

RB Big Bore's Ryan Breeding "Making It Big"



SCI member Ralph Johnson of Lake Forest, Illinois (left) holds his second custom rifle from RB Big Bores as RB owner Ryan Breeding holds Johnson's first RB custom rifle. Johnson was so happy with the first fully engraved rifle in .416 Rigby that he had RB make him the second rifle, in what is now the matched set, chambered for .30-06 Springfield.

If you're a movie buff, you know most "overnight sensations" are figments of media imagination. Most of these shining new stars spent

years in obscurity honing their craft until they finally got their big break - and took advantage of it with an Oscar-winning performance.

The moral is simple; there is no substitute for hard work, dedication and God-given talent.

Ryan Breeding and his company, RB Big Bores, is finally being discovered. It only took 25 years of hard work, countless hours, weeks, months and years of refinement to achieve his goals and now receive the accolades of professional hunters and satisfied clients worldwide.

Nearly a quarter of a century ago, Breeding met and began working with Gil vanHorn, a longtime custom gunsmith employed by Roy Weatherby. Both shared the love of big bore dangerous game rifles. The concept was simple: build compact, perfectly balanced dangerous game rifles to survive the most behemoth of caliber, the harshest of physical conditions, and the fastest and smoothest swinging rifles ever taken to the field.

Twenty-five years later, Ryan's creations are proving to be an "overnight" success story critiqued by the most demanding judges, the professional hunters.

At first glance, a Breeding big bore rifle looks a bit short and blocky. However, as soon as a hunter picks one up and shoulders it, the feeling of perfect balance and super-fast swinging capability becomes apparent.

Ryan builds each rifle to fit the customer.

His actions include magnum Mauser square bridge, Winchester Model 70 and Enfield, although he can fill particular customer requests with others. He prefers English and Turkish Walnut, but will use laminate and synthetics upon request. Ryan also includes his own built-from-scratch trigger guard and floorplates, sights, sling swivels, and barrel band swivels upon request.

But the final product is always a fast-swinging, smooth, perfectly balanced rifle.

Ryan's work can be examined by stopping by Booth No. 858. He can also be contacted by calling at (661) 266-1908. Also RB Big Bores, 3112 West Ave N, Palmdale, CA 93551. e-mail ryan@rbbigbores.com.



RB Big Bores owner Ryan Breeding (left) delivers a special double rifle designed to be used in the African rain forests to Professional Hunter Geoffroy de Gentile of France. Geoffroy had Breeding make the rifle, chambered in .500 Nitro, to his exacting specifications.