



AN INVITATION



The Maryland Arms Collectors Association, Inc. (MACA)

Welcome to the 2022 “Baltimore Show” sponsored by MACA. We hope that everyone finds this event enjoyable. Please read on as our organization is more than just this annual gathering.

History of MACA:

We can trace our roots back to 1948. A small group of eight men, in the greater Baltimore area with interest in historical arms collecting joined together and laid out the club’s founding documents on Friday, September 17, 1948.

From that point forward, this dedicated group of individuals continued to promote arms collecting by holding regular club meetings and attracting many, like minded, new members. Growth was rapid and it became desirable to hold a larger, more comprehensive event which would showcase their interests to the public.

The first “Baltimore Show” conducted by MACA was presented in March, 1955 in the Ballroom of the Belvedere Hotel in downtown Baltimore. The show was a success and has been held 65 times, within the last 67 years. Pandemic restrictions prohibited shows in 2020 & 2021.

Today:

The Maryland Arms Collector’s Association (MACA) consistently retains approximately 200 members. The club continues to promote the preservation, research, dissemination of knowledge and fellowship in the community of collectors of all types of historic and collectable arms. In addition to planning and hosting the annual “Baltimore Show”, we hold 11 meetings per year on the 2nd Friday of each month, except August. The meetings are held at 7:30 P.M. at the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus Hall, 2021 Frederick Road, Catonsville, Maryland.

Membership is open to qualified individuals who wish to share and participate in our common goal of learning about and preserving historical and collectable arms. This includes not only preserving the artifacts themselves, but also preserving the right to own them.

Presentations at Meetings:

An important benefit of MACA membership is the presentations delivered at each meeting. Typical

topics include research on a particular arm; be it a pistol, musket, rifle, sword or related item outlining the details of the arm, its manufacture and history of use. As many of the arms are of military origin, historical events surrounding these arms as related by eyewitness soldier and participant accounts have been encouraged.

Examples of Monthly Meeting Presentations

- Speech by a 96-year-old Marine Gunnery Sergeant wounded at Peleliu Island during WWII.
- Presentation of the detailed workings and firing of a 16th century matchlock musket in military formation.
- Origins and design characteristics of American (Kentucky) Long-rifles.
- Presentation of manufacture and detailed markings of Civil War Carbines.
- Presentation by WWII Army Air Corps pilot whose aircraft was shot down over Europe. He survived the crash, was forced to walk from France to Poland and endured three years as a prisoner of war.
- Detailed account of the firing upon USS Liberty in the Mediterranean by Israelis during Six-Day War, 1967.
- Eyewitness account of evacuation of the US Embassy in Saigon, April 1975.
- Unit marked Mausers used in WWI Palestine. Presented by a former club president.
- Black Powder Cartridge arms developments between the civil war and 1892. Example: The first detachable magazine rifle adopted by any military service. The 1879 Remington Lee.

If you are intrigued by history and the role that arms played in forming that history, please join us at one of our monthly meetings to see what we’re all about.

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