

Women History



Annie Oakley in about 1899.



Annie Oakley on a poster for the Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

Annie Oakley

Annie Oakley was born on August 13, 1860 in Darke County, Ohio. Her real name was Phoebe Ann Moses, called Annie by her family. She was the sixth of eight children of her parents.

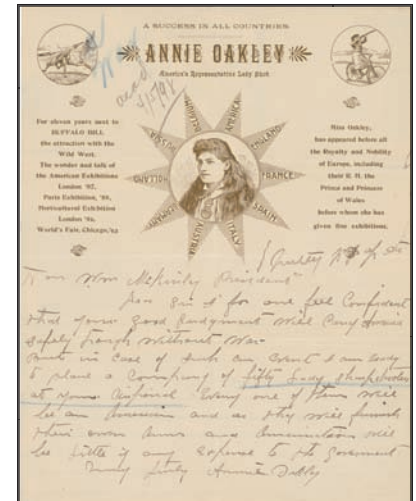
Annie's father, Jacob Moses, died in 1866 when Annie was only 5 years old. Annie began hunting when she was 8 to help feed her family. As she grew older, she sold the meat to restaurants and hotels in the area, which brought in money for her family.

Annie was famous as an excellent shot with a rifle. Her fame began in 1876, when she was only 15. A hotel owner arranged a shooting match between Annie and Frank Butler, a rifle expert in a traveling show. Annie won the contest. Frank and Annie began a courtship and married in 1882. They lived in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Annie used "Annie Oakley" as her name when she was performing as a sharpshooter. In 1885, Frank and Annie joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. Annie was very popular and was nicknamed "Little Sure Shot."

Annie traveled the world. She performed for Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany. Historians believe that Annie was America's first superstar. She later became an actress and performed in plays and in an early film.

Annie continued to display her shooting talent until the end of her life. She died on November 3, 1926 in Greenville, Ohio.



Annie Oakley's 1898 letter to President McKinley saying she could send 50 "lady sharpshooters" for the Spanish American War.

Where was Annie born?

What was the name of the show that Frank and Annie performed in?

What was Annie's nickname?

What did Annie offer President McKinley?

Q
AND
A