

The Gun Doctor: Firearm Care and Storage

By Wolfgang Rotbart

This month's topic is important, but certainly less serious than recent ones.

Most of the hunting seasons are now over and it is time to prepare your firearms for storage until the next season or time to do a quick sight-in.

Since most hunting rifles in this area are bolt-action types and share many general traits, I'll discuss these.

I always wear safety glasses when working on any firearm and strongly advise you do too.

To begin the process, while keeping the rifle pointed in a safe direction, open the action, remove all ammo from the magazine, and visually and tactilely verify that there is not a cartridge in the chamber. Not being absolutely sure of this not only puts you, your friends and family in great danger, but also everyone for literally miles around. In addition, I remove all live ammo from the room where I'm working as an additional safeguard.

Next, remove the bolt from the rifle. Wet the bore down with whatever solvent or cleaner you prefer. Most of them contain toxic components and so you should ensure you have good ventilation. You should also use chemical-resistant gloves, as these toxins will enter through your skin as well as your lungs. I use Gunzilla since it is non-toxic. According to how fouled the barrel is, you may need

to let it soak overnight and repeat as necessary.

While the barrel is soaking, remove the stock from the firearm. This is something that many folks fail to do and causes considerable damage at times. Pine needles, dirt, and water get in the spaces between the wood and metal parts and make a great place for rust and rot to thrive. After cleaning out the wood and metal parts, put a light coat of your favorite protective oil on and wipe off the excess. If this is not done, it will attract dirt and dust. Over time, the excess oil tends to dry up and can cause very serious problems.

One of these is in the trigger mechanism. People will repeatedly soak this area in oil hoping for a smoother trigger, but don't clean out the excess with the result that over time the oil dries and becomes a thick grease. Especially on a cold day, this grease can become solid enough to keep the safety from functioning properly with very scary and dangerous results.

When cleaning the bore, always insert the cleaning rod from the chamber end if possible. The crown on the muzzle is easily damaged and even a tiny burr will cause very inaccurate shooting patterns. Here too, you should clean out all excess oil leaving only a very thin coating.

As for the wood, most folks just rub a little gun oil on it. There are special cleaners/preservatives for the wood, but a little Johnson's floor wax is probably a good substitute.

Lastly, the bolt needs to be cleaned occasionally as it too can fill with dirt, rust, and oils that can produce erratic ignition. Bolts are generally not easily disassembled and reassembled without the proper tools and knowledge. Also, they can be a bit dangerous as they tend to have fairly heavy springs under a lot of tension just waiting to go flying across the room – assuming you're lucky enough to not be in the way!

Lastly, there are anti-rust packets that you can put in with the firearm if it's in a confined space that will produce a rust resisting vapor until it's that time of year again.

Follow-up information to topics in this and other articles can be found on the "Resources" page on The Gun Doctor home page (www.wolfgangthegundocor.com).

I welcome ideas for topics for these articles. Please email them to: Wolfgang@WolfgangTheGunDocor.com, or call me at 503-429-7342 10:00 – 5:00 M – F

Wolfgang Rotbart is an AGI-certified Master Gunsmith and a NRA-certified Basic Pistol Course Instructor. He works as a gunsmith and as an Oregon Concealed Handgun Safety Course Instructor. You may visit The Gun Doctor website for more information at: <http://www.wolfgangthegundocor.com/>

Voices From the Crowd: Anton Killed the Boar!

By Dennis Nelson

My grandfather Clint used to reminisce about his youth in a small Iowa farming town that was settled by Swedish immigrants.

He was part of a pack of teenage boys who were prone to getting into trouble if they weren't fully employed doing some kind of useful work.

The boys, on this particular day happened to be at Anton's family farm. Anton's dad gave the crew a job. He told them to go and butcher a hog. These young men had grown up helping to make meat so this should have been a routine request. But unfortunately, it didn't turn out that way.

Anton, with the maul and knife, left his accomplices at the gate and tiptoed into the hog lot. It was full of sleeping pigs. He picked out a large, fat one and with a mighty swing of his big hammer, dealt a crushing blow between the eyes of his intended victim.

The rest of the pigs erupted and scattered in a squealing mass of confusion. Poor Anton was left standing alone over what he now realized was the herd boar.

The pedigreed boar was the most valuable animal in the pen. Unless a boar has been castrated and allowed to heal for several months it's meat is inedible.

As Anton began to grasp the seriousness of his mistake there arose from his buddies, just outside the fence, the now famous cry, "Anton Killed the Boar!"

Knowing a bit about teenage boys I suspect that they were both horrified at the trouble they were in and delighted by the cosmic joke that they had been privileged to participate in.

The story quickly spread around the community and over time became part of the local folklore.

More than fifty years later, when visiting back home, grandpa stepped onto main street and with an exaggerated Swedish accent shouted out...

"Anton Killed the Boar!"

A white haired loafer on a bench laughed and gramps knew he'd found a member of his old gang.

In Memory of... *continued from page 16*

To sign the online guestbook or to send the family condolences visit www.fuitenrosehoyt.com Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove is in charge of the arrangements. 503-357-2161



Gordon T. Shearer



Gordon T. Shearer, 71, a longtime resident of the Banks community, died Wednesday evening, February 27, 2013 at the Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland.

A Celebration of Life Service was held on Saturday, March 9, 2013 at 11:00 A.M. at the Hillside Bible Church, 49820 N.W. Clapshaw Hill Road in Forest Grove, with Pastor Kendall Weekes, of the Grace Haven Bible Church in Ridgefield, Washington, officiating.

Family and friends were invited to

attend a reception immediately following the memorial service, to be held in the fellowship room in the basement of the church.

GORDON THOMAS SHEARER was born August 3, 1941 in Forest Grove, Oregon, the son of Tina Lee (Clapshaw) Shearer and the late Wilbur Thomas Shearer. He was raised and received his education in the Forest Grove community, until the age of fifteen years old when he moved with his family to St. Maries, Idaho, where he completed his schooling. Gordon was a member of the St. Maries High School Class of 1959. He later attended Portland State University and Multnomah School of the Bible.

He was united in marriage to Lois Ann Ryder on October 15, 1961 in the Glenwood Baptist Church in Glenwood, Oregon. They celebrated their 51st Wedding Anniversary this past October. Following their marriage they have made their home in the Banks community for the past thirty-five years.

Gordon had worked in the logging industry with his father, Wilbur for several years. He later worked at the First National Bank in Forest Grove and for Intel Corporation for fourteen years, having retired in 2007. His love, was sharing the Gospel, having served as Pastor of the Manning Bible Church for over thirty-five years, beginning in June of 1977 to the present.

Among his special interests

he enjoyed fly fishing, hunting and woodcarving. But most of all loved his daily study of the Word of God.

Gordon was preceded in death by his father, Wilbur Shearer.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Shearer, of Banks, Oregon; his mother, Tina Shearer, of Forest Grove, Oregon; his three children and their spouses, Jeff Shearer; Cheryl Shearer, of Massachusetts, and Joel and Marylou Shearer, of Montana; his sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Keith Mueller, of St. Maries, Idaho; and his brother and sister-in-law, Doug and Sherry Shearer, of Forest Grove, Oregon.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, Max, Breana, Sophie and Kalista and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests in lieu of flowers, that remembrances may be contributions to the Manning Bible Church, P.O. Box 674, Banks, Oregon 97106, in his memory.

To sign the online guest book or to send a condolence to the family go to www.fuitenrosehoyt.com.

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove is in charge of the arrangements. 503-357-2161

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