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THE  
ASSOCIATION  
OF OHIO  
LONGRIFLE  
COLLECTORS



FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION  
OF THE OHIO MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

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Vol. XXXVII Number 1, March 2014

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**39th A.O.L.R.C.  
Marietta Exhibit  
April 4, 5, 6, 2014**



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# President's Letter



Dear Fellow Club Members:

I hate to start this newsletter on a sad note, but we lost Dan Smith on November 11, 2013. Dan was our longtime friend and secretary of the AOLRC for 20 years. On the club's behalf, I attended Dan's viewing at the funeral home in Beverly, Ohio. During my time there, I found a room full of the many friends and great family members that Dan left behind. There were also many pictures showing a life filled with good times and a man who loved his family. I will miss seeing Dan's jovial face and hearing his funny stories. May he rest in peace.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that Jack Vye had fallen and was in bad shape. Sadly, Jack passed away shortly after the newsletter was mailed. We will certainly miss Jack.

Any members who attended the Newark show this past September know that we had a room filled with "full" tables and a nice crowd. The show seems to be getting better every year, and we need to thank Jim Claggett for that.

For the past year, Tom Oakes and Jim Clippinger have been going through the thousands of photographs taken for our next "soon to be"

book. I can only imagine how they must go to sleep at night with visions of long rifles in their heads. Good luck to both of them.

On a final note, any member who would like to nominate a member for the Board of Directors should notify our new secretary, Jim Ogden, to put that name on the ballot. There will be an opening on the board this spring and we will vote in a new member.

Our latest publication, *Arms Makers of Ohio*, by Kevin R. Spiker and James B. Whisker, will be available to current members who have not yet received one, free of charge, at the Marietta Exhibit this year. The book has been very well received, as it contains much information that has been found since the publication of our five volume set. This book will not be for sale to the public. If you cannot make the Marietta Exhibit, send \$5.00 to Tom Oakes, 6778 Columbus Road, Shreve, OH 44676, and he will mail a copy to you. Remember, ONE copy per member.

Bob Poch

## Dan Smith – A Remembrance

Ted Dixon introduced R. Dan Smith to the AOLRC Board of Directors at the Marietta Exhibit in 1993, and asked that the Board appoint Dan as the new Secretary. I don't think that either the AOLRC or Dan imagined that he would be in that position for the next twenty years. Dan was our Secretary during the "expansion" years when many things were happening. The Board of Directors meetings, which Dan was obliged to attend, were sometimes tumultuous affairs, and his calm demeanor and dry wit helped to bring a little order to the meetings. Dan witnessed the publication of our five volume set of reference books on Ohio gunsmiths, saw the establishment of a "fall" show, and was there as the Annual Picnic took shape. Through it all, Dan kept the membership roster, tracked the annual dues, and compiled the Minutes of the Board Meetings. Dan did these things as a volunteer, even though he had only a passing interest in Ohio longrifles! His passion in collecting was Winchester rifles and Colt Woodsman pistols. In the last few years, Dan became "Dan and Patty" to our organization. Patty, Dan's wife and companion, was present at the membership table at the Marietta Exhibit with him, and it soon became apparent to those of us who required mailing or membership lists that Patty was the one to ask. They made quite a team.

Dan announced his decision to relinquish the position of Secretary during the Marietta Exhibit in 2013. The Board decided to purchase the cased muzzleloading pistol that Jim Swearingen had donated and present it to Dan in appreciation for his years of dedicated service to the AOLRC. A presentation plaque was attached, and it was planned to present it to Dan at the 2014 Membership meeting. Patty has the set now. Dan, you will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by our members.  
*The Editor.*



# 39<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 on Friday, April 4.

## **Banquet**

Our annual membership meeting and banquet will be held April 5 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 grilled salmon and all the trimmings with tickets costing \$20.00 each payable to the

secretary no later than March 26. 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.

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## Schedule

### Friday, April 4

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Set up for exhibit
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Reception for all exhibitors and members. Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

### Saturday, April 5

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 6

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

### **PLEASE NOTE**

We will not have a "Featured Gunsmith" this year. Instead, our display will feature "Exhibitors Choice". Each person who has a table may select one rifle or pistol to be displayed at the front of the display area. The Directors hope that each of the table holders will have at least one outstanding example of an Ohio longrifle to share with the public and members. This is a chance to show off one of your best rifles. The hotel will provide glass cases for this exhibit. For more information please contact Tom Oakes at 330-264-4319.



# James Rogers 1812 – 1904

The following tells the story of James Rogers.

James Rogers was the son of Thomas and Hope Rogers, the former of whom was born in Burlington County, NJ. He was the son of Thomas, who was also a native of that state. They subsequently removed to Pennsylvania, where the father died. Thomas Jr. was approaching the years of manhood at the time of the removal to Pennsylvania. He worked on his father's farm until his marriage to Miss Hope Russell [Rossell], the daughter of Job and Hulda Russell [Rossell]. James Rogers was born in Columbiana County, on the farm that he now owns, in 1812. When nineteen years old he began to learn the blacksmith and gunsmith trades. Having served an apprenticeship of three years with Jonathan Ricesenger [Reisinger], he worked as a journeyman for two years more, at the expiration of which time he formed a partnership with John Russell [probably Job Rossell], and they carried on a gun-making business for two years, after which James worked on a farm for some time. After leaving agriculture, he and a brother started a shop where they carried on a blacksmith's business for some time. Elizabeth, daughter of Archibald and Jane Jamieson, natives of Westmoreland County, Penn, became his wife at that time, and eleven children have been the results of this union.

Pg 188, History of the Upper Ohio Valley Brandt & Fuller 1891

E. Palestine Echo 21 April 1904 Obituary

LIVED TO BE 91 Survived by Nine Children--- Funeral Saturday

James Rogers was born on the farm of his father, Thomas Rogers, in Middleton township, Columbiana county, Ohio, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1812, and which farm he owned for many years and where he passed away his life April 13, 1904.

He was one of the twelve children of Thomas and Hope (Rossel) Rogers. In his earlier life he was a gunsmith, but in the year 1859 [1849?] he became a farmer, and owned a homestead of his father, thereafter, and to which he was greatly attached.

He was married to Miss Elizabeth D. Jamieson, on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1842, at East Fairfield and began life with her on the farm referred to and where both resided the remainder of their lives. Of the eleven children born to them, nine survive. One daughter, Mrs. R.L. Randall, of Negley, and eight sons, Disney, Volney and Bruce, of Youngstown; Dio, of Steubenville; James L, of South Haven, Minn.; Dr. Lycergus and Dr. Z.L., of Negley, and John H. of Mill Rock.

Mr. Rogers was a man of wide reading, vigorous in his old age, maintaining to the end of his life his mental facilities, undimmed. He survived his wife ten months, and about a week before his death, he wrote of her in a manuscript found after his death, this: "The long, pleasant courtship I enjoyed sixty years with the girl I loved, and during those years she was ever dearer to my heart, as the light of my eyes. Death finally ended the courtship and took away the best friend I ever had in all the world and left me a sad and lonely man. I still have kind and sympathetic friends and neighbors, but no one on the face of the earth can relieve the sorrow of my heart. Whatever time I may remain here, I will try to conduct myself so that when I shall leave this world, it will be none the worse of my existence,"

Mr. Rogers is not a member of any church, but for many years of his latter life believed in the faith of the Friends and died as [his] Grandfather and Grandmother Rogers. He was a very patriotic citizen, and as far as known, always voted the ticket of his party at every election. He was in early life a Jackson democrat, but in 1848 joined the Free Soil party and voted for Martin Van Buren for president; in 1852, for John P. Hale and in 1856 for John C. Fremont, the first republican candidate, and after that for all the republican candidates for the presidential office.

Funeral Services were conducted Saturday at the Achor Baptist church by Rev. W.P. Hollister, pastor of the Presbyterian church in this city. Interment in the Achor cemetery.

And finally, an Oral History about Elizabeth (Jamieson) Rogers, as told by Betty H. Trout, daughter of Elizabeth Randall & Frank Holt. Elizabeth Randall is a descendant of the Rogers Family through Arminda Rogers, daughter of Elizabeth Jamieson Rogers.

Elizabeth Jamieson Rogers

- \* was a sharpshooter
- \* checked rifles that James (husband) made before they were sold
- \* often worked in the fields with her family
- \* only cooked a real meal on Sundays, during the summer months
- \* rest of the time they ate mush, which would simmer all day on a wood stove, unattended
- \* butchered in the summer and dried the meat
- \* all fruits and vegetables were dried -- no canning
- \* chopped the wood herself to fire the kitchen stove, as it was always getting empty, until one Sunday dinner, James took the lid off of one dish and found raw meat, then took the lid off another and found raw potatoes. All he said was, "Let's go, boys" and put on his hat and they all went out and chopped wood. Elizabeth then cooked the meal and no one said a word, but the wood box remained full thereafter.
- \* James died at age 92

Submitted by Pat McArtor



## Job Rossell ca 1813 – between 1880-1900

Job Rossell [pronounced Rozzell] was born in Columbiana County and was probably the son of Caleb and Hannah Holloway. His grandfather was Job [and Hulda] of Burlington County, NJ, who according to family stories, was a gunsmith. His first cousin, James Rogers, born 1812, was also a gunsmith. For whatever reason, he moved to Fayette County, Pa, where his grandparents had settled, and there married his wife, Sarah A. \_\_\_\_\_. By 1860 he had moved to East Pike Run Township. He is found in all the censuses between 1850 to 1880 and is listed in three of them as a gunsmith. Sometime after 1880 but before 1900, he died. His widow is found in the same township in 1900, but living with her daughter's family. I have been unable to find what cemetery they were buried in.

Submitted by Pat McArtor





# David Luther Ackley

Ackley, Luther (1868-1949). Machinist. Noble County. Ackley was born on 6 November 1868 in Olive, Noble County. He learned the trade of gunsmith from John Yerian and purchased his tools when he gave up the trade. Luther David Ackley and Alberta Edna "Bertie" Oglevee were married on 4 August 1895. Ackley's specialty was in rifling gain twist barrels. In May 1949 he was a gunsmith at Sharon, Noble County. He died of a heart attack on 23 May 1949 in Sharon. He was buried on 26 May 1949 in Dudley Cemetery, Olive, Noble County. He has Death Certificate # 32644 death certificate lists as David Luther Ackley [Schneider; Hutslar].

At the small village of Sharon, three miles west of Caldwell in Noble County, lives a gunsmith who is known throughout the United States as a maker of fine muzzle-loading rifles. He is D L Ackley, who at the age of 76 is still active although he no longer undertakes to fill the orders he receives from all over the country. Mr. Ackley explains he has enough to do, repairing guns for people in his own territory. Starting as a gunsmith when he was 16 years old, he has won an outstanding reputation for his fine workman-ship. His handsomely inlaid muzzle-loaders are well known among lovers of competition with these old-fashioned weapons. Mr. Ackley's well-equipped shop at Sharon is a popular spot for residents of the community who never cease to marvel at the veteran gunsmith's skill with tools. He formerly lived south of Caldwell but has been located at Sharon since 1913 [Sunday Times Signal, 10 September 1944].

When the collectors and shooters of these old muzzle-loaders get a gun that needs reborning they generally take it to Luther Ackley in Sharon, Ohio. Mr. Ackley, who is now 80 years old, has been doing this work for over 60 years, and when he cuts new rifling in a gun barrel, that gun will shoot a group that will compare favorably with modern breech loading guns [Zanesville Signal, 18 Nov 1945].

Compiled by Dr. James B. Whisker

# David Luther Ackley

*photos by Dr. James B. Whisker*





# David Luther Ackley

*photos by Liberty Studios*





# Additional Ohio Gunsmiths

Compiled by Dr. James B. Whisker

**Winn, William, Sr.** (1803-). gunsmith. William Winn Sr was born on 17 May 1803, a son of William Winn (1759-1822) of Clark County, KY. The family moved to Clermont County before 1822. He was gunsmith and William Winn Jr was a gunsmith. When Richard Byrd Winn made a declaration for Civil War Invalid Pension, he stated: "Father residing 8 miles NE of Greenfield, [Ohio] was then engaged in farming but was by trade a gunsmith."

**Winn, William, Jr.** gunsmith. Greenfield, Clermont County. William Jr. married Phoebe, daughter of Aaron Osborne. 12 January 1922, Another O T Remembers: I remember when William Winn and his son George had a gun shop in a log cabin, on what has since been known as the Fred Fishback Farm and they lived in another cabin on the place. They made "hair trigger" rifles, and everybody who could afford it had a Winn rifle."William Jr went to IN with Thomas Winn, Wm Sr's son who was also a gunsmith [ Greene Co, IL Historical and Genealogical Society].

**Heaton, John** (1776-1861). gun- and blacksmith. Clark County. John was a son of Jonah and Elizabeth Heaton, born in 1776 in Bryant's Station, KY. John died on November 22, 1861 in Clark County. He married Margaret Buckles on May 27, 1802 in Hamilton County. John was reportedly educated by his Uncle Daniel. John probably came to Greene County, Ohio with his father in 1804. By 1822 John owned land in both Greene and Clark County. John also was a gunsmith and a blacksmith. He lived in Harmony Twp and served as Justice of the Peace and County Commissioner for 22 years. He was buried in Lisbon Cemetery, Clark County [Find-a-Grave; Ancestry].

**Teeter, Samuel.** gunsmith. 1758 was in Forbes Expedition. 1755 Was in Braddock's Expedition at the Battle of the Wilderness. 3 July 1755 Present at Monongahela. He served as a member of the garrison of Fort Pitt throughout Revolutionary War. In 1799 he moved to Ross County and then to Union County, where he died, date unknown [Ross County Ohio Families, Bicentennial Edition , 270-271. Among the earliest settlers were the Teeters. Samuel Teter, Sr., emigrated with his family from Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1799, and settled on Lower Twin, where Mr. Newman now lives. He owned considerable land on Twin, which he divided among his sons, Samuel, George, John and Daniel. George and John Settled and died here. John married Mary Edmiston whose father was among the pioneers of Paint township, and died in 1843. [ History of Ross & Highland Counties, Ohio ].

**Roberts, Robert** (-1836). gunsmith. Harrison County. Roberts was a native of VA who came to Harrison County in 1818. He married Ruth Atkinson by whom he fathered 8 children. Robert Roberts was a gunsmith by trade, and followed that calling until his death. Roberts died on 17 April 1836 although his wife lived until 1886 [ History of Knox County, OH ].

**Simonton, Jacob** (1810-). gunsmith. Jacob was born on July 19, 1810, in Preble County. When thirteen years of age was apprenticed to a carpenter, learning the trade and following it for nine years. He then learned the gunsmith's trade, working at it for nearly ten years. In 1835 he went to Wabash County, IN, working at the gunsmith trade for several years. He next engaged in the mercantile business at Liberty Mills, continuing the business for twelve years. In the spring of 1856 he came to Clarinda, IA, and engaged in farming. In 1857 he became sheriff of the county, and in the following year was elected county judge and ex-

officio judge of probate court. He married Leah Calhoon, on October 29, 1829; she died in 1851, leaving a family of nine children. He was married again in 1851 to Margaret Brown. Judge Simonton organized the lodge of A. F. & A. M., and was the master for the first eight years: Was also a charter member of the lodge of I. O. O. F. [History of Page County, IA, 722].

**Shough, Joseph** (1761- 1839). gunsmith. 1809-27, German Twp, Fayette County. Shough was born in Germany and trained in Lancaster where he married Catherine Chisler. He moved to Martinsburg, WV, in 1795 and on to Fayette County, PA in 1820. He then moved to Madison County, OH in 1830 and to Bloomington, IL where he died on 8 January 1839 [Family].

**McDannell, David Patterson** (1847-1924). gunsmith. David was born on 22 August 1847 in Pike Twp, Stark County, OH. He married Margaret A. Shaffer (1845-1881) on 18 May 1871 in Stark County. Four children were born to this union. David was a private and gunsmith in 115 th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted on 2 October 1863 and lied about his age saying he was 18 when in fact he was only 16 years old. On 31 Aug 1864 he was captured by General Wheeler's Confederate forces while defending block house #6 on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad near Smyrna, TN. In September of 1864 he was paroled and allowed to return to his regiment. After the war he was transferred to 188 th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry in Murfreesboro, TN on 22 June 1865 and mustered out on 21 September 1865 in Nashville, TN. David died on 24 Apr 1924 in Canton, OH [RootsWeb].

**Young, Johannes** (1773-1856). gun- and blacksmith, dentist. Seneca County. Johannes was christened on 4 July 1773 at the Lutheran and Reformed Church, Hamilton Twp., Monroe County, PA, a son of Johann Nickel and Regina (Bond) Young. His father was a blacksmith, but also made rifles. He could bleed, pull teeth, and do much to make himself useful in a new country. From his father Johannes learned the trades. Johannes moved in a covered wagon to Ashland, OH, built a house and shop there, and worked about three years. Then moved to Medina County. He died in Green Springs, Seneca County, OH, in 1856 [Ancestry].

**Auer, Balthaser L.** (1825 - 1910). gunsmith. Auer was born in Switzerland and married Magdalena Reglel before emigrating to the United States in 1856. He lived in Cincinnati, OH, for 3 years, then moved to Louisville, KY, where he opened a hardware store and worked as a gunsmith and locksmith for 10 years between 1859 and 1869. He then moved to Owensboro, Kentucky, where he lived and worked until he passed away in 1908 [Ancestry].

**Bashore, Frederick William** (1831-1902). gunsmith. Paulding County. Frederick was born on 26 February 1831 in Fairfield County, a son of Frederick and Rebecca (Fisher) Bashore. He married Nancy Josephine Craig (1841-1913). Frederick died on 15 December 1902 and was buried at Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding [Find-a-Grave, 57264735].

**Stover, Samuel** - P. O. Canal Fulton; is one of the pioneer settlers of Stark County; he was born in Aaronsburg, Center Co., Penn., Aug. 16, 1813; he came to Lawrence Township May 26, 1823, where he remained, upon the farm on which he now resides until the fall of 1831, when he went to Canton and learned the gunsmith's trade with **Jacob Danner**, with whom he remained three years; returning to the farm in Lawrence Township, he has since resided there. He was united in marriage, Feb. 12, 1835, to Margaret Kreighbaum.

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual AOLRC Antique Gun and Arms Show



The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Gun and Arms Show, held on September 28, 2013 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 continues to be 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. I probably shouldn't mention this, but table holders can set up Friday night. For the past several years, pizza and drinks have been showing up for the table holders, and this “party” is a great chance to swap stories and get caught up with friends.





# LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS

Springtime in Marietta and our annual reunion April 4, 5, and 6 - I can't wait! Hopefully all this cold, snow, and ice won't infringe on spring's arrival and definitely not on our Marietta show!

Plans have been finalized and as usual we will be setting up the tables and exhibits Friday afternoon. With much visiting and socializing, I imagine there will be all kinds of stories of new purchases and all kinds of gun talk. 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 donation jar will be on the table to defray expenses for the meal.

Saturday's activity for the ladies will begin at 11:30 at the Levee House. We will have a pasta and salad bar with drink and dessert for \$12.50 per person + tip. Individual bills will be given so there is no need to prepay. I do need you reservation by March 26. (See the last paragraph for information)

I have tentatively reserved the Trolley for a 90 minute narrated tour of Marietta to begin after lunch. The cost of this is \$200. The trolley can accommodate 26 people. Your expense for this depends on the number we have on the tour. Hopefully we can get at least 20 attending which will keep the cost to about \$10/person. I will also need reservations for this by March 26. If we don't have enough attending I will probably cancel the tour...

Our evening dinner will continue as it has in the past with casual dress and there will not be a speaker or entertainment after the dinner. There will as usual be a short business meeting. Then the rest of the evening will be social time for more gun talk and visiting.

Our annual August picnic and shoot will be held Saturday, August 9 at noon. You can arrive earlier to check out the range. Get out those old rifles and mark your calendars and plan to attend. AOLRC will be providing table service for those in attendance. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and their own drinks. We will not provide meat dishes this year but there will be sandwiches, etc. with the covered dishes. Please get out those old rifles and join us. It is a fun day.

I am looking forward to our reunion and seeing you in Marietta. Please email me at [ronjudyerian@gmail.com](mailto: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 and the trolley ride. I need to give the number attending the luncheon to the Levee house and I will need to decide on the Trolley tour.

See you soon. Judy Yerian

(Editor's Note: I must apologize to a couple of members. Mark Barnhill, shooting "Old Harrison", an 1879 P. A. Reinhard target rifle, won the Ohio State 100 yard match. He sent me several photos that I intended to publish in the Newsletter. Alas, i-phone pictures do not copy with enough resolution to permit re-printing. Congratulations to Mark, and I am sorry that the pictures could not be shown. Also, I promised Bill Reynolds that I would mention his fine Contemporary Craftsman show held in February at the Campus Martius Museum in Marietta. Sorry Bill, I could not get the Newsletter out in time.)

