

The New
GARRETT
.444
MAGNUM AMMO

Hamilton Bowen



Hot, Heavy And Handsome!

The .44 Magnum cartridge was big news at its introduction in 1956. It propelled a 250-grain bullet at 1,300+ FPS, far more potent than anything else available at the time. These figures sound so quaint now compared to the .454 Casull, .475 and .500 Linebaughs and .500 Smith & Wesson cartridges, all capable of generating twice as much horsepower.

But for many of us, nuclear levels of revolver performance are neither necessary nor manageable. All we really need is ammo that will do the job with the guns we have. No telling who was the first sensible chap to recognize in the lowly .44 Magnum the solution to the problem. J. D. Jones may be the real culprit but Randy Garrett was also on the case early on. Both rightly recognized that the .44 Magnum loaded to sensible pressure levels with 300- to 325-grain bullets, was a serious cartridge, and kept the venerable .44 Magnum in the hunt in the face of more formidable developments. Owners of countless .44 Magnum revolvers thank you, whoever you are.

Not content to lounge on his laurels, Garrett has introduced an updated version of his +P+ Long Hammerhead .44 round. Otherwise identical to the orig-

inal, the latest iteration sports gas-checked bullets to combat leading that occasionally occur even with the best bullets. Fourteen-hundred FPS is cooking for a 330-grain cast bullet. Unless a revolver has perfectly sized throats and slick bores, the heat, pressures and gas leakage can cause barrel leading. Nothing can wreck accuracy quicker. Nothing stops the problem better than gas checks. A gas-checked version of the 310-grain loading will follow shortly.

Plenty accurate before, the ammo will keep producing good groups. Testing in a stock 7½" stainless Redhawk produced outstanding performance. One six-shot group landed in 1½" while another had five more or less in one hole with the sixth about an inch out due to the excitement and

amazement of the shooter (not your blind contributing author).

Garrett bullets are hand-cast, water-dropped with alloys tailored to give maximum resistance to shattering and deformation. A lot of trouble but it makes for a superior bullet. Bullet-to-bullet weight is typically +/- 1/2 grain.

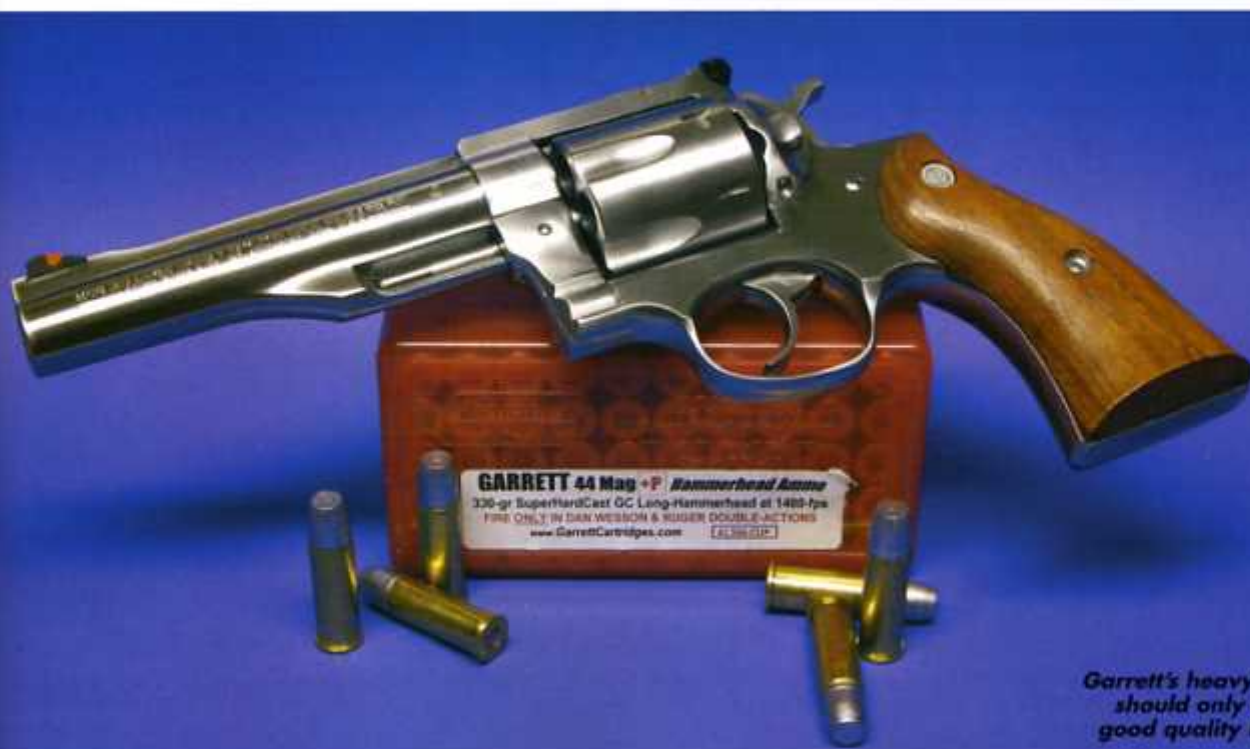
Long Hammerhead ammo is suitable only to Dan Wesson and

Ruger .44 double-action revolvers since it works at 43,500 CUPs. For S&W's and Ruger's single-action revolvers, the standard Hammerhead 310-grain ammo, working at 38,000 CUPs, is best. Both sell for \$65 per 50, a true bargain for hunters who have trekked thousands of miles for the shot of a lifetime or outdoorsman who ventures into bear country and may depend on this ammo for safety and preservation.



For more information:

Garrett Cartridge Company
P. O. Box 178, Chehalis, WA 98532
(360) 736-0702
www.garrettctridges.com



Garrett's heavy .44 loads should only be fired in good quality handguns.