



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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May 2014 VGCA e-Newsletter



A Night of Marlins the May 22, 2014 Meeting: The membership came together to put on a rather splendid show on Marlin firearms. We had over 55 people in attendance providing a very strong showing for Memorial Day weekend. There was a large collection of Marlin rifles and few other treats. We started off with a 45-70 which was followed by a 450. The 450's short styling is good for taking running shots and other forms of hunting. These two guns were followed by a newer marlin

in 30-30 that came with a scope from factory. This gun was followed by a Marlin 1895 in 45-75 with the Ballard rifling. Shockingly it doesn't have a very large kick more of a light push. Another member brought in a number of Marlins starting with the oldest, a model 1881 Marlin in 45-70



manufactured in 1883. The rifle was a burgess patent model tweaked and improved by Marlin featuring peep sights. The next item up was the Marlin 1891 side-loader which was only made for the first few months of 1891. It loads primarily using a tubular loader with a round top receiver. In the second half of 1891 they moved to a tubular magazine moving away from the side-loader and removing the separate safety and instead moved it to a simpler design. Third was a 1940 manufacture with case colored receiver which they no longer do. This model is a takedown design and all in all rather rare. Our next member brought a beautiful 375 rifle fitted with a wonderful scope from our on our annual dinner auctions. After WWII Marlin came out with a 336 with a round bolt removing a sliding cover and Ballard rifling manufacturing to shoot 35 Remington. Marlin also manufactured a 39A in .22 which operated as a takedown. They're fun to shoot, accurate and exceptional with peep sights. Our next member brought at 1881 special order in 40-60. Our next gun of the evening was a model 93 chambered in 30-30 the gun still had the original finish manufactured in 1930 or 33 and has been with one owner. This member gave us some wonderful tips on how to tell when your gun was manufactured based on the marlin name markings. Next up was someone who's only marlin happened to be a marlin shotgun, specifically a model 49, which happened to of never been in the catalog. They model 49's were awarded to anyone who bought 4 shares



of stock. The shotgun featured an inertia blocking mechanism; however, marlin has said they are dangerous to shoot. And 1893 was the next rifle up chambered in 32-40 with a modified sight which has lived as both a wall hanger and a shooter. Another one family gun, a model 39 low serial number purchased back in the 30s and handed down through the family. It was in gorgeous condition however was not made for high speed ammo. Custom order rifles made an appearance as well in the form of a 28 barrel with flip sight and color case hardening chambered in 32-20. It was followed by its companion piece a Smith and Wesson 32-20. This brought an end to our Night of Marlins.

Upcoming Presentation for June 26, 2014: This June Carlos Davilia will be treating us to a presentation on *The G-1/2/3 Family of Military Rifles*. The presentation will be followed by show and tell so stick around. The food trough will be open so please 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.

Business Meeting of May 22, 2014: We started off the meeting with the pledge followed by a moment of silence for our fallen comrades. This was followed by a welcoming of guests and Larry going over the new members. Todd Melton sponsored by Dennis Bennett and Forrest Harry Fleming sponsored by Bob Sears were inducted unanimously. John Babey was formally welcomed to the Board in the interim position filling in for Jim Burgess. Marc Gorelick, a member of the Board, made a continued call for articles for the website. Marc also informed the membership of a plan for a bibliography or reference on reliable books covering wide array of subjects relating to gun collecting.

★**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.

- **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**

Other News!

The VGCA at the NRA Annual Meeting: Waclaw –Walter in English (Wally) Ustupski (remember him?) Wally was voted in as a member in September 2013 and represented the VGCA at this year's annual meetings with his display of Polish Radom pistols and rifles. Wally lives in the Chicago area and took just about his entire collection to Indianapolis, IN. to set up and display for the VGCA on April 24th at the Indy convention center in downtown Indy. He arrived just ahead of Bill York and I. He was all unloaded and waiting for the convention center to finish delivery of his glass case and support tables to finish set up. Along with Wally was his son Tom. That was on Thursday afternoon the 24th. By that evening Wally was all set to go and ready for the judges to swoop down upon his booth for inspection early Friday morning. At 7:30 AM sharp, 12 judges cut the corner and entered the booth. Of particular interest was any firearm the entrants nominate for silver medallions. Wally, like most entrants nominated several firearms for a silver award. Silver Medallions are for an individual firearm of particular interest to the NRA judges and need to have paperwork attached so the judges can evaluate and score the nominations in closed session. Only 10 are available each year and the winners keep the Medallion which is serial numbered and go with the firearm forever. The winners cannot be nominated again,. The silver Medallion is the 2nd highest award in the annual meetings, the highest is the silver cup, which moves around year to year between organizations. The annual meetings open to the public at 9am sharp. By then the judges, 12 in all this year, are done with their inspection and retire at 10am for closed session to debate the awards. For the next 18 hours all 24 member clubs that attended this year are in suspense as to the outcome. On Sunday morning a representative from each club is asked to attend the awards ceremony. Wally won a certificate for his Prewar Polish Cavalry uniform, which he wore all weekend. In addition to a silver medallion for his Maroszek Rifle (1 of 6 known), Wally won an award for his display of collective Radom pistols and the rifle. Wally is planning to attend our monthly meeting on May 22nd to show off his well-deserved awards for his hard work. As gun collector shows go – The NRA Annual Meetings are the pinnacle of achievement in collecting. Of the many affiliated clubs, 24 showed up this year. Wally also received the VGCA attendance pin for 2014. This pin is put on a plaque with any other pins VGCA has for attendance in past years. Perhaps Addison has it and passes it to Dave. I believe we have 5.

-Bill York and Rick Nahas

Early Call for Volunteers: If you're interested in working Security at the next show in November WE ALWAYS NEED VOLUNTEERS especially if we want to grow our show and provide more for you all. Please contact Kent Jefferies at 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.

Continued Call of Articles for the Website: We are making a call for articles for the website. They must be about guns or gun collecting not shooting sports or hunting. No political articles will be used. Articles may be about modern or antique firearms and may be historical and/or technical in nature. Detailed guidelines will be available on the website. Please fact check and proofread your own work. All articles may be submitted to Marc or Richard at web@vgca.net. Official Guidelines for articles may be found on the education page of the VGCA site.

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

- ☞ July 12-13, 2014 - Hampton, VA - Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ☞ July 19-20, 2014 - Salem, VA - Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ July 25-27, 2014 - Chantilly, VA – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ August 2-3, 2014 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ☞ August 16-17, 2014 - Fishersville, VA - Augusta Expoland - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ September 6-7, 2014 - Norfolk, VA - Norfolk Scope Arena - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ September 6-7, 2014 - Fredericksburg, VA - Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center - *SGK Shows*
- ☞ September 13-14, 2014 - Hampton, VA - Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ☞ September 26-28, 2014 - Chantilly, VA – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*

PENNSYLVANIA 2014

- ☞ July 12-13, 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
- ☞ August 23-24, 2014 - Monroeville, PA - Monroeville Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ August 23-24, 2014 - Altoona, PA - Blair County Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*

MUZZLELOADING 2014

- ☞ June 27-29, 2014 - Kentucky Rifle Association annual show
- ☞ July 25 - 27, 2014 – Kempton, PA - Dixon's Gunmakers Fair

The e-mail address for any Newsletter related matters or a submission is 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