

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
April 30, 2003

STURM, RUGER & COMPANY, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

DELAWARE
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation)

001-10435
(Commission File Number)

06-0633559
(IRS Employer Identification
Number)

ONE LACEY PLACE, SOUTHPORT, CONNECTICUT 06890
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code **(203) 259-7843**

Item 5. Other Events

On April 30, 2003, the Company issued a press release announcing the retirement of Erle G. Blanchard as Vice Chairman, President, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer and Director as of April 30, 2003. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Report and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statement, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

<u>(c) Exhibits</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release of Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. dated April 30, 2003, announcing the retirement of Erle G. Blanchard as Vice Chairman, President, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer and Director as of April 30, 2003.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

STURM, RUGER & COMPANY, INC.

By: S/STEPHEN L. SANETTI
Name: Stephen L. Sanetti
Title: Senior Executive Vice President
and General Counsel

Dated: April 30, 2003

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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STURM, RUGER & Company, Inc.

Southport, Connecticut 06890 U.S.A.

ALL RUGER FIREARMS ARE DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED IN OUR OWN FACTORIES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stephen L. Sanetti, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Sturm, Ruger & Company, (203) 259-7843

RETIREMENT OF ERLE G. BLANCHARD

Southport, CT – April 30, 2003 - Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. (NYSE: RGR) announced today the resignation of Erle G. Blanchard as Vice Chairman, President, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer and Director, effective immediately. He served in these capacities since October 24, 2000. He is retiring from the Company as of April 30, 2003 for personal reasons unrelated to the performance of his duties at the Company. The Board of Directors will appoint a successor at its next meeting on May 6, 2003.

Sturm, Ruger is the nation's leading manufacturer of high-quality firearms for recreation and law enforcement, and a major producer of precision steel and titanium investment castings components for consumer industries. Sturm, Ruger is headquartered in Southport, CT, with plants and foundries located in Newport, NH and Prescott, AZ.

STURM, RUGER & COMPANY, INC.

“Arms Makers for Responsible Citizens”

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