

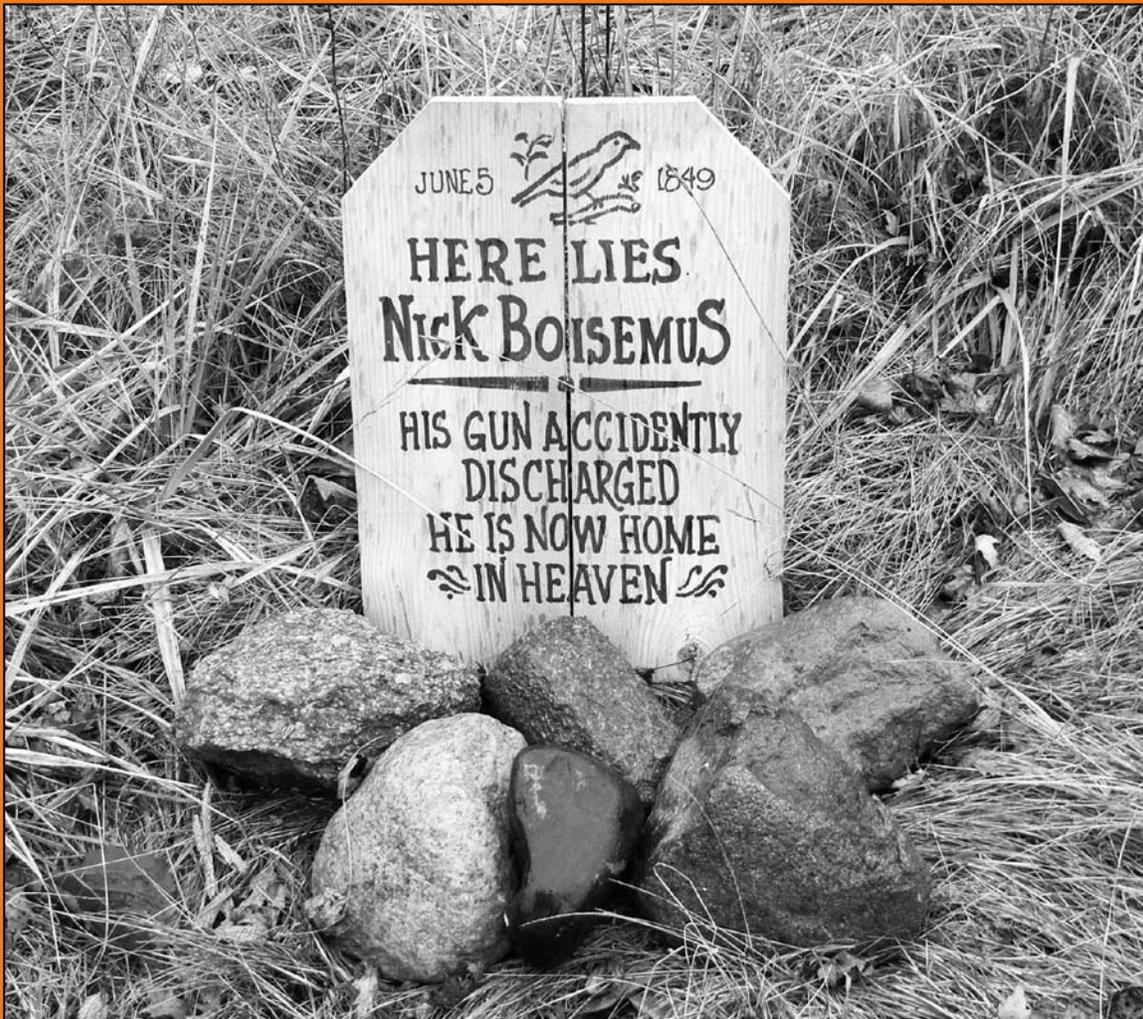
# M·W·C·A

Minnesota Weapons Collectors Association  
Official Publication

VOLUME NO. 25

ISSUE NO. 1

WINTER 2011



**Firearms Accidents on the Overland Trail**

See page 10 for the rest of the story.

## 2011 Trophy Show Issue

# M • W • C • A News

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Official Publication of the  
**Minnesota Weapons Collectors Association**  
PO Box 662 • Hopkins MN 55343 • [www.mwca.org](http://www.mwca.org) • 612-721-8976

Staff.....Dale Peterson, Stan Nelson, Mike Foster

## Features in this Issue

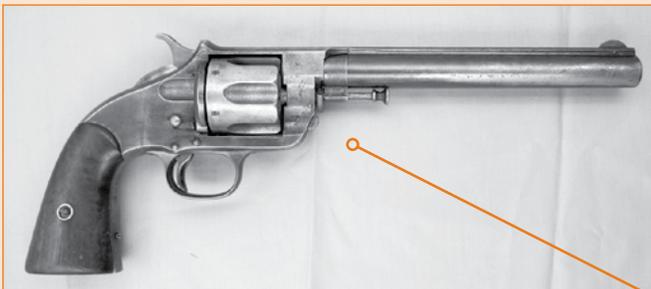
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## GUESS THE GUN!

Win a FREE business card size ad (\$25 value).

First five correct entries win!

Call Dale at 763-753-1663



Well, we had no “Guess the Gun” winner in the last issue. We had several guesses, but not the correct answer for this gun.



The rifle is what I would call an inventor's model that showed up at an MWCA show at the Education Building in the fall of 2010. I tried to research the rifle but could not come up with any answers as to the maker. It is owned by an older collector's son who lives in the Anoka MN area. His father passed it on to him with no knowledge as to where he acquired it.

I hope this issue's “Guess the Gun” in is more identifiable.

# The President's Shot

Greetings to one and all.

First off, I want to thank Chuck Geyer for being on the Board of Directors. Also, thank you and happy retirement to Ken Menth. You helped me in many ways over the years. Sadly, several members have left us in 2011.

The recent attempt to attack the teenage widow in Arizona shows Castle Doctrine has merit. When local law enforcement tells you to "Do what you have to do to protect your babies," this gives you something to think about.

On a lighter note, gun shows are in full swing and there is strong attendance at them.

The other day, a fellow came into my store for some 22 ammo. While collecting his money, he made mention of the fact that he and his two granddaughters had shot over 300 rounds the day before. I said that sounded like fun. He remarked that was the most fun he had in a long time and the girls wanted to go again next weekend. It's something we should all try to do. Show the youngsters how much fun shooting is and they will be interested for life. If nobody cares about guns and shooting, then what is your collection worth?

Thank you,  
Brian VanKleek  
2011 MWCA Vice President



## 2012 Show Dates

### Minnesota Weapons Collectors Association

**JANUARY 14 - 15, Rochester Mayo Civic Center**

**FEBRUARY 18 - 19, Minneapolis Convention Center**

**MARCH 17 - 18, MN State Fair COLISEUM Building**

**APRIL 21 - 22, MN State Fair EDUCATION Building**

**AUGUST 18 - 19, Buffalo MN Civic Center**

**SEPTEMBER 8 - 9, Forest Lake Sports Complex**

**SEPTEMBER 29 - 30, MN State Fair EDUCATION Building**

**OCTOBER 27 - 28, MN State Fair COLISEUM Building  
Annual Trophy Show**

**DECEMBER 8 - 9, St. Paul RiverCentre**

# MWCA 2011 Trophy Show

Our annual trophy show was held on October 29-30,2011 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Despite the beautiful fall weather and the hunting season we had a good crowd attending the show. We had a number of outstanding displays with a variety of weapons from modern rifles, modern handguns, foreign rifles, U.S. military rifles, antique rifles, antique handguns and related items.

Thanks to the collectors who spent the time and effort to share their collections with fellow members and the general public. A special "Thank You" to judges who gave up their time to select the winning displays. Board Member Ed Pohl was the trophy show manager this year and did a good job organizing our annual trophy show. If you have any comments about the show please direct them to Ed or any of the board members as this is your organization and the more input they receive the better the show becomes. The 2012 Trophy Show will be held October 27 - 28 at the Minnesota State Fair Coliseum Bldg.



**Wayne Becicka and his bride with their Colt Woodsman display which won the Best of Show and the O.K. Award.**



**Robert Rolander received 1st place for his Related Items and 2nd place for Modern handguns.**



**Vem Berning took 1 st place in Antique Rifles and also won Best of Show for a fine engraved Winchester '73 carbine.**

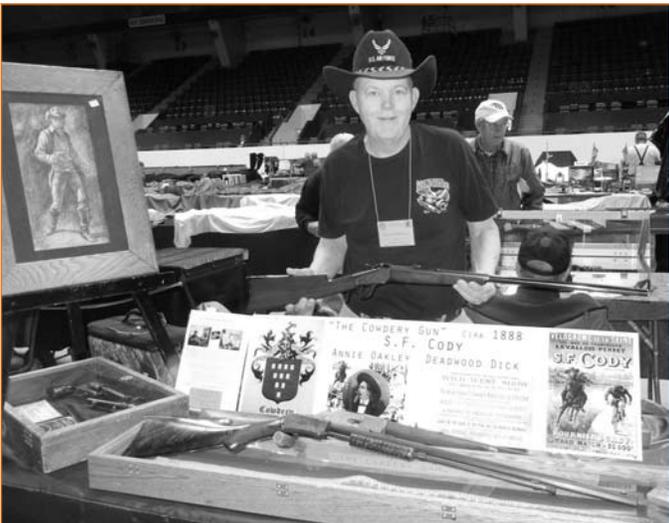
## MWCA 2011 Trophy Show, continued



Dale H. Peterson's display of Engraved Guns received 1st place for Antique Hand Guns.



Bo Casserberg got 2nd place for his large display of Husqvarna rifles.



Gary Asproth received 3rd place in the antique long gun category for his Cowdery Gun.



Ed Pohl's German Sniper Rifles received 1st place in the Modern Long Guns category.



The M1 Garand display of Don Johnson received 2nd place for modern rifles.



The Burgess Gun Co display received 2nd place for Alvin Olson in the antique long gun category.



Denny Larson took 3rd place for his Smith & Wesson display.

## MWCA 2011 Trophy Show, continued



**Dale Dalbotten got 1st place in the Modern Hand Guns category for his Numbers Game, Ruger Single Actions.**



**Ralph Hettig, from Rochester, MN, dealing with several customers.**



**Jim Moores, St Cloud, MN, with a fine selection of items for sale. The Ole Guy in the red hat is stock maker "Slim" Wells.**



**A good variety of older helmets for sale.**



**Tom Morrison's great selection of cartridges and shot shells for sale.**



**"SQUEEK"**

## MWCA 2011 Trophy Show, continued



**Fred Nordahl, Edina, MN, with a nice selection of levers for sale.**



**Bob Crooks, from La Cross, Wisconsin, behind his rack of doubles for sale.**



**Rex Brown with his dandy Winchester 22 Rifles.**



**Thanks, guys, for your efforts. "GREAT DISPLAYS"**

### Gun Collector

You may have heard on the news about a southern California man was put under 72-hour psychiatric observation when it was found he owned 100 guns and allegedly had (by rough estimate) 1-million rounds of ammunition stored in his home. The house also featured a secret escape tunnel.

My favorite quote from the dimwit television reporter: "Wow! He has about a million machine gun bullets." The headline referred to it as a "massive weapons cache."

By southern California standards someone even owning 100,000 rounds would be called "mentally unstable."

Just imagine if he lived elsewhere:

- In Arizona, he'd be called "an avid gun collector."
- In Arkansas, he'd be called "a novice gun collector."
- In Utah, he'd be called "moderately well prepared," but they'd probably reserve judgment until they made sure that he had a corresponding quantity of stored food.
- In Montana, he'd be called "The neighborhood 'Go-To' guy".
- In Idaho, he'd be called "a likely gubernatorial candidate."
- In Wyoming, he'd be called "an eligible bachelor."
- And, in Texas, he'd be called "a deer hunting buddy."

# 2011 NRA Convention

by Dale H. Peterson

The Annual NRA Convention was held in Pittsburgh, PA on April 29 thru May 1, 2011. I participated with a display of my 1894 Winchester rifles; so the bride and I packed the van with rifles, suitcases, snacks and gasoline and headed east. The weather was a little wet on the trip out but we arrived in Pittsburgh and found the hotel, with the help of my newly purchased “Garmin”.

Alvin and Mrs. Olson arrived the next morning so we took a drive to scout out the area and with my trusty Garmin we found the David L. Lawrence Convention Center which was located on the banks of the Allegheny River. The city of Pittsburgh was quite colorful with many bridges, rivers, hills, tunnels and old narrow curvy streets.

Thursday morning we got an early start and headed for the convention center but we the found out that the short drive the day before turned into a 90 minute trip because of all the traffic. Being retired for a number of years I forgot people still have to get up and drive to work in the morning. After a few wrong turns and a lot of horn honking we finally arrived at the center. The set up went pretty smooth as the booth was ready with everything in place: carpet, showcases, chairs, drapes, etc.. We left the hall early afternoon to get ahead of the traffic and headed for the hotel. With the help of my personal navigator, the trusty Garmin, we found a nice restaurant and a glass of wine and a good meal.

Friday, Alvin and I headed to the Convention Center early the next morning and found the traffic moving along well but the parking lot was full and we had to park about half mile away. So we made a mental note to start earlier Saturday morning. The ladies had planned on taking the shuttle bus from the hotel, which was suppose to run every half hour but because of the influx of additional people coming to the NRA show the traffic was even worse than the day before. After a two hour bus ride the gals finally made it to the hall.



Bridges as seen from the convention hall balcony.



“Pittsburgh Wildlife”

Saturday we had finally figured out the program, left early, parked close to the back door and everyone was HAPPY. The show went well with approximately 70,000 people attending. We talked to many people who made the comment “My dad had a Winchester just like that.” In most cases after asking what was the caliber of their dad’s rifle was it turned out that many of dad’s guns were an 1873 or an 1892. We passed out a number of MWCA bulletins and other items relating to the MWCA.

The competition was “stiff” to say the least, some of the big winners were a pair of silver plated cased Volcanic pistols, Volcanic pistol serial NO. 1, a beautiful Kentucky rifle, Smith & Wesson .357 Mag revolver serial no. 1, Browning Machine Gun prototype and down the line. Although there were some fine Colts, Marlins, Remingtons and Winchesters they were not chosen for any awards. It was great to see many old friends that we had met at previous NRA conventions and talk to many people who think along the same lines as you do.

Sunday afternoon we packed up and headed for the hotel, hit the sack early. We left Pittsburgh the next morning about 4:00 AM and headed west. All in all I found Pittsburgh a place I would visit again because of the scenery, friendly people and some nice neighborhood restaurants.

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## 2011 NRA Convention, continued

by Alvin Olson

In the over 25 years of attending the NRA Annuals this was Eleanora's and my second visit to Pittsburgh, PA. We again saw many of our old acquaintances.

We saw different parts of the city than on other visits. We had also gone through/past on our way to and from Philadelphia for an NRA Annual, some years ago.

Our impression of the eastern part of the city, where we had lodging reservations, was that the street system was an outgrowth of the "Ox Cart Days" and their trails. It was a few miles from the motel to go to the exhibit hall, and one day the ladies decided to not take the "Peterson Limo," which left before morning rush hour, and to use the available motel shuttle. With Dale's expert maneuvering (here refer to the "Pot Holes" article in a couple years ago issue of the MWCA Bulletin!) it took us less than half an hour to get to the hall. The wives' shuttle service took two hours from departure to arrival! They took the "Peterson Limo" after that.

Attending to the MWCA's display in Collector's Row, was about a full time effort for us, and left little time for roaming around in the commercial display areas. The members of the other groups that were in Collector's Row, were for the most part, people that my wife and I had known from previous trips to the NRA Annuals, and visiting with them was great.

The 2012 NRA Annual Meetings and exhibits will be in Saint Louis in April, and it is worth the trip, especially if you have not attended an Annual. See you there?



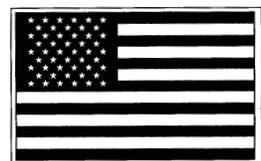
NRA Director Jim Supica accepting a donation from the MWCA



2011 NRA booth manned by Dale & Alvin

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## Support The NRA!



## Support Our Troops!

# Firearms Accidents on the Overland Trail

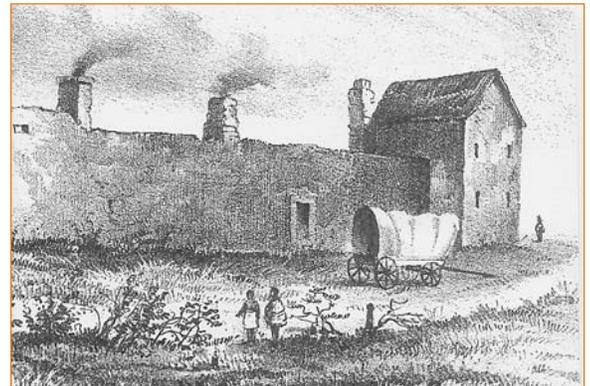
By Stan Nelson

Accidents involving personal firearms are as old as the first hand cannon, and as history shows, the continuing development of ever more sophisticated and “safer” firearms has not eliminated the problem. In the days of match locks, wheel locks and flint locks, perhaps a serious or fatal accident could be blamed on poor workmanship or faulty design, as these were all hand made weapons. History however also shows us that the dominant factor in the unintentional discharge of a firearm is just plain carelessness whether with a 17th Century flint lock or a 21st Century semi-automatic. In American Frontier History we often find verification of this all too human characteristic. After Thomas Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark West to see what we had purchased from France, other curious and ambitious Americans became interested. It was not long before viable Western trails were being established and official means found to deal with the unfortunate aborigines standing in the way of profit. In this process firearms played an important role and of course accidents were bound to happen. This article is concerned with the known accidents recorded in the considerable body of Overland Trail history for the antebellum years of 1840-1860.



Fort Laramie in 1849. From *An Expedition to the Valley of the Great Salt Lake of Utah* by Howard Stansbury.

1813. Coming from Oregon Stuart, an employee of John Jacob Astor was seeking an easier way across the Rocky Mountains and he found it at South Pass in Wyoming. After a hard winter on the high plains Stuart and his men followed the Platte River to the Missouri. Since then the route had been used by mountain men, a few explorers, and missionaries to the Indians. A volume devoted exclusively to this central overland trail is **THE GREAT PLATTE RIVER ROAD**, by Merrill J. Mattes, Neb. Hist. Soc., 1969\* Encyclopedic in detail, it has very good maps and important to this study the author cites numerous accounts of the results of careless gun handling; timeless warnings to every gun owner.



Fort Hall Idaho, where the trail branched.



Large outside hammers were easy to snag on something.

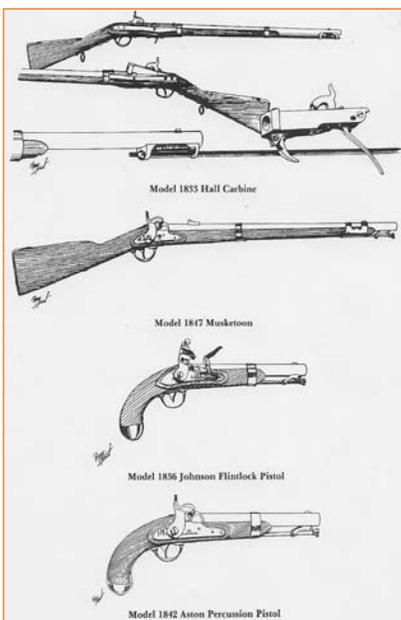
In 1841 the Bidwell/Bartleson party, generally conceded to be the first organized emigrant group to use the Platte River Road, was also the first to record an accidental death by a firearm. The appropriately named James Shotwell was killed while pulling his gun from a wagon muzzle first; he lived about an hour. This was to become an all too common type of accident on the trail for everybody seems to have kept the percussion caps in place on their loaded weapons. Mattes writes (p 90) “A random sampling of the journals turns up at least fifty recorded cases of mutilation or death from accidental shootings.” He notes that occasionally a careless gun handler managed to kill or wound someone else, but more often he himself was the victim. “One man was blinded by a burst gun ...

## Firearms Accidents on the Overland Trail, continued

another was disabled by a bullet in the shoulder, and several managed to cripple themselves in the foot or leg.” In the following incidents note that all but one occurred during the early California gold rush years when the trail was crowded. Mattes continues, (p 91) “Mr. S - in attempting to draw the gun out of the wagon cocked it and it went off lodging the contents in Mr. Twiddies knee (Easton, 1849). We found Lafayette Dwitty rolling in agony and his clothes on fire ... amputation will be necessary when we reach Fort Laramie-Brown, 1849).

A man foolishly holding a target was shot- (Sedgley, 1849). Smith Dunlap of Chicago shot accidentally while hunting his cattle ... leaving wife and six small children-(Greer, 1847). A prankster in a buffalo robe crept up on the camp and was almost killed by the guard-(Breyfogle, 1849). Death of Nicholas Boisemus by the accidental discharge of his gun ... he uttered but a single exclamation-(Gelwicks, 1849). An emigrant died near Scott’s Bluff .... his jaw was shot away when a loaded pistol fired from his breast pocket-(McBride, 1850). A young German shot himself accidentally ... the ball passed through his breast and lodged against his shoulder blade; the poor fellow fell ... bled like a hog. He lived but a few hours (Wood, 1850). There were many other such incidents, enough to convince Merrill Mattes that shooting was the major cause of accidental death on the Overland Trails.

Other historians disagree with this assessment, most notably John D. Unruh, Jr., whose indispensable book *THE PLAINS ACROSS*, Univ. of Ill. press, 1979, was published ten years after Mattes’ book and thus had access to sources not yet available in 1969. Unruh does not cite many specific incidents of accidental death by firearm but he does provide much soundly researched statistical information, a great aid in gaining an objective viewpoint of the life and death problems facing overland travelers in the 1840’s and 50’s. Unruh estimates (p 119) that the total number of westward bound emigrants during those years was 296,862, noting that the vast majority of them, 269,259 were on the trail after 1849, the years of the California gold rush. The total trail casualties, from all causes, are estimated at around 10,000, with the number one killer being disease, which accounted for nine out of every ten deaths: the chief afflictions being cholera, mountain fever, and scurvy.



The Government offered these and other firearms at cost to Westward bound emigrants.

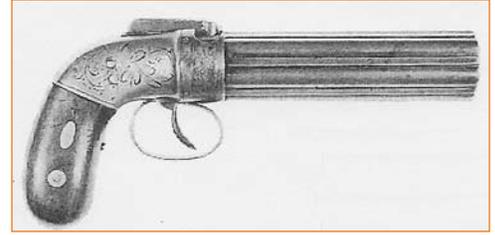


This well armed Forty-Niner is ready for anything.

Drownings were responsible for the greatest number of accidental deaths at an estimated 300 (p 409). Although providing no number in the text Unruh says (p 410) “After drownings the commonest cause of fatal accidents was careless handling of the fantastic arsenal of firearms the overlanders carried west with them.” This is not an exaggeration; most organized parties spent more on various firearms, powder and lead than they did on wagons, mules and cattle. By the late 1840’s returning overlanders were telling stories of Indian attacks and buffalo stampedes thus giving credence to the lurid newspaper accounts of such happenings. This was all good advertising for gun dealers and the Government did not help matters any in 1849 by authorizing the sale, at cost, of thousands of stored rifles, carbines, and pistols to westward bound travelers for “adequate means of defense.” Adding to the potential for firearms accidents were the greatly increased numbers of mostly inexperienced young men heading west to get rich quick and have some fun killing Indians

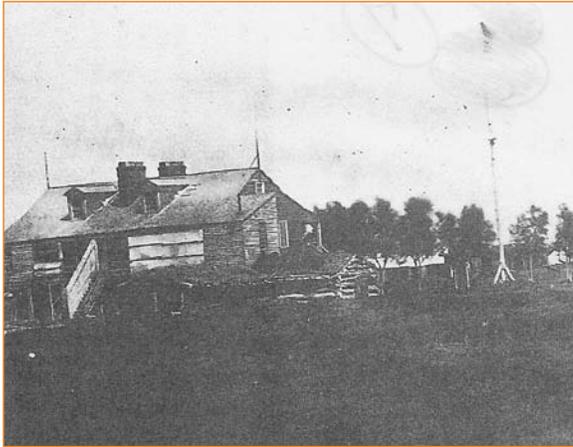
## Firearms Accidents on the Overland Trail, continued

and buffalo on the way. Unruh writes (p 412), “The bloodshed was most pronounced in 1849 and 1850. Forty-niners reached the jumping off points by boat from St. Louis and had been recklessly spending their days in target practice, shooting at deer, hogs, dogs, and most anything else they saw.” Once out on the trail, even though most of the gold seekers belonged to organized companies, there was little discipline and firearms accidents became common.



Called the Forty-Niner, Allen's Dragoon pepperbox was a popular sidarm..

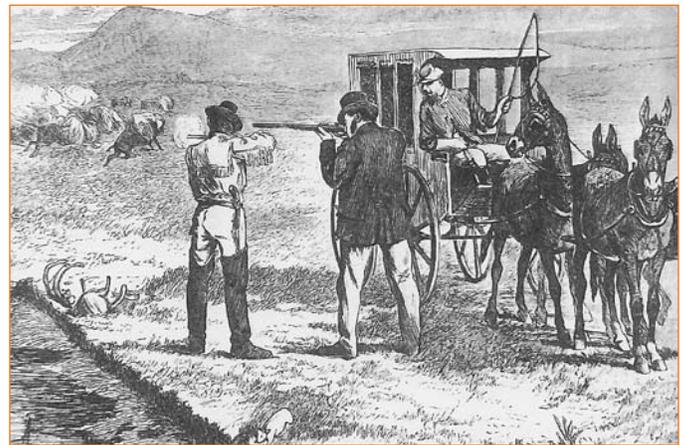
Unruh cites a couple of incidents (p412). “William Kelly's well prepared company lost their first man while fording the Big Blue River, after he had attempted to draw his loaded gun from his wagon - muzzle first. The thirteen buckshot passing through his body killed him instantly. Andrew Orvis, after himself having been accidentally shot in the hip and seeing several men killed and maimed, commented that hundreds of guns and pistols had been accidentally discharged. Several overlanders acknowledged that they were much more frightened of carelessly handled guns in their own trains than they were of any hostile Indians.” The inordinate number of self inflicted gunshot wounds sustained during this early gold rush period is further attested to by the steady



Fort Kearny on the Platte, completed in 1848.

stream of wounded patients treated by Army surgeons at Fort Kearny Nebraska and Fort Laramie Wyoming, as noted by author David Dary in his informative *FRONTIER MEDICINE*, N.Y., 2009 (pp 121-145). To give some perspective to this needless mayhem one could consider it a rather dangerous form of on the job training as Unruh suggests (pp 412-13), “Once the emigrants had gotten over their sophomoreitis, however, greater care began to be exercised, and the number of accidental shootings and killings declined drastically. Indeed, an analysis of fatalities from accidental shootings through 1850 indicates that fully nine-tenths of all mishaps occurred east of South Pass.” Located in west-central Wyoming, South Pass was less than halfway to the gold-diggings.

Of course the reason for all the guns and impromptu target practice was that the Forty-niners were expecting, if not looking forward to, Indian attacks and buffalo stampedes. These basic misconceptions led to later problems. For the most part the earlier migrants were farmers, homesteaders seeking good land on the other side of the mountains, and except for isolated incidents their relations with the Plains Indians had been relatively peaceful. In 1849 the thousands of heavily armed gold-seekers on the trail brought change to this tenuous relationship. Ignorant of Indian ways, but convinced of their innate treachery, the presumed safety in numbers emboldened many individuals to take a shot at an Indian which they would never have risked otherwise. The Indians, of course, retaliated in kind and not always against the offending party. Shooting a buffalo was an anticipated experience also and the wanton killing of hundreds of them for “sport” further enraged the Indians for whom the buffalo represented life itself.



“Sport on the Plains,” from *Harper's Weekly*, March 21, 1874.

Unruh developed a yearly time-table (p 185) which lists fatalities, both Indian and white, which occurred along the Overland Trail between 1840 and 1860 showing clearly the increasing conflict after 1848. Unruh lists

## Firearms Accidents on the Overland Trail, continued

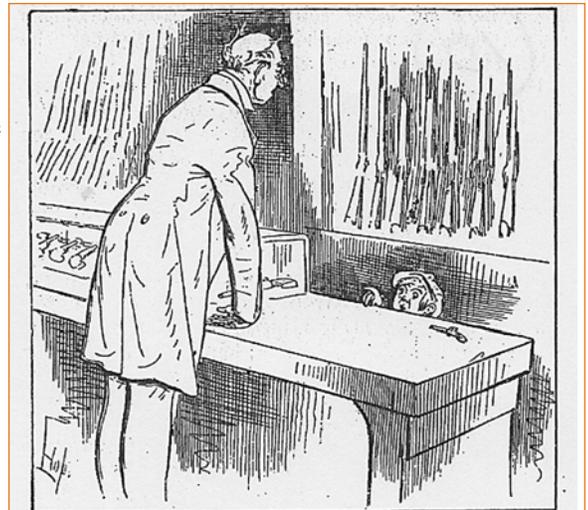


Indian attack at North Platte Crossing.

34 recorded emigrant deaths from 1840 to 1848 with 26 known Indian deaths. From 1849 to 1860 we find 328 emigrant fatalities and an estimated 400 Indian deaths. In a footnote (p 457 n152) he notes that these numbers will undoubtedly be revised upward as additional data are discovered, especially for the Indians, who made every effort to carry their dead away with them. Getting back to casualties caused by firearms accidents, Unruh seems to give the accident prone an alibi (p 517 n82). He writes, "The heavy loss of life was not, of course, due completely to carelessness. The embryonic status of weaponry safety precautions doubtless was responsible for some of the mishaps as accidental shootings were also extremely common in the U.S. Army at that time." As a matter of fact, there was little difference between a newcomer on the trail and an Army recruit at that time, for the U.S. Army did not have a standardized recruit

training program throughout most of the 1815-1860 era. Recruits were sent directly to their assigned units for on the job training, which usually consisted of close order drill and work parties. If they were assigned to a post on the Frontier the NCO's would give them rudimentary instruction in loading and capping their issue weapon, but too often the first shots they fired were in a skirmish with Indians. For an understanding of this perpetual 19th Century problem in the U.S. Military I recommend Edward M. Coffman's *THE OLD ARMY*, Oxford U. press, 1986. On a final note I might add that, as a Marine I saw combat in the Pacific during WW II, but the first dead and wounded Marines I saw were in California, both victims of accidental shootings.

The End



WESTERN ADVENTURE.

SMALL SPECIMEN.—"Look a here, uncle, I do' want none o' your toy pistols. Give me one of them kind as Snaggy Bill killed seventeen Injuns with in the last number of the 'Infant's Own.' I'm agoin' West, I am, and I mean biz."

19th Century Humor, Scribner's Magazine, Nov. 1880

Sources Not Cited In Text:

Cross, Major Osborne, *MARCH OF THE MOUNTED RIFLEMEN TO OREGON IN 1849*, Reprint-1967.

Hoidal, J.S., *RUSH FOR RICHES*, Univ. Of California Press, 1999.

McChristian, D.C., *FORT LARAMLE*, Univ. Of Oklahoma Press, 2008.

Wilson, R.D., *FORT KEARNY ON THE PLATTE*, Np, 1980.

# Minnesota and the Civil War 1861 -1866

By Dale H. Peterson

The bride and I went to Brainerd to visit an old friend several months ago and on the way back home we stopped at the Military Museum at Camp Ripley, just north of Little Falls, Minnesota. A new exhibit opened in 2011 and commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War; Minnesota was the first state to offer troops to defend the Union. Minnesota fought two wars at the same time! The Dakota War erupted in August 1862 when several settlers were killed by a small group of Dakota Indians.

A 528 square foot new gallery houses the displays. This is the largest and most ambitious exhibit in the museum's history which features rare artifacts and photographs, several fully equipped mannequins, and exciting interactive computer programs to engage students in Civil War history.



Col. Robert Mc Laren who was involved in the Minnesota Indian Wars.

Minnesota Weapons Collectors Association made a donation to help with the cost of the display cabinets and other items used in the display. Several members also loaned the museum items from their collections that are on display.

It is just a short drive north of the cities to Camp Ripley which is located approximately 7 miles north of Little Falls, on Highway 371. Call 320-632-7374 for museum hours.

It was an enjoyable couple of hours going thru the displays and it would be great for your kids or grand kids to learn a little more about Minnesota's history and maybe refresh your memory a little.



Mc Laren's 1851 Colt revolver that is on display at the Museum.

**Minnesota and the Civil War**  
1861 - 1866

*A Special Exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of Minnesota's role in Civil War and Dakota War*



Aaron Greenwald, Anoka  
Killed at Battle of Gettysburg

Minnesota Military Museum  
15000 Hwy. 115, Camp Ripley  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
Phone: 320-632-7374  
Email: mnmuseum@yahoo.com

## Support The NRA!

Sign up now! Call 800-672-3888 or go to [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)



## Support The MWCA!

For membership application call 612-721-8976 or go to [www.mwca.org](http://www.mwca.org)



# MWCA Contributes

Among the many contributions MWCA makes annually, shaping the future for our youth is of utmost importance. Examples include firearms safety and marksmanship training. We were pleased to contribute a total of \$24,500 to the following organizations during 2011:

- Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Alliance
- NRA Museum Fund
- NRA Acorn Fund
- American Legion Richfield Post 435 Gun Club
- White Bear Lake High School Trap Shooting Program
- Kanabec County 4H Youth Shooting Program
- Red Arrow Camp Youth Shooting Program
- American Legion Bloomington Post 550 Gun Safety Program
- City of Edina Firearms Safety Classes
- Minnesota Volunteer Safety Instructors Association
- Minnesota State High School Clay Target League
- Northwest Gun Club, Duluth Minnesota
- Owatonna Gun Club Youth Programs
- Scott County Youth Firearms Safety
- National Association of Arms Shows
- Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America

If you are teaching a youth firearms safety class, we offer a complimentary show pass to each class graduate (and accompanying parents). Please contact the MWCA if you would like more information.

**624 WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Independent School District No. 624

4855 Bloom Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55116-2731  
(651) 407-7534 • Fax (651) 407-7539  
pefish@wbl.whitebear.k12.mn.us

**PHIL FISHER**  
Manager of Building Operations

Minnesota Weapons Collectors  
Board of Directors  
PO Box 662  
Hopkins, MN 55343

July 11, 2011

Dear Board Members,

As one of the coaches for the White Bear Lake Area High School Trap Shooting team, I was pleasantly surprised this morning upon opening your letter. Believe me when I say that Monday's usually do not start out on such a high note. Your generous donation will allow our team members to have one of the lower participation fees in the state.

Speaking of state we were again fortunate to earn some additional hardware this year. Our Junior Varsity team took first place in their division and our Varsity Team tied for first but came up short in the shoot off. We are lucky to have two returning juniors to anchor our team next year.

Our number one shooter, Kaycee Nelson, also tied for top gun but took second in sudden death. She was however again the top female shooter in the state.

I have asked our head coach, Keith Steadland, to send you pictures of our team in action.

On behalf of the White Bear Lake Area High School Trap Shooting Team, thank you for being a friend to our team!

Thank you,  
  
Phil Fisher



# MWCA Contributes, continued

**NORTHERN STAR COUNCIL**  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
www.northernstarbsa.org

April 8, 2011

Minnesota Weapons Collectors Association  
Box 662  
Hopkins, MN 55343-0662

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your gift to Scouting! With your recent commitment to Northern Star Council, the lives of over 72,000 youth are being positively impacted each year. 2010 program highlights included:

- Grew total "market share" of young people served by Northern Star Council.
- Recognized with the "Gold Award" status, the BSA's highest rating for program quality.
- Celebrated 855 young men earning the rank of Eagle Scout – an all-time record!
- Completed a new strategic plan that will be the council's guide as it begins its second century of service to young people.
- Opened "Base Camp" at historic Fort Snelling, Scouting's first urban program and outreach center – one of many incredible 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary achievements.

We would like to extend gratitude and thanks to you for your support of Scouting in 2011. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of 21% of area youth through 22,000 volunteers who lead our programs!

Thank you for your partnership!

Sincerely,  
  
Jeff Suzbach  
Director of Development

  
**BASE CAMP**  
INSPIRING ACTIVE LEARNING



Are you looking for places where your team can gather away from the office to focus on specific objectives? Want hassle-free planning & logistics? Want a place that is close & affordable? Base Camp has all that & much more!

Our new year-round facility near Fort Snelling offers a unique environment for corporate groups to conduct:

- Team Building Programs
- All Employee or Department Meetings
- Training Sessions
- Recognition and Appreciation Events
- Planning Retreats
- Annual Meetings
- Presentations



**WAYS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BASE CAMP:**

- 1) Check out our website at [www.explorebasecamp.org/corporate.aspx](http://www.explorebasecamp.org/corporate.aspx). You will find detailed information on our
  - Team Building Programs
  - Facility Spaces & Equipment
  - Rates
  - And everything you need to plan a fabulous experience at Base Camp.
- 2) See it in person - taking a tour is the very best way to get a sense of what we can offer your team! Call Kathryn at (651) 254-9135 to schedule your tour.

Our programs and facility are flexible to work with groups of all sizes and agendas. To learn more, call or visit our website today.

**WWW.EXPLOREBASECAMP.ORG/  
CORPORATE.ASPX**  
**612-767-0042**

Base Camp is owned and operated by the Northern Star Council, BSA. Our mission is to serve ALL of the greater Twin Cities Metro area through school field trips, retreats, corporate and community group use.

*Scott Co Youth Firearm Safety Spring class 2011*



J4976 Sarah

Thank's for all the advice and help we appreciate everything. *quinn*

**Many thanks!**

Michael Coleson *Thomas*

Thank you for your contributions for our class

Camaron

Mason Dylan for our class F.A.S.

Thanks so much! - Kellen Zetaw

Excerpt from a thank-you to the MWCA from the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League:

“It was obvious if someone didn’t do something to attract young people to the shooting sports our future was behind us. This is the reason this high school program was started, to bring new, young members into the shooting sports. There were skeptics that said, ‘kids and guns,’ you’ve got to be kidding, the schools will never go for it. Fortunately, I’m here to tell you both kids and schools did ‘go for it.’

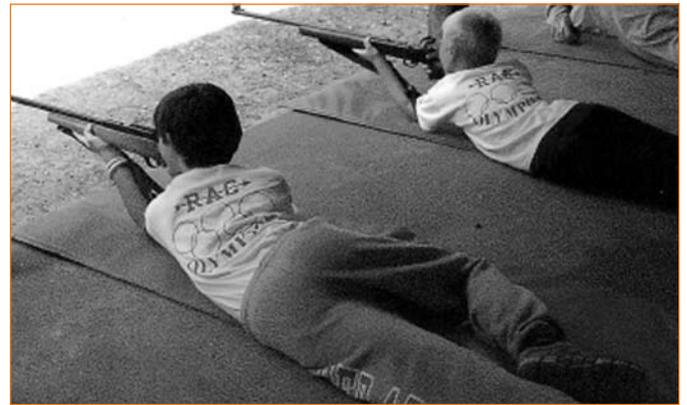
The average age of members today at the Plymouth Gun Club is 42 1/2 and we have a waiting list of adults and students wanting to join. We will thank the MWCA publicly at our State Tournament on June 9 - 10 at the Alexandria Shooting Park. MWCA members are welcome to attend. It’s a free event.”

Jim Sable, Executive Director.

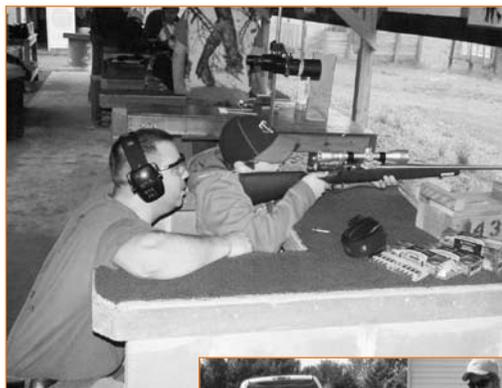
## MWCA Contributes, continued



## Red Arrow Camp Youth Shooting Program



## Various firearms safety and marksmanship training photos:



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## An easy guide to keeping American political ‘news’ in perspective:

The Wall Street Journal is read by the people who run the country.

The Washington Post is read by people who think they run the country.

The New York Times is read by people who think they should run the country and who are very good at crossword puzzles.

USA Today is read by people who think they ought to run the country but don't really understand The New York Times. They do, however, like their statistics shown in pie charts.

The Los Angeles Times is read by people who wouldn't mind running the country, if they could find the time -- and if they didn't have to leave Southern California to do it.

The Boston Globe is read by people whose parents used to run the country.

The New York Daily News is read by people who aren't too sure who's running the country and don't really care as long as they can get a seat on the train.

The New York Post is read by people who don't care who is running the country as long as they do something really scandalous, preferably while intoxicated.

The Miami Herald is read by people who are running another country, but need the baseball scores.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch is read by people who want only the score of the Cardinals game. They drink Budweiser, Budweiser, and wait a minute -- what was the question?

The San Francisco Chronicle is read by people who aren't sure if there is a country or that anyone is running it; but if so, they oppose all that they stand for. There are occasional exceptions if the leaders are handicapped minority feminist atheist dwarfs who also happen to be illegal aliens from any other country or galaxy, provided of course, that they are not Republicans.

The National Enquirer is read by people trapped in line at the grocery store.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune is read by people who have recently caught a fish and need something to wrap it in.

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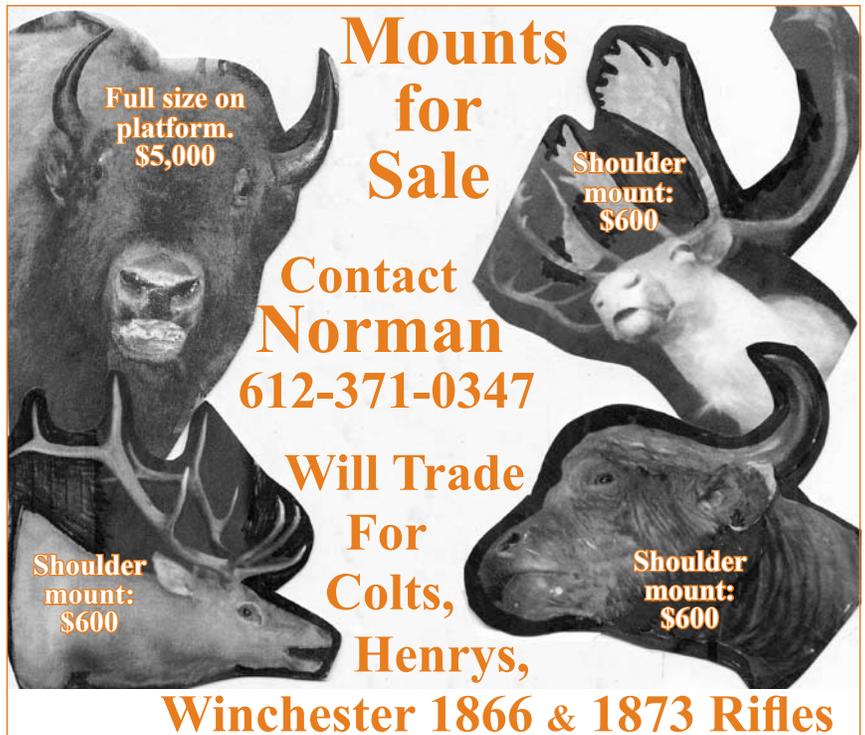
### A brief “worth a smile”:

At the recent Rochester MWCA show, at the show entrance, a young man was accompanied by his little boy.

The man asked, “How much to get in?” The reply to him was \$5.00. “How much for my son?” the father asked.

Looking eye-to-eye at the little fellow, Larry replied, “You're free!”

The little boy looked right back at Larry and replied, “No I'm not! I'm four!!”



**Mounts for Sale**

Full size on platform. \$5,000

Shoulder mount: \$600

Contact Norman 612-371-0347

Will Trade For Colts, Henrys, Winchester 1866 & 1873 Rifles

Shoulder mount: \$600

Shoulder mount: \$600

## Meet Your Board Of Directors

Meet your new Board Members and reelected incumbents. John Chappuie was appointed by the board to fill a board vacancy. Mark Reese and Alvin Olson was elected for a three year term as was Dale H . Peterson. If you have any question and/or suggestion about MWCA policies, show rules etc. they will be glad to answer them.



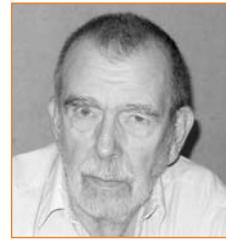
**Brian VanKleek**  
President



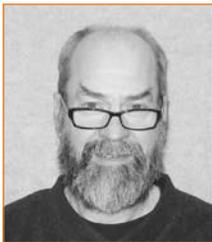
**John Chappuie**  
Vice President



**Ed Pohl**  
Secretary



**Alvin Olson**  
Treasurer



**David Hinrichs**



**Dale H Peterson**



**Mark Reese**



**Larry Rogers**



**Dave Strand**

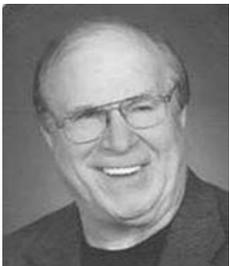
Directors

## In Memoriam



### Lynn Kvam

Lynn was a passionate collector and good friend. He loved Double Action Colts and was always willing to share his vast knowledge on that subject. He regularly participated in our Annual Trophy Show with his Double Action Colt displays. He will be truly missed by his fellow collectors. He served on the MWCA Bulletin staff and contributed several articles for its publication.



### Jack Puglisi

A nationally known gun collector who owned and operated his Gun Emporium in Duluth. Our condolences to his son John, who sets up at many of our local gun shows, and to his family.

### Joe Juelich

Joe was an Honorary Life Member and we will mourn the passing of a fellow collector.

**Ronald Shaw**  
Eagan, MN

**Russell Predmore**  
Rochester, MN

# Heritage Arms Society's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Antique Arms Collectors Show

This is Minnesota's longest-running show dedicated exclusively to antique sporting arms, accouterments, ammunition, edged weapons and militaria produced from pre Colonial days through WW 2. This is a quality arms show sponsored and attended by the area's leading collectors offering historical, antique and collectable arms and related items. Only legal arms produced before 1945 are allowed.

**Friday, March 30, 2012 • 12:00 - 6:00 PM (members & exhibitors only)**

**Saturday, March 31, 2012 9:00 am — 3:00 PM**

**Public Welcome — Admission \$5.00 — Free Parking all day**

For information call evenings (952) 888-1079

**Eagan Civic Arena**  
3830 Pilot Knob Road  
Eagan, Minnesota.  
One mile South of 35E on Pilot Knob Road  
(3 mile South of 494)

**Ask for special Gun Show rates:**

Best Western, 651-454-0100

Yankee Square Inn

3450 Washington Drive, Eagan, Minnesota

**Future Show Dates**

March 29 - 30, 2013



## Heritage Arms Society

### Collectors' Arms Show - Space Reservation Application

Exhibitor Badge Rules: Each exhibitor is authorized two badges for the first table and one additional badge for each authorized table. Complete, sign and date this form and return it with your check to Heritage Arms Society, P.O. Box 20532, Bloomington MN 55420.

No space will be confirmed until full payment and signed form is received. All sales and display tables must remain open until 3:00 P.M. Saturday - failure to do so, without prior approval, will exclude you from future tables.

I have read and agree to abide by all show rules:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
of Table Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Additional \_\_\_\_\_  
Badge Names \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ sales tables at \$40 per table  
(Sales tables for Heritage Arms Society Members are \$30 per table)

Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ display tables at \$10 per table

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (must accompany application)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\* No refunds will be made for cancellations received later than 7 days prior to the beginning of the show.