



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162

CMP Affiliate Number 026160



President
Show/Reservations Manager
Membership

Bernie Breighner
Rick Nahas
Bill Chronister

Phone: 703-200-0470
Cell: 571-215-8761
Phone: 703-204-0138

BFBKAC@gmail.com
jet53sw@aol.com
Vgca_membership@cox.net

Website: www.vgca.net
Facebook: @VirginiaGunCollectorsAssoc

Twitter: @VAGunCollectrs
Instagram: @vaguncollectors

July-August 2021 VGCA Newsletter

President's Comments

Greetings VGCA Members,

I hope everyone has had a relaxing summer. I have some very good news to report. After one more webinar membership meeting in August, we are going to have an in-person membership meeting on September 23rd at the Prince William County Fairgrounds! There is a small building with a conference room immediately on the left as you enter the fairgrounds gate. That is where we will meet. We are even planning an outside barbeque if the weather cooperates. We continue to monitor the COVID situation and will keep you apprised if we are forced to change or cancel this in-person meeting.



We also have elections coming up in the fall. These are long overdue and all Officer and Director positions are up for election. Take it from me - participating in this capacity is very rewarding and is a great way to help the club. See Rob's article on page xx for details and let either George Dungan or myself know if you are interested.

The VGCA Executive Committee is also planning for a November Gun Show. We currently have about 30 open tables available so let Rick Nahas know if you are interested in one or more of those. We are also considering having concealed carry classes and perhaps even some firearms presentations in conjunction with the show. Look for more details during the three membership meetings between now and then.

I look forward to seeing you at the virtual meeting in August and the in-person meeting in September!

—*Bernie Breighner*, VGCA President

★ June Presentation

THE SKS CARBINE

Collecting a Cold War Warrior

By Rob Becker



The June webinar presentation on “**The SKS Carbine – Collecting a Cold War Warrior**” was given by VGCA Life Member Rob Becker. This briefing was initially presented to the VGCA in 2015, but had been updated and substantially expanded to include various accessories in addition to the carbines themselves.

Rob opened by stating several “caveats:”

1. He emphasized that he is an SKS enthusiast, not an expert
2. He noted that these carbines were manufactured and fielded by our Cold War adversaries. As such:
 - There is still very little documented history/background available to us
 - Some of what is published could be fiction or simply propaganda
 - Some (perhaps even most) of the information presented is conjecture or educated guess
3. Our knowledge of the SKS will improve based on a lot of on-going research and data collection being done by some very dedicated individuals



The story of the SKS is a merging of the Soviet Army’s desire for a semi-automatic rifle and the talents of Soviet weapons designer Sergei G. Simonov (*photo at left*).

Starting in the 1930s, the Soviet Union sought to field a semi-automatic battle rifle chambered in the Soviet Army’s 7.62x54 Rimmed cartridge. In 1936, they adopted the AVS-36, designed by a team that included Simonov. It was less-than successful and was quickly replaced by the Tokarev-designed SVT-38, which was in-turn replaced two years later by the SVT-40. All three were long, heavy, complex, and expensive (compared to the then-standard Mosin-Nagant 91/30 rifle) and subject to stoppages/parts failures.

According to Soviet records, work began in 1939 to develop an intermediate rifle cartridge somewhere between the 7.62x54r and the Soviet 7.62x25 pistol round. This initial development stopped when the USSR was invaded by Nazi Germany in the summer of 1941.

After the marginally successful AVS-36 (it was adopted and manufactured, albeit not for long), Simonov worked on other projects, to include the PTRS-41 semi-automatic anti-tank rifle (at right during a demonstration for Soviet troops – Simonov is in the center without a hat) chambered in the massive 14.5x114 round. In many ways the PTRS-41 was the much bigger brother to the SKS with several design features in common between the two. The PTRS could penetrate 40mm of armor at 100 meters and remained in front-line service through WWII and Korea.



Again, according to Soviet sources, development of intermediate 7.62x41 round apparently resumed in 1943. The 7.62x39 cartridge was officially adopted as the Model 1943 (M43) and early examples of the SKS were combat tested in 1944/1945. The standard service M43 round consists of a 123 grain Full Metal Jacketed bullet at 2300 feet per second velocity and with an effective range of 400 meters. This has often been compared to as roughly equivalent to the .30/30 Winchester hunting round.

Soviet Union - SKS-45 – “The Original”

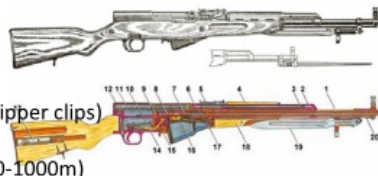
- **Samozaryadnyj Karabin sistemy Simonova, 1945**

Russian: Самозарядный карабин системы Симонова, 1945
(Translation: Self-loading Carbine of (the) Simonov system, 1945)

- Short stroke gas piston, tilting bolt, semi-automatic carbine chambered in 7.62x39 with a 10-round non-detachable box magazine

- Specifications

- Overall Length: 1.022m (40")
- Barrel Length: 520mm (20")
- Weight: 3.86kg (8lb 8oz)
- Rate of fire: ~35-40 rounds per minute (10-rd stripper clips)
- Sights: Front - Hooded front post
Rear - Barrel-mounted tangent notch (100-1000m)
- Attached folding bayonet



The SKS, in Soviet service known as the SKS-45 (which translates to “Self-loading Carbine of (the) Simonov system, 1945”), is a semi-automatic carbine with a non-detachable 10-round magazine chambered in 7.62x39. The original Russian model weighs 8 ½ pounds, has a chrome-lined barrel that is 20 inches long (520mm), and an attached folding blade bayonet. As its nomenclature implies, it was adopted in 1945, although full-

scale production did not begin until 1949. It was produced at the Tula Factory from 1949-1958 and at the Izhevsk Factory in 1953-1954 only. Over 2.5 million were produced in the Soviet Union.

The SKS would go on to be produced in vast numbers by no less than eight nations and continues to serve around the world to this day. Production details are shown in the table below:

Nation	Designation	Years Produced	Factory	Numbers Produced
USSR	SKS-45	1949-1958	Tula, Izhevsk	2,685,900
PCR (China)	Type 56	1956-Unknown	Jianshe + <u>many</u> others	~3,000,000-8,000,000
Yugoslavia	M59, M59/66, M59/66a1	1964-1989	Zavodi Crvena Zastava	52,000 (M59) ~633,000-709,000 (M59/66s)
Romania	Model 56	1958-1960	Cugir	~500,000
Albania	“Independence” or “July 10 Carbine”	1969-1979	Umgramsh	~16,000-20,000
East Germany	Karabiner-S (Carbine-Simonov)	1959-1961	Suhl (2 factory codes – 1a and 20z)	Unknown
North Korea	Type 63	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
North Vietnam	Type 1	1962-1965	Factory 1	~6,000

The three types of SKS that you will most likely encounter in a gun shop or at a gun show are the Russian SKS-45, the Chinese Type 56, or the Yugo M59/66a1. Rob described the types of things a collector should look for when examining any of these SKSs, as well as the less-commonly encountered Romanian and Albanian variants and the rare-as-hen’s-teeth East German, North Korean, or North Vietnamese models (the latter three were never imported and the few that are here primarily came in to the U.S. as veteran bring-backs from Vietnam). For example, regardless of nationality, almost all SKSs were serial numbered on the receiver, the receiver cover, the bolt, the bolt carrier, the bottom of the magazine, the bottom of the trigger guard, and on the left side of the buttstock. Some have serial numbers electro-penciled on the gas cylinder and the gas rod. As with collecting many MILSURP weapons, one of the first things to look for are matching numbers.

Rob noted that most of the Russian SKSs imported into the U.S. were arsenal refurbished at some point. He pointed out how you can tell if a Russian SKS has been refurbished, along with other notes about the SKS-45 (*see slide at right*).

Almost all SKSs have chrome-lined bores, with the exception being the

Soviet Union SKS-45



- Collector Notes:
 - Refurb vs Non-Refurb: Most imported Russian SKS have been arsenal refurbished
 - Look for refurb mark, blued bolt carriers or bayonets, XXX-ed serial number on stock
 - Tula vs Izhevsk, 1953 Izhevsk vs 1954 Izhevsk



1954 Tula receiver cover and left side of stock



1954 Izhevsk Receiver cover



Refurbished SKS. Note dull black finish, black bolt carrier, & refurb mark between Tula star and year

Letter code date after 1955. Note letter after serial number (English letter stamped by importer) and small Tula star on left side of receiver

Д (D in English) =1956
И (I in English) =1957
К (K in English) =1958



Yugoslav models. This is important to shooters as much of the military 7.62x39 ammunition was corrosive and without the chrome to protect them, improperly cleaned Yugo SKS barrels and gas tubes/pistons can begin to rust shortly after being fired.

One of the most unique SKS variants was made in Albania. Perhaps half of the small number manufactured (approximately 16,000-20,000) were collected by United Nations peacekeepers and destroyed. It is estimated that 6,000 Albanian SKSs were imported into the U.S. in 2002. The differences include a hooked charging handle and a longer stock and upper handguard (see slide below).

Albania

“Independence” or “July 10 Carbine”



- Side-by-side comparison with 1954 Tula SKS

		
<p>Albanian on the bottom. Note long upper handguard and magazine profile</p>	<p>Albanian on bottom. Note hooked charging Handle similar to AK</p>	<p>Albanian at right. Note 2 trap doors For cleaning kit</p>

After describing all of the known SKS variants, Rob then reviewed SKS accessories, such as cleaning kits, oilers, tools, manuals, ammo pouches and bandoliers. He noted that many of these accessories are still fairly inexpensive and a varied collection can be put together without a large outlay in funds. Shown below are examples of SKS cleaning kits (*left*), an example of the cleaning kits contents (*center*), and the cleaning kit in use with the cleaning rod (*right*). The cleaning kit, which fits in a storage area in the buttstock, serves several functions. The cap is used as a cleaning rod guide to protect the barrel’s muzzle and the body of the cleaning kit tube is used as a handle for the cleaning rod. The kit’s jag or brush must be attached to the cleaning rod in order to effectively clean the barrel as without it, the cleaning rod is only 17 inches long and the barrel is 20 inches!



Oilers used with the SKS overlap those used for both Mosin-Nagant M91 rifles and carbines as well as those made for the AK47s. Some examples of Russian oilers (*left*), Yugoslav (*center left*), Chinese (*center right*), and Romanian (*right*) are shown below. The two compartment oilers generally have a cleaning solution on one side and a lubricant on the other.



The Russian tool kit (*below left*) has GO-NO GO and firing pin protrusion gauges as well as a front sight adjustment tool used for the SKS and the AK47. The Chinese SKS front sight tool (*below right*) came in pouch and may be an aftermarket item.



Manuals are interesting items (even in other languages) and below are examples of Russian (*left*) and Chinese (*right*). For many of these accessories, the on-line auction sites (such as ebay) can be a collector's best friend. Rob said he has acquired items from Russia, Ukraine, and China without issue.



SKS Accessories – Ammo Pouches, Bandoliers

- SKS ammunition pouches and bandoliers were designed to accommodate loaded 10-round stripper clips

USSR Ammo Pouch
(upper left)

PRC SKS Bandolier
(bottom)



Romanian SKS Ammo Pouch
(top center)

Yugoslav SKS Ammo Pouch
(center)

East German Karabiner-S
Ammo Pouch (upper right)

Ammunition pouches and bandoliers (*examples shown above*) made for the SKS were as varied as the oilers and cleaning kits. All were designed to hold the 10-round 7.62x39 stripper clip.



Though no longer in front line service with any major military power, the SKS is still in use throughout the world. Many former Warsaw Pact/Eastern Bloc nations continue to use the SKS for ceremonial purposes (*see Russian Honor Guard shown at left*). Collecting such a Cold War legacy, although not as inexpensive as it was 15 years ago when these were still being imported in large numbers, can be very rewarding!

For additional information on the SKS, check out:

- Yooperj.com
- Sksboards.com
- Sks-files.com
- Gunboards.com – AK and SKS Collector Discussion Board
- Theakforum.net – SKS Forum
- AR15.com – AK Forum – SKS Forum
- Surplusrifleforum.com – Soviet-Russian Influenced Semi Auto Firearms

★ June Membership Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with 27 people participating via “Webinar”
VGCA President Bernie Breighner made the following comments:

- Number 1 issue for the VGCA – when will we resume in-person Membership Meetings?
 - o Our goal is to resume in-person Membership Meetings by September 2021
 - o Meeting location is TBD as the National Rifle Association facilities remain closed to the public. **UPDATE: Since this June meeting, the VGCA Executive Committee has selected the conference room at the Prince William County Fairgrounds as the location for our September In-Person Membership Meeting**
- After postponing our elections for the last two years, we will have elections this fall
 - o All officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and the three Director positions) will be up for elections
 - o Nominations from the floor will take place at the October Membership Meeting
 - o Serving as a VGCA Officer or Director is a great way to be involved!
- Recruiting at the Chantilly gun shows “was back in force” at the June Show
 - o Our volunteers signed up 18 new prospective members! Thanks to all who made this happen!
 - o Contact George Dungan if interested in volunteering at the July Chantilly Show. **UPDATE: Our volunteers added four more prospective new members at the July Show!**
- Show Report - our November Gun Show is scheduled for 6-7 Nov at the PWC Fairgrounds
 - o We have approximately 40 open tables. **UPDATE: Now down to 30 open tables**
 - o Please contact Rick Nahas if you are interested in having a sales or display table
- Treasurer Report – we remain in good financial shape
 - o While we had a reduced income last year, we also had reduced expenses

Secretary Rob Becker made a pitch for members to contribute articles, show-n-tell items, or reviews of gun shows, books, or museums for the newsletter

- Please send any articles or photos to rpebecker@verizon.net

Everyone was reminded that there will not be a Membership Meeting in July and that the August Membership Meeting will be another webinar (details below).



★ Next Membership Meeting: August 26th, 7 p.m. Topic: The SR25 presented by VGCA President Bernie Breighner. Since the NRA facilities remain closed to the public, we will conduct this meeting as a “webinar” similar to our last four VGCA Membership Meetings. A link to access the webinar will be sent to your email account from the VGCA constant contact address approximately 7 days before. We look forward to “seeing” you then!



★ Upcoming VGCA Elections: November 2021

One of the many impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic was the inability to meet in large groups throughout much of 2020. This prevented in-person VGCA Membership meetings, which in-turn effected our ability to conduct elections. According to the VGCA By-Laws, we must have an opportunity to take nominations “from the floor.” Without the ability to do so, the VGCA Executive Committee decided to postpone our officer elections from last year, and with a quarantine still effect, the director elections earlier this year. All sitting officers and directors agreed to remain in place until we are able to hold elections.

With the intent to begin in-person membership meetings starting in September, the VGCA Executive Committee has decided to conduct elections for all positions in November. This will allow for nominations “from the floor” at the October membership meeting.

The newly elected officers (president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary) will serve from December 2021 until May 2024. The three newly elected directors will serve from December 2021 until May 2023. This will get us back on our By-Laws directed cycle of officer elections in even-numbered years and director elections in odd-numbered years.

Many of our current officers and directors are looking to step down. We are looking for motivated and energetic members to run for all positions, but particularly president, vice president, and director. Responsibilities for all positions are summarized below:

President

The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee is comprised of the officers and Directors). The current President Bernie Breighner is not seeking re-election.

Vice President

The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence or at his request. The current VP Wes Chappell is not seeking re-election.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall keep all funds of the association in such accounts approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all of his transactions and render a detailed report with vouchers at any meeting of the Executive Committee when requested. He shall submit an annual report to the members. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt and auditing of all funds derived from other sources. The incumbent Treasurer Shannon Zeigler is seeking re-election.

New Applications for Membership: Thanks to the just concluded July Chantilly Gun Show, and the efforts of the VGCA Membership Recruitment Table volunteers led by George Dungan, as well as other VGCA tableholders, there are six new prospective members this month.

- **Craig Carney** of Woodbridge, VA is sponsored by **George Dungan**
- **Jaime Forero** of Arlington, VA is sponsored by **Phil Hill**
- **Tess Giasson** of Arlington, VA is sponsored by **Phil Hill**
- **Harry L. Harting, Jr.** of Purcellville, VA is sponsored by **Carlos Davila**
- **William Melancon** of Arlington, VA is sponsored by **Marc Gorelick**
- **Olivier Chantry Tamborrino** of Leesburg, VA is sponsored by **Carlos Davila**

If there are any comments or questions on any applicant, please notify an Officer or Director, and the Membership Chair before September 15, 2021. For questions, please email **Bill Chronister, Membership Chair** at vgca_membership@cox.net or call me at 703-204-0138.

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 any newsletters or VGCA announcements.

Membership Numbers: There are now currently 413 Life members, and 118 Annual Members, for a total of 531 members in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc.

Annual Membership extensions: The VGCA Executive Committee extended all 2020 Annual Memberships until December 31, 2021. All Annual Members have been sent their 2021 Validation Stickers that are good until 12/31/2021. Please watch the newsletters for 2022 dues and Life Membership upgrade payment information.

→→→ NOTICE: I am stepping down as VGCA Membership Chair in early Fall 2021. **VGCA needs a new Membership Chair.** All the processes are turn-key and all records are up to date. If you are interested please contact any Officer or Board member ASAP. If you have any questions as to what is expected, give me a call or email me at the email address and/or phone number listed above.

Bill Chronister, Membership Chair



★ ATTENTION MEMBERS: Have you the authored a book/magazine article, or published research on Firearms, Gun Collecting, History, or related subjects?

The VGCA is fortunate to have a diverse membership with a large amount of expertise, experience, and knowledge! If you are - or know any member who is - a published author or researcher, please know that the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc. wants to feature your works on the VGCA website, at gun shows, in the VGCA newsletters (see the FOR SALE section of this newsletter), and/or at VGCA meetings. We also invite you to consider giving a presentation on your works at one of our meetings. If you have any questions or wish to be included, please direct any information, including titles, publishing information, or contact information to: Bill Chronister, Membership Chairman at vgca_membership@cox.net or at home on 703-204-0138.



Another Successful VGCA Recruiting Effort at the July Chantilly Gun Show

After more than a year of little-to-no local gun show activity due to COVID-19 restrictions, the “Nation’s Gun Show” returned to Chantilly twice in just five weeks! After a highly successful effort at the June Chantilly show, VGCA members returned to the venue on July 23-25 to once again publicize our organization. The club volunteers did another outstanding job of generating interest in the VGCA and recruited 4 new members over the weekend. Added to the 18 new members recruited at the June Chantilly show, that represents an almost 5% increase in our membership in just a few weeks!



These results would not have been possible without the efforts of member George Dungan in organizing the volunteers to set up and man the table (*seen above prior to the show opening on Friday*). VGCA volunteers included:

Friday, 23 July	TJ Parmele, Allan Ruppard, and Bill Chronister.
Saturday, 24 July	Jack Looney, Chris Britton, and King VonSchilling
Sunday, 25 July	Joe Roberts, Chris Britton, Jack Looney, and Phil Hill

Member Jim Burgess had a display on fellow member Ed Costello's nearby sales table, but also helped out with our recruiting efforts.

Thanks to all those volunteers who gave their time to talk to members, educate the public (apparently several people stopped by to ask about “old guns” that they had), recruit new members, pass out VGCA gun show flyers, and set up or take down the table. It was truly a superb effort!

The next Chantilly show is scheduled for October 1-3 and we will once again need volunteers to help recruit new members. VGCA Director Marc Gorelick is coordinating the October VGCA table, so if you are interested in volunteering for a half day shift (or more), please contact Marc at gorelickmarc13rarius@hotmail.com. Remember, those who man the table get into the show for free and with multiple people on each shift, there should be plenty of time to walk around and spend money!



R.B. RODDA TRANTER PISTOLS

By Marc Gorelick

Photographs courtesy of Joh. Springers Erben, Vienna Austria

R.B. Rodda and Co., of London and Birmingham, England and Calcutta, India, was famous for being purveyors of fine firearms to British and Indian nobility and royalty in South and Southeast Asia. The company was established in 1830 by Richard Burrows Rodda but did not make its own guns. Instead it sold, under its own name, guns made mostly by the Birmingham gun trade. Rodda opened a shop, or godown, in Calcutta, India around 1850 and became exporters/importers of fine pistols and rifles based out their Calcutta shop until Indian independence in 1947. During the period in which they were trading R.B. Rodda & Co. was respected for the quality of the guns and rifles they sold, and their guns came to be used not only by British colonials and Indian royalty in the Indian Raj, but throughout the European colonies in Asia such as the Dutch East Indies, Ceylon, Malaya, Burma, and French Indo China.

Among the quality handguns they sold were Tranter revolvers, often highly embellished and provided with a case full of accessories. The revolvers were ornately decorated over their entire surface with foliate scroll engraving and gold gilding, as was befitting guns that were often destined for maharajas. They also often had ivory grips.



Fig 1. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .433 caliber and case interior. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer

The Tranter was a double-action percussion revolver invented around 1856 by English firearms designer William Tranter. The Tranter revolver was a "solid-frame" design, very similar in appearance to the

Beaumont–Adams revolver. Over the course of the three percussion Tranter models, the only significant changes were to the trigger and how the ramrod was attached. Early models operated with a special dual-trigger mechanism (one to rotate the cylinder and cock the gun, a second to fire it) later models employed a single-trigger mechanism similar to that of the contemporary Beaumont–Adams revolver. There were also changes to the hammer. In 1863 Tranter started producing rimfire metallic cartridge revolvers using the same solid frame as his percussion revolver, although he continued to manufacture percussion guns. By 1867 he was also producing centerfire metallic cartridge revolvers. Many of his later cased revolvers came with interchangeable percussion and cartridge cylinders. When he retired in 1885 William Tranter had 24 firearms related patents and 19 cartridge patents in his name. His factory was taken over by munitions manufacturer George Kynoch who renamed it "The Kynoch Gun Works" and manufactured a revolver that was similar to the Tranter revolver and was chambered for many of Tranter's cartridges.

The R.B. Rodda Tranter in Figures 1 and 2 is .433 (11mm) caliber gun with a five-shot percussion cylinder. It is finely engraved with floral motifs and covered with gilt gilding. It has a blued trigger, spring, loading gate and extractor, and ivory grips. The 4.92 inch long octagon barrel is signed "R. B. RODDA & Co. LONDON & CALCUTTA", and the frame is stamped with "W. TRANTER PATENT." The original wooden case contains a spare cylinder for center fire cartridges and almost every original tool, including powder flask (signed "W. Bartram"), bullet mold, bullet seating lever, ramrod (also used as cleaning rod), nipple key with ivory handle, boxes for caps and nipples, and a patch punch. It still retains about 80% of its original gilding.



Fig. 2. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .433 caliber on closed lid of case. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer

R.B. Rodda revolver cases sold in India were often of ebonized wood and the exteriors were profusely decorated with engraved brass furniture in Indian style designs. The inside was typically lined with red

velvet and has the gold embossed name of "R. B. RODDA & Co. LONDON & CALCUTTA" with the date of manufacture. The gun and case in Figures 1 and 2 is dated to 1870.

Tranter revolvers, and thus Rodda revolvers, both percussion and metallic cartridge were made in a multitude of different calibers. Percussion revolver calibers included .32 caliber, .36 caliber, .387 caliber, .433 caliber, .44 caliber, .50 caliber and .577 caliber. His metallic cartridge revolvers and cylinders were also made in many different calibers, including a number of proprietary rimfire and centerfire cartridges: .230 Tranter Rimfire, .297 Tranter Rimfire, .320 Tranter Rimfire, .380 Tranter Rimfire, .442 Tranter Rimfire; .320 Tranter Centerfire, .380 Tranter Centerfire, .442 Tranter Short Centerfire, .450 Adams, .500 Tranter Centerfire, and .577 Tranter Centerfire Revolver.

The 5-shot percussion R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver in Figures 3 - 6 is chambered in .450 caliber. It came in its own case, almost identical to the case in Figures 1 and 2, and is complete with all its accessories, including an interchangeable cylinder for .450 caliber centerfire metallic cartridges, making it easily convertible from percussion to metallic cartridge. The case is dated 1868. Like the gun in Figures 1 and 2 it is elaborately engraved with foliate scroll and has full-coverage gold gilding although its gilding is about 50% worn. Like the revolver in Figures 1 and 2, it also has ivory grips.



Fig. 3. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .450 caliber. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer



Fig. 4. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .450 caliber. Note the inscription on the top of the barrel - "R. B. RODDA & Co. LONDON & CALCUTTA". Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer

This revolver's case (see Figure 6) is similar to the case in Figures 1 and 2 and is typical of R.B. Rodda's pistol cases for the Indian trade. It is made of ebonized wood that is profusely decorated with brass furniture in the Indian style with an interior lined with red velvet. It has a complete set of accessories and tools including: a brass powder flask that is inscribed W. Bartram (presumably the owner's name), a bullet mold, a bullet seating lever, a ramrod that could also be used as a cleaning rod, a nipple key with an ivory handle, a patch punch, and boxes for caps and nipples. The velvet on the inside of the case's cover is embossed with the R.B. Rodda firm name and address and is dated 1868.



Fig. 5. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .450 caliber. Note details of the gold chased engraving. The gun is inscribed "W Tranter Patent" with the serial number on the frame between the octagonal barrel and the cylinder. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer



*Fig 6. R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver .450 caliber and case interior with all the accessories and tools.
Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer*

The two R.B. Rodda Tranter revolvers pictured here were offered in auctions by Joh. Springer Erben in Vienna, Austria. The one in figures 1 and 2 was offered at 12,000 euros (\$14,126) to start. The one in figures 3, 4, 5 and 6 with 50% gilding, started at 6,000 euros (\$7,063).



Fig. 7. Distinctive top of an original case that held a R.B. Rodda Tranter revolver. Note the black ebonized wood and the ornate Indian style brass decoration. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springer

R.B. Rodda was also known for supplying double rifles for the Indian and Asian civilian colonial markets, as well as swords and other equipment for army and colonial officers. Like their pistols, R.B. Rodda rifles were made by primarily Birmingham gun manufacturers such as W. & C. Scott and labelled with the R.B. Rodda name. During the black powder era Rodda rifles were often in 4 bore caliber (1.052 inch). The rifles were big, heavy and were typically used for hunting tigers and other dangerous game from a howdah on the back of an elephant. In the smokeless powder era, R.B. Rodda double rifles were in that ranged from .275 Rigby up through .450-400 and .600 Nitro Express. The rifles came cased with extra barrels, often of a different caliber and were often magnificently appointed and ornately decorated with fine engraving. Many can be linked to historical personages, such as Indian royalty.

While firearms marketed by R.B. Rodda can range from a plebian Martini-Henry up through a top of the line, exquisitely decorated revolver or double rifle double, Rodda's quality control was second to none. While not as well known among the mainstream of American collectors as other names, they are all collectible, and those in good condition can bring a premium.



GUNS OF DISTINCTION

A. CORDY SIDE BY SIDE 12 GAUGE SHOTGUN

By Marc Gorelick

Photos courtesy of Joh. Springer's Erben, Vienna, Austria



When one talks about Belgian Best Guns, the firm of A. Cordy & Fils come to mind. This family of gunmakers made some of the finest guns in Liege. This elegant 12 gauge side by side shotgun is a fine example of their work. It has 27.78" chopper lump barrels that are half and full choked, a concave engine-turned rib, automatic ejectors, a bright Round Body action with internal hardening colors, bar-action sidelocks, intercepting sears, cocking indicators, disc-set strikers, and blue tempered double triggers with articulated front blade.



The engraving on this luxurious shotgun is clean, clear and not overloaded. It has en-suite carved fences, engraved with fine rose bouquets backed by small scroll work, and signed on the trigger guard by Lyson Corombelle (1894-1971) a famous Belgian female master engraver (1894-1971) who engraved many of Belgium's most exquisite firearms.



The select burr walnut stock has a beautiful pattern and grain and positively glows with a warm inner fire. It has fine checkering on the straight wrist and fore-end, which has an Anson push-rod.



A. Cordy & Fils shotguns are accounted among the best made in Belgium, or anywhere for that matter. This exquisite example was recently offered for sale at a Joh. Springer auction in Vienna Austria with a starting price of 12,000 euros or \$13,598.



★ Other News! ★



MAKES ALL BULLETIN ARTICLES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

By Marc Gorelick

The American Society of Arms Collectors (ASAC) has made all of its *Bulletin* articles available to the public for free on its website. ASAC, arguably the premier arms collecting organization in the United States, was founded in 1953 for persons interested in the collection, research, study, and preservation of arms, armor, and accessories and accouterments; to establish and promote standards and ethics in research and dissemination of information pertaining to the history of arms and armor; and to promote and further the preparation, publication and distribution of scholarly literature pertaining to the development and history of arms and armor. Membership is limited to a maximum of 250 active members and is by invitation only.

ASAC has been publishing authoritative research articles about antique guns and other weapons since the 1950's. Members, who include some of world's greatest authorities on antique arms, make presentations at ASAC meetings or write articles reflecting areas of their expertise or recent research. These are subsequently printed in the *ASAC Bulletin* for other researchers and collectors. The *Bulletin* has been distributed to all members, as well as many museums, libraries and archives.

ASAC has recently posted articles from all its Bulletins on its website at <https://americansocietyofarmscollectors.org/articles>. This is a tremendous resource for all collectors that was previously only available for members. The first Bulletin was published in September 1955 and the articles cover almost all aspects and categories of antique arms. They include some by VGCA members who are also ASAC members, such as Charles Pate, Allan Cors, John Vagnetti, Vince Rausche, Jim Supica and Phil Schreier.



COUNTERFEIT LEUPOLD SCOPE ALERT

By Marc Gorelick

Many of us are familiar with the substandard Chinese knockoffs that permeate gunshows and the internet. They include gun parts and accessories as well as optics. Among these are out and out counterfeits of high end products, including some of the most famous names in firearms accessories.

Leupold, the maker of some of the best rifle scopes available, has issued an alert to purchasers of Leupold riflescopes about counterfeit Leupold scopes that are imported from the People's Republic of China, a profligate violator of patent, trademark and intellectual property rights. These counterfeit scopes are not only sold at shows but also over the internet. They bear many of the trademarks, logos, and other markings of genuine Leupold & Stevens riflescopes, and are sometimes difficult to distinguish externally from authentic Leupold products.

Many of the counterfeit scopes purport to be Mark 4 riflescopes, VX-III riflescopes, Prismatic riflescopes, CQ/T riflescopes, LCO sights, and Deltapoint Pro sights. Leupold reported that these counterfeits are regularly returned to the company for service due to failures; however, counterfeit products are not manufactured by Leupold and are not covered by the Leupold Full Lifetime Guarantee. Needless to say Leupold does not provide service for counterfeit products.

CHECKING FOR AUTHENTICITY

Photo – Leupold

All Leupold rifle scopes bear an individual serial number that's engraved on the bottom of the turret.



All Leupold riflescopes have an individual serial number. Counterfeit scopes often use a fake serial number, all identical serial numbers, or incorrect numbering convention. If you find a scope that is suspect, simply write down the serial number that is engraved on the bottom of the turret and call **(800) LEUPOLD (538-7653)** to ask if the scope is authentic. In most cases, Leupold can confirm a scope's authenticity by its serial number.

Leupold riflescopes are all designed, machined, and assembled in its Beaverton, Oregon manufacturing facility. Leupold does not have any other riflescope manufacturing facilities or offices anywhere else in the world. So if you come across a Leupold riflescope being shipped into the United States from China, it is a very likely a counterfeit.

According to some reports, the fake Leupold scopes are often priced sufficiently below manufacturer's suggested retail price on many websites to be irresistible. They're cheap enough to entice you, but not so cheap that they raise red flags. Leupold reported that some of the websites selling the bogus scopes include: www.wish.com, www.ioffer.com, www.aliexpress.com, and www.alibaba.com, among many others. As always, *caveat emptor* – Let the buyer beware.

★ In Review ★

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

GUN SHOW

NATIONAL CIVIL WAR, WW1 & WW2, ANTIQUÉ ARMS SHOW AT DOSWELL

By Marc Gorelick

The National Civil War, World War I and World War 2 Antique Arms Show that was held July 17-18, 2021 at the Meadow Event Park at Doswell, Virginia was a delight for gun collectors and historians. The show featured about 400 tables, many groaning under the weight of guns, edged weapons, accessories and accoutrements. Unlike some antique arms shows, this show was not burdened with a lot of paper or non-arms antiques. About 80% of the tables had guns and most of the rest had historical arms related items. There were a couple of book sellers but they were in the minority.



The table holders included many well-known dealers in the antique arms genre, including Tim Prince of College Hill Arsenal, Vince Caponi from New York, Jason Kaplan of J&J Antiques in New York, Nick Apergis of Cedar Hill Arms in North Carolina, and Rafael Eledge of Shiloh Relics in Tennessee. There

were also a number of newcomers, not usually seen at area shows and a large number of private collectors selling parts of their collections.

This show had a number of interesting, rare and historically significant pieces for sale as well as a large number of the usual suspects. It was almost like being in a firearms museum. I saw three genuine wheellocks in good condition, where you would normally be lucky to see one. One dealer had an extremely rare Lee Vertical Action Model 1875 rifle in excellent condition. This rifle was invented by James Paris Lee and only 143 were produced at Springfield Arsenal for trials. I have seen only two others years ago, one at a Timonium show and the other at a Forks show. Another table had a “Duck Foot” flintlock pistol. And there were two one-of-a-kind experimental breechloading conversions of Mississippi Rifles. One was a metallic cartridge conversion that fired from an open bolt! Needless to say it did not go beyond the experimental stage.



Experimental percussion ignition breechloading alteration of a .54 caliber Mississippi rifle. College Hill Arsenal.



Experimental breechloading .54 caliber rimfire metallic cartridge alteration of a Mississippi Rifle that fired from an open bolt. College Hill Arsenal.

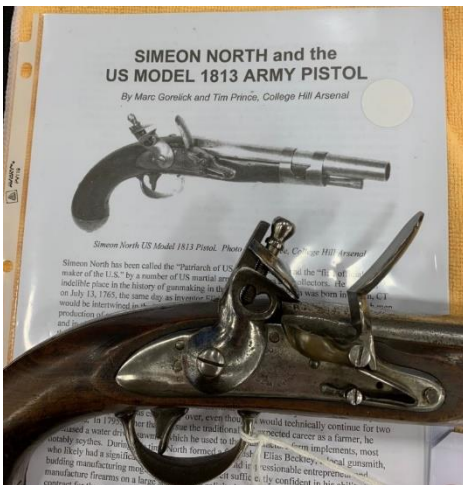
The dealers that I spoke to were pleased with the show and venue. Several commented that they were seeing an uptick in sales.

The show was held in a spacious, air conditioned hall at the Meadow Event Park, which is just off Interstate 95. The lighting was excellent. The aisles were extremely wide and there was plenty of space behind the tables for the dealers. Although about 400 tables were set up there was plenty of space, including unused sections, so the hall could easily hold 600 plus tables. There was an on-site food vendor and plenty of free parking. One-day admission was \$10 and there were no weekend passes.



Flintlock "Duck Foot" pistol. Cedar Hill Arms

The major down side of this show was the drive from Northern Virginia. Driving down I-95 has hellish. There were more backups than open stretches and the road between Occoquan and Fredericksburg was particularly hateful. It was more like a slowly moving parking lot than an interstate highway. It took me about three hours to get there, even with getting off and driving down Route 1. Although the show is worth going to, I recommend going west on 66 and then south to Route 17 and taking that to Fredericksburg. Or leaving extra early in the morning.



This Doswell show was put on by Stephen Sylvia of North South Civil War Trader's Magazine. It was formerly at Richmond but moved to Doswell. Sylvia is known for putting on excellent antique arms shows with a maximum of quality and a minimum of fluff. The proof is in the caliber and number of major dealers he attracts. He will be promoting a new Antique Arms Show in York, PA on September 17-18 that will be held in conjunction with the MAX Show Military Antiques Extravaganza, which is put on by the Ohio Valley Military Society.

Photo left. One private seller documented one of his pistols with an article written by a VGCA member and published in US Martial Arms Collector magazine.

★ Show-n-Tell ★

NOTE – If you would like to feature something new (or old) from your collection in a future VGCA newsletter, please send 1-4 photos, along with a description of the item to rpebecker@verizon.net. A Show-n-Tell Fact Sheet (below) lists the information we would like in order to adequately describe your prized possessions.

VGCA Show-n-Tell Fact Sheet

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____ Action Type: _____

Caliber: _____

Years of Production: _____ Total Produced: _____

Year this example was manufactured (if known): _____

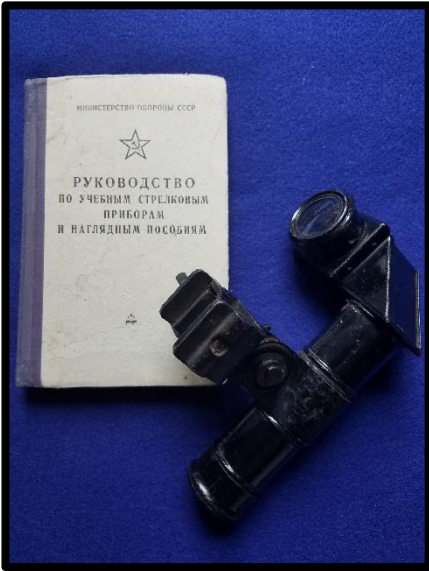
Significance: _____

Question(s) for members: _____

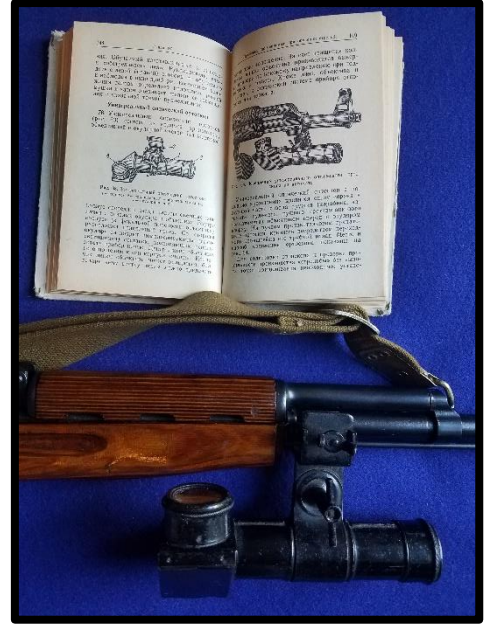
Name (optional): _____

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

Soviet Weapons Instructor Training Optic and Manual



Member 1 recently acquired these two items (*left*) related to Soviet Union Cold War small arms training. The first is a book titled “**A Manual of Arms Training and Visual Aids**” and was published by the Ministry of Defense in 1973. The other is a “Universal Optic Orthoscope,” a training aid capable of being mounted on an SKS, an AK, a machine gun (type not specified), or grenade launcher. The optic allows a weapons instructor located to the right of the trainee to confirm that the student handling the weapon is aiming at the correct target. The optic is shown mounted on a 1956 Tula SKS-45 (*at right*) with the manual above it open to the pages describing the optic and how to mount it (the illustration showing it on an AK-47). Note that in the case of the SKS, the attached bayonet must be locked forward for the optic to fit. The image seen by the instructor through the optic is a single post (*seen at left*). These unusual items were purchased separately, with the optic coming from the Ukraine and the manual from Russia.



★ 2021 Presentation List ★

DATE	TOPIC	FORMAT	PRESENTER
26 Aug 2021	SR-25 Type Rifles	Webinar	Bernie Breighner
23 Sep 2021	Art Muskets of the Ottoman Empire	In-Person	Marc Gorelick
28 Oct 2021	TBD	In-Person	TBD
November 2021	No Meeting due to our Fall Gun Show (6-7 Nov)		
December 2021	No Meeting scheduled unless NRA Facilities re-open		

★ Upcoming Events and Shows ★

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

VIRGINIA – 2021

- Aug 21-22, 2021 – Richmond, VA - Richmond International Raceway – *Showmasters*
- Aug 21-22, 2021 – Roanoke, VA – The Berglund Center – *Showmasters*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center – *SGK*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo – *Showmasters*
- Oct 1-3, 2021 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Oct 9-10, 2021 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Oct 9-10, 2021 – Virginia Beach, VA – Virginia Beach Convention Center – *SGK*
- Oct 23-24, 2021 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo & Convention Center - *SGK*
- Oct 23-24, 2021 – Roanoke, VA – The Berglund Center – *Showmasters*
- Oct 30-31, 2021 – Chesapeake, VA – Chesapeake Convention Center – *SGK*
- Oct 30-31, 2021 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*

MARYLAND – 2021

- Sep 4, 2021 – Parkville, MD – Baltimore County Game & Fish – *Baltimore County Game & Fish Protective Association*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Oct 8-10, 2021 – Bel Air, MD – American Legion Harford Post #39 - *American Legion*
- Oct 16-17, 2021 – Timonium, MD – Timonium Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2021

- Aug 21, 2021 – St Thomas, PA – St Thomas Twp Vol Fire – *Izaak Walton League of Franklin County*
- Aug 21-22, 2021 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center - *Showmasters*
- Aug 28-29, 2021 – Lake Harmony, PA – Split Rock Resort – *Eagle Arms*
- Aug 28-29, 2021 – Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Aug 28-29, 2021 – Stroudsburg, PA – Jackson Twp Vol Fire Co. - *Jaeger Arms*
- Sep 4-5, 2021 – Sellersville, PA – Forrest Lodge VFW Hall & Club - *Jaeger Arms*
- Sep 10-12, 2021 – Long Pond, PA – Pocono Raceway – *Tall Timber Tactical*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – Allentown, PA – ParkView Inn & Conference Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – Benton, PA – Benton Fire Company – *Benton Fire Co.*
- Sep 11-12, 2021 – Tobyhanna, PA – VFW - *Jaeger Arms*
- Sep 12, 2021 – Portland, PA – William Pensyl Social Hall – *Portland Hook & Ladder Co. #1*
- Sep 16-19, 2021 – York, PA – York Expo Center Arena – *Ohio Valley Military Society MAX Show held in conjunction with the North South Trader's Civil War York Antique Arms Show (the latter on Sep 17-18, 2021 only at the York Expo Center Memorial Hall West)*
- Sep 17-18, 2021 – York, PA – York Expo Center – *North-South Traders Civil War Magazine – York Antique Arms Show*
- Sep 18-19, 2021- Centre Hall, PA – Centre County Grange Fairgrounds – *Outdoor Sportsman Club*
- Sep 18-19, 2021 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 18-19, 2021 – Kittanning, PA – Pony Farm Trap & Gun – *Pony Farm Trap & Gun Club*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2021 (continued)

- Sep 18-19, 2021 – St Thomas, PA – St Thomas Twp Vol Fire – *Frontier County Gun Club*
- Sep 25-26, 2021 – Gettysburg, PA – Redding Auction – CPAAA – Central Penn Antique Arms Association Show
- Sep 25-26, 2021 – Morgantown, PA – Morgantown Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Sep 25-26, 2021 – Palmer Township, PA – Charles Chrin Community Center – *Jaeger Arms*
- Sep 25-26, 2021 – Washington, PA – Washington County Fairgrounds – *ARH Sport Shop*
- Sep 25-26, 2021 – West Middlesex, PA – Hidden Valley Sportsmen’s Club – *HVSC*
- Oct 2-3, 2021 – Allentown, PA – ParkView Inn & Conference Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 2-3, 2021 – Muncy, PA – Lycoming Mall – *Bear Arms Promotions*
- Oct 2-3, 2021 – Trevese, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 9-10, 2021 – East Berlin, PA – East Berlin Fish & Game – *East Berlin Fish & Game Assoc*
- Oct 9-10, 2021 – East Stroudsburg, PA – VFW Post #2540 - *Jaeger Arms*
- Oct 9-10, 2021 – Lake Harmony, PA – Split Rock Resort – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 15-17, 2021 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 16-17, 2021 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society, Inc.*
- Oct 16-17, 2021 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Oct 16-17, 2021 – Quarryville, PA – Solanco Fairgrounds – *SLCFSA*
- Oct 23-24, 2021 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Oct 23-24, 2021 – Lebanon, PA – Lebanon Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 30-31, 2021 – Bloomsburg, PA – Bloomsburg Fairgrounds – *Eagle Arms*
- Oct 30-31, 2021 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*

SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS - 2021

- Sep 11-12, 2021 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Assoc* – featuring the Winchester Arms Collectors Association
- Oct 8-9, 2021 – West Point, KY – Knob Creek Gun Range – Largest Machine Gun Shoot and Military Gun Show in US! – *KCR*

NOTE: This will be the last Machine Gun Shoot at Knob Creek. If you are interested in machine guns or military weapons and have never attended, you should make plans to go!

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. 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:

★ 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:

★ After more than two and a half years of research, VGCA member Bill Vanderpool has recently 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 Larry Babcock recently 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 / 703-856-2561.

FOR SALE:

★ French wooden cased copy of 4th Model Colt 22 Rimfire Short Lord Derringer made by Butler. Side pivoting Thuer action, single shot, 2.5" black chromed bbl., gold plating, walnut grips, unfired. EC. \$295

★ Classic Winchester Model 12 20-gauge pump action shotgun. Rare 30" full choked barrel, tight action, safe queen, excellent bore, bluing and wood, 1946 production. \$1195

★ Smith and Wesson: The original centerfire 38 caliber (.38 S&W) handgun from 1876-1877. BABY RUSSIAN 5-shot, spur trigger w/ excellent bore and rare 4 inch barrel and block letter grips. All matching numbers, nicely nickel plated, with authenticating S&W letter. \$1795

If interested, contact John at 571-308-4978

FOR SALE:

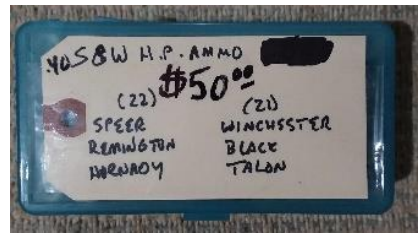
Trapdoor Carbines for Sale

★ RARE! Model 1873 “Custer Range” Carbine (#39873). Very Good-Fine. All correct and original, visible cartouche. Detailed write-up available on request. Serious inquiries only. \$6000 FIRM.

★ RARE! Very Early Model 1877 Carbine (#76826). Very Good-Fine, All correct and original, visible cartouche. Original rod and ruptured shell extractor in butt. Detailed write-up on request. Serious inquiries only. \$5500 FIRM.

FOR SALE:

✪ **.40 S&W:** Winchester Black Talon (21 rounds), Speer/Remington/Hornady (22 rounds), mixed 43 rounds total, in an MTM plastic box. \$50.00



✪ **Bandoliers of Danish .30-06 Ammo** in M1 Garand enblock Clips, 48 rounds per bandolier, manufactured in 1987. Photo at right shows crate the bandoliers came in. Only 4 bandoliers left! \$65.00 each.



✪ **7.62x25 Tokarev Ammo.** Eastern Bloc surplus spam can w/ 1224 rounds (dated 1984). \$600 (Note – recent online sales have the spam can priced at \$800 and up).

✪ **Remington 8mm Mauser Ammo.** 170 gr Core-Lokt. One box. \$25.00

✪ **Hornady .450 Nitro Express Ammo.** 3 1/4" 450 grain DGX. \$100

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



For Sale: A.E.G. M-14

Bought for photo shoot, never fired. With Charger, Battery, Magazine, Mag Loader, & Assorted pellets

\$150.00

Text name & phone number to 703-999-9458 with message "AEG M14" & I will call you back.

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 Bill Chronister.