



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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Show/Reservations Manager
Membership

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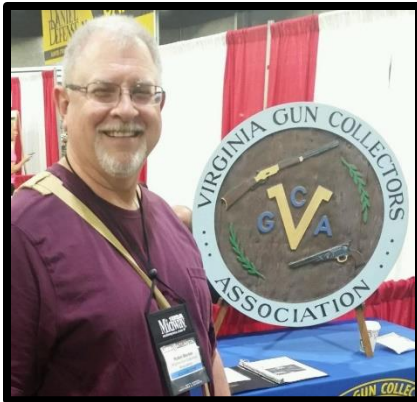
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October 2024 VGCA Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Greetings all—

This continues to be a very busy fall for the VGCA!

First, we had our fall gun show on 19 and 20 October. The displays were superb and the initial indications are that our second show at the Dale City VFW was a financial success. Look for more details in our Nov-Dec newsletter.

Though we typically don't have a Membership meeting in the same month as a gun show, this month will be the exception. With Thanksgiving being on the 4th Thursday of November and two Field Trips also scheduled in November, it just wasn't feasible to have a meeting that month. Therefore, we will meet this week on Thursday, October 24th! Member Bryan Pelton will be presenting on the AK47, and it promises to be a multi-media extravaganza!

Speaking of field trips, we are finalizing the details of our tour of the Institute of Military Technology and Knight's Armament on 1 November. For those who have signed up, look for updated details in an email this coming week. Our other field trip is to the National Museum of the Marine Corps on Saturday, November 16th. Be sure to sign up if interested in attending.

I hope to see you on Thursday! Cheers!

Rob Becker, VGCA President

★ September Presentation – The Finnish Mosin-Nagant Rifle

VGCA member and recently-published author Matt DiRisio delivered a superb presentation on the Finnish Mosin-Nagant Rifle. Matt's interest in the Mosin-Nagant began with his purchasing of antique M1891s while he still in college. While researching this new-found passion, he discovered that the best reference books were written in Finnish, German, or Russian. He also learned that publications on the topic in English were often dated or of "limited accuracy." Matt decided to do his own research and we were indeed fortunate to share in the results of his efforts!



Matt reviewed the origins of the Mosin-Nagant in Finland. The M1891 was produced in large numbers by three Russian arsenals, a French factory, and during WWI by two U.S. companies. When Finland became independent following the Russian Revolution and subsequent Russian civil war, it "inherited" approximately 218,000 M1891s. Notoriously always short of funds, the Finnish military decided to "make do" with what they had and adopted the Mosin-Nagant as their standard service rifle.



During the inter-war years, there grew a need to refurbish and update their M1891s. The Finns needed new barrels and they contracted with three sources – Tikka, AST, and the Swiss firm of SiG – to make them. The rifles were made shorter overall (similar to what the Soviets were doing when they adopted the M91/30), new sling swivels were added, and a new bayonet was designed (*left*). The Finnish Army designated the "new" rifles as m27.

The new bayonet was heavier than the original design and its use started to result in broken stocks. The M28, adopted by the Civil Guard, reinforced the stock to handle the new bayonet. Matt explained the difference between Army and

the Civil Guard (the latter was similar to our National Guard but with elements of the Boy Scouts and a sport shooting organization) and why the Civil Guard fielded different rifles than the Army.

Civil Guard rifles typically have two numbers on them – a serial number and a Civil Guard district number. The district number can be researched to the point of even knowing who the rifle was issued to.

Matt went on to describe several Finnish variants, to include:

m27 rv – Cavalry carbine. Only 2000 were made. Interarms imported 354 in 1959. These carbines were used hard and are often found in pretty rough condition.

m91 rv – A slightly longer carbine

m28/30 – Updated front and rear sights. This was sniper Simo weapon of choice.

m39 – Objective was to be accurate to 1.3 MOA. Rifles that did not meet this standard were marked with a “2”.

In 1943, Finland built 500 sniper rifles (*right*) using German scopes. Post-war upgrades to these were designated the m28-76 and the m85 (still in use to this day).

During the Winter War and the Continuation War, Finnish forces captured approximately 200,000 M91/30s from the Soviets, ensuring an adequate supply of receivers for years to come!

Matt concluded his presentation with an extensive Question and Answer period.



It is always a pleasure to listen to someone who is both knowledgeable and passionate about their subject. This was one of those times – thank you, Matt!



★ Upcoming Field Trips

The VGCA is pleased to announce that we have arranged a tour of Knight’s Armament and the Institute of Military Technology Museum in Titusville, Florida, on Friday, 1 November 2024. Former VGCA President and current employee of Knight’s Armament, Mr. Bernie Breighner, has promised us a full day of activity.



In addition, we will visit the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Triangle, Virginia, on Saturday, 16 November 2024. More details, including sign-up rosters, will be provided at this week’s membership meeting.

★ 2024-2025 Presentation List ★

MEETING DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
24 Oct 2024	Assault Rifles 101: Birth of the Kalashnikov AK-47	Bryan Pelton
	<i>No meeting in November due to our Fall Gun Show / Tours / Thanksgiving</i>	
07 Dec 2024	Annual Holiday Potluck & Swap Meet – no presentation	
23 Jan 2025	The Winchester Winder Musket	Rob Becker
27 Feb 2025	The Winchester Model 1894/Model 94	George Dungan

If you have any presentation suggestions – or would like to make a presentation yourself in 2025 – please contact Matthew G. at matthewofmclean@gmail.com or one of the VGCA officers or directors.

★ Do you love history and firearms...

like being organized, have a decent command of the English language, possess fair computer skills, and can dedicate a few hours each month to the VGCA? Then you may be just the person to take over as our newsletter editor! Rob Becker will continue as our editor through the end of this year but is looking for some relief. If you think this is something you would be willing to take on, please contact any officers or directors.

THE JAPANESE TYPE 4 SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLE aka THE "JAPANESE M1 GARAND"

By Gene Gibson and Mike Revesz

All Japanese Type 4 Garand photographs are from the Gene Gibson collection.

*Reprinted with the permission of the Pennsylvania Antique Gun Collectors Association.
Originally published in the September/October 2020 issues of the PAGCA Bugle.*

In July of 1932, the Japanese Imperial Army directed Nippon Steel Company and Tokyo Gas and Electric to begin work on a semi-automatic rifle. Nippon Steel concentrated their efforts on copying the blowback design U.S Pedersen rifle and Tokyo Gas and Electric concentrated their efforts on the gas-operated Czech ZH-29 rifle. Japan actually produced three prototype semi-automatic rifle designs in the 1930's, the Type Hei, Type Kō and Type Otsu but none proved satisfactory. All development of a Japanese semi-automatic rifle design was stopped when the Japanese invaded China at the start of the second Sino-Japanese War (1935/36) due to unsatisfactory design results and the need to concentrate production efforts on the war with China.

The Japanese Imperial Army considered their low-cost Type 38 bolt-action rifles to be a more than adequate gun against the Chinese who were armed principally with the bolt-action Type 24 Mouser rifle. No consideration was given at the time by the Japanese about later facing U.S. Marines and Soldiers armed with the semi-automatic M1 Garand which was adopted by the U.S. Services in 1936.

As the second Sino-Japanese war progressed, the Japanese determined that the 6.5mm x 50mm cartridge used by the Type-38 rifle was not powerful enough and they decided to develop both a light machine gun and a new bolt-action rifle based on the more powerful 7.7mm x 58mm cartridge. The bolt-action rifle that was developed was designated the Type 99 rifle (long, short and paratrooper versions) and is considered one of the best bolt-action rifles of WWII.



U.S. Pederson Semi-Auto Rifle



Czech ZH-29 Semi-Auto Rifle



Type 38



Chinese Type-24 Mauser Bolt-Action Rifle



Japanese Type-99 Short Rifle

As World War 2 progressed, however, the Japanese Navy saw their bolt action equipped Special Naval Landing Forces (Marines) continue to struggle against Allied troops armed with the M1 Garand semi-automatic rifles and M1 Carbines. At the same time Nazi Germany was developing the semi-automatic Gewehr 43 and the Soviets the SVT-40. Finally, in late 1943 and early 1944 the Japanese Navy decided to start a semi-automatic rifle project. They decided not to resurrect the much earlier projects started by the Imperial Army. Instead they opted to copy the U.S. M1 Garand rifle in an effort to rapidly get to a working, manufacturable design. The first attempts by the Japanese were to change the caliber to the Japanese 7.7 mm rimless (although 1mm shorter than their standard 7.7x58) but this cartridge would not feed reliably and proved incompatible with the Garand's en-bloc clip feed mechanism. The Yokosuka Naval Arsenal then replaced the M1 Garand's 8-round en-bloc clip with an enlarged fixed box magazine capable of holding 10 rounds. This magazine was filled using two standard 5-round Arisaka Type 99 rifle stripper clips. This design had the advantage of allowing the soldier to add rounds to the magazine before it was empty, something not possible with the M-1 Garand. Also modified were the cartridge feed mechanism and the rear sight. Research and

development at the Yokosuka Naval Arsenal was finalized in October 1944 resulting in the Japanese version of the M1 Garand shown below.



Above & below - The Japanese "Type 4" M1 Garand (Photos -the Gene Gibson collection)



Recent studies have revealed that the correct Japanese designation is "Type 4 Automatic Rifle", based upon it being adopted in the 2604th year of the Japanese Empire (1944). Earlier collectors and writers used the incorrect designation "Type 5", and some collectors still refer to these rare rifles as Type 5s.



U.S. M1 Garand

While developed by the Japanese Navy, Japanese arsenals were fully involved in other high priority war work and could not mass produce the Type 4 Japanese version of the M1 Garand rifle. A civilian company, Wasino Seiki, was chosen to produce it and production started in May, 1945. Mass production brought to light inherent problems, including the differences in U.S. .30 caliber ammunition verses Japanese 7.7mm ammunition and poor Japanese late war metallurgy. This resulted in very few Japanese Type 4 Japanese Garands being manufactured before the war ended. As produced, they did not have external serial numbers but were numbered internally. Based on the highest internal number found on surviving examples, it is believed that only about 60 complete rifles were assembled. Some sources indicate select individual parts were made for 150 to 200 total

so the estimated number of completed Type 4 Japanese Garands could increase as more are discovered.

In comparing the U.S. M1 Garand to the Type 4 Japanese Garand rifle, we find the following differences. The Japanese Type 4 rifle has a 10 round box magazine fed by 2 stripper clips and reloadable before being emptied. The U.S. M1 Garand has an 8-round magazine fed by an en-block clip reloadable only when emptied. The Japanese Garand uses black paint on the metal surfaces and has sling swivels on the side. It also uses a 2-piece stock (grains opposed for strength) where the US. Garand has a one piece stock, Parkerized metal finish and sling swivels on the bottom. The Japanese Type 4 Garand also has a tangent rear sight graduated to 1200 meters with a tiny, almost unusable, aperture. Finally, unlike the U.S. M1 Garand, the Japanese Garand has a modified carriage feed mechanism and tangs extending back from the trigger guard and from the bolt housing.

With only about 60 Japanese Type 4 Garands in existence, and the growing popularity of U.S. M1 Garand collecting, the value of the Japanese copy has increased significantly over the years. In a 2008 Morphy auction a Type 4 Japanese Garand went for \$21,850. Eight years later, in a 2016 Rock Island auction a Type 4 Japanese Garand had an estimated price range of \$25,000 to \$40,000 and a hammer price of \$63,250, including buyer's premium.





A final word of caution: a catastrophic failure of a Type 4 Japanese Garand being fired during a film documentary reiterates that these guns have design flaws and some have poor metallurgy so it is best to not attempt shooting one.

Editor's Note: An example of the Type 4 "Japanese Garand" can be seen in the NRA Museum, Fairfax, Virginia. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History also has a Japanese Type 4 Rifle, however that one currently is not on public display.

For more information, see the excellent article "Japanese Garand': The Story Of The Type 4" by Fred Honeycutt posted on March 1, 2021 on the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN at <https://www.americanriflesman.org/content/japanese-garand-the-story-of-the-type-4/>.



VGCA MEMBER'S COLLECTION TO BE AUCTIONED



Long-time VGCA member John Vagnetti's superb collection of Harper's Ferry Rifles is scheduled to go on the auction block on October 23/24, 2024. These fine examples will be offered by Cowan's Auctions at:

5030 Oaklawn Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45227

You can view the guns at the Cowan's website (<https://cowans.hindmanauctions.com/>) once the auction is posted.

The guns include specimens of 10 rifles manufactured at the US Armory at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. They are documented with their provenance and are listed below:

1. U.S. Model 1803 (Type II) dated 1816. Original Flint (VG-Fine) Ex. William Gerber & Robert Howard collections.
2. U.S. Model 1841 Dated 1850. (VF-Excellent) Ex. Ted Heske collection.
3. U.S. Model 1841 (Type 1-B) (VG+) Ex. George Moller.
4. U.S. Model 1841 (Type II-A) (VG+) Ex. George Moller.
5. U.S. Model 1841 (Type II-B) (VG+) Ex. Frederick Goldbecker.
6. U.S. Model 1841 (Type II-C) (Fine+)
7. U.S. Model 1841 (Type III) (VG+)
8. U.S Model 1855. (Fine) Cowan's Auction.
9. U.S. Model 1855 (Type-IV) (Fine) Ex. Everett "Birdie" Partridge collection.
10. Model 1855 (Confederate Assembled) Subject of an article in *North South Trader's Civil War* magazine, Vol. 34, No. 4 2009.

John is also auctioning a Lewis and Clark Rifle (reproduction), identical to the one in the National Firearms Museum at the NRA.

So, if you ever wanted a piece of American history in the form of one or more genuine Harper's Ferry Rifles that are all correct and in excellent condition, this is your chance.



VGCA GUNS OF DISTINCTION: **HERBERT SCHEIRING** **BREAK ACTION JAEGER**

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



When you hold a custom-made Herbert Schering rifle in your hands you know that you are holding a masterpiece in wood and steel. Schering hand-crafted hunting guns are rated among the best in the world for quality, precision, and artistic merit, and the Ferlach, Austria based gunmaker numbers the world's wealthy and elite among its clientele. Every Scheiring firearm is unique.



Although not as ornate as some Scheirings, this tilting block 7mm Magnum Jaeger rifle is a typical Scheiring product that displays the high quality design and workmanship for which the firm is famous. It has a 25.2 inch (64cm) long MagNaPort barrel with a quarter rib. Besides the underlever to work the action, it has a manual cocking slide on the tang and double set triggers. It is richly decorated with bold scroll engraving surrounded chiseled scenes of red deer on the left side of the action, and an alpine scene with chamois on the right side.



The richly grained select walnut stock has a slight hog's back comb, Bavarian cheekpiece, fish-scale checkering, bird's head grip, and a fore-end with Schnabel tip,

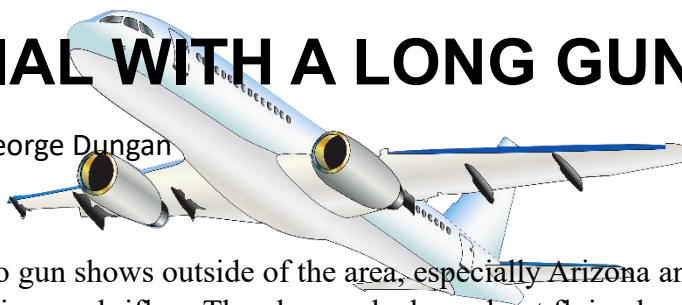


Besides the folding rear sight on the quarter rib, this rifle has a pivot mounted Kahles Helia CS 2.5-10x50 scope with a quick adjustable elevation turret. The rifle, made in 1975, was reproofed in 1985 and 2003. It was recently put on auction at the eminent house of Joh. Springer's Erben, in Vienna, Austria with a princely starting price of \$11,591 (10,000 euros).



FLYING COMMERCIAL WITH A LONG GUN

By George Dungan



Some of our members know that I like to travel to gun shows outside of the area, especially Arizona and Nevada, looking for Winchester lever action carbines and rifles. They have asked me about flying home with the gun. The following is my basic response to this question.

First, know the laws of the state that is your final destination. Dulles and Reagan are easy because they are in the Commonwealth of Virginia. If you are flying back to BWI check the Maryland laws on transporting a gun because they are different than here in VA. Transporting a gun 2,000 miles and then getting in trouble 20 minutes from your home would not be good at all.

The basic TSA requirement is that the gun be in a locked hard sided case and be unloaded. Most cases have 4 holes for locks so I generally put on 2 keyed locks and then use zip ties to secure the other 2 holes. I also put a few extra zip ties in the case itself for TSA to use to resecure it if they open the case. It's best to put the zip ties in the holes on the ends to help keep the case from popping open during baggage handling.

Small amounts of ammo can also be carried in the same case as the gun as long as it is in a plastic, wood, metal, or cardboard container designed to hold ammo. It can also be in magazines as long as the mag completely encloses the ammo. The amount that can be carried is up to the discretion of each individual airline. It is important to note that any clips or magazines, even if they are empty, must be in a locked hard sided case and declared.

As soon as you enter the airport - Declare The Firearm. A lot of people somehow forget to do this and they wind up having the gun confiscated and getting a big fine. Certain airlines at some airports, such as Southwest Airlines in Las Vegas, will have self serv kiosks for firearms declaration, but most do not. Go to the ticketing counter for your airline and tell someone that you need to "declare a firearm", not "I HAVE A GUN"! They will send you to a person who will fill out the declaration form (and sometimes charge you for an extra bag) and then take you over to the TSA inspector. TSA has different procedures at different airports. Some will simply run it through an x-ray while others will want you to open the case so they can physically inspect it. Allow extra time for this as some TSA inspectors are "gun guys" who will spend 1 minute inspecting and 30 more talking about guns.

Once you get to your final destination, the gun won't come out on the regular baggage carousel, it will be taken to the oversize and lost bag office for your airline. It generally takes it longer to get there than regular baggage so be prepared to wait. You will need to show someone your baggage claim receipt and they will give you your gun.

I personally never take a long gun case with me because it counts as baggage, but I do take the locks and zip ties. Walmart sells the hard sided cases for under \$20.00, but they are not always in stock at all stores. You can either go online to find one in stock at a store near you after you buy a gun or order one "ship to store" at a store near where you will be staying. They generally get to the store in under 48 hours from the order date. You can even use this option prior to your initial departure. If you don't buy a gun and

therefore don't need the case, simply don't pick it up. After 10 days or so Walmart will cancel the order and refund your money. Cabella's and some other sporting goods stores also carry cases, but these stores aren't as plentiful or as inexpensive as Walmart.

Don't let apprehension about flying with a gun keep you from traveling to gun shows outside of the area, just know the rules and remember to declare.



HAMPTON ROADS MILITARY SOCIETY

The Hampton Roads Militaria Society (HRMS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to assist collectors and historians in the collection & preservation of militaria of all sorts and periods, preserve and honor our military past, and honor the veterans of all our conflicts. They generally meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, but this can vary. The HRMS is a sister organization to the VGCA and VGCA members are welcome to participate as guests in their meetings and tours. Upcoming meetings (at Rescue Squad No. 8 at 1243 Bayne Drive in VA Beach) are:

28 Sep 2024 **Field Trip. Members and guests will meet to tour the Casemate Museum at Fort Monroe.**

Admission to the Casemate Museum is free and self-guided. The Casemate Museum is now open to the public on Wednesday through Sunday 10 am – 4 pm and requires a FREE timed entry-ticket that MUST be picked up at the Visitor & Education Center (National Park Service) located at 30 Ingalls Road, Fort Monroe, VA. Web site https://fortmonroe.org/place_to_visit/casemate-museum/

12 Nov 2024 **“The Luger” by Nelson Voke**

10 Dec 2024 **“U.S. Land Battles starting in July 1918 with the Rock of the Marne and Turning the Tide” by Jim Paschall**



New Word

Overheard at our gun show last weekend was the adjective “c-n-r-able.” As in “Is that gun c-n-r-able?” In other words, “Can that gun be transferred via a Class 3 Curio and Relic Federal Firearms License?” Increasing your vocabulary is just another benefit of VGCA membership!

★ Membership Chairman's Report – October

Since the last newsletter we have had the following applicants to the VGCA:

- **Mark Girard** of Dumfries sponsored by Bruce Buchner
- **Dylan Starr** of Falls Church sponsored by Shannon Zeigler

If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our organization, please invite them to a meeting or to our upcoming VGCA Gun Show. **If you sponsor a candidate, either at one of our membership tables or elsewhere, please make sure that you fill in and sign the Sponsor page.**

Notice to New Member Sponsors: VGCA has discontinued hard copy versions of the VGCA Newsletters. *Please make sure your prospective applicants **include a legible email address** and **telephone contact number** if at all possible and **make sure that your name is on the sponsorship form.*** Without an email address new members will NOT receive the newsletter or VGCA announcements.

Membership Numbers: There are currently 438 Life members and 89 Annual Members for a total of 522 members in the Virginia Gun Collectors Association, Inc.

Recruiting: Membership in the VGCA is a great way for people with an interest in the history, development, and use of firearms to broaden their knowledge and pass what they know on to others. It also offers the opportunity to network with individuals who have similar interests. To help facilitate new membership we have a Membership Table at every Chantilly gun show and also at our VGCA gun shows.

Membership Renewal: **I have gone through the roster and deleted all names that are not current on dues. If you wish to continue receiving the Newsletter, getting in to the VGCA gun shows for free, and other benefits that come with membership please get current on your dues.** You can renew annually for \$30 or \$150 for life. Please use the form below to renew and either mail it in or bring it to a meeting and give it to either George Dungan or Bruce Buchner. If you are unsure of your membership status email george@ecominv.com and I will let you know.

George Dungan, Vice President and Membership Chair

Annual Membership Renewals: Annual Membership renewals of \$30.00 are due by January 1, 2024. You may upgrade to Life Membership for \$150 (only \$120 over the cost of renewing your annual membership, plus no more annual dues requests). Failure to renew by the January Membership meeting may result in your being dropped as a *member in good standing*. **Members dropped for non-payment of dues will have to go through the new member process to re-join the Association.**

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, Interim Membership Chair** at george@eccominv.com or call me at 571-243-6387.

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Please detach and return with your payment

Membership Renewal Request (AMR-2023_Oct)

VGCA, Inc., P.O. Box 328, Manassas, VA 20108

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 2024 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.

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CMP UPDATE

By Marc Gorelick, CMP Liaison

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

CMP TISAS 1911A1 PISTOL SALES



The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) announced its partnership with Tisas USA to offer a CMP-branded, museum-grade replica of the M1911A1 to its many customers and competitors. According to the CMP, this pistol will make a great companion piece to the surplus M1911A1 pistols sold by the CMP or just a great pistol on its own right to shoot or collect. The Tisas M1911A1 is manufactured by TİSAŞ (Trabzon Silah Sanayi AŞ), a Turkish firearms manufacturing company that is mainly focused on manufacturing

pistols. Its guns are used worldwide by civilians, police and military.

The Tisas M1911A1 can be ordered by mail from the CMP. It is also available for examination and purchasing only at the Talladega Marksmanship Pro Shop. To order, you must be a member in good standing of a CMP affiliated club – like the VGCA. Members must send a completed Order Form, your payment and meet all necessary eligibility requirements, including sending a true copy of a FFL license, to the CMP: The CMP will only ship the pistols to a FFL. Order processing could take up to 4 to 6 weeks and according to the CMP, there is no limit on the number of Tisas pistols you can buy. MSRP is \$479.99 with free shipping and handling.

The Tisas M1911A1 CMP specifications are:

- Caliber: .45 ACP
- Barrel Length: 5 Inches
- Accurate reproduction of WWII issued 1911
- United States Property marked / CMP marked
- Manganese Phosphate Slide, Frame & small parts
- Reprofiled Ejection Port
- Type E Hammer
- (2) 7 round magazines
- (2) sets of grips including accurate reproduction brown plastic grips, and walnut double diamond checkered grips
- All Parts are Forged

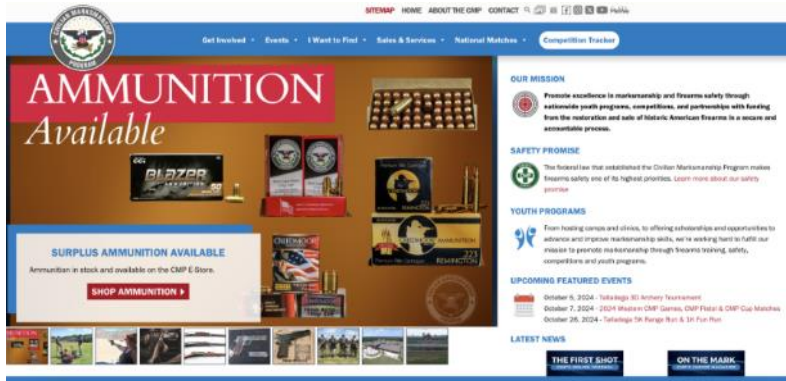
TISAS produces more than 50 models of pistols in calibers ranging from .22 LR to .45 ACP, and it exports to more than 30 countries. Through the years, TISAS products have been imported to America by various distributors and sold under other names. As of 2022, TISAS USA is the U.S. distribution hub located in Knoxville, Tennessee. Tisas pistols have a good reputation. In December 2023 Guns and Ammo reviewed and test fired a different Tisas 1911 model, giving it good marks for quality and calling it “a standout.” According to Guns and Ammo, “The TISAS 1911s are more accurate than they have any right to be. With TISAS, you get more features for the same price.” To read the Guns and Ammo review go to <https://www.gunsandammo.com/editorial/tisas-1911-nightstalker-full-review/486990>.

For additional information, including the ordering instructions, the CMP order form, eligibility requirements and contact information, go to the CMP website at: https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/cmp-tisas-m1911a1-pistol/.

CMP GUNS ON AUCTION

The CMP auctions rifles, rifle parts and accessories on its auction site. The auction program is an extension of the CMP E-Store. Everyone who is registered in the E-Store is automatically registered for the auction program. Go to the CMP website at https://thecmp.org/cmp_sales/guns-on-auction/ for additional information, including what items are currently being auctioned.

CMP REDESIGNED ITS WEBSITE



The CMP announced that it redesigned the layout of its website to make it more user friendly. The new “refreshed” website (still using the same address of <https://thecmp.org/>) was officially launched on Sept. 28, 2024. The fresh design includes a reorganization of site menus to simplify navigation, an appealing blue color scheme and other elements to enhance user experience. All text in red is highlighting an action or link to click.

The film strip on the home page displays several thumbnail photos which allows users to click and find the featured information. The mobile view of the CMP website will display the menus and allow users to expand and condense menus. According to the CMP this is Phase 1 of the redesign and some user comments indicated there are still a few bugs to work out.

The CMP website has close to 300 different web pages with a lot of information. Links to return to the top of the page have been added and the search engine has been optimized for more relevant results. Additional features on the home page are Upcoming events, Sales items, Auction items and e-Store items and includes links for additional information. CMP Ranges and Forums links are also available from the home page now.

I used the newly designed website and can state that it is a lot easier to use, easier to find information and navigate. For more information about the new design go to:

<https://thecmp.org/cmp-announces-a-refresh-of-the-cmp-website/>.



The CMP announced that its south location in Anniston, Alabama, will be hosting a Tent Sale, Nov. 7-9 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring many items that are not sold within the CMP stores or online! The CMP hasn't hosted a tent sale in over eight years, resulting in a warehouse full of unique items. The sale will take place at the CMP office located at 1470 Sentinel Dr., Anniston, at the side gate of the building.

Items to be sold include:

- Various ammunition types
- Clothing
- Marksmanship accessories
- Miscellaneous items (used stocks, books, etc.)

There will also be rifles available for purchase! Credit card, cash and check payments will be accepted. Any questions regarding the CMP Tent Sale can be directed to Melody at mkirby@thecmp.org. Items and rifles can also be purchased at the CMP stores, if they are open. For firearm purchases you must meet the eligibility requirements.

PRICE REDUCTION – 7.62mm GARANDS



The CMP reduced the price for the 7.62 NATO VERSION OF THE M1 GARAND. The two versions are now \$900 (Mod 0) and \$1200 (Mod 1) plus \$35 shipping & handling per rifle. For more details visit the CMP website at

<https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/m1-garand/#7.62NATOM1Garand>.

Please Note: Customers must fill out the [CMP MOD-1 / MOD-0 Disclaimer Affidavit](#) and submit it with their order.





**VGCA
ANNUAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR
AWARD**

The **VGCA Member of the Year Award** recognizes the member who the membership believes has done the most during the past year for the club and/or gun collecting. The annual **Member of the Year Award** is a way for you, the membership, to publically recognizing a member in good standing who selflessly went above and beyond for the club or for collecting during 2024. **All VGCA members except elected Board members are eligible to receive the award. Elected Board members are NOT eligible to receive the award.**

All members who attend the October and December meetings will have an opportunity to vote for the person of their choice. A ballot box and slips of paper will be available. Just write in the name of the member you think should get the award and the reason you think he or she should get it (what he or she has done in 2024). No preselected list of names will be presented for voting – this is your choice from start to finish.

After the votes have been counted the person being recognized will be announced at the January 2024 meeting and presented with his/her award.

Reasons for being selected include, but are not limited to:

- Writing articles or books about guns to further collecting
- Volunteering for show set-up or security, or other duties before or during the shows
- Volunteering other services to the VGCA, such as setting up trips, administering club programs or representing the VGCA
- Giving presentations at meetings
- Promoting the VGCA or gun collecting as a whole, (such as at the VGCA table at Chantilly)
- Putting on displays at our shows and other shows to promote collecting
- Recruiting new members to the VGCA

Remember – Only those members in good standing who attend the October and December meetings, will be able to vote for the **Member of the Year Award for 2024.**

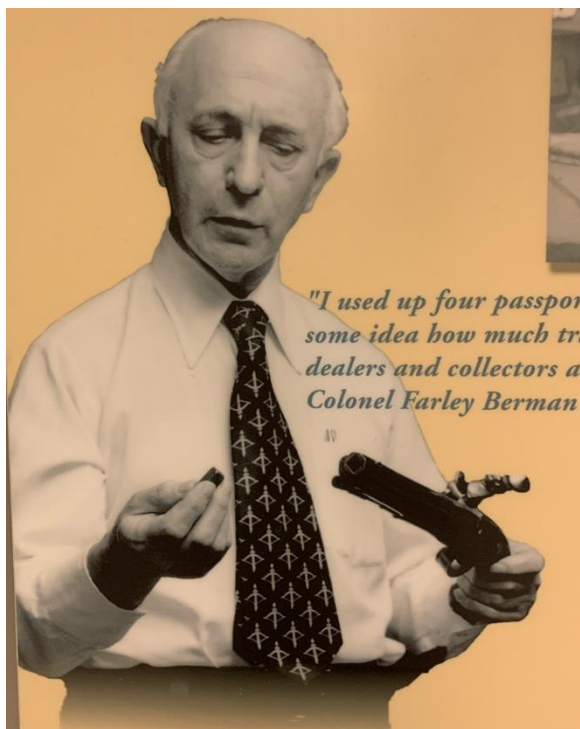
Come to the meetings and vote for your choice.

★ 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

A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM: THE BERMAN MUSEUM in ANNISTON, ALABAMA Part 1

By Marc Gorelick



Anniston, Alabama is much more than the home of the Civilian Marksmanship Program South, the CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park, nearby Talladega Motor Speedway and Anniston Arsenal. On the north side of Anniston is a park-like area that houses a complex of museums and botanical gardens - the Anniston Museum of Natural History, the Longleaf Botanical Gardens, and the Berman Museum.

The Berman Museum houses one of the most remarkable collections of weapons and artifacts assembled by a single collector and his wife. Also known as the Berman Museum of World History, it not only showcases, but is built around, Farley and Germaine Berman's collection of more than 6,000 pieces of art, antiquities, arms, and armor that was accumulated during more than four decades of collecting.

Farley Berman was born in Anniston in 1910. He attended the University of Alabama and then graduated with a law degree from Emory University and practiced law in Atlanta, Georgia. He joined the U.S. Army Reserve in 1937 and later active duty with the U.S. Army in 1941 following the attack on Pearl Harbor. Most of his military service was spent in intelligence. He was assigned to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and stationed in North Africa. How he met his wife would make for a good movie plot. His future wife, Germaine Kinne, was born in Paris, France in 1908. She escaped France following the German invasion and joined the Free French intelligence agency, the Bureau Central de Renseignements et d'Action (Central Bureau for Intelligence and Action or BCRA). She was stationed in French colonial North Africa where one of her duties was investigating double agents. Berman and Kinne met during a search for a Nazi double agent. Unknown to each other both were looking for the same enemy agent and each at first suspected the other. As Berman later said, "I was spying on her and she was spying on me." They fell in love and were married in 1945. After the war they

returned to Anniston to live and amass their collection. Berman made an agreement with the city of Anniston to donate their collection to Anniston if they would build a facility to house it and the 25,000-square-foot, \$1.5-million Museum was opened in 1996. Germaine Berman died in 1993, age 84 and Farley died in 1999 at the age of 88.



Three Winchesters: Left - M1866 owned by Czar Alexander II of Russia. Upper right - <1873 Presented by Edward Prince of Wales to an Indian nobleman. Lower right – M1866 a gift from French Emperor Napoleon III to Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. The stock and fore grip are ivory. Photo – author.

The museum galleries occupy two floors with several galleries on each floor. The first floor starts with the American West gallery and includes examples of guns from dating from the American Revolution up to the Spanish-American War. It starts a theme of provenance that continues throughout the exhibit in that many of the weapons and artifacts are documented to famous historical personages, including European royalty. Those that are not documented to a specific individual are put into the wider historical context by the signage. For example one display case in the American West Gallery holds three Winchesters, two Model 1866 and one Model 1873. According to the signage, Tsar Alexander II of Russia owned one of the 1866 rifles and the other was a gift from French Emperor Napoleon III to Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. The Winchester 1873 was a gift from Edward, Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) to an Indian nobleman in 1875. The Bermans were obviously discriminating collectors. Interspersed with the guns and other weapons were pieces of art and other objects associated with historical persons or the history of the time period. For instance, the first gallery also contains 18 bronzes by Frederic Remington, the great western artist.



Patterson Colt with charger. The charger allowed simultaneous loading of all five cylinders with pre-measured powder charges. Photo by author.

The galleries and displays are divided by historical era or events, although this division is not always precisely followed. Some of the weapons and artifacts overlap. However, both the weapons and artifacts in each display case support each other to tell as complete story as possible. Some of the galleries/displays on the first floor are the U.S. Civil War, the Crimean War, Napoleonic wars, Catherine the Great, the Renaissance, the Middle Ages, Rome/Byzantium, the Crusades and Ancient Greece. Throughout the galleries are displays that focus on important historical figures and the weapons and articles associated with them, although not necessarily belonging to them. One of these is Leonardo Da Vinci which features a “leaf gun,” an early form of mitrailleuse, organ gun or volley gun. Leonardo



counted the leaf gun among his many inventions. The “leaf” was a smoothbore touchhole gun barrel. Leaf guns had several leaves or barrels mounted on a wooden platform. Once loaded the first leaf would be fired and all the rest would follow suit. An early “leaf gun” is displayed along with drawings of various volley gun designs from Leonardo Da Vinci’s sketchbook. The

museum also has a 1540 double-barreled pistol from about 1540 that belonged to Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Spain.

Set of Belgian percussion pistols made for Jefferson Davis. It was part of the cargo of a Confederate blockade runner captured by a Union warship. Photo – author.



One of the most impressive weapons on display is a royal scimitar dating from 1587 that belonged to Shah Abbas I the Great who ruled the Persian Empire from 1588 to 1629. The sword, with its Damascus steel blade, is ornamented with 1,295 rose-cut diamonds, 31 rubies, and a single emerald of 10 carats which are set in three pounds of gold. The scimitar was sent as a gift to Catherine the Great when she ascended the Russian throne in 1762. It disappeared in 1917 from the Russian Treasury during the Revolution and didn’t mysteriously reappear until after World War II. The museum also has a 1540 double-barreled pistol from about 1540 that belonged to Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Spain.

Matched Saxon wheellock pistols (1590), ivory inlays, with matching cartouche box & winding key. Photo – author.

The galleries on the second floor include displays of weapons from the four major wars of the 20th Century: World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam. The display cases are organized by country, and

while they don't display every weapon used by each belligerent, they give a fair representation of the weapons, accessories and accoutrements, uniforms and other equipment. For those who are into World War II dictators, there are also some very rare items, including one of Benito Mussolini's dress swords, a set of personal silver teas service that belonged to Adolph Hitler, Heinrich Himmler's personal single shot Krupp-Laufstahl target rifle, and a Japanese flag captured on Saipan. There is a mockup of a World War I trench and shelter that you can walk through and get close to an Enfield .303 rifle with a Martyn Periscope that allowed soldiers to fire from the trenches without exposing themselves. There is also a display about Pearl Harbor.



Above and left: Jewel encrusted scimitar of Persian Shah Abbas the Great (ruled 1588-1629) gifted to Catherine the Great of Russia in 1762. It is decorated with 1,295 diamonds, 31 rubies, one large emerald and 3 pounds of gold. Photos - author.

The "Arts of Asia" gallery on the second floor displays ancient art, ceramics, furniture, sculptures, and yes, a few weapons, from China, India, Japan, Korea and Nepal. The Chinese artifacts start with the Xia Dynasty (2070-1600 BC) the Zhou Qin, Han, Tang, Song, Ming and Qing

Dynasties. There are also displays of Cloisonné (including edged weapons with Cloisonné grips and sheaths), and an impressive display of jade objects. The Japanese display includes a complete suite of samurai armor. Most of the items were donated by the Foo family.



French flintlock Hand Mortar (grenade launcher) in the Napoleonic section. The Manufacture d'Armes de Saint Etienne made it for the French Navy during the late 1700's. The letters "AN" under a "Phrygian" hat indicate that this gun was used during the French Revolution. Photo – author.

The galleries are well organized and the displays are well lit so it is easy to see the objects. Some of the display cases could have held more items. The signage for each gallery is large and provides good background and historical context. The display signage is also excellent – easy to read with large type and next to the object. While in the case of weapons the signage didn't give all of the minute details, the descriptions were more than adequate and did a good job of putting the weapons and objects into their historical context or in explaining the weapon's links to historical personages.



An example of a 15-barrel "leaf" for a volley gun from around 1500. Photo - author.



On January 14, 1858 Italian nationalist Felice Orsini threw this percussion grenade and two others at Napoleon II's carriage in a failed assassination attempt. Despite having percussion caps mounted on the end of the spikes so that one will fire no matter where it lands, this grenade was a dud and Napoleon II was unharmed. Photo – author.

There is a small gift shop in the Berman Museum and a larger one in the nearby Anniston Museum of Natural History. I didn't notice any restaurant or café in the Berman Museum. There is free parking.

The museum's is located at
800 Museum Drive
Anniston, AL 36206

It is a short and easy drive north of Interstate 20 (Exit 188) on Rt.1 / 431. There are numerous hotels near I-20.

The Berman Museum and Anniston Museum of Natural History are open:
Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with last admission sold at 4:30 PM;
Sunday from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, with last admission sold at 4:30 PM.
Mondays during the summer.

Admission is:

Adult - \$12

Senior - \$10

Child (0-3) - \$0. Above 3 years - \$8



A display in the First World War gallery showing some British and French weapons. Photo – author.



Rare Pritchard-Greener bayonet with a Webley No. 1, Mark VI revolver. British Army Captain Arthur Pritchard of the 3rd Royal Berkshire Regiment patented this weapon in 1916 which combined the standard Webley No. 1 Mk VI

revolver with a detachable bayonet. The bayonet was a cut-down French Gras with an 8 ¼" long blade and a brass grip. It is retained by a hexagonal nut set onto a hollow in the top of the pommel. The sprung retaining latch is of steel, and is retained by a pin through the short brass cross guard. Only a few hundred were made by Greener. Never issued officially, the Pritchard-Greener bayonet was sold as a Private Purchase to officers as an addition to the revolver for trench raiding parties and close-quarter trench combat. Photo – author.

Part 2 of the Berman Museum review will describe the superb collection of hidden and disguised guns used by intelligence agents and assassins. Look for it in the Nov-Dec 2024 issue of our newsletter!



★ Show-n-Tell ★

NOTE: For anyone bringing in items for Show-n-Tell - please hold the item up so the members in attendance can see it. This will also help your photographer get a sharp picture and allow people who could not attend the meeting to see it clearly in the newsletter. We also ask that you provide a Fact Sheet (copies of the one below will be provided at the meeting) to assist the newsletter editor in accurately describing your item. 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): _____

A message from your VGCA Photographer--

I ask those who bring items in for Show-and-Tell to PLEASE hold the item UP and in view of the audience so that they can be seen clearly, and so that I might be able to get a decent picture for the newsletter. PLEASE stand behind the tables and simply hold the item at chest or waist level, face forward, stand still, and give me a five or six seconds to grab a decent photograph of the Show-and-Tell item.

If you do not want your Show-and-Tell item to be shared with other VGCA members, just tell me in advance and I will not attempt to take a photo of it.

I do the photography for the VGCA and its' members, not for myself, and not for any personal gain. Your assistance in documenting your items will be a great help. I spend an average of five hours editing the pictures for the newsletter and not having a clear view of the subject has been a great and constant frustration for me.

Your help will assist in making a better newsletter for all VGCA members. Thank you!

Jack Looney

SEPTEMBER SHOW-N-TELL



Member 1 (*at left*) shared a U.S. Army Krag-Jorgenson model 1898 in .30/40 caliber. This was the Army's first bolt action repeater and was used through the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection. The Krag had a relatively short life in front line service in the U.S. Army, only lasting a little over a decade (1892 to 1903) before it was superseded by the Springfield M1903. This example was made by the Springfield Armory in 1903 and was among

the last produced. Member 1 acquired it this year through CMP, noting that many of these "VFW returnees" were "rough and pricey."

Member 2 (*right*) brought in a Soviet Mosin/Nagant M91/30 PU "sniper." The USSR started developing scoped versions of the 91/30 in 1931 with the PE and later PEM variants. The PU was developed in 1942 and was produced in great numbers, accounting for significant Axis casualties on the Eastern Front during WWII. Chambered in the standard 7.62x54 Rimmed caliber, the PU featured a 3.5 power optic and bent down bolt handle. This example was made in 1943. Member 2 recalled taking a chance on it 20 years ago, buying it for \$300.





Members 3 and 4 both brought in Beretta PM-12 submachineguns in 9mm (*above*). The PM12 was Italy's modern post-war submachinegun and was produced from 1959 to 1989. Procured by both the Italian military and police, the PM12 used magazines from the earlier Beretta M38. These examples were built from parts kits. The conversion from full auto to a semi-automatic involved taking an open bolt SMG and making it into a hammer-fired closed bolt system. These have been registered as Short Barrel Rifles.

Member 4 also brought an Italian BM-59 (*right*). The BM-59 is chambered in 7.62mm NATO and was made in three variants – the infantry model, the paratrooper model, and this one, which is the “Alpini” for mountain troops. It features a folding stock, a bipod, and a grenade launcher. Based on the U.S. M1 Garand, all BM-59s use detachable magazines and were made from 1959 to 1968. This example was made by James River Armory.



Member 5 shared his CZ Bren II MS (*right*). This is the civilian version of the service rifle that the Czech Republic intends to fully field by 2025. It has a short stroke gas piston action chambered in 5.56mm NATO. It features a monolithic upper and a carbon-fiber lower, making it very light weight. This example is a pistol with a folding arm brace and an 11-inch barrel. It came with the new MagPul clear magazine.



Member 7 shared his Mosin-Nagant M1891 (*above*) chambered in 7.62x54R. Despite years of domestic production, the Imperial Russian Army found itself desperately short of small arms during WWI. The Russian government subsequently contracted with Remington Arms to make 1.5 million M1891s and with New England Westinghouse to make another 1.8 million. Less than 470,000 were actually delivered to Russia before the 1917 communist revolution resulted in Vladimir Lenin cancelling the contracts. To prevent the companies from going bankrupt, the U.S. Army purchased 280,000 designated as the “U.S. Rifle, 7.62mm, Model of 1916.” Many were sold to U.S. civilians as well. This example was made by Westinghouse in about 1916 and was later ended up in Finland. Member 7 purchased it from another VGCA member in 2024.



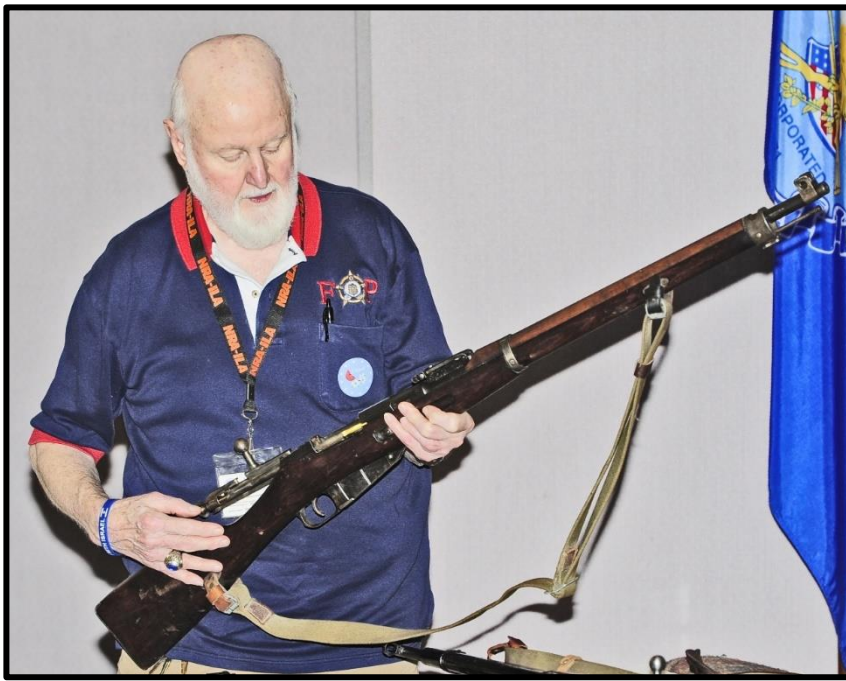
Member 6 brought in a Sako-made Finnish Civil Guard M39 Mosin-Nagant (*left*). The M39 was the product of the Finnish government looking to standardize on a single rifle design for both the Army and the Civil Guard or SK. A committee was established to combine the best characteristics of the M27 and M28/30 into one rifle for general use by all the armed forces. The Army came up with a new design, while the civil guard maintained that the M28/30 was a superior weapon as-is. As trials showed that the M28/30 was indeed superior, some of the improvements of Army prototypes were incorporated into the new design, designated M39, and officially adopted by the Army on April 14, 1939.

Production of the M39 was just getting under way when the Winter War with Russia began in November of 1939 and continued through the Winter and Continuation wars. The M39 served alongside older models in Finnish service due to the limited numbers of M39s that could be produced under wartime conditions.

The M39 is considered to be the best Mosin Nagant for combat conditions.

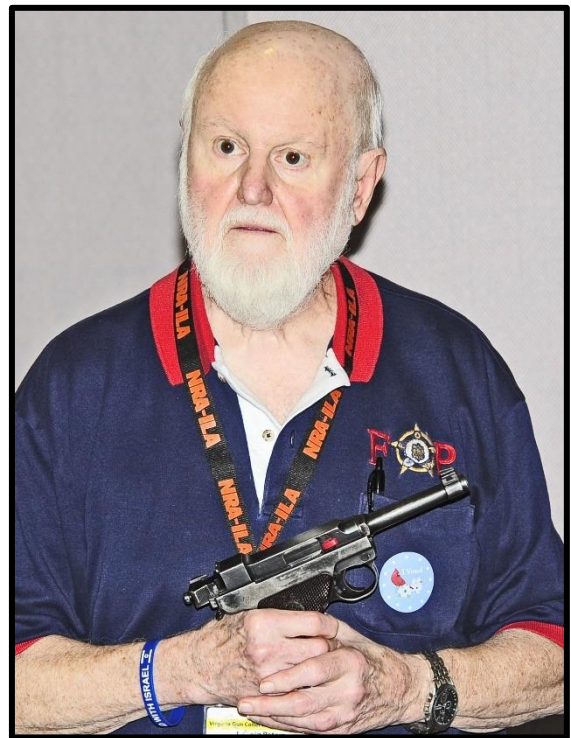
The stock is thicker and more robust than any other variants. Very early production used existing straight stocks but these were quickly changed to add the pistol grip. The stock also incorporated dual sling fittings for both shoulder carry and across the back or chest ski-troop or cavalry carry. The barrel is slightly thinner than the M27 to offset the weight of the heavier stock. The Civil Guard acquired 10,500 M39s made specifically for them by Sako between 1942 and 1944. They can be identified by the letters "SkY" stamped over the serial number. SkY marked M39s are among the rarer examples of the M39 rifle. This example was purchased from Patricia Burns in 2008.

Editor's note: Yes, I know the descriptions of Members 6's and 7's Show-n-Tell pieces are out of sequential order, but I did that on purpose for spacing!



Member 8 brought in a Finnish Model 1928 Civil Guard Short Rifle in 7.62x54R (*left*). The Finns produced 33,016 from 1928-1930 and his was made in 1929. His rifle has the “SY” stamp on top of the chamber indicating the High Command of the Civil Guards along with a Tikkakoski barrel stamp and the “D” stamp indicating it was rechambered for “D46 and D166” ammunition. He bought it from Nationwide Sports Distributors in 1989 for \$40!

Member 8 also showed us his Swedish Husqvarna M/40 Lahti in 9mm Parabellum (*right*). The Husqvarna Model 40, or M/40 was a Swedish copy of the Finnish Lahti pistol and was produced under license from 1940 to 1946 (though the first weren't delivered to the Swedish military until 1942). Sweden originally adopted the Walther P38 in 1939, but Germany's entry into World War II brought an end to the export of those pistols to Sweden. Sweden then adopted the Finnish-designed Lahti pistol, but was unable to import L-35s due to Finnish small arm needs as a result of the on-going conflicts between Finland and the USSR during the Winter War and the Continuation War.



The Swedish M/40s featured several slight differences from the Finnish L-35s. The grips of the M/40 have the Husqvarna “crown H” motif molded in and the front sight was slightly larger. The barrel is also slightly longer on the M/40 than the Finnish Lahti with the M/40s trigger guard is heavier/more robust. The Swedish version does not have the loaded chamber indicator or lock-retaining spring of the Finnish Lahti. Other modifications included a change in the gun steel quality specifications. This was not successful as M/40s started to develop cracks in the frame.

This example came with a holster, 2 spare magazines, a loading tool and a cleaning rod. He purchased it at a gun show in 2015.



★ 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. Shows highlighted in **yellow** are shows with a collector focus.

VIRGINIA – 2024

- Nov 2-3, 2024 – Harrisonburg, VA – Rockingham County Fairgrounds – *Showmasters*
- Nov 9-10, 2024 – Richmond, VA – Richmond Raceway Complex – *Showmasters*
- Nov 16-17, 2024 – Fishersville, VA – Augusta Expo – *Showmasters*
- Nov 22-24, 2024 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*
- Nov 30-Dec 1, 2024 – Hampton, VA – Hampton Roads Convention Center – *SGK*
- Dec 7-8, 2024 – Fredericksburg, VA – Fraternal Order of Eagles (**new location!**) – *SGK*
- Dec 21-22, 2024 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Dec 27-29, 2024 – Chantilly, VA – Dulles Expo Center – *Showmasters*

MARYLAND – 2024

- Nov 2-3, 2024 – Easton, MD – Easton Vol Fire Dept – *Eastern Shore Arms Collectors*
- Nov 9-10, 2024 – Frederick, MD – Frederick Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Dec 7-8, 2024 – West Friendship, MD – Howard Cnty Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*

PENNSYLVANIA – 2024

- Oct 26-27, 2024 – York, PA – York Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Oct 26-27, 2024 – Gettysburg, PA - All-Star Events Complex - *Stephen W. Sylvia - Autumn Gettysburg Civil War & Militaria Show*
- Nov 2-3, 2024 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Nov 2-3, 2024 – Quarryville, PA – Solanco Fairgrounds – *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 8-9, 2024 – Gettysburg, PA – Gettysburg Fire Dept – *Hallowed Ground Militaria & Historic Arms Show*
- Nov 9-10, 2024 – Kempton, PA – Kempton Community Center – *Jaeger Arms*
- Nov 16-17, 2024 – Allentown, PA - Parkview Inn & Conference Center - *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 16-17, 2024 – Hermitage, PA – Hickory VFW 6166 – *Canon's Gun Room*
- Nov 16-17, 2024 – Leesport, PA – Leesport Farmers Market – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Nov 16-17, 2024 – Sellersville, PA – Forrest Lodge VTW245 – *Jaeger Arms*
- Nov 17, 2024 – Portland, PA – William Pensyl Social Hall – *Portland Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1*
- Nov 23, 2024 – Horsham, PA – Horsham Township Community Center – *Military Living History Association – A Soldiers Christmas and Military Flea Market*
- Nov 23-24, 2024 – Gettysburg, PA – Allstar Events Complex – *Eagle Shows*
- Nov 23-24, 2024 – Kutztown, PA – Kutztown Fairgrounds – *Appalachian Promotions*
- Dec 7-8, 2024 – Allentown, PA – Allentown Fairgrounds – *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- Dec 7-8, 2024 – Treose, PA – Radisson Philadelphia Northeast – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 14-15, 2024 – Harrisburg, PA – PA Farm Show Complex – *C&E Gun Shows*
- Dec 14-15, 2024 – Monroeville, PA – Monroeville Convention Center – *Showmasters*
- Dec 20-22, 2024 – Oaks, PA – Greater Philadelphia Expo Center – *Eagle Shows*
- Dec 29-30, 2024 – Allentown, PA - Parkview Inn & Conference Center - *Eagle Shows*

SPECIAL EVENTS / SHOWS – 2024

➔ **Nov 9-10, 2024 – Tulsa, OK** – Expo Square (Tulsa Fairgrounds) – *Wanenmacher* – World’s Largest Gun Show – 4200+ tables!

➔ **Nov 16-17, 2024 - Cleveland, OH** – I-X Center – *Ohio Gun Collectors Association* – Association of Ohio Longrifle Collectors, Contemporary Longrifle Association, Kentucky Longrifle Association, and The National Muzzle Loader Rifle Association

NOTE: OGCA Gun Shows are not open to the public – they are restricted to members and invited guests only. That said, several VGCA members are also members of the OGCA and can sponsor you if you are interested in attending.

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 regard 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. Items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

VGCA Logo Available at Lands’ End

Here's how to order your apparel:

1. Go to the VGCA store on Lands’ End business:
<https://business.landsend.com/store/vgca>
 - a. It must be the URL shown above. **Do not** go to the regular Lands’ End website. It will not show our logo options.
2. Above the photo on the home page click on “Men” or “Women”
3. On the drop-down menu select what you are interested in. For example, Men>Activewear >Tops gives you 19 different styles and fabrics of men’s shirts. When you have selected an item click on it and select your color, size and quantity. Then on the lower right-hand corner of the screen click on the blue “Apply Logos” button.
4. On the next screen click on the VGCA logo to choose it and it will open the “select a Location” menu showing where you can have the VGCA logo embroidered. Choose a location and then scroll down to the “Apply Logo” button in the lower right corner and click it. It will return you to your garment page.
5. If you are satisfied with your garment, color, size and logo location click on the “Add to Bag” button in the lower right corner.
6. Then you can then go to checkout or continue shopping. When you checkout it will show an additional \$8.95 for the embroidery.



If you have any questions, you can reach Bruce Buchner at 703-339-8212 or Buchnerb@cox.net

FOR SALE:

✪ **FINNISH MOSIN-NAGANT** is authored by VGCA member Matt DiRisio and published by Wet Dog Publications. The list price is \$99.95. It is 584 pages long with over 1,500 color and black and white photographs.



For ordering information go to the Wet Dog Publications website at:

<https://www.fnbrowning.com/book-finnish-mosin-nagant>.

FOR SALE:

✪ After more than two and a half years of research, VGCA member Bill Vanderpool has 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 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:

✪ VGCA member Larry Babcock has 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 / or text to 703-856-2561.

WANT TO BUY:

✪ Browning lever action Gold Medallion, short action, blue or silver.

Also: Browning lever action with pistol grip and take down. Prefer .308 but any considered.

Call King at 703 576-7016, if no answer leave name and number with brief description.

Thank you, King von Schilling

WANT TO BUY:

★ Seeking a Bagnold Sun Compass, used during WWII by British desert troops. It was mounted on their vehicles. Must be complete and in working order. Contact Jack via email to looney.house@verizon.net or text to 703-999-9458.



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.