



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



President and Founder (Emeritus) Ed Johnson

**President**

Ernie Lyles

Phone: 571-334-2863

[Pris.ernie@verizon.net](mailto:Pris.ernie@verizon.net)

**Show/Reservations Manager**

Rick Nahas

Cell: 571-215-8761

[jet53sw@aol.com](mailto:jet53sw@aol.com)

**Membership**

Bill Chronister

Cell: 703-346-4456

[wchronister@cox.net](mailto:wchronister@cox.net)

## January 2017 VGCA Newsletter

# HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYONE!

★ **December Business:** As the 40 members and guests in attendance continued to enjoy the “Pot Luck” dinner (a heart-felt “thank you” to everyone who brought goodies – but I especially wanted to thank Rick for the pies!), Ernie Lyles called the December meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and led us through the pledge of allegiance.

Shannon Zeigler gave us a detailed summary of the November Gun Show:

Saturday attendance	792
Sunday attendance	<u>432</u>
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	1224

This was the first increase in show attendance from the previous year’s attendance since the March 2013 Show. Overall, the club reduced expenses for this show by \$800 and increased income by \$3000.

Shannon also reported that our Certificate of Deposit, which was providing a very poor rate of return, was not renewed. The funds (a little over \$30K) were deposited in the VGCA checking account while the executive committee continues to research alternate investment opportunities. The end-of-year assets for the VGCA total approximately \$69,000.

Bill Chronister gave an update on membership and encouraged annual members to renew before the January meeting. The VGCA currently has 54 annual members and 359 life members.

Rick Nahas provided an update on the March Show and stated that there were 35 tables available. He also mentioned that we have been approached by the NRA to host one of their NRA Collector Shows. This is an “excellent opportunity” that the VGCA Executive Committee will research further.

Finally, Rick reminded the members that Marc Gorelick is putting together a display for the annual NRA Membership meeting. The NRA membership meeting will be held in Atlanta, GA on April 28-30, 2017.

Bernie Breighner mentioned that he is compiling the list of speakers for 2017. If you are interested in making a presentation during one of our membership meetings, contact Bernie (BFBKAC@gmail.com).

★ **Upcoming January 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** Bernie Breighner will give a presentation on Enfield Sniper Rifles. As always, get there early for social time (and pizza) begins at 6:15 with the meeting starting at 7p.m.

★ **Upcoming March VGCA Show news:** We need volunteers for show security. A sign-up sheet will be available starting at the January meeting. Requirements are: two sets of four door guards for Saturday and Sunday, plus four ticket takers, each day of the show, plus two sets of two safety checkers (outside) and two door guards for setup. That’s a total of 30 people. Those who want to volunteer are more than welcome to do so for one or more daily, 4-hour shifts. Additionally, if we can get two people to volunteer

to sleep overnight (for a stipend) at the Fairgrounds, it will save a portion of the cost for off-duty law enforcement officer. If interested in helping out, please contact Joe Roberts ([joseph-roberts@cox.net](mailto:joseph-roberts@cox.net)).

### President's Comments

Happy 2017!

We start off the New Year with a presentation on British Snipers. Although our presentation schedule is full until the fall, we still need a few more volunteers to do programs toward the end of the year. Our spring show is only a month and a half away so we are looking for volunteers for security and safety. I hope to see more members step up for these positions to help the Club

-- Ernie

### Other News!

✪ **Membership Report:** Please welcome new annual members **Paul Blemberg** and **Brian Klipp**.

✪ **New Member Applications:** VGCA received Membership application(s) from the following individual(s):

- **Douglas Chapman** of Arlington, VA is sponsored by Members **Phil Hill** and **Wes Chappell**
- **Lee Richmond** of Herndon, VA is sponsored by **Hampton Williams**

**Annual Members: Final Notice, Last Call & Last Chance - 2017 Dues are overdue.** Very few annual renewals have been received. On January 12, reminder emails were sent to all unpaid annual members with email addresses. Your last chance to remain a member in good standing is to pay at the January Membership meeting (January 26, 2017) or by mail below. Any member not paid by February 1, will be dropped from the membership roster. If you are dropped, you will need to reapply to be a VGCA member. **Dues payments WILL NOT be accepted after the deadline or at the March show, and you will not be eligible for free entry to the Show.**

\*\*\* If your email has changed, please notify [vgca\\_membership@cox.net](mailto:vgca_membership@cox.net) \*\*\*

**Membership Renewal Request (NL-1-2017)**  
**William Chronister, P.O. Box 2318, Merrifield, VA 22116-2318**

VGCA annual membership dues are \$30.00. Life membership is still only \$150.00. If you have paid your 2016 dues, you may upgrade to Life Membership for \$150. Please complete and return this renewal form with your payment. Indicate Annual, Life or that you do not wish to renew your membership by checking the appropriate box below. Please Print Clearly

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosed is a check (preferred) for \$30.00 for CY 2016 VGCA Annual Membership dues.
- Enclosed is a check (preferred) for \$30.00 for CY 2017 VGCA Annual Membership dues.
- I wish to upgrade to Life Membership in VGCA. Enclosed is a check for \$150.00

**(For 2017 only – if an annual member is interested in becoming a life member but has not yet paid their 2016 dues, they can pay the 2016 back dues of \$30, plus the \$150 Life Membership fee, for a total of \$180 if paid by February 1, 2017)**

Make all checks payable to VGCA. If you have any questions contact William Chronister, Membership Chair at (703) 204-0138 or by e-mail at [vgca\\_membership@cox.net](mailto:vgca_membership@cox.net).

### ✪ **BATFE REVISES LAW ON NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT (NFA) APPLICATIONS**

Anyone who is considering purchasing a NFA item, Machine Gun, Suppressor, Destructive Device or AOW needs to be aware of some recent BATFE changes in the application process. As of July 13, 2016 all persons, defined as Individuals, Trusts or Corporations must have an individual or responsible person (for Trust and Corporations) listed on the application. In addition the Individual or Responsible Persons must submit Photos and Fingerprints on the Form 1 (Application to Make a NFA Weapon) or Form 4 (Application for Transfer of NFA weapon). This new rule is commonly referred to as Ruling 41F or 41F. In basic terms, anyone now submitting to own a NFA weapon must be on the application and submit fingerprints and photos with the Form 1 or Form 4. This is a big change for Trust and Corporations which were previously not required to submit Photos or Fingerprints for all Responsible Persons. The new forms have expanded sections to handle this new requirement. Any NFA item transferred or submitted before the July 13 2016 cut off was grandfathered from 41F.

There is also great deal of **GOOD NEWS** with this ruling. Going forward, the BATFE no longer requires a Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) signature on the new forms. In the past, all Form 1 or 4 applications had to be sent to the CLEO for review and approval prior to mailing to BATFE. The CLEO sign off was particularly burdensome in some areas, as the CLEO would refuse to sign any forms, thereby shutting off the acquisition or transfer of any NFA firearms to that area. One local area where the CLEO refused to sign for individuals was City of Alexandria. The new law requires only notification to the local CLEO. This removes what had been for some people a major hurdle in NFA item ownership.

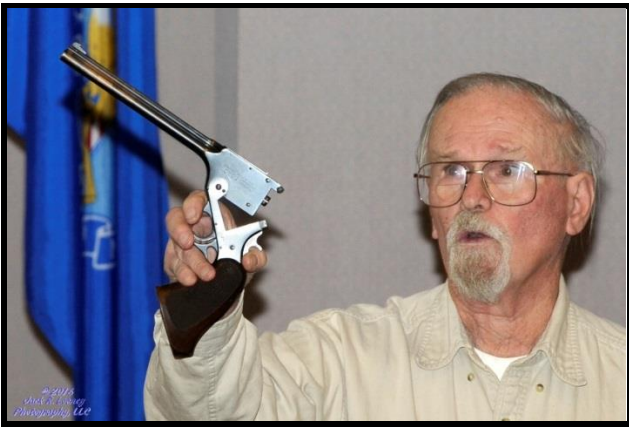
### ✪ **FORM 4473 REVISED AS OF 16 JANUARY 2017**

The next time you buy a firearm from a Federal Firearms License holder (FFL), you may not recognize the Form 4473. As of January 16, 2017 a new Form 4473 must be used. The BATFE has added more questions on the bottom of the form concerning Citizenship and Immigration Status. They have also revised the Certification Statement/ Signature block where you sign and date the Form on the second page. The Certification Statement now includes a review of actual buyer, citizenship and false statements or representations. It also includes a statement on the buying and selling of firearms for livelihood or profit without an FFL.

### **Show-n-Tell!**



Member 1 shared a Steyr Model 1895/30 rifle that had been converted to a single-shot .22LR. The Austrian military acquired approximately 200 of these Erma conversions for training use in the 1920s, and others were made for civilian sales. It is shown here with bayonet mounted.



Member 2 brought in what was described as “the BEST single shot target pistol ever made!” It is a Harrington and Richardson Target Pistol. Approximately 3500 were made from 1926 to 1941. There were many variations in sights, grips (no less than 5 types), extractors (3 types), etc.

Member 3 presented a Remington Rider Magazine pistol. Designed by Joseph Rider, about 13,000 of this interesting pistol were manufactured between 1871 and 1888. Chambered in .32 Rimfire Extra Short, it came in choice of blued, nicked, or case colored finish and was available in both and engraved (engraved being the more common of the two). A rolling block design, it appears to have two hammers – the forward “hammer” is actually the cocking lever. Pulling it to the rear operates the ejection and feeding mechanisms as well as cocks the actual hammer. The magazine under the barrel held 5 rounds.





Member 1 came back to describe a couple of other interesting small caliber rifles that belong to another member of VGCA. The first shown is a Browning T Bolt with checkering and a 24 inch barrel. This “straight pull” rifle was made in the late 1960s through early 1970s. Buyers should be aware that the stocks were made by a sub-contractor and were salt cured – which, over time, can lead to some rusty metal hiding under the wood!



The next gun described was a Walther Model 55 air rifle in .177 caliber. Manufactured from 1955 through the 1960s, these fine air rifles have a reputation for excellent accuracy. It came with a double set trigger.

Member 4 presented a Colt Python “Ten Pointer” in .357 Magnum. The “Ten Pointer” was a special run of only 250 revolvers and came from the factory with a 3x Burris scope.





Finally, Member 5 displayed a unique set of drawings from the Stevens Arms and Tool Company. These ink-on-cloth drawings represent the master cartridge dimensions used by Stevens in their rifle designs. Calibers in this set included the .25/10, .25/21, .25/25, .25/36, .30/30, .38/40, .38/55, .40/65, and .40/82 – classics of the black powder and early smokeless powder eras.

### **In Review**

“In Review” is a relatively new section to the newsletter (started in August 2016) and 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](mailto:rpebecker@verizon.net).

### **✦ Gun Show**

#### **CIVIL WAR SHOW IN GETTYSBURG WORTH THE DRIVE**

*By Marc Gorelick, VGCA*

*Photographs by Bill Chronister, VGCA*

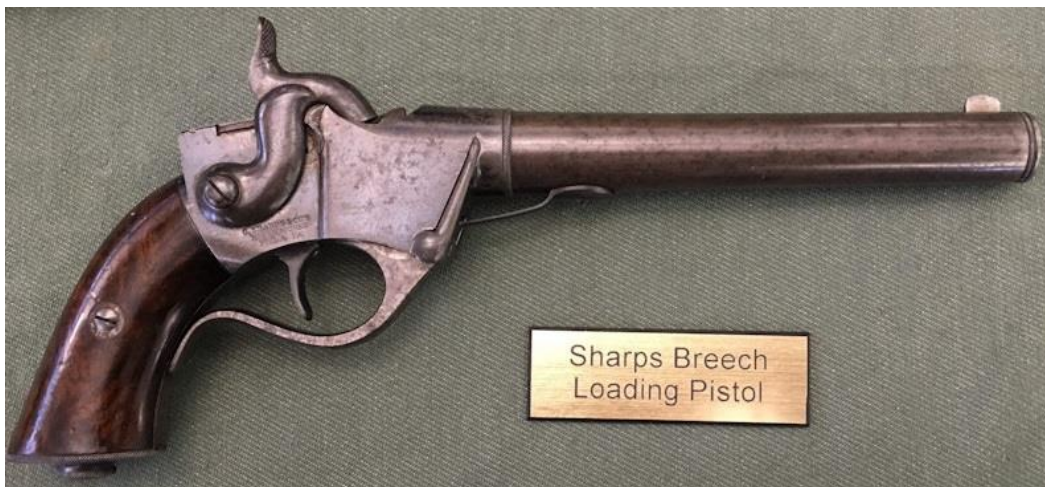
Gettysburg, PA is only about an hour to an hour and half hour drive from Northern Virginia, but the gun shows held there are usually well worth the trip. The autumn *Gettysburg Civil War, World War I, World War II, & Antique Gun Show*, held October 29-30, 2016 and promoted by Thomas Publications, was no exception. The 200-250 table show, like most Gettysburg shows, was held in the Eisenhower/Allstar Events Complex on Emmitsburg Road (Business Route 15) about five miles south of Gettysburg. The show covered the Colonial period through the Civil War, Indian Wars, Span-Am War, and up to and including World Wars I and II. The items on display and for sale were not only guns but also included accessories, accoutrements, swords, uniforms, documents, books, period photographs and artwork, soldiers’ personal effects and relics. The show was a delight for those interested in older weapons and history.



*Rare Butterfield percussion revolver with automatic primer from the Mark Anniballi display.*

Older guns and items predominated, and although some of the prices were high, there were quite a few bargains to be had for the informed collector. Many well-known, reputable dealers in antique arms from around the country were there, including: Tim Prince of College Hill Arsenal (TN), Cliff Sofia of CS Arms (Upperville, VA), Al Duquette (TX), Nick Apergis (VA), Rafael Eledge of Shiloh Relics (TN), Dave Taylor (OH), Vin Caponi (NY), and Malcom Addoms of Antique Optics (VA). Many of the dealers were friendly and took the time to talk to show patrons. And historical book dealers were there in full force.

The word “rare” has been abused when describing collectable arms, but some of the guns on the tables were truly rare. For example, three guns on one table may be “one-of-a-kind” experimental, trials or prototype guns. They included a Sharps conversion from a muzzleloader to breechloader (with 1856 patent drawings and documentation), a Remington Rolling Block Transformed Rifle (by Remington with documents) of unusual configuration with brass mountings, and one converted breechloader of unknown provenance.



*Extremely rare Sharps breech loading pistol with automatic primer from the Mark Anniballi display.*

The show’s highlight was a display of Civil War handguns by Mark Anniballi. Covering four tables, it was perhaps one of the finest, most complete displays I have ever seen. This world-class display covered every revolver, and many single shot pistols, used during the Civil War - both government issued and privately purchased percussion, pinfire, lipfire and self-contained metallic cartridge handguns. All were in outstanding condition and many were documented to individual soldiers. This was truly a superb display of historically important guns.

The show was held in an excellent facility with plenty of free parking with friendly, helpful staff, however, the on-site food and the men’s room left a lot to be desired. But for a serious collector or a person interested in history who lives within driving distance, this show is a must do.

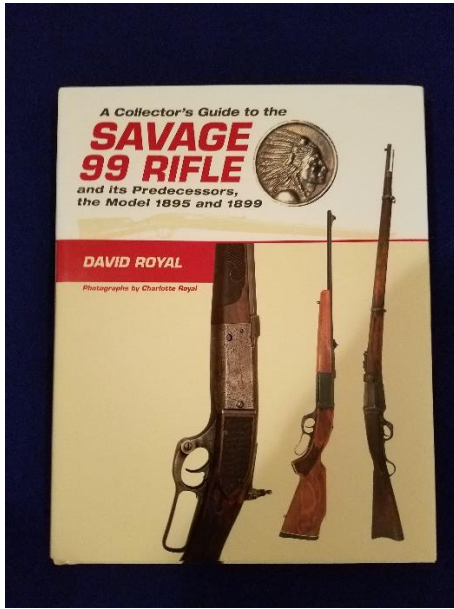
# A Collector's Guide to the Savage 99 Rifle and its Predecessors, the Model 1895 and 1899

*By David Royal*

Publisher – Schiffer Publishing, Ltd, 158 pages

Review by Rob Becker

Growing up in Pennsylvania, where the first day of buck season was (and is) an official school holiday, I found that there were certain classic hunting rifles found in every hunting camp. Among these were the standard bolt action Winchester Model 70s and Remington 700s, and, because semi-autos are not allowed for hunting in the Keystone State, there were a lot of Remington pump action Model 760s and lever actions of all flavors.



Many nights in camp were (and are) spent debating which is the best action type – be it bolt or lever or pump. But when it came down to discussing specific models, one lever action was generally acknowledged as “the best” – and though the Winchester 94 is a classic with many proponents - “the best” was almost always a Savage, the Model 99 to be exact. Like any classic gun, it has developed a collector market. And just last year an outstanding book was published on the Savage Model 99 that will find itself in demand with collectors.

*A Collector's Guide to the Savage 99 Rifle* by David Royal covers all aspects of this rifle from its predecessor models and prototypes to its production and many variants. Included are yearly production tables broken out by serial number. Lavishly illustrated with 250 color pictures among its 158 pages, variant details such as the progression of different barrel markings, are easily identified. Engraved models, commemoratives, and accessories are covered. Even details of the Model 99's military service (albeit limited) are found in this book's pages.

I got my copy at the Ohio Gun Collectors Association show last summer, but you can find them for sale on line at [davidroyalsavage99.com](http://davidroyalsavage99.com) for \$59.99. This book would make a fine addition to any firearms library!

## ★ Thank You for a Job Well Done!

The VGCA Officers and Board Members would like to extend a hearty “Thank You!” to the security volunteers from our November Show. We could not have executed a successful show without their hard work and dedication. Please join us in thanking the following individuals:

**Bill Alexander**  
**Mike Cogswell**  
**Randall Patrick**  
**Tom Schneider**

**John Babey**  
**John Frietsch**  
**Joe Roberts**  
**Carl Warhurst**

**Jim Burgess**  
**Jim Frigiola**  
**Bill Troy**

**Chris Britten**  
**George Kirschbaum**  
**Carol Troy**

If you are interested in helping out with security at a future show, please contact Joe Roberts



## Upcoming Events and Shows

PLEASE NOTE: There are sometimes changes in schedules by gun show promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to *verify before driving to a show*. These dates have been published as of this writing, but are not guaranteed. If you have a favorite show you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short review, including the show content, i.e., modern, new, collectible or antique, and I will include it as room permits. **Yellow** = Collector organizations.

### VIRGINIA 2016-2017

- January 28-29, 2017 – Fredericksburg, VA – Expo and Convention Center – *SGK*
- January 28-29, 2017 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo Center – *Showmasters and C&E*
- January 28-29, 2017 – Norfolk, VA – Norfolk Scope – *Showmasters*
- February 4-5, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – Virginia Beach Convention Center – *SGK*
- February 10-12, 2017 - Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters and C&E*
- February 18-19, 2017 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds - *Showmasters and C&E*
- February 25-26, 2017 – Doswell, VA – Farm Bureau Center at Meadow Event Park - *SGK*

### MARYLAND 2016-2017

- None listed for the rest of January or February

### PENNSYLVANIA 2016-2017

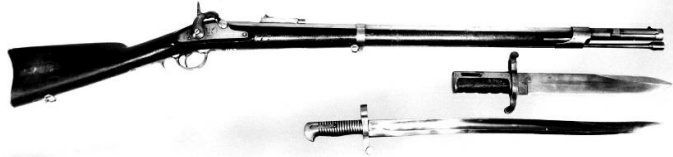
- January 28-29, 2017 – Gettysburg, PA – All Star Convention Center - *Eagle Arms Productions*
- January 28-29, 2017 – Greencastle, PA – Mason Dixon Auto Auction – *Appalachian Promotions*
- February 4-5, 2017 – Hermitage, PA – Hickory Post VFW – *LR Gun Shows*
- February 4-5, 2017 – Lancaster, PA – Farm and Home Center – *Lancaster Muzzle Loading Rifle Assoc*
- February 4-5, 2017 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center - *Showmasters and C&E*
- February 4-5, 2017 – Wind Gap, PA – Plainfield Fire Co. – *Eagle Arms Productions*
- February 10-12, 2017 - Oaks, PA – Oaks Expo Center - *Eagle Arms Productions*
- February 18-19, 2017 – Bloomsburg, PA – Fairgrounds – *Eagle Arms Productions*
- February 18-19, 2017 – Monaca, PA – Monaca-Turner Center – *Tri-State Gun and Sportsman*
- February 25-26, 2017 – Ridgway, PA – Ridgway Rifle Club – *Ridgway Rifle Club*
- February 25-26, 2017 – York, PA – Memorial Hall, Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*

### SPECIAL NOTE – OHIO - 2017

- March 11-12, 2017 – Wilmington, OH – The Roberts Centre – *OGCA (Members and invited guests only)*

## ***HELP NEEDED FOR VGCA DISPLAY AT 2017 NRA MEETING IN ATLANTA***

The next NRA Annual Meeting is scheduled for 28-30 April 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. The VGCA has had winning displays at previous NRA Meetings and would like to continue the tradition. Marc Gorelick has tentatively agreed to represent the club with a display about *John Dahlgren and the Plymouth Rifle*. However, he needs assistance. Putting on an NRA display is not a single person act – it should be a club effort and we need to start work soon (there are benefits for participating members if you go to the NRA meeting).



Marc needs additional items related to *Model 1861 Navy "Plymouth" Rifle*. These may include samples of Plymouth rifles, bayonets, accessories, accoutrements, documentation, or other naval items from that period. Especially desirable would be a Model 1846 (or Model 1859) French *Carabine a Tige*, on which the Plymouth rifle was based. Please contact Marc if you want to help.

On the other hand, if any other member wants to put together a display, please contact a VGCA Board Director as soon as possible. This is an excellent opportunity to highlight your knowledge and collection. However, you decide soon as the application deadline (1 December 2016) is fast approaching!

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is [Newsletter@vgca.net](mailto:Newsletter@vgca.net) or you can read the editor directly at [rpebecker@verizon.net](mailto: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 Larry Hare.