



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG

Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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January 2012 VGCA e-Newsletter Officer Election Edition

Presentation at the December 1st Meeting: We did not have a formal presentation for the December meeting, however the VGCA members present put on a great Holiday Party with members bringing in ham, a deep fried turkey, homemade chili, assorted wraps, chicken, healthy salads, and delicious desserts including pumpkin pies. While the food went fast, everyone got good helpings (and seconds ☺), and in the end, there was little to carry home – which equals SUCCESS! Thanks to all who assisted with food, setup, and cleanup. This was a nice treat. There was, however, the ever popular member show and tell with some unusual and very rare items and a great discussion on the gun show at the business meeting (see dedicated sections that follow).



- ❖ **UPCOMING for the January 26, 2012 MEETING:** Mr. Sam Hatfield, of *Hatfields Gunsmithing* will give a talk on accurizing AR15-type rifles. Sam’s establishment is at 8898 Mathis Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110. Phone: 703-369-GUNS. His webpage is www.hatfieldsgunsmithing.com. The shop is much larger and features a shooting simulator for the public. Sam is also offering a gunsmithing class for 1911s in his shop. Members should call for details. If you saw his talk on accurizing the M1911 family of handguns, you know this will be a great evening. The March 2011 newsletter had a write-up of the presentation and is available on the VGCA website. The meeting will be in the regular location in the Conference Center Auditorium in the Museum Building. There will be food and the Show and Tell will hopefully feature the AR15 family of rifles.
- ❖ **The February 23rd meeting** will have VGCA hosting Lt.Col. Bernie Brighner, USAF Ret. to be our speaker. Bernie is the tall, dark-haired man who works and assists at the Dennis Todd table at the Chantilly gun shows. He is a great guy, and avid collector of all things about guns and militaria. He is deep into Class III hardware, and has good quality items of all kinds. He will bring in a number of Sniper Rifles, including a cased British Lee-Enfield No. 4(T), plus other weapons. You can also meet him the weekend of February 10-12 at the Dennis Todd tables at the Chantilly show. More info will follow in the next Newsletter.
- ❖ **Presentation Volunteers Needed:** We have speakers for almost all the 2012 upcoming monthly meetings. Thanks go out for some great work by members for both locating speakers and volunteering to share their expertise. In fact, only the November and December 2012 meetings, at this time, need speakers (barring unforeseen schedule changes). Call one of the Association officers now to request your preferred month for 2012 or get a jump on 2013. This club is fortunate in that its membership includes published experts and other members who, contrary to their own protestations and denials, are experts in their chosen fields of this hobby.

**Remember, dues for annual membership are now due in January 2012 and are \$30.00 per year. Membership dues are \$30.00 for Annual Memberships and \$150.00 for Life Memberships. Get payments in now to avoid removal from VGCA roles. Payments may be sent to:
Larry Hare, P.O.Box 102, Afton, VA 22920**

Important Issues for Members' Consideration – Election of VGCA Officers for the 2012-2014 Term

Ballots should have been mailed by the time you read this. Running is **Dave Litchfield** for President, **Ernie Lyles** for Vice President, **Ed Costello** for Treasurer, and **Bill Chronister** for Secretary. Upon reviewing the candidates' statements, complete your ballot and return it in the enclosed envelope to the address provided. Completed ballots **MUST be received BY MAIL by February 12, 2012** to allow for counting the votes at the Membership Meeting on the 23rd of February. **Ballots NOT received by mail (no hand carries or delivery) or received AFTER that date will not be counted.** Winners will be announced at the meeting. To ensure that your vote arrives in time for the count, **it is recommended that you mail it back no later than February 5.** That allows a week for the U.S. Post Office.

***** INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT *****

We are approaching the winter season and the Northeast has already had a major snowfall in October. During the upcoming winter months meetings are at risk of being cancelled for foul weather. Members should **check the VGCA Website (<http://www.vgca.org>) for Weather Alerts and Meeting Cancellations!** If the meeting is cancelled, there will be a flashing cloud with a notice when you open the homepage. Please inform members you know, especially those without Internet access.

Addendum to the Note from John Frietsch, Security Chief about the Fall 2011 Gun Show in the last

newsletter: I would like to add thank to Al Miller for his work at the Fall Gun Show for providing security. Mr. Miller was inadvertently omitted from the list provided to the Newsletter. Sorry about the omission.

***** Upcoming 2012 Spring VGCA Gun Show *****

Even though it seems we just finished the Fall 2011 Gun Show, it is time to prepare for the Spring 2012 VGCA Gun Show at the Prince William County Fairgrounds on **March 24-25, 2012.** Pass the word and remember that flyers for the Spring show will be at this meeting so plan to spread a few around. Good places to ask to leave them are barbershops and other small businesses.

Spring VGCA Gun Show Table Update – The VGCA has tables remaining for the Spring VGCA Gun Show.

- ⊙ **Spring VGCA Gun Show Sales Tables:** Members and vendors who wish to reserve a table (or tables) for disposing of your unloved or duplicate firearms, accoutrements, collectable accessories, or other gun collecting related items, please contact Rick Nahas, ASAP. If you believe manning a sales table alone would be too demanding and not allow you time to hunt for deals or just talk to other members, get a partner and share the duties and have relief for your time around the show. Show tables cost \$60 each.
- ⊙ **Spring VGCA Gun Show Display Tables:** The club will continue having FREE DISPLAY TABLES for members on a space available basis for the Spring show. This is a great opportunity to test the waters if you wanted to do a display table. Display tables may be limited, so contact Rick Nahas to get yours.
- ⊙ **Call for VGCA Gun Show Volunteers:** We always need volunteers for the **Show Table Setup** and **Security** Teams, as well as some folks to help with the **Sign Detail** the morning of the show, and pick them up after the show on Sunday, etc. Tell **John Frietsch, Dave Litchfield** or one of the Association Officers if you wish to volunteer, or sign up at the January and February monthly meetings. Talk to **Larry Hare** if you want to help with signs. Table set-up will be on March 23, exact time TBA, but usually around noon when the tables arrive.
- ⊙ **Safety Team Volunteers:** If any member wishes to help out for an hour or so at the show, please call John Frietsch, Safety and Security Coordinator at 1-540-409-1271. The Spring dates are March 25th, (vendor set-up), with the show on the 26th and 27th. **Remember, volunteering for the Security, Safety, and Setup teams gets a free admission.**

Public Service Announcement – Gun Owners Cars Being Tagged Things to Watch for at Gun Shows, the Range, Shooting Events, and Hotels

From an email: While I was in a Denver gun store today, my car was tagged on the wheel in the parking lot. The gangs do this on wheels or bumpers at gun stores, shooting ranges, gun shows, etc. Later when you are parked at a restaurant, hotel, or other location that is less well guarded or under video surveillance, other gang members spot the marker and break into the car for a quick gun grab. This is so RAMPANT in San Antonio where we were for a National shoot this summer, the police chief of that county came out to brief the 400 participants of our

competition. Too bad three teams had already been victimized the first day. This is the first I've heard of this in Denver. Please pass this info along to your 2nd Amendment list.

Business Meeting for the December 1st Meeting: The meeting began with a series of announcements. It is possible that one of the NRA magazines may have photos of the First Place Karl Karash Display from the VGCA Fall 2011 Gun Show. Addison mentioned that Phil Schreier, Senior Curator of the NRA National Firearms Museum, had informed him that the new NRA show "Trigger" would begin airing on the Military Channel on December 5. **Marc Gorelick** was appointed by the Board to fill out the remainder of the term after Addison Wright resigned his Director position. **Ed Costello**, Treasurer, gave the year end treasurer report and the VGCA held its own and was in the black for 2011. After the announcements, **Rick Nahas**, the VGCA Show Director talked about some proposed revisions to the VGCA Gun Show Rules and what is acceptable for sale tables. We are unique among local shows (but not among *gun collector* shows), in that ALL items must be firearms related. There needs to be a discussion on whether this should be modified. The members in attendance contributed provided a lot of input and a number volunteers to assist in further studies. **Dave Litchfield** made a strong pitch for all members to always try to generate table sales and interest with either flyers of at gun shows they attend, or by talking with vendors with appropriate wares. This was a great opportunity for a serious discussion with a lot of member input.

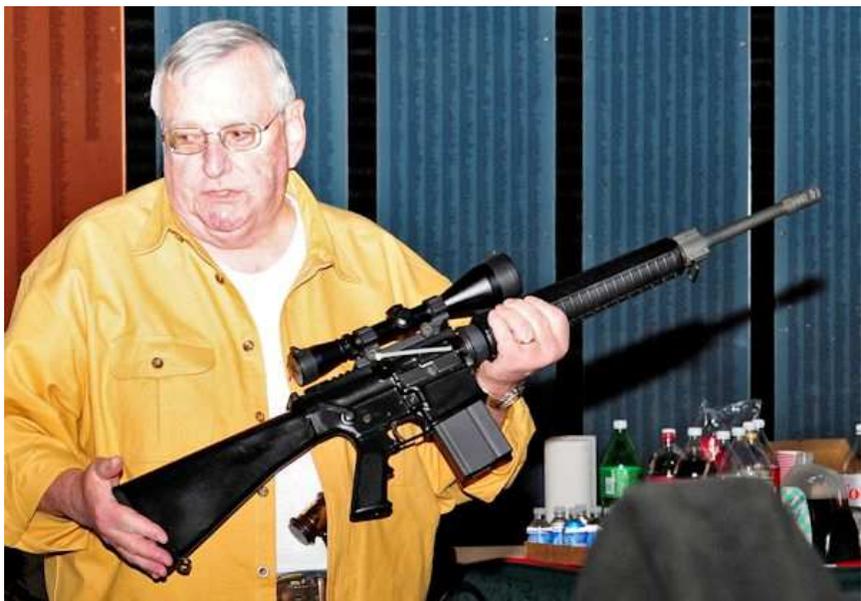
Show & Tell for the December 1st Meeting: **Larry Hare** displayed a small Italian Carcano known as a Boy's Rifle or sometimes incorrectly as a Cadet Rifle. These very uncommon, diminutive rifles worked just like a standard Carcano, but were sized for a lad of 8 or 9. Larry's still has the original sling, and even rarer accoutrement. **John Babey** presented an 1855 Colt side hammer .31 caliber percussion pocket revolver with a 3.5" barrel made in 1865. **John Morris** showed 15th century Dutch Hackbut or "hook gun." This particular piece was made of bronze, ornately decorated, bored in .80 caliber and adorned with the coat of arms of Ulrich von Schellenberg an Austrian knight and nobleman. **Bill Chronister** showed an Egyptian Rasheed carbine in 7.62X39. Derived from the Swedish Ljungmann design used by the Egyptians in their Hakim battle rifle, this uncommon carbine employed refinements in the bolt group. **Dan Szatkowski** showed a 6.35mm (.32 caliber) Jager pistol, an unusual sheet metal design that failed to be adopted by any nation. **John Isoldi**, as promised, shared a friend's 1886 Winchester in .50 Express (also known as .50-110). This was a full custom order rifle with factory swivels, single set trigger, shotgun butt plate, a pistol grip, and matte rib on the barrel. This caliber is among the rarest Winchesters, made even more so by the many special order factory options. **Hampton Williams** brought an unidentified "Stevens-type" tip up single shot pistol in .25-20 Singleshot caliber. Due to its lack of markings, it could be a prototype or employee assembled gun. **Addison Hurst** closed out the evening with his new Armalite AR10 rifle. Originally designed in the 1950's as a battle rifle, the original Armalite AR10 was only sold to a few countries, while the similarly designed version in .223 spawned the AR15/M16 family of rifles. The current

Armalite company, responding to requests for a .308 AR-type rifle, updated the design for mass sales. Upon that note the VGCA Holiday meeting was adjourned.

Jack Looney showed his Brandl labeled with Heym markings and asked for additional information. (See the photo to the left and contact Jack if you have any info on this rifle or maker.)



December 1st Meeting Photos



Top and Center L: 15th century Dutch Hackbut or "hook gun." This particular piece was made of bronze, ornately decorated with the coat of arms of Ulrich von Schellenberg, an Austrian knight, nobleman, general, and 'Secret Counsel to the Emperor.'

L: Italian Carcano 'Boy's Rifle.' Note the tag on the trigger from a museum display, the folding bayonet and the young student's nameplate on the stock.

R (U): Unmarked 'Stevens-type' single shot pistol chambered for the .25-20 Singleshot cartridge.

Right (L): Addison shows his Armalite AR10 rifle in .308 caliber.

Upcoming Events and Shows

PLEASE NOTE: There are sometimes changes in schedules or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to *verify before driving to a show*. These dates have been published online, but are not guaranteed. **Yellow** = Collector organizations.

VIRGINIA 2012

- ⇒ January 14-15, 2012 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ⇒ January 21-22, 2012 - Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ January 21-22, 2012 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ⇒ January 28-29, 2012 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland – *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ February 4-5, 2012 - Richmond, VA - Raceway & Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- ⇒ February 10-12, 2012 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show – *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ February 18-19, 2012 - Norfolk, VA – Norfolk Scope Arena - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ February 18-19, 2012 - Virginia Beach, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ⇒ February 25-26, 2012 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ⇒ February 25-26, 2012 – Doswell, VA - Meadow Event Park - *SGK, LTD*
- ⇒ February 25-26, 2012 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ March 3-4, 2012 - Richmond, VA – Showplace - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **March 24-25, 2012 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds – Virginia Gun Collectors Association**

MARYLAND 2012

- ⇒ January 13-15, 2012 - Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ February 11-12, 2012 - Annapolis, MD - Annapolis Armory – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ February 18-19, 2012 – Upper Marlboro, MD - Show Place Arena (P.G. County) – *Silverado Productions*
- ⇒ February 25-26, 2012 – West Friendship, MD - Howard county Fairgrounds – *Silverado Productions*
- ⇒ **March 17-18, 2012 – Baltimore (Timonium), MD – Timonium Fairgrounds – Maryland Arms Collectors Association, www.baltimoreshow.com**

PENNSYLVANIA 2012

- ⇒ January 14-15, 2012 – Lebanon, PA - Lebanon Expo Center - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ January 21-22, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Rodeway Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ January 21-22, 2012 - Tarentum, PA - Pittsburgh Mills Galleria - *Pennsylvania Gun Collectors Association*.
- ⇒ February 4-5, 2012 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - *C&E Gun Shows*
- ⇒ January 28-29, 2012 - Gettysburg, PA - Allstar Sports Complex - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **February 4-5, 2012 – Lancaster, PA - Lancaster Farm and Home Center - Lancaster Muzzle Loading Rifle Association.**
- ⇒ February 11-12, 2012 – Philadelphia, PA - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center (Oaks) – *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **February 11-12, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society. Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm.**
- ⇒ February 25-26, 2012 – York, PA - York Fairgrounds (Toyota Arena) – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⇒ March 3-4, 2012 – Lancaster, PA - Lancaster County Convention Center - valleyforgegunshow.com
- ⇒ March 10-11, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Rodeway Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ March 17-18, 2012 - Harrisburg, PA - Farm Show Complex – *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*

NEW YORK 2012

- ⇒ **February 25-26, 2012 – Freeport, NY - The Freeport Recreation Center - Long Island Antique Historical Arms Society. Contact: Dave Gruner (631) 722-3248, P.O. Box 41, Jamesport, NY 11947**

OHIO 2012

- ⇒ **March 10-11, 2012 – Wilmington, OH – Roberts Centre - Ohio Gun Collectors Association. OGCA MEMBERS ONLY. <http://www.ogca.com/index.htm>**

OKLAHOMA 2012

- ⇒ **March 31-April 1, 2012 – Tulsa, OK - Expo Center-Expo Square (Tulsa Fairgrounds) - Tulsa Arms Collectors Association. ****MORE THAN 4,100 TABLES!******

Address for any Newsletter related matters or submissions is VGCAnews@cox.net. Feel free to email items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via email or the mailed hard-copy, please contact Larry Hare.

v/r Bill Chronister, VGCA Newsletter Editor