



Pennsylvania Gun Collectors Association

NEWSLETTER

Next Show: May, 21-22, 2022

March 5 & 6 Show Report

After a hurried and stress full effort to get our shows back on track, we were very happy with the results for our first show in over two years.

The originally planned venue was to be the former T.J. Maxx space on the north end of the mall. Much to our chagrin, it was sold just days before we were to get an agreement signed. Fortunately, a smaller space being used by an airsoft gun playground (Battlezone) became available. This was in the former Sears space where we held several events before the pandemic. This space turned out to be a little smaller than we would have liked but had been nicely remodeled by the former tenant.

The building now consists of one larger hall and two somewhat smaller rooms. All three feature bright and wide floor areas and made a nice and easy layout. The three hall floor plan necessitated a new table numbering system. The halls are numbered 1 thru 3 with table sections within each hall listed alphabetically and individual tables within a row listed numerically. Example: 1 A2 = Hall 1, Table section A and Table 2.

Within the limits of safety, we could configure the site to hold just over 300 tables with some room to expand in the future. In March, we were able to fill almost 200 tables. Considering the short notice for this show, we were pleased with this number. Especially since a number of regular vendors had previously committed to other shows across the state.

Attendance by our membership and the public was exceptional. Paid attendance on Saturday alone exceeded the total attendance of some of our pre-COVID weekends. The crowd was large and consistent throughout both days. Every vendor I spoke with reported a good show. One long term table holder stated that it was the best PGCA show he ever had.

We have a lease to hold three more shows at this location during the remainder of 2022. For future shows, it is our hope to find a food concession and improve signage at the building.

Member's Dues

As stated before, PGCA membership dues were suspended for the last two years due to the pandemic's effect on holding events. Members paid through 2019 are still in good standing through the second show of this year as called for in the by-laws. This means that their membership is current up until the close of the show on May 22. Your \$25 yearly dues can be paid at the show or by mail to: PGCA Membership Secretary, P.O. Box 18542, Pittsburgh, Pa, 15236.

Gun Show Etiquette

Gun show (as well as flea market, antique show or auction) etiquette is for the most part a combination of common sense and good manners. The excitement of seeing a rare or desired item can sometimes

cause an individual to exceed the bounds of acceptable conduct. This could result in some negative outcomes.

What we believe should be considered proper gun show etiquette:

1. Never interfere with another person's negotiations. Don't hover over them. Don't inject any comments. Don't attempt to "grab" the item(s).
2. While an individual maintains control (holds on to) an item, it is theirs to deal on. Until they relinquish control, do not make any offers or interfere in any other way.
3. Respect the other attendees of a show. In your pursuit of an item, be mindful of running into or over others. This especially true for elderly patrons or children.
4. Think safety at all times. Most importantly, safe gun handling is paramount. Just because an firearm may be a very old antique, it does not eliminate the possibility that it can be dangerous (loaded). Watch where the muzzle is pointing at ALL times. In addition, one must be aware of transporting through the aisles large, heavy or sharp (bayonets, spears, swords, etc.) items.
5. Ask to handle any items on display. This is not only a safety consideration for some objects, but careless handling can also damage an item reducing its value.

We are sure our membership can think of many more things to add, but all can agree that following these guidelines will result in a safe and pleasant show experience for all.

Firearm Sales Refresher

We would like to remind our members on the safe and legal procedures for buying or selling a firearm in Pennsylvania.

A private seller must assure that the sale of any handgun (made after 1898) to another private individual goes through a licensed dealer for the required background check. Failure for the seller to do so is at minimum a first-degree misdemeanor. In addition, no one can transfer any handgun directly to an out-of-state resident.

Long guns may be sold to a private buyer that is at least 18 years of age. The seller must also have no reason to believe the buyer is prohibited from possessing guns because of a criminal record or a history of mental illness. Long gun sales may be made to residents of another state given the same qualifications.

Holders of a Federal Firearms License may purchase firearms in any state. Those with a Federal Curio & Relics license may also secure firearms, out of their state of residence, that BATF has deemed primarily collectible guns. This is considered to be most weapons made over 50 years ago.

We caution all attendees purchasing any item from another private individual to secure identification from the other party. This should consist of a government issued photo I.D. If selling to a license holder (FFL or C&R), you should obtain a signed copy of their license. Failure to do so could expose you to a host legal complications in the future.

2022 Show Dates:

May 21-22
October 1-2
December 10-11

PGCA, PO Box 246, Glenshaw, Pa. 15116
Phone & FAX: 412-486-1129

Website: www.paguncollectors.org

Membership Dues:
PO Box 18542
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15236