
THE
ASSOCIATION
OF OHIO
LONGRIFLE
COLLECTORS



FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION
OF THE OHIO MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

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**38th A.O.L.R.C.
Marietta Exhibit
April 12, 13, 14, 2013**



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President's Letter



Dear Fellow Club Members:

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and enjoying 2013. As the time quickly approached for me to write another piece for the President's Page, I realized that everything is running smoothly and there are very few issues to talk about.

Winter is now in full swing and this is oddly enough the season when many of the rifles we collect were made by the men listed in the census as "farmers and gunsmiths." In the 1800s, life on a farm had to be rough, even on the best of days. A typical winter day would involve feeding the livestock, making food for the family, and trying to keep the house warm. That alone sounds like an honest day's work to me, but these men also found time in their day to build a rifle. I am doubtful that anyone out there would volunteer to spend the month of January in a house with no electric and only a pot-bellied stove to keep it warm. If I had to live on only what I made from scratch and cooked on a wood stove, I would surely be able to tighten my belt at least three holes.

Back before the start of the winter season, we held our annual show in Newark. It was so crowded that I think our entire membership showed up! I arrived at 8am to set up my table and the place was already hopping with dealers unpacking their (good) stuff. The doors opened at nine, and within a half hour the place was packed. There was a constant crowd all morning and it barely slowed down in the afternoon. I made a

lot of good sales, but as usual, I took my profits and spent more than I made. This is the first year that we held the Newark show in September. It is yet to be determined whether or not this was the reason for the big turnout. However, at this time we are planning another September date for 2013.

Before I close, I need to acknowledge a mistake that was made in my last piece. I spoke about Jim Claggett being the ramrod that started and continues to maintain the Newark show. In actuality, the first Newark show was organized and ran by Jim Rice. Jim has been a member of the OLRCA as long as I can remember and may even be a charter member. He has always been available and willing to do whatever we needed to move the club forward. Therefore, as President, I want to say "Thank You" to two men named "Jim."

See you in Marietta,

Bob Poch

Please Note: Make sure to check on the dates of your reservations at the LaFayette prior to your arrival – there seems to have been a mix-up on the dates of our Exhibit. Please do this as soon as you can to avoid disappointment. Also, we will be electing Board Members at the meeting. Please submit your nominations to Dan Smith or any existing Board Member.



38th Marietta Exhibit

As in the past we are inviting anyone who has documented Ohio made rifles produced prior to 1900 to display them. In order to avoid any confusion as far as space allotment is concerned, we are asking interested parties to please let us know how many tables they will need. In doing this the association will be able to provide adequate table accommodations on a first come basis. So, please be prompt. Mail table requests to Rod Frazer, 11815 Streamside Drive, Pickerington, OH 43147.

Remember the major portion of your display must consist of antique Ohio made rifles and accessories. Ohio made contemporary rifles must not exceed more than 10% of your total display. This rule will be strictly enforced and all contemporary rifles must be so marked.

Set up of exhibits will begin on Friday, April 12.

Banquet

Our annual membership meeting and banquet will be held April 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the LaFayette Hotel. This meeting will be preceded by a hospitality hour at 6:00 p.m. and a banquet at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will consist of prime rib, stuffed chicken breast, or maple glazed pork loin and all the trimmings with tickets costing \$20.00 each payable to the secretary no later than April 5. Banquet space is limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. Please get your reservation in early. The Board has decided not to have entertainment following the Banquet this year, but to keep the room open for an hour or two for members to socialize.

Lodging and accommodations

The LaFayette Motor Hotel has been generous enough to provide exhibit space for our show. They have also offered our membership a generous discount on their room accommodations. We strongly urge our membership to take advantage of this special rate and the fact that the show, the banquet, and the membership meeting will be held in the same location. For reservations telephone 740/373-5522. Be sure to mention that you are coming to the AOLRC Exhibit.

For security reasons, no rifles may be brought into the exhibit hall after 9:00 a.m. Saturday, or leave before 3:00 p.m. Sunday, unless prior arrangements

have been made with the sergeant-at-arms.

Also, no rifle(s) may be brought into the exhibit hall by a non-member without first signing in with the sergeant-at-arms during public hours.

Friday, April 12

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Set up for exhibit.

6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Reception for all exhibitors and members. Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, April 13

8:00 a.m.

Exhibit hall opens to exhibitors and members only.

9:00 a.m.

Show opens to public.

5:00 p.m.

Exhibit closes.

6:00 p.m.

Hospitality hour.

7:00 p.m.

Banquet

8:00 p.m.

Membership meeting.
Social hour.

Sunday, April 14

9:00 a.m.

Exhibit hall opens to the public.

3:00 p.m.

Exhibit closes.

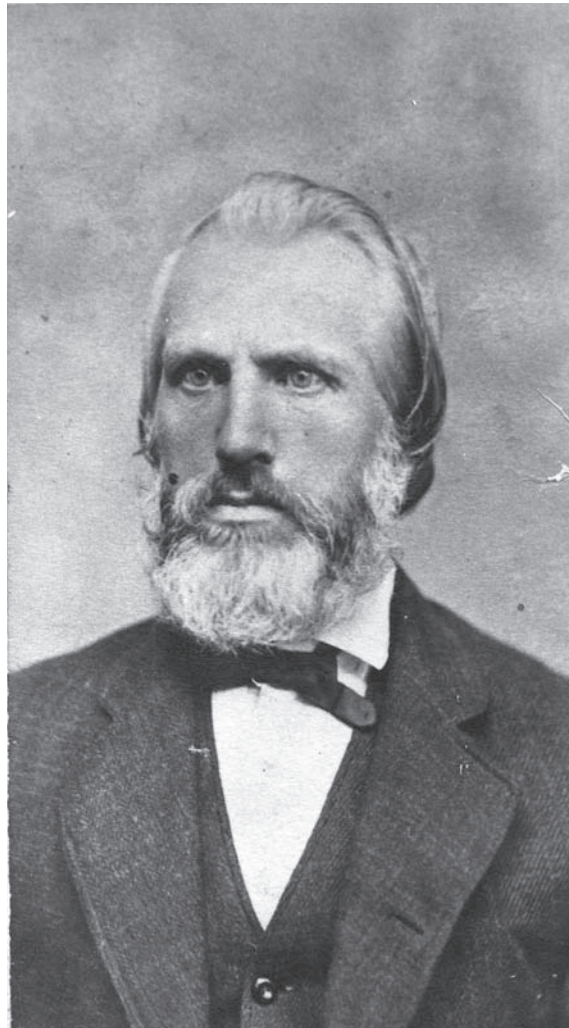
PLEASE NOTE

Our featured gunsmiths this year will be the various gunsmiths of Columbiana County. The hotel will provide glass cases for this exhibit. Please bring your Columbiana County rifles this year for the public to view. For more information please contact Tom Oakes at 330-264-4319.



William Christian Johann Grauman

William Christian Johann Grauman was born 8/21/1829 in Hamburg, Germany. His father Heinrich a cooper/barrel maker, died when he (William Grauman) was just a year old. His mother was born in Gluckstadt, Germany, a town close to where gunsmiths were trained. Most likely as a teenager he stayed with relatives in that area as he learned his trade. During much of the 1800's there was an increase in population and turmoil in Germany, leading up to unification and the Kaiser. William spent a year in the military service, then in the spring of 1848 at the age of 19, he followed his brother Conrad to Columbus, OH leaving behind his mother who followed a year later. He had three older sisters and a brother who most likely died before his mother left Germany as there is no mention of them made after their birth records.



He arrived in Columbus, OH on July 4, 1848. He reunited with his brother and in June of 1854 just before his 25th birthday he married Mary Heckman. William Jr. was born in 1855 and Mary was born in 1856. Then it was off to the next adventure that same year with a group of Pioneer families to help found what is now Columbus, Nebraska. During this era, the so-called "Pawnee War" was happening. A call went out to stop a small group of renegade Pawnees. A group of about 200 settlers were grouped into 6 companies of which Company 5 was under the leadership of Capt. Weaver, Sgt. Browner and young 29 year old 1st Lt. William

Grauman. Per Andreas History of Nebraska the tour of duty lasted 16 days, and he was back home for his birthday. They were in Nebraska for another 2 to 3 years, losing an infant son and everything in a house fire. Here is the first mention of “all the guns” being lost, along with possessions. It would be assumed he was applying his skill to help add to the farm income. He returned to Columbus, OH in 1861 or 1862 finding he had lost his mother and then later losing yet another infant son. During this time he is said to have enlisted for 2 years in the Union Army, assuming as a gunsmith and then returned home. Then he re-enlisted in Feb 1865 into 184th and 185th regiments of the OVI and is listed as a gunsmith. Was then mustered out at the age of 36 at 5’ 3 1/2” tall and blue eyed, in Sept. of that same year.

In 1866 he moved his family to Marysville, OH and opened a gunsmith shop now making guns for “Sunday afternoon target shooting Veterans” since cartridges had taken over muzzle loading after the war.

In 1877 his next adventure led him and his oldest son to Leadville, Colorado. He returned after 7 months to his shop on 4th Street but soon traded it for a farm in Taylor Township. Then again in the spring of 1887 he and a younger son tried farming near Tullahoma, TN but returned to Ohio in August of the same year.

In March of 1895 he made his final stop and bought a house back in Marysville for \$600 at \$1.50 per week with \$.72 interest. A shop was attached to the house, which is still there today. The guns he made, of the 30 we have seen, are target rifles, fitted with brass, DBL set triggers, and fine sights. His grandchildren remember him pumping the treadle lathe to bore out the barrels. I believe that while on his travels and adventures he was enhancing his skills and taking pride in his work. Of the five generations that have followed most are skilled machinists, woodworkers and/or both. So his journey of 78 years came to an end in May of 1907, to the dismay, I believe of his fellow Veterans in the Marysville area who probably insisted on shoot’n with a “Grauman”.

Written by Great Great Grandson: Benjamin Lee Grauman, Farmersville, OH 45325 Information from family, war, and Columbus Historical Society records.



SOME MONTGOMERY COUNTY GUNSMITHS

Volume III of our *Ohio Gunsmiths & Allied Tradesmen* has approximately eighty-six entries for Montgomery County. Quite a few Montgomery County longrifles have been photographed since the publication of our five-volume set, and five such rifles are presented here. Biographical information on the gunsmiths can be found in Volume III. (Check out page 255 – Gunckel rifle – and page 264 – Stutsman lock)

Henry Warner (1804 - ?)



John D. Gunckel (Circa 1850)



David Sheets (1785 - 1851)



Jonathan Grove Stutsman (1819 - ?)



Jonathan Grove Stutsman (1819 - ?)





14th Annual AOLRC Antique Gun and Arms Show



The 14th Annual Antique Gun and Arms Show, held on September 29, 2012 in Newark was another success. Jim Claggett did his usual outstanding job in organizing and promoting this event, which is limited to muzzleloading firearms and related accessories. Tables are available to members and non-members alike, and the quality of the merchandise has improved steadily over the years. If you have not attended, or have not attended in several years, you are missing one of the premier “Buy, Sell, and Trade” shows in the country.

The show is also a financial success for the AOLRC. Paid attendance has been rising virtually every year, and the table rental is always filled. In addition, a few new members sign up at the show, and the sale of our Ohio Gunsmiths books adds some revenue.





Ladies of AOLRC News

Just like last year our Marietta show is a little later – April 12, 13, and 14. Marietta is having a big celebration the weekend before so the Lafayette had to change our weekend. Our reunion this April will not be quite the same. Two of our precious auxiliary ladies will not be with us. In October of 2012 Hazel Shultz passed into heaven and Lou Vye joined her in December. They both will be truly missed but there is no doubt in my mind that their spirits will grace our weekend.

Set up for the tables and for the show will be Friday afternoon. We will continue with our social hour for members only beginning around 6:00 with the carving station, salads, and of course the birthday cake. A bucket will be available for donations to defray the expense of the food.

Saturday's activity for the ladies will be a little different this year. We will be remaining at the Lafayette. We will meet at 11:00 at the Rufus Putnam Room – across from the entrance into the restaurant. We will have a short business meeting then at 11:30 we will be joined by our guest speaker, Louise Zimmer, a Marietta historian. The Lafayette will have a salad buffet set up for us complete with drink and dessert. The cost will be \$9.99 per person plus tax and gratuity and each of us will be given individual bills. Mrs. Zimmer will be speaking with us after lunch. She does not charge for speaking engagements but does accept donations. I will be accepting donations from any of you who would like to donate to give to Mrs. Zimmer.

I had tried to book our event at the Blennerhassett Hotel in Parkersburg and then tour

the Blennerhassett Museum there but the hotel was booked. We will try to schedule this for next year's activity before we leave Marietta this year.

Our evening dinner will continue as it has in the past. Dress will again be casual and like last year there will not be a speaker or entertainment after the dinner, however, there will be a short business meeting. The rest of the evening will be social time for more gun talk and visiting.

We still do not have any plans or even ideas for a project. The men are still working on book ideas and perhaps could use our help. We can discuss this at our Saturday luncheon.

I am looking forward to our reunion and seeing you in Marietta. Please email me at ronjudyerian@gmail.com, or phone me 740-746-8965 or send mail to me at 3321 West Point Rd. SE, Lancaster, OH 43130 with your reservation for the ladies' luncheon. I need to give the number attending the luncheon to the Lafayette the week of the show.

See you soon. Judy Yerian

P.S. A REMINDER - Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 10, 2013. This is the date for our annual picnic and shoot. More details will be sent this summer.

