



Technical Newsletter From  
Your Ballistic Technicians  
Volume 3, No. 1

## **Brass Cleaning** **by Tommy Todd**

There are various ways of cleaning firearms brass after it has been fired. Some brass requires extensive care depending upon its condition. Brass that has been exposed to the elements for a long period of time can require either more time to clean than relatively clean once-fired brass or different methods to prepare it for final polish. Relatively clean brass can be either tumbled or vibrated in a media such as corncob or walnut shell to remove small amounts of dirt, residue, and tarnish. Another method of cleaning brass involves actually washing the brass in water and some form of cleaner. Mild soap works well, just be sure you use nothing that has an ammonia base to it that will attack the brass and weaken it. When washing cases you will have much better results if you agitate them after soaking for a while. Some words of caution are needed about drying the cases.

NEVER put the cases in an oven to dry them, it is too easy to get the cases too hot and soften them. You cannot control the heat in an oven precisely enough to safely dry them. A better recommendation would be to spread the cases out on a cookie sheet and place them in the sun for a while. Another alternative would be to place them in front of a fan or furnace vent. If you have extremely dirty cases you can wash them to remove the bulk of the debris and then polish them in a tumbler to give them that like-new shine. A very labor intensive yet effective method of polishing cases is to use an abrasive such as steel wool and hand polish the cases one at a time. This is a very effective method, although slow.



## Congratulations to Bullet Board #1 Winner

Sierra wishes to congratulate Edward Rogalski from Michigan for winning our drawing for the Number 1 bullet board in our drawing held December 8, 1995. There is still a limited quantity of Sierra's 50th Anniversary Commemorative Bullet Boards available.

Call today and order your very own.

## Sierra's New .303 125 gr SPT

The .311" diameter, 125 grain Sierra Spitzer is one of four new bullets for 1996. It will function as a deer bullet in the 7.62x39, and a varmint bullets for the .303 British and some of its contemporaries. The 50th Anniversary Sierra Rifle Reloading Manual shows data for this bullet. We hope that those wanting a very accurate varmint bullet for the 7.65 Argentine and 7.7 Arisaka's will find this little newcomer a welcome addition.



## Sierra's III Exterior Ballistic Software Updated

Sierra's exterior ballistic software has been updated effective February 1, 1996. All new bullets added to Sierra's product line since 1992 and the ballistic coefficients from our 50th Anniversary/4th Edition Reloading manuals is included. The program is a DOS based program and requires 640K memory and DOS 3.0 or higher. It is only available on a 3 1/2" disc. Anyone who purchased the program within the last 90 days will have the update shipped at no charge. Those who purchased the program more than 90 days ago and registered the program may purchase the update at half price (\$24.47) + shipping. Version III software offers multiple trajectory graphics, on-line help and scope click chart to help you plan your



best shooting.

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