

Shooters' Media

Shotgun assembly/disassembly book a handy reference manual

Review by
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GUN DIGEST BOOK OF SHOTGUNS—ASSEMBLY/DISASSEMBLY, 3rd Edition, by Kevin Muramatsu. ©2012. Published by F + W Media, Inc., Dept. TGM, 700 East State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001. Price: \$36.99, plus shipping. Available at most bookstores.

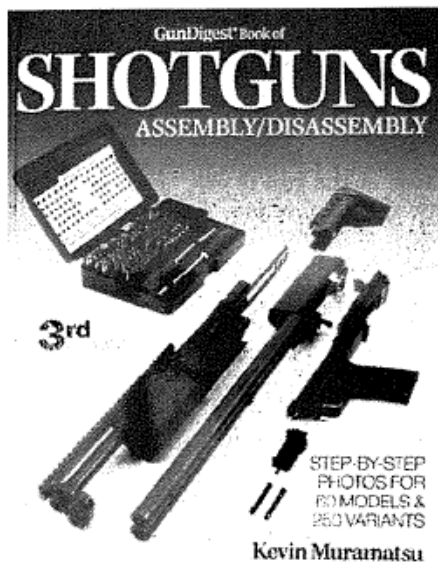
This 654-page softbound volume utilizes step-by-step black and white photographs to disassemble and reassemble 250 variations of 60 different models, from the Akdal 1919 to the Winchester Super X3. Lead-off is a listing of 18 different tools, or sets of tools, needed to make the task easier or more carefree. It may be possible to perform the task without all the tools, but marring parts—screws, pin, etc.—on a fine shotgun is a NO, NO.

All the photos are black and white, and the majority, if not all, are close-up views so it is easy to follow. A few were noted to be a bit dark, due possibly to the lighting when the photo was taken, but even a dark photo is better than none at all.

The 60 models covered include the newest possible, even the Browning A5, plus the older Auto-5, and the Kel-Tec KSG. Those missing are just fodder for another edition.

Each shotgun, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, is illustrated in the coverage for said shotgun, and errors can happen. The Savage Model 30 is a pump action, and similar models include the Model 77 and 79, plus variants, and the Model 30 is illustrated. The Savage-Stevens Model 311 is a double barrel side/side, but the introduction photo is the same Model 30 pump action, which the Model 311 is not. The instructions for the Stevens Hammer Double are introduced with a photo of a Steven side/side hammer double barrel.

Older models are for the most part absent, but not completely. L.C. Smith, Savage-Stevens Model 311 and Stevens Hammer Double are covered, as is the Savage Model 755A autoloader, the Smith & Wesson 916



(Noble Model 60), Stevens Model 59B bolt action, and Model 520 pump action, plus a few others not often seen.

Litigator for NRA, CRPA writes California gun law guide book

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CALIFORNIA GUN LAWS: A Guide to State and Federal Firearm Regulations, by C. D. Michel, Attorney at Law. ©2012. Published by Coldaw Publishing, 180 East Ocean Blvd., Suite 200, Dept. TGM, Long Beach, CA 90802. Price: \$24.95, plus postage. May be available in some bookstores.

While this 320-page softbound volume is noted as being a guide to California state laws, plus the many federal regulations, it contains a lot of good, sound advice relating to such laws in general. Written by a lawyer who has litigated civil and criminal firearms cases since 1991, and who serves as an attorney for the National Rifle Association, the California Rifle & Pistol Association, in addition to

This is a great reference book for the gunsmith, amateur gun tinkerer, or even the gun collector having a hankering for older shotguns. Instructions for the older and/or obsolete models based on an earlier design are easy to find in the text. Simply go to the index, check to see if the model is listed, and if so, on what page. Coverage for the pump action Smith & Wesson Model 916 shotgun begins on page 460, but if instructions are needed for disassembling a Noble Model 160 or any of the other eight Noble slide action shotgun models, from the Model 60 to the Model 66XL, you'll find them covered beginning on page 460. The Smith & Wesson Model 916, 96 and 916T are based on the Noble design which Smith & Wesson acquired in 1972. (Under the heading on page 460 of Similar/Identical Pattern Guns, the following statement appears: "The same basic assembly/disassembly steps for the Stoeger IGA Uplander English also apply to the following guns:" The IGA Uplander English shotgun is a side/side double barrel shotgun having a hinge or break-action box lock design. What disassembling a break action has to do with a pump action is more than a bit confusing. "The same basic...steps..." mentioned above are also repeated on page 524, which is where the statement should be located.) Such minor errors do not detract greatly from the value of this handy reference volume.

being a lawyer for wholesalers and various dealers, this volume is as up-to-date on the subject as is possible.

In addition to having eleven chapters, from "The California Regulatory Environment" through "Self Defense and the Use of Force," this volume has the usual acknowledgements, a dedication, disclaimer, four part Introduction, list of abbreviations, an appendix, and some facts about the author. (Within the Introduction are instructions on how to use this book and "How to Judge a Lawyer." Very interesting!)

Each of the chapters is divided into from four to 15 categories or sections, and each of the categories is subdivided into from two to 11 sub-categories. These sub-categories may be further divided into as many as seven sub-sub-categories, or sub-

sections. As an example, in Chapter 8: Regulation of "Assault Weapons" and .50 BMG Rifles, section I, "Assault Weapons Defined," sub-section C, "Assault Weapons," sub-sub-section 4, Category 3 - Definitions, the reader will find the fifth definition as follows: "Forward pistol grip" [is] a grip that allows for a pistol style grip forward of the trigger." (This definition is footnoted as to where to find it in the California Code Regulations. It would be difficult to be more thorough. Chapter 9, Other Heavily Regulated Firearms and Devices, for example, contains 241 footnotes.)

The above may appear confusing, but assuming the reader has already read the Introduction, Section II: How to Use This Book, he or she will understand this is only a "guide." The footnotes generally provide information on where to locate the actual regulation. The author, C.D. Michel, has done an excellent job in putting this volume together, as he appears to have missed covering few, if any, of the many California regulations relating to firearms: Wallet Guns, cane guns, possession on a Greyhound bus, possession of parts, tracer ammunition, antique guns, and much more are covered in this volume.

The appendix, "Assault Weapons" Listed by Name, lists category 1 and 2 "Assault Weapons" under the headings of Rifles, Pistols, and Shotguns, as of July 31, 2012. Brands under Rifles go from American Arms through WUM, while Pistols include firms from Advance Armament, Inc. through SWD Incorporated, and Shotguns includes Cobray and Franchi. Any firms overlooked will no doubt appear on the California list later.

There are other books dealing with firearms regulations, but this is the best one this reviewer has seen. Even the final page is a membership application to join the National Rifle Association. True, it is based on California (and federal) regulations, but the information it contains is still useful (valuable) to any gun owner, regardless of state of residency. It's worthy of space on any gunowner's bookshelf.

May 2014

Wyatt Earp's OK Corral gun among items at AZ auction

As this issue of TGM was going to press, an auction in Scottsdale, AZ, of renowned author Glenn Boyer's estate, including four of Wyatt Earp's guns and 32 boxes of research documents, photos and other Earp family memorabilia, were about to go on sale.

The public had been invited to preview the items on April 16 and 17, with the auction to be held on April 17.

Among the items is a Colt .45-caliber revolver believed to be carried by Wyatt Earp during the shootout at the OK Corral in Tombstone along with many historic Earp family memorabilia. The sale was to be conducted by J. Levine Auction and Appraisal.

The Colt .45 along with three other guns and 32 boxes of research documents, photos and memorabilia, came from the estate of Boyer, a retired lieutenant colonel and command pilot from southeast Arizona who spent nearly a lifetime researching and writing about Western American history. Boyer is best known for his book *I Married Wyatt Earp: The Recollections of Josephine Sarah Marcus*, a fictionalized account, filled with true facts, of Earp's life told through the perspective of his wife, Josephine.

"We are honored to represent the Boyer family by auctioning such rare and important pieces of our state's history," said Josh Levine, owner of the auction house. "Mr. Boyer devoted 40 years of his life researching Wyatt Earp and had many close relationships with the Earp family. It is through those relationships that he has been able to put together one of the most remarkable collections of Wyatt Earp's life."

Interest in the auction was reported to be mounting as this is written, particularly in Europe where many collectors love all things relating to America's Old West.

Levine expected a bidding frenzy among many items, including the "star" of the auction, Earp's Colt .45-caliber revolver, valued between \$100,000 and \$150,000. Many historians believe Earp was carrying the gun during the famous OK Corral shootout.

"The gun is controversial because its serial number was scratched off years



Wyatt Earp memorabilia auction collages show his Colt .45 as well as some of the items in the 32 boxes of research documents and photos collected by author Glenn Boyer's estate. Photo by Noel

ago. But testing through dental X-rays revealed that the original serial number matched records proving again the Earp serial number was present," Levine said.

The highest bidder for the Colt .45 was scheduled to receive a sworn affidavit from the deceased author stating the gun belonged to Earp as well as the expert findings. Although the gun's barrel, cylinder and grips have been replaced, the frame of the gun, which is most important when determining value, remains intact.

Among other items in the April 17 auction were to be:

- Wyatt Earp's Winchester Lever-action Shotgun: Serial #47055 and as listed by Bill Miller, nephew of Wyatt Earp. Estimated value between \$75,000 and \$125,000.

- Historic Earp Family Research Archive: Boyer spent years interviewing Earp family members and accumulated 32 file boxes with reel-to-reel and taped interviews, photos, rare handwritten manuscripts and other research documents. Estimated value between \$80,000 and \$120,000.

- Virgil Earp's Colt Revolver: Virgil was one of Wyatt's three brothers and Deputy US Marshal for south-eastern Arizona Territory. Estimated value between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

- Nathan Earp's Remington Cap and Ball Revolver: Nathan was a noted lawman and Wyatt Earp's grandfather. Estimated value between \$6,000 and \$8,000.

- Josephine Earp's Personal Effects: Includes riding crop, opera glasses and jewelry. Estimated value between \$800 and \$1,200.