

# THE RIFLING MACHINES GROUP

BY MARK BENDER

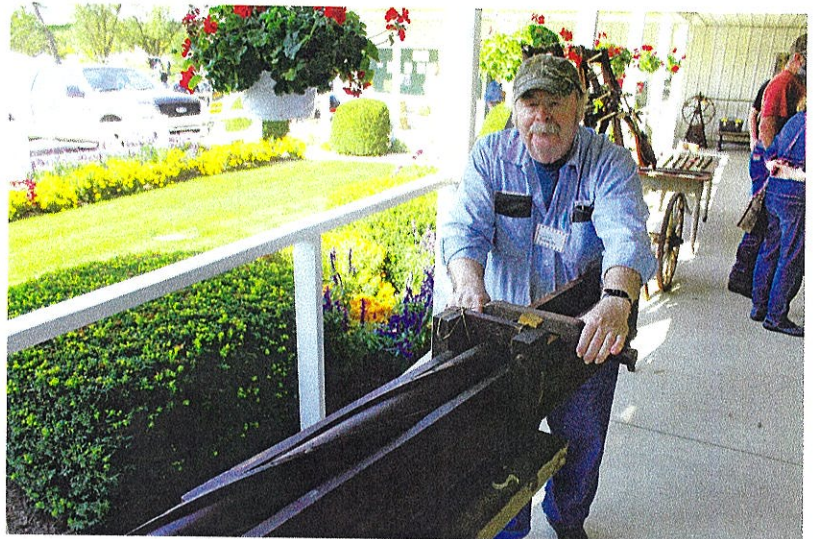
Amongst the tables at the October 2020 Early American Trades Fair, I ran into a group self-described as “highly intelligent and mutually dedicated” muzzle-loading aficionados who “enjoy displaying to the public” their rifling machines. Going under the name of “The Gun Shoppe Group,” the exhibitors, who included Charley Shedeley and Bill Hoover, demonstrated the art of rifling (“not drilling”) muzzle-loading rifle barrels, on a rifling machine that was built in the 1930s by Leroy Kuntz. The labor-intensive art of rifling goes

back centuries, and hand-cranked rifling benches were a stock item in many gun shops in 19th century Ohio. The exhibit included not only the rifling machine, but sample barrels in various stages of manufacture, as well as oil, paper, and metal shims, pieces of leather harness, and other items used in the rifling process. The accompanying photos show group members in action educating the public on this once essential craft.



*Charlie Shedeley chatting up traditional muzzle-loading barrel rifling by the exhibit rifling machine. (Photograph by Mark Bender)*

*Charlie Shedeley operating the rifling machine in a public education display at the Early American Trades Fair, October, 2020. (Photograph by Mark Bender)*





# LADIES AUXILIARY

BY BARB HARWOOD

Well, as I look at it, it's Ground Hog Day (the Movie) and not even Feb. yet!! Seems like we were here this time last year. But having the show cancelled now has us ahead of the game. Will miss everyone, it's been a long time, now will be even longer before seeing everyone. Sad, but has to be.

Alys and I are assuring you we still have arrangements made with DaVinci's and the Henderson Hall Plantation for 2022. One MORE time!! LOL

We should have a nice collection of auction items

for next year, you have had 2 years to think about your donations.

Everyone be safe, stay healthy. Hopefully we have a fall show to meet and enjoy each other again. Only thing that should have changed - we're older! LOLCo. Presidents Ladies Aux.

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## PICTURES FROM THE ASHLAND SHOW



*AOLRC president Mark Herman and the displays at the Au 2020 Ashland exhibit, trade, and sell show during the COVID-19 Pandemic. (Photograph by Mark Bender)*



*Image of the Au 2020 Ashland exhibit, trade, and sell show during the COVID-19 Pandemic. (Photograph by Mark Bender)*

### FACEBOOK LINK ANNOUNCEMENT

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter Allen Corbett has done a fantastic job updating the AOLRC website. Visit the site to find dates of upcoming shows, articles, and even items for sale. These images from the site can be found at: <http://www.aolrc.com/>

Please check out the new Facebook link. This promises to be an exciting place to post current news and photos.

Both the AOLRC website and Facebook page make communication much faster and more convenient to access than the newsletter you are holding. Find them online and enhance your AOLRC experience.