

VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

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

NRA Affiliate Number G8162 CMP Affiliate Number 026160





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November/December 2019 VGCA Newsletter



President's Comments

Holiday Greetings to all VGCA Members!

There is a lot of ground I need to cover with my comments this month. First, we had a very successful Fall Gun Show. Attendance was up about 10% over our November show last year, the displays were superb, and there were quality firearms for sale. It was truly a collector's show! Many vendors reported good sales and the attendees that I talked to were generous with their praise.



A successful show is the result of a lot of hard work. I would like to thank the entire set-up crew (under Rick Nahas) and security team (led by Steve Gomes) for their attention to detail and contributions to making this one of the smoothest shows in memory. I would especially like to thank one member in particular – George Kirschbaum. He has been working as a security volunteer at our shows for over 25 years and in that time he has only missed one show! George recently celebrated his 90th birthday and we presented him with a special certificate in appreciation of his efforts in support of the VGCA (above right).

We have our annual Potluck Holiday Dinner and Swap Meet coming up on Thursday, December 12th. The club will provide a ham and we are asking our members to bring a side dish or dessert. Spouses and children are welcome. <Continued next page>

On a more serious note, there is very little good news to report from the results of the Virginia elections in November. Both the Virginia House of Delegates and Senate will be controlled by anti-gun Democrats come January. They have already proposed multiple bills taking away basic firearm rights. Make no mistake – this is the greatest threat to gun rights and ownership ever faced in Virginia. The Board is looking at how we can contribute to stemming this anti-gun tide in our state capital, to include participating in rallies and possible association with other groups to protect our Second Amendment Rights. There will definitely be more details announced on this topic in the future.

I wish each of you a Happy Holiday and Merry New Year! Safe travels and I hope to see you on December 12th!

--Bernie Breighner, VGCA President

② October Presentation **②** History of the VGCA



Established in 1983, the Virginia Gun Collectors Association started as just a few individuals meeting around a kitchen table. To remind us of our beginnings, Director Dave Litchfield (*at left*) shared an interesting history lesson that incorporated anecdotes from many of those early members.

Dave opened with a brief overview of the VGCA and our mission, which is as follows:

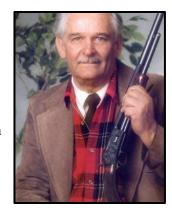
"To encourage and both advance and enhance the collection of firearms of historical, cultural,

and artistic merit. Achievements that increase gun-collecting knowledge and public appreciation of our national firearms heritage shall be recognized. The Association shall endeavor to promote the highest ethical standards among gun collectors and gun dealers and protect our rights under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States by presenting a favorable image of the private ownership of firearms to the general public and to lawmakers."

VGCA Objectives, as stated in our Articles of Incorporation are:

- To strive to improve the professional competence of its members through education
- Educate individuals in gun collecting and conservation methods
- Host regularly scheduled meetings for the membership to facilitate the transfer of knowledge concerning gun collecting
- To establish and maintain liaison and cooperation with the NRA and any other association or group representing gun collectors or the interests of gun collecting
- To cultivate the spirit of good fellowship among members, to provide public service to the community and improve the image of gun collectors
- To maintain and operate a gun show for the benefit of its members, local government bodies and staff, and the general public

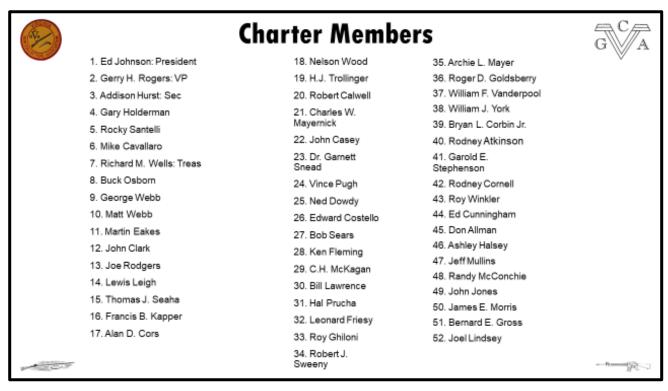
Dave went on to describe how Ed Johnson (*at right*), a Navy veteran of the Korean War and local draftsman/tool and die maker who also collected Civil War and American West firearms and artifacts, gathered a few likeminded individuals to get together around his kitchen table and talk about guns. Soon, the talk turned creating an organization dedicated to the collection of firearms and educating the public. Thus was the VGCA formed. Ed Johnson would go on to serve as the VGCA first President from 1983 to 2000.



The first meeting of the Executive Committee took place on October 4th, 1983. Discussion topics included:

- Raising the annual dues to \$15 per year
- Plan to form 10 committees, to include Show, Security, Membership, Floor Plans, Oversight, etc.
- Looking for a location for the Spring 1984 Gun Show
- Donating \$250 to the NRA-ILA (from a total bank balance of just over \$1300)

Initially, the VGCA consisted of 52 charter members (*see list below*). By October 1984, membership has increased to 96. This year, VGCA membership surpassed 500 for the first time (with a 10% membership jump in 2019 alone, primarily due to the increased publicity resulting from our recruiting table at the Chantilly Gun Shows).



By 1986, the treasury had grown to \$15,000 and membership continued to increase. The VGCA was executing two gun shows per year and in August of that year, the VGCA Gun Show had finally settled at Hugo's in Bealton, Virginia. Our show would remain at that location for the next 17 years. Members Addison Hurst, Jim Burgess, Ed Costello, Phil Hill and others related several fond memories and stories from the Hugo shows! In 2004, Hugo's facility shut down and the VGCA shows moved to the Prince William County Fairgrounds, where we have been ever since (and have just confirmed both spring and fall show dates for 2020).

Dave listed several members who have published books on gun-related topics, including:

Rick Nahas (with Jim Supica) Standard Catalog of Smith & Wesson

Anthony Vanderlinden The Belgian Browning Pistols

FN Mauser Rifles

Browning Auto-5 Shotgun, FN Production FN Browning Pistols, Side Arms that

VIS Radom

Shaped the World

Bill York VIS Radom

Bill Vanderpool The Guns of the FBI

Edward Ezell Small Arms Today

Small Arms of the World

The AK47 Story

Kalashnikov, The Arms and the Man

Handguns of the World

Carlos Davila Small Arms of the World

(Co-author with Ed Ezell)

Larry Babcock M1 Garand Photo Essay

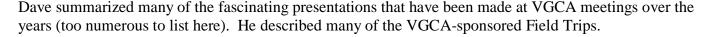
Charles Pate U.S. Handguns of World War II

The Smith & Wesson American Model U.S. Military Arms Inspector Marks The Colt Model 1860 Army Revolver

Ed Costello & Bill York Assisted Elena Kalashnikova translate her book

Kalashnikov: The Inside Story of the Designer and His

Weapon



2013 Smith & Wesson Factory, Springfield, Mass

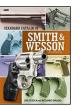
& the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Springfield, Mass

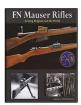
2014 Virginia Military Institute Arms Collection, Lexington, VA

2016 Fabrique Nationale Factory, Columbia, SC

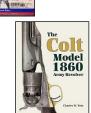
2017 Colt Factory, Hartford, Conn

& the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Springfield, Mass











In 1986, the VGCA Executive Committee purchased cowboy hats to present to noteworthy volunteers. Several members brought in their hats, to include Jim Burgess (*at right*).

From the earliest days of the VGCA (as seen in the notes from the first Executive Committee Meeting mentioned above), the VGCA has had a special relationship with the National Rifle Association (NRA). VGCA meetings moved from Ed Johnson's house to the Fairfax Rod and Gun Club, back to Ed's house (attendance had dropped off at the FR&G), to the



Isaac Walton Park at Centreville, and finally to the NRA Headquarters building in Fairfax, Virginia, where we have been ever since. In addition to meeting at the NRA nine times a year, the VGCA began to support an educational display at the NRA's Annual Membership Meetings. We have supported ten such displays and four individual firearms have received NRA Silver Medallions. Silver Medallions are given to an individual firearm of exceptional rarity or importance. The medallions are numbered, assigned to a specific piece, and are intended to remain with the gun (not the owner). Recent displays sponsored by the VGCA include:

YEAR	SUBJECT	EXHIBITOR
2014	Radom Pistols and Rifles	Wally Ustupski
2016	F.B. Radom VIS, Radom Pistols (below left)	Wally Ustupski
2017	John Dahlgren & the Plymouth Rifle (below center)	Marc Gorelick
2018	Smith & Wesson Aircrewman Prototype Pistols (<i>below right</i>) Arjo Arjala Colt Single Action Army Revolvers	Rick Nahas Phil Hill
2019	Signal Guns and Flare Projectors of WWII (bottom)	Rob Becker











In 2017, the Executive Committee approved a recognition program for the "VGCA Member of the Year." This award honors the VGCA member that has contributed the most to the organization over the last year (sitting members of the Executive Committee are excluded). Votes are cast by VGCA members attending the October and December membership meetings. There are no preprinted ballots – this is an open vote by the membership. Dave listed those recognized as the VGCA Member of the Year as:

YEAR	MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
2017	Dave Litchfield	Recruiter Extraordinaire!
2018	Jack Looney (above, with Bernie)	Long-time VGCA Photographer
2019	Voting concludes at the meeting on 12 Dec 2019	

One of the most significant accomplishments in the early days of the VGCA was the role it played in bringing together two of the greatest weapons designers in the latter half of the 20th Century – Eugene Stoner (AR-15/M-16) and Mikhail Kalashnikov (AK-47). Together with Ed Ezell at the Smithsonian Institute, the VGCA assisted in bringing Mr. Kalashnikov to the United States in 1990 and 1992 to meet with and "talk shop" with Mr. Stoner (*at right, holding the other's weapon*). These sessions were recorded and are available on line.



As the presentation drew to a close, Bernie Breighner and Bill Chronister recognized Charter Member Addison Hurst (*below left at left, together with Bill*) with a plaque (*below right*). Addison was the VGCA's first secretary, serving in that role from 1983 until 2000. He has also been a fixture at our gun shows for many years, manning the evaluation table and researching firearms brought in by the public from his extensive personal reference library. This recognition was long overdue!





This presentation on the history of the VGCA was a herculean task and Dave Litchfield handled it with aplomb. On behalf of those present that night, I thank him!

♦ October Business: VGCA President Bernie Breighner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Jim Burgess led the membership in reciting the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our country. There were 65 VGCA members and guests in attendance. Guests were introduced by their sponsors/hosts.

Rick Nahas provided an update on our November Gun Show. Due to cancelations, there is one table available to rent. REMINDER – only table holders and set-up/security volunteers will be allowed in the show building on Friday, November 1st, and no one will be allowed to set up prior to 2 p.m. that day.

Steve Gomes passed around sign-up sheets for security volunteers at our November Show. Please consider signing up for a few hours to provide show security – volunteers are especially needed on Sunday! Dates are Friday, November 1st (set up), Saturday, November 2nd, and Sunday November 3rd. NOTE: This will be Steve's last show as security manager.

Both VGCA Gun Shows in 2020 are confirmed for the Prince William County Fairgrounds.

Looking for volunteers to man the VGCA Recruiting Table at the next Chantilly Gun Show (22-24 Nov 2019). NOTE: Thanks to all who volunteered for the November Chantilly Show – see the note at the bottom of this page asking for volunteers in December.

Voting has begun for the 2019 VGCA Member of the Year - see note on page 10. Remember, there are no ballots for Member of the Year - this is strictly YOUR idea of who has done the most for the club or for gun collecting over the last year.

We were reminded to vote on Tuesday, 5 Nov 2019. School Board elections are especially important as these people determine what is taught to our children.

Our Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner and Swap Meet is scheduled for Thursday, 12 December 2019. The club will provide the main course (normally a delicious ham!) and the drinks with everything else provided by the members. Join us for a relaxing night that will include a Swap Meet and Show-n-Tell!

PLEASE HELP!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE VGCA TABLE AT THE NEXT CHANTILLY GUN SHOW

The next Chantilly show at the Dulles Expo Center is coming up (December 27-29) and we are looking for a few volunteers for the VGCA promotional table. This is an opportunity to spend a few hours with fellow gun collecting enthusiasts, meet new people, help the club, and get <u>free</u> admission into a big show!

Our objective is to have two or more folks assigned throughout each day. This gives everyone the opportunity to walk the show while others are promoting the club. If you want, you can work more than one day and shift.

Remember - volunteers who help us at the table get into the show for free. This is significant benefit when the admission price keeps going up. It is now \$16 for 1-day and \$22 for a 3-day pass. Volunteers are needed for Friday (3 - 8 p.m.), Saturday (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.), or Sunday (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.). If interested, please contact Marc Gorelick or any VGCA Officer / Director.

Outpooking December 12th Meeting: Join us for our annual Holiday Pot Luck Meal and Swap Meet in the NRA Headquarters Conference Room. Note that this is not our regular meeting night in order to de-conflict with Christmas. Please bring a side dish or dessert − the club will provide a ham. There will not be a presentation, but we will have a short business meeting followed by Show-n-Tell. This will also be the last opportunity to vote for the "2019 VGCA Member of the Year." Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m.

② Other News! **②**

☼ Membership Chairman's Report – November/December 2019:

Membership Chairman's Report November/December 2019 - New Member: Please welcome our newest Annual Member:

• Joseph Langone of Sterling, VA was sponsored by Marc Gorelick

Congratulations and welcome aboard. Your Annual Membership ID has already been sent to you.

New Applications for Membership: For December, we have 14 new applicants for membership; one applied at the VGCA October Meeting, four applied at the VGCA Fall Gun Show, and nine applied at the November/December Chantilly Gun Show. The applicants' information and their sponsor names are published below.

- Dan Feirman of Vienna, VA is sponsored by Bill Chronister
- Jeff Fraser of Woodbridge, VA is sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Gregory Gordon Landreth of Springfield, VA is sponsored by Jim Burgess
- Craig Metzer of Bristow, VA is sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- John J. Podolny of Burke, VA is sponsored by Marc Gorelick
- Stan Pryga of Aldie, VA is sponsored by John Elliott
- Mark Randall of Alexandria, VA is sponsored by Jim Burgess
- Laurence Readal of Alexandria, VA is sponsored by Phil Hill
- Walter L. Rhinehart of Vienna, VA is sponsored by Robert Sears
- Keith R. Simmons of Oakton, VA is sponsored by Kelly Cook
- Jeffrey T. Stillman of Manassas, VA is sponsored by David Litchfield
- Kevin Vasguez of Falls Church, VA is sponsored by Clay Laurie
- Bruce Buchner of Lorton, VA is sponsored by Bill Chronister and Kelly Cook
- Jack Becker of Ruther Glen, VA is sponsored by Rob Becker and Shannon Zeigler

If there are any comments or questions on any applicant, please notify an Officer or Director, and the Membership Chair before June 22, 2019. For questions, please email **Bill Chronister**, **Membership Chair** at **vgca_membership@cox.net** or call me at 703-204-0138.

New Member IDs: Prospective members are announced in the VGCA Newsletter for member review. If there are no issues, the membership is effective 30 days after publication in the newsletter. Membership IDs are brought to the Monthly Membership Meeting following the month of Newsletter publication. If the new member is not present, the ID is mailed to their mailing address a few days after the meeting. If you did not get an ID or renewal sticker please let me know by e-Mail or the phone number above. Make sure you provide your full mailing address and contact info so I can verify the mailing address and get an ID or renewal sticker to you. Please send an E-mail to **Bill Chronister, Membership Chair** at *vgca_membership@cox.net*.

Annual Membership Renewals and Life Membership Upgrades: Remember, this is the 2020 Annual Membership Payments season. So far, 15 current Annual members have decided to upgrade to Life Membership. They will be recognized in the January Newsletter. I will accept payments at the December 12 Annual Holiday Potluck and Swap meeting. If you cannot make is, please send your payment by mail. A renewal form is in this newsletter.

○ Final Notice for Annual Membership Renewal: Annual Membership renewal dues of \$30.00 are due by January 1, 2020. If you are an Annual Member in good standing, you may upgrade to Life Membership for \$150.

You may pay by sending a Check for \$30 or \$150 (Please, NO USPS or other Money Orders) and the completed renewal form below to the <u>address on the form</u>. Payments in person require a <u>completed</u> renewal form so your payment is credited to you, and a CHECK (preferred) or EXACT cash, as we will not have change.

We now accept PayPal! For members wishing to renew by PayPal please use our PayPal ID: vgca.1983@gmail.com or follow this link: https://www.paypal.me/VGCAInc. Be sure to include "2020 Annual Membership Renewal" in the comments section for accounting purposes. As a PayPal user, you know PayPal charges a 3.9% fee for transactions. Please make payment total \$31.17 (for Life \$155.85) to cover the 3.9% fee if you choose that option. If you choose the Friends and Family option neither party will be charged the transaction fee.

Failure to pay Annual Dues by January 1, 2020 will result in your being dropped as a member. To re-join, you must complete the entire new member process. For questions, please email **Bill Chronister**, **Membership Chair** at *vgca_membership@cox.net* or call 703-204-0138.

Please detach and return with your payment
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Membership Renewal Request (AMR-NL#2-2020) William Chronister, P.O. Box 2318, Merrifield, VA 22116-2318

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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. This form must accompany payment in person or by mail. *Please Print Clearly*.

Name:	
	Email:
□ Enclo	sed is a check for \$30.00 for CY 2020 VGCA Annual Membership dues.
☐ I wish	to upgrade to Life Membership in VGCA. Enclosed is a check for \$150.00.
□ Remo	ve my name from the VGCA membership roster.
	payable to VGCA (Please - NO CASH or Money Orders). If you have any questions contact er, Membership Chair at (703) 204-0138 or by e-mail at <i>vgca_membership@cox.net</i> .

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 2019. All VGCA members except sitting Board members are 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 2019). 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 2020 meeting and presented with his/her award.

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

- Volunteering for set-up or security, or other duties before or during the shows
- Volunteering other services to the VGCA, such as setting up trips or administering club programs
- Giving presentations at meetings
- Promoting the VGCA or gun collecting as a whole
- Putting on displays not just at our shows but other shows to enhance collecting
- Writing articles to further collecting
- Recruiting new members to the VGCA

Remember – Only those members in good standing who attend the October and December meetings will have the opportunity to nominate and vote for the **Member of the Year Award** for 2019. So come to the meetings and vote for your choice.



DEMOCRATS TAKE CONTROL IN VIRGINIA, GOVERNOR PRESSES GUN CONTROL PACKAGE

In last month's election the Democratic Party won majorities in both houses of the Virginia legislature, as well as the governor's and attorney general's offices. In October, a poll found that gun violence was the top issue for the state's voters, with 75% saying it was "very important." Democrats seized on that and Republican inaction, during the campaign, and gun control groups vastly outspent the NRA in its home state. Governor Ralph Northam lost no time in pre-viewing his anti-2nd Amendment agenda. He has already said that he will introduce a package of bills as soon as the new Democrat-led legislature convenes in January.

Among his first priorities, according to a November 6 interview with CNN and a subsequent cabinet meeting:

Passing bills for universal background checks

Banning assault weapons

Banning high-capacity (>10-rounds) magazines

Instituting a "Red Flag" law

Banning bump stocks

Governor Northam said, "I will introduce those again in January. And I'm convinced, with the majority now in the House and the Senate, they'll become law and because of that, Virginia will be safer."

The draft Democratic gun control package would ban not only sales, but <u>possession</u> of "assault weapons" and "high-capacity magazines" as well as re-introduce the one-permonth limit on handgun purchases.

Your Club Needs You!



We are still looking for volunteers to help in the following areas (please contact any officer or director if interested):

- VGCA Website update and maintenance we are looking for a dedicated individual to assist with updating and maintaining the VGCA website. This is the first impression that the general public gets of the VGCA. Please contact Ian Wulf (<u>ic.wulf@gmail.com</u>) or Wes Chappell (<u>wesley@chappellfam.com</u>) if interested.
- Merchandise Director (aka "Minister of Merchandise") we need someone to take the lead on researching, securing orders, collecting money, and distributing VGCA merchandise. The sky is the limit here items could include shirts, hats, lanyards, coffee mugs just about anything with a VGCA logo.
- Gun Show Road Sign Director Road signs have historically been an important element of advertising for our gun shows. We need someone to coordinate volunteers to put out and pick up our signs.

THE VGCA NOVEMBER GUN SHOW

The Virginia Gun Collectors Association fall gun show was held on November 2nd and 3rd at the Prince William County Fairgrounds. Traditionally, the fall show has always had lower attendance than our spring show and this was no exception. However, the number of attendees this year was 10% greater than the November 2018 show – and attendance at both shows has been rising for the last two years!



Many venders reported very good sales and all seemed happy with the turn-out. Happy vendors and satisfied customers are the hallmarks of a good show, and all indications are this was another good VGCA show!

Like all of our shows, this one could not have happened without the hard work of many willing volunteers. To Rick Nahas (Show Director) and

Steve Gomes (Show Security) and the literally dozens of set-up, admin, and security volunteers, the VGCA officers and Board of Directors want to say "Thank You and Job Well Done!"

Table set up on Friday morning went even smoothly than normal, taking less than an hour! Not bad for a group consisting primarily of retirees! The next time you see the members listed, please take a moment and thank them for their efforts.

Setup Crew - 1 Nov 2019 Andrew Woodard **Steve Gomes** Dave Murphy Bob Chapman Jim Burgess Dave Litchfield Joe Roberts Rich Valenzi Jim Lindsey Steve Vaughn Kelly Cook

Show Administration – 1 Nov 2019

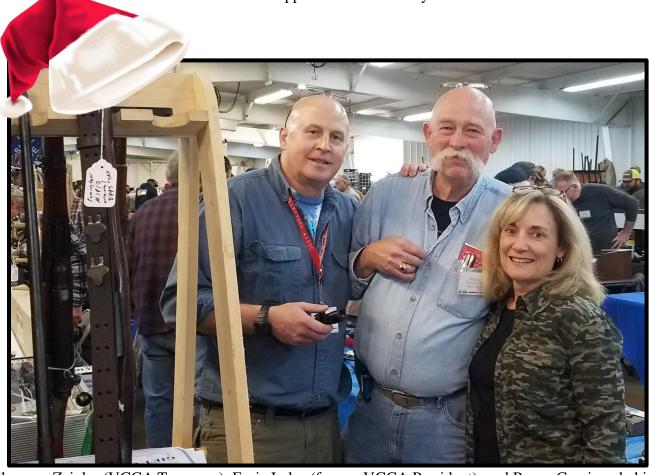
Rick Nahas Rick Jones Lynn Jones

Security - 1-3 Nov 2019

Steve Gomes	Carl Warhurst	Richard Valenzi	Joe Roberts
Jim Frigiola	Greg Sanders	Chris Britton	Mike Pankow
Jim Burgess	August Przybilla	Sydney Rodda	Dan Helm
Steve Vaughn	Fred Schieck	Frank Cambria	Frank Cooper
George Kirschbaum	Nelson Hufano	Dave Murphy	Bob Kennedy
Clayton Vieg	George Dungan	Keith Webster	Dennis Gerdovich
Andrew Woodward	Keith Ryan	John Elliot	Bob Chapman
Edwin Lyons			

Overnight Security - Friday and Saturday Nights

Wes Chappell and Jack Looney



Shannon Zeigler (VGCA Treasurer), Ernie Lyles (former VGCA President), and Peggy Casciano behind their sales tables as the show gets under way on Saturday.



Founding members Addison Hurst (*left*) and Bob Sears (*right*) discuss the show at the Evaluation Table. The VGCA provides free firearms evaluations at our show – a unique service not available at any other gun show in Virginia!



Vender Nick Aspergis (above) offered an impressive array of antique arms for sale.



Long-time member Ed Costello's tables (at left) always contain a few treasures!

Once again, our show featured several fascinating displays that covered over 180 years of firearms history. These educational displays are just one more difference that separates our gun show from the many others in northern Virginia! The judged displays and the results of the judging are listed below:

DISPLAY TITLE	EXHIBITOR	NOTE
Early Shoulder Arms of the U.S. Horse Soldier 1833-1860	John Vagnetti	1 st Place
Make more & make 'em faster – Production Changes in WWII	Rob Becker	2 nd Place
Development & Improvement of Ruger .22 Auto Pistols	Steven Vaughn	3 rd Place
Early Remington Shooting Sports	Mike Alsop	Judges Choice
Training to Duty – Police Training and Duty Weapons	Gary Latta	Judges Choice



Show Display winners (*from left to right*) Richard Valenzi (for a joint display with Steven Vaughn), Mathew G. (accepting on behalf of Gary Latta), Michael Alsop, Rob Becker, and John Vagnetti are congratulated by VGCA President Bernie Breighner (*far right*).



The first Judge's Choice Award was presented to Gary Latta's display "Training to Duty" (*above*) covering Police training and duty weapons. This display contained several items linked to local police departments and included a photograph of one very young Gary Latta!



Mike Alsop's display "Early Remington Shooting Sports" (*above*) was also awarded a Judge's Choice. It featured not only Remington Shotguns, but also early trap and clay pigeon gear bearing the Remington name. The two early clay pigeon launchers were especially impressive!



Steve Vaughn's "Development and Improvement of Ruger .22 Automatic Pistols, 1949-Present" (*above*) display garnered a well-deserved 3rd Place award. It featured several rarely seen early "red eagle" pistols and an early Ruger hand drill.



Rob Becker's "Make more and make 'em faster! Weapons Changes to Enhance Small Arms Production during WWII" showcased changes to selected rifles, pistols, and bayonets from five different countries (*above*). It earned 2nd Place from the judges. Special thanks to Bernie Breighner for supplying the German P38 pistols made by Mauser (*upper left of display*).



John Vagnetti presented this superb display on "Early Shoulder Arms of the U.S. Horse Soldier, 1833-1860" (*above*). Featuring several rare and interesting pieces (note the <u>multiple</u> Hall Carbines on the left), it was the perfect complement to his March 2018 display of post-Civil War Cavalry Carbines and earned 1st Place in the display judging.

To encourage people to take the time and effort to display their collections, the VGCA offers display tables free of charge to our members. The VGCA also offers a one-time stipend of \$100 to members building their first displays (those backboards and gun racks don't just build themselves, you know!). Finally, winning displays receive cash prizes! If interested in learning more about our displays or in asking for help in putting one together, please contact any VGCA officer or director.

Our show even had a celebrity guest! Othais of C and Rsenal (candrsenal.com) stopped by after attending a Pro-2nd Amendment rally in Washington D.C. Othais and his team has a good series of youtube videos on the weapons of WWI.

Once again, special thanks go out to Jim Burgess for organizing the judges and tallying the score sheets! It should also be noted that this was Steve Gomes' last show as Chief of Show Security. He will be moving out-of-state next year – and will be sorely missed!

"Turn out the lights, the party's over. . ." Club Treasurer Shannon Zeigler (*driving out of the building at center*) is the last vender to finish packing out on Sunday night as security personnel (*left to right*) Dan Helm, Jack Looney, and Steve Gomes ensure the building is clean and secure while Director Marc Gorelick (*far right*) looks on.



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

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



♦ Show-n-Tell ♦

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!

Member 1 presented a couple of items that he recently purchased at Knob Creek, KY. The first was a Valmet M78 (at right). This semi-automatic rifle chambered in .308 was made in the early 1980s and was reportedly used as a prop in the classic 1984 movie "Red Dawn." It was converted to firing



blanks only and has since been converted back to semiautomatic.



The second item (at left) is a set of camouflage that was also from "Red Dawn." It came complete with a certificate of authenticity!



Member 2 brought in two rifles that at first glance both looked like Remington Model 8s. The first was indeed a Remington product. It features a long-recoil operating system, with both bolt and barrel recoiling together initially, compressing two springs. The barrel is stopped and pushed forward by one spring, enabling extraction and ejection of the fired case. Then the bolt is pushed forward by the second spring, picking up the next round from the magazine and chambering it. Remington produced over 160,000 Model 8s (designated the Modell 81 in later years) from 1906 until 1950 in five calibers - .25 Rem, .30 Rem, .32 Rem, .35 Rem, and .300 Savage. This particular example is in .35 Remington and was made in 1930.

The second rifle, though it looks like a Remington, is actually a Fabrique Nationale D'Armes De Guerre (FN) Model 1900. This was a direct copy of the Remington made for European sales. Only about 4,000 were produced between 1910 and 1914. They were only made in one caliber – 9mm (better known in the U.S. as .35 Remington). This example has a three-digit serial number and was probably made in the first year of production.

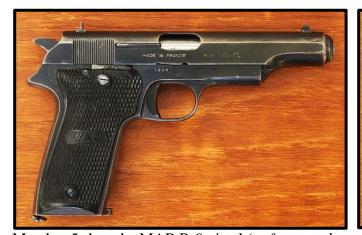
Member 3 (*right*) shared a Galil clone made by ATI and designated the Galeo. Introduced this year, the semi-automatic Galeo is chambered in 5.56 NATO, features a folding butt stock and comes with either wood or polymer front furniture. These are built using Israeli Galil parts kits and have a "retro/pre-ban" look to them.



Member 4 (at right) brought in an M16 - a Berthier MLE M16, that is. Chambered in 8x50r (8mm Lebel), this model bolt action carbine has a 17" barrel and was made from 1890 until ~1935. Named for its designer, Emile Berthier, Berthier rifles and carbines served the French forces in both World Wars. This particular M16 has all matching serial numbers and was made at St Etienne in France in 1921. It is unusual in that it only has a 3-round



magazine (most had 5-round mags). It was perhaps built for the police or for service in "the colonies."





Member 5 shared a MAB R-9 pistol (*unfortunately, no photo is available of Member 5 – the pictures of a MAB R9 above were found on the internet*). The MAB Model R is an unlocked breech (blowback) pistol made in 5 calibers: .22 Short, .22 Long Rifle, .32 ACP (7.65mm), .380 ACP (9x17), and 9 Parabellum (9x19). The number after the "R" in the model designation identifies the caliber (R-22, R-32, R-380, and R-9). The original prototypes in 1950 were in .32 French Long (7.65mm FL) in an attempt to interest the French military, but the French Army was already looking at adopting a 9mm. The MAB R-9 was made available for commercial sales in 1952 and remained in production until 1963 (or – at least it was offered for sale until then). Total production was only about 1,450. The magazine for the 9mm held 8 rounds – it holds 9 rounds in the other calibers. The example brought for Show-n-Tell has a three-digit serial number.

Member 6 (right) shared four early Ruger Standard Model .22 pistols. There are a total of ten variants of the "Red Eagle" Rugers. The "Red Eagles" get their name from the red background of the Ruger eagle logo in the left grip panel. The logo was designed by Bill Ruger's business partner and financier Alex Sturm. When Sturm passed away suddenly in 1951, the background color changed from red to black as a memorial – thus only the very earliest Standard Models have the red logo. Member 6 displayed for us the Type III (no silver escutcheons on grips), Type VI



(Ejection port has rectangular, contoured ends), Type VIII (rear of bolt is blued – front is still in the white), and Type IX (blued trigger). Member 6 also handed out a data sheet of his own design that covered the features of these early Ruger pistols with the differences highlighted. Such knowledge communicated in an easily understood format is an invaluable benefit of membership in the VGCA!



Member 7 (*left*) brought in a double barrel pistol made in Montividao, Uruguay. Member 7 had been looking for just such a handgun when he purchased it in Wisconsin in 1985. It is marked "Broqua Sholberg" – which was a high-end outfitter in Uruguay at the time (turn of the last century). This pistol features ivory grips and two "disappearing triggers" that drop when the hammers are cocked. An underlever unlocks the barrels so they be loaded/unloaded. It is chambered in .455 Webley and was manufactured circa 1880-1900.



Member 8 (*above*) shared a Russian Baikal Air Pistol. This spring-powered pistol is in 4.3mm (.177) caliber and marked "Made in the USSR." What makes it special is that this pistol was presented to Dr. Ed Ezell (go back to the VGCA authors mentioned on page 4) by Mikhail Kalashnikov in January 1991!



② In Review **③**

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

Museum

A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM: AUSTRALIAN ARMY INFANTRY MUSEUM

Marc Gorelick, VGCA



Photo AAIM – John Gollings

The Australian Army Infantry Museum (AAIM) is the custodian of the Infantry Corps' history, its customs and its traditions. The museum's collection ranges from the Australia's pre federation state colonial armies and their first deployments overseas in the nineteenth century through to today's twenty first century "diggers." It preserves an extensive collection of Australian Army small arms and crew served weapons, as well as the arms of allies and enemies.



Photo AAIM – John Gollings

By the time Australia founded a national School of Musketry in 1911 to replace its colonial and state counterparts, Australians had already fought in several wars, including in Sudan, China and the Boer War in South Africa. However, there was no museum to collect, commemorate and preserve the infantry experience of war. The School of Musketry's first commandant and chief instructor, Major Francis Bede Heritage, sought to rectify this and donated firearms from his personal collection to the school, which formed the foundation of the school's Small Arms collection. Heritage continued to expand and widen the scope of the collection and the school received a quantity of Great War (World War 1) weapons from the Australian War Memorial, consisting of machine guns, grenades and revolvers of Great War vintage, including many captured enemy weapons. The collection continued to expand under subsequent commandants.

After World War 2, the collection grew into a comprehensive collection of military pistols, rifles, submachine guns, light machine guns, machine guns, anti-tank weapons and mortars. The museum also acquired a number of prototype and trials weapons with many of these being some of the rarest weapons within the collection. In 1965, the collection was redesignated and officially opened as the Royal Australian Infantry Corps Museum. In 1973 the museum was relocated from Ingleburn to the Infantry Centre in Singleton, New South Wales, and officially opened on 15th March 1974. Since December 1998 the museum has been an integral part of the Australian Army History Unit.

Today, the museum tells the story of the Australian Army Infantry Corps. Young soldiers learn about the history behind the names they are familiar with from high school or about the military service of a family member. Sudan, Gallipoli, the Somme, Menin Gate, Tobruk, the Kokoda Trail, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan are all bought to life along with less familiar deployments like the New South Wales Marine Light Infantry deployment to Peking in 1900 to combat the Boxer rebellion or 12 Platoon, Delta Company, 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment that helped to keep the peace in Cambodia in 1993.



Part of the Vietnam display. Photo AAIM – John Gollings

The exhibition is divided into two areas. The ground floor displays focus on the chronological history of Australia's infantry operational deployments, from Sudan in 1885 through Australia's current deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. The mezzanine displays focus on the small arms and their associated training aids the infantryman's "tools of the trade" and how they have developed and influenced the doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps.

Many of the small arms are displayed along with the uniforms, accessories and accoutrements of the period. These displays are well lighted, logically designed and the signage is informative and easy to read. The guns fit into, and are made a part of, the larger picture, which tells the story of Australia's wars from the view of the infantryman. Other weapons are part of displays that concentrate just on small arms.



The museum also has a large number of crew served weapons and armored fighting vehicles on display, all of which are associated with, and used by, the infantry. These range from machine guns and mortars to Bren gun carriers and Matilda infantry tanks of World War 2 to the Australian Army's current Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicle.





Matilda Infantry Tank (left) and Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicle (right)



A compelling exhibit that brings the infantryman's war and sacrifice to life contains the personal effects of Private Alan James Mather, killed in action in June 1917 at the Battle of Messines in West Flanders. The battle began with the detonation of 19 mines before the infantry assault. The shock waves from the mines were reportedly felt as far away as London. In August 2008 a multinational archaeological team investigating World War I German trenches and defenses close to a mine crater near Ploegsteert in Belgium, discovered the remains of Private

Mather as he fell, clutching his rifle and a Prussian infantryman's spiked helmet. His personal effects revealed much about his nationality and battalion, with DNA testing confirmed his identity.



Personal effects of Private Alan James Mather on display. Photo AAIM - John Gollings

The museum is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Other times by appointment. It is closed on public holidays. Admission for adults is \$8 Australian and \$5 for pensioners. There are special rates for families and groups. It is located at Lone Pine Barracks, Hamilton Vc Dr, Singleton Military Area New South Wales 2331, Australia, northeast of Newcastle. If you drive from Newcastle, take the A15 to the M15 and turn left on B84 Mitchell Line of Rd, Golden Highway.

Additional information can be found on the museum's website http://infantrymuseum.com.au. The local telephone number is (02) 6575 0257 and the e-mail address is info@infantrymuseum.com.au.

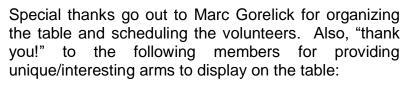


☼ The November Chantilly Gun Show Provided Seven Prospective New Members!

The VGCA officers and directors would like to extend a sincere "thank you" to those members who graciously volunteered to represent the VGCA at our table during the most recent Chantilly Gun Show (November 22-24, 2019). They are:

<u>FRIDAY</u>
John Elliott
TJ Parmele
Jim Frigiola
Marc Gorelick

SATURDAY Jim Burgess George Dungan Sydney Rodda King Von Schilling Marc Gorelick SUNDAY Jim Burgess Clay Laurie Joe Roberts Marc Gorelick



Marc Gorelick Swedish CG-63 Junior Sydney Rodda Winchester Model 94 Joe Roberts North Vietnamese SKS

These contributions helped to set our table apart from others at the show and spark conversations with show participants and potential new members.

The VGCA table at Chantilly has been almost solely responsible for <u>doubling</u> our annual members this year (**seven** additional potential new members were signed up during this show)! Since January of this year, we have directly signed up almost 40 new members at Chantilly, with many others picking up applications there and joining at a VGCA meeting or at our show. This growth simply would not have happened without the support of our volunteers. Again, on behalf of the entire organization – thank you!

Please contact Marc Gorelick or any other VGCA officer or director if you are interested in volunteering at future shows. The next Chantilly Gun Show is on December 27-29, 2019.



Above (left to right) – VGCA members John Elliott, TJ Parmele, and Marc Gorelick working to recruit new members at the "Nation's Gun Show" on Friday, November 22, 2019.

2019/2020 Presentation List **③**

The following presentations are scheduled for our upcoming membership meetings:

DATE	PRESENTATION	PRESENTER
2019 December 12 th	Annual Holiday Pot Luck and Swap Meet	Show-n-Tell Only
-	Happy Holida	ys

2020		
January 23 rd	The Kalashnikov Visit of 1990	Ed Costello
February 27 th	The Philippine Scouts	Nelson Hufano
March	No membership meeting scheduled due to our Spring	g Gun Show
April 23 rd	Guns of the FBI	Bill Vanderpool
May 28 th	Colt Walker Revolvers	Charlie Pate
June 25 th	Gun Buying Lessons Learned	VGCA Members
July	No membership meeting scheduled due to summer b	oreak
August 27th	Engraved Colt Pistols	Phil Hill
September 24 th	My Favorite Gun	VGCA Members
October 22 nd	German Weapon Markings and Proofs	Dave Litchfield
November	November No membership meeting scheduled due to our Fall Gun Show	
December TBD	Holiday Pot Luck and Annual Swap Meet	Show-n-Tell Only

Outpoint Upcoming Events and Shows **Outpoint**

PLEASE NOTE: There are sometimes changes in schedules by gun show promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to <u>verify before driving to a show</u>. These dates have been published as of this writing, but are not guaranteed. If you have a favorite show you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short review, including the show content, i.e., modern, new, collectible or antique, and I will include it as room permits. Yellow = Collector organizations or shows.

VIRGINIA - 2019-2020

- **⊃ Dec 7-8, 2019 Fishersville, VA** Augusta Expo Center *Showmasters*
- **Dec 14-15, 2019 Fredericksburg, VA** − Fredericksburg Expo & Convention Center *SGK*
- **Dec 21-22, 2019 Dale City, VA** − Dale City VFW Post 1503 Showmasters
- \bigcirc Dec 21-22, 2019 Salem, VA Salem Civic Center C&E
- **Dec 27-29, 2019 Chantilly, VA** − Dulles Expo Center − *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Jan 4-5, 2020 Richmond, VA Richmond Raceway Complex *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Jan 11-12, 2020 Hampton, VA Hampton Roads Convention Center SGK
- **⊃** Jan 11-12, 2020 Weyers Cave, VA Weyers Cave Community Center Sporting Shows Unltd
- **⊃** Jan 18-19, 2020 Harrisonburg, VA Rockingham County Fairgrounds C&E
- **⊃** Jan 25-26, 2020 Fredericksburg, VA Fredericksburg Expo & Convention Center SGK
- **⊃** Jan 25-26, 2020 Fishersville, VA Augusta Expo Center *Showmasters*
- **⊃ Jan 25-26, 2020 Salem, VA** Salem Civic Center *C&E*
- **⊃** Feb 1-2, 2020 Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Convention Center *SGK*
- **⊃** Feb 1-2, 2020 Roanoke, VA The Berglund Center *Showmasters*
- **⊃** Feb 14-16, 2020 Chantilly, VA Dulles Expo Center *Showmasters*
- \triangleright Feb 22-23, 2020 Doswell, VA Meadow Event Park SGK
- **⇒** Feb 29-Mar 1, 2020 Woodstock, VA Moose Lodge Sporting Shows Unlimited

BREAKING NEWS! The Prince William County Fairgrounds management has confirmed that they will host both our spring and fall Gun Shows for next year. The PWC Fairgrounds are for sale and the future of our gun shows there has been uncertain, so this is good news!

MARYLAND - 2020

- **⊃** Jan 11-12, 2020 Timonium, MD Timonium Fairgrounds *Appalachian Promotions*
- **Mar 21-22, 2020 − Timonium, MD** − Maryland State Fairgrounds − *Maryland Arms Collectors Association (the Baltimore Antique Arms Show)*
- **3** Mar 27-29, 2020 − Edgewood, MD − Edgewood American Legion − American Legion Post 17
- **○** Mar 28-29, 2020 West Friendship, MD Howard County Fairgrounds MD Sportsman

PENNSYLVANIA - 2019-2020

- **Dec 7-8, 2019 Allentown, PA** − Allentown Fairgrounds − *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*
- **Dec 14-15, 2019 Harborcreek, PA** Harbor Creek Fire Dept Social Hall − *IRSporting Events*
- **Dec 14-15, 2019 Harrisburg, PA** − PA Farm Show Complex − *C&E Gun Shows*
- **Dec 20-22, 2019 − Phoenixville, PA −** Greater Philadelphia Expo Center − *Eagle Arms*
- **⊃** Dec 28-29, 2019 Allentown, PA Econo Lodge Eagle Arms

PENNSYLVANIA - 2019-2020 (continued)

Dec 28-29, 2019 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds-Memorial Hall - Appalachian Promotions

- **⊃** Jan 4-5, 2020 Lebanon, PA Lebanon Valley Expo Center Eagle Arms
- **⊃** Jan 11-12, 2020 Matamoras, PA Best Western Inn at Hunt's Landing Westchester Collectors Club
- **⊃** Jan 11-12, 2020 Lake Harmony, PA Split Rock Resort Eagle Arms
- **3 Jan 11-12, 2020 Washington, PA** − Washington County Fairgrounds *ARH Sport Shop*
- **⊃** Jan 17-18, 2020 Shippenville, PA Oak Grove Events Building *Brimstone Arms*
- **⊃** Jan 17-18, 2020 Carlisle, PA Carlisle Expo Center *Eagle Arms*
- **⊃** Jan 18, 2020 St Thomas, PA St Thomas Twp Volunteer Fire Dept *Issak Walton League*
- **⊃** Jan 25-26, 2020 Conneaut Lake, PA Conneaut Lake Sportsman Assn L&R Sporting Events
- **⊃** Jan 25-26, 2020 Gettysburg, PA Allstar Events Complex Eagle Arms
- **⇒ Feb 1, 2020 Hummelstown, PA –** Hummelstown Field & Stream Assoc *Hummelstown Field & Stream Assoc*
- **⇒** Feb 1-2, 2020 Monroeville, PA Monroeville Convention Center Showmasters
- **⇒ Feb 1-2, 2020 Lancaster, PA –** Lancaster Farm & Home Center *Lancaster Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (LMLRA)*
- **⊃** Feb 1-2, 2020 Wind Gap, PA Plainfield Fire Company Eagle Arms
- **⇒** Feb 1-9, 2020 Harrisburg, PA Farm Show Complex Great American Outdoor Show NRA
- **⊃** Feb 7-9, 2020 Phoenixville, PA Greater Philadelphia Expo Center Eagle Arms
- **⇒ Feb 8-9, 2020** Allentown, PA Allentown Fairgrounds Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society
- **⊃** Feb 15-16, 2020 Bloomsburg, PA Bloomsburg Fairgrounds Eagle Arms

SPECIAL NOTE – 2020

- **Jan 11-12, 2020** − **Wilmington, OH** − The Roberts Centre − *Ohio Gun Collector's Association with High Standard Collectors Association and S.A.S.S. Big Irons*
- **⊃** Feb 19-23, 2020 Louisville, KY Kentucky Expo Center *Ohio Valley Military Society*
- **Mar 14-15, 2020 Wilmington, OH** The Roberts Centre *Ohio Gun Collector's Association*
- **Apr 4-5, 2020 − Tulsa, OK** − Tulsa Fairgrounds (Expo Square) − *Tulsa Arms Collector Association − aka Wanenmacher's (world's largest gun show − over 4200 tables!)*
- **○** Apr 17-19, 2020 Nashville, TN Music City Center NRA Annual Membership Meetings



FOR SALE:

The "For Sale" section of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association (VGCA) Newsletter is provided as a service exclusively to the members of the VGCA. The VGCA, its officers, and directors are not responsible for any listings made in any VGCA Newsletter. We are not responsible for the accuracy (condition, value, etc.) of any listings. All buyers, traders, and sellers agree to comply with all local, state, federal, and international laws in regards to items sold via the VGCA Newsletter. It is their duty and responsibility to ensure the quality and value of the transaction and that all such laws are followed at all times. Buy, sell, or trade at your own risk.

If you would like to list an item (or items) in the VGCA Newsletter, please send your description, price, and contact information to rpebecker@verizon.net. I must receive your material no later than the second Sunday of the month for it to be included in that month's newsletter. Unless other arrangements are made, items will be listed for one issue of the Newsletter.

FOR SALE:

- Walther P38 (ac code) made 1943, numbers matching, excellent bore, no import marks. \$795
- ♦ Walther Model 8, 25acp. 8-shot magazine, 2nd variation, WW2 German officer bring back, w/rare, reduced size, custom C96 Broomhandle-type holster. EC. \$1495 Now \$1295
- Smith and Wesson 1912 38 S&W New Departure or Lemon Squeezer, 5-shot revolver, rare 4 inch barrel, sharp nickel plating, minty bore, pearl grips and original factory letter. EC. \$749
- ♦ LC Smith 20ga. 1940's classic field grade Featherweight SxS sidelock, 28-inch barrels, excellent bores and casehardening (80%), 2-3/4 inch chambers, extractors, DT VGC+. \$2150 Now \$1950
 - ◆ Marlin Over/Under 20 Gauge, excellent bores. \$750

If interested, call 571-308-4978 or send email to jrbzn13@aol.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 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

The e-mail address for any Newsletter-related matters is <u>Newsletter@vgca.net</u> - or you can reach the editor directly at <u>rpebecker@verizon.net</u>. Feel free to e-mail items for inclusion in the newsletter. For changes of address or non-receipt of the newsletter, either via e-mail or the mailed hard copy, please contact Rob Becker or Bill Chronister.