



KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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Our international membership is happily involved with "Anything that goes 'cut'!"

October 2001

Three African Trade Knives

by Bernard Levine

Here are three knives that I have acquired in the past two or three years. I traded for two of them (one from Bill Claussen, one from Larry Peetz), and then bought the third, the one with the fitted sheath, from Tony Mulder at the 2000 OKCA show.

All three are lightly made, with fullered blades. They have hollow sheet metal bolsters -- nickel plated steel bolsters on the small knife, brass bolsters on the two larger ones. The horn handles on the smaller knife are "spotted" to resemble tortoiseshell. The handles of the two larger knives are smooth bone.

My smaller knife has a nickel-silver fleur-de-lis and bouquet pressed into the front handle. Blade marked ACIER FONDU --French for Cast Steel.

One of the large knives is marked FERNANDO ESSER/ ELBERFELD. Esser was a cutlery firm in Elberfeld that manufactured mainly for export. Elberfeld was a city just north of Solingen, which became part of Wuppertal in 1929.

The other large knife is marked *T. ASSMANN* in italics. This style of italic stamping was the usual form of a retailer's mark on a German knife. Most likely this knife was made by Esser for Assmann.

From the evidence of the knives themselves, I concluded that they were made in the first quarter of the 20th century, two of them in Germany, one probably in France --though it might have been made in Germany for sale to French-speaking customers.

The construction of all three knives is similar

to this type of "Prussian" butcher knife (reproduced from a 1914 US hardware catalog). These low-cost knives had white metal (pewter), iron, or hollow sheet steel bolsters, though hollow sheet steel seems to have been most common.

What the knives did not tell me was what type of knives they are, and where they were intended to be sold. Their light weight and cheap construction suggested that they were meant to be sold or traded in some relatively primitive part of the planet, but in the 1910s and 1920s, that description fit a majority of the nations and dependencies around the world.

So I post my pictures on www.BladeForums.com, and sat back to see what would happen. Several people posted plausible guesses, including North Africa and South America, but with no solid evidence to back them up.



Then Steve Dick weighed in. First he mentioned a picture of a similar knife shown in a French book. It was one of 200,000 such knives supposedly issued to African troops drafted from French colonies to fight against the Germans during the First World War.

Then he directed me to a website in South Africa. It shows knives similar in style to my two larger knives, made today in Kwazulu, both for local use and for regional trade. The company that makes them is a formerly German firm, which transplanted from Solingen in 1987.

In Solingen the original firm was called Ferdinand Everts & Sohn. It was founded in 1880, though the Okapi mark only dates back to 1902. The Okapi logo includes a picture of an okapi, a forest-dwelling African herbivore related to

giraffes, but which looks to have been assembled from leftover parts of half a dozen more familiar creatures, including zebra and wildebeest. Another Everts trademark was Schneidteufel, German for "Cut-Devil." Everts,

Continued on Page 4

PRUSSIAN CROWN

Fancy Hardwood Handle, Fastened with Brass Rivets. Full Scale Tang. White Metal Bolster. Extra High Grade Prussian Steel Blade with wide Swage; Carefully Tempered, Ground and Sharpened. Highly Finished.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------|------|
| No. 5692—Length of Blade, Inches..... | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Per Dozen..... | \$5.50 | 6.50 | 8.00 |

½ Dozen in a Box.

Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

by Frank Trzaska

A tale of two Vince's??

Recently I found some contract information on a World War Two contractor that manufactured the "Hard Hat Diver's Knives" and machetes. Seen in M.H Cole's book III, the Vince Diving knife is a hard to come by piece. In Cole IV he has a Vince Forge 18" M1942 machete shown, I am still looking for one of those babies. Well, the paperwork I found related to machetes made by Vince; but this was Vince Fencing Equipment Co., Inc. of New York, NY. Well, Vince Forge is in Easton, PA, which is a very short distance from the Big Apple; but all the Vince Fencing Equipment Co. sales listed were for "Foreign Missions", not to the US, and among those sales were machetes. The Vince Forge machetes are not marked US on the blade nor are they dated like all the other WW II made machetes. The one shown in Cole's book IV has the original paper sticker on the blade which is written in Spanish, this really made me believe it was simply a commercial item in a military scabbard; but I am not so sure anymore. Well, anyway, that is my theory for now. Vince Fencing Equipment Co. Inc made fencing equipment and machetes for the US government to be sold strictly to foreign aid missions, that part is fact. The machete contract I found was for \$56,000.00 alone, so at the WW II price of about \$0.50 to \$0.80 for a machete that would leave a lot of machetes to be found, where are they now?? I just wonder if it was the same Vince, or was it actually a different company? Many companies had stores in New York City, it would have been a natural. But the company having a different name, now that makes me wonder. If you have any information on this, I would love to hear it.

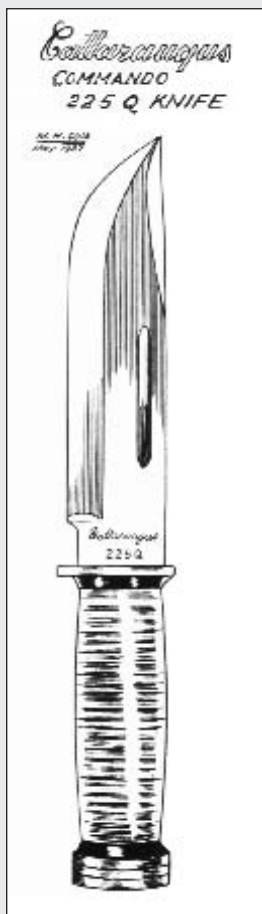
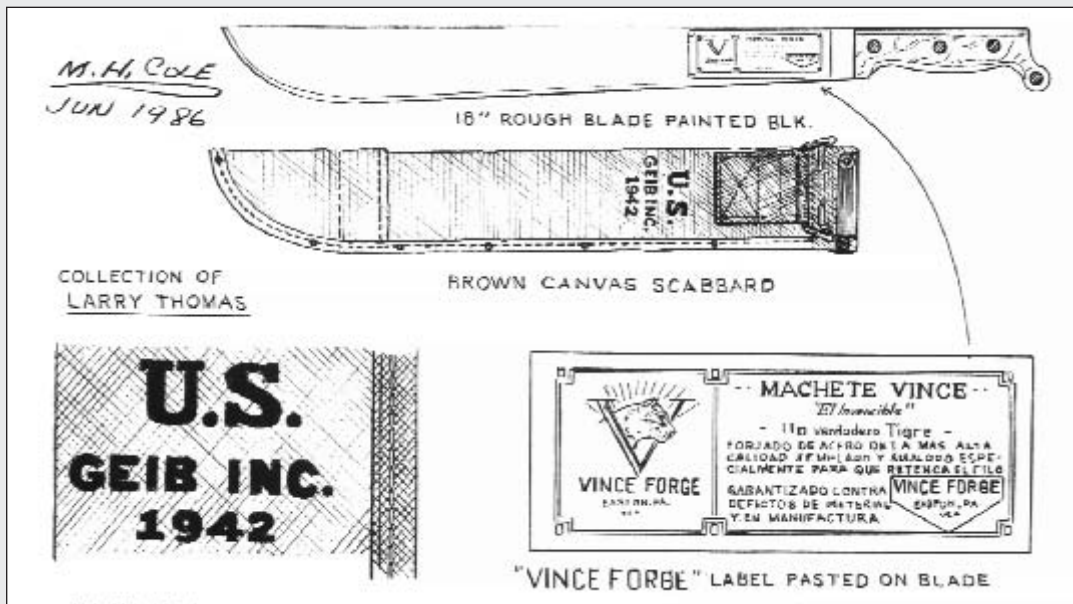
Cattaraugus 225Q

The Quartermaster pry bar knife. What a lot of hogwash that is, but it's tough trying to prove it. Still can't find any really good records or the original specifications on these buggars. Well, I can tell you that the US government bought over \$1,250,000 worth of them for

somebody! One contract, number 1913QM 11694, was right after a similar contract numbered 1913QM11693 issued to WR Case and Sons also for "Hunting Knives"; so you tell me was that the 337Q-6" or what! Cattaraugus records do not exist, we have tried that route already. What we need is a lucky strike in the Quartermaster records to find some drawings or specifications sheets. That would help us prove that once and for all time that the Catt225Q knife was an issued knife to front

Randall Blade Markings

The controversy over the FL. Vs. Fla. marked blade is over. According to recent findings by Rhett Stidham the FLA. stamp is being used today on stainless steel Randall Made blades and has been used intermittently ever since the 1984 introduction of the FL. stamp. On smaller Randall Made knives the FL. Stamp is the normal stamp used since 1984. On the larger stainless bladed models, the ones we are most



line fighters early in the war. And all that stuff about the Quartermaster knives is true; but then again almost every knife purchased was purchased through the Quartermaster Department, that was their jobs! I have been having a great correspondence with the wonderful military knife writer, Chuck Karwan, on the topic of these knives, they are one of Chuck's favorites. He has an outstanding article on them in the 1998 Knives Annual series. If you haven't read it, you need to do so; if you have, you need to re-read it. Many of the items Chuck points out are being found out to be fact, not that I ever doubted him.

concerned with here, the FL. and the FLA. stamps are both used and have been since 1984 when the wrong stamps were procured. So, as we see, there is no exact dating involved here except for the fact that a FL. marked knife is not older than 1984. But the key point is if you are paying more for a FL. marked or FLA. marked knife don't bother, they may have been made yesterday. On another topic, if you don't have the Randall CD for your computer you need to get it. What a great reference to these knives.



OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

Please Read this notice...

At the close of the OKCA April Show a table holder from the eastern area of the US asked a local Oregon table holder to mail two large boxes of knives that needed to be shipped to his home. The boxes were left on a table. And that was the last that was seen of them.

A notice appeared in our last Knewsletter about this and not a word has been heard. The person that lost these boxes has posted a sizeable reward for the return of these boxes. Can you help us?

We have a Web Page...

<http://www.oregonknifeclub.org>

Our web page has everything that you need to know that deals with the Show or membership in our Club. In fact I can't think of anything that one can't find were you to think the only answer is a telephone call. Club knife prices, lodging, application forms, knife shows globally, future show dates, web links, floor plans, past Knewsletters and too many other things to mention. Give us a look see.

And likewise if you have a web page and you want it linked to the OKCA web, please let us know. Don't forget to provide a link to us also. Link-about is fair play.

And then we need help once again...

The strength of our Knewsletter lies in the membership who send us articles. These articles are what make us the best in the world. Right now the cupboard is bare. I have no reserves for the rest of the year. I know that there are many of you who have articles on knife subjects and just need to be coaxed a bit. Well, let this be your special coaxing request. Elayne & I can massage your articles if needed, so you need not think you have to have writer's blood to make a story. Just ideas and the special knowledge go together to make fine reading. Help if you can.

We are in the Lodging and Where to stay business

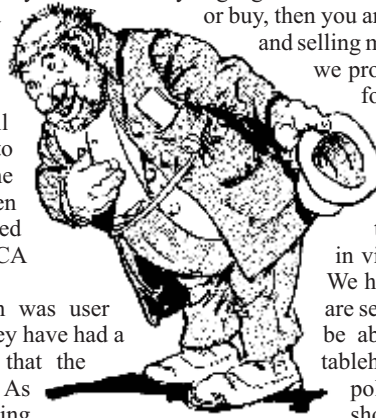
We would never have thought that we would get involved in recommendations on where to stay, but we have found that these services make a real difference in the total knife show attitude, and the positive experiences that you might have while here. We strive for perfection and just having the paths of communication to these facilities smooths many bumps in the road. **The Valley River Inn** is a first class place, and the raves and reviews show us that this is the first place to consider your stay. Our group fills this Inn every year, and many are turned away. Therefore early early reservations do not hurt.

For the budget minded we went with the **Quality Inn** last year, and that seemed to work pretty good. Besides that they border a great Steak House. For the people that like the old, the

Campbell House is an experience in elegance.

This year we have made special arrangements with the **Courtyard by Marriott**. They have given the Oregon Knife Collectors a special break on rooms. The Courtyard is located right off the freeway and is easy access to the Show. Marriott also has what they call the **Residence Inn** which is geared to those that are staying more than the weekend. Their rooms have kitchen facilities. This facility has also agreed to extend special rates to the OKCA show goers.

Last year the Hawthorne Inn was user friendly to our group. Apparently they have had a managerial change, and I detect that the attitude toward our group is negative. As such I would suggest not considering this facility.



for the purpose of setting up a selling and buying theater. That may happen, but not by our design. So if you gauge the Show based on how much you sell or buy, then you are on your own. The buying and selling might happen for the reasons we promote but having this work for you is your responsibility.

Do not forget that table holders that leave early either Saturday or Sunday or cover their tables during the Show are in violation of our Show rules. We have enforced this and there are several people that will never be able to attend our show as tableholders again. This same policy now exists for the mini show. Agree to our hours in word and deed.

Membership is due...

For 2002 by the end of December. Membership for the OKCA is based on a calendar year. That calendar starts January 01 and ends December 31. We have made it real easy to tell the status of your dues. If you are paid up for 2002 then your mailing label on this Knewsletter will state 2002. If the number is 2003, 2004, 2005 then that tells us you are a strong supporter in the OKCA and have paid years in advance. We like you. If your mailing label has 2001 on it, you might want to address this now. Besides that, it is tough to handle the rush at the last moment.

By the way please fill out the application form as that is the way we save your records. If you don't fill out a form, I have to and then you have the curse of dennis on you. (That curse has something to do with instant rust on your knives.) Also on the table requests, if you don't sign it, then I mail it back. So read it and sign it please.

Tips and Tricks about the Show.

We have a waiting list of about 30 tables for the 2002 Show. The cut off date for "right of first refusal" for those that had tables at the 2001 Show is December 15th. Those tables not claimed (means paid for and 2002 membership paid) will then be assigned to those on the waiting list. Therefore if you are wanting to get a table at our Show for the first time, then you had better respond quickly. I predict a sold out Show of 470 tables for 2002.

When your money is sent in for a reservation, we do not acknowledge that we received it. Instead we ask that you review your checks and see if we have cashed your check. That is your confirmation that the money was received. We will mail table confirmations and 2002 membership cards the last week in December.

A statement about the tables at the Oregon Show is that you had better like your neighbor. The reason is that the same table is available to the same person year after year. Every once in a while someone makes a request to move or asks for a second table. This is a very difficult thing to do. Most times impossible. The reason is that very rarely do we have people dropping out. So you can ask, but the odds are tough.

The goal of the Oregon Show is to provide an environment for education, enjoyment, an emotional happening, fun and camaraderie. It is not

Places to Stay and How to Get Here...

Judy Bailor of Travel Team is our official travel consultant for travel to Eugene. She has been doing this for mega many years. Contact her at **(541)344-6202 or (800) 950-5839**.

Valley River Inn - (800) 543-8266 - (541) 687-0123 - Special rates - An OKCA recommendation

The Campbell House -(800) 264-2519 - (541) 343-1119 - Elegance in the Old tradition

Courtyard by Marriott -(800) 331-3131 - (541) 726-2121 - Special rates if OKCA is mentioned

Residence Inn by Marriott -(800) 331-3131 - (541) 342-7171 - For stays longer than the Show.

Quality Inn - (541) 342-1243 (800) 228-5151 - By the University - Special OKCA rates

Mentioning the OKCA will get you special rates at all the above.

OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

Darrold (Ole) Olson

President (541) 726-7503

Loy Moss

Vice President (541) 747-7600

Elayne Ellingsen

Sec/Tres. (541) 484-5564

Michael Kyle

Master at Arms (541) 998-5729

Dennis Ellingsen

Show Coordinator (541) 484-5564

Knewsletter by elayne & dennis

Cut-toons by Judy & Lonnie Williams

Web page <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/>

Club e-mail okca@oregonknifeclub.org

OKCA, PO BOX 2091, EUGENE, OR 97402

(541) 484-5564

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Life Goes On

by Wayne Goddard

Phyllis and I were on our way to The Blade Show West on the morning of September 20, and the new regulations on what can be carried onto an airplane were in effect. My customized Swiss Army knife is not just a knife but a tool kit that has gotten me out of many troubles over the years. How would I be able to fix anything without the screwdriver blades, punch, scissors, nail file and, yes the two cutting blades? No Pocket Knives! The signs were up at most of the airport security check points, and there would be no exceptions. What's the World coming to!

A pocket knife has been my constant companion from the time I was about five years old. There haven't been half a dozen days in my life that I left home without one and usually I had either forgot it or lost it. Every time I discovered that empty pocket I got an awful feeling that somehow I wasn't complete. Sort of like being naked in the middle of Times Square, New York City. United Airlines got us to Santa Anna -John Wayne -Costa Mesa -Orange County Airport. Yes, that airport is known by all of those names. The show was at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, a new location and a good one. The hotel is in the middle of a business park surrounded by tall office buildings. One of our new customers worked in one of those buildings. He saw an advertisement in the newspaper and came to see what it was all about. Shows are a great time of learning and sharing, and this one was no exception. Many old friends were there, and we made some new ones as well as getting new customers. I had 17 knives, the most at any show in recent years. Only eight came home with us. We sold lots of Goddard Clipits and quite a number of my two books.

The high point of the show for me was finding a Nikon stereo microscope on the table of Bill Herndon. I picked it up and never put it down until I determined that it would work for engraving. I toiled late into the night to modify my engraving bench to get the right working height for the microscope. It was like the night before Christmas as I awaited the moment when I could cut some lines under the new scope. As soon I went to work under the microscope I realized that I had overcome the last obstacle in my long odyssey of learning to engrave. I could actually see what I was doing. It's a variable power that goes from 10X to 40X. With the power set on 20X, I cut two straight lines and then crossed them with little lines, sort of a little railroad track pattern. I took the practice piece out of the ball, put my glasses on and could just make out the little pattern. Now I understand how the professional engravers do such fine detail work. Now I need to get more practice time in.

BLADE Show West was a great show for every maker I talked to. The success came because the knifemakers all showed up, and the customers from the Los Angeles area came out in droves. We can't go back and change the events of September 11, 2001; we must go on with our lives. The terrorists will have a small victory over us if we hide in a corner and cry.

African Knives

Continued from Page 1

like Esser, mainly made low-priced knives and machetes destined for Colonial markets. Okapi moved to South Africa in the 1980s both to be closer to its customers, and to make use of lower-cost local labor.

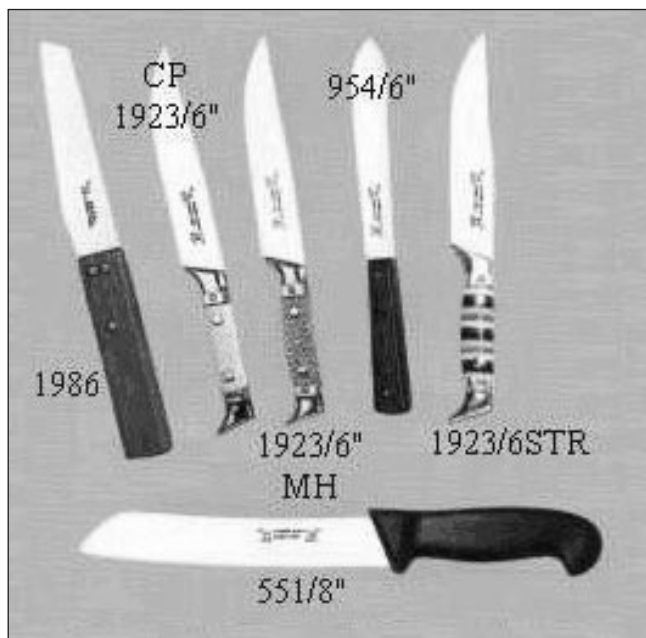
Here is part of the text from the opening page of the Okapi website:

Okapi Knives -which is a registered trade mark - {were} manufactured in Solingen, Germany {from} 1902 until 1987, after which the knives were manufactured in South Africa, to the same specifications and standards of quality under German Management.

Over the years the range has increased and in addition to the various folding knives, Butcher and Kitchen Knives, a variety of Agricultural Hand-Tools and Sugar Cane knives have been added to the range of articles...

All OKAPI knives and hand-tools have an excellent reputation for quality in all the countries to which the "OKAPI KNIVES" are exported. The Folding and Butcher knives are used for everything from wood carving to skinning of animals, fishing, cracking of mussels, harvesting of vegetables as well as cutting of meat and bread.

Traditionally the Pocket and Butcher Knives are used by the lower end of the market for whom a knife is a necessity. The knives are used for everything, not just in the Kitchen and this is the reason they have Carbon Steel blades which are much stronger than Stainless Steel and achieves a far better cutting edge, which lasts much longer.



OKAPI Knives are distributed through Wholesalers and Distributors not only in South Africa but in many countries throughout the World.

Telephone Number: (032) 4592883/4/5
Fax Number: (032) 4592934

International: +27 32 4592883/4/5

Address: 46/48 Green Street

Isithebe

Kwa Zulu -Natal

Republic of South Africa

<http://www.okapi-knives.com>

So the three knives I have, though older than these Okapis (pre 1927, when Elberfeld ceased to exist), were evidently also trade knives made for southern Africa.

The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The first meeting for the new year was September 13, 2001. We had several new faces in the group which were introduced by our president, **Ole Olson**. **Kim Morgan** had done her excellent job of phone calls to remind the members of the Thursday meeting. Thank you, Kim. If you are not receiving a call and would like one, please contact us; and we will put you on the list.

Thank you's to **Bernard Levine** for the hospitality at the Picnic at his home. **Michael Kyle** stated he had received several reservations for the December 8 winter show. Please call him at (541)998-5729 (see his article elsewhere in this Knewsletter) to reserve your table for the December show. Please be sure to advise **Barbara Kyle** what you will bring to the potluck which will follow.

We need articles for the Knewsletter. Please fax, mail, email so we can continue to provide the quality of Knewsletter which has become expected.

The opening ceremonies will continue.

Dennis Ellingsen, Show Coordinator, said that this is the funnest part for him. He does not have a chance to visit all the tables but can watch the ceremony. It has become a challenge to outdo the previous year as each year comes.

Ron Lake has offered to help with the Club knife project. He will contact us with additional information as it becomes available. A discussion regarding two knives for each year was considered, but it is not believed we would be able to sell two. Part of the aim would be a more affordable knife.

We have a waiting list for 2002 so be sure to mail your renewal for membership for 2002 and the table reservation for 2002 before the December 15, 2001 deadline.

Thank you everyone who attends the monthly dinner meetings. It helps us to further our interest in knives, and it is even fun. If you haven't tried it, you might like it.

See you at the Mission Restaurant October 11.





OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

BOX 2091 • EUGENE, OR 97402

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND SHOW TABLE CONTRACT

PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE PAGE or a photocopy. DO NOT CUT IT UP!

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Eve (_____) _____ Day (_____) _____ Date _____

Collector Knifemaker Dealer Mfr./Distrib. Other _____

OKCA membership includes newsletter, dinner/swap meetings, free admission to OKCA shows, free OKCA Winter show tables, right to buy OKCA club knife.

__ Start/ __ Renew my/our OKCA membership (\$20 individual/\$23 family) \$ _____

2002 27TH ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 20-21, 2002 470 — 8'x30" TABLES

Exhibit Hall, Lane County Convention Center and Fairgrounds, 796 West 13th Ave., Eugene, Oregon.
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT SHOW CHAIRMAN: DENNIS ELLINGSEN, (541) 484-5564

AUTOMATIC RESERVATIONS: If you had a table at the 2001 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2002, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2001. You may still apply for a table after this date, but we cannot guarantee a table after December 15. NO RESERVATIONS HONORED OR APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT! Note to NEW exhibitors: your table(s) will be assigned after 12/15/01.

ALL TABLE HOLDERS AND VISITORS agree to abide by the OKCA show rules, and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane County Fair Board harmless for any accident, loss, damage, theft, or injury.

ANY QUESTION OR DISPUTE arising during the show shall be resolved by the Show Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

THIS IS A KNIFE SHOW. All tables must be predominantly knives or knife related items (e.g. swords, axes, edged tools, edged weapons, knife books, knifemaking supplies). If in doubt, check with the Show Chairman ahead of time. The OKCA reserves the right to bar any item from display or sale. No firearms made after 1898 may be sold or shown at this show.

ALL EXHIBITORS are required to keep their tables set up throughout the public hours of the Show: 9 AM Saturday to 3 PM Sunday. ANY EXHIBITOR WHO LEAVES BEFORE 3 PM SUNDAY FORFEITS HIS FUTURE RESERVATIONS AND WILL BE DENIED TABLES AT FUTURE OREGON KNIFE SHOWS.

DISPLAY TABLES will be around the perimeter of the room. All displays are eligible for display awards, which are handmade knives donated by members and supporters of OKCA. Display judging will be by rules established by OKCA. Special category awards may also be offered. **NOTHING MAY BE SOLD FROM DISPLAY TABLES.**

SALE/TRADE TABLES Sharing of tables will not be allowed. Exhibitors must comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws. Oregon has NO SALES TAX.

BADGES: Each table holder is entitled to one additional show badge.

KNIFEMAKERS who are present and are table holders at this show may enter knives in the knifemaking award competition.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on categories and judging criteria in the display and handmade knife competitions, contact the Show Chairman.

SECURITY will be provided by OKCA from 10AM Friday

until 4 PM Sunday. However, exhibitors are responsible for watching their own tables. Neither the OKCA nor the Lane County Fair Board will be responsible for any loss, theft, damage, or injury of any kind.

CITY AND COUNTY REGULATIONS require that there be:

- No Smoking within the Exhibit Hall at any time;
- No alcoholic beverages consumed within the Exhibit Hall during the public hours of the show;
- No loaded firearms worn or displayed at the show;
- No swords or knives brandished or displayed in a provocative manner.

Violators of these safety rules will be asked to leave.

NOTE ON SWITCHBLADES AND DAGGERS: In Oregon it is legal to make, sell, buy, or own switchblade knives. However, it is **ILLEGAL** to carry a switchblade knife, a gravity knife, a dagger, or a dirk concealed on one's person, or for a convicted felon to possess a switchblade or gravity knife. Most other states have banned switchblade knives. Under federal law, it is **ILLEGAL** to mail, carry, or ship a switchblade or gravity knife across state lines.

SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday, April 19, 2002. 10am - 8pm set-up; open **ONLY** to table-holders and members of OKCA.

Saturday, April 20, 2002. 7am-9am set-up. **9am-6pm** open to public. **6 pm** no-host bar, **7pm** food, awards, entertainment. Tickets Required.

Sunday, April 21, 2002 8am-9am set-up. **9am-3pm** open to public.

Tables that are cancelled will revert back to the OKCA. Subcontracting tables is not permitted.

EXHIBITOR CONTRACT: PLEASE ENCLOSE FULL PAYMENT WITH THIS FORM. Full refund granted if reservation canceled by February 15, 2002; for later cancellation, refund will be granted only if your table is rented to someone else. **DON'T GET LEFT OUT!!! MAIL THIS PAGE AND YOUR CHECK TODAY. A signature is required.**

Type of knives on your tables _____

Name for second badge _____ (two badges per table holder)

___ **Club Dues (Total from above)** \$ _____

___ **SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL TICKETS @ \$12 each:** \$ _____

___ **Sale/Trade table(s) @ \$95 each (members only)** \$ _____

___ **Collector Display table(s) free with sale table:** \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (make check payable to O.K.C.A.) \$ _____

I have read and agree to abide by the OKCA show rules as set forth in this contract, and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane County Fair Board harmless for any accident, damage, loss, theft, or injury.

Signature _____ Date _____

*** PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE PAGE or a photocopy. DO NOT CUT IT UP!***

www.oregonknifeclub.org

Knives Are Where You Find Them

by Jim Whitman

At a local gun show in Anchorage, Alaska, over the weekend of Sept. 7 and 8, a knifemaker that just went to the show to see what was there made a great purchase. He and his daughter went by a table that had attracted her attention. One of those tables that has all the knockoffs of real knives, made in China, Pakistan and mostly just junk, in the eyes of a custom maker. She found a folder that was shaped like a parrot. She paid a price of \$2.00 for it, half price; since it was Sunday.

On this table her Dad sees a folder with what appears to be real stag on the handle. He picks it up and looks it over, opens it and thinks it may be a hand-made piece. This is made real clear when on the ricasso is a name stamped in saying, LILE. The vendor proudly informs him that these are all half

price cause it is Sunday . The man pays the vendor.....\$6.00 and moves across the way to tables with custom knifemakers he knows. He shows them this \$6.00 Jimmy Lile folder that anyone of them could have bought that morning or anytime on Saturday!!! To a man, none even went near the table!!!

I have attended no less then 30 such shows, and they all have that table someplace in the room with JUNK on it. Do I look at these tables? NO! Will I look at the next show? mmmm sure. Comes to mind as to how sharp this vendor is to let a \$550.00 Jimmy Lile folder sell off his table for six bucks!!!



Urban Yuppie Take-Apart Swivel Knife

Drawing copyright 1987 William W. Harsey.
Concept: Bernard Levine, William Taliaferro, Joy Olgay.

Sheffield Cutlers' Trade Marks

by Jim Taylor

It was an Act of Parliament that incorporated the Cutlers' Company of Sheffield in 1624. Before that date cutlers' marks were granted by a Court officiated by the Lords of the Manor of Sheffield. It is recorded that in 1564 a mark was granted to Robert Bourne. His mark "C H" entitled him to the sole use of this device for the princely sum of one penny per year.



The paragraph above is paraphrased from the first chapter of introduction that can be found, in what I believe, was Sheffield's first published, *REGISTER OF TRADE MARKS OF THE CUTLER'S COMPANY OF SHEFFIELD* by J. H. Whitham and D. Vickers in 1919. The only other such tome was published in 1953, by J.H. Whitham (son? same person?) and A. Sykes.

I believe that these Registers were only available to the subscribers, members, advertisers and British Consuls throughout the world. Accordingly, they were not sold to the general public and HENCE, their extreme rarity today. The 1919 edition is virtually unobtainable.

Some of the thousands of trade marks are quite entertaining, and I include a number for your enlightenment and amusement. The listing is taken from the 1919 edition:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| B4ANY (Before Any) | William Jessop & Sons Ltd. |
| I.C. (Spectacles device) | Jonas & Culver Ltd. |
| I.D.F.Y. (I Defy) | Aaron Hildick |
| IXL (I Excell) | George Wostenholm & Sons |
| O.K. (Okay) | Burgon & Ball Ltd. |
| X.C.D. (Exceed) | W. & S. Butcher Ltd. |
| XL. ALL (Excel All) | Needham, Veall & Tyzack Ltd. |

The choice of trade marks was of the **UTMOST IMPORTANCE**. Very few of the cutlers were literate and the device marked on their products had to be recognizable world wide. I find it quite remarkable how often very similar, if not exactly alike, many of the trade marks are. For example: ARROWS 27: BIRD 11: BOW 5: CANNON 5: CROWNS 21: DARTS 5: DOG 13: DRAGON 6: EYE 6: FISH 8: FLAGS 12: FOX 15: HAMMER 12: HAND 13: HEART 13: HORSE 13: HUMAN FIGURE 104: KETTLE 5: KEY 6: LION 20: MALTESE CROSS 49: PHOENIX 9: PIPES 4: PISTOL 4: SHEEP 8: SHIELD 8: SHIP 7: SNAKE 6: SPUR 5: STARS 44: SWORD 14: TREE 5: UMBRELLA 5: WHEEL 4: WREATH 4.

Do I have a favorite, you ask? YES, of course I do. It is the mark of Herbert Robinson & Co. Canton Works, Sheffield. Their trade mark was depicted as a GRINDER sitting behind his huge grindstone with sparks flying in every direction. If ever a logo/trademark said it all, this one did! Robinson's "GRINDER" trade mark is, or perhaps I should say, was, the most recognizable device in all of Sheffield.

Riddle of Steel

by Wendell Fox

This year's Riddle of Steel, Jim Keating and Combat Technologies annual training session for unarmed and edged weapons, that is usually held in the depths of Hells Canyon on the Snake River was hit with a double whammy.

Just days before the Riddle, the federal bureaucracy came in and closed the lodge; and a mad scramble was started to find a site to have the Riddle. The Quality Inn in Clarkston came in and did a great job of saving the day. Then came the horror in New York; everybody that was flying in was grounded, roughly 1/3 of the group. Jim's red hair now has more white streaks in it.

When the training finally began, it was somehow more subdued and intense than normal. Three days of intense training in this little known facet of the knife world was enjoyed by all.

The jet boat company that has the lodge gave the group a free day trip up the Snake river. Fall is the time to run this river. Colors starting to change, and big horn sheep were coming to water. The exciting part of the trip was the great horse chase. Two tourists were on horse back and did not tie there mounts up. The horses out ran us so a mad run down river in the boat to cut them off. After much sweat and comments about dumb tourists ancestry, the culprits were finally corralled. Hi Ho Silver.

In spite of all the terror and hassle that proceeded this year's Riddle, the crowning moment for me was the camper standing knee deep in the river, snapping to attention and giving his best West Point salute to the American flag flying on the boat as we went past.

Mike & Barb's Corner

by Mike & Barb Kyle

Well, here it is, October, 2001; and the leaves are starting to fall. That means that the rain in this area is not far behind. So it's about time to get them knives out and start oiling them so they won't rust. You can also do some inventory, see what you got and just see them. I like to touch them and open them some.

The Christmas mini show is fast approaching and will be here before you know it. The date for this mini show is Dec 8, 2001, a Saturday. Show time is 8 AM to 4 PM. Set up is 7 AM. First come on the tables of choice. Pot luck to follow the show at 5 PM sharp. The Club is furnishing the meat and drink. People coming to the pot luck bring something to go along with the meat. You know rolls, pies, cobblers, salad, things that people like to eat and you like to fix. I don't know how, but it all seems to work out.

Please bring a gift for the U.S. Marines for toys for tots. The Marines work very hard on this every year. They help some needy kids to have a nice Christmas and get gifts. The gifts have to be

new, not wrapped and for under 12 yrs old. Last year we had a couple of bags full. I mean big bags. Let's do our part. We hope that we have some Marines around this year and not off in another country.

This year we are going to try and have some door prizes for table holders. I don't know just what it will be, but we will have something. We hope to give a knife or two away to the table holders.

Please, if you make reservation for a table, you need to show up and we need you to stay until the show is over at 4 PM. It's not a problem now, and we just don't want to have one. The tables are free to paid up members of the Oregon Knife Collectors Club. Dennis and Elayne will be checking to make sure that you have paid your dues. They will have the Club

tables set up at the front of the building.

Now comes the big one. You can make your reservation by calling Mike or Barb Kyle at (541)998-5729 or e-mail at our new e-mail address a-doxiex2@att.net. Or you can tell us in person at the Northwest Knife Collectors show Oct 27-28, Tacoma, WA. At the Freight House Square near the Tacoma Dome. Or you can tell Dennis and Elayne Ellingsen at okca@oregonknifeclub.org, or you can call (541)484-5564.

When you make your reservation, we need to know who is coming to the pot luck and what you might bring. If you can, if not it's OK, we will get by.

As a last note, please stay safe, and God bless America and keep the flag flying high. I know I will.



Mike & Barb

Simply Show the Knife

by ibdennis

Bernard Levine was over to the house a few days ago looking for some specimens of knives for an article he is planning. In the process I pulled out a knife that I had not thought about in years. As we talked about this knife, memories poured out concerning the extensive research that I had done to find its history. Bernard encouraged me to write a few words about the knife; so in order to accomplish this, I thought that I should go back and find the notes I had made. I put them in a safe place. And they are still safe. I did find some other treasures of literature, but those will be saved for another day.

I do recall that I purchased this knife about 20 years ago or maybe more. It was an obvious advertising knife; and because it said Eugene, Oregon, on it, I know that I must have paid an outrageous price for it at the time. Maybe twenty dollars.

Let me describe this knife to go along with the pictures. The handles are metal (probably nickel silver), and the words are either stamped in or are raised letters. The face side says:

THE HOLDER OF THIS KNIFE WILL BE ALLOWED ONE DOLLAR ON ANY MAN'S SUIT OR OVERCOAT. SIMPLY SHOW THE KNIFE.

The back side of the knife says:

ROBERTS BROS TOGGERY MEANS WEAR EUGENE ORE.

The knife is marked - A.W. WILLIAMS & CO.- NEW YORK on the front tang and H. KESCHNER GERMANY ON THE BACK TANG of this two blade knife. The knife is about as mint as one you would buy today as new.

When I first received this knife I was puzzled over the word "Toggery." A trip to my Funk & Wagnall didn't help as this word was not even listed. Several dictionaries later I found the word, and a guess that the word came into use in 1811. It also suggested that it came from "togs" and was used in reference to clothing. In any event it was one of those words that comes into fashion for a

period of time and then goes out. It gave me the clue that Roberts Bros was a clothing store. Pretty smart hey, considering that the discount with the knife was for a man's suit or overcoat. Momma didn't raise no dummy.

I like to second guess knives before they reveal their real story so I figured that a German made knife would be out of favor from about 1914 to 1924 (WWI) and from 1935 until 1950 (WWII). I also guessed that it was after 1950 from the looks of it, but boy was I wrong on that one. A look in Goins and Levine suggested that this was a 1920s knife. And that was a firm maybe. So the search went on. Having an insatiable appetite for historical mysteries, dear elayne and I went to the University of Oregon and did a search on old newspapers. Those newspapers prior to 1930 required the use of a microfilm reader. I know that we spent numerous evenings going back in time looking for any clue to Robert's Toggery. We had also searched city directories for a clue to this store. Nothing.

We started looking in the 1920s and nothing showed up. It is a fact that one can become quite nauseous looking at microfilm go flying before your face in the hunt for information. I had to actually slow down before I conquered the queasy stomach syndrome. I remember it well. So then we started in 1919 to 1918 and down through the years. It was slow tedious work. We were looking mainly for advertisements for this store for if they purchased an advertising knife chances are they purchased advertising space in the local newspaper.



I was hoping that I could find my original notes, as I doubt whether I will go through the microfilm forest another time in my life. From a memory that can hardly find my notes, I will guess that we hit pay dirt around 1912. I do recall that Robert's Toggery was only in business for a few years. The ads were there, and I also remember that



we did not have the ability to make copies of this information. There is a certain mystery about knives that are pristine and go back this far into time. I enjoy the knife for its local history and the many stories it tells, all at the same time. The knife will go back into my collection in a safe place; and when the day comes that I find my notes, betcha that I won't be able to find the knife.

Cut-toon



North West Blacksmith Association

Bladesmithing Workshop

OCTOBER 19, 20 & 21, 2001

Instructor ABS Master Smith, Wayne Goddard

Earth, Wind, Fire and Ice Forge

Ridgefield, Washington

(A dozen or so miles north of Vancouver.)

A basic to intermediate level bladesmithing workshop. Wayne will review the basics to insure all have a good fundamental base as he demonstrates how to forge, harden /temper a blade. Guards, handles and sheath fabrication will be demonstrated. Student hands-on will be forging, enough to "Set" the knowledge in the students mind and hands. Wayne's famous "Bag of Tricks" will be present with at least two dozen mini demonstrations including the welding of several Damascus billets.

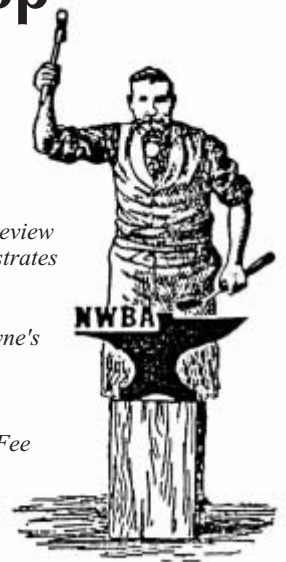
Friday and Saturday 9am to 9pm. Sunday 9am to noon- whenever. Fee

\$200. NWBA membership required (\$35.) Limited to ten students.

Contact Don Kemper, proprietor;

Earth, Wind, Fire and Ice Forge to sign up.

(360)887-3903 or Wayne Goddard (541)689-8098 for information.





OKCA Free Classified Ads

Free classified ads will run up to three issues and then be dropped. Available only to paid members. Write your ad on anything you have handy (except Charmin®) and mail to the OKCA, PO Box 2091, Eugene OR 97402. The number and size of ads submitted by a single member will be accepted dependent on available space and the mood of the editors.

Available - Videos of the opening ceremonies of the year 2000 and 2001 OKCA Shows. Shana Lord performs her rope and chiffon acts. Each tape is \$12 ppd. Order thru the OKCA.

WANTED-Buck 110 old style leather sheaths (cut down front) in good condition. AL WIESEL (541) 347-4739 O

WANTED -Jimmy Lile Rambo 2 dagger (black center & polished edges.) Limited Edition of 100 pieces. All offers welcome. Phone: +49 171 28 39 225 -schuster-frankfurt@t-online.de O

FOR SALE: 5" Post Vise-\$75.00 / Toaster Oven for tempering \$5.00. Dry Doug fir anvil bases-9 1/2" x 11 1/2" timbers new \$12.00. Stainless steel slack tubs \$10.00. I-Beam for hydraulic press 6 1/2" x 21" x 7" \$50.00 -MARTIN BRANDT (541) 747-5422 email: OUBOB747@aol.com O

FOR SALE: Amboyna, thuya, snakewood, ebony and all other woods. LARRY DAVIS, GALLERY HARDWOODS, (916) 386-1150 O

FOR SALE-Pocket and sheath knives. New lists. Case and assorted knives. Victorinox list and information on collectors club. Send SASE to REX MCELWAIN 605 DONALD LN NEWBERT OR 97132 or email at mcex@juno.com O

FOR SALE - Jason Williams Damascus folder, titanium linerlock, fossil ivory. Anodized, carved, file work no disappointments. \$2850 (503) 330-4415 Mark, or j_mark_cannon@yahoo.com S

NEW! Your Knife Questions ANSWERED ON-LINE. Bernard Levine, author of Levine's Guide to Knives and Their Values, will answer your knife questions on the Internet. Is that knife on eBay real or fake? Is the knife you're thinking of buying authentic? What kind of knife do you have, and what is it worth? What is the value of your collection, for insurance or tax purposes? Instant payment by Visa, MasterCard, or PayPal. Go to: www.knife-expert.com and follow the link.

HELP!! Did anybody find a large sign (7 ft. x 3 ft.) on the front of table I-3? It says "SKM - Maniago, Italy" in black letters on a bright yellow background. Thanks for your help. Michele Beltrame. Please let Dennis know if you know the whereabouts.

WANTED-M. W. Sequine knives, Juneau, Alaska maker. Will consider most any condition. Contact Jack (805) 489-8702 or email jh5jh@aol.com

WATERJET YOUR KNIFE PARTS-no heat effect, finished edge. Tolerance to .005. We will accept your DXF files or we will reverse engineer your physical parts and convert to computer drawings. Price, quality, service! References upon request. HYDRATECH INDUSTRIES REDMOND OREGON (541) 548-5453 S

FOR SALE-Prime, old elephant ivory. Full tusks, chunks, custom cut prices. The following OKCA club knives @ issue prices 1988, 1989, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996. JACK SQUIRES (503) 472-7290 S

FOR SALE-Special brand new Baldor 1-1/2 HP variable speed motors complete with control, cord and plug \$525. JOHN MALLET TRU-GRIT ABRASIVE SPECIALTIES 760 E FRANCIS ST #N ONTARIO CA 91761 (909) 923-4116 S

FOR SALE-I am a new member of Miniature Knifemakers Society. Museum quality Indian reproductions. Antique trade beads, custom orders. JOHN YASHINSKI P O BOX 1284 RED LODGE MT (406) 446-3916 S

FOR SALE: Oneida collection system, paid \$2300, never used, 3hp motor, complete system including cyclone, barrel, valves, ducting, etc. Very high quality \$1600. BRUCE BERGLIN (360) 422-8603 M

FOR SALE: Complete collection of custom made knives by Jerry Rados with Turkish Damascus twist pattern. Most pieces made in the early 1980s, leather sheaths, all in brand new condition. 7-1/2" fighter w/stag handle \$1800; 5" hunter/boot with integral guard and stag scales \$1000; two 4" skinner w/stag handle \$800; two 4" skinner w/impala handle \$800; 4" boot w/ivory handle \$900; two 2-1/2" bird/trout w/integral guard and ivory scales \$550; 3-1/2" folding hunter lock back, file work, fossilized ivory scales \$2000. 3-1/2" folding hunter lock back, file work, ladder damas' blued steel, fossilized ivory scales \$2000 BRUCE BERGLIN (360) 757-4094 M

WANTED: Gerber Mark II Combat/Survival knives. Especially interested in early and unusual pieces and related items and histories. Canted blades, colored handles, dive knives, etc. If you carried a MkII please let me know. Also knuckle knives, Kukri's, Randall's, F-S Commando, U S Military knives and nice old fighting knives in general. PHIL BAILEY POB 13000A PORTLAND OR 97213-0017 (503) 281-6864 or email: pbailey@europa.com M

FOR SALE-diamond burrs (nickle base) use dry on Rockwell, etc. Really a fantastic buy - 30 burrs. Fits Dremel, fordorm or any chuck on drill press or hand drill. Over 60 sets sold at OKCA in April. 100% satisfaction. Only \$25.00 ppd. The same price as the Show special. VISA/MC/AX/DISCOVERY. HILARY DIAMOND BOX P SCOTTSDALE AZ 85252 (480) 945-0700 ELLIOTT or email hiliary@hotmail.com M

FOR SALE-Giraffi! For scales or full handles. Better than sanbar or fossil ivory. 4-1/2" long. Can be cut for scales or filled for a solid handle \$60ea + \$5.00 shipping. Each piece makes 2 or more scale pairs or use for single handle. Makes about 6 pairs of folder scales. 100% refundable if not cut. VISA/MC/DISCOVERY/AX. HILARY INDUSTRIES 7117 - 3 AVENUE SCOTTSDALE AZ 85251 (480) 945-0700 ELLIOTT or email hiliary@hotmail.com M

FOR SALE-Ironwood scales 5"x1-1/2"x1/2". Close out all or part. 1000 pairs @ \$3.50 pair minimum 20 pairs. All excellent condition. Plus shipping. You'll love them. HILARY INDUSTRIES 7117 - 3 AVE SCOTTSDALE AZ 85251 (480) 945-0711 ELLIOTT or email hiliary@hotmail.com M

WANTED-Blue Grass series second hand and fourth edition commemorative knives. Will pay top book price for mint knife. Also looking for bone handled Pal and Western pocket knives. Will trade. mtyler77@webtv.net or (541) 336-2107 A

WANTED-Al Mar knives new or used condition. New OKCA member from Michigan is trying to bring more Al Mar items to the Midwest, but I need your help. Please call (734) 485-1308 or email baileypsi@aol.com. Interested in all models. BOB BAILEY 1386 LEVONASTYPSILANTIMI 48198 A

WANTED-OKCA Club knife-Al Mar edition. New Club member from Michigan would love to add one of these to his "Al Mar" collection. Phone (734) 485-1308 or email baileypsi@aol.com A

WANTED-Any fly fishing knife and any fishing gear, i.e. rods, reels, lures, creels. Pay top dollar. Call FRANK MILLER (541) 822-3458 email fshnfrank@aol.com A

FOR SALE- Jet horizontal or vertical metal cutting band saw 4-1/2" \$125.00 -Jepson 14" cutoff saw \$125.00 -Kicker punch

press \$125.00 -Gorton 2-3 pentomill 3 dimensional. Great for knife bolsters or cutting out and engraving blades. \$2500.00 obo -Bench top bead blaster and shot \$80.00 -Craftsman 12" wood lathe \$150.00 5 hp air compressor America \$500.00 -Smithy lathe, milling, drilling machine combo \$1200.00 -12 Volt forklift 250 lb capacity \$300.00. -PETER KILMER (541) 752-3510 A

FOR SALE-"Dave Murphy a man to be remembered" Twenty of his knives made from 1983 to 1995 for sale all together. Included is his life history in booklet form with several copies of his newsletter, also newspaper write ups and pictures. VIRGILANDERSON (503) 761-4053 A

High quality copies of various hard to find government reports, files and letters on Edged Weapons. All of these offerings have been found in archives, libraries and depositories around the country over the years and are in the "public domain." Contact - Knife Books - PO Box 5866 - Deptford, NJ 08096 for a listing or follow the link from the ad on the OKCA web page. trz@citnet.com

"John Nelson Cooper Knives" by Paul Basch and Bill Martin. Only 100 left. \$100.00. Call (501) 872-5200 or (501) 872-5209.

"Knife Talk" by Ed Fowler. 60 past *Blade Magazine* articles combined w/the author's updates and 200 photos. Take a trip with the father of "Multiple Quench" \$14.95 plus \$3.20 S&H - Ed Fowler - Willow Bow Ranch PO Box 1519 Riverton WY 82501 - (307) 856-9815

"Knives of the United States Military in Vietnam" by M. W. Silvey is a color celebration of the knives, patches and other accouterments of the Vietnam War. This is a book that you will open time and again just for the pleasure of viewing. Hardbound only. \$39.95 plus \$3.00 shipping. M W Silvey - email: silvey@jps.net

"How To Make Multi-blade Folding Knives" \$20 ppd. Autographed by the author Terry Davis Box 111 Sumpter OR 97877

"Bayonets, Knives & Scabbards" Thought to be the most important paper ever written of U. S. edged weapons by the U. S. Government. Available for the first time to the general public in one volume, covers U. S. Army edged weapons from 1917 through the end of World War II. Soft cover, 80 pages filled with facts. Even the advanced collector will find "new" material between these covers. \$15.95 + \$3 priority postage. Frank Trzaska - Knife Books P O Box 5866 - Deptford NJ 08096

"Knives of the United States Military World War II" by Michael W. Silvey. is hardbound, 8x5x11 inch format, 250 pages (240 full page color plates). Over 425 knives are displayed. Great reference for collectors and others interested in the period. First edition has a limited printing of 3,500 copies. \$59.95 plus \$5 shipping. Contact Mike Silvey (916) 383-7531 email: silvey@jps.net

"The Wonder of Knifemaking" by Wayne Goddard is soft cover 8 1/2 x 11, 160 pages, 16 page color gallery. \$19.95 + \$3.05 (\$23.00) shipping in U.S. Send a check or money order to: Goddard's, 473 Durham Ave, Eugene, OR 97404. Or call (541) 689-8098 to order using Visa, MC or Discover cards.

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The Knewsletter
 Oregon Knife Collectors Association
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Events Calendar

October 2001

- **October** -----
 Oct 12-13 - Fall Knife Show -Edgerton WI (KW-B)
 Oct 12-14 - American Knife Throwers -Awendaw SC (B)
 Oct 20-21 - Arizona Show -Mesa AZ (KW)
 Oct 27-28 - NorthWest Knife Collectors -Tacoma WA (KW)
 Oct 26-28 - Cincinnati Ohio Show (KW)

- **November** -----
 Nov 02-04 - New York Custom -NYC (B)
 Nov 03-04 - Mt Vernon Knife Show - Illinois (KW-B)
 Nov 03-04 - Australian Custom -Fremantle W. Australia (KW-B)
 Nov 09-10 - Greater Ohio Show - Cambridge OH (KW-B)
 Nov 09-11 - Fort Meyers Knife Show - (KW-B)

- **December** -----
Dec 08-08 - OKCA Winter Mini Show
 Dec 06-08 - Greatest Knife Show-Pigeon Forge TN (KW)
 Dec 08-09 - Heart of America - St Charles MO (KW)

- **January 2002**-----
 Jan 25-27 - Wolverine Knife Show - Novi MI (KW-B)
 Jan 25-27 - Chattanooga TN Knife Show (KW)

- **February 2002** -----
 Feb 01-03 - Las Vegas Classic - Nevada (B)
 Feb 15-17 - Gator Show - Lakeland FL (KW)
 Feb 16-17 - Arkansas Custom Show - Little Rock(KW)

- **March 2002** -----
 Mar 14-15 - Riverland Collectors -Dunnellon FL (B)
 Mar 16-17 - ABS West Clinic -San Pedro CA (B)

- **April 2002** -----
Apr 20-21 - Oregon Knife Collectors Show -
 Eugene OR
 ----- **May 2002** -----
 May 31-02 - Blade Show -Atlanta GA (B)



DINNER MEETING

Thursday Evening
October 11, 2001

The Mission Restaurant
On Franklin Blvd
Mexican Cuisine

6:00 PM Dinner
7:00 PM Meeting

Show-N-Tell
Bring sumthin' Sharp for
Share-Wit-Us
No excuses—Show 'N' Tell

Contact Dennis or Elayne (541) 484-5564 for additional information on OKCA events. For non-OKCA events, contact the sponsoring organization. Additional info = (B)lade Mag. -(KW) Knife World.

