**Iconic ‘Peacemaker’ and other historical guns going on the auction block in Oklahoma City**

**By Brittany Dalton**

More than 100 historical guns and artifacts will be up for auction in October. With guns such as the Colt Peacemaker revolver and Winchester rifles specifically intended to be collectible pieces, the Oct. 14 auction will feature a number of in-demand collectibles that could go for up to $75,000.

The auction will be held at 6p.m., Friday, Oct. 14, at Dakil Auctioneers, and Dakil will be open for inspection of guns from noon until the start of the auction at 6p.m. Barrett Bray said the timing of these auctions takes attendees’ other interests in mind in order to increase the number of people who can come out.

“We’ve found that Friday nights work well for gun auctions,” Bray said. “We aren’t competing with weekend gun shows or football games.”

Dakil Auctioneers is a full-service auction company located at 200 NW 114th St. in northwest Oklahoma City, near NW 122nd Street and Broadway Extension. Originally started in a spare bedroom of owners Louis and Susan Dakil’s home, it has since expanded nationwide.

Although Dakil conducts many different kinds of auctions, including real estate or even the auction of restaurant and DJ equipment from a recently closed business, they are holding a gun auction in October that will spotlight a few guns that may have historical flair.

**Guns with a historical ‘draw’**

One of the guns that will be profiled is a Colt Single Action Army, also known as the Colt Peacemaker.

“This particular gun was manufactured in 1897 and has wear markings consistent with it being a gun that was carried daily, a real ‘Wild West’ piece,” Bray said.

The gun may also have more than historical value.

“A dealer has told me that the Blue Book of Gun Values has this gun valued at between $15,000 and $75,000,” Bray said.

At the auction, Dakil will also have several Wells Fargo-branded double barrel shotguns, known as “coach guns.” They are called “coach guns,” Bray said, because they were carried on stagecoaches to protect deliveries. The agents or men carrying the guns sat next to the stagecoach driver – which is where the phrase “riding shotgun” today comes from.

It makes for a neat story, but Bray thinks the guns may not be what they appear.

“I don’t think these were actually used by Wells Fargo – it’s very common for someone to find an old double-barrel shotgun, saw down the barrel to a shorter legal limit and add engravings or markings of Wells Fargo to boost the price of sale,” he said. “Still, a lot of gun collectors like them because they are old, and make nice display pieces.”

Dakil will also have rifles on display, including the Winchester Model 94 lever-action rifle. Through the years, Winchester has released limited availability runs of this rifle.

The rifles are not meant to be fired, though they could be, Bray said.

“They are meant specifically to be collectors’ pieces,” he said. “I have a ‘Golden Spike’ edition that was made to commemorate the joining of the railroad at Promontory Point, Utah.”

That rifle comes with a framed reproduction of a poster promoting the “Golden Spike,” as well as a small golden spike to be sold with the rifle.

This rifle will also be presented at the auction in a “Buffalo Bill” edition and a “Chief Crazy Horse” edition.

**‘A commitment to responsibility’**

Although a person could easily go to a retailer to buy a gun, Bray believes buying a gun at an auction could be more beneficial for the selection.

“Variety – there are lots of models, configurations, and calibers that aren’t being manufactured anymore,” Bray said. “The only way to get them is to buy used.”

However, an important draw is that Dakil has aimed for speedy compliance with recent legislation intended to regulate the sale of firearms and make the process safer for all involved.

Dakil recently received their Federal Firearms license. Due to recent updates by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), auctioneers are required to be licensed.

The ATF has only in recent years begun to focus more on auctioneers being licensed, Bray said. In the past, auctioneers were viewed as a middleman for a personal sale between two individuals, which meant less regulatory measures were required. However, since auctioneers actually take possession of the firearms to show and catalog, they are now required by the ATF to be licensed and to conduct background checks as part of the transactional process.

The legislation, a series of executive actions announced by President Obama this year in response to violent gun acts in recent years, is intended to reduce gun violence. The legislation also aims to address what could be seen as loopholes in preexisting legislation, such as the fact that previously, background checks were not required for the purchasing of guns if done at a gun show or online.

“We saw the changes were being implemented and we wanted to be on the forefront of things, so we went ahead and got licensed,” Bray said. “We want to show a commitment to responsibility.”

For more information on Dakil and their upcoming auctions, visit their website at www.dakil.com.