



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

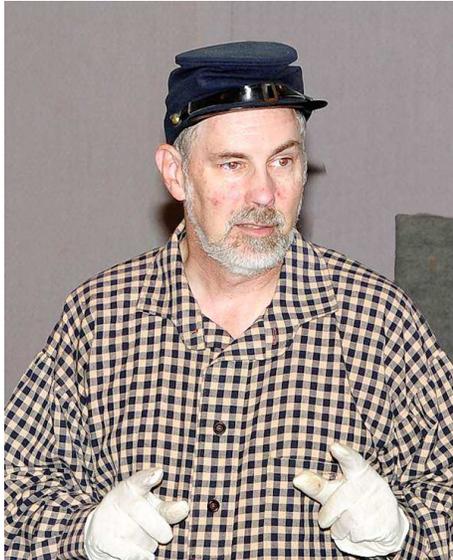
NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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September 2012 VGCA e-Newsletter



Presentation from the August 23rd Meeting: VGCA member and Director **Jim Burgess** covered *Civil War Rifles*. Jim has extensive experience and knowledge of these arms due to his personal interests and his position with the National Park Service at the Manassas Battlefield National Park. Jim laid the background of the presentation with a review of the 4 general types of infantry long arms used during the American Civil War – the musket (smoothbore); rifled muskets (muskets originally produced as a smoothbore and later rifled); rifle-muskets (rifles were of the same design overall as a particular model smooth bore musket); and rifles (originally designed with a rifled barrel). Jim then went into detail using the examples of arms which he brought, and others that were provided by other Association members. He started with the smoothbore muskets, which used volley fire to make up for the lack of accuracy. For this, he used a Model 1816 musket in .69 caliber that was converted from the original flintlock to a percussion lock. This type of arm was used by both sides in the early days of the war. In fact, in the first engagements of the war, some of the state volunteers and militias still fielded some

flintlocks to augment their often inadequate supply of arms. His second example, also in .69 caliber, was a converted musket with an improvement that was developed to speed the priming of the charge, the Maynard Tape Primer lock. He moved then to an example of an 1842 musket that was originally built as a percussion arm. He then showed an 1851 Cadet Musket (possibly of the VMI arms) in .57 smoothbore. A small number were eventually produced with rifling and long range rear sights. He showed an 1841 rifled musket, commonly called the Mississippi rifle that now used a smaller .54 caliber patched round ball. He moved on to the one of the most common Union arms, the 1861 Springfield rifle-musket. He also covered the importation of arms by both sides to meet the demand for arms (and the South's limited production capability) with a discussion of the 1853 and 1858 Enfields from England and the Lorenz from Austria. For this part he used Enfield replicas in 2 band (1858 and 3 band (1853), and a Parker-Hale Whitworth Rifle favored by Southern sharpshooters. Union sharpshooters used Sharps .52 caliber breechloaders. The presentation was followed by a good question and answer session. VGCA wishes to thank Jim for his well-researched, organized and delivered presentation. If you were unable to attend this presentation, then you missed a very entertaining and enjoyable presentation by Jim Burgess. However, thanks to modern digital camcorders and the internet, you can view Jim's presentation at the on John Morris's YouTube website at the following link. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RorfZ2xaE5U>

☛ **Upcoming for the September 27th Meeting:** our speaker for the evening will be **Kent Jefferies, Supervisory Air Marshal in Charge (SAC) for Field Workforce Operations** of the Federal Air Marshal Service, providing oversight to recruiting and hiring requirements on behalf of the Assistant Director for the Office of Field Operations. Mr. Jefferies' career in law enforcement includes the Fairfax County, Virginia, Police Department; the FBI; the U.S. Secret Service; and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). He was also detailed to the Domestic Terrorism Operations Unit of the FBI on behalf of TIGTA. During his 21-year career with the Secret Service, he served in Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Richmond Field Offices; as well as the Counter Assault Team, the Office of Training, and the Office of Protective Operations where he was a supervisor on the Presidential Protective Division. This should be an interesting presentation. This month **will** also feature pizza.

We will need members to help clean up all trash. This is critical due to NRA events in the lecture hall, and since we are guests in the hall we do not want to leave a mess.

Remaining 2012 Meetings and Speaker Topics (any changes will be noted in future Newsletters):

- **October 25:** Lt.Col. Bernie Breighner, USAF Ret., *Collector Class III, Sniper Rifles, and other weapons*;
- **November:** **No Meeting – Fall Gun Show**;
- **December 6:** Annual VGCA Holiday Pot Luck Dinner, BoD Candidate Nominations, extended Show & Tell/Holiday Swap Meet.

2013 Presentation Volunteers Needed: We will need presenters for 2013. Call one of the Association officers now to request your preferred month for 2013. There are 9 potential presentation dates (January, February, April, May, June, August, September, October and December) in 2013. We do not have meetings in the gun show months (March and November) or in mid-summer (July). Remember, you do not need to do it solo (grab a partner or friend) and it does not have to be a marathon. Short and direct works best; and it does not have to have slides. If you wish, there are members who will assist if you wish to use a PowerPoint presentation.

Business Meeting for August 23rd Meeting: Vice President Ernie Lyles chaired the meeting in the absence of Association President Dave Litchfield. Ernie made the sad announcement about long time VGCA charter member and show table holder **Frank Lindsey** who had recently passed away (see obituary notice in later pages). He then kicked off the first scheduled item of business with a formal presentation to **Jim Supica, Director of the NRA National Firearms Museum (NFM)** of a \$1000 donation from the VGCA to the NRA NFM to support the Museum and its educational mission. This was followed by **John Babey**, representing VGCA and the S&W Collectors Association, who presented Jim with an unusual S&W revolver which fills a hole in the NFM's extensive collection. **Sonny Laine** introduced his guest (and wife), Angela.

Notice: The VGCA critically needs a volunteer to serve as the **Deputy Security Manager** for the Gun Shows. Please call **John Frietsch, Safety and Security Coordinator** at 1-540-409-1271, or any of the Club Officers or Directors if you would like to take on this important role.

Notes from the Podium – President's Message:

Recently, some of us attended the funeral and memorial service for long time VGCA member and show table holder Frank Lindsey. Frank was a Marine combat veteran, enlisted, Warrant Officer and he retired as a Captain. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and wonderful friend to many in VGCA. He also played an active role in the lives of his nephews and nieces. His family provided heartwarming remembrances of him at the memorial service. His wife, Eva was very pleased to see so many VGCA and NRA friends and she gave us all a big smile and a hug. VGCA was very fortunate to have such a fine man as a member and we will miss Frank and Eva at our shows. I invited Eva to please come and visit us in November. VGCA sent food to the Lindsey home and we are making a contribution to his charity.

We are gearing up for the November show and table sales are looking good. We are almost sold out for the first building. Sam Hatfield and his team will operate their electronic shooting range in the back building again. We will charge \$5.00 per shooter to recover the cost of renting the building and providing this safe, fun shooting experience, which should bring out more people to the show.

Our next field trip for 2012 will be over the period of October 8-11 when we travel to Springfield, Massachusetts to visit the Springfield Armory Museum and the Smith & Wesson factory and sales shop. We are hoping to get a private tour at the Armory, during which we'll get to see arms and accessories not open to the general public. We will also visit Hartford, Connecticut and tour the Colt Manufacturing facility there. Contact Rick Nahas and Bill York for more details and to get your name on the list for the trip. You will need to provide some personal information that will be compiled on a roster that is required by both S&W and Colt before we will be allowed into their facilities. Stay tuned for more information.

Happy Collecting, and help us join new qualified members to VGCA

Keep Collecting, *Dave Litchfield*

Announcements, etc.



Obituary: It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Charter Member of the VGCA, and a member who was always present at our gun shows, **Joel F. Lindsey, Captain USMC (Ret.)** An e-mail notification with funeral information was broadcast to all VGCA members on August 22, 2012.

On Saturday, August 18, 2012, Frank Lindsey lost his courageous fight against cancer from exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam. Frank joined the Marine Corps in July 1953 and served 20 years as a U.S. Marine. He graduated from Marine Warrant Officer Basic course in 1962, served two tours in Vietnam, and retired as a Captain. He was born in De Leon Springs, Florida, on April 21, 1932. After retirement from the Marine Corps, Frank served as Utilities Branch Chief, Fairfax County, Fairfax, Virginia for 10 years. Frank was highly respected as an authority on U.S. military arms and an outstanding competitive marksman. He was especially fond of hunting and traveled throughout this Country with his wife and soul mate of 50 years, Eva. Together they hunted many game species and shared their love for the outdoors. He will be remembered by many as a knowledgeable and generous source of historical and technical information on firearms, reloading and competitive shooting. He is survived by his devoted and loving wife, Eva. Graveside and interment services were on Tuesday, August 28th at Quantico National Cemetery in Triangle, VA, followed by a memorial service and reception at the Baker-Post Funeral Home & Cremation Center in Manassas, VA. The guestbook is at www.bakerpostfh.com.

- ◎ **CALL for Fall 2012 VGCA Gun Show Volunteers:** The dates are November 2nd, (vendor set-up), with the show on the 3rd and 4th. We always need volunteers for the **Show Table Setup** and the **Safety and Security Teams**, as well as some folks to help with the **Sign Detail** the morning of the show, and pick them up after the show on Sunday, etc. This is even more important with the show now being in 2 buildings. Tell **John Frietsch, Dave Litchfield** or one of the Association Officers or Directors if you wish to volunteer, or sign up at the three monthly meetings left before the show. Talk to **Larry Hare** or **Steve Phillippy** if you want to help with signs. Fall Gun Show table set-up will be on Friday, November 2, exact time TBA, but usually around 11:00AM, or whenever the tables arrive!
- ◎ **Safety Team Volunteers:** If any member wishes to help out for an hour or so at the show, please call **John Frietsch**, Safety and Security Coordinator at 1-540-409-1271. **Remember, volunteering for the Security, Safety, and Setup teams gets a free admission.**
- ◎ **Fall 2012 VGCA Gun Show Sales Tables:** *Calling all members!!!* The Association *still has tables remaining for the Fall 2012 VGCA Gun Show*. Members who wish to reserve a table for disposing of your unloved or duplicate firearms, accoutrements, parts collectable accessories, or other gun collecting related items, please contact Rick Nahas, ASAP. **We are planning for 2 buildings and tables are going FAST!** Remember, this show is right before the 2012 Presidential Election and should be quite busy if recent shows are an indication. If you believe manning a sales table alone would be too demanding and not allow you time to hunt for deals or just talk to other members, get a partner and share the duties and have relief for your time around the show. Show tables cost \$60 each, so share the costs with a colleague.

★ **Fairfax Friends of the NRA will hold its 2012 Friends of the NRA Dinner and Auction** on Friday, October 5, 2012 at 6:30 PM at *The Waterford at Fair Oaks*, 12025 Lee-Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA. Contact: Scott Meyer at Phone: (434) 696-2189 or Email: info@fairfaxfonra.org. Please visit them at www.fairfaxfonra.org or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FairfaxFriendsofNRA for more information on the dinner, auctions and raffles.

New Gun Store: Dave Litchfield wanted to pass on a tip about a new gun shop that has opened in Woodbridge, VA. **C&G Guns** is located at 1549 Old Bridge Rd, Suite 204 in Woodbridge, VA 22192. Telephone: 703-864-6618. Dave spoke with Mike Cameron, the owner. They had a small selection of used rifles, pistols and shotguns, plus new guns and accessories. This location is about two-three blocks from where Old Bridge intersects with Rt. 123. Their website is www.cameronguns.com.

Show & Tell for the August 23rd Meeting: Show and Tell was an eclectic mix of arms from around the world and over different periods of history. **Member 1** started off with his WW2 vintage OSS Liberator pistol. What made this pistol unique was both its outstanding condition and its provenance – it was presented by a Philippines Defense Minister to a US General in a beautiful presentation case made in the Philippines. **Member 2** showed a Soviet Tokarev SVT-40 sniper rifle with original mount and scope. Unlike many of the examples seen today, this one was as issued, unconverted by an importer, and is now quite rare. Next up, from **Member 3**, was a Henshal dragoon pistol sold to the British East India Company. This type of arm was often presented by the East India Company in presentation cases as gifts to the various Maharajas of India and South Asia to ally their kingdoms to the English Crown. **Member 4** added to the evening's topic of American Civil War arms with his Sharps Rifle with Sword bayonet. He also displayed a Plymouth Rifle in .69 caliber. This was the first rifled .69 caliber arm and also the first application of a peep sight by the military. Developed by Admiral Dahlgren, the rifle with original yagatan bayonet was as long as an 1861 Springfield, however as the Admiral wanted a fighting knife for the navy, so a heavy alternative knife-style 'bayonet' was developed for the Plymouth. **Member 5** presented an AR-17 shotgun developed by Eugene Stoner of Armalite. This shotgun had an aluminum alloy receiver and a steel-lined aluminum alloy barrel and a plastic stock that was similar to the Remington nylon Zytel material used in the stocks of the Nylon Model .22s made by Remington. The gun's very light weight made its recoil 'spirited' to say the least. **Member 6** showed what appeared to be a Confederate Spiller and Burr brass-framed percussion revolver. However, as the arm was totally devoid of any marking, proofs, cartouches or other identifying engravings or stampings, its origin is unknown. It may be original, but more likely is a reproduction or a replica that was defarbed (had markings removed) for re-enacting. **Member 7** brought his 8x57mm custom Mauser with Zeiss 4X scope. This nicely executed custom rifle was originally a Kar98k military rifle. An always interesting Mossberg .22, the Model 46M was shown by **Member 8**. This rifle had the original Mossberg front sight that had 4 swing up sighting posts for various types of shooting, fully illustrating the Mossberg company motto of "More gun for the money." The evening ended with **Member 9** showing a Parker-Hale of Birmingham, England reproduction of the Whitworth Rifle favored by Confederate sharpshooters. These Enfield-patterned rifles used a hexagonal bullet to match the .45 caliber hexagon bore. It included all the accessories like the bullet mould, various tools, paperwork and Parker-Hale patch. The Parker-Hale replicas made in the UK in the 1970s were made using the original sealed patterns from the British pattern room and far closer to an original than the later Italian replicas, and are extremely accurate, making them highly sought after by both shooters and collectors.

Photos from the August Meeting



Upper Left: Jim Supica, Director, NRA National Firearms Museum is presented with a \$1000 donation from the VGCA.

Upper Right: OSS Liberator pistol dropped into the Philippines during WW2 later presented to a US General in a Philippines-made presentation case.

Lower Left: Henshal dragoon pistol sold to the British East India Company.

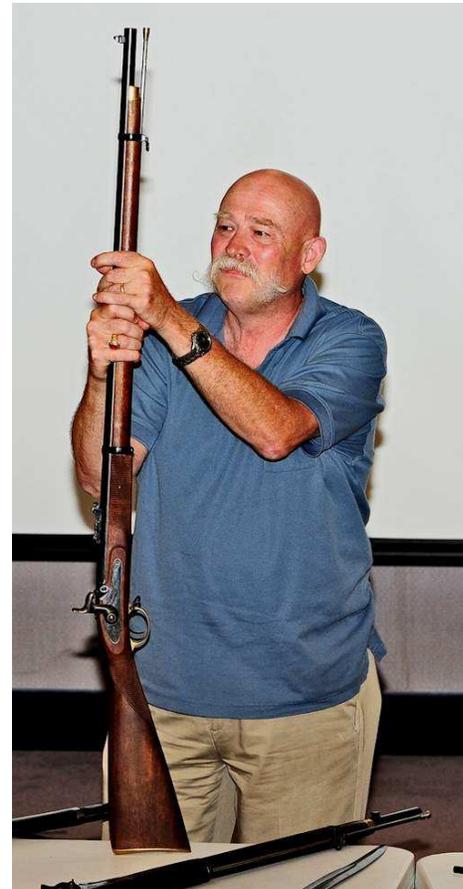


Top Left: Heavy fighting knife 'bayonet' developed for the Plymouth rifle.

Top Right: AR-17 aluminum alloy shotgun designed by Eugene Stoner and Armalite.



Center Left: Custom 8mm Mauser made from a Kar98K military rifle.



Lower Right: Parker-Hale reproduction of the famed Whitworth rifle.



Lower Left: Distinctive Whitworth hexagonal bullets and tools.

Upcoming Events and Shows

PLEASE NOTE: There are sometimes changes in schedules or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to *verify before driving to a show*. These dates have been published online, but are not guaranteed. **Yellow** = Collector organizations.

VIRGINIA 2012

- September 22-23, 2012 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - *SGK, LTD*
- September 22-23, 2012 - Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- September 28-30, 2012 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center - Nation's Gun Show – *C&E Gun Show*

- ⇒ **October 5, 2012 – Fairfax, VA - 2012 Friends of the NRA Dinner and Auction** at 6:30 PM at *The Waterford at Fair Oaks*, 12025 Lee-Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA. Contact: Scott Meyer at Phone: (434) 696-2189 or Email: info@fairfaxfonra.org
- ⇒ **October 6-7, 2012 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - Old Dominion Shows**
- ⇒ **October 13-14, 2012 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – C&E Gun Show**
- ⇒ **October 19-20, 2012 (Fri.-Sat.) – Salem, VA - 22nd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AIRGUN & TOY GUN EXPOSITION**, Roanoke Moose #284, 3233 Catawba Valley Dr. – Fri, 12-7PM, Sat, 9AM-4PM
- ⇒ **October 20-21, 2012 – Marshall, VA - Ruritian Club, 8400 Salem Ave., F&S Shows & Old Dominion Shows (NEW!)**
- ⇒ **October 20-21, 2012 - Richmond, VA – Showplace - C&E Gun Show**
- ⇒ **October 27-28, 2012 - Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center – Showmasters**
- ⇒ **November 3-4, 2012 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds – Virginia Gun Collectors Association**

MARYLAND 2012

- ⇒ **September 29-30, 2012 - Annapolis, MD - Annapolis Armory – Appalachian Promotions**
- ⇒ **October 6-7, 2012 - Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds – Appalachian Promotions**

PENNSYLVANIA 2012

- ⇒ **October 6-7, 2012 – Philadelphia, PA - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center (Oaks) – Eagle Arms**
- ⇒ **October 13-14, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Rodeway Inn - Eagle Arms**
- ⇒ **October 20-21, 2012 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society.** Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm.
- ⇒ **October 27-28, 2012 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - C&E Gun Shows**
- ⇒ **October 27-28, 2012 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds (Toyota Arena) – Appalachian Promotions**

OHIO 2012

- ⇒ **New: October 27-28, 2012 – Cleveland, OH - The I-X Center - Ohio Gun Collectors Association. OGCA MEMBERS ONLY.** <http://www.ogca.com/index.htm>

NEW YORK 2012

- ⇒ **September 22-23, 2012 – Freeport, NY - The Freeport Recreation Center - Long Island Antique Historical Arms Society.** Contact: Dave Gruner (631) 722-3248, P.O. Box 41, Jamesport, NY 11947

John F. Kennedy held a dinner in the white House for a group of the brightest minds in the nation at that time. He made this statement: "This is perhaps the assembly of the most intelligence ever to gather at one time in the White House with the exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone." Here are two timely Jefferson quote examples:

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not." ~ Thomas Jefferson

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them." ~ Thomas Jefferson.

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