

VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG

Est. 1983

(Non Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G 8162

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January 2005

Meeting: This month's meeting is on Thur 27th and will start at 8 rather than 7. The reason is a simple one. Since the Thompson SMG display in the Ruger Gallery will be leaving in March, we thought that many would like some time to see it. So come at 7 to spend some time in the museum. Food will be out so you can eat and visit a few minutes before we start the meeting at 8. The program for this month's meeting will be an interesting one. Con Rice's cousin is Kevin O'Keefe. Kevin is an ATFE agent and will talk about guns confiscated by ATF. He is an expert in the field of gun trafficking of guns coming into the USA from many countries. He is a supervisor of a task force here. He will take questions. He will also provide information about what is required for application and compliance for a Curios and Relics Collectors License. If anyone has an extra copy of the current ATF Regs, bring them along for information. Con mentioned that Kevin's father was one of the persons portrayed in "Band of Brothers". We are working on the speaker list for the rest of the year. There will be three NRA presentations this year as in the past. We will announce the speakers as we firm up the details.

Sick Bay Report: Ed Johnson continues to recover from his knee replacement surgery. Charlie Rausch was recently admitted to UVA. I called him and he said if he was not released soon, he was going to have a gun smuggled in so he could shoot his way out. Sounds as if he getting better!!!

Common Courtesy: I have mentioned this before but it bears repeating. When some of you folks talk in the back of the hall or while in your seats, your conversation carries down to the front. The acoustics in the auditorium are really good.... It is very disruptive to who ever has the floor. It is getting to be a serious problem. I doubt if people who blab in the back realize just how inappropriate and disrespectful it is to the person speaking. Please cease and desist or we are going to have to appoint a Sgt. at Arms to ask you to go outside. I would hope that this reminder would preclude this. But we can not tolerate this rudeness so be forewarned or you are liable to be embarrassed. Some of you all have hearing aids so you talk louder and this even disrupts things even more. Simply go outside the auditorium and conduct your arguments, fistfights, gun deals, or whatever.

Excellent Resource for Gun Books: Some time ago, you may recall, Carol Leuder of Fair Chase Inc., came to a meeting and handed out some catalogs for her excellent list of gun and hunting books. I just received her latest catalog. It is great. Her email address is fchase@localnet.com. Her cell phone is 540-460-5302. She has an amazing collection of new and out of print collector's books dealing with big game hunting and wing shooting books and many other topics. Call for her catalog. You won't be disappointed.

Enclosed Ballot: Enclosed is a ballot so that all can vote for the three board members to serve for the next two years. It is stamped so vote and mail to Emory. Winners to be announced at Feb meeting.

Show and Tell at December Meeting:

- Bill Chronister presented a beautiful Swiss .41 RF Vetterli-Schutzen rifles with set triggers.
- Roger Sherman presented two exceptionally fine and rare pistols. The first was an exquisite Jap Papa 8mm Navy Nambu. The other was a fine early Type 14 8 mm first series. Simply stunning pieces.
- Ed Costello presented a big bore M 1917 Webley Mark 1 37 mm Royal Flying Corp flare gun. Certain to get the clerk's attention at any 7-11.
- Art Kelly showed a beautiful 1st Type engraved Newton Rifle in .30 Newton.
- Bill Edwards' .69 Caliber "portage rifle" was most interesting.
- Jack Loony presented a .50 cal Remington Cadet Musket.
- Addison Hurst presented a full sized glass AK-47 full of Kalashnikov vodka. The French security folks were not amused at his bringing it into France from Russia where he and Costello, Bill York, and John Wallace attended the 85th birthday celebration of General Kalashnikov.

From the Treasurer: Financially, 2004 was not one of our best years – we had to dig into our reserves to the tune of about \$3,700. On the revenue side, we did fine due to solid attendance at the gun shows and Larry Hare's efforts to clean up the backlog of late dues. In total, we brought in about \$43,600 for the year. On the expense side, we encountered problems – liability insurance for the gun shows hit us hard as we had to shell out over \$6,600 and the costs of VGCA's representation at the NRA convention resulted in a \$2,000 over-run. In total, our expenses for the year reached \$47,300. I think we can turn around the situation and have a positive year in 2005. We have increased the gate from \$5 to \$6, there will be no NRA Convention expenses this year. I will also be watching expenses more carefully. It has been an honor to serve as your Treasurer, and I appreciate your support.

Keep your eye on the VGCA web page in case of bad weather: If the weather is bad on the meeting dates, check the web page to verify if the meeting has been cancelled.

Potomac Arms Collectors Assn Invitation: The January 20 PACA meeting speaker will be Mr. Charles Rathell of Bethesda Maryland who will speak on Queen Anne era (early 1700s) British flintlock pistols. Members of the Virginia Gun and Maryland Arms Collectors Associations are welcome to attend the meeting as guests and/or prospective members of PACA. All PACA members are encouraged to bring guests and items for show and tell. Volunteers and/or suggestions for future speakers and topics are welcome. Please contact Jim Vaughan at 301-384-7177 or email him at Jimxhoosier@aol.com with your suggestions.