

THE WASHINGTON ARMS COLLECTORS

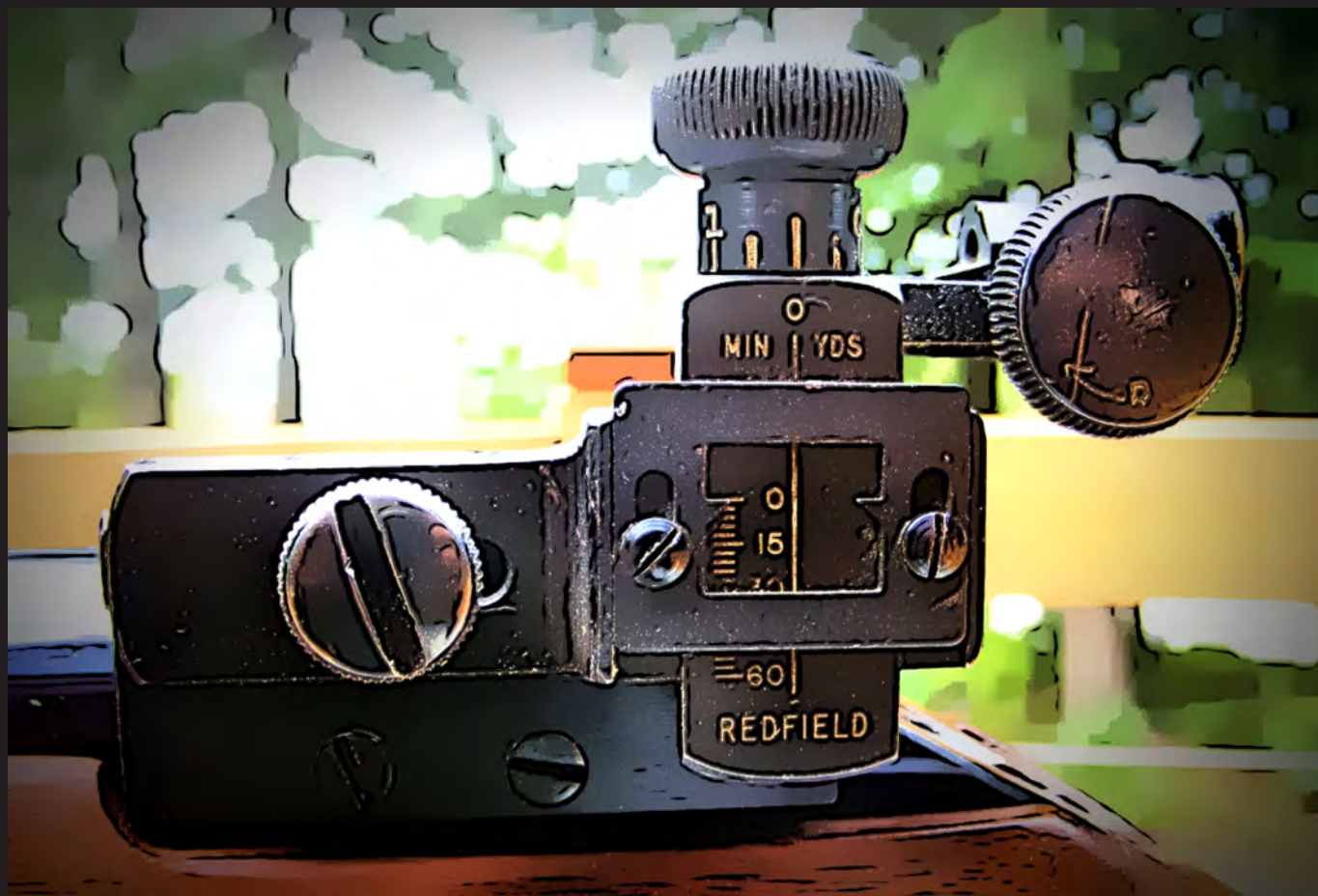
GUNNEWS



M A G A Z I N E

JUNE 2021

VOL. 30 - #06



• Shooting & Collecting the .22 Rimfire •

Coronavirus Cancellations Likely - Check the website before traveling

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The *GunNews* is the official monthly publication of the Washington Arms Collectors, an NRA-affiliated organization, P.O. Box 400, 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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closed holidays

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International rear
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Cover by Bill Hunt,
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Legislation & Politics



Joe Waldron

Legislative Chairman

OLYMPIA

The fat lady has sung her last aria for the year. At least for the regular legislative session. No telling whether we might see a special session called, or not. But theoretically your life and your wallet are safe until next January. If a special session is called, for any reason, the legislature may revive bills from the earlier session. A total of 20 gun-related bills were filed in Olympia this year. 14 were anti-gun/gun owner (including three duplicate bills filed in the other chamber, same language, different bill number), four pro-gun bills, and two neutral. Here's the entire list by bill number, subject and final disposition:

BAD

SB 5038, Open carry of weapons, legislature passed, delivered to governor

HB 1054, Peace officer tactics, equipment, legislature passed, delivered to the governor

SB 5078, HB 1164, "Firearm safety" (magazine ban), died in Rules Committee

HB 1283, Criminal mischief/weapons, died in Rules Committee

HB 1038, Firearm possession in certain crimes, died in committee

HB 1134, Forfeited firearms, destruction by WSP, died in committee

HB 1164, SB 5078, "Firearm safety" (magazine ban, died in committee

HB 1229, SB 5217, Assault weapons ban, died in committee

HB 1234, Banning weapons in government buildings, died in committee

HB 1313, Local government gun regulation – repeal of state preemption, died in committee

HB 1169, Sentencing enhancements, died in Rules Committee

GOOD

HB 1181, Veteran/military suicide prevention, Died in committee

HB 1224, Legalizing spring-blade knives, died in committee

SB 5095, Pistol license records, died in committee

SB 5187, Clay targets sales tax exemption, died in committee.

NEUTRAL

HB 1026, Firearm rights restoration, died in committee

HB 1133, Lost or stolen firearms, died in committee

And a round of thanks to Curtis Bingham, the Washington 2021 Legislative Action Group and the Washington Civil Rights Association for their bill tracking. The only bill with a major impact on gun owners is SB 5038, The brief description says, "Prohibiting the open carry of certain weapons at public permitted demonstrations and the state capitol." It appears the decision by some gun owners to openly carry firearms during demonstrations or protests at the state capitol caught the majority legislators' attention. And the attention of the "snowflakes" who have no problem trashing major cities like Seattle or Portland, but who feel "intimidated" by the sight of an openly carried weapon (not just firearms, but almost anything that could be called a weapon). And as it states, it includes not just the state capitol grounds, but ANY permitted public demonstration.

The interesting thing is, because all of this is based on the alleged intimidation effect by weapons, licensed CONCEALED carry is still legal – both on the Capitol campus and at "demonstrations." Violation is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a fine. Oh, and an "emergency clause" was added at the end of the bill, meaning it takes effect as soon as the governor signs it. Hurry, make the scary people with guns go away. Am I happy with the outcome? Absolutely not. In my opinion this is clearly a violation of both the Second Amendment AND Article 1, Section 24 of the state constitution. But that's the price we pay when we elect Democrat majorities.

FBI SHARING NICS DATA

Gun Owners of America (GOA) reports that the FBI has been sharing some or all NICS data with various outside agencies, including INTERPOL, and reporting out-of-state long gun sales to the buyer's home state. Out-of-state purchase of long guns is perfectly legal, provided the purchase was from an FFL and the gun involved is legal in both states (e.g. no "assault rifle" sales to residents of states that ban such guns). But it stinks of tattle-taling. If the FBI has reason to believe that a law was broken, by all means report it to the appropriate agency. Certainly the FBI has more important things to do. This is the same FBI that has given NICS approval to mass shooters, failed to take action when firearm sales should have been denied, or sought FISA warrants to spy on the Trump campaign a few years ago.

SCOTUS TAKES SECOND AMENDMENT CASE

The last time the US Supreme Court took up the Second Amendment was in 2008 with *DC v Heller* and then in 2010, in *McDonald v City of Chicago*. The *Heller* decision addressed two major aspects of the Second Amendment: it affirmed the right to KEEP arms in your home for the purpose of self protection, and it ruled that the right

was NOT DEPENDENT on militia service – when the Second Amendment was written the militia was generally viewed as the citizenry as a whole. McDonald extended that interpretation nationwide.

Last summer the US Supreme Court declined to hear several Second Amendment cases. Why? Because while they had the four votes necessary to accept the case(s), they weren't sure of the FIVE VOTES necessary to win. That changed in September, with the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the confirmation of Amy Coney Barrett to replace her. That ensured the court had a pro-gun majority of five, versus three liberals...and then Chief Justice Roberts, who has swung back and forth in the past few years.

The case they will take up when the 2022 session starts in October of this year is New York State Rifle & Pistol Association versus Corlett and opens the door to the BEAR ARMS part of the Second. Currently 20 states are considered Constitutional Carry states, meaning all a person needs to carry a firearm in that state, open or concealed, is the right enshrined in the Second Amendment. 21 more states are considered full "shall issue" concealed carry states – if a person meets clear and reasonable criteria (e.g. no disqualifying convictions, possibly training, etc.) the state MUST ISSUE a carry license. (Most of the 20 Constitutional Carry states still issue carry licenses for purposes of state-to-state reciprocity.) Nine states are called "may issue" – the state MAY issue you a license if they decide you need one or if you meet their arbitrary and often unreasonable requirements. New York state is one of the latter.

NYSR&PA originally filed a suit against New York City, which had even more restrictions than the state. Fearing a loss in the Supreme Court, the city relaxed or repealed its more restrictive laws, thus rendering the Supreme Court suit moot.

In all honesty, there is nothing keeping New York STATE from doing the same. But a win for our side in NYSR&PA v Corlett could possibly force ALL nine "may issue" states to clean up their act. Clearly the 20+ year history of successful shall-issue state licensing systems places great pressure on the Supremes to make the law uniform nationwide. (The "new wave" of shall issue states is generally considered to have started with Florida in 1988, but even before then there were a handful of states who issued licenses based on reasonable criteria. Washington's shall issue law goes back 60 years, as does Connecticut's. I got my first CT CPL in 1968 when I returned from overseas. Still have it for visits to family.)

CONGRESS

The other Capitol Hill has been fairly quiet as regards gun bills. Yes, several bills have been filed, and a few

passed the House, but no further action has been taken at this point. Despite Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's assurances that the bills will be pushed through the Senate, it hasn't happened yet. One roadblock is the filibuster. With the current filibuster rule in the Senate, they need 60 votes to pass a bill. At a 50-50 deadlock, even with the extra vote from Vice President Harris, that doesn't add up to 60.

The below web site lists the more than 100 gun bills currently filed in Congress. Two thirds are anti-gun, one third pro-gun. Most of these are what we call "hero bills," bills filed by a Congressperson to make him or her look good back in the home district. Most stand little chance of passage. What we have to worry about is if the specifics of a given bill match the circumstances of a highly publicized shooting incident. At that point the bill could grow feet and start moving through the process.

Visit <https://amgoa.org/Proposed-Federal-Firearm-Legislation/2019>

I'll address specific bills in the future if it appears they are picking up support. But I'll say this up front: don't look for ANY pro-gun bills to move in the House, and unlikely in the 50-50 Senate as well.

BIDEN PLAN

Just in time for Mother's Day, the Biden Justice Department released proposed rules for control of so-called "ghost guns," "homemade guns" with no serial number. The exact language will be published in the Federal Register and open for public comment (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>). Once published, you have 90 days to comment, so we have plenty of time – presumably. I wish I could provide a more definitive link, but the wheels of government grind slow and Editor Shave will be kicking my door in if I don't make his deadline (just kidding, Phil!).

The proposed rules will require serial numbering of all "unfinished receivers," serialization of existing unserialized guns if they are taken in by an FFL, and NICS background checks would be required to purchase unfinished receivers. Apparently mail order sales of lower receivers would still be allowed, subject to transfer through an FFL and NICS check. At this time it does not appear that they are going after uppers or parts. Give them time!

The Justice Department ESTIMATES (good, accurate government statistics to support lawmaking) that some 23,000 weapons without serial numbers were confiscated by law enforcement between 2016 and 2020, with 325 associated with homicides or attempted homicides.

Continued on page 31

STRAIGHT FROM THE HOLSTER

.22 Memories

J.T. HILSENDEGER

As you know, I'm always advising you to clean your firearms even though you haven't shot them in ages. After this past winter in metal gun cabinets in a semi-heated utility room, I figured it was time again. Yeah, dug out a few .22's I'd forgotten about. Got me to thinking about the first, a Remington model 34, a single shot rifle my Dad bought new in the late 40s. I've told the story before I think, how after church on Sundays, we'd drive country/farm roads in North Dakota, shooting striped ground squirrels. Yeah, the state had a penny apiece bounty on them. Dad would take in 50 tails and got back 50 cents. Then buy another box of .22's for 25 cents. That Remington ended up with me and I sold it bout 3-4 years ago at a Puyallup Show, the rifle almost as good as new, because it got regular cleaning.

My next recollection of .22 firearms was making some pistols in Junior High School, having seen a movie (?) where the street gangs had "Zip" guns, that were basically a Chevy engine push rod tube for a barrel that was wire wrapped to a wooden grip, the cartridge fired by a hammer propelled by really heavy rubber bands (with too few rubber bands, the shell was self ejecting, right at the shooter).

About that time I started bumming around with 3-4 guys who were always coming up with stuff (I didn't ask) including some firearms that I never hung onto very long, using them for trading material.

I remember at one point, trying to make a decent .22 pistol, a single shot tip up action. I spent a couple hours drilling a six inch long shaft with the old Black & Decker ¼ inch drill. An acquaintance worked at Boeing so we had a few longer (lunch box length) drill bits. Anyway, I soon lost interest, having discovered girls.

In the fall of 1961, I moved to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, then onto Camp Pendleton, California. In one of the local gun shops,

I found and purchased a .22 target rifle, a Mossberg single shot Model 144, at a very reasonable price. This was sent home to my younger sister who was on the high school shooting team. Yeah, a couple times a month they met in the high school gym for shooting. (Remember that? Bringing a gun to school and shooting in the gymnasium?)

Anyway, these Mossbergs were much cheaper than the Winchester but of equal quality, the preferred target .22, but just as good shooters. A couple years after high school, her then hubby, pawned the rifle.

In the last 40 years I've had a number of .22 repeaters, both pump and semiauto, finding them to be a pain after much shooting. The semi and pump actions, especially tube fed, had feeding issues, the pot metal feed ramps prone to wear and failure to feed. Magazine/clip fed models, the magazine lips prone to bending open and multi feeding. So, the only way to go was single shot models.

Over the years I've had a number of little self-cockers, like the Winchester 58-59-60's. With these, like other brand self cockers, you open the bolt ejecting the spent cartridge, then close the bolt chambering a new round, then grasp the rear of the bolt and pull it to the rear, cocking the arm. This type model has an inertia firing pin so there can't be an ignition when closing the bolt. I have an old Page – Lewis target model (1920-1925) having the described action, looking every bit it's age but still a darn good shooter.

Point is, these single shot .22s are very easy to clean, can be quite accurate and very affordable both to shoot and at our shows. Oh yeah, they very seldom get looked at and many times I've picked one up for less than \$50 and after a good cleaning, some bluing touchup and and some stock refinishing, they sell for over \$100, sometimes more depending on brand. Sure, some would say I'm not making much money considering the time spent. They are right,

but it's more than I'd have sitting on my keister watching football.

Here's a couple negatives on .22s. I once had a Marlin Model 60, a clip fed semi auto, that was an excellent little carbine. However, it frequently misfired using Federal brand shells. I tried replacing the firing pin spring, etc, with little success. Solution – don't shoot Federal .22s, the brass apparently tougher than other brands.

Next problem I've encountered is failure to feed especially the clip fed semi auto pistols. Almost 90% of the time, it's because of failure to clean out all that old waxy crap, from using outside lubed ammo that has set up like varnish.

Another problem with older bolt actions, is failure to extract, the extractor many time pulling through the shell rim. Times like this generally are because over the years many many rounds of .22 shorts have eroded a ring in the chamber. Then when a hotter .22 long rifle round such as the CCI Mini-Mag is fired, the brass expands, seizing in this groove. Yeah, the owners "buggered up" the rim, trying to pick it out. (Similar issue with recovered trap door Springfields shooting "copper casings" at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. These were 45-70's (the carbine round was 45-55-405 for reduced recoil)—some knothead in Wash. D.C. insisting "copper casings" were good enough. Some troopers' knives found to have the tips broken off from trying to pry out the seized casing.)

Anyway, in the case of the .22s, not too many folks shoot .22 shorts anymore, except for the target folks, so this problem is seldom seen. The older guns can be saved however, by burnishing the chamber which will usually eliminate the sharp-rough edges in the ring.

Probably the .22 I've had the longest is a Ruger MK-1 pistol, semiauto that I purchased in the early '60s for less than \$40, new. This gun has been trouble free for many thousands of shots, even going swimming on slippery rock rivers on occasions over the years. Once, it was raining so hard I might as well have been swimming, but this Ruger with mini-mags took a nice buck that I snuck up on (down wind of course) from nine, yeah nine feet. He was so intent on something across a small clearing he didn't hear me sneaking up behind him. Yup, one in the back of the head, dropped like a rock.

Another time a bunch of us were spending a couple nights along a river in S.W. Washington and I'd brought along a little single shot .22 rifle. A friend who had numerous awards for off hand shooting, had a Remington nylon 66, .22 LR only, semiauto rifle. Anyway, getting tired of his bragging, I challenged him to a "shoot off". I tied a small target to string about 4 foot long and set it to swinging about 30-35 yards away. He took 10 shots, hitting it 4-5 times saying he had 50% success on a swinging target. (He was following the swinging target- the knothead.) Okay, my turn. Now, I took a rest with my single shot and waited for the target to swing to my sights. Bang! Oh yeah, I quit with 100% accuracy. Of course there was the excuses of "you never said I could use a rest, etc". Too bad – I win! Woo Hoo!!

Remember the good old days when you could buy a box of 50 for less than a buck and every little gas station had ammo? Yeah, .22s, 30-30, 30-06, 12 & .410 shotgun shells. Yeah, the good old days.

Hmm, back in the corner of the cabinet, there's a couple of Winchester Model 62, pump action gallery guns, one in 22 short, the other .22 LR. They were given to me, the owner having "given up" on getting them to function properly. Also, I see a couple of Remington Speed Master .22 semi autos, the model with a hole in the side of the butt stock, for loading. These are a pain when they start to "act up". Looks like I'll be busy the rest of the day.

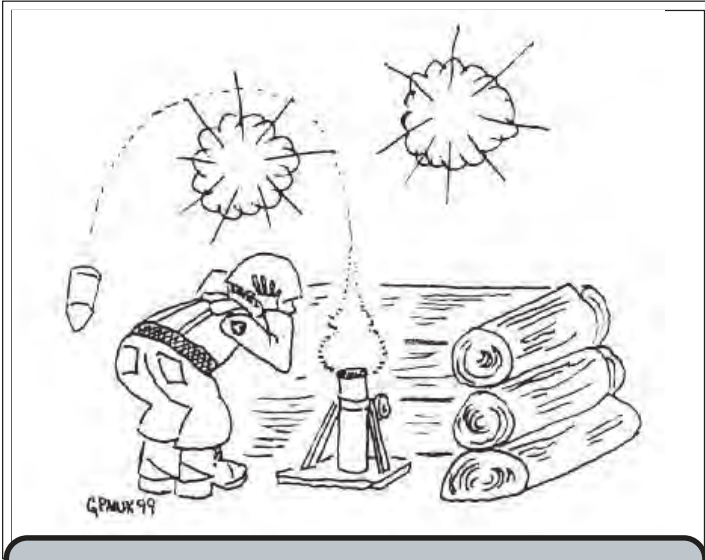
Give me a single shot any day and with a couple peanut butter jars full of .22 ammo, I'm set for life. (This is from auctions, yard sales, misc found loose ammo, etc.)

Here's a little known fact – starting a person to shoot with a single shot rifle or shotgun over the years has shown him/her to be a better shot.

-GN-

The .22 rimfire is our theme this month and you'll find more in Tom Burke's column and also an article on the .22 WRF on p. 24. Have you ever thought about reloading rimfires? See p. 16 for a "how to" piece by Tom Quigley.

SHORT ROUNDS



Letters from our Members

WAC REFLECTIONS

The time we had has slipped away
The years remaining now are few.
We never know from day to day
When yesterday's the last we knew.

So, gun shows came, and gun shows passed
And this past year no shows at all.
Yet sunny days may dawn at last
And give us back a show this fall.

To once again with old friends share
The "steals and deals" and tall tales true.
With open doors; no tables bare
A crowded floor; no Covid flu.

I'm looking forward don't you know
The big event - October show!

Larry Schlotterbeck (not a poet—don't you know it?)

WAC Members Are the Best

During the Covid-19 "no show" lockdown, from January 2020 to present, WAC members have donated **\$10,259** to the club. This is just an incredible figure. At the May Board meeting, Board members discussed a variety of ways to reward members, including member-only hours, member shows and more. Thank you for your support.

Black Diamond Women-Only Pistol Classes

The Black Diamond Gun Club has resumed their monthly women-only pistol classes, post-covid. This is an 8-hour class covering all aspects of firearm safety, handling and shooting pistols. Classes are small (8 ladies) and are very popular, so are always filled into the future. Now in our 16th year, over 800 ladies have taken this class. Everything is included, pistols, ammo, lunch. See **BlackDiamondGunClub.org**, for information and an application.

2021 KIDS DAY 2021

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WWW.RFGC.ORG

425-226-1563

Renton United Cowboy Action Shooters Host Range Officer Classes

Renton United Cowboy Action Shooters will be hosting SASS RO1 and RO2 classes on the weekend of February 27 & 28th, 2021 at the Renton Fish & Game Club. Pinto Annie will be the instructor.

Please contact Cedar County Sheriff at d.mirkle@msn.com if you would like to attend either or both of these classes. Please indicate which class, or both, that you would like to attend. **-GN-**

WINCHESTER®

Model 52D The Apex of Rimfire Accuracy

By Phil Shave, Editor



The Winchester 52 is renowned among .22 rimfires for its quality and accuracy. From the early days back in 1919 to the final production in 1980, every variation has become a collectible rifle. Of all the 52's made, accuracy enthusiasts value most the Model 52D.

Text Continued on page 10





Page 8—The title page photo shows the 52D with a modern 50mm 24X scope mounted using an EGW base. At upper right is the muzzle view with the iron, aperture sights. At lower right, a close-up of the receiver with rear locking bolts.

Left—The Winchester trademark with its unique font.

Right—This view of the forend displays the interesting barrel tension device. The holes to left and right of the center screw adjust upward pressure on the barrel.



Left—A top, rear view of the Redfield International aperture rear sight. The cover photo shows a side view that reveals the mounting for these sights

Right—The serial number is located on the left side of the receiver and the D models will have the letter D suffix after the number.

Also showing here is the rearmost scope mounting block. If one uses an EGW scope base, it will attach using these two screw locations.



Continued from page 8

The 52D came along rather late in the 52 timeline—it was 1961 when Winchester made their penultimate upgrade to their most accurate rimfire when they released the Model 52D. Experts will know that Winchester made 40 Model D rifles with an E prefix that had the receiver altered to take a bedding block/recoil lug, were equipped with a turned-down bolt and threaded screw holes for receiver scope mounts, mainly stocked for prone shooting, etc.; while some collectors call them 52E, Winchester included them in the Model 52D series. Herbert Houze, Winchester expert, says, “...the new Model 52, given the prefix identification letter, “E”, proved...to be merely a slightly reworked Type D rifle.” (The Winchester Model 52, Perfection in Design, by Herbert G. Houze, 1997). This article will review a 52D commercial model.

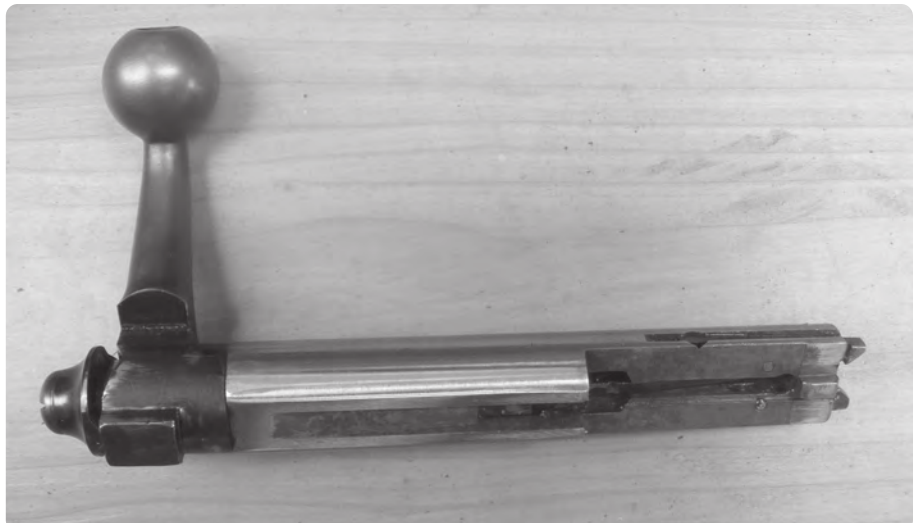
Some 52 History

Let's go back even further. The year was 1919 and Winchester was without a small-bore target rifle and could not offer the military a bolt action trainer, so it tasked its engineers to design a bolt action rimfire repeater—something they had never built. The barrel of their discontinued single shot was mated with a new action that had much in common with full-size rifles. There were some famous names involved: Lt. Col. Townsend Whelen of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship and Maj. Richard LaGarde and Gen. Fred Phillips of the National Rifle Association received the prototypes. Five rifles were then used by the Dewar Cup Team to win the Smallbore title at the National Matches of 1919.

The new Winchester operated much like a full-size military rifle. It employed two rear lugs and a non-rotating bolt that cocked on closing (the later Speedlock changed this to cock on opening). The receiver, massive for a .22, was forged and open at the bottom to accept a magazine. A pair of extractors pulled the shell from the chamber without fail. The safety wing at the left rear of the receiver blocked the cocking piece. There was a target weight barrel. Winchester was satisfied with the winning prototypes and began production of their premium-priced rimfire—the 52. This rifle was continually improved with a series of improvements in the subsequent models 52A, B, and C.



Above—Note the solid receiver with a trough for the cartridge. Also the "D" stamped into the Receiver.



Above—The non-rotating bolt with two rear lugs.

Below—The left lug is massive for a .22, the bolt handle root is the other lug.





Above—The bolt face and the twin extractors. There is no way that a .22 LR rim can escape these two massive claws.

The cartridge can be fed from the trough or started in the chamber by hand. It feeds fine either way.



Above—Here we're looking at the striker assembly from the rear. The bolt is raised and the striker is cocked as the 52D cocks upon opening. Just a note on removing the bolt—it's a little tricky. The striker must be released first, then before raising the bolt, push forward on the trigger while pulling the bolt out the rear.

Moving on to 1956, the Winchester target rifle was at that time the 52C. The US Olympic rifle team was not satisfied and requested that Winchester provide them with ten improved, modified Model 52C's. These rifles were then used for the Melbourne, Australia Olympics (As was often the case, the Soviets took gold in most rifle competitions that year; Canadian Gerald Oullette won the small-bore prone, with what rifle I don't know.). These ten modified C rifles were the prototypes for the almost totally revised 52D.

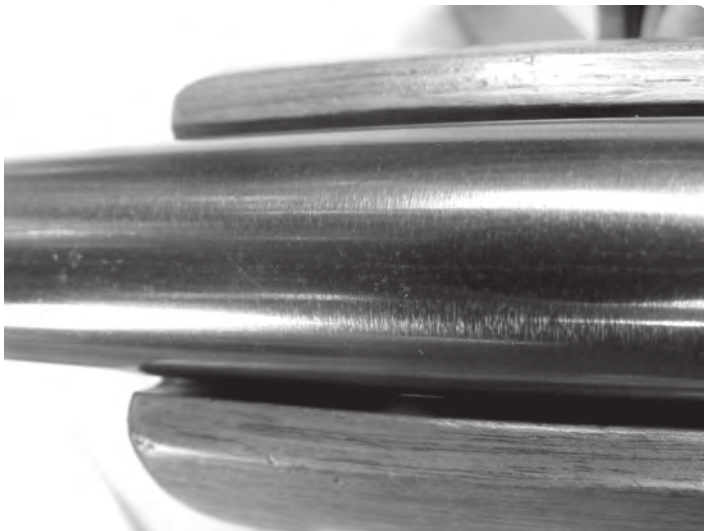
The 52 Family

Like a close cousin, certainly not a brother, the 52D bears a relative's resemblance to its predecessors while being its own gun. Most notably, the 52D is a true single-shot rifle with a solid, rigid receiver. This was done to create a competitive platform without the compromise inherent in a magazine rifle. If you're familiar with the Model 52 but not the D model, then you likely know that the 52's that preceded the D are all magazine rifles—repeaters. Yes, some have a single shot adapter but they were built with a receiver that accepts a magazine. The D has no barrel band whereas even the heavy barrel 52, 52A, 52B, and 52C have a barrel band at the front of the forend (of course the Sporter does not). In contrast to earlier rifles, the 52D barrel is free-floated. Further modification of the innovative Micro-Motion trigger of the 1951 C allowed adjustment of the 52D as low as one pound. Like the B and C models, the D has a right-side sliding safety lever rather than the earlier wing at the rear.

The Factory Barrel Tuner

The 52D is described as having a fully floated barrel. Yes, but...it was also equipped with a "state of the art" barrel tuner or adjustable bedding tuner. When the 52D was introduced, small-bore shooters were beginning to understand barrel harmonics and experimenting with barrel tension devices.

Beneath the forend there are three visible screws; the central screw retains the steel barrel bedding block in the stock while the left and right screws contact the barrel at an angle and permit pressure to be applied upward. There are clicks in the tension screws much like a scope turret. Adjustment is tricky and the best procedure is with ohm meter leads connected to the bedding device and another steel part of the action. With zero screw contact, resistance is infinite, and only when the screw just makes contact will continuity show on the meter. From that point, one can count clicks to ensure even adjustment left and right.



Above—Note the generous barrel channel; the barrel makes no contact with the stock.

Below—An accessory channel runs the full length of the stock. At bottom is the trigger guard. The small screw just forward of the guard adjusts trigger pull.



Here's the problem with this system—with a wood stock, barrel tension will never be the same twice and there is no way to ensure that the block is truly centered in the stock. This is an "iffy" system that might compensate for some ammunition inadequacies but would likely need to be tuned at the range for each shooting session; certainly with every ammunition change. Something to watch for—on this example rifle the center mounting screw contacted the barrel, making consistent adjustment impossible; the solution is to either shorten the center screw or place a washer beneath the screw head. Many shooters report that their rifles shoot best without employing the tuner; others find that with some ammunition it can cut groups in half. Start with some good target ammo and no tension, experiment from there.

Stock & Furniture

The straight grain walnut stock is very heavy for stability and the forend bottom is flat. There is a pistol grip. On this rifle, an aluminum adjustable butt plate has been fitted to permit tailoring to the shooter. There is a rail that extends from the trigger guard to the end of the stock for mounting a sling swivel or palm rest. The total weight of the rifle is about 13 lbs. The action secures to the stock with a rear screw and a second screw forward of, but not part of, the trigger guard. There is no bedding glass or pillar. The barrel as noted earlier is free-floated with a generous channel.

Sights

Many of the 52D's came equipped like this one with Redfield International aperture sights on the rear. The left side of the receiver is drilled and tapped for the iron sight mount plate which is secured to the receiver with two screws. The Redfield sight then attaches with a coin slotted and knurled thumbscrew. The International sight is precise and has interchangeable apertures.

The front sight is also by Redfield and has a large screw-in shade and apertures that can be changed by merely pulling them out and inserting a new one through a slot in the top of the tube. The front sight is also secured with a large coin-slotted thumbscrew that clamps to a V block.

Provision for scope mounting is via two V blocks screwed to the barrel forward of the action. Use of these blocks requires an old-style target scope with a long tube and long eye relief.

Trigger

The Micro-Motion trigger is one of Winchester's best efforts. Pull weight can be adjusted with a screw

Right—The 52D is a massive rifle, weighing in at 13 lbs. Then a 2 lb. scope is added to make it even heavier. Only an accomplished marksman can manage the standing position.



accessible through a hole in the trigger guard. Full adjustment requires that the action be removed from the stock. This trigger was an improvement over the similar trigger offered in the 52C and it allows the pull weight to be lowered to as little as 1 lb. However, these triggers may actually pull at ounces rather than pounds. There is little perceptible motion and no overtravel when properly adjusted. This fine trigger is one of the best features of the 52D and will allow most shooters to do their best.

Action

Target shooters have criticized the 52D for a lock time that is slower than a competitive Anschütz. While factually true, the disadvantage is slight and perhaps mostly apparent when shooting from a standing position. The receiver is stiff, the bolt locking lugs (bolt handle and one lug) sturdy, extractors reliable.

Barrel

The 52D has a heavy bull target barrel that is nominally .875" at the muzzle—I measure an actual .868". The length is 28". The match chamber is a push fit for the cartridge and the rifling engages the bullet when chambered. The muzzle is crowned at 90 degrees to the bore and on this rifle, there is a slight chamfer at the rifling. Factory crowns are in-the-white and this one is.

Commercial vs. Military

Many of the 52D rifles are Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) guns that have been released to the public. On the left side, the military trainers will have

"U.S." markings above the serial number. Those who collect military rifles will see extra value in the "U.S." marking. The blue finish on the commercial models is typically very good Winchester quality (better on the earlier guns than the later). This rifle has a very good polish and blue on the receiver and a lesser quality polish on the barrel. I've read that only 750 52D rifles were sold to the public. Production figures for the Winchester rifles are obscure and factory records sketchy with different experts citing different numbers, so please don't accept the figures here as gospel.

Regarding accuracy, there are no guarantees that a 52D will be a great shooter. These are mostly used guns that may have seen variable care. There is nothing to indicate that the military barrels or triggers are of lesser quality so a CMP rifle may be a fine shooter. Some report that many CMP rifles come with a mismatched bolt. A former military trainer would likely have been in storage for a long time and will need some attention to cleaning before shooting. On the other hand, a commercial 52D may have been heavily used by a club or rifle team and might show damage from youthful mishandling and careless bore cleaning. Or the rifle may have fired thousands of rounds in competition. That forend bedding tuner may turn out to be an asset or just a nuisance. As with any vintage firearm, careful inspection is a must. My opinion—if one values classic blue steel and walnut and the era of hand-finished firearms then the nicely blued commercial 52D is the version that will call to you.



Left—A really good view of the D model solid, single shot receiver. The forged receiver is designed with nearly centerfire dimensions.

Below—Side view of the Redfield aperture sight showing the slot that receives changeable inserts. The knurled attaching screw invites abuse.

Production Dates

Manufacturing dates for the 52D can be found at several sources. This serial number 121XXXD is a circa 1966 manufactured rifle. Go to winchesterguns.com to find a listing of serial numbers with manufacturing dates. Another source is winchestercollector.org. Be warned that Winchester factory records are known to be incomplete and sometimes inaccurate. For example, a receiver might have been manufactured and serial numbered in one year but assembled and sold at a later date.



Shooting

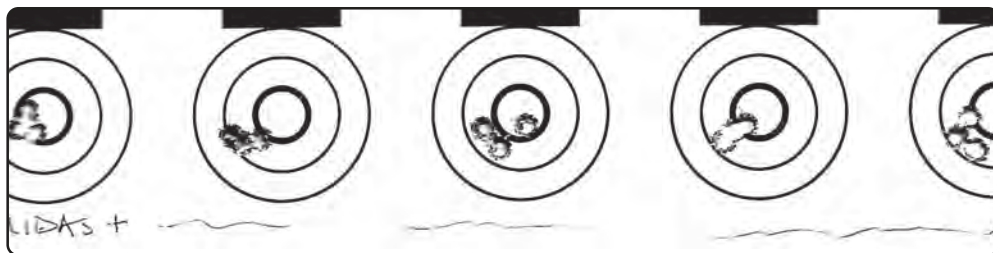
The 52D was intended to be used in both metallic and telescopic sight Smallbore competitions and was equipped for both. Most came from the factory with metallic sights like the Redfield International. Typically, club and school rifle teams used the iron sights. These aperture sights are designed for a single purpose, used with specific apertures at a given distance for an official target and match distance. Target shooting with metallic sights is a very specific skill and although aperture sights compensate for flawed vision, they are difficult for those with less than perfect eyesight. Collectors who wish to use a scope might want to acquire vintage rings and scopes that are appropriate to this rifle; these are very expensive.

Below—The Redfield International aperture sight from the left side. Just below the sight body one can barely see the two screws that attach the mount plate to the receiver.

Prone, bench or recreational shooters will be less picky about originality and will find ways to mount a modern scope on the 52D. One of the simpler methods (that also does no damage to value) is to use a base made specifically for the 52 by EGW. Since the EGW mount uses the factory screw positions on the barrel just forward of the receiver, it comes in variations to match and compensate for the barrel taper. A 52 sporter has a tapered barrel, whereas target and heavy barrels are much straighter—this requires that you order the



Right—Some test targets fired at 50 yds. Three shot groups with Midas + target ammunition. This 52D liked the Midas+ and most shots touched, with no flyers.



correct mount for your rifle. This 52D has been equipped with a “0” degree EGW mount because it has a nearly straight bull barrel. The EGW mount is well-made and rigid; unlikely to cause any scope mounting issues.

Test groups were fired using a high quality 24X scope with parallax adjustment and with a large 30mm tube and 50mm objective lens. Shooting was done with the rifle bench-rested on a forend bag and rear bag. The barrel tuner was adjusted to zero contact and no experimentation was done to see if the tuner would improve accuracy. I’ve not had enough time yet to do a thorough shakedown but some bench shooting has been done at 50 yards with three shot groups. I fired groups with Eley Match, Remington (Eley) Club Extra and SK Rifle Match. Typical groups, center-to-center, were under 1/2”. Eley Match grouped .376” to .502”. Club Extra performed well at .333 to .379”. Initially, the very best single group was with SK Rifle Match at .235”, with other groups up to .344”. I think both the Club Extra and SK Rifle Match have potential and deserve more shooting but groups had a tendency to have two shots touching and one out of the group. The ammunition is off-my-shelf so it’s all older and may not be currently available; similar current target ammunition may be better and it’s always worth trying multiple brands with a target rifle.

A return trip to the range on a nice calm morning may have determined the best ammunition for this rifle. I fired multiple groups with Lapua Midas + that hovered around .200” to .250”. The best group was .192”. You can see from the target that many groups had all shots touching at 50 yards. Of course, as is often the case, this is the most expensive ammo I have. This seems like a pretty good start for an old used rifle with an unknown number of rounds through it. If the 50 yard groups, bench or prone, come down to .200” consistently then this is a competitive rifle even by today’s standards. Yes, five or even ten shot groups will tell us more. Some will grumble about variable quality of the Winchester barrels (and many serious shooters change these out) but commend the 52D action. I will say that the weight of the rifle and the excellent trigger make this rifle very easy to shoot.

How accurate can a .22 rifle be? Way back in 1937 Winchester tested their Model 52 and demonstrated that it was capable of 10 shot groups at 200 yards averaging 1.25”. I don’t know the conditions or how the rifle was held and fired. This should give us pause—that is awfully good accuracy from a factory .22 rifle. Ammunition is undoubtedly even better today. It would be entertaining to set some targets out at 200 yards and shoot a few 10 shot groups with the 52D as a test of rifle and shooter. The bottom line is that Winchester .22 target rifles are often more capable than their shooters.

Today there are more accurate .22 rifles being made—they are very expensive. If dissatisfied with a barrel that has seen too many rounds, one can surely invest in a state-of-the-art barrel for the 52D action. But as one of the finest collectible Winchester target .22’s, this example is a fine old rifle that, as it is, will see some range time.

More Information for Shooters & Collectors

The classic book The Winchester Model 52, Perfection in Design by Herbert G. Houze is out of print and priced as a collectible book, if and when you can find one. It is the most comprehensive source of information on the entire line of Model 52 rifles.

Because the 52D is a very good target rifle, online information and opinion are extensive. You will find commentary at a variety of forums. A few of the best sites are:

1. rimfirecentral.com There is a Winchester 52 sub-forum with many discussions specific to the 52D.
2. snipershide.com You might not expect to find a lot of interest on this forum but there is a sub-forum for rimfire rifles—rimfires are of course excellent understudies and trainers for a sniper rifle and this forum tends to threads regarding shooting and tuning rather than collecting.
3. rimfireaccuracy.com
4. winchestercollector.org This site is a source for a variety of information on any collectible Winchester.

-GN-

Reloading the .22 Rimfire

By Tom Quigley, WAC Member & President, Antique Reloading Tool Collector's Association

Today .22 Rimfire cartridges are produced in the U.S. and around the world by the billions! In fact, in 2014—the last year for which rimfire production numbers are available—the number made by U.S. companies were: 6.6 Billion total.(note 1)

The story of the .22 Rimfire in the U.S. begins with the Rollin White Patent for the bored-through cylinder and Smith & Wesson's development of their # 1 revolver in .22 short. This story is too well known to be recounted here. By 1857 Smith & Wesson was manufacturing and selling .22 short ammunition to be used in revolvers of their own manufacture. (note 2)

In 1861, the firm of Leet & Goff was producing .22 long ammunition; with the large scale production of .22 long ammunition commencing in 1871 by the Union Metallic Cartridge Company.(note 3)

Noted author and collector Lou Behling lists the following dates and companies as first producing the various .22 rimfire cartridges sold in the U.S:

- 1—.22 Short--Smith & Wesson--1857.
- 2—.22 Long--Leet & Goff--1861...with the large scale production by the Union Cap & Chemical Co. in 1871.
- 3—.22 BB (Bulleted Breech) Cap--the Union Metallic Cap & Chemical Co.--Circa 1866.
- 4—.22 Extra Long (earliest price list)--Winchester Repeating Arms Co.--1877.
- 5—.22 CB (Conical Breech) Cap--Union Metallic Cartridge Co. (UMC Co.)--Circa 1884.
- 6—.22 Long Rifle (earliest advertisement by UMC--November 1, 1884.
- 7—.22 WRF (Winchester Rimfire) Winchester Repeating Arms Co.--1890.
- 8—.22 Auto--Winchester Repeating Arms Co.--1904. (note 3)

In notice No. 60 on October 26, 1922, the Planning Department of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company listed forty-two (42) different .22 Rimfire loads ranging from a BB Cap with the Winchester cartridge symbol of K2001 R to a .22 Short Blank with the Cartridge symbol of K2251 R and forty (40) others including Auto, Extra Long, Long, Long Rifle, and short in between! (note 4)

Most collectors and shooters know that centerfire cartridges, be they Berdan or Boxer primed, are readily reloadable. The majority of the centerfire rifle, pistol, and shotshell rounds produced today are Boxer primed and have been Boxer primed in the U.S. since the 1880s. A wide variety of tools ranging from simple handheld tools to complex machines have been developed whose function is to assist in the process of reloading center-fire ammunition.

What of Rimfire Ammunition? Can it be reloaded, has it ever been, what about today? The author would venture a guess that many shooters, collectors, and probably many reloaders of

Text Continued on page 18



Above—Modern rimfire reloading kit.

Plate 4 Below—Primed shells from the Rich Rains Collection.





Plate 5, above—A box of Empty and unprimed Shells from the Rich Rains Collection.

Plate 6, below—Two boxes of Bullets from the Rich Rains Collection.

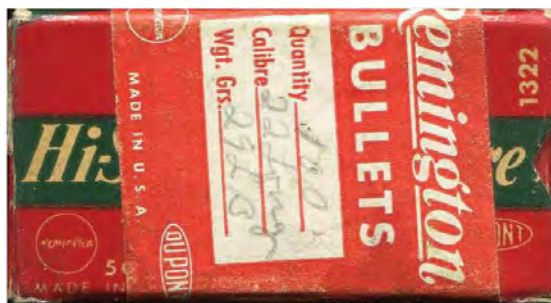


Plate 7, below—Winchester tool, no markings on this side.

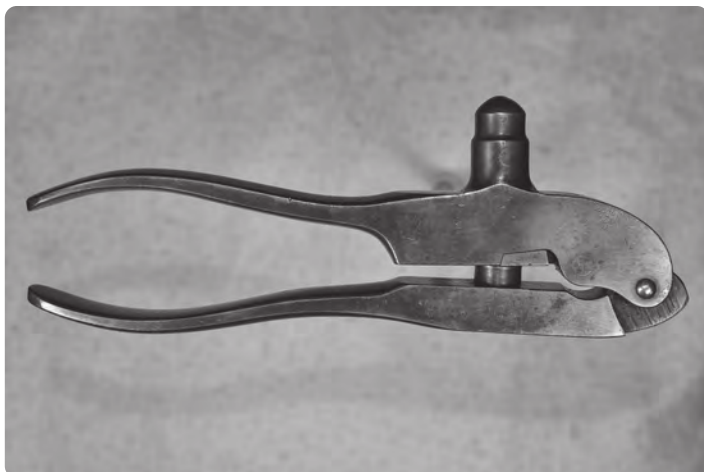


Plate 8, right—Side of Winchester tool stamped with caliber & patent dates.



Plate 9, left below—the Hole through the Extractor plate into the seating chamber. **Plate 10, right below**—Primer seating stud ground flush with tool.

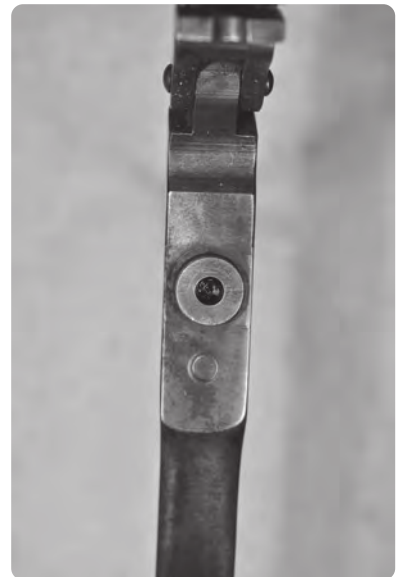
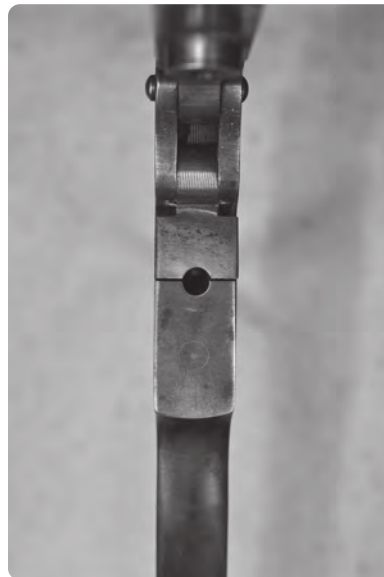
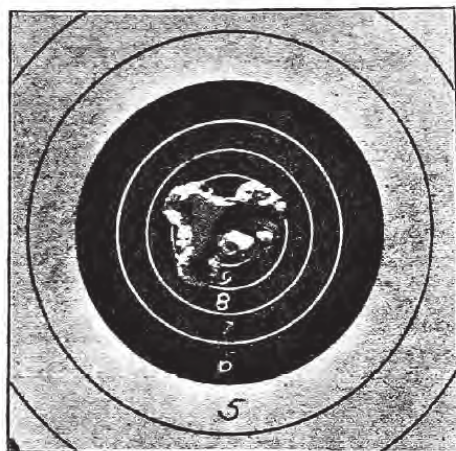


Plate 11, below—Side-view of the M. 1882 tool.



To place ten consecutive shots on or in a circle .33 of an inch in diameter at 64 feet is not an easy matter, yet it is sometimes done, and we print a cut herewith showing how it was done last Thursday night by Dr. Walter G. Hudson, of the Manhattan Rifle and Revolver Association, on the occasion of



DR. W. G. HUDSON'S PERFECT SCORE.

the regular weekly indoor shoot of that club in its range in Lenox avenue. The rifle range is 64 feet in length and the target used is the Standard American reduced for that distance. The doctor shot a Ballard-Winchesterrifle and .22 long-rifle cartridges. The latter were reloaded. The doctor withdrew the bullets from some Peters cartridges, leaving the powder intact but replacing the bullets with those of the Winchester company's long-rifle cartridges. The rifle and the cartridges were the same as those used by him last winter when he won second place in the 100 shot individual match at Madison Square Garden. The target is reproduced the same size as the original.

From Shooting and Fishing, June 14, 1900
Dr Hudson's Perfect Score

Plate 1

Plate 2-.22 Long Rifle ball seater



Plate 3-.22 Long ball seater



centerfire ammunition don't know that Rimfire ammunition is reloadable! Although the process is different in some aspects from reloading centerfire ammunition, it is certainly possible and has been done on a limited basis for more than 100 years.

Information taken from an article in *Shooting and Fishing* from the June 14, 1900 issue tells about and shows perfect target shot by Doctor W.G. Hudson. The article says in part: "To place ten consecutive shots on or in a circle .33 of an inch in diameter at 64 feet is not an easy matter, yet it is sometimes done, and we print a cut wherewith showing how it was done last Thursday night by Dr. Walter G. Hudson, of the Manhattan Rifle and Revolver Association, on the occasion of the regular weekly indoor shoot of the club in its range on Lenox Avenue. The range is 64 feet in length and the target used is the Standard American reduced for that distance. The doctor shot a Ballard-Winchester Rifle and .22 long-rifle cartridges. The latter were reloaded. The doctor withdrew the bullets from some Peters Cartridges, leaving the powder intact but replacing the bullets with those of the Winchester Company's long-rifle cartridges." (note 5) (Emphasis Added) See Plate 1 at left.

Dr. Hudson could and probably would have used a simple straight-line ball seater/bullet loader like the one shown in Plate 2 which came from the Winchester Repeating Arms Company's Inspection Department's Tool Room. (Author's collection)

If Dr. Hudson had been shooting .22 Long ammunition he might have used a ball seater like the one shown in Plate #3 which also came from Winchester. (Author's collection)

During the time when Dr. Hudson was competing "against Harry Pope, Arthur Hubalek, A.O. Zischang, George Schoyen, F.C. Ross, T.L. Lee" (note 5) and others, "ammunition manufacturers, as a general business practice, loaded and sold Rimfire ammunition. They were also known to occasionally sell Rimfire cartridge components." (note 9) [Emphasis added] While these rimfire components are less often seen, they are known in more advanced collections. See Plate 4 for examples of primed (unloaded) shells from the Rich Rains collection.

With primed cases and bullets, either made by the reloader or purchased from a company, the reloader could add his favorite powder, which when combined using a simple ball seater gave serviceable and occasionally extraordinarily accurate ammunition.

Little else was found in print about reloading .22 rimfire ammunition until a November 1970 *American Rifleman* Dope Bag question was asked on page 77 of that issue. (note 4):

".22 Rimfire Loading Tool

Recently, my wife purchased a number of old loading tools at an auction. One of them, an old tong-type Winchester tool, (emphasis added), was stamped ".22 WRF". This seems impossible, but a check on its dimensions indicated that it was made to load this cartridge. Would you comment on this?

Answer: At one time U.S. manufacturers of Rimfire ammunition furnished primed cases and bullets in .22 WRF and other calibers up to and including .56-56 Spencer. For example, a Remington Arms Co. catalog issued in 1910 listed primed cases and bullets

for .22 BB Cap, .22 CB Cap, .22 Short, .22 Long, .22 Long Rifle, .22 Extra Long and .22 WRF. According to this catalog, loaded smokeless powder .22 WRF cartridges were \$10 per 1000. Primed cases were \$3 per 1000; bullets \$2.50 per 1000.

Although it is not practicable to reload rimfire cartridges, a shooter purchasing primed cases and bullets could save money by loading his own ammunition...M.D.W" (note 13)

The "old tong-type Winchester Tool" alluded to in the November 1970 Dope Bag question may, in fact, be the one pictured in Plates 7-11!

The tool's owner, Myron Whitehead, is a researcher and collector of reloading tools. At my request, Myron took several photographs and measurements of this VERY interesting M. 1882 Winchester tool. Myron said, *"This tool is nicely made but does not bear the usual manufacturer's stamp: 'Manufactured by the Winchester Rep. Arms Co. New Haven Conn. U.S.A.' On the opposite side, the typical Winchester patent information is uniformly stamped: 'Pat. Oct. 20, 1874 Nov. 7, 82'. In addition to the Patent stamping and above it the caliber of the tool is HAND STAMPED 22 WRF. (Winchester Rimfire) [note the letter spacing and unevenness of the hand stamping]"*

Myron measured the tool in the area where the Winchester Company information should have been stamped. It measured 0.755" thick. He then measured six other M. 1882 tools that ranged in thickness from 0.742 to 0.758 inches thick which led both of us to conclude that the Winchester Company information was never stamped on this tool.

The tool is interesting in other ways. The hole bored through the extractor plate and into the seating chamber is smaller in diameter than the .22 WCF (Winchester Centerfire) tools in his collection. See Plate 9.

The extractor plate is flush with the sides of the tool indicating that it was finished at the same time the tool was made.

The primer seating stud is ground off and the corresponding leg of the tool is very neatly plugged and ground flush with the interior surface of the tool. See Plate 10.

Myron concludes by saying: *"The quality of workmanship indicates that the tool was likely made by a Winchester employee or someone with significant machining/gunsmith skills. The absence of the "Winchester" markings suggests to me (Myron) that the tool is unlikely to be a 'special order' product, but probably the work of a rogue employee or a friend of a rogue employee."* The only comment that I can add to Myron's is that I wish that a rogue employee would make me a .22 WRF tool like this one! (note14)

The author would like to note a recent development in the reloading of .22 Rimfire ammunition. In 2014 Gilbert Little, a friend and reloader from Montana, contacted me about a kit recently introduced to the commercial market which is designed to reload .22 Long Rifle ammunition. Gilbert indicated that the only components not furnished with the kit were the fired .22 cases that form the basis of the reloading process and the priming compound and powder needed to complete the loading process. Appropriate powders are commercially available while the priming compound is available from Sharp Shooter LLC. See the photo of this kit is on the title page 16.

The kit shown is only one of the products available from Sharp Shooter LLC. The .22 LR (Long Rifle) kit was introduced to the buying public in 2013. In 2015 another kit for .22 Magnums was introduced to the shooting and reloading community.

Re-priming compound kit for rimfires



The kit contains a two-cavity aluminum mould with a steel sprue cutter. One cavity is cherried for a 25 grain solid point heeled bullet and the other for a 38 grain round nose heeled bullet. The mould has a very cleverly designed case crimper built into the inside of the mould's handles. The kit also contains a tool to clean the inside of the case rim. This tool also doubles as a primer packer. An eyedropper, a double-ended powder dipper, and a powder/primer compound funnel complete the kit. Written instructions accompany the kit. In addition, a video on the Company's website shows the step-by-step reloading process. The kit has a lifetime warranty.



Above & Right—The sizing and case ironing die from Sharp Shooter, along with the shellholder. At right a side view of the die.



When talking to Brian Nixon, President of Sharp Shooter LLC, he informed me that U.S. Patent # 9 335 138 B2 was granted on May 10, 2016, for a “combination hand tool for molding and trimming bullets and for crimping a rimfire case to a bullet to make a rimfire cartridge.” (note 15) This patent is for the very cleverly designed bullet mold referred to above.

The Company sells other products ranging from one that converts Berdan primed cases to Boxer primed and another that resizes .22 Rimfire brass. The Company can be reached at 22LRRELOADER.COM.

To answer the questions asked earlier in the article: Yes, .22 Rimfires can be reloaded and have been for at least 100 years and yes, thanks to the Sharp Shooter .22 Long Rifle Reloader Kit from Sharp Shooter LLC at 22LRRELOADER.COM it is easy, safe, and convenient to do so.

The author would like to thank Ken Alexander, Lou Behling, Gilbert Little, Brian Nixon, Rich Rains, Dan Shuey, and Myron Whitehead, for sharing their expertise and collectibles which made this article possible.

END NOTES

1. Emailed correspondence with Ken Alexander
2. Correspondence with Rich Rains Editor of the .22 Box Newsletter
3. Lou Behling emailed correspondence
4. Dan Shuey, WCF Publications, Winchester Correspondence 10/26/22 No. 60.
5. Rich Rains Editor, The .22 Box Vol. 28, Number 3, Mar-Apr 2013, page # 2.
6. Photo of Dr. Hudson's target, Plate 1
7. .22 Long Rifle ball seater, authors collection,
8. .22 Long ball seater, authors collection, Plate 3
9. Quote from Rich Rains
10. Unprimed shells, Rich Rains collection, Plate 4
11. Unprimed empty shells, Rich Rains collection, Plate 5
12. Bullets, Rich Rains collection, Plate 6
13. Correspondence with Dan Shuey of WCF Publications
14. Myron Whitehead Emailed correspondence and photographs
15. 22 LR RELOADER.COM...Kit and Literature by phone and Emails with Brian Nixon, President Phone #970-640-2799, 22LRRELOADER.COM, Sharp Shooter LLC, Patent # 9 335 138 B2

—Originally published in the Reloading Tool Journal, October 2019, Volume 19, issue #2, the Journal of the Antique Reloading Tool Collectors Association, reprinted here with the permission of Editor Ken Neeld.

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The Author—Tom Quigley serves as the President of the Antique Reloading Tool Collector's Association. This non-profit group aims to share and exchange information about the construction, collection, and history of tools and associated accessories. ARTCA publishes two 30 page-journals a year. If interested in joining contact Tom Quigley at P.O. Box 1567 Castle Rock, WA 98611

-GN-

Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all, the Long, the Short and the...Long Rifle .22 That Is The World of Collecting By Tom Burke

I shot competitive smallbore rifle for close to a dozen years. In junior and senior high school and through college I spent hours upon hours peering through the iron sights of my Winchester Model 52D, with its unfinished, sweat-stained, international, thumb-hole stock; about nine pounds of lead strapped to the barrel, butt, and poured into a cavity in the stock (the gun weighed 13+ pounds); and a zillion rounds of .22 Long Rifle match ammo. It was marvelous.

I shot on my high school (GW Hewlett in Hewlett, NY) and college teams (U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY) and on a “private” junior team sponsored by our local American Legion Post.

Our high school team was unbeatable in our county; the college team was competitive but not quite of Olympic quality, and the junior team cleaned up (team-wise and individually) from Connecticut to Virginia and out to Camp Perry.

High school practice was every day from the end of classes at 3 ‘till about 5:30 plus a Saturday practice. The junior team practiced Monday and Tuesday nights for about 3 hours and a 3-hour stint on Saturdays—I spent a lot of time shooting. We shot in every match we could find throughout the mid-Atlantic region and our coach made us carry in an empty bushel basket with our gear so when someone asked what it was for (and someone always did) we’d answer it was for taking home all the trophies we were going to win. (His philosophy—it would dismay the “average” team that might get lucky, and rattled by us, they wouldn’t get lucky. The good shooters would be undaunted, he said. That basket was always full when we left.)

In the summer it was Vermont and my uncle’s farm for squirrels or we’d go to a friend-of-a-friend’s farm on the East Bank of the Hudson River to help the dairyman reduce the number of woodchucks (and their holes) endangering his herd.

At Kings Point, there wasn’t nearly the opportunity to practice. School and regimental life made it a busy place and the entire sophomore year was spent at sea, on merchant ships, learning our trade.

What with all that practice I wasn’t a bad shot. If only today I had the ammo budget to get that much trigger time; and a liberty pass from my wife to spend that much time at the range.

All of this is the long way ‘round of saying I’ve had more than a passing acquaintance with a .22. Early on, mostly in rifle; later it was more pistol than rifle; and today, it’s almost entirely pistol, except when I join my grandkids teaching them to shoot.

From my perspective, the .22 is the most versatile caliber in the arsenal. Pistol calibers (25, 32, 380, 9, 40, 45, et al) are mostly that, although there are a few rifles in 9 or 357, they aren’t all that common. And rifle calibers (30-06, 270, 8mm, 303, etc) are only that, rifle calibers.

But the .22 swings both ways – from the Ruger Mark I pistol to the Ruger 10/22 rifle and in about a million other flavors—that little



Above—pre-WWII Harrington & Richardson “Sportsman” top-break .22 holding 9 rounds.



Right—S&W crams 10 into the 617 cylinder.

bullet excels at putting holes in tin cans, stacking 10 rounds into an X-ring about .23 inches in diameter, or knocking off small game for the pot or to hang on a barbed wire fence as a warning to other critters to Keep Out.

In terms of collecting, it offers more opportunities than anyone has a budget for.

A Quick Word about Rimfires

Before there was commercial centerfire, but after firelocks and percussion, there was the rimfire cartridge, where the primer was secreted inside the rim of the brass and, when struck by the firing pin, would spark, ignite the powder in the shell, which would burn very quickly forming gas which pushed the bullet down the barrel and out the muzzle.

Louis-Nicolas Flobert, in 1845, is credited with being the “inventor,” of this new way to shoot. By 1887 the technology had advanced with a bigger bullet and longer brass and the .22 Long Rifle was introduced. Other calibers were modeled

on the rimfire but these bigger bore bullets evolved into centerfire which was better suited for the larger calibers.

The first American revolver chambered in a true rimfire cartridge (.22 Short) was the diminutive Smith & Wesson Number One, introduced in 1857. S&W not only pioneered the use of metallic cartridges in a revolver, they actually invented the .22 short that was used. (There's a lot more to this story, about buying the patent to the whole revolver-with-a-bored-through-cylinder and other stuff, but that's for another time.)

By 1887 the Stevens company had introduced what is today's standard .22 LR, with its longer case and a 40 grain bullet.

And an avalanche of makes and models rained down (to mix a metaphor) on the gun-buying public.

So What Should I "Collect?"

First, I would gently suggest you collect a small fortune—if you want really, really good, museum-quality firearms. Collecting .22s is just like collecting Broomhandles, early Smiths, SSA Colts, Civil War Muskets, 18th Century fowling pieces, or lever-action Winchesters: quality costs.

But for those whose budget doesn't encompass the legendary, and mystical, .45ACP Luger, there's a couple of good reasons to collect .22s:

- They are relatively affordable to own;
- They are relatively affordable to shoot;
- They hold their value;
- They can have a ton of history in their bones.
- Plus, they are a ton-a-fun to shoot.

Let's start with three "Gotta Haves," all Rugers. All three are outstanding examples of their ilk: First is one of the Ruger Mark pistols; then the Ruger semi-auto 10/22 rifle; and finally the Ruger Single Six (and if you can find one with an interchangeable .22 mag cylinder, get it).

All that's "missing" and needs to be filled in for a starter collection, then, is—a .22 bolt action rifle for the field, a .22 lever action, a .22 pump; a .22 target rifle, a .22 wheel "kit" gun, a .22 military trainer, a .22 top break, a .22 pocket pistol, a .22 modern sporting rifle, a .22 for shooting shotshells, a .22 for serious, pistol bullseye target work, a .22/.410 or .22 mag/16 ga. over and under, and a top-end conversion for a 9mm or .45acp pistol.

Of course, getting just one example of each of these types of .22s from just one manufacturer ain't gonna cut it; ya gotta have one or two examples each from Winchester, High Standard, Ruger, Marlin, Mossberg, Colt, S&W, Harrington & Richardson, Remington, Stevens, Henry, Browning, Walther, Beretta, Rossi, Taurus, Savage, Thompson Center, SIG/Trailside, and, and, and.....

So How about...

Where to begin? Beats me, it's too broad a field. So in no particular order, here are some suggestions via the collective wisdom of a whole bunch of Smith and Wesson forum contributors and my own personal proclivities:



A top-end conversion. I have two, one for a 9mm SIG P250 and the other for a SIG P220 .45acp. All I have to do is replace the slide (and barrel and recoil stuff), shove in a .22 magazine and I'm ready to practice the trigger on my larger guns at .22 LR prices. These are made for other guns as well, with the 1911 being top of mind.

Lever-action Marlins, especially the 1892/39/39a are popular. For a newly-made lever gun, there's the Henry. Plus, of course, Winchester.

Pump .22s, also known as gallery guns, as these were a popular choice for the shooting galleries of yore serving up .22 shorts. The gallery guns by Winchester are probably at the top of the price list, but there are others. Rossi makes one and it gets very good reviews and is eminently affordable.

For an oddity and historical first, try the Remington Nylon 66 .22. It was a plastic gun long before Gaston Glock did his thing. It shoots well, and was made from a nylon resin invented by DuPont, requested by Remington for use in both the stock and receiver to lower production costs. They made a bunch of models from 1959 to 1989 and they're still around.

For serious target work, the current ne plus ultra is the S&W 41. Decent examples can be found in the \$900 - \$1,300 range and fans say the trigger will spoil you for any other .22. There are also specialized target "Olympic" guns, some shooting only .22 shorts, but for them ya might want to bring a bigger bag of pennies.

The Ruger Mark IV isn't a bad lower-cost alternative to the 41's or Olympic shooters, and whether you have it thoroughly worked over by folks such as Volquartsen Firearms or not, it will probably outshoot you. I know mine is more accurate than I am.

The other Ruger Marks—I, II, III – all have their fans, the Mark I Standard being the gun that made the Sturm Ruger company a success. It was a derivative of the Japanese WWII Nambu pistol

with elements of the P08 Luger and Colt Woodsman added, plus a couple of innovative manufacturing techniques to lower production costs (piano wire coil springs and a two-piece stamped sheet metal receiver). The original gun sold for \$37.50, or \$420.00 in today's money, not an unreasonable price back then, or now. For many, the gun's only drawback is the challenge it presents putting it back together after it's been field-stripped for cleaning. It ain't easy. But the Sturm Ruger folks solved that problem in their Mark IV, which is a snap to reassemble.

I had one of those .22/410 over/unders for years. Kept it in the safe for when I went hunting. But I never could figure out what to hunt with it. I had better bolt action .22s (a Czech Mosin-like .22 military trainer) and a better shotgun (Mossberg 500 12 bore) and it finally got traded for...something. (I think it was a WWI Gew 98 with the roller-coaster rear sight.)

Researching/writing this piece is gonna cost me. Reading up on the lever action .22s has got me yearning for one. I'll start with Marlin/Glenfield model 60s, look for 39 or 39a, figure Winchester is too pricy for just hacking around, and consider Henry if I want something new.

I mentioned my Winchester 52D. It was a workhorse and it was well used. But, one year, just before the competitive season started, I put a big 'old wood international, thumbhole stock on it, but didn't have time to stain or oil it before I needed it. So we took a couple of rolls of solder and wrapped it around and around the barrel and added plenty of black electrician tape to cover it. Then layered a couple of lead ingots under the barrel and atop the solder and taped that over. We hollowed out part of the stock under the hooked, adjustable buttplate and poured in some lead; then shaped a lead ingot to fit between the stock and buttplate for more weight. It weighed in at at least 13 pounds and off we went. Somehow, I never got around to finishing the stock. After I got married it sat in the safe for years and I finally traded it for a 12 gauge trap gun. Ah, foolish youth. Shoulda kept it.

I am a self-confessed Smith & Wesson fan-boy and so I gotta say a few words about their .22s. If I were going to get a .22 wheel gun, I'd start looking for a K-frame ala the Outdoorsman or the Combat Masterpiece, maybe the Kit Gun (I or J frame). In their more recent offerings the models 17 or 18 or 617 (stainless) would be where I would channel my energies.

But I wouldn't sneeze if a Browning, High Standard, or Colt came along.

As mentioned, the .22 is an all-purpose caliber. For target work, it excels. For plinking, there's nothing better. Small game is its meat-and-potatoes. And as a teaching aid, it's a great place to start someone on their road to firearms proficiency.

Where it probably doesn't have a place is self-defense. And yes, you can kill anything on the North American continent with properly placed .22. And the old saw, "It's better than throwing rocks" might have some truth. And for the recoil adverse it's just right. But in terms of ballistics, or stopping power, or any other measure you care to mention it comes up short. But most of the readers here know that and I doubt there's anyone who would leave a .45 or a 9 or even a .380 in the safe and pocket a .22 for SD.

For those interested in this most ubiquitous of calibers, I was recommended a source—

<https://www.rimfirecentral.com/forums/> as a good place for information. While I'm not as familiar with that forum as I am with a few others, a quick survey shows it covers almost every make and model and looks like THE place to go.

Personally, collecting .22's isn't on my list of things to do. I have a 10/22, my H&R pre-WWII 999 is on loan to my oldest son and I have a well-tuned Mark IV, plus the aforementioned Sig 220 and 250 .22 conversion kits. I'll probably add a lever gun in .22 to the safe soon if I can find a good deal (the safe is sans levers as of now) but that's about it.

To conclude on a personal note, our Editor, Phil Shave, developed the theme of this month's magazine as he does for every month's magazine. I gotta say, as someone who's been writing for a bunch of years, Phil is an outstanding editor, a knowledgeable shooting sports enthusiast, and a really decent guy. We are very, very lucky to have him. And if anyone wants to say "Thanks" to him for his efforts, well, everyone should want to say "Thanks" to him for his efforts. This is a labor of love and he does a great job.

Stay Safe. And we're almost done with this mask thing—maybe even a show in the near future.

Email Tom: t.burke.column@gmail.com

-GN-

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Winchester WRF

A Cartridge for the 21st Century?

By Phil Shave, Editor

Go ahead—show your age. Admit it, you had a .22 WRF back in the day. Even into the '60s and '70s, the Winchester Rimfire was still a useful cartridge for many neat old rifles—both pump and bolt actions. Some of you might even have owned a .22 WRF revolver.

I remember when I could walk into the Rexall drugstore and buy a box of WRF shells. I always looked for the Winchesters but the WRF was available in other brands. I've never owned a firearm of this caliber so why did I buy these shells? Because I owned a .22 WRM, yes a .22 Magnum. The WRF's were cheaper for plinking and they worked just fine and were accurate in the bolt action Magnum rifle.

The .22 Winchester Rimfire and the M1890

The initials "WRF" are the short form for Winchester Rimfire. This was Winchester putting its stamp on a new proprietary cartridge. The year was 1890 and Winchester had a handy new rifle to debut, the cute little pump rifle we know as the M1890, although most of us just call it the Winchester gallery gun. As is so often the case when we look at American-made firearms, John Browning enters the picture. He was the go-to guy for firearm manufacturers, and Winchester needed a .22 rimfire repeater. Deviating from his usual practice, Browning did not design a prototype but instead, John and Matthew sent drawings to Winchester; it is said that Winchester's engineers, a little less genius than J.B., rejected the design as unworkable. Browning then built and sent a prototype to Winchester, proving that the design was reliable. Browning's classic slide-action made Winchester the leader in rimfire rifles—the 1890 became Winchester's most popular .22, made for about 50 years. You might know it in its gallery caliber, the .22 Short, or maybe you owned a Long or Long Rifle (the 1890 was not a multi-caliber rifle; each chambering was unique).

Today, with the popularity of the .22 Long Rifle, we might ask why? Why invent a new rimfire cartridge?—after all, proprietary cartridges are



Top—Winchester "Limited Edition" WRF with copper plated lead flat-point bullets; still available?

Above—A vintage box of Remington Specials, also marked as "WRF"—the same cartridge.

Below—This box is a few years old so the packaging on current WRF's may have changed.



always at risk for failure. Well, why not? Winchester had little fear of failure since they also offered the new rifle in .22 Short for fairs and carnivals and they could be assured of dominating this market. Add the new WRF and Winchester had a more powerful caliber for those who wished to use the 1890 in the field.

At the time, the .22 Short and Long were popular. The Long Rifle was being made by the Union Metallic Cartridge Company (UMC) as a black powder round but was not yet an accepted standard. I'm speculating here, but I would think that Winchester might have thought that the WRF would soon eclipse the Long Rifle. When the WRF was introduced the Long Rifle was not what it is today—while we are accustomed to 1200, 1300, 1400 FPS or even more in the modern Long Rifle, it was then a fairly weak black powder cartridge with 950 FPS. The WRF easily trumped the Long Rifle.

The WRF Cartridge

In 1890 rimfire cartridges were made in that oh-so-old-fashioned way, using a heeled bullet. The Short, Long and Long Rifle cartridges were, except for powder, just as we see them today with outside lubrication of the bullet and a reduced diameter heel onto which the case was crimped. In 1870, with the introduction of the .44 Russian, Smith & Wesson and the Russians had already pioneered the concept of an inside-lubricated bullet, the first modern centerfire cartridge. Like the big .44 Russian did for the Special and Magnum, the little rimfire WRF eventually led the way to the Winchester Rimfire Magnum. The WRF is the very first rimfire cartridge to use an inside-lubricated bullet. It is truly the antecedent to the jacketed-bullet Winchester Rimfire Magnum (WRM) of 1959. Eventually, other modern rimfires, the 5mm Remington Rimfire Magnum and all the .17's, would follow this design.

Here are the specs. The bullet is .224". The case is longer than a Long Rifle at nearly an inch—.960". The rim itself is also larger at .294" and this longer, larger case will not chamber in a .22 LR. The overall length is 1.170". The handsome little cartridge had a 45 gr. flat-nose lead bullet or a 40 gr. hollowpoint, both intended as small game stoppers. SAAMI chamber pressures are now listed as 20,000 PSI; compare this with the .22 Mag at 24,000 PSI. In summary, we have more case capacity, a higher velocity of 1300 FPS and two choices of improved bullets—combine all that with a slick new pump rifle and Winchester had a winner.



Above—The top cartridge is a Winchester WRF; the one below is a Remington Special/WRF.

Left—The CCI WRF is different—a 45 gr. JHP bullet rather than the classic lead. A good cartridge; if you can find these, buy them.



Right—Father & son. The WRF on the left and the WRM (Magnum) on the right. The WRF pioneered the inside-lubed bullet in rimfire cartridges..

The WRF gained enough acceptance that other ammo makers made it as well. Remington, not wanting to be left behind, actually named their version “.22 Remington Special” with the only change being a downgrade to a round nose bullet. They marked their rifles and ammo boxes with this designation. After some time they adopted the hybrid “22 W.R.F. Remington Special” label for their ammunition (see the photo) and gave in to the superiority of the flat nose bullet. Other than the original bullet shape there is no difference that I can verify between the WRF and the Remington Special; the WRF can chamber and fire in any firearm marked “.22 Remington Special” and vice versa.

The .22 Winchester Rimfire Magnum—the WRM

It took a while but eventually, Winchester realized that the WRF had been eclipsed by the .22 LR. The wimpy little .22 LR quickly adopted smokeless powder and velocity increased to 1000-1050 FPS. Then in 1930, high velocity .22 LR cartridges arrived with 1200 FPS and every rimfire firearm chambered in Long Rifle could accept these new rounds.

Finally in 1959 Winchester introduced the new .22 WRM round with its slightly longer case and jacketed bullets. The case was based upon the old WRF and the WRF cartridge will chamber and fire in the WRM firearms. Magnum performance from the WRM practically guaranteed that the WRF would fade away.

The WRF is Not Obsolete

In a practical sense, the WRF is obsolete, nothing more than a collector cartridge. But technically a cartridge is not obsolete if it is still manufactured and the WRF is indeed available today from CCI and Winchester.

From our modern perspective, the WRF has little to offer. My old copy of Cartridges of the World by Frank Barnes claims that the WRF is not as accurate as the Long Rifle and that it is obsolete. I’ve not noticed that WRF accuracy is lesser than .22 LR firearms of the same vintage. It chambers nicely in .22 Magnum rifles and usually delivers good accuracy. Yes, at one point the WRF was no longer made but the Ammo Encyclopedia, 3rd Edition by Michael Bussard includes the WRF in the section of current rimfires. It is still with us.

So the WRF became a cartridge valued only by those who wanted to keep their WRF rifles useful. And also for those who, like me, thought the quieter, cheaper round useful in a .22 Mag. But think of all those classic .22 WRF rifles that we can enjoy. There are quite a few fine old guns and for this reason there is the occasional run of .22 WRF ammunition—production is truly occasional and this makes it hard to find and just as expensive as Magnum rounds.

Both CCI and Winchester list the Winchester Rimfire among their current offerings. Check out their websites, it’s there! That does not mean that you can stop by the local drugstore and buy a box, or even find it online. Manufacturing is intermittent and as I write this I can’t find WRF anywhere (but that’s also true of .22 LR).

CCI has improved the WRF by loading it with a true jacketed hollow point bullet of 45 grs., at 1300 FPS. CCI lists this as part #69 and also claims to have a special bullet base designed to work well in old barrels. CCI warns that old revolver barrels are undersize bore diameter and that CCI jacketed ammo should not be fired in them. Winchester “Limited Edition” cartridges are of a more classic design—a Lubaloy plated, flat nose 45 gr. lead bullet also at 1300 FPS.

WRF Memories

Perhaps you have some fond memories of using the WRF back when it was still a current round, or even further back when it was much better than the .22 LR. I do. I fired the WRF in my favorite Mossberg Chuckster .22 Magnum rifle. As a young man, I was lucky enough to live near the Herter’s store in Thurston County. Herter’s was the Cabela’s of its day, offering their own brands in everything firearm-related. They also carried products from name-brand manufacturers. It was at Herter’s that I first laid eyes on the Chuckster .22 Mag and I thought it one of the best-looking .22’s I’d seen. There weren’t that many .22 Mag rifles available and the Mossberg had a nice walnut stock with some checkering and white line spacers at grip cap and butt. The iron sights were good too. And it felt a little more like a real bolt gun than most .22’s. This is the rifle that fired all those .22 WRF rounds. A lot of them punched tin cans but a few were used on game. As a woods rifle at close range and with iron sights, the Chuckster loaded with flat nose WRF’s was a very efficient rifle. I’m hoping this piece of history will bring back some WRF memories of your own.

-GN-



Above is the barrel rollmark from the Mossberg 640KD Chuckster. While it's a .22 Magnum it likes the .22 WRF just fine.

WANTED-Dead or Alive

WANTED: Rossi (or similar) copy of '94 Winchester carbine, in .357 / .38 caliber. Also need Winchester 94 SRC in 30-30, an old one. And a nice Remington 1858 Army and a 1876 Remington in 44-40 too. Call or text Mike on 713-501-2101, oldenburg.mike@gmail.com .

FOR SALE/TRADE: Late 1940's Hi-Standard G-380w, 5" barrel, 2 magazines, G to VG condition, rare pistol, original box with factory instruction sheet, s/n - 37XX, pictures available—\$1000. Early 1950's Remington 722 257 Roberts, 24" barrel, open sights, original stock, G condition—\$400. Early 1950's Remington 721 30-06, 24" barrel, Weaver K-6 scope, leather sling, original stock, G condition, plus ammo—\$450. Early 1950's Winchester model 24 side by side 12 ga. double barrel shotgun, double triggers, 30" barrel, Mod & Full choke, 2 ¾" shells, G condition—\$300. J. Stephens SPRINGFIELD side by side .410 double barrel shotgun, 28" barrel, twin triggers, 3" shells, F to G condition—\$200. Can send pictures. **TRADE:** Box of Federal or CCI large rifle primers for small or large pistol primers. Call/text Tim @ (360) 918-1702.

WANTED: Smith and Wesson Model 19 4inch (pinned and recessed preferred). Preferably with target grips and excellent to very good condition, box and paper work would be nice too but not a deal breaker. Also want a pair of target grips for an older Smith and Wesson Model 29. Contact Gary at 253-312-4742 (text OK) or gmborting@comcast.net.

WANTED: 19th century Swiss Vetterli rifles. Clear the old junk out of your gun safe. Will make reasonable offers. If you want to convert your Vetterli to center fire, bolt jobs are \$50. Bullets and cartridge case available. Contact Bill, wilhelm@nwinfo.net or (360)348-7081.

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FOR SALE: Remington 1858 44 cal., old! w/ holster, Pics upon request—\$800. Winchester model 94 30-30 ca. 1981, like new ! box and manual—\$800. Webley-Scott .455 Mark III unmolested, with new ammo, C&R Eligible—\$995 or trade for Marlin 1895GS. Harrington & Richardson 32 S&W Long with ammo, Fair, C&R Eligible—\$80. Smith & Wesson 629, 6.5 inch barrel w/ generic S&W blue plastic case, Very Good—\$975. Pics upon request for all. Anthony, 425-205-5558.

WANTED: Colt 1908 or Browning 10/71 pistol in .380 ACP caliber and looking for just a nice shooter. Steve at (360) 491-3608 or sbloom@theolympian.com.

WANTED: Looking for Star .380 pistols in various models—D, DK, S, SS, SM. Let me know what you'd like to sell! Phil, gunnewseditor@comcast.net, 360-866-8478.

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WANTED: Reproduction shoulder stock for 1860 army, 1851 navy or 3rd model dragoon reproduction blackpowder revolvers. Dan, 509-293-3510, email ridinghides@gmail.com

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FOR SALE: 303 British ammo or 8x57 Mauser ammo, Berdan and corrosive—50 cents ea. 7x57 Mauser ammo 1952 FN 100rd box—\$50 ea OBO. Fully processed 223 brass ready to load, misc head stamp—\$60 per 500. 8x57 Mauser ammo, 1978 Yugo—\$10.50/box of 15 or \$10/box if 10 or more boxes. Glenn, 425-418-2655.

FOR SALE: Stoeger Arms Corp. Pat. Pending. Luger 22 pistol, never fired 1 mag. no box. as new condition—\$400. Vintage firearms books, old authors, Numrich Arms catalogs, lots of repair type books with parts schematics for DIY gunsmiths. Email for Authors and titles. If interested will come to price we both like. Lots of Jackknives and vintage hunting type knives email for list or pictures, prices on agreement. Trade 45 ACP ammo for 357 Mag. box for box. Will trade knives/books for a S&W 4 inch

357 Mag or Ruger 4 inch 357 Mag GP100 or a security six but want adjustable sights on the revolver. Items located Port Orchard, WA, Harlan. gottogo3943@gmail.com

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FOR SALE: Progressive press NIB RCBS PRO 2000 reloading kit—\$450. SINGLE STAGE NIB RCBS Rock Chucker reloading kit—\$375. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net

FOR SALE: NIB Stainless/Synthetic Mini 14 Ranch Rifle—\$950. Transfer done at South Sound guns in Lacey. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net

FOR SALE: NIB 6.8 SPC ammo—\$20 a box/trade? Glen at kalenas@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Plastic pistol sale. All are EX-ANIB condition: Shield EZ 380, Kahrs, XD's/XDM's, MP9c, MP40c, Glock 27s. Please email me with your interest. All transfers done at South Sound Guns in Lacey. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Bolt Action/Lever Action (including JM Marlins) hunting rifles for sale. Please email me your requests. All transfers done at South Sound Guns in Lacey. Glen at kalenas@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Ammo for sale: .30-06 FMJ military surplus dated in the early 1950's, all on Garand clips 384 rds in Korean war era bandoliers and 176 rnds loose in clips, total 560 rounds—\$500. 45 ACP FMJ military surplus original cardboard boxes, 2 50 rd boxes ammo dated 1943, label on box EVANSVILLE ORDNANCE PLANT; 4 50 rd boxes ammo date 1964, label on boxes OLIN MATHIESON CHEMICAL CORP—All 6 boxes for \$360. Federal .30-06

one box 150gr Sp. and one box 180 gr Sp.—\$40 for both. Remington .30-30 3 20rnd boxes 170 gr Sp.—\$60 for all three. .30-40 Krag 1 20 rnd box of Remington HI-speed 180gr Sp. and one box Western X 180gr Sp.—\$40 for both. .303 British FMJ military surplus 40 rounds unknown age but looks newer—\$30. .375 winchester 200gr Sp. by Winchester—\$40/20 rd box. Buy all of any one caliber or nothing, I am not selling things piecemeal. Call or text Bill at 253 304 1269. I am located in Tacoma and will not drive far to meet.

FOR SALE: Brand new 9X21mm Primed Brass (425ct) and brand new 9x21mm Unprimed Brass (975ct). Also fired, sized and primed 9x21mm brass (1100ct) and fired brass (1000ct). Lastly, 9X21mm Reloads 125gr lead RN (370ct), selling reloads for components only. Gun gone. Note, this is not standard 9mm Luger (9x19mm) or .38 Super (9x23mm) but rather it is the rare 9x21mm IMI cartridge developed in Israel. In countries such as Italy and Mexico, 9mm (9x19 Parabellum) ammo is not allowed for use by civilians so the 9x21 IMI cartridge was developed and is used in USPSA/IPSC competition. Buyer must take it all for \$350. That's less than 10 cents each. Phone calls only please. I don't text. Haney, 206-618-4445.

FOR SALE: Savage arms, model 101 barrel tip out single shot, 22 lr. nice condition—\$325. H & R Arms co. vintage nickel plate revolver marked, The American Double Action. 32 cal—\$75, H & R revolver vintage nickel plate American Double Action. 32 cal., trigger spring broken—\$40. Mon Dial model 999 22 blank revolver—\$50. U.S. Revolver co. 32 cal. Trigger spring broken—\$50. H & R revolver vintage nickel, 38 cal. Works fine—\$100. H & R 7 shot 22 LR, a vintage revolver tipup barrel, a fine working shooting old blued piece—\$400. Iver Johnson Arms and Cycle Works 38 cal. tip up—\$85. U.S. Pistol co. spur trigger, 22 short cal.—\$85. Defender nickel plate ivory grips, spur trigger 22 short cal.—\$100. Empire State Arms co. 5 inch barrel ivory grips—\$125. Harlan, gottogo3943@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Ammo .223 PMC 55gr. brass casing, 500 ct lots in metal military ammo box, all stripper clipped and sold in 500 ct. lots only—\$350. .22LR Federal 36gr copper HP, 525 ct box—\$95. Above sold only in quantities listed. Will meet anywhere in Pierce County. Text: 253-778-5590 starting June 10 on.

WANTED: Lyman 366408 mold for the 9.3 caliber. Also looking for 9.3 caliber bullets for reloading. Call Wayne at 253-848-9318 or email me at rgrwjb@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE: Wooden 10 rifle cabinet, very good condition, all hardware functional. It has glass pane doors and two lower storage cabinets. Lockable with key. Local delivery and price negotiable. Pictures on request. Contact Rick at: richardnelson1204@comcast.net, 253-722-7065.

-GN-

Washington Arms Collectors Board Minutes

Board minutes for April 2021

Pre-meeting business:

April 02 - Motion by Director Bramhall to accept the March, 2021 BoD minutes as presented
Second by Director Ripley
Votes for: Directors Bramhall, Hubbard, Jennings, Ripley, Rodabaugh, Weaver, Wegner
Votes against: none
Abstain: none
No vote received: Directors Iwashita, Palmer
Motion passed

April 16 - Motion by Director Ripley to bestow an honorary WAC life membership to former Director John Solheim in recognition of his service on the WAC Board from 2014 to 2021.
Second by Director Hubbard
Votes for: Directors Bramhall, Hubbard, Iwashita, Jennings, Palmer, Ripley, Rodabaugh, Weaver
Votes against: none
Abstain: none
No vote received: Director Wegner
Motion passed

April 25 - Motion by Director Rodabaugh to approve the renewal of the Point of Sale (POS) equipment and services lease, authorize President Burris to sign the lease agreement, and authorize the expenditure of funds (\$11,630) to maintain the lease.
Second by Director Ripley
Votes for: Directors Bramhall, Iwashita, Jennings, Palmer, Ripley, Rodabaugh, Weaver, Wegner
Votes against: none
Abstain: none
No vote received: Director Hubbard
Motion passed

April 25 - Motion by Director Rodabaugh for WAC to indemnify President Burris for any loss, costs, or fees imposed on him personally due to the lease with Bank of America for Point of Sale (POS) devices used by the WAC.
Second by Director Ripley
Votes for: Directors Bramhall, Iwashita, Jennings, Palmer, Ripley, Rodabaugh, Weaver, Wegner
Votes against: none

Abstain: none
No vote received: Director Hubbard
Motion passed

The Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, was cancelled as a result of continuing statewide restrictions on public gatherings.

Online activities will be conducted by the Board in lieu of an in-person meeting.

Financial Report

January 2021

Revenue for January 2021 is down by 54% when compared to the financial performance in January of 2020. The lower revenue in January 2021 is primarily caused by lost event revenue (no shows so far in 2021); membership remains lower than normal, so the revenue from membership renewals is down. The net income for January of 2021 compared favorably with (2.9k) in 2021 vs (7.1k) in 2020 despite the lower monthly revenue because of significantly lower monthly expenses in 2021.

February 2021

Revenue for February 2021 is down by more than 86% when compared to the financial performance in February of 2020. The lower revenue for February 2021 is primarily caused by lost event revenue (there was one show, in Puyallup, during February of 2020, and no shows during February of 2021). Net income for February of 2021 was (10.6k). The event that was sponsored in February of 2020 resulted in a net income for the month of about \$1.

It is worth noting that the WAC still has event expenses even in months where there are no shows. This is primarily because we still have “show” related expenses for credit card machines, insurance, routers, etc. that we still pay for, even when we do not sponsor shows.

WAC membership renewals are currently running at about two-thirds of the pre-covid 19 levels. The membership renewals are currently the largest revenue source for WAC as a result of show cancellations.

Disciplinary Actions

There were no disciplinary items for Board action this month.

Forbes L Freeburg,
WAC Secretary

-GN-

Legislation & Politics ***Continued from page 4***

(This came out as I submitted this to Editor Shave. The proposed ATF rule on ghost guns is available here: [Summary of Proposed Rule 2021R-05 | Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives \(atf.gov\)](#).)

Nothing out yet on AR-pistols with their evil arm braces. These are about as much a problem as bump stocks were, but could still fall prey to knee-jerk overreaction, especially if the mainstream media decides they want to demonize them to get rid of them. Again, we'll need specific language before we can explore options at that point (I made some suggestions in a previous column, but it's still a big unknown). Good luck second-guessing a government bureaucrat.

President Biden sayeth, “From the very beginning that the Second Amendment existed, certain people weren't allowed to have weapons. So the idea is just bizarre to suggest that some of the things we're recommending are contrary to the Constitution,” Hmm... the “certain people” he refers to were slaves. Is he comparing gun owners to slaves or is he suggesting a return to slavery...for gun owners? And when the Second Amendment was written, citizens could own any weapon the government owned, including cannons, exploding cannonballs, and even de facto machine guns (the “Puckle gun” was patented in 1718, with a pre-loaded cylinder that held 11 charges). One important element of sea power at the time was “privateers,” privately-owned ships armed with cannon to support battle at sea.

Remember, when the government says you don't need a gun, THAT'S when you need a gun.

ATF CHIEF

At this writing (early May) the Senate Judiciary Committee has yet to vote on ATF Director nominee David Chipman to head the agency. In all likelihood he will be confirmed, despite his obvious antipathy to lawful gun ownership, to include several years working with gun control groups after he retired from the ATF.

Dozens of House Republicans have spoken out AGAINST Chipman's nomination, and signed a letter saying such to the Senate as well. But the House doesn't confirm presidential appointees, the Senate does. At this time confirmation hearings are not scheduled. But correspondence opposing his nomination has been piling up, from gun rights advocacy groups, the NRA, CCRKBA, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (America's gun industry spokesperson) and thousands of individual citizens.

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GunNews

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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

• VERIFY ALL DATES BEFORE TRAVELING •

Coronavirus cancellations are possible—verify all dates before traveling

- July 10-11—Elma, WA, Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, WAC
- Sep 18-19—Monroe, WA, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, WAC

Washington Arms Collectors

 **2021** Gun Show Schedule

www.WashingtonArmsCollectors.org

OFFICE: (425) 255-8410

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

July	10 & 11	Elma
Sept.	18 & 19	Monroe
Oct.	16 & 17	Puy. Pav.
Nov.	13 & 14	Monroe
Dec.	11 & 12	Puy. Pav.

SHOW LOCATIONS

Monroe Show - Evergreen State Fairgrounds
 Puyallup Show - WA State Fair & Events Center
 Elma Show - Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds

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—\$57/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