



# Annie Oakley

Annie Oakley was born on August 13, 1860, in Ohio. Her real name was Phoebe Ann Moses. Annie's father and her stepfather both died when she was a little girl. She was sent away to live at the Darke County Infirmary. There she went to school and learned to sew. She also helped to take care of the other orphan children. When she became a teenager, she went back to live with her mother and her new stepfather. Annie was so good at hunting that she was able to help make money for her parents by selling the animals she killed to a grocery store.

Annie liked to compete in shooting competitions. At a competition in 1875, she beat Frank E. Butler who was a top shooter and a great performer. A year later, she married him. They began working together in 1882, after Butler's partner got sick and couldn't perform any longer. Annie took his place. It was then that she added Oakley as her stage name.

A few years later, they joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Annie was the star of the show. Her husband was her manager and would help her with her awesome shooting tricks. Annie definitely impressed the people that came to watch her. She could do many cool riding and shooting tricks. One of her most famous was she could shoot holes through cards thrown into the air before they landed.

In 1901, Annie and her husband were in a railroad accident. She was paralyzed for a time, which meant she could not move part of her body. She worked hard to get well and then returned to performing. She became an actress in 1903 in the show *The Western Girl*. Then, in 1911 she joined the Young Buffalo Show. In 1913, she and her husband both retired and settled in Maryland.

During her retirement, Oakley had hobbies like hunting and fishing, and taught other women how to shoot.

Annie Oakley died on November 3, 1926, in Greenville, Ohio. The news of her death made the whole nation sad. She is remembered as one of the leading women of the American West.

(Information adapted from [www.bio.com](http://www.bio.com))