



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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September 2023 VGCA Newsletter



President's Comments

Greetings to my Fellow VGCA members,

After a long summer in the Northwest, I'm back in town and looking forward to a full calendar of VGCA activities.

First, I want to thank VP George Dungan for managing the August membership meeting and participating in the several Executive Committee meetings during my absence.

Next, I want remind you that we have our next membership meeting on September 28th, when member Dan Bescher will talk to us about Smith & Wesson Hand Ejectors. We must also prepare for our Fall Gun Show at the Fairgrounds in Manassas. The dates are November 4-5 and Show Director Rick Nahas reports that there are still both display and sales tables available. Do consider contacting Rick for a table. It's worth noting that our show will take place a few days prior to the elections on November 7th. It is likely that the atmosphere will be charged with both pro and anti-gun energy, so we should anticipate a lot of interest and a large turnout. As always, we will be looking for volunteers to assist with show set up on November 3rd and security throughout that weekend.

Take care, and I look forward to seeing you on the 28th at the NRA.

Ed Costello, VGCA President

★ August Presentation: Displays 101



VGCA member Rob Becker (left) gave an informative presentation on displaying firearms. He opened by observing that whether it is one special piece or a room full of examples, firearms have a story to tell – through their collectors. The purpose of this month’s presentation was to provide the basic knowledge to successfully tell your firearms’ story to others via a display.

Rob noted that creating a display does not have to be hard and that the tips he provided will hopefully

make it relatively easy! He added that this presentation is an extension of an article in the January 2022 VGCA Newsletter by Marc Gorelick and himself.

Firearms displays at the VGCA gun shows are one of the items that sets our shows apart from all others in the area. There are two primary benefits from displaying:

1. Educating VGCA members and the public on firearms history
2. VGCA members and the public learn what you are interested in and can give you leads on future acquisitions

Where do we start? Rob put forth that the single most important element of any display is choosing a suitable theme/subject. Limited only by your collection and your imagination, this must still be narrow and focused enough to be adequately covered by the display. Choosing a topic like “Military Rifles” is far too broad and would require the space of one or more museums. Even subjects such as “Centerfire Cartridge Military Rifles” or “Military Rifles of the 20th Century” are still too encompassing, but something along the lines of “Italian Rifles of WWII” or “Swiss Military Rifles 1900-1950” could be reasonably covered by a one or two table display.

There are several possible themes to consider (and this list is by no means exhaustive):

1. One Model of Firearm by One Manufacturer/Designer
2. One Model of Firearm by Multiple Manufacturers
3. Various Models made by One Manufacturer/Designer
4. Various Types/Models made during a particular time period or during a specific event
5. Single Firearm
6. Accessories

Rob provided multiple examples of each type but in the interest of space we will only reproduce a select few here.

One Model of Firearm by One Manufacturer/Designer

This display (*at right*) titled “The First Large Frame D.A. Revolver – The Colt Model 1878” was presented at the Baltimore Antique Arms Show in March 2016.



One Model of Firearm by Multiple Manufacturers

Also from the March 2016 Baltimore Show was this large, multi-table display on the M1 Carbine (*at left*) that had examples of each of the WWII manufacturers, as well as an oversize classroom trainer mock-up, assorted barrel attachments, and period photographs.

Various Models made by One Manufacturer/Designer

VGCA Member Larry Hare (*right*) shared this display titled “John M. Browning’s Automatic .22 rim-fire rifle – An Inspired and Timeless Design 1914-2017” at the VGCA Gun Show in March 2017. In this case, a similar Browning design was produced by several different companies.



Various Types/Models made during a particular time period or during a specific event

This display titled “The Lee Enfield in WWII - Protecting the Commonwealth Once Again” (*right*) was created by member Rob Becker for the VGCA Gun Show in March 2017. For another example in the category, see his “Signal Guns and Flare Projectors of the First World War” display at the top of this article.



Single Firearm

This display titled “Colt Thompson Submachine Gun Serial 201, Model 1921 Purchased 100 Years Ago by Baldwin Locomotive” (*at left*) contains just one firearm and its documented provenance. It was displayed at the Ohio Gun Collectors Show in May 2021.



Accessories

“A withering Hail of Iron - Grape and Canister in the Civil War” (*right*) is an excellent example of an accessory display. Shown at the Baltimore Antique Arms Show in March 2019, this impressive display was too large to be easily photographed!

Hints and Tricks

Rob offered several hints on how to put together an effective display. They included:

Things to Do to Make your Display “Pop”

1. Make sure your display title is clearly visible and distinctive
2. Make sure items are clearly visible (have enough room to clearly display everything)
3. Keep background (table cover, backboard, etc.) neutral and simple
4. Label everything - and place the label close to the item described
5. “Dry run” your display at home – consider “curb appeal”
6. Use period photographs, commercial advertisements, or promotional materials
7. Use off-white, ivory or cream-colored heavy stock paper for signage - avoid standard white paper as the stark contrast with your background can draw attention away from the item(s) displayed
8. Use a glass case to display/protect small items and any live ammunition

Things Not To Do

1. Don’t leave firearms unsecured – but try to make security (zip ties, etc.) as unobtrusive as possible
2. Don’t include items that do not directly support your title/theme
3. Don’t “write a book” on labels/placards. 2-4 sentences is a good rule of thumb and font size should be large enough to be easily read from several feet away
4. Don’t crowd your display/appear cluttered – get enough table space to spread items out so they can be clearly seen
5. Don’t just copy references/descriptions out of books
6. Don’t use books as a substitute for labels, text, or graphics
7. Don’t build your display too big to be easily transported!

Rob demonstrated some of these “DO’s” and “DON’T’s” on the display he set, reinforcing the points and the logic behind them visually.

Finally, Rob discussed specifics of displaying at a VGCA Show. He reviewed the judging criteria and noted the many ways that the VGCA incentivizes its members to create a display. For example, VGCA members can sign up for up to two free tables per show for a display (though no sales can be conducted from display tables). The VGCA offers a \$100 stipend for members who are displaying for the first time to help offset cost of building the display. Judged displays can win cash prizes (\$300 for 1st Place, \$200 for 2nd Place, and \$100 for 3rd Place, and \$50 for Judges Choice) and ribbons can be awarded for Best Military and Best Antique firearms.

It is hoped that someone watching this presentation will be motivated to share part of their own collection at a future VGCA show, to the benefit of our fellow members and the public alike!

If you are interested in creating a display and have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of our officers or directors. Good luck!



★ Next Membership Meeting: Sep 28th

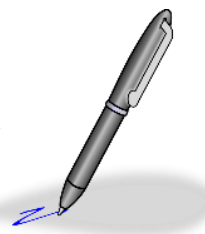
“Smith & Wesson Hand Ejectors” by Dan Bescher

Location: NRA HQ Conference Room

Our September VGCA Membership Meeting will be in the Conference Room at the NRA Headquarters. The room will open at 6 p.m. and, following some pizza and refreshments, the meeting will start at 7 p.m. Bring your favorite S&W for Show-n-Tell. Don't miss it - hope to see you then!

★ August Meeting Notes

The VGCA meeting on August 24th was called to order promptly at 7:00 p.m. by VGCA Vice President George Dungan. Member Jim Burgess led those assembled through the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for those members who are no longer with us as well as those military members that have fallen in the service of our country. This was followed by introduction of new members and guests. There were 41 members and guests present, as well as 7 more participating on-line via webinar.



VGCA Tee-Shirts have been ordered! Details will be provided (sizes, cost, etc.) once they arrive.

Speaking of VGCA merchandise, George provided an update on the VGCA 40th Anniversary commemorative Henry Rifles. We are looking at the Henry “Golden Boy” lever action rifle in .22LR. These will have the VGCA patch laser-engraved in the butt stock and a special/unique serial number range. Cost will depend on how many we order, but right now projected to be approximately \$750.

VGCA is planning at least two tours/outings in 2024. We are looking for volunteers to be our Tour Coordinators. Please contact one of our officers or directors for further details or if interested in volunteering to organize/execute these events.

George gave an update on our membership status. We have 421 life members and 118 annual members, for a total of 539.

Gun Show Director Rick Nahas provided a quick update on our November Gun Show. There are only 12 tables remaining unfilled. If you are interested in a sales or display table for November, please contact Rick as soon as possible. Show Security Director Frank Cambria announced that we will start signing up show security volunteers at the September Membership Meeting. We are also looking for volunteers to man our Membership Table. As a reminder, members who volunteer 4 hours for security or the membership table will receive a \$25 gift certificate, redeemable with vendors at the show. Show flyers are available – please take some and hand them out! Also associated with the November show will be a 50/50 Raffle. Look for tickets to go on sale starting at a membership meeting before the show.

The 3rd round of the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) M1911 Pistol sales ends this month (see Marc Gorelick's CMP article on pages 14-15 for news about round 4).

We are looking for speakers at our 2024 membership meetings. If interested, please contact Matthew at matthewofmclean@gmail.com

The Italian M1859 “Corto” Revolver

By Troy Blackwood



(Sardinian Corto model from the collection of GVM)

The first martial handgun adopted by the Kingdom of Italy would actually be adopted before there was a Kingdom of Italy. In the late stages of Italian unification the newly captured southern region, formerly the Kingdom of Two Sicilies, struggled with guerrilla forces attacking the occupying force from the then Kingdom of Piedmont Sardinia. The guerrillas would often attack the government soldiers at close quarters, which created a need for a compact gun that could defend against multiple attackers. This fighting would also lead to the creation of the Carabinieri, a national paramilitary-like police force that acts similarly to the FBI and National Guard all in one. This new police organization had to be armed with a modern handgun because members had previously been issued two model of 1842 single shot percussion pistols. These were determined to not be enough to properly arm the Carabinieri.



Italian Bandits in Southern Italy Circa 1861

Italian requirements for a modern service pistol made the Lefauchaux revolver a perfect choice. It was small, held multiple cartridges, and had adequate stopping power at close range. The pistol does have some drawbacks that will be discussed later on. The Lefauchaux was not a domestic Italian design and Italy had to purchase the rights to produce the pistol from the Lefauchaux family in France. The Lefauchaux was a revolutionary weapon for its time period. While by no means the first gunmakers to make a revolver, the Lefauchaux family created many of the innovations that made a modern revolver possible.

The history of the Lefauchaux family of gunsmiths started with Casimir Lefauchaux, who studied under Samuel Pauly in Paris France. Samuel Pauly was himself a revolutionary gunsmith who has largely been forgotten today. Pauly was one of the early experimenters when it came to breach loading firearms. In 1818 he created an early attempt at a breach loading rifle with an early form of a self-contained centerfire cartridge. In 1827 Casimir would take inspiration from Pauly, improving on the cartridge's design with a patent for a self-contained paper cartridge with a brass base with pin sticking out of it. This brass base had a primer that when struck by the pin would ignite the powder. This would go on to be called pinfire, which is often credited as the first self-contained cartridge. Casimir would go on to incorporate this pinfire system into as many arms as he could. The design would be further improved to include a fully brass case.

Casimir's son Eugene would improve upon his father's designs. For example, Eugene Lefauchaux was awarded the French patent for the bored-through cylinder. Smith and Wesson would acquire the rights to Rollin White's U.S. patent for a bored-through cylinder, but the patent was only good in the United States.

In 1859 the Kingdom of Piedmont Sardinia signed a contract with the Lefauchaux family for the purchase of 5,000 Lefauchaux pistols. However, these guns were not delivered until 1861. It is also important to note that by the time of delivery Piedmont Sardinia had become the Kingdom of Italy. The Italian navy and Carabinieri adopted the Lefauchaux revolvers. The army on the other hand chose to keep their Model of 1842 single shot percussion pistols. Guns for the navy were produced domestically at Brescia, Glisenti, and Terni under license. (Note: This last one has not been validated by the author beyond seeing a drawing of a gun in book on guns produced at Terni. End Note.) The Navy of Piedmont Sardinia (later the Italian Navy) would adopt the Lefauchaux in 1859 just one year after the French navy did. It is unclear exactly when Italy obtained the license to produce the Lefauchaux, but it is likely that Glisenti purchased the rights to produce the Lefauchaux pistol directly from the family. The Navy would also adopt the standard military model of Lefauchaux around the time of this order. Further research is needed on this topic as Italian adoption dates tend to be fluid and often refer to when the intended pattern of gun was picked rather than when it actually went into service. The Lefauchaux revolvers produced domestically in Italy likely went to the navy because it appears that the navy took up the majority of domestic production at this time.

The Kingdom of Italy would go on to make five more purchases of revolvers and parts from the Lefauchaux family and would quickly press these revolvers into service with the newly formed Carabinieri. These revolvers would be referred to as the "Corto revolvers" or short model in Italian service. Later on, they would get the official designation "pistola a rotazione da Carabinieri Reali modello

1861” in Italian service. As a note to the reader this pattern will be referred to the Corto model from now on. Eugene Lefauchaux claims that these pistols use upgrades he patented in 1859. However, the lock work more closely matches the original 1854 design.

The Corto pattern of revolvers were distinct from standard Lefauchaux in that they had a shortened 123mm barrel (roughly 4.8 inches). The standard barrel length was 157mm (roughly 6.2 inches). These revolvers would be single action only. One aspect that is distinct from earlier Lefauchaux is the frame of the revolver has a slightly wider diameter to ensure that the pins do not stand proud of the frame. This change was made around 1858-1859 and is one aspect of the 1859 patent that is present in the design. Each piece of the guns lock work is operated on its own leaf spring so the hammer, indexing arm, and trigger all have a separate left spring. The Lefauchaux also feature a unique method of ensuring lock up while firing. Once the hammer is fully cocked a small bar protrudes from the frame locking into the slot cut for the pin of the cartridge in the cylinder. This bar locks the cylinder in place and ensures that the cartridge lines up with the barrel. It will also ensure that it stays in place while the pistol is fired. After the gun is fired the hammer is now in the forward position against the cylinder. This allows the bar holding the cylinder in place to retract into the frame.

The Lefauchaux family offered revolvers that fire in single and double action. The kingdom of Italy along with many other nations choose not to have this feature. It was often thought by the military of the day that soldiers would expend all rounds as quickly as they could if given the opportunity and so waste ammunition. So, militaries of the era often removed features to slow down troops’ rate of fire to save ammunition. Single action guns of the era were also more simple in design and seen as more reliable in field conditions.

The M1859 Corto’s have a cylinder with a capacity of six 12mm pinfire Lefauchaux cartridges. This ammunition was designed and patented by Casimir Lefauchaux in 1843. Early on



Image from Aaron Newcomer



Image Courtesy of Veteran Arms

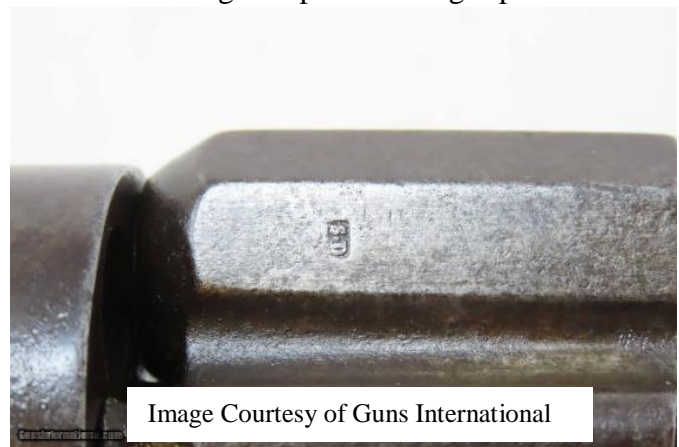
Sardinia later the Kingdom of Italy did not have the means to manufacture cartridges, so the first batches of ammo had to be imported from the Lefauchaux company in France. To the modern collector or shooter, it may seem like a poor choice to adopt a pinfire cartridge. As the cartridges tended to be fragile especially when dropped. At the time in Europe, pinfire guns were coming to prominence with different militaries. Rimfire cartridges at this time were still largely small caliber and centerfire designs despite being invented in 1818 were largely still experimental. Each round would be loaded through a swing up gate on the right side of the

revolver. This gate is held in place with a flat spring with a tab that locks the gate in place. The gate is opened by pressing the flat spring back which removes the tab from the notch in the frame. After inserting a round into the cylinder had to be manually indexed clockwise to the next empty chamber.

The Italian Lefauchaux has an open top design. This is similar to cap and ball Colt revolvers of the era. An open top design refers to the fact that barrel and cylinder are not directly supported by the frame. This design is weaker than a solid frame and limits the amount of pressure the revolver can handle, limiting the power of the cartridge. Later some Lefauchaux designs would change to a mostly fixed frame. While the M1859 Corto's barrel and cylinder are not attached directly to a central frame, they are connected to the frame using a central axis pin. This pin runs through the center of the cylinder and is threaded into a slot cut into the barrel assembly. The barrel assembly is also attached to the frame by a screw where the bottom of the frame and barrel meet. The Corto revolver also has a shortened ejector rod to match the shortened barrel. The ejection rod is also attached differently from a standard Lefauchaux. This model has a clip that keeps the rod attached to the frame. This differs from the commercial models that hold the rod in place with a screw. The rod is used to push spent cases out but moving the rod rearward with the loading gate open. This process has to be repeated for each chamber and the cylinder manually indexed by the user each time. The ejector rod is located in a position which unfortunately would cause it to get caught on things while being stowed or removed from the holster. This was a common issue for Lefauchaux pistols that caused the ejector rod to get bent out of shape making it impossible to use. Later orders of this revolver by the Italians and French made changes to the ejector rod to correct this issue. The ejector rod runs seventy five percent of the length of the barrel and helps to quickly identify the shortened barrel. The shortened barrel is rounded off rather than typical octagonal barrels found on some of other 1854 pattern Lefauchaux.

There are two styles of front sight on the M1859 Corto. The guns were originally made with a post with a globe. The later pattern of sight being a Barleycorn style fin similar to that found on Mauser pattern rifles. So if either style is observed it is correct. Low serial number guns may have had their sight replaced with the later style. Both styles are fitted to the barrel through a dovetailed notch and could theoretically be adjusted for windage. However, this was not likely done in the field by the soldier. The rear sight consists of a V shaped trough cut into the hammer much like Colt revolvers of the era. When the pistol is fully cocked the rear sight can be lined up with the front sight to provide a sight picture.

With the Sardinian order of Corto revolvers the barrel assembly will normally have an "SD" inspector marking from the Italian officer that accepted them. These stamps would be applied at the Lefauchaux factory in Paris by inspectors. They were then sent off the Turin Arsenal in Italy. This mark can be found on the right side of the revolver directly above the ejector rod near where the barrel meets the cylinder. The author has observed this marking be applied in several different orientations.



The trigger guard is rounded with a spur-like finger rest similar to that of the Russian contract Smith and Wesson No. 3 revolvers. The finger rests are intended to give the shooter a better grip. The grip panels are made of wood and secured in place with a single screw. The screw fastens into a metal disk with two tabs on either side. The disk has a simple decorative design etched in it. The butt cap is an oval with a diamond shape to it and a lanyard ring is affixed to the butt cap. In front of the Lanyard ring is a screw that secures the main spring to the frame.



Image Courtesy of Guns International

Moving on to the serial number, all true production Lefauchaux revolvers start with an LF prefix under a small stamp of a revolver. This serial number will again be found on the right side of the pistol below the cylinder. It is important to note here that serial numbers in Lefauchaux revolver production for a contract are not sequential, meaning the pistol number 1000 may have been for one order and pistol number 1001 may have been for a different order. This can make it difficult for the modern collector to determine which order a gun

was for. Thankfully the unique features and marking on the Corto revolvers help out a lot.

The first order of Corto revolvers falls with the following serial number range LF18892 being the first produced Corto revolver and end of production before LF30,000. Records from the Lefauchaux family as recorded in Guillaume van Mastrigt's book put it more specifically ending at 299xx with the x's being a margin of error. In service use with the kingdom of Italy, the Carabinieri would denote the first batch of 5,000 guns as a separate model from the second delivery of a batch of 2,000 Corto revolvers. This is despite the guns being the same but also with the same officer signing off on both the first and second orders for Lefauchaux revolvers! This can make it confusing for collectors today as it may seem like there is a mysterious 4th pattern of gun that cannot be found.

The Corto revolver was adopted as a transitional model in Italian service. This model served as a stop gap between the commercial production guns and the later Carabinieri model. From the author's research the Corto model would also be produced in Italy at Glisenti, and Glisenti-produced revolvers would be known as the Model of 1861. Glisenti produced guns can be identified by Glisenti Bresica circular stamp with a Lion in a shield on top of the barrel. Production at Glisenti is not very well known and the author has limited knowledge on the number produced. From the Authors research serial numbers appear to be as high as in the 3,000's. However, it is not known as to whether Glisenti started at serial number 1. In speaking with a representative of the modern day Glisenti Metal Fabrication Company, they

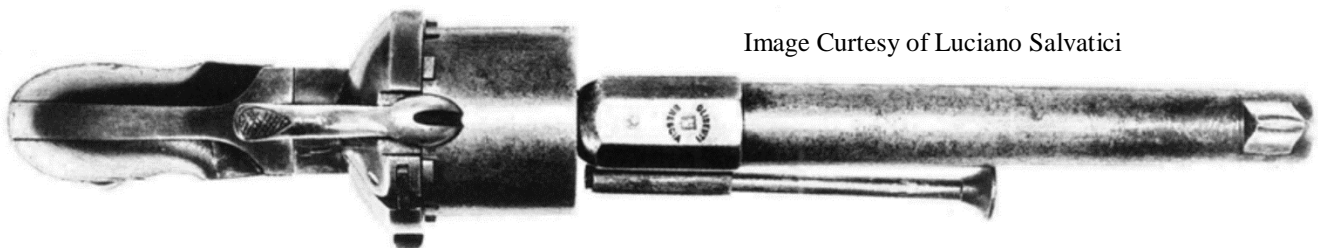


Image Curtesy of Luciano Salvatici

stated that they sold off their patents in 1907 and a lot of their documentation on arms production ironically ended up at Beretta.

During the production run of the first 5,000 Corto revolvers the Lefauchaux plant manufactured guns for the Union Army, and Greek and Russian militaries at the same time as the Corto guns. The author has seen several so called “US Union civil war revolvers” listed for sale that are actually Italian Corto revolvers. The guerrilla fighting in the south of Italy created an urgent demand for additional Corto revolvers and an additional order for these Corto pattern of revolvers would be placed in 1861, this time by the Kingdom of Italy. This order was for up to 2,000 guns of the Corto pattern as a part of a larger order for Carabinieri pattern revolvers. These 2,000 revolvers would be delivered in December of 1861 along with 2,000 Carabinieri revolvers. Mastrigt’s book on Lefauchaux states that the Corto revolvers in the second batch have the following features. A “Champagne cork” on the right side of the barrel assembly and the left side below the cylinder has an upside down “Spade” next to an oval with the phrase “INVon E. LEFAUCHEUX BREVETE s.g.d.g”. However, the two examples the author has seen do not feature these markings and have the markings described earlier. Revolvers in this second batch with the first batch style of markings as observed by the author have the serial number LF32296. Orders in the second batch range from LF3097x to LF403xx according to factory records in Mastrigt’s book. These Sardinian service revolvers would stay in service through the unification of Italy in 1870. They would also see service in the Third Italian War of Independence, and victory over the Papal States in 1870. They would be phased out in the late 1870’s when Italy adopted the Chamelot Delvigne.

Lefauchaux production		
Year	Start	End
1859	LF18892	LF299xx
1861	LF3097x	LF403xx
Glisenti Production		
Year	Start	End
1861?	?	? (observed as high as 3142)

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1859 Lefauchaux revolver <https://veteranarms.com/1854-Lefauchaux-Revolver-Civil-War-Issue-Serial-p545291815>

Italian Corto Lefauchaux revolver https://www.gunsinternational.com/guns-for-sale-online/revolvers/civil-war-revolvers/civil-war-antique-lefauchaux-model-1854-pinfire-union-army-revolver-1-of-11-833-purchased-during-the-american-civil-war.cfm?gun_id=102281412

★ Membership Chairman's Report

Membership Chairman's Report September 2023 – Please welcome the following new member to the Virginia Gun Collectors Association.

- **Ryhan Golden** of Manassas sponsored by **Frank Cooper**

New Applications for Membership: Since the last Newsletter, there have not been any new application for membership. If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our organization, please invite them to a meeting.

Notice to New Member Sponsors: VGCA will be discontinuing hard copy versions of the VGCA Newsletters at a future date. *Please make sure your prospective applicants **include a legible email address** and **telephone contact number** if at all possible.* Without an email address new members will NOT receive the newsletter or VGCA announcements.

Membership Numbers: There are currently 421 Life members and 112 Annual Members for a total of 533 members in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc.

Recruiting: Membership in the VGCA is a great way for people with an interest in the history, development, and use of firearms to broaden their knowledge and pass what they know on to others. It also offers the opportunity to network with individuals who have similar interests. To help facilitate new membership we have a membership table at every Chantilly gun show and also at our VGCA gun shows. If you would like to volunteer to work a shift at one of these events please contact George Dungan at george@eccominv.com.

George Dungan, Vice President and Membership Chair



We are looking for speakers/presenters at our membership meetings in 2024. If you have any suggestions – or would like to make a presentation yourself – please contact one of the VGCA officers or directors.



CMP UPDATE

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison

The VGCA is a CMP Affiliated club. The VGCA club number is 026160.

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison



M1911/A1 ROUND 4 ANNOUNCEMENT

According to its website, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has ended Round 3 of the M1911/A1 sales program and has started Round 4. Beginning September 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, the CMP will be accepting Round 4 M1911 Pistol orders.

The CMP is increasing the lifetime purchase limit of 1911 pistols to two (2). The yearly limit is one per calendar year until you have met your lifetime limit. If you have never purchased a 1911 pistol from CMP, you may only purchase one at this time. If you have purchased a 1911 pistol in 2023, you cannot purchase a second 1911 at this time and will have to wait until 2024 to purchase a second one. However, if you previously purchased a 1911 through the RGN process or auction in 2018-2022, you are eligible to purchase a second 1911 pistol during 2023. You must submit a complete order packet because incomplete orders will not be accepted. All ordering information is included in the CMP 1911 order packet. The information contained in the packet should answer all questions regarding the ordering process.

Do not delay if you want to order a M1911 or M1911A1 from the CMP because Round 4 will end on September 30. Every M1911/A1 applicant will be treated as a new customer. Previous purchases or relationships with CMP create no advantage or disadvantage to the customer. Go to the CMP website at <https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/1911-information/> for more information about the program and to download an order form and packet.

CMP M1 GARAND SALES CHANGES



Yearly Rifle Limit Decrease

Effective October 1, 2023, the CMP's new yearly limit on purchases of M1 Garands will be six (6) per calendar year. If you have already purchased 6 or more M1 Garands in calendar year 2023, you will not be allowed to purchase more M1 Garands until January 2024.

Rifle Case Update

Due to supply issues and customer feedback, CMP will no longer offer a free rifle case with every rifle purchase. Customers will receive only one free rifle case per calendar year with their first purchase of an M1 Garand during that calendar year. Any subsequent rifles purchased that year will not be shipped in a rifle case. Rather, they will be shipped in a custom (made for specifically for CMP) corrugated cardboard box with convoluted foam packing. Rifle cases will be eligible for purchase when quantity permits.

This change does not apply to pistol orders. All CMP 1911 and M1911/A1 pistols will be shipped in a pistol case.

The CMP is currently accepting orders for M1 Garand Rack Grades \$700, Field Grade \$800 and Expert Grades \$1150 and up. All prices listed include Shipping and handling. Every rifle and pistol purchased from the CMP will include a gun lock. For additional information about purchasing an M1 Garand, go to the CMP website at <https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/m1-garand/>.

OTHER SURPLUS RIFLE SALES



M1 CARBINE SALES

Due to limited quantities, M1 carbines, M1 carbine barreled receivers, Bavaria-marked M1 carbines and M1A1 Paratrooper carbines will be offered on the CMP Auction Site. Every M1 carbine is an authentic U.S. Government rifle that has been inspected, headspaced, repaired if necessary and test fired for function. Each rifle is shipped with safety

manual and chamber safety flag. Carbines will not be sold or shipped with magazines, slings or oilers.



M1917 SALES

The CMP continues to receive a few dozen of these rifles each year. All of these rifles have been on loan from the U.S. Army to chartered veterans' organizations for use in honor guards, funerals, and other ceremonial purposes. All are mix-masters, none are in original condition and all are in overall poor condition. All sales are as-is with no returns or exchanges.



M1903 and M1903A3 SALES

The CMP does not expect to ever again receive large quantities of M1903 and M1903A3 models. They are currently unavailable from the CMP, and the CMP is not accepting orders. However, they can occasionally be found for sale on the CMP Auction Site. All sales are as-is with no returns or exchanges.

For additional information about surplus rifle sales and auctions, go to the CMP website at <https://thecmp.org/>.



VGCA GUNS OF DISTINCTION: **FURTER OF OLTEN** **STUTZEN RIFLE**

By Marc Gorelick

Photos Courtesy of Joh. Springers Erben, Vienna, Austria

Albert Furter was a well-known gunsmith in Olten, Switzerland who specialized in producing fine hunting, target and match rifles. He was also known for his sub-caliber devices and match sights, which were adopted by a number of Swiss shooting clubs. His hunting and target rifles are masterpieces of engineering in which he basically rebuilt existing guns by hand, heavily modifying the actions and incorporating target sights of his own design. His products included rifles with K-31 actions, turn-bolt actions and Martini actions. Although he stopped making guns in 2003 his business continued under new ownership and gunsmiths who he trained, such as Stephan Dobler, have continued his tradition.



This Furter of Olten rifle can be considered a Feuer Stutzen rifle. By definition a Stutzen is a short rifle or carbine. Stutzen rifles include several variations that differ in both style and construction. A Stutzen rifle is also often referred to as a “*Stalking*” rifle which is lighter than other rifles. The Feuer Stutzens are single shot rifles meant for informal target shooting. They often have target type sights, and a finger rest type lever.



The Furter rifle is a single shot with a Martini falling block action and is chambered in .30-06. The octagonal barrel is 26.4 inch (67cm) long with a fixed front sight. It has a gold-washed double set trigger, the lower lever acts as the triggerguard and the gold safety is on the right side of the frame. The full-length walnut stock has hand checkering, an oval cheekpiece, and a carving of a boar on the right side of the butt. The barrel is held in the forestock with double wedge locks. The B.Nickel Marburg 3 - 12 x 56 scope has swivel mounts.



Detail of the carved boar on the stock.



Close-up of the carving on the wrist, triggers and the ornate lever/triggerguard.

★ 2023 Presentation List ★

MEETING DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
28 Sep 2023	Smith & Wesson Hand Ejectors	Dan Bescher
26 Oct 2023	Collecting Colt SP1 Rifles	Gary Latta & Shannon Ziegler
	<i>No meeting in November due to our Gun Show</i>	
02 Dec 2023	Holiday Pot Luck & Annual Swap Meet	N/A
25 Jan 2024	Broomhandle Mausers	Ed Costello

We are starting to fill in the presentation schedule for next year. If you have any suggestions – or would like to make a presentation yourself – please contact Matthew G. at matthewofmclean@gmail.com or one of the VGCA officers or directors.

Prince William County Gun Control Meeting Scheduled for 26 September

There will be a push for the Prince William County Board of Supervisors to ban carry of firearms in parks at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, September 26th. Gun control advocates are expected to be there in force. If successful this ban could lead to further gun control efforts that would jeopardize our show, which is held at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, as well as threaten Constitutional rights like the 2nd Amendment. VGCA members may wish to attend the meeting to politely voice their concerns and opposition, and educate the County Board of Supervisors.

The Virginia Civil Defense League (VCDL) will also be there to speak to the Board and hand out Guns Save Lives stickers. The meeting is scheduled to start at **Tuesday, September 26th at 7:30 pm**, but it is recommended that you get there a little early to get a seat.

UPDATE: Since this notice was written, new information has come to light. The Prince William Board of Supervisors will NOT be voting on a park gun ban on Tuesday, September 26th. To do so, they would have had to announce such a vote 30 days in advance. It is not clear whether the supervisors will even discuss a park gun ban, BUT it appears likely that the ban will be brought up by some of those attending the meeting from a Michael Bloomberg gun-control group.

Location:
James J. McCoart Administration Building
1 County Complex Court
Prince William, VA 22192

If you live in Prince William and wish to contact your supervisor ahead of time in opposition to any such gun control, here is contact information:
<https://www.pwcva.gov/departments/board-county-supervisors/about-us>

★ In Review ★

"In Review" includes VGCA member reviews of guns shows, books, and museums. If you would like to submit a review, please send it to the newsletter editor at rpebecker@verizon.net.

A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM: THE WILLIAM A. JONES COLLECTION AT THE LA PORTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

By Marc Gorelick

Sometimes you can find treasures where you least expect to. An example is the W.A. Jones Collection of Ancient Weapons in the La Porte County Historical Society Museum in La Porte Indiana. If you are ever in northwest Indiana, viewing this collection, with its 850 guns on display, is a "must do."



La Porte County was created in 1832. The La Porte County Historical Society was officially organized in January 1906. It and its growing collections moved from location to location until the museum moved into its present home in September 2006, the year of its 100th Anniversary. The museum hosts a number of other collections and exhibits, including the Kesling collection of over 50 antique cars, period rooms, and a fascinating exhibit about Belle Gunness, a Norwegian emigrant serial killer and mass murderer who lived in La Porte County from 1901 to 1908, when she disappeared.



Photo courtesy of Michael Belzowski, Belzowski Woodworking & Design. Photo by Matt Cashore, Photographer.



Photo courtesy of Michael Belzowski, Belzowski Woodworking & Design. Photo by Matt Cashore, Photographer.



The majority of the downstairs level of the museum is given over to the W. A. Jones Collection of Ancient Weapons, which has about 850 weapons on permanent display. William A. Jones owned an iron foundry in Chicago, and was an avid gun collector. He traveled around the country and world in search of items for his collection, and brought back firearms and other weapons from Mexico, Europe, Constantinople, Jerusalem, Cairo, as well as from all over the United States. At that time, La Porte, Indiana, was a popular playground for Chicago's industrial elite. Jones apparently liked its clean air, tranquil lakes and small-town charm so much that when he retired he moved to La Porte and built a mansion. He was also able to devote more time to searching the world for rare and interesting guns, eventually amassing a large collection. William Jones died in 1921 and left his entire collection of weapons to the City of La Porte. The city in turn donated the collection to the La Porte County Historical Society where they have been housed ever since.

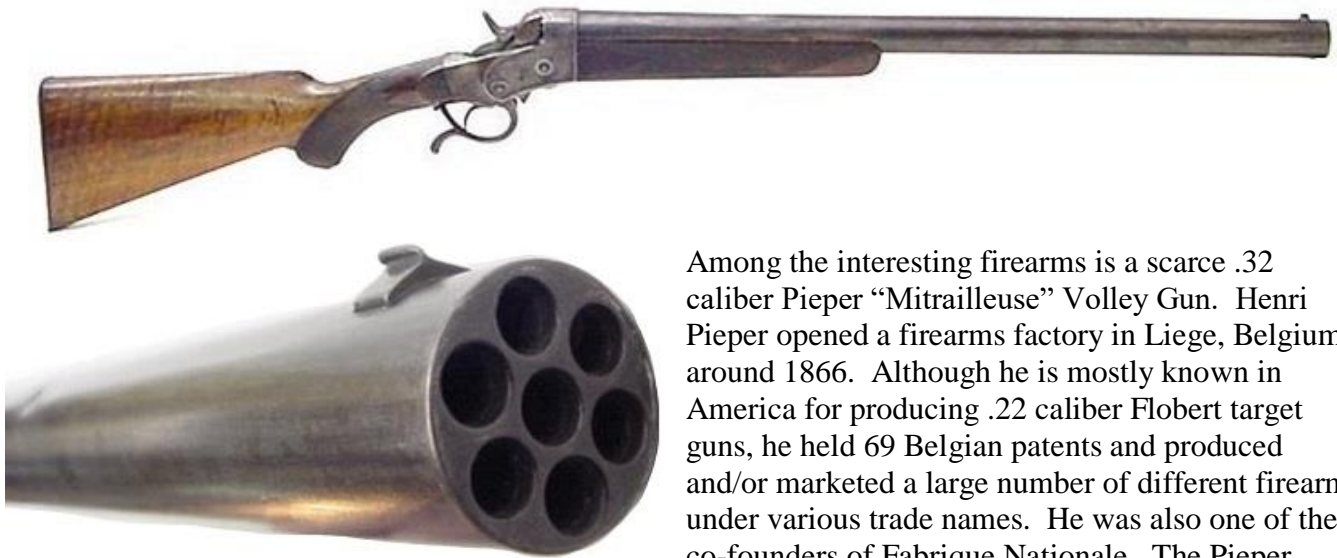
Photo courtesy of Michael Belzowski, Belzowski Woodworking & Design. Photo by Matt Cashore, Photographer.

The Jones collection houses numerous scarce firearms (and other weapons), including a number that are historically and technically significant. In addition to the Jones's collection's guns, the exhibit has on

display firearms and numerous other items, including battle flags and uniforms from the Civil War to the present day that were brought back to La Porte County and donated by war veterans.

The exhibit is impressive in its breadth and scope, as well as the physical plant. The display cabinets have recently been refurbished – they are well built and show the items to good effect. Both the gallery and the items in the cabinets are well lit and easy to see. In addition, the items on display are either close to the glass, or out in the open so you can see details.

The collection includes some rare and extremely interesting guns, including a British flintlock smoothbore wall or rampart gun and a Belgian breech loading percussion rifled wall gun. They were called wall or rampart guns because they were designed to be used along the walls of fortifications by defenders to break the advance of enemy troops. They were basically scaled-up versions of standard infantry muskets and filled a gap in firepower between muskets and light artillery pieces.



Among the interesting firearms is a scarce .32 caliber Pieper “Mitrailleuse” Volley Gun. Henri Pieper opened a firearms factory in Liege, Belgium around 1866. Although he is mostly known in America for producing .22 caliber Flobert target guns, he held 69 Belgian patents and produced and/or marketed a large number of different firearms under various trade names. He was also one of the co-founders of Fabrique Nationale. The Pieper

Volley Gun has seven rifled .32-caliber barrels, all of which fire at once. It was probably intended as a market gun, for taking game like ducks or geese. To fire the Pieper Volley Gun you opened the action by thumbing back the hammer and operating the trigger guard/action lever. You remove the disc-like cartridge carrier, insert seven cartridges into the carrier’s receptacles, put the carrier back into the chamber and close the action bring the gun into battery. Then cock, aim and fire seven bullets at once.

The exhibit does have its downsides, however. This could probably be attributed to the museum being a local county museum and not having the resources of a major art or firearms museum. While the guns are generally kept in good condition, the museum does not have a gun expert on staff, and this shows. The displays could be organized better. Also, the signage could be better – limited gun descriptions are on small cards in the display cases. Some cards had information that was incomplete or contained errors. The information was apparently taken from Jones’s notes because one unnecessary piece of information on some cards was where he purchased or obtained the gun. However, these drawbacks can be overlooked when compared to the size and quality of this amazing exhibit. All in all, the museum, and the Jones collection, are well worth visiting.

The Museum is located at 2405 Indiana Ave. La Porte, IN 46350. La Porte is a little bit west of South Bend and not far from Lake Michigan. It is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and free for children under 18 years.

The museum's phone number is (219) 324-6767. Additional information about the museum can be found on its website at: <https://laportecountyhistory.org/>.

There is a gift shop in the museum which has a large selection of books (many dealing with local history), including the delightfully titled "*Hell's Princess: The Mystery of Belle Gunness, Butcher of Men,*" and "*The Shady Ladies of Snarltown and Its Environs in Michigan City, Indiana.*"

All in all, if you are ever in that part of Indiana, and are interested in old firearms of many types, the museum, and especially the W.A. Jones collection, are worth a side trip.

HAMPTON ROADS MILITARY SOCIETY

If you find yourself at Virginia Beach with some extra time this fall, consider attending a meeting of the Hampton Roads Militaria Society (HRMS). The HRMS is a non-profit organization dedicated to assist collectors and historians in the collection & preservation of militaria of all sorts and periods, preserve and honor our military past, and honor the veterans of all our conflicts. They generally meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month, but this can vary. Upcoming meetings (at 1329 Harpers Road in VA Beach) are:

Oct 10 - The presentation will be on "Experiences in the Air Force, including in Iraq" by Mark Hesse.

Nov 14 – "Becoming a Hunter in Germany" by Nelson Voke.

Dec (TBD) – TBD.

Jan (TND) - "The Evolution of the Rifle" by Chris Betcher.

For more details, HRMS website is: [Hampton Roads Militaria Society \(classicfirearmsandechoesofglory.com\)](http://HamptonRoadsMilitariaSociety(classicfirearmsandechoesofglory.com))

Al Reid, VGCA Legislative Affairs Chairman provided the following article from the VCDL-PAC. This is a list VCDL-PAC endorsements for the Virginia Assembly and are not endorsements from VCDL or the VGCA

VCDL-PAC 2023 Endorsements – VA General Assembly Elections

The Virginia Citizens Defense League - Political Action Committee (VCDL-PAC) congratulates the following endorsed candidates for the general election to the state legislature for 2023! All of the following candidates scored Very Pro-Gun and received a unanimous endorsement from the committee. Early voting started on Friday, September 22. Reward these candidates by voting early. It not only secures your vote but it also saves the candidates money. In order to qualify for consideration for VCDL-PAC endorsement a candidate must first submit their answers to the VCDL Survey (VCDL.org/candidate-surveys). Other factors taken into account are voting records, public statements, and other information that may be available to the PAC. Please remember to share this information as a VCDL-PAC endorsement, not VCDL.

Additional endorsements will be forthcoming. Endorsements are also listed on the website here: [VCDL-PAC 2021 Candidate Endorsements - Virginia Citizens Defense League](#)

General Assembly - Senate:

Senate District 1 - Timmy F. French
Senate District 2 - Mark D. Obenshain
Senate District 3 - Christopher T. Head
Senate District 9 - Frank M. Ruff, Jr.
Senate District 10 - John J. McGuire, III
Senate District 11 - Philip A Hamilton
Senate District 12 - Glen Sturtevant
Senate District 17 - Emily Marie Brewer
Senate District 19 - Christie New Craig

Senate District 21 - Giovanni G. "Gio" Dolmo
Senate District 24 - J. D. "Danny" Diggs
Senate District 25 - Richard H. Stuart
Senate District 27 - Tara A. Durant
Senate District 34 - Mark A. Springman
Senate District 35 - Mark B. Vafiades
Senate District 36 - Julie Anna Perry
Senate District 38 - Matthew J. "Matt" Lang
Senate District 40 - David A. Henshaw

General Assembly - House of Delegates:

House District 8 - Max B. Fisher
House District 18 - Edward F. McGovern
House District 21 - John T. Stirrup
House District 25 - John S. Gray
House District 32 - William D. "Bill" Wiley
House District 34 - Tony O. Wilt
House District 35 - Chris S. Runion
House District 36 - Ellen H. Campbell
House District 39 - William P. Davis
House District 41 - J. Christian "Chris" Obenshain
House District 42 - Jason S. Ballard
House District 43 - James W. "Will" Morefield
House District 46 - Jonathan E. "Jed" Arnold
House District 47 - Wren M. Williams
House District 50 - Thomas C. Wright, Jr.
House District 52 - Wendell S. Walker
House District 53 - Timothy P. Griffin
House District 56 - Thomas A. "Tom" Garrett, Jr.
House District 59 - H. F. "Buddy" Fowler, Jr.
House District 60 - Scott A. Wyatt
House District 63 - Phillip A. "Phil" Scott
House District 70 - Matt J. Waters
House District 73 - Mark L. Earley, Jr.
House District 84 - Michael J. Dillender
House District 88 - James M. "Jim" Wright
House District 89 - N. Baxter Ennis
House District 92 - Michael L. Durig
House District 93 - John Sitka, III
House District 94 - Andrew B. "Andy" Pittman
House District 97 - Karen S. Greenhalgh

★ Show-n-Tell ★

NOTE: For anyone bringing in items for Show-n-Tell - please hold the item up so the members in attendance can see it. This will also help your photographer get a sharp picture and allow people who could not attend the meeting see it clearly in the newsletter. We also ask that you provide a Fact Sheet (copies of the one below will be provided at the meeting) to assist the newsletter editor in accurately describing your item. Thank you!

VGCA Show-n-Tell Fact Sheet

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____ Action Type: _____

Caliber: _____

Years of Production: _____ Total Produced: _____

Year this example was manufactured (if known): _____

Significance: _____

Question(s) for members: _____

Name (optional): _____

Where acquired (optional): _____ When acquired (optional): _____

JUNE SHOW-N-TELL



Member 1 shared an Astra 600 pistol (*at left*), a model with an interesting story behind it. Designed by the Spanish firm Astra to meet a WWII German request, the Astra 600 (designated by Germany as the Pistole Astra 600/43) was a modification of the earlier Astra 400. While the Astra 400 was chambered in 9mm Largo (9x23), the Astra 600 was chambered in 9mm Parabellum (9x19), which while similar, did require some changes to the basic semi-automatic blow-back design. Though Germany ordered 40,000 Astra 600s, only 10,500 were delivered in 1944 before the supply line to Spain was cut following the Allied invasion of France. After WWII ended, Astra forwarded the approximately 30,000 paid-for but undelivered pistols to Spanish government.

The story does not end there. In 1951, West Germany was permitted to form a small army and police force. The Astra 600 (designated the P3) was one of the

pistols selected to arm the German police and ultimately 45,350 would be purchased (most for a second time!) by Germany. This excellent example was recently purchased by Member 1 from an on-line auction site.

Member 2 brought in a Ballister-Molina pistol (*right*). The Ballister-Molina was designed and produced in Argentina as cheaper alternative to the Argentine Army's Model 1927, a license built copy of the Colt Model 1911A1. Chambered in the same 11.25mm round (more familiar to us as the .45 ACP), approximately 113,000 Ballister-Molinas were produced between 1938 and 1953. Though it closely resembles the M1911 without a grip safety, in fact very few parts are interchangeable. Those that are include the 7-round magazine, the barrel, recoil spring, and barrel bushing.

This example belonged to Member 2's girlfriend's father, an Army officer who served in Central and South America in the 1950s and 1960s.



Member 3 shared a very recent acquisition – the Hi-Point YC9 “Yeet Cannon” (*right*). Chambered in 9mm Parabellum (9x19), this new model semi-automatic blow-back from Hi-Point incorporates several features and company “firsts” when compared to their standard C9. These include a grip safety, a double-stack-to-single-feed magazine (10-round capacity), a Picatinny rail, forward slide serrations, and a threaded barrel. Options include the ability to mount an optic on the slide. The “Yeet Cannon” acquired its unusual name through public voting in an on-line poll.

Member 3 had been waiting for YC9 deliveries to start for quite some time. They became available on August 14th and Member 3 picked up this example on August 16th! The best part is a suggested MSRP of \$229!



Member 4 brought a Browning Hi-Power (*left*) manufactured by John Inglis & Company in Canada during WWII. The Hi-Power pistol is distinctive in many ways. It was the last design worked on by John M. Browning, probably the greatest firearms designer in history, and it was the only weapon manufactured by both the Allies and the Axis during WWII.

Production of this semi-automatic pistol with a double-stack magazine chambered in 9mm Parabellum (9x19) continued when the Belgian Fabrique Nationale factory fell under German occupation in 1940. However, designer Dieudonné Saive, who had perfected Browning’s Hi-Power concept, escaped to England in the summer of 1941, bringing his knowledge of the Hi-Power with him. Production of the No.1 (with a tangent rear sight and shoulder stock/holster) was initiated at Inglis to meet a request for Hi-Powers from the Nationalist Chinese. Production of the No.

2 (fixed rear sight and no provision for a shoulder stock) was initiated for British/Commonwealth soldiers and the Special Operations Executive (SOE). This example, a No. 2 Mk 1* with an “O” prefix to its serial number, is believed to one of the ones produced for the SOE.

Member 5 brought in a Japanese Type 99 rifle (right). Produced from 1939 until the end of WWII, the bolt action Type 99 adopted the 7.7 Japanese caliber (7.7x58), replacing the standard 6.5mm Japanese (6.5x50 semi-rimmed) which was considered inadequate based on combat experience in China.

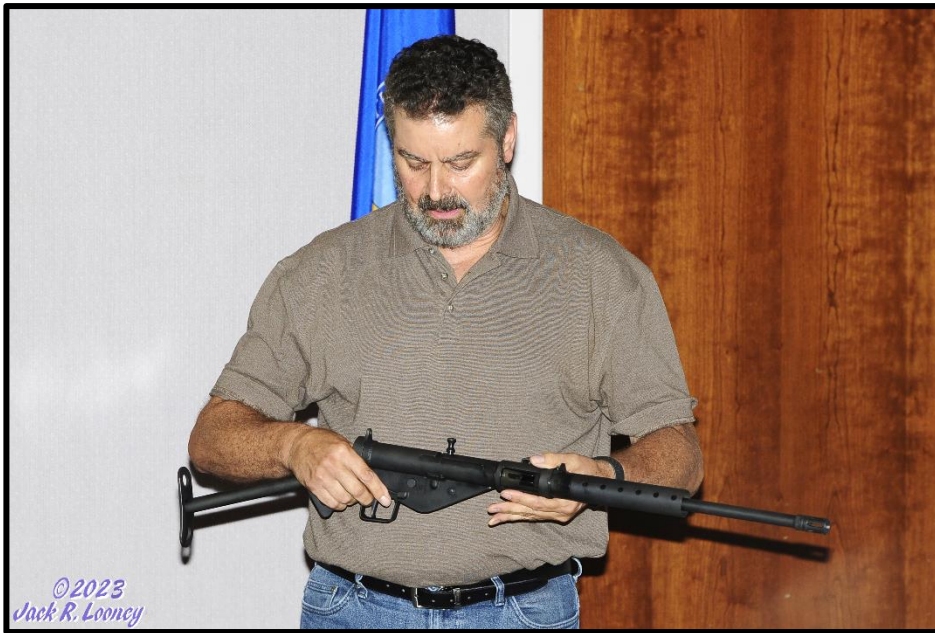
This example is a series 13 rifle manufactured at the Toyo Kogyo factory and features a field expedient sling and Kanji writing on the stock (unfortunately, we did not get a picture of the writing).



Member 6 shared his Beretta M1915 (left). Chambered in 9mm Glisenti, this blow back pistol is noteworthy as the first modern Beretta pistol and its first semi-automatic. Developed shortly after the Italians entered WWI, the M1915 officially replaced the M1910 Glisenti pistol (the M1910 had a complex and weak firing mechanism). Approximately 15,800 were produced from 1915 until 1918, with some remaining in service through WWII. Starting with the M1915, the Italian military would procure only Beretta pistols!

The 9mm Glisenti (9x19) round is based on and dimensionally identical to the 9mm Parabellum, however it loaded to lower power levels in order to safely operate in blow back action pistols. The 9mm Glisenti features a 123 grain bullet with a muzzle velocity of approximately 1000 fps.

This particular example is in very nice condition!

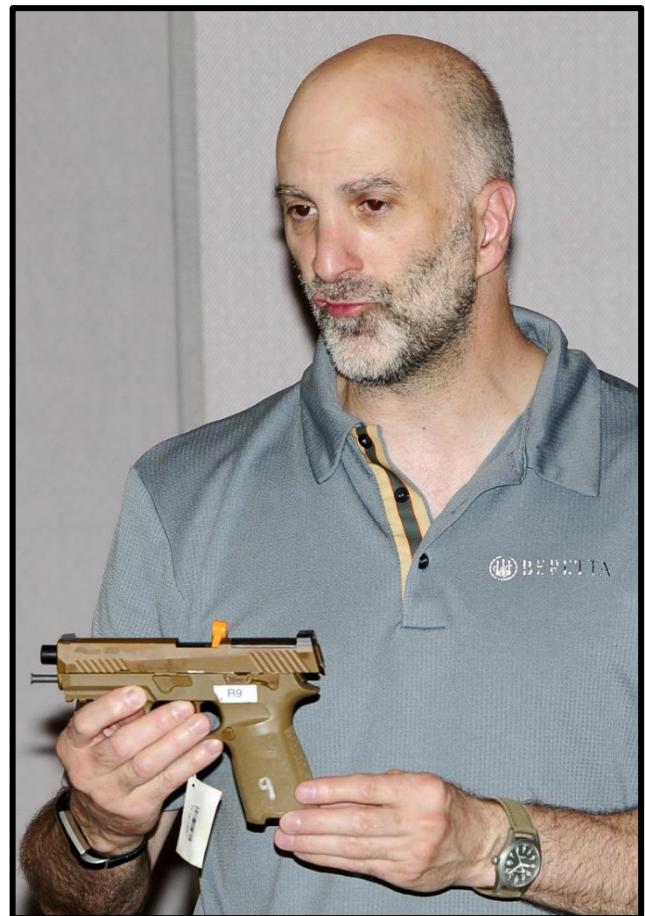


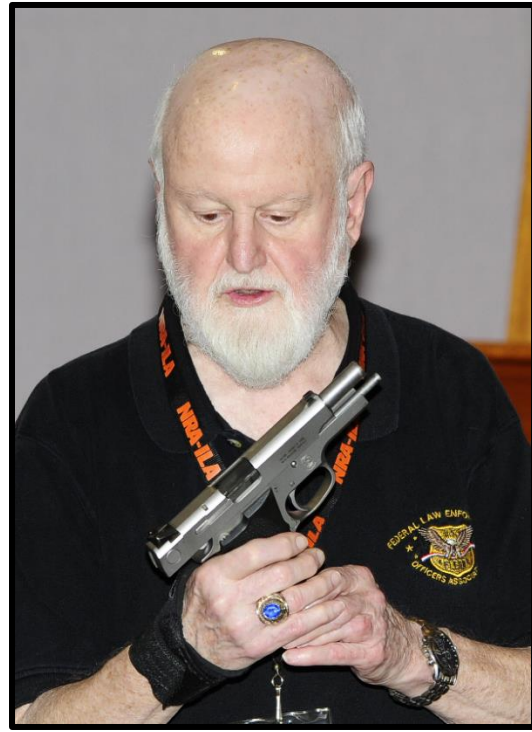
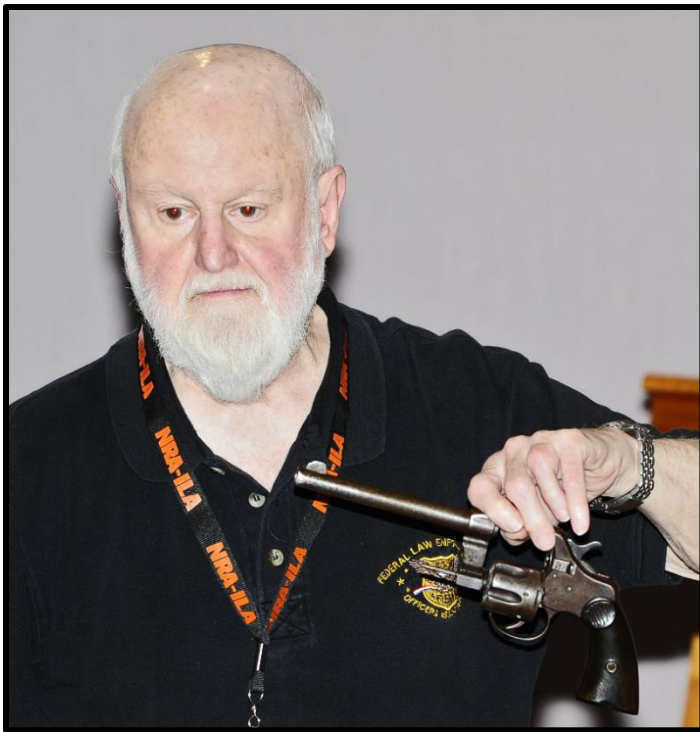
Member 7 continued his recent trend of sharing semi-auto conversions of popular submachine guns – this time a Sten Mk II (*left*) in 9mm Parabellum. The Mark II was the most produced of the many variants of the British Sten, with ~2,000,000 made between 1941 and 1945. For a summary of the Sten’s history, see the February 2022 issue of the VGCA Newsletter.

This particular conversion was made by Von Koster Engineering.

Member 8 brought in a Sig Sauer M17 (*right*). This striker fired 9mm Parabellum semi-automatic pistol was one of 3,000 M17 trial guns acquired by the U.S. Army. After the trials were completed, the Army adopted the M17 (and the compact M18 version) to replace the venerable Beretta M9 but wanted several modifications to the basic design, including changing the controls from coyote tan colored to black and a darker tan color on the slide. The trials guns were returned to Sig for modification, but Sig found it was cheaper to just replace them with newly manufactured guns that met the Army specifications. The used trials guns were recertified and then sold on the civilian market in January 2020. Needless to say, they sold out within weeks and have escalated in price ever since. One way to tell the difference between the surplus trials guns and current commercial production is that the trials guns are marked “M17” on the left side of the slide, while commercial guns are marked “P320 M17”.

Member 8 submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on his serial number and learned that it spent a year at Fort Hood, Texas.





Member 9 brought in four “forty caliber” handguns, starting with the Colt Model 1894 (*above left*) chambered in .41 Long Colt. Colt produced a series of double-action revolvers with swing out cylinders for the U.S. Military starting in 1892. There were several improved variants, including this one. This example is commercial model and came in a 100-year old holster when it was purchased 10 years ago.

Next is a Smith & Wesson (S&W) M1076 (*above right*). This DA/SA semi-auto pistol with a 9-round single stack magazine is chambered in 10mm Auto. Adopted by the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Virginia State Police and others, 10mm recoil proved difficult for some officers and agents to handle, which led to a downloaded 10mm round and eventually to the development of the .40 S&W cartridge.

Member 9 also shared two S&W Military and Police (M&P) 2.0 pistols in 10mm Auto – a standard model (*below left*) and one with several custom features from the Smith & Wesson Performance Center (*below right*). Production of these 10mm M&Ps started in 2021 following a resurgence in interest in this powerful cartridge.







ALPHA BULLETS™
U.S. PATENT NO. 4,644,866

9 MM HIGH VELOCITY PENETRATOR-STEEL

LIGHT FIELD AMMUNITION CORP.
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WARNING:
U.S. MILITARY; U.S. GOVERNMENT
AND POLICE DEPT. USE ONLY.

ALPHA experimental loads



**.38spl
ALPHA**



12GA



**.308 load
and projectile.**



©2023
Jack R. Looney

Finally, Member 9 shared some unusual 9mm rounds (*above*) he picked up off the floor at a range. Note the unusual bullet loaded in this ammo. Member 9 asked for some help in identifying this load.

After the meeting, member Jack Looney rose to the challenge and provided the answer (*at left*) – the patented Alpha bullet.

★ Upcoming Events and Shows ★

PLEASE NOTE: VGCA members are strongly encouraged to verify shows before driving to an event. These dates were confirmed when this newsletter was written, but are not guaranteed.

VIRGINIA – 2023

- Sep 29-Oct 1, 2023 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Oct 14-15, 2023 – Virginia Beach, VA – Virginia Beach Convention Center - *SGK*
- Oct 21-22, 2023 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Oct 28-29, 2023 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo and Convention Center – *SGK*
- Oct 28-29, 2023 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- Nov 4-5, 2023 – Manassas, VA – Prince William County Fairground – *VGCA - Our Show!*
- Nov 11-12, 2023 – Richmond, VA – Richmond Raceway Complex – *Showmasters*
- Nov 17-19, 2023 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Nov 18, 2023 – Doswell, VA - Meadow Event Park - 42nd Central Virginia Military Antique Show - *BulletAndShell.com and Central Virginia Civil War Collectors Association*
- Nov 25-26, 2023 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center – *SGK*
- Dec 2-3, 2023 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo – *Showmasters*
- Dec 9-10, 2023 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo and Convention Center – *SGK*
- Dec 16-17, 2023 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Dec 29-31, 2023 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*

MARYLAND – 2023

- Oct 7-8, 2023 – Timonium, MD – Maryland State Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Oct 13-15, 2023 – Bel Air, MD – American Legion Harford Post #39 – *American Legion Post 39*
- Nov 4-5, 2023 – Easton, MD – Talbot County Community Center – *Eastern Shore Arms Collectors*
- Nov 11-12, 2023 – Frederick, MD – Frederick Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Dec 9-10, 2023 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2023

- Sep 29-30, 2023 – York, PA – Wyndham Garden York - *Historic Arms Collector & Artisans*
- Sep 30-Oct 1, 2023 – Allentown, PA – ParkView Inn & Conference Center - *Eagle Shows*
- Sep 30-Oct 1, 2023 – Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Oct 7-8, 2023 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Shows*
- Oct 13-14, 2023 – Shippensburg, PA – Oak Grove Events Building – *Allegheny Log Homes*
- Oct 13-15, 2023 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- Oct 14-15, 2023 – Bloomsburg, PA – Bloomsburg Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*
- Oct 14-15, 2023 – East Berlin, PA – East Berlin Fish & Game – *East Berlin Fish & Game*
- ~~Oct 14-15, 2023 – East Stroudsburg, PA – VFW Post #2540 – *Jaeger Arms* - CANCELLED~~
- Oct 14-15, 2023 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Oct 20-22, 2023 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 28-29, 2023 – Lebanon, PA – Lebanon Valley Expo Center & Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2023 (continued)

- Oct 28-29, 2023 – Wind Gap, PA – Plainfield Township Fire Co. – *Jaeger Arms*
- Oct 28-29, 2023 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Nov 4-5, 2023 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- Nov 4-5, 2023 – Spring Brook, PA – Spring Brook Fire Co. – *Jaeger Arms*
- Nov 4-5, 2023 – Trevoise, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 11-12, 2023 – Brodheadsville, PA – Signature Events Center – *Tall Timber Tactical*
- Nov 11-12, 2023 – Hermitage, PA – Veterans of Foreign Wars – *Canon's Gun Room*
- Nov 18-19, 2023 – Allentown, PA – ParkView Inn & Conference Center - *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 18-19, 2023 – Kutztown, PA – Kutztown Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Nov 18-19, 2023 – Pleasantville, PA – Pleasantville Vol Fire Dept – *Pleasantville VFD*
- Nov 19, 2023 – Portland, PA – William Pensyl Social Hall – *Portland Hook & Ladder Co. #1*
- Dec 1-3, 2023 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- Dec 2-3, 2023 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Dec 2-3, 2023 – Quarryville, PA – Solanco Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 2-3, 2023 – Sellersville, PA – Forrest Lodge VFW Hall & Club – *Jaeger Arms*
- Dec 6-8, 2023 – Denver, PA – Morphy Auctions – *Morphy Forearms and Militaria Auction*
- Dec 9-10, 2023 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- Dec 9-10, 2023 – Trevoise, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 15-17, 2023 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*

SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS – 2023

- Nov 11-12, 2023 – Tulsa, OK – Expo Square-Tulsa Fairgrounds – *Tulsa Arms Collectors Association – World's Largest Gun Show – Over 4,200 tables!*
- Nov 18-19, 2023 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association – Special Guests: Muzzleloader/Black Powder Associations*

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 and is intended for listing firearms and firearm related items. 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:

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

FOR SALE:

★ VGCA member Charlie Pate has four books that he has authored for sale, at discounted prices to VGCA members. These include:

- “U.S. Handguns of World War II” - \$45.00
- “The Smith & Wesson American Model” - \$55.00
- “U.S. Military Arms Inspector Marks” - \$45.00
- “The Colt Model 1860 Army Revolver” - \$60.00

If interested, please contact Charlie at usarmsresearch@gmail.com

FOR SALE:

★ VGCA member Larry Babcock has published a companion piece to his earlier book **M1 Garand Photo Essay**. This second book, titled **M1 Garand Photo Essay Volume II** covers all new material, to include the M1C and M1D sniper rifles as well as a myriad of M1 accessories. Best of all, both books are offered at a discount to VGCA members. Volume I is normally priced at \$69 and volume II lists for \$49, VGCA members can buy them directly from Larry for \$60 and \$40 each respectively - or \$90 total if you buy both. Look for Larry Babcock set up near the VGCA recruiting table at the next Chantilly Gun Show or order from him directly at larrybab@comcast.net / or text to 703-856-2561.

FOR SALE:

★ U.S. 1942-dated
backpack/rucksack. \$125.00



★ U.S. 1944-dated
pick/mattock. \$125.00



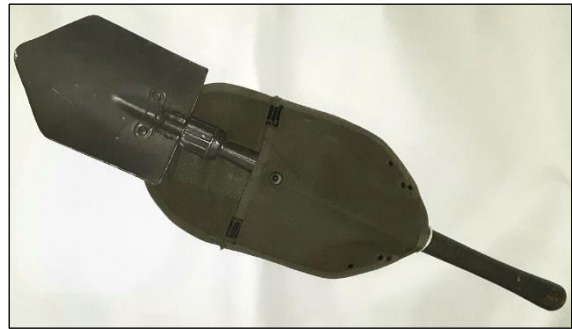
★ U.S. WWII M1A2 Gas Mask with original bag. Mask
dated 02-1944. \$35.00



✪ **Cold Steel Sanburu Spear.** Three sections – head/blade, shoe/butt spike, and double taper hardwood handle. \$65.00



✪ **WWII Shovel.** 100% functional. Marked “WOOD” with Korean War dated cover. \$80.00



Prices firm. Contact Jack for details at looney.house@verizon.net

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 George Dungan.