

EAGA Business Builder

eaganm.com

March 11, 2025

Today's speaker was Walter Bracken—BMC Tactical



Mr. Bracken was born and raised in Albuquerque. He graduated from Sandia High School before heading off into real life. Walter's hobbies are cars, guns & knives, so it appears that he doesn't have a job—just works on his hobbies all day. Mr. Bracken opened the first BMC Tactical location (on Coors Blvd) in 1999, then opened a second shop on Menaul Blvd in 2022. Interestingly enough, 2022 was also the year that Walter got married. It does cause one to wonder if it took Mr. Bracken 23 years to open a second location because he was waiting to meet the right forever-partner to help manage the place. BMC Tactical carries a large selection of ammunition, rifles, shotguns, pistols, knives and all the related add-ons, equipment and parts. One item of particular interest to Walter is the gun silencer. The device is not just used to conceal nefarious acts, as is often displayed on TV and in the movies. The silencer is very important in minimizing damage to a shooter's hearing when the gun is fired, whether during sporting activities or in self-defense instances. Walter is very much an advocate of the silencer. They are now legal, but there are regulations to follow in order to purchase one. BMC Tactical makes that process a bit easier for customers by having a kiosk available right in the store so fingerprints can be registered right away as part of the application process. Walter is a man of few words as was confirmed by his relatively short presentation this morning. However he did take some time afterward to answer questions. Some information from the Q&A session: —There is still some problem legislation working its way through the New Mexico current 60 day session. Senate Bill 279 [A ban on so-called "assault weapons," which includes many commonly owned semi-automatic rifles, shotguns, and handguns; A ban on standard-capacity magazines over 10 round; and A retroactive possession ban, meaning that law-abiding gun owners who already own these firearms and magazines could be forced to give them up, face confiscation, or risk becoming criminals overnight] and Senate Bill 318 [targets all New Mexico businesses (except cannabis) by increasing fines for unfair trade practices from \$5,000 to \$25,000; increasing damage awards from \$100 to \$30,000 and unfairly increasing fines and damage awards to \$30,000 for the firearms industry]. Either of these bills, if passed could have a very negative impact on his business. —BMC doesn't have too much trouble with attempted break-ins at either of the stores. Walter's home, and more importantly, his Viet Nam Veteran father's home, are located right behind the Coors facility, so there is plenty of on-site security. The store on Menaul has a double back door arrangement. Anyone attempting to get in that way will set off an alarm if they manage to break through the first heavily fortified door. They will then encounter a second, well-fortified door that they will have to also get through—while the alarm is sounding and security is on the way. —Ammunition is more available now than it was during the past couple of years, so BMC has a good amount inventory on hand. Walter can get a lot of the specialty ammo, too. You just have to let him know a few days ahead of when you will need it. Mr. Bracken has a lot of knowledge about the firearms industry so whether you need a new rifle or hand gun; want a good knife; are running low on ammunition or just want some information about any of those things, he is willing to help however he can. You can give him a call at 505-318-0146 to discuss your situation, or stop by one of the stores to see things first-hand. You can also visit BMC Tactical's web site to see stuff and find a lot of valuable information. bmc-tactical.com Although Walter didn't mention it this morning, you should visit the *how-to-purchase-firearms-online* page of his web-site. It provides a glimpse of the many-many regulations and restrictions that his company needs to know, and hoops that they have to jump through, in order to just sell something over the internet. The page has a long list of procedures that have to be followed; Individual state requirements and restrictions that have to be known (Which states or cities restrict mail-order ammunition; which states have regulations regarding black powder firearms; which states prohibit large capacity magazines; and even which states have air-gun restrictions). And then there are the other legalities that have to be followed: -Ammunition shipped by air requires Hazardous Material (HazMat) classification and additional fees will apply. -Ammunition and Firearms MUST BE purchased separately. -For safety reasons, BMC does not accept returns on ammunition. -All sales over \$100.00 that are being shipped to a residence will require an adult signature and are not allowed to be left at the door, fees will apply. And there are a lot more. It is amazing all the amount of government involvement there is in an industry covered by the Second Amendment that reads: "... the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

{ I was not able to attend this meeting so did not hear Walter's obviously very informative presentation. Thank you to the members that contributed notes and commentary to make this bulletin possible. -Bill }

◆ We need Badge Board Greeters for most of April and all of May. That duty provides a great opportunity to put a face with a name (or a name with a face) and to meet each member individually, even if it is just for a couple of seconds. The sign-up sheet is available at the badge table each Tuesday. Select a day and put your name on the line.

◆ Second announcement of a new member application:

Absolute Powder Coating LLC
Representative: Christopher Damon
Category: Powder Coating/Metal Finishing
Sponsor: Damian Pascetti

If you have an objection to this company becoming a member, or if you have information that you feel should be considered during the review process, please contact our Membership Committee Chairman John Menicucci (Email: jam@bergerbriggs.com or Phone: 505-379-7083) as soon as possible.

Tease your brain for a few minutes. Answer is upside down below.

Four people need to cross a rickety bridge at night. Unfortunately, they have only one torch and the bridge is too dangerous to cross without one. The bridge is only strong enough to support two people at a time. Not all people take the same time to cross the bridge, so the time for each trip will that of the slowest of the two people crossing. Times for each person: 1 min, 2 mins, 7 mins and 10 mins. What is the shortest time needed for all four of them to cross the bridge?

17 minutes
1 and 2 go cross
1 comes back
7 and 10 go across
1 and 2 go across (done)
Total time = 2 + 2 + 10 + 1 + 2 = 17 mins

<https://www.bridges.com/riddles/top-10-hard-level?blogger=1>

Badge Board Greeters

- Mar 18th John Jain—High Desert Doppler
- Mar 25th Nestor Romero—The Payroll Company
- Apr 01st Rich Ringrose—Albuquerque Lifestyle Magazine
- Apr 08th
- Apr 15th
- Apr 22nd
- Apr 29th
- May 06th

Scheduled Speakers

- Mar 18th Jack Thompson—Guild Mortgage
- Mar 25th Member introductions and general discussion
- Apr 01st John Mead—John Thomas Jewelers
- Apr 08th Guest Speaker from Workforce Solutions
- Apr 15th Tim Stewart—Impact Nations
- Apr 22nd Mark Tobiassen with guest UNM head football coach Jason Eck
- Apr 29th Guest Speaker—Dr. Tracy Bower—Steelcase
- May 06th Guest Speaker—Colonel David Wyrick, Deputy Commander 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland AFB

EAGA Contact information for Executive Director: Mario Hernandez
Phone: 505-239-0259 email: eagaed@gmail.com
8100 Wyoming Blvd NE; Suite M4 #345 Albuquerque, NM 87113