

November, 2025



COLORADO GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Dear CGCA Members,

Letter from our President,

Dave Weddle has announced that the 2026 CGCA Gun Show will be his last to manage. All things eventually come to an end, but change is hard. I hope you will all thank Dave for guiding the CGCA Gun Show through the most tumultuous era of its history. He took over when we were at the wonderful Merchandise Mart and then had to find other venues when the Mart closed. We moved to Colorado Springs for a couple of years, and then to Greeley where we will be this next year, because Denver County doesn't allow gun shows. Our annual show is a huge undertaking, and he will leave huge shoes to fill. Luckily our Vice President, Chris Brownell, has accepted the challenge to learn the ropes alongside Dave, and then take over after the completion of the 2026 show.

The 2026 show will be our 60th Anniversary, and we hope you will join us. The Colorado State Shooting Association, who we have been working alongside this past legislative season, has offered to raffle off a special, one-of-a-kind, engraved Winchester 1873 SRC, to commemorate the occasion. This is one of Winchester's current production carbines.

On another note, this month I visited the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley CA, the largest presidential library in the system, which is on the northern outskirts of LA. I have been to the Library many times because they have such great rotating exhibits. Over the years they have had exhibits on the Titanic, Secrets of WWII, The Dead Sea Scrolls, and the FBI, among others, as well as the permanent exhibit on President Reagan. They even have the entire "Air force One", a Boeing 707, on exhibit.

Currently they have an exhibit titled "The Cowboys". It tells the story of the Cowboy in a fun way, with of course some tools of the trade which I love. I actually went to the premier opening party. I was able to meet a few of the children and grandchildren of some of the actors that were in the Westerns of the 1960's and 70's. Interestingly I ran into a collector, who probably has the greatest private gun collection I have ever heard of.

I was invited to the opening because I loaned some items from my collection. How did the Reagan Library know about my world-renowned collection (Ha, Ha) you might ask. Well, it just so happens that the supervisory curator is my brother, Randy Swan, who was also a past secretary/treasurer of the CGCA. You could say that being involved with the CGCA and exhibiting at the best display show in the world, helped prepare him for greater things!

Thanks,
Rick Wilson, President

For those of you who miss our meetings or would just like to hear our presentations again. We will be sending our meeting videos via email. Please be sure we have your correct email.

Our next meeting will be November 18, 2025 at the American Legion Post 1; 7:00PM.

This month we will be having our annual Charity Auction. Please bring your items for the auction by 6:15 PM so that we have time to catalog the items. The money that we collect from the auction goes directly to the charities that have been selected.

We are featuring many specialty and collector books from the collection of Jack Dhooghe.

Thank you, Bob Moulder, for the interesting presentation on 'My Favorite Weapons.' Very interesting. The stories were so great.

We will NOT have a meeting in December.

We are accepting reservations for our Christmas Dinner. Dinner is on December 6.

We are dining at Maggiano's I25 & Dry Creek from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. A reservation form is attached. Seating is limited. We look forward to seeing you at the dinner.

FOR SALE: Two 1847 Colt Walkers. One is all authenticated, documented, and ready for purchase. The other, newly discovered in amazing high condition, is currently undergoing authentication. Call for details: Bob Ulbright: 715-772-4992.

If you were at the show and lost a camera, please contact Cindy at sectreas@cgca.com

Please visit our website at 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

Cindy Jewell, Secretary/treasurer 303-750-5645; sectreas@cgca.com

Dave Weddle, Show Chairman 720-482-0167; CGCASHow@cgca.com

See more on our youtube channel.

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

CGCA Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 6, 2025

Maggiano's Italian Restaurant
7401 S Clinton St
Englewood, CO 80112
I 25 and Dry Creek, Exit 196

Time 3:00 - 6:00pm

Cost: \$20.00 per person member
Cost: \$40.00 per person non-member

The meal will be served family style.

Make check payable to CGCA -- mail slip and check NO LATER THAN
NOVEMBER 22nd to:

Cindy Jewell
1164 S Quince Way, Denver, CO 80231-2005

Questions: Craig Blancett: 720/427-2430

_____ *Detach Here and Remit with payment* _____

Name: _____

Guest Name: _____

• *Amount Enclosed:* _____

My Favorite Weapons

Summarized by Rick Wilson

Bob, one of our long-time members, and an expert on the Civil War, gave our Lecture at the October meeting. As usual, it was a most interesting talk so I wanted to share it with those that could not be present.

He started out by saying he isn't a gun, a sword, or a uniform collector, but rather a collector of history.

The first item he talked about was a standard model 1861 rifled musket. The first ones were made at Springfield but later they were made by various contractors. This was made in 1863 by one of those contractors. The interesting thing is that it was most likely at the battle of Gettysburg because carved in the stock is 121 NYV with a red cross. This probably stands for 121st New York Volunteers. The red cross in this instance, is the Insignia of the first division of the 6th army corp. When he bought this rifle, he was hoping there would be a name somewhere, and indeed when he took the barrel off, inscribed in the barrel Chamel was the name "George Wallace" who was in the 121st, and most likely had this gun at Gettysburg.

Next, he talked about his Indian gun, a sharps carbine. He knows where it has been for the last 90 years. He offered up his reasons for why he thought it was a legitimate Indian used carbine. First the butt plate is missing and commonly they would be removed by the Indians to be used as hide scrapers. It has a number of tacks in the butt stock that have a lot of patina, and also a hide repair to the fore stock. When he got it, he could tell it had been of military issue because the stock had a scar on it that had been made by the sling swivel that was used by the calvary. He checked on the serial number, which was 96,448. Serial number 96,447 was issued to a trooper in Company B of the 1st California calvary. They only have the serial numbers for one of the eleven company's, so the odds are very good that this ended up with the 1st California calvary. They operated in the Southwest in NM, AZ, and Northern Texas and were mustered out in 1866 at a place called Baird's ranch in New Mexico.

Next, he talked about a pistol that was owned by Spruce McCoy Baird whose Baird's ranch is named after him. He fought for Texas as an officer in the war with Mexico. Later he was made Attorney General of New Mexico in 1860. When the Confederates came through in 1862, one column actually stayed at Bairds ranch. Bob has a picture drawn of the ranch by a soldier of the fourth Texas. After the Confederates retreated from New Mexico, he figured that he was probably no longer welcomed in New Mexico. He and his family retreated down the Rio Grande River to El Paso. There, he was made Colonel of the Fourth Arizona Calvary. The Union Army, thinking he was a Confederate sympathizer, and rightly so, confiscated his ranch. They then proceeded to turn it into a headquarters and supply depot after the war. That is where the 1st California was mustered out in 1866.

So, a Sharps carbine, possibly in use by the 1st California, and subsequently turned in at Bairds Ranch, and the personal revolver of Spruce Baird come back together to tell the story of "Bairds Ranch". I wish everyone could watch the video of Bob's talk because he can explain it all so much better than I can. Needless to say, this is real history that a master of gun collecting and history has elucidated through research!

He picked up another gun and went on to describe a copy of the 1859 Sharps Carbine he has and how it differed from the original. Why would he care about a copy? Because it was made in 1863 by C.S Robinson in Richmond VA!

Bob went on to talk about a .44 Allan and Wheelock revolver owned by David Wm Oyler. He served with Quantrill's Raiders during the war. This revolver was purchased from the great granddaughter. The story she told was that her great grandfather kind of disappeared for about a five-year period after the war. Sometime later he had some friends come visit the farm. The friends names were Frank James and Cole Younger. Perhaps that could account for where he was for the missing 5 years!

Bob had some bowie knives with stories as well as a presentation grade, pattern 1850 Staff and Field officer's sword. The scabbard had a presentation plaque that described its presentation to Captain Wm H Stolzenbach from the Loyal Citizens of Bethlehem PA. The irony is that the captain lost his right hand in the battle of Atlanta and so he was now unable to use this presentation sword.

I did not do justice to Bob's talk, but I hope I have given you a glimpse of the history Bob has uncovered. In my humble opinion he is a National treasure and without him this history would be lost. These artifacts and the stories they illustrate bring history to life! Please, if there is any way for you to watch Bob's presentation on video, I would highly recommend it.

See more on our youtube channel.

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



