

**ON TARGET!** SELECTING HOME DEFENSE AMMO

\$4.95  
IN CANADA  
& OUTSIDE U.S.  
\$6.25

HANDGUNNER

AMERICAN

MARCH/APRIL 2001

# HANDGUNNER®

**Beretta**  
**ELITE II**

COMBAT PROVEN!  
TARGET ACCURACY!  
BEST 9MM OUT THERE!

**BIGBORE  
REDHAWK**  
.45 Colt Powerhouse

**TAURUS  
TITANIUM  
TRACKER**  
23 ozs. of  
.41 Magnum

**WIN A  
RUGER  
COWBOY  
REVOLVER!**

**HOW TO SHOOT  
LIKE AN EXPERT!**  
(p.51)

**HOW TO DEAL  
WITH A GUNSMITH** (p. 40)

**EAGLE GRIPS** (p.64)

**IPSC MATCH REPORT** (p. 72)



# YOU CAN'T BEAT A SPRINGFIELD® 1911-A1

SPRINGFIELD'S "LOADED" 1911-A1 PISTOLS



Rob Leatham,  
Professional Shooter  
10-time USPSA National Champion  
3-time IPSC World Champion  
U.S. Special Operations Group Shooting Instructor  
Mesa, AZ

## COUNT ON SPRINGFIELD

"Nothing even comes close to the Springfield Armory 1911-A1 for unmatched performance, accuracy and total reliability. Dollar-for-dollar and shot-for-shot, you just won't find a better deal. I know, I put mine to the test everyday."

## DON'T COMPROMISE

"Nobody can compete with the features, workmanship and value of Springfield's 'Loaded' 1911-A1. You'll find add-ons and quality craftsmanship you'd expect to find only from a Custom Shop pistol—right out of the box!" According to *Gun Tests* July, 2000, "Our recommendation: This is our first choice. Buy it."

## BUILT TO LAST A LIFETIME

Need proof that our reputation and lifetime warranty is unequalled in today's personal protection and law enforcement market?

A recent FBI contractor report card gave the Springfield 1911-A1 its highest grade. That's why Springfield is the stand-alone 1911-A1 choice of the FBI Hostage Rescue Team (HRT), and America's elite law enforcement departments and tactical squads.



## SHARE YOUR STORY

Have you got a favorite Springfield 1911-A1 memory? Share your story and photos with us and you could appear in a future ad.

## VISIT SPRINGFIELD ON THE WEB

[www.springfieldarmory.com](http://www.springfieldarmory.com) or call 800-680-6866

## LOAD IT UP! ACT NOW! SAVE OVER \$600

For a limited time, when you buy a new "Loaded" 1911-A1 you'll receive a "Fully Loaded Essentials" coupon worth more than \$600 in exceptional savings on quality handgun accessories, magazines, ammunition and attractive Springfield signature merchandise. Act now and take advantage of these incredible savings!



The Oldest Name In American Firearms  
**SPRINGFIELD ARMORY**

Be a responsible gun owner. Use it safely, store it securely, and always transfer a gun responsibly and legally.

SPRINGFIELD, INC. • DEPT. AHG • 420 WEST MAIN ST. • GENESEE, IL 61254 • PH. 309-944-5631 or 800-680-6866 • FAX 309-944-3676 • [springfieldarmory.com](http://springfieldarmory.com)  
Send SASE for a free mini-catalog, or \$4.95 for a full color catalog, patch, and VHS video. (\$4.95 to be refunded upon purchase of a Springfield 1911-A1.)

Copyright 2000. Contents property of Springfield, Inc. All rights reserved.



THE WORLD'S FINEST HYDRATION SYSTEMS

# HYDRASTORM

Order on the line your favorite retailer- ask your dealer become a gateway partner today!



**CYCLONE™ PREDATOR™ I.V.S.™ BACK TSUNAMI™**

They call it the Hydration Revolution! The first line of hydration gear designed from the ground up for operators. Operators—not adapted from something some weekend bicyclist wears. Built by BlackHawk to last and perform in the lethal arena, it is the optimized hydration system for military and law enforcement professionals. The comfy, molded InterCooler Venting System channels air across your back keeping you much cooler! The StormLok™ is a positive, in-line on/off valve that



**TEMPEST™ TURBINE™ TORRENT™ VECTOR™**

totally prevents leaking. The Delta Elite Valve™ orients properly in your mouth and passes tons of water. The packs are made of Lifetime Guaranteed NyTaneon™, are double sewn and durable as hell. The bladders are NyTaneon™ laminated and nearly indestructible! The tube screws off for easy cleaning! Use the hydration systems that the Special Forces use! Check it out today at your local dealer, see our website or call for a free catalog!

See your local HydraStorm Dealer our full on-line catalog!—[www.hydrastorm.com](http://www.hydrastorm.com)  
HydraStorm! 1133 Executive Blvd. Chesapeake, VA 23320 (757) 436-3101 (757) 436-3088 FAX

**1-800-694-5263**

© 2000 Pyramark NA for BlackHawk Inc.



# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER®

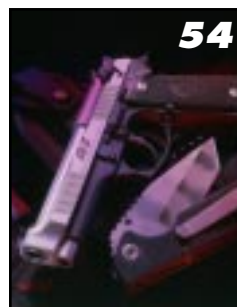
MARCH/APRIL 2001 Vol. 25, Number 150

## On The Cover:

Beretta Elite II 9mm pistol  
Strider combat knife

Photo by Ichiro Nagata

54



## FEATURES

**30 TAURUS TITANIUM TRACKER** John Taffin  
*A super lightweight .41 Magnum trail revolver.*

**34 THE ORIGIN OF MAGNUMS** John Taffin  
*Handgunners take high velocity for granted, but it wasn't always this good.*

**42 TAFFIN TESTS** John Taffin  
*More great leather for sixguns.*

**46 THE AYOOB FILES** Massad Ayoob  
*Running Gunfight: The Jim Morgan Incident.*

**48 THE SIXGUNNER** John Taffin  
*Meet a great gunsmith, Tom Sargis of Bozeman Trail Arms.*

**51 BETTER SHOOTING** Dave Anderson  
*How to train like an expert.*

**54 ELITE FORCE** Dave Anderson  
*The Beretta Elite II is in a class all by itself.*

**62 BIG-BORE REDHAWK** John Taffin  
*The .45 Colt comes into its own in the massive Redhawk.*

**64 EAGLE GRIPS** Charles E. Petty  
*A look at the foremost custom gripmaker in America.*

**68 HOME DEFENSE AMMO** Massad Ayoob  
*Tactical considerations for selecting home defense ammo.*

**70 PURVEYOR PERFECTION** Pat Covert  
*Buy top-name custom knives, without the wait.*

**72 IPSC 2000** Nyle Leatham  
*There is a three-headed shooting monster lurking out there...*

**78 PISTOLSMITH PROFILE** Mark Twilight  
*Meet Dane Burns, a 1911 specialist and then some.*

**100 A MODERN MASTERPIECE** Mike Cumpston  
*The Model 617 is a direct descendent of the K-22 Masterpiece.*

**102 AMERICAN HANDGUNNER  
CUSTOM GUN GIVEAWAY**  
*You can win a custom "Cowboy Revolver" from Dave Lauck.*



72



62



70

## COLUMNS

- 8 **SPEAK OUT**
- 21 **HANDGUN HUNTING** J.D. Jones
- 22 **HANDLOADING** Charles E. Petty
- 24 **COMBAT SHOOTING** Dave Anderson
- 27 **GUN RIGHTS** Jeffrey Snyder
- 28 **TACTICAL ADVANTAGE** Ken Hackathorn
- 38 **HANDGUN LEATHER** Roy Huntington
- 40 **PISTOLSMITHING** Alex Hamilton
- 50 **COP TALK** Massad Ayoob
- 53 **THE 10-RING** Commander Gilmore
- 91 **GUNNY SACK** Charles E. Petty
- 114 **INDUSTRY INSIDER** Cameron Hopkins



AMERICAN HANDGUNNER® (ISSN 0145-4250) is published bi-monthly by Publishers' Development Corp., 591 Camino de la Reina, #200, San Diego, CA 92108. Periodical postage paid at San Diego, CA 92108, and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions: One year (six issues) \$16.95. Single copies \$4.95 (in Canada \$6.25). Change of address: four weeks notice required on all changes. Send old address as well as new. Contributors submitting manuscripts, photographs or drawings do so at their own risk. Material cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Payment is for all world rights for the material. The act of mailing a manuscript constitutes the author's certification of originality of material. Opinions expressed are those of the bylined authors and do not necessarily represent those of the magazine or its advertisers. Advertising rates furnished on request. Reproduction or use of any portion of this magazine in any manner, without written permission, is prohibited. Entire contents Copyright© 2001 Publishers' Development Corp. All rights reserved. Title to this publication passes to subscriber only on delivery to his address. SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS: For immediate action, write Subscription Dept., 591 Camino de la Reina, #200, San Diego, CA 92108.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AMERICAN HANDGUNNER®, 591 Camino de la Reina, #200, San Diego, CA 92108.

AMERICAN HANDGUNNER • MARCH/APRIL 2001



# THE PACT DIFFERENCE

**FREE  
CHRONOGRAPH  
SAVE \$69.95**

**PACT**  
CHAMPIONSHIP TIMER & CHRONOGRAPH™  
MK IV

**FREE CARRYING  
CASE \$16.95 VALUE  
WITH ANY PACT TIMER**  
EXPIRES 1/15/2001

## PACT MKIV

### THE ULTIMATE TRAINING TIMER

No matter what action shooting discipline you favor, if you are going to finish higher you must learn to hit (and move) more quickly - it's as simple as that. Obviously you are going to have to practice - but how? As most of us have sadly experienced, it's possible to burn up a lot of ammo but see very little, if any, improvement. The reason for this is lack of feedback; to improve you've got to immediately know the results of your actions. How did what you just did, just experienced, effect your accuracy and your speed?

You know your accuracy by glancing at your targets and any timer will tell you your total time. But while the feeling and memory of your last run is fresh in your mind you need to know the breakdown of your times, the first shot time for sure, and key splits at reloads and movement. With your PACT MKIV Timer, when you finish your run and glance at the timer you'll know immediately that the timer heard the correct number of shots, you'll see the total time as well as the last split time. In addition, your first shot time is automatically displayed. No button pushing required.

Pressing the REVIEW button will cycle you through each of your shots or you can just skip to the shot you want to see by pressing a number key. For example if you fired six-reload-six, a glance at your PACT MKIV will tell you your total time and first shot time. Pressing 7-REVIEW will tell you your reload time (the split between 6 and 7).

Of course the MKIV does much much more. Keyed and Benchmark functions allow you to simulate the most complex courses of fire. RPM lets you check the cyclic rate on your buzz gun as well as letting you know that you are no Jerry Miculek. The built in cadence function, ballistic computer, infrared printer driver and optional chronograph finish the package and put the PACT MKIV in a class of its own.

Lifetime Warranty.....\$299.95. \$199.95 delivered.  
Includes FREE Chronograph.....Save \$69.95

### THE ULTIMATE MATCH TIMER

The requirements for a match timer are a little different than a training timer. First of all the timer MUST display the shot number along with the total time. That way the RO can tell at a glance that the timer is picking up the shots as the shooter

# 12 TIME 5.09  
FIRST SHOT 1.06 DELAY SPLIT .18

nears the end of the run. The time should be big and easy to read. The buttons should be designed to prevent an accidental reset. Since most clubs are on a pretty tight budget the cost must be kept down.

The PACT Club Timer II was designed to meet all these requirements and more. For example, have you ever been timed by one of those other timers with the really long delay time? Just when you think the RO must have not gotten the button pressed the buzzer goes off...ugh! The PACT Club Timer II has a delay time of 2 to 3.5 seconds, which our customers have found over the last 15 years to be the perfect range. What's more you can tell at a glance whether or not the Club Timer II is set for DELAYED or INSTANT go - no surprises when you hit the GO button.

It goes without saying that the Club Timer II has every other feature you'd want or need: automatic shutdown, low battery warning, adjustable super sensitive shot detector, shot review (with splits) and per time function. Knowing that Club Timers also do double duty as basic training timers, we also display the split times for each shot as well as the FIRST SHOT time. As a special help to clubs, buy four get one free.

Lifetime Warranty.....\$149.95. \$129.95 delivered  
Includes FREE Carrying Case.....Save \$16.95

Like all PACT products, our timers come with a 30 day money back guarantee and a limited lifetime warranty - if it breaks we'll fix it for free, if you manage to smash it we'll fix it for cost. All PACT products are made by us here in these United States.

## PACT CLUB TIMER II

**FREE  
CARRYING CASE  
SAVE \$16.95**

Order today  
TOLL FREE...800 PACT INC  
800-722-8462  
(in Texas 972-641-0049)  
FAX 972-641-2641  
www.pact.com

By phone: We are happy to answer your questions and take your order. We accept Visa, MC and COD\* orders.

PACT MKIV Timer.....\$299.95 \$199.95  
Includes FREE Chronograph.....Save \$69.95  
HP Battery Powered Printer.....\$125.00  
PACT Club Timer II.....\$149.95 \$129.95  
Includes FREE Carrying Case.....Save \$16.95

Buy 4 get 1 free  
P.O. Box 535025  
Grand Prairie, TX 75053

**PACT**



# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER

**GEORGE E. von ROSEN**  
(1915-2000)

FOUNDING PUBLISHER

**THOMAS von ROSEN**  
PUBLISHER

**CAMERON HOPKINS**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**LISA STAHLHUT**  
ART DIRECTOR

**RICHARD STAHLHUT**  
ART ASSISTANT

**JENNIFER ROGERS KRAMER**  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

**JESSICA APPLIGATE**  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

**JULIE A. GALBOS**  
ADVERTISING PRODUCTION

## CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

**ICHIRO NAGATA**  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

**NYLE LEATHAM**  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

**JOHN TAFFIN**  
FIELD EDITOR

**CHARLES E. PETTY**  
SHOOTING EDITOR

**MASSAD AYOOB**  
LAW ENFORCEMENT EDITOR

**JEFF SNYDER**  
GUN RIGHTS EDITOR

**DAVE ANDERSON**  
PRACTICAL SHOOTING EDITOR

**J.D. JONES**  
HUNTING EDITOR

**ALEX HAMILTON**  
PISTOLSMITHING EDITOR

**ROY HUNTINGTON**  
LEATHER EDITOR

**PATRICK COVERT**  
EDGED WEAPONS EDITOR

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

SUBSCRIPTION (619) 297-8032  
subs@americanhandgunner.com

EDITORIAL (619) 297-5352

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING (619) 297-8525

class@americanhandgunner.com

INTERNET www.americanhandgunner.com

## ADVERTISING SALES

### STEVE EVATT

#### NATIONAL ADVERTISING:

591 Camino de la Reina, Suite 200,  
San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 297-8520  
Fax: (619) 297-5353  
email:steve@americanhandgunner.com

#### EAST COAST ADVERTISING:

SIG BUCHMAYR  
Buchmayr Associates, 137 Rowayton Ave., Ste. 320,  
Rowayton, CT 06853 (203) 855-8834

#### PRINTING SERVICES: QUEBECOR WORLD

FILM PRODUCTION: WEB-TECH, INC.

GENERAL COUNSEL: STEELE N. GILLASPY



**WARNING:** Firearms are dangerous if used improperly, and may cause serious injury or death. Due to the inherent variables in the reloading of metallic cartridges, verify all published loads with manufacturer's data. Consult a professional gunsmith when modifying any firearm. **Be a safe shooter!**

PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.

# Holsters.com Is Right On Target.

Now Order  
SAFARILAND  
Concealment  
Holsters And  
Accessories Online.

Now there's an easier, quicker way to get the world's finest holsters and accessories. Safariland, the acknowledged leader in holster technology, offers a wide range of quality products online at [www.holsters.com](http://www.holsters.com). You'll love the speed and convenience of ordering, with:

- Shipping of all orders within 24 hours guaranteed
- A Quick Search feature that helps you find the products you want easily
- A FREE product drawing each month, with no purchase necessary

VISIT FREQUENTLY FOR OUR VERY  
LATEST OFFERINGS.



INNOVATION. NOT IMITATION.

## 22LR CONVERSIONS

Shoot More For Less Money - They Pay For Themselves And They're Fun!



"Ciener"  
Unit on  
Series 80 Colt



.45 ACP to  
.22LR in  
10 seconds

"Ciener"  
Unit in  
Fitted Case



### Conversions available for:

1911A1 (state model, 45 only).....(SpareMag. \$35).....\$199.00  
Platinum Cup 1911A1.....(SpareMag. \$35).....\$239.00  
Para-Ordinan P14.....(SpareMag. \$49).....\$219.00  
Beretta 725.....(SpareMag. \$35).....\$219.00  
Taurus PT22/99.....(SpareMag. \$35).....\$219.00  
R15 (w/10rd mag).....(SpareMag. \$25).....\$139.00  
M16 (w/30rd mag).....(SpareMag. \$59).....\$199.00  
Mini-14 (w/10rd mag/18up, 188/\$10).....(SpareMag. \$25).....\$129.00  
AC556 (w/30rd mag).....(SpareMag. \$59).....\$199.00

Send Check, Money Order, or C.O.D. (\$5.00 addnl).  
Include \$10.00 per unit S&H. FL res. add 6% Sales Tax.  
FFL Dealer prices upon request.

**JONATHAN ARTHUR CIENER, Inc.**

8700 Commerce St., Dept. AH, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920  
(321) 868-2200, FAX 2201

Send \$2.00 for Conversion Info, \$5.00 for Full Line Catalog  
Prices subject to change - 25% cancellation charge  
<http://www.22lrconversions.com>



**BLACKHAWK!**  
THE WORLD'S FINEST TACTICAL NYLON

**ATTN: TERRORISTS. BEHOLD THE  
FACE OF OUR VENGEANCE. NO  
GOD WILL PROTECT YOU!**

**KEEP RUNNING... YOU'LL JUST DIE TIRED.**

In a brazen act of cowardice, terrorists bombed the USS Cole while she rested in port. The explosion killed Americans engaged in the defense of our nation. We at BlackHawk salute these brave sailors who gave their lives in the preservation of freedom. To the families who lost their fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, sisters and brothers, we at BlackHawk offer our deepest sympathy and humble admiration. To you is owed the heartfelt gratitude of a grateful nation. And to those who did this, take a look at this ad. When American Firepower comes for you, this is what they'll be wearing. Because the ex-SEAL that owns this company wouldn't have it any other way. It may be Marines, Army, Air Force, Navy-Rangers, SEAL's, RECON or Special Forces. On our soil, it may be the FBI, DEA, CIA, INS, Customs or the hardworking beat cop who knows what to look for, **BUT WE WILL FIND YOU!** ...And to you brave officers and warriors doing this task, our thanks and God Speed.

NEW! The World's Finest Hydration System

Order on line through your favorite retailer - ask your dealer to become a BlackHawk™ global e-gateway partner today!

**See Your Dealer or Call for our 2001 catalog!**

**1-800-694-5263**

The Ultimate Fashion statement for the off duty warrior. Premium, 100% cotton flint rock-socks. Brilliant 4-color front and back.

See over 1500 products in our full on-line catalog!--[www.blackhawkindustries.com](http://www.blackhawkindustries.com)

BLACKHAWK INDUSTRIES, INC. 1133 Executive Blvd. Chesapeake, VA 23320 (757) 436-3101 (757) 436-3088 FAX © Pyramid NA for BlackHawk Ind. 2000





### The Emperor's Clothes

"The Modern Isosceles" (Nov/Dec '00) was superb. Ron Avery had the balls to write— and *American Handgunner* had 'em to publish— that the "emperor has no clothes on." Most of us armed civilians, who are less than SWAT-team experienced, shout a resounding "Hooray!"

Peter A. Poccia  
New York, N.Y.

### Oh Poor Us-ing

I'm writing in response to your sellout to Smith & Wesson (Jan/Feb '01). I'll be short and to the point; I can't stand going over this old story again. Now even your magazine goes Liberal Left! Simply— no amount of whining, crybabying or "Oh, poor us"-ing will ever convince me to ever buy any of their products directly. Never— ever!

John Yashinski  
Red Lodge, Mont.

### Heat Of Battle


Smith & Wesson did not "drop their weapon" during battle; they deserted the rest of the pro-Second Amendment community in the heat of battle. There is a difference. In times of war, deserters are usually shot. The reason for this is not retaliatory, but to prevent everyone else from turning tail and running.

I disagree with the assertion that if Smith & Wesson goes out of business, the only benefit will be to the enemy. Just the opposite is true. If Smith & Wesson goes out of business, the less likely it will be that other firearm manufacturers will make the same mistake.

Kevin B. Gibbs  
Orange, Calif.

### We Must Go, Too


Hang the traitors! That means S&W must go, and your magazine as well, as long as you support them.



Check out the advanced features of the  
**POCKET PRO**


- ① Small Size.
- ① Everyday Low Price of \$129.95
- ① Ergonomic design—Start button on side so right or left hand doesn't cover microphone or buzzer.
- ① Saves batteries with automatic power down after 10 minutes of non-use.
- ① Non-Confusing large display with .4" no's. Displays time to 199.99 for long Cowboy Action stages.
- ① Clothes Pin type belt clip for easy on/off.
- ① Now with adjustable sensitivity for light Cowboy Action loads.
- ① Review, Split time, Par time standard.
- ① Switch selectable instant/random delayed start.
- ① Official Timer for 1997/8/9 Winter Range and End of Trail Cowboy matches.

The Pocket Pro is the  
Fastest way to see results  
on the Range!



...And for 14 years  
Competition Electronics  
has been a part of my  
winning style!"

—Todd Jarrett,  
Triple Crown Winner



Competition Electronics

3469 Precision Drive • Rockford, IL 61109 • (815) 874-8001  
Fax (815) 874-8181 • [www.competitionelectronics.com](http://www.competitionelectronics.com)



# The Most Advanced Tactical Folder of All Time!

Masters of Defense® knives represent the ultimate refinement of the combat fighting tool.

Designed by some of the industry's foremost defensive

fighting experts and Special Forces operators, their components are computer machined to tolerances one-thirtieth the width of a human hair! All M.O.D.® knives are milled from solid bars of T-6 aluminum with blades of 154cm cryogenically heat treated steel. The final assembly is precision hand-fitted by master craftsmen. Brutally strong per military requirements, they are built on the same machinery used to make missile guidance systems.

M.O.D.® knives feature superior hollow ground blades, and are available in bead-blast and new black titanium-carbonitride coatings, with half serrated or standard cutting edges. The brainchild of knife authority Jim Ray, M.O.D.® has over 40 variations for any hard-use application you have. These knives can keep you alive. They are the most advanced production tactical knives in existence today. Since their introduction, they have become the tool of choice for black-ops specialists around the world. New for 2000 is the amazing Duane Dieter CQD®

Special Operations Combat Folder, winner of the Blade Magazine American-Made Knife of the Year Award. It features a plunge lock system, secondary safety lock, cord ripper, and military anti-slip grip inserts. Brute strong, it is designed by the world's leading Close Quarters Defense® specialist, trainer of the NATO military's most elite special forces units.

New this fall you can see the "Dieter CQD® Mark II Stealth carry knife. Small, & very effective, it features a carbide glass breaker in the pommel. It is the perfect defense or EMS backup tool. At left is the Scorpion Neck Knife™. This Jim Ray design can be worn vertically on its neck lanyard or belt holstered for instant deployment.



CALL NOW TOLL-FREE

FOR OUR FREE CATALOG!

**1-888-832-4158**

**New Dealerships Available!**

MASTERS OF DEFENSE, LLC.

1941 CAMP BRANCH RD.

WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786

(828) 452-4158 (828) 452-7327 FAX

SEE OVER 40 KNIVES IN OUR ON-LINE CATALOG!

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



Printed in USA for MOD 2000 Photography © Jim Davis 2000



# NEW

# LOOK!

## If You Haven't Seen It Lately, You Haven't Seen It.

*GUNS Magazine* has a new look.

Inside are new columns, new features, and a new way to satisfy your passion for guns and shooting sports news.

Pick one up and you'll swear it even feels different. It won't be easy to put down either. You'll discover even more of the incredibly detailed images *GUNS* is known for, plus the straight-shoot'n facts and features shooters have relied on since 1955.



### Take A Closer Look! Satisfaction Guaranteed

Try a subscription to *GUNS Magazine* – **only \$19.95** for 12 adventure-filled issues. If it's not everything you expect, just say so and we'll refund the unused portion of your subscription – no questions asked!

#### Order Now!

www.gunsmagazine.com  
(888) 732-9116 (\$34.95 outside U.S.)  
P.O. Box 85201, San Diego, CA 92186



### MORE Guns, And Gear... Find It All Right HERE.

An arsenal of information and shooting news is packed inside each issue. Here's a sample of the regular columns:

- Handguns – Ayooob
  - Handloader – Petty
  - Rifleman – Anderson
  - Shotgunner – Bodinson
  - Campfire Tales – Taffin
- PLUS...**

- New Products
- Quartermaster
- Classifieds

**And Much More!**







## The Most Advanced Gun Cleaning System on Earth!



MADE IN AMERICA. GUARANTEED FOR LIFE!  
The Otis Tactical Kit only \$29.95 US!

**CLEANS EVERY GUN FROM .177 AIR PISTOL TO  
.50 CAL BMG RIFLE AND ALL SHOTGUNS!!**  
Order online Via Our Retail Gateway Partners!

The Otis Technology Breach-to-Muzzle Cleaning System is widely regarded by experts as the most advanced gun cleaning system in the world. It offers many gun cleaning advancements and refinements developed through Otis Technology's development of products for the military and competitive marksmen and hunters. By cleaning breach to muzzle, dirt and fouling is pulled out the muzzle, not pushed back into the action, gumming the trigger or causing malfunctions in automatics. The patented all-caliber patches not only provide six passes per patch, but form a perfectly circular cleaning plug. Because the slotted tip with the patch is pulled through the chamber, it doesn't compress the patch against the side of the tip or rod. Conventional rods will jam off-center, scraping the rifling in the process, and potentially ruining the bore. The 750 lb pull strength of the Otis Memory flex rod allows you to tightly form the patch to the bore, actually cleaning it rather than just moving the dirt around. The tight patch is formed by being pulled through the chamber, compressing in the throat, and clears the leading edge of the rifling, the edge that actually bears the stress of the rotating bullet. For shotguns, custom soft durometer plugs, ("patch savers") force the patch to the full diameter of the bore, cleaning the chamber, forcing cone, bore and choke—all without having to disassemble the gun!

The principle components of the Otis System are so well built that they are warranted for Life! The circular all-caliber patches are made of 100% cotton, and unlike cheap synthetic patches are not dissolved by the bore solvent, turning into plastic gunk left on the rifling. The tight weave of these patches actually pulls metallic copper flake buildup out of the grooves rather than leaving fibers embedded along the bore. The SupraTime brushes

THE STANDARD ISSUE CLEANING SYSTEM WITH THE  
US MARINE CORP!! IN SERVICE TODAY WITH THE  
DEA, FBI, AND OVER ONE MILLION  
HUNTERS & MARKSMEN!

ORDER RIGHT NOW! SEE YOUR  
LOCAL DEALER OR CALL US!

ORDER ONLINE @ [WWW.OTISGUN.COM](http://WWW.OTISGUN.COM)

**CALL NOW TOLL-FREE FOR A FREE CATALOG!**  
**1-800-OTIS-GUN**

are custom made with more and finer bristles than lesser brands. The belt-pack cases are made of ballistic nylon, with heavy duty zippers. The Bore Obstruction Removers are designed to avoid deforming a stuck bullet and will gently force it out of the bore with multiple taps from the Memory-flex rod. The Memory flex rod is nylon coated, aircraft-grade cable with compression welded fittings that will support over a quarter ton of pull force!

The Otis Premium Bore Cleanser is one of the most advanced cleaning solutions ever developed. It will clean, penetrate, lubricate and leave a protective coating on all metal surfaces, without damaging the surrounding wood or plastic components. The solid forged brass tips and brushes will not corrode or oxidize like aluminum. Aluminum oxide forms on aluminum rods, and like sandpaper will lap your bore with each pass, often followed by a significant loss of accuracy. It is silly to buy a 20,000 target rifle and then clean it with inferior components. You can clean your gun with the Otis kit thousands of times without a brass component ever scratching a muzzle or bore. Each kit comes with detailed information on how to properly clean and care for your firearm. Try the Otis System—it will last for life, and you'll spend more time shooting and less time cleaning!

The Otis Standard Issue  
M-16/AR-15 Buttslock Kit  
only \$29.95 US!

NSN #  
1055-01-424-2999



ORDER KITS/REPLACEMENTS IN OUR ON-LINE STORE!  
OR SEE YOUR DEALER GATEWAY! [WWW.OTISGUN.COM](http://WWW.OTISGUN.COM)

OTIS TECHNOLOGY INC. -- ONE OTIS INDUSTRIAL PARK  
PO BOX 582 -- LYONS FALLS NY 13368  
(800) OTIS-GUN- (315) 348-4332 FAX

© 2000 PYRAMONT N.A. FOR OTIS TECHNOLOGY, INC.



Otis Accessories at Your Dealer  
or On-Line!



# IT'S TOUGH TO CONCEAL QUALITY LIKE THIS.



**MODEL 0702/0703**  
**SELF SECURING HOLSTER SYSTEM**

With no snaps or straps, these may be the world's easiest-to-use concealment holsters. Just push down on your weapon to securely lock it.



**MODEL 25**  
**INSIDE-THE-POCKET HOLSTER**

This all-new holster stays open so your handgun holsters itself when you simply drop your weapon into it. Handgun shape is undetectable through pants.



**MODEL 4092**  
**ANKLE HOLSTER SYSTEM**

For superb comfort, this revolutionary system combines light weight and bottom-up support to keep it from slipping down your ankle.



**MODEL 329**  
**CONTOUR HOLSTER**

With a low-cut front, it remains close to the body when the snap is fastened. When the snap is released, it pivots away from the body for an easy draw.

The only thing we can't conceal is the quality. For complete information on our entire line of concealment products, visit [www.safariland.com](http://www.safariland.com), contact your local Safariland Dealer or Safariland's Customer Service.



**INNOVATION. NOT IMITATION.**

3120 E. MISSION BLVD. • ONTARIO, CA 91761 USA  
909-923-7300 • FAX 909-923-7400 • 800-347-1200 (USA ONLY)  
[www.safariland.com](http://www.safariland.com) • [www.armorholdings.com](http://www.armorholdings.com)



**ARMOR HOLDINGS, INC.**

## SPEAKOUT

If S&W wanted to stand and fight, they could have increased prices on their guns to pay for the legal fees. I would be buying them now, even at a \$100 or higher markup, to support them.

As for Ginger and the crew at S&W... well, too bad. Collateral damage happens. People get injured when their company makes bad decisions. I sure as hell am not going to buy S&W.

Thad Baker  
San Diego, Calif.

## Live Long And Prosper

The vituperative reaction of many in the gun-owning community to the Smith & Wesson agreement always made me a bit uneasy; in some ways, their reaction bothered me more than the agreement itself.

So I was pleased to read the eye-opening article on page 61 of the Jan/Feb 2001 issue of *American Handgunner*. It should be printed in every gun publication!

I immediately called a friend who recently purchased a new Kimber, just to let him know where his fine pistol experienced its birthing pains.

Thank you for putting this controversy into its proper perspective. To paraphrase a popular science fiction TV show, may Smith & Wesson live long and prosper!

Art Sweisfurth  
Morton, Penn.

## When Rights Are Gone

It would be a shame if the S&W incident cost people their jobs, but, in the long run, the rights and freedoms of 260 million people are more important. People can always get another job, but once our rights are taken away, we will never get them back.

Roger L. Wagner  
Erlanger, Ky.

## A Paid Advertisement?

I guess this was inevitable. The article covering the Smith & Wesson Performance Center was quite possibly the most unprofessional bit of heartstring-tugging and guilt-placing I have ever witnessed. Do you really expect the readers of your magazine to buy into the "five generation" BS? How about the call for "forgiveness"? What a sham! Was this a paid advertisement from S&W? It certainly read as such.

Hank Mason  
Taos, N.M.

## Cool It

Reflecting upon the uproar about Smith & Wesson's surrender, I would like to share my thoughts on the subject. Instead of condemning S&W, we should direct our anger at the real culprits of this deplorable act—and we all know who they are!

Today Smith & Wesson, tomorrow another scheme and another gunmaker. They must be really enjoying the discord



# The AMERICAN DEER HUNTER



*Dan Wesson*

The *Ultimate* Symbol of Your Pride  
in this Great American Tradition

~~ "One of 250" ~~



To protect your investment against dust and unauthorized handling, an American Walnut Display Case with locking glass lid is available. Wall mount provisions or display upright or flat on shelf, table or mantle, 29"x19"x3."

Shown only 55% of actual  
size of 15" (barrel: 10")

**"At Last, a  
Trophy You Can  
Own, Display and  
Shoot with Pride!"**

Deer hunting is a great American tradition, our oldest sporting pastime, and an important part of a family's heritage. And every man likes to own and display symbols of his special interests, especially hunting.

Now, The American Historical Foundation and Dan Wesson Firearms salute American deer hunters through the issuance of an historic first in firearms collecting—the American Deer Hunter Commemorative .44 Magnum.

It's a trophy that you can proudly display in your home or office—or carry to the field and shoot! An important heirloom you can pass along to future generations of hunters in your family, it shows you were one of the "Pilgrims" of handgun deer hunting.

A handgun was selected because big game hunting with big-bore handguns is the newest and most exciting development afield. And the .44 Magnum was selected because of its famous, long reign as "the world's most powerful handgun".

**Big!**

The Dan Wesson was chosen because it, in this special configuration, is the ultimate in .44 Magnum revolvers. It is the biggest at 15 inches overall, with a 10-inch barrel, it weighs four pounds. Indeed, it is the biggest handgun most people have ever seen!

Dan Wesson broke away from Smith & Wesson to found, in 1968, his own totally separate company, Dan Wesson Arms, to re-engineer and custom-build America's finest revolvers. And to this day, it is all American owned.

## LIMITED EDITION: ONLY 250

Dan Wesson revolvers have always been scarce compared to production guns. But this is a strictly Limited Edition of only 250 in the world, your immediate guarantee of rarity and collector value. Each is engraved with its own Limited Edition Registry Number between 001 and 250, with the prefix DEER and the suffix T, for Trophy Edition.

## SPECIAL ENGINEERING FEATURES

With the special features engineered into this Deer Hunter

Limited Edition, Dan Wesson revolvers have won IHMSA Silhouette Championships in seven out of eight years. A few of these features are:

- COMPETITION-GRADE, BROACHED-AND-SWAGED RIFLING—sharper lands, deeper grooves—10 sets, rather than the usual six or eight—for enhanced accuracy.
- BARREL SHROUD—stands off the barrel so muzzle nut exerts high longitudinal tension on the barrel—for less barrel "whip"/wobble when fired, for greater accuracy.
- ADJUSTABLE BARREL/CYLINDER "B/C" GAP—less gas escapes, for greater muzzle velocity and accuracy.
- FRONT-MOUNTED CYLINDER LATCH/LOCKUP—better cylinder-to-barrel alignment for greater accuracy; one-handed opening.
- REAR CYLINDER BALL DÉTENTE LOCKUP—in addition to the one at front, for stronger lockup.
- HEAVY, ONE-PIECE FRAME—for maximum strength.
- ADJUSTABLE TRIGGER STOP, EXTENDED HAMMER SPUR, FASTER ACTION—and much more.

## CUSTOM GUNSMITHED

In addition to these engineering features, each is custom gunsmithed to museum quality, with this extra hand workmanship:

- Full coverage of traditional 19th-century gun art deeply etched in bas relief—on both sides of the frame and the show side of the barrel shroud.
- Genuine 24-Karat Gold, selectively-plated, traditional banners and vignettes of trophy deer. The 24-Karat Gold plating across the hammer, trigger, grip, etchings and other components is all to Jewelers Grade-Heavy thickness, for lasting beauty and value.
- Custom Bill Jordan Trigger Grip with finger positions, American Oak, deluxe finished.
- Custom-designed grip design proclaiming the proud name of this Limited Edition with a trophy big buck in the center.
- Certificate of Authenticity attesting to its special issuance, Registry Number, edition limit and the purity and thickness of the 24-Karat Gold.

**J. C. SMITH  
EIGHT POINTER 12/21/99**

Personalized engraving available—your name and even the date of your biggest trophy (extra space available if needed, just ask).

As you would expect, each fires .44 Magnum ammunition, so you could use it to take a trophy deer, to win in competition or to defend your home or family.

Four other .44 Magnums, honoring Bear, Moose, Elk and Sheep Hunting, are also available. The entire set of five is called the

"North American Big Game Five Collection", and each has different wood grips, etching patterns and appropriate Registry Number prefixes.

## SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

To reserve (or for questions), call Member Relations, toll-free, today or tonight, seven days a week or return the Reservation to our National Historic Landmarks Headquarters and Museums. A convenient monthly-payment plan is available. When you reserve, you'll be made a Member. Satisfaction is fully guaranteed, or you may return within 30 days for a complete refund. If you do not have a Federal Firearms License, we will help coordinate delivery through your local FFL holder, after your reservation is received here. Prompt response to this rare, big-bore opportunity is suggested to avoid disappointment.

## RESERVATION REQUEST

Satisfaction guaranteed or return within 30 days for a full refund. Yes, please enter my reservation for the Big Game Platter Trophy Edition "One of 250", indicated below. I will also receive a Certificate of Authenticity attesting to the edition limit, special Registry Number and purity of the 24-Karat Gold plating. Satisfaction guaranteed.

- ☐ Deer ☐ Moose ☐ Bear ☐ Elk ☐ Sheep
- ☐ My deposit (or credit card authorization) of \$295 per pistol is enclosed.  
Please ☐ charge or ☐ invoice the balance due prior to delivery...  
☐ In ten monthly payments of \$195, or ☐ in full.
- ☐ My payment in full of \$2,950 per pistol is enclosed.
- ☐ Please send the optional custom-crashed American Walnut Display Case, adding \$275 per case to my final payment.

If I cancel my reservation prior to delivery I will receive a full refund, less a commissioning fee of \$25.

- ☐ Please personalize my pistol, at \$29; Please send the Engraving Form.
- ☐ Check or money order enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge: ☐ Visa, ☐ MC, ☐ Am. Ex. or ☐ Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Virginia residents please add 5.5% tax

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL FOUNDATION  
1142 WEST GRACE STREET RICHMOND, VA 23220  
(804) 353-1812 FAX: (804) 359-4893  
http://www.ahfinc.com e-MAIL:ahf@inc.com

**TOLL FREE 9AM-9PM E.T.: 1-800-368-8080**

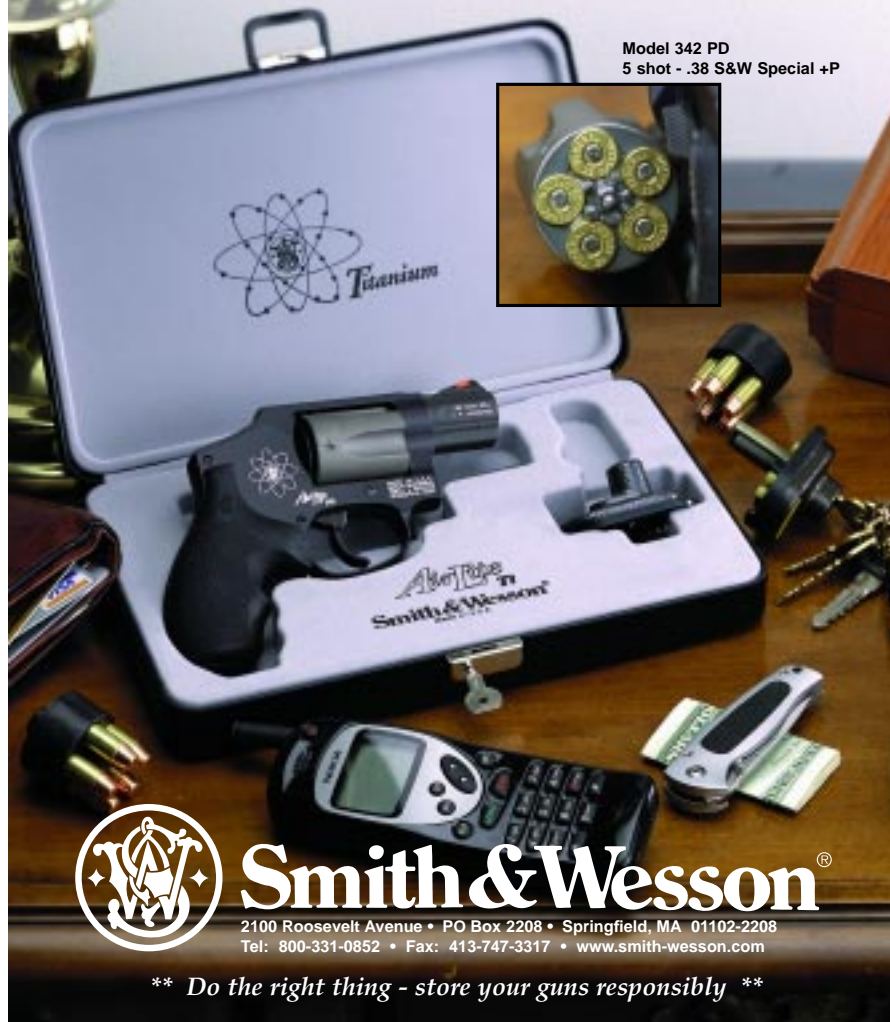


# IT'S A SIMPLE CHOICE

Everyday is a succession of choices about our families, our jobs and our future. If a firearm is part of your personal protection plan, choosing the right one is simple.

The Smith & Wesson AirLite Ti™ revolvers are award winning, lightweight, high performance personal defense revolvers. They feature components of titanium, aircraft quality aluminum and stainless steel that are CAD designed, CNC machined and fitted by experienced craftsmen and women. It's your choice, so choose Smith & Wesson for American made quality and dependability.

For more information on the Smith & Wesson family of AirLite revolvers, call 1-800-331-0852 or visit the Smith & Wesson home page at [www.smith-wesson.com](http://www.smith-wesson.com)



Model 342 PD  
5 shot - .38 S&W Special +P

**Smith & Wesson**®

2100 Roosevelt Avenue • PO Box 2208 • Springfield, MA 01102-2208  
Tel: 800-331-0852 • Fax: 413-747-3317 • [www.smith-wesson.com](http://www.smith-wesson.com)

**\*\* Do the right thing - store your guns responsibly \*\***

they managed to sow in our ranks. As of now, they lay low, waiting for us to finish the job they have started. Then they will set their sights on the next target!

I think we should rally around Smith & Wesson, give them our support, for if they go down it will only pave the way to further disasters. It seems to me that boycotting them is comparable to kicking one's favorite featherweight for getting defeated in an uneven fight with the heavyweight champion.

Besides, if handgun makers would—God forbid—start to disappear from the scene, S&W ought to be the last, not the first, one to go. They have the greatest selection of handguns, and each one of us would be able to find something for ourselves that we could live with. Just look at their catalog and compare it with the others.

Adding to this is their constantly improving quality, excellent customer service and long history; I consider them the biggest icon in the field.

So my suggestion is: Just cool off, join the NRA and get yourself that Smith & Wesson you were thinking about— we'll all be better off this way!

Stan Grochowski  
Phoenix, Ariz.

## UPS Inaccuracies

In the Nov/Dec 2000 issue, Donald L. Cline's letter, "The 'Rights' of UPS," takes issue with a letter I sent in that was published in the Sept/Oct 2000 issue ("Red Neck Extremists"). I would like to take this opportunity to respond to his inaccuracies.

Mr. Cline is wrong when he states that the United Parcel Service was "a government-created entity." It seems he has confused UPS with the United States Postal Service (USPS). To say that UPS is a government entity is as absurd as claiming that McDonalds is a government-created corporation with "limited liability."

When I stated that UPS could conduct their business in any way it wished, I was assuming that the reader could exercise common sense. It is assumed that in conducting its business, UPS would conform to the laws regulating its business. I will concede to Mr. Cline that if UPS violates the law, the government will (and should) jump "down UPS's throat."

Finally, Mr. Cline states that we can only take our business elsewhere "until there isn't any place left to take it." Again, this is wrong. If there is no business providing a needed service, start your own! Do not depend on others to do it for you. If there are enough people desirous of a service, you should be able to gather enough capital to start your own business. We live in a free society (albeit

**GLOCK® Grip Accesories**  
by **PEARCE GRIP**

*The Choice of Professionals*

- ☐ Grip Enhancers
- ☐ Grip Extensions
- ☐ Plus One Grip Extensions
- ☐ Plus Two Magazine Extensions



**PEARCE GRIP**  
Specializing in Replacement Grips for Firearms  
P.O. Box 40367  
Fort Worth, Texas 76140  
(800) 390-9420 (817) 568-9707 fax  
<http://www.pearcegrip.com>

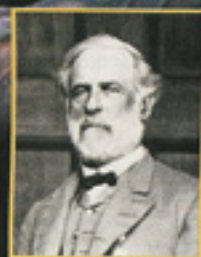
**Suggested Retail \$9.95**





The Civil War Library & Museum and The Franklin Mint Present

# THE OFFICIAL ROBERT E. LEE CIVIL WAR COLLECTOR WATCH



Quartz movement.  
Handsome pouch and chain.  
Accents of 24 karat gold mark the eagle, leaves and CS symbol on the spring-action lid.

Lee. He first served the United States with such distinction that President Abraham Lincoln offered him full field command. But Robert E. Lee could not abandon his native soil, and sided with the Confederacy. As a supreme military leader, he triumphed again and again against overwhelming odds. Now a superb timepiece commemorates his legend and honors all those who served with such valor.

The Official Robert E. Lee Civil War Collector Watch. Crafted by the artisans of The Franklin Mint. Rich accents of 24 karat gold embellish the eagle, leaves and CS symbol on the lid, ring and stem top. The case is richly accented in sterling silver and the hand-painted stars that surround the crossed Confederate flags are sculptured in deep relief on the lid. Open the spring-loaded lid to reveal the logo of The Civil War Library & Museum and Lee's signature mark etched within. The watch face dramatically portrays the great general. And the minted medal of Franklin Mint Collector Watches set into the reverse of the watch. Complete with a silver tone chain and handsome black carry pouch. Give yourself the gift of time. Just \$69.

**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.** If you wish to return any Franklin Mint purchase, you may do so within 30 days of your receipt of that purchase for replacement, credit or refund.

## SYMBOL OF QUALITY



The minted medal of Franklin Mint Collector Watches, your assurance of the highest in quality and craftsmanship, is set into the reverse of the case.

Shown approximately actual size of 2" (5.08 cm) in diameter.



For free warranty information write to: Customer Service, The Franklin Mint, Franklin Center, PA 19091-0001.



The Franklin Mint  
Franklin Center, PA 19091-0001

Please mail by April 30, 2001.

Please enter my order for The Official Robert E. Lee Civil War Collector Watch. I need SEND NO MONEY NOW. I will be billed for my watch in 2 equal monthly installments of \$34.50\* each, with the first payment due when my watch is ready to be sent. **Limit: one watch per collector.**

\*Plus my state sales tax and a one-time charge of \$3.95 for shipping and handling.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ALL ORDERS ARE SUBJECT TO ACCEPTANCE

MR./MRS./MISS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

APT. # \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

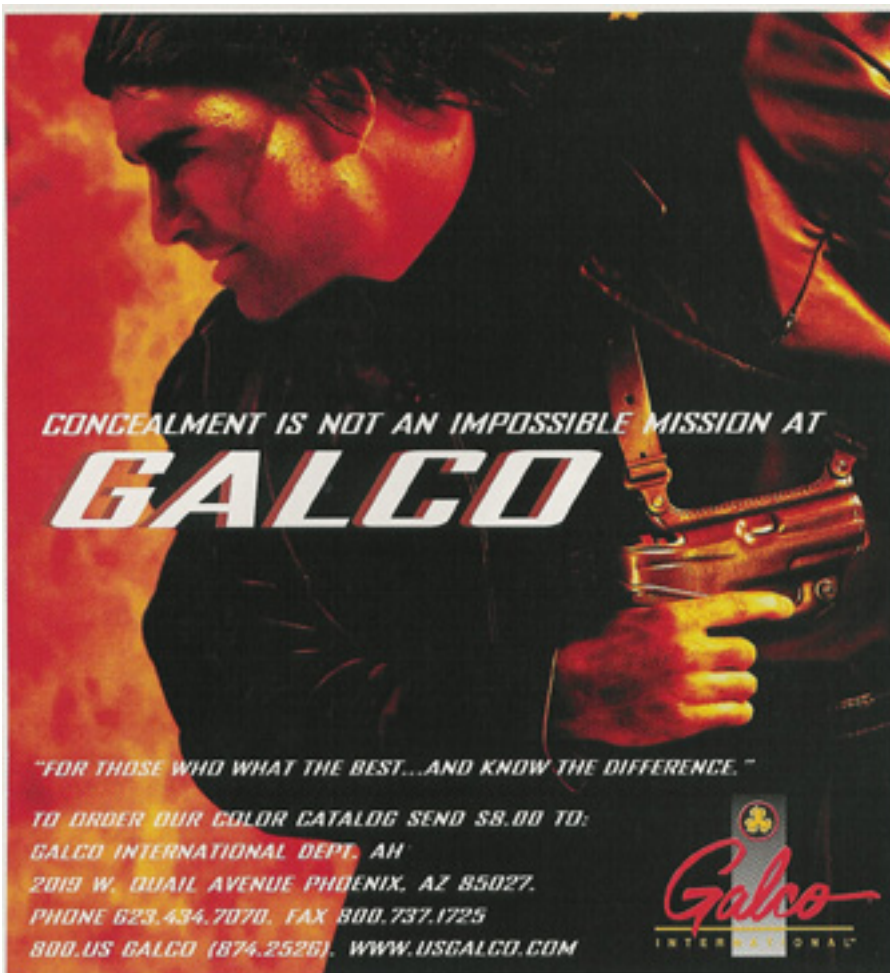
TELEPHONE # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

22351-43-001

**THE FRANKLIN MINT.**  
The Collector's Choice in Precision Collector Watches.

**THE FRANKLIN MINT**  
[www.franklinmint.com](http://www.franklinmint.com)





**CONCEALMENT IS NOT AN IMPOSSIBLE MISSION AT**  
**GALCO**

*"FOR THOSE WHO WANT THE BEST...AND KNOW THE DIFFERENCE."*

TO ORDER OUR COLOR CATALOG SEND \$8.00 TO:  
 GALCO INTERNATIONAL DEPT. AH  
 2019 W. QUAIL AVENUE PHOENIX, AZ 85027.  
 PHONE 623.434.7070. FAX 800.737.1725  
 800.US GALCO (874.2526). WWW.USGALCO.COM

**Galco**  
 INTERNATIONAL



**Kramer**  
 HANDGUN LEATHER

Come browse our State-of-the-Art  
 SSL Secure Catalog On-Line  
 Our High Speed Secure Servers keep  
 your personal info private!

Enter our  
**FREE** monthly drawings

For 100's of Dollars in Horsehide  
 Holsters and Combos

**www.kramerleather.com**

Send \$5.00 for 20 Page Full Color Catalog to:  
 Kramer® Handgun Leather, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 112154 Dept. AH, Tacoma, WA 98411  
 1-800-510-2666

**VISIT**  
**www.americanhandgunner.com**

less and less under the current Clinton/Gore regime), and we do not need the government to create a new "corporation" to meet our needs— we can do it ourselves.

I am sorry, Mr. Cline, but UPS is a private corporation, UPS may run its business as it sees fit (OK, within the limits of the law), and your recourse is to not use their services.

So I say again, the best way to get our message across is to write to UPS and tell them that you will not use their services until they reverse their decision, and then stick to your word. The loss of revenue is the best way to get any corporation's attention.

Gerald Valusek  
 El Centro, Calif.

## Half-A-Thou

"Size Doesn't Matter" (Nov/Dec '00), but arithmetic fundamentals do. Charles Petty says the actual caliber measured length of a Kimber Ultra Carry barrel is 3.1595". This dimension is commonly rounded off in descriptive terms at 3.16". The differential is not .010", as he states. Rather, the spread is a mere .0005", or what a machinist would refer to as half-a-thou.

Daniel McNamara  
 West Hills, Calif.

## Absolute Rights

I read Jeff Snyder's column in the Jan/Feb 2001 issue and feel he is incorrect in his assertion that "a right must be absolute," regarding the Second Amendment. Would that it were so!

The right to vote is guaranteed by the first two articles of the Constitution, and later amended by the 12th, 15th, 19th, 24th and 26th Amendments. Yet, in Pennsylvania, if I show up to vote without having registered 30 days prior, I wouldn't be voting. The right is regulated.

The right to free speech is guaranteed by the First Amendment, but I can't with impunity libel someone, verbally incite a riot or falsely cry "fire" in a crowded theater. The right is interpreted and, thus, to some degree, regulated. As imperfect as our legal system is, it helps to keep us from anarchy and totalitarian rule.

Mr. Snyder is preaching to a choir that would love to believe in absolute rights, but our constitutional and legal system functions, in part, to interpret rights, not to just sit back and assume all rights are absolute and everyone agrees with them.

But the lay press, quoting Mr. Snyder's column, could easily support the position that he— and we— feel that violent convicted felons should be allowed to have oodles of legal firearms, just as any law-abiding citizen, in the



# TACTICAL GEAR HEADQUARTERS



Announcing **NEW Wilson Combat®** Tactical gear for 2001. Famous for innovative, **QUALITY** custom handguns for over 23 years, Wilson Combat® is proud to announce the availability of their **NEW** tactical rifles and shotguns.



The CQB (Close Quarters Battle) Pistol is the choice of tactical shooting professionals. It includes our Tactical Combat sighting system and numerous other outstanding features. Starting at \$1,650, it's the pistol for you!

It includes our Tactical Combat sighting system and numerous other outstanding features. Starting at \$1,650, it's the pistol for you!



The custom built Urban Tactical Carbine features a flat top receiver, crisp 3.2# trigger pull, muzzle brake and a fluted Wilson Combat® match barrel guaranteed to shoot 1 MOA. Starting at \$1599, it's not the cheapest, just the best!

Starting at \$1599, it's not the cheapest, just the best!



ScattergunTechnologies™ Standard Model is what a tactical shotgun should be, with patented Trak-Lock tritium ghost ring sights, expanded magazine capacity and flawless handling. Starting at only \$895, it's a real Tactical Response/Self-Defense bargain!



The KZ-45 Tactical Carry Pistol features a polymer frame, external extractor, tritium night sights, light weight and 11rd capacity. Starting at \$995, it's also the lowest priced Wilson pistol ever offered!

Starting at \$995, it's also the lowest priced Wilson pistol ever offered!



The M-4T Tactical Carbine is quite possible the ultimate CQB (Close Quarters Battle) weapon. Ideal for Law Enforcement Tactical Response Entry Teams as well as home defense.. Starting at \$1575.



The Border Patrol is a Workhorse! Selected and used by the U.S. Border Patrol with thousands in daily service. The Border Patrol features the proven pump action with a 14" or 18" cylinder bore barrel. Starting at \$675.

Wilson Combat®/ScattergunTechnologies™ • 2234 CR 719-133 • Berryville, AR 72616-4573  
1-800-955-4856 • info@wilsoncombat.com • www.wilsoncombat.com



## SPEAKOUT

blind pursuit of absolute rights. This could marginalize any credibility we may have in public education.

Richard T. Goldhahn Jr.  
Churchville, Penn.

### Rambling Journey

In Jeff Snyder's article in the Jan/Feb 2001 issue, "Can A 'Right' Be Moderated In The Interest Of Public Safety?," we are taken on a rambling journey that ends with a paragraph that says, essentially: "A right... to be a right, must be absolute... subject to no exceptions... If the right is not absolute, you... have no right."

Huh?

Certainly, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are the most basic of rights, and yet we take these away from felons all the time, and for good cause!

Mr. Snyder's pronouncements in defense of Second Amendment rights are based on nonsense! To use his logic will do nothing but lose this argument for us all.

Noel Funchess  
Cleveland, Miss.

### Fuzzy Eyes

As most shooters learn, or are forced to learn, middle age usually imposes a fuzziness on the previous clarity of your

sight picture. I took to heart Dave Anderson's comments (Sept/Oct '00) on the red dot diode sights such as Tasco's Optima 2000.

Dave was quite accurate, and now I, too, am again accurate in my shooting, using the Optima 2000 red dot sight. I had only one bump, which the good folks at Tasco quickly remedied to my full satisfaction.

The Optima 2000 weighs only a few ounces, is easily adjustable and quickly zeroes in. Kudos to *American Handgunner* and Tasco for putting another pair of middle-aged eyes back on target!

John Hauelsen  
Worthington, Ohio

### Objectionable Photos

I feel compelled to bring to your attention the Hissatsu article and your ensuing defense of the same in the Jan/Feb 2001 edition.

In my opinion, the only objectionable portion of the article is the illustrations. I found the photos so disturbing that I threw that issue in the trash rather than forwarding it to my friend in New Zealand as I usually do.

What I found most disturbing about the photo layout is the subtext of the "attack from the rear" sequence carried out against a civilian in suburban America by an "operative" dressed in the latest Reno/Freeh fashions. Political orientation aside, attacking someone from behind

with lethal intent is still viewed as murder in many jurisdictions.

Also, while knives and guns are inanimate objects, information is produced and used only by man, and no man, including you, lives in a "moral vacuum"; so to say that information exists alone and separate from humanity is a fallacy— it is pure Barbra Streisand, embraced by the likes of Stalin and Clinton/Gore.

Additionally, I urge you to consider that the photography in question is describing not only technique but *behavior* as well, and behavior has moral, ethical and legal ramifications.

In fact, nothing you cited in your rebuttal even addresses the obvious moral implications of endorsing an attack from the rear with a knife that is supposed to be a "backup" weapon; indeed, nothing you cite makes any sense at all.

Ken Kanowsky  
kenk@gorge.net

**AMERICAN HANDGUNNER™** welcomes letters to the editor for the *Speak Out* column. Letters should be typewritten, but legible handwriting is acceptable. Letters must be less than 350 words. We reserve the right to edit all published letters for clarity and length. Due to the volume of mail, we are unable to individually answer either written correspondence or e-mail. Send your letters to *Speak Out*, American Handgunner, 591 Camino de la Reina, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92108; internet: [www.americanhandgunner.com](http://www.americanhandgunner.com)

**The New Western Cleaning Kit**  
Today's technology. Old west feel.



See your dealer or visit [kleen-bore.com](http://kleen-bore.com)

With a split suede cowhide pouch and a solid brass rod, **The Western Kit** is tailored for cowboy action shooters.

The pouch nestles all the accessories necessary to clean handguns, rifles and shotguns .38 caliber and up.

Quality Gun Care  
Products and  
Accessories



Easthampton  
Massachusetts  
01027

**Unmatched  
Protection.  
Pin-Point  
Placement.**



See your dealer or visit [kleen-bore.com](http://kleen-bore.com)

Precision applicator, with rotating O-ring shutoff design places an exact amount of **TW25 B Lubricant** to prevent corrosion, short stroking and galling. Long lasting. Will not burn off. Approved for military use.

Quality Gun Care  
Products and  
Accessories



Easthampton  
Massachusetts  
01027



# Why do we send millions of free bullets to our customers?

The **LASER-CAST** Silver Bullet is the most  
consistent, accurate, and cleanest  
cast bullet on the market.

Sound too good to be true?

**Our free samples prove it.**

They've proven it to experienced reloaders,  
champion competitors, and loyal customers  
itching to test our latest bullet.

And they'll prove it to you.

## They always come back for more.

**CALL US ANY TIME FOR YOUR FREE SAMPLES**

*and a complimentary copy of the latest Shooter's Journal.*

**1-800-811-0548**



**WWW.LASER-CAST.COM**



# .22 CAL. PELLET FIRING TARGET PISTOLS

## CASE "LONG RIFLE" TARGET PISTOL

This full-size model of the CASE target pistol fires all 50 pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger.



## "TARGET MAGNUM" REVOLVER

Extra long target barrel and be-mag grips combine to give unusual accuracy. The realistic cylinder reloads quickly with 10 pellets.



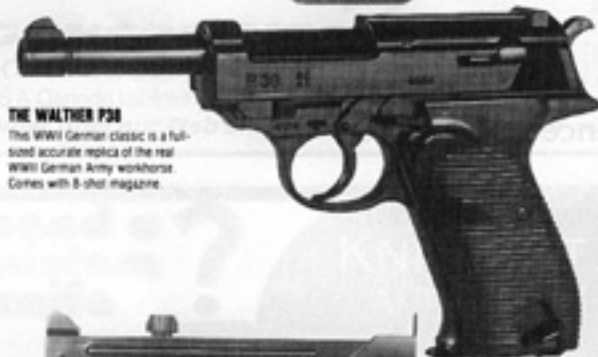
## MAGNUM .44 MODEL-180

This model handgun fires pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger! Load all 50 pellets and fire away.



## SEMI- AUTOMATIC MACHINE PISTOL

"Commando" type machine pistol sprays pellets into the target as fast as you can pull the trigger. Comes with side mounted, detachable, telescopic clip.



## THE WALTHER P38

This WWII German classic is a full-sized accurate replica of the real WWII German Army workhorse. Comes with 8-shot magazine.



## UZI SEMI- AUTOMATIC

A favorite with police, security, and special military forces around the world.



## THE LUKE

Full sized, accurate reproduction of Germany's legendary combat weapon. Comes with 8-shot magazine.



## "COMPETITION CLASSIC" SEMI-AUTOMATIC TARGET PISTOL



## SNUB- NOSED REVOLVER

This accurate target pistol looks and feels like the famous snub nosed revolver in use by most detectives. The cylinder swings out to load eight pellets.

Full size version of the world famous target pistol can fire all 50 pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger.



## INGRAM M-11 SEMI-AUTOMATIC

The first choice of Special Forces, S.W.A.T. teams and Police. With this realistic action model you can fire the pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger.



## THE LASER SEMI-AUTOMATIC

Rapid firing model of the weapon of the future. Comes with 8-shot magazine and detachable telescope style sight.

JUST \$6.95  
EACH

GUARANTEED DISTRIBUTORS, Dept. 499CE51  
County Road 687, Hartford, Michigan 49057-0322

YES, please rush me the .22 cal. pellet firing target pistols I've checked below. Also include my FREE targets and 50 reusable pellets with each weapon. I'm enclosing \$6.95 plus \$1.95 for postage and handling for each target weapon I'm ordering. If I'm not completely satisfied you'll refund my money right away.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\$ Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

NO PERMIT REQUIRED. MICHIGAN  
STATE RESIDENTS ADD SALES TAX.

- ☐ SEMI-AUTOMATIC MACHINE PISTOL
- ☐ "TARGET MAGNUM" REVOLVER
- ☐ SNUB-NOSED REVOLVER
- ☐ WALTHER P38
- ☐ LUKE
- ☐ "COMPETITION CLASSIC" SEMI-AUTOMATIC TARGET PISTOL
- ☐ UZI SEMI-AUTOMATIC
- ☐ INGRAM M-11 SEMI-AUTOMATIC
- ☐ MAGNUM 180 SEMI-AUTOMATIC
- ☐ CASE LONG RIFLE SEMI-AUTOMATIC
- ☐ LASER SEMI-AUTOMATIC

Each of these .22 cal. pellet firing target weapons looks and feels like the real thing. Each comes with targets and 50 reusable pellets. No permits required. Purchase price promptly refunded if you are not completely satisfied. Just \$6.95 each plus \$1.95 each for postage and handling. Michigan State residents add sales tax.

GUARANTEED DISTRIBUTORS, Dept. 499CE51

County Road 687, Hartford, Michigan 49057-0322

## FREE: TARGETS AND 50 REUSEABLE PELLETS





## The Three-Seven-Five: Greatest Game Getter Of All Time

**H**olland & Holland's .375 Magnum is generally considered the most versatile big-game rifle cartridge in existence. It's quite true that others shoot flatter at long range, some drill bigger holes, some smaller, and there are cartridges that throw heavier or lighter bullets. However, when it comes time to get the job done on animals large or small, at short or long range, the legendary .375 H&H is likely the best caliber to get the job done effectively.

In handguns, the .375 JDJ fits into the same category. It has effectively taken just about every major game animal in the world and continues to do so with a

270 gr. Hornady bullet at 2,100 fps.

The .375 H&H has been chambered in a few XP-100 conversions and is also quite effective in handgun form, although the recoil is somewhat disconcerting. The .375 Win. has been a dud from the concept. The first ammunition usually ripped the end of the case off and deposited it in the bore. Succeeding shots ironed them into the bore.

Ballistics of the .375 Win. were terrible. The last 250 gr. ammo I chronographed developed less velocity than 240 gr. .44 Magnum ammo from the same manufacturer in the same barrel length. Scratch that wimp, except for good handloads and deer-size animals at short ranges.

## A NEW .375 FOR HANDGUNNERS

**S**hortly after the introduction of the Encore, I developed the .375-'06 JDJ with a .30-'06 case maximized for case capacity and utilizing a 60 degree shoulder. It does 2,400 to 2,450 fps from a 15" barrel with the 270 gr. Hornady. Pretty potent. Some of the factory .375 H&H ammo does near that from rifle-length barrels. Now, however, a rimless factory round is available to provide this excellent performance from factory-loaded ammunition in the Encore.

It's called the .376 Steyr and it's loaded by Hornady. A 225 gr. load at 2,560 fps and a 270 at almost 2,400 fps from a 15" barrel provide enough raw power to effectively take anything on earth. Accuracy is excellent. Trajectory is about the same as a .308 from the same barrel length.

Provided with an Arrestor muzzle brake, a scope and T/C's Rynite or rubber grips, any experienced bigbore shooter should be able to easily handle it. No FMJ ammunition other than handloads are currently produced. The cartridge was developed by Steyr for their rifles, and it gains friends daily.

The .375 JDJ, which trundles along at 2,100 fps with the 270 gr. Hornady from a 14" Contender, has literally become the

number-one choice of worldwide big-game hunters for the last 20 years, even though handicapped by the lack of factory ammo. Adding 300 fps to the velocity, like the .376 Steyr does, requires a stronger gun than the Contender, and also adds additional range to the rig.

Lighter weight bullets—particularly the Hornady 220 gr. flat point—are terrific deer bullets, giving excellent performance. Hornady's new 225 gr. spire point is as yet untried on game from these calibers at pistol velocities.

In power, the .375s in pistols rank as follows, from weakest to

strongest: .375 Win., .375 JDJ, .375-284, .376 Steyr, .375-'06 JDJ and .375 H&H. This ranking is based on handloads; factory ammo varies a lot in velocity.

The only modern .375 cartridge to be chambered in a revolver was the .375 Super Mag in the Dan Wesson. I wonder what would have happened if the .357 Magnum had been a .375 instead?





## Come With Us Now As We Take An Incredible Journey Into The Inner Depths Of A Reloading Die

**M**ost of the time you really don't need to worry about what's happening inside a loading die. If you've adjusted it properly, you just ram the case in there and it comes out right. Amazing.

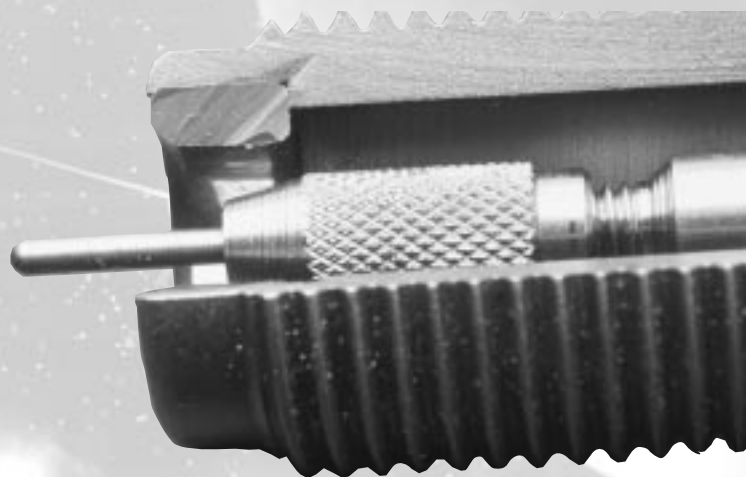
We get a lot of questions about how long reloaded brass should last. There is no answer because every gun, every die and even each individual piece of brass presents a set of variables over which we have no control.

We can say this, however, with certainty—brass life is directly related to the intensity of the load. Cases subjected to maximum loads—regardless of the cartridge—are not going to last nearly as long as brass fired with middle-of-the-road charges. That's a fact.

Another big factor is how much we work the brass. Repeated expansion and sizing work-hardens the case and over time makes it less resilient. An understanding of what's happening in the die helps a little.

When you touch off a round, the case is subjected to pressure from the burning powder. It must expand—quickly—to seal the chamber and prevent gas from escaping where it isn't supposed to. And here is the first major variable—no two chambers are exactly alike. We have to *resize* the case to a diameter that will allow it to back into any chamber.

If we use the .38 Special as an example, the minimum



chamber has a diameter of 0.3809". So, in order to just get the case back in a minimum chamber, the brass has to be something less than that. In fact, due to the springy nature of brass, the sizing die has to be 0.004" to 0.005" smaller to be sure that *any* cartridge will fit *any* chamber.

This subjects that poor little piece of brass to quite a bit of squeezing and expanding during a reloading cycle.

## Carbide Fever

**O**ne of the greatest boons to the reloader was the development of carbide sizing dies. Most shooters take them for granted these days and probably wouldn't dream of buying conventional steel sizing dies for straight-wall handgun cases, but there was a time when carbide dies were both rare and terribly expensive.

The first one I ever saw was on a Star Loader, which was the tool that kept me in .38 and .45 ammo during my long career in bullseye shooting. The Star dies were a smaller diameter and could not be used in standard presses that accept 7/8x14 dies. A few custom makers offered those in a very limited way in the '50s, but it wasn't until the early '60s that the big names—Pacific, C-H, RCBS, Lyman—offered carbide sizing dies widely.

A single carbide sizing die sold for around \$25. A complete three-die set with a steel sizing die was \$12. Those were '60s dollars, and it's interesting to



see how today's prices are about the same, even though the dollar is not worth nearly as much.

Most people don't notice that there is only a small ring of carbide material which is pressed into the die body that is little more than a holder for the carbide ring and decapping pin. All the sizing is done by the carbide ring that is only about a quarter of an inch deep. Until you see a cutaway, some of this is not obvious.

The extreme hardness that makes carbide work so well for sizing can also be a trap for the unwary. It is brittle, and if you slam a shell holder into the insert, there is a chance that it will shatter. Proper adjustment is to leave just a little daylight between the die and the shell holder when it is in its highest position.

## EVERYONE LIKES A LITTLE SQUIRT

**F**or quite a while, carbide dies were limited to cases with straight walls, but we have them now for some cases with gentle tapers such as the 9mm Luger or .30 Carbine. There are even a few for rifle cases. One of the great selling points of carbide dies is that you don't have to lubricate the case. That is surely so for most applications, but sometimes it helps to give just a small squirt of a liquid case lube, such as RCBS Case Slick. It reduces the effort required and actually speeds up loading a bit. If I get lazy and don't clean the cases between loadings, a squirt of lube is a great idea.





# POWERSPEED From HOGUE

**\$119.95**  
COMPLETE  
The Best Value  
in Holsters  
Bar None!

## The Most Versatile and Unique Holster Ever Made

The PowerSpeed™ holster is designed for competition, duty and concealed use. The patented PowerSpeed holster is modular and is easily assembled within seconds for right or left hand use and adjusted to fit most semi-auto handguns. Incorporating a unique locking mechanism, the Hogue Power-Speed is constructed of super strong Delrin and is one of the fastest and most secure holsters ever made.

The simple and unique locking mechanism has 3 quick settings: Fully Locked, Semi Race and Full Race. The Power-Speed holster comes with two belt mounts, a dropped fully adjustable competition/duty style with belt sizes from 1-1/2" to a 3" and a high rise style fits a 1-1/2" belt designed for duty or concealed carry.

PowerSpeed fits many full size Semi Auto Handguns, including, but not limited to:

- Colt 1911 style pistols
- All Glock Models
- Para Ordnance
- Ruger P series
- Most Smith & Wesson auto pistols
- Sig Sauer pistols
- Full size Beretta pistols
- Full size Taurus pistols
- Browning Hi-Power
- Caspian pistols
- Etc., Etc., Etc.



See us On-Line at:  
[www.getgrip.com](http://www.getgrip.com)

**HOGUE**  
INC.

P.O. Box 1138 • Paso Robles, CA 93447

Barrel is held by powerful  
NeB magnets.  
No zig zag motion is  
required for draw!

CALL TOLL-FREE FOR A

**FREE CATALOG**

OF HOGUE PRODUCTS

**1-800-GET-GRIP**

(1-800-438-4747) or 805-239-1440 • Fax 805-239-2553

## ENCORE



### SSK HAND CANNONS

For Superior Performance  
when you wish to reach out and  
touch something.

### CUSTOM CONTENDER & ENCORE BARRELS

Custom scope installations for hunting  
handguns, heavyweight bullet molds,  
arrestor muzzle brakes, Big Bore rifles  
to 577 Nitro.

Please call or write for price quote or further information.  
If writing, send two First Class postage stamps.

### SSK INDUSTRIES

590 - AH Woodvue Lane  
Wintersville, OH 43953  
(740) 264-0176  
[www.sskindustries.com](http://www.sskindustries.com)



## Your SHOOTING CHRONY, the greatest Bang for your Buck!



Shown: Master Chrony with Ballistic Printer

For precise ammo velocity measurement.  
For Rifles, Handguns, Archery,  
Shotguns, Airguns and Paintballs.  
Choose 10 Models from \$84.95 to  
\$199.95; We accept Trade-ins; Have a  
look at our *Shooting Chrony Ballistics*  
program on our Web Page:  
<http://www.shootingchrony.com>



*If it doesn't unfold,  
it's not a Chrony.*

Ask your Dealer or call 1-800-385-3161  
SHOOTING CHRONY INC.  
3269 Niagara Falls Blvd.  
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120  
e-mail: [chrony@shootingchrony.com](mailto:chrony@shootingchrony.com)

**NEXT MONTH... AMERICAN HANDGUNNER  
CATALOG SHOWCASE!**



## The Crimson Tide

**C**rimson Trace Lasergrips incorporate an eye-visible laser inside a grip panel—batteries, laser, everything right there in the grip. They are available for most popular models of service handguns, revolvers and autos. I tested a pair that were fitted to a 9mm Beretta Elite II pistol. Installation was a simple matter of removing the stock grip panels and installing the Lasergrips. The fit on the Beretta frame was excellent—snug and secure.

The laser module is housed in the right grip panel. A sliding on-off switch on the bottom of the panel allows the sight to be turned off for storage. For normal carry, the switch is placed in the “on” position.

Depressing a pressure-sensitive second switch—a long raised rib on the front of the grip panel—then activates the laser beam.

Gripping the pistol with either the right or left hand serves to activate the switch. I found it quite easy to turn the beam on or off simply by tightening or relaxing my grip.

Two tiny set screws on the top and side of the laser module are used to regulate point-of-impact. There are no clicks or graduation marks, but sighting proved straightforward. It only took half a dozen shots to get the laser dot and point-of-impact to coincide at 25 yards.

The compactness of current laser sights is astonishing. For all practical purposes, the Lasergrips added no bulk or weight. The sight had no effect on holstering or operation of the gun. During fairly extensive handling and firing by a number of shooters, the sight proved reliable and the point-of-impact was unchanged.



## ...AND THEN THERE ARE THE NEGATIVES

**T**he laser beam source can be observed from downrange and could serve as a target. After firing several shots, smoke hanging in front of the gun showed the laser beam as a clear line leading to the firing position. Sound tactics are to change position, if possible, after firing, and to keep the beam turned off except as needed.

When practicing building entry tactics with their laser-sighted MP-5s, officers had noted that when a suspect confronted them and was hit with several laser dots, there could be confusion

about whose dot belonged to whom. Lasers designed to pulse in recognizable patterns would be one solution.

*Crimson Trace Lasergrips are offered for Beretta, Officers and 1911-style pistols, the Ruger Mk II and several SIGs, and Taurus and S&W J- and K-frame revolvers. A frame-mounted version is offered for Glock pistols. For more info, contact Crimson Trace, Dept. AH, 8089 Cirrus Dr., Beaverton, OR 97008; phone: (800) 442-2406 or (503) 627-9992; fax: (503) 627-0166.*

## Tactical Pluses For Laser Sights

**F**or input on the tactical utility of laser sights, I gave the Lasergrip-equipped Beretta to a local police department for feedback from SWAT team members. It was used for night firing drills, and for low-light training in simulated building entries, alley searches and felony vehicle stops.

**Training:** In accuracy drills at 25 yards on 8" steel plates, most officers had no difficulty making consistent hits. When misses did occur, both shooter and instructor could clearly see the dot being pulled off target, usually a result of a poor trigger press. Concentrating on keeping the dot on target while smoothly releasing the trigger resulted in improved trigger control.

**Confidence:** In simulated low-light alley and building searches, officers commented that the speed and ease of acquiring potential threats with the laser dot gave a tremendous confidence boost. Instead of having to shift focus from target to sights, they could stay focused on the subject while using the laser dot to index the pistol.

**Intimidation:** In simulated high-risk felony car stops, officers would remain behind cover while spotting the laser on the dashboard or center of the steering wheel.

An officer playing the role of the felon commented, “When that bright red light comes on in front of you, it’s like some alien spacecraft came up behind and has you locked in its sights. It’s paralyzing. You just know they aren’t bluffing and they won’t miss.”

**Awkward Shooting Positions:** It’s not always possible to bring the gun to eye level and use the sights. With a laser, that isn’t necessary. As long as you can see the target and the dot, it’s possible to place an accurate shot.





# Shooting? Reloading? Think DILLON

AT 500

SQUARE DEAL 'B'

RL 550B

XL 650

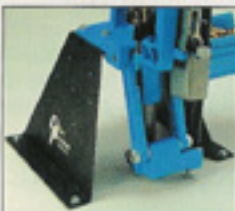
RL 1050

SL 900



Please Note: All loading machines are pictured with optional accessories.

## Strong Mounts: a New Level of Excellence!



Increase the stability of your reloading bench with Dillon's Strong Mounts. All mounts come with all the fasteners necessary to mount your machine.

SD8 A15-22223 \$49.95  
550 A15-22051 33.95  
650 A15-22051 27.95

## Organize Your Bench With Toolhead Stands

This all-metal stand provides a place to store your caliber conversions. Available individually or in packages of three. Comes packaged with data labels. Each A15-22053 \$10.95. Three or more, \$9.86 each.



## Roller Handle fits XL 650, RL 550B & AT 500



This Accessory Roller Handle greatly reduces fatigue during long reloading sessions and makes primer seating easier. Adding this handle and a set of Strong Mounts to your machine duplicates the feel of a classic \$3000 Dillon RL 1000!

Plastic Roller A15-22183 \$25.95  
Aluminum Roller A15-17950 31.95

## Bullet Trays Designed for Economy of Motion

Works on the Square Deal 'B', the RL 550B and the XL 650 when equipped with Strong Mounts, and a separate kit is available for the RL 1050.

Tray Kit A15-22214 \$27.95  
RL 1050 Kit A15-22215 27.95



## Travel With Dillon's Versatile Range Bag



Designed for shooters by shooters, Dillon's is the best range bag available. Big enough for all your gear, yet easy to carry. And when you're not using it on the range, it makes a great carry-on travel bag.

Dillon Range Bag, Blue A15-14388 \$69.95  
Dillon Range Bag, Black A15-16509 69.95  
Range Bag, Hunter Green A15-17962 69.95  
Range Bag, Burgundy A15-17963 69.95



## Dillon's RL 550B Reloading Machine

More RL 550s have been sold than any other progressive machine in the world. And for good reason: The RL 550B's versatility is almost unlimited. It will load over 120 different rifle and pistol calibers.

## Dillon's Reloading Die Sets: Designed Specifically for Progressive Reloading



### Dillon Carbide Pistol Dies (Three-Die Sets)

.380 Auto	A15-14401	\$49.95
9mm	A15-14406	49.95
.38 Super	A15-14399	49.95
.38/.357	A15-14400	49.95
10mm/.40 S&W	A15-14398	49.95
.41 Mag.	A15-14402	49.95
.44 Spl./Mag.	A15-14403	49.95
.45 ACP	A15-14404	49.95
.45 Colt	A15-14405	49.95
9x25 Dillon	A15-14601	103.95
.357 Sig	A15-22083	103.95

### Dillon Rifle Dies (Three-Die Sets)

.223 Remington	A15-10839	\$49.95
.270 Winchester	A15-22013	49.95
.308 Winchester	A15-15574	49.95
.30-06 Springfield	A15-10840	49.95
7.62x39	A15-21681	49.95
.30-30 Winchester	A15-21989	49.95

## Dillon's NEW HP1 Electronic Hearing Protector

Dillon's HP1 Electronic Hearing Protector amplifies weak sounds while at the same time blocking out loud, harmful noise. During loud noises the HP1 maintains a comfortable level of sound transmission. NRR 21 protection rating.

HP1, Blue A15-10157 \$135.00  
HP1, Black A15-10156 135.00



## Save \$15 on Dillon's Case Prep Package Deal



A \$137.95 value if purchased separately - for only \$122.95 from Dillon Precision. The Package Deal includes: CV-500 Cartridge Case Cleaner, CM-500 Case/Media Separator, 8-oz. bottle of Rapid Polish 290, and 10 lbs. Corn Cob Polishing media.

Case Prep Pkg. A15-22081 \$122.95

## 'Dillon Leather' Means 'Practical Holsters'

Dillon Precision offers an affordable line of handgun leather with seven holster styles that fit most popular carry guns. Magazine pouches, revolver ammo pouches and gunbelts are also available. The holster featured here is our C.Y.A., a small-of-the-back style concealed carry holster.



## Dillon's D-Terminator Electronic Scale



Accurate to within 0.1 grain/0.01gram, 1200 grain/75 gram capacity, uses one 9-volt battery and comes with its own AC adapter. Dillon also offers a precision balance beam scale.

"D-Terminator" Electronic Scale A15-13681 \$166.95  
"Eliminator" Balance Beam Scale A15-13480 49.95

## Dillon's Own Cowboy Action Shooting Book

The first "coffee-table" book about the fast-growing sport of Cowboy Action Shooting, written by Gary Kieft, with photos by Nyle Leatham, and published by Dillon Precision. This 160-page, case-bound masterpiece is absolutely beautiful. Order your copy today!



Beyond the Wild Bunch A15-10699 \$29.95

To Order: 800-223-4570

Free Catalog (Stock #A15-14690): 800-762-3844

E-Mail: dillon@dillonprecision.com

VISA • MASTERCARD • DISCOVER • C.O.D.

**Dillon Precision**  
Products, Inc.

8009 E. Dillon's Way

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

480-948-0009

FAX 480-998-2706

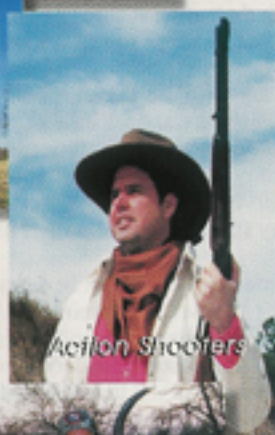
www.dillonprecision.com



# The TV Network you've waited your whole life for . . . is here!

*Here's a sample of our  
Hunting/Shooting line up -*

Adventure Bound Outdoors  
American Archer  
American Birdhunter  
American Outdoorsman  
Buckmasters  
Winkelman's Outdoor Secrets  
Eastman's Hunting Journal  
Gary Finch Outdoors  
Georgia Outdoor News  
Gone Huntin' w/ Tony & Keith  
Hunting Across America  
Hunting with Penn's Woods  
Jim Stroud's Classic Adventures  
Knight & Hale's Ultimate Hunting  
Majestics' Outdoors  
National Bird Dog Challenge  
North American Fish & Game  
Northwest Hunter  
O'Neill Outside  
Outdoor America  
Outdoor Adventures  
Outdoors Today  
Outdoor w/Joey Mines  
Outdoorsmen Adventures  
Runnin' Wild  
Sportsmans Showcase  
Texas Trophy Hunters  
Today's Hunter  
Tree Lounge Outdoors  
Turkey Call  
The Wild Outdoors  
Wildlife Quest  
Woods n' Waters



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

The Outdoor Channel  
gives you the  
*real* outdoors,  
all day, every day.

Experience authentic  
outdoor traditions -  
like hunting, fishing,  
shooting, and more.  
And you'll see it  
raw and unfiltered,  
the way the outdoors  
was meant to be.

**Call your  
cable operator  
today and  
ask for it!**

**Also Available  
Nationwide on  
DISH Network!**

Local DISH Network  
dealers can be found  
in the yellow pages  
under

"Satellite Equipment"  
or through  
the website.

**WHAT ?!** You don't get  
the *REAL* Outdoor Channel?

Get a FREE 16 page full color program guide  
& info on how to get it on your TV

Call 1-800-236-1859 or via the web at  
[www.outdoorchannel.com/freeguide](http://www.outdoorchannel.com/freeguide)





## A TOUCHY-FEELY SORT OF BILL OF RIGHTS SO WE CAN ALL FEEL SAFE

**T**he November 2000 issue of *Epidemiology* reports that, based on a nationwide survey of 2,500 adults, 50 percent said that they would feel less safe if more people in their communities owned guns. Only 14 percent said they would feel safer. Lead author, Dr. Matthew Miller of the Harvard School of Public Health, told the Reuters Health news service, "Our study found that gun ownership on the whole imposed a psychological burden rather than a benefit."

The survey found that women were 70 percent more likely than men to report they would feel less safe, and minorities were 50 percent more likely than whites to say they would feel less safe. According to Dr. Miller, "In making decisions about gun policy, the voices of minorities and women need to be elicited."

It seems clear from these remarks that the authors of the survey and article believe that people's fears and emotions provide legitimate grounds for passage of gun-control laws.

The article called to mind an argument I encountered during a presentation on CCW laws that I made at the Cato Institute in 1997, upon the 10th anniversary of the Florida statute. In the point/counterpoint session that followed the presentation, my opponent, a representative from the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, argued that the presence of guns in society made him feel less safe and that his right to feel safe had to be balanced against my right to own a gun.

His right to feel safe, based on a belief that guns were dangerous, was of equal weight to my right to feel safe, based on a belief that guns could protect me. Thus, a mere battle of conflicting feelings, in which, presumably, the more numerous group has the right to prevail and force its will upon others for the sake of its own peace of mind.

Here, too, we see the notion that people's fears or sentiments are supposed to provide legitimate grounds for the exercise of legal authority over others. We have reached the point where even social scientists argue for laws to address people's feelings and states of mind. Call

it psychotropic government: law as Prozac for the perpetually anxious.

### Law As Prozac

Let's explore this notion. Suppose that a group of scholars argued that laws should be enacted to separate the residential areas in which whites live from those in which African-Americans live, based on the fears that whites had of being criminally victimized by African-Americans.

Or suppose it was argued that, although such concerns and fears ought not be the sole basis for enacting laws, those feelings of whites should be taken into account, or to use Dr. Miller's words, that "the voices" of whites "need to be elicited" in determining proper zoning laws.

Now we all know what the response would be, and rightly so. The racism in such an argument is reprehensible, and laws enacted on such a basis would violate the constitutional requirement of equal treatment under the laws.

But, from this example, we know a few things. If we are intellectually honest and consistent, we must admit that mere feelings, emotions, fears or "psychological burdens" are not legitimate bases for laws that override a genuine individual right. Those who recommend that we take people's fears or desires to feel cozy into account as bases for passing gun-control laws cannot possibly believe, therefore, that gun ownership or use—such as carry for self-defense—is a bona fide individual right.

In the mind of the public health advocate who is seeking to alleviate the "psychological burdens" imposed by the presence of guns, keeping and bearing arms has far less stature than a true right, and does not truly affect any right of liberty of the individual, but is something that is properly subject to legal limits based on people's mere feelings about it.

Or, to the say the same thing in another way, individual liberty is held in so little regard that mere feelings are sufficient to cast it aside. The individual himself is held in so little regard that mere sentiments of the majority are sufficient justification to deprive him of his liberty.

*Continued on page 79*

## Glock Flat Wire Recoil Springs

ISMI flat wire springs are designed as a direct replacement for your factory recoil spring. Manufactured to ISO 9002 quality control standards from a proprietary alloy. After winding ISMI recoil springs are heat treated, shot-peened and stress relieved for maximum durability.

For Glock models: 17, 17L, 21, 22, 24, 31, 34, 35  
Available in 13#, 15#, 17#, 20#, 22#  
**\$8.95**

For Glock models: 19 & 23  
Available in 22# - **\$8.95**

## Glock captured guide rod

Machined from high strength tool steel then cryogenically processed for maximum strength & durability. For use with ISMI or factory springs. Available for large frame and small frame pistols. **\$22.95**

## Officers Model Recoil Control System

A completely new design featuring flat wire technology to maximize the performance of your compact 1911. Some manufacturers recommend changing your Officers recoil spring every 300 rounds - ISMI's system is covered

by a lifetime warranty on the recoil spring. System includes flat wire recoil spring, full length guide rod and reverse spring plug (both machined from 4140 modified alloy). Requires minor slide modification for installation. **\$ 54.95**

ISMI also manufactures a complete line of chrome silicon recoil springs & magazine springs for 1911 style pistols - high cap & single stack.

**ISMI**

**P.O. Box 204**

**Carthage, IN 46115**

**800-773-1940**

**765-565-7143 - Fax**

**ismi@comsys.net**

**www.ismi-gunsprings.com**

dealer inquiries invited

VISA & MasterCard accepted

**INTEGRATED SYSTEMS  
MANAGEMENT, INC.**



## IT'S NEITHER A PACK NOR A FANNY, BUT WE LIKE THE "GUNNY SACK" ANYWAY

If I need to hide my gun in plain sight, the carry system I prefer is the fanny pack. When Gene De Santis first offered his "Gunny Sack," he turned on a whole new handgun-carry system that has spread across the country. Many holster manufacturers now offer a variety of fanny packs.

"Fanny pack" is an interesting term for a belt pouch that is not worn on the buttocks at all, but forward of the hip bone, normally at waist level.

If you shop wisely, you can now locate fanny packs that do not scream "Gun!"



when you wear one. Most dialed-in people will be able to ID your fanny pack as a gun-carry system, but dialed-in people are not your problem. The cognoscenti are, for the most part, good guys.

Note that if you wear a fanny pack to carry your sidearm, most police officers recognize in an instant that you are going heeled. Large handguns require large fanny packs, making them easy to spot and even attracting the attention of clueless people. Thus, I recommend that fanny packs be

used with compact-size handguns.

For my money, I want a small-size fanny pack that is made of leather, or at least a non-black nylon. The pistols that I use in my fanny packs are S&W 3913, Wilson Compact CQB and Glock M19 and M27. Checking with friends who use fanny packs turned up one SIG P239, a couple of compact Kimbers, numerous Kahrs and one .380 Beretta 85.

Also, I always carry at least one spare magazine, plus a SureFire flashlight and a copy of my CCW or agency credentials. I typically attach my pager to the fanny-pack belt, and also carry a utility knife like a Swiss Army or a folder from Spyderco or Benchmade. If you prefer not to carry a SureFire flashlight, at least get a Photon Micro Light.



## How To Train With A Fanny Pack

Practice drawing and firing from your fanny pack just like you would from a belt holster. Your training should include both deployment and replacement of the pistol back into the fanny pack. One should also train to open the fanny pack, draw and fire with the use of just the strong hand.

When conducting your range training, always be aware of where your muzzle is pointed. Note that if you stand facing downrange in a normal manner, the muzzle of your sidearm in the fanny pack will often be pointed at the person standing next to you.

Start standing with your body facing more to the side so that the muzzle of the handgun while still in the fanny pack is in fact pointed more downrange. Make the draw with the pistol pointed in a downrange, safe direction and then step into your normal firing stance as the pistol is presented to the target.

This technique will provide a safer range session and not compromise your tactical sidearm presentation. Remember to step back into this sideways stance while replacing the handgun into the fanny pack.

Used properly, the fanny pack provides a low-key carry mode and still allows for a quick presentation of the pistol. With practice, the fanny-pack method of carry can be quick and effective. If you fail to practice and train with a fanny pack, then when it really counts and the bullets are flying, expect your efforts to snatch your pistol to be a fumble-fingered disaster.



## TACTICS FOR ALL SEASONS

The means by which we carry a sidearm can change from day to day and from season to season. Ideally, a man carries his sidearm the same way constantly. I prefer to carry my pistol on my belt in either a good concealment holster or an inside-the-pants (ITP) scabbard.

Over the years, I have tried many carry methods. I have favorites, like the Sparks "Summer Special" and the Alessi DOJ. The Sparks CCAT and

Alessi CQC are also outstanding. Lately, I have been packing my two carry guns, a Compact Wilson CQB and a Glock M19, in a Blade Tech ITP holster. Additionally, I use Blade Tech holsters for IDPA competition and a Safariland M6004 as my duty rig.

There is nearly always an S&W air-weight Centennial in my pocket. Currently, I am testing the Safariland M25 pocket holster for the little Smith snubby, and I find it excellent.



**SHOOTING STAR MAGS**

**8rd-.45  
Gov't & Cmdr**



**8rd-.45acp Gov't**

Stainless.....\$17.00  
w/base pad...\$17.95  
Blued Steel.....\$13.99  
w/base pad...\$14.99  
**.45 Conversion Kits**  
8rd Gov't.....\$10.95  
7rd Officers.....\$10.95

**Power Mags**

**EXTRA Powerful 8rd & 10rd .45 1911 Mags**



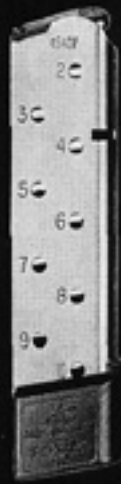
**\$23.95**

► **POWER MAGS, 8rd & 10rd, are designed to function even when kept fully loaded and seated in a pistol for extended periods.**

► **NEW for Y2K, POWER MAGS & POWER 10's have removable bases for easy maintenance.**

► **The POWER 10, CMC's all new 10 round mag, is designed with three (3) more coils of spring to further maximize reliability and service life.**

► **8 round POWER MAGS have eleven (11) extra powerful coils of aerospace grade rocket wire springs. More spring coils, MORE SPRING POWER, than any other 8 round magazines.**



**\$24.95**

**SHOOTING STAR MAGS**

**7rd-.45  
Officers**



**7rd-.45acp Officer**

Stainless.....\$18.50  
w/base pad...\$19.50  
**10rd-.38 Super Gov't**  
Stainless.....\$28.95  
w/base pad...\$29.95  
**9rd-10mm Gov't**  
Stainless.....\$28.95  
w/base pad...\$29.95

**HIGHLY REFINED 1911 PISTOL PRODUCTS**

**Completely Prepped for Reliable "Match Grade" Trigger Pull**

Precision ground and finished for precision for correct angles and function.

**>Ready for Sear Installation<**

Precision ground and finished full cock. Half-cock shaped to protect sear. Sides narrowed to clear slide. Beveled edges for carry comfort. Two tone "customized" appearance.

**>Ready for installations<**

**\$10.95**

**\$24.95**

**Hammer**

**Super Lightweight Aluminum Trigger - Fully Adjustable**

Skeletonized stainless steel bow and aluminum shoe make this a super light weight trigger for maximum dependability. Fully adjustable for over-travel and take-up. Trigger characteristics can be fine tuned to suit individual preference.

**\$17.95**

**Extended Mag Catch**

18 lpi checkering & extended for easier access without compromising carry comfort or reliability.

**\$16.95**

Stainless or Blued

**Match Grade Slide Stop**

All edges are beveled. Correct pin size for improved accuracy.

Stainless or Blued

**\$19.95**

**Highest Grip Position - "Extreme" Control - 1911 Grip-Safety**

Highest grip position improves control over muzzle flip during rapid fire situations and gives the pistol better pointability for instinctive shooting with quicker first shots. All edges are beveled and palm section is raised for positive deactivation and faster draws. No other brand offers such a perfect fit, simple installation, comfort, and completely blended appearance.

Fits .250 radius.

**\$19.95**

**No Other Grip-Safety Offers a Higher Grip!**

**"Slim Carry" Grips - 40% Narrower for Carry**

**NEW**

Slim Carry® rosewood grips are 40% narrower than standard 1911 grips. An obvious enhancement for concealed carry pistols. More than ever, 1911 manufacturers are making their pistols shorter in length and height. Slim Carry® grips are narrower, which makes 1911 pistols more concealable and comfortable to carry while still offering a secure grip. Same features, quality, & beauty as standard CMC rosewood grips. Special screws and bushings are included for reliable attachment. For: Gov't, Cmdr, & Officers/Compacts.

**\$56.95**

**Exotic Exhibition Grade Rosewood Grip Panels**

Typical of CMC's reputation, these grips demonstrate the finest exhibition grade quality & appearance. Traditional hand out 18 line per inch checkering with attractive double diamond pattern. An impeccable fit on any 1911 type pistol. Right side grip panel is already cut to accept an ambidextrous thumb-safety. Properly shaped to improve grip and feel for better control over recoil and enhanced handling characteristics. These grips are absolutely beautiful and will give any pistol a custom personalized appearance. For: Gov't, Cmdr, & Officers.

**\$38.95**

**Concealed Carry Extended Ambidextrous Thumb-Safety**

Unique design ensures fast and positive deactivation in speed situations while allowing for maximum comfort in carry applications. Every exposed edge is completely beveled and contoured. This part blends perfectly with the "Extreme" grip-safety. The look of custom hand blending with simple installation and fitting.

**\$17.95**

Single Side  
Stainless or Blued

Ambidextrous  
Stainless or Blued

**\$29.95**

For free catalog covering all 1911 parts call CMC toll free number. Website @ www.chipmccormickcorp.com

**SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED\***

Chip McCormick Corp.

P.O. Box 1560

DEALERS WANTED Manchaca, TX 78652

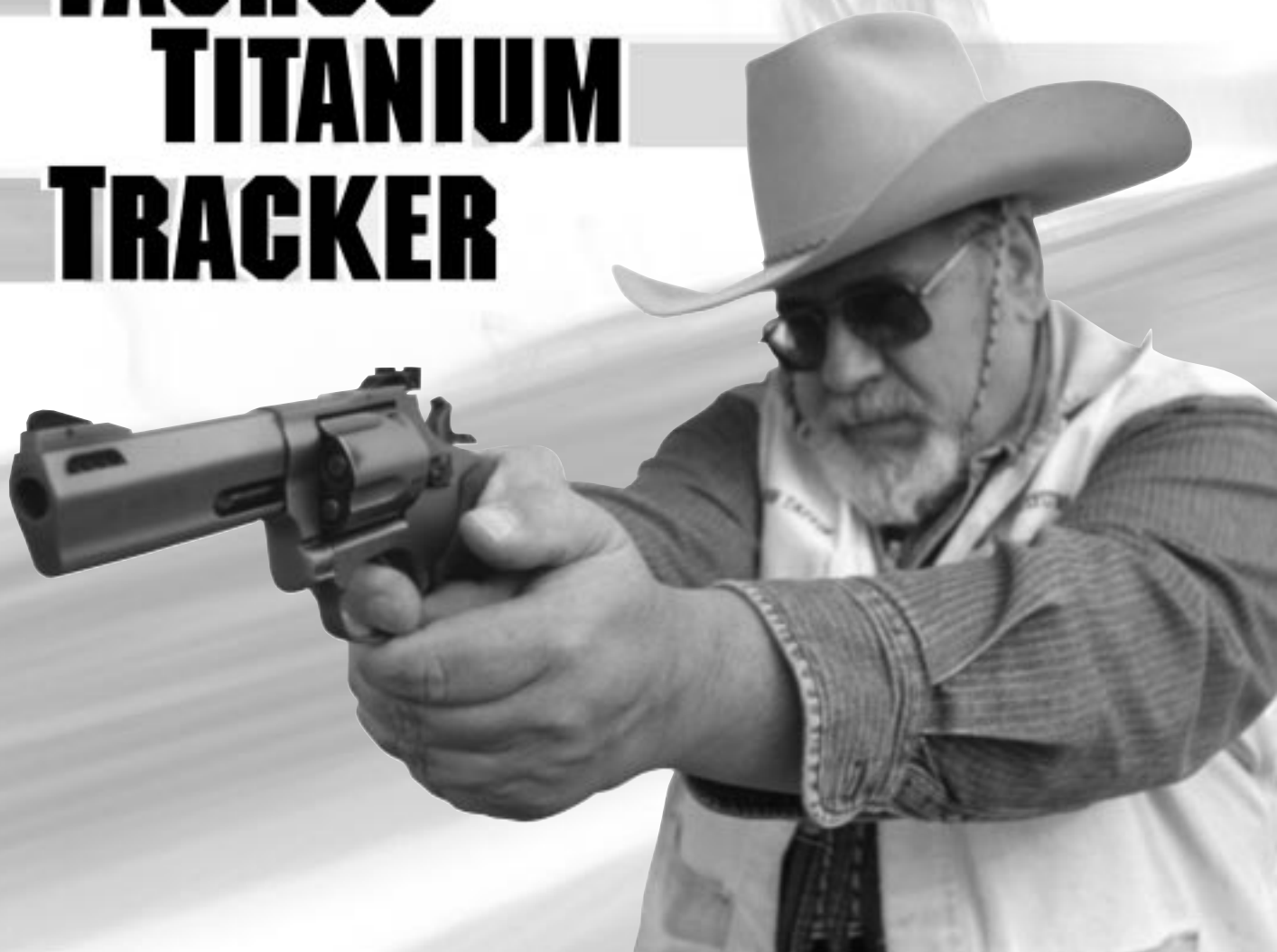
**Order Toll Free 800-328-CHIP**

UPS C.O.D.

These parts are designed to be installed and safety checked by professional gunsmiths. \*Trademark of Chip McCormick Corp.



# TAURUS TITANIUM TRACKER



## COULD THIS BE THE GUN THAT REVIVES THE .41 MAGNUM?

BY JOHN TAFFIN

**F**rom its very beginning in the '60s, the .41 Magnum has had a difficult life. Many of the gunwriters of the time saw no useful purpose for it, and, for most of the past 35 years, it has been the cartridge of the connoisseur, never really being afforded the respect it deserves.

At one time, Smith & Wesson offered blue, nickel and stainless .41 Magnums with their Models 57 and 657, while Ruger first housed the .41 Magnum in their three-screw model, or Old Model Blackhawks, of the mid-'60s, then later in the New Model Blackhawks, beginning in 1973. Today, Smith & Wesson only

offers the .41 Magnum in a 6" Model 657, and Ruger has dropped the Bisley Model.

Freedom Arms has gone in the opposite direction and chambered both of their high-quality five-shot revolvers, the full-sized Model 83 and the mid-frame Model 97, in the .41 Magnum.

The "middle magnum" is now offered in a new lightweight Titanium Tracker model by Taurus. This latest .41 Magnum by Taurus is what we are looking at here.

Titanium is the firearms material for the 21st century, with several manufac-

*Continued on page 32*



Lee's Twentieth  
Anniversary

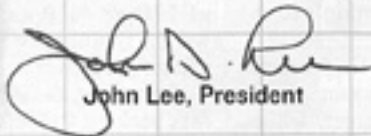
# Turret Press

now available with a  
four hole  
turret

The Lee Turret Press turns 20 in 2001. When we introduced our Turret Press and dies twenty years ago, we shook up the industry and brought back fair pricing. No matter what brand of reloading tool you use today, you can thank Lee for lower prices.

For our 20th Anniversary, we are pleased to announce a new turret press with four stations. This is the press you have been asking for—now you can seat and crimp in separate operations. Best of all, it fulfills your most requested feature—it allows you to use the Lee Factory Crimp Die in the normal reloading sequence.

And yes, we remembered the hundreds of thousands of three-hole Turret Press users. We have an update kit available at a special 20th Anniversary price of just \$20. Welcome to the twenty-first century!

  
John Lee, President

## features

**W**HETHER you're an experienced reloader, or just starting out, check out the features only the Lee Turret Press offers. **Instant primer size change, instant die change, lever that's adjustable** for most comfortable start and stop position. **Massive steel lugs**, like a rifle bolt, engage the turret at the circumference. This guarantees perfect alignment with no tilting. **Powerful enough** to effortlessly size the largest magnum cases. With the **Auto-Index**, it is also the **fastest non-progressive press made** for loading handgun cartridges. Don't make the mistake of buying a more expensive press that doesn't include the features and convenience of the new Lee Turret Press.



**update** your earliest Turret Press to the new 4-hole design. The update kit includes everything required to convert your turret press to a four position, auto-index tool. Purchased separately, your cost would be over \$42.00.

90933 **20th Anniversary Special**  
including a free 4-Hole Turret \$20

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

# LEE

LEE PRECISION, INC. DEPT 453 4275 HIGHWAY U HARTFORD WI 53027

Lee 4-Hole Turret Press  
**\$85<sup>98</sup>** with Auto-Index  
#90932 Dies not included





**For a "dead" caliber, there are a lot of lively loads for the .41 Magnum.**



turers now offering ultra lightweight pocket pistols and bigbore sixguns manufactured from this metal which is much stronger than its weight would acknowledge. We've come a long way with handguns, from iron to steel to stainless to alloy to titanium.

With the Tracker, the cylinder and barrel remain of steel construction, as do parts like the hammer and trigger, while most of the rest of the gun is manufactured from titanium.

How much difference does this make in actual ounces? Making a comparison is somewhat akin to an apples-and-oranges

situation because Taurus doesn't make the same gun in steel. My old 4" Model 57 weighs 42.5 ozs. The Taurus Titanium comes in at 23 ozs., and if we add the Bianchi #5BHL holster and five rounds of 170 gr. JHP ammunition, the total weight is still only 33.5 ozs. That makes a huge difference at the end of the day.

Of course, the day of most peace officers packing a revolver is long passed. At least for now. No, this lightweight powerhouse will be most popular with backpackers, hikers, fishermen, campers, hunters, outdoorsmen, woods-bummers, desert rats and anyone else that desires an

easy-to-carry, unobtrusive sidearm.

The Taurus Titanium Tracker .41 Magnum could well be looked upon as the ultimate combination of power and portability. If one goes to a smaller firearm, the required caliber is also smaller; go to a larger bore and the cylinder and frame become too big.

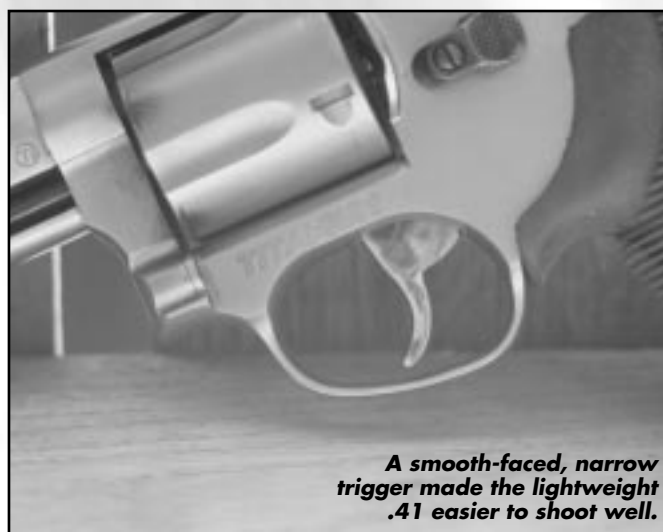
### **Vital Stats**

The Tracker is a 4", double-action revolver with adjustable sights. The rear sight blade is slanted to reduce glare, while the front sight is of the ramp variety with a pinned-in, quick-draw

*Continued on page 34*



**The ribbed grips are so good for taming recoil that Taffin thinks Taurus should sell them for other guns.**



**A smooth-faced, narrow trigger made the lightweight .41 easier to shoot well.**





## Get More Precisely-Tailored Handgun Loads From The Broad Selection of IMR Powders.

When it comes to loading handgun cartridges for specific performance objectives, IMR provides more flexibility than any other powder maker. Those objectives can include economy, low recoil and pressures, top velocity and superior accuracy. IMR offers a selection of six powders that permit highly specific tailoring of loads to such individual reloading goals. Within their range of relative quickness, grain shape and density, one of these IMR powders is often perfectly matched to the performance you want for a given caliber and bullet weight.

A quick review of the IMR "Handloader's Guide" may be all you need to find the ideal selection of a powder and reloading recipe that is exactly tailored to your needs.

"Hi-Skor" 700-X is the fastest burning of IMR powders for handgun loads. An exceptionally clean burning, double-base powder, it combines highly economical efficiency with adaptability to virtually all handgun cartridges. It is one of the most cost-efficient powders available for high-frequency reloading of cartridges such as the .38 Special, 9mm Luger and .45 ACP.

"Hi-Skor" 800-X is another double-base IMR powder, ranking second in relative quickness. Broadly applicable to all handgun loads, it's particularly suited for developing high velocity loads in larger calibers.

PB is one of the most versatile powders made, combining clean-burning performance with small grain geometry for highly consistent loading uniformity. It is an excellent choice for full-bore loading of small-capacity cases such as the .380 ACP, 9mm Luger and .45 ACP, and also provides consistent target velocities in larger cases.

SR 7625 is an ideal target load powder. Its easy-flowing, small grain size produces the repeat-charge uniformity that leads to very consistent velocities and excellent accuracy.

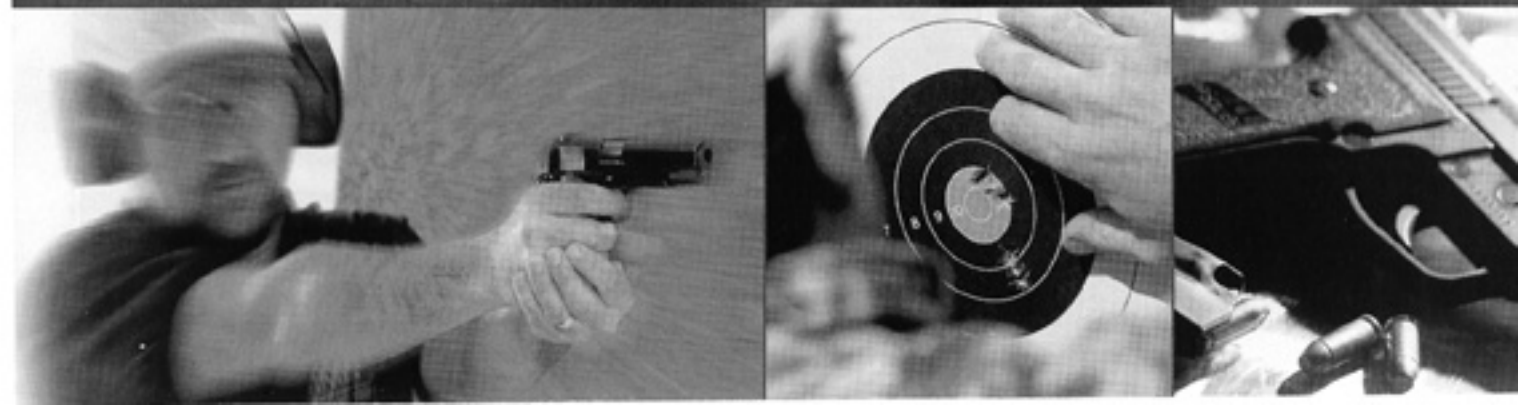
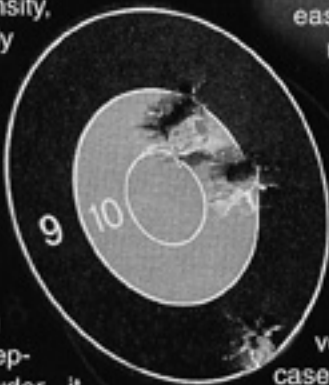
SR 4756 is a slightly slower-burning powder that safely provides medium to higher velocities in non-magnum cases.

IMR 4227 is the slowest burning of IMR's broad-application P&R powders. It is particularly efficient in producing higher velocities at comparably low pressures in cases such as the .44 Magnum.

There's one more reason to consider IMR powders for your handgun reloading needs. They are all backed by an unbroken 197-year tradition of quality and reliability for American shooters.

For a free copy of the comprehensive IMR Handloader's Guide ask your dealer or write to IMR, Dept. AH, 1080 Military Turnpike, Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Visit us on the web at: [www.imrpowder.com](http://www.imrpowder.com)





# THE ORIGIN OF MAGNUMS

BY JOHN TAFFIN

If you are a relatively new shooter, or even one who has arrived on the sixgunning scene in the last 20 years, chances are pretty good that you may not know the origins of Smith & Wesson's trio of magnum cartridges.

The first one, the .357 Magnum, arrived on the stage in 1935, mainly to fill a need for a better cartridge to arm the nation's peace officers. The .38 Special, with its standard issue 158 gr. roundnose bullet, had proven woefully inadequate against the new crop of bank robbers and gangsters in their high-speed automobiles. The .357 Magnum not only gave peace officers a round that would penetrate automobiles, but it also proved to be an exceptional outdoorsman's round in the Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum revolver.

It has been our most popular magnum cartridge for more than 65 years. Combining adequate power for many, probably most, situations with relatively low recoil, it also has an exceptional defensive shooting record of one-shot stops with the 125 gr. JHP load.

While the .357 Magnum was developed mainly for peace-officer use, the .44 Magnum took a different trail. Shooters such as Elmer Keith had been full-house loading the .44 Special for nearly 30 years when Smith & Wesson and Remington finally listened and brought forth the .44 Magnum sixgun and ammunition, which together gave the outdoorsman and hunter the most powerful and accurate combination offered up to that time.

It was not then, nor is it now, given high marks as a peace-officer's weapon of choice, simply because it is too powerful for most people to handle as a defensive weapon. Keith touted his .44 Special sixguns and loads for outdoor use, mainly hunting and long-range shooting, and that is exactly at what the .44 Magnum excels.

Keith asked for a 250 gr. bullet at 1,200 fps, and, while many current factory .44 Magnum loads are at this level or slightly

above, the original loading in 1956 was nearly 1,500 fps.

So with the development of these two cartridges, we had a peace-officer's cartridge that also doubled as an outdoorsman's cartridge in the .357 Magnum, as well as a superb bigbore hunting round with the .44 Magnum.

It would be easy to say all the bases were covered by the mid-'50s. However, in the early '60s, there were those who felt we needed a new cartridge, mainly for police use. They felt the .38 Special was still inadequate, we did not have the bullets we have today for the .357 Magnum, the 1911 .45 Auto had not yet been accepted for police use, and the .44 Magnum was too powerful.

Men like Bill Jordan felt we needed a .40 caliber sixgun and load for police use. Their idea was a good one, but good things went astray when it hit the drawing board. The resulting sixgun and load, called the .41 Magnum, proved to be another excellent outdoorsman's combination, but was a little too much for peace officer use.

The new guns, Smith & Wesson's top-of-the-line Model 57, which was simply a Model 29 in the new .41 Magnum chambering, as well as the slightly less bulky and not so finally finished Model 58 Military & Police, were simply too big and too heavy for most peace-officers to be willing to carry all day.

Two versions of .41 Magnum ammunition were offered in 1964, a full-house Magnum version with a 210 gr. jacketed bullet at a full 1,500 fps, and a lead-bullet load at less than 1,000 fps.

Over the next 30 years, the .41 Magnum was chambered in sixguns by Smith & Wesson and also by Ruger, in both the Blackhawk and Bisley Models. Smith also offered under-lugged barrel versions, while Colt never saw fit to chamber any of their production guns in .41 Magnum.

blade with a red insert. The smooth trigger and checkered hammer are both case-colored, while the entire finish of the Tracker looks like bead-blasted stainless.

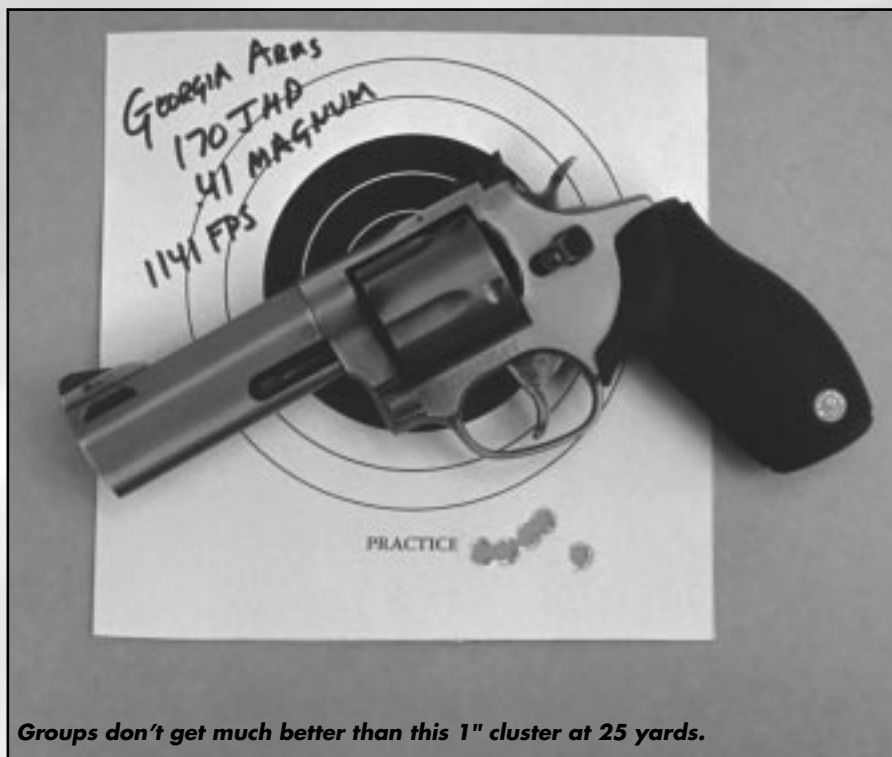
Taurus has long been known for smooth double-action operation on their revolvers. However, this Tracker is not quite as smooth in operation as other larger and smaller Taurus double-action revolvers I have worked with. The single-action trigger pull, at 4.75 lbs., is too heavy for such a lightweight revolver.

## Recoil Considerations

Now, 23 ozs. is not much weight to counteract the recoil of full-house .41 Magnum loads; however, two features on the Tracker help reduce felt recoil. On each side of the front sight, one finds a slot cut into the barrel, with each slot containing four round ports. Actually, these ports are cut into the shroud and then into the barrel. The shroud is of the full-underlug style, enclosing and protecting the ejector rod.

Of greater effect for reducing felt recoil are the grips. Now, I am no great fan of

*Continued on page 36*





# SFS

**Are you really comfortable  
carrying your single action  
1911/Hi-Power cocked & locked?**

Retain all the advantages of a single action  
& add three new safeties with the SFS Kit.  
- Fits Browning & 1911 Models -

## SAFETY FAST SHOOTING KIT

Torture tested using 10,000 rounds of Winchester Ball Ammo with no malfunctions!

### SFS Operation:

- Insert magazine and rack slide
- Firearm is ready to fire
- Push hammer forward, this generates 3 functions
  - Locks the slide
  - Locks the sear
  - Holds hammer in forward position
- To fire, push ambidextrous safety downwards
- This action unlocks the 3 safeties and cocks the hammer
- Firearm is instantly ready to fire

www.cylinderslide.com



### NOW ONLY

\$169.95 plus \$4.50 S&H  
Cylinder & Slide Catalog \$4.00  
Exclusive U.S. Distributor  
Call for wholesale pricing

**TO ORDER:  
1-800-448-1713**



**CYLINDER & SLIDE, INC.**  
P.O. Box 937AH  
Fremont, NE 68026  
Ph: 402-721-4277 • Fax: 402-721-0263  
TO ORDER: 1-800-448-1713



# CYLINDER & SLIDE, INC.

www.cylinder-slide.com



Can be built on your all steel  
Commander or Officers Model.  
Must be Box-Stock.  
Call for pricing.

**Check Our Measurements!**  
**15 Day Money-Back Guarantee**

## Adventurer

*The Smallest .45 Caliber Pocket Rocket Available*

SECURITY FOR A LIFETIME  
11 CUSTOM COMBAT FEATURES  
5 + 1 CAPACITY

6.812" OVERALL LENGTH COCKED  
4.375 OVERALL HEIGHT  
1.250" WIDTH, 3.1" BARREL

BLUE, SS or ALLOY - \$1695.00

**COWBOY ACTION SHOOTERS!**  
Cylinder & Slide can click up the action  
on your Colts, Colt clones, or  
Ruger single action six shooter.

Cylinder & Slide Shop Offers COMPLETE  
CUSTOM service on SMITH & WESSON and  
COLT Revolvers, Browning Hi-Power, Para-Ord-  
nance, and All 1911 model auto pistols.

## CST Tactical Series Pistols



- Novak Sights
- Ambi Safety
- High Grip Beavertail Safety
- Tactical Series Hammer & Sear
- Total Reliability Package
- Built on any Para-Ordinance Model

Blue \$1415.00  
Stainless \$1480.00

## DUNK-KIT®

The Fast, Easy  
way to clean  
your guns. Gun  
Cleaner &  
Lubricant.



Better "Crud Cutting"

Loosens Powder residue, light leading  
and dirt for easy removal. Is Re-usable  
Cleans, lubricates and removes moisture.

3/4 Gal. - \$32.95  
1 3/4 Gal. - \$49.95 (Pictured)  
4-gal. size - \$94.95  
Freight Free in Continental US

## Extreme Duty Fixed Sight Set

- Rear sight contoured to  
eliminate snagging or breaking
- Front sight dovetail mounting  
allows adjustment for  
elevation and windage
- Available with or without  
white dots



Extreme Duty Sight Set - black \$79.95  
Extreme Duty Sight Set - white dots on rear \$89.95  
Fits S&W K,L or N frame - Installation available

**CYLINDER & SLIDE, INC.**  
P.O. Box 937AH  
Fremont, NE 68026

Ph: 402-721-4277 • Fax: 402-721-0263  
TO ORDER: 1-800-448-1713

**TO ORDER:  
1-800-448-1713**



CYLINDER & SLIDE CATALOG \$4.00





*For a walk in the woods,  
you'd be hard-pressed to beat  
a 23 oz. .41 Magnum in a  
classic Bianchi thumb break.*

rubber grips; however, I do find them essential for heavy-recoiling handguns such as a Contender .45-70. Without the man-made material wrapped around this heavy-duty hunting single-shot, I believe—in fact, I *know*—I could not control it.

The same holds true for the Taurus Titanium Tracker .41 Magnum. This gun comes from the factory equipped with what must be—and I do not like to use this much-abused term—the most user-friendly grips ever placed on a revolver. Rubber? Yes. Ugly? Yes. Effective? Absolutely!

The designer of the grips certainly knew what he was about. They totally enclose the Tracker grip frame and are composed of soft rubber with small horizontal ribs forming a three-quarter oval around the grip, with the backstrap left smooth.

These rubber ribs form a most comfortable cushion for the shooting hand. They also provide a most secure feeling in cold, wet weather. Although some factory loads exhibit heavy recoil, the combination of porting and properly designed grips keeps this little .41 Magnum controllable.

A 170 gr. JHP at 1,300-plus fps out of a 23 oz. revolver has the capacity for being brutal to the shooter. Not so with this sixgun. I understand the rubber grips on the Tracker suffered a typo and came out “Ribber” in early advertising.

The name stuck, and these Ribber grips would be a welcome addition on many other heavy-recoiling sixguns from several manufacturers.

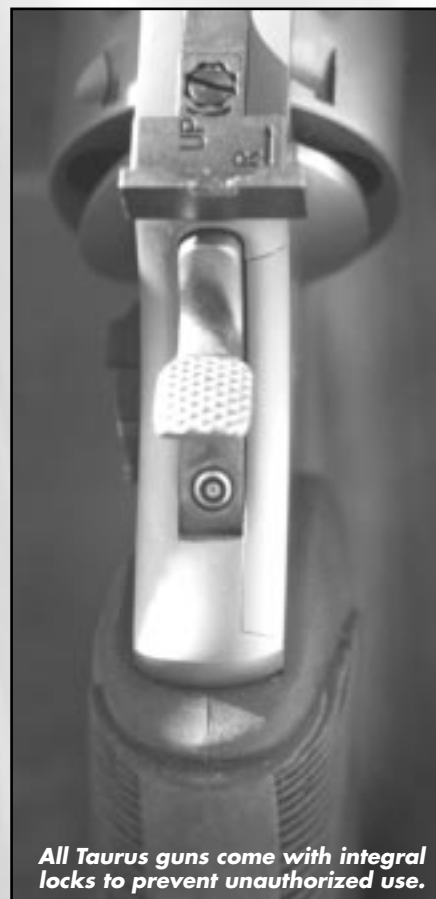
In fact, I would like to see some grip manufacturer come to an agreement with Taurus that allows these excellent grips to be offered for other guns.

The Taurus Titanium Tracker .41 Magnum was test-fired with eight factory rounds at both 15 and 25 yards. At the closer distance, most groups were at 1" or slightly above, while at 25 yards, 2" was the norm. Since the groups were fired from a lightweight, 4" revolver with a heavy trigger pull and using my high-mileage eyes, I would classify this as one excellent-shooting revolver.

If you are a regular reader, you are aware that my preference in sixguns runs to fancy guns with exotic grips carried in exquisite leather. However, there are times when function overshadows form. If you should happen to run into me in the mountains, forests or deserts of Idaho and I am trying to travel adequately armed and lightweight at the same time, don't be surprised if you spot a Taurus Titanium Tracker on my hip.



*Readers may find Taurus at 16175 NW 49th Ave., Dept AH, Miami, FL 33014; phone: (305) 624-1115; website: [www.taurususa.com](http://www.taurususa.com)*



**All Taurus guns come with integral locks to prevent unauthorized use.**



# EMERSON

# MACH-1



## The #1 Hard Use Knives in the World

(310) 542-3050

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

**F**ounded in 1997 by Ernest R. Emerson, and Wife Mary, Emerson Knives has become the most dominant force in the cutlery industry. Bringing a dynamic and energy to the knife industry never known before, Ernest Emerson has reshaped the face of the cutlery industry, as it is known today.

*"My entire life has been dedicated to the pursuit of excellence. In athletics, education, physical fitness, training, business and knifemaking, I have never settled for second best and never will. To run faster, lift more weight, push farther, punch harder, train harder, these are the challenges I put to myself everyday of my life, and these are the standards by which I judge myself, my company and the knives that it produces."*

The finest hard-use knives in the world. How do you live up to a reputation for producing a product that has become the standard by which all others are judged?

There are two company mottoes at Emerson Knives. One is: **"To Some They Are Accessories, To Others They Are Necessities."**™ When your customers are individuals whose lives depend on the quality of the gear they carry, it creates an awesome responsibility. Some companies shrink from it, some companies ignore it, but the best companies thrive on it.

Emerson Knives is one such company. Our knives are deployed with the most elite military and law enforcement organizations in the world. They are the most sought after and depended on by the world's greatest adventurers, waterman and outdoorsmen.

The other company motto is: **"Designed For Performance...Built For Extremes."**™ Straightforward design, precision engineering and high-resolution components, combined with a state of the art, aerospace qualified manufacturing facility embody our search for constant evolution and manufacturing excellence.

Emerson Knives have proven themselves in the most hostile environments on this planet. From the extreme limits of outer space to the blackest depths of the ocean, in steaming jungle rainforests and on the icy granite walls of the worlds tallest mountains, they have been called to task and have withstood the test.

Every time you use an Emerson knife, count yourself in the select company of those individuals who will never compromise and can never, ever settle for second best.

They will not let you down. They will not fail you. I will not allow it.

Ernest R. Emerson, President - Emerson Knives, Inc.





## THE PRINCE OF POCKETS

**O**ften, simple ideas turn into complex conceptualizations, but Michael Meredith, owner, operator and one-man-show at Pocket Concealment Systems (PCS), has kept his original inspiration at the forefront. His elegantly simple designs show great thought and even greater attention to detail in their final form. He tends to inspire loyal customers, too.

One of Mike's regulars sought me out and said if I had any brains at all, I'd give Mike a call. I then found out that Mike is a friend of Lou Alessi (of leather fame) and that sealed the deal. Lou is a grand gentleman of the game and any friend of his is, well, you know the rest.

It turned out to be a fun phone call. After Mike told me for the zillionth time just how much of a mentor Lou had been, I was sold. Some detailed discussions followed about various PCS designs, and soon a small box arrived. After checking out Mike's very nicely done catalog—clear photos, clearer text—I had high expectations. What I saw upon opening the box was superior workmanship and careful tending to the tiniest detail.

Mike's line concentrates on pocket holsters, and his designs have whittled away all that isn't necessary. One side is detail-

boned for fit while the "side-out" that faces the public is left smooth to better hide the hide.

He makes conventional belt holsters, IWB rigs and very clever magazine holders, which all exhibit the same quality, but I believe he is a wizard in the pocket, as it were.

His aptly named "French Curve" is not only easy on the eye, but, also, the deep set and gentle angle of the gun allow it to sit low in the pocket (think: Dockers) while still allowing a full firing grip when you go for the metal.

The nifty French curve "hooks" on the inside of the pocket, leaving the holster in the pocket when the gun comes out. Just like it's supposed to happen.

The "Redoubt" solves the problem of where-the-hell-do-I-put-my-spare-magazine-anyway? Why, in your pocket with the gun, of course. Through the magic of good design, Mike has managed to put the two together in such a way that one doesn't interfere with the other.

I'd want a big pants pocket for this one or, better yet, an outer coat pocket. My wife immediately adopted it for her Colt .380 Pocketlite, and it now rides in her purse. I lose more gear that way...



I hate junk. There is enough out there to sink the Bismarck, but when I get a chance to handle an actual, real-life quality rig, it makes it all worthwhile. This is definitely one of those times, and I'm not at all ashamed to say it.

In this age of rotten service, crummy products and seething attitudes, you have accidentally stumbled onto a solution to those woes. Give Mike a call, if you're in need.

*The Pocket Prince can be found at PCS, Dept. AH, P.O. Box 10271, Baltimore, MD 21234; phone: (410) 426-9004; E-mail: PCS.inc@juno.com*

## LEATHER GOOP

**R**usty Sherrick, a holster maker, makes this slick stuff called "Hyde Glyde." A water-based goop, you can use it to shine up that old leather gear or, more importantly, put a dab here and a dab there to make the iron exit easier, as it were. I tried it and it seems to work just fine—no stinky smells or goopy fingers. You can get it from Rusty by calling (717) 361-7699.

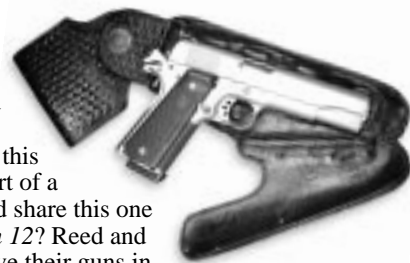


## The Hilarious Antics Of Cops And Their '70s Holsters

**R**ummaging in my old holster box the other day, I stumbled onto this classic. Since I'm sort of a classic myself, I thought I'd share this one with you. Remember *Adam 12*? Reed and Malloy would suddenly have their guns in their hands, and it amazed you. This is how they did it.

The "Safety Speed" shell closes around the gun, and a spring wants to open it back up in an awful bad way. A "secret" button in the trigger guard is pushed when your hand closes for a firing grip and *thwang!* open it comes and up you go.

The "Safety Speed" was several levels of cool when it was first introduced, but that was before lawyers ruled America. In my early days of law enforcement, we used to walk around and poke our fingers into the trigger guards of fellow officers' holsters to watch their Model 10s go clattering onto the tile. Great fun, that. I wouldn't advise it today.





**4 SIZES**  
**2 CALIBERS**  
**2 FINISHES**

92/96 FAMILY



92FS Compact Inox

92FS

The Beretta 92/96 Series pistols, the most tested and trusted personal defense firearms in history are now available in 14 different configurations. For every requirement, every shooter, there is a Beretta 92/96 Series pistol that's right for the job.

Every Beretta 92/96 Series pistol is manufactured with careful attention to detail and focus on performance. Three of the basic models of 92/96 Series pistols - the Full-Size, the Compact and the Brigadier - are available in 9mm and 40 S&W calibers, while the Compact Type M is available in 9mm. All four models are available with either black Brunton or Inox stainless steel finishes.



22LR Practice kit

Serious shooters spend a great deal of time keeping their skills in top form. This can be an expensive undertaking, so Beretta created a more economical route: the Beretta 22LR Practice Kit. This 8 piece kit quickly and easily converts your Beretta 92/96 Series pistol from 9mm or 40 S&W to 22LR, allowing you to practice with the less expensive ammunition. The low recoil of the 22LR caliber is ideal for training inexperienced shooters that need to master sight-picture and trigger-control fundamentals before tackling the recoil associated with larger caliber pistols. The slide features a fully adjustable rear sight, and a 10-round magazine is included. See it at your Beretta dealer today.

The Compact features a 10-round double stack magazine, while the Type M's single stack 8-round magazine allows a slimmer, flatter profile for those with smaller hands. The Brigadier incorporates all the high performance characteristics of the traditional 92 Series pistols, plus a heavier, recontoured slide to reduce felt recoil and a removable front sight.

Regardless of size caliber, every Beretta 92/96 Series pistol is manufactured with painstaking attention to detail and focus on performance. That's why military personnel, law enforcement officials, and civilians alike have come to know that there is no alternative to a Beretta.



92FS Brigadier Inox



Beretta U.S.A. Corp., 17601 Beretta Dr., Accokeek, MD 20607, Tel 301.283.2191, Fax 301.283.0189. For a Beretta Worldwide Catalog of firearms & Beretta Sport clothing and accessories, call 1.800.528.7453 (\$3 shipping). Visit the Beretta Gallery in New York and Dallas. For a free firearm lock for your Beretta pistol, semiautomatic shotgun, or bolt-action rifle send your \$4 check or money order for shipping & handling to: Beretta U.S.A. Corp., 71 Southgate Blvd., New Castle DE 19726-2000. Beretta pistols come with a cable lock to aid in safe storage.

**Beretta**  
A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1817

WWW.BERETTA.COM



## HOW TO DEAL WITH A GUNSMITH

**D**ealing with a gunsmith is a very pleasant experience in most cases, but sometimes it turns into a nightmare. Many gunsmiths have come out of other businesses in which they were an employee stashed in a back room, where contact with the general public was rare.

Gunsmiths can be ex-machinists, ex-military armorers or other craftsmen who were gunsmithing at home as a hobby for their own entertainment and for friends. They had little or no pressure on them to get work out on time and at a reasonable price and were never confronted with the daily operation of a business. In fact, they were embarrassed to charge their friends for doing something they loved to do, so most of the work they did was free or at cost.

All of a sudden, this home-shop gunsmith reaches a skill level where he is in demand from outside his friendship group, and he either starts gunsmithing at night and on weekends, or decides to retire and work at it full time. This is where the problems begin.

Loaded with exquisite skills and desire, but with no busi-



Photo By Nyle Leatham

ness background, the new gunsmith hangs a shingle out and waits for the money to roll in by the barrel. It is not too long before he finds out there is a little more to running a gun business than he first thought.

Other than obtaining a local business license, dealing with zoning codes, getting a sales tax license and all sorts of other local regulations, the neophyte gunsmith must deal with neighbors who can't believe one of "those people" is working right next door.

And then there is the ATF licensing procedure, designed to discourage all but the strong-willed and persistent. While dealing with all of these faceless bureaucrats, he must maintain the high quality of his work, keep his customers happy and attempt to turn work out on time. When all of these interruptions come to a head in the gunsmith's little shop, the phone starts ringing with customers on the other end.

Lord help him! What was a nice little pastime for him and his friends is now becoming Excedrin headache number one, and running the business is taking more time than gunsmithing.

## GREAT EXPECTATIONS

**C**lose to 100 percent of the gunsmiths who have been removed from the rolls of professional organizations in the firearms industry have been given the boot not for poor skills, but for bad business practices.

To solve problems with a customer, a frustrated gunsmith might scream at, criticize or curse the customer, hoping he will go away—and in many cases, he will. You, as a consumer, must arm yourself with a few rules you can use in dealing with custom gunsmiths who want to do beautiful custom work, but who just do not have the business skills to make you happy.

When initiating business with a custom gunsmith, *never give him any money up front* unless the gunsmith is building you a firearm from scratch and needs to purchase the frame, slide and other expensive components. If you are just sending your firearm for repairs or custom work, no deposit should be required. He has possession of your gun,

which is usually worth more than \$500.

And, by the way, paying money up front many times slows the job down instead of speeding it up.

If the gunsmith promises to have your pea shooter ready in eight to 10 weeks, and 14 weeks later you have not heard from him, call and ask about the progress, but don't be too concerned. Gunsmiths usually work alone and have a jillion things come up, like dove season, that interrupt or delay work.

However, if your pistol is promised to you in 10 to 12 weeks and is still not ready at 24 weeks, you should be concerned and *expect an original reason for the delay*. If you have paid a lot of money up front, you should ask for an immediate refund or the finished pistol. If you do not get satisfaction within two weeks, it is time for legal action or a call to the state attorney-general. Every business you deal with works like this, and the gunsmith should be no different.



Over the last 30 years of pistol-smithing for men and women, I have dealt with some of the finest people in the world. Many of these folks have become close friends. They entrust valuable guns, including family heirlooms, to me, accepting my word that quality work will be performed in the approximate time contracted.

In return, the quality gunsmiths of the American Pistolsmiths Guild and the American Custom Gunmakers Guild, along with independent gunsmiths around the United States, owe their customers fine work and good business practices.





# 23 features that make it a SIG. One that makes it a great value.



## sig pro™ Pistols

World-class SIG performance and innovative frame architecture in a pistol designed to enhance user safety.

Other manufacturers started using plastic pistol frames to cut costs. SIG set out to engineer a pistol that would take full advantage of today's high-tech materials and manufacturing processes. So, although it costs considerably less, the sig pro is still 100% SIG, with design and performance features that make it a truly exceptional firearm used by a growing number of law enforcement agencies across the country. So why settle for anything less than a SIG? Get the **sig pro**... the polymer-framed pistol you know will

be there when it counts. SIG Arms Inc.,  
Corporate Park, Exeter, NH 03833,  
Phone: 603-772-2302, [www.sigarms.com](http://www.sigarms.com)

**SIG** arms  
WHEN IT COUNTS





# Taffin TESTS

By John Taffin

Fancy double rig by Dusty Johnson holds a pair of Colts.



## FROM OUT OF THE PAST, MORE GREAT LEATHER FOR SIXGUNS

**A** wise man once said you cannot go back, but he was wrong. I can go back—at least in my mind—and welcome anything that in some small way allows me to catch a fleeting glimpse of the glorious days of the Old West.

Learning to appreciate stepping back in time is just what I have gained from Walt Ostin, Mike Kirkpatrick and Dusty Johnson, three master leathersmiths. These three men specialize in regressing to a time that was less threatening, less stressful, yes, even gentler. These three men have one thing in common—period leather. Sixgun leather. Leather that conjures up the thundering hoofbeats of the great horse Silver!

### Rawhide Walt Ostin

Eddie Janis of Peacemaker Specialists introduced me to “Rawhide” Walt Ostin of Custom Gun Leather. Ostin is a sixgunner from Canada who specializes in turning out top-quality leather. Ostin’s Western leather is of three types: Old West, B-Western or TV Cowboy, any of which is fine for most cowboy shooting matches. Most shooters, Ostin said, prefer the authenticity of the Old West style.

Variations of the Mexican Loop-style

*Continued on page 81*

**From left to right: Rawhide Walt Ostin’s Colorado rig for the Colt Single Action Army; Colt 1860 Army .44’s rest in the Kirkpatrick Model 1865 Prospector rig; Custom Gun Leather’s beautifully replicated Lone Ranger rig.**





# Win This Gun!

Or any one  
of 10 other  
**EXCELLENT**  
prizes...

MILLENNIUM  
TITANIUM



— • TAURUS



• BENCHMADE



• BENELLI



• DILLON



• LEUPOLD



• MARLIN



• SUREFIRE



• WINCHESTER

**21st  
Century  
SWEEPSTAKES**

"A Salute To Excellence!" • Enter TODAY! • Turn the page for details!



# 21st Century SWEEPSTAKES

## GRAND PRIZE

### Three-Gun Package

One lucky entrant will win all three guns Handgun, Rifle and Shotgun of the Year!

## FIRST PRIZE

### Excellence Package

One lucky entrant will win the Accessory, Ammunition, Knife, Optic and Specialty Product of the Year!



## PRIZE 2

ACCESSORY OF THE YEAR

### Dillon Precision

Model SL900 shotshell reloading press in 20 & 28 ga. • [dillonprecision.com](http://dillonprecision.com)

## PRIZE 4

RIFLE OF THE YEAR

### Marlin Firearms

1895M lever action in 450 Marlin  
[marlinfirearms.com](http://marlinfirearms.com)



## PRIZE 5

HANDGUN OF THE YEAR

### Taurus USA

PT-111 Titanium Millennium  
9mm pistol • [taurususa.com](http://taurususa.com)

## PRIZE 6

SHOTGUN OF THE YEAR

### Benelli USA

Nova Pump 12 gauge  
[benelliusa.com](http://benelliusa.com)

# ENTER TO WIN!

## This Salute To Excellence Could Mean A Great Prize For You!

The prizes featured here were judged best of the best by the Shooting Industry Academy of Excellence. The manufacturers are celebrating by giving you a chance to win their award-winning products. Just imagine how great it would feel to win any one of them! Someone will, it might as well be you.

## Claim Your Prize Today!

You may be holding the winning entry number right now, but you must return the Official Sweepstakes Entry Certificate to activate it (see certificate in this issue for details). While you're at it, make sure you get every issue of *American Handgunner* and *GUNS Magazine* this century by taking advantage of a Super-Saver subscription deal.

A purchase is not required to enter and will not improve your chances of winning. If Entry Certificate is missing write to: 21st Century Sweepstakes at PO Box 85201, San Diego, CA 92186

To learn more about the Shooting Industry Academy of Excellence visit [www.shootingindustry.com](http://www.shootingindustry.com).



## PRIZE 3

OPTIC OF THE YEAR

### Leupold

Vari-X III 3.5-10x50mm Illuminated  
Reticle scope • [leupold.com](http://leupold.com)





**MILLENNIUM PRIZE**  
MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR

**Taurus USA**

Three Millennium pistols including PT-111, PT-138 and PT-140



**PRIZE 3**

KNIFE OF THE YEAR

**Benchmade**

Model 720 Mel Pardue folder  
benchmade.com



**PRIZE 9**

SPECIALTY PRODUCT

**SureFire**

D2 Defender personal defense flashlight  
surefire.com



**PRIZE 7**

AMMUNITION OF THE YEAR

**Winchester**

Supreme Partition Gold shotgun slug  
winchester.com

# GREAT PRIZES GREAT GIFTS GREAT READING TOO!



## Discover More Ways To Enjoy The Shooting Sports

Every time you pick up an issue of *American Handgunner* and *GUNS Magazine* you can count on learning something new.

News and reviews presented in an easy-reading style make spending a few minutes or a full evening with either magazine both enjoyable and rewarding.

So whether it's deciding which ammo to use for the big hunt or advice for choosing the best home defense guns, you'll find it in *American Handgunner* and *GUNS Magazine*.

Don't miss an issue. Start your subscription to **both magazines** today for **only \$29.95 and get Free Gifts!**

## FREE GIFTS!

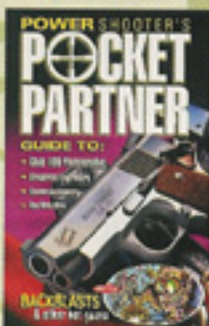
Get these **FREE Gifts** with your paid subscription to *American Handgunner* and *GUNS Magazine* through this Sweepstakes.

### Collector Pins



New Limited Edition Designs. Get one Free with individual subscriptions and both Free with combination subscriptions.

### Pocket Partner



The Power Shooter's Pocket Partner will help you find the top Pistolsmiths, Engravers and Custom Gunmakers. **PLUS:** BackBlasts & Other Hot Gases is a hilarious section devoted to the mishaps of crooks and morons. Free with every subscription.

### Pocket Knife



This handy 5-function pocket knife is ideal for quick cuts, clips and fixes. Free with 2-year subscriptions.

### Plier Tool



Add this multi-function plier tool to your range bag or hunting gear and get 10 tools in one. Includes carrying case with belt loop. Free with 3-year subscriptions.



# The AYOOB FILES

## RUNNING GUNFIGHT: THE JIM MORGAN INCIDENT

**Situation:** It's "cops versus Crips" as the armed robbers empty their pistols into the patrol car.

**Lesson:** The vicious lust to murder a deputy is no match for courageous determination and professional teamwork.

At approximately 8 o'clock on the morning of January 3, 1990, two men armed with semiautomatic pistols forced their way into the home of Joyce Hooker in Apple Valley, Calif. The men leveled their guns at Mrs. Hooker, who was 17 weeks pregnant, and her two-year-old daughter, and explained they would both die if the woman didn't accompany them to the check-cashing office where she worked in Victorville, some 20 miles away, and open the safe for them.

Mrs. Hooker saw no choice but to comply. The men forced her and the little girl onto the floor of the backseat of her car, and headed for their target, the Park Center QuikCash.

Mrs. Hooker was wise not to resist. One of the gunmen was Barry Conway, 28, a stone killer already implicated in four cold-blooded murders. Alongside the lean and wolfish-looking Conway was moon-faced Nehemiah Robinson, 23, whose lack of facial hair, including eyebrows, seemed incongruous with his bushy Afro. Robinson had been with Conway a few months earlier when they had murdered one female cashier and wounded another in the course of a similar robbery of a check-cashing office in Barstow, Calif., an atrocity committed in front of one of the victim's children. Both men were gang members, belonging to a Crips set from Los Angeles.

Shortly after 9 a.m., the vehicle pulled to a stop near the QuikCash. Conway and Robinson waited until their getaway driver, Anthony Carl Jackson, had arrived and was in place. Then they brought Mrs. Hooker and her daughter inside at gunpoint.

Desperate and flustered, the kidnapped woman tried to open the safe. It wouldn't budge. She tried again. It remained steadfastly shut. The safe had a time release which she literally couldn't bypass to save her life. By now Conway and Robinson were expressing the murderous frustration that had led them to kill before.

Then came the moment that probably saved her and her daughter's lives. A Brink's truck pulled up outside, and an armed courier stepped out for his routinely scheduled stop at the QuikCash. As the courier came to the door, Joyce Hooker summoned the courage to blurt that they were being robbed. The courier's hand went to his weapon as he ducked back and then sprinted toward the armored truck, bobbing and weaving. Recognizing what was going on, his partner behind the wheel of the Brink's vehicle hit his siren.

The well-orchestrated kidnap/robbery was suddenly jarred off course. Outside, Jackson was so panicked he almost raced off in the red Hyundai getaway car and left his companions behind. Inside, Conway and Robinson panicked, too, and ran into the parking lot, leaving the woman and her child uninjured.

Before they jumped into the getaway car and sped off, Conway snapped a pistol shot at the armored truck to vent his homicidal frustration. For Barry Conway, it was the first shot of the day. It wouldn't be the last.

*Continued on page 84*



# Meet a Custom, Made to Order

**Ed Brown  
Products®**

*The Commander  
Bobtail™*



At Ed Brown Products, we pride ourselves on building custom firearms. When you place an order, you choose the options for your pistol, and only then will your gun be built, specifically for you.

All Ed Brown premium components are standard equipment on our custom pistols, completely hand-fitted to a custom made, exclusive Ed Brown slide and frame. Possibly the finest custom pistol ever made.

**Order Direct! 60-90 Days Delivery!**

Ed Brown Products, Inc. • 43825 Muldrow Trail • Perry, MO 63462  
(573) 565-3261 • [www.edbrown.com](http://www.edbrown.com)

## IN THE EYES OF A CRIMINAL, IT'S A HORRIBLE SIGHT.



### PROTECT YOURSELF WITH LASERMAX™ TOTALLY INTERNAL LASER SIGHTS.

The intimidation factor is just one of the many benefits of our unique sight. The pulsating laser gets attention fast, with far greater visibility than a continuous-on beam. It comes from inside your firearm with one-finger activation. No need to squeeze the grip, it goes on only when you want it to. Installs internally in five minutes with no special holster required. This high-tech, low-cost innovation fits seamlessly into most popular semi-automatics. See LaserMax up close at your local dealer today.



**LaserMax™ inc.**  
It's out of sight.

3405 Winton Place, Bldg. B  
Rochester, NY 14623-2607  
716/272-5420 Fax: 716/272-5427  
Toll-free: 800/LASER 03 (800/527-3703)  
[www.lasermax-inc.com](http://www.lasermax-inc.com)  
U.S. Patent Nos. 4,934,898 & 5,569,226  
European Patent No. 9431007

*New Colt 1911 model coming soon.*  
Limited lifetime warranty.





## A Great Gunsmith For Sixguns: Tom Sargis of Bozeman Trail Arms

**Y**ou and I, and probably even Aunt Millie, know that today it is a fact of life that most sixguns, be they double- or single-action, domestic or foreign, can benefit greatly from an action job performed by a competent 'smith. Therein lies the rub—finding that gunsmith to whom you can

trust your prized possession.

The great rise in the sport of cowboy shooting has brought forth many great leathercrafters and gunsmiths, but it has also revealed that anyone with a file, a stone or a sewing needle thinks he can tune sixguns or work beautiful leather.

I have mentioned several sixgunsmiths over the years in these pages and will continue to do so as I “discover”

them. My latest find is Tom Sargis of Bozeman Trail Arms. Sargis is a one-man shop specializing in making single-actions sing a fine tune. He is also a grip maker who understands what single-action grips are supposed to feel like.

I first ran into Tom on the ‘net, as he maintains a website answering questions from a gunsmith’s perspective. About the same time, I found a used Third Genera-

*Continued on page 104*

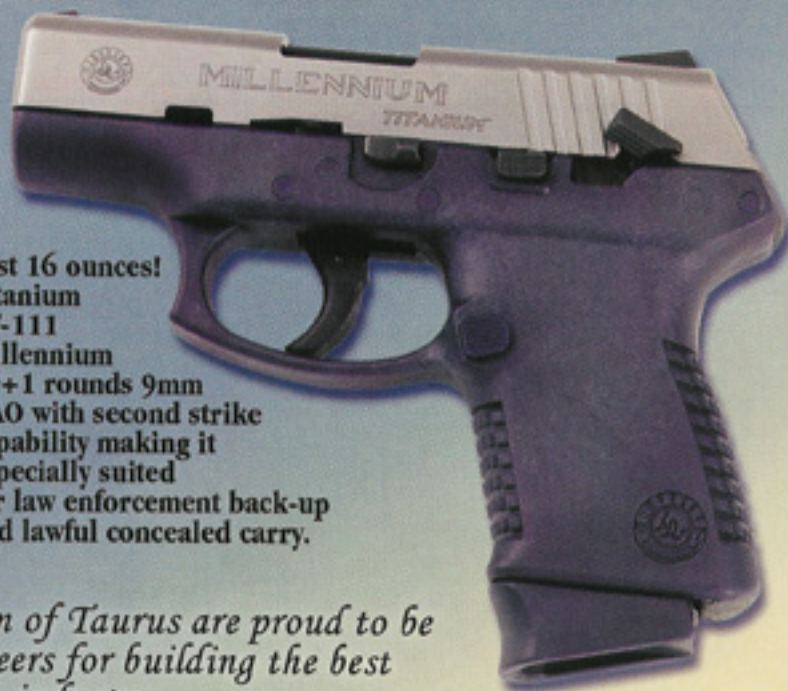






*Handgun of the Year*

Just 16 ounces!  
Titanium  
PT-111  
Millennium  
10+1 rounds 9mm  
DAO with second strike  
capability making it  
especially suited  
for law enforcement back-up  
and lawful concealed carry.



*The men and women of Taurus are proud to be recognized by our peers for building the best new handgun in the industry, and doubly proud to be recognized as manufacturer of the year as well.*

*Taurus Security System™  
always included at  
no additional charge.*



*Manufacturer of the Year*

PT-145 Millennium  
10+1 rounds .45 ACP  
slim profile, attractive price, plus  
a traditional frame mounted safety  
in blue or stainless steel now, Titanium soon!



# TAURUS

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

For information about a FREE trigger lock for your Taurus, phone us at 305-624-1115, or visit us on the internet.





*Reality-based training is a hallmark of SBSD. "Explosive entry" occurs as a carefully placed det cord blows away the door of the target building. Crouching behind the "body bunker" and prepared to immediately make "positive entry" are, front to back, John Berletich, Bob Wallinsky and Mike Izumi.*

## Portrait Of An Enlightened Firearms Policy

**S**heriff Gary Penrod of the San Bernardino (Calif.) Sheriff's Dept. puts the safety of his personnel at the top of his list of priorities. For many years, his agency issued the 9mm Glock 17 with the 147 gr. subsonic hollowpoints recommended by the FBI. In a survey of his people, however, he discovered that while most were very happy with the Glock pistol, a majority didn't feel that this caliber/ammo combination gave them enough stopping power to engender a feeling of security. They said they wanted .45s.

Sheriff Penrod obliged. Last year, the department switched to the Glock 21 in .45 ACP. Those in plainclothes assignments were issued the Glock 30, a compact version of the same weapon. Deputies carry 14 rounds of 230 gr. Winchester Ranger SXT +P .45 ACP in the full-size "uniform" Glocks, and 11 rounds of the same in the compact "plainclothes" guns. Uniformed personnel carry two spare magazines, while at least one must be worn when on duty in "soft clothes." The service holster is Safariland's SLS (Self-Locking System), a design that gives both snatch-resistant security and speed of natural draw, plus speed and ease of re-securing the sidearm as the officer closes in to apply handcuffs. The issued plainclothes holster for the G30 is a leather hip scabbard by Aker.

Some 97 percent of the department has gone with the issue Glock .45 since the change, says Cpl. John Berletich, SBSD's chief firearms instructor. However, the sheriff's long-standing policy of broad discretionary choice by personnel in the field remains in place. Those officers who preferred the fit of the smaller Glock may keep it. Deputies are still authorized to carry Beretta, Ruger, SIG and Smith & Wesson pistols in 9mm or .45.

SBSD recently adopted the potent Winchester 127 gr. +P+ hollowpoint for those who wish to continue with the 9mm. This police-only load has established an excellent stopping-power track record. The 9mm autos and .38 revolvers remain popular as off-duty and backup weapons.



## TRAINING

**P**ersonnel from the San Bernardino Sheriff's Dept. qualify a minimum of three times yearly with all weapons. The agency maintains three FATS simulators, one mobile for regular access by deputies at the more remote stations around the county. Live-fire "kill houses" and Simunitions force-on-force roleplaying are also staples of their in-service training. An estimated 3 million rounds of ammunition are fired in training each year.

Competition is encouraged to set a standard of excellence. The SBSD Shooting Team of Col. Berletich and deputies Glenn Alfaro, Mike Izumi and Bob Wallinsky have captured many honors at the Police Olympics, Glock matches, assorted IPSC events, and the department is just now getting into IDPA competition.

Sgt. Jim Morgan, a gunfight survivor and SWAT-team leader, recently took

command of the sheriff's Firearms Training Center. One of his first projects was a "firearms excellence program" along the lines of the department's approach to physical fitness with its "wellness program." The course of fire is the IDPA Qualifier, a tough 90-shot program that tests multiple armed survival skills. Deputies will be able to wear a medal displaying their rank earned, from Marksman to Master.

SBSD has long made a habit of intensively studying all gunfights involving their personnel. They determined that even Weaver shooters reverted to the Isosceles stance under stress, and that most deputies had been able to use their sights effectively. Based on this real-life input, their firearms training now emphasizes the Isosceles stance, a flash sight picture and StressFire shooting techniques.





## Training Expertly, **LIKE THE EXPERTS DO**

**E**xpert shooters are better because they train better. Average shooters stay average because they don't train effectively. Whether your interest in shooting is for recreation, competition, self-defense or hunting, your goal should be to get the most benefit from each practice session. After observing both world-class and average shooters practicing, several key differences became evident.

Experts have an objective for every training session. Ask the average shooter what the specific objective of a practice session is and he likely won't have an answer. Typically, he'll do some accuracy shooting, some one- and two-shot draws, a few reloads and maybe a few strong- and weak-hand shots, shoot a couple of Bill Drills or El Presidentes, then plink away any remaining ammunition at rocks in the backstop.

Experts often begin a session with precision shooting to check sights and trigger control and doing some drills to keep basic skills sharp. Then they move to the objective for that session—speedloads, perhaps, or weak-hand only. They'll have a specific goal, maybe 10 consecutive sub-one-second reloads, or at least 90 percent scores at 25 yards shooting weak-hand. Every training session should have a purpose and a means of measuring progress.

## MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT

**E**xperts make every shot count. Experts don't plink or waste shots. They put their best effort into every shot. Plinking at rocks or shooting inattentively not only wastes time and ammunition, but it also reinforces sloppy and lazy mental habits. Quality of practice counts more than quantity.

Experts don't cheat themselves. Average shooters tend to forget their bad performances and assess themselves only on their best performances. The lament heard over and over at matches is, "I shot so much better in practice!" No, you occasionally shot better in practice. What counts is what you can do on demand.

I'll let you in on a secret— the experts shoot better in practice also. I've marveled at the ability of top shooters in matches, but I've seen them do things in practice sessions that left me bug-eyed. But they know that an occasional off-scale performance isn't a true measure of ability. They keep track of all scores, good and bad, and assess themselves honestly.



Match photos by  
Nyle Leatham



# WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE EXPERTS REALLY LIKE IT

**E**xperts welcome the challenge of tough conditions. When it's raining or windy or they aren't feeling well, most shooters find something else to do. Experts relish tough conditions. They know that, whether in a match or on the street, they can't call a time-out because they have a headache or the sun is in their eyes.

They prepare for adverse conditions by training under adverse conditions. They practice the old military adage, "Hard in training, easy in combat."

Experts monitor equipment performance in practice sessions. I can't count the times I've seen average shooters have gun malfunctions on the range, clear them, shrug and carry on as though an occasional malfunction was normal and inevitable. Experts take malfunctions seriously.

I recall seeing three top shooters practicing together when one had a feedway stoppage. They examined it with the intensity of engineers studying a component of a space shuttle. They looked at the position of the round, the feedramp and breechface, the magazine, the cartridge itself. Not until they felt the problem had been diagnosed and corrected did they resume practice.

It can be argued that it is more important to develop the habit



of immediately clearing a malfunction than studying it to determine the reason. Certainly some training sessions should be devoted to malfunction clearance drills.

What the experts demonstrate is that the first priority is to get the equipment running properly. You're more likely to lose a match, or a gunfight, because your gun malfunctioned than because you were too slow in clearing it.



## AN OPEN MIND

**E**xperts never stop learning. It astonished me to learn that experts are more open to new ideas and less positive about their shooting techniques than many average shooters. Some of the most strident proponents of various shooting techniques—the Weaver stance, for example—are shooters who, by current standards, would be considered mediocre at best.

Experts are more likely to take the approach, "This is the technique I use now. These are the reasons I use it. If there's a better way, show me. If it is indeed better, I will change and use it."

Experts don't let ego or emotion lead them to defend outdated techniques when better methods come along.



## The Difficult Way Up

**E**xperts practice things that are difficult. Average shooters don't like to work on things that are difficult. They like to practice speed shooting, fast draws, things that are fun.

It's the same in any activity. Mediocre golfers spend their time on the driving range, blasting one full-power swing

after another, while the pros sweat it out in the bunker, working on sand shots.

Weak-hand shooting is hard. Long-range shooting is hard. Draws from concealment are hard. Improvement comes slowly, and results are never that impressive. But they are skills that can win matches. Or save your life.



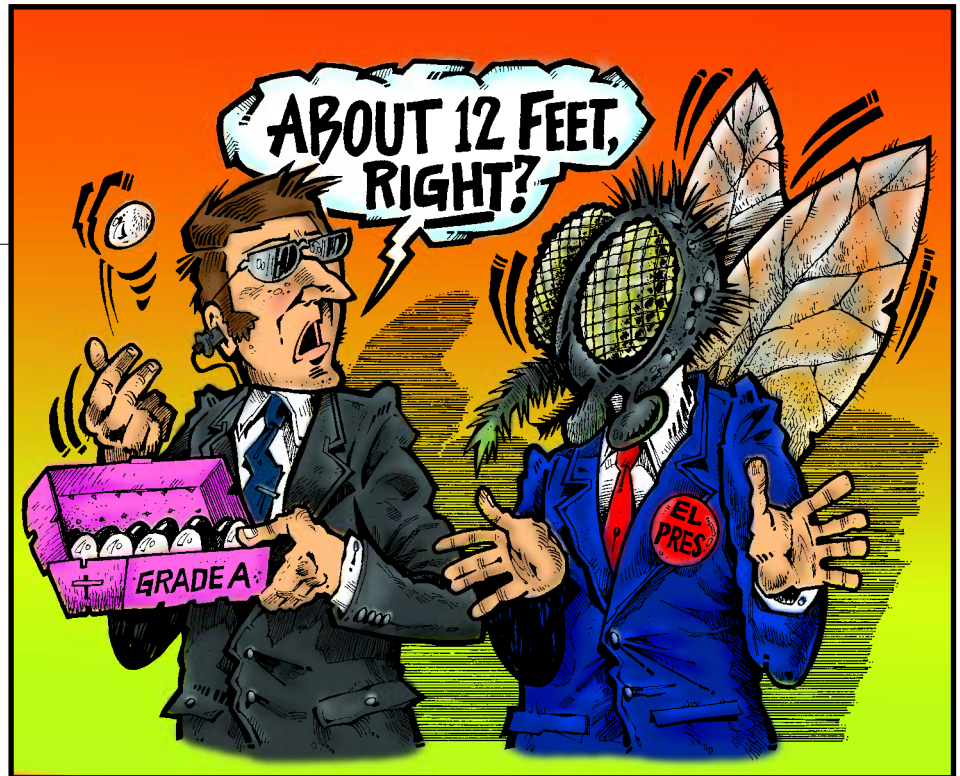


## And Some Of Them Are Those Rotten, Nasty "Assault Eggs"

**B**razil's presidential security detail is pretty much like the Secret Service protective unit at the White House— you know, loyal, well-armed, highly trained and ready to take a bullet for their protectee at any moment. In recent months, though, there hadn't been many incoming bullets, but lots and lots of incoming eggs.

Many of Brazil's top officials couldn't set foot outside anymore without getting pelted, and sometimes those eggs weren't very, you know, fresh. In fact, some of 'em had been so foul that concerns had been voiced about possibly poisoned or contaminated eggs. Then, Brazil's presidential security unit leaped into action.

According to a highly placed source speaking to the newspaper *Folha de Sao Paulo*, several weeks of egg-chucking tests determined that a reasonably safe egg-denial distance is 150 to 180 feet, depending on prevailing winds, so that's the minimum distance the detail is going to keep President Cardoso from potentially hostile egg tossers.



By Nick Petresino

*Folha* reported the tests showed, among other things, that a human head at 180 feet presents the same size target as a fly at 12 feet. Presumably, they determined that it's really, really hard to hit a fly with an egg at four meters. Or maybe they threw a lot of eggs at a guy 180 feet away.

## GOOD MOTIVES, BUT POOR TECHNIQUES



By Nick Petresino

**W**itnesses to the robbery of Chase Manhattan Bank in Brooklyn gave several suspect descriptions to the cops, with the usual crazy inconsistencies, but one thing they all agreed on was that the stickup crew seemed, you know, "amateurish," like they weren't real semi-pro crooks.

There was a good reason for that, as officers learned when they ran the shooters down: They were just a nice bride-and-groom combo trying to finance their nuptials.

Kevin Rainey, 41, and his bride-to-be, Dorrell Mainer, 38, had made extravagantly expensive plans for a huge wedding, banking on a fat refund from the IRS. That's stupid enough, but after the IRS told 'em to pound sand, the couple said they looked at their options and decided that robbing a bank was their best bet for covering the bills from the florist and the caterer.

They told the cops they just didn't want to disappoint their families, especially since some relatives were coming in from all over the country. We don't know how Auntie Flo and Uncle George felt about blowing in from Des Moines to find the happy couple in the federal lockup.





# ELITE II FORCE

**Beretta's upgraded version of the legendary M92, the Elite II, is the winningest gun in IDPA. It's go-to-hell-and-back reliable and as accurate as most target pistols. In case you haven't gathered, we like it. A lot.**

**By Dave Anderson**  
**Photos By Ichiro Nagata**

**T**he Beretta Elite II in 9mm Luger is an accurate, reliable, attractive pistol based on the popular Beretta 92 series and incorporating a number of competition-proven features. Beretta's supervisor of law enforcement operations, Ernest Langdon, is a top-notch IDPA (International Defensive Pistol Association) competitor who has won major IDPA matches with a Beretta Elite II.

However, Langdon advised *American Handgunner* that Beretta's intent was not to build a pistol designed for competition. Rather, the idea was to use the lessons learned in competition to build a better defensive pistol.

The introduction of IDPA competition— and, to a far lesser extent, Production Class in IPSC— has had considerable impact in attracting new shooters to take up practical-shooting competi-

tion. These divisions are for factory-stock guns, with only very minor modifications allowed.

A "production class" levels the playing field. Factory-stock guns no longer have to compete against \$2,500 "Limited" guns with hand-fitted match barrels, tuned actions and 2 lb. triggers. Now, the police officer or private citizen can show up with a box-stock production pistol used for duty and personal defense, and compete with others similarly equipped. Shooting ability and sound tactics, not equipment, decide the winner.

Stock-gun competition has caught the interest of manufacturers as well as competitors. The Para-Ordnance Limited Model, the Glock 34 and 35 and the HK USP Expert all show the influence of competition, with features such as improved sights, triggers and operating controls.

Competition shooting should be the equivalent of what auto racing is for automobile manufacturers— an opportunity to pro-









mote their products and to find out what works under the intense pressure of racing. That's why the factories should support production-class shooting with sponsorships.

### **Extreme Duty**

The basic Beretta 92 design has proven, through extensive testing and years of actual use, to be reliable, durable and accurate. It is the official service pistol of the United States armed forces. In one form or another, the 92— and its .40 S&W variation, the Model 96— is issued by many police departments. It's also a favorite with private citizens needing a high-quality, dependable pistol for personal and home defense.

The Elite II uses the heavier Brigadier-style slide, with extra steel in the locking lug area. The standard Beretta slide has proven amply strong, but some users, such as commercial firing ranges and competitive shooters, go well beyond heavy-duty use into what might be called "extreme duty." Where a typical duty gun might fire 500 rounds a year, many competitors shoot that much every week.

The original Elite had a blued steel slide and a stainless steel barrel. With the Elite II, both slide and barrel are stainless-steel. Its rakishly slanted front and rear cocking serrations and prominent "Elite II" logo make for a striking appearance.

Front and rear sights are blue steel, strongly mounted in dovetail cuts in the slide. The rear sight is the famous Novak. It is strong, neat and resistant to snagging. In conjunction with the serrated vertical post front-sight, the Novak rear provides an excellent sight picture.

Praise be, the proportions of rear-sight notch and front sight width are such that there is plenty of light around the front sight! Top competitors have shown conclusively that a narrow front sight provides adequate precision and



**The locking block on the 92 has been redesigned to prevent the breakages that cropped up in the '80s on military Berettas.**





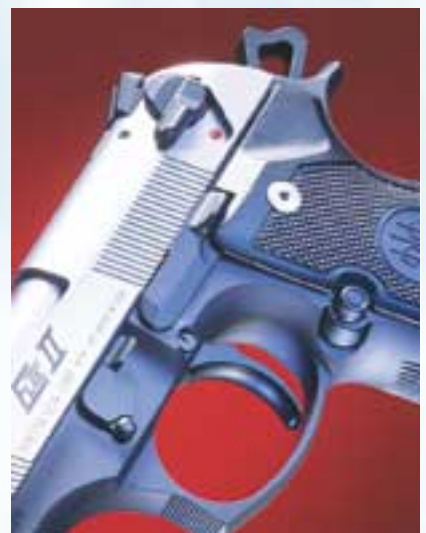
much greater speed.

Function is traditional double-action; the first shot is fired by one long pull, and subsequent shots are fired single-action. The Elite II ambidextrous slide levers function only to drop the hammer, after which they spring back to “fire” position. Beretta calls this their “G” configuration, evidently because it was designed at the request of the French police, or *gendarmarie*.

In its DA-only “D” series pistols, Beretta uses a lighter trigger-return spring that provides a lighter, smoother double-action pull than the standard 92. The Elite II is fitted with the 92D trigger spring. Compared to a 92D I had on hand, the Elite II double-action pull feels identical—smooth and with just a bit of

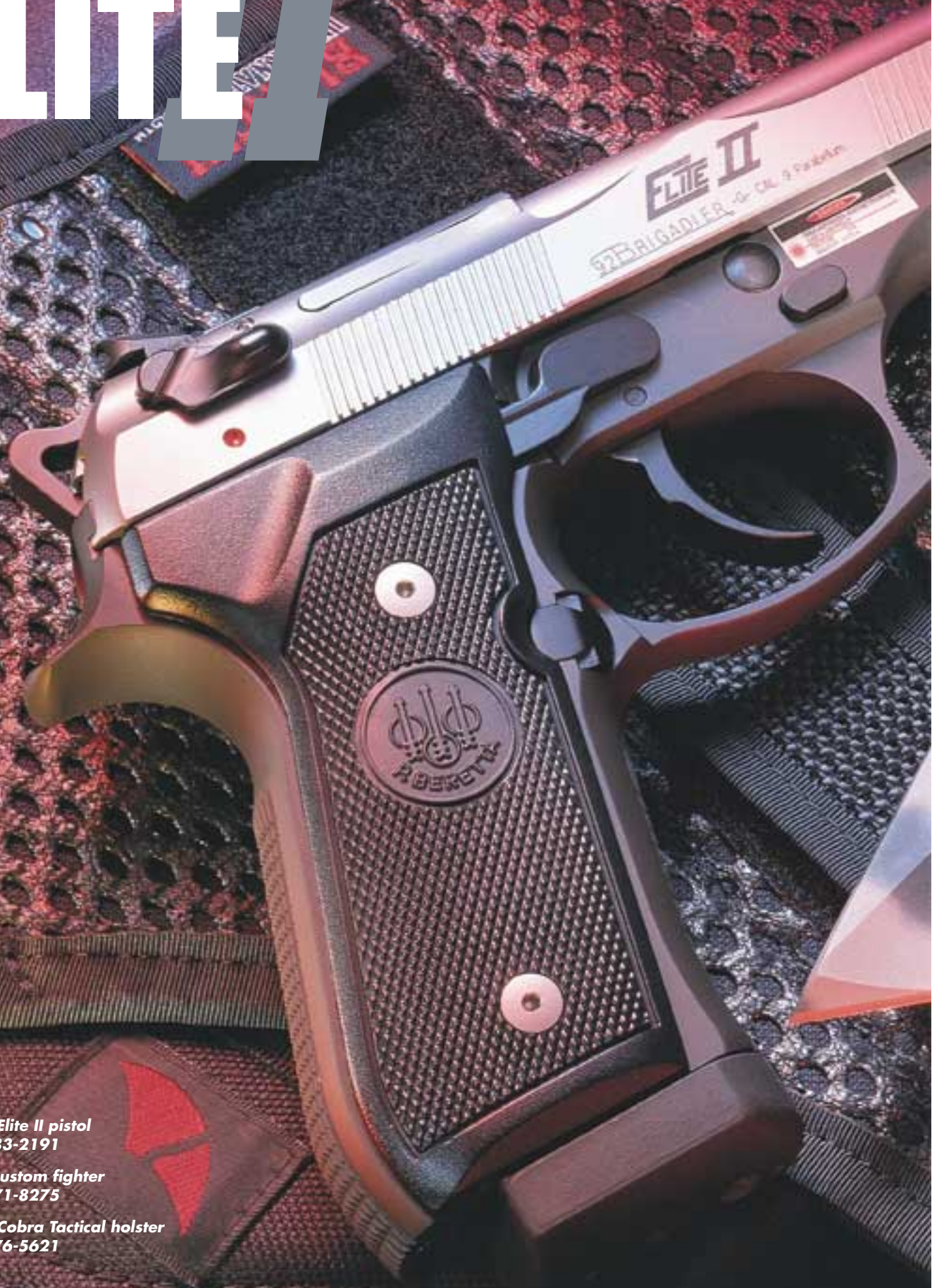
stacking at the end. Single-action pull measured a consistent 4.75 lbs., with considerable takeup followed by a reasonably clean release and minimal over-travel. It’s not in a class with a tuned 1911 trigger, but, as DA autos go, I would call it very good, certainly adequate for production-class competition.

There are other differences between the Elite II and a standard Beretta 92. The stainless steel barrel has a neatly recessed muzzle crown. Front and rear grip straps are checkered, rather than just vertically serrated. Grip panels are secured by stainless-steel, hex-head screws. The lanyard loop has been eliminated, and the magazine well has been beveled for easier mag changes. The two 10-round magazines supplied are fitted





# Beretta ELITE II



- Beretta Elite II pistol  
(301) 283-2191
- Strider custom fighter  
(760) 471-8275
- Bianchi Cobra Tactical holster  
(909) 676-5621





AMERICAN  
**HANDGUNNER**







with thicker base pads. The hammer has been skeletonized for faster lock time.

## Elite Shooting

Shooting the Elite II provided no surprises. I expected it to be accurate, reliable and easy to shoot. It was accurate, reliable and easy to shoot. Grip shape and angle felt very comfortable to this long-time 1911 user; operating controls were in the right positions and functioned properly.

The combination of the Beretta's comfortable grip frame, 35 oz. weight and 9mm Luger cartridge made for mild recoil, little muzzle flip and, hence, fast sight recovery.

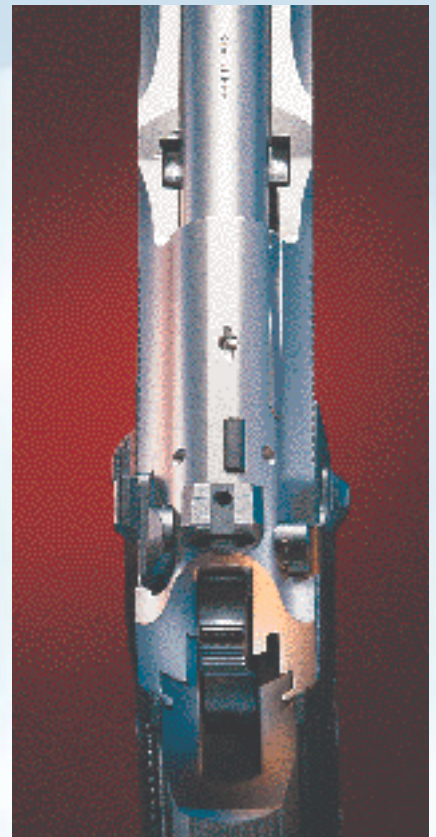
Testing was done with a wide variety of ammunition from Winchester, Black Hills, Federal, Cor-Bon and Speer. Groups at 25 yards averaged 2" and were extremely consistent. There weren't any sub-1", one-hole groups, nor were there any groups over 3" or any flyers. It didn't seem to matter what brand or bullet weight. This level of accuracy seems typical of Beretta 92s.

There were no malfunctions of any kind. I would have been astonished if there had been. Even the most hide-bound 1911 fan—me, for example—would have to concede that the reliability of the Beretta 92 is unsurpassed.

A couple of pre-ban 15-shot Beretta magazines fit and functioned perfectly in the Elite II. All magazines dropped freely from the gun when the magazine button was depressed.

Although there are plenty of Beretta 92 high-cap magazines around, they aren't needed for IDPA competition, which mandates 10 rounds maximum in order to provide a level playing field. It's better to use the 10-shot magazines in competition to ensure you don't inadvertently load an extra round. However, I like the high-caps for practice, simply because they are easier to load. Getting the last couple of rounds in these mandated 10-rounders can be a painful experience.

The Elite II should prove highly successful in production-class competition. Even if match shooting doesn't interest you, the competition-proven features of the Elite II make it an excellent version of one of the world's great pistols.





By John Taffin

# Big Bore Redhawk

**Chambered in .45 Colt, Ruger's rugged double-action opens new vistas of power for the handloader.**



**O**ver the years, the Ruger Redhawk has been offered in .357 Magnum and .41 Magnum, in addition to the standard .44 Magnum offering. The two former chamberings are now long gone, but the big .44 has been recently joined by the .45 Colt in stainless steel.

The Redhawk .44 Magnum is a very strong sixgun. Along with its brother, the Super Redhawk, they are the strongest double-actions ever offered to sixgunners. Since the .45 Colt is built on the same platform, it is by extension the sturdiest double-action .45 ever offered to shooters.

The .45 Redhawk is available in both the easy-packin' 5½" version, as well as in a 7½" model, both with and without the factory-scope option that consists of two scallops on the barrel to accept

Ruger's integral scope rings.

Let us back up a bit here and look at both the cartridge and the sixgun that are combined to give us the .45 Redhawk. The .45 Colt, often erroneously referred to as the .45 Long Colt, first saw the light of day chambered in the now legendary Colt Single Action Army, the fabled Peacemaker of 1873.

Being a blackpowder cartridge, the .45 Colt case is of large capacity, large enough to accept a full 40 grains of blackpowder under its 255 gr. conical, or flatnose, lead bullet. Muzzle velocities in the 1870s were probably somewhere around 850 to 950 fps.

Anyone acquainted with sixguns quickly notices that the cylinder walls on the Colt SAA are very thin. However, this was not a problem, as the blackpowder load was low-pressure.

When experimenters started stoking up the fire on the .45 to take advantage of its larger case capacity with smokeless powders, inevitable things happened. Cylinders burst, top straps blew, careers launched. Elmer Keith started his writing career in the 1920s describing a blow-up of a .45 Colt. That incident caused him to give up on the .45 Colt and adopt the .44 Special for the heavy loads he wanted to use.

Some said then— and they still do— that .45 Colt brass is weak. Perhaps it was in its old, original blackpowder form. Perhaps it still was at Keith's time, with folded, or balloon-head, cases. However, when Dick Casull started the experiments that led to the .454 Casull, he used the standard .45 brass available at the time. The balloon-head brass had given way to the modern solid-head



brass, and this is exactly what we have today. It's exactly what Casull used.

The missing strength factor in Casull's work was not the brass case, but the available sixguns. He blew several Colts, then started fitting five-shot cylinders and finally built his own custom sixguns to house 230 gr. bullets at 1,800 fps, all in standard .45 Colt brass.

It would be nearly 90 years after the advent of the Colt SAA before we would see a single-action strong enough to take advantage of the voluminous case capacity of the .45 Colt when using smokeless powder. That sixgun was Ruger's .45 Blackhawk. These sixguns are certainly not as strong as Casull's five-shooters, so it behooves us to approach loading for the .45 Blackhawk with a great deal of common sense.

## Redhawk Appears

Ruger's Redhawk, which first appeared in 1980, offered a .44 Magnum at a price of \$325. The first example to arrive locally went for \$800! Why? Such was the state of affairs in trying to acquire a double-action .44 Magnum in the late 1970s that Smith & Wessons were often going for double the suggested retail price.

It is hard to say who sold more Smith & Wesson .44 Magnums over the years—Elmer Keith, with his writings, or Clint Eastwood, with his Dirty Harry portrayal.

We do know that Dirty Harry caused the immediate supply problem, as there were many more buyers of .44 sixguns than there were sixguns. Smith & Wesson worked around the clock, but could not keep up with the demand. It was only the arrival of the Redhawk that provided a safety valve that soon allowed everything to resume some form of normalcy.

Ruger not only had an advantage in bringing their double-action out at the right time, but they also built their gun around the cartridge, rather than chambering some existing model. This made it the strongest sixgun ever offered for the .44 Magnum.

Ruger engineers were able to do this without giving us an extra-heavy or clumsy sixgun. The only fault most of us can find with the Redhawk is the fact that it is difficult to get a really good trigger on Big Red.

## Strong Revolver

The Redhawk gains its strength in many ways. The threaded area of the frame is very thick—double what one finds in many other sixguns—and the massive cylinder is locked at the rear and front rather than at the end of the ejector rod. The barrel carries a heavy rib, and the top strap literally speaks of brute strength. Like the single-action Blackhawk, the Redhawk just keeps going. And going. And going.

For testing the .45 Colt in the Redhawk, I ordered a scope-ready 7½" version,

*Continued on page 99*



## .45 Colt Loads In Ruger's Redhawk

Load	Group	Velocity (7.5")	Velocity (5.5")
Buffalo Bore 300 gr. Speer	3/4"	1,367 fps	1,327 fps
Buffalo Bore 325 gr. LBT	3/4"	1,392 fps	1,339 fps
Cor-Bon 265 gr. BC +P	1"	1,347 fps	1,336 fps
Cor-Bon 300 gr. BC +P	1 3/8"	1,271 fps	1,252 fps
4-W 328 gr. LBT +P	1 1/4"	1,338 fps	1,292 fps
Hornady 250 gr. XTP/20.0 grs. #2400	7/8"	1,137 fps	1,080 fps
Hornady 300 gr. XTP/21.2 grs. H110	1"	1,064 fps	958 fps
BRP 300 gr. GC/21.5 grs. WW296	7/8"	1,240 fps	1,208 fps
Swift 265 gr. JHP/26.0 grs. WW296	1 1/4"	1,415 fps	1,371 fps
LBT 260 gr. KT/10.0 grs. Unique	3/4"	1,059 fps	1,043 fps
LBT 260 gr. KT/21.0 grs. #2400	1 3/8"	1,294 fps	1,280 fps
CPBC 265 gr. LBT/26.0 grs. WW296	1"	1,464 fps	1,380 fps
CPBC 325 gr. LBT/21.0 grs. WW296	1"	1,234 fps	1,205 fps
CPBC 335 gr. LBT/21.0 grs. WW296	1 3/8"	1,275 fps	1,201 fps
CPBC 360 gr. LBT/19.5 grs. WW296	1 1/4"	1,180 fps	1,154 fps
Lyman 454424/18.5 grs. #2400	1 1/4"	1,093 fps	1,056 fps
Lyman 452490GC/23.0 grs. 4227	1 3/8"	1,165 fps	1,148 fps
Lyman #452490GC/20.0 grs. #2400	7/8"	1,306 fps	1,226 fps
Lyman #457191/18.5 grs. #2400	1 3/8"	1,108 fps	1,095 fps
NEI 310KT/21.2 grs. H110	1 3/8"	1,217 fps	1,143 fps
NEI 325KT/21.2 grs. H110	1 1/4"	1,208 fps	1,152 fps
Sierra 240 gr. JHP/24.0 grs. H4227	7/8"	1,058 fps	not tested
Sierra 240 gr. JHP/25.0 grs. WW296	1 3/8"	1,250 fps	not tested
Sierra 240 gr. JHP/26.0 grs. WW296	7/8"	1,301 fps	not tested
Hornady 250 gr. JHP/24.0 grs. H4227	1 1/2"	1,087 fps	not tested
Hornady 250 gr. JHP/26.0 grs. WW296	1 1/2"	1,292 fps	not tested
Hornady 250 gr. XTP/26.0 grs. H110	1 3/8"	1,364 fps	not tested
Speer 260 gr. JHP/24.0 grs. H4227	3/4"	1,124 fps	not tested





**Eagle developed a unique “faux ivory” product they call Ultra Ivory. It has the color, texture and grain of elephant ivory, but, much to the dismay of PETA members, dispenses with the need for sanctimonious hand-wringing.**



**Two best-sellers out of the Eagle lineup are the Gun-fighter for single-actions and the Classic for most double-action revolvers. These are made of rose-wood, an Eagle specialty. (Vintage five-screw N-frame not included.)**



# Eagle Grips

Customize Your Revolver Or Pistol With Stag, Ebony, Ivory, Rosewood Or Other Exotic Material From This Illinois Gripmaker.

By Charles E. Petty



Changing grips is the most common form of handgun customizing because anyone can do it. Most of the time, a screwdriver is all you need to change the grips and put your own personal touch on a gun. Most often, grips are changed to make a gun look or feel better.

Almost since there have been handguns there have been people who made special grips for them. Like so many other things, grips are usually the proof of the "get what you pay for" adage. There are some outrageously expensive grips and some reasonably-priced bargains too. Eagle Grips of Illinois has both good quality and affordable pricing.

The story begins in 1971 when founder Harbans Singh discovered that there was a considerable demand for ivory grips. He had come to the U.S. from India in 1958 as an hydraulic engineer and in '71 was working for the state of Illinois. But he also knew that India had sizeable supplies of ivory and a centuries-old tradition of craftsmen to work it.

On his visits home, he would bring ivory grips back for friends and it grew from there. Some of those originals are treasures now. Today, of course, ivory is



**A standard K-frame rosewood grip, just like your gunshop should have in stock. Note: color and grain may vary on individual sets, pending the completion of Eagle's new Rosewood Clone Forest.**



**The Secret Service grip, shown here in, you guessed it, rosewood, fits the J-frame S&W as well as other small-frame revolvers. The design fills in the void between the back of the trigger guard and the grip frame.**





**A gripsmith in Eagle's Illinois facility demonstrates how to polish with the latest in OSHA-approved ventilation equipment.**



**Here the gripsmith utilizes the time-honored method of "smoking" the grip frame with chalk dust to mate a grip precisely. Either that or we muddled this up with a photo from the Cali School Of Gunsmithing.**

hard to find and almost prohibitively expensive.

As the demand for his grips increased, gripmaking became a full time business. New materials came into play, such as rosewood, which today is the backbone of Eagle Grips. The company also specializes in stag, ebony, buffalo horn, mother of pearl and a synthetic ivory product that is as close as it gets to the real stuff.

Many shooters think ivory is the ultimate dressing for a fine gun, but the cost is often prohibitive. Eagle's new "Ultra Ivory" is a synthetic material with the grain and texture of real ivory. Ultra Ivory is imported in blocks and carved from a solid chunk just like real ivory. Ultra Ivory grips are neither molded nor cast.

The grain structure of real ivory is fascinating, seeming to change with every tiny difference in the light. Ultra Ivory has just a hint of that. In fact, it would probably take a side-by-side comparison to tell it apart from genuine ivory.

Although available as a standard replacement for many models, Ultra Ivory is most popular with single-action Colts and Rugers. You can send your gun to Eagle to have a set precisely fitted, for an extra charge, or you can buy Ultra Ivory off-the-shelf. This stuff is truly remarkable.

### **Bigger Is Better**

"Eagle Grips has grown to become the largest manufacturer of hand-crafted handgun grips," says Raj Singh, company president and son of the founder. The company has facilities in India and the Philippines, as well as the Land Of Lincoln. Over the years I've hung more than a few pairs of his grips on my guns, always with great success.

I asked Singh to tell me the number of various makes and models for which Eagle manufactures grips. "It would be easier to ask what we don't make," he chuckled and proceeded to name the few oddball guns for which they don't make a grip. If it's a modern revolver or pistol, they've probably got it in stock—and in several different materials.

Eagle Grips has over 50 different styles for the 1911 alone! If they don't have it in stock they can probably make it using an inventory of hundreds of frames and templates.

By almost any standard Eagle is a small business. They have fewer than 100 employees and their manufacturing is efficient and flexible. Most grips are imported completely finished and ready to go, but some arrive semi-finished to be completed at their Carol Stream, Ill. shop. It is here that the true custom grips are made as well. While frames do vary slightly in dimensions, especially old Colt frames, the vast majority of Eagle's production grips are so precisely made that they fit like gloves.

### **Favorite Grip**

If I were forced to choose a single





*Somehow a rosewood grip on a SIG P-220 makes us think of chrome wheels on a Hummer.*

style of grip as my favorite it would have to be Eagle's "Secret Service" style. I tried my first pair several years ago on a Chief's Special, but the Secret Service grips really came into prominence when S&W introduced the Airlite Ti snubnose. The first thing I did was replace the factory grips with rosewood Secret Service grips. This turned my Model 332 into the ultimate pocket pistol.

The grips are thin and do not increase the grip length at all. Rubber grips are nice for shooting, but they adhere to clothing and make it very difficult to simply slip the gun in a pocket. The Secret Service is very hand-friendly; even with hot ammo, the shape helps with recoil control.

Not only does Eagle sell grips to dealers and the public but also they are a significant Original Equipment Manufacturer for companies who need special grips. The best example is probably Colt; the majority of Colt's SAA pistols with high grade features wear grips from Eagle.

Until now, Eagle has been a pretty well kept secret. At the recent NRA Convention a buddy rushed up to me and said, "You gotta go see those Eagle grips. They're really nice." I smiled as I patted my Eagle-stocked Centennial in my pocket. I agreed.



For more information, contact Eagle Grips, 460 Randy Rd., Carol Stream, IL 60188; phone: (800) 323-6144; website: [www.eaglegrips.com](http://www.eaglegrips.com)

WWW.AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM



**Narrow at the top, wide at the bottom- that's the basic principle for double-action revolver grips. Somehow S&W never quite caught on to this concept, manufacturing millions of "Magna" grips that are wide at the top. We wonder: did Daniel Wesson secretly invest in thousands of acres of Goncalo Alves?**



**Ultra Ivory and a Colt single-action revolver, for the man who has everything.**



# Selecting Home Defense Ammunition

By Massad Ayoob

Something is in your nest with your mate and your cubs. It's a carnivorous predator, and it has intruded with harmful intent. Instinct tells you what to do. Destroy the invader! But that same instinct screams an equally imperative order: do not harm the very ones we must protect!

This is the cornerstone of survival instinct in all mammals, *Homo sapiens* included. It is also pretty much the "prime directive" in home defense planning for the worst-case scenario. The dwelling has been breached by violent, lawless intruders capable of killing or maiming, and the situation has digressed to what used to be put in simple terms: "Kill or be killed."

We have guns. We have intent. Now let's talk about the ammunition. The great small arms authority Col. Jeff Cooper made the point that firearms are secondary, because they are the launchers, and ammunition is primary, because that's what delivers the necessary effect on the receiving end.

For us to be warranted in employing a lethal weapon on another human being, that other person must be doing something so horrible that law, morality and logic alike demand that he must be stopped as instantaneously as possible. The object is not to kill, but to stop.

If the stopping causes death, it is a sad but acceptable consequence of the life-threatening emergency he himself created. In violating innocent people's right to live, he surrenders his own.

## Backstop Rule

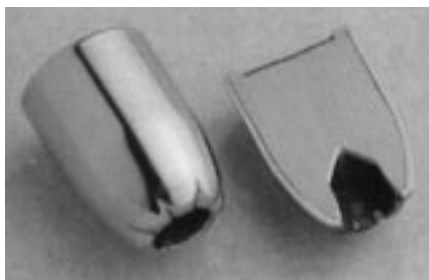
But concomitantly, we must make certain that our exertion of this potentially fatal force does not unnecessarily

endanger the lives of others in the home. In marksmanship, it is known as "the rule of the backstop." Do not fire a gun unless you are reasonably and prudently certain the bullet will stop in a place that will not endanger innocent life.

Let us pause and analyze what this means.

On a firing range, the backstop is the steel banking or the earthen berm behind the targets that catches projectiles. In the game fields, the backstop is the ground or the heavy vegetation behind the animal. On the battlefield, the backstop is the enemy soldier charging behind the one you're aiming at. Cool: two-for-one.

It is extremely rare for a defensive



**Hollow cavity projectiles can fill with sheetrock and behave like FMJ bullets (right).**



# Average Penetration In Ballistic Gelatin

	No Impediment	Sheet Rock Barrier
<b>.40 S&amp;W 180 gr. JHP</b>	<b>14.2"</b>	<b>25.2"</b>
<b>.223 Rem. 55 gr. FMJ</b>	<b>14.3"</b>	<b>11.5"</b>
<b>12 gauge 00 buckshot</b>	<b>22.8"</b>	<b>23.2"</b>
<b>12 gauge 1 oz. slug</b>	<b>21.0"</b>	<b>23.4"</b>

shooting to take place where there is a natural backstop, let alone a berm. It happens occasionally, though: a traffic stop gone bad or a murder attempt out in the middle of nowhere. The occasional shooting in cities where there's nothing but sheer, heavy concrete wall or brick behind the perpetrator. But, those too are rare.

We are talking home defense here. I've been to places like rural South Africa where homes are built with massive, heavy walls not only on the outside, but between the rooms on the inside. The descendants of the voor trekkers have spent well over a century defending their remote homes from all manner of besiegers, and they have incorporated this experience into their architecture.

## Home In The USA

However, in the United States, our homes, whether houses or apartments, simply aren't built like that. We're talking 2x4s and sheet rock. This stuff doesn't stop any but the most frangible bullet. In fact, it tends to plug hollowpoint pistol bullets and make them penetrate even deeper into whatever flesh they strike once they emerge on the other side.

Analyzing a ballistics issue that examined penetration and potential over-penetration, Larry Nichols, the rangemaster for the Burbank, Calif., Police Department, wrote the following:

"Penetration tests conducted by department range staff and several other highly respected experts have resulted in the following conclusions (see accompanying chart for numbers):

"The first thing you notice is the startling over-penetration of the typical jacketed hollowpoint pistol bullet once its nose is packed with an inert substance. The second thing you notice is that the over-penetration effect of .223 rifle ammo may have been highly over-rated. This validates the recommendation of Thunder Ranch director Clint Smith, who prefers and recommends a short .223 caliber AR-15 rifle as a home defense weapon.

"However, one conclusion we can't escape is this: all these rounds are going to go through walls with more than enough power to kill any human being they encounter on the other side."

This means that a backstop is needed. And there is only one backstop you can count on in this situation. It is the body of the violent attacker.

## Body As Backstop

One of the respected experts cited in the Burbank study was Dr. Gary Roberts. Dr. Roberts wrote an article titled *Law Enforcement General Purpose Shoulder Fired Weapons: The Wounding Effects of 5.56mm Carbines Compared with 12 ga. Shotguns and Pistol Caliber*



*Weapons Using 10% Ordnance Gelatin as a Tissue Simulant.* It appeared in the July/August 1998 issue of the respected law enforcement professional journal, *Police Marksman*.

He found that in bare gelatin, a Winchester 230 gr. SXT hollowpoint from a 5" Colt Government Model pistol would penetrate an average of 14.2", mushroom to an average diameter of .71", and lose an average of only 2.3 grains of weight by the time it had come to rest.

Remington 12 gauge 00 buckshot sent each of its .32 caliber spheres an average of 22.8" into the test medium, each apparently coming to rest intact. The test weapon was a Remington 870 pump shotgun with an 18" barrel and cylinder bore.

A 16" barrel AR-15A2 Colt Sporter with 1:7 rifling twist was used to fire the .223 rounds in the Roberts test. Federal's high-speed 40 gr. hollowpoint, sometimes known as the "Blitz" round, penetrated only 6.7" into the gelatin, with approximately 87 percent fragmentation. Winchester's 53 gr. hollowpoint .223 went only 8.0", with 72.5 percent disintegration. All delivered massive cavitation.

None of these .223 bullets are likely to exit the body of an average size male on a frontal torso shot. All are likely to cause tremendous damage of the kind that stops lethal assaults instantly.

The swift ending of the lethal assault brings safety. The bullet staying inside the body of the lethal offender brings safety. The key in both cases is only partially the effect of the projectile. First and foremost is placing the projectile into the center of the opponent's body.

## Strategy Factor

Evaluate your home like a general selecting a battleground. Figure out where you're most likely to confront an assailant. Where is there likely to be a backstop?

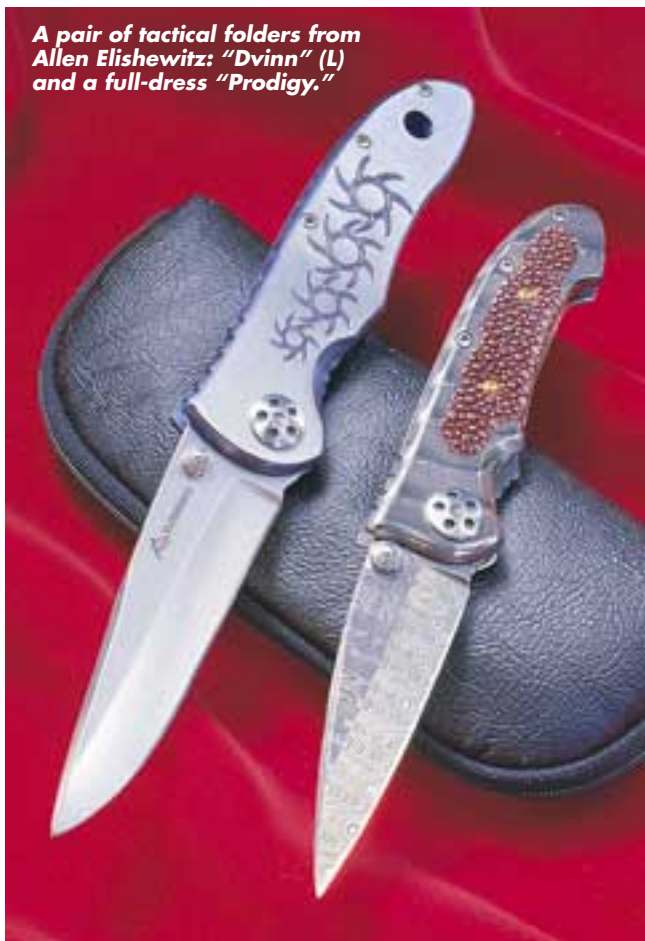
*Continued on page 97*



**The author recommends stacks of books (top right) or a filing cabinet, such as these Ayoob files, to serve as backstops within the home.**



A pair of tactical folders from Allen Elishewitz: "Dvinn" (L) and a full-dress "Prodigy."



Bob Terzuola's designs are clean like his ATCF model shown plain and full-dress.

# PURVEYOR

BY PAT COVERT  
PHOTOS BY ICHIRO NAGATA

# PERFECTION

EMERSON BENCHMARK • MICRO-TECH • MAD DOG



Pat and Wes Crawford made this full-dress version of their "Janus."

**T**actical work is a team effort, and no one knows this more than Jay and Karen Sadow of Arizona Custom Knives (AZCK). This husband-wife duo has been a silent force behind the tactical folder market even before the genre came into its own. Indeed, AZCK has probably sold more custom-made tactical folders than any other retailer.

AZCK started innocently enough. As a kid in the early '60s, Jay developed an interest in knives while watching his childhood heroes, like Davy Crockett, Daniel Boone and Jim Bowie, on television. He still owns his dad's old pocket knife, the one he broke trying to throw it into a tree. By the time Jay reached high school, he'd amassed a handsome

knife collection, one he shared openly in class from time to time. It was okay to do that back then.

Little did Jay suspect that his collection would be a harbinger of things to come. Two decades later, Jay is married to Karen, living in Phoenix, with two kids in the equation. He convinces Karen to accompany him to a large gun and knife show. It was there that the couple was first exposed to custom knives and, through a bit of persuasion on Jay's part, they left the show with his first custom knives in hand.

With a family to support, Jay eventually realized that he'd need to sell a few knives to feed his new interest in custom cutlery. In 1992, the couple founded Arizona Custom Knives and spent \$89 on an ad, the sum total of their annual advertising budget for the year. It must



A pair of "Tighe Pan" models from Brian Tighe.



have worked. Today, the company has a five-figure ad budget and sells a heck of a lot of knives!

One of the keys to the Sadows' success is that they have cultivated strong relationships with the top knifemakers over the years. The makers know them, trust them and, as a consequence, keep them supplied with a nice flow of their wares, which in turns keeps their customers happy.

"The explosive growth of our business during the '90s took us by surprise and was very exciting, but it's the relationships we've forged over that time that really define who we are today. From the gratitude shown by the makers who we represent to the satisfied thank-you's we get from the many loyal collectors we serve around the world, those are the things that make this meaningful," Jay explained.

## Online Knives

AZCK sells knives through a monthly catalog and through their website. Their selection of custom offerings is extensive in virtually all categories of knives. From art knives to daily users, from Bowies to tacticals, AZCK keeps a steady flow of custom bladeware coursing in and out of its doors.

One of their specialties is tactical knives. You'd have to search far and wide to find a broader selection of the top knifemakers' works. AZCK offers both fixed blade and folding tacticals, and these range from base level, all-purpose user knives to high-end customs featuring exotic damascus steel blades with handle materials of pearl, fossil mammoth ivory and brightly colored titanium.

Because of their established relationship with the custom makers, the

Sadows can buy at dealer prices and extend their customers the same price the custom makers would charge. The benefit is that AZCK has the knives in stock, ready to ship now, allowing customers to bypass the lengthy waiting list of custom makers.

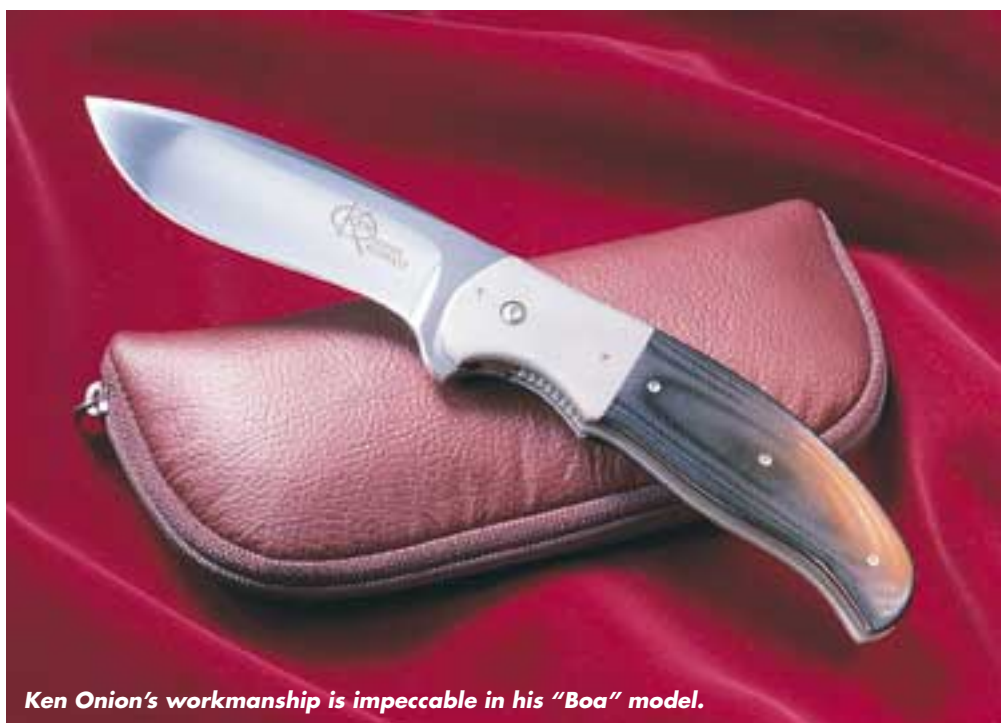
A quick glance at AZCK's latest catalog or website is enough to whet the appetite of any tactical knife aficionado. The list reads like a who's who of tactical makers. Allen Elishe-witz? Check. Bob Terzuola? Roger. Brian Tighe? Ten-four. Greg Lightfoot,

Ken Onion, Pat and Wes Crawford, Kit Carson— yep, the gang's all here.

For those not familiar with these names, here is a brief bio of a sampling of the makers on AZCK's list, many of which have graced the pages of *American Handgunner* in issues past:

**Kit Carson:** Don't let the name fool you— Kit is as modern as they get when it comes to designing cutting-edge tacticals. This knifemaker has the production knife companies beating down his door constantly, so it's advisable to pick up one of his customs whenever you get a chance.

*Continued on page 95*



Ken Onion's workmanship is impeccable in his "Boa" model.





# IPSC 2000

**A MATCH REPORT  
ON THE GUNS AND  
GEAR OF PRACTICAL  
SHOOTING'S LIMITED  
AND OPEN NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

Story and Photos  
By Nyle Leatham

**A**merican practical pistol shooting has been dominated in recent years by three men: Todd Jarrett, Jerry Barnhart and Rob Leatham. In the last six years, from 1995 to 2001, no name other than Jarrett, Barnhart or Leatham occurs in the list of national champions of 12 consecutive Open and Limited USPSA National matches.

No doubt there are other great shooters and new blood is always welcome, but the triple team of Jerry-Rob-Todd dominated the last dozen nationals like no other trio in IPSC history. When they didn't win a

big USPSA Area match, it often meant none of the triumvirate was present.

The practical shooting year of 2000 was a banner one indeed. Not only did we have two nationals as usual, but also the U.S. Region of IPSC hosted Smith & Wesson's Millennium 2000 match, run concurrently with USPSA's Area 5 championship, and a Pan-Am continental championship later in the year.

Recent years of drifting apart between USPSA and IPSC leadership meant few U.S. matches had asked for official IPSC sanction. Here was a match that really made the most of the international con-









nection inherent to the game from its founding at the Columbia Conference in Missouri in 1976. The S&W Millennium Match was run mainly under current IPSC rules, modified a bit to accommodate USPSA legal issues of liability.

The match went off in great fashion. It managed a tightrope balance between conflicting USPSA and IPSC rules. You could shoot all 22 stages as the Millennium or just stages 5 through 17, comprising the Area 5 Championship. Jarrett with his C-More sighted Para-Ordnance won Open class in both the Millennium 2000 and Area 5. Leatham won the Limited class, similar to IPSC Standard class, with his iron-sighted Springfield Armory "Hi-Cap" pistol in .40 S&W. With short 17 round pre-ban magazines, his pistol fit into the IPSC box as required.

### Limited 2000

Then came the USPSA Limited 2000 match, held in the Pennsylvania mountain country near Pittsburgh. It was a new undertaking for a brave shooting club with a predominantly bow-hunter membership accommodating the needs of its few pistol shooters.

The triumvirate was there, of course. Jerry-Rob-Todd have all heard themselves called "shooting legends," but fame rests lightly in the practical shooting game. Jerry-Rob-Todd have come to be easy friends, sharing a great time in their avocation and profession. They mix casually with all comers. They are approachable by fellow shooters and spectators alike on the ranges.

Leatham won the match with the same Springfield Armory "Hi-Cap" .40 S&W pistol that he shot in the Millennium, this time under straight USPSA rules with no IPSC box worries. This meant that he could use 21-round competition magazines.

In a microcosm of the seesaw closeness to their rivalry, the final tally was

Leatham winning with 1436.1352 match points, Barnhart second with 1416.2383 match points (98.615 percent) and Jarrett third with 1402.4622 (97.655 percent).

### The Pan-Am Open

The final big match of the year was also a combo— the Pan-American IPSC Championship combined with the USPSA Open Nationals. Once again, the blending of an IPSC match with USPSA "homegrown" rules came off smoothly with little fuss. Americans were to be reminded of the camaraderie of international shooting with its global bonds among shooters surmounting barriers of geography, culture, economics, language and politics.

The match was held at PASA Park, the site of the Smith & Wesson Millennium 2000 and Area 5. The range just gets better every year. The upper chronograph building is now completed and in use. Concrete walls neatly divide larger bays into smaller ones to accommodate the 24 stages of the Pan Am Open.

Although it was the USPSA annual Open championship, there was also a contest for Limited class or, more accurately, IPSC Standard class entrants for scoring in the Pan Am portion of the event. Again an American, Matt Burkett of Arizona, won with an SVI Infinity Competition model in .40 S&W carried in a Ghost holster.

An odd dimension was added to the match when defending champion Barnhart showed up with an iron-sighted Open class gun. He was the first shooter to win a nationals, in 1990, with a dot-sighted pistol and pushed the trend toward optics on IPSC raceguns.

Barnhart says he doesn't rely much on brand names these days and, when asked, said the pistol he chose to shoot is a "generic" 1911. Barnhart told puzzled fans, "I just really like the feel and handling of this gun set up this way. I don't owe anybody anything and it looked like







# GUNS & GEAR OF THE CHAMPIONS

Shooter	Class	Gun	Caliber	Bullet	Powder	Barrel	Gunsmith(s)	Sight	Holster
Jerry Barnhart	Limited	STI	.40 S&W	180 gr.	Viht 320	Wilson	D. Cook, D. Jones	Bo-Mar	Bianchi
Matt Burkett	Standard	SVI	.40 S&W	Sinterfire 150 gr.	Viht 320	Shueman	SVI factory	Bo-Mar	Ghost
Rob Leatham	Limited	Springfield	.40 S&W	Nosler 180 gr.	Viht 320	Dawson	Dave Williams	Bo-Mar	Safariland
Todd Jarrett	Limited	Para-Ord.	.40 S&W	Hornady 180 gr.	Clays	Jarvis	Dave Dawson	Bo-Mar	Safariland
Jerry Barnhart	Open	STI	.38 Super Comp	115 gr.	IMR 7625	Hart	Doug Jones	Bo-Mar	Bianchi
Rob Leatham	Open	Springfield	9mm Super Comp	Nosler 135 gr.	Viht 340	Nowlin	Dave Williams	Aimpoint	Safariland
Todd Jarrett	Open	Para-Ord.	.38 TJ	Hornady 121 gr.	IMR 4756	Jarvis	Dave Dawson	C-More	Safariland



*Rob Leatham proved his winning form once again with iron sights.*



*More and more start positions mandate "gun on table," making the draw less important in a match.*







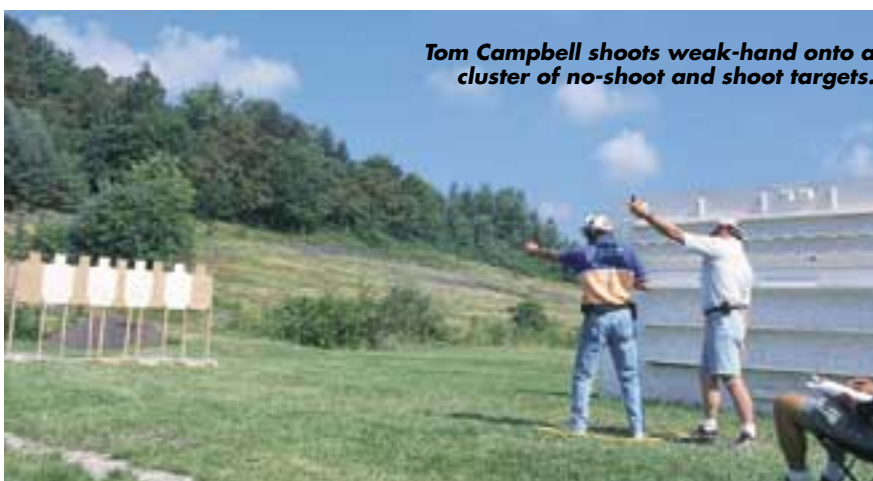
the fun way to shoot this particular match, just like in the old days.”

When pressed, he revealed these details about his gun— it is made by STI in the smooth-running .38 Super Comp caliber, using Starline brass, IMR 7625 powder and 115 gr. jacketed bullets. His barrel was by Kart and his retro sights were— what else?— BoMar.

Todd said what others were thinking, “Jerry, I know you came to win, but you are making a big mistake with those open sights at this match.” And by the end of the first day, seeing more long shots than usual in international-style stages, the Burner knew he had done exactly that.

Barnhart summed it up, “By mid-match, every time the gun came up I was asking, ‘Where’s the dot?’” Still, the Burner was awesome in the short-range, quick-acquisition stages. His brilliant shooting almost pulled off the overall win. It was one more example of skill counting more than hardware and a lot of folks were cheering for him to pull it off. As it was, fourth place was awesome.

At the end of the day, Todd won with his dot-sighted Para-Ordnance. It was a great year for practical shooting, and an even better one for the three-headed shooting monster, Jerry-Rob-Todd.



**Tom Campbell shoots weak-hand onto a cluster of no-shoot and shoot targets.**







# PISTOLSMITH PROFILE

## Dane Burns: Practical Guns For Serious Users

By Mark Twight

**D**ane Burns was a brash young man. In 1981 he climbed the north face of Mount Edith Cavell in the Canadian Rockies. Alone. Without ropes and an anorexic margin of safety, Burns dashed up the 4,000 foot wall in less than six hours. Three of North America's best climbers spent *two days* making the first ascent of this same route 20 years previously. A false move away from death the entire time, Burns determined, "The climbing wasn't that hard."

Dane has another passion: shooting. He began building pistols for IPSC competition in 1983. Burns relates, "It was hard to get a functional gun from anyone then. Some of the older gunsmiths had no idea what we were actually doing, or what kind of reliability was necessary in the new sport. It was like climbing gear in those days—stock equipment had to be modified if hard routes were going to be done."

A sheriff's department contract and local IPSC competitors kept him busy building guns, but being a full-time pistolsmith and shooter wasn't paying the bills. Sick of being poor, Burns handed off much of his customer base to Mark Morris (later of Morris Custom) and returned to school to finish his degree.

University tuition broke the bank further. Dane turned to warrant service as an "easy" way to pay the bills and spent the next seven years arresting bad guys. With over 2,000 arrests and a couple of shrewd overseas business investments to his credit, he began tinkering with pistols again.

By now he'd seen the gun from another angle. Competition guns were one thing,

but fighting guns were entirely different. "I abused my work guns. I dropped them. I clubbed bad guys in the head with them. So I wasn't into all the bells and whistles. Pistols are tools to me. Of course, I like nice looking tools. But a five foot drop to the cement shouldn't wreck one."

Dane picked up many of Morris Custom's back-logged customers who were not willing to wait, and was back building guns full-time. Burns shoots at a master level in IPSC competition using carry guns and gear. He was Washington State IDPA Enhanced Service Pistol cham-

pion in 1997 and CDP champion in 1998.

Burns shoots what he builds, and carries what he shoots, combining his competitive and tactical experience into his pistolsmithing philosophy. While he builds a higher proportion of 1911s in .45 ACP, he is perhaps best known as a proselyte of the 9x23 cartridge.

"It's simple. The 9x23 in the Winchester case is the *best* round for the 1911 platform guns ever designed!" he says flatly.

The current iteration of the cartridge was developed and patented by John Ricco and later "purchased" from him by Winchester. Development work had been done on a 9mm Magnum cartridge as early as the turn of the last century. Interest was rekindled in the early '70s when Jeff Cooper loaded chopped .223 brass to major power factors, safely pushing a 124 gr. bullet to 1,700 fps. Cooper said, "One would be well advised to stand out of its way." Today's factory Winchester 124 gr Silvertips do 1,450 fps, matching the best fight-stopping cartridge, the .357 Magnum. Burns says, "None of the excessive flash, muzzle blast or recoil common to the .357 revolver are present in a 1911 in 9x23. The guns are 11-shot .357s with the handling characteristics and reliability of John Browning's 1911."

The 9x23 case feeds better than any other in the 1911 frame. When stripped from the magazine, a cartridge hits the frame ramp, skips over the barrel feed ramp and into the chamber. The shorter the distance from the centerline of a cartridge in the magazine to the centerline of the bore, the easier the case feeds.

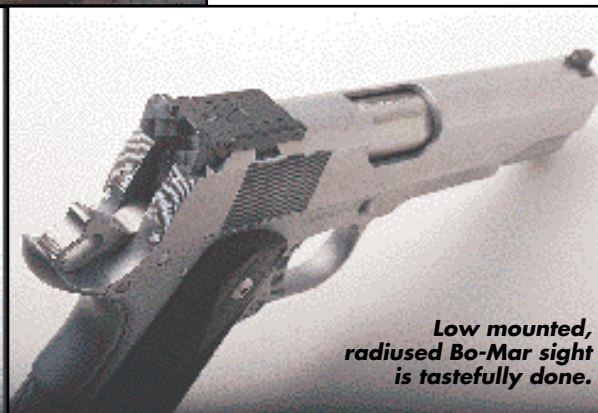
*Continued on page 89*



*Burns at work in his shop.*



*Clean lines and unique slide modification set a Burns' gun apart.*



*Low mounted, radiused Bo-Mar sight is tastefully done.*



## GUN RIGHTS

Continued from page 27

Let's return to the segregation example. Not only would we deny that the "psychological burdens" suffered by whites due to the presence of African-Americans in their communities provide any basis for zoning laws establishing where people could live, but we would *condemn* those feelings as inappropriate and morally wrong.

This condemnation would occur even if whites argued that their feelings had a solid basis in reality. For example, it would not serve to argue that whites were fully justified in feeling this way because, statistically speaking, African-Americans committed a disproportionate amount of the crime in America.

Even if true, even if there were real, factual support for the feelings or beliefs of the whites, their feelings would still be condemned as improper bases for law because—both ethically and constitutionally—the requirement is to treat each individual as an individual, and to recognize and respect the inherent dignity of each individual.

Far from simply accepting the feelings of whites, whites would be subjected to demands that they *reform* so that they would no longer harbor racist feelings. And, if they could not reform their feelings, it would nonetheless be insisted that they keep those feelings to themselves, that they not *act* on that basis toward their fellow man.

Thus it would seem from our example that our *sentiments* are not the most reliable means of perceiving reality; that they may not have any justifiable correlation to reality; and that they may be treacherous, dangerous and unethical means of dealing with our fellow man.

This realization seemingly eludes the authors of the *Epidemiology* article. The good journal does not trouble itself with any inquiry into whether the feelings have any foundation in reality, or whether they rest on mistaken facts, impressions and judgments of those who harbor them. It simply accepts them, unquestioned, as is, and suggests that they ought to be taken into account in fashioning laws.

Nor is there any sense that sentiments must be disciplined and controlled by ethical requirements in dealing with our fellow man, any question whether those who have these feelings have a right to insist that others' behavior conform to their demands in order to alleviate their troubled minds.

### Touchy-Feely Rights

Of course, that's the point, isn't it? People's feelings are what they are, regardless of what the facts are, regardless of whether any rights are involved. By casting the argument for gun control as one in which due recognition must be given to people's feelings, it becomes

Without OPS Training  
your Firearm is just an  
**EXPENSIVE CLUB!**

For more information  
call toll free 1.877.636.4OPS (4677)



OPTIONS for  
PERSONAL SECURITY

**CUTTING EDGE TRAINING —  
— ACROSS THE USA**

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



**Make It Your Way...**

*Custom Outerwear from Coronado Leather*

At Coronado Leather we realize that most people are not built "standard" and everyone has their own idea of a perfect leather jacket. So we now offer a unique "Build Your Own Garment" program. Choose from dozens of styling options, ten different leathers and several styles, colors and cuts. The end result is a unique custom jacket, blazer or vest made just for you. All of this, for a lot less than you would think.

So call us today at 1-800-283-9509 to receive our Custom Leather Kit and our new 28-page catalogue featuring all of our premium leather products, including our in-stock concealment leather lines.

**CORONADO LEATHER**  
Makers of quality leatherwear since 1961

1-800-283-9509 [www.customleather.com](http://www.customleather.com) 219-214-9335



CUSTOM LEATHER ★ CONCEALMENT  
UNSURPASSED QUALITY

# Close Outs

## [www.safe-knife.com](http://www.safe-knife.com)



**BAGMASTER**  
MFG. INC. • St. Louis, MO

OVER 500 PRODUCTS  
Call for FREE  
Catalog  
AVAILABLE

American Made  
Lifetime Guarantee

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

**Pro-Shooter's Bag Tournament Model 1**  
\$139.95

**Pro-Shooter's Bag Tournament Model 2**  
\$89.95

\*Bags and Pistol Pouch available in Black, Hunter Green, or Navy

Competition Stage Bag included

**Tournament Model Stage Bag**  
\$29.95

Designed to Hold One USPSA (all divisions) handgun, 2-100 round plastic ammo boxes, 8 Single or Double stack mags, pens, pencils & paperwork.

**Rectangular Pistol Pouch- Size 9**  
\$24.95

Padded inside pockets will hold a full size Auto & 4 Mags.

**Mini Range Bag**  
\$45.95

Padded inside pockets will hold two full size Autos & 8 Mags.

**Belt or Clip Holster with Mag. Pouch**  
\$21.95 each

Over 150 styles/sizes available

**Competition Gun Cover** \$12.95

Protects holstered USPSA (all divisions) handguns from the prevailing elements (dirt & rain)

**1-800-950-8181**

Dept. AH, 2731 Sutton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63143  
Shipping & Handling: Under \$39 add \$6, over \$39 add \$9, COD add additional \$5.50, US Mail and UPS ground USA Only

irrelevant what the real facts are, whether guns are used for more good than harm, whether the Second Amendment does or does not affirm an individual right to own and carry arms.

We sidestep all of that. By focusing on feelings, we take perception as reality, and we are in the realm where my opponent at Cato wanted us to be: Each of us has our feelings about the issue and they are all of equal worth; so it is nothing more than a battle of conflicting wills in which the majority rules and may enforce its rules upon the minority for the sake of the majority's peace of mind.

**By passing laws based on fear and division, we perpetuate fear and division.**

Suppose we applied that philosophy to our segregation example, that we simply accepted the fact that whites had these sentiments and then enacted zoning laws on that basis. Notice what would happen. We would indeed alleviate whites' worries about African-Americans living in their neighborhoods. However, instead of eliminating misunderstanding, fear and racism, we will have institutionalized and entrenched them.

We will have erected barriers to understanding and entrenched a division among people. In other words, by passing laws based on fear and division, we perpetuate fear and division. Instead of possibly freeing people from their misconceptions and misapprehensions, we solidify them and, in fact, remove the conditions under which true personal growth and rapprochement are possible. It is as true with guns as with the color of men's skins.

Passing laws based on sentiments will indeed reinforce those sentiments, and flatter, benefit and buttress the peace of mind of those who desire such laws, but at the price of creating a state of perpetual war with men of opposing sentiment. Only laws based on ethical principles of universal degree will avoid the institution of this form of civil war, but those who are ruled imperiously by their sentiments readily mistake them for the True, the Good and the Beautiful, and are eager to extend their sway over others at the point of a gun. It is a bad road to travel, but it seems to be the one we are on.



Jeff Snyder is the author of *Nation of Cowards—Essays on the Ethics of Gun Control*, available from Accurate Press (1-800-374-4049). He can be reached at [jsnyder@ekks.com](mailto:jsnyder@ekks.com)

**BROWNELL'S CATALOG** Everything You Need To Work On Guns

ALL NEW FOR '01

Repair, Customize and Personalize Handguns, Rifles and Shotguns Now!! Includes 146 Pages of Factory, Original-Equipment Parts

29,000 In-Stock Items  
Tools, Jigs, and Fixtures To Build and Repair Handguns, Shotguns and Rifles - Hot and Cold Bluing - Parkering - Bake-On Finishes - Color Case Hardening, Checkering - Books - Wood Stains and Finishes, ACRAGLAS® Bedding Products, Competitor Plus® Slings, Sights, and Scope Mounts.

444 Page Catalog only \$5.00 (\$10.00 Overseas), refundable on first order. FREE to full and part-time gunsmiths or any other business; discount pricing available. Everything we sell is 100% GUARANTEED - Period.

Brownells, Inc., 200 S. Front St., Dept #108, Montezuma, IA 50171 Orders: 641-623-4000  
Master Card / VISA / Discover / COD / Check [www.brownells.com](http://www.brownells.com) Fax: 641-623-3896

The Brands You Want and Need: Ahrends - Birchwood Casey - Brown - BoMar - Choate - Clark - Colonial - Dewey - Douglas - Davis - EGW - Hogue - Kings - Leupold - Marbles - Michaels - Millett - Novak - Pachmayr - Power - Redfield - Shilen - Timney - Weaver - Weigand - Williams - Wilson and More.

**Shoot LEAD out of your Glock**

Convert your 40 S&W caliber to .357 sig on most Sig, Glock, Beretta and Taurus pistols.

Barrels available for Browning HP & Colt 1911 pattern. (All Colt barrels are available with any style integral ramp cuts).

BAR-STO barrels are the standard by which all others are measured.

Colt • Glock  
Sig Sauer  
H&K USP  
Beretta  
Taurus  
S&W

**Bar-Sto Precision**  
P.O. Box 1838  
29 Palms, CA 92277  
760.367.2747  
760.367.2407 fax  
[barsto@eee.org](mailto:barsto@eee.org)

For a catalog send \$5 or order direct at [www.barsto.com](http://www.barsto.com)

**FLORIDA'S PREMIER SHOOTING ACADEMY!**

**UNIVERSAL Shooting ACADEMY**

Intensive personalized training in all aspects of practical shooting. Each course is designed to accommodate all levels; beginners, intermediate or advanced shooters wishing to increase their skill, confidence, knowledge and performance in handgun speed shooting.

Each course is taught by international and U.S. champion pro shooter Frank Garcia. The academy is located in the heart of central Florida near Walt Disney World and other major attractions. Courses limited to four students per class. Classes available all year. Website: [www.frankgarciausa.com](http://www.frankgarciausa.com)

**UNIVERSAL SHOOTING ACADEMY**  
4300 Highway 630 East / Frostproof, FL 33843  
863-635-3425 / Fax: 863-635-5277



## TAFFIN TESTS

Continued from page 42

holster include the Cheyenne, Russell, Montanan, Kansas, Utah, Colorado and Texas. Each area had its custom leather workers who made slight changes in the original design by using one or two loops, wide or slim loops and leaving more or less trigger guard exposed.

I recently traded into an SAA .44 Special that was really special. The finish is nickel with a blued cylinder and barrel, 5½" in length; the grips are heart-stoppin' gorgeous, made of milky, one-piece ivory. The barrel is inscribed "Colt Frontier Six-Shooter (Bisley Model)."

However, I knew from the serial number that this is a Second Generation SAA manufactured in 1960, while the barrel is a .44-40 from a Colt Bisley Model that has not been made since 1912. Somewhere along the line, this old Colt was probably fitted with a .44 Special cylinder and the Bisley .44-40 barrel. It works fine, because .44-40 barrels from Colt have always been cut the same as their .44 Special barrels. The final result is a great-shootin', great-lookin' sixgun.

Such a sixgun needed a great scabbard and belt. A look through Rawhide Walt's catalog revealed a most attractive Cheyenne loop holster that he calls the Colorado. This single-weight holster and belt are finished with a stamping design that Walt came up with that resembles basketweave. The pattern looks more like connected oval spots.

The belt and holster have both been stamped with this unique design and then accented with border stampings. The holster is finished off with two small conchos at the back edge of the holster loops. It's attractive and practical leather for cowboy shooting, woods bumming, hunting or whatever.

When I examined the Ostin rig, it brought forth emotions from my childhood, when I watched *The Lone Ranger* on TV. Clayton Moore used several similar, but slightly different, rigs in his role as the Lone Ranger. (Moore, by the way, was a pretty accomplished sixgun handler.)

The first rig was used by radio Ranger Brace Beemer in his public appearances and then by Moore in the late 1940s; the second carried Moore's matched .45s from 1950 to 1956; and the final rig was used from 1956 on. All three rigs look identical until examined closely.

Ostin has replicated the third rig, complete with floral carving, black finish and all the silver adornments. The beautiful silver on this rig was custom crafted by Conrad Anderson. These rigs were all fashioned long before the advent of the modern fast-draw sport-rig with its metal lining.

The holsters themselves are of the

## FOBUS ELITE HOLSTERS



Cuff Case \$17.99



### FEATHER LIGHT DESIGNED FOR THE ISRAELI ARMY

Now a concealment holster with no springs, snaps, screws or adjustment devices to loosen. Made from special high density polymers injected into expensive precision molds. Hip hugging, high riding, low profile with unbelievable retention,

comfort and less than half the weight of other holsters (1.8 to 2.2 oz.). Impervious to hot or cold weather. Made especially for the model listed. Lifetime warranty for wear, replacement by FOBUS or refund from the point of purchase.

Belt and paddle holsters \$19.99 and up. Left hand \$27.99, mag pouches single \$17.99, double belt or paddle \$19.99. Made for Glock, H&K, S&W, Beretta, SIG, Govt 1911 and similar, CZ and Ruger, PPK/S, Makarov. More in the works.



**FOBUS USA INC.**

1300 B3 Industrial Hwy., Southampton, PA 18966  
TEL: (215) 355-2621 • FAX: (215) 322-9223  
[www.fobusholster.com](http://www.fobusholster.com)

## VELOCITIES 1800+ FPS

Dick Casull has done it again...

### THE NEW .38 CASULL

POWER • VELOCITY • ACCURACY



Custom 6" Casull 1911... Built to exacting tolerances



ORDER THE .38 CASULL NOW!

307.886.0200

PO Box 1629  
Afton, WY 83110  
[www.casullarms.com](http://www.casullarms.com)





## Swords of the Samurai!

The sword has defined the warrior, his honor, virtue, and his responsibility, for thousands of years. Nowhere has the sword been given such cultural precedence as with the Samurai of ancient Japan. The sword, and the combative skills that define its use, was held in the highest esteem, indeed the sword defined the culture of the Samurai. The strength, beauty, and cutting ability of the Samurai blade is legendary. At Bugei Trading Company we offer the widest selection of quality, fully functional, Samurai swords and related items available anywhere. We use and test every sword that we sell and know from personal experience their quality and performance. Please visit our website at

<http://www.bugei.com>

or call

**1800 437-0125**

to order our 100 page full color catalog (\$5.00 refundable with your first purchase) or to receive our free sword brochure.

**Bugei Trading Company, Inc.**  
1070 Commerce St. Ste 1  
San Marcos, CA 92069  
1 800 437-0125  
outside U.S. 1 760 736-4785  
<http://www.bugei.com>  
fax 1 760 736-9225

Mexican Loop style, but the part of the holster designed to house the bottom of the trigger guard has been sewn to the holster itself, so the complete trigger guard rides outside the holster for a faster draw.

## Kirkpatrick Leather

Going back even further in history, we find the rigs offered by Kirkpatrick Leather Company. Kirkpatrick has been offering law enforcement leather for over 30 years and is now also heavily into Old West reproductions. Their catalog contains more than a dozen examples of such rigs, plus many double rigs, that is, rigs with two holsters.

When I was contacted by Mike Kirkpatrick and furnished with a catalog, the rig that really caught my eye was the Model 1865 Prospector. As I acquire various rigs from custom crafters, I try to get something just a mite different each time. The Model 1865 consists of California Pattern, or Slim Jim, holsters that were popularized first in California during the 1850s. Most Slim Jims are made to hang at a crossdraw angle; however, this rendition features two matching holsters that hang straight.

Two of my favorite cowboy shooting sixguns are a pair of Ruger Vaqueros, stainless, fitted with stag stocks and chambered in .45 Colt with 7½" barrels. When I shoot both Traditional and Blackpowder classes in the same match, these sixguns are my first choice, as they both shoot to the same point-of-aim with 950 fps smokeless loads and full-house blackpowder loads. The stainless finish also makes blackpowder cleanup all that much easier after the match.

These are heavy sixguns and when mated with a heavy double rig, it makes for a long day. Kirkpatrick's Model 1865 is made of double leather, but it's lightweight, with a cartridge belt that is 2" in width. The holsters, which have no extra leather to add weight or bulk, also ride high, out of the way, not interfering with a smooth draw. This rig has now been worn through six matches, and it continues to be a favorite.

After finding how comfortable the 1865 was when used with my Ruger Vaqueros, I ordered a second set. The first is black and floral-carved, so the new rig was ordered in a tan basketweave finish, with a belt sans cartridge loops. The holsters were fitted to the 1860 Army Colt .44 for true blackpowder competition. Without cartridges, this quality rig is even easier to wear all day.

## Pleasant Valley

It was recently my good pleasure to examine the work of Dusty Johnson, of the Pleasant Valley Saddle Shop. Johnson is a saddle maker and holster crafter of the highest order, plying his trade from the mountains of Colorado. Every leathermaker worth his stitching needle finds his own niche and

## KIRKPATRICK LEATHER COMPANY

Manufacturing Quality Leather Since 1968

**"Marshall"**  
\$340.00  
plus \$8.00s&h

**NOW ON THE INTERNET**

**"Santa Fe"**  
\$245.00  
plus \$8.00s&h

For catalog send \$5.00 to:  
P.O. Box 677GM  
Laredo, Tx 78042  
or call us at 1(800) 451-9394

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

**GT TARGET STANDS**

- 4 stands w/ carrier \$90.00
- 6 stands w/ carrier \$120.00
- 12 stands w/o carrier \$216.00

- New style folding paper target stand
- Stacks
- 3 lbs. ea.
- All steel
- MIG welded
- Available online
- Available with a handy carrier for easy transport

610-287-5868  
4-8 pm EST  
[www.gttargets.com](http://www.gttargets.com)

**Colt • Glock • Taurus  
Sig • H-K USP • Beretta**

**Glock w/fully supported chambers  
Shoot Lead in your Glock**

**Convert 40 S&W to 357 Sig  
Convert 45 to 400 CorBon,  
45 Super, 40 Super**

**Beretta w/ or w/o front bushing  
Threaded & ported barrels**

**An industry standard for 20+ years.**

**Jarvis, Inc.**

1123 Cherry Orchard - Hamilton, MT 59640  
(406) 961-4392  
Catalog \$3.50 or order online at:  
[www.jarvis-custom.com](http://www.jarvis-custom.com)





## GLOCK PRODUCTS

### NEW Aluminum Glock Trigger

- Titanium Strikers
- Titanium safety plungers
- Aluminum & Stainless magwells
- Aluminum & Stainless +5 Mag Pads
- Stainless captured and non-captured guide rods

### NEW CATALOG

4445 Commerce Dr. W1  
Buford, Ga. 30518  
800-804-5399  
770-831-2552  
<http://www.lspi.com>

## Preferred by Professionals!

### Same Day Installation!

- #318 Glock Slant PRO™  
Straight Eight Sights ....\$149.95
- #335 Sig Slant PRO™  
Straight Eight Sights ....\$151.95
- #355 Kimber Slant PRO™  
Straight Eight Sights ....\$165.95

Subject to inventory on hand. Includes sight, installation, return shipping and insurance. RETURNED NEXT DAY AIR!

**Heinie**  
Specialty Products  
*the choice of professionals*

301 Oak Street • Quincy, IL 62301  
Toll Free: 1-877-SIGHTS1

1-877-744-4871  
[www.heinie.com](http://www.heinie.com)



Johnson's is "legends of the Wild West," or Hollywood holsters.

His offerings are not replicas of any particular Western star, but rather a blending of the type of rig worn by such as the king of the cowboys, Roy Rogers, and the fast-draw, metal-lined, drop-loop holsters that came out of the shop of Arvo Ojala in the 1950s.

Johnson readily admits he is somewhat flamboyant, as he makes only Buscadero-style rigs with drop-loop holsters and silver spots and will not make a plain rig. His credentials contain the fact that his teachers along the way have been Bob Brown, who made much of the B-Western movie leather during the 1930s and 1940s, Arvo Ojala, who invented the Hollywood drop-loop holster, and the near-legendary John Bianchi.

Those old Western holsters designed by Bob Brown were lightweight and rode rather high. Johnson's rigs combine the ideas of Brown with those of Ojala, as his holsters are metal-lined and ride much lower for an easier draw. Whether finished with basket stamping, geometric patterns or floral carving, Johnson's rigs are extremely eye-appealing. In fact, the rig I had on my desk for several days became the main attraction in my office, after which my wife had to take it to work so all the truck drivers could see it. The rig created a great deal of traffic in her office, also.

Johnson uses one basic design, but the permutations of the embellishments make each rig a truly custom affair. Silver holster buckles, conchos, belt buckles, silver spots and names or initials carried out in silver can all be varied for many possibilities.

Colors run from tan to black to a combination thereof, and every rig is finished with saddle oil for long life, even under hard usage.



Walt Ostin's work is top-notch and highly recommended. He can be contacted at Custom Gun Leather, 1260 Fisher Rd., RR #2, Dept. AH, Cobble Hill, BC Canada VOR 1LO; phone: (250) 743-9015.

If you are interested in quality silver ornamentation to fancy-up any leather, custom silversmith Conrad Anderson is at P.O. Box 153, Dept. AH, Paulden, AZ 86334; phone: (520) 636-0401.

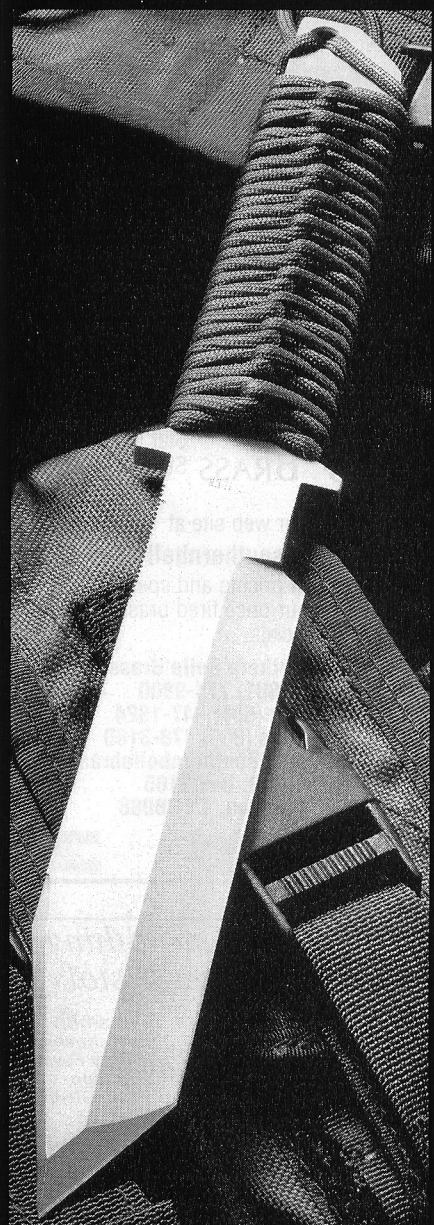
Readers can find Kirkpatrick Leather at P.O. Box 3150, Dept. AH, Laredo, TX 78044; phone: (956) 723-6631.

Dusty Johnson can be contacted at Pleasant Valley Saddle Shop, 1220 S. County Rd. 21, Dept. AH, Loveland, CO 80537; phone: (970) 669-1588; website: [www.pvsaddleshop.com](http://www.pvsaddleshop.com).

For catalogs from any of the above-mentioned artisans, please send \$5 to cover the cost of printing and mailing.



## HIGH SPEED TOOLS FOR Hardcore INDIVIDUALS



### STRIDER KNIVES

120 N. PACIFIC ST #L7, SAN MARCOS,  
CA 92069. TEL: (760) 471 8275

STRIDERGUYS@STRIDERKNIVES.COM  
[WWW.STRIDERKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.STRIDERKNIVES.COM)

PHOTO BY: ICHIRO NAGATA



**GAGE**  
GUN LEATHER  
& ACCESSORIES

The ultimate concealment  
in handgun leather



Western Belts, Ranger Belts, Dress Belts  
Send \$4.00 for color catalog  
110 Colbath St., Las Vegas, NV 89110  
Fax 702/459-6569  
or call Monday-Friday, between 9-5 P.T.

**702.459.2234**

**SOUTHERN BELLE BRASS**

A full line distributor for  
Zero Bullets,  
Star Bullets,  
Starline New Brass.

Check out our web site at  
<http://www.southernbellebrass.com>  
for the latest pricing and specials!  
Ask about our one-of-a-kind red brass and  
monthly specials.

**Southern Belle Brass**  
(901) 774-9800  
Fax: (901) 947-1924  
orders (800) 478-3160  
E-mail: [vicky@southernbellebrass.com](mailto:vicky@southernbellebrass.com)  
P.O. Box 2165  
Cordova, TN 38088



*Custom Gunsmithing  
in .22 Target Pistols*



Gunsmith to:  
Doug Koenig  
Mickey Fowler  
Ken Tapp  
Frank Glenn

Send \$2.00 for Catalog

**FALCON MACHINING LTD**  
16402 N. 56th Place  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254  
602-482-7333



## AYOOB FILES

Continued from page 46

The first responding cop was San Bernardino County Deputy Danielle French, a brand-new officer who nonetheless gathered the facts expertly. A description of the three black male perpetrators and their vehicle was quickly broadcast to all law-enforcement officers in the area.

Moments later, Senior Deputy James Morgan, 32, of the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department, spotted a red 1987 Hyundai Excel with three occupants, one driving and two in the backseat. He saw the car pull onto the I-15 on-ramp as if to evade him. Morgan spun the wheel of his Ford Crown Victoria patrol car to follow them. We lapse now to real time.

Coming down the steeply curving on-ramp, the red car slows almost to a stop. Still not certain he has the right vehicle, Morgan has grabbed the radio microphone and is about to key it when two men lean out the open rear windows of the Hyundai. Each extends a large auto pistol one-handed, aiming at eye level.

Morgan ducks as they open fire, *bam-bambam*, a rapid fusillade of some eight shots. Two 185 gr. Winchester Silvertip .45 slugs punch through the windshield, missing him but spraying him with stinging glass fragments. A flurry of 9mm bullets drill into the cowl at the front of the patrol car.

Then the red car accelerates, and Morgan follows, ducking down behind the dashboard as he radios the location and the fact that he is under fire and in pursuit. Radio traffic is all but drowned out as, from as far as 30 miles away, other deputies excitedly report that they are responding.

The chase continues, at speeds of 70 to 90 mph. Glass fragments from the bullet-pierced windshield continue to dislodge, biting into his hands and face. Morgan is still the only car behind them, although he knows other units are racing to join the pursuit.

SBSD has one of the largest air wings of any U.S. police department and one of the few whose observers are trained to end running shootouts with air-to-ground fire. However, none of the helicopters are in the immediate area, and high winds prevent more remotely available units from reaching the scene in time.

### Major Firepower

More shots are fired. Morgan aches to shoot back. He sorts out his options logically and realizes it isn't the thing to do. He's carrying a personally-owned SIG P-226 9mm pistol, and a Remington 870 12 gauge is racked to his dashboard.

His trunk contains the department's standard-issue Ruger Mini-14 .223 rifle and, since Morgan is an on-call sniper for the SWAT team, his own .308 precision

CALL FOR FREE CATALOG

**Caspian**  
ARMS LTD.



14 North Main Street, Hardwick VT 05843  
PHONE 802 472-6454 • 802 472-6709 FAX  
8 AM - 5 PM Monday - Friday

**H.G.H.**

- Human Growth Hormone
- Insulin Growth Factor
- Testosterone

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

- Enhance Muscle Size
- Increase Strength
- Decrease Fat
- Reverse Aging

**SAFE & LEGAL**  
by Mail Order  
**Anabolic Chem Labs**



rifle, a finely scoped Tikka capable of minute-of-angle accuracy. Realistically, though, he can't deploy any of them while driving at this speed.

The crooks and the cop pass one car containing a husband, wife and young son, the boy staring out the window in wide-eyed wonder at the blazing chase. Morgan realizes that the gunmen are about to shoot at them, and the little boy is in the line of fire.

## Gunmen hang out either side, firing at him again.

Morgan swerves to the left to draw the crooks' fire away from the family's car. The driver of the getaway car cuts to the right to give his cohorts a better angle of fire at the deputy. Morgan ducks pistol bullets again.

The cars veer onto the 395 exit, heading toward Palmdale, and Morgan realizes other police cars have caught up and joined the chase behind him. Until now, his only lifeline to others has been the radio connecting him with his cool, competent dispatcher, Rodey O'Keefe.

One of the other officers, SBSD detective Mike Steele from the Hesperia station, tries returning fire. He empties his S&W .45 auto, but none of the bullets hit the fugitive sedan. The gunmen open fire on the officers again.

The vehicles are now on a secondary two-lane highway called Phelan Road. The chase comes to a deep dip in the road. Morgan loses sight of the suspects momentarily, and, as he comes over the crest of the hill into the dropoff, he realizes they have slowed to ambush him.

## Crips Ambush

Gunmen hang out either side, firing at him again, one in such a tight Weaver stance that it seems from Morgan's visual perspective that he must be holding a rifle. Jim ducks again as bullets hit his car, this time tearing into the undercarriage. For the first time, it occurs to him that he is awfully close to death.

He pictures his wife and young daughter. He knows that if he pulls over now and stops chasing them, with his vehicle shot to pieces, no one will blame him. But he also knows that if these dangerous men get away, they'll terrorize others, perhaps kill other cops.

Right now, he's in the best position to stay with them and stop them. "In for a penny, in for a pound," he thinks to himself. He continues the pursuit.

Over the radio, Morgan hears that brother officers are "setting up" at Sheep Creek Road, which is coming up fast. In moments, as they approach that intersection, Morgan can see unmarked cars at

# NEWEST 'DIMENSION' IN PROTECTION



**PRO-EARS™ 'D1', 'D2' & 'D3':**

- Best sound quality ever
- Fastest 'Attack Time' - less than 2 milliseconds
- DLC™ protects without shutting off
- Harmful noise levels are kept below 70dB, sounds below 70dB are amplified up to 8x normal hearing. Every sound is heard even at great distances.
- Stereo for directional sound detection
- Lightweight/Comfortable
- 200 hour batteries/5' Year Warranty
- Input/Output capabilities - D2 & D3 only
- D1 from \$219\* - D2 from \$256\*

**PRO EARS®**

**DIMENSION SERIES™:**  
The World's Most Advanced Line of Electronic Hearing Protection/Amplification Systems

**STAY ON TOP OF YOUR GAME WITH PRO EARS DIMENSION!**  
The Choice of Champions™

For more info or TO ORDER call  
**1-800-891-3660 (MC/Visa)**

**RidgeLine, Inc**  
101 RidgeLine Dr. • Westcliffe, CO 81252  
phone: 719-783-4161 • fax: 719-783-4162  
email: sales@Pro-Ears.com • online: www.Pro-Ears.com

## OSO GRANDE KNIFE & TOOL

Quality Guns, Knives & Tactical Gear At Discount Prices!



WE SHIP INTERNATIONAL! Visit our website: [www.osograndeknives.com](http://www.osograndeknives.com)

INFO: 760-747-4600 ORDERS ONLY: 1-888-OSO-6050 email: sales@osograndeknives.com  
SEND \$5.00 FOR OUR 106 PAGE CATALOG (Refundable With Purchase) P.O. BOX 462945 - ESCONDIDO, CA 92045



# Nowlin™ "Match Classic"™

Guaranteed to shoot UNDER 1.0" @25 yards

"...The reliability and accuracy are amazing!"-

**Bruce Piatt**  
National Champion



**\$1295**

Forged frame & slide  
Match Barrel  
Precision hand fit

**Shoot with the Champions**  
8 World Championships, 21 National Titles

20622 S. 4092 Rd. Claremore, Ok. 74017 Email: [Nowlinguns@msn.com](mailto:Nowlinguns@msn.com)  
Ph- (918) 342-0689, FAX- (918) 342-0624 Web: [www.Nowlinguns.com](http://www.Nowlinguns.com)



Send \$3.00  
For catalog



Bianchi Cup -1st

**\$190**

Pre-fit

9mm, 38-S, 9x23, 40SW, 45ACP

**Winning Accuracy!**

## Problem

You're working undercover on a dangerous assignment and, a small revolver becomes the only weapon you dare to conceal. The factory grips don't provide the comfort or confidence that's needed to defend your life.

## Solution

Our Secret Service grips are designed to fill your hand without changing the profile of your revolver.

Designed to keep your low profile intact!

Order Direct 800.323.6144

**EAGLE GRIPS**

The World's Finest Handgun Grips  
Eagle Business Center 460 Randy Road  
Carol Stream IL 60188

Rosewood Secret Service  
grips on S&W  
Model 640 **\$39.95**



✓ **CHECK OUT...**

**WWW.GUNSMAGAZINE.COM**

the side of the road and plainclothes officers holding shotguns and Mini-14 rifles.

Jim Morgan knows what's going to happen. The deadly pursuit has covered more than 30 miles and lasted more than twenty minutes, but now the end is in sight.

## Killers at Bay

Morgan is already going for his brakes when he sees the fugitive vehicle run the gauntlet of his brother officers' rifle and shotgun fire, and he is amazed when it survives the barrage and keeps going. It travels another mile before it begins to slow out of control. He would later learn that a .223 bullet had pierced the Hyundai's left rear tire.

The deputy brings the patrol car to a stop on the right side of the road, tilting slightly to the right because of the road surface, as the Hyundai squeals to a stop ahead of him on the left side, next to a culvert. He grabs the Remington 870 from its dashboard lock and throws open his door, only to realize that something large is bearing down on him swiftly from behind.

He ducks back reflexively, the door closing behind him from gravity, just in time to save his life. Had he kept moving forward, he would have been struck and the driver's door torn away by the police car that races past him in a full-locked skid, coming to a stop between him and the offenders.

## Raging Gunfight

As Morgan racks a round of 00 buck-shot into the chamber, many things are happening at once. The deputy sees the left rear door of the suspects' car swing open, and now the moon-faced man is thrusting a big silver pistol up toward him, one-handed, obviously aiming.

Morgan brings the shotgun to bear, trying to aim past the patrol car and— out of the car now himself— moving to the right to get a safe angle to fire. He sees the gunman glance around furtively at the long line of police cars that are screaming to a stop, on his right and the deputy's left.

The killer has to see that those cars are disgorging cops with drawn guns. He unquestionably sees Morgan himself, leveling a shotgun in a determined and confident stance. For the first time in his life, the gunman isn't looking at a helpless victim, but at an armed man prepared to kill him.

The gunman lowers his pistol, turns his back on the officers and tosses the still-cocked automatic into the backseat through the open backdoor of his car. His body is a study in contrasts as he raises his hands in surrender to show that he is now unarmed, yet he defiantly walks away from the officers, across the culvert and up the sandy hill on the left side of the road.

Morgan dismisses him. Other officers are closing in on the moving suspect. There are still two more dangerous men



in the car. His shotgun at his shoulder and ready, Morgan moves toward the car.

Conway is the next to exit the Hyundai. He, too, raises his hands to show he is no longer fighting, and walks after his companion toward the high desert hill.

Knowing that brother officers are closing in on this one, too, and that he is nearest the still-dangerous man at the wheel of the getaway car, Morgan turns his attentions there.

The driver is next to exit. Morgan roars a command to halt. The driver ignores the police command and, like his cohorts, walks defiantly up the berm, disappearing from view.

The long line of responding officers moves forward as one, guns up and ready. Some 20 steps up the berm, they come to a level spot where the three outlaws had stopped. They had apparently seen their future and realized it was short: All three had gone to ground and assumed the felony prone position. It is, given their histories, a posture with which they were familiar. They lay motionless only a few feet apart.

### **Meek Surrender**

The sullen, bearded Conway did not resist. Deputies handcuffed him where he lay. A single deputy moved forward and knelt on the prone Robinson's shoulder to stabilize him. Before more officers could reach him to assist, the deputy spotted a Smith & Wesson Model 5906 9mm pistol in the sand, inches from Robinson's right hand and... that hand was creeping toward the pistol!

There was only an instant in which to react. The deputy considered shooting the suspect in the back of the head, but realized how that would look and that a gunshot could trigger a "chainfire" among the many tense officers present with guns in their hands. Instead, he swung his own pistol.

The deputy's Ruger P-85 9mm auto hit Robinson's skull with a solid *thunk*. The top of the downed suspect's head appeared to fly away. One observing deputy thought, "My God, he scalped him!" Robinson slumped, dazed, and drew his hand back from the Smith & Wesson as if it was red hot. He was handcuffed, and the pistol was secured.

Only then did the deputies realize that Robinson, completely hairless due to a disease called alopecia, had been wearing a full Afro wig as a disguise. The deputy's blow had knocked it away from the murder suspect's head.

It was over. Incredibly, no one had been shot. An estimated 35 rounds of 9mm and .45 ACP bullets had been fired at Jim Morgan. Half a dozen had hit his car. None had touched him directly. But a deputy said, "Jim, you're bleeding."

Jim Morgan had always taken every training opportunity he could. He had first studied police survival with me in

# GOT GUNS?

*Secure them in the most advanced and innovative rapid access storage systems available...*

## RIFLELOCKER™

**NEW!**  
Space Saving  
Design

- Mounts securely between standard wall studs
- Low battery indicator
- Tamper alarm
- Backlit key pad entry system
- Industrial grade, 12-volt rechargeable battery for years of trouble-free use

High Security  
"4 Point  
Bolt System"

## GUNLOCKER™

- Key back-up
- Lined with plush, soft material to protect guns

Adjustable  
Holster



**PHOENIX U.S.A. INC.**

**1-800-894-4858 • WWW.GUNLOCKER.COM**



**CALL 1(800)SA2-1911 "the MAG GUIDE people"™**  
when only the **BEST** will do!



**\$74.95**  
**Government Model/  
Officers' Model  
Mag Guide**  
Available:  
Flat/Arched  
SS/BL 20 LPI  
Also Available:  
Grizzly Flat-SS/BL \$89.95



**\$95.95**  
**Full Para Mag Guide**  
(For P14/P16 only)  
Available in:  
Flat/Arched-SS/BL 20 LPI



**\$34.95**  
**Mainspring Housing**  
Available in:  
Gov't Model, Officers' Model,  
all Para-Ordinance 20 LPI  
Flat/Arched-SS/BL  
(P10/P12 flat only)  
(flat smooth available  
for all of the above)



**\$34.95**  
**"E-Z Fit Hi Grip"™ Safety**  
250 radius-Series 70 & 80  
220 radius S70 for Springfield  
"PainSwear" Standard  
(jg available)



**\$34.95**  
**"E-Z Fit Hi Grip"™ Safety**  
(P10 only)  
Available in:  
"PainSwear"-SS/BL Series 80  
250 radius  
(jg available)



**\$99.00**  
**Ambidextrous  
Magazine Release**  
Gov't Model,  
Officers' Model &  
Para-Ordinance, SS/BL



**from \$16.50-\$70.00**  
**S & A Custom Grips**  
Exotic Woods & Micarta  
Available for all of the above  
mentioned firearms



**NEW-Aluminum**  
**Mag Guides & Mainspring Housings**



**SMITH &  
ALEXANDER, Inc.**

Color Catalog Available  
Same Day Shipping COD or CIA  
Plus \$5.00 for shipping & handling  
100% Customer Satisfaction  
Dealers Welcome



P.O. Box 496208 • Garland, Texas USA 75049-6208  
(800) SA2-1911 • International (972) 840-3665  
Fax (972) 840-6176 • Email sa1911@gte.net  
www.smithandalexander.com  
www.smithandalexanderinc.com

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

**PARA-ORDNANCE**



**DAWSON  
PRECISION**  
Team  
Awesome  
[www.dawsonprecision.com](http://www.dawsonprecision.com)

**Makes It AWESOME**

FROM AWESOME OPTIC FRONT SIGHTS TO AWESOME BASEPADS  
**WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR PARA AWESOME**  
VISIT OUR WEB SITE OR CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG  
PHONE (512) 260-2011 FAX (512) 260-2211

### Rock River Arms Basic Limited Match



- Rock River Arms Billet NM frame with 30 LPI checkered front strap, beveled mag well • Forged NM slide, low mount Bomar hidden rear sight, lowered and flared ejection port • Match Commander hammer and match sear • Tuned and polished extractor and extended ejector
- Beavertail grip safety, flat checkered mainspring housing • Aluminum speed trigger with crisp 3.5 lb pull • K&R NM barrel with NM bushing • Checkered slide stop and ambidextrous safety • Rock River Arms dovetail front sight, fully profiled to match radius of slide
- 2 piece recoil guide rod, recoil buff, polished feed ramp, threaded barrel • Deluxe grips, lustrous blued finish, with one mag • Tuned for total reliability, guaranteed to shoot 2 1/2" groups at 50 yds

**BASIC LIMITED MATCH in .45 ACP** ..... Retail **\$1,395** includes FET

### RRA Standard A2 Rifle

CALIBER ..... 223/5.56  
WEIGHT ..... 8.2 Pounds  
TRIGGER ..... National Match Two Stage  
BARREL ..... 20" Chrome Moly, 1-9 Twist  
**STANDARD A2 RIFLE** ..... Retail **\$925**



**Rock River Arms, Inc.** 101 Noble St. • Cleveland, IL 61241  
309/792/5780 • Fax: 309/792/5781  
Website: [www.rockriverarms.com](http://www.rockriverarms.com) • Email: [rockriverarms@revealed.net](mailto:rockriverarms@revealed.net)

Los Angeles in the early '80s, and had graduated from my 40-hour Lethal Threat Management for Police class in Apple Valley, Calif., two months before the shooting. In the latter program, I'd made the point that officers should wear safety glasses at all times, and he had taken me seriously, wearing them ever since.

Morgan's face was covered with tiny cuts from the flying glass. He took off the Ray-Bans that had protected his eyes. Nothing had gotten past them, but the lenses were badly abraded by the hurtling glass particles from the bullet-pierced windshield. Morgan realized that without them, he would have been blinded.

At 90 miles an hour, he wouldn't have been a blind man long before becoming a dead man. The protective lenses had saved not only his eyesight, but his life.

### Epilogue

The fully loaded 5906 that Robinson was kept from reaching had apparently not been fired. The guns he and Conway had fired repeatedly at Jim Morgan were recovered from the backseat of the Hyundai where they had tossed them, still cocked and off-safe, with rounds in the chambers.

One was a blue steel Beretta 92F with Pachmayr grips. It was traced to a murder in L.A. The other was a Smith & Wesson Model 645. It was the latter pistol that had discharged the .45 Silvertips that had come so close to killing the senior deputy.

It could have been worse. Armed with warrants, police soon raided the robbers' lair in Los Angeles. They recovered multiple heavy weapons, including a MAC-10 and a Tec-9 equipped with silencers, an AR-15 mounting an electronic dot sight, and an AK-47.

Conway, Robinson and Jackson were convicted of multiple counts of kidnapping, armed robbery, attempted murder of a police officer and related offenses. With their extensive felony records taken into account, they were sentenced to multiple consecutive life sentences in prison. Jackson turned state's evidence against his cohorts. On the basis of his testimony, Robinson and Conway were subsequently convicted for the murder of the female cashier in the Barstow check-cashing office, and Conway was indicted for three other murders.

Jim Morgan received numerous awards for his heroism. He went on to teach at the academy and to become a team leader of San Bernardino SWAT. At this writing, he is the sergeant in charge of the Sheriff's Department's Firearms Training Center.

A role model for both new and in-service deputies, Morgan encourages them all to wear body armor...and to wear something to protect their eyes whenever they are on patrol. He is living proof of the wisdom of discreetly wearing protective gear when going in harm's way.





## PROFILE

Continued from page 78

Due to its small diameter, a 9x23 case sits high in the magazine, closer to the bore's centerline than a .45 cartridge. The .38 Super is known for its feeding reliability, the semi-rimmed case notwithstanding. The rimless Winchester 9x23 case, which is slightly tapered, chambers and extracts more reliably than the vaunted .38 Super.

And because it shoots so flat, one may download cases to minor power factors for practice without greatly affecting the bullet's point of impact.

### Martial Gun

In any caliber, a Burns Custom 1911 is a simple looking, martial artist's gun. Front straps are typically clean, "Because although checkering looks nice, it doesn't really do anything (which can't be done with other technology) except cost money," Burns admits. Although he is willing and able, Burns doesn't do much checkering.

"It's easy to flatten a diamond, which can be fixed on 20 lpi. But 30 lpi is too delicate for a work gun which might be ground into the pavement while scuffling with a bad guy. Serrations on the front and backstrap help the user retain the gun in bad conditions, and these seem worth the money," Burns stated.

The highest quality parts are standard. "I use Videcki triggers, a match McCormick hammer and sear. Combined with a match McCormick disconnector, these parts produce a durable and crisp trigger, worth every penny," Burns said.

"Many smiths subcontract their barrels, but I use Bar-Sto barrels. The quality is exceptional and worth the wait. I could make more money by having them built with my name on them—and I have—but it's not worth the runaround."

Contrary to the trend, Burns builds 1911s without guide rods. "The gun isn't any more reliable with a guide rod in it. Honestly. It adds weight, which can be good or bad. I put a cap in it and a Wolff 16.5 lb. spring with a Shok Buff behind it, which is fine for major loads," says the utilitarian pistolsmith.

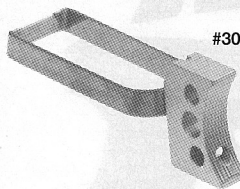
Burns philosophy about "work guns" compels a user to purchase the absolute best pistol he can. "You are betting your life on the gun. Reliability and precise handling are only about a third of the equation, but one cannot avoid spending money on quality parts and workmanship to achieve these goals," he says.

Burns believes another third of any pistol's whole is the magazine. "I've fixed many feeding problems by making the owner buy Wilson mags. I insist on them, and deliver such with each of my guns," Burns said.

The last third is ammunition. "If you want the gun to run reliably and shoot accurately, you have to spend the extra

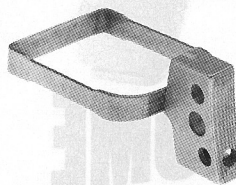
## King's Triggers...Fit, Function, Style

CATALOG NOW ONLINE AT [www.kingsgunworks.com](http://www.kingsgunworks.com)



#301 / KING'S NATIONAL MATCH ALUMINUM TRIGGER.

Lightweight trigger helps prevent unwanted hammer fall with a light pull. Grooved face for control, stainless steel bows, over travel adjustment screw. Requires installation. Available in long and extra long with and w/o holes. Specify length and color. Aluminum, Black & Gold. Aluminum \$18.50, in colors \$20.50

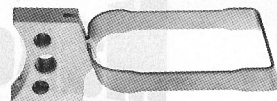


#301PO / KING'S PARA-ORDNANCE NATIONAL MATCH ALUMINUM TRIGGER.

Just for the Para-Ordinance - all models - available in short, long or target length, with or without holes. Specify length and Aluminum or Black. \$29.95



#301GC / KING'S GOLD CUP NATIONAL MATCH TRIGGER. Same features, colors and prices but made to fit Colt Gold Cup.



Shipping & Handling \$5.50 / 24-Page King's Custom Handgun Accessories Catalog only \$2.00 / Dealers Welcome

Call us Tues.-Sat 9am-5pm California time 818-956-6010



**KING'S GUN WORKS, INC.**

1837 West Glenoaks Blvd.,

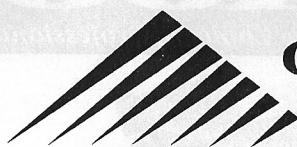
Dept. AH, Glendale, CA 91201

ORDERS ONLY: 800-282-9449

FAX ORDERS: 818-548-8606



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



## Green Mountain Sport Specialties

### The Original Green Mountain Bag

Still the Best !! Only \$139.95

### The Big Bag

All of the features of the Original but bigger!

\$159.95

### The Stage Bag

For just the essentials. \$59.95

30 Day Money Back Guarantee

Lifetime Warranty



SEE OUR CATALOG AND ORDER ONLINE AT

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

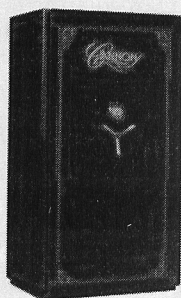
OR CALL TODAY FOR FREE CATALOG

TOLL FREE 1-800-639-1892

Green Mountain Sport Specialties

PO Box 1842, Longmont, CO 80502

303.772.7236 Fax 303.772.8224



- ✓ U.L Listed Security
- ✓ Certified Fire Protection
- ✓ Lifetime In-Home Warranty
- ✓ 1" Composite Door
- ✓ Internal Hinge
- ✓ Interior Options That Suit Your Needs
- ✓ 5 High Gloss Color Options
- ✓ Drill Resistant Triple Hard Plate
- ✓ High Security Type 1 Electronic Lock

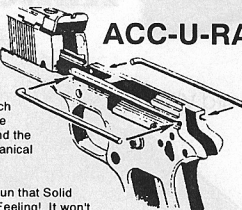
CALL FOR A PARTICIPATING DEALER NEAREST YOU!

1-800-222-1055 Free Brochure!  
Or Check us out at [www.cannonsafe.com](http://www.cannonsafe.com)

## Krieger

COLT • SPRINGFIELD • CASPIAN • PARA ORD.  
STI • VOIGT • All 1911 Copies

A Patented Slide and Frame Tightening System which Improves the Accuracy and the entire Mechanical Functioning



Give your Gun that Solid One-Piece Feeling! It won't shoot Loose Like the Current Method of Bending, Squeezing and Peening

Pistolsmiths Invited

**BOB KRIEGER, INC.**  
Master Gunsmith

2271 Star Court  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
(248) 853-6171

\$215.00 plus  
\$12.50 shipping per gun



www.dawsonprecision.com

# GLOCK

**DAWSON  
PRECISION  
Team  
Awesome**

www.dawsonprecision.com

## Makes It AWESOME



FROM AWESOME OPTIC FRONT SIGHTS TO AWESOME BASEPADS

**WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR GLOCK AWESOME**

VISIT OUR WEB SITE OR CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG

PHONE (512) 260-2011

FAX (512) 260-2211

# The SA58™

**The Only True U.S. Made FAL Rifle – The Choice of Professionals**

### SA58™ Mini FAL

.308 Win Chamber  
Select Fire  
11" or 13" Barrel



### SA58™ Lightweight Carbine

.308 Win Chamber  
Semi-automatic  
or Select Fire  
16 1/4" Barrel



The SA58™ carbine was the Major Caliber winner at the 2000 Three Gun Tactical Match sponsored by Soldier of Fortune at the NRA Whittington Center.

"Our recommendation: Buy it."  
Gun Tests Magazine - July, 2000

Look for other articles featuring our rifles in upcoming publications!

**DSA INC.**  
SYSTEMS - SECOND TO NONE

P.O. BOX 370  
BARRINGTON, IL 60011  
TEL: 847-277-7258  
FAX: 847-277-7259  
www.dsarms.com



**Arizona  
Custom  
Knives**

Howard Viele



Your collection  
is our first priority

www.arizonacustomknives.com

Photo Catalog \$5.  
\$7 Overseas

Jay & Karen Sadow  
Arizona Custom Knives  
8617 E. Clydesdale Trail  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

480.951.0699



cash for the highest quality Winchester and Federal ammunition. Or tune a hand-load to the specific gun," he advises.

Added to any shooting equation are the shooter's physical skills. "The gun won't solve any problems by itself. But it should allow its user to become a better shooter. I typically mill a mild mag well on my guns, rather than adding a spare part to the mainspring housing. I think the shooter ought to learn how to reload without one. The guns are lighter and more comfortable to carry too," he added.

### Test Shooting

One might not expect a "work gun" to shoot as well as the best raceguns, despite similar cost. I can assure you that Dane's guns not only run, but will shoot dime-sized groups at 25 yards— with the right load, of course.

Trigger action is crisp and fast. During testing I was routinely shooting .17 splits on close targets. The 9x23 cartridge recoils sharply backward without the muzzle rise common to a .45 so the sights remain on the target from shot to shot.

Target acquisition with the Heinie Straight 8 sights was rapid, the flat rear surface causing less eye distraction than a Novak. Burns serrates the back of the slide to match the rear of Heinie sights. These serrations cut glare dramatically, even on a hard chromed gun.

I liked Dane's personal gun, kindly loaned for testing, due to its .110" front sight, which covers less of the target. His personal gun also features a proprietary lightened slide made for him by Caspian. Lighter on the hip, the gun's reduced weight also allows it to track faster from target to target and stop on a dime with little inertia to overcome.

Shot-to-shot recoil handling feels like an Open Class racegun, especially shooting minor (or IDPA) loads. It's a sandbagger's dream come true.

Recoil is sharper with factory loads, causing some concern about durability. But Burns recently sold a lightweight model after running over 20,000 full house loads through it, and there was plenty of life left in the gun.

Finally, a Burns Custom Pistol is built to endure. Despite the current fashion of coating guns, and his own liking for black guns, Burns insists on hard chroming pistols for serious use. "Armand Swenson hard chromed all of his guns that went to Southeast Asia in the '60s and '70s and most of them are still around.

"Short of resisting saltwater, hard chrome beats other finishes hands down. You could pass the gun down to your children. And that's what I expect from my work— that it will last," Burns concluded.



Readers can reach Dane Burns at 700 Gilman Ave #116, Issaquah, WA 98027; phone: (425) 391-3202; fax: (425) 391-3139; website: www.burnscustom.com



# GUNNY SACK

By Charles E. Petty

## LEWIS LEAD REMOVER

**T**his wonderful tool seems to have been around forever, but I am amazed at the number of young shooters who have never heard of it. If you shoot lead bullets, the odds are that you'll need one someday.

Leading is almost always our own fault for trying to push cast bullets faster than we should, but sometimes it's not easy to find a cause. While the word "hardcast" really doesn't tell us much, I'd point out that lead alloys come in a huge variety. Few of us have the ability to measure that sort of stuff.

The Lewis Lead Remover is really a simple product that does exactly what it's advertised to do and has stood the test of time. At first glance, it's a cleaning rod with a rubber tip and a funny-looking patch. The patch is bronze screen, and it is *pulled* through the bore. The screen simply scrapes the lead out.

Strings of the stuff precede the patch as you pull it out. You can adjust the ten-

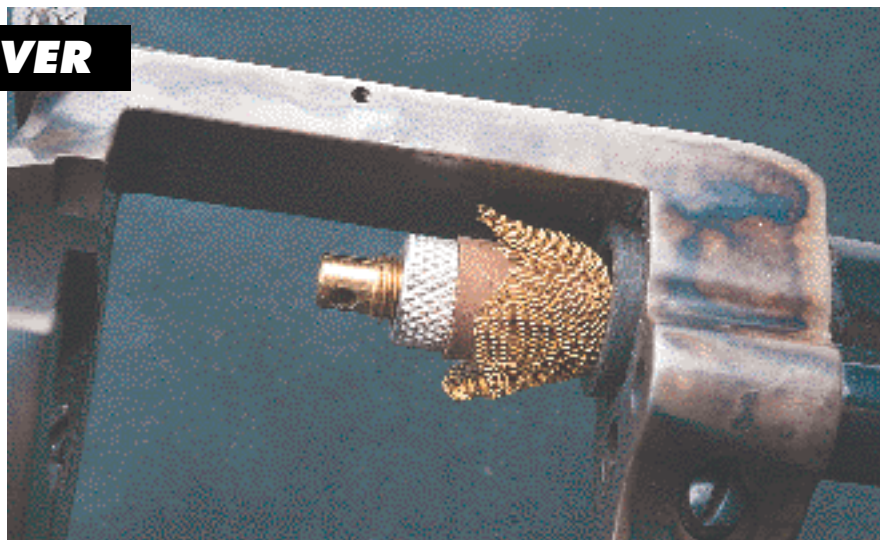
sion on the rubber tip, and it's best to start with a setting that is pretty easy to pull and then, in several passes, gradually tighten it until all the lead is removed. Normally this takes only two or three passes.

All you do is insert the rod from the muzzle, screw on the patch and pull.

The tools are available from Brownells, and many gun shops have them in stock.



For more information contact Brownells Inc., 200 South Front St., Dept AH, Montezuma, IA 50170; phone: (641) 623-4000; website: [www.brownells.com](http://www.brownells.com)



## THE PERFECT SHOT



GUNgrease, the only product of its kind manufactured specifically for use on firearms, is a white lithium-complex extreme pressure grease. Its special formula includes *ProTec's* Anti-Friction Metal Treatment™, a proprietary chemical that significantly reduces friction between moving metal parts by chemically ionizing with metal surfaces. Reduced friction improves firearm performance and prevents wear. Automatic slides and other mechanisms can be easily greased with pin-point accuracy, leaving no mess, through the use of *ProTec's* patented syringe-style applicator. For a perfect shot everytime, GUNgrease is on target!

# PROTEC

FOR THE DEALER NEAREST YOU, CALL:

1.800.843.5649

1747 BARTLETT RD. • MEMPHIS, TN 38134 • 901.377.6888 • FAX: 901.377.7581 • [WWW.PROTECLUBRICANTS.COM](http://WWW.PROTECLUBRICANTS.COM)



# GUNNY SACK

By Charles E. Petty

## WALKER'S GAME EAR

**H**earing protection is the second most important accessory for a shooter. Number one is eye protection. Within the last few years there has been a veritable explosion in electronic hearing protection of every shape and style, but there are some times when conventional earmuffs are just too big.

The Walker's Game Ear looks for all the world like a behind-the-ear hearing aid connected to a foam ear plug. And, like many of today's electronic muffs, it amplifies ambient sound and shuts down when the noise reaches a preset level.

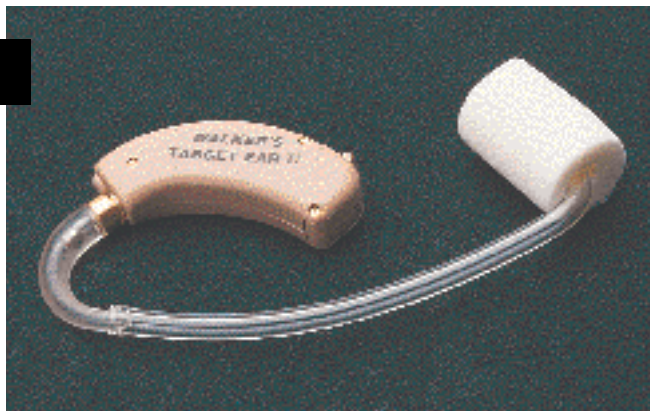
The unit also has AFT (adjustable frequency tuning) which changes the "emphasis" to higher or lower frequencies. My hearing loss is more noticeable at the higher end, and that was easily adjusted. Obviously, everyone will need a period of trial and error to get the adjustment individualized.

The volume control has settings from zero to three, with zero being off. It was


easy to hear the effect of changing the volume. For me, a setting near two provided the most natural sound. At three, there was noticeable amplification up to the point that I heard my own breathing. Again, this is an individual thing.

The Game Ear can be used in either ear, and a solid foam plug is included for the other side. Even though it only weighs a little over 4 ozs., there is a period of "getting used to" for finding comfortable levels and position on the ear. Once that's done, the ear holds it in place nicely.

The instructions include a warning to remove the batteries (#13 hearing aid size) when the unit is not going to be used for a day or two. Smart advice. I found the battery dead after a week



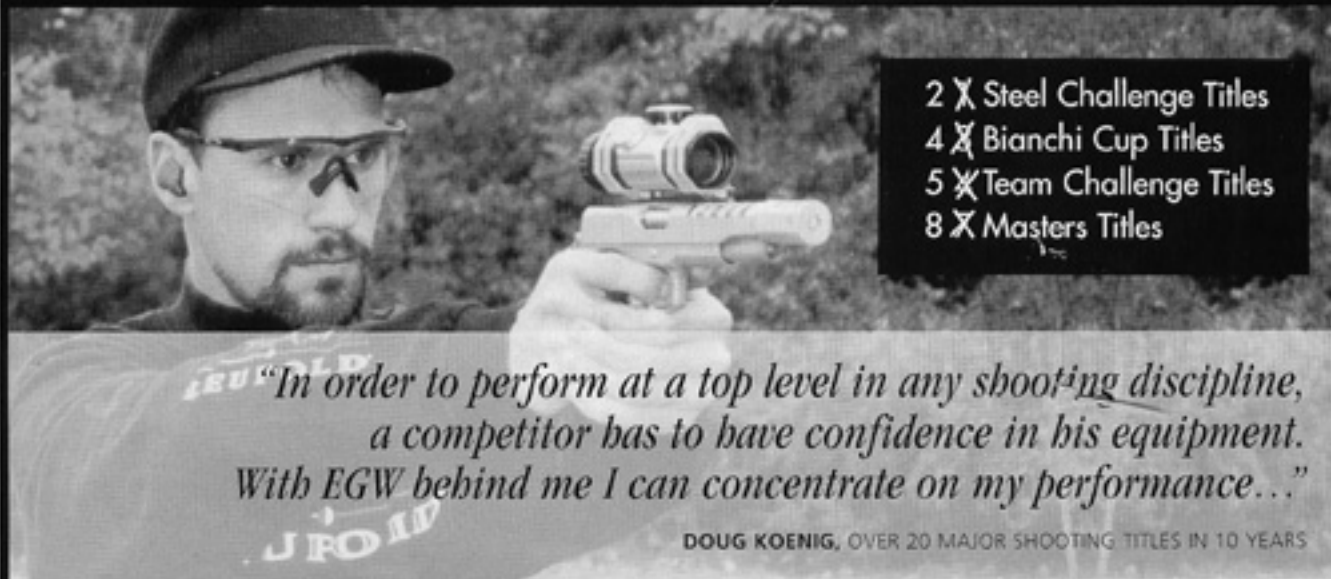
without use, even though the switch was in the zero position.

I only had a chance to use it at the range and found it to be most effective, but I suspect it would be even better in the hunting field where acute hearing is a big plus, but hearing protection is needed as well. 

For more information contact Walker's Game Ear, P.O. Box 1069, Dept. AH, Media, PA 19063; phone: (800) 424-1069; website: [www.walkersgameear.com](http://www.walkersgameear.com)

## Doug Koenig Demands Performance

EVOLUTION GUN WORKS DELIVERS



2 X Steel Challenge Titles  
4 X Bianchi Cup Titles  
5 X Team Challenge Titles  
8 X Masters Titles

*"In order to perform at a top level in any shooting discipline, a competitor has to have confidence in his equipment. With EGW behind me I can concentrate on my performance..."*

DOUG KOENIG, OVER 20 MAJOR SHOOTING TITLES IN 10 YEARS

**EGW**

PHONE 215-348-9892 • FAX 215-348-1056  
4050 SKYRON DRIVE • DOYLESTOWN PA 18901

Custom Work and Quality Parts

EGW accepts VISA, MasterCard and AMEX  
[www.egw-guns.com](http://www.egw-guns.com) • [egw@pil.net](mailto:egw@pil.net)



# GUNNY SACK

By Charles E. Petty

## SPYDERCO SHARPENER

**S**pyderco's Tri-Angle Sharp-maker caught my eye because it looks like it would allow even a moron to sharpen a knife. I freely admit that I'm a klutz when it comes to sharpening knives. My friends who, have grown tired of me showing up with a boxful for them to sharpen in their spare time. *They* will positively love the Sharpmaker.

The best news is that it comes with a 45-minute tape that shows how to sharpen almost anything. Knives, both plain or serrated, scissors, shop tools and even darts can be sharpened with the multitude of configurations available. The unit comes with four triangular sharp stones (two each, coarse and fine) that can be mounted in a variety of positions on the base.

When you start with a dull knife, there are four steps using both grades of stone, but once the proper edge is restored,

keeping it is quick and easy.

There are also two smaller brass rods that serve as handguards, and the top provides a good handle. Best of all is that it can be set up for either right- or left-handed users.

I've had a Sharpmaker for several months, and my house is now a danger

zone. For the first time since they were new, all my knives are sharp again.



For more information contact Spyderco Inc. P.O. Box 800, Dept AH, Golden, CO 80402; phone: (800) 525-7770; website: [www.spyderco.com](http://www.spyderco.com)



Wanna' carry ... today?!



LS



VIP



Ranger

STI International, Inc. • 512-819-0656 • Fax 512-819-0465 • E-Mail: [sales@stiguns.com](mailto:sales@stiguns.com) • [www.stiguns.com](http://www.stiguns.com)



# GUNNY SACK

By Charles E. Petty

## SPEER COWBOY BULLETS

**W**hen a company markets a product and tells you how wonderful it is without much other information, they are really saying, "Trust me." In a country where a majority would probably complete that phrase with, "I'm from the government and I'm here to help you," there may be a tendency to raise a red flag and sniff the air carefully for strange odors.

Very little information is available about Speer's new Idaho Territory swaged lead cowboy bullets. The proprietary coating that makes them so unique is covered by a strict non-disclosure agreement with the inventor. They simply won't say much about it, except that it is very effective and, in their standard tests for leading, this was the only product that left no lead behind.

Speer is one of the most helpful companies I know, so if they can't talk about something, it's okay with me. My limited experience with these bullets con-

firms their claims.

The lube is a three-layer coating. Just by looking, you can tell that one of those is molybdenum. The coating seems to be relatively hard, and Speer reports that it is so resistant to temperature that the lead inside will start to melt before there is a change in the coating. The coating is applied over a swaged lead bullet.

One of the advantages for cowboy shooters is that the bullet diameter is one or two thousandths larger than normal. The .45 Colt, for example, is 0.454", which comes closer to matching up with cylinder mouths on most older revolvers. There are currently four flat nose calibers available: .38 158 gr. (.358"), .44 200 gr. (.430"), .45 225 gr. (.454") and .45-70 405 gr. (.459").



Some very limited shooting has shown them to be satisfyingly accurate, and they leave the bore quite clean. There was no evidence of reduced bullet pull as is sometimes seen with moly-coated bullets, but a good crimp is still advisable.



For more information contact CCI-Speer, P.O. Box 856, Dept. AH, Lewiston, ID 83501; phone: (800) 666-5761; website: [www.speer-bullets.com](http://www.speer-bullets.com)

## IS IT CUSTOM MADE or BENCHMADE?

One look at the **NEW! Model 690** and you will surely agree that it is as close to custom as you can get in a manufactured knife. An Allen Elishewitz design, the Model 690 clearly typifies Benchmade's unique ability to offer you a higher standard of cutting tool. • Black carbon fiber chemically bonded to rose color Dyamondwood®, then machined into a multi-contoured specimen of hand tantalizing grip. Add that to sapphire-blue anodized double titanium liners with patented modified locking-liner and a custom finished 154CM stainless steel blade. Factor in Benchmade's world-class manufacturing capabilities and you get nothing short of the ultimate "visually wowing" form and function. Manufactured has never been so custom!

Custom design, superior function and manufactured quality come together in a single bold statement of COOL! It's everything you want in a knife—like only Benchmade can.



BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY, INC • OREGON CITY, OREGON  
1.800.800.7427 • MADE IN THE USA

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



## PURVEYOR

Continued from page 71

They go quick! Buck Knives offers a line of Carson-designed fixed blade fighters.

**Pat and Wes Crawford:** Pat Crawford is truly one of the most well-known and highly respected names in tactical knives. He and son Wes build some of the best handmade tactical folders and fixed blades in the biz. His best seller is one called the "Kasper Model," designed by knife-fighting expert Bob Kasper.

**Allen Elishewitz:** Allen is a youngster compared to most in the custom knife industry, but he's been a top 10 tactical folder maker for well over five years now. He's known for his ultra-slick designs and incredible craftsmanship.

**Greg Lightfoot:** This Canadian knife-maker is one of the smoothest designers in the industry. Greg's knife patterns are Zen-like in their flow. His tacticals are extremely well-built and finely finished.

**Ken Onion:** Onion's innovative designs have breathed new life into Kershaw Knives, and his handmades are even nicer. His "speed safe" design turns a conventional folding knife into a switchblade—legally. It has to be seen to be believed.

**Bob Terzuola:** Bob was one of the original tactical folder artisans. Known for his clean design and bullet-proof construction, Terzuola has collaborated with some of the top production knife companies over the years, including Spyderco.

**Brian Tighe:** Another Canadian knife-maker with exceptional design skills. A master machinist by trade, Tighe goes the extra mile when it comes to fit and finish.

**Howard Vile:** Howard's knives seem sharp enough to cut with looks alone. Wicked design and fine workmanship are the hallmarks of this maker's work. He's been around for years, but has vaulted into the tactical spotlight only recently. One look at his knives and you'll know why.

These are just a few of the makers whose work Jay keeps on hand. The list will typically include knives from over 75 different custom knifemakers. In addition, AZCK offers production knives by several of the top tactical manufacturers, including Emerson, Benchmade, Micro-Tech and Mad Dog.

The Sadows stay on top of what's happening in the knife world, traveling to shows across the U.S. Their long relationship with the top knifemakers guarantees they get a good selection of the makers' latest works.

Knifemaker Allen Elishewitz appreciates their hard work. "I met Jay and Karen at my first Knifemaker's Guild Show in 1994. They have been my customers ever since and it has always been a pleasure dealing with them," says Elishewitz. "They bring a fresh perspective in the cutlery industry because they are among the few dealers willing to support new ideas."

introducing the future...



**Prodigy**

**of knifemaking**

PMB 227  
17194 Preston Rd.  
Suite 123  
Dallas, TX 75248-1221

Phone: 972-380-4304  
Fax: 972-398-8751

**ELISHEWITZ**  
custom knives

www.elishewitzknives.com

## "ONLY YOU WILL KNOW"™

The Ultimate in Comfort, Concealment and Versatility

**Fits like a 2nd Skin**



LCS II IN RH & LH FBI FORWARD TILT POSITION



LCSB (LG.) WITH S&W .44 MAG.

LAW  
CONCEALMENT  
SYSTEMS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 861 DEPT. AH-S  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
Credit Card Orders (800) 373-0116  
www.handgunconcealment.com

The **LCSII** ultra-concealment holster was "Born Out of A Need" in 1981 for the law enforcement officer, as a comfortable, reliable and virtually undetectable in the pants holster for under-cover or backup weapons. The **LCSII** is 100 percent handcrafted from top-grade leather and the same holster accommodates all popular revolvers with up to 4" barrels and automatics with up to 1 1/2 inch barrels including S&W .44 MAG. and other revolvers, SIG/SAUER, Colt, S&W, Ruger, Glock 17 & 19, Browning HP, Beretta, Taurus, HK, and Walther 9mm and .45 autos. Also Walther P-38 and P-88, Glock, S&W and Colt .45 & 10mm, and many more.

The versatility of design allows the wearer to position the **LCSII** for right or left hand, straight draw or FBI style forward tilt or cross draw and still have a smooth, fast draw. The **LCSII** is priced at \$54.95 plus \$4.95 for shipping and handling.

The **LCSB** is identical to the traditional leather **LCSII** except it is crafted from black waterproof ballistic nylon and lined with luxurious black waterproof doeskin suede and edge bound for durability, comfort and lasting good looks. And at only \$47.95, plus \$4.95 shipping and handling.

A matching dual magazine pouch for the **LCSII** is \$54.95 and the **LCSB** is \$47.95; (mag pouch also can accommodate a small backup weapon, like the S&W Model 36 or a .380 auto or the Sigma .380 or New Glock 26 or 27). Dealer Inquiries Invited.

Catalog \$3.00

**REMEMBER — "Have The LAW On Your Side"™**  
Call for more info: (425) 391-4931 Fax: (425) 451-3959


**Carter Custom Guns give you the edge!**

Customized for greatest speed, accuracy and performance.

Precision modification of Colt Lightweight Officer or similar models for Police, Military and Professional Duty.

- Match grade barrel with optional Heavy Cone System or custom fitted heavy duty bushing system
- Adjusted and fitted with virtually every outstanding advancement
- Tuned for hollow point ammunition

Free price list on customizing pistols and revolvers.



Phone 870-741-2265  
Fax 870-743-9561

Ross Carter, Pistolsmith, 302 W. Central, Harrison AR 72601



# TOP BRASS

## CHAMPION SHOOTERS

• 2000 Masters Champion  
• 2000 Bianchi Cup Champion  
- Doug Koenig

## CHOOSE STARLINE BRASS.

### WHY SETTLE FOR ANYTHING LESS?


2000 Limited Nationals Champion - Rob Leatham

#### NEW ★ UNPRIMED BRASS

CALIBER	250 PAK	500 PAK	1000 PAK
32 H&R MAG	\$51.00		\$84.00
32-20	65.00		117.00
7.62X35 TOKAREV	61.00		107.00
30 MAUSER	61.00		107.00
380 AUTO	38.00		72.00
9MM	38.00		72.00
9MM L&P	39.50		73.50
9MM	45.00		75.00
9MM L&P	48.00		82.00
9MM L&P	64.00		109.00
9MM WIN MAG	54.50		99.50
9 SUPER COMP (9 x 20)	42.00		71.00
9MM MAKAROV	51.00		89.00
9MM L&P	41.00		77.00
9MM SUPER	49.00		92.00
9MM SUPER	52.50		95.50
9MM SUPER COMP	41.00		77.00
9MM LONG COLT	48.00		77.00
9MM SAW	48.00		77.00
9MM SPECIAL	37.00		67.00
9MM SPECIAL	38.50		68.50
357 MAG	40.50		72.50
357 SIG	58.00		98.00
40 SAW	52.00		95.00
10MM	54.00		97.00
10MM MAG	71.00		125.00
400 COLGON	58.00		104.00
40 SUPER	75.00		128.00
41 MAG	52.00		94.00
414 SUPER MAG	87.50	134.00	232.00
38-40	47.00	75.00	128.00
44-40	35.00	60.00	108.00
44 RUSSIAN	58.00		98.00
44 COLT	82.00		110.00
44 SPECIAL	52.50		95.50
44 MAG	52.00		94.00
445 SUPER MAG	87.50	134.00	232.00
44 AUTO MAG	117.00		195.00
45 AUTO	49.00		89.00
45 AUTO	55.00		104.00
45 SUPER	67.00		114.00
450 HOWLAND	71.00		128.00
45 WIN MAG	71.00		128.00
45 SAW SCHNEIDER	58.00		98.00
45 COLT	54.00		97.00
45 LONG COLT BLANK	N/A		102.00
454 BALL	103.00		189.00
45-70	79.50	143.00	270.00
45-90	168.00	303.00	570.00
45-2.5	174.00	312.00	585.00
50 AE	124.00		208.00

Prices include shipping and handling within the United States except Alaska and Hawaii. Prices are subject to change without notice. TERMS: Payment must accompany order. VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, cashiers check, money order, personal checks accepted. Orders subject to check clearance.

And remember,  
**A GREAT SHOT STARTS WITH STARLINE.**



**Starline**  
Maker of America's  
Finest Brass

1300 West Henry Street • P.O. Box 833  
Sedalia, MO 65301 • 800-280-6660  
660-827-6640 • FAX 660-827-6650  
Visit our World Wide Web site  
at [www.starlinebrass.com](http://www.starlinebrass.com)

I asked Jay his secret to obtaining the right knives that people will want to buy, and he responded, "You have to have a good rapport with the established makers who are in demand all the time, and then you need to be able to spot the up-and-comers who'll be tomorrow's stars. The knife market is constantly evolving—especially in the fast-paced tactical arena—and if you don't stay on top of it, you're going to end up with a handful of knives in your personal collection."

### Established Clientele

AZCK has established a strong and steady client base over the years, primarily through their catalog. Their website, however, has allowed them to reach a worldwide market that wouldn't have been possible a few years ago. While most of the customers are knife collectors, AZCK's list of offerings—from modest pricing to if-you-have-to-ask—also appeals to users who want to buy a hard-use knife without the wait.

**Subscribe to the AZCK list— the education you'll get from reading the knife descriptions is well worth it.**

For those on a budget, the latest catalog, by way of example, includes custom tacticals in the \$300 to \$400 range. If you've got an itch to spend more, the Sadows offer spectacular tactical knives with exotic handle materials and blade steels that run into the thousands of dollars.

If you do nothing more than just subscribe to the AZCK list, the education you'll get from reading the knife descriptions is well worth it. "People tell us how much they enjoy our website. Many tell us they collect our catalogs and use them for reference material. We just smile and shake our heads in wonder that we have earned that kind of respect and recognition in such a relatively short amount of time. But those comments make us work harder to provide the best possible customer service so that we continue to live up to those expectations.

"We're having the time of our lives, but we take our business seriously," says Jay. "Our company motto is 'Your collection is our first priority,' and we live those words daily."



*If you have any interest in collecting nice knives, or buying a hard-working tactical made by one of the top makers, contact the Sadows at Arizona Custom Knives, 8617 E. Clydesdale Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85258; phone: (480) 951-0699; E-mail: [sharptalk@aol.com](mailto:sharptalk@aol.com); website: [www.arizonacustomknives.com](http://www.arizonacustomknives.com)*

## CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMIT BADGE

### EXERCISE YOUR 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS!

You're licensed to carry a firearm for personal protection. You're a responsible citizen who refuses to be a victim. You live in an increasingly violent world and you are prepared to defend yourself, your home, your business and your loved ones. You deserve to own the Concealed Weapons Permit badge. Crafted from heavy gold plate with red, white and blue enamel, this stunning badge sends a serious message. Just \$29.95 + \$4 postage and insurance. Calif. residents, add sales tax. <http://www.bairdco.com>

**THE L.L. BAIRD COMPANY, Dept. HG301,  
1270 West Markham, Perris, CA 92571  
Order by phone 909-943-4180, Fax 909-943-8491**



24 Hour Hotline  
909-943-6769



## HOME DEFENSE

Continued from page 69

If it looks like an errant shot would go through walls and kill innocent people, your options just went down.

You can simply decide, "I won't shoot from here." Unfortunately, the intruder may not cooperate with this policy.

You can decide, "I'll use a very low penetration round, like tiny birdshot." That may mitigate the penetration problem, but that which won't penetrate sheet rock also won't punch through human flesh deeply enough to stop a big, aggressive armed criminal, either.

Or, you can put a backstop in place.

I know people who've bulletproofed their walls. They all had certain things in common: they had already been terrorized once, and they had lots of money. Not too many of us can follow their lead. So, let's look at alternatives.

File cabinets, even sheet steel ones, won't stop much by themselves. If they're packed with printed matter, however, they become backstops for handgun and shotgun rounds. From the side, bullets can slip between the file folders and documents. Position them so that impacts will be front to back.

Densely packed bookshelves can also act as backstops. Naturally, the bookshelves and file cabinets can also act as cover. You want to be where the flat of each book in the stack, not its edge, is between you and the "incoming." Again, you want everything densely packed, with air spaces filled in. You want the material to be at least the full height of the tallest person in your home who's likely to take cover behind it.

Most magazines are about the same size. This produces much more even stacking with fewer air spaces. For use as cover, stack two rows of magazines, and make sure they're tightly packed with the flats toward the predictable angle of opposite fire.

### "Stopping" Power

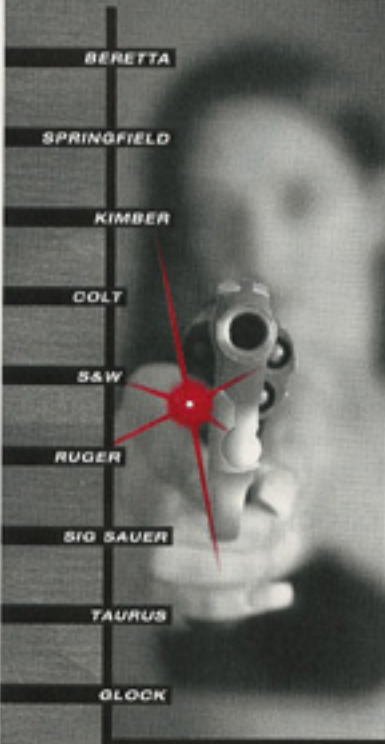
I tested the efficacy of these home-made bullet stops at the range with a stack of paperbacks. I used Winchester ammunition. Winchester's .45 ACP 185 gr. Silvertip invariably mushrooms, and it stays in the human body roughly nine times out of 10, according to a medical examiner who has done 30 to 40 autopsies on people killed with the round. Fired from the 4 1/4" barrel of a Ruger P-90, the .45 Silvertip deformed significantly and stopped 3 3/4" into a stack of paperbacks.

A Winchester USA brand 230 gr. FMJ slug from the same .45 stopped in less than 6"- 5 3/4" to be exact. It showed no deformation. This bullet will usually exit a human body, and can pierce more than two feet of ballistic gelatin.

A 200 gr. .44 Special Silvertip also

# LASERGRIPS®

What to have on your side!




When it comes to defending yourself with a handgun, **LASERGRIPS** are the best option you've got.

**Here's why:**

- Instinctive and instant fingertip control
- Lightning-fast target acquisition
- Repeatable pinpoint accuracy
- Broadened field of vision
- Proven as a less-than-lethal alternative

**Want to know a lot more?**  
Visit [www.CrimsonTrace.com](http://www.CrimsonTrace.com) or call 800-442-2406 to receive our FREE VIDEO\* on Laser Training and Defense Techniques. It'll open your eyes.



A product of the **Crimson Trace Corporation** CTC

\*Free video offer available in Continental U.S. only, while supplies last. © 2002 Crimson Trace Corporation

## Training...



Thunder Ranch Students  
**Richard & Bonnie**

## It's the best thing you can do for those you love."



**THUNDER RANCH, INC.**  
*State of the art Firearms and Tactical training.*  
**VIDEOS AVAILABLE**  
Clint Smith, Director  
HCR1, Box 53  
Mountain Home, TX 78058  
(830) 640-3138  
(830) 640-3183 Fax  
Website: [www.thunderranchinc.com](http://www.thunderranchinc.com)



# GLOCK®



Your source for the finest springs and recoil guide rods for ALL Glock® pistols

W.C. **w l f f** company

**GUNSPRINGMAKERS**

P.O. Box 458, Dept. 401, Newtown Square, PA 19073  
US & Canada toll-free: 800-545-0077 Others: 610-359-9600  
Order from our Web site @ [www.gunsprings.com](http://www.gunsprings.com)

Our complete catalog is available on-line or write or call for a free copy of our latest printed catalog of precision gunsprings for Glock pistols and hundreds of other guns.

Visa, MasterCard & Discover accepted

deformed dramatically and stopped in only 2¼" of the paperback book material. The gun used was a 4" Smith & Wesson revolver.

Next up was the snubnose .38 Special, a Smith & Wesson Model 442. Winchester's SPD load, the 158 gr. all-lead +P SWCHP that earned an enviable reputation when issued by FBI, Chicago, Metro-Dade and the Mounties, penetrated 4½", with some deformation. A 130 gr. SXT round from the same gun went only 3½", and did not expand.

None of these loads needed more than 6" to stop. You don't need the Library of Congress to build a bookshelf that can also serve as a backstop or a cover point. You don't even need books. As noted above, magazines are more likely to be of the same general size and can be packed with less air space. Put them in a cardboard box, tightly packed. Stack the boxes. Voilá: cover and backstop.

## Special Loads

Some special purpose loads make sense for home defense, the hollowpoint .223 being a case in point. Some frangible-bullet handgun loads have been recommended on the theory that they won't go through sheetrock but will vaporize an opponent. Actually, the more effective high-energy versions of these rounds may punch right through if they strike on a perpendicular angle.

The old wisdom used to be to load a nightstand shotgun with birdshot. This is devastating at very close range, but at "down the hall" distance, the pellets may have spread enough that they won't have sufficient penetration into a large, heavily clad intruder.

I would personally go with #1 buckshot (20 .30 caliber projectiles) in a full power 12 gauge load, or reduced-recoil 00 buck (nine .33 caliber projectiles), or #3 buckshot (20 .25 caliber pellets) for a 20 gauge home defense shotgun. Caution: Low recoil buckshot won't feed reliably in all 12 gauge autoloaders.

In handgun loads, hollowpoints geared for optimum penetration make sense for home defense. In many calibers, the Silvertip will be a good choice.

A handy home defense gun is the M-1 carbine. Only one hollowpoint is made for it, Winchester's 110 gr. at 1,990 fps. It's the hands-down choice for this purpose.

Home defense is a lot more about the shooter than the gun or the load. It's about consistent application of technique more than equipment. And it's about proper planning, tactics and mindset more than anything.

The first priority is awareness and preparedness. The second is proper use of tactics. Third comes skill with the safety equipment, which includes— but is not limited to— weapons. Only fourth comes the selection of optimum tools— the guns and ammunition— to deal with the predictable threat.



need a custom knife?

**KNIFEART.COM**  
ARTISTIC CREATIONS



LIGHTFOOT PITBULL EXCLUSIVE \$300

[WWW.KNIFEART.COM](http://WWW.KNIFEART.COM) • 501.221.1616

New!  
**A**CCURACY  
**E**NHANCING  
**T**ECHNOLOGY



Years of research have produced a combination of features never before seen in a pistol barrel, delivering simply unheard-of levels of accuracy and reliability. We believe these A.E.T. barrels are the best 1911 barrels in the world.

All barrels are now available direct from inventory. Please visit our website, or call to get one today.

[www.schuemann.com](http://www.schuemann.com)  
Will Schuermann, PO Box 248, Bingen WA 98605  
541-490-2993

**Save Money—**  
saw your own lumber



**\$4995**  
Portable Sawmill

**Make Money— saw for others.**

- Cut logs up to 28" D x 11' L
- Extra bed sections permit longer lengths
- Easily transportable
- Video available

**Wood-Mizer**

www.woodmizer.com  
800 W. 10th St., Expt. 1781  
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Call for the location nearest you **1-800-553-0219**



# REDHAWK

Continued from page 63

complete with Ruger rings for mounting a 2X Burris LER pistol scope, and a 5½", easy-packin' version. The latter was soon equipped with the easy-to-see, baby-blue Ruger front sight, and, to help soften recoil of some of the loads used, a pair of Uncle Mike's finger groove grips replaced the factory wood stocks. These came in handy when it got to test-firing the Redhawks with 265 gr. bullets at 1,465 fps, 335 grs. bullets at 1,275, and 360 grainers at 1,180.

With the scoped Redhawk, accuracy proved to be exceptional— even more remarkable in light of the heavy trigger pull of 6.25 lbs. Of all the loads tested— five factory loads and 23 handloads, using both cast and jacketed bullets with weights from 250 up to 335 gr.— the average group size for five shots at 25 yards with all 28 loads proved to be just over 1". I call that astounding accuracy.

Factory hunting loads tested included two from Buffalo Bore and two from Cor-Bon. Buffalo Bore's 300 gr. Speer bullet load clocks out at 1,367 fps over the sky screens of the Oehler Model 35P and places five shots in .75" at 25 yards. The Buffalo Bore 325 gr. LBT load exhibits the same accuracy with a muzzle velocity of 1,392 fps. These are not faint-hearted loads! They are for use only in modern, heavy-framed .45 Colt sixguns.

Cor-Bon's serious .45 Colt hunting loads include a 265 gr. bonded core +P at 1,347 fps and a 300 grainer at 1,271 fps. Both loads are right at 1" for accuracy at 25 yards.

These loads are for big-boned, heavily muscled critters. For whitetails, my preferred .45 Colt load is Hornady's 250 gr. XTP bullet over 20 grs. of Alliant #2400. In the 7½" Redhawk, this load clocks out at 1,137 fps and has pinpoint accuracy, with five shots in .875".

The Redhawk has been a popular hunting handgun in its original .44 Magnum chambering. So much so that it was joined rather than supplanted by the Super Redhawk. The Redhawk was simply in too much demand to drop. There is a large segment of the sixgun-shooting population that holds to the idea that anything the .44 can do, the .45 can do better. The .45 Redhawk is definitely for them.

In firing several hundred heavy .45 Colt rounds through the Redhawks, no malfunctions of any kind occurred. This is, of course, exactly what we have come to expect from Ruger sixguns.

We have mentioned that both the .357 Magnum and .41 Magnum chamberings were available in the Redhawk. Both began in 1984 and both were subsequently dropped in 1991. I expect the .45 Colt to have a much longer run.



Handcrafted  
in the  
Milt  
Sparks  
tradition.



## Versa-Max 2

Designed to function as a conventional IWB holster or converts to a Tuckable by simply changing to the included waistband attachments.

(Shown here in Horsehide with optional Shark Trim)

MILT SPARKS HOLSTERS, INC.

605 East 44th #2A, Boise, ID 83714

Phone (208) 377-5577 • Fax (208) 376-7386 • www.miltsparks.com



CATALOGS AVAILABLE FOR \$4.00

## YOUR PROBLEM



## YOUR SOLUTION

CHAPMAN ACADEMY  
DEFENSIVE PISTOL TRAINING



THREE AND FIVE DAY TRAINING  
PROGRAMS

• INFORMATION • (800) 847-0588 •  
• E MAIL • GREENVALLEYHQ@JUNO.COM •  
• 4350 ACADEMY RD HALLSVILLE MO 65255 •

## PALADIN PRESS

Looking for practical information and real solutions for today's world? PALADIN PRESS

publishes books and videotapes on subjects such as: firearms, combat shooting, sniping, military and police tactics, personal/financial freedom, survival, and other subjects on the outer fringes of the First Amendment not found in mall bookstores. **FREE CATALOG.**

<http://www.paladin-press.com>  
1-800-392-2400. Response code: 1GAT



## BO-MAR COMBAT SIGHT

Serrated blade®

Pat. Reg. #1,157,220

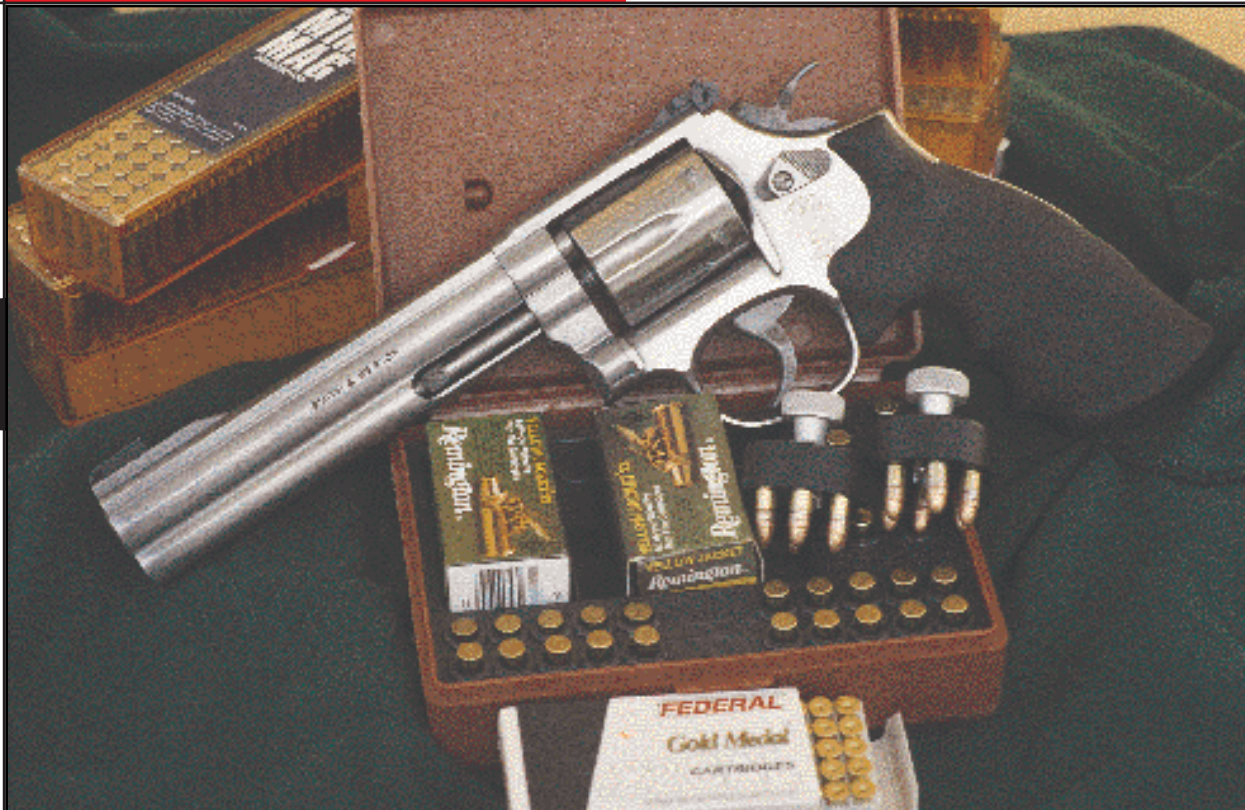
## DOT the i@ with a BO-MAR

• Target • Combat • IPSC • Police •  
• Tactical • Muzzleloaders • IHMSA •  
• USPSA • SRT • IDPA • ETC

[www.bo-mar.com](http://www.bo-mar.com)

Main Distributors: Gil Hebard Guns  
Ph: (309) 289-2700 Fax: (309) 289-2233  
Brownells, Inc.  
Ph: (515) 623-5401 Fax: (515) 623-3896





# A MODERN

BY MIKE CUMPSTON

# MASTERPIECE

**A**s a linear descendent of the K-22, the Model 617 is a particularly interesting member of the family of Smith & Wesson double-action revolvers. The K-22 Outdoorsman was introduced in 1931 and represented the first serious effort to produce a rimfire target revolver on the Military & Police frame.

In January 1942, the K-22 became part of the Masterpiece triumvirate consisting of the K-22, K-32 and K-38. This was a popular set among dedicated bullseye shooters prompting Elmer Keith to remark, "These are as fine target arms as human ingenuity and modern manufacturing methods have been able to produce to date."

The Masterpiece version had an updated rear sight and ribbed barrel. Shortly after World War II, the barrel rib was sized to bring the .22 to the same unloaded weight as the K-32 and K-38.

The current version, rendered in stainless steel, has the ribbed, heavy, under-lugged barrel common to Smith revolvers

## THE MODEL 617 IS A DIRECT DESCENDENT OF SMITH & WESSON'S K-22 MASTERPIECE.

at the turn of the century. The 6" version weighs 45 ozs., a 10 oz. gain over the old Outdoorsman. Weight and overall configuration are nearly identical to several popular variations of the L-frame, the Model 625 and the relatively new, limited production eight-shooters.

While early, hand-fitted Smiths are often credited with having lighter and smoother actions than current production, there is little to fault in my sample. I doubt there has ever been a time when Hand Ejector enthusiasts did not think the basic revolver could stand a bit of tuning. The 617-3 was no exception.

The revolver came from the box with a crisp but heavy 4 lbs. 6 oz. single-action pull. The smooth, double-action pull was between 11 and 12 lbs. I nipped one coil off the trigger return spring. Using a soft wheel loaded with jeweler's compound, I polished the rebound slide, sear and the single-action sear engagements on the hammer and trigger. The entire operation took about 30 minutes and did no mischief to the function or expected service life of the revolver.

The single action let-off now stands at 2 lbs. 12 oz. with a double-action pull of 11 lbs. 14 oz. These values are within ounces



of the trigger pulls on my Smith N-frames, which have received the same treatment.

## Two-Fold Job

The performance capabilities of the earlier K-22s are well known. Keith recorded that the Masterpiece series revolvers are capable of producing 1.5" groups at 50 yards. This was a high standard of accuracy in 1955 and remains so today. My job would be two-fold: Find out if the modern product is a worthy successor to the K-22 of distant memory and, if so, use the new handgun to improve my overall revolver shooting skills.

Prior to performing any serious accuracy evaluations, I invested about 600 rounds on bullseyes, metallic silhouettes and falling plates. I wanted to get a general feel for the revolver and reap whatever benefits there might be in lapping the barrel with a quantity of coated lead. At the beginning, I was shooting the 617 well enough to enjoy the process and, as the round count increased, so did my hit ratios.

My first serious 25 yard bench groups were fired with the factory iron sights. I used 1.5" black bullseyes for one five-shot group each of CCI Min-Mag, Mini-Mag JHPs and Federal Gold Medal Match. The factory target sights were so good that I was able to shoot without my 1 diopter lenses and produced groups of 1.13", 0.97" and 0.91".

Most S&W revolvers now come drilled and tapped for the basic Weaver sight base. At my next range session, the 617 wore a Weaver Quik Point with a 4-minute dot. This sight is about as precise as a pistol scope at 25 yards. Five-round groups with Mini-Mag JHPs averaged out to 1.1" The Federal match loads were extremely consistent, producing groups ranging from .66" to .77" with a three group average of .71".

The repeatable accuracy of the target loads augurs well for X-ring accuracy at 50 yards. Without a doubt, the 617 is capable of better accuracy than this shooter can produce from the bench. The modern K-22 lives up to the standard set by its predecessors.

## All-Around Plinker

Velocities with my favorite hunting load, the CCI Mini-Mag hollowpoints, were within 30 fps of those from a Ruger Competition Model. Not too shabby a comparison since the Ruger has a 7.5" barrel and no cylinder gap. The load is accurate enough for small game shooting at reasonable ranges. It delivers consistent expansion from rimfire handguns ranging from the 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ " barrel Ruger Mk II to the above mentioned Comp Target.

I found the 617 well suited to the long practice sessions needed to refine my double- and single-action shooting techniques. The standard Hogue Monogrips and smooth target width trigger seem ideal for one-hand shooting in both modes.

The 6" barrel has a sighting radius



***It may just be a K-frame, but there's a lot of meat around those .22 caliber charge holes. The 6" Model 617 (45 ozs.) outweighs a 4" Model 629.***



***Accuracy from a box-stock 6" was excellent, averaging .71" at 25 yards. Only 1X though, with all the signs of a flinch. Must have been the wrist-crushing recoil of those Mini-Mags.***

advantage over the 4" and a definite weight advantage over the 51 oz., 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ " version. I chose the six shooter over the 10-shot variation because of availability.

My self-improvement program consisted of shooting the NRA Short Course over and over again. I shot the slow fire target single-action and used double-action for timed and rapid fire. My earliest efforts at double-action bullseye shooting produced a few wild shots out on the edge of the 25 yard centers. After a bit of practice, I managed a few scores in the low-to-mid 90s and produced a 286/300 8X timed fire fairly early in the process.

By the time the 617 had digested 1,200 rounds, my double-action scores were consistently in the middle 90s and I was shooting well within the established time allotment for both timed and rapid sequences.

The modern K-Masterpiece retains all

the finer points of the earlier models. It also presents a number of up-to-date improvements. While I questioned the utility of a heavy, fully lugged barrel, it does seem to add steadiness during double-action shooting. The extra weight did not cause fatigue during long practice sessions.

Active shooters have come to prefer the smooth target trigger to the grooved version of earlier models. It proves to be quite user-friendly for both single and double action shooting. The drilled and tapped top strap allows for rapid interchangeability between the stock iron sights and the full range of optics.

Not only does this add years to the shooting lives of visually-challenged shooters of mature years, but also it demonstrates that the people at 2100 Roosevelt Avenue are not afraid to let the shooting public find out just how accurate these revolvers can be.





**You Can Win A  
RUGER VAQUERO  
"COWBOY REVOLVER"  
From Dave Lauck and D&L Sports**







**D**ave Lauck is not exactly a Johnny-come-lately to the gunsmithing profession. His family has been involved in the gunsmithing business in America since 1750! Dave's shop, D&L Sports, is an established leader in the tactical firearms and training arena. D&L specializes in premium-quality 1911-style autos, precision-tuned Remington and Nesika bolt-actions, Browning Hi-Powers, Ruger MKIIs, Vaqueros, Bisleys and 10-22 rifles, Remington 870 shotguns, Smith & Wesson revolvers, as well as custom AR Sporter rifles. D&L firearms can be customized to client specifications, or provided as custom packages, depending on individual client needs.

Dave is the sole gunsmith at D&L Sports. It is not a production-line shop for one simple reason: quality control. It is not the goal of D&L Sports to be the biggest custom shop. D&L's goal is to be the best. Dave is a formally trained and certified armorer, with over 25 years of experience in special-purpose firearms. He is a staff member and writer for *Tactical Shooter* and *American Gunsmith* magazines. He has authored three books: *Tactical Marksman*, *Tactical 1911* and *Practical Pistol*.

The package Dave is presenting to a reader of *American Handgunner* is a custom Ruger Vaquero called his "Cowboy Revolver." It features the following:

- Full Action job for smooth operation
- Trigger job
- Full dehorn
- Polish chambers
- Chamfer chambers mouths
- Radius cylinder, front and rear
- Check/adjust cylinder gap
- Check/adjust lock bolt and cylinder notches
- Check/recut forcing cone
- Protected recessed target crown
- Complete reshaping and contouring of grip frame and custom hardwood stocks
- Improved centerpin lockup
- Complete refinish in hardchrome
- Test fire and zero

The retail price on a D&L "Cowboy Revolver" as shown is \$1,520.

D&L Sports  
P.O. Box 651  
Gillette, WY 82717  
(307) 686-4008  
[www.dlsports.com](http://www.dlsports.com)

**TO ENTER CONTEST:** Fill out the CUSTOM GUN GIVEAWAY entry card attached to page 106. If the card is missing, use a postcard (no envelopes). Send to AMERICAN HANDGUNNER, Dept. H3, POB 880409, San Diego, CA 92168-0409. Entries must be received before APRIL 1, 2001.

**Limit 1 entry per household.** This contest is open to individuals who are residents of the United States and its territories, only. Agents and employees of Publishers Development Corporation and their families are excluded from entering. Contest void where prohibited or restricted by law. Winners must meet all local laws and regulations. Taxes and compliance with firearms regulations will be the responsibility of the winners. Winners will be notified by CERTIFIED MAIL on official letterhead. No purchase necessary to enter.



# SIXGUNNER

Continued from page 48

tion Colt SAA .44 Special with a 7½" barrel on a link to Tom's site. The gun was for sale at a very reasonable price. It turned out to be offered by a friend of mine in Missouri, so I purchased it without hesitation. Happily, it was also in better shape than advertised.

However, it did have one major problem for me, and that was the fact that the front sight had been filed down and was now placing my 250 gr. .44 Special bullets about 6" high at 25 yards. So, off it went to Sargis to build up the front sight blade. That seemed like too little work to have done when paying the extortion fees now required by UPS for shipping handguns, so we added an action job, one-piece walnut grips and, to complete the project, Kelye Schlep of Belt Mountain Enterprises sent over one of his new #5 base pins with an Elmer Keith-designed base.

There is something almost sensuous about cocking the hammer on a properly tuned Colt, and Sargis creates that feeling with his action job. The action is smooth, the cylinder locks up tightly with very little play, the trigger pull is light and crisp, the re-cut forcing cone aids accuracy, and the one-piece walnut

stocks and #5 Belt Mountain cylinder base pin complete a sixgun package that is near perfect.

I could not let my discovery stop there. So when I found a Second Generation New Frontier— a .45 with a 4¾" barrel— at Shapel's, off went the barrel and a 5½" .357 Magnum New Frontier to Sargis to make it into one of my favorite sixgun types, a bigbore packin' pistol.

Sargis once again tuned the action, set the trigger pull at 3½ lbs., installed the new barrel, re-cut the forcing cone and re-chambered the original .357 cylinder to .45 Colt. Another #5 base pin from Belt Mountain completed this project. This sixgun also shoots like a dream.

## A Special Project

The old saying is that good things come in threes, so, to complete the picture, Sargis was called on to perform a most special function. For a long time now, I have been planning to do a total custom package on a Colt SAA, beginning with a New Frontier as the basic platform. The starting point would be a good-shootin' .44 Special with an action that is both tight and smooth.

Enter Sargis. Anyone who has had much experience with Third Generations and New Frontiers knows that the quality of these beautiful sixguns can be anywhere from excellent to very second-rate.

My Third Generation 5½" .44 Special fell somewhere in the middle of the two extremes. It shot well enough, but the action was rough, and the cylinder was quite loose. Actually, it is surprising that it shot so well.

Off it went to Sargis with instructions to tune, smooth and, above all, take as much play as possible out of the cylinder. The result is probably one of the finest Colt New Frontiers in existence!

Tom fitted an oversize bolt that removes all perceptible play, both side-to-side and fore-and-aft, in the .44 cylinder. The beginning of this project turned out so well that it has caused a major problem. I am a great believer in "Don't Fix What Ain't Broke," and this sixgun ain't broke. The beginning of this project may also be the end, as I do not believe I really want to use it as a platform for a custom sixgun since it performs so well.

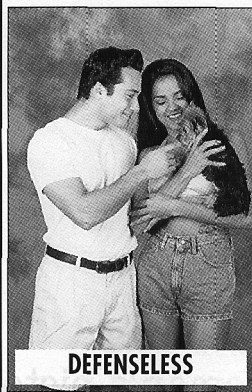
I think I am going to have to find another New Frontier for the future project. Thanks, Tom, for causing such a pleasant problem.



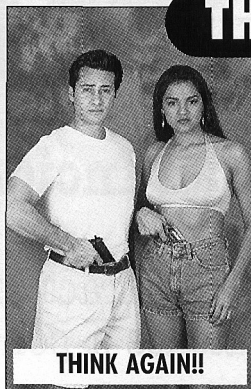
Readers can reach Tom Sargis at Bozeman Trail Arms Mfg., Dept AH, 28 Lake Dr., Livingston, MT 59047; phone (406) 223-1111; website: [www.ycsi.net/users/gun-smith](http://www.ycsi.net/users/gun-smith). I recommend his work highly and without any reservation. He understands single-action sixguns and sixgunners perfectly.

## THE AMAZING "Wear What You Want" CONCEALED HOLSTER NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW YOU'RE CARRYING.

### THUNDERWEAR™!

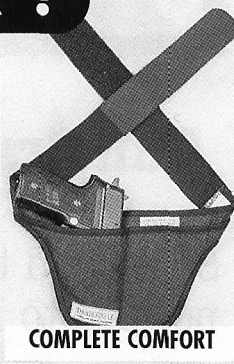


DEFENSELESS

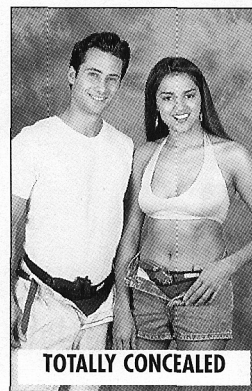


THINK AGAIN!!

THE IDEAL DEEP  
CONCEALED HOLSTER  
THAT YOU'LL WEAR  
ALL YEAR LONG.  
PERFECT FOR NORMAL  
RIGOROUS ACTIVITY.  
QUICK ACCESS TO  
YOUR WEAPON.



COMPLETE COMFORT



TOTALLY CONCEALED

Imagine the freedom of wearing shorts, jeans, sweats, slacks, T-Shirts, even swimming trunks. Leave your shirt neatly tucked in or, take your SHIRT OFF! Imagine a holster with no clothing restrictions! Worn on the hips for all day & night comfort sitting or standing - designed by a wearer. THUNDERWEAR™ has sizes to conceal large autos such as 45's down to 22's and every weapon in between. Perfect for revolvers. "USED BY UNDERCOVER POLICE, FBI,"

ORDER TODAY 1-800-830-3057 Credit Card Orders

\$44.95 plus \$7.95 S&H NY residents add 8-1/2% tax

or FAX YOUR ORDER TOLL FREE 888-830-3058 or 516-877-2048

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Waist Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Right ☐ Left ☐ Gun Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model # \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed ☐ Please enclose your name & address. Make checks payable to:

**Defense Security Products**

3-01 PARK PLAZA, SUITE 108, OLD BROOKVILLE, NY 11545

Visit our "Secure" Homepage - <http://www.thunderwear.com>



DISCOVER  
CARD





## Attention Sixgunners



This book covers every major big bore sixgun from 1870 to the present, with important historical data as well as information on competitive shooting, hunting, reloading, customizing and more. Over 100 photos with a 16-page color section. 8 x 11, hard-cover, 336 pages.

Yes! Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies for only \$39.95 ea. Please add \$6 surface shipping in U.S. Outside the U.S. add \$16 surface shipping. Fax for airmail quote. Payment must be in U.S. dollars, drawn from a U.S. bank, or credit cards below. Make checks/MO payable to Publishers Development Corp. CA residents add 7.75% sales tax to total. Allow 3-6 weeks for delivery inside the U.S. Outside the U.S. allow up to 60 days.

☐ Check/MO ☐ VISA/MC/Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: PDC Books Dept. H83-H8152

591 Camino de la Reina, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92108

Order Hot Line 1-800-628-9818

Fax 619-297-5353



www.dawsonprecision.com

# KIMBER



**DAWSON  
PRECISION  
Team  
Awesome**  
www.dawsonprecision.com

## Makes It AWESOME

FROM AWESOME OPTIC FRONT SIGHTS TO KIMBER MAG CATCHES FOR PARA MAGS  
WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR KIMBER AWESOME  
VISIT OUR WEB SITE OR CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG

PHONE (512) 260-2011

FAX (512) 260-2211

## AO PRO EXPRESS™ SIGHTS A TACTICAL ADVANTAGE WHEN THINGS GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT



In low light conditions you need every advantage you can get. AO Pro Express™ Sights feature glowing tritium front and rear sights to give you a quick, clear sight picture, even on the darkest night. Order your set today. Preferably before sundown.

Call Toll Free 1-888-744-4880

www.aosights.com

2401 Ludelle St. • Fort Worth, Tx 76105

©2000 AO Sight Systems, Inc.

**AO SIGHT  
SYSTEMS**

## Tough Alloy Steel Targets Built to Last!!

T1 Alloy Steel for standard velocity pistol, rim fire and center fire.  
T520 Alloy for Magnum Pistol, Center Fire Rifle, and Shotgun Slugs.

**STEEL SILHOUETTE TARGETS** mounted on spring loaded portable stands are excellent for repetitive handgun practice. Shoot over and over without resetting. See and hear your hits. Targets ring like a bell when hit. Spray paint periodically to cover hits. Portable stands disassemble without tools. 3/8" thick steel. Reversible target surface.

911 - Full Size IPSC, T1, 17 3/4 x 29 1/2 \$59.00

912 - Half Size IPSC, T1, 8 7/8 x 14 3/4 19.00

915 - Full Size IPSC, T520, 17 3/4 x 29 1/2 132.00

991 - Portable Stand 40.00

**OFFICIAL PEPPER POPPER** targets fall over when hit. Adjustable for use with different powered loads. Offset hinge allows for accurate calibration and helps prevent wind from knocking over target. May also be used for shotgun practice with lead birdshot or buckshot loads. Sturdy portable base. 3/8" thick steel. Reversible target surface for extra life.

925 - Full Popper, T1, 12 x 42 w/base \$110.00

926 - Full Popper, T520, 12 X 42 w/base 175.00

927 - 2/3 Popper, T1, 8 x 28 w/base 95.00

928 - 2/3 Popper, T520, 8 X 28 w/base 135.00



Order by Phone 800-821-3475

Charge to your MasterCard/Visa

30 day terms to law enforcement agencies with PO

15% Discount on orders over \$1000.

\$5.00 Packaging charge on orders under \$95.

UPS or freight charges FOB Rockford, Illinois.



PO Box 898, Rockford, IL 61105

Fax 815-964-0045 - Phone 800-821-3475

web page: <http://members.aol.com/ArntzenRM>

Other sizes and shapes available. Call for catalog.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Do not shoot steel targets from

closer than 12 yards. (High Pwr Rifle, 100 yds Min.) Shooter and

all spectators must wear safety glasses in case of flying spatter.



# CUSTOM CORNER

Custom Corner features paid listings by the identified pistolsmiths. Many are members of the American Pistolsmiths Guild and the American Handgunner Club 100.

Advertising information is available from:

**AMERICAN HANDGUNNER**, Adv. Dept.  
591, Camino de la Reina, Ste. 200, San Diego, CA 92108; (619) 297-7606.



## FULL CUSTOM WORK RUGER 22's

### BROKEN GUN RANCH

10739 126 RD.  
SPEARVILLE, KS 67876  
PH. (316) 385-2587 FAX. (316) 385-2597

## THE ACTION WORKS

FIRST QUALITY RELIABLE  
HANDGUNS FOR  
DEFENSE & SPORT



Specialists in Browning Hi-Powers, 1911's, and other fine quality pistols and revolvers, including Colt, S&W and Ruger.

**"We build serious guns for serious times"**

3030 Center St. West, Chino Valley, AZ 86323  
Visit our website: [www.theactionworks.com](http://www.theactionworks.com)  
email: [dwilliams@theactionworks.com](mailto:dwilliams@theactionworks.com)  
Voice: (520) 636-1691 • Fax: (520) 636-1497



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

425-391-3202

## CAC CUSTOM ARMS CO.

Innovative Design  
With Old World  
Craftsmanship



[www.customarms.com](http://www.customarms.com)  
215-757-8710

## ALPHA PRECISION

American  
Handgunner  
CLUB 100



1996  
Pistolsmith  
of the Year

- Custom 1911's • Cowboy Action
- Advanced revolver accurizing
- Revolver action jobs • Metal checkering
- Custom Ruger Blackhawk cylinders
- Fine welding

20-page brochure \$4.00 refundable

Jim Strah  
3238 Della Slaton Rd.  
Comer, GA. 30629 (706)-783-2131  
[www.alphaprecisioninc.com](http://www.alphaprecisioninc.com)  
e-mail: [jim@alphaprecisioninc.com](mailto:jim@alphaprecisioninc.com)

## WICKMANN GUN WORKS

Custom Pistols for Carry Conceal,  
Duty & Limited Competition  
Specializing in the Browning Hi Power,  
S&W, Sig, 1911 Style and  
Colt 380 Pistols



Contact Kurt Wickmann  
at (740)-594-8049  
10461 St. Rt. 550,  
Athens, OH. 45701  
Or visit our web site at  
[www.kwgv.com](http://www.kwgv.com)

## ATF CUSTOM GUNWORKS



...Specializing in Smith & Wesson revolvers  
and Colt pistols

"This perfect gun gives the shooter the edge that  
maximizes opportunities for a high score. That's why  
it's essential for a top shooter to use the type of quality  
gunsmithing that Alan Tanaka of ATF Custom Gunworks  
provides."

...John Fride after shooting a perfect 1500 F.P.C.  
match score.

Send for FREE Brochure

17924 South Hobart Blvd.  
Gardena, CA 90248  
(310) 327-2721 (310) 327-4641 (fax)



Dedicated to the metallic  
art of the spiral tube.

## TEN-RING PRECISION, INC.

Fine custom revolvers and semiautomatic handguns.

210.494.3063 • FAX 210.494.3066  
1449 Blue Crest Lane, San Antonio, TX 78232  
[tenring.com](http://tenring.com) • email: [tenring@texas.net](mailto:tenring@texas.net)

## DCCustom

Phone: (903) 965-5455 View: (903) 821-1373

1911 Specialist Service  
Dale Cunningham Beyond  
Competition Expectation  
& Carry

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

## ACTIONS BY

**1st Class Trigger & Sear  
Work on Over 100 Different  
Models of Pistols & Revolvers**

Check out our website for a list of  
video and audio tapes now available!

Brochure and current articles \$3.00

TEDDY JACOBSON-PISTOLSMITH

Visit our Web Site @ [www.actionsby.com](http://www.actionsby.com)  
We now accept most major credit cards  
e-mail: [teddy@actionsby.com](mailto:teddy@actionsby.com)

16315 REDWOOD FOREST COURT  
SUGAR LAND, TX 77478  
(281) 277-4008



## KUSTOM BALLISTICS

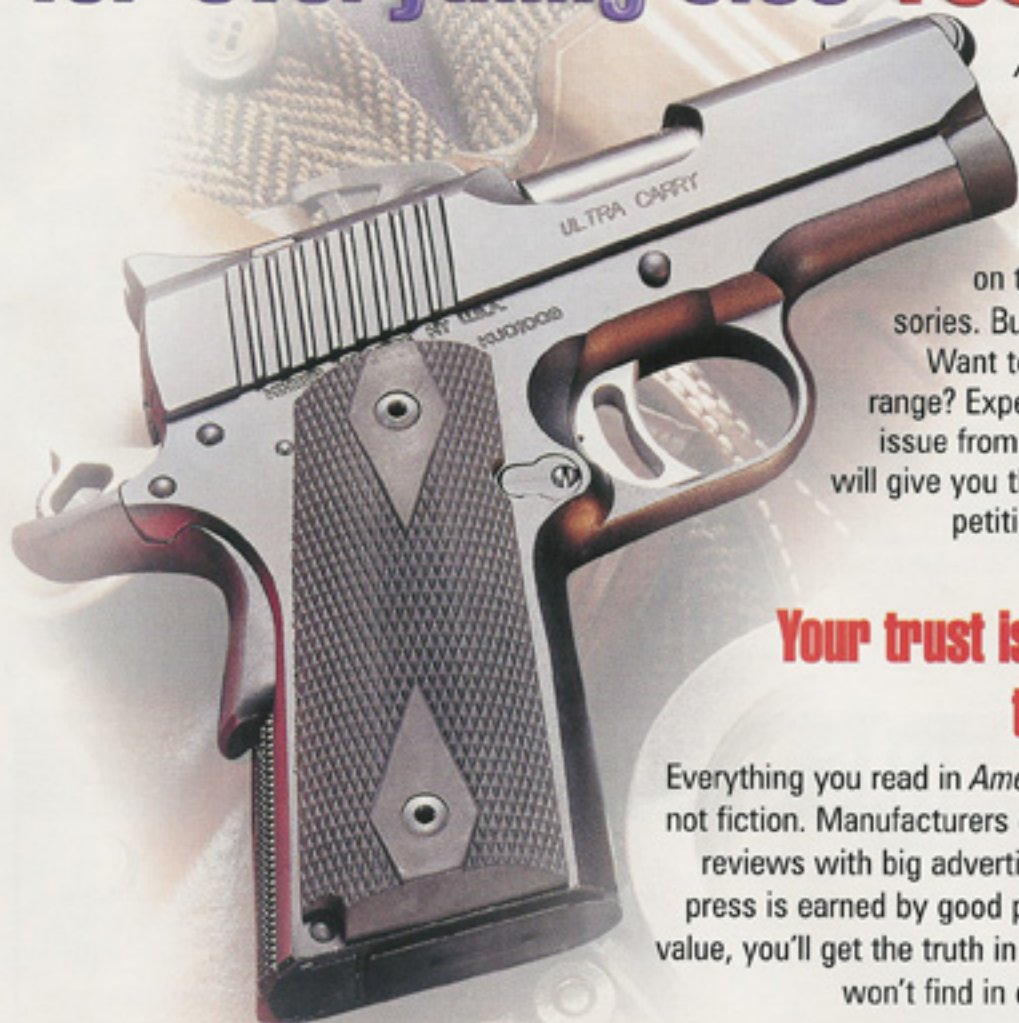
Competition and Carry Pistols  
General Gunsmithing

Neil & Craig Keller

1009 Southampton, Decatur, IN 46733  
Phone: 219-724-2879 • Fax: 219-728-2153  
Web: [www.kustom-ballistics.com](http://www.kustom-ballistics.com)



# The **ONE** MAGAZINE you need for everything else **YOU WANT.**



*American Handgunner* has a way of turning casual shooters into serious handgunners. Each issue is loaded with news on the latest guns and accessories. But there's also much more. Want to be a top gun at the local range? Expert tips and advice in each issue from the world's best shooters will give you the edge in most any competition or dangerous situation.

## **Your trust is more important than their money.**

Everything you read in *American Handgunner* is fact, not fiction. Manufacturers can't buy glowing product reviews with big advertising contracts here. Good press is earned by good products. If it's not a good value, you'll get the truth in a tell-it-like-it-is-style you won't find in other handgun magazines.

## **Tips, Techniques and Advice In Every Issue.**

In addition to top-notch features on the latest guns and custom stand-outs, *American Handgunner* includes these regular columns.

- Cop Talk
- Tactical Advantage
- Handgun Leather
- Combat Shooting
- Handloading
- Handgun Hunting
- Gun Rights
- Pistolsmithing
- The 10-Ring
- Gunny Sack

**Get what you want.  
Get *American Handgunner*.**

### **NO waiting period**

Why wait? The very next issue may have just what you're looking for. You can start your subscription right away. Simply return the attached subscription card today or mail \$16.95 for a one year subscription to *American Handgunner*, P.O. Box 16439, San Diego, CA 92176





# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

A.T. Custom Gunworks	106	J.A.Ciener	6	Integrated Systems Mgmt.	27	RidgeLine Inc.	85
The Action Works	106	Competition Electronics	8	Jarvis Gunsmithing	82	Rock River Arms	88
Actions by T	106	Coronado Leather	79	Kimber	84	Safariland Concealment	12
Alpha Precision	106	Crimson Trace	97	King's Gun Works	89	Safariland Holsters	6
American Historical Foundation	13	Custom Arms	106	KleenBore	18	Safe & Knife Co.	79
American Sales and Mfg.	82	Cylinder & Slide	35	KnifeArt.com	98	Wil Scheumann Co.	98
AO Sights	105	Dawson	88,90,105	Kramer Handgun Leather	16	Shooters Online Services	105
Arizona Custom Knives	90	DC Custom	106	Krieger Gunsmith	89	Shooting Chrony	23
Arntzen Corp.	105	Defense Security Products	104	Kustom Ballistics	106	Sierra Bullets	108
Les Baer Custom	83	Dillon Precision	25	LaserMax	47	Sig Arms	41
Bagmaster	80	DSA Inc.	90	Law Concealment	95	Smith & Alexander	88
Baird Co.	96	Eagle Grips	86	Lee Precision	31	Smith & Wesson	14
Bar-Sto Precision	80	Elishewitz	95	Lightning Strikes	83	Southern Belle Brass	84
Benchmade Knives	94	Emerson Knives	37	Masters of Defense	9	Milt Sparks Leather	99
Beretta	39	Evolution Gun Works	92	Chip McCormick	29	Springfield Inc.	82
Blackhawk Industries	7	Falcon Machining LTD	84	Nowlin Custom Mfg.	86	SSK Industries	23
Bo-Mar Combat Sights	99	Fobus USA	81	Options for Personal Security	79	Starline	96
Broken Gun Ranch	106	Franklin Mint	15	Oregon Trail Bullet	19	STI Int'l.	93
Ed Brown Products	47	Gage Gun Leather	84	Oso Grande Knife & Tool	85	Strider Knives	83
Brownells	80	Galco International	16	Otis Technology	11	Taurus International	49
Bugei Trading	82	Green Mountain Sports	89	Outdoor Channel	26	Ten Ring Precision	106
Burns Custom Pistols	106	GT Target Stands	82	Pact Inc.	5	Thunder Ranch	97
Cannon Safe	89	Guaranteed Distributors	20	Paladin Press	99	Universal Shooting Academy	80
Carter Custom	95	Heinie Specialty Products	83	Pearce Grip	14	WC Wolff Co.	98
Caspian Arms LTD	84	Hogue Grips	23	PHD Pharmaceuticals	84	Wickmann Gun Works	106
Casull Arms Corp.	81	Hydra Storm	3	Phoenix USA	87	Wilson Combat	17
Chapman Academy	99	IMR Powder Co.	33	Pro Tec International Inc.	91	Wood-Mizer	98

## Who Wants to be a Reloader?



Don't take chances with these odds. Make sure your reloading questions are answered 100% correct all the time, everytime.



Don't waste time with the audience. Poll our experts. Sierra's Ballistic Technicians stand ready to quickly give you the correct answer to all your reloading questions.



Your lifeline is Sierra's Tech-Line. Correct information, advice and answers to help you make reloading safer and your shooting more accurate. **800-223-8799**

Call Toll Free Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Central Time for fast answers to all your reloading questions.  
Available in the USA and Canada.

**(800) 223-8799**

**TOLL-FREE TECH-LINE**

**(888) 223-3006**

**Toll-Free for all other business**

**(660) 827-6300 • FAX (660) 827-4999**

**e-mail [sierra@sierrabullets.com](mailto:sierra@sierrabullets.com)**

**1400 West Henry Street • Sedalia, MO 65301**

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

## YOUR FINAL ANSWER

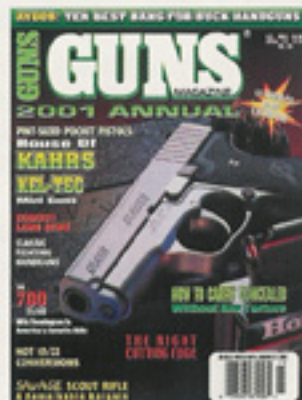
# SIERRA

The Bulletsmiths®



# BUY FOUR SAVE MORE!

Get all four of these Special Editions and Save \$7.85! Individually they'd cost you \$39.80.  
You can get them all through this offer for only \$31.95!



## A LOOK INSIDE:

- Best Buy Handguns.
- Concealed Carry Comfort.
- Long Guns Of Cowboy Action Shooting.
- Excellence In Leather.
- Classic Fighting Handguns Of All Time.
- 2001 Catalog of Currently Manufactured Firearms.

## HOUSE OF KAHRS Massad Ayoob

Full power, yet pocket size, these innovative pistols are respected and used by professionals and armed citizens.



## THE REMINGTON 700 Clair Rees

After 38 years, this classic bolt action is still America's favorite rifle.



\$9.95 (outside U.S. \$12.95)



## A LOOK INSIDE:

- Five To Stay Alive: Street-wise tips on how to survive an edged weapon attack.
- Factory Folders: A Buyer's Guide to Tactical Knives
- Combat Rifle Drills
- 2000 Catalog of Currently Manufactured Firearms.

## FN P-90 Charles E. Petty

Belgium's premiere gun-maker offers a radical new machinepistol for the millennium warrior.



## HECKER & KOCH G-36-E Byron Lee & Darryl Belke

High tech battle rifle for a new millennium.



\$9.95 (outside U.S. \$12.95)



## A LOOK INSIDE:

- TAC-Load: Keep your handgun fully loaded and up and running.
- Kimber .40: Here's accuracy and reliability right out of the box.
- Adjustable Sights: Got problems fine-tuning your sights?
- 2000 Catalog of Currently Manufactured Handguns.

## FN FORTY - NINE Massad Ayoob

This pistol, with second-strike capability, is not just another entry in the plastic-pistol sweepstakes!



## SIXGUNS OF COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING John Taffin

These guns of the 1800s still tame the West in modern competition.



\$9.95 (outside U.S. \$12.95)



## A LOOK INSIDE:

- Gunfighting Secrets Of The Samurai.
- Evolution Of A Shooting Stance.
- 14 Grasps Of The Knife.
- Big-Bore Webleys
- 2000 Catalog of Currently Manufactured Handguns.

## M9 BERETTA COMBAT READY! Charles W. Karwan

The U.S. service pistol underwent extensive testing and modification to become a top fighting handgun.



## DEFINING HK'S USP Massad Ayoob

Exceptional performance gains this semi-auto the title of Uprentiously Supeb Pistol



\$9.95 (outside U.S. \$12.95)

**YES!** I want to order the following Special Editions while supplies last.

☐ GUNS \$9.95 ☐ GUNS \$9.95 ☐ Handgunner \$9.95 ☐ Handgunner \$9.95 ☐ ALL FOUR ONLY \$31.95  
2001 Annual 2000 Combat Annual 2000 Annual 2001 Tactical Annual You Save \$7.85 (outside U.S. \$41.95)

Orders outside the U.S. add \$3.00 per Annual

HB1-HA007

☐ Check/MO Enclosed \$ ☐ Visa/MC/Discover

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable: Publishers' Development Corp.

Mail to: PDC • P.O. Box 639033 • San Diego, CA 92163-9033

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE YOUR  
GET ALL FOUR  
ONLY \$31.95  
COLLECTION



# AMERICAN HANDGUNNER

# CLASSIFIED

(Classified ads \$1.00 per word per insertion. (\$1.80 per word per insertion for 3 or more) including name, address and phone number (20 word minimum). Minimum charge \$20.00. **Bold words add \$.65 per word.** Copy and return orders must be accompanied by **PAYMENT IN ADVANCE. NO AGENCY OR CASH DISCOUNTS ON LISTING OR DISPLAY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING.** All ads must be received with advance payment BY NO LATER THAN THE 1st of each month. Ads received after closing will appear in the following issue. Please type or print clearly. **PLEASE NOTE\*\*\* NO PROOFS WILL BE FURNISHED.** Include name, address, post office, city, state and zip code as counted words. Abbreviations count as one word each. Mail to AMERICAN HANDGUNNER CLASSIFIEDS, 591 Camino de la Reina, Suite 200, San Diego, California 92108. **NOTE: WE NOW HAVE DISPLAY CLASSIFIED ADS IN BOTH GUNS MAGAZINE AND AMERICAN HANDGUNNER. ASK FOR OUR NEW RATE CARD, Or call (619) 297-8525.**

## ACCESSORIES

### THE TEXAS RANGER BH230

100% Satisfaction Guarantee  
Double Rig \$379.95  
Single Rig \$269.95  
Fully Smooth Leatherlined  
Send \$3.00 for color brochure



Black Hills Leather  
410 W. Aurora  
Laredo, TX. 78041

Toll Free # 1-877-712-9434

Web site: [www.blackhillsleather.com](http://www.blackhillsleather.com)

### HARD CHROMING

Top competition gun builders know their beauties need one thing... **HARDNESS.** That's why long-lasting hard chroming will never be beat for looks & performance. Recently introduced new finishes that you're reading about, are too soft.

- We Only Do Firearms
- Specialists in Hard Chroming
- Blue, Nickel, Parkerizing, Anodizing
- All Work Guaranteed

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

**CHECKMATE**  
Custom Gun Refinishing

370 Champion Dr. • Brooksville, FL 34602  
(352) 799-5774

### GUN PLATING & ANODIZING

Hard Chrome (Bright or Satin), Electroless Nickel, Parkerizing, Teflon, Black Hard Anodizing, Bluing (stainless). We specialize in firearms. References Available.

**FREE SERVICE BROCHURE 1-800-375-2846**

**TechPlate, Inc.**

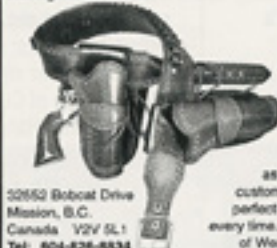
1571-H S. Sunkist St., Anaheim, CA 92806  
(714) 634-9254 [www.techplate.com](http://www.techplate.com) FAX: (714) 634-9382

### Mernickle Custom Holsters

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

Email: [sales@mernickleholsters.com](mailto:sales@mernickleholsters.com)

This unique concealment holster is designed for quickness and compactness. It is hand made, hand moulded and IDPA approved. The **PS6** is our most popular concealed carry holster to date. It is also one of the highest side belt carry holsters on the market today. The **PS6** comes with a unique paddle device that goes behind the belt to stop the famous tip out associated with high ride holsters.



32652 Bobcat Drive  
Mission, B.C.  
Canada V2V 5L1  
Tel: 604-626-8834  
Fax: 604-626-0518

**Mernickle Custom Holsters** makes one of the largest varieties of western holsters in the market place including the **CAS-6** as shown. Each holster is custom measured to ensure a perfect fit to the user each and every time. Check out our full line of Western holsters including **Shoulder rigs.**

### TEXAS GUNSLINGER Quality Gun Leather The "Ranger" Rig

Hand-tooled floral Black

- Large stock to ship from
- Satisfaction Guaranteed
- Soft Suede Lined
- American Quality Saddle Cowhide

\$149.95 (Sgt. rig) • \$224.95 (Dbl. rig)  
(805) 525-8000 (805) 528-3000

TO ORDER SPECIFY JEAN SIZE, MAKE/MODEL OF GUN, CALIBER, BARREL LENGTH. ADD \$6 S&H. TEXAS RESIDENTS ADD 7.75% S&H. \$2.00 FOR COLOR CATALOG. TEXAS GUNSLINGER, 2627 S. COOPER, C-21, DEPT. HG, ARLINGTON, TX 76015 • 817-480-5845 • FAX 817-412-4442

### Concealed Carry Clothiers

**WIN A FREE CCC VEST**  
[www.concealedcarry.com](http://www.concealedcarry.com)

**Free** online storage for files. Great **bargains** on brand name products. Electronics, sporting goods, camping gear and much more.  
[www.emporiumbargains.bigstep.com](http://www.emporiumbargains.bigstep.com)

**CLIPS, GRIPS, LASERS, HOLSTERS, BOOKS & VIDEOS.** Two Great Websites:  
[www.gunaccessories.com](http://www.gunaccessories.com) & [www.booktrail.com](http://www.booktrail.com)

**INSURANCE: FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR'S ASSOCIATION** Time to join your association and save on insurance! Our association offers you a comprehensive insurance program with a \$1,000,000 liability coverage. It provides bodily injury and property damage coverage for under \$400 a year. Call toll free at 1-888-696-1301 to request an application or contact: Firearms Instructor's Association, C/O Frank Sesser, 8217 NW Grand Avenue/Box 29, Peoria, AZ 85345.

## AMMUNITION

### AMMO DEPOT

The World's Largest Selection of Ammunition

7325 Ingham Ln. Dept. AH  
Godfrey, IL 60235-2281

Send \$2.00 For 64 Page Catalog

618-466-2666 • [www.ammodot.com](http://www.ammodot.com)

**Awesome Selection Of  
Reloading Equipment & Supplies!**  
Reloaders Starting At \$13.50  
Complete Kits For Around \$100.00

**Great Selection - Great Prices  
Anyone Can Reload  
All You Need Is 3 Feet of Space**

### [www.swage.com](http://www.swage.com)

New Corbin ultra-precision bullet jackets in .224 and .308. Why pay more for less than the best? In stock now!  
Ph. 541-826-5211 Fax 541-826-8669

## AUCTIONS/SHOWS

### BOOKS

**FREE CATALOG** of politically incorrect books. Send \$1.00 for postage. Bohica Concepts, POB 546, Dept. AH, Randle, Washington 98377.

**IT'S FREE!** The complete (100 pages) of Backwoods Home Magazine on the Internet. Go to [www.backwoodshome.com](http://www.backwoodshome.com) to read Massad Ayoob and other great self-reliant writers. Or get a half year subscription to our print issue for only \$9.95. Backwoods Home, PO Box 712-ah, Gold Beach, OR 97444. 800-835-2418. **IT'S GOOD!**

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

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**BECOME A GUN DEALER** Professional GUN DEALER KIT gives you Everything you need!!!! License Forms, Regulations, Professional Advice, Hundreds of Wholesalers and Honest Moneyback GUARANTEED! \$6.95: SHOOTER'S GUNSHOP, P.O. Box 379-AH, Hopwood, PA 15445.

**EASY WORK! EXCELLENT PAY!** Assemble Products at Home. Call Toll Free 1-800-467-5566 EXT. 2720.

## COLLECTORS

### EMBLEMS & INSIGNIA



## FIREWORKS

**FIREWORKS CHEMICALS!!!** POTASSIUM PERCHLORATE, POTASSIUM CHLORATE, NITRATES, COLOR PRODUCERS, ALUMINUM, MAGNESIUM & TITANIUM POWDERS, WATERPROOF FLUX, PAPER TUBING, HUNDREDS OF CHEMICAL ITEMS, TAB GLASSWARE, ACIDS & SUPPLIES MAKE ROCKETS, NOISE MAKERS, SMOKE BOMBS - Etc. ROCKET ENGINE KITS! - PYROTECHNICS BOOKS & VIDEOS, "GREAT PRICES" BULK DISCOUNTS - "HUGE CATALOG" \$3.00 PYROTEK, P.O. BOX 300, SWEET VALLEY, PA 18656 (570) 256-3087. WWW.PYROTEK.ORG

## FOR SALE

**DISCOUNT CIGARETTES NATIONWIDE.** Every brand. Shipped to your door from Native Indian Territory. Pay no state or federal taxes. 888-339-1816. FOD: 281-398-5611 #100. [usaSMOKES.com](http://www.usaSMOKES.com)

## GUN PARTS

## GUNSMITHING

**PINNACLE HIGH PERFORMANCE** PISTOLS & REVOLVERS. CUSTOM GUNSMITHING & GENERAL REPAIRS. CARRY, COMPETITION & RECREATION. RELIABILITY, ACCURACY & APPEARANCE ENSURES 100% SATISFACTION. 610-285-4392, [www.pinnacle-guns.com](http://www.pinnacle-guns.com)

## INSTRUCTION

#HGPC  **Be A Gun Repair Professional**  
100% Guaranteed!  
Fast and Easy  
At Home Video Instruction  
Learn to repair and customize  
Pistols, Revolvers, Rifles and Shotguns.  
For Free Information Call  
**800-797-0867**

**AGI** [www.americangunsmith.com](http://www.americangunsmith.com)  
American Gunsmithing Institute

**Be a DETECTIVE**  
Explore a secret world! Fascinating new career. Experience a new adventure every day.  
Dynamic home study course.  
Diploma, Badge. State approved.  
FREE DETECTIVE CAREER INFO.  
**1-800-742-9007** Dept. 303  
[www.detectivetraining.com](http://www.detectivetraining.com)

**Learn how to repair guns!**  
This career-level home study course will train you to do professional work on handguns, rifles, and shotguns. Send or call 24 hours a day for your free career literature.  
**Call 800-223-4542**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
**The School of Gunsmithing**  
430 Technology Parkway, Dept. GGC476  
PCDI, Norcross, GA 30092 • [www.pcdi.com](http://www.pcdi.com)

**Be a PRIVATE EYE**  
You WILL learn, at home, secrets from a **World Famous P.I.**  
Best Course - Lowest Cost!  
FREE Call: **888-337-8839**  
**GLOBAL INVESTIGATION, Suite 41**  
535 N. Farms Rd., Northampton, MA 01062

Instructional and reference software for **Gunsmiths** and **Police Armorers**. Interactive programs written by a Gunsmithing Instructor and Police Armorer Instructor. [www.webgunsmith.com](http://www.webgunsmith.com)

## KNIVES & SWORDS

**KNIFE CATALOG.** Major brands. Midwest's largest selection. \$3 (refundable with 1st order). Safe & Knife Company, 4721 42nd Ave. N., Robbinsdale, MN 55422.

## MILITARIA

**US MILITARY** Camo, Uniforms, Equipment Catalog. Send \$2.00 refundable with 1st order to: OICH, POB 1618, Alamogordo, NM 88311-1618 or [www.clcnet.com](http://www.clcnet.com)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**CONFIDENTIAL CATALOG** of Police and Investigation Equipment \$2.. IFEC Department H300, P.O. Box 7240, Moreno, California 92552.

**FREE OCCULT CATALOG!** Bumper stickers, books, jewelry, ritual items, incense, oils. AzuroGreen, PO Box 48 AVE, Middlefield, MA 01243. 413-623-2155. [www.azurogreen.com](http://www.azurogreen.com)

**CONCEALED WEAPONS** License Identification Badge. Finest quality, made to order with your License Number. Catalog Free. Seven Seas, 824 Symphony Isles Blvd., Dept. 45, Apollo Beach, Florida 33572. Phone 813-645-2621, Fax 813-641-1721. [badge08@seas.com](mailto:badge08@seas.com)  
<http://home1.gte.net/badge08@seas.com>

## OPTICS

**NIGHT VISION** - High quality night vision at the best prices. Night Vision Goggles, Monoculars, Night Vision Weapon Sights. Camera Adaptable Night Vision. Gen 1, 2, & 3. We carry Excalibur, NVEC, ITT, Litton and our own exclusive line. **CALL FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG 1-800-500-4020** Visit us on the web at [www.vtopics.com](http://www.vtopics.com). Visual Technologies, PO Box 86079, San Diego, CA 92138. 858-274-2717; fax 858-274-1723.

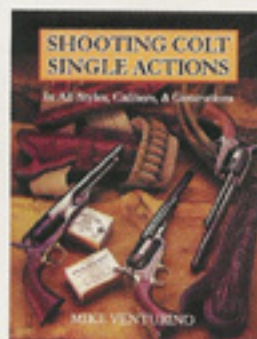
**NIGHT VISION MONOCULAR SALE! ONLY \$139!** Discount prices. Huge selection. Night vision, binoculars, telescopes, riflescopes, range finders, microscopes. American Supply, 1591 Pollard, Dover, Arkansas 72837. 1-877-739-2787. [www.americansupply.net](http://www.americansupply.net)

## WANTED TO PURCHASE

## DISPLAY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING, YOUR BEST SELLING TOOL.

Ask for our rate cards for both **GUNS AND AMERICAN HANDGUNNER** MAGAZINES. Listing rates for both magazines are \$1.00 (1X-rate)!! a word including address and phone number (if it is in your ad). Display rates go from 1" to 3", 1-6 (HG) and 1-12 (GN) times rates.  
WRITE: Classified Advertising, 591 Camino de la Reina, #200, San Diego, CA 92108. Or call (619)297-8525 for more information.

# Attention: Colt Single Action Shooters



## Shooting Colt Single Actions

Complete examination of the Colt Single Action including styles, calibers, accuracy and generations. This book also includes information on Cowboy Action Shooting, single action shooting tips, single action leather and much more. Black & white photos. 205 pages.

**Only \$24.95**

**Yes!** Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of **Shooting Colt Single Actions** for only \$24.95 each. Please add \$6.00 shipping & handling. Outside the U.S. add \$16.00 surface shipping. Check/MO must be in U.S. funds by a U.S. bank. CA residents add 7.75% sales tax. Fax for airmail quote. Allow 3 to 6 weeks for delivery.

☐ Check/MO Enc. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ VISA/MC/DISCOVER  
Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: PDC Book Dept. H83-HB054  
591 Camino de la Reina, Suite 200  
San Diego, CA 92108

**Order HOT Line**  
**1-800-628-9818**  
**FAX 619-297-5353**



## ADD IT UP

16,000,000

Guns manufactured by Sturm, Ruger & Co. during William B. Ruger Sr.'s 50-year tenure as chairman

50,000

Dollars invested by partners Alexander Sturm and Bill Ruger, in 1949, to form Sturm, Ruger & Co.

213,000,000

Dollars, in sales, of Sturm, Ruger & Co. in 1999

0

Years that Sturm, Ruger & Co. failed to turn a profit since 1949

4,000

Slightly used demos and discontinued models that S&W quietly put on the market for 20% below distributor price

304,740

Rifles and shotguns made by Marlin Firearms in 1997, according to ATF, making the lever-gun manufacturer the third biggest rifle maker (behind Remington and Ruger)

18,000

9mm rounds per second—yes, second—that a new six-barrel gun, named Bertha, can fire. Developed by Aussie inventor James O'Dwyer, Bertha is being researched by the military as a "better mousetrap" than the Phalanx

Continued from page 114

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Fifty years ago, William B. Ruger Sr. founded a gun company with his partner, Alexander Sturm. It was called Sturm, Ruger & Co. Ruger was the idea man, and Sturm was the organizational man. They chipped in \$50,000 to get the company off the ground. Sturm died soon thereafter and Ruger, in honor of his friend, forever changed the company's logo, a stylized eagle, from red to black.

What color now for the proud Ruger raptor, now that Ruger has stepped down? On Oct. 24, 2000, Ruger relinquished the reins to his oldest son, William B. Ruger Jr., and handed the company on to the next generation. Bill Junior has been with Sturm, Ruger & Co. since 1964, so he has certainly seen the best and worst of times for the gun business. Bill Junior will serve as chairman and CEO. He will be assisted by Steve Sanetti, Ruger's longtime general counsel. Erle Blanchard got the nod for the job of president, COO and treasurer.

What does the future hold for Ruger's company? The answer is already plainly stated in the newspaper, every day. The company's stock has been pounded, driven down by a combination of the unattractiveness of the gun market and, ironically, by Ruger's diversification. When Callaway Golf curtailed orders to Ruger's Pine Tree Casting division, the stock went south. Fast.

Still, Sturm, Ruger & Co. enjoys vigorous gun sales, even in a declining marketplace. They have innovative manufacturing methods and visionary new products. Ruger was himself the father of most of those new product ideas.



## What's New For 2001

Gun companies like fanfare to accompany the unveiling of their new models. Most of them choose to ring bells and beat drums during the annual SHOT Show, the largest trade show of the shooting industry with over 470,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space. Even though this is being written a month before the show, we managed a few glimpses of some of the new guns.

**Kimber** will debut a new dedicated 10-round 1911 featuring a double-stack magazine and a shortened grip frame.

**Remington** will introduce a titanium-action version of the Model 700, along with a new "entry level" deer

rifle called the Model 710.

**Para-Ordnance** will bring forth a single-stack version of their DA-only double-stacker.

**Ruger** will spotlight a new chambering for the Super Redhawk, the .480 Ruger. This is basically a .475 Linebaugh Light, propelling a 250 gr. slug at 1,360 fps (a .475 Linebaugh pushes a 370 gr. sledgehammer to 1,500 fps).

**Steyr** will trot out a compact version, in .45 ACP no less, of their M Series. It will be called the S Series.

**Taurus** will chamber the .45 ACP in its Millennium pistol, which features a titanium slide and polymer frame.

## ONE SIZE FITS ALL

Spare us multi-purpose products in general, holsters in particular. We prefer task-specific tools—one thing tailor-made precisely to perform one job, and do it extremely well.

But the Wilson Adjuster is the Leatherman of holsters. The Adjuster is, surprisingly, a versatile holster that accommodates a wide range of pistols without compromising function or design.

The Adjuster has two adjustment screws. The main adjustment screw con-

trols a plastic roller which contacts the portion of the pistol just in front of the trigger guard. This regulates the tension of the holster on the pistol. The second adjustment screw is at the bottom of the Adjuster and allows the fore and aft "rock" of the pistol to be dialed in.

We tested it with a Browning. The Adjuster wrapped around our Hi-Power as if it had been specially made just for that gun. We then inserted a Kimber, twirled the adjustment screws and, viola, a perfect 1911 fit.

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





# THE SMART HOLSTER

**W**hile Colt, SIG and Smith & Wesson were getting all the headlines over their efforts to build a “smart gun”— not to mention cushy government R&D grants— little ole **Michael's Of Oregon** was busy building a holster that scans an officer's fingerprint and only releases the gun to the authorized user.

Known as the Pro-4 ID, the holster features a small “finger socket” on its outer body, positioned where a user would naturally place his trigger finger during the draw-stroke. As the finger enters the pocket, it trips an infrared sensor that switches on a fingerprint reader. The reader generates an image of the inserted finger and compares it against a pre-programmed memory of authorized prints. Up to 64 different prints can be stored in each Pro-4 ID so the officer can use multiple fingers from each hand to access the weapon, and other authorized people (such as his partner, his sergeant, an armorer, whoever) can be allowed access too.

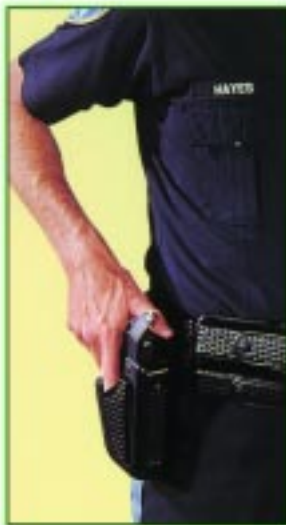
A microprocessor that's connected to the reader tells the lock to release the pistol if it determines that there is a match between the stored prints and the finger in the pocket.

The lock holding the gun in the holster is infallible. There is no way, short of metal shears and a crowbar, to get the gun out once the electronic lock is in place. Which brings up a question: What if there is a malfunction or the batteries go dead?

“The holster has a backup power supply and a mechanical override,” said John French, a senior engineer at Uncle Mike's and one of the developers of the Pro-4 ID. “Our patent application covers three different override designs, and our production holsters will most likely use a handcuff key system to open the biometric holster in the case of an emergency.” As to exactly how it works— in keeping with the industry practice of not detailing such things in a newsstand magazine— French would say no more.

French, who formerly worked for Smith & Wesson, did say that the holster quickly became the focus of the recently held International Association Of Chiefs Of Police (IACP) show, where Michael's “smart holster” was the most-talked-about new product.

Right now, the Pro-4 ID biometric holster is expensive and the pre-production models shown at the show were somewhat bulky. “Hey, welcome to the world of electronics. As we continue to refine the technology— production models are slated for mid-year— the price will come down and the electronics will



get smaller,” French said. “We're doing things now that we only dreamed of several years ago when the project was begun. The important things to focus on, though, are not the negatives, but the positives. This is a break-through design!”

He's right. For the first time, a peace officer has a totally secure holster that is not dependent on some convoluted, super-precise draw-stroke that only Tommy Campbell can perform at speed. French believes that, “Uncle Mike's is now the industry leader in the high-tech police holster race— and the

others won't be catching up for some time.”

One of the most amazing things about the Pro-4 ID is its ability to work under all conditions— cold, hot, wet, dry, a cut finger, a burned finger. “Because the holster is not taking a picture of the print, but is actually plotting recognition points across the surface of the finger, it can read through dirt and blood and even disregard minor cuts and still decide if the finger attempting to open the holster belongs to an authorized individual,” French said.

Why was Uncle Mike's able to develop a fingerprint-scanning holster when gun companies that were given millions of tax dollars couldn't even get a working prototype of a “smart gun”? Recoil and heat, in a nutshell. Holsters don't recoil or belch gunsmoke onto sensitive electronics.

Next up, smart bullets that only hit criminals.





# Industry Insider

by Cameron Hopkins

## Mr. Shultz Goes To Tennessee

**E**d Shultz, the president of **Smith & Wesson** who made the fateful decision to sign the “agreement” with the Clinton White House, is no longer the president of the world’s second largest handgun manufacturing company. Shultz had been serving simultaneously as president of two companies owned by **Tomkins plc**: Murray Inc., a lawn mower company from Tennessee, and S&W. Tomkins recently divested themselves of Murray, and with it went Shultz.

The new president is a longtime veteran of the vicissitudes of Smith & Wesson. George C. Colclough, a 25-year employee of S&W, is a lawyer and served as vice president of administration prior to his promotion. He is a Vietnam vet who served with the 1st Cavalry Division. He was Ranger-qualified and worked as an infantry officer on active duty from 1968 to 1975 before retiring from the Army Reserve as a bird-colonel.

What does this mean for Smith & Wesson and, more importantly, for the shooting industry? It means stability at the helm of a company reeling from the swaying deck of an industry in transition and staggering in the face of an uncertain future. Colclough must deal with the implementation of the “agreement”—S&W never has sent out “agreement-based” contracts to its dealers and distributors, despite what “promises” were allegedly made—and then he must rebuild the good reputation the company once enjoyed among its loyal customers.

Smith & Wesson’s products are better than ever—the quality coming out of 2100 Roosevelt Avenue has never been higher. Their handle on titanium, scandium and other forms of high-tech metallurgy is second to none. They are poised to take advantage of

the new-found consumer demand for classic firearms that the company tapped with the Schofield. That well runs deep; S&W could dip into the nostalgia tank with ease. A Triple

Lock out of the Performance Center? You bet! Do we even want to talk about Registered Magnums or maybe a Russian?

The other end of Colclough’s “Things To Do” list is not so easy. S&W still doesn’t have a suitable pistol for law enforcement. You can lead a cop to water, but you can’t make him buy a Sigma. (You might be able to get him to throw it *in* the water, however.) Smith & Wesson’s distribution network ain’t what it used to be, back when Ruger was so scared of them that they threatened to cut off *their* distributors if they sold any Smiths. Ruger is now so unafraid of S&W’s distribution that they rescinded their “ban” on Smiths.

Smith & Wesson needs a good .22 auto. The Model 41 is too expensive in today’s market, and their Sport series of plinkers just doesn’t have that *je ne sais quoi* like the Ruger Mk. II. Smith & Wesson needs a 1911. Old Slab Sides is such a pure American classic that the question shouldn’t be *if* Smith will make one, but *when*. Colclough has a Herculean task ahead of him in cleaning up Smith & Wesson, but my inside sources say that he is just the man for the job.



## SHORT SHOTS

■ **The Marlin Firearms Co.**, has acquired the assets of **H&R 1871**, the world’s largest manufacturer of single-shot, break-top shotguns and rifles. The new company, known as H&R 1871 Llc, will include the brand names Harrington & Richardson, New England Firearms and Wesson & Harrington.

■ **American Arms**, the Missouri-based importer of such lines as **Franchi** shotguns and **Uberti** revolvers, has been sold to Tristar Ltd. Sporting Arms, another Show Me State importer.

■ Bill Wilson of **Wilson Combat** has bought the entire assets of his eponymous company from his ex-wife. The company had been jointly owned prior to their divorce.

■ **Springfield Armory** and **Kimber** are both introducing “safer” 1911 pistols in 2001. Kimber is fitting all of its models with a passive firing pin block safety that does *not*—repeat, not—adversely affect the trigger pull, a Kimber spokesman emphatically emphasized. Springfield Armory is incorporating a “key lock” on its line of 1911s to prevent unauthorized use.

■ Magnum rifle cartridges are seeing their greatest level of factory-initiated innovation since the decade from ’54 to ’64, the “golden years” of cartridge design. (Just name the round. It probably came from that decade—.223, .308, .300 Win. Mag., .44 Magnum, .458 Win. Mag., 7mm Rem. Mag. We could go on.) **Remington** is at the forefront of the new

slate of magnums with their Ultra Mag family of .404 Jeffrey-based cases. These are what magnums should be—non-belted powerhouses that consume massive amounts of smokeless powder and propel 250 gr. sledgehammers with the same trajectory as a .22-250. Think we’re exaggerating? We’re not.

■ **Korth**, the German handgun maker renowned for making a \$2,500 revolver that didn’t shoot as well as a \$250 Dan Wesson, has gone out of business. The company also made a \$4,000 semiauto pistol that shot about like a Gold Cup, which is to say, it didn’t. Color us surprised that there were enough Tootsie Pop consumers out there to keep Korth going as long as it did.

*Continued on page 112*



When Your Life And Your Livelihood Depend  
On Equipment That Works Right Every Time...

# Second Best Just Won't Cut It.

Mike Dalton is a law enforcement officer, firearms trainer and a professional competitor. His guns are the tools of his trade.

Clint Smith is Director of Thunder Ranch, one of the premier training facilities in the world. He knows that in the real world, there's no margin for error.

As professionals, both Mike Dalton and Clint Smith demand perfection from their equipment. That's why they depend on quality built 1911 pistols from Les Baer Custom. All thirty-plus models of Les Baer 1911s work great, shoot straight, and they're priced right. The perfect choice for professionals...or for anyone who can't afford to finish second.

Clint Smith  
Director  
Thunder Ranch

Mike Dalton  
Combat Master



Thunder Ranch  
Special



Premier II



Monolith  
Heavyweight



Ultimate AR-223  
Super Varmint Rifle



Ultimate AR-223  
M4 Flattop Model

## New from Les Baer Custom Ultimate AR-223 Rifles

Like our superb 1911 pistols, our new line of Ultimate AR-223 Rifles are built from our own forged components and the most desirable parts on the market, then they're custom assembled for perfect fit and unmatched performance. Several models are available including the AR-223 Super Varmint model pictured here. We also offer our complete line of forged components and precision machined parts including exquisite uppers and lowers (matched upper/lower sets) available, NM carriers, bolts and extractors, and more.

The Ultimate AR-223 Super Varmint model pictured here comes equipped with the following exceptional parts as standard equipment:

- LBC "Matched" Upper & Lower Receivers • LBC Ultimate National Match Carrier (chromed)
- LBC Ultimate Bolt (chromed) • Ultimate Extractor • LBC Bench Rest Quality Stainless Steel Barrel • Jewell Two-Stage Trigger Group • LBC Adjustable Free Float rail/guard • LBC Custom Aluminum Gas Block w/Picatinny Top Rail • "QMI Gold" Titanium Firing Pin • LBC Pistol Grip
- Versa Pod • Bear Coat™ Finish

For more information on Les Baer Custom 1911 pistols or Ultimate AR-223 Rifles, contact us today or send \$1 for current catalog.

Dealers send FFL for dealer prices.

**LES BAER  
CUSTOM, INC.**

Performance. It's everything.

29601 34th Ave., Hillside, IL 61257  
Phone: (309) 658-2716 Fax: (309) 658-2610  
Email: lesbaer@netexpress.net  
Web: www.lesbaer.com







The Ultra CDP .45 ACP has a three-inch barrel and weighs 25 ounces.

# Never, ever compromise.

With that in mind, Kimber announces the CDP Series.

Never compromise on the quality of your carry pistol. The new CDP (Custom Defense Package) .45 ACP pistols from the Kimber Custom Shop combine custom features with the three most popular carry models

at a savings of over \$500! Each CDP features a beveling treatment that rounds corners, Tritium

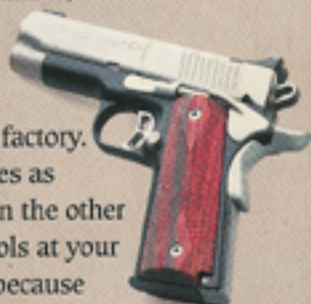
three dot night sights, stainless steel slide and small parts, checkered front strap, ambidextrous safety, Premium Aluminum match grade trigger, hand-checked double diamond rosewood grips and special Custom Shop markings.

Each pistol has a lightweight frame machined from solid bar stock of 7075-T7 aluminum, the hardest and strongest available. These frames have been tested to 20,000 rounds without measurable evidence of wear. Also standard are Kimber features like match grade barrel and chamber, beveled magazine well and high ride beavertail grip safety.

Kimber pistols are made in America in our state-of-the-art factory. Every one of them has tolerances as much as three times tighter than the other brands. See the CDP Series pistols at your nearest Kimber Master Dealer, because there is just no reason to compromise.



The Compact CDP .45 ACP has a four-inch barrel and short grip. It weighs 28 ounces.



The Pro CDP .45 ACP has a four-inch barrel and standard length grip. Weight is still just 28 ounces.

## Kimber®

For complete information on Kimber pistols and rifles please send \$2 to Kimber, Dept. 469 One Lawton Street, Yonkers, NY, 10705, call (800) 880-2418 or visit [www.kimberamerica.com](http://www.kimberamerica.com)

Information and specifications presented are for information only and subject to change without notice. Firearm safety is every gun owner's responsibility. Use and store all firearms safely. Use the included cable lock at all times when gun is not in use. Teach everyone in your home, especially children, proper firearm safety. Copyright 2000, Kimber Mfg., Inc.