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At the 154th NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits, more than 70,000 NRA members explored products from the 600 vendors set up among 14 acres of exhibit space in Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center.

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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
139th Year of Publication

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THE COVER: Springfield Armory's Croatian-produced Kuna—a large-format, arm-brace-equipped pistol shown here with a Trijicon SRO optic and Silencer Central's Banish 9K suppressor—represents a highly capable, yet still relatively compact, class of small arm for today's safety-conscious citizen.

Photo by Forrest MacCormack, design by David Labrozzi

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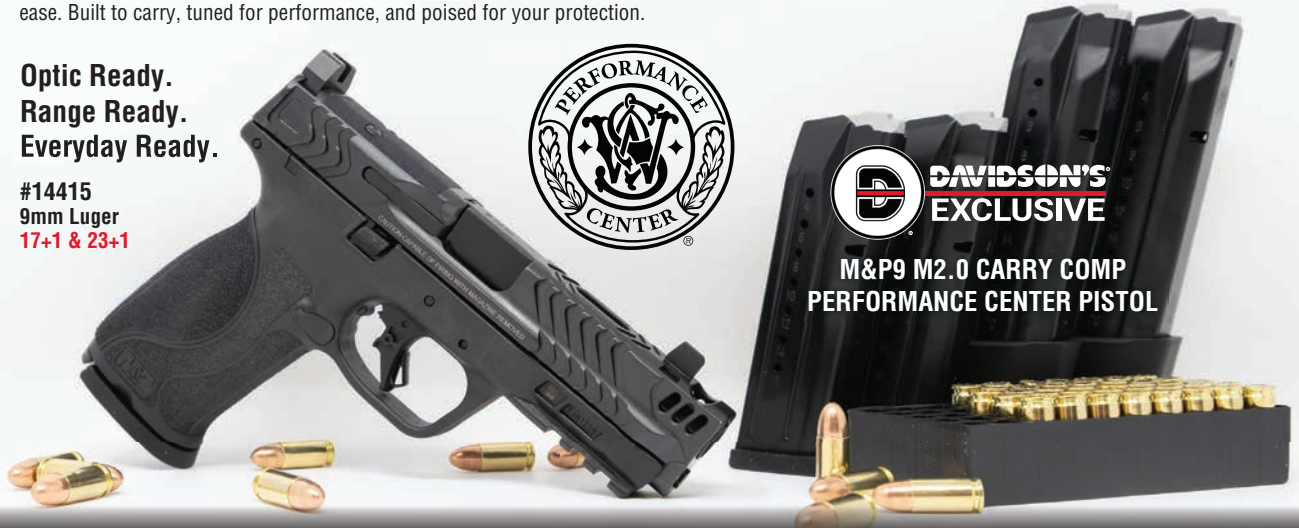
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Captain John Parker's Fowler: Witness To History
While thousands of firearms were used in and around the Massachusetts towns of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, few still exist today. One known survivor is the flintlock fowler used by Capt. John Parker of the Lexington militia.
americanrifleman.org/parkerfowler



"Battle Road" & The British Retreat To Boston: 250 Years Later
After the fights at Lexington and Concord's North Bridge, the British army had to return to Boston. On its way, the red-clad regulars were set upon by hundreds, then thousands, of armed militiamen hell bent on revenge.
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A New Season Begins!

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250 Years Later, Part 1: The Road To Revolution;
Rock River Arms RBG In 6.5 mm Creedmoor; Luger P08 Pistol

July 2
NRA's Newest Competition: America's Rifle Challenge;
Smith & Wesson Model 1854 Stealth Hunter In .44 Mag.; Wilson Dueling Set

July 9
The Sellmark Story; Walther PDP F-Series 4" In 9 mm Luger;
Japanese Type 97 Heavy Machine Gun

July 16
250 Years Of The U.S. Army, Part 1: The Smoothbore Muskets;
Silencer Central Banish 9K Suppressor; Galand Revolver

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THE RIFLEMAN REPORT



While the phrase "tools of the trade" may refer to specific items that a worker uses to ply his or her vocation, it could just as easily be a reference to the firearms, knives and other everyday carry, or EDC, gear that the average citizen uses to ensure his or her safe passage through the course of an uncertain, sometimes dangerous, daily existence.

In "Springfield Kuna: A PDW For The Masses" (p. 30), Field Editor Jeremiah Knupp makes a compelling case for the viability of a brace-equipped, large-format pistol in the hands of a safety-conscious armed citizen. Featuring a trim profile and a delayed-blowback, 9 mm Luger-based action fed from 30-round magazines, the Kuna is yet another innovative achievement resulting from the long-time collaboration between Illinois gunmaker Springfield Armory and the Croatian firm of *HS Produkt*. It is also an entirely modern example of how the market is continuing to develop solutions to a niche category of arm that draws from both the pistol-caliber-carbine and personal-defense-weapon concepts.

In "Savage Revels In The Rimfire Lever-Action" (p. 36), Field Editor Aaron Carter evaluates two versions of that company's newest .22 Long Rifle-chambered long gun—a lever-action that takes down for compact storage or transport. Like most rimfires, the tubular-magazine Revel Classic and DLX models are relatively economical to buy and shoot, and their lack of significant recoil makes them pleasant to practice with, which helps their users develop skill. Such properties, of course, are ideal for teaching new shooters, particularly young ones, which ensures that they not only have a good time at the range, and maybe even advance to small-game hunting, but that they establish a solid foundation for themselves in firearm safety.

Then, in "Marine Corps Knives Of World War II" (p. 40), Field Editor Bruce Canfield reminds us that small arms were not the only tools of utility and self-defense on which U.S. soldiers relied during the Second World War. Many readers are likely familiar with some of the edged examples the author covers because they were introduced to them by their fathers or grandfathers. The Ka-Bar, for one, is still in use by some branches, and remembering how soldiers have relied on such fixed-blade knives through the years helps us understand why pocket-clip-equipped folders designed to tackle the more mundane chores of everyday life have become so prominent among legions of users today.

Finally, in this month's Dope Bag (p. 48), we evaluate three examples of tools that have proven themselves through time with large groups of shooters—never really going out of style, just being reinvented in new platforms. First is the Ruger LC Carbine in 10 mm Auto, a cartridge that has been resurgent in recent years. Then there is the Charter Arms Double Dog, a compact, convertible double-action revolver that accepts both rimmed and rimless cartridges thanks to its interchangeable cylinders. And, in cartridges, there is the Winchester 400 Legend, which proves that moderately fast, large-bore rifle chamberings are still an American specialty—whether in bolt guns or the AR platform.

At any rate, whether it be an advanced large-format pistol, a rimfire lever-action, a fixed-blade or folding knife, a semi-automatic carbine, a double-action revolver or a big-bore cartridge, time spent with such "tools of the trade" within the shooting lifestyle are sure to instill confidence, capability and self-reliance in the person who learns how to competently and responsibly handle them.

It seems like that's exactly the kind of individual that makes American society stronger and safer—and keeps it free.

—Brian C. Sheetz, Editor In Chief



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In Seattle around 1 a.m. on May 2, a 28-year-old man reportedly broke in through the outer door of an apartment complex and then attempted to break into several apartments. When he allegedly attempted to enter a third-floor apartment, a resident who was home with his wife and 2-year-old child heard the man yelling and kicking at their door. The resident gave several warnings to the man as he attempted to enter, then shot the suspect once he had succeeded at breaking down the door, striking him in the leg. No charges were indicated at the time of reporting. (komonews.com, Seattle, Wash., 5/2/25)

A pregnant woman in Crockett County, Tenn., was violently assaulted on April 17 in her home, including being attacked with a "knife, a pistol and strangulation," according to police. She managed to get to a firearm, then shot and killed her assailant. "She is six months pregnant and there were two other children in the household," the district attorney told reporters. "She had no other choice but to defend herself. That is why people have guns. In this case, she used her firearm appropriately to defend not only herself, but her children." No charges were pending at the time of reporting. (wbbjtv.com, Jackson, Tenn., 4/23/25)

A 50-year-old man approached a couple sitting in their car in Henrico County, Va., on April 26. The man attempted to rob them and fired his gun at one point during the attempt, but the male victim was also armed and returned fire, striking and killing the assailant. (wtvr.com, Richmond, Va., 4/28/25)

A man in Austin went to his girlfriend's workplace around 7 p.m. on May 1 and the two got into an argument outside the business. She went back inside, and the man left. However, he soon returned and began banging on the door. A male bystander intervened, and the boyfriend pulled a knife on him. The intervening man responded by shooting the assailant, killing him. No charges were pending at the time of reporting. (austintexas.gov, Austin, Texas, 5/1/25)

On May 2, a man inside a convenience store in Plant City, Fla., started arguing with another customer. Both men left the store, but then one man pulled a knife on the other. The threatened man responded by firing one round, killing the assailant. The investigation was ongoing, but the initial evidence points to it being a self-defense shooting under Florida's "Stand Your Ground" laws. (wfla.com, Tampa, Fla., 5/5/25)

A masked man in Greece, N.Y., entered a convenience store the morning of May 6. The store owner reportedly asked the man to take off the mask, but the suspect instead drew a gun and pointed it at the owner. The store owner, however, drew his own firearm and shot the suspect in the leg. The alleged assailant was transported to the hospital and faces charges of attempted robbery. (whec.com, Rochester, N.Y., 5/6/25)

A 42-year-old man broke into a home in Summerville, S.C., at about 1:30 a.m. on May 8 and was fatally shot. The investigation was open with no charges pending at the time of reporting. (abcnews4.com, Mount Pleasant, S.C., 5/7/25)

On May 7, a man was loitering near a drive-up ATM at a credit union in Albuquerque, N.M. Two of the business' employees confronted the man, but he allegedly punched one of them in the face. He then jumped onto the hood of a woman's vehicle and demanded money; when she did not comply, he reportedly kicked in her windshield. He then approached another customer, who shot him in the leg. The suspect was arrested and charged with three felony counts. No other charges were reported as pending. (kob.com, Albuquerque, N.M., 5/7/25)

In Chattanooga, Tenn., a 30-year-old man met up with another man to purchase two items on the evening of May 8. During the purchase, the seller allegedly put a firearm to the buyer's face and made demands. The buyer exited his vehicle and another man who was with the seller reportedly got into the driver's seat. However, the robbery victim, still under threat, drew his own gun and exchanged fire with the robbers, striking the one who'd gotten into the vehicle. That suspect was arrested, transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries and charged with carjacking and attempted murder. Reports are unclear on whether the man posing as a seller was detained. (wdef.com, Chattanooga, Tenn., 5/9/25)



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By Doug Hamlin
NRA Executive
Vice President & CEO

The Basis Of The NRA Is Freedom

As I write this, I am just back from the 154th NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits in Atlanta. It was a whirlwind of a show with more than 70,000 members of this association coming together to celebrate our right to keep and bear arms.

If you could not make it to Atlanta, consider coming to Houston in April 2026 for the next NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits. There is nothing else like it. Indeed, so many stirring conversations and powerful events from this past show are now running through my thoughts. There was the Foundation Banquet and Auction with all its pomp. There was the Women's Leadership Brunch & Auction, which has become a don't-miss event. There was the NRA Country "Freedom Experience" concert, featuring Big & Rich and their blend of country and rock, in which John Rich gave a pounding salutation on the history of the Second Amendment that rocked the audience. Then there was the moving somberness of the National Prayer Breakfast and so many things in between.

Everywhere was excitement. If you stopped for a moment, you could hear it in the hum on the show floor amidst the 600 booths filled with guns and gear as all the NRA members moved along the aisles.

As I went from event to event, I kept running into this visible enthusiasm. This feeling was evident in the tone of the questions as I did interviews in our "Voices of the Second Amendment" section for media on the show floor.

The Annual Meeting of Members also had this upbeat vibe. I gave a speech, of course, and was proud to again tell the members I serve them. Their standing ovation was moving. Next came the members' proposed resolutions. Four were considered. The members voted down two, adopted one and sent one other to the Board for further review.

The theme of these resolutions was transparency and accountability, which is completely in step with what we've already done this past year. The resolution that was adopted asks the Board to create a website for NRA members that will expand access to NRA financial and governance reports. This resolution also asks the Board to consider live-streaming Board meetings to all NRA members.

I have no doubt the NRA Board of Directors will quickly take up this call to action. The Board has changed considerably, as has your NRA leadership, and these changes are very much in step with the goals and aspirations of a majority of our current Board members. This shows that the membership is clearly in charge, as you should be.

On the Monday after the show, the NRA Board elected Bill Bachenberg, of Pennsylvania, as president of the NRA (his first column is in these pages). The Board elected Mark Vaughan, of Oklahoma, as NRA First Vice President and Rocky Marshall, of Texas, as NRA Second Vice President. The Board also reelected Sonya B. Rowling as NRA Treasurer, Robert Mensinger as NRA Chief Compliance Officer and John C. Frazer as NRA Secretary.

They also reelected me to continue my mission of serving you. Following my reelection, I reappointed John Commerford as the executive director of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA) and Josh Savani as the executive director of NRA General Operations.

This is your team, men and women chosen by representatives you elected. As I spoke to individuals and audiences during the show, I let them know we are reinvigorating the NRA's competitions; we are deeply involved in legislative and legal efforts in all the states and at the federal level, which is critical as we help President Donald Trump and his administration in their offensive fight for our freedom; we are also focused on membership drives and so much more.

Indeed, we are doing so much that I am careful not to lose sight of our basis. A true reformation must have a center, a fundamental thing that does not and cannot change. This is the Second Amendment of the U.S. Bill of Rights. It is a natural right protected by those 27 words articulated by the Founders of this great nation. This is the basis of your NRA—true, individual, Second Amendment-protected freedom is at the center of this association, and all the related things we do revolve around this God-given right.

The strength of the NRA is its membership, and our membership is held together by the basic fact that we have, and must retain, the right to defend our lives and liberty. I could feel this within everyone I met at the NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits. So many of us fit into different demographics and backgrounds, but we all have this in common. We are all members of this critical association. Please go to **nra.org** to sign up a new member, to renew your membership or to donate. The more of us who stand together for our freedom, the stronger we are in legislative, legal and cultural battles.



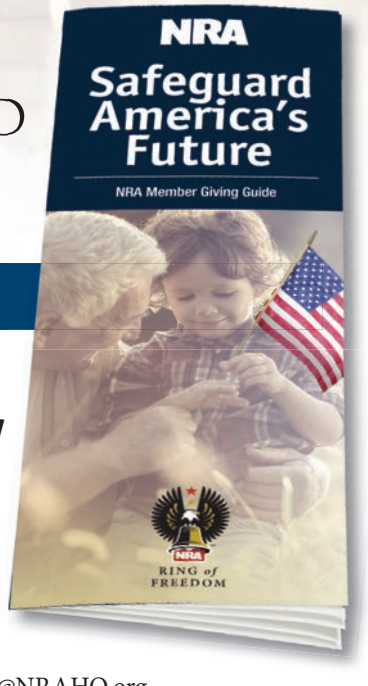
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By William A. Bachenberg
President

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Doug Hamlin
Executive Vice President & CEO

John Frazer
Secretary

Sonya Rowling
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

John Commerford
Executive Director, NRA-ILA

Josh Savani
Executive Director, General Operations

Robert Mensinger
NRA Chief Compliance Officer

For news about your NRA, visit: nra.org and nraila.org.

Share this column online at nrapublications.org.

It's A New Day At The NRA

I write my first column as President of the National Rifle Association with both great pride and humility. I'm proud of the enduring spirit of the millions of NRA members who have stood strong with the organization through the challenges of recent years, and I'm equally humbled to be tasked with helping you, as members, advance the organization into a future we can all take pride in. With Doug Hamlin's reelection as executive vice president and CEO and a new leadership team on the Board of Directors, it's time to make significant progress.

Before we discuss that future, however, let me briefly introduce myself. I grew up on a farm in rural New Jersey. Consequently, I spent a lot of time in the field with my .22, plinking and chasing groundhogs. I moved from New Jersey to Pennsylvania in 1999.

As a founder and successful businessman in industries ranging from high-tech to energy to life sciences, two keys to my success have been surrounding myself with outstanding individuals and building strategic relationships and partnerships. I am passionate about America's heroes—military and first responders—and I have a strong interest in involving youth, women, minorities and disabled Americans in the shooting sports.

I recently got involved in politics and stay attuned to important issues at both the federal and state levels. I've collaborated closely with President Donald Trump's (R) elections and helped launch several of his initiatives involving sportsmen and women.

My wife and I own Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays in Coplay, Pa. I'm also a small- and large-game hunter who participates in sporting clays, handgun shooting and extreme-long-range shooting. My sons are avid hunters, and my message to them has always been: "All we have in life is our integrity, and you can destroy it in a minute if you're not careful."

Enough about me, though. Let's talk about you. The strength of any organization lies in its members, and NRA members are among the very best citizens of our country and the backbone of our great association. For far too long, however, past NRA leadership did not do as good of a job as it should have. The status quo managed to drown you out, leaving your concerns and ideas unheard and unheeded.

That has changed. As we move this great association forward, we will rebuild your trust and ensure that the past errors will never occur again. Your comments, ideas and even complaints will not be ignored; they will strengthen us.

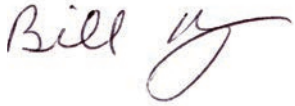
I'm not one to sit around when there's work to be done. Instead, I jump into any task with both feet, and this new role is no different. After the officer election results were announced, I, along with new First Vice President Mark Vaughan and Second Vice President Rocky Marshall—two honorable businessmen who have the Association's best interests at heart—immediately created a new vision statement for the NRA Board of Directors. That mission is: "To restore the National Rifle Association as a trusted leader in firearms and hunter education, firearm safety, shooting competitions and constitutional advocacy through transparency, accountability and a renewed commitment to responsible gun ownership."

WE WILL RESTORE THIS ASSOCIATION TO GREATNESS AND FULFILL OUR TASK OF PERPETUATING AMERICAN LIBERTY.

In my acceptance speech, I also announced several presidential directives for the initial months of my presidency. Among other things, these include forming a Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) to evaluate the NRA's operating structure, programs, funding methods and communications; holding monthly informal virtual meetings with the board, as three meetings a year are insufficient to achieve our mission; and creating a Skunk Works-type group to develop cutting-edge solutions for new membership acquisition programs, improve member communications, enhance large donor engagement and leverage information technology for the good of the entire association.

As you are well aware, we are at a pivotal point in our association's history as we reach out to new members, build on the trust of existing members and provide the gold-standard programs that American gun owners expect. As the nation's oldest civil-rights organization, the NRA plays a critical role in protecting and advancing freedom in America. With your help, we will restore this association to greatness and fulfill our task of perpetuating American liberty for our children and grandchildren.

I'm keenly aware that actions speak louder than words, which you'll see as we move forward. Please trust me when I say it's a new day at the NRA. We're glad to have each of you along for what will undoubtedly prove to be an exciting journey.



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By John Commerford
Executive Director,
NRA-ILA

Virginia Closes In On Critical Off-Cycle Election: Three Races To Watch

It can seem like it is always election season. In fact, in the era of Donald Trump, nonstop campaigning seems even more prevalent, as Democrat leadership and their allies in the media continue to question virtually every policy he ran on—policies that secured his victory.

President Trump made clear he would work to protect and strengthen the Second Amendment, and he has been doing just that. Those opposed to the right to arms, however, will never give up and are prone to wail even louder when they are no longer in power, always pushing for more gun control even after voters clearly rejected it.

That said, anti-gun forces could well regain key seats of power this year in Virginia, home of NRA Headquarters.

Before you say, "Oh, no! Not another election column," let me simply remind you that defenders of freedom can never become complacent, nor, sadly, can they ever rest. As the saying goes, the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

Now, Virginians know that we have enjoyed four years of having a stalwart defender of the Second Amendment in Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R). Over the last two legislative cycles, he has vetoed more than 50 anti-gun bills. I don't know if that is a record, but it is an awesome testament to Gov. Youngkin's steadfast defense of our cherished freedom.

But Virginia doesn't allow its governors to be elected to consecutive terms, so there will be someone new occupying the mansion in Richmond, Va., next year. Election Day to determine who that will be is Nov. 4, and the difference between the Republican and Democrat candidates vying to replace Youngkin could not be clearer when it comes to defending the rights of law-abiding gun owners.

Current Lt. Gov. Winsome Earle-Sears (R) is as strong and vocal an advocate for our rights as you could possibly want. She served in the U.S. Marine Corps and became famous nationally when, as a candidate for lieutenant governor, she produced campaign material depicting her holding an AR-15. Anti-gun extremists pilloried her over that, and she told NRA that even some Republicans suggested she was "too openly for guns," but she stood her ground.

NRA-PVF endorsed that run, and the voters of Virginia did, too, making her the first black woman to hold the second-highest office in Virginia.

In stark contrast, Abigail Spanberger (D) is the very definition of anti-gun. She has been campaigning with gun-ban extremist groups like Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action—both subsidiaries of billionaire Mike Bloomberg's anti-gun operation—and she regularly repeats anti-gun lies, like calling firearms "the number one killer of kids in our country."

Spanberger boasts of endorsements from virtually every gun-ban organization there is, including Brady, Giffords and Bloomberg's Everytown. She supports banning semi-automatics and limiting the capacity of magazines, among many other infringements.

If Spanberger had been governor when the anti-gun majority in the Virginia General Assembly sent that deluge of freedom-killing bills Gov. Youngkin vetoed, the outcome would have been devastatingly different.

In another critical race, the current Virginia attorney general, Jason Miyares (R), is running for reelection. Miyares, like Earle-Sears, was endorsed by NRA-PVF when he ran for the office he now holds. As a member of the Virginia General Assembly, he consistently voted to support law-abiding gun owners, and he has carried through with that support as attorney general.

In 2022, under the guidance of Miyares, the solicitor general of Virginia wrote to the U.S. Supreme Court to notify them that the commonwealth of Virginia supports the right to keep and bear arms outside the home in the NRA-backed case of *NYSRPA v. Bruen*. This reversed the position previously held by former anti-gun Attorney General Mark Herring (D).

We don't yet know who his Democrat opponent will be, but I do know Miyares has proven his pro-gun bona fides.

Of course, there are other races, but as I am writing this column, many candidates have yet to be determined, and I have to wait to see how the political landscape unfolds before I work with staff to determine our involvement. As Election Day gets closer, Virginia NRA members need to keep a watchful eye out for alerts from me and my colleagues about the critical races in the commonwealth and in their local areas.

In the meantime, if you want to get more involved, go to **nraila.org/grassroots**. There you will find information on volunteering, registering to vote, contacting local activists (our FrontLines Activist Leaders) and other ways you can help defend freedom.

Fellow Virginians, I encourage you to stand and fight!



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1920s Style for a 1920s Price

It was a warm summer afternoon and my wife and I were mingling with the best of them. The occasion was a 1920s-themed party, and everyone was dressed to the nines. Parked on the manse's circular driveway was a beautiful classic convertible. It was here that I got the idea for our new 1920s Retrograde Watch.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, we carefully steadied our glasses of bubbly and climbed into the car's long front seat. Among the many opulent features on display was a series of dashboard dials that accentuated the car's lavish aura. One of those dials inspired our 1920s Retrograde Watch, a genuinely unique timepiece that marries timeless style with modern technology.

With its remarkable retrograde hour and minute indicators, sunburst guilloche face and precision movement, this design is truly one of a kind. What does retrograde mean? Instead of displaying the hands rotating on an axis like most watches, the hands sweep in a semicircle, then return to their starting point and begin all over again.

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By John Commerford
Executive Director, NRA-ILA



NRA-ILA

50 Years Of Progress

President Trump put it best. In a recorded message to members at NRA's 2025 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, the Commander in Chief recognized NRA-ILA for 50 years of service and achievement. "A congratulations on 50 years of courageous leadership by the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action," he said. "And you give it a lot of action, that's for sure."

The legacy that has been entrusted to me and my team at ILA inspires and challenges us every day. We would be living in a very different country for gun owners without NRA-ILA's advocacy.

A lot of folks remember 1975 as "the good ol' days." On the eve of its Bicentennial, America's freedom and prosperity were the envy of the world.

Yet the Second Amendment was at a tipping point.

Seven years earlier, the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) had empowered the federal government with unprecedented oversight of the U.S. firearms industry. Five years after that, what was then known as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) became an independent agency.

Crime was a national crisis in 1975. Then, as now, gun control falsely promised an easy answer to the complex dynamics of violence.

Two national groups arose to promote handgun bans in 1974; we know them now as Brady and the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence. With willing accomplices in media and academia, they made inroads on public opinion. A 1975 Gallup poll indicated 41% of Americans supported a handgun ban.

Indeed, Washington, D.C., banned handgun possession in 1976. Chicago followed suit in 1982.

At the time, the U.S. Supreme Court's last pronouncement on the Second Amendment was 1939's *United States v. Miller*. There, the Court decided short-barreled shotguns weren't among the "arms" protected by the right, because the justices had no evidence they bore "some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well regulated militia[.]"

Miller's holding was distorted into an orthodoxy that the Second Amendment was an outdated relic designed to preserve the states' prerogative to maintain organized militias. If law students heard about the Second Amendment at all in 1975, they were taught it had nothing to do with the individual right to own and use firearms for private purposes.

Meanwhile, the right to carry a concealed handgun for self-protection was recognized in only six states, accounting for only 6% of the U.S. population.

This was the context in which ILA arose. Its mandate was, and remains, to protect the Second Amendment in the legislatures and courts, to support pro-gun candidates for office, and to educate the public on the right to keep and bear arms.

ILA's strategy included funding academic research into the history and original meaning of the Second Amendment and building upon NRA's cohesive culture of responsible gun owners to form a bloc of politically active pro-gun voters.

State by state, issue by issue, NRA-ILA changed the face of American firearms law and made political fortunes rise and fall on candidates' Second Amendment records. Its grades and iconic orange postcards became synonymous with grassroots political activism.

The shift peaked in 2008 with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, which invalidated D.C.'s handgun ban. It became black-letter law that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms for self-defense, independent of service in an organized militia.

Handgun bans, in the Court's words, were "off the table."

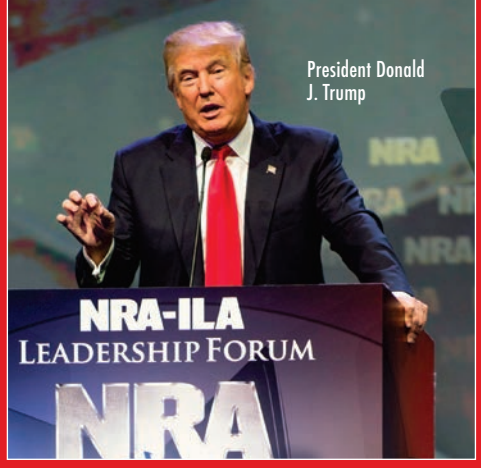
Two years later, the high court extended this holding to apply against the actions of states and localities, ending Chicago's handgun ban.

Today, right-to-carry is the law in all 50 states. Permitless carry is the law in 29 states. Every American jurisdiction recognizes the right to armed self-defense. In 34 of them, you can stand your ground in the face of an unprovoked attack and decide what course of action is the safest for you.

On the federal side, ILA helped reform the GCA with the Firearm Owner's Protection Act of 1986 (FOPA). FOPA reined in ATF's overreaching enforcement, enabled licensed dealers to sell

Photos by NRA, AP Photo/Hans Pennink, AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster



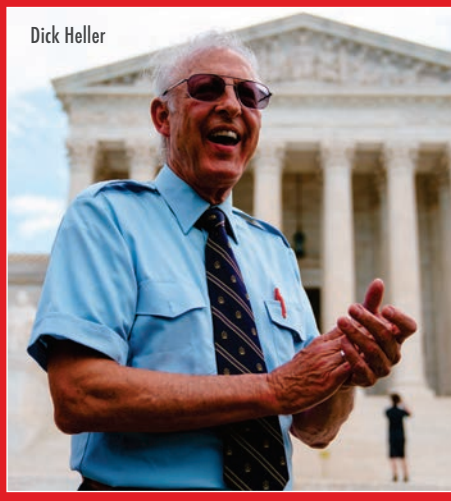


President Donald J. Trump




Tom King, *President of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association*




Dick Heller

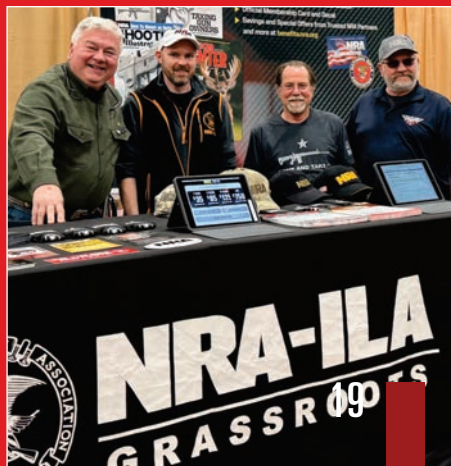









Harlon B. Carter, *first NRA-ILA director*





long guns interstate, repealed ammunition sales red tape, and protected the interstate transport of unloaded firearms. It was, at the time, the most significant pro-gun law ever enacted by Congress.

Then came the administration of Bill Clinton (D), who prioritized gun control.

He started with the "Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act" (the so-called Brady Bill), named for Jim Brady, President Ronald Reagan's press secretary who was wounded in a 1981 assassination attempt on Reagan himself.

The bill's proponents sought a national waiting period for gun purchases, supposedly to give local law-enforcement officers time to perform background checks. They had the votes, but ILA lobbied for a two-phase approach, with the waiting period giving way to an automated, point-of-sale background check (the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or NICS).

Additional concessions were obtained. Individuals with a NICS-exempt carry or acquisition permit (now available in 26 states) could bypass the background check. There would be no waiting period in states with their own point-of-sale checks. Most importantly, federal law—as well as most state's laws—continued to recognize the right to sell personal firearms to trustworthy buyers with no paperwork or bureaucracy at all.

Moreover, after the legislation was signed, litigation worked its way up to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the 1997 case of *Printz v. U.S.* determined the Brady Bill unconstitutionally violated principles of federalism by commandeering state officers into a federal scheme.

No one at the NRA ever idealized NICS, but it ensured that in most American states, a law-abiding person could walk into a gun store, fill out a few minutes' worth of paperwork and walk out moments later with the person's chosen firearm. According to the FBI, the vast majority of NICS inquiries are resolved instantly. And, by law, the government must destroy records of NICS "proceeds" within 24 hours.

NRA-ILA's real-world advocacy salvaged a livable situation from certain defeat and kept the pro-gun movement alive to fight another day.

Another round in that fight came the next year over the grotesquely misnamed Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act, commonly known as the Clinton Gun Ban.

That measure exploited rampant crime arising from the crack epidemic of the 1980s and early '90s to attach a ban on various semi-automatic firearms and a limit on magazine capacity to a sprawling federal crime bill enacted in 1994. ILA couldn't stop it entirely, but its lobbying helped ensure the ban came with a 10-year sunset provision.

Yet his temporary and largely symbolic "victory" for firearm prohibitionists turned into a historic defeat for Clinton and his Democrat party. The "ban" didn't affect guns so much as features. AR-15s and the like were still lawful, just without a flash hider and bayonet lug. Existing guns and magazines were grandfathered, and production and sales surged before the ban.

Clinton's Democrat Party suffered historic losses in that year's midterm elections, ceding control of the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time in over three decades. Clinton acknowledged that backlash from the ban was a factor.

Statutorily mandated studies would later determine Clinton's ban was a crime-control failure.

NRA-ILA was involved in every step of these events and in making national gun control a third rail of U.S. politics for decades afterwards.

It also supported George W. Bush's (R) victory over Clinton's vice president, Al Gore (D). The Clinton Gun Ban would sunset under Bush's watch. President Bush also signed the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, effectively saving the U.S. gun industry from the financial ruin of coordinated lawfare.

NRA-ILA was the earliest and fastest friend of Donald Trump during his historic election victory in 2016, when the fate of the U.S. Supreme Court's pro-Second Amendment majority hung in the balance. President Trump would go on to appoint three Supreme Court justices, all of whom voted with the majority in 2022's *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, which affirmed the right to carry guns in public for self-defense.

Gallup, meanwhile, still asks Americans if they support a handgun ban. Even in today's hyper-partisan era, support has fallen to 20%, less than half what it was when ILA got started.

None of this happened by accident.

Other nations' citizens have lost their rights to armed self-defense. There was no equivalent to NRA-ILA standing guard for them.

Yet nothing ILA does would mean anything without your support: your giving, your votes, your activism, your volunteerism.

As part of our year-long celebration of ILA's 50th anniversary, we commissioned a limited run of handsome folding knives to commemorate this history. Each comes with a leather sheath so you can carry it daily as a tangible reminder of what we've accomplished together. Reserve your own with a $32 donation to ILA by visiting **nraila.org/50yearsknife** or scanning the QR code on this page with your phone.

As President Trump said, it's been an action-packed 50 years, and I've only scratched the surface with this brief recap. Let's all redouble our commitment as we embark on the next 50 years of progress for the right to keep and bear arms.





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READERS WRITE

Bonnie & Clyde Arsenal Mystery

In your article "Colt Monitor: The FBI's 'Fighting Rifle'" (May 2025, p. 54), you state that a Colt Monitor owned by retired Texas Ranger Frank Hamer was loaned to Dallas Sheriff Deputy Ted Hinton in the May 1934 Bonnie and Clyde ambush. Ted Hinton used a military M1918 BAR loaned to him by the Texas National Guard. While there are several post-ambush pictures of that military rifle, there is no evidence that any Colt Monitor was used during the shooting. Hamer most likely used a Remington Model 8 rifle or Remington Model 11 shotgun in the ambush. There are several other B&C ambush-related arms displayed in the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum in Waco that have dubious provenance. These include Hamer's Remington Model 81 (not introduced until two years after the ambush) with an aftermarket extended magazine and "Clyde's" sawed-off Winchester 1902 lever-action 10-ga. shotgun that is not seen in any post-ambush pictures, nor included in Hamer's inventory of the "Death Car" arsenal.

—Mike Kendrick

Dear Mr. Kendrick:

The information stated about Texas Ranger legend Frank Hamer "lending" his Monitor to Deputy Ted Hinton was obtained from the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Museum in Waco. After the article was published, however, I was contacted by Eric Richard, collection manager of the museum. According to Mr. Richard, the Monitor did belong to Frank Hamer, but he did not actually have possession of the gun until several years after the ambush, so the information regarding Hinton's use of a Monitor is incorrect, as he actually used an M1918 BAR. The information plaque on the Monitor in their collection has subsequently been corrected. —Bruce N. Canfield, Field Editor

"Shot" Rings True

Joel Bohy's "The Shot Heard Round the World: The Arms & Events Of April 19, 1775" (April 2025, p. 32) was, to say the least, brilliant! As a fan of history who has enjoyed numerous vacations to the Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown, Va., areas, the article brought back many fond memories for me. Kudos to the author for his extensive research to pen such an informative piece. Please keep up the good work.

—Paul O. Buchbauer

More On "Boys" Rifles

Tom Laemlein's article "Boys To Riflemen: Aiken's Volunteers During The British Attack On Plattsburgh" (January 2025, p. 52) on the presentation rifles awarded to the boys involved in repelling the 1814 British attack on Plattsburgh, N.Y., reminded me that I had previously seen a television program about those rifles. Specifically, an episode of "Antiques Roadshow" set in Chicago in 1997 featured one of these rifles. I thought at the time that it was a great story as relayed by the owners of the rifle, both how they came to own it and, of course, how the brave young men of Plattsburgh fought against a much larger invading force. The episode is available on YouTube as "Battle Of Plattsburgh 1814 Presentation Rifle For Ethan Everest." And I checked to make sure Ethan Everest was on the list of the 17 young awardees listed in Mr. Laemlein's article. Please pass along this information to the author and also convey my thanks to him for such a wonderfully detailed and comprehensive article that shows the deeds of previous generations of Americans that can continue to inspire.

—Tom Beaty

"Readers Write" affords members an opportunity to comment on material published in *American Rifleman*. Single-topic letters are preferred and may be edited for brevity. Send letters to: Readers Write, NRA Publications, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400 or email us at publications@nrahq.org.

Now, THIS is a Knife!

*This 16" full tang stainless steel blade is not for the faint of heart —now **ONLY** $99!*

In the blockbuster film, when a strapping Australian crocodile hunter and a lovely American journalist were getting robbed at knife point by a couple of young thugs in New York, the tough Aussie pulls out his dagger and says "That's not a knife, THIS is a knife!" Of course, the thugs scattered and he continued on to win the reporter's heart.

Our Aussie friend would approve of our rendition of his "knife." Forged of high grade 420 surgical stainless steel, this knife is an impressive 16" from pommel to point. And, the blade is full tang, meaning it runs the entirety of the knife, even though part of it is under wraps in the natural bone and wood handle.

Secured in a tooled leather sheath, this is one impressive knife, with an equally impressive price.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with bone handles in excess of $2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

But we don't stop there. While supplies last, we'll include a pair of Stauer **Flyboy Optics® Sunglasses—a $99 value—FREE** with your purchase of the ***Down Under Bowie Knife***.

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

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MARINE SCOUT SNIPER HERITAGE FOUNDATION







The Marine Corps Scout Sniper Memorial Project

With the United States Marine Corps celebrating its 250th anniversary this year, an elite force within that branch is collecting funds to remember the service and sacrifice of its fallen with a dedicated memorial in Quantico, Va. The Marine Scout Sniper Heritage Foundation, as part of a larger project to tell the story of Marine scout snipers across more than a century of service, has the stated goal of placing a Marine Scout Sniper War Memorial within the grounds of the Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, joining dozens of other monuments on the park grounds that honor the long history of the U.S. Marines.

The foundation identifies the spring of 1918 as the origin point for the Marine scout sniper concept, which involved highly trained Marine infantrymen skilled in fieldcraft and marksmanship who delivered long-range precision fire in support of Marine combat operations. The memorial concept, developed by Ben Cantwell, displays a scout sniper pair, with an observer outfitted as a Marine scout sniper of the World War I era and armed with a scoped Model 1903 Springfield rifle, pointing out targets for a Marine scout sniper in the era of the Global War On Terror. The memorial will honor the hundreds of Marine scout snipers killed in action over the past century. The Marine Scout Sniper Heritage Foundation continues to research those Marines who served as scout snipers and identify those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. To support their research and the construction of the memorial, visit **scoutsniperheritage.org**.

Renderings courtesy of Ben Cantwell Art

NRA Competitions Debuts America's Rifle Challenge

As part of the National Rifle Association's renewed focus, a re-invigorated NRA Competitions Division has officially launched the America's Rifle Challenge (ARC), an entry-level competition designed to give novice and intermediate shooters a venue to build their shooting and gun-handling skills with the AR-15 at ranges across the country. The inaugural ARC match was fired at Camp Atterbury, Ind., on April 19 and consisted of six stages drawn from components of the America's Rifle Challenge program.

Competitors are separated into Level 1 and Level 2 courses of fire. Level 1 is for AR owners who wish to challenge themselves by shooting from various positions under time constraints at targets that range in distance from 25 to 100 yards. The Level 2 course of fire builds on the basics by incorporating shooting and moving, accuracy, positional shooting skills, longer-range precision, speed, stage planning and barricades. ARC will also have a two-gun component that incorporates the use of a pistol. **arc.nra.org**

Sellmark Breaks Ground On "Verdexium" Project

In an effort to reduce reliance on international supply chains and bolster domestic manufacturing, Sellmark Corp.—parent company of the Sightmark, Pulsar, Inforce, Kopfjäger, Firefield, BulletSafe and Dark 30 brands—has broken ground on a new manufacturing complex in Mansfield, Texas, that it calls a "transformative force for American-led growth and innovation."

Ultimately, the Verdexium manufacturing complex will encompass 450,000 sq. ft. across a multi-phase campus, with phase one providing more than 167,000 sq. ft. to establish operations. The goal is to provide infrastructure, expert networks and manufacturing capabilities to start-ups and small manufacturers and ultimately shorten the startup-to-market timeline from seven years to less than three. An added benefit of Verdexium is the ability to reduce dependence on offshore manufacturing, notably China-based supply chains, and strengthen the American manufacturing base in key industries.



"We're not just turning over some soil here," said James Sellers, CEO of Sellmark. "We're turning the page to a new chapter in American innovation, entrepreneurship and manufacturing." **sellmark.com**

PRODUCTS & PROJECTS

CZ Shadow 2 Carry



CZ's Shadow 2 line of handguns, based on the iconic CZ 75, has proven popular on the competition circuit, and the company has taken steps to re-configure the design into a more carry-friendly format. The initial Shadow 2 Compact was a single-action model with a manual thumb safety, but now CZ has refined the design even further with the 9 mm Luger-chambered Shadow 2 Carry. Like many classic carry pistols, the Carry model includes a firing-pin block and decocker, providing a long, double-action pull for the first shot and short, single-action pulls for subsequent shots. Built on an aluminum-alloy frame, the Shadow 2 Carry weighs slightly more than 30 ozs., unloaded, and has a magazine capacity of 15 rounds. The steel slide is cut to accept Shield-footprint optics. Price: $1,395. *Contact: CZ USA; (800) 955-4486;* **cz-usa.com**.



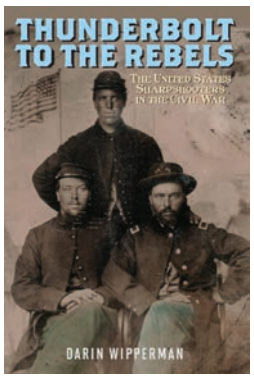
Streamlight Sidewinder X

This high-output, multi-fuel, military-style light with a tilting head is perfect for hunters and home defenders looking for more than just a handheld light—the Sidewinder X User Configurable Model features high-candela (3,200), white, 275-lumen LED output—that runs up to 4.75 hours on two AA batteries or 2.75 hours on a single lithium CR123A battery. A push-button activation switch is housed with a pull-to-turn, locking, rotary mode selector that provides options for an infrared beam, a dim red, green or blue color setting and multiple white-light modes. The 4.4-oz. light (AA batteries included) is built of high-impact nylon, contains a rugged polycarbonate lens and comes with an IPX7 rating for dust, shock and waterproofing. Price: $133. *Contact: Streamlight Inc.; (800) 523-7488;* **streamlight.com**.

Bastinelli R.E.D. Fixed Stone Washed



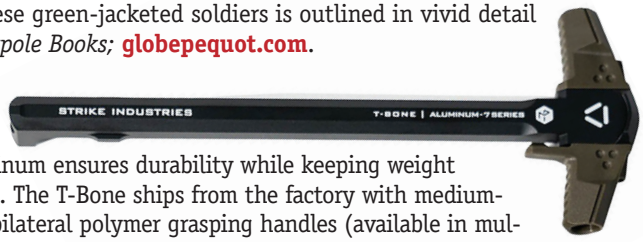
Designed for operators in the French National Police's elite RAID tactical unit, the Bastinelli R.E.D. Fixed Stone Washed knife is also eminently useful for everyday carry on the waistband of, or as a neck knife for, the average citizen. The handle's unusual shape belies its excellent ergonomics and functionality, which result from a pronounced choil, contoured black G10 scales, and jimping on the thumb ramp and above and below the butt near a lanyard slot. The knife measures 8.6" in length overall with a 4" flat-ground blade of Bohler N690 stainless steel, and it weighs 4.6 ozs. The R.E.D. is manufactured by Fox Knives in Italy and comes with a belt-clip-equipped pancake- or taco-style Kydex sheath molded for positive retention yet instant draw. Price: $230. *Contact: Bastinelli Creations; (407) 785-4050;* **bastinelliknives.com**.



Thunderbolt To The Rebels

While sharpshooting as a military practice goes back to the days of the American Revolution, during the Civil War, Hiram Berdan's sharpshooters elevated the practice with updated techniques and, of course, then-modern firearms that outperformed the common muzzleloaders of the age. In *Thunderbolt To The Rebels: The United States Sharpshooters In The Civil War*, author Darin Wipperman provides a tantalizing glimpse into the world of Berdan's sharpshooters, with details that will be particularly interesting to firearm enthusiasts. Wipperman outlines the initial issue of Colt revolving rifles to the sharpshooters and provides evidence of the men's complaints about using such arms. Of course, later, the sharpshooters would be issued the famous Sharps rifle, and the prowess of these green-jacketed soldiers is outlined in vivid detail across 376 pages. Price: $35. *Contact: Stackpole Books;* **globepequot.com**.

Strike Industries T-Bone Charging Handle



A latch-less charging handle upgrade for AR-15 rifles, the T-Bone from Strike Industries is an ideal fit for suppressed applications, as it can be configured by the user to redirect gas blowback entirely to either side (in order to force it away from the shooter's face) or evenly in both directions. Machining the unit's shaft from 7000-series aluminum ensures durability while keeping weight down. The T-Bone ships from the factory with medium-size bilateral polymer grasping handles (available in multiple colors), but smaller and larger replacements are also offered by the company and can be installed in only minutes. Price: $38. *Contact: Strike Industries;* **strikeindustries.com**.



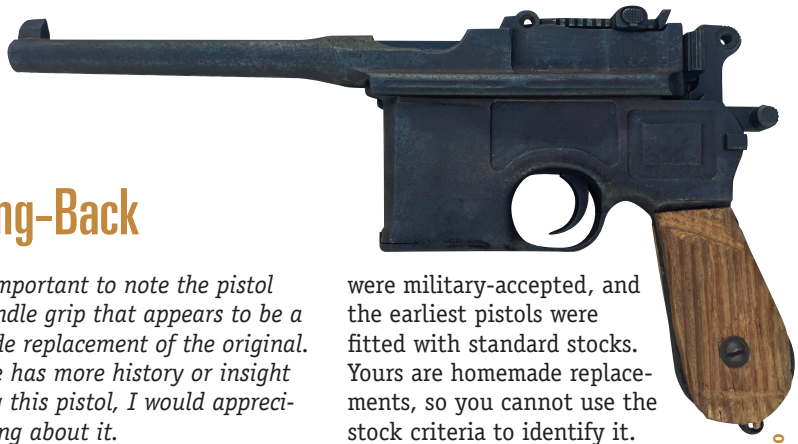
Thacha L-1 Lightweight Hooded Pullover

Thacha's three distinct clothing lines allow sportsmen to adapt their apparel to the environment in which they will be hunting, and the L-1 Lightweight Hooded Pullover serves as the outermost component in the company's L-1 warm-weather layering system. Composed of quiet and breathable polyester material, the lightweight hoodie provides comfortable and cool protection from the elements, thanks to its fabric's stretchable, moisture-wicking characteristics and the hood, which features an integral, ventilated facemask. The L-1 Lightweight Hooded Pullover is offered in three varieties, black and Realtree's Excape (shown) and Legacy camouflage patterns, allowing the hunter to blend even more effectively into his or her surroundings. Price: $100. *Contact: Thacha; (800) 333-5119;* **thachagear.com**.

DeSantis Horsehide Holster Upgrades



Horse leather often has a distinctive grain pattern and is generally even more durable, breathable and water-resistant than cowhide. In a return to its roots, DeSantis is now offering to custom-make any of its IWB and OWB leather holsters out of horsehide for a $100 upcharge. We received a horsehide version of the company's Mini Scabbard (the horsehide Sidestep is pictured here) for evaluation and found the slightly stiffer horse leather to be a natural fit for the minimalist OWB holster. Available in either brown or black, horsehide holsters will not be sold through dealers; contact DeSantis directly to place an order. Price: $180; $80 (in cowhide). *Contact: DeSantis Holsters; (631) 841-6300;* **desantisholster.com**.



NRA member photo

Mysterious "Broomhandle" Bring-Back

Q My favorite gun is inoperable, so I have not shot it. It is one of two weapons that my dad brought back from the Philippines after World War II, the other being a sword. I'm not sure if he picked it up in Leyte, Samar or some other island. I spent my whole life thinking it was a Japanese pistol, but recently discovered it is likely a German Mauser.

I have since read the extensive history about this semi-automatic pistol. China had purchased them from Germany for wars with Japan. I found a website showing Serial No. 30328 was made in 1902. My best guess is that the Japanese were using arms previously captured from the Chinese, of which this is one.

It is important to note the pistol has a handle grip that appears to be a homemade replacement of the original. If anyone has more history or insight regarding this pistol, I would appreciate hearing about it.

A If you look at the C96 No. 30328 made in 1902, you will find it to be quite different from your pistol. It's easy to tell the difference from a distance, as that one would have a large ring hammer. Mauser made several runs of C96s with that same serial number. Yours is one of the later pistols.

Look at the bore—if it's chambered in 9 mm Luger, then the pistol is what's called a "Red 9." Not all Red 9s were military-accepted, and the earliest pistols were fitted with standard stocks. Yours are homemade replacements, so you cannot use the stock criteria to identify it.

If chambered in 7.63 mm Mauser, it falls into what collectors call the "Finnish Contract" range, a separately numbered group of standard wartime commercial pistols. I'm not sure that I've seen one in the 30xxx range, but several examples have been a bit lower.

Either way, look at the solid-head safety. Assuming it is original, your pistol was made either during or just after World War I.

—Leonardo M. Antaris, Contributing Editor

"Questions & Answers" is compiled by staff, Field and Contributing Editors from the inquiries about guns, ammunition and their use received by *American Rifleman*. Direct answers to technical and historical questions are provided only to NRA members. Submit letters to: Dope Bag, NRA Publications, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400 or to: americanrifleman@nrahq.org. Include your membership number or current copy of an NRA magazine mailing label or membership card and a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope. Please limit each letter to one specific question. Technical or historical questions cannot be answered by telephone, and even approximate values on guns or other equipment cannot be provided. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for replies.

FAVORITE FIREARMS



NRA member photo

A Little Stevens From Chicago

In 1959, in Lansing, Ill., a southern suburb of Chicago, I bought this little Stevens .22 bolt-action, single-shot rifle from my neighbor for $9.50. I used money saved from my local paper route. My neighbor was a gun enthusiast; I was 13 at the time.

Over the next five or six years, and before I went off to college, I fired hundreds and hundreds of rounds of .22 BB Caps, CB Caps, Shorts and Longs through this rifle. You could buy all this ammunition at the local hardware store, no questions asked. I kept the rifle well-cleaned and oiled with a cleaning kit housed in a red metal box from Sears Roebuck and Co., which I still own. The rifle was very accurate, even with iron sights.

I would hang up tin cans in trees about 100 yards or so downrange from my house and practice hitting them using only the iron sights on the rifle. I got to be pretty good at it. Later, when I could drive, I drove south of town and sat on railroad tracks and shot to the far side of a pond about 150 yards or so away using only the rifle's iron sights. I could see where the rounds landed in the water or mud at the water's edge. This is how I learned about trajectory.

Since it was a single-shot, you had to take your time to unload, reload, pull back the knurled cocking knob, aim and fire. Great training and a good lesson in patience. In Army basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, I shot expert with the M14—one of only two in my training company. I attribute that success to my early training with this little Stevens bolt-action .22 rifle.

The rifle is currently in my son's and grandson's possession. The inside of the well-cleaned barrel and its full rifling still gleam like new.

—Kermith "Kit" Werremeyer

Nearly every shooter has a favorite firearm. If you would like to share the experience of owning yours with other *American Rifleman* readers, or on americanrifleman.org, send a sharp color photograph of the gun, accompanied by its story in fewer than 400 words, with your name, address and daytime telephone number to: Favorite Firearms, *American Rifleman*, National Rifle Association, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-9400, or email it to americanrifleman@nrahq.org. Photos and submissions cannot be returned and may be edited for clarity and brevity.

SPRINGFIELD KUNA

A PDW FOR THE MASSES

Small, yet fierce, the namesake of Springfield's latest large-format pistol is a revered forest dweller in the land of its Croatian manufacturing partner, *HS Produkt*. The new Kuna is poised to be just as welcome in America.

BY JEREMIAH KNUPP, Field Editor



The partnership between Springfield Armory and Croatian manufacturer *HS Produkt* has brought many successful firearms to the U.S. market, from the original XD handguns and their successors, the Hellcat and Echelon, to the bullpup Hellion rifle. The latest result of this collaboration is the Kuna, a large-format, semi-automatic pistol, or as Springfield calls it, a "PDW" (personal defense weapon) "designed to deliver exceptional shooting stability in a portable package." Isn't every firearm a potential personal defense weapon for the armed citizen? Of course it is, but the Kuna has several features that are tailor-made for the role at a retail price that is right around the $1,000 mark.

The modern PDW concept goes back to the First World War. Back then, the military primarily had two classes of individual firearm—rifles and handguns. While the latter was hard to shoot accurately under stress, the former was heavy and clumsy to maneuver in the confines of a trench. Something was needed that was more effective than a handgun, but more compact and easier to carry than a rifle and with a greater ammunition capacity. Everything was tried, from pistols equipped with shoulder stocks and extended magazines to the Pedersen Device that converted the bolt-action Springfield rifle to fire a pistol cartridge semi-automatically. But the problem had not been satisfactorily solved by the war's end.



The 9 mm Luger-chambered Springfield Kuna feeds from proprietary 30-round polymer magazines, and a version is available that comes from the factory equipped with a side-folding arm brace.

Photos by Holly Marcus

SPRINGFIELD KUNA



The Springfield Kuna's optional stabilizing arm brace, a Strike Industries FSA, can be reversed to fold to the left or right side of the gun when not in use, minimizing the package's overall size.

Born of the Second World War, many consider the M1 carbine to be the first true PDW. At approximately 5 lbs., 4 ozs., unloaded, it was a light and handy firearm designed to be carried instead of a pistol by those other than frontline combat troops. In the increasingly mechanized post-nuclear world that followed, the military needed a compact arm to equip everyone from tank crews to helicopter pilots. Radical designs were proposed, from Colt's Individual Multi-Purpose weapon "Arm Pistol" to the FN P90. The U.S. Army has recently revisited the PDW concept with its "Sub Compact Weapon" program, which chose a compact 9 mm Luger submachine gun as the Army's next-generation PDW.

Is there an application for the PDW concept in the civilian world? I would argue that there is. In an environment of increasingly sophisticated threats to life and limb, a large-format pistol can give the well-trained and responsible citizen a fighting edge over a conventional handgun. Its advantages include better ballistics from a longer barrel (a 124-grain 9 mm Luger bullet has about 8 percent more velocity coming out of the Kuna's 6" barrel versus the 4" barrel of the typical concealed-carry pistol), a longer sight radius, extra weight to mitigate recoil and allow for quicker follow-up shots, a higher ammunition capacity and a more reliable and robust action that is less sensitive to how the firearm is being held when it is fired. A large-format pistol also has the advantage that its legal status as a handgun allows it to be carried concealed, on the person or in a discreet carrying case, anywhere it is legal to carry a conventional handgun.



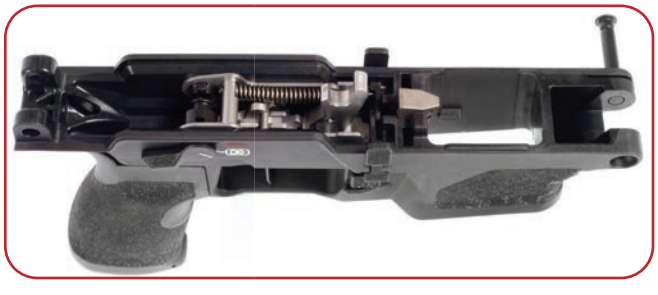
Controls on the Kuna are bilateral, and the folding charging handle can be switched to either the right or left side.

The Springfield Kuna (pronounced like "tuna") checks all of these boxes. The name comes from the Croatian version of the pine marten, which is the national animal of that nation. Think "small but fierce"—precisely what a PDW should be. Like the Hellion rifle, the Kuna began its life as a military and law-enforcement product and went through the rigorous testing protocols that are required by those applications. The submachine gun version was launched at last year's Brazilian COP international law-enforcement and security trade show. The initial order was for a Brazilian military police contract, with the guns chambered in .40 S&W. The semi-automatic-only pistol version covered here was designed exclusively for the U.S. market.

The Kuna uses a roller-delayed blowback action. Unlike the H&K system, which uses dual rollers that move in and out relative to the bore axis, the Kuna's system employs a single roller that moves up and down. When the bolt is in battery, its upper extension overhangs the rear of the barrel, and the ends of the pin that secure the roller in place drop into two camming surfaces in the barrel trunnion. The extension also contains a counterweight (Springfield calls this part the "bolt lock") that is held forward under spring pressure. When the pistol is fired, force pushes back on the bolt face. As the bolt begins to move rearward, the camming surfaces in the trunnion push the roller pin up, forcing the roller against a camming surface on the counterweight. This causes the weight to retract against spring pressure. The delay caused by having to overcome this resistance allows the



The Springfield Kuna disassembles easily into its major components for cleaning and maintenance. As with the AR platform, the upper and lower receivers can be separated by pushing out a pair of pins.



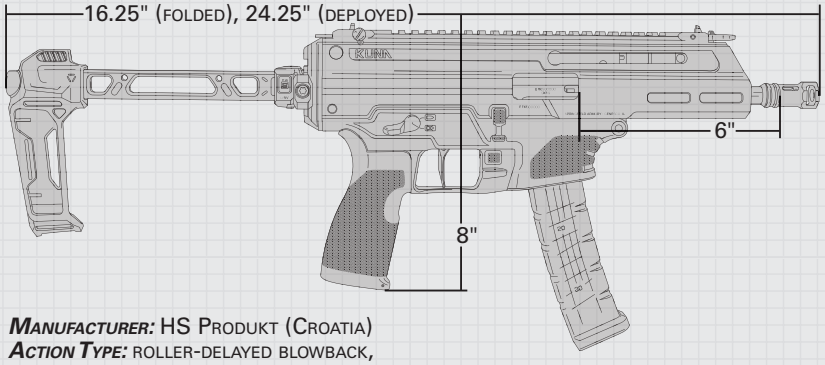


A set of iron sights is integrated into the gun's Picatinny optics rail. When raised, they make it possible to co-witness with an electronic optic such as the Trijicon SRO. When in the down position, the sights present a U-notch rear and front post.



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY KUNA

Importer: Springfield Armory (Dept. AR), 650 Weber Drive, Geneseo, IL, 61254; (800) 680-6866; SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM



Manufacturer: HS Produkt (Croatia)
Action Type: roller-delayed blowback, semi-automatic, centerfire pistol
Chambering: 9 mm Luger
Receiver: 7075-T6 aluminum; Type III hardcoat anodized
Barrel: cold-hammer-forged steel, Melonite finish; six-groove, 1:10" RH-twist rifling; 1/2x28TPI muzzle
Magazine: 30-round detachable box
Sights: U-notch rear and front post with dot (folded), rear aperture and front hooded post (deployed)
Trigger: two-stage; 5-lb., 3-oz. pull
Weight: 5 lbs., 5 ozs.
Accessories: owner's manual, soft case, extra magazine, lock
MSRP: $1,149

SHOOTING RESULTS (25 YARDS)

9 mm Luger Cartridge	Velocity (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Group Size (inches) Smallest	Largest	Average
Federal Premium HST 147-grain JHP	1,048 Avg. 14 Sd	358	0.83	1.54	1.24
Remington 124-grain FMJ	1,203 Avg. 8 Sd	398	2.10	2.67	2.35
Winchester Active Duty 115-grain FN FMJ	1,391 Avg. 9 Sd	494	1.08	2.26	1.73
Average Extreme Spread					1.77

Notes: Measured average velocity for 10 shots over a Competition Electronics ProChrono DLX chronograph at 10 feet. Accuracy results for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 25 yards from a Caldwell Matrix rest. Temperature: 51° F. Humidity: 56%. Abbreviations: FMJ (full metal jacket), FN (flat nose), JHP (jacketed hollow point), Sd (Standard deviation).

pressure in the chamber to drop to a safe level before the cartridge case is extracted. Using this system eliminates the need for the heavy bolt and strong mainspring of a direct-blowback system. *HS Produkt* also claims a smoother-shooting, more accurate firearm with a longer service life. At 19.6 ozs., the Kuna bolt is heavier than those used by MP5-type firearms, but lighter than most direct-blowback bolts.

The Kuna's monolithic upper, its serialized receiver and its handguard, are machined from 7075-T6 aluminum and given a black Type III hardcoat anodized finish. The fixed ejector and feed ramp are bolted-in steel components for greater durability. An M1913 Picatinny rail runs the receiver's length, and the handguard has M-Lok slots at the 3-, 6- and 9-o'clock positions for attaching accessories. Push-button swivel sockets are on both sides of the rear of the receiver, and the receiver endplate has a section of M1913 Picatinny rail. Springfield offers a model of the Kuna with the Strike Industries FSA stabilizing brace, which uses a steel hinge, folding to the left side of the pistol, and has a push-button swivel socket at the rear. The brace can be configured to fold to the right, but the gun cannot be fired repeatedly in that position, as the ejection port is covered. It adds about 11 ozs. to the pistol's overall weight, a mere 0.75" extra in overall length when folded and $150 to the MSRP.



The Kuna's receiver endplate features a section of Picatinny rail to which a folding arm brace can mount, but it can also accommodate a push-button cup for the attachment of a single-point bungee sling.

The trigger housing or "lower receiver" is made of reinforced polymer. Within it, the fire controls are contained in a stainless-steel chassis that can be removed as a unit. The pistol grip is a separate component that is compatible with AR-15 designs. The supplied grip has an internal storage compartment and uses the "Adaptive Grip Texture" found on Springfield's Prodigy, Echelon and Hellcat pistols. This texturing, along with coarser "ribs" is also found on the magazine well, providing a second gripping surface for the large pistol.

The Kuna has bilateral controls for full ambidextrous use that will be familiar to an AR-15 user. A button-type magazine release is positioned on both sides of the lower housing. Generous flare to the magazine well allows for quick reloads, and the drop-free magazines do not need to be manually removed from the gun before another is inserted. The bolt





The Kuna employs a roller-delayed blowback system of operation in which a roller pin locks into recesses above the barrel trunnion and the roller acts on a spring-loaded counterweight. Unlike the Heckler & Koch delayed-blowback design, which uses dual rollers moving in and out relative to the bore axis, the Kuna's system employs a single roller that moves up and down against the counterweight.

locks open on an empty magazine, and a bolt release is present on both sides of the pistol. A safety lever is located above the pistol grip and moves 45 degrees between the Safe and Fire positions, which are clearly marked with "bullet/no bullet" pictograms. Contact surfaces on all three controls are given the same "adaptive" texturing. The non-reciprocating, forward-mounted charging handle is reversible (it is easily swapped from side to side when the pistol is disassembled) and folds under spring tension when not in use.

Does it take Glock magazines? No. While conventional pistol magazine compatibility is convenient, purpose-built, large-format-pistol magazines have their advantages. For the 9 mm Luger cartridge, the Kuna magazine is curved, meaning it has a shorter height than a conventional straight handgun magazine of the same capacity. Instead of the double-column-into-single-column feed of most handgun magazines, it is a double-column, staggered-feed design, meaning that it is more reliable and easier to load to full capacity by hand. Its design, where the rear of the follower activates the bolt hold-open, is less complicated and more robust than adapting a bolt hold-open device to a conventional pistol magazine with its front actuation point.

Kuna magazines, while proprietary, have an MSRP of $25. They are made of a translucent polymer, have metal-reinforced feed lips and a capacity of 30 rounds while weighing a mere 4.2 ozs. unloaded. A ribbed gripping texture is molded into their external surface, and they insert straight into the pistol's magazine well. Two are supplied with each Kuna. Hopefully, Springfield will release 20- and 10-round magazines to allow for more compact carry and to allow for sales in regulated areas.

The Kuna's built-in "hybrid" flip-up iron sights illustrate how well-thought-out the design is. When locked in their downward position, they present a fixed, highlighted, U-notch rear and front post with a white dot, much like the pattern found on Springfield's Hellcat and Echelon pistols. This makes for an always-ready, low-profile sighting system, in the spirit of deep-concealment PDWs such as the H&K MP5KA1 with its minimal sights or the MP7. When the sights are flipped up, they display an aperture rear with click adjustments for windage and a hooded front post adjustable for elevation, similar to, but simpler than, those used on the Hellion rifle. Both provide an ideal sight picture when the Kuna is held at a handgun-length eye relief. I tested the Kuna with a Trijicon SRO red-dot sight mounted on Trijicon's RM33 low Picatinny rail mount, and the iron sights co-witnessed perfectly with the optic when in the deployed position.



The Kuna's 6" barrel is cold-hammer-forged and has a Melonite nitriding surface treatment, as do the pistol's other steel parts. Its muzzle is threaded 1/2x28 TPI, and a multi-port muzzle brake is factory-installed. Although I did not test it, Springfield states that the Kuna's action has been tuned to function suppressed. The firearm's overall dimensions are in the spirit of classic compact 9 mm submachine guns—such as the B&T APC9K or the H&K MP5K—with an overall length of 15.5" and a weight of 4 lbs., 10 ozs., without the brace.

On the range, the Kuna's accuracy is aided by its superb, possibly best-in-class, trigger. A two-stage design, the flat-faced aluminum trigger pulls through the first stage to hit a definite wall before breaking cleanly at just over 5 lbs. The reset is short and positive. All controls operate easily and intuitively, although it would be nice for the Kuna to have the dual charging handles of its military sibling. The safety can be activated while the hammer is uncocked, meaning the Kuna can be loaded and unloaded with the safety on.

Roller-delayed blowback firearms are renowned for the "smoothness" of their recoil impulse. The Kuna's recoil falls somewhere between that of a simple blowback system and an MP5-style firearm. A combination of the pistol's size and the excellent trigger resulted in five-shot groups under 2" from a supported shooting position at 25 yards during my formal accuracy testing. In the folded position, the Kuna's fixed sights shot to their point of aim at 25 yards, and the flipped-up aperture was easily regulated.

As the law prohibits a forward vertical grip on a pistol, the textured magazine well makes for the perfect support-hand



Kuna magazines drop free when one of the bilateral magazine-release buttons is activated (r). The gun feeds from proprietary magazines of a double-column, staggered-feed design (l.) as opposed to that of a conventional pistol's double-column, single-feed design (far l.).

placement point, helping to stabilize the pistol while keeping the fingers a comfortable distance from the muzzle. While the brace helps in stabilizing the Kuna, I found that a "bungee"-type sling, attached to the rear of the receiver to allow the pistol to be pushed out against its tension, was also an effective way to stay on target.

Although not stated explicitly in the owner's manual, Springfield confirmed that the Kuna is rated for shooting +P ammunition, so I tested it with Winchester NATO-spec M1152 cartridges with their +P velocity. In addition to a wide range of velocities, the Kuna fed a variety of bullet shapes and weights.

The pistol's disassembly procedures are simple, as would be expected, given the Kuna's military/law-enforcement pedigree. After you have removed the magazine and confirmed the pistol is unloaded, push the rear captured disassembly pin in the lower housing to the right, which allows the assembly to hinge down. The front pin can then be released, allowing the lower to be removed from the upper receiver. With the lower removed, the endplate can be unlatched and slid out of the receiver. Pulling the charging handle to the rear allows the bolt and recoil spring assembly to be removed from the receiver. This is as far as Springfield recommends disassembling for cleaning.

The Kuna was developed around the .40 S&W, so there is enough strength built into the design to handle more powerful cartridges than the 9 mm Luger. And *HS Produkt* has suggested 10 mm Auto and .45 ACP versions may be on the way, though Springfield won't confirm that.

As a self-defense firearm, "large-format" pistols offer additional ammunition capacity, more real estate for attaching accessories and a larger, more comfortable platform that makes it easier to deliver accurate shots. Modular in construction, ambidextrous in operation and optics-ready, the Kuna pistol in 9 mm Luger is a well-executed design and an affordable PDW for those seeking to optimize personal defense with a tool that stacks the deck in favor of the prepared.





Savage Revels In The



Given today's fascination with, and focus on, "precision" rifles, and the general refrain from the study of, if not disdain for, history, it might be lost on some that one of the country's premier riflemakers—Savage Arms, Inc.—is returning to its roots. That's right; the company that creates myriad hunting and competition models incorporating the renowned 10/110 and 12/112 actions, among others, including the aptly named Model 110 Precision and 112 Long Range Precision, is revisiting lever-actions—the very type of rifle on which the firm was founded. Announced at the 2024 SHOT Show, the Savage Revel Classic and DLX rimfire models harken to a bygone era.

A Retrospective Look

Established in Utica, N.Y., in 1894, the company's first product was the Model 1895, a centerfire, lever-action rifle available only in .303 Savage. According to the *Blue Book Of Gun Values, 35th Ed.*, approximately 6,000 of the guns were made before production ceased in 1899. It would be replaced by another lever-action, the Model 1899 introduced that year. Chambered in a multitude of cartridges, it has been available on an inconsistent basis for around a century. Talk about longevity! That's only one historical connection, though.

Similar to Savage's storied history with lever-actions, so,

Photos by Forrest MacCormack

Rimfire Lever-Action

Lever-action rifles have experienced a revival in recent years, and Savage Arms is getting in on the act with its Revel series rimfires. To understand it, you may have to read (backward) between the lines.

BY AARON CARTER, Field Editor



SAVAGE REVEL CLASSIC

SAVAGE REVEL DLX

too, is its link to rimfires. In fact, the company's earliest such product came just four years later in the form of the Model 1903 slide-action rifle chambered for .22 Short, Long and Long Rifle ammunition. Then the single-shot Model 1904 debuted, and a takedown variant—the Model 1905—appeared the subsequent year. Both were rimfires, too. In 1909, an improved version of the Model 1903 was released.

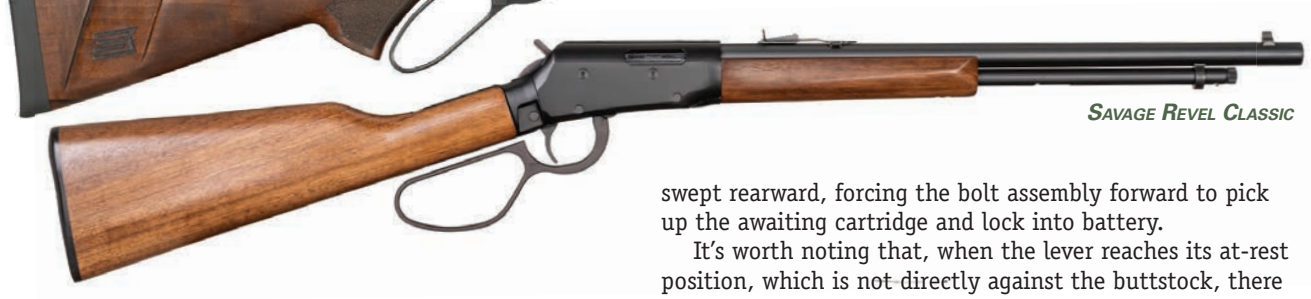
Since its earliest days, Savage has continually offered consumers a considerable selection of rimfire rifles, as well as a few handguns, all at affordable prices. Today, its variety of rimfire rifles is likely unsurpassed. From the top-selling, semi-automatic Model 64 series, which debuted in 1996, to the newer A22—also a self-loader—and bolt-action B Series, Mark II and Rascal rifles, there's something for all demographics. At the time of this writing, the selection constituted 63 products. Still, something was absent. That's right—lever-action rimfires.

"With the rise in popularity of lever-action rifles, it was an appropriate time for Savage to tap into our roots and step into the lever-action market ourselves," said Beth Shimanski, director of marketing for the company. "Being a leader in rimfire rifles, we wanted to round out our existing lineup to include all common action types."

Strangely, the firm hadn't previously melded its rimfire know-how and capabilities with its lever-gun origins. That was rectified with the debut of the Revel rimfires.



Savage Revel DLX



Savage Revel Classic

This time, despite a history of models named for the year of their release, the gun's name is derived from the word "lever" being spelled in reverse. Of course, according to the dictionary, it can also be understood as: "to indulge in boisterous activities" or "take great pleasure or delight." Sounds like an apt description of a range session when a brick of .22 LR ammunition is on-hand. Now there are 65 options in the Savage rimfire line.

The Canadian-made Revel DLX and Classic rifles are not remakes of an existing lever-action rimfire, though; Savage approached the project with a different mindset—improve the age-old design with a new concept. Goal achieved. Let's look at each model individually, beginning with the DLX.

Reveling In The DLX Design

When creating the Revel series of rimfires, it's obvious that the engineers sought to modernize them. Aesthetically, the DLX is the edgier model; however, the foundation of the two is the same. As a lever-action rifle, it's operationally identical to all others of the ilk—past and present. Pushing downward and forward on the lever loop retracts the bolt, which, in this case, occurs in the upper receiver assembly. As it does so, the hammer is cocked. Simultaneously, if a cartridge or case is extracted from the chamber, it will be ejected through the ejection port. After reaching its forwardmost position, the lever loop is then swept rearward, forcing the bolt assembly forward to pick up the awaiting cartridge and lock into battery.

It's worth noting that, when the lever reaches its at-rest position, which is not directly against the buttstock, there is an audible "click." It's by no means quiet, and some riflemen might take exception to it. The loop is sufficiently sized to accommodate even large, gloved hands, and tasteful Savage logos are found on both sides of the stock and fore-end. Operation is exceptionally smooth.

Revel rifles have a three-position hammer. Once fully cocked (as previously described), the rifle is ready to fire. There is a half-cock position, based on a notch in the hammer, but the company warns that it should not be treated as an outright safety. Deep grooves machined into the hammer spur aid purchase. A two-position crossbolt safety resides in relieved sections on each side of the wrist, and both tactile and audible confirmation of its movement are present; a small band of red is visible on the gun's left side when ready to fire. While on the topic of fire controls, the DLX's single-stage trigger incorporates a smooth-faced steel shoe and, on the sample, it broke at only 2 lbs., 13. ozs. The pull was effortless, but there was noticeable creep. All in all, though, it was a good trigger—especially for a lever-action.

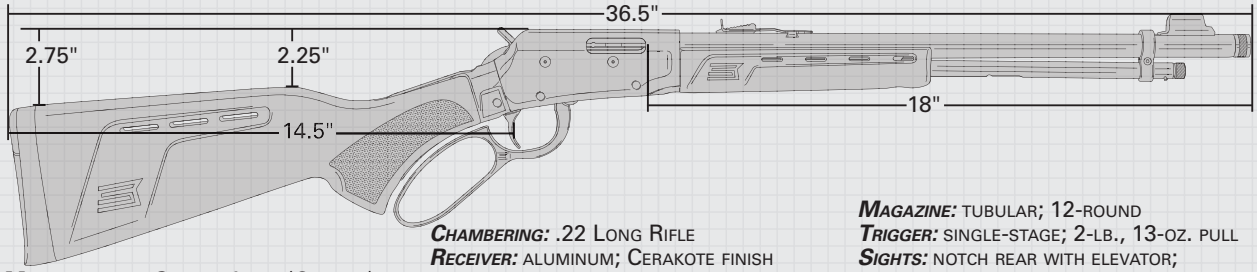
The Revel series models are takedown rifles. "The Revel was engineered around the takedown feature to ensure it would not have any impact on the reliability and feeding of the rifles," Shimanski said. "When the rifle is taken down, all the main components involved in the cycling of the action are kept together as an assembly to ensure that it is not affected when taken apart." That's forward-thinking and intelligent.



Pulling a pair of captive takedown pins allows the Revel rimfires to be quickly disassembled into two halves for convenient transport.

SAVAGE REVEL DLX

Importer: Savage Arms (Dept. AR), 100 Springdale Road, Westfield, MA 01085; (800) 370-0708; savagearms.com



Manufacturer: Savage Arms (Canada)
Action Type: lever-action, rimfire, repeating rifle

Chambering: .22 Long Rifle
Receiver: aluminum; Cerakote finish
Stock: Turkish walnut; satin finish
Barrel: carbon-steel; eight-groove, 1:16" RH-twist rifling; 1/2x28TPI muzzle

Magazine: tubular; 12-round
Trigger: single-stage; 2-lb., 13-oz. pull
Sights: notch rear with elevator; hooded, fixed-post front
Weight: 6 lbs., 2 ozs.
MSRP: $539





The Revel DLX's sights consist of a notch rear with an elevator and a hooded, fixed-post front (hood removed above). Unlike the Revel Classic, its muzzle is threaded 1/2x28 TPI for use with suppressors.

SHOOTING RESULTS (50 YARDS)

.22 Long Rifle Cartridge	Velocity (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Group Size (inches) Smallest	Largest	Average
CCI Green Tag 40-grain LRN	1,016 Avg. 15 Sd	92	0.45	1.01	0.72
CCI Suppressor 45-grain LHP	951 Avg. 10 Sd	90	0.70	1.06	0.94
Remington Viper 36-grain PTCS	1,301 Avg. 18 Sd	135	1.28	2.37	1.88
Average Extreme Spread					1.18

Notes: Measured average velocity for 10 shots using a Garmin Xero C1 Pro chronograph. Accuracy results for five consecutive, 10-shot groups at 50 yards from a Caldwell sandbag-style front rest with a rear bag. Temperature: 54° F. Humidity: 34%. Abbreviations: LHP (lead hollow point), LRN (lead round nose), PTCS (plated truncated cone solid), Sd (Standard deviation).

Due to its takedown feature, the Revel's receiver section consists of three parts. The Cerakote-finished aluminum cover is secured (via four machine screws) to the upper receiver assembly, and two takedown pins secure the lower receiver assembly to the cover, which essentially holds everything in their proper relationships. The top of the rounded cover is drilled and tapped to accept bases—however, it's a new Savage pattern.

Taking apart a Revel rifle is fast and uncomplicated. Here is the process: After confirming that the firearm is unloaded, the safety is activated and remains in that condition throughout the disassembly/reassembly process. Next, the captive (and non-removable) takedown pins on the bottom of the receiver cover are pressed until they will go no farther. If the design seems familiar, that's because all but the AR-platform neophyte would instantly recognize it. According to Shimanski, "[It] was inspired by the AR-15 takedown system using two pushpins to allow for very simple takedown that users would be familiar with. This system keeps the takedown feature very low-profile without any type of screw that might stick out from the receiver that is common on some classic designs, such as the Savage 1903 .22 LR rifle." The lower and upper halves of the rifle are then pulled in opposite directions. Reassembling them requires a bit of finesse and attention to detail, but quickens with practice. No manhandling is warranted. When disassembled, the two pieces measure 19 3/8" and 23 7/8", respectively, making transport easy.

The Revel DLX has a medium-profile, carbon-steel 18" barrel that's threaded 1/2x28 TPI to accept a sound suppressor or other accessory. A checkered steel cap is provided to protect the threads when not in use. Topping the barrel is an unsophisticated but effective notch rear sight with elevator, along with a hooded, fixed-post front unit screwed in place just behind its threaded muzzle.

Behind the front sight is a bracket that secures the barrel to the tubular magazine. Twisting the magazine end cap clockwise a smidge permits the inner tubular magazine (with follower) to be withdrawn for loading or unloading. Capacity depends on the chambering. While the DLX chambered in .22 LR holds 12 rounds in its magazine, those in .17 HMR and .22 WMR hold nine cartridges.

For a lever gun, the DLX's furniture is a tad atypical. The satin-finished Turkish walnut used for the fore-end has a series of what could be considered cooling vents/channels (four per side inside a slight finger groove and another at the top along the barrel) that enhance its aesthetics. The fore-end itself is rather narrow, measuring 1.257" at

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Both versions of the Revel ship with drilled-and-tapped receiver covers for the easy installation of optics—however, the mounting pattern used is new.



A Marine Raider in 1943 is seen here training with a Model 1918 Mark I Trench Knife.

LIFE magazine photos

Marine Corps Knives Of WORLD WAR II

Considered an essential piece of kit for every Marine, a wide variety of private-purchase and standard-issue knives were pressed into service in every theater of the war to tackle tasks ranging from hand-to-hand combat to everyday chores.

BY **BRUCE N. CANFIELD,** Field Editor

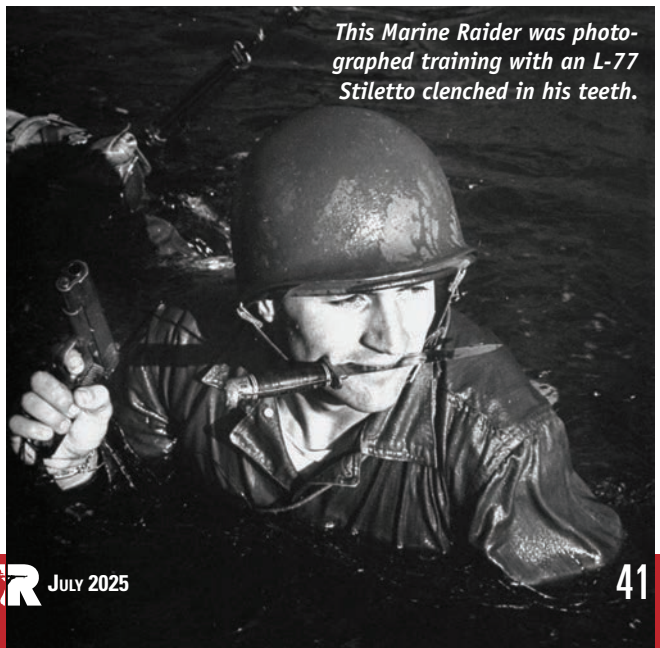
There have been countless books and articles written about the various small arms used by the United States Marine Corps during the Second World War. They include such iconic examples as the M1903 Springfield rifle, M1 Garand, M1 carbine, Thompson submachine gun and Browning Automatic Rifle, just to name a few. Though much more basic and compact, knives issued during the war were sometimes just as essential to the Marines' survival, and, while they have not been covered as extensively, their design and use remain interesting and important parts of the story.

At the time of the Armistice in November 1918, the standard American combat knife was the M1918 Mark I "Trench Knife" that was characterized by a massive "brass knuckle" handle. Although manufactured too late to have seen active use in World War I, approximately 139,000 remained on hand after the war. At the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, the M1918 Mark I was the only military "combat knife" available. The immediate demand resulted in the M1918 Mark I knives being taken from inventory and issued, primarily to Army paratroopers and Rangers. However, while apparently not standardized by the Marine Corps, some M1918 Mark I knives were acquired and used for training and in early Pacific campaigns including Guadalcanal. Since the supply of these knives was being rapidly depleted, it was imperative that additional knives be obtained as soon as possible.

The only viable course of action was to acquire existing commercial knives until standardized knives could be put into production. A May 1942 Marine Corps memo discussed the value of sheath knives:

> "Sheath knives are recommended as weapons and general utility tools. They are considered of great value in the field as supplemental to the bayonet which in its present form is not quite suitable as a cutting weapon nor well designed for close-in fighting. The sheath knife is not only a weapon for use under cover of darkness but also is invaluable in landing operations where lines must frequently be cut and for operations through heavy growth that must be cut away silently. Our own paratroopers and raider battalions as well as the Japanese have found this piece of equipment indispensable."

It should be noted that the Marines were not the only users of most of the knives to be discussed. These, and numerous other types of commercial knives, were also acquired for Army and Navy personnel either via direct procurement under contract, requisition or purchase order, including "unit purchases" for specific military outfits. Sizeable numbers were also privately purchased by servicemen at their own expense from civilian retail stores or other outlets before deployment overseas. As stated by one Marine: "The final hours before (departing for Guadalcanal), we were employed in checking personal equipment, sharpening the knives we had bought in Jacksonville and San Diego and the regulation bayonets."



This Marine Raider was photographed training with an L-77 Stiletto clenched in his teeth.

While it is not possible to cover every type of commercial knife "drafted" into USMC service during World War II, the following are among the most notable:

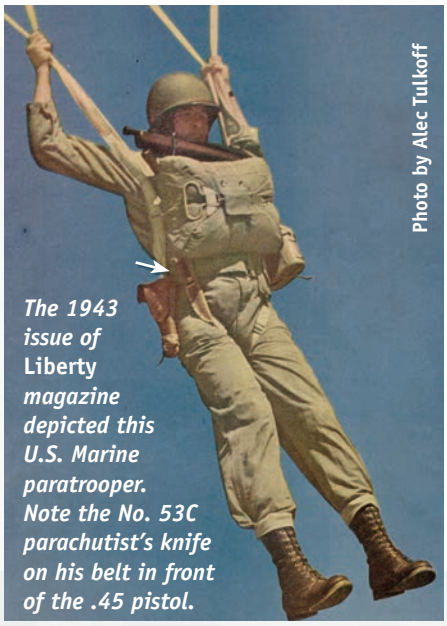
Western Parachutist's Knife

In early 1941, the Marine Corps began the formation of airborne units. A knife for use by paratroopers was needed, and bids for such knives were requested. Nine firms responded, and the submission by Western States Cutlery of its No. 53C knife was selected. The same pattern knife was listed in later company sales brochures as the "W-31." The knife was designated by the Marines as the "Knife Parachutists." Some 2,750 were manufactured under USMC contract. The compact and well-made knife had a 4⅛" blade and an overall length of 8⅝". The only difference from the knives made for the civilian market was the "USMC" marking on the blade.

The knives were intended for parachute training purposes and were not supposed to leave the stateside bases, at least not "officially," and few genuine examples exist today.



USMC Western No. 53C parachutist's knife
Photo by Warren Jones



The 1943 issue of Liberty *magazine depicted this U.S. Marine paratrooper. Note the No. 53C parachutist's knife on his belt in front of the .45 pistol.*

Photo by Alec Tulkoff

Camillus No. 5665 "Hunting Knife"

The first knife purchased for issuance to the 1st Raider Battalion was Camillus Cutlery Co.'s Model No. 5665 "Hunting Knife." The knife had a 5" blade and was 8⅞" overall. Large numbers of this knife pattern were procured by the Army Air Corps during World War II for use in emergency survival kits.

In April 1942, 1,000 Model No. 5665 knives were shipped to Quantico for issuance to the 1st Raider Battalion. While better for their purposes than the M1918 Mark I Trench Knife, the Camillus knife was still not quite what the Raiders had in mind.



A commercial Camillus No. 5665 "Hunting Knife" as issued by the 1st Raider Battalion until standardized knives could be obtained.
Photo by Warren Jones

Western L-77 Stiletto

Another commercial knife procured for the Raiders early during the war had more of a "fighting knife" configuration than the utilitarian Camillus No. 5665 "Hunting Knife." This knife, the Western "L-77 Stiletto," had a 7" single-edge blade, an overall length of 11" and was closer to the Raiders' concept of a fighting knife. However, the knife was manufactured for the civilian market and not designed to endure the rigors of combat and proved to have a proclivity for damage. Regardless, the L-77 knives saw a surprising amount of overseas combat duty.



This Western L-77 Stiletto has provenance to the 3rd Raider Battalion and overseas combat duty to its credit.
Photo by Doug Bailey



Western G46-6 "Shark Knife"

The Western G46-6 "Shark Knife" was another popular commercial knife acquired during World War II. It had a 6" blade and was 10⅛" in overall length. Government contracts were made with the Army Air Forces and Navy Bureau of Aeronautics for the Shark Knife, but a significant number also made their way to Marine ground forces. As was the case with the L-77, many Shark Knives were privately purchased by servicemen.

A Western States Cutlery Co. ad in WWII *magazine publicizes the Shark Knife.*



Western G46-6 Shark Knife
Photo by Charlie Flick

Marine Raider "Gung Ho" Knife



One of most unusual and famous of the commercial knives acquired by the Marines was the so-called "'Gung Ho' Knife," which was only procured by the 2nd Raider Battalion. Technically, the "Gung Ho" Knife was actually a small machete, the Collins No. 18, that had been in Army Air Corps survival kits as early as 1934.

Lieutenant Colonel Evans Carlson, commanding officer of the 2nd Raiders, believed the knife could be useful in jungle combat operations. His executive officer, Maj. James Roosevelt (FDR's son), was instrumental in obtaining 1,000 No. 18s from Collins in early 1942.

The robust knife had a 9½" blade and an overall length of 14¼". It represented a good compromise as a compact, light machete for cutting jungle undergrowth and as a "utility knife" for digging holes, opening ration tins, ammunition boxes and the like. It could also serve as a formidable fighting knife when necessary.

The Collins No. 18 was dubbed the "Gung Ho" Knife, which is Chinese for "work together," a phrase Carlson picked up from his time in China during the 1930s. The term gained fame in America with the 1943 motion picture "Gung Ho!: The Story of Carlson's Makin Island Raiders."

The "Gung Ho" Knife was extremely popular with the 2nd Raiders and was something of a status symbol since it was only issued to that unit. Knives of a similar pattern were made by several companies during the war as survival machetes, but the Collins knife was the only one to be issued as a utility or combat knife. The Collins No. 18 knives are often referred to today as the "V-44," which is incorrect nomenclature as the actual V-44 was a non-folding machete made by W. R. Case & Sons in 1944 (two years after the Raiders acquired the Collins No. 18s). But, over the years, the name somehow became connected to the Collins No. 18. Regardless, whether it's called the "Gung Ho," the Collins No. 18 or the V-44, this rugged, multi-purpose knife will always be inexorably linked to Carlson's Raiders.

This "Gung Ho" Knife, with its leather sheath, was carried by Marine Raider R.G. "Rudy" Rosenquist during World War II. While original to the knife, the sheath was embellished a bit by Rosenquist during the war.
Photo by Doug Bailey

The U.S. Marine Raider Stiletto



After the lack of satisfaction with most of the civilian knives (the "Gung Ho" Knife notwithstanding), the Raiders were more desirous than ever to acquire an effective and deadly fighting knife of their own.

In 1942, a design based on the British Fairbairn-Sykes "Commando knife" was the first knife officially designed and adopted by the Marine Corps as a combat weapon. The Camillus Cutlery Co. was selected to manufacture the new knife, which was referred to as the "U.S. Marine Raider Stiletto." It had a 7¼"-long blade and an overall length of 12¼".

Camillus made a total of 14,370 Marine Corps Raider Stilettos. In addition to the Raiders, some were also issued to Marine parachute units. Unlike the other U.S. military knives previously procured, which, to varying degrees, were useful as both combat weapons and utility knives, the Marine Raider Stiletto was designed with a single purpose in mind. As stated in *Our Kind Of War*:

"… the Stiletto [was] not designed to be used for opening ration cans or as a pry bar to open cases. After all, the knife was designed for one purpose—killing the enemy—and its design was not compromised to also include a variety of other uses normally associated with a machete or a utility knife. No, the Stiletto was a finely designed—almost delicate—single-purpose weapon …"

A Camillus USMC Raider Stiletto with its sheath; note the "U.S.M.C." scroll etched into the 7¼" blade.
Rock Island Auction Co. photo

Paradoxically, the Stiletto's greatest strengths were also the source of its greatest weaknesses. The virtues of the knife, such as the thin profile of the sharp double-edged blade and the needle-like tip, which made it such an effective killing instrument, also rendered it unsuitable for almost any sort of utility use. If handled carefully and used for its intended purpose, the "almost delicate" nature of the knife was not an issue.

Not many of the 14,000+ Marine Raider Stilettos survived the ravages of war and time. Today, they are treasured collectibles and one of the most coveted of all U.S. military edged weapons. The book *Our Kind Of War* pointed out the irony that: "Raiders now are realizing that the knives they lost, traded along the way or still use for garden digging are, in most cases, more valuable than some of the Samurai swords they brought home."

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A Marine Raider trains with a Camillus Stiletto at Camp Pendleton, Calif., in 1943.
U.S. Marine photo



NRA ATLANTA • 2025
ANNUAL MEETINGS & EXHIBITS

Your NRA On Full Display

At the 154th Annual Meeting & Exhibits, more than 70,000 freedom-loving Americans gathered in celebration of our great association and the Second Amendment it protects.

By NRA Media Staff

The city of Atlanta—whose new motto is "Where You Belong"—warmly welcomed NRA members this spring, extending a large dose of Southern hospitality during NRA's 154th Annual Meetings & Exhibits. The gathering of more than 70,000 members took place from April 24-27 at the Georgia World Congress Center, where NRA showcased in grand style what it does for its members through dynamic seminars, interactive workshops and celebrity entertainment. Throughout the weekend, NRA staff and enthusiastic volunteers gave those attendees a memorable and productive weekend.

The doors opened to the Exhibit Hall on Friday, where NRA members and guests were treated to more than 600 booths or displays—14 acres' worth—from the shooting sports and outdoor industries, guides and outfitters, and NRA's gun-collecting affiliates.

The NRA Women's Leadership Forum Brunch & Auction featured both silent and exciting live auctions. Keynote speaker Hogan Gidley offered a perspective on working inside the Trump White House, highlighting the administration's wins in the first days of President Trump's second term.





Veterans were front and center at the 154th NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits. Norris Jernigan (top), a 100-year-old World War II Army Air Force veteran, was the oldest Life member at the 154th Meeting of Members. Vietnam Medal of Honor recipient and Marine Maj. Gen. James Livingston received the first Henry Golden Boy Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Limited Edition rifle. Patriot and Marine veteran Mark "Oz" Geist (co-author of "13 Hours") served as the emcee for the Freedom Experience concert Saturday night. Bill Bachenberg (l.) was elected and sworn in as NRA President.

A MEETING OF MEMBERS

On Saturday, it was down to business at the 154th Annual Meeting of Members. By tradition, the oldest and youngest Life members in attendance were recognized. For Norris Jernigan, a 100-year-old World War II veteran, there was no competition. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943 and eventually served with the 509th Composite Group—which dropped atomic bombs on Japan, ending World War II. The youngest Life member in attendance was teenager Mason Brodie Hague.

NRA EVP and CEO Doug Hamlin took to the podium to emphasize his commitment to rebuilding the trust of the staff, industry, donors and especially NRA members, highlighting the all-new leadership team. "NRA does everything. We have museums, consumer shows, range-development programs, media, lobbying, youth programs, women's programs, education and training … NRA does it all. NRA played a huge role on November 5—democracy in action—in electing President Donald J. Trump," Hamlin said. "Now is not the time to be complacent, and the future is bright if we work together."

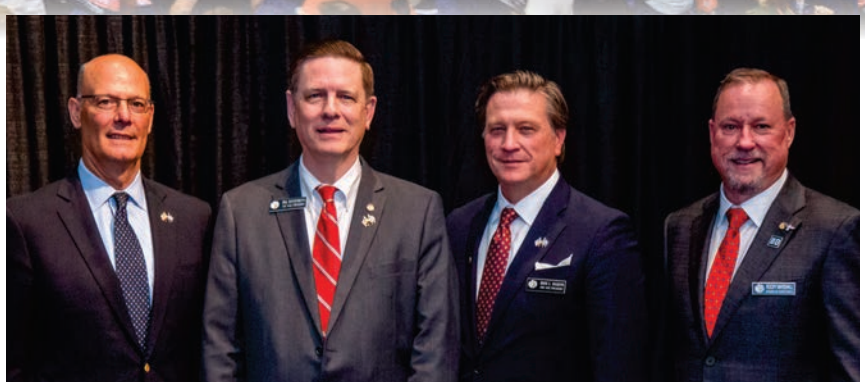


Outstanding clubs were recognized, and President Trump thanked NRA members and staff in a video address. Brotherhood Designs presented a large United States flag created from repurposed fire hoses in honor of Corey Comperatore, the volunteer firefighter who died shielding his wife and daughter during the 2024 assassination attempt on Trump in Butler, Pa.

After reports from NRA officers, members voted on four resolutions; two did not pass, one was referred to the Board of Directors for further consideration, and one that called for an NRA-members-only website passed by a wide margin.

NRA-ILA TURNS 50

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA). "In 1975, if law students heard about the Second Amendment at all, they were taught it preserved the states' ability to maintain organized militias and it had nothing to do with the individual right to own and use firearms for private purposes. This was the backdrop for the creation of ILA," said NRA-ILA Executive Director John Commerford. "Its mandate was, and remains, to protect the Second Amendment in the legislatures and courts, to support pro-gun candidates for office and to educate the public on the right to keep and bear arms. Consider where we are now after five decades of ILA's work. It is now black-letter law that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms for self-defense and other legitimate purposes."



NRA Executive Vice President and CEO Doug Hamlin (top) at the 154th Annual Meeting of members said, "Our focus is rebuilding our programs and services. We must come together as we look to the future." At the meeting (r.), a resolution calling for a new members' web page passed. NRA's 2025 leadership team (above) includes (l.-r.): EVP and CEO Doug Hamlin, President Bill Bachenberg, First Vice President Mark Vaughan and Second Vice President Rocky Marshall. The Freedom Experience concert featured legendary musicians John Rich (below), Big Kenny and Cowboy Troy. For three days in the Exhibit Hall, members were treated to 14 acres of guns and gear.







Photos by NRA staff









The NRA Institute for Legislative Action celebrated its 50th anniversary. "The first 50 years of ILA leave us with a huge responsibility: To leave the right to keep and bear arms in a better place than where we found it," said NRA-ILA Executive Director John Commerford (above). At an exclusive event for NRA Ring of Freedom and VIP Ticket Package holders, commentator and author Katie Pavlich (l.) conducted a one-on-one interview with EVP and CEO Doug Hamlin. During the NRA Board Meeting, the NRA National Awards were presented, including the Women's Wildlife Management Conservation Scholarships. Recipients Sarah Hougard and Libby Babcock were congratulated by EVP and CEO Doug Hamlin, past President Bob Barr and Executive Director of General Operations Josh Savani (below, l.).



THE HEADLINE EVENTS: CELEBRATING FREEDOM & SERVICE

On Friday and Saturday nights, our Second Amendment freedoms were celebrated along with gratitude extended to those who have served our nation in uniform. The sold-out NRA National Foundation Banquet & Auction raised money for the future of the shooting sports. Henry Repeating Arms, a sponsor of the event, presented the first-ever 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Tribute Golden Boy rifle to retired U.S. Marine Corp Maj. Gen. Mike Livingston, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the battle of Dai Do. There was also a patriotic presentation of "Old Glory" by U.S. Navy veteran and motivational speaker Vann Norris. It was a night of fun, fellowship and celebration of our veterans.

For members who wanted to support The NRA Foundation at other times, the popular Wall of Guns raffle was running all weekend.

The Freedom Experience concert on Saturday night began with the presentation of our nation's colors and a performance of the national anthem by U.S. Marine veteran John Hensley. The evening's host was another Marine, Mark "Oz" Geist, co-author of *13 Hours*. Musical performances by Will Jones and headliner Big & Rich—proudly led by NRA member John Rich—topped off the night. Rich and his pal, Big Kenny, were joined by Cowboy Troy for a night of music that paid tribute to our Second Amendment freedom and honored our veterans.

CONTINUED AND NEW EVENTS

NRA's Education and Training Division invited all NRA trainers to attend a two-day Inaugural Trainers' Symposium, which included seminars from industry leaders such as Mantis and Next Level Training. Attendees learned how to develop and improve as an instructor and business owner. This event joined The NRA Foundation's Annual Firearms Law Seminar, the NRA Clubs & Associations Workshop and the NRA-ILA Grassroots Workshop.

On the last day of the meeting, more than 600 NRA members gathered for the National Prayer Breakfast, during which actor and faith-based filmmaker Kevin Sorbo provided an inspirational message of faith and freedom.

Photos by NRA staff



The 45th and 47th President of the United States Donald J. Trump provided a powerful video message to NRA members (r.). NRA Media's 2025 Golden Bullseye Pioneer Award was presented to Bob Scott, Smith & Wesson's chairman of the board (above).

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

NRA's Board of Directors meeting, held after the show, ushered in a new crop of directors and addressed the business of the association. The officer elections and most of the meeting were conducted in open session.

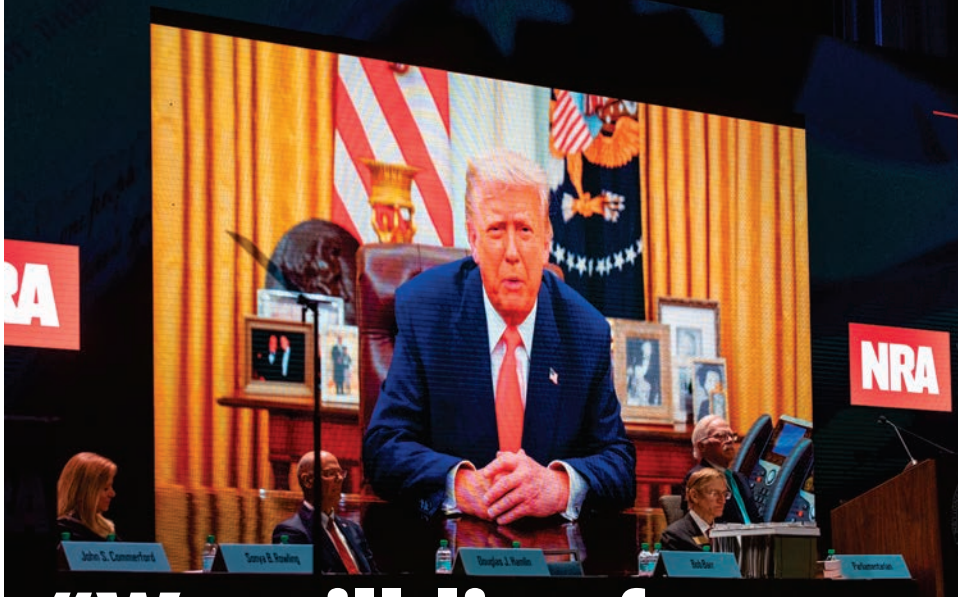
The NRA Board of Directors elected Bill Bachenberg, who was nominated from the floor, as NRA President. "I am deeply honored to be entrusted by my colleagues on the Board to serve as president of the NRA," Bachenberg said. "We are at a pivotal point in our association's history as we work to reach out to new members, build upon the trust of existing members, and provide the gold-standard programs that American gun owners expect. As the nation's oldest civil-rights organization, the NRA plays a critical role in protecting and advancing freedom in America."

Doug Hamlin was unanimously reelected as NRA Executive Vice President & CEO. "As we conclude a very successful NRA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, I know one thing for sure: NRA's best days are ahead of us," Hamlin said. "This association is moving forward, full speed ahead, to support the shooting sports, train new gun owners and defend the sacred right to self-defense."

Also elected unanimously were Mark Vaughan as NRA First Vice President and Rocky Marshall as NRA Second Vice President. Hamlin reappointed John Commerford as the Executive Director of the NRA-ILA and Josh Savani as the Executive Director of General Operations. The Board reelected Sonya B. Rowling as NRA Treasurer, Robert Mensinger as NRA Chief Compliance Officer and John C. Frazer as NRA Secretary.

The 2026 NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits will take place in Houston from April 17-19, 2026. Look for updates at **nraam.org**.

"Voices of the Second Amendment" made its debut in Atlanta with 18 podcasters broadcasting live or creating content from the Exhibit Hall floor. Ryan Gresham from Gun Talk Media was but one of many interviewing NRA leaders, exhibitors and members.



"We will live free—Always live free."

"A very special hello to the thousands of hardworking patriots at the NRA, and thank you for your incredible commitment to defending our Second Amendment rights.

"I especially want to thank NRA President Bob Barr—a special guy—and Executive Vice President and CEO Doug Hamlin, and the entire staff over at the NRA.

"A congratulations on 50 years of courageous leadership by the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action. And you give it a lot of action, that's for sure.

"Over the past three months, our new administration has accomplished more than most administrations accomplish in four years—or even eight years.

"Starting on day one, I ended Joe Biden's attacks on the right to keep and bear arms. They attacked it like nobody's ever attacked it before. Fortunately, he's grossly incompetent, and he wasn't able to do much.

"I abolished their so-called 'zero-tolerance' policy, which was putting law-abiding gun dealers out of business for a simple error in paperwork—that's what happens. And the ATF is ending Biden's unconstitutional pistol-brace rule.

"And we have launched a Second Amendment Task Force, led by Attorney General Pam Bondi—who's fantastic, by the way—that will crack down on the attacks on gun rights by Democrat-run cities and states. They really have become radicalized. And we are winning all the way. This is just the beginning—there's much more to come.

"Americans are born free. And under the Trump administrations, we will live free—always live free.

With me in the White House, your sacred rights will not be infringed.

"Thank you once again to everyone at the NRA. Thank you for your incredible support over the years. You've always endorsed me, and I've always come through for you.

"Have a great event. Thank you."

—U.S. President Donald J. Trump



Ruger LC Carbine 10 mm Auto



The 10 mm Auto isn't exactly synonymous with controllability when fired through a handgun. Abandoned by the FBI for the difficulties it created with training new agents, particularly those with smaller hands, it nonetheless has maintained a following among civilian shooters. And better pistols have since shown the world that the 10 mm can, indeed, be harnessed—providing the firearm community with a semi-automatic chambering that rivals the .357 Mag. in power factor. Following the success of its .45 ACP-chambered LC Carbine, Ruger realized that this platform would go a long way toward making the 10 mm Auto more controllable and fun to shoot, and a new 10 mm version was released last year.

Ruger's 10 mm LC Carbine is a semi-automatic long gun that works on the straight-blowback principle. When fired, the same energy that drives the projectile down the bore pushes back on the bolt, which extracts and ejects the case while re-cocking the internal hammer. A recoil spring returns the mechanism to battery, chambering a fresh cartridge in the process. Ammunition is fed from a Glock 20-pattern magazine, with a 30-round variant made by SGM Tactical included in the box.

While 10 mm Auto may seem too energetic to function safely without a locking breech, Ruger's carbine imparts enough delay through the sheer mass of its two-piece bolt. Designing the system so that the buffer assembly runs above the rear part of the bolt instead of behind it allowed Ruger to keep the carbine impressively compact and well-balanced.

The lower half of the rifle is similar to any modern polymer-frame pistol; the magazine well is located within the pistol grip. Nods to southpaws include the reversible non-reciprocating charging handle and magazine-release button and bilateral thumb safeties—which complement the safety blade inside of the trigger shoe. The only control that is hard-wired for right-handed operation is the bolt stop.

The upper receiver is machined from aluminum alloy, and a full-length Picatinny rail atop it merges seamlessly with the one cut into the 7.5"-long aluminum alloy free-floating handguard, which features seven sides of M-Lok for the mounting of accessories. At the rear end is a vertical Picatinny section that is the attachment point for the adjustable stock. Aside from its variable length of pull, it can also be folded for easy storage. The folded

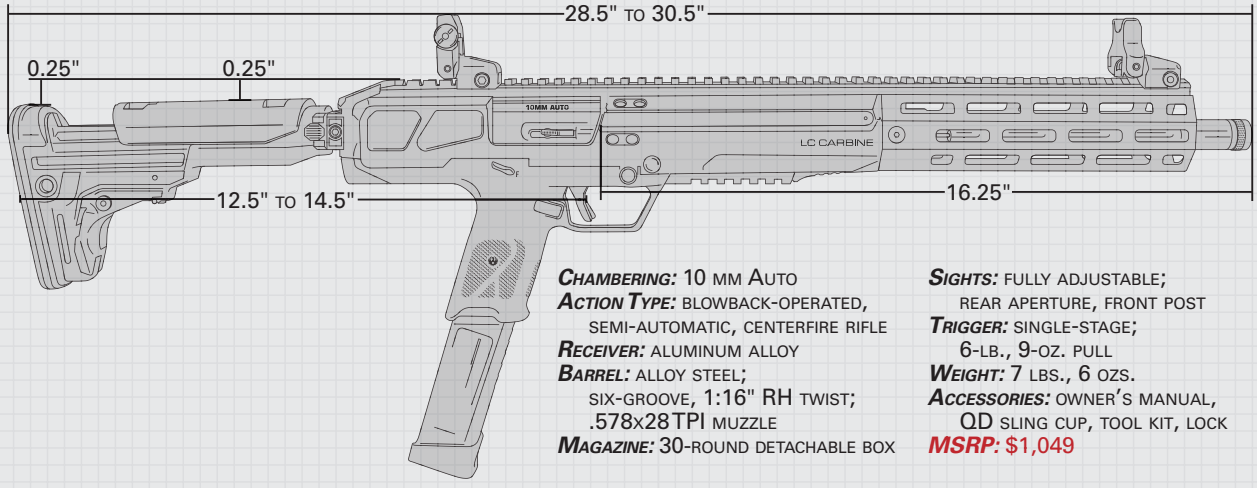




Ruger was able to tune the two-piece bolt design of its LC Carbine to accommodate the higher energies produced by the 10 mm Auto cartridge, and it retains familiar features such as the reversible, non-reciprocating charging handle (above) and threaded muzzle (r.).

RUGER LC CARBINE 10 MM AUTO

MANUFACTURER: STURM, RUGER & CO. (DEPT. AR), 200 RUGER ROAD, PRESCOTT, AZ 86301; (336) 949-5200; RUGER.COM



CHAMBERING: 10 MM AUTO
ACTION TYPE: BLOWBACK-OPERATED, SEMI-AUTOMATIC, CENTERFIRE RIFLE
RECEIVER: ALUMINUM ALLOY
BARREL: ALLOY STEEL; SIX-GROOVE, 1:16" RH TWIST; .578x28TPI MUZZLE
MAGAZINE: 30-ROUND DETACHABLE BOX
SIGHTS: FULLY ADJUSTABLE; REAR APERTURE, FRONT POST
TRIGGER: SINGLE-STAGE; 6-LB., 9-OZ. PULL
WEIGHT: 7 LBS., 6 OZS.
ACCESSORIES: OWNER'S MANUAL, QD SLING CUP, TOOL KIT, LOCK
MSRP: $1,049

stock locks into place alongside the receiver under detent tension.

Aside from making 10 mm Auto easier to control, chambering it in a carbine increases its downrange velocity and energy thanks to a longer, 16.25" barrel. The LC Carbine's barrel is attached to the receiver using a barrel nut, and its muzzle is threaded .578x28 TPI for the addition of a flash or sound suppressor. As the extra barrel length also affords the propellant ample space in which to burn, shooters may find the latter more beneficial.

Ruger furnishes the LC Carbine with a set of fully adjustable flip-up aperture sights. However, we mounted an EOTech EXPS3 for our function- and accuracy-testing. We also used a wide variety of ammunition types, displaying the versatility of this cartridge. Federal's Punch and Nosler's ASP self-defense loads were selected, as was Remington's new Core-Lokt Handgun offering to see how the firearm would fare as a woodland game-getter.

Our initial shots helped us gauge the carbine's consistency, which was certainly impressive; at 50 yards, all three types of ammunition were capable of printing groups that measured less than 2". We also marveled at the velocities that 10 mm Auto reached through a carbine-length barrel. With respect to recoil, a few of our testers admitted they had forgotten that they were shooting a 10 mm. The shooters ranged in height and stature, which gave us an opportunity to utilize the adjustable stock, making the overall experience more comfortable for all involved.

We finished the testing by engaging an array of steel targets that ranged from 25 yards out to 100. Here, we were able to get a feel for the LC Carbine's ability to recover from recoil and transition to the next target. The evaluation was an overwhelming success, as the firearm delivered on its promise of controllability. Having a balance point closer to the shooter's core, coupled with its compact overall length, made for snappy swings between targets and agile movements between firing positions.

By the end of our range day, we had fired more than 180 rounds without a hiccup. We were hard-pressed to find fault with the LC Carbine during the range session but did need to consult the owner's manual during disassembly. The only other thing we would like to see is a flush-fit magazine to make bench and prone shooting more comfortable, but, as G20 magazines are fairly common, one can be sourced by the shooter with ease.

Overall, we give this firearm our highest recommendation to the shooter looking to more effectively harness the 10 mm Auto, the hunter looking for a lighter brush gun or the enthusiast who simply enjoys giving steel and paper their just deserts.

SHOOTING RESULTS (50 YARDS)

10 MM AUTO CARTRIDGE	VELOCITY (F.P.S.)	ENERGY (FT.-LBS.)	GROUP SIZE (INCHES) SMALLEST	LARGEST	AVERAGE
FEDERAL PUNCH 200-GRAIN JHP	1,168 AVG. 19 SD	606	1.47	1.82	1.65
NOSLER ASP 180-GRAIN JHP	1,271 AVG. 29 SD	646	0.94	1.66	1.17
REMINGTON CLH 200-GRAIN JHP	1,160 AVG. 14 SD	598	1.83	2.22	2.02
AVERAGE EXTREME SPREAD					1.61

NOTES: MEASURED AVERAGE VELOCITY FOR 10 SHOTS OVER A CALDWELL G2 CHRONOGRAPH AT 10 FEET. ACCURACY RESULTS FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE, FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 50 YARDS. TEMPERATURE: 30° F. HUMIDITY 35%. ABBREVIATIONS: ASP (ASSURED STOPPING POWER), CLH (CORE-LOKT HANDGUN), JHP (JACKETED HOLLOW POINT), SD (STANDARD DEVIATION).



The LC Carbine's length-of-pull-adjustable buttstock can be folded along the left side and is held under tension there by a detent. Also note the placement of the push-button sling swivel socket.



Charter Arms Double Dog





Pressing forward on the revolver's cylinder release allows its five-shot cylinder to swing out to the left side of the gun. Sights consist of a U-notch rear trough (below) and a fixed front blade (bottom, l.).

Charter Arms is an American gunmaker that has offered its own versions of compact, double-action revolvers at fair prices for more than 60 years. During that time, its catalog has included cartridge-convertible models that ship with a second cylinder assembly. Near the end of 2024, the company launched its latest series of convertibles, which, in keeping with Charter's canine naming conventions, have been dubbed the Double Dogs.

Wholly constructed of stainless steel, these models are based on the company's five-shot Mag Pug revolver chambered in .357 Mag. The series was launched with four configurations. Barrels are available in 2.2" or 4.2" lengths with either a satin-stainless or a matte black-nitride finish. The following evaluation takes a look at Model No. 73920 featuring a 2.2" barrel, a satin-stainless finish and a second cylinder for 9 mm Luger ammunition.

The Double Dog, like most other Charter offerings, is configured as a double-action/single-action revolver with an exposed hammer that has a serrated spur. Pulling the trigger in double-action mode, without cocking the hammer, results in a longer, heavier pull. In this case, the trigger cycled smoothly without stacking and broke at 9 lbs., 1 oz., of pressure. Manually cocking the hammer for single-action fire provides a notably shorter and lighter trigger pull of 2 lbs., 7 ozs.

The snub-nose 2.2" barrel is topped with an integral serrated front sight blade with an underlug that shrouds the ejector rod. The rear sight consists of a groove along the top of the frame ending in a square notch. Two notable alterations to the Double Dog's barrel include four lightening ports, found on the right side of the underlug, and the barrel's porting. Two 0.5" straight vents have been milled into the top of the barrel to either side of the front sight. When fired, the ports re-direct some of the gas produced by the cartridge ignition upward. This, in turn, generates downward pressure at the muzzle to mitigate rise and can work to reduce felt recoil.

Although the ports have been known to increase muzzle flash and noise, they can also contribute to quicker follow-up shots. In this case, the porting system proved to be effective in reducing muzzle flip and felt recoil when shooting full-power .357 Mag. and +P-rated ammunition. The benefits were less pronounced when firing standard-pressure .38 Spl. or 9 mm loads.

A serrated cylinder release, located on the left side of the frame, is pressed forward so that the fluted five-shot cylinder can swing out to the left side of the frame. The cylinder, which rotates clockwise when fired, is fitted with a two-piece ejector rod. The .357 cylinder's extractor star is configured for use with rimmed revolver cartridges. Rounds can be loaded into the chambers one at a time or by using speed strips or speedloaders to accelerate the process. When actuated, the extractor star presses against the cartridge rims to expel spent cases from the chambers.

The 9 mm Luger cylinder's ejector assembly uses a patented system for managing rimless semi-automatic pistol cartridges in a unique manner. For each of the five chambers, there is a spring-loaded detent mounted into the extractor star. When a 9 mm round is fully seated within the chamber, the detent locks into the extractor groove



A pair of 0.5"-long ports milled into the top of the Double Dog's barrel re-direct a portion of the cartridge's propellant gases upward, helping to mitigate muzzle rise and reduce felt recoil—contributing to quicker follow-up shots on target.



To swap out cylinders, simply open the action and remove the cylinder yoke screw located in the front of the frame (arrow)—being careful not to lose the small bushing.

at the case's base. When the ejector rod is pressed, the detents engage the cases so that they are pressed out and away from the chambers.

Charter's rimless cartridge extractor system effectively replaces moon clips when firing semi-automatic cartridges, but the system does come with a trade-off. Due to the resistance exerted by the detents as rounds are inserted, speed strips and speedloaders are not the best fit. Rounds can be partially positioned but then each must be pressed down individually in order to lock them into place. A useful alternative to these revolver loading devices is a double-stack pistol magazine used as a dispenser to thumb rounds into the chambers.

Trading out the Double Dog's cylinders is a fairly straightforward process. With the action open and the revolver unloaded, remove the cylinder yoke screw located on the front of the frame just below the barrel lug. It should be noted that this screw is fitted with a small polymer bushing that fits between the yoke arm and frame to reduce wear. Knowing that the bushing can be easily misplaced and difficult to find, the company provides a packet of them in the storage case along with the owner's manual and lock.

This model is completed with a classically styled and hand-filling checkered walnut grip with gold company logo medallions set into both panels. Although not as cosmetically refined as competing models, these guns are certainly durable and reliable, making them a good fit for their intended defensive roles.

At the shooting range, the revolver operated properly with all grades and cartridges of ammunition tested. While not a standout in our accuracy testing, the Charter Arms Double Dog nonetheless provides customers with a useful set of features and a flexible range of ammunition options at a very reasonable price.

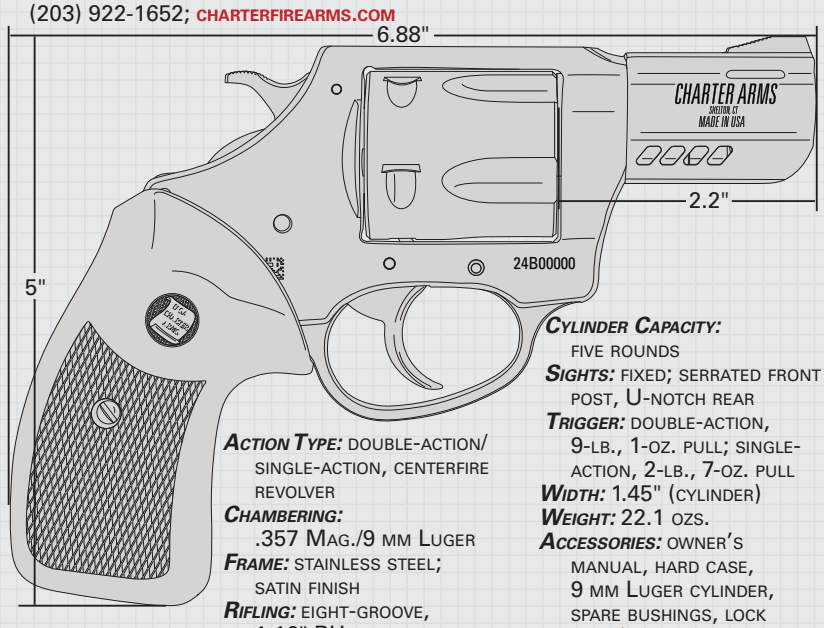




Small, spring-loaded detents in the extractor star of the 9 mm Luger cylinder (l., arrow) serve the same purpose as a machined ledge in that of the .357 Mag. cylinder (r.).

CHARTER ARMS DOUBLE DOG

Manufacturer: Charter Arms (Dept. AR), 18 Brewster Lane, Shelton, CT 06484; (203) 922-1652; CHARTERFIREARMS.COM



Action Type: double-action/single-action, centerfire revolver
Chambering: .357 Mag./9 mm Luger
Frame: stainless steel; satin finish
Rifling: eight-groove, 1:16" RH twist
Cylinder Capacity: five rounds
Sights: fixed; serrated front post, U-notch rear
Trigger: double-action, 9-lb., 1-oz. pull; single-action, 2-lb., 7-oz. pull
Width: 1.45" (cylinder)
Weight: 22.1 ozs.
Accessories: owner's manual, hard case, 9 mm Luger cylinder, spare bushings, lock
MSRP: $637

SHOOTING RESULTS (7 YARDS)

Cartridge	Velocity (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Group Size (inches) Smallest	Largest	Average
.357 Mag.					
SIG Sauer EP 125-grain JHP	1,241 Avg. 13 Sd	427	1.68	1.98	1.83
Winchester Super-X 158-grain JSP	1,050 Avg. 27 Sd	387	2.22	2.51	2.37
9 mm Luger					
Hornady CD 115-grain FTX	1,076 Avg. 7 Sd	296	1.98	2.39	2.15
Average Extreme Spread					2.12

Notes: Measured average velocity for 10 shots using a Garmin Xero C1 Pro chronograph. Accuracy results for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 7 yards from a bench rest. Temperature: 52° F. Humidity: 29%. Abbreviations: CD (Critical Defense), EP (Elite Performance), FTX (Flex Tip eXpanding), JHP (jacketed hollow point), JSP (jacketed soft point), Sd (Standard deviation).

The *American Rifleman* has used the phrase "Dope Bag" since at least 1921, when Col. Townsend Whelen first titled his column with it. Even then, it had been in use for years, referring to a sack used by target shooters to hold ammunition and accessories on the firing line. "Sight dope" also was a traditional marksman's term for sight-adjustment information, while judging wind speed and direction was called "doping the wind."

WARNING: Technical data and information contained herein are intended to provide information based on the limited experience of individuals under specific conditions and circumstances. They do not detail the comprehensive training procedures, techniques and safety precautions absolutely necessary to properly carry on similar activity. Read the notice and disclaimer on the contents page. Always consult comprehensive reference manuals and bulletins for details of proper training requirements, procedures, techniques and safety precautions before attempting any similar activity.



Winchester 400 Legend

Thanks to the loosening of hunting restrictions in certain states, straight-walled cartridges have experienced a resurgence in popularity during recent years. Old favorites like the .45-70 Gov't have been dusted off, while the recently introduced 350 Legend has quickly become a favorite for the latest generations of hunters. Both of these chamberings were welcome replacements for the shotguns previously in use in most of these areas, but they each do still have their shortcomings and limitations. If we consider these two cartridges as bookends on the spectrum of straight-wall recoil levels, a rather wide gap becomes apparent. Whitetail hunters wielding cartridges better suited for buffalo are subjecting themselves to unnecessary recoil, while inexpert shot placement with a 350 Legend can result in a long tracking expedition. Winchester Ammunition decided to split the difference, caliber-wise, and the solution to doing so was as simple as scaling the 350 Legend's bullet up to .40-cal.—thus creating the new 400 Legend.

Unlike the 350 Legend, which borrows its design from the .223 Rem., the 400 Legend's case had to be drawn completely from scratch. On the bright side, it gave Winchester the freedom to pull precisely what it wanted from this upsized straight-wall. Settling on something with a body diameter similar to the 6.5 mm Grendel, the new case features a rebated rim that coincides with the 6.8 mm SPC bolt face, making it MSR-friendly from the start. The finished design (which was standardized by SAAMI in 2023) features a case length of 1.650", accepts 0.4005"-diameter bullets and carries a capacity of approximately 43 grains of water. When it is all added up, we wind up with a cartridge that is far more accurate and produces less than half the recoil of a 12-ga. slug while carrying twice its energy at 100 yards.

The first 400 Legend load joins Winchester's venerable Power Point line and features a 215-grain jacketed-soft-point bullet. An advertised muzzle velocity of 2,250 feet per second (f.p.s.) and a G1 ballistic coefficient (BC) of 0.206 allows this projectile to retain enough energy for an ethical harvest out to 250 yards, but with a trajectory that limits the chance of your projectile straying beyond your target area. A 190-grain Deer Season XP and a subsonic 300-grain Super Suppressed load are also being offered as of launch.

The average overall length of our test Power Point cartridges was 2.225", meaning they would fit well within the confines of an AR-15 magazine, so one can reap the benefits of the new cartridge without needing to revert to the older, larger AR-10 platform. There are also already more than a dozen bolt-action rifles ready to fire it, with Winchester, Browning and Savage taking the lead. For our testing, we were issued a Winchester XPR bearing a 22", 1:16"-twist barrel. It arrived with a Vortex Viper HS 2.5-10X already mounted and bore-sighted, letting us hit the range without any additional prep work.





The 400 Legend's three introductory loads include (l. to r.): a 190-grain Deer Season XP load; a 215-grain Power Point load; and a subsonic 300-grain Super Suppressed load—to cover an array of hunting applications.

A Quiet .308 Win. For Large-Format Pistols

Of the many commercial .308 Winchester loads, few, if any, are designed for barrels shorter than 16". The one that follows helps address this gap while remaining simple to suppress and light on the wrists.

Hornady's new line of Sub-X bullets offers a heavy-for-caliber, 190-grain option that serves as the basis for this load. Its sleek nature makes it flatter-shooting than many others out there and offers reliable expansion at subsonic velocities. It's also inexpensive enough to shoot on a regular basis. Although pricier, I find Lapua's softer, more malleable cartridge cases to be one of the best options for low-velocity loads. They seem to more readily expand to seal the chamber under reduced pressures, and they last for a greater number of reloads, particularly if you anneal regularly. Ironically, one of the best ways to push heavy rifle bullets slowly is by using fast-burning pistol powders. A charge of just 9 grains of Accurate No. 2 goes a long way and efficiently utilizes the shortened barrel to generate velocity. Although a ball powder, it ignites without much trouble, so a standard CCI Large Rifle primer works well.

These loads can be quickly assembled using Hornady's custom-grade dies—an affordable option that features an adjustable roll crimp built into the seater. After charging the cases, I seat to an overall length of 2.715", which covers most of the cannelure. Crimping isn't required for single-shot firearms, but it's not a bad idea to impart a quarter-turn's worth if you're going to be filling a magazine with these.

Accurate No. 2 has a fine, sand-like consistency and flows through measures extraordinarily well, so putting together a couple hundred rounds in a morning shouldn't be a tall task. Setting up a progressive press helps create enough ammunition for an entire season in just a few hours. Then again, as enjoyable as this load is to shoot, you might find yourself struggling to keep your inventory topped off.

—Frank Melloni, Field Editor



RECIPE

- ***Bullet:*** 0.308", 190-grain Hornady Sub-X
- ***Propellant:*** Accurate No. 2
- ***Charge Weight:*** 9.0 grains
- ***Primer:*** CCI No. 200 Large Rifle
- ***Case:*** Lapua Large Primer Pocket
- ***Case Trim-To Length:*** 2.005"
- ***Cartridge Overall Length:*** 2.715"
- ***Velocity @ 10' (f.p.s.):*** 1,068*
- ***Energy @ 10' (ft.-lbs.):*** 481
- ***Accuracy:*** 1.31"**
- ***Uses:*** small/medium-game hunting, target practice
- ***Notes:*** Loads fired from the 12" barrel of an Aero Solus pistol with a 1:10" rifling twist and a Nosler SR-30AlTi suppressor
- * Average of 10 shots
- ** Average of five, five-shot groups at 100 yards
- ***Temperature:*** 68° F

WARNING: Technical data and information contained herein are intended to provide information based upon the limited experience of individuals under specific conditions and circumstances. They do not detail the comprehensive training, procedures, techniques and safety precautions that are absolutely necessary to properly carry on similar activity. READ THE NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER ON THE CONTENTS PAGE OF THIS MAGAZINE. ALWAYS CONSULT COMPREHENSIVE REFERENCE MANUALS AND BULLETINS OF PROPER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES, TECHNIQUES AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS BEFORE ATTEMPTING ANY SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.

SHOOTING RESULTS (100 YARDS)

400 Legend Cartridge	Velocity (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Group Size (inches) Smallest	Largest	Average
Winchester PP 215-grain SP	2,051 Avg. 12 Sd	2,008	1.35	2.68	2.06

Notes: Measured average velocity for 10 shots over a Caldwell G2 chronograph at 10 feet. Accuracy results for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 100 yards from a Caldwell Rock Rest with rear sandbag support. Temperature: 64° F. Humidity 50%. Abbreviations: PP (Power Point), Sd (Standard deviation), SP (soft point).

As we pressed off our first shots, we weren't quite sure what to expect from the new cartridge. However, after firing a magazine or two, most of our testers described the recoil as a step below a rifle of the same weight chambered in .308 Win. While it certainly kicked harder than the 350 Legend, nobody considered it to be anywhere near as abusive as the .45-70 Gov't, and all appreciated the stark reduction in recoil when compared to a 12- or even a 20-ga. slug. Through our rifle, we fell slightly short of the advertised muzzle velocity. However, the prescribed trajectory printed on the box put us close enough at most distances for deer-size game and perhaps even a touch smaller. Likewise, accuracy also met this standard.

Because the recoil isn't excessive, lightweight rifles capable of being fired unsupported are on the table. To that end, we all took turns firing the 8-lb., 5-oz. rifle/scope combination offhand at a 10" gong 100 yards downrange. Each shooter had overwhelming success and observed more of a push than a slap with each pull of the trigger; this is common when working with larger-diameter bullets loaded to only relatively modest velocities. Feeding was perfect, which serves as a testament to proper magazine design, as a lack of body taper can cause trouble in this department. The same holds true for extraction and ejection, which we tested rigorously through rapid fire, warming the barrel far beyond conventional field use.

As we finished our ammunition, we contemplated what might be in store for Winchester's new .40-cal. straight-wall. We agreed that 400 Legend would be great in a semi-automatic, as that would knock the recoil down even further—and adding a suppressor would also assist in this way, particularly if coupled with Winchester's subsonic load. The flatter-shooting Deer Season XP load should also help on those longer pokes that sometimes present themselves in the Midwest.

In all, this trio provides a hunter with everything needed to tackle big game in straight-wall country and perhaps land a trophy that can only be classified as legendary.



The base of the 400 Legend's case measures 0.440", but by rebating its rim to 0.422", Winchester engineers were able to make the cartridge's design compatible with the bolt face specifications for 6.8 mm SPC.

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its widest—just forward of the receiver. It's absent a sling swivel stud, just like the buttstock.

The pistol grip-style buttstock is a spitting image of the fore-end. A large section of each side has been routed, and inside are larger through-and-through cutouts matching those on the fore-end. Like the fore-end, the buttstock also has Savage's logo prominently displayed on each side and on the grip cap. Stippling on the pistol grip aids purchase, while a 0.955"-thick pliable recoil pad caps the buttstock. Certainly not needed for recoil, it's a nice addition, nonetheless. The sticky pad features a hard insert at the top to prevent snagging when shouldering the rifle.



The DLX's buttstock features a large relieved section and is capped with a 0.955"-thick, pliable rubber recoil pad with a hard insert at its top to prevent snagging on clothing when shouldering the rifle.

The Classic Difference

Shooters are individualistic, with differing tastes. Savage understood this truism. While the Revel DLX is sure to appeal for those favoring *avant-garde* aesthetics, those clamoring for something more conventional will find it in its brother, the Classic. Operationally, both models are identical, however, there are some important differences—particularly with regard to the stock. Like its counterpart, the Classic's stock is fashioned from Turkish walnut and has a satin finish, but the fore-end is devoid of radical adornments, with no cutouts, channels or logos. It does swell to a quasi-ridge about mid-height, and the front is cut at an angle. Simple, functional and elegant in its own way.

The same formula applies to the buttstock, yet it's shaped in a manner that there's a clear flare about 1/3 of the way from its bottom. What's more, instead of a pistol grip, the stock features a straight grip, which is favored by those who prefer a thin wrist. The Classic model's lever loop is more triangular in shape than the oval used on the DLX—its also oversized, which, while unnecessary for leverage, isn't hurting anything, either. A plastic plate with the Savage logo caps the buttstock.

As to the barrel, there are two primary differences. First, the front sight consists of a simple, non-hooded, dovetailed post front sight, while the rear is unchanged from the DLX. Additionally, it's not threaded to accept a suppressor—not a deal-breaker for many hunters and backyard plinkers.

Revel At The Range

The Revel DLX was selected for testing. Before the range session commenced, the rifle was thoroughly cleaned. It was then topped with an EGW one-piece base, atop which a trusted Bushnell Elite 4200 4-16X 40 mm scope was secured using SSK Firearms' TSOB rings. A Yankee Hill Machine Co. Mite suppressor was threaded on for the duration of the test. Testing took place on the last day of February—albeit one that was warmer than average in Virginia, with rapidly increasing wind gusts. Range work began with accuracy testing; five consecutive, 10-shot groups were fired with each load from 50 yards using a Caldwell sandbag-style rest with rear support.

The ammunition wasn't selected haphazardly; rather, it featured three different projectile weights and configurations, propelled to varying velocities. Those selected for the test included: CCI Green Tag 40-grain lead round nose (LRN) and Suppressor lead hollow point (LHP), as well as Remington's Viper 36-grain plated, truncated cone solid (PTCS). As CCI's top-tier competition load, Green Tag was chosen to determine the accuracy potential of the DLX. And, as I would discover, that was a sound decision.

Remington's 22 Viper ammunition led off, and things didn't appear to be too promising; in fact, the random dispersion caused me to halt testing altogether and ensure that all firearm and optic-mounting screws were snug and nothing was amiss. Everything checked out. The gun/ammunition combination simply didn't work in harmony, and the results can be viewed in the accompanying table. Fingers were crossed when I loaded the first 10 rounds of CCI Green Tag into the DLX's tubular magazine.

Fortunately, the abovementioned episode wasn't repeated. Rather, the first group turned out to be the best of the day, measuring 0.45". As a competition-quality load, that wasn't wholly unexpected, but, then again, firing tiny, 10-shot groups from the bench with a lever-action from a sandbag-style rest is uniquely challenging, as operating the lever between shots is accomplished by raising the muzzle end of the rifle or angling the entire gun. Such movements can negatively impact consistent cheek weld and thus group size. That being said, Green Tag averaged 0.72" for the 50 total shots—which is excellent. Know that some five-shot clusters were well under half that measurement.

The final ammunition tested was CCI's Suppressor, which featured a 45-grain subsonic lead-hollow-point bullet. Like its more costly CCI counterpart, Suppressor shot quite well. The smallest 10-shot group measured 0.70", and the average for the five clusters was 0.94". Again, reasonably good, given the operation of the lever gun.

One persistent observation was made when shooting for accuracy; group size tended to increase vertically. That's foreseeable given that, as a takedown model, there was vertical movement in the area where the upper and lower receivers meet. This cannot be avoided. But, as a

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U.S. Marine Corps Knife, Fighting/Utility, 1219C2, or "Ka-Bar"

The final knife to be discussed has been associated with the Marine Corps for eight decades. On Nov. 23, 1942, procurement of a standardized knife designated as the "Knife, Fighting/Utility" was approved. It was based on a design submitted to the Marines by the Union Cutlery Co. and had not been manufactured for the civilian market. The sturdy and well-balanced knife had a 7" blade, an overall length of 12" and a handle composed of leather washers secured by a steel pommel. In addition to Union Cutlery, these knives were manufactured during World War II by PAL Blade Co., Robeson Cutlery Co. and Camillus Cutlery Co.

The first shipment to the Marines in the South Pacific was on Jan. 27, 1943, and consisted of 2,100 knives manufactured by the Union Cutlery Co. Union Cutlery had trademarked the name "Ka-Bar," and since Union Cutlery-made knives were the first ones in the hands of the Marines, the name stuck; soon, the knife, regardless of its maker, was universally known as the Ka-Bar. Approximately 966,000 were made during World War II. A knife, designated as the "Fighting Knife, Mark 2," was procured by the U.S. Navy during the war, and, except for the markings, it was essentially identical to the Marine Corps Ka-Bar.

The Ka-Bar knives soon proved to be very popular with the Marines as both weapons and tools, which was in keeping with the "Fighting/Utility" designation. While many other types of knives were used by the Marines, the Ka-Bar will forever be thought of as the Marine Corps knife of the Second World War.



A "Ka-Bar" knife issued to a USMC Raider and carried in combat during World War II. Note the hand-painted Raider emblem and "Aug. 44" date on its sheath.

Photo by Doug Bailey

The inherent excellence of the Ka-Bar is evidenced by the fact that it was put back into production in 1961 and is still issued to Marines today. It remains in production and available to the other branches of our armed forces and is also one of the top private-purchase knives in the PX/BX system.

The Marine Corps knives of World War II are popular with collectors and military weapons enthusiasts today. They were arguably the most versatile piece of equipment issued to Marines for training, for field use or, if necessary, wielded in deadly hand-to-hand combat. They are sometimes overlooked but should never be forgotten for the important roles they played during the war.

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Important Notice To Members: Exercise Your Rights
Assist In The Nomination Of Directors

The NRA Bylaws provide for the election of one-third of the members of the Board of Directors each year. This means that the terms of office of 25 Board members will expire at the 2026 Annual Meeting of Members in Houston, Texas, on April 18, 2026. Also, any members filling vacancies on the Board that occurred after the last regular election must stand for election in 2026 in the same manner as the 25 whose terms normally expire at that time.

Additionally, one Director is elected for a one-year term on the occasion of each Annual Meeting of Members, by a plurality of the votes cast by individual members present in person and entitled to vote. The candidates for this 76th Director seat are those who were nominated for election on the mail ballot, but were not elected by mail.

The NRA Board of Directors is listed in the box below according to the expiration of their terms of office. You may, if you wish, recommend any of the present Directors whose term expires in 2026. **DO NOT RECOMMEND** any of those whose terms expire in 2027 or 2028.

The Nominating Committee will meet in Fairfax, Virginia on **August 23, 2025** to select Director nominees.

There are two ways NRA members can place names of eligible members in consideration for Board service. One is to recommend them to the Nominating Committee for consideration, and the other is to circulate a petition obtaining the required signatures for placement on the ballot.

The following information about each process has been summarized from the NRA Bylaws. A copy of the Bylaws will be provided to any member who sends his or her request to the NRA Secretary along with a return addressed, stamped envelope (**$1.90 postage required**).

Recommendations to the Nominating Committee

All NRA members are urged to recommend qualified individuals as nominees for election to the NRA Board of Directors. The required qualifications include: having sufficient time to effectively carry out the duties of a Board member; affirming a commitment to abide by duties of good faith and care; affirming a commitment to abide by the NRA Bylaws and policies established by the NRA Board; being free of potential conflicts of interest; and exhibits integrity, professionalism, and showing clear support for the interests of the NRA.

1 Recommend as many persons as you feel are well qualified. You may supplement your recommendation with any background or biographical material that you feel would be helpful to the Nominating Committee in arriving at its decision.

2 If in doubt as to the membership status of any person you wish to recommend as a nominee, submit the recommendation and the membership status will be checked at NRA Headquarters.

3 These recommendations should be received by the Secretary as soon as possible, but must be received no later than August 3, 2025 (20 days prior to the Nominating Committee meeting).

Nominations By Petition

Any member (sponsor) may submit petitions calling for the nomination of qualified members to the Board (see eligibility requirements in the box on the next page). The sponsor may be an NRA-affiliated organization. Petition packets may be obtained from the NRA Secretary. Requests should be mailed to the Secretary at the address printed on the following page.

There is now an online alternative for circulating petitions through the NRA's DirectNominations site. Those requesting a petition packet may also request a link to circulate and gather signatures electronically. Candidates will be provided with a link to a web-based petition form. Candidates will be able to create their own password and will have the ability to add photographs, resumes, cover letters, etc. Similar to a paper copy of the petition form, in order to be valid the signature must include a member's identification number, first name, last name, street address, city, state, and zip code.

1 Petitions must be received no later than October 7, 2025 (no more than 45 days after the Nominating Committee meeting), either physically or electronically.

2 No petition for nomination of a Director shall contain the name of more than one proposed nominee, and no more than one signature by any member shall be counted on an official petition for any one candidate.

3 Proposed nominees must indicate their principal city and state of residence.

4 A petition shall not be circulated without the proposed nominee's written permission, and that permission must be on file with the NRA Secretary by the deadline for receipt of petitions.

5 Only official petition forms provided by the Secretary's Office, which may be

THE NRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terms Expire in 2026
Thomas P. Arvas
Clel Baudler
J. William Carter
Ted W. Carter
Patricia A. Clark
Charles L. Cotton
Richard Fairburn
Charles T. Hiltunen, III
Curtis S. Jenkins
Amy Heath Lovato
Robert E. Mansell
James W. Porter II
Jay Printz
David Raney
Mark Robinson
Barbara Rumpel
Steven C. Schreiner
John C. Sigler
Leroy Sisco
Danny Stowers
Amanda Suffecool
*Mark E. Vaughan
Linda L. Walker
Judi White
Bruce Widener
Eb Wilkinson

Terms Expire in 2027
Scott L. Bach
*William A. Bachenberg
Ronnie G. Barrett
Charles R. Beers, III
Donald J. Bradway
Dean Cain
David G. Coy
Rick Ector
Edie P. Fleeman
Joel Friedman
Dennis Fusaro
Craig Haggard
Maria Heil
Niger Innis
Phillip B. Journey
Jeff Knox
*Rocky Marshall
Bill Miller
Owen Buz Mills
Janet D. Nyce
Wayne Anthony Ross
Don Saba
Craig Swartz
Jim Tomes
Robert J. Wos

Terms Expire in 2028
Bob Barr
Sharon Callan
Anthony P. Colandro
Larry E. Craig
Todd R. Ellis
Robert Scott Emslie
Lawrence D. Finder
James J. Fotis
Carol Frampton
Sandra S. Froman
Jonathan S. Goldstein
Philip Gray
Jack Hagan
Al Hammond
Theresa Inacker
Willes K. Lee
Howard L. Massingill, Jr.
Mitzy McCorvey
John Richardson
James A. Sheckels
Dwight D. Van Horn
Blaine Wade
Knox Williams
Jason Wilson
Cathy Wright

*Officer

duplicated in full size (8 ½" x 11"), may be used to collect petition signatures.

6 The petition may contain a brief resume approved by the prospective nominee.

7 The name, address and membership number of the sponsor MUST be indicated on each sheet of the petition.

8 The name of the person circulating the petition sheet, if different from the sponsor, whether the sponsor be an individual or organizational member, should be indicated on each sheet.

9 Petitions **MUST** bear the membership identification numbers, names, addresses (street, city, state, zip code), signatures and date of signing of no less than 363 members eligible to vote (0.5% of the number of valid ballots cast in the most recent mail ballot election of directors). Members eligible to vote are Lifetime members and annual members with five or more consecutive years of membership.

10 ANY SIGNATURES OBTAINED BEFORE THE PROSPECTIVE NOMINEE IS QUALIFIED TO HOLD OFFICE WILL BE RULED INVALID.

11 ANY SIGNATURES OBTAINED BEFORE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS ON APRIL 26, 2025 WILL BE RULED INVALID.

12 SIGNATURES WITHOUT MEMBERSHIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS WILL BE INVALID. IF THE NUMBER IS NOT INDICATED ON THE MEMBER'S IDENTIFICATION CARD, HE OR SHE MAY: (a) copy the identification number from his or her NRA magazine label or (b) obtain it by calling NRA's toll free number: (800) 672-3000. When calling, it is important to give the last name, address and zip code as it is carried on the NRA membership record (including designations such as "Jr.," "Sr.," etc.) in order to obtain the proper identification number. Nominees and sponsors may call the toll-free number to obtain membership identification numbers for those who do not include them on signed petitions. Staff is only permitted to give identification numbers, and may not indicate voting status.

If circulating petitions online the petition sponsor, nominee, or circulator will NOT be able to enter membership identification numbers. Members signing online may get their identification number by calling (866-672-3000); checking the mailing label on their monthly magazine; or clicking on the Live Chat window at **nramemberservices.org**.

13 Not more than five petition nominees shall be from any one state during any one year. If more than five are submitted, the five with the greatest number of valid signatures will be nominated.

14 The Secretary will determine the validity of all petitions received and the eligibility of all signatories.

15 If a petition is determined to be invalid, the Secretary will immediately notify the proposed nominee and the sponsor stating the reason for the ruling. The petitioner may appeal the ruling to the Nominating Committee within 14 days.

16 If the appeal is denied, the petitioner may appeal to the Board of Directors, which will act at its next meeting. If the Board rules the petition valid, the proposed nominee will be declared a nominee for the following year's election.

Election Procedures

1 The names of those selected by the Nominating Committee and of those nominated by petition, together with short biographical sketches, will be published in the February 2025 Official Journals.

2 A ballot will be mailed to each member eligible to vote. It will contain the list of names proposed by the Nominating Committee and those nominated by petition and, in addition, provide five blank spaces for write-in candidates.

3 The ballot, properly executed, must be returned by the date indicated on the ballot.

The NRA Board of Directors consists of 75 NRA members elected by mail ballot, and one member elected on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of Members. The right to hold the office of Director is limited to NRA Lifetime members who have attained the age of 18 years, are citizens of the United States and not prohibited from possessing firearms under federal law, and who have been Lifetime members for at least five years at the time of nomination. Directors are elected for three-year terms, with the exception of the Director elected at the Annual Meeting of Members, who serves for one year. The terms of office of one-third of the Board expire each year.

The Board of Directors has general charge of the affairs and property of the Association, and formulates and establishes the broad policies and programs under which the Association operates. In past years, the Nominating Committee has taken several factors into consideration concerning those recommended for election to the Board. The Committee has felt that nominees should be persons well-known and respected in their communities, with broad experience and background in the affairs of the Association, and with the time necessary to devote to NRA activities. While these factors are not requirements, they may help in the selection of those recommended for nomination to the Board.

2025-2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The members of the Nominating Committee elected by the Board are as follows:

Cam Edwards, Dillwyn, VA; **Al Hammond**, Alachua, FL; **Maria Heil**, New Freedom, PA; **Robben Love**, Bullhead City, AZ; **Mitzy McCorvey**, Houston, TX; **Owen Buz Mills**, Paulden, AZ; **Janet D. Nyce**, Elliottsburg, PA; **Susan Springhorn**, Raleigh, NC; **Robert J. Wos**, Sarasota, FL.

Mail this form to reach NRA by August 3, 2025

Additional copies of this form are available upon request by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to NRA Headquarters. If you do not want to cut this form out of the magazine, send in a letter or postcard with the same information. Mail to:

NRA Nominating Committee
11250 Waples Mill Road • Fairfax, VA 22030

I recommend the following individual for consideration as a nominee for election to the NRA Board of Directors in 2025.

Nominee Name_____

Membership Identification Number _____Age _____

Address_____

City _____State _____ Zip Code_____

Recommended by:

Your Name_____

Your Complete Address _____

_____

Your Membership Identification Number_____

To submit online go to: www.nrapublications.org/nomination



AP photo by John Hanna

LATEST LEGISLATIVE NEWS FROM INSIDE THE NRA INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Kansas Supreme Court Upholds Dismissal Of Lawsuit Under The PLCAA

The Kansas Supreme Court upheld a significant district court dismissal in *Johnson v. Bass Pro Outdoor World, LLC*, deciding that Bass Pro Outdoor World and Beretta USA/Beretta Italy cannot be sued by a man who was accidentally shot. The court cited the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA), a federal law that protects firearm manufacturers and dealers when their products are misused in a crime and concluded neither can be held responsible for the incident.

The unfortunate series of events unfolded in 2018 when a former college football player purchased a Beretta handgun from a Kansas Bass Pro Shops location. According to court documents, while attempting to disassemble the firearm to show it to a teammate, he mistakenly believed the firearm was clear and would not fire if the magazine was removed. In further error, he also believed that the trigger had to be pulled before disassembly. These detrimental and erroneous assumptions subsequently led to his teammate, seated next to him, being shot in the leg, resulting in an injury requiring amputation. The injured player subsequently filed suit against the companies.

The court held that the PLCAA provides immunity for the firearm sellers and manufacturer in this case due to the commission of a volitional act, as well as this shooting constituting a crime. Even though there was no intention to fire the gun, the gun owner deliberately pulled the trigger, a volitional act. Further, because he did so while stopped at a traffic light, it violated a Kansas strict liability law against discharging a gun on a public road, making it a criminal act, the ruling said.

Governor Reynolds Signs Firearm Carry Expansion

In May, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) signed Senate File 106 into law, expanding firearm rights in Iowa by allowing the carry of a loaded firearm while operating a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle (ATV).

SF 106 strikes out the language in the law that had prohibited the carrying of a loaded firearm while operating a snowmobile or ATV. This change allows operators to drive a snowmobile or ATV with loaded firearms if their conduct is otherwise lawful. Hunting off one of these vehicles is still prohibited unless otherwise authorized.

The NRA thanks Gov. Reynolds, pro-gun lawmakers, and all NRA members and Second Amendment advocates for their engagement on this critical legislation.

NRA-ILA

ILA Grassroots:
(800) 392-8683

NRA-ILA: (703) 267-1170

NRA-ILA website: nraila.org

IN MEMORY NRA-ILA CONTRIBUTIONS

April 1-30, 2025

Janet Holdridge (from: Hamburg Rod & Gun Club).

Montana Legislature Sends Pro-Gun Bill To Governor Gianforte

On April 30, the Montana legislature adjourned *sine die* from the 2025 legislative session. Thanks to the hard work of NRA members and Second Amendment advocates, House Bill 809, which prevents localities from enacting "Red Flag" laws, passed both chambers and has been transmitted to Gov. Greg Gianforte's (R) desk.

The NRA thanks lead sponsor Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R), all legislators who supported this bill, and all NRA members and fellow Second Amendment advocates who engaged with their legislators this session.

HB 809 prevents local governments from enacting or enforcing an extreme risk protection order (ERPO) or accepting any grants that would aid in the adoption or enforcement of an ERPO. Red-flag laws allow governments to seize firearms based on weak and nebulous standards of evidence, often through *ex parte* hearings that could suspend an individual's Second Amendment rights without due process.

Governor Stitt Signs Bill Protecting Lawful Firearms Industry

On May 5, Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt (R) signed Senate Bill 500 into law. NRA thanks Gov. Stitt, all legislators who advanced this critical legislation, and all NRA members and fellow Second Amendment advocates who took action in support of this bill.

SB 500, introduced by Sen. Casey Murdock (R) and Rep. Kevin West (R), prohibits public entities from contracting with businesses unless the businesses certify that they do not discriminate against firearm companies. Anti-gun activists have promoted the practice of denying services to the firearm industry as a way to further their political agenda and to squeeze gun-related companies out of the marketplace.

Governor Lee Signs Pro-Gun Bills

On May 2, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee (R) signed two critical pro-gun bills into law. These bills reduce the age to obtain a concealed-carry permit and protect firearm manufacturers and retailers from frivolous lawsuits.

The NRA thanks Gov. Lee, the lawmakers who championed these bills and all NRA members and Second Amendment advocates for their engagement on these bills.

Senate Bill 1318/House Bill 1332 clarifies that the minimum age to obtain a concealed handgun carry permit in Tennessee is 18 years of age.

SB 1360/HB 873 protects firearm industry members from civil liability when their products are criminally misused by third parties, making Tennessee a more attractive environment for firearm-related businesses.



AP photo by George Walker IV

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee



Photo by Peter Fountain

NRA Media's New Executive Director

NRA Media is proud to introduce Mike Sanford as executive director of NRA Media. Sanford has been part of the NRA staff for more than 31 years, serving most recently as NRA Media's deputy executive director.

"I'm honored to be entrusted with the position of executive director for NRA Media," said Sanford. "My career at NRA has been so rewarding and I'm excited to help guide NRA Media into its next chapter—expanding its reach, strengthening its impact and advancing the NRA mission in an ever-evolving media landscape."

Throughout his time at the NRA, Sanford has held numerous key positions, including managing director of production and advertising operations. In his current assignment, he is responsible for the full scope of NRA Media's business, including production, digital and print publishing and fiscal planning. Sanford has also been entrusted for many years with managing the Board of Directors election ballot and overseeing all print operations for our four official journal titles, which collectively exceed three million copies in print each month.

"It gives me great pleasure to announce the promotion of Mike Sanford to executive director of NRA Media," said Doug Hamlin, NRA CEO & EVP. "Known for his steady hand, professional demeanor and collaborative leadership style, Mike is highly respected by staff, corporate partners and vendors alike. These qualities have served NRA Media well in the past and will no doubt guide it to continued success in the years ahead."

NRA Online Regional Report

To search for events in your area, go to **nrapublications.org/regional-report**

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



LAW ENFORCEMENT

le.nra.org

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



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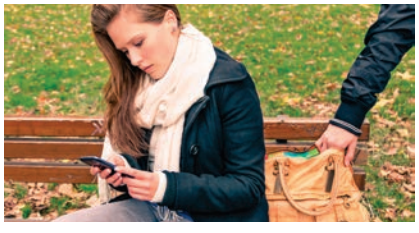
Friends of NRA events celebrate American values with fun, fellowship and fundraising for The NRA Foundation. To learn more about events in your area, visit **friendsofnra.org**, contact your local field representative or send an email to **friends@nrahq.org.**



GUN SHOWS

gunshows.nra.org

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



TRAINING

refuse.nra.org | nrainstructors.org

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



AREA SHOOTS

ssusa.org/coming-events

For more information, please contact the NRA Competitive Shooting Division at **comphelp@nrahq.org**.



STATE ASSOCIATIONS

stateassociations.nra.org

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

Member Information & Benefits

NRA.ORG

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NRA Headquarters: (703) 267-1000

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5-STAR MEMBER BENEFITS	
NRA Approved Services nraapprovedservices.com	(877) 672-3006
Property and Liability Insurance locktonaffinityoutdoor.com	(844) 401-9444
Penfed Credit Union penfed.org/flag	(855) 278-1163
ADT Authorized Dealer, Safe Haven Security smarthomeadvantage.com/nra-publications	(877) 355-8435
Worldwide Trophy Adventures	nrawta.com
NRA Wine	nrawine.com
NRA Coffee	nracoffeeclub.com
NRA Cigar Club	nracigarclub.com
NRA Hearing Benefits	nrahearingbenefits.com
NRA Travel Center	nratravelcenter.com
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Grassroots/Legislative Hotline	(800) 392-8683
OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT/ GIFT PLANNING	(877) NRA-GIVE
THE NRA FOUNDATION	(800) 423-6894
NRA INSTRUCTOR/ COACH FIREARM TRAINING	(703) 267-1500
EDDIE EAGLE GUNSAFE PROGRAM	(800) 231-0752
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The "NRA Regional Report," a service for NRA members, is an up-to-date listing of NRA conducted and/or sponsored events scheduled in your region for the current month. Call to verify event dates and locations before traveling.

NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS

HOUSTON, TX

APRIL 17-19, 2026

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



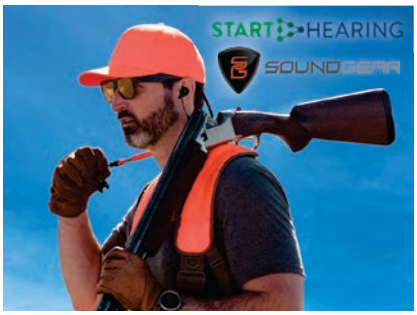
New NRA Partners For Hearing Health

Start Hearing and SoundGear, divisions of Starkey, have partnered with the NRA to promote hearing health among members, particularly those exposed to loud firearms. This collaboration brings together Starkey's innovative hearing technology and the NRA's commitment to marksmanship, conservation and outdoor sports, offering members exclusive discounts on hearing protection and hearing aids.

"Our goal is to support individuals at greater risk of hearing loss—whether they're hunters, sport shooters or workers in high-noise environments," said Michael Scholl, chief business officer at Starkey. "By prioritizing prevention, education and access to innovative technology, we can make a lasting impact on hearing health."

Start Hearing's hearing aids feature advanced technology such as Bluetooth streaming, rechargeable 51-hour battery life, fall detection, GPS locator and language translation capabilities—all designed for discreet and powerful performance.

For those needing hearing protection, SoundGear's active and passive solutions provide unmatched clarity and safety. The SoundGear Phantom, for example, is a custom-molded, Bluetooth-enabled earpiece that blocks harmful noise while allowing speech and situational awareness—making it ideal for shooters, law enforcement and job-site workers.



NRA members can now receive discounted rates on Start Hearing's advanced hearing aids and on SoundGear's industry-leading hearing protection to help safeguard their hearing for years to come. This benefit seemed to be appreciated as members browsed the Start Hearing and SoundGear booth—and had their hearing screened right there—at the 2025 NRA Annual Meetings in April.

"Many veterans, law-enforcement officers and shooting enthusiasts hesitate to use traditional hearing protection because they need to stay aware of their surroundings," Scholl added. "SoundGear's active technology offers the best of both worlds—protecting hearing without compromising awareness."

For more information about this partnership and the products available, NRA members are encouraged to visit **nrahearingbenefits.com**.

NRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

2025 NRA BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The following members have been elected Directors of the NRA for three-year terms ending in 2028:

Mitzy McCorvey	44,546
Jack Hagan	43,939
Howard L. Massingill, Jr.	41,609
Willes K. Lee	41,418
Sharon Callan	41,025
Sandra S. Froman	40,671
James J. Fotis	40,089
Cathy S. Wright	39,762
Bob Barr	39,713
Larry E. Craig	39,626
Theresa Inacker	39,467
Carol Frampton	38,581
Todd R. Ellis	38,273
Jason Wilson	37,828
Jonathan S. Goldstein	37,753
Dwight D. Van Horn	36,756
Al Hammond	36,584
Blaine Wade	36,200
John Richardson	35,574
James A. Sheckels	35,435
Philip Gray	35,373
Knox Williams	34,628
Anthony P. Colandro	34,568
Lawrence D. Finder	34,312
Robert Scott Emslie	34,167

And for a two-year term ending in 2027

Joel Friedman	33,192

And for a one-year term ending in 2026

Richard Fairburn	33,164
James W. Porter II	33,013
Danny Stowers	32,643

The remaining candidates on the ballot, who were not elected, are as follows:

John C. Sigler	32,197
Gene T. Roach, Jr.	32,150
Frank C. Tait	32,004
Charles T. Hiltunen, III	31,204
Regis J. Synan	31,062
Todd Vandermyde	30,971
Tom King	30,897
Jeffrey L. Fleetham	30,713
Ronald L. Schmeits	30,206
David C. Mitten	29,826
Richard Todd Figard	29,423
Kim Rhode	28,956
James L. Wallace	28,937
Charles Rowe	28,894
Lucretia Hughes Klucken	26,684
Isaac Demarest	26,270
Steven W. Dulan	25,557
Lane Ruhland	25,182
Greer Johnson	21,208
Mark Shuell	17,025

Nominees for the election of the 76th Director were those candidates who had been nominated previously for the mail election of Directors but failed to be elected. The one NRA director elected for the one-year term by those members present and voting at the Annual Meetings was:

Charles T. Hiltunen, III

The proposed Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation passed by a vote of:

YES	NO
52,608	1,829

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HIGHLIGHTED MEMBER BENEFIT OF THE MONTH



SAVAGE REVEL

continued from p. 54

hunting arm or for perforating paper, this isn't too much of a concern.

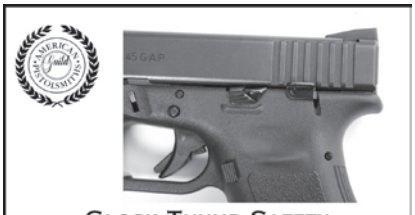
During testing, there were two failures to eject—both with the Remington load. In each instance, the bolt came fully back without the case being discharged through the ejection port. It was easily cleared, and no issues were encountered when the CCI ammunition was used. That malfunction was likely due to not cycling the bolt with enough vigor, rather than the gun or ammunition. The rifle experienced no other hiccups during the remainder of testing, even when several other ammunition brands and configurations were introduced to specifically evaluate functioning. The rifle fed, fired and extracted flawlessly. This should come as no surprise because, as reported by Shimanski, "With the large variety of .22 LR ammunition on the market, we [Savage Arms] were sure to test from the earliest stages with as many ammunition types as possible, including bare lead, wax-coated and plated bullets of multiple shapes, including hollow points to assure reliability with any ammunition that is loaded."

It's difficult to aptly describe, but the new Savage Revels have real substance. On the range, the DLX felt like a centerfire lever-action, not the "cheap," inferior feel oftentimes found with lever guns chambered for rimfire cartridges. It balanced nicely when firing offhand, too. During function-testing, operation of the lever loop was brisk and graceful, and it fluidly fed the assorted ammunition to be discharged downrange. In an age of self-loaders and bolt-actions, one sometimes forgets the fun associated with churning large volumes of rimfires through a lever gun.

It typically takes time for someone (or a company) to return to its roots, but they usually do. Why? That's the essence of life. With the Revel DLX and Classic, Savage Arms is revisiting its lever-action origins while harnessing its rimfire expertise and re-invigorating the timeless design. The Revel DLX rekindled that enthusiasm for me. And that's exactly what it should do—turn back the clock.

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Gun: Star Model 1914
Manufacturer: *Star-Bonifacio Echeverria, S.A.* (Spain)
Chambering: 7.65 mm Browning (.32 ACP)
Manufactured: c. 1915
Condition: NRA Good (Modern Gun Standards)
Value: $625

STAR MODEL 1914 AUTO PISTOL

The Spanish/Basque city of Eibar is one of Europe's great arms-manufacturing centers, with a history in gunmaking dating back to the 1500s. Through the centuries, legions of makers have offered fine, innovative sporting and military arms for domestic consumption and export. One of Eibar's more well-known makers, *Star-Bonifacio Echeverria, S.A.*, though lasting less than a century from 1905 to 1997, was a prolific producer of semi-automatic pistols with a line ranging from pocket pieces to service-grade models.

Star's first handgun, a 1905 Mannlicher-inspired open-top 6.35 mm (.25 ACP) repeater, set the tone for the firm's early pistols. The 1908, as it was designated, was a fixed-barrel blowback design that, unlike the Mannlicher semi-automatics that loaded from the top via a stripper clip, employed a grip-sited box magazine. It set the tone for the company's follow-up model, the M1914.

The *Modelo* 1914, while resembling the 1908 somewhat, did have some stylistic and mechanical differences. Offered chambered in both 6.35 mm (.25 ACP) and 7.65 mm Browning (.32 ACP), the '14's breechblock was modified by the addition of two humps, the centers of which accommodated circular knurled sections formed out of the gun's safety, which, when rotated via a small thumb extension, physically blocked the external hammer from striking the firing pin. The magazine release was changed from the 1908's heel-style catch to a knurled button positioned above and to the rear of the trigger guard.

Introduced around the time of the beginning of World War I, 1914s were produced in considerable numbers and used as sidearms by the French, Italian and Greek militaries. Along with the usual manufacturer's boilerplate, the slides of some of the guns intended for Gallic issue were patriotically decorated with a marking depicting the famed "French 75" artillery piece. Model 1914s achieved a good record of reliability and were considered by some to be superior to the "Ruby-"style, 1903 Colt-inspired knockoffs produced by other Spanish firms.

Two versions of the 1914 were offered—a seven-shot "Officer's Model" with a 4⅝" barrel and a "Troopers Model" sporting a 5½" barrel and an extended grip that accommodated a nine-round magazine. Finish on the guns was blue, and stocks were primarily of checkered wood. A lanyard loop was affixed to the pistol at the lower, rear left side of its grip frame.

The frame of the 1914 is in two parts—consisting of front and rear sections. Takedown of the piece is relatively simple, if a bit unorthodox. First, remove the magazine and ensure the gun is unloaded. Next, push upward on the latch in front of the trigger guard while pushing forward on the laterally grooved front under-portion of the frame. Separate the front frame section from the rear. The recoil spring and guide rod may now be removed. Pull the slide fully back while raising its rear. Push forward on the slide and slip it off over the barrel.

Some 25,000 1914s were purchased by France between 1915 and 1918, though these quantities were dwarfed by those of the Rubys (750,000) and Orbea Smith & Wesson Model 1905 Hand Ejector revolver copies (485,000). Thusly, the Star ended up being one of the scarcer Spanish firearms to see service during the Great War. Model 1914s also saw use during the Spanish Civil War and World War II.

The Star 1914 seen here is complete and in good working order, though it has obviously weathered a good deal of service. No finish remains, and markings are thin in places. As this model is not all that commonly encountered, however, it will bring a bit of a premium over other Spanish arms used by the French during World War I. Its value is reckoned to be a solid $625.

—Garry James, Field Editor

American Rifleman **does NOT accept submissions for the I Have This Old Gun column. Topics are assigned to Field Editors in advance. Due to the volume of mail received, our writers are not able to answer individual questions. Please consider instead sending your correspondence and questions through our Dope Bag/Q&A service, which is available to all NRA members in good standing. Details appear in the Q&A section.**

Photos by Philip Schreier

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New Blood Flow Breakthrough Helps Men Enjoy Strong, Long-Lasting Intimacy – At Any Age

A new discovery that supports nitric oxide production and healthy blood flow gives men across the country new hope for a satisfying bedroom performance

After age 40, it's common knowledge that performance begins to decline in many men. However, a new potency formula is showing that any healthy man can now enjoy strong, long-lasting, and frequent performance at any age.

This doctor-designed protocol, created by leading anti-aging expert Dr. Al Sears, is celebrating its highly effective 5th generation formula, which is already helping men support a healthy performance and libido.

When Dr. Sears released the first pill — Primal Max Black — it quickly became a trusted men's performance helper, promoting bedroom fun across America.

It worked by supporting healthy testosterone levels. However, Dr. Sears knows from almost 30 years in private practice that testosterone isn't the only performance challenge men face. That's why his dual strategy includes attention to blood flow because no amount of testosterone will replace the need for healthy blood flow for successful intimacy.

And this second formula became Primal Max Red.

SUPPORTING THE MECHANICS IS AS IMPORTANT AS SUPPORTING THE HORMONES

While Primal Max Black helped maintain optimal testosterone, Primal Max Red tackles a lesser-known challenge.

Truth is, we ignore the importance of blood flow and circulation for supporting a man's sex life. Because without blood flow, nothing happens.

Luckily, a Nobel prize-winning scientist discovered a means to help support performance, strength, and confidence by supporting vital blood flow, which is essential for a satisfying performance.

Using this landmark Nobel Prize as its basis, Primal Max Red supports healthy blood flow by using a key ingredient to support nitric oxide production. Nitric oxide is the molecule that allows blood vessels to relax and expand, thereby increasing blood flow.

Al Sears MD, who has authored over 500 scientific papers and has appeared on more than 50 media outlets including ABC News, CNN, ESPN, and many more says, "Supporting optimal blood flow is an essential component of maintaining sexual health as men age. Then, once we optimized it and had a great deal of success, we set out to see if we could do even better."

Conventional nitric oxide supplements are limited to smaller doses of key ingredients because everything must fit into small capsules. But Dr. Sears followed the science and introduced a revolutionary new powder version of his Primal Max Red formula.

This new powder formulation enabled him to include bigger doses of the key nutrients, which matched the doses used in published clinical studies. Not only is the formula more effective because it uses proven doses, it also means you get a delicious drink instead of more and more pills.

HEALTHY BLOOD FLOW DELIVERS SATISFYING RESULTS

Primal Max Red is the best way to maintain an active life. It works by supporting blood flow and the production of nitric oxide.



IMMEDIATE GAME CHANGER FOR AMERICAN MEN: Doctors are now recommending Primal Max Red for its ability to support the vital but overlooked need for healthy blood flow during intimacy.

This critical support is the reason men across the country are enjoying a full and satisfying performance at any age. Because testosterone is not the only factor men need to consider.

Primal Max Red effectively promotes healthy blood flow that men can use to support intimacy in the bedroom. The unique and powerful blend of ingredients in Primal Max Red supports the kind of sexual health and performance men are looking for.

"There was a time when supporting healthy blood flow for men was impossible," Dr. Sears said. "But science and technology have come a long way in recent years. And now, with the creation of nitric oxide-supporting Primal Max Red, men can feel more confident and more in control while they enjoy intimacy at any age."

Now for men across America, it's much easier to support peak performance as they get older.

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To secure the new Primal Max Red formula, readers should contact the Primal Max Red Health Hotline at **1-888-358-8894** and use promo code **ARPMAX625** within 48 hours. And to cut down on the cost for customers, it can only be purchased directly from the company.

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