

August, 2025



## COLORADO GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

**Dear CGCA Members,**

**A note from our President,**

Poof! Summer is quickly coming to an end. Every summer seems to end faster than the one before, as does life seem to go by faster as we age. It was a good summer though. I went on a wonderful vacation with my wife this summer although I lamented the gun shows I ended up missing.

We visited three foreign countries on our vacation and everywhere the people were wonderful. I couldn't help but think of the fact that none of those countries have the second amendment. All of those countries have stricter guns laws than we have and I am pretty sure they don't have gun shows the way we do. We need to be thankful for what we do have, although we need to spend a little effort to keep what we have also.

On the way home we stopped at Fort Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia. It has been recreated as it was in the 1700's. Apparently the "blue prints" were still in the archives in France so they knew exactly what the buildings looked like and how they were made. They had reenactors there who were dressed as French troops with their Charleville muskets, and they fired off a large cannon at Noon. According to the reenactors, this is where the roots of the American revolution really started! It is fascinating to me how all of these "turf battles" in North America eventually led to Canada and The United States coming into existence.

We are beginning to plan for our 60th anniversary show next year. We want to make it special. We are hoping to raffle off a unique, one of a kind, engraved rifle to commemorate the occasion. I hope you will consider attending this great show, whether as a vendor, displayer, or just as an attendee. I think you will be glad you did!

Thanks,  
Rick Wilson, President

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**Our next meeting will be August 19, 2025** at the American Legion Post 1; 7:00PM.

Our program will be: Royal Canadian Mounted Police Side Arms 1905-1955 by Craig Blancett.

Thank you Jon Zeller for his awesome talk on 1861 Contract Rifles. There was so much to learn.

If you have an article that you would like to share in our newsletter, please send it to Cindy.

We have had some changes to the Board of Directors. Scott Anderson has resigned as Safety Manager for the Gun Show. Scott has also resigned as Vice President of the club. **Thank you, Scott, for your years of service on the Board.** Replacing Scott as Vice President is Chris Brownell. We have a new Board Member for the Safety Manager for the Gun Show. Please welcome Ray Magill as Safety Manager.

Thank you to Roy Marcot on behalf of the Remington Society of America for donating a large quantity of .22 ammo to the Clay Busters, a youth shooting group that helped vendors load and unload at our show.

If you were at the show and lost a camera, please contact Cindy at [sectreas@cgca.com](mailto:sectreas@cgca.com)

We have lost another member recently.

Mildred Ferris. Mildred was the wife of Nick Ferris. She helped us at the Gun Show at the Front Desk for several years.

The Colorado State Shooting Association (the official State Association of the NRA) is having an event at Magnum Shooting Center South in Colorado Springs this September 20-21, 2025. The event is a range-day fundraiser to help fund their legal and political efforts to defend our Second Amendment Rights.

Learn more here: <https://rb.gy/pcr0rm>

CSSA has already filed, along with Magnum Shooting Center, a challenge to the excise tax in *Langston v. Humphreys*. CSSA has also retained legal counsel in their efforts to undo SB3 (the worst gun bill ever passed in Colorado).

Additionally, CSSA helped fight in the elections last year where a mountain lion hunting ban went down and worked to flip seats in the State House, State Senate, and Congress. One of those flips was won by just three votes and that broke the Democrats' super majority.

*Please visit our website at [www.CGCA.com](http://www.CGCA.com) for club news and updates and our Facebook page.*

If you have questions, please contact:

Rick Wilson, President 720-988-0516; [President@cgca.com](mailto:President@cgca.com)

Cindy Jewell, Secretary/treasurer 303-750-5645; [sectreas@cgca.com](mailto:sectreas@cgca.com)

Dave Weddle, Show Chairman 720-482-0167; [CGCASHow@cgca.com](mailto:CGCASHow@cgca.com)

See more on our youtube channel.

<https://youtube.com/@coguncollectors?feature=shared>



John Ewing

Best Antique Military

"US Carbines"



Rick Regnier

"Marlin Model 1894"





"Little Bighorn Weapons"



Norman Hughes

"Howitzer with a History"

## A Brief History of US 3 Bar Guard Sabers/Swords

By Tom Hillman

The Model 1833 Dragoon Saber, top of sword picture, was introduced in 1833 to supply two new US Dragoon regiments authorized by congress. They replaced the earlier Starr Cavalry Sabers and copied the British M1822 light cavalry saber. 6100 were produced. They had a light 34" blade with a quill rounded back blade; The sword had many design flaws. It was too light to thrust with, resulting in bent and broken blades. The scabbard was also prone to dent and bend.

Production ended in 1839. The M1833 saw service in the Mexican War and Western expansion.

The Model 1840 Heavy Saber, second from top in picture, was designed to correct the M1833 flaws. The US Ordnance Department purchased swords from France, England, and Prussia for testing. The French model was chosen and the M1840 was born. It has a heavy 35" slightly curved blade with a flat top designed for slashing and thrusting. It has a heavy iron scabbard and brass guard. The heavier sword was nicknamed the " Old Wristbreaker ". 23,700 were ordered from 1844 to 1858. The manufacturer and date of manufacture is found on the blade ricasso under the guard. Many swords of this style were imported from Europe during the Civil War, US manufactured are more desirable and valuable. The M1840 saw service in the Mexican War and Civil War.

The US Model 1860 Light Cavalry Sword, third from top on picture, was designed to replace the M1840. The 35" blade is narrower and the whole sword is lighter. The blade has a rounded back. Again, the manufacturer and date of manufacture is on the blade ricasso under the brass guard. The Tiffany, yes that Tiffany, manufactured swords are the one exception to the brass guards. They have an iron guard and have a PDL mark on the blade. 300,000 M1860 were produced ending in 1865. An earlier date of manufacture makes a sword more valuable. The M1860 saw service in the Civil War, the Indian Wars, and in Mexico with Pershing.

The US Model 1906, bottom of picture, was a short run of swords. The US was finally out of M1860 overstocks from the Civil War and needed swords for the US and Philippine Cavalry until the US replacement testing and acceptance of a new model sword. It is a M1860 copy except it has an iron guard. It has a Flaming Bomb ordinance mark and 1906 on the blade.

One quick tip on telling the M1840 from the M1860. The grip on the M1840 is smaller at the pommel cap and widens to the guard. The M1860 has a hump in the center of the grip for better control. See picture 2.

These swords served our country well until rapid fire multiple round weapons resulted in their decline and obsolescence.

Collecting Swords is a fun, historical, and easily displayable hobby. However, too much fun in demonstrating can result in punctured walls and ceilings.



