

Official Publication of the NMLRA Since 1939

MuzzleBlasts

Volume 79 - No. 8 \$5.00

April 2018

U.S. DRAGOONS, APACHES, AND BORDER BANDITS

WEAPONS OF THE FIRST DRAGOON REGIMENT

Parallel Wars. Pt. 3
European War on the
SHAWNEE HORIZON

Seth Kinman

The Last of the
MOUNTAIN MEN
and His **REMARKABLE RIFLE**

A MOST TERRIBLE MUSKETRY:
THE BATTLE OF KERNSTOWN

'TIS THE SEASON



The Second Amendment

A WELL REGULATED MILITIA BEING NECESSARY TO THE SECURITY OF A FREE STATE,
THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED.



SAVE THE DATE

THE MEMBER'S BANQUET & AUCTION

HAS BEEN MOVED TO
JUNE 10TH AT 6:00PM

FOR BANQUET TICKETS, CALL 812.667.5131

Don't miss your chance to win this Pete Wygant Shooting Box at the auction! Want to donate? Contact Lindsey Brown at 812.667.5131



EDITOR'S LETTER

SCORING SHED



Dave Ehrig - Editor

Greetings from the new editor's "scoring shed." While many of you might recognize me as that "Longhunter Society" guy, or others remembering my *Muzzle Blasts* articles on hunting birds, beasts and all things muzzleloading in North America, it would be honest to say that my half-century in journalism has brought me full circle to this Friendship desk. And, I look forward to seeing your letters, photos and article submissions.

With a gratitude to my friend Lee Larkin, we are building on the past to create the future. Lee is a craftsman with both his noted powder horns, and his editorial experience. He will be missed. But with all new challenges, the NMLRA has been moving in a new direction along the trail. We are in a competitive market, both in the shooting sports and hunting. We must hold fast to our traditions as we evolve into our next generation's world.

I was born in 1946. When I read that same year's *Muzzle Blasts* magazine, I was taken by the fact that not only had our men and women come home from the Atlantic and Pacific WWII locations, they brought with them their rifles and pistols in hope of sharing their skills, their stories, and their success. But they came to Friendship, to prove that they could match their forefathers' skills with muzzleloading guns. In fact, sometimes they shot their chunk guns with black powder, and then engaged others with their more modern equipment here on our sacred ground.

I bring with me 55 years of shooting, competing, and hunting with muzzle loading pistols, rifles and smoothbores. It is said, "With age . . . wisdom." To that I would add, "More than ill-begotten wisdom . . . experience to adventure."

I look at "*Muzzle Blasts*" as the messenger of every NMLRA member, to impart their personal experience that they have learned from their personal journey to adventure. Regardless of whether you took your first shot from the knees of your granddad, or harvested your first wild meat with a rifle built from your hands, we all share a common brotherhood that is the fun of muzzleloading.

We have witnessed a groundswell of friendship in the past 85 years, culminating in the National Championships, Living History, and the rise of the 21st Century Mountain Man. The Longhunter Society and a host of muzzleloading shooting venues are celebrating their smoky blasts from matchlocks to cannons!

You are the reason that all of those great adventures exist. You are the reason why we exist. You are the NMLRA and through your eyes, the *Muzzle Blasts* magazine exists. Join us as we move through this next 85 years together.

Lastly, for those of you dreaming of anchoring a Longhunter Society record book animal, we now have the new and amazing Book 7 ready for you. The who, what, when, where and how are all listed for your reference. Call, write, email, contact our website www.nmlra.org, or ask . . . because we have a copy waiting for you. MB



JOIN THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION TODAY!

- ☐ Sign me up! Here's my annual membership fee of **\$40.00** (\$50.00 in U.S. funds for mailing addresses outside the United States). Send me the monthly membership magazine *Muzzle Blasts*, and full NMLRA membership credentials.

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

E-mail _____

☐ Payment Enclosed (check or money order).

Charge to ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Discover

Card# _____

3 digit V-Code _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

Daytime Phone# _____

**Mail to: NMLRA Membership Dept. MB
PO Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021-0067
or call 812-667-5131.**

**Sign up on the website: <http://www.nmlra.org>
e-mail: lparks@nmlra.org**

- **Muzzle Blasts** Members of the NMLRA receive *Muzzle Blasts*, the monthly membership publication devoted to all aspects of the muzzleloading sport.
- **Scholarship Program** The NMLRA sponsors a scholarship program for its members and their dependents.
- **National Competitions** With your NMLRA membership card, you have the opportunity to attend two national championship matches in centrally located Friendship, Indiana. And if a Western climate is more to your liking, the NMLRA holds its Western National Shoot in Phoenix, Arizona during the winter months.
- **Muzzleloading Education** Members of the NMLRA can take advantage of the association's Muzzleloading Education Program.
- **Charter Clubs** The NMLRA has over three hundred muzzleloading charter clubs across the country, each with its own schedule of events and range times.
- **National Range** The Walter Cline National Range in Friendship, Indiana, is open to NMLRA members who wish to shoot—whether it be for a day or a weekend, because camping facilities are available at the range.
- **Territorial Competitions** Thirty NMLRA-sponsored territorial matches are held throughout the United States, and your NMLRA membership card allows you to participate in these events.



12

'Tis the Season

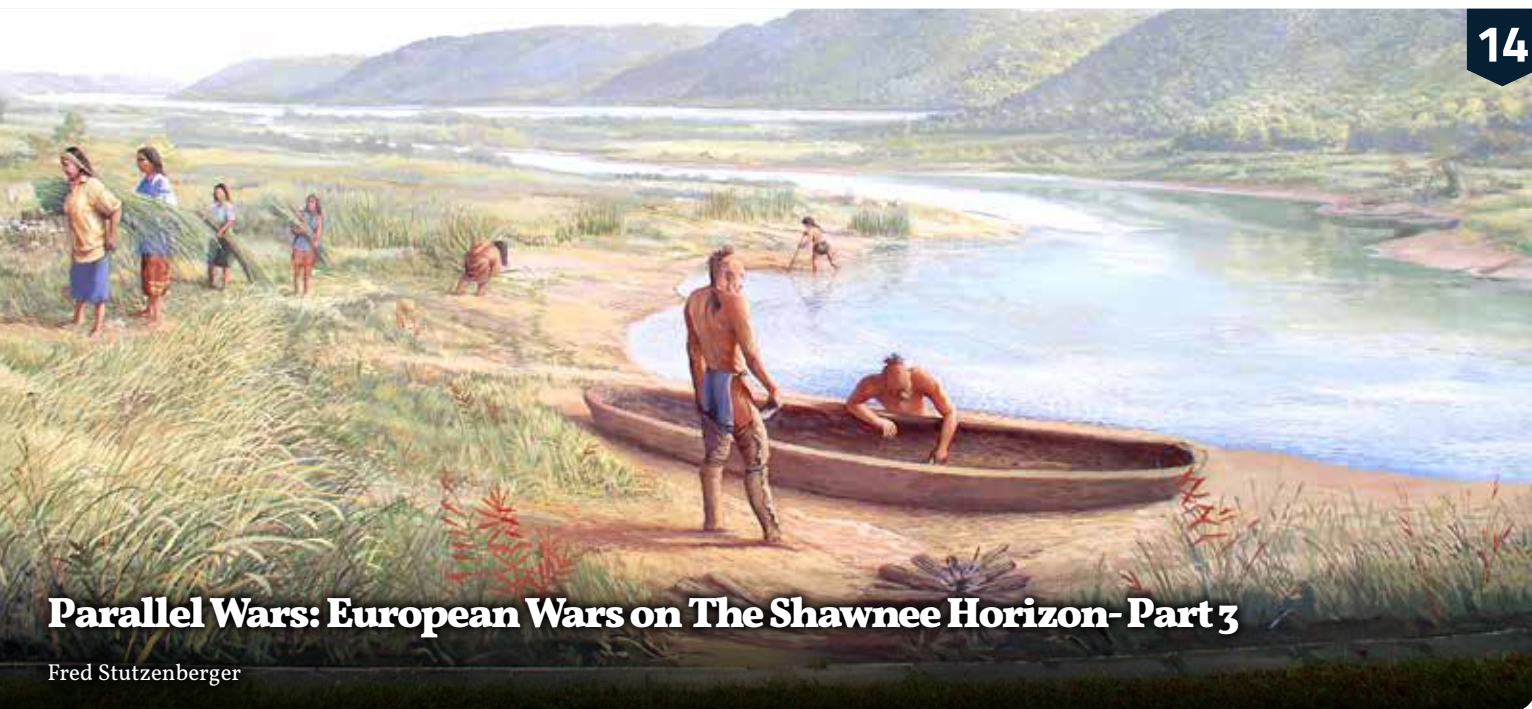
F. W. Schindler



40

Short-Barreled Hawken Rifles

Bob Woodfill



14

Parallel Wars: European Wars on The Shawnee Horizon- Part 3

Fred Stutzenberger

Contents



03 Editor's Letter
Dave Ehrig

06 Association Affairs

08 Letters to the Editor

22 Web Blasts
Alan Garbers

24 Territorial Matches

27 Walter Cline Range

36 Charter Club Chatter
Doug Zaffino

37 The Upper Allegheny
MUZZLELOADERS

45 Gunmaker's Hall
Giveaway Tickets

51 NMLRA Territorials
Survey

52 Weapons of the First
Dragoon Regiment
William Mapoles

60 The Last Relay

60 Obituaries

63 New 1 of 1,000
Members

64 Rendezvous Monthly
Linda Fulmer

65 National Rendezvous
& Living History
Event Schedule

82 Beyond Friendship
James Fulmer

Classified
Advertising
Page 78

Muzzle Blasts Staff

Muzzle Blasts Editor

Dave Ehrig

dehrig@nmlra.org

Muzzle Blasts Coordinator

Lydia Morath

lmorath@nmlra.org (812) 667-5131 ext. 230

Advertising & Muzzle Blasts Secretary

Lindsey Brown

lbrown@nmlra.org (812) 667-5131 ext. 231

Muzzle Blasts Designer

Stacy Gibson

SETH KINMAN: The Last of the Mountain Men and His Remarkable Rifle

Dr. Alan W. Maki

46



MUZZLELOADING AFIELD: Some Top Turkey Hunting States

Al Raychard

68



A Most Terrible Musketry: The Battle of Kernstown

Joshua Shepherd

82



The Bevel Brothers: Making a Hunting Pouch

Contact Us!

National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association

P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021

Telephone (812) 667-5131 Fax (812) 667-5136

E-mail Address for NMLRA office—nmlra@nmlra.org

Business Hours Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Association Affairs

of Concern to the Membership

NMLRA Platform

As an association founded upon our heritage of early American firearms, we declare our support of the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

We are dedicated to:

1. The understanding of, and the ability in, marksmanship with early American muzzleloading guns.
2. Match promotion for the purpose of advancing fine accuracy with these arms and the establishment of standard practices for competition.
3. The recognition and support for the continuing and growing interest in the added challenge of hunting with a muzzleloading gun.
4. Greater safety with all guns, especially with muzzleloading rifles, pistols, and shotguns.
5. The collecting, preservation, and recreation of antique guns and related accoutrements, and the recognition of the value of living history re-enactments.

NMLRA Mission Statement

The National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association exists to promote, support, nurture, and preserve NMLRA's and our nation's rich historical heritage in the sport of muzzleloading through recreational, educational, historical, and cultural venues such as match competition, hunting, gun making and safety, historical re-enactments, exhibits, museums, libraries, and other related programs

NMLRA Office Staff – (812) 667-5131 (phone extensions listed)

Accounting Manager — Joan Rohrig, ext. 227; jrohrig@nmlra.org

Accounting Assistant — Dianna Smith, ext. 225; dsmith@nmlra.org

Advertising and Muzzle Blasts Secretary — Lindsey Brown, ext. 231; lbrown@nmlra.org

Maintenance Supervisor — Dan Thomas

Charter Clubs, Membership and Education Secretary — Lora Parks, ext. 224; lparks@nmlra.org

Merchandise Clerk, Commercial Row Secretary — Lindsey Nelson, ext. 232; lnelson@nmlra.org

Longhunter Program Director, Field Rep Secretary — Joyce Vogel, ext. 221; jvogel@nmlra.org

Secretary and Camping Coordinator — Brenda Hooton, ext. 223; nmlra@nmlra.org

NMLRA Memberships—Visa, M/C & Discover Accepted

Annual Membership \$40. 3-Year Membership \$115; 5-Year Membership \$185. Includes monthly publication and all membership privileges.

Annual Family Membership \$53. (\$63 Foreign) Valid for parents and children under the age of eighteen (18), living at the same address. Each member has all membership privileges except the Family Membership is entitled to one vote, one copy of the monthly publication, and only adults may rent campsites.

Annual Junior Membership \$15. Valid for persons under the age of 18. Date of birth required. Includes all membership privileges except for voting and camping. Will receive *Muzzle Blasts* each month.

Golden Guardian Annual Membership \$140. Includes monthly publication, membership privileges, and \$100 is tax deductible.

Canadian and Overseas Annual Memberships \$50. 3-Year Membership \$145. 5-Year Membership \$235.

Associate Annual Membership \$14.50. 3-Year Associate Membership \$39. 5-Year Associate Membership \$65. Includes all membership privileges except receiving *Muzzle Blasts*. An Associate Member must be in the immediate family (spouse and all minor children) of an NMLRA member.

Muzzle Blasts Statement

Muzzle Blasts is your membership magazine included in the annual membership fee of \$40. Material content of the publication relates only to the muzzleloading guns, accoutrements, and historical data of that particular era. Because of the diversified approach to muzzleloading guns, *Muzzle Blasts* is not responsible for opinions expressed by its writers, and is not responsible for mishaps of any nature that might occur from use of published data or from recommendations by any member of the staff.

Advertising appearing in this magazine relates to the muzzleloading era and appears purely on a non-endorsement basis by either the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Assn. or *Muzzle Blasts*.

The *Muzzle Blasts* editor has the right to refuse advertising for any reason whatsoever.

For information on submitting articles, advertising rates, magazine mechanicals, and so forth, send for free brochure to NMLRA, P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021, or call (812) 667-5131.

Membership fees are explained on the Association Affairs pages in this issue; \$40 is the one-year membership fee for 2018.

2018 Copyright © National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, Friendship, Indiana, 47021 USA.

Muzzle Blasts (ISSN-0027-5360) is published monthly by the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, Maxine Moss Drive, Friendship, IN 47021. Rate of membership is \$40 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Friendship, Indiana, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Muzzle Blasts*, P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021-0067.

CAUTION: All technical data in this publication, especially for loading, reflect the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment, and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article and over which the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA) has no control. The data have not otherwise been tested or verified by the

National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association

P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021

Telephone (812) 667-5131 FAX (812) 667-5136

Business Hours 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. EST (Mon.– Fri.)

E-mail Address for NMLRA office — nmlra@nmlra.org

Muzzle Blasts Editor Dave Ehrig — dehrig@nmlra.org

Muzzle Blasts Coordinator Lydia Morath — lmorath@nmlra.org

Advertising & *Muzzle Blasts* Secretary Lindsey Brown — lbrown@nmlra.org

NMLRA Officers and Executive Committee

President—

Joe Hill

25792 Bright Leaf Drive, West Harrison, IN 47060 • (513) 678-5550
president@nmlra.org

Vice President—

Brent Steele

714 Leatherwood Rd, Bedford, IN 47421 • (812) 276-3326
vicepresident@nmlra.org

Secretary—

Colton Fleetwood

10207 N. St. Rd. 135, Vallonia, IN 47281 • (812) 968-9120
secretary@nmlra.org

Treasurer—

Mike Yazel

P.O. Box 492, Mentone, IN 46539
(574) 551-7687
treasurer@nmlra.org

NMLRA Office

P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021
phone (812) 667-5131
fax (812) 667-5136
nmlra@nmlra.org

Directors

Terms Ending 2018

Clifford (Ted) Blackwell..... Beech Grove, IN
David DeLong Round Pond, ME
Adina Cloud Paoli, IN
Joe Hill West Harrison, IN
Colton Fleetwood Vallonia, IN
John (Digger) Kemple Paoli, IN
Mike Yazel Mentone, IN

Terms Ending 2019

Dana Dore Chino Valley, AZ
Alan Shourds Chrisney, IN
Rebecca Waterman New Bremen, OH
Brent Steele Bedford, IN
Andy Larson Houston, TX
Alliey Nunn Indianapolis, IN
Roger Spurgeon Indianapolis, IN

Terms Ending 2020

William (Bill) Foy Jr. Marion, OH
Alan Hoeweler Cincinnati, OH
Jeff Cunningham Paoli, IN
Marty Murphy Xenia, OH
Karen Latta Amo, IN
Mike Weissmann Batavia, OH
Michael Eder Indianapolis, IN

NMLRA Business Membership

Annual Business Membership \$250. Includes monthly publication and membership privileges, the use of the NMLRA business member logo, advertising and exhibit discounts, and the exclusive right to rent the direct mail list.

NMLRA Life Memberships—Visa, M/C & Discover Accepted

Endowment Life – \$1000. Payment plan of \$200 down and \$80 quarterly until balance is paid in full.

Patron Life – \$1200. Payment plan of \$200 down and \$80 quarterly until balance is paid in full.

Benefactor Life – \$1,500. Payment plan of \$200 down and \$80 quarterly until balance is paid in full.

Associate Life – \$300. To be paid in one payment. Full membership required by another family member, same rules apply as regular Associate Membership.

Senior Life – \$500. To be paid in one payment. Must be 62 or older to qualify.

10 Year+ Life – \$500. To be paid in one payment. Must have paid regular adult dues for 10 or more consecutive years. Subject to verification from NMLRA office.

Send membership information to the NMLRA Office listed above. Phone (812) 667-5131—For memberships only (800) 745-1493.



NMLRA. The NMLRA, its agents, officers, and employees accept no responsibility for the results obtained by persons using such data and disclaim all liability for any consequential injuries or damages.

No advertised item is intended for sale in those states or in those areas where local restrictions may limit or prohibit the purchase, carrying, or use of certain items. Check local laws before purchasing. Mention of a product or service in advertisements or text does not necessarily mean that it has been tested or approved by the NMLRA.

NEWEST NMLRA LIFE MEMBERS

JOHN E. NARDUCCI
SCOTT HARRISON

THONMAS ILCH
JAMES S. BUELL

You may now become a Life Member at a discounted rate if you are 62 or older or have been a member for 10 or more consecutive years (must be verified by the office).

GET YOUR OFFICIAL NMLRA TARGETS ONLINE



To view all target options and price list, please visit:
nmlra.org/nmlra-targets

2017 NMLRA Election Results

As certified by Pershing and Company, Inc.

Joe Hill.....	2586
Colton Fleetwood	2558
Mike Yazel.....	2510
Richard Crabtree, Jr.....	2360
Clifford (Ted Blackwell).....	2347
Rick Weber	2237
David DeLong.....	2201
Cal Merritt	1798

The National Rendezvous and Living History Foundation
present the 24th annual

Northeastern Primitive Rendezvous

July 13-20, 2018

at the historic Wiswell Farm, 109 River Road, Orrington, Maine

*Take I-95 north to Bangor, exit 182 onto I-395 south, exit 4 onto Route 15 south.
Head south for 3 miles. The Wiswell Farm is on the right.*

Gate Hours • Public Days

7am to 9am, vehicles must be out of camp by 10am.
5pm to 7pm, vehicles must be out of camp by 8pm.

Gate Hours • Non-Public Days

8am to 10am, vehicles must be out of camp by 11am.
3pm to 5pm, vehicles must be out of camp by 6pm.

All NRLHF rules and regulations apply. To register or for more information,
please visit www.northeasternprimitiverendezvous.com or www.NRLHF.org

Booshway: Perley Urquhart • 207-664-6031 • perleyu@myfairpoint.net

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Letter to the Editor;

I just wanted you to know that I just spent a couple of hours anguishing over who of the eight candidates for the NMLRA Board of Directors I should not vote for, since we could only vote for seven. I hope that the person I had to leave off my ballot will forgive me for not voting for him. It was literally a coin toss as to who I was going to feel guilty about not selecting. It's really not fair that you present us with this collection of such really outstanding candidates, then expect us to say that one of them is not worthy of becoming, or continuing to be a Director. Every one of these candidates appears to have great credentials and the passion needed to be in a leadership position in the organization, and I would hope that the next time you present us with a list of candidates that you at least have the courtesy to include at least one bleeding heart, anti-gun, anti-hunting liberal in the group, so that we can feel happy about not voting for him or her.

Sincerely,

Michael Chambers

Dear Michael,

I'm sorry we have such fine candidates for the BOD and that it is giving you such a fit! You might try thinking of it this way: It's not so much who is worthy (like winning an Oscar), but rather who can bring the organizational/business skills we need to keep the NMLRA moving forward. After all, they will be directing the business of our association not receiving an award. I hope that helps with your future deliberations!

Sincerely,

Lee Larkin

Dear Editor:

I was very pleased to find another article on cap and ball revolvers in the Jan. 2018 issue of *Muzzle Blasts*. While I thoroughly enjoy shooting my Hawken and participating in our monthly trail walks at the

Niantic Sportsmen's Club in Niantic, Connecticut (where I have been a member for some 55 years), my life long passion has been cap and ball revolvers. For the past several months my grandson, Tommy Douglas, has been shooting the matches with his almost 80 year old grandpa and it pleases me no end to see a young man his age take a genuine interest in "the old ways", hopefully helping to perpetuate what we in the NMLRA love so much. And he's been consistently out-shooting me! Thanks for all the good reading and we really enjoy the new format.

Yours truly,

Tom Miller

Dear Tom,

You have indeed "passed the torch" to the next generation of muzzleloaders. What we have enjoyed for some 85 years at the NMLRA deserves to be a part of our American culture, far into the future.

Sincerely,

Dave

Dear Editor,

My name is Jody Swarthout, Sr. I have been a member of the NMLRA for a number of years now. My favorite section of *Muzzle Blasts* sometimes is the letter to the editor. I live in the hills of New York state and here I know many hunters as I have a professional gun cleaning and armorer service. I read about your rendezvous and laugh sometimes. I live in the weeds on my property all the time, not just on some weekends during the year. People around my area think I'm crazy.

My passion is muzzleloading fowlers or shotguns preferable double barrels. In the last few years, I have seen many hunters trading their old muzzleloaders in for new inlines. The number one reason is ease of loading and they think they are more accurate for a longer distance shot. I'm not sure I agree, but that's just my opinion. Black powder season here to most folks is: "Hey we have 10 more days to hunt." No one seems

interested in our heritage anymore.

I have wanted to join the ASSRA recently, but don't have internet service. Do you have their contact information?

Thank you,

Jody Swarthout

Dear Jody,

The American Single Shot Rifle Association membership can be sent to:

Keith Foster, Membership Administrator
15770 Rd. 1037
Oakwood, OH 45873

Dues for the ASSRA are \$40 for one year or \$70 for two. Be sure to include your address and phone number.

And thanks for your membership in the NMLRA!

Sincerely,

Lee

Dear Editor,

The inline discussions have been a part of the "Letter's to the Editor" in *Muzzle Blasts* for some time, however, with inlines, we should recognize that there is much to be considered.

The decision whether inlines have a place in black-powder shooting has already been made, and the NMLRA was not a significant part of it. Two things happened that moved inlines to center stage, first, many states were eager to introduce muzzleloading hunting seasons in their states to draw more participants, and along with that, new inline muzzleloaders were coming to the market to capitalize on what appeared to be a booming business selling black powder rifles for hunting. As many states moved to allow muzzleloaders with a traditional lean, they were soon challenged to open the muzzleloading season for any black-powder firearm. Eventually, most states, including

major western states, opened the doors to any muzzleloader with its bore size as the only restriction. For a while the issue then moved to iron or optics regarding the sighting system. Once again, the traditional position of iron only, was mostly set aside. Today Pennsylvania is one of a few states with laws favoring the traditional hunter.

The issues that changed the public's purchasing to inlines devastated the traditional market. Certainly not for us, but to those who were new black-powder shooters it did. So the inline became the way to go for many who didn't even know us.

This was not an attack on us or our interests. It was a change based on new game laws and a new muzzleloader that became part of "modern hunting." It seemed threatening to many of us.

But some still insist these events must be disregarded by the NMLRA. The history of this subject shows overwhelming sales of the inline ahead of the side lock to this day. Those who enjoy inlines for hunting are not challenging the history, or heritage, or facts from the muzzleloading era. They come to shoot at Friendship, and we need more of these new and younger participants. My money says that they

will eventually be the owners of the guns we so enjoy, and of the responsibility of our American heritage that is so important to us. Frankly, "owner" is a misnomer; things are just in our possession for a while.

So we should not invite these new shooters to see what we do? We should not invite them to shoot with us? We need to look at the bigger picture in our future.

Inlines have been on our grounds, in competition, since shortly after I started attending Friendship over 50 years ago. One is the Yazel inline percussion pistol, arguably the most popular pistol on our line, which has allowed more shooters a place on the pistol line than any other. The second inline, made famous by Charley Hunt in earlier years, is an over and under shotgun, which is still popular on both the trap and skeet ranges today. This shotgun is still being produced by multiple craftsmen as it was after first being introduced.

The two inlines mentioned have allowed untold members a place in competition. Members incidentally, that we're glad to have. Of course, there are many who prefer originals or original type reproductions and good for them! Those guns are magnificent pieces of work and anyone

would be proud to own and use them!

We are an amazingly diverse group of people with a deeply rooted common denominator, if these new shooters join us they will soon be gripped, as we were, by the most exciting and colorful history the world has ever seen - a history of a free people, who settled a new country, with little more than a flintlock rifle to protect family and provide food.

So where am I? I'm a competitor, and if it uses black powder and loads from the front, I'll compete against it!

Sincerely,

Mike Luma

Dear Mike,

Thanks for your panoramic insight and very clear thoughts on the subject of inlines. I appreciate the historical background you shared. We do indeed have "a deeply rooted common denominator" with inlines - and we should not turn them away. Let inline shooters see what the rest of us are doing with our traditional guns. Maybe they will catch the bug

(Continued on page 10.)

Dear Editor,

In regards to Patrick Cameron's article, "The Love of the Longrifle," January 2018 *Muzzle Blasts*, my husband John M. Mercer could have written that article!

John passed away suddenly, August 18, 2017. He was a gunsmith and custom rifle maker for 35 years. I know John built quite a few prominent rifles for others, as well as for himself, but I think he got the most pleasure and joy from the muzzleloaders. Before John died, he had preordered Jim Kibler's "Southern Mountain Rifle" kit, but sadly I had to cancel.

Enclosed are some pictures of John and the muzzleloaders he finished. I so miss his "boyish" excitement of building, test firing, and hunting with him.

Sincerely,

Shirley Verhine (Mercer)

Dear Shirley,

John lived his dream and shared his gifts with many. We are honored to have known of his muzzleloading contributions for others, and shared in his delight in using them "to make meat the old-fashioned way!"

Sincerely, Dave



like we did. It all goes back to our common denominator--

Sincerely,

Lee

Dear Elwood, John & Ken,

I received several "Letters to the Editor" in the January issue of *Muzzle Blasts* that I wanted to be sure to make a reply to, so, let's just get to it.

First off, Mr. Elwood White writes in part, "What do you do about rain? Well, actually you have access to modern ways of dealing with it, even if you have to be covert about it, so my real question is, what did the old-timers do about rain? On another subject, I'm also curious about personal hygiene on your woods rambles, not so much your practices, but those of the old-timers..." All I can say is: Elwood! Buddy! Do you actually read me? Whatever gave you the idea I cut corners on authenticity? When I am on a period scout, I neither have access to, nor employ any "modern ways" of dealing with rain or personal hygiene whatsoever. I roam the forests to the best of my ability in the exact same manner "the old-timers", as you call them, roamed the woods themselves. With regard to rain -- whenever possible, I always attempt to secure some sort of primitive shelter. If I get lucky -- maybe a rockhouse or a nice rocky overhang, possibly a suitably sized hollow tree, or, if push comes to shove, an adlib, knocked together, natural lean-to of some kind or another. Look around, assess all options and use your imagination. In lieu of this, sometimes when it rains -- you just get wet. Real wet! But not to worry -- I guarantee you won't melt.

On the subject of personal hygiene, you spoke of brushing your teeth. If I am to be on the trail for a comparatively long period of time, I'll carry a bone handled toothbrush utilizing pig bristles. Occasionally, if I can find them, I'll use horseweed or Indian toothbrush (how's that for PC?).

With regard to "that other," rather personal, hygienic dilemma, I have only one word for you -- "leaves". My trail pardners and I have used leaves for 30 to 40 years now -- and no one, I repeat, NO ONE has ever experienced any adverse effects from it (re-read that last sentence). If it's raining and the leaves are wet, that just makes them all the more effective. Realistically speaking, I've found that since one has an infinitely larger amount of leaves available for usage, your posterior winds up becoming much cleaner than merely using a scrap or two of thin, flimsy toilet paper. You use those leaves by the double handful! And, in the event

you can't recognize a poison ivy leaf, then shame on you. 'Nuf said.

Mr. John Jeffrey writes: "I enjoy your monthly column in *Muzzle Blasts* and have a request. How about covering some of the trail foods you and your buddies carry into the woods. I am sure that you have more than venison, jerky, and parched corn with your water? And obviously there is the game you bring in during hunting season. Discussing the choices, the preparation and cooking of trail foods would be of interest to me and others, I would think. Maybe you have other ideas that I can adapt and learn to appreciate."

I love the way he put that question mark at the end of his second sentence where he was wondering if we ate anything other than venison, jerky, and parched corn! I hope, I hope, I hope. Actually John, that's about it! Being so far away from civilization, a 1760s era longhunter would count himself lucky to even have the dagone parched corn and this would soon go by the wayside. More often than not, they would eventually run out of salt as well! Most usually (toward the last few months of a longhunt), the menu for an average company of longhunters would be nothing but roasted, unsalted meat - breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Pretty bleak, huh? We will do this every now and then (only for a day or two) and no, it's not pleasant. Existing on roasted, unsalted meat however, was an integral part of the "longhunting experience" and my goal has always been to better understand their lifestyle. Now you don't have to eat like that if you don't want to. In truth very few of us ever do. But if you give it a try - even for a short while, you'll

come to know those men and better relate to the everyday lives they led, just a little bit clearer than you ever did before.

Terrible, boring, deep-wilderness diet aside, when it comes to authentic, backwoods cuisine, our saving grace is that at the outset of most any longhunt, a few more, culinary luxuries would indeed have been on hand -- at least, until they were rather swiftly used up. Things like cornmeal for ash cakes and stews, bacon, a poor quality muscavado type sugar or less commonly, maple sugar, loose-leaf bohea tea or coffee to drink, raisins, walnuts, dried peas, and dried fruit, but (sadly enough) not a whole lot more. Nevertheless, my trail pardners and I like the food choices at the beginning of a longhunt very much better than we do those toward the end of a typical longhunt. So, many times our scenario is -- we're just starting out. Newly arrived in the Can-tu-kee and our food selection is fairly decent.

As a side note: Ash cakes can be quite easily made by placing a generous dollop of cornmeal in the palm of your hand, then pouring enough water on it to give it the consistency of say, warm deer tallow. If you wish, you can put other things such as salt, the previously mentioned raisins, a bit of sugar, walnuts, and/or the dried fruit into

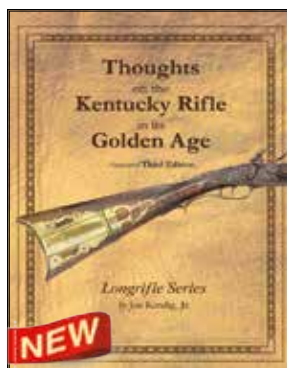
We want to hear from you!

**Submit your letter to
the editor by mailing to:**

**NMLRA Letter to the Editor
PO Box 67
Friendship, IN 47021**

Thoughts on the Kentucky Rifle in its Golden Age

Annotated 3rd Edition - Joe Kindig, Jr.



Kindig defines the American Longrifle as the finest example of truly American rococo art, using 262 rifles from his extensive collection. The most comprehensive source ever published, our monumental 3rd Edition features dramatically improved photos using the original negatives, now including the locks. A new 48 page addition features over 240 full color photos with multiple, detailed views of 28 of the finest Kentuckys, many previously unpublished. Much new information discovered over the last 35 years has been added, along with the extensive information & photos from Shumway's 1983 edition. The early Pennsylvania & Maryland schools of gunsmithing are covered, along with biographical data on the makers. 624 pages and over 1,100 photos & illustrations, 240 in full color, in an oversize, 9" x 12" hardbound volume.

\$125.00

plus \$8.95 Shipping

164 pg catalog available for \$5 & FREE Bi-Monthly Sales Flyer

CRAZY CROW
Trading Post

Dealer Inquiries Invited

1.800.786.6210
www.crazycrow.com

P.O. Box 847 D-5 * Pottsville, TX 75076



your ash cake while you're at it. Gently mix the whole, forming that wet cornmeal into a sort of sticky ball - then place it directly into the hot ashes on the outer perimeter of your fire or else on a small, flat rock and scooting that rock close up to the edge of your fire to bake. If you've used the scorching, grayish/white ashes, simply dust and blow that light, fleecy, residual ash right off of your finished creation. I promise you'll never taste anything but the crunchy, golden browned ash cake.

Mr. Ken Rogendas wrote an excellent letter to me saying: "Hello from Alaska! I look forward

to finding *Muzzle Blasts* in my mail box. I especially enjoy Mr. John Curry's interesting and informative articles. After reading October's issue, 'Tips for the Trail', I would like to add my thoughts as it may make for a good campfire debate. During my service in the Marines I was called on to give survival instructions. I have also offered classes here in Alaska. So! How long should we boil water? Information from the World Health Organization claims that when water reaches 160 F all pathogens will be killed in 30 minutes. At 185 F pathogens are killed in a few minutes. My thoughts have always been, 30 mins. at 160 F, 3 min. at 185 F, instant at 212 F. Since

water boils at 212 F, boiling is our thermometer. It tells us that our water is now 212 degrees F, and all protozoa, bacteria and viruses are dead. In my opinion, after water comes to a boil, continued boiling is a waste of resources. Remember Mr. Curry pointed out that boiling will not eliminate chemicals, pesticides, and herbicides. I carry a katadyn filter. Can't wait to try and char some punk wood like Mr. Curry suggests. Thanks for the tip John. Shoot sharps the word!"

To which I reply: "What Ken said."

Sincerely, *John Curry* MB



R.K. LODGES
Authentic Sioux & Cheyenne Tipis
Baker & Whelen Lean-Tos
Marquis, Wall Tents
British & Civil War A-Frames
Brochure of Full Line \$1.00
218-547-8714
501 Cole Street South
PO Box 1346
Walker, MN 56484
www.RKLodges.com
Dealer Inquiries Invited

Hill's Fort Rendezvous
Public event at
1800's Replicated Fort
September 14-16, 2018
I-70 and IL 127 near Greenville IL
Need traders, vendors, War of 1812 reenactors
Water and firewood provided
Visit us on the web:
fortsofillinois.org
Call Ken Gaffney, 217-246-3891
kencathy22@hotmail.com

NMILRA

APRIL 28-29, 2018

Women's Weekend

Walter Cline Range • Friendship, IN 47021

Registration starts at 7 am on Saturday
Shooting starts at 9 am until 5 pm

\$25 REGISTRATION FEE

Includes dinner Saturday evening

We will be shooting muzzleloading rifle, pistol, and shotgun.

LADIES! Please come and join in on a fun-filled weekend dedicated to **YOU!**



Check out the event page on Facebook!

'NMLRA Women's Weekend'

'TIS THE SEASON!

By F.W. Schindler

From April until snow fly is traveling time. Winter's storms and treacherous road conditions are a memory and now's the time for the much anticipated 18th and 19th Century battle reenactments, the encampments, and the rendezvous that pop up nation-wide during the pleasant summer months. Now is the time to visit our national parks and historical monuments, big and small, many of which are closed for the season in winter.

Summer destinations like Fort Ticonderoga in the beautiful lakes region of upstate New York, and Gettysburg National Park in Pennsylvania are two historical treasures troves among many. Reenactors that participate in the numerous battles, encampments and rendezvous held in summer are often found to be walking encyclopedias that enjoy sharing their knowledge of how it was "back in the day" with interested spectators.

Fort Ticonderoga is one of my favorite places. Originally the site of Fort Carillon, a French Army post located at the tip of Lake George to guard the north/south waterway from Canada during the recurring French and Indian wars in the early 1700s, it became a British post

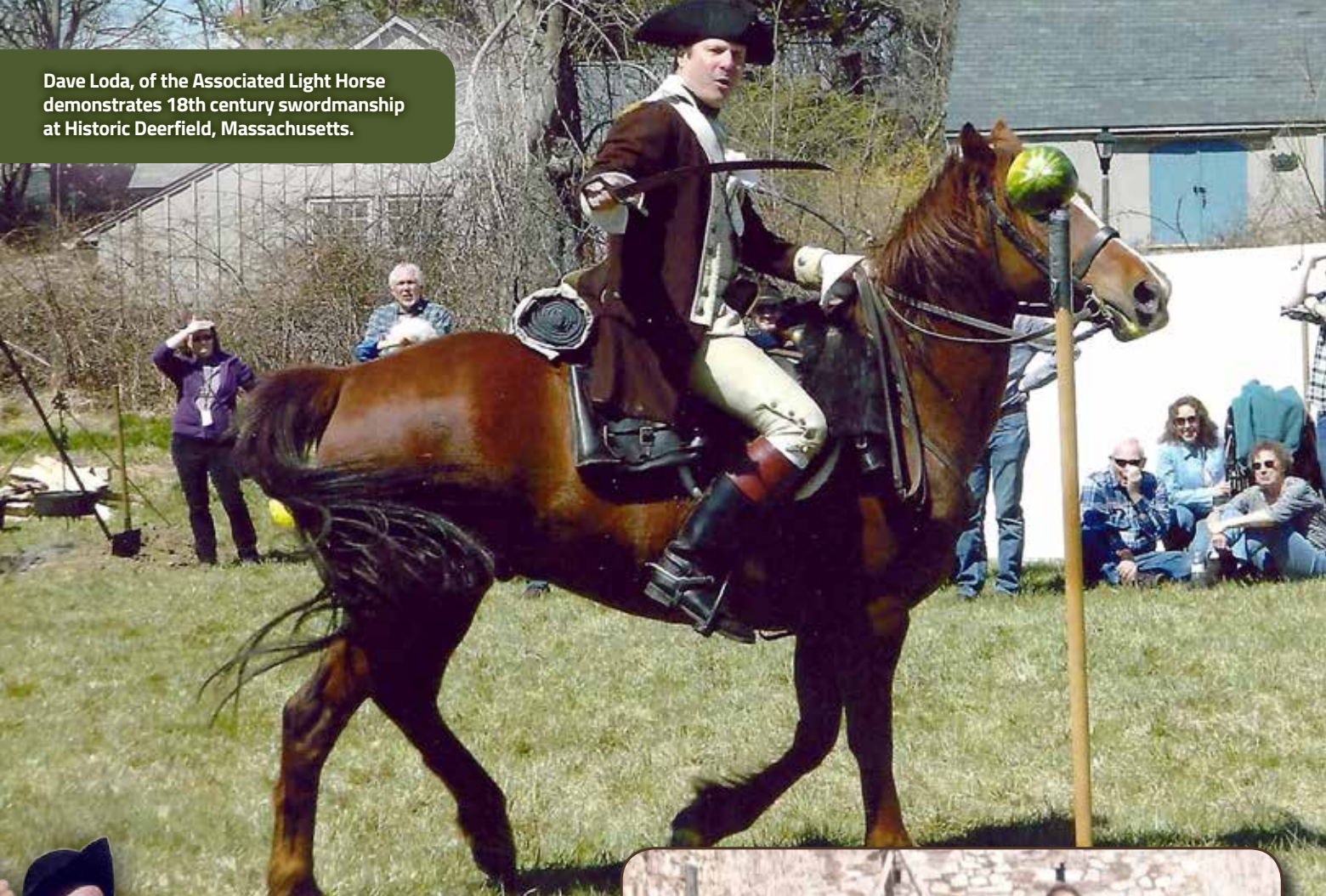


"Beauty and the Beast" My wife, Janice, standing beside an 18th century Siegemortar at Fort Ticonderoga in upstate New York.

after the Treaty of Paris and later figured importantly during the American Revolution. Today "Fort Ti" contains perhaps the largest collection of 18th century cannons, Spanish, British, French, and American, found anywhere in the U.S., including

RIGHT: A member of Knowton's Rangers of Coventry Connecticut, shows how to load a Brown Bess Musket at Historic Deerfield, in Deerfield Massachusetts.

Dave Loda, of the Associated Light Horse demonstrates 18th century swordsmanship at Historic Deerfield, Massachusetts.



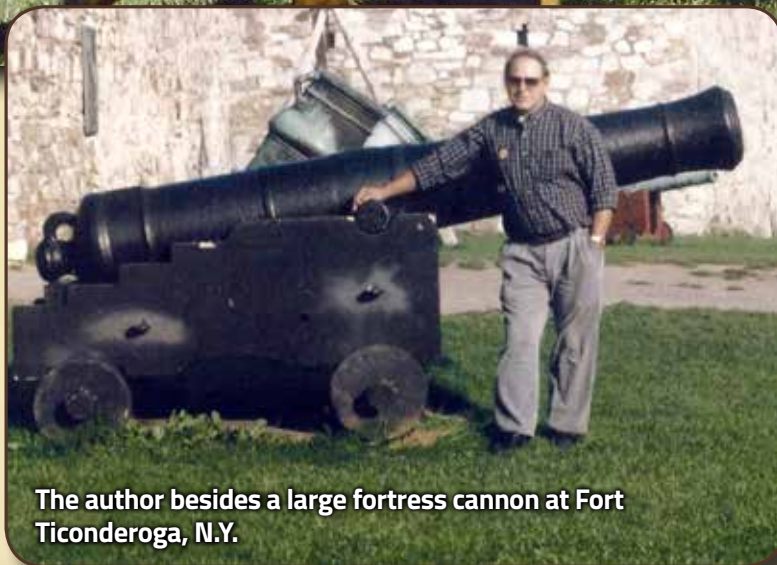
many examples of French Gribeauval artillery (these were the reconfigured big guns that revolutionized the use of field artillery in warfare).

Historic Deerfield in Massachusetts is another favorite destination of mine, an important repository of early Americana from earliest colonial times that houses the fabulous, 75 piece Guthman collection of engraved powder horns (one of the finest collections of its type to be found anywhere).

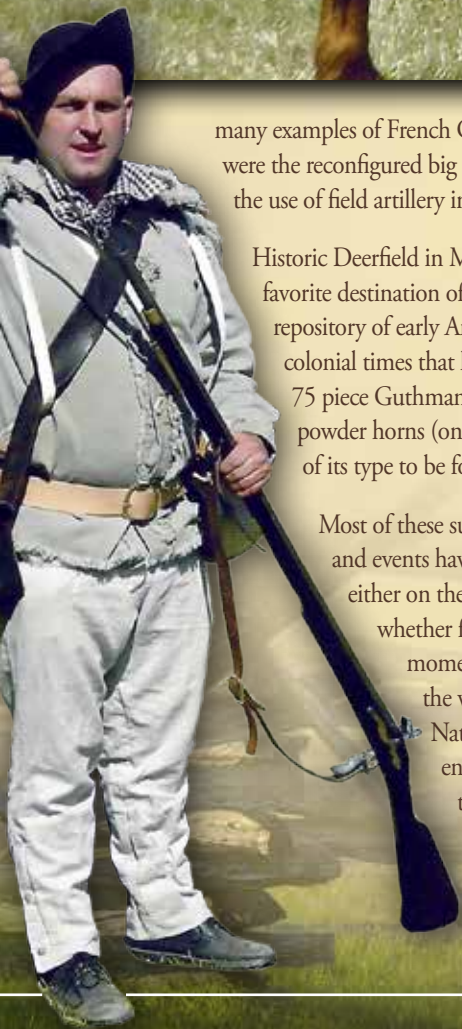
Most of these summer destinations and events have accommodations either on the premises or nearby,

whether for a night, a weekend or an extended visit of a week or more. I always take a camera along to capture the moments and preserve the memories. And I like to bring a copy of the *Muzzle Blasts* with me, too, and spread the word about the NMLRA. I find that like-minded new friends are sometimes completely unaware of the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association, the benefits of membership, and the gold mine of information and entertainment produced each month in *Muzzle Blasts* magazine, now updated to an all-color publication that equals or surpasses anything on the newsstands. It's a publication and organization to be proud of!

It's always nice to encounter fellow members of the NMLRA from out of state, too, and you never know who you might bump into. I'm easy to recognize; I'm the guy with a Nikon camera slung over my shoulder and holding the latest issue of *Muzzle Blasts*! MB



The author besides a large fortress cannon at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y.



PARALLEL WARS: EUROPEAN WAR ON THE SHAWNEE HORIZON

By Fred Stutzenberger

Captain Céloron had just brought his expeditionary party of 265 Canadian infantry and tribal allies back from the Ohio Country. His report to Marquis de La Jonquière, newly appointed Governor of New France, was anything but encouraging. The major occupants (Shawnee, Delaware and Mingo) were recalcitrant, even hostile, to the prospects of trade relationships with France. The British were already there and actively trading. Celoron had warned them that the Ohio Country was French domain and had posted signs and planted lead tablets proclaiming French possession throughout. Particularly disturbing was that irritating Irishman George Croghan; he had built a trading post at Pickawillany on the Great Miami River at a strategic spot where he could control the best canoe route from Detroit to the Mississippi River.

Céloron expelled the British traders by force of arms. Then he traveled among the various tribes to warn them against dealing with the British and threatening retribution if they disobeyed. It was a hard sell; British trade goods were of better quality and less expensive than were those of the French. Besides, Céloron couldn't press the issue because he wanted to avoid the subject of putative French sovereignty in the Ohio Country. When one of the tablets he planted was discovered and translated* to the Shawnee, he was lucky to avoid bloodshed.

TRANSLATION OF A LEAD TABLET FOUND NEAR POINT PLEASANT:

In the year 1749, reign of Louis XV., King of France, We, Celeron, commandant of a detachment sent by Monsieur the Marquis de la Galissoniere, Commandant General of New France, to re-establish tranquillity in some Indian villages of these cantons, have buried this plate at the mouth of the river Chinodashichetha, the 18th August, near the river Ohio, otherwise Beautiful River, as a monument of renewal of possessions, which we have taken of the said river Ohio, and of all those which fall into it, and of all the lands on both sides, as far as to the sources of said rivers; the same as were enjoyed or ought to have been enjoyed, by the preceding Kings of France,

"All I can say is that the nations of these localities are very badly disposed toward the French, and are entirely devoted to the English. I do not know in what way they could be brought back." (Captain Pierre-Joseph de Céloron de Blainville, Montreal, Nov. 1749, in his report of French trading prospects with the Ohio Valley tribes.

(Jennings 17)

and that they have maintained it by their arms and by treaties, especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht, and Aix-la-Chapelle.

Likewise, when he confronted ten British traders with fifty packhorses and 150 packs of furs in Logstown, the Shawnee and Delaware "gave the French to understand that the land was theirs and that while there were many Indians in those parts they would trade with their Brothers the English." (Jennings 16).

La Jonquière's response to Céloron's ominous report was vacillating and dilatory. Should he send an overpowering French force to expel the British? Considering the obvious tribal satisfaction with the *status quo*, what would be their response to military action? Even worse, what would be the British response to an invasion of territory in which they had already established a functional occupancy? The longer La Jonquière procrastinated, the worse the situation appeared. French authority was being overtly challenged while the Shawnee, Delaware, and Mingo in the Ohio Country watched defiantly. If they had known that much of their future was being fashioned by decisions of foreign powers across the ocean, they would not have been so sanguine.

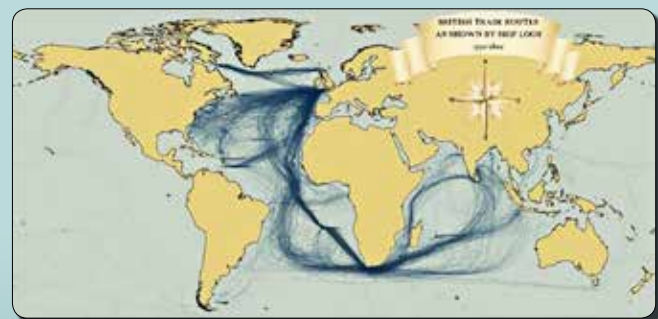
The biggest issue to the Shawnee and their neighbors *should* have been: which of the European powers would evolve into the greatest threat to their tribal lands? It had to be Britain, for she coveted every inch of



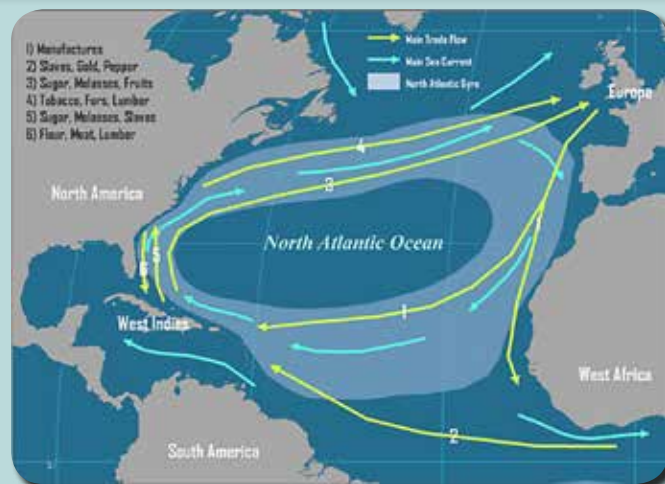


land she saw for farms, for mines, for growing crops, profits and cities. Britain would use her trading advantage to do that; with its expanding empire of subservient colonies to feed its manufacturing might, she could produce better quality, sell for less and still make a tidy profit. Unfortunately for them, the Ohio Country tribes had become cost-conscious shoppers looking for a short-term bargain while the French, who posed little long-term threat to tribal lands were losing the trade war. Could the French mobilize enough of their tribal trading partners to win a shooting war? From the reports, it didn't look bright and the shortsighted tribes weren't helping.

The British had multiple advantages. It wasn't only the advantage in manufacturing; there was also that matter of transport. In the 1700s, British shipping lanes (Fig. 1a) were the most extensive, well defined and efficient in their use of trade winds and ocean currents (Fig. 1b)

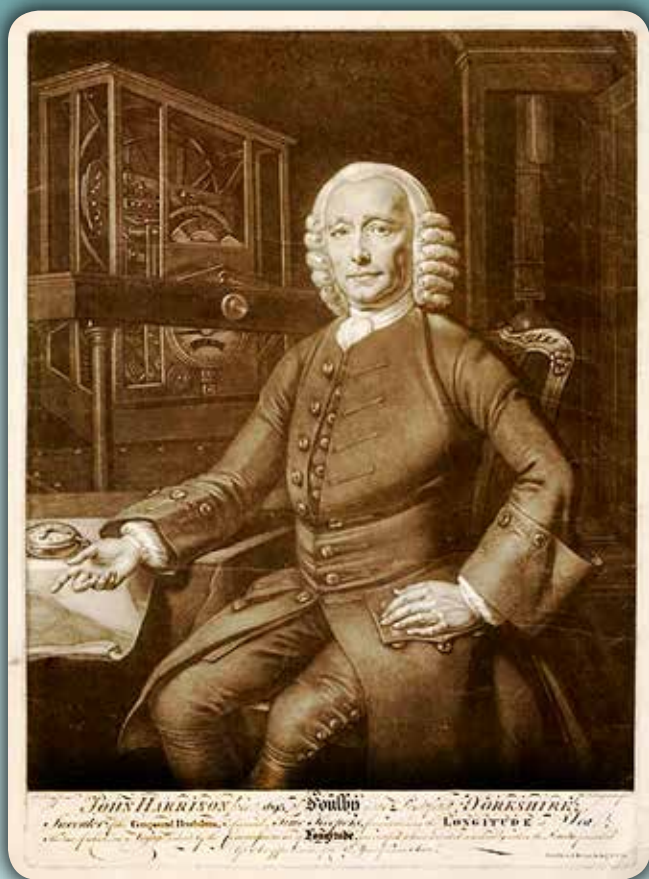


(Fig. 1a) By the early 1700s, British trade lanes had been firmly established to maximize economy and efficiency; excess time at sea was money spent in feeding sailors and in markets lost to competitors. (James Cheshire, *SpatialAnalysis*, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2012/apr/13/shipping-routes-history-map>).



(Fig. 1b) In the era of the sailing ship, knowledge of winds and currents in both legs of the journey made for efficient use of men, time, and equipment. (Image from <https://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch2en/conc2en/tradewinds.html>).

British shipping owed its success in large part to John Harrison (Fig. 2) the persistent and perfectionistic genius who developed the marine chronometer (Fig. 3) that was accurate far beyond any previous mechanism. Before it became available, the British had been losing many merchant and military ships at sea because precise longitude calculations was difficult. Latitude could be closely determined by a good navigator with a sextant. Longitude was another matter; one needed a marine chronometer that was accurate to an error of just seconds a day from Greenwich Royal Observatory Mean Time. The navigator needed to know the time very accurately so that the position



(Fig. 2) John Harrison, the son of a carpenter, saved British merchants millions of pounds in shipping expense by equipping their ships to accurately estimate their longitude at any point of their journey. (Portrait from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harrison).

of the celestial body (observed by sextant) could be determined. The position of the sun is given in degrees and minutes north or south of the celestial equator and east or west of Greenwich, established by the English as the Prime Meridian. Local time is one hour ahead for every 15 degrees of longitude eastwards and one hour behind for every 15 degrees west. By knowing the time the ship had been at sea, and



(Fig. 3) The H5 chronometer (Harrison's fifth reiteration of his initial clockworks to withstand the rocking and yawing of a ship) was the paragon of precision for its day. (Photograph from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harrison).

knowing local time from the height of the sun, it would be possible to determine longitude accurately. It was a critical advantage to any ship on the open ocean.

The matter of origin and destination of the round trip Atlantic traverse was also important. Shipping from Bristol to Charleston or New York, was quicker and more dependable than heading west from Le Havre or Brest, across the north Atlantic and down the St. Lawrence that was blocked by ice part of the year. Cadwallader Colden, New York Surveyor General, compared the routes in 1742: *"The French labor under Difficulties that no Art or Industry can remove. The Mouth of the River of St. Lawrence, and more especially, the Bay of St. Lawrence, lies so far North, and is thereby so often subject to tempestuous Weather and thick Fogs, that the Navigation there is very dangerous and never attempted but during the summer months."* Colden went on to compare advantages the British enjoyed in transporting trade goods: *"They are transported in less Time, with less Charge and much less Risque, as appears by the Premio for Insurance between London and New York, being only Two per Cent. Goods are easily carried from New-York to Albany, up Hudson's River, the Distance being only 140 Miles, the River very strait all the way, and bold, and very free from Sandbanks, as well as Rocks; so that the Vessels always sail as well by Night as by Day, and have the Advantage of the Tide upwards as well as downwards."* (Colden 38)

The British had another advantage: the diplomacy of Sir William Johnson (Fig. 4) in dealing with the Iroquois Six Nations. The Iroquois were a threat to the Shawnee, militarily, economically, and politically. No wonder they were waging an on-again-off-again parallel war against each other. The Iroquois were the most powerful of the tribal confederations, and lorded over their neighbors including the Shawnee. The Iroquois presumed to negotiate in treaty matters for the Shawnee until the Shawnee finally took leave of Iroquois duplicity and went south to the Ohio Country. Even then, the British still held the Shawnee responsible and liable for Iroquois concessions despite the continual conflict that existed between them.

Johnson got a lot of concessions from both sides to affect acceptable



(Fig. 4) Sir William Johnson became a legend in his own time by keeping the fractious and unpredictable Iroquois Six Nations within the British trading network. (Image from painting by John Wollaston, 1758, Albany Institute of History and Art).

compromises. He had the knack of using the tricks of potential adversaries to his own advantage and eventually win them over as an ally (or better as a dependent vassal). Perhaps he had a highly conserved genomic sequence that gave him that ability; he was an Irishman with a kiss of the blarney stone and a list of influential ancestors to validate his stature as a diplomat. Early on, Johnson showed his ability to negotiate with the tribes. He joined in their dances and ceremonies, patiently spent many hours participating in tribal councils and generously distributed strategically placed gifts from his own pocket. Plus, he married Molly Brant, the sister of the powerful Mohawk chief, Joseph Brant.

Johnson concentrated on learning the fur trade from the First American perspective, then proceeded to build his own business using that advantage to amass a huge acreage (largely through personal gifts from the Iroquois who often gave away other tribes' land). His reputation for getting along with the tribes earned him the coveted position of Indian Counsel for New York Governor George Clinton. While his main leverage was with the Iroquois, his influence was indirectly projected through them to other tribes, even enemies of the British.

Although Johnson remained cozy with the tribes throughout his career, he never forgot whose side he was on (even when sleeping with a pretty Iroquois princess). Via sly “divide-and-control” tactics, he exploited the age-old divisions between the tribes that had existed long before they were subjected to European meddling. He was the King’s man through and through while keeping the Iroquois Confederation wooed away from the French. So what if he saw himself as a lord riding herd on a legion of woodland allies that he alone could summon to the King’s service? If they wouldn’t serve, he could at least persuade them to remain neutral.

By 1750, Johnson’s success in keeping the Iroquois Confederacy under the Union Jack had attracted the enmity of Conrad Weiser, Pennsylvania’s Ambassador to the Indians (Fig.5). That was bound to happen, for the two manipulators had opposing goals: Weiser wanted the Iroquois to oppose French influence in the Ohio Country by gathering the Shawnee, Delaware, and Mingo into a regional resistance. Johnson wanted more concentrated and overt military action by first

sending the Mohawks against the French in Montreal. Their opposing actions nullified each other’s influence with the tribes, particularly among the Mohawks

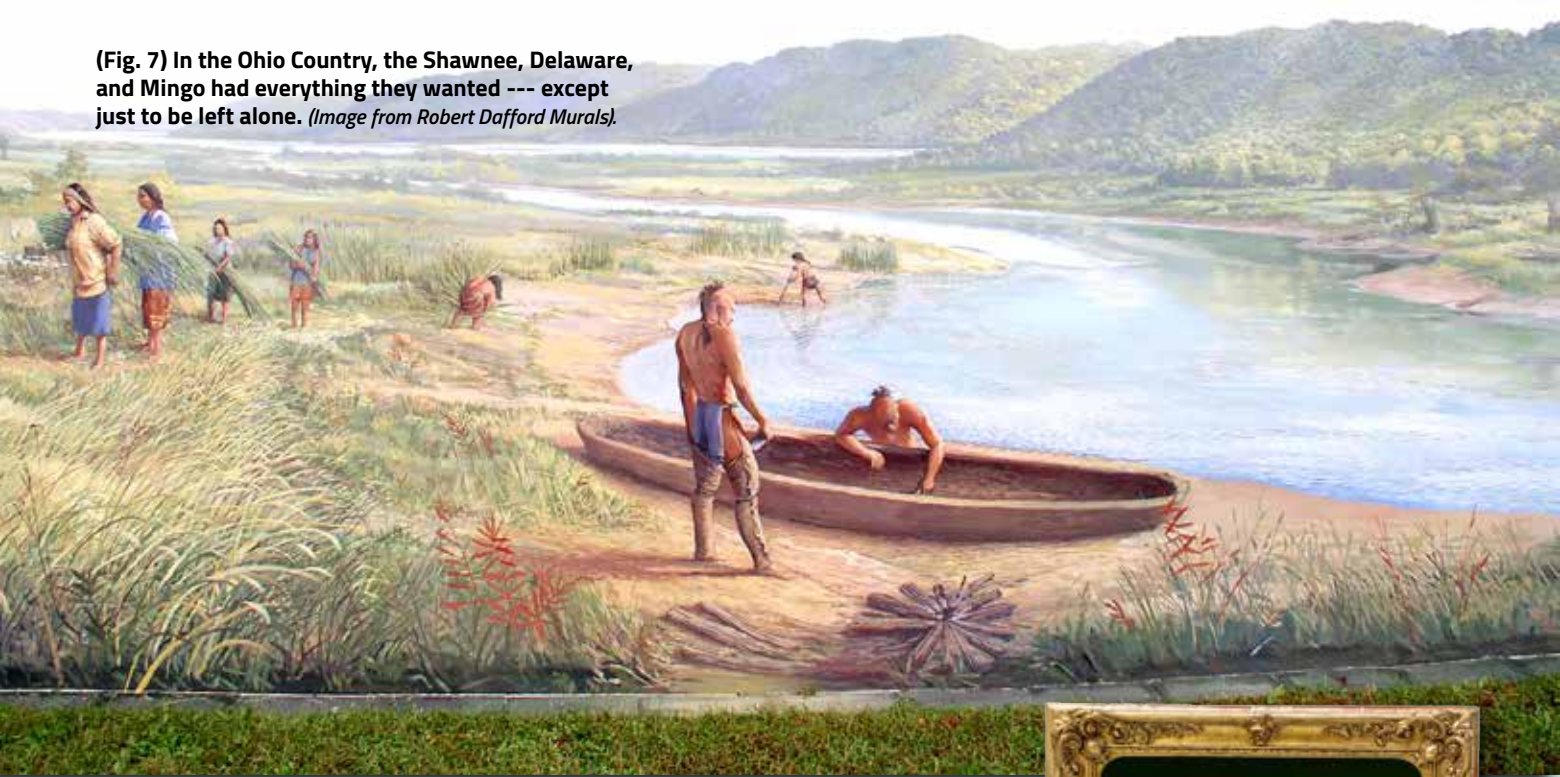
(Fig. 5) Conrad Weiser, Pennsylvania’s ambassador to the tribes, worked to counter Johnson’s influence and control over the fur trade and military alliances. (Image from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conrad_Weiser).



(Fig. 6) Mohawk sachem Tiyanoka (known to the British as King Hendrick) was an outspoken critic of British lack of appreciation for the sacrifices that his people had endured in resisting French influence. (Image from engraving by Eliza Bakewell, Cornhill, London, 1755).

who had been warring against the French since 1747 and had paid a stiff price for their belief in Johnson’s promises. Mohawk Chief Hendrick (Fig. 6) bluntly told Governor Clinton: “*Brother when we came here to relate our Grievances about our Lands, we expected to have something done for us, and we have told you that the Covenant Chain of our Forefathers was like to be broken, and Brother you tell us that we shall be redressed at Albany, but we know them so well that we do not trust to them, for they are no people but Devils, so we will rather desire that you say Nothing shall be done for us. By and by, you will expect to see the Nations here and you shall not see, for as soon as we come home, we shall send up a Belt of Wampum to our Brothers, the other Nations, to acquaint them that the Covenant Chain is broken between you and us. So Brother you shall not expect to hear of me any more, and Brother, we desire to hear no more of you.*” (NY Colonial Documents 6:788, 1753).

(Fig. 7) In the Ohio Country, the Shawnee, Delaware, and Mingo had everything they wanted --- except just to be left alone. (Image from Robert Dafford Murals).



Seemingly far from such problems, the Shawnee were condensing their dispersed population into the Ohio Country. It was like a homecoming after centuries of wandering. They were pleased by their good fortune in being settled into a land so rich in game, verdant in its fertility and blessed with a network of watery highways for transportation **(Fig. 7)**. They were back on good trading terms with the British and had gained prestige as mediators by returning their Miami neighbors to the fold of British trading partners. Unfortunately, threats were building from two quarters. The simmering conflict of King George's War (1744-1748) was reaching a flash point over British land claims based on deeds rendered by Iroquois chieftains twenty years before. The French considered those deeds completely bogus. How could a tribe deed away territory that was never under their control, let alone occupied? The British countered with a series of military maneuverings engineered largely for political gain by William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland **(Fig. 8)**. Although an ambitious and cunning politician, Cumberland was an arch bumbler in military matters, a fact that seemed to have been blithely overlooked by the powers in London. While Cumberland's insistence on sending British Regulars to oppose French power in America was met with "utter aversion" on the part of the King, it threw the responsibility onto local militias and First Americans of the British Colonies to do the fighting they had neither instigated nor relished. Of course, the British expected their Delaware, Shawnee and Mingo trading partners to be in the front lines for the inevitable conflict being engineered from thousands of miles away.

The dispute eventually metastasized from Cape Breton in Nova Scotia down the Appalachians and over into the Ohio Country. It could have been settled via negotiation—that's what both George II and Louis XV wanted—but the British hawks insisted on what the French moderates

(Fig. 8) Cumberland's bumbling mission to "expel the French neck and crop" from North America made the Seven Years War inevitable. (Portrait from the studio of Sir Joshua Reynolds, oil on canvas, circa 1758-1760, National Portraits Gallery, London).



could not concede. Both sides adopted irreversible positions of strength on the premise that they were destined to remain enemies in eternal conflict. In plodding negotiations, both sides proposed neutral zones extending from Lake Erie southwest along the Appalachians and down the Ohio to the Mississippi. It looked reasonable in theory to both sides. The devil was in the details.

Meanwhile, all this posturing and puffery were far beyond the Shawnee horizon. Even if they had sensed the shifting of alien empire building, they were too busy establishing their own hegemony. Their success was based in part on an attitude of consistent belligerency tempered by a shrewd sense of evaluating allegiances not on ideals but on the expediency of the moment. Through past experiences, the Shawnee had learned to live up to that reputation. Whom they traded with, fought for or with, or accepted as neighbors was determined entirely by their usefulness. For example, in 1739, one band of Shawnee mercenaries joined forces with a French expedition to attack the pro-

British Chickasaw along the Mississippi. Concurrently, another band of 500 Shawnee attacked the Catawba who were trading partners of the British in the Carolinas. The following year, they turned on their allies by raiding French trading posts along the Wabash, then added insult to injury by inviting British and Iroquois agents to accompany them in detaching their Miami neighbors from their long-standing French alliance. Shawnee “deceit and perfidy” so exasperated Pierre de la Jonquière, Governor of New France, that he wrote Paris that “it would be in our interest to destroy these *Chaouanons*. They are always trying to disturb the nations that are our allies” (Gilbert 48). The French were finding that the Shawnee could be the fiercest, if not the most reliable, of allies.

After the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle ended King George’s War, all the unresolved American issues between Britain and France were turned over to a bilateral commission that embodied a policy of inability to compromise tainted by a heavy dose of benign neglect. The Shawnee were left right in the middle of those never formally ratified neutral zones (Fig. 9).

Meanwhile a group of well-connected Virginians had been acting on the Chinese philosophy that “in every crisis, there is opportunity.” In the summer of 1744, at the signing of the Lancaster Treaty by which the Iroquois Nations relinquished all rights to any portion of Virginia,



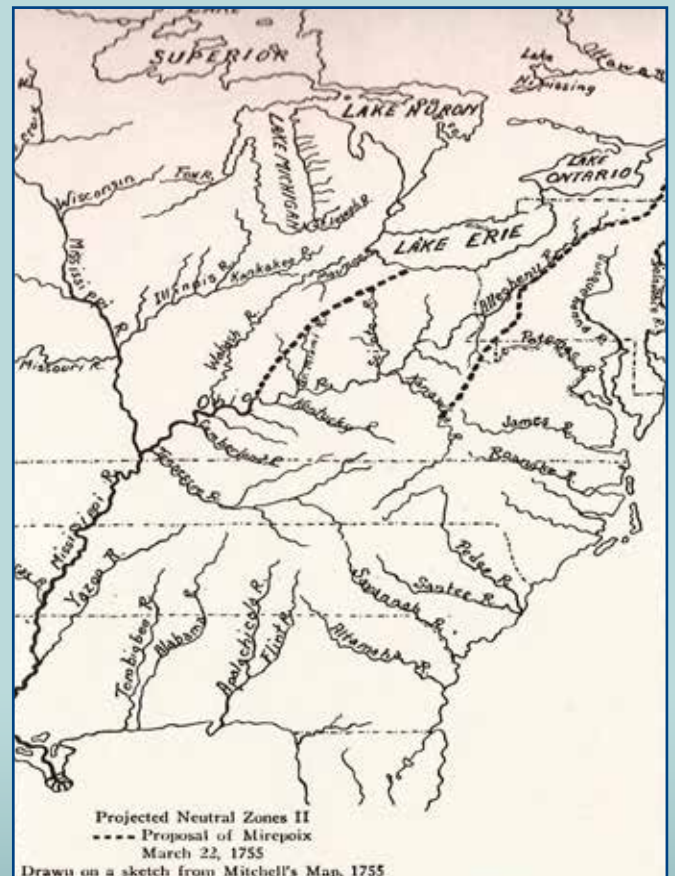
(Fig. 9) The establishment of neutral zones geographically placed the Shawnee and Delaware as neutral nations in the coming struggle. *Maps from Jennings, Empire of Fortune*.

(Fig. 10) Thomas Lee was a land speculator extraordinaire.

(Portrait from <http://www.stratfordhall.org/thomas-lees-vision-for-virginia>).



Thomas Lee (Fig. 10) petitioned the British Crown for a 200,000-acre land grant at the head of the Ohio River. His initial request met opposition via conventional channels, so he set about organizing the Ohio Company of Virginia with eleven other influential speculators for the land grab. By the end of the war, and four years of maneuvering in the right quarters, the Company’s request had mushroomed to a half-million acres (Fig. 11). London tobacco magnet, John Hanbury was bribed with an offer of partnership to help progress along. In March of 1749, the petition was granted by the Royal Board of Trade headed by





11. If Lee could have pulled off his magnificent scam, he and his partners would have controlled more land than some European countries.

George Montagu Dunk, Second Earl of Halifax (**Fig. 12**). You might say it was a “slam dunk,” but it was the Delaware, Mingo, and Shawnee who stood to get slammed. One indication of that: Virginia’s provincial representative and Ohio Company agent, Christopher Gist, was already making plans to survey the Ohio Country’s tribal lands for the settlement of hundreds of British families. Of course, there would be another treaty, more false promises, and enough legalistic maneuvering to cover the company’s backside in the event of repercussions.

It would have happened like this: Thomas Lee, presented himself as



(Fig. 12) George Montagu Dunk, president of the Royal Board of Trade, was an avid hawk in his views on countering French influence in the Ohio Country. (Portrait from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_MontaguDunk,_2nd_Earl_of_Halifax).

“President of Virginia” and reported to the British Lords of Trade on September 29, 1750:

“Since I have had the Honour to serve His Majesty as President of Virginia, I have travelled into the several parts of it, in order to inform myself, that I might be better enabled to Answer Your Lordships Querys. Virginia is Bounded by the Great Atlantick Ocean to the East, By North Carolina to the South, By Maryland and Pennsylvania to the North, and by the South Sea to the West, including California.”

Incredibly, Dunk supported Thomas’s interpretation of the Lancaster Treaty on the grounds of expediency, that it *“would be a proper step toward disappointing the views and checking the encroachments of the French, by interrupting part of their communication from the Great Lakes to the River Mississippi.”* (Gipson 3).

Predictably, the Company found itself in the role of the little boy hitting multiple hornet nests with a short stick. The French were furious. Other Virginians with covetous eyes on the Ohio Country protested the favoritism shown the Company. The Shawnee, Delaware, and Mingo occupying the Ohio Country felt betrayed and reacted with deadly intent because they had assumed that the Appalachian Mountains would act as a natural barrier to further European settlement. They were tired of being pushed around.

Fortunately for the Shawnee and their neighbors in the Ohio Country, justifying the interpretation of the treaty in court was one thing, satisfying the conditions of the charter was quite another. The Company would be obliged to establish a town of at least a hundred families, build a fort for its defense and develop a profitable economy for its maintenance. Once the news of the land grab got out, other



(Fig. 12a) Alternate portrait of George Montagu Dunk, seated on right at table with two of his secretaries. Painting by Joshua Reynolds taken from: (<http://www.sothebys.com/en/auctions/ecatalogue/lot.22.html/2016/old-master-british-paintings-evening-116033>).

speculators began clamoring for a piece of the pie. Opposition from three fronts was piling up. As a consequence, the Company partners lost money for not meeting all the stipulations of the charter, but their greed lit a conflagration on the frontier that soon would spread throughout the world.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Research Librarians Camille Cooper and Anne Grant for their excellent literature searches, to Renna Redd, Jamal Williams and Erica Anderson for interlibrary loan resource sharing of obscure documents and to John Cummings and Bob Phillips for impeccable editing.

References

Calloway, Colin. *The Shawnees and the War for America*. The Penguin Library, Viking Press, New York, 2007.

Clark, Jerry E. *The Shawnee*, University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, 2007

Dolin, Eric J. *Fur, Fortune and Empire*. W.W. Norton & Co., New York, 2010

Gilbert, Bil. *God Gave Us This Country*. Atheneum Publishing, New York, 1989.

Gipson, Lawrence Henry. *The British Empire before the American Revolution*. Alfred A. Knopf Publishers, New York, 1958.

Jennings, Francis. *Empire of Fortune. Crowns, Colonies*

and Tribes in the Seven Years War in America. W.W. Norton & Co. New York, 1988.

Jones, David. *A Journal of Two Visits Made to Some Nations of Indians on the West Side of the River Ohio in the Years 1772 and 1773*. The First American Frontier Series, Arno Press and the New York Times, 1971.

Noe, Randolph. *The Shawnee Indians. An Annotated Bibliography*. The Scarecrow Press, Lanham, MD, 2001.

Sobel, Dava, *Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time*, Walker Books, London, 2007

Warren, Stephen. *The Worlds the Shawnees Made. Migration and Violence in Early America*, UNC Press, Chapel Hill, 2014.

Washburn, Wilcomb, E. *The Indian and the White Man*. Anchor Books, Doubleday & Co., Garden City, NY, 1964. MB

We produce an extensive line of Possibles Bags and Accessories to outfit the muzzleloader hunter and reenactor



Shoulder Bags
Belt Bags
Belts
Rifle Slings
Holster
Horn straps
Lock Covers
And More

The Leatherman
TRADITIONAL LEATHER PRODUCTS

2216 Ritner Hwy., Carlisle, PA 17015

Phone : 717-249-5977 8:00 to 5:00 Week days

www.blackpowderbags.com



ACCOUTERMENTS V now in print.
172 pages in **COLOR**.

James R. Johnston

Kentucky Rifles and Pistols, Tomahawks, Hunting Bags,
Powder Horns and Knives

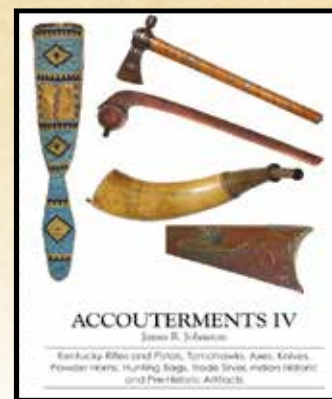
\$60.00 + \$10.00 Postage

ACCOUTERMENTS IV 2nd Printing
250 pages in **COLOR**.

Now \$50.00 + \$10.00 Postage

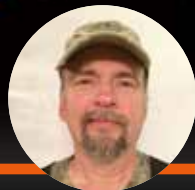
Send To:
Jim Johnston
P.O. Box 366
Ashley, OH 43003

Order two books in any
combination and we will
pay the postage.



WEB

Blasts



Alan Garbers



rulen.com/4f/index2.htm

Civil War Fakes, Fantasies, Fraud & Fluff -- If you collect Civil War items you need to check this site out. I knew there are shysters out there, but not like this.

clipconverter.cc

Clip Converter -- Many of us enjoy watching videos on YouTube, but watching the same video repeatedly can eat into data plans. This site allows you to download the video to your computer. It works on other websites as well.

oldspanishnationalhistorictail.blogspot.com

Old Spanish Trail -- Winding from Santa Fe, NM to Los Angeles, CA the Old Spanish Trail was a route of trade that also passed through Arizona, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada. Fur trappers followed it to trap western Colorado and eastern Utah and trade in California.

steelhelixrifle.com

Steel Helix -- "Steel Helix addresses all of the topics of making rifle barrels. You will learn how to build a machine that is fully capable of drilling, reaming and rifling any rifle barrel. You will learn how to make and harden the tools that you will need. You will learn how to use those tools to machine a plain, unremarkable bar of steel into a cut-rifled work of art that any true rifleman would covet. If you are, or would like to learn to be, a "very skilled and ingenious machinist", then Steel Helix is a must-have addition for your gunsmithing and machining library."

grrw.org/the-heyday-of-the-hawken

The Heyday of the Hawken -- The Hawken has to be the most widely reproduced traditional muzzleloader on the planet, especially after 1972 when Robert Redford made all of us want to be like Jeremiah Johnson. Most of the Hawken rifles are stylized versions that only loosely resemble to originals. This site covers the more authentic copies made over the years.

publications.newberry.org/indiansofthemidwest

Indians of the Midwest -- "In the Midwest—defined here as Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio — there are 34 federally recognized tribes and others seeking recognition. Members of these communities generously contributed information about contemporary life. On "Indians of the Midwest," you can explore seven important issues, learn how to do further research, and gain an introduction to the research methods that underlie scholars' findings."

dixiegunworks.com

Dixie Gun Works -- The legendary DGW is always a joy to browse. NMLRA member Fred Schindler was happy to see that they now stock six packs of .36 caliber combustible paper cartridges that are fully functional and accurate. Fred says, "...they look good in a revolver presentation case or a Civil War cartridge box."

museumofwesternco.com

Museum of Western Colorado -- Grand Junction is a sleeper of a town. Nobody knows about it, yet there is a million things to see and do within 50 miles. The Museum of Western Colorado is just one of them. I promise you won't be disappointed if you stop in or read their blog.

wyomingmuzzleloaders.com

Wyoming State Muzzle Loading Association -- Wyoming was the site of many original rendezvous. The tradition lives on through this club. Check this site for the latest shoots and rendezvous in beautiful Wyoming.

mlagb.com

Muzzle Loaders Association of Great Britain -- If you're interested in competitive black powder shooting in Great Britain, be sure to visit this site. It has everything you need to know. MB

Have something to share? If you find an interesting website related to muzzleloading or muzzleloading accoutrements, send me a message at alanjamesgarbers@yahoo.com and I'll check it out.

10th
Annual

Log Cabin Shop Presents
the **Early American Trades Fair**
at

Log Cabin Shop 8010 Lafayette Rd Lodi, Ohio

October 12th & 13th, 2018

Noon - 6pm Friday * 9am - 6pm Saturday

Free Parking.
Food Available on
grounds.

Admission is Free & open to the public.
FREE VENDOR SPACE! With reservation by 09/15/2018
Artisans interested in displaying their work or vendors of early
American crafts contact Log Cabin Shop.

Meet with and learn from skilled
craftspeople as they work. Many hand-
crafted items on display for sale or trade.

www.logcabinshop.com ~ logcabin@logcabinshop.com ~ 330.948.1082 ~

Visit our new website

www.NMLRA.org

Primitive
is the way to go!



"Passing It On" Since 1992

Primitive Archer Magazine

"Passing on the Traditions of Classical Archery"

Published since 1992, our six issues a year are packed with
how-to's, archery history, hunting tips and related ways to
maximize the outdoor experience, plus exciting stories from
well-known authors and your fellow bowyers.



Subscribe Today!

US 1 year \$29.99 2 years \$55.99 3 years \$77.99
Canadian 1 year \$34.99 2 years \$67.99 3 years \$97.99
Foreign 1 year \$42.99 2 years \$81.99 3 years \$117.99

Three easy ways to order:

1. Subscribe online at www.primitivearcher.com
2. Call (713) 467-8202
3. Fill out the form and mail with check, money order
(We do not bill) or credit card information to:
Primitive Archer Subscriptions
P.O. Box 79306 • Houston, Texas 77279-9306

Please check one: (*US funds drawn on US Banks only)

US 1 year \$29.99 2 years \$55.99 3 years \$77.99
Canadian* 1 year \$34.99 2 years \$67.99 3 years \$97.99
Foreign* 1 year \$42.99 2 years \$81.99 3 years \$117.99

WE ACCEPT THREE MAJOR CREDIT CARDS



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Credit Card Type ☐ Visa ☐ MC

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ Name on Card _____

Visit www.PrimitiveArcher.com



TERRITORIAL MATCHES

PARTICIPATION IS NOT LIMITED BY STATE

ALABAMA

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 4-6, 2018

Sponsor Club: Alabama State Muzzleloading Rifle Assoc.
Contact: Margaret Meg Millican, office 205-629-7192, 1megawoman@gmail.com

Range location: Brierfield Ironworks Historical State Park, 240 Furnace Parkway Brierfield, AL 35035

ALASKA

PISTOL & RIFLE

June 21-24, 2018

Sponsor Club: AK State Muzzleloaders Assoc. and McKinley Mountain Men Muzzle Loading Rifle Club

Contact: Keith Bayha, 907-746-6662, 907-223-1993, nohorn@gci.net

Range location: Fort Wick, off Yoder Road, near Talkeetna, AK

CALIFORNIA

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 9-13, 2018

Sponsor Club: Sacramento Valley Muzzle Loaders
Contact: Neysa Bush, 916-362-1469, 916-849-3104, neysamb@aol.com

Range location: Sacramento Valley Shooting Center, Sloughhouse, CA

COLORADO

RIFLE & PISTOL

June 15-17, 2018

Sponsor Club: Buckhorn Skinners

Contact: Ron Ring, 970-692-4658, ring282@gmail.com

Range location: Fort Lupton, CO

TRAP & SKEET

July 11-15, 2018

Sponsor Club: Colorado State Muzzleloaders Assoc.

Contact: Tom Hart, 719-275-8418, 719-289-1840, TKhart25@gmail.com

Range location: Blue Valley Sportsman Club, Kremmling, CO

FLORIDA

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 4-6, 2018

Sponsor Club: Florida Frontiersmen Inc.

Match Director: Mark Landon, 813-758-3376, mdlandon3@verizon.net

Contact: Susie Hull, hullsusie@gamil.com

Range location: 1000 Old Ft. Meade Rd. Homeland, FL 33847

GEORGIA

RIFLE & PISTOL

October 18-20, 2018

Sponsor Club: Blue Ridge Mountain Men

Contact: Dan Pressley, 706-491-2376, 706-754-7791, dpressley@windstream.net

Range location: 2208 Toms Creek Rd. Martin, GA

IDAHO

RIFLE & PISTOL

June 12-17, 2018

Sponsor Club: EE-DA How Long Rifle Inc.

Contact: Arnold Burr, 208-870-0551, Bard90@gmail.com

Range location: Black's Creek Public Shooting Range 2420 Kuna Mora Rd. Kuna, ID 83634

ILLINOIS

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 18-20, 2018

Sponsor Club: Prairieland Frontiersmen

Contact: Lyle Kruger, 217-343-6161, 217-536-6454, lekruiger@frontiernet.net

Range location: 1450 E. Co. Rd. 800 N. Moultrie Co. IL 61951

TRAP & SKEET

September 21-23, 2018

Sponsor Club: Prairieland Frontiersmen

Contact: Lyle Kruger, 217-343-6161, 217-536-6454, lekruiger@frontiernet.net

Range location: 14295 N. 1025th St. Effingham, IL 62401

INDIANA

RIFLE & PISTOL

June 2-4, 2018

Sponsor Club: NMLRA

Contact: Rick Repovsch, 763-233-2105, rrepovsch@hotmail.com

Range location: Walter Cline Range, Friendship, IN

TRAP & SKEET

September 8-16, 2018

Sponsor Club: NMLRA

Contact: Will Elliott, 937-971-9274

Range location: Walter Cline Range Friendship, IN

IOWA

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 25-27, 2018

Sponsor Club: Beaver Creek Plainsmen, Inc.

Contact: Norma Holcomb, 515-262-4712, 515-979-3446, norma.holcomb@q.com

Range location: 10842 N 103rd Ave. West, Collins, IA 50216

MAINE

RIFLE & PISTOL

July 13-15, 2018

Sponsor Club: York County Powder Burners

Contact: Michael Davis, 207-637-2603, 103staples@gmail.com

Range location: 679 Cape Rd. (Rt. 117) Limington

MICHIGAN

TRAP & SKEET

June 1-3, 2018

Sponsor Club: Grant Valley Cap 'n' Ballers

Contact: Ron Fernwalt, 616-836-5760, 616-836-5760, Rbferr@triton.net

Range location: 3576 26th St. Hopkins, MI 49328

RIFLE & PISTOL

August 17-19, 2018

Sponsor Club: Tobacco River Muzzle Loaders

Contact: Carl Jefferson, 989-435-4700, 301-256-7784, carl.jefferson@aol.com

Range location: Beaverton, MI

MINNESOTA

RIFLE & PISTOL

June 21-24, 2018

Sponsor Club: Gopher Rifle and Revolver Club

Contact: Rick Repovsch, 763-233-2105, rrepovsch@hotmail.com

Range location: Harris, MN

MISSOURI

RIFLE & PISTOL

July 5-8, 2018

Sponsor Club: Ft. Osage Muzzle Loaders

Match Director: Jim Thorp, 660-232-4944

Contact: Richard Brinkman, rbrink@hotmail.com

Range location: 1637 N.W. 550th Rd. Kingsville, MO. 64061

TRAP & SKEET

Oct. 19-21, 2018

Sponsor Club: Lentz Macon 63 Gun Club, LLC

Contact: Linda Yeubanks, 660-385-4963, dyeubanks@yahoo.com

Range location: Lentz Macon 63 Gun Club, 29790 Jigsaw Pl., Macon, MO. 63552

NEBRASKA

RIFLE & PISTOL

April 26-29, 2018

Sponsor Club: Fort Atkinson Muzzleloaders

Contact: Greta Schlabs, 402-533-8389, 402-672-7202, grherman@abnebraska.com

Range location: Winslow, NE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

RIFLE & PISTOL

June 22-24, 2018

Sponsor Club: Sunset Mountain Fish & Game

Contact: Julie Cate, 603-648-2106, frizzinfan@aim.com

Range location: Canterbury, NH.

NEW YORK

RIFLE & PISTOL

September 28-30, 2018

Sponsor Club: Old Saratoga Muzzle Loading Club

Contact: Tara Manzer, 518-664-3713, osmlsecretary@gmail.com

Range location: Duell Rd. Schuylerville, NY

NORTH CAROLINA

RIFLE & PISTOL

April 12-15, 2018

Alternate Date: April 26-29, 2018

Sponsor Club: Crose Creek Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.

Contact: Buck Buchanan, 910-977-6200, buck100-10x@ncrr.com

Range location: 3229 Blossom Road, Fayetteville, NC. 28306

OREGON

RIFLE & PISTOL

July 19-24, 2018

Sponsor Club: Western States Muzzle Loading Assoc.

Contact: Michael Bush, 916-362-1469, meanmike8665@aol.com

Range location: Josephine County Sportsman Assoc., Grants Pass, OR

PENNSYLVANIA

RIFLE & PISTOL

July 20-22, 2018

Sponsor Club: Blue Mountain M.L. Rifle Assoc.

Contact: John Arrowood, 484-459-2735, benchgunner@gmail.com

Range location: Shartlesville, PA

TENNESSEE

INLINE RIFLE

Saturday, October 20, 2018

Sponsor Club: Chilhowee Rod & Gun Club

Contact: John Mankin, 423-462-4802, jmankin@comcast.net

Range location: Chilhowee R&G Club, Athens, TN.

VERMONT

RIFLE, PISTOL, TRAP & SKEET

May 17-20, 2018

Sponsor Club: Lamoille Valley Fish & Game Club

Contact: Harland Blodgett, 802-899-3889, hblodgett@yahoo.com

Range location: 1156 Garfield Rd. Morrisville, VT. 05661

WEST VIRGINIA

RIFLE & PISTOL

May 4-6, 2018

Sponsor Club: Kate Carpenter Muzzleloaders

Contact: Tim Flaim, 304-573-1862, 304-645-1010, tafaim@hotmail.com

Range location: Clintontville, WV MB

CALL
(812) 667-5131
to advertise in our
classified ads section

Muzzleloader Builder's Supply
www.MuzzleloaderBuildersSupply.com
Catalog is \$10.00 plus \$7.00 shipping



We offer every part needed to build traditional rifles and pistols. See our own line of European and American pistols not offered elsewhere. Much of what we sell is manufactured on site, and all of our gun parts are Made in the USA!

Toll-free order line: 877-397-3008

Owned and operated by Ryan Roberts
PO Box 848, Aberdeen, Idaho 83210

Tel: 208-397-3008 Fax 24/7: 208-397-3009

NMLRA NATIONAL SPRING SHOOT JUNE 9-17, 2018

The NRA conducts their Muzzleloading Championship at the NMLRA National Spring Shoot. This means you can compete for the NMLRA and NRA matches at Friendship.

Please note: While NRA membership is not required to shoot NRA matches, membership is required to set NRA National Records.

Preregister for the National Spring Shoot now and you'll save \$5 and have more time for shooting. Pre-order your rifle targets and save even more time. Your targets will be ready and waiting for you to pick up at the clubhouse when you arrive. Less time spent standing in line means you will have more time on the line. **So grab a pen, fill out the form below, and save yourself some time and money!** Please keep in mind that you must be a member to preregister.

NMLRA National Spring Shoot and NRA Muzzle Loading Championship ■ June 9-17, 2018 Walter Cline Range, Friendship, Indiana ■ Shooter Preregistration Form

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____ NMLRA Member No.: _____ Exp.: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

NOTE: REGISTRATION WILL BE \$25⁰⁰ at the Shoot

☐ Adult Preregistration \$20⁰⁰ ☐ September Adult Preregistration \$20⁰⁰

☐ Junior Registration \$1⁰⁰ ☐ September Junior Registration \$1⁰⁰

☐ NRA# _____

**Please indicate what disciplines
you shoot. Check all that apply.**

☐ Rifle ☐ Pistol ☐ Shotgun
☐ Primitive ☐ BP Cartridge

☐ **Yes, I would like to sponsor a match for an additional \$25⁰⁰**

BE SURE TO INCLUDE PAYMENT by check, money order, or charge card.
Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Card Number: _____ 3 Digit V-Code: _____ Exp.: _____

Signature: _____

Pre-order Rifle Match and Rifle Aggregate Targets, too!

National Shoot Match Guide available upon request. Refer to it to pick your matches and aggregates. BE SURE TO INCLUDE MATCH NUMBER OR AGGREGATE LETTER when ordering targets. Payment for targets will be collected at the Target Desk. Preregistration deadline is June 1, 2018. Sorry, preregistration fees cannot be refunded or transferred.

Mail to: NMLRA, P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021

SHOOT IN THE LARGEST NRA BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE REGIONAL IN THE COUNTRY!



NMLRA REGIONAL BPC SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 18, 19 & 20, 2018

Walter Cline Range, on St. Rd. 62 in Friendship, Indiana

The .22 Match will be held Friday • Start time of 8:00 a.m.

The BPCR will be an 80 shot aggregate, with 40 shots on Saturday and 40 shots on Sunday.

PRE-REGISTER EARLY! \$105 COMBINED (\$85 for BPC • \$25 For .22)

AFTER MAY 1 - \$140 COMBINED (\$100 for BPC • \$40 For .22)

Match fees include catered dinner. Additional dinners may be purchased at \$15. Pre-entries with payment prior to match date are necessary to confirm your reservation. **Match Limited To 72 Shooters.**

To register for the match, please call the office at (812) 667-5131 or visit www.nmlra.org

Current NRA Silhouette rules apply. NRA rifle silhouette classification books required, available at the range. NRA Silhouette classification will be used.

For more information contact Mike Hoke at 812-662-6403, mhoke45100@frontier.com or Jim Davis at 812-371-5264, jim2430d@comcast.net



NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION • PO BOX 67, FRIENDSHIP, IN 47021
(812) 667-5131 • WWW.NMLRA.ORG

NMLRA - NRA Regional BPCR Silhouette Championship 2018 MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ NRA #: _____

Shooting Partner*: _____

Silhouette Classification

(Check One)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Master | <input type="checkbox"/> B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AAA | <input type="checkbox"/> Unclassified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AA | <input type="checkbox"/> Scope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A | <input type="checkbox"/> Iron |

*Please list the name of shooting partner you wish to shoot with on adjacent relays. If no partner is indicated, you will be randomly placed in the rotation.

For more information, please contact:

Mike Hoke - 812-662-6403, mhoke54100@frontier.com;
or Jim Davis - 812-371-5264, jim2430d@comcast.net

Completed registration forms and payment should be sent to:

National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Attn: BPCR 2018, PO Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021

Match registration fee is \$105 for both BPC and for .22 (\$140 after 5/1/18) and includes dinner on Saturday night. If you would like to bring a spouse or guest to dinner, please add \$15 for each additional meal ticket.

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ ☐ Check/Money Order or Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ American Exp

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ V-Code: _____

Card Holder Name: _____ Daytime Phone #: _____



Previous Event Sponsors Include:

Starline Brass, Inc. • Green Mountain Rifle Barrels • Kreiger Barrels • Decot Hy-Wyd Sport Glasses • Creedmoor Sports • Lee Precision, Inc
Redding Reloading • Kelley Sights • Pioneer Products • Treebone Carving • SPG • CH Tool & Die/4D Custom Die • Shiloh Sharps • John Walters
Midway USA • Dixie Gun Works • Friendship State Bank • Montana Vintage Arms • George Louli • Mike Medjeski • Peter Wygant • Ace & Thelma Hill

WALTER CLINE RANGE

YEARLY EVENTS & ALTERNATE RANGE USE CALENDAR

APRIL

APRIL 6, 7, 8, 2018 (RAIN DATE APRIL 14)
NMLRA WORK WEEKEND; CONTACT: LYDIA MORATH, (812) 667-5131, LMORATH@NMLRA.ORG

APRIL 20, 21, & 22, 2018
PISTOL MATCH; CONTACT: RUSS COMBS (317) 839-8273, RUSS4065@SBCGLOBAL.NET; LOU HELSEL (513) 724-1207, LHBOWL@FUSE.NET OR LHSEL@FUSE.NET

APRIL 21 & 22, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

APRIL 27, 28, & 29, 2018
LADIES FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE RENDEZVOUS; CONTACT: MARCIA KELLAM (812) 581-8971, MAKELLAM@HOTMAIL.COM; JUNE PATTERSON, (812) 667-0146, ZIPRUDI@GMAIL.COM

APRIL 28 & 29, 2018
NMLRA NATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEKEND
CONTACT: KYRA BAXTER (812) 344-0690, JBAXTER87@GMAIL.COM.

APRIL 30 - MAY 4, 2018
ENGRAVING CLASS BY JOHN SCHIPPERS; NMLRA EDUCATION BUILDING; CONTACT: NMLRA OFFICE (812) 667-5131, WWW.NMLRA.ORG

MAY

MAY 5, 2018
INLINE OFFHAND FUN SHOOT; CONTACT: MIKE WEISSMANN (513) 382-1013, SODGPA@FUSE.NET; STEVE CHAPMAN (260) 347-2573, CHAPMANSK40@YAHOO.COM

MAY 6, 2018
NMLRA 22 FUN SHOOT; CONTACT: MIKE WEISSMANN (513) 382-1013, SODGPA@FUSE.NET

MAY 11, 2018
NMLRA M5; CONTACT: BOB WETZLER (812) 689-6629, RBRTWTZLR@AOL.COM

MAY 12, 2018
NMLRA INLINE HUNTER MUZZLELOADING MATCH; CONTACT: BOB WETZLER (812) 689-6629, RBRTWTZLR@AOL.COM; DAN THOMAS (812) 212-0954, DTH1000@YAHOO.COM

MAY 18, 19, & 20 2018
PISTOL MATCH (MAY 20TH IS THE PISTOL WIENER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP); CONTACT: RUSS COMBS (317) 839-8273, RUSS4065@SBCGLOBAL.NET; LOU HELSEL (513) 724-1207, LHBOWL@FUSE.NET OR LHSEL@FUSE.NET

MAY 19 & 20, 2018
NMLRA/NRA REGIONAL LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403,

MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

JUNE

JUNE 2 - 4, 2018
INDIANA RIFLE & PISTOL TERRITORIAL; CONTACT: RICK REPOVSCH - 763-233-2107, RREPOVSCH@HOTMAIL.COM

JUNE 9-17, 2018
NMLRA SPRING NATIONAL SHOOT; CONTACT: NMLRA OFFICE (812) 667-5131, NMLRA@NMLRA.ORG, WWW.NMLRA.ORG

JUNE 23 & 24, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

JULY

JULY 14-15, 2018
NMLRA YOUTH SHOOT; CONTACT: JEFF OR KRISTY NUNN (317) 361-9053; KNUNN1604@YAHOO.COM

JULY 20, 21, & 22, 2018
PISTOL MATCH; CONTACT: RUSS COMBS (317) 839-8273, RUSS4065@SBCGLOBAL.NET; LOU HELSEL (513) 724-1207, LHBOWL@FUSE.NET OR LHSEL@FUSE.NET

JULY 21 & 22, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

AUGUST

AUGUST 11 & 12, 2018
NATIONAL FAMILY FUN SHOOT; CONTACT: BOB WEAVER (574) 876-1065, BWEAVER@ANCHORCONSTRUCTION.COM, WWW.NMLRA.ORG

AUGUST 17, 18, & 19, 2018
PISTOL MATCH; CONTACT: RUSS COMBS (317) 839-8273, RUSS4065@SBCGLOBAL.NET; LOU HELSEL (513) 724-1207, LHBOWL@FUSE.NET OR LHSEL@FUSE.NET

AUGUST 18 & 19, 2018
NMLRA LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

AUGUST 25, 2018
NMLRA 22 FUN SHOOT; CONTACT: MIKE WEISSMANN (513) 382-1013, SODGPA@FUSE.NET

AUGUST 26, 2018 STARTS AT 9:30AM
INLINE OFFHAND FUN SHOOT; CONTACT: MIKE WEISSMANN (513) 382-1013, SODGPA@FUSE.NET; STEVE CHAPMAN (260) 347-2573, CHAPMANSK40@YAHOO.COM

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 8-16, 2018
NMLRA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOT; CONTACT NMLRA OFFICE (812) 667-5131, NMLRA@NMLRA.ORG, WWW.NMLRA.ORG

SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 5, 6, & 7, 2018
NMLRA BOY SCOUT CAMPORE; CONTACT: DOUG GALBRAITH (513) 379-8963, DJGNRG@AOL.COM
REGISTER ONLINE AT NMLRA.ORG. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 3, 2018
NMLRA MEAT SHOOT; CONTACT: "MINGO" MINGS, (812) 546-5063 AFTER 6:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER 10 & 11, 2018
MIAMI LONG-RANGE BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE KNOCKDOWN SILHOUETTE MATCH; CONTACT: MIKE HOKE (812) 662-6403, MHOKE45100@FRONTIER.COM

ALTERNATE RANGE USE INFORMATION

The following is the basic information for sponsoring an event on the Walter Cline Range in Friendship, Indiana. To schedule an Alternate Range Use Event contact the NMLRA Office at (812) 667-5131.

Charges for NMLRA Members \$5.00 for first day, \$2.00 per day thereafter per registered participant. Camping fees are included for NMLRA members only. Insurance also included for NMLRA members. Charges for Non-NMLRA Members \$6.00 for first day, \$3.00 per day thereafter per registered participant. Camping fees will be charged at the then-current rate. MB

THE LAST OF THE MOUNTAIN MEN AND HIS REMARKABLE RIFLE

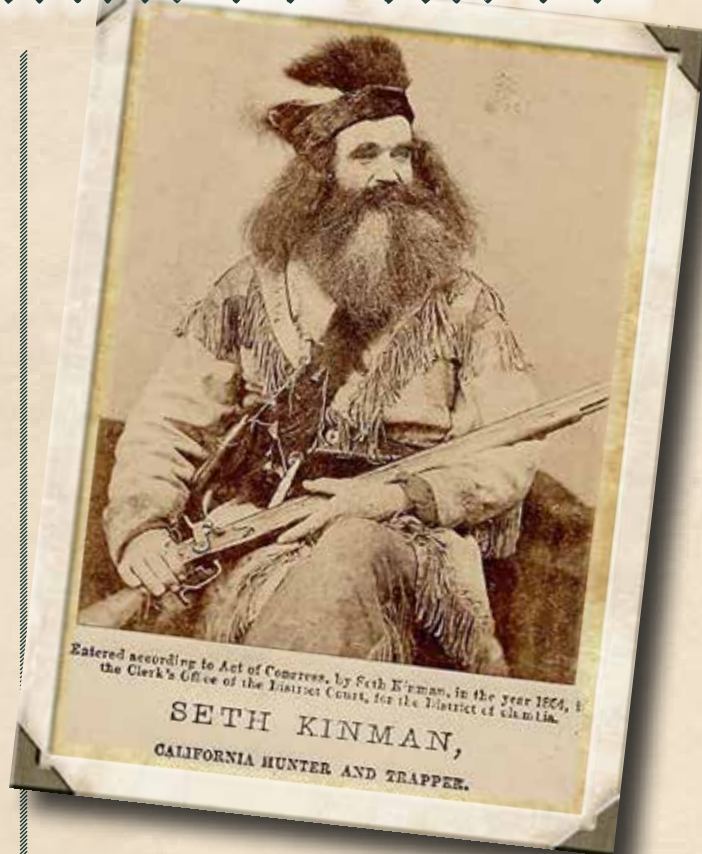
by Dr. Alan W. Maki

Like many NMLRA members, I joined the organization in the 1970s with an ardent interest in antique guns. At the time we lived close to Cincinnati, so it was a short drive to Friendship. We eventually got a teepee and regularly camped in the Primitive Area with 30 or 40 other teepees and fit comfortably into the mountain-man era. My three sons were all in grade school then and those trips provided some of our most lasting memories. I always enjoyed coming down the hill to Laughery Creek and catching the first hint of wood smoke promising another great time with knife, hawk, and primitive range shooting filling the week-long adventure.

Several years later during a trip to Wyoming I made the first of many pilgrimages to the Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale, Wyoming. During one of those visits I saw the pictured gun posted for sale stating that "They just don't make Testosterone the way they used to!" I bought and framed it and it's hung in my gun room ever since. I had never heard of Seth Kinman pictured on the poster, but I liked the message and the image.

The gun collection continued to grow to one of the most complete collections of U.S. martial arms in the country. In 2010 the Bonhams and Butterfields auction catalog arrived in the mail and imagine my surprise to see more pictures of Kinman and his iconic rifle which was offered for sale in the auction. I was the successful bidder and acquired the rifle as well as an extensive collection of literature and pictures of Kinman. I found him to be an even more

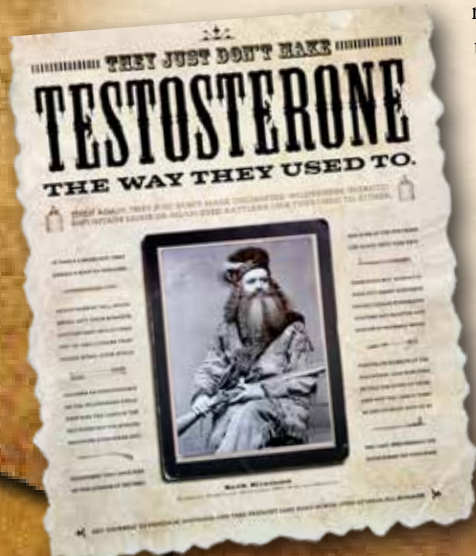
remarkable personage than the poster picture showed and so I thought I'd share a bit about this man and his rifle's history. He stood over 6 ft. (1.83 m) tall and was known for his hunting prowess and his brutality toward bears and Indians. Kinman claimed to have shot a total of over 800 grizzly bears, and was also a hotel keeper, saloon



keeper, and a musician who performed for President Lincoln on a fiddle made from the skull of a mule.

It isn't often that we can document a piece of history going back over 170 years with photographic evidence, but in the case of this particular long rifle we have a considerable amount of information doing just that. Seth Kinman was arguably one of our last true mountain men experienced as a hunter, trapper, explorer, and showman in the California west who personally met and befriended five sitting U.S. Presidents.

This article explores the life of this fascinating historical figure and the rifle he carried throughout his life. The story relies heavily on Kinman's dictated memoirs which were dutifully transcribed by family friend and admirer George M. Richmond whose grandfather



Early poster from The Museum of the Mountain Man, Pinedale, Wyoming picturing Seth Kinman and his rifle.

and father also knew him and accompanied him on many of his exploits. His autobiography, originally dictated to a scribe in 1876, was first published in 2010 by Richard Roberts and is noted for putting “the entertainment value of a story ahead of the strict facts.” For this article the author has used actual historic references when available to separate fact from fiction.

Kinman's Life

Seth Kinman was born in Union County, Pennsylvania on September 29, 1815, to parents James and Ellen Bower Kinman. James followed a number of professions; at one time a miller, millwright, tavern keeper, and hotel owner all the while moving about western Pennsylvania. Eventually he moved the family further west to Pekin, Illinois, and settled on the Illinois River in 1830. This was still frontier at the time and Indian skirmishes were common. Among the more well known was the Black Hawk War which was a brief conflict between the United States and Native Americans led by Black Hawk, a Sauk leader.

On August 2, 1832, U.S. soldiers attacked the Indian band at the Battle of Bad Axe, killing many or capturing most who remained alive. Black Hawk and other leaders escaped, but later surrendered and were imprisoned for a year. The Black Hawk War was the first of many chance encounters with historical figures for the Kinman family since James Kinman and a young captain named Abraham Lincoln were enlisted together, although Lincoln was in a non-combatant role. Other soldiers there who later became famous included Winfield Scott, Zachary Taylor, and Jefferson Davis.

Seth was a teenager at that time visiting his father and said in his memoirs: “The first time I got sight of Abe Lincoln was when I got into camp. He was in a Company from Saginaw County. My father talked a lot about him and Abe made a big impression on my father. My father said Lincoln was a noble-hearted feller in all his dealings. He and my father met a good many times after the war was over and had a good time telling about soldiering.”

James Kinman passed away in 1839 and this put young Seth at the head of the family and in charge of running the family farm. He married Anna Maria Sharpless, of Catawissa, Pennsylvania, in 1840 and they had five children together: James (1842), Carlin, who is sometimes called Calvin (1846), Austin (1847), Ellen (1849), and Roderick (1851). Anna Maria and two of their sons, James and Austin, died during the winter of 1852-53, while Seth was in California.

Kinman was too late for the heyday of the beaver trappers and rendezvous period which was pretty well finished by 1840 due to



over trapping and the fashion switch from sheered beaver to silk hats. For that reason Kinman is never mentioned in the literature about mountain men like Smith, Fraeb, Bridger, Sublette, and the like, but his adventures in the California West match some of the best tales from the beaver-trapping era.

Like many kindred spirits of the time, Seth developed a strong desire to travel west stating in his memoirs that: “I hear California is a healthy place. Plenty of mountains, good water, lots of game, and gold galore with a right smart chance to get a farm out there.” And so it was that he left Independence, Missouri, on May 10, 1849, with a group of about 60 men, each outfitted with two mules; one to ride and one to pack provisions. The group made it to Sacramento with no major problems and disbanded there.

With gold fever running rampant at that time, it was almost a certainty the Seth would be drawn into mining. He partnered with George Hill and together they had some moderate degree of success in several locations, but after a series of mining reverses Kinman became restless for new scenery.

At this time, chance threw him into the company of a group of men who had just arrived from the Humboldt Bay area and told him about the wild game and primitive forests in that area. He arrived in Eureka in September 1852 and immediately found work providing fresh meat to the local citizens, sawmills, and mines, as well as the soldiers at Ft. Humboldt. Grizzly bears and black bears still populated the area and provided material for some of Seth's tallest hunting tales. One true story however was the time he shot a big black bear and discovered her young cubs in a nearby thicket. He was able to capture the two cubs and they grew to travel with him and his museum becoming one of the main attractions for hundreds of visitors.

He still had a family back in Illinois and was scarcely providing for them when he got word in 1853 that his wife and son had passed away leaving the other three children. He returned to Illinois and found "that settled life of the States did not suit him." He sold his property there and moved his remaining family back to Humboldt County in 1854. It was on this return trip that he somehow shot himself in the leg below the knee breaking the shin bone. It was slow to heal and plagued him for the remainder of his life.

Kinman lived in several places in the county, including houses near Fern Cottage and a dairy farm on Bear River Ridge. He bought 80 acres of ranch land 1 mile east of the future Table Bluff Lighthouse in October 1858, and about 10 miles south of Fort Humboldt. This was the first purchase of land in the Humboldt Land District, which was established by an Act of Congress in March 1858.

He later built a hotel and bar on the site. The family settled in the Table Bluff area of Humboldt Bay and remained there for generations. During a gale on the night of January 5-6, 1860, Kinman was alerted by offshore distress signals from the Northerner which had been breached by a submerged rock. Kinman tethered himself to the shore and waded into the surf to rescue passengers. In all, 70 people were saved by various means and 38 people perished. He was hailed as a hero and awarded a Bible and free life-time passage on the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's ships.

Native Americans in northern California suffered greatly at the hands of European-Americans in the last half of the 19th century, and the Wiyot people, who lived around Humboldt Bay, were particularly hard hit. Their population declined from about 1,500-2,000 in 1850 to about 200 in 1860. Kinman's brutality towards Indians was noted by James R. Duff, a fellow '49er, who described him as "an avowed enemy of the red man...[who] shot an Indian on sight." Carranco states that "Seth always took an Indian along on a hunt - partly to carry the game, but primarily to serve as bear bait," and concludes "sometimes he regarded them [Indians] as human

beings...other times, only as predatory animals to shoot at." Kinman claimed to be an official Indian agent, though there is no evidence that he actually served in that position.

The Rifle

As the pictures here show, were it not for the photo-documented evidence of its history, this is a fairly plain and non-descript rifle of a Southern poor-boy style. It has a very heavy 48-inch barrel with 7 groove rifling and is .68 caliber; it has an elephant ivory front sight. The top breech flat is inscribed "Gave Many an Englishman the Belly ache/From off the Cotton Bails at New Orleans/Jan. 8 1815 Old Kentuck". It has a long barrel tang inscribed "Seth Kinman Old Cott__ B__" the open spaces being unreadable. It has double set triggers and a scrolling trigger guard. The rifle was originally a flintlock and was altered to percussion.

The stock was evidently fashioned by Seth Kinman himself after an encounter with a grizzly bear shattered the original stock. It has a circular patch recess in the Southern fashion and a wooden ramrod secured to the stock by a leather thong. The metal has a dark patina with areas of pitting. The stock has numerous dents, gouges, and bruises. There is a pinned and screwed repair to the left of the breech and the lock was changed during the period of use.

Due to the worn tang lettering the exact name of the rifle remains unclear. In some writings and transcriptions it is referred to as "Old Cotton Bale" and at other times as "Old Cotton Blossom". To this writer it seems that "Old Cotton Blossom" makes most sense as a obvious reference to the shape of the black powder smoke plume at each firing. However, the rifle's use at the Battle of New Orleans could have also resulted in the "Old Cotton Bale" name. The exact resolution is likely lost to history. It is a noteworthy fact that from the time it came into his possession, it was a constant companion until his death as an old man.

How the rifle came to be in his possession is an interesting story. In his own words from his dictated memoirs: "In 1831 a man by the name of Bridges moved into our neighborhood from Kentucky, bringing the rifle with him. His father had carried the gun which he used in the Battle of New Orleans and it is supposed to have killed General Pakenham with it." The author has researched that story a bit and it appears the Pakenham was first hit by grape shot from General Jackson's cannons killing his horse and shattering his knee. While he was being helped up by his men he was hit by a rifle ball in the arm which may be the shot referred to by Mr. Bridges. Shortly thereafter he was fatally hit yet again by grape shot in the torso shattering his back.

Returning to Seth's memoirs, "It was named Old Cotton Bale from the fact that the Americans made a breast work out of cotton

Well worn and heavily used rifle.

Left side of the gun showing the rather crude hand-hewn sideplate.

The rough hand-hewn replacement stock Kinman fashioned after a bear broke the original.

Pitted replacement percussion lock, scrolled trigger guard and double set triggers.

Left side of hand-hewn stock.

Muzzle of the big gun with ivory front sight.

Heavily used buttstock of the old rifle showing toeplate and added wood repair.

Jan the 8th 1815 Old Kentuck.

Gave many an Englishman the Belly ake..

"From off the Cotton Bales at New Orleans..."

The .68 caliber bore of the big rifle.

"I've tried out a good many rifles in my time but I like this one the best."

bales, where they not only protected themselves from British fire, but used them to rest their guns on. This made their fire all the more deadly and gave them the victory over the British."

"Well my father traded Bridges out of that gun and I fell heir to it, so it has been in my possession ever since. I've tried out a good many rifles in my time but I like this one the best. When I draw a bead on any kind of varmit and the old gun talks, I'm certain that animal is going to surrender. I don't consider the size of the animal either. That holds good all the way from a wildcat to a grizzly."

"I'll tell you a little more about the old gun while I'm about it. It has a barrel 4 feet long and its muzzle carried bullets 20 to the pound, so you can see what kind of a rat hole it made in any big animal. It had a good black walnut stock until one day I had a little argument with a big grizzly and had to climb a tree rather sudden like with this whopping grizzly close behind me. Well I had to drop the gun. It was either the gun or me, so I decided it'd be the gun. It was a good thing I did for he stopped to grab the gun and that gave me the chance to get up on a limb out of his reach. But it sure gave me the shivers to see that old bear handle my gun. He didn't handle it the way I did at all. He just grabbed it and broke that fine walnut stock right off it."

"I stayed in that tree until I was sure he was gone and when I came down and picked up my gun it was a sorry sight. If it had been any other gun I would have thrown it in the brush, but I took this barrel and put another stock on it. It wasn't so fancy as the first one but after that I brought down many a victim with it such as panther, deer, elk, and made more than one grizzly bite the dust. I kinda had it in for grizzlies because that old fella broke my gun. It seemed like a dirty Injun trick to take my vengeance out of the hides of all the grizzlies because I had a little trouble with one of them, but there was too many of that type of varmit running around anyway."

In his later years Kinman hit on the idea of creating a museum of his western memorabilia collection as well as a fairly complete natural history museum featuring animals he had taken in California. The museum was apparently quite popular and became

a gathering place for tourists as well as other colorful locals.

He displayed several examples of his elk horn and bear hide chairs and along one wall were a series of purported Indian scalps Kinman claims to have taken although a fair amount of contrary evidence says they were more likely buffalo hair. Hanging securely along one wall was his historic Old Cotton Blossom rifle. Many onlookers stated this notable rifle was highly suggestive of a piece of artillery when compared to the light and slender firearms in contemporary use. Richmond wrote; "This death dealing instrument had been his companion for many years and had given such an account of itself under so many trying circumstances, that his security never seemed quite assured to him unless it was within easy reach." The rifle hung in his museum until after his death when the museum was closed and sold by the Kinman family in 1893. The rifle remained in the family's possession for the next several generations when the author purchased it from Kinman's great-great granddaughter.

The President's Chairs

Much of Kinman's national reputation resulted from his making and presenting various types of chairs to a number of Presidents of the U.S. Among these chairs was the elk horn chair presented to President Buchanan in 1857 and one to President Lincoln in 1864. He also



"Yes, Mr. Kinman, I am familiar with this kind of firearm, for this is the kind of artillery I was raised on." The moment was captured in a pencil drawing by the well known Civil War illustrator, Alfred R. Waud which currently resides in the Library of Congress and is shown in Hurd's book *"The White House Story"* - pg.85.



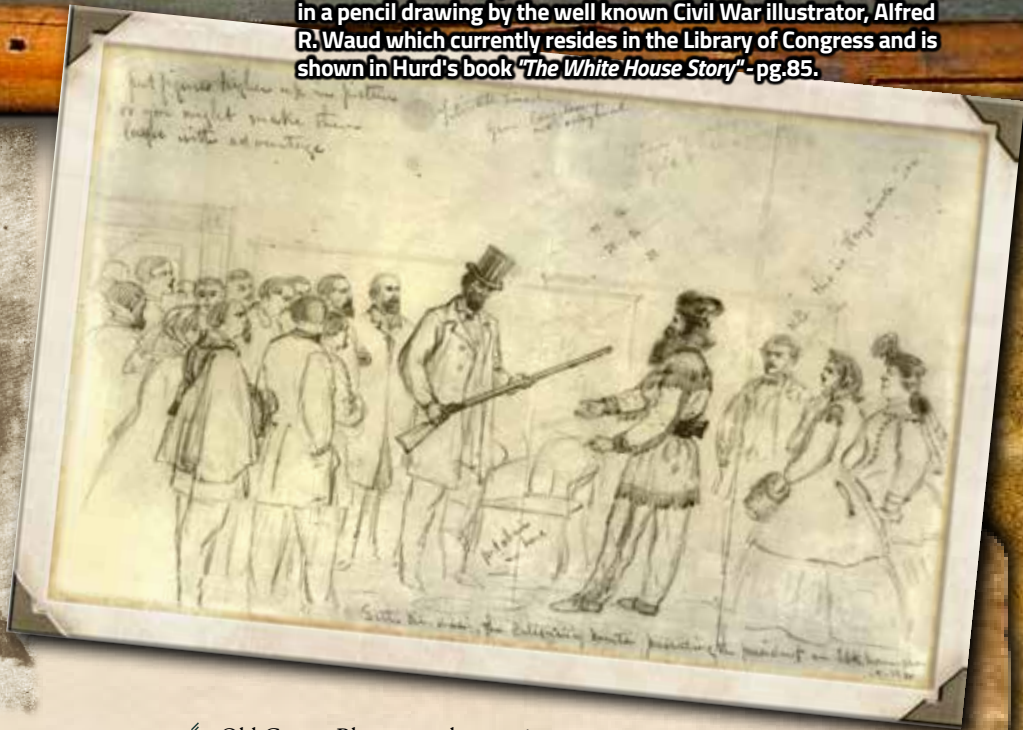
Kinman with the chair presented to President Buchanan.

presented a bear chair to President Johnson in 1865 and in 1876 he presented a buck horn chair to President Hayes. No mention is ever made in any of Kinman's memoirs of why President Grant was not so honored. Curiously enough, Kinman did meet U.S. Grant when Grant was an Army Captain at Fort Humboldt in California. He was briefly stationed there for a five-month assignment in 1854 while Kinman was employed as a government hunter providing wild game meat to the Army.

Kinman's ranch on Bear River Ridge in Humboldt County was apparently a good wintering ground for deer and elk and as such, each spring, there could be found an abundance of shed antlers on his place. Kinman being fairly inventive came up with several ways to make comfortable chairs by carefully fitting matched pairs of shed antlers together. He made several styles and sold or traded them to local dignitaries.

Just after the election of James Buchanan in 1854, Kinman came up with the idea of presenting the President with one of his chairs. He was very proud of the election of Buchanan, partly because he was also from Kinman's native state of Pennsylvania, but also because he was exceedingly patriotic. The elk horn chair was made with careful attention to the 31 points which represented the number of U.S. states at that time. His idea had captured the attention of local politicians and the press covered the entire event.

Kinman traveled by steamship to New York and then over land to Washington, D.C. with political party attention all along the way.



Old Cotton Blossom and was quite the media sensation in the East. The presentation ceremony took place in the East Room of the Executive mansion and was well documented in the media at the time in an article titled: *"A Curious Chair for President Buchanan,"* Brooklyn Daily Eagle (May 18, 1857).

The Lincoln Chair

As discussed earlier, Kinman had met Abraham Lincoln previously during his time in Illinois. So when Lincoln was elected to the Presidency, Kinman decided to also present Lincoln with a handmade antler chair. It had been seven years since he'd last made the trek to Washington and it was during this period that Kinman hunted some of the best trophies of his life. He hadn't anticipated that the next President of the U.S. would be a Kinman family friend, but the experience of presenting a chair to President Buchanan made it a certainty that he would also make one for Lincoln.

In November 1864 he showed up in Washington with the chair and a suitable amount of press coverage. A large crowd of people gathered to witness the unusual event. Kinman was introduced by Mr. Clinton Lloyd, chief clerk of the House of Representatives with a lengthy speech about Kinman's history, his Illinois origins and previous contacts with President Lincoln.

Kinman was dressed in full buckskins and carried Old Cotton Blossom into the White House – my, how times have changed!



Kinman gave a detailed description of the polished elk antler chair with an elk hide seat trimmed with abalone shells. Lincoln then commented on the rifle Kinman was holding, took the gun in his hands and lifted the great gun to his shoulder pointing it an imaginary bear and remarked "Yes, Mr. Kinman, I am familiar with this kind of firearm, for this is the kind of artillery I was raised on." The moment was captured in a pencil drawing by the well known Civil War illustrator, Alfred R. Waud which currently resides in the Library of Congress and is shown in Hurd's book, *The White House Story*, pg.85.

Kinman also had with him his hand-made fiddle constructed from wood and bone from one of his old mules. He played several tunes for the enjoyment of the President and the assembled onlookers.

Kinman did not leave Washington immediately and lingered there through the following winter and spring. He was a frequent visitor at the White House where many conversations were held between the President and the bearded western scout.

Kinman was allegedly in Ford's Theater the night of the assassination

and witnessed the murder although this has proven to be impossible to verify. Kinman marched in President Lincoln's funeral cortege in Washington and escorted Lincoln's body on its way to burial. On April 26, 1865, the New York Times front page described Kinman in the funeral cortege in New York City: "Much attention was attracted to Mr. Kinman, who walked in a full hunting suit of buckskin and fur, rifle on shoulder. Mr. Kinman, it will be remembered, presented to Mr. Lincoln some time ago a chair made of California elk-horn, and continuing his acquaintance with him, it is said, enjoyed quite a long conversation with him the very day before the murder."

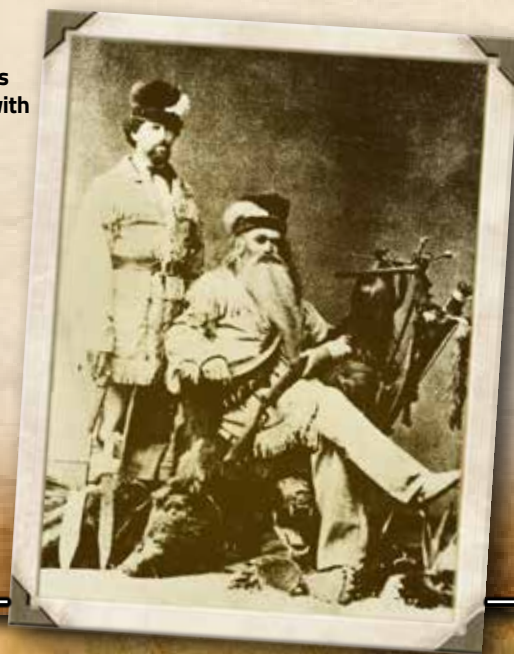
The Final Years

During his visits to the White House Kinman had met President Andrew Johnson and vowed to make him yet another chair, this time of a different style involving bear hides. It was made from two grizzly bears shot by Seth. The four legs and claws were those of a huge grizzly and the back and sides ornamented with immense claws. The seat was soft and exceedingly comfortable, but the great feature of the chair was that, by pulling a cord, the head of the monster grizzly bear with jaws extended, would dart out in front from under the seat, snapping and gnashing its teeth as natural as life. This work of art was presented to President Andrew Johnson on September 8, 1865. Johnson kept the chair in his White House library, the Yellow Oval Room.

On September 18, 1876, Kinman presented an elkhorn chair to Governor Rutherford Hayes of Ohio, who was soon to become the President of the United States. A picture of Hayes and the elderly Kinman still holding Old Cotton Blossom is shown herein. The chair is now displayed in the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio.

In his later years, Kinman lived in Table Bluff, California with his family, where he owned a hotel and bar. In 1886, Kinman was preparing to send chairs to President Grover Cleveland and former presidential candidate General Winfield Scott Hancock. He died in

Kinman in his later years with son Carlin.





1888 after either accidentally shooting himself again below the knee of one leg or the wound from the old 1854 shooting ultimately infected. The limb was amputated and he died from complications. The old scout was interred at Table Bluff Cemetery in Loleta, California, in his buckskin clothing after a most interesting life.

One of his grizzly bear chairs and the famous mule bone fiddle were displayed at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. An investor, Mrs. R.F. Herrick, bought the Kinman traveling museum collection of 186 items, including at least two of his famous chairs, and displayed them in San Francisco in 1893. She then took the collection to Chicago to display them at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, where she reportedly sold the individual items. The Clarke Historical Museum in Eureka displays a suit of his buckskins, complete with beaded moccasins, as well as a wooden chest he owned. The Ferndale Museum displays several Kinman items, including another of his buckskin suits.

References

Anspach, Marshall R. "The Lost History of Seth Kinman" in *Now and Then*. Muncy, Pennsylvania: Muncy Hist. Soc., April 1947. p. 180–202.

Anspach, Marshall R. *The Lost History of Seth Kinman* cited by "Bear in Mind Themes: Captivity and Extinction," *Bear in Mind: The California Grizzly* at Bancroft Lib., U of CA at Berkeley, 2004.

Kinman, Seth, *The Seth Kinman Story*, 1876 handwritten manuscript dictated by Kinman, with additions and comments by H. Niebur, pp. 319, available in the Andrew Genzoli Collection, Humboldt State U Lib.

Carranco, Lynwood. "The Curious Life and Bloody Times of Seth Kinman." *The Californian*, September/October 1984. p. 32-41. Available in the Andrew Genzoli Collection, Humboldt State U Lib.

Field, Les W. *Abalone Tales: Collaborative Explorations of Sovereignty and Identity in Native California*. Duke U P, 2008. pp. 51-52. ISBN 9780822342335.

Hurd, Charles. 1966. *The White House Story*. Hawthorne Pub.

Richmond, George. *I'm a Gonna Tell Ya a Yarn...* Seth Kinman, Ferndale, CA: Ferndale Museum Pub., 2010.

Richmond, George and Roberts, Richard H. *Seth Kinman's Manuscript and Scrapbook*. Ferndale, CA: Ferndale Museum Pub., 2010.

Seacrest, William B. Sr; William B. Seacrest, Jr. *California Disasters, 1812-1899: Firsthand Accounts of Fires, Shipwrecks, Floods, Epidemics, Earthquakes and Other California Tragedies*. Quill Driver Books, 2005. pp. 85–88. ISBN 1-884995-49-7

"Seth Kinman; The Pacific Coast Nimrod Who Gives Chairs to the Presidents." *New York Times*. December 9, 1885.

"A Buck-Horn Chair for the President." *New York Times*. May 20, 1857

"The Procession; Eight Grand Divisions...The Spectators...The California Hunter..." *New York Times*. April 26, 1865. p. 1. MB



" ANYONE WHO IS SERIOUS ABOUT MUZZLELOADING USES BLACKHORN 209.

IT'S THE
BEST.
MOST ACCURATE
POWDER AVAILABLE! "

Rob Dunham
ROB DUNHAM
TRUE MAGNUM TV



BLACKHORN209.COM

Charter Club CHATTER

By Doug Zaffino



We are going to continue on with our range protocol, but first I would like to address a thought that has come up. I see in the letters to the editor section of the February issue, there is a concern over the lack of articles from the western area of the country. I've often wondered why myself. I even have an interest as John Colter of Yellowstone fame, is thought to be part of my wife's ancestry. So much of our primitive stuff is based on the pre-1840 fur-trade era mostly taking place in the West.

Another magazine that I read from cover to cover, when questioned of this same problem responded with a similar predicament. The same seems to hold true with the charter clubs. Input from this area of the country is light and I'm unsure why, as the history of the West is heavy and proud. I have found that some clubs operate and have expectations differing from what I'm used to out here in the East.

I have been to the Western Nationals twice and found out that they do a few things differently than what I'm used to. Not bad, just different. I'm sure that certain regions have customs that differ from other regions. Based on this line of thinking, how about we hear from some of the clubs of the West (and all regions of the country in between as well). After all, you guys are a part of the NMLRA as much as anyone of us Easterners.

We'll continue with the section about "*Rifle Line Match Rules*". Rifle line matches officially defined as all Slug Gun, Silhouette, Chunk Gun, Round Ball, Bench, Cross Sticks, and Offhand matches. I don't shoot several of these matches, so you'll notice me shying away from those discussions.

The Bevel Brothers have given wonderful presentations and maybe more in the future as well..... Rule 5000 explains coaching. I think that you will find local clubs may or may not follow these thoughts, but adapt their own thinking and needs. For sure though, you'll be expected to follow the guidelines of rule 5000 at any National shoot.

Next are sights. Remember each club may feel differently on these requirements. Ask questions and maybe even call ahead. No need to

arrive and find out that the only gun that you brought doesn't qualify, since it has peep sights which may not be allowed in the matches that you wanted to shoot.

Rule 5010 talks about "Open Front Sights". Pretty much self-explanatory except the idea of the sun shade option. More commonly known as "shaders". Shaders are a rounded cover placed over a sight (front or rear). These help with the lighting conditions in particular on a sunny day. Club rules may or may not allow shaders, so check the program and/or the range officer (you know the guy that says: "Da, I don't know. Go ahead and use them and if anyone complains we'll just disqualify your target...just joking"). Actually the range officer is the guy who knows everything, or in reality, where to get the answers. Also note "Globe style front sights with a post blade is considered an open sight with a sun shade."

Under rule 5020 the Nationals have restrictions that quite often you won't see at your local club. Again, shaders over the rear sights may or may not be allowed at the local club level. "Open metallic sights" are required on most matches. These may or may not include fiber optic inserts. Scopes that are mounted on top of the barrel are usually reserved for specialty matches and typically not allowed otherwise.

Rule 5060 explains "Any sight means a sight without restriction as to material or construction, including telescopes". Clubs, make note that the rules for your program must state what you intend. I remember two different cases, one where some ingenious guys knew what was meant, but decided to catch us on our completeness of the rules stated.

We had stated that on the hawk block any stick would count as, x amount of points. We did not specify the amount of turns or distance from the block, and consequently these guys stepped up to the block and rammed the hawk into the card at point blank range. Not nice but we had nothing in the rules to say otherwise. Also note that we did not state that the hawk and or knife had to remain stuck in the block.

At another shoot we were engaging the operation of a smoothbore competition. We have always required “no” rear sight. We again assumed this minor detail and didn’t post this in our program rules. Of course we had a shooter feel he was in the right to shoot his smoothbore equipped with a rear sight. Unfortunately, as the range officer I did not catch this. Another smoothbore shooter did, and of course there was embarrassment on my part, but I had to say something. Lucky for me he was a good guy and he himself disqualified the targets that he had already shot. It’s often hard to out guess the passion of some to win, as well as address those that don’t know, but do make sure that you state completely how you want to shoot your event.

Rule 5055 deals with diopter lenses. You’ll find us older guys that

have eyes that just don’t focus the sights like they used to, enjoy the opportunity to continue to shoot. A diopter will most generally allow focusing of the sights. Some diopters use a lense and some like the Merrit just use an adjusting peep hole. This devise is placed on the eyeglasses via a suction cup. You’ll notice some people that will stick a piece of black tape with a hole punched in, to their glasses. Lyman has an inexpensive nonadjustable diopter available as well. All of the above are placed over the shooting eye lense of your shooting glasses, or as a separate pair of shooting glasses. If your sights are getting blurry try these. You’ll be able to continue shooting well into your golden years, as well as maybe improve your scores.

Well, keep your eyes on your target, or should I say, on your sights, now that you can see them, and have fun shooting. MB



The Upper Allegheny

MUZZLELOADERS

Hello again, I’ll take this opportunity to present to the shooting public an update and overview of my own club - THE UPPER ALLEGHENY MUZZLELOADERS, located near Warren, Pa. Historical research will disclose a rich legacy encompassing the Iroquois Nation and Seneca Tribe- “Keepers of the western door”. Our area is a multi-activity outdoors recreation playground all centered in and around the 250 million acre Allegheny National Forest. A selling point to come shoot with us? You bet!

Our current location is at the Gooshevn range complex on Egypt Hollow Road just north of Warren, and a tommy hawks throw from the Kinzua Dam (a must see attraction of the area). Our location may be new to many, as we moved to this spot just a few years ago. The shooting ranges we use include covered ranges that extend out to 100 yards as well as uncovered opportunities to shoot out to 500 yards. A woods walk and metallic targets offer additional competitive enjoyment. At our Memorial Day Shoot, hand gunning is increasing in popularity.

An interesting note about our shooting complex name; Gooshevn. The area was settled in the late 1850’s due to the more fertile land along the Allegheny River having been claimed in the late 1700’s. Local lore attests, the name came after a large flock of Canadian Geese landed in adjacent fields to feed and rest. A violent sleet storm descended and over 600 geese froze, pinned to the earth. Local residents harvested what they needed - the rest of the geese ascended to Goose Heaven!

We normally shoot on the second Sunday of the month, April through November. Be aware, we at times do reschedule to accommodate special needs, so call ahead. We do have special

camping/ shooting get togethers for some warmer weather weekends. For these we usually shoot for blanket prizes, as well as the fun of it. Evenings around the campfire are something special. On our normally scheduled shoots, expect to shoot an aggregate of 4 paper targets. Flint or percussion firearms with open sights. Shaders and diopters ok. No peeps or mounted optics. We maintain 3 classes of competition which accommodate different levels of shooting expertise, from novice to expert.

The major event is our annual rendezvous – 2018 will be the 44th consecutive year! Modern and primitive camping is available a few miles away. When it isn’t too wet, primitive camping on range property is an option. This year’s shoot will include, paper, mountain man, woods walk, smooth bore, and more. Handgun shooting will be included in the program. All events are open to men, ladies, and don’t forget the kids. The Memorial Day weekend shoot will be Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 5 pm; and Monday until noon. Shooting awards, door prizes, and a primitive gun raffle follow the shoot. Early setup and open practice is available Thursday and Friday.

Need supplies? Most anything you want or need to keep that sulfur smell in the air is available in the shop attached to the range. Firearms, caps, powder, accessories, and cleaning supplies are in stock. Modern firearms, long guns, handguns, as well as ammo (a fair amount of outdated ammo in stock) are for sale.

Lastly, lasso up the kids and come shoot with us. Better yet take a week off and come up and enjoy one of the finest outdoor recreational vacations this great USA can provide, and of course SHOOT! MB

MAKING HISTORY.

1853 ENFIELD MUSKET

1861 SPRINGFIELD MUSKET

CHIAPPA
firearms

MORE MUZZLELOADERS AT:
CHIAPPAFIREARMS.COM

BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE & CLASSIC GUNS

The Single Shot Exchange

Since 1991

MAGAZINE



Subscribe & Receive a FREE 50-Word Ad!
(a \$15.95 value)

About Guns Made or
Designed before 1920



FREE Sample Issue



The Monthly Antique Arms Reader, Resource & Reference

Monthly Updated Buy-Sell-Trade Lists • In-depth, On-the-Range Shooting & Product Information • "How-To" & Technical Articles • Product Reviews • Historical & Collectors Stories • Busy "Letters & Queries" Section • Match Schedules & More!

Comprehensive for Beginners & Old-Timers Alike

Send \$36.50 for 12 fully loaded issues to: The Single Shot Exchange
P.O. Box 391, Lamar, MO 64759 Or visit www.singleshotexchange.com
to subscribe or renew your subscription. PayPal Secure Payment Option.
Call for subscription rates outside the U.S. Ph/Fax: (803) 628-5326

100+ FULL COLOR PAGES!

Traditional muzzleloading guns, American history,
how-to, hunting, artisan profiles, product and
book reviews... & more!



MUZZLELOADER

Subscription Services
PO Box 385
Congers NY 10920-0385

PUBLISHED SINCE 1974 - 6 times a year

Traditional muzzleloading at its best.

No in-lines, no sabots.

Just good, old-fashioned fun with *real muzzleloaders*.

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

One Year ~ \$32 • Two Years ~ \$57

Canada: One year ~ \$42 • Two years ~ \$74

International: One year ~ \$57 • Two years ~ \$114

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

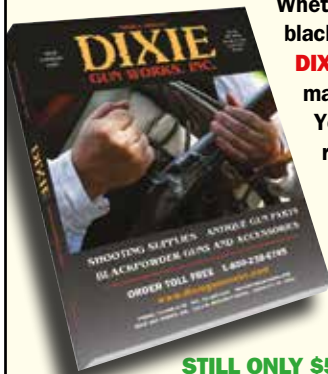
Phone: 615-230-9853

Online: www.muzzleloadermag.com



DIXIE Gun Works, Inc.

THE TOTAL, AUTHENTIC BLACKPOWDER EXPERIENCE



Whether you're immersed in reenactment or are a modern blackpowder hunting or sport shooting enthusiast, our **2018 DIXIE GUN WORKS** catalog has everything you need to make the blackpowder shooting experience complete. You'll find the world's largest selection of blackpowder replica arms, accessories, and antique parts, as well as muzzleloader hunting and sport shooting equipment.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
AND EXPERTISE GUARANTEED**

VIEW ITEMS AND ORDER ONLINE!

www.dixiegunworks.com

Major credit cards accepted

FOR ORDERS ONLY (800) 238-6785

STILL ONLY \$5.00!

DIXIE GUN WORKS, INC.

1412 W Reelfoot Ave. PO Box 130 Dept. 11 Union City, TN 38281

INFO PHONE: (731) 885-0700 FAX: (731) 885-0440

EMAIL: info@dixiegunworks.com



.22 FUN SHOOT 2018

Any .22 rimfire in good/safe working condition

Walter Cline Range, Friendship, Indiana, 47021

Membership not required for this event

MAY 6, 2018

Shooter Meeting / Registration 9:30am

1st Relay Starts at 10 am

Classifications:

- Open Sight Rifle, Scoped Rifle and Open Sight Pistol (max.8 inch barrel)
- Women's Open Sight Rifle and Scoped Rifle.
- Youth (under 16) Open Sight Rifle and Scoped Rifle.
- Peep sights will be grouped with Scoped Rifle.

Course of Fire:

- Registration and 3 relays for \$20.00 additional relays are \$5.00 each
- 15 minute relays (we can have 16 shooters per relay)
- Each shooter has 33 targets (34 rounds needed per relay)
- It will be scored hit or miss
- One shot per target except for the last target it gets 2 shots.
- Targets are all novelty and reaction type targets
- Targets range from 25 feet through 50 yards.
- All targets must be shot in order from left to right and closest to the farthest.
- All shooting is done off hand (no slings) shooters under 12 may shoot off a standing rest
- No shooting jackets, pants, spotters or spotting scopes.
- Additional rules will be explained at the shooters meeting and as needed or requested.
- You can shoot as many relays and classifications as you want.
- If you're sharing a firearm please shoot in different relays.
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Last Place in each classification Plus door Prizes

Additional things to bring:

- Hearing and eye protection
- A chair, sun block and maybe some bug spray
- Additional ammo and \$ because you're going to shoot it more than once

Contact: Mike Weissmann (513) 382-1013 or email sodgpa@fuse.net

**Camp on the
Original 1838
Rendezvous Site**

2017 Rendezvous 6/28 – 7/2

2018 Rendezvous 7/2 – 7/7

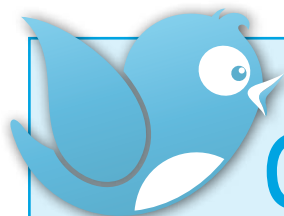
Closed to Public 7/2 – 7/3

**Beginners Always
Welcome**



**P.O. Box 1838
Riverton, WY 82501**

**For More Info Visit
www.1838rendezvous.com**



Follow Us on Twitter

@NMLRABP



NMLRA

INLINE OFFHAND FUN SHOOT

MAY 5, 2018

WALTER CLINE RANGE, FRIENDSHIP, INDIANA, 47021

Open to all inline scopes or open sights

Traditional muzzleloaders will not be turned away

MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT

Shooter meeting / registration 9:30am 1st relay starts at 10 am

\$25.00 registration and target package.

1 — 25-yard animal target (5 shots)

2 — 50-yard animal targets (5 shots on each)

1 — 100-yard target (best 5 of 7 shots)

20-22 shots total for the paper target aggregate any bullet or ball, black powder or approved substitute. Everyone wins something. You pick your prizes based on your score from high to low.

**RE-ENTRY NOVELTY TARGETS AT 50- AND 100-YARDS FOR CASH PAYOUTS.
THESE TARGETS ARE OPTIONAL, NOT PART OF YOUR TOTAL SCORE**

Friday night camping is covered in electric only sites if you're shooting on Saturday, Saturday night is covered if you're shooting Sunday.

Contact: Mike Weissmann 1(513)382-1013 or
email sodgpa@fuse.net; Steve Chapman 1(260)318-2572

SUNDAY'S 22 FUN SHOOT SAFETY MEETING 930 AM.

SHORT-BARRELED HAWKEN RIFLES

By Bob Woodfill



(Courtesy of Gordon, 2007)

Several short-barreled Hawken rifles occurred late in the Hawken Era. Short-barreled Hawken rifles, with barrels less than 30" long, were occasionally made in the 1850s by Sam Hawken -- presumably for more convenient transport on horseback. These rifles were especially favored by Indians because of their compactness.

For sure, some Hawken plains rifles were shortened by simply cutting the barrels off. One such rifle, a 54-caliber S. Hawken with the barrel cut to 25", was given to the buffalo hunter and cattleman James H. Cook by a Sioux Indian, Jumping Eagle.



Cook shortened Hawken rifle (Courtesy National Park Service)

In the past, museums and collectors have not recognized this class of short-barreled Hawken rifles, and have routinely labeled them as, with 'cut down' barrels, since the average Hawken rifle has a 32-36" long barrel. At least three such rifles are known. All three have S. Hawken St. Louis stamped barrels less than 30" in length, and have features of late-period Hawken rifles. I will briefly discuss the features of each of them, and then describe how you can build a copy.

Wyoming Hawken

The first detailed description of a short-barreled Hawken rifle was given by Gene Galloway, Curator of Anthropology, Wyoming State

Archives and Historical Department, Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1970. John Baird recognized its importance, and published its details in his second book on Hawken rifles (Baird, 1971, p. 91-94). A line drawing of the rifle by Ed Weber was also published on page 93. The rifle is currently in the Museum of the Fur Trade in Chadron, Nebraska. The rifle was reported to have been relinquished to the U.S. Army by one of Looking Glass's band of Nez Perce, when they surrendered after the Battle of Bear Paw Mountain in 1877. Gordon has given us some excellent color photographs of this rifle in his book (Gordon, 2007, p. 385). The rifle has a 29 9/16" long barrel and is about a .53-caliber. The lock plate is beveled as it merges into the lock panels, and the stock is adorned with brass tacks, presumably placed there by an Indian. The buttplate, slanted hooked breech, triggers, trigger guard and lock plate show the typical gray color of case hardening.



Wyoming short-barreled Hawken.
(Courtesy of Gordon, 2007)

Gordon Hawken

Gordon shows a similar short-barreled Hawken with a 30" long barrel in his collection (Gordon, 2007, p. 379). This rifle is similar in all ways to the Wyoming Hawken except that it has only one ramrod thimble. By carefully comparing the spacing between the thimble and the rear thimble, you will see that it does not have the same spacing as that of a standard 32-36" barrel length Hawken. I do not believe that the barrel of this rifle was cut down but was made that way.

Gordon short-barreled Hawken. (Courtesy of Gordon, 2007)



Leonard Hawken

The Leonard short-barreled Hawken came from the collection of Dr. Leonard of North Dakota, who acquired several Hawken rifles by trading his services with local Indians. The rifle is shown in Baird's first book (1968) on page 65. This rifle was once in the possession of T. K. Dawson (1930-1989) where I examined and photographed it in the 1970s. The rifle has a 23 13/16" long barrel and is about a 47-caliber. The barrel tapers from 1 3/16" to 1 1/8" at the muzzle and is stamped 'S. Hawken St. Louis' on the top flat. It has a single ramrod thimble similar in spacing to that of the Gordon Hawken. The thimble's front edge is positioned 2.67" from the muzzle and is 1.90" long, or longer than the average Hawken thimble. The rifle is dimensionally the same as a regular Hawken rifle from the rear barrel key rearward. The distance between the barrel keys has been shortened, and the rear thimble has been positioned rearward as much as possible without interfering with



Leonard short-barreled Hawken.

the front barrel key. All of these features suggest that the rifle was originally made with a short barrel.

This rifle also has two unusual features suggesting its purpose and use. A wear plate, similar to the wear plate on the Medina Hawken, covers the bottom of the forearm, and would lessen wear on the bottom of the forearm if the rifle was carried across the pommel of a saddle or against the seat of a wagon.

The cheekpiece has been hacked off, presumably with a tomahawk, to make it even smaller and more compact to carry on horseback!

Wear plate on Leonard Hawken.



Cheekpiece removed with tomahawk?

Except for the trigger guard variant that was often used on Hawken sporting rifles, the rifle has all of the late features of an 1850s Hawken. The lock, hammer, hooked patented breech, triggers, trigger guard, and buttplate are all case hardened and worn to a mottled gray color. The hammer is made long to properly mate with the nipple. The top flat of the lock plate is beveled and flows into the lock panel — a late S. Hawken feature.



Lock plate beveled into the lock panel.

The tang portion of the hooked breech is flat on the top, and the sides of the tang contour into the wrist area, showing the skills of the Hawken shop during this period



Tang and breech.

Reproduction short-barreled rifle.



a 1
with
11 fps to
Results are

As shown on the
1200 fps with a 60
80 to 160 grains is ab
100 and 120 grains. Ab
with the 24" barrel. The lon
advantage if you were shootin
you were on a horse while runnin

The rifle was tested for accuracy at 50
grain charge using the standard Hawken
windage adjustment to the left for a dead ze

A composite version of all three short-barreled Hawken's was made incorporating features from each of the rifles. A Rice (www.ricebarrels.com) 54-caliber, 36" long barrel with a twist of 1:48", and tapering from 1 1/8" to 1" at the muzzle, was shortened to 24", thus lessening the weight of the rifle by two pounds. The muzzle diameter is now 1.045".

Representative late 1850s, parts were ordered from Track of the Wolf (www.trackofthewolf.com) from their Jim Bridger Hawken rifle kit. The rear thimble and nose cap were positioned rearward to accommodate the shorter barrel length. The rifle weighs 8.5 pounds or about what a scope-sighted bolt action rifle weighs.

Because the barrel was to be cut from three to two feet in length, a series of tests were conducted over a chronograph to calculate the resulting velocity of shortening the barrel length. The charge was varied from 60 to 160 grains of Goex 2FFg with a .530" diameter caliber round ball, wrapped in a 0.015" thick Ox-yoke patch that was pre-lubed with Wonder Lube. Data



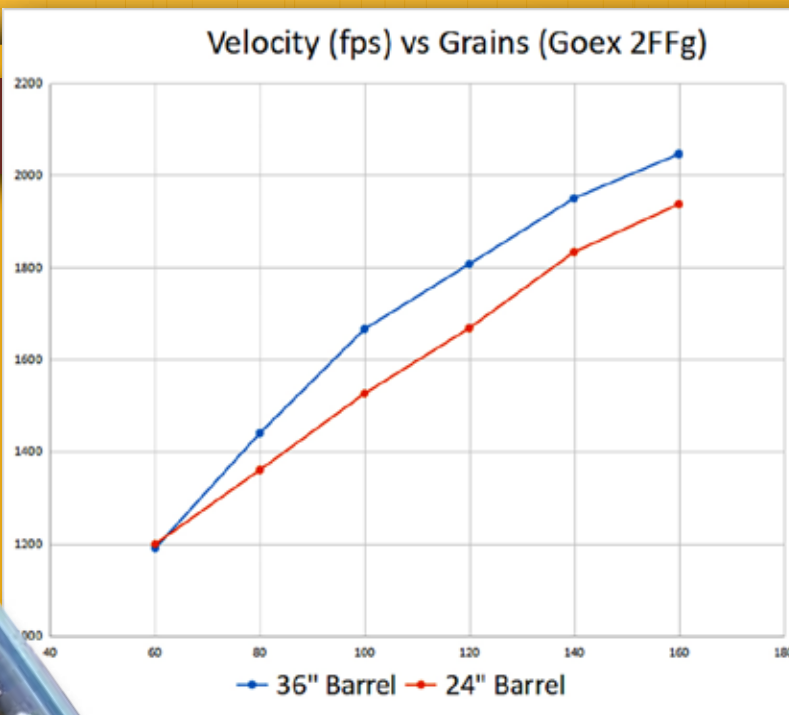
50-Yard target.

uction Copy

points on the graph are the average of 5 shots. The ES (Extreme Spread) for the 5 shots ranged from Low of 5 fps to a High of 14 fps the 36" barrel, and from a Low of 0 to a High of 33 fps with the 24" barrel. shown on the Velocity vs. Charge graph.

e graph, both barrel lengths generate about 0 grain charge. The velocity difference between about 100 fps with a maximum of about 140 fps at ove a 120 grain charge, the muzzle blast was severe nger barrel, with its longer sight radius, would be an g over open ground, but the shorter barrel is more handy, if ng buffalo or in a modern deer blind.

yards with the 60 grain charge and at 100 yards with the 120 125 yard zero. Representative targets are shown. I need to make a ero setting. MB



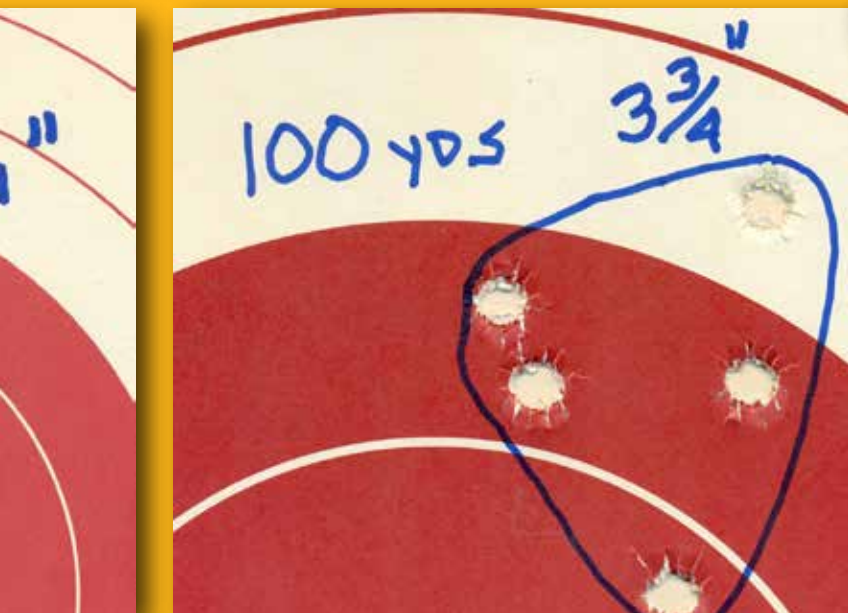
Velocity vs. Charge graph.

Selected References

Baird, John. *Hawken Rifles, The Mountain Man's Choice*. John D. Baird, P Pence, IN. 1968.

_____. *Fifteen Years in the Hawken Lode*. John D. Baird. Buckskin Press, Chaska, MN. 1971

Gordon, Jim. *Great Gunmakers for the Early West: Volume III--Western*. U.S. James Gordon, Santa Fe, NM, 2007.



100-Yard target.



NMLRA Inline Hunter Muzzleloading Match

Walter Cline Range , Friendship, Indiana • Membership not required for this event

May 12, 2018

Range opens for practice at 7am (You may also practice on Friday, May 11th)

Shooter meeting 9:30 am - Match Starts at 10:00 am

NOTICE: The following are changes made concerning rifles that are approved and maximum propellant charges that can be used in the match.

- The manufacturer of any rifle used during the match **MUST** have provided the owner/shooter with documented charges for their specific individual rifle in their owner's manual. Or must be marked by the manufacturer on the rifle's barrel.

- The rifle manufacturer **MUST** have provided documented data indicating the maximum charge of the type propellant being used by the shooter. **EXCEPTION:** If the rifle manufacturer **DOES NOT** documented a maximum charge for commercially available P or BP substitutes, the maximum charge allowed **MUST NOT EXCEED** the maximum charge indicated by the propellant manufacturer.

1. Any inline muzzleloader; no more than 15 lbs. as shot, 2 Rifle Classes manufactured/custom - 10lb.

2. Round ball - Sabot - Conical projectiles

3. Any type sight: open-peep-scope

4. Any source of ignition 209 primer-rifle primer-caps
5. Black powder or black powder substitute. **NO SMOKELESS PROPELLANTS.**
Blackhorn no more than 84 weight.
6. All shooters make own scope adjustments unless approved by the match director
7. Rifle must be supported from shoulder in rear
Only one point of forearm or barrel with no contact more than 4 inches
8. Bench, front rest, sand bags, cross sticks, bipod, tripod

Course of Fire:

30 minute relays for all matches

1. 50 yd 6 bull, 5 shots for score. Offhand. Scoring will be cutting the line is next highest score

2. 100 yd 6 bull, 5 shots for score. Scoring will be cutting the line is next highest score
3. 200 yd single bull, 8 shots for score. Scoring will be cutting the line is highest score
4. 200 meter 5 chickens unlimited sighters; you must declare when you're going for score (2pts each)
5. 300 meter 5 pigs unlimited sighters; you must declare when you're going for score (2pts each)
- Shooters are encouraged to have a spotter for the animals and their own bench
- All animals to be shot in order from left to right
- Match winner will be combination of matches 1 through 5
- Each class: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd
- Registration Fee: \$30

Contact: Bob Wetzler 1-812-689-6629, rbrtwzlr@aol.com or Dan Thomas 1-812-212-0954, dth1000@yahoo.com

NMLRA M5

May 11, 2018, 1:00pm

Walter Cline Range, Friendship IN



Master at 5 distances is specifically designed to challenge the shooters ability, rifle and load.

A. NMLRA Rules & Regulations will apply other than specified:

Black powder cartridge rifles will shoot in their own class

1. Any muzzleloading rifle or cartridge black powder rifle; no more than 15 lbs. as shot.
2. Any safe projectile
3. No muzzle component of any kind
4. Any sight
5. Any source of ignition
6. Black powder or black powder substitute (R&R # 1210)
7. Load must fall within the Rifle manufacturers specifications. Custom rifles shall be limited not to exceed the powder manufacturers max recommendations, providing the rifle is deemed safe

8. All shooters make their own scope adjustments, no coaching (R&R # 5000)
9. Any safe rest
 - a. Rifle must be supported from shoulder in rear (R&R # 5090)
 - b. Allowed one free point of contact to forearm or barrel; max contact 4"
 - c. No anti-cant devices

B. Course of Fire

- 10 shots at each target, no sighters, relay 45 minutes
- No practice targets at any time
- Targets may be posted in any position
- All 10 shots must be shot the same relay as posted

1. 100yd, 8 bull #TG2429
2. 200 yd, 8 bull #TG2429
3. 300 yd, single Red bull (Schuetzen SCH-1) #TG2451
4. 400 yd, LR Slug target (will need 8" shoot 'n' see)
5. 500 yd, LR Slug target (will need 8" shoot 'n' see)

- Shooters must sign a release/waiver for individual load responsibility
- Entry Fee \$30
- Minimum number of 5 participants on order for awards to be given
- Pay out 1st 25%, 2nd 15%, 3rd 10%

Contact: Bob Wetzler 1-812-689-6629, rbrtwzlr@aol.com

GUNMAKER'S HALL GIVE-AWAY TICKETS

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements

\$5.00
PER DONATION

By Gunmaker's Hall of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
Drawing on September 16, 2018

\$5.00
PER DONATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Need not be present to win. Not valid where prohibited by law.

Send them with your remittance to the NMLRA office, PO Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021.

Suggested donation* amounts: one ticket for \$5, three tickets for \$10, eight tickets for \$20 or 25 tickets for \$50.

*No contribution required for entry. A contribution will not improve your chances of winning a prize. To receive an entry without making a donation, see official rules at www.nmlra.org.

Some Top Turkey Hunting States

Spring has sprung,

and if it hasn't already, the wild turkey hunting season will commence. I don't know about where you live, but here in the northeast it has been an unusually long, bitterly cold, and snowy winter. The greening of the landscape and chance to get in the woods again are more than welcome.

Normally I do most of my spring turkey hunting close to home. Maine has the largest bird population in New England, the bag limit is two bearded birds (and two of either sex in the fall) and though the hunting can be challenging at times, overall our turkeys are not as well educated as in highly pressured states. The real bonus is on opening day I can literally step out my back door and hear birds ready to leave the roost. In a word, when it comes to spring gobbler hunting there are few needs to travel elsewhere.

But every now and again I get the itch to travel, to hunt somewhere else. Not because I have to. There are good spring opportunities here at home, but rather just to

Few things are as rewarding as a successful spring gobbler hunt.



FIELD



With that in mind, here are some Eastern states I have hunted spring turkey, will undoubtedly hunt again, and unless things change would put at the top of my list based on these criteria.


NORTHEAST-NEW YORK

Some hunters might pick Pennsylvania for their Northeast hunting destination, and it's a prime state to hunt. Pennsylvania does have more birds and tons of public hunting land, but part of the spring season is only open until noon, and while the non-resident big game license comes with a turkey tag at a cost of \$101.90, to kill a second gobbler a second license is required at \$41.90, for a total of



Getting a spring gobbler to respond to your calls and drawing them within shotgun range is an ultimate challenge, easier in some states than others.

experience a spring gobbler hunt someplace different, someplace new, perhaps to hunt with old friends I get to see all too infrequently, or to revisit old haunts. Whatever the case, I like to know what's waiting when I get there, particularly if I'm planning to hunt someplace new or a destination I haven't hunted in a few years; so I do a little homework. Things like license fees and availability, turkey population, recent harvest figures, amount of public land open to hunting along with general regulations like bag limits and legal hunting hours are important factors and considerations when planning one of my hunts. They should be with you as well.



Stepping into the spring woodlands and hearing turkeys singing before hitting the ground is a magical sound.

A prime spring tom is a prize no matter where you hunt.

\$143.80. There is also no hunting on Sunday and the spring season draws out a lot of hunters. For these reasons I prefer New York.

With an estimated 250,000 birds, New York is home to one of the largest turkey populations in the northeast. The spring limit is two bearded birds, and with non-resident license and tag fees costing just \$120, hunting New York is rather affordable. Over the past

decade some 25,000 spring birds have been killed annually. There is also plenty of public land, including 110 wildlife management areas covering nearly 200,000 acres. The Bureau of Wildlife also manages an additional 50,000 acres. If that's not enough, the Adirondack Forest Preserve covers an additional 2.6 million acres, the Catskill Forest Preserve 286,000 acres and there is also the Finger Lakes National Forest covering nearly 16,300 acres. Most state forests and many

state parks are also open to hunting. The only downside is the legal spring hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to noon, but there's plenty to do and see in the afternoon.

For spring season dates and more information visit: www.dec.ny.gov.

UPPER MID-WEST WISCONSIN

In the upper Midwest it's tough to beat the Badger State when it comes to turkey hunting. As in most northern states where hard winters and wet springs can take their toll, turkey numbers vary year-to-year, but most years the spring population is around 350,000, so hunters can expect to see lots of birds. Hunters also take plenty of them. In 2016 spring hunters registered 45,500 birds and 43,305 in 2017. Non-resident license and permits fees are also quite affordable, just \$65.25, making turkey hunting Wisconsin a bargain.

If there are any drawbacks, finding a place to hunt is one of them. Many of the larger public lands are in the north which aren't necessarily the best turkey regions to hunt in terms of numbers of birds and birds annually killed. Generally the best regions are in the central, southeast, and southwest, most of which is private. Fortunately, most farmers and other landowners will grant access when asked.

The other downside is spring turkey permits are issued by a preference-based draw system, and the number of permits available varies year-to-year. In 2016 about 241,000 permits were available, in 2017 240,768 and in 2018 more than 244,000 will be

available. The upside is not all permits are sold most years and left-over permits are available on a first-come, first serve basis over the counter. In 2017 105,464 spring left-over permits were available, so hunters who really want to hunt Wisconsin birds generally have a good chance.

For more information visit: www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/turkey.

CENTRAL MID-WEST MISSOURI

Some of the best spring turkey hunting in the country is found in the Midwest. Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska have lots of birds, long seasons, generous bag limits and license and tag fees have yet to reach the unaffordable.

But for my money and time Missouri is the place to head for. Like many states in the eastern half of the country bird numbers and harvest figures are not what they were in times past, but most estimates put the Missouri population at around 300,000 to 400,000. Harvest figures are not bad, either. By the end of the 2017 spring season 43,344 birds had been registered, including 37,192 adult gobblers, 5,596 juvenile gobblers and 536 bearded hens. Hunters are allowed two bearded birds during the spring season, but only one during the first week. If a bird is not taken the first week then two birds can be taken the second or third week. License and permit fees will cost \$190, and spring hunting can start one-half hour before sunrise, but must cease at 1 p.m. daily. Despite these slight inconveniences



Traveling hunters can find plenty of opportunity for spring gobblers, but do some homework before you go.

for the traveling hunter, Missouri is still one of the best turkey states in the mid-west.

And there is plenty of public land to hunt. The Missouri Department of Conservation manages over 440,000 acres of Conservation Areas throughout the state. In addition Missouri is home to the 1.5-acre Mark Twain National Forest scattered over 29 counties in the Ozark Highlands, one of the best turkey regions in the state,

For a list of these properties and additional information visit: www.mdc.mo.gov.

DEEP SOUTH-ALABAMA

Turkey hunting is a way of life in Alabama. Visiting hunters should expect lots of competition and some extremely well-educated birds. Fortunately all-day hunting allows plenty of time to hunt, but even then it is not enough. Looking back on my experiences there, the only way I would hunt the state is by catering to one of the lodges and relying on the services of a guide. As much as I have hunted turkeys my calling and hunting skills are lacking more times than not when stacked against Alabama gobblers. Fortunately, a number of excellent lodges and guides are available for both public and private land hunts.

As it has elsewhere, Alabama's turkey population has declined in recent years,

Spring gobblers are primarily interested in finding receptive females.



but still numbers 400,000 to 450,000, one of the largest in the country. Harvest figures have also dropped, but Alabama still produces more spring birds than most other states. Despite the drop in bird numbers the bag limit remains one bearded turkey per day, for a total of five between the spring and fall seasons.

For hunters looking for a place to hunt and prefer going it alone, Alabama offers about 1.3 million acres of public land open to hunting. Included are 37 wildlife management areas covering about 721,000 acres. An additional 241,000 acres of Forever Wild Land are also open to hunting. There are also four national forests, Bankhead, Conecuh, Tuskegee and Talladega. Talladega, sprawls across 11 counties covering more than 392,500 acres at the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains.

For more information visit: www.outdooralabama.com. MB



Many Eastern states' turkey numbers have declined, but spring hunters should find plenty of birds.



NMLRA TERRITORIALS

“CHANGES IN THE WIND”

(Change never comes easy)

The NMLRA's Territorial program is the largest outreach program that is offered for the muzzle loading shooting sports in the country.

However, costs keep spiraling from year to year. The Territorial program is suffering financially. The NMLRA Board of Directors feel strongly that the program must survive. However, at what cost? It costs the Association more to continue the program than they get in return. The awards alone constitute the major expense of the program. The staff's time is not even included in the cost.

With this being said, a survey regarding the program has been developed and we would like to have your input regarding the

program. Any new ideas, and opinions are welcome. Decisions regarding changes will be made based on your input, the shooters and participants. Remember, this is your program as you are the NMLRA.

Feel free to contact me, Joyce Vogel or Lora Parks at the NMLRA.

Please send your surveys to:
Rick Repovsch - NMLRA Territorial Coordinator

7628 115th Ave N, Champlin, MN 55316

Phone 763-233-2105 • rrepovsch@hotmail.com

Comments suggestions are welcome.....

Rick Repovsch / Ph. 763-233-2105 / email: rrepovsch@hotmail.com

On a scale of 0-4, 0 being the lowest and 4 the highest, assign a number in which you feel the suggestion would be of benefit to the NMLRA Territorial program.

0-no opinion 1- strongly disagree 2- disagree 3-agree 4-strongly agree

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| 1.) Eliminate Territorial Championship in June at Friendship. Championship would be determined from the scores of all the Territorials for the year. Previous records at Friendship would be frozen. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | 7.) Eliminate 4th and 5th place aggregate medals for youth aggregates. | 4__3__2__1__0__ |
| 2.) Eliminate stickers on back of awards. Match director can order set of stickers from NMLRA and use at their Territorial. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | 8.) Eliminate Top Gun patch at each Territorial. Currently the NMLRA pays \$13.00 per patch. | 4__3__2__1__0__ |
| 3.) Eliminate individual match medals. Have aggregate medals only. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | 9.) Allow match director and his team of volunteers to shoot one day early for score at a Territorial. Only match director and his volunteers shoot for score that day. | 4__3__2__1__0__ |
| 4.) Allow a maximum number of aggregates per Territorial to 16 aggregates. Match director to determine which aggregates will be a part of their respective Territorial. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | 10.) Addition of black powder cartridge shotgun aggregate. | 4__3__2__1__0__ |
| 5.) Eliminate free fifth aggregate. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | 11.) Decrease the number of aggregates offered in the program. (Eliminate least participated in aggregates from program). | 4__3__2__1__0__ |
| 6.) Increase registration fee and aggregate fee to \$9.00 each. Prior to 2007 the fee was \$10.00 for registration and \$9.00 for each aggregate. | 4__3__2__1__0__ | | |

U.S. DRAGOONS, APACHES, AND BORDER BANDITS

WEAPONS^{OF} THE FIRST DRAGOON REGIMENT

By William Mapoles

The Dragoons were the elite shock troops on the American frontier from 1833-1861. They served from Washington State to Mexico, and East to Florida. When the first regiment of Dragoons was organized, there were no other mounted forces in the United States Army. The First Dragoon Regiment eventually consisted of ten companies and had a total of about 650 men. The Second Regiment of Dragoons was organized in 1836, and a third mounted unit, the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was formed in 1845. It wasn't until 1855 that two regiments of cavalry were finally created, and they were more of a reconnaissance or screening force. The era of the dragoon was ended in 1861, when all of the mounted regiments were renamed "cavalry."

In 1854, The Gadsden Purchase was completed with Mexico which ceded the southern portions of what are now Arizona and New Mexico to the United States. Back then, most of what is now Arizona was included inside

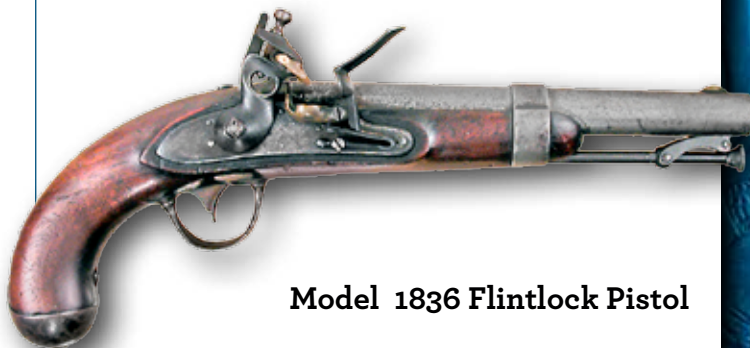
the Territory of New Mexico. [Arizona did not become a separate territory until the Civil War, when the population voted to become a Confederate Territory.] The First Dragoon Regiment was the main military force in the region, charged with protecting civilians and subduing the hostile Indians and bandits. The Second Dragoon Regiment fought elsewhere. One area of emphasis for this article is on the first fort in the new Gadsden Purchase, Fort Buchanan (located south of Tucson near the town of Sonoita), which was described as "the de facto capital of Arizona." Fort Buchanan was in operation from May of 1857 to July of 1861, when it was abandoned by the First Dragoons due to the outbreak of the Civil War. Shortly thereafter, most of the dragoons were shipped back East to fight in the Civil War. The second area of emphasis for this article is on the various weapons, many experimental, issued to the First Dragoon Regiment, about which little has been written.

A Timeline

--1833: The Dragoons were first organized, and they were equipped with one saber, one single shot flintlock pistol (initial model unknown, but later the M1836) and one M1833 Hall carbine per man. The 1833 Hall was a .58 cal. percussion smoothbore. This was the first percussion arm adopted by any government and was a breechloader to boot. About 1,028 were purchased and most were sent to Ft. Gibson, Arkansas Territory, in 1834 to arm the 1st Dragoons.

Years later, the M1842 Hall breech loading carbine in .52 cal. smoothbore was issued, and most of the 1000 produced were sent to the 1st Dragoons in the West. The

model 1843 Hall carbine, also a .52 cal. smoothbore, was issued to some of the 1st Dragoons during their Mexican War service.



Model 1836 Flintlock Pistol



Hall Model 1833

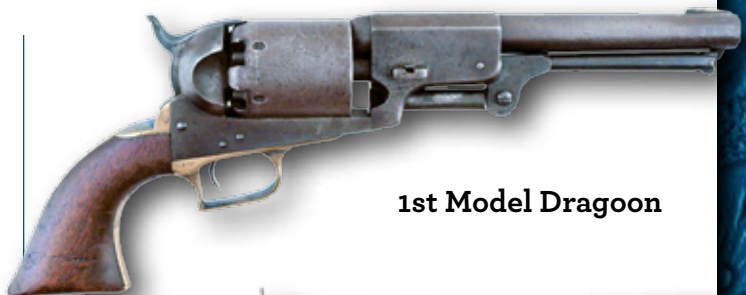


Hall Model 1842-3 similar

--April 1849: The Dragoons were next equipped with one .54 cal. single shot M1842 percussion pistol, and one .69 cal. M1847 percussion smoothbore musketoon per man. For Indian fighting, their sabers were a real nuisance, because they rattled loudly and were difficult to keep sharp in their metal scabbards. It was said that if one got close enough to an Indian to use a saber, it was about even odds "as to which goes under first."

--November 1849: Colt's revolver (First Model Dragoon) was first supplied, and this arm superseded the percussion single shot pistol.

--February 1853: Sixty Sharps M1851 carbines were ordered for eventual delivery to the Ordnance Depot at Fort Union, New Mexico Territory. Full delivery and distribution would take quite a while.



1st Model Dragoon



Model 1847 U.S. Musketoon

--July 1854: The regimental headquarters for the 1st Dragoons was transferred to Ft Union, New Mexico (northeast of Santa Fe), home of the Military Department Headquarters and Ordnance Depot. Companies of the 1st Dragoons were stationed at other posts as well.

--1854: The Gadsden Purchase U.S./Mexico border survey party passed through the area on their way to California with 11 experimental M1851 Sharps carbines.

--January 1855: The 1st Dragoons were still armed primarily with Colt's Dragoon revolvers and smoothbore musketoons.

--February 1855: About 175-200 M1851 Sharps carbines were received by the military for additional testing. About 150 were subsequently delivered to the 1st and 2nd Dragoons in Texas and New Mexico Territory.

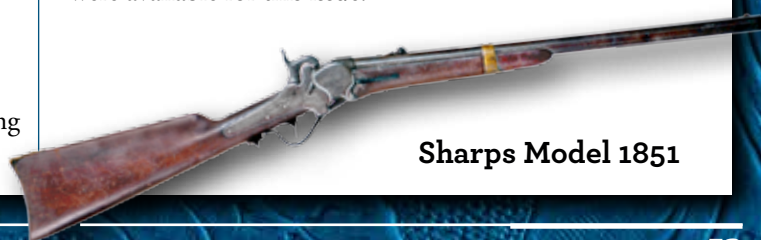
--September 1855: The Governor of the New Mexico Territory received 1980 percussion muskets and 118 percussion single shot rifles (probably the M1841 .54 cal. "Mississippi") from the government. No Sharps carbines were available for this issue.



Model 184 U.S. Percussion Pistol

--February 1853: A few M1851 Sharps carbines were issued as experimental arms to the 1st Dragoons. A few others were given to infantry and artillery units to test.

--August 1853: Captain Richard "Baldy" Ewell, 1st Dragoons, got five M1851 Sharps carbines to test. He wrote a positive report in March of 1854 and asked for more for his command. He did not get them. At this time, there were only 20 Sharps carbines in the whole Military Department of New Mexico. [Captain "Baldy" Ewell was perhaps the most respected officer in the territory, and he went on to become a general and corps commander during the Civil War under Robert E. Lee.]



Sharps Model 1851

--February 1856: Washington ordered 250 Sharps carbines for the 2nd Dragoons, 60 for the 1st Dragoons in California, and 90 for the 1st Dragoons in Arizona/New Mexico (400 all together). This was an order for the Sharps factory, and all of the carbines were not yet on hand. [As of this date, the 2nd Dragoons already had a total of 135 Sharps carbines on hand (breakdown of models unknown), and it seems they had priority for distribution.]

--August 1856: The 250 Sharps carbines mentioned above arrived and were issued to the 2nd Dragoons. These were the M1855 Sharps with the Maynard tape primer. Most of the rest of the Sharps carbines were sent to the 1st Dragoons in California. However, musketoons were still in service and were described by the troops as "worthless." In the West, long-range accuracy was required, and the smoothbore musketoons were very short-range weapons.

--November 1856: This is the start-date for the occupation of the Gadsden Purchase area by the 1st Dragoons, which is the subject of this study. Initially, four Companies of the 1st Dragoons set up a tent camp (Camp Moore – north of present-day Nogales, Arizona) and five months later it was relocated to, and became, Fort Buchanan on Sonoita Creek. The fort was in a forest of giant oaks and heavy mesquite with plenty of fertile farmland and hay in the vicinity. The buildings were very crude and scattered about in a random fashion; not in neat, orderly rows according to military tradition.



Sharps Model 1855

--December 1856: The regimental headquarters for the 1st Dragoons was moved to Ft. Tejon, California. However, many of the Dragoon companies were deployed elsewhere in the West. The 1st Dragoons in the Moore/Buchanan/Tucson area still got most of their support and direction from the Military Department of New Mexico at Fort Union. The year 1856 saw the last U.S. Army order for the Colt Third Model Dragoon revolver, and Army deliveries began for the .36 cal. Colt Belt Revolver (Model 1851 Navy). Bear in mind that the transition from one to the other did not happen quickly on the frontier.

--January 1857: Musketoons were still the primary long arm of the 1st Dragoons, and only a few (6-8) of the M1851 Sharps trial carbines were on hand with Captain "Baldy" Ewell's company. He sent a plea for

more, and forwarded another test report concerning these arms, which he had since 1853. They were then in poor condition from constant usage, but the troops kept repairing them locally because they couldn't get any replacements.

--May 1857: Fort Buchanan was officially founded. Most of the 1st Dragoon soldiers there had Colt Dragoon revolvers, some with shoulder stocks. The M1847 .69 cal. smoothbore musketoons were still in wide use. At this time, the Apaches were poorly armed with bows, lances, Spanish/Mexican flintlock and percussion smoothbore muskets, and "escopetas" (lighter single-barrel shotguns).



3rd Model Dragoon / Should Stock

--October 1857: Company D, 1st Dragoons, gets 16 Sharps carbines for testing at Ft. Buchanan. [The exact model has yet to be determined, but an educated guess would be the M1855.]



CAPTAIN EWELL'S PURSUIT OF THE APACHES.

An engraving of Captain Robert S. Ewell and his Dragoons from "The Marvelous Country", Samuel Cozzens, 1876

--January 1858: Some Sharps M1853 carbines were sent forward to 1st Dragoon units in California.

--February 1858: The officers at Ft. Buchanan must have had a meeting and discussed how they were

near the bottom of the list for the issuance of Sharps carbines. Ft. Buchanan was about the furthest from the flagpole at the Headquarters of the Department of New Mexico at Ft. Union; therefore, they were probably being neglected - out of sight and out of mind. This meeting triggered a flurry of written requests from the officers at Ft. Buchanan that were sent forward to Ft. Union requesting Sharps carbines. Unfortunately, this effort failed. At this time, there was about one murder per week around the fort, and the situation with the Indians was heating up. It was an apocalyptic scene with no police, no courts, and no civilian authority. Disputes were solved immediately at the end of a gun. Travel through the area was very hazardous. Everything that wasn't nailed down was subject to theft, especially livestock, a favorite target of the Apaches and border bandits. It got so bad that military guards were put on local farmers fields to prevent the crops from being stolen or burned, because this was their main source of fresh food, and some of these guards also became victims. Officers forwarding requests for help included Major Chapman, Lt. Hastings, Capt. Fitzgerald, and Capt. "Baldy" Ewell, who never stopped sending requests forward.

--July 1858: To quote H. I. Craig, the national-level Colonel of Ordnance, "The musketoon is no longer issued for the Dragoons and is almost completely out of service. However, no long arm has been officially adopted in its stead. All of the arms which have been supplied in place of it, viz, the Sharps carbine, the Burnside carbine, the (muzzle loading) cavalry rifled-carbine, and the Colt's pistol-carbine (detachable shoulder stock), are experimental arms. As of this date, there are no regularly prescribed firearms for the Dragoons and Cavalry but the revolver-pistol."

--October 1858: A supply (quantity to be determined, but likely small) of Sharps carbines were ordered to be sent to Ft. Union, New Mexico Territory, to be distributed according to the wishes of the governor.

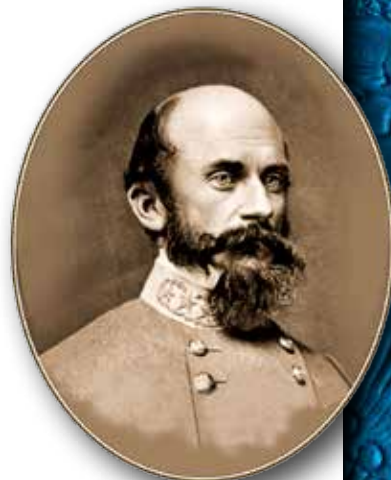
--February 1859: The national-level Ordnance Department orders the arsenal at St. Louis to forward 150 Sharps carbines (model unknown) to the depot at Ft. Union, New Mexico Territory. This took a while for shipping, and apparently, Ft. Buchanan did not receive many or any of these.



**.36 cal. Colt Belt Revolver
(Model 1851 Navy)**

--February 1859:

Lt. Randal, 1st Dragoons, requested four Colt revolvers ("New Style") and four Sharps carbines for new recruits heading to Ft. Buchanan as replacements. These revolvers were likely the M1851 Navy model, since the government had started purchasing them in larger numbers. It is not known whether his request was granted.



Richard S. Ewell

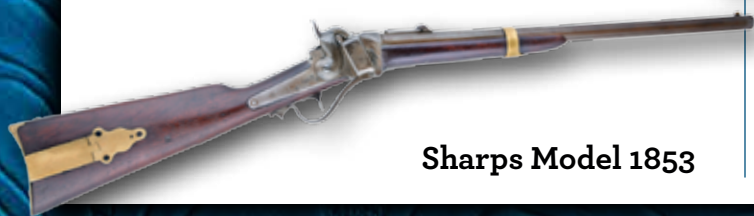
--April 1859: In

California, Companies "A" and "F" of the First Dragoons had a number of M1853 Sharps carbines, and 34 were in need of repair, indicating fair usage.

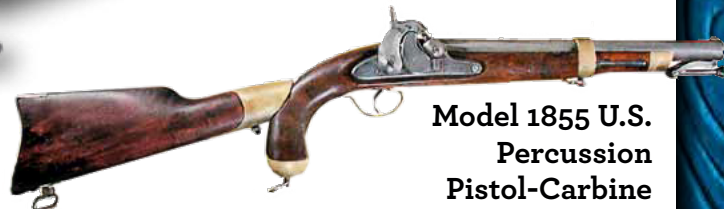
--October 1859: Lieutenant Colonel J.E. Johnston, Office of the Inspector General, inspected Ft. Buchanan and reported a variety of guns at the post, to include Hall's carbines, Sharps carbines, pistol-carbines (pistols with detachable shoulder stocks), M1841 "Mississippi" rifles, musketoons, Colt .44 Dragoon revolvers, and some Colt "Navy" .36 revolvers. The sabers were described as "the old pattern" (probably the M1833 Dragoon saber). There were also two six-pounder field guns there. [Some infantry and artillery troops were stationed at Ft. Buchanan in support of the 1st Dragoons.] Living conditions and disease at the fort were very bad, and they were considering moving it elsewhere. Nearby Sonoita creek had stagnant pools of water and marshes that were breeding grounds for mosquitoes.



Model 1841 "Mississippi Rifle"



Sharps Model 1853



**Model 1855 U.S.
Percussion
Pistol-Carbine**

--November 1859: Lt. Col. Johnston, Inspector General, must have been sympathetic about the shortage of proper weapons at Ft. Buchanan, so he forwarded yet another request for Sharps carbines on behalf of the men at Ft. Buchanan. He believed that some carbines were on hand for issue at Ft. Union, New Mexico, and he wanted them sent immediately to Ft. Buchanan. It turns out that there had been a big bureaucratic blunder in New Mexico. The Commander of the Military Department of New Mexico had indeed received the requests for Sharps carbines from the officers at Ft. Buchanan, but he had never formally ordered the Commander of the Ordnance Depot there to forward them to Ft. Buchanan. To quote Col. Craig at the national-level Department of Ordnance, "The commander of that department (New Mexico) has the authority to order the issue of arms from the Ordnance Depot at Ft. Union, New Mexico. There were Sharps carbines recently on hand there, and subject to the order of the Department Commander." Once again, out of sight, out of mind for the troopers at Ft. Buchanan.



**1st Model
Burnside Carbine**



Colonel Henry K. Craig
Cheif of Ordnance 18-51-1861

-- February 1860: A circular from Headquarters, Department of New Mexico ordered greater economy in the use of Navy (.36 cal.) paper revolver cartridges. The soldiers throughout the region were using too many, and this would seem to indicate that distribution of the Colt Navy had increased significantly.

--1860: During this year, many M1853 Sharps carbines were forwarded to Ft. Buchanan, but the exact numbers are to be determined. Finally, they got their full quota. In total, prior to the Civil War, about 6,000 slant-breech Sharps had been purchased by the Regular U.S. Army.

--April 1861: The 1st Dragoons were armed with M1853 Sharps carbines. The 2nd Dragoons were soon

armed with both M1853 and M1859 Sharps carbines. The Regiment of Mounted Rifles was armed with M1841 "Mississippi" rifles and 1st Model Maynard carbines.

--June 1861: After Arizona voted to become a Confederate Territory, a decision was made to abandon Ft. Buchanan and Ft. Breckenridge, which was a smaller, newer dragoon post. This was due to the invasion by Confederate forces from New Mexico and Texas.



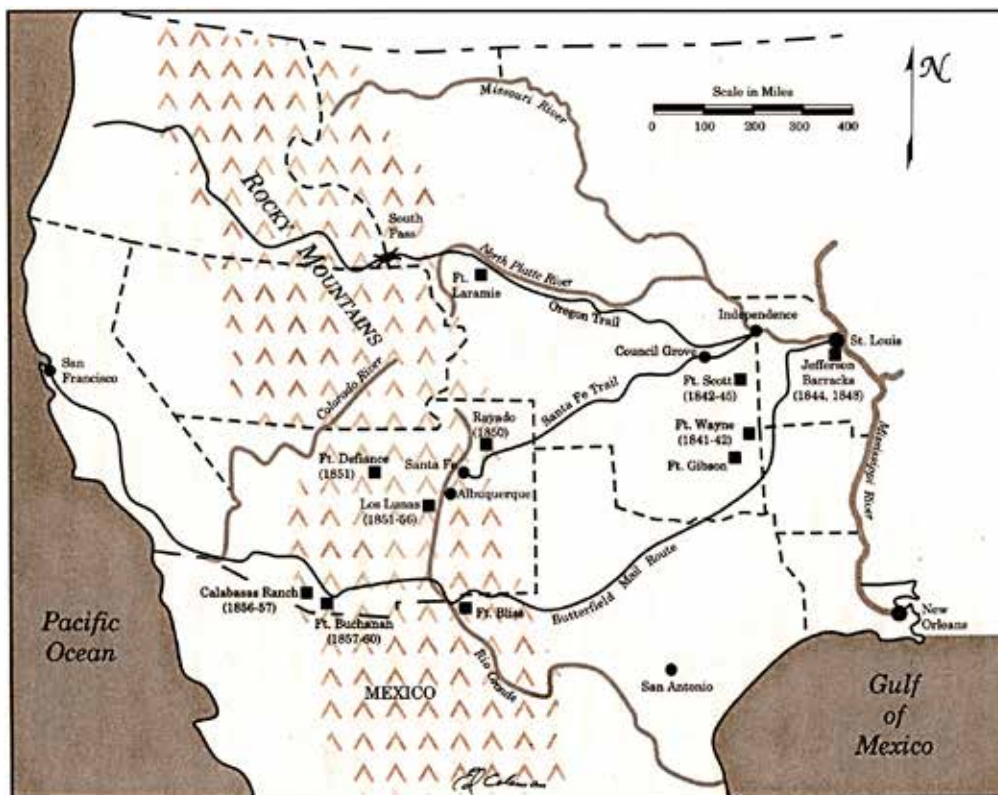
1st Model Maynard Carbine

--July 1861: When Ft. Buchanan was abandoned, the 1st Dragoons were completely armed with M1853 Sharps carbines. In August 1861, the name of the 1st Dragoons was changed to the 1st U.S. Cavalry Regiment. In late 1861, many of the M1853 Sharps carbines of the 1st Dragoons were given to the First and Second California Volunteer Cavalry in California, when the majority of the 1st Dragoons were sent back East by ship to fight in the Civil War. It is ironic that some of these Sharps carbines returned to Arizona with the "California Column" (Union) soldiers when they invaded Arizona in order to drive out the Confederates. Even though the Rebs won the subsequent battles, they were eventually pushed back to New Mexico and Texas for want of supplies.

Postscript

Two companies of the 1st Dragoons (companies D and G) were left behind to destroy the forts and supplies in Arizona before retreating to Ft. Craig, New Mexico. Company D had a skirmish with the Confederates near Ft. Craig on February 19, 1862, and both companies took part in the Battle of Valverde on February 22, 1862. Company D also took part in the engagements at Pigeon's Ranch on March 30, 1862, Albuquerque on April 25, and Peralta on April 27, 1862. In January of 1863, the two companies left in New Mexico were broken up, and the officers and sergeants were transferred to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to rejoin the regiment.

The well-stocked civilian store/sutler at Ft. Buchanan often advertised the sale of "Northwest" guns (trade guns - flintlock smoothbores), Colt's Navy six-shooters, rifles, double-barreled (percussion) shotguns, gun powder, lead and caps. Settlers from as far away as the Santa Cruz valley and northern Sonora (Mexico) came there for supplies. California newspapers recommended that civilian travelers through this region carry a Sharps carbine with 100 paper cartridges, along with one or two Colt Navy revolvers with



THE WEST

"The West" from "Richard S. Ewell" A Soldier's Life" by Donald C. Pfanz, 1998. The map depicts Major Kendrick's Fort Defiance and Captain Ewell's Fort Buchanan. Major Mordecai's excursion into Mexico likely originated in Brownsville, Texas.

two pounds of balls, powder, and caps.

As stated previously, Ft. Buchanan became known as the "de facto capital of the Arizona Territory" by the end of its lifespan, because almost everyone of importance would meet there. This was also the most heavily populated part of the territory with many valuable mines and ranches. "Baldy" Ewell was especially well known as a gracious host, and he would hold dinner parties to conduct all manner of business and politics for the good of the territory.

The fort never had an outer wall around it, and when venturing outside at night from one hut to another, one often carried a cocked revolver in case an evildoer was lurking about. This area became even more dangerous when the Apache War with Cochise broke out in 1861-62, as a result of the "Bascom Affair." When Forts Buchanan and Breckenridge were closed in July of 1861, the region descended into total chaos, with many, if not most settlers leaving the territory for lack of protection by the army. Sadly, nothing is left of the old fort today except a few scattered foundations, and the adobe bricks have melted back into the earth from whence they came.

Anyone having additional information on the issue of weapons at Ft. Buchanan should contact the author at (520) 378-4745. He will add information to this study as he receives it to paint a more complete picture of events in this area of the Wild West.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Edward W. Marron, Jr., "Sharps Firearms Chronological Correspondence Transcriptions, U.S. Ordnance Department 1848-1855," 2016, plus email exchanges of later correspondence transcriptions.

Captain James H. Tevis, "Arizona in the '50s (1850's)," Edited by Betty Barr and Dr. William J. Kelly, 2007.

John Langellier and Bill Younghusband, "Men-at-Arms Series, US DRAGOONS 1833-55," 1995.

James E. Serven, "The Military Posts on Sonoita Creek," Tucson Corral of the Westerners No. 12, Fall 1965.

John D. McAulay, "Carbines of the U.S. Cavalry 1861-1905," 1996.

Norm Flayderman, "Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms," 9th edition, 2007.

Frank Sellers, "Sharps Firearms," 2005.

James A. Bennett, "Forts and Forays – A Dragoon in New Mexico 1850-1856," 1948.

John H. Fahey, "Fort Buchanan and the Origins of Arizona Territory," The Journal of Arizona History, Volume 58, Number 2, Summer 2017.

Constance Wynn Altshuler, "Starting With Defiance, Nineteenth Century Arizona Military Posts," Volume 7 of the Arizona Historical Society's Historical Monograph Series, 1983.

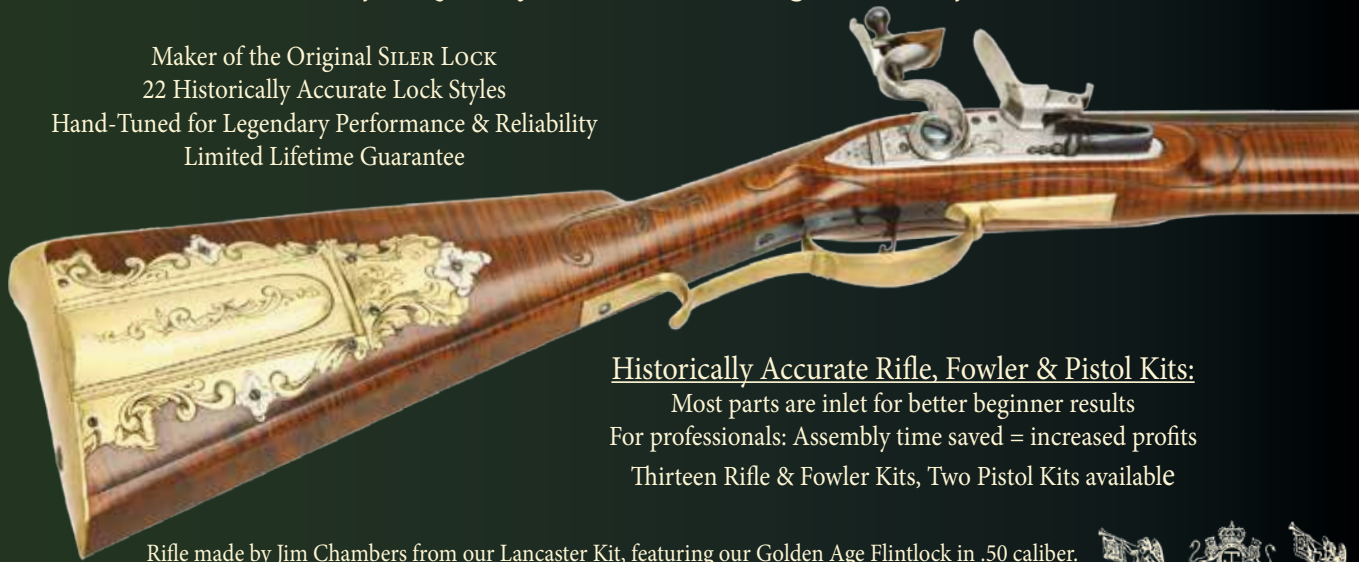
National Park Service, "Dragoon Soldier – Historical Background," Fort Scott National Historic Site, July 24, 2016.

Charles Pate, "Documented Pre-War Sharps Carbines of the 1st Dragoons," Sharps Collectors Association, date unknown. MB

JIM CHAMBERS FLINTLOCKS, LTD.

The Benchmark for Quality in Muzzleloading Firearms for Over 50 Years.

Maker of the Original SILVER LOCK
22 Historically Accurate Lock Styles
Hand-Tuned for Legendary Performance & Reliability
Limited Lifetime Guarantee



Historically Accurate Rifle, Fowler & Pistol Kits:

Most parts are inlet for better beginner results
For professionals: Assembly time saved = increased profits
Thirteen Rifle & Fowler Kits, Two Pistol Kits available

Rifle made by Jim Chambers from our Lancaster Kit, featuring our Golden Age Flintlock in .50 caliber.

100% AMERICAN MADE • PROUDLY EMPLOYING US VETERANS
116 SAMS BRANCH ROAD • CANDLER, NC 28715
828-667-8361 • CHAMBERS@FLINTLOCKS.COM
WWW.FLINTLOCKS.COM • CATALOG \$5



 <p>French "Fusil de Chasse" Fur Trade Musket</p> <p>\$549.00</p>	 <p>Hessian Musket</p> <p>\$549.00</p>	 <p>"Mayflower" Matchlock Musket</p> <p>\$549.00</p>
 <p>Northwest Fur Trade Gun - 36" & 42" barrel available -</p> <p>\$549.00</p>	 <p>Roger's Rangers</p> <p>\$529.00</p>	 <p>18th Century Blunderbuss</p> <p>\$499.00</p>
 <p>1st Model "Long Land" Brown Bess Musket</p> <p>\$549.00</p>	 <p>1766 Charleville</p> <p>\$549.00</p>	 <p>1740 English Dragoon Pistol</p> <p>\$349.00</p>
 <p>20 Gauge Double Barrel Shot Gun</p> <p>\$649.00</p>	 <p>Scottish Murdock Pistol</p> <p>\$349.00</p>	 <p>Master and Commander Pistol</p> <p>\$349.00</p>

Over 100 Black Powder Flintlocks and Swords to choose from!

Visit us at www.MilitaryHeritage.com

ACCESS HERITAGE Inc
613-692-6947

touch holes not drilled so we can ship almost anywhere!
- frizzens case hardened - threaded breeches - auto industry steel

Supplied Many MOVIES

Since 1995

PECATONICA RIVER

For a current catalog of over 100 pages of stocks and quality components for construction send \$5.00 (send \$6.00 if outside the U.S.)



Long Rifle Supply Co.
the largest producer of muzzleloading gun stocks
Box 2791, Rockford, Illinois 61132

Now offering 21 stocks in 98% inlet form for components!
www.longrifles-pr.com

Ph. (815) 968-1995 - Fax (815) 968-1996

Along with nearly fifty styles of quality stocks we also carry selected quality components!

One of the largest distributors of:



Caywood Gunmakers

David Crockett Rifle (brochure \$8)
English Fowler, Officer's Fusil, Game Gun,
French "C" & "D", Wilson Chief's gun,
Northwest Trade gun, Southern Rifle,
Full brochure, \$3.

18 King's Hill Estates, Berryville, AR 72616
www.caywoodguns.com, 870-423-4741

WHOLESALE **LEATHER** **RETAIL**
ELK COW DEER
GARMENT & BAG LEATHER
SHIRTS PANTS BAGS
KITS AVAILABLE
HAND CRAFTED
MUZZLELOADING SUPPLIES
Gary's Gunsmith Shop, Box 124
Gwynneville, IN 46114 765-763-6896
www.garysgunsmithshop.com

Into Single-Shots?



**Get yourself into the ASSRA,
and dig into the Journal!**

The single shot authority since 1948! For only \$40 per year your ASSRA membership gets you our bimonthly magazine *The Journal* featuring world-class writers on gunsmithing, reloading, history and much more. To join, contact Keith Foster e-mail membership@assra.com or go to www.assra.com

Hand Made Buckskin Frontiersmans Garments.
Blanket Coats, Moccasins, Rifle Cases, Hunting Pouches.
Tomahawks, Knives,
Muzzleloading Guns, Fur Hats,
Illustrated Catalog, \$3.00.

Tecumseh's Trading Post
4 Liberty Lane, Cody, WY 82414



COONIE'S BLACK POWDER

BOX 2062 HOBBS NM 88241
(800) 713-6321

FAX (575) 393-6060

EMAIL: cooniesblkpdr@aol.com

"Goex" Black Powder

Fg-4Fg-Cannon-Cartridge-
Cowboy- Express Powder-
Pinnacle (B.P. sub)-and Swiss
Only GOEX-made in USA

Olde Enysford Powder now available

**Call
(812) 667-5131**
to advertise in our
classified ads section

Track of the Wolf, Inc.

18308 Joplin St. N.W., Elk River, MN 55330

www.trackofthewolf.com ♦ 763-633-2500



#Catalog-18

432 pages

12,000 products

Only \$10.00
shipped in the US

World Leader in Muzzle Loading Supplies



Creedmoor Ramrods, 36" & 44" lengths - from \$29.99



Button Jags, .32 - .75 caliber - from \$3.49

John Miles Mercer (1953 — 2017)

John Mercer, 64, of Mountain Home, Arkansas, former resident of Cody, Wyoming, died suddenly from a heart attack on August 18, 2017.

John worked as a gunsmith and custom riflemaker for over 35 years with major manufacturers, and as Chief Gunsmith and Riflemaker with Jaegers, Inc., as well as a former VP of Wyoming Armory, Cody, Wyoming. He was a lifetime professional member of the American Custom Gunmaker's Guild and served as a former director of the Guild; and a life member of the NRA and the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association. He was an avid hunter and fly fisherman and enjoyed "Mountain Man" rendezvous with a love for muzzleloading longrifles, having built several for his own pleasure.

John is survived by his wife, Shirley, 2 stepsons, Dan and David Verhine, 5 grandchildren, and 2 cousins. God has taken you too soon.

— Amy Lawless



Jack Haugh (1931 — 2018)

Jack T. Haugh, 87 years and four days, passed away after some months in Ripley Crossing nursing home in Milan, Indiana. Jack will be long remembered as a gunsmith whose craftsmanship was legendary in his own time. Jack could build his own locks, and often did, create any kind of stock furniture and do any kind of stock work.

As a man who was a full-time smith, cash flow could be a problem if a project took overly long. "Tommy," he told me, "in the time it takes me to build a lock for a fowling piece or Kentucky longrifle (we are talking a high-end lock here), I can barrel and stock up an entire bolt action rifle and be paid for it." The artistry of Jack's work and the scope of his talents, that included checkering, engraving, wire work, and gold work, and more, was and is, astonishing. Not limited to gun building, he was the go-to-guy for work on high-end shotguns and rifles. Ejectors, single triggers, and intricate lock work were all in a day's work to Jack. Purdey, Holland & Holland, Griffen & Howe, and Alexander Henry antique and modern rifles and shotguns were often seen in Jack's rack awaiting his deft touch for pickup by the



Photo taken on NMLRA Commercial Row some years ago. We were having fun.

happy owner. Indeed, Griffen & Howe farmed out some of their work to Jack. While Jack loved fine English guns, and, having "worked on them all," his favorite shotgun was a Francotte (Belgian) and he owned a fine example of Francotte work. Jack was mostly self-taught, but freely exchanged information with the likes of Ron Long or Don King, two other legendary gun makers. When some of us would visit his shop, he would greet you enthusiastically, glance at his watch and scribble something down and have a nice visit with you. He was taking himself off the clock on whatever project he was working on, as he charged by the hour. Other times he might continue working during your visit depending upon the concentration required to do it correctly

-- and, there was no other way. Unlike many fine craftsmen, he was fast and prolific. He turned out a restock for me one time on a Rigby Long Range rifle in a time frame that absolutely astonished Bill Roberts, a fine craftsman himself. That rifle appeared as a cover for *Muzzle Blasts* in December of 2000. Jack had a cult following that honored his craftsmanship and he was honored by the Contemporary Longrifle Association and others for it.

Last Relay

RICHARD W. ROCKWELL
ARIZONA

THOMAS DONALDSON
OHIO

JIM H. HASS
IOWA

OWEN TONAK
MINNESOTA

MICHAEL L. TURCOTTE
WISCONSIN

JACK T. HAUGH
INDIANA

DON G. HOLLEY
ALABAMA

ROGER A. MAZE
COLORADO

TED KOLVENBACH
WISCONSIN

We regret to report the deaths of these fellow members. The Association extends its condolences to their families and friends.

That being said, the sense of loss to some of us had absolutely nothing to do with his work. Jack's was a complex personality! Jack was case-hardened in colors. Iron is softer than steel, but smiths hardened the outside or case of iron to protect the soft core against wear and tear. As sometimes done, it resulted in brilliant colors on the case or outside. Jack could erupt in a colorful exhibit of anger at seemingly obscure provocation. In my opinion, it protected his really soft inner self, and did so very effectively. He was not to be trifled with. He has been known to explode to a good customer of some renown, to go elsewhere (and, maybe some place more specific) who, when told he was too busy to do a job right away, sent it anyway saying "ASAP" on the attached note. A catalog of such events might fill pages. However, if and when you got past that gruff exterior, the inner man was a pure delight. Some of the most fun and laughter I ever indulged in was with him in his shop to the point of tears. And my eyes are moist as I type this. Many of those exposed to his rough exterior may not believe this. But Alan, Bob, Allen, Joe, Randy, Sparky, Bill, Fritz, and others who treasured his friendship, as did I, will freely attest to it. He even forgave those who voted for Hillary. For Jack, THAT was a real stretch!

Jack's rendition of his experience with getting a pair of mules to work on his little farm near Milan, Indiana, was a classic. His telling of how stubborn they were...dragging him prone through the briers holding grimly onto the reins. "Yeah, Jack, I knew a man like that once!" The mules didn't last too long on his farm.

Jack was a family man, with his wife Barb, who did the bluing and book keeping for him, he had three daughters, two sons, twenty grand-children and thirty-seven great-grandchildren (did I say Jack was prolific?). While not practicing the full scope of his dad's work, his son Cole, besides a full-time job, continues some moonlight work in Jack's shop.

The scene of Jack's burial was on top of the hill up behind Friendship town and immediately west of our range. He was interred with his family and friends surrounding him in that picturesque and historic valley. We helped bury Don Davis there many years ago. Friendship was where Jack set up his shop over thirty years ago, before he moved to Milan, Indiana. Friendship was where we first met Jack. Friendship was



Taken January 12, 2015 showing Jack with the last rifle he made. Here it is almost finished, a copy of a rare Twigg longrifle. Note gold-lined pan and wedding band at breech. It had an intricate automatic pan cover. Lock was entirely made by Jack from a patent Twigg pocket pistol flintlock. You could load and prime the pan and close the frizzen, press a button, then open the frizzen...but, a pan cover stayed behind holding the priming in place. Even with the hammer cocked, it was "safe". When you desired to shoot, the pan was closed and when you pulled the trigger, the frizzen opened producing sparks under the blow of the hammer, taking the cover with it this time. BOOM! The rifle, itself, is relatively plain, but elegant. This was the last time I saw Jack in his shop. It was a happy day.

where Jack came from the NMLRA Charter Club in Wapakoneta, Ohio, with Jim Coon, Dan Augenstein, Scott Murray, Wes Kindig et al, to exercise their love of the flintlock rifle. He was with them and one of them, bringing the Rendezvous way of life to Friendship. It is a side of Jack that many never knew or even suspected. It was his love of the flintlock Kentucky longrifle and all things it bespoke.

So, hail and farewell old friend, and watch over us from that ideal location up on that hill over-looking NMLRA's home range. It is a location only a few rods west of our range. A place to which to we can easily look and be reminded of your influence on who we are.

— Tommy Schiffer

PS: If this has not left you with at least the ghost of a smile on your face and perhaps a little moisture in your eye, I have failed at my job, and certainly in my intent. ts

GRANDPA'S SPEECH

Where do I begin? I was getting ready for work Monday morning and it was one of those days. It was cold I didn't want to get out of bed and couldn't find socks or a lunch to pack. I go to take off in the car and notice it's on E. Great!!! It's going to be one of them days and to top off the icing on the cake my radio suddenly stops working. As of now I'm completely irritated and could break a window of how mad I was. So sitting in silence I start to wonder why am I so mad of the stupidest little things. Then I realized, I act just like my grandpa and they call it the (Jack Haugh Temper.) Then it dawns on me what state my grandpa is in and how he was such a big part of my life. I started to flash back of all the good & bad times with him and all of his accomplishments and what he has taught me, I couldn't have asked for a better Grandpa and Mentor. To honor him, I would like to share some of my life experiences with him.

It's never a dull day with grandpa you either get him on a good day or bad day. I've seen him throw tools & chairs across the room and best of all working on a persons gun build and break a gun stock over the work Bench, knowing he had hours and hours of time invested. But grandpa doesn't care. If it doesn't go the way grandpa wants it to, he was more in likely going to get mad or throw something. So the best thing to do was run and hide or

come back another day! You always called grandma to see what kind of mood he was in before you came over and you hoped to God she answered the phone before he did. If he did answer you either hung up or prepared to get your ass chewed out for not walking over to talk to her. He did not like to be bothered when he was working, but grandma always protected us kids, she loved us coming over and it didn't matter if there was only enough food for two. She would give us grandkids her food before we go without. You kept quiet until spoken to & when you did speak it needed to be clear & slow, grandma would try to give you the eye or kick your leg under the table if you talked too fast or if it appeared grandpa was getting irritated. She was our Savior!! So after a while you knew what you had to do to keep grandpa from strangling you if you came over to eat.

One summer when I was approx. 10 years old. I walked over to grandmas for lunch, I walked inside and hollered grandma's name and she didn't answer! So I thought I heard her coming up from the cellar and got the bright idea that I would jump out from behind the door and scare her. Boy was that a BIG MISTAKE. I jumped out and before I could even say a word grandpa smacks the living dog snot out of me. (Jesus boy! You scared the living shit out of me. Get your ass out of here!) I was scared shitless. I think I could have played in the NFL for how fast I ran home. I didn't go over for about a week and I was definitely not going around till I knew the coast was clear. So I get a phone call and it's grandpa! I was shocked, the man who smacked me into Tuesday was calling me. (Boy come on over and get some dinner) I didn't know what to do. So I gather up my courage and head over praying I wasn't going to get my head chewed off, come to find out it was the opposite. He was acting real nice, was laughing and cracking jokes and I just had a great meal with him. Now I know that was his way of telling me sorry.

You know over the years grandpa went from being an old grumpy man to a very loving sensitive man and it all started

when grandpa had his first real reality check. Trimming trees in your 70's probably isn't the brightest thing to do. But you had to know grandpa, he was a very determined man and I don't know if it was courageous or stubborn. But he fell out of the tree and broke his back & tailbone. Grandpa was tough as nails but it was a long recovery. He had to wear a turtle shell well over a year, it was pretty hard on him. At this time grandma was having surgery and unable to take care of grandpa. As you all know, grandpa was the best gunsmith/artist in the world but when it came to taking care of himself he was a little rusty. I guess every good Artist has their cons. So anyways, grandpa was in a shell and grandma was in the hospital so somebody had to take care of grandpa and I volunteered. So before grandma left she showed me the ropes of what grandpa eats and to show me how to set his silverware up right. So for about a week I would stay with Grandpa. I'd get him up at 4:00 in the morning! (Yea it was terrible!!) But the man was like clockwork, no alarm, no clothes, same exact time every morning. I would sleep on the couch

and he would holler to tell me it was time to get up. So I would get him dressed and fed and would stay with him most of the day. These moments I cherish dearly. The conversations and just talking about life in general was my favorite. I couldn't get enough and he couldn't feed me enough.

After the whole breaking his back he did finally recover, and grandpa seemed to look at life differently now. The man became sensitive and he showed it. It went from being man to man handshakes when you leave to hugging and kissing when you leave. He made peace with life and became a listener and mentor-not saying he wasn't before, but now with an open heart. He became very passionate with his family and grandkids and enjoyed every minute of life. I'd say one of grandpas' favorite things to do was have a scotch whiskey while sitting on the porch every evening, watching the squirrels and birds, waiting for somebody in the family to come sit down and have a drink with him. Those are the moments — I'm sure I can speak for many others — were the best times with grandpa. MB

**You're always informed
when you read**



KEEP INFORMED

- TheGunMag is a unique monthly print magazine for gunowners who are serious about their gun rights as well as their shooting, and a reliable gun information website: www.thegunmag.com.

- Authoritative briefings on state, federal and international legislation and litigation are updated constantly.

- Plus industry news reports, new product test reports and shooting sports news in every issue.

\$3.95 on newsstands

**Subscribe and SAVE
almost 50%**

\$25 a year (12 issues)

\$45 for 2 years (24 issues)



**TRY US FREE
ON OUR WEBSITE
Visit 24/7 at
THEGUNMAG.COM**

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

Second Amendment Foundation

PO Box 35, Buffalo, NY 14205

Phone: 716-885-6408

Online: thegunmag.com

IS YOUR NAME ON THE WALL?



NEW 1 OF 1000 MEMBERS

#644 - Don High, TX

#645 - John A. Basham, OH

#646 - John A. Basham, OH

#647 - Dennis J. Sterchi, IN

#648 - Ed Brozak, IL

#649 - Conner Longrifles, IN

#650 - David Clyborne, AZ

1 of 1000 Endowment Program For more information about the program, please contact: Bob Copner - 1 of 1000 Endowment Chairman - 4682 Valley End Lane, Fairfield, CA 94534, National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021 - (812) 667-5131 or 707-864-0442 - robert.copner@comcast.net

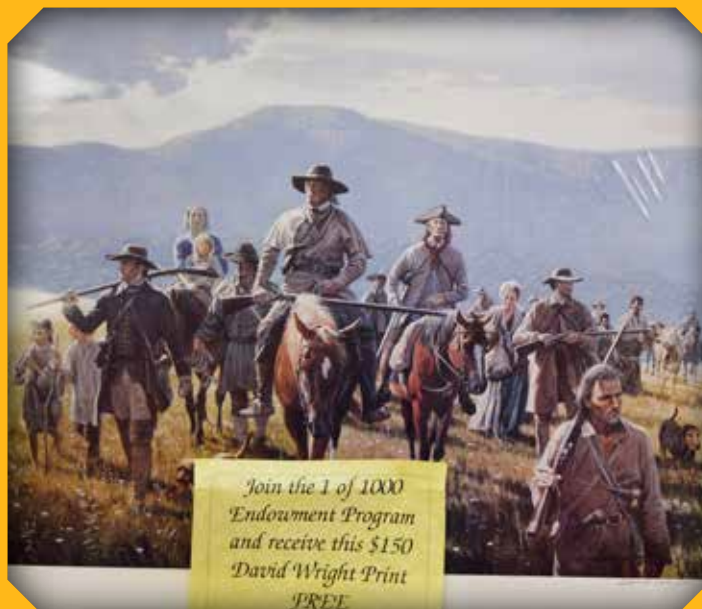
Attention: 1 of 1000 Members We plan to continue publishing 1 of 1000 member profiles in *Muzzle Blasts*. Profiles published to date include randomly selected early and later members. If you would like to submit your

profile (approximately 400 words and a photograph) explaining why being a member of the 1 of 1000 is important to you, please send it

to Lydia Morath at lmorath@nmlra.org, Bob Copner at robert.copner@comcast.net or mail to P.O. Box 67, Friendship, Indiana 47021.

What happens to my tax-deductible donation to the 1 of 1000 Endowment Program?

The money you put in, will remain in the endowment and can be used only to generate interest or to purchase a permanent asset such as land. The principal can never be used for the general operation of the Association. The NMLRA Board of Directors can use up to 75% of the interest for the new and innovative programs that ensure the long-term viability of the Association and help it to prosper. MB



RENDEZVOUS MONTHLY

Messages from the Rendezvous

NMLRA-Sponsored Rendezvous Information



NRLHF 2018 Board of Directors and Delegates

Jerry Heister - Chairman; EPR Delegate (exp. 2018)
717-533-3652, Heister5@comcast.net

Melissa Adams - Vice Chairman; EPR Delegate (exp. 2019)
937-773-8085, whysacrow@gmail.com

Ed Stout - Corps of Discovery Delegate,
724-484-7926, Ed.stout139@comcast.net

Jim Penland - NEPR Delegate (exp. 2018)
(h) 716-434-6535, jimpenland@verizon.net

Karen Fuller - Recording Secretary; NEPR Delegate (exp. 2019), 607-220-3324, kfuller.nepr.delegate@gmail.com

Vicki Johnson - ONW Delegate (exp. 2018)
419-601-2495, Vicki.dte@gmail.com

Henry Felder - ONW Delegate (exp. 2019)
517-852-9252

Greg Bagshaw - Public Relations Director; SEPR Delegate (exp. 2019); (h) 336-492-5137, vengier@vengier.com

Robert Woody - SEPR Delegate (exp. 2018)
robertwoody@att.net

Non-Voting Staff

Mark Adamik, Jr. - Parliamentarian
440-465-9246, Mark.adamik@twcable.com

Andrew Huey - Treasurer
262 E. State St., Box 344, West Mansfield, OH 43358
937-935-4461, andrewhuey22@gmail.com

Dan Duhamel - Quartermaster
24 Stella St., Burgettstown, PA 15021, 724-947-4931 or
cell 724-207-0323, duhameld@yahoo.com

Karen Fuller - Recording Secretary

Beverly Heister - Business Office Manager; NRLHF
PO Box 376, Hershey, PA 17033, 717-312-3016
nrlhfoffice@gmail.com

Directors representing the NMLRA

Jim Fulmer; NMLRA Director
3358 Mt. Rd., Hamburg, PA 19526, 610-488-1352
Fulmer1776@comcast.net

Jerry Middendorf; NMLRA Director
1252 N. Kentucky Ave., Westport, IN 47283
812-528-0532, JerryMiddendorf@hotmail.com

Cooking Up a Taste of Rendezvous

by Linda Fulmer

MAPLE-APPLE HAM LOAD

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 lb. ground ham | 1/2 lb beef hamburger |
| 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs | 1/4 cup milk |
| 1 egg, | 1 small onion, peeled and grated |
| 1/2 tsp, dry mustard | 1 1/2 cups canned pie apples, drained |
| 1/2 cup maple syrup | |

Mix ham and beef together. Add breadcrumbs to milk, beat in the egg. Add onion and mustard; combine with meat. Spread apples in bottom of stand-size bread tin, pour maple syrup over them evenly. Pack meat mixture down over apples firmly with palm of hand. Bake in 375° oven for about 1 hour. Remove from oven and allow to stand for 10 minutes. If there appears to be an excessive amount of fat and juices around the loaf, tip the pan gently and pour off a little. Then unmold on a serving platter

OLD TIME VERMONT SUPPER

Pour 3 cups hot cornmeal mush into a small bread tin that's been rinsed with cold water.

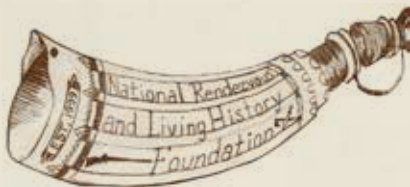
Cool until firm, then slice. Dust each slice with flour and brown in hot sausage fat in a skillet. Serve with maple syrup and sausage cakes. MB

...

If you have any recipes you'd like to share, please send them to me at the following address: Linda Fulmer, 3358 Mountain Road, Hamburg, PA 19526; or e-mail to fulmer1776@comcast.net.

NATIONAL RENDEZVOUS & LIVING HISTORY FOUNDATION, INC.

2018 EVENT SCHEDULE



Corps of Discovery

May 17 – 20, 2018

85 Township Rd. 1305, Toronto, OH 43964

Contact: Mark Rebres 740-632-8625
1snake97@frontier.com

24th Northeastern Primitive Rendezvous

July 13 – 20, 2018

109 River Road (Rt. 15), Orrington, ME
Contact: Perley Urquhart 207-664-6031
perleyu@myfairpoint.net

42nd Eastern Primitive Rendezvous

September 21 – 29, 2018

205 Currie Road, Slippery Rock, PA
Contact: Lynn Cowell 724-948-3029
Kenalynn1@verizon.net

37th Southeastern Primitive Rendezvous

297 Reavis Road, Yadkinville, NC 27055
Contact: Mickey Mikulis 941-745-4103
Twotrips_mickey@hotmail.com MB

THE BEST TENTS IN HISTORY

...and so much more!

- Camp Furniture
- Cookware
- Clothing
- Books
- Patterns
- Accoutrements
- Craft Items
- Much More!



Send \$2.00 TODAY
for your copy of our 180 pg. catalog

PANTHER PRIMITIVES
P.O. Box 32T • Normantown WV 25267
1-800-487-2684
www.pantherprimitives.com

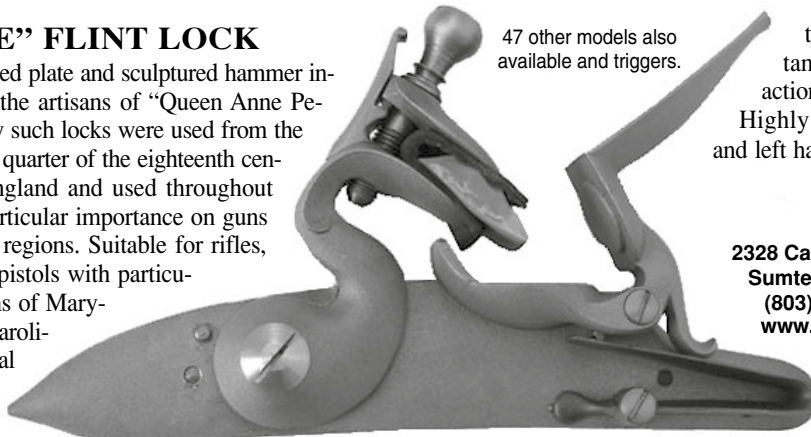
FOX TAILS FROM \$1 TO \$15. COYOTE SKINS \$45 AND UP.
RABBIT SKINS, DAVE CROCKETT HATS \$5. RACCOON
TAILS



LOW WHOLESALE ONLY. \$100 MINIMUM. (718)786-3381.
www.stripsinc.tripod.com. stripsinc1@aol.com

“QUEEN ANNE” FLINT LOCK

This lock's gently rounded plate and sculptured hammer indicate the influence of the artisans of “Queen Anne Period” architecture. Many such locks were used from the early 1700s into the last quarter of the eighteenth century. Imported from England and used throughout the Colonies, it is of particular importance on guns of the southern seaport regions. Suitable for rifles, smoothbores and large pistols with particular emphasis on the guns of Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas. It features traditional hook type springing, bearing surfaces on the



47 other models also
available and triggers.

tumbler and sear, water resistant
frizzen to pan fit, “cam”
action and a nice short “stroke.”
Highly polished internally. Right
and left hand. Dim. 5-9/16” x 1-1/6”.

Dealer or Direct
Catalog \$5.00

2328 Cains Mill Road
Sumter, SC 29154
(803) 481-5790
www.lr-rpl.com





Quality Locks, Triggers, Mounts & Building Supplies

For Your Authentic
American Tradition

Phone: 419-833-1200 • PO Box 145 - Woodville, OH 43469 • Email: REDavis@REDavisCompany.com

www.REDavisCompany.com



Oklahoma State Muzzleloading Championship

April 26-29 2018

Muzzleloading Range at Oklahoma City Gun Club

Covered Firing Line, 5 Stand Shotgun, 17 Match Categories including Rifle, Pistol, Bench, Trade Gun , Musket, Juniors , Sub-Juniors and In-line. RV Camping available.

Traders Welcome! No charges for traders to camp or trade.

For more information check our website: <http://military.okcgunclub.org/m/muzz.html>

Or email Ron Doggett : luvmyskye@aol.com or Jim Chamberlain : mulemauler@gmail.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO

the Backwoodsman

Muzzleloading • Woodslore • Survival • Homesteading
• Self-Reliance • History • Primitive Living Skills

The Magazine for the Twenty-First Century Frontiersman

1 YEAR (6 ISSUES) \$25.00
2 YEAR (12 ISSUES) \$48.00
3 YEAR (18 ISSUES) \$67.00

Credit card orders call toll free 1-866-820-4387 or go to www.backwoodsmanmag.com for more information.

BACKWOODSMAN MAGAZINE
 PO Box 433321
 Palm Coast, FL 32143

VISA MasterCard

PRESS RELEASE

Longhunter Big Game Records Book Vol. VII



NOW AVAILABLE!

The books are ready for pre-sale. To order, send a check for \$45 per book plus shipping for orders within the US payable to The Longhunter Society to this address: National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, PO Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021; or for credit card orders, call 812-667-5131 ext. 221 or 232. The book can also be ordered online at www.nmlra.org. MB

NMLRA WORK WEEKEND

APRIL 6, 7 & 8, 2018

**Walter Cline Range,
Friendship, Indiana**



Young or old, big or small...
we've got a job for one & all!

PLEASE JOIN US.

**TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT
THE NMLRA OFFICE AT
812-667-5131**

JEDEDIAH STARR TRADING COMPANY



Muzzleloading Guns, Kits, Components and Accessories
for the Builder, Hunter, Shooter, Reenactor and Collector.

Featuring

- Long Guns – Pedersoli, Lyman, Traditions, etc.
- Pistols & Revolvers – Pedersoli, Uberti, Pietta
- Long Gun & Pistol Kits
- Locks – Jim Chambers, L & R, Pedersoli, etc.
- Barrels – Green Mountain
- Triggers – Jim Chambers, L & R, Northstar, etc.
- Patchboxes, Inlays, Trigger Guards, Butt Plates
- Shooting Supplies & Accessories
- Tomahawks, Knives, Ironwork
- Leather Goods
- Books, Patterns, Videos

www.jedediah-starr.com

Telephone: (877) 857-8277

350-page Traditional Muzzleloading Catalog
available for only **\$5.00** (catalog price refunded
with first order)

To Order: Send Check, Money Order, Credit Card Number and Exp. Date to:
Jedediah Starr Trading Co. – P.O. Box 2007, Farmington Hills, MI 48333

A Most Terrible Musketry:
THE BATTLE OF KERNSTOWN

By Joshua Shepherd



Stonewall Jackson, by Augusto Ferrer-Dalmau. This file is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/deed.en>) license.

By mid-afternoon of March 23, 1862, the crossroads hamlet of Kernstown, Virginia was nervously eyed by the Confederacy's Valley Army.

Under the command of Major General Thomas J. Jackson, the Rebels had been on the run for the previous eleven days and were eager to turn the tables on their Yankee pursuers. Better known simply as "Stonewall", Jackson had earned his nom-de-guerre for tenacious fighting at the First Battle of Mannassas in July 1861. A West Point graduate and former professor at the Virginia Military Institute, he combined his professional training with an innate tactical ability that eventually earned him a near perfect battlefield record. His unconventional genius for strategic operations, still studied today in military academies across the globe, ranks him as one of the greatest soldiers in American history.

But in the fight that was to unfold on the fields and hills of Kernstown, Jackson was faced by the most unlikely of opponents. Though two Federal generals were within minutes of the battlefield, command of Union forces devolved, through an unlikely turn of events, on an obscure Hoosier colonel with limited combat experience. Fated to confront the legendary Stonewall, and the greatest challenge of his life, was an affable citizen soldier from Martin County, Indiana - Nathan Kimball.

Born in Fredericksburg, Indiana on November 22, 1822, Kimball possessed both ambition and a keen intellect that early marked him for leadership. Graduating from Indiana Asbury College in 1841, he briefly supported himself as a schoolteacher before settling on a medical career.

By 1845, Kimball had taken a degree at the University of Louisville, married, and settled in Washington County where Kimball opened a thriving practice. His successful career as a country physician, however, was put on hiatus by the outbreak of the Mexican War in 1846. Kimball, already a highly respected member of his community, raised a company of volunteers and led the men to war when they were assigned to the 2nd Indiana Infantry.

The young captain gained valuable experience during Zachary Taylor's campaign in northern Mexico, but the regiment's performance at the Battle of Buena Vista on February 23, 1847 proved an embarrassment that would haunt the state for decades. In the face of an impending Mexican bayonet charge, the green troops of the 2nd panicked, fled in disorder, and virtually unhinged the American line. A near disaster was averted by the likes of Kimball, who desperately attempted to rally the remnants of his company.

Despite a hard-fought American victory, the conduct of the 2nd, considered scandal-

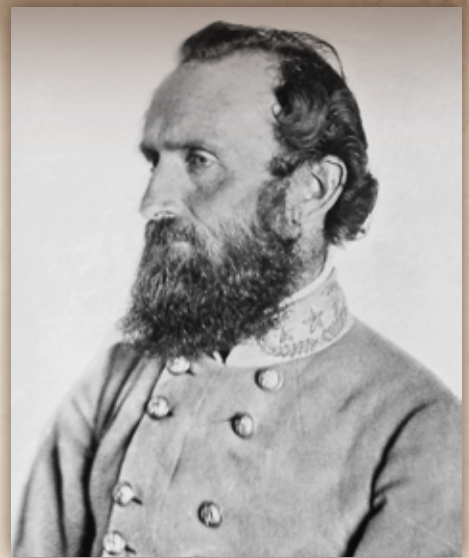
ous during the aftermath of the war, was a source of much recrimination. Ultimately, blame for the regiment's collapse fell on its commanding officer, Colonel William Bowles of Orange County; the regiment's junior officers, including Kimball, largely escaped the imbroglio with their reputations intact.

Following the war, Kimball moved his practice to Martin County and clumsily threw his hat into the political arena. A member of the defunct Whig party, Kimball lost an election to the state senate in 1847, and likewise failed in his bid for a seat at the electoral college in 1852. When the Republicans formed in 1854, Kimball cast his lot with the new party.

The ascendancy of the Republicans in the 1860 presidential election of Abraham Lincoln proved a watershed event for a divided nation, and the subsequent secession crisis and outbreak of civil war once again saw Kimball don a uniform. As he had in 1846, he raised a volunteer company from Martin County and was elected its captain. He was, however, quickly commissioned colonel of the new regiment, the 14th Indiana. Kimball not only had the right political affiliation for such an appointment, he was the only officer in the regiment to possess any appreciable military experience.

Largely recruited from the farmhands and laboring class of southwestern Indiana, the regiment was woefully ill prepared for active campaigning. The enlisted men were entirely unaccustomed to military discipline and the regiment's officers, elected from the ranks, were little better. Kimball had a scant two months in which to train his men before they were ordered to the front in July 1861.

Assigned to the rugged hills of western Virginia, the 14th spent several miserable months operating against rebels on Cheat Mountain, but the haste of pressing the poorly trained Hoosiers into action soon



**Major General
Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson**



**Colonel Nathan Kimball,
Library of Congress**



Lieutenant Colonel William Harrow

told. Unseasonably foul weather and plain homesickness combined to drain the spirits of the inexperienced soldiers; by the end of August, morale was considerably degenerated. Stirred by a handful of malcontents, the men fell under the delusion that they could not be held in the service past three months and a virtual mutiny was threatened. A semblance of order was restored following a disciplinary crackdown which included a handful of courts-martial.

Despite the rough start, Kimball transformed his rough-hew Hoosiers into real soldiers over the following winter. The troops proved adept at complaining - the eternal prerogative of the soldier - but Kimball rarely became the object of their ire. "He is a meticulous soldier," observed one private, "and he loves his men, and they all know it, and so they love him." This sincere concern for their welfare inspired a trusting devotion from the men who, it was said, "would follow him anywhere and anytime, and against any odds."¹ Such sentiment would be desperately needed the following year.

The spring of 1862 saw an ambitious Federal attempt to end the war by one great thrust for the Confederate capital. Major General George McClellan, commanding the Army of the Potomac, devised a grand plan to seize Richmond not by an overland campaign but by a massive amphibious operation that would unexpectedly threaten the city from the east. President Lincoln gave grudging approval to the operation on the emphatic condition that McClellan would make certain the defense of his own capital and, in the president's words, "Leave Washington secure."² McClellan consequently ordered his army's V Corps, then stationed in the Shenandoah Valley, to position itself in northern Virginia and thereby cover the approaches to Washington.

Events in the Valley seemed to favor such a move. In the first week of March, V Corps commander Major General Nathaniel Banks had moved against Stonewall Jackson's Valley Army and forced the Confederates to evacuate Winchester, the most vital road hub in the northern Shenandoah. With the outnumbered Rebel army on its heels, it was thought safe to transfer the V Corps toward Richmond.

Jackson was equally determined to forestall such a move. Under orders to keep Federal troops in the Shenandoah from cooperating with McClellan, Stonewall acted quickly when, on March 21, he was informed that the V Corps appeared to be headed out of the Valley. "Apprehensive that the Federals would leave this military district," he wrote, "I determined to follow them with all my available forces."³

The V Corps' exit from the Valley was indeed imminent. General Banks, in making preparations to move his command, was like-

wise of no mind to leave the northern Shenandoah wide open to a Confederate thrust, and he stationed his 2nd Division, under Brigadier General James Shields, in the environs of Winchester.

On March 22, the vanguard of the rebel army appeared at Kernstown, about two miles south of Winchester. Shields deployed troops to counter what he considered to be a mere Confederate demonstration, but while reconnoitering that evening was unexpectedly struck by shellfire. Rushed back to Winchester, army doctors discovered that the general's left arm was broken, his shoulder and side painfully injured, and he struggled to remain conscious. While Shields lay in bed, he passed command of the division to his senior brigade commander, Colonel Nathan Kimball.



Union Soldiers in Combat, by William Trego

Kimball, though he had yet to receive a brigadier's star, had been advanced to brigade command that winter. However, at daybreak on March 23, 1862, the unsuspecting Hoosier officer had barely commanded more than a company of men in pitched battle.

It was a Sunday morning, and most Union troops expected an uneventful day in camp. Shields, slowly recuperating in Winchester, conferred with Banks and both agreed that the previous day's fight had merely been the result of an unimpressive rebel cavalry probe.

Banks made plans to leave town that afternoon.

When fighting resumed around 9:00 A.M., Kimball confronted the Confederate skirmishers and quickly consolidated his own position around Pritchard's Hill, an eminence that commanded the Valley Turnpike, the area's primary north-south thoroughfare. From his sickbed in Winchester, Shields encouraged Kimball to press forward from his Pritchard's Hill position and drive in the enemy skirmishers, admonishing that "there is no force before you but that we encountered the other day."⁴

Kimball demurred. Sensing that a greater Confederate force was in the area, he called up the rest of the division to bolster his Pritchard's Hill line and maintained a defensive posture. For three hours, Kimball sparred with the Confederates in his front and refused to budge.

By 1:30, Shields grew exasperated with the static situation and forwarded yet another order for Kimball to press the attack. Convinced that the enemy had not yet shown his "real strength", Kimball made the decision to disobey Shield's direct order. He later explained that the general could not possibly "comprehend the situation, the strength of the enemy, nor the positions held by the respective forces, and satisfied that from his bed in the city five miles to the rear he could not properly conduct the movements which might be required by the exigencies of the situation, I determined to remain on the defensive and

in the position now held by my line.”⁵

Kimball's caution was not misplaced. Soon after he refused Shield's second order, the bulk of Jackson's force made its appearance two miles to the south. Surprisingly, the famed Confederate commander never intended to launch an attack that morning. An intensely devout Presbyterian, Jackson was entirely disinclined to give battle on the Sabbath, but following erroneous reports that he was opposed by just one Federal brigade, he felt obliged to throw his entire force into the fight and dislodge the Federals from Pritchard's Hill. The pious Jackson offered an apologetic explanation of his decision to hit the Federals on the Lord's Day. "Important considerations," he explained, "rendered it necessary."⁶

He was, however, not foolish enough to approach Pritchard's Hill head on. Moving his troops west of the turnpike, Jackson aimed for a low ridge that angled southwest to northeast. Known to locals as Sandy Ridge, the position dominated the surrounding terrain, including Pritchard's Hill, and led menacingly to Kimball's right and rear. When Confederate artillery unlimbered on the ridge and began lobbing shells on Kimball's position, the colonel realized he had been outmaneuvered and was in a precarious position. He immediately began shifting troops for a desperate assault on Sandy Ridge.

Oddly enough, both Kimball and Jackson labored under erroneous assumptions regarding his opponent's strength. Kimball, with roughly 5,000 men at his disposal, grossly overestimated Jackson's force as exceeding his own. Jackson, commanding under 3,000, badly underestimated the Yankees at just one brigade, not an entire division. When one of his staff officers finally observed the bulk of Kimball's force and reported the error, the imperturbable Stonewall greeted the shocking news with characteristic calm. "Say nothing about it," was his response, "we are in for it."⁷

As the fight developed, both sides were in for a severe mauling. The farm fields that crowned Sandy Ridge were crisscrossed by a network of stone and rail fences that offered a marked advantage to any defender. Jackson, finally realizing that he was outmatched and therefore incapable of seizing Winchester, contented himself with holding his position until he could withdraw his forces after nightfall.

At approximately 4:00 P.M., the first Federal troops launched their assault on Sandy Ridge. Advancing in the face of determined Confederate troops who were well protected behind a stone wall, the Union men braved a withering fire and were felled by the dozens. Kimball dispatched further reinforcements to bolster the attack, but regiment after regiment stalled in front of the ready-made Confederate breastworks. Having been forced to hurriedly shift their position near Pritchard's Hill in order to deal with the rebels on Sandy Ridge, the Federals largely went into action piecemeal. In the confusion of the fighting, their disjointed attacks failed to take full advantage of their numeric superiority.

Despite the high cost in lives, the attack slowly succeeded in weakening the Confederate lines. In order to counter the mounting pressure from Kimball's troops, Jackson was forced to extend his line further toward the Valley Turnpike in order to protect his right flank. Stonewall's maneuvering succeeded in blunting continued Federal attacks, but in the process his own lines were stretched to the breaking point.

The fierce fighting on Sandy Ridge shocked the most experienced of troops. Civilians in Winchester were horrified by the sound of battle. A "most terrible and long continued musketry" one described it, "not volley after volley, but one continued fearful roll." Kimball noted the raging "fury" of the battle and even Jackson, a grizzled veteran with two decades of experience, said that he did not recollect "having heard such a roar of musketry."⁸

By 5:00 P.M., such brutal fighting had produced little more than a bloody stalemate. The armies had grappled for over an hour with few results other than dead and wounded men. Determined to break Jackson's lines before nightfall, Kimball ordered one of his last unbloodied regiments toward the inferno on Sandy Ridge: the Hoosiers of the 14th Indiana.

Subsequent to Kimball's promotion to brigade command, leadership of the regiment fell to Lieutenant Colonel William Harrow. A Knox County attorney, Harrow possessed a brash, no nonsense personality that failed to earn him the affection of the men in the ranks. Destined for divisional command before war's end, the hard-driving Harrow laid the foundation of an aggressive command style as he led his 450 men at the double-quick toward the firing line.

As the troops mounted the slope of Sandy Ridge, the entire hillside was shrouded in gun smoke. When what seemed to be gray clad soldiers appeared to the front, the jittery Hoosiers opened fire. A lone figure darted toward the regiment, frantically calling on them to hold their fire; in the confusion, they had inadvertently opened up on the rear of the 5th Ohio. The Buckeyes' commander, Lieutenant Colonel John Patrick, urged the Hoosiers to the left, where, he shouted, they would meet with "plenty of secesh."

The regiment wheeled into action on the extreme left of the Federal line. Determined to do their duty, the men "marched up to their places as deliberately as if on drill." At the first Confederate volley, the regimental standard bearer fell. His companion who carried the national flag then lifted and waved both banners, only to be shot down "in about two seconds."⁹

Men began to fall, and one soldier thought that the sound of bullets slamming into his comrades was eerily similar to the sound of beating carpets clean back home. The 14th Indiana had entered a maelstrom. About 90 yards to the front, "a long wreath of blue smoke settled over a low stone wall," recalled one Hoosier, "out of this a fire flashed constantly. Between our line and this wall the dead and wounded lay in heaps." Harrow's soldiers faced the grim brutality of combat in different ways. Some, paralyzed with fear, fell to the ground; most stoically stood their ground and exchanged fire with the enemy. But in a singular instance of personal heroism, the actions of a private from Company G would alter the course of battle.¹⁰

Paul Truckey, a carpenter from Vincennes, leapt forward, and, waving his rifle aloft, cried out "Come on, boys!" He then sprinted "headlong after the rebels as a dog would chase a rabbit, loading and firing as he went."¹¹ Galvanized by Truckey's action, a number of voices were heard to cry out "forward" and the entire regiment spontaneously dashed for the rebel line.

When the Yankees were within twenty yards of the stone wall, Lieutenant Colonel John Patton of the 21st Virginia received, virtu-

ally simultaneously, a withdrawal order from his brigade commander. Having already been worn down by repeated Federal attacks, the rush of oncoming Hoosiers was more than the Confederates could withstand. Finally released from the fight, the Virginians scattered from the ridge.

The flight of the 21st Virginia, which occupied the extreme right of Jackson's army, exposed his flank and caused a general collapse of his battle line. Kimball's entire division then pressed its advantage and closely pursued the enemy. Federal units became hopelessly mingled in the confusion and Captain Elijah Cavins of the 14th Indiana recorded that "The Confederates fell back in disorder, and we advanced in disorder just as great, over stone-walls and over fences, through blackberry-bushes and undergrowth...brigades, regiments, and companies advanced in one promiscuous, mixed, and uncontrollable mass. Officers shouted themselves hoarse in trying to bring order out of confusion, but all their efforts were unavailing."¹²

The retreating rebel army retired slowly and "continued to make it very hot for our men," rallying "in every ravine and behind every hill - or hiding singly among the trees."¹³ A complete rout of Confederate forces was averted by such stubborn fighting, and nightfall enabled Jackson to withdraw his battered army from the field.

A frightful price had been paid for the northern victory. Jackson reported a total loss in killed, wounded, and missing of 718; Kimball reported 590 casualties. The 14th Indiana suffered 54 overall casualties. A Federal surgeon's memories of the ghastly battlefield sadly humanized such cold statistics. "Oh, what a sight," he recalled, "legs smashed, heads torn off, faces mangled, arms shattered, pools of blood, bowels protruding, and every conceivable mutilation."¹⁴

Ironically, Jackson's tactical defeat at Kernstown turned into a strategic victory for the Confederacy. Alarmed by the rebel attempt on Winchester, Federal authorities immediately ordered Banks' V Corps back into the Valley, frustrating McClellan's overall efforts to secure reinforcements for his Peninsula Campaign. Over the succeeding three months, Jackson's Valley Army outmarched, outmaneuvered, and out-fought its Federal opponents in a string of victories from one end of the Shenandoah to the other. Known simply as the Valley Campaign, Stonewall's brilliant generalship against overwhelming odds secured his place in the pantheon of America's military leaders. The fight at Kernstown constituted the single instance in which the Confederate legend was defeated on the battlefield.

General Shields, who resumed command of the 2nd Division on April 30, initially gave Kimball credit for the victory. Shields offered his thanks for Kimball's independent management of the battle, and commended the colonel "for his devotion to the interests and honor of the command and the signal service he has rendered it in this emergency."¹⁵

At the same time, Shields was encouraging erroneous newspaper accounts of the battle that credited him with command at Kernstown. His official report of the engagement was little more than an inaccurate and blatant attempt to personally capitalize on the victory. In it he claimed to have been the mastermind of Federal strategy on March 23, and asserted that Kimball had simply "executed my orders." Nathan Kimball naturally bristled at such fast and loose treatment of the facts. In a letter to a friend, he insisted that "I had full command and

planned and directed the movements of the entire fight in person... You will not wonder, therefore, that I am annoyed at seeing the garbled and false accounts that have appeared in the newspapers."¹⁶

Kimball went on to serve with distinction through the remainder of the war, ultimately earning the rank of brevet major general. Gravely wounded at Fredericksburg, he was nominated for lieutenant governor of Indiana in 1863 but refused the offer in order to stay with his men. Later transferred to the western theater, he commanded troops at Vicksburg, Atlanta, Franklin, and Nashville.

Following the end of the war, Kimball resumed his private practice and re-entered politics. He became the first commander of the Grand Army of the Republic in Indiana, and served as state representative from Marion County. In 1873 he was appointed Surveyor General of Utah Territory; briefly working as government physician at the U.S. Indian Agency in Fort Hall, Idaho, Kimball became the postmaster in Ogden, Utah, where he passed away on January 21, 1898.

For Nathan Kimball, recognition as the only Federal officer to best Stonewall Jackson has proven somewhat elusive. As a result of the false accounts of the battle that began circulating in the spring of 1862, most popular histories of the war, to this day, generally credit the victory at Kernstown to the bed-ridden and incapacitated General Shields. Though often slighted by history, Kimball was always defended by his men. "The Hoosier soldiers love Col. Kimball," explained a member of the 14th Indiana. The victory at Kernstown "was won by our forces under Colonel Kimball. The honor is his, and he should have accredited to him what his merit deserves."¹⁷ MB

Endnotes

1. Gary Ecelbarger, *We Are In For It: The First Battle of Kernstown* (Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Publishing, 1997), 72.
2. Stephen Sears, *To the Gates of Richmond: The Peninsula Campaign* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1992), 33.
3. Jeffrey Wert, *A Brotherhood of Valor* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1999), 84.
4. Nathan Kimball, "Fighting Jackson at Kernstown", *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War* (The Century Company, 1888), 2:305.
5. Kimball, 305.
6. Mary Jackson, *Life and Letters of General Thomas J. Jackson* (Harrisonburg, VA: Sprinkle Publications, 1995 reprint), 247.
7. Robert Tanner, *Stonewall in the Valley* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1976), 123.
8. Ecelbarger, 149.
9. Nancy Niblack Baxter, *Gallant Fourteenth* (Carmel, Indiana: Guild Press, 1980), 77.
10. Baxter, 70.
11. Ecelbarger, 171, 322.
12. Ecelbarger 187.
13. Kimball, 307.
14. Ecelbarger, 206.
15. Kimball, 309.
16. Ecelbarger, 219.
17. Ecelbarger, 219.

43rd Annual AOLRC Marietta Exhibit

Dates: April 7th & 8th, 2018 Times

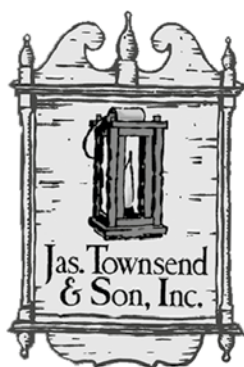
Times: Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Place: Lafayette Hotel, 101 Front St., Marietta, OH 45750

(Phone: 800-331-9336)

Cost: \$5.00 for adults, children free

The Association of Ohio Long Rifle Collectors (AOLRC) is presenting their 43rd Annual Marietta Exhibit. This is an educational exhibit by private collectors from all across Ohio featuring approximately 400 of the finest Ohio made muzzleloading rifles in existence. The main purpose of this exhibit is to provide education to the public about early Ohio Long Rifles, their purpose, historical value and the gunsmiths who made them. Please come and take a look at real Ohio history!



18th & 19th Century Reproduction Clothing & Accessories

Authentic Men's & Women's Attire.
Hundreds of items IN STOCK.

jas-townsend.com



LOADED



UNLOADED
CHAMBER FLAG



LOADED
CLIP-STYLE

LOADED
T-SHAPE



**NOW EVEN MORE
WAYS TO STAY SAFE**



MUZLSTIK.COM



THE BEVEL BROTHERS



MAKING A HUNTING POUCH

Bevel Down: Last month we finished your powder horn. Now you need a bag. Call it a hunting bag, a hunting pouch, a possibles bag, or a man purse. Whatever you call it, if you don't have one you need lots of pockets. That's fine if you only take your muzzleloader out in cold weather when you have on your field jacket with all those big gusseted pockets everywhere, but in the summer there's just a dearth of handy places to put stuff in jeans and a T-shirt.

Bevel Up: Even if you have lots of pockets, it's still much handier

to carry your shooting stuff in a bag over your shoulder. I like to have a bag set up with all the necessary stuff in it for every rifle and shotgun I use in the field. That way I can just pick up a gun and know that all the stuff specific to that piece is in the bag and I'm ready to shoot.

Of course I also have a couple of twenty pound shooting boxes full of necessary and not-so-necessary junk all set up for the target range. Chunk shooters are notorious for the amount of stuff they can pack into a shooting box and carry to the range for a measly ten shot match. But for a day in the woods, or a trip to the Primitive Range for a



Woodswalk match or some such affair, you really only need enough powder, patches, and balls to cover the number of shots you are likely to take right then. That's where a bag and horn with enough powder and ball to go maybe fifteen or twenty shots is perfect.

Bevel Down: What you have to remember when you're designing a bag like that is that the bigger you make it the more room you have for junk you don't need, all of which has to then be carried on your shoulder. A big bag isn't just heavier, it's bulky too. So think about what you absolutely must carry, lay it all out on the table and then draw a bag around it to start your pattern. I like to cut my patterns out of old manila file folders. You can use old paper grocery sacks, but the manila folders are a little stiffer and easier to work with when transferring the final copy onto the leather. Also, the folders are nicely folded in the middle so you just draw half the bag onto one side with the fold in the center and then after you cut it out you unfold it to show a perfectly symmetrical pattern.

Bevel Up: Which brings us to step one: making a pattern. You can probably make a serviceable bag by just slicing away at a piece of leather freehand and sewing the pieces together, but you'll find that making a pattern will not just let you design something more to your liking, but also likely help avoid some mistakes and false starts and save you some expensive leather to boot.

The pattern we made for this project is intended to turn out a finished bag that mea-

sures something close to 8 by 9 inches. The pattern is bigger than that though – about 9 by 10 – because we had to allow for the seams where the pieces are sewn together. The bag is sewn with the pieces facing inside out (smooth side in/ rough side out) so that when it's done and turned right side out the seams don't show. It gives the bag a nicer finished appearance and is more commodious for the stuff that goes into it.

So for the seam edges you need to allow about an extra half inch all the way around so you

can run the stitches about a ¼" inside of the edge of the pieces. You will also need to allow about an inch of extra material on the back piece of the bag and the front piece of the flap to be folded over double where they are attached. That makes the back half of the bag about an inch and a half taller than the front half.

Bevel Down: We used a welt on the seams. A welt is a half inch wide piece of leather sandwiched in between the front and back sides of the bag sort of like a washer. It serves to protect the stitching and give the seam more strength so the bag will be able to take more stress and last longer. It's a little more trouble when you're just stitching the parts together, but worth it. It also gives the bag a more "professional" looking finish and helps it hold its shape better.

To make the welt just cut out extra pieces of the same leather you use for the rest of the bag and punch them in as you assemble the other parts. You don't really need a pattern for that – just cut some strips about ½" wide and long enough to cover the length of the seams around the body of the bag. It does help to turn corners if the welt is cut to match the curve of the corner, but you can just use separate pieces to meet at the corners just as well.

Bevel Up: Speaking of leather, which is what you are going to need to make this project, we used some 4 ounce vegetable tanned

Liner attached with welt in place.





leather. You can get it at various leather craft stores like Tandy's and online from some other outfits.

We like vegetable tanned leather because it's closer to what was used back in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Most vegetable tanned leather is actually bark tanned. It is tanned by soaking it in a bath made from the tannins extracted from oak and sometimes sumac bark. The leather is naturally a light tan color and takes stain well. It's also fairly soft and easy to work with, although it isn't as strong as the same weight in modern chrome tanned leather. Chrome tanned leather is cheaper to make (and thus cheaper to buy) and much easier to find nowadays. The process uses chromium sulphate and chromium III oxide to tan the leather. It only takes a few days to complete the process, whereas vegetable tanning takes upwards of a couple of months. Trouble is, the chrome tanning process was invented in 1858 and wasn't really perfected until the 1880s or 90s. And it didn't really take hold in general usage until the late 1800s to early 1900s, so even though it's actually in some ways better leather, it's not really "authentic" to the muzzleloading period in our history.

But if all you've got is chrome tanned leather, or that's all you can find or afford, or you don't care all that much about period authenticity, then go ahead and use it. Try to find some that is at least of a color and texture that might fit in with the rest of your outfit, though. You will find that most chrome tanned leather is softer, more pliable, stronger, and has a more durable finish than vegetable tanned. It usually doesn't take stain as well, but it can be stained and colored if you want to do it.

The stuff we used for this project was vegetable tanned cowhide from Tandy Leather Company. It's supposed to be 4 to 5 ounce weight, but it seemed a little bit on the light weight side for a bag, so we put a pillow ticking liner in the bag and used a double thickness without any lining for the flap. The liner was just glued onto the back and front bag pieces with some regular white wood glue. You wouldn't have to glue the liner in place, but it's a whole lot easier to assemble and stitch everything if the liner doesn't move around independent of the leather parts. The finished bag will tend to be a bit stiff because of the way the liner backs up the leather and because veg. tanned cowhide tends to be sort of dry and stiff to begin with but it will soften up the more you use it. Vegetable tanned pigskin is a bit softer and more pliable, but we didn't have any of that handy.

Bevel Down: The tools for this project are pretty simple. You need a sharp pair of scissors, a razor blade type box cutter or very sharp knife,

an awl for pre-punching the stitching holes, and a couple of heavy stitching needles. These needles are a special kind that aren't made for piercing material like a regular sewing needle (for leatherwork, the sharp piercing kind is called a glover's needle). The needles we use are called harness needles. They are sort of blunt ended and are made to carry a heavy thread through holes that have already been punched.

You will use an awl to punch the holes through the leather. You will be punching through two or three layers for most of the work, but on some of the assembly you will be punching through four layers of leather (two folded layers), so the awl needs to be strong and sharp. The one in the pictures is home made out of a piece of old hammer handle and a ten penny nail. The nail is sharpened in a triangular shape down to a sharp point. You want a triangular shaped point so that it actually pierces the leather instead of just tearing it like a round needle would.

A thing called an overstitching wheel, or stitching wheel, will help to space out your stitches evenly. It's handy, but not absolutely necessary. You can buy them set for various spacing (6 or 7 stitches per inch is about right for this kind of project), or you can make one like we did out of a penny and a piece of bar stock. Or you can just eyeball it if you can keep the stitches going in a straight line and keep a more or less even amount of space between them as you go.

A heavy linen thread (or cord) is probably the best material to use for sewing everything together. Linen is better than cotton because it doesn't stretch and is the most traditional material for the muzzleloading period. You can buy it waxed or unwaxed in lengths as short as 25 yards or as long as 300 yards. Twenty-five yards is plenty long enough for this project. But any way you buy it, linen cord is expensive and I personally don't think it's all that much better than plain old cotton. I've got a big roll of cotton crochet thread that I've been using on for years and it works just fine. If you can't find anything like that you can use the waxed polyester stuff they call "artificial sinew," although I avoid it because it doesn't take stain and, of course, it is polyester which is I think just wrong.

Bevel Up: Once you have the pieces cut out according to your pattern the assembly is pretty straightforward. Start with the front and back parts of the main body. The first thing I did was fold in and stitch down an edge for the top of the front piece. I like to have that doubled over edge on the front to give it a little more stiffness and durability. I also like to cut that top edge on a radius so as to make it easier to get my hand down into the bag, but some folks like the top edge to go straight across. You're the one making the bag, so you can do yours any way you want.

Put the front and back pieces together with the smooth sides facing in and the rough (or lined) sides out. If you are using a welt put the smooth side of the welt facing the smooth side of the front piece. That way when you turn the bag right side out the smooth side of the welt will be showing toward the front.

There is a temptation at this point to glue the edges together so they don't move around while you are punching the stitching holes, but that's not a good idea. The glue will always find a way to get smeared onto the exposed areas of the bag or the welt (or both), or migrate beyond the seam area into places where it will show. Wherever the glue dries it will prevent the leather from taking up any stain. It will be ugly and you will hate it.

You'll find that the leather is much easier to work with at this point if it is wet. Not soaking wet, but sponge wet – a little more than damp. It makes the leather more pliable and easier to shape and also less prone to move around under the pressure of the awl as you poke the holes through two or three layers of leather.

With everything lined up, run the stitching wheel (if you use one) along the seam about a ¼" in from the edge. With the stitches marked I then like to go around and punch a hole every few inches and run a piece of cord through the pieces to sort of anchor everything in place all the way around the seam. That holds everything pretty well in place without using any glue. With the pieces anchored that way you can then go back and use the awl to punch in all of the holes without worrying about the pieces or the welt working out of position.

Bevel Down: You will want to use what's called a saddle stitch to sew the parts together. That requires two needles, one on each end of the thread. You start with a piece of thread about four times as long as the seam you are going to run. Put the thread on the needles and pull one needle through the first hole so that half of the thread is on one side of the piece and half on the other. Then put one needle through the next hole and pull it tight. Then put the other needle through that same hole from the opposite side and pull that tight. Now you should have each needle on the side of the work opposite from where it started and be able to pull on both ends at the same time to tighten up the stitch. I like to give the ends and corners a couple of extra over stitches to sort of reinforce the stress points. From there you just proceed along the pre-punched holes pulling each stitch tight from opposite sides as you go along.

If you have trouble pulling the needles through the holes you can either use the awl to make the holes a little bigger or you can use a pair of pliers to just grab the needle and pull it through. It also helps to make the stitching easier if you keep the leather moist while you are stitching.

When you get to the end of the seam just run the stitches back over a couple of times to lock them in. Since you are going to turn this side in where it won't show, you can also tie the two ends down in a square knot across one stitch on the same side and cut off the excess thread.

Bevel Up: With the front and back pieces stitched together you will want to put the whole assembly under the faucet and just get it good and soaking wet. That makes it much softer and easier to turn the bag right side out. It will still take some effort and some hard pushing to get the corners all the way turned. If you put a welt into the seam the turning will be a little bit harder, but that's actually one of the functions of the welt – it strengthens the seam and gives it more structure. Once you have the piece turned so that the welt shows all the way around you can set it aside to dry and start on the front flap.

Since I generally use fairly light weight leather, I like to use a double layer of it for the flap so that it's heavy enough to keep itself closed over the bag without a button or fastener. You'll notice that the pattern allowed an extra inch of material on one side of the flap so it can be folded over to a double thickness for attachment to the bag. That gives the flap attachment more strength and also leaves a nice smooth folded edge showing, but leaves just one thickness of leather as a hinge. I allow the same extra material at the top of the back piece of the bag so I can fold it to a strong finished edge. Again, folding leather to a nice flat edge is best done while it is wet. Once folded you can tap it with a mallet to

The assembled bag.



flatten it down nice and tight and then clamp it between two boards to dry.

If you're using heavier leather, you might want to just make the back and flap one piece. If you do that you will find that the flap works better if you run a line of stitching along the fold so that the hinge is more defined. You can even sew an extra little strip of leather inside that seam to stiffen it up some and make it hold its shape better.

Next, before you attach the flap, you will attach the shoulder strap to the inside of the bag. You can use a long strip of the same leather you used for the bag if that leather is thick enough to be used as a strap. You'll need about six feet of whatever you use, but it doesn't need to be all in one piece if you use a buckle on one end to make it adjustable. In this case we didn't think the 4-ounce leather would make a good strap so we substituted a piece of oil-tanned leather left over from making a leather blacksmithing apron. You can also make the shoulder strap out of some other material like canvas or woven yarn or even Jute webbing like they use in furniture upholstery. If you use something like that you can just attach a double thickness of your light leather to the bag and extend it out far enough to give you something to attach the strapping onto. In that case you will also want to attach some leather to the other ends of the webbing so that you can add a buckle to make the strap adjustable.

You'll notice we stitched the two-piece flap together right-side out because turning it from inside out to right-side out like we did on the bag would leave the flap too thick and bulky around the seam. On this one we used a ¼" chisel to cut the stitching holes and then stitched the pieces together with some rawhide. You can buy rawhide lacing like that or you can just make some like we did by cutting long strips off of a big piece of rawhide. Before you start stitching with rawhide you will need to soak it in warm water for a minute or two to make it pliable enough to work through the holes. It will shrink slightly and tighten a little bit after it dries, but pull the stitches tight as you go just the same.

With the flap and the back pieces folded you can put them in place and saddle-stitch them together. I like to reinforce the corners by doubling two or three stitches at each end.

Bevel Down: At this point you should have a completely assembled bag. Next month we'll look at finishing the bag and adding a couple of accessories and maybe a little decoration to the thing. MB

NMLRA Classified Ads

Accessories

SHOOTER'S BOXES and Period-style Furnishings: lap desks, candle boxes, fur trade mirrors. Quality craftsmanship. Go to www.northridgewoodworking.com.

SHARPSIGHT OPTIC AID: tired of fuzzy out of focus sights on your rifle or handgun. Check out www.Sharpsights.com to bring those sights and target back into focus.

Archery

PRIMITIVE LONGBOWS: Custom, Lakota, Modoc, English Start \$200 each + shipping; Arrows-Catalog: Millers Longbows 25 Corwood Rd. Divide MT. 59727 406-832-3195

Barrels

50 CALIBER CROSS STICK GUNS FOR SALE — 44" x 1" Douglas Barrel, Billinghamst action, open sights. 42"x 1 1/8" barrel, Hopkins Allen action, False Muzzle and Rifled by Ken Bresien, open and Redfield Palma sights, spirit level, accessories. 419-822-3069

TIP CURTIS FRONTIER SHOP COLERAIN SWAMPED BARRELS: 31", 38", 42", 44". COLERAIN TO ROUND: 36", 38", 42", 44", 46". All barrels available in .36 caliber to .62 caliber rifled or smoothbore. GREEN MOUNTAIN BARRELS: 36", 42"-.36 caliber to .58 caliber rifled or smoothbore- 3/4", 13-16", 7/8", 15/16", 1", 1 1/8". GREEN MOUNTAIN SWAMPED BARRELS: 38", 42", 44"-.32, .36, .40, .45, .50, .54 caliber. Percussion locks. Flintlocks. CUSTOM GUN-KITS — Pistol kits. Straight barrel rifle kits. Smoothbore rifle or fowler kits. Swamped barrel rifle kits. Over 130

patterns to choose from. P.O. Box 203, Cross Plains, TN 37049. (615) 654-4445, tipcurtis@bellsouth.net.

THE GUN WORKS — Master distributor of Black Widow Bullets (proven to have very good knock-down power) and Bridger's Best patching. Looking for dealers in general sales. www.thegunworks.com, (541) 741-4118.

THE GUN WORKS is the master distributor of Oregon Barrel Company; making rifled and smooth bore barrels; 30 caliber to 2 bore pistol, rifle and cartridge, up to 35" octagon, tapered octagon, round, tapered round and octagon to round. Call for quote (541) 741-4118 or www.thegunworks.com.

Blackpowder

BLACK POWDER FOR SALE. Pacific Northwest Master Distributor, Swiss, Schuetzen, and Goex brands in stock. BUFFALO ARMS COMPANY 208-263-6953, www.buffaloarms.com.

COONIE'S BLACK POWDER, Box 2062, Hobbs, NM 88241; (575) 393-6060 email: cooniesblkpdr@aol.com Goex Black Powder- made in the USA. F-4Fg-Cannon-Cartridge-Cowboy-Express Powder- Olde Eynsford Powder Now Available- Pinnacle (B.P. substitute) and Swiss.

Books

GEORGE SHUMWAY PUBLISHER, INC. Scholarly books on history and makers of the longrifle. Free catalog. 717-755-1196, 3900 Deep Run Lane, York, PA 17406. www.shumwaypublisher.com.

DIXON MUZZLELOADING SHOP — Home of the Gunmakers Fair, last full weekend of July. "The Art of Building The Pennsylvania Long Rifle," \$26.50 prepaid. Complete line of muzzleloading supplies, reloading equipment. 9952 Kunkels Mill Road, Kempton, PA 19529, (610) 756-6271.

Bullets/Patches

ECOSLUG® ML-NRBP .50 Caliber Non-Lead Saboted Muzzleloading Projectile. Approved for use in California's non-lead hunting areas. Made in USA Patents 8,171,852 & 8,438,767. Patented bullet puller feature. For use in both modern in-lines and traditional fixed breech plug muzzleloaders with 1-28" to 1-48" twist barrels. For information and ordering see our website: www.eco-slug.com. P-BAR CO. LLC (440) 238-6050.

Engravers

SMITTY'S ENGRAVING Engraving, Guns, Locks, Etc. Full time, excellent turnaround, reasonable rates, call or write for estimate. SMITTY'S ENGRAVING, 21320 Pioneer Circle, Harrah, OK 73045, (405) 226-0251. www.smittys-engraving.us

For Sale

45 CAL BRASS BARREL RIFLED 10.5 " long french calvary style P + curley maple stock brass inlays engraved nickel silver spurred buttcap grotesque face retainer pin very ornate pistol 800.00 obo will trade for RUGER OLD ARMY stainless 44 oak pistol case included can send pics to p# call 859 496 2379

GILLIES LUBE All Natural Ingredients, No Petroleum Products.

All Classified Ads are 72 cents per word (minimum of 15 words). Extras: words in bold type - \$5, border around ad - \$10. Words are considered to be each word in a name; initials in a name; abbreviations; addresses (each set of numbers and/or abbreviations); full zip code; telephone numbers; listing of products and prices of products, each item and each price. Please specify heading (i.e., "For Sale,").

ALL CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

Muzzle Blasts Advertising, P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021; phone (812) 667-5131.

Patch Lube, 8oz. \$14.00 Cast
Bullet Lube, 8oz. \$15.00. Includes
Shipping, Lower 48 only For Info. Or
Orders Email: gillie728@yahoo.com
or text 518-812-4411

LITTLE MIAMI TRADING COMPANY — SHIRTS — 6

boys to size 54 men. Specify color
needed. TENA CLIFTON 513-504-
6852 or email tena_clifton@yahoo.com
Address: 17281 Bloomrose Rd.
Williamsburg, Ohio 45176

BRASS BALL MOULDS. These
fit standard handles. 200" to .600"
- \$35.00. .601" to .850" - \$45.00.
Plus postage. Larger moulds are
available. Email inquiry to: jeff@ballmoulds.com.

SELLING: Furs, buckskins,
rawhides, antlers, sinew, claws,
teeth, beads, feathers, etc. Tens
of thousands of items. Complete
internet catalog www.hideandfur.com.

STRIPS: Fox tails from \$2 \$3 \$5
to \$15 each. Davy Crockett hats \$5.
Rabbit skins, rabbit feet, raccoon
tails, all kinds of skins, and coyote
skins \$45. Free Price list. Tel: (718)
786-0203. Email: stripsinc1@aol.com.
Website: stripsinc.tripod.com.

Gunmakers

RICE BARREL CO., INC. Match
grade quality. Traditional cut rifled
on a proprietary state of the art
CNC rifler. Straight barrels to 44",
swamped to 48", rifled or smooth
(any twist) square or round grooves.
www.ricebarrels.com or (336) 492-
2614.

THE HAWKEN SHOP

Manufacturers of the famous
S. HAWKEN classic plains rifle.
Supplying breeches, tangs, locks,
triggers and iron furniture to the
discriminating builder. Tomahawks,
knives and accessories, all made
in the USA. www.thehawkenshop.com.

Knives

OLD DOMINION FORGE —

Offering the finest in hand forged
18th century knives, swords, axes
and tomahawks, as well as a large
selection of hand-cast pewter. Also,
powder horns and accouterments of
the finest quality. KYLE WILLYARD
www.olddominionforge.com.

Leather

LEATHERUNLTD. Quality
Wholesale Leather Distributor
since 1970 including oak, deerskin,

garment, rawhide, oiled cowhide,
furs, and more. Quality Leather
goods, Leather Tools, Black Powder
Gear, all steel Clicker or Mallet Dies.
Complete Internet Catalog at www.LeanerUnltd.com
or call 800-993-
2889 for quality leather and friendly
service from a family owned and
operated business.

Supplies

MOUNTAIN TOP TRADING

CO., since '89. French Amber
Flints, Blankets, bags, horns, knives,
hawks, pewter jewelry, pins and
buttons, tinware, time pieces, hand
forged buckles and padlocks, camp
gear, tents and tipis, clothing. NO
CATALOG AVAILABLE.

www.mountaintoptradingco.com,
(509) 397-4447, (509) 397-3291
Fax; MTTC, 413 S. Main, Colfax, WA
99111.

Video/DVD

GUN-BUILDING DVD'S by
James Turpin. Building series -#1 ,
#11 (percussion) & pistols \$29.95
ea. Colonial Arts series 1 through
4 \$24.95 ea. S&H \$5.00 for one or
\$6.50 for 2 or more. For more info,
please go to our website www.primitiveartsvideo.com. PRIMITIVE
ARTS VIDEO, PO Box 13478,
Overland Park, KS 66282-3478.



SPG Bullet Lubricants

Bullet Lube of Champions

* SPG Patch Tins start at \$4.50

*100yd/10ring "German Ring" Targets: \$20/100

See our line of bullet/patch lube,
books, shooting accessories and targets

SPG Sales

PO Box 745, Kirksville, MO 63501

www.blackpowderspg.com

660-988-4099

**To place
your ad
contact us at
(812) 667-5131 or
lbrown@nmlra.org**

Author, left with Alafia's Chief Range Officer, Mark Landon.



the Gulf of Mexico had ended.

But the United States and Great Britain began fighting over trading rights and maritime issues and would go to war again. The War of 1812 would begin and the British forces were able to land and raid all up and down the east coast, even managing to burn Washington, D.C. It was the defense of Ft. McHenry in Baltimore Harbor that prompted the British to move their attention to the south. Mobile was protected at that time by Ft. Conde, but a fort was built on Mobile Point to protect the bay. A small fort called Ft. Bowyer was hastily thrown up made of sand and logs. On September 14, 1814, a squadron of four British warships tried to shell Ft. Bowyer to force it to surrender. But failed after three hours of shelling each other at point blank range the British managed to lose the HMS Hermes because it was so badly damaged. With this American victory the spirits were raised in the area, helping recruiting in the south. After the American victory at New Orleans in January 1815, the British would make a second attempt at taking Ft. Bowyer. Not making the same mistake twice, the British would attack both by sea and land. After a short siege the fort surrendered February

11, 1815. Following the War of 1812 the United States Government was determined to improve their seacoast defenses.

The Fort that was to be built on Mobil Point would eventually be called Ft. Morgan. The contract was to have the fort completed by July 1st 1821. But through many delays and the remoteness of the site, the fort would be completed March 1834 almost 12 years late at the cost of \$1,026,777.41.

Fort Morgan would serve in many capacities from March to July 1837. 3500 Creek Indians from interior Alabama would be sent to the fort to await transportation to Arkansas. Later in history a little before midnight January 3, 1861, Fort Morgan was seized by Alabama state forces as the American Civil War was just starting. For the next three and half years the Confederates worked to strengthen Mobile's defense from Florida to Mississippi. The weakest part of the defense was the shipping channel opposite Ft. Morgan. There was over 180 mines placed in the channel with 18 of the heaviest guns of the fort protecting the



Dick Bennett past NMLRA Director and the owner of Rembrandt Leather.

channel. The Confederates best iron clad the CSS Tennessee plus three

Advertiser Index

1838 Rendezvous Association.....	39	L & R Lock Company.....	65	Pecatonica River.....	59
Access Heritage.....	58	Muzzleloader Builder's Supply.....	24	Primitive Archer.....	23
American Single Shot Rifle Association.....	59	Muzzleloader Magazine.....	38	R.E. Davis.....	66
Association of Ohio Longrifle Collectors.....	72	Muzlstik.....	73	RK Lodges.....	10
Caywood Gunmakers.....	59	NMLRA .22 Fun Shoot.....	39	RMC Ox-Yoke.....	Inside Back Cover
Chiappa Firearms.....	38	NMLRA Inline Hunter Muzzleloading Match.....	44	Strips Inc.....	65
Coonie's Black Powder.....	59	NMLRA Inline Offhand Fun Shoot.....	39	The Single Shot Exchange.....	38
Crazy Cow.....	11	NMLRA M5.....	44	Tecumseh's Trading Post.....	59
Banquet AD.....	Inside Front Cover	NMLRA National Spring Shoot.....	25	The Backwoodsman.....	67
Dixie Gun Works.....	38	NMLRA-NRA Black Powder Regional.....	26	The Gun Mag.....	62
Gary's Gunsmith Shop.....	59	NMLRA Women's Weekend.....	11	The Leatherman.....	21
Hill's Fort Rendezvous.....	11	NMLRA Work Weekend.....	67	The Log Cabin Shop.....	23
Jedediah Starr Trading Company.....	67	NRLHF Notheast Primitive Rendezvous.....	7	Townsend & Son, Inc.....	73
Jim Chambers.....	58	Oklahoma City Gun Club.....	66	Track of the Wolf, Inc.....	59
Jim Johnston-Accoutrements.....	21	Panther Primitives.....	65	Western Powders.....	35



Mike Beathe was one of the many vendors at the Alafia Rendezvous.

other gun boats helped block the channel into Mobil Bay. Two of the cannons the fort had for the defense of the bay were 7-inch Brooke Rifles capable of firing a 98 pound projectile over 4 miles.

Not all of the cannons were safe to shoot. The Confederate commander of Fort Morgan on April 30, 1863, was watching one of the new refurbished 32-pounder smoothbore cannon that was freshly rifled which would give it greater range and harder hitting power ruptured and killed him. The whole gun crew was killed or seriously injured. Re-rifling old smoothbore cannons was a common practice but it did weaken the barrels.

On August 5th, 1864 Admiral David Farragut's Union Fleet of 18 warships including four ironclad monitors, entered Mobil Bay in double column. He received a devastating barrage from both forts, but only lost the ironclad USS Tecumseh when it hit a mine. He defeated the small Confederate naval force and forced them to surrender. Ft Gaines would surrender August 8th and Ft. Morgan would surrender August 23, 1864. The city of Mobile would not surrender until April 12, 1865 three days after the surrender of Lee at Appomattox Courthouse. The Fort is still there and if you are in the area drop in and imagine being stationed there during the War of 1812 or the Civil War. When you travel be sure to visit sites like these and learn more about your county's history.

After leaving Alabama, I did get over to the 47th Annual Alafia River Rendezvous. It was great. It was the largest rendezvous I have been to in years. I got to meet Mark Landon, the Chief Range Officer for the event. The ranges looked great and I am looking forward to attending next year because I will shoot. Many old friends were there: Dick Bennett, Mike Beathe, Ava Francesca, and more. I met Dave Sipes who is a club member of the Florida Frontiersmen (they put on the event) and he was passing out *Muzzle Blasts* magazines and NMLRA membership applications at the range.

The Alafia had many people there that knew the history of the area. I didn't know on April 2, 1513, Juan Ponce de Leon landed in Florida and he named it La Florida. Florida means "Festival of Flowers" by the Spaniards. When he was exploring Florida, he probably was the first one to introduce the arquebus matchlock to mainland America.

There was a lot happening at the Alafia, and the biggest thing was that there seemed to be a lot of young people. I don't know if it was all the good music, the food, the programs, or the shooting; whatever it was, they seem to be doing it right. I'm looking forward to next year. MB



One of the many ranges at the "Alafia"

Beyond FRIENDSHIP



By James C. Fulmer



Gate at the Alafia River Rendezvous

“Retirement is never having to ask for time off from work from your employer again.” Yes, I am retired now and these words best describes retirement, except I am learning there are only 52 weekends in a year and the only thing I gained is the travel and getting prepared between the muzzleloading events I do around the country. There is no need to rush back Monday for work or cancel plans because of having to work a weekend. It is great. I retired December 1, 2017, and I am already starting to do the bucket list of rendezvous and historical sites I want to see with this new found time.

I retired December 1st with plans of making sure I made it to the Alafia River Rendezvous this year, which would take place January 17-19 in Homeland, Florida. I had plans of packing up the flintlock rifle and wedge tent and flying. I was just going to visit for several days and shoot some. Then I got a call from my brother. I have three brothers all older and all have been waiting for my retirement. Elmer the oldest lives in Dallas, Texas; Richard lives in Gillett, Pennsylvania, and the third one, Allen, lives in Elmira, New York. Richard already was going to Gulf Shores, Alabama to golf and so Elmer and I planned to meet him there for a week, but in doing that I would just catch visitor's days at the Alafia on January 26th and 27th. So off to Gulf Shores I went.

There is history at every turn at Gulf Shores. Fort Morgan is just a short distance from Gulf Shores so I went to visit the site and found a lot of interesting history. I didn't know about the forts that guarded Mobile Bay. Ft. Morgan guards the entrance to the bay along with Ft. Gaines, which is to the west on Dauphin Island. This area of Alabama had many flags flown over it. Spanish explorers visited Mobile Bay, but never settled the area. The French would settle the area their first

capitol of the area was Twenty-Seven Mile Bluff, but would move first to Mobile and then finally to New Orleans. After the French & Indian War, Spain would acquire Louisiana including New Orleans. The British acquired southern Mississippi, lower Alabama, and Florida. Mobile Bay would become part of West Florida and Pensacola would be the capitol. From the end of the French & Indian War until the American Revolution, the British controlled this area. But, in 1779, the Kings of France and Spain (who were cousins) signed an alliance against England. The Spanish Governor of Louisiana would lead Spanish and French forces against the British and by 1781 the British presence in



Author left with Dave Sipes who is promoting the NMLRA at the shooting range at Alafia

(Continued on page 80.)

Muzzleloader Supplies



Your one source for quality, American made muzzleloader supplies! From our acclaimed Accusporter muzzleloader to our Wonder Lube patches.

Dealer Inquiries Welcome!

***RMC Ox-Yoke ... the true originals.
Don't be fooled by imitations.***

**RMC
OX-YOKE**
MUZZLELOADER SUPPLIES
Made in America

Quality American Made Products

107 Breckenridge Street, Grove City PA, 16127 • 724-264-4171
rmcoxyoke.com

NMLRA.org

FACEBOOK.COM/NMLRA

TWITTER.COM/NMLRABP

MuzzleBlasts

National Muzzle Loading
Rifle Association
P.O. Box 67, Friendship, IN 47021
Telephone (812) 667-5131



Cover design by Stacy Gibson with assistance from Ron Paxton. Cover art weapons featured on page 52; Weapons of the First Dragoon Regiment by William Mapoles.

**FOR THE
MOST
UPDATED
INFORMATION
nmlra.org**

Inside
GUNMAKER'S HALL
GIVE-AWAY TICKETS

WIN a Custom Made American Longrifle & Accoutrements