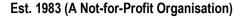


VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.





NRA Affiliate Number G8162 CMP Affiliate Number 026160





President and Founder (Emeritus) Ed Johnson

President Show/Reservations Manager Membership
 Ernie Lyles
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 Rick Nahas
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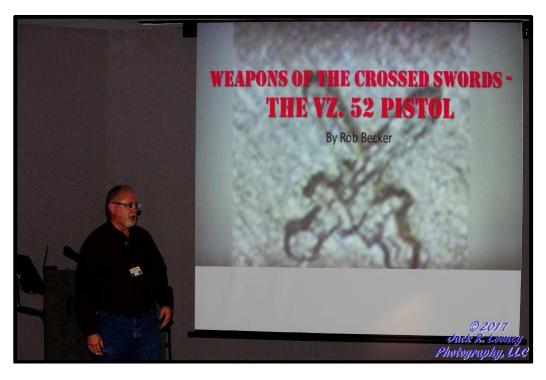
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November-December 2017 VGCA Newsletter

♦ VGCA Meeting of October 26, 2017:

Our October presentation was on the vz.52 pistol by Rob Becker. The topic was a bit of a surprise to most people – the scheduled presentation on the Heckler and Koch had to cancel at the last minute (do not worry, we will still see the H&K presentation sometime in 2018).



Rob provided a brief background on the history of Czechoslovakia and its long-standing tradition of manufacturing fine weapons. It is this tradition and a well-established arms industry that persuaded the Soviet Union to allow Czechoslovakia some leeway in their Cold War weapons design. As a member of the Warsaw Pact from 1955 until it was dissolved in 1989, Czechoslovakia was required to use standard eastern bloc military calibers but, unique among the members of the Warsaw Pact, was allowed to field small arms of its own design.



Above: The vz.52 pistol

As other communist countries were fielding the semiautomatic SKS carbine, the Czechoslovakian military fielded its own vz.52 carbine (vz. is short for vzor, which translates as "model" or "year"). When those countries traded in their SKSs for the AK-47 assault rifle, the Czechs fielded their indigenous vz.58. And when the rest of the eastern bloc traded in their diverse WWII-surplus service handguns for the Tokarev TT-33 pistol (produced in Poland as the wz48 and in Romania as the TTC), Czechoslovakia fielded the subject of this presentation – the vz.52 pistol.

Designed by brothers Jan and Jaroslav Kratochvil, what would ultimately become the vz.52 started as a 9x19 double-action only pistol based on the Pre-WWII Czech vz.38. A change in caliber to 7.62x25 (Soviet standard) and several redesigns later, all resemblance to the vz.38 was gone. The final result, adopted in 1952, was a single action semi-automatic pistol with a roller-locked short-recoil system. Though utilized in several rifles and machine guns, the roller-locking system represented a unique operating system for a pistol.





Left: Rob demonstrates the method of disassembling the vz.38.

Right: Rob points out the roller-lock operating system of the vz.52 pistol that locked the barrel and slide together during the initial recoil phase

Fed via an 8-round single-stack magazine and weighing just over 2 lbs., the vz.52 was produced at the CZ factory in Strakonice (factory code "rid") from 1952-1955. Production numbers were as follow:

1952	5,000
1953	121,800
1954	83,200
1955	320 (assembled from left over parts)
Total Production	~210,000

Vz.52 serial numbers had a letter prefix, but the letters (and in 1954, two letter combinations) were not used sequentially. This was an attempt to deceive western/NATO intelligence as to the total production and to thus disguise the approximate size of the Czech military.

The vz.52 proudly served in the Czechoslovakian military for nearly three decades. It was replaced by the more conventional (and less powerful) vz.82 chambered in 9x18 Makarov caliber.

Rob concluded his presentation with some observations of the vz.52, to include its fairly powerful cartridge (85-90 grain .30-cal bullet going ~1,500 fps) and corresponding impressive muzzle flash, heavy trigger pull, fragile firing pin (do not dry-fire this pistol!), and less-than-reliable decocker. The membership in attendance seemed to enjoy learning about this fascinating military surplus hardware.

♦ October Business: Vice President Rick Nahas called the October meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and led us through the pledge of allegiance. There were 38 VGCA members and guests in attendance.

The first order of business was to sing "Happy Birthday" to member Bob Sears. It was his 90th birthday!

Next, on behalf of the VGCA, Treasurer Shannon Zeigler presented a \$2500 donation to the National Rifle Association. The donation was split into two parts - \$2000 to support the NRA museums and \$500 for the NRA Foundation. Mr. Jim Supeca accepted the donation for the NRA and gave his heart-felt thanks to the VGCA membership. Jim then provided us with a quick update on the NRA's three museums - The National Firearms Museum (Fairfax, Virginia), the National Sporting Arms Museum (at Bass Pro Shops HQ in Springfield, Missouri), and the Frank Brownell Museum of the Southwest (at the Whittington Center in New Mexico). Be sure to check out the museum's website, friend them on Facebook, and look for their YouTube videos as well as their TV series.



Rick Nahas provided an update on the November Show and stated that the show was sold out - there were ZERO tables available! Rick asked that the members please sign up to support show security.

Rick also reported that the VGCA had signed up for a 10x20 space at next year's NRA Annual Membership meetings (3-6 May 2018 in Dallas, Texas). Phil Hill described the proposed display as "Guns of 'the Coach'" – the man who taught the Hollywood stars how to shoot.

Finally, it was reported that our President, Ernie Lyles, was recovering well from his surgery and might even make an appearance at our show.

Vice President's Comments

From the VP's vault:

Tis the season to be careful: "December 7th, 1941, a date which will live in infamy..."

This December's meeting occurs on Pearl Harbor Day and I thought it was appropriate to quote President FDR. This month's meeting will be our annual pot luck dinner and swap meet at the NRA Headquarters. Members and any guests – please bring anything you fancy to eat and share with others. Drinks and a ham will be available. We will have a short business meeting (VERY short) mainly to honor one of our hard working and distinguished members: Mr. Larry Hare, our recently retired long-serving Membership Director. We may even see Ernie at the December meeting. He was at the show for a short while.

While on the subject of safety and being careful – tis the season when many of us are moving around very quickly in all directions. Driving can become a matter of "habit and reflex" rather than concentrating and doing what is really proper. Just two hours before this writing, while retrieving the VGCA mail at our post office, yours truly hit a man on a bicycle. Had events been just slightly different at the PO, I probably would have run flat over this man and done serious injury if not killed him. As it was, we exchanged info and he picked himself up after rubbing his leg for a bit, dusted himself off, checked his bike, and rode away. I was shook enough to realize this was a serious matter but he almost left and I did not even ask his name.

SO let's all be a little more careful and watch out for others This Holiday Season.

All y'all be careful! --Rick

- **②** Upcoming December 7th Meeting: Our next meeting will be a Pot Luck dinner. There will not be a formal presentation, but there will be a "Swap Meet" and "Show-n-Tell." So bring your favorite side dish or dessert, clean out the surplus items from your safe and "gun room", and bring that new acquisition to share. Social time begins at 6 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m.
- **©** Presentations in 2018: Bernie Breighner has begun compiling the list of speakers for our meetings next year. If you are interested in making a presentation during one of our membership meetings, please contact Bernie at BFBKAC@gmail.com
- **♦ November VGCA Show Report:** We had another successful show in November! Though attendance was below average at 784 total for the weekend (a decrease of 440 attendees from the November 2016 show and a decrease of 138 from the November 2015 show), it continues an overall downward attendance trend that goes back four years. Shannon Zeigler will provide a more detailed report at the December 7th membership meeting.





This show could not have happened without the efforts of the many member volunteers. First – we need to thank those that helped with set-up on Friday.

Friday Show Volunteers:

Jim BurgessMarc GorelickRick JonesDave LitchfieldLee TurnerEd CostelloEmory HackmanBill JonesJoe RobertsRick NahasDennis GerdovichLarry HareLynn JonesKing von Schilling



Rick Nahas (Show Director), Jim Burgess, and Shannon Zeigler count tickets

My apologies to everyone who volunteered for show security – I did not get the list of names in time for this newsletter, but I will be sure to list them in the January issue!

As has been noted before in this Newsletter, what sets our gun show apart from the many others in northern Virginia are the educational displays. There were four displays this time and all were excellent! Once again, our judges (led once by Jim Burgess) had their work cut out for them. The winners of the judged displays at our show were:



"Judges Choice" award went to Ian Wulf for his display of Colt SP-1 Sporters



3rd Place – Starting a Collection - by Dan Szatkowski



2nd Place – John Browning's Automatic .22 Rimfire Rifle – by Larry Hare



1st Place - Cold War Small Arms of Czechoslovakia - by Rob Becker



Congratulations to our November Display winners! From left to right – Ian Wulf, Larry Hare, Rob Becker, and Dan Szatkowski



The NRA National Firearms Museum provided this display of two beautiful Creedmoor target rifles!

Please contact Rick Nahas if you are interested in doing a display at the March show. If you have never made a display before and want some pointers or assistance, please contact one of the VGCA officers.

Other News!

VGCA ANNUAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Board of Directors has established an annual award to recognize the member who the membership believes has done the most during the past year for the club and/or gun collecting. The annual **Member of the Year Award** is a way for the membership to publically recognize a member in good standing who selflessly went above and beyond for the club or for collecting during 2017. All VGCA members except sitting Board members are eligible to receive the award.

All members who attend the December and January meetings will have an opportunity to vote for the person of their choice. A ballot box and slips of paper will be available. Just write in the name of the member you think should get the award and the reason you think he or she should (what he or she has done in 2017). No preselected list of names will be presented for voting – this is your choice from start to finish.

After the votes have been counted the person being recognized will be announced at the February meeting and presented with his/her award.

Reasons for being selected include, but are not limited to:

- Volunteering for set-up or security, or other duties during the shows
- Volunteering other services to the VGCA, such as setting up trips or administering club programs
- Giving presentations at meetings
- Promoting the VGCA or gun collecting as a whole
- Putting on displays not just at our shows but other shows to enhance collecting
- Writing articles to further collecting
- Recruiting new members to the VGCA

Remember – Only those members in good standing who attend the December and January meetings will have the opportunity to nominate and vote for the First Annual **Member of the Year Award** for 2017. So come to the meetings and vote for your choice.

- **Membership Chairman's Report:** Please welcome our new Annual Member.
 - Mark Howard of Manassas, VA was sponsored by David Litchfield

Mark, welcome aboard and congratulations. We hope to see you at the Annual Holiday Pot-Luck and Swap Meet Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2017.

- **New Member Applications:** The VGCA has 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 or Director before the September Membership Meeting.
 - Gabriel F. Leyva of Stafford, VA is sponsored by Marc Gorelick
 - Vincent E. Falter of Reva, VA is sponsored by William Chronister
 - Daniel C. Haney of Stanardsville, VA is sponsored by Jeffrey Perkins
 - Christopher C. Weber of Ruckersville, VA is sponsored by Shannon Zeigler

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 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 systems. Thanks!!!

From the Membership Chair – October 2017 First Notice of 2018 Dues and Membership Renewal Procedures for Annual Members: Annual membership renewal and 2018 dues of \$30.00 are due by January 1, 2018.

If you are in good standing, you may upgrade to Life Membership during the 2018 dues cycle for \$150 (only \$120 over the cost of renewing your annual membership, plus no more annual dues requests.)

Dues may be paid by mail by sending a Check for \$30 (Please, NO USPS or other Money Orders) and the completed membership renewal form below to the address on the form. I will also accept payments in person (by CHECK only – NO CASH) with a completed renewal form.

If members have questions, please email **Bill Chronister**, **Membership Chair** at *vgca_membership@cox.net* or call me at 703-204-0138.

Remember, 2018 payments are due January 1, 2018. Annual Members who are not paid up by the January Membership meeting (January 26, 2017) will be dropped from the roles after the meeting on February 1, 2018.

Please detach and return with your payment

Membership Renewal Request (AMR-NL-2018) William Chronister, P.O. Box 2318, Merrifield, VA 22116-2318

VGCA annual membership requires yearly renewal and payment of \$30.00. Life membership is still only \$150.00. If you are in good standing, you may upgrade to VGCA Life Membership during the 2018 dues cycle for \$150 (only \$120 over the cost of annual membership, plus no more annual dues requests.)

Please complete and return this renewal form with your payment. Indicate Annual, Life or that you do not wish to renew your membership by checking the appropriate box below. <u>Please</u> <u>Print Clearly</u>

Name:	
Telephone:	
□ I wish to upgrad	eck for \$30.00 for CY 2018 VGCA Annual Membership dues. e to Life Membership in VGCA. Enclosed is a check for \$150.00. ne from the VGCA membership rolls.

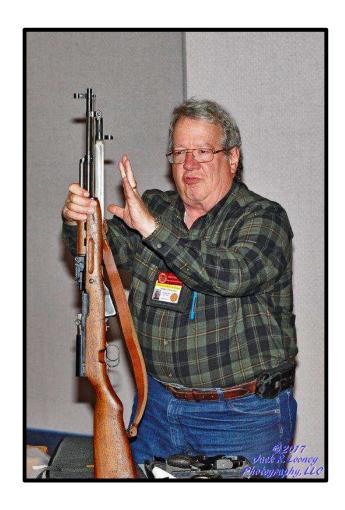
Make all checks payable to VGCA (NO CASH PLEASE). If you have any questions contact William Chronister, Membership Chair at (703) 204-0138 or by e-mail at vgca_membership@cox.net

October 2017 Show-n-Tell •



Member 1 shared a CZ "Z" Model vest pocket pistol. This little semi-automatic in 6.35mm (the European designation for .25ACP) has a rare nickel finish and clear plastic grip panels with the CZ monogram. The "Z" is a post-WWII update to the CZ "Duo" pistol, which itself was based on the Baby Browning. Approximately 150,000-200,000 "Z" pistols were produced through the 1960s. Member 1 noted that his father was born in Czechoslovakia.

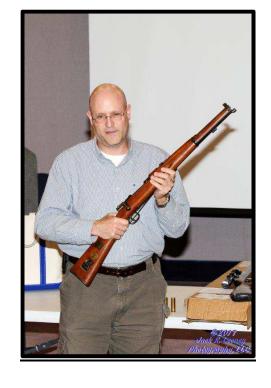
Member 2 brought in a Yugoslav Model 59 SKS. Much less common than the more prevalent Model 59/66 with its grenade launching attachment, perhaps as many as 50,000 Model 59s were produced but most were later converted to 59/66s. Chambered in 7.62x39, the Yugo SKSs were noteworthy for not having chromelined bores (Yugoslavia has no chromium deposits and being aligned with the Peoples Republic of China instead of the U.S.S.R. during the Cold War, did not have access to large imports of chromium) – so it always a good idea to closely check the bores of Yugoslav SKSs before purchasing. This particular example was refurbished (it has a "1.TEZ" stamped in the buttstock which indicates refurb) and came with a factory rebuild certificate dated 2005.





Member 3 brought in two interesting long guns. The first started out as a No 1 Mk III* Enfield made in 1917, but was subsequently converted in India to a single shot .410 smooth-bore musket in 1949. These conversions were known as Prison or Guard Muskets and were used by prison guards and riot police. Ball ammo (which is actually straight-walled .303 brass vice actual .410 shotgun shells) is still available in 180-round wooden arsenal crates from Lucky Gunner (luckygunner.com) on-line.

The other item that Member 3 shared was a Swedish Mauser 1894/14 Carbine with bayonet lug. Chambered in 6.5x55, about 120,000 of this model were produced. This model was an improvement over the Model 1893 "Spanish" (small receiver ring) Mauser. If interested in acquiring an 1894/14, look for one without the muzzle extension which was added to bring the overall barrel length to more than 18 inches. This one was made in1907, has all matching serial numbered parts, does not have the barrel extension and is even unit marked! This carbine saw service with the Swedish 6th Artillery Regiment.







Member 4 also brought in two interesting weapons. The first was a Savage Navy .36

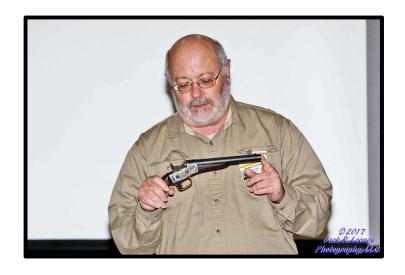
uncommon/rare) on top of the barrel, which denotes that a post-Civil War inspection determined it was suitable for further service in the U.S.N. Only about 130 Savage are known to exist today and few of those are Navy marked.

caliber cap-n-ball revolver. Only 1,100 were made in 1860-1861 for the U.S. Navy. The Savage Navy utilized an awkward two ring trigger system, one to cock the hammer and the second ring to fire the gun. This one is stamped

with an Anchor (making it even more

Member 4's second item was also an old Navy handgun – this one a Remington Rolling Block Model 1865 Navy in .50 rimfire. As it name suggests, this model was also made for the U.S. Navy, which purchased 6,500. The M1865 Navy featured a spur trigger, which was not satisfactory in service. Most were modified to the Model 1867 – which included conversion from .50 rimfire to .50 centerfire, barrel length reduced from 8 ½ inches to 7 inches, and the addition of a more conventional trigger with trigger guard. In an effort to save money, the U.S.N. initially tried to convert the M1865s at the Washington Navy Yard (and possibly the Portsmouth Navy Yard as well). Only 25 were converted by the Navy by April 13, 1870 (Remington subsequently converted almost all of the rest). This is one of those experimental Navy

conversions. Out of the original 25, only 4 or 5 are thought to exist!



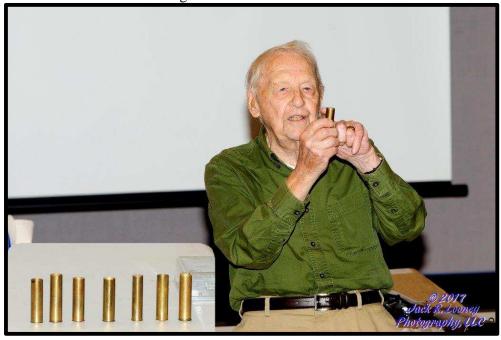


Member 5 presented a Heckler & Koch P30SK. This is a modern sub-compact version of the H&K P30 pistol. Despite being adapted for concealed carry, the P30SK holds 11 rounds of 9mm ammo. It utilizes the same magazine as the VP9. The P30SK features ambidextrous slide and magazine release levers, while this version has glow-in-the-dark night sights. The decocker is separate from the safety lever.

Member 6 shared his Marlin Model 42 semiautomatic rifle in .22 Long Rifle. It features a 7round magazine. This rifle was made for sales through Coast to Coast Hardware in 1974. The year of production can be determined by subtracting the first digits of the serial number from 100. This particular rifle is very accurate and was a great bargain when purchased at auction this summer for \$90!



Finally, Member 7 brought several brass shotgun shells. Manufactured by several companies, to include Winchester and Remington UMC, these shells were in gauges 12, 14, and 16B (which is dimensionally different than a "regular" 16 ga shell). There was a Draper shell that used a percussion cap in place of a primer and another that used a "crown crimp" that could be folded in the field. Over 100 years ago, it was not unusual for hunters to reload their shotgun shells in the field!



THAIPPY HOLIDAYS to all of our Members?

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 <u>verify before driving to a show</u>. 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 2017-2018

- **Dec 2-3, 2017 Dale City, VA** Dale City VFW Showmasters/Old Dominion
- \bigcirc Dec 2-3, 2017 Manassas, VA PWC Fairgrounds SGK
- **Dec 2-3, 2017 Woodstock, VA** Shenandoah County Fairgrounds -
- **Dec 9-10, 2017 Doswell, VA** Farm Bureau Center at Meadow Event Park *SGK*
- **Dec 9-10, 2017 Fishersville, VA** Augusta Expo Center *Showmasters*
- **Dec 16-17, 2017 Fredericksburg, VA** Expo and Conference Center *SGK*
- **⊃ Dec 16-17, 2017 Salem, VA** Salem Civic Center *C&E*
- **Dec 29-31, 2017 Chantilly, VA** − Dulles Expo Center − *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Jan 6-7, 2018 Dale City, VA Dale City VFW Showmasters/Old Dominion
- **⊃** Jan 6-7, 2018 Roanoke, VA The Berglund Center *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Jan 13-14, 2018 Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center SGK
- **⊃** Jan 27-28, 2018 Fredericksburg, VA Expo and Conference Center SGK
- **⊃** Jan 27-28, 2018 Fishersville, VA Augusta Expo Center Showmasters
- **⊃** Feb 3-4, 2018 Virginia Beach, VA Convention Center SGK
- **⊃** Feb 9-11, 2018 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Feb 17-18, 2018 Winchester, VA Body Renew Fitness & Family Sports Center SGK
- **⊃** Feb 24-25, 2018 Doswell, VA Farm Bureau Center at Meadow Event Park SGK
- **Mar 24-25, 2018 Manassas, VA PWC** Fairgrounds VGCA (our spring show!)

MARYLAND 2018

- **⊃** Jan 13-14, 2018 Timonium, MD Timonium Fairgrounds Appalachian Promotions
- **⊃** Jan 20-21, 2018 Frederick, MD Frederick Fairgrounds Silverado Gun Shows
- **⇒** Feb 3-4, 2018 West Friendship, MD Howard County Fairgrounds Silverado Gun Shows
- **Mar 17-18, 2018 Timonium, MD** Timonium Fairgrounds *Baltimore Antique Arms*

PENNSYLVANIA 2017-2018

- **Dec 2-3, 2017 Monroeville, PA** − Monroeville Convention Center − *Showmasters*
- Dec 2-3, 2017 Allentown, PA Allentown Fairgrounds Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society
- **Dec 9-10, 2017 Harrisburg, PA** PA Farm Show Complex-Main Hall *C&E*
- **Dec 15-17, 2017 Oaks, PA** − Expo Center − *Eagle Arms*
- **Dec 16-17, 2017** − **Harborcreek, PA** − Harborcreek Fire Department Hall *LR Gun Shows*
- **Dec 30-31, 2017 Allentown, PA** Econolodge Conference Center *Eagle Arms*
- **□** Jan 6-7, 2018 Dillsburg, PA Franklintown Community Fire Co. Hunters Gun Show LLC
- **⇒** Jan 6-7, 2018 Split Rock, PA 100 Mossywood Rd, Lake Harmony Eagle Arms
- **⊃** Jan 13-14, 2018 Carlisle, PA Carlisle Expo Center Eagle Arms
- **⊃** Jan 13-14, 2018 Washington, PA Washington County Fairgrounds *ARH Sport Shop*
- **⊃** Jan 20-21, 2018 Lebanon, PA Lebanon Valley Expo Center & Fairgrounds Eagle Arms

- **⊃** Jan 27-28, 2018 Gettysburg, PA Allstar Events Complex Eagle Arms
- **⊃** Feb 3-4, 2018 Allentown, PA Econolodge Conference Center *Eagle Arms*
- **⇒** Feb 3-4, 2018 Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center *Showmasters*
- **⇒ Feb 3-11, 2018 Harrisburg, PA –** Farm Show Complex *Great American Outdoor Show NRA*
- **⊃ Feb 9-11, 2018 Oaks, PA** Expo Center *Eagle Arms*
- **⇒ Feb 10-11, 2018 Allentown, PA –** Allentown Fairgrounds *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- **⊃** Feb 17-18, 2018 Bloomsburg, PA Bloomsburg Fairgrounds Eagle Arms
- **⇒ Feb 17-18, 2018 Dillsburg, PA –** Monaghan Township Fire Hall *Central PA Antique Arms Association*
- **⊃** Feb 24-25, 2018 Wind Gap, PA Plainfield Township Volunteer Fire Company Eagle Arms

SPECIAL NOTE – Outside of the VA/MD/PA Area - 2018

- **□** Jan 6-7, 2018 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Ohio Gun Collector's Association
- **⊃** Feb 22-25, 2018 Louisville, KY Kentucky Expo Center *Ohio Valley Military Society*
- **Mar 10-11, 2018 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Ohio Gun Collector's Association**
- **○** Apr 13-15, 2018 West Point, KY Knob Creel Gun Range Machine Gun Shoot and Show

If you would like to list an item (or items) in the VGCA Newsletter, please send your description, price, and contact information to rpebecker@verizon.net. 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:

Dan Wesson Model 15, .357 Magnum, Blue, (3) Barrel Kit: Comes with 4", 6", & 8" barrels, spare front sights, spare barrel nuts, spare Hand Spring, multi tool & barrel gap spacer, lockable case, and brand new trigger lock. Also includes a leather holster and (2) HKS Speed Loaders.

Value. \$1,250.00, asking \$1,000.00.

Call Jack at 703-999-9458.

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 copo6970@yahoo.com

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is <u>Newsletter@vgca.net</u> or you can read 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 Larry Hare