



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG

Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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June 2013 VGCA e-Newsletter



Presentation from the May 23, 2013 Meeting: John E. McCullough, Esq., a new member of VGCA, gave an overview of “Gun Trusts” and the applicable laws such trusts are intended to address. This is a field that has been primarily of interest to holders of Class III weapons, but has generated lots of interest lately with estate planning. He addressed the two primary sections of Federal Law, Title I, the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA 68), and Title II, the National Firearms Act (NFA) of 1934 which covers “NFA firearms” (Class III machine guns, short-barreled rifles and shotguns, suppressors or “silencers”, etc.) He touched upon transfers of weapons (both NFA and non-NFA, and how important it is for every law-abiding gun owner or collector to stay abreast of all the complex and evolving gun laws. He explained the term “prohibited person” and how transfers to or allowing one access to a firearm could result in a criminal violations. , can create legal risks that you can avoid. He gave examples of how a well-crafted “Gun Trust” could enable passing down of guns to one’s heirs or purchasing NFA firearms without the consent of a local chief law

enforcement officer. This was an overview, but was still a detailed presentation with a lot of issues for consideration. As all cases are different, members wishing to carefully plan for the future should consult with knowledgeable legal advisors and planners. Mr. McCullough asked that if members wish to receive a copy of his presentation, to contact him at john.mcculloughlaw@yahoo.com. It is a large file at 10 megabytes, so dial-up connections will take some time to download.

☛ **Presentation for June 27, 2013 Meeting:** President **Dave Litchfield** will give a presentation on **German Pistols**. Come out and hear Dave and remember bring any German-made or German-designed pistols (and Reichs Revolvers, Korths and other German revolvers will also be accepted) for the evening’s Show and Tell.

☛ **Remaining Presentations for 2013:** The following presentations are scheduled in the coming months. As usual, details and changes will be published in the newsletter each month so keep checking for updates.

- **July: No Meeting** – Summer Recess
- **August 22:** Alan Cors - Americans in Wartime Museum
- **September 26:** Bill Chronister/Larry Hare - Precision Air Rifles
- **October 24:** Open
- **November: No Meeting** - Fall Show
- **December 5:** Pot Luck Dinner/Officer Nominations/Show & Tell/Swap Meet (NOTE: earlier Newsletters erroneously had the December meeting listed as December 7th. **The correct date is Thursday, December 5.**)

2013 Presentation Volunteers Needed ASAP: As you can see from the above list and this month’s upcoming meeting, we still have a vacancy for a presenter in 2013, and for you advance planners, all of 2014. Call one of the Association officers now to request the October date or your preferred month for 2014, or if you have an outside speaker who wishes to cover firearms and historically related topics. Remember, we do not have meetings in March and November (gun shows) or in July. Shorter and direct works best; and it does not require slides. If you wish, there are members who will assist you in creating a PowerPoint presentation.

Business Meeting of May 23: President Dave Litchfield launched the meeting with a report by our Treasurer. The Association had a great Spring show and with advance payments for the November show, we have a reserve to generously support the educational and shooter development missions. Dave reviewed our contribution planning and asked the assembled if they had any suggestions for additional support. It was suggested we resume contributing to the Virginia Shooting Sports Association (VSSA) to help their efforts at the state and local level as we did in the past. This will be considered by the Board.

Membership Chair, **Larry Hare** presented the following prospective members during the May 2013 VGCA Meeting: **John Henry**, sponsored by Kelly Cook; **Littlejohn (LJ) Schebish**, sponsored by Larry Hare; **Robert (Chappy) Chapman**, sponsored by Dave Litchfield; and **Wayne Miller**, sponsored by Terry Fearnley. After brief introductions, all were voted into the Association. Welcome aboard, gentlemen.

Jim Burgess informed members about his research into an Association group purchase of VGCA-logo Table throws. Details are available under the Announcements Section.

John Isoldi provided a status update on the VGCA Edition Henry Rifle purchase which had been discussed in the May Newsletter and had been broadcast via e-mail to all our members who are on the e-mailed newsletter list. See an update in the Announcements Section of this Newsletter.

VGCA e-Mail List: Feel out of touch, change your e-mail, or miss any of the opportunities? Members are encouraged to make sure we have your current e-mail address. A number of newsletters have been bouncing, as have announcements of the Member purchases referenced above. Getting the Newsletter via email gets you a larger, full color version with more photos, as we are not limited to 4 pages (2 sheets), and allows us to include last minute additions to the Newsletter. This e-mail list is closely controlled and is used only for Association broadcast of the newsletters, and other urgent Association business. It is never sold, is not available for individual member use, nor is it used for solicitations, political activity, charities, etc. It is exclusively for activities directly related to the operation of the Association and communicating with the membership. Even these communications are controlled and kept to a minimum to avoid e-mail fatigue. Take advantage of the convenience while helping the Association's mailing costs. You may send e-mail address corrections to Larry Hare at LaurenceHare@gmail.com, or use the sheet that will be circulated at the monthly meetings.

Notes from the Podium – President's Message

Hello All Members!

All news and happenings so far in 2013 point to a banner year for VGCA. We are joining record numbers of new members, interest in VGCA is very high, and gun shows here in Virginia continue to bring in good crowds with money to spend. Gun and ammunition prices are falling and most guns and calibers of ammo are readily available. We are now SOLD OUT for our November Gun Show!!! This has not happened in many years – that by June our November show is sold out. We have a small waiting list now and it may grow. We owe this to many of you for buying tables early and for helping to sell additional tables..., it is your success story and you deserve a big GOOD JOB!!

We were saddened to lose long time member Hal Johnson this month. Hal was a Marine Veteran and widely recognized expert on military weapons world-wide. Books he personally prepared and authored are still used as references by all the major military museums and collections. We had a delegation of us at his funeral to pay our respects to his widow Etta and to his children.

Please continue to recruit high caliber new members and bring guests to our monthly meetings. This month I hope to have representatives from our sponsored youth shooting clubs who will say a few words about their clubs. On 3 June, I presented a VGCA check for \$1275.00 to the Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Club to allow them to buy three high quality air pistols for use in competition, and we have also assisted the 7 Bends 4-H Shooting Club to obtain two Mossberg youth size 20 gauge shotguns. One of our primary missions in VGCA is to encourage and sponsor youth shooting activities, and we are doing so thanks to our financial successes. Finally, I will be the presenter at our monthly meeting on 27 June. The topic will be German Pistols, so please bring in some of your special German hand guns for show & tell.

~~ Happy Collecting, *Dave Litchfield*

Important Announcements, etc.

In Memory of VGCA Member Hal Johnson: While those of you on email already have received this notice, we are saddened to announce that VGCA Life Member **Hal Johnson** (age 86), CWO II, USMC (Ret.) of Vienna, Virginia died peacefully on Friday, June 7, 2013 at his home with his family. Beloved husband of Etta Johnson; father of Beth Johnson, Michael Johnson (Mary Ann), Patti Patton, Mary Kay Bills, (Gary), Gina Parr (Rex), Marney Jacobs (Phil), Don Lee (Barb) and Beth Borst (Charlie); grandfather of Amanda, Jeff, Ryan, Jamie, Andrew, Adam, Katherine, Tina, John, James, Laura, Alex, Samantha, Lisa and Emily and great grandfather of Davis, Kyle, Bradley, Aaron, Noah and Audrey. He was a veteran of WWII and Korea, serving with the USMC. Funeral services were held at Money and King Funeral Home, 171 West Maple Avenue, Vienna, Virginia on Wednesday, June 12 and interment was at Quantico National Cemetery with members of the VGCA present. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Etta Johnson and Family, Friends, and Brother Virginia Gun Collector Association members:

We celebrate the life of Hal Johnson and say "Until we meet again" to a true American patriot; a family man; military historian; and all around nice guy.

Hal embodied the ideals of the Greatest Generation in both family values and Esprit de Corps. Hal reiterated that he did not seek any glory or heroics. If the situation existed, he simply did what must be done to mitigate the threat.

Hal emphasized that every generation is the greatest! To those who fought the good fight, from Guadalcanal to Okinawa; from Inchon to the Chosin Reservoir in Korea; from Da Nang and Pleiku to Khe Sanh, Quang Tri and Marble Mountain. From G-Day through Kuwait into the oil fields of the Persian Gulf and on to Fallujah and Baghdad in Iraq to Kandahar and Kabul in Afghanistan and Africa South including Cabinda Province in Angola. To all the hotspots where individuals seek to be free.

American servicemen and women will always rise up to the challenge in any generation. This is the creed that Hal Johnson embodied. His legacy will live in our hearts.

Rest in Peace, Hal. You now walk with the Lord.

Semper fi, Marine, Semper fi.

Richard D. Feirman, Life Member, VGCA

VGCA Supports Youth Shooting: VGCA President David Litchfield attended the Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Club weekly practice at the PWC Fairgrounds on Monday, June 3. He made a presentation of a check from the VGCA to the Club for \$1275.00. This will be used to purchase 3 Crosman 1701P Pre-charged Pneumatic (PCP) Target Air Pistols and Williams aperture sights for their Club to augment the 2 that they received from Crosman's youth developmental shooting program. These pistols are a relatively new product from Crosman built entirely in the U.S and have been very well received by the airgun competition community and provide many of the features are far more expensive European target pistols at cost that is affordable for new shooters exploring the world of precision airgun target pistol shooting. After the presentation, the 4-H club entertained a motion to spend the money to buy the three air pistols, with sights that we had approved. Dave spoke for a few minutes about VGCA, invited the shooters to attend one of our meetings and offered to give the 17 year old president a free one year membership in VGCA.



LAST CALL FOR VGCA TABLE COVERS! So far only nine (9) members have expressed interest in acquiring table covers with the VGCA logo at the price of \$155 (this includes a \$6 shipping fee from the factory). The quoted price is a group discount rate if 30+ table covers are ordered. If you want to get one or more table covers and have not yet signed the list that was circulated at the last meeting, **please see Jim Burgess at the next meeting or call him at home (after 8 p.m. is best) at 703-754-7800.** We will not be asking for money and placing any order until we know exactly how many members are interested. The vendor may honor the \$155 price for those who have already

expressed interest even if we do not meet the minimum for the discount price but that price cannot be assured at this time. This is the last time we will make this offer.

Those interested will need to specify their choice of background color based on the options shown on the Showcase Exhibits website

(<http://www.showcaseexhibits.com/fabric-samples/table-thow.html>). The default color will be royal blue which appears closest to the previous covers. (See image *above* – note: **Image from existing covers is 2 colors – gold and black, new image will be a single color**). Anyone interested should call **Jim Burgess** at home in the evening (best time to catch him is after 8 pm) at 703-754-7800.

Standard Fabrics -Instock PMS colors are approximate



VGCA Limited Edition Henry Arms .22 Golden Boy Rifle buy is closed. Now the wait! The VGCA order to Henry Arms was sent out on June 17 for 26 rifles. This is a great showing, and the lucky members who signed up will receive 26 VGCA Limited Edition Henry Repeating Arms Golden Boy lever action rifles in .22LR, with unique laser engraving of the stocks and a special serial number range. Member **John Isoldi** did all the work and coordinating with Henry Repeating Arms for the project. This will be a fine addition to the collections of those lucky members who took advantage of this offer. The rifles will arrive about 60 days after the checks clear. I am sure examples will be displayed at future meetings once they are received. Thanks John for your effort and patience.



Notice: The VGCA still critically needs a volunteer to serve as the Security Manager or Deputy Security Manager for the Gun Shows. Please call **Dave Litchfield, Rick Nahas, Dennis Gerdovich** or one of the Association Officers if you wish to volunteer for this important role.

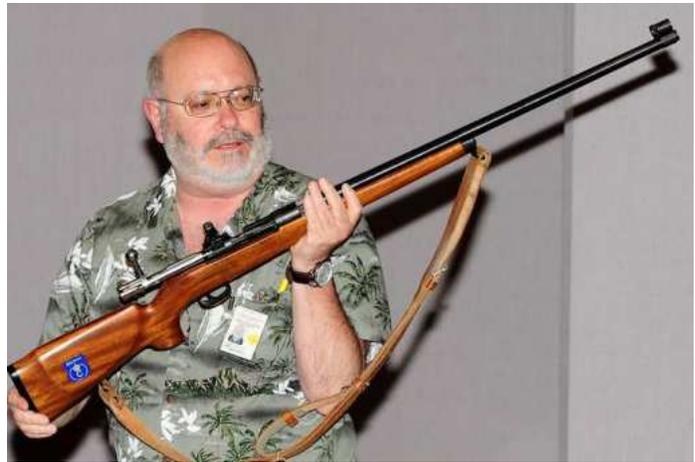
Show & Tell at the May 23, 2013 Meeting: S&T was quite varied this month. **Member 1** displayed a relic condition Civil War carbine missing many of its parts. Examination showed it was a Smith carbine. He sold the gun later in the evening to a fellow member for parts. He also showed a S&W Model 1, 3rd Variation in .22 short chambering. **Member 2** presented a new Taurus 992 double action revolver. The revolver is a 4” stainless steel model featuring a push button quick release to allow interchangeable .22 Long Rifle and .22 Rimfire Magnum cylinder and crane assemblies. While interchangeable cylinders are common on single action revolvers, it is unusual on a DA revolver, especially at a popular price point. **Member 3** showed his newly acquired CG-63 Junior target rifle. Based upon a Swedish Model 1896 or 1894 Mauser action converted to .22LR, these rifles were used to allow a shooter to develop skills with a low recoil .22, before transitioning to a full power 6.5X55 cartridge. The rifles were also used in indoor reduced range matches during the winter. **Member 4** presented a “bucket list” rifle, a very nice Marlin Model 27S pump action rifle chambered in .32-20 with an octagon barrel. This model was in production from 1909 to 1932, with this rifle made between 1913 and 1922. **Member 5** showed a large powder tank for 16” battleship guns. It is made of aluminum, and holds 300 pounds of powder in 3 100-pound bags. The standard U.S. Navy load for the 1800 lbs. 16” projectile was 600 pounds of powder. With this last item, the evening’s meeting of the VGCA concluded.

Photo from the April 2013 Meeting

(Right) President Dave Litchfield recognized two members of the Association who have tirelessly dedicated time and leadership to the Association over the years. **Ed Costello** was awarded a plaque for his 30 years of service to the VGCA, including over 25 years as our Treasurer. **Jim Burgess** received his plaque recognizing his 30 years of support, including serving for 13 years as the Show Manager.



Photos from the May 2013 Meeting



Clockwise from Upper Left: The evening's speaker covered firearms planning and "Gun Trusts."

Upper Right: Relic condition Civil War Smith Carbine missing many of its parts. The member sold the gun later in the evening to a fellow collector for parts.

Middle Right: CG-63 Junior target rifle. Based upon a Swedish Model 1896 or 1894 Mauser action converted to .22LR by Carl Gustaf factory, these rifles were used to allow a shooter to develop skills with a low recoil .22, before transitioning to a full power 6.5X55 cartridge.

Lower Right: large powder tank for 16" battleship guns is made of aluminum and holds 300 pounds of powder in 3 100-pound bags. The standard U.S. Navy load for the 1800 lbs. 16" projectile was 600 pounds of powder or two cans.

Middle Left: A very nice Marlin Model 27S pump action rifle chambered in .32-20 with an octagon barrel. While most of these old rifles are well and successfully used, this example is notable for its great bore and well preserved finish.

VGCA Supports Youth Shooting



Top and Left: Assembled above, in their practice location at the PWC Fairgrounds, is the 4-H Trigger Time Youth Shooting Team. They shoot air rifles, air pistols, shotguns, and small bore competition rifles. On June 3, President Dave Litchfield presented a VGCA check for \$1275.00 to the Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Club to allow them to buy three high quality air pistols for use in competition. Accepting the check is the Team's Youth President. VGCA Life Member **Lee Turner** is has long been an energetic supporter of this group. The members of the club also provide the gate admission crew and cleanup crew for our Gun Shows.

Lower Right: VGCA also supports the Seven Bends 4-H Shooting Club. **Lantz Simons**, a lifetime VGCA member is one of the adult advisors to this club. VGCA just made a donation to the club which allowed them to purchase 2 youth shotguns for trap shooting instruction.

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 2013

- ☉ June 29-30, 2013 - Fredericksburg, VA - Expo Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ☉ July 13-14, 2013 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ☉ July 20-21, 2013 - Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ July 26-28, 2013 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show – *C&E Gun Show*
- ☉ August 3-4, 2013 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ☉ August 17-18, 2013 - Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center – *Showmasters*
- ☉ August 24-25, 2013 - Richmond, VA - Raceway & Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*

- ☞ August 31-September 1, 2013 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland – *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ September 27-28, 2013 – Salem, VA - Roanoke Moose Lodge #284, 3233 Catawba Valley Dr., Salem, VA 24153 – 23rd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AIRGUN & TOY GUN EXPOSITION (Note: Fri., 9/27 – Noon to 7 PM, Sat., 9/28 – 9 AM to 4 PM – Davis Schwesinger, *High Adventure Inc.*)

MARYLAND 2013

- ☞ July 7-8, 2013 – Frederick, MD - Frederick Fairgrounds – *Silverado Productions*
- ☞ July 14-15, 2013 – Upper Marlboro, MD - Show Place Arena (P.G. County) – *Silverado Productions*

PENNSYLVANIA 2013

- ☞ June 22-23, 2013 - Allentown, PA - Rodeway Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- ☞ June 29-30, 2013 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds (Toyota Arena) – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☞ July 13-14, 2013 - 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 10-11, 2013 – Philadelphia, PA - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center (Oaks) – *Eagle Arms*
- ☞ August 17-18, 2013 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - *C&E Gun Shows*
- ☞ August 24-25, 2013 - Poconos, PA - Split Rock Lodge - *Eagle Arms*
- ☞ August 31-September 1, 2013 - Gettysburg, PA - Allstar Sports Complex - *Eagle Arms*

OHIO 2013

- ☞ July 20-21, 2013 – Wilmington, OH – Roberts Centre - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY.** <http://www.ogca.com/index.htm>



69 Years and X number of Days Ago this Month, June 6, 1944 – Omaha Beach, Normandy

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission 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 *Bill Chronister*, VGCA Newsletter Editor