



WHAT ARE CONSUMERS BUYING?

A LIST OF THE MOST POPULAR FIREARMS TODAY.

By Michael Ware

“What’s the ‘hot ticket’ today Michael?” How do I answer when folks come in the shop and ask that type of question you wonder? I usually chuckle a bit and ask what they think it is. After all, there has to be a way to parlay into what they’re after. Most customers already know or at least have a good idea what they are seeking long ahead of coming to see us. But every now and then we’re asked to make recommendations to a customer that just wants to buy something. We have a ton of really fast movers, but over the last two years there are a few that seem like they are always hot sellers and routinely sought after.

I typically see four weapons asked for routinely. Granted, with panic buying and agenda of the political class having driven the market to all new heights, my reflection is based mostly on tried and true weapons with great track records for service and repeat sales over the last few years.



Of course the AR15 is at the top of the list. While the AR15 in various configurations was a consistent hot seller the last 10 years, it has completely rocketed out of sight in the last year. Most people are choosing basic carbines. Accessories are all the rage. Whether it is a really great optic for a carbine, a light, or alternate sights, it is all selling very quickly. There has been some slowing of orders, but even the big heavy varmint guns and long-range weapons are still being configured, specified, and coming out of our custom shop. While I enjoy a light and quick pointing carbine, I’d be fibbing if I didn’t show my love for a true marksman rifle and that weapon’s ability to

pick off Chinese beetles that crawl across my targets while proned out at the range. My customers do too!



Carry guns are huge right now and have been for a while. Without a doubt the highest volume handgun we sell is the Glock 19. It is midsize which makes it easy to use for him or her. 9mm is less expensive to shoot compared to most. It has a capacity of 15+1 while still having the ability to be concealed relatively well. Self-defense ammo has great terminal ballistics and works very well when compared to other

popular chamberings. All in all, 9mm is a pretty soft shooter so it makes it a joy to shoot compared to many others on the market. We literally sell more G19s than our other entire factory built weapons combined. It isn’t uncommon for us to order them ten at a time from our distributors.



Along the lines of carry guns are the ultra-compact weapons too. The Ruger LCP falls squarely in this category. We bring in lots of these for customers. Keep in mind this isn’t a great weapon to learn on, as it is small, hard to hold, and has a

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long heavy trigger pull. Combine that with the feeling of a small bottle rocket going off in your hand, and you’ll get the picture. However, the ability to conceal a small pocket pistol and always have a weapon on you to save your skin is a huge comfort to people. It can be hard to carry inside the waistband or outside with a medium and even small sized handgun. Women’s clothing tends to be more form fitting, so they gravitate quickly to these types of guns often. The LCP is chambered in 380ACP, which is essentially a short version of the 9mm. Half of my family uses this little weapon as their EDC (every day carry) weapon, and considering it works so well, I can certainly see why. Holsters for this pocket rocket are plentiful ranging from pocket holsters, to inside the waistband and outside the waistband alike. Really great hollow point self-defense ammo is available to help overcome the small size of the LCP as well.



1911. Is there really anything else I need to write? I often wonder if there is some small contribution I will be able to make that will last over 100 years on our culture. I have to give John Moses Browning full kudos. His contributions to the firearms industry have been nothing short of epic. Think about it. The 1911 has had a great run, and shows no sign of stopping whatsoever. Not only do we build these in house as ground up customs, but also the volume of factory weapons we sell is staggering. The 1911 has morphed into all kinds of configurations from its original design. It can be bought in tiny 9mm frame sizes, all the way through the monster

50GI chambering full size. 22LR, 38Super, 9mm, 40S&W, 10mm, 45, among others are becoming commonplace these days. If you want a carry gun, a competition rig, a hunting weapon, or just prefer the undeniable feel of the trusty 1911, there is a model or configuration for you out there. The triggers, accessories, and overall quality of these weapons have never been better. I never thought I needed or wanted a 1911 until I went to the range with one for a few hundred rounds. After that, I never looked back. While nearly as old as the longest living American, the venerable 1911 continues to be a strong seller and a fantastic sidearm.

Availability to weapons is getting better all the time, and ammo is starting to ship more often too. Do yourself a favor, and take your young out to do some shooting. Teach them the safety, the ethics, and the responsibility your teachers taught you. After all, with all these great choices, you’ve got no reason not to. 🍻

IOWA NEEDS RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS PROTECTION AT THE STATE LEVEL

By Jeff Burkett, Iowa Firearms Coalition - President

Iowa is one of only a handful of states whose constitutions do not recognize a specific right to keep and bear arms. Here is what the Iowa Constitution states regarding human rights:



IOWA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I, SECTION 1

All men are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inalienable rights - among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

Why do I, as an Iowan, need a constitutional protection of my right to keep and bear arms at the state level when the U.S. Constitution’s Second Amendment is in place?

There are basically three reasons why:

First, the right to keep and bear arms (RKBA) is a fundamental human right and therefore deserves recognition and protection in our state’s fundamental and supreme law. Right now this recognition and protection is non-existent.

Secondly, Iowa is an outlier, in that we are one of only six states whose constitution fails to directly recognize this basic right. Our constitution should align with the U.S. Constitution and the vast majority of states on this fundamental matter.

Finally and most importantly, without

this foundational protection in our state constitution Iowans run the risk that future legislatures, local governments or the courts might severely restrict our rights to possess, use, or carry firearms.

These reasons are all premised on the existence of a natural right to keep and bear arms, as recognized by the U.S. Constitution.

But the U.S. Constitution is under attack! In 2008 and 2010 we witnessed landmark decisions by the Supreme Court that were big wins for the pro-Second Amendment movement. But these victories were slim, each decided by a single vote. It’s frightening to think what would happen if such cases were to be heard by a future court that is packed with justices who don’t value our right to keep and bear arms.

The very real prospect that Federal recognition and protection of the right to keep and bear arms could at some point be degraded or even overturned is why Iowans must insist on instituting strong, explicit constitutional protection for this essential