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HAIL TO THE CHIEFS

→ The Coronavirus epidemic was in full swing as of this writing. All of the close-talking, cheek-kissing Italians in Italy were put on lockdown shortly after wiping out shelves of Barilla pasta. Countless people all over the U.S. were hoarding toilet paper, hand sanitizer and Tito's while screaming about how horribly the Trump administration was mishandling the crisis. Since we bill *Ballistic* as "The Premier Firearms & Survival Magazine," we'll simply advise that common sense and cooler heads always prevail during a crisis. If you want to come through this no worse for wear, please visit coronavirus.gov as well our network of sites: ballisticmag.com, tactical-life.com, realworldsurvivor.com and personaldefenseworld.com. There's a treasure trove of solid advice to be found online for this particular health threat as well as those in the future.

That said, you won't find any fear-mongering in the these pages. Sure, some might read our new slogan, "The Premier Firearms MAGAzine For Patriots," or read our specials on Auto-Ordnance's new Trump guns, the 2020 presidential election and the country's most idiotic gun laws, and say we're in the tank for Trump or ginning up fear, but they'd be wrong. Just put the news on for a minute or do a quick Google search for "Joe Biden taking away AR-14s [sic]." We all want what's right for this country as our founders intended—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

What makes us happy and



safe to pursue a good life is guns. Lots and lots of guns—full-sized and carry-ready pistols, big-bore rifles, plinkers, shotguns, you name it. But we hold a special place in our collective heart for the special guns appearing on our subscriber and newsstand covers. At the 2020 SHOT Show, while Democrats were trying to impeach our nation's 45th president, we met up with Auto-Ordnance's Jodi DePorter, who was surrounded by shooters going gaga for the Trump-centric firearms the company had on display. We caught wind that the special limited-edition Keep America Great 1911 was being gobbled up by distributors and immediately asked to put that handgun on our cover. DePorter quickly sent the Outlaw-Ordnance-customized .45 to photographer Jeremy Tremp of the Offensive Marketing Group, who secured a Trump "dress-alike" for the awesome photo shoot.

Sweet! That cover was completed on Valentine's Day, just a week after Trump was acquitted

by the Senate. Hence our "Impeach This!" cover line. But that wasn't enough. We knew we could go further, and thankfully, DePorter jumped at our idea of doing a special one-off Trump Thompson wearing the *Ballistic* "B" logo. But then the masters at Outlaw Ordnance said, "Hell, let's do a limited run of 25 of these guns. *Ballistic* magazine can give No. 1 away to one lucky reader!"

We point this out because the entire crew involved in this process—from the initial concept to engraving, painting, assembling, testing and staging photography—turned around the entire project in 20 days flat. This is extraordinary considering a one-off gun usually takes at least two months to complete.

This issue most certainly was a team effort led by several chiefs in each given phase of the project, and it wouldn't have been possible without a firm commitment by everyone involved. We hope you enjoy every single word and photo in the pages ahead. Now go wash your hands, kick back and enjoy. If you're not quarantined, pass the issue along to a friend when you're done. —*Nino Bosaz*

WE STAND CORRECTED: In last issue's "Custom Challenge," we mispriced the value of the guns. A rectified value can be found on ballisticmag.com when you enter the gun giveaway.



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