



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162



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September 2014 VGCA e-Newsletter



The History of Japanese Rifles the August 22, 2014 Meeting: Dave introduced Ret. LTC. Shannon Zeigler, who had done a presentation a few months ago on the inspection marks of Japanese rifles. He started off with a quick review of Japanese Rifles which are essentially Mauser style rifles, with a bolt action and a five round box magazine. Then he reviewed all the meanings of the markings and inspection stamps on the Japanese rifles and he got into some of the differences between the different models of the Arisaka.

The Type 30 bolt assembly has 10 pieces. In order to disassemble it, you have to take the bolt off, then push a piece up using a special tool, then it splits, and if you don't know what you're doing it goes everywhere and its very fragile so it could break. In the Type 38, they went to a very simple 5 piece bolt assembly. It can be taken down in no time and it is a very robust strong system and very simple. The Type 38 rifle is essentially an improved model 30 with better floorplate, a follower, the simplified bolt, and a different contour on the receiver. Early Type 38s were matched by assembly numbers rather than serial numbers though often the floorplate mismatched since they would fall out. This issue wouldn't be fixed until the Type-99 when the floorplate became hinged to the receiver.

The next subject was on the carbine versions of the Japanese rifles specifically the Type 38 and 44 carbines. The 38 carbine is a short 38 rifle, and the 44 has a built in pigsticker. The one sided wear on used 44s was often from being slung across a soldier's back, or from being worn across the back of a horse. The 44 carbines were made with 3 bayonet housings. The first variation is shorter, fragile, and often broke the stock when used. The second is larger, and the third is even bigger, and has a small protrusion. The second variation is least common, so is more of a collector's item. They only made about 100000 44 carbines, so they are fairly rare to start with. The 44 carbines have built in butt stock stowage and are the only Japanese rifle that has stowage in the buttstock.

The Japanese began looking at changing from the 6.5 to the 7.7 with the idea of having something a bit bigger and having a common size round between their guns. This however didn't work out as the war progressed and need for production was too high. The Type 92 had a small semi rim that was something that helped distinguish it. Most ammo you find that looks like Type 99 ammo is likely Type 92 and is fairly collectable and not the best idea to shoot due to questionability of the powder and corrosiveness.

The Type 99 rifle was heavily produced with roughly 2.5 million of them produced in near endless variations. For more details on the Type 99 reference the newsletter write-up from Shannon's presentation earlier this year. On a rarer level are a few rifles such as the Type 97 sniper and the Type 99 sniper which were specialized in their uses. An additional specialized rifle manufactured during the war is the T-2 Paratrooper rifle which had a screw piece that allowed it to be quickly broken down into two. This design allowed for the rifle to be easily stored in the backpack during drops and quickly assembled on the ground.

Shannon wrapped up his presentation for the night with a detour from the different models into a talk on the accessories associated with them. Muzzle covers are an interesting accessory to have and early brass ones are hard to find while steel and plastic are more common. The cleaning rods also evolved and changed with the rifles, becoming more and more flush and out of the way. Japanese bayonets are a collector's item as well and in a way there are only really two types to try and collect - one with a hooked quillion and one with a straight quillion - though in reality there are hundreds of variations. Those are the primary differences.

🌟 **Upcoming Presentation for September 25, 2014:** This September Addison Hurst will be treating us to a presentation on “*The Kalashnikov Rifle and Legacy*”. Please bring anything you have related to the Kalashnikov Rifle family or the man himself. 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. It’s going to be a fantastic presentation and we can’t wait to see you all there.

Business Meeting of August 22, 2014: We started off the meeting in the usual fashion with the pledge, followed by a moment of silence for our fallen comrades. Dave Litchfield then sadly announced to the membership the passing of Bart Legget. Rick Nahas was then presented with a certificate in honor of his service as the Show Manager for the club much to his surprise. New members were brought in by Larry Hare, Regewald Hazlott, sponsored by Kelley Cook, John Dwyier, sponsored by Dave Litchfield, and Anthony Dahm, sponsored by Larry Hare. Shannon followed our new members up with a treasurers briefing to the membership informing them that the club is in good standing. Mark went through the clubs new proposal on spending which is outlined below. The VGCA then brought forward Brian Funkhauser on behalf of Seven Bends 4-H Club to receive a check for \$900 for trap machines to help the children train. This was followed by a presentation of a check for \$1200 to Bullseye 4-H Club to help them buy a new trailer to allow the children to train at a larger facility.

🌟 **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.

- **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 Me

Other News!

November Show 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.

Invitation from the NRA: They have formally extended an invitation to the Virginia Gun Collectors to take part in a live studio audience for the new season of NRA Gun Gurus on [Outdoor Channel!](#) Join the Gun Gurus, Jim Supica and Phil Schreier, as they share stories of well-known firearms with special guests. Tickets are free, but seating is limited! The live tapings take place at the NRA headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia between September 29th and October 7th! Seats can be reserved today at <https://nragungurus.eventbrite.com/>.

Request for 2015 Speakers: We are starting to look for speakers for the 2015 calendar year. We’ve already had some great volunteers stand up but we need more. If you’re interested in speaking please contact Dave Litchfield who will advise speakers on how to prepare and length of presentation.

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.

Newly Adopted Proposals by the Board: Proposal 1 was to establish a relocation committee to start the process of identifying a possible new location for the gun show. Proposal 2 set aside and sequestered a separate line-item account funds for the possible future relocation and start-up of the gun show in a new venue. Proposal 3 was a nine-part Policy on Contributions/Donations to Organizations. Having a general Policy will make the contribution process more efficient and effective.

Part 1 – The Vice-President of the VGCA is in charge of the process for contributions/donations.

Part 2 – The amount of contributions to organizations, programs or activities in any one calendar year is not to exceed 10% of what we have in the treasury. Not to include the funds sequestered for start-up funds for a new gun show venue.

Part 3 – The limit on contributions applies to all groups together.

Part 4 – The Vice-President, in consultation with the Treasurer, will prepare a budget for contributions/donations no later than April 15. The Vice-President shall solicit funding requests early each year.

Part 5 – Gifts to organizations/programs/causes or activities should be once per annum.

Part 6 – Donations/contributions to the NRA are their own line item within the amount budgeted for contributions. Donations to the NRA Museum and Foundation should have general preference over all other donations or gifts and should be voted on before any other contributions.

Part 7 – Contributions/donations for gun collecting and gun history educational organizations, causes, programs and activities, and support for the 2nd Amendment, have general preference over contributions to support non-gun collecting related organizations, programs and activities.

Part 8 – The Board of Directors will discuss, consider and vote on all contributions/donations during a formal meeting of the Board. Requests or solicitations for donations should in the form of a written request. The Vice-President of the VGCA will decide what information the requests should contain.

Part 9 - In the event of an individual extraordinary case (solicitation for a contribution/donation), the limitations listed in the foregoing parts of the Proposal to Adopt a Policy on Contributions/Donations can be set aside only for that case by a formal majority vote of the Board of Directors. Amendment or modification of any of the foregoing parts of the Proposal to Adopt a Policy on Contributions/Donations can only be done by a formal majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The Relocation Committee: This is an "in-case of emergency" exercise. Identifying alternate new locations for the gun show will be a multi-year endeavor. The relocation Committee will be independent and will report its progress and findings periodically to the Board. Any VGCA member, including members of the Show Committee can serve on the committee and this should be encouraged. Board Member Marc Gorelick chairs the committee. If you want to help and be a committee member, please contact Marc.

Show and Tell

Member 1 brought out a Webley Model XXX single shot side lever, turret loading air rifle in .177 cal.

Member 2 had a US Martial Model 1848 horse pistol in .54 cal.

Member 3 brought out a Winchester Model 1894 in .30 WCF (30-30) complete with a load of strike anywhere matches stashed in the buttstock.

Member 4 displayed a Lee Enfield MK III produced in 1909 converted to a .22LR trainer complete with a rare Parker Hiscock 5rd. magazine. Only 5000 of these magazines were produced in 1913 and few remain because of their unsuitability for service.

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

- ☞ September 26-28, 2014 - Chantilly, VA – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ October 4-5, 2014 - Winchester, VA - Winchester Sportsplex - *SGK Show*
- ☞ October 4-5, 2014 - Salem, VA- Salem Civic Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ☞ October 4-5, 2014 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*

- ⇒ **October 11-12, 2014 - Harrisonburg, VA**- Rockingham County Fairgrounds - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **October 11-12, 2014 - Virginia Beach, VA** - Virginia Beach Convention Center - *SGK Show*
- ⇒ **October 18-19, 2014 - Richmond, VA** - Richmond Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **October 25-26, 2014 - Fredericksburg, VA** - Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center - *SGK Shows*
- ⇒ **November 1-2, 2014 - Norfolk, VA**- Norfolk Scope Arena - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **November 1-2, 2014 - Dale City, VA** - VFW Post 1503 - *Old Dominion Shows*
- ⇒ **November 8-9, 2014 - Manassas, VA - Prince William County Fairgrounds – Virginia Gun Collectors Association**
- ⇒ **November 21-23, 2014 - Chantilly, VA** – Expo Center, The Nation's Gun Show - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **November 29-30, 2014 - Harrisonburg, VA**- Rockingham County Fairgrounds - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **November 29-30, 2014 - Hampton, VA** - Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK Show*

PENNSYLVANIA 2014

- ⇒ **October 18-19, 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
- ⇒ **October 25-26, 2014 - Monroeville, PA**- Monroeville Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **November 22-23, 2014- Altoona, PA**- Blair County Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*
- ⇒ **November 29-30, 2014 - Monroeville, PA**- Monroeville Convention Center - *C&E Gun Show*

MUZZLELOADING 2014

- ⇒ **October 31, 2014 – Front Royal, VA** - Virginia Longrifle Show

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