



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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## July-August 2022 VGCA Newsletter



### **(Vice) President's Comments**

VGCA President Ed Costello is on an extended vacation to the West Coast and asked newly appointed VP George Dungan to introduce himself in this column this month.

Vice President George here filling in for our President who is on his summer vacation.

It is so good to see our group's enthusiasm, engagement, and participation continue to climb after the virus shut us down for so long. We are starting up new groups and working committees and are getting tremendous support from our volunteers. This will be an on-going process that will bring added value to all members and the gun collecting community as a whole. If you have an idea for a new committee or group or would like to volunteer your time and talents to one, please let me or any other board member know.

Our newly formed gun show committee is making some positive changes to the upcoming gun shows that we think everyone will like. These positive changes will require more volunteers so please mark your calendar for the weekend of November 5th and help out if you can.

Our next membership meeting will be on August 25th at the NRA HQ in Fairfax. Social hour starts at 6 and the meeting starts promptly at 7. This time we will have a special screening of *Forgotten Soldiers*, a documentary about the U.S. Army Philippine Scouts and Donald Plata, the producer/director, will be there for a Q&A session. In addition, VGCA member Nelson will be treating us to Filipino food.

It is truly an honor to be on a board serving such a great group of people. Let's all continue working together to keep the VGCA the premier gun collecting group in the country.

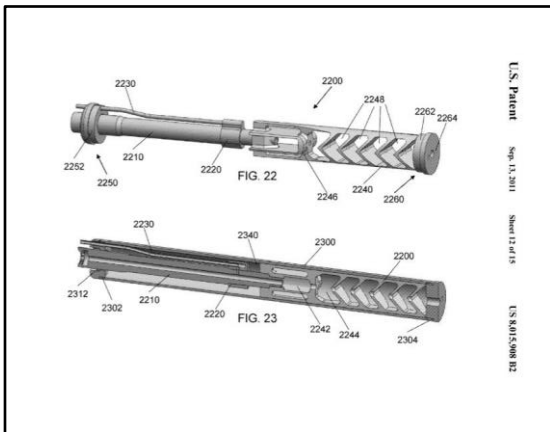
—*George Dungan*, VGCA Vice President

# ★ June Presentation - Suppressors

Mr. Gary Latta, VGCA member and former Director, provided our June presentation on Suppressors. Also known as silencers, suppressors have been around for over 110 years. Indeed, Hiram Percy Maxim, son of Sir Hiram Maxim, the inventor of the first successful automatic machine gun, patented his firearm sound suppressor in 1909.

Gary opened by describing the three sources of sound when a round is fired from a gun. These are:

1. The ignition/explosion of the ammunition firing
2. The “sonic boom” of a supersonic bullet (mostly from rifle ammunition, but also from some pistol ammo)
3. The mechanical noise of the firearm’s action



Suppressors are designed to deal with the sound resulting from the firing of the ammunition. Modern suppressors typically do this by capturing the rapidly expanding gas at the barrel’s muzzle, slowing it down behind a series of baffles in a tube (*see example at left*).

Gary went on to describe various types of suppressors, including Rimfire, Pistol Caliber, Rifle Caliber, Hybrid, and Shotgun. Features for the various types of suppressors were described as follows:

1. **Rimfire Suppressors** typically thread directly on to the firearm’s muzzle and are user serviceable (can be disassembled and cleaned). These are the smallest/lightest of the different suppressors and among the most quiet.
2. **Pistol Caliber Suppressors** also thread directly to the muzzle and are user serviceable. As they add mass to the barrel and can impact the operation of semi-automatic pistols that use a tilting barrel, most pistol caliber suppressors use a piston system to negate the effects of the added mass.
3. **Rifle Caliber Suppressors** typically mount on some sort of muzzle device vice screwing directly on to the barrel and they are generally not user serviceable. Centerfire rifle calibers burn much hotter than pistol calibers and far less carbon / powder residue is deposited in their associated suppressors, therefore they don’t require much cleaning.
4. **Hybrid Suppressors** are more universal and can function on both rifles and pistols, and some can handle full-auto firearms! Similar to rifle caliber suppressors, hybrids mount on a muzzle device and are generally not user serviceable.
5. **Shotgun Suppressors** are not common. They can be large and bulky, impacting the host shotgun’s balance and swing.

Gary went over the various means of mounting suppressors. He noted that putting a suppressor on the end of a barrel can change the gun’s point of impact, so it is important that the mounting system be reliable and repeatable.



a total VGCA membership of 504. George introduced those new members and guests who were able to join us that evening.

Ed Costello announced that Rick Nahas had resigned as Vice President, though he will remain the VGCA Gun Show Director. In accordance with VGCA By Laws, the Officers and Board of Directors appointed George Dungan to serve out the remainder of the Rick's term (through May 2024). Congratulations George!

Rob Becker reminded everyone that there will not be a membership meeting in July and that our next meeting would be August 25<sup>th</sup>. He also asked for newsletter articles – to include reviews of gun shows or gun-related books and museums.



## ★ Membership Chairman's Report

**New Applications for Membership:** Since the last Newsletter, there have been four new applicants for membership.

- **Parker Traxler** of Hume *sponsored by Al Reid*
- **David Perkins** of Centreville *sponsored by Keith Simmons*
- **William Gaston** of Manassas *sponsored by Bruce Buchner*
- **Dean Westman** of Fairfax *sponsored by William Melancon*

Thanks to the applicants for their interest in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association and to their sponsors for promoting the Association and keeping the membership growing.

If there are any comments or questions on any applicant, please notify any Officer, Director, or the Membership Chair. **George Dungan, Membership Chair** can be reached at [george@eccominv.com](mailto:george@eccominv.com) or 571-243-6387.

**Notice to New Member Sponsors:** VGCA will be discontinuing hard copy versions of the VGCA Newsletters at a future date. *Please make sure your prospective applicants include a legible email address and telephone contact number* if at all possible. Without an email address new members will NOT receive any newsletter or VGCA announcements.

**Membership Numbers:** There are currently 427 Life members, and 77 Annual Members, for a total of 504 members in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc.

**Recruiting:** Membership in the VGCA is a great way for people with an interest in the history, development, and use of firearms to broaden their knowledge and pass what they know on to others. It also offers the opportunity to network with individuals who have similar interests. To help facilitate new membership we have a recruiting table at every Chantilly gun show and also at our VGCA gun shows. If you would like to volunteer to work a shift at the Chantilly show please contact Marc Gorelick at [gorelickmarc13rarius@hotmail.com](mailto:gorelickmarc13rarius@hotmail.com), for the VGCA show please contact Brice Buchner at [buchnerb@cox.net](mailto:buchnerb@cox.net), or George Dungan for either event.

*George Dungan*, Membership Chair





# ★ Successful Summer of VGCA Recruiting!

The VGCA had a recruiting table at both the June and July Chantilly Gun Shows. We would like to thank the following members who volunteered their time and helped to make it a successful recruiting summer for us:

Allan Rupparr	Sydney Rodda
Bruce Buchner	Al Reid
Joe Roberts	Keith Simmons
Joe Wagner	King VonSchilling
Tim Ward	John Babey
Chris Britton	Rick Hanson
William Melancon	Troy Blackwood
Frank Cooper	Chris De Francisci



We would also like to thank all of the other members who stopped by to offer their support, knowledge, and suggestions. Through your efforts at the last two Chantilly Gun Shows, we were able to recruit four new members for the VGCA. Keep up the great work!

## Tank Farm Open House Will be 24 & 25 September

Held annually in Nokesville, Virginia to benefit the “Americans in Wartime Experience,” the Tank Farm Open House is always a fun event for the entire family. Who doesn’t like to see large military vehicles on display or roaring around on a muddy track? Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, there is plenty to experience, including military tanks and armored vehicles spanning over 80 years, K9 demonstrations, veteran interviews, living history unit displays and reenactments, historical displays, veteran support groups, children’s activities, food vendors, flame thrower demos and much more!



Photos are from last year’s open house. From left to right, reenactors relax on an M4 Sherman, a Soviet PT-76 is put through its paces for the crowd, and VGCA member Mike Hardesty is checking out an M1917 Browning .30 caliber machine gun (1 of 2, plus an M2 .50 cal.) mounted on an M3A1 scout car.

Go to this link for more information: [Open House 2022 | Americans in Wartime Experience](#)

# THE Kbsp wz. 1938M

## *Poland's Pre-War Self Loading Rifle at the Warsaw Uprising Museum*

*By James Anderson*

This past May, I had the opportunity to visit the Warsaw Uprising Museum in Warsaw, Poland. This is a really intriguing museum that does a fine job of bringing to light Poland's brutal WWII experience under the occupation of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. It mostly covers the 2 month period between August and October 1944 where the underground resistance of Poland, called Polish Home Army, rose up against German occupation using a collection of stolen and makeshift weapons built-up throughout the previous 5 years. Numerous displays and artifacts showed not only the weapons used by the Home Army but also the utter destruction of the city in the aftermath of the battle.



Much of the fighting was done ferociously from street block to street block, sewer to sewer, and the Home Army was able to take most of Central Warsaw in the first week of the fighting. This uprising was ultimately prompted by the belief that the advancing Red Army, right on the doorsteps of Warsaw, would quickly come to their aid and end the 5

year German occupation of their city. However, Stalin instead decided to halt his forces on the other side of the river and wait for the Germans to crush the uprising first. German forces would be left weaker and the Soviet Union wouldn't have to deal with the possibility of pro-Western Polish sentiment standing in the way of a post-war Communist Poland. In the end, over 16,000 members of the Polish Home Army were killed and another 200,000 Polish civilians were killed in the aftermath, leaving 85% of the city completely destroyed. This museum pays tribute to those who fought and were lost fighting for Polish freedom.

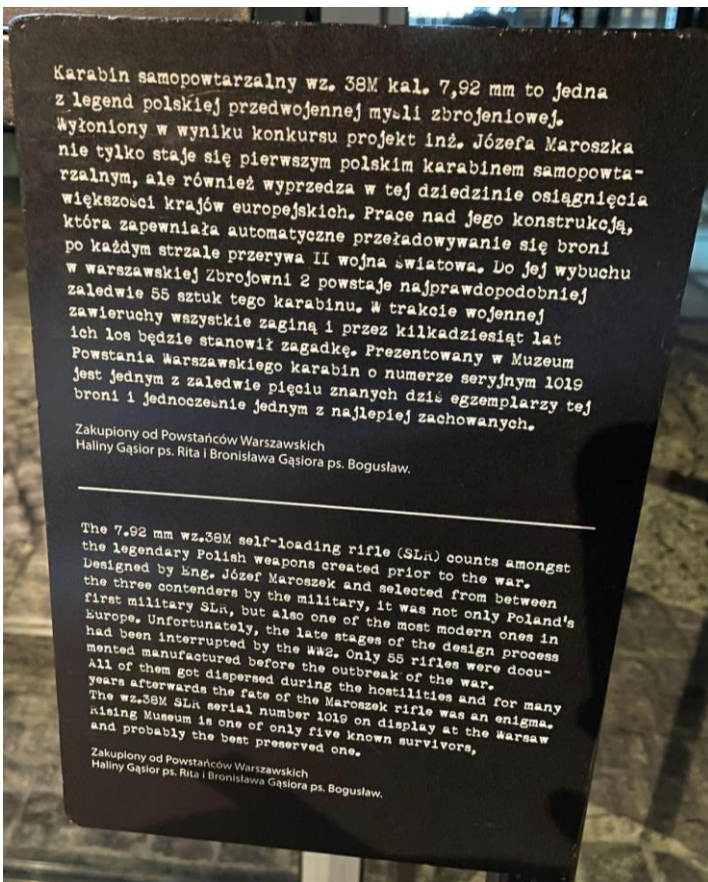




*Figure Above: [Kbwp wz. 1938M serial number 1019 on display at the Warsaw Uprising Museum in May 2022. The rifle is encased in a window display so the picture is a bit hard to see]*

One intriguing display that caught my eye was a rifle that looked oddly like a miniature version of a Browning Automatic Rifle. Upon further inspection of the nameplate, I saw that it was labeled the Kbwp

wz. 1938M (Karabin samopowtarzalny wzór 38M or Self-repeating rifle Model 1938M) which I had never heard of before but knew right away that it was a self-loading rifle because of its exterior features. This rifle was unique as it was an early example of a semi-automatic weapon developed and considered for adoption by a European power prior to the start of WWII. It was originally developed by Polish engineer Józef Maroszek who had been building prototype self-loading rifles since the early 1930's and won a Polish government Self Loading Rifle trials test in 1934.



Starting in 1936, several samples of this rifle were manufactured and a small batch of roughly 150 of them were ordered to be manufactured in Radom by the Polish Army in 1938. Because of the invasion of Poland in 1939, we don't know if the Polish Army intended for it to be put into general production and the only known use of this weapon in combat was by the designer himself who claims to have shot at two low

flying German aircraft with his invention during the evacuation of the Weaponry Technology Institute. Allegedly the gunner of one of the planes was injured and pilot of the other aircraft was killed while Józef was firing through the cabin window of the train car he was occupying (according to his post-war memoirs). An unknown number of these rifles are said to still exist to this today but at least 6 are accounted for and documented.



*Figure Above: [Notice safety lever right above the trigger guard and the bolt handle adjacent to the receiver]*

The 1938M uses a Browning style upward tilting bolt locking mechanism, has a gas tube midway up the barrel, and ejects spent shells through the top of the receiver. Furthermore, it's chambered in 8mm Mauser and is fed through the top of the receiver using stripper clips into a non-detachable box magazine with a capacity for 10 cartridges. It weighs just 9.9 lbs., has an overall length of 44.60 inches, and a barrel length of 24.6 inches. The rear sights is a typical Mauser tangent leaf design that is adjustable from 300 to 2,000 meters.

Upon my return home to the United States, I did a little more research into this rifle and the other examples known to still exist around the world. I soon discovered that the particular rifle on display at the Warsaw Uprising Museum (serial number 1019) was the subject of an international dispute between the Polish government and a firearms collector who then resided in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Without full knowledge of the backstory, I'll share what I've gathered from several online sources and articles published about the incident. For example, this article published by the Denver Post in 2013, [Settlement in case of rare Polish rifle seized from Virginia gun collector](#), discusses the dispute in more detail. Here's an additional blog post from Guns.com in 2014, [The Strange Case of the Kris Gajior and](#)



[His Kbsp wz.38M Rifle](#), referencing the episode. You can also find some additional scattered information online from the [Washington Post](#) and [Washington Times](#) but not much after the year of the incident.

This story begins on March 8, 2013, when several agents of the Department of Homeland Security (it's been noted in several different sources that it varied between 2-4 agents) entered the Virginia home of Kristopher Gasior who then proceeded to seize a Kbsp wz. 1938M rifle from his private weapons collection. The reason behind this sudden confiscation? The Polish government claimed that because this rifle was stolen from them during WWII, it was therefore rightly Polish state property. Even though the rifle was brought home as a war trophy by an American G.I. after the war, Polish officials reasoned that war trophies could only be of captured enemy origin and because Poland was an Allied power alongside the United States, that this was still Polish property.

Kris, himself a Polish immigrant coming to the United States in the 1980's, acquired the rifle in 1993 from another collector but when he decided to sell some of his collection online, the Polish government noticed. They considered the rifle to have highly important cultural and engineering significance to them and quickly jumped on the opportunity to retrieve this extremely rare weapon.



*Figure Above: [Notice the gas tube midway up the shaft and the muzzle break at the end of the barrel. The bayonet lug fits a Polish wz.29 rifle bayonet and the front sight is a typical Mauser design]*

Long story short; Kris, the United States government, and the Polish government seemed to want to avoid a long drawn out international claims battle and he decided to come to an agreement with the Polish government to transfer ownership of the rifle to them for \$25,000 (far less than the \$65,000 he put it on the market for). As part of this deal the Polish government agreed that this rifle would be displayed at the Polish Uprising Museum and so there it currently resides for gun enthusiasts like me to look at and take pictures of.

This, of course, wouldn't be a proper rare weapon if this rifle wasn't featured in a *Forgotten Weapons* episode with Ian McCollum, [who filmed an overview of the](#) gun at the James D. Julia Auction House in the spring of 2017. Ian shows us a breakdown of the rifle and its inner workings as he beautifully does every time. The one shown in Ian's video, however, is serial number 1048, while the one involved in the 2013 controversy is #1019. According to the archives of the 2017 James D. Julia auction sale, the Polish

government (more specifically, the Polish Ministry of National Defense) purchased rifle #1048 at the April 2017 auction for \$69,000 from the private collection of Bob Faris, [American firearms expert and Korean War educator who passed away in 2012](#).

It looks like the Polish government won't pass up on the opportunity to get all known examples of the Kbsp wz. 1938M back into Poland but opted to just buy it at auction this time rather than go through the headache of getting the U.S. State Department involved. Rifle #1019 is at the Warsaw Uprising Museum as pictured above, #1027 is in the collection of the Polish Army Museum in Warsaw (although deactivated), and #1048 is now in Poland as of 2017 but I'm not certain where this one is displayed or kept at the moment.

Other known examples of the Kbsp wz. 1938M outside of Poland; #1014 is in the hands of a private German collector, #1030 is in the private collection of Waclaw Ustupski (a Polish-American collector based in Chicago), and one is said to reside in the Central Armed Forces Museum in Moscow (serial no. unknown). There could be more out there in private collections that haven't been made known to the public or simply lost to history. One could pop up in an attic at any time, but more likely they were destroyed during the war.



# REMINGTON-KEENE AND THE INDIAN POLICE

*By Tim Prince and Marc Gorelick*

For most American gun collectors Remington-Keene rifles and carbines are primarily linked with the western frontier. Although some Remington-Keenes were used by the US Navy, and western movie/gun aficionados will recall them being used in the Clint Eastwood movie *Joe Kidd* and the Tom Selleck movie *Crossfire Trail*, most collectors and historians associate them with the Indian Police and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



*Photo - Tim Prince*



The Bureau of Indian Affairs, one of the oldest departments of the US government, was officially established in 1824 as a bureau within the Department of War. Prior to establishment of the Bureau, Indian affairs were handled by the Office of Indian Trade in the War Department which licensed fur traders to maintain the lucrative factory trading network of the fur trade. The President appointed a commissioner to handle the affairs and relationships between the US government and the various indigenous tribes that inhabited the states and territories of the United States. This commissioner reported directly to the President and Congress. William Clark, of the famous Lewis & Clark “Corps of Discovery” expedition, was one of the first commissioners to hold that position.

In 1849 the Bureau of Indian Affairs was transferred from the War Department to the newly established Department of the Interior. Initially the Bureau of Indian Affairs (B.I.A.), like the predecessor Office of Indian Trade, was responsible for regulating trade with the various Native American nations, buying land from the tribes, negotiating treaties, supervising the payouts of annuities guaranteed by the treaties, etc. However, as the 19<sup>th</sup> century progressed, the B.I.A. became more involved with management of the newly established reservations that many of the tribes were removed to. The B.I.A. oversaw the delivery of government provisions and subsidies to the Indians on the reservations and supervised, although often poorly, the agents appointed to manage the reservations. Being an Indian agent could be a lucrative appointment and corruption was not unknown. As the reservations grew, so did the need for reservation specific law enforcement agencies to keep the peace, settle disputes, and capture criminals. By the mid-1800’s many Indian Agents had established ad-hoc local police forces, made up local reservation Indians who were willing to “enforce the law” as established by the reservation agent. Often these groups were not uniformed and were poorly equipped, relying on local army outposts for any weapons that could be spared.



*Right and left views of Indian Police Remington-Keene “Frontier Model.” Photo - Tim Prince*



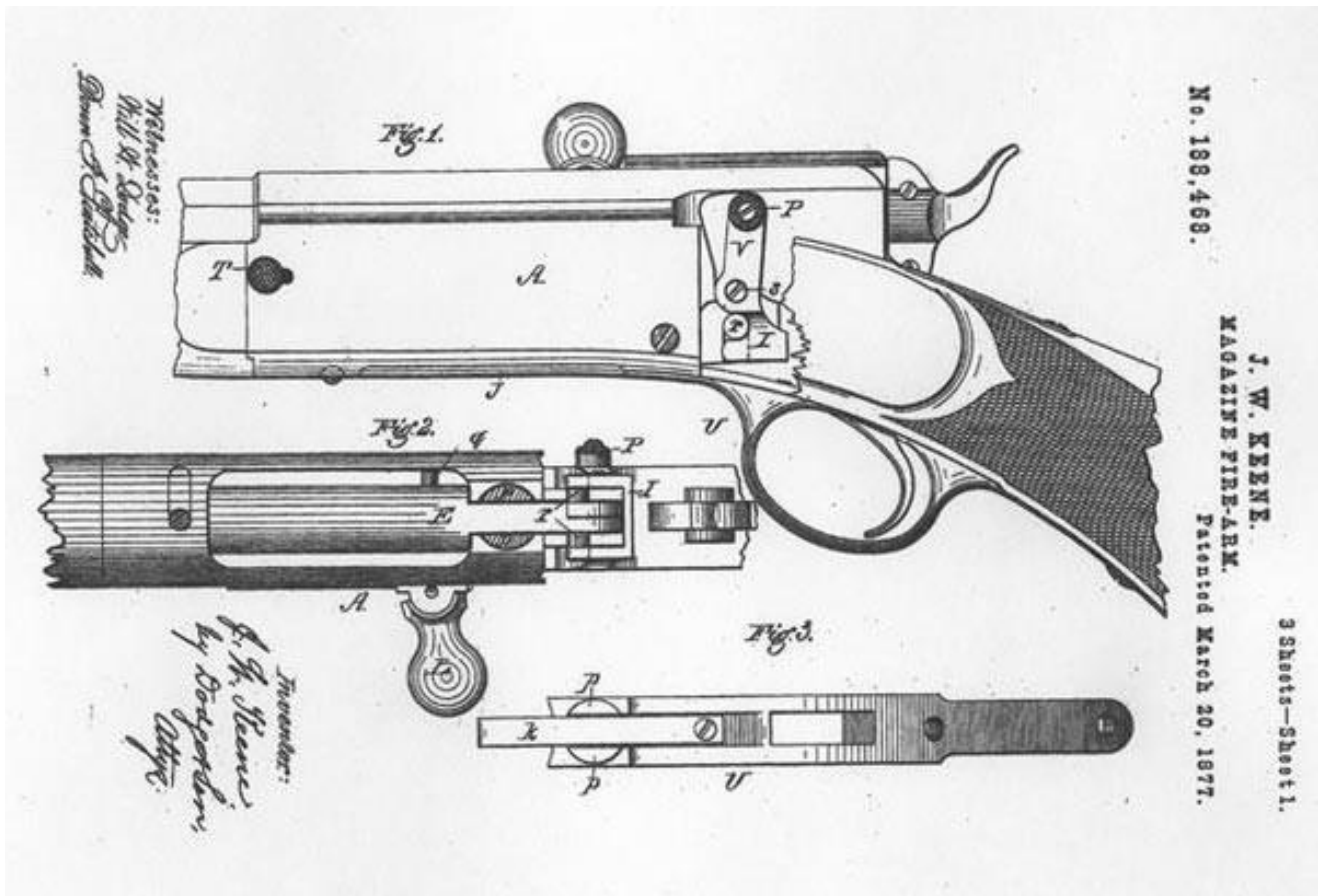


In 1878 the B.I.A. established an official Indian Police force, under the direct control of the bureau, thus taking the control of the policemen away from unscrupulous Indian Agents who occasionally used their ad-hoc police as reservation “enforcers”. The new system meant that reservation law enforcement now had a budget and would be supplied and regulated by Washington. It also meant regular monthly pay for the Indian police, although at between \$5 and \$8 per month, it was rather low. By the end of the first year of implementation some 22 of the 68 Indian Agencies had their own B.I.A. police force and by 1890 59 of the 68 agencies would have Indian Police. The new police force often drew its members from the traditional tribal law enforcement and warrior societies, such as the Dog and Kit-Fox Societies. For example, among the Lakota (Teton Sioux) people, those who had held the traditional tribal “police” position had been known as *Aki’citas*. These hand-selected men, the most honorable and preeminent within the various warrior societies of the Lakota provided security and organizational control during the buffalo-hunting season. In 1879, many of the former *Aki’citas* on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota joined the newly formed Indian Police, continuing their traditional roll of protecting and caring for their people.

*Photo of Black Coyote, a chief of the Southern Arapahoe who was also an officer in the Indian Police, and a leader in the Ghost Dance. Later in life he was a member of a tribal delegation to Washington. He is wearing his uniform and holding a Remington-Keene USID rifle. Note the Remington Model 1875 in a holster on his right hip.*

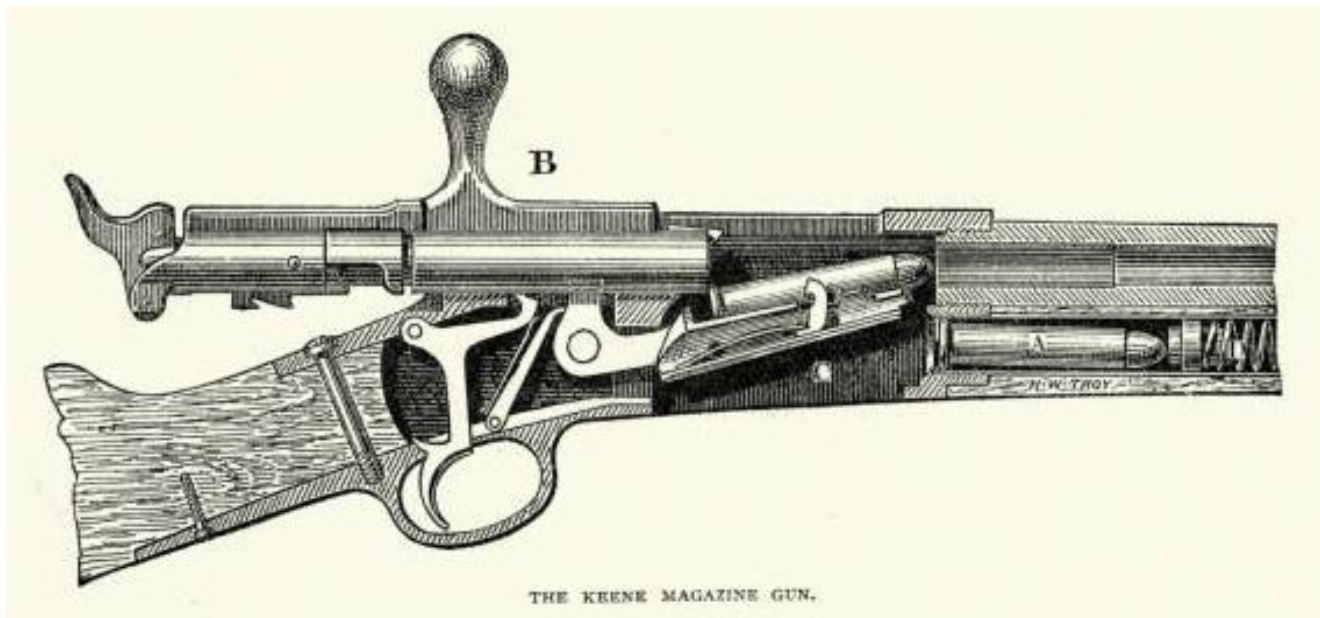
Federal control of the police also meant official equipment and uniforms. The uniforms basically followed the style and type issued to Indian Scouts working for the US Army on the frontier, with the primary uniform article being a 5-button fatigue blouse of dark blue wool, and an Indian Police badge. The supply of weapons to the Indian Police was somewhat inconsistent and not nearly as standardized as the uniforms, and the Police were often equipped with cast off or surplus arms from the US Army. In 1880 the US Department of the Interior moved to standardize and equip the police with modern arms and purchased 650 Remington Model 1875 Single Action Army Revolvers (.44-40) and 600 Remington-Keene Frontier Rifles (.45-70) for issuance to the Indian Police.

The choice of the Remington-Keene Frontier Rifle for use by the Indian Police is an interesting one. It may have been motivated by the decision to purchase the Model 1875 revolvers from Remington, with the theory that adding long arms to the same order might improve the pricing on the entire purchase. When the order was placed in July 1880, the Remington-Keene Magazine Bolt Action Rifle was the only repeating rifle offered by Remington that was not a revolving firearm. Remington had concentrated on the development and marketing of its rolling block series of single-shot rifles after the conclusion of the American Civil War and, unlike many other arms manufacturers, had not actively pursued the development of a repeating rifle. When the US Army announced that it was convening a “Magazine Gun Board” to hold trials for a repeating rifle design in 1878, Remington was left scrambling for a potential submission. They obtained the rights to a series of patents held by gun designer John W. Keene of New Jersey. Keene had been working on his bolt action repeating rifle since the early 1870’s and patented the first of nine patents for his design in 1874.



*John Keene US Patent 188,468 dated March 20, 1877*

Keene's design was for a bolt-action repeating rifle with a tubular magazine located under the barrel. The bolt action operated in the typical manner. The action was unlocked by raising the bolt upward and when it was pulled to the rear an empty cartridge case was extracted and ejected. When the bolt was almost at its rearward movement the "magazine elevator" raised a fresh cartridge from the tubular magazine into position to be chambered when the bolt was pushed forward. When the bolt locked when pushed fully forward it automatically brought the external hammer (actually a cocking piece) to the half cock position. The shooter then had to manually cock the cocking piece/hammer before firing. The cocking piece/hammer made it easy for anyone handling the gun to know immediately if the rifle was cocked or not, a feature that found favor with the army. Locking the bolt on the rifle was performed by a single large lug, which also functioned as the bolt handle. Keene's design allowed the tube magazine to be loaded either through the top with the bolt open or, with the bolt closed, through a loading port on the bottom of the frame.



*19<sup>th</sup> century engraving of the Remington-Keene Action from American Arms and Ammunition*

The design included a magazine cut-off on the left side of the receiver, allowing the rifle to be used as a single shot and saving the cartridges in the magazine for “emergencies” when rapid fire was essential. Keene’s simple, yet sturdy bolt action design was well adapted to use with the large .45-70 Government cartridge that was specified for the Army rifle trials. Lever action rifles of the late 1870s had yet to be designed that had strong enough actions and that would function reliably with that cartridge, so Remington felt their bolt-action repeater would have a significant advantage over other competing designs. Of the rifles submitted for trial in 1878, the lever action designs fared quite poorly, as did experimentally altered Springfield Model 1873 “Trapdoor” rifles with tubular magazines in the buttstock. However, the bolt-action designs submitted by Remington, Winchester, Colt and Sharps all acquitted themselves very well. In the end the Winchester-Hotchkiss was the winning design, but the Remington design received mostly favorable marks, especially for the external hammer shaped cocking lever.

Although the trials did not produce the desired Army contract, the Remington-Keene rifle did well enough that the Navy ordered 250 of the rifles early in 1880 to issue experimentally, alongside the already adopted Winchester-Hotchkiss Rifles and an equally experimental design by James Paris Lee. This order may have convinced the Department of the Interior to try the Remington-Keene design as well, as they placed their order for 600 “Frontier” models in July of that same year. The Navy variant of the Remington-Keene had a 29 ¼” round barrel, with a 9-round tubular magazine under the barrel mostly enclosed and protected by a wooden forend. The Department of the Interior “Frontier” variant was a mixture of carbine and rifle features, with a 24” round “rifle” length barrel with 5-groove rifling. It had an 8-round tubular magazine, a carbine style buttplate and front barrel band, and military rifle style sling swivels on the forend cap and under the toe of the stock. Both rifles were chambered for the .45-70 Government cartridge. In both cases the barrels and receivers and some furniture were blued, the “hammers” and buttplates were case hardened and the bolt body was left in the white. It had a military ladder style rear sight on the barrel, just in front of the receiver and a drift adjustable front blade sight. The magazine cut-off on the left side of the receiver allowed the gun to be used as a single shot. The weight was about 8 pounds.





*Remington-Keene Indian Police rifle with bolt open. Note the cocking piece on the bolt and, in the top photo, the magazine elevator. The bolt handle is the only locking lug. Photos by Tim Prince.*

Remington shipped the 600 "Frontier" Model rifles to the Department of the Interior in July and August 1880 at a unit cost of \$17.50. They were then shipped to reservations in the American west. (Note: According Howard Madaus and Simeon Stoddard of the Cody Firearms Museum, the US Interior Department purchased between 750 and 800 Remington-Keene rifles in five lots of 150 or 160 guns each between April and October 1880. End Note.)

Lt. William W. Kimball of the US Navy conducted the inspection of the Navy contract Remington-Keene rifles and marked their receivers with his initials "WWK" as well as a "US" a "P" and a naval anchor stamp. Kimball also did the initial inspections of the Interior Department Remington-Keene rifles, again marking the receiver with his "WWK" initials and a "P" mark but using a feathered arrow instead of an anchor. The Department of the Interior guns were then further inspected by Springfield Armory sub-inspector Henry Nettleton, who placed his "HN" initials on the left side of the barrel and the receiver at

their juncture, and his cartouche on the left wrist of the stock. The guns were additionally marked on the left side of the receiver **U.S.I.D.** for *United States Interior Department* followed by a serial number from 1 to 600. The top of the bolt is marked in three lines:

**E. REMINGTON & SONS. ILION, N.Y.  
PAT. FEB'Y 24 MCH. 17, 1874 JAN 18  
SEPT 26 1876 MCH. 20 JULY 31, 1877**

Some of the USID Indian Police Remington-Keenes have been observed with a small anchor stamped on the barrel, in addition to the feathered arrow. This does not mean that it was a Navy gun. The anchor mark is often observed on various Remington arms and was an internal Remington inspection code stamp that had nothing to do with the Navy.



*Markings on Remington-Keene Indian Police rifle. "P," "WWK" and feathered arrow on receiver near gas vent hole. U.S.I.D. and number of rifle on left side of receiver. Henry Nettleton's "HN" cartouche on left side of wrist. Photo – Tim Prince*

Remington saw the sales of the 850 of the Remington-Keene rifles to the US government (Navy and Interior Department combined) as a fortuitous indicator of future sales and went into production with civilian variant "Sporting" and "Hunting" rifle (24 ¼" barrel) and carbine (22" barrel) versions. The guns were offered in the standard .45-70 government chambering as well as .43 Spanish and .40-60. Remington also offered an Army model "musket" with full-length wooden forend enclosing the magazine and a 32 ½" long barrel. In the end, the design languished and did not sell well. Between 1880 and 1883, less than 5,000 of all the Remington-Keene variants were produced. The bolt action Remington-Keene was actually more expensive than the popular Winchester lever guns. While there were no significant issues with the design, it was not particularly remarkable either. When the Army convened another Trials Board in 1881 to evaluate magazine rifles, Remington submitted two Frontier Model rifles. Although the Remington-Keene rifles did well in the tests it was not selected for further consideration. The result of this and the lackluster sales convinced Remington to pursue their other more successful bolt action design, the Remington-Lee. In fact, some believe that the cost of the new machinery needed to produce the Keene rifles helped push Remington into bankruptcy. In any case, when Remington went into receivership in 1886, production ended on the Remington-Keene soon after for good. John W. Keene did not live to see the failure of his brainchild, having died in 1880 just as his design was entering production.





*Right side of Remington-Keene Indian Police rifle showing bolt in locked position and cocking piece/hammer cocked. Photo – Tim Prince*



The Indian Police rifles saw hard use on the reservations during the 1880s, and no doubt some remained in use well past the turn of the century. When these rare rifles are found for sale they are often devoid of finish and some look like they have been drug in the mud behind a buffalo. The Remington-Keene stock design is notoriously weak in the wrist area, and most surviving examples show major cracks, breaks and repairs in that area. They often show bumps, dings, minor scrapes, and mars that are expected to be found on an old west government service weapon that was likely transported on horseback for hundreds of miles. Despite this, US Indian Police marked and used arms are extremely rare and incredibly desirable collectibles and to locate one in good condition is a rare find.



**FRONTIER RIFLE.**

MODEL FURNISHED INTERIOR DEPARTMENT FOR ARMING THE INDIAN POLICE.

Plain Walnut Stock, Military Finish, with Swivels for Slings, 24 inch Barrel, carrying 9 Cartridges.....\$22 00

*Photo left is a Sioux Indian Policeman with a Remington-Keene rifle and a Remington Model 1875 Revolver. Image above right is from a Remington manual/catalogue of the 1880's. Note that the price to the public was \$22.*





# Ammunition Caution!

## 6.5x55mm Danish

*By Marc Gorelick*



We all like to shoot guns in our collections. And collect the vintage ammunition that goes with the guns in our collections. The Swedish Mausers in 6.5x55mm are among the most accurate regular issue service rifles that were ever made. They are fun to shoot. Besides the inherent accuracy of the round with its flat trajectory, recoil is moderate and, when hunting medium size game, stopping power is more than adequate. However, you should be aware that shooting some Danish 6.5x55 ammunition can be dangerous.

Apparently, large quantities of Danish 6.5x55mm with 156 grain round nose bullets were imported into the U.S. When misidentified as Swedish manufactured 6.5x55mm and used in Swedish Mausers, the results can be less than optimal. The problematic Danish bullet jackets are of soft rolled copper, which causes excessive fouling of the barrel. When standard Swedish steel jacketed cartridges (or Danish steel jacketed cartridges) or any other bullet with a gilding metal jacket, are fired after Danish cartridges, especially if the barrel is not meticulously cleaned of fouling caused by the Danish bullets, the results can be catastrophic. **The fouling raises pressures to unsafe levels and explosive incidents have occurred.**

The Danish ammunition is a round nosed ball cartridge, based on the Swedish M94, which was used during and after World War II with the Swedish Mausers that the Danish anti-Nazi “Brigade,” Danish army and homeguard units were armed with. This cartridge was also popular with post-war rifle clubs as was the later M41 spitzer cartridge.

As a precaution, make sure the barrel is thoroughly cleaned after using Danish ammunition. Avoid use of Danish 6.5x55mm carrying the following headstamps: **V146** (number of drawing), **48** (year of manufacture), **HA** (Haerens Army ammunition factory), and sometimes a “**triangle**” (denoting brass reworked to correct anvil). Also, these cartridges are mercuric primed (*and therefore corrosive – editor*).



Sources:

- *The Crown Jewels, the Mauser in Sweden, Dana Jones, Collector Grade Publications 2003*
- *The Book of Rifles, W.H.B. Smith and Joseph. E. Smith, The Stackpole Company, 1963*
- *The Swedish Mauser Rifles, Steve Kehaya & Joe Poyer, North Cape Publications, 1999*
- *Neutrality Through Marksmanship, The Collector's and Shooter's Guide to Swedish Military Rifles 1867-1942, Doug Baowser, Camellia City Military Publications, 1996*
- *Arma-Dania, The Virtual Museum of Danish Arms and Armor, <https://www.arma-dania.dk/public>*
- *Cartridges of the World, Frank Barnes, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition*
- *Various Gunboards*

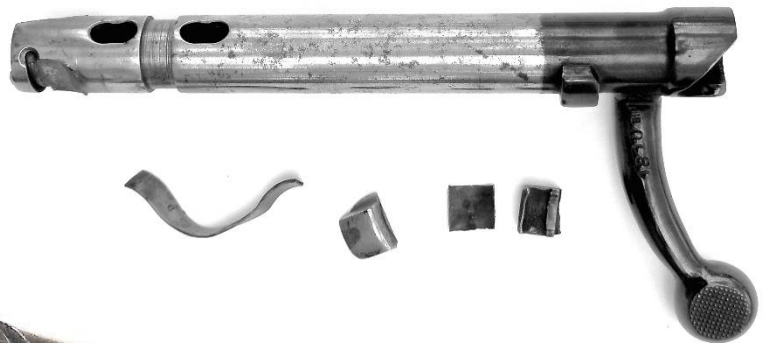
# “What Happened?”

*By Claus Marzen and Tom Ring*

This article illustrates damaged firearms parts resulting from the use of inappropriate ammunition, bore obstructions, shooter's carelessness or unawareness, and/or perhaps bad metallurgy. In all cases the owners, shooters, and sportsmen were not injured.

For years, gunsmith Tom Ring accumulated an interesting assortment of damaged firearms and/or their components to note and study the causes of their damage. It was reasoned that the knowledge gained from this endeavor would be useful in the future should such damage be noted again. The authors gathered sufficient credible evidence as to the reason(s) for the demise of certain selected firearms. A summary of the results of the various firearms investigations along with comments are subsequently noted in the captioned illustrations.

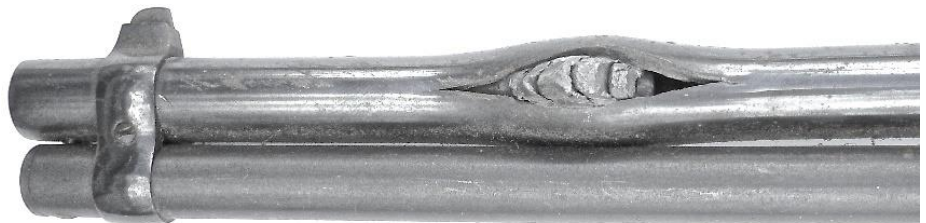
**Figure 1.** The bolt from a sporting rifle, model Mk X, ALASKAN, .375 H&H magnum, by Zastava, Yugoslavia. The damage was caused by a charge overload from a re-loaded round. The salvaged pieces shown are the extractor band, extractor head, and pieces of locking lugs.



Note the sheared bolt face.



**Figure 2.** A bulged and split barrel of model SRC (saddlery carbine), .357 magnum or .38 SPL, by Rossi, Brazil. Apparently the shooter, unaware that the first bullet was lodged in the barrel, perhaps caused by an under-load, fired four additional rounds during which time the barrel split. The rifle's action was also ruined.



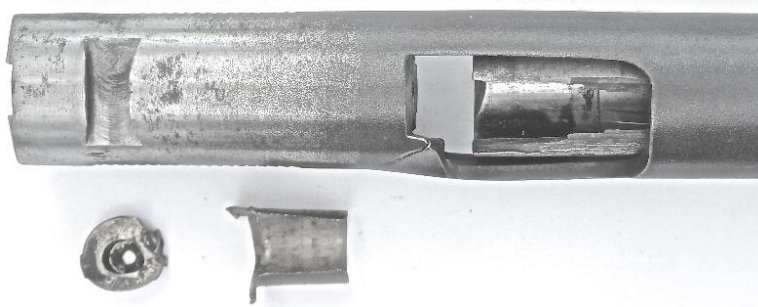
**Figure 3.** The bulged and split barrel of an Overland (internal hammers), double-barrel shotgun, 12 Gauge, by Rossi, Brazil. The damage was caused by a wad lodged in one of the barrels.



**Figure 4.** A ripped-open barrel of a Danish Madsen SMG, Model 50, 9 x 19 mm caliber. The damage was initiated by the first bullet lodged inside the barrel - most likely bad ammunition. But, since the case ejected, the gun continued firing additional rounds until it jammed. The first bullet is somewhat visible inside the muzzle.

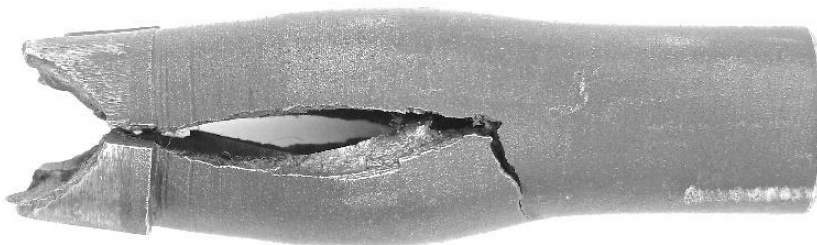


**Figure 5.** Even the venerable Colt .45 cal. automatic, model 1911A1 is not immune from accidents. The barrel, slide, and receiver were destroyed most likely from a double charge of powder from a reloaded round. The split-open cartridge case and its base section, and the inside of barrel's chamber are shown.





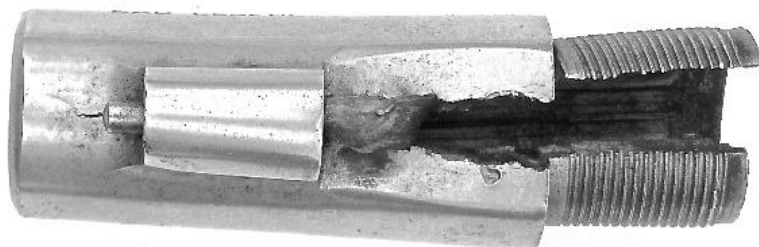
**Figure 6.** A burst barrel end of a British Enfield, No. 4, .303 caliber. This particular rifle was part of a large surplus rifle purchase. The cause of the ruptured and split barrel end is unknown. This particular specimen had its barrel end cut off and the remaining good parts salvaged.



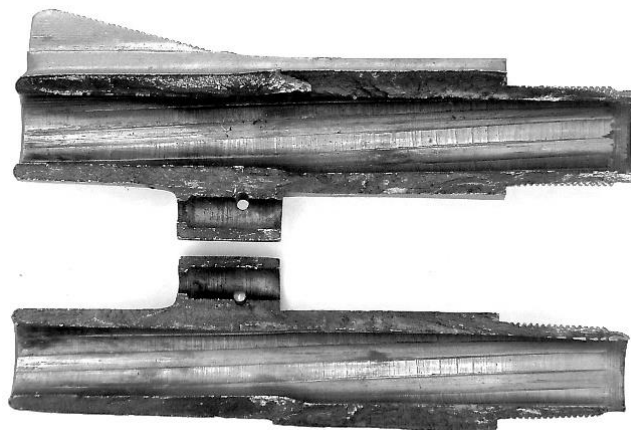
**Figure 7.** This is a sectioned, 3-inch barrel of a model 68, five-shot, .38 SPL revolver by Rossi, Brazil. Four bullets impacted into each other as a result of the first bullet lodged in the barrel. The unaware shooter continued to fire the revolver until it jammed before the fifth round could be fired.



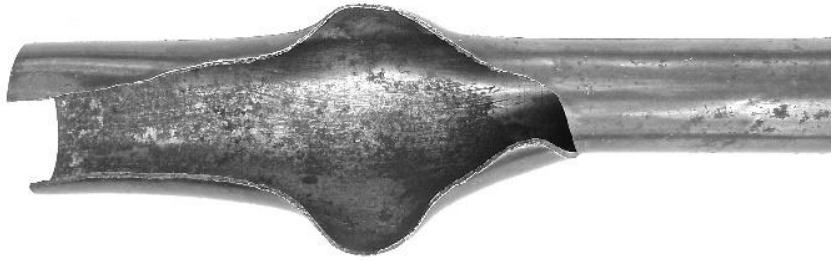
**Figure 8.** A burst, two-inch, stainless steel barrel of a model 88, .38 SPL, five-shot revolver by Rossi, Brazil. The split barrel resulted from a bullet (s) lodged in the barrel. The receiver was also split.



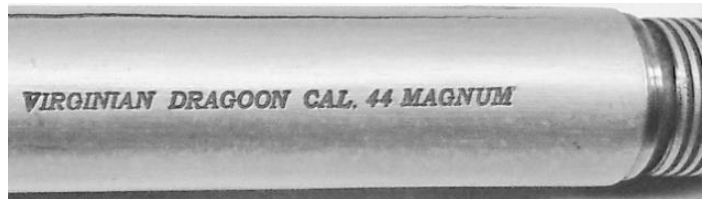
**Figure 9.** A split in-half, three-inch, stainless steel barrel, also a model 88, .38 SPL, five-shot revolver by Rossi, Brazil. The damage was most likely caused by a patch left in the bore as there seems to be a slight bulge in the middle of the barrel. The receiver was also destroyed.



**Figure 10.** This is a bulged-out and ripped-open section of barrel of a double barrel coach shotgun, external hammers, 12 Gauge, by Rossi, Brazil. The damage, again, was caused by a lodged wad.



**Figure 11.** The split barrel of this model Virginian Dragoon, Caliber .44 Magnum, six-shot revolver, resulted from, apparently, poor metallurgy. Blown cylinders had also been associated with this model and caliber revolver.



*Editor's Note: Ours is an unforgiving hobby if you get complacent. Lives can be forever changed in addition to firearms being ruined. My thanks to the authors for providing graphic evidence to remind us of what can happen if you are not careful or paying attention.*



# GUNS OF DISTINCTION

## AUSTRIAN HUSSAR CARBINE M.1798

*By Marc Gorelick*

*Photos of the M.1798 carbine courtesy of Joh. Springer's Erben, Vienna, Austria*



The cavalry of the Austrian Army of the Napoleonic era was one of the premier mounted corps of Europe. The Austrian cavalry was divided into various types: Cuirassiers, Dragoons, Uhlans, Chevaulegers, and the famous Hussars. Like many other countries' cavalry arms, they wore a variety of ornate and colorful uniforms, and it seemed that each type of cavalry had its own set of swords and firearms. For instance, the different types of the Austrian cavalry were equipped with at least three different carbines, all Model 1798 but all slightly differing in dimensions and specifications.

The Austrian army during the Napoleonic Wars had 12 Hussar regiments. The Hussars were light cavalry and the name 'Hussar' derives originally from the Latin word *cursarius*, meaning raider, and originally referred to marauders in the northern Balkans. However, it was adopted by the Magyar people of Hungary as the name for irregular light cavalry. Over the years their status was formalized and they became regular army units – the elite light cavalry of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Although recruitment into the elite regiments was voluntary, requirements were strict, for instance, “under no circumstances were they to include dishonorable professions [hangmen and horse butchers], notorious people, gypsies ....” The Hungarian hussars were light cavalry par excellence, used for scouting, screening, escorts and battle, and with their colorful and romantic uniforms, became so popular that almost all other European armies formed their own hussar regiments, including France, Russia, Prussia, Sweden, and Great Britain.



The flintlock Austrian Hussar carbine, M.1798 was standard issue during the Napoleonic Wars. It is 33.3 to 33.5 inches long with an 18.5 inch long round smoothbore barrel. It is .69 caliber (17.6mm) and it weighs a little over 5.5 pounds. The barrel is square, or flattened on the sides at breech. It has a flat



lockplate with a brass pan and hook lock behind the cock. It has a walnut stock with a disproportionately large butt. Its brass furniture includes a brass front double barrel band with a front sight. The front of the long, one piece riding bar is attached to the bottom of the rear barrel band and the rear is screwed to the lock counterplate. The short ramrod was carried on the hussar's cartridge box crossbelt and was also used for a pistol.



The Austrian Hussar of the Napoleonic era was also armed with the Model 1803 saber, with a 33-inch long single edged blade. In addition, six troopers in each hussar squadron were designated as sharpshooters and armed with the M1789 Cavalry rifle/carbine, 28 inches long and weighing 5.84 pounds.

The M.1789 Austrian Hussar carbine pictured here was offered for sale by the eminent house of Joh. Springer in Vienna, Austria during a recent auction.

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## ★ In Review ★

*The "In Review" section of the newsletter includes VGCA member reviews of gun shows, books, and museums. If you would like to submit a review, please send it to the newsletter editor at [rpebecker@verizon.net](mailto:rpebecker@verizon.net)*

### ***Book Review:***

# **Gun Barons: The Weapons That Transformed America and the Men Who Invented Them**

**By John Bainbridge Jr.**

The July 12 issue of **Washington Examiner** has a book review by Varad Mehta that our members may find of interest. Link to the review is below:

[The story of the men who armed America | Washington Examiner](#)

# A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM: THE MARINERS' MUSEUM IN NEWPORT NEWS

*By Marc Gorelick*



The Mariners' Museum is not a firearms museum. It does not have a large collection of arms although some of the small arms in the museum's collections are quite rare and historically significant. Nor is it primarily a military museum. However, it is worth a visit if you are into ships and the sea, and also if you are into history, especially US Civil War naval history – specifically the Battle of Hampton Roads between the *USS Monitor* and the *CSS Virginia*.

The museum is composed of a number of centers. Perhaps some of the most interesting exhibits are in the USS Monitor Center. In 1987 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) named the Mariners' Museum the official repository for the *USS Monitor* Collection. The collection consists of over 200 tons of priceless artifacts recovered from the wreck of the famous Civil War ironclad that is located within the boundaries of NOAA's *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary.



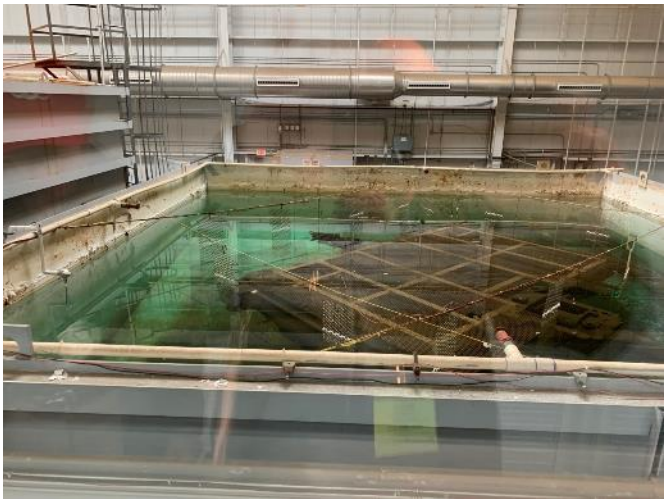
*The Monitor and Merrimac: The First Fight between Ironclads" Chromolithograph of the Battle of Hampton Roads, Produced by Louis Prang & Co., Boston, 1886 Public Domain*



*Photo left. Nine inch Dahlgren gun from the CSS Virginia. The muzzle was shot away by the USS Cumberland during their battle of March 8, 1862. When Union forces captured Norfolk they found this gun in the Navy Yard and claimed it as a trophy. Photo by author.*

The *Monitor's* artifacts are housed in an extraordinary exhibition and conservation facility that immerses the visitor in the world of the first ironclads. At the heart of the *USS Monitor Center* is the award-winning exhibition—*Ironclad Revolution*—a melding of artifacts, original documents, paintings, personal accounts, interactives and reproduced environments. The strategies, people, technology, ordnance and science

behind the historic battles the *CSS Virginia* (formerly the *USS Merrimack*) and the *USS Congress* and *Cumberland* on March 8, 1862, and the battle between the *Monitor* and the *Virginia* on March 9 are displayed in a compelling and unique way that will draw you in to the past. Those two days of battle ushered in a new era of naval warfare, where machine and armament become paramount and the graceful wooden sailing ships of the age of fighting sail became forlorn relics of the past. This first battle of ironclads marked a shift in naval warfare that would be manifested in ship design, tactics, and the psychology of the men involved. “There isn’t enough danger to give us glory,” wrote one of the *Monitor's* officers to his wife. A Confederate navy officer of a later ironclad wrote that “the poetry of the profession is gone.”



The *USS Monitor Center* houses the Batten Conservation Laboratory Complex where visitors can see the ironclad’s turret, steam engine, condenser, Dahlgren cannon, machinery, and other artifacts being preserved. Each artifact presents a different challenge to conservators as they seek to stabilize the damage done by nearly 160 years of immersion in saltwater. Once-mighty iron components such as the engine, turret, and propeller have become so fragile that they will disintegrate without careful treatment. For example, visitors can see the *Monitor's* cannon and engines undergoing treatment in giant tanks (see author’s photo left).

The *Monitor* was armed with two 11-inch Dahlgren shell guns that were located inside the revolving gun turret. The cast iron guns are over thirteen feet long with a bore diameter of eleven inches and weigh approximately eight tons each. Yet these once mighty cannon have undergone painstakingly conservation.

The *USS Monitor Center* also houses full-size replicas of the deck of the *Monitor*, the *Monitor's* turret, cabins, and fore part of the *CSS Virginia*. The museum also has a small collection of small arms that equipped the US Navy, although these are not all on public display. This collection includes not only Civil War guns but also early 18<sup>th</sup> century arms and even some 20<sup>th</sup> century guns. Among these are M1808 and M1826 Navy flintlock pistols, an Ames M1842 percussion Navy boxlock pistol, a rare Navy



marked Savage percussion revolver, and an even rarer USN marked .38 caliber Colt 1900 automatic pistol – Colt’s first automatic.



*Simeon North Model 1808 Navy Pistol made in North’s Berlin, Connecticut factory. Early North pistols made in Berlin are considered by collectors many times rarer than the later models made at Middletown. This pistol was the standard issue for the U.S. Navy during the War of 1812. North produced 3,000 Model 1808 Navy pistols – 2,000 pistols in 1808 and 1,000 in 1810. Photo Mariners Museum.*



*Colt’s first semi-automatic .38 caliber pistol with USN markings. Invented by John M. Browning and based on patents issued in 1897. In 1900 the army purchased 300 for testing and the navy purchased 250 of them in September 1900 for testing and trials. The Colt 1900 was the ancestor of the Colt Model 1911. This example is serial number 1089 and is marked U.S.N.-89 on the left side of the frame. Photo Mariners Museum.*



*Ship Model Gallery. Photo by author.*

The Museum is not just about the *Monitor* and the *Virginia*. One of the most fascinating galleries is the Ship Model Gallery. Another is the Crabtree Gallery, which houses The Miniature Ships of August F. and Winnifred Crabtree. This amazing fleet of hand-made miniatures are an unparalleled display of artistry, craftsmanship, and painstaking attention to historical detail by artist/carver August F. Crabtree. There is a gallery and exhibit that is entitled Defending the Seas, which tells the story of the navy’s vital

role in our country. And the International Small Craft Center is a 17,500 square foot facility that houses a collection of about 150 boats from 42 countries.



*Above left – 32 pounder carronade. Above right – replica of the Monitor's turret. Photos by author.*

This is a visitor friendly museum. The displays and exhibits are compelling. They not just static displays of old and rusty artifacts but they draw you into the past and often make you want to learn more. This is helped by the excellent lighting, which is often dramatic. The signage is excellent with explanations that are full without overloading the visitor in obscure minutia. Another plus for this museum is that visitors are permitted to take photographs and video.



*VGCA member Jim Leahigh stands on the deck of a full-scale replica of the USS Monitor. Photo by author.*

There is a fully stocked museum shop with plenty of things to buy, as well as a café. The Park and Trail that surround the museum are free and open to the public. The museum also hosts weddings and other events. While I was there the staff was setting up tables for a wedding reception.

The Mariners' Museum is located in Mariner's Park and Noland Trail at 100 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23606. The admission price is only \$1 per person unless you are also going to see the 3-D movie and then it is \$7. The museum is open daily from 9:00AM to 5:00PM. For additional information, go to the museum website at <https://www.marinersmuseum.org/>.





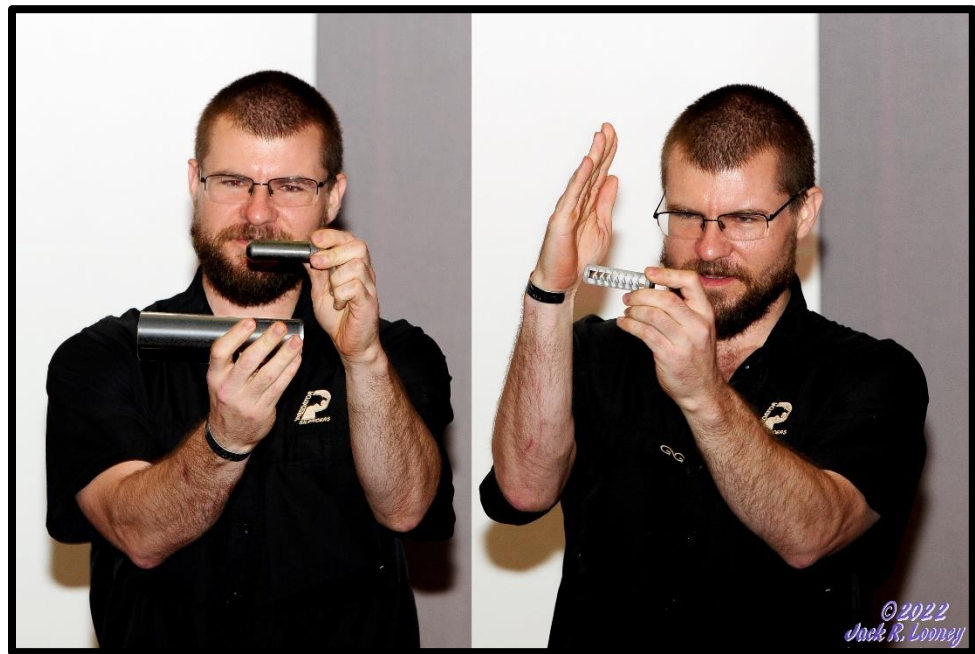
Member 1 shared his Ruger 10/22 rifle, modified for suppressor use with a Tactical Solutions SB-X barrel (right). As noted in Gary Latta's June presentation on Suppressors, one of the elements in the noise generated by firing a gun is the supersonic "crack" of the bullet – which is not affected by the use of a silencer. To get the greatest benefit from mounting a suppressor, it is best to use subsonic ammunition.



Unfortunately, subsonic ammo can cause unreliable function in semi-automatic .22 rifles. The solution? Use standard velocity .22 Long Rifle ammunition out of a short barrel. Unfortunately, a rifle barrel under 16 inches long is defined by the National Firearms Act of 1934 as a "short barreled rifle" and requires fingerprints, passport photo, and a \$200 tax to acquire (the same requirements as for the suppressor). Tactical Solutions has an answer – the SB-X barrel. This aftermarket barrel can be easily swapped with the Ruger factory barrel and features a threaded 11.5 inch rifled portion (keeping standard velocity .22 LR ammo subsonic) and a permanently attached 5 inch barrel shroud at the end. The shroud serves two purposes – it protects the shooter from the hot suppressor and it meets the minimum barrel length for a standard (not SBR) rifle. It is the best of both worlds! This particular set up includes a Hogue Overmolded stock, a Sig Romeo red dot optic, and an early Advanced Armament Pilot .22 Suppressor (see below). Member 1 noted that a suppressed .22 is "more fun than humans should be allowed to have" and is actually "Hollywood quiet!"



Member 2 brought in an unusual piece – a prototype Acadian Armaments Pantera suppressor (*at right*). Made in 2018, this .30 caliber, user serviceable suppressor with a single-piece baffle stack was marketed as being able to actually improve the accuracy potential of its host firearm.



Member 3 shared two early U.S. military pistols – both single shot .54 caliber smoothbores. The first was a Model 1836. This was the last flintlock pistol adopted by the U.S. and is considered by many to be the best designed, best made, and most attractive U.S. flintlock pistol. This particular example was made by Robert Johnson, has been converted to percussion (probably in the 1850s) and features tinned metal parts. Tinning parts was meant to protect against corrosion and may indicate use by the U.S. Navy. It is marked “NWP” on the barrel for Nahum W. Patch, a government inspector



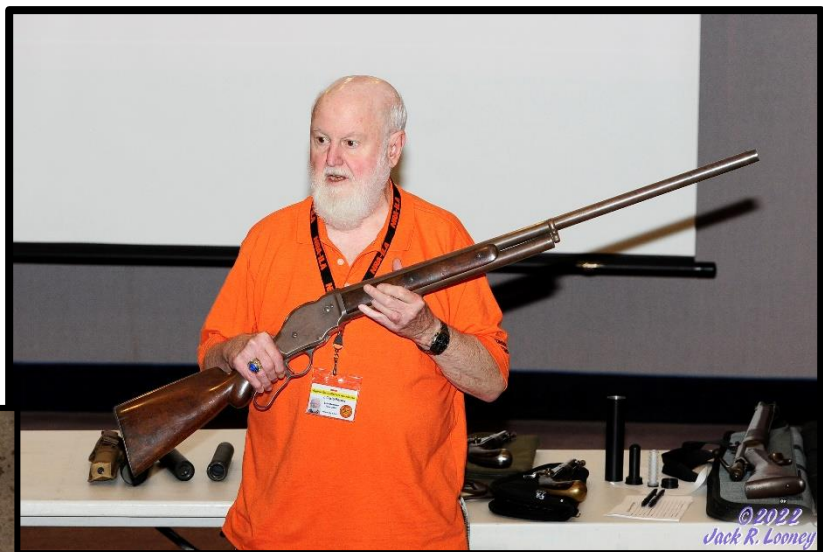
from 1831-1849.



The second pistol was a Model 1842 (*above and at left*). This model was the first percussion pistol adopted and the last single shot pistol produced for the U.S. military. This example was manufactured by Ira N. Johnson in 1854. It also featured tinned parts and is marked on the barrel with “JCB”. JCB stands for Lt. John C. Beaumont, an inspector for the U.S. Navy from 1852 to 1855, indicating this one may also have seen U.S. naval service. This pistol, despite being almost 170 years old, is still used in North-South Skirmish Association matches due to the lack of a suitable reproduction to replace it!



Member 4 brought a Winchester Model 1887 shotgun (*at right*). This lever action smoothbore was chambered in both 12 and 10 Gauge and was the first Winchester shotgun produced from an 1885 John Moses Browning patent. It was one of the very first successful repeating shotguns. Almost 65,000 were produced



between 1887 and 1899/1901 after which it was replaced by the Model 1901 (designed to handle smokeless powder ammunition).

This example is in 10 Gauge (2 7/8" chamber) and was manufactured in 1892. Note the stylized WRACo logo (for Winchester Repeating Arms Company) on the left side of the receiver (*left*).



Member 5 shared a Vetterli carbine of indeterminate origin (*left*). This firearm started as a Swiss Infantry Gewehr Model 1869/1871 - a bolt action tube magazine repeater chambered in 10.4x48 Rimfire (aka .41 Swiss Rimfire). Approximately 4000 rifles were manufactured between 1871 and 1875, but no carbines were made. At some point, this rifle (manufactured by Cordier & Cie, Bellefontaine) was shortened into a carbine configuration. It is not known when or for whom this was done. It is speculated to have been made for the Swiss Border Guard or Police, but there is no record of these in either

organization. Other theories offer that this conversion was done either by Swiss exporters or U.S. importers to make them more marketable. Member 5 noted that he has seen several such carbines in the same serial number range, so a gunsmith or "bubba" conversion seems unlikely.





Member 6 brought in a very nice FN-49 (*above*). The FN-49 semiautomatic military rifle was developed and manufactured by Fabrique Nationale (FN) in Belgium shortly after WWII and has a reputation as the last “wood and steel” battle rifle. It was produced and sold to several nations (*see table below*), with most of the production occurring between 1949 and 1956.

Nation	Caliber	Number Produced*
Belgium	.30/06	87,677
Egypt	7.9x57 (8mm Mauser)	37,602
Indonesia	.30/06	16,100
Brazil	.30/06	11,002
Venezuela	7x57 (7mm Mauser)	8,012
Luxemburg	.30/06	6,306
Argentina	7.65x53 (later rechambered in 7.62 NATO)	5,537
Belgian Congo	.30/06	2,795
Columbia	.30/06	1,001

In addition, trials guns were ordered in small quantities by no less than 16 other countries. This particular example was made for Venezuela and was the only variant to feature a factory muzzle brake.

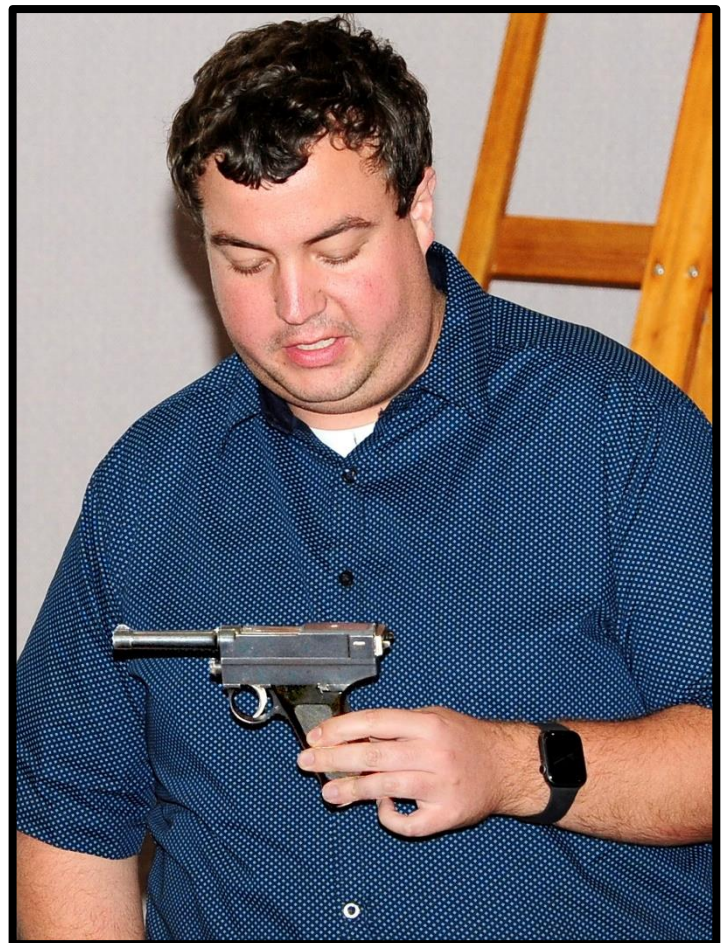
\*Data from **The FN-49 – The Last Elegant Old-World Military Rifle** by Wayne Johnson

Note: VGCA member Dr. Richard Fierman contributed to **The SAFN-49 Battle Rifle – A Shooters and Collector’s Guide** by Joe Poyer



In keeping with the theme of the night's presentation - Member 7 brought in an assortment of different suppressors. Among the most interesting was a Silencerco Salvo shotgun suppressor (*at left*). As mentioned during Gary's presentation, shotgun suppressors are the least common of the suppressor types. Note that this design is not a symmetrical cylinder with the bore down the center, but is rather a vertical design with the bore near the top. This is to prevent the mounted suppressor from interfering with the shotgun's sight plane.

Member 8 shared a fairly rare sidearm – the Brixia M1913 (*at right*). Chambered in 9x19 Glisenti, which is dimensionally similar to 9mm Parabellum but not loaded as hot, the Model 1913 was a simplified and strengthened version of the Italian Glisenti M1910. The design was changed enough that there no parts interchangeable with the earlier pistol – not even the magazine. The M1913 was developed for the Royal Italian Navy but was only produced for about a year before production was stopped by WWI. The Italian Navy ordered 5,000 but the number delivered could be as low as 3,500. Made by MBT Metalluroica Brescia Tempini, the M1913 was replaced in Italian service by the Beretta M1915.





Member 9, one of our members with a Federal Firearms License, shared an intriguing new suppressor by GSL – the diminutive Pill Box Plus (picture at right is of the earlier Pill Box and was taken from the company’s web site). This tiny .22 Rimfire Suppressor uses “wipes” (rubber-like gaskets) instead of an internal baffle stack, which is why it can be made so small. However, the tradeoff is in durability. The wipes must be replaced after approximately 50 rounds (which can be done at the factory or even by some dealers for a small fee). Perhaps the best part of the Pill Box Plus (besides its small size) is its cost – less than \$200 retail. That is less money than the National Firearms Act tax stamp! For more details, see the factory link below:



[Pill Box – GSL Technology, Inc.](#)

## ★ 2022 Presentation List ★

MEETING DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
25 Aug 2022	Documentary “Forgotten Soldiers”	Donald Plata
22 Sep 2022	TBD	TBD
27 Oct 2022	TBD	TBD

We are still putting together the presentation schedule for 2022. If you have any suggestions – or would like to make a presentation yourself – please contact one of the VGCA officers or directors.

## ★ Upcoming Events and Shows ★

PLEASE NOTE: VGCA members are strongly encouraged to verify shows before driving to an event. These dates were confirmed when this newsletter was written, but are not guaranteed.

### VIRGINIA – 2022

- ☞ Aug 27-28, 2022 – Richmond, VA - Richmond International Raceway – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Sep 11-12, 2022 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Sep 30-Oct 2, 2022 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Oct 8-9, 2022 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- ☞ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Virginia Beach, VA – Virginia Beach Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☞ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Wytheville, VA – Apex Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Oct 22-23, 2022 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center – *SGK*
- ☞ Oct 29-30, 2022 – Chesapeake, VA – Chesapeake Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☞ Oct 29-30, 2022 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Nov 12-13, 2022 – Richmond, VA - Richmond International Raceway – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Nov 18-20, 2022 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- ☞ Nov 26-27, 2022 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK*



## MARYLAND – 2022

- ⇒ Sep 3, 2022 – Parkville, MD – Baltimore County Fish & Game – *Baltimore County F&G*
- ⇒ Sep 10-11, 2022 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ Sep 23-25, 2022 – Ocean City, MD – Ocean City Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- ⇒ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Timonium, MD – Timonium Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ Nov 12-13, 2022 – Frederick, MD – Frederick Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*

## PENNSYLVANIA – 2022

- ⇒ Aug 20, 2022 – Greencastle, PA – Greencastle Sportsman’s Assoc. – *Izaak Walton League*
- ⇒ Aug 20-21, 2022 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- ⇒ Aug 20-21, 2022 – Allentown, PA – Parkview Inn & Conference Center – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Aug 20-21, 2022 – Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ Aug 20-21, 2022 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- ⇒ Sep 3, 2022 – Brookville, PA – Jefferson County Fairgrounds – *Jefferson County Historical Society - Brookville Antique Firearms & Indian Artifact Show*
- ⇒ Sep 10-11, 2022 – Morgantown, PA – Morgantown Expo Center – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Sep 11, 2022 – Portland, PA – William Pensyl Social Hall - *Portland Hook & Ladder Co. #1*
- ⇒ Sep 16-18, 2022 – Long Pond, PA – Pocono Raceway – *Tall Timber Tactical*
- ⇒ Sep 16-19, 2022 – York, PA – York Expo Center – *Ohio Valley Military Society – Max Show*
- ⇒ Sep 17-18, 2022 – Sellersville, PA – Forrest Lodge VFW Hall and Club – *Jaeger Arms*
- ⇒ Sep 17-18, 2022 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Sep 17-18, 2022 – Wind Gap, PA – Plainfield Township Vol Fire Company – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Sep 24-25, 2022 – Blossburg, PA – Blossburg Volunteer Fire Dept – *Bear Arms Promotions*
- ⇒ Sep 24-25, 2022 – Gettysburg, PA – Redding Auction - *Central Pennsylvania Antique Arms Association*
- ⇒ Sep 24-25, 2022 – Spring Brook, PA – Spring Brook Fire Co. – *Jaeger Arms*
- ⇒ Sep 24-25, 2022 – Trevose, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Sep 24-25, 2022 – Washington, PA – Washington PA County Fairgrounds – *ARH Sport Shop*
- ⇒ Oct 1-2, 2022 – Greeley, PA – Kahr Arms – *Jaeger Arms*
- ⇒ Oct 8-9, 2022 – Quarryville, PA – Solanco Fairgrounds - *Southern Lancaster County Farmer-Sportsmen's Association*
- ⇒ Oct 8-9, 2022 – Slatington, PA – Slatington Farmers Market – *Bear Arms Promotions*
- ⇒ Oct 8-9, 2022 – Tobyhanna, PA – VFW – *Jaeger Arms*
- ⇒ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- ⇒ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Bloomsburg, PA – Bloomsburg Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*
- ⇒ Oct 15-16, 2022 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- ⇒ Oct 21-23, 2022 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ Oct 22-23, 2022 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- ⇒ Oct 29-30, 2022 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*

## SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS – 2022

- ⇒ Sep 10-11, 2022 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association – featuring the Winchester Arms Collectors Association and the Marlin Firearm Collectors Association*

➤ Nov 19-20, 2022 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association – welcoming the Contemporary Longrifle Association, the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association, and the Association of Ohio Long Rifle Collectors*

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## FOR SALE:

The "For Sale" section of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (VGCA) Newsletter is provided as a service exclusively to the members of the VGCA and is intended for listing firearms and firearm related items. The VGCA, its officers, and directors are not responsible for any listings made in any VGCA Newsletter. We are not responsible for the accuracy (condition, value, etc.) of any listings. All buyers, traders, and sellers agree to comply with all local, state, federal, and international laws in regards to items sold via the VGCA Newsletter. It is their duty and responsibility to ensure the quality and value of the transaction and that all such laws are followed at all times. Buy, sell, or trade at your own risk.

If you would like to list an item (or items) in the VGCA Newsletter, please send your description, price, and contact information to [rpebecker@verizon.net](mailto:rpebecker@verizon.net). I must receive your material no later than the second Sunday of the month for it to be included in that month's newsletter. Unless other arrangements are made, items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

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### FOR SALE:

✦ VGCA member Charlie Pate has four books that he has authored for sale, at discounted prices to VGCA members. These include:

- "U.S. Handguns of World War II" - \$45.00
- "The Smith & Wesson American Model" - \$55.00
- "U.S. Military Arms Inspector Marks" - \$45.00
- "The Colt Model 1860 Army Revolver" - \$60.00

If interested, please contact Charlie at [usarmsresearch@gmail.com](mailto:usarmsresearch@gmail.com)

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### FOR SALE:

✦ After more than two and a half years of research, VGCA member Bill Vanderpool has recently published his book Guns of the FBI. This book is available at GunDigest.com or can be purchased directly from Bill by calling 703-626-2975. He is more than happy to sign a copy for you. Cost is \$50.00.

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### FOR SALE:

✦ VGCA member Larry Babcock recently published a companion piece to his earlier book M1 Garand Photo Essay. This second book, titled M1 Garand Photo Essay Volume II covers all new material, to include the M1C and M1D sniper rifles as well as a myriad of M1 accessories. Best of all, both books are offered at a discount to VGCA members. Volume I is normally priced at \$69 and volume II lists for \$49, VGCA members can buy them directly from Larry for \$60 and \$40 each respectively - or \$90 total if you buy both. Look for Larry Babcock set up near the VGCA recruiting table at the next Chantilly Gun Show or order from him directly at [larrybab@comcast.net](mailto:larrybab@comcast.net) / 703-856-2561.

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**FOR SALE:**

★ A very nice McKeever cartridge box marked Watervliet Arsenal to include rounds of .45-70 ammo for sale (see photos). Asking price is \$325.



If interested, contact Jim Burgess at 703-361-1339 x1207 or [jim\\_burgess@nps.gov](mailto:jim_burgess@nps.gov)

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**FOR SALE:**

★ Classic Winchester Model 12 20-gauge pump action shotgun. Rare 30" full choked barrel, tight action, safe queen, excellent bore, bluing and wood, 1946 production. ~~\$1195~~ Reduced to \$995

★ Smith and Wesson: The original centerfire 38 caliber (.38 S&W) handgun from 1876-1877. BABY RUSSIAN 5-shot, spur trigger w/ excellent bore and rare 4-inch barrel and block letter grips. All matching numbers, nicely nickel-plated, with authenticating S&W letter. \$1795

★ Browning HiPower, 9mm, EC, 2 magazines, box, manual. \$1595

★ Savage 99, .243 Winchester, EC, 30 rounds of ammo. \$1495

★ Rare S&W Single Action 3rd Model with special 5 inch barrel. Also known as the Model of 1891, I frame 5-shot revolver. \$2150. Antique, no FFL required

★ Marlin Model 90 20 gauge over/under. Excellent bores, standard chambers, double triggers, 28 inch barrels. GC. \$695. incl. ammo.

If interested, contact John at 571-308-4978

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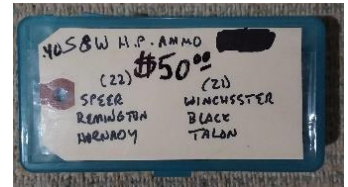
**FOR SALE:**

★ **5.56x45 NATO SS109 Ammo.** General Dynamics 62grain FMJ. Box of 250 rounds for \$160.00





⊛ **.40 S&W:** Winchester Black Talon (21 rounds), peer/Remington/Hornady (22 rounds), mixed 43 rounds total, in an MTM plastic box. \$50.00



⊛ **7.62x25 Tokarev Ammo.** Eastern Bloc surplus (dated 1984) in 72 round boxes. \$45 per box (6 available).

⊛ **Hornady .450 Nitro Express Ammo.** 3 1/4" 450 grain DGX, 20 round box, very limited production. \$125.00

⊛ **Cold Steel Sanburu Spear.** Three sections – head/blade, shoe/butt spike, and double taper hardwood handle. \$65.00



Prices firm. Contact Jack for details at [looney.house@verizon.net](mailto:looney.house@verizon.net)

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The e-mail address for any Newsletter-related matters is [Newsletter@vgca.net](mailto:Newsletter@vgca.net) - or you can reach the editor directly at [rpebecker@verizon.net](mailto:rpebecker@verizon.net). Feel free to e-mail items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via e-mail or the mailed hard copy, please contact Rob Becker or George Dungan.