



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

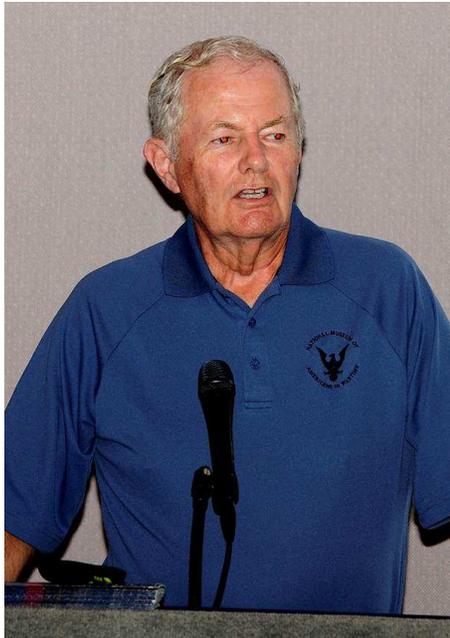
NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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September 2013 VGCA e-Newsletter



Presentation from the August 22, 2013 Meeting: For the evening’s presentation, we were honored to host NRA First Vice President and VGCA member **Allan D. Cors** covering the new *National Museum of Americans in Wartime*. Allan started by relating a conversation he had with a Vietnam veteran who did not want to be known as a “baby-killer.”

The purpose of the new museum is not to glorify war, but rather it wants to focus primarily on the individuals who have served in all branches of the military, as well as having a keen emphasis on those on the home front who have also made great sacrifices for this country and highlight their values of leadership, devotion, and courage. The weapons and equipment, to include the vintage military vehicles in the museum’s collection, will be used to support that goal. The scope of the museum is from World War I when the U.S. became a world power (although many historians often say the U.S. became a world power with the Spanish-American War), to the most recent conflicts.

The museum was originally planned at the Manassas Regional Airport but there was limited space. Stafford County offered 60 acres but Prince William County & the Hylton Corporation then came up with 70 acres near Dale City adjacent to I-95 valued at \$26 million. The site along Neabsco Creek is steep terrain with many ravines that are currently being

filled to allow development. Site work is underway.

Plans call for a main museum building with all the amenities (exhibit galleries, auditorium, gift shop, food, recording studio for oral history), parking for 450 cars/buses, a restoration hanger (essential to keep the museum’s fleet of vintage vehicles operational), and a large area devoted to different “landscapes of war” in which visitors will be able to become interactive and “experience” wartime settings. There will be simulators to give the feel of being in a Huey and C-47 aircraft. The USMC Museum at Quantico has similar exhibits. 2-1/2 ton trucks or other vintage vehicles may be used to shuttle visitors around.

The NMAW is ideally situated in a “corridor of military history” along I-95 with the Navy Memorial Museum in Washington, the planned Army museum at Fort Belvoir, and the USMC museum at Quantico and hopes to capitalize on the draw of the other museums. The NMAW qualifies as a 501(c)3 non-profit, educational organization. It is endorsed by the American Legion and other groups. It is partnered with Prince William County and George Mason University.

It will need to charge an admission fee to cover at least 1/3 of its operational costs and hopes that special events on a regular basis will boost attendance and help generate income to cover 2/3 of operational costs. Phase 1 (land acquisition and preliminary site work valued at \$32 million) is now complete; Phase 2 (raising \$50 million to complete the museum) is now underway. More information is available on its website: www.nmaw.org. VGCA President Litchfield indicated that the VGCA Board will be exploring ways in which it can support the funding goals of the NMAW possibly through an auction or by matching funds.

★ **Presentation for September 26, 2013 Meeting:** VGCA member Marc Gorelick will cover **U.S. MILITARY REMINGTON ROLLING BLOCK PISTOLS - One Step Forward and Two Steps Back**. This presentation will examine a unique chapter in the history of U.S. martial firearms by covering the background,

history, use and specifications of the three Rolling Block Pistols adopted by the US Navy and US Army in the post-Civil War years. It covers details for collectors, and describes the Remington Rolling Block system and some of the civilian versions and conversions that were based on the military models. Marc will also show examples from his collection. All are invited to bring in examples of Remington Rolling Block pistols, and rifles, both military and civilian. In addition, **there will be pizza and refreshments**, beginning between 6:15-6:30PM.

✪ **Remaining Meetings 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.

- **October 24:** **Richard Jones**, Editor of IHS Jane's Weapons-Infantry yearbook; former and last Custodian of the Pattern Room collection before it was transferred out of the Ministry of Defense ownership – “*The S&W 9mm Light Rifle in British Service*”
- **November:** **No Meeting – VGCA Gun Show**
- **December 5:** **Annual Membership Meeting** – NO Speaker/Pot Luck Dinner/Officer Nominations/Show & Tell/Swap Meet

✪ **Presentations for 2014:** The following presentations are already scheduled for next year. This will be a great line-up. Advance thanks to those who have signed up to present and to the members who arranged for some of the program speakers. As always, updates will be published in the newsletters each month.

- **January 23 – Doug Wicklund**, NRA Curator - *New National Sporting Arms Museum*, and tour of the Robert E. Petersen Gallery at the NFM
- **February 27 – Open**
- **March – NO Meeting – VGCA Gun Show**
- **April 24 - Carlos Davila** on “*The G-1/2/3 Family of Military Rifles*”
- **May 22 - Anthony Vanderlinden** returns with more on Belgian Arms with a look at “*Henri Pieper and the Bayard Legacy*” - A look at FN's co-founder and competitor
- **June 26 – Bill Chronister and Larry Hare** cover “*Precision Adult Air Rifles.*”
- **July – NO Meeting – Summer Recess**
- **August 28 – Open**
- **September 25 - Addison Hurst** – “*The Kalashnikov Rifle and Legacy*”
- **October 23 - Open**
- **November: NO Meeting - VGCA Gun Show**
- **December 4: Annual Membership Meeting** – NO Speaker/Pot Luck Dinner/Officer Nominations/Show & Tell/Swap Meet

Notes from the Podium – President’s Message

Hello All Members!

Let me wish a hearty September to all members and let's look forward to some good opportunities to collect new additions, and enjoy the great Virginia outdoors while hunting and shooting. Seasonal Oktoberfest beer is on sale and football is upon us again....life is good!

We are fast approaching our November 2-3, 2013 VGCA Gun Show. Many of our new members have signed up to volunteer, but we still need all the veteran volunteers to sign up again.

We'll have sign-up sheets at the September and October meetings, so please commit to Saturday or Sunday so we can fill up our roster of Security and Ticket selling teams.

We need Gun Checkers working out at the main gate to make sure all weapons are secured and no loaded magazines are carried inside the show. We are still all sold out and are now calling people on the waiting list if anyone cancels. Our show position is very strong, and we need you to help us execute a well-run show, with plenty of volunteer help to ensure all necessary work is accomplished.

We are very fortunate to have two outstanding presentations coming up. Marc Gorelick will present on Military Remington Rolling Block Pistols in September and Richard Jones of Jane's Military Publishing will visit from England to present in October on Smith & Wesson 9mm Light Rifles as used in WWII by the British Royal Navy. You don't want to miss either of these interesting extremely well informed presenters.

I look forward to seeing you at our September meeting, and if you attend either the Nations Gun Show at Chantilly in September or the Dale City Show in early October, please stop by my table and say hello.

~~ Happy Collecting, *Dave Litchfield*, President, VGCA

Business Meeting of August 22: New member applicants were introduced by Membership Chair **Larry Hare**. **Dan Marett**, were sponsored by Dave Litchfield; **Victor Scott**, a teacher, was sponsored by Bill Ludwig and David

Litchfield; **Sarah Valentine**, employed by Old Town Armory in Winchester, was sponsored by Larry Hare; **Ian Harper**, employed at Pentagon Federal Credit Union, was sponsored by Dave Litchfield; and **Phil Groff**. All of the individuals above were voted into membership. President **Dave Litchfield** asked that all members start wearing their ID badges at all meetings. He proposed that the camera be brought to meetings in addition to gun shows. Henry "Golden Boy" Rifles with VGCA logo have arrived. Members that have not yet picked up their rifles should contact **Rick Nahas**. He can process the transfers any evening up to 10 p.m. **John Isoldi** reported that the factory is currently backed up on many models which may negate any future order despite limited interest by some members in ordering rifles in other calibers (.357 Magnum, etc.) VGCA table covers also arrived and were distributed at the break to those that ordered them. Dave Litchfield thanked **Jim Burgess** for coordinating this purchase. There was no Treasurer's report as **Ed Costello** was on vacation but will be back in September. Bill Chronister was also out of town and wishes to thank **Jim Burgess**, **Marc Gorelick** and **Larry Hare** for taking detailed meeting notes for this newsletter. The November show has sold out all tables. There are 5-6 people on a waiting list. We are only using one building. Sam Hatfield has sales tables but will not be setting up his shooting gallery. A discussion was held about the 2 new ticket booths at the Fairgrounds entrance gate and whether we could use them. Possibilities include reduced admission for VGCA members in good standing, and will be discussed by the Board. Note: the gate fee for admission will increase to \$7 at the show in November. It was noted however, that additional VGCA volunteers would be needed to work the gate and safety table if there are any changes to entry procedures.

Important Announcements, etc.

- ⊙ Members are reminded that they should **wear their VGCA membership badges at the monthly meetings** and the gun shows. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- ⊙ We are sad to announce that **Joseph Murphy** passed. He provided a presentation to the VGCA membership on his two Colt Walker Revolvers a few years ago.
- ⊙ **The Fairfax Friends of NRA committee cordially invites you to the 2013 Friends of NRA Dinner & Auction – Friday, October 4, 2013 at the Waterford at Fair Oaks**, 12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy., Fairfax, VA. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Live Auction • Silent Auction • Special Drawings Limited Edition Firearms • Custom Knives • NRA Commissioned Art • Special Lady's Merchandise • Plus Many Items Created Especially for this NRA event and much more. Purchase Tickets prior to September 25th and be entered into an early bird bucket raffle. Tickets are available for: Individual Dinner \$60; Couple's Dinner \$100; National Liberty Sponsor \$250; Couple's Package \$350; VIP Table Package \$2000. *For more Information Contact: David Wells, 434-696-2189 or dwells@nrahq.org. Purchase Tickets Online at www.nrahq.org/va. Please visit <https://www.friendsofnra.org/EventDetails.aspx?eid=10396&sid=48>.* Since its inception in 1992, Friends of NRA has held over 15,000 events, reached over 2.8 million attendees and raised over \$200 million for The NRA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.
- ⊙ **CALL for Fall 2013 VGCA Gun Show Volunteers:** The dates are Friday, November 1, (vendor set-up), with the show on the Saturday and Sunday, November 2 - 3. 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. Tell **Dennis Gerdovich**, **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** if you want to help with signs. Fall **show table set-up** will be on Friday morning, November 1, around 10:00AM, or whenever the tables arrive.
- ⊙ **Safety Team Volunteers:** If any member wishes to help out for an hour or so at the show, please contact **Dennis Gerdovich**, Acting Safety and Security Coordinator. **Remember, volunteering for the Security, Safety, and Setup teams gets a free admission.**

Legislative Alerts and News Updates

Massive New Gun Taxes Proposed

(GunNews.com) — The "Gun Violence Prevention and Safe Communities Act," a bill sponsored by William Pascrell, D-N.J., and Danny Davis, D-Ill., would nearly double the current 11 percent tax on handguns, while raising the levy on bullets and cartridges from 11 percent to 50 percent.

The bill would also increase the transfer tax on all weapons (except antique guns) covered under the National Firearms Act (which excludes most common guns) from \$200 to \$500 and index to inflation and increase the transfer tax for any other weapon from \$5 to \$100.

Said Rep. Pascrell, co-Chair of the House Law Enforcement Caucus and member of the Ways and Means Committee, “It has been well over two decades since tax rates were last adjusted on firearms and ammunition, and I believe it is appropriate that we look to these taxes as a way to direct additional resources to law enforcement, background checks and gun violence research.”

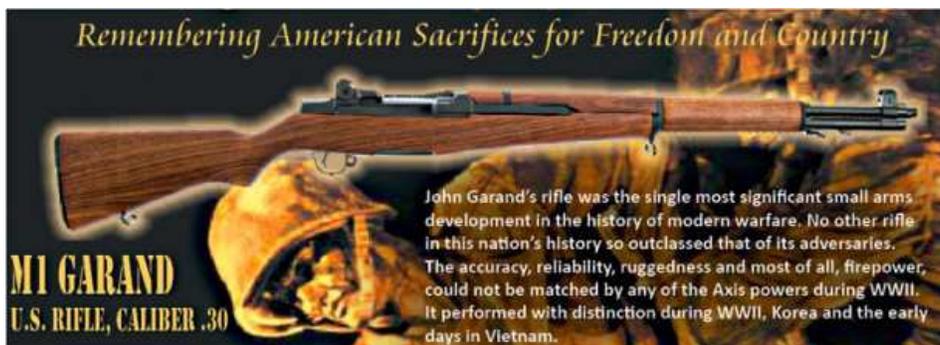
The lawmakers say the bill would generate \$600 million per year, which they claim would be used to fund law-enforcement and gun violence prevention. The bill would exempt all federal, state and local agencies, including police departments, from paying the tax.

“What the anti-gun interests can’t ban, they want to tax it out of existence,” Alan Gottlieb, chairman for the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, told FoxNews.com. “It’s nothing more than confiscatory taxation.”

The bill includes the following provisions:

- Increase in federal excise tax on handguns (both pistols and revolvers) from 11% to 20%
- **Increase in federal excise tax on ammunition from 11% to 50%**
- Increase in NFA tax (pre-’86 autos, SBRs, suppressors, etc.) from \$200 to \$500
- Increase in NFA AOW tax from \$5 to \$100
- Increases in special (occupational) tax for importers, manufacturers, and dealers
- Adding semiautomatic pistols “chambered for cartridges commonly considered rifle rounds, configured with receivers commonly associated with rifles and capable of accepting detachable magazines” to the list of items taxable as NFA items (26 USC § 5845).

Obama’s Ban on Relics



(GunNews.com) — Barack Obama’s new strategy for attacking gun owners specifically targets collectors and competitors by blocking returns of surplus military rifles over six decades old, and reveals his extremist anti-gun attitude, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA) said last week.

The president’s new gun control measures, announced by Vice President Joe Biden, will prevent the recovery of thousands of military-surplus M-1 Garand rifles that are valued by collectors, competitors and historic re-enactors. These firearms were loaned or donated to South Korea decades ago.

“This is an outrage,” said CCRKBA Chairman Alan Gottlieb, “and the only people being hurt are law-abiding citizens. If there were any doubt about the level of anti-gun extremism in the Obama administration, this announcement just put those doubts to rest.”

There is pending legislation, H.R. 2247, the “Collectible Firearms Protection Act” sponsored by Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) that would prevent this, he noted.

This new prohibition will have far-reaching effects on all kinds of curio and relic firearms. Such firearms have considerable historic significance and value to American firearms aficionados, and there is no evidence that such firearms have ever been favored by criminals.

Gottlieb said, “This ruling also sends a message to the firearms industry, and particularly importers, that this administration cannot be trusted. The president is taking out his frustration for being unable to pass his gun control agenda, and the only people who will suffer are citizens who would never break the law with any of these firearms. Punishing innocent people may be the Chicago way, but it’s not the American way, or the way an American president ought to lead.”

Early consideration for the Election of VGCA Officers for the 2014-2016 Term. This is a request to get members thinking about the Annual Association Membership Meeting in early December. As last time, we will be taking nominations from the floor at the December meeting for candidates for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The December Annual Membership Meeting is the only opportunity you may have to question potential candidates about their ideas for the direction of the Association, instead of relying on a

photo and one paragraph attachment to the ballot. Some of the incumbent Officers have indicated they are not running for re-election, so we will need to have candidates to fill the vacant positions. Please consider if you would like to run, or if you have someone you would like to nominate to run. Our recent elections have had increasing interest and candidates, and we have been busy recruiting and signing up new members, which is a good sign.

Show & Tell at the August 22, 2013 Meeting: **Member 1** pulled out the stops with his newly acquired 1861 Colt Special .58cal musket. It looked unissued, and seemed to still have some rust preservative grease still remaining on it. He also displayed an exceptional assortment of US trowel bayonets that consisted of two Models of 1873 with fine leather scabbards; one Model of 1868 and one Model of 1869, both with their original scabbards and walnut handle plug inserts. All of these looked to be in fine, original condition and several looked to be unissued. These trowel U.S. bayonets were only produced for a few years, and are exceedingly rare in any condition. **Member 2** displayed a Stevens Visible Loader in .22LR which was in very nice condition. These were produced around WWI and were quite a novelty in that you can actually see the unfired cartridge being chambered. Unfortunately, the unique mechanism was very entertaining and consequently many were played with to death, earning the nickname of “miserable loader.” This example was tight and clean and a fine survivor. He also showed a Crosman slide action BB gun with a rifled barrel. **Member 3** displayed a recently acquired Winchester Model 490 semi-automatic .22LR manufactured in the old Cooley Canadian manufacturing plant in 1974 to 1975. They are very well made of walnut and steel and the quality of construction is atypical of Cooley’s usual simple, inexpensive firearms and takes styling cues from the Winchester Models 100 and 88 center fire rifles. **Member 4** displayed a Polish manufactured copy of the HK flare gun, complete with accessory cartridge adaptor. With that last item the evening concluded.

Photos from the August 2013 Meeting



Left: National Museum of American in Wartime (NMAW) site plan.

Lower Left: Outstanding Model 1861 Colt Special Rifle. This example looked brand new!

Right Vertical: Stevens Visible Loader pump-action .22LR rifle in great condition.



Shooting the Henry “Golden Boy” Rifle, Serial # VGCA001x
By Jim Burgess

I'm one of the fortunate VGCA members to acquire a Henry "Golden Boy" .22 lever action rifle with unique VGCA serial number. I didn't really need another .22 rifle since I have eleven others, many being military trainers to include a Kimber Model 82 acquired through another VGCA member before CMP sold out their last ones this year. I wasn't really crazy about the flashy finish on the receiver of the Golden Boy. I would have much preferred a case colored receiver. However, being left-handed, I like the fact that a lever action is ambidextrous. Having the VGCA logo in color on the butt stock and a unique VGCA serial number also appealed to me in addition to the attractive \$380 price tag.

Rather than preserving my Henry rifle in unfired condition to maintain its collector value, I saw nothing wrong with shooting it. I tend to take good care of the guns I shoot and as long as they are well maintained they will still appreciate in value. (Ask me about my well used Shiloh Sharps.) I soon discovered, while removing the factory preservative from the bore prior to firing my rifle, that the factory had already test fired the rifle and had left the bore a little dirty. Those not wanting to fire their rifles are only cheating themselves out of some fun.

Aside from service rifle competition, most of my competitive shooting is done off-hand, in an unsupported standing position, and that is how I shot my Henry rifle. Eventually I will shoot the rifle off the bench to test fire different brands of ammo and see what it likes best. For practice I tend to shoot whatever ammo I can get the cheapest and there doesn't seem to be a noticeable difference in group size when I'm shooting off-hand. I brought two different brands with me for my initial test firing, Winchester Wildcat, and Remington High-Velocity ammo. Both employ a 40-grain bullet and muzzle velocities are about the same. As expected, both brands grouped in the same place without a need for sight adjustment.

Out at Fairfax Rod & Gun Club's Mann Range I set up an N-SSA target at 50 yards. The N-SSA 50-yard musket/carbine target has 1-inch wide scoring rings with the 9 and 10 rings black making a 4-inch diameter bulls eye well suited for iron sights and my aging eyes. Not having any clue where the rifle would print, I took a 6-o'clock hold on the target with the rear sight at its lowest setting. My first shot was off the paper, a foot low and about 5 inches to the left. My next shot was on paper after adjusting the rear sight up four notches but it was still to the left. Fortunately I had the foresight to bring a brass hammer and a makeshift plastic drift punch. A few taps to the right on the dovetailed rear sight got my shots centered. I was now ready to "rock and roll" and shoot for score.

I fired 40 rounds between two targets. It is my habit to put 20 shots on each target and divide the score by 2 to get an average. The first target averaged 90.5 with several 8s and a wide shot in the 6-ring that I called. My second target averaged 92.5 with only a few shots outside the black in the 8 ring. Interestingly, using the same target I shot similar scores with the Kimber M82 which has much more sophisticated iron sights. The big difference between the two rifles is the fact that after firing 40 rounds offhand through the heavy (10+ lbs.) Kimber, I was worn out. That was not the case with the lighter Henry. It was fun to shoot.

The Henry performed flawlessly, ejecting spent cartridges briskly to the right front and chambering new rounds from the magazine very smoothly. I discovered another advantage to shooting the Henry left-handed. Having a good view of the ejection port on the right side of the receiver, it was easy to tell when the magazine was empty. Right-handers will need to count their shots to avoid pulling the trigger on an empty chamber and risk firing pin and/or chamber rim damage.

I had a great time on the range and I'm very happy with my investment. I would encourage the other VGCA members with these rifles to get out and enjoy them. © Jim Burgess, 2013 for VGCA Newsletter

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

- ☉ **September 21-22, 2013 - Hampton, VA - Convention Center - SGK, LTD**
- ☉ **September 21-22, 2013 - Salem, VA - Salem Civic Center - C&E Gun Show**
- ☉ **September 27-29, 2013 - Chantilly, VA - Dulles Expo Center - 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.)
- ☉ **October 5-6, 2013 - Winchester, VA - Winchester Sportsplex - SGK, LTD**
- ☉ **October 12-13, 2012 - Virginia Beach, VA - Convention Center - SGK, LTD**

- ⇒ **October 12-13, 2013 - Harrisonburg, VA** - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **October 26-27, 2013 - Fredericksburg, VA** - Expo Center - *SGK, LTD*
- ⇒ **October 26-27, 2013 - Roanoke, VA** - Roanoke Civic Center – *Showmasters*
- ⇒ **November 2-3, 2013 - Manassas, VA** - Prince William County Fairgrounds – *Virginia Gun Collectors Association*

MARYLAND 2013 – (NOTE: Due to the anti-2nd Amendment hysteria of the state governor and extremist anti-gun legislation passed in Maryland in Spring 2013, verify whether a show will still be held before travelling.)

- ⇒ **October 5-6, 2013 - Timonium, MD** - Timonium Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA 2013

- ⇒ **September 21-22, 2013 - Harrisburg, PA** - Farm Show Complex – *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*
- ⇒ **October 5-6, 2013 – Philadelphia, PA** - Greater Philadelphia Expo Center (Oaks) – *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **October 12-13, 2013 – Carlisle, PA** – Carlisle Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **October 13-14, 2013 - Allentown, PA** - Rodeway Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **October 19-20, 2013 – Bloomsberg, PA** – Bloomsberg Fairgrounds - *Eagle Arms*
- ⇒ **October 19-20, 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.
- ⇒ **October 26-27, 2013 - Monroeville, PA** - Convention Center - *C&E Gun Shows*
- ⇒ **October 26-27, 2013 - York, PA** - York Fairgrounds (Toyota Arena) – *Appalachian Promotions*

NEW YORK 2013 – (NOTE: Due to the extremist Governor's anti-2nd Amendment agenda and radical anti-gun legislation passed in NY State in Spring 2013, verify whether a show will actually be held before travelling.)

- ⇒ **September 21-22, 2013 – 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

OHIO 2013

- ⇒ **September 21-22, 2013 – Wilmington, OH** – Roberts Centre - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY.** <http://www.ogca.com/index.htm>
- ⇒ **New: October 12-13, 2013 – Cleveland, OH** - The I-X Center - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY.** <http://www.ogca.com/index.htm>

OKLAHOMA 2013

- ⇒ **November 9-10, 2013 – Tulsa, OK** - Expo Center-Expo Square (Tulsa Fairgrounds) - *Tulsa Arms Collectors Association*. ****MORE THAN 4,100 TABLES!****

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