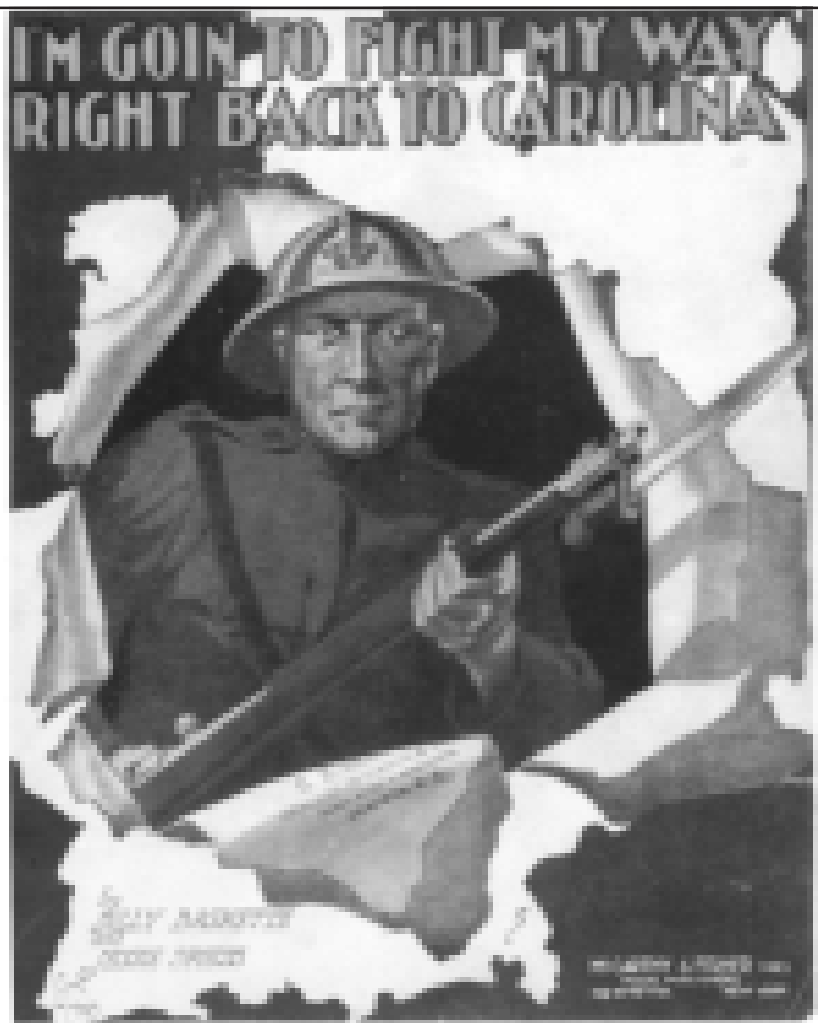




Arms Collectors Journal

Northeast Edition



Third Reich Collectables

By David Petronis

When I first wrote this, my article started with, *It's been almost forty-three years since the end of the reign of the Nazi party in Germany.* I think I may be dating myself. Several days ago, Cathy and I watched *Last Days of World War Two* on the History Channel, which ran a program on the invasion of Okinawa. The announcer stated, "On April First, sixty years ago today ..." Has it really been that long? We looked at each other and asked that silent rhetorical question, "Where has the time gone?"

Then, even the History Channel was only a glean in someone's eye. The march of time certainly seems to be picking up a quicker rhythm. A good many people who lived and fought through that era are themselves now gone. The others have mostly forgotten the horrors of war or only reminisce about a few good times. The Nazis are gone, some old and feeble warrior occasionally make the headlines for misdeeds perpetrated a lifetime ago, but the legacy of their trappings will live on through the ages, perhaps gathering dust in attics until one of today's military collectors liberates them once again as was done by some G.I. far away and long ago.

As for the politics of the National Socialist Party in Germany during the 1930's, you would have to say they were somewhat lacking in value. But for the myriad of service awards, medals of merit or combat, distinctive insignia, flags, banners and dress, they had the most and they made the best. While the U.S. serviceman was crawling

along horse drawn caissons and topped in WWI Tommy helmets, the German fighting man was training in Spain in his model 1935 full protection helmet alongside a modern tank armed with the best Mauser rifle. They were in camo gear, tropical suits and snow gear before we had enough shoes for the home guard. The German Army with its advanced equipment and military skills did not lose

the war by its' own ineptitude. Their Commander-in-Chief can take full responsibility.

Politics and tactics aside, there is a definite downright awe, or fascination with the regalia of the Nazi era. Viewing the full dress uniform of an SS Major or Colonel or General in its full bloom with black visor hat, high boots and bright red arm band one has to view it in awe. Maybe it's a feeling
(continued on page 3)

Best of Shot Show

By Ed Noonan

As a hunter and shooter for more than four decades wandering the aisles of this year's Shot Show in Las Vegas last month and being able to handle literally hundreds of firearms is always enjoyable "work." But choosing the just ten for my "Best of Show" list was very difficult. Here are my choices for those that I would like to see in my gun cabinet this year.

From Savage/Stevens Arms come two of my top choices for best buys without sacrificing quality. The first is the new 6.5 pound bolt-action Stevens Model 200 series. Available in both long and short actions they feature a gray synthetic stock, blued button-rifled 22 inch barrel, pillar bedding system, standard trigger and the receiver is drilled and tapped for scope mounting. There are 10 short
(continued on page 2)

Sheet Music of The First World War

By Don Fangboner

This article should be entitled "History of the American participation in WWI and social reflections of the change of the world through WWI Sheet Music."

Every Nuance of spirit both for and against the war was reflected by the art and the words for WWI sheet music. Titles like, "Over There," music and words by George M. Cohan, are classics. However, one of the covers for that title is one American Illustrators classic art attempt. Norman Rockwell's cover for "Over There" has been on the rise both price wise and in popu-

larity for some years now. There is another called, "Tell That To the Marines," cover work by James Montgomery Flagg. J. M. Flagg was a prolific illustrator; he produced for books, song sheets and period posters.

Moving into the social area of the Sheet Music field, the First World War, as we know, changed the social structure of all the countries that participated. Besides the wiping out of an entire generation of youth from England, France and Germany, WWI also dealt aristocracy and royalty a deadly blow. It also gave birth to the "lost generation." As
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"Assault Weapons" Ban Still in Effect for NY and some other States ...The Issue Explained ... Page 7



Questions about pre-1898 firearms for our specialists come by mail and our NEACA.com website. Requests for information is free when used in our Journal. All requests about value however, must be accompanied by a \$15.00 check and SASE.

Fully describe all marks or stampings on firearm, also barrel length and condition, photos helpful. Basic information and value will be sent to you. Address check to Arms Collectors Journal & mail to PO Box 385, Mechanicville, NY 12118

Q. The enclosed photo shows two .31 caliber percussion revolvers. One is marked "BACON" and the other "ADAMS." Are they American or English?

A. The two revolvers are both American in origin. That is, they were both made in America during the 1850's to 1860's. However, the pistol shown at the top, the "ADAMS" as you call it, was made by a Massachusetts Arms Company after obtaining the right to produce it from a British patent. Because of their caliber, these revolvers are called "pocket" size.

The top gun in the photo is usually marked on the barrel "Made for Adams Revolving Arms Co. N.Y. by Mass. Arms Co. Chicopee Falls Patent May 3, 1853, June 3, 1856, Apr. 7, 1857." Adams was a British inventor and Massachusetts Arms produced these revolvers in America after making an agreement to pay the British patent holder. About 4500 were made in the late 1850's and early 1860's.

The lower gun in the photo is a Bacon revolver. These are usually marked "Bacon Mfg. Co. - Norwich, Conn." This company produced several types of revolvers from 1858 to 1867. The model pictured is relatively scarce, about 900 having been made. These guns are sometimes found without the Bacon name, since dealers often used their own or trade names on them for sales promotion purposes. The Bacon is unusual since it had a side plate in the frame which, when removed, reveals the entire mechanism of the gun. These revolvers are very close in design to the .31 caliber revolvers produced by the Manhattan Firearms Company. JM

Q. I have one of the old triangular blade military bayonets with the socket base and the letters "U.S." at the base of the blade. I know bayonets like this were made from the



time of the Revolutionary War to the twentieth century. How can I tell which military long arm it belongs with?

A. I'm sure that many collectors have the same problem. There are many variations of the old socket bayonet around. A good start is to get a book on these weapons, especially one with pictures, diagrams and dimensions. Then, after you think you've found out which one is yours, give it the acid test. Try it on the type of military musket or rifle-musket to be sure it is the correct one. Books that will help you are American Socket Bayonets 1717-1873 by Donald Webster or American Socket Bayonets and Scabbards by Robert Reilly. If this is as good as the earlier Reilly books it should become the definitive reference work on the subject. JM

Q. While at an auction in the mid-West last month, I bought a percussion dueling pistol with a saw handle, which has seen better days. Someone has probably been shooting it for years until recently. The lock is engraved and marked "PURDEY." The barrel flat is marked, "LONDON." I know that the Purdey shotguns and rifles of recent years are famous for their quality but did not know that the company is so old that it produced duelers. When was this company first started?

A. You have made a common error. You are confusing two English gun-making companies. Your dueling pistol was made by James Purdey of London, who produced quality percussion pistols and other guns from 1825 to 1879. The more modern company, still in business in London, is James Purdey and Sons who began their gun business in 1878. It is the work of this last company that we occasionally see at gun shows today which exhibits such marvelous quality. However, you should know that the maker of your dueling pistol produced guns of equally high quality and was considered one of the best gun makers in England during the middle half of the 19th century. JM

Shot Show '05
(continued from front page)

to long action calibers available from the .223 Rem. Up to the .300 Win Mag. Suggested retail is \$316.

Savage definitely had the young shooter in mind with their introduction of the Cub version of the .17 Mach 2. This single shot rifle is just 33 inches long, has a 16.5 inch blued free-floating, button-rifled barrel with a walnut stock and weighs just 4.5 pounds. In addition it comes standard with a rear peep and post, front sights. The Cub has a suggested retail price of \$165.

www.savagearms.com

Turkey hunters who want to get a new hold on their turkey guns will have two choices in this spring. The first is Remington Model 870 SPS-T Super Magnum 12 gauge that can handle 2.75, 3 and 3.5 shells and is fully camouflaged in Mossy Oak Obsession. This pump-action shotgun features a thumbhole-style laminated stock with a palm swell and wide fore-end, a 23 inch barrel that is fitted with a Rem super full choke tube, TruGlo fiber optic sights, new recoil-reducing R3 Recoil Pad and Cordura nylon camo sling, swivels and studs. Suggested retail is \$650.

www.remington.com

Ithaca Gun's new entry to their Guide Series is the Turkey Slayer interchangeable barrel 12 gauge. It features the new custom Accu-Grip pistol grip stock that is both comfortable and adds to the recoil reduction. Camo patterns available are Mossy Oak Break Up and Realtree HD Hardwoods. This new 12 gauge comes with a 20 inch barrel, Tasco 30mm

(continued on page 13)



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Third Reich Collectables

(Continued from page 1)


like "if it could only speak..." but in any case it is a highly collectable, colorful and desirable piece of history. And that is what most of this arms collecting or military collecting is all about, preserving a segment of an historic past. Be it even a distasteful past.

Occasionally at shows I would hear comments about Nazi relics displayed for sale, such as that they are all garbage, or junk and there's no place for them. Not so. Firstly, the items that were manufactured in the early to mid 1930's were of superb quality. Many being painstakingly polished or hand finished at a jeweler's bench. Secondly, there has to be a place where artifacts can be organized, shown and deliberated upon. The Nazi movement aside, the German people were creating a new identity for themselves and were proud of their craftsmanship and engineering. For this reason, early daggers, war merit badges and firearms were of higher quality and more desirable in a collection. As with the Japanese

Type 99 rifle where early manufacture is superb, so was the Mauser Rifle. Then both were sacrificed more and more in the quality of manufacture to what is known as their "last ditch" models. This was also true with late war period Nazi items of their equipment.

I've had more than a few knowledgeable collectors and dealers in Nazi items differ in their authenticating or identifying the same item. Late war period badges and medals are not of the same high quality as was originally made and so many are thought to be fakes or reproductions. While many fine looking items are passed as originals but are really bogus. I don't think any one person is all knowing on this matter and because of all replicas out there, collecting Nazi regalia has become a risky business. My only two suggestions to novice collectors is to buy from a reputable dealer who will give you the true product, and is man enough to repatriate what may be an honest mistake; or to read, study and handle enough items to become yourself, an expert.

My own collection is small but specialized. There is just too much to even think about having a really in-depth collection today, besides you would need a museum to house it. A really great grouping would be all the German firearms of WWII. Truly a big undertaking and perhaps it should be limited to either rifles or handguns. Still a fair sized chore. Firearms a problem? Then try Third Reich daggers. The philosophy didn't quite make a thousand year reign but some of their high quality knives might. There are truly a lot of blades to look for but they are becoming expensive with all the proper knots, hangers or frogs; no, not the eating kind. A frog is simply a holder for a sword, dagger or bayonet, usually of leather and hung from a belt. A hanger is just that, a cloth or leather devise that supports a hanging scabbard that the blade itself is housed in. A knot is a decorative or distinctive devise used to show rank or attachment. Now when you start talking about portepées or troddels you're ready to begin



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laying down some green. My first suggestion though, may be a good book.

Not to suggest that the Hitler Youth, or Jugend in Germany, has any remote similarity with our Boy Scouts of America, but the youth groups can be the center of a collection just like scout items are here. There were many separate groups within the Third Reich sphere and this was evidenced by their myriad of uniforms, armbands and even daggers. An accompanying photo shows a Roman style double edged knife, a style worn by SA, NSKK or SS troops; a Hitler Youth knife and two German Army (Heer) Officer's daggers. Of these there are differing styles and colors and then still, different proofs or manufacturers, some being more desirable than others to collectors.

Other examples of collectable Nazi blades are the K-98 Mauser bayonets, either plain Army or fancy parade styles and police or fireman's nickled dress bayonets with scabbards. Most of these items are fairly common and are still reasonably priced for the novice collector. The trick is to get the finer quality items (that aren't fakes) and with their complete attachments in minty condition. There are literally millions of these things that were made and many still out there but hundreds of thousands are now in poor shape, broken or missing parts that make up a "complete" unit.

The other photos show a collage. Almost each item pictured can be the nucleus of its own collective grouping. Belt buckles, many types. Iron crosses, marked and presented, with various hallmarks and classes. Eagles! Man, if you like eagles you could go crazy with Nazi birds. From shoulder patches and chevrons to collar tabs, arm banks or cuff titles, you can have a well-rounded collection in any one field. I guess that may be one reason Nazi items are becoming so popular. Just like Colt or Winchester firearms, there are so many items you can have sub collections of collections within a collection.

The availability of the items and identifying literature that abounds on Nazi items, lends well to make this a growing hobby. With this little tryst I hope I've put my point across that there is a place for these historical artifacts of a cruel and unusual world. No, not in a pit with the bones of some unfortunates, but above the ground and in full view of the coming generations so that we may afford them the opportunity to ask "what is that" and "why were they made?" Nazi regalia affords a truly fascinating look into the character of another era. Perhaps an enigma still wrapped in the mystery of the past awaiting more intense study and further understanding.



ADVERTISE IN THE ARMS COLLECTORS JOURNAL



Arms Collectors Journal

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DAVID PETRONIS ~ Publisher & Editor In Chief
CATHY PETRONIS ~ Advertising & Subscription Manager



NEACA Member Message

By David Petronis

Even with the fierce competition for exhibitors and attendees this past March 19 & 20 weekend, our NEACA group held their own plus more with our 58th Arms Fair at Saratoga Springs, NY. It was one terrific show. I never thought I would hear the complaint of there being too many people coming in!

For the past six shows we have held at the City Center, regardless of time period, we have been sold out. Our membership is expanding continually because show attendees are realizing the hour or so wait in line is much better spent browsing the 250 tables inside. The quality firearms, militaria, books and knives in the show are more attractive than waiting outside wondering. You who still are not a member of New Eastcoast Arms Collectors Associates can find an application within our Journal pages.

The third weekend in March, which our spring show always falls on, has had fierce competition for years. About a dozen years ago the Baltimore Show was changed from the weekend prior to our show to our own date when they moved from the Armory to the Fairgrounds. About ten years or so ago a Sportsmens' Show arose in Albany at the Egg and thru the years has grown to compete for dealers and public with our show in Saratoga. And there are many other gun and knife shows on our same date throughout the country. So, having and keeping our level of participation is not by chance or lack for someplace else to go for exhibitors and public alike. But they do like to come to Saratoga and they sure came out for this past show. Cathy and I sincerely thank you all.

We had some nice displays by the members and also had our local hunting and fishing clubs participating with mem-

ber drives and raffles. Several re-enacting groups were in full dress, lending color and knowledgeable discussions to the fray. Ladies from the VA Hospital in Albany gave information to veterans and several prominent book dealers had all the stories and reference any collector could want. Mix those with excellent exhibitors of quality arms, highly sought collectables and necessary ammo and accessories and it is no wonder thousands of gun fraternity folks wait in line to attend our show.

And those folks brought some wonderful things in for sale. A pair of First Model 1873 Winchesters found an eager exhibiting buyer. As did some great small bore shot-guns. I also saw a good number of knives and swords walking around. I personally managed to snag a beautiful "G" date Luger and two Winchester 1910 SLR's in .401 caliber, one a first year production. We managed to lose track of how many black gun ties we gave out after two hundred were used at both doors Saturday morning. It simply became too busy to keep up the organized count. So, I know a lot of stuff came in and was offered for sale or trade with our exhibitors.

One of the City Center staff came in and told me one line was out the door and wound around the building to the rear loading dock. He never saw

that before, at any show there! Another wound through the main entrance hallway out to the Atrium area. Both were strong till noon, then just steady. On Sunday we had a long line till 10:30 or so. Must be doing something right.

We normally have three regular Arms Fairs a year in Saratoga, one the third weekend in March, one in August and another in October. You can find our dates in the Journal pages. Our next regular show is August 27 and 28 and we only have about 100 of the 250 tables still open for sale. However, we have not yet done our regular mailing.

But, this year we are going to have our first Antique Arms Fair and Collector Show at the City Center on Father's Day weekend, June 17 & 18, 2005. Both of those flyers will be going out soon and we already have many deposits for June as well. This show is specifically for Antique Arms and Armour; vintage Militaria and Military guns pre-1946 manufacture; Curios, Relics and Commemorative Guns; rare or high quality or prime collector firearms; related reference books, gun company collectables and advertising; sporting antiques and vintage outdoor sporting collectables, sporting art and decoys; and early Americana or Adirondack antiques and collectables. All is related to the outdoor sporting use of firearms or the pursuit of those sports of hunting, fishing and trapping in the Adirondack Mountains. It

should be a wonderful show, a different show and a well attended event. We hope our fraternity of fine dealers in this type of merchandise will participate with exhibitor's tables or booth space. We would like to invite new exhibitors of quality goods to also take space at this show.

For this first Show we will have \$1000 in prize money for educational displays by members and general exhibit displays by our dealers. These will be listed in our mailing of flyers. As shows progress we hope to increase the cash pot. Unfortunately, I know there will be competition against this June show. It is becoming very hard to plan on any weekend that doesn't have conflicts. I can only hope that you, as potential exhibitors, know our track record, know the type of buying public that attend our events and with that knowledge will want to come and join us in Saratoga. We are sure it will become a premier yearly event. Our up-State New York is one of the most affluent in the northeast and a prime area of collectors.

We have a small 60 table show in the K of C building on Boynton Avenue in Plattsburgh at the end of April. Set up is the 29th and the Show will be April 30 and May 1. We had a fine little show last year, same time and place and we should repeat that fine event this year. It is a great time for a North Country drive. Bring your trout rod and flies. By the way, ours is the ONLY show in Plattsburgh.

Again, something new and exciting from NEACA. One of our dealer friends called me in February about a new facility they thought would be nice to check out for a new show. Well, we did check it out and it is 99% positive as I write this that we do have a new show in the Schenectady, NY area. Specifically, a group has leased and upgraded several large empty stores in the Crosstown Plaza Shopping Center, off Route 7 in Rotterdam and opened a facility named Crosstown Expo Center. For those familiar with the area, it is opposite the large Home Depot near the intersection of Routes 5 and 7 and at Exit 7E of 890.

The Expo is very easy to get to from Exit 25 of the NYS Thruway or locally from Rts 146, 5 or 7. It sits in the middle
(continued on page 15)

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Sheet Music of World War One

(continued from front page)

F. Scott Fitzgerald said, "I watched an entire generation be destroyed in one massive sigh of high explosive."

Sheet music reflected this. As well as rejuvenating patriotism and let's "save the world from any other war," music of the day also reflected society's many changes.

Thousands of songs were written and titles were carefully chosen. Of course, the antiwar crowd (the let's not get involved crowd) was represented by, "I Didn't Raise My Boy to be a Soldier."

The day after the United States declared war, out came "America, Here's My Boy," - sub-title 'Every American Mother's Sentiment' or 'The Little Good for Nothing is Good for Something Now.' The picture on the song cover is a woman in Red Cross field dress with her head bowed; a regenerated, fallen woman or a bar-angel to help the troops? At any rate the cover shows her sins were expiated.

Moving on to other titles, "Lafayette We Hear You Calling" was to get the spirit going, to help France. Remember what General Pershing said as he stepped off the boat onto French soil, "Lafayette we are here!" And the favorite of many an Italian-American entitled, "Atta Boy, Tony." I wonder what the reaction would be today to this sentiment? The cover is interesting too; it shows a man in barber clothes and another man at the shoemaker's bench and then they are transformed into Doughboys. One of my favorite ethnic sheet music is titled, "We're All Comrades Now." The cover shows Uncle Sam with a benevolent smile, actually a leer, with his arms outstretched to a group of black and white soldiers. Once again, in today's world, that wouldn't stand a chance.

However, my all time favorite, the classic sheet music that really exemplifies the changed social order, the "new standards," the death of the aristocracy is entitled, "I've Got My Captain Working For Me Now." That said it all!

Sheet music was very important for getting a message across; political, social or military. This was a time before the widespread use of the phonograph, before radios were in

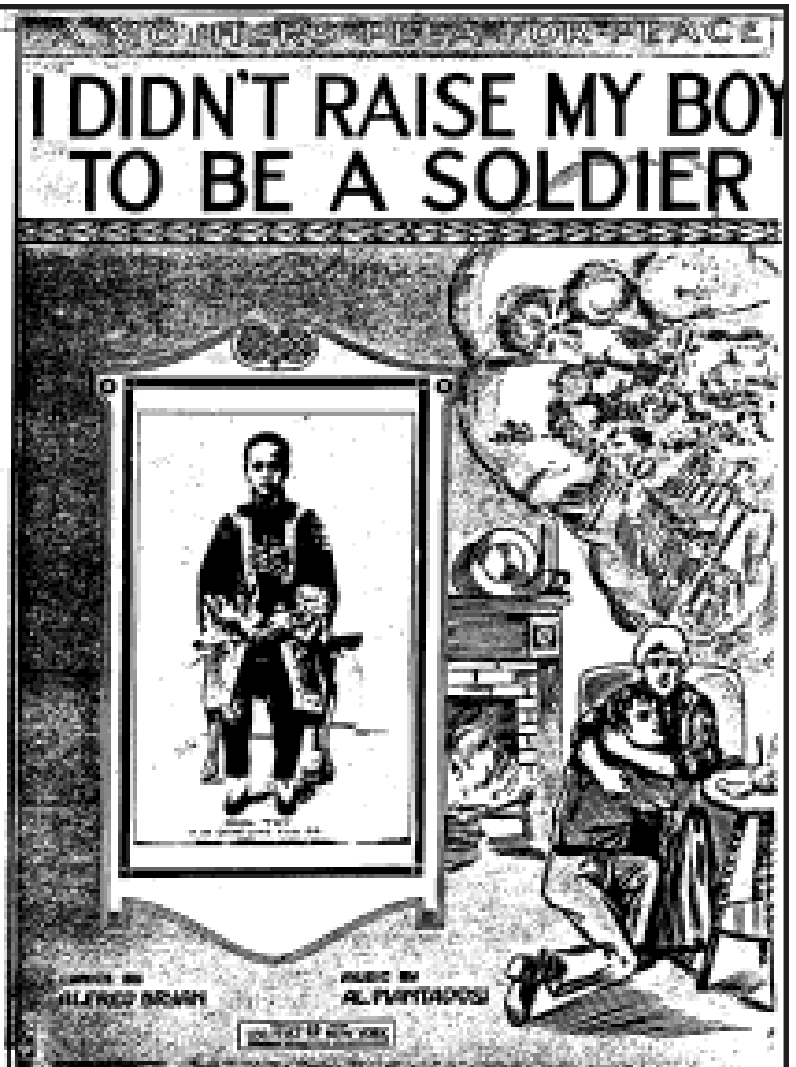
extensive use and the talkies were not yet out. People still gathered in living rooms, the carpets were rolled and singing and dancing entertained all. Folks then looked for the latest sheet music and thus the message was given. With song America was united, sent to war, put to rest, made heroic, declared social and political independence and its

willingness to fight, or not to fight, to love, have and survive all by music.

If a picture can be worth a thousand words, I think a song set to a catchy tune can inspire a thousand people, or ten thousand people or a hundred thousand people. I've rarely seen a commercial, or in this case, a war to end all war, without music. Have you?

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NEACA

by David Petronis

EDITORIAL

Just finished digesting an expose' of hypocrisy within a great number of American celebrities. After finding and re-reading the "Gun Grabbers" by Alan Gottlieb (pub.1986), I thought I'd brush up on the enemy once again. You just wouldn't believe most of the names of companies, politicians, news people, actors, musicians, and singers that he lists whom, at one time or another, either donated to, worked for or lent their name in the cause of disarming the American people. And then, some of the same who were either arrested for handgun violations or played macho men or women detectives portraying more violence on TV or in movies than a "Saturday Night Special" could possibly massacre.

People, I'm telling you, paranoia aside, they're out to get us all! And, they have lots of friends in politics and the media en mass who love to drop their names for all the pet liberal causes. One thing I can't figure though; when all of us are disarmed, will the police, CIA, political bodyguards or the new UN World Army also be without guns? And if not, will they protect us from baseball bat or knife wielding felons out on parole? Or quite probably, in the Gun Grabbers minds at least, there wouldn't be any more crime or drug addicts. Ya' think?

The addicts must enjoy abuse to their bodies. I have a solution to the problem of drug trafficking. Poison the supply. Why destroy what is confiscated? Simply add a little spice and put it back on the streets. OOPS? There's the heartless black knight coming up with simplistic solutions to a complicated problem again. Like shooting a few (or more than a few) border jumpers. Another simple solution; problem solved.

Point is, gun control, the elimination of handguns, rifles or shotguns, machine guns or whatever else, is not going to make life safer, at least not for us law-abiding sheep anyway. If I were a criminal bent on preying on the rest of the herd, I might actually feel quite a bit safer, though. Guess it's just your point of view (or point of aim). However, gun control advocates confirm that their cause is supported by the vast majority of public opinion. I believe Handgun Control had spouted about two million members. Their past advertising and support by misguided celebrities is narrowing the gap between the "gun people" and the "gun grabbers." When support for our cause is needed and asked for, you people out there had better start asking how you can help. Apathy and ignorance won't cut it any more.

Below is a little game you might like. And you might like to read Alan's book, too.

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Both Sides of the Table

by Cathy Petronis

This early springtime of year could actually be called Gray time. The trees are naked and the ground is bare except for a few plants growing up through the remaining leaves of Autumn which we missed in our pre-winter cleanup. It's still too cold and too early to plant flowers or vegetables in our garden so what better time of year to participate in Gun Shows.

We started our 2005 show season with our "Cabin Fever" event in Lake George on February 20th at the Holiday Inn. We always enjoy that show because we haven't seen the dealers or a lot of the members or other people who participate since our October Saratoga Springs Show. It's a great time to re-acquaint and discern how people survived the worst of winter. Of course everyone is anxious for spring and we all joke about it being "right around the corner" even we know that's not true.

March 12 and 13 week-end we took our newly resurrected Arms Collectors Journal traveling to the Springfield, Mass, Big E show. New Englanders received the sample copies very well and we heard lots of comments from people who were happy to see our "Journal" back in publication. We sent about 1000 papers to the Baltimore, Maryland show with various people who were going to be exhibiting there.

At the Springfield show I spent most of my time behind the table. Usually I am able to walk through shows we're visiting because I don't have the responsibility of all the paper work (table deposits for upcoming shows, new member applications and renewals, etc.) This time was an exception and hopefully I'll be able to get back into the swing as the year progresses. It seems that I'm suffering from a malady that many of us over 50 have; a bad knee. It comes with age, too much weight and not realizing that you can't do 75 things in one day. A lot of us abuse our bodies and then wonder why we have all the aches and pains.

As I spent most of my time at the show behind the table (continued on page 11)

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear sir,

I just came across your newsletter on the 'net' whilst surfing for all things related to O.M. Robinson and saw the reprint of the late Mark Cross's Adirondack rifle article. My family and I had the privilege of staying with Mark for a couple of days back in 1991 when I was researching for my book ADIRONDACK ARMS. We were also able to meet with Paul Robinson, thanks to Mark's intercession on my behalf. It was Mark's article from 1974 in GUNS magazine on the Guns of O.M. Robinson that whetted my initial interest in this maker. I did an article for ARMAX (the in-house journal for the Buffalo Bill Historical Center) on this subject that appeared in Volume 6, 1996 and listed all that I knew at that time on this fine gunmaker. Mark had given me all his research material as well in 1991 during my visit.

At any rate I have an interested publisher for this book and have written about 52K words of the manuscript for ADIRONDACK ARMS but I still need to expand to about 75K to meet the publisher's criteria which is the second reason for my letter. I need the help of your readership to add where ever they can to the story. The story will include not only O.M. Robinson's life but his partner in the Adirondack Firearms Company, J. D. Wilkinson. I will have a chapter as well on the Models 1870, 1872 and 1875 Robinson designed rifles as well as a chapter on his experimentals and tool room models. Also in the chapter on Robinson himself, I will be detailing his celebrated violin making work. I would like anyone who has a Robinson rifle and would like to see it pictured or referenced in my book, to contact me at scott.jamieson@sympatico.ca or at 223 Christie Street, P.O. Box 386, Rockwood, On., Canada, N0B 2K0.

I have over 275 pictures for the book already but could use more. Also looking for ephemera concerning this company for use in the book. I am also the author of BULLARD ARMS (1988) and BULLARD FIREARMS (2002) so while I am slow to produce a book, I do get there and try to make it as accurate as possible. As an aside, if you contact Schiffer Publishing in Atglen, PA., you may be able to get copies of Bullard Firearms for review. I'm still always looking to add to my BULLARD material too, as well as EVANS of Maine material for EVANS ARMS, which I'm also working on.

Best regards, G.. Scott Jamieson

Dave, March 16, 2005

Please send me your Arms Collectors Journal for the next 24 months. Enclosed is a money order for \$30.00.

Looking thru your March issue I noticed a copy of Neil Burnham's business card. You are probably not aware that Neil passed away several years ago.

Thank you, Jim Volante, Dedham, Mass.

Editor's Note: Jim, thanks for the subscription. You are the first official paid subscriber to our new Journal. And I do remember you had one years ago, also. You smartly took advantage of our two years special promotion.

I did know of Neil's passing and I inadvertently missed placing "In Memorium" on his card as I did with my other dear friend, Larry Higgins. It is corrected and I'm glad you made me aware. Unfortunately, another friend passed just days ago, Bill Birkbeck of New Hampshire. David Petronis

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Warning, All Gun Show Vendors at New York State Gun Shows:

New York State has an "assault weapons" ban that is still in effect, in spite of the "sunset" of the federal "assault weapons" ban.

Magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds, manufactured after 9/13/1994 are still illegal to possess in New York State by anyone other than law enforcement officers, military personnel (while on active duty), and NYS licensed gun dealers (FFL is not an exemption). Possession and/or sale of these magazines is a felony.

It is still illegal to possess guns fitting the description of "assault weapons" under the expired federal law in NYS, with the above exemptions. Note that an FFL is not an exemption. Possession of an "assault weapon" is a felony.

Possession of any of the

following (without documented exemption such as a pistol permit) is illegal in NYS: Pistols, revolvers, electronic dart guns, stun guns, **gravity knives, switchblade knives, pilum ballistic knives, metal knuckles and metal knuckle knives, cane swords, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons, chukka sticks, sand clubs, throwing stars, and wrist brace type slingshots.** This list is not complete. Items in bold have been most frequently possessed and offered for sale at previous gun shows by unqualified persons, to unqualified persons.

Switchblade knives and gravity knives may be sold by a NYS licensed gun dealer (again, FFL doesn't qualify), but only to qualified persons.

Pepper spray may only be sold by NYS licensed gun

dealers and pharmacists, with certain limitations and documentation. Self defense sprays containing mace, CS, CN or other irritants are illegal to possess.

Pistols and revolvers defined as "antiques" by federal law may not be "antiques" under NYS law. If a pistol or revolver uses ammunition available through "normal" means, it is not an "antique," regardless of when it was manufactured, and you must have a license or permit to possess it. If you have a pistol or revolver that fits the (NYS) definition of "antique" and you have a means to load it, you must have a license or permit to possess it.

Vendors violating the above regulations (or others) will be subject to arrest and prosecution, and any "illegal"

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items will be confiscated (and subsequently destroyed). Violations of any of the above regulations are crimes, with punishments ranging from fines to long prison terms. Remember, ignorance is not an excuse or a defense for residents or nonresidents of New York State.

The above is a reference to some of the weapons laws peculiar to New York State, and is hardly complete. For questions regarding the above, refer to Section 265 of the NYS Penal Law, and/or the regional State Police COBIS Sergeant in the area of the Gun Show you are attending.

Some AR-15's May Class as Machine Guns Open Letter from BATF

Director, Stephen Higgins

and the possession of an unregistered machinegun could subject the possessor to criminal prosecution.

"I want to bring to your attention possible Gun Control Act violations in which you could inadvertently become involved," wrote Stephen Higgins, Director of the BATF in 1986. With the high collectability of "Assault Weapons" today, I believe this message should be revisited.

He continues, "ATF has encountered with increasing frequency various AR-15 type assault rifles such as those manufactured by Colt, E.A. Company, SGW, Sendra and others, which have been assembled with internal components designed for use in M16 machineguns. It has been found that the vast majority of these rifles which have been assembled with an M16 bolt carrier, hammer, trigger, disconnecter and selector will fire automatically merely by manipulation of the selector or removal of the disconnecter. Many of these rifles using less than the five M16 parts listed above also will shoot automatically by manipulation of the selector or removal of the disconnecter.

It must be pointed out that any weapon which shoots automatically, more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger is a machinegun as defined in 26 U.S.C. Section 5845 (b), the National Firearms Act (NFA). In addition, the definition of a machinegun also includes any combination of parts from which a machinegun may be assembled, if such parts are in possession or under the control of a person. Any machinegun is subject to NFA

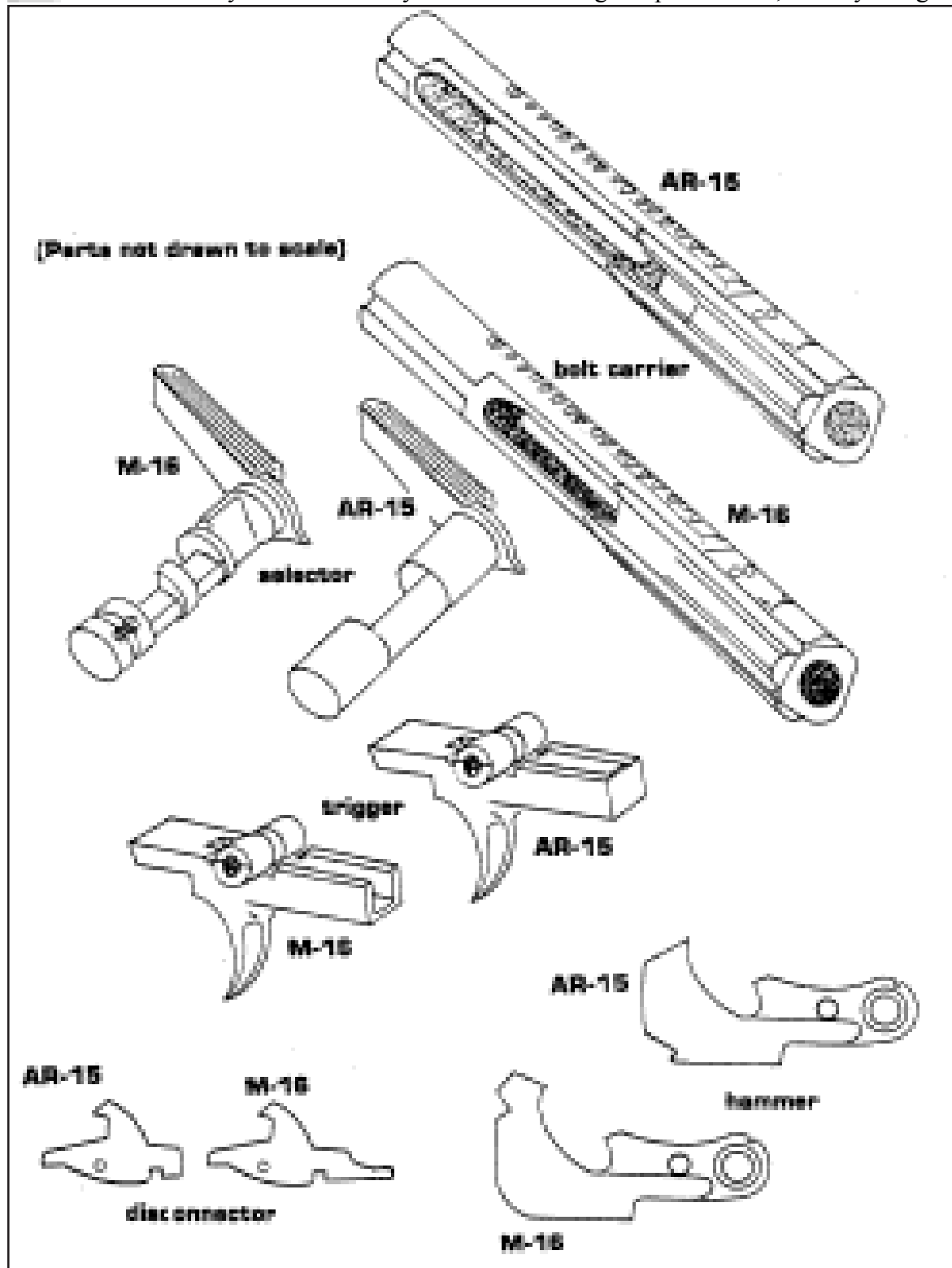
Additionally, these rifles could pose a safety hazard in that they may fire automatically without the user being aware that the weapon will fire more than one shot with a single pull of the trigger.

In order to avoid possible violations of the NFA, M16 hammers, triggers, disconnecters, selectors and bolt carriers must not be used in assembly of AR-15 type semi-automatic rifles, unless the M16 parts have been modified to AR15 Model SP1 configuration. Any AR-15 type rifles which have been assembled with M16 internal components should have those parts removed and replaced with AR15 Model SP1 type parts. These parts are available commercially or the M16 component may be modified to AR15 Model SP1 configuration.

It is important to note that any changes of the M16 parts should only be attempted by qualified personnel.

Included are illustrations of AR15 Model SP1 component parts and the corresponding M16 type parts. Should you have any questions concerning AR-15 type rifles with M16 parts, please contact your nearest ATF law enforcement office. Our telephone numbers are listed in the United States Government section of your telephone directory under United States Treasury Department."

Although Congress did not renew the Assault Weapons ban in 2004, several States have kept the ban intact, including New York State.



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6535 GUN SHOW

23-24 Carlisle, PA
Army Heritage and Education
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1377 MILITARIA SHOW

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21-22 Glenville, NY
Empire State Aerosciences
Museum, Rte. 50, Glenville, NY,
Hudson-Mohawk Mil. Vehicle
Preservation Association and
Living History Presentation

21-22 Scranton, PA
Days Inn, 1946 Scranton-Car-
bondale Highway; Applachian
Promotions, 7328 Wertzville
Road, Carlisle, PA 17013 717-
697-3088 150T GUN SHOW

28-29 Baltimore, MD
National Guard Armory, 610
Reistertown Road, Great North
American Show & Sale, Joe
Gorman, PO Box 142, Allen-
wood, NJ 08720, 732-616-3262
300T6 MILITARIA SHOW

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Better Living Center, Eastern
States Exposition; Mid-Hudson
Promotions, PO Box 406,
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10542, 914-248-1000, Carole,
800T8 MILITARY SHOW

4-5 Philadelphia, PA
National Guard Building, 2700
Southampton Rd.; Appalachian
Promotions, 7328 Wertzville
Road, Carlisle, PA 17013, 717-
697-3088 400T GUN SHOW

4-5 Dale City, VA
VFW Post Number 1503,
14631 Minnieville Road; Old
Dominion Shows, PO Box 289,

Woodlawn, VA 24381 276-238-
1343 165T6 GUN SHOW

11-12 Frederick, MD
Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 East
Patrick Street; Potomac Arms
Collectors Association, Tom
Moynahan, 301-924-0273
180T8 Annual ARMS and
MILITARIA SHOW

17-19 Saratoga Springs, NY
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Valley Forge Convention Center;
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Inc., 610-975-0877
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25-26 Frederick, MD
Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 East
Patrick Street; Silverado
Promotions, Box 370,
Buckeystown, MD 21717 301-
874-5012 500T6 GUN SHOW

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Historical Arms Society, Inc.;
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Linden Street, Bethlehem, PA
18017, 610-997-8613 after 6pm
800T6 GUN SHOW

23 Union, NJ
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749 7th St, Carlstadt, NJ 07072
170T Meadowlands INSIGNIA
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AUGUST

26-28 Saratoga Springs, NY
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RE-ENACTMENT NEWS

There were re-enactors at this past March Arms Fair in Saratoga and their colorful garb lent a historic flair to the show. His Majesty's 24th Regiment of Foote was well represented by NEACA Member, John Ferrannini and his compatriots Glenn Lunde and Misha Cetner. New recruits for this Red Coated group can find more information at www.24thfoot.org or write to 14 Cobble Court, Clifton Park, NY 12065. The ending to our ACJ article "Tail of the

Dragon" elsewhere in these pages tells of the English experience at Saratoga, in which the 24th Regiment was a part. You too can relive a momentous time in history as a "Lobster Back" recruit.

Wanted. Cowpunchers, cowgirls, desperados, gamblers, schoolmarms and even sodbusters for authentic reliving of the old west. So goes part of a poster from the Circle K Regulators announcing their Cowboy Action Shoots at Kayaderosseras Fish & Game




Club at 706 Geyser Road, Ballston Spa. A full schedule is planned from April thru November under rules set forth by SASS or the Single Action Shooting Society. If you don't know what to do with some of those old guns, these slingers will show you what's for. Slip your bod under a cowboy stetson, your feet into some snake boots, strap on some leather and iron and come on down to this hollywood. I can visualize 'ol Billy Hart dressed to kill in just that garb. Or, in just that garb, maybe not! Call Dan Scriptor at 518-885-3758 for more info or e-mail Debbie Myers at annabelle69@juno.com and see if she can fill that hat and provide more info.

To see how the boys in khaki got around the battlefield sixty years ago you could pay a visit to the Empire State Aerosciences Museum in Glenville, NY the weekend of May 21 and 22. The Museum is home to a variety of vintage aircraft and military displays. It is located on Route 50 about 1/4 mile north of Freeman's Bridge Road in the Town of Glenville, between Scotia and Ballston Spa. More information can be found at www.nypennmvcc.com about times and events planned for a Wings, Wheels & Tracks Military Vehicles Show. Vintage cars and a WWII Living History demonstration will be among planes, trucks and tanks.

If you would like to send information to the Arms Collectors Journal for inclusion in this column either mail it to our address on page 4 or go to www.Neaca.com and e-mail us. You might also send in for a subscription.

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OUTDOOR TIPS and VITTLES



by
Cathy Petronis

ROAST DUCK

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5-Pound Duck | 1 cup seedless raisins |
| Salt, Pepper, Clove Garlic | 1 cup orange juice, if desired |
| 3 cups pared quartered apples | |

Wash, singe and clean duck, season, rub with garlic and fill with apples mixed with raisins; place in pan and roast uncovered in oven at 325 degrees, allowing 20 to 30 minutes per pound. Baste every 10 minutes using 1 cup of orange juice, if the flavor is desired. Serve with currant or cranberry jelly. Serves 5.

BRAISED DUCK

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4-Pound Duck | 1/8 teaspoon pepper |
| 3 slices bacon | 4 cups boiling water |
| 1 carrot, diced | 1 small turnip, diced |
| 1 onion stuck with cloves | 2 tablespoons melted fat |
| 1/2 teaspoon powdered thyme | 4 tablespoons flour |
| 2 tablespoons minced parsley | 1/4 cup cold water |
| 1-teaspoon salt | |

Prepare duck as for roasting. Place in a large kettle with bacon, carrot, onion, thyme, parsley, salt and pepper and cover with water. Simmer until duck is tender, then remove from stock. Sauté turnip in fat until brown, then drain and cook in stock until tender. Strain stock. Blend flour and cold water together until smooth and add gradually to stock, stirring constantly. Pour the gravy over duck. Garnish with pieces of turnip. Serves 6. WITH MUSHROOMS – omit bacon and carrot. Use 1/2 pound mushrooms, sliced, for turnip.

NEACA BOOK REVIEW



Standard Catalog of Winchester
The Most Comprehensive Price Guide Ever Published
 Published by Krause Publications ~ 2000
 Price: \$39.95 ~ 8 1/2" x 11" ~ SC, 750 pgs., 2500 Photos
 ISBN: 0-87341-860-3
 Edited by David D. Kowalski

The cover claims 10,000 real-world prices for more than 2,500 products. This is the newest volume out that covers nearly all of the vast array of Winchester products from the founding of the company in 1886 thru its Golden Age in the 1920's plus the time after Winchester sold its holdings to Western Cartridge Company in 1931.

This truly is a comprehensive collection of the Winchester Company products, their sizes and their colors, original prices and tid-bits of information and most important in today's world, fairly accurate estimates of current prices. I've had this volume in my reference library for some time now and found that it is getting dog-eared from over use. One book is never enough, but certainly this book is a must for the beginning collector of Winchester items or for the old salt dealer who thought he knew it all. It seems you never are too old to learn. I have never seen a more complete book that covers the full Winchester Company line of goods.

From colorful cartridge boxes to the rare fishing plugs, the tennis balls to baseball bats, the tools to paint, the various bullets, shotshells, loaders, clothing, pitch forks and on and on. The proper identification of one old calendar or print could save or make you thousands of dollars. The fine color photos and true black and white renderings are excellent.

This book should be on your list of things to look for at your next Saratoga Arms Fair. Well worth the price.

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FANG'S ADVICE to the COLLECTOR

EDITOR'S NOTE: Through the years Don Fangoner has been Curator of several Museums or Historic Sites and has been asked many questions.

He is quite knowledgeable on many military and firearms subjects and, through this Journal, will attempt to answer your queries about them. He knows where and how to find an answer for you. Send questions to Don, in care of "Fang's Advice" and enjoy his column.

Q: Dear Don, I have a question about a monument I saw on a recent trip to NY City. It is located next to Central Park. It is dedicated to the 27th Division, AEF. My question is, why are the American soldiers carrying Enfield rifles? Did the sculptor make a mistake? Jeff Lowe.

A: Dear Mr. Lowe, Very observant of you. No, the sculptor did not make a mistake. The 27th Division when arriving in Europe in the spring of 1918, had their 1903 Springfield rifles with them. They also had Stetson Campaign hats. These items were good for the Mexican Campaign against Pancho Villa but were not the ticket for the trenches in Europe. The British thought the Springfield a little delicate for trench work so they issued British WW1 Enfield rifles.

They also issued the Yanks with steel helmets and British gas masks. It was not uncommon to find a British pattern gas mask with a 27th Division insignia painted on it. Among rare items will be Foreign Service artifacts that have been Americanized early in the war. For instance, the early arriving Marines took or adapted the French Adrienne Helmet and placed Globe and Anchor insignia on the front. The Black American troops serving with the French adapted or were issued French uniforms and weapons but also gave the French Adrienne helmet a special treatment, they painted a black hand on one side. This was Albany, New York's Sam Johnson's regiment, a prominent WWI Black Doughboy.

Q: Hey Fang, Happy to see you back in print. Here's a question that will make you think. I have what appears to be a Bowie style bayonet. It fits on my .30-40 Krag rifle. It has a steel scabbard and is US marked on one side with 1900 on the other side of the blade near the hilt. What do I have? It seems to be very light in weight. Larry Johnson

A: Dear Mr. Johnson, What you have is the Krag bowie bayonet for the Krag rifle. This bayonet although very dramatic looking and demanding a good premium, was not kept in service for very long. It, for the very reason you noticed, was lighter than the service bayonet it was to replace. It could not be sharpened and was not weighty enough to be a work bayonet. One good thing is that you obtained a scabbard with it. They are rarely if ever found loose and then usually in poor condition. Incidentally, thanks for your comment.

Q: Dear Don, I have a question to ask about the "new" reproduction bayonets. One is of the 1917 US Enfield design, the other is the British hook quillion 1907 design, and the third is the 1903 Springfield. My question is, how can a newcomer to the field protect himself against someone forging "age" on these items? Mr. J. Smith.

A: Dear Mr. Smith, My answer is perhaps somewhat "cute" sounding, but You have to get out to shows and look at enough of the originals of these bayonets. Because once you see and feel them you will not mistake one of these repros for an original. The 1917 Enfield repro comes complete with scabbard. The finish on the blade is phosphate just like the original, but that is where the similarities end. The blade markings are strange for on one side it is "1917 US" and on the reverse it is marked with an MD over E, and for the life of me I have never seen an original marked like this. The scabbard, though appearing sturdy, is not up to the standards of the

Our Guys In Iraq Coming Home



Brian with a mask covered Special Operations US Soldier in the "Green Zone" somewhere in Baghdad, Iraq, April 2005. It is not a good idea to let the terrorists know who you are.

Major Brian Perazone will be on his way home for a well earned rest and relaxation visit with his family nestled in the Catskill Mountains of New York State.

Brian has kept us home boys abreast of what is really going on in Iraq on a weekly basis with current reports that we publish on-line through our www.Neaca.com and put out to the rest of the world as a page titled "Real News From Iraq." Brian will be home for two weeks and then head out again for Baghdad on May 1st. We wish him well.

**Have a Story?
Send it to ACJ**

Both Sides of the Table

(continued from page 6) dealing with the public I heard comments that I haven't heard in years. The first one I recollect was "you must have been real bad to be tortured like this." The gentleman was referring to me spending a weekend at a gun show. Another comment was "You must be bored to tears." Men are very surprised when I explained how much I enjoy the shows and what a big part of my life they are. They ask if I'd give a few pointers to their wives.

The following weekend was our Saratoga Springs Arms Fair and if you like "people watching" and interaction with them, it was phenomenal! People have been to our shop since the show and when I ask if they were at the Saratoga Show, they just gaze

at me like, "I saw you, why didn't you see me?" Unless someone actually stopped at my Secretary's table and spoke with me, there were so many people through the show it was just a sea of faces. I can say for sure that we have a lot of faithful members and visitors to our Saratoga shows and it always seems like old home week. I was so busy with paperwork at this show that I didn't get to spend much time visiting; I'm just going to have to train more troops. Our granddaughters, Megan age 9 and Kristin almost 7, are now helping with our buffet on Friday night. And, they like to help their mom Denise, in the admission booth. I guess I'll have to start training Megan to help with paper work. She does like to handle money.

original. This bayonet is perfect for parades, re-enactments with trench work and would go nicely on the new Norinco 97 Trench gun but that's about it.

The hooked quillion P-07 bayonet although nicely blued is just too blued to be good. Again the markings give it away; marked "CHAPMAN" on one side and a broad arrow over a d3 on the other. I have never seen an original like this. The scabbard is not bad but not up to original standards so again Look at the originals from reputable dealers or at shows and you will gain experience as to what is real or fake.

The 1903 again is just "too blued," its markings are strange and not deep enough. The RIA and the date 1906 are correct but again just not true enough to pass muster. The grips are very exaggerated and would have to be sanded down to pass a reality test. Like the other two, it is good for parades, ceremonies and the movies but this one does not come with a scabbard. They probably felt there are enough of the originals around to use so the newcomer cannot judge this one by the old scabbard it may be in.

So my final answer to you is go to gun shows, look at originals, talk to dealers and please make sure you deal with people who will take a return if you are not satisfied. Protect yourself, buy books, get familiar with the marks and the designs and you will learn soon enough.

I was told by the Editor to keep my column from being personal to more about the shows. But it's impossible. Since our very first gun show at the Mechanicville Community Center in 1982, our kids have been involved. They were 19, 16 and 11 in age. Now 41, 38 and 33, you can see how long they've been a part of this business and now the next generation is becoming involved.

We have a show coming up in Herkimer the weekend of April 8, 9 and 10 at VFW Post 4915 on Mohawk Street. It's been about three years since we've done a show there. It's an easy access place and the people treat us very well. We've always liked the area because it's so rich with history and gun manufacturing. The VFW is about 10 minutes from the Remington plant and their museum.

One of the first large shows we produced was in Utica at the Memorial Auditorium. It was an easy place for dealers to get their wares in and out but the public had to come into the building at street level and walk down several groups of long steps to get to the show floor, which meant if they purchased anything they had to carry it back up again. So many years ago, so many dealers now gone.

In the upcoming issues I will try to spark some memories of shows past and people in this business who have enriched our lives through the years. Until next time, I'm sure to see you from one side of the table or the other.

Tail of the Dragon ... the Burgoyne Campaign

by Hal Sheehan

This is a continuation of the beginning story in last months' issue of the Arms Collectors Journal about the Burgoyne Campaign into Saratoga that was begun with 137 cannons and the final outcome and disposition of these guns.

Part II

William Meuse, former Chief Historian at the Saratoga National Historical Park, described the Burgoyne artillery this way. He likened them to big shotguns on wheels. Ordinary guns, he said, shoot a line drive in baseball. Mortars are high flies to center field. They can drop behind the fortifications, dig themselves into loose dirt and really do a good job. Meuse compared the howitzer to a hot bounding grounder. The ball dropped or scaled and caused consternation among the troops in the open who faced double jeopardy, getting hit and wondering when and where it was going to explode.

Burgoyne had been advised to take heavy guns into the American field. He ignored the advice. His two heaviest pieces, 24 pounders, are now part of the exhibit in the new Visitors Center at the Saratoga National Historical Park in the town of Stillwater, NY.

All of his guns were magnificent. They showed polishing and handcrafting. The chase was the work of artisans and consisted of raised sand castings, coats of arms, exquisite tooling and extremely fine engraving. This is now considered a lost art. It began with the Renaissance and continued unchanged until 1775.

To preserve this work, General Electric Company technicians, experts in their field, were called in. They worked under Mike Phillips, Chief Historian at the time, with four captured guns to preserve the most delicate and magnificent markings. They used a special G.E. molding material capable of picking up the faintest hairlines.

One of the 24 pounders now at Saratoga was found at Fort Monroe. It took 16 horses, according to Meuse, pulling in single file, to draw

this type gun. It was manned by 15 men and was not a favorite piece of artillery with the crew, especially the Germans. The gun had a bad record and was of lightweight construction.

A camp story is related that a German gunner was dragged from the tailstock of one of these guns during practice firing, not dead but with a terrific headache.

He wore on his thumb a leather thumb-stall that fitted the thumb and kept it from being burned while venting the gun during the sponging and loading operations. It got him a belt on the head from the rammer if there was one moment of carelessness. The rammer's life depended on the gunner thumbing the vent on these English muzzleloaders. "Keep your eye on the gunners thumb and if not properly vented, act quickly" the gunner's manual stated. It even suggested a crack over the head with a double-ended iron sponge rammer if the gunner got careless. This fellow was impressed but got careless and was flogged while lashed to the spiked wheel of the big gun carriage.

Because the Congress of the United States has acknowledged that the Battle of Saratoga was one of the fifteen decisive battles of the world and that Saratoga was the turning point of the American Revolution, sentimental and monetary value of the Burgoyne guns has increased.

GUNS STILL EXIST

Historians are saying that nothing equals the value of these guns, which represent a crushing and humiliating defeat of an entire British Army along with its full compliment of artillery. Few people are aware that the captured artillery still exists.

One of Burgoyne's captured guns was recaptured by the British in the War of 1812. It was then recaptured by the Americans. During the Civil War it was taken by the Confederates and it was now located in Kentucky. Two of the cannon at the base of the Schuylerville Monument were stolen, but later recovered.

Following the victory at Bemis Heights, misnamed the

Battle of Saratoga, General Gates sent a large number of them, recorded as 11, to West Point after they had been displayed along with ammunition wagons in a park in Albany. "These trophies serve as so many cost free monuments of a glorious triumph," he said. As of this writing they are still there and it would no doubt take a major invasion of its own to take them away from the Point Cadets who guard them carefully.

Historians at Frankfort, Kentucky reported an interesting gun, one of the two located there. These were 12 pounders and were located, mounted in the stonewall of a building erected in 1816. One of the cannon was cast in 1750 and was believed to have been one of those captured from Montcalm at the Battle of Quebec during the French and Indian War.

This was the gun surrendered at Saratoga and lost later by General Hull at the Battle of Detroit in August 1812. A year later, Kentucky troops recaptured the piece at the Battle of the Thane and carried it back to Kentucky. When Richard Hawes was inaugurated as Confederate Governor of Kentucky on October 4, 1862, it was taken over by the Confederate States of America.

OTHER GUNS FOUND

Two Burgoyne guns were found at the Philadelphia Arsenal. Morristown, N.J. National Park had two mounted bronze guns which they had obtained from the State of New Jersey and which the State had presented to the Federal Government in 1933. Four cannon were found to be located at the foot of the Schuylerville Monument. Among these were two field pieces, which were stolen and later recovered in a swamp in New Jersey where they had been hidden.

These guns have since been sent to the State owned Pebbles Island, off the Village of Waterford, where the Americans threw up dirt breastworks and intended first to stop Burgoyne. The Village of Schuylerville had a gun given them by Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York.

The State Army and Navy building in Washington, D.C. had five lying in a courtyard and wanted to get rid of them. They suggested the scrap heap for the war effort. Only three were later to be identified as authentic Burgoyne surrendered guns.

Watervliet Arsenal had an unusual ornamental fence made up of ancient cannon. Two of the Burgoyne cannon

were discovered imbedded in concrete there, being used as fence posts. They were removed to the Park at Bemis Heights. They now make up part of the display there and were among those molded for future preservation.

Five cannon that Burgoyne had dragged out of Canada in the tail of his dragon were mounted at old Niagara. Four had been obtained from the Carnegie Institute Museum of Pittsburgh and the fifth came from the Raritan Arsenal.

SAVED FROM SCRAP

During World War II many of the old cannon were finding their way to the scrap heap and the Burgoyne guns in Washington were no exception. President Franklin Roosevelt advised that these and others were about to be scrapped. He saved them with a letter to Harry Stimpson, Secretary of War: "You have a number of cannon, which Burgoyne surrendered by the convention of Saratoga, October 17, 1777. They are now located at the Watervliet Arsenal, Frankfort Arsenal, Fort Monroe, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the State Army and Navy Building. I am interested in Saratoga National Historical (continued on next page)

NEGATIVE IMPRESSIONS taken from captured Burgoyne cannon showing the fine and delicate engravings and relief work on the chase. Former Chief Park Historian Mike Phillips directs Waterford General Electric Plant technical people. (Photo by Hal Sheehan.)



Guns Deemed Best of Shot Show 2005

(continued from page 2) Red Dot Sight (also camo), comes already bore sighted and will take 2.75 and 3-inch shells. Each gun is fitted with a Triple X Ithaca Turkey choke tube, Tru Glo Gobble Dots, a "Claw" camo sling and includes a hard-sided case. Suggested retail is \$599.99.

www.ithacagun.com

Smith & Wesson who revolutionized the meaning of hand-cannon in 2003 with their massive X-Frame 500 S&W has done it again with the 460XVR X-treme Velocity revolver. This 73 ounce 8-3/8-inch revolver is the most powerful of any .45 production revolver. Ballistically it launches a 200 grain bullet at over 2,300 fps and develops over 2,400 ft/lbs of muzzle energy and features Sorbothane recoil-reducing grips and an interchangeable muzzle compensator. Built on a satin finished X-Frame this double action revolver has a 5 round capacity and includes a Hi-Viz green-dot front sight. I was very impressed with the accuracy of this revolver and the fact that it will also fire the 454 Casull and .45 Colt. Suggested retail is \$1,253.

One of the real success stories in shooting sports in the last few years has been the growing popularity of the .17 HMR cartridge. And now there is a new way to enjoy this speedy little rimfire, in a handgun. The one that caught my eye at the show was the .17 HMR Mini Master 5 shot revolver by North American Arms. This little stainless steel gun has a 4-inch heavy vent barrel, bull cylinder, oversized comfortable black rubber grips and comes with Millet adjustable or fixed sights. Total length is just 7.875 inches and it weighs 10.7 ounces. Suggested retail is \$272 for the fixed sights model and \$301 for the adjust sights model.

www.naaminis.com

In the single shot category I liked Remington's Model XR-100 Rangemaster custom-grade target rifle. It is a competition ready single-shot bolt action rifle featuring an externally adjustable Model 40-XB target trigger that adjusts from 1.5 to 3.5 pounds. It has a 26-inch satin blue barrel that is drilled and tapped and set in a gray-laminated thumbhole stock. Available in .204 Ruger, .223 Rem. and .22/250 cali-

bers, the XR-100 has a suggested retail of \$879.

www.remington.com

After 33 years Winchester is discontinuing their Model 9422. As a tribute to this gun they will produce a Special Edition run of 9,244 and 222 in the Custom Edition in 2005. Features will include cut checkering, deep blued receiver and barrel along with a high-relief silver and gold inlays of horse and rider. Both 22 long rifle and 22 WMR calibers will be offered. Suggested retail prices will range from \$551 to \$1078.

www.winchester-guns.com

Most multi-season hunters are always looking for that one gun that can do it all and this year Stoeger Industries is offering their combo that can handle both birds and bucks and everything in between. It is the M - 2000 inertia driven 12 gauge semi-auto field and slug combo chambered to handle 3-inch magnum loads. The 26-inch field barrel comes with a set of 5 choke tubes ranging from cylinder to turkey extra full and a red bar front sight. The slug barrel is 24-inches and fully rifled. Both come in synthetic black or Advantage

Overheard at the FROG POND

Jes wanted to drop you a line an let you know that me an ol' Wallace are back from fishin. Ol' John is always telling me about how he catches those big Salmons out in Pulaski so I went withem on his lass trip to see ifin it wuz reely thet good. All we caut wuz crick chubs fer two days. So fer thoz two days me an ol' John cleaned up the crick by ketchin all the junk fish it had to offer. We had two "big" buckets cuz ol' John likes to sit down when he fishes, an if you know ol' John, you know it takes a pretty big bucket! So he puts his bait in one, an he sits on the other.

Well we wuz havin a good time till ol' John yells out! "Frog, there's a big snake over here!" Well let me tell ya, there ain't nothing funnier then a fat man whos skeered of snakes! He jumped around like a frog in a hot skillit! So I went over to help when I seed a grass snake bout 8" with a frog half down his throat. We was outta bait bythen, so I stood on the snakes tail and tried to pull the frog free, but he wasn't letting loose. So I pulled on the frogs feet whilst ol' John was pourin a can of Coors down the snake's gullet till he let loose of thet frog. I threw the snake back in the bushes and Ol' John put the frog on his hook and continued fishin. We fished for about ten more minutes when ol' John feels a tug on his pants leg, looks down, an yells out 'Frog, that damned snake's back, and he's got a nuther frog half way down his throat! Do ya think that woulda happened ifin we used a Bud? "That's the truth!" Frog.

Timber HD. The average gun weight is 6.7 pounds and suggested retail price for the M - 2000 is \$589 for the synthetic and \$689 to the Advantage Timber HD.

www.stoegerindustries.com

Connecticut Valley Arms (CVA) has taken their proven Optima 209 receiver and stock design from their muzzle loading rifle and developed their new Optima Pro 12 gauge Shotgun. It has a 26-inch shotgun barrel with a removable stainless steel breech plug and a full choke to keep patterns consistent and on target. Oth-

er features include DuraBright fiber optic sights, integral Weaver style scope rail, Crush Zone recoil pad, Claw Sling and extendable aluminum loading rod. In addition you get an ambidextrous deep-grip stock and closed-breech receiver. The Optima Pro Shotgun comes with a lifetime warranty and the complete gun in Hardwoods Green HD camo has a suggested retail of \$450. If you already have a Optima 209 muzzleloader you can order a blued or Mossy Oak barrel for \$115.95 or \$145.95 separately. www.cva.com

Tail of the Dragon ... continued

Park and would like these trophies placed on display there. I would appreciate it if you get in touch with Secretary Ikies to see whether arrangements can be made to return the guns to Saratoga." Signed by, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Most shooting of field artillery of the type used at Saratoga was by guess. The field artillery, Meuse states, was designed for fast firing and not for precision.

Bracket firing was not unknown. Early British cannoners had a saying that the first shot was for the devil, the second for God and the third for the King. They fired the first shot over the target, the second one short and the third shot was in-between.

Much to the dismay of the clergy, it was found that the correct timing of the fuse for a mortal shot was the same length of time it took to recite the Apostles' Creed. So, it was not unusual to hear the gunner, who was by no means praying, recite "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Cre-

ator of Heaven and Earth."

What about the American guns at Bemis Heights? According to the Orderly Book of Ebenezer Stevens, Artillery commander under General Gates, dated September 24, 1777, the Americans had only 22 cannon, which never left the fortifications.

HIS TAIL WAS CUT

The tail of the dragon was cut when the Breyman Redoubt fell, and the Germans and British retreated in haste to the Great Redoubt along the Hudson. They left behind all of their cannon. Lt. Ebeneser Matton of the Continentals said, "When we entered the works, we found Colonel Breyman dead, surrounded with a number of his companions dead or wounded. We still pursued slowly, the fire in the meantime decreasing. Nighttime now put an end to this day's bloody encounter. During the day we had taken eight cannon and broken the center of the enemy lines."

Pausch wrote that there were at least ten cannon behind the redoubts, manned by Frasier.

The Saratoga National Historical Park has never recovered all of the cannon, which have been located. In some instances, letters in the files would indicate that shipping charges were excessive, an expense to be borne by the park. Eventually, it is the plan to restore both the British and American lines and fortifications. The Park staff is building or having built, faithful replicas of the original cannon they do not have. It is doubtful that, despite a presidential plea, West Point will ever give up their prizes.

And lest there be, by any misunderstandings as to the caliber of these farmer-soldiers, these Patriots, these Mother's Children, who took away all these treasured English cannon, the words of Feldprediger Milius, a German chaplain, allowed to enter the American encampment at Bemis Heights to his army

has not been idle. They have built a solid line that encloses the northern half of their camp. Where the earth was different, trees were used so that few were standing. Behind these, regimental camps have been strictly laid out in the best manner. These people are not amateurs. They are soldiers." These were American Patriots all, the people who twisted the Dragon's tail.

* * * * *

As a postscript, it was a sad day when my friend Hal Sheehan passed away a good few years ago. He wrote many short stories for the Journal and together we modified and tweaked the prose he typed. Looking back on some of his original sheets pounded out with his manual typewriter, with all its' own quirks, I recall the discussions on revising running sentences and the liberal use of adjectives. Some

of our co-operative projects are still collecting dust in my files of things to do. Perhaps a "dust off" is in order with this new beginning of our Journal.

Hal worked for the Saratogian Newspaper for many years and then the Schenectady Gazette, his office was next to our shop in Mechanicville. He was an ardent student of Saratoga battles and history of our area. He spent much time in the musty vaults of the old Saratoga Battlefield Park prior to its' Federal take over.

As I re-read, re-correct and re-enjoy his stories, I find I miss him and his knowledge and his humor more than I realized. Fortunately for us all, he has left us with good stories, good historical facts he gleaned by his own research and a fond memory to his being. We will be reliving many more of his witty meanderings in coming issues. DP

NORTH-EAST

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FOR SALE: 1) NEW Remington Model 870 Express Mag, 12ga, \$265; 2) NEW Savage Hunter Model 11GL, bolt action, .308 cal., Left-handed \$435; 3) Marlin Model 39A, lever action, .22 S,L,LR, used, \$260; 4) NEW H&R Turkey gun, single shot, 12ga, \$145; 5) Ruger 10/22, semi-auto 22LR, used \$125; 518-868-4662. Bill & Dee Dwyer, Good Gun Buys, Sloansville, NY.

FOR SALE: Misc. Rod and Gun Club Pins \$3.00 ea.; Early Conservationist Magazines 1947-1950, for \$6.00 each; NY 1935 Special Deer Button \$45.00; 1940 Special Deer Button at \$40.00; 1941-1962 Licensed Guide Badge for \$200.00; **WANTED:** NYS Licensed Guide Buttons & early Fire Warden Badges. Also need 1941 Resident Hunting License Button with Matching Paper License. Chet Smith, Altamont, NY, 518-765-4963. See my display at the Saratoga Arms Fairs.

FOR SALE: 1) 1871-1971 Limited issue of 1000 (serial No. 32) Springfield Armory Museum SILVER CARBINE-N.I.B. (wooden-felt lined-cherry?) Silver plated, engraved, fancy tiger striped walnut wood, beautiful! Unfired .45-70, sold new in 1971 for \$1000 (equal to \$5000 today) price \$1295; 2) Matching Colt 45's, (two guns) 125th anniversary, made in 1961, first Colt commemorative, 2nd Generation, Colt Single Actions, consecutive serial numbers, unfired. With mother of pearl grips plus original walnut grips, N.I. Wooden Box; some patina on gold wash, beautiful pair, \$5000 firm. Will trade for old Winchesters at fair value for partial. 3) M1886 Winchester .40-82, half oct., full mag., single set trigger. No extra holes, grey brown, smooth metal & nice even wood, \$2500 firm. 4) M1873 Winchester .38-40, round barrel, full mag., 60%+ blue on barrel and receiver, nice wood lightly sanded; bore about 6-7/10, No extra holes, nice appearance, tight action, \$1500. 5) M1894 Winchester deluxe .30WCF, XXX wood, PG,

Checked, 1/2 Oct., 1/2mag, Takedown, Shotgun Butt, Tang sight, about 70%+ overall blue, 3rd year production, #63xxx, bore 6/10, three very tiny letters & three very, very tiny numbers in wood (about 1/16") wood is Beautiful, \$2995. 6) M1876 Winchester 1/2 Oct, 1/2 full mag, .40-60 caliber, very nice Teddy Roosevelt's rifle, only 91 ever made! P.O.R. 7) Newhouse & hand forged Bear Traps; other Winchester levers and more. 8) Two N.Lewis, Troy, NY Rifles: one sporter \$1295; one match rifle \$995; both with lollypop sights. Terrence Perrigo, Tupper Lake, NY. 518-359-2585.

FOR SALE: A) Browning, Belgium, BAR Gr.II, .338 mag, very good, \$800; B) Browning, Belg., Safari bolt, .30-06, exc. \$825; C) Winchester M92 rifle, oct. bbl., .25-20, VG cond, \$1995; D) Rem. #4 .22 cal., VG to excellent, \$695; E) Win. M69, .22 cal., bolt, #97 peep sight, \$295; F) J. Stevens #49 walnut hill .22 cal., excellent, \$4995. Charlton Gun Shop, 600 Charlton Rd., Charlton, NY 12020, 518-399-4481.

FOR SALE: 1) Emelio Rizzini, 20ga over/under, 27" bbls., Mod/Imp, ejectors, engraved sidelocks, cut checkering, semi-beavertail, pistol grip, factory pad & selective gold trigger. This fine European shotgun mfg. in 1970's is in new, unfired condition. Two very small wood dings from storage, no box, \$1795. 2) Andelo Zoli, Field Grade, 20ga over/under, 3" Magnum, 26" bbls., single gold trigger, top/Modified bottom/Full Choke. Nice lightweight shotgun, engraved receiver, Greener style crossbolt, pistol grip. Like new condition on this fine Italian gun but has two 1" scratches on left fore stock. About ten years old, \$795. 3) Charles Harvan, Castillian Grade, 20ga, side by side double, Mod. 114. Fancy European walnut stock with round pistol grip & beavertail fore-end. Fine line, hand cut checkering, double triggers, 28" bbls., simple engraving of pointing dog, four digit serial number. Great feeling gun in like new condition, could be unfired, \$895. 4) Remington

M-870 Competition Trap, 12ga shotgun. Special checkered fancy walnut stocks, factory pad, slide-action single shot, 30" vent rib bbl. with double bead. In like new condition, unfired, no box. Discontinued in 1986, early gun, \$850. 5) Remington M-1100 LT-20, semi-auto 20ga shotgun, 26" bbl., Rem Chokes, VR, high gloss stocks, New in Box, unfired condition, unopened paperwork, about ten years old; great gun, \$695. 6) Winchester Model 62, .22 S/L/Slide Action Rifle. 1947 Mfg., 23" round bbl., in 99% original condition, probably unfired, very slight edge wear on high spots from rubbing on inside of original, serial numbered, red & blue box. Very hard to find guns like this, \$1695. 7) Parker DHE, 12ga. 30" bbls, 1 1/2 frame, has been reblued, ejectors removed for skeet, nice shooter \$2395. **Military Rifles:** 8) US Rifle Model 1917, Eddystone, WWI use, .30-06 cal., bbl. date 5-18, original rifle with wood & metal in fine cond., \$695. 9) Winchester M1885 Low Wall, thin side, US Ordnance marked Winder Musket, .22 short, 28" bbl. Proper Lyman peep receiver sight, exc. cond., exc. bore, circa 1914, \$1495. 10) German K98 Mauser, dou/44, 8mm, matching numbers, fat stock, Nazi proofed, exc. cond., \$1295. 11) Springfield US Rifle M1903 .30cal., 4-18 date, #8570xx, 24" bbl., all original with fine metal, fine bore, exc. stock has been glass drawn and oiled probably during war to end all wars, \$1495. 12) Remington Contract US Rifle M1903-A3, .30 cal., bbl. date 9-43, near perfect metal, all matching, near new stock with all clear proofs, simply a great gun, \$1595. 13) British Enfield Rifle, No4 MK1, .303 British cal., mfg. 1943 & with correct spike bayonet and scabbard, excellent condition with matching magazine, arsenal refurbished for Home Land Defence in 1953, \$525. 14) Krag, US Model 1898 .30 cal. Rifle, #2489xx, 1900 cartouche, fine o/a condition with but 1" long ding on left wrist, \$995. 15) Mauser GEW 98 WWI 8mm Rifle, marked Amberg/1917 full military config. but bolt miss-matched, also WWII Nazi upgrade with S/42 plus acceptance marks.

Fine cond, good bore, great re-enactor gun. Has import mrks, \$395. **Hand Guns:** 16) Ruger Security Six, .357 Magnum, 4" Revolver in 98% bright blue and Pachmeyer grips. Nice tight gun with little use, discontinued in 1985, \$299. 17) North American Arms Pocket Pistol, .22 Magnum caliber, 5 round, like new, \$295. 18) Jennings J-25 Pocket Pistol, .25ACP caliber by Bryco Arms, blue with black grips, NIB, \$139. 19) Norinco M54 Tokarev semi-auto pistol, NIB in 7.62 x 25mm cal., \$395. 20) Norinco M213 Tokarev semi-auto pistol, NIB in 9mm cal., \$395. 21) Original model .44 Magnum Dan Wesson, 8" Revolver with walnut grips and interchangeable barrel system. In orig. styro pack but no box, looks to be as NIB with some acces., \$995. 22) Czech CZ52 semi auto pistol, 7.62 x 25mm with special hard chromium finish done by Sal Bal. of Mass about ten years ago. In as new condition with holster and accessories, \$450. 23) P08 Luger, "G" date, all matching top section with all matching, but different numbered bottom section, including magazine. Another war time casualty, still a fine piece and shooter, 9mm, \$1095.00 Stop by our shop, C & D, 38 N. Main St., Mechanicville, NY 12118; www.CDPetronisInc.com, all guns require FFL. Dave at 518-664-9743, see us at the Syracuse, NY Gun Show on April 16, 17 at tables M18-20.

FOR SALE: 1) Krebs Custom Inc. Russian RPK74S, 5.45x39. This is a semi auto plum stocked version of the current Squad Light Machine Gun in use in Russia, complete with mags, pouch and sling. New In Hard Case, \$1650. 2) Vector Arms RPD, 7.62x39 Drum Belt Fed Squad Light Machine Gun. This firearm usage dates from 1944 into the Vietnam era. Made from unissued parts set on a new made US receiver to fire semi auto only. Special set as this is one of the first 70 made. Comes with Drums, Pouches, Sling, Carry Bag, Tool Kit, Oil Bottle and more, \$2995. 3) Ohio AK Receiver in 7.62x39, New, \$75. Sherwoods French Village Guns, 56 Chaney Ave, Tupper Lake, NY 12986. 518-359-3821, 4 to 7pm.

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WANTED: Autumn Leaf China made by the Hall China Company for Jewel Tea. Looking for excellent to mint condition will buy a few pieces or an entire collection. See me at the Saratoga Arms Fair, March 19-20 tables E1-4 or call 518-664-7610.

WANTED: Need 26" octagon barrel for Winchester 1876 Rifle in .50 caliber. Also, full magazine tube and dovetailed bearing. Also need front and middle bands for 1858 Enfield Rifle. Call 518-664-9743 or e-mail dpetron1@nycap.rr.com.

WANTED: Dealers - See our internet customers wanted list on www.Neaca.com, perhaps you can supply our needs. We have on-going and updated list of parts, items, guns and other things. See "Wanted Page."

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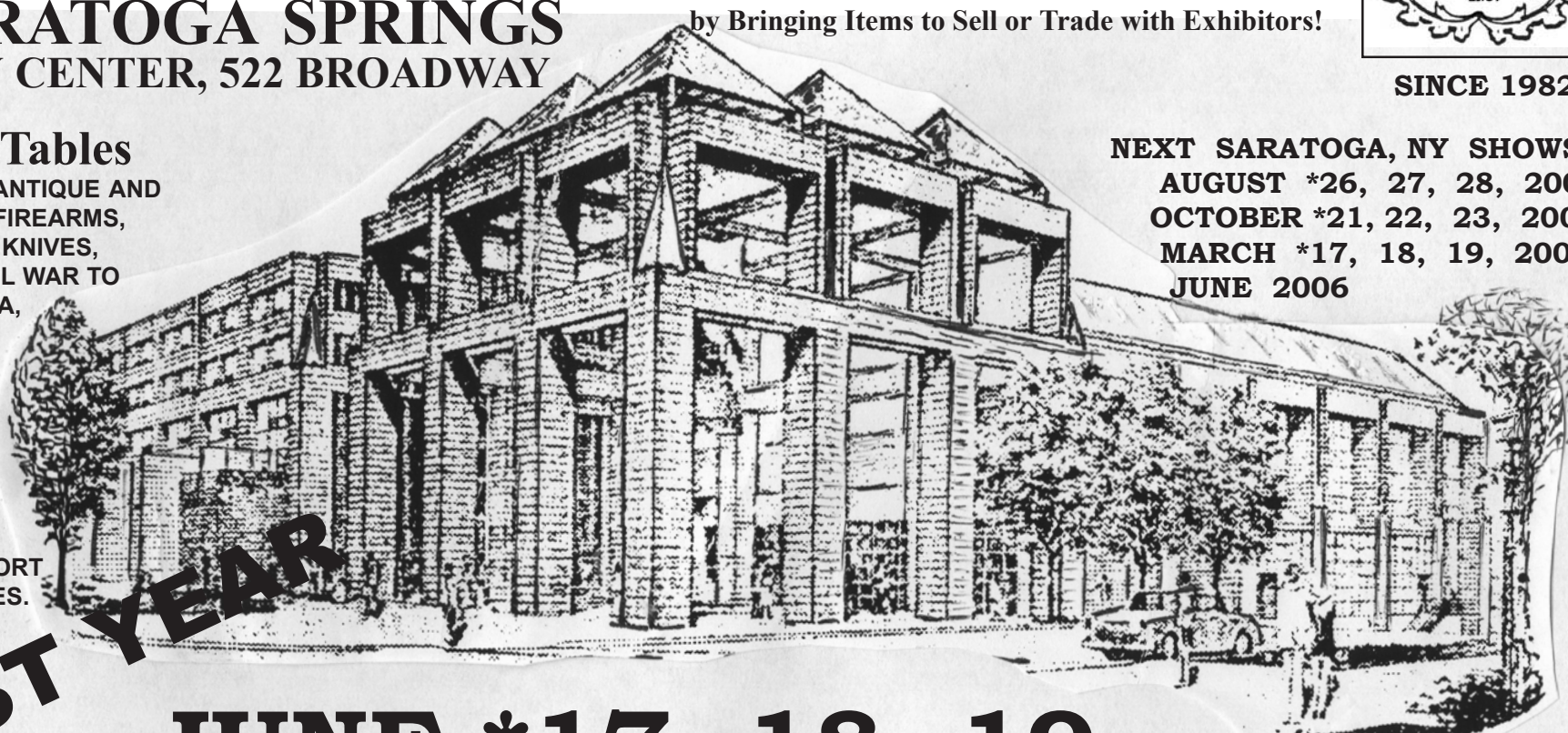
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...Message

(Continued from page 5) of a population of 2 million people and with a parking lot for about a thousand cars. Very easy level loading, well lighted and clean with about 40,000 square feet of open space. We'll have food available inside plus two restaurants on the lot. Motels are within five miles. We are planning on two shows this year, the first on July 29, 30 and 31 and the second in December.

The floor plan looks like we can accommodate 400 or more eight-foot tables with nice wide aisles. There hasn't been a Gun Show in the Schenectady area for about seven years. This should prove to be the start of something grand.

The July date may sound familiar as the same weekend that New York State Arms Collectors was using for their

summer show. I have been assured that theirs is not planned for this year and told them I would only use that date because of them not holding their Albany Summer show at the Egg. We would be extremely happy if the standard fare of Albany exhibitors would display with us in Rotterdam, about a dozen miles northwest. We have no intention of running against their Albany winter show in January.


Speaking of New York State Arms, one of their new Directors, Tony Fidd and I had a pleasant conversation about the past and present. We have decided that mutual cooperation and "friendly" atmosphere is again the way to proceed for an amicable future. Tony was an exhibitor at our March Saratoga Arms Fair and Cathy and I will again exhibit at their Syracuse Show this April 15, 16 and 17 at the New York State Fairgrounds. Life is short - time goes on.

April 1st is one of our member renewal quarters. We would wish that those of you who had not renewed their NEACA membership at this past March show would do so now. Check your member renewal date on your member card. It is a lot easier to renew on a timely basis than waiting for hours in line. Happy hunting out there.

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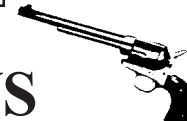


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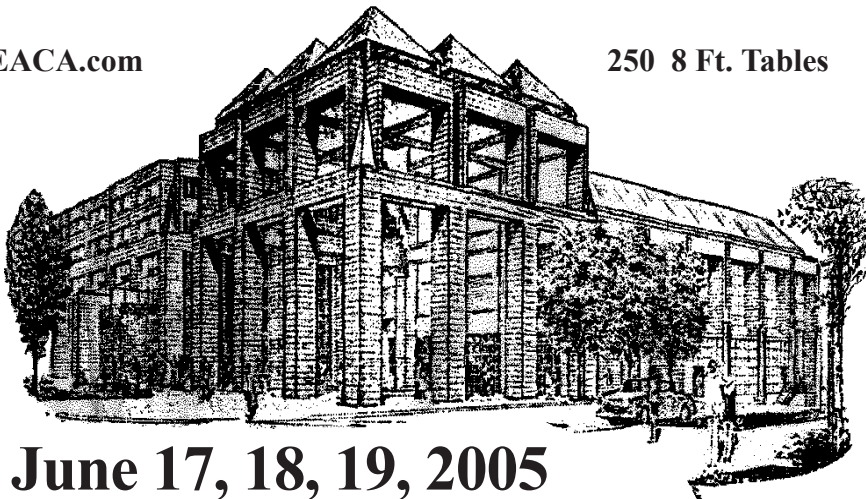


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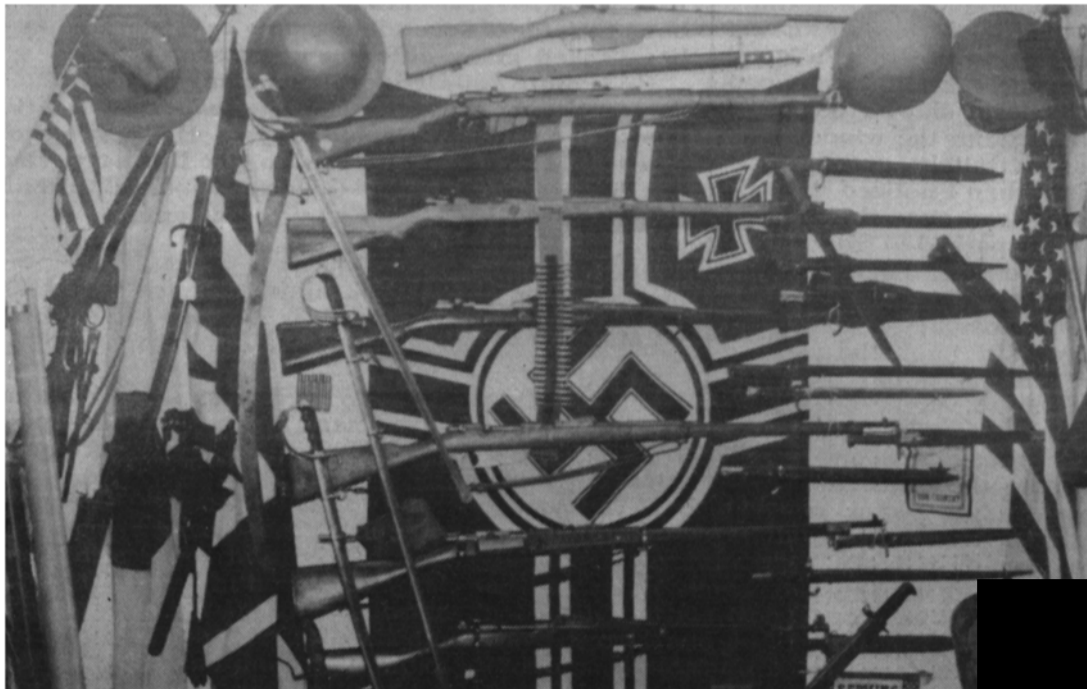
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