



THE DRUMBEAT

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Sons of the American Revolution



Vol III Issue II Jun 2018 (2nd Quarter)

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www.washingtongsar.org Editor: [Dick Motz](#)

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THE MOST VISIBLE FACE OF THE SAR - THE COLOR GUARD

MESSAGE FROM THE STATE COLOR GUARD COMMANDER:**WHY DID YOU JOIN THE SAR?**

I would like to gift you with a takeaway question, "**Why did you join the SAR?**" Membership in the Sons of the American Revolution bring together a wide range of occupations and backgrounds, bound together by a common heritage carrying us back to the American Revolution. Here is a response by **Doug Nelson**, John Paul Jones Chapter and proud Color Guard member.



"Why I joined the Sons of the American Revolution. I wasn't sure what to expect at my first chapter meeting. They were a friendly bunch who made me feel comfortable. It was clear that they were honoring their patriot grandfathers who fought for America's Independence. I joined.

Prior research of the SAR revealed it was a nationally respected heritage society. That excited me! My work would not be forgotten for generations to come. As I filled out my application and gathered proof documents, it occurred to me that I was in essence memorializing each generation of grandparents in my application by listing their full birth names as well as dates and places for their births, marriages and deaths. I had to prove everything in my application. After receiving a Member Certificate and a copy of my approved application from their national society, I began researching and proving my lineage to more patriot grandfathers who fought or gave aid towards America's Independence. It became personal. My Patriots are on both sides of my parents' lineage. I'm very proud of this. I can point to a proven lineage and say it's been judged, recognized, and certified. I'm leaving a legacy for my children, grandchildren, and extended family. As I dove deeper into my family's past, and discovered additional patriots, my sense of wonderment and appreciation for the founding of our great country soared. American history came alive. It became a personal experience rather than an academic study.



The exclusivity of being an SAR member was appealing. I have certified over two and a half centuries of my lineage in a time when many Americans don't know where their great grandparents came from or what their great grandparents, and grandparents before them, did. I joined the SAR because it's an organization of men who believe in Patriotism, the importance of American History, and a respect for our American Heritage. Attending chapter meetings with like-minded men and meeting new friends was an additional bonus.

Joining the SAR was like shining a spotlight on my patriot grandfather's contribution in the Revolutionary War and making sure it's not forgotten in the 21st century. After all, he was a first veteran of the United States. These are the reasons I joined the SAR!" Doug Nelson

After reading this, consider crafting your reply to "**Why did I join the SAR?**"

"OUR HISTORY IS THE NATION'S HISTORY, BE PROUD OF YOURS!"

Respectfully, **Art Dolan**, Sons of the American Revolution, Washington State Color Guard Commander.

A THOUGHT FROM THE EDITOR:

Still need input from the membership!!! I need suggestions as to what you would like to see in future issues and I welcome any and all news items/photos that may be of interest to the masses. Please include the **5 Ws** (Who, What, When, Where, Why)

Please send to the [Newsletter Editor](#)



Here is a Warner Brothers cartoon from 1939, titled "[Old Glory](#)".

Submitted by **Stan Wills**.



FROM THE STATE COLOR GUARD BRIGADE ADJUTANT, Bob O'Neal**A TRIBUTE TO OUR SAR COLOR GUARD MENTOR**

STANLEY WILLS (One of the most unforgettable characters I have ever met.) You could even say that Stan Wills is the "Father" of our Washington State SAR Color Guard. Here is the story...

In 2011, when I joined SAR, I became interested in the Color Guard. My leader at the time here in Western Washington, was Lee Thomasson, Captain of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, and I became his "first follower". I learned that we had some six color guards, four in Eastern Washington and just Lee and Fred Ramsey here. Lee, Fred and I began by posting colors at the Salvation Army, our first gig in 2011.

Everyone kept saying, "Have you met Stan Wills?", "Do you know Stan Wills?" I finally emailed him, talked to him on the phone. Stan, a retired Navy veteran, Senior Chief Petty Officer in the submarine Navy, was a leader, and had been doing a lot of color guard outreach and parades in his neck of the woods around Spokane. They went to Honor Flights, posted colors for civic organizations, did citizenship ceremonies, gun shows and marched in several parades. He and Gale Palmer did a lot of living history in the schools too. They even had a drummer, Bill Caskey. Stan told me all about it, encouraged me to get uniformed, and learn more about everything that happened in the 1700s, especially our Founding. He was full of great ideas, inspiring!

Well, Doug Nelson in Poulsbo took his uniform out of the closet, lost a little weight and joined us. We decided to carry the Colors in our first parade, the huge Veterans Day Parade in Auburn, Nov 5, 2011. Stan and Gale came all the way from Spokane to be our armed musketeers, complete with sparkling bayonets! Doug, Lee and I carried the Colors. Stan also told us about many of their Eastern Washington events and what they were doing. More inspiration and encouragement from my intrepid mentor!



I decided we needed a State Color Guard Commander and talked to Stan to be our commander. He deferred to me, saying, "Since most of the chapters, and all the activity will be in Western Washington. No, it should be you." So in 2011, the Washington State Society Color Guard was formally "commissioned". Thanks to Vice Commander Stan Wills. We completed that first year with 27 uniformed events, statewide.

Forward to seven years later: Our WA SAR Color Guard has grown to 54 uniformed guardsmen, participating in some 200 events each year. It includes our SAR-DAR Fife and Drum Corps of 12 musicians. Nearly half of these events are living history presentations in public, private and home schools. DAR chapters and DAR state officers are asking for us.

Meantime, Stan Wills founded the Mid-Columbia Chapter, in Kennewick. Now with a five-man, very active Color Guard Unit. They hosted our SAR Annual Meeting in April. Their Color Guard Captain Larry Flint was chairman of the planning committee and their President Barry Moravek is a uniformed color guard as well. Stan was there as usual, in uniform, lending his sage advice, common sense, and leadership to the proceedings.

I salute Vice Commander, Major Stan Wills, for all his strong and continuous support over these past seven years. For his shining example as a patriot and a SAR leader. His personal encouragement of my efforts and our activities and events. He now fully supports our new Color Guard Commander Art Dolan. Stan's enthusiasm, expertise, and leadership have been the seeds that sprouted to become the now semi-famous Washington State **"SAR-DAR Color Guard and Fife & Drum Corps"**.

WOW! Thank you Stan, for all you did and all you do for WA SAR!!

Bob O'Neal, Lt. Col. US Army (Ret.) Past Commander, Washington SAR Color Guard (2011-2017)



WSSAR COLOR GUARD 2ND QUARTER REPORT

Washington State has been exceptionally busy during the second quarter of 2018. The Color Guard membership numbers only 58 but our participation, state wide, has been exceptional.

Our Color Guard second quarter activities include the participation of 101 uniformed members in events across the state, 14 Living History presentations, 36 members posting colors, 32 members marching in parades, 4 attending Honor Flights and 2 members participating in Citizenship ceremonies. In total members have been present in 189 public activities between April and June of 2018. This group is busy!

At the 2018 WASSAR Meeting, Kennewick, Washington, our Color Guard members comprised 47% of the members present. The Armed Forces Day Parade Bremerton, WA, a long standing WASSAR tradition, represents the beginning of our parade season where 19 members were present.

Bottom Row L-R: Stan Wills, Viren Lemmer, Barry Moravek, Arthur Dolan, Doug Nelson, Neil Vernon and Skip Stephan.

Top Row L-R: Kelly Schultz, Michael Moore, Ken Roberts, Fred Gilbert, Lee Thomasson, Conn Owen Clark, Larry Flint, Will Palmer, Dick Motz and Mick Hersey.
(Photo by Karen Schultz)



Our Fife and Drum Corps, Commanded by Viren Lemmer, has continued to grow along with its high level of commitment to the WASSAR. Our Fife and Drum Corps is composed of SAR, DAR and community members from all over Western Washington and travel to all our CG events.

This is no small endeavor since we can be in Kennewick one week and Ocean Shores the next.

In the photo at right, Jan Lemmer and Stephanie Conroy receive their white shoulder embellishments having been promoted to Sergeant representing participation in 20 Fife and Drum activities. This group is the backbone of our Color Guard and draws a significant amount of attention whenever they perform.



Seattle, Washington, has been selected as host site for the 2021 National Congress. With our strong WASSAR Color Guard participation, we are anxious to greet everyone to the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

An article from the Spokesman Review on Thursday, June 14th Flag Day. It is a story and picture of Stan Wills' flag museum in Spokane. Stan is always promoting flag history and the SAR. Kudo's to Stan. To see the article [click here](#)



Respectfully Submitted,

Arthur Dolan,

Washington State Color Guard Commander, Sons of the American Revolution



WESTERN WASHINGTON
[Schedule of events](#)

EASTERN WASHINGTON
[Schedule of events](#)

COLOR GUARD AT STATE MEETING (27 APR)

The Washington State SAR Membership Meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Columbia Center on April 27-28. The Mid-Columbia Chapter was host for this event. It was a great chance to meet or get reacquainted with SAR members from across the state. We had 101 total people in attendance, 55 SAR members from all eight State Chapters plus Oregon and Alaska, at least 10 DAR members and lots of spouses and family members. Colors were posted on both Friday and Sunday meetings



Karen Schultz was a great assist with the registration table



and Richard Roddy with raffle.

REPORT FROM THE FIELD: From Neil A Vernon, Seattle Chapter
 Presentations have been made in the Seattle schools. The first was held on March 26, 2018 at the West Woodland Elementary School of the Seattle School District. This is the first time in known history that the SAR has been allowed to participate in the Seattle School District, even back to when Doug Nelson was President of the Seattle Chapter. Brian Langley was principal is arranging this in the 5th grade classrooms where he is a history teacher. Doug Nelson, Fred Gilbert and Neil Vernon presented.



The second presentation was at the West Mercer Elementary of the Mercer Island School District. Julie Langley, wife of Brian, also a 5th grade history teacher, was principle in arranging the presentation at the school on April 20, 2018. Greg Emerson and Neil Vernon presented.



Both instructors have been presented with certificates of appreciation, students who responded have been presented with the Young Patriot Writers Certificate, and Principles have been presented with letters of appreciation.

WESTERN WASHINGTON REGIMENT (2nd Quarter Activity Highlights)

- 1 Mar:** Steilacoom Kiwanis, Steilacoom, (Dolan)
- 8 Mar:** Presentation of Colors, Capitol, House of Representatives, (Lemmer, Dolan, O'Neal)
- 12 Mar:** Bremerton Rotary, noon, Flag History, (O'Neal)
- 13 Mar:** Elementary Schools Tacoma, George Washington. (O'Neal)
- 13 Mar:** DuPont Historical Soc. George Washington's Secret Navy. (Dolan)
- 20 Mar:** Lacey Sr. Center, "A Day in Colonial Life" (Dolan)
- 21 Mar:** Clear Creek Elem Colonial Life (Gilbert, Nelson, Smalser)
- 23 Mar:** N Kitsap Elem. Colonial Life (Gilbert, Nelson, Smalser)
- 26 Mar:** Westwood Elem Seattle (Vernon, Seattle Ch) & (Nelson, JPI Ch)



Photos Not Available

- 7 Apr:** Posting the colors, Olympia Genealogical Society. Viren Lemmer, Dick Motz, and Kent Sterling.

"Many thanks for representing SAR as Honor Guard at our Seminar. It was an excellent and much appreciated ceremony",
 Rebel Romero, OGS Secretary



- 15 Apr:** DAR Bench dedication JBLM

Bob O'Neal, Jan Lemmer, Terry Barker, Dick Motz, Mick Hersey, Lee Thomasson, Kent Sterling, Ralph Liening, Noah Chase, Viren Lemmer, Stephanie Conroy



3-4 May: Posted colors at the DAR WSSDAR State Conference, SeaTac Marriott Hotel,

“Welcome to the 18 century”



Welcome to the 18th century
CG Deputy Commander Dick Motz escorts DAR Pam Gassman



7 May: Posting of colors at the DAR rededication of the Robert Gray Marker.

Marker is located in Ocean Park at Ocean shores



8 May: Bob O’Neal and Kent Troy gave a presentation on *Teenagers in the Revolution* to the Cascade Chapter DAR in Bellevue



19 May: Armed Forces Day Parade in Bremerton. Compatriots (l. to r.)

ROW 1: Viren Lemmer, Jay Lemmer, Jeannine & Skip Stephan, Ken Roberts.

ROW 2: Dick Motz; Dave Irons; Art Dolan; Dave Blevins

ROW 3: Doug Nelson; Bob O’Neal; Kent Sterling; Noah Chase.

ROW 4: Neil Vernon; Mick Hersey; Ralph Liening; Conrad Plyler. Not pictured: Fifer Stephanie Conroy



CG does Present Arms at reviewing stand

27 May: Memorial Day Service, Firlane Cemetery, Spanaway.

The SAR Color Guard turned out today to honor military soldiers, sailors, airmen & marines buried at Fir Lane Memorial Park Cemetery in Spanaway WA, and around the World.

(L. to r.) Commander Art Dolan (USA), Kent Sterling (USA), Skip Stephan (USN-Ret.), Larry Barnes, Kent Troy (USA-Ret.), Adjutant Bob O'Neal (USA-Ret.).



28 May: Memorial Day Service. Mick Hersey & Noah Chase on board the USS Turner Joy Bremerton.



28 May: Memorial Day Service, Wreath placement at Tomb of the Unknowns. Bremerton, Ivy Green Cemetery. Pictured is Mick Hersey and Ken Roberts

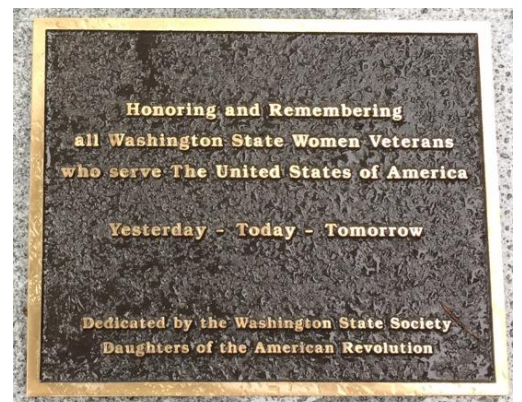


28 May: Memorial Day Service, Forest Lawn Cemetery Fleet Reserve Ceremony. Bremerton.
Memorial Day Service, Tahoma National Cemetery. Kent.



Photos Not Available

8 June: Posting of the colors, DAR marker dedication to honor all Washington State women veterans, Heritage Park, state capitol in Olympia.



Jun 26: Posting of the Colors for the dedication of Betsy Ross Hall, Soldier's Home in Orting WA. The hall was dedicated to the purpose of rehabilitating homeless women veterans of our U.S. Armed Forces. During the ceremonies, the Washington DAR & SAR, presented 3 items to be placed in the Betsy Ross Hall; a framed Betsy Ross Flag, a replica painting of Betsy Ross and George Washington designing the First Official U.S. Flag, and a replica of an original painting by artist Pam Gassman. The Donations were done on behalf of Washington Societies of the DAR represented by Regent Pam Gassman, Mary Ball Chapter, and & the SAR by Past President Bob O'Neal, Alexander Hamilton Chapter. The SAR/DAR Color Guard (Dick Motz, Susan Sterling, Ann Crawford, and Kent Sterling) posted the Colors. Other CG members were Ken Roberts, Kent Troy, Skip Stephen,



Pam Gassman **Bob O'Neal**

To watch the Pierce county TV coverage of the event. [Click here.](#)

EASTERN WASHINGTON REGIMENT (2nd Quarter Activity Highlights)

SPOKANE AREA

Stan Wills is awarded the SAR Silver Roger Sherman medal for the period 2011 to 2017.


CITATION: Stanley Wills – SAR Silver Roger Sherman Medal

The SAR Silver Roger Sherman Medal is awarded to Com Patriot Stanley Wills of Mid-Columbia Chapter in recognition of, and in appreciation for, outstanding services rendered to the Washington State Society SAR. This Medal is named for Founding Father Roger Sherman, the only person to sign all four great State papers of the United States: the Continental Association, Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.

Stanley Wills has performed faithfully and well as Vice Chairman of the Washington SAR Color Guard Committee for a period of six years, from 2011 to 2017.

Stan Wills's outstanding leadership and service have contributed to the strong growth of our Society and is most worthy of recognition by the SAR Silver Roger Sherman Medal.

Washington SAR Board of Directors—14 October 2017



CONGRATULATIONS STAN!!!

29 Mar: Stan Wills attended a ceremony at the Spokane Valley City Hall with members of the DAR to Honor 20 Veterans of the Viet Nam War. These were special men as they had served in the South Viet Nam Army and Laos Army under US advisors. When the US pulled out in 1975 each one of these men had been captured by North Viet Nam troops and put in to prison, some for over 15 years. The oldest Veteran there was 94 years old. They are all now US citizens.

We honored them for their service and presented them a certificate, flag pin, Viet Nam Memorial pin, and copies of the Proclamation from the Governor and Mayor of Spokane Valley. Each Veteran was also given the decals, buttons, and a picture of each Veteran receiving his certificate from the Mayor.



Stan provided a Viet Nam Memorial Service Flag and service flags for the ceremony. They were all moved by this ceremony.




After the Viet Nam ceremony, Stan Wills, Dale Ryan, & Lane Elliott went to a Patriotic Program to Honor our Veterans at the House of the Lords Elementary school where they posted colors for the program and were then honored for their service.

30 March: Stan Wills presented a Living History program for the Spokane Trinity Catholic Church 5th graders.



Apr: Great newspaper article: Local newspaper, "The Current" published a full page spread on the Spokane Flag Museum. Featured was Stan Wills.

Great Job Stan!!!!



1 May: There were a total.101 new citizens from 39 countries were sworn in and presented flag pins. Included in this number were several military men and women
CG members: Stan Wills, Bill Pickett in militia, and Dale Ryan.



3 May: Eastern Washington ROTC medal presentation (CG Member Bill Pickett)

3 May: Gonzaga ROTC Medal Presentation (Bill Pickett there for that one also)

5 May: Flag Museum tours as part the Bloomsday Celebration in Spokane.



7 May: Honor Flight departure at 0600

8 May: Honor Flight return at 1800

Stan Wills & Gale Palmer sent off 102 veterans on the Honor Flight. There were 66 veterans from Viet Nam War, Korean War, 6 from WWII, and 2 Women Corpsmen from Viet Nam.

They returned the next day and the guys were there again to welcome them home.



11 May: Medical Lake High School JROTC awards.

12 May: DAR Living History- Sandpoint Idaho.

17 May: Rogers High School JROTC Awards

23 May: Wellpinit High School JROTC Awards (only Native American JROTC IN Washington)

23 May: Flag Museum tour for Boy Scout troop

28 May: Flag Museum Tours on Memorial Day



Photos Not Available

19 May: Lilac Armed Forces Day Parade in Downtown Spokane

L to R: Bill Pickett, Greg Riehl, Dale Ryan, Stan Wills, Denny Shaw, Will Palmer, Gale Palmer, Ladies Auxiliary Brenda Shaw with granddaughter Emme, Patience Ryan Ladies Auxiliary, Vickie Pickett Ladies Auxiliary, CAR Jamieson Vallentin, Ally alberty, Theresa Palmer- driving van



MID-COLUMBIA AREA (2nd Quarter Activity Highlights)

18 Mar: Citizenship day. Larry Flint, Jerry Schultz, and Barry Moravek attended the new citizen ceremonies.



24 Mar: Eagle Scout meeting. Larry Flint spoke about the revolutionary war musket and Jerry Schultz talked about his ancestors.

The scouts really liked the musket



1 Apr: Citizenship day. Kelly Schultz and Larry Flint attended the Naturalization Ceremony in Richland.



2 Jun: Kelly Schultz, Brian Smith, Richard and Larry Flint attended the "Lineage Societies Information Day" in Kennewick. This was a new event, organized by Karen Schultz. It was open to all Lineage organizations and was attended by both local chapters of the DAR, SAR, CAR, Tri-cities Genealogical Society, Sons of the Union Veterans and included an information table of the Mayflower Society.



Jessica Wardeman, her Son, and Art Kelly talk with Kelly Schultz



14 Jun: Stan Wills assisted with conducting a Flag program at the Rockwood Retirement Village by perspective member Wes Corder and his wife Joyce (DAR). Wes is a sword specialist and will be a great asset to the Spokane Chapter. He has already offered to do sword programs for the chapter.



16 Jun: Flag Day, Parade in the town of Spangle WA. CG members & Ladies Auxiliary that marched in the parade were:

Bill & Vickie Picket, Will Palmer, Carl Durkoop, Greg Riehl, Stan Wills, Dennis Shaw, & Dale Ryan. Manning the booth were Brenda Shaw & Ruth Ryan. Carrying the banner were Jamison Vallentine & Patience Ryan. The two little girls in the picture are Ally Alberty & Jamison Vallentine.



Wanted:

UNIFORM ITEMS WANTED/FOR SALE

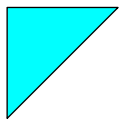
Name	Item	Size	Contact

For Sale:

Name	Item	Size	Cost	Contact

If you have anything you want or have for sale, please send information to DM-SAR@comcast.net

Our Color Guard has acquired quite a few muskets during the past months. That being the case, I thought this article from the National newsletter to be appropriate.



Acceptable Arms for Color Guard Usage

Only muskets and rifles of Revolutionary period listed below are allowed

(Extract from National CG Newsletter Jan 22018)

British Long Land Pattern (Brown Bess)

“Brown Bess” is a nickname of uncertain origin for the British Army’s muzzle-loading smoothbore Land Pattern Musket and its derivatives. This musket was used in the era of the expansion of the British Empire and acquired symbolic importance at least as significant as its physical importance. It was in use for over a hundred years with many incremental changes in its design. These versions include the Long Land Pattern, the Short Land Pattern, the India Pattern, the New Land Pattern Musket and the Sea Service Musket.



The Long Land Pattern musket and its derivatives, all .75 caliber flintlock muskets, were the standard long guns of the British Empire’s land forces from 1722 until 1838, when they were superseded by a percussion cap smoothbore musket. The British Ordnance System converted many flintlocks into the new percussion system known as the Pattern 1839 Musket. A fire in 1841 at the Tower of London destroyed many muskets before they could be converted. Still, the Brown Bess saw service until the middle of the nineteenth century.

Most male citizens of the American Colonies were required by law to own arms and ammunition for militia duty. The Long Land Pattern was a common fire- arm in use by both sides in the American War of Independence.

One hypothesis is that the “Brown Bess” was named after Elizabeth I of England, but this lacks support. It is not believed that this name was used contemporaneously with the early Long Pattern Land musket but that the name

arose in late years of the 18th century when the Short Pattern and India Pattern were in wide use.

Early uses of the term include the news- paper, the Connecticut Courant in April 1771, which said “but if you are afraid of the sea, take Brown Bess on your shoulder and march.” This familiar use indicates widespread use of the term by that time. The 1785 Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue, a contemporary work that defined vernacular and slang terms, contained this entry: “Brown Bess: A soldier’s firelock. To hug Brown Bess; to carry a fire-lock, or serve as a private soldier.” Military and government records of the time do not use this poetical name but refer to firelocks, flintlock, and muskets or by the weapon’s model designations.

Popular explanations of the use of the word “Brown” include that it was a reference to either the color of the walnut stocks, or to the characteristic brown color that was produced by russeting, an early form of metal treatment. Others argue that mass-produced weapons of the time were coated in brown varnish on metal parts as a rust preventative and on wood as a sealer (or in the case of unscrupulous contractors, to disguise inferior or non-regulation types of wood). However, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) notes that “browning” was only introduced in the early 19th century, well after the term had come into general use.

Similarly, the word “Bess” is commonly held to either derive from the word arquebus or blunderbuss (predecessors of the musket) or to be a reference to Elizabeth I, possibly given to commemorate her death. The OED has citations for “brown musket” dating back to the early 18th century that refer to the same weapon. Another suggestion is that the name is simply the counterpart to the earlier Brown Bill.

French Charleville Muskets

The Charleville muskets were .69 caliber French muskets used in the 18th century and 19th century. In 1717, a flint- lock musket for the French infantry was standardized for hunting. This became the first standard flintlock musket to be issued to all troops. While it is more correctly called a French infantry musket or a French pattern musket, these muskets later became known as “Charleville muskets”, after the armory in Charleville-Mézières, Ardennes, France. The standard French infantry musket was also produced at Tulle, St. Etienne, Maubeuge Arsenal, and other sites. While technically not the correct name for these muskets, the use of the name Charleville dates back to the U.S. Revolutionary War, when Americans tended to refer to all of the musket models as Charlevilles. It should be noted that the naming of these muskets is not consistent. Some references only refer to Model 1763 and later versions as Charleville flint lock muskets, while other references refer to all models as the Charleville. The Charleville musket’s de- sign was refined several times during its service life. Later models of Charleville muskets remained in service until 1840, when percussion lock systems made the flintlock mechanism obsolete.



Charleville muskets had a smooth bore barrel. Rifles were more accurate than smooth bore muskets, but military commanders favored smooth bores on the battlefield, since the round from a rifle had to fit tightly into the barrel and be- came very difficult to load after a few shots because the black powder quickly fouled the barrel. The longer range and better accuracy of the rifle was also considered to be of little value on a battlefield that was quickly obscured by black pow- der smoke. Like all smooth bore muskets, the Charleville flint lock musket was only accurate to about 110 yards (100 m) against a column of men, or 40 to 50 yards (37 to 46 m) against a single man-sized target.

The Charleville’s .69” (17.5mm) caliber barrel was slightly smaller than its main competitor, the .75 caliber Brown Bess produced by the British. The smaller round was intentionally chosen to reduce weight in the field, but still had enough mass to be effective as a military round. The Charleville’s stock was usually made out of walnut.

Charleville muskets were not used in battle like a modern rifle. Instead, Charleville muskets were fired in mass formations. In modern warfare, bayonets are considered to be last-ditch weapons, but in the days of the Charleville musket, they played a much more significant role on the battlefield, often accounting for roughly a third of all battlefield casualties. Muskets played a dual role on the battlefield, being used as a ranged weapon at a distance, and also being used as a pike type weapon in close hand-to-hand combat. This use as a pike dictated the Charleville’s general length and weight. A shorter weapon could not be used as a pike, and its weight was a balance between being

heavy enough to be used as a pike or club, but light enough to be carried and used by general infantrymen.

The rate of fire depended on the skill of the soldier, which was typically about three shots per minute. The Charleville's barrel was held into place by three barrel bands. This made the Charleville sturdier than the British Brown Bess musket, which used pins to hold the barrel in place. The butt of the Charleville's stock was sometimes referred to as the "patte de vache" (French for "cow's foot"), as its shape was designed to be used as a club in hand-to-hand combat.

Charleville muskets were muzzle loaded and used a flintlock firing mechanism. They typically fired a round ball but could fire other ammunition such as buck and ball or shot.

Flintlock American Long Rifle

The long rifle, also known as long rifle, Kentucky rifle, or Pennsylvania rifle, was one of the first commonly used rifles for hunting and warfare. It is characterized by an unusually long barrel, which is widely believed to be a largely unique development of American rifles that was uncommon in European rifles of the same period.



The long rifle is an early example of a firearm using rifling (spiral grooves in the bore). This gave the projectile (commonly a round lead ball) a spiraling motion, increasing the stability of the trajectory. A more stable trajectory meant dramatically improved accuracy over the more commonly available smooth bore muskets also used in the period. Rifled fire-arms saw their first major combat use in the American colonies during the French and Indian War, and later the American Revolution in the eighteenth century.

Until the development of the Minnie ball in the middle of the 19th century, the main disadvantages of a rifle compared to a musket were a slower reload time due to the use of a tighter fitting lead ball and greater susceptibility to the fouling of the bore after prolonged use - such fouling would eventually prevent loading altogether, rendering the weapon useless until thoroughly cleaned. The adoption of the Minnie ball essentially nullified these disadvantages and allowed the rifle to completely replace the musket.

The long rifle was made popular by German gunsmiths who immigrated to America, bringing with them the technology of rifling from where it originated. The accuracy achieved by the long rifle made it an ideal tool for hunting wildlife for food in colonial America.

The long rifle was developed on the American frontier in southeastern Pennsylvania, in the early 1700s. It continued to be developed technically and artistically until it passed out of fashion in the 19th century. The long rifle was the product of German gunsmiths who immigrated to new settlements in south eastern Pennsylvania in the early 1700s, and later in Virginia and other territories. Tax records from these locales indicate the dates these gunsmiths were in business. Strong pockets of long rifle use and manufacture continued in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and North Carolina well into the 20th century as a practical and efficient firearm for those rural segments of the nation. Long rifles could be made entirely by hand and hand-operated tooling, in a frontier setting.

Initially the weapon of choice on the frontier was the smooth bore musket, or trade gun, built in factories in England and France and shipped to the colonies for purchase. Gradually, long rifles became more popular due to their longer effective range. While the smooth bore musket had an effective range of less than 100 yards, a rifleman could hit a man-sized target at a range of 200 yards or more. The price for this accuracy was longer reloading time. While the musket could be reloaded in approximately 20 seconds, the long rifle required more time for the average hunter.

In Pennsylvania, the earliest gunsmiths that can be documented are Robert Baker and Martin Meylin. Robert Baker formed a partnership with his son, Caleb and on August 15, 1719 erected a gun boring mill on Pequea Creek. In the tax records of Berks County, Pennsylvania, there were several gunsmiths plying their trade along the banks of the Wyomissing Creek.

Martin Meylin's Gun shop was built in 1719, and it is here that the Mennonite gunsmith of Swiss-German heritage crafted some of the earliest, and possibly the first, Pennsylvania Rifles. No single rifle has been found to date to be signed by Martin Meylin. Two have been attributed to him- one in the Lancaster Historical Society has been found to be

a European musket of a later date and the other with a date of 1705 has been found to be a forgery- the Meylin's didn't arrive in America until 1710. The Martin Meylin Gun shop still stands today in Willow Street, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on Long Rifle Road. An archaeological dig performed in 2005 by Millersville University around the so-called Meylin gun shop found no evidence of gun making activity among the thousands of artifacts found - only blacksmithing artifacts were found. The Lancaster County Historical Society has an original Pennsylvania Long Rifle smithed by Meylin that was passed down within the family for seven generations before being donated to the society in the middle of the twentieth century. This particular rifle was analyzed and the barrel removed during the Lancaster Long Rifle Exhibit at Landis Valley Farm Museum, Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 2005. The six experts on hand found the barrel was European and the stock itself dated from a later period than 1710-1750. The initials on the barrel - "MM" were found to be added later than any other part of the gun, therefore it was concluded that the rifle in the Lancaster County Historical Society could not have been made by either son or father named Martin Meylin. A document describing the history of Meylin, the Gun shop, and archeology of the shop is available online from Millersville University.

Some historians have written that the role of Martin Meylin as one of the earliest gunsmiths in Lancaster is not clear. The argument is that the will of Martin Meylin Sr. makes no mention of gunsmith items while the will of Martin Meylin Jr. is replete with gunsmith items, and thus the reference to Meylin as a gunsmith is more properly placed on the son. In any case, no rifle has been found to be positively attributed to any Meylin.

There is documentation stating that the first high quality American long rifles were from a gunsmith named Jacob Dickert, who moved with his family from Germany to Berks County, Pennsylvania in 1740. The name 'Dickert Rifle' was considered a 'brand name' and the name 'Kentucky rifle' was not coined until much later in history (circa 1820s) and became the "nickname" of this rifle. The reason for this is primarily because Dickert made rifles for the Continental Army and later had a contract dated 1792 to furnish rifles to the United States Army. There are internet references to a "Deckhard or Deckard Rifle", which is inaccurate, as there are no borough, township, or city tax records to support this name at that period of time and/or location.

Among documented working rifle makers are Adam Haymaker, who had a thriving trade in the northern Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, the Moravian gun shops at Christian's Spring in Pennsylvania, John Frederick Klette of Stevensburg, Virginia, and in the Salem area of North Carolina.[citation needed] All three areas were busy and productive centers of rifle making by the 1750s. The Great Wagon Road was a bustling frontier thoroughfare, and rifle shops traced this same route - from eastern Pennsylvania, down the Shenandoah Valley, and spilling into both the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky and the Yadkin River (Salem) area of North Carolina.

The settlers of western Virginia (Kentucky), Tennessee, and North Carolina soon gained a reputation for hardy independence and rifle marksmanship as a way of life, further reinforced by the performance of riflemen in the American Revolution, especially Morgan's Rifle-men, who were pivotal in both the Battle of Saratoga and the Battle of Cowpens, as well as the War of 1812. In that war, the long rifle gained its more infamous nickname the Kentucky Rifle, after a popular song "The Hunters of Kentucky," about Andrew Jackson and his victory at the Battle of New Orleans.[citation needed] The American long rifle also was used by the Texans in their War for Independence from Mexico.

The reason for the American long rifle's characteristic long barrel is a matter of adaptation to the new world by the German immigrant gunsmiths. The German gunsmiths working in America were very familiar with German rifles, which seldom had barrels longer than 30 in., and were large caliber rifles using large amounts of lead. The new world forests were vast and required hunters to carry more of their supplies with them. The smaller caliber rifles gave them more ammunition and reduced the amount of weight they needed to carry on a hunt. The longer barrel gave the black powder more time to burn, increasing the muzzle velocity and accuracy. A rule of thumb used by some gunsmiths was to make the rifle no longer than the height of a customer's chin because of the necessity of seeing the muzzle while loading. The longer barrel also allowed for finer sighting. By the 1750s it was common to see frontiersmen carrying the new and distinctive style of rifle.

American Fowler

Most early firearms, such as the blunderbuss, arquebus, and musket had large diameter,



smoothbore barrels, and could fire shot as well as solid balls. A firearm intended for use in wing shooting of birds was known as a fowling piece. The 1728 Cyclopaedia defines a fowling piece as: *Fowling Piece, a portable Fire Arm for the shooting of Birds.* ..

For example, the Brown Bess musket, in service with the British army from 1722 to 1838, had a 19 mm (.75 inch) smooth- bore barrel, roughly the same as a 10 gauge shotgun, and was 157 cm (62 in) long, just short of the above recommended 168 cm (5 1/2 feet). On the other hand, records from the Plymouth colony show a maximum length of 137 cm (4 1/2 feet) for fowling pieces, shorter than the typical musket.

Shot was also used in warfare; the buck and ball loading, combining a musket ball with three or six buckshot, was used throughout the history of the smoothbore musket. The first recorded use of the term shotgun was in 1776 in Kentucky.



Firing should only occur in open spaces or major intersections where the concussion will not damage building windows.