



Northeast Edition

Arms Collectors Journal

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A collection of Winchester lever action rifles, viewed by many to be the most popular longarm collectable.

Winchester Collection, ...Can you still afford to build one?

By David Petronis

The short answer to the headline question is yes. Then you might ask, what kind, at what cost and how many?

Not too long ago a friend asked if I thought he could still put together a nice collection of Winchester rifles similar to my own. Could they still be found at a reasonable price? My short answer to him was, "Perhaps." And I further stated, "don't simply look at

my collection as an example for you. Build your own with what you like and can afford to spend."

Let me state the obvious and then continue. If you have the money you can build a knock out collection of the best there is. Your purpose may be just to do it and have it or to create an investment or to preserve something for posterity. All good enough reasons, I guess. But probably
(continued on page 2)

Our New Internet Issue

By David Petronis

On July 15, 1985, the North-East Arms Collector and Journal was born with myself and wife Cathy, my daughter Denise and friend Don Fangboner at the conception. By our fourth issue, the banner heading and name was changed to Arms Collectors Journal. We wrote, or managed to coax others into writing, the articles and prose. We typeset, developed film, reset and proofed the whole Journal in house. We laid out, corrected and inserted the entire

copy, pictures, artwork and advertising, in house. Cathy, our three wonderful helpers, our kids Denise, David and Scott and myself accomplished all but the actual printing. Every month for five years, then sporadically then we ceased in 1992. We just became too exhausted and the kids had other lives to live. And it's hard to get help from kids you don't pay!

We have missed the Journal, but not the tremendous effort of its publication. On deadline day, I was a terror!
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ROBINSON RIFLES

By Mark B. Cross

Until 1971, little or nothing had ever been written accurately, about one of the first three repeating rifles ever manufactured. The rifles in question had been made more than a century before this. They were designed, patented and produced by Orvill M. Robinson. Occasionally, a gun publication would have a terse entry about the "Adirondack Arms Company" rifles, and indeed some were referred to as the "Babbitt" rifles. The Winchester Repeating Arms Company museum had one of these rifles on display, and had it wrongfully labeled as a gun with a "lever" action.

Robinson was a young lad of 15 years, when he left his native State of Vermont, during the Civil War, to work in the Remington Arms Company plant, in Illion, New York. When the war ended, he returned to his home, married and migrated across Lake Champlain to the Adirondack Mountains of northern New York. He eventually settled in the small hamlet of Upper Jay, New York and opened a simple shop where he worked as a "wheelwright."

With the equipment required to run a successful operation as a wheelwright, he also was equipped to do other types of work with metal and wood. In 1870, he was granted a patent on a new "Breech Loading Repeating Rifle." During this period there was a heavy demand for dependable firearms. Hunters, settlers traveling west and the military all needed good guns. But the Spencer Rifle, followed by the Henry, had about cornered the market on repeat-

ing rifles. However, Robinson was smart enough to realize the potential for his new rifle.

At this time in his life, he had neither the funds nor the facilities to manufacture his new rifle in Upper Jay. For this reason, he needed and found some financial backers and located a factory in the Plattsburgh, New York area, one capable of mass-producing his rifle. Mr. A. S. Babbitt owned the factory, and he agreed to

some type of working relationship with Robinson to manufacture the 1870 Model Robinson Rifle.

The new rifle was said to be similar, in some respects, to the Model 1866 Winchester and the Henry Rifles. It had an ornate trigger guard, which extended rearward, causing it to be often mistaken for a lever action. The frame was made in brass or iron.

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Both Sides of the Table

By Cathy Petronis

big fat monkey wrench.

I'm sure everyone has lived through trying times, going right back to when we all were kids. You can probably remember dreading a test in school, going on a first date, or fortunate of being anxious on whether your wedding would be perfect.

Over the years we seem to be able to handle things more easily and then life throws in a

In 1965 we lost a baby, something I as a mother thought I would never get over but in 1966 we had a healthy son. As adults we are also faced with the grief of losing our parents, some of us much earlier than others, but we still manage to overcome even that sadness and can look forward to brighter things including happy memories.

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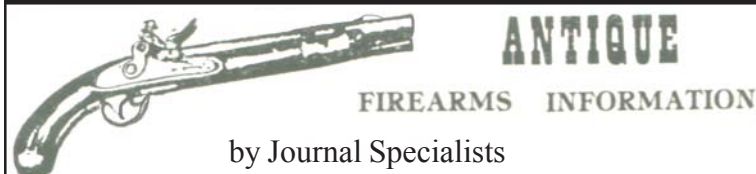
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Mail To:

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Questions about pre-1898 firearms for our specialists come by mail and our NEACA.com website. Information requests about value must be accompanied by a \$10.00 check and SASE.

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

Q. A collector friend says his Smith & Wesson No. One .22 caliber revolver is the first ever to use a metal cartridge and is the forerunner of modern day revolvers. Was this the first ever to use cartridges?

A. The Smith & Wesson Number One (First Issue) .22 caliber revolver was the first revolver patented in the United States as using a self-contained metal cartridge. (The ad shown here is a page from an 1864 arms catalog. The gun at top is a .32 rim fire No. 2 model; the one below is the smaller .22 caliber No. One.) This patent gave S & W exclusive right to produce such a revolver for many years, but at least one other revolver had been produced earlier that can claim the distinction of being the first to use a complete metal cartridge. That pistol was built by Eugene LeFauchaux of Paris, France. His father, Casimir, had produced metal pin-fire cartridges as early as 1851. Eugene's revolver was being used by the French Navy in 1853. The S & W No. 1 was not produced in America until 1857. So it was the first successful cartridge revolver in America, not in the world. It is unfortunate, but as in your friend's case, few collectors recognize the significance and importance of the work of Eugene LeFauchaux. **Jack Mullen**

Q. The lock on my half-stocked percussion hunting rifle is marked "J. Smith, Newburgh." I've never tried to find out who J. Smith was because there must be many Smiths who were in the gun business over the years. Can you help?

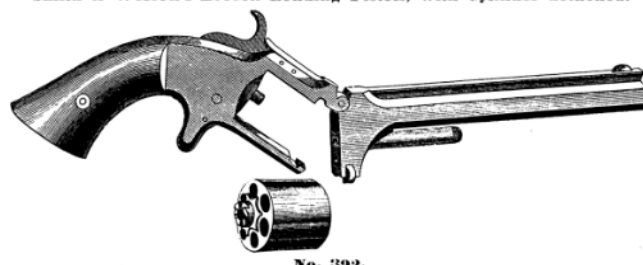
A. You've ignored a very important clue. There may have been many J. Smiths in the gun business, but how many could have been from Newburgh? As it turns out, Jacob Smith of Newburgh (New York) made guns and locks from 1856 to 1861. In 1859 to 1860 he built twenty-five rifles and made and sold \$200 worth of gun locks. **JM**

2 Col x 5" Adv. = 10" Adv. = \$60.00 (\$6.00 per inch)

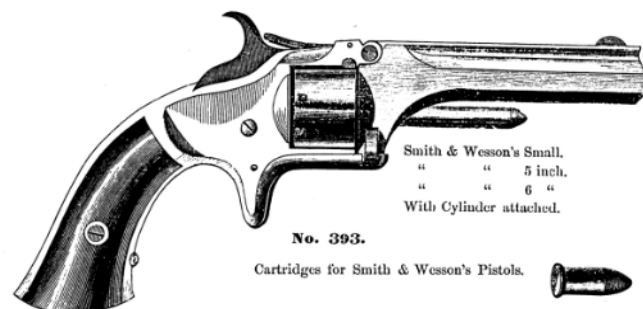
SCHUYLER, HARTLEY & GRAHAM'S

Arms and Ammunition.

Smith & Wesson's Breech Loading Pistols, with Cylinder detached.



No. 392.



No. 393.

Cartridges for Smith & Wesson's Pistols.

No. 394.

Q. The .32 rim fire revolver that is in my collection, looks just like a Smith & Wesson but is marked "L. W. Pond – Worcester, Mass." It also has an 1860 patent date. Is this a standard Smith & Wesson with a gun dealers name stamped on it?

A. Lucius W. Pond was a manufacturer of rim fire revolvers at the same time that Smith & Wesson was producing their famous pistols. His revolvers look very much like the S & W but are somewhat different. Unfortunately for Mr. Pond, his revolver infringed on the patent of the Smith and Wesson Company and by court decision he was forced to give up their manufacture and turn over all of the pistols at his factory to S & W. Like you Mr. Smith and Mr. Wesson also felt there was too much of a resemblance between Lucius Pond's revolver and theirs. **JM**

Can You Build a Winchester Collection?

(Continued from front page) none my friend had in mind, nor did he have money to burn, a position most close to reality for the majority of collectors. Then I wondered, how did I start mine and why?

Pictured above are some of the lever actions in my own Winchester collection. The top is a Model 71, a newer version of the 1886 Winchester. The rest being 1892 models, including a takedown rifle and a carbine. If you added a model 1873, 1886, 1894 rifle and saddle ring carbine, you have a pretty good lever action rifle collection, with less than ten guns. Where to go from there? Your choices are almost endless, one of the beauties of a beginning collector and especially of guns by Winchester. Or you can simply stop and enjoy them, or possibly "upgrade" what you started with. Back to my comment, "build your own, with what you want and like!"

I think my meager collection began because of my love for the outdoors, my interest

in history, a mechanical ability and being in the right place at a particular time and some luck. These are some of the attributes that are part of my make up. Your make up may be similar or different but something in your past experiences gives the desire to pursue or do something today. You first have to have the preponderance to collect then a desire and an inner quality in pursuit of building what you want. Having some disposable income goes a long way to fulfilling any of those traits. So, what about money?

Today you can still build a nice collection on a shoestring budget. It does take time, effort and knowledge. It is getting much more difficult but still possible. What is a nice collection? It is for you to decide. This is reality; you will not find a near new model 1873 on a dealer's table at a gun show for \$500. You will not find a mint model 1892 in a gun shop for \$1000, nor find an untouched model 1866 in a newspaper ad for \$1500. If

Both Sides

(Continued from front page)

In 1998 the monkey wrench was a tornado that hit our house (but not our home) and after we got over the grieving, we focused on the rebuilding.

On September 11th, 2001 everything else we faced in life became pale and meaningless in the grand scope of things.

For a week straight we did not want to move from in front of our televisions for fear we would miss a very important piece of news. We prayed along with everyone in the country and across the world that there would be many survivors pulled from the rubble but that was not to be. So many children without parents, so many families losing loved ones, so many fine innocent lives lost.

Buildings can be rebuilt, Americans are rebuilding their patriotism and somehow all those effected families will rebuild their lives.

On Sunday, October 7th our President gave an order for attacks against our enemy and one of the countries harboring those terrorists. To this day, I find it difficult to comprehend (Continued on page 6)

you do, lady luck is really on your shoulder, but I rather suspect that the "find" will be one of your everlasting "lessons" of this collecting endeavor.

That is not to say a "real deal" cannot still be found. But remember, if it sounds too good to be true it probably is. The natural thing to say is, "first, read about what you want to collect." Great advice, the books in print today are outstanding. You can build a collection of those alone. My own library is downright huge! But what really happens is that you find something, buy it and then read about what's in your lap. My suggestion is to try to find out the basics of what you want to collect, by reading of course, but also by viewing the real things in shops, at shows or in friend's collections. You must garner knowledge of your field, but you can't do it all from a book. And a mistake or two along the way is all part of the overall learning. We just don't want to make too many.

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The Adirondack Rifles of Robinson

(Continued from Page 1)

Cartridges were loaded through the bottom of the breech on some, or through a hinged port on the right side on others. It was made in calibers .38 and .44 rim-fire.

The majority of rifles had octagon barrels but some were round. There are some reported with half round and half octagon type, although I have never seen any. Magazines were of the tubular type, secured by a single barrel band. They are found in half, three quarters and full length. Sights were brass or iron. No hand guards were the norm on the 1870 model rifle. Stocks were mainly of cherry with some in walnut, and fitted with crescent type metal butt plates. It is not unusual to find a metal shield, with a game animal engraved on same, inletted into the stock.

Operation of this rifle was accomplished by putting the hammer in a half-cock position, which unlocked the action. A large set of metallic "ears" protruded from the action, and was found covering both sides of the exposed hammer. The shooter had to grasp


these "ears" between the fingers, pull them smartly to the rear, which fed a fresh cartridge from the magazine, into a carrier block. When the "ears" were pushed forward, the live round was fed into the chamber. When the rifle was fired and, again, the "ears" pulled to the rear, a single hook type extractor removed the fired case. A skilled operator could thereby sustain a rapid rate of fire.

One of the features found in the Robinson Rifle, not found in any of the other repeaters, was the ability to use mixed ammunition. At the time bullet heads were made in a conical shape or round. In other repeaters, mixing the different shaped cartridge heads would cause them to jam. The Robinson Rifle, however, included a feed system that allowed use of mixed shaped bullet heads without the jamming problems.

During the period from 1870 to 1872, Orvill Robinson was busy designing a prototype of an improved version of his first rifle. He completed approximately 12 of these, before settling on the final one.

In 1872, he applied for and was granted, a patent on another "Improved Breech Loading Rifle." Presumably, a decline in sales was a major factor for Robinson to seek to improve the 1870 model, due to complaints regarding its reliability under conditions requiring severe use.

The changes in the 1872 Model Rifle were primarily in the action. The new action operated by use of two small buttons at the top of the receiver that acted as an operating handle. The bolt was of the toggle type and hinged in the middle and when pulled to a rearward position it proved to be smoother and more reliable than the type in use on the 1870 model in spite of the fact it was operated in much the same manner. When the small bolt handle was moved rearward and forward manually, it performed the same function as the older model. Wooden fore-ends were added to the new models and more than a few are found with engraving. No amount of research was able to determine the identity of the engraver. What is known, however, is that the



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letters "P.T." are found on all of the engraved models. Another big change was in the trigger guard, which was designed much like those of a modern rifle. Also, some of the 1872 models were known to have been silver-plated.

Robinson named the company, which consisted of himself and his financial partners, the "Adirondack Arms Company," located in Plattsburgh, New York. During the period 1872 to 1874, Mr., Babbitt, and the other owners of the company were bought out by Robinson, who then became sole owner.

Some time in 1874, Robinson must have been approached by Mr. Oliver Winchester himself regarding the sale of the Adirondack Arms Company. This is speculated by the fact that no record of this transaction is recorded in

the files of the Board of Directors of the Winchester Corporation. Mr. Winchester had previously purchased the Spencer repeating rifle, later known as the Henry and the Model 1866 Winchester. He now was negotiating for his only other competitor of repeating firearms by purchasing the Robinson Company.

Almost nothing is known of the sale of Robinson's company to Winchester, except it took place in 1874. No amount is known but the Winchester purchase was thorough and complete, including patents, rifles in production and, apparently, a prohibition against Robinson ever producing any more rifles.

Following the sale of the Adirondack Arms Company, Robinson moved back to his home and family in Upper Jay, New York. He built a home there, which still stands today. He did make a few "one of a kind" rifles, one of which is pictured in this article. For whatever reason, Orvill Robinson left his family and moved for a short time to Bath, New York where he remarried. Another short period of time passed and he moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota. Robinson opened up a store at that location and sold violins, which he made himself. These musical instruments were of a high quality and obviously made him a comfortable living. He spent the remainder of his life in that area making and selling his violins.

The 1870 and 1872 models, invented and produced by Orvill Robinson, represent an important segment of firearm history. As is the case with many inventors, Robinson failed to reach the level of being a famous gun maker. He was just another of the many thousands of inventors who tread the borderline of becoming famous, but for many reasons never quite made it to a full success. Like many other antique items, the Robinson rifles represent an extremely

(Continued on page 11)



PHOTO OF SIDE of receiver showing 1870 model Robinson Repeater and stamp indicting A.S. Babbitt & Co. as manufacturer. The 1872 models of this rifle all bear the stamp in the

same location, however, it is marked, "Robinson Pat. APR. 23-72 - Mfg. by Adirondack Arms Co. Plattsburgh, NY."



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CATHY PETRONIS ~ Advertising & Subscription Manager



Internet Issue

(Continued from front page)
That I don't miss, as I'm sure my family doesn't. Many, many people still ask when are we bringing it back. Today, you can see the result of our resurrection of the old and creation of the new, Arms Collectors Journal.

This new effort is not because we have more time but because we can do today what we couldn't do then. Instead of typesetting, developing and manual layout on expensive and quite temperamental Compugraphic Typesetters, we have the computer and desktop publishing software. The time spent is much less while accomplishing even more. Isn't technology grand?

Today the staff consists of Cathy and me. But now we can create a 16 page tabloid in print, a standard 8 1/2" X 11" magazine of innumerable pages and an Internet readable, downloadable web PDF paper all at the same time. We can write, proof and correct in the computer. Articles and stories can be e-mailed into our computer where they can be managed simply and efficiently. The hard part was getting started again and to make the commitment.

We have hundreds of past articles we wish to resurrect. Some of the authors have since passed away and we wish to remember them. Some of our contributors of stories and columns have been or will be contacted to renew their efforts. New people will be approached to create and add new insights. As Mr. Bill O'Reilly asks, if you wish to "opine," please do so. Letters of commentary and questions are always welcome.

Many persons helped, supported and contributed to our Journal in those years past and we are grateful. Many budding authors got into print because of it. Much praise and comment was received because of our hometown, earthy style. We hope to continue the venue and the style. In this new age of technology and twenty-first century thoughts, we're still a little "old fashioned." And remain we shall.

We did our political views and reported the "gun worthy" news. I editorialized, patronized and visualized to members and subscribers. Cathy viewed her table from both

NEACA Member Message

By David Petronis

I hope this New Year brings continued growth in our wallets and diminished stature in the posterior it rests upon. Rather than the other way round if a certain John had to wake up each morning facing an uncertain Teresa in the White House boudoir. Life is good after all.

I thought the new boy waiting in the wings was the next Gun Show savior but I hear much displeasure from the rank and file. When I hear, "Better than nothing" I guess it means I'd better dust off some old locations and revive a few shows. Upstarts come and go like the seasons.

Right to the point, on February 20th we were at Lake George, NY during their busy Winter Carnival Festival. The Holiday Inn, with their new management, treated us wonderfully, as had been our experience over past years.

Next year we have sched-

uled our show a week earlier to relieve the pressure off President's week-end. About 40 six-foot tables will again be available for our exhibitors on Sunday, February 12th. Perhaps we can revive our Toy Show for the Saturday of that week-end.

The following month is our Saratoga Show, March 19 and 20 week-end and it will be another sellout, this being the seventh in a row. Always our best attended show and a money-maker for our dealers. Flyer is being sent and I suggest your response for tables be immediate for those of you not already deposited. Please note the upcoming dates for the year as there has been a change from the norm. We are also adding an Antique Arms Fair on Fathers Day week-end, June 18 and 19.

The month of April will find us back in Herkimer, New York on April 9 & 10 with Friday set-up. This has always been a fine show for buying

and I usually manage to sell pretty well also. We only have room for about 50 eight-foot tables so first come first served. The VFW treats us well with good food and available drink. It is a gun company area and has been for the last two hundred years with Savage Company of Utica and Remington in Illion. Flyer is also in mail. Incidentally, don't lose them - I'm not sending out another.

Again we'll be in Plattsburgh at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Boynton Avenue. About the same time as last year, the show will be on April 30 and May 1 with a Friday set-up this time. We were full last year and had a real nice show. Some great stuff walked in and I believe all the dealers did fine. I'm sure it will sell out soon. The flyer is also in the mail.

As usual, you all should know by now that I accept deposits for all these shows, you don't have to send in the full amount for things four months down the line. But I do like to know who is planning on coming so send in your application with a few bucks and pay the balances prior to two weeks of the show date.

We'll see what we develop for June and beyond with a new mailing in April or so. If you haven't renewed your memberships I suggest sending it in so you can benefit from the reduced table costs.

Incidentally, Cathy has a few openings for new income tax preparation clients due to a few departed vacancies. If you are paying an arm and leg for service rest easy that she only requires a normal fee and sends electronic returns also. Twenty odd years experience and considerable help to a number of you dealers already should put her on top of your list for income tax preparer. Don't call on April 5th though - we are booked till the end.

Our www.NEACA.com website had 1,006,233 hits in December, first month we broke the million mark. It has been doing quite well but I need more guns and stuff for my Hudson River Trading Company business on the site. So, I'm going to accept consignments at 20% commission but the items have to be in my store where I can see and feel them. I have buyers for fine guns and quality militaria. Go to the site and have a look.

Also, we are very close to getting our Arms Collectors Journal on-line. It may be ready by early March if all goes well. On line subscriptions for \$12.00 a year and first class, tabloid size mail at \$24.00. We also need advertisers. Similar format to the old Journal.

Lots of things going on this year so I hope you all stick around with memberships, take tables at our shows and check the website. We've had our fraternity of individualists for over twenty years now and I hope we all make it another twenty. Good hunting.

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Our New Internet Issue

(Continued from page 4) sides. The "Fang" "techno-cized" his military answers and reviewed tomes sent. Jack Mullen answered for antiques while Bill Holbein catered to fishing collectors. While things "Overheard at the Frog Pond" rocked us off our chairs.

Stories of soldiers, artillery, guns and trapping abounded. There were writings of tanks and thanks and planks. There were musings from students, doctors, lawyers and professors all well rounded. In gleaning past issues and the people involved, I was absolutely astounded. And I promise, this once was enough to review what we founded.

To new heights we bound, a touch of new while keeping a clasp of the old. But we now need subscribers. We will remind you periodically, no pun intended. Whimsical reminiscing of the past aside the true facts are that this is not an effort in philanthropy. We hope to at least break even with its' cost. So, future subscribers and advertisers, we will be coming for you.

My thoughts had been turned to republishing our Journal for quite a while now. Technology was certainly a key factor. But, I've been talking with several Internet entities about providing content, through our Journal pages, to a compatible partner in the web hosting business. Some rather large organizations were approached and still are interested in an arrangement, one with my content and their space while sharing business developments such as on line classifieds. But our web business and presence has grown such that we may just host all our own efforts.

Our current website located at NEACA.com is now receiving just over 1,000,000 "hits" a month. That is correct, one million hits each month. A normal per month increase is about 10% occasionally peeking around 15%. That relates to about "30,000 Visits" a month and by next hunting season we could easily be generating 100,000 visits. That is akin to having several million people walk by your front door and one hundred thousand of them coming in for a look every month! Really not too bad since we started from nothing about two years ago. The onset of our

Journal and putting that up on our web pages could cut the time frame scenario in half. We're actually beginning to talk real advertising potential. We'll keep you all informed. But we still need our first official subscriber and many more thereafter.

You should start seeing our Journal again in shops and at gun shows. Subscription rates are published elsewhere. As are our advertising rates. We'll start printing about 5000 or so for our first few issues. Like any newspaper, magazine or our Journal, each copy is read by several people. If it's in the favorite literary room in the house, with a family of four, probably four people will read our Journal. Likewise other locations. Readership and influence is not the same as how many are published and distributed. And you would be quite surprized at how few of the current "gun papers" are actually printed. So 5000 Journals can be read by fifteen thousand people if they are distributed properly. Naturally, distribution by subscription is what Cathy and I want because we can receive money to help pay for the production costs. No subscriptions or advertising, no money, no more Journal. Life sucks!

After you read a few of our Journals I'll bet you'll want to see more and have it delivered direct to your home. In fact, if you simply send me a note with your name and address, I'll send a couple of issues free. Then I'll send you a request that you take the remaining year's subscription. If you don't want it please let me know why so we can judge what we're doing wrong. Keep the issues I've sent. If you enjoy what you read and want more, send me your subscription. This is a bet I think we'll both win. I don't expect this to work 100% of the time but you certainly have nothing to lose. You can learn about the on-line version and how you can subscribe, advertise or tie in a link to your web site by going to NEACA.com or to ACJonLine.com.

I hope you enjoy our renewed effort to bring you our Journal. Show it to your friends. I know we're going to enjoy bringing it back and publishing our new Arms Collectors Journal both in print and on the internet.

Some Taxing Thoughts... by Cathy Petronis

The beginning of each year is dreaded by some and welcomed by others. It all depends on whether you may have to pay taxes or anticipate a refund.

For taxpayers whose business is set up as a corporation, there's a bit more pressure. Corporation tax returns must be filed by March 15th, a full month prior to personal tax returns, unless you have a fiscal tax year.

Those of you who might be tax illiterate, the standard deduction (the one IRS provides you automatically) is \$4850 for the single filer, \$9700 if you are married and filing jointly, \$7100 for head of household (single parent) or \$9700 for a qualifying widower. In order for itemizing to be beneficial, you must top those deductions including items such as state withholding tax, school and property taxes, additional state tax that you might have paid in 2003, mortgage interest, interest on home equity loans, cash and non cash contributions before you get into the miscellaneous deductions. Medical deductions are also considered on Schedule A of the 1040 (Itemized Deductions) but you must

have out of pocket expenses that reach over 7.5% of your adjusted gross income. I'm sure we're all thankful if we don't have high medical expenses. So, this is just our beginning of taxing thoughts for the new year.

New for the 2004 tax year is the ability to deduct state and local sales taxes. There is some confusion about this though. Taxpayers have the choice of either deducting state withholding **OR** state and local sales tax, but not both. If you purchased a new vehicle, boat or RV you might make out better claiming the sales tax paid instead of the withholding. Also if you purchased a major appliance like a Plasma TV and if you kept a record of every penny you spent on sales tax throughout the year.

While I'm on the topic of RV's and boats, if you purchased either of those or a travel trailer and financed it, you may be able to claim the interest paid as mortgage interest on a vacation home. The rules state that if it has sleeping quarters, cooking facilities and toilet facilities, it is considered a second home. IRS recommends that you ob-

tain a statement from the bank indicating what the interest is being paid for.

Many of us make cash contributions and never think twice about getting a receipt. Whenever possible write a check. If you give clothing or household items to the Salvation Army or other charitable organizations, it is beneficial for you to list everything; use the suggested fair market value provided by the organization and have them stamp your list to show when you gave and where. You'd be amazed how these deductions can add up.

For the travelers out there, and I'm sure there are a lot of you traveling to set up at Gun Shows and such, the mileage deduction was raised this year to 37.5 cents per mile. When you begin using a new vehicle, there are two ways to claim expenses on that vehicle. If you start by claiming the standard mileage deduction that I mentioned above, you can alternate between that and the actual expenses incurred each year to give you the best deduction. But if you begin with actual expenses, that's what you must stick with for the life of the vehicle.

Whether you prepare your own taxes or have someone do them for you, it pays to be tax savvy so you know your taxes are prepared to your best advantage. Don't forget to read and check over your forms before filing; you are the only one responsible for your accuracy, not the preparer, or your accountant nor your lawyer; and the difference between preparers is how much you get charged. But, if you feel that someone has prepared your taxes improperly, you can always file an amended return, but that's another topic for another day.

Real News From Iraq

by David Petronis

One of our NEACA members is now serving in Iraq after having been through Afghanistan and has some how found the time to write a column about the real story on the ground in country. Some of you have no doubt seen him at our Saratoga Arms Fairs dealing in high quality double guns and drillings, among other things. He asks me to say, "Hello, and be safe." A message to all his friends, family and acquaintances back home here in the Catskills of New York State.

Brian Perazone is a Major in the United States Army and in Command of A Company, 414th Cavalry Battalion now on station in the "Green Zone" in the newly liberated, Free Country of Iraq. He and his men, along with 200,000 or so other brave and daring US Army, US Marine, US Air Force, US Coast Guard and US Naval personnel have earned their place in history and in the hearts of Freedom

loving souls everywhere by their undeniable conquest of evil. Some of these men and women have given more than should be asked. Some will heal wounds. Some families must endure healing a more tragic loss. All who are there, all who return too early and all who will return to resume a peaceful life, are all Heroes. And Brian shows us in photos and tells us in prose how the individual Iraqi man or woman in the street appreciates the work and sacrifice of he and his troops now there securing a safe and free country for the Iraqi people.

You can find the true story of what is now and has been going on within the country of Iraq. His latest excerpt was published on our web site on February 22nd and he tells of the recent elections. You can see photos of shops and schools; of people working, shopping and living a better life than they were under the Baathist regime of Saddam Hussein. He sent a story about

(Continued on page 15)

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NEACA

by David Petronis

EDITORIAL

Nearly twenty years ago I attempted my first Editorial for what was then our brand new Journal. I envisioned what we hoped to do with our paper, looking forward to good and grandiose things. Years later I find we have accomplished many of those aspirations, failed in a few but, have in general traveled a wonderful journey. My intent now, was to find an aspiring topic of interest in this editorial rebirth, or one that pertained to our troubled times or that might be so inspiring it would astound my readers. But, as I gleaned over a good sectional layer of our prior issues, I couldn't help but remember our own past; my journey along with my wife and partner, Cathy, pursuing this fascinating and wonderful hobby of arms collecting. And of our writings, rantings and revelry that became our Arms Collectors Journal.

In reading past writings of my own and Cathy's "Both Sides of the Table" insights, I remembered people I'd forgotten, recalled pleasant memories with friends while also reminded of the tribulations we all face in business and in life. I reviewed a story of a good portion of our life; experiences shared, visits made, places we've been, even what fine restaurants we found.

But most of all I saw the lives of people we touched; or rather, I was reminded of the many fine folks who had entered our lives and thus generated many warm memories. Of course, in our journey I was also reminded of how naive we were when we began and of some memories not so fine.

Overall, however, I felt this feeling of accomplishment; that our publication journey brought insight, knowledge and joy to our subscribers and readers. This, we want to continue.

I tried to treat my editing and composition of our Journal as reality in our lives. In keeping with our stated title I needed stories about collecting arms; that is, firearms, blades and military accoutrements. I wished to stay with laymen's terms and not be another technocratic instrument of mundane detail. But, for that end, we would review the books on in-depth subjects and answer questions in a professional manner.

As in life we tried to present variety; by including humor, short historic stories, current happenings of interest and even where and when to find new events. Everything is political, it is said; our Journal was and will be, no exception. Our views lean to the right, our conscience allows us to listen to the left. To keep the jingle in our pockets we steer a course to conservatism; to maintain our hunting and fishing environment we favor conservation. However, we are liberal in our views on guns; we think all responsible people should own them at will, carry them as wished. To protect our First Amendment and all that come after, we surely need our Second Amendment; as written, not as now being interpreted. We are in full support of our President but not always in step with every policy. We have and will continue to present our view and rational of politics. These tenets will guide our Arms Collectors Journal editorials, comments and content. We hope you enjoy our efforts and support us with a subscription.

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Both Sides of the Table

by Cathy Petronis

(Continued from page 2)

why there were protesters in our country. I know they have every right to do it but are they so naive that they think if we play ostrich and stick our heads in the sand that the terrorism will stop?

I have had a difficult time dealing with news about anthrax and planes that have landed as fast as they took off because of incidents of possible terrorism.

I came to the realization recently that what really has me in the mood I'm in is because I felt let down by our government prior to the September 11th attacks. Partisan politics are not the thing to pursue at this time but somewhere along the line our defenses dropped. But then I realized that we all should have been more vigilant. We have become so comfortable with our freedoms that we've taken them for granted.

I've also realized that, as we've been hearing from President Bush and even doctors, that if we become paranoid, the terrorists have won. So we all have to go on with living as normal as possible but be a little more cautious in some respects, also a little more tolerant in our everyday lives. Don't sweat the small stuff. Try to do things to jump-start the economy like Dave and I. We are considering going into professional shopping and leisure living.

I read somewhere that taking time to get to know our neighbors, we'd be living in a much safer society. The terrorists took advantage of the fact they could move in amongst us and being so busy with our everyday lives we wouldn't stop to find out who they were or what they were about. We need to pay more attention to our surroundings and of the people around us and seeing anything unusual, notify the authorities.

The world is a scary place right now. But, with hope and diligence a much better one clings on the horizon of a beautiful sunrise, and there will be many still to come. Till next time, stay safe as we see each other from both sides of the table.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

David Petronis,

I would like to thank you for returning my phone call in regards to the Albany gun show. I realize that it's not one you sponsor, and yet you were kind enough to fill me in on the dates. Regrettably, I was unable to attend due to a conflict of scheduling. Perhaps I may catch the next one. I will attempt to find out when your shows are happening, particularly the Saratoga show.

So till then, happy collecting.

Thanks Again,

Gary Johnson, North River, NY

Editor: It's nice to be nice... and then thanked it's even nicer. Look for our schedule in your mailbox.

* * * * *

Dear Dave,

Just a note to tell you that the Thompson Center .54 caliber Hawken performs beautifully. It hits center at 150 yards with a .435 grain conical bullet.

I have always enjoyed your gun shows and hope you fare well and beyond.

My Best to you and Cathy,

Steve Shako, Brentwood Farm, Schoharie, NY

Editor: I am very happy that your new Hawken works well. Thank You!

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Will Cuomo's 'Inartful' Remark Awake the Sleepy Lion?

By David Petronis

(This article is a re-print from our first Journal but history seems repetitive so a current reading shows how time really changes very little.)

I find it truly amazing how someone could alienate so many people with so few words. Imagine for a moment the conceivable amount of feelings that can be touched by the words, **"NRA Hunters, Who Drink Beer, Don't Vote And Lie To Thier Wives."** First, **"NRA"**: About three million nationally, 200,000 or so in New York State. Second, **"Hunters"**; you'll have to pick your own figure, somewhere around 60 million. Third, **"Who Drink Beer."** I wouldn't touch that figure with a ten-foot pole. How about, **"Don't Vote."** That's an easy answer, if you're a politician, who cares! **"Lie To Thier Wives?"** Our women don't expect us men to lie to them, do they? Well, I lost count of the alienated masses anyway so the number of people who don't wear seat belts doesn't matter and what about that sleeping lion? Confused? Well, read on.

The lion, naturally is representative of the mass of voters, who could be agitated by remarks made by NY Governor Mario Cuomo, that were by his description, "Inartful." Whatever that means ("Artful" is tricky and crafty). The catchy phrase was used in an interview about NY State's seat belt law while the NY Governor was about as far away from the Empire State as he can get and still seek support for a possible Presidential bid in 1988. The Los Angeles Times reported the remarks in April and the kettle has been brewing since. Mr. Cuomo has sent an apologetic letter to then National Rifle Association President, Mr. Howard Pollock on April 22. In it he explains, "In the course

of a lengthy interview regarding New York State's mandatory seat belt law, I was asked to characterize some of the bitter correspondence sent to me by opponents of this law, the first such law in the nation. My res-ponse was Inartful and could leave a false impression of dis-respect for the National Rifle Association and its many members. I regret that. I would not like to be perceived as disparaging any large group. That would be unintelligent and unfair. I certainly don't agree with all of the many public policy positions of the NRA, nor would I expect that your members would agree with all of mine."

He goes on to say, "I have also enclosed a transcript from the opening of a statewide radio call-in show in which I participate each month. At the start of the April 18 program, I took some time to publicly correct any misimpression created by my remark." The radio transcript reads in part, "I was quoted somewhere as disparaging if you will, National Rifle Association Members. Somebody took a quote of mine about use of seat belts and I don't remember the exact quote, but it was something like the Governor saying, 'Well, the guys who don't use the seat belt are NRA people who go hunting and lie to their wives about where they are and are drinking beer somewhere in the woods.' Now, I regret very much that if anybody took that to mean a condemnation of all NRA members because I certainly don't mean that." He continues, "I wouldn't want to be perceived as disparaging any whole group. That's unintelligent and if that's the way this bantering quote was heard, then I very much regret it."

If I were a politician, I certainly wouldn't want to be perceived as treating any large group with contempt either. Is

it possible, however, that the Governor actually feels that way about NRA hunters and beer drinkers and that being 3,000 miles away from New York did not guard his remarks about the state seat belt law? And his forceful push to raise the state drinking age from 19 to 21 is therein an indication of contempt for beer drinkers? Was his push for the seat belt law an indication of possible future restraints he wishes to put on the people of New York, or of the population in general in 1988? Questions I would certainly like answered if I was a voter, but I'm an NRA member and you know what they do.

This article was my lead political story in our First Issue of our tabloid "North East Arms Collector and Journal" then to be our new **Arms Collectors Journal**. I penned it almost twenty years ago but I was amazed at how some things seem never to change. Recently Mario Cuomo's son Andrew had his hopes set on following in father's footsteps. No doubt his politics and perhaps his future policies were strongly influenced by the past Governor. And perhaps Andrew perceives the NRA, its members and hunters, in the same light as my article about his father.

Today in New York State we have the seat belt law, you must be 21 to drink, the NRA has more than the three million members and it took a terrorist event in September of 2001 to perhaps once again awake the sleeping lion; the combined mass of each individual's intellect. This awakening of the thought process that germinates in each of our minds may be the one positive aspect, if there could be any, from a tragedy with such a scope. Perhaps enabling the unresponsive electorate to inquire, to think, to act and to use that newfound knowledge to exercise their right and duty to vote responsibly. As I said so many years ago about voting, I'm still a NRA member and you probably know what I do. Recently, one of the other liberal clones discovered what a lot of our people do behind closed voting drapes.

Our Gallant Military

By Cathy Petronis

I was born during World War II to a family very familiar with the military. My oldest brothers were serving in the Pacific Theater and didn't (meet) me until I was two.

Two more brothers served in the Navy during the Korean War and my youngest brother was drafted and served in the Army just before Vietnam. Intertwined in those years one brother-in-law was in the Army, one in the Sea-Bees and one in the Navy.

I can only imagine the anguish my parents felt while my brothers were serving. I was too young to realize but I do remember waiting for my two middle siblings to come home around the holidays. I was old enough to know by then that they were my heroes.

I was married and we started a family. During the Viet Nam War we lived in a development in Bay Shore, New York, which is on Long Island near where I grew up. We had the experience of witnessing first hand the grief of losing a loved one in combat. Our next door neighbors' son was first listed as missing in action and then 24 hours later the family was notified that he was a casualty of the war.

Years later, in 1998 to be precise, our family visited the

Viet Nam Memorial in Washington, DC and searched for his name on the wall. It was chilling to find it.

This fighting occurring in the world today seems quite different. It isn't always soldiers in uniform that our American troops are facing. The majority of battles are against faceless terrorists, animals who are too gutless to show their faces.

The respect I have for our troops is immeasurable. We must all let them know how much we appreciate what they are doing and that we do realize why they are fighting.

While they are in the streets and alleys far from home, battling to protect us from new terrorist attacks, they also teach people of other countries how to fight for the freedoms that we enjoy and sometimes take for granted.

In our great country of these United States we have all been bequeathed the right and privilege of agreeing or disagreeing with anything we want, all without fear of government retribution. This, our legacy, was given by our men and women who went in harms way. Their fight was for us.

Remember to keep our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen in your hearts and prayers as you enjoy the freedoms of this great Nation.

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.

Here's a question we didn't print from our first Journal.

Dear Don,

Q. I have a Japanese helmet from the war but it is light weight, olive drab in color and has a woven like liner. What is it?

A. Well, you have the famous Japanese work helmet. From the photos you sent I saw that there was no place for a star or other insignia. I owned one that was taken from a work crew after they were discovered in a cave on one of the Pacific Islands. It was given to me by the veteran who liberated it. The tell tale identifying mark was the liner that was almost like a pot-holder type of open weave, attached crudely to the inside. The helmet was about half the weight of the regular infantry one and very crude in construction.

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RE-ENACTMENT NEWS

NYS Capital District Living History Events

By Chris Petronis

Billed as the Armed Forces Weekend May 21 and 22, The Empire State Aerosciences Museum in conjunction with the Hudson-Mohawk Military Vehicle Preservation Assoc. will host "Wings, Wheels and Tracks." This event will combine the impressive aircraft exhibit of the museum with over 35 military vehicles from different time periods of the 20th century. In addition to the planes and vehicles a contingent of local WWII living his-

tory enactors will be on site with a period military encampment and display area. The event will also have food vendors on site as well as various dealers in military vehicle parts and general militaria. All proceeds from admission will go to the non-profit ESAM.

Some items of special interest that will be on display includes a restored M-7 Priest Self Propelled Gun and Sherman Tank.

The show will run Saturday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on Sunday from 9-3.

For further information go to www.ny-pennmvcc.com on the internet. The Museum is located on Route 5 in Scotia.



Memorial Day Parade and Display, Town of Nassau

On Monday, May 30th the town of Nassau will host a Memorial Day parade beginning at 2:00 pm. There will be a small living history display on the grounds of the local VFW post before and immediately after the parade. A civil war cannon crew as well as WWII U.S. interpretive exhibit is expected.

OTHER NEWS

For the internet surfers you might want to check out a website created by Brian and Robin Mead from Georgia; hardscrabblefarm.com/ww2 so you can discover all the fascinating aspects of World War Two re-enacting. They have put together a myriad of links and information. And please inform them you saw it in our Arms Collectors Journal.

John Ferrannini, Public Relations Director for the 24th Regiment of Foote will be at the March 19 and 20 Saratoga Springs, NY Arms Fair in the City Center. The 24th is a Revolutionary War re-enacting unit that is headquartered in Saratoga. They will be in period dress and man a table at the show for the purpose of recruiting for the Regiment.

SEND US EVENT INFO

We are always seeking information about upcoming events, or living history presentations, re-enacting displays or where to find new things related to the hobby.

**BOOKS FOR REVIEW
CAN BE SENT
IN CARE OF THE
ARMS COLLECTORS
JOURNAL**

NEACA BOOK REVIEW



**U.S. Army European Theater of Operations -
COLLECTORS GUIDE ~ by Henri-Paul EnJames
Publisher - Historie & Collections, 2004
Price: \$44.95 ~ 9"x 12" ~ HC, Color Gloss, 272 pgs.
ISBN: 2-913903-87-8**

This excellent product by French author and collector, Henri-Paul EnJames, will certainly become the standard reference book for collectors of WWII USA G.I. web gear, insignia and equipment. In fact, booksellers of collector references on militaria have told us this was one of the best selling books of 2004.

The author states that when he began collecting United States Army gear in the 1980's all he had to rely on for information was a WWII period US Quartermaster Catalog. He kept this new book in the format of that catalog but with superb color photos, excellent reference material and period historic details.

He relates to us his awe at the power the United States had to invade the European continent and then supply this enormous army of liberators with articles from the necessary to seemingly mundane: and he illustrates for collectors the fine detail of this endeavor. From field gear of the individual to the army cooks, from compass to maps, through winter coats and boots to radios, rope and rifles, Mr. EnJames covers it all, as had the quartermaster of the time.

The serious collector, beginning novice or military historian will all find this book invaluable as a reference for years to come. For a collector, knowledge is the key to success in building a proper period collection, this book makes that journey a lot easier and full of little known intricacies.

**The Bowie Knife ~Unsheathing an American Legend
by Norm Flayderman ~ Published by Andrew Mowbray
Lincoln, RI, 2004
Price: \$79.95 ~ 9"x 12" ~ Hard Cover, DJ, 512 pgs
ISBN: 1-931464-12-X**

The Bowie Knife; it can be pictured as the long clip point blade with rugged handle as the original maker, Jim Bowie, himself or a long thin double edged blade with fancy silver molded hilt or a folding blade housed between slabs of brass and ivory, all can be different but all are known as bowie knives.

Amid this confusion, mystery and story telling, the most re-nowned of antique arms authors, Norm Flayderman, pierces the folklore and relates to his readers the true story of the Bowie and its place in American history and its use in expanding civilization upon our continent.

The collecting of some type of martial arm must always have been a part of history - even with ancient man, if only to accumulate an assortment of one or many weapons, simply for protection and defense. Haphazardly this collecting became a sign of power and superiority and became relegated to the rich and most powerful men of early to recent history. Norm Flayderman was among the first collectors and dealers to bring order to this amalgamation of warring objects. First, with his dealer catalogs and then his authoritative books on American arms collecting and its' evolutions as, *Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms*. Like Thomas Edison who harnessed electricity, a force that was always present in nature, Norm Flayderman gave us order in the field of arms collecting.

With the gained knowledge of over fifty years of handling antique arms, he brings forth what will be the definitive treatise of Bowie Knife history and will undoubtedly further this art of collecting for years to come. This latest in his books is a must for the serious student of the subject or for anyone interested in American expansion history or lore. Superbly done both in printing, prose and pictures, this new book captures the Bowie knife and places it in its' rightful realm of history.

OUTDOOR TIPS and VITTLES



by
Cathy Petronis

OLD FASHIONED HUNTER'S DINNER How to Turn a Bunny Into a Tasty Meal

This recipe is from the "American Weekly Household Almanac" circa 1930's.

"Whenever some one brings in a rabbit," writes Mrs. William Fisher, Jr., La Salle, Illinois, "you may be sure that Old-Fashioned Hunter's Dinner will be on the day's menu." Here is the way that it is made:

Cut a 3-lb. Rabbit in pieces for serving. Place in a kettle with 5 or 6 minced onions, a bit of bay leaf, ½ cup minced celery, ½ tablespoon salt. Cover with cold water and allow to cook slowly until almost tender, or about 2 to 3 hours. Add 2 cups diced carrots, 8 quartered potatoes, a few grains of pepper. Continue cooking gently until vegetables are tender. Thicken with 3 tablespoons flour, blended with 3 tablespoons cold water. Add 1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley and serve immediately. Serve with hot baking powder biscuits, or we sometimes serve with dumplings, made as follows:

Take 1-cup flour, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder, pinch of salt, sifted together, beat 1 egg till light. Add egg and enough milk to make a stiff batter. Drop by spoonfuls on top of meat, let rise, and then put on lid and cook about 15 minutes longer. They will be very light and fluffy. This dinner is fit to serve a king. *That's the way it was in the good ol' days.*

SUBSCRIBE TO THE ARMS COLLECTORS JOURNAL

The Adirondack Rifles of Robinson

The three rifles invented by Orvill M. Robinson. Pictured are (top to bottom) the 1870 and 1872 model of his repeating rifles, both patented. Also shown is one of the last rifles he ever made. This particular rifle represents one of a pair, which was never further produced by Robinson for fear of existing patent infringement. All owned by Robinson's great-grandson.



Continued from page 3)

limited edition of what might have been a historical breakthrough into the world of success and fortune. At present, they only represent a quality item of New York State vintage, about which very little is known.

Only in recent years, have books on antique firearms listed the rifles of Orvill M. Robinson. Flayderman's "Guide to Antique Firearms," third edition, lists these rifles as being worth \$750 to \$1000. The sixth edition of "Blue Book of Gun Values" by S. J. Fjestad, shows the guns of the "Adirondack Arms Company" valued at \$605 to \$2310 for 1870 models and \$495 to \$2200 for the 1872 models. While publications regarding gun values are important to the collector, they are most valuable as a guide only. It has been my observation and experience that any gun is worth

what someone is willing to pay for it. No more, no less! Due to the limited production of the two models of Robinson's Rifles, which probably was less than 1500 total, these rifles offer a choice collectible. Most certainly they are a prime piece of historical evidence from the Adirondack Mountains of New York State. In the right situation the rifles of O. M. Robinson might well have been world famous as well as a gun collector's dream. The problem with this is that what might have been, is a loser to what really happened.

(Editor's note:) The author of this article had a detailed story published about the Rifles of O. M. Robinson in major gun publications. He had seen many of these rifles and was furnished information and data from the great-grand-

son of Robinson, Mr. Paul Robinson of Upper Jay, New York where he operated a store and gun shop. Mark Cross was the owner and operator of the M&M Gun & Sports Shop, Inc., of AuSable Forks, NY. He was a retired NY State Police Officer and an early member of the New East-coast Arms Collectors Association as well as other gun related organizations. Mark wrote other articles for our Journal, this was his first and we printed it in 1985. The facts remain the same. The gun shops are gone, the values are higher and the guns are even scarcer. Mark was my friend, his passion for the Adirondacks was foremost, and he loved guns and shooting. Sadly, Mark Cross passed away in September of 2001. His memory will live on in our Journal with future reprinted articles.

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vernier tang sight lends a wonderful silhouette to the wall. To me, it just looks nice and I have a strong fondness for it and the circumstance. Makes a wonderful addition to my collection. Would it all happen again today? Probably not. But there will be something else that occurs. Things happen, they always do.

Some guns will cost you relatively little, others quite a bit. Buy what you like, tempered with your gained knowledge you will begin to see a collection grow. What kind of collection? No one can tell you. And it all depends on where you go, what you find and how much money you want to spend.

I could have said invest, but your collection should first be what you want. If it happens that a few buys are also an investment for future earnings on dollars spent today, that will be great. Don't count on it. My shop is full of investments other people thought they made. When and if you need "pork chop" money out of one of your darling collectable investment pieces, you are going to find out what your gun is really worth. A distressed sale makes a depressed seller. I can't help the little giggle when I recall my friend Dave Harris uttering something like, "If you think you can get more for that, bring it to the supermarket and see if you can get pork chops."

Not to infer that what you buy won't maintain or realize a value when and if you go to sell your guns, in fact they probably will. And, if you buy right, can make very good investments. But this story is about collecting, not investing. In itself, that's another whole new game.

What about condition, what's that? Someone once said, there's nothing more valuable than the amount of blue on an old Colt, or similar prose. Meaning, of course, the more close to new, the more desirable, the more money. However, this may be an anomaly found in American

collectors with well-healed bank accounts.

In other countries this one great criteria of condition is not foremost. Rarity, historical association, esthetics, desirability all can be reasons for perceived collectability. But in any part of the world, put those attributes together and you have the "holy grail" of collector guns.

Condition is important for three reasons. Shootable condition makes your gun functional as a tool. Fine looking condition, or bluing, makes it pleasing to the eye and affords protection to the metal. Excellent condition, or like new, brings a certain rarity to an old item that conveys the well cared for or thoughtfulness of its prior owners and is a condition people can appreciate and will pay dearly to own.

You can make a table of variants to the above and include "restored" in your list, but it all comes back to the three above. And remember, condition is all in your own perception, all in your own values in what you want and eventually, what you are willing to pay for.

Yes, you can still build an equitable collection today for a reasonable amount of money. And with some effort spent to acquire knowledge and in doing the footwork you will enjoy the finds that create your collection. Interests do change as well as purpose, so may your collection. You will probably sell a few of the treasures you couldn't live without to either upgrade condition or differing interests. But, when you become a collector, you no doubt will continue as one as long as the things you own still give you satisfaction and pleasure. When this wanes, move on. Let another budding novice build his or her own collection in another time and place. Then, perhaps you'll start another.

Have a Story?
Send it to ACJ

Can You Build a Winchester Collection?

Continued from page 2)

I can't remember the last gun I found at a garage sale. Other guys tell me of great finds. The ones I pass must be the ones they visit. Gold is still "where you find it," I suppose. I also suggest you start stopping at them "and ask" when you do. Same rule for estate sales. If you think you can get a good buy at the local auction remember, there are plenty of other "collectors" out there thinking the same way. And perils await those who believe the consignors simply don't want their guns anymore. The best deals come when you least expect, out of the blue and by sheer luck. The rest of your collection will probably come from a dealer you know or an acquaintance.

Quite a number of years ago I was at my table at the Saratoga Springs, New York Gun Show, involved in some transaction I can't recall, when

an acquaintance came up beside me, put a rolled newspaper under the table and told me to give him \$75. "For what," I asked? "Just give me the money, you'll be glad you did. And you'll double it in no time." Or something very similar was actually spoken. I got quite busy and an hour or so later I finally opened the package. A Winchester deluxe model 1876 appeared. The only problem was that its 26" octagon barrel was split! About the same time my friend returned and asked whether I was pleased. Money well spent, I agreed. "Where did you find this?" "It's been in a cellar for years and I just got it from a widow cleaning house," was his reply. It was dirty, full of grime and dusty but the parts alone were well worth the money. I thanked him for the gift.

A few days later at my shop I started cleaning the grime.

The stock was at least three X burl walnut, a few nicks here and there. The large barrel was split and open (I've since had it pressed together) about one third the way up and the loading tube was missing. Case colors were evident on the receiver but mostly turning silvery. The almost black, brass feeding mechanism had a "50" stamped into the bottom. Now, a Winchester collector knows what this is and even a novice could tell from its outward appearance that this gun is probably not too bad a deal for \$75.00.

I still have that gun. Turns out to be a deluxe, 1876 rifle, 3rd model, in .50-95 express caliber. Only about 10,000 '76's were made, that is relatively few, not many in .50 caliber and very few of those in deluxe configuration. So, what about the barrel and such? Still sits pretty much the way I got it. The long-range

Tail of the Dragon ... the Burgoyne Campaign

By Hal Sheehan

Kettledrums thumped. They beat a deep echoing cadence. The quick stepping British Grenadiers picked up the beat, their scarlet coats, drenched in a high noon sun, added bright reds to the spectrum of flying flags and regimental banners. The sun sparkled off the bright helmets of the German Dragoons. It reflected from the highly polished arms and highlighted the burnished artillery lumbering along in the rear.

Mercenaries with clay greased pigtailed sweated. The bands of their gorgets choked. The white crossed belts across their chests were drawn too tight and checked their breathing. Their gaiters were dusty white now and much too tight. Then there was the heavy brass ornamentations and the tall hats with the bronze shields and the long swords which trailed in the dust, all of which reduced their marching ability to two miles an hour.

Unmounted Chasseurs of Baron DeReidesel marched along the ragged road leading out of Montreal in high black boots designed for horse and not marching. They never did get the mounts that the British had promised they would have as soon as this invading army reached New England.

SUCH A STIRRING...

Montreal had never before witnessed such a stirring and colorful scene as the power of the British on the American continent moved out. Never was there higher excitement nor bustle of war as when General John Burgoyne marched out and headed south with his invading army.

Handsome Jack rode at the head of this brilliant pageant of changing colors on this June 8, 1777 morning bent on snuffing out the flame of American rebellion in the Hudson Valley. He was leaving Montreal with all the pomp and glitter of war with the arrogance and trappings of a conqueror.

Behind him, as he pushed out into the plains, was a mighty English dragon of troops, ammunition and supplies and an armored tail that could spit devastating fire. It could deal death and destruction of the kind that Burgoyne

had promised he would deliver to those who opposed him or refused to flock to his King.

The mighty tail of this dragon moved slowly, rested and made its way laboriously through the tall prairie grass which was now beginning to give way to a heavy forest which was split by a narrow logging road. One hundred thirty-seven of the finest cannon ever assembled on the American continent brought up Burgoyne's rear. It was England's finest artillery, siege and field guns and mortars, all of which were fine tuned to a deadly pitch.

"Artillery Lends Dignity"

Burgoyne believed, "Artillery lends dignity to what otherwise might become a vulgar brawl." Magnificent, best described the General's artillery as his army left Canada. His were beautiful pieces, although he had been urged not to take many of the larger guns on the field of march because of the American terrain. The artillery showed considerable handwork and polishing. Art work consisted of raised castings, coats of arms, exquisite tooling and engraving.

They bore the intertwined rose, shamrock and thistle, the crown Rege Victoria of Great Britain. Some of them bore the Royal Initials GR on the chase. Also the monogram "M" for Duke of Montague, Master of General Ordinance from 1730-1755. Most had two ornate dragon handles. Engraved on the chase was "Honis Soit Qui Malay Pense u Et Mon Droit."

But Burgoyne was destined to reach Saratoga with only 42 of his 137 guns. He dropped off pieces in his trek southward at the defensive points. He transferred some to lake duty. He surrendered 37 of his magnificent cannon at Saratoga and lost four when they were taken by General John Stark's Militia at Bennington.

Thirty-one of these guns surrendered have been located during an extensive and rewarding search that covered a thirty-year span.

The belly of this dragon now snaking its way south, was made up of 4200 British Regulars who had been tested on the battlefield of Europe.

In addition, there were 4000 German mercenaries who had neither a liking for England nor a dislike for America. They did well the job for which they were paid and their paymaster in this case was the British. One hundred Hesse Hanau Artillerymen, who had been pressed into service, marched on foot because the English had taken their cannon away in Montreal. Several hundred Canadian and American volunteers made up the rest of this serpent's belly.

THE DRAGON'S HEAD

General Simeon Frasier, Burgoyne's finest officer, commanded the crack advanced guard units, which made up the head of this dragon. Its eyes and forked tongue were the few hundred savages strung out ahead in the woods, whom Burgoyne had threatened to turn loose on the settlers. Actually, these natives had no real stomach for battle as fought by the white man. During the evening campfire stops, they bought stolen ammunition and liquor from camp followers.

Also in the belly were a number of women. They were the kind that the soldiers sung about in their lusty ballads.

They lived off the rations given them by soldiers who were willing to share. After the surrender at Saratoga, it is presumed that many of these women died on the field of battle as bodies of women were found on the battlefield, many with their aprons filled with cartridges. Other bodies found in the woods were never explained.

Of such was Burgoyne's powerful dragon as it wound slowly south from Montreal.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1777

On September 19, when Johnny Burgoyne arrived at Saratoga and looked up from the Hudson River Road to the heavily fortified American defenses of Bemis Heights, he could count only forty-two of his original cannon.

He lost four of those shortly at Bennington where the Germans, under Colonel Henrich Breymann, met disaster. Colonel Baum was to lose his life at Bennington and Breymann died later defending his own redoubt in the second Battle of Freeman Farm on the Stillwater Battlefield when Benedict Arnold stormed the position.

This left him with 37 guns, which were captured or sur-

rendered when the Continental Militia and Regulars stormed the British fortifications and took them away.

As he looked up at the American position on the fortified Hudson River bluffs at Bemis Heights, Burgoyne was still cocky. Confident he still had a powerful tail that could blast these farmer-rebels from their log enclosures, he realized that he couldn't do it from the River Road. Up there, on the bluffs, American cannons frowned down on him and dared the arrogant English commander to his Armageddon, through the narrow river road gates of hell between the river's muddy flats and the bluffs.

Contempt for Colonials

He had three choices; risk decimation on the narrow river road, fight the homespun clad farmers in the woods on top of the Heights or pick up his tail and retreat back to Canada. Always articulate, Burgoyne never failed to downgrade the Americans' ability to fight. "Britons never retreat," he said, throwing out the choice of retreating to Canada.

"Any coward can shoot from behind a stone wall or a

(Continued on next page)



A Burgoyne Gun - Seemingly almost too small for its long carriage, this Burgoyne cannon is mounted on the standard mount which was attached to forward wheeled section. Guns had no recoil system and recoiled six to eight feet, depending on size. Not studded wheel rims. This replica of Freeman's Farm log cabin, one of the key points of British defenses, is located at Freeman's Farm at Saratoga National Historic Park in Stillwater, New York.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE ARMS COLLECTORS JOURNAL

COLLECTING CONSERVATION LICENSES

By Chester A. Smith

The finding and collecting New York State Conservation Department licenses and badges can be both challenging and rewarding. Not too many years ago this hobby was almost unknown. A few books were written on the subject and it usually happens, a new collecting craze is born.

The first year a person in New York State actually needed a license to hunt was in 1908. The licenses were distributed quite effectively and very few men went to field without theirs. This was despite the fact that licenses were only obtainable for six months of the calendar year. Judging from reports by Game Wardens, the only hunters who had not taken out licenses were farmers who were privileged to hunt on their own land without the new license.

Licenses were required for any kind of game hunting with firearms. The charge for the first resident license was \$1.10 and for non-residents or aliens, \$20.50. At that time no license was required to trap or fish but that would change. In 1913 the Conservation Commission added trapping to the regular hunting license.

In 1917, in order to eradicate the practice of hunters going afield without their paper hunting license, a button was issued along with the pa-

per license and it was to be worn all times while hunting.

This practice lasted until 1922 when the button was dropped for lack of funding. There became such an outcry from sportsmen for the return of the button that in 1924 the commission brought it back. It remained a part of the complete license until 1941, when it was retired for good at the outbreak of World War II.

In 1926 the law was again amended to include fishing to the hunting and trapping license. This was justified because all hunters were paying to maintain fish hatcheries.

During 1927 still another change occurred when a "special" license and button was issued for deer hunters. This was the first year that hunters were required by law to report direct to the NYS Conservation Department upon the taking of a deer.

Collecting these License Buttons has been a very rewarding hobby for me. To complete a collection of resident buttons consisting of 45 pins is a very time consuming and expensive task. If you manage to acquire them all, then you can begin to upgrade to get the very best one for each year. When you have managed to do this, then you might want to go for low serial numbers. It would surely be nice to have a collection with two, three and four digit numbers.

When you have decided that your collection is top grade, you might want to start collecting the buttons with their matching paper licenses. Every year except 1922 and 1923 had a button to go with the paper license.

Special Deer Licenses had a quarter tag attachment, which consisted of four quarters. To acquire a Deer License with all the quarter tags attached is an added plus. To collect all these will probably drive you crazy, but you will have fun doing it.

After you have completed these collections you might want to consider collecting Non-Resident Buttons or maybe even Guide Badges or Fire Warden Badges. As you can see, it goes on and on. Happy Collecting.

Editors Postscript—You may have seen Chet's license display at our Saratoga Springs Arms Fair. It is quite extensive but he seems to manage to find a few more. Chet used to write for our Journal about the 1849 Colt and its' variations.

One thing I may add about "paper" licenses to Chet's story in that viewing my own collection the 1909, 1910, 1911 licenses I have are, in fact, "oilcloth" with an embossed seal for the Conservation Department. The reverse is signed in ink by the license holder.

Overheard at the FROG POND

One of my gun dealing friends called me recently from Florida and relayed, "I told you that you should have been down here on the farm with me." He has a big place with about a hundred acres and a nice fish pond out near his orchards. Well, naturally I asked about what I had missed. Then he told me about his "peach pickin'" experience a few days ago. He said he was going down to the peach and apple trees out back when he heard a bunch of laughter and giggling out by the pond. Well, pond is an understatement, because this is more like a natural in-ground swimming pool all decked out and dressed up for serious pleasure. He had brought a five gallon bucket with him for the fruit but nothing else if there was to be some kind of confrontation.

But, with bucket in hand he went to investigate. Low and behold one of his dreams had come true. There in his pond were six little luvlies skinny dipping with glee and abandon. When the young ladies saw him they all went to the deep end and dropped down in the water. One of the women shouted, "We're not coming out of here till you leave." Another yelled, "We don't care how long you wait." Well, I'll tell you, these ol' gun dealin' freinds of mine must eat tacks for breakfast, they are still pretty swift and smart when they need a comeback. He told me what he hollard back, "I'm not here to watch you ladies swim naked in my pond." Holding up the bucket he just said, "I'm here to feed my alligator." And what do you think I missed? And that's the truth, I swear.

6" Adv. = \$36.00

Tail of the Dragon...

tree or a fence, but there is no man under the sun nor among them who has the courage to face the charge of British cold steel. We move to the Heights," he said.

But it was these very farmers and Continental Militia, outgunned two to one, at the deserted stump strewn Freeman's Farm along with its two log huts and its fortified frame house, who took away the guns assigned to the Hesse Hanau. They captured the batteries of the English artillerist. They answered the British command, "Fix bayonets and charge the dam rebels" with "We can play the game too, and by god, we will try it."

The Americans on the Bemis Heights had 21 pieces of light artillery.

Burgoyne's decision to

face the Americans on the Heights caused him to parlay his artillery to advantage. Using a newly cut log road to his right, he sent General Frasier with the 24th Regiment, British Grenadiers, American Volunteers, Canadian Rangers, and the savages. To his right wing, he assigned ten guns, four three pounders, which could be carried on horseback. Burgoyne took the center of the line with the Royal Artillery, 9th, 21st, and 62nd Regiments, Jager Company, and Chausiers. He placed the Hesse Hanau and the reserve artillery near the river along with two light 24 pounders, four medium 12 pounders, two 8 inch howitzers and two 5.8 howitzers, Colonel Breyman with the Regiment of Spetch, Regiment of Reidesel and Regiment of Rhetz.

"On the Heights"

He gave Captain Horg Pauch two light three pounders and two six pounders which Pauch was later to drag through the woods and ravines and save the first day of battle for Burgoyne.

Pauch had lost all of his guns at Montreal. In spite of his protests, he had been ordered to leave his cannon behind, Burgoyne insisting that German gunners fire British artillery for uniformity in drill and in battle. The Germans had no love for the British method of firing, sponging or minute firing. They themselves, using their methods could get off 12 to 15 shots a minute and did it without sponging. The best the English artillerists were able to do was 11 shots a minute. Of course the Germans also had a high rate of accidents.

There had been intentional overloading of Pauch cannon at Montreal when he had been ordered to use his guns in firing a salute for the queen's birthday. While he had not suspected it at the time, he later wrote in his diary, "Each cannon was charged with fully three pounds of powder, a charge which the cannons had never before contained. I was given to understand that this was a test for the guns."

As the invasion moved south out of Montreal, Pauch wrote in his diary, "All of my cannon are at Montreal. We are using English cannon."

As Burgoyne positioned his mighty artillery at Bemis Heights, he left six mortars, too big for mobility, on the bateaux in the river. They were intended as siege guns.

Four of his splendid six pounders were captured by General John Starks and Seth Warner in a violent and desperate charge at Bennington. New Hampshire men rushed

within eight paces of the mouth of the cannon, which were loaded with grape shot and cleared the German fortifications to get them. From a field littered with dead they turned the guns on a relief force, which was arriving under Colonel Breyman.

One of these cannon was located at the Bennington Historical Museum during a thirty-year search. It had been transferred to the State of Vermont by an Act of Congress in 1845. A second Bennington cannon was located at the capital building in Montpelier, Vermont. A third captured cannon was found in Boston, New Hampshire. It was also given to that state by an Act of Congress. The whereabouts of the fourth cannon is still unknown.

Ending of this article will be in our next issue.

NORTH-EAST

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ITEMS FOR SALE

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. See us at Saratoga Arms Fair this March 19 and 20 at tables A13-17.

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 Fair on March 19-20 at tables M1-2.

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 ap-

pearance, tight action, \$1500. 5) M1894 Winchester deluxe .30WCF, XXX wood, PG, Checkered, 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. Will be at Saratoga, NY Arms Fair this March at tables E7-8

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. See me at Saratoga Arms Fair on March 19-20, tables K1-4.

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. **Military Rifles:** 7) US Rifle Model 1917, Eddystone, WWI use, .30-06 cal., bbl. date 5-18, original rifle with wood & metal in fine cond., \$695. 8) 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. 9) German K98 Mauser, dou/44, 8mm, matching numbers, fat stock, Nazi proofed, exc. cond., \$1295. 10) 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. 11) 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. 12) 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. 12) Krag, US Model 1898 .30 cal. Rifle, #2489xx, 1900 cartouche, fine o/a condition with but 1" long ding on left wrist, \$995. 13) 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 reenactor gun. Has import mrks, \$395. **Hand Guns:** 14) Ruger Security Six, .357 Magnum, 4" Revolver in 98% bright blue and Pachmeyer grips. Nice tight gun with little use, disc. in 1985, \$299. 15) Jennings J-22 Pocket Pistol, .22 caliber by Bryco Arms, blue with ivory style grips, NIB, \$139. 16) Jennings J-25 Pocket Pistol, .25ACP caliber by Bryco Arms, blue with black grips, NIB, \$139. 17) Norinco M54 Tokarev semi-auto pistol, NIB in 7.62 x 25mm cal., \$395. 18) Norinco M213 Tokarev semi-auto pistol, NIB in 9mm cal., \$395. 19) 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. 20) 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. 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 Saratoga, NY Arms Fair on March 19, 20 at tables D1-4.

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) Argentine FAL, Pre-Ban .308 2#s off from matching serial #140x. Overall condition is 85% or better, \$1800. 4) 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. See me

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Deadline for Copyready Ads First of Month for Current 15th Edition

at Saratoga Arms Fair this March 19-20, tables C3-4.

ITEMS WANTED

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."

This Classified Section is probably the fastest and least expensive of any specialized media out today. You can get a two week turn around and adv placement at a very cheap price. Not only will it be in our Journal in print but will also appear on our web at NEACA.com where we get a minimum of 30,000 visits a month.

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OCTOBER *21, 22, 23, 2005

MARCH *17, 18, 19, 2006



21ST YEAR
MARCH *18, 19, 20 2005

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Sunday: 9:00 to 3:00	(under 13 free w/Adult)

NEACA, Inc. or David Petronis, PO Box 385, Mechanicville, NY 12118

Real News

(Continued from page 5)
the school children who now
can learn about how to make
a better life. And how even
girls and women can now be
among the cherished citizenry.

Voting took place among
sniper fire, bombs exploding
and the smell of death in the
streets. Most people, not all,
traveled the harried roads and
alleys to polling places, stood
in long, vulnerable lines and
voted! They exercised a task
many barely understood,
something foreign and strange
to most, but accomplish it they
did. All the while among risk
and uncertainty. Our men and
our women gave and secured
that right for those Iraqis to
stand in line and vote. You
won't hear that on the Six
O'clock News!

Yes, our troops had help
from other countries too, even
from the Iraqis themselves.

But don't kid yourself into
thinking this outcome could
have come about by any other
way than by United States Sol-
diers being on the ground.
And that event was only pos-
sible in this day and age be-
cause our President, George
W. Bush was in the oval of-
fice. You, and I, may not al-
ways agree with every policy
that comes from that office but
at least we all know where he
stands and what he means.

We also may not always
agree with each other when we
talk to friends or colleagues
about this war in general or
even with specifics. Often I
hear how Bush lied and got us
into this Viet Nam style quag-
mire. To me, nothing is fur-
ther from the truth than that.

On our web pages we also
have a page named "America's
New War" where we do a little
reporting of the truth and some
tongue in cheek things too.

You can also find some
links to other sites and other

commentary that you could
find enlightening.

And for Brians' story and
of what he sees and reports to
us, it can be found on *The
Current Iraq Report* page
from www.Neaca.com web
site Home Page. Please visit
and learn the true story in the
words of our liberation Army
Major, Brian Perazone.

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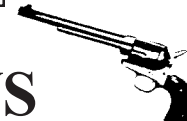
151 Erie Boulevard, Schenectady, NY 12305
E-Mail: SamGuns@aol.com

518 372-9741

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I-87 Northway Exit 38, Right on Boynton

Plattsburg, New York
April *29, 30, May 1

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PO Box, 385, Mechanicville, NY 12118
Table Info/ Availability: David Petronis 518-664-9743

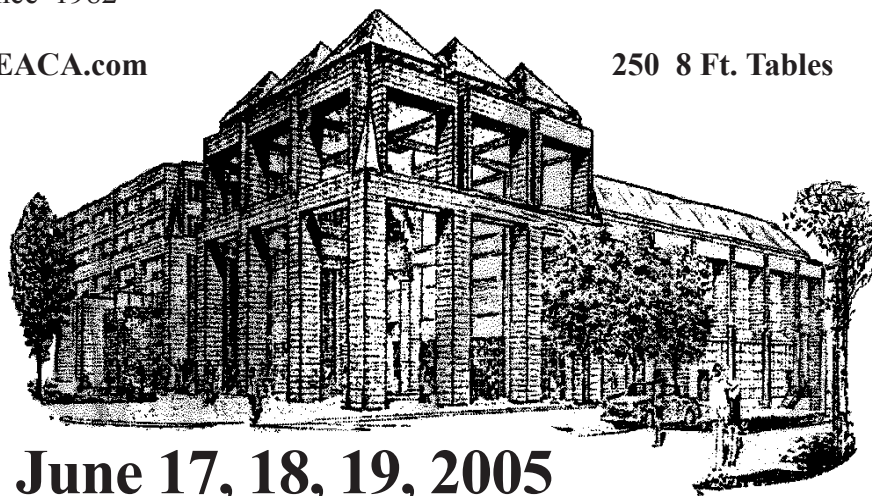


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October 1

Life memberships open to December 31, 2005 at \$250

2005 Application for membership in the New Eastcoast Arms Collectors Associates

Name: _____ Spouse _____

Address: _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____ Fax: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

What do you collect? _____

Are you a gun dealer? _____ FFL# _____ Author? _____ Historian? _____

New Member \$30 ___ Renewal \$25 ___ Spouse \$8 ___ Amount Enclosed ___ Check # _____

E-Mail: _____ Date Received _____ Member No. _____

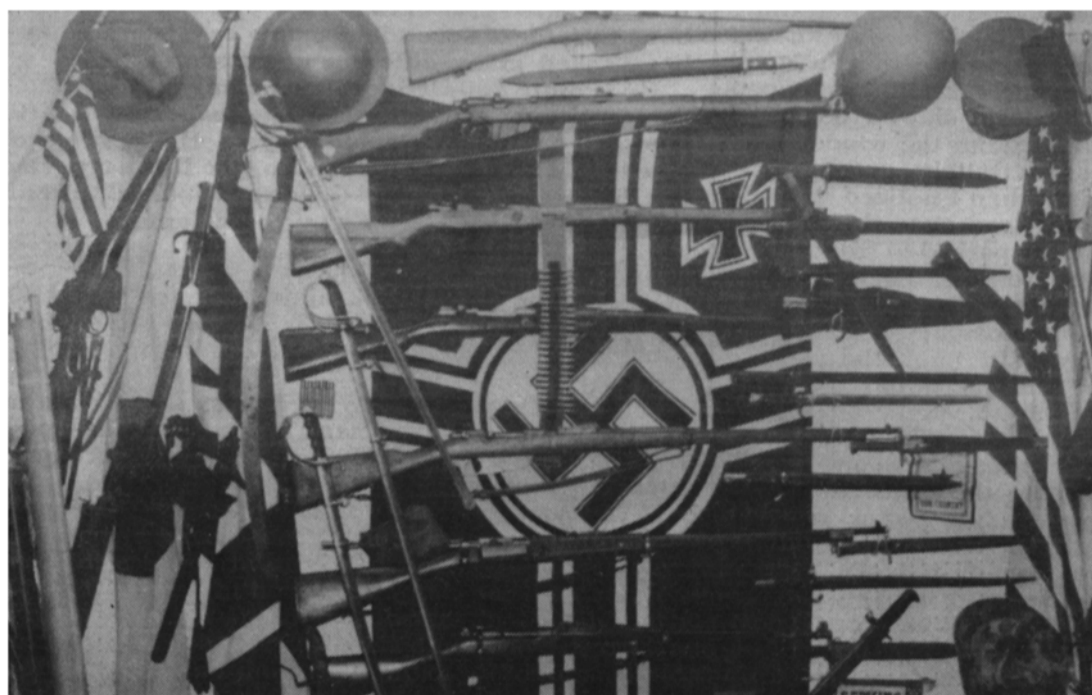
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