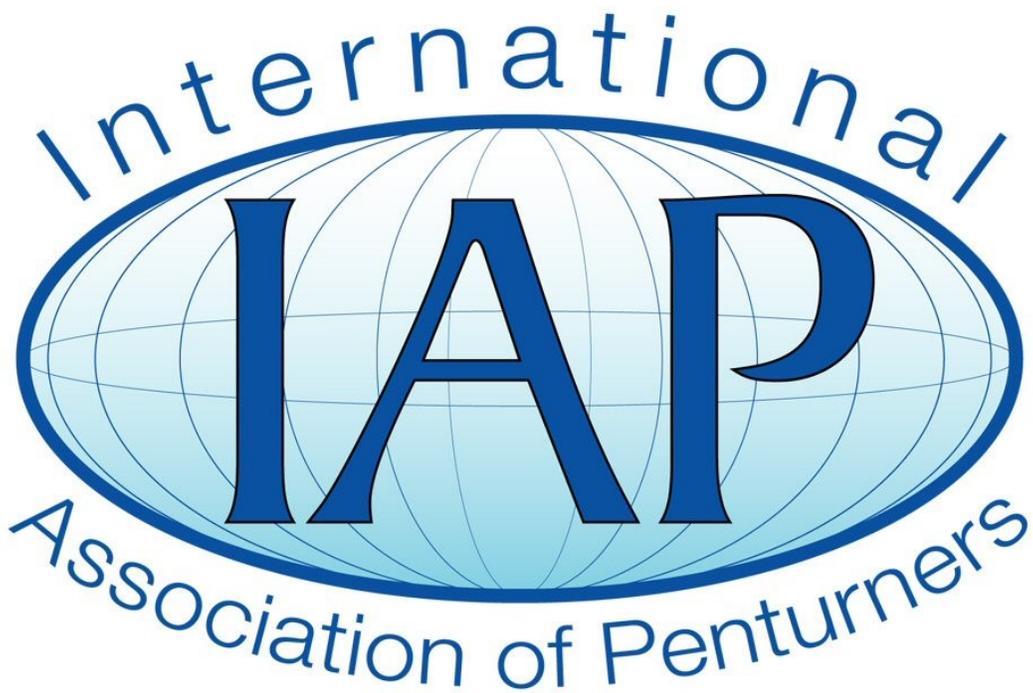


21 Gun Salute Pen Kit

Contributed by: Eric Rasmussen

A.K.A "Sylvanite"



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The International Association of Penturners - 2016

21 Gun Salute Pen Kit

By: Eric Rasmussen aka: Sylvanite

Another member asked if I could make a bullet pen kit for him out of an old shell case from a military funeral. He didn't know what caliber it was - but it turned out to be 7.62x51mm (a.k.a. 7.62 NATO - the military version of 308 Winchester) blank. The case had been sitting around for 40 years and had tarnished quite a bit. Here is what it looked like:



The first thing I did was remove the worst of the corrosion. I chucked up the case on my lathe and rubbed it with 0000 steel wool until it was moderately clean:



Then I trimmed it to length, expanded the case neck, drilled the case head, and sanded out the remaining tarnish and as many of the dings as I could. I used 400 grit, 600, 800, 0000 steel wool, and finished with ammonia-free brass polish. This is how it looked afterwards:



Then I seated a drilled-out bullet and soldered in a 7mm brass tube. This is the result:



Finally, I laser-marked the cartridge, polished again, and powder-coated it in gloss clear.



The completed kit looks like this:



I hope this was interesting. Regards, Eric