

THE MAUSER MONTHLY  
 The newsletter for fans of Mauser rifles - the REAL "Riflemen's Rifle!"  
 Editor/Publisher - Ward M. Clark, Aurora, Colorado, USA

\*\*\* FIRST ANNIVERSARY ISSUE! \*\*\*

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Reader's comments

Dear Mauser fanatics,  
 I was wondering if anyone could help confirm the pedigree of a rifle I had the great fortune of obtaining a few years ago. I picked up what appears to be a commercial Husqvarna "Imperial" grade rifle chambered in .308 Win. ser#503490. The gun was imported by FFV sports NY, NY. It is without sights, has a jeweled bolt, a full floating barrel, and exceptionally crisp adjustable trigger. It is stocked in a fancy/extra fancy (french?) walnut with euro style monte carlo cheek piece, 22? LPI checkering, and rosewood forend tip with white line spacers. The gun has all external dimensions, and appearances, of the late 1960s/1970 imperial grade Husqvarna. It has the full length long action receiver (with modified bolt stop for .308 size cartridges), but does not have engraving/swirls on magazine plate. Bolt/chamber/bore are gorgeous!!!

I checked some of the references, but could find no listings for this model in .308. They only list the standard 30-06 length cartridges. Is this a fluke, or do I really have something that rare?

When I got it, the forend had warped so that it pressed against the barrel, causing some traveling groups as the barrel heated up. I opened up the barrel channel, removed the well worn plastic finish and refinished it with many coats of Inspeed. I loaded some ammo with 44 gr. IMR 4895 and 150 GR. BTSP with the bullet seated near the lands (it seems to prefer them this way), and can produce approx. .5 moa groups. It might do even better if I fine tune the loads.

I have been considering replacing the stock with a straight 'Classic' style w/ cheek piece (yes I might be crazy). Does anyone know if the Husqvarna Crown/Imperial grade rifles interchange with any of the other more common Mauser stocks (FN, M96, etc.)? The Blueing is in good shape, but is more of a deep plum brown than a blue/black (bolt shroud/trigger guard/floorplate are black). Is this how they were made, or is this due to the age? Also, Do these rifles use the

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same scope mounts as any other commercial/military models?

Thanks,  
Lee Scroggins  
goobr2@ptd.net

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Just yesterday, I received 5 bayonets from Century Arms. I took a chance on ordering these, as I can not always count on what the salesman says. These are marked as made by the Serbs and dated '44. Three of the 5 had matching numbered scabbards. The metal and wood finish appears new and unissued. They, like the CZ bayonets, do have the bbl ring fitted. For under \$20, I don't think any collector of Mauser accouterments can go wrong. Also, Century now has the Brazilian Mausers on sale for \$80. The ones that I've bought all have mismatched bolts, but are in good condition. Some of the bores are bright, while others are dark. I still believe that the Portuguese Mod 1904's are a steal at \$80. These have come through with snap-on muzzle covers, cleaning rods and slings. Most of the ones that I've gotten have matching numbers and crisp, bright bores.

I have not gotten a clear picture of why the Mauser carbines were made that came out of FN. These were in .308Win. (7.62x51 NATO) and 30-06. One story was that they were made for the Belgian police. Why not give the police an FN-FAL? The other story was that they were made for Moroccan mounted troops. I do not buy that story at all. Why would French Morocco be buying Belgian weapons for her, then troubled colony? Would jealous France not have supplied her own war surplus rifles to the her colonies? Regardless, these rifles are very neat little Mausers, with their 18" bbls. The barreled action will not fit into a 98k stock. the distance between the mounting bolts is a tad less than that of the 98k.

Thanks to Ward and all who got the Mauser Monthly back on line. I missed it!  
Steve Ashe in Md.

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I read of a problem with the Yugo Mauser in the most recent Mauser Newsletter. As a FYI, it is still possible and safe to shoot the rifle, if you reload. I had a similar experience many years ago with a '95 in 7mm. I bought it because the wood was absolutely fabulous! No kidding, it was a wonderful figured hardwood (not walnut). After buying the rifle, I discovered the situation you described with the Yugo. A reloader, using a squib load, can reform the brass to conform to the larger chamber dimensions. Reloading these "improved" cases is easily accomplished with neck sizing only. My 7mm became a satisfactory shooter, consistently putting five shots into 3" at 100 yards. Of course, the caveat remains: One must identify the piece as having

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excessive headspace, else someone in the future may cause injury from firing "factory" ammo. For confirmation of the safety of this practice, consider the vast number of wildcat cartridges and the plethora of "improved" cartridges (made by deliberately creating an excess headspace condition!).

Keep your powder, trout flies...and martinis dry,

Jim Funderburg - a pilgrim still

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Ward,

There was one more source of Crevena Zastava rifles: (Publisher's Note - these are the Interarms Mk X actions) GIs' returning from Europe. I spent a couple of years stationed in Germany circa '89-91, and brought back a 'Stutzen' in .308 Win. It has a full length stock, and, of course, a short barrel, making it a very handy rifle. Open sights, too. My only complaint is the wood used for the stock is a light brown that doesn't do much for me... Someday I'll have a stockmaker replace it with a nice piece of walnut with some figure.

I also brought back two Santa Barbara M98 Mauser clones. These were kits. The metal was in the white, and the stock was unfinished. I just mailed one out to a gunsmith in Montana for custom work to be performed. The cost of these kits was around \$200, so not a bad price. They were the commercial Mauser style like the CZ mentioned above. Parker-Hales' were also available to the GIs' in Europe. Allegedly they were built around spare 03-A3 bolts! They were as close to a M98 as you could get without being an outright clone.

Gotta love them M98s!

Ray

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Ward,

Century Arms just brought in a load of 98K German Mauser, still with Nazi marking, in refinished (metal) condition for \$150 (dealer price). I have not ordered one yet. But if it has 100% finish on metal and say 80% on wood I would consider that a nice piece for the price for collection.

Regards,  
Howard

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Book review - "The Mauser M91 Through M98 Bolt Actions - A Shop Manual"  
By Ward M. Clark (WCLARK1046@aol.com)

The Kuhnhausen series of shop manuals have become an industry standard for gunsmiths, and the Kuhnhausen manual for Mausers is no different. I recently acquired my copy of this

book, aptly titled "The Mauser M91 Through M98 Bolt Actions - A Shop Manual." Five minutes of perusing my new treasure convinced me that I should have made this purchase years ago.

Where Ludwig Olson's classic "Mauser Bolt Rifles" is strictly a reference work, and an excellent one; Jerry Kuhnhausen's work is a gunsmith's guide for identifying the various Mauser types and inspecting actions for serviceability, as well as guidelines for rebarreling, installing set triggers, and a host of other customizing functions.

The book is divided into two sections. Section I covers disassembly, inspection and reassembly; Section II covers shop work.

Both sections include many photographs of the processes involved and of danger signs and "what not to do" shots. (Including a really frightening shot of a large ring 98 horribly pitted below the stock line; a good third of the receiver wall is eaten away!) Some of the "what not to do" shots include a 98 with the feed ramp cut out to allow passage of .300 H&H rounds - the cut-away action clearly shows almost no metal behind the lower locking lug recess!

Anyone who does any gunsmithing on Mauser bolt rifles should have this book. Anyone who buys, sells, trades or collects Mausers should also have this book; the first section on inspection and assembly is invaluable for the hobbyist.

"The Mauser ... Bolt Actions" is available from Brownells, Montezuma, IA, USA, for (last I knew) \$29.95. Worth every penny for the die-hard Mauser fan.

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Mauser 98 Approaches 100 and at the Same Time, Is Reborn  
by: Steve Ashe (steven@universe.digex.net)

I never cease to be amazed by the hype that a "positive feed" bolt action rifle is given, when re-introduced, with much ballyhoo. Any student of the history of the Mod 98 Mauser knows that the feature of positive feed will, next year be 100 years of age. Seems as if the rifle manufacturers can not improve on a good thing, so they just find some way of re-inventing same. All of us who have watched the development of sporting arms since WWII, have seen the 98 action smoothed, rounded off, shortened, lengthened, lightened, inlaid, chromed, restocked, rebarreled, stoned, polished, engraved and magna-ported. While at the same time realizing that no real giant steps have been taken that can improve upon the original product, the Mod 98 Mauser. Truly a phenomenal rifle, upon which all others are judged. In terms of effectiveness in placing a first shot kill on the target, Mauser's design has never been surpassed.

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Swedish Mauser Bayonet Numbers

by: Steve Harris (harris@frii.com)

Today on the C&R list an interesting idea came up. The Bayonets for the Swedish Mausers use a 3 digit numbering. We could then match them to our Mausers. This could also be done for other nonmatching numbered parts like cleaning rods. I have 3 Swedes that mostly match except for the cleaning rods.

I'd like to volunteer to collect the list of numbers and see if we can find any matches. I've put the numbers for my Swedes below. If people just send their numbers in a similar format, I'll try for matches. If any show up, I'll notify the people involved and let them do the matching.

Bayonets scabbard  
156840  
711027 (also has 1660)  
860No Number

The 860 bayonet has on hilt: L/11a No 746 No 288

Mausers:

Model Number Cleaning Rod  
96202535  
38886No Number  
41732917

Steve Harris  
Colorado Springs  
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Reader's Ads

I'm looking for a Brevex action. Know of anyone, please point in my direction. Regards.

John D. Taylor  
(cheyenne@sun.science.wayne.edu)

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Wanted to Buy (building a Mauser collection):

- . Czech v24 7.92mm
- . German Waffenmarked K98, 7.92mm, with the original laminated stock.
- . Swede M96

Requirements:

- straight bolt.
- perfect shape (see below).
- laminated stocks on the K98. Pre-42 would be great.
- matching parts.
- not ground down anywhere (for scopes, etc).

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I'm able to order direct from the SOGs, Sarcos, Centurys, et al through a local FFL. What I'm looking for tho, are Mausers that are in great shape, with no rust (or hidden, reblued rust) and am willing to pay more than the Select prices of the companies above + your costs, to get. So if someone has ordered a bunch and has a couple perfect ones available; please let me know the prices.

Thanks,

Bill Shadish (bills@fo.com)  
Downingtown, PA

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I am looking for a "correct" K98k bolt with rib for a 1940 Oberndorf. I've got one of those Israeli reworked 98s in .308 Win, but they used a non-ribbed bolt (any ideas on where THAT came from) which shows a lot of tool marks. The piece is interesting in that it has the Nazi markings and waffenampts with an Israeli Hebrew marked barrel with the Star of David. The bolt is wobbly though so, I'd like to replace it with the correct ribbed one for hunting. Also looking for a G33/40 action (cheap of course) in rebuildable condition. Would prefer one with bolt and receiver matching and bottom metal if possible.

Duck guy@aol.com

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Publisher's comments  
by: Ward M. Clark (WCLARK1046@aol.com)

This month mark a landmark issue of sorts for the Mauser Monthly. One year ago this month I published the first newsletter, which was e-mailed to approximately 30 people (if memory serves.)

This issue will be mailed to over a hundred of you, all over the world. I'm pretty proud of this baby, and all of you should be too, as I couldn't keep this thing going without your contributions.

I have reinstated Reader's Ads, which I have intended to do all along to provide a forum to buy/sell/swap Mausers and parts, etc., for all of us. Everybody has something they need to buy or sell, I'm spending this weekend sitting at a table in Denver's huge Tanner Gun Show trying to unload some of my surplus stuff.

Also, if anyone is interested, I now have a (under construction) Web page at <http://members.aol.com/wclark1046/clark1.html>; it's mostly family info with a couple of links and a plug for this newsletter, but I plan to put together a Mauser page soon.

As for now, I am off to research a load for the .308 Winchester and a 165-grain Ballistic Tip, for a 18" M1910 Mexican action sporter. Getting 2500 fps out of that stubby barrel

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should be a  
challenge - anybody got any pet .308 loads?

Until next month - Good shooting!