



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG



Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G 8162

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## June 2009 VGCA e-Newsletter



**Presentation at the May 28, 2009 Meeting of the VGCA:** The presentation for the evening was set up courtesy of **Larry Hunt**, Board Member, Webmaster and Security Chief. Delivering the talk was **Mr. Paul Barron**, the Director of Library and Archives at the George C. Marshall Museum. He covered the *George C. Marshall Foundation, Preserving the Legacy for Relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Mr. Barron, a former Marine, started by recounting how after he left the service he decided to return to school and earned his Masters Degree in Library Science (MLB) from the University of Texas in one year, not an easy pull by any reckoning. He then launched into a very informative coverage of General George C. Marshall, Soldier, Statesman and dedicated public servant of impeccable integrity and vision. General Marshall, in addition to being a 5-star General and Secretary of State was also named Time Magazine's Man of the Year in 1943 during World War II, and again in 1947 for the Marshall plan that was responsible for the reconstruction of Europe after WWII. He was later awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. Mr. Barron relayed anecdotes about General Marshall such as when being photographed with the President, he always was accompanied by other officers and parties to dispel the appearance of

trying to be in the limelight. While looking back from the present day that is filled with politicians of dubious integrity and motives, lobbyists and publicity hounds, it was clearly evident that General George C. Marshall was a rare combination of honor, honesty, and dedication that is all but extinct in Washington today. Mr. Barron then provided an overview of the Foundation and the Museum. The Museum is home to over 30,000 books, all of General Marshall's papers, and is available as a research tool for visitors from many countries. In addition, it also serves as a training tool with an extensive training visualization capability which provides three dimensional visualizations of WWI and WWII battlefields using period maps and photography, augmented by modern imaging and technology. This facility is made available to US Army and USAF ROTC candidates for advanced training purposes. The presentation and the accompanying slides made for an extremely interesting and well received session. The VGCA is honored to have hosted Mr. Paul Barron at our meeting – well done and thanks. As an added bonus, Mr. Barron extended a special invitation to the VGCA membership to visit the museum (see announcement below).

★ **Proposed Road Trip!!!** Our speaker at the May meeting, *Paul Barron* of the George C. Marshall Museum, has invited the members of the VGCA to a behind the scenes tour of the museum. **Larry Hunt** and **Addison Hurst** are working out the logistics of a VGCA bus field trip to the museum which is located in Lexington, Virginia. This tour exclusively for members of the VGCA would definitely be a rare opportunity. Members would pay for this

trip, as it would not be funded by the Club treasury. They are exploring a possible date in July, but that may change so keep alert for details and further information at the monthly meetings and in the Newsletters.

★ **UPCOMING Meetings:** For the June 25, 2009 meeting, **Phil Schreier** of the NRA National Firearms Museum presents **Frank Minter**, executive Field Editor of the NRA's *American Hunter* magazine, who will discuss his two books, the *Ultimate Men's Survival Guide* and his book that deals with his hunting guide. As this month's meeting is one of the joint National Firearms Museum-VGCA Special Presentation Series, we **will** have pizza, food, and drinks. Members should bring in their favorite hunting arms – rifle, shotgun, pistol, spear or bow – or even the tall tales of the ones that got away for the discussion.

★ **As customary, there will be NO MEETING of the VGCA in July.**

★ **The August 27, 2009 meeting** will be another NFM-VGCA Special Presentation Series event, and will be special. **Ollie North** will be discussing his latest book, *American Heroes in the Fight against Radical Islam*. CSPAN will be taping this presentation for repeat play. This should be a great session, so make plans now.

**Invitation to all members:** If you wish to do a presentation at a meeting, please notify Addison or any of the board members. You can team with another member for a joint session. The purpose is to educate, share camaraderie and gain knowledge. We have all the 2009 meetings booked, so you do have time to prepare and get on the list for 2010.

**New Fall Show Date:** The Fall 2009 VGCA Gun Show will be at the Prince William County Fairgrounds on **November 7-8, 2009**. This is a **new**, later date. Flyers for the fall show will be at this meeting so plan to spread them around.

**\*\*\* FINAL NOTICE – Opt-In period is ALMOST OVER for the Mailed Newsletter \*\*\***

As mentioned in the last 3 issues, we have been running an **Opt-in Program** for members receiving the mailed hardcopy Newsletter. There was a pre-addressed form in the April and May mailed issues for members to verify their mailing address and confirm their need to receive a mailed copy. **If no reply is received by the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, you will be dropped from the newsletter mailings.** Opt-In requests **MUST** be received by regular mail. To receive an e-Newsletter via email, please notify Larry Hare.

**May 28, 2009 Business Meeting:** The business meeting following the presentation was brief. **Addison Hurst** discussed the proposed bus trip to the VGCA bus field trip to the General George C. Marshall Museum located in Lexington, Virginia. Further details will be discussed by the EXCOM and information and detail will be provided when they are available. **Larry Hare** reported that out of 200 members who receive the mailed newsletters, only 51 have replied to the Opt-In request process first reported in the March newsletter and repeated, along with a pre-addressed reply form in the April and May editions. Time is running out. **Rick Nahas** gave a report on the status of table sales for the Fall show which will be held on November 7-8 (see notice above).

**May 28, 2009 Show and Tell:** The post meeting S&T kicked off with **Larry Babcock** displaying a Sig-Sauer P228 factory cut-a-way #3 from 1991, which would make it one of the first samples of this pistol. **Larry Hare** displayed a Mauser German Kar98k with a complete boxed sub-caliber conversion kit in .22RF made by Ermawerks. Complete sub-caliber kits are increasingly rare and appreciating in value. **John Babey** presented a 1942 German Luger that was brought back as a war capture trophy by his uncle who was in the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division in WWII. This pistol has been attributed (although not authenticated) to German Lt. General Georg Hildebrant. His uncle also picked up a German PPK officers pistol. Ever the collector of the more esoteric and unusual, **Ernie Lyles** showed a .357 Magnum COP derringer. This modern stainless steel pistol has 4 barrels which are fired in sequence by a rotating firing mechanism. Departing from his core interests in Japanese military rifles, **Shannon Zeigler** brought a very, very nice 1936 Mexican Mauser in 7mm Mauser. This elegant rifle, which has a cocking knob similar to the US M1903 Springfield was in uncommonly good shape and still had the Mexican crest. **Jim Burgess** displayed a WWII German P-38 pistol manufactured by the Mauserwerks. Yours truly displayed a newly-acquired British 1887 Martini-Henry Mk IV long lever rifle. Originally designated as a .402 Enfield-Martini, after realizing the logistical impact of a new caliber, these rifles were converted to the standard .450-577 Martini-Henry caliber and shipped to India and the Colonies. This rifle was cartouched to the Rawalpindi Arsenal in India. **John Morris** showed a firing lock for a Dahlgren rifled boat howitzer with original lanyard. This

piece looked like a huge musket hammer. The original gun was a steel test barrel located in the Norfolk Navy Yard. **Ed Johnson** shared his special order 1894 Winchester .38-55 with half-round, half octagon barrel, full magazine tube and high grade wood. This excellent rifle was made in 1918. The Show and Tell was closed out by **Addison Hurst** with an as-issued Inland Division M1A1 folding stock paratrooper Carbine and M3 Imperial trench knife that was issued with early carbines in lieu of a bayonet. Addison gave a brief overview of how to detect if the stock is original, as built up fakes of this version of the M1 Carbine are plentiful. The meeting was then adjourned.

**The May 2009 Meeting of the VGCA**



← Larry Hunt introduces the evening's speaker, Mr. Paul Barron.

→ Larry Babcock SIG-Sauer P228 cut-a-way.

John Babey with WWII war trophy Luger. ↓



→ Ernie Lyles .357 C.O.P. derringer.

Ed Johnson special order 1894 Winchester in .38-55. ↓



← Addison Hurst Inland Division M1A1 Carbine.

→ John Morris' Dahlgren Boat Howitzer firing lock.



## Upcoming Events and Shows

**Words to the Wise:** There are sometimes changes in schedules by gun show promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to verify before driving to a show. These dates have been published as of this writing, but are not guaranteed. If you have an event you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short description and location, and I will include it as room permits. Historical events and lectures, re-enactments, auctions (both national, international, and local estate auctions) are all welcome.

### VIRGINIA

- ☉ July 11-12, 2009 – Richmond, VA – Showplace - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ July 18-19, 2009 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ July 24-26, 2009 - Chantilly, VA - Dulles Expo Center - *C&E Gun Show / Showmasters*
- ☉ August 1-2, 2009 - Fredericksburg, VA - Expo Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ☉ August 15-16, 2009 - Richmond, VA - Raceway & Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- ☉ August 22-23, 2009 – Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center – *Showmasters*
- ☉ August 29-30, 2009 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland – *Showmasters*

### MARYLAND

- ☉ June 20-21, 2009 – Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ June 27-28, 2009 - Frederick, MD - Frederick Fairgrounds – *Silverado Promotions*
- ☉ July 18-19, 2009 – Upper Marlboro, MD - Show Place Arena – *Silverado Promotions*
- ☉ **September 12-13, 2009 - Frederick, MD - Elks Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Dr. - *Potomac Arms Collectors' Association*** featuring the *National Air Gun Collectors* & the *Appalachian Arms Collectors*

### PENNSYLVANIA

- ☉ June 20-21, 2009 – Greensburg, PA – Event Center at Westmoreland Mall, Rt. 30 - *Pennsylvania Gun Collectors Association*. Contact: PGCA P.O. Box 246, Glenshaw, PA 15116. (412) 486-1129 or [www.paguncollectors.org](http://www.paguncollectors.org).
- ☉ June 27-28, 2009 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ July 11-12, 2009 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*. Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm.
- ☉ August 29-30, 2009 - Oaks, PA - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*
- ☉ September 12-13, 2009 – Greencastle, PA - Mason Dixon Auto Auction - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ September 12-13, 2009 – Harrisburg, PA - Farm Show Complex – *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*

### OHIO

- ☉ July 18-19, 2009 – Wilmington, OH – Roberts Centre - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY**. For membership information contact Laura Knotts (330) 467-5733.
- ☉ Sept. 19-20, 2009 – Wilmington, OH – Roberts Centre - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY**. For membership information contact Laura Knotts (330) 467-5733.

*"If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed."*

*-- Mark Twain*

Address for any Newsletter related matters or submissions is [VGCANews@cox.net](mailto:VGCANews@cox.net). Feel free to email items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via email or the mailed hard-copy, please contact Larry Hare at the numbers on page one.

V/R, Bill Chronister, Newsletter Editor.