

THE MAUSER MONTHLY

Edition 3, Volume 5 April 2000

The newsletter for fans of Mauser rifles - the REAL "Rifleman's Rifle!"

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Reader's comments

Listers:

I have a Lyman 48 rear sight with target knobs that will fit a 96 action (note: action must be drilled and tapped.) also have a Lyman 57 rear sight with target knobs for the same action (also must be drilled and tapped.) I am selling the Lyman 48 for \$90 dollars and the Lyman 57 for \$65. Email rwhite3650@cs.com for further info, buyer will pay USPS priority shipping.

Thanks

Rick White (Rwhite3650@cs.com)

Hello Ward,

Just received the March newsletter. If you haven't found a 'smith to do your 6mm project, let me put in a word for our shop. We can convert a Mauser in any way you want. For details and price estimate call Master Gunsmith Ken Garrett (K&S Guns) at 316-364-8990. If you want to correspond by e-mail, just reply to me.

Now one for the newsletter. I'm just completing a M98 sporter using a Boyds walnut Mauser stock. These have just come on the market and are available from Brownells (www.brownells.com) or directly from Boyds (www.boydboys.com). The price is excellent, \$55 from Brownells. The barrel channel is roughed in and requires final inletting. The only inletting for the action is the front of the trigger guard on military models. A commercial FN or Mark X action will drop right in. Wood is standard grade American black walnut, nothing fancy, but does the trick. There's sufficient wood to allow shaping the forearm and pistol grip to slimmer dimensions. The stock can be finished and checkered as one desires. I think these are great and the price can't be beat. A M96 stock is also available.

Alex Hawley (alhawley@kans.com)

I enjoy reading the Mauser Monthly and always look forward to it.

Have you had any articles or experience with converting the 1891 Argentine Mauser carbines to 7.62x39?

Thanks,

Jay (jeads@sunset.backbone.olemiss.edu)

(Ed. Note – I haven't done nor heard of anyone doing this conversion. Does anyone have any idea how this could be worked out? Pressure info on the 7.62x39 would be a concern, as would case head size.)

Customizing the Turk 03 Action

By: Charles Scharpf (arg09@continet.com)

Ward, I have read with great interest your Mauser Monthly for some time now, and enjoy it very much. There have been several articles on the 6.5 x 55 Swedish Mauser and I would like to contribute my thoughts. I have built several 6.5 x 55 Swedes on the 1903 Turkish actions and I believe they lend themselves beautifully to this project. First of all the 1903 is a large ring, small shank action which lends itself to the use of the available surplus, "new" Model 38 barrels. These barrels are die cut so they must be chased down on a lathe to screw into the action. The receivers are of standard length although the bolt is of intermediate length, (the receiver ring is slightly longer), the trigger guards are also standard length, the point being one has an intermediate length bolt throw in a standard length action, stocks are easily available from any stock manufacturer. Secondly those of us who collect should not feel guilty about sporterizing these actions as the Turks have seen to it that "someone has been here before". These have been rebarrelled to 7,92 x 57, and have had the magazine box opened for the longer 7,92 x 57 cartridge (the original cartridge was the 7,65 x 53 Belgium cartridge). I do not feel that Paul Mauser will turn in his grave knowing that we are working with one of his originals.

Having said that, these firearms have been through many wars and training and they show the wear and tear of decades of hard use, yet for the most part still show the integrity of the German craftsmen in Oberndorf of the early 1900's. The prices on these now is very reasonable so I suggest that a prospective buyer purchase 2 or 3 of these arms, if for nothing else but for spare parts. The cocking piece, firing pin and bolt body will not interchange with a standard length 98 Mauser so be sure and have a few for parts.

I bought 30 of these rifles (sigh), most for projects down the road as they lend themselves to the 7,92 x 57 family of cartridges (6.5 x 55, 7 x 57, 257 Roberts, 257 Roberts Ackley Improved, 244 Rem and so on, I even built a 243 on one for a friend). A standard length action would be far better suited for the 30-06 family of cartridges. The 6.5 x 55 has a slightly larger head diameter so it is wise to chuck the bolt in a lathe, and ever so carefully "clean up the bolt face" and while so doing open it a few thousands for this cartridge head.

Although one is building on a 98 Mauser system, it does not give one the option to fill the case with Bullseye and develop 100,000 cup, prudence about pressures is wise, but it is my opinion that this action will handle greater pressures than the Model 96 Swede, thus giving one the opportunity to wring a bit more velocity out of this cartridge. Already inherently accurate due in no small part to the fabulous ballistics of the bullet, my rifle with a Model 38 barrel with the right loads will shoot into 1/2 inch 5 shot groups at 100 meters. Whether one shoots at paper or game, this cartridge will do just about everything, I have not used a cartridge that shows more bullet weight versatility, great groups with 80 grain up to 160 grain, pretty amazing!

Ward, once again thanks for your hard work and your passion for Paul Mauser's great creation. There are many of us who appreciate what you do.

Yours in forward locking lugs, and great engineering

Progress on the New Magnum Mauser!

By: Robert Bastow (teenut@hotmail.com)

Hi Ward..I just made the following, general announcement, to several news groups:

Great news today..The local FADAL dealer told me that delivery of my new \$74000.00 4 axis machining center is brought forward to Friday THIS WEEK!! Frantic floor clearing going on to make room for this puppy, which is two weeks ahead of schedule.

We are still waiting for the BATF to issue our manufacturer's licence. Bit of Local and State Political power being brought to bear. "Jobs at stake" and all that!!

Demand for the "regular" magnum size is such that this will take priority; bolt WILL be larger than the .700" of the old 98s, and it will be long enough to throw any 505 Gibbs based round into it. That bit of extra margin on bolt diameter won't hurt with other big bore rounds, even down as far as the 375 HH based cases.

Standard receiver ring diameter will be 1.420" with regular sized Mauser threads..1.10" x 12 TPI (60Deg VEE form) My own feeling is that a slightly larger thread should be used for the 505 and this will be an available option.

After much soul searching I must go with the angled ejector of the Model 70. With its solid left locking lug it is definitely one of the few "improvements" ever made to the old 98 design as is the forward recoil lug and "Girder" underside of the Winchester. Bolt stop will be "Mauser" though.

Along with this goes the double rail trigger group mounting. The standard trigger will be a pre-64 over-ride type but ANY after market trigger made for the Winchester 70 will fit, and can be provided.

Double square bridge, solid left rail of course though, for the purists (like me) the thumb cut and clip slots will be available (Clips even!!) as will a round top option.

Bottom metal, solid steel! Magazine release in bow, fully contoured bow available or we can leave that for you or your Riflesmith to do. The box will be straight sided for ease of inletting, with a narrow 5 deg. tapered flange around the bottom for crisp, tight, final fitting. Inside the box will be special shoulders to engage the cartridge rim, so as to protect soft bullet noses from the battering of heavy recoil, a device first patented by Mauser and used on the big Heym Express action.

Three different safety arrangements will be offered. The Classic up and over Mauser three position, a side swing modification of this, which some people prefer to see on a Custom Mauser, and a Model 70 style, 3 position side swing. Of course the low swing Traister Mk II can be fitted to the Classic pattern by those that prefer it.

Bolt handle will be classic "straight down" tear drop knob, Mauser Magnum style..but a lower profile contour, for scope clearance will be an option. I advise AGAINST asking for too much in the way of back sweep on these heavy calibers!!

Left hand versions will follow right on the heels of the first batch of right hand models!! AND they will have their own series of serial numbers! Yehh!!

Order taking is still in the lap of the Gods (BATF!!) but work is proceeding with protoyping, tooling, fixturing and programming..so please be patient.

Meanwhile, those who are SERIOUS about eventually placing an order in the first run (To the above specs) should contact me directly, (Send NO money!!) as I need to start formulating production and materials procurement planning. Final specs will be announced BEFORE orders are taken.

Before you ask..Serial Numbers P1 to P10 will be reserved for field tests and publicity purposes...Number 100001 is MINE!! When orders and deposits are in we will allocate numbers by lot..but, on the first batch, will include the owners initials at no extra cost. (CNC Engraving is WONDERFUL!!)

Thanks for your patience and support guys..but we ARE getting there!!

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Publisher's Comments

By: Ward M. Clark (wclark1046@aol.com)

IMPORTANT NOTE – After five years, I'll be leaving America Online later this month. Please note this issue has come from a new e-mail address; in future all Mauser Monthly references and e-mails should be directed to wardmclark@home.com. I've gotten a broad-band cable modem, and by golly it's incredible! I'll keep the AOL account active for a few more weeks, to catch anyone that's picked up the old e-mail address out there.

It's interesting to see someone else interested in working on the old '91 Argentine. I've a beautiful little 91 myself, set up as a European style "stalking rifle" with a 7x57mm barrel, a Redfield peep, jeweled bolt body and a slick little butterknife bolt handle. The stock is American black with a sleek little Schnabel fore end; it's one of my very favorites.

And I must add that it's exciting to see a Magnum Mauser action nearing manufacture – thanks Robert for he update! Thanks also to Charles for the insights into the Turk actions – you've made me regret selling the two Turk actions I had in the shop last year. I've got one left... Maybe a project is in order.

We picked up quite a few new subscribers this month, so to everyone reading this for the first time, welcome, and feel free to contribute! We've all got stories to tell and knowledge to share, and that's what has kept the old Monthly going for four years now.

Until next month, then;

Good shooting!

Ward