



SOME OF THE GREAT DISPLAYS!

*Hope Bisbing
Award for
Excellence
Winner!*

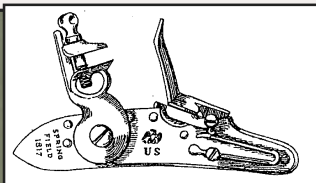


Engraved Rugers That Sparkle and Shine!- by Steve A.

This fantastic new display earned the prestigious Hope Bisbing Award for Excellence! There are a wide variety of different variations in terms of models and types of artistic enhancements. These are more than just fine guns, they are "Fine art" as well as history to be enjoyed by everyone. Steve had another display, "Elmer Keith's Number 2 Prototype" which deserved a picture, but we missed it. Sorry!

"Sweet Little Sixteen"- A selection of Model 1816 Muskets by Michael A.

(Below) Showed the many variations of the standard U.S. Army infantry weapon as it evolved from a flint-lock smooth bore with various alterations to percussion with rifled bores for use more than 40 years after adoption, and even eventual conversion to cheap surplus all purpose shotguns for farmers.



MORE OF THE GREAT DISPLAYS!



Vintage 1903 Rifles - by George F. earned the 1st Place Award

This wonderful and comprehensive display showed the many variations, both combat and special purpose, of the Model 1903 Springfield rifle. Great guns, nicely presented by one of our most advanced collectors.

Second Place went to David R. for his "Rare Variations of Savage Lever Action Rifles From 1886 to 1899"

David, the author of the definitive book on the Savage lever rifles, brought out some of the most rare examples for us to enjoy.



American GI in World War II by Brent S.

(right- below) had a nice selection of weapons and equipment, and Brent was in full uniform to go with his display. Like some collectors, Brent enjoys shooting these as well as collecting and displaying them.



MORE GREAT DISPLAYS!



**People's Choice
Award Winner!**

A Glimpse Into The WW1 German Experience - by Gus and Allan B. earned the People's Choice Award and a Judges' Choice Award

Surpassing the normally great displays done by Gus, this one went into even great depth on all aspects of the German soldiers in WW1. We saw original uniforms from various branches, a very complete selection of rifles and handguns, and personal equipment and memorabilia of those fighting for the Kaiser.

European Target Arms 1780-1940- by Gaylord S. & Gary N.- displayed the wide variety of arms used for indoor and outdoor target shooting for a period of 200 years. In addition to their shooting qualities, these have a lot of artistic and historical interest.





THE RUGER "SUPERS" SUPER BLACKHAWK & NEW MODEL SUPER BLACKHAWK

by J.C.



The Super Blackhawk was introduced to the public in 1959. It had a newly designed steel grip frame with a square trigger guard, lower profile hammer and a wide grooved trigger. Advertising bragged that the age-old problem of screws backing out had been solved with the introduction of NYLOK SCREWS. A higher quality finish was applied with greater attention to polishing each gun before bluing. Genuine walnut grips became standard on all Blackhawk models.

The first 4,150 Super Blackhawks were shipped in Mahogany Cases supplied by Gates Inc. Antrim New Hampshire. However, a fire destroyed the Gates factory in 1960 and it was never rebuilt. The fire terminated the Mahogany Case program. There were two distinct variations of the early Super Blackhawks in the Mahogany Cases. Approximately 300 grip frames were extended .10" longer than the standard grip frame butt. Collectors address those as *Long-Frame Supers*. There were other variations addressing barrel roll-markings during the Mahogany Case era.



To replace the Mahogany Case, Ruger developed a cardboard box with a cutout for the revolver to rest in. An additional sleeve was provided to protect the white box and keep the gun from falling out. This version is referred to as the *White Box Super* by collectors. To mitigate the loss of the Mahogany Box, Ruger improved the finish process, creating a mirror like super polish and blued finish. They also reduced the price from \$120.00 to \$116.00. More White Box sets were produced than Mahogany Boxes, but they are rarely seen due to the propensity for throwing away the cardboard boxes.

In March 1962 the packaging was changed again. The gun was shipped in the black and red two piece cardboard box which remained the standard until the Super Blackhawk was replaced by the New Model Super Blackhawk in 1973.

Due to "operator error" on the part of one of the men who was cutting barrels to length for the Super Blackhawk, approximately 400-600 barrels were cut to 6 1/2" in length.

400-600 barrels were cut to 6 1/2" in length. They were inspected for shipment in October 1966 and April 1968. (If you have one with a 10" barrel you should know there



**SUPER BLACKHAWK
6 1/2" BARREL**

are only three known Super Blackhawks with 10" barrels.)

Brass Grip Frame models were first addressed in the 1965 *Distributor and Dealer Sheets*. A total of 1,534 Super Blackhawks were assembled with Brass Grip Frames around 1972. Beware of those that will not "Letter" because Ruger also made brass grip frames available as an "after market" item.

There are many minor additional variations in the Super Blackhawk program, which ended with the introduction of the New Model Super Blackhawk in 1973.



**SUPER BLACKHAWK
BRASS GRIP FRAME**

New Model Super Blackhawk (1973)

The introduction of the New Model Super Blackhawk reflected a change in all the Ruger single action revolver programs with the incorporation of the transfer bar, making the revolver "drop safe" if it were dropped on the hammer. With the transfer bar the hammer is too short to reach the firing pin without insertion of the transfer bar, which is not activated without the trigger being pulled.

Outward appearance of the New Model Super Blackhawk is similar to the Super Blackhawk, except for the change of three screws in the frame to two screws, which actually are two pins. Internally there is a vast difference beginning with the cylinder release through opening of the loading gate. The hammer does not have a "safety" or "half-cock" notch and is not pulled back to release the cylinder for rotation.

(Continued next page)



Since the New Model Super Blackhawk is still in production the potential for variations is great. However, the "standard" is still 7 1/2" in blue finish while some are as short as 4 5/8" inches or as long as 10 1/2" with a bull barrel. And, you



can get most variations in stainless steel. In 2009 the Anniversary Model was issued with special packaging and gold rings around the cylinder. 2009 also saw the New Model Super Blackhawk dressed in a Bisley Grip with a round trigger guard, low profile hammer and more rounded trigger.



A special run of New Model Super Blackhawks with a second cylinder was introduced in 1997. That cylinder was chambered in .44-40 caliber. The frame of the revolver is marked, "RUGER .44 CALIBER CONVERTIBLE NEW MODEL BLACKHAWK" however, the box is marked "NEW MODEL SUPER BLACKHAWK". The gun is also in it's own serial number range.

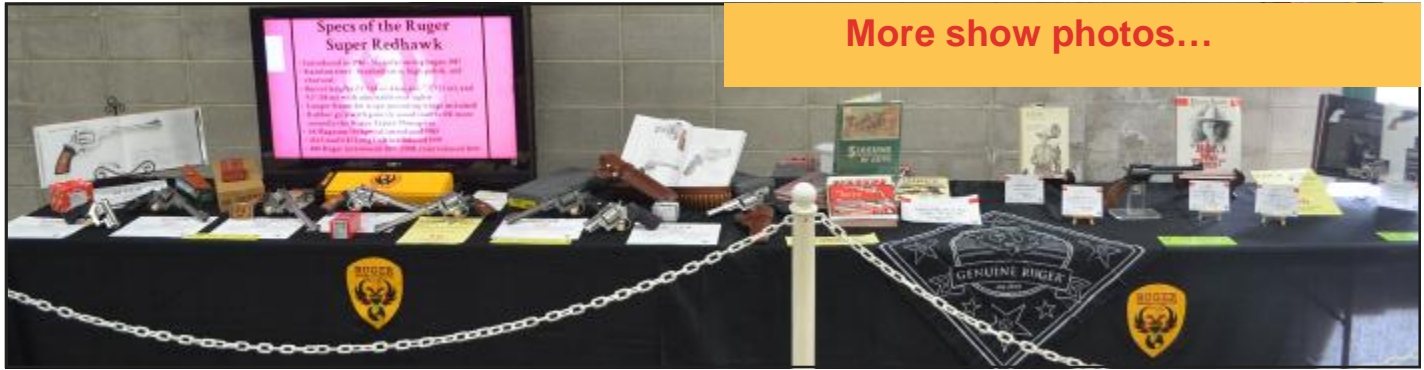


And this is only a quick look at the wonderful Supers!

There are many more facts to be learned with more research in John C. Dougan's book, *Ruger Pistols & Revolvers* and R.L. Wilson's book, *Ruger & His Guns, A History of the Man, the Company and Their Firearms*.



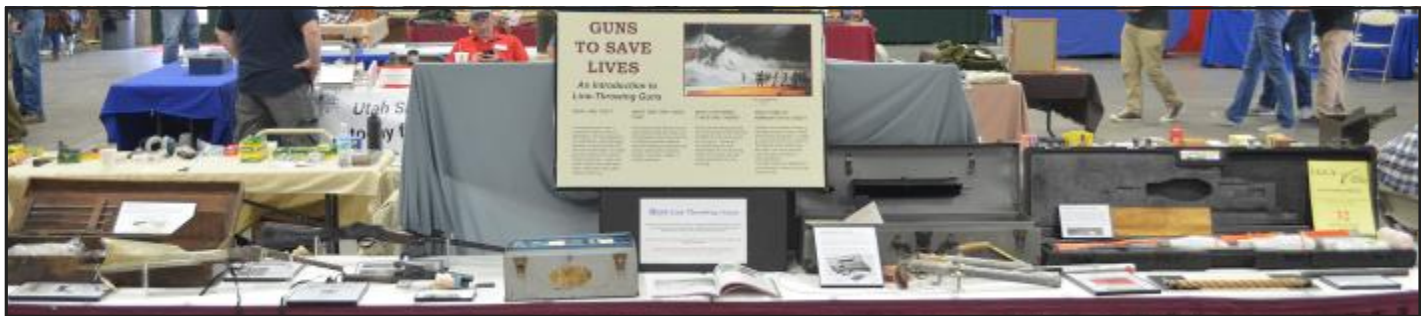
THE SUPERS ON DISPLAY AT THE MARCH 2016 UGCA SHOW



"Specs of the Ruger Super Redhawk" by Joel A. -

was another great display by the Ruger collectors who attended the show. Unlike the "commercial" shows where you never see any displays at all, the UGCA shows feature displays for the education and enjoyment of all collectors and gun owners.

"More Guns to Save Lives" - featured several additional line-throwing guns acquired by John S. since his incredible display in 2015, which went on to win a top prize at the NRA National Gun Collectors Show.



More interesting displays...

G'Day, Mate!

The Lithgow Small Arms Factory in Australia has been their main source of small arms since it was set up (with machinery from Pratt & Whitney) in 1913.

Terry J. had a nice selection of the many models they made.

Mike H.'s nice display was M1 Carbines—WW2, Korea and Vietnam.





Living History award winners-

Used Jeep Salesman Ben J. portraying a 3rd Infantry Division officer and his Jeep at left. Lower left is Darren McC. who much have fibbed about his age to get into the 82nd Airborne relaxes on the Jeep. Shane McC. is equipped for D-Day 1944 with the 16th Infantry Regiment, and guarding the Jeep. Shane also had the informative display below "What the Hell Was That Pouch Used For?"



Mike A. lower left from the 1835 Second Seminole War is asking "What the hell is a Jeep?"



Another great Ruger Display- The Old Army -

Jim C. had a great collection of these. Read all about these in the January 2015 UGCA Newsletter.



Marlin Firearms Collectors Association

The Marlin Firearms Collectors Association Ltd, (M.F.C.A.) was organized in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1973. The Association consists of around 450 members in nearly every state of the U.S. of and members in several foreign countries as well. Annual Meetings of Members are held each year, usually in conjunction with other organized Collector Associations gun shows. Members are encouraged to share their collections by displaying and competing for awards at these meetings. Past meetings have been held from Hartford, Connecticut to Portland, Oregon and many places in between. **Website: www.marlin-collectors.com. Membership is \$30 per year, and membership application is at http://marlin-collectors.com/files/membership_app.pdf**



A.

Marlin Was purchased in 2008 by Remington and their guns are now made at the Remington factory in Ilion, NY, below. The Museum and visitor center are the newer building on the right. Stop in for a visit if you are in the area!



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(free to members....)

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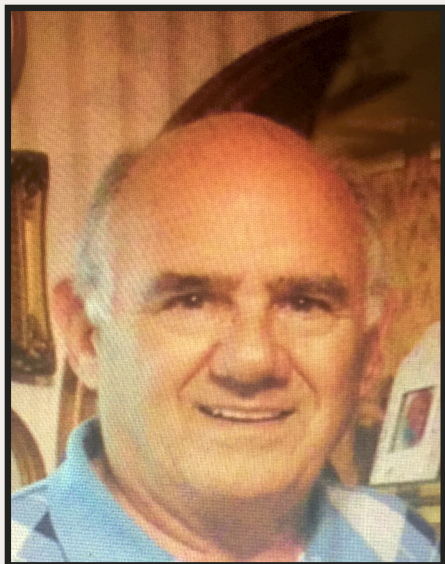
**U.S. M1910 Bayonet Scabbard
with canvas cover
George**

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Terry Smith 1939-2017

Terry was best known to his gun collecting friends as someone who loved working on guns, especially restoration projects at which he excelled. But, Terry had a remarkably varied history. He served in the U.S. Army for 10 years, as a Warrant Officer helicopter pilot in Vietnam, later stationed in Germany and Hawaii. After getting out of the Army, he worked as a machinist for a major corporation. Upon retirement from that job, he and his charming wife Gloria opened a restaurant in Redding, California, which they operated until 2000 when they came to Utah. Since retiring, Terry was an avid golfer, playing nearly every day, never using a cart, and buying a winter home in Mesquite, NV, to play during winter months. When not golfing, he loved working with his guns, and he was a regular table holder at UGCA shows.

In June, Terry went to work on their house in Mesquite and after working in the garden (and playing golf) he complained of chest pains. This turned out to be a serious heart problem (undetected in routine physical earlier that week) and he died June 19,

2017. Services were held at the Utah Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Camp Williams. UGCA member Shane McCann was one of the speakers honoring this fine man. Terry is one of many UGCA members who will be remembered fondly and missed.