



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

Est. 1983 (A Not-for-Profit Organization)

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CMP Affiliate Number 026160



President
Show/Reservations Manager
Membership

Bernie Breighner
Rick Nahas
Bill Chronister

Phone: 703-200-0470
Cell: 571-215-8761
Phone: 703-204-0138

BFBKAC@gmail.com
jet53sw@aol.com
vgca_membership@cox.net

Website: www.vgca.net
Facebook: @VirginiaGunCollectorsAssoc

Twitter: @VAGunCollectrs
Instagram: @vaguncollectors

June 2019 VGCA Newsletter

President's Comments

VGCA Members,

By now, everyone should have received a ballot (via either regular mail or email) for our VGCA Director elections. The Directors are a critical part of our leadership team and have a strong influence on how our club is run. We have five great candidates. Please remember to vote for no more than three by the June 15th deadline. We will announce the results at the June meeting.

Please read the next section very carefully as our rights may be under attack in the near future.

The governor of Virginia has called a special assembly meeting for July 9th. The legislators will discuss possible gun control measures in the wake of the tragedy in Virginia Beach. This is an unscheduled session that was forced by the governor. This type of quick action and reaction typically leads to really bad laws. I strongly urge all of you to read and stay informed as this session approaches. Your involvement with your elected officials could impact the way guns are regulated in Virginia for a very long time

Having just gotten home from Chantilly show, I want to thank our volunteers again who constantly man our table and recruit new members at the show. Special thanks go to Marc Gorelick for keeping it all together.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the June 27th meeting. The topic will be "Saturday Night Specials" presented by Matt G!

--Bernie Breighner, VGCA President

★ May Presentation ★

The NRA Annual Membership Meetings



Our originally scheduled speaker for the May VGCA Membership meeting was unable to attend, so Bernie Breighner gave us a brief review of the National Rifle Association Annual Membership Meetings, as well as of the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

Over 81,000 members of the NRA attended the 148th Annual Membership Meetings in Indianapolis, IN on April 26-28, 2019. There were over 800 exhibitors from all aspects of the shooting industry, as well as 23 displays from collector

organizations (including the VGCA). The show hall was massive, covering over 650,000 square feet! It really was too much to see in a single day!

As mentioned (and described in last month's newsletter), the VGCA sponsored a display at the meetings. Rob Becker represented the VGCA with his display of "Signal Guns and Flare Projectors of WWII." He was assisted by his wife Polly, cousin Jack Becker, and VGCA members Marc Gorelick, Ian Wulf, and Bernie (*display at right and below*).

This was the VGCA's 10th year displaying at the NRA Annual Meetings. Detailed photographs of the VGCA-sponsored display of WWII flare guns (*above and left*).



This display included 35 flare guns from 10-gauge up to 37mm and included pieces from five different VGCA members.

Bernie described many of the other displays sponsored by other collecting organizations. In addition to their displays, many clubs printed detailed (and very professionally designed) handouts highlighting the items in their

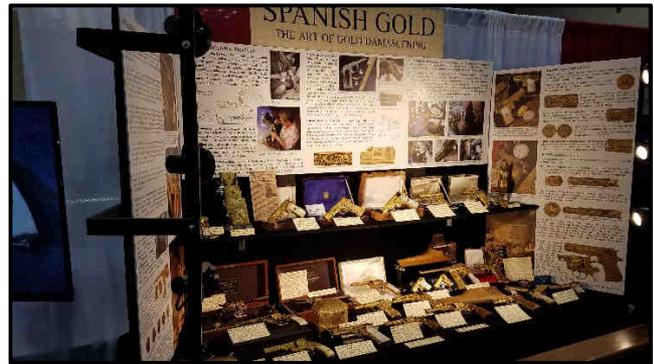


displays. Several handouts were so well done that the NRA is considering a separate judging category in the future just for printed material!

Bernie also spent time reviewing some of the historical presentations that were made during the weekend. Historian Martin “Marty” K.A. Morgan (*at right*) gave three such presentations (one each day), with the first one titled “**The Guns of Omaha – D-Day plus 75 Years**”. This presentation, attended by many of the VGCA contingent at Indianapolis, was simply superb! A much shorter version was featured in this year’s June issue of the *American Rifleman*. We are making efforts to try to get Mr. Martin to speak at a future VGCA membership meeting.



Bernie provided an detailed overview of many of the other displays hosted by the other NRA-affiliated collector organizations. Noteworthy displays included those sponsored by the Thompson Collectors Association display (*below left*) and the Ohio Gun Collectors Association, who were recognized for providing displays at the NRA Annual Membership Meetings for 68 years (*below right*). Details on both of these displays were provided in May VGCA Newsletter.

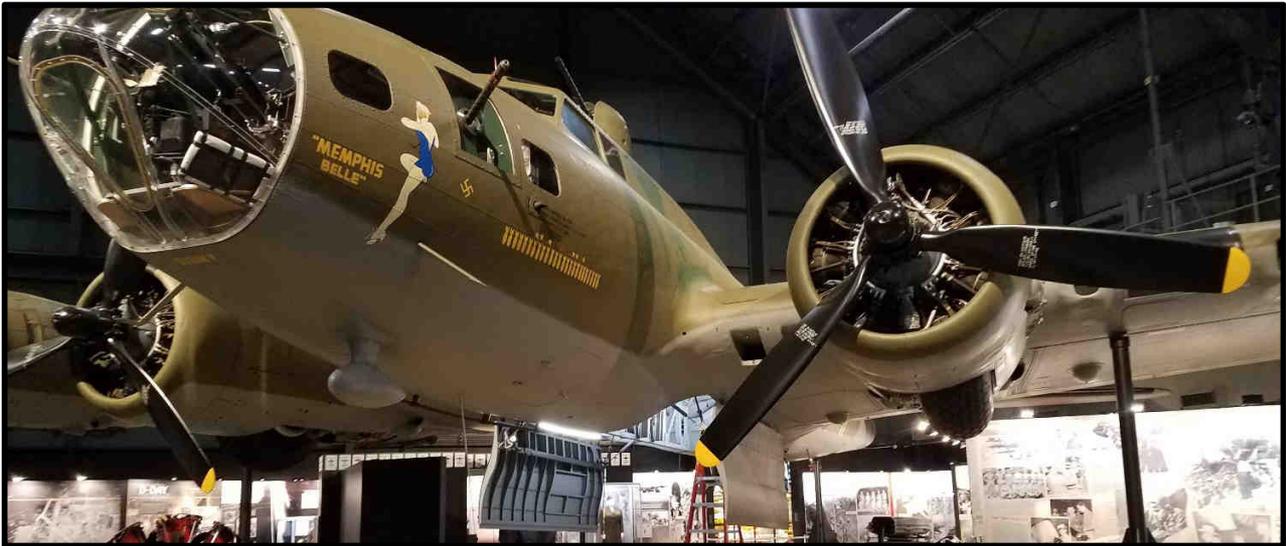


The second half of Bernie’s presentation shifted gears and looked at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio (most of the VGCA contingent that went to Indianapolis visited the Air Force Museum on our way home). Located next to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, this museum is a “must-see” for anyone remotely interested in U.S. military aviation! Broken into ten, generally chronological “galleries” spread through four huge hangars, the collection of aircraft, ballistic missiles, weapons, and support equipment is truly impressive!



The WWII Gallery featured US classics such as the P40 “Warhawk” (*left*) made famous by the “Flying Tigers” in China and even adversary aircraft such as the ground-breaking Messerschmitt Me262 jet (*below*).





Perhaps the most famous U.S. bomber of WWII was the B-17 called “Memphis Belle” (*above*). The crew of the “Memphis Belle” was the first to complete 25 combat missions over Europe, thus earning a rotation back to the United States. Over 12,000 B-17s were built with the majority of them being the last variant G-Models. This E-Model is one of the few in remaining and was preserved when it was withdrawn from combat to participate in War Bond drives.

The Cold War Gallery is dominated by the massive B-36 (*right*). Equipped with six pusher props behind the wings and four jet engines near the wing tips, the “aluminum overcast” was designed during WWII to provide intercontinental range in case Britain fell and the U.S. was forced to bomb Germany from east coast bases. To the right of the bomber is an F-89 “Scorpion” jet interceptor.



One of the sleekest planes ever fielded by the USAF was the B-58 “Hustler” (*left*). This 1960s bomber was designed to deliver nuclear bombs at Mach 2, but was expensive to maintain and quickly outmoded by advanced Soviet Surface-to-Air missiles.



The ubiquitous Boeing B-52 “Stratofortress” bomber has defended the U.S. for over five decades. Designed as an intercontinental nuclear bomber during the Cold War, this “tall tail” model (*above*) was used as a conventional bomber during the Vietnam War. This photo of the South East Asia Gallery gives you an idea about how massive these museum hangars truly are!

No Cold War exhibit would be complete without an A-10 (*right*). Officially called the “Thunderbolt II,” the A-10 is universally known as the “Warthog” and was built as a tank-killer. The A-10 was designed around its large (as big as a VW Bug) 30mm cannon firing depleted uranium rounds. The cannon technology was advanced enough that the Warthog is still a viable platform after 40+ years and, significantly, was never exported or provided via Foreign Military Sales.



Nestled in one of the hangars is a 1970s-era Soviet



MiG-23 “Flogger” (*left*). This high-speed interceptor featured variable geometry “swing” wings and was one of the first Soviet fighters to have a radar that could look down and distinguish targets from ground clutter. It is a little known fact that in the 1970s and ‘80s the USAF operated a squadron of MiGs (known as the “Red Eagles”) from a secret base in the Nevada desert to provide familiarity training to U.S. pilots. This MiG was part of that program.

This is just a small sample of the aircraft in the you will find at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. Admission is free, though there is a charge for the Air Force Museum Theatre and flight simulators. It is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 7 days a week (closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years). If you are ever in the area and have a few hours available (all of us spent more time here than we originally allotted), visit the Air Force Museum. You will not regret it!

☛ **May Business:** President Bernie Breighner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. sharp. Mr. Jim Burgess led the membership in reciting the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for those deployed in harm's way and those who have made the supreme sacrifice for our freedom. There were 52 VGCA members and guests in attendance and the guests were introduced to the membership by their sponsors/hosts.

Shannon Zeigler provided a treasurers report:

- He just deposited several checks in the VGCA account and apologized for the delay
- The VGCA is in good shape financially. The biggest expense since the March Gun Show was reimbursing Rob Becker for his display expenses at the NRA Annual Membership Meetings

Bernie updated the membership on rules (some new and some long-standing) that will be enforced at our future gun shows:

- Vendors have noted that there are several people without badges "checking out their wares" during Friday set-up. Unless you have a table (display or sales) or have volunteered to assist with set-up or security, you will not be allowed into the building on Friday
- There is no parking on the grass inside the security fence around the show building
- Following the negligent discharge of an air rifle at the March show, **ALL** air rifles and black powder guns, in addition to regular firearms, will be zip-tied

Rick Nahas provided an update on the November Gun Show (it was good to see Rick in attendance following his surgery just three weeks before):

- There are 25 tables still available
- The November show will remain at the Prince William County Fairgrounds. However, the PWC Fairgrounds are still for sale, and we will not know if it is available for our March 2020 show until later this fall

Emory Hackman (Chairman of the VGCA Nomination Committee) reminded the membership that the three VGCA Director positions were up for election. There are currently five nominees for the three positions. They are (in alphabetical order):

- **Doug Chapman**
- **Marc Gorelick**
- **Phil Hill**
- **Dave Litchfield**
- **Ian Wulf**

Emory asked if there any nominees from the floor. None were offered. Ballots will be sent via Constant Contact (for those who have chosen the email option) and via USPS (for those receiving a "hard copy") by the end of May. The suspense for mailing the "hard copy" ballots back is approximately 15 June 2019. Electronic ballots will be due by approximately 21 June 2019. Ballots will be counted and the results announced at the June Membership meeting.

Marc Gorelick asked for volunteers to help man the VGCA table at the June Chantilly Gun Show.

NOTE: We had another successful recruiting table at the June Chantilly Show. We are now signing up volunteers for the July Chantilly show (see notice below).

PLEASE HELP!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE VGCA TABLE AT THE NEXT CHANTILLY GUN SHOW

The next Chantilly show at the Dulles Expo Center is coming up (July 26-28) and we are looking for a few volunteers for the VGCA promotional table. This is an opportunity to spend a few hours with fellow gun collecting enthusiasts, meet new people, help the club, and get free admittance into a big show!

Our objective is to have two or more folks assigned throughout each day. This gives everyone the opportunity to walk the show while others are promoting the club. If you want, you can work more than one day and shift.

Remember - volunteers who help us at the table get into the show for free. This is significant when the admission price keeps going up. It is now \$16 for 1-day and \$22 for a 3-day pass. Volunteers are needed for Friday (3 - 8 p.m.), Saturday (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.), or Sunday (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.). If interested, please contact Marc Gorelick or any VGCA Officer / Director.



★ **Upcoming June 27th Meeting:** Our June membership meeting will feature a presentation on “Saturday Night Specials” by member Matthew G, as well as the announcement of the election results for the three VGCA Director positions. Social time begins at 6 p.m. (pizza!) in the NRA Headquarters Conference Room, followed by the meeting beginning at 7 p.m.



★ Other News! ★

★ **Membership Chairman’s Report – June 2019:**

New Member: Please welcome our new Annual Member:

- **Christopher Levy** of Manassas, VA was sponsored by **David Litchfield**

Mr. Levy, welcome aboard. Your Annual ID will be available at the June 27, 2019 Membership Meeting. If unable to attend, it will be mailed to your home address on your membership application. Congratulations and welcome aboard.

New Applications for Membership: We have 8 new applicants for VGCA Membership. They applied by mail, at the May Membership Meeting and at the recent Chantilly Gun Show. The applicants’ information and their sponsor’s name are published below.

- **Brenden Carbonell** of Falls Church, VA is sponsored by **Jack Looney**
- **Shelsea Carbonell** of Falls Church, VA is sponsored by **Jack Looney**
- **William Gravell** of Vienna, VA is sponsored by **Bernie Breighner**
- **John Hacker** of Haymarket, VA is sponsored by **Marc Gorelick**
- **Jeffrey Manuel** of Annapolis Junction, MD is sponsored by **Marc Gorelick**
- **Clause Marzen** of Fairfax, VA is sponsored by **Carlos Davila**
- **James "Tim" McCue** of Fredericksburg, VA is sponsored by **Marc Gorelick** and **George Dungan**
- **Richard Williams** of Charlestown, VA is sponsored by **Marc Gorelick**

If there are any comments or questions on any applicant, please notify an Officer or Director, and the Membership Chair before June 22, 2019. For questions, please email **Bill Chronister, Membership Chair** at vgca_membership@cox.net or call me at 703-204-0138.

New Member IDs: Prospective members are announced in the VGCA Newsletter for member review. If there are no issues, the membership is effective 30 days after publication. Membership IDs are prepared and brought to the Monthly Membership Meeting. If the new member is not present, the ID is mailed to their mailing address a few days after the meeting.

All annual members who became members from 2018 up to those new annual members announced in the May 2019 VGCA Newsletter should have received an original 2018 or 2019 ID. If you were an Annual Member in 2018 and paid your annual dues to be renewed as an Annual Member in 2019 you should have received either a 2019 ID or a 2019 ID renewal sticker by mail or in person at a meeting. If you did not get an ID or renewal sticker please let me know by E-mail. Make sure you provide your full mailing address and contact info so I can verify the mailing address and get an ID or sticker to you. Please send an E-mail to **Bill Chronister, Membership Chair** at vgca_membership@cox.net.



★ Another Great Weekend of Recruiting at the April Chantilly Gun Show!

The VGCA Executive Committee would like to extend a special “thank you” to those VGCA members who graciously volunteered to represent our organization at our table during the last Chantilly Gun Show (June 7-9, 2019). They are:

FRIDAY

Marc Gorelick
Alan Rupp
Bill Chronister
George Dungan
Steve Vaughn (volunteered, but we didn't have enough table badges for him)

SATURDAY

Chris Britton
George Duncan
Monty Hand

SUNDAY

Marc Gorelick
George Dungan (1/2 day)
Joe Roberts
Bill Chronister

Special thanks go out to Bill Chronister and Joe Roberts for bringing in and displaying various pieces from their collections.

The VGCA table at Chantilly has been almost solely responsible for doubling our new annual members this past year (6 more potential new members were signed up during the June show!) - that simply would not have happened without the support of our volunteers. Please contact Marc Gorelick or any other VGCA officer or director if you are interested in volunteering at future shows. The next Chantilly Gun Show is on June 7-9, 2019.





CMP UPDATE

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison

CMP GIFT CERTIFICATES: The Civilian Marksmanship Program is now selling Gift Certificates that may be used towards any – yes, any – purchase within the CMP. Whether an entry fee, a sweatshirt or even the full price of one of the CMP’s refurbished rifles, certificates can be a cost-effective and

worthwhile gift for firearm enthusiasts. CMP Gift Certificates, can be loaded with any amount from \$20 to \$1,500. You can buy certificates by mail order or at any of the CMP ranges, including at Camp Perry in Ohio, at the South Competition Center in Anniston, Alabama, and at the Talladega Marksmanship Park in Talladega, Alabama. Certificates are to be treated the same as cash and are non-refundable and non-replaceable if lost or stolen. They are valid for one year from the issue date. For additional information, visit the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/cmp-now-offering-gift-certificates-for-purchase/>. There is a link to an order form.

CMP RANGE OFFICER TRAINING COURSE:

This program was developed by the Civilian Marksmanship Program to provide training and structured on-the-range work experiences to prepare interested persons to serve as qualified Range Officers in CMP sponsored and sanctioned competitions. A major objective of this CMP program is to train and certify qualified Range Officers who can serve in CMP National Matches and CMP Travel Games competitions. The program is also open to individuals who want to be trained to serve as Range Officers in other sanctioned and non-sanctioned competitions. Range officers conduct matches and cooperate with other programs in their areas to conduct matches. This course offers three levels of instruction and certification in the four different CMP shooting disciplines.



Everyone starts with **Level I** training that presents information common to all shooting disciplines and teaches the basic knowledge one needs to serve as a new Range Officer. Enrollees must complete Level I online instruction that consists of a series of instructional phases. Each phase concludes with a short online quiz that must be successfully completed before progressing to the next phase. When all phases are completed, a certificate and CMP Range Officers Vest will be issued and the student will be eligible to participate in Level II instruction.

Level II instruction is discipline specific and covers the different shooting events within that discipline, the guns and equipment used, the courses of fire, detailed discipline and event rules, how to conduct firing for events in that discipline and guidelines for resolving rules issues and violations. Level II instruction is offered for the four shooting disciplines governed by the CMP: 1) High power Rifle (includes As-Issued Military Rifle), 2) Bulls-Eye Pistol, 3) Rimfire Sporter and 4) 3-Position Air Rifle. CMP-appointed Master Range Officers will teach Level II instruction for each of the four disciplines as one-day in-person training courses and student handbooks will be provided for each discipline.

Level III training, also discipline specific, requires Range Officers who complete Level II training to work as Range Officers in shooting competitions under the supervision of a Master Range Officer. Completion of Level III training is recognized by the issuance of a CMP Range Officer License with endorsements for each discipline in which Level II and Level III training is completed.

For additional information about becoming trained and certified to serve as a Range Officer or Match Official in CMP competitions, go to the CMP website at <http://thecmp.org/training-tech/range-officer-training-course/>.

AIR GUN AND RIFLE SALES:



As of June 21, the CMP has the following airguns available for sale to members of CMP affiliated clubs, like the VGCA: Pistols are the Alfa Proj Competition PCP Pistol, .177 for \$749.99 and the Air Venturi V10 Match Air Pistol for \$239.99. Precision air rifles

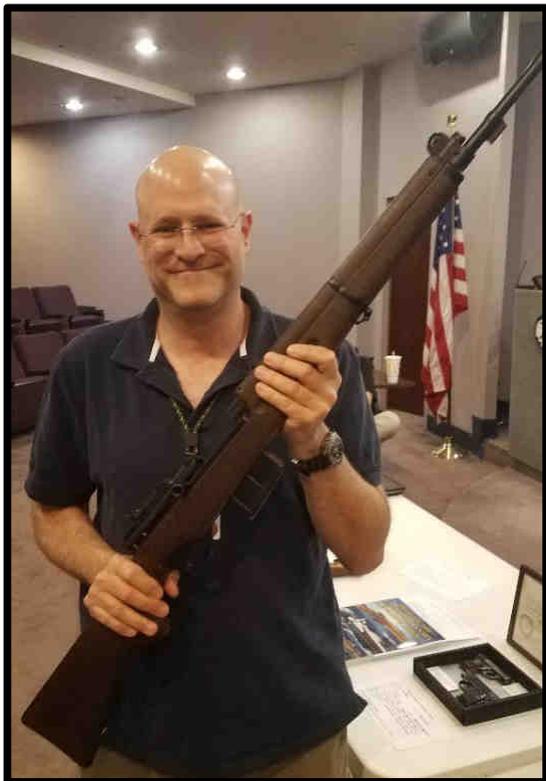
that are available are: Feinwerkbau 500 10-Meter Air Rifle .177 for \$1275; the Air Arms MPR .177 Air Rifle for \$850; Anschutz 9015 Club Air Rifle for \$1895.95. Sporter Air Rifles (also used in matches) that are available include: Daisy Model 599 10-Meter Competition Air Rifle for \$595; Daisy 887 Gold Medalist CO2 Air Rifle for \$335; Daisy Elite 753W (pump, wood stock) for \$287; the Daisy Elite 753S (pump, synthetic stock) for \$224; and the Air Arms T200 .177 Air Rifle For \$525. You can also purchase Air Venturi 4500 psi Electric Air Compressors for \$1399.99 in order to charge your air pistol or rifle. There are also a number of Creedmore Anschutz 9015 air rifles, Anschutz .22 target rifles and Creedmore range supplies and airgun ranges available.



There are no M-1 carbines for sale, however there are a number of M-1 Garands available for purchase by members of CMP affiliated clubs (like the VGCA) as of June 21. They include two Garand Field Grades for \$650 and \$980, a Service Grade for \$750, three Special Grades for \$1,050, \$850 and \$1,250, two M-1C Snipers for \$3,055 and \$2,255, and one M-1D Rack Grade Sniper for \$955. There are no M-1903, m-1903A3 or M-1917 rifles available and the CMP is not accepting orders for them. For additional information,

including descriptions, photos and ordering information, go to the CMP website at http://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/rifle_sales/.





Member 2 also brought in two rifles, with both of his made by Fabrique Nationale. The first was an FN-49 (*at left*), also called the SAFN for “Semi-Automatic Fabrique Nationale”. Produced after WWII to replace bolt action battle rifles in the Belgian and other militaries, the FN-49 was produced in several calibers to include 7x57, 7.92x57, .30/06, and 7.65x53. Most feature a 10-round fixed magazine, though the Argentine examples were modified to take a detachable 20-round magazine at the same time that they were converted from 7.65x53 to 7.62x51 NATO. This example is in 7.92x57 Mauser and was actually assembled in the United States from Egyptian spare parts (with new wood and a plastic buttplate).

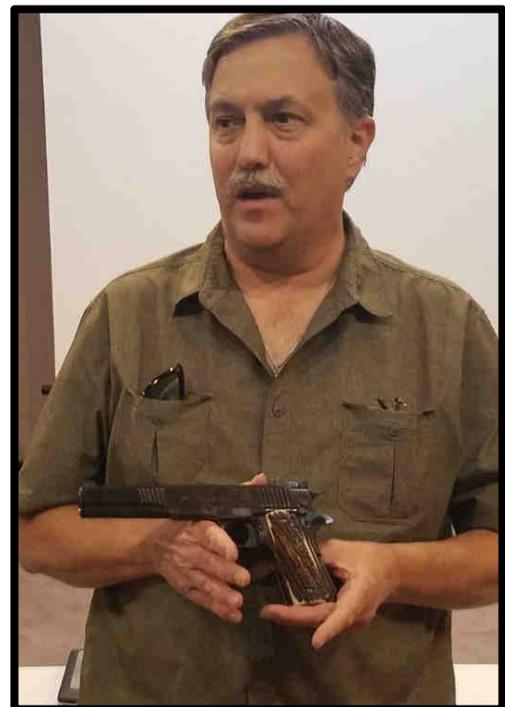
Member 2’s second rifle was the FN PS90 (*at right*) – a semi-automatic version of the military Personal Defense Weapon designated P90. Designed to provide a compact and powerful weapon for vehicle crews, operators of crew-served weapons, support personnel, and special forces, the P90 (and PS90) are interesting bullpup designs chambered in 5.7x28. The 5.7x28 round is designed to be low recoiling and shoot a very small bullet (23 to 31 grains in weight) very fast in order to defeat enemy body armor (all improvements over the 9x19 round of typical NATO submachine guns and pistols). The military round is effective out to 200 meters. The top mounted magazine is made from a clear polymer (so remaining rounds can be easily seen) and holds 50 rounds. The P90 with its 10.4-inch barrel has been adopted by the military or police forces of 40 countries, while the semi-automatic PS90 has been made for civilian use. The PS90 is generally encountered with a 16-inch barrel, though short barrel versions are available for those U.S. Citizens willing to pay the \$200 tax and wait several months for permission to own a “Short Barrel Rifle (SBR)”.





Member 3 (*at left*) shared a recent acquisition – a Swiss Model 1889 Long Rifle converted from 7.5x53.5 to .22LR. Originally built for Swiss army service by Schmidt Rubin, Model 1889s were converted by private gunsmiths to .22LR when the rifles were withdrawn from service. These conversions were intended for shooting EKSV matches at 60-meter indoor ranges. Because the conversions were made by several different civilian gunsmiths, actual configurations can vary from rifle to rifle. This Model 1889 has been shortened to resemble a K11 carbine and features a fine adjustable rear sight. Member 3 acquired this beauty at this spring's Antique Arms show at Timonium.

Member 4 (*right*) presented an AMT .45 Super Longslide made by R.J. Renner. Generally recognized as a maker of fine hunting rifles, Mr. Renner has recently developed this long slide variant of Model 1911 featuring a 7-inch barrel! Chambered in .45 Super, this pistol launches a 255 grain bullet at 1175 fps (resulting in 40% more muzzle energy than the standard 230 grain .45 ACP bullet out of a standard 5-inch M1911 barrel). This example was one of the first made last year and has a distinctive case-hardened finish. Such a finish typically isn't an issue for the slide, but the frames can become warped if the process isn't executed correctly. This beautiful pistol was actually the personal gun of Roger Renner himself. For close views of this pistol, visit the maker's website at rjrenner.com



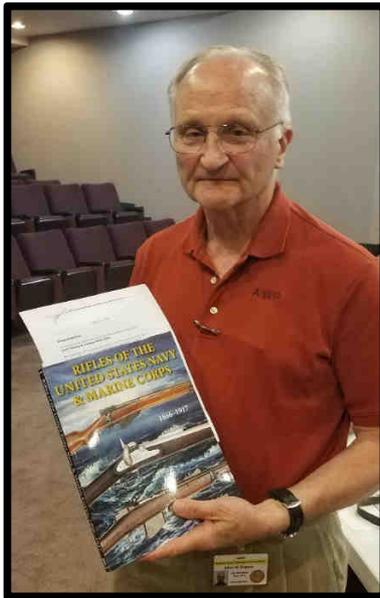


Member 5 brought in a Brownell's "Retro" BRN-10 (*left*). Chambered in .308/7.62x51, this AR incorporates all the features of the early Armalite AR-10s. Its charging handle is on top of the receiver (below the carry handle), the upper receiver is without a forward assist and the lower is a "slab-side" without a fence around the magazine release, the 20-inch barrel ends in a three-prong flash hider, and furniture mimics the original in color if not construction. The BRN-10 captures the look and feel of an original AR-10 for a fraction of the cost of an "actual" AR-10 built on one of the rare original parts kits. Current retail price is between \$1069.99 and \$1115.99 as listed on brownells.com.

At first glance, it appeared **Member 6** was also holding an AR rifle. Closer examination yielded a short barrel and an arm brace instead of a buttstock – making this an AR Handgun! With a 10.5-inch barrel, a "normal" AR15 would be designated a "Short Barreled Rifle" and require a special \$200 tax to own. Not so with this inexpensive build in 5.56x45 NATO (Anderson stripped lower receiver with Palmetto State Armory parts kit) as the arm brace is not considered a stock. In this case, the optic cost more than gun!

Remember, according to the BATFE, a pistol (such as this) can be rebuilt as a rifle, but the reverse is not true – a rifle cannot be rebuilt as a pistol.





Member 7 received a pleasant surprise in the mail recently when a copy of the book “**Rifles of the United States Navy & Marine Corps – 1866-1917**” by John D. McAulay was delivered to his home. He had not ordered it - it turns out that he had won it as a door prize at the Baltimore Antique Arms show at the Maryland State Fairgrounds (Timonium, MD) back in March. Congratulations!

It just goes to show that filling out those door prize cards at gun shows does occasionally pay off!



Member 8's uncle was a Private First Class in the U.S. Army during WWII. He fought in the European Theater and helped liberate one of the German concentration camps there. This Walther Model 9 (*above left*) was pulled from the blouse pocket of an SS officer at the camp and came to Member 8 along with its “Capture Papers.” The Walther Model 9 was a tiny semi-automatic “vest-pocket pistol” chambered in 6.35mm (known in the English-speaking world as .25 ACP). Approximately 242,000 were produced from 1921 until 1944 or 1945. It is a striker-fired, blow-back operated gun equipped with a 6-round magazine and was popular as a private purchase with German officers during the war. Among the smallest pistols ever made in that caliber, it is shown next to a Colt Model 1908 (*above right*). This early example was made in approximately 1922.

Member 9 presented his newest flare gun acquisition - a Swiss Model 17/38 Flare Gun. This single shot, break-top design fired 34mm flares (a caliber unique to the Swiss). The original Model 17 design was improved in 1938 with the addition of a safety lever. This particular example is an earlier Model 17 (serial number below 7,000) that has been modified/ upgraded to add the safety, but retains many early features such as wooden grip panels (later ones were made of bakelite) and a thinner barrel (1.6mm vice the later 3mm heavier barrel). This is a massive flare gun, weighing over 4.5 pounds, and in service was carried in backpack holster. This example has the original sling and a fortress armory inspection tag from 1961.



Member 10 shared his Sklar single shot, break-top 37mm Flare Gun. Made during WWII for use by U.S. forces, most Sklar flare guns are made from a zinc alloy, but this early example is made of brass (both metals were common among navy and merchant marine flare guns due their ability to withstand salt water corrosion). This flare gun is stamped “PT 3.44” and is attributed to the U.S. Navy 77-foot Elko patrol torpedo boat PT 44. PT 44 was completed on 30 July 1941 and had a short but eventful career during WWII. She was sunk in “Iron Bottom Bay” off Tulagi in the Solomon Islands on December 12th, 1942. Member 10 purchased this flare gun from a surviving crew member in the early 1980s.

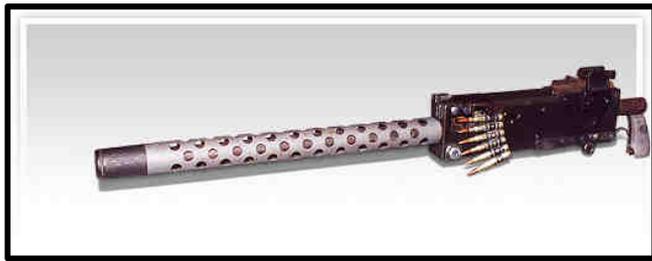
This flare gun was part of the VGCA display of WWII flare guns during the NRA Annual Membership Meetings in Indianapolis this spring.

artifacts were donated by veterans and their families, and many tell personal stories of the men and women who fought and sacrificed for the United States.

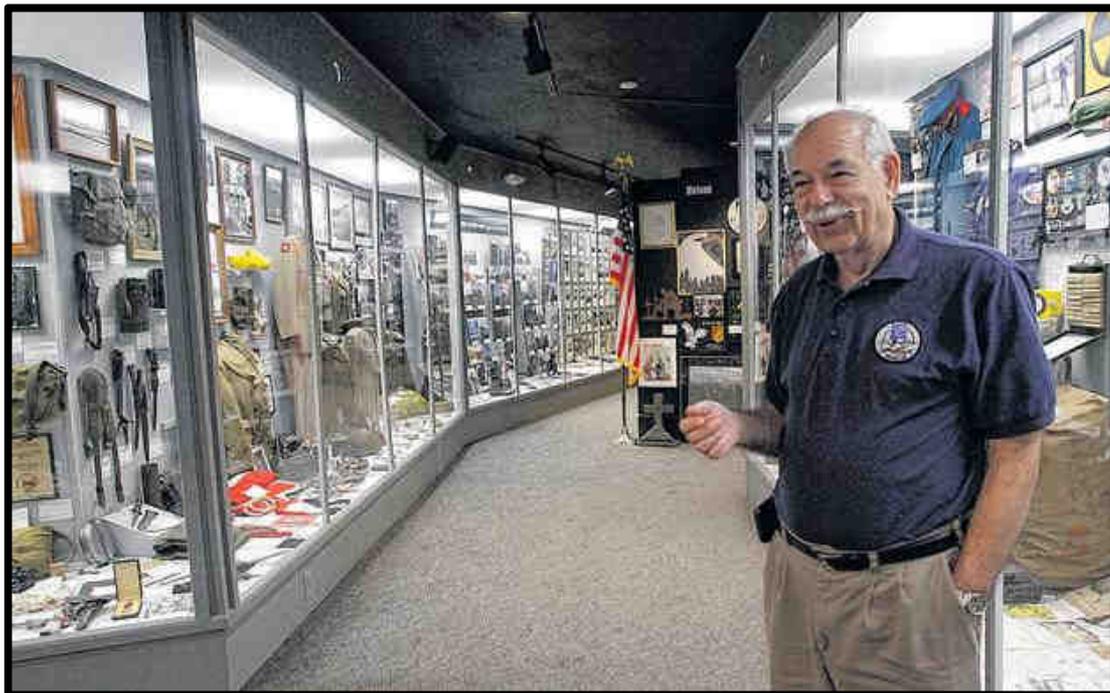
Frankly, Mott's Military Museum doesn't look like much from the outside. But looks can be deceiving. The interior is larger than one would expect, and it is filled with military memorabilia from our nation's many wars. The displays cover most of America's wars from the Revolution through Iraq and Afghanistan. Although there are a few exhibits that focus on small arms, there are many other guns that are scattered throughout the displays and are appropriate to the era. They range from the 18th century Brown Bess to and modern machine guns. Some of the many weapons on display are a Lanchester SMG, a Japanese Type 99 machine gun, a Japanese shotgun with a rolling block action, taken on Iwo Jima by a Marine and donated to the museum, and a 57mm recoilless rifle. But the displays are more than weapons. They include the uniforms, clothing, possessions, artwork and artifacts that are identified to real people and the comprehensive signage tells their stories. The signage also includes who seized the items and who donated them.



WWI German MG08/15 Maxim



M1919A4 .30 cal MG



Warren Mott in the museum

The displays are well lighted and each item is identified, although they can be jumbled together and the organization within each section could be a little better. This could be attributed to vast number of artifacts that are squeezed into each display. And a couple of pieces of signage had errors – but that is minor. Besides covering major wars, the interior part of the museum has special exhibits that focus on specific subjects, such as Pearl Harbor, the Prisoner of War exhibit that pays tribute to American POWs, Paul Tibbets, MASH units, Tuskegee Airmen, Medal of Honor recipients, and the Robert Richards WW2 Counter Intelligence Corps exhibit. Many of the items tell the personal stories of the brave men and women who fought for our country. For instance, Robert Richards served in the 7th Army in Italy and Germany during the war and was a major contributor to the museum. Among the booby traps from his collection on display is a nazi sabotage coal bomb that he used to train other agents. It was plastic explosive and a fuse that hidden in a piece of coal that was put on a railroad hopper or tender.



An interesting and poignant item in the POW section is the gas mask case of Capt. Sallie Durrett, one of the “Angels of Bataan and Corregidor.” Durrett (*pictured at left*) was a US Army nurse in the Philippines during the Japanese invasion. During the Battle of Corregidor, she was stationed in the Malinta Tunnel until the fall of Corregidor in 1942. She was then taken, with the other nurses, to the prison camp at Santo Thomas, where she remained a POW until January 1945. Despite being starved, she continued to minister to fellow



prisoners. She kept her gas mask case the entire time (*at right*). There is stitching at the bottom of the bag where she hid her jewelry in a secret compartment from the Japanese.

Outside, behind the museum, are displayed an impressive collection of military armed fighting vehicles, artillery, aircraft and even a Higgins boat from World War 2. This landing craft is one of the very few original Higgins boats (PA-36-7) still in existence and was carried on the USS Cambria (APA-36) a Bayfield-Class attack transport. The Cambria was launched 10 November 1942 and was in the Pacific Theatre, participating in numerous assault landings in the South Pacific, including invasions of the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Tinian, Philippines, Leyte, Luzon, New Guinea and Okinawa.



WW2 LCVP Higgins Boat PA36-7

The aircraft on display includes an A-7D Corsair II attack jet and several Vietnam era helicopters; an OH-1 Cayuse, a UH-1 Iroquois and an AH-10 Cobra gunship. The artillery includes both US and foreign pieces such as a pair of French Puteaux 25mm wheeled anti-tank guns, an Iraqi D-30 122mm howitzer and a 152mm howitzer, both captured by the 82nd Airborne. The AFVs include an M-114 Command and Reconnaissance Vehicle, an M-110A1 8” (203mm) self-propelled howitzer, an M-42A1 Duster self-propelled twin 40mm AA vehicle, an M-551 Sheridan Armored Recon/Airborne Assault Vehicles with its 152mm gun which also fired the Shillelagh anti-tank missile, and an LVTH-6 armored amphibious assault vehicle with a 105mm howitzer. Also on the grounds is an exact recreation of Eddie Rickenbacker’s boyhood home.



Some of the ordnance, vehicles and aircraft on display behind the museum.



If you want to a break in a road trip, Mott’s Military Museum is more than worth an hour or two. It is southeast of Columbus, just a short drive from I-270. There is a small gift shop and it is staffed by friendly, knowledgeable volunteers. It is located at: 5075 S. Hamilton Rd., Groveport 43125. Tel – (614) 836-1500

Admission is \$10/adult \$8/senior (62 and over), \$5/student and children under 5 are free.

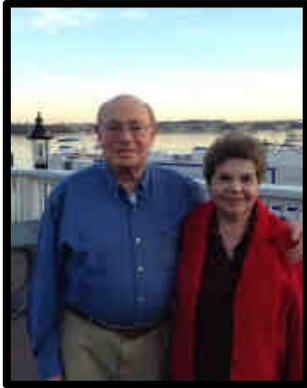
It is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 am – 5 pm and Sunday from 1-5 pm.

Additional information can be found at: www.mottsmilitarymuseum.org.



Final Salute

Richard David Feirman, Ph.D
19 June 1942 – 27 May 2019



VGCA Member Richard D. Feirman passed away on Memorial Day, 27 May 2019 surrounded by his loving family. He leaves behind his beloved wife Ilene, just shy of their 54th wedding anniversary, and adored son Danny (Karen).

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Richard strived for the highest level of knowledge and education, completing degrees at Morningside College, Sioux City, IA; Creighton University, Omaha, NE; and Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA.

Entering the Army National Guard in Sacramento, CA as a Direct Commission and receiving the Army Commendation Medal, Richard also served in the US Army Reserve, attaining the rank of Major. He completed close to 40 years of faithful service to his country as a Federal Employee.

As a longtime resident of Vienna, VA, Richard enjoyed flying his Navion aircraft with his son, and continued his lifetime love of aviation until the end.

Online condolences and fond memories may be offered at www.moneyandking.com

★ 2019 Presentation List ★

The following presentations are scheduled for our remaining 2019 membership meetings:

DATE	PRESENTATION	PRESENTER
June 27 th	“Saturday Night Specials”	Matthew G.
July	No membership meeting scheduled for summer break	
August 22 nd	U.S. Metallic Cartridges Post Civil War – Part 1	Mark Gorelick
September 26 th	U.S. Metallic Cartridges Post Civil War – Part 2	Mark Gorelick
October 24 th	History of the VGCA	TBD
November	No membership meeting scheduled due to our Fall Gun Show	
December xx	Holiday Pot Luck and Annual Swap Meet (<i>date is TBD</i>) – no presentation	

★ Upcoming Events and Shows ★

PLEASE NOTE: 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 a favorite show you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short review, including the show content, i.e., modern, new, collectible or antique, and I will include it as room permits. **Yellow** = Collector organizations or shows.

VIRGINIA - 2019

- ☉ Jun 29-30, 2019 – Weyers Cave, VA – Weyers Cave Community Center – *Sporting Shows Unlimited*
- ☉ June 29-30, 2019 – Gettysburg, PA – Gettysburg Civil War Antique Arms Show - Eisenhower Center - *Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association*
- ☉ Jul 13-14, 2019 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☉ Jul 20-21, 2019 – Richmond, VA – Richmond International Raceway – *North South Trader's Civil War (National Civil War & Antique Arms Show)*
- ☉ Jul 20-21, 2019 – Salem, VA - Salem Civic Center - *C&E*
- ☉ Jul 26-28, 2019 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- ☉ Aug 17-18, 2019 – Roanoke, VA – The Berglund Center – *Showmasters*
- ☉ Aug 24-25, 2019 – Richmond, VA – Richmond Raceway Complex – *Showmasters*
- ☉ Aug 31-Sep 1, 2019 – Weyers Cave, VA – Weyers Cave Community Center – *Sporting Shows Unlimited*
- ☉ Sep 7-8, 2019 – Doswell, VA – Farm Bureau Center at Meadow Event Park – *SGK*
- ☉ Sep 7-8, 2019 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo Center - *Showmasters*
- ☉ Sep 14-15, 2019 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center – *SGK*
- ☉ Sep 14-15, 2019 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *C&E*
- ☉ Sep 27-29, 2019 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*

MARYLAND - 2019

- ☉ Aug 31, 2019 – Parkville, MD – Baltimore County Fish & Game – *Baltimore County Fish & Game Protective Association*
- ☉ Sep 7-8, 2019 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds – *Silverado*

PENNSYLVANIA - 2019

- ☉ Jun 29-30, 2019 – Wind Gap, PA – Plainfield Fire Company – *Eagle Arms*
- ☉ Jun 29-30, 2019 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds-Memorial Hall - *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ Jul 6-7, 2019 - Philadelphia, PA – National Guard Armory – *Appalachian Promotions*
- ☉ July 13-14, 2019 – Allentown, PA - Forks of the Delaware Show - Allentown Fairgrounds - *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- ☉ Aug 3-4, 2019 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- ☉ Aug 16-17, 2019 – Gettysburg, PA – Gettysburg Fire Dept – *Militaria & Historic Arms Show*
- ☉ Aug 17, 2019 – St. Thomas, PA – St. Thomas VFD – *Franklin Co Chapter of Izaak Walton League*
- ☉ Aug 17-18, 2019 - Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E Gun Shows*
- ☉ Aug 17-18, 2019 - Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2019 (continued)

- Aug 24-25, 2019 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Sep 7-8, 2019 – Wind Gap, PA – Plainfield Fire Company – *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 14-15, 2019 - Gettysburg, PA – All Star Conference Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 21-22, 2019 – Split Rock, PA – 100 Mossywood Road - *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 28-29, 2019 – Allentown, PA - Econo Lodge –*Eagle Arms*
- Sep 28-29, 2019 - Philadelphia, PA – National Guard Armory – *Appalachian Promotions*

SPECIAL NOTE – 2019

- Jul 13-14, 2019 – Wilmington, OH – The Roberts Centre – *Ohio Gun Collector's Association*
- Sep 13-14, 2019 – Morgantown, PA – Holiday Inn – *Contemporary Longrifle Association (10th Annual Eastern Pennsylvania Longrifle Show)*
- Sep 18-22, 2019 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Ohio Valley Military Society (The MAX Show)*
- Oct 11-12, 2019 – West Point, KY – Knob Creek Gun Range – *Machine Gun Shoot and Military Gun Show*
- Nov 9-10, 2019 – Tulsa, OK – Tulsa Fairgrounds (Expo Square) – *Tulsa Arms Collector Association – aka Wanenmacher's (world's largest gun show – over 4200 tables!)*



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. 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. All buyers, traders, and sellers agree to comply with all local, state, federal, and international laws in regards to items sold via the VGCA Newsletter. 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 rpebecker@verizon.net. I must receive your material no later than the second Sunday of the month for it to be included in that month's newsletter. Unless other arrangements are made, items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

FOR SALE:

☛ Springfield Model 1903 Mark I in .30/06 made in 1919 for Pedersen device. Excellent 24" barrel (dated October 1919) w/excellent bore. Good wood – overall VGC. Cost is \$1195.00 Negotiable/BO

☛ LC Smith 12ga. SXS Featherweight, 6-3/4 lbs., field grade, VR, DT, M&F 28" barrels, XLNT bores bluing and case hardened receiver. \$1498.00 Negotiable/BO

☛ Colt: Original Civil War 1851 Colt Navy 36 caliber made in 1863. Matching numbers, tight action, some cylinder scene, excellent patina and walnut grips. VGC. 4th Model, 7.5 inch barrel, 6-shot. Gun from SW VA, possibly a 10th Michigan Volunteer Cavalry gun based on serial # range and auction info. as unit ended up in Saltville VA near the end of the Civil War. \$2350.00 Negotiable/BO

If interested, call 571-308-4978 or send email to jrbzn13@aol.com

FOR SALE:

☛ After more than two and a half years of research, VGCA member Bill Vanderpool has recently 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.

The e-mail address for any Newsletter-related matters is Newsletter@vgca.net - or you can reach the editor directly at rpebecker@verizon.net. 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 Bill Chronister