



Fort Constitution Arms Collectors

Meeting Report: May 2, 2018

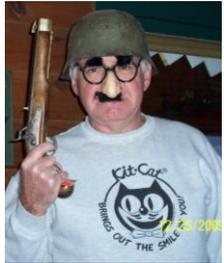
Web address: <http://www.armscollectors.org/>



Spring Salutes To You!

WOW! we made it through a truly GOOFY winter!... “Warm - Cold - Warm - Cold”. One day you could wear a golf jacket, and the next day it was Below Zero! Since it’s now May I’m reminded of that old quip...”If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?... **PILGRIMS!**” (Groan) There’s no more snow though, so let’s hit the roads and find good and cool stuff for our collections! Here on the Ponderosa we’re out of Keurig coffee cups, so today I’m drinking Instant Classic Roast coffee made in Germany!... For “Nazi” coffee this stuff ain’t bad. Havn’t bought any of that Vietnam instant coffee for a long while. It was a “novelty”, but I don’t miss either it or traitorous Jane Fonda!

Turnout for the May FCAC gathering of you Fort Constitution folks was GREAT, and the weather was perfect! Always fun to see club members, make new friends, and hear tales of interest and excitement! Who’s got what, and who needs what. It’s often like fishing the ocean... you never know WHAT you’re gonna catch! FCAC president Evan Nappen though, caught nothing this month because he and the family were in Texas at the NRA convention. Now THAT must have been REALLY something! Evan’s Seminar on New Hampshire Gun Law is scheduled for 7:30 PM Wednesday June 6 at our club meeting.



R. Lee Ermey Passes Away at 74 — “Goodbye to a friend”

The NRA Board of Directors lost one of its beloved members on Sunday, April 15, 2018 when R. Lee Ermey of Palmdale, Calif., passed away from complications of pneumonia at the age of 74. Known to millions of fans as "Gunny," Ermey was a native of Emporia, Kansas. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at the age of 17 and served for 11 years, 14 months of which were spent in Vietnam. He earned his first film role—the first of 70 films he would eventually star in—as Sergeant Loyce in 1978's *The Boys in Company C*. This was quickly followed up in 1979 when he appeared in *Apocalypse Now*, co-written by fellow NRA Board Member John Milius. It was Stanley Kubrick's 1987 film, *Full Metal Jacket*, that earned him lasting fame and the sobriquet "Gunny" for his stunning performance as Marine Corps Drill Instructor Gunnery Sergeant Hartman. Although he was medically discharged from the Marine Corps as a Staff Sergeant, he was recalled from retirement and officially promoted to Gunnery Sergeant and then immediately retired at the rank for which everyone came to know and love him.

<https://www.americanrifleman.org/articles/2018/4/16/r-lee-ermey-passes-away-at-74/>



Anger in France and Britain over Trump's NRA May 4 gun law speech



PARIS/LONDON (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump caused anger in France and Britain by suggesting looser gun laws could have helped prevent deadly attacks in Paris in 2015, and linking knife crime in London to a handgun ban.

In a speech to the National Rifle Association (NRA), President Trump mimicked the shooting of victims in the Paris rampage and said if civilians had been armed “it would have been a whole different story.” The French government immediately issued its strongest criticism of Trump since he took office and one minister urged the leader to apologize. “France is proud to be a country where acquiring and carrying firearms is strictly regulated.”... **(a fact that Germany APPRECIATED in 2 world wars!)**

Trauma surgeons in London, meanwhile, said Trump had missed the point when, in the same speech, he linked knife crime there to an absence of guns. Trump told NRA members that a “once very prestigious” London hospital, which he did not name, had become overwhelmed with knife attacks. “They don’t have guns... they have knives instead, and there’s blood all over the floors of this hospital” he said.

“They say it’s as bad as a military war zone hospital!”... London suffered a spike in knife crime early this year, and saw MORE murders during February and March than in New York!

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-britain-trump/anger-in-france-britain-over-trumps-gun-law-speech-idUSKBN1I60QA>

The Johnson Machine Gun

We're generally familiar with the Johnson rifle, but how about the Johnson MG? In the summer of 1942, a light machine gun, Model 1941, was submitted by Johnson Automatics, Inc. of Boston, Mass. Following minor modifications and preliminary test firing at Aberdeen Proving Ground, five of these guns were sent to Fort Benning, Ga. for further test by the Infantry Board. When fired semiautomatically, the bolt was closed and locked prior to discharge, but in full-automatic operation this was an open bolt gun. It weighed 15,88 pounds with bipod and loaded magazine. Rate of fire was 600 rounds a minute. The subject gun here was issued to a battalion of United States Marines in the South Pacific, and 125 more went to the First Special Service Force - mountain troops organized somewhat on the order of Ranger units - in Italy. Nearly all reports received from the field on these weapons were favorable, though their use was limited."

Manufactured by Cranston Arms Co., Cranston, R.I. in 1941 - Standard, short recoil, rotating bolt, selective-fire, M1941 Johnson machine gun. 20-round detachable box magazine feed. Fires semi-auto from closed bolt and full-auto from open bolt. 4-groove rifling; right hand twist. Muzzle velocity 2800 fps. Cyclic rate of fire: 550 to 600 rpm. Wood butt, forearm and pistol grip. Weapon weighs approximately 14.3 lbs. Equipped with sling and bipod.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbO1npagplQ>

<http://ww2.rediscov.com/spring/VFPCGI.exe?IDCFile=/spring/DETAILS.IDC,SPECIFIC=9564,DATABASE=objects>



The Star Wars Sterling SMG

The Blas-Tech E-11 blasters used in the original films began life as modified Sterling L2A3 submachine guns. A handful of the props used in *A New Hope*, the first *Star Wars* film, were actually live guns that had been modified to fire blank cartridges. In certain spots in the movie the astute gun nerd can spot empty casings ejecting out the sides of the various blasters. The dummy guns used in non-firing scenes were bodged together out of Japanese-made replicas.

<http://www.firearmsnews.com/gun-culture/the-star-wars-blas-tech-e-11-stormtrooper-blaster/>



Note: According to recent statistics a Million people have left California over the past 10 years... and roughly 500,000 are now expected to leave every year from now on!... New Jersey is now trending to do the same!... **RUN!** <https://www.facebook.com/FoxBusiness/videos/1978624655788205/>

Magnificent Mausers: Unusual Pistols and Carbines

The course to success is never easy and doesn't come overnight. It doesn't matter whether the focus is education, athletic achievement, diplomatic accord or commercial profitability; success requires tremendous perseverance. As Thomas Edison once said, "Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration." While one could certainly argue that Mauser worked with a more favorable ratio, finished products never "fell off the shelf." Every model had to be designed, built and tested—an expensive process that was often fraught with pitfalls, dead ends and abject failures. It is human nature that no one likes to remember this part of the equation. But, by studying the failures and iterative improvements, we can best appreciate the work of Paul Mauser, Josef Nickl and Alex Seidel—just a few of Mauser's extraordinary designers who conceived some of the finest firearms in the world.

<https://www.americanrifleman.org/articles/2018/2/19/magnificent-mausers-an-exploration-of-unusual-pistols-and-carbines/>



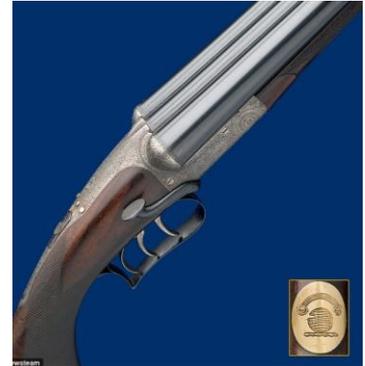
Old German Proverb:

“All skill is in vain when an angel pees in the touch hole of your musket”

TRIPLE-BARRELLED shotgun from 1891

Even if we have never touched one, most of us will have seen a double-barrelled shotgun in a movie or two. From Night of the Living Dead to The Eagle Has Landed, the shotgun is always the final arbitrator of justice, whether against zombies, aliens, or Wild West villains. However, back 1891, one gun-manufacturer came up trumps - developing the world's only triple-barrelled shotgun, subsequently dubbed the 'Holy Grail' of the gun world. Now the gun - built by Edinburgh gun makers John Dickson & Son - has a new owner, having just been sold in London for £43,000..... **Lovely... Just Lovely!**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2157594/TRIPLE-BARRELLED-shotgun-1891-goes-hammer.html>



Home Owners With Guns vs. Intruders

“To shoot or not to shoot” when protecting one’s self, ones family or home? What do **YOU** think? The Anti-gunners and Democrat Libtards would have the “victim” phone the police, and then do nothing... **WTF?** This is still the United States though... and even in “New Joisey”, the “People’s Republic of Massachusetts, or Leftist California” we are legally **ENTITLED** to defend ourselves against intruders! We have not yet turned into a wackadoodle nation like England, where shooting or wounding a trespasser in your home will send you to jail!.... although the Anti-Gun activists here think that would be grand! Watch this video and be reminded of what **COULD** happen to any one of us..

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-WvD2_swno

Turret Crawl Battleship Iowa BB61 WOW!

We’re all “Gun-Guys”, and as such appreciate things that go **“BANG!”** Well folks, **THIS** is the ultimate!.. **Big** guns for **Big** targets... and this stuff scares the poop out of me! Watching this video, one can’t help but be awed by the complexity of both the system and mechanisms, and of how many ways a sailor could be maimed - or worse! Watch and be grateful for what the Navy has done, and does today!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgCNHFujWdQ>

Observed: Have you noticed that “Democrats” don't accept the results of any election that they don't win... or acknowledge that transfers of power in **OUR** country are determined by **“ELECTIONS?”** To consistently reject the results of elections that you **DON'T** win, what you want is a Dictatorship! The only legitimate exercise of power in this country, according to Democrats, is **“IT’S OWN!”** Whenever Republicans exercise power, it's inherently “illegitimate”. The Democrats lost Congress and they lost the White House...so what did they do? They began trying to run the country through Federal judges and Bureaucrats, while using the Liberal Media to influence public opinion!... **WTF?**

Vermont - Camp David Independence Day Shoot - Friday July 20 – Saturday July 21,



GMBSC members and volunteers hold a yearly shooting event that is second to none in the area. This event is the celebration of our independence and our freedom to exercise the 2nd Amendment. The shoot is two days in which many participants come from all over New England and as far away as California. Every person is welcome to come and spectate this annual event <http://greenmountainboysshootingclub.com/upcoming-shoots/>

Early Machine Gun experiences from the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-1905

The Liaodong (Liaotung) Peninsula, China, 1904-5. The Russo-Japanese War. The Japanese were seeking to regain the use of Port Arthur and the Liaodong Peninsula, given to them by the Treaty of Shimonoseki after the Sino-Japanese war. This territory was taken from them by Russian political maneuvering (aided by the French and British) in the Triple Intervention of 1895. While the Russo-Japanese war was geopolitically significant due to the rise of Japan as a world rather than regional power, it's technological significance was great as well. There were some machine-guns, artillery, and autocannons on both sides to be sure in the Second Boer War. This however, was the debut of both belligerents using large numbers of machine-guns, infantry guns, mines, barbed and electrical wire, and hand grenades! Here is the story of the early use of LARGE numbers of machine-guns, and how their employment not only affected "this" conflict, but preparations for WWI as well.

http://www.thefirearmblog.com/blog/2018/03/30/the-eagle-vs-the-rising-sun-early-machine-gun-experiences-from-the-russo-japanese-war-of-1904-5/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=2018-04-03&utm_campaign=Weekly+Newsletter



Imperial Japan's M1 Garand -- (Springfield's John Garand is STILL pissed over this one!)

During the early 1930s, the Japanese Army conducted a series of tests of two promising semi-automatic rifles: John Pedersen's toggle-delayed-blowback rifle, and Emanuel Holek's gas-operated ZH-29. But when the American and the Czech guns presented design shortcomings during these trials, the program was canceled. As the war moved on though, a semi-auto rifle began to make sense to the Japanese. Aside from a handful of visual and mechanical similarities, the Japanese Garand differs from the U.S. Garand in several critical ways. Here's the fascinating story of the gun that "almost" was!...

<https://www.shootingillustrated.com/articles/2018/3/27/classic-guns-imperial-japan-s-m1-garand/>



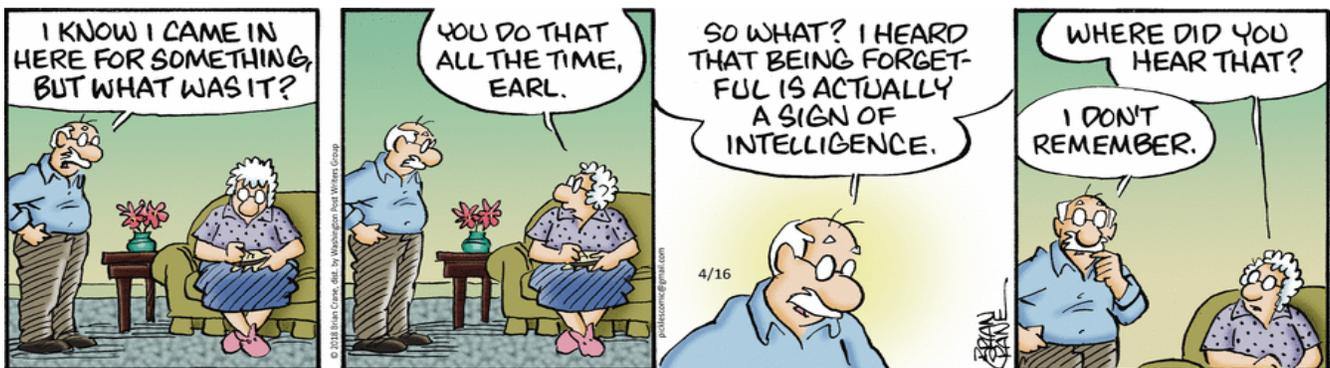
Sniping From Below: Periscope Rifles in World War I

World War I saw the widespread introduction of many, what we would call “modern” arms, including the aircraft, the machine gun, the armored vehicle, the submarine and even poison gas. When you drill down a little farther, there are several highly specialized arms used in the “Great War” that were specific to the conflict. One of these was the periscope rifle. Born in the battle of the trenches, the periscope rifle was a specialized tool for the deadly cat-and-mouse game of Great War snipers. The basic concept was to give the marksman the ability to aim and fire from the comparative safety of below ground—inside his trench position—without having to raise his head above the parapet and expose himself to enemy fire. https://www.americanrifleman.org/articles/2018/4/5/sniping-from-below-periscope-rifles-in-world-war-i/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0418



Lost In Space?

Have you noticed that locating or “finding” stuff is becoming more of a mystery these days? “Where’d I put those parts?”... “I know I’ve got a barrel band and rear sight for that”... and “darned it all, there’s a stock for that barreled action around here somewhere!” All was easier when we were younger and hadn’t accumulated so much stuff. For about a year I’ve been looking for a rare wood and leather Civil War Lorenz bayonet scabbard that went missing in the “alternate universe” of our basement... Rats!



As the bug said to the windshield... “That’s me all over!”

History in May

May 1, 1707 - Great Britain was formed from a union between England and Scotland.

May 4, 1494 - During his second journey of exploration in the New World, Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica... Soon after, he discovered Reggae music and how to smoke Ganja.

May 5, 1893 - The Wall Street Crash of 1893 began as stock prices fell dramatically.

May 6, 1527 - The Renaissance ended with the Sack of Rome by German troops as part of an ongoing conflict between the Hapsburg Empire and the French Monarchy. German troops killed over 4,000 Romans, imprisoned the Pope, and looted works of art and libraries. An entire year passed before order could be restored in Rome... (Ya gotta love those high spirited Germans!)

May 6, 1937 - On the subject of "Germany"... the German airship Hindenburg burst into flames at 7:20 p.m. as it neared the mooring mast at Lakehurst, New Jersey following a trans-Atlantic voyage. (Perhaps a vengeful Italian still P.O.'d about Rome lit the match?)

May 13, 1846 - At the request of President James K. Polk, Congress declared war on Mexico. (Some things and situations never change)... **Build That Wall, and Drain the Swamp!**

May 14, 1607 - The first permanent English settlement in America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, by a group of chartered and starving cannibal settlers from Plymouth, England. Recent excavations have found butchered human bones!

May 18, 1804 - Napoleon Bonaparte became Emperor of France; During the actual coronation ceremony he snatched the crown from the hands of Pope Pius VII, and then crowning himself. "Snail Crepes for Everyone, and pass me the wine!"

May 20, 1927 - Charles Lindbergh, a 25-year-old aviator, took off at 7:52 a.m. from Roosevelt Field, Long Island. My grandparents were there, and I still have their photos of Lindy and his plane. Gramp Bennett told me that everyone present feared the heavily fuel-laden plane would NEVER clear the telephone wires at the end of the field... but somehow it did... "Lucky Lindy" was off!

May 29, 1865 - Following the American Civil War, President Andrew Johnson issued a proclamation granting general amnesty to Confederates. The amnesty though, excluded high ranking Confederates and large property owners who had to apply individually to the President for a pardon. This offer however was NOT extended to "Marilyn Key" our FCAC Confederate treasurer who hails from Texas!.. Ha Ha!

Next Meeting: June 6, 2018

