

Once upon a time... **IN 1959**

There once was a very young enthusiastic engineer student/U.S. Marine/gun connoisseur named Charles Steen, III... aka, Cholly. His passion for the firearms industry began an incredible collection of guns, parts and accessories – so many that he had to find places to put everything.

He began to store everything he had way up high in the tower of his castle, or rather the attic of his apartment. It wasn't long before he decided he needed a name for his collection, thus the "Steen Armament Research Company" was born, better known now as SARCO, INC.

The attic was a fine place to store all his wonderful gun parts, but it was no easy feat as there were many stairs to climb.

As no one really wants to carry everything to the attic all the time, he made a habit of dropping boxes off where ever he was going at that moment. Needless to say, there was a trail of parts that led down the halls and step by step up each floor like little bread crumbs, telling a tale of where he had been that day.

As you can see, the castle was quite large and eventually was full of treasure!

TOO FULL....

The boxes took over and he out grew the attic. Luckily, Cholly was able to take over the barn/garage next door. This was officially his SARCO #2... and after making some money from selling a few parts from a trade he made with an incomplete Radom pistol, Cholly decided he had no more time for school.

His wife Marie, who was supporting the two of them on a teacher's salary, gave him the rest of the year to make at least \$60 a week doing what he loved (the average income at the time was \$75/wk). If he could pull it off, then he could quit college.

So thats what he did. The more he collected, the more money he could make. But the more parts he collected, the more he had to cram. There were parts in every nook and cranny.

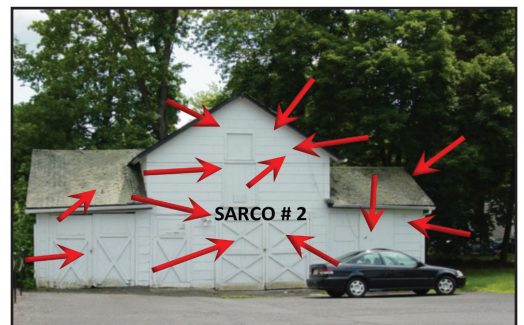
Soon, the barn/garage was busting at the seams.

So what does one do when one's gun parts are stacked to the ceiling?

Buy a bigger building, of course!

With a stroke of luck, the building down the street became available and quickly became SARCO #3.

As you can probably guess by now, Cholly days of collecting were far from over. So eventually, he out grew this building too.



With an even bigger stroke of luck, the MUCH larger building around the corner was now obtainable.



So, Cholly snatched it up and began to fill it with everything he had.

Years and years... and years... of parts had SARCO #4 in the making...

And it has been able to hold a lot!



But even the best eventually needs help.

He found himself needing yet ANOTHER warehouse to catch the parts that spilled out; sort of a SARCO 4.5, if you will.



One day, he met a fine bunch of people who ran a little publication called, "The Shotgun News". Together, their relationship grew and grew as Cholly ran his sales and deals three times a month in their publication.



Sarco's popularity sky rocketed, and Cholly went nationwide.

In time, the "Shotgun News" developed into the "Firearms News", and their connection with Cholly and his empire grew stronger with each year.



Not long after, Sarco discovered a little something called the Internet and created its first website. One thing led to another... which lead to another. His son Butch joined the family biz as well as his grandson Kip... a bigger, better e-Commerce website was created which lead to more sales and more employees, which lead to the never ending need for MORE room. SARCO's potential was on fire and literally outgrew NJ gun laws.

Cholly had to bust out of the state.

Over the horizon, he could see a friendly bit of earth called Pennsylvania.

His eyes grew wide as he peered over the border and thought,
"Yeah, I can do that".

On April 25th, 2011, Cholly bought his first PA location and moved the whole retail business into Easton PA, turning both his NJ buildings into warehouses.



After settling into the great Commonwealth, Cholly recognized the growing staff he had onboard; a staff that he likes to call 'family'. He knew he needed more offices but not only that, the shipping department was buried under a gazillion packages!

He decided to purchase a second PA building to accommodate customer service, a bigger and better shipping department, and of course.....

MORE WAREHOUSE SPACE !

Which by the way, is starting to look a little cramped.....



And that brings us up to date in 2020 ! A wonderful journey of expansion from the ground up – a passionate interest that started in an apartment and lead to an incredible collection hoarded in multiple buildings spread across two states that is known today as,

“ ONE OF THE WORLD’S LARGEST WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SUPPLIERS OF FIREARMS, FIREARMS PARTS, ACCESSORIES AND ASSOCIATED MATERIAL - SPECIALIZING IN HARD TO FIND PARTS, FROM AK TO ZASTAVA. ”

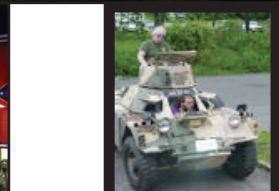
Chances are if you're looking for something rare, SARCO has it.

So, what does a 61-year old collection of guns, gun parts and accessories look like any way ?

It may be hard to imagine !

But, we can give you a taste if you would like to drop by his 15,000 sq foot showroom !

After strolling around the Gatling gun and the Hotchkiss canon and listening to the staff talk about the MIG21 cockpit in the back as well as the drone and the ferret stuck in the backyard, perhaps you will see why he had to move out of the attic!





Meet the Steens ! Son Butch, wife Marie and Cholly himself all run the family business!



Still to this day,
Sarco, Inc. and the **Firearms News**
work together to dominate the gun industry.

61-years and still going strong, Cholly's
moto has proven to be words to live by...

“Onward and Upward”

(Literally, up to the ceiling 'upward' !!)