

SI HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

SHOOTING Illustrated

NOVEMBER | 2021



iQue Linda!
Wilkinson Arms
9 mm Carbine

How to Choose
The Correct Carry Holster

Kimber R7 Mako

Tested

Ruger LCP Max

Tisas 1911 Bantam Carry 45



NRA

Official Journal of the National Rifle Association
ShootingIllustrated.com

★ ★ ★ **NRA-PVF** ★ ★ ★

**CANDIDATE GRADES
AND ENDORSEMENTS**

CLICK HERE



► **9MM MICRO-COMPACT**

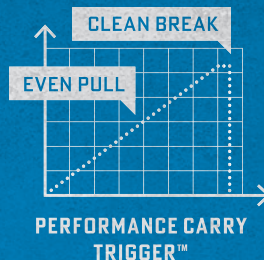
12

ROUND CAPACITY

14RDS WITH EXTENDED MAG

SLIM 1-INCH PROFILE

AMBI-CONTROLS



FEED » YOUR « APPETITE

FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT



R7/MAKO™

**BREAKING NEW GROUND.
SHATTERING OLD PERCEPTIONS.**

To dismantle the competition, we did exactly that. We picked other polymer pistols apart to create something better, starting with the smooth, consistent pull and clean break of the Performance Carry Trigger™. You told us what you wanted — like 11+1 and 13+1 total capacity, standard — and we delivered. The R7 Mako™ will shatter preconceptions and exceed every expectation.

UPGRADE YOUR STANDARDS AT

R7MAKO.COM

AVAILABLE WITH:

► **OPTICS INSTALLED**
OPTICS READY

Kimber®

WHAT ALL GUNS SHOULD BE™

Remington®



Proudly Made in the USA
by American Workers.



MORE BADASS THAN THE BAD GUYS.

At Remington, your personal safety is our priority. So when it comes to defensive handgun rounds, Golden Saber® Bonded is the gold standard. Exceptional weight retention. Reduced bullet nose diameter for precise bore alignment. Match-grade accuracy. It's defense done right.

Remington.com





CONTENTS



Volume 20 • Number 10

November 2021

48

Features

18 Reclaiming Our Rights Requires Retaking the House in 2022

With the Biden Administration and an anti-gun Congress wielding power in Washington, DC, our Second Amendment rights have been under unprecedented assault.

By Jason Ouimet

48 Shark Attack

Kimber's new 9 mm R7 Mako carry pistol is available with an included MRDS or MRDS-ready, and it's so small, you're not going to need a bigger boat.

By Tamara Keel

56 2021 Holiday Gift Guide

The joy of exchanging gifts is sometimes overcome by the challenge of finding the right one to give. Let our annual guide tilt your experience toward the pleasant.

A Shooting Illustrated Staff Report

66 She's So Unusual

Spanish for "pretty," Linda is also the name of this resurrected pistol-caliber carbine. Its retro looks and unique combination of features keep it—and consumers—coming back.

By Andy Massimilian

Handbook

74 Solving the Holster Conundrum

A carry pistol isn't very useful without a practical way to carry it. From materials to body placement, find out what you'll need to consider in order to make an informed purchase.

By Steve Tarani

82 The Fix: Is Bigger Better?

Some shooters are seeing red when trying to determine how much red they should be seeing. What is the ideal dot size for your red-dot sight?

By George Harris

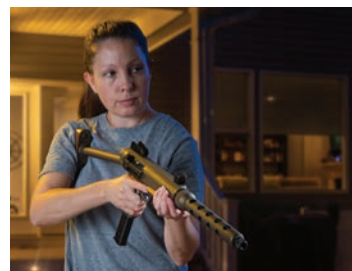


18

56



66



74



NRA™ Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America

The NRA, the foremost guardian of the traditional American right to "keep and bear arms," believes every law-abiding citizen is entitled to the ownership and legal use of firearms, and that every reputable gun owner should be an NRA member.

WHERE EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY MEETS SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE!



Exporior
Double stack 4.25"



Exporior
Double stack 4"



QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST

SERVICE YOU DESERVE
SINCE 1977

Learn more about the new Exporior models at www.wilsoncombat.com



CONTENTS



Publishing

Doug Hamlin
Executive Director

Evelyn Q. Kessler
Deputy Executive Director

Marshall J. Flemion
Managing Director, Integrated Marketing

Terri A. Wolfe
Senior Executive Assistant

Rachel Carr
Publications Administrator

Larry Quandahl
Senior Firearms Inventory Manager

Editorial

Mark A. Keefe, IV
Editorial Director

Ed Friedman
Editor in Chief

Daniel T. McElrath
Senior Executive Editor

Jay Grazio
Executive Editor

Eric Conn
Managing Editor, Digital

Bob Boyd
Senior Associate Editor

Sheriff Jim Wilson
Senior Field Editor

Steve Adelman
Rifle Editor

Richard Mann
Ammo Editor

Tamara Keel
Handgun Editor

Jeff Johnston
Shotgun Editor

**Wiley Clapp, George Harris,
Ed Head, Guy J. Sagi, Philip Schreier,
Bryce M. Towsley, Dick Williams**
Field Editors

Art

Mark Weaver
Creative Director

John T. Claman
Art Director

Peter Fountain
Photography Director

Forrest MacCormack
Senior Photographer

Shooting Illustrated (ISSN1544-3000 Vol. 20 No. 10) is published monthly except combined in June/July by the National Rifle Association of America, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400, (703) 267-1000, for the benefit of its members. Membership dues (U.S. and possessions) \$45 a year, \$100 for 3 years, \$150 for 5 years. \$3.75 per year is designated for a magazine subscription. For foreign postage add \$5 a year in Canada and \$10 elsewhere. For membership inquiries only, call (877) 672-2000. Copyright 2021, the National Rifle Association of America. All rights reserved except where expressly waived. Periodicals Postage paid at Fairfax, VA, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to Shooting Illustrated, c/o National Rifle Association, P.O. Box 420648, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0648.

TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS or to report a damaged or undelivered magazine, write: Shooting Illustrated, c/o National Rifle Association, P.O. Box 420648, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0648. Or to make changes to your account online go to: NRAMemberservices.org. Do not return damaged copies. Change of address should include both new address and a mailing label bearing the old one. In case of duplication send both labels.

Departments

- 8 Letters**
- 24 Shots Fired**
Coming to America
OG Guns
SI Launches New Website
- 28 Skills Check**
Winning Hand
- 30 Pro Shop**
10/22? 10-4!
- 32 Tech Wisdom**
Light Hitter
- 34 Rifles**
Losing Weight
- 36 Handguns**
Worse for Wear?
- 40 Shotguns**
Switch Hitter
- 44 Ammo**
"I Get No Respect"
- 46 Straight Talk**
Walking the Walk
- 84 The Classics**
Giant Killers
at Creedmoor
- 86 Gun Locker**
Ruger LCP Max
Tisas 1911
Bantam Carry 45
- 96 Fightin' Iron**
Gauging Home
Defense



Official Journal

- 10 Armed Citizen**
- 12 Standing Guard**
- 14 President's Column**
- 16 Political Report**
- 90 ILA Report**
- 92 Regional Report**
Member Info & Benefits
- 93 Programs & Services**



ILLUSTRATION: THE OPERATIONAL BISON HUNT BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND JOHN TRAIL AT PHILADELPHIA, 1876.

On The Horizon

How to Shoot a
Subcompact Handgun

Smith & Wesson
M&P 12

Busting the Myth of
Trigger Jerk

PCH

PICATINNY CHARGING HANDLE



ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- DOUBLES AS A CHARGING HANDLE
- EASY INSTALLATION
- COMPATIBLE WITH MOST STANDARD HOLSTERS
- NO GUNSMITH NEEDED
- WON'T DAMAGE YOUR FIREARM

PATENT PENDING



TO LEARN MORE PLEASE VISIT: RECOVERTACTICAL.COM





Publishing Operations

Michael J. Sanford
Managing Director

Michelle E. Kuntz
Director, Production

James C. Handlon
Director, Marketing & Advertising

Debra Oliveri
Senior Production Coordinator

Adam Wilson
Production Coordinator

Cheryl Doden
Accounts Receivable Staff Accountant

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES: (877) 672-2000

Advertising Sales

Tony Morrison (860) 767-9801
Director, Eastern Sales

Stan Yates (850) 619-8148
Southeast Sales Executive

Rachelle Trout (910) 262-0913
Eastern Sales Executive

Ken Glowacki (703) 267-1300
Detroit Advertising Sales

Courtney Olson (703) 267-1300
Director, Western Sales

James O'Neill (530) 401-8607
Western Sales Executive

Tim Hamill (231) 360-6434
Midwest Sales Executive

Debbie O'Connell (805) 501-9138
Western Direct Sales Executive

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (703) 267-1300
www.nramediakit.com

Digital Operations

Michael Pedersen
Managing Director

Troy Kelly
Art Director

Tom Rickwalder
Senior Digital Producer

Steve Dulco
Digital Producer

Some of the photographs in this magazine illustrate specific shooting stances or positions in which it was occasionally necessary to position the camera in front of the muzzle for instructional purposes. At no time was a loaded, functioning firearm used in these photographs; special, deactivated guns or solid plastic gun simulators were employed. In some cases the image was taken using a remotely triggered camera.

WARNING: All technical data in this publication, especially for handloading, reflect the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article and over which the National Rifle Association (NRA) has no control. The data have not otherwise been tested or verified by the NRA. The NRA, its agents, officers and employees accept no responsibility for the results obtained by persons using such data and disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages. See asterisked (*).

* NO ADVERTISED ITEM IS INTENDED FOR SALE IN THOSE STATES, OR IN THOSE AREAS WHERE LOCAL RESTRICTIONS MAY LIMIT OR PROHIBIT THE PURCHASE, CARRYING OR USE OF CERTAIN ITEMS. CHECK LOCAL LAWS BEFORE PURCHASING. MENTION OF A PRODUCT OR SERVICE IN ADVERTISEMENTS OR TEXT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT IT HAS BEEN TESTED OR APPROVED BY THE NRA.

OFFICIAL NRA POSITIONS ARE EXPRESSED ONLY IN STATEMENTS BYLINED BY NRA OFFICERS OR IN ARTICLES IDENTIFIED AS SUCH.

THE EDITORS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS OR PHOTOGRAPHS.

Printed in the United States of America.

RICHARD MANN



5 Commonly Overlooked Carry Guns

Let's be honest, when many think of a handgun for concealed carry, they probably start looking at Glocks and adjust their selection from there. They may opt for a Glock-like polymer pistol, or very possibly go the more traditional route of the 1911. But, Glocks and 1911s are not the only carry guns out there, and, in fact, may not be the best options for everyone. Here's a peek at five commonly overlooked concealed-carry handguns.

ERIC CONN



How to Get Off the X

Controlling the transition point from proactive to active measures, what are the priorities for safely stepping off that fateful "X"? How can you avoid being too slow in trying to regain the initiative in a real-world, violent physical altercation? Steve Tarani explains how to effectively move away from the center of a deadly-force situation.

CMC TRIGGERS



Common Problems & Solutions with AR-15 Barrels

The sheer number of AR platforms and associated aftermarket components in circulation today all but ensure that if you dabble in more than one or two of these firearms, you will eventually encounter a new part that has problems right out of the box. No component is more problematic than a barrel, but there's also a solution for every setback.

News

Beretta Ships Last M9 to U.S. Military



Three Companies Expand Offerings During Ammo Shortage

Guns



FN 502 Tactical
Optics-Ready .22 LR

Mossberg MVP Patrol in
.300 BLK



Gear



SIG Sauer Custom Works
P365 Fire Control Unit

DeSantis
Thumb Break
& Speed
Scabbard



Leupold Mark 4 20-60x80 mm
TMR Spotting Scope



Connect with Us



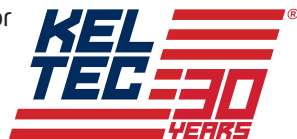
Alliance for
Audited Media

**VETERAN
FRIENDLY
EMPLOYER**



MEET THE KEEPER OF PEACE AND QUIET

The new KelTec™ SUB2000 CQB™ folding suppressed rifle is bred for home defense. It's light weight and easy to handle. Pair subsonic ammo with its integrated suppressor and it's "Hollywood quiet". Add a combat light and quality optic and the upper hand is yours. Compact storage? Twist and fold it in half, optics and all. Innovation. Performance. KelTec. See more at KelTecWeapons.com.



©2021 Kel-Tec CNC Industries, Inc

We're Not Fonda Her, Either

Several readers wrote in to express their disgust with the picture of a Jane Fonda workout VHS cassette cover in the lead photo of our coverage of the Colt Anaconda revolver in the September issue. Had we mistakenly put something to praise Jane Fonda in the magazine, we would be the first to apologize for such an oversight. However, that is not what happened here.

The entire concept for our coverage of the Colt Anaconda—from the cover blurb to the headline to the subhead to the lead image—was inspired by the rather well-known song from 1992 by Sir Mix-A-Lot, “Baby Got Back.” The inclusion of the Jane Fonda video was to highlight her role in that song, where she is derided by the singer. The other items in the lead photo would lead anyone who is vaguely familiar with the song to that conclusion. Obviously, if you’ve never heard the song that would not happen, but for anyone born from about 1962 until

probably 2010, that song has been an unavoidable part of American culture.

We in no way meant to promote the execrable Jane Fonda—if anything we meant to further insult her by



reminding everyone of the barb Mr. Mix-a-Lot (his knighthood is suspect and, in any case, purely honorary) threw at her in his one major hit. Rest assured, we also despise her treasonous actions during the Vietnam conflict and her support for radical leftist causes since.

We're sorry our concept didn't come through to some readers as clearly as we would have liked.

—Ed Friedman

Never Forget

Thank you for the September “Classics” column about Officer Walter Weaver’s Smith & Wesson revolver recovered at Ground Zero. I am always touched when reading something about a person and/or item from the tragedy of Sept. 11. The article fascinated and touched me. I am so grateful to know of Officer Weaver and his story. Thank you for keeping his memory and character alive and for honoring him.

David Hanks
Lakeland, GA

A Pen for Your Thoughts

I thoroughly enjoyed Steve Tarani’s primer on using tactical pens for home defense in the September issue. It reminded me of a story. Years ago, I was having dinner with a guy who was chief engineer for the Navy for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program. He had been a Naval Aviator and a Navy SEAL. He told this story of one time when he was on some post when there was an active shooter alert. My friend entered the building, pushed the secretary down under her desk and told her to stay. He saw where the shooter was, which happened to be a couple of desks away. He was unarmed and looked around for a weapon, but all he saw was a metal pen in a basket on the desk. He thought “I only have to jump across three desks to tackle him,” so he took the pen and attacked. At the last desk, the shooter looked up and they recognized each other—the shooter had served under him. The shooter put down his weapon. My buddy carries that pen with him to this day, and showed it to me at the end of telling the story.

Gary Witus
Ann Arbor, MI

Headspace Head Case

I enjoyed reading the September “Tech Wisdom” column on case-head separation. A few years ago, I experienced this phenomenon while shooting my Norinco MAK-90 Sporter, shooting the same 124-grain FMJ bullet highlighted in the article. I contacted the ammo maker, and they attributed this “circumferential break” to a headspace issue in my rifle, not a problem with the cartridge itself. Having shot hundreds of rounds before and after this phenomenon, the rifle functions and fires as it should. I put the cartridge on my shelf as a conversation piece. I appreciated George Harris’ honesty of the unknown. Could this phenomenon be caliber or rifle specific? Will we ever know? It was an interesting read.

Brady Curran
via e-mail

Correspondence is welcomed and encouraged

Write to: Shooting Illustrated | NRA | 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400
e-mail: shootingillustrated@nrahq.org

Delivering all the joys of the season!

Budweiser®

Holiday Express

Locomotive & Cars
Light-Up!

Not
Available
in Any Store!



Officially Licensed from the Anheuser-Busch Company

**An illuminated, real working electric train collection
inspired by the King of Beers®...Budweiser!**

There are many things that signal the start of the holiday season. But a sure sign that Christmas is on its merry way is seeing the famous advertising featuring those gentle giants of Budweiser—the World Famous Budweiser Clydesdales—trotting through a winter wonderland. Now Hawthorne is proud to introduce the *Budweiser Holiday Express* that's positively brimming with the joyous spirit of the King of Beers®! This classic, heirloom quality train—that includes a working headlight on the steam locomotive—features dramatic, full-color artwork of the World Famous Budweiser Clydesdales, fully-sculpted Budweiser icons including the historic Budweiser Beer Wagon and is richly adorned with holiday motifs.

An incredible train and an exceptional value! Begin your illuminated train collection with the "Steam Locomotive and Tender." Your first of three easy payments of \$29.99 each* is billed before they are shipped. Subsequent *Budweiser Holiday Express* passenger cars—including the **FREE** track with adapters, speed controller and power-pack with Shipments Two and Three—will be billed separately each at the same attractive price and sent about one every other month. You can cancel at any time and your satisfaction is assured with our best-in-the-business 365-day guarantee.

Not Available in Any Store. Act now! This is a limited-time offer and strong demand from the legions of fans of Budweiser-themed collectibles is expected. *Send no money now.* Simply complete and mail the Reservation Application or visit us online today!

© 2021 Anheuser-Busch, LLC. Adult Collectible. ©Hawthorne Villages 14-00432-001-BH21

ORDER TODAY AT BRADFORDEXCHANGE.COM/BudExpress



Where Passion Becomes Art

The Bradford Exchange

9210 Maryland Street, Niles, IL 60714-1322

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

EVERYTHING YOU NEED
TO RUN YOUR TRAIN!



14-piece track with adapters—creates a 47" x 38" oval— speed controller & power-pack included—over \$100 value!

INCLUDED FREE!

Yes! Please enter my order for one *Budweiser® Holiday Express* illuminated electric train collection, beginning with the "Steam Locomotive & Tender" as described in this announcement.

SEND NO MONEY NOW.

Signature _____
Mrs. Mr. Ms. _____
Name (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

Certificate of Authenticity and 365-day Unconditional Guarantee

*Plus a total of \$13.99 shipping and service—see bradfordexchange.com. All sales subject to acceptance and product availability. Allow 4-6 weeks after initial payment for shipment.



© 2021 Anheuser-Busch, LLC. Adult Collectible. ©Hawthorne Villages 14-00432-001-BH21

ORDER TODAY AT BRADFORDEXCHANGE.COM/BudExpress

917152-E22301



**IF YOU HAVE
A FIRSTHAND
"ARMED CITIZEN"
EXPERIENCE,
EMAIL NRA PUBLIC
AFFAIRS TEAM AT
MEDIA@NRAHQ.ORG.**

Studies indicate that firearms are used more than 2 million times a year for personal protection, and that the presence of a firearm, without a shot being fired, prevents crime in many instances. Shooting usually can be justified only where crime constitutes an immediate, imminent threat to life, limb, or, in some cases, property. Anyone is free to quote or reproduce these accounts.

Send clippings via email to armedcitizen@nrahq.org, or by mail to "The Armed Citizen," 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400. For bonus features, visit "The Armed Citizen Blog" at americanrifleman.org. Share this column online at nrarepublications.org.

A Houston, Texas, gas station's security video shows a dark vehicle pulling into its parking lot at 11 p.m. on Sept. 8. A man reportedly got out of the vehicle's passenger side and approached another man walking in the parking lot, then lifted his shirt to reveal a gun, threatening the victim and demanding valuables. However, the man he had approached quickly drew his own firearm and shot the aggressor once in the face. The wounded suspect was taken to a nearby hospital in serious but stable condition and remained in police custody. Police indicated no charges would be brought against the victim who acted in self-defense. (news4sanantonio.com, San Antonio, Texas, and abc13.com, Houston, Texas, 9/8/21)

Early in the morning of Aug. 31, a couple at a bus stop in the Capitol Hill area of Seattle, Wash., was approached by two armed men who attempted to hold them up at gunpoint. The couple was also armed, however, and one of them shot one of the would-be robbers—a 24-year-old man—in the abdomen. Witnesses said the second suspect fled the scene in an F-150 pickup, which law-enforcement authorities were still seeking. The wounded man was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. (capitolhillseattle.com) Seattle, Wash., 8/31/21)

A masked 24-year-old Palm Bay, Fla., man was shot in the hip at the New York Hair Barber Shop on Aug. 28, after he entered the barber shop and allegedly pointed a gun at several people in the business. The shop's owner was also armed and shot the suspect, then disarmed him and helped keep him on the scene until help arrived. The attacker was transported to the hospital and treated for non-life-threatening injuries. Upon further investigation, it turned out the suspect was not happy with a prior haircut or transaction that occurred in the business. He has been charged with aggravated assault with a firearm. (floridatoday.com, Viera, Fla., and clickorlando.com, Orlando, Fla., 8/29/21)

A usually quiet Webster Groves, Mo., neighborhood became the scene of a shooting in the early morning hours of Aug. 13, when a homeowner protected himself and his family during an attempted break-in. Police were called at 3 a.m. for a burglary in progress, after a 43-year-old man entered via a rear door of the home. The suspect ignored the homeowner's repeated verbal commands to leave the property. The resident was armed with a shotgun and fired on the intruder. Authorities had the intruder transported to the hospital where he later died. Prosecutors determined that the homeowner acted in self-defense and no

charges would be filed: "These cases are never easy in the sense that any death is tragic. But based on the facts as we know them, this is clearly a case of an individual protecting his home (and family) from an intruder," Wesley Bell, a prosecuting attorney, told reporters. "There has been some speculation in the media as to the mental state of the intruder, but even if true, this would have little weight on the homeowner's ability to protect his family." (fox2now.com 8/13/21 and kmov.com, St. Louis, Mo., 9/3/21)

During the early morning hours of Friday, Aug. 20, an unidentified male allegedly broke into a Toledo, Ohio, home where two adults and multiple children were sleeping. The suspect was able to break through the front door of the home, but a female resident was armed and shot the intruder multiple times. The 34-year-old wounded man was found on the front lawn by paramedics who performed life-saving procedures and rushed him to the hospital with critical injuries. However, he ultimately succumbed to his injuries. The woman who fired the gun was taken in for questioning as per standard protocol. No one else in the home was injured. (wtol.com, Toledo, Ohio, and fox13news.com, Tampa Bay, Fla., 8/20/21)

A frantic 69-year-old female homeowner called police from her Cleveland, Ohio, residence during the night of Sept. 19, after shooting a home invader in defense of her husband. A 21-year-old woman had knocked on the door, then forced her way into the home and got into an altercation with the 72-year-old husband. While they were distracted, the wife was able to retrieve her firearm and shoot the suspect in the right abdomen and chest area, ending the fight. The home invader was taken to the hospital, where she later died. The homeowners, who did not know the woman, are not expected to be charged with any crime. (wkyc.com and cleveland19.com, Cleveland, Ohio, 9/20/21) 



COLION NOIR,
Firearms Enthusiast

The acquisition, ownership and use of firearms is heavily regulated.
Some models may not be legally available in your state or locale. Know the law and shoot safely.

**9MM
LUGER**

Caliber

**10+1
12+1**

Capacity

3.20"

Barrel Length

**18.4
OZ.**

Weight

RUGER[®] MAX-9[™]

The MAX-9[™] is Your Next Handgun[™].

Whether you're new to firearms ownership, or you've been an enthusiast for years, the versatile MAX-9[™] is sure to meet your personal protection needs.

Comfortable enough to conceal in an inside the waistband holster or pocket holster, this micro-sized pistol has it all - without compromising on capacity or features. Rugged, reliable, affordable - the Ruger[®] MAX-9[™].

 **RUGER[®]**

RUGER.COM/MAX-9



By Wayne LaPierre
Executive Vice President

There Is No Freedom Without The Freedom To Defend Yourself

All of human history shows us that a disarmed populace is a vulnerable populace. Vulnerable to tyrants. Vulnerable to criminals.

Human history also shows us that an armed populace is a free populace.

None of this is theory. It is a documented, empirical, undeniable fact.

And yet, politicians, the media and the super elite in Hollywood and business, are all working together to hide that fact. More to the point, they're working to manufacture the deceitful perception that legal gun ownership is something to fear, loathe and eliminate.

That's why when a bad guy commits a crime with a gun, the story is amplified nationwide, along with all the familiar soundbites blaming you, me and the NRA. We never hear about how the bad guy dodged prison for previous crimes because of an insane revolving-door justice system. We never hear about how law enforcement refused to prosecute him when they had the chance.

And we rarely ever hear when good people use firearms to save their lives or the lives of their loved ones. Those stories are buried, if they're even reported, all with the express purpose of creating the false impression that guns are rarely, if ever, used for good.

Just read the stories below and tick off how many you remember hearing about on the nightly news, or reading about in a major daily paper.

In Syracuse, N.Y., a man was on the street waving a gun, threatening people and firing into a crowd. Thankfully, a law-abiding concealed-carry permit holder was on the scene. He drew his 9 mm pistol and, according to the county's district attorney, saved the lives of several individuals.

This past August, four masked thugs kicked in the front door of a Phoenix, Ariz., homeowner. But the homeowner retrieved his handgun and fired multiple shots at the attackers, sending them fleeing into the night.

In Weatherford, Texas, a 67-year-old woman came home one day to find a strange car in her driveway. She found two men who had broken into an outbuilding on her property. She drew her firearm and held the two intruders at gunpoint until police arrived to take them into custody.

In Lake City, Fla., a violent criminal armed with a shotgun tried to break into a home with children inside. The homeowner,

a law-abiding gun owner, shot the intruder twice and sent him running. Deputies found the criminal later, took him to the hospital and charged him with attempted home invasion robbery and aggravated assault with a firearm, among other charges. "People have a right to protect themselves," said Sheriff Mark Hunter, "I am glad that this resident was prepared to defend their home and family."

In San Antonio, Texas, a homeowner was awakened to a man trying to break into his home. The homeowner confronted the intruder, shot and wounded him, and waited for the police to come arrest the perpetrator.

In Woodbridge, Va., a 44-year-old woman was leaving her house when a masked man with a handgun accosted her from the side of her home. A concealed-carry permit holder, the woman drew her firearm and shot her attacker, likely saving her life.

In Miami, Okla., a man was awakened when a thug broke into his home through a bedroom window. The homeowner grabbed his shotgun, confronted the intruder in the living room and fired once, killing him. As it turns out, the intruder had been released from prison just a few days earlier and had a long, criminal rap sheet that included assault, battery, theft and child abuse.

These stories, of course, are only the tip of the iceberg.

The fact is, nearly every major study shows that Americans use firearms to defend themselves, their families and their fellow citizens anywhere from 500,000 to 3,000,000 times a year. The exact number is nearly impossible to pin down, because an untold number of defensive-gun uses go unreported, either by the media or by the victims.

Anti-gun politicians know these statistics. They know the facts. They just don't care.

They'd rather trade the truth for political power and campaign contributions from anti-gun billionaires. But make no mistake about it: When they say you shouldn't be allowed to own guns, and when they rail against NRA and the Second Amendment, what they're really saying is your life doesn't matter and isn't worth protecting.

There is simply no freedom without the freedom to defend yourself with a firearm.

As NRA members, this is why we fight.

Wayne LaPierre



Like us on Facebook at the
National Rifle Association.
For related articles, go to
nrapublications.org.

CCI

THE LEADER IN RIMFIRE AMMUNITION®

BEING NUMBER ONE
ISN'T THE ONLY THING,
IT'S EVERYTHING.

**THE MOST OPTIONS.
THE BEST PERFORMANCE.
FOR EVERY SHOOTER.**

CCI® doesn't just make rimfire ammunition. We fuel better performance whether you plink or compete, or hunt small game or gators. With a full lineup of all-new loads from our MeatEater series and Stangers to Pour Pack cartons and Maxi-Mag® Segmented Hollow Points, CCI continues its mission to take rimfire further.



BUY NOW AT CCI-AMMUNITION.COM



By Carolyn D. Meadows
President

NRA OFFICERS

Carolyn D. Meadows
President

Charles L. Cotton
First Vice President

Willes K. Lee
Second Vice President

Wayne LaPierre
Executive Vice President

John Frazer
Secretary

Sonya Rowling
Treasurer and
Chief Financial Officer

Jason Ouimet
Executive Director,
NRA-ILA

Joseph P. DeBergalis, Jr.
Executive Director,
General Operations



For news about your NRA,
visit: nra.org and nra-ila.org.
Share this column online at
nrapublications.org.

Gratitude And Vigilance

As I'm sure you're already aware, the ongoing challenges presented by COVID-19 and its variants forced us to cancel the 2021 NRA Annual Meetings in Houston—a huge disappointment to us all. There is one silver lining to this for me, however, which is that I have the opportunity to write to you, the patriotic members of our Association, once more.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this November, I'm grateful first for this wonderful country, for the brave colonists who landed at Plymouth, and then for all the brave settlers who first stood up and demanded their rights as free men. I'm grateful for their wisdom in crafting the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, especially the Second Amendment.

I'm thankful for those who continue to fight for those rights today, and for each hard-won legislative victory that helps hold tyranny at bay.

Looking back on this year, I'm grateful the United States Supreme Court has agreed to hear a crucial Second Amendment case, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*. This is the first case they've agreed to hear since their important decisions in *McDonald v. Chicago* and *District of Columbia v. Heller*, presenting the opportunity to affirm the Second Amendment right of Americans to not just keep but also to bear arms for their defense. We hope it will also beat back the poor decisions lower courts have made in defiance of the high court's previous rulings on the right to keep and bear arms.

I'm also thankful that gun-grabbing activist David Chipman will not be head of the ATF, as President Biden and the anti-gun Left dearly wanted. Chipman has made it clear through his statements and actions over the years that he does not believe in the individual right to keep and bear arms, and he, no doubt, would have used this unelected but powerful post to chip away at our rights.

I'm also grateful that Texas, Tennessee, Iowa, Montana and Utah enacted Constitutional Carry this year, joining 16 other states where law-abiding gun owners can now carry their means of self-protection, openly or concealed, without an additional license or tax. There were so many other pro-freedom victories across the country in 2021 that I urge you to check out NRAILA.org to see the important work done by your NRA at the state level.

Even as we give thanks to God for these victories, though, we must remain mindful of the constant threats presented by the well-organized and well-funded anti-gun movement. The Biden/Harris administration, rather than upholding the Constitution as sworn to do, continually look for opportunities to erode our rights. And, while vowing to render patriotic, law-abiding Americans defenseless, Biden, as commander-in-chief, is directly responsible for arming the Taliban with tactical vehicles, aircraft and guns during his fumbling withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan.

**THE SETTLERS AT PLYMOUTH
COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN
IT AT THE TIME, BUT THEIR
ACTIONS STARTED SOMETHING
EXCEPTIONAL—SOMETHING
UNSEEN IN THE WORLD
BEFORE—A COUNTRY WHERE
CITIZENS COULD TRULY BE FREE.**

And let me remind you that these constant threats to our freedom are not just happening at the top levels of government. That is why I hope you are aware of—and actively engaged in—your local politics. There are a handful of elections this month, and your vote is critically important for the future of the Second Amendment. No doubt there will be a lot of distractions as we roll into next year's midterm elections, but believe me, the gun-control crowd is not going to let it pass by without their influence. Billions of dollars are once again being spent by the likes of Michael Bloomberg and George Soros to elect their handpicked anti-gun candidates.

We can't let that happen. We must remain vigilant. I know we are all very busy, especially this holiday season, but we must remember that the radical Left would gladly follow the Taliban's example of disarming everyday citizens, leaving us helpless against both small- and large-scale threats.

The settlers at Plymouth couldn't have known it at the time, but their actions started something exceptional—something unseen in the world before—a country where citizens could truly be free. It is on us to keep it that way. Let us not waver, but stand and fight!

After all, we have a country to save!

Carolyn D. Meadows

A TRUE BARREL OF FUN



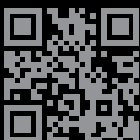
OPTICS-READY MILLED SLIDE | HIGH CAPACITY .22 LR
SUPPRESSOR READY | SMOOTH SINGLE-ACTION HAMMER

THE NEW FN 502™ TACTICAL

This isn't just the first rimfire from FN, it's the first optics-ready, slide-mounted .22 LR pistol that's ever existed. And when it comes to pure fun, the results are second to none. Our ideal tactical .22 LR pistol is high capacity and suppressor ready with an aircraft-grade anodized aluminum slide, co-witnessing iron sights, a target-crowned threaded barrel and more.

Get ready for a little more fun on the range with the FN 502 Tactical.

LEARN MORE



CARRY THE FUTURE®



By Jason Ouimet
Executive Director,
NRA-ILA

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOT ENOUGH.

If you want to **DEFEND** your right to own and carry a firearm ...

If your **FREEDOM** to hunt and shoot is important to you ...

Then you need to **SUPPORT** the NRA Institute for Legislative Action.

We are the only arm of NRA specifically charged with defending your Second Amendment freedoms on Capitol Hill, and in state legislatures and courtrooms across America.

Visit **nraila.org** to support NRA-ILA today!

NRA-ILA: (800) 392-8683
NRA-ILA website: nraila.org
For related articles, go to nrapublications.org.

In Wake Of Lackluster COVID Performance, CDC Targets Guns

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has not inspired confidence with its response to COVID-19. That's not NRA's opinion—it's borne out by the data.

A recent study from the RAND Corporation found that "Surveys done among a representative group of Americans in May and October of 2020 show about a 10% decline in trust of the CDC over that period." A Kaiser Family Foundation poll found that trust in the agency fell 16 percent from April 2020 to September 2020. A report from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health determined "The public's rating of the nation's public health system... [has] changed over time, with positive ratings of the public health system declining from 43% to 34% from 2009 to 2021." This included a sharp drop in the CDC's job-performance rating.

Despite the agency's waning credibility in the face of an actual disease, the big brains at CDC appear eager to further alienate the public by diving headlong into a political quagmire.

In late August, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky sat down with CNN to announce the agency's intent to target gun owners. Speaking about firearms, Walensky said, "I swore to the president and to this country that I would protect your health. This is clearly one of those moments, one of those issues that is harming America's health."

Americans don't want the CDC using a "public-health approach" to treat firearms as if they were germs transmitting a communicable disease. Rather, we understand that criminal violence perpetrated with firearms is best addressed by targeting violent perpetrators through the criminal justice system.

Alongside its polling about trust in the public health system, Harvard asked survey respondents whether they considered 33 different topics to be within the purview of public-health agencies. Actual health-related issues such as "controlling the spread of infectious diseases," "providing vaccines" and "reducing infant mortality and preterm birth" garnered the most support. "Preventing violence and deaths from guns" ranked 31 out of 33, with few considering it a responsibility for public-health agencies.

Walensky's forthcoming effort isn't the first time CDC has targeted gun owners. In the early 1990s, CDC officials from the agency's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) funded

biased and flawed firearms research and collaborated with anti-gun organizations to advocate for gun control.

CDC reports and publications urged restrictive gun legislation. A 1993 CDC report titled "Injury Control in the 1990s: A National Plan for Action" advocated for may-issue handgun licensing, "a registry of all gun purchases" and making "possession of unregistered handguns a criminal offense." A 1995 CDC-funded newsletter urged readers to "Put gun control on the agenda of your civic or professional organization" and "Organize a picket at gun manufacturing sites..."

Making the agency's position crystal clear, NCIPC Director Mark Rosenberg told a media outlet in 1994 that guns should be treated like cigarettes—"dirty, deadly and banned."

Recognizing that taxpayers shouldn't be forced to fund attacks on their Second Amendment rights, Congress passed the Dickey Amendment in 1996. Often misconstrued by the legacy press as a ban on firearm-related research, the language prohibited public funds from being used "in whole or in part, to advocate or promote gun control."

Walensky appears cognizant of this restriction. Carefully parsing her words, the CDC director told CNN, "I'm not here about gun control. I'm here about preventing gun violence and gun death."

This wordplay will give little comfort to gun owners. For decades, anti-gun groups have urged their followers to avoid the term "gun control" in their messaging guides, and Walensky is just following suit. The messaging might change, but the civilian-disarmament campaign's goals don't.

Moreover, the CDC has demonstrated a penchant for violating federal law. In August, the U.S. Supreme Court reprimanded the agency for an eviction moratorium that even Joe Biden admitted was illegal. Gun owners should be wary of the agency showing a similar disregard for federal funding restrictions.

With the CDC's reputation diminished amidst a pandemic, its own poor performance and a legal rebuke, it would be reasonable for the agency to refocus its efforts on what the American people expect it to do—combat actual disease. However, if the partisans at CDC would rather play politics, they might want to consider another data point. As of Sept. 1, oddsmakers placed the probability of the U.S. House changing hands in 2022 at more than 70 percent.

THE WORDS YOU CAN NEVER SAY ENOUGH... *I Love You... I Love You... I Love You*

11 genuine diamonds!



A trio of beautiful rings you can wear separately or together!

Each ring is engraved with the heartfelt words you can never say enough:

I Love You



Diamond Stacking Rings

A FINE JEWELRY EXCLUSIVE

AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE BRADFORD EXCHANGE

Say the Three Words that Matter Most in Sparkling Style

Our "I Love You" Diamond Stacking Rings send a precious message from the heart to someone very special! Hand-crafted of solid sterling silver, the ring is actually three rings in one—each band glittering with genuine diamonds. The top and bottom bands come together to form a heart, each set with 2 sparkling diamonds and feature open scrollwork. The center band is set with an additional 7 genuine diamonds. But the heartfelt expression doesn't stop there! Each band is engraved on the inside with the words you can never say too much, "I Love You." Stylish and meaningful, it's a spectacular celebration of love!

A Remarkable Value...

Available only from The Bradford Exchange

This is an exceptional value at \$149.99*, payable in 4 installments of \$37.50, and backed by our 120-day guarantee. Available in women's whole and half sizes from 5-12, the ring arrives in a custom case. To reserve yours, send no money now; just mail the Priority Reservation. Don't miss out—order today!

Order online at
bradfordexchange.com/12858



©2021 The Bradford Exchange 01-12858-001-BISINP

Uniquely Designed. Exclusively Yours.

The Bradford Exchange

P.O. Box 806, Morton Grove, IL 60053-0806

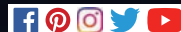
YES. Please reserve the "I Love You" Diamond Stacking Rings for me as described in this announcement. **Ring size:** _____ (if known)

LIMITED-TIME OFFER Reservations will be accepted on a **first-come, first-served basis**. Respond as soon as possible to reserve your ring.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. To assure a proper fit, a ring sizer will be sent to you after your reservation has been accepted.

*Plus a total of \$16.00 shipping and service (see bradfordexchange.com). Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of your jewelry after we receive your initial deposit. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

Connect with Us!



PRIORITY RESERVATION

SEND NO MONEY NOW

Signature _____

Mrs. Mr. Ms. _____

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Email _____

01-12858-001-E53221



By Jason Ouimet
Executive Director,
NRA-ILA



RECLAIMING OUR RIGHTS

Requires Retaking The House In 2022

With the Biden Administration and an anti-gun Congress wielding power in Washington, D.C., our Second Amendment rights have been under unprecedented assault. Hostile legislation is moving on Capitol Hill. Anti-gun activists are being nominated and appointed to key government posts. The Biden White House is taking whatever unilateral actions against the gun industry and individual gun owners it can. And the leading funders of anti-gun activism and the AstroTurf organizations that do their bidding are openly collaborating with the government on anti-gun initiatives.

The battles have never been tougher, and the stakes have never been higher. Firearm prohibitionists don't just want to enact "commonsense gun safety legislation" (their euphemism for confiscatory bans), they want to silence the opposition. They want to cripple the industries that serve individual gun owners.

They want to portray firearm ownership as a public-health crisis that demands a system-wide response to "cure." They want to import international gun-control norms—including those of authoritarian dictatorships—to the United States. And, ultimately, they want to overturn the fundamental constitutional right to keep and bear arms and make possessing a firearm, for any reason, a criminal offense that will land you in prison.

Reclaiming our rights and beating back this tide will not be easy. But failure is not an option. The first step in this campaign must be retaking the U.S. House of Representatives in next year's crucial midterm elections.

While the House of Representatives is commonly referred to as the "lower" chamber of Congress, I prefer the nickname the "Peoples' House." It has 435 voting members (versus 100 in the U.S. Senate), that are apportioned in districts within the U.S. states according to their populations, as established by the census. Members face election every two years (versus ever six years for senators).

Because they often represent districts that are not entire states, House members are generally more responsive to variations in political sentiment within a given state. This is especially relevant to firearm policy, as even the most anti-gun states typically have districts where the local population is strongly pro-gun. This applies, for example, to California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and

New York. So even if their national party leadership is strongly anti-gun (as is the case now for Democrats with Biden, Schumer and Pelosi in control), some House members will still defer to their districts on the issue. And if they don't, that leaves their seat vulnerable to be flipped in the next election if local gun owners are sufficiently mobilized and motivated.

The House is also where all-important government-spending bills originate, meaning it can curb the aspirations of federal agencies that would overstep their bounds.

House seats are typically more volatile than Senate seats. They therefore offer a particularly effective course correction for an administration, like Biden's, without a significant popular mandate and which is continually overreaching on controversial policies.

And nowhere has Biden been more overreaching or controversial than on gun control.

Joe Biden openly supports many of the most radical and far-reaching gun-control proposals being pushed by the civilian-disarmament lobby. These include banning America's most popular rifle, the AR-15, as well as the sorts of magazines factory-equipped with on the nation's most-popular self-and home-defense firearms.

Not only would Biden ban the manufacture, importation, or possession of these constitutionally-protected arms, he would force current owners to register them with the government and to obtain \$200 tax stamps for each item under the National Firearms Act (NFA). Failure to comply with these requirements could lead to the forcible seizure of the arms and land their formerly law-abiding owners in federal prison.

It's no coincidence the man Biden picked to lead the federal agency primarily responsible for enforcing the NFA and other federal gun-control statutes not only supports these ideas but has promoted them through his paid work as an "advisor" for America's wealthiest gun-prohibition lobbies. These include the Giffords organization and Michael Bloomberg's own pet gun-control project, Everytown for Gun Safety. Thankfully, the nomination of radical gun-control activist David Chipman to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive (ATF) has failed due to your hard work and support, but there's still more to do.

Biden's administration is working on two sweeping rulemakings to completely re-define what counts as a regulated "firearm" under federal law and to ban pistols equipped with stabilizing braces. The former rule would make ATF, not Congress, the *de facto* authority on the scope and sweep of the federal Gun Control Act. And the latter would retroactively ban untold numbers of firearms that law-abiding Americans had obtained legally and in good faith to use for lawful purposes.

But the White House isn't just counting on ATF to do its anti-gun bidding.

It instead seeks to use a "whole-of-government" approach that involves such disparate entities as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State Department and even the Department of Defense, to name just a few. These efforts seek to leverage the expertise and credibility of diverse government officials to create an orthodoxy that firearm ownership is unreasonably dangerous and to import a globalist perspective on firearm regulation at odds with our Constitution into America's domestic policy.

In all these schemes, Joe Biden has ready allies in the current House of Representatives. Indeed, the House has shown an eagerness to carry water for Biden's gun-control ambitions, both through the introduction of anti-gun legislation and by holding so-called "hearings" that were really just opportunities to publicly pontificate against guns, the firearm industry and gun-owning Americans.

The House has already passed sweeping gun-control legislation this session of Congress, with bills that would presumptively ban the private transfer of firearms and remove an automatic safety valve in federal law that prevents the FBI from blocking gun sales without evidence of a buyer's legal ineligibility. Taken together, these bills transform the right to obtain firearms into a privilege administered at the say-so of the government. They also set the stage for a universal registry of gun owners and the transformation of the current "shall-issue" paradigm for retail firearm sales to eligible buyers into a "may-issue" system where the FBI can block sales on a case-by-case basis as they see fit.

To date, neither bill has been given a vote in the Senate, but anti-gun leadership there have made clear they are merely waiting for the right moment to ram through the legislation when public emotions are running high.

Bills have also been introduced this session in the House on a dizzying array of other gun-control proposals. These include sweeping firearm and magazine bans, gun-owner licensing, comprehensive firearm registration, government oversight of firearm storage in private homes, mandatory insurance requirements for gun ownership and allowing the gun industry to be sued for third-party crimes.

The point is to make gun ownership too expensive, too complicated, too fraught with legal risks, too socially unacceptable and too subject to intrusive government regulation to be feasible or even desirable for the average American.

Meanwhile, even as Joe Biden targets the guns of law-abiding U.S. citizens, his handling of the military withdrawal from Afghanistan left not just thousands and thousands of American rifles and pistols but tanks, planes, helicopters, machine guns and night vision equipment at the disposal of the Taliban. And this at the same time that Biden is publicly supporting criminal penalties for supposedly "irresponsible" gun owners and firearm dealers in America. The hypocrisy is breathtaking.

But the good news is that Biden's extremism and incompetence makes the anti-gun members of his party in the House that much more vulnerable to losing their seats in next year's midterms. As summer turned to fall, media outlets across the ideological spectrum were reporting on Biden's plunging approval numbers. A September poll conducted by NPR/PBS NewsHour/Marist showed Biden's approval rating as president at just 43%.

CNN then sounded the alarm, noting in an article that "[t]he single biggest indicator of how the 2022 midterm elections will go for the two parties is how the public thinks about President Joe Biden." The piece went on to quote a pollster for Gallup, who stated: "In Gallup's polling history, presidents with job approval ratings below 50% have seen their party lose 37 House seats, on average, in midterm elections."

While much can obviously change over the course of a year, Biden's performance to date gives those who want to restrict our freedom little cause for optimism.

But it does give freedom-loving Americans a great opportunity in 2022 to reverse course and to return the Peoples' House to those who respect the peoples' Second Amendment liberties. 🇺🇸



THINK FAST



STRIKER-FIRED

5.5LB TRIGGER

10+1 CAPACITY

RED-DOT OPTIC

\$399.99

Think Fast: Everything moves fast these days, but we know a few things about staying a step ahead of the competition. That's why we created the DVG-1RD; a striker-fired subcompact 9mm. The factory-equipped red-dot optic means faster target acquisition and our proprietary manufacturing process means big savings on a performance firearm.

Learn more at sccy.com/dvg



©2021 SCCY Firearms, All Rights Reserved



By Todd Grable
Executive Director of
Membership

Your NRA Membership Can Protect More Than Your Guns

As an NRA member, you know that protecting your family is the single most important responsibility you face. That's why NRA is fighting every day for your right to own firearms in defense of your life and loved ones.

But, there's even more your membership can do for you when it comes to providing the security your family deserves.

As a member of the NRA, you have access to a broad array of Life and Health insurance products through our approved licensed service partner, A.G.I.A., Inc. and its Life Insurance Central division.

A.G.I.A., Inc. has group term life products available to members between the ages of 18–74 with coverage amounts from \$10,000–\$50,000 to supplement any existing insurance you may have. The benefits can assist your loved ones with paying off student loans, credit card debt or final expenses, and you and your spouse are *guaranteed* acceptance in these plans – with no medical exams

PROTECTING OUR SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS IS A CRITICAL PART OF KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE. NOW, THROUGH YOUR NRA MEMBERSHIP, YOU CAN ALSO TAKE THE NEXT CRITICAL STEPS TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES.

required, and no health questions asked.

A.G.I.A., Inc. also offers higher limits of term insurance through their Life Insurance Central division. Through that service, you can talk with a licensed insurance agent for a quote from highly rated insurance companies. Coverage amounts range from \$100,000 to more than \$1 million depending on your needs, and their agents are not commissioned – so there's no pressure to buy.

In addition to life insurance, our program partner also offers products to

help address your health concerns. The Cancer Care plan pays cash benefits directly to you for covered cancer treatments and events. The Hospital Help (Group Hospital Indemnity) Plan pays cash benefits – also directly to you – for covered hospital stays. Individual and family medical plans from top health insurance companies and healthcare partners are also available, along with other health-related products including Telemedicine, Long Term Care, and Medicare Supplement insurance.

You also have access to Accidental Death and Travel Accident products with coverage amounts up to \$100,000 for Accidental Death and \$400,000 for Travel Accident. As a member, you cannot be turned down for coverage, and no health questions are involved.

And finally, as a special "Thank You" for being a valued NRA member, you're eligible for up to \$5,000 in no-cost Accidental Death Insurance (\$10,000 for Life Members). But confirmation is required for activation. If you haven't yet activated your free coverage, please do so today on the NRA Approved Services website at nraapprovedservices.com.

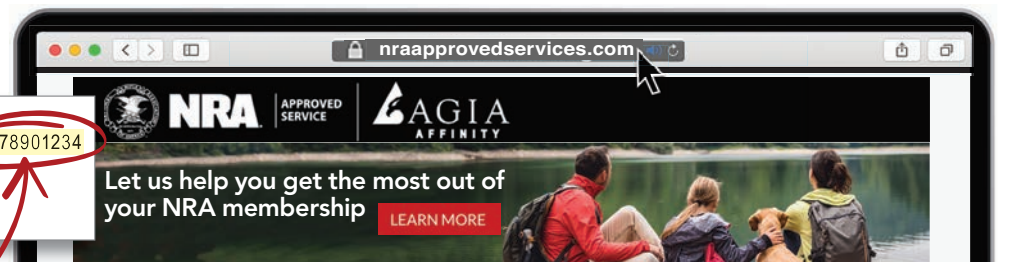
Protecting our gun rights is a critical part of keeping your family safe. Now, through your NRA membership, you can take the next critical steps to protect the health and wellbeing of yourself and your loved ones. That's why I invite you to log in to our licensed agent's benefit website at nraapprovedservices.com and review the products that may fit your and your family's needs.

Thank you as always for your NRA support. We're proud to bring you the best possible benefits package we can in honor of your commitment to freedom.

Todd Grable

#8XNGVI *****5-DIGIT 22030
#0790156789012345#F 12/2022 **5678901234**
JOHN DOE
123 Sample Street
CITY, ST 12345-1234

Your Member ID can be found on the label of this magazine cover.



None of the information provided above is a guarantee of insurance coverage. All offers will be made by a licensed agent pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations. These policies have exclusions, limitations, [reduction of benefits] and terms under which the policy may be continued in force or discontinued. For costs and complete details of the coverage of any products named see the licensed agent's website and policy materials.

Product and service availability varies by state. Insurance products are not offered in the state of NY.

AGIA Affinity is a brand owned by A.G.I.A., Inc., agency license #0155705 and A.G.I.A., Inc Third Party Administrator license #0549207, California Corporations.

HOW GOOD CAN YOU BE?

FIND OUT.

Every Trijicon® riflescope follows in the footsteps of our most proven, battle-tested products. Otherwise, it wouldn't be a Trijicon riflescope. Expect absolute precision, brilliant clarity in any lighting condition, and extreme durability that lets you improve every day.



»THE NEW
Trijicon Ascent®



»THE NEW
Trijicon Credo®



Trijicon VCOG®

See what it takes to make a brilliant aiming solution at [Trijicon.com](https://www.trijicon.com).



Well-Traveled Imports

Ever wonder how that firearm makes its way from foreign shores to your gun shop? It is, as the song goes, a long strange trip.

The United States does not hold an exclusive when it comes to making quality firearms. There's no shortage of manufacturing or design expertise overseas, a fact made obvious by the number of legendary guns born outside our borders. Getting them here and making them available at FFLs without sacrificing quality control is no easy task, though.

Last year's record-setting firearm sales left many shelves empty for months. They're refilling, but the painful memory left some enthusiasts wondering why guns manufactured in other countries didn't quickly fill that vacuum. *Shooting Illustrated* asked the experts.

TriStar Arms has been in the firearm business for 25 years, offering an established line of shotguns and pistols, most notably from Turkey. The company has a hard-earned reputation for providing models that reliably perform, even when neglected in challenging conditions. Ryan Bader, vice president of sales and marketing, said that's no accident.

"Quality is what keeps a gun company going," he responded in an e-mail. "In this day and age, if you sell subpar product the consumer will figure it out, post it to social media and you're toast."

Importing challenges aren't exclusively tolerance related, either. "There are cultural differences to work around, there is trust that needs to be built. All of this takes time. Most of our factories have been with us for over 12 years now. If we onboard a new factory, you can bet that factory was heavily vetted beforehand. We've established standards that we expect our factories to adhere to."

Even then, a layer of on-site quality control is added. "TriStar actually has

a third-party, independent inspection team in Turkey that inspects each shipment before it leaves. They typically inspect about 20 to 30 percent of each model that is being shipped. If a problem is found, obviously they inspect more. This is not the standard coming out of Turkey, though." That's not enough. Once stateside, function testing is conducted with different loads, quality of materials confirmed, fit checked and more—all documented as being up to company standards.

It's time-consuming and manpower-intensive, but can't even begin until the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) grants permission for that firearm to come into the United States. A spokesperson from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)—which inspects the guns upon arrival, explained, "The FFL must obtain an import permit from ATF to import or bring into the United States any firearm. To be imported lawfully, the firearm also must be generally recognized as particularly suitable for, or readily adaptable to, sporting purposes. Surplus military firearms are generally prohibited from importation into the United States except for certain curio or relic surplus military firearms imported by licensed importers only."

"Any new model generally needs to be inspected by the Tech Branch of ATF," Bader explained. "To keep it simple, let's say 30 days for a temporary import permit to get one sample of the new model stateside (shipped directly to ATF). From there, it could take anywhere from six months to over a year for full approval."



If approved, there are additional layers of paperwork after each shipment destined for FFLs arrives, according to an ATF spokesperson. At that time, "The importer submits at least one ATF Form 6A to the ATF documenting what items were actually imported. ... Depending on who is importing or what is being imported, there could be additional procedures," they explained.

Bader downplays the regulatory rabbit hole, but when asked about shipping delays, responded, "Generally speaking, it takes one week by air and one month by sea. However, given the global strain on the shipping industry, we've seen containers take three months on the water and air shipments take three weeks to be delivered. I don't see this lasting forever, but the pandemic certainly threw a few curve balls with regard to logistics."

Inspection at a port of entry is probably the fastest step in the entire process. "CBP is pretty quick. Say what you want about government, CBP is a well-oiled machine. They have the authority to do an 'intense exam.' This adds another week onto the time. Generally, though, one to two days and our shipments are cleared."

The responses were eye-opening and explain why that vacuum of "sporting arms" never did fill with quality imported firearms, despite record-setting demand throughout 2020.

Shooting Off

"It appears that the deceased simply walked up to them, decided that is who he was going to rob, pointed a gun at them and that is when he was shot and killed. Every citizen has the right to defend their life."

—Oklahoma City Police Department MSGT Gary Knight told Oklahoma 4 News after an armed robber was shot and killed in August by his permit-carrying victim.

Gangster Guns Going, Going Gone



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WITHERELL'S

Nearly 200 verified items from Al Capone's estate went up for sale at Witherell's Auction House in Sacramento, CA, in October—including a pair of handguns that have remained with his heirs until now. At press time final bid amounts were not available, but here are two of the pistols and their estimated values prior to the event.

His Colt Model 1908, chambered in .380 ACP, was expected to see bidding as high as \$60,000. Its grips are smooth wood and the metal blued.

That wasn't the original Scarface's favorite pistol, though. That dubious distinction goes to an engraved Colt 1911 chambered in .45 ACP that, despite being produced before they were required on all firearms, has part of its serial number unreadable. The pistol was expected to fetch up to \$150,000 during the auction.

Quick Shots

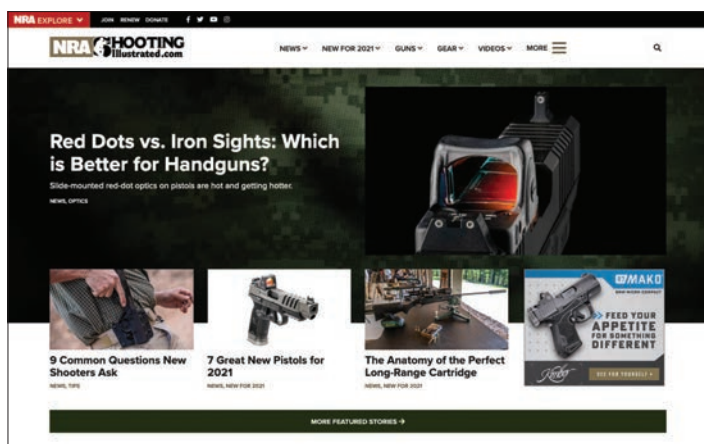
The FBI has awarded Winchester Ammunition a contract to provide .308 Win./7.62 NATO cartridges to its sniper teams. The agreement has a value threshold of \$5 million over a five-year term. The 169-grain Sierra boattail hollowpoint .308 Win. loads were selected for issue by the FBI after undergoing rigorous testing protocols.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has chosen FN America's FN509 MRD-LE as its new duty pistol. The selection process included a 20,000-round-count qualification in which the FN509 MRD-LE passed with zero malfunctions.

DRG acquired Saltwater Arms in August and expanded its line of complete, fully assembled firearms. The company's modern sporting rifle lineup now includes models chambered in 9 mm, 5.56 NATO, and .308 Win.

SAR USA is offering its NATO-inspired 9 mm pistol ammunition to the American market. The FMJ rounds are made in Turkey and feature brass casings and military-grade, sealed primers.

Leisurely Browsing



Shooting Illustrated has launched a brand-new website with impressive new design features and an exciting layout, making it easier than ever for enthusiasts to enjoy the best content from the firearm world.

Personal-protection aficionados will encounter stunning images of new home-defense shotguns, concealed-carry handguns, long-range rifles, AR-15s and much more,

along with the in-depth, easy-to-read reviews and the product spotlights they've come to expect from the magazine's experts. The user-friendly layout provides a seamless experience when viewing videos, whether on smartphones, tablets or desktop computers. Those video segments include *Shooting Illustrated's* "I Carry" coverage of new, everyday carry guns and gear, as well as "First Shot" videos highlighting the newest firearms available to the public.

In addition, the new website design is ADA-compliant, offering industry-leading access for those with disabilities.

ShootingIllustrated.com is now easier than ever to navigate thanks to an intuitive menu bar and, as always, hosts the best firearms coverage on the Internet.

Lifestyle | Versatile Moves

Gun safes rarely move after that Olympic weightlifting team squeezes it through your front door. It's ideal, intimidating and there's no doubt it deters everything except professional thieves with explosives training. Unfortunately, the monoliths don't fit in every home and the job market is more mobile than ever.

Modern gun owners are a diverse breed, but the responsibility to secure their firearms in a manner that prevents unauthorized access is a shared one. Hornady's SnapSafe Modular Safe line provides a versatile, moveable solution for today's enthusiasts.

One of the closet-friendly models in the Hornady-produced line is the Titan, seen here. It measures 59 inches tall, 22 wide and 17.5 deep. Twelve long guns safely stow in its confines. It has eight locking bolts, features 9-gauge steel construction on the exterior walls and weighs 400 crime-detering pounds. Its unique design, however, is modular, which allows it to be carried to any desired location one piece at a time and assembled in private. Add a few firearms and



PHOTO COURTESY OF HORNADY

cartridges and it's a tough move, unless you have the combination. Then you can remove the contents, disassemble the components, dust underneath and inform that realtor that it doesn't need to be included in the listing.

It's a cunning piece of engineering that addresses today's fluid job market, without sacrificing safety. MSRP is \$1,859.

Quick Shots

Berger's Load Development Team has determined some of the company's .223 Rem. 77-grain OTM Tactical cartridges from Lot # P002745, P002745-1, P002745-2 and P002745-3 may cause function/ignition issues with AR-style gas-operating platforms. Bolt-action rifles are not affected. The cartridges were shipped to retailers from April 2, 2021, to April 22, 2021. Owners of affected ammunition should contact Berger to arrange replacement.

The Nightforce Optics Mil-Spec ATACR 4-20x50 mm F1 has been selected as the USSOCOM Ranging—Variable Power Scope component for its Miniature Aiming Systems—Day Optic Program. A civilian version riflescope is offered, but it is not currently available in the tan hardcoat anodized finish.

Ceska zbrojovka—better known as CZ—is celebrating the 85th anniversary of its founding this year. To mark the occasion the company is releasing limited editions of its popular CZ 557 rifle and CZ 75 SP-01 Shadow pistol. Only 2,000 of each will be produced.

WHAT YOU CARRY, CARRIES YOU.



The M&P Shield® Plus. Our most comfortable, high-capacity, concealed carry, Micro-Compact EVER.

The Shield® Plus pistol is the next evolution in everyday carry. With a standard capacity of 13+1 rounds, the M&P Shield® Plus delivers a natural point-of-aim and a newly optimized grip texture to help you manage recoil to keep you on target round after round. The new flat face trigger design allows for consistent finger placement that helps with repeatable, accurate, comfortable shooting.

See the full lineup including ported barrel, optics cuts, and longer slide options at smith-wesson.com.



Smith & Wesson®

Shuffling Things Up

Reinforce the basics by changing your training regime.



Simply alternating your handgun from one hand to the other between rounds helps to develop your skills with both hands while conserving ammunition.

PHOTO: ED HEAD

Readers of this column frequently remind me they can't practice some of the drills laid out here because the ranges where they shoot prohibit drawing from the holster. Noting this, I usually mention the skills can be started from a low-ready, muzzle-depressed position as well. Also, some folks, especially beginning shooters, may be uncomfortable drawing a loaded pistol from the holster.

Another issue that pops up from time to time is folks who use five-shot revolvers for everyday carry (EDC) can't easily run some of the drills involving six shots or longer strings of fire.

Then we have the ammunition situation. While it seems to be more available than in past months and prices are coming down, high-round-count drills are best put aside for the time being and our emphasis should be on making every shot count.

You can run this drill on an indoor or outdoor range; it doesn't involve drawing from a holster and you will need only 10 rounds of ammunition. You'll need a table or bench to set the gun on and there's no need for a timer, as this drill is not timed. Being a variation of the 5x5x5 drill I've previously described, you can easily download a printable 5-inch circle target from a number of online sources or simply draw a 5-inch circle on an existing, clean target (or paper plate).

Here's the drill:


Set your target at 5 yards. All shots are fired one-handed.

Stage 1: Place the loaded pistol on the bench or table with the muzzle pointed downrange. Start by picking it up with the right hand, fire one shot at the target, shift the pistol to the left hand and fire another shot, change hands again and continue back and forth between your hands until you have fired five rounds. The sequence is right, left, right, left, right.

Stage 2: This is the same drill, starting with the left hand. The sequence is left, right, left, right, left.

There is no time limit, so the idea is to practice your one-handed shooting with each hand, emphasizing smooth transitions, use of the sights and trigger control. If all your shots are in the circle, you've done well. If not, more practice is in order.

This is an excellent dry-fire drill for five-shot revolvers, too, with the usual precautions of ensuring the revolver is unloaded, no live ammunition is present and you're pointing at something that will safely stop a bullet.

Give this a try, and as always, your feedback is welcome. 



HI-POINT
FIREARMS

Commemorate American Independence

with our 9mm and 45 Auto carbines
in a Special Edition hydro-dipped
Grand Union Flag pattern
in recognition of our country's
declaration of freedom
almost 250 years ago

995 FLG - MSRP: \$422.00
4595 FLG - MSRP: \$453.00



**AMERICAN MADE
AMERICAN PROMISE
HI-POINTFIREARMS.COM**

Barnaul®

PREMIUM RUSSIAN AMMUNITION THAT DELIVERS

9mm Luger (9x19) Subsonic

- 151gr FMJ Subsonic
- Zinc Coated Bullet & Steel Case
- Non-Corrosive

Available NOW



EXPERIENCE THE SOUND OF
SILENCE!

BARNAULAMMO.COM



Rimfire Refinements

Transform your trusty Ruger 10/22 into a true tack-driver.

Measuring slightly more than 6 inches in length and machined from a single piece of 6061 T6 aluminum, the **Evolution Gun Works Ruger 10/22 Picatinny Rail** features a 30-MOA cant for long-distance shooting. Picatinny cross slots run the full length of the rail, giving shooters welcome flexibility when mounting optics and other accessories. A channel spanning the rail's length reduces weight while permitting use with OEM iron sights.

MSRP: \$39.99; egwguns.com

Constructed from double-stress-relieved, 416R stainless steel, the **Shaw Barrels' Ruger 10/22 Replacement Barrel** boasts a .920-inch, bull-barrel contour that minimizes accuracy-robbing movement by adding mass where it is needed most. The Bentz chamber, while not as tight as a minimum-spec match chamber, is significantly tighter than sporter variants. The result promises to help the shooter garner noticeably better accuracy with standard ammunition.

MSRP: \$290; shawcustombarrels.com

Adding much needed adaptability to the popular rimfire model, the **Magpul Hunter X-22 Stock – Ruger 10/22** is packed with practical enhancements such as an ergonomic grip, length-of-pull and comb-height adjustments, numerous sling-mounting options and a non-slip rubber buttpad. M-Lok slots allow for accessory placement.

MSRP: \$139.95; magpul.com

Featuring a body constructed from impact-resistant polycarbonate for added durability, **ProMag Industries' Ruger 10/22 (25) Rd - Smoke Polymer Magazine** features a semi-translucent polymer body that allows users to identify the type of ammo on hand and readiness on the fly. Inside, the spring is comprised of heat-treated, chrome-silicon wire for added durability.

MSRP: \$18.99; promagindustries.com

Factory preset to deliver a single-stage, ultracrisp, creep-free, 2.75-pound pull, **Timney Triggers' Replacement Trigger** for the Ruger 10/22 offers a drop-in, monolithic assembly that requires no gunsmithing and is easy to install. An extended magazine release that can be actuated with one hand is part of the unit, and customers can choose one of six trigger-shoe colors.

MSRP: \$244.99; timneytriggers.com





STILL MAKING HISTORY.

OUR HISTORY, YOUR LEGACY

Colt Gold Cup's competition ergonomics, legendary trigger, stunning grips, and other refinements reinforce a legacy of achievement. We have written a decades-deep, record-setting history, captured the hearts of competitors around the world, and set a winning standard time and again. Gold Cup is making history so you can, too.



COLT.COM



It Ain't Right If it's Light

My SIG Sauer P365 has been my constant companion as my everyday carry gun up until recently. The reason is it doesn't go *bang* every time I pull the trigger. I bought some frangible factory practice ammunition at a good price (by today's standards) a few weeks back and the performance with that ammunition has me baffled. One or two rounds per magazine don't fire because of what I perceive as light hits on the primer. The fired cartridges all seem normal as far as I can tell, but I never know when the gun will fire and when it won't. Needless to say, I have lost confidence in the P365 and have started carrying a revolver for everyday carry

because I know it will work when I need it to. What do you suggest I do to help regain my confidence in the P365 so I can comfortably carry it once again?

Walt Aoki
Portland, OR



Light primer strikes aren't always indicative of faulty ammunition. Judicious troubleshooting should be applied to the gun and multiple types of ammo to isolate the culprit.

There are quite a few possibilities that could be causing the problem you experience. Some can be gun related and others can be ammunition related. The primary concern is to restore confidence in your P365.

I would start by isolating the problem within a reasonable doubt to either the ammunition or the firearm. If the problem persists with multiple types and brands of ammunition, I would focus my efforts on the gun. If only one brand or type of ammunition is giving you problems, changing ammunition is the obvious answer.

Often, field stripping, cleaning and lubricating according to the owner's manual eliminates a variety of firing failures in any firearm. Ensure the chamber of the barrel and the breechface, especially under the hook of the extractor are free of any firing residue. If possible, remove the striker from the slide and clean its working area to ensure it can

move through its range of motion without restriction. Lubricate all surfaces experiencing friction as evidenced by the wear patterns. Use a quality lubricant and apply before reassembly, verifying its presence visually and by touch. Perform a function check to ensure the moving parts are operating smoothly and to prove the gun is mechanically sound. It's a good idea to perform this procedure regularly, as it will build confidence and familiarity with the gun and how it works.

Once the gun passes the function check, test fire it for function with several different types of ammunition. If the problem persists with more than one type or brand of ammunition, I would recommend contacting the factory's customer service department for consultation, return and evaluation. Sometimes it is good for confidence and peace of mind to let the professionals look it over and declare it fully functional.

Frangible ammunition will usually function fine if manufactured to SAAMI specifications. It has improved in quality dramatically since becoming popular for training during the last 25 years.

Some early-manufacture ammunition had standard lead-styphnate primers, while others were fitted with lead and heavy metal-free primers. Some of the lead-free variants had sensitivity issues in that they failed to initiate with good, solid strikes. Others were susceptible to moisture, which limited shelf life. And, some had bullet shapes that would not allow the cartridge to fully seat in the chamber, which in several ways affected the ability of the gun to fire the cartridge. The learning curve was rather steep, but today's frangible ammunition should work in any gun that is capable of firing ammunition manufactured to SAAMI, CIP or NATO specifications.

It sounds as if your ammunition may have been some of the older generation, hence the good price that you mentioned. Keep in mind that where ammunition is concerned, you usually get what you pay for.

If your P365 functions without failure when firing your everyday carry ammunition, I see no reason not to elevate it to your constant-carry companion again.

Correspondence is welcomed and encouraged

Write to: Shooting Illustrated | NRA | 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400
e-mail: shootingillustrated@nrahq.org



A NEW HUNTER AT MAGPUL

The Hunter 110 for right and left-handed Savage® 10 & 110 series short actions joins our Hunter stock line this winter.

It brings you optimal rifle stabilization, improved comfort, and expanded customization options
so you can dial in your unique hunting needs. Find out more at Magpul.com.



www.magpul.com

Seeing the Light

Subtracting weight from your carbine can simply be a matter of making smart choices in your gear selection.

Technology and demand are driving a light-rifle trend that shows no signs of slowing down. Purpose-built, flyweight guns are a dream to carry and shoot, but the additional machining, exotic materials and manufacturing methods that can bring something like an AR rifle down to 4.5 pounds make it expensive. Fortunately, there are cost-effective options for cutting weight on existing rifles, too. This work can be divided into gunsmith-specific tasks which require special tooling and machining skills, and those components which require nothing more elaborate than a screwdriver to install. The latter category is the focus of our efforts here.

A sizeable chunk of the following component options is AR-specific, but there are also varying degrees of lightweight, retrofit parts for other rifle platforms, including AKs, M1As, FALs and Mini-14s. Options will also be on the table for any long arms that use AR-style stocks, grips and rail-mounted ancillary devices. Speaking of stocks, the included tables show how ounces can be shed in both the collapsible and fixed categories. As with the items shown in other tables, these are just a few samples shown in comparison to standard-component weights. All data comes from the author's measurements or manufacturers' published specifications.

Assuming that you ordered the correct stock size (mil-spec or commercial) for your receiver extension, collapsible-stock changes can usually be made in just a few seconds. As in the case of the ATI Tactilite stock, if a rubber buttpad is removable, additional ounces may be shaved. Fixed-stock changes call for some form of screwdriver, and the lightest, easy-to-install models typically form a small shouldering piece, mounted to the back of the receiver extension.

Another easily changed part is the AR-style pistol grip. With nothing more than a screwdriver, an ounce or two can easily be shed. Just be careful to reinstall any detent pins and springs held in place by the grip the same way that they came out.

Swapping bolt-carrier groups (BCGs) is a simple way to drop more ounces. But, with

lightened steel carriers just shy of \$200 and titanium bolt-carrier groups starting close to \$300, this is an expensive part of the rifle diet. Since the bolt carrier is the lightened part, I purchase them stripped for retrofit work when possible. This allows use of an existing, headspaced bolt and other parts. If you go for the full BCG, be sure the new bolt gets checked for proper headspace in your barrel before use.

While you have your BCG pulled apart, you can cut the weight of your firing pin nearly in half by switching from stainless steel to titanium. I have been using Ti firing pins in small- and large-frame AR firearms for around three years without any breakage or wear. The traditional AR magazine catch is simple to change, normally requiring only a tool or cartridge tip to push the button in far enough that the catch may be unscrewed as it protrudes from the left side of the lower receiver. The ounce shedding continues with the grip screw, which can be changed to a titanium model from V Seven or DSA in conjunction with a pistol grip swap.

Inline backup sight (BUS) users have many lightweight options made from both aluminum and polymer, but shooters who need 45-degree offset BUS have very few choices. While offset metal mounting rails can be used with lightweight, inline BUS set at 45 degrees, the resulting setup is unnecessarily bulky and heavy due to the extra hardware. If you can work with low-profile, fixed, offset BUS, XS Sights' models are lighter than any others I can find. They are always ready for use and available with tritium front- and rear-aiming references.

Fans of two-point, quick-adjust slings can reduce overall rifle weight without giving up sling functionality. If your rifle has sling loops, you can eliminate separate mounting hardware altogether unless you need a quick-detach capability. Most of us need some hardware, so looking for slings that lack padding and use cable-loop attachments, such as models available from Blue Force Gear and SOB Tactical, will keep weight to a minimum.

Other relatively simple elements to the rifle diet could include changing a freefloat fore-end for a shorter version of the same make and model. In most cases, this allows use of the existing barrel nut, making the changeover easy. Replacing an existing optic just to shave a few ounces may not be cost-effective, but if you are in the market for



Finally, do not overlook accessories when you are reducing system weight. Smaller and lighter gun lights and/or lasers are available from companies like Inforce, SureFire and Streamlight. They may not have as many bells and whistles as bigger models, but if they perform basic illumination or aiming functions, the trade-off may be worth making.

of cash.

Collapsible Buttstock

Collapsible Buttstock	Weight (ounces)
Magpul CTR	8.8
M4 carbine-style	7.6
MFT Minimalist	6.0
ATI Tacilite	5.9

A2	14.0
Magpul MOE	9.0
Lead Star Ravage	6.0

Magpul MOE+	3.4
A2	2.6
Magpul MOE-K	2.2
Hogue 15-degree Vertical Polymer	1.6
Vektor SG-2	1.2

Dueck Defense Rapid Transition	4.6
Magpul MBUS Pro	3.8
XS Sights XTI DXT	2.0

AR Small Parts	Weight (ounces)
5.56 NATO Stainless steel firing pin	.32
5.56 NATO DSA titanium firing pin	.18
Steel magazine catch	.39
V Seven titanium mag catch	.21
Steel grip screw	.25
V Seven titanium grip screw	.11

Full-automatic/M16	11.5
Semi-automatic/AR-15	11.1
Faxon skeletonized	8.5
Brownells lightweight	8.2
Rubber City Armory titanium	7.8

V-Tac padded	6.8
Magpul MS-1	6.0
Magpul RLS	4.4
Blue Force Gear Vickers Standard AK	4.2
SOB Tactical U-Loop B-sling (with Combat Band)	2.3



CARBINE UPPERS

**FOR GLOCK, 1911,
& XD PISTOLS**

- NO MODIFICATION TO YOUR PISTOL
- MANY OPTIONS AVAILABLE
- NO FFL REQUIRED

TOLL FREE
(866) 433.2122



THE WORLD'S MOST VERSATILE PISTOL ACCESSORY

MECHTECHSYS.COM

The Scars Make It Real

Don't be afraid to use your high-end handgun how it was intended.



Though fine craftsmanship can elevate a firearm to a level bordering on art, it is still a tool and, as such, merits being used as intended, not merely consigned to a display case.

Way back in the Dark Ages—well, OK, it wasn't actually the Dark Ages, it was more like 2008—I attended a Tactical Handgun I class from the late, great firearm trainer Louis Awerbuck.

My shootin' buddy, who had arranged for me to attend the class, was shooting his newest Les Baer Thunder Ranch Special. Mind you, he had a couple other identical Baers, but he was an adherent of the philosophy that if one is none, two is some and three is probably getting close to adequate. So, this class was basically a shakedown cruise for the backup pistol to his spare pistol.

Because this new pistol was so pristine for a gun with such a belligerent design philosophy (this was a fighting 1911, after all), I gently teased him about the new-in-box appearance of what I called his "Minnie Pearl gun." For those too young to know who Minnie Pearl

was, a group which would include me were it not for the magic of syndicated television reruns, she was a comedian best known for her appearances on the show "Hee-Haw," where her signature item of apparel was an ornately decorated formal hat with the price tag still hanging off it.

The tension between collectors and shooters is rarely more apparent than in the upper-price tiers of the handgun market. During my time behind the counter in gun shops, I've known plenty of repeat customers who were avid enthusiasts for every new, special-edition Kimber 1911 or revolver from the Smith & Wesson Performance Center. For those customers it was important to let them be the one to open the box—if anyone was going to get a first fingerprint on their new blaster, it was going to be them.

For the gun-as-investment crowd, this makes a certain amount of sense. Many of these pieces would never have the trigger tags removed. They'd be taken home and set in a safe and presumably sold again many years down the road, proudly boasting "factory box and docs, no turn ring on the cylinder!"

Where it always seemed confusing to me was when that viewpoint bumped up against the types of firearms explicitly designed for hard use. Take the Springfield Armory TRP, or its even more expensive Custom Shop cousin, the Professional, as an example.

I have a PC9111 Professional model that I carried as my regular CCW blaster for years. It's seen tens of thousands of rounds, been to several classes, was carried and sweated on, drawn and reholstered, bumped off door jams in gun shops—and it looks it. The Birdsong Black T finish is worn shiny on the edges and the beavertail grip safety. The 20-lpi checkering on the frontstrap has a ding where someone wearing a heavy ring fired it. It's not battered by any means, but it's rather obviously been around the block a few times.

I've had people actually react in horror at its appearance, though. The Pro is an expensive pistol and hard to come by. Back when I purchased mine, the waiting list was long, and I only lucked into it when someone traded it in used at the shop where I was then working.

I started carrying it because it was designed to be carried—literally. The Professional model was developed at the behest of the FBI

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY.

HELLCAT®



HELLCAT® RDP™
Optional Manual Safety

THE WORLD'S HIGHEST CAPACITY MICRO COMPACT



THE NEW 12-ROUND MICRO COMPACT

14-ROUNDS
W/ EXT. MAGAZINE

The Hellcat®, the highest capacity micro 9mm in the world, is now offered in the Rapid Defense Package (RDP™) configuration. Paired with a HEX™ micro red dot and a Self Indexing Compensator the Hellcat RDP delivers fast target acquisition and rapid, accurate follow-up shots. Also new on the Hellcat RDP is an optional ambidextrous manual safety and the Gen 2 trigger with enhanced ergonomics.



2020 HANDGUN OF THE YEAR

THE FASTEST-GROWING TRIGGER BRAND



RA-535
Advanced-
Performance
Trigger

(for a number of reasons)

1 | PERFORMANCE

*"More hits on the first shot in 3-Gun than with the factory trigger."
"No more trigger freeze when I fire 4 or more rounds on a single target."
"No creep, I mean zero creep."*

2 | EASY MAINTENANCE

*"A really simple trigger cassette. I just blow it out every few thousand rounds and put grease back on the friction surfaces."
"Easy to access maintenance points."*

3 | DURABILITY

*"Well designed and solidly built."
"MPX rifles are hard on hammers. After about 2,000 rounds your hammers are holding up well."*

4 | EASY INSTALLATION

*"Very quick and simple install."
"It installed just as easily as your videos said it would."
"Just bought and installed two RISE triggers. I was blown away."*

5 | ACCURACY

*"Reduced my 100 yard groups by 25%."
"No take up, great reset. Extremely accurate, much more than I am."
"A high quality, precision part that will make me a much better shooter."*

6 | MORE TRIGGER FOR THE MONEY

*"I've amazed several trigger snobs with the candy cane break and lightning fast reset. They're crushed when I tell them the cost."
"Hands-down the best triggers on the market at the best price."*



Made in the USA

RISETRIGGERS.com



NO GRAVEL. LESS TRAVEL.

HANDGUNS | The Scars Make it Real

to be carried by SWAT-qualified agents. Having people become aghast at the marks of honest wear on a pistol like that seems as unusual to me as hearing "Don't hit nails with that nice hammer! You'll get scuff marks on the hammer head!"

With handguns like the CQB from Wilson Combat or the Kobra Carry from Ed Brown, the clue to the intended use is found right in the name. They're treated with advanced surface coatings or built from stainless steel to inhibit rust and wear so they can be carried and used.

Admittedly, sometimes the manufacturers themselves can muddy the waters. When Clint Smith approached Smith & Wesson and talked the company into building the original Model 21-4 Thunder Ranch Special revolver, he was envisioning the ideal big-bore totin' wheelgun: a 4-inch tapered-barrel, fixed-sight, round-butt .44 Spl. N-frame. Smith built the gun and then put a gold Thunder Ranch logo on the sideplate and shipped the revolvers along with a glass-topped hardwood display case.

In light of the mixed message that package conveyed, it's perhaps unsurprising that there was some flinching when I unboxed the example I had preordered and almost immediately shoved it in a Comp-Tac Kydex inside-the-waistband holster to test the fit. It sure seemed like a good idea for a carry revolver to me. Holster wear and a very visible turn ring on the cylinder may not do anything for resale value, but it wasn't purchased to be sold—it was bought to be shot.

I don't begrudge people doing what they will with their own stuff. Nobody has appointed me to be the fun police. I will, however, admit to being a little sad on the inside when I see a pistol with a name like the "Colt Custom Carry" doesn't get carried or a "Vickers Tactical Master Class" Springfield doesn't get taken to any shooting classes.

As far as I'm concerned, there's not a thing wrong with some honest wear on a high-quality tool. 🌀



IT'S TIME FOR AN UPGRADE

The best-selling HK pistol is now even better. HK VP9 pistols now include the following upgrades.

- 17-round magazines replace previous 15-round versions
- Improved iron sights, with high-visibility front sight and clean black rear
- Optional optics-ready mounting system

If you've been thinking about upgrading to an HK, now is the time.

VP pistols have easy to change backstraps and side panels for a personalized fit. 27 custom-fitted grip combinations are possible.



www.hk-usa.com • 706-568-1906

The King of Tactical Shotguns **Benelli's M3 Super 90**

Pump or semi-auto? Why not both?



The goal of this column is to inform *Shooting Illustrated's* readers of top shotguns, shotgun techniques and training for self-defense. But, when I talk about a specific gun, it often alienates one camp from the discussion. You see, when it comes to shotguns for defense, there are those firmly entrenched in the semi-automatic camp, who believe faster shooting and lighter recoiling is worth the slight reduction in overall reliability. In the other camp are those who believe reliability is paramount and won't consider a shotgun which has an action that cannot be worked manually. But alas, some of these warring folks forget that since 1989, there has been a quality shotgun that does both: Benelli's M3. Before we get into the guts of this remarkable shotgun—perhaps the best ever offered for law enforcement purposes—let's talk about the company and its revolutionary shotgun action.

Benelli Armi S.p.A. is an Italian company that produced motorcycles before making shotguns starting in 1967. Bruno Civolani invented the company's trademarked inertial spring method of semi-automatic shotgun function, although the company's specific patent, No. 4604942, was granted to Paolo Benelli in 1986, three years after Beretta purchased the Benelli company. The inertial-action concept was an advancement from the Swedish Sjögren shotgun first made in 1908 that failed to garner popular approval; it was later used effectively by Franchi, but it was the marketing efforts of Benelli during the 1990s that really made shooters aware of its effectiveness.

Here's how it works:

A floating bolt featuring a rotating-bolt head locks onto the gun's barrel extension to seal the chamber. When fired, recoil sends the gun (barrel, receiver and stock as one unit) backward, while the heavy bolt tries to remain at rest—hence the term "inertia." After a split-second of rearward-moving force against it, however, a stout spring within the bolt body compresses to a maximum of 4 mm. When it rebounds, it pushes the bolt head forward (even as the gun is traveling backward), unlocking its bite on the barrel extension and subsequently succumbing to the rearward momentum of recoil. As it flings backward, it extracts the shell from the chamber and ejects it via a spring-loaded, L-shaped ejector on the inside wall of the receiver that slides to accommodate various shell lengths; all the while the bolt's travel continues to compress a recoil spring hidden in the buttstock. Once

this spring bottoms out, it returns the bolt forward to the chamber, but not before it picks up another shell from the carrier and shoves it into battery. The whole process happens in about a fifth of a second.

Its genius is that it requires no gas ports to foul, no moving barrels like long-recoil actions and has fewer moving parts to wear and break. Gas and grime from the shell are blown out of the barrel rather than cycled back through the gas ports and into the action like gas guns. As a result, it is incredibly reliable and it will shoot any length of shell in any order without adjustment. It's also faster cycling than most gas actions, a trait that allowed Tom Knapp to hit 10 flying clays with an M2 Super 90 (a lighter update to the M1) in 2.2 seconds. Furthermore, it is inherently lightweight, thanks to its simplicity.

For these reasons, it's somewhat puzzling why the Marine Corps chose Benelli's M4 shotgun with its ARGO-gas-piston-action system rather than Benelli's inertia-action M2 as its standard-issue shotgun. Yes, the M4 has a couple advantages, but reliability is not one: The M4 is less sensitive to weight changes if, for example, if a heavy optic or other accessories are added to the gun. It also mitigates recoil better than the M2 due to its naturally heavier weight and the inherently cushy gas action. Still, it's tough to think a heavier, less reliable gun would be chosen over the M2, especially when similar but less expensive gas-action guns abound.

Regardless of which Benelli was chosen by the Marine Corps, plenty of folks who depend on a shotgun for their livelihood believe the speed gained from a semi-automatic action is worth the slight—perhaps one percentage point—drop in reliability over a pump when full-power loads are used. But, if reduced-recoil loads or specialty loads like rubber-bullet rounds or less-lethal beanbag rounds

Survival of the Sharpest

When it's you against nature, there's only one tool you need:
the tempered steel *Stag Hunter* from Stauer—now **ONLY \$49!**

That first crack of thunder sounded like a bomb just fell on Ramshorn Peak. Black clouds rolled in and the wind shook the trees. I had ventured off the trail on my own, gambled with the weather and now I was trapped in the forest. Miles from camp. Surrounded by wilderness and watching eyes. I knew that if I was going to make it through the night I needed to find shelter and build a fire... fast. As the first raindrops fell, I reached for my *Stag Hunter Knife*.

Forget about smartphones and GPS, because when it comes to taking on Mother Nature, there's only one tool you really need. Our stunning *Stag Hunter* is the ultimate sidekick for surviving and thriving in the great outdoors. Priced at \$149, the *Stag Hunter* can be yours today for an unbelievable **\$49!** Call now and we'll include a bonus leather sheath!

A legend in steel. The talented knifemakers of Trophy Stag Cutlery have done it again by crafting a fixed-blade beauty that's sharp in every sense of the word. The *Stag Hunter* sports an impressive 5 1/3" tempered German stainless steel blade with a genuine deer stag horn and stained Pakkawood™ handle, brass hand guard and polished pommel. You get the best in 21st-century construction with a classic look inspired by legendary American pioneers.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.

Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the craftsmanship. If you're not completely impressed, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price. But we believe that once you wrap your fingers around the *Stag Hunter's* handle, you'll be ready to carve your own niche into the wild frontier.

Stag Hunter Knife ~~\$149~~*

Offer Code Price Only **\$49** + S&P **Save \$100**

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: SHK340-06

You must use the insider offer code to get our special price.

Stauer® 14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. SHK340-06
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 www.stauer.com

*Discount is only for customers who use the offer code versus the listed original Stauer.com price.



BONUS! Call today and you'll also receive this genuine leather sheath!



"This knife is beautiful!"

— J., La Crescent, MN



"The feel of this knife is unbelievable... this an incredibly fine instrument."

— H., Arvada, CO



Not shown
actual size.



• 5 1/3" fixed German stainless steel blade (9 3/4" total length) • Stag horn and Pakkawood™ handle • Includes leather sheath

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®

are needed (or if the gun just happens to be incredibly dirty or filled with mud, ice or sand), reliability falls dramatically, so that most semi-autos are reduced to single-shot firearms.


This is where the incredible M3 shines. The original M3 (modeled after Benelli's M1) was updated with features from the M2 Super 90, including a smaller receiver that shaves weight to 7.2 pounds. Think of it like an M2 with an emergency switch. For normal times shooting standard or heavy loads, the M3's inertial, semi-automatic action functions flawlessly. But, when reduced-recoil loads are needed, the user must simply rotate a lever located between the fore-end and the magazine cap. This movement unlocks the fore-end and engages the action rods of the pump system, instantly converting the M3 to a pump action—and a good one at that. Returning the lever disengages the action bars, locks the forearm and

allows the inertia-recoil system to function as a semi-automatic. It's pure engineering genius that gives the user all the advantages of a semi-auto with the reliability of a pump, all with a flip of a lever that takes less than a second to activate without sacrificing the shooting position.

Action aside, the M3 Super 90 comes with every feature needed in a top-quality combat shotgun with the exception of its rather paltry five-round (civilian model) magazine. (This is due to American importation laws, but mag-tube extensions can be purchased from Benelli or less expensively from third party manufacturers.) The M3 features a handy 19.75-inch barrel as well as a magazine cut-off/chamber-dump button so the shooter can directly chamber a special round without having to cycle through the entire magazine. It also offers balance and ergonomics that make it easy to shoot intuitively or by

aiming, depending on the application. In other words, this is a shotgun with which I can hit flying clay pigeons or a bang a steel target at 100 yards with slugs.

The M3 is available in a Combat version with a pistol-grip stock for one-handed control, yet features a full-size/full-contour buttstock that greatly enhances shootability while mitigating recoil as a true shotgun stock should. The gun is available with a fiber-optic front sight only or ghost rings, as the M3 is designed for combat roles where less-lethal and/or slug loads are anticipated, so the ghost-ring sights are beneficial.

Regardless, the M3's concept remains viable. If you're looking for the best do-it-all defensive shotgun, but can't decide between pump or semi—or you plan to use reduced-recoil loads—there is no shotgun better than Benelli's M3 Super 90. I just thought I'd mention this option. 

With an ever-growing catalog of colors and designs...

CAN YOU ONLY CHOOSE ONE?


APOLLO
CUSTOM™



Custom Cerakote Finishes

Apollo Custom firearms available at
GALLERY OF GUNS .com™

©2021 Davidson's, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



It's simple. If anything ever goes wrong with any new gun you buy with the Davidson's Guaranteed® Lifetime Replacement Program during the time you own the gun, it will be replaced with a brand new gun. Visit GalleryOfGuns.com for details.

It all starts with Daisy®

It was the first gun you ever shot. The only gun you ever wanted.

And the last gun you'd ever part with. Generations of American shooters have grown up with Daisy. Rest assured we'll be here for generations to come.



Daisy®

Daisy.com



The Carbine Cartridge

Don't overlook the .30 Carbine cartridge and the M1 Carbine host gun as a defensive pairing.



The iconic, but misunderstood, .30 Carbine cartridge is criminally overlooked when it comes to a pistol-caliber long gun for home defense.

PHOTO: RICHARD MANN

The story behind the M1 Carbine is fascinating. And, while this column is about ammunition, it's impossible to discuss the "carbine cartridge" without some gun history. In 1940, the U.S. Army was looking for a light rifle or carbine. Initial work on the rifle that would become the M1 Carbine was started by Jonathan "Ed" Browning, the brother of none other than the famous firearm designer, John Browning. After his death, Winchester hired David "Carbine" Williams, who had begun work on a short-stroke, gas-piston design while he was—of all things—serving a sentence at a North Carolina minimum-security work farm. The resulting rifle would serve with American military personnel in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

The cartridge for the M1 Carbine was for the most part a rimless version of the .32 Win. cartridge introduced in 1905. The standard load was a 110-grain FMJ bullet with a muzzle velocity of about 1,900 fps when fired from the M1 Carbine's 18-inch barrel. One interesting aspect of the .30 Carbine cartridge was that it constituted the first major use of non-corrosive primers in a military firearm.

Jeff Cooper, founder of the American Pistol Institute (API; now known as Gunsite Academy)

and the man who introduced the general-purpose Scout rifle concept, was not a fan of the M1 Carbine or the cartridge. In a 1966 article, he wrote that the M1 was, "... an attempt to replace the pistol for military personnel who could not pack a rifle and who could not hit with a pistol. I think it must be considered that this was a mistake." There's no doubt the ballistics of the .30 Carbine cartridge placed it between a pistol and a real rifle like the M1 Garand or Cooper's Scout rifle. However, while it might not have had a revered place on the battlefield, when operations became close, such as when clearing towns or cities, the carbine's size and close-range power were appreciated.

I spoke to my father at length about his time in Korea. While fighting there, he served in a variety of positions including squad leader, designated marksman and machine gunner. When I asked him which firearm he most liked to carry, he said it was the M1 Carbine. But, he added that when it came time to fight, he wanted the BAR. Given the type of battlefield conflicts he (mostly) took part in, this made sense; the BAR had more reach and power. Today, our Army is outfitted with a rifle chambered for a cartridge—the 5.56 NATO—that does a good job of fulfilling the role of a close-quarters carbine and a battle rifle. However, for civilians wanting a home-defense carbine offering more power than a handgun and one that is easier to shoot more accurately, the .30 Carbine cartridge in a nimble, compact, long gun makes sense.

This is partly why carbines chambered for 9 mm have become very popular. While they're easier to shoot more accurately than a pistol, out of a carbine the best performing 9 mm loads—something like the 124-grain Speer Gold Dot—will only generate a muzzle velocity of about 1,400 fps and produce only about 540 ft.-lbs. of energy. By comparison, Hornady's Critical Defense .30 Carbine load will leave a carbine's muzzle at about 2,000 fps, generating almost 1,000 ft.-lbs. of energy. Not only is the .30 Carbine more powerful, with expanding bullets like the Hornady FTX you can expect around 20 inches of penetration with expansion approaching a half inch.

Of course, the appeal of the .30 Carbine cartridge is somewhat diminished by the available firearms chambered for it. You can still find original M1 Carbines and modern-manufactured clones do exist, but reliability is

quite magazine-dependent, and most don't have that modern, tactical look. Ruger offers a Blackhawk chambered for the .30 Carbine, but it's hardly the ideal defensive handgun. For a time, AMT offered the large, .30 Carbine version of its semi-automatic pistol, and then there's the rare and somewhat odd Detroit, MI-made Kimball pistol. With an overall cartridge length of 1.68 inches and operating pressure of 40,000 psi, the .30 Carbine was not optimally configured for a pistol.

This, of course, is another reason a carbine chambered for the .30 Carbine has lost favor with modern shooters. With 9 mm carbines from Beretta, Kel-Tec, Ruger and others that use pistol magazines, they allow you to share magazines between your carbine and your pistol. Though this magazine-sharing feature is cool, I'm not sure it outweighs the ballistic advantage offered by the .30 Carbine, which is essentially twice that of the

9 mm when fired from a rifle with a 16- to 18-inch barrel.

Though a revolver cartridge, the modern .327 Fed. Mag. cartridge is ballistically quite similar to the .30 Carbine. It fires a .312-inch-diameter bullet as opposed to a .308-inch-

► **For civilians wanting a home-defense carbine offering more power than a handgun and one that is easier to shoot more accurately, the .30 Carbine cartridge in a nimble, compact, long gun makes sense.** ◀

diameter bullet and operates at 45,000 psi as opposed to 40,000. The .327 Fed. Mag. cartridge is also about .2-inch shorter. Out of a 5-inch barrel, a 100-grain bullet will have a muzzle velocity of around 1,400 fps and when fired from an 18-inch barrel, it will

produce a muzzle velocity of approximately about 2,000 fps.

Several manufacturers offer loads for .30 Carbine suitable for self-defense or home protection, and Buffalo Bore even offers a 125-grain hardcast load at 2,100 fps with 1,224 ft.-lbs. of muzzle energy. Maybe it's time you gave the .30 Carbine some consideration. But beware, original M1 Carbines can be expensive. However, a new M1 Carbine from Auto Ordnance retails for about \$1,100, which is similar to new offerings from Inland Manufacturing, as well.

Or maybe it's time ammunition/firearm manufacturers looked at introducing a new cartridge that's similar to the .30 Carbine. One that will offer .30 Carbine-like performance from a carbine-length barrel, but that will also be pistol-compatible and offer magazine interchangeability. With the advancements we've made in ammunition since 1940, this should not be all that complicated. 🌀

VIPER G2 BRONZE NOW IN 16GA!

Take your clays or upland adventures to a distinct new level with the striking looks and unwavering reliability of the Viper G2 Bronze. Brilliantly designed and rigorously tested for functionality with virtually any load, this newest member of the growing Viper G2 family of semi-autos is available in 12, 16, 20, 28 and .410—each appropriately scaled for optimum balance.

TriStar

1816 Linn Street, North Kansas City, MO 64116 • 816.421.1400 **TRISTARARMS.COM**



FEATURES:

- Durable Cerakote finish
- High Grade Select Turkish Walnut with cut checkering and high-gloss finish.
- Includes 3 Choke Tubes (IC, M & F), choke box and wrench
- 5 Year Warranty

Determination

Doing what it takes to win.



ISTOCK

Determination is a word that ought to be part of every armed citizen's vocabulary. The dictionary defines it as "firmness of purpose; resoluteness." Determination is how we master the skills necessary to defend ourselves, and it is also how we deal with the violence of a criminal attack.

Some of us who have been shooting for many years forget how difficult it is for the beginner. In order to put a bullet where a shooter wants to, he or she has to master several skills and then combine them in a single effort. And, that is not a simple task.

Suppose we are working on our trigger press, sight picture and breath control. All three are important, but it is the combination of those skills that makes the marksman. Focusing on one at the expense of the others just gives us a frustrating miss. Perfecting any hand/eye-coordinated skill requires a willingness to spend hours of practice.

In addition, it is important to realize that we experience plateaus in mastering those kinds of skills. By continuing to practice those things that seem so frustratingly difficult, we suddenly reach a point when they have become easier and we begin to move on to the next level of perfection. The shooter who has mastered the basics of hitting the target now has to move on to firing multiple shots, follow-through and speeding up the whole process. Staying with the entire process of learning to shoot well requires determination.

The same thing is true when we talk about getting good training. When I bring up that subject, I often hear excuses about folks being on fixed incomes, not having the time or living too far away from a good school. You can come up with all kinds of excuses if you're looking for


them. I make an effort to attend at least one quality training school per year. And, the fact is most of my fellow students are not what I'd call rich people. They are, however, people who have decided to budget their money or their time to get the training. Sometimes, folks save their money in order to be able to attend. They may choose not to buy that new car or to forego their annual vacation—in fact, that training event may be their annual vacation. When a person is determined to make it happen, it's amazing how often it does.

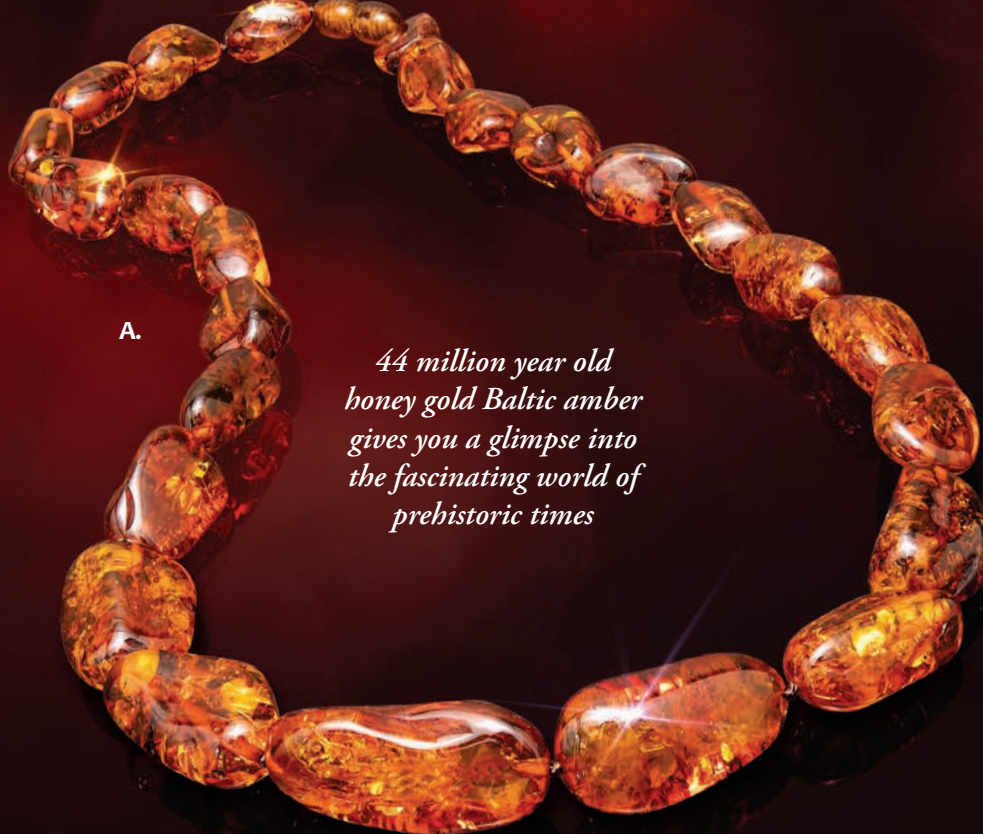
In light of this discussion, I must also say I have never really believed that there is such a thing as courage. If we observe a baby, we see fear, happiness and possibly anger, but we don't see anything that might be defined as courage. I would suggest that what we call courage is really a determination to function and do our duty—in spite of our fears.

In the Tombstone street fight of 1881, where 30 shots were fired in about 30 seconds, witnesses described Wyatt Earp as standing up straight, thumbing the hammer of his Colt and delivering his shots to target. He probably put bullets in two of the three outlaws who were killed. Observers said there was a kind of calmness about him. Some would call this courage, but I suggest it might just have been a determination to stay alive and do his duty.

Another example is the Miami shootout in 1986. Two suspected bank robbers shot it out with a team of FBI agents, killing two and wounding others. In the midst of that fight, Special Agent Edmundo Mireles received a brutal gunshot wound to his left arm. In spite of this nasty wound, Mireles managed to return fire with a pump shotgun, running it with just one hand (a skill he probably had to figure out in the midst of this savage fight). When the shotgun ran dry, he drew his revolver, delivering shots that ended the fight.

Now, I don't know Mireles, but I suspect he did not perform these acts due to a desire to be courageous. Instead, I would be willing to bet he was determined to end the bloodshed and to do his duty. He may have decided that staying in the fight, regardless of the personal cost, was the way to do it.

So, yes, I like the word determination. And I would suggest that every armed citizen make the determination to perfect their defensive skills through training and practice, and be determined that, should they have to fight, they will—and in doing so, fight to win. 



A.

*44 million year old
honey gold Baltic amber
gives you a glimpse into
the fascinating world of
prehistoric times*



**Get the complete set
for only \$199 plus
Free Shipping
with call-in only!***

PREHISTORIC PERFECTION

44 million year old Baltic amber priced at just \$99

Both in love and in gemstones, it can take a long time to achieve perfection. Just as your relationship has matured and strengthened over the years, so has Baltic amber. This natural gemstone is a scientific phenomenon that contains fossilized plant and animal life that date back over 40 million years. In fact, most of the life-forms found in Baltic amber are now extinct.



B.

Thankfully, the fine art of a great deal is alive and well at Stauer. The amber pieces you see here feature ample carats of amber from the icy Baltic region, famous for containing the world's finest amber deposits. And, adding to the prehistoric mystique is the fact that no two stones are identical—each piece captured something different as it formed, just as every love story is unique.



C.

Now, there are necklaces with generous gems of amber going for nearly \$15,000. We think that's barbaric. Which is why we made certain you can bring home

160 total carats of the world's oldest natural gem for **only \$99**.

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. Revel

in the unique beauty of *Cherry Amber* for 30 days. If it fails to delight, send it back for a full refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. Baltic amber at these prices won't stick around. Call today before this great deal becomes extinct.

PRAISE FOR STAUER AMBER JEWELRY

★★★★★

"When it arrived I was blown away by its beauty and uniqueness."

— J. R., Port Angeles, WA

Cherry Amber Collection

A. Necklace (160 ctw).....\$499† \$99 + S&P Save \$400

B. Ring (8 ctw).....\$399† \$79 + S&P Save \$320

C. Earrings (15 ctw).....\$399† \$99 + S&P Save \$300

Necklace, Ring & Earrings Set ~~\$1,297~~ \$277 + S&P Save \$1,020

***Call and ask how to get the set for only \$199 with free shipping**

You must use the insider offer code to get our special price.

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: CAC163-01

† Special price only for customers using the offer code versus the price on Stauer.com without your offer code.

"People have been making amber jewelry for over 10,000 years, which could make it the first gem material ever used."

— The International Gem Society (IGS)

• 20" Necklace • 160 carats total weight tumbled Baltic amber • Ring set in yellow gold-finished .925 sterling silver • Ring: whole sizes 5-10

Stauer... Afford the Extraordinary.®

Stauer®


14101 Southcross Drive W., Ste 155, Dept. CAC163-01,
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337 **www.stauer.com**



Rating of A+



Shark Attack



Kimber's newest handgun is a massive departure from the 1911s for which the company is known.

While word of a new pistol from Kimber started circulating some time back, the company managed to play its cards pretty close to its vest about what that pistol was going to be. Before I knew what it was myself, it was interesting to hear the speculations of friends who had a finger on the pulse of the handgun market.

With Kimber, of course, all the safe and conservative bets were on yet another iteration riffing off of the 1911 design. Only slightly less probable was some sort of expansion on the manufacturer's recent foray into the revolver marketplace. A couple of guesses, from the sort of people who like drawing to inside straights and other such gambles, were that Kimber was going to try and stick a toe into the duty-size striker-fired market, either with an in-house design or by acquiring a captive import.

By Tamara Keel
Photos by Peter Fountain

Tritium-enhanced sights supplement the installed MRDS or user-chosen MRDS, depending on the model selected.



Literally nobody in my informal pool put their chips on the square that actually hit.

With the new R7 Mako, Kimber is pushing into the most competitive sector of the private citizen pistol marketplace right now: The maximum-capacity, minimum-size 9 mm CCW blaster.

Super-slim single-stack nines are passé these days; they're 2015's news. As it happened, SIG Sauer was late to that game and so decided to start its own double-stack micro-nine party with the P365. This forced return salvos from Springfield Armory and Glock in the form of the Hellcat and G43X and most recently from Smith & Wesson with the Shield Plus and Taurus with its GX4.

Now into this crowded field jumps Kimber with its shark-themed offering. Rumor control says the rough design of the pistol could have been launched a year or two ago, but Kimber held off, polishing and refining and ensuring reliability, unwilling to get egg on its face for an unreliable carry-oriented pistol.

Did the company's effort pay off? Let's kick the tires and find out.

The pistol showed up in the same black plastic case as any other Kimber. Pop the lid

open and the Mako takes up surprisingly little space in there. There's room in the foam lining for the pistol and both magazines to have their own little cutouts. You could fit a third by sticking it in the mag well.

The R7 Mako comes in two flavors: "OR" and "OI." These designate a pistol has both night sights and a cut for an optic (Optics Ready), and one that has night sights and an optic (a Crimson Trace CTS-1500) already installed (OI).

The night sights are of the three-dot, tritium-illuminated variety and the front has a high-visibility orange circle encircling the tritium lamp. Since the MRDS is mounted directly to the slide without an adaptor plate, the sights co-witness with the dot without being tall, suppressor-height units (at least they should be; more on this later). The rear-sight blade has a reverse bevel on the front so that if you're running the pistol without a dot, you can more easily use it to cycle the slide one handed on a belt or holster. If you have the dot on the gun, you can just use the MRDS sight housing for this chore.

The slide has bevels at the nose to aid in fumble-free holstering and angled bevels

KIMBER | R7 Mako



SHOOTING RESULTS

Load	Velocity	Group Size		
		Smallest	Largest	Average
IMI Di-Cut 115-grain JHP	1,123	1.50	2.90	2.06
MagTech 124-grain JHP	1,065	2.10	3.30	2.52
Winchester 124-grain FMJ	1,121	2.30	3.15	2.69

Velocity measured in fps at the muzzle for 10 consecutive shots with a Shooting Chrony Beta chronograph. Temperature: 86 degrees Fahrenheit. Accuracy measured in inches for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 15 yards from a bench rest.

SPECIFICATIONS

Manufacturer: Kimber; (888) 243-4522, kimberamerica.com

Action Type: Striker-fired, semi-automatic

Caliber: 9 mm

Capacity: 11+1 rounds (flush magazine)
13+1 rounds (extended)

Frame: Glass-filled nylon

Slide: Coated stainless steel

Barrel Length: 3.37 inches

Sights: TruGlo Tritium Pro night sights;
Crimson Trace CTS-1500

Trigger Pull Weight: 5 pounds, 4 ounces

Length: 6.2 inches

Width: 1 inch

Height: 4.3 inches

Weight: 19.5 ounces

Accessories: Two magazines, optics-cut cover plate, manual

MSRP: \$599 (optics ready); \$799 (optics installed)



DON'T SEND ONE SHOT, SEND A

SWARM

[Available in .177 and .22.]

THE NEW SWARM SERIES

WORLD'S FIRST 10-SHOT
BREAK-BARREL AIR RIFLE
PLATFORM.

Exclusive Swarm **10X** GEN 2 multi-shot technology, Whisper Fusion sound dampener, CAT 2-Stage Trigger, and other class-leading features deliver 10 consecutive shots with unmatched power, silence and precision. New Swarm Series only from GAMO. **DOMINATE THE AIR.**

LEARN MORE AT GAMOUSA.COM

SWARM10X
GEN 2

Whisper
FUSION

CAT
CUSTOM ACTION TRIGGER

IGI
MACH 1

When I first popped open the case and looked at this pistol, I was primed to dislike it. Over the course of a total of half a case of ammo, it has earned my grudging respect.

along the sides running from the ejection port forward to the muzzle, reminiscent of current polymer SIG Sauer's. There are seven angled cocking serrations at the rear that are a lot grippier than they look, and five matching ones up front. Forward cocking serrations on a pistol with a sub-3.5-inch barrel seem a little superfluous, but nobody asked me.

The slide has a couple notable features that differentiate it from other pistols in the class. For starters, the ejection port doesn't wrap around the top of the pistol. Supposedly this is because the pistol was intended to work with slide-mounted optics from the jump off, and ensuring that spent brass and firing residue vented out the side rather than upward would help protect the lens of the optic from fouling.

Instead of locking up via a squared shoulder on the chamber hood mating with the front edge of the ejection port, the chamber end of the Mako's barrel sports a square

locking lug that mates with a matching mortise on the underside of the slide.

The other noticeable difference between the Mako's slide and its direct competitors is that there's no visible external extractor. There's a roll pin running across the slide immediately abaft the ejection port. This secures a separate breechblock inside the slide, and the pivoting internal extractor is secured to this breechblock by its own axle pin. What this all means to the end user is that this pistol isn't going to be detail-stripped in five minutes on your desktop with nothing but a punch, but that applies to lots of other handguns, too.

The slide's not the only place the Mako sports differences from more commonplace competition. For instance, there is a familiar pull-down slide takedown catch on the frame above and in front of the trigger guard, just like a Glock. But if one were to drop the magazine, clear the pistol, and try to take down the pistol without first reading the instruction manual, one might be a little surprised when the slide doesn't slide forward off the frame just like a Glock. *Ahem*. Allegedly that would happen, that is, if one were to try it before reading the manual. *Cough*.

Instead, the instruction manual notes that to fieldstrip the Mako, the firearm should be cleared and the mag removed, the slide retracted about a quarter inch, then the takedown catch should be pulled down, the trigger pulled and the slide run slightly forward and lifted straight up off the frame. It's a lot less Glock-y in there than it might appear at first glance.

Forward of the trigger guard, the dustcover sports some proprietary grooves, for future dedicated accessories, but there's no room for a normal Picatinny rail for universal lights or lasers. The trigger guard is slightly rounded and roomy enough for adult trigger fingers, but it's not intended for bulky winter gloves. This is a micro-compact carry gun and size is at a premium.

The frame is well textured and offers plenty of friction, even for sweaty or sun-screen-slick paws. Probably the closest comparison would be the texture on the M2.0 version of Smith's M&P line. There's a slight palm swell on both sides of the Mako's grip to assist in control, and the grip works better than most two-fingered types. With the extended magazine allowing for three



Though stubby, the barrel generated good velocity and decent accuracy • Given its capacity, the Mako is remarkably slender • The safety-bladed Performance Carry Trigger is flat-faced, as is the trend these days • Ideal for appendix carry, the R7 is a solid EDC pistol.



LUPO DOMINATE THE MOMENT



Precise accuracy, advanced ergonomics and shooting comfort are engineered into this innovative chassis-style hunting rifle. Built-in recoil management, fit adjustment out of the box and seven unique Benelli patents make this a rifle to experience. Now available in 3 new calibers: 6.5 Creedmoor, .308 Winchester and .243 Winchester. To find out more, visit BenelliUSA.com.

Benelli
simply perfect

... the rough design of the pistol could have been launched a year or two ago, but Kimber held off, polishing and refining and ensuring reliability, unwilling to get egg on its face for an unreliable carry-oriented pistol.

fingers on the gun, though, the pistol is more comfortable and quite controllable.

The slide release is ambidextrous and consists of turned-down sheet-metal tabs on each side, easily reached by a thumb and protected from accidental actuation by a sort of fairing-like swell in the frame fore and aft. Similarly, the magazine release is ambidextrous and the domed release button on either side is set in a dished-out recess, also to prevent inadvertent actuation. At no point during the test did I inadvertently engage either the slide catch or mag release, which is not a given with every ambi-control set I've previously used.

Much is made of the Mako being only an inch thick, which is skinny for a double-stack nine, but this is a slight fudge. Measure across the palm swells or the takedown levers and you'll add a bare couple tenths to that thickness. Still, it's plenty skinny.

This brings us to the trigger. Given Kimber's long-cultivated premium market niche, this is where its offering is going to get graded the harshest. After several hundred rounds, I'd

give the test pistol a solid B on this score. The trigger is the currently stylish straight-but-with-a-little-hook-at-the-bottom shape. It's not truly flat-faced, but slightly rounded on the edges. It has the common tab safety to prevent against inertial discharges if the pistol lands on the rear of the slide from a height. The tab is unobtrusive when firing, and was not a problem throughout my 200-plus-round marathon range session.

The trigger takeup is light and the trigger on the test gun breaks at 5 to 5.25 pounds, according to my RCBS trigger gauge. Further, the striker release happens when the trigger face is perpendicular to the frame, just as it ideally should.

"But Tamara," you say, "All this sounds great for an out-of-the-box trigger on a striker-fired gun! Why is it a B and not an A?" Because the break and reset have a certain amount of vagueness to them. This isn't really that big of a deal outside of slow-fire accuracy work, but it's worth noting.

It's also worth noting that, vagueness and all, even shooting casually off a bench with




The CTS-1500 came installed on the pistol but, disappointingly, had not been co-witnessed to the irons at the factory. Both a flush-fit and an extended magazine come with the R7, the latter offering pinky support. Well-bevelled, the front face of the slide makes reholstering fairly easy. The wraparound stippling of the grip frame provides good purchase, while the magazine extension improves ergonomics somewhat. Takedown of the cleared pistol requires both a trigger pull and a willingness to read the owner's manual.

fogged dark goggles indoors, the Mako posted respectable numbers for 15-yard accuracy. Most five-shot groups hovered at 2 inches and a few ducked smaller than that number. We'll credit the dot and the reasonably light pull for that. The R7 was an easy gun to shoot well.

Both magazines, the 11-round flush mag and the 13-round 'stendo, functioned without a hiccup over the 500-round, slightly abbreviated test (I hate writing up a test on a gun with less than a thousand rounds, but welcome to 2021. It's basically 2020 v2.0 up in here.) Weirdly, both magazines only had witness holes reading up to 10. The only way of discovering their true capacity would be to stuff rounds into them until you couldn't—or, you know, that instruction-manual-reading thing.

The single biggest complaint I had with the pistol was that the red dot wasn't zeroed to the irons out of the box, and if it were my pistol, that's a problem that would take about 15 or 20 minutes on the range to fix. The dot on the gun hit low and left relative to the irons. It was only a couple inches on an indoor range, but on 50-yard A/B steel I could hit at will with the irons, yet using the dot without a silly hold off resulted in dust splashes left of the steel. Hopefully, all dual-sight-equipped pistols will come cowitnessed in the near future.

I will be absolutely honest here: When I first popped open the case and looked at this pistol, I was primed to dislike it. Over the course of a total of half a case of ammo, it has earned my grudging respect. It's been reliable, easy to shoot well and it's small and light. The price is hardly out of line with the other name-brand offerings in the market niche, especially in the optics-included version.

Whether or not the R7 Mako is a success at this point is going to be determined by how well the market warms to a high-value, increased-capacity, high-tech pocket nine from a company known best for catering to a more "walnut and steel" clientele. 



Stryker SN

- AR15 style semi-auto 12ga shotgun
- Satin Nickel finish w/ black parts
- Fiber optic front sight
- A2 style removable carry handle
- Lightrails on handguard
- 2 piece pistol grip stock



MSRP: \$460

  @iverjohnsonarms

Phone: (321) 636-3377

www.iverjohnsonarms.com



Iver Johnson

DR® Leaf & Lawn Vac

World's Most POWERFUL Leaf Vacuum!



★ USA
ENGINEERED AND BUILT
Assembled in the USA using domestic and foreign parts.



EASY 1-hand dumping!

Tow-Behind	Walk-Behind
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rated #1 in vacuum power • Huge capacity up to 321 gallons • Folds flat for storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For landscaped or smaller properties • Easy on/off 8-bushel collector bag • Self-propelled models available 

SALE! Including **FREE SHIPPING** Limitations apply.

DRleafvac.com
Request your **FREE Product Catalog!**
Toll Free: 888-590-7090





2021 Holiday Gift Guide

Check out these gun-related products for that firearm-enthusiast friend or loved one. Whether he or she spends time at the range, tinkering with their guns in the shop, in their special space at home, whipping up food and drink in the kitchen, driving to or from work or in the outdoors, we've got you covered this holiday season, no matter your budget.

A Shooting Illustrated Staff Report

FOR THE MAN CAVE/SHE SHED

1 | GoatGuns

Mini AK-47

At 11.5 inches, this non-firing, diecast-metal replica is the perfect 1:3-scale representation of history's most popular battle rifle, the AK-47. It snaps together and even comes with three dummy rounds that fit in the tiny magazine.

\$39.99; goatguns.com

2 | Mantis

Laser Academy Training Kit

Available for both iOS and Android, this kit includes the full-access code to the Mantis Training Academy, Pink Rhino laser, two sets of targets, a mini and a large tripod with smart-phone holders, laser cartridge-extraction stick and carrying case. It essentially creates a temporary training facility right in your home.

\$149; mantisx.com

3 | Ammodor

The 30 Ammo Can Cigar Humidor

Maintain your stogies in a constant state of readiness by storing them in an Ammodor, a repurposed military-surplus ammo can with Spanish Cedar lining and rubber gasket to keep them moist and fresh. Larger versions, travel models, powder-coated or hydro-dipped options and custom offerings are also available.

\$119; ammodor.com

4 | Hornady

RAPiD AR Gunlocker XL

Offering touchless, RFID access via wristband, key fob or sticker or—alternately—keypad entry by security code, the RAPiD AR Gunlocker XL keeps your long guns secure, yet instantly available. It's large enough for two tactical-length rifles or shotguns and can be installed under a bed, in a closet or inside a vehicle.

\$593.99; hornady.com

5 | Liberty Coasters

18-Pack "Liberty or Death" Coaster Collection

Emblazoned with mottoes of freedom-loving patriots, American-made Liberty Coasters are eye-catching, collectible, cardboard coasters that let family and friends know where you stand even as they sit to enjoy a beverage.

\$17.76; libertycoasters.com

6 | Elastic Precision

Model 1911 Rubber Band Gun

Loading faster than any other rubber-band gun on the market, the Model 1911 can then quickly and accurately fire six shots. It is fabricated from solid hardwood, available in maple, walnut or padauk and comes with 100 bands.

\$39.99; elasticprecision.com

7 | Flags of Valor

Liberty Series Wooden American Flag

Founded with the intent of giving back and staffed largely by service-disabled veterans, Flags of Valor features hand-crafted, American-flag woodcuts as well as other patriot-themed products. Shown is the large, framed version of the Liberty Series flag. The company prides itself on contributing to veterans' and first-responders' charities.

\$499; flagsofvalor.com

8 | NRA Store

NRA Homestead Throw Blanket

Available in three different, proud motifs, the oversize Homestead Throw Blanket is both decorative and practical. It's 100-percent cotton, machine-washable and made in the USA. Choose the Classic NRA Shield, Gadsden Flag or Betsy Ross Flag.

\$54.95; nrastore.com



FOR THE SHOP/RANGE

1 | Arms Preservation Inc.

Pistol Storage Bag

Available for handguns or long guns, these bags meet short- or long-term storage needs for your guns, while keeping them clean and rust-free. The tear-resistant material is grease/oil-free, is safe for optics and leaves no residue behind.

\$9.59; apigunbag.com

2 | AXIL

GS Extreme

AXIL GS Extreme offers the convenience of earbuds with Bluetooth compatibility and 29 dB of noise-reduction technology in a different type of electronic ear protection. Switch between 6X hearing enhancement and 5.0 Bluetooth audio or use both simultaneously for a unique range experience.

\$199; goaxil.com

3 | Fix It Sticks

Compact Pistol Kit

This toolkit will keep your pistol running in peak condition while taking up minimal space in your range bag. Contents include a T-handle ratchet with specialty bits, a torque driver, two punches, a 1911 bushing wrench and a Glock sight tool, among others.

\$180; fixitsticks.com

4 | Clamtainer

Ammo Buddy

9mm 50CT Ammo Box

Each Ammo Buddy features 50 individual cavities capable of orienting 9 mm (or .380 ACP) rounds primer up or primer down. Clear polymer construction allows easy verification of caliber and contents. Its patented Click-It Closure offers hassle-free, one-handed access. Ammo not included.

\$9.95 (five pack); clamtainer.com

5 | Spartan Precision Equipment

Javelin Lite Bipod

Available in three lengths, this bipod weighs less than 5 ounces thanks to its aluminum construction and carbon-fiber legs. Interchangeable leg options and adjustable cant offer enhanced adaptability, while its magnetic attachment system makes swapping between rifles quick and easy.

\$145; javelinbipod.com

6 | Lyman Products

The Essential Gun Maintenance Mat

The firm, synthetic-rubber surface of this mat allows you to safeguard your handgun's finish and workbench simultaneously. Molded-in storage compartments contain any spills while keeping small parts and tools organized and preventing them from rolling into oblivion during periodic cleaning/maintenance sessions.

\$16.98; lymanproducts.com



7 | Secure Firearm Products

Firearm Pin Removal Tool

In addition to sporting cutouts for Commander- and Government-size 1911 bushings, this small, but versatile tool does more. Dovetails along two of its edges aid users in the installation/removal of a 1911's firing-pin stop. Subsequent dovetails are designed for use with different types of sights and are marked accordingly.

\$10.99; securefirearmproducts.com

8 | LA Police Gear

Tactical Bail Out Gear Bag

Constructed from 600 Denier nylon, this bag features a main compartment large enough accommodate all variants of iPad, laptops and tablets of similar size. High-quality zippers are used throughout and there's even a hidden pocket for a full-size handgun.

\$29.99; lapolicegear.com

9 | Zeiss

Optics Care Kit

Keep your scope's lenses clean with this convenient kit. The 2-ounce bottle of cleaning fluid cleans and removes dirt from lens surfaces without damaging anti-reflective, polarizing or other coatings. The included microfiber cloth is specifically designed for lenses and works wet or dry.

\$4.99; zeiss.com

10 | Wheeler Engineering

Fat Wrench

Adjustable from 10- to 65-in.-lbs. of adjustment, this wrench ensures every screw on your rifle is properly torqued for maximum accuracy/performance. The included bits are constructed from S2 tool steel for added durability.

\$59.95; wheelertools.com



HOLD UP UNDER EXTREME CONDITIONS



SENTRY GUNNAR LOW PROFILE
OPERATOR GUN BELTS

sentry
LIVE TO PROTECT

sentrytactical.com

FOR THE KITCHEN

1 | Cold Steel

Kitchen Set

This handsome 12-knife set from the legendary knifemaker includes six of the company's steak knives, a bread knife, a boning knife, the company's Chef's knife, a paring knife, a slicer knife and a utility knife, all in a lovely, wood presentation block.

\$269.99; coldsteel.com

2 | CMMG

Select Fire Coffee

Add some Second Amendment-supporting pep to your step with coffee from one of the top AR-15 makers. Roasted in Missouri, Select Fire Coffee is available in Safe (light roast), Semi-Auto (medium) and Full-Auto (dark) and as whole beans or ground, both in 12-ounce packages.

\$12.95; cmmg.com

3 | LaRue Tactical

Dillo Dust

Put some kick in your meats with this all-natural seasoning rub. It's gluten-free and has no MSG, no artificial colors and no added preservatives, so you can tell yourself that ribeye is health food. Dillo Dust is great for red meat, pork, chicken, shrimp and even vegetables, adding tons of flavor to any food.

\$19.99; dillodust.com

4 | Lansky Sharpeners

Master's Edge Sharpener

Keep your kitchen and utility knives sharp with this versatile tool. It includes medium- and fine-grit rods, along with a ceramic rod for sharpening serrated blades. A non-slip base with three angle options makes keeping a blade finely honed a cinch, and the whole package folds away for storage.

\$59.99; lansky.com

5 | BenShot

Whiskey Decanter and Rocks Glass Set

Add some class to your wet bar with this glass decanter sporting a Lehigh Defense, lead-free .50-caliber bullet embedded in its side. The rocks glasses sport similar .308-caliber bullets. Everything from the projectiles to the glass products themselves is made in the U.S. and provides superior flair to your fine adult beverage-serving style.

\$69.99; benshot.com

6 | Premier Body Armor

Bulletproof Coffee Sleeve

Keep your hands safe from the heat of a coffee cup, and keep your coffee super safe with this NIJ Level II ballistic panel coffee sleeve. An outer shell of 500D Cordura provides durability, while the actual ballistic-protection inside is effective against most handgun rounds. You might leak, but your coffee cup will remain hole-free.

\$29.95; premierbodyarmor.com

7 | Frag Out Flavor

Tactical Apron

Show off your readiness whilst grilling with this MOLLE-festooned apron. It comes with two pouches that fit the company's seasoning bottles, along with two additional large pouches for other barbecuing needs. The pouches can be moved anywhere on the apron, which also features three large pockets toward the bottom.

\$69.99; fragoutflavor.com

8 | Ontario Knife Company

Old Hickory Cleaver

A must-have kitchen tool for anyone who cooks meat or poultry, this cleaver features a hardwood handle and a 1095 carbon-steel blade that retains its edge better than stainless steel. Handwashing, drying and a light coat of vegetable oil are recommended to prevent rust.

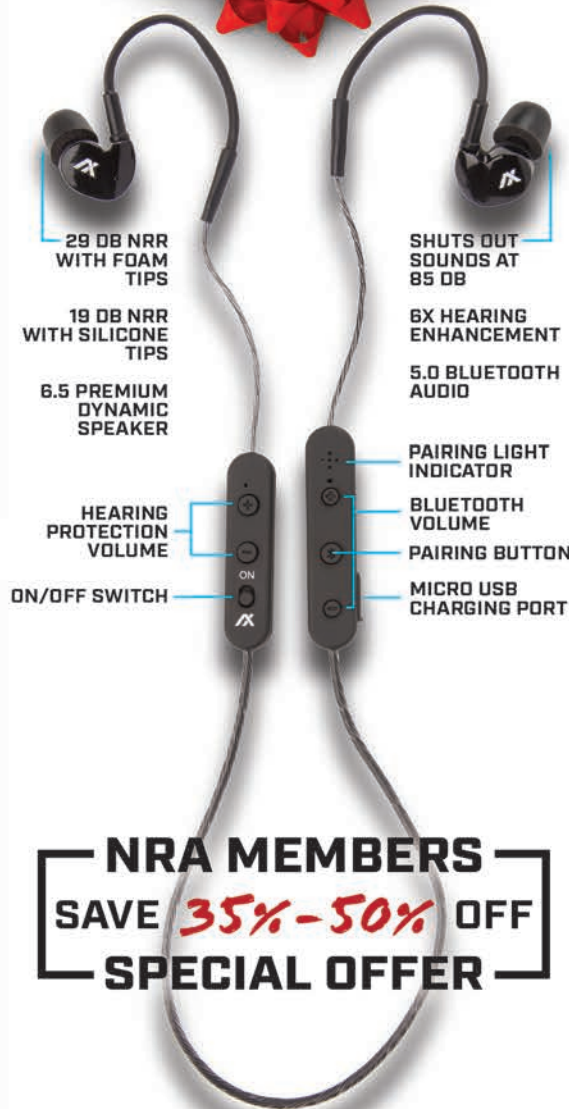
\$29.07; ontarioknife.com



INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW

GS EXTREME

YOUR ULTIMATE 'GO TO' EARBUD



NRA MEMBERS
SAVE **35%-50%** OFF
SPECIAL OFFER

Experience the Ultimate Ear Pro, Hearing Enhancement & Wireless Bluetooth Audio - All in One Tiny Pair of Ear Buds.

ORDER NOW

GOAXIL.COM/EXTREME-NRA

AXIL | AX

FOR THE VEHICLE

1 | Blackhawk

Homeland Security Discreet Case

For the low-profile transport of long guns and accompanying accessories, the Homeland Security Discreet Case is the perfect option. The case features an external zipper pocket with hook-and-loop attachment points and stows conveniently in the backseat or trunk of a vehicle. \$112.45; blackhawk.com

2 | Uncle Mike's

Deluxe Car Seat Organizer

If you're looking for a quick and simple way to organize all the gear in your vehicle, the Deluxe Car Seat Organizer is an ideal solution. The organizer not only stores gear in easy-to-access compartments, but also allows you to transport that same gear between vehicles, workbench or range with incredible ease. \$33.95; unclemikes.com

3 | Coast

PX1R Flashlight

Coast's rechargeable PX1R features pure beam focusing and is fully rechargeable, making it the perfect companion for a vehicle or as an EDC flashlight. The Flex Dual Power system can harness either lithium or alkaline power using a micro-USB cord. Impact resistant, the PX1R utilizes an incredibly rugged LED. \$49.99; coastportland.com

4 | Smith & Wesson

Tanto Folding Rescue Knife

This liner-lock folding knife is insanely durable and features a high-carbon, stainless steel tanto blade with ambidextrous thumb studs, ramp jimping and index flipper. The black G-10 handle also includes a glass-breaking tool, pocket clip for EDC purposes and a strap cutter, making it ideal for emergency use in a vehicle. \$29.99; smith-wesson.com

5 | Weatherman

United Folds of Honor Umbrella

This golf umbrella is the perfect companion for the course or range and features industrial-strength fiberglass construction that can withstand up to 55 mph winds. Best of all, every umbrella sold results in a \$5 donation to the Folds of Honor Foundation. \$89; weathermanumbrella.com

6 | Stkr Concepts

FLEXIT Auto Flexible Flashlight

Ideal for situations that leave you stranded on the side of the road, the FLEXIT Auto Flexible Flashlight features a fully flexible body with 200-lumen, front-facing, white LED lights and rear-facing red hazard lights. The Shape-Loc frame, plus four night modes, make this weather-resistant light an optimal accessory for any vehicle. \$34.99; stkrconcepts.com

7 | Vanson Leathers

Revolver Denim Style Vest

Perfect for use while riding your motorcycle, this deep, leather-lined, concealed-carry vest utilizes a gun pocket and is made in the USA. The deep-CCW pocket is attached to the front facing, preventing the pocket from ruining the lining, sagging or printing, yet giving you easy access. Built with the highest-quality materials, the vest also features ample pockets for cell phones and other gear. \$339.15; vansonleathers.com



The compact STR-9C is now available

Tough protection in two sizes



STR-9, 9MM
15+1 CAPACITY



5YEAR
WARRANTY

Reliable protection optimized for every day carry. Stoege's reputation for dependable and durable firearms continues with the STR-9C striker-fired, semi-automatic 9mm pistol. Smaller than our full-sized STR-9, it's made for concealed carry. Both models feature an integrated rail for accessories, internal safety, front and back slide serrations for easy cycling, a three-dot sight system, enhanced ergonomics, and rounded edges for snag-free draws and holstering. Interchangeable backstraps offer a custom fit. Experience the feel, balance and quality of our STR-9 and STR-9C at your local firearms dealer today. For more information, please visit us online at StoegerIndustries.com.



STR-9C, 9MM
13+1 CAPACITY

Overall length of the STR-9C is 6.9" compared to 7.44" for the standard STR-9.

 **Stoeger**[®]
Every Day Tough

1 | Grey Man Tactical

Stealth 20L Backpack

Whether configured with the company's Rigid MOLLE Panels or just left open, the Grey Man Tactical Stealth 20L Backpack will tote plenty of your gear to and from the campsite. With a 180-degree opening, it's easy to pack, and once loaded up you won't attract attention with its subdued styling. \$149.99; greymantactical.com

2 | MyMedic

The Solo First Aid Kit Pro

When you're miles from the nearest road, let alone the closest urgent care, having a comprehensive first-aid kit is crucial. With a tourniquet, trauma sheers, QuikClot and other emergency items alongside more standard fare like ibuprofen, sunscreen and gauze, you'll have plenty available when help is a long way away. \$99.95; mymedic.com

3 | Bushnell

Outdoorsman Bluetooth Speaker

When communing with nature, what better way to relax than with some tasty tunes? Bushnell's new Outdoorsman Bluetooth speaker not only has a rubberized exterior to protect it from damage, but it can also run for 10 hours on a single charge—and it can charge your phone, too. \$199.99; bushnell.com

4 | Suunto

Core Alpha Stealth Watch

If hiking is your thing, the Core Alpha Stealth watch from Suunto has plenty of features you'll like. The Core Alpha has an altimeter, barometer, compass and weather information available, and if you prefer off-grid, it's not GPS enabled, so no one can track you. A single CR2032 battery powers the watch for about a year, so it doesn't need charging. \$299; suunto.com

5 | Alps Mountaineering

Acropolis 3-Person Tent

Getting away from it all is simpler in a tent, but you don't have to rough it. Freestanding poles, factory-sealed seams and UV-resistant sides and floor make the Acropolis 3-Person tent a rugged home in the woods. Twin vestibules for gear storage along with a mesh loft pocket offer room for plenty of creature comforts. \$299.99; alpsmountaineering.com

6 | Blendjet

Blendjet2 Portable Blender

Just because you're out in the elements doesn't mean you can't have some of the comforts of home. Whether it's a refreshing smoothie or your favorite frozen-margarita mix, the Blendjet2 can whip it up while you're in the woods. USB-rechargeable, it's good for 15 uses or more per charge and is easy to clean. \$49.95; blendjet.com



7 | CRKT

Woods Kangee T-Hawk

Splitting wood for a campfire is a lot easier with the Woods Kangee T-Hawk from CRKT. A 4.2-inch long, 1055 carbon-steel blade that's .4-inch thick will make short work of logs and kindling, while the Tennessee hickory handle gives leverage and balance. It weighs slightly less than 2 pounds.

\$69.99; crkt.com

8 | Camp Chef

Mountaineer 2-Burner Stove

Lightweight while still quite rugged, the Mountaineer 2-Burner stove runs on either standard 20-pound propane tanks like your grill at home, or on the portable 1-pound canisters with a separate adaptor. Matchless ignition, twin 20,000-BTU aluminum burners and three-sided windscreens let you cook in most any conditions.

\$380; campchef.com

9 | Buck Knives

837 Selkirk Firestarter

Once you've got the wood for your campfire, starting that fire will be a cinch with the Selkirk Firestarter. A 2.25-inch ferrocerium starter contained in a polymer handle works with a striker notch in a multi-tool that also contains a hex driver, bottle and can opener and flathead screwdriver.

\$22.99; buckknives.com

10 | Fenix

CL26R High Performance Rechargeable Camping Lantern

Don't be fooled by its size—the CL26R puts out up to 400 lumens. With both white- and red-light outputs, eight different settings can be chosen with up to 400 hours of run time. On the lowest white light setting, 40 lumens of light can run for 30 hours—definitely enough to get through the weekend in a tent.

\$59.95; fenix-store.com



FOR THE PODIUM HUNTERS

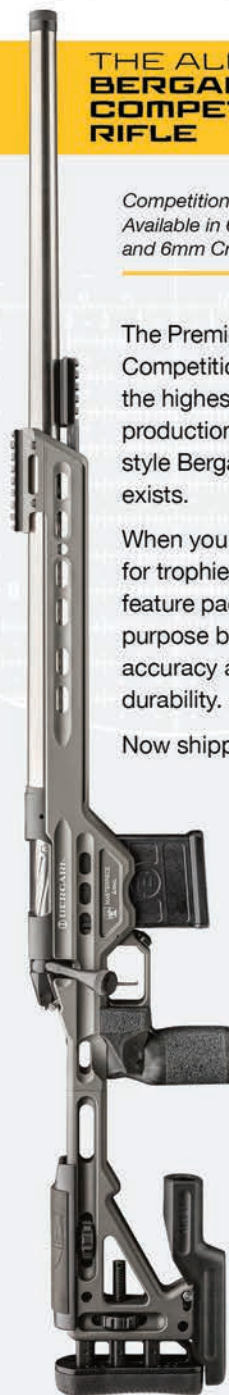
THE ALL NEW BERGARA COMPETITION RIFLE

*Competition ready.
Available in 6.5 Creedmoor
and 6mm Creedmoor*

The Premier Competition Rifle is the highest performing production class PRS style Bergara rifle that exists.

When you're hunting for trophies, this feature packed rifle is purpose built for accuracy and durability.

Now shipping.



B BERGARA
OUR BARRELS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Learn more at BergaraUSA.com



She's So Unusual

The Wilkinson Arms Linda is a pistol-caliber carbine that's unique, offering substantial capacity and retro styling.

The gun business has a way of resurrecting old models long after they seem dead and gone. Some, like the AMT AutoMag, reappear after decades of dormancy, while others like the Bren Ten and Wildey Survivor still await reclamation. Common factors for successful comebacks are enthusiasts who have the will—and the coin—to make it happen and a cadre of customers drawn to these guns out of nostalgia or a desire for the unique, even when the design has long been eclipsed by newer models with contemporary features. Having been reconstituted multiple times with several owners, the Wilkinson Arms Linda is perhaps most exemplary of this peculiar life cycle, and the version currently made is moderately evolved from its original design.

Wilkinson Arms traces its roots to California, where Ray Wilkinson, whose company made go-cart parts, built a wooden mock-up of a 9 mm rifle and walked it over to a neighboring business owned by Bob Penney that made commercial M1 Carbines in a bid to provide funding. The two partners formed J&R Engineering in the mid-1960s and named its first semi-automatic carbine the M68, later succeeded by the M80. With its pistol-grip design, aluminum receiver, conical flash hider, top-mounted cocking handle and quick-detach barrel, the M68 was likely regarded as an inventive, if not cutting-edge rifle.

By Andy Massimilian
Photos by Peter Fountain

Orders for the new carbine were strong and J & R prospered for a few years, but closed shop soon after the passage of the 1968 Gun Control Act (GCA), which established the Federally Licensed dealer program. J&R had sold its carbines by mail order, but for reasons unknown, stopped manufacturing guns under the GCA's confusing new paradigm. The remaining parts were made into rifles and sold by Penney and his son under the name PJK.

Later on, Wilkinson restarted operations under several names, improved the design and subsequently moved the operation to Parma, ID, in 1982. The revamped carbine was named the Terry after his daughter and the company's product line was expanded with .22 LR and .25 ACP pistols named after his daughter Sherry and wife Diane. A pistol version of the Terry carbine was added and named the Linda—after another daughter. This was among the earlier “large-format pistols” and was marketed with a neck strap that attached to a slot on the back of the frame. The Linda was later offered as a carbine as well, differing from the Terry with respect to the stock and a having barrel with a ventilated shroud instead of a conical flash hider. It is that design that is most like the one made today.

The late 1980s to mid-1990s was the golden age of 9 mm carbines, many of which were niche designs like the Linda and the Terry. Small shops across the country made

imaginatively designed carbines bearing now obscure names like Weaver Arms' Nighthawk, Federal Engineering XC-900 and Feather Industries' AT-9. Unhappily, things changed abruptly in 1994 with the passage of the “Assault Weapon Ban” championed by then-Senator Joe Biden, whose animus toward lawful gun ownership is once again on full display as President. The AWB stopped production of the Terry because it had a pistol grip, took a removable magazine and was equipped with a threaded barrel and flash suppressor, but the Linda was unaffected.

After Wilkinson's death in 1998, the company shut down until Boyd Gray bought the assets, restarted production in 2000 as Northwest Arms and moved its operations to Washington. The cycle repeated itself yet again after Gray became ill and was near retirement without a successor in 2015. In stepped Patrick McFarland, a 30-something gun enthusiast from Philadelphia who left a career with a Big Four accounting firm to buy the assets of Northwest Arms and form Wilkinson Arms in Murphy, ID. McFarland discovered Northwest in his search for a replacement firing pin for his Sherry pistol and kept in touch with Gray thereafter.

The Linda is blowback-operated, hammer-fired and feeds from a detachable magazine housed in the pistol grip. It is 31.5 inches long with a 16.5-inch barrel and weighs 6.25 pounds unloaded, which is lighter than most 9 mm AR-15s. The Linda comes with a

The Linda is constructed with well-made, well-fitted parts, none of which are plastic aside from the grip panels and the backstrap

WILKINSON ARMS | Linda



SHOOTING RESULTS

Load	Velocity	Group Size		
		Smallest	Largest	Average
Remington UMC 115-grain FMJ	1,315	2.25	2.89	2.60
Winchester USA 115-grain FMJ	1,356	1.75	2.89	2.50
Winchester Winclean 147-grain FMJ	1,192	.88	1.75	1.26

Velocity measured in fps 15 feet from the muzzle for 10 consecutive shots using an Oehler Model 35 chronograph. Temperature: 77 degrees Fahrenheit. Accuracy measured in inches for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 50 yards from a benchrest.

SPECIFICATIONS

Manufacturer: Wilkinson Arms; (208) 495-4958, wilkinsonarms.com

Action Type: Blowback-operated, semi-automatic

Caliber: 9 mm

Capacity: 31 rounds

Finish: Black Cerakote (special order burnt-bronze)

Barrel Length: 16.5 inches

Rifling: 6 grooves, 1:10-inch RH twist

Sights: Fixed aperture rear; protected blade front

Trigger Pull Weight: 6 pounds, 5 ounces

Length: 31.5 inches

Weight: 6 pounds, 4 ounces

Accessories: One magazine, owner's manual

MSRP: \$899

ADVANCED DIGITAL HEARING AID TECHNOLOGY

Now Rechargeable!

**BUY 1
GET 1 FREE**
Reg: ~~\$599.98~~
Only \$299⁹⁹
Each When You Buy a Pair – **LIMITED TIME ONLY!**

How can a rechargeable hearing aid that costs only \$299⁹⁹ be every bit as good as one that sells for \$2,400 or more?

The answer: Although tremendous strides have been made in Hearing Aid Technology, those cost reductions have not been passed on to you. Until now...

The MDHearingAid® VOLT+ uses the same kind of technology incorporated into hearing aids that cost thousands more at a small fraction of the price.

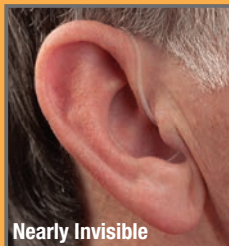
Over 600,000 satisfied MDHearingAid customers agree: High-quality, FDA-registered rechargeable hearing aids don't have to cost a fortune. MDHearingAid is a medical-grade, digital, rechargeable hearing aid offering sophistication and high performance; and works right out of the box with no time-consuming "adjustment" appointments. Now that you know... why pay more?

45-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!

If you are not completely satisfied with your MDHearingAids, return them within 45 days for a FULL REFUND!

**For the Lowest Price Call
1-800-970-0802**

www.MDVolt.com



Nearly Invisible



"I was amazed! Sounds I hadn't heard in years came back to me!"

— Don W., Sherman, TX

CHARGE AT NIGHT **AND GO** ALL DAY

Never Change a Battery Again!



Charging Case



30-Hour Battery Life

Water Resistant to 3 Feet

A+BBB
rating for
10+ years

**Order Now & Get
3 FREE Accessories
– \$150 Value –**

Extra Charging Case*



Tube & Tip Replacement Kit

Rinse Kit

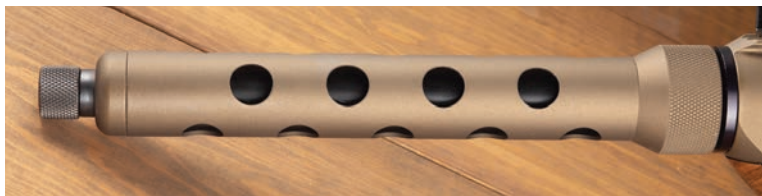


*Extra charging case does not include additional hearing aids.

MDHearingAid®

DOCTOR DESIGNED | AUDIOLOGIST TESTED | FDA REGISTERED

Use Code **MU34** and get **FREE Shipping**



From top: Aesthetically pleasing, the wooden buttstock evinces the Linda's retro appeal, but offers no adjustability for

different shooters • Robust and protected, the front and rear sights are lessons in simplicity • Grips and backstrap represent the only

use of plastic on the Linda, giving the carbine a curious appearance somewhat like a cross between an Uzi and a 1911 • Magazines are proprietary and hold 31 rounds • Extending into the receiver, the 16.5-inch barrel is protected by a sturdy, ventilated shroud and capped with a thread protector • No provisions exist to hold the bolt in the open position.

31-round, double-stack magazine. Two models are offered: the standard and the LE-3. The LE-3 has shallow recoil slots on a portion of the receiver's integral top rail and comes with an AR-15-style collapsible stock. You can also attach a side-folding stock like the STAP from Midwest Industries or the one used on the SIG Sauer MPX using an optional 1913-rail adapter.

The receiver is made from 6061 T6 extruded aluminum and contains the bolt and recoil-spring assembly. It is joined to a cast-aluminum grip frame by two Allen screws. The fixed stock on the standard model is quite sturdy and made from .75-inch-diameter tubular steel with a walnut buttplate that matches the fore-end, contrasting sharply with the black plastic grip panels and grip backstrap. The barrel has a 1:10-inch twist rate, is covered with a ventilated aluminum shroud and can be ordered with a muzzle threaded 1/2x28 tpi for common accessories or sound suppressors.

Controls consist of a left-side reciprocating cocking handle, a trigger-blocking crossbolt safety and a magazine-release button behind the trigger guard first incorporated on the M80 to replace the heel-clip release of the M68. The mechanism does not lock the bolt rearward automatically on an empty magazine nor does it have a provision to do so manually.

The rudimentary fixed sights have a rather short 7.75-inch radius with a protected front post and a protected aperture rear. The standard model Linda has a plain .75-inch dovetail receiver rail that can be converted to Picatinny style using a clamp-on rail from Evolution Gun Works made to fit the CZ 550. The LE-3 version has a slotted rail except for the portion where the rear sight is mounted. Mounting a magnified scope will require you to remove the rear sight, which is attached with two screws.

Like the Uzi and the Beretta CX4, the Linda uses a "wraparound" or telescoping bolt where its forward section covers about 5 inches of the barrel when in battery. This feature, along with a recoil spring that surrounds the forward section of the bolt instead of being placed behind it, puts the ejection port close to the rear of the receiver. It also gives Linda the illusion of being a short-barreled rifle (it isn't), because only 8 3/8 inches of barrel protrudes from the front of the receiver.

The spring-loaded ejection-port cover resembles the AR-15's. When open, the cover rests on a small rubber bumper imbedded in the grip to prevent it from marring the receiver's finish. It's a thoughtful, nice, finishing touch.

The Linda is constructed with well-made, well-fitted parts, none of which are plastic aside from the grip panels and the backstrap. Except for the springs and few neat stampings, the internal parts are milled, not metal-injection molding. The welds on the buttstock are cleanly executed. The action parts are hot-salt blued, while black Cerakote is used to finish the receiver, grip frame and stock.

Like the rest of this rifle, the steel magazines have a retro 1970s vibe about them with spot welds, no witness holes, and a milled aluminum follower—a rarity nowadays if ever there was one.

The Linda was equipped with an EOTech EXPS3 holographic sight and tested for accuracy and load preference firing from sand bags at 50 yards. This carbine performed best with Winchester's Winclean 147-grain TMJ load that printed a smallest and average five-shot group of .88 inch and 1.26 inches, respectively, while mean groups with the other practice loads were 2.6 inches and 2.9 inches. There were



More modern-looking, the LE-3 version retains the wooden fore-end • An AR-15-style stock is included on the LE-3, but it can be swapped for a folding version, if desired • The LE-3 version has a top rail for mounting optics.





THE ORIGINAL
PREDATOR™
PANCAKE HOLSTER

PROUDLY MADE IN USA

ph: (419)307-6191

www.wrightleatherworks.com



A pistol version of the Terry carbine was added and named the Linda—after another daughter. This was among the earlier “large-format pistols” and was marketed with a neck strap that attached to a slot on the back of the frame.


two failures to feed the flat-nose Winclean rounds in 200 rounds of testing using four different loads.

The iron sights weren’t regulated to point-of-aim, putting shots 1.5 inches low and 4 inches right, but fixing this is simple. For elevation, file down the front sight blade and test your zero. The precise amount to remove can be determined by successive attempts or by using a formula found on the internet. For windage, drill two oval-shaped holes in the rear sight housing that allow it to move laterally, then remount it using these holes.

The Linda’s controls are workable, but not ideal. The magazine release is reachable with the firing-grip thumb, but the diminutive crossbolt safety is easier manipulated using the support hand. The magazine locks in place with a full load even when the bolt is forward, but does not drop free. The cocking handle points 45 degrees upward, which encourages the user to tilt the gun to the port side while retracting it allowing for a visual chamber check. A more prominent handle would be easier to grasp, especially if you mount an optical sight. The trigger has a 6.3-pound pull weight that is not gritty, but has some creep and a slight overtravel.

The Linda could use sling mounts, but balances nicely just ahead of the trigger guard

and is comfortable to carry afield with one hand. The tubular stock has a 15-inch length-of-pull and is not uncomfortable when mounted against your cheek, as its drop-at-comb places your dominant eye exactly behind the iron sights. However, red-dot sights should be low profile or your face will be positioned too high on the stock for a good cheek weld. Using the optional adapter to switch to the MPX or STAP stock solves that problem because those stocks have a straight-line comb that places your eye at ideal height for most red-dot sights. Though the STAP stock crowds the charging handle when folded, the Linda is still operable and has an overall length of 22.25 inches for less cumbersome transport and storage.

Unlike most of the 9 mm carbines from the golden age, the Wilkinson Arms Linda survived both anti-gun legislation and the misfortunes that befell the various companies that made it. Though it would have much better ergonomics with bolt-hold-open capability, the Linda is well made and reliable. With its subtle amalgamation of 1970s/80s design features that sometimes clash rather than harmonize, Linda’s unapologetic retro appeal is a welcome enticement from the monotonous mass market of Glock-magazine-fed ARs. 



While the smooth fore-end adds aesthetic appeal, it’s harder to hold than a textured, polymer variant • Should a suppressor be desired, the barrel is threaded with a standard 1/2x28 tpi pitch • While the trigger exhibited some creep, it broke cleanly • Watch support-hand placement, as the charging handle is of the reciprocating variety • A vaguely AR-15-style dustcover can be closed to keep debris out of the action.



DISCOVER THE LATEST BUZZ ABOUT HONEY

PRAISED for its amazing ability to heal the body, the ancient “nectar of the gods” may just be a 21st century healing miracle — the closest thing we have to a “cure-all” for dozens of ailments from heart disease and heartburn to insomnia, low libido, fatigue, cough and cold, headaches, and more.

If you're a weight-loss warrior, this gooey, golden syrup can even help flatten your belly and whittle your waist!

Surprisingly, 50% of Americans have this nourishing nectar in their kitchen cupboard. Chances are, you do, too, but you haven't even begun to tap into its healing powers. More than a sweetener for tea and toast, **this ancient superfood has been scientifically shown to help:**

- 🔥 Prevent blood sugar swings
- 🔥 Stop Insomnia
- 🔥 Improve regularity — no constipation
- 🔥 Heal cuts and scrapes
- 🔥 Ease asthma and allergies

The Healing Powers of HONEY

"This book will help you stay healthy...for good!"

—Ann Louise Gittleman, Ph.D.



Includes Dozens of Healthful Recipes and Home Cures!

CAL OREY

Inside your **FREE BOOK** you'll discover 30 different healing varieties of honey — each with unique and remarkable “do your body good” powers. For example: Researchers at the Universiti Sains Malaysia reported dozens of studies found tualang honey can halt the growth of some cancer cells.

SWEET FACT

2 MILLION

Number of flowers it takes for honeybees to make 1 pound of honey.

Then there's the popular manuka honey, which can help you beat antibiotic-resistant MRSA and staph bacteria. Research shows manuka has a high antibacterial potency — great for treating skin infections and aiding digestion. But . . .

There's one little trick you must know before you use it. Make sure it's medical-grade manuka honey. Find out how to

tell if it's the real deal in **The Healing Powers of Honey**.

And when you want to increase the number of healthy antioxidants in your body . . .

Try buckwheat honey. One study showed healthy men who drank water with buckwheat honey had a 7% boost in their antioxidant levels. This isn't the only honey to power up antioxidant levels. Discover the two other varieties on page 74 of your **FREE BOOK**. (**Hurry, claim it today** before all the **FREE** copies are gone!)

The Healing Powers of Honey doesn't just give you the buzz on one, two, or three varieties of honey. Nope, it gives you the scoop on **30 different healing varieties** so you know exactly which one, how much, and how to use it for what's ailing you.

Wait until you see how much healing with honey is packed inside this breakthrough new book . . .

Just pay \$4.95 S/H with this special offer.

SWEET FACT

1.31 POUNDS

Approximate amount of honey each person in the U.S. consumes every year.

Nature's honey. Yes — the same honey that comes from a flower's nectar consumed by the honeybee. In his new book, **The Healing Powers of Honey**, bestselling author Cal Orey draws on interviews with doctors, researchers, and beekeepers to reveal the true power of this golden nectar.

Not all honey is the same . . .

Before you start plucking honey from your cupboard and adding it to your food or downing it by the spoonful, order your **FREE COPY of The Healing Powers of Honey** with the special offer.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER:

Get your **FREE** copy of
The Healing Powers of Honey
Toll free: **800-762-6517**
Go online: **YourBookOffer.com/Honey611**
A \$4.95 processing and handling fee applies

Important Note: Sales tax included where applicable. Your subscription comes with convenient automatic renewal. At the end of your subscription, we'll notify you. If you want to keep the publication, do nothing and we'll renew your subscription using your credit/debit card on file and charge you \$54.95 for the first year (12 issues) of Dr. Brownstein's Natural Way to Health and thereafter at the lowest renewal rate then in effect. There is no risk, you can cancel within the first six months for a full refund of the unused portion of your subscription.

Solving the Holster Conundrum

Here are some tips to help avoid—or at least minimize—the old “box o’ holsters” problem those who carry concealed often encounter.

By Steve Tarani
Photos by Peter Fountain

We all have that one drawer or box filled with holsters we never use. To minimize that ever-growing collection, here are five useful time-, cost- and space-saving considerations when buying yet another holster.

Appropriate holster selection starts with identifying your intended purpose for both short-and long-term use. The question “What’s the best holster for me?” is really no different than asking the question “What’s the best gun for me?”



Form Fits Function

Selecting “the best gun” begins with the answer to “What do you intend to use the gun for?” Will it be for plinking or target practice? Will you use it for competitive shooting? Is it intended for use as a personal-defense firearm?

Do you plan on carrying it concealed? If you plan to carry a concealed firearm for personal defense, a .50 BMG—although chambered an effective caliber—may be quite difficult to carry, concealed or otherwise. Conversely, if you plan to reach out to a target 1,760 or so yards away, a short-barrel derringer may not be your best bet.

Selecting “the best holster” starts with a similar question: “What demands will you place on that holster?” Will it be used for weekend plinking or occasional target practice? Will it be used as a duty holster? Will it be used in competitive shooting? Do you intend to use it for personal defense? Might you be contemplating a combination of those activities?”

Once these initial questions are asked and answered, you can then begin your search in earnest with form fitting function.

Demand

The purpose of using a holster is threefold: to provide secure retention of a handgun on your person, to prevent unintended trigger manipulation and to allow you a reasonably unencumbered presentation (draw).

Additional demands placed on a viable holster often include durability, comfort, affordability and the quality of construction.

Finding one suitable holster to meet these and other demands specific to your handgun make, model and type (revolver or semi-automatic) can be a dreaded, storage-box daunting task. (You may end up needing two or more for the same gun as the demands of wardrobe change.) However, there are five useful considerations that can lighten that lift. They are: materials, sizing, accessibility, carry and deployment.





Form Fits Function

A field holster is built for security rather than concealment.



Depending on job requirements or personal preference, a holster with a retention system may be needed.

Materials

Left to right: Typically, holsters are made from leather, Kydex (a polymer) or woven nylon, though some pocket holsters are now made from Neoprene.



Materials

The modern-day holster can be manufactured from any number of construction materials ranging from traditional to contemporary. Each has its advantages and disadvantages. Material selection should ultimately support whatever performance demands you place upon the holster.

Traditional materials may include the likes of leather, nylon or a combination thereof. Raw leather is relatively inexpensive and conforms to your body shape. The downside is difficulty in re-holstering and eventual loss in firearm-retention capability.

Finished leather is stout and provides sturdy retention plus the benefit of eventually conforming to your body shape with use over time. As with any leather product, if worn in an extremely humid environment (or subjected to a lot of sweating) it tends to get a bit sticky when wet.

Nylon, although moisture-resistant and less expensive, doesn't provide the same level of retention as finished leather or molded polymers.

Scientifically speaking, polymers are large molecules made by bonding (chemically linking) a series of building blocks to form a malleable and durable material. Some polymers are flexible. Others are very stiff. Just think of the many types of plastics. For example, material in a flexible soda bottle is quite different from that in an industrial plumbing pipe made from polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Familiar polymers such as Kydex, Boltaron and others are commonly lightweight and moisture-resistant, and although sometimes not as comfortable as leather (which, over time with use, conforms to the contours of your body), do provide long-term, adequate support and retention.

Solid polymer holsters are durable, lightweight, require little or no adjustment and

are form-fitted to the contours of a particular handgun. Polymer holsters tend to hold their shape, never rot and rarely, if ever, wear out with use. A good Kydex holster will last indefinitely. However, given extreme climates, plastics and other materials made from polymers tend to soften (and lose shape) as they heat up or become brittle as they freeze.

Holster-construction materials can also be combined to create a functional hybrid such as the combination of polymer and leather.

Sizing

Like fingerprints, no two human bodies are the same. When it comes to sizing holsters, one size does not fit all. Holsters are available in multiple mounting configurations and as such must conform to both your body and the make and model of your handgun. The two are not the same and can sometimes be difficult to match.

Sizing to a specific make and model can be either custom or production. High-volume holster manufacturers produce holsters that fit a range of makes and models. Good enough for government work, these general-production holsters usually do a fairly good job of doing what a holster is designed to do.

Conversely, custom holsters are built specifically for your exact make and model. Although probably more expensive, you do get what you pay for when it comes to exact sizing. Although it may exactly fit your make and model, you will need to try it on for size to find if it is an exact fit for your body. Body sizing is the reason why it's difficult to shop for holsters online. Yes, you can return it if it doesn't fit your body, but most people don't and can you guess where that holster that doesn't quite fit your body ends up? You guessed it—that one drawer or box filled with holsters we never use.

Accessibility

If you are a competitive shooter, you would want your firearm to be quite readily accessible. Other than covering the trigger guard (as required by competition rules), a competitive shooter does not want any additional retention devices and therefore requires an "open" holster necessary for rapid presentation with the muzzle clearing the holster in the least amount of time possible.

The competition holster is usually mounted on a competition belt and commonly dropped or dropped and offset. Competitive-shooting holsters are designed to be worn at competitions, outside the waistband and to provide the shooter with optimal accessibility in a controlled environment.

If you are a defensive shooter and your handgun is intended for self-defense, although you may want the same rapid access afforded the competition shooter, there are additional considerations such as concealability and retention.

In any real-world, violent, physical altercation, you could find yourself in a fight for your life with your gun, which warrants an adequate handgun retention capability on your chosen everyday-carry (EDC) holster.

Accessibility for a defensive shooter can be in one of three locations on your person. Above the waistband such as a shoulder holster, at the waistband (outside or inside) or below the waistband (thigh or ankle holster).

In support of accessibility for either inside or outside the waistband carry, you'll also need a good, sturdy gun belt, as many holsters rely on a belt to help hold the weight of the firearm and keep it pulled close to the body.

Carry

In the defensive-handgun world there are two general categories of how your handgun is attached to your body. One is open carry, in which the firearm and holster are both visible and in plain sight. The



Accessibility

If you are seated a lot of the time, a shoulder holster or ankle rig may be something to consider.



Omega 36M



SILENCERCO
SILENCERCO.COM

Caliber Compatibility: 22 Hornet to 338LM & 9MM

This includes all 5.56 NATO / .223 Rem, 7.62 NATO / .30 Caliber rounds.

**Multicaliber.
Versatile.
Full Auto Rated.
Modular.**



Sizing

Wardrobe, job requirements, body type and personal preference can all affect your choices • A Kahr PM9 is shown with several holster options.



other category is concealed carry, which implies that the firearm and holster are “covered” in such a manner as to not be visible in plain sight. Concealed carry utilizes a cover garment or garments to reduce (or even eliminate) ready detection of a firearm on your person.

If it is not an open carry (plainly visible), then it is considered a “concealed carry,” which means you will not be fastening your defensive carry holster to an external competition belt, but to an internal carry system.

Concealed carry invites an additional set of considerations. Concealed means the need for an appropriate cover garment.

Given the three accessibility locations (above, at and below the waistband), that could include anything from a sweater or a jacket to an oversized shirt and/or including long pants to cover an ankle holster.

If carrying inside the waistband (IWB)—which presents a lower profile than outside the waistband—then there are two practical positional carry locations: crossdraw and strong-side draw. If strong-side draw, there are four additional possibilities: IWB appendix carry, IWB 3 o'clock position, IWB 4 o'clock position and the somewhat controversial IWB 6 o'clock (small-of-back) position.

Following the form fits function model, your decision of where and how to carry opens up a few more questions, such as how often will you carry? Are you carrying off duty? Is it range day? Will you be sitting in a car all day?

Will the day include rigorous or extended physical activity requiring greater levels of retention? How much body real estate will the



Introducing **FLEXCLEAN**

- Designed to work with BALLISTOL® Multi-Purpose Oil for enhanced cleaning
- Available for rifles, shotguns & handguns
- Brushless design eliminates abrasive damage to bore
- Internal caliber specific rubber balls force out fouling and excess oil
- High quality design won't break or wear-out, and is completely washable
- Color coded and engraved by size for ease of identification

A PERFECT PAIR.

BALLISTOL® Premium Gun Care Products.

▶ 800.253.2460



▶ www.ballistol.com



LIVE LIFE PAIN FREE



**PATENTED VERSOSHOCK® SOLE
SHOCK ABSORPTION SYSTEM**



Corrective Fit Orthotic
\$50 Value Free
podiatrist-grade support
with every shoe purchase
Excludes sandals.

Clinically Shown to Relieve Knee Pain

In a 2017 double-blind study by Olive View UCLA Medical Center.

**↓ 85% LESS
KNEE PAIN**

Enjoy the benefits of exercise
with GDEFY

- ✓ Ultimate Comfort
- ✓ Renewed Energy
- ✓ Maximum Protection
- ✓ Improved Posture

gdefy MIGHTY WALK \$135

**X-WIDE
WIDTH
AVAILABLE**

This product is not intended to treat, cure or prevent any disease.

Men Sizes 7.5-15 M/W/XW

- Gray TB9024MGS
- Blue/Black TB9024MLU
- Black TB9024MBL

Women Sizes 6-11 M/W/XW

- Gray TB9024FGS
- Salmon/Gray TB9024FGP
- Purple/Black TB9024FLP



\$20 OFF YOUR ORDER

Promo Code PS8LNR1

www.gdefy.com

Expires February 28, 2022

Free Exchanges • Free Returns

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call 1(800) 429-0039

Gravity Defyer Medical Technology Corp.
10643 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331



VersoShock® U.S Patent #US8,555,526 B2. May be eligible for Medicare reimbursement. \$20 off applies to orders of \$100 or more for a limited time. Cannot be combined with other offers. 9% CA sales tax applies to orders in California. Shoes must be returned within 30 days in like-new condition for full refund or exchange. Credit card authorization required. See website for complete details.



Deployment

Be sure you can quickly and consistently sweep away a cover garment, defeat any retention built into the holster and draw smoothly.

holster eat up? Answers to these questions, plus personal preference, are what will determine which holster best fits your functional demands.

Deployment

If you are carrying a firearm for personal protection, it is considered your primary weapon system and as such must be made both secure and readily deployable. Most defensive shooters carry concealed and inside the waistband. Drawing from concealment adds complexity to the draw stroke. In comparison to an open-carry competitive shooter, those who carry concealed must initially defeat any cover garment(s) and then defeat any holster retention device(s), which are recommended for a defensive concealed-carry holster.

Retention can mean anything from cant (requiring you to draw the firearm along a specific angle), to a snap, to indents, tension screws, magnetics, a bail or hood, push-button (thumb or social finger) and the like. Certain law enforcement agencies or

departments will require varying or multiple levels of retention.

Given these five most common demands placed on holster performance—materials, sizing, accessibility, carry and deployment—you'll probably want to do some experimenting with different types, models and levels of retention until you find what works best for your operational and personal profile. Even so, it'll take some trial and error.

In general, most manufacturers today must use quality materials to produce holsters for a variety of on-body carry positions, or they will be knocked out of the market. Hip holsters, paddle holsters, pocket holsters and even fanny pack holsters abound, and specific models are often created for specific handguns to include popular brand-name firearms.

Using these five common holster-performance-demand considerations can save you valuable time, cost and box space inside the inevitable unused holster-storage box. 🌀

Explore Boldly.™



BIANCHI
LEATHER

@BRIDGET_FABEL
Wearing THE REMEDY™ HOLSTER

the

Remedy™

BIANCHILEATHER.COM

Urgent Warning For Anyone With an IRA or 401(k)...

Do NOT Withdraw a Dime From Your Retirement Without Reading This First

One Incorrect Move Could Trigger a 50% Tax on Your Retirement Accounts.

Get the Simple Action Plan That Will IRS-Proof Your Money.

On December 20, 2019, Congress officially passed THE SECURE ACT. And buried deep inside the bill is an obscure clause that punishes responsible savers and investors.

The Wall Street Journal editorial board dubbed it as a “bait and switch.” And *Forbes* called it “the ticking time bomb.”

Inside this bill is the most sweeping retirement legislation in more than a decade.

It's now being exposed as a classic bait-and-switch move and millions of Americans are about to get blindsided.

In fact, one wrong move could trigger an aggressive tax bill from the IRS that **could have you owing a 50% “punishment tax” during retirement.**

It's all part of Congress' never-ending raid on your money.

They expected you to play by the rules. To be responsible and to work and save. And you did for 20, 30, or 40 years or more.

But now, they changed the rules on you mid-game. All to support their out-of-control spending, and spread-the-wealth agenda.

The good news is today, we're

going to give you something the mainstream media won't: **A solution.**

A solution that legally shelters as much of your hard-earned money from the government as possible.

Which is why we want to send you a **FREE** copy of the bestselling book, *The New Retirement Savings Time Bomb* by America's #1 IRA Expert, Ed Slott with this special offer.

Here's a Peak at What You'll Find Inside:

- **How to sidestep the sneaky 50% “punishment” tax...**there's only ONE way to get out of it.
- **The 20% tax trap.** 1 in 2 Americans make a simple money-transfer move every year. But now, this same move could give you a surprise tax bill. But you can avoid this altogether with the simple “triple t” strategy. Page 9.
- **WARNING: What never to do with your IRA.** This honest mistake among family members can make every dime taxable and become the kiss of death for your retirement account. See how you can avoid it. Page 11
- **The sneaky IRS move that could cost you dearly.** Did you know that proposed IRS rules — years away from becoming official — could impact your taxes THIS YEAR? It's true. But you can navigate



this gray area easily and avoid big surprises. Page 15.

- **The simple dispute that can cost you \$5,000 to \$10,000 or more ... plus a year of your valuable time!** Page 16.
 - **Plus, many more** sneaky ways the IRS can confiscate your wealth!
- The more retirement accounts you have ... the more times you've changed jobs ... the more money you have ... means you're more at risk of being hit with aggressive taxes.

This book is so critical that we want to put a copy of it in your hands absolutely **FREE**. You just pay \$4.95 to cover shipping with this introductory offer.

To secure your copy of *The New Retirement Savings Time Bomb* simply follow the instructions below:

What Others Are Saying:

“Ed Slott's advice could save your retirement plan from something worse than a Bear Market — the tax collector!”

— **Terry Savage, nationally syndicated personal finance columnist**

Claim Your FREE Book Offer Today!

Call: (800) 625-4189

Online: TimeBomb211.com/Illustrated

See Website for terms, conditions, and eligibility for this offer.

Important Note: Sales tax included where applicable. This offer comes with a convenient automatic renewal. At the end of your trial subscriptions, we will notify you. If you want to keep the publication(s), do nothing and we will renew your subscription using your credit/debit card on file and charge you \$109 for one year (12 issues) of The Ultimate Wealth Report and \$109 for one year (12 issues) of Financial Intelligence Report. And then every year thereafter at the lowest renewal rates then in effect. There is no risk, you can cancel within the first six months for a full refund of the unused portion of your subscription.

Is Bigger Better?

By George Harris

The Problem

You have made use of red-dot sights on your competitive guns and find them to be an advantage when shooting steel and paper targets. There have been pluses and minuses with size and brightness of the dots as well as their durability, making consideration up until now for everyday carry a definite no. It seems that durability along with co-witnessing backup sights help your concerns with the failure factor, but sometimes you have a hard time finding the dot in bright light. You hate to admit it, but your eyes aren't what they used to be and the dots—especially when turned up to the brighter levels—do not appear round; they look like more of a smear instead of a dot. Your interest is what considerations, especially in dot size, should be given when considering a red-dot sight for an everyday carry (EDC) gun.

The Solution

There are a multitude of opinions concerning red-dot sights. The important thing to remember is the primary application for the sight on the platform upon which it is mounted.

In the application of everyday carry, it should be understood there are different situations that must be considered as opposed to shooting at the range or even in competition.

Historically speaking, statistics tell us that a majority of lethal force encounters take place as short time duration, close proximity events in less-than-ideal lighting conditions. Of course, avoidance is the best option if at all possible, but preparation is a better option when choices are at a minimum.

For EDC, a larger dot of 6, 8 or even 10 MOA in diameter will serve your purposes much better than the currently popular smaller dots of 1, 2 or 3 MOA. The reasons are almost infinite, but some more obvious than others.

Assuming time is of the essence when engaging an adversary with your EDC pistol, the speed with which the red dot can be located and superimposed over the target is of supreme importance. The


bigger the dot, the easier it is to find and direct to the target. Some may argue that a big dot is not as accurate as a small dot, therefore might not be as effective because it covers too much of the target. Let's stop and examine that thinking by doing a little math.

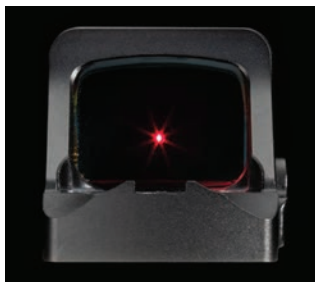
A 10-MOA dot covers roughly a 10-inch diameter area at 100 yards. That subtends down to 5 inches at 50 yards, 2.5 inches at 25 yards and 1 inch at 10 yards.

I won't judge another person's shot-delivery capabilities under the stress of a life-or-death situation, but it would seem that a 10-MOA dot would be sufficient when considering the statistical data of the encounter being in close proximity. For the average citizen, my definition of close proximity can be thought of as the inability to escape the situation, making the use of a deadly weapon the only available choice to prevent grave bodily harm or death. This is not legal advice, just my perspective. Keep in mind that time and distance almost always have an impact on one another during a dynamic event.

In changing light conditions, brightness and size of the dot have different effects on the ease of use. In order for red dots of smaller size to be seen in normal daylight or brighter conditions, their level of brightness has to be increased to a level that causes flaring or distortion of the dot when transitioning to diminished light. Larger red dots are more easily seen without the effects of distortion under varying light conditions, and in some cases can be transparent to allow an enhanced sight picture.

When you consider how the EDC gun is used defensively, the brain and eye are trying to glean every bit of information possible to respond to the conditions presented. It is likely the eyes are focused on the threat. When justified to engage the threat, it is much easier to superimpose the larger dot over the target and operate the trigger than it is to align the sights or find a smaller dot.

Larger dots make a lot of sense for defensive-carry purposes, especially for shooters with aging eyes. 



ASSAULT on AMERICA

Sean Spicer Exposes Biden's Plan for Remaking America.



America is under assault by radical progressives bent on transforming our country into a socialist society. Already they're dismantling democracy, destroying our economy, abolishing our freedom, and attacking our Christian values.

Our darkest days are looming.

Perhaps no one knows better the threat this radical administration poses than **Sean Spicer**, former Trump White House press secretary, *New York Times* bestselling author and host of Newsmax's *Spicer & Co.* Now, in his explosive bestselling book, ***Radical Nation: Joe Biden and Kamala Harris's Dangerous Plan for America***, Spicer reveals the true personas and dangerous hidden agendas of Biden and Harris.

Radical Nation reveals how the egregious policies and executive orders being churned out by the Biden-Harris administration are leading America straight to scorching inflation and economic collapse... how open borders, and the humanitarian crisis they created, are all part of a carefully planned vote grab... indoctrination is flooding our classrooms... and plans for court-packing and gun confiscation are underway.

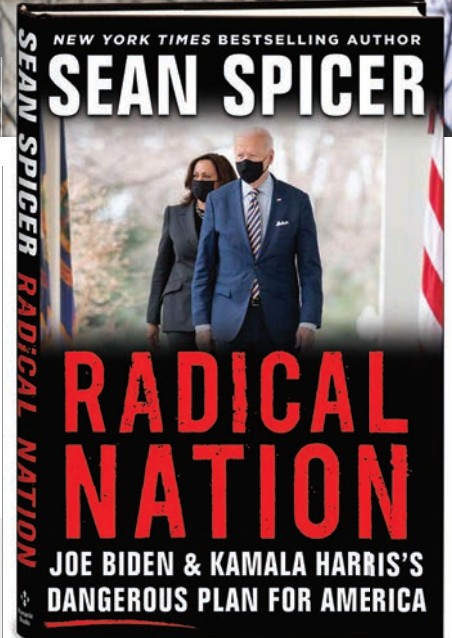
Every page of this blockbuster **NEW BOOK** will keep you riveted.

Spicer brings you into the Washington trenches, revealing never-before-heard stories from the inner circle about the deception being perpetrated upon the American people. *New York Times* bestselling author and former House Speaker **Newt Gingrich** says...

“***Radical Nation* is a must-read. Spicer presents a clear and concise understanding of the direction we are headed and provides the tools and tactics necessary to combat it.”**
— **Newt Gingrich**

Here's a Peek at What You'll Find Inside:

- **Devastating truths about the Green New Deal progressives are hiding. AOC's chief of staff comes clean on the “real deal.” Page 168**
- **Why Kamala suddenly becomes the invisible woman during a crisis. Page 55**
- **Keystone Pipeline job massacre — the stunning secret behind who really benefits. Page 173**
 - Who really started critical race theory and why it's trash — but people buy it hook, line, and sinker because it came from this esteemed university. Page 213
 - **House Democrats' sinister plan to get around the First Amendment and shut down conservative speech. Page 255**
 - Biden's rare appearances in



SEAN SPICER



Former White House Press Secretary under Donald Trump, Host of Newsmax TV's *Spicer & Co.* Sean has a front-line view of the world of US politics and warns of the radical Biden-Harris agenda.

the media are staged with paranoid vigilance. What are his handlers hiding? Page 218

▪ And much more.

Radical Nation also delivers a 10-step action plan every proud patriot can use to defend against the progressive socialist assault on America. Claim your **FREE** copy when you start or renew your subscription to Newsmax Magazine. Hurry before they're gone!

Claim Your FREE Book Today!

Call: (800) 637-0544

Online: [RadicalNation611.com/SI](https://www.RadicalNation611.com/SI)

See website for terms, conditions, and eligibility for this offer.

Important Note: Sales tax included where applicable. Your subscription comes with a convenient automatic renewal. At the end of your subscription, we will notify you. If you want to keep the publication, do nothing and we will renew your subscription using your credit/debit card on file and charge you \$42.95 for one year (12 issues) of Newsmax Magazine. And then every year thereafter at the lowest renewal rates then in effect. There is no risk, you can cancel within the first six months for a full refund of the unused portion of your subscription.

**President Trump Says:
“YOU MUST READ THIS!”**

Radical Nation makes it clear what is at stake. If you want to save America you must read this — it is MAGA all the way!”



NRA I871
150 YEARS STRONG

Creedmoor and the Shots Heard Around the World

On its 150th birthday, the NRA celebrates its commitment to long-range shooting by beginning at the beginning.

Today, if you take the Grand Central Parkway east from Brooklyn, NY, to its intersection with the Cross Island Parkway in Queens, you will be close to the Creedmoor Psychiatric Center and the Queens Farm Park administered by the Parks Administration of New York City. Little is left to mark the site of the 70-acre rifle range that was the first home to the annual matches of the National Rifle Association of America.

Yet, on Sept. 26, 1874, you would have been just one among 10,000 who ventured to the area on the Central Rail Road to witness the first international shooting event ever held in North America.

Competitive shooting had received widespread interest in the United Kingdom, beginning with the formation of the National Rifle Association of Great Britain in 1851. Matches between English, Scottish and Irish rifle teams had gained the imagination of the public during the years America was embroiled in its own Civil War—a war that demonstrated the dire need for the American military to step up its marksmanship prowess. A letter to Abraham Lincoln from the British NRA extolled the advantages that a military well-practiced in the art of marksmanship would have on the battlefield.

COL William C. Church and BG George Wingate set about to do just that in 1871 and chartered the NRA for that exact purpose: to make marksmanship as important as close-order drill during infantry training. As Mark Twain would later illustrate when he described how

Tom Sawyer got his friends to white-wash his fence because he made it look like so much fun, marksmanship competition was designed to be the rising tide that lifted all boats. Make training a competition, and marksmanship proficiency would become a matter of honor between the companies, regiments and branches of all the services.

With this in mind, the NRA purchased 70 acres of land from the Central Railroad called Creed's Farm and began to convert the nearly level pasture and farmland into a shooting range. Within a year of its opening in 1873, the recently crowned shooting champions of the United Kingdom, the Irish Shooting team, challenged the Americans to a match on their home turf.

Hosted by the members of the NRA-affiliated Amateur Rifle Club of NY and drawing more than 10,000 attendees, the Creedmoor matches of 1874 captured the public's attention like no other sporting event had in recent memory.

The six members of the American rifle team consisted of luminaries such as prolific inventor Louis L. Hepburn, John Bodine and the youngest member of the team, Henry Fulton. The Americans used rifles made by Remington and Sharps for its competition, as the breechloading Remington rolling block and the Sharps falling block were considered the best of their type manufactured in the U.S. at that time.

The Irish team was also represented by a giant of the firearm world, John Rigby, one of England's finest gunmakers. Armed with his rifles—specially designed for long-range shooting—it was thought the Irish team would sweep the Americans aside in embarrassing fashion.

After a half-day's shooting, the matches were close, each side separated from winning



IRELAND—THE INTERNATIONAL RIFLE MATCH BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND IRISH TEAMS AT DUBLIN, 1874.

Thanks to the NRA's efforts, the American team pulled out a shocking victory against European heavyweights at the first Creedmoor matches.



only by a few points. The youngest member of the Irish team took aim and scored a bullseye, but on the wrong target, counting as a miss. It came down to the last shot of the match when John Bodine of the American team paused to quench his thirst with a ginger beer that unfortunately exploded in his hand as the day's heat reacted with the chilled contents of the bottle. Blood gushed forth from Bodine's lacerated hand and one of the Irish team members, who was a physician, tended to his wound and suggested he seek professional attention.

Bodine brushed away the concerns of teammates and challengers and set about to complete the final shot. With blood dripping from his bandaged hand, he laid on his back, placed the rifle between his crossed legs and took aim. The .44-caliber bullet started its flight down the 1,000-yard range and hit the target dead center, sending a resounding "clang" back to the thousands of spectators who had been holding their collective breath.

Then the cheers became deafening and telegraph wires began to sing. America had won—934 points to the Irish team's 931. Hepburn's rolling-block design won the day over the tried-and-true rifles of John Rigby. The world was now starting to pay attention to the importance of marksmanship skills.

No one knows who presented the National Rifle Association's National Firearms Museum with a Remington Creedmoor Long Range target rifle elaborately engraved by Louis D. Nimschke and won by D. Barclay during the same 1874 matches. It is the first gun in what is now a 10,000-gun museum collection that spans from 1350 A.D. to the present. From a most humble beginning in 1871, the NRA has grown into the foremost leader in marksmanship training, contributing to the strength of our military and our republic for the past 150 years. 🌀



The safe of your dreams is closer than you think.

With the Browning Safe Builder app, you can virtually build the safe you want, put it where you want, and have the order sent to your nearest qualifying dealer.

BROWNING.COM



BUILD, THEN PLACE YOUR VIRTUAL SAFE ANYWHERE.

Experience Browning's augmented reality app.



WORLD FAMOUS
CHIP MCCORMICK

RAILED POWER MAGS

Order today at
www.cmproducts.com
or 830.798.2863

THE TOUGHEST 1911 .45 MAGAZINE EVER MADE.

7, 8, and 10 round magazines available now in stainless or black fluoropolymer finish.

Patented feed rail technology that will never spread from hard use!

US Patent #US9791228B2



Ruger LCP Max

The latest iteration of Ruger's micro-size LCP is big on firepower, but low on price.



SPECIFICATIONS

Manufacturer: Ruger; (336) 949-520, ruger.com

Action Type: Internal hammer-fired, semi-automatic

Caliber: .380 ACP

Capacity: 10+1 rounds

Frame: Black, glass-filled nylon

Slide: Black-oxide coated alloy steel

Barrel Length: 2.8 inches

Sights: Dovetail-mounted tritium front; dovetail-mounted, drift-adjustable, U-notch rear

Trigger Pull Weight: 5 pounds, 8 ounces

Length: 5.17 inches

Width: .81 inch

Height: 4.12 inches

Weight: 10.6 ounces

Accessories: Shipping box, manual, 10-round magazine, magazine-loading tool, soft pocket holster

MSRP: \$449

SHOOTING RESULTS

Load	Velocity	Smallest	Group Size Largest	Average
Super Vel Pocket Rocket 80-grain Solid Copper HP	963	1.22	2.15	1.80
Colt Defense (DoubleTap) 90-grain JHP	933	1.23	1.96	1.56
Hornady Critical Defense 90-grain FTX	901	.51	1.30	1.02

Velocity measured in fps 10 feet from the muzzle for 10 consecutive shots with a Pro Chrony chronograph. Temperature: 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Accuracy measured in inches for three consecutive, five-shot groups fired at 7 yards offhand.

ON TARGET

Wider grip offers improved ergonomics

OFF TARGET

Ships with only one magazine

The Ruger LCP was a tiny terror when launched in 2008. It disrupted the market by creating demand for small, reliable pistols in .380 ACP and provoked everyone from holster makers to ammunition manufacturers into delivering new products. Shooters who were attracted to the pistol for its easy concealability soon experienced the downside of shooting such a tiny piece with its heavy trigger: miniscule sights and sharp recoil. Even so, Ruger sold a gazillion LCPs.

Ruger improved the LCP in 2016 when it brought out the LCP II with a better trigger and more usable sights. Still tiny, and with a six-round magazine like the original, the LCP II proved to be just as easy to conceal while being slightly easier to shoot accurately.

Still, critics abounded. Some of my old gunwriter friends were highly offended by the LCP. After all, who would set aside their 1911 in favor of a tiny pocket pistol? And everyone knew the .380 ACP was worthless for defense, right?

Some of these myths were dispelled during product-introduction seminars and TV shows Ruger ran at Gunsite and elsewhere. In one episode, for example, I produced two LCPs and emptied both into the head area of a silhouette target in a couple of seconds. We shot newly developed .380 ACP ammunition into ballistic gelatin, and in one noteworthy demonstration, shot up an older Ford pickup truck with DoubleTap's 90-grain bonded hollow-point load. To the astonishment of all present, it shot through the walls of the truck bed, and in another test, through the windshield and out the back wall of the cab. The load penetrated 11 to 12 inches in ballistic gelatin while expanding perfectly.

Still, the LCP and LCP II suffered from low capacity and really needed a better trigger and sights to keep up with the advances being made in concealed-carry pistols, and that brings us to the new LCP Max.

Using a double- to single-stack magazine design, the Max ships with a flush-fitting, 10-round magazine and a pinkie finger extension that's easily installed. Ruger offers 12-round extended magazines as well, and these can be purchased from shopruger.com. The pistol ships with the usual padlock, an excellent instruction manual, a magazine-loading tool that helps get the last two or three rounds into the magazine and a pocket holster that fits all the LCP versions.

The slide includes fore and aft cocking serrations, with the rear serrations having a couple of raised surfaces that give good purchase. The sights, set in dovetails, are the best yet on an LCP, the front sight being a green night sight with a white outline, and the rear a plain black U notch serrated in the rear and flat-faced in the front for one-handed racking if you're a fan of that sort of thing.

The magazine release is reversible following instructions in the manual. If you're familiar with the LCP, you'll find the takedown procedure is the same. Happily, pulling the trigger is not part of the procedure, and even happier, there is no magazine disconnect, nor is there a manual thumb safety.

Being wider, the LCP Max feels much better in the hand and that—in combination with what Ruger calls a recoil-reducing cam—makes the Max a lot more comfortable to shoot than the legacy LCP variants. The trigger pull on my sample averaged somewhere between 5.5 and 6 pounds and had a positive reset. I shoot these little blasters with my finger wrapped around the trigger up to the first joint

to get more purchase and to avoid my fingertip being bitten by the trigger-safety lever.

Because it's a pocket pistol and ammo is scarce, I did group testing at 7 yards, standing unsupported and fired three, five shot groups instead of the usual five. Results were good, particularly for such a small handgun.

I used a stunning Criminal Investigator Detective (CID)-type belt holster from Simply Rugged Holsters—a Surf and Turf style, so named because it's made from leather with an added shark skin overlay—to shoot the Gunsite school drill back to 15 yards and finished up with 25-yard body shots. The mini-Max proved 100 percent reliable during my testing with a variety of both defensive and ball ammunition.

The LCP Max is up to the task of protecting your hide if you can shoot up to the gun. I think Ruger has a winner here and is likely shaking the market to its foundations once again. Is this the final evolution of the LCP? Hard to say, as those clever folks at Ruger are sure to have more tricks up their sleeves.



SIGHTS

R3D

Night Sights

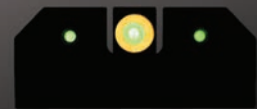
Available in Orange or Green

ORANGE

BRIGHT LIGHT



LOW LIGHT



GREEN

BRIGHT LIGHT



LOW LIGHT



xssights.com | 888-744-4880

Tisas 1911 Bantam Carry 45

Fans of the compact 1911 have another choice for concealed carry.

About the time of the 1911's 100th birthday, we were solidly in the age of the polymer pistol. A decade later, subcompact polymer-pistols chambered in 9 mm have become the most popular handguns for self-defense. Given that landscape, it might seem odd a company would invest in the production of a new line of



SPECIFICATIONS

Manufacturer: Tisas, Turkey
Importer: SDS Imports; (865) 604-6894, sdsimports.com
Action Type: Recoil-operated, semi-automatic
Caliber: .45 ACP
Capacity: 8+1 rounds
Frame: Machined aluminum
Slide: Hammer-forged steel
Barrel Length: 4.25 inches

Sights: Green fiber-optic pipe front; U-notch battlesight rear
Trigger Pull Weight: 4 pounds
Length: 7.88 inches
Width: 1.49 inches
Height: 5.4 inches
Weight: 25 ounces
Accessories: Hard case, two 8-round magazines, cleaning rod, bore brush, cleaning cloth and owner's manual.
MSRP: \$1,199.95

SHOOTING RESULTS

Load	Velocity	Smallest	Group Size Largest	Average
Barnes 185-grain TAC-XPD	1,017	1.44	2.14	1.60
Browning 230-grain FMJ	865	.91	1.29	1.05
Federal Punch 230-grain JHP	818	.81	1.37	1.12

Velocity measured in fps 10 feet from the muzzle for 10 consecutive shots with a Caldwell G2 chronograph. Temperature: 76 degrees Fahrenheit. Accuracy measured in inches for five consecutive, five-shot groups fired at 15 yards from a rest.

ON TARGET

Excellent fit and finish

OFF TARGET

Supplied magazines could be better

1911 handguns. The truth is, there's still a demand for the old warhorse, especially compact and lightweight variants in the original .45 ACP chambering.

SDS Imports, located in Knoxville, TN, recognized this, and by working with Tisas, a Turkish-based firearm manufacturer, set out to offer quality 1911s at affordable prices. Tisas was established in 1993 and has produced quite an array of handguns and infantry rifles. But, a 1911 was not part of its stable. SDS Imports changed that by sending American-trained engineers and skilled shooters to Tisas to guide the company through the manufacturing process. Now SDS Imports is bringing about a dozen variations of the 1911 into the country. They range in price from around \$400 to \$1,200. The latest model is the 1911 Bantam Carry 45.

In 1950, Colt introduced its Lightweight Commander, which was a 1911 with an aluminum frame and 4.25-inch barrel. It became one of the most revered carry guns of all time. The 1911 Bantam Carry 45 is SDS Imports' take on this iconic pistol. It's built around an aluminum frame, with a hammer-forged, Commander-length slide and barrel. But, unlike many modern renditions of this classic, this pistol has what are known as 70-series internals. This means the



With a flat-black face, the plain rear sight also has an edge to assist in charging the pistol, if needed • Highly visible, the green fiber-optic pipe in the front sight provides a sharp contrast • Nicely appointed with useful features, the Bantam Carry combines form and function • Light and crisp, the skeletonized trigger

Bantam Carry does not have the trigger-actuated, firing-pin safety, which is known for drastically inhibiting a quality trigger pull.

The Bantam Carry also has what has come to be known as a bobtail treatment, where the rear, bottom corner of the grip frame and mainspring housing are machined at an angle to enhance the feel of the grip and reduce the likelihood of printing. Additionally, the mainspring housing and frontstrap have skip-line fluting in place of checkering, and on the right side of the frame the slide-stop-pin hole is recessed. There's also four end-mill cuts just forward of the slide stop on both sides that can serve as a tactile indicator that your trigger finger is positioned on the frame and not the trigger.

The pistol's slide has a center relief area that's about a half-millimeter deep. Though I'm sure it minutely reduces weight, it is more of a cosmetic cutout that pairs well with the end-mill cut forward and aft slide serrations. The rear sight fits into a Novak-style dovetail and is a ledged, U-notch battlesight, with a serrated face, thankfully without those useless dots. It provides plenty of area for hooking the slide on a belt or boot for one-hand operation, and mates very well with the green fiber-optic front sight that's also dovetailed in place. To match the large relief area on the side of the slide, the top has machined relief cuts to give the slide a triangular appearance. There's also a serrated top rib behind and in front of the flared, lowered and scalloped ejection port.

The pistol is fitted with an ambidextrous safety, a commander-style hammer and an upswept, beavertail grip safety with a large memory pad. The entire pistol is finished in black Cerakote and comes with grey/black G10 grips with a deep indentation just to the rear of the magazine release. It's shipped in a black plastic case and comes with two nickel-plated, eight-round magazines, a cleaning cloth, cleaning rod, bore brush, gun lock and owner's manual.



allowed for precise shooting • Two 8-round magazines are included, but might warrant replacement with superior models • Generous and sculpted, the grip safety and high beavertail functioned as expected • Fluted to cut weight, the barrel contributes to aesthetics • To reduce printing, the rear of the grip wears a bobtail cut.

I would have preferred thinner grips, but the pistol felt amazingly good in the hand, no doubt due to the bobtail feature. I found the skip-line fluting more comfortable, but just as effective as, checkering. Spend a week at a defensive-handgun course with a sharply checkered 1911, and you'll have tape on your hands by day four. Not with this pistol, as after 350 rounds there was no hand tenderness. The ambidextrous safety operated with what I would call just the right pressure and though I would not rate it as exceptional—there was a minute amount of creep—the trigger was nice and broke at a manageable 4 pounds.

What impressed me the most, was the fit and finish. The Cerakoting was executed impeccably. The slide-to-frame and barrel fit was as good as I've seen on some custom 1911s, but the barrel bushing could be rotated without the aid of a bushing wrench. And, there were no sharp edges; the Bantam Carry felt similar to a once-used bar of soap. It was also plenty accurate for defensive-handgun work, even at extended ranges. More importantly, when run on the Forty-Five Drill—five shots at 5 yards, at a 5-inch circle in less than five seconds from concealment—I was able to score an average time of 4.42 seconds, with only two out of 25 shots outside the 5-inch circle in five attempts. That's not bad for a 25-ounce .45 ACP running 230-grain ammo.

There were no malfunctions during the firing of 350 rounds, and I only experienced two negative issues. Three times during rapid fire, my support-hand thumb contacted and engaged the slide stop. A slight dimpling where the slide stop faces the plunger might be in order. But, in all fairness, this is an issue I've experienced with a number of 1911s from several manufacturers and is partly due to the way I grip semi-automatic handguns. Also, when fully loaded with eight rounds, both of the CheckMate magazines supplied with the pistol were hard to seat. This was not an issue with several other, higher-quality magazines I had on hand.

The 1911 Bantam Carry 45 is well-configured for concealed carry. It's accurate, reliable, lightweight, smooth to operate and comfortable to shoot. It's also quite competitively priced. Word has it, that by the time you read this a 9 mm version will be available, too. If this is any indication of what's to come from Turkey and SDS Imports, American 1911 manufacturers better take note. 🌀



Biden Abandons David Chipman

LATEST
LEGISLATIVE
NEWS FROM
INSIDE THE NRA
INSTITUTE FOR
LEGISLATIVE
ACTION

When Joe Biden withdrew anti-gun lobbyist David Chipman as his nominee to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in September, it ended one of the most-blatant attempts to politicize what is supposed to be a nonpartisan law-enforcement agency. And while Chipman's confirmation seemed likely at the outset—an obvious reward to the anti-gun extremists that funneled millions into Biden's campaign—NRA was going to fight it every step of the way.

Of course, this was a nomination that never should have been made. Placing an avowed opponent to the rights of law-abiding gun owners at the helm of the federal agency charged with enforcing our nation's gun laws was the proverbial fox guarding the hen house.

Columnist Paul Bedard, writing a postmortem for the Chipman debacle that ran in the *Washington Examiner*, noted that, initially, "it looked like the Senate Democrats would steamroll the GOP with votes to spare." He added, "The early count was 55 votes for Chipman, according to insiders."

But NRA put a great deal of effort into ensuring Chipman's nomination failed, setting

aside \$3 million to spend on television ads, digital ads, mailings and phone calls. We targeted 12 states, focusing on educating our members and others who support the Second Amendment to the danger of Chipman as ATF Director, and urging those who shared our concern to contact their senators—both Democrats and Republicans—to voice their opposition to the nominee.

NRA-ILA executive director Jason Ouimet told Bedard, "I've been (at NRA) 17 years. We've never done anything in the issue-advocacy space of this magnitude since I've been here—a comprehensive approach that had to be sustained for months."

And those efforts paid off.

Bedard called the Chipman failure an "embarrassing defeat" for Biden in his article that hailed "NRA victory over Biden's ATF pick its biggest in a decade."

Of course, Joe Biden is still president, and Congress is still led by anti-gun extremists, so while this particular battle may be over, many more battles are ahead. For now, however, we can be thankful for this particular outcome, and we appreciate everything those in the pro-gun community did to help make this possible, especially our dedicated members.

NRA-ILA

ILA Grassroots:
(800) 392-8683

NRA-ILA: (703) 267-1170

NRA-ILA website: nraila.org

IN MEMORY NRA-ILA CONTRIBUTIONS

August 1-31, 2021

Harold K. Small, Lake Stevens, WA (from: Ronald Moen); **Walter K. Priester**, Davenport, IA (from: Jeff & Jan West); **Jack Tesch**, Christmas, MI (from: Sharon Tesch); **John S. Lind**, Bismarck, ND (from: Thomas & Karen Lind); **Ray A. Wiebe**, Gilcrest, CO (from: Arnold Wiebe); **Jim Belak**, Fremont, NE (from: Elkhorn Valley Rifle Club); **John Kirkpatrick**, Modesto, CA (from: Modesto Rifle Club); **Richard DuFour**, Modesto, CA (from: Modesto Rifle Club).

AP Images photo by Graeme Sloan/Sipa USA

ATF Proposed Rule Would Upend Firearm Industry And Cripple Hobbyists

On May 21, ATF published a new proposed rule in the Federal Register entitled *Definition of "Frame or Receiver" and Identification of Firearms*.

In part, the Biden Justice Department, through the ATF, is seeking to destroy law-abiding Americans' ability to make their own firearms for personal use by restricting access to popular items hobbyists and gun-rights enthusiasts use to exercise this right. Americans have enjoyed the right to make firearms for personal use since before the Revolution.

The proposed rule would also create new definitions for the terms "firearm frame or receiver," "frame or receiver," "firearm," "gunsmith," "complete weapon," "complete muffler or silencer device," "privately made firearm," and "readily." The new definitions would make it possible for firearms to have more than one "frame or receiver." This conclusion is at odds with the controlling federal statute and could disrupt the entire firearm industry.

In addition to these changes, ATF is seeking to create an entirely new process for licensed firearm dealers to apply serial numbers to unserialized firearms that come into their possession and to require the indefinite storage of firearm records by licensees. This requirement has no basis in federal statute.

You can read NRA's comments on this terrible rule at shared.nrapvf.org/sharedmedia/1511453/nra-comments-on-atf-2021r-05.pdf.

ATF Suggests Reclassifying Pistols With Stabilizing Braces

On June 10, ATF published a new proposed rule in the Federal Register entitled *Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached "Stabilizing Braces"*.

The rule seems aimed at making nearly all configurations of firearms equipped with stabilizing braces subject to the taxation and registration requirements of the National Firearms Act.

Since 2012, ATF has recognized that stabilizing braces serve a legitimate function and the inclusion of a stabilizing brace on a pistol or other firearm does not automatically subject that firearm to the provisions of the NFA. That's because stabilizing braces were first designed and intended to help disabled veterans fire large-format pistols.

While ATF estimates that there are approximately three million pistol stabilizing braces, even other portions of the United States government recognize that this is a vast undercounting of the number of pistol braces currently in circulation. A report by the Congressional Research Service puts the estimate much higher, at 10 to 40 million pistol stabilizing braces. With so many in circulation, effectively banning firearms with these devices attached would be the largest confiscatory firearm regulation in the history of the United States.

You can read NRA's comments on this terrible proposed rule at shared.nrapvf.org/sharedmedia/1511469/nra-comments-on-atf2021r-08.pdf. 📄

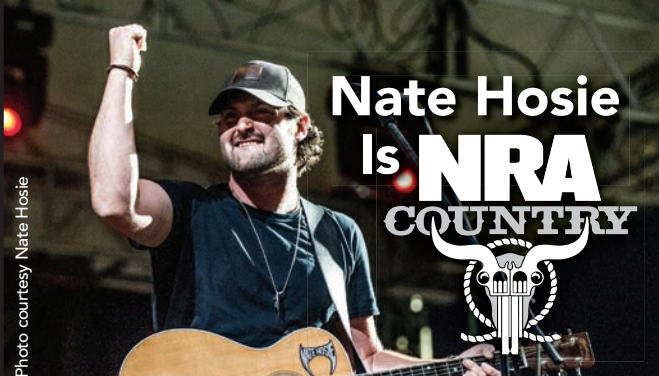


Photo courtesy Nate Hosie

NRA Country prides itself in working with authentic people who love the outdoors, believe in the 2nd Amendment and make good music reflecting their passions. Anyone who has met country artist and outdoors expert Nate Hosie knows he epitomizes these values. When not on stage, you can find Hosie hunting turkey or hosting HeadHunters TV on the Outdoor Channel. NRA Country's Lisa Supernaugh caught Hosie between hunts to ask him a few questions.

LS: You've shared the stage with many country artists. Do you have any favorite memories?

NH: I've been blessed to play some awesome shows with some amazing artists. One memory that stands out was during a show with LoCash and Granger Smith at the Great American Outdoor Show. We did a military/law enforcement tribute during "The America I Know" and lined the stage with American flags. I watched the whole arena light up their phones, and it gave me chills!

LS: You've taken a number of celebrities hunting. Have any good stories?

NH: I have shared the woods with some awesome artists who are also great hunters. One of my favorite hunts was with Rhett Akins. We had been getting beat up by this turkey out on some of Rhett's dirt in Tennessee. We slipped in early one morning as the sun came up, the long beard started gobbling. We hit him with a few tree yelps then let him do his thing. He had a pile of hens, and we had set out a strutting decoy. We yelped soft every now and then. Finally, his hens started pulling our way, and he followed. He about ran us over, and Rhett smoked him. We were pumped from an awesome hunt! The coolest part is that we wrote a song together about that hunt a few months later called "Struttin'" that is featured on "The Woods" Volume 1 and is one my favorite songs I've done.

LS: You're incredibly patriotic and not afraid to show it. What makes you so proud of our country?

NH: I love the USA with my whole heart and soul. I give thanks to God everyday that I live in America. Thanks to our brave service men and women, law enforcement, firefighters, doctors, nurses, first responders and all who sacrifice so much so that we can live safe and free. I just released a new song called "Stand" dedicated to our flag and all of the brave men and women of the USA. The USA is the greatest country in the world filled with so much good.

LS: What can we expect from Nate Hosie, the music artist?

NH: I've been working on "The Woods" Volume 3 and writing some mainstream-style music as well. "The Woods" project has been so much fun. It's all songs dedicated to men and women who love this country, hunting and the outdoors.

Be sure to follow Nate Hosie and HeadHunters TV on all social media platforms to learn more about the country star and stay informed.

NRA Country is a lifestyle and a bond between the country music community and hard-working Americans everywhere. It's powered by pride, freedom, love of country, respect for the military, and the responsibilities of protecting the great American life. Visit nracountry.com and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

NRA® Online Regional Report

To search for events in your area, go to

nrapublications.org/regional-report

Visit the links below to find gun shows, programs, clubs, events and training in your area.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

le.nra.org

Public and private officers interested in becoming law enforcement firearm instructors should attend one of NRA's Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor Development Schools. NRA Police Pistol Combat competition is intended to be used as an extension of an officer's training.



GUN SHOWS

gunshows.nra.org

Dates and locations of gun shows are subject to change. Please contact the show before traveling. Discounted NRA memberships are sold through NRA recruiters. Some shows may offer free admission to people who sign up for new memberships or renewals. To become an NRA Recruiter contact NRA Recruiting Programs at recruiter@nrahq.org.



AREA SHOOTS

ssusa.org/coming-events

For more information, send an email to Shelly Kramer at mkramer@nrahq.org or call (703) 267-1459.



FRIENDS OF NRA

friendsofnra.org

Friends of NRA events celebrate American values with fun, fellowship and fundraising for The NRA Foundation. To learn more about events in your area, visit friendsofnra.org, contact your local field representative or send an email to friends@nrahq.org.



TRAINING

refuse.nra.org | nrainstructors.org

The NRA's Refuse To Be A Victim® program provides information on crime prevention and personal safety. To learn more about the program, visit refuse.nra.org. The most up-to-date seminar and instructor training schedule is available on the Internet by visiting nrainstructors.org, or online training is available at nraonlinetraining.org. Questions? Email to refuse@nrahq.org or by calling (800) 861-1166.



STATE ASSOCIATIONS

stateassociations.nra.org

Joining NRA-affiliated state associations supports NRA's mission in your state. See clubs.nra.org for more information.

Member Information & Benefits

NRA.ORG

**MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT
INFORMATION: (877) 672-2000
NRA Headquarters: (703) 267-1000**

MEMBER SERVICE (877) 672-2000

NRASTORE.COM (888) 607-6007

5-STAR MEMBER BENEFITS

NRA Wine Club (800) 331-9754

ManageYOURiD (888) 759-7866

Medical Concierge Network (800) 352-6094

Global Rescue (800) 381-9754

NRA Travel Center NRA.HotelPlanner.com

INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Grassroots/Legislative Hotline (800) 392-8683

**OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT/
GIFT PLANNING** (877) NRA-GIVE

THE NRA FOUNDATION (800) 423-6894

**NRA INSTRUCTOR/
COACH FIREARM TRAINING** (703) 267-1500

EDDIE EAGLE GUNSAFE PROGRAM (800) 231-0752

REFUSE TO BE A VICTIM (800) 861-1166

RECREATIONAL SHOOTING (800) 672-7435

NRA AFFILIATED CLUBS (800) 672-2582

RANGE SERVICES (877) 672-7264

COMPETITIVE SHOOTING (877) 672-6282

LAW ENFORCEMENT (703) 267-1640

FRIENDS OF NRA (703) 267-1342

**NRA MUSEUMS/
GUN COLLECTOR PROGRAMS** (703) 267-1600

SHOWS & EXHIBITS (877) 672-7632

MEDIA RELATIONS (703) 267-1595

HUNTER SERVICES (844) 672-6883

The "NRA Regional Report," a service for NRA members, is an up-to-date listing of NRA conducted and/or sponsored events scheduled in your region for the current month. Call to verify event dates and locations before traveling.

2022 NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS

MAY 20-22 • LOUISVILLE, KY

For hotel accommodations at the
NRA Annual Meetings, visit nraam.org.





By Joseph P.
DeBergalis, Jr.
Executive Director,
General Operations



competitions.nra.org



ssusa.org



Joining NRA-affiliated state
associations supports NRA's
mission in your state.

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

GO VISIT

stateassociations.nra.org

National Matches At Camp Atterbury

In July, Indiana First Lady Janet Holcomb kicked off the 2021 NRA National Matches at Camp Atterbury, which is the new home of the NRA National Championships for Precision Pistol, Smallbore Rifle and High Power Rifle. An active Indiana National Guard training facility, Camp Atterbury is located about 37 miles south of Indianapolis, near Edinburgh, Ind.

Carrying on the great tradition of the National Matches, the NRA, in partnership with the Indiana National Guard and the state of Indiana, has built a new 200-point covered combined range at Camp Atterbury to accommodate pistol and smallbore rifle shooters.

At the new range this summer, NRA Second Vice President Willes Lee, NRA Director of Competitive Shooting Cole McCulloch and Indiana State Rifle and Pistol Association President Charlie Hiltunen joined the first lady to begin the festivities at Camp Atterbury. You couldn't have asked for a better way for the matches to commence.

I want to thank the Indiana State Rifle and Pistol Association, which was a key partner for NRA in launching the first National Matches at Camp Atterbury. Working with them, in the future we plan to augment the NRA National Matches with additional events to create a summer-long festival of shooting.

I also want to acknowledge and highlight this year's law enforcement, military service and veteran award winners.

- **Smallbore Conventional Prone, High Military Veteran:** William Neff (Parsippany, N.J.)
- **Smallbore 3-Position, High Military Veteran:** William Beard (Danville, Ind.)
- **Smallbore Conventional F-Class, High Military Veteran:** Randy Herrmann (Kingsport, Tenn.)
- **Precision Pistol, Police Champion:** Steven Pardieck (Indianapolis, Ind.)
- **Precision Pistol, National Guard Champion:** 2LT Lisa Emmert (Houghton, Mich.)
- **Precision Pistol, Army Reserve Champion:** SPC Jason Gregoire (Columbia, Tenn.)

- **Precision Pistol, Service Champion:** SFC Greg Markowski (Columbus, Ga.)
- **Precision Pistol, Military Veteran Champion:** Jonathan Shue (Stafford, Va.)
- **High Power Service Rifle, High Police:** Jeffrey Clark (Davie, Fla.)
- **High Power Service Rifle, High Regular Service:** SSG Erin McNeil (Fort Wayne, Ind.)
- **High Power Service Rifle, High National Guard:** SSG Amanda Elsenboss (Harleysville, Pa.)
- **High Power Service Rifle, High Veteran:** Daniel Duitsman (Fredericksburg, Va.)
- **High Power Service Rifle, High Reserve:** COL Christopher Baer (Fort Leavenworth, Kan.)
- **High Power Match Rifle, High Police:** A.S. Young (Columbia, Mo.)
- **High Power Match Rifle, High Veteran:** Hugo Adelson (Breinigsville, Pa.)
- **Mid-Range Rifle, High Service (Coast Guard):** PO2 Matthew Pascual (Sunnyside, N.Y.)
- **Mid-Range Rifle, High Veteran:** John Wilson (Ankeny, Iowa)
- **High Power Long-Range, High Marine:** CWO Jerry McDonough (Stafford, Va.)
- **High Power Long-Range, High Veteran:** Curtis Bohlman (Luther, Ok.)

To read more coverage of the 2021 NRA National Matches, visit the Shooting Sports USA website at ssusa.org.

In addition, be on the lookout for a special digital publication highlighting the debut of the NRA National Matches at Camp Atterbury. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

Finally, a big thank you to all of the volunteers and match officials that made the 2021 NRA National Matches a reality. The hardworking staff forms the backbone of any NRA event, and, once again, our tireless members stepped up to the plate. We look forward to seeing you all again next year at Camp Atterbury.

2021 NRA BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The following members have been elected Directors of the NRA for three-year terms ending in 2024:

Ronnie Barrett	73,223
Carrie Lightfoot	72,419
Wayne Anthony Ross	72,122
Carolyn Dodgen Meadows	70,192
Edie P. Fleeman	68,984
Owen Buz Mills	68,627
Jim Tomes	67,456
Don Saba	67,368
Bill Miller	66,519
Maria Heil	65,809
Donald J. Bradway	64,759
Robert J. Wos	64,717
William Bachenberg	64,669
Scott L. Bach	63,904
Kim Rhode	63,738
Craig Swartz	63,385
Joel Friedman	63,357
John C. Sigler	63,333
Janet D. Nyce	63,299
Niger Roy Innis	62,492
David G. Coy	62,247
John L. Cushman	62,049
David A. Keene	61,851
James L. Wallace	60,048
Dean Cain	57,058

and for a one-year term ending in 2022:

Anthony P. Colandro	56,687
Antonio A. Hernández	55,132
James Chapman	52,801

Please note that because all candidates on the mail ballot were elected, there was no 76th Director election at the Annual Meetings.

NRA Funds For Ranges

The NRA has been America's firearm safety, education and training leader and No. 1 defender of the Second Amendment for 150 years, but did you know it also is the nation's linchpin in shooting-range development? Powered by your membership dollars, the NRA is America's authority in helping states not only to build more shooting ranges, but also in helping communities secure the funding to do so.

For starters, NRA Range Services offers the *NRA Range Source Book*, a 27-chapter manual providing guidance in the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of shooting ranges. It also provides onsite assistance and educational seminars to range developers and operators and lists all NRA-affiliated ranges on an online list of places to shoot, helping ranges to draw new members and clientele. (rangeservices.nra.org)

Through NRA Range Services and The NRA Foundation, the NRA provides its own stimulus for shooting-range development through matching grants. Established in 2009, its Public Range Fund (PRF) is a grant-matching program that encourages local governments and state and federal agencies to work with the NRA to build and improve public ranges while addressing environmental issues related to range operations. Half the project costs are provided by the applicant and can include in-kind services such as labor and materials; the other half is provided by the fund.

There's more. In May 2019, President Donald J. Trump signed into law H.R. 1222, the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support (TPMTS) Act. NRA-ILA drafted the bill, which amends the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, known as the Pittman-Robertson (P-R) Act, "to facilitate

the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain states." The changes provide financial incentives to state wildlife management agencies to build, expand and improve shooting ranges by lowering the required "matching share" from 25 to 10 percent. It also increases the time grant funds remain available from two to five years.

But there's even more. Seizing on the TPMTS opportunity to access increased P-R funds, in 2020, the NRA stepped up to help form the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (AFWA) Range Working Group. Representatives from the NRA, Archery Trade Association, USA Clay Target League, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and several state agencies rolled up their sleeves to help state agencies begin building more ranges. While sportsmen are aware P-R funds have been used for land and habitat acquisition, wildlife management and hunter education since 1937, less known is the fact that these funds may be used for target-shooting opportunities.

As reported by the NRA Hunters' Leadership Forum website, NRAHLF.org, with the P-R excise tax imposed on all firearms and ammunition, more than 75 percent of P-R funds now come from shooters who may not hunt. Providing more ranges through the TPMTS demonstrates support of both wildlife conservation and public shooting opportunities. P-R funds have supported the construction, operation and maintenance of more than 600 public ranges nationwide.

Considering the NRA's significant investment in safe, structured shooting range facilities, why not let the NRA help your community to plan its range? Range development, training and shooting opportunities got a nice boost through the TPMTS, but shooters and their state agencies must act to benefit. 🌀

NRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe M. Allbaugh, Oklahoma; **Thomas P. Arvas**, New Mexico; **Paul D. Babaz**, Georgia; **Scott L. Bach**, New Jersey; **William A. Bachenberg**, Pennsylvania; **Bob Barr**, Georgia; **Ronnie G. Barrett**, Tennessee; **Ciel Baudler**, Iowa; **J. Kenneth Blackwell**, Ohio; **Matt Blunt**, Virginia; **Donald J. Bradway**, Idaho; **Dave Butz**, Illinois; **Dean Cain**, California; **J. William Carter**, Kentucky; **Ted W. Carter**, Florida; **James Chapman**, California; **Patricia A. Clark**, Connecticut; **Anthony P. Colandro**, New Jersey; **Allan D. Cors**, Florida; **Charles L. Cotton**, Texas; **David G. Coy**, Michigan; **Larry E. Craig**, Idaho; **John L. Cushman**, New York; **Todd R. Ellis**, Pennsylvania; **Richard S. Figueroa**, Texas; **Edie P. Fleeman**, North Carolina; **Carol Frampton**, South Carolina; **Joel Friedman**, Nevada; **Sandra S. Froman**, Arizona; **Mark Geist**, Colorado; **Marion P. Hammer**, Florida; **Maria Heil**, Pennsylvania; **Antonio Hernández**, Puerto Rico; **Graham Hill**, Virginia; **Niger Innis**, Nevada; **Curtis S. Jenkins**, Georgia; **Phillip B. Journey**, Kansas; **David A. Keene**, Maryland; **Tom King**, New York; **Herbert A. Lanford, Jr.**, South Carolina; **Willes K. Lee**, Virginia; **Carrie Lightfoot**, Arizona; **Karl A. Malone**, Louisiana; **Robert E. Mansell**, Arizona; **Carolyn D. Meadows**, Georgia; **Bill Miller**, West Virginia; **Owen Buz Mills**, Arizona; **John L. North**, Virginia; **Johnny Nugent**, Indiana; **Janet D. Nyce**, Pennsylvania; **James W. Porter II**, Alabama; **Jay Printz**, Montana; **Todd J. Rathner**, Arizona; **Kim Rhode**, California; **Mark Robinson**, North Carolina; **Wayne Anthony Ross**, Alaska; **Carl T. Rowan, Jr.**, Washington, D.C.; **Barbara Rumpel**, Florida; **Don Saba**, Arizona; **Ronald L. Schmeits**, New Mexico; **Steven C. Schreiner**, Colorado; **John C. Sigler**, Delaware; **Leroy Sisco**, Texas; **Bart Skelton**, New Mexico; **Craig Swartz**, Iowa; **Jim Tomes**, Indiana; **Dwight D. Van Horn**, Idaho; **Mark E. Vaughan**, Oklahoma; **Blaine Wade**, Tennessee; **Linda L. Walker**, Ohio; **James L. Wallace**, Massachusetts; **Howard J. Walter**, North Carolina; **Judi White**, Arizona; **Robert J. Wos**, Florida; **Donald E. Young**, Alaska

Communications intended for any member of the NRA Board of Directors should be addressed to: (Name of Board member), NRA Office of the Secretary, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030; or nrabod@nrahq.org; or (703) 267-1021. Please include your name, contact information and NRA membership I.D. number, as only communications from NRA members will be forwarded.

BURN SAFELY*with the Portable DR® BurnCage™*

- Stainless steel design
- Light, durable, portable, folds flat for storage
- Traps embers & burns more thoroughly

**DRburncage.com****SALE!**

Plus
FREE
SHIPPING
Limitations apply.

FREE Catalog!
Call Toll-Free
888-590-7090



Zerust®

Protecting your precious firearms

**DON'T MISS OUT ON
THIS EXCLUSIVE DEAL**

20% OFF

WITH CODE: **ZERUST20****www.Zerustproducts.com**

MATCH GRADE AR BARRELS

**SUPERIOR ACCURACY,
RELIABILITY, & LONGEVITY**

Available in over 20 calibers!
Order yours today at
www.shopwilsoncombat.com

**SPECIALTY SAVINGS****HOTEL DISCOUNTS**

NRA Travel Center powered by HotelPlanner: NRA Members have access to over 600,000 lodging options Worldwide with a savings of up to 65%. **www.NRATravelCenter.com**

Worldwide Trophy Adventures: Find the outdoor adventure of a lifetime. **1-833-HUNT-NRA NRAWTA.COM**

NRA Wine Club: 1-800-331-5578

www.NRAWineClub.com

Black Rifle Coffee Company:

1-385-262-7184 **NRACoffeeClub.com**

Patriot Mobile: 1-877-899-6672

www.PatriotMobile.com/NRABlaze TV: **Blazetv.com/NRA**PenFed Credit Union: **Penfed.org/flag**

NRA Cigar Club: 703-666-9171

nracigarclub.com

For a complete list of
Members Only Savings, go to benefits.nra.org

Never lose electricity again!



**Own the #1 brand in
home standby power.**

**8 out of 10 buyers choose
Generac Home Standby
Generators** to automatically
provide electricity to their homes
during power outages. GENERAC
Home Standby Generators start at
just \$1,999.*

**CALL for FREE Generator
Buyer's Guide and get...**

Limited Time BONUS OFFER!

GENERAC®



*Price does not include installation.

TOLL FREE 877-200-6624
FreeGeneratorGuide.com

Follow Us Online    

SHOOTING

Illustrated.com

The Definitive Source for the Modern Shooter

GUNS & AMMO IN STOCK
NRA MEMBER EXCLUSIVES
HUGE SELECTION
GREAT PRICES
HASSLE-FREE FINANCING
(469) 322-0295
G4GGUNS.COM/NRA



SAFES4GUNS.COM

We Will Pick Up & Deliver
ANY Size/Weight Gun Safe
From ANY Store ANYWHERE
\$99 Garage / \$150 In-Home*

OLD WESTERN SCROUNGER
Great milsurp & hard-to-find
ammunition!

www.ows-ammo.com

The Question

A gunwriter is expected to have all the answers.

I got the question again this week. I live in a small town and a good number of folks know that I contribute to NRA Publications. To many, this means I am an authority of sorts and they would like to ask me about gun stuff. I make no claim on so-called “authority” status, but I have been working as a writer in various firearm publications for 36 years. For me, a deep interest in guns in general began when I was still in single digits, age-wise. So, I don’t mind answering a gun question when I can. You meet a lot of good people in these conversations.

Other than “How did you get the job?” the most frequently asked question is “Exactly what’s the best gun for ... ? In these troubled times, you can fill in that blank with home-defense. People are genuinely troubled about personal safety—even in their homes—where locks and lights once almost guaranteed security. It was just this past week that I got the Question from a friend who was born abroad and was a little puzzled about American customs and laws. I first asked a few questions about a gun for concealed carry, which would limit his choices to a compact handgun. He was not interested in this class of firearm; he wanted a gun to be used to defend his home.

This widens the field of consideration. The major characteristic of any defensive firearm is the ability to get the job done quickly. By this yardstick, almost any centerfire rifle and most shotguns, as well as semi-automatic pistols and revolvers greater than .32 caliber, will get it done. Although we commonly respond with “handgun” when someone says “defense,” there is no need to rule out guns of greater size when there is no need to conceal them. In your own home, there is no need to hide the defensive gun, so anything of decisive power that can be safely stored will work. There are some common-sense factors involved in doing this. Particular care is important when choosing a safe place to store the gun.

The distance at which you might likely have to shoot is a factor. As an example, consider a scoped bolt-action rifle chambered in .300 Win. Mag. The long barrel, scope and caliber optimize the rifle for very long-range shooting and penetration on impact. That is way more than you need for

home defense. For an article of several years past, I once measured the distance of every possible shot that might be taken inside a medium-size, three-bedroom house. By actual measurement, that distance was approximately 12 yards. Some folks might be fortunate enough to have bigger digs, but this is a sensible working figure. A rifle that can deliver an effective shot across my living room (like that .300) can also deliver one across the town in which I live. Choosing such an arm is ill advised—too much gun.

Logically, choosing a handgun for the home-defense role is understandable. If you are not going to carry concealed, there are plenty of pistols with generous capacity and revolvers in large calibers. Some careful shopping will show you a huge variety of sizes, calibers and systems. Also, there are numerous makers that offer special, small safes that securely store any handgun.

For quite a few years, this has been my personal favorite field of interest. It is a fascinating subject, but the original question was the best gun for home defense. This is not—in my opinion—the very best. A shotgun is.

Many shotguns will do, but the best of breed is a quality 12-gauge pump with an 18-inch barrel. Currently, that is the Remington 870 or Mossberg 500. At our standard 12 yards, one of these guns will put eight or nine .33-caliber lead balls into a group the size of a dinner plate and often smaller. Each of those pellets—size 00 buckshot—will be moving at around 1,100 fps. Shotguns usually command a great deal of respect, but there are several persistent misconceptions surrounding both the scattergun gun and its ammunition.

Most importantly, it will not guarantee a hit. If your target is inside our 12-yard limit, the group will likely be around 10 inches or less. Unless the gun is carefully aimed, you can easily miss completely. But, if you get your group on the center of mass of a criminal attacker, he or she will almost certainly stop.

Although sporting use of a shotgun involves getting only a few hits of small pellets in a large area, defensive use seeks to get 100 percent of your pellets on a small point. This is why the home-defense shotgun, in its most refined form, has some of the features of a rifle—sights and stocks.

I firmly believe that a shotgun is the best possible gun for home defense, but only in the hands of a gun-wise shooter who has taken the time to get a proper gun and learn its manual of arms. Ideally, a course is a good idea.

And I hang onto the belief that the scattergun rules as home-defense fightin’ iron. 🦅





SINCE 2000 GOLD IS UP 518% AND SILVER IS UP 351% (as of 9/8/21)

HOLD HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS TYPE 1 & 2 SILVER EAGLE SET

FIRST AND LAST YEAR OF ISSUE ARE POPULAR AMONG COLLECTORS

2021 \$1 American Silver Eagle Transitional Set
NGC CERTIFIED MS70
PERFECT CONDITION

As low as
Only \$119 Great Gift Idea!

check / wire price • Limit 1 per household

Due to high demand order now!

- ★ 1oz .999 Fine Silver Each
- ★ Coins Guaranteed & Backed by the U.S. Government
- ★ The Most Popular Silver Coin in the World
- ★ Obverse features Lady Liberty draped in the American Flag

**MS69 SETS CURRENTLY
AVAILABLE FOR \$89**

**First
Time
Offered**



NGC CERTIFIED The Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) is a leading grading and authentication service. The label design may vary.

EXPERT GRADED Collectible coins are graded on a universal 70-point scale, with Mint State 70 (MS70) considered perfect by experts. Each coin in these 2021 American Eagle sets have been certified and graded by NGC and selected for this special limited offer by rare coin expert & 1st American® Numismatic Consultant, Dr. Mike Fuljenz.

2021 ANA Dealer of the Year



2021 GOLD & SILVER EAGLES FIRST YEAR OF ISSUE - NEW REVERSE DESIGN!

2021 \$5 American Gold Eagle Type 2

As low as
Only \$212

check / wire price • limit 1 per household

- ★ 1/10oz Fine Gold
- ★ Brilliant Uncirculated

★ IRA APPROVED ★

FREE SHIPPING On Advertised Offers Using Vault Code **\$9 VALUE**

2021 \$1 American Silver Eagle Type 2

As low as
Only \$30⁰⁰

check / wire price • limit 3 per household

- ★ 1oz .999 Fine Silver
- ★ Brilliant Uncirculated

★ IRA APPROVED ★



**First
Time
Offered**



ASK HOW TO ROLL OVER YOUR IRA or 401K to a Gold IRA TODAY!

Special NRA Member Offers **CLICK HERE**



Beaumont, TX

Follow us



THE EXCLUSIVE PRECIOUS METALS & RARE COIN EXPERT OF **NRA'S SHOOTING ILLUSTRATED**



Call
24/7

1.888.324.2646

Vault Code: **ASHILGS1121W**
Offer Expires: 11/20/21



NRA Business Alliance
The Business of Freedom.



BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED (BU) coins typically come from the Mint with bag marks and sometimes toning. Prices and premiums are subject to change in response to market conditions, and availability is not guaranteed. Please read important customer disclosures on our website or that accompany products purchased, including arbitration agreement. Sales tax may be added depending upon purchaser's current state sales tax laws. Please allow up to 30 business days for delivery after payment is received. Coin images are for representation and are not to scale. **Gold Basis: \$1,794 • Silver Basis: \$23.78 NO DEALERS PLEASE**

HOME SWEET HOME DELIVERY



We didn't invent the silencer. But we sure did reinvent the process of buying one. At Silencer Central, our simplified process is smarter, easier, and ensures you get the silencer you need delivered right to your front door.



**SILENCER
CENTRAL.**

Silence Delivered®

SilencerCentral.com : 888-781-8778