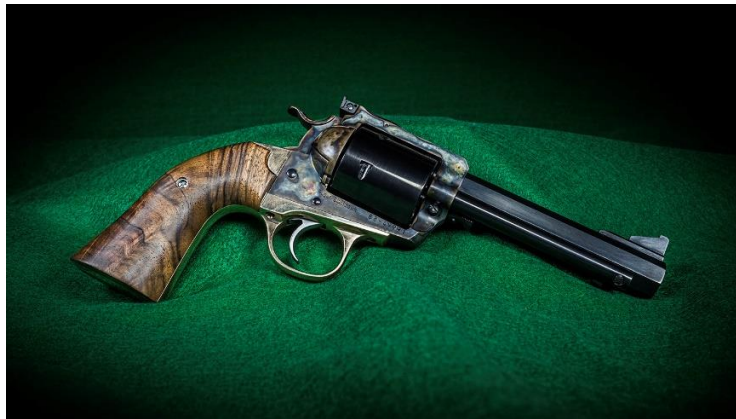


Adding the Linebaugh Cartridges

Cody, Wyoming is a wonderful place to be a firearms manufacturer. We have a wealth of resources in our area. The Cody Firearms Museum is one of the best storehouses of firearms and related information in the world. We have several firearms manufacturers located here as well, including Wyoming Armory Precision Firearms, GunWerks, Wyoming Arms, John Linebaugh Custom Sixguns, etc. All are great friends to Big Horn Armory and helpful in their own ways. We have even partnered with some of them from time to time.

Big Horn Armory employees were at the Wyoming Outdoorsman Annual fundraiser a few years ago when John Linebaugh came up to me at our table. We chatted for a while and then he said that we should do something together. After some talk about how to effect such a collaboration, we agreed that we should do something without deciding exactly what to do.

John and I spoke about it several times in the following months. We met again for dinner at one of the other manufacturer's homes. Over a couple of bourbons, we decided that we should produce a limited edition, super-premium boxed set containing one of our 500 Linebaugh lever guns and one of his 500 Linebaugh revolvers. Included would be exhibition grade wood, octagon barrels, and color case hardened receivers all packaged in an oak presentation box.



Then the real work began. If you have ever handled and shot one of John's revolvers, you know that they are mechanical jewelry of the highest order. Not necessarily pretty like jewelry, though they are that. The feel when working the action is one of perfection. That was our challenge, to create a lever gun that would mirror that mechanical perfection.

We first had to grapple with the size of the cartridge. It is considerably larger in rim and case diameter, so we had to adjust the mag tube, carrier, loading gate, and cartridge guide to mate with it. Then we fine-tuned the action to work as smoothly as his revolver. It took patience and many hours of adjusting, fine tuning and polishing.



The time and effort spent was a huge success. As functional as they are beautiful, the Linebaugh Limited Editions are some of the finest guns we have ever produced. It was a success on another level as well in that we learned a tremendous amount from the hard work and experience. We strive to carry this knowledge and ethic into our day-to-day production as well to produce the finest, most functional lever action rifles at any level.