



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG

Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



President and Founder (Emeritus) Ed Johnson Home: 703-368-6560

<b>President</b>	David Litchfield	Cell: 703-624-8696	<a href="mailto:litchfd@comcast.net">litchfd@comcast.net</a>
<b>Show/Reservations Manager</b>	Rick Nahas	Cell: 571-215-8761	<a href="mailto:jet53sw@aol.com">jet53sw@aol.com</a>
<b>Show Security/Safety</b>	Kent Jeffries		<a href="mailto:KAJefferies@aol.com">KAJefferies@aol.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Larry Hare	Cell: 540-946-2050	<a href="mailto:LaurenceHare@gmail.com">LaurenceHare@gmail.com</a>

## January 2014 VGCA e-Newsletter

Happy New Year! With the bitter cold snap it is clear that we are nearing the full **Wolf Moon**, on **January 15**, at **11:52 p.m. EST**: The name derives from a time amid zero degree cold and the deep snows of midwinter, when the wolf packs howled hungrily outside Algonquin Indian villages. It was also known as the Old Moon, the Moon after Yule, or in some tribes the Full Snow Moon, although most applied that name to the February moon. The moon is at apogee - its farthest point from Earth, making it the *smallest full moon* of 2014. In terms of apparent size, it will appear 12.2-percent smaller than the full moon of Aug.10, the biggest full moon of the year.

❖ **Presentation for January 23, 2014:** **Doug Wicklund**, Curator at the NRA National Firearms Museum (NRA-NFM) will speak about the new *National Sporting Arms Museum*, and follow up with a private tour of the Robert E. Petersen Gallery at the NFM. **Please note: There are 5 Thursdays in January 2014. VGCA meets on the FOURTH Thursday, January 23, 2014.**

❖ **December Annual Meeting and Pot-Luck dinner:** The annual meeting started off with a grand pot luck dinner with members bringing ham, pulled pork, chicken, various covered dishes, macaroni dishes and salads, vegetables, sandwiches, finger food and a plethora of desserts and snacks. We had a good turnout and lots of volunteers for setup and cleanup. Many thanks for that. We also had a number of guests and new applicants and were honored to have **Jim Supica**, Director of the NRA national Firearms Museum in attendance.

Finally, the swap section had some nice items. A number of folks were seen rapidly counting cash or writing checks on some great deals. Thanks to all who participated.

**Business Meeting of December 5, 2013:** After the meal, **Dave Litchfield** called the meeting to order and after the Pledge of Allegiance, delivered a brief eulogy for departed member **Roger Sherman**. He then mentioned that the collection of departed member **Hal Johnson**, was being inventoried. Information will be made available when it is received.



**New Members:** **Larry Hare**, Membership Chair introduced new member candidates. **John Satanek**, was sponsored by Addison Hurst; **Pamela Rogers**, was sponsored by Jim Burgess; **John Williams** was sponsored by Dave Litchfield; **Vincent Falter**, was sponsored by Gerry Stephenson; and lastly, **Stephen Wesbrook** was sponsored by Dave Litchfield. After providing the assembled membership about their interests and collecting activities, all were unanimously voted into the Association. Welcome aboard ladies and gentlemen.

←←← The VGCA had a good year and in accordance with our mission to promote education, gun collecting and shooting of firearms, a number of presentations were made to organizations which support those initiatives. VGCA President Dave Litchfield presented a donation from VGCA of \$1000 to the NRA National Firearms Museum. The donation was accepted by

museum Director **Jim Supica**, who provided an overview of the new *National Sporting Arms Museum* recently

opened in Springfield, Missouri. Bass Pro Shops donated the space and time and NRA arranged for the guns, research and background material. VGCA also donated \$500 to the NRA Foundation for their work with grants and education programs of the NRA. **Melissa E. Coder** and **Christopher DeWitt** from the Foundation were present to accept the check. To support youth shooting, the VGCA made the following donations: \$225 went to the 4-H Youth Shooting Club *Trigger Time* for .22LR target ammunition. **Lee Turner** accepted the donation for the group. VGCA Gun Show Manager, **Rick Nahas** also donated a set of Ruger Mark II target pistols to the group for starting their silhouette shooting program. VGCA donated \$1395 to the Belvoir Bullets JROTC Shooting team to purchase an air rifle target system by Creedmoor Sports.

**2014 Election of Officers Cycle:** During the December annual meeting we opened the floor for nominations to fill the full 2014-2015 terms of the Association Officers. Currently, we have five (5) nominees for the 4 Officer positions. They are **Richard Pripeton** for Secretary; **Shannon Zeigler** for Treasurer; **Ernie Lyles** (Incumbent) and **Jim Burgess** for Vice-President; and **David Litchfield** for President. Nominations will be accepted up until during the meeting on January 27. Consider if you wish to run or nominate another member for these positions. Nominations will be formally closed after the nominating process. Ballots will be prepared immediately after the January 27 meeting and mailed to members eligible to vote. The completed ballots **must be mailed back and received by February 18, 2014** to allow the returned ballots to be gathered for opening and counting the votes at the Membership Meeting on February 27, 2014. Ballots received after the February 18 deadline will NOT be counted. Hand carried ballots are not acceptable. To ensure that your vote arrives by the deadline, it is recommended that you **mail it back no later than February 10.**

✪ **Presentations for 2014:** We have a great speaker line-up for 2014, so mark your calendars. Only one date left!!! Advance thanks to those who have signed up to present and to the members who arranged for some of the program speakers. As always, any updates will be published in the newsletters each month.

- **February 27** – LTC **Gregg Thompson** on Afghani Rifles
- **March** – **NO Meeting** – VGCA Gun Show
- **April 24** - **Carlos Davila** on “*The G-1/2/3 Family of Military Rifles*”
- **May 22** - **Anthony Vanderlinden** returns with more on Belgian Arms with a look at “*Henri Pieper and the Bayard Legacy*” - A look at FN's co-founder and competitor
- **June 26** – **Bill Chronister** and **Larry Hare** cover “*Precision Adult Air Rifles.*”
- **July** – **NO Meeting** – Summer Recess
- **August 28** – **Shannon Ziegler** – Japanese Arms Program
- **September 25** - **Addison Hurst** – “*The Kalashnikov Rifle and Legacy*”
- **October 23** - **Open**
- **November:** **NO Meeting** - VGCA Gun Show
- **December 4:** **Annual Membership Meeting** – NO Speaker/Pot Luck Dinner/Director Nominations/Show & Tell/Swap Meet

❄ ❄ ❄ **INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT** ❄ ❄ ❄: We are right in the winter season. During the winter months meetings may be cancelled for bad weather. **Check the new VGCA Website (<http://www.vgca.net>) for Weather Alerts and 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.

## Announcements, etc.

**2014 Dues for annual members are due in January 2014 and are \$30.00 per year.** Get payment in now to avoid being dropped from the VGCA membership roster. *A renewal form is on the last page of this Newsletter.*

**Payments should be mailed to: Larry Hare, P.O. Box 102, Afton, VA 22920**

If you will be at the meeting on January 23, you may submit the form and a check payable to VGCA (NO CASH PLEASE) directly to Larry Hare, Membership Coordinator and save postage.

- **VGCA Members and Spouses Banquet**: The Membership and Guests Banquet is scheduled for Saturday evening, April 5, 2014. This year we will be dining at Anthony's Italian Restaurant at 7234 Centreville Road (Rt. 28) in Manassas, VA 20111. They have a nice private Dining Room. More details will follow at meetings and in the Monthly Newsletters.
- **VGCA Member wins Second Place at the October 2014 Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society Gun Show in Allentown, PA.** VGCA Member **Shannon Zeigler** took a well-deserved Second Place with his Display of "Commonwealth Service Rifle Target Sights." Congratulations!

**Member Obituary:** We are sad to note that **Edward P. (Phil) Grier** passed away on January 6, 2014. Mr. Grier was a long time VGCA member. He is survived by his wife Julia as well as his sons and their families, E. Phillips and Frank. He served as a Marine and received the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart among various other medals. After his honorable discharge from the Marines he continued to serve our country as an employee of the United States Government. He was a member of the Mason's, Lions Club, Elks, St Andrews Society, American Clan Greger and the NRA. He volunteered with both the PWC Sheriff's Dept. and the OWL Fire Dept. The viewing was at MOUNTCASTLE FUNERAL HOME, 13318 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge, VA on Thursday, January 9, 2014. The Interment Service was the next day in Salisbury, MD. Flowers were sent on behalf of VGCA by Addison Hurst, Past President of the Association.

### **Notes from the Podium – President's Message**

Hello Members,

We were all saddened to learn of the death of General Kalashnikov in late December..., but he had lived a long life, celebrated as one of the greatest heroes of the former Soviet Union and Russian Federation. His arms will live long and will continue to be used the world over for good and not so good causes. We will maintain contact with his daughter Elena and perhaps be able to have her be a guest at one of our meetings in the future. Addison is hard at work preparing his Kalashnikov extravaganza presentation scheduled for this Fall.

We will start 2014 off with a super speaker for the January 23 Meeting, as NRA Museum Senior Curator Doug Wicklund will present on the new NRA National Sporting Arms Museum in Springfield, Missouri, and then lead us on a guided tour of the Robert T. Petersen Collection inside the National Firearms Museum. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to see these beautiful guns and hear the personal comments by Doug. This will be our second visit to the Petersen Collection and you can't get enough of this spectacular collection of 400 of the rarest guns on earth.

We are in the final stages of planning for the March Gun Show and we are down to about 8 open tables at this point. We have signed up some great new table holders including a local reloading business that will have bullets and powder at the show.

We will receive a brief by Kelly Cook on the plans for our 2014 Members Recognition Dinner scheduled for 5 April. This year the plan is to honor all the volunteers who helped VGCA last year, and Kelly will provide the details. Please continue to recruit qualified high caliber members for VGCA and make your plans for coming to the Gun Show and Members Dinner.

~~ Happy Collecting, *Dave Litchfield*

**Show & Tell for the December 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** There was a full schedule for the December Show and Tell. **Richard Pripeton** started the session by providing the group with a briefing on the new laptop computer VGCA purchased. This will be used for meeting presentations, to create membership ID Badges, and for administrative tasks at the VGCA Gun Shows. Richard provided the technical expertise to ensure we bought a machine that would fill all the criteria and arranged to have a complete software package to allow it to be used for many or the club tasks and also at events. Onward to more traditional items, **Member 1** showed a British War Office Pattern 1906 Training Rifle in .22RF. These rifles were made by a number of manufacturers including Birmingham Small Arms (BSA) and LSA. Due to heavy use and sales over the years, nice examples of this pattern trainer are becoming scarce. **Member 2** showed a SVW Walther P-38 pistol known as the "Gray Ghost" due to its distinctive finish. These pistols were assembled from existing parts after the war by the French occupation. It has pressed steel ribbed grips and French "star" proofs. Many went to French police and to French Indochina. **Member 3**

displayed a pre-war Winchester Model 60 in 7x57 Mauser chambering. It was originally outfitted with Lyman 48 sights and a Stith scope, but now has a Leupold 2-7x32 scope and mounts. This was a very nice classic. A Remington 51 pistol in .32 ACP was shown by **Member 4**. Designed by John Pederson (Pederson Device), over 65,000 were made between 1918 and 1927. Parts remained available until well into the 1930s. **Member 5** brought in a Hammerli Master CO2 target pistol in .177. The vintage piece still holds pressure and is very accurate. **Member 6** showed some very nice Walther pistols. The first was a pre-war PPK in extremely good condition with “Crown N” proofs, a matching Holster and spare magazine. It was chambered in 7.65 Browning and was for the commercial market. The second pistol was also a PPK made in 1935 with the distinctive 90 degree safety, and the third pistol was a 1939 commercial Walther PP, one of the last before military production took over. **Member 7** displayed his Davide Pedersoli reproduction of the British Brown Bess Short Land Pattern flintlock smoothbore musket. The original would have been among the weapons used by the British and loyalist colonial militias during the Revolutionary war. While bored to .75 caliber, it actually fired a .69 caliber ball from a paper cartridge containing 145 grains of black powder. **Member 8** presented his Russian Mosin-Nagant Model 91/30 Sniper Rifle. Definitely a piece which if it could talk would have some history; it was a true sniper in original finish and not a modern build up for the surplus market.

**Mikhail Kalashnikov, father of the AK-47, dies:** Lt. Gen. Mikhail T. Kalashnikov, the arms designer credited by the Soviet Union with creating the AK-47, the first in a series of rifles and machine guns that would indelibly associate his name with modern war and become the most abundant firearms ever made, died on Monday, December 23, 2013 in Izhevsk. He was 94.



Born a peasant on November 10, 1919, General Kalashnikov had little formal education, but his role in the rifle’s creation, and the attention showered on him by the Kremlin’s propaganda machine, carried him from conscription in the Red Army to senior positions in the Soviet arms-manufacturing bureaucracy and ultimately to six terms on the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Union’s legislative body.

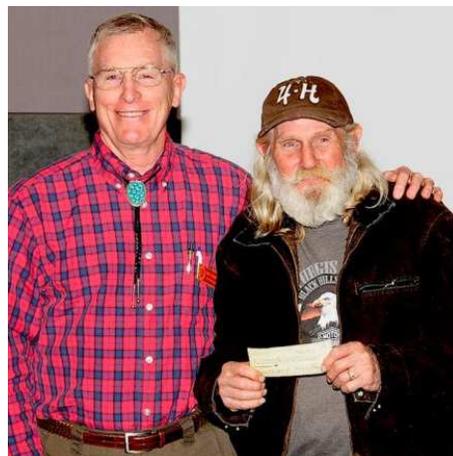
With tens of millions of rifles produced around the world, the Kalashnikov family of arms is the most common and recognizable military weapon ever made. To his critics, he said that the rifle was designed to protect his motherland, not to be used by terrorists or thugs. “This is a weapon of defense,” he said. “It is not a weapon for offense.”

He was married twice, the second time to Ekaterina Kalashnikova, a technician in his design bureau. He is survived by a son from his first marriage, Viktor Kalashnikov, who is also an arms designer; a daughter from his second marriage, Elena Krasnovskaya; a stepdaughter, Nelya; and several grandchildren.

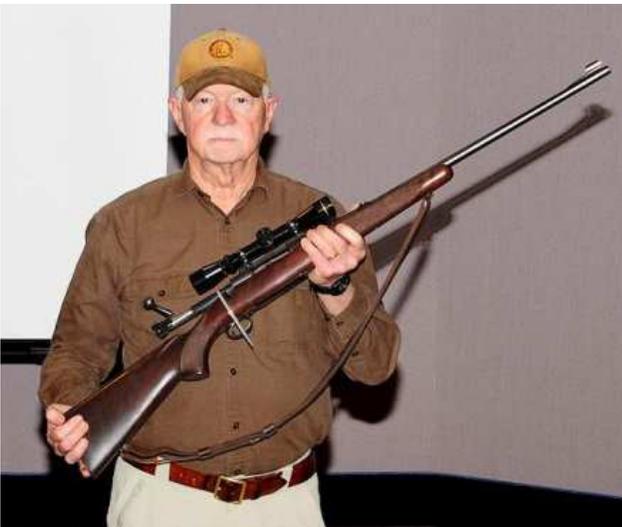
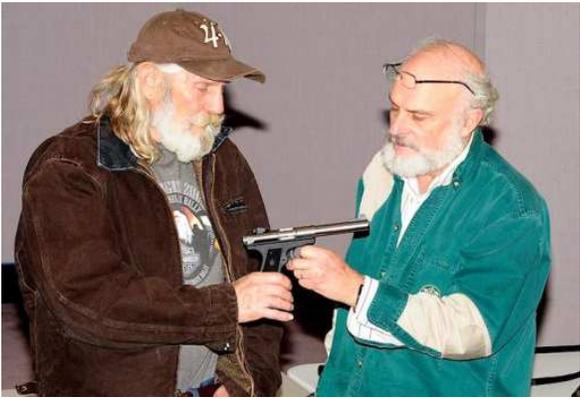
### Photos from the December 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting



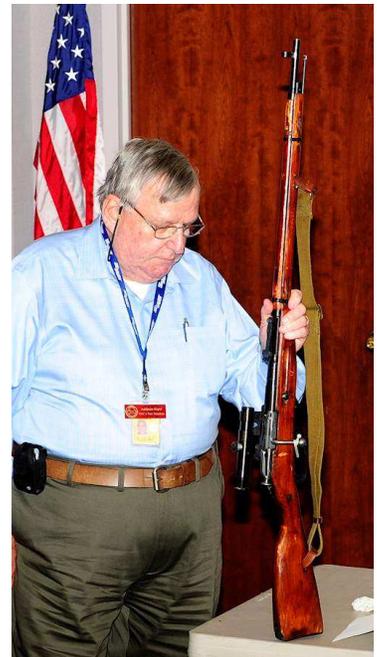
← Left:  
**Melissa E. Coder** and  
**Christopher DeWitt** from the NRA Foundation accepted a donation from the VGCA.



→Right:  
**Lee Turner** accepted a donation of .22 rimfire ammunition from the VGCA to be used by the 4-H Youth Shooting Club *Trigger Time*.



**Top Left:** Rick Nahas, VGCA Show Manager, personally donated a Ruger Mark II .22 target pistol to kick off a new *Trigger Time* 4-H youth shooting activity – Pistol Silhouette.  
**Top Right:** Members of the *Belvoir Bullets* shooting team accept a donation from the VGCA President to purchase a target system.  
**Center Left:** Richard Pripeton briefs the membership on the acquisition of a new laptop for VGCA meetings, activities and gun show administration.  
**Center Right:** A VGCA



member shows his British War Office Pattern 1906 Training Rifle in .22RF.  
**Bottom Left:** This VGCA member showed an exceptional pre-war Winchester Model 70 chambered for the 7x57 Mauser cartridge.  
**Bottom Right:** An original WW2 Russian Mosin-Nagant Model 91/30 Sniper Rifle was the subject of this member's presentation to the group.

## 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 2014

- ⊕ January 18-19, 2014 - Salem, VA - Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ January 18-19, 2014 - Hampton, VA - Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ⊕ January 25-26, 2014 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ January 25-26, 2014 - Norfolk, VA - Norfolk Scope Arena - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ February 1-2, 2014 - Virginia Beach, VA - Virginia Beach Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ⊕ February 1-2, 2014 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds - *SGK Show*
- ⊕ February 14-16, 2014 - Chantilly, VA – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ February 22-23, 2014 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ March 8-9, 2014 - Fredericksburg, VA - Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center - *SGK Shows*
- ⊕ March 15-16, 2014 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ⊕ March 15-16, 2014 - Winchester, VA - Winchester Sportsplex - *SGK Show*
- ⊕ March 22-23, 2014 - Hampton, VA - Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ⊕ **March 22-23, 2014 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds – Virginia Gun Collectors Association**

### PENNSYLVANIA 2014

- ⊕ January 18-19, 2014 - Altoona, PA - Blair County Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ February 1-2, 2014 - Monroeville, PA - Monroeville Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ **February 8-9, 2014 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society. Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm**
- ⊕ March 15-16, 2014 - Altoona, PA - Blair County Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*

### MARYLAND 2014

- ⊕ **March 15-16, 2014 – Baltimore (Timonium), MD – Timonium Fairgrounds – Maryland Arms Collectors Association, [www.baltimoreshow.com](http://www.baltimoreshow.com)**

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is [VGCANews@cox.net](mailto: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

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### **Membership Renewal Request (AMR-NL-2014) Larry Hare, P.O. Box 102, Afton, VA 22920-0102**

VGCA annual membership requires yearly renewal and payment of \$30.00. Life membership is still only \$150.00. If you have paid your 2013 dues, you may upgrade to life membership during the 2014 dues cycle for \$150 (only \$120 over the cost of annual membership.) 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosed is \$30.00 for CY 2014 VGCA annual membership dues.
- I wish to upgrade to Life membership in VGCA. Enclosed is \$150.00.
- Remove my name from the VGCA membership rolls.

Make all checks payable to VGCA (NO CASH PLEASE). If you have any questions contact Larry Hare, Membership Chair at (540) 946-2050 or by email at [LaurenceHare@gmail.com](mailto:LaurenceHare@gmail.com)