

April 2026



## COLORADO GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

From the President:

I am getting excited, because next month is our 60th Anniversary show. In 1964, a handful of men started the Colorado Gun Collectors Association. Soon after, they started to have meetings at a downtown Denver hotel which blossomed into the gun show we have today. For years we have been the premier Display Show with the sum of our awards exceeding \$10,000 each year. This attracts some of the best displays and the most serious collectors from around the country.

Last year the Colorado Legislature delineated that a "Collectors Show" which confined itself to Antiques and C and R firearms was not a "Gun Show" and therefore exempt from a lot of the new rules governing a modern gun show. There are still the old rules to follow but we can still hold our show and keep the traditions alive. I hope that is true for years to come but we will continue to need your support.

The CGCA will continue to fight along with the Colorado State Shooting Association, The Firearms Coalition, and many others to preserve our right to assemble, and enjoy our world class Show, and the hobby we all love. In honor of our 60th anniversary, the Colorado State Shooting Association is raffling off a one-of-a-kind Winchester Rifle. This is an 1873 Saddle Ring Carbine made by Winchester and is engraved honoring CGCA's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gun Show. This is a fund raiser to help support our club, and some lucky person will end up with an instant collector's item. The CSSA is also helping to advertise our show, which should help us reach well over a hundred thousand new contacts.

This is also the 250th Anniversary of our country. I have heard rumors that we will have WWII re-enactors at our show, a couple of restored WWII jeeps, and some other surprises hopefully.

I hope you will join us for this milestone, either by reserving a table to sell and trade your items, or as a visitor looking for that next piece to add to your collection. And please buy some raffle tickets for the 60th anniversary carbine that will be awarded at our show. If you can't make it in person, then you can buy tickets by contacting our treasurer, Cindy Jewell at [sectreas@CGCA.com](mailto:sectreas@CGCA.com). As always, don't hesitate to get my attention and tell me your suggestions about how we can make our show even better. Most of all, I hope you will have a great time seeing new things and catching up with old Friends. See you there!

Rick Wilson

Our next meeting will be April 21, 2026, at the American Legion Post 1; 7:00 PM.  
Our program will be "H&R Rising .22 Trainer Development."

By Clay Timson.

Thank you, Bob for the great presentation on "Civil War Arms Made in Richmond."

We have lost a member of our community,

Michael Penz of Cheyenne, WY. Mike was a member since 1995 and a regular vendor at our show. He collected antique guns, muzzle loaders and Kentucky long rifles.

We have received **two new member** applications from:

Donald James Davis of Denver, CO. Donald collects High standard 101-103 models

James P DeRossitt of Drasco, AR. James collects Winchester Rifles, Military Firearms, Antique Reloading tools.

***COMING SOON .... Get your tables and your hotel room***

## **60<sup>th</sup> Annual Colorado Gun Collectors Show**

**PLEASE EMAIL RAY MAGILL IF YOU CAN HELP WITH DOOR SECURITY    [RAYCOLTSAA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RAYCOLTSAA@GMAIL.COM)**

**OUR COLORADO GUN COLLECTORS SHOW IS  
MAY 16, AND MAY 17, 2026  
VIP DAY ON MAY 15, 2026.**

**WE STILL HAVE A FEW TABLES AVAILABLE.  
ISLAND GROVE EVENT CENTER, GREELEY, CO  
PLEASE CONTACT OUR SHOW CHAIRMAN,  
DAVE WEDDLE 720-482-0167.**

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

New pictures are on our website.

If you have questions, please contact:

President    Rick Wilson, [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)

## Made in Richmond: Confederate Arms of the Civil War

A talk by **Bob Moulder**

As described by Rick Wilson

At the start of the Civil War, the “North” contained much of the United States manufacturing capabilities. The South was therefore at a disadvantage. They could do some manufacturing, but they had to rely on taking over arsenals such as at Harpers Ferry and importing arms when they could get past the blockades. This is a problem not unlike today, where we have to be careful as a country, not to be dependent on foreign countries for goods and materials in case we get cut off.

Bob’s interest in Richmond arms started about fifty years ago when a friend asked if he was interested in an old gun a lady friend wanted to sell. Apparently, she had moved into a house in Chicago years ago that still had the old gas lighting. When the attic was explored to update the house, this gun, an old uniform, and some letters were found. The letters and uniform smelled “bad” so she burned them.

Of course, he said he would be interested in looking at the gun. It was a model 1808 based on the model of 1797. It was marked Richmond Virginia on the lock. Bob didn’t know anything about Richmond Manufactory, or confederate weapons at the time. He didn’t know what it was worth, but he knew how much money he had in his pocket, (which wasn’t very much) so he made an offer. He got the gun, and the lady was happy. Further research showed that it was converted to percussion for Confederate use by A. G. Dabney of Lynchburg VA in about 1860 or 1861. It was probably issued to an early Virginia regiment such as the 52nd or maybe the 54th, that were stationed at Fort Donaldson. Interestingly, the sling happens to be a suspender strap. Since then, he has learned a lot more about Richmond arms and has added a number of pieces to his collection.

Virginia had the first state armory after the American Revolution, starting around 1802. It made muskets, rifles, maybe some pistols, and edged weapons, including this saber. Bob has a second model of a Virginia Manufactory calvary saber made about 1820 for the Virginia militia. Bob pointed out that the average man back then was about 5’ 6” tall. Bob used to be over 6’ tall and even he can barely clear the scabbard. While it might have been a formidable weapon once engaged, getting it out of the scabbard and into play was a problem. Quite early on they were shortened by 4”, but even then, they were still unwieldy. Sometime in the 1860’s some were cut down to a Navy Cutlass, which was much more useful.





About 1860 or 1861, the confederacy decided to re-open the Virginia Manufactory and started producing the Richmond "high hump" muskets. This refers to the "hump" behind the nipple for the Maynard priming system. Early on the Confederates captured the armory at Harpers Ferry. They didn't capture any complete guns, but they did capture machinery and tooling along with parts. The gun that was being produced by Harpers Ferry at that time was the 1855 Rifled musket that used the Maynard priming system. In 1861 The US abandoned the Maynard tape priming system. The confederates didn't use the Maynard system either, but they didn't bother to convert their tooling to save time and resources. They started out using left over parts as well

as making a few parts to supplement, such as a barrel band or a butt plate. These early guns were the Confederate model of 1861 but were not marked C. S.

By 1862 all of the parts were Confederate. Interestingly some C. S. "High Hump" lock plates were found in the 1970's and put on muskets to look like Confederate "High Hump" muskets in order to raise the price, so it is important to remove the lock plate on such guns to verify that they were originally inletted for the Maynard system.

By 1863 they started to grind down the "High Hump", presumably to save metal since it wasn't functional, and they also started using brass butt plates. Bob knows of an 1864 musket that has an 1861 US lock on it but because it has a brass butt plate it is presumed to be an 1864 Confederate.

There was another company in Richmond at the time, the S.C. Robinson Company, that made copies of the 1863 Sharps carbine. The company was taken over by the Confederacy and early ones do not have Robinson marked anywhere, although they are marked Richmond VA behind the rear sight. It has a brass butt plate and barrel band but no pellet priming system. It also has a hole in the bottom of the forend at the rear, because some of them were blowing up the forends. The reason is because when the breach block is raised, cutting off the end of the paper cartridge, some powder would inevitably trickle down and collect under the action at the rear of the forend and then eventually ignite and blow up the forend. Bob surmised that this would be not only uncomfortable, but a little distracting.

Another factory that produced mostly swords was Boyle and Gamble or Boyle, Gamble, and McFee. Bob has looked for the reason for the different names and so far, it appears that Boyle, Gamble, and McFee produced enlisted men's swords, and Boyle and Gamble produced officers' swords as well as sabers. The example Bob has was evidently in a fire, as the handle is missing. However, this allows one to see the series of dots marked on the tang. This is thought to be the "signature" of the slave who crafted this sword. Was it picked up at the battle of the Wilderness where there was a big fire? Perhaps, but we will never know.

Another sword Bob has is a foot officers sword marked Boyle and Gamble, as well as "C.S. The early ones were made with white leather grips that were then dyed brown, which this one exhibits.

Boyle and Gamble also produced saber bayonets for the model 1841 "Mississippi" rifle. Apparently, there were a lot of 1841 rifles in the South when the war broke out and it was therefore a popular arm with the South. They weren't originally equipped with a bayonet. This bayonet has a ring attached at the end in order for it to slip over the muzzle of an 1841 rifle, and another band to fit over the front sight. This was found at the unfinished railroad cut at Gettysburg.

Bob mentioned that there were probably other manufacturers at Richmond. This is the collection he has accumulated up to this point. Bob is a true historian and scholar, and I appreciate all of the knowledge he brings to his artifacts and the story they tell.

To see Bob's talk, google You Tube CGCA.com and look for this title, it is much better in Bob's own words and well worth your effort.



**CSSA RAFFLE GUN**  
**1873 Saddle Ring Carbine made by Winchester**

