

SPORTING CLASSICS' AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



MAGNUS LIGHT 20-GAUGE & MAGNUS 12-GAUGE FIELD GUNS

Shotguns: Caesar Guerini

By combining tradition with technology, Caesar Guerini offers a great value in fine shotguns.

When it comes to top-notch shotguns, Italy is renowned for its fine craftsmanship, precise manufacturing tolerances and premium materials. Caesar Guerini offers all those qualities in its over-and-unders, but at prices that make them accessible to a lot more sportsmen.

Started by Giorgio and Antonio Guerini in the famed Brescia region of Italy, the company has developed a solid reputation in a remarkably short time. Less than five years old, Caesar Guerini now has more than 140 dealers in the U.S. Besides their own brand, they are also designing and building firearms for Cabelas and Orvis.

Along with the esthetics of beautiful checkering and exquisite engraving, Caesar Guerini guns offer a number of features that place them among the elite, including Anson pushrod fore-end latch, rebounding hammers, heavy-duty conical locking lug, screwless sideplates and selective safety. The barrels are bored from solid chromium molybdenum hardened steel bar stock. They're balanced for good handling and chrome-lined for rust resistance.

"We're extremely traditional in our design," says company President Wes Lang, "but modern with our manufacturing capabilities. That allows us to build production shotguns with the fit and feel of the most expensive over-and-unders."

Outstanding Craftsman Award: David Trevallion

David Trevallion signed his apprenticeship papers at James Purdey & Sons in September 1953. He had just turned fifteen.

Today, David Trevallion is the oldest living Purdey stockmaker still at the bench. And he is arguably the best since James Purdey himself, though David would deny it. Fifty-odd years of customers would not.

His apprenticeship completed, he was inducted into The Worshipful Company of Gunmakers of the City of London, and factory manager Harry Lawrence invited him to remain at Purdey's. This he did until April 1964 when he emigrated to the U.S. Now, at his shop in Maine, he continues to carve exquisite stocks for the finest guns ever built. Purdey, Holland & Holland, Boss, Woodward, the best from Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, anywhere, have all come across his bench and came out looking as good or better than when they were new.

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of Trevallion's work is his repairs, many aspects of which are of his own clever device. But whether he's returning a stock to its original form or fashioning a new one, every one of David Trevallion's creations embodies the spirit of fine craftsmanship in the classic tradition.



DAVID TREVALLION IN HIS MAINE WORKSHOP