



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG



Est. 1983

(Non Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G 8162

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October 2004 Newsletter

October Meeting---Thursday October 28 at 7 PM. This will be a VGCA/NRA presentation—the last of the three for this year. Phil Spangenberg—from the History Channel—will be talking about the old west and the guns used there. Bring out your old west stuff for show and tell. Should be fun. Bring your digital camera and take pictures of the presentation and the meeting. We will put them on the web page.

November/December Meeting—Thursday December 2 7 PM. We **combine** these two months' meetings to avoid interference with the Holidays and the various hunting seasons. It will be a mini gun show—with little or no business meeting. Lots of food—however-- of course.

Weather Watch—After the November/December meeting, we all need to be aware of weather concerns for the meetings in Jan and Feb 2005. It could even be an issue for the March 2005 show. I have seen some Hellish snow storms here in March. **Always** watch the web page-- VGCA.ORG-- and if the weather cloud is flashing—open it and read. If we have to cancel at the last minute, the information will be in the flashing cloud. The rescheduled date will be listed in the “cloud”. The weather is something we cannot control and it changes so quickly that this “cloud” has to be our information source to members. The Farmer's Almanac (on which we base everything) is calling for a colder winter than normal and with more snow. Sometimes I have to make the decision to cancel at the “last moment”—I hate doing that—but be alert that I sometimes must. If you don't have access to the internet, make sure you can receive the information from some one who does. Arrange to have them call you if we have to cancel.

September show—a great one. Here are some figures for you: This show some 1863 paid patrons. Spring show this year 1674. Fall last year 1580. Spring last year 2230. But, while perhaps not a record beater in terms of attendance, it was a great one. Quality was just great. I received many many compliments about that. Lots of guns were sold. No one got shot, stabbed, arrested, mugged or assaulted-- so by definition, that is a good show. It was a shame that Alan Cors' tank farm presentation had to be rescheduled to the weekend of the show. Again, we cannot control the weather. The weekend before when Alan had the program scheduled was just simply flooded out. I have requested that Alan start praying harder for good weather. He needs to work on that. We are almost sold out—a few tables may remain available for display tables—but I think we are about 99% sold out.

Displays at the Show. Six folks displayed this time and we owe a big round of applause for their efforts. I was remiss at the award presentation. I forgot to note the quality of the following displays: Jim Landers' display of SW Magnums—was great—including the big .500 SW with the 8 3/8" ported barrel. Carlos Davila's first effort at display was great—he had most interesting Mausers from 1891 to the present. It was a great display and Carlos is to be congratulated for his effort. Kelly Cook's display of Colt .22 Automatic Pistols was simply stunning. While these guys did not win, their efforts was simply super. Our guest and good friend from Conn- Pete Kuck—brought his fine display of Mauser Rifles down to fill in Ed Costello's tables (who was away marrying off his daughter Emily at St. Martien.). . Pete's efforts won him a Judges' Choice Award. His display was Mauser Variations on a Theme—The Kar.98a. He also was most helpful to the others who displayed—he has many years of experience of setting up displays—he shared his insights with others. Pete comes down for each of our shows and he pulls night time security as well. We really need to convince him to move down here! He is a life member of VGCA. Thank him when you see him at the March show. 3rd Place Award went to Jim Burgess for his outstanding display of the Guns of the North/South Skirmish Association. Jim was in period dress and his display was just about as good as they get. 2nd Place went to Pete Roberts for his display on the stage of The N Frames of Smith and Wesson. Pete's wonderful display included some 35 samples of revolvers made between 1908 and 1947. 1st Place went to John Gebhardt for his mind blowing display of Spencers: 1860 to 1868. John has displayed updated versions of this theme for the 3rd time. It was simply outstanding and was a world class display by any measure. The rarity of some of the new pieces is simply astounding.

Display Comment by the Display Judges

The Judging Committee wished to make it known that any and all collector displays, adjudged either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place where a cash award was awarded at a previous show can always be displayed again at a subsequent show. However, they **cannot** be considered for cash awards **again** for 1st thru 3rd place awards.

Expo Show

By the time you receive this, the second EXPO show will be history. Hope you enjoyed it. I don't think the gate was as big as before—I was only there on Sat. Our March 2005 show will be March 12-13. The Richmond show will be the week before—March 5-6. The Balt. Show at Timonium is the week after ours—March 19-20.

Note on Hugo's

I spoke to the family this week and there are no buyers on the horizon for now. The rumor of a car dealership buying the place is, apparently, false. Price is somewhere in the neighborhood of 3.7 Mil. At least we are OK for the Mar 05 show.

Other Shows Coming up

Roanoke Civic Ctr Oct 23/24; Richmond Raceway Nov 20/21 2004 and Feb 5/6 2005; Next Expo show will be Feb 12/13 2005.

Note on Ed Johnson

Ed had a knee replaced this week. He is going home soon and is doing OK. We will send flowers when he gets home. It might be best not to call for a few days till he gets further along in the healing process. I let him know we were pulling for him. He is one tough old man!!! How Dorothy has put up with him for 52 years is a mystery to me.

See you at our October meeting. Come early so we can get started at 7 PM.

Addison Hurst/Con Rice