



Colonel's Corner

Norman A. Chandler II

Founder and CEO of Iron Brigade Armory

TO ALL AMERICAN RIFLEMEN:

Shooting season is upon us. The weather is finally improving. I can't remember such a rotten winter in the last 10-15 years-truly horrible for many of you, and us as well. I understand feeling the need to get afield with a rifle. If for no other reason because you can and it is a Constitutional right-NOT a privilege as some states would have you believe or enforce. Hunting is on a downward spiral in this country, but blasting and recreational shooting are what most people are really interested in doing. What good is blowing a target to shreds with full auto fire? I'm not sure, but most would call it fun.

IBA continues to make the gun shows. Although it might not be rocket science to you guys-we see a strong surge in folks attending the shows who really plan to look and buy-SOMETHING. Let me re-phrase that. They are going to buy something even if it's less or different from their initial 'want'. Further, they expect every dealer to show up with anything they might possibly desire or need. It has always been that way but lately, it is more bizarre. Also, there are new faces attending that may have just awoken from a long American slumber. We can wonder if this trend will continue throughout the long hot summer. My anticipation is that it will-except for the super-vacation month of July. There is also a hyper need to get the item as soon as possible, lest anything on earth change while they are

waiting. This must be a US wide phenomenon as most manufacturers are selling everything they can make. Still, the best way to get something that is backordered is to get your name on the list and be ready to pay for it instantly. IBA fills ALL backorders first then takes the balance to the gun shows.

Ammunition is available. That is if you don't mind 2nd or 3rd rate foreign stuff. For blasting-that is all that may be needed but good 'precision ammunition' is tough to find and when you do, hold on to your wallet. I don't believe we will ever see a quantity of precision ammo available again as a usual and daily event. It costs too much for the average shop to keep it on the shelf and it's too heavy to haul around. If you want case quantities of accurate long range ammunition, get it on order.

AR-15 parts have been a big hit. We have been shipping a lot of repair kits and miscellaneous parts to our customers. I am still of the opinion that this is the Achilles heel of gun ownership. No parts-no guns. Hmmmmm...?

The XM-3 sniper rifles that IBA built almost 5 years ago have been in constant combat operations for almost 5 years now. Some of the rifles have over 5,000 rounds through them and we know of 2 that have well over 6,000 rounds through the tube. Both still shoot sub MOA according to the last shooters. One was sub MOA past 600 yards on a steel plate and the other was a kill at 900 yards-at night. It's too bad other weapon systems are so heavy and clumsy. The old cliché is that it takes 10 years to change a rifle trend in America! Lots of reasons for that I guess but I don't feel like commenting right now.

IBA is planning to stay manned [womaned] up all summer and be available when you need supplies or work done. The gun shows slack up in midsummer but there are many opportunities to visit ranges and see what is happening. The biggest event is Camp Perry, Ohio and the National Matches, but also there are many other shooting events that may be local for you, so get off your behind and check it out. Don't forget Applesseed with the new shooters-

I'll see you on the ranges and at many of the Gun Shows!

Semper Fi,

Norm Chandler

Easter Savings



This month for every \$100 you spend on your order we will send you an IBA OD Green Hat for FREE!
(limit 2 per order)

Dear Valued IBA Customers:

We have had another wonderful month here at IBA. We have a couple of gun shows coming up in April and we hope to see you there. ([Click Here](#) for gun show info) We are continuously working to bring you more new items at the best possible price. We have had a great response to our new AR Kits and do have them in stock now. ([Click Here](#) to purchase) We hope that you all have a wonderful Easter holiday wherever you are. Thank You to all of our customers for your continued support. Please feel free to contact us if there is anything that we can assist you with.

Have a Wonderful and Safe Month!
Your Iron Brigade Family

