



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

President

David Litchfield

Cell: 703-624-8696

litchfd@comcast.net

Show/Reservations Manager

Rick Nahas

Office: 703-361-7409

jet53sw@aol.com

Show Security/Safety

John Frietsch

Cell: 540-409-1271

johnfrietsch@peoplepc.com

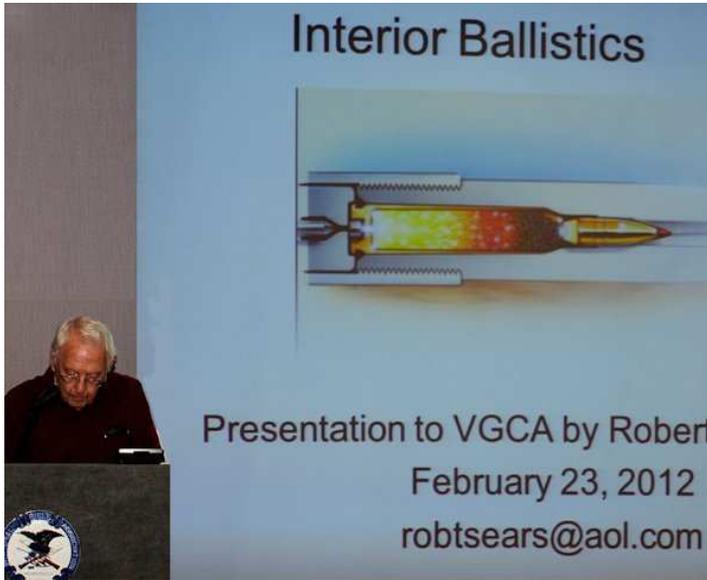
Membership

Larry Hare

Cell: 540-946-2050

LaurenceHare@gmail.com

April 2012 VGCA Newsletter



Presentation at the February 23rd Meeting:

Esteemed VGCA member Bob Sears, graciously stepped up and presented the second part of his in-depth look at projectile ballistics. *Interior Ballistics II* concerned itself with the factors that happen inside of the gun to affect ballistics and accuracy. Mr. Sears methodically worked his way through these critical elements. They included the sources of energy for the projectile, the ignition of the propellant, pressure and acceleration, rifling and stability of the projectile, recoil and recoil's effect on bullet flight, and other useful ballistic principals. He went into the various powders and grain structures including black powder and smokeless powders of the both single (nitrocellulose) and double-based (nitrocellulose and nitroglycerin) and triple-based (nitrocellulose, nitroglycerin and nitroguanadine) formulations. He talked about the burning rates of

powders and resulting erosion of the bore from heat, citing an example of how the British use of cordite as a propellant required a change of rifling in the Lee-Enfield rifle to counter the erosion on the older Metford rifling. Other variables such as temperature, and powder grain geometries, like flake, ball, rods, pellets, tubes or perforated. Mr. Sears also discussed curious taper bore (or squeeze bore) designs that were used by the Germans to gain velocity and muzzle energy. The 28/20 and 75/55 anti-tank rounds had the projectiles squeezed down in the bore from initial diameters of 28mm and 75mm to eventual 20mm and 55mm, respectively. All of these discussions were very well illustrated by a series of PowerPoint slides that clearly detailed the narrative and kept things tight. To add to the session, Bob also brought his extensive experiences with arms and projectile design and his vast knowledge of the subject from his days at Springfield Armory and other firearms companies. VGCA thanks Bob Sears for another one of his technical, interesting and well paced sessions.

Business Meeting for February 23. The results of the election for VGCA Officers were announced at the February meeting. While not a surprise as all were running unopposed, the new 2012-2014 VGCA Officer lineup is **Dave Litchfield** as President, **Ernie Lyles** as Vice President, **Ed Costello** as Treasurer, and **Bill Chronister** as Secretary. The Officers and Board have a number of plans in the works and some special events, so stay tuned to the Newsletters, check the VGCA Website which will be soon be updated, or come to the Monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Following the election announcement, outgoing President Addison Hurst presented the President's gavel to new President Dave Litchfield. Dave's first duty as President was to present Addison with a carefully selected firearm in recognition of his years of service to the Association. Upon opening the gift, an authentically aged with rich patina, example of a French Berthier rifle that had been carefully 'sporterized' and cannibalized for parts, Addison was speechless, but maintained his cool demeanor and reacted with an exclamation of "very interesting." After the round of smiles and grins, he was then presented with the true gift, a cased reproduction of a Colt Model

of 1860 Army percussion revolver, with all the accessories and accoutrements in a walnut case with engraved plaques inside and out that permit display either open or closed.

Upcoming for April 26th Meetings: NOTE SPEAKER CHANGE - VGCA is hosting **Mr. Jeff Brooks, Army PEO Ammo**. This means he is the Program Executive Officer Ammunition, a Senior Executive Service position that directs all Army and joint service ammo acquisition programs. Mr. Brooks oversees a large and complex budget to develop new products, and then procure, field, maintain, and replenish stocks of the products. This is a high profile job with lots of visibility in Congress, in DoD, and other federal agencies. 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, place them with the beverages.

Future Meetings and Speaker Topics (Tentative listing - changes will be noted in future Newsletters):

- **May 24:** Rick Lindsey, *PGM Sniper Rifle*;
- **June 28:** Bill York, *Radom Pistols/Book*;
- **July: No Meeting;**
- **August 23:** Jim Burgess, *Civil War Rifles*;
- **September 27:** Kent Jefferies, *Federal Air Marshal Service*;
- **October 25:** Lt.Col. Bernie Breighner, USAF Ret., *Collector Class III, Sniper Rifles, other weapons*;
- **November: No Meeting;**
- **December 6:** Annual VGCA Holiday Pot Luck Dinner, BoD Candidate Nominations, extended Show & Tell/Swap Meet.

Notes from the Podium – New President’s Message for April 2012

I want to express my deep appreciation for the support you have shown in electing me as your new VGCA President. Filling the large boots of Addison and the legacy of Ed will be a huge challenge for me, but one that I accept willingly. They and many of you have worked hard to create and build the VGCA and I plan to carry on these good works. My membership over the last six years has rewarded me with extraordinary friends and outstanding knowledge of gun collecting that would have never come my way were it not for VGCA. Many of you have mentored me and provided superior advice and tutoring, enabling me to learn and enjoy the many aspects of gun collecting, not the least of which is immense history and use lessons. I promise to work hard to maintain a clear path forward for VGCA.

The Board of Directors has approved an active schedule for 2012, including our recently concluded bird hunt in West Virginia, the members and spouse dinner held on April 6, and the upcoming trips to Lexington (VMI and John Marshall Museum), to Springfield Armory and Colt, and the trip to the Smithsonian gun collection, all scheduled for this year. Be sure and sign up for these interesting and fun trips. Let me know what else you want to do and we will work to make it happen. I'd also like us to plan a members' picnic, and possibly join forces with NORVA to meet out at their beautiful facility for an afternoon of fellowship and shooting. I hope to see you all at our April Meeting when my good friend, Lt.Col. Bernie Breighner, USAF Ret., will show us some of his interesting collection.

Finally, Thank you to everyone who helped make the VGCA Spring 2012 Gun Show in March our best show in years! Rick Nahas and the Show committee got us all sold out and opened the back building. The set up team of volunteers got the hall ready in record time. John Frietsch and his security team were on the duty, and Lee and the front table team covered the entrance and the shooting simulator gallery smoothly. Addison and the Evaluation team assisted many gun owners and made their day.

Happy Collecting to all, *Dave Litchfield*, President, VGCA

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

The Spring 2012 VGCA Gun Show was held at the Prince William County Fairgrounds on **March 24-25, 2012**. Of special note was we expanded to fill the second building. The rear building had both vendor and member sales tables with quality collectible firearms and accessories, military vehicle displays and two unusual and very popular with the crowd attractions – the MILO Shooting Simulator provided by **Sam Hatfield** of **Hatfields Gunsmithing** of Manassas, and the actual “**Barricade**,” the Saleen Mustang from the movie *Transformers*. The shooting simulator used computer generated scenarios and specially modified Glock pistols along with a giant screen and realistic sound system to teach shooting in stressful and quickly changing situations. While looking easy, with all

the audio and visual stimulation and the shoot/no-shoot situations and accurate aiming, you actually worked up a sweat during a session. The second attraction, very popular with families with children and movie buffs alike, was “**Barricade**” the Saleen Mustang police car. As this was the actual car from the movie, it still had the camera attachment points and dents from a collision with a cycle that was shown in the movie. The show was busy and the tables were well stocked and had something for almost everyone. Many table holders reported strong sales and our gate was greater than the Spring 2011 show. The Evaluation table again saw some very interesting and unusual pieces pass under the eyes of our experts who provided those asking with an assessment of what they presented.

Display Awards: Chief Display Judge, **Jim Burgess** wishes to acknowledge and thank **Addison Hurst** and **Dennis Gerdovich** for helping with the judging this time. This job isn't getting any easier. It seems the displays are getting better and better with each show. The results of the judging in the Historical and Educational Displays at Spring 2012 VGCA Gun Show are as follows:

1st Place:	Dr. Stephen Rutter	<i>The First Winchester?</i>
2nd Place:	Vince Rausch	<i>U.S. Military Shotguns – Indian Wars to Korean War</i>
3rd Place:	Kelly Cook	<i>Colt .22 Automatic Pistols</i>
Judge's Choice:	Ed Tytor	<i>Radom Viz WZ 35 Pistols – 1936-1945</i>
(2 Awards)	Pete Roberts	<i>S&W Triple Locks & Club Gun</i>

Thanks to all of you, these were masterful displays. Great to see some old faces back displaying. Congratulations!

*** Thanks to VGCA Gun Show Setup & Safety Team Volunteers ***

A Note from the Security Chief: I would like to thank all who helped out at the Spring Show. We re-opened the back building and this called for extra effort from us all. **Dave Litchfield**, my trusted assistant, is now the club President. Congratulations, David! The following people listed in alphabetical order, did a superior job as always, in either Safety, Security, or both: **Bill Alexander, Julian Aylor, John Babey, Chris Britton, Jim Burgess, Terry Fearnley, Fred Fees, Jim Frigiola, Steve Geis, Dennis Gerdovich, Bob Hardy, Larry Hare, Jim Hoffman, Gary Holderman, Addison Hurst, Karl “1911” Karash, George Kirschbaum, Dave Litchfield, Bill Ludwig, Bruce McCauley, Dave McKenzie, Al Miller, Chip Miller, Rodney Perkins, Penny Peyton, Steve Philippy, Joe Roberts, Tom Schwieger, Art Shingler, Lance Simons, Lee Turner, Carl Warhurst, and Bill York.** A thank you to all of the **4-H** kids. A special thanks to **Jim Ortte**, a Prince William County Magistrate for stopping by. Jim is also the one who provided the *Transformer* Saleen Mustang on display in the back hall. Thank you all for a superior effort. It is appreciated by both yours truly and the VGCA. Our next show will need volunteers for Nov 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. See me or any board member if you would like to be of assistance in this.

My e-mail address and my phone numbers are on the masthead. Have a good summer. *John Frietsch*

A Note from the Show Chairman: I would like to send a "Thank You" for helping to do table set-up for the show. Those who participated are: **Jim Burgess, Ed Costello, Dennis Gerdovich, Larry Hare, Jim Hunt, Bart Leggett, Dave Litchfield, Ernie Lyles, Ben Simms, Ellen Pripeton, Richard Pripeton, Joe Roberts, Tom Schwieger, and Lee Turner.** If anyone is left off this list by mistake, please let me, or John Frietsch, or any board member know of its absence and it will be corrected. Please take note that the set-up for the next show is at 10:00 AM on November 2, 2012. The show is November 3-4 if you would like to help. Thanks again! *Rick Nahas*

Show & Tell for the January 26th Meeting: Show and tell started with a member showing a Colt Woodsman that had been carefully customized by the King Gunsite Company. It has a mirrored front sight and a Giles rear sight, and custom grips and was finished in a deep rich blue. Custom pieces by King Gunsite are not common, however custom automatic pistols are even scarcer as the bulk of their work was with Colt revolvers. The second item on deck was a L.C. Smith double barreled shotgun in “Specialty Grade” with engraving in 12 gauge with 30” barrels. Two members showed a pair of Swiss Hammerli .22LR single shot Ordonnanz Kleinkaliber-Schützen KKSD match rifles styled after the famous Swiss K31. The first was a Hammerli 551 with a turnbolt action where the bolt handle resembled that of the Schmidt-Rubin straight-pull. The second, a later Hammerli 552 with a traditional bolt handle, included Walther match sights. Both are very uncommon rifles and especially rare in the US. The last item was a highly engraved and gold inlaid Winchester Model 50 autoloading shotgun that had been owned by an NRA director. This closed out a Show and Tell featuring some beautiful examples of both US and European gunmakers.

Announcements:

- ▶ **POSTPONED - Gun Show in Winchester:** Greg Butcher, owner of *Olde Towne Armory*, a gun shop in downtown Winchester, (Loudon Street in the pedestrian walking section) and his partner Ray Satorli were planning a new gun show at the new National Guard Armory in Winchester, VA for May 19-20, 2012. *This show has been postponed.* We will keep you informed of new developments. As many are aware, Greg bought tables from us for our recent show and he is serious about trying to have a quality collector show in the Winchester area.
- ▶ Dave Litchfield wanted to let members know about a new Gun Shop that just opened in Woodbridge, **All Shooters Tactical, Inc.** He met the owner, Jim Brickner, toured the store, and found they had a nice selection of new guns, used guns, and consignment guns. They had a nice 1927 Browning Auto Shotgun made in Belgium, a Kimber Pro Carry II, and a good selection of other long and short guns, at what appeared to be reasonable prices, as well as ammo, shooting supplies, clothing, etc. Their address is 3310 Noble Pond Way, Suite 105, Woodbridge, VA 22193. The phone is: 703-583-1911. They have heard of VGCA and our show, and they would like to have some of our show fliers in the store.
- ▶ John Frietsch is looking for .300 Weatherby loaded ammo or brass for his use in hunting and shooting. He may be contacted by cell phone at 540-409-1271.

Photos of the February Meeting



↗ Addison hands the Presidential gavel to Dave Litchfield.

→ Presentation to Outgoing President Addison Hurst -
Reproduction Colt 1860 Army Revolver before the
plaques were added.

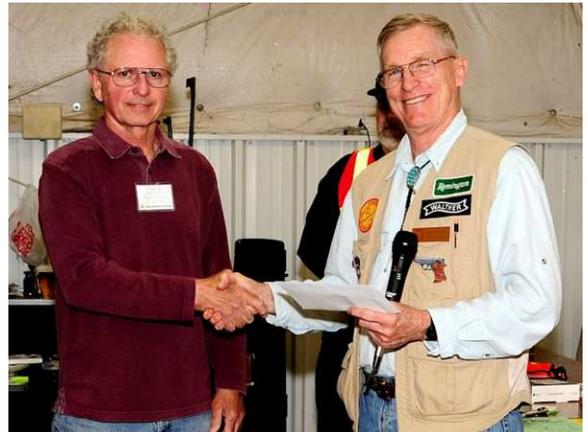
↓ Bob Sears is presented with the new VGCA speaker's
gift.

↘ Colt Woodsman Automatic pistol customized by
Kings Gunsite Company.



Spring 2012 VGCA Gun Show

(Please note: due to the layout of some displays, it is impossible to show detail and capture the entire display. To allow for the visible detail in the newsletter, some of the photos are cropped and other sections are enlarged.)



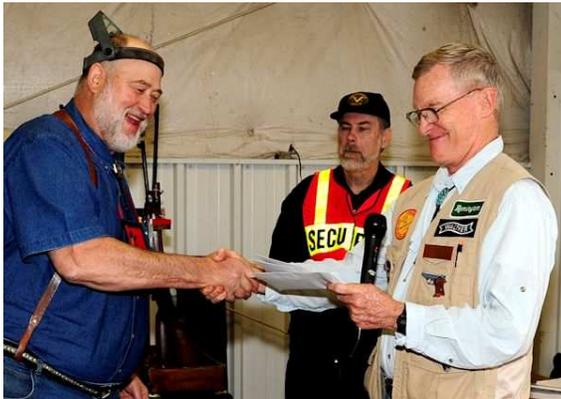
Top Row - 1st Place: Dr. Stephen Rutter for *The First Winchester?*



Second Row - 2nd Place: Vince Rausch for *U.S. Military Shotguns – Indian Wars to Korean War*



Third Row - 3rd Place: Kelly Cook for *Colt .22 Automatic Pistols* (Photo of display not available.)



Very popular with families with children and movie buffs, was “**Barricade**” the Saleen Mustang police car from the *Transformers* movie. The car was provided courtesy of **Jim Ortte**, Prince William County Magistrate.





Judge's Choice: On the right, Ed Tylor display of *Radom Viz WZ 35 Pistols – 1936-1945* (2 Awards) On the left, Pete Roberts display of *S&W Triple Locks & Club Gun*

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

- ☉ April 20-22, 2012 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show – *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ April 28-29, 2012 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ☉ April 28-29, 2012 - Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ May 19-20, 2012 - Richmond, VA – Showplace - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ ~~POSTPONED - May 19-20, 2012 - Winchester, VA – National Guard Armory – *Olde Town Armory* (***) Please see additional details in Announcements Section (***)~~
- ☉ May 26-27, 2012 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ June 8-10, 2012 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show – *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ June 23-24, 2012 - Fredericksburg, VA - Expo Center - *SGK, LTD*

MARYLAND 2012

- ☉ April 21-22, 2012 - Annapolis, MD - Annapolis Armory – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ June 16-17, 2012 - Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA 2012

- ☉ April 28-29, 2012 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - *C&E Gun Shows*
- ☉ May 5-6, 2012 – Philadelphia, PA - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center (Oaks) – *Eagle Arms*
- ☉ **May 12-13, 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**
- ☉ June 2-3, 2012 – Lebanon, PA - Lebanon Expo Center - *Eagle Arms*
- ☉ June 2-3, 2012 - Tarentum, PA - Pittsburgh Mills Galleria - *Pennsylvania Gun Collectors Association*.
- ☉ June 9-10, 2012 - Harrisburg, PA - Farm Show Complex – *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*.
- ☉ June 23-24, 2012 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds (Toyota Arena) – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ June 30-July 1, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Rodeway Inn - *Eagle Arms*

NEW YORK 2012

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

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