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THE  
ASSOCIATION  
OF OHIO  
LONGRIFLE  
COLLECTORS



FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION  
OF THE OHIO MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

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**35th A.O.L.R.C.  
Marietta Exhibit  
April 9, 10, 11, 2010**



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# President's Letter



Let me first start this letter with a few words for any members who missed the last Newark show. You missed the best antique gun show for buy-sell-trade in the state. Jim Claggett has been the ramrod of this show and his hard work and dedication must be commended. I know he's already hard at work on the next show. When you see him at Marietta tell him "Thanks".

At the Board of Directors meeting at the Newark show we tried to address the issues we have concerning having enough "good" tables for use at the Marietta show. Several ideas were thrown around at the meeting about better use of the tables. I am not in favor of banning or restricting any items that fall into the category of accessories or items of interest associated with Ohio guns or gunsmiths.

The AOLRC was incorporated to preserve Ohio longrifles and to educate the public on the importance of the guns and gunsmiths in the development of Ohio. The education part takes in the display of a wide variety of items from powder horns and flasks, hunting bags, bullet molds, and gunsmithing tools to activities such as barrel making, stock carving, metal engraving, and metal finishing. Research into the firearms and into the men who made and used them is an integral part of our mission. I hope that the tables continue to display these rare and interesting items. I've witnessed guests at the show spend two minutes looking at a table with \$30,000.00 worth of very nice longrifles only to stop and spend fifteen minutes reading all the names on the pictures of gunsmiths I have at my display that aren't worth a dollar. I believe it's the wide range of displays that keep people coming in the door to find something of interest to them.

So that leaves us to work with what we have. Several years ago the AOLRC

bought about twenty new tables that are left at the hotel year to year. The hotel then supplies the remainder of the tables. Still every year as we set up the room for the exhibitors we find that we could use more tables. (I hope this happens every year as we keep having bigger and bigger shows.) Therefore, let us use these tables wisely. Our table displays range from being very full (which is good), to being a nice display (which is also good), to being sparse (which is not wise use of an eight foot table). The table holders in the sparse group need to bring a few more guns and accessories, or possibly consider sharing a table if we run short.

Please don't misunderstand the meaning of this letter. Any member who wants to display a gun or a few guns at the show is more than welcome and I hope each member would consider displaying his longrifle. All of the old gray haired collectors (I still have two brown hairs) started out with a single gun and it went from there. Tables are taken first come, first serve, and we will try our best to accommodate each member. Please make your table reservations with Rod Frazer as soon as possible.

Our AOLRC family has lost another member. Longtime member Robert E. Cross, of Stowe, passed away recently. We are diminished.

We will have a photographer again this year. Please bring your new acquisitions, especially any rifle or maker new to the exhibit, for photos.

I mentioned in the last Newsletter that we would have an auction prior to the Marietta Exhibit. It is scheduled for Friday, April 9, at 3:00 p.m., and contains items for the advanced collector as well as for the beginning collector. You must have a valid 2010 Membership Card to participate.

# 35<sup>th</sup> 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 after the Auction on Friday, April 9.

## **Banquet**

Our annual membership meeting and banquet will be held April 10 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 2. 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 9**

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Auction preview
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Auction	Members only
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 10**

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 11**

9:00 a.m.	Exhibit hall opens to the public.
3:00 p.m.	Exhibit closes.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

Our featured gunsmith this year will be Peter A. Reinhart (or Reinhard) who worked primarily in Loudonville, Ashland County. The hotel will be providing glass cases for this exhibit. Please bring your Reinhart rifles this year for the public to see. For more information please contact Tom Oakes at 330-264-3419.

# ABRAHAM SWARTZ

## GUNSMITH & ORGAN TUNER

Abraham Swartz (1840 – 1906) was located in Section 17, Sugar Creek Township, south side of Arnold Road, Wayne County, Ohio. The 1873 Caldwell Atlas of Wayne County shows his farm and gun shop. There is also a business listing on the same map showing him as a gunsmith and organ tuner.

Abraham was born in April of 1840 to John and Catharine Swartz. John Swartz, his father, was born in Switzerland in 1807, and came to Wayne County around 1838. John and Catharine (born Ohio, 1821) purchased land in Section 16 of Sugar Creek Township where Abraham, the oldest of fifteen children, was born.

On October 8, 1863, Abraham married Magdalena Gerber (born Ohio 1843, died 1923). There were no children born to this marriage.

While in his teenage years Abraham was apprenticed to be a gunsmith. Proof has yet to be found, but it is thought by the author that he served his apprenticeship with John P. Moser (See John P. Mosser – or Musser – gunsmith, page 128, Volume V, Ohio Gunsmiths & Allied Tradesmen by Donald A. Hutslar). John P. Moser (the spelling that is on his tombstone in the Sonnenberg Cemetery) lived just northeast of John Swartz's farm and the Swartzes and Mosers were friends. John Moser was listed as a gunsmith in 1850 Wayne County Census. There is a listing for Abraham Swartz in the book listed above, but it has him in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. (Editor's note: Right township, wrong county.)

An interesting sidelight is that Mr. Swartz was also listed as an organ tuner. Abraham Tschantz, Section 29, Sugar Creek Township, was a cabinet maker who repaired an organ for a friend and decided he could make one better! He proceeded to make organs at his farm and is listed as an organ manufacturer in the same 1873 Caldwell Atlas business directory that lists Abraham Swartz. Undoubtedly Mr. Swartz is the one who tuned the organs for Mr. Tschantz.

Abraham Tschantz moved to Orrville, Ohio, and dropped the "T" from his last name. Today the Schantz Organ Company is known worldwide for its high quality organs and is still in business as of this writing.

(Written by Joseph W. Irvin, 7716 Apple Creek Road, Sterling, Ohio 44276, and researched by the author and Dr. Virginia Gunn, Wooster, Ohio.)

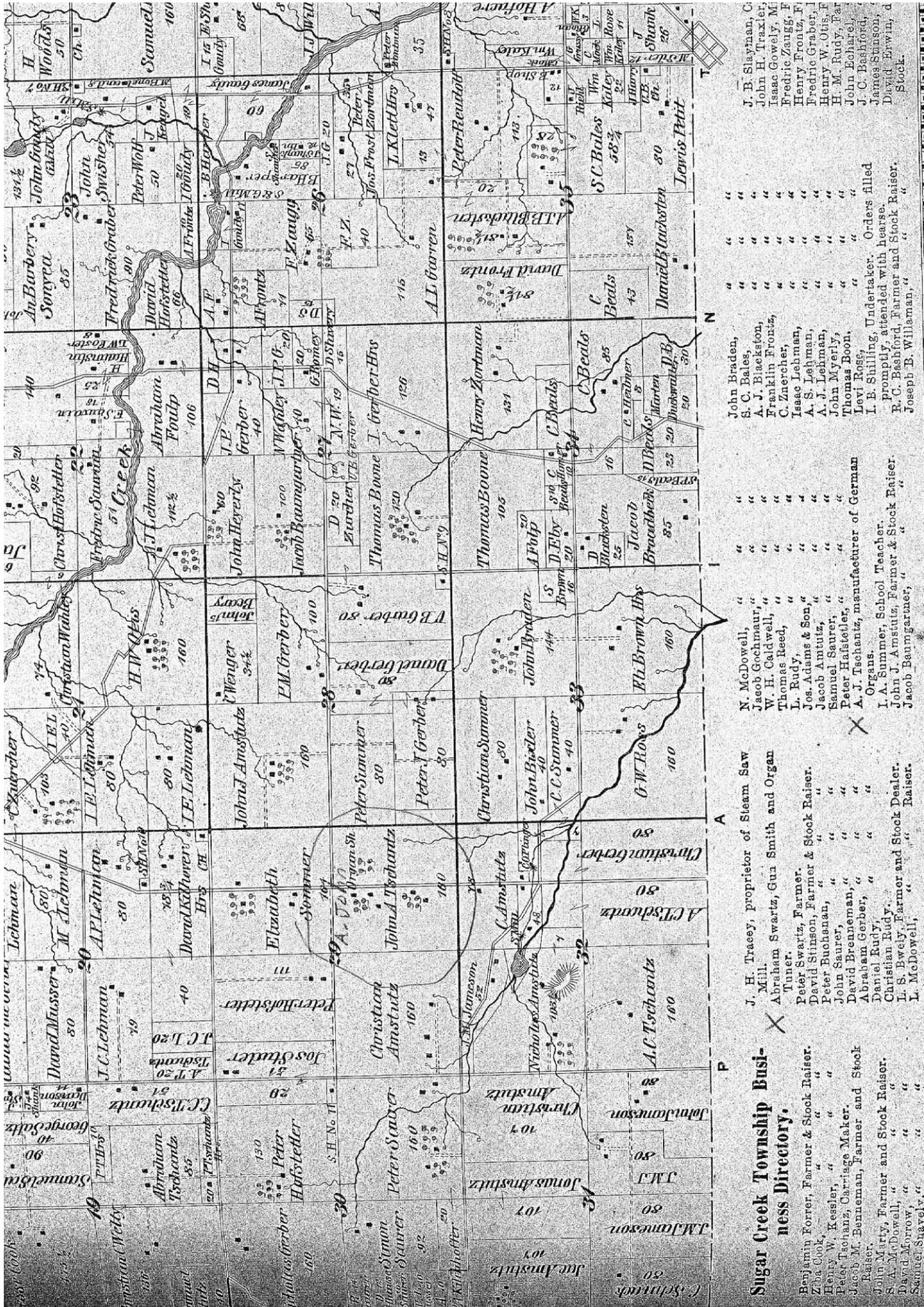
Editor's note: The author believes that longrifles marked with the initials "A. S." from the Wayne County area may be the work of Abraham Swartz, but to date no longrifle has surfaced that can be identified with provenance as the work of Mr. Swartz. As Mr. Irvin puts it, "The search is on to find a marked Swartz rifle among his family descendants or friends."



Abraham Swartz and his wife Magdalena. (From the collection of the Kidron Community Historical Society,)







**Sugar Creek Township Business Directory.**

- Benjamin Forner, Farmer & Stock Raiser.
- Ziba Cook, " " " " " "
- Henry W. Kessler, " " " " " "
- Peter Teichanz, Carriage Maker.
- Jacob M. Benneman, Farmer and Stock Raiser.
- John Marty, Farmer and Stock Raiser.
- S. A. McDowell, " " " " " "
- David Morrow, " " " " " "
- Samuel Suavely, " " " " " "
- J. H. Tracey, proprietor of Steam Saw
- Abraham Swartz, Gun Smith and Organ Tuner.
- Peter Swartz, Farmer.
- David Stinson, Farmer & Stock Raiser.
- Peter Buchanan, " " " " " "
- John Saurer, " " " " " "
- David Brenneman, " " " " " "
- Abraham Gerber, " " " " " "
- Daniel Rudy, " " " " " "
- Christian Rudy, " " " " " "
- L. S. Bwely, Farmer and Stock Dealer.
- L. McDowell, " " " " " "
- N. McDowell, " " " " " "
- Jacob Gochmar, " " " " " "
- W. H. Caldwell, " " " " " "
- Thomas Reed, " " " " " "
- L. Rudy, " " " " " "
- Jos. Adams & Son, " " " " " "
- Jacob Amstutz, " " " " " "
- Samuel Saurer, " " " " " "
- Peter Hafstedler, " " " " " "
- A. J. Teichanz, manufacturer of German Organs.
- I. A. Sumner, School Teacher.
- John J. Amstutz, Farmer & Stock Raiser.
- Jacob Baumgartner, " " " " " "
- John Braden, " " " " " "
- S. C. Bales, " " " " " "
- A. J. Blackston, " " " " " "
- Franklin Frontz, " " " " " "
- C. Zuercher, " " " " " "
- Isaac Lehman, " " " " " "
- A. S. Lehman, " " " " " "
- A. J. Lehman, " " " " " "
- John Myerly, " " " " " "
- Thomas Boon, " " " " " "
- Levi Rose, " " " " " "
- I. B. Shilling, Undertaker. Orders filled promptly, attended with hearse.
- R. C. Bashford, Farmer and Stock Raiser.
- Joseph B. Willaman, " " " " " "
- J. B. Slayman, C
- John H. Traxler,
- Isaac Gowely, M
- Fredric Zaugg, F
- Henry Frontz, F
- Fredric Graber, J
- Henry W. Ong, F
- H. M. Rudy, Par
- John Echarley,
- J. C. Bashford,
- James Stinson,
- David Erwin, d
- Stock.

# ADDITIONAL OHIO GUNSMITHS

James B. Whisker, Ph.D. is, as most of you know, the gentleman who provided almost all of the pictures in our five volume publication Ohio Gunsmiths and Allied Tradesmen. For the last two years or so Dr. Whisker has been sending me names of, and other biographical information relating to, gunsmiths who either worked in Ohio or had lived in Ohio for some portion of their lives. I have sifted through approximately four hundred of his E-mails, and have identified ninety or so gunsmiths who are not included in our books. As Dr. Whisker frequently states in his correspondence, much research remains to be done on these gentlemen.

The following list contains the name of the gunsmith, the county or counties where he worked, and either the dates of his birth and death or the dates of when he is documented as having worked. Some of the information is incomplete.

I will forward all of the information that I have on any of these gunsmiths to you if you desire to go forward with your own research. I would also encourage you to send me any information that you may have on any Ohio gunsmith not previously listed in our publications so that I may add them to our list.

(Prepared by Ronald A. Yerian, Editor, 3321 West Point Road SE, Lancaster, OH 43130, Phone 740-746-8965, E-mail ronjudyyerian@gmail.com.)

<b>Gunsmith</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Bolen, Thomas	Henry	b. 1813, d. ?
Biddinger, ?	Richland	c. 1815
Jones, Allen	Lorain	b. 1794, d. 1877
Roby, Henry	Lucas	b. 1827, d. 1898
O'Brien, Elijah	?	c. 1808
Gossage, John	Jefferson	c. 1850
Thomas, David L.	Hardin	c. 1850
Heath, John	Van Wert	Early
Lamb, Ithamer	Darke	c. 1880
Sharp, E. F.	?	c. 1850
Mundell, Jonathan	Hamilton	c. 1800
Hayes, N.	Ross	c. 1850
Sturtz, Jacob	Muskingum	c. 1818
Burman, John	Fairfield, Hancock	b. 1784, d. 1864
Hime, Joseph	Hamilton	c. 1843
Keen, Alpheus A.	Meigs	c. 1855
Spellman, John	Medina	c. 1850
Sneider, Michael	Franklin	c. 1850
Hopkins, John H.	Union	c. 1850
Exley, Lewis	Morrow	c. 1850
Gimmings, William	Pike	c. 1850
Gray, Charles H.	Columbiana	b. 1845, d. 1907
Griffin, Loyal	?	?
Bodiman, Henry	?	?
Williams, William H.	Ashtabula	c. 1860
Williams, Dennis	Ashtabula	c. 1860
Fisher, Andrew	Coschocton	b. ?, d. 1860
Caldwell, William Sr.	Franklin, Ottawa	c. 1810
Shafer, Jacob Sr.	?	c. 1840
Magill, James	Wyandot	b. 1792, d. 1860
Stocking, William	Wood	c. 1860
Nash, (J)udah	Champaign	b. 1831, d. 1885
Fox, Reuben	Tuscarawas	c. 1880
Caldwell, Mathew	Jefferson	c. 1850

Singer, Edgar C.	?	c. 1840
Avis, John	Clinton	c. 1874
Bishop, William Henry	Lorain	c. 1836
Sims, Jeremiah	Chanpaign, Clark	b. 1777, d. 1824
Blalock, ?	Wood	c. 1810
Hall, Henry	Seneca	b. 1799, d. 1881
Palmer, Lancaster	Marion	c. 1850
Janney, Stephen	Clinton	c. 1860
Bateman, Robert	Pike	c. 1860
Prillman, Martin	?	c. 1880
Hise, James	Greene	c. 1850
Heaton, Jonah	Greene	c. 1800
Eckman, Hieronimus	Trumbull	c. 1802
McNary, Martin	Franklin, Allen	c. 1860
Kade, William	Fairfield	c. 1850
Baker, Fred	Lawrence	c. 1870
Wickline, Stephen	Lawrence	c. 1870
Pence, (George) Fredrick	Champaign	b. 1752, d.1835
Mast, John Jr.	Miami	b. 1754, d.1832
Fisher, Daniel	?	b. 1813, d. 1860
Bratten, Charles H.	Adams	b. 1833, d. ?
Goodwin, Arron Burr	Williams (?)	c. 1837
Bargdall, Solomon	Greene	c. 1820
Marshall, William	Frank Miami	b. 1845, d. 1909
Lannert, John	Cuyahogo	c. 1870
McKee, David	Hamilton	b. 1800, d. 1881
Underwood, Amos	Champaign	b. 1823, d. 1905
Cruson, Andrew	Greene (?)	b. 1807, d. 1890 (?)
Sackman, H.	Cuyahoga	c. 1850
Vicory, Merifield II	?	c. 1840
Prickitt, Franklin	Summit	b. 1823, d.1866 (?)
Hardman, Peter	Greene	b. 1776, d.1859
Turley, Theodore	?	b. 1800, d. 1872
Mann, Titus L	Lucas	c. 1860
Ketchum, John	?	c. 1844
Riddlebarger, David	Montgomery	c. 1830
Molis, Henry Sr.	Franklin	c. 1835
Graves, William	?	b. 1830, d. 1880 (?)
Swallow, Isaac Sr.	Hamilton	c. 1840
Davis, M. C.	Lake	c. 1833
Bates, Ephriam Jr.	Noble	?
Biddinger, Peter	Ashland	b. ?, d. 1842
Slam (Slom), James	Fairfield	c. 1850
Mattar, Emanuel	Montgomery	c. 1900
Fog(g), Nimrod	Jefferson	c. 1860
Edgington, Daniel	Jefferson	b. 1807, d. ?
Carlyle, Moses	Athens	b. 1842, d. ?
Prillaman, Martin	?	b.1824, d. 1888
Waldren, Philip	Pike	c. 1800
Hunt, Levi	Clermont	b. 1757, d. 1830
Adams, Abraham	Muskingum	c. 1850
Hellen, John	Muskingum	c. 1850
Hopkins, John H.	Union	c. 1850
Ivers, John	Athens	b. 1807, d. 1880 (?)
Lechner, John	Mahoning	b. 1803, d. 1862
Kreamer, John Paul	Wayne	b. 1831, d. 1869
Taylor, John	Warren	c. 1870
Mills, William	Mahoning	c. 1840
Cawthen, John W.	Wyandot	c. 1880



# 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AOLRC ANTIQUE GUN AND ARMS SHOW

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Gun and Arms Show, held on October 24, 2009 in Newark, was an outstanding success again. This fifty-table show, limited to muzzleloading firearms and related antique and contemporary items, continues to attract more visitors each year. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Show is scheduled for October 23, 2010. Tables are available on a first come first served basis, and are not limited to AOLRC members. Items are available to attract everyone from beginners to advanced collectors. You might want to thank Jim Claggett for organizing this very successful show.









# LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS

As I write this for the Newsletter there is about 25 inches of snow outside. The driveway has 4-5 foot piles of snow everywhere. Writing this and thinking about April in Marietta brings a smile to my face. In a short time we will be gathering there and hopefully all this snow will just be a memory.

Our Friday, April 9, will be a little different this year. Our auction is back and will start at 3:00 then we will set up tables following the auction. We will still have the carving station and salad in the evening as well as the birthday celebration with cake for all.

Our Saturday activity for the ladies this year will start with lunch at the DaVinci Restaurant across the river in Williamstown. The cost of the lunch will be \$13 which will include dessert, tax, drink, and gratuity. We will probably leave the hotel around 11:30 for lunch at 12:00. We will carpool to drive to the restaurant. After lunch we will visit the Fenton Glass Factory and Store. The last I checked they were still in business. I am not certain if they will do tours but there is a lot to see and do in the store itself.

We will continue with the evening dinner as it has been in the past. Dress will again be casual so our men can leave those suits at home if they prefer. The board has decided to not have entertainment after the

dinner this year. There will be a short meeting following dinner as usual but then the rest of the evening will be social time for visiting and chatting.

The Activity Books have been finished and copies will be ready to distribute to the children in attendance at the show Saturday and Sunday. We published 750 of the booklets at a price of \$671. We have fulfilled our goal of preserving and educating the youth about the Ohio long rifle. It has taken almost 3 years but the effort and time have been well worth it. Be certain to check out the finished product. They will be available Friday for you to see.

I am looking forward to our reunion and seeing you in Marietta. Please email me at [ronjudyyerian@gmail.com](mailto:ronjudyyerian@gmail.com) or phone me 740-746-8965 or mail me at 3321 West Point Rd. SE, Lancaster, OH 43130 with your reservation for the ladies' luncheon. I need to give notice to DaVinci's the week before. See you soon.  
Judy Yerian

P.S. A REMINDER - Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 7, 2010. This is the date for our annual Picnic and Shoot. This has proven to be a very popular and fun activity. Hope you can join us in August. More details will be sent to you this summer.

Judy Yerian



## Special: From the Secretary

Dear ALRC Member: I know that the date on your AOLRC Membership Card is misleading. Dues are for the calendar year. Your Membership Card, however, indicates April 1 of the next year. For example, if your Card indicates April 1, 2011, your dues are paid January – December 2010, but the Card allows you to attend the Spring Show in Marietta in 2011 and to receive the Spring Newsletter. Failure to renew at the Spring Show will result in your name being dropped from the membership list and from the mailing list for the Newsletter. At the auction this year, you must be paid up for 2010 – in other words, a membership card indicating April 1, 2011 is necessary to participate in the auction that will be held at the Marietta Exhibit in 2010.