



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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June 2016 VGCA Newsletter

★ VGCA Meeting of May 26, 2016:

Our May presentation was from Mike Cogswell, who spoke on the subject of Navy P04 Lugers. He explained how the Navy Lugers were different from their German Army counterparts and why. He punctuated his informative presentation with several outstanding examples from his collection, including one of the initial 150 produced as Imperial German Navy trials guns.



Mike not only talked about the technical aspects of P04, to include the various changes, adaptations, and improvements incorporated during production, but also covered their employment within the context of the rapidly expanding German Navy before and during World War I. He provided background into the various specialties among German Naval personnel, their schools and their training. Taking advice from his wife on the benefits of “accessorizing,” Mike showed examples of the contemporary German cutlass, period photographs showing sailors wearing their Luger rigs, and sailor training books documenting their initial qualification on the P04.



This superb presentation was enjoyed by all present! In the final photograph above you can see Ernie Lyles, our newly-elected President, thanking Mike on behalf of all of the members of the VGCA!

★ **May Business:** The business meeting this month began with Jim Burgess leading the pledge of allegiance. Shannon Zeigler then gave us a financial update on the status of the club’s finances. The officer election results

were announced and the new officers introduced (details below). Rick Nahas then gave a report on the status of table sales for the November show and briefed the group on the recent NRA convention in Louisville, KY.

✪ **Congratulations to the new VGCA Officers:** The election results were announced at the May meeting and your newest officers are as follows:

President – Ernie Lyles
Vice President – Rick Nahas
Treasurer – Shannon Zeigler
Secretary – Rob Becker

Congratulations to one and all!

✪ **Speaking of Positions within VGCA:** Larry Hare, the VGCA Membership Director for the last 18 years, has announced that he will retire from these duties as soon as the Board can find a suitable replacement. Larry has seen the membership rolls of VGCA increase significantly over nearly two decades and his steady hand on membership tiller will be hard to replace. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank Larry for a “job very well done!” And if you are interested in taking on this responsibility for the club, please contact one of our officers or board members.

✪ **Upcoming June 23rd Meeting:** Our June presentation will be from Bryan Pelton, who will be speaking on the AK-47. As per the new normal the food trough will be open with a five dollar donation appreciated for use of the pizza and drink. Social time begins at 6:15 with the meeting beginning at 7p.m. Please remember to bring any friends who may be interested.

President's Comments

Fellow VGCA members, I would like to thank you for your support in voting for me as your President. With the on-line voting added to our By-Laws we had a new record for votes being cast by our membership. I hope this is a prelude to more members taking an active part in the running of our organization. As always our club is run by volunteers and we have always been lucky to have just enough to keep things moving. We need to find volunteers for our 2017 monthly programs, 2016 is good till the end of the year. Anyone interested in giving a program please contact our new VP, Rick Nahas.

One of the biggest complaints about our monthly programs is members holding private conversations while our speaker is still giving his program. It is very distracting to our members and disrespecting to the person who has volunteered to give the program. Please hold it down till the break or after the meeting. I've been told by some of the members if I could get this done, they would start to come back to our meetings.

-- Ernie

Treasurer's Report

We are in good financial standing currently and our checking account balance is approximately 9% greater than this time last year. For the period covering our May Meeting to date we have had no significant income and the primary expense was our NRA Convention display sponsorship. I will provide a more detailed accounting at our next membership meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Shannon Zeigler

Other News!

✪ **Membership Candidates:** Another welcome change from the new by-laws being implemented here is how we deal with and accept new potential members. Instead of having to spend as long in meetings and waiting for a new member to be able to make to a specific meeting we will be listing the candidates' names here in the newsletter once we have received their membership application. From that point you the membership will have 30 days to contact an Officer or Member of the Board with a complaint or reason against the member joining. This allows the possibility of raising an objection out of the public eye as well as simplifying the process. After the 30 days, if there are no objections to a prospective member, then they will be considered to have a vote of yes from the club. At this point they will be asked to introduce themselves to the club at a meeting and pay their dues. Once their dues have been paid they will go on the roster as an active member. Those candidates presented during the May Newsletter and for which there were no objections are listed below:

NEW MEMBER

Richard McCommack
Scotty R. Gerbich
Lester Hayden Smith
Wesley Chappell
David A. Doehler
Chad E. Williams
Timothy Ward
Joe Ramsey-Clark

SPONSOR

Winwood Holbrook/Dave Litchfield
Larry Babcock
Paul Veneziano
Ernie Lyles
Jeffery Perkins
Gregory Dixon
Greg Butcher
Richard Pripeton

Here is list the names of all the candidates we currently have for consideration for the club as well as their sponsors.

CANDIDATE

Christopher Zieonis
Ian Charles Wulf
Randall Patrick

SPONSOR

Shannon Zeigler
Shannon Zeigler
Dave Litchfield

✪ **Continued Call of Articles for the Website:** We are making a call for articles for the website. They must be about guns or gun collecting, not shooting sports or hunting. No political articles will be used. Articles may be about modern or antique firearms and may be historical and/or technical in nature. Detailed guidelines will be available on the website. Please fact check and proofread your own work. All articles may be submitted to Marc or Richard at web@vgca.net. Official Guidelines for articles may be found on the education page of the VGCA site.

✪ May 2016 Show and Tell ✪

One of our members shared a more recent Stoeger Luger. It is a re-introduction of the "American Eagle" Luger pistol, produced in stainless steel in 1993. "It is completely reliable and a pleasure to shoot."



While another brought in an always-popular "artillery" model Luger, with its long barrel, graduated rear sight, and provision for mounting a shoulder stock.

My apologies if we did not capture your May Show-n-Tell for the Newsletter, but your new secretary was too busy listening and forgot to take notes. I promise to do better next time!

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 2016

- ☞ June 25-26, 2016 – Fredericksburg, VA – Expo and Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☞ June 25-26, 2016 – Manassas, VA – Prince William County Fairgrounds – *SGK*
- ☞ July 9-10, 2016 – Richmond, VA – Richmond Raceway – *Showmasters*
- ☞ July 16-17, 2016 – Hampton, VA – Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☞ July 16-17, 2016 – Salem, VA – Salem Convention Center – *C&E*
- ☞ July 23-24, 2016 – Dale City, VA – Dale City VFW – *SGK*
- ☞ July 29-31, 2016 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters and C&E*

MARYLAND 2016

- ☞ July 16-17, 2016 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds – *Silverado Gun Shows*

PENNSYLVANIA 2016

- ☞ June 25-26, 2016 - Allentown, PA – PA Rodeway Inn Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- ☞ June 25-26, 2016 - York, PA – Fairgrounds Memorial Hall – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☞ July 9-10, 2016 - Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds Agriplex – *Forks of the Delaware*
- ☞ July 16-17, 2016 – Philadelphia, PA – National Guard Armory – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☞ July 16-17, 2016 – Scranton, PA – Ice Box Arena – *Jaeger Arms Promotions*
- ☞ July 30-31, 2016 – East Stroudsburg, PA – VFW - *Jaeger Arms Promotions*

REMINDER: There will not be a VGCA meeting in July (summer holiday).

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is Newsletter@vgca.net. 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 Larry Hare.