



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG



Est. 1983 (A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G 8162

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## December 2010 VGCA Newsletter



**Presentation at the October 28, 2009 Meeting of the VGCA:** The meeting featured what by all accounts was a magnificent tour of the NRA National Firearms Museum's William B. Ruger Room (Left photo: Phil Schreier, Senior Curator of the NRA National Firearms Museum addressing the members) to view some of the newest acquisitions, over 400 guns that belonged to **Robert E. Petersen**, the former publisher of *Guns and Ammo* magazine, *Petersen's Hunting*, and *Sports Afield*. The exhibit included Gatling guns, Herman Goering's Merkel shotgun; Annie Oakley's shotgun and pistol; JFK's Colt New Frontier revolver; the famed "vampire" revolver; and many examples of pristine, beautiful Boss, Purdeys, Holland and Hollands, Westley Richards, Fabri, Ithaca, Parkers, often richly engraved and inlaid. Feedback from those in attendance was uniformly positive and laudatory. As an added treat, **Richard Jones**, curator of the Pattern Room in the UK was available and served as a guest speaker. He covered with great detail the challenges and voluminous red tape that is erected to keep British citizens from owning firearms. As a result, today there are only 200,000 firearm owners left in a country of over 42 million people. The regulations are mind-boggling and

complex, with impediments designed to challenge and thwart each step of complying with the law, but if you do not comply with every single one of them, and do not turn in your firearm(s), you become a felon and are subject to a five year minimum mandatory prison sentence. That is why most people just turned them in, rather than face the threat of prison because of a simple paperwork mistake or failure to keep the firearm in a state approved storage cabinet or facility. This should serve as a further warning to firearms owners and collectors in the US to research your political candidates at all levels and especially watch their sources of contributions and vote carefully and accordingly. They will not rest in their mission to restrict firearms for the law abiding, and once the camels nose is under the tent, one will find one's self sleeping with smelly camels. (Many thanks go to **John Frietsch** for kindly sharing some notes on the presentation. Ed.)

❖ **UPCOMING Meetings and Events:** The December 2<sup>nd</sup> **NRA NFM-VGCA Special Presentation Series** was to feature Winchester expert and author **Edmund E. Lewis**, whose book “*The Story of the Winchester 1 of 1000 and 1 of 100 Rifles.*” Unfortunately, Mr. Lewis regrettably had to beg off again due to health issues so the speaker is still To Be Determined (TBD). But, not to worry, refreshments and pizza WILL still be served.

❖ **Holiday Opportunity! For those of you who wish to purchase items and gifts for the Holidays, Phil Schreier** said that on the December 2 meeting night, the NRA/NFM Museum Store will remain open for Christmas shoppers. Also, there will be an auction of gun related items, mostly books, holsters and ammunition\* from the museum vault that has been deemed surplus to the collection needs. (\***PLEASE NOTE:** the ammo is of indeterminate origin and is sold solely for collector appreciation and/or components. **It is NOT INTENDED for SHOOTING.**) The auction will be open for previewing from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. The auction will be conducted at 4:00pm by silent bids and will cease at 6:00pm.

❖ **Presentation Volunteers Needed:** We will need presenters for 2011 upcoming monthly meetings. Call **Addison Hurst** now to request your 2011. Remember, you do not need to do it solo (grab a partner or friend) and it does not have to be a marathon. Short and direct works well; and it does not have to have slides. If you wish, there are members who will assist if you wish to use a PowerPoint presentation.

❖ **Upcoming 2011 Elections for the VGCA Board of Directors:** It is nomination time for the elections of the VGCA Board of Directors. Incumbents **Jim Burgess, Kelly Cook, and Dave Litchfield** are running for full 2 year terms. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at the upcoming December 2 meeting. The Association President has asked Emory Hackman to coordinate the Election committee and nominations. If you wish to nominate one or all of the current Board member(s), someone else, or even run yourself, give it serious consideration. All nominations should be made at the meeting or forwarded to Emory Hackman via email at [emory1biz@verizon.net](mailto:emory1biz@verizon.net). Candidates and nominees should be prepared to submit a candidacy statement and photo (optional) by the first week in January to accompany the mailed ballot

#### **Thoughts from the podium:**

Thanks to all who helped make the show a success. Security went well with no problems. Thanks to John Frietsch and Dave Litchfield and all the security crew. Thanks to Lee Turner and the set up crew. The gun evaluation table did well and the public seemed to enjoy it. Overnight security was good, and we owe a special thank you to Bill York and Karl Karash. Thanks to Ed Johnson for getting the big electric sign in place. The displays were outstanding and congratulations to all who displayed and to those who won. The gate was low, but there were four other shows in competition with us. The advertizing was also good – thanks to Ed Costello. I still believe the market is being glutted by too many shows, and it is getting worse every year. It was a fun show with few if any problems. The club ended the year in the black instead of red, a good thing indeed. Thanks to all who chipped in this past year — your efforts are always appreciated. I hope to see you after Thanksgiving on December 2 at our last meeting in 2010.

~ Addison Hurst, VGCA President

**VGCA Meeting of October 28, 2010 Show and Tell:** **Bob Sears** provided a brief and as expected, excellent explanation of the design issue associated with the Remington Model 700 rifle adjustable trigger/safety design. Specifically, the alleged flaw appears to create a situation which results in unintended discharges when flipping off the safeties. First reported a few years ago, this issue has recently gained renewed attention. **Larry Hare** presented a pre-war military clone/cadet bolt action spring air rifle, a Haenel Model 33 Standard and a recently acquired and very uncommon variation, a Haenel Model 33 Junior that he lucked into at the Roanoke, Virginia Airgun Show last weekend. **Ed Johnson** showed two beautiful examples of Colt double action Model 1878 revolvers, an Alaskan Model 1902 in .45 Colt, and a Philippine Model DA, also in .45 Colt. **John Morris** pulled out a 1930 Japanese double barreled, 28mm, Type 90 flare pistol that he acquired at a recent Louisville, Kentucky gun show. The quality and workmanship was very impressive. He also showed us four different examples of WWI German 77mm field gun expended brass cases with some rather uncommon variations in case base construction. These cases obviously fall into a rather unique and specialized area of cartridge collecting that many of us have never explored before. **Addison Hurst** shared his 1943 Irwin-Pederson M1 carbine. Carbiners manufactured by

this furniture company were plagued with many quality control problems and their government contract was soon cancelled. Consequently, only 1000 Irwin-Pederson carbines were actually produced; however, some of these were assembled by other contractors after the I-P contract was terminated. (Many thanks to **Larry Hare** for taking the S&T notes in my absence. Ed.)

## \*\*\* 2010 Fall VGCA Gun Show \*\*\*

**The Historical and Educational Display Awards** for the 2010 Fall Gunshow went to the following members:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place Award:** Hank Hagenau, “French Arms Transformed Through the Centuries...”
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award:** Karl Karash, “The U.S. Model 1909 Revolver”
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award:** Jack Bokinsky, “Remington Model 511, 512, and 514 Bolt-Action Rifles”
- **Judges’ Choice Award:** J.J. Roberts, “Remington Model 8 and 81 Auto loading Rifles”

Chief Judge **Jim Burgess** would like to acknowledge the assistance of **Larry Hare** and **Joe Roberts** as the judging committee for this show. Jim likes to get different sets of eyes to judge at each show and is always looking for new volunteers. All the displays were well done and researched and all deserve a hand for a lot of hard work, patience, and making their collections available for our inspection and appreciation. (Photos of the Displays and Award Presentations are on the Photo Page)

**VGCA Gun Show Attendance for the Past Six (6) Years:** the show attendance was in the fourth place for Fall Gun Shows. Our Fall shows are typically less well attended than the Spring shows. This may be due to fall cleaning duties and yard work, hunting seasons, and saving for the Holidays. However, the Association did end 2010 in the plus column. A breakdown follows:

Spring 2005 (Hugo’s)	1,609	Fall 2005 (PWC)	1,418
Spring 2006 (PWC)	1,631	Fall 2006 (PWC)	922
Spring 2007 (PWC)	1,707	Fall 2007 (PWC)	1,236
Spring 2008 (PWC)	cancelled	Fall 2008 (PWC)	754
Spring 2009 (PWC)	2,059	Fall 2009 (PWC)	1,307
Spring 2010 (PWC)	1,723	Fall 2010 (PWC)	1,194

**A note from the Security Chief:** Once again; I would like to thank **Dave Litchfield** who acted as Asst. Security Chief. Thanks, David. As for our crew, like last time, I was fortunate to have a great bunch of guys. In alphabetical order (with a couple of new people on the list) we have: **Bill Alexander, Julian Aylor (Safety), Jim Burgess, Vernon Cochran, Terry Fearnley, Fred Fees (Safety), Jim Frigiola, Guy Hall, Bob Hardy, Larry Hare, Gary Holderman, Addison Hurst, Karl “1911” Karash, George Kirschbaum, Bill Ludwig, Dave McKenzie, Chip Miller (Safety), Steve Phillipy, Joe Roberts, Lindsay Schaff, Tom Schwieger, Gary Sherrill, Lantz Simons, Lee Turner, Carl Warhurst, Reid West (Safety), and Bill York.** Thanks to **Sheriff Glen Hill** and **Chief Deputy John Collier** for stopping by. **Larry Burman**, who is always at the side door for the entire weekend has some serious knee problems and was unable to make it. We wish him all the best with the cortisone injections and are looking forward to your return for the next show. If I have left anyone off the list, or messed up the spelling of your names, please contact me at either number on the masthead. It will be corrected in next newsletter. If you would like to help out with either Safety or Security at the next show please call me. The Spring dates are March 25th, (vendor set-up), with the show on the 26th and 27th. The coffee was good. *John Frietsch*

**Table Setup - A note from the Show Chairman:** **Rick Nahas** would like to thank all of those who volunteered to set up the tables for the show, and in alphabetical order they are: **Vernon Cochran, Ed Costello, Bart Legget, Dave Litchfield, Joe Roberts, Tom Schwieger\*, Ben Sims, and Lee Turner.** A thank you goes out to the **4-H “Trigger Time”** youngsters as well for all their fine assistance, both at “tear down” and at the gate. **\*Tom Schwieger** was not mentioned for the last show, but has been helping set up tables for several shows now. Thanks, Tom. If anyone would like to help with this at the next show, call my number on the masthead. Table set-up will be on March 24, exact time TBA, but usually around 1PM, or whenever the tables arrive!

## Fall 2010 VGCA Gun Show Photos



↑ 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award: Hank Hagenau, “French Arms Transformed Through the Centuries...”



↑ 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award: Karl Karash, “The U.S. Model 1909 Revolver”



← 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award: Jack Bokinsky, “Remington Model 511, 512, and 514 Bolt-Action Rifles” Nice figure on those stocks!

Fall 2010 VGCA Gun Show Photos (Page 2)



← **Judges' Choice Award:** J.J. Roberts, "Remington Model 8, and 81 Auto loading Rifles"

↙ A thank you goes out to the 4-H "Trigger Time" for all their fine assistance, both at "tear down" and at the gate.

↘ Some of the fine wares for sale on display.



October 28, 2010 Meeting Photos



↖ Display of Gatling guns in the NRA National Firearms Museum's William B. Ruger Room.

↗ Scale model of Gatling gun in .45 Colt caliber.

## October 28, 2010 Meeting Photos (Page 2)



↑ Ed Johnson's Colt Alaskan Revolver in .45 Colt.

↗ 1930 Japanese double barreled, 28mm, Type 90 flare pistol

**Obituary Notice:** We recently received some sad news from Roger Troup at Fairfax Rod & Gun Club that VGCA Life Member **Phil Valentini** has passed away. Phil often helped with show security as recently as last year and was always willing to help where needed so he will be missed. Thanks to Jim Burgess for passing on the information.

### Upcoming Events and Shows

**Words to the Wise:** There are sometimes changes in schedules by gun show promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to verify before driving to a show. Historical events and lectures, re-enactments, auctions (national, international, and local estate auctions) are all welcome. **Collector shows are highlighted in yellow.**

#### VIRGINIA 2010

- ☉ **December 2, 2010 – Fairfax, VA - VGCA Meeting** with NRA National Firearms Museum Store extended hours from 3:00PM to 8:00PM for Holiday Shopping.
- ☉ **December 4-5, 2010 – Richmond, VA – Showplace - C&E Gun Show**
- ☉ **December 11-12, 2010 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – C&E Gun Show**
- ☉ **December 11-12, 2010 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503 - Old Dominion Shows**
- ☉ **December 18-19, 2010 – Salem, VA – Salem Civic Center - C&E Gun Show**

#### MARYLAND 2010

- ☉ **December 11-12, 2010 - Parkville, MD - Tall Cedars Bldg., Putty Hill Shopping Center - Appalachian Promotions**

#### PENNSYLVANIA 2010

- ☉ **December 4-5, 2010 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society. Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm.**
- ☉ **December 11-12, 2010 - Monroeville, PA - Convention Center - Showmasters**
- ☉ **December 11-12, 2010 - Harrisburg, PA - Farm Show Complex – Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors**
- ☉ **December 17-19, 2010 - King of Prussia, PA - Valley Forge Convention Center - valleyforgegunshow.com.**

**I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.**

**~ Winston Churchill**

Address for any Newsletter related matters or submissions is [VGCAnews@cox.net](mailto:VGCAnews@cox.net). Feel free to email items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via email or the mailed hard-copy, please contact Larry Hare at the numbers on page one. V/R, **Bill Chronister**, Newsletter Editor