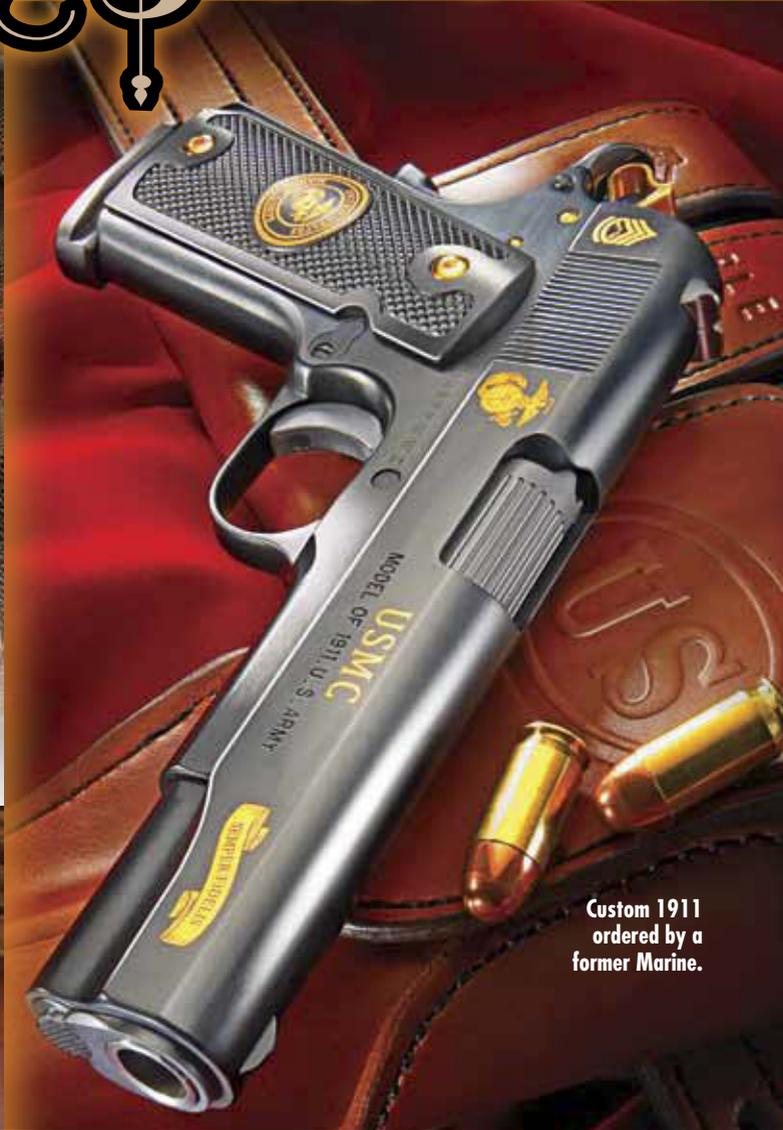


# Dave



Signature 1911 Professional Model with SureFire light.



Custom 1911 ordered by a former Marine.



Dave does regular work with the Texas Rangers. Here's the Professional model with custom touches.

## FANCY BUT FUNCTIONAL

Long before I had much in the way of expendable income for buying sixguns I enjoyed looking at the works of such past gunsmiths as O'Meara, Houchins, Sedgely and Eimer as well as custom sixguns from the King Gun Sight Company. They were among the top sixgunsmiths customizing Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers in between the two world wars. I found pictures of their works in old copies of *American Rifleman* as well as several books. Today we are blessed with a wide range of revolvers, semi-autos, and single shots in virtually every possible chambering, as well

# Handgun



Dave's handy with single actions too!



A blued, retro-1911 made for a client who wanted a 95 percent retro-look, but also built to be "shooter" he could use in Pike-style matches.

## BBQ GUNS!

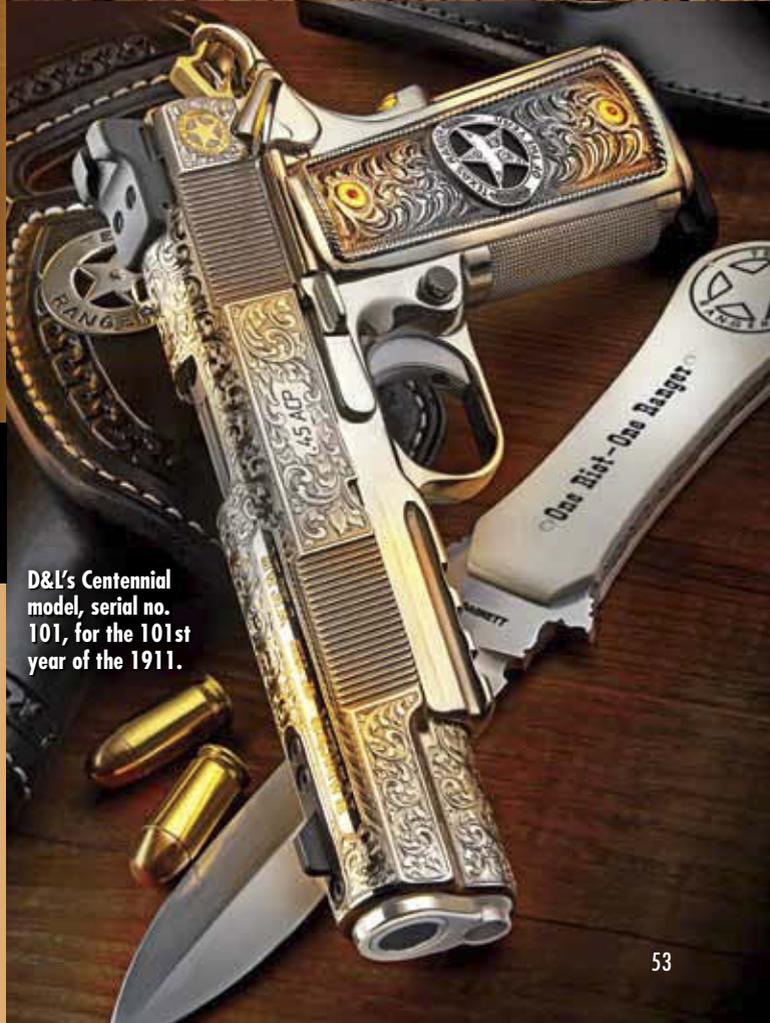
JOHN TAFFIN  
PHOTOS: CHUCK PITTMAN, INC.

as being offered in not only the traditional blued steel but stainless steel, polymers, titanium, scandium and possibly even un-obtainium. Our choices are almost endless; in fact so much so one might think there would be no need for custom sixgunsmiths today — but think again. The greatest pistolsmiths who ever lived are practicing their creative art right alongside all the factory offerings.

### Then And Now

Elmer Keith used the first three mentioned custom sixgunsmiths in building several of his special Colt Single Actions,

[WWW.AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM)



D&L's Centennial model, serial no. 101, for the 101st year of the 1911.

# Maave Hancock

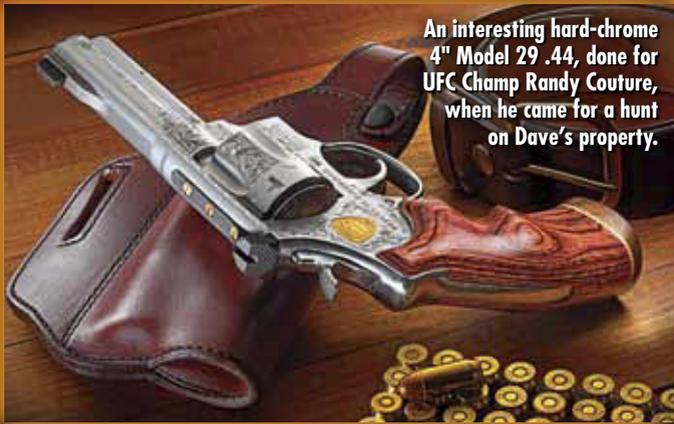
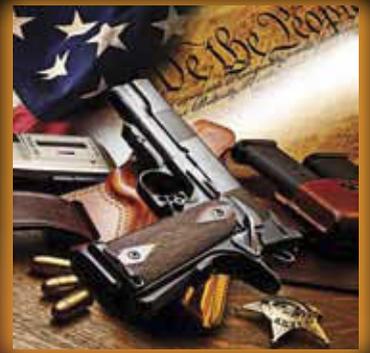


A 3" J-frame with D&L sights "melted" into the frame.

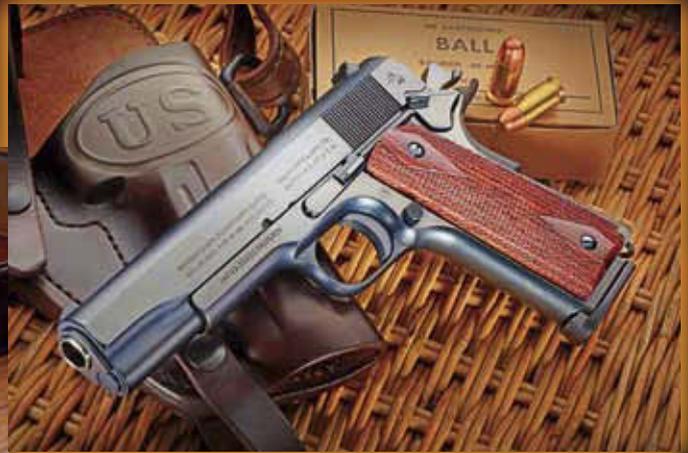
Professional model.



This Model 29 was built for Clint Eastwood. The project was motivated by some of Clint's fans, who wanted to pay tribute to his stellar work in the movie industry. Clint reflected the enhanced 29 is beautiful, and now has a special place in his personal office.



An interesting hard-chrome 4" Model 29 .44, done for UFC Champ Randy Couture, when he came for a hunt on Dave's property.



AMERICAN  
**HANDGUNNER**<sup>®</sup>



including the famous #5 SAA that he considered the ultimate .44 Special. I never dreamed I would someday have a large shooting collection of factory revolvers, let alone custom sixguns, semi-automatics, and single-shots. It has been my privilege to have guns built by such top gunsmiths as Bob Baer, Hamilton Bowen, Dick Casull, John Gallagher, Jimmy Clark, David Clements, Brian Cosby, Ben Forkin, Alan Harton, Jack Huntington, J.D. Jones, Ken Kelly, John Linebaugh, Milt Morrison, Gary Reeder, Jim Stroh and Bill Wilson. The beautiful sixguns and semi-automatics pictured here are from another top line gunsmith who has also touched guns for me, namely Dave Lauck, the 1-man operation that is D&L Sports, of Chino Valley, Ariz.

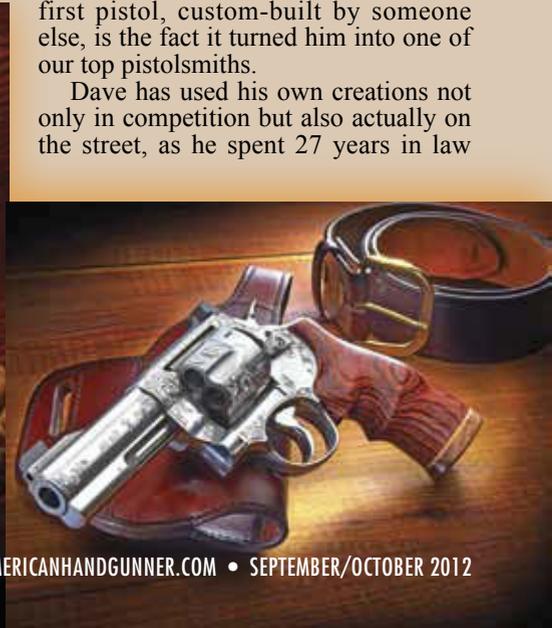
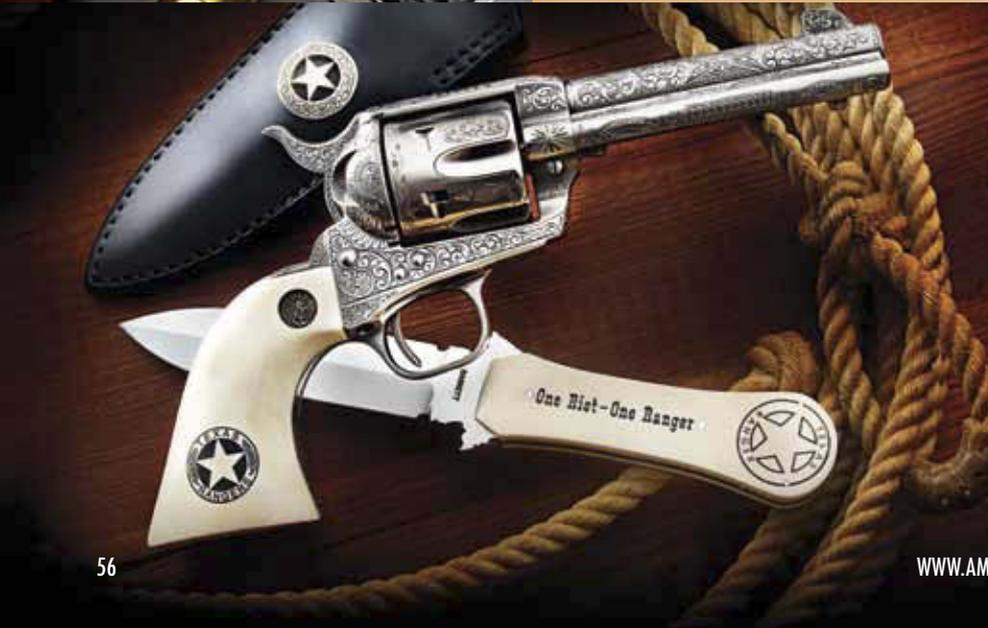
I don't know if the old line-gunsmiths from the 1930s era ever worked together in an organization to promote high-quality gunsmithing, in fact I

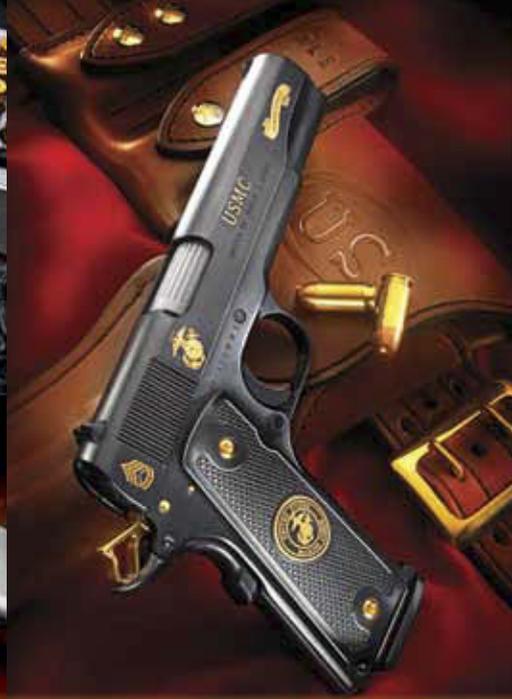
doubt it very much. However, today the American Pistolmiths Guild exists to do that very thing. Each year, one of the members is chosen as pistolsmith of the year, and for 2012 that award has been presented to Dave Lauck.

### **Imperfection To Invention**

Dave got into custom pistolsmithing for the same reason several others who are now Guild members started. In his own words: "I put aside money to send one of my personal 1911s to one of the big name shops of the time, and when it came back, it was a disappointment, so I studied on how to make the 1911 run ever since. Decades, and literally millions of rounds of .45 ACP later, they seem much better. When you literally shoot things until they break, you learn what parts need to be improved, and then you continue shooting until it breaks in the process. That is where my heavy-duty line of sub-parts came from." The unintended outcome of his first pistol, custom-built by someone else, is the fact it turned him into one of our top pistolsmiths.

Dave has used his own creations not only in competition but also actually on the street, as he spent 27 years in law





Leather by Purdy Gear  
(www.purdygear.com).

“A UNIQUE ASPECT OF THE TEXAS RANGERS IS THE FACT BBQ GUNS WERE STANDARD DAILY WEAR, AND AS SUCH, FUNCTION MUST AT LEAST EQUAL FORM.”



enforcement with experience in investigations, SWAT, narcotics, sniper and patrol. All of this background shows up in his pistols, and as he says every one has to be one he would carry himself — or it does not go out to a client. Many of his customers are special operations personnel who absolutely must have the best possible equipment. And he also says his goal is every pistol he builds is better than the last one.

### Taffin's Lauck Sixguns

I know of Dave's work personally as he has worked on a pair of Smith & Wessons for me as well as two Ruger Vaqueros. The Smiths are nickel-plated 4" Model 29s, which Dave slicked-up internally and also smoothed and rounded the face of the triggers and reduced the size of the thumb piece on the target hammers, making them much more suitable for fast double action work. Stag grips were expertly fitted and I then added Tyler T-Grip adapters to make them much easier to handle in the double-action mode.

The Vaqueros, both stainless steel,

and one in .45 Colt, the other .44-40, were also slicked-up, fitted with stag grips, and had the long barrels shortened even with the ejector rod to aid in speed from leather. All of these custom touches were very minor compared to much of the work Dave does.

Dave also offers a replacement

fixed rear sight for Smith & Wesson revolvers. This sight is minus any sharp edges, gives a nice square easy-to-see sight picture, and totally fills in the area on the top of the Smith taken up by the rear sight assembly. This sight was designed for anyone desiring

*Continued on page 85*



Freedom Arms Model 97 in .45 Colt makes an ideal carry gun for many outdoor activities like camping, fishing, backpacking or working around the farm.

MARK HAMPTON

# PICKING MY PERFECT

# PACKIN' PISTOL

## Freedom Arms Model 97



**O**ur own John Taffin coined the “Perfect Packin’ Pistol” moniker, and he’s been on the trail of one ever since. And I have to say, he’s right about it. Unless it’s light and handy, you just don’t have it on-hand. It never fails; you bump into wily coyote or other vermin when you’re not carrying your favorite sidearm. I was doing some chores around the farm the other day on the tractor and had a coyote stand there — and watch me work! If I would only have been carrying a handgun, and I know better! This wasn’t my first mishap. Then my wife and I were checking some of our property’s fence

that had suffered considerable damage due to the ice storm. A few of the tree limbs had fallen on the wire and we were repairing the devastation. Way yonder, as we say here in Missouri, on the backside of our property, a big bobcat bounced out in front of us. With my quick wit, all I could do was throw the hammer. That didn’t work out, so I thought, okay, I’ve had enough.

I called my friend Bob Baker of Freedom Arms and told him to send

**Freedom Arms revolvers are well-made, quality firearms, easy on the eyes and will deliver decades of pride of ownership for any shooter. Can you say “Swiss Watch”?**

me something I could pack all the time, and I mean all the time, when I was at the farm. I wanted to wear it on the tractor, riding around on the Polaris Ranger, fixing fence, taking a morning hike, you name it, and I wanted to be packin’. This gun wouldn’t be equipped with a long barrel, like I usually prefer, and equipped with only iron sights. This particular gun would not be a hunting handgun per-se, but an easy packing rig I could carry at all



Mark found Purdy Gear's leather among the finest he's ever used. Here're her Pancake and IWB ideas. Elegant, I'd say.



For comparison purposes: the FA Model 97 in .45 Colt is somewhat smaller and lighter than the custom Mag-Na-Port .44 Magnum, Ruger Super Redhawk, shown here with 5" barrel.

times. After Bob listened to my criteria he said he'd be sending something he thought I'd like.

### Compact Powerhouse

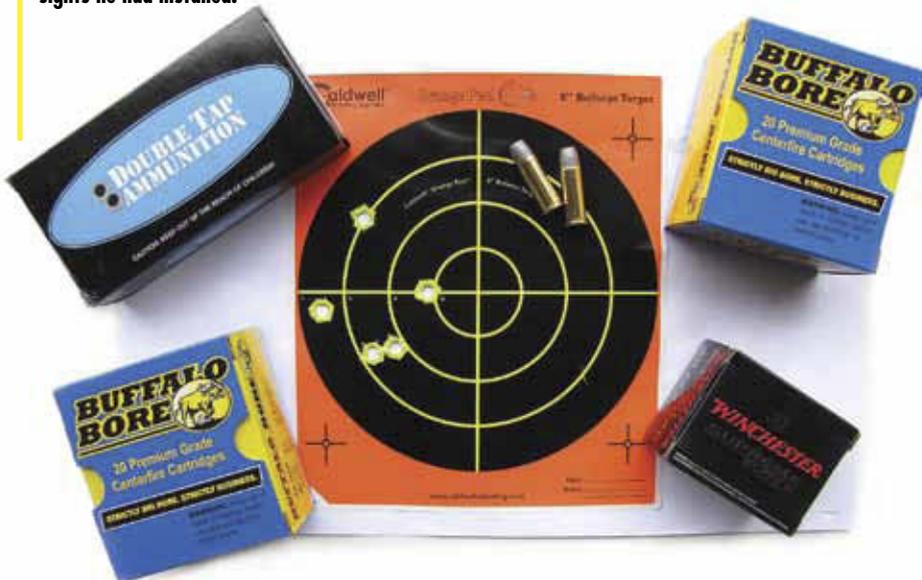
Sure enough, when I opened the box, I knew this little gun had a secure place, and a new home. Inside the box was a shiny Premier Grade Model 97 in .45 Colt, just what the doctor ordered, compact and easy to carry. The Model 97 is not new by any means, but was first introduced back in 1997 in .357 Mag. A couple of years later, Freedom Arms chambered this mid-frame, single-action revolver in .45 Colt to the delight of many.

This stainless steel single action is somewhat smaller than the Freedom Arms Model 83 you see, typically chambered in the mighty .454 Casull. I couldn't wait for a range session with rounds procured from Winchester, Double Tap and Buffalo Bore ammunition. Good gosh, Double Tap produces 18 different rounds, nine standard and nine +P heavy stuff. Buffalo Bore manufactures six +P offerings, and big red also makes a ton of different .45 Colt ammo from personal defense rounds like their Supreme Elite Bonded PDX1 all the way "down" to Cowboy Action. There is no shortage of quality ammo in a wide variety of different bullet weights for a multitude of applications.

### Recoil?

At the range I discovered not only did those beautiful winewood, round

With an abundance of factory ammunition available, you don't have to reload unless you want to. Accuracy from the short-barrel .45 Colt is more than acceptable for a trail/hunting gun (this is a 25-yard group). Mark feels the gun is much more accurate, but was hampered by the Express-style sights he had installed.



butt grips look good, they felt wonderful. Now I wouldn't want to shoot those heavy .45 Colt +P 325-gr. rounds from Buffalo Bore all day long, but they *are* manageable. The smooth grips are not abrasive and make shooting even heavy rounds more comfortable. This gun is light, tipping the scales at a measly 33 ounces. Realistically, I am going to be carrying this revolver much more than I will shoot it, so I'm fine with the weight. Obviously there is recoil involved with this light five-shooter and short barrel, but

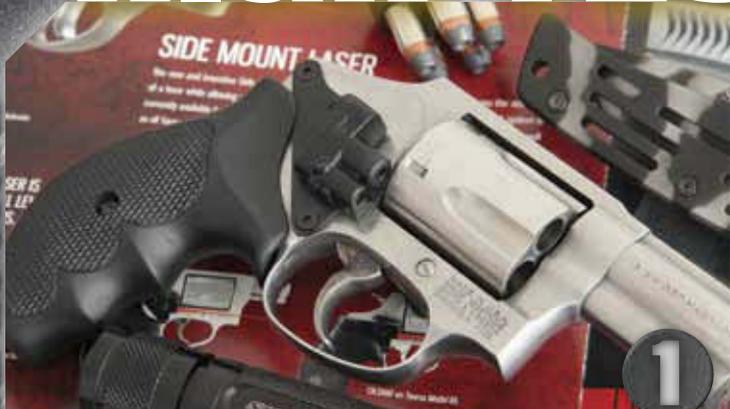
it is manageable.

The ammunition I gathered from Double Tap, Buffalo Bore and Winchester all performed at a level you would expect from a 3½" revolver. There were not any malfunctions or surprises. Barrel length on the Model 97 comes standard in 4¼", 5½" or 7½" but I wanted something really compact, so I chose the non-standard length. If I would have chosen this gun for strictly hunting purposes, I would have easily gone with the longest barrel available.

*Continued on page 74*

# HIGH-TECH GEAR

A CLOSE LOOK AT



## HIGH-TECH GOODIES DAVE ANDERSON LIGHTS, LASERS, RED DOTS & CELL PHONES?

**T**he boss man phoned the other day, and Editor Roy wanted me to check out new high-tech gear. “You’ve got the right man,” I assured him. “You probably think I’m talking on what we techies call a

landline. Not so. What looks like an ordinary briefcase is actually a phone! I can use it anywhere! In fact, I’m at the mall right now. You should see people stare, like they’ve never seen a briefcase phone before.”

I heard Roy shouting to his secretary, “Are you sure no one else is available? Anyone at all? An illiterate yak herdsman maybe?” Guess not, since I got the job! Be warned, some of this tech stuff is mighty complicated. I told Roy I’d try and “dumb it down.” He said I was uniquely qualified for the job. Such praise is embarrassing.

Since we’re on the topic of cell phones, current versions do a bit more than just talk. With available apps, your cell phone can provide reloading and pressure data; direct you to the range, time and score the match, video competitors in action, and download the video to a website. If you’re a hunter you can get weather reports, sunrise and sunset times, coyote calls, turkey calls and recipes for cooking the turkey. And that’s just scratching the surface. Ah, but a briefcase phone ... well, you could only wish, right?



**1** Laser aiming devices continue to get smaller, less expensive, more convenient, more reliable and durable. This SML (side mount laser) from LaserLyte is for small-frame S&W and Taurus revolvers. It comes with four mounting plates to fit various models, and longer screws to replace the sideplate screws. The laser beam can be used in either constant or pulse mode. With the sight in place the revolver still fit a Bianchi pocket holster.

**2** This trainer target from LaserLyte increases the fun factor in dry-firing and can be used virtually anywhere. LaserLyte has three styles of laser devices to fit different firearms and project a momentary laser beam when the trigger is released. The type shown here fits the chamber, and each “shot” registers on the target. After a string you can “shoot” the display target again, and all shots will show. Because there’s no recoil the laser beam projects a bit high, but I found a 6 o’clock hold gave center “hits” for me.

**3** I don’t believe in buying shooting skill with fancy equipment, but I’ll make an exception red-dot sights. I’ve seen them help turn casual

handgunners into veritable shooting machines, mowing down rows of 8” Bianchi plates at 40 yards. Red-dot sights have gotten smaller, tougher, more reliable, with battery life measured in years. Here are a few

examples, clockwise from top left: Sightmark SM Ultrashot Holographic sight; the very moderately priced Sightmark Sure Shot Reflex; Leupold Deltapoint, which has a magnesium body and weighs just .6 ounces; Trijicon RMR, made in the USA and as with all Trijicon products, built tough for the heaviest use.

**4** Adventurous types use tiny POV (point of view) cameras attached to helmets and such when they jump off cliffs or out of airplanes. Maybe you want a video of shooting, from the shooter’s viewpoint. The tiny Epic video camera is so small and light it could be taped to your cap brim. It has a wide-angle lens and records in full 1080HD mode.

**5** Crimson Trace laser sights have earned an enviable reputation for quality and reliability. Crimson Trace now has the Master Series. The





6

G10 style is shown here and rosewood is another option.

On the front is the "Instant Activation" panel. Pick the pistol up and the laser is activated, set it down and the laser shuts off. Viridian makes this C5 series light/laser in different sizes. This small model is an excellent match for subcompact-size pistols. Viridian uses a green laser rather than the more conventional red. Many shooters seem to find a green beam easier to see and track, especially in brighter ambient light. This sight also has a 100-lumen white light.



4

6 These Glock 22 pistols provide a lot of options for home defense. Left, this one has a Burris Fastfire II red-dot sight replacing the standard rear sight. It has a 4-MOA dot, and the Fastfire III has options of 3- or 8-MOA dots. On the frame rail is an Insight Technology M6X combination white light/laser. The right one has a 1/2-ounce JPoint dot sight. This pistol also has a combination white light/laser on the frame rail, a Streamlight TLR-2. Even with white lights on the gun, I want the option of a separate flashlight. In this case it's the SureFire 6P.

7 I suppose flashlights are actually not too high tech anymore, but current versions still impress me. On the left, the Springfield XDM's frame rail has a SureFire X300, while the Glock on the right has a Streamlight TRL-2 light/laser. Streamlights TRL-4 has even more features. Weapon-mounted lights have a place but don't replace the need for a reliable flashlight. Top is a Streamlight Scorpion, below it the classic SureFire 6P, both with LED lights. I'm still fond of the big workhorse on the bottom, a SureFire M3T combat light. This one is the Millennium Series, but every maker offers an almost bewildering array of models to fit any need.



For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index) and click on the company name.



5

# ROY ALERT!



# BEWARE SUBSCRIPTION SCAM

**DEAR READERS:** Nefarious scoundrels have been trying to scam *Handgunner* readers by offering unauthorized subscriptions for a ridiculously high price. Don't be a victim of this dastardly behavior! It's easy to protect yourself; simply remember: NEVER pay more than \$37 for a 2-year subscription to *Handgunner*! If it asks for \$71, toss it! I've received a bunch of calls from you guys, reporting suspicious offers to renew subs to *Handgunner*. You have detailed receiving offers on mailing pieces, looking suspiciously similar to ours. They direct you to write a check or submit a credit card number for the outrageous price of \$71 (almost twice the published price!!!). They appear to be from us — but they are most certainly not! While it is still rare, it has occurred, so keep a sharp eye and don't be shy about questioning something like this.

It's easy to verify that it's legit. Confirm the *Handgunner* ID Number on the top line of the renewal label matches your ID on the magazine you get. The price is NEVER higher than \$19.75 for one year, or \$36.75 for two. Our offers say, "Make check payable to *American Handgunner*" (NOT some sleazy third party!). The return address will either be 12345 World Trade Drive, San Diego, CA or P.O. Box 509093 in San Diego. Anything else spells trouble!

Keep in mind, we're always just a phone call away. Pick up the phone and dial (858) 605-0253 to chat with one of our ace subscription staffers or go to [www.americanhandgunner.com](http://www.americanhandgunner.com) and click on "Contacts" to reach us. We're actual human beings, and will be happy to help you out anytime. You can also always drop me a note at [editor@americanhandgunner.com](mailto:editor@americanhandgunner.com) if you want to report a scam, have a question or think I can help out.

— Roy Huntington, Editor

# DON'T BE A VICTIM!

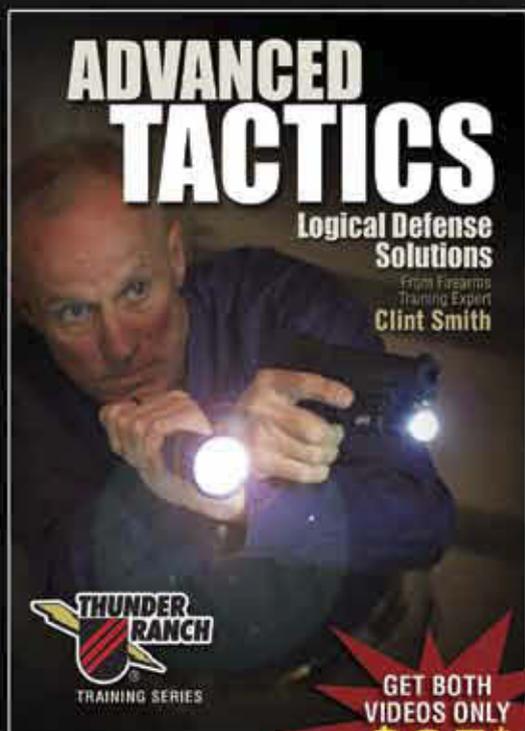
- CONFIRM THE ID #
- NEVER PAY MORE THAN \$37 FOR A 2-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION
- WHEN IN DOUBT, CONTACT US



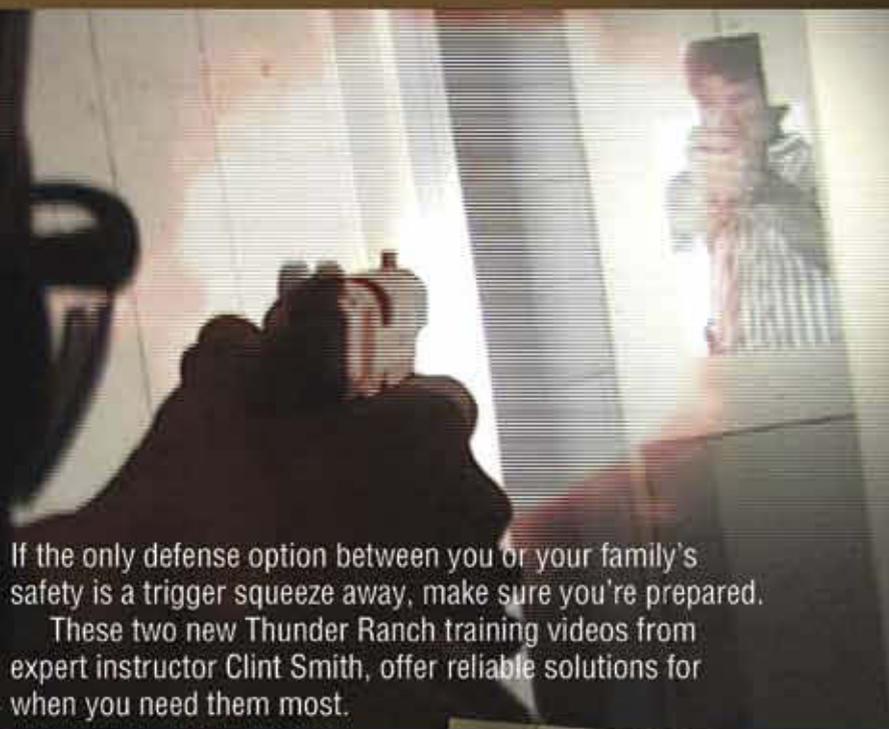
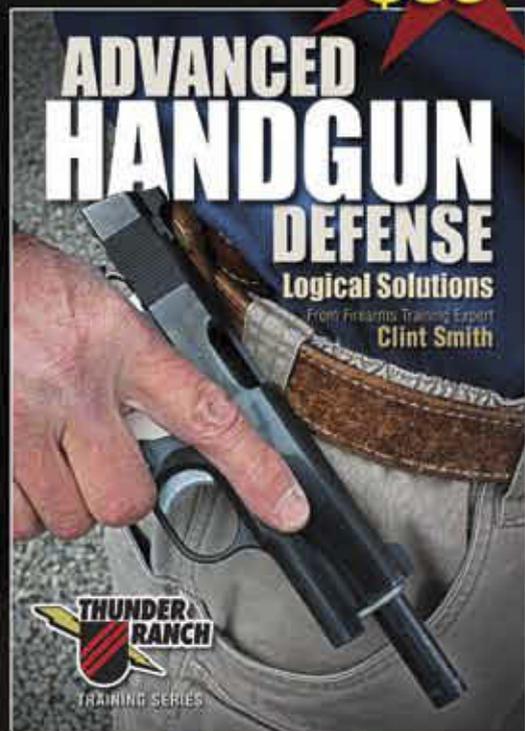
AMERICAN  
**HANDGUNNER**

“Once the bullet goes down the barrel  
you can never bring it back.”

~Clint Smith



GET BOTH  
VIDEOS ONLY  
**\$65\***



If the only defense option between you or your family's safety is a trigger squeeze away, make sure you're prepared.

These two new Thunder Ranch training videos from expert instructor Clint Smith, offer reliable solutions for when you need them most.

#### Advanced Tactics

52 Video Chapters Include:

- Tactical Leans
- Handgun And Long Gun
- Clearing Techniques
- Logical Speed
- Maintaining Escape Routes
- Working With Lights
- Multiple Lights And Threats



*Are you prepared to clear a staircase in your home with your family inside?*

“It's hard to learn new skills  
in the middle of a gun fight.”



*How will you retain your handgun and protect yourself from a close threat?*

#### Advanced Handgun Defense

47 Video Chapters Include:

- Dealing With Multiple Threats
- Lateral Movement & Pivots
- Handgun Retention
- One-Handed Operation
- Pistol Malfunction Cures
- Effective Use Of Structures
- Fighting From The Ground



\*Offer good direct from FMG Publications and only in U.S. Price includes standard delivery. Thunder Ranch Training Series videos are produced exclusively by FMG Publications. Allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

Both videos **ON SALE** separately for only **\$35 each** (regularly \$49.95).

To Order Call: (800) 628-9818 (M-F 8am-3pm PST)

Preview and Order Online: [www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids)

# ARSENAL'S AF2011-A1

Nope, you're not hungover, those really are double-barrel 1911s!

HUH?  
WHAT?

STEFAN PEREY  
HANDGUNNER'S EUROPEAN  
CORRESPONDENT

## A DOUBLE 1911?

I recently attended the IWA 2012 Show in Nuremberg, Germany — the biggest gun show in Europe for the past 40 years. Think of it as the American SHOT Show, only with beer, wine, hunting dogs and people with funny accents. Oh, and Lederhosen too. You meet a lot of old friends from all over the world, talk about guns and the gun world, celebrate this wonderful industry we are in — and maybe have one beer too many at dinner!

So, after a hard evening “consulting” with beer steins, the next morning I stumbled into the booth of a young Italian company called Arsenal Firearms. My first impression was maybe I was suffering from double vision and really needed to be more careful with that beer. There, right in front of me, sat a 1911 with two barrels in one slide! I rubbed my eyes, looked again, and it was still there. I had to learn more.

### 16 Rounds

The Arsenal Firearms AF2011-A1 (in .45 ACP or .38 Super) is the first production 1911 double-barreled pistol in the world. This beast weighs 65.2 ounces unloaded, and the 1-piece frame and slide are machined out of solid blocks of 39NiCrMo steel. The frame actually has two separate magazine wells and two single-stack magazines, for a total of 16 rounds of .45 ACP — both paired with a single-floor plate.

The handling characteristics of the fat AF2011-A1 are, shall we say — unusual. But it is possible to control the gun when firing, according to Arsenal staffers. They also have a video on their website showing it firing.

One slide, two barrels, two guide rods, and trust us when we say there's lots more involved!



Get your good glasses on and sit down and think about this. Trust me, your brain will hurt.

Besides the single frame for two mags and single slide for two 5" barrels, there are other specialized parts. The single-spur, double hammer; single-body, double mainspring housing and wide grip safety (all with extra-wide dimensions) are unique to this gun.

When you disassemble the AF2011 you'll notice the special barrel bushings as well as the slide catch lever and thumb safety with extra long pins. On the other hand, the Italian double features pretty standard 1911 parts like the recoil spring rods and recoil springs, firing pins and firing pin plates, leaf springs with three arms and the sears of the trigger system. Also the grip scales, screws, bushings and sights — mounted between the barrels on the top of the slide — are regular components, so you can use every aftermarket part you wish.

### Performance

It will be an amazing experience to pull the trigger *one time* and send

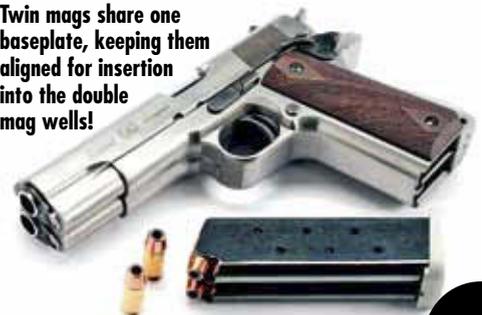
two 230-gr. bullets (460 grains) down range. When you use the AF2011-A1 in condition one, cocked and locked, with 16 rounds in the magazines and the chambers loaded, you can theoretically deliver 18 rounds, or over 4,100 grains of bullet weight to the target. That's about 9.5 ounces, ladies and gentlemen, or more than a half-pound of lead into a target in a few seconds. According to representatives of the company, the two bullets fired in one trigger pull will impact the target 1" to 2" apart at typical distances of 15 to 25 yards.

The AF2011-A1 will be available with a deep blue finish or a nitrite coating, delivered in a dedicated alloy presentation case with security lock. The extraordinary pistol also can be ordered with special engraving, gold inlays, initials and monograms according to whatever you wish.

Do we *need* this gun? Um, maybe I do? But even if you don't *need* one, it is a remarkable engineering feat. And like sports or racing cars, maybe some of the technology used to create the AF2011 will eventually turn up in other designs.

For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/arsenal-inc](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/arsenal-inc) or (708) 643-2220

Twin mags share one baseplate, keeping them aligned for insertion into the double mag wells!



# NO BULL! BLADES!



LEO



TTTK



S.I.C.K.

PAT COVERT  
PHOTOS: CHUCK PITTMAN



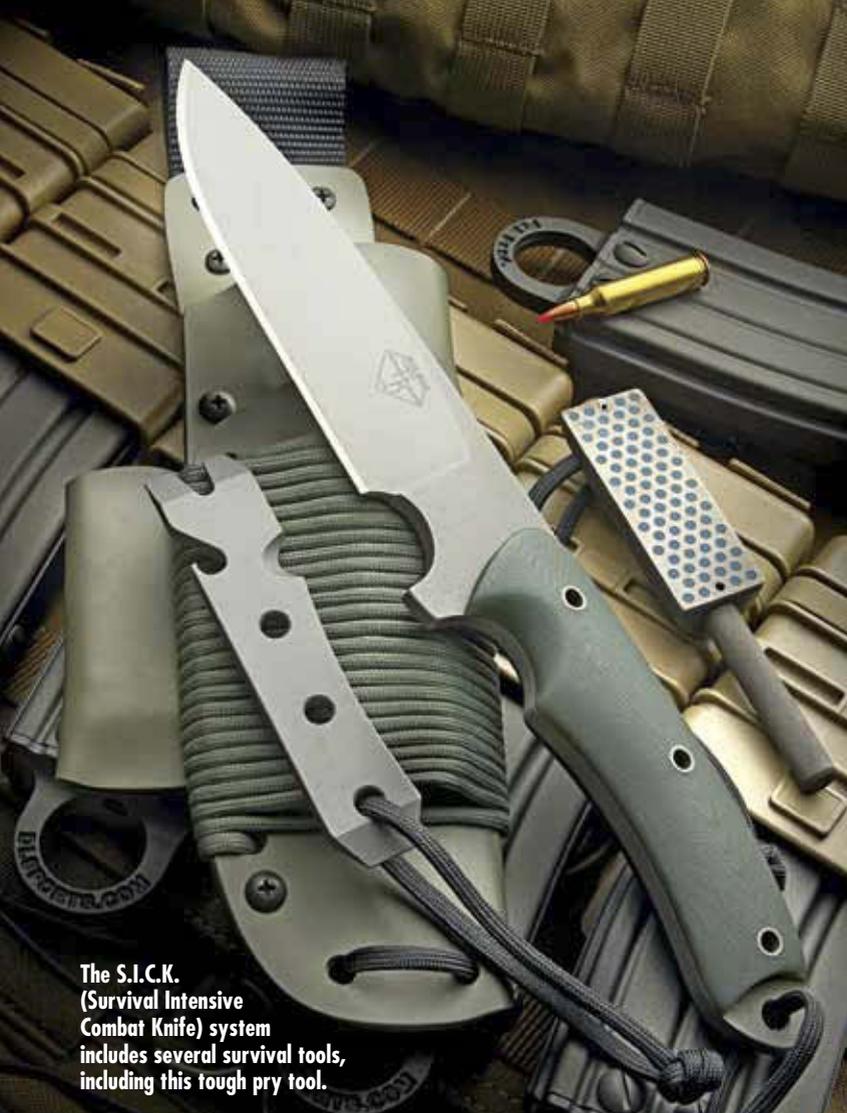
S.I.C.K.

## TRACE RINALDI'S CUSTOM BLADES: STANDING THE TEST OF TIME

**W**hen we first featured custom knifemaker Trace Rinaldi in these pages 10 years ago he was just a young upstart trying to break into an already crowded field of artisans. Most were riding the tactical wave jumpstarted by the first Gulf War. Back then we used these words to sum up the young knifemaker's wares: "Straight and simple, Trace makes knives meant to be used. These are edged implements that can turn the average Walter Mitty into a human thresher." Since our last visit Trace's career has gone through some major changes, so we thought it would be interesting to go back and give our

readers an update.

One thing that hasn't changed is the "no bull" style you'll find in every one of Trace's knives. His knives don't mince words, just everything that gets in their path. Like most successful knifemakers Trace has continued to improve the quality of his craftsmanship and take advantage of new cutting edge technology, but his penchant for building no-nonsense knives is rooted in his past. "I grew up on a farm in rural southern California," says Trace, "and knives were always tools and prized possessions to me. My love for firearms actually sparked my interest in making knives. Reading *American Handgunner* since I was a teen, I always wanted



The S.I.C.K. (Survival Intensive Combat Knife) system includes several survival tools, including this tough pry tool.



## “HIS KNIVES DON’T MINCE WORDS, JUST EVERYTHING THAT GETS IN THEIR PATH”

to build custom pistols, but given the restrictive climate for firearms in California, and all that goes along with that, building guns just wasn’t in the cards.

“After meeting a custom knifemaker named Norm Levine at a gun show,” Trace continued, “I decided custom knives were the next best thing, and the rest is history. Norm died shortly after I met him, so I never really had someone to teach me to make knives. I read some books, bought some machinery, and through trial and error eventually was making useable tools.”

Over the years, Trace built up a faithful following of serious knife users and perfected his work at the same time. Then in 2008, tragedy struck when a fire wiped out his entire So-Cal shop, forcing him to make some hard decisions.

“After the shop burned down in 2009, my family and I moved, lock stock and barrel, to North Idaho near Lake Coeur d’Alene. I had been working on a new shop there for a couple of years, but the fire pushed the move, and we haven’t looked back since. It was quite a character-building

period of my life and we had a lot of challenges to overcome to get to where I could make knives again. In retrospect, I wouldn’t go back to California for all the tea in China!”

### **Still Cuttin’ The Bull**

Don’t look for gent’s folders in Trace’s knife line, but if you need a blade that will wreak havoc, he’ll fix you up in spades. Robust blades and ample handles are hallmarks of Rinaldi’s knives, which he deals up in nice curves and sound geometry. Nowhere will you see this knifemaker’s abundant talents better displayed than in his comprehensive S.I.C.K. (Survival Intensive Combat Knife) model. At just under 12" in overall length, the S.I.C.K. is a healthy-sized knife. The knife’s 5.5" drop-point blade is built of thick premium CPM-S30V stainless steel and is 1.6" across at its widest. Below the cutting edge is a choke-up finger choil opposite a long, notched thumb ramp for enhanced purchase. The sumptuous G10 handle has an index finger groove and exposed skull-

cracker base with lanyard hole.

And that’s just where the fun begins. “The S.I.C.K. includes a pry tool that also doubles as a striker for the firestarter/sharpener,” Trace explains. “The pry tool is intended to do everything you are always tempted to do with a knife tip or edge that you shouldn’t use it for! The firestarter/sharpener uses a Mischmetal (rare earth alloy) fire rod that is much more effective than regular ferrocium. The sparks that come off can actually bounce around on the ground like welding sparks. The rod is pinned in, and the handle also has a DMT diamond sharpener to maintain your knife-edge. The scallop on the pry tool wraps around the rod increasing the contact patch, making it a very effective striker.” A cord-wrapped multi-level Kydex sheath brings the knife and goodies all together in one place for transport. In essence, the S.I.C.K. is not just a knife, but a survival system built for endurance in any wilds this planet cares to dish up.

*Continued on page 72*

# WIN!



## AMERICAN HANDGUNNER

### HANDGUN OF THE MONTH

# NIGHTHAWK CUSTOM

# AAC-T

# .45

## DEFENSIVE PACKAGE!



# ENTER ONLINE WWW.AMERICANHANDGUNNER.COM

**TO ENTER BY MAIL:** Send a postcard (no envelopes, please) and follow the sample shown below to AMERICAN HANDGUNNER, Dept. H9, P.O. Box 501377, San Diego, CA 92150-1377. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 2012.

## READER SURVEY QUESTIONS:

1. Do you feel your hearing has been affected by shooting? A) Yes B) No
2. Do you wear hearing protection when you shoot? A) Yes B) No
3. Do you wear: A) Standard muffs B) Electronic muffs C) Custom ear plugs (electronic or standard) D) Soft ear plugs E) A combination of both
4. What type of eye protection do you wear when shooting? A) Personal prescription glasses B) Inexpensive shooting glasses C) Custom shooting glasses D) Don't wear eye protection

**Limit 1 entry per household.** This contest is open to individuals who are residents of the United States and its territories only. Agents and employees of Publishers Development Corporation and their families are excluded from entering. Contest void where prohibited or restricted by law. Winners must meet all local laws and regulations. Taxes and compliance with firearms regulations will be the responsibility of the winners. Winners will be notified by CERTIFIED MAIL on official letterhead. ATTENTION DEPLOYED MILITARY: USE STATESIDE ADDRESS! No purchase necessary to enter. Giveaway guns and accessories may have minor handling marks or evidence of being test-fired.

## HOM SEPT/OCT 2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### CIRCLE ANSWERS TO READER SURVEY:

Question #1: (A) (B) Question #2: (A) (B)  
Question #3: (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) Question #4: (A) (B) (C) (D)

If I win, please ship my prize through: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Store hours \_\_ am \_\_ pm



**NEW!**  
**TO ENTER:**  
**SCAN WITH YOUR**  
**MOBILE DEVICE**

**B**uilt in collaboration with Advanced Armament Corporation, Nighthawk Custom's new AAC Suppressor-Ready pistol is one you will cherish for a lifetime. This is an all-business gun, ready to use with or without an Advanced Armament Suppressor. A steel thread-protector comes standard to protect your barrel when the suppressor is not in use.

Available through Nighthawk Custom, its Preferred Dealers or from Advanced Armament Corporation, this custom handgun is loaded with proprietary features. The first to catch your eye will be the lightening cuts on the top of the slide, mainspring housing and front strap matching the Advanced Armament M4-2000 suppressor. The slide sports new Heinie Ledge Straight-Eight Suppressor Sights which are only available thru Nighthawk Custom. These sights are designed to give you a complete sight picture over the top of the suppressor. The distinct "ledge" rear sight allows you to cock the weapon using a hard surface if needed.

## CUSTOM FEATURES:

- Proprietary lightening cuts on the frontstrap, mainspring housing and slide top
- Forged frame and slide
- Nighthawk Custom match-grade blacked-out threaded barrel with thread protector
- Medium length lightweight match-grade blacked-out trigger
- Ultra-thin Aluma-grips with Nighthawk Custom logo
- Advanced Armament corporation logo on both sides of the slide behind the rear cocking serrations
- Forged slide stop cut flush with chamfered frame
- Complete de-horn for easy carry

## BONUS

**1** Stack-On's Portable Security Case is designed to secure a wallet, credit cards, cell phone or handgun for concealed-weapon permit holders during transport. The safe features a keyed-lock and meets TSA airline firearm transportation guidelines. **2** The "Wrapid" by Andrews Leather, is described as a close concealing belt holster with the quick on/off convenience of belt loops wrapping up under the belt, attaching to locking 1-way snaps. In addition, the holster comes along with a matching double-snap-on mag pouch. These custom models are made from exotic Hornback Gator leather! **3** The Mantis Knives MU-6 Red Cyclops offers unique looks and performance. Overall length is 3.5" with a 2.5" blade of AUS-8 steel, anodized 6061 aluminum handle material, with a frame lock and neck chain. **4** According to the maker, the Tactical Ultima offers premium clear hearing and advanced compression technology for protecting your ears. The circuit is designed to automatically sense and reduce background noise and let you hear all the sounds of nature. With four pre-programmed memories, you can select the program best fit for different environments. Noise higher than 90 dB is cut instantly. Value:

**TOTAL VALUE:**  
**OVER \$5,400!**

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
[www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index)  
and click on the company name.

# When you can't be there to protect her ...



**CONCEALED CARRY**  
*For Ladies*

**THUNDER RANCH**  
TRAINING SERIES

**Ladies Basic Guide To Concealed Carry**  
From Firearms Training Experts  
**Clint & Heidi Smith**

DVD Two-Disk Set Includes:

- Mental Preparation Lecture
- Gun Choices
- Carry Options
- Drawing Technique

**FMG**  
© 2009 Publishers' Development Corp.

At the shopping center, in the parking lot, at work, in her car or at home – there is a solution.

## Make sure she can protect herself

The Concealed Carry for Ladies training course from Thunder Ranch offers a comprehensive look at concealed carry from a woman's perspective.

Instructor Heidi Smith presents her concepts on gun selection and carry options in an easy-to-follow, relaxed format.

What's the best way to carry a gun in a purse? How do you draw a gun from an ankle holster? What happens when a gun is fired at point blank range?

Heidi's range demonstrations, guided by husband Clint Smith, provide a complete picture on how to safely carry a concealed handgun, and draw and fire from several effective platforms.

Give that "special lady" in your life the tools she needs to protect herself when you're not around.



Two-disc set only  
**\$29.95**

Includes nearly two hours of video!



*"Although this may seem like a good concept, it isn't logical. I'll show you concealed carry options that make sense and will fit your lifestyle."*

~Heidi Smith

Order Today! (800) 628-9818 (M-F 8am-3pm PST) • [www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/TRvids)

# ACCESSORIES

WEB BLAST  
AMERICAN COP MAGAZINE.COM

A CLOSE LOOK AT



5



7



4

## THE THIRD-BEST THING JOHN CONNOR WONDER-WIDGETS FOR YOUR HAND-HOWITZERS

**G**ranted, the *next best thing* to a brand-new handgun is a great deal on a *used* handgun, making that Roscoe a *second best thing*. So what's the *third-best thing*? Easy. Something cool to enhance, refresh, force-multiply it; an accessory making it look better, snuggle in your hand tighter, improve performance in low-light or inky-dark, personalizes it or just plain tickles your fancy.

Think about it: There's a subtle but significant differ-

ence between pickin' up that new or pre-owned handgun, and sayin' to yourself with stern semi-smugness, "Good to go; okay," versus sayin' "Good to go! Cool!" — with a silly-smirky, almost scary grin on yer mug ... right? And you know, you handgunning' fools, it doesn't take much to do that, does it?

Glad to help, Gonzo; don't mention it. Now check out these gadgets ...

**1** Program your Viridian Green Laser X5L or CSL light-and-laser unit to your operational preferences (light, laser, light/laser, etc.). Then, with the unit turned on, shove it into VGL's secure-locking TacLoc holster, and it turns off. When you grip the weapon, your trigger finger indexes on the TacLoc's release button. As you draw, your X5L or CSL automatically turns on! That's Viridian Green Laser's new ECR Enhanced Combat Readiness system. When you draw — it's on!

**2** See the kinda J-shaped extension on the magazine base plate? That's Escala Industries' MRS (Magazine Restraint System). Developed by a young cop, they allow you to clip spare mags into your pockets, like the offside front pockets on jeans, without using a mag pouch. I found they're also great for those elastic mag/accessory loops in jacket pockets, keeping mags from slipping out and giving you a more secure hold. Available for 1911 mags, they'll soon be available for Glock magazines.

**3** Ruger's outrageously popular LCP and LC9 pistols are now available new pre-equipped with sleek, frame-hugging CenterFire lasers by LaserMax. If you already own a naked LCP or LC9 though, no problem — you can buy them direct from LaserMax. The ambidextrous on/off button is perfectly placed for indexing, and they're inset in a dished recess to protect against accidental activation.

**4** The folks at Strike Industries are a bunch of proud flag-wavers, and they've molded Old Glory into some fine, tough polymer and slim-profile 1911 grips. All are cut for ambi-safeties, and offered in matte or semi-gloss finish. The flag texture really works, providing an excellent grip, and your smile's gonna shine over their low price too!

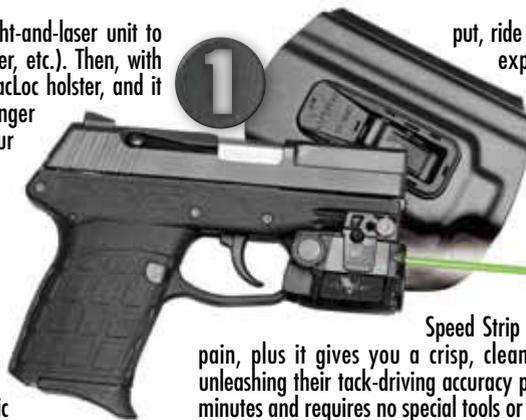
**5** The problem with many conventional pistol mag pouches is the way they slide and twist out of position and create irritating "hard points" on your hipbones. These new OWB Mag Carriers by CrossBreed Holsters stay

put, ride high, comfy and close to your body, expose more mag area to grab, and are nicely raked forward. They're available for one or two mags for a wide array of pistols.

**6** There are tons of slick-shootin' Ruger .22 auto pistols out there, and they're a pain in the butt to field strip and reassemble. The patented Speed Strip Kit by Majestic Arms eliminates the pain, plus it gives you a crisp, clean 3.5- to 3.75-pound trigger pull, unleashing their tack-driving accuracy potential. Installation takes about 15 minutes and requires no special tools or gunsmith-level skills.

**7** Just the right tool for the job, the new STUL — pronounced S-tool — helps you get 'yer Glock apart. The STUL (Slide Removal Tool) allows ladies with long fingernails and guys with sausage-fingers or work-worn digits to comfortably apply even downward pressure on Glock slide-locks during disassembly. You may not think you need it — until you try it, just once!

For info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/product-index) and click on the company name.



1



3



2



6

# GUN RIGHTS

Alan Korwin



## DIAL 911 – AND FRY?

**T**he confrontation you've prepared for, thought about endlessly and (hopefully) hoped never happens to you — just occurred. An intruder made an attempt on your life and you prevailed. You heard the break and enter, quickly armed yourself and got to cover, and when the villain fired a shot, you returned fire and dropped him where he stood. Three rounds to the chest and one into the wall, where it stopped inside a stud.

He's lying there on your now bloodstained carpet and looks dead, but you're not a doctor and can't tell for sure. Heart pounding, pulse racing, ears ringing madly from the noise; you're shaking badly from the adrenaline dump. What do you do next?

The tactics and strategy guys drilled you to scan your surroundings for other threats, and reload from cover. There could be accomplices inside or outside. The guy with lead poisoning could reanimate. You know better than to walk over and pump a few extra rounds into the dirtbag, because forensics will spot that and turn an otherwise perfectly clean shoot into a deliberate homicide charge. Your thoughts finally clear enough to realize you need to summon help.

The problem is, you're in no condition to make any sort of cogent statements. Who knows what might spill out of your pie-hole after an encounter like that. And here's the dilemma facing every American involved in a self-defense shooting: If you don't call 911, there will be an automatic assumption you're guilty, through the entire legal process now steamrolling toward you. And if you do call, you'll make statements into a police voice recorder that can *and will* be used against you — to the very people on their way to make an arrest and secure a conviction. If the perp or an accomplice calls first, they'll be "victims" and you'll be "defendant."

Don't you have the right to remain silent? Technically, not until you're charged, and failure to call just looks like guilt. Any right to silence you think you have evaporates when you start blabbing into the recorder. Don't you have the right to an attorney during questioning? That evaporated too when the operator began grilling you, as trained. What about your Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination? Yeah, what about it?

This is the biggest and deadliest loophole in self-defense law in America. You're damned if you do and damned if you don't. Dial 911 ... and fry.

### What Then?

In conferring with more than 70 experts on this problem for my most recent book, *After You Shoot: Your gun's hot. The perp's not. Now what?* I learned significant numbers of "self-defense" convictions rely on frantic traumatized statements in the 911 recordings. No one has really solid answers (or agreement!) on how to protect you from that, because the judiciary is a mess.

Lethal-force expert and prolific writer Massad Ayoob, one person

*Continued on page 90*

Model: MLR22AT

### Magnum Lite® Graphite Rimfire Rifle

- .22LR, Graphite Barrel • Ambidextrous Thumbhole Stock
- Weighs 4 lbs 4 oz • Exceptional Accuracy • Oversized Bolt Handle



**100% made in the USA**

A Kahr Arms Owned Company



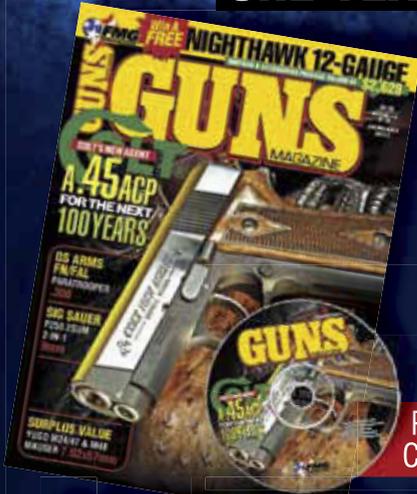
**Magnum  
Research,  
Inc.**

[www.magnumresearch.com](http://www.magnumresearch.com)

[www.facebook.com/KahrArms](https://www.facebook.com/KahrArms)

# GUNS MAGAZINE

**ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION ONLY \$24.95!**



If you've experienced the "cool" factor of *GUNS Magazine* and want to see what you missed last year, you're in luck.

Get all twelve 2011 issues in digital format on one easy-to-use CD-ROM when you subscribe to *GUNS Magazine* through this offer.

Catch up on a year's worth of Clint Smith, John Connor, Massad Ayoob, John Taffin, Dave Anderson, "Duke" Venturino and others. And with a subscription you can count on even more in the months ahead.

**Call (888) 732-2299**

**[www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com)**

**Plus FREE 2011 Digital Edition CD with your paid order**

M-F 8am-3pm PST (\$59.95 outside U.S.)

P.O. Box 509094. San Diego, CA 92150

**Subscribe Now to enjoy last year's fun and this year's "WOW!"**

## "THE DOOR EXPLODED!"

"But I was instantly armed and ready, thanks to my GunVault. The armed intruder was met with a hail of gunfire from my .45 as he kicked in my door— preventing him from even getting the chance to fire his own weapon. I truly believe that no other product would have given me the speed and confidence to access my handgun and control the situation. Thank you for helping me save the lives of my family."

—J. of San Bernardino, CA



**GunVault**

[GunVault.com](http://GunVault.com)

# Maximum Expansion for Maximum Protection



267.217.3539 phone  
www.lehighdefense.com

**Lehigh  
Defense  
LLC.**

Precision Machined Solid Copper  
Bullets in our ammunition provide  
unequaled performance.

Choose from three types of protection:  
Maximum Expansion, Controlled  
Fracturing or Multiple Projectile.

**The Innovators in  
Controlled Fracturing Technology**

## NO BULL BLADES!

Continued from page 65

At 8.75" in overall length, Rinaldi's wicked LEO model is a mid-sized all purpose tactical, equally at home in field or combat. This slick-styled knife has a 4.5" re-curved blade (3.5" in cutting edge) and features an up-front finger choil. The nicely sculpted, yet business-like G10 handle has two finger grooves, a lanyard hole, and features oversized Torx screw construction. The LEO is packaged in a Kydex sheath with Tek-Lok belt/gear fastener.

The TUK (Tactical Utility Knife) is Trace's base model bread-and-butter tactical. At 7.4" in overall length, the TUK is the perfect everyday carry for those who prefer a fixed-blade to a folding knife. A 3" drop-point blade does the cutting chores and notching on the spine adds gripping power. A finger-grooved handle offers excellent purchase and the fully rounded shape fits the palm like a glove. The small but effective TUK is delivered with a Kydex sheath. Want bigger? Trace also offers a larger 9.25" TUK with a 4.25" blade.

The TTKK, Rinaldi's "tactical utility kitchen knife," is today's modern camp knife. Designed in conjunction with friend and cutlery writer Joe Talmadge, the TTKK has a curvaceous wrap-around handle for superior grip, and don't let the "kitchen" reference fool you. This 9.5" knife can perform a myriad of field chores. The blade is 4.5" in length with a deep-bellied, drop-point profile and a notched thumb rest on the back. A multi-carry Kydex sheath is included.

### Options aplenty

Trace offers a selection of steels, including CPM S30V, CPM 154, and CPM3V Crucible Industries offerings, or you can go fancy with exotic patterned Damascus. His typical handle material is G10 synthetic, but here again you can upgrade to carbon fiber or exquisite burl wood. His prices are right in line for handmade custom fare, ranging from \$300 to \$900 or so.

As for Rinaldi, he just enjoys doing what he likes best, making rugged, straight forward using knives! "I enjoy the freedom it allows me to live and work where I want," says Trace. "It's also great to take mankind's first tool and put my own spin on it, while having a style that is recognizable. I don't like making knives for show. My motto is: Function is beauty, and simplicity is the final evolution of complexity." If you're looking for a *honest-to-goodness*, no bull knife, the blade stops here!



For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/trace-rinaldi](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/trace-rinaldi) or [trace.rinaldi@gmail.com](mailto:trace.rinaldi@gmail.com)

AGES  
4-21

**JUNIOR SHOOTERS**  
MAKING A MARK

**WWW.JUNIORSHOOTERS.NET**

JUNIOR SHOOTERS FOCUSES ON THE FUTURE OF THE  
SECOND AMENDMENT, THE KIDS!

FEATURING BOTH A PRINT  
MAGAZINE AND TONS OF  
INTERACTIVE WEB CONTENT!  
CHECK IT OUT TODAY!



**(208) 629-8967**

# SHOULDER-STOCK

Continued from page 51

For a target I chose one of Action Target's steel 18x24" PT-Torsos. I shot five rounds from each pistol handheld from 25 yards. Then attached the shoulder stock and shot another five rounds. Next I moved back to 50 yards and repeated the process but only with shoulder stock attached. The same was done at 100 yards. Aiming at all distances was center-of-mass. Ammo for the 9mms was 1961-dated Finnish military surplus from a freshly opened airtight can. Bullets were 115-gr. FMJs. For the .30 Luger it was Fiocchi commercial ammo with 93-gr. FMJ bullets.

I wasn't trying for pinpoint accuracy (as if I could do it anyway ...). So as expected, each pistol made 3" to 4" clusters at 25 yards handheld. When the shoulder stock was attached, the second string of five bullets splashed right in amongst the first five. No surprises there. I also expected to make nice round clusters when shooting from 50 yards with the pistols braced against my shoulder.

Surprise — I didn't! They are so muzzle-light it was far more difficult than I expected to hold them steady. With the two shorter-barreled pistols, I only hit steel four times each. With the long Luger, I hit all five shots, but the entire target was needed for the hits. From 100 yards, I hit steel only two shots each with the P35 and short Luger, but did manage to pepper it four times with the longer Luger.

Being just a big frustrated I moved into my shooting house and braced on a sandbag with the P35 and fired 10 rounds at 100 yards. I still only managed to connect twice. While painting the target again I thought, "Ok, I'm going to get radical!" To that end, I fired 50 rounds from 100 yards before looking through the spotting scope to find only five splashes on target.

My conclusion was, simply, shoulder stocks *don't* turn pistols into long-range shooters. They're fun to play with but I can't see where they ever had a truly practical application beyond close-range trench fighting.

## And Another Thing

I'm sure at this point some of you are thinking, "But aren't detachable shoulder stocks are illegal?!" Well, the answer is yes — and no. For modern handguns they certainly are, but the ATF has ruled that some handguns in curio and relic status can have their shoulder stocks. Before buying one, however, it would be wise to check their list and make sure you're within the law.



**XS SIGHT SYSTEMS**  
www.xssights.com

"Sometimes all that matters is speed and accuracy. Everything we do should make it better for us and worse for the bad-guy. Have a sight that works—have an XS sight."

**Bill Davison,**  
Formerly of Her Majesty's Royal Marines  
Training and Lead Instructor  
Tac Pro Shooting Center

**N8<sup>2</sup> TACTICAL**

CRAFTED WITH PRIDE  
 IN THE USA

WITH NATE SQUARED TACTICAL,  
COMFORTABLE CONCEALED CARRY  
IS A REALITY, NOT JUST A SLOGAN.

**N82TACTICAL.COM**

**RAD GUNWALL**

**RAD GUNWORKS**

### Defend your Home & Maintain your Weapons!

- Rapid Access Defense (RAD) products are versatile storage/maintenance cabinets
- RAD GunWall is a wall mounted weapons arsenal ideal for your tactical vest, body armor, bugout bag, rifles, shotguns, handguns and other defensive items
- RAD GunWorks is a wall mounted firearm cleaning and maintenance workstation
- Patent-pending rail mounting system safely secures tactical/gunsmithing items
- Our unique accessories organize & provide quick access to your tactical items

PO Box 715, Marietta, OH 45750  
www.caronforensics.com  
sales@caronproducts.com  
(Phone) 800-648-3042  
(Fax) 740-374-3760



Made in Marietta, OH, USA

## PACKIN' PISTOL

Continued from page 59

For a gun of this nature I thought the express sights would be fine for its intended purpose. Sight alignment is quick, and even my aging eyes can still see them fairly well. The gold bead front sight was beneficial and easy to acquire and the accuracy I obtained from these sights is more than acceptable. Back in my younger days when I followed a pack of hounds chasing wild boar, these sights would have been wonderful, especially when most of the shooting was an up close and personal matter. Heck, this gun would have been perfect for some of those encounters with big mean hogs.

I liked the way this gun handled at the range. The trigger broke around 3½ pounds, which I consider just fine from a revolver for this purpose. The Model 97 is truly a modern single action, with transfer bar situated directly in front of the hammer, moving slightly up and down. The safety engages when the hammer is fully forward and the trigger is released.

### Impeccable Workmanship

This mid-frame single action had extremely tight tolerances and

custom hand fitted parts, just as you would expect from Freedom Arms. The revolver is all stainless steel, and the action was silky smooth — much like the larger Model 83 I've shot in .44 Mag. and .454 Casull. I get bored pretty quick with target shooting at the range, so I made a quick trip to the farm where I busted some rocks on a pond bank. Not that much more exciting than punching paper but not so monotonous. The more I shot this revolver, the more I liked it. Getting familiar with a gun before you see real action is essential. I want to be ready when I see the next critter appear unexpectedly.

The fluted cylinder is easy on the eyes and better yet, can be interchangeable with a .45 ACP cylinder. This adds yet another dimension to the shooting applications. Incidentally, the barrel/cylinder gap was almost non-existent. The front sight can also be interchangeable on the adjustable-sighted models. This is a nifty option when going from .45 ACP defensive rounds to heavy .45 Colt bison busters.

### Carry Gear

The next piece of equipment that was almost as important as the gun was the holster. After all, if I'm going to be packing this firearm around all the time, I must select a carrying option both functional and comfortable. I

met Karla Van Horne of Purdy Gear at the most recent SHOT Show, and fell in love with her leather products. Karla makes some of the most aesthetically pleasing and functional holsters I've ever seen, and not just for cowboy-action events. These custom holsters are available in a wide variety of options for the most demanding ergonomic considerations, or a specific activity. Karla also makes shoulder rigs, cartridge belts and a bunch of other neat accessories.

Now I'm all fixed for the next varmint to stand there and watch me plow a food plot, check a fence, feed catfish or take a morning stroll. The Freedom Arms Model 97 will be an ideal handgun for fishing trips, camping, hiking or any other outdoor fun where peace of mind is welcome. Who knows, I just might take a deer with this revolver at close range. Whatever the situation, it's going to be nice knowing I have a real packin' pistol on my side, and it's put together by real Americans, right here in the good ol' USA.

So, Mr. Taffin, I seem to have found my Perfect Packin' Pistol. What's yours? 

For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/freedom-arms](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/freedom-arms) or (307) 883-2468; or [www.americanhandgunner.com/purdy-gear](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/purdy-gear) or (706) 692-5536

# GSI International



Precision-machined metal Practice Ammo, safety orange for instant recognition, in popular handgun calibers and 12 gauge.



Our Magnetic Moonclip Rack is versatile and easy to use, ensuring secure retention of your moonclips.



Our Indicator Target is an electronic system that uses both light and sound to indicate that your shot has hit its mark.

**Call us today - TOLL FREE - at 877-951-1890, or visit our website @ [gsiinternational.com](http://gsiinternational.com)!**



**6925 West Frye Road • Chandler, AZ 85226 • Ph. 480-940-1806**

# TAFFIN TESTS

Continued from page 44

but help believe if Sam Colt was alive when the 1911 was being made he probably would have done some of them something like this." I certainly can't disagree with him.

One of the problems is people who think, "I would not want to shoot that gun — it's too nice." To those folks Jason says all of his guns are made for shooting and *should* be shot. To this end they are hand-fitted with a Nowlin Match-Grade barrel with a target crown, flush with the barrel bushing, and from Cylinder & Slide comes the hammer, sear, disconnector, slide stop and thumb safety.

The first attributes of this pistol noticed are, of course, the bluing, the case hardened frame, and the spectacular grip panels. Any time I test guns on our local range I always have folks who want to see the latest. You can bet all the comments about this pistol were positive. Once we get past the obvious, we can concentrate on those items, which help to make it such an excellent shooter.

The top of the frame is serrated, from the back of the front sight to the front leading edge of the rear sight.

The sights themselves consist of a fully adjustable rear Bo-Mar-style Kensight, matched up with a post front sight, which is set in a dovetail. The post front sight slants slightly forward, while the rear sight blade slants in the opposite direction and is also serrated to cut down glare. The square front sight fits perfectly in the square notch of the rear sight with just the right amount of daylight allowed on both sides.

Both the hammer and trigger are skeletonized, the grip safety is a beavertail and both the frontstrap and flat backstrap/mainspring housing are fully checkered; beautifully, I might add. The highly polished slide has cocking serrations both front and rear and is tightly and smoothly fitted to the frame. On the left side we find "South Fork Arms" and the right side in front of the ejection port, which has been relieved and lowered, is inscribed "Custom Elite."

## A Shooter

Not only is this Custom Elite unique in its appearance, I also experienced uniqueness in the fact Jason sent along Hornady test ammo consisting of five different loads: The 185-gr. FTX, 185-gr. XTP-JHP, 185-gr. Z-Max, 200-gr. XTP-JHP and their 230-gr. HAP Steel Match. Test firing was done at a distance of 20 yards, with the best five of six shots measured in each case. All of

these Hornady loads shot extremely well, especially when you consider this Custom Elite .45 was held in 73-year-old hands, while 73-year-old eyes lined up the sights. Jason guarantees 1" or less at 25 yards, and I have no doubt a younger and well-experienced shooter could accomplish this easily. The average for all five loads, using my hands and eyes, was just barely over 1½", and when I say barely I mean by less than 3/100"! The heaviest bullet, at 230 grains, proved to be the most accurate, with a group right at the magic 1" mark. However, the others are so close, for all practical purposes all groups are identical.

There's one other connection to the early Colt Single Actions with this Custom Elite — Jason's desire to provide presentation boxes. He wasn't satisfied with his own efforts, so he has hired someone with higher wood working skills to build the boxes. In addition to the pistol and the ammunition, he also sent along two examples, one in walnut and the other in oak, both fully lined. They are worthy of this beautiful pistol.

It's a remarkable pistol, done-up in a way not commonly encountered. Who says there's nothing new in the 1911 world?



For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/south-fork](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/south-fork) or (573) 581-2146

# SERIOUS OPTICS FOR SERIOUS SITUATIONS



SEE IT NOW!

## TRIJICON FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Magnified Optics:** ACOG® | AccuPoint® | TARS™  
**Reflex Sights:** Reflex | RMR® | SRS® | TriPower®  
**Iron Sights:** Bright & Tough™ Night Sights | HD™ Night Sights



Brilliant Aiming Solutions™

## Cutting-Edge Extreme™ Materials

Extreme Series Knives and  
Handgun Grips with  
Our New G-Mascus G10  
Patterns

New HANDALL® Hybrid Grips  
Designed with  
Retention Features  
to Securely  
Fit Specific Handguns

PowerSpeed™  
Retention Holsters  
with Our Patented  
Automatic Retention System

[www.getgrip.com](http://www.getgrip.com)

Call for the location of your nearest dealer and free catalog  
HOGUE INC • 1-800-Get-Grip (438-4747)  
P.O. BOX 1138 • PASO ROBLES, CA 93447



## SIXGUNNER

Continued from page 26

new .44 Magnum, both frame and cylinder were increased in size. The .44 Special was forgotten, and the .45 Colt arrived in the early 1970s, but in the larger .44 frame.

In 2005, I talked to the then-president of Ruger about using the New Model .357 Magnum Flat-Top as the basis for a .44 Special version. He didn't say yes, but then again he didn't say no, and thanks to Lipsey's placing an order for 2,000 units, the .44 Special became a reality. Then 1 year later, Ruger added it to the catalog as a standard item. Again, that could've been the end except for the farsightedness of Lipsey's. This past year Lipsey's took the next logical step and ordered the New Model .357 Magnum Flat-Top in a .45 Colt version in both blue and stainless steel and with 4 $\frac{5}{8}$ " and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " barrel lengths. And they didn't even stop there, but went one step further and made them .45 Flat-Top Convertibles with an extra .45 ACP cylinder along with each sixgun.

### Pressure/Accuracy

Let me repeat the fact the New Model .45 Colt Flat-Top Ruger Blackhawks are basically the same size as the original .357 Magnum Blackhawk and the Colt Single Action. After the original .45 Blackhawk arrived back in the early '70s, handloaders found they could go well above loads they were used to using in the Colt Single Actions, and most reloading manuals started having a special section for the .45 Ruger Blackhawk.

Some of these loads are in the 25,000-32,000 psi range and *must never* be used in the new Flat-Top .45 from Lipsey. This is an easy-to-pack, medium-framed .45 Colt single action and loads should be tailored accordingly. For me, that means 250- to 260-grain bullets should be kept under 1,100 fps. Save the heavier loads for larger-framed sixguns.

Over the years, .45 Colt sixguns have been plagued with chamber throats in the cylinders, which have not adhered to any sort of standard specifications. I have found .45 Colt cylinder throats as tight as .449" and as large as .457" with the ideal being somewhere around .451" to .452". Tight cylinders are a relatively easy fix, requiring only a throat reamer and the skill to use it. Overly large cylinders can be overcome by using larger diameter bullets, or in extreme cases being replaced. Sending a .452" bullet down a .457" chamber throat doesn't do much for accuracy.

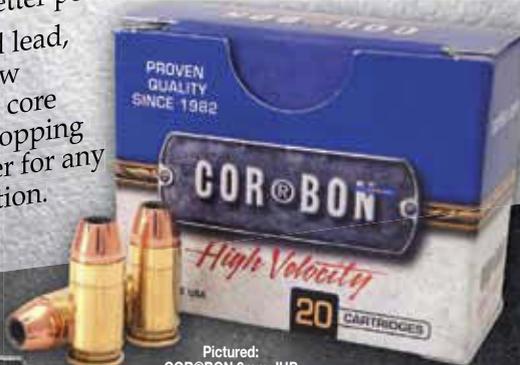
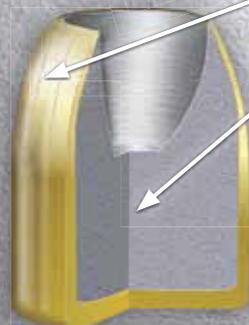
Both of the cylinders on each of these Ruger .45 Convertibles have been

**DEMANDING SITUATIONS  
DEMAND THE BEST!  
DEMAND THE ORIGINAL!**

**COR®BON JHP: this is the  
ammunition that put us on the map!**

• Innovative internal/external jacket serrations that enhance expansion and weight retention for better performance.

• Solid lead, hollow point core for stopping power for any situation.



Pictured:  
COR®BON 9mm JHP



800.626.7266 • [www.corbon.com](http://www.corbon.com)  
[info@corbon.com](mailto:info@corbon.com)

Call or email us and mention ad #1211 for our  
free catalog and a free gift from COR®BON



cut correctly. With the blue version the .45 Colt cylinder having uniform throats at .451", while all of the .45 ACP holes measure .452". With the stainless six-guns, both the .45 Colt and .45 ACP cylinders throats are all a uniform .451". These details in proper sizing the throats are, no doubt, a large part of the reason these sixguns shoot so well.

### Details

The blued and stainless steel versions are offered in 4½" and 5½" barrel lengths, however I opted for the 5½" barrel on each. For most of my sixgunning life I have preferred a 7½" barrel single action for shooting, and a 4¾" length for easy packing. In recent years I have found the 5½" to be an excellent compromise between the two. Indeed, the new Rugers are excellent candidates for the title of Perfect Packin' Pistol.

Sights are excellent, consisting of a black Micro rear sight with a nice square notch matched up perfectly with a black ramp front sight with a sloping blade. Normally New Model Ruger single actions come with trigger pulls heavier than I prefer and it's my standard procedure to remove one grip panel and slip one side of the trigger return spring off its post, resulting in a lighter pull. With these two .45 Flat-Tops this resulted in trigger pulls of 2½ to 3 pounds.

When Ruger first started building

single actions in 1953 with their first .22 Single-Six, the grips were checkered rubber and this carried over to the 1955 Blackhawk .357 Magnum. Sometime in 1956 they began issuing walnut stocks and this carried over through the Old Models and New Models. With the arrival of Bisley Models in the mid-1980s grip panels were a little more exotic, appearing to be of cocobolo. Apparently the days of wood panels are over and current single actions mostly have checkered rubber/plastic.

The grips on these .45 Colt Flat-Tops are faux ivory, with black Ruger eagle medallions. The panels on the blue version are such that the pinhole on the grip doesn't quite match up with the pins on the grip frame resulting in an overlap of the panel on the backstrap and an underlap on the frontstrap. Apparently someone paid attention to this fact and the stainless steel version has grips fitting correctly. These sixguns are so nice I intend to fit them with custom grips, and currently the blued version wears a pair of exotic wood grips stolen from another Ruger.

### Shooting

Shooting both of these .45s with either cylinder in place is extremely pleasurable. In fact we could call them Perfectly Pleasurable Perfect Packin' Pistols. Whether using standard or

slightly above .45 Colt loads or .45 ACP loads, felt recoil is never close to punishing. The grip panels are a little thinner than I prefer, however with their smooth finish they roll gently in the hand.

I normally like to load standard .45 Colts with 250-260 grain cast bullets at around 900 to 1,000 fps, and both of these .45 Flat-Tops handled those loads with ease. Elmer Keith's original bullet Lyman's #454424 weighs around 260 grains from my alloy, however some .45 Colt cylinders are just a smidgen short when this bullet is crimped in the crimping groove.

Several years ago Dave Scovill set about to basically redesign the Keith bullet by slightly shortening the nose and adding more weight in the body. The result is the RCBS #45-270SAA which weighs around 280 grains from my wheelweight alloy. Loaded over 10 grains of Unique it clocks out at just over 1,000 fps and groups into 1" making it an excellent everyday working load for these Perfect Packin' Pistols. Complete test results on both .45 six-guns using both cylinders are in the chart on Web Blast. 

For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/lipseys](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/lipseys) or (800) 666-1333; [www.americanhandgunner.com/ruger](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/ruger) or (603) 865-2442

# CONCEALABLE.

(EXCEPT FOR THE PERFORMANCE.)



**RUGER**

Introducing **CENTERFIRE™** laser series

from LaserMax. Designed specifically for **RUGER®** LCP® and LC9™ pistols.



Ruger, Ruger logo, LCP and LC9 are Ruger trademarks.

www.LaserMax.com

**LaserMax**  
PRECISION. PROTECTION.

# Powered by Wolff!



w.c. **wolff** company  
**GUNSPRINGMAKERS**

P.O. Box 458, Dept. 381, Newtown Square, PA 19073  
 Toll-Free at 800-545-0077 or 610-359-9600

[www.gunsprings.com](http://www.gunsprings.com)

For over 50 years Wolff has been the name you trust for precision gunsprings

- Recoil Springs
- Magazine Springs
- Hammer Springs
- Firing Pin Springs
- Other Springs

For hundreds of Semi-Auto Pistols, Revolvers, Rifles and Shotguns.

Like oil in your car, springs need to be changed from time to time.

Isn't it time to make sure your gun is Powered by Wolff!

## PRE-WAR COLT

Continued from page 49

the mainspring housing were both checked in the traditional manner, by hand.”

Keeping with the classically styled theme of the gun, the slide top was left round and fit with a modified Professional Grade rear sight and black serrated front sight. Also machined into the slide were ball cuts, which help to accentuate the retro look of the gun. Just like the checkering on the gun, the de-horn was also performed by hand with a file. The slide was bordered, which is another old school custom touch, and after all the heavy work was completed the gun was finished in a traditional polished blue. The grips are from the talented maker John Van-Zyck at VZ Grips, and they are a one-off set of walnut done in the pre-war NM tradition.

### The Result?

“Larry had a good vision of what we wanted this gun to look and feel like, right down to the grips and the polished finish,” said Jason. “He had seen quite a few examples of my work and had pointed out things he liked from a few different guns I had built. When it came time to spec-out the gun, Larry noted one of my guns in particular and basically said to build it like that one, with some small changes. So it actually gave me a good bit of leeway to take things a step further on his gun, and stretch out a bit on some of the modifications I wanted to do.”

Regardless of your school of thought, this is the kind of custom work we all dream about. Whether or not this should have been the base gun is something you probably have an opinion about. But I challenge *anyone* to argue the quality of the build itself. It is, simply, the sort of stuff we love best here at *Handgunner* — uncompromising hand craftsmanship, executed as near perfectly as humans can accomplish. The final result is not only a work of art, but a highly functional tool as well. Marvelous, if you ask me.

“I received the completed pistol in early August 2011,” said Vickers. “In my opinion, this Burton pre-war Colt is the finest 1911 I have ever received from another gunsmith. And to be honest, it’s nicer than I would have been able to do myself in terms of fit and finish. The pistol is absolutely stunning, and a tribute to Jason’s workmanship. I rarely acquire custom pistols anymore, but if this is the last one I ever get, it was a fitting end to a long line of custom 1911 pistols.”



For more info: [www.americanhandgunner.com/heirloom-precision](http://www.americanhandgunner.com/heirloom-precision) or (480) 804-1911

## MEC-GAR® World's Finest Magazines

### “OPTIMUM”... THE WORLD'S BEST MAGAZINES

MEC-GAR is proud to offer “Optimum” - our new and unique series of high capacity flush-fit pistol magazines.

The new design of the magazine housing and interlinked magazine components, together with a special Anti-Friction Coating offer far superior performance even in difficult operational environments.

The increased firepower of MEC-GAR “Optimum” magazines can be further raised by an optional “Plus Two” adapter. “Plus Two” is a new set of hollow butt-plate and inner base to raise the capacity of the MEC-GAR “Optimum” magazine by 2-rounds and stick out only 5/8” from the butt of the pistol!

Available For:

- Beretta 92FS 9mm 18rd / 20rd
- Beretta 96FS .40S&W 13rd / 15rd
- Para-Ordnance P14 .45ACP 14rd
- SIG P226 9mm 18rd / 20rd
- SIG P226 .40S&W 13rd / 15rd
- Springfield XD 9mm 18rd
- Springfield XD .40S&W 13rd
- Taurus PT92 9mm 18rd / 20rd
- Taurus PT100 .40S&W 13rd / 15rd



Mec-Gar USA, Inc., 905 Middle Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Tel: (800) 632-4271

Fax: (860) 635-1712

[www.mec-gar.com](http://www.mec-gar.com)

# AYOOB FILES

Continued from page 20

Jindy sees her parents' familiar van coming up the hill toward them in the gathering darkness.

## Confrontation

As their van comes up the hill, their headlights sweep the other vehicle and Jim and Kimberly see Marty whaling savagely on the car. Jim pulls over, throws the van in Park, and quickly makes his way to his daughter's side. As he goes past Marty, the son-in-law he has been golfing and playing pool with all day nails him with a solid, full-power sucker punch to the face. Stunned by the blow, Jim grabs Marty in a clinch, and Jindy grabs her estranged husband from behind, trying to pull him off her father.

In moments, all three are in the roadside ditch. Jindy is on her back, and her father is down also, partly on top of her. Marty is above him doing a "ground and pound," raining punches onto Jim.

Only Kimberly is still standing. She has no idea how to fight. She remembers that Jim's gun is in the van, and she sprints back to get it. Snatching the Ruger from its holster, she dashes back to the scene. By now, Marty is still on top, and appears to be hammering both her husband and her daughter unconscious.

She hits Marty on the back of the head with the gun. He shows no reaction and keeps punching. She hits him again, and a third time. He ignores the blows and continues hitting Jim.

Desperate to stop him, she points the gun at his lower body, hoping to fire a shot that will wound and disable Marty, and not miss or pass through and hit her loved ones.

Kimberly Patterson pulls the trigger.

Click! Jim has always kept the pistol Condition Three, the 7-round magazine fully filled, and the chamber empty. But the "click" has done what three blows of the aluminum-framed pistol did not. It has gotten Marty Reece's attention.

He turns toward her savagely. Kimberly sees him rise and come at her, his face a mask of absolute rage. Marty Reece reaches aggressively for the gun as he snarls, "Pistol whip me, bitch!?"

And at that moment, it hits her that her son-in-law is going to take the gun she doesn't know how to shoot away from her, and kill her and her husband and her daughter with it.

## The Shooting

On his back in the ditch, half on top of his daughter, Jim Patterson sees and feels his assailant spring upward and turn on Jim's wife of more than 20 years. He sees him move toward her,

# Quality. Affordability. Custom Upgraded Features.

## REGENT™ R200S

The Regent Series 1911 .45 ACP is made with a level of **QUALITY** that's unparalleled in its class. Offered with Hogue® Grips and made under the strict requirements of ISO 9001 & AQAP 120 NATO quality standards, Regent handguns combine quality with affordability.

RegentARMS.com



Imported by Umarex USA, Inc. © 2012 | Hogue® is a trademark of Hogue, Inc.

## ANDREWS CUSTOM LEATHER

hornback croc

Custom concealment  
and sporting gunleather  
in 18 different hides.

(386) 462-0576

SEE THE CATALOG AT: [andrewsleather.com](http://andrewsleather.com)



## The Phrike



[www.spartanbladesusa.com](http://www.spartanbladesusa.com)  
910-757-0035



**CALL 1(800)SA2-1911 "the MAG GUIDE people"™**

when only the *BEST* will do!

**ORDER DIRECT and SAVE!**



**\$95.95 AL**  
**Full Para Mag Guide**  
 (For P14/P16 only)  
 Available in:  
 Flat/Arched-SS/BL 20 LPI



**\$78.95 AL**  
**Government Model/  
 Officers' Model  
 Mag Guide**  
 Available:  
 Flat/Arched  
 SS/BL 20 LPI  
**NEW:** Flat now available  
 in Smooth  
 Also Available:  
 Grizzly Flat-SS/BL \$89.95



**\$36.95 AL**  
**Mainspring Housing**  
 Available in:  
 Gov't Model, Officers' Model,  
 all Para-Ordinance, 20 LPI  
 Flat/Arched-SS/BL  
 (P10/P12 flat only)  
 (flat smooth available  
 for all of the above)



**\$36.95**  
**"E-Z Fit Hi  
 Grip"™ Safety**  
 .250 radius-Series  
 70 & 80 .220 radius  
 S70 for Springfields  
 \*PalmSwel"/Standard  
 (jig available)



**Prices starting at \$17.50**  
**S & A Custom 1911 Grips**  
 Exotic Woods & Micarta  
 Standard & Slim Line  
 DD, FC & Smooth

**NEW—Slim Line**

Mag Guides & Grips w/screws & bushings

**L** available with Lanyard Loop add \$10

**A** available in Aluminum

Color Catalog Available  
 Same Day Shipping  
 Appropriate shipping charges  
 Dealers Welcome  
 100% Customer Satisfaction



**SA SMITH & ALEXANDER, Inc.**  
 P.O. Box 299 • Copeville, Texas USA 75121  
 (800) SA2-1911 • Fax (972) 853-0526  
 www.smithandalexander.com  
 Hours: M-F, 9am-5pm CST

reaching for the gun, and the adrenaline pushes past the pain and the injury and propels him to his feet. He can see that only a matter of inches separate Marty and Kimberly, and the raging younger man is about to take the gun.

"Give me that son of a bitch," Jim cries, meaning the .45. Kim tosses the gun to him across the short distance separating them, and he catches it awkwardly in his right hand. He quickly shifts to a firing grasp, his fingers wrapping around the Pachmayr grips, as his left hand grabs the slide and racks it. Marty has seen the gun changing hands, and is now reaching toward Jim to grab the Ruger, and Jim knows there is only one thing he can do to stop this man from killing him and his wife and his daughter.

Jim Patterson pulls the trigger as fast as he can

The muzzle flashes illuminate the night with a stroboscopic effect. He can see Marty turn away. He stops shooting. Marty falls and says, "Oh, my God, I'm gonna die!"

Jindy tries to give Marty first aid. Kimberly manages to find a cell phone and calls 9-1-1 for paramedics. Jim makes his way back to the van, shoves the still-cocked Ruger P90 into the holster that's still in the van, and sets it on the front seat — and then begins to weep.

**The Investigation**

Marty Reece had one thing right that night: he was going to die. Autopsy showed he had sustained five through-and-through gunshot wounds. He had been hit once in the right upper arm, with the bullet reentering the chest and piercing lung, liver and diaphragm, exiting the lower chest on the opposite side. Another bullet had gone side-to-side through the intestines. One slug had gone back to front, cutting a major vessel that brings blood back to the heart, the inferior vena cava. Two more 230-grain FMJ projectiles had entered the back, cutting the spinal cord and exiting through the front of the torso. Gunshot residue on the body was indicative of close-range shooting.

Father, mother and daughter waived their Miranda rights and, still badly shaken, gave video interviews to detectives that night. Sheriff's department personnel were familiar with Marty Reece's history of physical violence. Jim Patterson voluntarily submitted to a blood/alcohol test, which in the words of one investigator, showed he "had been drinking a little bit but not enough to be concerned." The toxicology screen that accompanied the autopsy of Marty Reece showed a blood alcohol content which constituted nearly twice the Missouri standard of too drunk to drive. Though Jindy told investigators Marty had a long history with meth-amphetamines, and despite the fact she thought meth might have influenced his

**BRIAN TIGHE**



\$525.00

905.892.2734

www.briantighe.com

tigheknives@xplornet.com

**GET YOUR HANDGUNNER CAP!**



**American Handgunner Baseball-Style Cap**

You'll be shooting with the best when you wear this custom designed cap from *American Handgunner*. This comfortable flex-fit cotton/polyester blend cap is available in two sizes.

**\$18.50 each**

(\$24.00 Outside U.S.)  
 (price includes shipping)

Cap in navy blue or khaki.

Small/Medium (6 3/4 to 7 1/4)  
 Large/Extra Large (7 1/2 to 7 5/8)

**ORDER TODAY!**

Call Toll-Free

**800-628-9818**

Order at [www.americanhandgunner.com](http://www.americanhandgunner.com)

12345 World Trade Drive • San Diego, CA 92128

behavior that night, Marty Reece's tox screen was clear for drugs.

It appears in the aftermath the Sheriff's Department determined it was a justifiable homicide. However, the town marshal's office in Noel, Missouri requested the investigation be turned over to them. This was done.

And soon, Jim Patterson was charged with manslaughter. Not long after, the charge was upped to murder in the second degree.

### The Trial

Jim Patterson hired Duane Cooper of Pineville, Missouri as defense counsel. Cooper had come to Pineville as a prosecutor, 2 years out of law school. He had done a number of homicide cases in that role, and in 1999 hung out his shingle as a defense attorney. One of the few criminal defense lawyers who could claim an extraordinary 75-percent acquittal record, he knew what it would take to defend Jim Patterson, and that would include solid expert witness testimony. A "gun-guy" in his private life, Cooper asked around for a reference. Someone told him to call Brandon's Gun Shop in Joplin, Mo. And, the folks at Brandon's said, "Call Roy Huntington."

If the name sounds familiar, Roy Huntington is the editor of *American Handgunner* magazine, who came to that job after retiring from a 20-year career as a San Diego street cop. He had worked closely with the late, great forensic firearms master Gene Wolberg of the same department, and had testified as an expert witness in Superior Court in the San Diego area — for the prosecution. When he looked at the evidence, he told me he was horrified.

Huntington took the case, and Cooper got a "two-fer" because with Roy came his wife Suzi Huntington, a retired investigator from SDPD and now editor of FMG's own *American COP* magazine. Suzi worked behind the scenes, analyzing the investigation elements used by the prosecution and showing they had holes in them large enough to drive a paddy wagon through.

Roy focused on reconstruction of the shooting. Because several of Patterson's bullets had entered behind lateral midline, the prosecution was basing much of its case on the theory Reece had been "shot in the back," so it couldn't be self-defense.

The wheels of justice grind slowly, and the case did not come to trial until February of 2012. When it did, it lasted only 3 days. The case had been brought originally by a prosecutor who was seen by some as not friendly to armed citizens. By time of trial, the case had been inherited by her successor, a young prosecutor named Jonathan Pierce. On the defense side, Duane Cooper held no animosity toward Pierce; he saw his

**TOTAL ACCESS  
TOTAL CONCEALMENT  
TOTAL COMFORT!**

MSRP **\$59<sup>99</sup>**  
Style 105

DeSantis Didn't Invent  
Concealment  
We Just Perfected It!

**Intruder™**

- Totally tuckable
- Detail-molded Kydex®
- Holster back made of premium steerhide for comfort
- Optional J-Clips available

**MADE IN THE USA**




**800-GUNHIDE  
631-841-6300  
Dept #AH92  
www.desantisholster.com  
431 Bayview Avenue,  
Amityville, NY 11701**



**De Santis  
GUNHIDE**



**PARACORD**

**THE PARACORD SPECIALISTS**

**f PARACORD.COM**



**NEW FROM LIGHTFOOT  
KNIVES**



**BULLET RINGS** **EXTREME JEWELRY**

**WWW.LIGHTFOOTKNIVES.COM 780.846.2812**

# GUNGRIPS.NET

Take a look! What is the first thing your eyes focus on when you see a gun? GRIPS and the image on them! We offer grips made by major manufacturers with your custom, laser etched or full color printed images or you can pick from our standard images.



1911



Beretta  
92/96



Taurus  
PT92-101



Sig Sauer  
P220, P226  
P228, P239



Para  
Ordnance  
P14-P18



Ruger MK II  
and MK III



Desert Eagle



Baby Eagle

Visit us at [www.GunGrips.net](http://www.GunGrips.net)  
E-mail [Sales@GunGrips.net](mailto:Sales@GunGrips.net)  
Phone 520-397-9311

P.O. Box 1273  
Patagonia, AZ 85624

Aluminum grips available for:  
1911 and Clones Full & Compact  
Baby Eagle  
Beretta 92FS, 96FS & M9  
Desert Eagle  
Para Ordnance P-14, 16 & 18  
Sig Sauer P220, P226, P228,  
P229, P238 & P239  
Ruger MK II and MK III  
Taurus PT-92, 99, 100 & 101

opponent as someone duty-bound to try to make the best of what his predecessor had started.

In Pierce's pre-trial deposition of Roy Huntington, he had asked, "And that's your opinion, that it was justified, or was self-defense?" Huntington had replied, "Absolutely. Frankly, I was appalled when I heard this was being prosecuted." Huntington had shown Pierce the handwriting on the wall, but perhaps the momentum of the case could not be denied.

## Marty Reece reaches aggressively for the gun as he snarls, 'Pistol whip me, bitch?!'

The trial lasted 3 days, almost all of it consisting of the State's case. Duane Cooper's strategy was to win in cross-examination. Armed with Suzi Huntington's analysis of the flaws in the prosecution theory and his own trial experience, he dismantled the prosecution's argument like a wrecking ball. Cop after cop — though called by the prosecution — turned into defense witnesses when they honestly answered the cross-examination questions and showed there was simply no reason to believe it was anything other than defense of self and family.

When the State closed its case on the third and last day of trial, Duane Cooper called only two witnesses for the defense. One was a policeman recalled to the stand to clarify a point of evidence. The other was Roy Huntington. For some 2 hours of direct testimony, Huntington explained the work he had done with Wolberg, and his study of research by Dr. Bill Lewinski at Force Science Institute, by me at Lethal Force Institute and others. He made it clear to the jury, with a pistol with short trigger reset such as the Ruger P90 in question, five shots could easily be fired in under a second. All ear-witness and eyewitness testimony had confirmed this rapidity of fire. And, he stressed, an attacker can turn so quickly away from the defender when the tables are turned against him that several shots can be fired before the shooter can mentally process the fact the threat has stopped — and they can cease pulling the trigger. The jury nodded as he spoke, understanding the final piece of the puzzle.

Cross-examination was brief; there was, after all, nothing in Huntington's testimony that could be effectively challenged. Shortly thereafter, final arguments were made and the case went to the jury. Before that happened, an attempted murder charge (against

PURDY GEAR

FROM APPLIGATE TO WILD WEST ... BECAUSE LIFE'S TOO SHORT FOR UGLY GUNLEATHER.

Jasper, Georgia  
[www.purdygear.com](http://www.purdygear.com)  
706-692-5536

*Lambert Knives*

INFERNO

(306) 737-2333  
[kirby@lambertknives.com](mailto:kirby@lambertknives.com)  
[www.lambertknives.com](http://www.lambertknives.com)

PHOTO: JIM COOPER

Kimberly Patterson for clicking on an empty chamber when she tried to disable the man attacking her husband and daughter) was dismissed by Judge Tim Perigo. The charge against James Patterson went to the jury at last.

It took the jurors only 3 hours to find him not guilty on all counts, and the long nightmare was over.

### Lessons

The next time someone tells you, "A good shoot is a good shoot," feel free to laugh. A change in investigating agencies may well have turned a finding of justifiable homicide into a murder charge in this case. Roy Huntington's explanation of action/reaction paradigms that lit the light bulb for the jury and explained the shots in the back in that fast-breaking moment in the dark, covered things which are not taught in law school and are not common knowledge among the jury pool.

Ditto the fact that "Yes, you can shoot unarmed people who are trying to take your gun and murder you and yours with it, as surely as you could do it if they were reaching for their own gun."

The traditional advice of "Say nothing to the cops!" is not written in stone. While Duane Cooper, as a defense lawyer, still gives this advice, he's the first to tell you talking to the cops was helpful to the Patterson family. Jim Patterson's heartfelt account of what happened, taped hours after the shooting — when he sat in an interrogation room, bare-chested because his blood-soaked shirt had been removed — was so obviously sincere it resonated with the jury. Since there was nothing to add, Duane didn't even have to put him on the stand.

One deputy testified at trial during Cooper's cross-examination the statements in the immediate aftermath of the shooting, bearing in mind the three of them had been separated as soon as police arrived on the scene minutes after the incident, "provided a large indicia of truthfulness."

From the hardware side of things, be sure your loved ones know how to use your gun if they ever need to, and don't load the damn thing with hardball! Both Kimberly and Jim came within an instant of being disarmed and possibly murdered because the wife didn't understand how the husband's gun worked. Every single 230-grain Winchester full metal jacket ".45 hardball" bullet went through-and-through in this case. The circumstances were such that no one was behind Marty trying to pull him away, as had happened with both wife and daughter during the moments before the shots were fired. If they had been there, invisible to the shooter in the dark, the results might have been much more tragic than they were.

# GRAYMAN KNIVES

MADE IN THE USA

**Satu Folder**  
CPM S30V, 4" blade  
Titanium/G10 Handle  
\$375.00

**Mega Pounder 9**  
Single Bevel  
9" blade, 15" overall  
1095 Steel, G10 handle  
\$255.00

[WWW.GRAYMANKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.GRAYMANKNIVES.COM)

## Taurus® TCP 380 ACP

### Grip Extension

This Product Replaces  
The Magazine Floor Plate  
Providing Additional Grip  
Length For Better Control  
And Comfort

**Suggested Retail \$9.95**

See Your Local Dealer  
Or Contact

Fits the  
TCP 380 ACP  
Model

**PEARCE GRIP**  
*Specializing in Replacement Grips for Firearms*  
P.O. Box 40367  
Fort Worth, Texas 76140  
(800) 390-9420 (817) 568-9707 fax  
<http://www.pearcegrip.com>

## Florida Arms

MANUFACTURING COMPANY

High Quality Component  
Manufacturer & OEM Supplier.

Visit our website  
for a quick quote.

ph: 863.602.1515  
fax: 863.815.7287  
[jjim@floridaarms.com](mailto:jjim@floridaarms.com)  
[www.floridaarms.com](http://www.floridaarms.com)

**SPECIAL EDITIONS**

Get our latest Special Editions individually for \$9.95 or in combinations of your choice at discounted rates!

Order online today!

[www.americanhandgunner.com](http://www.americanhandgunner.com)  
[www.gunsmagazine.com](http://www.gunsmagazine.com)  
[www.americancopmagazine.com](http://www.americancopmagazine.com)

Toll Free: 1-888-732-2299  
 or by mail, P.O. Box 502610, San Diego, CA 92150-2610

It isn't always "Good Guys 1, Bad Guys 0." Little Wyatt was in the Reece vehicle in his carseat when his father was killed by his grandfather. All this has not yet been explained to him. That's going to be tough, and everyone in the family knows it. This is a question perhaps better asked of "Dear Abby" or "Dr. Phil" than of *American Handgunner*, but history tells us trying to be nice to members of the family who have a history of violently abusing other members of that family, rarely seems to end well.

**From the hardware side of things, be sure your loved ones know how to use your gun if they ever need to, and don't load the damn thing with hardball!**

Another BS alert is when someone says, "The good guy got acquitted in the end, so it's all just fine." That's a little like saying, "After two and a half years of facing death by cancer and the agony and expense of chemotherapy, this patient is cancer free for now, so cancer is nothing to worry about." James Patterson spent tens of thousands of dollars for his defense, and take it from someone who has followed these things for 33 years as an expert witness in weapons/shooting cases, it could have cost him even more.

Jim Patterson told me later, "Mr. Cooper did an excellent job, and so did Mr. Huntington. If I'd spent a million dollars, I don't think I could have got a better defense." The Pattersons and their daughter today have a good relationship, though Jim dreads the day when he has to explain to his grandson why he killed the boy's father. It's not a "happy ending" for the Pattersons, just not so horrible an ending as it might have been.

I personally congratulate Duane Cooper, and Roy and Suzi Huntington, for doing justice in this case. It was Roy's first call to speak for the wrongfully accused instead of his lifelong role of speaking for the prosecution against guilty criminals, and it's better you hear his feelings on that from him instead of from me. But all of us want *American Handgunner* readers to understand just what's at stake, and what can happen in cases like this, and that's one reason this corner of the magazine exists in the first place.



# DAVE LAUCK

Continued from page 57

a heavy-duty sight, which cannot get out of adjustment.

It proved to be just the thing I needed to rescue a Smith & Wesson Triple-Lock, which dates back to the time before WWI. Someone had done his best to butcher what was at one time a fine sixgun. They cut the barrel to 4", remounted the front sight, nickel-plated the entire firearm, and then cut a channel to accept a modern style Smith & Wesson rear sight assembly. When it came into my possession, at a very low price because of its condition, the channel was there, however no rear sight had ever been added. I had my gunsmith, Tom at Buckhorn, install the D&L rear sight assembly along with a post-front sight, and now at least I have a shootable sixgun.

## A Master's Tribute

Personally I have been shooting 1911s since 1956. I am no expert in either his use or quality, however I do know what I like. Someone who is an expert in the use of the 1911 is our own Clint Smith.

Clint had this to say: "Dave Lauck, of D&L Sports from Gillette, Wyo. (now Chino Valley, Ariz.), built the first Thunder Ranch Special. Dave is a well-versed instructor, tactician, writer and gunsmith. This quiet man built and gave me the pistol as a gift in 1992 in recognition of the opening of Thunder Ranch. The silver-finish, full-sized 1911 is built on a Colt pistol. It has a small ambidextrous safety and Novak sights with night insert, and the slide has forward press check serrations. The slide lock 'button' that normally extrudes from the right side of the receiver is milled flush. The pistol has an extended beavertail and Commander-style hammer. The front and backstraps are hand checkered. The Lauck gun bearers a Thunder Ranch shield, sans the lightning bolt with the words 'Thunder Ranch Special' engraved diagonally across the shield where the three cross stripes are. There has been only one of these pistols built in this configuration with these markings. It has been, and is today, a very reliable and accurate handgun. I still have this pistol, and it was the first custom pistol I ever owned."

## Great Guns=Grand Photos

Let's take a look at some of Dave's creations in the beautiful photos by Chuck Pittman. Here at *American Handgunner* we have been blessed with great photographers over the years. So much so, we often take them for granted. Years ago, at least 30 or so, there was a fellow who did superb

Versatile carry solutions  
from your premier manufacturer of  
holsters and packs  
for concealment and discretion...



7100 BCH

PH ASBH

**ELITE**<sup>TM</sup>  
SURVIVAL SYSTEMS

Elite Survival Systems  
PO Box 245  
Washington, MO 63090  
866.340.2778

WWW.ELITESURVIVAL.COM



Hinterland  
OUTFITTERS.COM

Get Outfitted For Your Next Adventure

Firearms | Ammo | Hunting | Outdoor Gear

Online Ordering 24/7 | Competitive Pricing | Quick Delivery | Shop Over 35,000 Products  
Order Online at: [www.hinterlandoutfitters.com](http://www.hinterlandoutfitters.com) | Order by Phone Toll-Free 877-446-8370  
sales@hinterlandoutfitters.com

NEMESIS KNIVES **Manx**



nemesis-knives.com  
562-594-4740

TITANIUM FRAMELOCK  
3" VG-10 BLADE  
CARBON FIBER SCALES  
JEFF HALL DESIGN

**UPHOLDING  
THE TRADITION**



**CASPIAN ARMS LTD.**

PROUDLY SUPPORTING AMERICA'S BEST

[WWW.CASPIANARMS.COM](http://WWW.CASPIANARMS.COM)



- Patented over 30 years ago!
- Does not increase muzzle blast!
  - Does not affect accuracy!
  - Does reduce muzzle rise!
  - Does reduce recoil!



**"Proven to be the most effective muzzle venting process ever developed!"**

For information call your dealer or contact:

41302 Executive Drive  
Harrison Twp., MI 48045-1306

**Phone: 586-469-6727**  
**Fax: 586-469-0425**

[www.magnaport.com](http://www.magnaport.com)  
[email@magnaport.com](mailto:email@magnaport.com)



photography to back up many of Skeeter's sixgun articles. When I ran into him at an NRA Show and complimented him on his work he said I was the first one to ever express such. As a writer, I definitely understand a picture is worth a thousand words, so enjoy Chuck's great photographs of some truly grand handguns by Dave Lauck.

There are several 1911s pictured. First comes the Centennial 1911 which is serial numbered 101 for 101 years of the 1911. Dave is one of those, like many of us, who believe the 1911 has never been bested and is basically the best combination of handling, safety, reliability, shootability, power, size, weight, capacity, accuracy and on and on and on. Dave says with the right tuning it is still, after 100 years, the best overall defensive handgun package. The Centennial is his tribute to a great pistol.

Ever since I was privileged to visit Charlie Schreiner's private museum on the YO Ranch, I've been interested in Texas Ranger history reading many books covering all their various time periods. One thing is for sure no matter whether the Rangers were in or out, up or down, they were definitely flamboyant. To celebrate the Rangers, Dave has created a pair of Texas Ranger 1911s. These are beautiful examples of what is known as BBQ guns in Texas. A BBQ gun is known for its striking appearance and is normally worn at special occasions where form highly trumps function. However, a unique aspect of the Texas Rangers is the fact BBQ guns were standard daily wear, and as such, function must at least equal form.

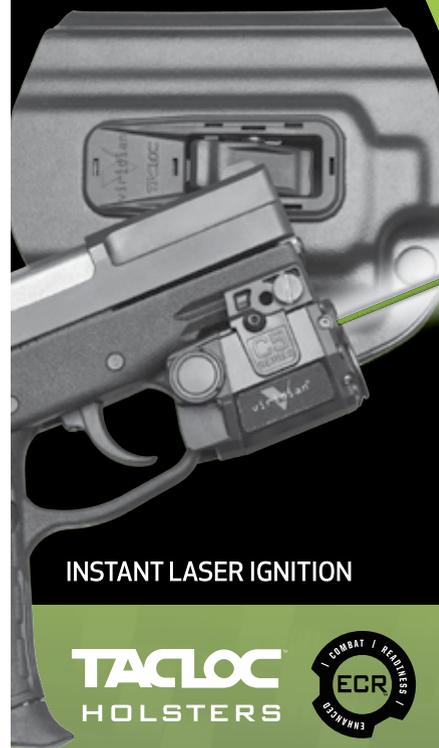
### **BBQ Guns That Work**

Dave's pair of BBQ 1911s are actually his full house Professional Models. They are definitely beautiful on the outside, however this is teamed up with perfection in performance. Dave refuses, as he says, "... to bling-out a stock base gun" that does not have total inner reliability, allowing it to be trusted as a carry gun. Any of these beautifully enhanced pistols and sixguns pictured, are also totally dependable working guns.

Along with the pair of Texas Ranger 1911s, we also have a pair of sixguns representative of earlier Texas Ranger sidearms. At least up until the time between the two world wars, the standard Texas Ranger sidearm was the Colt Single Action. These were usually worn in pairs, often engraved, and most assuredly equipped with ivory or pearl grips, which were also most assuredly a badge of office for the Rangers. Dave's .45 Colts, whether 1911s or Single Actions, are a fitting tribute to a great, long-standing law enforcement organization.

# GUN DRAWN, LASER ON.

INSTANT DRAW DETECTION



INSTANT LASER IGNITION

**TACLOC**  
HOLSTERS



Draw and laser is on. That's Enhanced Combat Readiness. ECR is now standard equipment on all universal Viridian lasers, tactical lights, and TacLoc holsters. Partner up and be ready.

**viridian**

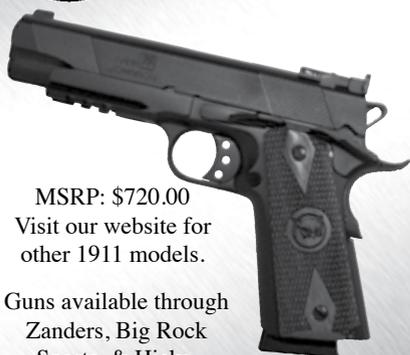
GREEN LASER SIGHTS

SEE MORE GEAR AT  
[VIRIDIANGREENLASER.COM](http://VIRIDIANGREENLASER.COM)  
OR CALL 800-990-9390

PROUDLY DESIGNED & BUILT IN THE USA



**IVER JOHNSON  
ARMS, INC.**



MSRP: \$720.00

Visit our website for other 1911 models.

Guns available through  
Zanders, Big Rock  
Sports, & Hicks.

[www.iverjohnsonarms.com](http://www.iverjohnsonarms.com)

**321-636-3377**

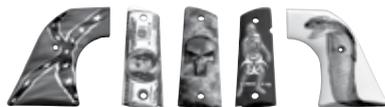
**1911 Eagle with Lightrail 45 auto**

- 3 notch Picatinny rail system for light attachment
- Great fit between slide and frame
- Deep, non reflective, matte blue finish
- Beveled magwell; lowered & flared ejection port
- Finger relief cut near trigger
- Fully adjustable rear sight; dovetail front sight
- Front and rear angled serrations
- 3 hole trigger & skeleton hammer
- Extended slide stop and thumb safety
- Beavertail grip safety with memory
- Walnut, large diamond wood grays w/ fine line checkering & owl head logo

*Custom Grips*  
**Rio Grande**



**NEW!  
NOW YOU CAN  
ADD PIZZAZZ TO  
YOUR 1911 PISTOL,  
RUGER BLACKHAWK,  
SUPER BLACK HAWK, OLD  
VAQUERO, MKIII 22/45  
and SINGLE SIX REVOLVERS.**



**QUALITY MADE IN THE U.S.A.**

[www.riograndecustomgrips.com](http://www.riograndecustomgrips.com)

**303-330-2812**

Cylinder Base Pins  
Ruger, Colt, and Replicas  
**Belt Mtn. Enterprises, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 353 • Belgrade, MT 59714  
Phone & Fax 1-406-388-1396

[www.beltmountain.com](http://www.beltmountain.com)

And not to forget another great organization we have a custom 1911 done for a former Marine as a tribute to his service and the Corps. We can never, ever thank our servicemen and women enough. This Lauck gun is definitely a fitting tribute. The final 1911 is a most striking example, complete with presentation box. This was built up for a client's use in Wild Bunch matches.

The chambers of my sixgunning heart are just about equally spaced between 1911s, Single Actions and Smith & Wesson .44s. I like 'em all. Dave, as mentioned earlier, did a pair of Smith & Wesson .44 Magnums for me. Pictured, we have a couple other beautifully enhanced Smith .44s. One is a silver-plated and engraved 4" .44 Magnum that was ordered by a highly supportive and dedicated wife for her husband upon his retirement as Deputy Sheriff. The second one, done in hard chrome, was done for UFC Champ Randy Couture when he came for a hunting trip while Dave was still residing in Wyoming. Earlier, Dave made up a Presentation Grade 1911 for the ultimate proponent of the use of our greatest pistol, namely Jeff Cooper, when he visited in Wyoming. That pistol now resides in the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody.

### Make My Day

If you've been around shooting long enough, you remember how hard it was to find a Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum in the 1970s. If one was located it usually went for double or triple retail. Smith was working around the clock trying to meet the demand which was caused, by of all things, a movie. In the early 1970s, Clint Eastwood brought his portrayal of Dirty Harry to the big screen. Remember "make my day"? As Dirty Harry he was armed with a .44 Magnum Smith, and the rush was on by folks who had no shooting experience, yet simply had to have a Dirty Harry .44. We managed to survive all this and eventually not only did the price come down on Smiths, but Ruger and Dan Wesson also started making double action .44 Magnums. Dave Lauck's tribute to Clint Eastwood was instituted by several of Clint's friends. Clint graciously accepted the beautifully embellished Model 29 and now keeps it in a special place in his personal office.

So, congratulations to Dave Lauck on his selection as Pistolsmith of the Year for 2012 by the Guild, and more importantly, congratulations and thank you for providing us with examples of handgun art, which are also highly efficient fighting or hunting handguns.



For more info: [www.americanhangunner.com/dl-sports](http://www.americanhangunner.com/dl-sports) or (928) 636-1726

## THE SURVIVAL STAFF

By Pat and Wes Crawford  
Handmade for 25 Years

Hiking  
Staff

Walking  
Stick

Baton

Blow Gun

Lance



All in one package  
Made from Hard Aircraft Aluminum  
**\$294.95** - Ready for delivery  
Knife blade inside  
Extras available: Gun Rest  
Fish Spear  
Camera Mount

Get in on our e-mail newsletter discounts.  
Just e-mail me and say "add me to the list".

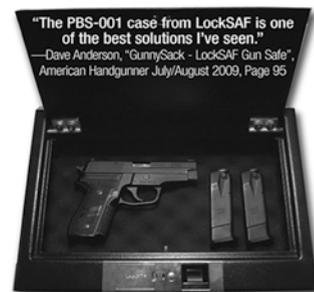
[pat@crawfordknives.com](mailto:pat@crawfordknives.com)

**CRAWFORD KNIVES, LLC**

205 N. Center Drive  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
**(870) 732-2452**

[www.crawfordknives.com](http://www.crawfordknives.com)

When you need  
it most, will  
you have  
access?



**LockSAF**  
safe guard your life. safe guard your rights.

The LockSAF PBS-001 Personal Biometric Safe is designed to protect and give quick access to your firearm and valuables. Easy to program and use, it takes one press of a button and a programmed fingerprint to open. The PBS-001 is made with 9 gauge steel that is twice the thickness of other similar products and four pilot holes in the bottom panel make it easy to mount in a drawer or any flat surface. Secure and reliable in every way, it is the fast access safe you can depend on.

- No more keys or combinations • Safe and secure
- Instant Access • Non-volatile 10 fingerprint memory
- CA DOJ Approved Firearm Safety Device

For more information, please visit your  
local dealer or [www.LockSAF.com](http://www.LockSAF.com)  
Toll Free: (877) 568-LOCK

Email: [customerservice@LockSAF.com](mailto:customerservice@LockSAF.com)