

# The Mannlicher Collector

*From the President*

## MCA Convention & Meetings 2012 a Success!

This past August members and officers of the MCA gathered in Reno, NV at the Big Reno Gun Show for our annual convention, meetings, and banquet. This year's event was held at the luxurious Grand Sierra Resort. The GSR is a nice place for a show, and the hotel offers many convenient amenities all under one roof.

After the first day of the show searching for Mannlichers and other gems we gathered for the President's Reception where we relaxed, talked Mannlichers, snacked, and enjoyed a libation. It was a great way to talk one on one, examine a Mannlicher or two and discuss the future of our MCA.

On Saturday we held our annual banquet at Bavarian World restaurant. We had our own Germanic style private

dining room. The food and drinks were excellent, and everyone had a good time. During the dinner meeting we discussed MCA business, and member Gary Junk upgraded his membership to Life Member status. Thanks Gary!

Plan to attend next year's meeting which will be held in Tulsa, OK April 5-7, 2013. Next year is an election year from our MCA so anyone looking to serve should let me know straight away. It was great seeing all who attended this year's meeting. I hope to see you again next year, and I look forward to meeting more of our membership next year. The MCA needs your help to recruit new members. Please do all you can to help us out.



MCA members at the Big Reno Show. L to R Rick Martell, Rob Blank, Andrew Tadie Miles Ugarkovich, Lynn Levensgood, Chris Ebert, Gary Junk, Nancy Junk, Deanna Ugarkovich

# Minuets MCA Annual Meeting

August 18, 2012

Rob Blank called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Each member attending stated their years of membership to MCA and their interest in the Association.

Rob Blank – President • Dr. Andrew Tadie – Vice President  
Miles Ugarkovich • Deanna Ugarkovich – TMC Copy Editor  
Chris Phillips • Chris Ebert – Archivist  
Rick Martell – Secretary/Treasurer  
Terry Duncan • Lynn Levensgood – TMC Editor  
Sally Levensgood • Nancy Junk • Gary Junk

After introductions Miles Ugarkovich made an Invocation of God's Blessing. Dinner was ordered

## Secretary/Treasurer Report

The Treasurer and Secretary reports were read and copies of the summary of expenses/income and current membership numbers were given to the President and Vice President.

## TMC Editor Report

The Editor of the TMC reported he gets letters from members with inquiries. He mentioned articles on favorite Mannlichers are very popular in the publication and requested they be submitted with pictures.

It was determined at the meeting that the number of pages in the publication needs to vary as required by availability of articles.

The Editor also mentioned that members appreciate seeing advice on where to get ammo, components, scope mounts, etc.

## Archivist Report

Most requests are for back issues of TMC. Sometimes requests

lead to membership

Applications by the recipient.

He does receive requests from non-gun people on the history of owners of Mannlichers.

The Archivist requested digital copies of TMC in order to facilitate the ability to send out digital copies. The archivist will get a price quote on converting the archive of TMC to digital format.

There is a need to update the archive database.

## New Business

It was determined to raise dues by \$5 for North America members and \$1 for overseas members. At the next dues notice the dues increase will be announced and current members will be given a chance to renew for more than one year at the old rate.

It was also determined that due to an anticipated postal rate increase members who handle mailing should purchase forever stamps in order to capture existing postal rates.

The shipping rate to be charged for Club Items was determined to require an increase from the current \$1 to \$2.

Discussion of the Website (and need for a Webmaster) and changes to the current Constitution and By-Laws were inconclusive and will be discussed at the next meeting after a review of proposed changes by the officers.

Next years meeting will be In Tulsa, April 5-7, 2013. This will entail and election of officers. Rob Blank will appoint a nominating committee.

The meeting retired to the President's Lounge where an auction of items was performed. In addition, Members agreed to discuss at the April, 2013 meeting a proposal to update certain articles of the MCA Constitution. Rick Martell

## ANNUAL MEETING AUCTION A HUGE SUCCESS

This year the auction was held after the annual meeting and banquet. As always, it proved to be quite popular and raised nearly \$1,000 for the MCA. Nearly everyone attending was a successful bidder on at least one item. Not all items sold so we have some carry-over for the April 2013 Meeting Auction in Tulsa. We once again ask our members to look around their reloading stations for items that they can donate for our next

Auction. (Items should be sent to the membership office.) A HUGE thanks goes out to everyone who donated items for this years auction! Steve Hines of Falcon industries bought and donated many items. His generosity spread as each supplier he purchased from also donated. Our gratitude to this years contributors; Steve Hines, Robert Watts, Phillip Sparholt, Steve Schroeder, and 9.3 Norm Tonn. LEL

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES TO INCREASE

Because of the many postal rate increases over the past decade, the MCA can no longer cover the printing and postage costs from membership dues alone. So at the Reno annual meeting it was voted to increase the MCA annual dues to \$30 for North America members and \$35 for the Overseas annual

membership. The increase takes effect on 1 Jan 2013 so all MCA members are encouraged to pay ahead (as many years as you want) their MCA membership at the current rate! The lifetime membership remains \$500 but the conditional life membership was ended. LEL

## 6.5 Creedmore Claims Exaggerated

A number of articles about the 6.5 Creedmore Cartridge basically claim it to be better than sliced bread and after shooting one at the range it would wash and wax your pickup. J. Hoot's article in the July 2012 Rifle Magazine claimed it to be better than the .264 win magnum, a cartridge with not quite twice the powder capacity. Having been born at night, but not last night,

I decided to initiate an unbiased analysis of mid-sized 6.5's. For this assignment I called Tom Butters an MCA member and forensic engineer who I, and many other attorneys, have used as an expert witness in firearms related lawsuits. He graciously accepted the assignment for which I thank him on behalf of the MCA. LEL

# PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE OF MID-SIZED 6.5mm CARTRIDGES

by Tom Butters

Our editor recently questioned the reasons for marked differences in performance reported to exist between 6.5mm cartridges of similar size. The July 2012 issue of Rifle magazine contains a report by Lee J. Hoots printed in Dave Schovill's Spotting Scope section that makes bold claims about the 6.5 Creedmore cartridge. This editorial inquiry regard, the supposed lesser performance of the signature cartridge of the Mannlicher-Schoenauer line, the 6.5X54MS, in comparison with other mid-sized 6.5mm's. The table appended below was constructed using data assembled from various sources in an attempt to arrive at a reasonable assessment of cartridge performance. In abstract, it would appear that if the 6.5X54MS is loaded using similar bullets, similar charge weights of nitrocellulose based propellants and used in actions of adequate strength and quality with the same length barrels, its external ballistic performance we will be close to that of other 6.5's of similar case volume. A comparison of maximum practical usable case volume and range test data for the cartridges under consideration indicates that the 6.5X54MS cartridges should be capable of performance comparable to that of other case designs even though some of those designs may be of much more modern origin. It should be noted that there is a span in excess of 100 years over which the 6.5mm cartridges under consideration were designed and developed. At the start of that period, action, barrel, and cartridge case design and metallurgy as well as propellant characteristics dictated chamber pressures at least 20% lower than those in common use today. Indicated tabular differences in performance between the considered cartridges are judged to be of negligible importance with respect to their utility in today's hunting field when used in sporting rifles of usual configuration.

Specifically, the 6.5 Creedmoor is designed according to recent developments in case neck and shoulder configuration with a shortened propellant column which are both supposed to improve the efficiency (muzzle velocity versus charge weight) of the cartridge and extend barrel life. That said, I would think that any efficiency advantage the 6.5 Creedmoor would show over the 6.5X54MS would be modest at best and for sporting purposes to be of not meaningful value at practical hunting ranges during the expected useful life of a rifle used for hunting rather than for target shooting.

## Assumptions:

1. Potential chemical energy available in a nitrocellulose propellant charge is proportional to the volume of that charge.
2. The weight of charges of nitrocellulose propellants of similar volumetric density are proportional to the individual volume of those charges.

3. The practical usable volume available in any given cartridge case is proportionally related to the weight of a volume of water that fills the case to the base of its neck.
4. A reasonably precise comparison of the potential energy contained in case filling nitrocellulose propellant charges of similar volumetric density as used in various cartridge cases for propulsion of projectiles of similar form and weight may be made by comparison of the water weight capacities of those cartridge cases.
5. The muzzle velocity of a projectile of given weight, diameter and design is dependant upon the acceleration it receives as the result of its base being exposed to the pressure of the expanding gases generated by the controlled combustion of the propellant charge.
6. Within usually employed 6.5mm sporting rifle barrel lengths (18"-24"), bullet velocity varies by approximately 50 feet per second per inch of barrel length.

## Notes:

1. Reported loading data is derived from published sources and has been safely used by the author but its use by anyone else it expressly not recommended and if used it is done at the sole discretion of the user and with the complete assumption of responsibility for any consequences of their use.
2. The NRA Reloading Handbook as published in the mid 1960's cautions that the 6.5X54MS cartridge may display wide and sudden pressure variations with changes of as little as one half (1/2) grain of propellant charge.



L to R: 7x57 • 6.5x55 • 6.5x54MS • 6.5 Creedmore

Cartridge	Water Loading Data Cap'y.	Muzzle Velocity fps/Bbl.Length	Reported Pressure NRA	Pressure SAAMI	Estimated MV 24" Bbl.
6.5 C'more	48.7 gr. Factory H'dy. 140 gr. A-Max	2710/26"		62000psi	2610fps
260 Rem	50.6 gr. 43.0/14831/WLR/140 Sierra MK	2747/26"		60000psi	2650fps
6.5X54MS	49.0 gr. 42.0/RL22?WLR/140Hdy RNSP	2401/18"	45000cup	50000psi(NRA)	2701fps
6.5X55	52.0gr. 43.0/4350/@LR144FFV FMJBT	2670/28"	47000cup	51000psi	2470fps
6.5X57	54.0gr. 45.0/14831/WLR/144FFV FMJBT	2801/28"	47000cup	51000psi	2601fps



# The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

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No. 2

## The Finest All-'Round Deer Gun

By KENNETH FULLER LEE

EVER notice how firmly you can stand on a couple of inches of light snow over a heavy crust, with snowshoes strapped to your shoe-pacs?

A good hundred yards away, across the blow-downs and white-coated stumps left by the loggers, a big buck threw up his antlered head and started away at a lumbering gallop. Twelve inches of snow and the crust bothered him; and it was another hundred yards to the shelter of the cedars which he sought.

The silver bead of the little 6.5 Mannlicher found his shoulder, and I eased off the trigger. "Wham!" said the smokeless; and the buck, caught with the 160-grain bullet midway of his stride, plunged forward and slid, nose first, into a pile of brush.

A moment later I stooped over him and grasped one of the branching antlers to turn him over. The fast, heavy bullet had broken both front shoulders, the hole of emergence being almost the size of a silver dollar.

In the past fifteen years it has been my good fortune to try out most of the common types of American-made hunting rifles in a lot of calibers; and there is no more certain method of starting an argument than to state that such-and-such a rifle is "the best" for any given purpose.

The little 6.5-mm. Mannlicher is my own pet tool at present, and this in spite of the fact that for many years, as guide and hunter, I used and swore by a .38-40 carbine; killed lots of game with it, and took plenty of abuse from the wise boys who just knew that it wasn't a suitable gun for use on any kind of medium or large game.

In those days my hunting was confined to dense cover, where it was unusual to get shots at more than 60 to 80 yards, usually snap-shooting through brush, and for that sort of work the little old .38-40 was, and still is, mighty good medicine.

Three years ago I went into the Allagash region of northern Maine, where there is a lot of hardwood, and the country is full of streams and lakes which offer plenty of shots at long range. Knowing that the .38-40 was outclassed in this type of hunting, the little 6.5-mm. came into my possession, and immediately I fell in love with it.

Equipped with a full-length stock with a nice cheek-piece, a very smooth-working bolt which is rigid even when fully extended, an 18-inch barrel of fine accuracy, set triggers, a silver bead mounted on a nice ramp, and a swinging Lyman with two apertures, this little tool handles splendidly, is light to carry in the woods, and slams its loads out to 300 yards with very little drop.

It did not take me long to discover that those long, lean, hungry-looking 160-grain pills had plenty of wallop. I shot three large bucks and a couple of black bear with them, and in no case did a bullet stay in any of these animals. They rambled right on through meat and bone, and there was never any necessity for chasing anything which was properly hit.

The bullets also showed up splendidly when shooting through very thick cover, not flying to bits and going off at a tangent as do the lighter slugs from the .250-3,000, .22 Hi-Power, and others of the same type. I experimented with the 140-grain open-point Western load, a much faster bullet, and it was deadly enough; but the recoil, oddly, seemed heavier than that of the longer, heavier bullet, and for

other reasons I did not like it as well as the regular 160-grain load.

It made a wonderful mess of a porcupine, and I shot dozens of them with the open-point, which appeared to fairly explode when it connected with the fat paunches, killing the "porcky" immediately, and usually blowing part of his interior equipment right out through his overcoat.

Beautifully balanced for offhand shooting, with a glass-hard action which would slide backward and forward by itself, the Mannlicher won its way into my affections almost at once. By pressing a small stud on the right side of the receiver, the rotary magazine spills all the loaded shells right out into your hand; and this is a good feature, which might well be copied by some of our American makers of fine rifles. That rotary magazine, by the way, is hand-polished, and detachable, and is certainly a sweet bit of mechanism. In three years of constant use I never had even the slightest intimation of a jam or a misfire with the 6.5, nor lost a single head of game that offered a decent chance.

Hawks, owls, crows, woodchucks, porcupines, a bobcat, and the larger game already referred to met disaster at the impact of the long bullets, and the little rifle always did its bit smoothly and well.

Lacking the equipment for careful targeting at known ranges, I can not say just what sort of groups it would make in a machine rest, but for practical work in the game fields it appeals to me as just about the handiest, deadliest, sweetest-shooting tool which ever got into my hands—and I've had plenty of rifles!

Reading the works of other hunters and riflemen, I note that with very few exceptions they show a decided preference for longer barrels in the Mannlicher—preferably 24 inches or more. No doubt these long tubes do add speed to a bullet, and more punch at the delivery end.

I never got a chance to tag a moose with that small sweetheart of a rifle, but would welcome the opportunity to try it out on anything from a mature dinosaur to a small switch engine. I think it would stop either if held right.

One of the bucks killed with it was shot at an estimated range of 350 yards, across a big marsh. Using the regular 160-grain loads, I held a couple of feet over his shoulder and eased off the set trigger very carefully, shooting from the prone position with my elbows dug in solidly. The buck threw up his head and whistled, stamping his feet angrily and evidently uncertain as to the nature of the big insect which had just cracked past too high. So, dragging the front sight down just a hair, I slammed the second one across. And both Mrs. Lee and I afterward agreed that we *heard it* land on that big boy's shoulder. Down he went in a still heap, not even thrashing after he struck.

As usual, we found both shoulders broken, and the 10-pointer was "too dead to skin" when, after detouring around a lot of dri-ki, we finally reached him.

Performances of that type have welded my affection and respect for the little Mannlicher, until it even seems likely that I will keep it permanently, something which has never happened with any other gun in my years of constant change; and, outside of the specially built arms of Griffin & Howe, Hoffman, Niedner, and others of their kind, it seems to me that the 6.5-mm. Mannlicher stands almost alone in the field of finely built and most effective hunting arms.

# RARE MS CARBINE FOUND ON E-BAY



I found this Best Plastics model of the MS 1952 carbine on an E-Bay auction site for plastic models. \$25 seemed reasonable for this 60 year-old piece of miniature history. So, do I put it together or leave it in the box? LEL

## STEP BY STEP ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS MANNLICHER-SCHOENAUER SPORTING CARBINE

Before starting the assembly, carefully study the following step-by-step instructions and the assembly picture. By using reasonable care and by putting the parts together in the recommended order an authentic scale model of this historic firearm will result. Placing all parts on the work table as indicated in the assembly picture will aid the model builder. It may be necessary to cautiously remove some of the material called "flash" protruding from the edge of pieces may be scraped away with care—avoid scratching the finished surface of the parts.

**IMPORTANT**—Apply cement to inside surfaces only—Avoid putting cement on outer surfaces and moving parts. Maximum strength and neatness will be obtained only if cemented sub-assemblies are given ample time to dry before further handling. Use only polystyrene cement obtainable at your hobby dealer.

Place #29 Bolt Spring around #26 Bolt Spring Retaining Rod. Place its assembly into #21 Right Half Bolt with large head sticking out. Apply cement to inside edges of #21 and press onto #22 Left Half Bolt. Allow to dry.

Place large head of #26 into #24 Rear Bolt Top and Cement to #25 Rear Bolt Bottom.

Cement #23 Bolt Handle Piece to #21-22 Bolt with handle towards rear Bolt.

On Pin A of #4 Receiver Left Half place #12 Operating Trigger. On Pin place #14 Sear with Hole Y toward front of Receiver. Place #28 Sear Trigger Spring around Pin C with one end in Hole Y of sear and the other end in Hole X of Receiver. Apply cement sparingly to inside edges of #3 Receiver Right Half and press to #4 Receiver Left Half. Allow to dry.

Cement #5 Barrel Top to #6 Barrel Bottom.

Cement Barrel to Receiver Assembly.

Cement #13 Dummy Trigger in hole behind Operating Trigger of Receiver Assembly.

Cement #15 Front Sight and #16 Rear Sight to Top of Barrel.

Cement together Left Half stock #1 to Right Half stock #2, at the same time cement and insert Receiver and Barrel Assemblies between stock Halves. Allow to dry.

3. Cement on #7 Butt Plate and #8 Grip Cap.

1. Cement #11 Trigger Guard in place under receiver and pistol grip of stock.

2. Cement #9 Floor Plate to Receiver in front of Trigger Guard.

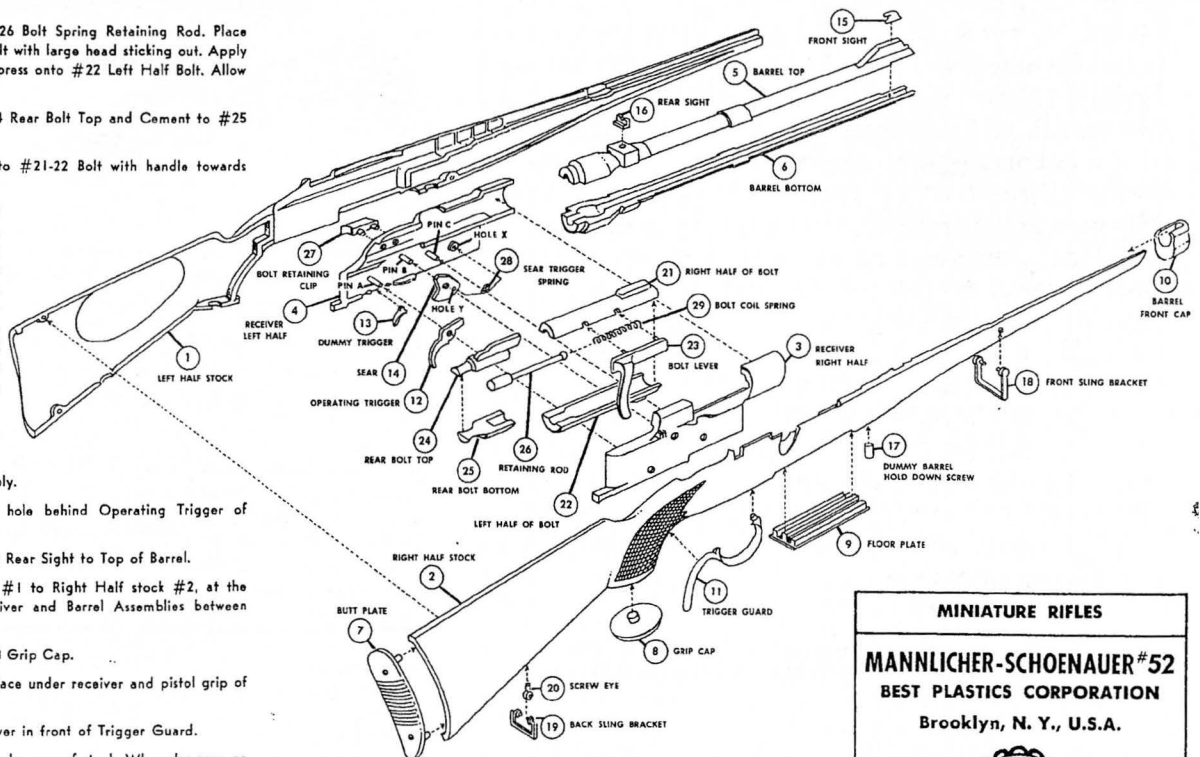
3. Cement #20 screw Eye in hole under rear of stock. When dry snap on #19 Back Sling Bracket.

4. Cement #17 Dummy Barrel Hold Down screw into hole in stock in front of Floor Plate.

5. Snap #18 Front Sling Bracket into holes on sides of front part of Stock.

## Parts and Materials for MANNLICHER-SCHOENAUER #52

- |                               |   |                                      |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Only #1 LEFT HALF STOCK     | 1 Only #12 OPERATING TRIGGER            | 1 Only #23 BOLT LEVER                |
| 1 Only #2 RIGHT HALF STOCK    | 1 Only #13 DUMMY TRIGGER                | 1 Only #24 REAR BOLT TOP             |
| 1 Only #3 RIGHT HALF RECEIVER | 1 Only #14 SEAR                         | 1 Only #25 REAR BOLT BOTTOM          |
| 1 Only #4 LEFT HALF RECEIVER  | 1 Only #15 FRONT SIGHT                  | 1 Only #26 BOLT SPRING RETAINING ROD |
| 1 Only #5 BARREL TOP          | 1 Only #16 REAR SIGHT                   | 1 Only #27 BOLT RETAINING CLIP       |
| 1 Only #6 BARREL BOTTOM       | 1 Only #17 DUMMY BARREL HOLD DOWN SCREW | 1 Only #28 SEAR TRIGGER SPRING       |
| 1 Only #7 BUTT PLATE          | 1 Only #18 FRONT SLING BRACKET          | 1 Only #29 BOLT COIL SPRING          |
| 1 Only #8 GRIP CAP            | 1 Only #19 BACK SLING BRACKET           | 1 Only #30 WALL RACK                 |
| 1 Only #9 FLOOR PLATE         | 1 Only #20 SCREW EYE FOR BACK BRACKET   | 2 Only #31 RACK HORNS                |
| 1 Only #10 BARREL FRONT CAP   | 1 Only #21 RIGHT HALF OF BOLT           | 1 Only #32 NAME PLATE                |
| 1 Only #11 TRIGGER GUARD      | 1 Only #22 LEFT HALF OF BOLT            | 32 PIECES                            |



16. Apply Cement to inside of #10 Barrel Front Cap and slip over front of barrel-Sight into slot at top.

17. Slip Bolt Assembly into Receiver. Cement #27 Bolt Retaining Clip into holes in side of #4 Receiver Left Half.



# MY FAVORITE MANNLICHER

by Edward Lancello

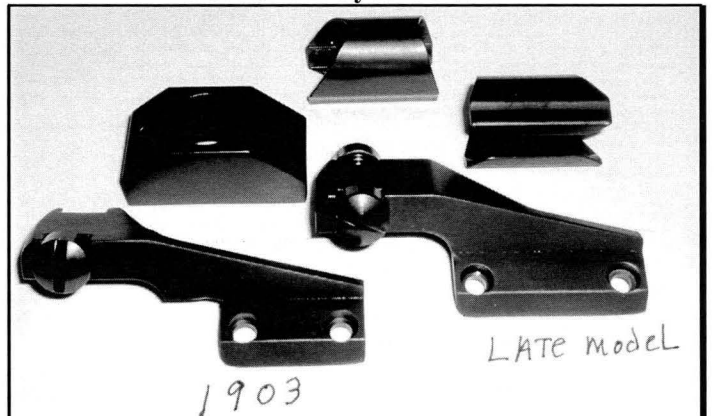


Ed with a Feral Hog



Ed with a nice Southwest Texas Goat

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THEY'RE BACK!! only better. REDFIELD style bases for the Mannlicher Schoenauer. We have them for ALL models starting with the 1903 through the 61MCA. They will fit the pre drilled holes on the "Stoger" imports. They are CNC machined out of steel.

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My "Main" Mannlicher (although I have several) has been my 1956 MC Mannlicher Schoenauer 30-06. I purchased it new in 1957 at Warner Highway in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It cost \$198.50 which was quite a lot at the time. I had a Weaver K 2 1/2 with a post reticule put on it in an Echo side mount which worked fine. After ten years I put a Leupold 1.5-5 on it which works fine also. I've shot quite a few animals with it over the last fifty plus years.

I went to Wyoming in October 2011 for antelope, (my 53rd) and had a fun time. For several years I hunted in Texas with my son and grandson. For three or four years we hunted with Finn Aagard until he quit guiding, and then we hunted alone for feral animals. On our first trip we racked up 45 head. All the meat went to the food bank and none went to waste. The most fun for me was shooting javelina which we hunted on four different ranches in S.W.Texas.

My first loading was 48gr of 4895 behind 150gr bullets of several brands. I now use that load with Nosler Partitions. The 165gr Partition is my bear load (using 47 gr of 4895) and I have shot 10 black bears with it. For elk I use 180gr Partitions with 44 grs of 4995. The two I shot both died with one shot each.

## Editor's Odds and Ends

MCA members Lee Shannon and Chris Ebert report that Graff & Sons are selling Prvi Ammunition in both 6.5x54 MS and 8x56r. The 6.5MS sells for \$17.59 for 20 rounds loaded with 156gr SPRN.

Please sell raffle tickets and just Xerox them if you need more.

At the Reno show there were only ten Mannlichers, but two very nice ones were bought by MCA members. The front sight hoods made by Robert Watts are so precise that you can not tell them from an original! LEL





# The Mannlicher Collectors Association, Inc.

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# The Mannlicher Collectors Association

## Application for Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees, Titles \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### MCA DUES ENCLOSED:

North American Annual Membership \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Overseas Annual Membership \$ 35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Steyr-Mannlicher Stick Pin \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Original Mannlicher Brassard \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Mannlicher Collectors Patch \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Forward application and make check payable to:

## The Mannlicher Collector Association

P.O. Box 588 • Hamilton, Texas 76531

I certify that I am not, nor have I ever been, a member of any organization or group advocating the overthrow by force or violence of the Government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence or a felony; and that, if admitted to membership, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship and that I will support the purposes of the Mannlicher Collectors Association.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor (M.C.A. Member) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

## Journal Staff

Executive Editor Robert Blank, A.S.

Managing Editor Lynn Levengood, J.D.

Copy Editor Deanna Ugarkovich

German Language Editor John J. Stransky, Ph.D.

Australian/Reuters News Editor David I. Skinner

Annual membership dues payable at the first of each year. U.S. \$30.00. Overseas \$35.00 Life membership \$500.00. Please remit dues to the membership office.

A subscription to *TMC* is included with each membership.

The Editors welcome manuscripts, photographs, and artwork addressing technical descriptions of Mannlicher, Steyr & related Continental Arms, production data, ballistics, and experiences afield. Submissions will be handled with care, but their safety cannot be guaranteed. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if return of a submission is desired. Ballistic data reflects unique conditions; so neither the M.C.A. nor the author(s) accept any liability for applications of the data. These materials should be sent to the MCA Editorial office.

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