



Fort Constitution Arms Collectors

Meeting Report: October 3, 2018

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



Fall Foliage Hello's to YOOOOOOO!

It would seem that our seasonal hunting for gun treasures now is turning to the seasonal hunting of feathered and hooved stuff that we can EAT!... and of course at the end of this month we've got **HALLOWEEN** and lots of candy coming to pull your fillings out!

Wednesday night Oct 3 it was chilly with lots of happy smiling gun-goblins in attendance. Fun as always to see what shows up at our gatherings. Remember to put your name on a card by your stuff, and consider doing either a display or talk as the spirit moves you! Be sure to wear your club name tags or be fined, and DO remember that as FCAC members you're entitled to club decals for your vehicle, and also FCAC lapel pins for those who have lapels (Ha) otherwise wear em on your golf jacket or hat!

You fellows had some cool and interesting stuff set out on the tables meeting night! Dealing went on as usual, and I know that some of you went home with some good stuff. I picked up a couple more projects myself! Don Fanny won the evening's 50/50 drawing. How bout for next months meeting we have a theme of "**Unfinished Projects**"?... Bring em down and sell em!

There was no significant gun news to report on at our meeting. The Brett Kavanaugh "inquisition" was still on most of our minds. A made-up story, lies, and "guilty until proven innocent"... Oh Lord but I **DESPISE** Libtard Democrats! Nasty, vengeful, violent creatures with no conscience and no common sense!... Judging by their actions they're getting worse!

FCAC member Russ Mitchell recently sent me the following Email challenge:

"Just read your latest club news... and must say how much I appreciate the work you put into it, and those of the many months before. I'm sure all members think the same, but many are silent about it. I say the next time we all see you that all members shake your hand, and comment on the job you do along with Marilyn! You never mention any of the work you two do for our club. Please put this into the next newsletter... I double dare you! ...

You're so very modest... stop that"..... Russ

Past Violence in Congress, and the Road to Civil War

. Scuffles seem to break out in parliaments and legislatures around the world. The last few years saw a brawl in Taiwan, a face-punch in Ukraine and a mass fight in South Africa! The floor of the U.S. Congress is home today to plenty of verbal abuse and name-calling, but rarely sees anything physical. The paintings from the 19th century show senators in black frocks debating, their fingers thrust into the air in emphasis. But in truth, Congress was a violent place in part because our nation was violent, too! There were riots in cities over immigration, and fighting on the frontier over Native American land. The system of slavery was grounded in violence. It was NOT a kind era.

. In the 30 years before the Civil War there were roughly 70 violent incidents in Congress, and very often the incidents featured a Southerner trying to intimidate a Northerner into compliance. It's all hidden between the lines in the Congressional record; which might say "the conversation became unpleasantly personal." That meant duel challenges, shoving, and pulling guns and knives! In 1858, South Carolina representative Laurence Keitt started trouble with Pennsylvania's Galusha Grow. It turned into a mass brawl between Southerners and Northerners in the House.



In late May 1856 Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts delivered an attack to proslavery forces in Kansas. Preston Brooks (relative of someone Sumner made fun of in his speech) attacked Charles Sumner, hitting him more than 30 times!.. **Indeed... THOSE were the days!**

The New Remington 870 DM

The Remington 870 was introduced in 1951, and ever since then generations of Americans have popped targets and downed game with the venerable pump-action shotgun. In fact, it's the best-selling shotgun of all time—more than **11 million** have been sold. But until now, there has never been an 870 like this in anyone's closet or gun cabinet. Meet the Remington 870 DM.

D-M stands for detachable magazine, and it's what makes this edition of the 67-year-old shotgun so special... **Rugged, works great, and it looks cool!**



https://www.americanhunter.org/articles/2018/8/19/sundaygunday-remington-870-dm/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0818

17 Affordable Concealed-Carry Guns Under \$300

With a growing number of concealed-carry permit holders in the country, the demand for personal-defense pistols continues to rise, and manufacturers across the world are stepping up to fill orders. What are the most-affordable guns for sale today aimed at the concealed-carry market? NRA Shooting Illustrated set out with a goal of finding at least 10 guns that were being sold by multiple retailers under \$300, but SURPRISE... they found far more than that.

https://www.shootingillustrated.com/articles/2018/8/22/17-affordable-concealed-carry-guns-under-300/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0918#

History - On Resurrecting the Czar

Whenever I come across something interesting in print... on TV... in a movie... or at the local Rock-n-Roll diner, I take note! If worthy of my "discerning academic palate" (chuckle), I'll copy and use it in these FCAC newsletters!

. Recently I came across a Smithsonian Magazine article that I'd saved from November of 2010. Yeh it's late.. but **THIS** I think is definitely interesting! We have here the story, mystery and controversy surrounding the grisly, world-shattering events of July 17, 1918.

Around 2 a.m. on that day, in the basement of a commandeered house in Yekaterinburg, a Bolshevik firing squad executed Czar Nicholas II, his wife, Alexandra, the couple's five children and four attendants. The atrocity ended imperial rule in Russia and was the signature act of a new Communist regime that would brutalize its citizens for most of the 20th century.

. The murder of Czar Nicholas Romanov and his family has resonated through Soviet and Russian history, inspiring not only immeasurable government cover-ups and public speculation but also a great many books, television series, movies, novels and rumors. Yet if it has been an open secret that the Communists had dispatched the Romanovs, there was genuine mystery, apparently even within the government, concerning the whereabouts of the royal remains. Then, in May 1979, a handful of scientists searching clandestinely in the woods outside Yekaterinburg, a city of 1.5 million residents 900 miles east of Moscow in the Ural Mountains, found the long-decayed skeletons of nine people, including three children. But the scientists didn't divulge their secret until 1990, as the USSR teetered toward collapse!

I suspect that you'll find this story as fascinating as I did.

. Of particular interest is that today there are descendants of White Russian exiles who have started monarchist societies; the great-grandchildren of Cossacks and Hussars who flourished under imperial rule, and who have agitated for restoration of the Romanov line!

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/resurrecting-the-czar-64545030/>



I'm reminded of that quip... "if the King of Russia was the Czar, and his wife's title was Czarina, ... what were their children called?... CZARDINES!"

The Guns of 1864 – Repeaters!

On Sept. 19, 1864, at Winchester, Va., Union Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan launched his campaign to drive Confederate Gen. Jubal Early out of the Shenandoah Valley. As Sheridan's army advanced, Brig. Gen. Cullen A. Battle's Alabama brigade counterattacked and, exploiting a gap between two corps, precipitated a retreat all along the Sixth Army Corps front. The First New Jersey Brigade's fighting withdrawal held off the Rebels and then the Jerseymen were relieved by the 37th Massachusetts Infantry, a regiment recently re-armed with seven-shot Spencer repeating rifles, and the Bay State boys let loose a blizzard of bullets, slowing the Confederate advance. This, coupled with confusion caused by the death of Confederate Maj. Gen. Robert Rodes and a flank attack conducted by Brig. Gen. Emory Upton, halted the Rebels. The Massachusetts men, like their Illinois brothers in arms to the west, ran low on ammunition. They took to ground under a heavy fire of Confederate musketry until soldiers from the 2nd Rhode Island Infantry filled their pockets with Spencer .56-56-cal. cartridges and ran the ammunition up to the 37th. The Yankees went on to win the day, and Col. Elisha Hunt Rhodes of the 2nd was so impressed that he carried a Spencer carbine as his personal arm for the rest of the war.

As Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's Union forces moved to encircle Atlanta, Confederate Lt. Gen. John B. Hood attempted a risky move to break the siege. He withdrew men from Atlanta's defensive lines and launched a series of assaults on Sherman's enveloping army. On the verge of success Confederates surged into the Federal rear, however, they encountered stiffening resistance from Union units, including the 66th Illinois Infantry, a regiment with a large number of Henry .44-cal. repeating rifles in its ranks. Private Prosper Bowe of the 66th recalled that: "We started our [Henry] sixteen-shooters to work. The first column in front of us nearly all fell at the first two or three volleys." The "sixteen shooters" helped win the day, driving the Confederates from the field. The Rebel retreat proved timely for the rapid-firing Yankees, however, since they had begun to run out of ammunition. General Hood ultimately failed in his attempt to lift the siege of Atlanta, arguably at least partially due to the "sixteen shooters."

The city was doomed, and with it, the Confederacy. If 1863 was the year of the rifle-musket, when the major armies of North and South were finally completely armed with the standard "modern" infantry arms of the day, 1864 could be called "**the year of the repeating rifle**", as increasing numbers of Spencer and, to a more limited extent, Henry repeaters drew notice in the field. <https://www.americanrifleman.org/articles/2014/5/5/the-guns-of-1864/>



Hunter Hung From Tree Two Days Before Being Found

When 70-year-old Eddie Voelker fell from his tree stand, he was using a harness but it became fouled and left him trapped upside-down, far above the forest floor in Umatilla County, Oregon.

He remained trapped there for two days... **Holy Crap!**

Don't let this happen to you! Hunting deer is difficult enough when you're right side up!

https://www.alloutdoor.com/2018/09/12/hunter-hung-tree-two-days-found/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=2018-09-23&utm_campaign=Weekly+Newsletter

100 Year Ago, The U.S. Fought Its Deadliest Battle

It was America's deadliest battle ever, with 26,000 U.S. soldiers killed, tens of thousands wounded and more ammunition fired than in the whole of the Civil War. The Meuse-Argonne offensive of 1918 was also a great American victory that helped bringing an end to World War I.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/year-ago-us-fought-its-deadliest-battle/4583418.html>

More Data that Good People With Guns Save Lives

You might never need to defend yourself. That depends on both luck and skill. According to FBI statistics, someone in your family WILL be the victim of violent crime over your lifetime.

Fortunately, you can defend yourself with more than good luck, but only if you are prepared.

Self-defense happens. About 6 thousand honest gun owners defend themselves every day. Vice magazine said they couldn't find those examples of armed self-defense, so the folks at U.S.A. Ammoland.com did it for them! The truth is easy to find once you look.

<https://www.ammoland.com/2018/09/more-data-that-good-people-with-guns-save-lives/#axzz5S4cFq1CN>

I Hate Raptors!

Chipmunks are cute little things. I've always enjoyed both their company and sociability. Habitually they'll scamper around while gathering seeds, and chase one another in fun and competition. Amusing that they take great interest in, and watch whatever one does outside. Each morning while leaning on the porch rail with a cup of coffee and pipe, I've taken great pleasure in watching my favorite little striped fur ball who lived in a burrow on the septic mound. Much of the day he spent his time enthusiastically bounding back and forth to the bird feeder twenty or so feet distant, so as to stuff his cheeks. With each little jump he would make an enthusiastic squeak!

A couple days ago a Hawk swooped down and took a seat on our wood pile. "Isn't he handsome" thought I in admiration. The hawk took flight, soared low over the grass, and disappeared into the nearby woods. I thought nothing more of the incident.

The following day I realized that my little buddy was **GONE** along with some of his friends! John Grady who lives outside of Worcester, told me of watching an owl carry off his neighbor's cat!... **RAPTORS** are, Predatory Flying Dinosaurs with a taste for blood!... Laws be damned!... I'll be **SHOOTING** any of those hook-beaked bastards who appear again on **THIS** property!

"If we all just switched to cursive and stick shift cars, we could disable an entire generation!"

Mauser C96 Broomhandle

The C96 Mauser, or as it's more commonly known, the Broomhandle Mauser, is not only a machine of warfare, but the finest expression of Victorian era gun making, and maybe the ultimate steampunk pistol. Strangely enough, the C96 Mauser was not invented by Paul Mauser. Rather, the three brothers in charge of Mauser's experimental workshop, Fidel, Friederich, and Josef Feederle created the prototype without Paul Mauser's knowledge or approval. Mauser did, however, name the pistol the C96 Mauser Military Pistol in the hopes of spurring adoption by a major military... Sadly for him, that didn't work... Broomhandle's are cool though!

<http://www.gunsandammo.com/historical/mauser-c96-broomhandle-gun-stories/>



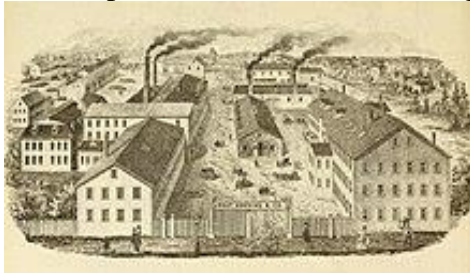
The World As Seen From a Concord Coach

There are many things in New Hampshire to be proud of, and “they’re just a part of who we are.” What surely though is a LARGE part of New Hampshire and of its history, is the Concord Mail Coach, which connected our growing nation during the 19 th century.

In 1827 wheelwright Lewis S. Downing and coachbuilder J. Stephen Abbot debuted the luxury ride of their time. Crafted from white oak and ash, the sturdy stagecoaches were brightly painted, lined with leather and damask, and could be crammed with mailbags and as many as 20 people. A novel suspension smoothed the way for horses and passengers alike – “An imposing cradle on wheels,” Mark Twain called the conveyance. More than 1,700 were built before the automobile made them obsolete in the early 20 th century...

Abbot & Downing made stagecoaches and large passenger vehicles of all kinds, including horse-drawn streetcars. Additionally they made a variety of wagons, including ambulances and gun carriages during the Civil War. Incorporated in 1873, they kept offices in New York and in Boston at 388 Atlantic Avenue. By 1900, the period of great prosperity was over. They had opened shops in New York and Vermont and established an agency in Australia, but — instead of taking to mass production like most industries — Abbot & Downing stuck with custom orders and handwork. The business was dissolved in 1901, but local investors organized a brief revival to manufacture motorized trucks and fire engines. The company name was sold to Wells Fargo.

Today, if you stand in the parking lot on South Main street, Concord, NH between the Cleary Cleaners and the Aubuchon Hardware business (both of which are located in some of the old A & D brick buildings) you might imagine the activity, excitement and noise that was once a part of that spot... and ALL of those old guys owned COOL guns!... **Now Go Find Em!**



Guns Made in New Hampshire

How many fellows made guns in New Hampshire years ago?... I doubt that there's an accurate count! The settlers of New Hampshire were rugged, self-sufficient individualists. Early blacksmiths in New Hampshire exemplified this work ethic, and soon learned to repair muskets and fowlers out of necessity. Starting from the repair of muskets, a few of these smiths in locations all over New Hampshire began making complete arms.

Early guns manufactured in-state then have design features from firearms made in England and France during the late 1700s. The style and characteristics of these arms were taken from the British and French muskets used in the Revolutionary War. The first guns made in New Hampshire were fowlers and military muskets.

After the Revolutionary War there was an influx of skilled artisans making guns and other craftsmen into the New England area, particularly from England and Germany. These workers usually settled in locations with available water power that was used to power their mechanical equipment. Trade with European nations brought in needed iron, steel, and brass for the manufacturing of gun barrels and associated furniture. Local woods, such as walnut, maple, and sometimes elm were used to stock the guns.... This Link is **Fantastic!**

<http://americansocietyoffarmscollectors.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/New-Hampshire-gun-makers-in-percussion-era-Carroll-v107.pdf>

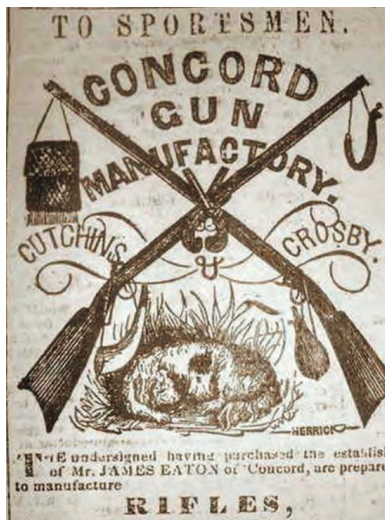
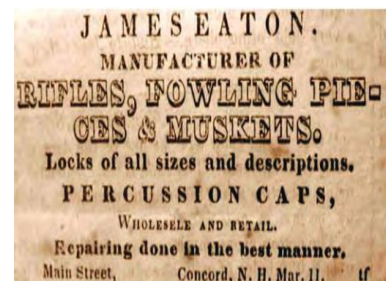


Figure 5. Mid 19th Century New Hampshire Gunsmith Location Map.



“I got caught taking a pee in the swimming pool today.

..... The lifeguard shouted at me so loud, I nearly fell in!”

History in October

October 1, 1908 - Henry Ford's Model T, designed for the masses went on sale.

October 3, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

October 5, 1877 - Following a 1,700-mile retreat, Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce Indians surrendered to U.S. Cavalry troops. "I will fight no more forever," he declared, and held up his middle finger.

October 6, 1927 - The first "talkie" opened in New York. *The Jazz Singer* starred Al Jolson.

October 8, 1871 - The Great Fire of Chicago erupted. Over 300 persons were killed and 90,000 were left homeless as the fire leveled 3.5 square miles, destroying 17,450 buildings.

October 11, 1899 - The Boer War began in South African between the British Empire and Boers of the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

October 12, 1492 - After a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World in the Bahamas. Believing he had found an island of the Indies. He thus called the island natives he met, "Indians." The Indians in turn remarked, "There goes our neighborhood".

October 13, 54 A.D. - Roman Emperor Claudius died after eating mushrooms poisoned by his lovely wife, the Empress Agrippina (who notoriously was a lousy cook).

October 14, 1066 - The Norman Conquest of England began with the Battle of Hastings.

October 19, 1781 - As their band played *The World Turned Upside Down*, the British Army marched out in formation and surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown. (Been there, done that)

October 21, 1805 - The Battle of Trafalgar took place between the British Royal Navy and the combined French and Spanish fleets. Britain won, but Lord Nelson took a fatal musket ball.

October 26, 1881 - The shoot-out at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona

October 28, 1919 - Prohibition began in the U.S. My newly married grandparents began successfully dabbling in "bathtub chemistry", and Uncle Charlie became a Rum Runner!

Next Meeting: November 7, 2018

