



# VIRGINIA GUN COLLECTORS ASSOC., INC.

WWW.VGCA.ORG



Est. 1983

(A Non-Profit Organization)

NRA Affiliate Number G 8162

President and Founder (Emeritus) Ed Johnson Home: 703-368-6560

## Officers:

President

W. Addison Hurst

Office/Home/Fax: 540-882-3543

[a.hurst@rstarmail.com](mailto:a.hurst@rstarmail.com)

Vice President

Jim Burgess

Home: 703-754-7800

[Jim\\_burgess@NPS.gov](mailto:Jim_burgess@NPS.gov)

Recording Secretary/Membership

Larry Hare

Home: 703-339-8636

[Jasperandi@yahoo.com](mailto:Jasperandi@yahoo.com)

Treasurer

Ed Costello

Home: 703 241-7915

[edwardcostello@comcast.net](mailto:edwardcostello@comcast.net)

## Board of Directors:

Ernie Lyles

Home: 540-659-6566

[pris.ernie@verizon.net](mailto:pris.ernie@verizon.net)

Rick Nahas

Office: 703-550-8005

[jet53sw@aol.com](mailto:jet53sw@aol.com)

Bill Chronister

Home: 703-361-7409

[wchronister@cox.net](mailto:wchronister@cox.net)

## Show/Reservations Manager

Rick Nahas

Home: 703-204-0138

[jet53sw@aol.com](mailto:jet53sw@aol.com)

## Counsel to the Board

Emory Hackman, Esq.

Office: 703-288-2941

[emory1biz@verizon.net](mailto:emory1biz@verizon.net)

## Webmaster/Security Chief

Larry Hunt

Office: 703-932-1020

[ldhunt@idsscan.com](mailto:ldhunt@idsscan.com)

## Accountant to the Board:

Charlie Rathell C.P.A.

Office: 1-800-559-6956

[charles@rathellbard.com](mailto:charles@rathellbard.com)

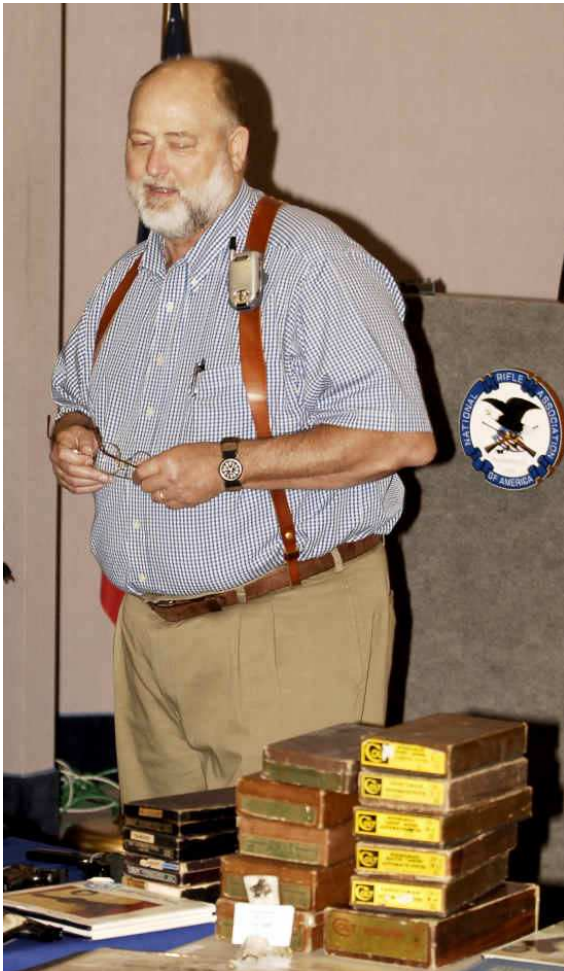
## Newsletter Editor

Bill Chronister

Home: 703-204-0138

[VGCAnews@cox.net](mailto:VGCAnews@cox.net)

## August 2008 VGCA Newsletter



**Presentation at the June 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** After a long wait, the definitive Colt/John Browning Woodsman Pistols by **Kelly Cook** came to fruition. Assistance was ably provided by **Jack Looney**, **Charles Rathell**, and Kelly's son, **Cliff**. Unfortunately, the computer slide projector was not available at the meeting, so we missed an excellent power point presentation showing the fine details of these pistols that was put together by Kelly and Jack Looney. Fortunately, Kelly adapting quickly, performed an excellent, and remarkable adjustment to his planned method of delivery and turning this unfortunate situation to his advantage, moved forward. On display were numerous fine examples of all three series of Colt Woodsman's, Huntsman's, and Targetman automatic pistols. Kelly provided the history of these fine pistols from their beginnings in 1915, to the very end of production in 1977. The 1<sup>st</sup> series (1915 – 1947) included many variations, including assorted barrel lengths, various barrel weights, magazine construction, roll markings, and main spring alterations in 1932, to accommodate the introduction of popular high speed .22RF ammunition. The actual nomenclature – *Woodsman* – was not introduced by Colt until 1927 in an effort to expand the market for these pistols beyond the target shooting community. The Colt Woodsman Match Target, 1<sup>st</sup> model was introduced in 1938 with a production of only about 1200 pistols. There were at least four examples of these relatively uncommon pistols on display. Both Kelly and Charlie also exhibited two very rare, Neil & Shaffer after-market accessory holster/stock units that are now listed on BATFE's C&R list. Also, Kelly presented a rather uncommon boxed, USAF Woodsman Arctic Survival pistol that had Addison salivating. Charlie Rathell complimented Kelly's

presentation with a dissertation on the Colt Woodsman 1<sup>st</sup> series Sport models together with some other non-sport 'Woodies.' The writer and all who attended the meeting wish to thank Kelly, Charlie, Jack, Cliff and all his associates for an informative, and very enjoyable presentation on a subject that most of us can relate to. (Many thanks to Larry Hare for his detailed note taking in my absence from the June meeting. Editor) (to Page 3)

**June 2008 Meeting and Show and Tell Photos**



**Charlie Rathell – Monarch Rifle Stock**



**The ‘Goods’ on display**



**A pair from the Hurst Collection**



**Young Emory's Pistol**



**EXTRA DEPT.**

**Ever heard of a Texas BBQ Gun? This is a S&W that Rick Nahas does not have. It is a Texas BBQ grill and smoker suitably marked on the barrel as – 500 S&W Magnum. Now that is a gun!**

➔ **Very Special Presentation for the August 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the VGCA:** The VGCA/National Firearms Museum presentation will proudly feature guest speaker **Stewart C. Mowbray, Editor of the NRA's *Man at Arms*** magazine. For those who have been subscribers, we know well that as Editor of the publication, an NRA journal for the American arms collectors, he oversees a publication that is an automatic read from cover to cover as soon as it arrives, with articles covering all aspects of collecting. It is one of those publications that one does not discard. At the presentation, Stewart will discuss his latest book, *Military Rifle Disassembly and Reassembly*. This book contains a wealth of information. Stewart also owns and operates the Man at Arms Bookshelf, which can also be located on the website <http://www.manatarmsbooks.com/index.html>, and has good articles of interest to collectors, as well as a good listing of Collector Gunshows. His books are available at the NFM bookstore so come early and grab one for him to autograph. If you have an old military rifle that you do not know to take apart, here is your chance to learn how. Bring it and any old swords or edged weapons. If you do have a specific arm which you need help on disassembly, let him know in advance what you are bringing in. His email address is [stewart@manatarmsbooks.com](mailto:stewart@manatarmsbooks.com). This is a great chance to learn, so bring in all your exotic arms for Show and Tell and ask an expert. Mr. Mowbray is traveling from Woonsocket, RI – so come early so we get started promptly at 7 PM. The pizza will be there at 6:30. Do not forget that donations for the pizza have greatly helped offset the cost.

**Remaining 2008 VGCA Meetings Schedule:** There will be **no meeting in September due to the VGCA Fall 2008 Gunshow on September 20 and 21**. The final two meetings, **October 23** and the combined November/December meeting to be held on **December 4** will feature the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> NRA NFM presentations**.

**Thoughts from the Club President – August 2008:** The Fall 2008 VGCA Gunshow at PWC Fairgrounds on September 20-21 is just around the corner. We need to discuss final planning for the show at the August Meeting. This will include volunteers for security and all the other details that ensure a successful event. We can do this quickly as we have been down this road many times before.

➤ *For the meeting, please make sure all guns are dield or a tie is inserted into the chamber before presenting them.* Ties will be available. I think all persons attending are much more comfortable with our efforts to see this is done — *we will continue strict enforcement of this rule*. Also, make sure when you present arms, that you do not point the arms at the audience, regardless if tied or not. No one likes to look down the barrel of a gun, unless they are looking down the barrel from the butt end!

➤ On Gunshows: The purpose of our meetings and gun shows are to provide a venue for our members to have fun and to enjoy each other's company. The many gun shows – especially EXPO – have changed the playing field and VGCA and many other shows have suffered as a result. So, enjoy our smaller but quality show and go and enjoy the EXPO type shows – we cannot compete and should not try – we are different animals and life is short – enjoy what life offers. We should not be beating ourselves up because we are not a big show in competition with EXPO. We must let 900 pound gorillas sit where they want. Many dealers can only survive with high traffic shows. We can not change that. Economics dictate what takes place in the market place. So, we must adapt and build our reputation for a small, but quality, show. I used to think the two types of shows were mutually exclusive, now I have come to the realization that I was wrong. I enjoyed the EXPO show, keeping in mind you must filter out the junk there. Still, there is a lot of good stuff there.

➤ John Wallace is in isolation at Duke getting blood transfusions and bone marrow. He is in good spirits – Doris has not shot him yet – and I will bring along another get well card. They mean a lot to him. If any one has an update on Charlie Rausch, be sure and let us know at the meeting. Be sure and take VGCA show fliers that I will bring in to distribute to shows, hardware stores, gun stores etc.

Wm. Addison Hurst

**June 26<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting:** Paul Peak (Retired U.S. Coast Guard) notified the attendees that the rules for saluting the flag during the pledge of allegiance was changed for retired military and that it is now permissible to perform the regular military salute. Civilians, non-military should continue to salute by placing their right hand over their heart as before. Addison reminded those present that there would be **NO MEETING IN JULY** as is customary. Harrison McConnell told Addison that John Wallace is scheduled to begin undergoing a bone marrow transplant on 11 July. (See Addison's update above.) Currently, he is holding up well and keeping up a positive, "can do" spirit as would be expected of a former Marine. The meeting included a general discussion on the Heller ruling by the Supreme Court on the DC Gun Ban. It was good it went the way it did, but expecting any significant changes in the firearm ownership environment within the District probably won't happen anytime soon. Time will

tell. (Heller has filed a new lawsuit in response to DC's emergency compliance action, which makes semi-autos ineligible and mandates disassembly unless in a life threatening situation. Obstructionism in DC? No...)

**→→→ Limited DISPLAY TABLE Opportunities for the SEPTEMBER 2008 Gunshow Remain ←←←**  
The club will run a pilot program for display tables for the Fall Show and will have FREE DISPLAY TABLES for members on a space available basis. *This is a great opportunity to test the waters if you have wanted to do a display table.* There are very few free display tables left, so contact Rick Nahas to get yours before it too late.

**June Show and Tell:** **John Babey** showed us his Colt Model 1862 .32 cal Pocket Navy revolver, complete with it's original, and uncommon steel bullet mold. Many of these fine little percussion pistols were converted to .36 Rimfire, however John's example had escaped this post-production conversion process. **Paul Peak** announced that he and his wife had recently celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. This is an achievement to be very proud of, particularly when the average marriage lasts less than five years. Paul also showed us his Colt, 1<sup>st</sup> series Woodsman pistol, manufactured in 1938 and purchased by Paul way back in 1951. (Moral: I guess it is easier to buy rare guns!) **Emory Hackman** chose to go with one of Colt's competitors, and exhibited a brace of High Standard pistols. One, was a High Standard Model G in .380ACP, and the other, was a Model B that Emory's father bought and let an 8-1/2 year old "little Emory" shoot not so very long ago ☺. **Larry Hare** followed the night's program theme by showing a Colt 1<sup>st</sup> series Woodsman Match Target pistol that was presented to a Lt. L.C Walsh by Company G, and is so marked on a small silver grip inlay. **Marty Eakes** showed us a pair of Puma knives that he had acquired from a little old lady neighbor of his awhile ago. Of course, the knife set was made much more interesting, since it was accompanied with one of Marty's "true life" stories. **Addison Hurst** brought forward two Stevens Model 10 Target pistols, as well as High Standard Models HD, HB, & HA from young Addison's collection. All were in very nice, to new condition. Unfortunately, little Addison could not attend the meeting himself. Again, thanks to all present, and I am sorry I missed it.

★★★ **Important Request for Information and Assistance** ★★★: Larry Hunt would like to start a feature on the VGCA web page "Know Your Gun's History." He would like articles with photos from VGCA members about their collections. He suggests 2-3 pages in length. He would like to get our members more involved in the club and to share their knowledge. He would also like members to help him gather data in an attempt to build [VirginiaMuzzleLoaders.com](http://VirginiaMuzzleLoaders.com), [VirginiaGunCollectors.com](http://VirginiaGunCollectors.com) and [GunCollectors.com](http://GunCollectors.com). Larry can be reached at his e-mail address or number listed on the masthead of the newsletter. This is a great opportunity to contribute to what will surely become a resource for as well as provide visibility for the club.

### Upcoming Events and Shows

***Words to the Wise:** Lately there have been some changes in scheduling by promoters or errors on websites. Members are strongly encouraged to check before driving long distances for a show. These dates have been published as of this writing, but are not guaranteed. If you have a show you would like to tell other members about, please email the Editor with a short review, including the items displayed, i.e., modern, new, or antique, and I will include it if room permits.*

#### VIRGINIA

- ☺ August 9-10, 2008 - Richmond, VA - Raceway & Fairgrounds – Showmasters
- ☺ August 16-17, 2008 - Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center – Showmasters
- ☺ August 23-24, 2008 - Harrisonburg, VA - Rockingham County Fairgrounds – Showmasters
- ☺ September 6-7, 2008 - Norfolk, VA - Norfolk Scope - Showmasters
- ☺ September 12-14, 2008 - Chantilly, VA - Dulles Expo Center - C&E Gun Show / Showmasters
- ☺ **September 20-21, 2008 - Manassas, VA - Prince William Co. Fairgrounds – Virginia Gun Collectors Association**
- ☺ October 4-5, 2008 - Dale City, VA - VFW Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Rd. – Old Dominion Show
- ☺ October 10-12, 2008 - Chantilly, VA - Militaria, Dulles Expo Center - C&E Gun Show / Showmasters
- ☺ October 25-26, 2008 – Roanoke, VA - Roanoke Civic Center - Showmasters

#### MARYLAND

- ☺ September 20-21, 2008 - Howard County, MD - Howard County Fairgrounds – Silverado Promotions
- ☺ Oct 4-5, 2008 - Timonium, MD - Timonium Fairgrounds - Appalachian Promotions
- ☺ October 25-26, 2008 – Westminster, MD - Carroll County Agriculture Center – Silverado Promotions

## PENNSYLVANIA

- August 29-31, 2008 – Allentown, PA - Days Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- September 6-7, 2008 – Harrisburg, PA - Farm Show Complex - *Mid-Atlantic Arms Collectors*
- September 26-28, 2008 – King of Prussia, PA - Valley Forge Convention Center - *valleyforgegunshow.com*
- October 3-5, 2008 – Allentown, PA - Days Inn - *Eagle Arms*
- October 11-12, 2008 - Carlisle, PA - Carlisle Expo - *Appalachian Promotions*
- October 18-19, 2008 - Allentown, PA - Agricultural Hall - *Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society*. Contact: FDHAS, 3491 Linden St., Bethlehem, PA 18017. 610-997-8613 after 6pm.
- October 25-26, 2008 - York, PA - York Fairgrounds - *Appalachian Promotions*
- October 24-26, 2008 – Allentown, PA - Days Inn - *Eagle Arms*

## OHIO

- September 20-21, 2008 – Wilmington, OH – Roberts Centre - *Ohio Gun Collectors Association*. **OGCA MEMBERS ONLY**. For membership information contact Laura Knotts (330) 467-5733.

“If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their money, first by inflation and then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them [around the banks], will deprive the people of their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.”  
- Thomas Jefferson

The e-Mail 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, Club Secretary/Membership Chair at the numbers on page one.

-- V/R Bill Chronister, Newsletter Editor