



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

**WWW.VGCA.NET**

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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## April 2014 VGCA e-Newsletter



**Presentation for the February 27, 2014 Meeting:** The presenter of the evening was **LTC. Shannon Zeigler**, VGCA Member and our new Treasurer, his subject was on Arisaka Type-99 Short Rifle Inspection Marks. The Type-99 is a Mauser-Type bolt action with a five round integral magazine chambered in 7.7 x 58mm Japanese. One day Shannon plans to write a book on the Type-99 Short Rifle and was generous enough to share some of his knowledge with the club. To aid in his presentation Shannon brought with him an amazing PowerPoint presentation, as well as a few key examples of the variations of Type-99 Short Rifle which included the original Type-99 Short Rifle, the substitute Type-99 short rifle early (adopted around 1943), and "last ditch" substitutes.

The Japanese used a two piece buttstock to conserve wood and strengthen the stock. They used various species of wood including an Asian variant of walnut which is weaker than American black walnut. As the rifles entered the substitute phases the dust cover along with any other non-essential parts were dropped in favor of speed in production and to conserve strategic material.

Approximately 2.5 million Type 99 Short Rifles were produced by nine manufacturers: four were government with supervisory responsibility over five sub-manufacturers. Each arsenal had its own inspection mark with the sub-manufacturers having the parent arsenals mark followed by their own. Shannon followed this by going into the symbolism of how a number of these arsenals came up with their inspection marks. You can use the inspection marks to identify a parts gun by seeing whether the different areas of the firearm came from the same arsenal. The key spots to look for matching inspection marks are the bottom of the stock near the trigger assembly, on the receiver right above the stock after the serial number, and on the dust cover if so equipped. Another inspection mark to look for is the second-class mark, which identifies previously rejected parts or parts of second rate quality deemed acceptable for use on late war production rifles. To learn more about Japanese Rifles come to Shannon's 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation in August.

☛ **Upcoming Presentation for April 24, 2014:** Bill Chronister and Larry Hare will be giving a presentation on Precision Adult Air Rifles. Bring your own air guns for Show and Tell; we all have some amazing stories to share. The food trough will be open so bring \$5 dollars as a donation. Please help us make sure that we leave the conference room cleaner than we found it. We can't wait to see you all there.

☛ **Remaining Presentations for 2014:** The following presentations are already scheduled for next year. This is a great line-up, so mark your calendars. 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.

- **May 22 - Anthony Vanderlinden** returns with more on Belgian Arms with "*Henri Pieper and the Bayard Legacy*" - A look at FN's co-founder and competitor
- **June 26 - Carlos Davila** on "*The G-1/2/3 Family of Military Rifles*"
- **July - NO Meeting - Summer Recess**
- **August 28 - Shannon Ziegler** - "*Japanese Arms*"
- **September 25 - Addison Hurst** - "*The Kalashnikov Rifle and Legacy*"

- **October 23 - LTC Gregg Thompson**–  
"Afghani Rifles"
- **November - NO Meeting - VGCA Gun Show**
- **December 4 - Annual Membership Meeting** –  
NO Speaker/Pot Luck Dinner/Officer  
Nominations/Show & Tell/Swap Meet

**Business Meeting of February 27, 2014:** The meeting started with the pledge and a number of announcements. The first, **Rick Nahas** informed the membership that all tables for our Spring Gun Show were sold and there was a waiting list. A number of guests were also introduced. **Larry Hare**, Membership Coordinator, then presented the following membership candidates: Allen Gill - sponsor Dave Litchfield; August Przybilla - sponsor Ernie Lyles; David Pugh - sponsor Ed Johnson; Wayne Baker - sponsor Larry Hare; Dennis Bennett - sponsor Steve Geis; and Lawrence Harper - sponsor Ian Harper.

A call was made for more show volunteers for Security, Safety, and Setup. The potential for opening the backroom again at our Gun Shows was brought up to the membership. Dave Litchfield recognized Richard Pripeton for his work on the new site at [www.vgca.net](http://www.vgca.net) and the new facebook page with a certificate from the Board. Marc Gorelick was recognized for his work on two educational documents that can be found on the resources and education pages of our website. Dave Litchfield announced to the membership that we are moving to a new ID Badge format which would be available at the Spring Show.

**Results of the 2014 Election of Officers:** **Dave Litchfield** was voted in as President, **Jim Burgess** as Vice-President, **Shannon Zeigler** as Treasurer relieving Ed Costello who served for 25 years, and **Richard Pripeton** as Secretary providing relief to Bill Chronister who served in that capacity and as newsletter editor for 9 years.

### ☆☆☆☆ Spring 2014 VGCA Gun Show Report ☆☆☆☆

Our Spring 2014 VGCA Gun Show was held at the Prince William County Fairgrounds on March 22-23, 2014. The show was very busy and the tables were full despite a change in vendors. Ammo was still at panic level prices, especially 22lr though there were definitely some deals to be had. The crowds were solid, and we had full aisles for most of the day, with near 2000 attendees over the weekend.

The evaluation table remained a staple separating us from the barrage of other guns shows. This year we added the ability to give attendees copies of the information about their guns and reference material for reading later. A special thanks goes out to **Addison Hurst** for continuing to head up this stellar service as well as a thanks to all those who help Addison out and provide relief for him and bring their knowledge to attendees throughout the show. **Larry Hare** provided an excellent service in giving up a lot of his time creating new membership badges. The club has moved forward transitioning to plastic membership badges that are easier to see and read.

As part of our continued effort to reach the community we ran a door prize this year for a Ruger 10-22 rifle and collected nearly 1000 email addresses for our new email notification list. Dennis' daughter Kate did a great job surveying people coming through the door on how they heard about the show. She then generated a report to help the club focus its advertising costs.

A special thanks goes to **Rick Nahas, Dennis Gerdovich, and Emory Hackman**. Thanks to their hard work we were at 91% table renewal at the end of the show. In fact, at this point there are only 7 tables left unsold for our Fall Show. It's been an outstanding job by our show committee and loyal vendors who keep coming back.

**Display Awards:** Chief Display Judge, **Jim Burgess** provided the following results of the judging of the Historical and Educational Displays at the Spring 2014 VGCA Gun Show:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place:</b>	Hank Hagenau	<i>Use 'em Up - Wear 'em Out, [French] Cartridge Conversion Trial Rifles</i>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place:</b>	Shannon Zeigler	<i>Commonwealth Rifle Aperture Backsights</i>

The Judges awarded a well-deserved **First Place** to **Henry P. Hagenau, Jr.** for another fascinating display on French Rifle and ammunition development. *Use 'em Up – Wear 'em Out: Cartridge Conversion Trials Rifles ... transitioning from the 8X50Rmm 'Lebel' to the 7.5x54 French*, included some very unique and rarely seen examples of trials rifles, experimental modifications, and cutaway examples to demonstrate the concepts and new rifle, which became the Mas 1936 to French military officials. It had an example of the rare French used Model 1886 Lebel with experimental modifications of 1927, that were used to perfect the new rimless 7.5X54 French

cartridge, which was then introduced for the new compact and accurate Mas 1936 bolt action rifle. That rifle was one of the last bolt action rifles adopted by a major power.

This display was outstanding and exhibited the great subject matter and clean design that was so ably demonstrated in one of Mr. Hagenau's previous displays of French arms, a chronology of training arms from the 1700's to the modern day that was titled *Boys to Men – French Military Trainers for Boys and Men*, which was displayed at our VGCA Show in March 2010 and covered in the April 2010 VGCA Newsletter. That display went on to take awards at the Ohio Gun Collectors Association meetings.

**Second Place** was awarded to **Shannon Zeigler** for his detailed display *Commonwealth Rifle Aperture Backsights*. This display was presented with six examples of target and accurized Enfield Rifles from the No.1MkIII and No.4MkI and II series that were made and or modified for target and precision shooting by Great Britain and Australia. The rifles were well displayed to highlight the rear aperture sights or "peep sights" as they are referred to in the US.

In addition to the rifles, Mr. Zeigler included a display of various sights that are found on this category of rifles. Included were Parker-Hale, A.G.Parker, BSA, Central (Australia) and Mues. He also had sight tools, gauges and adjusters, match sling swivels, sight covers, as well as match slings, shooting and scoring books, and manuals to illustrate how performance and progress was tracked in the shooting matches for which the rifles were designed.

These educational and historical displays are a key component of why we all collect and an integral part of the VGCA show (and other collectors associations shows), that differentiate us from the commercial shows. Both of these gentlemen did a lot of work and research and were honored by the judges. A Special thanks to both Jim and our others judges Joe Roberts and Richard Pripeton. It can prove to be a difficult call when faced with multiple high quality displays and themes:

**A special thanks to the VGCA Gun Show Setup & Security Team Volunteers:** The VGCA would like to thank all who helped make our Spring Show happen. For Setup: Rick Nahas, Dave Litchfield, Bart Leggett, Jim Burgess, Richard Pripeton, Larry Hare, Davis Webster ( Bart's nephew) not a member, Lynn Jones, Richard Jones and Wife, Lee Turner, Bob Chapman, Greg Thompson, Harry Rensel, Dennis Gerdovich, Bernie Brighner, Kelly Cook, Chris Britton, John Courtright, Ed Costello, and Del Whitaker. For Security: Harry Rensel, John Courtright, William Spence, Chris Britton, Steve Geis, Jim Frigiola, David Murray, Jim Burgess, H. F. McConnell, John Satanek, Joseph Vasile, John Murphy, Ian Harper, Bill Ludwig, Al Gill, Lawrence Harper, Chris Christov, Jeff Nickel, Norman Danford, George Kirshbaum, Michael Alsop, Dennis Bennett, Bob Chapman, David Pugh, Dick Mason, Bill Alexander, Jimmy Stoner, Rob Becker, Steve Philipyp, and Alex Zuru. Many thanks, because without you all, our show couldn't happen.

### Other News!

**Early Call for Volunteers:** If you're interested in working Security at the next show in November WE ALWAYS NEED VOLUNTEERS. Please contact Kent Jefferies at [KAJefferies@aol.com](mailto:KAJefferies@aol.com) and remember that working on the Security or Setup teams gets you one free admission to the gun show for the weekend.

**VGCA Member and Guest Banquet:** This year's banquet was a resounding success with 30 members and their guests in attendance. The night opened with a delicious dinner at Anthony's Restaurant in Centerville with options such as stuffed eggplant, salmon, chicken, and prime rib.

This was followed by remarks from our President Dave Litchfield who started by honoring all of our volunteers and the youth shooting organizations we support. Dave then honored the following members in particular: Rick Nahas for his efforts as show manager, and Dennis Gerdovich and Emory Hackman for their work on the show committee. Ed Costello was honored for his 25 years as treasurer, as was Lt. Col Shannon Zeigler for stepping up to fill the position of treasurer. Ernie Lyles was honored for his 12 years as a director or as vice-president, as was Jim Burgess who has stepped in as the new vice-president. Bill Chronister was then recognized for his 9 years as secretary and newsletter editor bringing us a detailed record of the clubs activities, as was Richard Pripeton who has filled the position of Secretary. Finally, Jack Looney was recognized for his years of providing fantastic photographs for the site and newsletter, as were Dennis Gerdovich and Marc Gorelick for their positions as Directors. Dave then announced that a new version of the by-laws would be coming to the club this year from the by-laws committee.

After all the announcements were made the evening went on to a very successful auction where Ernie Lyles acted as our Auctioneer and Dennis Gerdovich kept a running record of who got what and for what price. Our auction brought in a record breaking amount this year beating out both year one and two. If we took an IOU from you at the dinner, please bring a check or cash to the April meeting.

**BoD Vacancy:** The Board of Directors now has a vacant slot due to Jim Burgess becoming the Vice-President. The Board has had two people who have expressed interest in filling this slot. If you would like to be considered please contact Dave Litchfield. The Officers and Board will then meet and appoint a member to fill out the last year of Jim's slot on the Board from these candidates.

### ☆☆☆☆ Word's from the President ☆☆☆☆

Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to report that we completed a very successful Gun Show on March 22-23. We were sold out for tables, and attracted in excess of 1800 attendees. Rick Nahas and his show committee members did a superior job during the show and also sold out 91% of the tables for the November Show. Addison Hurst and the Eval Team and Kent Jefferies and the Security team all did a bang up job. For all who volunteered, you have our VGCA sincere thanks.

We made a good profit and will be able to provide financial support to all three of our 4 H Shooting Clubs as well as the NRA this coming year. We also completed our election of Officers and we are very fortunate to have Jim Burgess as our new Vice President, Richard Pripeton as our new Secretary and Shannon Zeigler as our new Treasurer. We will show our appreciation to Ed Costello, Bill Chronister and Ernie Lyles for their many years of service to the VGCA at the April meeting. On Saturday 5 April we conducted our annual members dinner with 30 people in attendance. We enjoyed great conversation and libations, and the food was superb. We raised over \$500.00 in the auction and I want to thank all who attended and especially for donating all the fantastic auction items. I love my brand new Lee Turret reloading press that I was able to bid high on. It was wonderful to see all the ladies in attendance, and also young Michael Christov. We still have plenty of interesting guest speakers lined up for 2014 and I am sure that Bill Chronister and Larry Hare will provide a very interesting April 25th presentation on Precision Air Guns. Bring in your air guns for show & tell. See you at the meeting!

Happy Collecting,

Dave Litchfield

**Show & Tell from the February 27, 2014 Meeting:** Our Show and Tell yielded a number of interesting items. **Member 1** brought a commercial, 2-position, sportorized 1938 early WWII Mauser-Werke, that had been converted to 8mm Mauser. **Member 2** brought a beautiful late war wood cased bayonet. **Member 3** brought a 6<sup>th</sup> series Nagoya Type-99 with bluing, as well as a last ditch Type-99 with cylindrical bolt handle and special Jinsen thumb detent. From **Member 4** we had a Smith & Wesson Black Russian. Out of **Member 5's** collection we got to see a medal issued to the Flying Tigers by the Chinese government 27 years after the war ended honoring them for their efforts.

### 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 2014

- ☉ April 5-6, 2014 - Norfolk, VA- Norfolk Scope Arena - C&E Gun Show
- ☉ April 12-13, 2014 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland - C&E Gun Show
- ☉ April 25-27, 2014 - Chantilly, VA – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - C&E Gun Show
- ☉ April 26-27, 2014 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - Old Dominion Shows



- ⇒ May 17-18, 2014 - Salem, VA- Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ May 17-18, 2014 - Virginia Beach, VA - Virginia Beach Convention Center - *SGK Show*

**PENNSYLVANIA 2014**

- ⇒ April 26-27, 2014 - Monroeville, PA- Monroeville Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ May 10-11, 2014 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society.*  
 Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is [Newsletter@vgca.net](mailto:Newsletter@vgca.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 Richard Pripeton, VGCA Newsletter Editor

**Photos from the Spring 2014 Gun Show**



**Upper Left:** Hank Hagenau's First Place Display on the Cartridge Conversion Trials transitioning from 8x50Rmm 'Lebel' to the 7.5x54 French. Included are rifles from the process as well as fantastic cutaways.



**Upper Right:** Included here are our President and President emeritus congratulating our display winners along with the Show Manager and Head Judge.



**On the Left:** Shannon Zeigler's Second Place Display focused on Commonwealth Rifle Aperture Sights. Included are examples from Great Britain and Australia as well as a beautiful display case of sights.