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LONGRIFLE
COLLECTORS



FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION
OF THE OHIO MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

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**37th A.O.L.R.C.
Marietta Exhibit
April 13, 14, 15, 2012**



Contents

President's Letter	2
37th Marietta Exhibit	3
Miscellaneous Gunsmiths	4
13th Annual Newark Show	11
Ladies of AOLRC News	12



President's Letter



Dear Fellow Club Members:

I hope that everyone is doing well and is enjoying the mild winter we have been experiencing these last couple months. However, if you are anything like me, you are probably looking forward to the spring not only for the warmer weather, but also our Marietta show. It is unfortunate that this year's a leap year and that we have one additional day to wait from now until the day of the show. It makes you wonder who ever decided to add an extra day onto February, which is usually a cold and snowy month, instead of a warm summer month like June.

The featured gunsmith at the Marietta show this year will be a family from Columbiana County, the Smalls. The family consists of John the elder, his son David, and David's son Sam. (Editor's note: Check out the information in Pat McArtor's "Tidbits" in this issue.) Tom Oakes has volunteered to take charge of the display. Anyone with Small rifles that they would like to display can call Tom at (330) 264-3419. We currently have about 100 photographs of guns by gunsmiths from Ohio who have not been pictured in earlier books by Jim Whisker or Donald Hutslar. Although this is a lot of pictures, we still need more to make the book interesting enough to sell. Therefore, we are looking for guns by makers who were covered in previous books, but since the book was published, other more elaborate or

artistic rifles have been found. With that said, we are still accepting pictures of rifles made by any gunsmith who has not yet been a part of any book. Also, if anyone has found pictures of gunsmiths that were not previously used in our newsletters, please bring them along. We will be taking pictures at the Marietta show in April.

On a more serious note, I wanted to give everyone an update on how Larry Bryner is doing. Larry had a serious accident with his tractor in mid-November of last year. He is currently still in the hospital and moving along slowly. Please send cards and letters to Larry and pray for him to continue to recover as soon as possible. Also, pray for his wife, Judy, who has been spending long hours at his side making sure he receives the best care. Thanks a million, Judy!

Bob Poch

Reminder: We will be having an election for the Board of Directors at the April meeting. Please submit your nominations to Dan Smith or to any existing Board member.

It is also my sad duty to report the passing of David Staley, who died last November. I will do my best to inform the membership of losses of our members, and I sincerely apologize if I have missed any such events.



37th 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 13.

Banquet

Our annual membership meeting and banquet will be held April 14 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 13

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

Set up for exhibit.

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, April 14

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 15

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 Small family - John, the elder, his son, David and David's son, Sam - who worked in Columbiana County. The hotel will provide glass cases for this exhibit. Please bring your Small rifles this year for the public to view. For more information please contact Tom Oakes at 330-264-4319.



Miscellaneous Tidbits on Ohio Gunsmiths

By Pat McArtor

Most of what I'm going to give in this article is additional information about the gunsmiths found in Donald A. Hutslar's Ohio Gunsmiths & Allied Tradesman, not about the firearms that they built. And because Randy Brown and I are most interested in those found in Columbiana County, you will read more about them. Any information about gunsmiths found in other counties will be noted.

Columbiana County

Abram W. Baird/Beard [1806 – 1861], gunsmith in Salem, Ohio, died 16 Aug 1861, aged 55 years 1 month and is buried in the old section of Hope Cemetery. The spelling of Baird/Beard was interchangeable in this area in the early to mid 1800s. There was no Probate found for him.

John Burns [1832 – 1889], son of John Byrns/Burns and Margaret Small, grandson of John Small. Burns is listed with Samuel Small in the 1850 census as 18 years old, gunsmith. His father, John Sr., died before the 1850 census in Columbiana County. John is living with his mother, Margaret, in the 1860 New Lisbon census, next door to his future wife, Rebecca Briggs. They married 6 Sep 1865 after John had served in the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In 1880 he is listed as a dry goods merchant. He died 28 May 1889 in Lisbon. I have never found a middle initial for John. There was no inventory in his estate packet.

Small Family: John [1778-1825] John Small bought Lot # 82 on Market Street in New Lisbon on 19 Aug 1807 for \$60. John is listed as “of Fayette Co, Pa.” [CCO Deeds, Volume 1, pg 248]

The Ohio Patriot [newspaper] Saturday, April 2, 1825 reads as follows: “DIED Monday evening [28 March] last, after a short but painful illness, John Small, Esquire, late treasurer of this county, in the 47th year of his age, leaving a wife and six children to deplore the loss of husband and father, and the community, a useful citizen.

The Columbiana Co. Probate case 750 & 755 of John, 27 Jun 1827, shows guardianships as follows: Mary 19, David 16 and Samuel 11, were assigned to Martin Helman. Margaret 18, Elizabeth 9 and Catharine Ann 2, were assigned to George Crowl.” There was no inventory found in John's Probate records. John's wife, Catharine, was 72 years old and living with daughter, Margaret Burns in 1850.

Probate case 2230 of David [1809 – 1840], who died 9 May 1840, shows David leaving law books to John Burns, son of David's sister, Margaret. \$50 was left to niece, Mary Burns, daughter of David's sister, Margaret. David's mother, Catharine Small and sister (not named) received an equal share of the residue of the estate. No inventory was found. This shows that John, who died in 1825, was the father of Margaret, David and Samuel. Samuel was not the 'grand'son of John.

Jacob Small. No Probate was found for Jacob in Columbiana County, though there was a marriage in 1837 for a Jacob and Sarah Grim. IF this was the same Jacob, it probably would have been a second marriage for him. I didn't find Jacob Small in any Ohio county Probate prior to 1850. But this does not mean that Jacob couldn't have died in Ohio. There were many men who died and owned nothing to probate or had already given everything to their children prior to death.

John and Levi Johns John [1804-1870] and Levi [1840-1890] are found in the Columbiana County 1850 through the 1870 and 1880 censuses, but both were found with the surname spelled Jones at least once. I believe that Carey (1953) was correct in realizing that John Johns-John Jones was the same person. In the 1850 census both are listed as gunsmiths. Thereafter, John is always listed as a silversmith. He died at the home of John and Elmira Jeffres, in Washington Township on 21 Oct 1870. No occupation given and no Probate found. After 1850, Levi is listed as a carpenter and lived in Washington and Liverpool Townships. He died 10 Aug 1890 in Salineville with his age listed as 50 years, 3 months and 13 days. This would have made his date of birth ca 18 April 1840, but he married Lucinda McGlennen on 20 Jul 1855 and would have only been 15 years old! In the earlier censuses his birth year works out to be 1833-34 and in the office of the county courthouse recorder, the Registration of War Veterans' Graves for Woodland Cemetery, Salineville, the information is given as: "Levi Johns, born 1833, died [no info] Army". The History of Columbiana County, Ohio [Mack] shows that he enlisted on 5 Feb 1864 in Company A of the 143rd Regiment OVI [National Guard] and was discharged 13 Sep 1864. Levi was a councilman in Salineville in 1864 and '65 and would have known Abram Hartley and Washington Morrison who were members and later, Hartley a trustee, of the Methodist Church there. Levi died in Salineville 10 April 1890. In his Probate inventory of possessions there were only carpenter tools.

Hugh McFall [1824-1903] Hugh was born in Pennsylvania about 1825 and was boarding with Elizabeth Sebring in the 1860 census of E. Liverpool, Oh. He is listed as 30 years and a carpenter. He married Kesiah Anderson on the 27 May 1863 in Beaver Co, Pa and the record states that both were from E. Liverpool. The 1880 census shows him as 55 years old and a gunsmith. In the mid 1880s he was a commissioner in Liverpool Township. He died 14 Jan 1903 in the township and is buried in Riverview Cemetery in E. Liverpool. He left everything to his wife who survived him two years. There was no inventory for his estate.

Stark County

Paulmer and Wareham Jacob S. Paulmer [1810-1892] was George Wareham's [1825-] father-in-law. George married Margaret Palmer on the 12 May 1850. He was located at the SW corner of Cherry and 5th Street in Canton, Ohio according to the Canton-Massillon Directory of 1859-1860. By July 24th, 1860 he was recorded in the Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana census, as a gunsmith. Paulmer was also living there. (Editor's note: Jacob S. Paulmer was featured in Volume XIV Number II and Volume XV Number I of our Newsletter.)

Noble County

Finley Caple Keith [1849-1930] was born in Morgan County and lived 2 houses away from John Yerian in the 1850 census. I believe that where the Keiths lived became Noble County, in 1851. His father, John, was a blacksmith so perhaps he learned some gunsmithing that he passed on to Finley.

(Photos by Liberty Studios)



John Johns (1804 – 1870)

Levi Johns (1840 – 1890)



Rifle by J. & L. Johns



John Johns (1804 – 1870)

Levi Johns (1840 – 1890)



Rifle by J. & L. Johns



John Johns (1804 – 1870)

Levi Johns (1840 – 1890)



Rifle by Levi Johns



John Johns (1804 – 1870)

Levi Johns (1840 – 1890)



Rifle by Levi Johns



George Wareham (1825 - ?)



Rifle by George Wareham





13th Annual AOLRC Antique Gun and Arms Show



The 13th Annual Antique Gun and Arms Show, held on October 22, 2011 in Newark was a huge success, despite the uncertain economy. Some new table holders showed up this year to set up with the “regulars”, and most of the new faces promised to attend annually. As most of you know, events as successful as this one do not just happen, but are the result of much planning and preparation. Jim Claggett has done an 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.





Ladies of AOLRC News

As I write this letter I think it is safe to say winter has officially arrived. January was pretty mild but now colder weather and snow have filled up some of the February days. However, we still have daylight until 6:00 or after, so I know spring and our Marietta show will soon be here.

Our Marietta show is a little later this year – April 13, 14, and 15. That's right – we arrive on Friday the 13th. Last year our first day was April 1. Bob Bedillon was my prize April fool's joke that day. None of us are superstitious so Friday the 13th won't have any effect on us.

After setting up on Friday afternoon, we will have our social hour for members only. We will begin around 6:00 or 6:30 with the carving station, salads, and of course the birthday cake. This is a tradition we began several years ago to celebrate everyone's yearly birthday.

Our Ladies adventure begins on Saturday with lunch at the DaVinci Restaurant located across the river in Williamstown. The cost of the lunch will be \$13 which will include dessert, tax, drink, and gratuity. We will carpool and leave the hotel around 11:00 for lunch at 11:30. After lunch Martha Offenberger has arranged a visit and tour of the Henderson House which is located south of DaVinci's. Those who want to enjoy the Henderson House will carpool for the afternoon tour. It is about a 15-20 minute trip from DaVinci's and we should arrive around 1:30. The cost is \$5.00. After the tour we will be free to either return to the hotel or adventure more on our own. Pat McArtor emailed about another place we may want to visit. Neff's Country Loft in Belpre, Ohio is a combination gift, fabric, and

greenhouse with a small antique shop at the back. If there would be enough time after the Henderson House, some may want to go there or we could visit there on Sunday.

We will continue with the evening dinner as it has been 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.

I am still looking for ideas for our next project. Is there anything we can do to help the men with the publication of the next book? Did Ohio have any women gun makers? These are just some things to think about. What can we do to educate the public on the history of the Ohio long rifle? Bring your ideas to the luncheon for discussion.

I am looking forward to our reunion and seeing you in Marietta. Please email me at ronjudyyerian@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 DaVinci's the week before.

See you soon. Judy Yerian

P.S. **A REMINDER - Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 4, 2012.** This is the date for our annual picnic and shoot. More details will be sent this summer.

