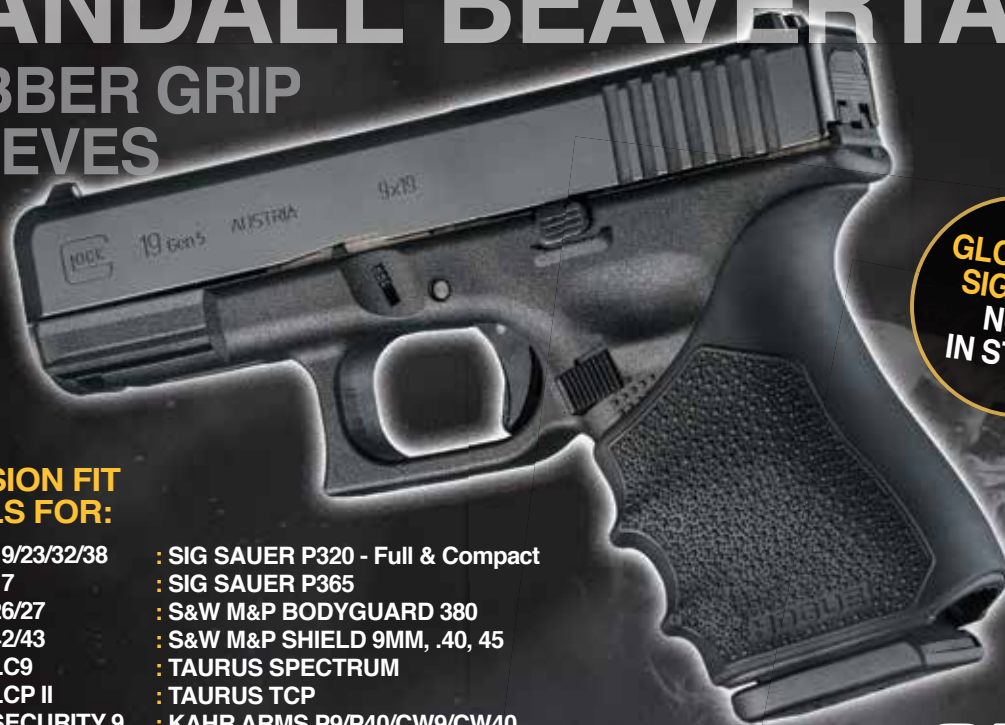
A smorgasbord of factory loads have been offered for .38 Special (from left): 158-gr. RN, 148-gr. WC, 200-gr. RN, 130-gr. FMJ, 158-gr. SWC, 158-gr. JHP and 158-gr. RN/FP (Cowboy Action).

— in those days Lyman’s reloading books listed .38 Special loads with higher velocities than seen in manuals today. Then, at our shooting spot, I sat two bricks side by side about 50 feet away. The first one I shot with my K38 with a 150-gr. cast bullet and 3.0 grains of Bullseye. The brick just fell over. Next, I shot one with Butch’s revolver and the heavy .38 Special load. The brick shattered. Butch never felt inferior afterwards although I doubt he ever fired another hot handload through his .38. (Butch was a

good friend and lots of fun. Sadly he died of cancer at age 21.)

Quite often over the years people have asked me what handgun I would recommend for home defense. To one and all I recommend a quality double-action .38 Special. Mostly they balk, saying they thought I would have recommended a specific 9mm semi-auto. Some go as far as to ask “Sure, but what do *you* keep by the bed?” In all honesty I reply, “A 12-gauge pump shotgun ... and a .38 Special revolver!” 🦏

# HANDALL® BEAVERTAIL™ RUBBER GRIP SLEEVES



**GLOCK 17  
SIG P365  
NOW  
IN STOCK**

## PRECISION FIT MODELS FOR:

- |                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • GLOCK 19/23/32/38 | • SIG SAUER P320 - Full & Compact |
| • GLOCK 17          | • SIG SAUER P365                  |
| • GLOCK 26/27       | • S&W M&P BODYGUARD 380           |
| • GLOCK 42/43       | • S&W M&P SHIELD 9MM, .40, 45     |
| • RUGER LC9         | • TAURUS SPECTRUM                 |
| • RUGER LCP II      | • TAURUS TCP                      |
| • RUGER SECURITY 9  | • Kahr Arms P9/P40/CW9/CW40       |

# HOGUE®



**HOGUEINC.COM** | 1-800-438-4747  
P.O. BOX 91360, HENDERSON, NV 89009

## STREAMLIGHT 'EM UP LET THERE BE (LOTS OF) LIGHT!

On pretty much any outdoor excursion I generally have enough lights available to equip not only myself but also my hunting partner, with a spare or two besides. A pal who fancies himself a wit once asked, “Why so many lights — are you scared of the dark?”

No, I’m not afraid of the dark. I’m afraid of what might be out there *in* the dark. Sometimes there are things out there, and sometimes those things can see in the dark much better than you or I. They may have fangs, claws and a fierce appetite — they may also have knives, clubs, and a fierce drug habit.

### WELL-LIT

My wife Simone and I spend much of our time on our farm, as well as camping, fishing and hunting in remote areas. Over the years I’ve accumulated a fairly impressive collection of high-quality lights. The Polytac lights from Streamlight are far from the most expensive yet they seem to be the ones we

use most. They are lightweight, compact, water-resistant, durable and reliable. They put out a lot of light on high beam while offering battery-saving low beam and strobe light options.

Streamlight makes several powerful lights well suited for use on rifles. I like the ProTac HL-X model. It has an integral mounting plate with a large knurled tightening knob, allowing it to be quickly attached or detached from Picatinny-style rails without tools. It can be powered either by two CR-123A batteries or by a rechargeable 18650 battery.

The light has three modes: high, low and strobe. The beam is fairly narrowly focused for long-range use, though there is enough light edge spill to be useful at short range. The high setting output is claimed to be 1,000 lumens, and believe me it does light up the night. Streamlight claims the beam has an effective range of 352 yards. I’m not sure how they define “effective,” but on a dark, clear night I could identify objects to at least 350 yards.



The yellow Dualie Waypoint (above) is Dave’s new favorite home and outdoor light. The accessory remote switch (below) provides positioning flexibility for the ProTac HL-X light.



For indoor home security the high setting is almost too bright. I tried it on a Stag Arms AR and on a Weatherby PA-459 shotgun. I have no doubt the high beam would disorient an intruder but in a small room with white or light-colored walls, the reflection could disorient the homeowner as well. The low beam is perfectly adequate, but to *really* disorient an assailant, activate the strobe feature!

### WARNING NOTES

These high-output lights are not toys. Don’t shine them in the eyes of family members or friends to impress them or as a joke. I doubt they would cause permanent eye injury but they are bright enough to cause temporary blindness.



Compare and contrast: Dave hung a Streamlight TLR-8 light/laser (right) alongside a ProTac HL-X (left) on the old Mini 14.



Dave’s Ruger Gunsite Scout .308 equipped with a Streamlight ProTac HL-X light on an offset Warne base alongside a Meopta red dot sight.



The other caveat is to be aware of game laws regarding lights on firearms. A weapon-mounted light in your home is clearly intended for home defense. While traveling around the countryside at night, a powerful light on your rifle might get you tagged as a poacher. This is why I like the quick attach/detach feature of the Streamlight.

The Streamlight TLR-8 is a compact, lightweight unit housing both a white light and a laser (both green and red lasers are available). It's an amazing little unit. I should be used to technological change by now, but I still can't see how they get 500 lumens of white light — and an adjustable laser-aiming device — in a unit about the size of your thumb and weighing less than 3 oz.

Although most TLR-8s will most likely end up on handgun accessory rails, I find these little lights very useful on long guns as well. They greatly enhance the utility of rifles or shotguns intended for home defense, allowing positive identification of the target as well as rapid indexing of the gun. While I haven't used this model very



Retired cops may shed a nostalgic tear for the 6-cell Bianchi B-Lite (top) but Streamlight Polytac lights are smaller, lighter and put out far more light.

long, I have used earlier versions of the light for several years and found them to be durable and reliable.

My new favorite all-around light for home, campsite, pickup truck, UTV or boat is the Streamlight Dualie Waypoint. It puts out a tremendous volume of light on high beam and offers low beam and strobe options. It has both forward and downward facing LEDs which can be used separately or simultaneously — it's great for

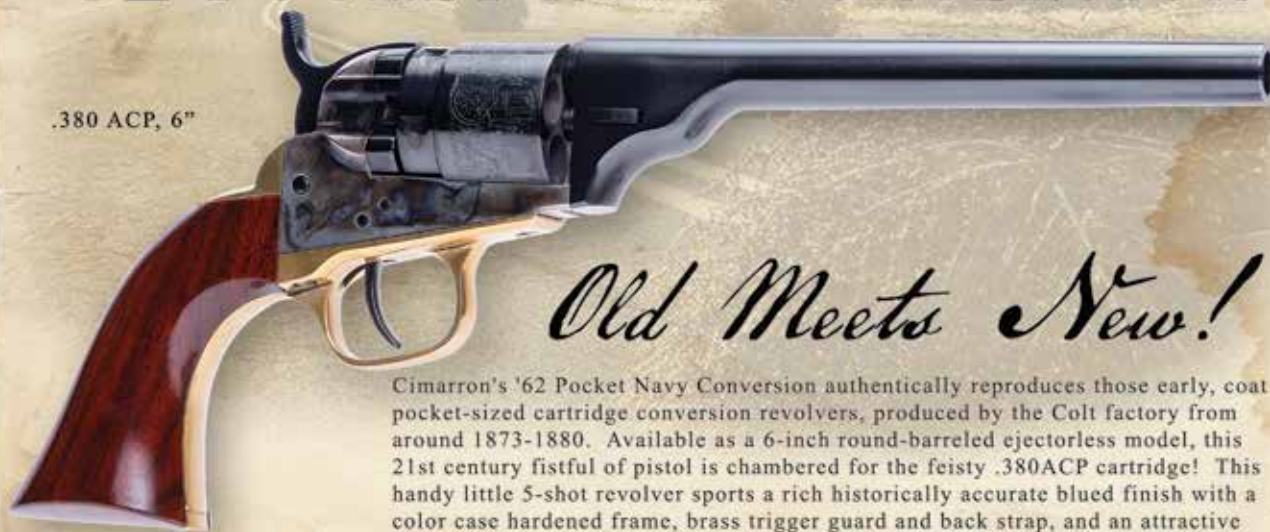
walking at night, lighting up both what is ahead and what's at your feet. Additionally, it has multiple options for standing or hanging to illuminate your work area and is also waterproof to one meter and floats! Finally, it runs on four inexpensive and easily obtained C batteries. Street prices run around \$60 to \$70, which I consider an absolute bargain.

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

## CIMARRON F.A. CO.

### '62 POCKET NAVY CONVERSION

.380 ACP, 6"



*Old Meets New!*

Cimarron's '62 Pocket Navy Conversion authentically reproduces those early, coat pocket-sized cartridge conversion revolvers, produced by the Colt factory from around 1873-1880. Available as a 6-inch round-barreled ejectorless model, this 21st century fistful of pistol is chambered for the feisty .380ACP cartridge! This handy little 5-shot revolver sports a rich historically accurate blued finish with a color case hardened frame, brass trigger guard and back strap, and an attractive one-piece varnished walnut stock.

[WWW.CIMARRON-FIREARMS.COM](http://WWW.CIMARRON-FIREARMS.COM)

FREDERICKSBURG, TX

1877-SIXGUN1



## 10/22 COLLECTIBLES

### A TRILOGY OF RUGER SPECIALS

Introduced in 1964 at a retail price of \$54.50, Ruger's 10/22 Carbine has worn many faces. It has been stocked in walnut, birch, maple, colored wood laminates and synthetics. Produced initially in the familiar banded carbine style, it has been offered in a non-banded deluxe sporter stock, a heavy target/competition stock and a svelte Mannlicher style, often cataloged as the "International Carbine." It has also been featured in take-down and solid-frame formats featuring sporter barrels, target barrels and integrally suppressed barrels.

There have been numerous "special and commemorative editions" offered, particularly through the large firearms wholesaler, Davidson's, which offers a smorgasbord of

"exclusive" editions throughout the entire spectrum of our well-known gunmakers.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Beginning in 2014, Davidson's and Ruger teamed up to produce a themed series under the "Ruger Collector's Series 10/22 Carbine Rifle" label. The year 2014 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Model 10/22. The Davidson's exclusive 50th Anniversary model was limited to 25,000 units and offered only through their extensive network of local dealers. It was a black, synthetic stocked 10/22 carbine carrying the unique receiver marking: "The Ruger 10/22 Rifle — 22 LR — Fifty Years — 1964-2014" and a 50th Anniversary marking on the bolt. It was packaged in a commemorative

box containing a 50th Anniversary bumper sticker, a Collector's Series pin, a replica of the original 1964 10/22 magazine ad, a limited-edition Ruger Collector's Series street sign and one BX-25 and one BX-1 magazine. The MSRP was \$329.

#### SECOND EDITION

The 50th Anniversary release was such a hit Davidson's commissioned a Second Edition of the Ruger Collector's Series 10/22 Carbine Rifle in 2015. The theme was "A Father's Advice" taken from another popular magazine ad, showing a father instructing his young son in the proper handling of a firearm and saying, "If a sportsman true you'd be. Listen carefully to me ..." — a quotation also carried on an accompanying street sign.

It featured a dark gray modular stock based on the Ruger American Rimfire stock, a Picatinny rail, a ghost ring adjustable rear aperture sight and a "Collector's Series" marked bolt. It was shipped in a Collector's Series carton along with a Collector's Series pin, a reprint of the "Father's Advice" magazine ad and the limited-edition street sign. The MSRP was \$379.

#### THIRD EDITION

If you missed out on the first two editions of the Collector's Series 10/22, the Third Edition has just been released and is



The limited editions are identified by their inscribed bolts. Holt prefers Gru-Bee's Wolf Pup scope on all his 10/22s.





currently available through Davidson's. The theme this year is "Man's Best Friend" and depicts a black Labrador puppy on a commemorative street sign along with a dog tag and a \$25 Ruger gift certificate packaged in a commemorative box. Fortunately, we were able to snag one at an MSRP of \$362 before collectors gobbled them all up.

Design-wise, the Third Edition is similar to the Second Edition. With an 18.5" barrel and an overall length of 37", Man's Best Friend features a "grippy" olive drab synthetic modular stock fitted with a black, low-comb unit, well suited to the rifle's adjustable ghost-ring aperture sight. Fitted with a 6" Picatinny rail, Man's Best Friend begs for an optic.

I chose Gru-Bee's svelte, 3/4" tubed, 4x24mm Wolf Pup scope and rings, bringing the overall weight to 5 lbs. 6 oz. I favor the proportions of the Wolf Pup scope on small rimfire rifles. It simply balances the rifle better and adds minimal weight while providing all the performance a rimfire requires.

## SHOOTING RESULTS, LOADING TIPS

Man's Best Friend is not only an immediate collectible, but it shoots! The best five-shot groups at 35 yards were with Federal Auto-Match (0.4"), Federal Hunter Match (0.4), CCI Standard Velocity (0.5),



This year's Third Edition — "Man's Best Friend" — incorporates famous 10/22 reliability, accuracy, style and ease of handling.



The year 2014 — the 50th Anniversary of the 10/22 — saw the launch of the Ruger Collector's Series.

The Second Edition, released in 2015, picked the theme of "A Father's Advice."



Winchester Power Point (0.7) and Remington Golden Bullet (0.7).

A couple of points came to mind as I worked with the Ruger. When loading the 10/22 magazine, place it down on a solid surface as you thumb the rounds into the rotary carrier. With a solid support, the magazine is much easier to load rather than when you simply hold it in your off hand. Secondly, when discharging an empty or partially loaded magazine, draw the bolt back and lock it. Not only will the magazine drop out more easily, with the bolt locked back it gives you a clear view of the chamber.

From its introduction in 1964, Ruger 10/22s in all their variations and special editions have kept the collecting fraternity busy. The watering holes for the Ruger collectors are the Ruger Collectors' Association, the Ruger Owners and Collectors Society and the Ruger Forum. Even corporate Ruger offers invaluable year/serial number data on all its models, past and present, plus providing official "Letters of Authenticity" for individual specimens.

I'm sure Ruger will keep collectors happy for millennia. Just keep watching for Davidson's Ruger exclusives.

[www.galleryofguns.com](http://www.galleryofguns.com) (Davidson's), [www.rugercollectorsassociation.com](http://www.rugercollectorsassociation.com), [www.rugersociety.com](http://www.rugersociety.com), [www.ruger.com](http://www.ruger.com), [www.grubeeinc.com](http://www.grubeeinc.com)



## THE ELEGANT ROSS SPORTER

### A SVELTE STRAIGHT-PULL IN A CLASS BY ITSELF

**Holt Bodinson**

**Y**ou wouldn't have recognized the elderly, and obviously eccentric, man roaming the wharves and streets of St. Petersburg, FL. Dressed in pajama bottoms, old slippers and a pith helmet, the man was Sir Charles Henry Augustus Frederick Lockhart Ross, Ninth Baronet of Balnagown, Scotland, and inventor of the Ross straight-pull rifle.

A Knight of the Realm, he inherited an estate of 350,000 acres, 3,000 tenants and Balnagown Castle. Being born a privileged nobleman might be considered — in our egalitarian 21st Century — to be a detriment, if not a pre-ordained pathway to idleness and debauchery. This wasn't so in the case of Sir Charles Ross. Over his lifetime he proved to be a savvy executive and businessman, a soldier, accomplished sportsman and a prolific inventor of everything from ship propellers to hydro-electric generators.

Just possibly, though, his first love was rifles.

#### A LEGEND BEGINS

While attending Eaton College in 1893, Ross patented his first straight-pull rifle — a design, he admitted, so complicated it never saw the light of day.

The potential of Canada intrigued and attracted him. Moving there in 1897, he set out and built a hydro-electric company in British Columbia, invested in a trolley company in Vancouver and set up a rifle company in Hartford, CT, with a parallel rifle manufacturing relationship with Charles Lancaster in England.

His first sporting rifle was the Model 1897 Magazine Sporting Rifle chambered in .303 British, a design closely related to Austria's 1890 straight-pull Steyr-Mannlicher. This early model featured a bolt sleeve with an integral operating handle riding in grooves in the receiver and an internal bolt sporting two solid rotating lugs at the bolt head. It also incorporated a threaded body mating with threads inside the sleeve controlling the rotation of the bolt head. The firing pin was



The M-1910 locking lugs were changed to an interrupted-screw design to handle the increased pressure of the .280 Ross.

activated by an internal hammer.

In 1900 Sir Charles improved his action by eliminating the internal hammer and adding a coiled mainspring inside the bolt body to activate the firing pin. With a few more minor improvements, the Model 1903 action emerged. The '03 Sporter made in Hartford (and later at the Ross plant in Quebec) was chambered for the .370/375, a straight .375 rimmed cartridge also known as the .375 Flanged Nitro Express. It was factory loaded with a 270-gr. SP at 2,000 fps and a 300-gr. SP at 1,900 fps — a mild but effective big game load.

Meanwhile in England, Lancaster was chambering *his* Model 1903 Ross Sporter in a variety of calibers ranging from the .256 Mannlicher to the .370/375.

#### MARKET INNOVATION

Concurrently, Canada was coming out of its engagement in the Boer War (1899-1902) in South Africa. The experience had not been a pleasant one. England could not supply Canada with Lee-Enfields, nor would the Brits build a factory to produce them in Canada so the Canadians found themselves going up against the Boer Mausers and Mannlichers with their utterly obsolete Sniders and Martini-Henrys. After the encounter, Canada went looking for a rifle of its own. It was an opportunity made in heaven for Ross.

The transition from Ross sporting models to Ross military rifles was an easy one. In 1902 the Canadian government signed a contract with Ross for an initial lot of 12,000 rifles. Using \$500,000 of his own money, Sir Charles set up a factory in Quebec and became Canada's chief military rifle contractor until the end of WWI.





The Model 1910 Ross Sporter has the classic lines and feel of a fine Scottish stalking rifle.



The handy, case-hardened safety (left) is well positioned on the bolt handle. The express sights (right) are sensibly regulated for 200, 300 and 500 yards.



## “Worse yet, the bolt could be misassembled so it would blow out rearward — with catastrophic results to the shooter!”

The Ross military models proved highly accurate but unreliable in the mud, grit and gore of trench warfare. Worse yet, the bolt could be misassembled so it would blow out rearward — with catastrophic results to the shooter! However, the military contracts gave Ross the means to continually refine his sporting line.

In 1910 Ross introduced an improved straight-pull action featuring a “triple-threaded, interrupted-screw, double bearing cam bolt head” which opened horizontally and locked vertically. The new Model 1910 action became the foundation for the finest sporting rifles he ever produced as well as for the Mark III military model. Sir Charles designed the new action to handle the pressure generated by his revolutionary cartridge, the .280 Ross.

### 7 MM SIZZLE

In its day, the .280 Ross was a very hot number indeed. The original loading claimed a velocity of 3,100 fps for a 147-gr. bullet and 2,800 fps for a 180-gr. pill. Winchester and Remington loaded the .280 Ross until 1935, their loadings were more realistic, generating 2,900 fps with a 140-gr. bullet and 2,550 fps with a 180-grainer.

It is said Ross wanted the Canadian military to adopt the .280 Ross, which could have been accomplished by merely rebarreling existing Mark IIIs. They didn’t, but the .280 Ross

ran up some enviable target scores with the military target rifles built by Ross.

The .303 Ross Sporter shown here is indicative of the rifle’s design and quality. It has the classic lines and feel of a fine Scottish stalking rifle. The chamber designation is interesting, reading “.303 Ross,” rather than “.303” or “.303 British” (could this be a bit of Scottish nationalism coming to the fore?).

The barrel is 26" long (28" in the .280 version) and the flip-up express sights are sensibly regulated for 200, 300 and 500 yards. The action is very smooth — more so than the Steyr-Mannlicher M-95 or Swiss K-31. On a good day I can hold 2" at 100 yards with Sierra 174-gr. MatchKings and 37.0 grains of IMR-4895.

### END OF STORY

By September 1916, all Mark III rifles in the hands of the troops were replaced with Lee-Enfields. Canada expropriated the Ross rifle factory in March 1917, paying Ross \$2,000,000 — a nice return on his initial \$500,000 investment.

And what of our man roaming the wharves and streets of St. Petersburg in pajama bottoms, old slippers and a pith helmet? In 1942 at the age of 70, Sir Charles passed away peacefully, leaving Balnagown Castle to his American third wife, Dorothy Mercado.



# BENJAMIN AIRBOW AND BULLDOG DEADLY FOR THE UNDEAD?

Tom McHale

When the zombies finally come or there's a global economic meltdown, we're going to have to resort to drastic measures — like making iPhones out of rocks and pine sap. We'll also have to rethink our firearms strategy. Sooner or later, all the factory ammo and reloading components we've been hoarding will run out so we'll revert to manual methods of performing life-preserving tasks such as home defense, hunting for food and competing in post-apocalyptic 3-Gun matches.

Such scenes might be the time to consider big-bore air guns because once the centerfire ammo stockpiles are shot up, it's going to be hard to make more primers and smokeless propellant from scratch. Such conditions are the scenario where weapons of near infinite reusability will shine. Re-melting and remolding lead isn't hard, even over a tame campfire and a properly maintained hand pump will last forever and requires only your brawn to operate. It will take some work, but hey, think of all the money you'll save on gym memberships.

We've been testing two options — the Benjamin Bulldog and Benjamin Airbow. Both have the *oomph* to deliver a steak dinner if you do your part.

“Both have the *oomph* to deliver a steak dinner if you do your part.”

## BULLDOG WITH FANGS

The Bulldog is a .357 caliber monster firing 145-gr. solid-lead slugs with plenty of attitude, but less noise. We borrowed the Crosman (Benjamin) Sportsman's Pack, which includes everything you need — rifle, bipod, 4-16x scope, carrying case and even a box of Nosler Ballistic Tip eXtreme bullets. The only thing not included is the air source for refills.

The Bulldog looks like something out of *Starship Troopers* with its angular stock configuration. It's a bullpup design so the 5-shot rotary magazine inserts into the comb about 4" forward of the butt pad. The rifle features a 26" rail, so you can mount scopes, iron sights or even a chainsaw if you feel so compelled.

Under the muzzle is a 5-1/2" rail segment for the bipod. Part of the reason for the unusual stock design is, aside from the shrouded and integrally suppressed barrel, the stock and fore-end contain a tubular 3,000-psi air reservoir. It's all protected by the stock to facilitate use in the field by preventing damage and presenting fewer parts to catch on brush or shambling zombies. Oh, one more thing — to preserve your ninja stealthiness, the entire body of this particular version is coated in Realtree camo. You can also order one in basic black for night operations.

Operation is simple. Just load the magazine and place it into position. The “bolt handle” is a lever on the right side of the stock that pulls back to cock the air valve and push a fresh projectile into the breech. Push it forward and it returns to its flush position. If you're a lefty, no worries because the bolt lever is reversible. The safety lever is inside the trigger guard — push it forward to fire and you're done.

## AIRBOW

Although similar in appearance to the Bulldog, the Airbow is a whole new animal. As the name implies, it has no barrel because it's designed to shoot arrows. Instead of a bore, the Airbow features a thin tube over which specially designed arrows fit. This design results in the arrows being “pulled” by pressurized air rather than pushed from the rear. This virtually eliminates flex and provides better accuracy.

Like the Bulldog, the cocking lever is located on the stock although the Airbow's handle is on the top and doubles as the comb. For those of you climbing trees, there are no worries because you can de-cock the Airbow without firing. The Airbow also includes a safety lever inside the trigger guard and a two-stage trigger system.



The Bulldog's rotary magazine holds five slugs in the buttstock.



The stock of the bullpup Bulldog contains both the barrel and a 3,000-psi air reservoir cylinder.



**NRA<sup>19</sup>  
INDY**

Visit us at  
Booth #3060

# LUTH-AR<sup>®</sup>



## The **Palm Handguard<sup>®</sup>**

*Ergonomically Designed to fit the Palm of your hand*  
Smooth or Slotted Handguards

MLOK<sup>™</sup> 15"

KeyMod 15"

**\$89.95**

### Additional Lengths Available

9" KeyMod or MLOK<sup>™</sup> **\$79.95**

9" Smooth with Picatinny Top Rail **\$55.95**

7" KeyMod or MLOK<sup>™</sup> **\$77.95**

7" Smooth with Picatinny Top Rail **\$53.95**



ORDER ONLINE:



Made in USA

**WWW.LUTH-AR<sup>®</sup>.COM**

YouTube



The Airbow has a 3,000-psi fill tank under the launching tube, mostly covered by the fore-end. There's a pressure gauge on the front of the air reservoir to help you manage your air supply and with a complete fill, you'll get 8 to 10 full-velocity shots before you'll need to top off the tank.

Because packing efficiency will be necessary during the apocalypse, the Airbow has a built-in quiver. The rail-attached carrier securely holds three arrows on the right side of the Airbow and if you're left-handed, you can mount it on the opposite side. Oh, and while we're talking about arrows, the three included ones come with field tips but you can install whatever type of heads best fit your intended use.

## FILL 'ER UP!

Both of these Armageddon appliances rely on a pre-charged pneumatic (PCP) engine to fling the lead and arrows of outrageous misfortune. In plain English, it means they have an onboard air tank you need to charge before use. Once full, the tank provides the juice for multiple shots before you have to recharge with either a hand pump, air cylinder such as a SCUBA or carbon fiber

SCBA tank, or compressor.

In the interest of science, I wanted to see exactly how much work it takes to fill these two air guns by hand in case manual air generation is necessary. Both the Bulldog and Airbow came from the factory near empty, not with zero pressure, but not enough to shoot.

In practice, you'll never run the gun

reservoirs down this low. Instead, you'll top them off when pressure drops to the point where projectile velocity isn't what you need.

The two guns are similar in air capacity: the Bulldog has a 340cc reservoir while the Airbow packs 350, so the number of required pumps should be about the same for each. To avoid unnecessary manual



The Airbow's hollow arrows are "pulled" rather than "pushed" for less flex, improved accuracy.

# TOUGH, SECURE AND READY TO ROLL

**'MAC30  
METAL AMMO CAN TRAY  
(TRAY ONLY)**

**AMERICAN FAMILY OWNED  
MANUFACTURING IN THE  
U.S.A. SINCE 1968**

**MTM MOLDED PRODUCTS COMPANY - (937) 890-7461 - WWW.MTMCASE-GARD.COM**





# LOVE IT, OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

THE MOST POWERFUL GUN DEAL ON THE PLANET.



## PPQ<sup>®</sup>

### #SHOOTITLOVEITBUYIT

At select dealers - try the PPQ for 30 Days with no money down.\*  
Or buy any PPQ, anywhere and if you don't love it within 30 days, return it on us.

For more information visit: [ShootItLoveItBuyIt.com](http://ShootItLoveItBuyIt.com)

---

\*APPLIES ONLY TO BRAND NEW FIREARMS. USED GUNS NOT INCLUDED. APPLIES ONLY TO WALTHER PPQ FAMILY MODELS PURCHASED NEW BETWEEN (DATES: 2/15/19 - 6/30/19) © 2019 Walther Arms, Inc. | All Rights Reserved.

labor (I'm not *that* dedicated!), I only filled the Bulldog with a hand pump.

Here's what each 50 strokes got me: 50 (zero to 100 psi), 100 (1,400 psi), 150 (1,800 psi), 200 (2,100 psi), 250 (2,500 psi), 300 (3,000 psi). In field use, you might recharge when pressure drops to around 2,000 psi so you can count on about 100 pumps to bring it up to full capacity. I should note from 2,000 psi and up, it takes some not-so-trivial work to operate the pump so use your body weight and go slow. If you pump too fast, heat builds up and the pressure will settle to a lower level as things cool down.

### LET'S SHOOT!

I shot the Bulldog with the included Nosler eXtreme Ballistic Tip 145-gr. slugs. The first order of business was to chronograph these bad boys. I took an average of the first five shots from a full reservoir of air and came up with 755.2 fps. This translates to 183.7 ft. lbs. of energy — more than delivered by a .380 ACP handgun firing a 90-gr. bullet at 950 fps. Watching my pressure gauge, I was able to get about 10 good shots before the onboard reservoir dipped to 2,000 psi. At this point velocity starts dropping off and accuracy will suffer a bit.

Speaking of accuracy, I started at 20 yards and got a 0.63" group of five, so I immediately moved out to 50 yards. There I measured 1.52" for a five-shot cluster and at 100 yards, I observed a 4" group, which was largely horizontal. It was a windy day, so I suspect my air bullets were drifting sideways. The vertical stringing was less than an inch — this I found impressive.

As for the Airbow? Wow! Imagine a cross between a longbow



The Airbow delivered a 1½" group at 25 yards.

and a .50 BMG rifle and you have it. First off, I decided to see what kind of velocity this beast delivered with its 375-gr. arrows. I shot a few arrows over my trusty Shooting Chrony Beta Master Chronograph and into a dirt berm.

It turned out to be a mistake — not the chronographing part, but the berm. The arrows buried themselves to the feathers in the packed dirt and one embedded itself so deep I never did find it. I did get some good readings even though we left a man behind in the process. Over multiple shots, the Airbow launched its arrows at a blistering average of 465.8 fps. Such speed is smokin', especially when you consider powerful compound

Actual Size Shown

**North American Arms®, Inc.**  
**MAG SNUB**  
 Convenient, Reliable, Effective!

f i www.northamericanarms.com





**Big slug, little group:**  
The Bulldog printed  
nice clusters on a  
windy day of testing.

From 25 yards, the Airbow landed hits inside of a 1½" group. (I should note the result was obtained using somewhat damaged arrows as the previous zeroing and practice shots had pretty well wiped out those shiny new plastic feathers from all the total penetrations of targets). I suspect new arrows would have performed even better but I was impressed nonetheless.

Speaking of zeroing, here's how it works. The Airbow includes a 20 MOA ramp mount (to help account for arrow trajectory) and a Centerpoint 6x40mm purpose-built scope. You'll have to initially set the elevation adjustment knob all the way "up" and then reverse it a turn and a half to get on paper at the recommended zero distance of 30 yards. The maneuver did put us within a couple of inches of the aim point. A few quick tweaks of windage and elevation dials made things golden. Once you zero with the turrets, the rest is up to the scope reticle. This one has hash marks to give you precise hold points from 24 to 73 yards with the primary crosshair intersection representing 30 yards.

bows fling pointy sticks between 350 and 375 fps. Even powerful crossbows barely break 400.

Having learned my lesson about arrow abuse from the dirt pile experiment, I did some quick accuracy testing using an archery target block and I ran into more troubles. You see, the arrows were all jacked up on velocity and went right through the block! On just about every shot, about two-thirds of each arrow shaft was sticking out the back of the block, and the back of the arrow was embedded somewhere in the middle. This made measuring my group size a bit challenging, so I improvised by stapling a piece of paper on the front edge of the block. This worked like a champ.

## END TIMES?

As I've been using these two "Benjamin Bazookas," I've become more and more convinced of their utility for last-ditch scenarios. Arrows are re-usable, at least until the point where you either break or (ahem ...) lose them. As for pellets to feed the .357 Bulldog, you can melt down all sorts of things. Get yourself a mold and a half-decent campfire and you're good to go forever.

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



# QB1

## QUICK BREAK-DOWN STOCK

**CONVERTS STANDARD RUGER®  
10/22® CARBINE MODELS (NOT TAKEDOWN)  
INTO A QUICK BREAK-DOWN DESIGN**

- Patent Pending, Lever-Toggle V-Block Clamp Facilitates Rapid Barrel Removal, Including .920 Diameter Bull Barrels
- Aluminum Bed Block For Superior Accuracy
- Precision Folding Mechanism Eliminates Play In Buttstock
- Buttstock Integrated Barrel Storage Accommodates Both Standard & .920 Bull Barrels

PART #AAQBD MSRP \$179.99

**AVAILABLE FALL 2018**



**ARCHANGEL®**  
NEXT GENERATION AMERICAN INNOVATION



ARCHANGELMANUFACTURING.COM | 800.438.2547

# MISS LILLY'S REVOLVER

DAVID FREEMAN

A HISTORY-RICH .38 RIMFIRE

Miss Lilly Stokes lived in Mississippi from 1905 until 1942. After attending Ole Miss, she became a schoolteacher in a small town, earning \$30 a month. From all accounts, she was an adventurous woman who traveled about freely during her summer vacations.

## THE BOND

My connection to Miss Lilly is through a revolver my father gave me when I was in the 5th grade — a .38 Rimfire. According to markings on the top strap, the brand (or model) is “The Oliver,” with patents dated March 28, 1871 and May 27, 1879. A serial number on the underside of the barrel near the frame is 789. A partial box of cartridges, the lead bullets white with oxidation, was with the gun.

Dad’s recollection was my great-grandfather, Ed Barry, a rural mail carrier in the horse-and-buggy days, had given the revolver to Miss Lilly after he had retired. This would have been some time around 1930.

Miss Lilly was killed in 1942 when a Greyhound bus she was riding on was hit by a train. She was 37 years old and had the gun with her but it somehow made its way back to Great-Grandpa Ed. My great-grandmother still had it among her things when she died.

## HEIRLOOM PIECE

When Dad gave me the gun he told me I shouldn’t try to shoot the cartridges accompanying it because black powder gets stronger with age and it might blow up. Naturally, I had to shoot it, but there were no new .38 Rimfire cartridges being manufactured. My only choice was to try it with the old ammo when Dad wasn’t home. I clamped the revolver in a vise attached to the



Loading for an obsolete rimfire caliber requires a little improvising with modern powder and a .22 blank for the primer.



The new cartridges shown here (left) with the factory originals (right).

workbench in our garage and set up a Memphis phone book to use as a backstop.

To make sure I didn’t get hurt if it really *did* blow up, I tied a string to the trigger and backed away about 10 feet. Nothing happened. I cocked the gun and tried again. Again *nothing*. I learned years later black powder doesn’t really get stronger with age but just the opposite. Also, the primers had decayed with age so the powder never got a chance to ignite.

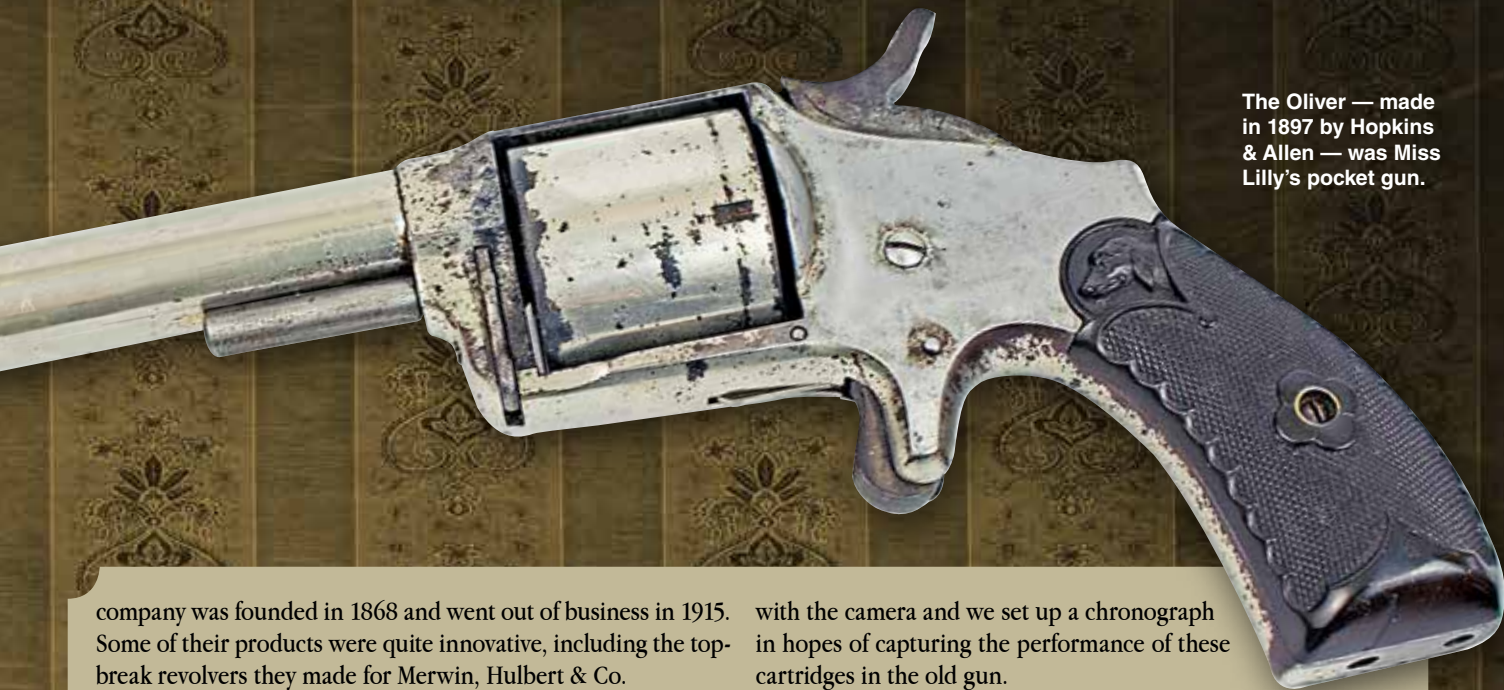
## RESEARCH REWARDED

Years later, with resources available to research the gun, I learned the bird dog head on the grip and the trigger spur were typical of guns made by Hopkins & Allen in Norwich, Connecticut. The

These markings indicate patents held by the Hopkins & Allen firm of Norwich, CT.







The Oliver — made in 1897 by Hopkins & Allen — was Miss Lilly's pocket gun.

company was founded in 1868 and went out of business in 1915. Some of their products were quite innovative, including the top-break revolvers they made for Merwin, Hulbert & Co.

In their earlier days, they made a relatively cheap line of handguns, which were sold through a variety of channels — many of them branded for the stores selling them retail (hence the “Oliver” label). Based on the serial number and the type of gun, the one I have was a Ranger 3 Model made around 1897. Retail prices were around \$2.50.

The early H&A guns were cheaply made and most of them were nickel-plated to cover defects in manufacturing. Mine is nickerled with a solid frame with no ejector rod. Shells are ejected by removing the cylinder base pin, pulling out the cylinder and pushing the shells out one at a time with the pin. It has a tapered-wedge firing pin forged as part of the hammer. The gun weighs just over 1 lb., is 8.5" long and 3.9" high.

### AMMO PROBLEM

I really wanted to shoot it so I did a little research and found a guy in Belgium who came up with a creative way to shoot old black powder with a rimfire gun for which there is no current ammo being made. I ordered a starter kit from H & L Publishing in Virton, Belgium consisting of five .38 Long Colt shells with the primer hole drilled out toward the rim to hold a standard .22 blank cartridge as the primer.

To load the rounds, I carefully pushed a .22 starter blank into each hole, tapping it lightly with a nylon hammer for seating, and filled the empty space with 12 grains of Hodgdon Pyrodex FFFG. Each was topped with a 108-gr. lead bullet and off to the range I went with Miss Lilly's revolver and my five cartridges.

### A FAMILY PROJECT

I knew it was going to be iffy. I carefully loaded the cartridges so the .22 blanks would be close enough to the outside edge to be struck by the worn firing pin. My son came along to help

with the camera and we set up a chronograph in hopes of capturing the performance of these cartridges in the old gun.

I pointed at the target 10 yards away and started firing. Excuse me, I started cocking the gun and pulling the trigger. I did this four times with nothing but a *click*, but on the fifth try I got a *bang*. One out of five cartridges fired.

For some inexplicable reason, the chronometer didn't register anything. It was working properly but nothing was recorded for Miss Lilly's revolver.

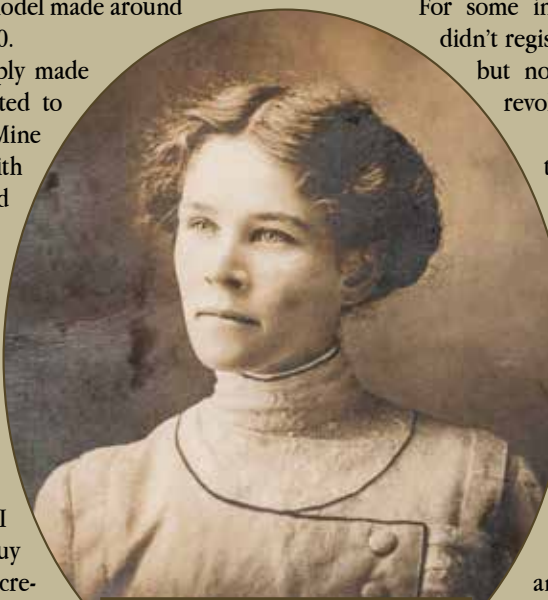
Back at home, my son and I examined the cartridges and it became apparent the one that fired had been drilled so the primer was closer to the rim. I rotated the remaining cartridges a little until I was sure the primers were as close to the rim as possible.

Returning to the range I wasn't shooting for accuracy. The gun doesn't have any sights, so the mission was simply to see if I could get any more of the cartridges to fire, and to see what kind of measurement I could get on the chrono. With son and grandson watching, I cocked, aimed through the chronograph and was very surprised when the first round fired. The chronograph read “0.00,” but there *was* a new ding on the backstop. The second shot also fired, but again nothing registered on

the chronograph.

We were done. With three out of five cartridges firing, I was glad this wasn't a gun I'd have to bet my life upon but it *is* 122 years old. If you account for inflation, it would probably sell for around \$72 today. Nobody builds handguns this cheaply anymore, but Hopkins & Allen built thousands.

Dad's been long gone so he can't get mad at me for trying to shoot the gun. He was just concerned for my safety, but it was fun bringing the old girl back to life if only for one brief outing. More fun was resurrecting the memory of Miss Lilly Stokes and the retired postal worker who cared enough to give her a gun for protection.



Lilly Stokes: Schoolteacher and adventurer. She carried a gun for protection before there were laws for — or against — it.



# PERFORMANCE CENTER **T/C LRR 6.5 CREEDMOOR**

Accuracy accessorizing:  
The TC LRR with an EOTech  
Vudu 3-18X50 scope, a Kes-  
trel 5700 Elite wind meter, a  
Leica laser rangefinder, a  
Manfrotto tripod with HOG  
Gun Saddle and an MOD  
DOS mounting platform.







**MIKE CUMPSTON**

**PHOTOS: ROBERT JONES/  
THE IMAGESMITH, LLC**

**W**here do we start talking about long-range guns? The Creed Farm seems as good a place as any, though it was not by any means the first high profile long-range shooting complex. Twelve years earlier the British were shooting at 800, 900 and 1,000 yards at Wimbledon in a venue organized by the National Rifle Association of England.

The American NRA took form in 1871 largely to promote civilian militia preparedness and the healthful benefits of outdoor recreation, both of which had languished in the late 19th Century. In 1872 the NRA bought the Long Island property and added “moor” to the name in deference to the moor-like terrain. On March 20, 1873, the *New York Daily Graphic* deemed the Creedmoor Match to be “The American Wimbledon.”

The reference carries through to today’s hottest rifle cartridge — its name defines the primary purpose of the 6.5 Creedmoor round. The high BC

numbers in the 140-grain + range allow comfortable supersonic velocity and favorable bullet stability beyond 1,200 yards.

The efficient use of a relatively small powder charge delivers moderate recoil and portends a very useful barrel life. It has become the favorite chambering among devotees of extreme long-range shooting, along with chassis rifles — like our test gun, the Performance Center Thompson/Center Long Range Rifle.

#### **PERFECT PLATFORM/ CALIBER COMBO**

My first impression upon decanting the rifle from the shipping carton was “it’s heavy.” It weighs 11.5 lbs. A suitable optic brings it to 14.5 to 15 lbs. The centerpiece — and the source of most of the weight — is the heavy barreled action mounted in an aluminum alloy chassis — free-floated, biologically inert and pretty much immune to the vagaries of nature.

The barrel is 24" long from bolt face

# **LONG-DISTANCE PERFORMANCE WITHIN AFFORDABLE REACH**



"Ready on the right,  
ready on the left":  
T/C's LRR and its full  
complement of gear.





# GUNS<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE







The LRR's M-LOK forend accepts enhancements such as a Caldwell bipod.



A highly efficient muzzlebrake — plus the good manners of the 6.5 Creedmoor — make for comfortable range sessions.



The skeletonized stock's comb height, length of pull and buttplate are fully adjustable.

to muzzle. The flutes provide additional surface area for rigidity and heat dispersion and the 5-groove barrel is said to enhance accuracy by minimizing stress and distortion of the bullet and easing fouling removal. The barrel is made of 4140 steel, 1:8 RH twist. Our sample came with the trigger adjusted to a perfectly poised 2.5 lbs. and we left it alone. The detachable box magazine holds 10 rounds.

### SPECIALIZED BUT FIELD-CAPABLE

The LRR chassis is a significant contributor to the need to carry a folding hex wrench “multi-doo-dad” everywhere you go. The “buttstock” is secured to the action via pressure from an appropriately sized

Allen screw.

Length of pull and the cheekpiece height are adjustable and also dogged down via hex. While the bolt release functions in the time-honored fashion, the only way you can get it out of the rifle is by removing either the entire stock assembly or the cheekpiece. It is different, but easily and quickly done.

Long-range shooting — organized or otherwise — has always been an equipment race and the modern LRR systems lend versatility rather than bypass it. Thus a heavy-weight rifle with state-of-the-art sights, accessory-friendly mounting options, and adjustable bipod is eminently practical for fixed-position varmint and big-game hunting. In this vein, our selected scope is the EOTech Vudu 3-18x50 (\$1,599). It

features a 34mm tube with illuminated mil radian reticle, side-mounted focus, zero-stop and magnification throw lever.

The large range of magnifications suit it to normal hunting ranges and the rugged assembly is an advantage for field use. It's mounted atop the rifle's 20 MOA rail by way of extra-tall Seekins Precision rings placing the reticle 2.5" above center bore.

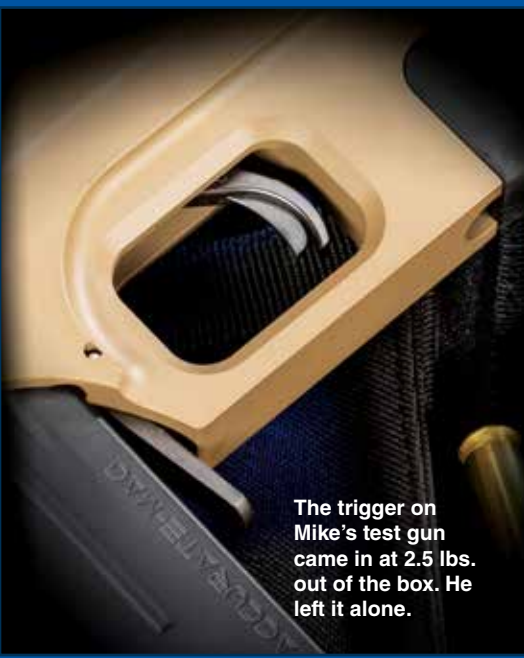
### ZEROING PRELIMINARIES

I shot several three-round groups over the supplied Caldwell bipod with a squeeze bag under the stock. These were incidental to establishing the 100-yard zero but were predictive of things to come. Even with me at the controls, groups were under 1" with my best result being 0.43" with the Hornady





Comfortable contour: The LRR features a distinctive, fluted bolt knob.



The trigger on Mike's test gun came in at 2.5 lbs. out of the box. He left it alone.

loading of its 147-gr. ELD-M bullet.

For the extended range evaluation we used this load and the Black Hills rendition using the same Hornady bullet and case. Recorded 10-round averages were 2,663 and 2,594 fps respectively. The Hornady load retained 1,571 fps at 1,000 yards with 1.47 seconds in flight while the Black Hills arrived at 1,503 fps in 1.52 seconds. The significant numbers, as we will see, are the come-up values of 8.5 and 9.1 mils.

### STRETCHING THE ENVELOPE

Central Texas boasts two outstanding long-range shooting assets in Stan Jarosz-Rafter J Shooting Sports of Crawford, TX and Larry Cohen of Waco. Both are long-time National Match High Power shooters



A 100-yard group with Hornady 147-gr. ELD-M rounds. Photo: Mike Cumpston

with much experience in Metallic Silhouette shooting, Long Range Black Powder Cartridge Rifle shooting to 1,000 yards and distance work with the 1903 Springfield. Both are Camp Perry veterans.

The men were enthusiastic about the new rig and their interest grew when they saw the Vudu optic with its Horus M59 MRAD reticle. We shot the rig at 600 and 1,000 yards under ideal conditions employing a portable Legacy Shooting Bench as well as equipment to telegraph hits on targets over half a mile away. This included a two-way radio suspended behind the standard E type steel target and a Magneto Speed T1000 strobe to flash wildly when the metal homunculus clanged from a hit.

The Hornady on-line ballistic resources program provided a useful trajectory chart and is recommended for comparing down-range performance from various cartridges. The scope comes with a separate manual which does an excellent job of demystifying the mil-radian system for those of us who think in terms of inches, fractions of inches and minutes of angle. It explains the MRAD reticle, its reciprocals in meters and inches and its use in Stadiametric Rangefinding.

The remarkable collusion of the rifle/scope/mount package and the low-drag match ammunition enable the use of the 8 and 9 mil stadia visible at the bottom of the reticle with the magnification at 18X (or slightly below). The shooter can choose between using the reticle at 100-yard zero or going to the external elevation adjustment to sight the primary crosshair at 1,000 yards. Raising the elevation to the 8.5

or 9.1 on the dial does the same thing for our two loads as selecting the same-numbered stadia with the 100-yard zero.

At extended range it quickly became evident T/C, with co-development assistance by the Smith & Wesson Performance Center, has fielded a well-vetted product of excellent quality. Both Stan and Larry had enormous fun putting the system through its paces and were impressed by the rifle and scope.

Groups at 600 and 1,000 yards hovered around the 1 MOA mark for all three of us with three or four of each five rounds at — or below — 1/2 MOA in most cases. This is likely a more accurate predictor of the rifle's baseline accuracy than the full five rounds and the likely interjection of human error. Nevertheless, Stan's subsequent load development with the same ELD bullet is closing in on 1/2 MOA across the board.

While many shooters have limited access to extreme range shooting, such venues are becoming more available. In any case, a soundly engineered and extremely accurate rifle is always its own excuse for being and the Performance Center T/C LRR certainly meets the criteria. The MSRP? A very reasonable \$1,211.

[www.tcarms.com](http://www.tcarms.com)  
[www.blackhills.com](http://www.blackhills.com)  
[www.eotechinc.com](http://www.eotechinc.com)  
[www.hornady.com](http://www.hornady.com)  
[www.legacysightingproducts.com](http://www.legacysightingproducts.com)  
[www.seekinsprecision.com](http://www.seekinsprecision.com)  
[www.magnetospeed.com](http://www.magnetospeed.com)  
[www.ustacticalsupply.com](http://www.ustacticalsupply.com)



# BROWNELLS BRN-10

JEFF JOHN

RETRO-REVIVING AN  
AWESOME “ARCHETYPE”

Eugene Stoner's AR-10 was the culmination of an idea so radical it wasn't accepted — at first. Too many cooks spoiled the broth along the way, yet perhaps the biggest mistake was parent company Fairchild refusing to allow the U.S. Government to develop the rifle further, ensuring the project fizzled.

Sadly, the original 7.62 AR-10 lost out to similarly chambered M-14 in America and the FAL in most of the free world. It excelled in the few countries adopting it, and a reduction in size — not to mention caliber — led to the M16, the longest serving arm in U.S. history.







The original "Modern Sporting Rifle" arrived on the scene 60+ years ago as the AR-10.

Now Brownells lets us experience the rugged simplicity of Stoner's original creation.

### UNCLUTTERED FUNCTIONALITY

As re-imagined, Stoner's ideal is light, slim, sleek and marvelously uncluttered from the snag points so prevalent in today's ARs. Looking down from the top, the gun is remarkably narrow with the widest point being the back of the tapered fore-end. The BRN-10 is sans the normal projections giving an AR the look of an angry horned dinosaur: no case deflector, no forward assist and no fragile T-configured charging



Jeff experienced no gun-related malfunctions during his BRN-10 sessions.



SIG Match ammo, featuring a Sierra 168-gr. BTHP, delivered this 2-3/8" group at 100 yards. Without the flyer, we'd be looking at 1-3/8"!

handle. Chambering a round is accomplished via a unique trigger-style lever located within — and protected by — the carry handle. The bolt release, magazine release and safety are in their usual places and just as convenient as originally conceived, albeit unprotected by raised fences, further simplifying the profile.

The trigger-style charging lever is the greatest gift, in keeping the parts count down and operation simple, since it doubles as a forward assist. It also proved to be the one fly in the ointment because you can only get one finger on it, and when the gun was dry, it was difficult to break the bolt free. Lubing with G96 RFG Grease loosened it up, and I suspect the problem will diminish with use as long as the rifle is kept reasonably clean and lubricated.

The bolt is made from 9310, a steel known for its core hardness and high fatigue resistance, given the period touch of the distinctive flat common to early AR-10s as seen through the ejection port. The bolt is then magnetic particle inspected and chrome plated. The trigger is similar to those found in most standard big-frame ARs — the pull averaged 4.5 lbs., gave a clean

break and was consistent. Anyone already used to the stock AR-15 trigger will feel at home.

This model, the BRN-10A, is fitted with the heavy 20" fluted barrel from Faxon Firearms with a diameter at the gas block of 0.750 and a Dutch-style 3-prong flash hider. Weight of the rifle is 9 lbs., 2 oz. unloaded. The BRN-10B comes with a lighter Faxon "pencil" barrel and catalog weight is about a pound less, closer to Stoner's ideal.

The square, early-style magazine well will accept only Brownells, DPMS and SR-25 aluminum magazines but not others such as Magpul. All the available metal mags are of the current vertical-ribbed style rather than the unique waffle-style of the originals. The BRN-10 comes with one magazine.

### SIGHTS, SLING

The huge carry handle houses the fully adjustable rear sight, although only elevation is adjustable without tools. Windage is adjusted by loosening a small Allen-head screw accessible through a round window in the back of the carry handle and manually sliding the aperture left or right. A small scale is provided for reference. Just



**IRAQ JAC**

**THE OPERATOR'S EDGE**  
www.topsknives.com

**TOPS KNIVES**



Brownells' BRN-10 (above) offers the clean lines of Eugene Stoner's original design. The rear sight (below) is a fine, target-style aperture protected within the carry handle.

below this window is a larger one allowing you to see what range the aperture is set to for elevation.

The front sight is cast integrally with the retro-style sight block. It's a Patridge-style front, and proved too low to zero the gun at 100 yards — the only stumbling block I had during testing. As it turns out, this first batch of pre-production BRN-10s had a too-high front sight. The front is now machined taller on production models, and the rear sight has two settings higher so shooters can get a 100-yard zero if they wish.

The side-mounted front swivel is also integral with the front sight block and accepted an M-14 sling for range testing (to keep with the Retro look), but any 1 or 1-1/4" sling will fit. The rear swivel is pinned to the plastic stock and does not rotate.

#### RANGE RESULTS


Several .308 loads were tested from American Eagle (150-gr. FMJ), Black Hills (155-gr. TMK, 168-gr. TMK, 168-gr. BTHP) and SIG (168-gr. BTHP). Accuracy was better than average for a service rifle, with most match or target loads delivering 5-shot groups in the 2-1/2" range at 100 yards, and the service-type American Eagle a bit more. Reliability was superb. One failure to lock the bolt open happened early and, after sidelining the magazine, no other malfunctions of any type occurred.

The best performing loads were topped with Sierra 168-gr. BTHP MatchKings. Black Hills Match delivered a 2-1/4" group, and SIG Match a 2-3/8" group. I honked one



round with the SIG load or it might've taken the accuracy crown — four of the five shots were in a nice 1-3/8" cluster. Black Hills Match loaded with Sierra 155-gr. Tipped MatchKings delivered a nice 5-shot group of 2-1/2".

Recoil was very manageable. Velocities ranged from 2,565 fps (Black Hills 155) to 2,744 (American Eagle 150) from the rifle's 20" barrel.

The AR-10 came about at a time when the Cold War was pretty hot in spots. The jockeying for battlefield supremacy came down ultimately to Stoner vs. Kalashnikov but could've been so from the get-go. Had things gone this way, Brownells' BRN-10 helps us discover which *would've* won hands down: Stoner. 

www.brownells.com



AMERICAN

# HANDGUNNER®

**ONE-YEAR PRINT  
SUBSCRIPTION  
ONLY \$19.75!**



Plus **FREE** 2018 Digital Edition CD with your paid order.

Call (866) 820-4045 • [www.fmgpubs.com](http://www.fmgpubs.com)

M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$54.75 outside U.S.) • P.O. Box 509093, San Diego, CA 92150







# ADVANCED TACTIC ORDN UHS-6.5

Between 2006 and 2011 the feral hog population in America grew by 20 percent per year. Conservatively, they cause about 1.5 billion dollars' worth of damage to crops annually. Like besieged characters in a bad zombie movie, we shoot them as fast as we can and yet they still keep coming.

In response to this grave existential threat to our national security, Advanced

Tactical Ordnance has developed the UHS-6.5. "UHS" stands for Ultimate Hog Slayer, and it's thoroughly optimized for pig hunting.

## PIG-POPPIN' ...

Hunting is a hot button issue in much of the country these days and pushback from the uninitiated threatens to marginalize traditional hunting pursuits. I

think all involved would admit, in a quiet moment, Walt Disney's *Bambi* was indeed pretty cute. By contrast, feral pigs aren't so appealing and many otherwise opposed to, say, deer hunting, might willingly queue up to whack a hog. After all, they're ungodly ugly, eat anything they can catch and built like armored fighting vehicles. Then there are those *tusks* ...

One farmer buddy of mine down here



The addition of a reasonably priced thermal sight makes you a nighttime "hog vampire!"



## Make Bacon with this Hog Hammer!

# ALL YARDAGES COVERED

Will Dabbs, MD



**The ATO blast can is a proprietary muzzle attachment that doesn't require NFA registration.**

in the Deep South had to plant his soybean fields three times because the pigs came out in the evenings and rooted along the rows gobbling up his seed. Feral pigs are the ultimate invasive species. You can shoot them in quantity without even a smidgen of guilt.

However, you'll need a gat up to the task!

### ... AND PORK CHOPPIN'

For starters the perfect pig gun has to punch deep. We tried and failed to open up a big boar and retrieve a bullet for this

project but we seriously couldn't get through the chest gristle plate, even with a handsaw. For hard-core applications like this, 5.56 is okay, 7.62 good and 6.5 Creedmoor is perfect.

The same attributes making the 6.5 CM an ideal 1,000-yard precision rifle round make it a simply superb mid-range swine slayer. The trajectory is flat and recoil is pleasant. When run through an AR10 chassis it means stupid tight groups, plenty of high capacity chaos on tap and

instantaneous follow up shots.

The hypothetical *perfect* pig-popper needs to be compact and maneuverable. Pigs are smarter than dogs and endlessly adaptable, which is why they are so tough to eradicate. Hunting them means mobility and fast action — for those reasons ATO opted for a 12 barrel and a pistol chassis. Were it not for one Alex Bosco the quest for the perfect pig gun would at this point simply crash upon the rocks of American gun laws.

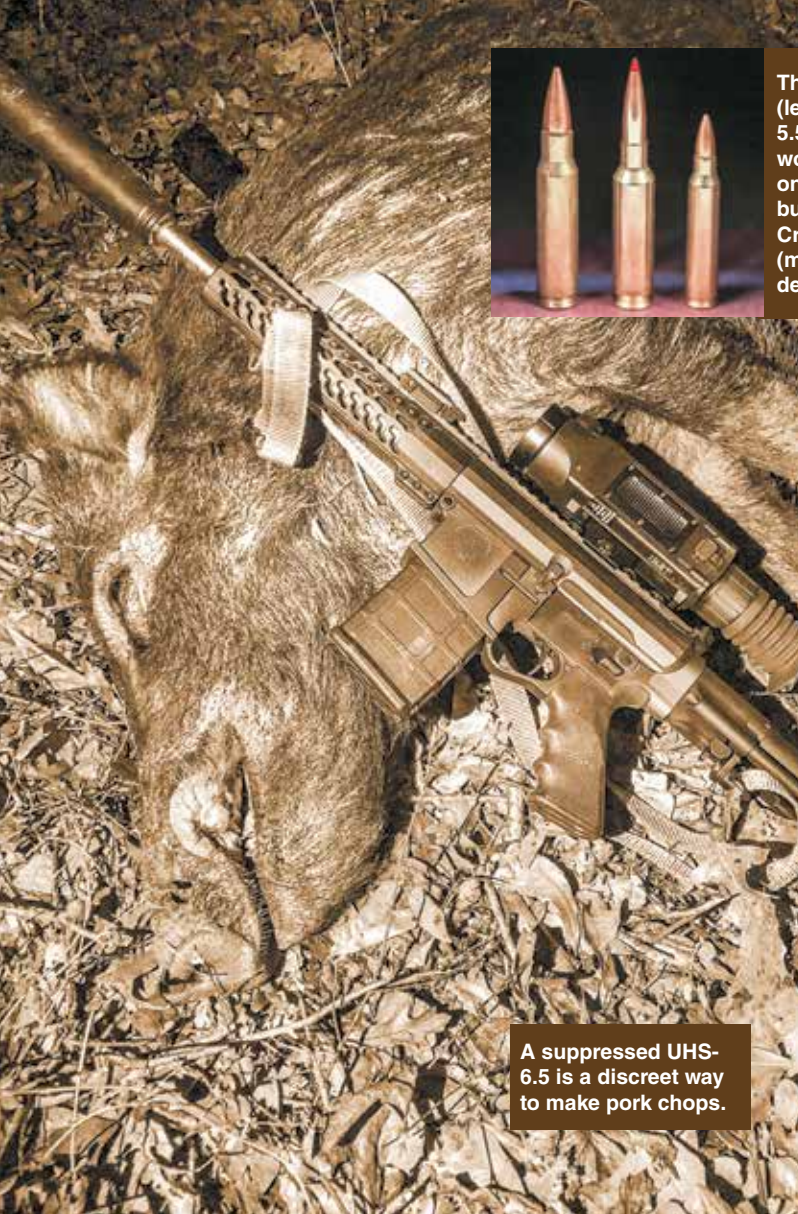
### ALL YARDAGES COVERED

Alex Bosco is the ballistic visionary who created the Pistol Stabilizing Brace (PSB). I'll spare you the sordid details but the PSB created an entirely new genre of firearms in the United States. A PSB-equipped handgun can retain its short barrel without mandating registration with the government as a Short-Barreled Rifle. The end result is an immensely powerful, compact, straight-shooting handgun wreaking pure death on the swine.

"How straight does it shoot," you ask? From a rest at a 100-yard indoor range we printed a 0.35 group. We also tried running the UHS-6.5 at 1,000 yards and managed a 3.74 three-shot cluster when the wind was perfect. The bullet drops 41 feet at this range and is nearly subsonic but this gun will still stay tight out past any reasonable







The 7.62 (left) and 5.56 (right) work “okay” on hogs but the 6.5 Creedmoor (middle) is deadly!

A suppressed UHS-6.5 is a discreet way to make pork chops.



Long-range capabilities of the UHS-6.5 call for good glass — a Vortex 1-6x24 Viper.



“pig engagement” distances.

Advanced Tactical Ordnance also builds high-end precision rifles. These bolt guns are purpose-designed for banging steel a grid square away. One of my ATO buddies used a hand-built specimen in .300 Win Mag to drop an elk at 860 meters. This same compulsion for accuracy infuses the UHS-6.5.

Superlative accuracy begins with a superlative 12 barrel. ATO





The ATO UHS-6.5 is a high-octane handgun equipped with a Pistol Stabilizing Brace, allowing compact size without running afoul of the National Firearms Act.

uses the best blanks in the world and cuts their chambers as if they were building a precision target gun. The barrel profile is the thickest they can cram underneath the handguard for maximum stiffness. The end result is a fairly heavy rifle-caliber handgun producing sub-MOA groups at all typical pig-shooting ranges. This kind of performance doesn't come easy or cheap, but ATO builds their reputation on it.

### ACCESSORIZING

Of course the UHS-6.5 includes a full-length scope mounting rail and a skeletonized forearm for accessories. ATO can set it up however you want. There is plenty of room up top for serious optics, night vision or thermals. ATO has used the UHS-6.5 to slay pigs in all three configurations.

The gun comes with a proprietary ATO blast can. This nifty contraption does not suppress the gun's report or require federal registration but it does project the chaos forward rather than to the sides. In the process it also uses the basic principles of fluid dynamics to substantially lessen felt recoil. Considering most pig hunting is done in dim light, the blast can will help ameliorate muzzle flash as well. We are pushing a precision long-range rifle round through a barrel a foot long — it would be unduly bright if left otherwise unadorned.

If you really want it done up right, ATO can match the UHS-6.5 with a custom sound suppressor optimized for the platform. These cans employ proprietary turbine-shaped stainless steel baffles which simultaneously slow and cool muzzle gases to trim down most of the blast. With the can in place, muzzle flash is neutralized so you can target the whole sounder rather than just a single hog.

### THE FINAL WORD

Out to about 500 meters the ATO UHS-6.5 will drop almost anything walking. While the gun is optimized for porcine eradication it is also effective against such stuff as deer and elk, and it's markedly easier to hump than a comparable long rifle. Additionally, if the world ever went truly sideways you'd be hard pressed to find a more efficient counter-zombie tool.

Sleek, short and powerful, the ATO UHS-6.5 is the most effective hunting and survival arm you can get without an NFA tax stamp. Whether your mission is to defend farmland from the coarse-haired flat-nosed menace, keep the larder stocked with venison or guide your family out of the hot zone, the UHS-6.5 brings the horsepower you need in a package you can tote. ➤

[www.ato-us.com](http://www.ato-us.com), [www.vortex.com](http://www.vortex.com)





# SKINNER SIGHTS BUSH PILOT

JEFF "TANK" HOOVER

# .45-70

Fantasy is the catalyst responsible for many gun purchases. With lust-filled eyes, racing heart and sweaty palms, we think to ourselves, "I *need* that gun ... now!" At least it happens to me. Repeatedly.

Certain guns trigger responses, capturing our spirit, whisking us away from the monotonous doldrums of everyday life to faraway places we dream about. I blame His Editorship Roy Huntington for this latest escape from reality. How come Roy?

## HOOKED ... AGAIN

I first saw it while thumbing through *American Handgunner* — a simple photo of a takedown Winchester 1886 rifle. It's of Italian descent (made by Chiappa) and tuned to the specifications of Skinner Sights' Andy Larsson. It comes with its own carrying case and survival kit, also designed by Andy. The caliber? Why the mighty .45-70 of course.

I've always liked the idea of a takedown levergun. Carried in a small, compact package along with ammo, knife and any other survival necessities, it conveniently fits under the seat of a bush plane taking us off to some far-flung adventure. It's just

what the doctor ordered for this fantasy to play out.

A self-diagnosed gun-junkie, with a touch of terminal lever-gun looniness, I knew I had to have it within nanoseconds. I called Andy and we talk for a couple of hours. He agrees the only cure for my malady is to place an order, so I did. Andy understands people like you and me because he's just like us! Why else would he put together such a cool package?

## HEAVY-DUTY LEVERAGE

Ever since I read Elmer Keith's words, "We have no fewer than 5 of these rifles at home" in *Rifles For Large Game*, I've always wanted a Winchester Model 1886 to call my own. I knew I'd eventually get one *someday* but now, finally holding the Bush Pilot in my hands and working the lever, I'm convinced more than ever it's one of John

Moses Browning's best designs. Made for the most powerful cartridges of the day, it is extremely strong even by today's levergun standards.

My Chiappa version of the 1886 is just as impressive, following Browning's nomenclature and Andy's request they be made to his "specs," meaning all internal parts are given special treatment when assembled.

The Bush Pilot's heft, fit and finish have me excited and impressed — the special treatment is apparent. Everything flows smoothly, cycling the fat .45-70 cartridges effortlessly, as it should. The gun is industrial hard-chromed, giving it a soft, durable, warm-tone finish, perfect for the rough Alaskan bush and inclement weather.

The barrel is threaded for either a suppressor or muzzle brake, but now has a thread protector on it. I requested a white-line front sight, which is dovetailed in the

LOTTA'-FUN SURVIVAL GUN





The Bush Pilot assembled, loaded and ready for .45-70 action.

barrel, making for easy windage adjustment should it be necessary. The barrel is half round/half octagonal. The wood-to-metal fit is immaculate everywhere on the rifle.

The Skinner rear sight is mounted on the bolt, giving an extra 10" of sight radius compared to being mounted on the barrel. The blued-steel base and brass aperture peep are both windage and elevation adjustable. Looking like they were made for the 1886, the Skinner peep complements the soft-tone hard-chrome, perfectly.

The 1886 is a dual-lugged, slick cycling lever-action repeater. It's the dual lugs of the bolt — riding in recesses milled in the frame — which give the 1886 its exceptional strength.

The action and barrel are made of 4140-steel, known for its toughness, abrasion/impact resistance and high-fatigue strength.



A quarter-turn to the left separates barrel action.



The Skinner Sights Bush Pilot/Survival Kit





Accuracy was excellent (above), even fired with a casual “elbows on bench” style. Unscrewing the magazine tube allows you to twist the rifle apart for stowage (below).

The side-plate is beautifully laser engraved with the Bush Pilot logo, displaying the silhouette of a bush plane and in bold lettering, Bush Pilot with Skinner Sights limited edition below. All screws are gorgeously fire-blued and beautifully accent the soft-toned hard chrome. The wood is very dense, slightly figured walnut, enough to please any traditional wood-stocked rifle lover.

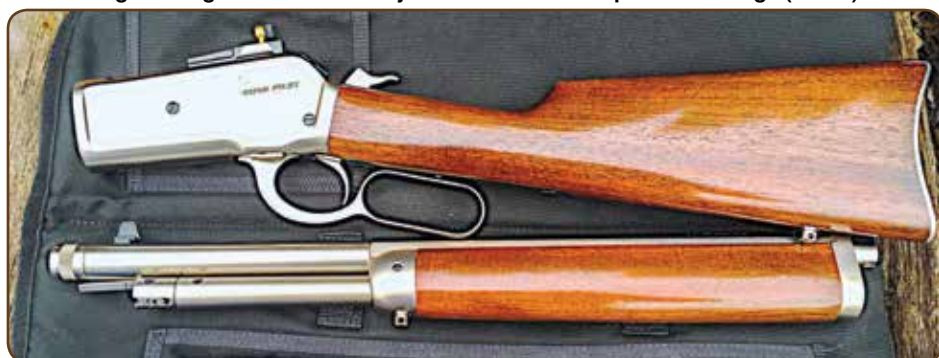
Putting the Skinner two-piece together is easy, thanks to the original Winchester interrupted-thread design. Holding the rear stock, with action open, you insert the barrel shank with the forearm bottom facing left and give it a quarter-turn. Screw in the magazine tube and you're ready for action.

Don't fret over its Italian lineage. This gun is well built and after firing over 300 rounds (we're talking over 16 lbs. of lead), it's as tight now as it was new.

To boil down things down to mere numbers doesn't do the Bush Pilot justice, but here goes: It weighs 7.8 lbs. and is 37" long. The barrel is 18.5" and half-octagon/half-round configuration, with 7" of those inches being round. Length of pull is 13 3/8". The trigger pull on mine weighed a creep-free 2 lbs.14 oz.

### BIG BULLETS DOWNRANGE

How a rifle feels is one thing but how it shoots can be quite a different story. In this case, the Chiappa did not disappoint. The



long-radius Skinner peep sight combined with the white-line front sight provided a beautiful sight picture. Groups of 1" or better were the norm at 50 yards. When I moved back to 100 yards, 1.5 to 2" groups were routine. The gun is a shooter and will handle whatever it's asked to do.

I had some old handloads on hand consisting of Remington 300-gr. JHPs seated over 50 grains of IMR 4198, as well as some 420-gr. cast bullets over 50 grains of Reloder 7, both sparked by Winchester Large Rifle primers. Velocity was 2,007 fps for the 300 grain and 1,931 fps for the 420. I also shot some Black Hills HoneyBadger 300-gr. ammo through it as well.

The Chiappa showed no real preference. It liked 'em all.

### KIT AND CABOODLE

The heart and soul of the included

survival kit is the carry bag. Made of tough 1,000-denier Cordura, the bag conveniently carries the rifle with a fold-over flap which buckles shut to keep your broken down Bush Pilot safe and secure.

The kit also contains an Ontario Knife Co. RAT-7 knife with Bush Pilot logo and matching serial number to your rifle. A DOAN magnesium Mil Spec USA fire starter and 50 ft. of Mil Spec 750 Paracord are also included. Rounding out the kit are Titan Stormproof Flare matches in a waterproof container and a Brunton USA Tru-Arc Compass. Finally, a Space Blanket Tube-Tent large enough for two is provided.

So, if your heart's racing for a traditional big-bore classic in takedown trim, don't miss the plane on this deal. MSRP is \$1,850. 🚀

[www.chiappafirearms.com](http://www.chiappafirearms.com)  
[www.skippersights.com](http://www.skippersights.com)





# ***SPECIAL EDITIONS***

**Get our latest Special Editions  
for \$12.95 each! Order online today!**

**[www.fmgpubs.com](http://www.fmgpubs.com)**

**Toll Free: 1-866-820-4045**

**or by mail, P.O. Box 502610, San Diego, CA 92150-2610**





**Benchmade  
Pardue Hunter**



# EIGHT GREAT STRAIGHT

## GET “FIXED” FOR FIELD-DRESSING CHORES

The cutlery industry has been shifting toward an increase in hunting and sporting knives the past two years due in large part to the more firearms-friendly Trump administration. Tactical fare still rules the roost but hunting knives are coming on strong. Years ago, fixed-blades were called “straight knives” and many old timers still use the term. We present here a wide variety of straight knives from large to small, each geared toward game processing — and there are a nice range of budgets to boot.

### MID-SIZE MENU

The most popular fixed-blades among the hunting and sporting crowd are mid-size knives with a blade in the 4 to 4.5”

range. A blade this size can be used to dress game and perform a wide variety of light to medium duty tasks around the camp — and they won’t bog you down. The most popular blade style is the slope-backed drop point, praised for its ability to glide under flesh without piercing organs. Others styles, however, such as the trailing and clip point varieties have fans as well.

*Benchmade Pardue Hunter* — If you sketched the ideal mid-sized hunter, it would look a whole lot like this one. This 7.96” drop point — designed by knifemaker Mel Pardue — has all the right stuff from its top-shelf 3.48” CPM-S30V stainless steel

blade to its two-tone Olive Drab/Black Micarta handle. A hunter himself, Pardue knows how to process game and incorporated all the features he likes into this knife. The Pardue Hunter will also perform light to medium camp chores (sometimes that’s all you need). There’s a lanyard hole in the base and knife comes with a handsome buff-brown belt sheath. MSRP is \$225.

*Buck Open Season Skinner* — Take a gander at the here and now. It’s called the Buck Open Season Skinner and it signals what’s happening in modern hunting knives. At 8.25” overall, the Open Season, with its 4.5” satin finished drop point blade, fits nicely into our mid-size group but its racy good looks make it a standout. The 4.5” blade is top-shelf S35VN stainless with a deep-bellied, recurved edge. The pistol-grip handle features green Canvas Micarta handle scales with a lanyard hole at the base. A black leather belt sheath is included. Buck offers a gut-hook version and other configurations are available in the “Open Season” line, including a folder. MSRP is \$175.

*Spyderco Bow River* — For those who prefer a trailing point blade Spyderco delivers the Bow River up in spades. At 8.14” overall it’s striking in its clean looks and efficient design. A just-the-facts kind of knife, this fixer is a collaboration with custom knifemaker Phil Wilson. Sporting a satin finish, the 4.40” full ground 8Cr13MoV blade curves up ever so slightly toward the



**ESEE-4HM**





**White River  
Model 1 Caper**

# KNIVES

## PAT COVERT

tip in true “trailing point” form. The 3.74" handle, a straight bag handle style, features attractive black/gray layered G10 scales with a tube lanyard hole in the base. The Bow River's length leans to the slightly longer side in our mid-range groove, so in addition to processing game it's able to tackle a wide variety of medium-duty field chores. A leather belt sheath is included. MSRP is an affordable \$50.

**ESEE-4HM** — The ESEE-4HM is a reconfiguration of the company's longstanding ESEE-4 model which, although very field worthy, had more of a tactical grip. The 4-HM model is streamlined in the handle and more geared for field chores — more typical of a Bushcraft knife. Overall length is 8.88". The company's standard 1095 high carbon does the hard work. The flat V-grind on the 4HM's 4.375" black powder-coated drop point blade makes it a nice package. A leather sheath with belt loop comes standard. At the same time ESEE was giving this knife its makeover they also made the same modifications on their ESEE-3, so if you want a shorter version of the 4HM, they've got you covered. MSRP is \$178.36.

**TOPS Knives Backpacker Bowie** — One of the more unique fixers in our group is the TOPS Backpacker Bowie. A scaled down version of a modern Bowie knife, the Backpacker Bowie is 8.25" in overall length with 4.5" dedicated to its flared, clip-point blade. The blade is TOPS' standard 1095 high carbon steel with a handsome tumbled finish and features a finger guard at the



**TOPS  
Backpacker Bowie**



**Battle Horse  
Frontier First**



**Gerber  
Spine**





## Buck Open Season Skinner

choil to keep the index finger safe. On the forward spine is a pot-lifter notch that can also be used to break wire. The handle features three finger grooves with green Canvas Micarta scales and there's a lanyard hole at the base. In a nutshell, this is a knife that can wear a lot of hats. TOPS delivers the Backpacker Bowie with a Kydex sheath, replete with a rotating spring steel belt clip. MSRP is \$150.

*Gerber Spine* — "Simple and effective" best describes the Gerber Spine. This affordable cutting and slicing companion is 8.4" overall with a 3.4" drop point blade, a great size for skinning small to medium game. The blade is 7Cr17Mov stainless steel with a deep hollow grind for added slice-ability. The "grippy" handle can be had in Flat Sage (shown) or Cyan Blue. The bag style handle is comfortable in the hand and the rubberized scales are impervious to blood and viscera, making cleanup a snap. There's a welcome, oversized lanyard hole in the base. For carry the Gerber Spine comes with a unique glass-filled nylon sheath (color keyed to the handle) with a lengthy spring steel belt clip. MSRP is a very reasonable \$40.

### SMALL AND AGILE

Although not the mainstream, a respectable number of hunters prefer to carry a small knife solely for skinning and dressing game. Typically they carry a small knife dedicated to skinning and fine caping along with a larger knife for butchering and heavy field chores. Others, such as those on a guided outing, may simply want to skin their game and leave the rest to the staff. Whatever the reason, there's a knife for that!

*Battle Horse Knives Frontier First* — Small but packing a mean punch, the Battle Horse Frontier First is an extremely well built fixed-blade, 5.6" in overall length. We're showing it here in a Scandi grind but Battle Horse also offers it up in a Saber (best for skinning) and full V-grind, giving hunters a choice. Designed specifically for skinning and dressing, the Frontier First has a 2.4" full tang drop point blade in 0.125" (1/8") thick O1 tool steel — stout for a knife its size. The Micarta handle is a bag style offered in a variety of color choices. The blade spine is squared, ideal for throwing sparks off a ferro fire rod, which O1 steel does particularly well. Order yours with the fire steel loop option on the standard brown leather sheath (see photo) and you have a superb fire-starting kit to go along with your Frontier First. These knives rival custom quality blades. MSRP is \$75.

*White River Model 1 Caper* — White River Knives has been around for years and, because the company is small, many hunters aren't aware of them. The White River Model 1 Caper, with its bulged handle with deep finger choil, is a gem of a small knife designed for both game processing and fine caping work. The Model 1 Caper is 7" in overall length, 3" of the total in a premium CPM S35VN stainless drop point blade. The finger choil below the blade makes for excellent grip while skinning and the G10 handle is easy to clean after the chores are done. The White River Model 1 Caper checks in at a modest 3.2 oz. and a black Kydex belt sheath for this lightweight gem is included. MSRP is \$150.

## Spyderco Bow River

[www.battlehorseknives.com](http://www.battlehorseknives.com), [www.benchmade.com](http://www.benchmade.com)  
[www.buckknives.com](http://www.buckknives.com), [www.esseeknives.com](http://www.esseeknives.com)  
[www.gerbergear.com](http://www.gerbergear.com), [www.spyderco.com](http://www.spyderco.com)  
[www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com), [www.whiteriverknives.com](http://www.whiteriverknives.com)



# One-Year Print Subscription

ONLY

**\$24.95!**



**FREE**

2018 Digital Edition  
with your paid order



Call (866) 820-4045 • [www.fmgpubs.com](http://www.fmgpubs.com)

M-F 8am-3pm PST  
(\$64.95 outside U.S.)  
P.O. Box 509094,  
San Diego, CA 92150



# GUNS

MAGAZINE





The Dozier Titanium Folding Hunter TI continues the hunting/EDC tradition of the DK-FH line.

## DOZIER DK-FH FOLDING HUNTER

### A TITANIUM TANK FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

Custom knife maker Bob Dozier is not one to roll out new models every year. Many knives in his lineup date back over 20 years or more and still sell like hotcakes. His hottest selling folder is his DK-FH Folding Hunter, once described by a noted writer as “the only folding knife you’ll ever need.” Bob developed it over 12 years ago and has put out many variants, including G10 and carbon fiber handled versions. His latest is the DK-FH TI — a mid-size titan not unlike a tank in your hand.

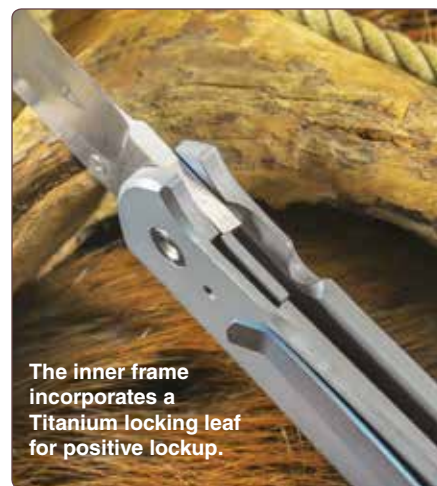
Dozier is known for building tough, durable knives and his Folding Hunter TI is no exception. This is a custom liner-lock — 7.25" overall sporting a 3" drop point blade, a Dozier favorite and the preferred style of many hunters for skinning and dressing game.

The D2 steel blade has a deep hollow


grind for excellent slicing, with a thumb stud doing the opening honors. The 4.25" handle slabs are thick 6Al-4V Titanium, bead blasted for a matte finish. Inside the frame lurks a Titanium locking leaf for positively securing the blade, with milled-out détentés for easy access to both the locking leaf and the thumb stud. On the backside of the frame is an ample 2.75" blue anodized Titanium pocket clip for easy, at the ready carry. The Folding Hunter TI weighs 5 oz. — heavy enough to be a tank of a folder but not so burdensome as to drag your britches down.

#### WHY YOU’LL LIKE IT

The Dozier Titanium Folding Hunter is handmade by the knife maker in his St. Paul, AR, shop. Having personally watched the Dozier build folders, I can attest he scrutinizes over the process every step of the



The inner frame incorporates a Titanium locking leaf for positive lockup.

way, testing and retesting fit and finish to perfection. The “Folding Hunter” moniker is somewhat deceptive — The DK-FH series have always played the additional role of EDC and this one will do so in spades. The Dozier Titanium Folding Hunter has a price tag of \$495, very much in line with similar custom fare. It’s built to last a lifetime. 

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



# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER®



ONE-YEAR  
PRINT  
SUBSCRIPTION  
ONLY **\$19.75!**



Plus **FREE** 2018  
Digital Edition CD  
with your paid order.

Call (866) 820-4045 • [www.fmgpubs.com](http://www.fmgpubs.com)

M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$54.75 outside U.S.) • P.O. Box 509093, San Diego, CA 92150

# THE SUPREMES STEP UP TO THE PLATE

## SCOTUS WILL REVISIT THE 2ND AMENDMENT

The screech you heard emanating from Capital Hill and the City of New York was the sound of alarm. Why? The Supreme Court of the United States decided in January to accept a 2nd Amendment case challenging a Draconian gun control regulation in The Big Apple.

It wasn't an immediate reaction; the importance took a bit of time to sink in. It's the first gun-rights case the high court has accepted in nine years and the tremors came not only because several people on both sides of the gun issue seem to agree the New York law is ripe for challenge, but also what an affirmative ruling could portend.

### A CASE FOR "DE-INFRACTIONMENT?"

Under the ultra-restrictive law, handgun owners living inside the city are prohibited from taking their unloaded and cased sidearms outside the city, to distant gun ranges, competitions or on vacation trips. Such extreme prohibition essentially renders the 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms nothing more than a government-regulated privilege.

Under the limitations of New York's law, handgun owners may only take their sidearms to one of a handful of gun ranges inside the city for practice but nowhere else.

Writing in the *National Review*, David French probably rattled the gun prohibition lobby when he observed,

*"I sincerely doubt the court granted review to affirm the Second Circuit's decision and uphold the New York City law. Barring an extraordinary jurisprudential reversal, the law is on its death march."*

The anti-2nd Amendment crowd has been on something of a rampage since Nancy Pelosi and her Democrat colleagues regained control of the U.S. House of Representatives. They've been introducing — or at least threatening — all kinds of new gun control restrictions. The last thing they want is a high court ruling expanding the rights of gun owners under the 2nd Amendment. Some of them may even be terrified at the prospect.

The case was brought by the New York

State Rifle & Pistol Association with backing from the NRA. Gun control proponents have reportedly suggested to the city it should change the law, thus mooted the court challenge and avoiding a potentially disastrous SCOTUS ruling.

The case is known as *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. City of New York*.



Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor symbolizes freedom — but not for gun owners.

### WHAT'S AT STAKE

Evidently, anti-gunners have figured out what may be at stake. If the Supremes slap down New York City's restriction, it could easily open the doors, if not the floodgates, to a series of other challenges of local gun laws, all ultimately dealing with the "right-to-bear" part of the 2nd Amendment.

For years, gun prohibitionists have been incrementally tightening the screws on firearms owners just because they could get away with it. They don't want their apple cart upset.

When *USA Today* reported the high court's acceptance of the case for review, it quoted Adam Winkler, UCLA Law School professor and author of *Gunfight: The Battle over the Right to Bear Arms in America*. Winkler's analysis was blunt:

*"This could be a huge decision. ... This case is going to end badly for gun violence prevention advocates."*

Amy Davidson Sorkin, writing in the *New Yorker*, bared the visceral nature of this panic by making an observation about Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh. It will

be his first opportunity, she explained, for the newest high court addition *"to begin building what promises to be a disastrous pro-gun legacy."*

Perhaps Sorkin might one day explain what is so disastrous about a "pro-gun legacy," but in the meantime a bit of history seems appropriate.

### PRIME PRECEDENTS

In June 2008, the Supreme Court, with the late Justice Antonin Scalia writing the majority opinion, affirmed what groups such as the NRA and 2nd Amendment Foundation (SAF) had contended for years: the 2nd Amendment protects a fundamental individual right to keep and bear arms extending beyond service in a militia. This landmark case is known as *District of Columbia v. Dick Anthony Heller*.

Two years later, almost to the day, the court again hammered down on the Amendment, this time ruling against the City of Chicago in *McDonald v. Chicago*, an SAF case. Associate Justice Samuel Alito wrote the majority opinion on the case, incorporating the 2nd Amendment to the states via the 14th Amendment in the process.

Among her concerns with the New York case, Sorkin acknowledged this:

*"Gun regulations now vary widely among the states; the strictest of them may eventually be forced to conform to the loosest. A far greater risk to public safety than leaving handguns in empty apartments is the nationwide effort to sanctify the right to carry weapons, concealed or openly, in public places."*

Jonathan Lowy, director of legal action for the anti-rights Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, as quoted by *USA Today*, concurred:

*"There is a potential that this case will lead to a discussion by some justices, and perhaps by a majority, about whether the right to a firearm extends outside the home into public places."*

What's wrong with such discussion? The 2nd Amendment affirms a fundamental right "to keep and bear arms." Surely it cannot be limited to keeping arms in the home and carrying them from one room to another. By some estimates, there are about 17.5 million citizens licensed to carry across the U.S. If they were a crime problem, we would be reading about it daily on the front page of every newspaper, above the fold.



### WHAT TO DO

Inevitably, rights activists — especially new ones who have suddenly discovered just how imperiled their right to bear arms has become of late — will want to take action.

Here's what *not* to do: Don't write or call the U.S. Supreme Court to demand anything. It is really bad form and because the justices are appointed for life, or until they retire, the only impression you might make will be wrong.

But what gun owners can do (and should already be doing) is encouraging confirmation of conservative judges to vacancies on the lower courts, where much gun-related case law is decided. Installing judges who are not prone to legislate from the bench is important to restoring the 2nd Amendment to its rightful place as an equal to all the other Amendments in the Bill of Rights. It's what SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb calls "Making the 2nd Amendment Great Again."

The Senate Judiciary Committee is where confirmations happen. The committee is chaired by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Republican members are Senators Charles Grassley and Joni Ernst (IA), John Cornyn and Ted Cruz (TX), Michael Lee (UT), Ben Sasse (NE), Joshua D. Hawley (MO), Thom Tillis (NC), Mike Crapo (ID), John Kennedy (LA) and Marsha Blackburn (TN).

Ranking member is Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and the other Democrat members are Patrick Leahy (VT), Dick Durbin (IL), Sheldon Whitehouse (RI), Amy Klobuchar (MN), Christopher A. Coons (DE), Richard Blumenthal (CT), Mazie Hirono (HI), Cory Booker (NJ) and Kamala Harris (CA). 🗡️

Find out more at

[www.judiciary.senate.gov](http://www.judiciary.senate.gov).

The committee may be contacted at:

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Room 224

Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510.  
(202) 224-5224

Messages supporting or opposing  
judicial nominations should be  
short, polite and specific.

You might also consider financially  
supporting the legal work being done  
by SAF and the NRA.

Autos or Revolvers



Vulcan  
Model #225

John Bianchi  
**FRONTIER**  
GUNLEATHER  
STARQUEST INC.

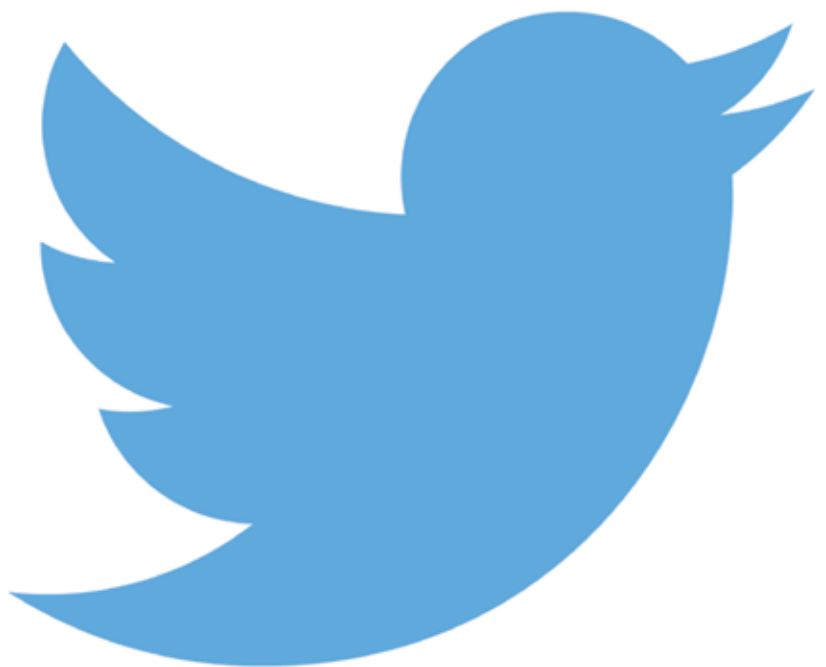
**Voted Best Gunleather  
by True West Magazine**

Call For **FREE!** 2019 Full Color  
Complete Catalog, Western,  
Personal Defense, Field Holsters,  
Belts and More!

**1-760-895-4401**

**FrontierGunleather.com**

FOLLOW  
US ON



**@FMG PUBS**

## CROSSFIRE

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

continued from page 8

if John might have an idea of the effective range for the load I have for it — a 180-gr. flat-point. His articles are always interesting and informative. I need to start shooting what I have. If I don't do it now, when will I?

Dean Hall

Via email

*Dean: That's a real old classic Marlin you have. Adjustable sights were always somewhat optimistic as to distance. I have a .44-40 with a ladder sight graduated out to 1,000 yards! (no, I don't think so!). Be happy with 100 yards or thereabouts. Those cowboy loads are perfect for those old rifles, I'd stick with modest loads like them. Good Shootin' and God Bless. —John Taffin*

### PLASTIC AND BLACK POWDER

Regarding John Taffin's excellent article on the .38-40, I have some comments! I've been making black powder cartridge handloads for both rifles and handguns for a number of years. If memory serves me correctly, I bought my Lyman 55 powder

measure in the early '70s. At the turn of the century I started shooting black powder cartridges in SASS events. I then graduated to gong shoots using my Pedersoli Sharps loaded with my custom black powder cartridges using my old Lyman 55. Recently I found a lonely Marlin 336CB in .38/55 and have been shooting it with my custom black powder handloads using the old Lyman 55. You do know the old Lyman measure has a plastic sleeve! After some hard thinking, I decided to reduce the risk of loading black powder with plastic sleeves and found an outfit that made aluminum sleeves for my Dillon powder measures. But I do have a plastic powder flask for dispensing black powder made years ago. I also noticed that my Swiss black powder comes in plastic cans. I still have some Goex in steel cans but these are from a dozen or so years ago.

Carl Zmuda

Via email



### NO HANDLOADS?

I read the May column by Tank Hoover on Mag-na-port customizing his S&W Model 29. It was very good except when he mentioned he uses handloads when he carries it concealed. I've taken classes for a concealed carry license in my state, and the lawyer who gave us the "dos and don'ts" of using deadly force said *never* use handloads in your carry gun. He pointed out the

# Legendary

## Create Your Own Legend



# Pachmayr®

A Division of Lyman Products

Custom Series  
Semi Auto  
Pearl Laminated

Renegade  
Semi Auto Series

G10 Semi Auto Series

Custom Series  
Semi Auto Carbon Fiber

Signature Semi Auto Series

Diamond Pro  
Revolver Series

G10 Semi Auto Series

Pachmayr Grips have always been the stuff of legends.

We've taken all that knowledge and experience and paired it with the latest materials and designs to create new lines of grips that enhance the look, feel and style of almost any handgun.

Build your own legend-worthy handgun with Pachmayr Grips.

See all the styles and models at **[www.pachmayr.com](http://www.pachmayr.com)**



lawyer for your deceased assailant's family will claim you handloaded your bullets to "kill." There's a slew of factory self-defense loads by reputable companies that will do the job.

Rock  
Via email

*There's good points on both sides of that issue, Rock. What if you're in the field hunting and have to defend yourself with a hunting handgun loaded with handloads? What if you're handicapped and need very light loads? There are other situations which can be defended. But generally, I'd agree sticking with factory loads is always best. But — that won't necessarily save you from a hungry attorney! —Roy Huntington*



### .357 CLASSICS

John Taffin really struck gold with his April .357 Magnum article. I have a few of the guns he mentions — namely a nicked S&W Model 27 with an 8 3/8" barrel and a 4" Model 19 with a target hammer and trigger. I've also got a blued 6" Colt Python. For concealed carry I now have another Model 19 Smith round-butt with a 2-1/2" barrel — red ramp front sight and white outline rear. I put Ahern Combat grips on it. I load it with Cor-Bon 110-gr. JHPs or Speer 130-gr. GDHPs. For the trail I have a 4" S&W Model 586 I carry in a Don Hume thumb-break holster. It shoots like a rifle with 158-gr. magnums. I'm a DA revolver fan and I've read Bill Jordan's *No Second Place Winner* many times. Thanks for another great article!

Joseph Solimando  
Hamburg, PA

*Joseph: The 586/686 is one of the best and most under-appreciated .357s ever made. And how do you top the 2-1/2" M19 as a carry gun? Thank you for an interesting letter on great sixguns. Good Shootin' and God Bless! —John Taffin*

**Free Range SuperThumbs®!**  
Ask Your Range if They Offer FREE Adco SuperThumbs® to Students.  
Any stocking range can provide a pistol magazine loader, free of charge, when a student signs up for a class. Authentic ADCO Super Thumbs®, a \$10.95 value, that will be suited to the student's personal firearm. We'll make the magazine loading easy so you can focus on hitting targets precisely.

**ADCO**  
Instructors, Ranges and Customers can contact us at:  
adcoarmsco@aol.com • www.adcosales.com  
4 Draper St., Woburn, MA 01801  
800-775-3687 • 781-935-1799

**SPARTAN BLADES**  
...knives with intent...

6061 Aluminium  
Button lock  
Pivot Bearings  
CPM S35VN  
PVD Coating

WWW.SPARTABLADESUSA.COM 910-757-0035

**GARY REEDER CUSTOM GUNS**

GARY REEDER CUSTOM GUNS presents our very popular AFRICAN HUNTER. This beauty is built on the customer's base Ruger single action, built the way you like. You pick the caliber, barrel length, grips, sights, finish and more. It is a 5 shot beefy cylinder revolver with all the features that make it the perfect hunting handgun. Contact me for more details.

2601 7th Ave. • Flagstaff AZ, 86004 • 928-527-4100 • reedercustomguns.com





Eye of the tiger! Brindle stripes make the Auto Ordnance 1911A1 superbly functional art.



Black Hills 135-gr. HoneyBadger ammo consistently shot 2" groups at 25 yards.



Controls are traditionally checkered, ensuring slip-free functioning.

## AUTO ORDNANCE 1911GCH

### COLOR-CASED TRIBUTE TO AN ICON

Jeff "Tank" Hoover

The email from *GUNS* editor Brent T. Wheat was short and to the point. "Tank, I've got an assignment for you. It's kind of a rush job. Don't let us down!"

The "rush job" concerned Auto Ordnance's new rendition of John Moses Browning's slab-sided classic, for those of us wanting an affordable option for owning a "GI-issue" 1911A1. Holding it brings to mind our troops fighting for our freedoms with this WWII-era version of the 1911.

This year Auto Ordnance has honored our iconic .45 ACP service pistol with a beautiful new finish.

#### COLORIZED CLASSIC

There's no better way of showing respect for an original "old warhorse" than giving it a face-lift of sorts with the time-honored heat treatment method of color case hardening. The look is fitting for a fighting pistol, accenting the rugged simplicity of the big-bore autoloader without being gaudy.

Expertly performed by Tyler Gun Works, the CCH technique involves heat-treating steel for a specific purpose, leaving behind a beautiful array of mottled colors. The brindled swirl of colors is worthy of this great pistol.

#### MORE THAN GOOD LOOKS

Beneath the stunning surface of each gun is the Auto Ordnance "GI" 1911A1. This all-steel shooter replicates its original ancestor. While looking like the original, the improved, precision-machined 5" barrel is the catalyst for making this pistol more accurate than the originals ever dreamed possible.

Gorgeous double-diamond checkered wooden grips are stylishly carved with a large "US" logo, along with "Model 1911A1 US Army" roll-stamped on the slide. A traditional dovetailed drift-adjustable rear sight is matched with a barleycorn front for a battle proven sight system.

The hammer, magazine release and thumb-safety latch are traditionally checkered, providing slip-free friction and stylish good looks. A beavertail grip safety, along with thumb safety and firing pin block make this pistol perfectly safe for concealed carry or home protection. The Auto Ordnance 1911A1 is functional art, which unleashes your patriotic emotions with each shot.

#### FRIGID FIRING SESSION

"Hey Brent! It's a um ... Tank. I've got the gun and I'm up in Pennsylvania, and it's ... a ... kinda cold up here!"



The wind-chill is going to be around 25-below-zero all week. Think I ... um, could get an extension for this project?" I nervously asked the former SWAT sniper turned editorial despot over the phone.

"Suck it up buttercup! We need it in 3 days max!" So, off to the range I go ...

*(Editor's Note — I actually gave him three-and-a-half days.)*

Thumbing a fat 230-gr. military ball ammo into the blued steel 7-shot magazine, I think of all the grizzled veterans reaching for their .45s in a last-ditch effort to save their skin during some intense battle.

The mil-spec trigger is surprisingly good for a factory firearm, having an average of 5 lbs. 11 oz. on my gun, after 10 measured trigger-pulls with my Lyman gauge.

Shooting in sub-zero weather with a 20 mph wind had me thinking of what the soldiers in the Siege of Bastogne experienced during WWII. I know, jumping out of a heated truck, shooting for 30 minutes and then jumping back in is a sorry comparison.



Breakdown is traditionally "GI 1911."

But it was *cold!*


My cousin's farm has a makeshift range consisting of steel swingers set up at various distances along with a shooting bench. Being a casual, but rather chilly range test, I shot the Auto Ordnance with elbows on

table. It's not the steadiest method, but better than off-hand.

My hit average on 10" steel plates at 50 yards was 6 for 7 (I always managed to miss one). This was a fun "warm up" (ha!) for paper punching at 25 yards.

With frigid temperatures, my runny nose produced "snot tusks" of Boone & Crockett proportions, making me look like a prized walrus any Eskimo would proudly harpoon.

Besides ball ammo and various handloads, I also had Black Hills HoneyBadger 135-gr. ammo and assorted 230-gr. JHPs. Groups of 2.5 to 3" were the norm and the HoneyBadger ammo was the most consistent when shooting at the 2" Birchwood Casey targets. I lost no fingers to frostbite and found the gun performed without a hitch on the frozen tundra.

The Auto Ordnance 1911GCH ships with one 7-round steel magazine and has an MSRP of \$1,327. It's a gorgeous commemoration honoring the brave men and women who fought so valiantly for our freedoms. 

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

**TangoDown<sup>®</sup> INC**  
**Combat Gear Without Peer**  
[WWW.TANGODOWN.COM](http://WWW.TANGODOWN.COM)

© Copyright 2017, Tango Down, All Rights Reserved  
 Photo Credit: Q Concepts

**Left Side Accessories:**  
 GMR-006-43 Vicker's Gen4 Extended Mag Catch  
 VTMPF-006-43 Vicker's #2 Magazine Floor Plate  
 VTSS-002 Vicker's Slide Stop  
 GSR-02 Vicker's Tactical Slide Racker

**Right Side Accessories:**  
 FFA-02 Portal Front Sight Assembly  
 BGV-KM1 KeyMOD Vertical Grip  
 ARC-30 Polymer 30rd M12 Magazine  
 BG-16 Pistol Grip  
 PR-4 Carbine QD Sling Mount  
 IO Aimpoint T2 Optic Cover (coming soon)

**Bottom Left Accessories:**  
 BGV-KM1 KeyMOD Vertical Grip  
 SC-004ITI Rail Cover w/ Switch Pocket  
 ARC-20 Polymer 20rd M12 Magazine  
 BG-18 Reduced Angle Pistol Grip  
 IO-002 Trijicon MRO Optic Cover  
 PR-4 Carbine QD Sling Mount

**Bottom Right Accessories:**  
 GGT-01 Vicker's Takedown Tool  
 GMR-003 Vicker's Gen4 Extended Mag Catch  
 VTMPF-004 Vicker's Magazine Floor Plate  
 VTSS-001 Vicker's Slide Stop  
 GSR-03 Vicker's Tactical Slide Racker



# FIREBIRD PYROTECHNIC TARGETS

## SHOCK AND AWE AT THE RANGE

Will Dabbs, MD

Reactive targets have been around for a while. Typically, they require a spot of mixing along with a high-velocity rifle to ensure dramatic detonation. Once the ingredients — usually binary — are mixed, you have to go ahead and shoot them, otherwise they should be stored in an approved explosives magazine. Additionally, stuff the mixture inside anything substantial and they become quite dangerous.

The subsequent manly thump down-range — combined with voluminous white smoke — will reliably start a party anywhere two or more gun nerds are gathered. However, Firebird Pyrotechnic Targets now offers something easier and safer to use while retaining all of the Wow Factor.



Did you hit it? Firebird takes all the ambiguity out of the answer. Photo: Firebird



Firebird injects pyrotechnic thrills into ho-hum plinking.

## TAKE YOUR DEFENSE PERSONAL. BRING THE HAMMER.



TH9 (17+1) / TH40 (15+1)

TH9c (17+1/13+1) / TH40c (15+1/11+1)

NOVAK DRIFT ADJUSTABLE SIGHTS

MIL-STD 1913 PICATINNY RAIL

Presenting the all-new **Taurus® TH** series of external hammer-fired pistols. Well-equipped, ultra-dependable and chambered in 9mm Luger or 40 S&W, the TH series is a modern reinvention of the classic hammer-fired SA/DA semi-auto platform. Available in both full-size and compact models, the TH series is built on a polymer frame that boasts finger grooves along the grip, generous stippling panels and interchangeable backstraps (full-size only) for a custom fit.



TaurusUSA.com



DESIGNED TO PROTECT.

**TAURUS**



Firebird targets look like jelly-jar lids formed from light pressed metal. The explosive mixture is sealed on the concave side. A peel-and-stick pad is affixed to the back. Priming these targets is as simple as peeling off the backing and sticking them to something.

I have no idea what's inside them. The Firebird guys wouldn't tell me. However, you can touch them off with most anything throwing a projectile: rifles, pistols, shotguns, pellet guns or arrows — all of these will reliably bring the fun. Firebird targets are safe enough to be shipped via FedEx like ammo (no hazmat fees required!). Additionally, the chaos can be



**Backstop impact:** The two left targets were affixed to soft plywood while the two shattered examples exploded on steel.



A Firebird target on plywood excises almost all of the noise but the fire, flash and smoke will still make you giggle.

tuned based upon the backing to which you mount the targets.

Slap one onto something steel and the result is legitimately spectacular — hurt your ears, rattle the windows, scare the dog *loud*. However, affix it to something a bit softer like plywood, and all you get is a bright flash and a lot of smoke. By altering the backstop you can tweak the report so little kids or neophyte shooters can know when they connect without inducing a flinch.

These things also fit onto the bottom of

a standard clay pigeon. Shooting at flying exploding targets will reliably bring out your inner WWII anti-aircraft gunner. The sundry applications for these marvelous items are limited solely by your imagination.

You can use Firebird targets anyplace without nearby fire hazards and add some serious spice to any ballistic outing. Precision shooters will enjoy the positive reinforcement coming from a proper flash and bang a kilometer distant. Tactical hand-gunners will dig the raucous feedback at

*John M. Browning's Masterpiece.*

*Turnbull Restoration's work of art.*

TURNBULL • FINISHED WINCHESTER 1892 DELUXE TAKEDOWN



TURNBULL RESTORATION


SPECIALIZING IN THE ACCURATE RE-CREATION  
OF HISTORICAL METAL FINISHES ON PERIOD FIREARMS



(585) 412-2930 • SALES@TURNBULLRESTORATION.COM • WWW.TURNBULLRESTORATION.COM



more modest ranges.

Kids, of course, will just go in for the fireworks. Anything from a Cricket bolt action running .22 Shorts to a heavy-barrel sniper rig will reliably bring on the excitement. 

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

## FOLD OR FIXED?

### SPARE YOUR WALLET WITH TWO COOL CUTTERS

Payton Miller

#### KERSHAW NATRIX COPPER

The symbol *Cu* — to those who stayed awake in high school science class — stands for “copper.” Otherwise described as “a ductile malleable reddish-brown corrosion-resistant diamagnetic metallic element; occurs in various minerals but is the only metal occurring abundantly in large masses; used as an electrical and thermal conductor.”

Now here’s an attraction not hard to explain — there’s something drawing shooters to copper. Maybe it’s the fact it has been the preferred bullet-jacket material ever since projectiles got pushed fast enough to make pure lead “an issue.” But enough of this space-filling theorizing (God knows we get enough of it elsewhere).

Kershaw has got a pretty nice EDC folder called the Natrix Copper. It’s a smaller version of the company’s highly regarded Zero Tolerance 00777, but — because of the heft of the copper scales — pleasingly

substantial. Anytime someone mentions the inevitable acronym “EDC” (Everyday Carry) in regard to folders, a bit of dimensional clarification is in order so here goes: Blade length is 2.75”, overall length is 3.6” closed and 6.4” open. Weight is 3.7 oz.

The copper handle is nicely sculpted and will take on a very cool-looking patina after a while (mine certainly has). One-handed opening is very quick thanks to the mercifully unobtrusive serrated KVT ball bearing flipper. The lock is what the company terms a “sub-frame” type, requiring an outward push to free the blade for closing. There’s the obligatory reversible pocket clip, which can be tailored for tip up or tip down carry.

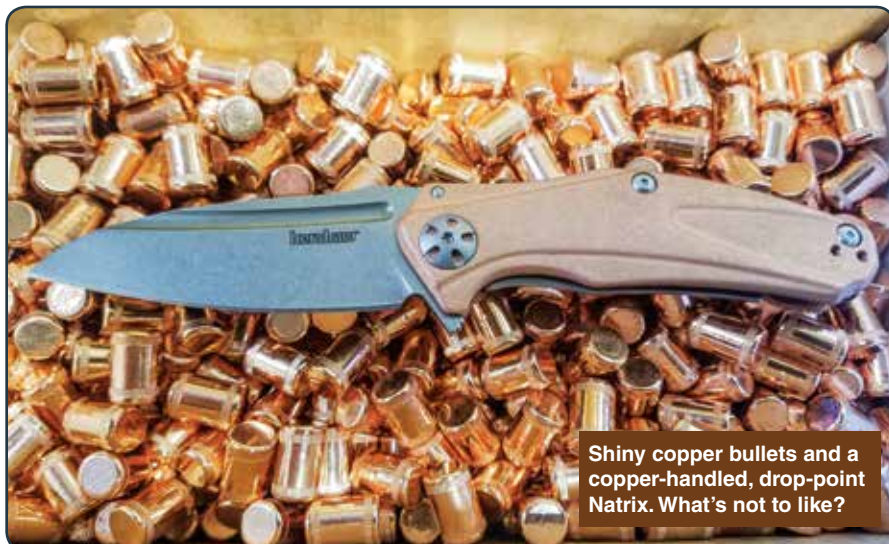
The drop-point blade is stone-finished D2 tool steel, which, thanks to high chromium content, is considered highly corrosion-resistant. MSRP is \$94.49. It’s priced steeper than a lot of current Kershaw folders but it’s a heck of lot less spendy than the company’s premium ZT lineup.

#### A.G. RUSSELL WOODSWALKER

This nifty fixed blade is exactly what its name implies — a handy little knife for small game, fish chores or casual camp/utility use. It’s been around for a while (it was designed more than 25 years ago) and I’m only sorry I didn’t discover it earlier.

The knife itself is made in Japan and, as we all know, the Japanese know a thing or two about sharp blades and cutting things. The super-cool leather hip pocket sheath is made in the USA. It can now be had with a black Kydex neck sheath, but I sure like the leather one better!

The 2.375” AUS8 stainless blade makes the Woodswalker perfectly serviceable as



Shiny copper bullets and a copper-handled, drop-point Natrix. What’s not to like?

 Like

us on
   
**facebook**



@FMGPublications

**GUNS**
  
 MAGAZINE

@GUNSMagazine

AMERICAN
   
**HANDGUNNER**

@americanhandgunner

**SHOOTING**
  
**INDUSTRY**

@shootingindustry

AMERICAN
   
**COP**

@americanCOPmagazine







The Woodswalker is fixed-blade simplicity at its purest.



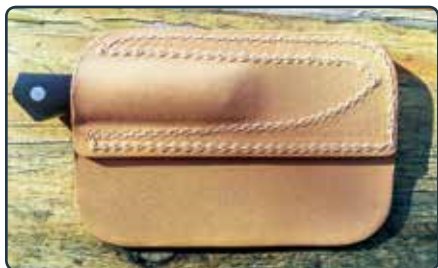
Flip side: A reversible pocket clip and the very efficient sub-frame lock.

a paring or steak knife. And the overall length is 6", which means there's more of the wood rucarta handle than blade, which is perfectly OK. It weighs a feathery 1.2 oz.

So far I've used mine for such pedestrian tasks as cutting meat (cooked and raw), peeling oranges, cutting twine and

opening packages and boxes by slicing through assorted plastic straps, tape and cardboard. It does everything perfectly. No, it's not some glam skinner or custom folder but it's stone simple, has a full tang with three rivets and it passes the EDC test with flying colors.

With the leather sheath, its MSRP is \$26.95. If you simply must have it with the Kydex sheath, it's \$29.95. For just the knife? \$14.95. But — unless you have a nice little kitchen paring knife in mind — why would you want a fixed blade without something to pack it in?



The excellent leather hip pocket sheath offers security and accessibility.

[www.kershaw.kaiusaltld.com](http://www.kershaw.kaiusaltld.com)  
[www.agrussell.com](http://www.agrussell.com)

## Skinner® Sights LLC

INTRODUCING THE SKINNER  
BUSH PILOT LIMITED EDITION



Everything fits in the Custom Skinner Folding Take Down Case!

Premium survival items included as shown

STURDY PEEP SIGHTS (AND MORE)  
FOR YOUR RIFLES

- Features quick easy Take Down
- 357 Magnum, 44 Magnum & 45-70 Govt
- Stainless Hard Chrome Finish
- Skinner Sights w/ Fiber optic front sight
- (Carbine built to Skinner Sights Spec by Chiappa)

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[WWW.SKINNERSIGHTS.COM](http://WWW.SKINNERSIGHTS.COM)

406-745-4570

P.O. Box 1810, St. Ignatius, MT 59865

★

KIRKPATRICK

★

LEATHER COMPANY

J-Frame Shoulder Holster

Only \$140

One of our most requested products is finally here!

Features

Molded sight rail  
Soft, durable leather straps  
Double stitched at stress points  
Gun-specific hand molding  
Thumb-break design

[www.kirkpatrickleathergear.com](http://www.kirkpatrickleathergear.com)  
956-723-6893

**GUNS**  
MAGAZINE  
[GUNSMAGAZINE.COM](http://GUNSMAGAZINE.COM)

# Connect With Us.

## For the latest industry news

follow



on

LinkedIn

linkedin.com/company/  
fmg-publications

# CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads \$2.00 per-word insertion OR \$1.50 per-word insertion for 3 or more with a 20 word minimum including name, address and phone number. Minimum charge \$40.00. **BOLD WORDS add \$1.00 per word.** Copy and rerun orders must be accompanied by **PAYMENT IN ADVANCE NO LATER THAN THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH. NO AGENCY OR CASH DISCOUNT ON WORD OR DISPLAY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING.** Ads received after closing will appear in the following issue. Please type or print clearly. **NO PROOFS WILL BE FURNISHED.** Mail to GUNS MAGAZINE CLASSIFIEDS, 13741 Danielson St., Ste. A, Poway, CA 92064. **NOTE: WE ALSO OFFER DISPLAY CLASSIFIED IN BOTH SHOOTING INDUSTRY AND AMERICAN HANDGUNNER. CALL TO PLACE YOUR AD TODAY: (866) 820-4045, CLASSADS@FMGPUBLICATIONS.COM.**

## ACCESSORIES

When conceal matters!

**Mernickle Custom Holsters**  
1875 View Court, Fernley, Nevada USA 89408 Phone: 775-579-3166  
Fax: 775-575-3188 Email: sales@mernickleholsters.com  
Internet: www.mernickleholsters.com Phone: 1800-497-3166

## AMMUNITION

## APPAREL

## AUCTIONS/SHOWS

## BOOKS

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

## COLLECTORS

## EMBLEMS & INSIGNIA

## FIREWORKS

## FOR SALE

## GUN PARTS

## GUNS FOR SALE

## GUNSMITHING

## INSTRUCTION

## KNIVES & SWORDS

## LEATHERCRAFT

## MILITARIA

## MILITARY SURPLUS

## MISCELLANEOUS

## OPTICS

## POLICE EQUIPMENT

# GUNS

# SUBSCRIBE

**GUNSMAGAZINE.COM**



# ONLINE

## Custom CORNER

Ruger MK Pistols  
Reassemble Correct &  
Quick Every Time



One-Time Fix

- \* Stays in Pistol
- \* No Experience Needed
- \* Not for 22/45 or MK IV models

HammerStrutSupport.com  
256-527-3527 \$15



# GUNS<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

**ONE-YEAR  
PRINT  
SUBSCRIPTION  
ONLY  
\$24.95!**



**FREE**

**2018 Digital  
Edition with  
your paid order**

Call (866) 820-4045  
[www.fmgpubs.com](http://www.fmgpubs.com)

M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$64.95 outside U.S.)  
P.O. Box 509094, San Diego, CA 92150







## DESERT BROWN ANODIZED CHASSIS FOR MODERN PRECISION RIFLE

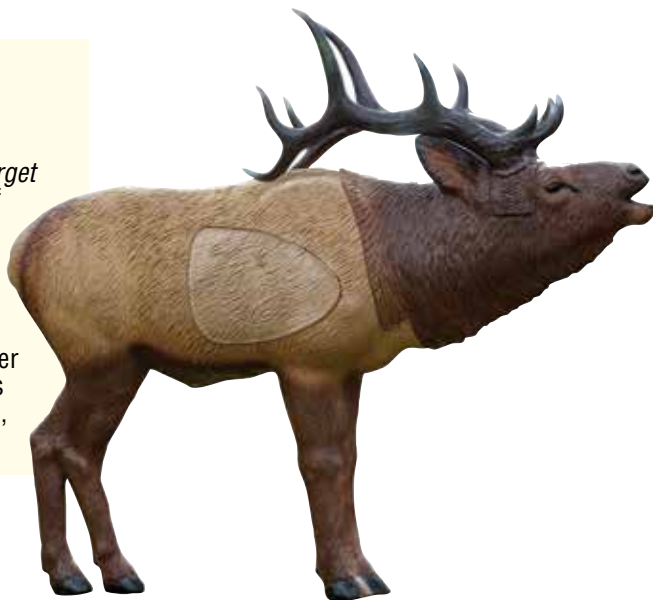
**CHRISTENSEN ARMS**

Christensen Arms has expanded Modern Precision Rifle color options to include a *Desert Brown Anodized Chassis*. Additionally, the rifle is now offered in .223 Rem. in 16- or 20-barrel lengths. The .223 Rem. model uses a standard short-action receiver and includes an AICS-Compatible 10-round polymer magazine. For more info: (435) 528-7999, [www.christensenarms.com](http://www.christensenarms.com)

## 1/3 SCALE WOODLAND ELK TARGET

**RINEHART TARGETS**

Rinehart's lifelike *1/3 Scale Woodland Elk Target* measures 38Hx44L — one-third the size of the actual animal. Its scaled size simulates a 60-yard shot at 20 yards to hone in long-range shots in addition to making transportation easy. Solid FX Woodland Foam and an integrated Signature Series replaceable core insert allows the target to take on a number of shots from both field points and broadheads from all angles. For more info: (608) 757-8153, [www.rinehart3d.com](http://www.rinehart3d.com)



## RAFFIR ALUME GRIPS

**PACHMAYR**

Pachmayr has produced *Raffir Alume Grips* for your 1911 in black, blue, brown, green and red. Raffir Alume is a composite material with aluminum meshes in a translucent epoxy resin. It has three-dimensional textures with contrasts between satin light gray aluminum and deep-colored semi-transparent resin. The grips have a high-gloss polished finish to protect against water, weather and chemicals while adding to its elegant style. For more info: (800) 225-9626, [www.lymanproducts.com/brands/pachmayr](http://www.lymanproducts.com/brands/pachmayr)

## GAMECHANGER

**SIERRA BULLETS**

The Sierra GameChanger hunting bullet combines match accuracy with deadly performance. Sierra re-engineered their MatchKing bullet into a hollow point design for quick expansion and fitted it with a transparent green tip for ballistic uniformity. Sierra Ammunition is offered in .243 Winchester, 6mm Creedmoor, 6.5 Creedmoor, .270 Winchester and .308 Winchester. It will also be available soon in 7mm Remington, .30-06 Springfield and .300 Winchester Magnum! For more info: (888) 223-3006, [www.sierrabullets.com](http://www.sierrabullets.com)



## DOUBLE BADGER .410/.243 WIN

**CHIAPPA FIREARMS**

Chiappa Firearms adds the *Double Badger .410/.243 Win.* to its line of combination folding shotgun/rifles. The Double Badger features a 20" barrel and is chambered in .410

over .243 Win. It has Williams fiber optic sights, checkered semi-gloss beech wood stock and forend and a 3/8" dovetail rail for mounting a scope. For more info: (937) 835-5000, [www.chiappafirearms.com](http://www.chiappafirearms.com)



For more New Products visit us online at [www.GunsMagazine.com](http://www.GunsMagazine.com)

## CONQUEST V4 3-12X44 AND 4-16X50

**ZEISS**

Zeiss expands its Conquest V4 Riflescope Line with two more models. The *Conquest V4 3-12x44* and *4-16x50* are options for those looking for a dedicated scope for their precision shooting rifle or seeking an upgrade to their hunting rig. The 4-16x50 has a ZMOAi-1 MOA-based reticle, while the 3-12x44 has two reticle options: the ZBR-1 MOA-based reticle with windage correction holds and the Z-Plex reticle. For more info: (800) 441-3005, [www.zeiss.com](http://www.zeiss.com)



## STR-9 STOEGER INDUSTRIES

Stoeger introduces the *STR-9* striker-fired, semi-auto pistol. Chambered in 9mm with a 15+1 capacity, the *STR-9* is suitable for everyday carry, home protection or fun at the range. It has a black nitride finish, interchangeable backstrap grips and a 4.17" barrel. Front and back slide serrations provide a firm grip, and a smooth-pulling, crisp trigger houses an internal safety. An accessory rail accepts a wide variety of pistol and laser lights and the reversible magazine release makes it ambidextrous. For more info: (800) 264-4962, [www.stoegerindustries.com](http://www.stoegerindustries.com)



## WILEY TOM MONTANA DECOY

Montana Decoy's *Wiley Tom* features extreme life-like detail on the head and eyes and can accommodate real tail or wing feathers to enhance realism. Hunters will appreciate the view-thru window for reaping, extra tail-feather slot for jake fans and flexibility to use handheld or with the included ground stake. The *Wiley Tom* folds easily for transport and comes with a carry bag. Unfolded, it measures 30"x30" and weighs 1 lb., 4 oz. For more info: (717) 566-1276, [www.montanadecoy.com](http://www.montanadecoy.com)



## 4-IN-1 TOOL FOR GLOCK REAL AVID

The *4-in-1 Tool for GLOCK* from Real Avid is ideal for a GLOCK owner or armorer. The spring-loaded design releases one of four essential tools at a time. You can remove pins, change front sights, remove slide lock springs and locking blocks or adjust aftermarket rear sights. The tools include a 3/32" pin punch, a micro Allen for aftermarket sights, a magnetic 3/16" hex drive for front sights and a flat blade screwdriver for prying slide-lock springs. For more info: (800) 286-0567, [www.realavid.com](http://www.realavid.com)



## RAPID STRIKE TOPS KNIVES

The *Rapid Strike* is a combative blade designed by Leo Espinoza. Made of 154CM RC 58-60, the 4.13" blade's narrow profile makes it an ideal secondary weapon for stabbing or slashing. It makes a great steak knife too. Recessed jimping on the G10 handle improves grip on the blade without making it uncomfortable to hold onto. With an OAL of 8.63", the *Rapid Strike* weighs 3.10 oz. and comes with a black Kydex sheath with a multi-position clip. For more info: (208) 542-0113, [www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com)



## SHOTSHELL BOX CADDY

**MTM CASE-GARD**

The *Shotshell Box Caddy* (SSC) is a 100-round carrier, designed to take shotshells and a cell phone to the shooting line or field. The Army Green-colored caddy holds four 12-ga. 2.75" cardboard shell boxes or four MTM Shell Stackers (included). The fold over handle has two, 12-ga. "grippers" — providing two extra shells for do-over shots. While sized for 12-ga., the SSC can be used with 20-ga. down to .410 shells. For more info: (937) 890-7461, [www.mtmcase-gard.com](http://www.mtmcase-gard.com)



## AKOE BATTLEGRIP

**TANGODOWN INC.**

TangoDown Inc. has added the *AKOE Battlegrip* (BG-AKOE) to its lineup of products. With the grip's comfortable ergonomic design and aggressive non-slip texture, you can do away with the painful OE "peg" that comes on your AK. Weighing 3.9 oz., the BG-AKOE is made of the same durable material as the entire Battlegrip line. For more info: (909) 392-4757, [www.tangodown.com](http://www.tangodown.com)



## BEAR EDGE 61119

**BEAR & SON CUTLERY**

The *Bear Edge 61119* from Bear & Son Cutlery is an assisted sideline pocketknife with a clip blade for multiple outdoor tasks. The 3.5" blade is made of 440 stainless steel; the handle is Realtree Edge Zytel. Weighing

3.3 oz., the Bear Edge 61119 has a length of almost 8" when open; 4.5" when closed. It also has a sideline lock and reversible pocket clip. For more info: (800) 844-3034, [www.bearandsoncutlery.com](http://www.bearandsoncutlery.com)



## BRASS CATCHER

**SHOOTING MADE EASY**

The *Brass Catcher* from Shooting Made Easy (SME) mounts to most AR style rifles to trap empty brass casings. Designed to fit onto the top of the handguard or Picatinny rail of most AR-platform rifles, the SME Brass Catcher is made of a lightweight frame with a mesh pocket. It makes harvesting clean brass easy and because it's light, it won't unbalance the rifle. A zipper located at the bottom of the mesh bag allows for easy removal of the shell cases. For more info: (877) 269-8490, [www.shootingmadeeasy.com](http://www.shootingmadeeasy.com)





### **VIP BLACK** **NIGHTHAWK CUSTOM**

New to the VIP Series from Nighthawk Custom, the *VIP Black* 1911 pistol features hand-engraving by Master Engraver Bertram Edmonston and black Diamond Like Coating. The Government-frame VIP Black is chambered in .45 ACP with an OAL of 8.66" and a 5" crowned barrel. Front strap and mainspring housing serrations as well as hand serrations to the rear of the slide ejector match the Heinie black rear sight. It also has a 14-karat solid gold bead front sight and giraffe bone grips. The limited edition VIP Black comes in a custom walnut hardwood presentation case. For more info: (877) 268-4867, [www.nighthawkcustom.com](http://www.nighthawkcustom.com)

### **HAND HAWK** **HOFFNER KNIVES**

The *Hoffner Hand Hawk* is a mini-tomahawk ideal for outdoor chores and even emergency response. Built-in tools include a gas valve cut-off, emergency hydrant de-con, O2 valve, pry tool, 0.375" ratchet drive, screw drive, pick, saw and beverage opener. It's made of 0.1875"-thick, full tang, 440 chromium steel and paired with rugged G10 handles for a variety of uses in different environments. For more info: (281) 855-8800, [www.hoffners.com](http://www.hoffners.com)



### **HANDALL BEAVERTAIL GRIP SLEEVES** **FOR GLOCK 17** **HOGUE INC.**

Hogue has added two models to their line of precision fit *HandALL Beavertail Grip Sleeves*. Both sleeves are designed to fit the GLOCK 17, a favored pistol for LE, military and personal use around the world. One is made for GLOCK Gen 1, 2 and 5 and the second is for Gen 3 and 4. The Hogue HandALL Beavertail Grip Sleeve has a thermoplastic elastomer compound surface and is covered with Hogue's familiar Cobblestone texture, a series of small circular bumps providing a non-slip, non-irritating grip on the rubber. For more info, (800) 438-4747, [www.hogueinc.com](http://www.hogueinc.com)



### **PARA 3 LIGHTWEIGHT** **SPYDERCO INC.**

The *Para 3 Lightweight* incorporates injection-molded fiberglass-reinforced-nylon (FRN) scales, Spyderco's high-traction Bi-Directional Texture pattern and a streamlined version of Spyderco's Compression Lock mechanism. Its lightweight,

open-backed handle reduces the knife's weight by almost 30 percent compared to its G10-handled counterparts. Its full-flat-ground, almost-3" blade is crafted from CTS BD1N, a nitrogen-enriched high-carbon chromium steel offering a balance of hardness, edge retention and corrosion resistance. For more info: (800) 525-7770, [www.spyderco.com](http://www.spyderco.com)



# PPQ SC LE PACKAGE

According to Walther Arms, you “carry the advantage” with the *PPQ Sub-Compact*. The polymer striker-fired, self-defense handgun certainly has superior features that are the cornerstones of the PPQ platform. Among these are an ergonomic design and a smooth single-action trigger. The PPQ SC offers everything in Walther Arms’ Legendary PPQ line but in a smaller package. With two drop safeties and a firing pin block, the PPQ SC is accurate and concealable, comfortable and controllable. It has a Picatinny accessory rail, front and rear slide serrations, a compact grip and 3-dot combat sights. Interchangeable back straps allow the user to customize fit. A Tenifer coating with matte finish on the slide and barrel resists corrosion. If you win this giveaway, you will get the LE Edition of the PPQ Sub-Compact that comes with Phosphoric Night Sights and an extra magazine with a pinky extension.

Emerson’s *La Griffe* is simple, bare and to the point. The knife features a small but sturdy 1.75" blade made of 154

CM with a stone washed or black Cerakote finish. The blade ends in a finger hole so the user can hold it in a comfortable grip. True to its name, the La Griffe can serve as a claw when needed.

Protect your eyes from glare and distortion while looking sharp! It’s possible with the *Wiley X Nash Pol Green Plat Flash/Kryptek Altitude Frame*. It features Wiley X’s scratch-resistant and anti-fog coated Selenite polycarbonate lenses and Kryptek-patterned frame designed for extreme environments.

In case you ever have to use your PPQ Sub-Compact LE for self-defense — that is, if you win — you’re covered because you also get a *One-Year Membership* to the Armed Citizens’ Legal Defense Network. Membership includes access to legal advice and expenses after a self-defense incident.

You can carry the Walther Arms’ advantage. But you have to win first! Go to [www.gunsmagazine.com/giveaways](http://www.gunsmagazine.com/giveaways) or just send a postcard! —Jazz Jimenez



## NASH POL GREEN PLAT FLASH/KRYPTEK ALTITUDE FRAME

**MAKER:** Wiley X Inc.  
(800) 776-7842  
[www.wileyx.com](http://www.wileyx.com)  
Value: \$140



## LA GRIFFE

**MAKER:** Emerson Knives  
(310) 539-5633  
[www.emersonknives.com](http://www.emersonknives.com)  
Value: \$129.95



If you are unable to enter online, mail a postcard with your name and address (no envelopes please) to *GUNS Magazine*, GOM July 2019, P.O. Box 502795, San Diego, CA, 92150-2795. Entries must be received before July 31, 2019. Limit one entry per household.

WINNERS CHOSEN BY RANDOM DRAWING. Limit one entry per household. To protect the privacy and security of winners, their names will NOT be made public. Contest void where prohibited by law. Winners must undergo a background check and comply with all other federal, state and local laws. Taxes and fees will be the responsibility of the winner. Contest open to U.S. residents only. Employees and agents of Publishers’ Development Corp. are not eligible. No purchase necessary. Winners will be notified by certified mail on official letterhead. Attention deployed military: Use stateside address! Giveaway guns and accessories may have evidence of being test fired or exhibit minor handling marks. Factory warranties may apply in some cases. The Gun of the Month package is awarded only to the entrant drawn and will not be awarded if the firearm presented is illegal in the jurisdiction of the winner. An alternate, authorized winner will be selected. No substitutions or transfers to a third party are allowed.



# **GUNS**<sup>®</sup> MAGAZINE **GIVEAWAY!**



Submit your entry online:  
[www.gunsmagazine.com/giveaways](http://www.gunsmagazine.com/giveaways)

# **ENTER TO WIN**

**TOTAL VALUE:  
\$1,103.95**

## **PPQ SUB-COMPACT LE**

**MAKER:** Walther Arms  
(479) 242-8500  
**CALIBER:** 9mm, **CAPACITY:** 10/15  
**BARREL LENGTH:** 3.5"  
**OAL:** 6.6", **WEIGHT:** 21.2 oz.  
[www.waltherarms.com](http://www.waltherarms.com)  
**VALUE:** \$699



*Armed  
Citizens'*  
**LEGAL DEFENSE  
NETWORK, INC.**

## **ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP**

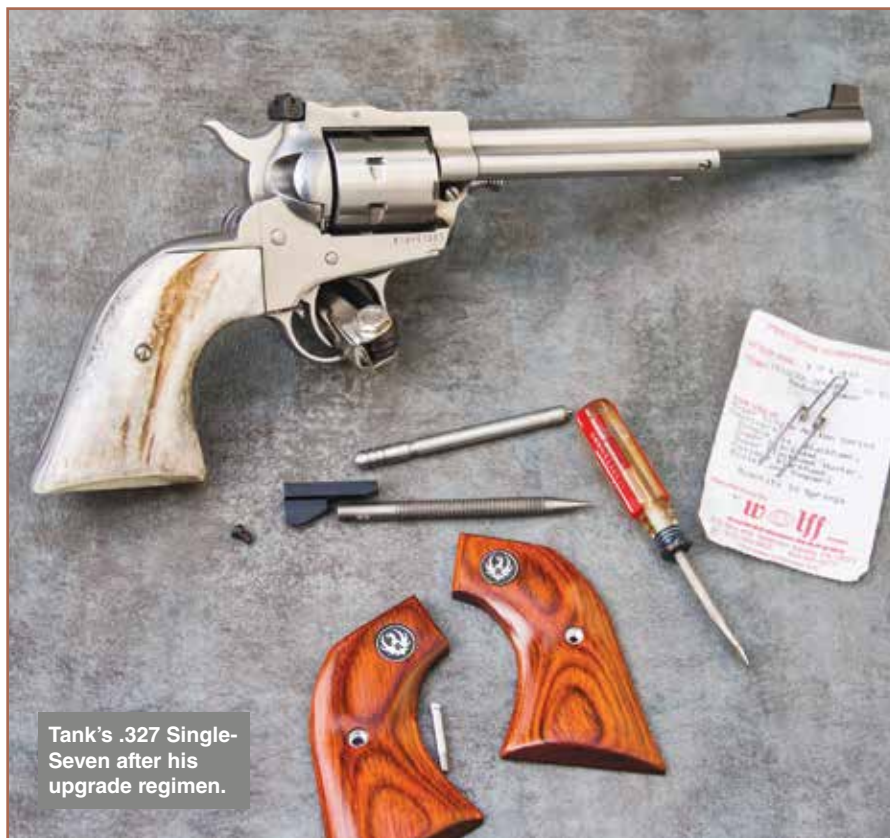
American Citizens'  
Defense Network Inc.  
(360) 978 5200  
[www.armedcitizensnetwork.org](http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org)  
**VALUE:** \$135

## RUGER SA SPRUCE-UP EASY UPGRADES FOR AESTHETICS, SHOOTABILITY

We all have our favorite shooters — you know, the ones we keep handy and holstered, ready to shoot at a moment's notice. After years and thousands of rounds later, sometimes they've earned the right to get a spruce-up or a sixgun "spa day" of sorts.

Or perhaps you just bought a factory-new blaster and want to add some personal touches to make it look and perform like "your" gun. Let me walk you through the simple steps to customize a Ruger Single-Six/Seven.

We *could* send ol' Betsy off to a custom gunsmith for a full-fledged treatment but I'm going to show you the easy, do-it-yourself way to spruce up your single-six and maybe even make it shoot a tad better.



Tank's .327 Single-Seven after his upgrade regimen.





## STOCK ANSWER

Nothing is easier, or makes more of an impression than some nice sixgun stocks. You have your choice of stag, exhibition grade walnut, antler/bone from various critters or anything else that suits your fancy.

I like to make mine every now and then. For this project I went with some elk antler stocks I made. Nothing gives a warmer feeling than antler, especially for outdoorsmen.

This particular set was one of my first so don't laugh too hard at them. They feel good in my hand and I've come a long way since then. Regardless, I don't think Roy Fishpaw has anything to worry about — but, I just like doing things myself sometimes.

## BASE PIN BASICS

Certain parts can easily be changed out for looks or performance. For instance, aftermarket cylinder base pins can both increase performance and fancy up your gun.

A Belt Mountain No. 5 base pin will tighten your cylinder up and add the stylish good looks of Elmer Keith's easy-to-grab, hourglass shaped base-pin head. This is as simple and easy as it gets for a quick swap-out!

## UP FRONT

The front sight is probably the most vital part of a handgun as it's the key element of our sight picture. Too short and we'll be shooting mighty high, while too tall can at least be remedied with a file.

Fermin Garza has just the solution. His custom front sights are indeed custom. He'll adjust the width and height to your specifications and he also offers light deflecting serrated faces to keep your sight picture "picture perfect."

All it takes is the removal of a single screw to mount a custom front sight onto your shooter. Fermin uses hex-head replacement screws for those with trouble operating a screwdriver. I really appreciated the custom looks of the hex-head.

## SPRING FLING

Swapping out the trigger spring is a simple operation on a Ruger single action. Since we have the stocks off, we may as well swap the trigger spring out. All we have to do is drift out the retaining pin, yank out the factory spring and squeeze a lighter Wolff spring in its place.



The trigger spring retaining pin — drift it out, yank the factory spring and replace with a Wolff spring. Your trigger finger will thank you.



An oversized Belt Mountain base pin will tighten up your cylinder.



Fermin Garza's custom front sight gives your sixgun a truly custom look.

If you want, we can even remove the main spring hammer strut, remove the spring and polish it up a bit, to smooth-up the cocking of the hammer. It's really easy, I promise.

With the gun cocked, simply place a small nail in the hole at the bottom of the strut. Release the tension by pulling the trigger and finagle the coiled whipper-snapper out of the frame.

The tricky part is unleashing this dastardly spring when removing the slave pin — use a vise and be careful. Once the hammer spring is off, go to town on the strut with a file and emery cloth. It's a cast part and has a seam and other rough areas on it. Once polished, it will make cocking your hammer a pleasure.

Replace the hammer spring on the strut and put 'er back.

These little spruce-ups work wonders for your guns. They're fun, easy to do and give you a sense of satisfaction of doing it yourself.

[www.ruger.com](http://www.ruger.com)  
[www.beltmountain.com](http://www.beltmountain.com)  
[www.gunsprings.com](http://www.gunsprings.com)



Get our latest



**SPECIAL EDITIONS**

for \$12.95  
each! Order  
online today!

**fmgpubs.com**

Toll Free: 1-866-820-4045

or by mail,

P.O. Box 502610

San Diego, CA 92150-2610

ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE
Adcosales Store . . . . .	71	Frontier Gunleather . . . . .	69	Remington Firearms . . . . .	19
American Handgunner		Gary Reeder Custom Guns . .	71	Ruger . . . . .	91
Subscription . . . . .	53, 67	GlockStore . . . . .	25	SB Tactical . . . . .	11
Armed Citizens Legal		GUNS Magazine		Sierra Bullets. . . . .	13
Defense Network Inc. . . . .	20	Subscription . . . . .	65, 79	SIG SAUER . . . . .	9
Arm Scor/		HiViz Shooting Systems . . .	26	Skinner Sights LLC . . . . .	77
Rock Island Armory. . . . .	23	Hogue Inc. . . . .	29	Smith & Wesson. . . . .	7
Benelli USA. . . . .	5	HSS Corp. . . . .	78	Spartan Blades USA . . . . .	71
Bravo Company USA. . . . .	2	Kimber . . . . .	27	Springfield Armory . . . . .	92
Capstone Precision Group . .	16	Kirkpatrick Leather Co. . . . .	77	TangoDown. . . . .	73
Cimarron Firearms Co. . . . .	31	Luth-AR . . . . .	37	Taurus International	
Dan Wesson Firearms. . . . .	22	Lyman Products Corp. . . . .	70	Mfg. Inc. . . . .	74
Federal Premium		MTM Case-Gard . . . . .	38	TOPS KNIVES . . . . .	52
Ammunition. . . . .	3	NIC Industries. . . . .	26	Turnbull Mfg. . . . .	75
Fiocchi Ammunition . . . . .	17	North American Arms . . . . .	40	Walther Arms . . . . .	39
FMG Special Editions . . . . .	61	O.F. Mossberg & Sons . . . . .	15		
FN America LLC . . . . .	21	ProMag Industries . . . . .	41		





## CAMPFIRE TALES

continued from page 90

*the 1905 Model Smith & Wesson .38 Special military revolver, one which I hold in my experienced point of view is the very elite of revolvers. I have shot it many times in all kinds of weather and at all kinds of things and never found it asleep (so to speak). It is the finest all-around arm for either target or hunting larger small game. I can shoot with it just as well as with a rifle, and for game up to deer I much prefer it. I like a single action revolver for common, everyday hunting and target shooting, for the trigger pull is much softer and one is not so apt to pull the sights off. But there comes a time in most big-game hunters' lives when they have to pump them in again at short range or never see home again. Then I say the double-action is just the thing."*

Not too many of today's handgunners would agree with this writer's claim the .38 Special kills as well as a big bore:

*"I have three revolvers — one .38 Colt Double Action, one .38 Colt Single Action, 1871 Model and a .32 Colt New Police. For target practice I like the old SA 7-1/2" barrel the best. But for toting round the Double-Action .38 is my gun. For game, from wild goats to cattle, it can't be beat, I use the S&W Special cartridge and gun and find it kills as well as a .44 or a .45. But for smaller game it is no good. I shot a quail the other day and had some skin and feathers left — the bullet took the rest."*

Here we have a vote for something other than the .38 Special, but with certain barrel length stipulations:

*"If I expected to pack a heavy revolver, a .44 over .45, I would pick a model with its barrel under 6" in length. Very long barrels are either not convenient or fast on these guns. The only place I would consider using a 7-1/2" barrel would be at target shooting where the drawing and firing is deliberate, when time is no object. A Colt New Service .45, for instance, with a 7-1/2" barrel, is quite clumsy even when carried in the big Mexican holster. The 5-1/2" length handles so much easier I would buy nothing longer on a big bore handgun."*

Then we have a reader who goes the opposite direction and prefers a smaller caliber:

*"The .32-20 is above the class of the*

**Shooters in the early 1900s held almost mystical regard for the .38 S&W Special.**



**The S&W .32-20 M&P was a very popular DA revolver prior to WWI.**



*common .32 S&W and .32 autos. It has as much shocking power as the .38 Special, although its ballistic energy and foot-pounds does not figure as large. Its velocity is high for a revolver and still it carries up substantial weight of lead. Colt makes a good .32-20 model which with a 4" barrel weighs but 22 oz., and has a total length of only 8-1/2". This length is about the limit for convenient pocket guns. I do not care to try and get anything longer in my pocket. Longer guns call for a belt holster."*

There is a lot of discussion today on what makes the best pocket pistol. In the first decade of the 1900s there wasn't much choice:

*"Smith & Wesson offers a splendid pocket weapon in the Safety Hammerless model shooting the .38 New Police load. This is a gun that has always enjoyed a heavy sale in spite of the fact we seldom ever see it mentioned in print. Without any hesitation I am glad to give it preference as the best strictly pocket revolver we have for self-defense purposes. The .38 New Police load is not perhaps ideal from the point of stopping power, but it is much superior to the .32 revolver loads and the .380 autos. This is not a target gun or a target load, but still some fair groups can be fired with*

*it after some practice. You must accustom yourself to take up the slack in the trigger and force the cylinder around and firing the same and then let the hammer off with a final squeeze. Double-action guns can be fired almost as fast as automatics. Incidentally the Safety Hammerless was the first gun produced with the grip safety."*

Another vote for the Safety Hammerless: *"First in our list for a pocket self-defense guns stands the .38 S&W Safety Hammerless with 3-1/4" barrel. Next in line I would place the Colt 4" .32-20 Police Positive Special."*

Here is a fellow who really likes .32s and today would probably be highly in favor of the .32 Magnum and .327 Magnum:

*"My recommendation for a small game belt gun to be used in big-game country where small game is easier killed than it is in a strictly small game country, is either a Colt or a Smith & Wesson with a 6" barrel and target sights, chambered to shoot the .32 S&W Long cartridge. Here is a load that shoots very easily without recoil and undue noise and it will kill any small game. The trapper feels justified in using a hand gun and it is pretty accurate — a number of target shooting enthusiasts to the contrary."*



John shoots the most powerful DA revolver available in 1906 — the Colt New Service in .45 Colt.

## VOICES FROM THE PAST PART II: THE DOUBLE-ACTION REVOLVER

Last month we looked at thoughts on semi-auto pistols made five generations ago or so. Now as we turn to double-action revolvers we need to set the stage. The .38 S&W Military & Police had been around for about five years and I find it somewhat amazing this relatively new cartridge and sixgun were held in such high esteem (as was the Colt version). The big-bore Colt New Service was also available by this time, but most shooters opted for the smaller framed .38 Specials from S&W and Colt. Again, remember these comments — culled from the pages of *Outdoor Recreation* magazine — date back to 1906!

*"I have a few words to say in regard to the .38 Special. I am the happy owner of a .38 Military Model Smith & Wesson revolver with a 5" barrel, and I have yet to see a revolver that will excel it in accuracy or penetration. I have several times shot it through the 4" side of a 2x4 post and I do not know where it went after passing through this. A pistol that will go through 4" of our Georgia pine I believe will meet the requirements of what a pistol is used for."*

Apparently this shooter sees the only use for a pistol is up close for self-defense:

*"Now there are few improvements that can be made on the Smith & Wesson*

*Military Model .38 Special. Make it with the old Army Model Colt grip, single action, with less sweep to the hammer than we have on the old Army model and with by all means an upfront cylinder lock, but please don't pay any attention what these different pistol cranks are saying in regard to fancy sights. The proper way to shoot a pistol is without any sights."*

Here's quite a contrast from the previous reader who says the proper way to shoot a revolver is without sights. I think this one is right on the money:

*"I feel as if something should be said in defense of the so-called fancy sights. The sights I prefer are known as the Patridge sights. They are preferred by Mr. E.E. Patridge of Boston, MA one of the finest revolver shots in the United States. The work Mr. Patridge has done with them is sufficient to prove their merit as target sights. They are especially adapted to the .38 Smith & Wesson Special and can be obtained from the Smith & Wesson Company. These sights are far ahead of the ordinary factory sight, under all conditions, where any kind of a sight is needed. Now, with regard to the fear, expressed by some that target sights would be knocked out of alignment by carrying your revolver on the hip or by other rough situations, I can say, safely, they will stand as much abuse as the factory sights."*

I find this very interesting since it not only recommends the .38 Special Smith & Wesson for big game hunting but it also recommends being able to shoot the loads very quickly up close:

*"I have used many kinds and makes of revolvers, from the old muzzleloader up to*



The S&W Safety Hammerless was available in .32 S&W or .38 S&W; the latter was a better choice.

continued on page 89



# EDC

NOW STANDS FOR  
**EVERYDAY CHOICES**

The **Ruger® EC9s™** comes with no gimmicks, rebates or mail-in offers for gift cards... just the rugged, reliability of the striker-fired LC9s®, now with integral sights and a no-hassle price point that won't break the bank.

The **Ruger® Security-9®** is an affordable, rugged, mid-sized pistol that provides everyday security in the perfect caliber, size and price point.

**WHY CHOOSE BETWEEN THEM  
WHEN YOU CAN HAVE BOTH?**



**RUGER.COM**



© 2018 Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc. 011118

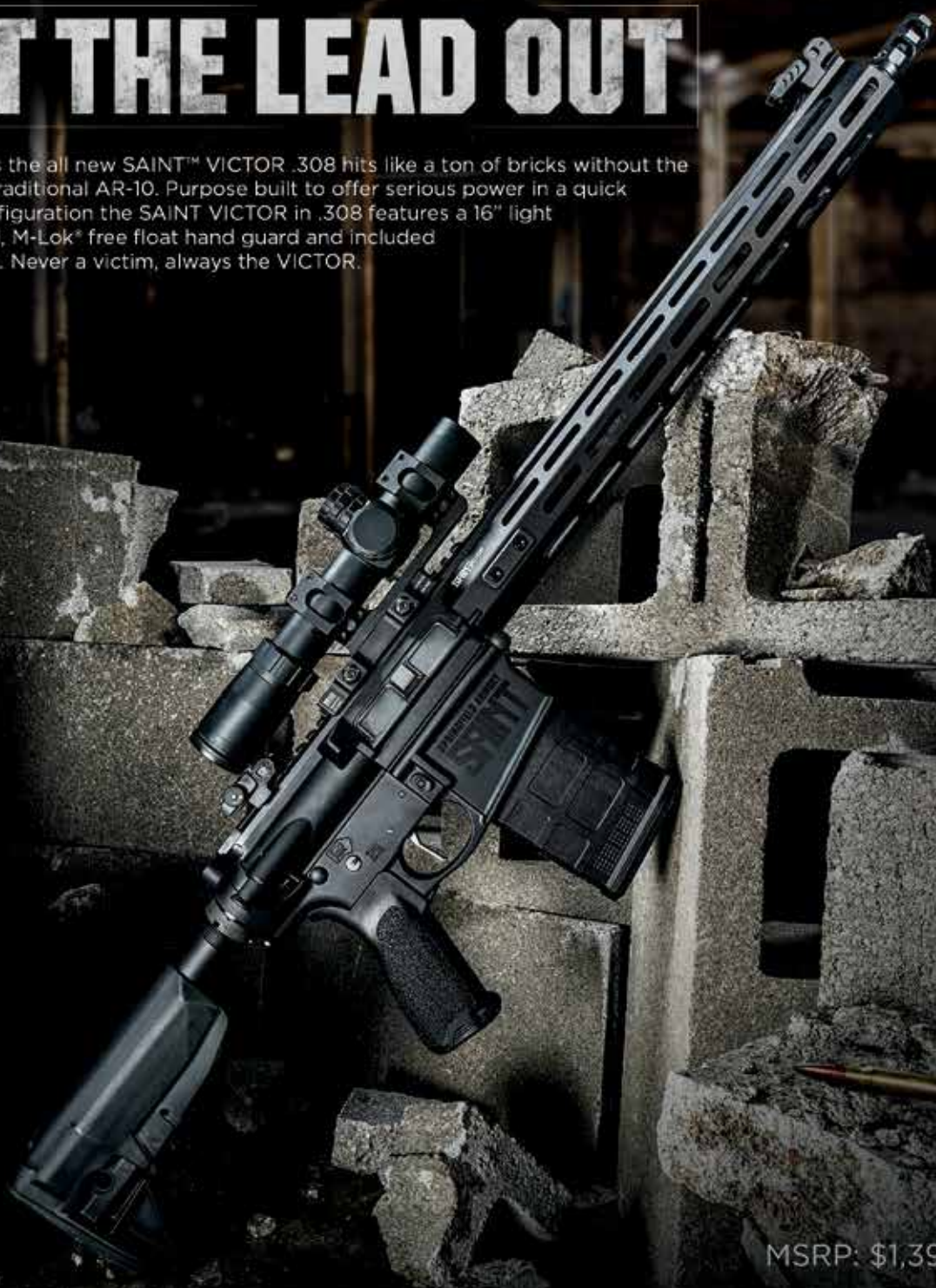


# SAINT VICTOR

NOW AVAILABLE IN .308

## GET THE LEAD OUT

At just 7.8 lbs the all new SAINT™ VICTOR .308 hits like a ton of bricks without the weight of a traditional AR-10. Purpose built to offer serious power in a quick handling configuration the SAINT VICTOR in .308 features a 16" light weight barrel, M-Lok® free float hand guard and included flip-up sights. Never a victim, always the VICTOR.



MSRP: \$1,399

[SAINTVICTOR308.COM](http://SAINTVICTOR308.COM)

**SPRINGFIELD ARMORY**  
DEFEND YOUR LEGACY.