

VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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April-May 2025 VGCA Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Greetings, Members!

The VGCA has had a very busy couple of months! The first thing I would like to do is to congratulate our three new Directors – Troy Blackwood, Chris Britton, and Louie DiGaetano! Be sure to wish them well as they begin their two-year term of office!

Next, be sure to congratulate Rick Nahas for representing the VGCA at the NRA Annual Membership Meetings in Atlanta, Georgia in April. His display of <u>Smith & Wesson</u> <u>Aircrewman Revolvers</u> won "Best Educational Display of Modern Firearms" and one of his revolvers earned a coveted Silver Medallion. Very well done, sir!

Our Spring Gun Show last month was quite successful! The tables were sold out well in advance and we had 648 attendees over the two days. According to Shannon Ziegler, our Treasurer, we made nearly \$4000 after expenses. That is great news and reverses a negative income trend that we have experienced over the past couple of years. This would not have been possible without the hard work of Andrew Woodard, Al Reid, Chris Britton, George Dungan, Shannon Zeigler, and many volunteers. Thank you all!

Our first field trip of 2025 was on March 29th and was also a big success. Jim Burgess led 21 VGCA members and family on a guided tour across the Manassas Battlefields. It was a delightful and educational day and enjoyed by all who took part.

Finally, I want to close by reminding everyone that our Membership Meeting in May will be held on Saturday, May 17th starting at 2 p.m. I hope to see you there!

Rob Becker, VGCA President

March Presentation: Competition Firearms of the North-South Skirmish Association

We were extremely fortunate to have longtime VGCA Member (and former President!) Jim Burgess (*at right*) give the presentation at the March Membership Meeting on the North-South Skirmish Association Competition Firearms. Jim opened by emphasizing that the N-SSA is not a reenactor organization – though most do don period-representative garb – but rather a team competition sport using the types of firearms used during the American Civil War. Teams consist of a minimum of five members who represent a specific unit during the Civil War. They are grouped into one of four categories based on skill and compete against other



units with similar experience. The N-SSA was founded in 1950 and held its first match that year. The N-SSA rapidly grew in popularity and was incorporated in 1956. Those early matches were shot almost entirely with original, antique firearms - reproductions did not appear in large numbers until the 1960s, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the War Between the States.



There are several categories in which teams may compete. They include:

- Rifle
- Rifle Muskets
- Rifled Muskets
- Carbines
- Breech Loading Rifles
- Single Shot Cartridge Rifles
- Revolver
- Single Shot Pistol

There are also artillery categories for mortar and cannon, but they were beyond the scope of this presentation!

Each competition category has its own defined firearm parameters and a list of approved reproductions and barrels. All

firing is done with blackpowder - no Pyrodex® or other modern substitutes here!

Jim presented the following examples of various firearms used in different categories:

Rifles (33 inch barrel)

Model 1863 (reproduction by Navy Arms) .58 caliber Model 1841 Mississippi Rifle .54 ca. Model 1858 Enfield (Parker Hale reproduction) .577 cal. Whitney Militia (reproduction by James River Armory) .58 cal. Whitney Plymouth (original) .69 cal.

Rifle Musket (40 inch barrel)

Model 1861 Colt Special "Artillery" Rifle .58 cal. Model 1861 (reproduction by Miroku sold by Dixie Gun Works) .58 cal. Pattern 1853 (original) .577 cal.

Rifled Musket (originally smooth bores which had the barrels rifled/rear sight added) Model 1842 (original Harpers Ferry) .69 cal. Model 1851 Cadet (original by Springfield) .58 cal.

Breech Loading Rifles

Model 1860 Henry (Uberti reproduction) .44/40 cal. Model 1860 Spencer (original) .56/56 caliber

Jim gave further examples of firearms used in other categories, such as Carbines (which includes muzzleloaded musketoons and externally primed breech loaders), Single Shot Cartridge Rifles (M1859 Sharps by Shiloh), Smooth Bore (which must shoot round balls), Revolver (can shoot either round ball or conical bullets), and the relatively new category of Single Shot Pistol.

Jim noted that buying lead bullets via mail order can rack up some expensive shipping charges, so many shooters end up casting their own bullets. It is best to use pure lead and cast bullets that are about .002 inches below bore diameter. He also dispelled the myth that cleaning black powder guns is difficult,



mentioning that cleaning an AR-15 is much tougher. He did emphasize that your black powder guns should be cleaned on the same day as shooting.

Jim concluded by going through the nine count manual of arms for loading and firing a shoulder arm (*last step being demonstrated at left*), without actually loading, of course!

This presentation generated a lot of questions from the audience as this is a type of shooting with which most of us are not very familiar. Please thank Jim the next time you see for sharing his knowledge with us!

THE WINCHESTER MODEL 1897 TRENCH GUN

by Mike Revesz / Edited by Marc Gorelick

Reprinted from the February 2025 issue of the Bugle with permission of the Pennsylvania Antique Gun Collectors Association



The Winchester Model 1897 was John Browning's second pump-action shotgun and followed his Model 1893 which had been designed for black powder. The Model 1897 was designed to use the new smokeless powder shells now becoming available. The Model 1897 held five 12-gauge shells in its tubular magazine plus one in the chamber. The basic Model 1897, when launched, had a price of \$25. Engraved versions with better wood and other features were priced at up to \$100. Standard barrel lengths were 28 and 30 inches, but barrel lengths from 20 inches up to 36 inches could be ordered. The Winchester Model 1897 was in production for over 60 years with more than 1 million produced, including 25,000 in WWI as designated Trench Guns.



Model 1897 Winchester pump shotgun and 1917 bayonet (photo NRA American Rifleman)

When America entered the Great War in 1917 (WW I), the Ordnance Department determined that a rugged combat shotgun could be highly useful in the trench environment. The Model 1897 was selected for this task, and modifications were made to adapt it for use on the Western Front. The Model 1897 shotgun was thus adopted as the "Trench Gun Model 1917" in 12 gauge. A key feature was that the trigger did not have a disconnect, thereby allowing the user to hold the trigger back and pump-fire the gun rapidly until he decided to stop (or ran out of ammunition).

The design attributes that allowed the Winchester Model 1897 to be adopted as the Trench Gun 1917, included a heat shield over the barrel to prevent burning of the hand in rapid fire situations, the addition of

a bayonet lug to hold the model M-1917 bayonet and not having a trigger disconnect allowing the rapid pump-firing or slam-firing of the gun.



Winchester 1897 Trench Gun (Model 1917) (top) compared to Winchester 1897 commercial version shotgun (bottom)

The standard ammunition for the Model 1917 Trench Guns were commercial paper shells loaded with 00 buckshot (today 8 pellets at .33 in dia. each). In practice however, the damp and often soaking-wet conditions of the front would cause the paper shells to deteriorate and compress under the tension of the magazine-tube springs, making them unloadable and jamming the gun. This problem was quickly solved with the issue of solid-brass shells that were impervious to the humidity and moisture conditions of the trenches. The Trench Gun, Model 1917 was also equipped with sling attachments and was issued with either an M-1907 leather sling or a canvas Kerr sling.



Shotgun practice with Model 1917 shotguns (Winchester Model 1897) Photo US Army

So effective were the Model 1917 Trench Guns, the German government lodged an official complaint about the use of the "barbaric" weapon and threatened to summarily execute any soldier captured with

one in their possession. Our government replied in the strongest language that we would not tolerate any such "executions", and that retribution would be swift and severe. John "Black Jack" Pershing's answer to the Germans was that any German caught with a flame thrower or saw-blade bayonet would be lined up and shot. The matter was quickly dismissed and no executions on either side were recorded.



Winchester Model 1897 (Model 1917) Trench Gun s/n 669778 with M1917 bayonet from World War 1. Photo courtesy of Morphy Auctions.

The effective use of the Model 1917 Trench Guns by the U.S. Marine Corps during the famed Belleau Wood campaign in June of 1918 is what is believed to have earned the Corps the moniker *"Teufelhunden,"* or Devil Dogs.



Winchester Model 1897 Trench Gun s/n E936776 with M1917 bayonet from World War 2. Photo courtesy of Morphy Auctions.

By the close of the war in 1918, some 25,000 Winchester Model 1897s had been procured by the Ordnance Department, 20,000 in standard "trench gun" configuration and an additional 5,000 in sporting

(civilian) configuration that were then converted by the addition of the handguard, sling and bayonet attachment to the Model 1917 Trench Gun.

The trench gun also saw service during the Second World War, again with some slight modifications. The World War II versions were equipped with a new-style handguard that only had four rows of perforations versus the World War I version that had six. This change was made in mid-1942 so early World War II Model 1897's may have the old six row of perforations. There were also 25,000 units of the World War II-version trench gun manufactured, making a total of 50,000 World War I and II 1897 trench guns that entered into service.



U.S. Marines in World War 2 with Winchester Model 1897 Shotguns. Photos US Marine Corps



US Marines in World War 2 resting during the battle for Saipan. Note the Winchester Model 1897 in the foreground. Photo – US Marine Corps.

Today, genuine Winchester Model 1897 Trench Guns are highly sought-after by collectors. The price for an original Model 1917 Trench Gun is often from \$3000 to over \$5000, with conversion kits and conversion services for commercial 1897 models costing around \$1000. China's Norinco 97, which was imported into the United States, is a clone of the Winchester Model 1897 in both Trench and Riot configurations, although the fit and finish are not as good as the original. Caveat Emptor.

March Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by VGCA President Rob Becker at 7:00 p.m. VGCA Treasurer Shannon Zeigler led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. Guests and new members were introduced. There were 35 members and guests in attendance, with 7 more participating via webinar.

Rob Becker's announcement was a reminder that our guided tour of the Manassas Battlefields would be held on Saturday, March 29th. Attendees are to meet at the Visitors Center at 9:30 a.m.



Andrew Woodard gave an update on our Spring Gun Show scheduled for April 5th and 6th. All tables are sold out and it should be a good show. We still need security volunteers on both Saturday and Sunday, and a sign-up sheet was passed around the room. To increase attendance, Rob asked everyone to "B-A-B" – Bring A Buddy!

Rob reminded everyone that elections for the three VGCA Directors will be held in May. Together with the four VGCA Officers, the three elected Directors form the VGCA Executive Committee. Per our bylaws, the Directors "shall assist in and supplement the work of the Executive Committee." Each Director shall also be responsible for one of the following areas:

- Regular monitoring, maintenance, and posting to our social media accounts
- Scheduling presenters for our monthly Membership Meetings
- Bringing and setting up the audio-visual equipment for our monthly Membership Meetings (to include establishing the webinar link)

UPDATE! As of May 9th, we have the following Director candidates running for election:

- Troy Blackwood
- Chris Britton
- Louie DiGaetano

Rob also announced that we were initiating a 50/50 Raffle that would continue through our Spring Gun Show. Tickets will be on sale tonight and at the Membership Table at the show.

Rick Nahas confirmed that the VGCA was invited to tour the Smith & Wesson factory in Marysville, Tennessee this fall. We will confirm the date in the next month or so.

Members were reminded that there would not be a Membership Meeting in April and that our May Membership Meeting would be on Saturday, May 17th.

Onext Membership Meeting: Saturday, May 17th Presentation: "Visual History of the Beretta Models 1934 and 1935" by Troy Blackwood Location: NRA HQ Basement Auditorium

Our March VGCA Membership Meeting will be in the basement auditorium of the NRA Headquarters. The room will open at 2 p.m. when we will have a social hour with "Potluck" of snacks and soft drinks (please bring your favorite snack). The meeting starts at 3 p.m. We hope you can make it!

Congrats to Our New Directors!

Congratulations are in order for Troy Blackwood, Chris Britton, and Louie DiGaetano, our new VGCA Directors! Their two-year terms as VGCA Directors will start on June 1st. A short biography of each Director will be published in the June Newsletter.

The duties to be assigned to the new Directors will be:

Coordinating Presentations for the Membership Meetings - Chris Britton

Organizing and executing our Social Media Accounts – Troy Blackwood

Organizing and executing our Audio-Visual at Membership Meetings - Louie DiGaetano

Elections for our three Director positions are held in May of odd numbered years. Per the VGCA By-Laws, Article VII, Paragraph E, "In the event that all positions open for election are either uncontested or have only one candidate at the conclusion of the nomination process, the positions will be deemed reelected by a vote of acclamation and formal ballots will not be prepared for distribution." That is the case that we have this year as we had three candidates for the three positions.

2025 Presentation & Event List

MEETING DATE	ΤΟΡΙΟ	PRESENTER
17 May 2025 (Saturd	lay, 2pm) Visual History of the Beretta 1934 and 1935	Troy Blackwood
26 Jun 2025	Swedish Military Pistols and Revolvers: M/1850 to m88	Marc Gorelick
24 Jul 2025 Special Show-n-Tell Meeting – Theme is "Guns of the Old West"		
If you have any presentation suggestions – or would like to make a presentation yourself in 2025 –		

please contact Matthew G. at or one of the other VGCA officers or directors.

VGCA Spring Gun Show Success! By Rob Becker

As we enter our second year of gun shows held at the Dale City Veterans of Foreign Wars facility, it looks like we are starting to hit our stride! Each show has improved on the previous one and this one took a major step forward. All tables were sold out early and there was even a waiting list. Attendance for the weekend was almost 650 people, which was a significant increase from the attendance at our November 2024 show. And our "profit" (the funds necessary to run our organization) from the show were the highest they have been in years!

Of course, none of this would be possible without the dedicated efforts of a great team, led by Show Manager Andrew Woodard! Though the VFW was responsible for setting up the tables, about 4-5 manhours of adjustments were necessary to get our layout ready for the vendors/table holders. Chris Britton made that happen with his set-up team of Al Reid, Wes Chappell, Bruce Buchner, and George Dungan.

On March 15th, just three weeks before our show, there was a negligent discharge of a firearm at the Ohio Gun Collectors Association (OGCA) show. At 11:06 a.m. on that Saturday morning, a rifle chambered in .308 Winchester fired and injured two OGCA members. It was a gun that was supposed to be empty. A gun that was supposed to be inspected to ensure it was empty before it was secured with a zip tie. In addition to the consequences associated with people being injured, the Roberts Centre where the show was held quickly canceled future OGCA gun shows at their venue, ending a 23-year relationship with the OGCA. This incident immediately impacted on the security measures for our show. Al Reid, our Security Manager, implemented a 100% check of all firearms coming into our show, even ones that were already zip-tied. Some members/vendors questioned this, but the ramifications of missing even one errant round of ammunition are too severe to contemplate.

I once asked Rick Nahas, our previous Show Manager, what he was most proud of after 21 years of organizing our gun shows. He said simply "That we never had a negligent discharge." That, my friends, only comes with diligence.

I want to thank Al Reid and his team of security volunteers for their diligence in keeping us safe. The next time you see them, I ask that you please thank these individuals as well. Our security volunteers were:

Bob Candido Tom Ciarula Doug Gravatt Dave Herbek Bill Ludwig Rich McCormack

J. Craig Peters Chuck Schafer Keith Simmons Rich Valenzi Clayton Vieg

I would also like to thank Dan Helm for manning the entry door on both days (and also for doing a survey of how our attendees heard about our show) and Jack Looney for providing overnight security.

One of the many areas that distinguish our gun shows from others in the region are our educational displays. Indeed, these displays embody a fundamental element of the VGCA's primary objective, which is "to encourage and both advance and enhance the collection of firearms of historical, cultural, and artistic merit. Achievements that increase gun-collecting knowledge and public appreciation of our national firearms heritage shall be recognized." VGCA members put together four excellent firearm displays that were judged, scored, and rewarded. Jim Burgess led a panel of judges consisting of fellow VGCA members Bryan Pelton and Bruce Buchner in scoring these displays against 10 specific criteria categories. The overall results were: 1st Place: "Carbines of WW II" by Rob Becker 2nd Place: "Carcano Rifles" by Louie DiGaetano & Troy Blackwood 3rd Place: "Colt SP1 Sporter Rifles" by Shannon Zeigler Judges' Choice: "Muzzle-loaders from 1775-1885" by Mike Jambrosic



Rob Becker's display of "Carbines of WWII" (*above*) consisted of nine different model carbines from the seven major combatants of the Second World War. It included a description of exactly what defines a "carbine", period photographs of carbines in use during the war, a comparison of each carbine with its nation's service rifle(s), and the background of each example in the display.

Included in the display (counter-clockwise starting at the top center) were:

M-1 Carbine (United States) Enfield No. 5 Mk I "Jungle Carbine" (United Kingdom) Type 38 Carbine (Imperial Japan) Type 44 Carbine (Imperial Japan) Modello 38 Carcano Carbine (Italy) Berthier Modele 16 Carbine (France) Model 44 Mosin-Nagant Carbine (USSR) Model 38 Mosin-Nagant Carbine (USSR) Gewehr 33/40 "Mountain Carbine" (Germany)

In addition to his display taking First Place and earning the associated \$300 prize, Rob's G33/40 Mountain Carbine took the honors in the "Best Military Firearm" category.

VGCA Vice President George Dungan (*far right*) is shown handing Rob Becker his First-Place prize.





Our resident experts on all things Italian, Louie DiGaetano and Troy Blackwood, put together an excellent display showing the evolution of the M1891 Carcano rifle from its adoption in 1891 through its final model in 1941 (*above*). This display showed every model adopted in all three of the major patterns: long infantry rifle, cavalry carbine, and special trooper's rifle. Standout examples include M38 TS in 8x57 Mauser made using

leftover German production parts, an M38 rifle captured by the Greeks, and a Japanese Type I Carcano/Arisaka hybrid.

Troy Blackwood (*near right*) and Louie DiGaetano (*middle right*) seem pleased to receive their welldeserved 2nd Place prize of \$200 from VGCA VP George Dungan (*far right*).





Shannon Zeigler's "Survey of the Colt AR-15 SP1 Sporter Rifles from 1964-1984" display (*above*) featured examples of Colt ARs from 1964 to the 1983-4 Electroless Nickel model. In addition to the seven displayed SP1s that covered all the major production changes,

there was an equally impressive collection of early Colt optics, slings and Colt 20-round magazines. The Electroless Nickel rifle is a scarce highly coveted collector's item (this one was Gary Latta's collection). His 1966 production gun has an affidavit from a Wisconsin sheriff's department and a Colt factory letter confirming the affidavit. Shannon's display earned him (*far left*) the third-place prize of \$100 from VP George Dungan.



Mike Jambrosic put together an impressive display titled "Muzzle-loaders from 1775-1885" (*at left*). All his examples were beautiful, but his set of 18th century flint dueling pistols were magnificent and earned the "Best Antique Firearm" award.

The last display was of "Competition Guns of the North-South Skirmish Association" (*below*) by Jim Burgess (*below right*). This

display has been presented before so it was not judged, though it was no less educational and sparked interest in the N-SSA.

In addition to organizing our display judging, Jim Burgess also manned our Evaluation Table. Show attendees brought him 20 firearms. He was assisted by member Bryan Pelton, whose knowledge of foreign military arms is impressive. Some of the highlights were:

- Finely engraved German 16-Ga. doublebarrel shotgun.
- Finely engraved Austrian drilling (scoped)
- 1920 dated Erfurt P08 Luger
- 1930s German .22 military training rifle
- Marble's "Game Getter" .22/.410 rifle/shotgun
- Beretta M1934 semi-auto pistol
- Remington M1903A3 rifle
- Remington M1917 rifle
- Flintlock long rifle and Percussion half-stock rifle (both were excellent handmade reproductions)

Like previous shows, the VGCA hosted a 50-50 Raffle over the weekend. Tickets were sold at \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. When it ended on Sunday afternoon, this fund raiser netted the lucky winner and the VGCA \$180 each!

Lastly, one very pleasant by-product of our show was the ten new members signed up thanks to Secretary Bruce Buchner and his team. A very nice job of recruiting, gentlemen!

As a reminder, our Fall Gun Show is scheduled for November 1^{st} and 2^{nd} . I hope to see you there – and remember to "Bring a Buddy!"



First Field Trip of the Year

Look for a write up on our first field trip of 2025 - to the Manassas Battlefield on Saturday, March 29^{th} – in the June edition of the VGCA Newsletter. There are lots of pictures and they were just too many to include in this issue!



Our Second Field Trip of 2025



Our second Field Trip of 2025 will be to the Smith & Wesson Factory in Marysville, Tennessee. While the date has not been solidified yet, we are looking at Fridays in September. We will let you know and start signing people up as soon as the exact date is confirmed.

• We need your help!

Do you love history and firearms, are reasonably organized, have a decent command of the English language, possess fair computer skills, and can dedicate a few hours each month to the VGCA? Then you may be just the person to take over as our newsletter editor! Rob Becker will continue as our editor through the December 2025 issue but is looking for some relief. If you think this is something you would be willing to take on – in whole or in part - please contact any of the officers or directors.

Hampton Roads Military Society

The Hampton Roads Militaria Society (HRMS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to assist collectors and historians in the collection & preservation of militaria of all sorts and periods, preserve and honor our military past, and honor the veterans of all our conflicts. They generally meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, but this can vary. The HRMS is a sister organization to the VGCA and VGCA members are welcome to participate as guests in their meetings and tours. Upcoming meetings (at Rescue Squad No. 8 at 1243 Bayne Drive in VA Beach) are:

13 May 2025 "Navy China and Silver" by Eric Hinckley

10 Jun 2025 "The Lafayette Escadrille (U.S. Army Air Corps in WWI)" by Mark Hesse

08 Jul 2025 "The Army Inspector General" by Nelson Voke (served as an IG during part of his career)

12 Aug 2025 Topic TBD by Chris Galosi

VGCA GUNS OF DISTINCTION: FRANCISCO PINTAN MIQUELET PISTOLS

By Marc Gorelick

Signed and dated colonial Spanish firearms are extremely rare. This matched pair of ornately silver decorated pistols are unusual in being both signed by the gunsmith, Francisco Pintan, and dated - 1757. They are in the Peninsular Spanish style, which had become popular in Spanish court circles by the 1740s in reaction to the strong influence of English and French firearms among Spanish nobility.

Based on the type of wood used for their stocks, these Pintan pistols appear to have been produced in the New World, probably Mexico, by a Spanish-trained gunsmith. However, the basic shape of the stocks, and decoration, is reminiscent of pistols from Ripoll, a major exporter of firearms to Spanish colonies in the New World. Ripoll was a center of weapons making since the Middle Ages and enjoyed a reputation throughout Europe for the production of firearms. It had a thriving gun making industry from the 1600's until 1839, when the town was largely destroyed during the Carlist Wars. Guns made in Ripoll are prized by arms collectors and deserve additional study.



Photo – Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

These pistols are made of steel, wood and silver with the ornate open scroll work and other decoration being of silver. The stock is decorated with large silver plaques pierced and engraved with floral motifs. The comb and the heel of the butt are reinforced with solid silver mounts. The trigger guard is of heavy cast silver. The side plate is mounted with a long belt hook of steel.

The lock is of the type called "miquelet" in which all parts except for the sear are mounted on the outside of the lock plate, as opposed to the "French" style flintlock where the mainspring is on the inside of the lock plate. These are the Patilla or Spanish style of miquelet lock. Introduced into the Iberian Peninsula, this mechanism was subsequently adopted by many countries around the Mediterranean, in the Middle East, North Africa, Turkey, in the Caucasus, in Spain's colonies in the New World, and as far east as Persia and Moghul India. In Spain it was preferred over the French-type flintlock and continued in use up to the middle of the nineteenth century. Besides having the mainspring on the outside of the lockplate, other features of the Spanish miquelet are the large top jaw screw ring, horizontal sears that act through the lockplate, and grooves or striations on the face of the frizzen, which gave a better spark than a smooth face.

Although they are obviously a matched pair, they are slightly different in their dimensions. They both have 6-inch-long barrels but one pistol is 10 7/8 inches long while the other one is 10 5/8 inches long. They can be viewed in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in Gallery 375.

REMEMBER – our May Membership Meeting will be on <u>Saturday</u>, May 17th!



In effort to boost attendance at our membership meetings, we made it a goal to have at least one meeting on a Saturday this year. This should benefit our members who are still in the ranks of the employed and find it difficult to participate during the work week as well as give attendees the opportunity to tour the National Firearms Museum or shoot at the NRA Range beforehand. Start time will be 2pm for social hour, with the meeting starting at 3pm.

Our Instagram account @vaguncollectors has 663 followers as of 13 May 2025! Follow us for a regular dose of interesting gun-related content!

> Check out the new VGCA youtube.com channel @vgca-virginiaguncollectorsasso

Troy Blackwood started this effort on the 11th of March and by the 17th we had 56 subscribers. We have 4 videos and 62 subscribers as of 13 May 2025.

S Membership Chairman's Report – Apr-May 2025

Since the last newsletter we have had the following applicants to our group:

- Richard Chandler of Chesterfield sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- Leeyung Chang of Springfield sponsored by Keith Simmons
- Scott Johnson of Woodbridge sponsored by Richard McComack
- Brandon Hunt of Annandale sponsored by Bryan Pelton
- Kyle Kinnie of Linden sponsored by James Anderson
- Thomas Mize of Fairfax sponsored by King von Schilling
- Gary Boward of Woodbridge sponsored by Keith Simmons
- Juane Canaves of Manassas sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- Harvey Soefer of Fredericksburg sponsored by Bryan Pelton
- John Nagel of Woodbridge sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- Stephen Jones of Clifton sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- Joseph Namgoong of Haymarket sponsored by Michael Lee
- Caleb Routh of Manassas sponsored by Carlos Davila
- Daniel Bassett of Walkersville sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- William Morris of Waterford sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- Alexander Rogge of Lorton sponsored by Rob Becker
- Sean Malone of McLean sponsored by Dave Mackenzie
- Gary Hunt of Annandale sponsored by Brandon Hunt

If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our organization, please invite them to a meeting or to our upcoming VGCA Gun Show. If you sponsor a candidate, either at one of our membership tables or elsewhere, please make sure that you fill in and sign the <u>Sponsor page</u>.

Notice to New Member Sponsors: VGCA has discontinued hard copy versions of the VGCA Newsletters. Please ensure your prospective applicants provide a legible email address and telephone contact number if possible. Also, please make sure your name is clearly written on the sponsorship form. Without a valid email address, new members will not receive the newsletter or VGCA announcements.

Membership Numbers: There are currently 451 Life members and 56 Annual Members for a total of 507 members in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc.

Recruiting: Thank you to everyone who has worked our membership tables in the past and those of you who have signed up new members. Your efforts bring more knowledge to our organization through the new members who have an interest in gun collecting. Membership in the VGCA is a great way for people with an interest in the history, development, and use of firearms to broaden their knowledge and share what they know with others. It also offers the opportunity to network with individuals who have similar interests. To facilitate new memberships, we have a Membership Table at every Chantilly gun show, as well as at our own VGCA gun shows.

Membership Table at upcoming gun shows: The next gun show at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly is June 13th-15th and as always, we will have a VGCA Membership Table there. If you are willing to engage with the general public to spread the word about our organization and sign up potential new members, please contact **George Dungan** at **george@eccominv.com**.

Membership Renewal: Dues for 2025 are now past due. If you wish to continue receiving the Newsletter, getting into the VGCA gun shows for free, and other benefits that come with membership please update your dues payment. You can renew annually for \$30 or \$150 for life. Please use the form below to renew and either mail it in or bring it to a meeting and give it to either George Dungan or Bruce Buchner. If you are unsure of your membership status email george@eccominv.com and I will let you know.

George Dungan, Vice President and Membership Chair

VGCA WEBSITE UPDATE

The vastly improved VGCA website is a valuable source of information for you, its members. It provides the latest updates on upcoming events, downloadable membership applications, gun show table applications and other forms, and provides you with a wide selection of gun collecting resources. For instance, there are numerous articles and guides, and practically all the VGCA Newsletters going back twenty years have been posted on it. Your VGCA website has recently added two new informative articles for you. Go to the articles page to read these well-researched papers:

AN ESSAY ON AFGHAN JEZAILS AND SINDH AFGHANS by Marc Gorelick THE TAP ACTION POCKET PISTOL; A BRIEF OVERVIEW by Marc Gorelick

If you have an article or research paper that you would like to see published on the website, please contact Marc Gorelick at <u>gorelickmarc13rarius@hotmail.com</u>. The VGCA website's address is: <u>www.vgca.net</u>.

"Thank You!" to our Departing Directors

Ian Wulf and Matthew Gminski are both multi-term Directors who decided not to run for reelection this year. I want to thank them for everything they have done over the years to improve our organization - the VGCA is better today because of their efforts! Job well done!



CMP UPDATE

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison

The VGCA is a CMP Affiliated club. The VGCA club number is 026160.

M1911 SALES

The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has announced that with the completion of Round 4, it has begun the processing of new orders for its surplus U.S. Army 1911 Pistol Program. Through a partnership with the U.S. Army, the CMP offers genuine, military-issued and field-tested M1911A1 pistols. These are the perfect addition for collectors to enhance their firearm collection. The CMP has



already received over 4,000 new orders and will continue accepting more, utilizing an updated ordering process.

Even if you have just received a 1911 from Round 4, all those who fill out an application will be eligible to purchase during this upcoming round. The CMP also announced that the Department of the Army has **increased the lifetime limit from two to four pistols per person**. Orders will be processed in the order they are received.

The CMP also introduced a new eStore payment method for 1911 pistols to better serve its customers. The CMP made this change in order to address the difficulty it has had reaching customers during the day while they are at work and the challenge customers experience trying to reconnect with the CMP sales team once it has moved on to assist other customers. This new method allows customers to complete their purchases at their own convenience, anytime, without the constraints of business hours. Additionally, it significantly speeds up the overall purchasing process, ensuring a smoother and more efficient experience for everyone.

Along with online ordering, individuals may now purchase CMP's 1911 Pistols at one of three in-person sales events this year at CMP Store locations. These one-day events will be held during the upcoming Talladega D-Day event at Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama and during the National Matches at Camp Perry in Ohio.

Dates include:

- Friday, June 6 Anniston, Alabama (CMP South Store)
- Tuesday, July 15 Camp Perry, Ohio (CMP North Store)
- Saturday, August 2 Camp Perry, Ohio (CMP North Store)

Entry to each 1911 sales day will be available to individuals that have purchased tickets (open to those registered for either Talladega D-Day or the National Matches, respectively), with a maximum of 20 customers per 50-minute time slot. The sale will feature approximately 400 pistols – organized and displayed by grade (Service, Field, and Rack) as well as by specialty categories that include select items

normally reserved for auction. Ticket sales for the CMP's upcoming in-person events are scheduled to start the week of May 12th. Check the CMP website for updates and additional information.

Keep an eye out for a select few 1911s that will be featured on the CMP Auction site in the coming weeks. A few "specialty categories" will be highlighted for the CMP's Auction page. Visit the CMP website at <u>https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/guns-on-auction/</u> for more details and items being auctioned.

For more information about the CMP's 1911 Program, including how to purchase, go to the CMP website at <u>https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/1911-information/</u>. Specific questions may also be sent via email to <u>cmp1911@thecmp.org</u>.

CMP RIFLE SALES

Effective January 7, 2025, customers are allowed to purchase up to twelve (12) surplus rifles (any type) per year. This limit excludes .22 rifles.

MODEL OF 1917 RIFLES



The M1917, officially known as "United States Rifle, cal .30, Model of 1917" was an American modification and production of the British P14 rifle developed and manufactured during the period 1917-1918. The CMP currently has M1917 rifles in stock that are ready to ship. These rifles are CMP Field Grade with a price of \$1,000 plus \$35 shipping and handling. According to the CMP, it does not expect to receive large quantities of these models in the future. All sales are AS-IS with NO RETURNS OR EXCHANGES. For more information, including a link to specific ordering information and packets go to the CMP website at:

<u>https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/m1917-enfield-rifle-information/</u>. Customers must meet the CMP eligibility requirements.

EXPERT GRADE IHC .30-06 M1 GARAND RIFLES



The CMP has International Harvester Expert Grade M1 Garand Rifles for sale. These rifles have an IHC Receiver, a new, commercial-production stock set and barrel. Bore condition will be "as new", and barrels will gauge "as new." The cost is \$\$1,250 plus \$35 shipping and handling. Go to https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/m1-garand/#expert-grade-m1-garand for additional information.

REMINGTON ,22 CALIBER SURPLUS TARGET RIFLES



These Remington .22 caliber single-shot target rifles were widely utilized by military shooting teams and ROTC units, as well as civilian marksmanship programs. Each rifle features either a heavy or tapered barrel—barrel type is assigned at random and does not affect

pricing or selection. These rifles have been inspected, function fired and sold with no guarantee of accuracy. Rifles are normally in good to very good condition but may show minor pitting and wear from usage and storage. The price for rifles with sights is \$800 plus \$35 shipping and handling. The price for rifles without sights is \$750 plus \$35 shipping and handling. The CMP does not expect to receive large quantities of these rifles in the future. All sales are AS-IS. Go to the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/rifle-sales/22-surplus-rifles/ for additional information.

CMP COMMERCIAL GUN SALES AT TALLADEGA MARKSMANSHIP PARK

SIG SAUER

The CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park is now an authorized SIG dealer! The CMP currently has a wide selection of SIG firearms in stock, ready for CMP Affiliate club members to choose from. They can be found at the Commercial Desk, across from the Pro Shop. The guns can be drop-shipped to your local FFL dealer for added convenience. Go to the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/ranges/talladega-marksmanship-park/talladega-pro-shop/#sig-sauer for additional information.

TISAS M1911A1

The CMP Tisas M1911A1 Pistol is available at the Talladega Marksmanship Park commercial desk for purchase. The Tisas Pistol is a museum-quality replica of the M1911A1, proudly branded by CMP. The CMP inventory is fully stocked,

MORE INFORMATION

The CMP also sells various types of ammo in the proshop including: Creedmoor, Federal, Hornady, CCI, Estate, Fiocchi, Aguila, Armscor, and ELEY, as well as surplus ammunition.

The commercial desk is open during regular Park Hours. Note: The CMP does not give any commercial inventory information online or over the phone. The inventory is available on an in-person, first come first served basis. The nearby CMP South Store and the Talladega Marksmanship Park also have surplus M1 Garands and shooting accessories. The Talladega Marksmanship Park is located at 4387 TURNER MILL ROAD, TALLADEGA, AL 35160

For additional information about the park go to <u>https://thecmp.org/ranges/talladega-marksmanship-park/</u> For more information about the CMP Talladega Pro Shop and commercial gun sales go to <u>https://thecmp.org/ranges/talladega-marksmanship-park/talladega-pro-shop/#sig-sauer</u>.

In Review O

The "In Review" section of the newsletter includes VGCA member reviews of gun shows, books, and museums. If you would like to submit a review, please send it to the newsletter editor at <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>

A SHOW REVIEW: The O.W.L. VFD / Belvoir Militaria Show

By Rob Becker

A group of militaria collectors have hosted a local show for close to 20 years. For a long time, this show took place on Fort Belvoir, but for the last few years it has been located in the Occoquan-



Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department at 1306 F Street, Woodbridge, VA (above).

First, let me state that this is militaria show, not a gun show. In fact, guns are specifically excluded. It is small (about 70-80 tables) and close to half of that is taken up by uniforms and uniform patches/badges (*below and at right*). You can see everything in about 45 minutes – but prices are reasonable, and I have <u>always</u> walked with some treasures!

This show occurs four times a year on Sunday mornings only, with the next two scheduled for August 3^{rd} and November 2^{nd} . The show hours are 7 a.m. to noon, but I recommend getting there before 10 a.m. as some venders shut down early. The best part of this show, besides being very local and a short drive for most of us, is that admission is FREE! So if you collect militaria and have some time on the morning





of one of these shows, I highly recommend you check them out – you too just might find some treasures!

Show-n-Tell

NOTE: For anyone bringing in items for Show-n-Tell - please hold the item up so the members in attendance can see it. This will also help your photographer get a sharp picture and allow people who could not attend the meeting to see it clearly in the newsletter. We also ask that you provide a Fact Sheet (copies of the one below will be provided at the meeting) to assist the newsletter editor in accurately describing your item. Thank you!

VGCA Show-n-Tell Fact Sheet

Model:	Action Type:
Caliber:	
Years of Production:	Total Produced:
Year this example was manufactured (if known):	
Significance:	
Question(s) for members:	
Name (optional):	
Where acquired (optional):	_ When acquired (optional):

A message from your VGCA Photographer--

I ask those who bring items in for Show-and-Tell to PLEASE hold the item UP and in view of the audience so that they can be seen clearly, and so that I might be able to get a decent picture for the newsletter. PLEASE stand behind the tables and simply hold the item at chest or waist level, face forward, stand still, and give me a five or six seconds to grab a decent photograph of the Show-and-Tell item.

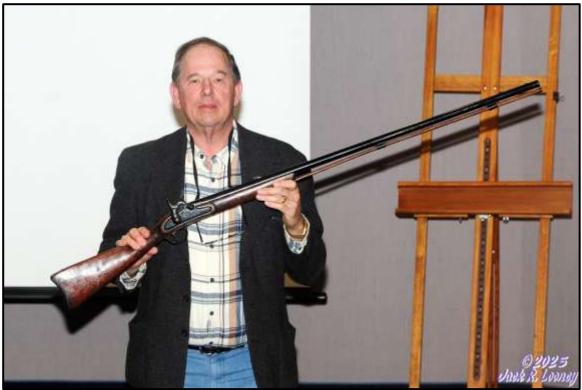
If you do not want your Show-and-Tell item to be shared with other VGCA members, just tell me in advance and I will not attempt to take a photo of it.

I do photography for the VGCA and its' members, not for myself, and not for any personal gain. Your assistance in documenting your items will be a great help. I spend an average of five hours editing the pictures for the newsletter and not having a clear view of the subject has been a great and constant frustration for me.

Your help will assist in making a better newsletter for all VGCA members. Thank you!

Jack Looney

Manufacturor



Member 1 shared a Bridesburg manufactured US Model 1861 Alfred Jenks & Son rifled musket (*above*). It is a single shot muzzle loader with percussion cap ignition in .58 caliber. A total of 98,464 were produced between 1861 and 1865. This example was made in 1862 and was a Gettysburg battlefield pickup. It has been passed down through his family since then and at some point has been sporterized. It was Member 1's first gun, becoming his at the age of 13!

Member 2 brought in a Pietta replica Colt Model 1851 .44 cal single action revolver (*right*). It is an "Evidence Gun," acquired in 2022 from a police department in Upper Michigan. It does beg the question as to why this reproduction cap-and-ball revolver ended up in police custody!



Member 3 shared a Remington Rolling Block rifle (*right*) that had been sporterized and converted to a 20 gauge shotgun. It belonged to his grandfather (it has his grandfather's initials carved in the stock) and has been passed down through his family.





Member 4 displayed a near mint Swiss Schmidt-Rubin Model 1897 straight-pull Cadet Rifle (*left*). Chambered in 7.5x53.5mm (GP90), 7,987 were produced from 1898 to 1927. It has a rear sight marked for 100 to 1200 meters on the left for use with regular GP90 ammunition and marked on the right with 100-400 meters for use with special 10% reduced cadet loaded ammunition. It is a very rare Swiss rifle and was

purchased at the Baltimore Antique Arms Show this year.

Member 4 also shared a 3-D printed stripper clip for the Roth Steyr Model 1907 (*right*). Original stripper clips are probably more scarce the pistol itself and extremely expensive, making this modern replacement a great find!



Member 5 brought in two rare S&W Semi-auto Model 40 Light Rifle – both a Mark I (right) and a Mark II (below). In the beginning of WWII the British were desperate for firearms and S&W offered to make a semiauto light rifle in 9mm with a 20-round box magazine. The British accepted and advanced a million dollars to S&W with the requirement that the rifle had to complete a 5,000-round test. Unfortunately, S&W did not realize that American 9mm ammunition was significantly less powerful the European 9mm Parabellum rounds. When the Mark I was tested by the British with 9mm Parabellum, the extra pressure took its toll with the receiver end cap



was battered and broken after about 1,000 rounds. S&W responded with the Mark II version with a rotating over sleeve that reinforced the receiver and acted as bolt safety lock, a two-stage recoil spring and a fixed firing pin.

The British rejected both the MK I and MK II for several reasons:

- 1. Due to the ejection port going through the magazine housing chamber inspection was impossible
- 2. Very expensive to manufacture with most parts being milled forgings
- 3. If a cartridge jam occurred, the rifle would have to be disassembled to clear it
- 4. Magazine changes were difficult.



S&W, as a condition of sale and to alleviate liability, affixed a warning label to each gun "Extremely Hazardous Do Not Load or Fire" (*at right*).

The British asked for their money back and S&W averted bankruptcy by replacing the Model 40s with their Military & Police revolvers chambered in the British standard .38/200 caliber. Production of the Model 40 was about 1027 MK Is and 200 MKIIs with 890 MK Is and 120 MK IIs going to Britain. After the war the British destroyed all but 5 of theirs which ended as museum pieces. In 1973, S&W found a small, crated, unfired group of Model 40 rifles. GT Distributors in Georgia successfully petitioned the ATF to remove the Model 40 as Short Barreled Rifles from the NFA and having them designated Curio & Relics. 137 MK Is and 80 MK IIs were put on sale.



Member 6 brought in a beautiful Holland and Holland 20 gauge double barrel shotgun (right) with hammer safties and full scrollwork engraving. This example is serialed #8770 and was manufactured in 1885. It is choked modified and improved cylinder with nitro proofed $2\frac{1}{2}$ " chambers. It



has 95% remaining bluing, an oil-finished walnut stack checkered at wrist and forearm, and a Horn butt plate and all matching numbers. It weighs only 5 pounds, 14 ounces and has "great" triggers!



Member 7 shared a 1891 Mosin Nagant bolt action rifle (*left*). Chambered in 7.62x54 Rimmed (the oldest continuously serving caliber in the world, still in military use today), this example was made for the Imperial Russian Government by New England Westinghouse between 1915 and 1917. In very good condition, it still has the original Russian acceptance cartouche visible. At some point post-WWI it was acquired by Finland and modified for Finnish service. Unusually, it served with both the Civil Guard in Finland and Finnish Army. Member 7 acquired this all-matching speciman in March of 2025.



Member 8 brought in a Soviet Tokarev SVT40 self-loading rifle (*left*). The SVT40 saw widespread service during WWII. It was intended to be the Red Army's new service rifle but the German invasion disrupted production, and the Soviets were forced to rely on the Mosin Nagant bolt action rifles and carbines while making as many SVT40s as they could. It uses the standard Soviet 7.62x54 Rimmed ammunition and was developed from the earlier SVT38. It has a folding magazine release, lightening cuts, one piece hand guard and the cleaning rod

was moved under the barrel. It was equipped with a bayonet and used a 10-round detachable magazine. The receiver is open topped, which allows for reloading the magazine using 5 round stripper clips.

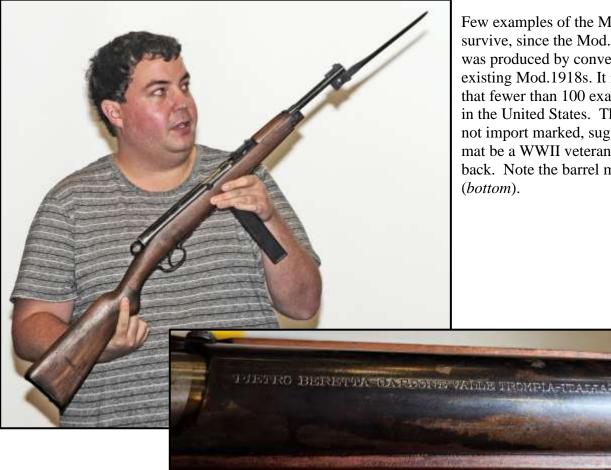
Wartime service showed the SVT40 was difficult to manufacture and inexperienced troops had difficulty in maintaining it. It was criticized in service for vertical shot dispersion, it's "flimsy construction," and maintenance difficulties. Altogether, the Soviets produced about 1.6 million of them. This example was made in 1940.



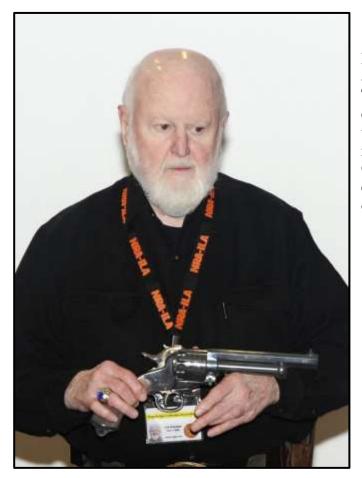
Member 9 brought in a KelTec Sub2000 carbine (*above*). It is a pistol-caliber carbine manufactured by <u>KelTec</u> CNC Industries of Cocoa, Florida. The rifle is a blowback operated, semi-automatic firearm with its operating spring located in the tubular stock. The weapon feeds from a grip-located magazine well, using magazines designed for popular models of various other manufacturers' handguns, and is an inexpensive carbine. The distinguishing characteristic of this rifle is that it folds in half (above left), for storage and transportation, and its slim profile compared to other rifles. This example is chambered in 9mm parabellum and mounts a Primary Arms Red Dot sight. It was purchased in March of this year.

Member 10 shared his Berretta Model 1918/30 Carbine (at right). In the 1930s the semiautomatic Mod.1918/30 model was developed from the Mod. 1918. It completely revamped the action of the gun, replacing the delayed-blowback Villar Perosa action with a new closed-bolt system. The Mod.1918/30 featured a loose firing pin that was cocked by a guided rod via a ring-shaped cocking piece protruding from the rear of the receiver. This earned the gun the nickname "Il Siringone" ("the Syringe"). The magazine feed was also revamped, now taking straight box magazines from the underside of the receiver. The folding bayonet was retained on most models (below).



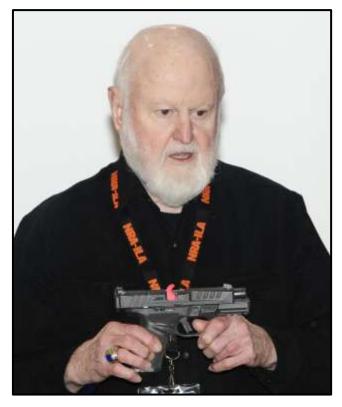


Few examples of the Model 1918 survive, since the Mod.1918/30 was produced by converting existing Mod.1918s. It is believed that fewer than 100 examples are in the United States. This one is not import marked, suggesting it mat be a WWII veteran bringback. Note the barrel markings



Member 11's second pistol was a Springfield Armory Echelon "C" Compact semi-auto pistol in 9mm Parabellum (*right*). It is a smaller version of the Springfield Armory Echelon, which itself is an improved striker-fired pistol produced since 2024. His pistol was acquired at the Doswell Gun Show in February of 2025.

Member 11 brought in two handguns – the first was a Pietta replica LeMat Navy Model revolver (*left*). The LeMat has nine .44 caliber chambers in the cylinder plus a central 20 gauge shotgun barrel that the cylinder rotates around. Original LeMats were reputed to be a favorite of Confedeerate Cavalry General Jeb Stuart during the Civil War. This example was purchased from Dixie Gun Works over 20 years ago.



Upcoming Events and Shows

PLEASE NOTE: VGCA members are strongly encouraged to <u>verify shows before driving to an</u> <u>event</u>. These dates were confirmed when this newsletter was written but are not guaranteed. Shows highlighted in <u>yellow</u> are shows with a collector focus.

<u>VIRGINIA – 2025</u>

- S May 17-18, 2025 Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Convention Center SGK
- Jun 13-15, 2025 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center Showmasters
- Jun 21-22, 2025 Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center SGK
- Jul 12-13, 2025 Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex Showmasters
- Jul 18-20, 2025 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center Showmasters
- Aug 23-24, 2025 Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex Showmasters

MARYLAND - 2025

- S May 10, 2025 Easton, MD Talbot Agriculture & Education Center Talbot Outdoors
- S May 10-11, 2025 Crownsville, MD Anne Arundel Fairgrounds Appalachian Promotions
- Jul 12-13, 2025 Timonium, MD Timonium Fairgrounds Appalachian Promotions
- S Aug 23-24, 2025 Frederick, MD Frederick Fairgrounds Appalachian Promotions

PENNSYLVANIA – 2025

- May 10-11, 2025 Allentown, PA Allentown Fairgrounds Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society
- S May 17, 2025 Kittanning, PA Pony Farm Trap & Gun Club Pony Farm Trap & Gun Club
- S May 17-18, 2025 Sellersville, PA Forrest Lodge VTW245 Jaeger Arms
- S May 18, 2025 Portland, PA William Pensyl Social Hall Portland Hook & Ladder Comp #1
- ◆ May 31-Jun 1, 2025 East Stroudsburg, PA VFW Post #2540 Jaeger Arms
- Jun 6-8, 2025 Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center Eagle Shows
- Jun 7-8, 2025 North East, PA Valley Gun Works Valley Gun Works
- Jun 21-22, 2025 Harrisburg, PA PA Farm Show Complex C&E Gun Shows
- Jun 21-22, 2025 Washington, PA Washington PA County Fairgrounds ARH Sport Shop
- Jun 27-28, 2025 Allenwood, PA Warrior Run Area Fire Dept Social Hall Williamsport Area Cartridge Show
- Jun 28-29, 2025 Allentown, PA Parkview Inn Eagle Shows
- Jun 28-29, 2025 York, PA York Fairgrounds Appalachian Promotions
- Jul 5-6, 2025 Reeders, PA Jackson Township Vol Fire Comp Jaeger Arms
- Jul 12-13, 2025 Allentown, PA Allentown Fairgrounds Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society
- ◆ Aug 2-3, 2025 Bloomsburg, PA Bloomsburg Fairgrounds C&E Gun Shows
- Aug 8-10, 2025 Oaks, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center Eagle Shows
- Aug 16, 2025 Greencastle, PA Greencastle Sportsman's Assoc Izaac Walton Franklin Co.
- S Aug 16-17, 2025 Allentown, PA Parkview Inn Eagle Shows
- Aug 16-17, 2025 Lewis Run, PA Lewis Run VFD Station 6 Lewis Run VFD
- Aug 16-17, 2025 Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center Showmasters
- Aug 23-24, 2025 Trevose, PA Radisson Philadelphia Northeast *Eagle Shows*
- S Aug 30-31, 2025 Sellersville, PA Forrest Lodge VTW245 Jaeger Arms
- Sep 20-21, 2025 Morgantown, PA Morgantown Expo Center Eagle Shows
- Sep 27-28, 2025 Allentown, PA Parkview Inn *Eagle Shows*

SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS - 2025

- May 10-11, 2025 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Annual Display Show Ohio Gun Collectors Association - CANCELED
- S May 14-18, 2025 Winchester, VA Fort Shenandoah 151st National Skirmish N-SSA
- Jun 21-22, 2025 Cleveland, OH I-X Center Annual Display Show Ohio Gun Collectors Association
- Jul 11-13, 2025 Cody, WY Annual Winchester Arms Collector Association show WACA
- Jul 19-20, 2025 Wilmington, OH The Roberts Centre Remington Society of America (RSA) and Ruger Owners & Collectors Association (ROCS) Show Ohio Gun Collectors Association - CANCELED
- Jul 19-20, 2025 Doswell, VA Meadow Event Park North South Trader Shows National Civil War and Antique Arms Show
- Aug 3, 2025 Woodbridge, VA Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton VFD Firehall O-W-L / Belvoir Militaria Show – Fort Belvoir ASMIC – Free admission – No Guns
- Aug 9-10, 2025 Springfield, OH Clark County Fairgrounds Ohio Gun Collectors Association
- Sep 20-21, 2025 Ladson, SC Exchange Park Fairgrounds South Carolina Arms Collector Association
- Sep 27-28, 2025 Cleveland, OH I-X Center Annual Display Show Ohio Gun Collectors Association
- Oct 18-19, 2025 Statesville, NC Statesville Civics Center North Carolina Gun Collectors Association
- Nov 2, 2025 Woodbridge, VA Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton VFD Firehall O-W-L / Belvoir Militaria Show – Fort Belvoir ASMIC – Free admission – No Guns
- Nov 8-9, 2025 Tulsa, OK Expo Square (Tulsa Fairgrounds) Wanenmacher World's Largest Gun Show – 4200+ tables!
- Nov 22-23, 2025 Ladson, SC Exchange Park Fairgrounds South Carolina Arms Collector Association

NOTE: OGCA Gun Shows are <u>not</u> open to the public – they are restricted to members and invited guests only. Several VGCA members are also members of OGCA and can sponsor you if you are interested in attending.

FOR SALE:

The "For Sale" section of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (VGCA) Newsletter is provided as a service exclusively to the members of the VGCA and is intended for listing firearms and firearm related items. The VGCA, its officers, and directors are not responsible for any listings made in any VGCA Newsletter. We are not responsible for the accuracy (condition, value, etc.) of any listings. <u>All buyers, traders, and sellers agree to comply with all local, state, federal, and international laws in regard to items sold via the VGCA Newsletter.</u> It is their duty and responsibility to ensure the quality and value of the transaction and that all such laws are followed at all times. Buy, sell, or trade at your own risk.

If you would like to list an item (or items) in the VGCA Newsletter, please send your description, price, and contact information to <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>. I must receive your material no later than the second Sunday of the month for it to be included in that month's newsletter. Items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

VGCA Logo Available at Lands' End

Here's how to order your apparel:

- 1. Go to the VGCA store on Lands' End business: https://business.landsend.com/store/vgca
 - a. It must be the URL shown above. Do not go to the regular Lands' End website. It will not show our logo options.
- 2. Above the photo on the home page click on "Men" or "Women"
- 3. On the drop-down menu select what you are interested in. For example, Men>Activewear >Tops gives you 19 different styles and fabrics of men's shirts. When you have selected an item click on it and select your color, size and quantity. Then on the lower



right-hand corner of the screen click on the blue "Apply Logos" button.

- 4. On the next screen click on the VGCA logo to choose it and it will open the "select a Location" menu showing where you can have the VGCA logo embroidered. Choose a location and then scroll down to the "Apply Logo" button in the lower right corner and click it. It will return you to your garment page.
- 5. If you are satisfied with your garment, color, size and logo location click on the "Add to Bag" button in the lower right corner.
- Then you can then go to checkout or continue shopping. When you checkout it will show an 6. additional \$8.95 for embroidery.

If you have any questions, you can reach Bruce Buchner at 703-339-8212 or Buchnerb@cox.net

FOR SALE:

• FINNISH MOSIN-NAGANT is authored by VGCA member Matt DiRisio and published by Wet Dog Publications. The list price is \$99.95. It is 584 pages long with over 1,500 color and black and white photographs.

For ordering information go to the Wet Dog Publications website at: https://www.fnbrowning.com/book-finnish-mosin-nagant.

FOR SALE:

After more than two and a half years of research, VGCA member Bill Vanderpool has published his book Guns of the FBI. This book is available at GunDigest.com or can be purchased directly from Bill by calling 703-626-2975. He is more than happy to sign a copy for you. Cost is \$50.00.

FOR SALE:

• VGCA member Charlie Pate has four books that he has authored for sale, at discounted prices for VGCA members. These include:

- "U.S. Handguns of World War II" - \$45.00

- "The Smith & Wesson American Model" - \$55.00

- "U.S. Military Arms Inspector Marks" - \$45.00

- "The Colt Model 1860 Army Revolver" - \$60.00

If interested, please contact Charlie at *usarmsresearch@gmail.com*

FOR SALE:

♥ VGCA member Larry Babcock has published a companion piece to his earlier book <u>M1</u> <u>Garand Photo Essay</u>. This second book, titled <u>M1 Garand Photo Essay Volume II</u> covers all new material, to include the M1C and M1D sniper rifles as well as a myriad of M1 accessories. Best of all, both books are offered at a discount to VGCA members. Volume I is normally priced at \$69 and volume II lists for \$49, VGCA members can buy them directly from Larry for \$60 and \$40 each respectively - or \$90 total if you buy both. Look for Larry Babcock set up near the VGCA recruiting table at the next Chantilly Gun Show or order from him directly at <u>larrybab@comcast.net</u> / or text to 703-856-2561.

WANT TO BUY:

 Browning lever action Gold Medallion, short action, blue or silver.
Also: Browning lever action with pistol grip and take down. Prefer .308 but any considered.
Call King at 703 576-7016, if there is no answer leave name and number with a brief description. Thank you, King von Schilling

WANT TO BUY:

Seeking a Bagnold Sun Compass, used during WWII by British desert troops. It was mounted on their vehicles. Must be complete and in working order. Contact Jack via email to *looney.house@verizon.net* or text to 703-999-9458.



The e-mail address for any Newsletter-related matters is <u>Newsletter@vgca.net</u> - or you can reach the editor directly at <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>. Feel free to e-mail items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via e-mail or the mailed hard copy, please contact Rob Becker or George Dungan.