

# 1 of 1000 Aiming for \$1,000,000

*by Bob Copner, 1 of 1000 Chairman*

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## An opportunity for club membership in the NMLRA endowment program

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Your club can join the 1 of 1000 Program as a club. If the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA) is the heart of the sport of muzzleloading in this country, and even beyond our shores, then the hundreds of muzzleloading clubs across the country and across the oceans are the bone and muscle that hold it all together.

The purpose of the 1 of 1000 Program is to provide a permanent endowment of \$1,000,000 or more, to insure the financial security and future of the NMLRA and the muzzleloading sport that we all love.

I was asked by the NMLRA to chair the new 1 of 1000 Committee and to conduct a national membership drive. This is the story of how one club chose to give to the future of muzzleloading, and at the same time receive permanent national recognition for their support.

In the process of preparing this membership drive, I noted that the Pasadena Muzzleloaders of Texas had contributed \$1,000 to the program in the spring of 2001. They were the first club to contribute. *What a tremendous idea!*

I have been a member of the Solano Muzzle Loaders Assn. of California since its inception more than thirty years ago. It is a typical muzzleloading club with thirty-some members. At our regular January meeting I mentioned to the members that I had been asked to assume this chairmanship, and that an article launching the campaign would appear in the February issue of *Muzzle Blasts*. I explained the purpose of the 1 of 1000 Program and suggested that our club consider joining as a club. One of our members pointed out that we had recently been talking about the possible need to assess each member an additional amount for increasing operating costs. He did not think it wise to add this program to our already strained budget. Another person spoke up and suggested that *if ten or more of us each contributed \$100* on a one time basis, we could join the program without affecting our club budget.

Following some discussion, Roger Nelson handed me a \$100 bill and indicated we should get on with it. Jim Spiva handed me five \$20 bills, and Jim Best, a very enthusiastic new member, handed me a \$100 bill. I told the members I would also contribute. The club voted to authorize members to contribute individually for a membership in the club's name. Before the end of the meeting Rod Mitchell and his wife Kathy, Gil Baumgartner, and Tom Tucker pledged \$100 each.

A day or so later I called Jay Adams, our treasurer. Jay had missed the January meeting due to illness. Jay puts out *The Sightshade*, our club newsletter, so I wanted him to know the details of the program. After I explained it to him, Jay immediately pledged \$100. At our February meeting Ford Bond, who had missed the January meeting, also pledged \$100. John Pietsch, immediate past president, pledged \$100. J.D. Dodson pledged \$100 and requested a 1 of 1000 Pledge Form so he could also join as an individual member. Longtime member Bob Jimenez pledged \$100 after learning of the program.

This is how one club chose to support the long term future of the NMLRA, the sport of muzzleloading, and the Second Amendment heritage that we all cherish. *Your club can do it also*. The names will be different and perhaps the amounts and time frame, but it is certainly a reachable goal. *Do it to support our sport, our association and our freedoms for ourselves and our children and grandchildren*. No one, no organization, is ever sorry for doing the right thing.



### **CLUB MEMBERS**

- 39. Pasadena Muzzleloaders, **TX**
- 57. Solano Muzzle Loaders, **CA**
- 63. Mazatzal Mountain Muzzleloaders, **AZ**
- 75. Tennessee Longhunters, **TN**
- 104. Piedmont Muzzleloaders, **SC**
- 105. Texas Muzzle Loading Assoc., **TX**
- 108. Greenwood Longrifles, **TX**
- 111. McKinley Mountainmen Muzzle Loading Club, **AK**
- 114. Wilderness Rangers of KY Inc., **KY**
- 117. Grand Valley Cap N Ballers, **MI**
- 125. Jefferson Longrifles, Inc., **PA**
- 147. Blue Mountain Muzzleloading Rifle Assoc., **PA**
- 153. Kentucky's Corps of Longriflemen, **KY**
- 159. Conner Longrifles, **IN**
- 164. The Honourable Company of Horners
- 167. NMLRA Gunmaker's Hall, **IN**
- 168. NMLRA Primitive Range, **IN**
- 172. The Old Northwest Council, **MI**
- 174. Michigan State Muzzle Loading Association, **MI**
- 182. NMLRA Board of Directors, **IN**
- 223. Fort Greenville Muzzle Loaders, **OH**
- 228. The Rock River Longrifles, **IL**
- 233. Yuma Territorial Longrifles, Inc., **AZ**
- 235. Sandusky County Hawkeyes Muzzleloading Club, **OH**