

**In September, AGCA Board member, Joe Koss, attended the NRA Gun Collection Seminar in New York. The following is a brief overview of some of the items discussed at the seminar.**

### **GUN SHOWS**

- “Gun show” is politically charged—change terminology to “meeting” or “Collectors Arms Show”?
- “Weapon” has negative connotations—refer only to “gun”, “arm” or “firearm”. [Are we concerned?]
- Have roving patrols to police tie wraps.
- Tube magazines must be inspected for hung rounds.
- Emphasize educational value of displays. Competition merely encourages displayers to improve quality.
- Make show entry free to members of other gun collector associations.
- Institute a “Military Display” award, separate from the others.
- Put displays in a separate area, as is done at NRA Annual Meetings.
- Send [or subsidize sending] Best in Show displays to the NRA Annual Meeting.
- Do we want to fund a display award at the NRA National Gun Show, either on occasion or annually?
- Host trade displays at shows. Invite specialty clubs, such as the Thompson Collectors or FNAWS.
- Show tables are tied to membership [because of insurance liability]. Can we change this? Do we want to?
- Video tape presentations/seminars/classes so that they may be used at later events.
- Consider off-duty police for security, especially at the front door.

### **EDUCATION**

- Increase education—there is no quick fix. Appeal to women and youth.
- Emphasize educational value of displays. Competition merely encourages displayers to improve quality.
- Check museum registers to see what arms are in inventory; press for research and display.
- Get members on museum boards to preserve and improve displays of museum guns.
- Get actors to present gun safety. This could be incorporated into the Eddie Eagle program.
- Give away free gunlocks. [Are we concerned about this aspect? Need we be?]
- Exchange newsletters with other clubs.
- Take the collection on the road around Alaska.
- Video tape presentations/seminars/classes so that they may be used at later events.

### **GUN COLLECTING**

- What are our aims? How well do we promote gun collecting--the apparent point of our name?
- Send [or subsidize sending] Best in Show displays to the NRA Annual Meeting.
- Do we want to fund a display award at the NRA National Gun Show, either on occasion or annually?
- Check museum registers to see what arms are in inventory; press for research and display.

- Get members on museum boards to preserve and improve displays of museum guns.
- Identify areas where we can help collectors as a group or individuals--help with research, etc.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Section 501[c][3] status is no reason not to act, but status must still be protected with proper activity.
- To the extent possible, we should be involved in local and national politics that involve gun freedoms. Make sure members register and vote. Candidates' gun orientation is as important as party membership.
- Support ILA to monitor legislature after election. Withhold support from organizations and publications, which oppose gun ownership and use, such as the New York Times.
- Consider more member meetings outside the shows.
- At member meetings, have demonstrations or presentations in addition to the pure business aspect.
- Add email addresses to the master membership roster.
- Publish the newsletter by email.
- Show tables are tied to membership [because of insurance liability]. Can we change this? Do we want to?
- Do we want to fund a display award at the NRA National Gun Show, either on occasion or annually?
- Internal controls to safeguard funds are important.

---

**BRIEF MEMBERS' SURVEY**

There has been a lot of discussion lately about the make-up of our gun shows. Some feel there are too many non-gun/gun-related tables, some feel there are not enough such tables to encourage patrons to bring their whole families and thus, they stay away, and some feel the mix is just about right. What are your thoughts?

Too many non-gun tables       About the right mix       Not enough non-gun tables

Comments and other suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Many of you have collections of guns/gun-related materials but don't display. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What will entice you to display?  Larger cash prizes       Better security  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve on AGCA Committees, such as gun show, membership, election, etc.?  
 Yes       No       Maybe, call me

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you. Please mail this survey to: AGCA, PO Box 242233, Anchorage, AK 99523-2233**