

# GREAT PEOPLE MAKE A GREAT COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION



The people of The Ohio Gun Collectors Association (OGCA) have made us much more than just a big gun show! We're friends sharing a love for the history and craftsmanship of firearms.

If you enjoy collecting, shooting and owning firearms in a safe and responsible manner, The Ohio Gun Collectors Association wants you as a member of its nation-wide gun collectors' association.

Though closed to the public, OGCA meetings are huge events drawing thousands of people from across the country, and regularly feature 700-800 tables of strictly gun-related material. According to the National Rifle Association, OGCA is the "Granddaddy" of all collector associations, having been founded in 1937 and now standing at 18,000 members.

We currently meet six times per year in Wilmington, Ohio at The Roberts Centre located adjacent to I-71 at exit 50 between Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton ([www.ogca.com](http://www.ogca.com) for dates.) Besides trading opportunities, virtually every meeting offers educational and social opportunities such as exhibits, speakers, "Collector Club Invitationals," firearm book signings and an annual banquet. Examples of educational displays, authors and artisans can be found on at left.

*"I came for the variety and quality of trading opportunities, and remained a member for the friendships."  
-Jim Curlovic, member since 1976*

Members hail from 49 states and 13 foreign countries...but we are still unknown to many gun enthusiasts. If you have never heard of us it's because we don't advertise. Our members joined solely by word of mouth, and our private gun show meetings are limited to members and invited guests. With the help of our members we are expanding awareness of our club and the fun of collecting. Take the time to find out more about our association and unique process of joining.



## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Admission to all six meetings for you, your **spouse** and minor **children** or minor **grand-children**.
2. One of the most interesting, safety-oriented firearm swap-meets with a wide variety of firearms, accessories and gun-related items.
3. Invite up to four guests to a meeting (fee applies).
4. Rent trade or display table space.
5. Four newsletters and two interim mailings per year to keep up to date on meetings and events.
6. Sponsorship of others after one year of membership.
7. Helps qualify you to purchase surplus firearms through the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP.)
8. Educational opportunities to meet people you would otherwise never meet. Learn from veteran collectors from all over the country including our author members who have written over 100 firearms books.
9. Vote in director elections, Annual Display Show competitions, OGCA constitution and membership matters.
10. Support the fight for firearm freedoms, youth target shooting and the study and preservation of historical and collectible arms.

## INTRODUCING THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST PRIVATE FIREARM COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of The Ohio Gun Collectors Association was held in 1937 by invitation of founder, Miller Bedford. Members joined back then for the same reason they do today, the quality and selection of firearms that our members bring to trade. They *remain* members because of the friendships they gain.

During the 1940's, members included distinguished military personnel, arms experts and technicians including not only Capt. Clark Gable, the actor, but also Lt. Col. Calvin Goddard the "father" of forensic firearms investigation. To this day, many members come from a notable law enforcement or military background.



By OGCA's 10th Anniversary it joined forces with other pro-Second Amendment groups in fighting onerous, and ineffective firearms legislation. Today, OGCA and thousands of its members support the OGCA-PAC (Political Action Committee) in its never-ending effort to raise funds to support pro-Second Amendment politicians. *If you value gun ownership and gun collecting this is among the most important reasons to join OGCA!* In addition, through the generous support of our members, we are able to provide much needed grants to youth shooting programs.

Since 1954, OGCA has displayed educational exhibits on "Collector's Row" at the NRA Annual Meeting. Often the exhibit is selected from one of the most interesting displays at our Annual Display Show competition which is recognized as one of the best in the world.

Each year we honor our members at the Annual Members Recognition Banquet. At the meetings, OGCA has continually expanded its educational opportunities inviting featured guest speakers, instructors, living history reenactors and firearm displays by members and collector organizations.

Today, the meetings of The Ohio Gun Collectors Association remain a lively and active trading place of all makes and models of firearms. It is a place to meet others interested in all aspects of firearms. Great people make a great collectors' association, and more great people are wanted.

**Meeting Hall: The Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Rd.,  
Wilmington, Ohio 45177 I-71 and US 68 [exit 50]**



**One of the most convenient and functional halls for the serious gun collector with its direct highway access, easy unloading, free parking and on-site hotel and restaurant.**

### OUR MISSION

The Ohio Gun Collectors  
Association

1. To promote friendship and free exchange of ideas for those interested in the collection, possession and use of arms by responsible persons.
2. To encourage educational displays and the study of historic and collectible firearms.
3. To make a united stand in opposing legislation that may be injurious to the collection, possession and use of arms by responsible persons.
4. To establish, uphold, and promote the highest ethical standards in our activities, as well as the safe use of firearms especially with youth groups.

## HOW TO JOIN THE OHIO GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION



To join, you must first attend a meeting/show as a guest of one of our current members. Guest passes are currently \$10 for the weekend, and individuals are limited to two visits per life due to security protocols. (If interested you must

join on your 1st or 2nd visit.) Guests are permitted to buy/sell/trade firearms in compliance with the law and OGCA rules. Some of the most important Safety Rules can be found on the back panel.

Registration forms for guest passes are provided to members in advance of each meeting and require the signature of both the member and the guest. Guest passes must be worn for admission, and can be arranged by your sponsor by mail or in person at the meeting.

Along with your guest pass you will receive an Application for Membership. To apply, you must have two sponsors who have been in good standing for over one year. One sponsor must accompany you when you turn in the membership application at the Applications Desk at the meeting. Applications are not accepted by mail. The cost to apply varies since it includes a portion of dues, but is typically \$30 - \$40 (waived for active duty military).

Your application will be reviewed by the Screening & Enforcement Committee. A list of applicants will be mailed to members for review prior to the vote at the next meeting approximately two months later. Visit [www.ogca.com](http://www.ogca.com) for a complete list of meeting dates, directions and hotels.

If you are not sure if you know a member who can bring you as a guest, keep in mind that OGCA has thousands of members. If you are a firearms enthusiast, it is possible that you know a member, but are just not aware that they're a member. Our best advice is to ask friends and acquaintances. If you are friends with your local gun shop owner, belong to shooting clubs or attend gun shows or NRA events, these are good places to start. Did a member give you this flier?



For more information, ask a member or visit [www.ogca.com](http://www.ogca.com). For a sample newsletter call (330) 467-5733 or email [ogca@ogca.com](mailto:ogca@ogca.com). OGCA Business Office: P.O. Box 670406 Sagamore Hills, OH 44067.

### Newsletter examples



Educational Firearm Displays



Like us on Facebook!  
visit: <https://www.facebook.com/theogca/>

## IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES

If you've been invited by a member to be their guest at an upcoming meeting, you must observe all federal firearms laws and safety rules of OGCA. Every firearm accident is avoidable and below are some of the most important rules to know before you go. We want everyone to enjoy their visit.

1. Every firearm must be unloaded and incapable of discharge of any type of projectile, bullet, etc. This includes airguns which may not be cocked, or charged with air.
2. No loaded clips or magazines. No loaded CCWs (Concealed Carry Weapons.)
3. Unload, deactivate, remove clips and magazines before you leave home.
4. All firearms/airguns must be tied. Gun ties are available at the Gun Tie desk \$.05 each or 20 for \$1.00. (No one will be denied if you do not have the change.)
5. All firearms brought to the meeting hall must be presented at the Gun Tie Desk located at the entrance. If a firearm is taken out of the hall and returns, it must be reinspected and re-tied at the Gun Tie Desk.
6. Never point a firearm in an unsafe direction - act as if all guns are loaded.
7. No bows and arrows. No accessories or parts to simulate full automatic fire.
8. Members are responsible for their Guests and Applicants.
9. Be aware of your surroundings and read signs. Report safety concerns to OGCA Security.
10. Cameras, use of cell phone cameras, and recording devices are prohibited without the permission of the president.

*Rules and Bylaws are subject to change.  
Observe all signage and instructions  
of security officials.*

**Background: Minuteman Freedom Bronze**