



VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.NET

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162

CMP Affiliate Number 026160



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October 2022 VGCA Newsletter



President's Comments

Greetings everyone. While I am currently enjoying some vacation time in the Pacific Northwest, I look forward to getting back to Virginia in time for our membership meeting on October 27th and our Fall Gun Show on November 5-6.

As I mentioned last month, our Fall Show will again be held at the Prince William County Fairgrounds in Manassas. VGCA

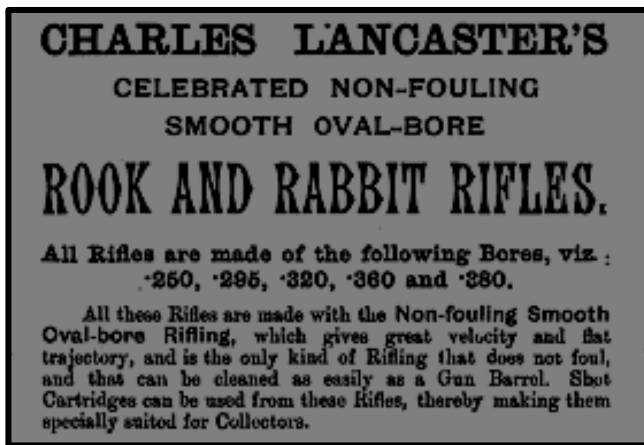
Show Manager Rick Nahas reports that there are still sales and display tables available – so think about reserving a table! We are increasing our advertising and hope to have a large crowd – especially with the mid-term elections on the following Tuesday! As a reminder - please hand out our show flyers, talk-up the show, and invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers. And please consider volunteering to assist with set up or show security.

Our October meeting will feature a presentation on **Italian Military Handguns** by member Troy Blackwood. Take care, and I look forward to breaking bread (or pizza crust) with you at the NRA on October 27th!

—*Ed Costello*, VGCA President

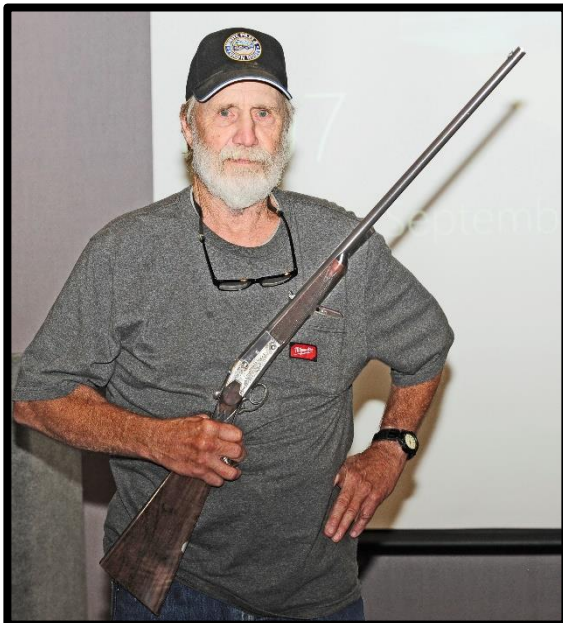
★ September Presentation – The English Rook Rifles

VGCA Member Chip Smith gave an excellent presentation on English Rook Rifles. A rook is a large black feathered bird related to ravens and jays whose range extends from Western Europe to Siberia. Large numbers of rooks can be a nuisance and they were often hunted for food and sport. In

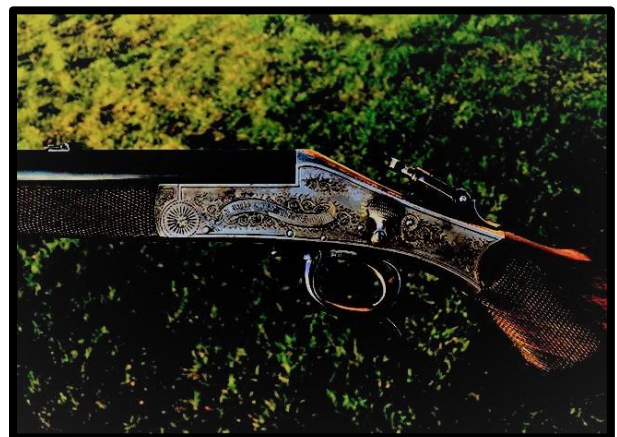


England, a specific type of rifle was developed for small game in the 1880s which became known as the “Rook Rifle” – or sometimes referred to as the “Rook and Rabbit Rifle” (see period ad at left). These single shot rifles were chambered in black-powder cartridges in calibers between .22 and .38 (typically having both rifle and shot shell ammunition available) and were light and handy enough to be easily carried on walks through the country. Manufactured by such legendary British gunmakers as Holland & Holland, Westley Richards, and W.W. Greener, Rook Rifles were often elegant in design and featured superb balance, fit, and finish.

The Rook Rifle’s popularity started to fade with increased popularity of the now-ubiquitous .22 Rimfire round, which was just as accurate, quieter, and much cheaper. By the 1920s, many Rook Rifles were converted to either smooth bore shotguns (often in .410) or sleeved to .22 Rimfire.



Chip shared many beautiful examples of Rook Rifles from his personal collection (left and below). Be sure to thank him for sharing his knowledge with us the next time you see him!



★ Next Membership Meeting: October 27th



Topic: “Italian Military Handguns, 1861-1918” by Troy Blackwood

Location: NRA HQ Conference Room

Our October VGCA Membership Meeting will be at the NRA Headquarters and will be available via webinar for those who cannot attend in person. The Conference Room opens at 6 p.m. with pizza available at approximately 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starting at 7 p.m. sharp. Hope to see you then!

★ September Meeting Notes



The September 22nd VGCA meeting was called to order by VGCA President Ed Costello (*right*) at 7:00 p.m. as he led those present through the Pledge of Allegiance. There were approximately 35 members and guests in attendance and another 7 participated via webinar. The following items were mentioned during the business meeting:



Show Director Rick Nahas provided a quick update on our November Gun Show. We still have 22 tables available. George Dungan asked for volunteers for the Membership Table, Gun Check In, as well as security. As a reminder, set up volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:30 a.m. on Friday, 4 Nov 2022, with vendors allowed in to set up starting at 1 p.m. Show hours are 9 to 5 on Saturday, 5 Nov and 10 to 4 on Sunday, 6 Nov. **As a special benefit for VGCA members, you are welcome to enter the show at 8 a.m. Saturday or 9 a.m. Sunday and check out what everyone has for sale. Note - gun sales requiring background checks cannot be completed until the State Police table opens, but handshake pre-orders can be made.**

POTOMAC ARMS COLLECTORS INVITATION

The Potomac Arms Collectors (PACA) invites VGCA members to attend its monthly meetings. Held on the third Thursday of the month (a week before the VGCA meeting), the meetings are held in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9700-9940 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Take the Beltway to the Georgia, Avenue north exit). The meetings officially start 7:30pm but the food arrives around 6:30-7:00pm.

PACA, which was established in 1955, has some of the most knowledgeable collectors in the Maryland-Virginia region and the presentations reflect their deep and vast expertise. They are also generous about sharing their knowledge. Contact director Marc Gorelick for more information.

FLOBERT PARLOR GUNS AND A HEINRICH SAUER SCHUTZEN RIFLE

By Marc Gorelick



Photo above - Heinrich Sauer target parlor rifle with Flobert action. Made in the early 1890's.

Photo left - Louis-Nicolas Auguste Flobert with a display of his guns.

Louis-Nicolas Auguste Flobert (1819–1894) of Paris, France invented the first rimfire metallic cartridge in 1845. It was a major innovation in firearms ammunition, at a time when the latest firearms used separate percussion caps, powder and ball. The rimfire cartridge combined all elements of ammunition in a single metallic (usually brass) cartridge containing a percussion cap, powder and a bullet, in one weatherproof package. Before that, a "cartridge" was simply a pre-measured quantity of gunpowder together with a ball (bullet), in a small cloth bag (or rolled paper cylinder) which also acted as wadding for the charge and ball.

Flobert also made what are called "parlor guns" or "saloon guns" for that cartridge. These Flobert rifles and pistols had a simple mechanism and were designed for indoor recreational target shooting in homes that had dedicated shooting parlors or shooting galleries. They are sometimes called "garden guns" because they were also used to deal with small pests in gardens. Flobert Parlor pistols came into fashion in the mid-19th century; they were typically single-shot pistols with a rather large, heavy barrel.

Flobert modified a percussion cap by swaging a hollow rim on the base of the percussion cap and filling the hollow rim with a fulminate priming compound, which was the propellant. He added a round ball as the projectile which produced the Bulleted Breech Cap (i.e. BB Cap). Flobert's work was the origin of the rimfire cartridge. Smith and Wesson later made improvements to the basic Flobert cartridge concept that increased its power and reliability, and introduced the .22 Short cartridge in 1857.

Flobert's initial action was a simple rolling block breech mechanism in which the breech was opened and closed by a breechblock that was hinged below the axis of the barrel – very similar to the Remington system. After cocking the hammer the block could be opened with a thumb lever, exposing the chamber for loading. It was pushed back to close the breech. Upon firing the falling hammer would hit the breechblock and firing pin and only the pressure of the hammer kept the breechblock closed. This system was suited only with low powered ammunition.



Plain inexpensive Flobert parlor rifle. Photos – NRA Museum

A number of improvements were made to the Flobert system. The first improvement was the addition of a pivoting extractor. This extractor covered the bottom half of the barrel, had a cutout for the cartridge body and was pivoted on a pin set in the frame. The extractor was manually operated by a thumb piece after the hammer had been cocked. The unlocked breech of the original Flobert system was kept.

The next improvement to the Flobert System is sometimes called the “Remington” system. It was similar to the Remington Rolling Block action and consisted of the addition of a pivoting breech block which was locked closed by the hammer falling into a notch or mating surface in the breech block. The breech block was fitted with a moveable firing pin and the extractor was generally pivoted on the breech block pivot pin and extracted the cartridge case when the breech block was rolled or tipped backwards.

The best and final improvement to the Flobert action was the Warnant system. This was a top swinging breechblock similar to a trapdoor action. The breech block pivoted upward to open and close the action and extract the fired case. Like the “Remington” system, the breech block is locked closed by the hammer falling into a slot or notch in the rear of the breech block. Both rifled and smoothbore barrels have been observed.

Most Flobert firearms were made in Belgium but Austrian, English, French and German guns are known. Flobert's system became immensely popular and were made in varied qualities, ranging from rough and poor quality to high quality, ornately decorated guns for the wealthy.

Belgian-made Floberts will often have Belgian proof marks ("E", "L" and "G" in an oval possibly surmounted by a crown). There may or may not be a maker's mark.



Drawing and description of a 6mm Flobert pistol in the 1912 catalogue of the Manufacture Française d'Armes et de Cycles de Saint Étienne.

In Germany, Flobert guns were made in countless variations by a “cottage industry” centered on Zella-Mehlis, which is only about 5 miles from the gunmaking center of Suhl. Wholesalers ordered Flobert guns with several action designs - side push-button like the Stevens tip-up, a push-forward under lever, or a side lever or turning under lever. They came as single barrel smooth bores, small bore rifles, side by sides and even over/under superposed.

Most Flobert guns were quite inexpensive and many were not well finished. Many Floberts were made of very soft steel and designed to sell at the lowest possible price. Thousands were imported into the United States between about 1880 and 1914 as single-shot pistols, rifles and small-bore shotguns. Most of these used the Warnant system. Poor quality Flobert guns were correspondingly cheap. Around 1895 many were sold for less than \$3.00 in mail order catalogs. In 1920 the price of a new Flobert rifle was about \$2.50.

Flobert guns were chambered for the .22 BB Cap, .22 CB Cap, .22 Short, long or long rifle, and .32 Short, as well as 4.5mm, 5mm, 6mm, and 9mm Short rimfire. There were even some chambered in 2.7mm



Kolibri. The ammunition was highly corrosive and quickly damaged the rifling. Even Flobert guns in good condition are not safe to shoot with modern BB- or CB-Cap ammunition, so they are best kept strictly as wall hangers.


Photo left. 9mm Flobert cartridge.

The low-powered Flobert cartridges do not contain any powder, the only propellant being the percussion cap itself. In Europe, the .22 BB Cap, introduced in 1845, and the slightly more powerful .22 CB Cap, introduced in 1888, are both called 6mm Flobert and are considered the same cartridge. The cartridges have a relatively low muzzle velocity of around 700 feet/second to 800 feet/second.

310 SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Cheapest Supply

FLOBERT RIFLES.

NOTE—WE DO NOT RECOMMEND NOR GUARANTEE FLOBERT RIFLES. Buy a good rifle. It will pay in the end. We recommend Nos. 6R665 and 6R666. We think No. 6R665 is the best value for the money.



This rifle is made for BB caps, has side extractor, bright mountings, octagon barrel, varnished stock, 22-inch barrel, and will not shoot 22-caliber cartridges. Weighs about 4½ lbs. Cannot be sent by mail.

No. 6R665 Our special price..... \$1.60

Sears Roebuck & Co advertisement from a catalogue, about 1900. Note the price.

August 5th, 1891. Prices are below importation cost of to-day.



FLOBERT RIFLES.

In case lots each of 50, NET.

| | |
|---|--------|
| No. 1.—22 BB, Flobert system, dark blued barrel, with Side Extractor, polished guard and mountings, two pieces, Varnished stock, length of barrel, 22 in., weight 4 lbs. Uses BB Caps only | \$1 55 |
| No. 2.—22 caliber, rifled, Remington system, polished blued octagon barrel, oiled walnut stock, checkered pistol grip, light weight, length of barrel 22 in., weight 4½ lbs..... | 2 00 |
| No. 3.—22 caliber, rifled, Improved Remington system, extra heavy polished blued octagon barrel, oiled walnut stock, checkered pistol grip, scroll guard, case hardened hammer, trigger and mountings, length of bbl. 24 in., wgt. 5½ to 6½ lbs..... | 2 45 |
| No. 4.—22 caliber, rifled, Warnant system, oiled walnut, checkered pistol grip stock, polished blued octagon barrel, hammer, trigger and breech block case hardened, polished mountings, scroll guard, length of barrel, 22 in., weight, 4½ lbs..... | 2 25 |
| No. 5.—32 caliber, rifled, Warnant system, solid breech block, oiled walnut pistol grip, full checkered, polished blued, octagon barre, case hardened mountings, rubber butt, length of barrel 24 in., weight 6½ lbs..... | 3 05 |
| No. 6.—22 caliber, rubber heel plate, extra finish, solid breech block, Warnant system, rifled, oiled walnut, pistol grip, checkered stock and fore-arm, polished blued, octagon barrel, fancy scroll guard, case hardened mountings, length of barrel 24 in., weight 6½ lbs..... | 3 00 |

E. C. MEACHAM ARMS CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

E.C. Meacham of St. Louis, Mo. 1891 Advertisement for Flobert rifles. Note the prices.

Not all Floberts were cheap and of poor quality. Some Floberts were made for the wealthier European trade. The people who could afford a shooting parlor in their homes wanted quality guns. These bucked the trend of cheap guns for the masses and as they were made for the upper crust of society they were of good fit and finish with ornamentation. One of these is pictured here. It was made by Heinrich Sauer in Vienna, Austria, Sauer (born 1822) was a gunmaker in Horn/Lower Austria and Vienna and among his products were high quality parlor guns using Flobert actions for wealthy patrons.



H. Sauer target parlor rifle with Flobert Action. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springers Erben, Vienna, Austria

The Flobert system schutzen target rifle pictured above and below was made around 1860 and it is chambered for 6mm Flobert ammunition. The maker's name "**H Sauer Wien**" is inlaid on the top of the 25.6 inch (65cm) long octagonal barrel. It has a double set trigger and a target aperture sight. The decorated walnut stock has a large Tyrolean cheekpiece, a thumb piece near the wrist, scallop checkering, and mostly floral scrollwork and leafy meander scrollwork carving. The brass furniture is elaborately engraved, including the ornate double spur triggerguard with finger rests. It has a heavy schutzen type buttplate. This gun sold at auction by Joh. Springers Erben in Vienna, Austria for about \$590 (555 Euros), a high price for a Flobert but perhaps not high for a piece of this quality.



Close up of the ornate carving on the Heinrich Sauer Flobert target rifle. Note the engraved decoration on the triggerguard, bottom tang and sight base. Photo courtesy of Joh. Springers Erben, Vienna Austria.

Cartouches pour pistolet et carabine Flobert

| | | le mille |
|---|--|----------|
|  | Douilles amorcées | 6.- |
|  | Cartouches à balle ronde | 6.60 |
| | » » conique | 8.60 |
| | » à plombs simple charge | 17.50 |
| | » » double » | 24.- |
| | Douilles amorcées | 17.50 |
|  | Cartouches à balle ronde | 20.- |
| | » » conique | 23.80 |
| | » à plombs simple charge | 30.- |
| | » » double » | 39.40 |
| | Douilles amorcées | 10.10 |
|  | Cartouches à balle conique ou à balle ronde | 12.50 |
| | Cartouches longue portée La Française | 46.- |
| | » » » balle expansive | 50.- |
|  | Cartouches à balle conique | 38.80 |
| | » longue portée | 63.50 |
| | » » » balle expansive | 68.50 |
| | Cartouches cal. 9 m/m, double culot, balle conique | 38.80 |

PAQUETAGE. — Les cartouches 6 m/m à balle, en boîtes de 250 et paquets de 1.000; celles à plombs, en boîtes de 100, paquets de 500; celles à plombs, en boîtes de 50 et paquets de 250. Les cartouches double culot 6 m/m, en boîtes de 250 et paquets de 1.000.

Balles à air en plomb durci, comprimées


| | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|
|  | Calibre 4 1/2 | Fr. 0.80 le mille. |
|  | » 5 | » 1.20 » |
|  | » 6 | » 1.50 » |

— SANS ENGAGEMENT —

— 5 —

Moderne Waffen - Munition - Jagdgeräte
AUGUST STUKENBROK, EINBECK
Anerkannt leistungsfähiges Etablissement dieser Branche


Feine Doppelleschings (Büchsfinten), System „Warnant“



Nr. 7686. Sehr schönes Warnant-Doppellesch. Büchsfinten, mit zwei eleganten Schrotkugeln (Leder, Stein, Eisen, für die Jagd). Der Lauf ist aus Stahl, hat einen Durchmesser von 6 mm, ist mit einem eleganten Zielfernrohr versehen. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich. Preis 37 Mk. —

Nr. 7687. Das gleiche Warnant-Doppellesch. wie Modell 7686 in etwas einfacherer Ausführung, mit einem Zielfernrohr. Preis 27 Mk. —

Bestes „Warnant“-Büchsfinten mit zwei Hähnen.




Nr. 7688. Extra schönes Warnant-Büchsfinten mit zwei eleganten Schrotkugeln (Leder, Stein, Eisen, für die Jagd). Der Lauf ist aus Stahl, hat einen Durchmesser von 6 mm, ist mit einem eleganten Zielfernrohr versehen. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich. Preis 45 Mk. —

Original-Präzisions-Jagdkarabiner.

Schon seit langen Jahren haben wir uns einen ausgezeichneten Original-Präzisions-Jagdkarabiner für großes Zulaufvermögen erworben. Wie aus der ununterbrochenen Nachfrage hervorgeht, handelt es sich um einen Karabiner von der größten und elegantesten Art, die bisher hergestellt wurde. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich, hat einen Durchmesser von 6 mm, ist mit einem eleganten Zielfernrohr versehen. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich. Preis 45 Mk. —

Größtes und stärkstes Modell. Ohne lauten Knall. Nur Kal. Allerbeste Qualität.




Nr. 7550/51. Eleganter Jagdkarabiner. Man beachte bitte die Ausführung und vergleiche dann die Konkurrenz-Angebote.

Nr. 7550. Original-Präzisions-Jagdkarabiner, großes und elegantes Modell, in jeder Ausführung, ganz nach eigener Art. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich, hat einen Durchmesser von 6 mm, ist mit einem eleganten Zielfernrohr versehen. Die Waffe ist sehr leicht und handlich. Preis 45 Mk. —

Nr. 7551. Derselbe ursprüngliche Jagdkarabiner wie Modell 7550, jedoch mit etwas anderem Zielfernrohr für präzisen Schuss. Preis 45 Mk. —

Nr. 7552. Derselbe ursprüngliche Jagdkarabiner wie Modell 7550, jedoch mit etwas anderem Zielfernrohr für präzisen Schuss. Preis 45 Mk. —

Ich bitte zu beachten, daß mein Jagdkarabiner ein Schraubvisier und Perikorn besitzt, während diejenigen Konkurrenz trotz des höheren Preises fast durchweg gewöhnliche Visierung besitzen.



Die günstige Aufnahme meiner Schusswaffen in Jagdkreisen beweist dieses Götz.

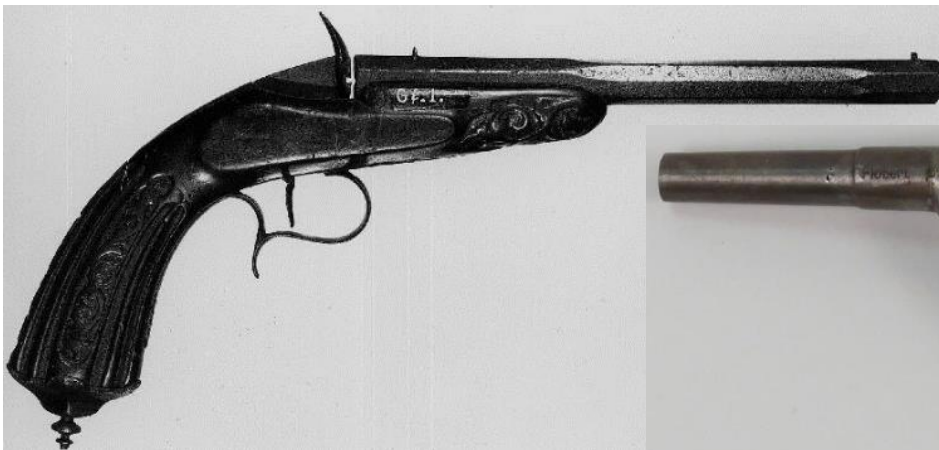


Photo above left - Flobert 6mm parlor pistol made 1891-1900. Photo Museum Vleehuis, Antwerp Belgium



Photo right - Cheap Flobert pistol, 6mm, made in Germany. Photo National Museum of American History.

★ Chantilly Recruiting Table

We would like to thank the following members who volunteered their time at the VGCA recruiting table during the last Chantilly Gun Show (Sep 30 – Oct 2):

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Sydney Rodda | Joe Roberts | King VonSchilling | Thomas Ciarula |
| Bruce Buchner | Keith Simmons | Chris Britton | Bryan Pelton |
| Dov Kawamoto | Joe Wagner | Rick Hanson | |

Through their efforts, and the support of all of the other VGCA members who stopped by to offer their support, knowledge, and suggestions, it a successful weekend for us.

If you are interested in working a shift during the next Chantilly Gun Show (Nov 18-20), please contact George Dungan at 571-243-6387 or george@ecominv.com.

★ Membership Chairman's Report

Membership Chairman's Report October 2022 – New Applications for Membership: Since the last Newsletter, there has been one new applicant for membership.

- **Lucas Garges** of Dulles, *sponsored by George Dungan*

Thanks to the applicants for their interest in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association and to their sponsors for promoting the Association and keeping the membership growing.

If there are any comments or questions on any applicant, please notify any Officer, Director, or the Membership Chair. **George Dungan, Membership Chair** can be reached at george@ecominv.com or 571-243-6387.

Notice to New Member Sponsors: 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 newsletter or VGCA announcements.

Membership Numbers: There are currently 402 Life members and 82 Annual Members, for a total of 484 members in the VGCA. Our membership roster was recently updated and the names of deceased members were removed from Life status, reducing our membership numbers.

Membership Renewals: Thank you to everyone who has renewed so far. I am in the process of getting your 2023 or Life membership sticker to you. Annual membership renewals are due by the end of the year. You may either renew annually or upgrade to life membership. The form below can be used for mail in renewals or you can renew in person with George Dungan at a VGCA meeting, the Chantilly gun show, or the VGCA gun show.

George Dungan, Membership Chair

Dues may be paid by mail by sending a Check for \$30 (please, NO USPS or other Money Orders) and the completed membership renewal form above to the address on the form. VGCA will also accept payments in person (CHECK or EXACT CHANGE preferred – I have NO CASH for change) with a completed renewal form. If members have questions, please email **George Dungan, Membership Chair** at george@eccominv.com or call me at **571-243-6387**.

.....
Please detach and return with your payment

Membership Renewal Request (AMR-2023)
VGCA, Inc., P.O. Box 2318, Merrifield, VA 22116-2318

Please complete and return this renewal form with your payment. Indicate Annual, Life or that you do not wish to renew your membership by checking the appropriate box below.
Please Print Clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

- Enclosed is a check for \$30.00 for CY 2022 VGCA Annual Membership dues.
- I wish to upgrade to Life Membership in VGCA. Enclosed is a check for \$150.00.
- Remove my name from the VGCA membership roster.

Make all checks payable to VGCA (Please - NO CASH or Money Orders). If members have questions, please email **George Dungan, Interim Membership Chair** at george@eccominv.com or call me at **571-243-6387**.

| VGCA Use Only | |
|---------------|--|
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Please detach and return with your payment





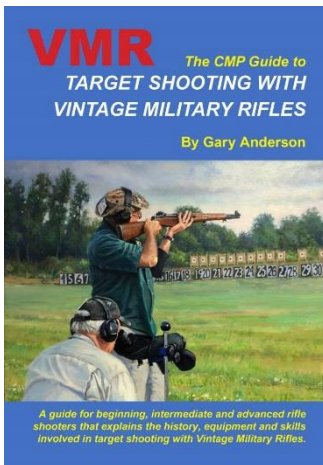
CMP UPDATE

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison

THE CMP BOOKSTORE

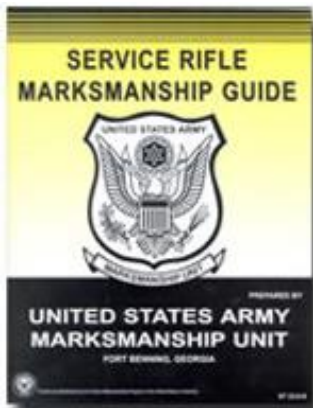
The VGCA is a CMP Affiliated club. The VGCA club number is 026160.

The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has an on-line bookstore as well as bookstores at its facilities, such as Camp Perry, Ohio. The publications are focused on the guns and activities that the CMP deals with. There are numerous books to satisfy even the most demanding collector and shooter of 20th century US military rifles, especially the M-1 Garand and the M-1 Carbine. The books range from reprints of original military manuals, to shop manuals, to shooting guides and competition rules to histories. They are available on the CMP E-Store. Below is a small sample of the publications.



THE CMP GUIDE TO TARGET SHOOTING WITH VINTAGE MILITARY RIFLES

Vintage military rifle competitors and collectors alike will be excited learn the Civilian Marksmanship Program has released a book, entitled *Target Shooting With Vintage Military Rifles*, authored by Gary Anderson, Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Emeritus and two-time highpower rifle Olympic gold medalist. The 284-page, soft-bound, fully-illustrated first edition is likely the most comprehensive book ever written about the methods of training and competing with popular American and foreign vintage military rifles. This book is probably a “must have” for those who collect and shoot vintage military rifles. NLU 792 \$29.95 plus Shipping & Handling.



U.S. ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT (USAMU) SHOOTING GUIDES \$7.30 each available on the CMP E-Store

USAMU SERVICE RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP GUIDE - An illustrated 88-page book, written by the U.S. Army Service Rifle Team, with detailed instructions on the basic and advanced skills of highpower service rifle shooting. Updated in 2022.

USAMU ADVANCED PISTOL GUIDE - An illustrated 132-page book, written by the U.S. Army Service Pistol Team, with detailed instructions on the basic and advanced skills of service pistol and bullseye pistol target shooting. Updated in 2022.

USAMU INTERNATIONAL RIFE MARKSMANSHIP GUIDE - An illustrated 113-page book, written by the U.S. Army International Rifle Team, with detailed instructions on the advanced skills of three-position smallbore and air rifle shooting.

USAMU INTERNATIONAL SKEET & TRAP GUIDE

A 66-page book, written by the U.S. Army International Shotgun Team, with detailed instructions on advanced skills involved in international skeet, trap and double trap shooting.

U.S. Rifle, Caliber .30, M1



READ THIS FIRST!

MANUAL, M1 “READ THIS FIRST”

This manual discusses, in detail, every aspect of the M1 Rifle – from its basic parts and operation to loading, unloading, firing and disassembly instructions. NLU# 700 \$3.25 each

MANUAL, 1903 “READ THIS FIRST”

This manual discusses, in detail, every aspect of the 1903 Rifle – from its basic parts and operation to loading, unloading, firing and disassembly instructions. NLU# 773 \$3.25 each

Civilian Marksmanship Program



Rifle Safety Manual

READ THIS MANUAL FIRST
Before Operating, Loading or Firing Your CMP Rifle

CMP SAFETY RIFLE GUIDE

A 32 page booklet; written for owners of CMP rifles. This guide includes safe gun handling rules & safety guidelines, explains how the rifle operates, range safety rules, how to deal with special problems, tips for accurate shooting, proper care of your rifle and CMP Programs for new rifle owners. NLU # 744 \$3.25 each

The CMP bookstore also sells coaching and instruction guides, CDs, DVDs, posters, competition rules for air rifle and pistol, small bore rifle, high power rifle and pistol matches, and shooter’s journals.



M1911/A1 SALES PROGRAM CUTOFF DATE EXTENDED

According to the CMP, the cutoff date for round 3 of the M1911 Sales Program has been extended due to Hurricane Ian. It is until further notice and as of Oct. 25, no new date has been announced. So if you were thinking about buying a M1911, act now. For further information see the September issue of the VGCA Newsletter and/or go to the CMP

website at <https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/1911-information/>.

NORMA .308 AMMUNITION SAFETY RECALL

By Marc Gorelick

Norma Precision, Inc., announced a voluntary recall of certain **.308 NORMA TAC 147 grain FMJ ammunition** made in Germany. The recall pertains to a specific SKU and corresponding lots of .308 Win Norma Tac 147gr FMJ ammunition due to possible performance inconsistencies in a small percentage of the ammunition. The company advises shooters to stop using .308 Win Norma Tac 147gr FMJ ammunition immediately if your ammunition falls within the designated SKU and lots. Failure to do so could result in damage to your firearm and/or injury.

The **SKU** in question is **2422027**.

The **lot numbers** in question are: **59KQ, 58KQ, 61KQ, 60KQ, 42MQ, 44MQ, 45MQ, 48MQ, 62MQ, 50MQ, 56MQ, 42RQ, 64RQ, 71RQ, 65TQ, 66TQ, 68TQ, 69TQ, 50UQ, 44UQ, 50KR, 58UQ, 65UQ, 70UQ, 54KR.**



The SKU and lot numbers are located in the white rectangle on the box.

Through its quality control procedures, NORMA identified possible inconsistencies with neck tension in a small number of cartridges within the ammunition SKU and corresponding lots (see above) that may allow the projectile to become loose including during transport. This could impact safe firearm performance leading to property damage and/or injury. This issue may potentially impact a small percentage of cartridges within the SKU and corresponding lots.

Once you have determined, based on its SKU and lot numbers, that your ammunition is one of the affected products, you can submit a return request online at www.Normashooting.com. When NORMA receives the returned, unfired, ammunition, it will refund your full purchase price for the returned, unfired, ammunition. This recall pertains only to the lot numbers listed by NORMA. The company will only reimburse customers for unfired product that is returned with these lot numbers.

For additional information visit www.Normashooting.com or contact a NORMA Customer Service Representative by email: Sales@normashooting.com or phone: (912) 800-9332.



VGCA GUNS OF DISTINCTION: LUDWIG BOROVIK BREAK ACTION RIFLE

By Marc Gorelick

Photos courtesy of Joh. Springers Erben, Vienna, Austria



The firm of Ludwig Borovnik has been making fine hunting guns since it was founded by the first Ludwig Borovnik in Ferlach, Austria in 1848. Since then it has remained a small, family run enterprise, hand crafting superb examples of the gun maker's art that are appreciated by the wealthy, royalty, and connoisseurs of quality firearms.



This custom-made single barrel stalking rifle in .243 caliber was manufactured in 1972 and was sold at a recent Joh. Springers Erben auction in Vienna, Austria for \$3,946. While not the highest grade, it is still a quality Borovnik product that is amply decorated. The 23.6 inch (60cm) long barrel has an octagonal breech tapering to the round, topped by a stepped engine-turned rib. It has open sights, a bright action, trigger plate lock with sideplates, Kersten crossbolt and additionally bolted lumps, side bolsters, a double set trigger and sliding tang safety. It has a German claw mounted Kahles Helia 39S1, reticule 7A





The bright side plates are decorated with medium scroll engraving and chiseled game scenes. There are roe deer on the right side, chamois on the left side, and a mouflon ram on the action bottom. The gun is signed in gold inlay by J. Heen of Copenhagen with a monogram on the triggerguard. The select grained stock has distinctive skip-line checkering on the fore-end and pistol grip and the buttstock cheekpiece has a double fold. The fore-end, with its Deeley latch, is capped by a long horn tip.



★ In Review ★

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

REVIEW: THE YORK ANTIQUE ARMS SHOW

By Marc Gorelick



It has been said that going to a good antique arms show is like going to a good museum filled with rare vintage arms. The York Antique Arms show, held September 16-17 at the York Expo Center in York, PA meets that description. The two-day show, which took place on Friday and Saturday, was held in conjunction with the MAX Militaria Show, which was in a nearby building.

The Antique Arms Show had a number of nationally known dealers as well as local dealers and private sales. Many of the vendors specialize in antique arms, some of which are high end, and rarely come to Northern Virginia shows. However, York is not really that far and is well worth the drive.

I was there on Friday and the tables were loaded with enough interesting, unusual and rare guns and edged weapons of historical importance to stock a major museum. The number of rare historically significant guns at this show was truly astounding. They included: a Reilly-Comblain .577 British breech loading trials rifle; an experimental breech loading .577 Snider built on a L.A.C. Pattern 1853; a US Navy marked Jocelyn revolver; an H.B. Weaver cut-down lever action, percussion "rolling block, front-end breech loading shotgun; the patent model for the scarce Merrill Latrobe & Thomas sporting rifle (circa 1856); and an extremely rare Confederate imported Whitworth Sharpshooters Rifle in .451 caliber. Only about 20 legitimate examples are known to still exist. This particular example was documented to a shipment of six to the Richmond Arsenal and was probably used in the Army of Northern Virginia. Another rarely seen gun was a Model 1875 Lee Vertical rifle. Only 143 of these were made by Springfield Armory.



Confederate Whitworth sniper rifle.

Other notable offerings included a Morse breech loading alteration of a US Model 1816 Type III musket of which only 54 were produced, a cased set of elegant silvered steel Scottish flintlock pistols, and a cased set of flintlock pistols (in the original case) with an extra set of percussion locks made by Isaac Riviere of London (1781-1851). Riviere is best known for his patented “pistols without locks.”



Rare Reilly-Comblain UK trials rifle.



Cased set of Scottish flintlock pistols. Asking price - \$29,000



Left - Cased set of flintlock pistols by Riviere of London. Asking price was \$28,500.

One of the most fascinating and rarest guns for sale was a Remington-made US Revenue Service Jenks Mule-Ear carbine with no Maynard tape primer. It is dated 1847 and marked U.S.R. The Revenue Service (ancestor of the US Coast Guard) purchased only 100 of these carbines and only three are said to exist today.

What was also good for buyers was that Friday had a light crowd, so you could closely examine the wares without being rushed or jostled. Also by going on

Friday rather than Saturday there was less potential competition for that prize piece for your collection. Vendors expected the crowd to be heavier on Saturday because many people were working on Friday. The venue lighting was excellent and there was plenty of room in the wide aisles. There was a food vendor inside but he had a limited menu.



Extremely rare Morse breechloading conversion of a US Model 1816 musket. Only 54 were made.



Unique British experimental breechloading rifle made for UK trials. Asking price \$4,995.

A number of well-known auction houses, such as Cowan's, Milestone and Skinner, had tables at the show where they displayed some of the items to be sold in upcoming auctions.

The MAX Militaria Show which was in a nearby building in on the Expo grounds was held the same day and most likely drew some of the foot traffic away from the Antique Arms Show. Also, some of the dealers who would normally be at the Antique Arms show were at the MAX show instead. The Antique Arms Show had about 250 tables while the much bigger MAX Militaria Show had 258 registered table holders with over 800 tables. One drawback of the York Expo Center venue was that the two shows were in separate buildings that were really too far apart to walk from one to the other. I had to drive from the Antique Arms Show to the MAX show.



Above left – rifles and carbines. Above right – bolos galore.



Photo left – a cornucopia of powder flasks.

Steve Sylvia promotes the York Antique Arms Show and he is known for putting on high-class shows with top-notch vendors. The MAX show is promoted by the Ohio Valley Military Society, which also puts on the Show of Shows in Louisville, KY. Admission to the Antique Arms Show was \$10. The drive from Northern Virginia was not bad. I avoided Route 95 and instead went by way of Route 270 to Route 15 to Gettysburg, and then headed east on Route 30 to York. It was a pleasant drive with nice scenery and the road goes through a couple of quaint small towns with buildings from the early 1800's (for those with an architectural interest). There are also plenty of antique shops, restaurants and even a gun store on the road between Gettysburg and York.



★ DOES ANYONE RECOGNIZE THIS SYMBOL?

A member of the Alaska Gun Collectors Association hoping that one of our members may be able to help him to identify this stock disc recently contacted me. It is mounted on the foregrip of a New Model Evans repeating rifle, circa 1878. The bottom two letters may be a WV, or perhaps a stylized MA. If you know – or have an educated guess – as to the meaning of this symbol, please pass it to along to Rob at rpebecker@verizon.net



★ Show-n-Tell ★

NOTE – NOTE: Anyone bringing in items for Show-n-Tell, please hold them up so the members can see it. This will also help your Volunteer Photographer get a decent photograph of the special item you brought to show, and people who could not attend the meeting can see it clearly in the newsletter. Thank you!

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): _____

Member 1 shared his Beretta AR70 (*at right*). The select fire version of this rifle was developed in 1972 and was adopted by elements of the Italian military and police forces. It is chambered in 5.56 NATO (5.56x45) and replaced the BM59 (a box-magazine fed development of the M1 Garand chambered in 7.62 NATO). This particular semi-automatic AR70 was made in 1995.



Member 2 brought in a Carcano M1938 (*at left*). Chambered in then-new 7.35 Carcano caliber when initially fielded, the Italian military found that converting to a new caliber early in WWII was a logistical nightmare and swiftly switched caliber back to 6.5 Carcano in 1940. Most of the original carbines in 7.35 were then donated to Finland for use against the Soviet Union. This particular example is chambered in 6.5 and has the desirable “Bullseye” mark found on only about 10% of Carcanos.

Member 3 shared SIG P228 (*at right*), but not just any P228! This one was made specifically for the Flint, Michigan Police Department and is so marked with the department's shield on top of the slide. First introduced in 1988, this hammer-fired service pistol is chambered in 9mm Parabellum (9x19) and is double action/single action – that is, the first shot is a heavy double action pull and subsequent shots are a lighter single action trigger pull. However, those made for the Flint Police Department are double action only (DAO). It was replaced in the SIG catalog by the P229, whose milled stainless steel slide is better able to handle the higher pressures generated by the .40S&W and .357Sig calibers.



Member 4 brought in two U.S. martial flintlock pistols - a Simeon North Model 1819 and an Evans Model 1826 (*left*).

The Model 1819 is a .54 caliber single shot pistol. On June 12, 1819, the U.S. Ordnance Department showed Simeon North a sample pair of pistols from the Harper's Ferry Armory. North then produced a pistol similar to that of Harper's Ferry with a few alterations. He signed a contract with the U.S. on July 21, 1819 to produce 10,000 pistols. Ultimately, a total of 20,400 were made. This pistol introduced the iron swivel ramrod. It was created because wooden ramrods frequently fell out of pistols and were lost. An unusual feature of this model, not repeated on any other U.S. martial pistol, is a sliding safety bolt at the rear of the lockplate which locks the hammer at half-cock while the frizzen is down covering the priming pan.

The Model 1826 is a .54 caliber Navy pistol. Less than 1000 Model 1826 pistols were produced by W.L. Evans of Valley Forge, PA around 1830-1831. The Evans-produced pistols are nearly identical to the Model 1826 Navy pistols manufactured by Simeon North, and also feature an iron swivel ramrod. The only variations are in the markings on the lockplate. The Model 1826 Navy pistols are also similar to the Simeon North US Model 1819 Army pistol but on a reduced scale with a shorter barrel and shorter overall length. According to Smith and Bitter, more pistols of this model were converted to percussion than any other model and the Model 1826 Navy, either North or Evans, is seldom found in original flintlock.

★ Upcoming Events and Shows ★

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

VIRGINIA – 2022-2023

- Oct 29-30, 2022 – Chesapeake, VA – Chesapeake Convention Center – *SGK*
- Oct 29-30, 2022 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- Nov 5-6, 2022 – Manassas, VA – Prince William County Fairgrounds – *VGCA – Our Show!*
- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Richmond, VA – Richmond International Raceway – *Showmasters*
- Nov 18-20, 2022 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Nov 26-27, 2022 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK*
- Dec 3-4, 2022 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo – *Showmasters*
- Dec 10-11, 2022 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center – *SGK*
- Dec 17-18, 2022 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Dec 30-Jan 2, 2023 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Jan 14-15, 2023 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center - *SGK*
- Jan 28-29, 2023 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center – *SGK*
- Feb 11-12, 2023 – Virginia Beach, VA – Virginia Beach Convention Center – *SGK*
- Feb 18-19, 2023 – Doswell, VA – The Meadow Event Park – *SGK*

MARYLAND – 2022-2023

- Nov 5-6, 2022 – Easton, MD – Talbot County Community Center – *Eastern Shores Arms Collectors*
- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Frederick, MD – Frederick Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Dec 10-11, 2022 – West Friendship, MD – Howard County Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Mar 18-19, 2023 - Timonium, MD – Maryland State Fairgrounds – *Maryland Arms Collectors Association*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2022-2023

- Oct 29, 2022 – Kittanning, PA – Pony Farm Trap & Gun Club – *Pony Farm T&G Club*
- Oct 29-30, 2022 – Gettysburg, PA – AllStar Sports Complex-Eisenhower Inn & Conference Center - *AUTUMN GETTYSBURG CIVIL WAR & MILITARIA SHOW*
- Oct 29-30, 2022 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- Nov 5-6, 2022 – Brookville, PA – Jefferson County Fairgrounds – *The Gun Guy*
- Nov 5-6, 2022 – East Stroudsburg, PA – VFW Post #2540 - *Jaeger Arms*
- ~~Nov 5-6, 2022 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Shows* - CANCELLED~~
- Nov 5-6, 2022 - Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- Nov 5-6, 2022 – Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Nov 11-12, 2022 – York, PA – Wyndham Garden York – *Historic Arms Collectors & Artisans - Eastern Pennsylvania Longrifle Show*
- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Allentown, PA – ParkView Inn & Conference Center - *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Hermitage, PA – Veterans of Foreign Wars – *Canon's Gun Room*
- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Muncy, PA – Lycoming Mall – *Bear Arms Promotions*
- Nov 19-20, 2022 – Kempton, PA – Kempton Community Center – *Jaeger Arms*
- Nov 19-20, 2022 - Morgantown, PA – Morgantown Expo Center – *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 20, 2022 – Portland, PA – William Pensyl Social Hall - *Portland Hook & Ladder Co. #1*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2022-2023 (continued)

- Dec 3-4, 2022 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- Dec 3-4, 2022 – Bloomsburg, PA – Bloomsburg Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 3-4, 2022 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Dec 10-11, 2022 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E*
- Dec 10-11, 2022 – Trevoise, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 16-18, 2022 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Arms*
- Dec 17-18, 2022 – Sellersville, PA – Forrest Lodge VFW Hall and Club – *Jaeger Arms*
- Jan 7-8, 2023 - Morgantown, PA – Morgantown Expo Center – *Eagle Shows*
- Jan 7-8, 2023 - Washington, PA – Washington County Fairgrounds – *ARH Sport Shop*
- Jan 14-15, 2023 – Lake Harmony, PA – Split Rock Resort – *Eagle Shows*
- Jan 21, 2023 - Greencastle, PA – Greencastle Sportsman’s Association Club – *Izaak Walton League of Franklin County*
- Jan 21-22, 2023 - Lebanon, PA – Lebanon Expo Center – *Eagle Shows*
- Jan 28-29, 2023 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Shows*

SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS – 2022-2023

- Nov 12-13, 2022 – Tulsa, OK – Tulsa Fairgrounds – *Tulsa Arms Collector Association – World’s Largest Gun Show (over 4200 tables)*
- Nov 19-20, 2022 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association – welcoming the Contemporary Longrifle Association, the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association, and the Association of Ohio Long Rifle Collectors*
- Jan 28-29, 2023 - Wilmington, OH – Roberts Convention Centre – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*

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 and is intended for listing firearms and firearm related items. 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.

FREE!

➤ **8mm Egyptian Mauser ammo (estimated from mid 1950's).** Approximately 700 rounds with Berdan Primers and 196gr projectiles. I tried to shoot several of these and All were misfires!

FREE to the first person who comes to get them (located in Stafford, VA).

Contact Joe at 571-278-3297

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:

★ A very nice McKeever cartridge box marked Watervliet Arsenal to include rounds of .45-70 ammo for sale (see photos). Asking price is \$325. Now \$300



If interested, contact Jim Burgess at 703-361-1339 x1207 or jim_burgess@nps.gov

FOR SALE:

★ 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~~ Reduced to \$995

★ 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

★ Browning HiPower, 9mm, EC, 2 magazines, box, manual. \$1595

★ Savage 99, .243 Winchester, EC, 30 rounds of ammo. \$1495

★ Rare S&W Single Action 3rd Model with special 5 inch barrel. Also known as the Model of 1891, I frame 5-shot revolver. \$2150. Antique, no FFL required

★ Marlin Model 90 20 gauge over/under. Excellent bores, standard chambers, double triggers, 28 inch barrels. GC. \$695. incl. ammo.

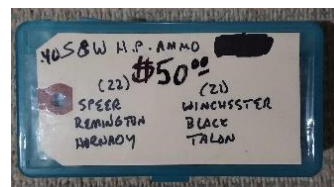
If interested, contact John at 571-308-4978

FOR SALE:

★ **5.56x45 NATO SS109 Ammo.** General Dynamics 62grain FMJ. Box of 250 rounds for \$160.00



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



★ **7.62x25 Tokarev Ammo.** Eastern Bloc surplus (dated 1984) in 72 round boxes. \$45 per box (6 available).

⊛ **Hornady .450 Nitro Express Ammo.** 3 ¼" 450 grain DGX, 20 round box, very limited production. \$125.00

⊛ **Cold Steel Sanburu Spear.** Three sections – head/blade, shoe/butt spike, and double taper hardwood handle. \$65.00



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

FREE!

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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 George Dungan.