Jack D'Cumo

HUNTING HERITAGE & EDUCATION CENTER LEWISTON, IDAHO EST. 2006

Table of Contents:

OCTOBER 2014

Co-Chair Report by Howard Erdman	2
The 30/06 Springfield by Allan Jones	3
Prawns, Scallops in grappa sauce by Bradford O'Connor	5
The O'Connor Cartridge by Wayne van Zwoll	7
International Students from LCSC Visit JOCHH&EC	



- · Director Search
- · LCSC international students visit JOCHH&EC

The Co-Chairman's Corner

Last spring, Buck Buckner notified the Board that his friend, Ben F. Carter, Dallas Safari Club Executive Director, had donated a booth at the 2015 DSC. The convention runs from January 15-18.

Jack O'Cumo

For those of you who aren't familiar with the DSC convention, let me assure you that it is great! I used to attend every year when I lived near Dallas and frequently when I lived near San Antonio. JOCHH&EC will get an opportunity to meet some great folks in Dallas and I suspect that we will encounter a legion of JOC fans.

Jeff Nesset has provided great leadership of the Marketing Committee, which is meeting at 7:00 a.m. with more frequency as we get close to January. The members of the Marketing Committee, Joel Ristau, Darrel Inman, Shirley Phillips, Blair Hanson, and Mandy Miles, deserve a high-volume "Way-to Go!" for their input, creativity, and dedication.

The Board approved taking the Pilot Ram to Dallas at the September meeting, so we are sure to have a great exhibit. We will also have copies of the January 1951 OL story detailing Jack's taking the ram. Herb Klein was on the same hunt, but arrived 3 weeks later and shot his trophy shortly after getting into camp. Herb's ram is in storage at the Ross Perot Museum of Natural History in Dallas. Efforts are underway to borrow Herb Klein's ram to display alongside the Pilot Ram. Jack wrote an article about Herb's ram that was published in the February 1951 issue of OL.

Bradford and Anne will be attending DSC with O'Connor #2 and the Beretta double that JOC declared to be the best handling shotgun made. Bradford will also autograph copies of the January 1951, Outdoor Life article about the Pilot Ram. That's sure to be an instant collector's item!

The Center is actively seeking a new director. Upon Mike's departure, Dave Weisel provided invaluable assistance by serving as interim director until September 30. Thanks for a job well done.

The Center had a group of international students from LCSC stop by in September. They were participating in a program developed by HGSP and LCSC to give students from foreign countries a taste of American wilderness and culture. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

These are exciting times for JOCHH&EC.



About the Co-Chair: Howard Erdman is a Benefactor member of the NRA and charter member of Friends of Jack O'Connor. He is also a member of Dallas Safari Club and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. An ardent fan of JOC since his mother gave him his first Outdoor Life subscription in 1957, Howard has served on the Board since 2011. He is a Navy veteran and lives in Pullman, Washington with his wife of 44 years, Phyllis. He is also the Director of Institutional Planning, Research & Assessment at Lewis-Clark State College.

The 30-06 Springfield

Jack O'Cumo

By Allan Jones

I've been doing a series highlighting some of Jack O'Connor's favorite cartridges. I find a lot of people fail to realize his affection for the venerable 30-06 Springfield. I've written about the 270 Winchester, the 375 Holland & Holland, and the 7x57mm Mauser; it is time to visit the most popular American big game cartridge ever.

Look at Anderson's JOC biography—Jack started with the 30-06 after graduating from college. The 270 Winchester was not introduced until 1925. It certainly fits those attributes that Jack espoused in his writings: power; flat trajectory; accuracy; and versatility.

Although over 100 years old, the 30-06 still shines brightly. It started so far ahead of the competition that it remains a relevant cartridge. Case capacity compared to its contemporaries was huge. That extra capacity meant the '06 could drive some bullet weights up to 400 feet faster than its nearest rival of the time, the 30-40 Krag.

If you consider the velocity advantage of our current 30-caliber Magnums enjoy over the 30-06, you can see how revolutionary this was a century ago.

Versatility remains a marvelous 30-06 attribute. It is the largest 30-caliber case The only newcomers in the 30-caliber family that rival the versatility of the 30-06 are the 300 Winchester Short Magnum (300 WSM), the 300 Ruger Compact Magnum (300 RCM), and the 300 Remington Short Action UltraMag (300 RSAUM). Yet they have a limitation: many new ultra-premium bullets are quite long for their weight, and those bullets heavier than 180 grains encroach deeply into the small-capacity cases and can limit velocity gains. The 30-06 is much less susceptible.

For handloaders, the high cost of propellants lately raises the issue of how much velocity advantage is worth the extra propellant used. I prepared the chart below from actual Speer data. It looks at the propellant charge weight that gives the highest velocity with a 180grain bullet. Using the 30-06 as the baseline. The chart indicates whether an increase in propellant gives a similar increase in velocity. The results may surprise you.

Cartridge	Max. Charge, grains	Velocity, ft/sec	Charge Weight Increase Factor*	Velocity Increase Factor*
30-06 Springfield	58.0	2756		_
300 Rem SAUM	65.0	2921	1.12	1.06
300 Winchester Short Mag	68.5	2978	1.18	1.08
300 Win Mag	76.0	3059	1.31	1.11
300 Weatherby Mag	87.0	3109	1.50	1.13
300 Remington Ultra Mag	94.0	3146	1.62	1.14
30-378 Weatherby Mag	123.0	3249	2.12	1.18
			* - relative to 3	0-06

weight Comparison (180-grain bullets

Jack O'Cumo

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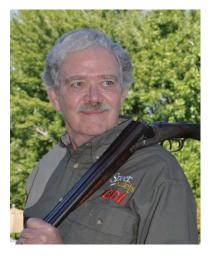
To read this look at, for example, the 300 WSM and say, "an 18-percent increase in propellant produced an 8 percent increase in velocity over the 30-06."

For the 300 WSM and the 300 RSAUM, the increased velocity compares favorably to the extra propellant required. Although we did not have 300 RCM data at Speer when I retired, current Hodgdon data shows it fares slightly better, with a roughly 3 percent increase in propellant charge producing a 7 percent velocity gain.

With the 30-378 Weatherby, you need over twice the propellant to get a 18 percent increase in velocity. That doesn't condemn the 30-378; rather it means that the cartridge needs a new generation of slower-burning propellants than we had at Speer in 2007 for it to realize its potential. The 30-06 still looks good today for the handloader. And it remains popular with handloaders. My friend Kent Sakamoto, RCBS Product Manager, kindly furnished the die popularity rankings over a recent five-year period for the 30-06 and the 270 Winchester. Averaging the numbers, the '06 ranked at Number 4, surpassed only by the 223 Remington, the 308 Winchester, and the 45 Auto cartridges; the 270 Winchester comes in at Number 8.

The 30-06 is 108 years old this year. I hope I still look and perform so well when I reach that milestone!

End



About the Author: Allan Jones had a 16-year career as a forensic firearms examiner before moving to Lewiston ID and taking over the roles of data developer and technical editor for Speer Bullets. He produced Speer Reloading Manuals 12, 13, and 14. He retired in 2007 and now volunteers at the Jack O'Connor Center and writes a monthly ballistics column for Shooting Times magazine.

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By Bradford O'Connor

Remove shells from shrimp. Set shrimp aside. In large skillet, heat half the olive oil and half the butter and sauté shrimp shells until all shells turn reddish pink, about 2 to 3 minutes. Remove shells with slotted spoon and discard.

Jack Olumo

There should be enough oil and butter remaining in the pan to sauté the prawns. Sauté prawns until all have turned reddish pink. Salt and pepper to taste. Remove prawns, set aside.

Sauté shallots and onions until translucent, add chives, continue cooking for about 1 minute, then add garlic and continue cooking until garlic is golden, adding a little butter and olive oil if necessary. Using slotted spoon, carefully remove shallots, onions and chives, then set aside.

Add ale to pan then simmer scallops until cooked thoroughly, but still tender. Remove scallops with slotted spoon, and set aside.

Add remaining olive oil, butter to pan. On medium flame, reduce by about half, then return scallops, prawns, garlic, chives, shallots and onions to pan to reheat. At last moment, add grappa, light with match and wait for flame to subside, about 30 seconds, taking great care not to ignite clothing, hair or interior of kitchen. Remove prawns, serve immediately as an antipasto.

Created by Brad O'Connor, January 26, 1994, for dinner party with George and Patty Gibbs, Cuddles (Anne) O'Connor, Gary and Patty Settle, Claudio Viscoli and niece Francesca

Serves 8 as antipasto

- 1 1/2 pound prawns 26 to 30 count 1 pound bay scallops
- 1/2 medium onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 large shallot, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup chives, finely chopped
- 2/3 cube butter
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 1/2 ounce grappa
- 4 to 6 ounces pale ale

salt and freshly ground black pepper



About the Author: Bradford O'Connor was born in June 1933, in Flagstaff, Arizona. He moved with his family to Lewiston in 1948 and graduated from Lewiston High School in1952. He served in the military as a policeman in Korea 1953-1955. Bradford graduated with a BA in English and Journalism from the University of Idaho in 1959. He worked as a cub reporter for the Los Angeles Mirror-News 1959, copy and city editor for the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin 1960-1976, and last but not least, was the outdoor reporter/columnist/editor for the Seattle Times 1967-1991. Bradford has written several articles and provided numerous photographs for several publications, including Outdoor Life, Sports Afield, Petersen's Hunting, Road & Track and dozens of Associated Press membership newspapers. His hobbies and interests include photography, travel, food and wine, shooting, hunting, fishing and bicycling. Bradford married his high-school sweetheart (Anne) in 1953. They will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this year. The O'Connor's have two children (John in Denver; Pamela in Seattle) and six grandchildren.

Jack D'Cum

HUNTING HERITAGE & EDUCATION CENTER LEWISTON, IDAHO EST. 2006

The O'Connor Ca**rtr**idge

Jack's enthusiasm for the .270 matched his endorsement of gunmaker Al Biesen.

By Wayne van Zwoll

Millions of readers called him Jack. Though he taught English and has been lauded as the dean of American gun writers, little of the professor showed in O'Connor's *Outdoor Life* columns. As Arms and Ammunition editor from 1941 to 1972, he used plain words in pithy sentences. He injected enough jargon to make the great unwashed feel at home. The cadence of his writing carried you; its precision impressed you. The barbs kept you reading. Jack did not suffer fools. In print he skewered them gently – reminding me of Churchill's wicked wit. When Jack dismembered a myth as "the purest of applesauce," or judged someone "full of prunes," there was no recovery.

Hunters and shooters believed Jack because he knew more than most of them but didn't pretend to know everything. He was no engineer, but he could craft an entertaining sentence from a paragraph of engineering gobbledygook, and leave you informed. He was no stock-maker, but he fashioned them on the page with language as clean and elegant as the rifles he described. Jack did little competitive shooting; still, he knew the makings of a marksman. His tales of bullets well and poorly placed helped generations of hunters shoot better. Others of Jack's era were as adept with the language. Warren Page, an English prof, could turn a phrase as deftly as drilling one-hole groups in Benchrest matches or killing game with 175-grain Noslers from his 7mm Mashburn Super Magnum. His tenure as Shooting Editor at *Field& Stream* ran from 1947 to 1972, paralleling Jack's career. John Jobson was for more than 20 years *Sports Afield*'s Camping, then Hunting Editor.

An able wordsmith, he shared O'Connor's passion for custom hunting rifles and the 7x57 cartridge. Jobson died in 1979, a year after Jack. In their heyday, writers from Russell Annabel to Ed Zern delivered adventure, insight and humor through the pages of thick 35-cent magazines.

You could rank Jack a cut above, could insist that better than anyone else he brought to readers a sense of his *time*, an era too short and quickly gone. Elk hunting in the Thoroughfare, the Selway and the Dannaher, on 30-day trips for Stone's sheep, moose and grizzlies in the Cassiars, Jack made room for his readers in the saddle and around the campfire. He handed them, in text, battle-weary Springfields (\$29.95 from Klein's!) that became lovely sporting rifles in the shops of R.F. Sedgely and Griffin and Howe. He introduced readers to industry celebrities: Roy Weatherby, Fred Huntington, Joyce Hornady, P.O. Ackley, Rocky Gibbs.

Jack O'Cum

HUNTING HERITAGE & EDUCATION CENTER LEWISTON, IDAHO EST. 2006

Back then, when Vernon Speer made bullet jackets from spent rimfire cases, you could buy a new Model 70 Winchester for \$135.00 and, if you weren't quite satisfied, have it stocked by the likes of Shelhammer, Linden or Goens. Or Al Biesen.



The .270 arrived in 1925 with a 130grain bullet at 3,000 fps. It's still hugely popular among hunters.

"Jack O'Connor made me the most famous gunmaker in the world," Al told me long ago. Proud of his work but not vain, Biesen knew Jack's blessing gave him a terrific boost. "Shortly after he started writing, I approached Jack about building a rifle for him. He sent me a Titus barrel, a Springfield action. I put them together and stocked the rifle. He didn't like it, so I made him a .30-06 on Mauser metal." Jack paid for that job, and followed with many others. The best known are a pair of Featherweight Model 70s, both chambered in .270 Winchester.

Jack's long and unbridled praise for that round (among the many he used) ensured its success at market. Yes, you could argue the .270 is so good it would have climbed the charts without promotion. A rejoinder might be that soon after the cartridge arrived in 1925, Depression put a lid on rifle sales, that no other round then used .270 bullets, that softpoints of the era couldn't handle impact speeds near 3,000 fps. At the .270's debut, the 7x57 Mauser was 32 years old. The 7x64 Brenneke, circa 1917, gave .284 bullets a flatter arc. It differed little, at a glance, from the .270.



Light recoil endears the .270 to shooters like this young lady, with her first kudu. A one-shot kill!

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Perhaps the Great War put German rounds out of favor Stateside. Perhaps O'Connor convinced riflemen they'd kill more game with a .270.



The limited-edition Jack O'Connor Tribute rifle, in .270 of course, mimics Jack's Beisen-built M70s.

Jack O'Cum

HUNTING HERITAGE & EDUCATION CENTER LEWISTON, IDAHO EST. 2006

\The cartridge didn't have an easy childhood. Hunters used to .30-30 bullet action whined that the fast-stepping spitzers wrecked a lot of meat. They did. Compared to 170-grain .30-30 softpoints, they still do! The first .270 bullets were particularly troublesome, often fragmenting. Winchester sought to mollify customers with a 150-grain load throttled to 2,675 fps. Nobody bought it. Improved bullets at full speed soon gave reliable upset across a range of impact velocities.



Hunting tough country in our Desert Southwest nudged Jack toward lightweight, flat-shooting rifles.

The .270 made its debut in the Winchester 54, replaced in late 1936 by the Model 70. Among the 70's charter – and subsequent – chamberings, only the .30-06 has since sold better than the .270. In 1948 Remington introduced its Model 721 bolt rifle in .30-06, .270 and .300 H&H Magnum.

A .270 or a .280? The two are twins in appearance, performance. The .270 is by far the best seller.



A decade later the .280 Remington joined them – and withered in the shade of the .270. Stiffer competition arrived in 1962 with Remington's 7mm Magnum in the brand-new Model 700 rifle. Early factory loads for this belted 7 had little on the .270, but brilliant marketing made it an instant hit. Winchester's concurrent makeover of the Model 70, in essence replacement of the Hope diamond with costume jewelry, infuriated the faithful. The 700 and its 7mm Magnum profited.



Remington's 700 in 7mm Magnum dented .270 sales. Many, many 700s have since been sold in .270.

Roy Weatherby's frisky .270 and 7mm Magnums beat the 7mm Remington Magnum to market by 20 years. But these were proprietary rounds, chambered only in costly Weatherby rifles. Also, at the end of World War II, hunters still considered the .30-06 a giant-



Tim Brandt got this fine billy with a .270 Weatherby, which outpaces the .270 Winchester by 300 fps.

Jack O'Cum

And even in the West, many sportsmen still used iron sights. Weatherby proved years ahead of his time. During the next four decades, demand for flat-shooting magnums would validate his work. Norma-loaded ammo in Weatherby boxes and the chambering of Weatherby cartridges in other rifles have benefited the California firm. Here's how traditional Weatherby loads compare, ballistically, to those of the .270 Winchester and 7mm Remington Magnum:

	Bullet weight (gr.) and type	Velocity (fps)	Energy (ft-lbs)
.270 Winchester	130 Power Point	3060	2702
	I40 AccuBond	2950	2705
	150 Power Point	2850	2705
7mm Remington Magnum	140 Pointed SP C-L	3175	3133
	150 Swift Scirocco	3110	3221
	160 Nosler Partition	2950	3091
.270 Weatherby Magnum	130 Nosler Partition	3375	3288
	140 Nosler Ballistic Tip	3300	3385
141	150 Nosler Partition	3245	3507
7mm Weatherby Magnum	140 Nosler Partition	3340	3443
	150 Nosler Ballistic Tip	3300	3627
	160 Nosler Partition	3200	3638

Federal and Hornady upped the ante with highoctane loads for the .270 and 7mm Remington. A long list of frisky loads with polymer-tipped bullets have since supplanted these, which wring about as much speed and energy from these rounds as currently possible under SAAMI pressure lids.

	Bullet weight (gr.) and type	Velocity (fps)	Energy (ft-lbs)
.270 Winchester (Win. PP Plus)	130 Power Point	3150	2865
.270 Winchester (Hornady LM)	130 SST	3215	2983
.270 Winchester (Federal HE)	140 Trophy Bonded	3100	2990
.270 Winchester (Win. PP Plus)	150 Power Point	2950	2900
7mm Remington Magnum (Hornady HM)	139 Soft- Point	3250	3300
7mm Remington Magnum (Win. PP Plus)	150 Power Point	3130	3264

The growing list of fast sub-.30 big game rounds includes another .270. Just over a decade afield, the .270 Winchester Short Magnum, or WSM, has a true short-action case, 2.10 inches long. Its .535 base mates with bolt faces machined for the .532 base of most belted rounds. The .270 WSM has a rather steep 35-degree shoulder. Factory loads outpace the .270 Winchester but fall shy of Weatherby chart figures.

Jack D'anna

	Winchester loads	for the .270 WSM
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Bullet weight and type	m. velocity	m. energy	100	200	300	400
130 XP-3	3275	3096	1.1	0	-5.5	-16.1
140 AccuBond	3200	3184	1.4	0	-5.7	-16.5
150 Power Point	3150	3304	1.4	0	-6.5	-19.4

I was treated to one of the first prototype rifles in .270 WSM, a Browning A-Bolt. Factoryloaded 130 Ballistic Silvertips crossed my Oehler sky screens at 3,290 fps, matching advertised speed even from the relatively short 23-inch barrel. This A-Bolt was also exceedingly accurate. At Browning's range near Mountain Green, Utah, two Fail Safe bullets cut an oblong hole at 200 yards. I posted another bullseye at 300 yards and drilled a 1¹/₂-inch triangle. Allowed to keep the rifle for a do-ityourself elk hunt, I carried it into the Wyoming hills for three days. On the fourth, still-hunting second-growth Doug-firs under cloudy skies, I slipped into a herd. A cow regarded me warily for long minutes, then ambled off. When a young bull ghosted through an opening 90 yards away, I triggered the Browning offhand. He hunched, sprinted and fell dead. The storm broke as I tugged and rolled him down-slope to a bench.

The WSM isn't the first short-action .270. A Remington 78 in my rack fires the .270 Redding, a necked-down .308 brought to my attention by Richard Beebe at Redding Reloading. Another short .270 came along in the 1940s, when F.R. Krause of Albuquerque and Roy Triplett of Cimarron NM necked down the .300 Savage.



The short-action .270 WSM, now barely a decade afield, edges the .270 Winchester ballistically.

Charles Evans and Bliss Titus also gave their names to this .270. Jack O'Connor no doubt approved. He might also have liked the .270 Howell, essentially a "stretched .270 Winchester" .1 inch longer, with a 25-degree shoulder set forward to further boost case capacity, The Howell performs about like a .270 WSM.

But O'Connor's long affection for the .270 Winchester is well founded. A better deer cartridge is still hard to imagine. Most 130grain bullets also handily take elk. Jacket and core integrity can count for more than weight in thick muscle and heavy bone. A bull I shot with a fragile 150-grain bullet trotted off because the shoulder stopped penetration. Fortunately, a second hit shattered the animal's neck. Another bull, hit on the run with a 130-grain Nosler Partition, somersaulted, as did one struck by

Jack D'anna

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a 140-grain Swift A-Frame that drove from the first rib to the off-side ham.



Wayne used a Mauser M12 in .270 – a fine mountain rifle – to kill this chamois in the Austrian Alps.

A client once put a 130-grain Hornady through the ribs of a huge six-point bull. The elk reared up and toppled backward, its antlers driving into the earth. No movement thereafter. A Colorado game warden, shooting elk on control decades ago, chose the .270 Winchester over more potent rounds. He killed hundreds of elk and saw no reason to change.

One reason the .270 endures is that it doesn't belt you hard in the chops. Lethal downrange, it is downright civil in recoil. Many women I've hosted on safari in Africa have borrowed a .270, a well-worn Sako.



It's hard to imagine a better deer cartridge than the .270 Winchester, especially in the open West.

They've shot well with it because the rifle doesn't induce a flinch. O'Connor noted that too. When Al Biesen built the two Model 70 Featherweights that would define Jack's taste in rifles, the chambering was hardly in doubt. Flat bullet flight, with a gentle manner that belies its power, gives the .270 as much appeal now as when M70s sold for \$135 and O'Connor hied off into the hills in his storied quests for wild rams. You'll look hard to find a more versatile big game cartridge, even if your plans don't include elk hunting in the Thoroughfare, the Selway and the Dannaher, or 30-day trips for Stone's sheep, moose and grizzlies in the Cassiars.

END

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About the Author: Wayne van Zwoll is a fulltime journalist for the outdoors press. Wayne has published more than 2,500 articles and twice that many photos for more than two dozen magazine titles, including Sports Afield, **Outdoor Life and Field & Stream. His Rifles** and Cartridges column in Bugle has run for 23 years - longer than any other in the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's flagship magazine. Wayne has authored 15 books on hunting, shooting and history. He is a professional member of the Boone and Crockett Club and has served on the board of OWAA. Wayne has taught English and Forestry classes at Utah State University, where in 2000 he earned a doctorate studying the effects of post-war hunting motive on wildlife policy. Wayne lives in north-central Washington State with Alice, his wife of 36 years.

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International Students from LCSC Visit JOCHH&EC



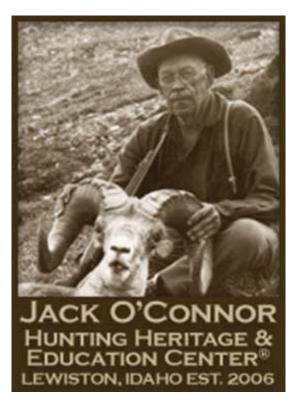






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The Jack O'Connor Center opened June 3, 2006. It is the permanent home of the O'Connor wildlife collection, which is comprised of 65 mounted heads from around the world, numerous photographs and O'Connor memorabilia, as well as a complete collection of O'Connor books and many outdoor magazine articles.

Jack's famous Biesen stocked M-70 .270 is on display as is Eleanor O'Connor's 7x57 Mauser. These two rifles have appeared in more articles and had more written about them than any rifles in history. Other O'Connor firearms are also on display.

The center houses a gift shop with clothing and other logoed merchandise as well as original O'Connor books for sale.

Stop by and say hello at DSC Booth A-8

January 15-18, 2015

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