



GUNNEWS

M A G A Z I N E

JUNE 2020

VOL. 29 - #06

Collecting in a Time of Isolation



- **Buying & Selling Without a Show** •
 - ★ Finding a Local FFL
 - ★ Using a C&R License
 - ★ FREE GunNews ads
 - ★ Building a Display
 - ★ Maintaining Your Collection

Coronavirus Cancellations Likely - Check the website before traveling

JUNE 27 & 28 — **CANCELLED** — PUYALLUP/PAV.
JULY 18 & 19 ————— GRAYS HARBOR - Elma, WA
JULY 25 & 26 ————— MONROE

ALL Show Hours: 7:30 am for Table Holders - 9:00 am for Members & Visitors each day
CALL 425-255-8410 for INFORMATION & DIRECTIONS



JUNE 2020

The *GunNews* is the official monthly publication of the Washington Arms Collectors, an NRA-affiliated organization located at 1006 Fryar Ave, Bldg D, Sumner, WA 98390. Subscription is by membership only and \$15 per year of membership dues goes for subscription to the magazine.

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Columns & News

- 4 Legislation & Politics—Joe Waldron
- 19 Straight From the Holster—JT Hilsendeger
- 22 Short Rounds

Features

- 7 Collecting in a Time of Isolation—Editor
- 8 Bavaria's Lightning Rifle—Lawrence Talbott
- 16 Brand X Collectibles—Tom Burke

For Collectors

- 24 Wanted: Dead or Alive
- 32 Show Calendar

Member Resources

- 28 Board Minutes
- 30 Member Info

Cover—We can't gather at our shows but we certainly can continue our enthusiasm for firearms & collecting.

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The WAC is affiliated
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Renewal Notice—

This notice is not for all, just for those who have not received a magazine for a few months and whose membership has expired

We are sending this issue of the GunNews to all members and also those who have not renewed in the last year. This is a reminder to stay with us and renew your membership so that you receive the magazine and notice of new shows scheduled. The easiest process is to go to **washingtonarmscollectors.org** and do this online. Or use these forms or call the office and leave a message (someone will call you back and take credit card payment over the phone).

Initiation (New and Renew)			
		M.I.:	Mem#:
State:	Zip:	Phone#	
DL# Drivers License#			Exp. Date:
CPL# Concealed Pistol License			Exp. Date:
CHECK PAYMENT TYPE	New and Expired Members, if you do not have a current CPL or FFL, add an additional \$15.00 for the Initiation Fee which includes a Washington State Patrol background check.		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Donation <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Donation <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Donation			Total Amount:
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I verify the accuracy of the preceding statements and do hereby sponsor and endorse the applicant for Membership in the Washington Arms Collectors	
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Stay With Us During the Covid-19 Lockdown

Legislation & Politics



Joe Waldron
Legislative Chairman

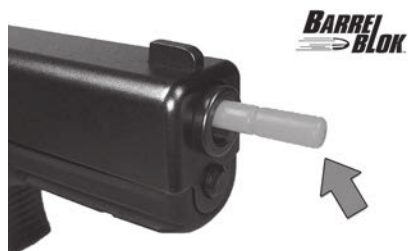
FIREARM SALES REMAIN UP

According to information from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, America's gun industry daddy-rabbit, firearm sales in April continued on a record-setting pace, rising 71% higher than in April 2019. There were 1,797,910 NICS (National Instant Criminal Background Check System) checks during the month – almost all for firearm transfers.

This follows 2,583,000 sales in March as I reported last month, up 85% from the previous March. Keep in mind March and April are the months when most income tax refund checks are received! Plus the CARES Act C-19 \$1,200 stimulus checks were deposited in most taxpayers accounts on or about 15 April. It's good to see gun owners (and new gun owners) support the industry – one of the few bright spots in today's economy.

Apparently the NICS system, run by the FBI, is getting overwhelmed with the surge, and background check results are being delayed beyond the statutory three days in many cases. The FBI has asked FFLs to withhold delivery until the check comes back approved, despite the fact that the law allows delivery if no response is received within three business days. Your call, FFL.

Remember also what I suggested last month for new and inexperienced gun owners: Take them to the range or just sit down at the kitchen or workshop table with them and go over gun safety issues. And no live ammo in the room when you do this! (*Editor's note: If you do this anyplace other than a range, use a chamber-blocking safety device such as the "Barrel*



**Easy-To-See
Safety Indicator**

Clearly see that your handgun
is safe for training.

Blok" which inserts from the chamber and provides a safety flag at the muzzle.)

CANADA MURDER SPREE

A 51 year old Canadian man went on a killing spree in late April in Nova Scotia, killing fourteen people using several firearms and killing nine more in house fires. The man was dressed in an RCMP uniform and drove a vehicle resembling an RCMP vehicle. According to media reports, the man, who was shot and killed by real police, had in his possession several semi-auto handguns and two semi-auto rifles, one of which was described as an "assault weapon." Media also claims he bought some of the guns across the border in the US. No motive given at this writing.

Canada's reaction? Prime Minister Justin Trudeau published an executive order banning possession, sale, etc of a list of 1,500 firearms deemed "military-style assault rifles." Canadians have two years to turn them in to the government, with compensation yet to be determined. No consultation with Parliament. No new law passed. Just, "I said so. These guns are banned. Details to follow." I'll bet Dianne Feinstein wishes she was a Prime Minister rather than a lowly Senatrix.

A friend in Canada told me the ban also includes all 10 and 12 gauge shotguns, although I can't confirm that.

MAIL IN BALLOTING

(What's this got to do with guns? If you don't know, it's too late for you.)

Dems are pushing mail-in balloting nationwide, citing C-19 (coronavirus/covid-19), although it's been a Democrat goal for decades (Washington went full mail in balloting nearly 15 years ago – Republicans haven't held control since). Along with their other favorite balloting issue – restoring felons' voting rights immediately upon release from incarceration and before any required restitution has been made.

Remember those bags of ballots found in Seattle after the 2000 gubernatorial election. You remember, the one that Republican Dino Rossi won, then won again on a mandatory recount. And then the Democrats paid for a second recount... and guess who won that one?

There was criticism of Wisconsin's primary election held in early April because of C-19 exposure concerns – and several tubs of mail-in ballots were found several weeks AFTER the election.

Recent news reports reveal that more than 58 MILLION mail in ballots went missing during the last four general elections (2012-2018). Voter fraud or

voter suppression? We'll never know, just as millions more registered voters failed to visit the polls in the same election cycles to cast their votes. Unlike some other countries, the US does not make voting mandatory, and sadly many Americans choose to not exercise that fundamental civil right. And there are a lot of gun owners that don't vote either by mail-in or in-person. Shame on all of them!

That being said, fraud with mail-in balloting is still more easily accomplished than by in-person voting. Intercepted ballots, delivery to the wrong address or person, no ID required, etc.

Over the past several months the US Postal Service has been crying for more federal funding, threatening a collapse of the system. Interesting in a critical election year, where mail-in balloting is getting more attention with stay-at-home orders in states across the country. The outcome of not just the presidential election, but Congressional elections this year will likely depend on turn-out by mail-in voters. And Washingtonians don't have a choice. But Washington is the only state of several that PROVIDES FREE POSTAGE FOR BALLOTS. There is NO EXCUSE for not voting.

NEW GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

Back to guns. More than 100 gun bills were filed in D.C. since January 2019, mostly bad bills. Few have received any attention, much less movement, as the Democrat House has focused on running President Trump out of office and the Republican Senate has been fighting defense, more or less. Given split control of Congress, it is unlikely that any gun bills will move in the remaining seven months of the session.

The big new bill, introduced on 30 January but overshadowed by events, is H.R. 5717 by Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) – the same Hank Johnson that expressed fears that the island of Guam would capsize if more Marines were transferred there. Among other things, H.R. 5717:

- generally requires individuals to obtain a license to purchase, acquire, or possess a firearm or ammunition;
- raises the minimum age—from 18 years to 21 years—to purchase firearms and ammunition;
- establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties;
- requires law enforcement agencies to be notified following a firearms-related background check that results in a denial;
- creates a statutory process for a family or household member to petition a court for an extreme risk

- protection order to remove firearms from an individual who poses a risk of committing violence;
- restricts the import, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices;
- restricts the manufacture, sale, transfer, purchase, or receipt of ghost guns (i.e., guns without serial numbers);
- makes trafficking in firearms a stand-alone criminal offense;
- requires federally licensed gun dealers to submit and annually certify compliance with a security plan to detect and deter firearm theft;
- removes limitations on the civil liability of gun manufacturers;
- allows the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue safety standards for firearms and firearm components;
- establishes a community violence intervention grant program; and
- promotes research on firearms safety and gun violence prevention.

That's quite a full basket! The good news: it's DOA – dead on arrival – barring some crazy shooting incident where a handful of those measures fit. It only has 18 co-sponsors, all Democrats, most of whom are “the usual suspects.”

If there is a good thing about H.R. 5717, it's a flashing red warning to all gun owners of where they want to go in the gun control arena **IF THEY TAKE OVER CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE**. Forewarned is forearmed..

ELECTION 2020

President Trump has handily swept every Republican primary to date. He **WILL** be the Republican nominee (unless Democrats succeed in a second impeachment attempt – they were threatening that in early May).

The mainstream media is going out of its way to ensure that President Trump gets the blame for the response to C-19, good or bad, fast or slow. Never mind the fact that China had a role to play, including late reporting (evidence today shows it was going around some places, even in Europe, as early as November) and the fact that until mid-January China denied it was contagious.

Dems criticize Trump for his alleged slow start to the C-19 crisis, totally ignoring the fact that he was somewhat preoccupied in January with the trumped-up (can I say that?) impeachment trial. Coming on the heels of the Russia collusion investigation, which turned up no collusion, unless it was between the DNC and the “Russia dossier.” Congressional leaders get intelligence briefings, too. Maybe they were focused on the wrong thing? The Senate and House

Intelligence Committee chairs get a copy of the President's Daily Brief, the same thing the president gets from the Director of National Intelligence. If the president should have known, they should have known as well. Impeachment myopia.

The Democrat nominating convention will be held in Milwaukee in mid-July... oops, August. Blame C-19. And what form it will take remains to be seen, with social distancing the order of the day.

The eventual Democrat nominee will have to get 1,991 delegate votes on the first ballot to win the nomination. At this time (early May, a handful of primaries left to play), former VP and Senator Joe Biden has 1,435 committed delegates, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders 964. About 200 "other" candidates have committed delegates. Keep in mind, most delegates are free to "vote their conscience" after the first ballot count.

Biden is certainly ahead as I write this, but he's also facing some problems. He appears to be confused in some of his public appearances, misnaming his location or who is on the stage with him. Remember Joe is 77, will turn 78 just after election day. And Bernie is already 78. Then there's former aide/intern Tara Reade. Can you say "Monica Lewinsky?" Except that anything that happened between Bill Clinton and Monica was consensual. Ms. Reade claims what Biden did to her was anything but consensual. The media appear to be keeping as far away from this as they can!

So if Biden withdraws (not likely) or is forced to withdraw, and Sanders is considered far too leftist by mainstream Democrats, who? Polling at this point indicates NY Governor Andrew Cuomo tops the list, after his C-19 media blitz, followed by Hillary What's-her-name, and then California Governor Gavin Newsom. The liberal chattering heads have also speculated on another Obama on the ticket – Michelle Obama, either for VP or the big one, president. To show how strange things are getting in this age of coronavirus, some are even talking about Barack Obama running as a VP candidate, although on the surface that would appear to violate the 22nd Amendment's two-term limit. Lock enough liberal lawyers in a smoke-filled room and they'll figure out a way.

VOTER REGISTRATION

It's not too early to take a look at your voter registration card and ensure that all is up-to-date. Remember, you only get a mail-in ballot. Is your mailing address correct? Have you moved and as a result changed districts? That won't matter for the presidential or statewide elections, but will make a

difference for legislative (House & Senate) elections. Any family members just turn 18? How about your co-workers? Shooting or hunting buddies? Are they current?

At risk of repeating myself, this is likely the most critical election of our lifetimes. It's not a privilege to vote, it's a DUTY, a responsibility.

All of the how-to's of voter registration, including on-line registration, are available at <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/voter.html>.

PRISONER RELEASE

We have witnessed the incredibly high death rate that can occur with C-19 in an enclosed environment like a nursing home. Nursing home residents are vulnerable in several ways: close living conditions, age, frequently "underlying (medical) conditions," etc. And in many cases they're a captive audience, with no alternative living options.

Arguably the same can be said for jails and prisons and the individuals living there. To a degree. As a general rule, age and underlying conditions can – or should – be ruled out. And keeping a confined place like that clean shouldn't be a problem with plenty of idle hands sitting around.

But all across the country we're seen prisoners, many of them convicted of violent crimes or hard core perverts (molesters), released to "protect them from C-19." What about protecting society?

With rare exceptions, the reason they are incarcerated is their own fault, their own behavior. Why should they be released to prey on society... again? They're proven predators in most cases.

Those incarcerated for minor, non-violent offenses? Sure, the threat they pose is limited at best. Maybe they should be released. But all across the country we're seeing murderers, rapists, child molesters, etc, released without controls. And many have re-offended...almost immediately.

Incredibly, not in Washington. At least, not yet. The state Supreme Court, on a 5-4 vote, refused to release thousands of incarcerated inmates. How long the court will hold firm remains to be seen, given what is happening in several other states. Even CNN is calling for the release of prisoners.

Is your home defense gun available and ready if you need it? Your carry gun? It wouldn't hurt to review the rules of when you can or can't shoot, too. Remember the golden rule: IDOL – in defense of life.

-GN-

Collecting In a Time of Isolation

Phil Shave, Editor

It's disappointing to publish yet another magazine with event cancellations and no assurance that future dates for shows are valid. We are working almost day-to-day with re-scheduling events with our fairground venues. Perhaps you've seen the Governor's phases for allowing businesses and gatherings to open. Because of the size of our shows and the fact that they will attract both members and the public, my best guess is that our shows will fall into Phase IV. When? Who knows, but it is likely that no large events will be held until at least July. What can we do in the meantime?

•**Buy & sell through the *GunNews* magazine.** Ads are free to members and reach the right group of people. And people are stuck at home, many of them shopping online. You are likely to find ready buyers. Price things reasonably and they sell. Sometimes I see ads repeated over and over with prices so high that one might as well buy new. Other times, items are gone within hours of the magazine being delivered.

•**Apply for your C&R.** With your own C&R license you can buy and sell firearms that are over 50 years age without needing to go to a class 7 dealer. Since most storefront shops are still closed, this is one of the easiest ways to transfer collectible firearms. The license only costs \$30.

•**Find a local FFL. Or a WAC FFL,** someone who transfers at the shows. Even during the lockdown, many of these licensees are doing transfers. Just because the doors aren't open doesn't mean you can't make a phone call, set up an appointment and use all the recommended health precautions during a person-to-person transfer.

•**If you are an FFL then call the WAC!** We'll start a list of FFL's willing to conduct transfers and I'll publish it here and our office staff will have the list so they can give you info when you phone.

•**Plan for the Display Show.** Take this "down" time to plan and work on your display for the October 2020 Display Show. This is a great time to work on descriptive and historical research for your display firearms. Organize, focus your topic, print out the placards and info sheets.

•**Inventory and Maintain your firearms.** We've all experienced the annoyance of taking a firearm out of storage only to find that there are rust spots on the finish. This may happen even if we RIG the guns with preservative and keep a Goldenrod in the safe. That small rust spot can take a 100% gun and drop the value dramatically. How many of your firearms show lead streaks in the bore? Or copper fouling. We have the time at home now and it can be a pleasure to go through the collection doing maintenance. Go through your paper and digital firearm records and update them to show recent work. Back up the digital records with both paper and hard drive redundancy; same with paper--keep it in a couple of locations. Add manufacture dates as this is important for C&R transfers. Note acquisitions that are pre-594 and those that are unregistered legal private purchases--this could be important.

•**Go Shoot!** Most ranges are now open again and there's no reason to avoid the range if you practice social distancing; quit hugging your shooting buddies.

-GN-

Bavaria's Lightning Rifle

—The Werder Model 1869 By Lawrence Talbott, WAC



Above—The Bavarian Werder M1869. An original model chambered for 11x50R Werder (top) and an M1869 *aptierte* chambered for 11x60R Mauser (bottom).

The year was 1869 and the Kingdom of Bavaria was searching for a new rifle. At this time “Germany” referred not to a nation state, but rather to a German-speaking, geographical region of central Europe, divided at the end of the Napoleonic Wars into 35 independent duchies, grand duchies, electorates and free cities. Bavaria, located in southern Germany between Austria, France and Switzerland, was one of four kingdoms in the region, and one of the largest of the German states in terms of population and area. First, some background on why Bavaria would need a modern rifle.

Bismark Leads Prussia in the March to German Unification

The major powers in the region, however, were the Austrian Empire and the Kingdom of Prussia. The Austrian Empire (Austro-Hungarian Empire after 1866) comprised not only Austria, but also Hungary and parts of present-day Poland, Rumania, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Italy, Czechia, and Slovakia. The multi-ethnic makeup of the Empire is illustrated by the Austrian army having nine different “languages of instruction” in peacetime. Despite this ethnic diversity, the Hapsburg Emperors of Austria, with their capitol in Vienna, laid claim to leadership in German affairs. This claim was based both on traditions dating back to medieval times, when German states elected

Austrian Hapsburg rulers as “Holy Roman Emperors,” and to the sizable armies with which they were able to intervene in German affairs.

The Kingdom of Prussia had started the 17th century as a small “electorate” based in the north German provinces of Prussia and Brandenburg, with its capitol at Berlin. Through the years Prussia gradually expanded its territory and power by a devotion to military organization and the able leadership of soldier-kings, as exemplified by Frederick the Great. Prussia was a major participant in the 1813-14 “War of Liberation” leading to the downfall of Napoleon, and partnered with the British at the 1815 Battle of Waterloo, ending Napoleon’s attempt to return to power.

Bavaria, possessing neither a strong military tradition nor able leadership, had alternated between French and Austro-Prussian alliances during the Napoleonic wars. In the 1800’s, Bavaria, although maintaining its territorial integrity and



Above— Prussian M1841 Dreyse (top) vs. Austrian M1854 Lorenz (bottom, similar to the Bavarian M1858 Podewils). A very uneven match-up, as the Bavarians found out in 1866.



Above—The Bavarian M1858/67 Podewils-Lindner, a stopgap breech-loading conversion. At left—Inset shows breech open and hammer cocked.

Right—The Werder breech, showing the cocking handle in its curved slot. The trigger guard contains both the trigger (rear lever) and the breech block release (forward lever).



possessing perhaps the third largest army of the German states, was distinctly a second-tier power caught between Austria and Prussia. This position became more precarious in the 1860's as German nationalism stimulated the desire to turn the loose confederation of German states into a unified German nation, and the concurrent desire of Prussia, under the able leadership of Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, to lead that nation.

The Prussian Breech Loading Dreyse Rifle & the Seven Week War

The first step in Bismarck's drive for unification was a joint Austro-Prussian campaign against Denmark in 1864, leading to the incorporation of the Danish ruled but ethnically German provinces of Schleswig and Holstein into the German Federation. The next step came quickly when Austria and Prussia fell out over the governance of the two provinces, leading to the Austro-Prussian War of 1866. Bavaria, mindful of the expansionist tendencies of Prussia, and, like Austria, a predominately Catholic state, allied with Austria. Bavaria mobilized 65,000 men, forming one corps of a two-corps "South German army" (contingents from Baden, Württemberg and Hesse formed the second corps).

Military observers' opinions distinctly favored the chances of the larger and more experienced Austrian army over those of the Prussian army, which had not fought a major campaign since the 1830's. Prussia, however, had adopted the Dreyse needle gun in 1841, a breech-loading rifle that could not only fire more rapidly than the muzzle-loading M1854 Austrian Lorenz rifle, but could be loaded from a kneeling or prone position. Moreover, Prussia had adopted small unit skirmish tactics to make maximum use of the Dreyse's firepower and a staff organization to employ these units to maximum advantage. Prussian forces were victorious in every battle, routinely inflicting a 5:1 casualty ratio on the Lorenz-armed Austrians, who often employed close-column Napoleonic-style assault formations against the Prussians—with disastrous results. The war was over in seven weeks, culminating in the battle of Königgratz, in which the Austrian army barely escaped encirclement, losing 66,000 men out of 215,000 engaged, with the remainder fleeing the field in a rout.

Bavaria was armed with a muzzle-loading rifled musket very similar to the Austrian Lorenz; the model 1858 Podewils rifle, designed by Bavarian General Philipp von Podewils, director of the state arsenal at Amberg. (Note—early percussion rifles were referred to as "rifled muskets"—only later did the term muskets generally refer only to smoothbores.) This was a conventional hammer-fired percussion weapon employing a 13.9 mm (.54 cal.) expanding Minie ball propelled by 4 grams of black powder. The south German theater of operations was a distinct sideshow for the Prussians, who employed minor forces to keep the South German Army in check while events were playing out in Austria. Nevertheless, the Prussians were again victorious in every encounter, inflicting an Austrian-style 5:1 casualty ratio on Bavarian forces. Bavaria sued for peace after the collapse of Austria.

The Rush to Breech Loading Conversions

The world's militaries immediately sought an explanation for the unprecedented Prussian victory, and quickly focused on the breech-loading Dreyse rifle as the answer. The world's militaries raced to rearm with breechloaders and the quickest method to do so was to adopt conversion systems for altering existing muzzle loaders. The year 1866 saw the adoption of the Wänzle system in Austria, the Snider system in England, the Allen system in the US, the Milbank-Amsler in Switzerland, and the Tabatière in France.

Bavaria opted for a conversion system designed by German-American engineer Edward Lindner. In this system, the rear of the barrel is cut off and a breech-housing is screwed onto it. A cylindrical bolt with a prominent rear handle is locked to the breech unit by a series of interrupted threads. Rotating the handle 90 degrees allows the bolt to be drawn back, exposing a chamber for the insertion of a paper-wrapped cartridge. The original lock work and external hammer remained unaltered and the cartridge was fired by means of an external percussion cap. The breech was sealed only by metal to metal contact between the bolt face and the chamber, so a sliding cover was attached to the bolt to divert any gas leakage away from the firer. There was also a safety which prevented the trigger from releasing the hammer unless the bolt was closed.



Here are two views from above of the Werder breech:

Left, top–Werder Breech with the hammer forward and the breech block lowered, ready to load .

Left, lower–with the hammer cocked and breech block raised, ready to fire.

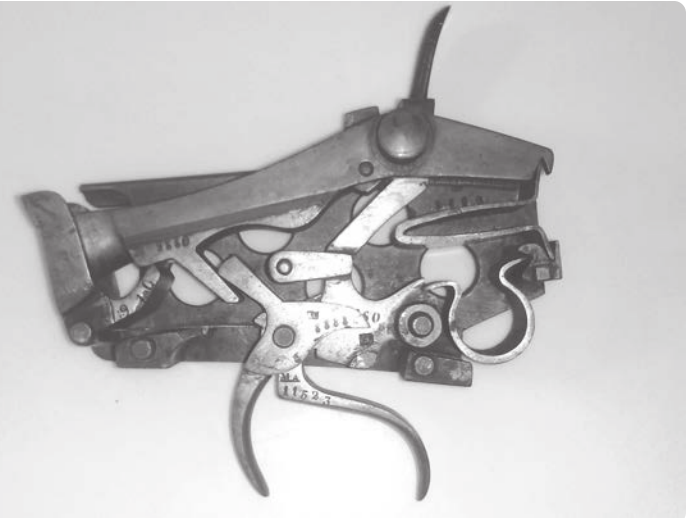


Go to page 8 for a view of the entire rifle and to page 9, for a side view of the breech.

The Werder Rifle

Troop trials were held by December of 1866, and converted rifles started being issued in May, 1867. Ultimately over 110,000 Podewils rifles underwent conversion. The Bavarian war ministry, however, recognized that the Lindner conversion was at best a stopgap solution. Desultory trials of various breech loading systems had been underway since 1864, and these now took on a new urgency. In the summer of 1868, the Bavarian war ministry began a trial of rifles submitted by Mauser, Werndl, Berdan and a native Bavarian design submitted by Johann-Ludwig Werder. Werder was the director of the Cramer-Klett Machine Works in Nürnberg and a prolific designer, whose inventions ranged from material testing machines, to steel buildings and orthopedic devices. By 1867 he had perfected a breech loading rifle and submitted the design to the rifle testing commission for evaluation.

Werder's design is based on a Peabody/Martini type of breech, in which a rectangular breech block with a firing pin running down the center is used to close the chamber. The breech block is hinged at the rear, allowing the front of the block to pivot downwards to expose the chamber for loading. Werder's rifle employed an 11mm (.43 cal.) lead bullet contained in a rimmed, centerfire brass case 50mm long containing 4.3 grams of black powder. This produced a muzzle velocity of 1263 ft./second from the rifle's 34 inch barrel. The use of brass cartridge cases was an advanced feature for its time and finally solved the question of efficiently sealing breech loading chambers against gas leakage. In Peabody/Martini designs, movement of the breech block is controlled manually by means of an underlever. Werder's innovation was to use springs to control the movement of the breech block, eliminating a long underlever in favor of two "triggers" inside the trigger guard. The firing cycle starts with the hammer forward and the breech



Above left—Werder disassembly: Removing one screw in the trigger guard allows the lockwork to be removed from the receiver.

Above right—The lock work side panel can then lifted off to allow access to the internals.

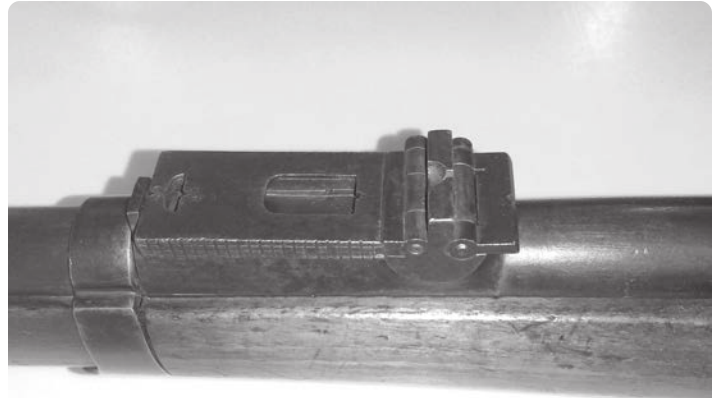
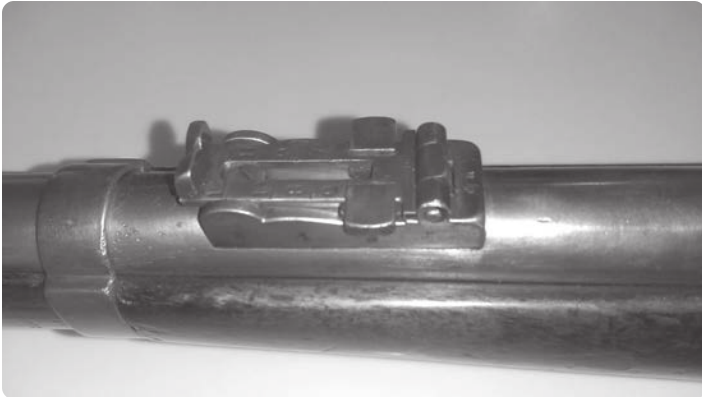
block lowered, allowing the insertion of a cartridge into the chamber. The hammer is internal, but has a prominent external handle which moves along a slot in the right side of the receiver. Pulling back on this handle cocks the hammer and simultaneously raises the breech block against spring tension and positions a prop underneath the block to lock it in battery. Pulling the rear trigger back releases the hammer, which strikes the rear end of the firing pin to ignite the primer. The firer then merely has to push the front “trigger” forward to remove the prop from under the breech block. This allows the spring-loaded block to snap downwards and operate an ejector, which throws the spent casing to the rear and upwards. The system is remarkably fast for a single shot rifle, and a trained operator is said to have been able to make 20-24 aimed shots per minute. This earned the rifle the nickname of the Bayarische Blitzgewehr—the Bavarian Lightning Rifle.

Disassembly for cleaning is very simple. Removing one screw in the trigger guard allows the entire lock work to be withdrawn from the top of the receiver. The hammer has a half-cock safety position. A sliding leaf sight was regulated to 1200 paces (1

Bavarian pace = 0.72 meters) The rifle as issued came with a cleaning/stacking rod under the barrel and a heavy, 24 inch long sabre bayonet with a recurved blade. The bayonet was attached using a lug brazed directly to the barrel and a muzzle ring on the bayonet’s cross guard.

The Bavarian rifle testing commission concluded trials in January 1869, leading to the adoption of the Werder as the “Breech-loading Rifle Model 1869”. Preparations for producing the Werder began later that year. Manufacture of the lock work was subcontracted to various machine shops in Bavaria and to the firm of Auguste Francotte of Liege, Belgium. Manufacture of barrels and stocks, as well as final assembly took place at the Royal Arms Factory, Amberg. Finished rifles began appearing in the spring of 1870. Planned production was for 1000 rifles per week and a total production of 100,000 rifles was projected.

Unfortunately for the Bavarians, France declared war on Prussia in July, 1870. Bavaria, now bound to Prussia by a mutual defense treaty, mobilized for



Above—The sight configuration changed when the Werder was converted to the Mauser cartridge, 11x60R. The original Werder M1869 sight is at left and the later M1871 Mauser sight of the conversion is on the right.

war without significant numbers of Werder rifles available. Although Bavaria contributed two entire army corps to the combined German armies, only four light infantry battalions started the war armed with Werders. The remainder of the Bavarian army was forced to make do with Lindner conversions. In the war, France fared only marginally better against the Prussian armies than the Austrians had, with the forces of the French Second Empire and subsequent Third Republic suffering total defeat by the end of January, 1871. Importantly, this victory provided the final impetus for the formation of a unified German nation under the leadership of Prussia. The German Empire was proclaimed in January, 1871 in the French Palace of Versailles, with the Prussian king becoming Kaiser Wilhelm the First of Germany.

Werder Conversion to 11x60R Mauser

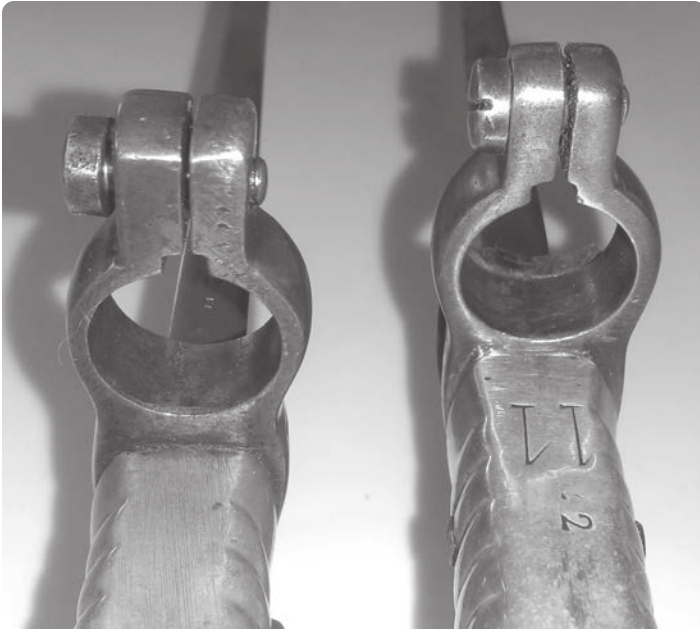
Bavaria joined the new German Empire but retained considerable autonomy in internal affairs,

including retaining a separate war ministry with the power to regulate the arms and equipment of the Bavarian army. The Werder rifle had performed admirably during the war, and was arguably superior to both the Prussian Dreyse and the French Chassepot rifles. Bavaria decided to retain the Werder as its standard rifle and by 1872 all units of the Bavarian army were rearmed with M1869s. Events now transpired, however, which were to doom the Werder to obscurity.

The Prussian Dreyse needle rifle, first adopted in 1841, was obsolescent by 1870 and had performed poorly when matched against the French Chassepot. Immediately following the war, Prussia acted quickly to replace the Dreyse, adopting a turnbolt-action Mauser rifle in 1871. The M71 Mauser employed an 11x60mm rimmed brass-cased cartridge. In order to have uniformity of ammunition, the Prussian war ministry pressed the Bavarians to adopt the Mauser cartridge. At first,



The recurved sabre (Yataghan) style bayonet for the Werder. This example has had the 1875 lightning modifications to the blade and cross guard. On the next page are pictures of the original hilt and the later modification.



Left—Shown is the difference between the original hilt configuration on the left and the later modification for the M71 Mauser on the right. Note the lower muzzle ring of the original Werder style.

Above—The Werder bayonet mounted.

converting M69 rifles from 11x50R Werder to 11x60R Mauser seemed straightforward, requiring only lengthening of the chamber and replacement of the rear sight. Initial tests were favorable and problems noted were attributed to faulty ammunition or inaccurate chamber reaming. Conversion of all 127,000 Werder rifles in Bavarian inventory commenced in 1875 and was completed by 1876.

Is Bavaria Unarmed?

Soon after completion of the conversion program, however, complaints began to pour in about excessive parts breakage and jamming in these M69 aptierte (modified) rifles. Some units reported 60% of their rifles becoming non-functional. The problem was that the more powerful recoil of the Mauser cartridge was causing parts breakage and deformation of the breech block. An additional problem resulted from the attachment of the sabre bayonet directly to the barrel. Use of the heavy and lengthy bayonet applied considerable leverage, resulting in bent barrels. In 1875, the war ministry ordered that all Werder bayonets be lightened by removing a portion of the cross guard and grinding a bigger groove in the blade. This solution was only marginally successful. By mid-summer of 1876 a special commission was appointed to consider the question: “Is Bavaria unarmed?”

In an effort to save the promising and uniquely Bavarian Werder rifle, the Bavarian Gunnery School at Augsburg initiated a program to improve

the design, resulting in the adoption of the M1869 n.M. (neues muster, new model). Various parts in the lock mechanism were strengthened to withstand breakage. The barrel contours and rifling were modified to conform to those of the M1871 Mauser. Finally, the front barrel band was replaced with a copy of the M71 Mauser front band, eliminating the direct attachment of the bayonet to the barrel. The M71 Mauser bayonet was adopted in place of the Werder sabre bayonet. Fate, however, once again took a hand. The Royal Arms Factory, Amberg, had in the meantime taken on a contract to produce M71 Mausers for the Prussian government and thus had no capacity remaining to produce the new Werders. The Bavarian government sought to place orders with various Thuringian arms manufacturers, but those firms were also fully occupied with Prussian contracts. Finally, an order was accepted by the Austrian arms firm of OEWG to produce 20,000 rifles, only a fraction of what was needed to re-equip the Bavarian army. Seeing the writing on the wall, the Bavarian war ministry adopted the Mauser M71 rifle as standard issue in 1877. The small number of M1869n.M. rifles actually manufactured remained in service in foot artillery batteries and replacement depots until 1883, when they were finally sold off.

Collecting the Werder

Today, Werder rifles are a fairly scarce find, although one can occasionally see examples offered for sale at various online dealers and auction sites. The vast majority of these are the M1869 aptierte (adapted) model, modified for M71 Mauser ammunition. These rifles are readily identifiable by their M71-style rear sight. Caution should be exercised when firing these rifles. Although M71 Mauser brass and some loaded ammo is available, the breakage problems caused by the use of full powered Mauser ammunition in these rifles were never solved and sources of Werder parts are nonexistent.

The Bavarian army was evidently quite efficient in adapting their Werders. Surviving examples of rifles chambered for the original 11x50R cartridge are exceedingly scarce and probably represent rifles lost in France during the 6-month long Franco-Prussian war. As only a small fraction of the Bavarian army was armed with Werders, and the French army had few noteworthy victories, the number of these rifles must be small indeed. The M1869 n.M. model seems equally scarce. This rifle can be recognized by having both an M71 Mauser rear sight and an M71-style front barrel band with bayonet lug. A small but significant number of these rifles (25,000) were made, and they served until the mid-1880s, so it seems as if more should be about. Sources state that these n.M. rifles were sold out of service in 1883, but do not say to whom they were sold. Perhaps someday a South American warehouse will be found full of them.

Werder bayonets also turn up occasionally. Most, if not all of these have had the 1875 modification to lighten the blade and cross guard. The Bavarian army was evidently equally efficient in carrying out these modifications and surviving unmodified examples again probably represent bayonets lost in France. Moreover, Bavaria retained these bayonets for reserve service after modifying them to fit M71 Mauser rifles. As a result, most of the Werder bayonets found now will not mount on M69 or M69 aptierte rifles.

The Werder rifle numbered among the last of the single-shot, black powder military rifles, along with the German Mauser M71, the Austrian Werndl, the French Gras, and the British Martini-Henry. It was arguably the equal, if not superior, to these other designs. Had fate and politics not intervened, the

Werder no doubt would have remained in service until the early to mid-1880s, when European armies began replacing their single-shots with magazine-fed rifles. Today, Werder rifles offer an interesting, although challenging, field for collecting and a glimpse of a truly innovative, if short lived, military rifle.

For further reading about Bavarian rifles:

- Hans-Dieter Götz. *Militärgewehr und Pistolen der Deutschen Staaten 1800-1870*. Motorbuch Verlag, 1978
- John Walter. *Rifles of the World*. DBI Books, Inc., 1993
- Hans-Dieter Götz. *German Military Rifles and Machine Pistols 1871-1945*. Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 1990

About the Author

Larry Talbott is a regular feature at our annual Display Show. His displays of German military rifles are amazingly comprehensive and the quality of the collections are impressive.

The informative historical information that always accompanies Larry's displays prompted me to ask for an article for the *GunNews*. Larry's expertise in the field of both the evolution of military small arms and specifically German rifles is obvious.

The tightly focused history that accompanies this article on the Werder rifle will clarify the chaotic period during which cartridge firearms became a decisive factor in the European wars. The arms race that was a part of, a contributor to, the European conflicts is in itself a fascinating insight into modern firearms. This era in which brass cases and breech loading were adopted helps us understand not only the historical firearms but also those still in use today.

Larry has the research and the collection to provide us with future articles. I'm thinking about the 2019 display, "Selbstladegewehr, German Self-Loading Rifles of World War II." If you missed this display last October then you missed a very special treatment of some very interesting rifles.

-GN-

Brand X Collectibles

The World of Collecting By Tom Burke

There are so many great “modern” guns folks clamor to collect. Guns with history, innovative engineering, scarcity, beauty, practicality, affordability, style and panache. Pistols, revolvers, and long guns that have a story to tell (the M-1 Garand or Colt revolver), or were central to historic events (Finnish Mosins and Lee Enfields), or have captured our imaginations (Lugers, Berettas, and S&Ws). They not only reflect our past they are fun to shoot.

But then there are those collectors’ “stepchildren”: The obscure, the less-than-famous, the less-than-noticed firearms that might be called the “Brand X” of collectibles. These are firearms with not-quite-familiar-household names—Ruby, Carcano, Nagant, or Gew. 88. Guns with a “following” but perhaps not the popularity of some of the more recognized names in the collectors’ collective.

So let's spend a few minutes with some of these almost-orphans. Hopefully those who value them will appreciate the attention and, perhaps, it may spark an interest among those who have say, the complete collection of Smith & Wesson 1st thru 3rd generation auto pistols or an example of every iteration of the .303 Enfield and are looking for something else to engage their curiosity, fill their safes, and empty their wallets.

The German Gew. 88 “Commission” Rifle

Let's begin our look into the Brand X bag-a-goodies with the German Gew. 88 “Commission” rifle.

To begin, it is NOT an '88 “Mauser.” Paul and Wilhelm had nothing to do with it. It was not made in Orberndorf. And while it borrowed a bit from some Mauser brothers designs, it was a rifle designed by a committee—the GPK (Gewehr-Prufungs-Kommission or Rifle Testing Commission) at the Konigliche Gewehrfabrik/Royal Rifle Factory at Spandau.

It's history starts with the newly-formed German state in 1871 and it's subsequent victory over the French in the Franco-Prussian War. The front-line arm for the German soldier was the Dreyse Needle rifle, the M-62, a breech-loading turnbolt firing a paper cartridge filled with black powder.

But in 1881 the French revolutionized military firearms by inventing smokeless gunpowder, which



allowed for faster, lighter, more powerful bullets to be shot from their 1881 Lebel; this panicked every army in the world and sent them scurrying to catch up with the new Gallic technology.

So the GPK began an all-hands-on-deck effort to surpass their traditional enemy, the French, challenging everyone to come up with a new gun, and then essentially incorporating all the new ideas submitted into a rifle of its own “design,” the Gew. 88 Commission Rifle.

They started with the bullet, the Patrone 88, an 8mm, 232 gr., FMJ that was essentially a copy of the new French ammunition (a French deserter brought them a Lebel and its ammo and they reverse-engineered the ammo) and built the rifle around that. They wanted a breech loader, firing a metal cartridge filled with the new smokeless powder and saw that Swiss Major Eduard Rubin (of Schmidt-Rubin rifle fame) had perfected a bullet they liked, so that was adapted into their specs.

To build the rifle they then “borrowed” a bolt design by Louis Schlegelmilch of the Spandau Arsenal; a receiver patterned on Mauser's M-71/84; a five-round magazine/clip system submitted by the Mannlicher company (and got sued for patent infringement); and incorporated a full-length tube built around the barrel as suggested by Major Armand Meig of the Bavarian Infantry Gunnery School.

And bingo, on 20 November 1888 the German Army had a new main battle rifle.

Today, finding an original M-88 with the barrel tube still in place and the original clip-fed magazine is tough. (The clip dropped out the bottom of the mag when it was emptied. It was later changed to a more traditional stripper feed.) Most examples of the gun seen on Gunbroker are ones sold to the Turks and the tube has been taken off, new stocks and sights added, and some other refurbishing done. Prices range from \$300 to \$600. They shoot pretty nice; at least the one I have does. And it is an important milestone in the development of German military arms.

(Note: Paul Mauser was so ticked off that he hadn't been consulted during the design process of the M-88 that to get "even" he invented the Mauser 98. History is kinda funny that way.)

For those who want more about this weapon, I recommend "A Collectors Guide to the German Gew. 88 'Commission' Rifle," by Paul S. Scarlata.

M-1895 Nagant Pistol

It looks wonderful, tough, and ready for a fight. Engineering-wise, it's one-of-a-kind in that there's no flash/cylinder gap (the space between the barrel and cylinder on a revolver). Historically, it was the gun used to kill the Czar and his family during the 1917 Russian Revolution. It was a long-lived design, used from 1895 to 1952 (replaced in Soviet military/police by the Makarov). It shot a hot 7.62x38mm round. And could be suppressed! It's also one of the worst-shooting guns I've never bought, although I've been tempted 10,000 times. And reloading it's seven-round cylinder takes about three weeks. (Okay, that's an exaggeration; but each round has to be pushed out one at a time with an ingenious, fiddly, front-mounted ejector rod and then reloaded one round at a time. Just the thing for a quick combat reload. But, perhaps, that's not a big problem shooting someone in the back of the head in the KGB's Lubyanka prison.)

The pull on the double action trigger weighs in at about 20 pounds. The single action only 12! And every time I decide I just have to have one, I remember 20 & 12 and say, "Naw. It can't be any fun to shoot."

Adopted in 1895 by the Imperial Russian Army and made in Liege until 1898 when manufacture was transferred to



Astra 7.65 "Ruby"



Nagant with self-sealing cartridge



Spanish "Ruby"



Gew. 88

the Tula Arsenal, it was designed by one of the Nagant boys, Leon (his brother is the Nagant in the Mosin Nagant rifle). It's unique insofar as on cocking, the cylinder is pushed forward to seal with the barrel. The cartridge, which has the bullet recessed inside the brass, slides into the forcing cone/barrel, eliminating the flash gap and when the gun goes bang the bullet whizzes out the front end at about 1000+ fps. (Note: there are aftermarket cylinders in .32 which can replace the originals so one doesn't have to scrounge 7.62 ammo or reload. Also, .32/20 cylinders can be found so H&R magnums can be shot.)

Most of the guns available today have the Tula star and, quite possibly, a ton of arsenal re-marks as they've been refurbished a lot. They were also made in Ishvesk from '43 to '45 and a total of 2.6 million were produced at both places.

They are readily available today for around \$300-\$400 for shooters, more for collectors' pieces. Fair warning: A friend, who immigrated from Novosibirsk (yes, that translates to New Siberia, in Russia) and worked with the police there is quite familiar with the gun and simply laughs at me when I say I'm thinking about getting one. He simply says, "Nyet," and then, "12 & 20."

Here are a couple of excellent websites for those who are interested or have strong trigger fingers:
<http://7.62x54r.net/MosinID/MosinRareNagant.htm>
<https://forums.gunboards.com/forumdisplay.php?18-M1895-NAGANT-Pistol-Collector-Forum>

Italian Carcano Rifles

I always avoided Carcanos. Heard they were "cheap" and "junk." Probably a hold-over memory from being in Junior Year Study Hall on November 22, 1964 when Randy Goldstein announced Kennedy had been shot; and then reading about Lee Harvey Oswald and his cheap, mail-order weapon. I've been wrong all these years. At least that's what my research for this article is telling me.

Designed by Lt. Col. Salvatore Carcano in 1891 the M-1891 (or simply M-91) was Italy's answer to the French smokeless powder invention of 1881 and the superiority of their new long arms. It shot a new 6.5 x 52 cartridge and like the 88 Commission rifle borrowed from other guns of the time. It was definitely ahead of its time according to them that know.

Essentially, it was a Mannlicher-type action, using the en-bloc clip of that designer, and turned into the basic Italian army rifle used through WWII when it was replaced, after the war, by Lee Enfields and then M-1 Garands.

There's a bit of confusing history (at least to me) regarding the different models, but here's the Cliff Notes on what's what:

- Original M91 in 6.5 x 52 was used up to 1938. Which made it the Italian Army's WWI gun. In 1938 they introduced a shorter version, the 91/38 and chambered it in 7.35x51. (They wanted a bigger, more powerful bullet but why they would want two different calibers in the field is a question I've not found an answer to...the Italians figured it out. See the next paragraph.)
- In 1940 they decided simple logistics beat bigger bullets and reverted back to the 6.5 round and sent 94,000 of the 91/38s to Finland for its fight against Russia. (The Finns did not like the Italian gun and every time they could pick up a discarded Russian Mosin Nagant, the Carcano got dropped in the snow, hopefully never to be found again. After WWII the Finns surplused off 74,000 of 'em. These are identified by the SA (Suomen Armeija or Finnish Army) inscribed in a square roll mark.) The M41 (M91/41) was introduced in, you guessed it, 1941 and it was a full-sized long arm with some very nice lines and nice looking wood.
- And a number of carbine versions (Moschettos, in my non-existent Italian) were introduced at various times, the last one being the 91/38TS in 8x57 Mauser! (History tells us that as the Germans took over the north of Italy after Mussolini was hung by the heels, they sent thousands Carcanos back home to the Reich for the Volkssturm [People's Army], their last ditch defense.)

Gunboards has an active Carcano forum for those who have questions or want more information. The web site is: <https://forums.gunboards.com/forumdisplay.php?10-Italian-Firearms-Forum>

Prices on Gunbroker start around \$250 and work north as scarcity and condition dictate. I see that an importer, RTI (Royal Tiger Imports), is bringing in a just-purchased bunch of them from Ethiopia but sentiment on the Italian Arms forum at Gunboards doesn't show a lot of confidence in the importer or his prices. And the importer's video showcasing the guns shows a pretty motley collection, and one assumes those are the *best* of the bunch. As always, caveat emptor.

Continued on page 29

STRAIGHT FROM THE HOLSTER

J.T. HILSENDEGER

Don't know about you, but I've had about as much of this staying at home as I can stand, but more about that later.

I just returned from an estate sale, the deceased having a backyard business requiring him to have a couple metal lathes (more than homeowner hobby size), a couple of vertical milling machines and all the tooling to support those machines. Plus, all the grinders, drill presses, metal cutting saws etc, to make a guy just drool (real men, anyway). How big you ask, well the mills could easily handle an automobile engine, the biggest lathe having a chuck only a really strong guy could lift. I was outbid on the machinery (dang) but scored on boxes of small stuff any machinist would love to have, but it's all mine now—Woo Hoo. The point of all this is, instead of having to find a machine shop to fix anything I break, I can generally fix it myself. Yeah, I know it's contrary to the current American way of thinking, that you just throw it away and buy new.

One of my latest acquisitions is a couple of turn of the century pump action 22's, one in .22 long, the other a .22 WRF (Winchester Rim Fire). Both rounds are discontinued but still available if you look hard enough. The 22 long was superseded by the long rifle, a more accurate round. The WRF is somewhere between the long rifle and the .22 Magnum in power.

Anyway, both had (as factory options), a Beach front sight and a Marbles tang sight. The Beach sight is either a short post sight or by flipping it up, the sight becomes an accurate target sight, the post itself much finer and delicate, ringed with a circular guard (confused? look it up). The Marbles tang sight, elevation adjustable only, comes with a peep sight with screw in eye pieces, again kinda delicate. Both sights on both rifles had been smacked with a hammer (?) or possibly dropped off a skyscraper, badly bent. Beach sights are now about \$100, the Marbles tang sight, now about \$150.

I figure these were made about 1898-1905 era. The guy treating these guns like that needs a well placed boot to show him the error of his ways. Oh, the rifles were just given to me, probably because I'm such a nice guy.

Had a fella drop off a muzzle loader rifle, of probably mid-1800's vintage. Said he was out shooting and the rear sight just went flying, unable to find it in the tall grass. Said it was a non-adjustable open sight and he wanted an adjustable sight installed which meant a slightly taller front sight would also be needed. No big deal to mill new dovetails in the barrel. I noted the old dovetails as expected, to be hand cut and filed, of two different sizes, both very shallow. Milling machine with dovetail cutters, no problem, sights available from several catalog sources (30 minute job).

Okay, time for a story or two. Years ago, just after retiring, I was invited to go hunting in Alaska. A friend (at the time) had a relative who had a fishing boat and processor and in the time between fish seasons, they went hunting. All it would cost me was plane fare and maybe a couple hundred for food for about 7-8 days. (At Alaska food prices, I'd have stayed mighty hungry). Flew to Anchorage then to King Salmon, where the 38 footer was sitting in a boat storage yard, on blocks. Wasn't told any of this before I agreed to go there.

Spent the weekend waiting for the owner to arrive, found two others guys also waiting, also news to me, both from Hawaii, there to hunt caribou, bear, deer or whatever. They didn't care what, as long as they could "kill" something. Didn't sit well with me, as neither did a thing to help with cleaning up dishes, etc while we waited for the owner of the boat to fly up from Seattle. Oh, they had each purchased the latest "Magnum" rifles with scopes that could spot flies on a dark wall at 500 yards.

Point is, these guys were there only to kill, to ship home some giant Caribou racks, some bear claws and teeth for necklaces and then would have the bragging rights. Yup, had enough of those jerks, told them what I thought of trophy hunters and flew home. Found out later, they'd killed a number of Caribou as they swam across some little inlet, chasing them with the boat's dinghy and shooting them in the back of the head from about 20 feet. They left the gut piles on the shore and sat about 100 feet off shore in the big boat, able to pick and choose which bear or bears they wanted to kill, as they fed on the gut piles.

The only meat harvested was for a couple days of steaks on the boat, "The rest given to the local natives!! Yeah, I'll believe that. Found out later, I'd been invited on this trip, to be "interviewed" for a possible mechanic position on the guy's boats. My impression of the whole Alaska fishing thing left a very bad taste, will not do it again.

Years ago, I subscribed to a couple of magazines, Guns and Ammo and Shooting Times. Each had a couple writers who would go on about the latest rifle or caliber and "had to kill" something to see how it performed. The articles were about some place on this planet where killing was in season. Gotta go kill something! This included going from state to state to state. I seriously doubt the animal was harvested for the meat, but instead for showing how destructive the bullet was, or how long a shot could be made. Just to clarify, I love to hunt too, but that means being out in the woods, finding the animals, stalking to an acceptable kill range and then maybe taking a shot. I learned a lot from those magazines about guns, ammo, gear etc, but their "gotta go out and kill something" attitude got them a couple letters (remember when we sent letters) telling them where they could stuff their magazines.

I know the states make a bundle of bucks on non-resident licenses, the money going for game management (?) programs, but I'm totally against the "foreigners" (out of staters) hunting here. Been in too many homes with the walls adorned with mounted trophies, with "kill" egos to match. Seen and heard of the guys hunting that passed on a shot because the "rack" wasn't big enough. Tells me what that guy is there for and it ain't the meat. I know one fella that makes a bundle of bucks (\$\$)

every year, guiding for those not wanting to nor having the time to "hunt," but still wanting the bragging rights and of course the trophy rack. Oughta be outlawed. Or how about the ones who show up, are put up in a lodge or motel setting, then awakened before daylight, fed a big breakfast, then driven out to a small shed type structure on a dirt road typically under some power lines. Inside they find the coffee pot, snacks and comfy chairs. Then as it gets daylight, they see on this dirt road, wild game feeding on deposited grain piles. There might be hogs, turkeys, maybe quail and of course in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and maybe even Nevada white tail deer. Their host then tells them which deer would score the highest and then when to shoot. Hunters? Don't think so. The only thing they did was pull the trigger and sign the check. Oh yeah, got bragging rights, the photo and mounted rack for his trophy wall. Then we have the fenced game hunts, with exotic animals from other countries, so hunters can kill an exotic—just not right.

Because of the Covid-19 issue, we've all stuck around home, right? Well, maybe a trip to Home Depot or Lowe's for that can of paint for the little home repair project we now have time to get to. Me, I've taken the time to empty out the gun cabinets and cleaned the entire bunch, even the junkers stuck way in the back for years. Found more than a couple to have that little brownish red look, the light rust, easily removed with a swipe of steel wool, then a very light coat of lube, like "Rig" applied. Even found some I'd forgotten about. How's that for a bonus!

Last week, I got a call from my old hunting buddy, the one that got shot in the foot/ankle by his wife's nephew. Remember him? Yeah, my buddy's wife then turning the shotgun into a question mark shape, then "cold-cocked" her nephew with one punch (Boy would I like to have seen that). Anyway, he was going to be visiting his Dad and if I was in Eastern Washington, could I stop by? He and his wife, the one punch pugilist, sold their business and moved to Arizona; the hot weather more to his comfort on the stiff ankle.

So I drove to Tonasket and visited my brother, then headed east another 85-90 miles to my friend's Dad's 1400 acre ranch. His Dad dug out a couple of old .22

rifles that they all used as kids growing up. One was an old J.C. Higgins, the other an old Winchester self-cocker. Both bolt action, the trigger pivoting on a pin driven through the wooden stock. Self-cocker means you close the bolt then pull a knob on the bolt to cock the rifle. Extremely simple compared to today's Hi-Tech stuff. Both had been equipped with modern Leupold scopes, with very fine cross hairs. (Wood stocks – single shot - bolt action – how quaint).

His Dad brought out a couple of peanut butter jars full of miscellaneous brand .22 shells, collected over the years from partial boxes, auctions or whatever. There was a little shooting bench out by the barn and we started plinking away, the field full of small white flowers, almost like the dandelions in our own yards. No pun intended but we had a blast, popping the flowers. I spent the night with them and next day I said I wanted to check with the range cattle wranglers about possible Sasquatch (?) sightings, activity, or even if—possibly because of the Covid-19 food shortages—maybe even poachings. My buddy's Dad grinned, saying he'd experienced some livestock theft lately. Said a couple weeks earlier he was out by the barn and saw a big hairy biped, grab one of his pigs and disappeared into the woods, about 50 yards away. Said this occurred about mid-morning, about 50 yards from him. Had a clear view. Kinda grinned and said it wasn't a very big pig and kinda ugly. And he's got about 30 more. Said this guy was so big, he could have taken as many as he wanted with no argument, so no big deal. Said he occasionally notices things or small animals missing, doesn't attribute it to wolves like the state would. This ranch is about 3 miles away from where my old Indian hunting partner lived and he told me about twice a year the big hairy guys would travel through the area, never being a problem that he knew of.

Anyway, I checked out my cabin, no problems. The trail camera on the cabin showing only birds and a couple of does. I then made contact with the wranglers who said they were on "poacher watch," recording vehicle descriptions and license numbers. I recently replaced my 21 year old truck (15 years mine) with a newer model so they appreciated me stopping by. Asked about poachers, they said maybe 5-6 calves missing, from the count a month earlier. I asked if maybe a Sasquatch had grabbed them.

They (all three) got very serious looks, asked if this was an official inquiry. I assured them it was just my curiosity and they relaxed a bit, stated during the last snowy months they had numerous sightings, their horses many time refusing to go further. A couple times when a livestock carcass was found and they called the "government", it was always written up as wolf damage, even though no canine evidence was found. Big difference how a predator kills an animal and starts devouring from the underbelly first, versus an entire front leg/ shoulder being ripped off and carried away with no other wounds visible. Duh! The wranglers just stopped calling rather than having it be a lie. Even though I'm a "coaster" they've accepted me.

The head wrangler said this coming summer or fall when he's got more time, he'd tell me of some of their big hairy guy encounters but it would cost a beer with none being bad. Said they leave them alone and they leave the wranglers alone. Funny, same attitudes of my buddy's family and the old Indian fella.

For anybody critical of my trip east in violation of the gov's mandate to stay at home, I say this was an essential trip for groceries and I just made a couple wrong turns and did maintain the six foot social distancing (suggested excuse, from a friend).

Nuff for now, got stuff to do. Clean your guns even if you haven't shot them in some time. You may be shocked. See you at the show. Footballers, golfers, sissy beer guys, your turn is coming.

-GN-

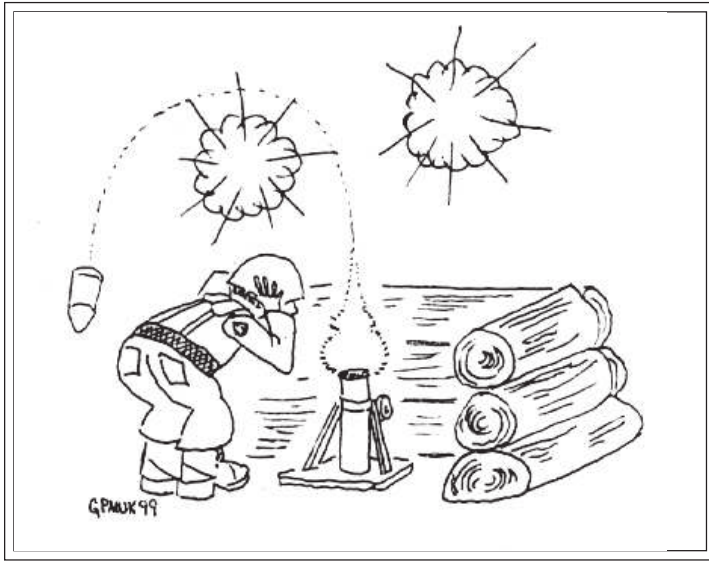
—New Show Added—

Our shows have been canceled for months now and we need something to look forward to. Here it is and here's hoping that the worst of the virus will be behind us:

- July 18-19, Elma, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds
- July 25-26, Monroe, Evergreen State Fair.

Stay tuned for updates.

SHORT ROUNDS



at 52 inches. There are no recognizable armorers/proof marks...other than the twin oak leaves (or Eagle?) imprinted on the stock. The patina is and over all condition certainly appears vintage! But the bolt functions and the barrel is clean, with little pitting and might be 6.5 or 7.7 mm. This weapon has been used a lot it seems but other than needing a cleaning and a gunsmith check-up seems fireable. We were thinking a Japanese Model 99, but there is no chrysanthemum or other Japanese characters on the weapon, nor dragon for China or other symbols indicating national origin. Frankly, we're stumped and really need your help.

I've attached a number of pics of the rifle. Thank you for taking the time and please, keep up the stellar work!

Sincerely,
Bob MacKenzie,
Tumwater, WA
Ph: 360.239.4465



Identify This Rifle

Editor's Note: I received the following from one of our members and thought it worthy of printing for some feedback from our collectors.

Dear WAC,

I hope you'll refer this message to your host of arms experts to be able to identify a vintage military service rifle given to me recently by a dear friend. His grandfather was a Marine in the Pacific during WWII and brought this gun back to the US. The rifle is long,

New Show Dates—Make a Note

As of our go-to-print date, this is the show schedule for the next few months:

•**July 18-19, Elma, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, this is a new date and location**

•**July 25-26, Monroe, new show date**

We can't predict how long the closure of public events with over 50 people will continue. Decisions are being made day-by-day. *WAC members must check the website for closure notices or call the office to reserve tables and confirm.* If we have your email we will do an email notification directly to you. If there is no cancellation by the fairgrounds then the WAC will hold the event; we will not unilaterally cancel our events even if only a small attendance is expected. *Editor*

Life Members—Address Label

Last month we noted the changes to the magazine address label. Turns out that our system can't use "Life" in the expiration field so we've added about 100 years to the membership expiration, giving you a fictitious date. If you outlive the date on the label, good for you, and give us a call at that time.

SAF Hires Glen Caroline

BELLEVUE, WA – Veteran grassroots gun rights organizer Glen Caroline has joined the staffs at the Second Amendment Foundation and Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, where he will serve as Director of External Affairs. With 29 years of front line experience in the Second Amendment movement, Caroline will spearhead grassroots and training programs for both organizations, according to SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb. Glen comes to the SAF/CCRKBA after serving for years as managing director of the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action Grassroots Programs and Campaign Field Operations division.

"I have known and worked with Glen for more than two decades," said Gottlieb, who also serves as CCRKBA chairman. "He brings years of important experience in grassroots organizing and communications at an important moment in the Second Amendment movement. Grassroots engagement to protect our right to keep and bear arms is at a critical juncture. "Glen's solid commitment to the Second Amendment, and his depth of experience will help ensure that our members and gun rights activists are fully engaged to protect our rights and defend the cause of freedom," Gottlieb added.

"Initially, Glen's work will consist of a series of web-based grassroots trainings in the coming weeks," Gottlieb said. "He will also build our Second Amendment Family coalition and Second Amendment First Responder program." *SAF press release*

Kid's Day at the Range—2020

Renton Fish & Game & Pinto's Guns

Teaching new shooters to be safe and shoot straight
When—Sundays 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

May—canceled, June 28 (possible), July 19, Aug 23,
Sept 20, Dec 13

Where—Renton Fish & Game, 17205 SE 144th St,
Renton

425-226-1563, www.rfgc.org

NRA trained range officers on hand, parental involvement and supervision required. Bring your own .22LR firearm or use one of ours. Members FREE, non-members \$5 or \$10/family. Good eats too—lunches \$5.

ANNUAL GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

RFGC & Pinto's Guns will be donating a new 22 rimfire rifle to one luck kid, drawing on Sept. 30

High Power Matches

Wildlife Committee of WA

Kenmore Range, 1031 228th SW, Bothell, WA

Dec 8 – CMP Game Course A or B

More information can be found for the event on the club's calendar: www.wcwi.org/calendar/

Central Whidbey Sportsmen's

Pistol, rifle and charity matches, firearm safety, women's firearms, and hunter ed are all available. Join us at: cwsaonline.org

Women's Pistol Classes—2020,

Black Diamond

The Black Diamond Gun Club presents their schedule of popular basic pistol classes for women only. Any (or no) experience is fine for these 8 hour classes, This is a fun, relaxed, comprehensive class limited to eight students. Everything is provided for \$125. More info at: BlackDiamondGunClub.org

Most classes have filled, reserve now for July 19, September 20, October 18, November 15

Note: Most gun clubs are closed due to the virus so please check with any club website before traveling or planning to attend.

-GN-

WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE



This column is provided for non-commercial member ads at and include phone and member number. Submit written copy by email to gunnewseditor@comcast.net, or 7625 78th Loop NW, Olympia, WA 98502. It is the Member's responsibility to adhere to all ns.

Non-commercial member ads only, no charge. 150 words max. Member responsible for compliance with all Federal, State and Local laws. Typical format is as follows (adapt to non-gun items):

- FOR SALE or WANTED or TRADE.
- each item & description listed as one sentence
- manufacturer, model, rifle/pistol/shotgun, etc.
- caliber or gauge (GA)
- barrel length (" bbl), finish, accessories or features, extras
- condition (G, VG, Exc, NIB, or % cond), vintage/age
- price (OBO for best offer) • name, email and/or phone.
- punctuated, no paragraph breaks, CAPITALIZATION ONLY

WHERE NEEDED!, avoid colors or odd fonts, no underlining. Send this information in the body of the email message (rather than attachment) to: gunnewseditor@comcast.net or mail to: 7625 78th Loop NW, Olympia, WA 98502. You must include your phone and current member number for verification. You may require WAC I.D. from the buyer but since all ads are for members this will not be stated in the ad. Ads accepted for one month only, so resubmit as needed.

FOR SALE: Ruby semi auto 7.65/32 ACP, lettering faint on slide Date 1914, 1 mag., nice vintage grips look to be horn, functions OK per last owner—\$260. Beretta model 950 tip up 25 ACP w/old original well worn box, 1 mag, functions OK per last owner—\$285. Ruger Mark 1 5.5 in., all orig. 200th anniversary model, minuscule blue wear 1 mag, nice clean vintage pistol—\$450. Ruger Security Six 6 inch, all orig. minuscule blue wear, 200th anniversary model. 357 cal, nice clean vintage revolver—\$475. Colt 1917 6 inch, 45 ACP cal. all original w/ lanyard ring, blue turning brown on grip frame—\$675. Interested in a trade for a clean S&W model 10, 4 inch, reasonable priced or a S&W 686 4 inch. 357 6 shot reasonable priced also. Meet at next show or meet at

local transfer ffl holder, have a couple of those near me. Buyer or seller each pay own transfer fee. gottogo3943@gmail.com, use this email only, old email not answered any more. Harlan, 360-519-3238.

FOR SALE: Several M-1 Garands, M-1 Carbines, Jungle Carbines, M-1A Rifles. Also, Military Ammo in .30 cal, .30 Carbine, .303 British. Pistols in Japanese Nambu & P-38s.

Fire arms require C&R or FFL. Ray at 360-941-6823.

FOR SALE: Leupold VX-2 2-7x33 Matte Duplex rifle scope, LNIB 2006

mfg by suffix #110794 on box, cost \$389 new—\$275 here. Lawrence Ordnance BE03 50rd over the shoulder leather bandoleer NIB—\$90. Berne NRA tactical concealed carry vest, Black XL, never worn—\$55. ES7T20 Electric Log Splitter for sale, used 1 season, cost \$499 new—\$280 here. Wayne, sojerguy@aol.com or 817-308-7844.

REQUEST: The gentleman that bought my .416 ammo from the last ad. I misplaced the info on the 'London Jacks leather' you sent me. Could I get it again? Wayne, sojerguy@aol.com/817-308-7844.

FOR SALE: Colt Single Action Army revolver .45 Colt, 5.5" Barrel, 1958, Very Good Condition, Franzite 'Elk' grips—\$1899. Colt Single Action Army revolver .45 Colt, 5.5" Barrel, 1957, Very Good Condition, real elk horn grips—\$1999. Ron, 253-987-7431.

FOR SALE: Ammo, all in old vintage boxes: 7mm mauser in Winchester, Remington, and Federal brands, 7 boxes—\$50 each. 30.06 in Remington, Super X silvertip and Winchester brands, 3 boxes—\$50 each. 30-30, Super X 170 grain boattail, 1 box—\$50. Call Dave—206-962-7952.

FOR SALE: Gas oxy rig with accessories—\$600. Joseph, email, jb.meyer@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Everett Area. 7x57 Mauser ammo 1952 FN 100rd box—

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\$50 ea OBO. 8x57 Mauser ammo, turk and misc mfg—45 cents ea. 303 Brit ammo, mostly UK production—45 cents ea. 8x57 Mauser bull bbl for LG ring Mauser, made in Sweden, 21.75” long—\$150. Unfinished Bishop stock for 1903 Springfield—\$90. Factory primed LC308 brass from pulled ammo, needs to be neck sized—\$17/100. Glenn, 425-220-8416.

WANTED: Browning Sweet Sixteen, Belgian made. Taylor at Tejano95@aol.com. Would like by mid May, Live in Olympia.

FOR SALE: 308 Ammo. Approx 675 rds: 250 rds, 168 gr Nosler match HPBT; 150 rds 175 gr Sierra match HPBT; 20 rds 168 gr Barnes Vortex TSX; 40 rds 150 gr Nosler Accubond; 20 rds 149 gr Federal FMJ; 180 rds 147 gr PMC FMJ BT, good plinking stuff. Want to sell all at one time for \$675. That's less than a buck a round. No longer have a .308. Call or text Doug @ 425 280 0768.

FOR SALE: Conetrol scope mounts as follows: Model 70 Win. 2 piece Custom base-only—\$25. Model 700 Rem. 2 piece Custom base and rings—\$50. Model 88 & 100 Win. 2 piece Custom base and rings—\$50. Model 84M Kimber 2 piece Hunter & Gunner base and rings—\$50. Mike, 425-836-8648.

FOR SALE: WW2 Sporterized K-98 Mauser; 8mm; Good condition—\$150. Call Rich, 360 459 5134.

FOR SALE: Ammunition: Remington 10MM Auto 200 grain Metal Case, three Boxes 50 cartridges—\$50. NIB Remington 45 Automatic 200 grain Metal Case, three Boxes 50 cartridges—\$50. NIB Remington 45 Colt Lead Bullet, one Box \$30. NIB Remington 44 Remington Magnum 240 Grain lead, five Boxes \$120. NIB Remington 30-06 Springfield “Match” 168 Grain Boat Tail Hollow Point, five Boxes \$125. NIB Remington 30-06 189 Grain Core Lokt Pointed Soft Point, five Boxes \$75. NIB Remington 300 Winchester Magnum 180 Grain Core Lokt Soft Point, one Box \$20. NIB Remington .357 Magnum Lead Semi Wadcutter 168 Grain, one Box—\$25. NIB Remington .357 Magnum 158 Grain Metal Point, four Boxes—\$140. Price for all ammunition—\$550. Richard, 425-753-2128, stagirite@hotmail.com .

FOR SALE: Zabala (Eibar, Spain) 16 Ga. Side/Side, 2-3/4” chambers, double triggers, 28”, engraving on receiver and barrels, hand checkered wood has figure, Anson push-button forend release (eg. Purdey, Boss), bushed firing pins, sling swivel studs, lengthened forcing cones, very tight on face, stored spring tension off with snap caps; in handmade, compartmented, highly figured wood case with brass corners and hardware—\$435. 16 Gauge Over/Under, Stoeger Condor. 28” barrels, 2-3/4”

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chambers, lengthened forcing cones, chokes opened and honed to Skeet/Skeet, sling swivel studs, single trigger, with box and papers, new soft case and A-Zoom aluminum snap caps, less than 10 rd fired (to check function and pattern), I am the original owner—\$320. NIB Burris Handgun Scope 2-7x Posi-Lock HEAVY PLEX (no longer available)—\$290. 9.3mm bullets and 9.3x62mm brass. Call for long list. Pardner Pump 12 ga. 28" w/Weaver base, excellent condition with box & papers—\$145. Fully rifled barrel for 12 ga. Pardner Pump w/open sights & orig. factory box—\$115. Savage Mod. MKII-F .22LR synthetic w/accutrigger NIB with all papers—\$180. Remington 870 in 16 ga. W/Rem factory camo stock & 2 chokes, excellent w/box & papers, I am the original owner—\$260. Ralph 253-272-4811.

FOR SALE: Leupold VX-2 2-7x33 Matte Duplex rifle scope, LNIB 2006 manf by suffix #110794 on box, \$389 new—\$275 here. Lawrence Ordnance BE03 50rd over the shoulder leather bandoleer NIB—\$90. Berne NRA tactical concealed carry vest, Black XL, never worn—\$55. Ted Williams M300 (sears Winchester M1400) semi-auto poly-choke, 12 Ga 2/34, like new/excellent cond, \$350 at Gunbroker—\$275 here. FN Browning

Model 1910 .32ACP (7.65 Browning) semi automatic pistol, nickel plated, spare barrel, 2 magazines, Very good, \$550 at guns international—\$325. Remington-Lee, .30-40 Krag, 29 1/2" barrel, this has been rebarreled, due to longitudinal splits in the original one, the original barrel (marked '.30 USA') will go with the rifle, this is one of 2,001 Remington Lee military rifles contracted for by the Michigan National Guard in 1898 and 1899, 80-85% of the original blue, has not been 'sporterized, the rifle comes with two of the VERY scarce original magazines but no ramrod—\$2500. "The Remington-Lee Rifle", by Eugene Myszowski; book will come with it. Original Colt AR-15 9mm carbine w/6x 30 rd & two 10 rd mags, loves 124 and 145 gr ammo, made for LEO and Govt contracts—\$1500. Wayne, sojerguy@aol.com, 817-308-7844.

WANTED/NOTICE: The gentleman that bought my .416 ammo from the April ad. I misplaced the info on the 'London Jacks leather' you sent me. Could I get it again? Wayne, sojerguy@aol.com, 817-308-7844.

FOR SALE: Ruger No. 1 rifle, single, lever .375 H&H mag, like new, stainless, laminated stock—\$999. Contact George 425-240-4765.

FOR SALE: Savage model 10 rifle, 243 Win., bolt, internal mag, Bushnell scope, very good condition—\$449. Contact George 425-240-4765.

FOR SALE: Oehler 35P Chronograph, the "Gold Standard" of stand alone chronographs with a hard copy printer. Two chronographs in one unit. The "P" after the model number is for the Proof channel. A 2 foot chrono inside of a 4 foot chronograph. Will calculate standard deviation (SD), average of shot string, high and low calculations, and more. Complete system in a carry case, original owner, used very little, and paid over \$600—sell for \$225 OBO. Call with any questions and/or offers. Cash only and will negotiate. Call Gary at 425-433-6490 or email masong987@gmail.com.

WANTED: Burris 3-12X pistol scope. Call Gary at 425-433-6490 or email at masong987@gmail.com.

WANTED: Reasonably priced 50 BMG press/dies. Please contact Glen at kalenas@comcast.net.

FOR SALE: NIB Kestral 5700 w/Hornady 4DOF Ballistic Calculator—\$450 firm. Possible trade for a as NIB Glock in 357 Sig or 10 mm. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net.

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FOR SALE: Bolt and lever action rifles for sale. Too many to list. No Pre64s but Classics available. Email Glen at kalenas@comcast.net w/requests and I will answer if I have them. Inspection/sale can be at the next WAC show or at South Sound Guns in Lacey.

FOR SALE: "Rebuilt/Re-arsenaled" Service Grade M1D (according to WAC Garand collectors). Has original serial numbered scope (on GI mount) but the rubber eye piece and a turret cap is missing, has GI 5 prong flash hider and GI leather cheek piece—\$2400. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net. Inspection/sale can be at next WAC show or South Sound Guns in Lacey.

WANTED: Ladysmith 357 Mag, Smith and Wesson Model 60LS J-Frame or Model 65 Ladysmith, K-frame, prefer 3" barrel, with Morocco grained or soft-sided Jewelry case, Pearl Grips were optional and preferred but not required. 70's-80's. Call Steve 253-677-8950 Mobile/Text or email s.p.foxhunt@juno.com

FOR SALE: \$250 CERTIFICATE for All-Inclusive COMMANDER Front Sight Memberships (listed at \$25,000 on Front Sight website). I am offering actual Certificate good for exactly the same membership listed on the Front Sight website and I will donate \$50 to President Donald Trump for every Front Sight certificate purchased from me between now and October 2020. President Trump is the ONLY presidential candidate who supports our 2nd amendment freedoms and Front Sight is the BEST Firearm Training Facility in USA. It also provides SUPERIOR martial arts training - rock climbing - and other great self-defense project to build family unity. I previously sold these @ \$1,000 for WAC and NRA members but will continue these SUPER Discounts while President Trump is running for re-election. The \$250 includes the \$100 transfer fee!! Email Ken: robertsresearch@msn.com .

WANTED: Bolt for a Remington Model 34, 22 caliber rifle. Call Steve, 206-525-2921.

FOR SALE: Glock 30 in .45 ACP, 3rd Gen. w/ Crimson Trace Laser, 3 mags, near new—\$490. New Ruger LC9s in 9mm—\$245. Ruger Mini-14 Stainless in .223 w/ 4-12x scope—\$685. Remington 760 Gamemaster pump in .270 w/ Leopold 4x scope—\$375. Classic 1925 era Ithaca 12 ga. S x S in good condition, modern steel—\$525. Remington 241 Takedown .22 semi-auto like the Browning in good cond—\$300. Savage 93 in 17HMR, laminated wood stock, scoped, very accurate—\$365. Remington 700 BDL in 30-06 NIB, made 1980—\$625. RCBS dies .458 Win. Mag—\$25. Dies for .22 Hornet—\$20. Legal transfers only in Seattle area. Phone Robert 206-909-7189.

WANTED: Small gauge shotguns. Looking for 410's 28's 20's and 16 gauges. Pumps, autos S\A's and U\A's. Call Paul, 503 621 3766 or email blimppy44@gmail.com.

WANTED: Rifles in 358, 350, 284, 6.5x55 Swedish, 6mm, 257 Roberts, 250-300, 22 Hornet. I like non standard cal. Browning, Ruger, Rem, Savage, Win. Call Paul, 503 621 3766 or email blimppy44@gmail.com .

FOR SALE: 338 Win Mag hand loads, 225 gr. Barnes X bullets, WBY (Norma) cases, 215 Fed Primers, H 4350 powder, 39 rds—\$30. 338 Win Mag, WBY (Norma) cases, 54 fired, 4 new—\$20. 338 Win Mag, 20 cartridges, 200 gr Hornady spire pts, 215 primers, new W-W brass, + 24 rds new W-W brass & 6 rds fired brass—\$35. Nine reloads, 250 gr Hornady sp—\$5. Mike, 425-836-8648.

FOR SALE: Rifle scopes: Original Redfield Co., 4X medium duplex with dot—\$75. 3X9 fine crosshairs with dot—\$100. Burris 3X9 Fullfield with Ballistic Plex—\$125. Mike, 425-836-8648.

WANTED: German Luger magazine loading tools: DWM, Erfurt, Simson, Police, Krieghoff and early Mauser. Also Weimar era tools and the navy marked M over an anchor. If you are not sure what you have, contact me. They can be identified. I will buy or trade for your Luger magazine loading tools. I also sell them. Klaus Merzbach's Luger magazine loading tool article is still available free of charge, as well as the Long Neck Luger Loading Tool article. Email me and ask for it. I have a few P.08 Luger magazines, springs/parts etc. that are for sale. Dave Lindsay: Phone: 208-365-5268 or Email: davidolindsay5@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: Dillon Reloading equipment NIB, Dillon Precision, Super 1050 machine, 223, NIB cost \$1999, plus carbide 223 dies \$82, total Dillon cost \$2112, NIB—\$2050. Extras sold by piece all NIB: R1100 quick change setup, tool head powder measure, \$285; RT1200 electric case trimmer—\$280; CV-2001 vibratory case cleaner NIB—\$200; used CV-2001—\$150; CM2000 large case media separato—\$90; extra dies sets & plate sets in 223, 308, 38 Super, ask me what you need. Also have extra powder and all sizes primers. GUNS: Springfield M1A 308 match barrel and parts, JAE-100 G3 stock, 4-12x50 scope, latch mount, bipod, picatinny rails, two 20 rd mags, soft case—\$4200. Old Marlin pump 22, nice, books \$2400—\$2000 OBO. Cash. Dave, 206...941...0060.

-GN-



Official Board Minutes— W.A.C.

By Secretary Forbes Freeburg

Washington Arms Collectors
Board minutes for April 2020

Pre-meeting business:

April 09 - Email motion by Secretary Freeburg to accept the March 2020 Board minutes
Second by Director Hubbard
Votes for: Directors Bramhall, Hubbard, Palmer, Ripley, Rodabaugh, Weaver
Votes against: none
Abstain: none
No response: Director Wegner
Motion passed

The Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 28 in the WAC Business Office conference room was cancelled as a result of the continuing statewide restriction on public gatherings. Online activities were conducted by the Board in lieu of an in-person meeting.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Henson presented the Financial Report for March, 2020 via email.
The WAC event scheduled for the weekend of March 28 and 29 in Monroe was cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings.
The WAC avoided show expenses of \$35k with the cancellation of the March show, but also lost an estimated \$44k in show revenue, plus the loss of approximately \$7k in membership revenue from individuals who normally wait for a show to renew.
Postage and publication expenses continue to be higher than normal; without the shows to remind members that it is time to renew, the WAC is using postcards and the GunNews to notify members of expired memberships.
The resulting net income for March was a loss of \$26,365. (Net income in March of 2019 was a loss of \$14,704.)

Forbes L Freeburg,
WAC Secretary

-GN-

Brand X Collectibles

Continued from page 18

Spanish Ruby Pistols

Now here's a pistol that's a collector's dream (or nightmare). One must first study the history of the French side of WWI and then gain insight into Spanish gunmaking in the early 20th century before even starting to accumulate the dozens and dozens of different specimens of these .32 ACP's in order to even start building a definitive collection of these pistols. Plus, the nascent collector needs to be pretty good at evaluating condition and, in fact, shootability safety. Ya see, the Spanish "Ruby" isn't really a pistol, it's 50 different pistols.

Here's the short version of the story:

- A) Because the Austro-Hungarian empire declared war on Serbia to avenge the murder of their archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife by Gavrilo Princip (with a .32 ACP FN 1910 pistol) in Sarajevo;
- B) Russia declared War on Austro-Hungary to defend Serbia.
- C) But then France (to fulfill a treaty obligation with Czarist Russia) had to declare war against the Kaiser in 1914,
- D) Because Germany had declared war against Russia because of a treaty the Kaiser had with the Austro-Hungarian empire.

(Of course, declaring war against Germany was something the French wanted to do anyway to avenge their loss in the 1871 Franco-Prussian War and reclaim Alsace and Lorraine, which they lost when Otto von Bismark crushed them.)

(Got that?)

Now France needed everything to fight the war and sidearms were on the list of stuff to get. Spanish gunmakers in the Basque country didn't have to obey international patent laws and had been ripping off everyone's designs at their little four and five man shops.

One of the guns these guys were making were copies of the Colt and FN-made 1903 .32, designed by John Moses Browning; for the French it was just the thing for the wartime emergency.

So they contracted with Gibilando y Urresti (later called Llama) for 30,000 of their "Ruby" model 1903 clones a month. But that six-man company couldn't begin to fulfill that contract so they subcontracted out to four other Guernica gunmakers for 5,000 from each and did 10,000 on their own.

But other gunmakers in the Eibar region saw they too could make the .32s and contracted with France

independently to make even more. Eventually 50 or so gunmakers were churning out product of varying qualities.

Because each company had its own design, they were not compatible with each other and they had their own names for them (Liberty", "Destroyer", "Venus", "Modelo 1916", "Trust" etc.) but as far as the French were concerned they were all called just "Ruby" and so they are still called that today.

For the collector of these simple blowback, 9-round, no-grip-safety (the Spanish ditched this to make manufacture easier and cheaper) pistols, the key is figuring out what's good and what's junk. If I were to buy one today I'd look first for a model made by Gibilando (Llama) or Esperanza y Ucerta (which became Astra) as these were the best of the bunch. I'd also thoroughly check out websites such as: <https://www.forgottenweapons.com/other-handguns/eibar-ruby/> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby_pistol or https://www.shootingtimes.com/editorial/handgun_reviews_st_spanishruby_200907/100082.

To conclude

There are a bunch more Brand X collectibles such as South American Mausers, 1895 Steyrs, the French MASes, the Canadian .303 Ross rifle, Spanish Mausers, Egyptian Hakims, Steyr 1912 pistols, and others.

There are also some in-betweens—those with notable collector status but not quite in the same status as the "biggs", the Colts, Smiths, or Lugers—such as Stars, Broomhandles, Walthers, Arisakas, and Kraggs.

And let's not even think of pre-1870 weapons including Civil War muskets or guns of the American Revolution or the fur trade. I have to wonder if anyone, 40 years from now, will be collecting Glockes, plastic M&Ps or HiPoints.

Brand X guns provide new collectors with an affordable entry point into the hobby; the sophisticated collector with a challenge and an alternative when their safes are filled with Pythons or Inglis Hi Powers; and for those just looking for something older and fun, they're the perfect excuse to go "shopping" at the LGS, pawn shop, or online.

Stay safe.

###

Don't hesitate to email Tom with your questions and suggestions on column topics:
t.burke.column@gmail.com

-GN-

Membership Page

Membership in the WAC is for 12 months from the initial date of joining. That means that your membership may expire at some date that is NOT at the end of the year. Visit the membership desk at any WAC event and ask that they verify your membership term and apply month and year stickers to your badge. At the same time you might request that your membership be converted to an automatic renewal to avoid lapses in membership that might cause you to miss a magazine or have difficulty entering a show.

The simplest way to join or renew is by visiting our website at:
washingtonarmscollectors.org

- Only members may rent tables
- Only members may sell firearms
- Members receive the monthly magazine
- Members may place FREE classified ads in our magazine
- Members have FREE access to WAC events
- Regular members—\$50/yr.
- Spousal & Family members—\$15
- Associate members age 18-21—\$30/yr.
- Life members—\$600
- Senior Life members—\$350

 Gun Show Table Reservation Form NO TABLES HELD WITHOUT PAYMENT!			
Table Rent Fees - Displays Are Free!		\$60/50-Table	Sunday Only Tables \$25.00
Name:		Member #	
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone #:			
Show Dates:			
Sat & Sun Tables Reserved	Sat Only Tables Reserved	Sunday Only Reserved	Total Amount Paid
Qty:	Qty:	Qty:	\$
* Pay By: Visa / Mastercard / AMX / Check / Cash / Money Order *			
Card #:		Exp: / /	
Signature:			
Mail Completed Form With Payment To - W.A.C. P.O. Box 389 Renton, WA 98057-0389			

W.A.C. - Membership Application					
Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:	Mem#:
Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip:	Phone#
E-Mail:		DL# Drivers License#		Exp. Date:	
Birth Date: (Month)		CPL# Concealed Pistol License		Exp. Date:	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg. \$50/Yr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Life \$600		Enter Amount Due:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse \$15/Yr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sr. Life \$350			
Credit Card# (Leave Blank If Applying In Person)		Exp Date:		Zip:	CVV Code:

Rules of the Road

1. There will be no loaded firearms, magazines, or speedloaders in the building, either on the tables or on one's person, with the exception of law enforcement officers with valid agency credentials, and officers under contract with WAC.
2. There will be no bulk gunpowder or explosive bullets in the building. There will be no loose cartridges or loaded clips of any description near the firearms for which they are intended. Chemicals used to make explosives and irritant sprays such as O.C. or Mace are prohibited.
3. All firearms will have their actions tied open. Where that is impractical due to design considerations the arm will have its action tied to make it inoperable. All detachable magazines, including rimfire tubular feeding devices, will be removed from a firearm. Flintlock, wheel lock and matchlock arms need not be tied. Percussion or cartridge firearms for display only contained in a separate secured display case may remain untied.
4. Fully automatic firearms other than those displayed by law enforcement or military organizations, or parts to convert semiautomatic arms to fully-automatic are prohibited. Dummy or replica firearms must be accompanied by a sign stating that the item in question is not a machinegun.
5. Any extended bayonets attached to firearms shall be scabbarded. If a bayonet on a firearm has no scabbard, it shall either be folded against the stock or removed from the firearm. This applies to arms being carried as well as to arms that are on tables. Exceptions for displays may be granted by the Event Manager.
6. Firearm sales to – or purchases from – persons prohibited by law from firearms ownership/possession are totally forbidden. Violation will lead to expulsion from the event, and possible further disciplinary action. Firearms transactions in the parking lot are prohibited.
7. Members may not loan their badges to anyone, whether a member or not. Membership badges will be worn above the waist with the name clearly visible. The alteration of WAC membership badges in any manner is strictly prohibited; the display at WAC gatherings of altered WAC badges or of badges purporting to be insignia of current WAC membership other than those issued by the WAC shall be cause for immediate expulsion from the gathering and may subject the bearer, if a member, to further discipline by the WAC Board of Directors.
8. There shall be no promotion of, or soliciting for, commercial gun shows on WAC leased premises, including the parking lot. Any other solicitations, display or distribution of non-arms related material at WAC shows must have prior approval of the Event Manager.
9. There will be no parking on the Puyallup Fairgrounds except for those individuals with approved parking permits. All others will be towed at owner's expense.
10. No smoking is allowed on the event premises, except in those areas outside the building specifically designated for smoking.
11. Taking of photographs, video or audio taping is prohibited without permission from either the Board of Directors, Executive Director or the Event Manager.
12. The sale of literature on the unlawful manufacture of explosive devices, full automatic firearms, booby-traps, and/or illegal terrorist tactics, etc. is prohibited. All anti-Semitic, racist and hate literature is prohibited. The sale of targets depicting the likeness of American Politicians is prohibited. If any of the above or other material deemed offensive, the Event Manager shall ask that the material be removed immediately.
13. In the event of disciplinary action taken against a member or members which leads to the revocation, cancellation, or suspension of membership in the Washington Arms Collectors, all monetary balances and credits with the Club shall be forfeited to the Washington Arms Collectors.
14. No person under 18 years of age will be admitted to WAC shows unless accompanied and supervised by an adult, parent or guardian or unless such person is a member of a group authorized by the Board or Event Manager such as Scouts, Civil Air Patrol Cadets, etc.
15. Any member who becomes disqualified from membership must immediately report the disqualification and the circumstances thereof to any Director, Officer or the WAC Office and must surrender his or her badge to the WAC.
16. Any member who learns that another member has become disqualified from membership must report the circumstances to any Director, Officer or the WAC Office. Failure to report such knowledge may be cause for disciplinary action.
17. Any member who is required to conduct a NICS background check on a sale of a firearm to a member at a gathering of members and who receives a denial, must IMMEDIATELY report said denial and the identity of the prospective purchaser to the Event Manager or his designee. Failure to report such information may be cause for disciplinary action.
18. Any member whose attempted purchase of a firearm at a gathering of members is denied by NICS is immediately suspended and must surrender his or her badge forthwith. The suspension of such member shall terminate upon reversal of the NICS denial.
19. Failure to appear before the WAC Board of Directors upon issuance of a written notification signed by the President or his designee may be cause for disciplinary action. Members may be disciplined by the BoD for misconduct or persistent trouble making. The Event Manager, Director of Operations or a majority of the Board present may expel a member or guest from a gathering for violating these Rules of the Road, WAC Bylaws, or other published Board-approved policies and procedures. The Event Manager, Executive Director or a majority of the Board present may, at their discretion, refuse the entry or continued presence of a guest at a gathering.
20. Any person using loud or abusive or obscene language towards another member, attendee or WAC employee may be removed from any WAC activity. Any person engaging in such conduct may be removed immediately from any WAC activity and, if a member, shall be subject to a WAC disciplinary hearing.
21. Additional rules and related policies apply to all members and table holders. Copies may be obtained from the Event Manager.
22. The sale or trade of items known to be stolen, counterfeit or falsely represented is prohibited.

The Washington Arms Collectors (WAC) requires compliance with all applicable Federal, State and Municipal firearm laws within its events. The WAC disclaims any liability for any of the acts of its members, guests or visitors. It is the responsibility of each member to maintain personal liability insurance and be familiar with all laws applicable to firearms and ammunition and to abide by them at meetings of the WAC.



GUNNEWS

W.A.C.
P.O. Box 400
Sumner, WA 98390

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U S POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1
SEATTLE WA

CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

• VERIFY ALL DATES BEFORE TRAVELING •

Coronavirus cancellations are possible—verify all dates before traveling

- JUN 27-28—Puyallup, WA West. WA Fairgrounds, WAC—**CANCELED**
- Jun 28—Portland, OR, 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd, Oregon Arms Collectors
- JUL 18-19—Elma, WA, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, WAC—**NEW SHOW!**
- JUL 25-26—Monroe, WA, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, WAC—**NEW SHOW!**
- Jul 26—Portland, OR, 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd, Oregon Arms Collectors
- Aug 22-23—Portland, OR, Holiday Inn Airport, Oregon Arms Collectors
- Sept 19-20—Monroe, WA, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, WAC

•WAC Shows not on the annual schedule—As new shows are added in 2020 they will be posted on

Washington Arms Collectors



2020 Gun Show Schedule

www.WashingtonArmsCollectors.org

OFFICE: (425) 255-8410

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

- JUNE 27-28—Puyallup—**CANCELED**
- JUL 18-19—Elma, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds—**NEW SHOW!**
- JULY 25-26—Monroe—**NEW DATE**

Sept.	19 & 20	Monroe
Oct. - Nov.	31 & 01	Puy. Pav.
Dec.	05 & 06	Monroe
Dec.	12 & 13	Puyallup

SHOW LOCATIONS

Monroe Show - Evergreen State Fairgrounds
Puyallup Show - WA State Fair & Events Center

Show Times: Saturday 9AM-5PM & Sunday 9AM-3PM

VERIFY ALL SHOW DATES BEFORE TRAVELING

Membership in WAC gives you free entrance to events, free ads in the GunNews, the monthly magazine either mailed to you or online and the ability to rent tables at WAC events.

Tables—Call the office to reserve, Saturday only, Sat/Sun or Sunday only. Puyallup—\$60; Monroe—\$50. Discounts for multiple tables. Members only.

Membership—Keep your membership current by renewing online or calling the office—\$50/yr. Spouse and Associate members at reduced rates.

Committees—Check the website for committee members and to volunteer for a committee.

GunNews—Missing a copy?—call the office for replacement and to verify your address.

GunNews Free Ads—Email to gunnewseditor@comcast.net or mail USPS.

Office: 425-255-8410
washingtonarmscollectors.org