



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG

Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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February 2012 VGCA e-Newsletter

Dedicated to Wm. Addison Hurst, Outgoing President for his years of Service to the VGCA

As you are all aware, this will be Addison Hurst’s final meeting with the presidential gavel. For almost 30 years Addison has led this Association. I remember soon after I first joined, at the bi-annual nomination of Officers, as he was being nominated as the sole candidate for President, he made a quip about the Association needing other candidates for president because he did not want to be “President for Life,” like Ugandan strongman Idi Amin. With this current election, he has finally achieved his wish. It is now time to sit back and enjoy the meetings and presentations with the satisfaction of a job well done. I thank you, and the members thank you, and we all hope to continue to see you at the meetings. ~ Editor

Presentation at the January 26th Meeting: Mr. Sam Hatfield (left), of *Hatfields Gunsmithing*, returned and gave one of his frank talks and answered member questions on accurizing AR15-type rifles. If you saw his talk on accurizing the M1911 family of handguns, you know his unique style. He is straight to the point, and bases his advice on what he has seen work, versus some who ride the latest trends. Sam, a former U.S. Army AMU gunsmith has a new establishment at 8898 Mathis Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110. Phone: 703-369-GUNS. His webpage is



www.hatfieldsgunsmithing.com. This shop is much larger and features a shooting simulator that is available to the public. Sam is also offering a gunsmithing class for 1911s in his shop. Members should call for details. For this talk he pulled back the covers on the most critical aspect of AR15 accuracy – *use the best quality barrel, barrel extension and bolt you can, as this is the heart and soul of AR15 accuracy*. Unlike a traditionally stocked rifle, bedding is not critical. After that introduction, he opened the discussion to questions and then using the questions as a guide would expound in detail on the various alternatives, ease and/or pitfalls of assembly, durability and use. He discussed various triggers and the different types he has used and those which have had good reports. These can range from stock or modified AR triggers, though custom triggers like the Geissele or AR-Gold, and on to the modular drop in units that contain the entire trigger and hammer assembly in its own sub-housing that is dropped into the lower and affixed using the standard AR trigger and hammer pins.

He went on to explain the differences in the terns 5.56 NATO versus .223 Remington. He covered other various calibers and the flexibility of the AR platform for different calibers. Interestingly, when asked about the popular AR15 .22LR conversion uppers, he suggested using a dedicated AR-style rifle like the S&W MP-15/22 rather than switching uppers. He also responded to many questions about various lubricants, whether to use grease and cleaning. He did caution that as the AR is an aluminum receiver, that one should be careful not to use a solvent that could damage the finish or etch the metal. At the conclusion, Mr. Hatfield talked about the small selection of ARs that he had brought with him that had served as examples in his talk. He received a vigorous applause for a great talk that held the interest of even the died in the wool fans of fine wood and blued steel.

February 23rd meeting: Due to a scheduling conflict with the planned speaker, we will have an esteemed VGCA member presentation. **Bob Sears** graciously stepped up and will cover *Interior Ballistics II*, the second part of his in-depth look at projectile ballistics. If you have not had the pleasure of hearing Bob speak, or have not heard him at the Show and Tells showing many unique items and providing historical insight into firearms design that can only come from a deep experience in the fields of firearms engineering and manufacturing, you will not be disappointed. You can rest assured his presentation will have that special blend of history, technology, engineering, and humor that only Bob can deliver. Hope to see you there. Please note, VGCA will provide assorted beverages; however food will NOT be provided, so plan accordingly to eat before the meeting or bring your own meal. If members wish to contribute snacks, they may be placed with the beverages.

Future Meetings: There will **NOT be a March meeting** or **Newsletter** as we will be at our Spring gun show. The **April 26th Meeting** will feature 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 interested in 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.

Notes from the Podium – Parting Words from your Outgoing President

I have been blessed in many ways in my life – one of the blessings has been to have been either secretary or president of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association for almost 30 years. I have been with you for the long haul and have, like you, been through good times and bad.

From a personal view, it was difficult since I was working full time the entire time in a very demanding job. Monna often asked me why I continued. I honestly do not know the reason, but it was not a personal ego thing. I was once accused of this and I was even accused of stealing money from the club treasury to buy a camper trailer for Gene Stoner's use during the Kalashnikov visit of the 1990s. Well, despite these allegations, I never stole one cent from the club but did what I felt was the right thing for all the members. Ed Johnson's vision of what our club should be never left neither me, nor any of the other board members over the years. When attacked, I held my tongue in most cases in the interest of tribal peace.

I have been proud to have been in a leadership position and I did my best to feed and entertain you folks and to enable us to have good gun shows. I tried to it with humor as I always felt we were a hobby organization and, as such, we should have as much fun as possible that was consistent with our business functions. I have received a tremendous amount of help and support and I thank all those who remained at “battle stations” over all the years.

The club has been buffeted by many forces that we cannot control. Unfortunately, this will continue, and I feel that Dave Litchfield is the man to continue to lead us through the minefields. If the current administration continues, only God knows what will be in store for gun owners. Do everything you can to support VGCA and the NRA and all organizations trying to protect the Second Amendment. They are our only hope. I expect there will be a bigger feeding frenzy coming in gun sales that will eclipse those during the anti-gun and anti-Second Amendment Clinton Administration. I wish you all the best in the future battles that are surely coming.

Your Obedient Servant, *Wm. Addison Hurst*, President, VGCA

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

During the winter months 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.

Final Notice: Dues for annual membership were due in January 2012 and are \$30.00 per year for Annual 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

Election of VGCA Officers for the 2012-2014 Term. Results will be announced at this meeting.

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

The Spring 2012 VGCA Gun Show is 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 – As this newsletter was being drafted, the VGCA has less than 5 tables remaining for the Spring VGCA Gun Show. Check NOW if you want to get purchase a table as a sellout is imminent.

- ⊙ **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. Sales tables cost \$60 each.
- ⊙ **Display Tables:** The club will continue having FREE DISPLAY TABLES for members on a space available basis for the Spring show. With the increased table sales, display tables will be limited, so contact Rick Nahas to get yours reserved.

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, at 10:00AM.**

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 23rd, (vendor set-up), with the show on Saturday and Sunday, March 24-25. **Remember, volunteering for the Security, Safety, and Setup teams earns a free admission.**

Business Meeting for the January 26th Meeting: The business meeting led off the night to allow the Presenter to get setup. **Ernie Lyles**, Vice President, chaired the meeting since **Addison Hurst** was at home following his wife's hip replacement surgery. **Dave Litchfield** made the announcement that 50 tables were still unsold for the Spring Show. It was announced that table setup for the Spring Show would return to the Friday before the show. Volunteers should be there at on March 23rd at 10:00a.m. The VGCA trip to the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) Museum was also resurrected and is being explored. This will be during a weekday in the Spring. Further info will be posted in the Newsletter. **Larry Hare**, Membership Chair proposed two new members. **Linwood Holbrook** was sponsored by Ed Johnson. His interests include WW1, WWII, and Korean Conflict military arms. **Gary Hoskinson** was sponsored by Dave Litchfield. Gary's interests include S&W handguns and practically anything else that shoots. After the prospects were allowed to say a few words of introduction, by a vote of acclimation by the assembled members, both gentlemen were voted into the club. Welcome aboard!

Show & Tell for the January 26th Meeting: (Due to reading about thefts based on information gathered from collector publications – not just gun collectors, I am removing members names from the Show and Tell section. Better safe than sorry.) The evening's Show and Tell began with **Member 1** presenting his AR15 with Magpul Modifications and an ELCAN telescopic sight made by Ernst Leitz-Canada. Ernst Leitz is also known as the maker of the incomparable Leica cameras and lenses. **Member 2** showed his recently acquired 2nd Model Maynard Carbine in .50 caliber. The Maynard was a hybrid/transitional arm since it used a self-contained metallic cartridge, which solved the gas leakage problem of early breech loading percussion arms, but still relied on a percussion cap for ignition instead of a primer in the cartridge case. The 1st Model was used in limited quantities during the Civil

War, but the 2nd Model, although ordered in 1864 was not delivered until after the war. It was used with success in the Western Indian Campaigns and was popular with troops. A 3rd member showed his copy of "The Black Rifle" that was autographed by AR15 designer Eugene Stoner. He also showed a Reed Knight (one of Stoner's close associates) commemorative coin. **Member 4** presented 2 AR15 rifles, one in .223/5.56 with an interesting electronic scope, and a second in 6.5 Grendel, a potent long range round. **Member 5** showed a small Spanish Colonial cannon made in the Philippines, then a Spanish Colony in the 1700's. The 6th member presented a S&W 1905, 4th Change, Hand Ejector Model WW2 military revolver in .38 Special. This revolver, which at first glance resembled a parkerized Victory Model revolver was far better finished and had a blasted matte blued finish. **Member 7** presented a Colt AR15 Sporter HBAR which he uses for NRA high-power competition. An 8th member showed his documented Vietnam-bring back North Vietnamese marked and assembled SKS Type 45 Carbine. This variant of the SKS is extremely rare in the United States. Our next presenter, **member 9**, displayed a M1941 Johnson rifle. These rifles were designed by Capt. Melvin Johnson, USMC, who was posted as Springfield Arsenal. A heavy rifle, it featured a short-recoiling barrel action with a 10 round rotary magazine. Due to the recoiling barrel, fitting a bayonet was problematic. Prototypes were sent to Quantico in 1940 and the USMC fielded the rifle in WW2. Its last use was in the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion. **Member 10** showed a 3-Gun Match AR15 equipped with a 1" bull barrel and an ACOG sight. **Member 11** showed his Sam Hatfield-built AR15, he bought at Chantilly. He also displayed an upper in 6.8mm SPR caliber. A collector well known for his extensive .22RF collection, **member 12** showed an original Armalite AR7 Survival Rifle. This rifle, made and licensed to a number of companies stowed its aluminum steel-sleeved barrel and action into a floating stock. **Member 13** showed 2 rare, highly collectible cartridges designed for even rarer firearms – a .276 Pederson Round originally designed for the earliest prototype M1 rifles, and a round for the US Automatic Pistol, Caliber .30, Model of 1918, a/k/a the Pederson Device. This was a device developed during WW1 that replaced the bolt on the M1903 rifle to allow semi-automatic fire. He also showed a small black painted cup from the Civil War era. The last presenter, **member 14** showed an old developmental .222 Remington round and box that was used during the development of the .223 Remington based round for the AR15 rifle.

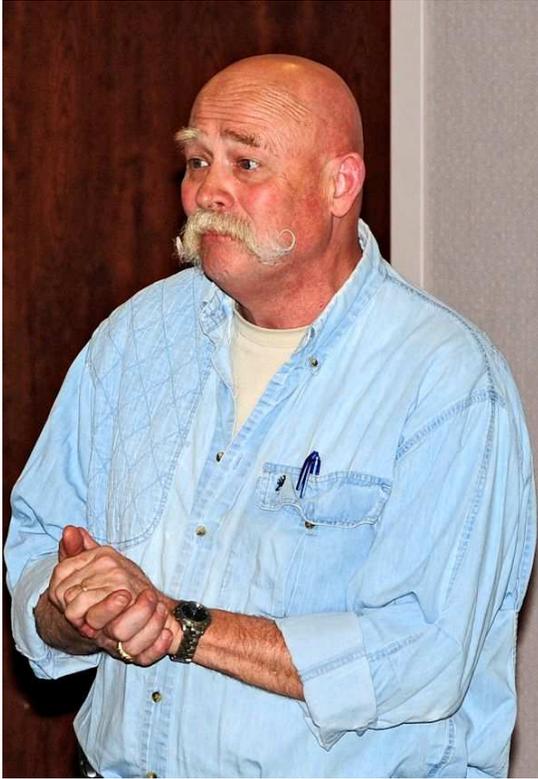
Announcements – Stolen Flintlock Rifle: VGCA and other Collector organizations (PACA, FDHAS, MAAC, etc.) received the following letter about a stolen flintlock rifle:

Dear Sirs: Several dealers and collectors have suggested that we contact you about this theft. We appreciate your help. The description below describes a musket that was stolen from our house in Northampton, MA in early January. We are not gun collectors. It is a family heirloom that has been in our family for a long time. We are devastated about this loss. If you see or hear about this musket, I would very much appreciate it if you could notify me by phone at (413) 585-9611. Please also pass this along to anyone who might come across it. Thank you for your attention in this matter. Sincerely, Barbara Williams

Brass mounted and engraved flintlock Revolutionary rifle, 56" long, with a brass patch box engraved "Clement Fairchild, 4th Connecticut Rgmt, 1780." It is in excellent condition. \$1000 reward for return of the rifle. No questions asked. Telephone 413-585-9611.



Photos of the January 26th Meeting



← Ernie Lyles
kicks off the
evening.

→ Hatfields
Gunsmith sets up
their wares.

↙ Maynard
Carbine action
detail.

↘ Detail of
markings on
Spanish Colonial
cannon.

Lower ↙ 3-Gun
match AR15 with
ACOG scope.

Lower ↘ AR15
with sophisticated
electronic sights.



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

- ⊕ 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 17-18, 2012 - Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center - *Showmasters*
- ⊕ March 17-18, 2012 - Fredericksburg, VA - Expo Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ⊕ **March 24-25, 2012 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds - *Virginia Gun Collectors Association***
- ⊕ March 24-25, 2012 - Richmond, VA - Raceway & Fairgrounds - *Showmasters*
- ⊕ March 31-April 1, 2012 - Norfolk, VA - Norfolk Scope Arena - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ March 31-April 1, 2012 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ⊕ March 31-April 1, 2012 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ⊕ April 14-15, 2012 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⊕ April 20-22, 2012 - Chantilly, VA - Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*

MARYLAND 2012

- ⊕ 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***
- ⊕ March 31-April 1, 2012 - Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ⊕ April 7-8, 2012 - Frederick, MD - Frederick Fairgrounds - *Silverado Productions*
- ⊕ April 21-22, 2012 - Annapolis, MD - Annapolis Armory - *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA 2012

- ⊕ 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*
- ⊕ March 24-25, 2012 - Poconos, PA - Split Rock Lodge - *Eagle Arms*
- ⊕ March 24-25, 2012 - Tarentum, PA - Pittsburgh Mills Galleria - *Pennsylvania Gun Collectors Association.*
- ⊕ March 30-April 1, 2012 - Reading, PA - Reading Expo Center - *Eagle Arms*
- ⊕ April 28-29, 2012 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - *C&E Gun Shows*

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**
- ⊕ April 21-22, 2012 - Syracuse, NY - NY State Fairgrounds - 1000 8" tpls - SyracuseGunshow.com

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 VGCA Newsletter Editor