

EDITOR'S NOTES

This issue introduces information on twelve previously undocumented 19th century Ohio gunsmiths, whose names do not appear in the 5 volume Ohio Gunsmiths & Allied Tradesman series of publications and other volumes edited by Donald A. Hutslar (with the input from many AOLRC members), volumes edited by James Whisker, and the more recent Arms Makers of Ohio (Spiker and Whisker). Though these volumes reflect the great amount of research done on Ohio gunsmiths in the 1980s and 1990s, there are still names, stories, rifles, and related items to be uncovered. The many unmarked guns in existence remain tantalizing mysteries, including those exhibiting high levels of craftsmanship that would warrant recognition by name. This issue also contains a close look at a rifle from Hardin county that exhibit's an unusual two-piece configuration, and pictures of two rifles by different makers with oddly similar patchboxes—illustrating the sometimes confusing situation of where and when to place rifles with the

same or similar signatures, and raising questions about lines and interstices of transmission of techniques and patterns.

I would like to thank the contributors to this and other recent issues, and again ask for more articles and photo essays. These are needed in order to maintain an interesting and informative level of content and to promote research and appreciation of the unique items of early Ohio history and folk culture that are our passion. Please contact me at mabgogo@yahoo.com or text me at 614-736-3783.

Tickets for the 2020 Raffle Rifle will be on sale at the Marietta Show. The maker is P.A. Reinhard from Loudonville, Ohio. The tickets will be on sale thru Sat., Oct., 10th. 2020.

If you have an article to submit for publication, please contact me at: mabgogo@yahoo.com

Mark Bender

GUIDELINES FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSION

1. The preferred format for articles is a Word document. Please use size 12 font, single or double space, 1 inch margins.
2. Printed photographs, drawings, and typed or handwritten manuscripts can be mailed to:
Mark Bender
139 W. Old Powell Rd, Shawnee Hills, Ohio 43065
USA
3. Articles in Word (or compatible system), photos (j-pegs or other formats), and correspondence can be emailed to this address: mabgogo@yahoo.com
4. Please put "AOLRCfile" in the subject line of the email.
5. Please run a spelling and grammar check on your e-files and otherwise proofread them.
6. Please put the **title and author's name** at the top of the article; use the same font size for the whole article.
7. **Photographs** can be color or black and white. If you are not a professional, good results can be obtained by taking photos of objects in soft, outdoor light. Lay the object on a non-reflective black background (blanket, etc.) with no background clutter. Please keep in mind how a color image might look if presented in black and white. Photos should be clear and sharp. (Professionals will, of course, have their own protocols.)
8. Use **past issues as a guideline** to content. Ideas for articles include local or family histories of pre-1900 Ohio gunsmiths and the use of muzzle-loading arms; detailed descriptions of representative or unique rifles (in terms of features or level of craftsmanship); accoutrements; short interviews with AOLRC members relating to collecting and appreciation of the Ohio long rifle as a folk art; accounts of early shooting clubs, shoots, tales, etc.
9. The newsletter is normally published twice a year. Submissions are always welcome, however timely notices for the Spring or Fall shows need to be received **at least 6 weeks** in advance.

MEET THE DIRECTORS

BY TOM McCULLOUGH

My name is Tom McCullough and I was elected to the board of directors in 2017. I live in Pandora, Ohio which is located in Putnam County. I'm a University of Toledo graduate with an Associate Degree in Architecture and have had two careers before I retired in 2008. I worked 30 years for RCA/GE/Harris/Intersil in Findlay, Ohio as a Senior Maintenance Technician in the semiconductor industry and worked 6 years as a Maintenance Manager for First Solar in Perrysburg, Ohio a photovoltaic solar module manufacturer. I've been married to my childhood sweetheart, Jane, for 49 years and have two sons, Jeremy (45) and Josh (44).

I've been a member of the AOLRC for over 25 years, and also member of the KRA, CLA, and NMLRA. I have a love of local history and collect rifles made by 19th century gunsmiths W.S. Chase, Peter Geiger, and John Moser of Putnam County. I joined the AOLRC with the primary intent to locate rifles made in my region of Ohio and also do research on them as well. Thanks to the following members for helping with research and locating rifles: Jim Whisker, Warren Offenberger, Larry Poston, Bill Shulaw, John Wyse, Dan Wyse, Loren Wengerd, Paul Zeiher, Ted Dixon, and Earl Brown.

Like many of our members, I was attracted to flintlock rifles from watching the early Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett movies and TV series.

My interest in collecting, building, and shooting muzzleloading rifles started in 1974 and my first rifle was a Bucks County 54 caliber flintlock, that I built from a blank w/Douglas barrel and Bud Siler lock. In 1976, I became a member of the American Mountain Men and belonged to a party called the Ohio Fur Company. I'm no longer a buckskinner or primitive camper, but have continued to build a few rifles, one NW trade gun, and a pistol.

I have many other hobbies and interests: Hunting, trapping, fishing, swimming, playing guitar, building colonial furniture, blacksmithing, and restoring old log buildings and timber frames. I spent the last 10 years rebuilding and restoring a circa 1860 2 ½ story log

home, circa 1840 timber frame shop, and 1850 single crib log barn.

I now enjoy locating gunsmiths that have not been documented in other Ohio gunsmith publications. Most recently found a Jacob Moser and Ferdinand Benroth of Allen County, Ohio and found samples of their work

As a director, I strive to get new members and the younger generation interested in Ohio long rifle collecting and research through our show in Marietta, Newark, and local gun shows/exhibits. I would love to see this organization continue to grow and thrive into the next century. I've enjoyed helping new collectors find Ohio long rifles and sending gunsmith research to those that want to know more about the rifle they may have recently acquired.

I think the AOLRC members & directors need to think "out of the box" on how we can spark more interest into our association without affecting our core purpose and objective on education and preserving the history of the Ohio long rifle. Feel free to contact me anytime on your ideas, questions, comments, or concerns at cell # 419-721-8154 or email tomjanemc@yahoo.com.



Tom McCullough & Family