

# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

Est. 1983 (A Not-for-Profit Organization)

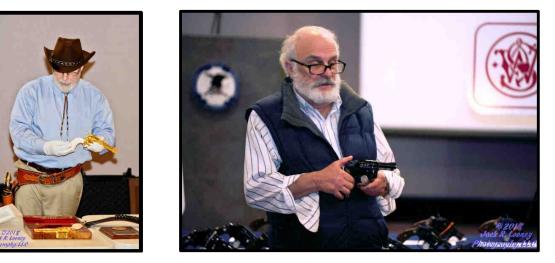
NRA Affiliate Number G8162 CMP Affiliate Number 026160

President Show/Reservations Manager Membership Ernie Lyles Rick Nahas Bill Chronister Phone: 571-334-2863 Cell: 571-215-8761 Cell: 703-204-0138 Pris.ernie@verizon.net jet53sw@aol.com vgca\_membership@cox.net

# May 2018 VGCA Newsletter

#### April Presentation

During the April meeting, those present received a preview of the two displays that the VGCA was hosting at the annual NRA Meetings in Dallas, Texas in early May.



Phil Hill (above left) provided a brief background on Arvo Ojala - actor, holster maker, and long-time gun and quick-draw trainer/coach of movie stars. Active during the height of the Hollywood Western movies in the 1950s and '60s, Arvo was often used for the close-up shots of fancy pistol handling. He is perhaps most famous for "dying" every Saturday night in the opening credits of the long-running show "Gunsmoke" - taken down in a shoot-out with Marshall Matt Dillon (played by actor James Arness, a student of Arvo's).

Phil is shown holding one of two Colt Single Action Army pistol commissioned by Arvo to commemorate his work in the 1985 movie "Rustler's Rhapsody", starring Tom Berenger. Arvo ordered both SAAs directly from Colt and had them engraved and gold-plated. Phil will take both revolvers and all of the supporting paperwork (including an original script from the movie) to the NRA meetings as part of the VGCA display this year.

The other portion of the VGCA display will be provided by Rick Nahas (above right). It won't surprise many of you to learn that Rick's display will concentrate on the Smith and Wesson "Aircrewman" and other aluminum-framed S&W revolvers. Rick shared 15 (including 4 counterfeit Aircrewman) of the nearly 100 revolvers that he would be taking to Dallas. Rick also talked about the documentation that he



will include in the display, including a copy of the S&W "X Log" which documents every experimental X-Marked S&W gun from 1942 to 1990.

The VGCA could not be better represented at the NRA meetings this year. Good luck, gentlemen!

#### **President's Comments**

Fellow Members,

This will be my last meeting as your President. I was to thank everyone, especially the other Officers and the board members. I have enjoyed being your President but after 15 years of being on the Board or an Officer in the club, I need a break. I want to thank you all.

--Ernie Lyles, President

◆ April Business: President Ernie Lyles called the April meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Rick Nahas led us through the pledge of allegiance. There were 58 VGCA members and guests in attendance. The guests were introduced to the membership.

The first order of business was to recognize Dave Litchfield as the 2017 VGCA Member of the Year. Dave, a past President of the VGCA, is probably best known for encouraging attendees at local gun shows to join the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (I am one of those people). Dave thanked all the members who voted for this award.

Rick Nahas and Shannon Zeigler summarized the results of our March Gun Show. Bottom line – we had good traffic (over 1000 attendees – up from our two previous shows), great displays, and made some money.

Rick reported that we have 48 tables available for the November Show.

Emory Hackman, as the chairman of the nominating committee, announced that the election for VGCA officers will take place in May. The following members have announced their candidacy:

President – Mr. Bernie Breighner Vice President – Mr. Wes Chappell Treasurer – Mr. Shannon Zeigler Secretary – Mr. Rob Becker

The floor was opened for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations from the floor and nominations were closed. In accordance with the VGCA By-Laws (Article VII, paragraph E.), if elections for all offices are uncontested, the positions will be deemed to be elected by a vote of acclimation and formal ballots will not be distributed. Congratulations to each of the officers listed above! These new officers will assume their duties at our June meeting and their bios are included below.

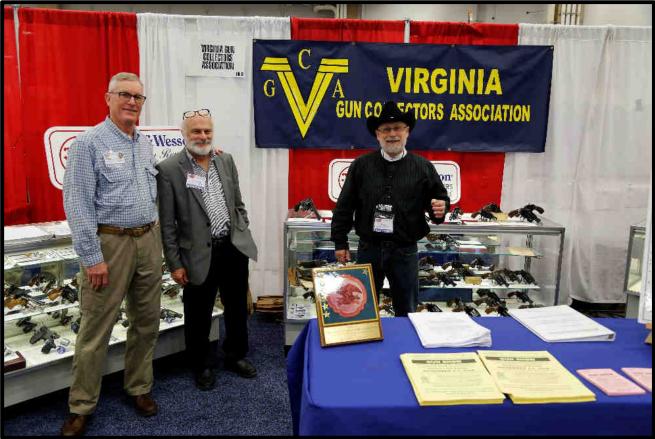
Marc Gorelick thanked everyone who assisted with manning the VGCA Table at the last Chantilly Gun Show and will be looking for more volunteers to cover the show in June. One benefit to manning the table is that you will get a vender badge and free admission to the show (which recently upped its entry fee to \$16.00 for one day!).

Our next meeting will have a presentation on Heckler & Koch by Mr. Phil Groff. Social time begins at 6 p.m. (there will be pizza) with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

# ♦ Other News! ♦

# **The 2018 NRA Annual Meetings**

The National Rifle Association Annual Meetings were held in Dallas, Texas on 4-6 May. In addition to President Donald Trump speaking during the Leadership Forum and the selection of Oliver North as the next President of the NRA, there were almost 900 exhibitors covering 15 acres with displays of firearms, hunting, and shooting accessories. For the 9<sup>th</sup> time, the VGCA sponsored a display. This year, we sponsored a "two-fer" - both Phil Hill (with his matched pair of engraved Colt Single Action Army revolvers commemorating Arvo Ojala's participation in the movie "Rustler's Rhapsody") and Rick Nahas (with his collection of aluminum framed Smith & Wesson revolvers).



VGCA members manning our display at the NRA Annual Meetings. Left to right: Dave Litchfield, Rick Nahas, and Phil Hill

Several guns from the VGCA display were nominated for one of the ten NRA Best Arms Silver Medallions that could be awarded and one of Rick's prototypes won! This is the 4<sup>th</sup> time that a VGCAsponsored firearm has earned this prestigious award! Congratulations Rick!



(Left) Rick and his NRA "Best Arm "Silver Medallion-winning Smith & Wesson pre Model 37 5-screw, 5-shot, J Frame Aircrewman prototype! (Right) The NRA Silver Medallion that was awarded to Rick's prototype. This medallion is numbered and awarded to the gun, and will transfer with the gun should Rick ever sell it!

The next NRA Annual Meetings will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on April 26-28, 2019. If you are interested in displaying at the NRA meetings next year, please contact one of the VGCA Officers or Directors. If you want to attend, entrance is free to NRA members and their families. See you there!

#### S Membership Chairman's Report May 2018: Please welcome our new Annual Members:

- James L. Lindsey of Springfield, VA was sponsored by David Litchfield
- Frank Ogden of Springfield, VA was sponsored by Shannon Zeigler
- Clive Philpott of Centreville, VA was sponsored by Bill Chronister
- Dale Race of Arlington, VA was sponsored by Thomas Seaha
- David Zimmermann of McLean, VA was sponsored by Shannon Zeigler
- Gerald Bennett of Gaithersburg, MD was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- George B. Dungan III of Montross, VA was sponsored by Shannon Zeigler
- Benjamin Henry of Phoenixville, PA was sponsored by Delmar Whitacre
- Tim Messick of Vienna, VA was sponsored by Ed Costello
- Russell W. Penka of Rocky Mount, NC was sponsored by Dean Schlemmer
- Sydney A. Rodda of Culpeper, VA was sponsored by Phil Hill
- Richard R. Bunn of Alexandria, VA was sponsored by Bill Chronister
- Ha Chon of Mt. Airy, MD was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Richard A. Croy of Vienna, VA was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- James Locklear of Linden, VA was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Edwin Lyon of Sterling, VA was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Daniel Noonan of Vesuvius, VA was sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Keith Webster of Manassas, VA was sponsored by Bernie Breighner
- Jaleel Atum of Reisterstown, MD was sponsored by Marc Gorelick

Gentlemen, welcome aboard and congratulations. We hope to see you at the upcoming Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM at the NRA National Firearms Museum. You Annual Membership ID card will be available for pickup at the meeting. If you cannot attend, the ID will be mailed to your home address after the meeting. We begin with a social session and refreshments (for a suggested \$5 donation), from 6:15 to 7:00.

**New Member Applications:** The VGCA received Membership Application(s) from the following individual(s) for your review. The applicant's information and sponsor's name is published below for the review of the VGCA membership. If there are any comments, please notify an Officer, Director, or the Membership Chair before the June Membership Meeting.

- Mike Halpeny of Reston, VA is sponsored by Phil Hill
- Berlin Madison of Washington, DC is sponsored by Shannon Zeigler
- David Murphy of Annandale, VA is sponsored by Bill Chronister
- Chaim Smith of Falls Church, VA is sponsored by Bill Chronister
- Robert Willey of Alexandria, VA is sponsored by Gary Latta and Matt Gminski

**IMPORTANT: Please keep your contact information and addresses current:** If you are not receiving newsletters or other VGCA mailings, or have changed either your USPS mailing address or your e-Mail address, please provide corrected information ASAP to Membership Chair, Bill Chronister at *vgca\_membership@cox.net* (note underscore between *vgca* and *membership*). For e-mail non-receipt, *FIRST CHECK* your SPAM folder or you Internet Service Provider (ISP) settings. While convenient, using work e-Mail addresses may affect your receipt of newsletters or ballots due to enhanced security and attachment restrictions often used in corporate or government enterprise systems. Thanks!!!

<sup>O</sup> Notice: VGCA encourages its members to sign up for the emailed newsletter. Due to mailing and printing costs, the hard copy mailed newsletter is usually limited to 4-8 B&W pages. By getting the email version you will receive a longer newsletter in color with photos of meetings; reviews of books, other shows, events or museums; and a schedule of upcoming shows and events. These excellent newsletters are sent in PDF format so they can be viewed on your PC or printed out. ∼ *Bill Chronister*, Membership Chair.

## 

## **O** VGCA Polo Shirts

For those of you who ordered VGCA Polo Shirts, they should be available at the June Membership meeting (Thursday, 28 Jun 18).

## **VGCA MEMBERSHIP IN THE CMP RENEWED**

The VGCA renewed its membership as an affiliate club with the Civilian Marksmanship Program for 2018. Our club number is **026160**. Because the VGCA is a CMP affiliate club, VGCA members receive certain benefits. For instance, it's an ideal way for individuals to gain access to training, facilities, equipment and the ultimate goal of taking your marksmanship to a higher level. Qualified U.S. citizens who are members of a CMP affiliated club may qualify for the purchase of an M1 Garand rifle. M1 rifles are graded and priced according to condition. The CMP also sells some types of .22 cal. target rifles that were procured by the military for training. Qualified members of a CMP affiliate club may qualify to purchase a 1911 pistol. And you can purchase ammunition, parts and accessories from the CMP or take part in CMP programs. For more information, visit the CMP website at - <u>http://thecmp.org/</u>.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAN THE VGCA PROMOTIONAL TABLE AT THE C&E CHANTILLY GUN SHOW AT THE DULLES EXPO CENTER

During the **June 8-10** and **July 27-29** shows. Volunteers usually man the table for only one day. A benefit of volunteering is that volunteers get a vendor badge for the days they are there. This gives free entry into the show – an important consideration since the admission price was recently increased to \$16 for one day. Volunteers get to spend time among fellow gun collectors and shooters. You talk about the club, it's activates (including our show), and the many benefits of membership (talking points provided). There is also time to walk around the show and spend money. Contact Board member Marc Gorelick at (703)517-8924 (or any Board member) if you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity.

## AMERICANS IN WARTIME MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE AT THE TANK FARM IN SEPTEMBER

The Americans in Wartime Museum announced that it will hold an open house at the "tank farm" in Nokesville, VA, Saturday and Sunday, September 22-23, 2018. The event hours will be 10:00am to 4:00pm both days. If previous years open houses are anything to go by there will be plenty of armored



fighting vehicles and military support vehicles from a multitude of countries from some of the earliest to some of the latest. There will also be living history/reenactor encampments and displays representing many countries. This year there is also supposed to be helicopter displays and a veteran's round table. The open house is family friendly with plenty of activities for kids, so bring the family for a fun day full of history. For more information, and to register and get directions, go to the Americans in Wartime Museum website, <u>http://www.nmaw.org/news/events/</u>.

### **Officer Biographies**

### These VGCA Officers will serve from June 2018 through May 2020



### **PRESIDENT – Bernie Breighner**

I have been involved with Firearms for over 35 years, primarily in the study of historical and military weapons from 1900 to present day. My passion led to the creation of the B3 Armament Company of Chantilly Virginia that specializes in NFA firearms, military weapons and accessories. I joined the VGCA in 2011 and became a life Member in 2012. I have made several presentations to the club and have served as a Director since 2016. One of my duties as a VGCA Board member was to coordinate the monthly presentations for the club. I feel it is important for each of us to pass on the knowledge of previous generations and that the VGCA is an outstanding organization for doing this. I am honored to continue to serve the VGCA as President.

### VICE PRESIDENT – Wes Chappell



I have resided in the Northern Virginia area for 30 years. I am an Electronics Engineer and am retired from the U.S. Air Force. I have been shooting and collecting for over 40 years. I have been working in the firearms industry for the past 26 years. Currently, I am a manager at Sharp Shooters Small Arms Rage (formally Gilbert Small Arms Range). I am life member of the NRA and the VSSA.

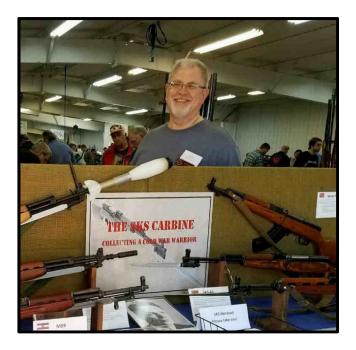
I would like to see the VGCA expand its youth shooting and firearms education programs. I want to explore expanding our membership among the transient population (military, government). Thank you for allowing me serve you as Vice President.

### **TREASURER – Shannon Zeigler**



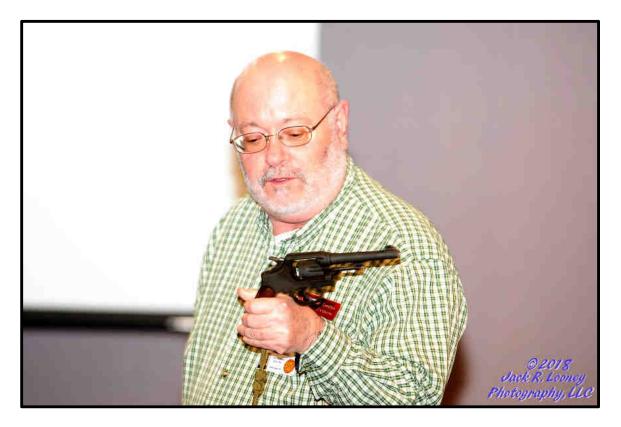
My love of firearms began at age 11 when I received a Daisy Red Ryder for Christmas. I did not realize I could actually buy collectable guns until I stumbled across a small VFW gunshow while a college student in Kentucky. I began actively collecting firearms in 1989 and have concentrated on Imperial Japanese long arms since 1995. I am avid reloader, and a student of Japanese Type 99 Short Rifles. I have contributed articles to Banzai, The Japanese Militaria Collector's Bulletin, and have given presentations at the Mid-Atlantic Japanese Collector's meeting held annually in conjunction with the October Allentown Show. I first became involved in with the VGCA in the fall of 2005 when I was invited by Bill Chronister to give a presentation on Imperial Japanese Rifles. I was immediately impressed with the members and the warm reception I received - I joined shortly thereafter. Since then I have enjoyed attending the monthly meetings, the camaraderie and semi-annual shows. I have served as the VGCA Treasurer since 2014 and am honored to continue to serve in that capacity.

### <u>SECRETARY – Rob Becker</u>



I have been around firearms my entire life. I started hunting with my dad at age 12 and ever since then have enjoyed hunting, reloading, and recreational shooting. I started "collecting" guns when I purchased a Springfield M-1884 over 25 years ago. - but I am more of an "accumulator" than a collector! I first learned about the VGCA while attending the gun shows in Bealeton and have always enjoyed the educational displays. I look forward to our monthly gatherings and have thoroughly enjoyed every one. I have given three presentations in recent years and for the last two years have put together displays at our Gun Shows. I am a member of the Garand Collectors Association, the Ohio Gun Collectors Association, a life member of the NRA, and a life member of the VGCA. I have served as the VGCA Secretary since 2016 and it is an honor to continue to do so.

# ✿ <u>April 2018 Show-n-Tell</u>



Member 1 (above) brought a Smith and Wesson "Victory" Model revolver. Produced on the S&W "K" Frame, the "Victory" was produced in two calibers during WWII - .38 Special for issue to U.S. troops and .38/200 (essentially the .38 S&W cartridge with a 200 grain bullet) for the United Kingdom and Commonwealth countries. This example is in .38/200. Production of the .38/200 began in March 1940 with the earliest deliveries going to South African forces. Initially, the .38/200 "Victory" Model was purchased directly from S&W by the U.K. Later purchases were through the United States Army (total procured by the USA was 590,305) and were provided to our allies via Lend-Lease. Initial finish, utilized until December 1941, was blued with case colored hammer and trigger. A sand-blasted (matte) blue finish was used from December 1941 until March 1942. Parkerizing was last and most commonly encountered finish, used from March 1942 until the end of the war. This particular example was probably made in May or June of 1942. Markings indicate it was issued to Australian forces and was arsenal rebuilt (Factory Through Repair or "FTR") in 1954.



Member 2 (at left) shared two interesting Swiss rifles. The first was the percussion Feldstutzer Model 1864. The Model 1864 was an improvement/successor to the Model 1851, which as a 10.4mm (.41 caliber), was the first military "small-bore" adopted in Europe. With a rear sight graduated to 1000 paces and double set triggers, the Feldstutzer was intended for marksmen or sharpshooters. The front trigger set at 1000 grams (~2 pounds) of pressure while the rear trigger only needed 200 grams (~7 ounces) of pressure to drop the hammer. Production of the percussion Model 1864 was limited and few Model 1864 survived in their original configuration as many were converted to the rimfire Model 1864/67.

The second rifle Member 2 displayed for us was one such Model 1864/67 (shown at left). This rifle utilizes a swinging block conversion (similar to the U.S. "trapdoor") that was developed by American Isaac Milbank and perfected by Swiss Rudolf Amsler. It is thus known as a Milbank-Amsler Feldstutzer. Firing the 10.4x38R (.41 Swiss) Rimfire cartridge, rifles were converted by no fewer than 20 Swiss gunsmakers. This one was converted by Zoller.

Member 3 (at right) brought a single-shot rifle from the same time period as the Swiss guns described above. This is a Remington Navy Model 1867. It is a rolling block action chambered in .50/45 centerfire. Despite the massive quantities of arms left over from the just-concluded Civil War, the U.S. Navy was eager to buy weapons that utilized a selfcontained waterproof cartridge because of the adverse effects of moisture on the then-current paper cartridges. The Navy purchased 5000 Model 1867s, which were produced in 1867 and 1868. This example was probably made in 1867 and bears the initials "FCW" for the civilian Navy inspector Frank C. Warner who certified that the carbine met government specifications.





Member 4 (above) brought a recently purchased set of armorer's tools for the Czechoslovakian Vz52 pistol (chambered in 7.62x25). This set of four tools was produced in 1953 and came in a fitted wooden box with instructions (in Czech, of course) laminated under the lid. The four tools (numbered 1 to 4) are:

- 1. Extractor Gauge
- 2. Magazine Mandrel (repairs dented magazine bodies)
- 3. Chamber Gauge (measures throat erosion)
- 4. Barrel Gauge (measures bore wear)

Tools are always an interesting accessory and this set is a fine example in almost mint condition!



Member 5 (above) shared his semi-automatic conversion of the DPM (or DP46), which was an improved version of the DP28 light machine gun. Improvements over the DP28 included a more robust bipod and a better engineered location of the recoil spring. It also featured a belt feed adapter to replace the pan magazine. Like the DP28, it is chambered in 7.62x54r. This particular rifle was built on a Polish Radom kit (dated 1954) by SMG Guns - who also make an outstanding replica semi-automatic FG42!

Member 6 (at right) described his Phoenix Arms HP22A. This single action semi-automatic is chambered in .22 LR and features a double-stack magazine (uncommon in a .22). The HP22A has three safeties – a magazine safety (mag must be inserted for the gun to operate), a slide-mounted firing pin block, and a combination slide-lock/safety. Produced from 1993 to present day, this particular example was made in the early 2000s.

Member 6 shared an interesting side note about the origin of the firm's "Phoenix Arms" name. Its predecessor company, Raven Arms, was founded by George Jennings. When the Raven factory burned down in 1991, George retired and sold his designs to Phoenix, which was founded by his wife, children and four grandchildren. Phoenix thus rose from the ashes of Raven!





The last item for April's Show-n-Tell was this tiny semi-automatic Kolibri pistol (at left). Member 7 stated it had arrived just this week to be added to the collection of the National Firearms Museum. Chambered in 2.7mm Kolibri and patented in 1910, it is the smallest semi-automatic ever produced, weighing 7.7 ounces fully loaded (note the quarter in the picture to give perspective). Appropriately enough, "Kolibri" is "hummingbird" in German and it was designed by an Austrian watchmaker named Franz Pfannl. Pfannl also produced larger versions in 3mm and 4.25mm. Production started in 1914, but ended after approximately 1000 were made due to WWI. The world's smallest centerfire cartridge, the 2.7mm Kolibri fired a 3 grain bullet at approximately 650-660 feet per second, resulting in about 3 foot/pounds of energy at the muzzle! This example is in a case with tin containing six rounds and a cleaning rod.

# ✿ In Review

"In Review" is a relatively new section to the newsletter (started in August 2016) and includes VGCA member reviews of guns shows, books, and museums. If you would like to submit a review, please send it to the newsletter editor at <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>.

### Museum

# A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM: FORT TICONDEROGA

By Marc Gorelick, VGCA



Fort Ticonderoga from Mt. Defiance

Photo - Mannwer

Fort Ticonderoga, and the neighboring Crown Point, at the southern end of Lake Champlain in New York State, played a pivotal role in early American history. In 1755, at the beginning of the Seven Years' War, the French army began to build Fort Carillon to command the outlet of the La Chute River that connected Lake George with Lake Champlain. This area was historically a critical portage in the waterway linking New York with then French Canada (New France). In July 1758 the French garrison of 4,000 defeated a large British force of 16,000 under General Abercrombie at the Battle of Carillon. Soldiers and cannon from Fort Carillon were then floated 30 miles over Lake George by the Marquis de Montcalm to successfully lay siege to the British Fort William Henry. That event was portrayed in James Fennimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*. The next year the British army under General Jeffrey Amherst drove the French from Fort Carillon and occupied it, renaming it Fort Ticonderoga.



Photo – Fort Ticonderoga Museum

On May 10, 1775, Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys, a Vermont Militia unit, captured Fort Ticonderoga in what many consider the first significant American victory of the Revolution. Henry Knox, George Washington's chief of artillery took many of the cannon from the fort to reinforce the revolutionary forces besieging Boston. Two years later the British army under General John Burgoyne invaded New York from Canada and forced the evacuation of the American army from Ticonderoga. After the defeat of the British army at Saratoga that fall, the British evacuated Ticonderoga, largely destroying its fortifications and structures.

The grounds were purchased by William Pell, a New York merchant, in 1820 and in 1908 William's grandson Stephen and his wife Sarah began the rebuilding and restoration of the Fort. Stephen and Sarah Pell assembled the core museum collections, which has been added to over last 100 odd years. In 1931, they established the nonprofit Fort Ticonderoga Association to assure the preservation of the site in perpetuity and the restored Fort Ticonderoga was named one of the first National Historic Landmarks in 1960. In 1972 this museum was one of the first 26 accredited by the American Association of Museums.

Fort Ticonderoga is home to one of America's largest collections of 18th-century military material. Fort Ticonderoga's artifact collections are among the most important of their type in the world. Preserved within the collection is 18th-century military weapons, unique military uniforms, accessories and accoutrements, works of art, and a vast collection of archeological artifacts recovered on site during its restoration, including a collection of over 500 18<sup>th</sup>-century entrenching tools.



Photo – Fort Ticonderoga Museum

The weapons collection is composed of over one thousand muskets, bayonets, pistols, swords, pole arms and cannon representing most of the major types of weapons used in the colonial wars and struggle for American Independence. It is one of the largest collections of its type in the world, and while the pieces are not all displayed at the same time, many of those that are on public display are among the finest and most historically significant. Many weapons and military artifacts and items are documented to historical figures, including Alexander Hamilton. The exhibit *Bullets & Blades: The Weapons of America's Colonial Wars and Revolution* combines the museum's best weapons and the most recent scholarship offering a fresh interpretation of its rich history and the role arms played in the founding of America and its struggle for liberty.

Fort Ticonderoga has been recognized for its extensive and encyclopedic collection of historic weapons. The exhibit explores the range of firearms and sidearms from the late 17th century through the American War of Independence. From armory manufactured muskets, to make-do solutions, to imported firepower the display charts the development of the weapons that decided the fate of North America. The weapons on display are drawn from the best artifacts in Fort Ticonderoga's rich collections. The exhibit's subsections include Infantry muskets, rifles, pistols, cavalry swords, officer's weapons, polearms, civilian firearms, and the unique weapons carried by Scots Highlanders. Supplementary text is available in the galleries for visitors who want to delve deeper into the history and development of 18th century weaponry.



There are many special behind-the-scenes tours and programs. Of interest to arms collectors is the *Beyond Bullets and Blades* program. The museum's curatorial staff trains visitors in handling artifacts and then oversees the examination of original weapons from Fort Ticonderoga's collection, explaining the systems used to produce the firearms that won and defended the British Empire. Through a careful examination of original examples this program explores how weapons changed over the 18th century and how weapons such as the Brown Bess musket were produced by the thousands.

Photo - Fort Ticonderoga Museum

Fort Ticonderoga also boasts the largest collection of period artillery in the Western Hemisphere. Many of the cannon were acquired by the Pell family and the Foundation over the years and they are an excellent representation of artillery used during the 17<sup>th</sup> through early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Although many line the walls and ramparts in static displays, there are also interpretative exhibits that reveal fascinating tales about many of the rare pieces of artillery. For a hands-on experience, there is an interactive Artillery Laboratory.



Photo – Fort Ticonderoga Museum

The museum also has a collection of engraved powder horns spanning the last half of the 18th century. A unique form of American art, many horns have names, dates and places engraved on them and can speak about the soldiers who used them. Many horns are decorated with scenes of fortifications, maps where armies passed or places associated with military campaigns.

There are a multitude of sights, activities and special tours, interactive and interpretive programs and special events in addition to the fort and museum displays, including many living history reenactments. Fort Ticonderoga is located on 2000 acres nestled between New York's Adirondack and Vermont's Green Mountains on the shores of Lake Champlain, five hours drive north of New York City. The address is 102 Fort Ti Road, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. For a schedule of activities, maps, directions and hours, see the Fort Ticonderoga website at: <u>https://www.fortticonderoga.org/</u>. The phone number is (518) 585-2821. The website includes links to the many other activities in the Adirondack and Lake George region.

# Upcoming Events and Shows

**PLEASE NOTE:** There are sometimes changes in schedules by gun show promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to *verify before driving to a show*. These dates have been published as of this writing, but are not guaranteed. If you have a favorite show you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short review, including the show content, i.e., modern, new, collectible or antique, and I will include it as room permits. **Yellow** = Collector organizations.

#### VIRGINIA - 2018

- May 16-20, 2018 Winchester, VA Fort Shenandoah (Sutler Row) 137<sup>th</sup> National Skirmish by the North-South Skirmish Association
- S May 19-20, 2018 Richmond, VA Old Kmart on Midlothian Showmasters
- S May 26-27, 2018 Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center SGK
- ➔ Jun 2-3, 2018 Salem, VA Trader Jerry's, 724 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Trader Jerry's Customer Appreciation Days (according to VCDL, discounts on firearms up to 20%)
- Jun 8-10, 2018 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center Showmasters
- Jun 22-23, 2018 Standardsville, VA Greene County Fairgrounds GCF Outdoor Show
- Jun 30 Jul 1, 2018 Fredericksburg, VA Expo and Conference Center SGK
- Jul 7-8, 2018 Manassas, VA PWC Fairgrounds SGK
- Jul 7-8, 2018 Richmond, VA Old Kmart on Midlothian Showmasters
- Jul 14-15, 2018 Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center SGK
- ⊃ Jul 21-22, 2018 Salem, VA Salem Civic Center C&E
- Jul 27-29, 2018 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center Showmasters

NOTE: The next Dale City VFW show is not scheduled until October.

#### MARYLAND - 2018

July 14-15, 2018 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds – Silverado Gun Shows

#### PENNSYLVANIA - 2018

- S May 19-20, 2018 Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center Eagle Arms
- S May 26-27, 2018 Gettysburg, PA All Star Conference Center Eagle Arms
- Jun 2-3, 2018 Wind Gap, PA Plainfield Township Volunteer Fire Company Eagle Arms
- Jun 9-10, 2018 Leesport, PA Farmers Market *Thegunshows.com*
- Jun 9-10, 2018 Morgantown, PA Morgantown Center Eagle Arms
- Jun 16-17, 2018 Harrisburg, PA PA Farm Show Complex-Main Hall C&E
- Jun 23-24, 2018 York, PA York Fairgrounds-Memorial Hall Appalachian Promotions
- Jun 30 Jul 1, 2018 Allentown, PA Econolodge Conference Center Eagle Arms
- Jul 14-15, 2018 Allentown, PA Allentown Fairgrounds Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society
- Jul 20-21, 2018 Gettysburg, PA G'burg Fire Dept hallowedgroundmilitaria@gmail.com
- Jul 20-21, 2018 Hamlin, PA Hamlin Bingo Hall Jaeger Arms
- Jul 21-22, 2018 Philadelphia, PA National Guard Armory Appalachian Promotions

#### **SPECIAL NOTE – 2018**

- S May 19-20, 2018 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Ohio Gun Collector's Association
- Jul 14-15, 2018 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Ohio Gun Collector's Association

#### FOR SALE:

The "For Sale" section of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (VGCA) Newsletter is provided as a service exclusively to the members of the VGCA. The VGCA, its officers, and directors are not responsible for any listings made in any VGCA Newsletter. We are not responsible for the accuracy (condition, value, etc.) of any listings. All buyers, traders, and sellers agree to comply with all local, state, federal, and international laws in regards to items sold via the VGCA Newsletter. It is their duty and responsibility to ensure the quality and value of the transaction and that all such laws are followed at all times. Buy, sell, or trade at your own risk.

If you would like to list an item (or items) in the VGCA Newsletter, please send your description, price, and contact information to <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>. I must receive your material no later than the second Sunday of the month for it to be included in that month's newsletter. Items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

#### WANT-TO-SELL: Firearms

• None listed this month

#### WANT-TO-BUY:

Member Kim Walton is interested in buying Newton and Meeker rifles. If you have one to sell, please contact him at (210)-602-0506 or <u>copo6970@yahoo.com</u>

The e-mail address for any Newsletter-related matters is <u>Newsletter@vgca.net</u> - or you can reach the editor directly at <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>. Feel free to e-mail items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via e-mail or the mailed hard-copy, please contact Rob Becker or Bill Chronister.