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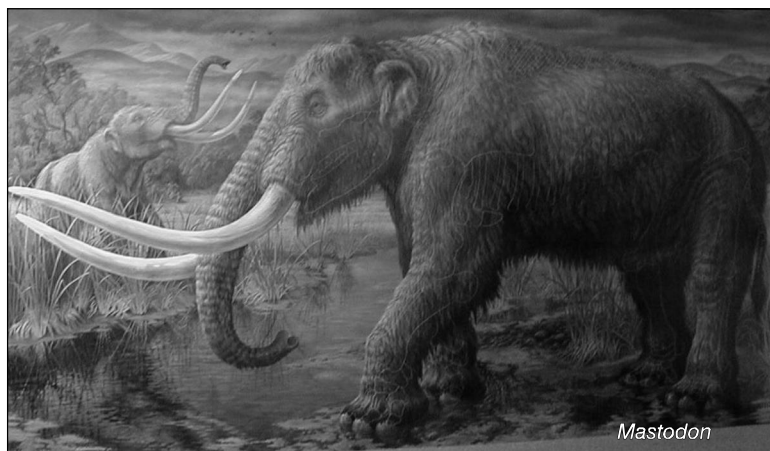
Our *international* membership is happily involved with "Anything that goes 'cut'!"

November 2006

## Mammoth or Mastodon? by Dan Westlind

I get this question all the time so I hope to shed some light on the subject. Mammoths and mastodons were two entirely different animals. Mammoths and mastodons both belong to the order of Proboscideans, the same family that elephants belong to. Mammoths and mastodons both lived in the same areas at the same times, during and up to the end of the Pleistocene Era. The mastodons seemed to be more prolific and predominate during the early Pleistocene Era, whereas the mammoth was more predominate during the later part of the Pleistocene Era (about 10,000 years ago). Most, if not all, the ivory that we get comes from the mammoth. We had two different mammoths in North America, the smaller woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) and the larger Columbian mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*). The woolly mammoth was more suited for the northern climate and is rarely found in the continental U.S. whereas the Columbian mammoth is found all over North America.

The teeth from the mammoth and mastodon are quite different, but the tusks were similar in shape and size. Since most of the mastodons died out earlier in the Pleistocene Era, it is very rare to find an actual mastodon tusk. If one is found, it is usually petrified and turned to rock. In all the years I have dealt with tusks and have seen thousands of tusks, I have only ever seen perhaps a dozen true mastodon tusks and half of those were petrified. The mastodon tusks I have seen were usually straighter than mammoth tusks. Although the picture book mammoth tusk has what we call a double curve, in that it curls up and inward, most tusks are all different, much like the antlers on a deer. They all have similar characteristics, but the antlers are all different. The tusks being different also in shape and size. The male Columbian mammoth had the largest tusks, followed by the female Columbian, then the male woolly mammoth followed by the female woolly mammoth; but this may not always hold true.



Mastodon



Mammoth Tusk

Age also plays a huge part as how old was the animal when it died and how mature were its tusks.

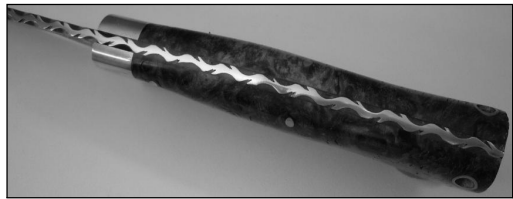
Over the years, I have collected parts and pieces of lots of tusks; and I have pieces of mammoth tusks, mastodon tusks and a piece of a gompothere tusk, the gompothere being another tusked creature, along with the stegodon which pre-dated the mammoths and mastodons. I could almost write a book on the differences of the animals, but all I am trying to do is sum up the question, mammoth or mastodon? Now you can tell everyone it is mammoth and be about 99% or more right



This picture shows the difference between a mammoth and mastodon. The mammoth tusk has more of a curve (top one in photo) whereas the mastodon tusks were more straight.

# Getting A Handle On It By Merle Spencer

I've been working on a blade that I agreed to enhance some eight months ago. Now, I sometimes take a year or so to complete a knife; but this one had been going quite well, even with my other hobbies getting in the way. I had sold my boat, so fishing wasn't one of the competitors for my time. But now something seems to be keeping this knife from going as easily as it should.

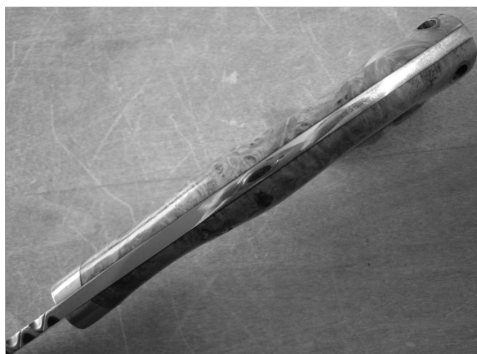


This is a good blade of ATS34 steel that I purchased at the Oregon Show a couple years ago. First of all, the hours required to hand sand from 320-grit to 600-grit didn't accomplish the task of getting all the scratches out; and I had to go back to 320-grit to make them disappear. That can happen on any blade, but I'm inclined to think this may be a portent of what has transpired since.

Then I got the brass bolsters all rough shaped and drilled (always a difficult task for me, my clamps seem to slip), and lightly and steadily peened the rivet pins all down, as Woody taught me, until they disappeared into the brass of the bolsters.

Next I taped the blade and ground the bolster-pin combination down on a coarse belt. The pins are supposed to disappear into the surrounding brass. They didn't. They stood out as if they were a different kind of metal. Unhappy with this situation, I took a small punch and knocked the pins back out. They had assumed a funnel shape on both ends, so naturally I assumed the bolsters had obtained the corresponding shape and would no longer be usable.

I started making new bolsters out of some flat stock. Now, mind you, this all was over a period of several days, as I do not sustain interest in this activity more than a couple hours or so at a time. While working on new bolsters (and getting one hole in the wrong place), I decided to re-try the original bolsters. Selecting a rod of the correct size purchased from the same supply house as the bolster material was, I hammered away. This time I wasn't too careful and I hammered pretty hard and actually dented the brass where I didn't intend to.



When I ground the bolsters down, I could see no trace of the pins. So, on to the scales. I had selected a set of stabilized spalted maple burl scales that had a pretty cross-wise grain and had been book-mark cut,



that is, the pattern continued from one side to the other. I carefully mixed some epoxy and

clamped up one side and let it cure overnight. I was out of the brand I have always used, and I wasn't sure of this type; but I guessed epoxy is epoxy. When I had squeezed out portions of glue to mix, it didn't seem like the amounts were equal; but I mixed the minute-plus anyway and clamped everything together over night.

The upshot of all this is, the glue never did completely cure, but was kind of spongy, even though I had gone ahead and drilled and then glued the other side; after long agonizing, I ended up running both sides through the band saw and cleaning the tang clear down to the metal.

Luckily, when I had purchased the scales, I got two sets, so now I'm ready to apply the new set using the new epoxy that was delivered the other day. I have had reversals on knife projects before; but since this is a good blade, I believe this one will turn out to be a beautiful knife.

All this got me to thinking about handle shapes in general. Some knives feel good when you pick them up and others don't. Some of this is undoubtedly due to the shape of an individual's hand, but I think some shapes are just better than others. Probably some of the first knives had plain round handles tied to some kind of blade. That is still a good shape, as some knives that contain kits inside the handle use this shape.

The texture of the material seems to make a difference, too. Any kind of stag feels good to my hand, and the varied shapes still seem to feel good. Smooth handles, however, seem to be better if they are contoured somewhat.



I can't get away from the fact that a square-cornered bread knife handle in the kitchen really gives control in getting that toast the right thickness, but I always end up rounding off the corners on my handles because it seems to be a more finished look.

A knife I completed several years ago and still carry to shows has a full tang handle that increases in size vertically from bolster to thong hole as it tends to drop downward. This profile, combined with a palm swell on both sides and a curve outward at the end, seems to fill the hand just right. It feels good when I pick it up.

A Woody Woodcock knife in my small collection has a handle of buckeye maple that resembles the one just described, but it is much thinner. The handle actually thins down as it leaves the bolster and continues into the palm swell. This leaves a perfect rest for the thumb as the knife is grasped. The thinness of the handle actually adds to the feeling of having control of the blade.

Sometimes the prettiness of a handle outweighs the comfortable grasp when we select a knife, and that's fine if the knife is going to sit in a display case; but I have a small hunter made by Bill Amoureux which has a beautiful pearl handle that is perfectly flat and straight on both sides. The corners have been nicely rounded off and polished, and this coupled with the just-right vertical profile of the tang makes the knife lay nicely in the hand. I sometimes pick it up from where it rests on the top of my display chest just to feel that handle.

Each time I work on a knife, it's a new adventure; and as I grind and sand away on that handle material, I wonder what is hidden in there.

The end is always pleasantly surprising.



## Membership and Table reservations.....

Your label on this Knewsletter will give you a clue whether you have re-upped or not for 2007. If it shows 2006, then you had better think about our deadline of December 15 for tables. If it sez 2006, you have until December 32 until your membership expires. Ours is a calendar year membership.

We had proposed that the Atrium room might be available for our 2007 Show. We sent out flares and inquiry to fill the room and use it once again. The response hasn't been sufficient to burden ourselves with the extra costs for this room.

We are also still analyzing if our regular room will be filled to capacity. Our goal of 470 tables has been met for several years, but we have had no waiting list. If after December 15 it appears to be too close, we will need to cut back on the Show to about 430 tables. This will mean some slight shifting of table spaces and will create a better fit. The problem with an almost full show is that at Showtime when we get cancellations based on health issues, divorces, puppy births and astrology warnings it represents empty tables at the Show. With a waiting list, we are able to maintain a full room.

## November Meeting.....

The monthly meeting will take place on the third Wednesday of the month, November 15. The Sizzler has undergone a complete face lift, and it sure is nice. The good food has stayed the same, and the staff is as cordial as always. Come join us and share the evening. We might suggest that we keep the Show-N-Tell knives to a minimum. We originally suggested one knife per person, and it might be a good idea to implement this once again.

## The Mini December Show

The date is Saturday, December 9, and the event is much as it has been over the years. It will again be in the round building (Wheeler Pavilion) which has a capacity for 100 tables. The hours are 7am until 4pm, and we have raised table rates by 100%. So 100% of zero is..... But you will have to reserve your table in advance, and one table per member please. The rules are the same as always: You must be a member of the Oregon Knife Collectors, and you ABSOLUTELY MUST be there the whole time from stem to stern. If you can't do that,

please do not ask for a table. Leaving early, other than by ambulance, is forbidden; and the consequences could be the same as the ambulance analogy if you do leave early.

The public can get in after 8am, and there is no charge for admission. This has been a fun affair so come knife with us. There will be a potluck after. Please advise Elayne the side dish you will provide. Either email or phone, the address or numbers are found in this Knewsletter under Whot-zits and Whos Zits.

## Articles - Stories and Words of sharpness...

This month we thank **Dan Westlind, Merle Spencer, Rod Smith, Mike Silvey, Tedd Harris and Lonnie Williams** for their contributions to this issue. This Knewsletter is well supported but the future is a tad dim for articles. I am on bended knees and request you to help us out with the Knewsletter. Please, please. Our Knewsletter is a very integral part of our Club and Show success.

## Smile Knives.....

I didn't get a smile knife this month once again. So I reached into my special collection to show this super rare knife.



Most of these knives are used and then thrown away, but I detected a collectable item here and saved this. It could be for sale, but you better be ready to pony up for some big bucks.

## Club Knife - Ford Swauger 2007.....

This Knewsletter offers the Ford Swauger knife for sale. It is a special knife so you might want to hurry your reservations in for this item. A color picture can be found on our website along with an application form you can print out. This is a Club project to help offset our costs, and, as a knifemaker who wanted to help the OKCA, Ford is offering this knife at an attractive price. The Oregon Special version of this knife cannot be shipped and is only available to Oregon Club members. There are laws that we must adhere to on this item. Any questions: email or call.

## Thursday Nite Social.....

Last year we tried a Thursday Nite Social event at the Valley River Inn. It really went well, and we had numerous requests to do it again for 2007. It is a costly affair, and last



year the pain was eased with several donations. The idea was to provide a gathering place for pre show greetings, and there was finger foods that were awesome. Not a meal but more a get together before a meal should you want. The event went from 5pm until 8pm. We have plans to do it again.

## Lodging in Eugene....

We have suggested possible lodging for your visit to Eugene. With the added tables at the Show, it might be wise to plan ahead. We have made arrangements with several facilities in the area. The **Valley River Inn** has been our strongest partner over the years and will continue for 2007. You can book rooms today if you like as everything is in place.

**The Valley River Inn** - (800)543-8266 - (541)687-0123 - Our top recommendation. Fills up fast. A quality place to stay. Official home for folks away from home visiting the Oregon Knife Show. Special Show rates if you mention the OKCA Show.

**The Campbell House** - A City Inn - (800)264-2519 - (541)343-1119 - Classic Hospitality. A very unique experience. Top quality.

**Courtesy Inn** - (888)259-8481 - (541)345-3391 - The closest motel yet to the Knife Show. A budget motel and special rates if you mention the Knife Show.

**La Quinta Inn** - (541) 344-8335 - Cost effective and in a delightful setting. Close to a park, the river, the bike trail and in the city. Call direct for special OKCA rates.

**Phoenix Inn** - 800-344-0131 - (541) 344-0001 - Cost effective and close to the college campus and downtown. Nice, clean and a pleasant place to stay.

# The Seek-re-tary Report

by *elayne*

The October 18 meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant, Springfield, Oregon was attended by 37. We currently have a paid membership of 1378.

Please renew your 2007 membership and remember the deadline of December 15 date for reservation of your 2007 table. There will be an opportunity to pay at the December 9 show which will be held at the Wheeler Pavillion, Lane Events Center, Eugene OR. Check your label on your Knewslettter (2006--renew; 2007 or better you are ok). You must be a 2007 member to have a table at the 2007 Show.

At the meeting we discussed **Ford Swauger** providing the 2007 Club knife. We have yet to determine the handle material cost but will know by the November Knewslettter (see advert this Knewslettter) with a photo and pricing. Thank you, Ford, for a special knife.

One of the perks of membership is free advertising in our Knewslettter. We receive a number of requests to promote individuals and events, but we have restricted our promotions to members and knife only events. Our membership fee is minimal, and we continue to believe that it is in the best interests of our group that we continue to restrict to knife only events and members.

The December Mini Show is also a perk of membership. The Club rents the room and the tables and provides them free to the members. You must advise us you want a table so sufficient numbers can be reserved. Set up starts at 7:00am. Entry is free to the public at 8:00am. Closes at 4:00pm and the potluck will follow. **Phyllis Goddard** has graciously offered her help for the coordination of the potluck. Please advise me (email or 541.484.5564) if you will attend the potluck and what you will bring. The entrees will be provided by the Club. Don't forget to bring a toy for Toys for Tots. **Bryan Christensen** has volunteered for this project.

If you have a web page and would like our website to link, send us an email and it will be done. We are very proud of the website we have available. Check it out.

Please advise us if you should have an address change or an email address change.

See you at the meeting, November 15 at the Sizzler Steak House, Gateway, Springfield, Oregon. The meeting starts at 7:00pm but the gathering starts anytime after 5 pm. Come join us and have a fun time. Bring a knife (only one please) for show and tell.

## The First Knife I Made

Hi! I'm Tedd Harris. I made my first knife out of a butter knife, the old silver plated hollow handle type with a round tip, when I was ten years old. An older



friend shaped a point on it for me, then I sharpened it. Our landlord, an old farmer, cut parts for a sheath for it out of a cow hide he had in the barn; and I punched holes in it with an eight penny nail, cut pieces of baling wire about 1" long, stuck them through the holes and hammered them flat on both sides. I had a sheath that fit the knife. I was pretty proud of myself for what I had been able to do.

That was over 50 years ago, and I have no idea what happened to that knife. I must have lost it within the year, because the same friend gave me one of his old hunting knives a little later. My cousin lost that one for me. (I had a miserable time keeping knives, didn't I?)

I have thought of that knife fairly often recently and have wondered why I even thought about making a knife. Sometime ago the memory of why I made that knife returned to me.

It was in the spring of 1955, and my family had just moved to Meridian, Idaho, from Farmington, New Mexico, the previous fall. I was in the 5th grade in a three room schoolhouse and had gone to the bathroom in the basement. A couple of boys who were in the 6th grade were there, looking at a knife one of them had made. They looked at me and made a rude suggestion to each other that scared me so badly that I ran out of the bathroom to get away from them. (I don't remember whether I finished what I went there for or not!)

I didn't have any more trouble the rest of the day, rode the bus home and told my mother what had happened. I never heard another word from either of those boys about the incident. My father was a very good friend of the father of the one who had made the knife, and I just imagine that Dad told his friend; and things were settled between father and son, just as they ought to be.

Well, I forgot the matter, except for staying out of the way of those two fellows.

Sometime later an old kitchen knife showed up in our house. When I saw it, I asked Mom where it had come from. She thought my brother had found it out on the road in front of the house, so I asked him what he was going to do with it. He didn't know. He had just brought it in and had given it to Mom. I announced that I would make a knife out of it if nobody else wanted it. Nobody objected, and so I began making arrangements to have our friend, a neighbor down the road, help me. After he finished shaping the point with a cutting torch, he cleaned it up on a grinder, put a rudimentary edge on it and gave it back to me. I sharpened it like a razor, and I had a knife!

After the sheath was made, I put the knife in my sock and took it to school. Nobody hassled me, and I was prepared to be hassled. However, the wire staples on the sheath were scratching the heck out of my leg! I decided that it was just too uncomfortable to carry that way, but there was no other way to carry it at school, so I left it home after that. I don't think anyone ever knew that I had taken the knife to school. Until now, of course!





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 \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

32ND ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 14-15, 2007  
470 — 8'x30" TABLES

Exhibit Hall, Lane Events 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 2006 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2007, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2006. 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 12/15/06.

ALL TABLE HOLDERS AND VISITORS agree to abide by the OKCA show rules, and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane Events Center 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 90% 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 OR COVERS THEIR TABLE 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. NO EXCEPTIONS.

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.

SHOW FACILITATORS 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 Events Center 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 13, 2007.  
10am - 8pm set-up; open ONLY to table-holders and members of OKCA.

Saturday, April 14, 2007.  
7am-9am set-up. 9am-6pm open to public.

Sunday, April 15, 2007  
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, 2007; 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)  
NO EXCEPTIONS

\_\_\_\_\_ Club Dues (Total from above) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sale/Trade table(s) @ \$95 each (members only) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Collector Display table(s) free with sale table: ..... Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Night Social Tickets \$5.00 each ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 Events Center harmless for any accident, damage, loss, theft, or injury.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

# U.S. Military Markings: Folders by Ulster Knife Co. by Mike Silvey

In last month's article we took a look at the folders by Imperial Knife. This time, following the same picture essay type of format, I would like to take a look at the military folders by Ulster Knife Co. This company, in its early days, made knives of exceptional craftsmanship and quality; and they are among my favorites.

**Figure 1** shows the predecessor to the TL-29. It is the U.S. Army Signal Corps knife with a main blade and locking screwdriver. This pattern has an elegant design feature that locks the screwdriver when open. The tang of the screwdriver blade is notched to receive the projection on the back spring, which locks the blade when in the open position. This is a fairly common type lock; however, the release mechanism is rather unique. A tab on the main blade back spring extends through the center liner and rests atop the back spring of the screwdriver blade. When the closed main blade is depressed, the tab pushed on the screwdriver back spring thus raising it out of the notch, allowing the screwdriver blade to close. This knife is 3-5/8 inches long and is slimmer than the later TL-29's. Both blades are marked "Ulster/Knife Co./N.Y.," and the shield is marked "U.S. Signal Corps".

**Figure 2.** This is an early TL-29, before World War II, I think. It is 3-3/4 inches long with nickel silver bolsters, shield and bail and brass liners. The knife displays excellent quality. The blade is marked "Ulster/Knife/Co". The screwdriver blade is held open via the then standard liner lock.

**Figure 3.** This is a World War II branch marked TL-29. The wood scales are stamped "U.S.M.C."; and the liners, bolsters and all fittings are steel. It is interesting to note that this knife, and the next two WWII TL-29's, is made in a shorter configuration of 3-5/8 inches. The blade on this one is marked "Ulster/Knife/Co".

**Figure 4.** This is another World War II branch marked electrician's knife. The scales on this one are stamped "U.S.N.", and the blade is marked "Ulster/Knife/Co". The knife shows great quality. This differs from the previous knife in that it has brass liners and nickel silver bolsters. The bail is steel.

**Figure 5.** This electrician's knife is stamped "TL-29" on the wood handle. The blade is marked "Ulster/Knife/Co", and the all steel configuration is typical of the World War II vintage TL-29's. The knife, which measures 3-5/8 inches when closed excluding the bail, is of excellent quality.

**Figure 6.** This is probably a late or post World War II knife, and it is made with unmarked handles made of a very dense and hard red wood. The knife returns to the more standard size of 3-3/4 inches when closed. The tang of this knife is marked "Ulster/TL-29/U.S.A." The handles are rather more robust than found on knives other makers of the time.

**Figure 7** shows a knife that is nearly identical to the knife in Figure 6 differing only in its markings. This one is marked "Ulster/U.S.A." on the obverse of the main blade ricasso and "TL-29" on the reverse.

**Figure 8** shows a typical engineer's knife of the World War II era. The scales are nicely jugged bone, and the knife has four blades including the main blade, screwdriver, can opener and punch. All fittings are steel and the knife measures out at 3-5/8 inches. The main blade is marked "Ulster/Knife/Co."

**Figure 9.** This rather small knife measures 3-5/8 inches closed. It has beautiful bone handles and five blades which include the main sheepfoot blade, a spay blade, a can opener, a punch, and a Phillips screwdriver attached to the bail. The knife is nicely made with brass and nickel silver fittings. The shield is marked "U.S.," and the blade is marked "Ulster/Knife Co./U.S.A." The knife was made for the U.S. servicemen

who served in the snow country and required the tools on this knife to adjust and repair their skis and bindings.

**Figure 10** shows a second generation knife made for the same purpose as the knife in shown Figure 9. The Phillips screwdriver blade was moved to the inside of the knife, a change that made it much easier on the soldier who carried it in his pocket. This particular knife has nickel silver bolsters and brass outside liners. Interior liners are steel. I have examples of this knife that are of all steel construction and some bear the older style can opener with a post or peg.

**Figure 11.** This electrician's knife is probably from the 1950s, and it has red mottled plastic handle scales. The blade is stamped "Ulster/U.S.A.", and the etch on the center of the blade reads "U.S. Govt/TL-29 Specification". The quality of construction, fit and finish has diminished over the years, and this knife does not compare with earlier versions.

**Figure 12.** Nearly identical to the knife shown in Figure 11, this knife does show a better fit and finish and a nicely stamped "TL-29" on the red plastic scales. Also, like the knife in Figure 7, it is marked "Ulster/U.S.A." on the front ricasso and "TL-29" on the reverse. This knife is 3-3/4 inches long.

**Figure 13.** This engineer's knife is most likely from the 1950s with its imitation red jugged bone handles. Closed length is 3-3/4 inches. The main blade is stamped "Ulster/U.S.A." and is etched down the center, "Property of U.S. Govt."

**Figure 14.** This stockman pattern is a knife that became popular in the military during 1960s. It was issued to servicemen and civilian employees alike. On this one the handle scales are jugged red plastic, and the knife measures 4 inches when closed. The blade is lightly stamped "Ulster/USA/98". The blade center is etched "Property of U.S. Govt". Bolsters are nickel silver and liners are brass. I think that sometime shortly after this knife was made the military folders no longer received the military markings.

**Figure 15.** And who could forget the all steel four blade utility knife; the Mil-K specification? All parts of this knife are stainless steel, and the handles are marked "U.S." The main blade is marked, "Ulster/U.S.A." on the front side and "Stainless/Steel" on the reverse. There are other variations of this knife, some of which have a bail stamped with Ulster and the date (year).

If you know of any other Ulster military folders not covered above, I would be grateful for a call. Mike Silvey (530)644-4590.

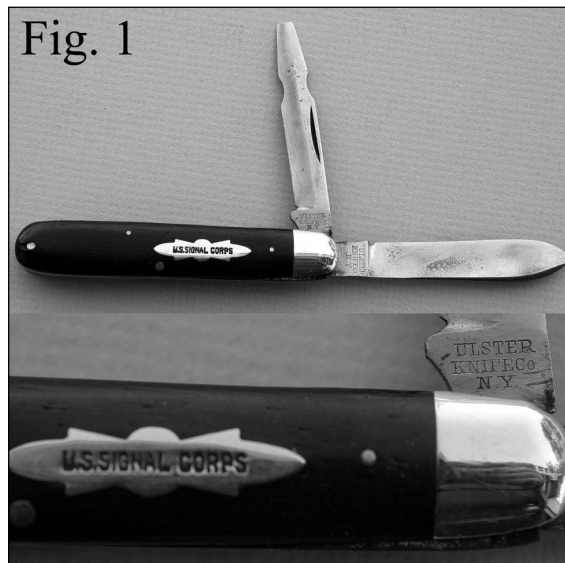


Fig. 2

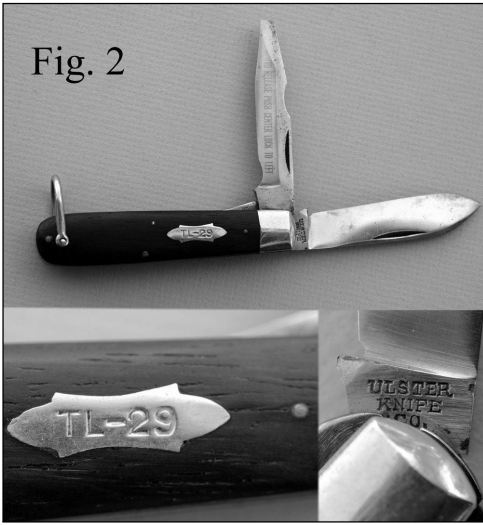


Fig. 6



Fig. 11



Fig. 3

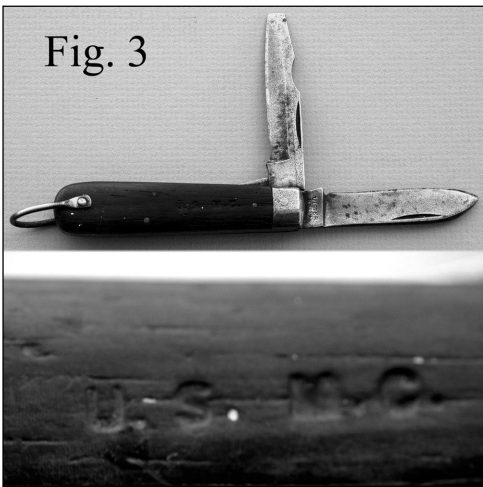


Fig. 7

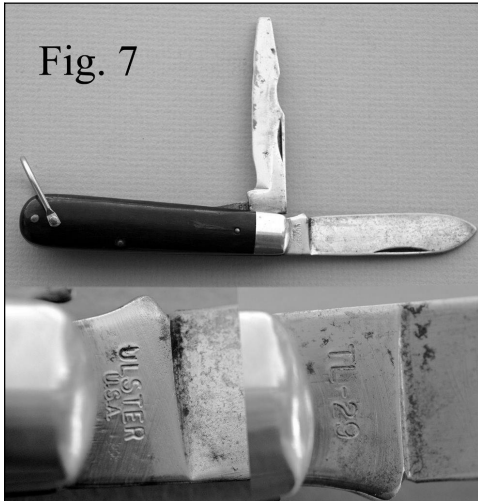


Fig. 12



Fig. 13

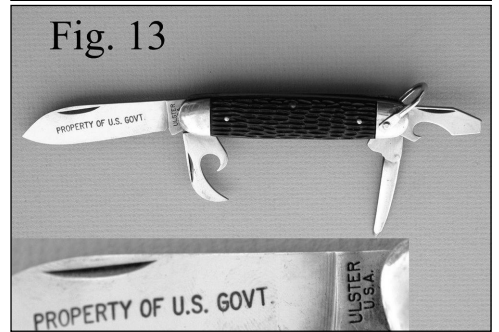


Fig. 4

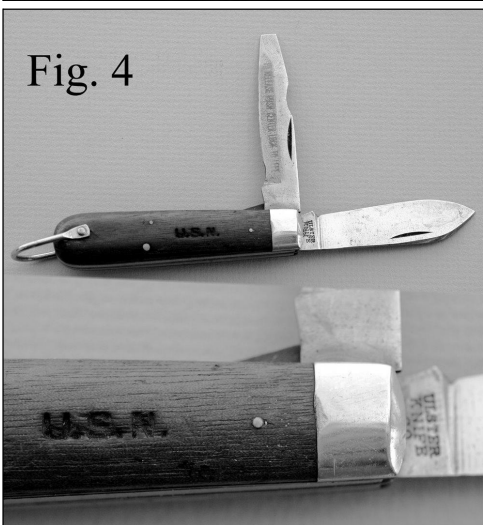


Fig. 8

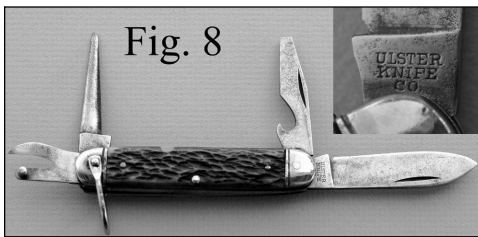


Fig. 14



Fig. 9



Fig. 15

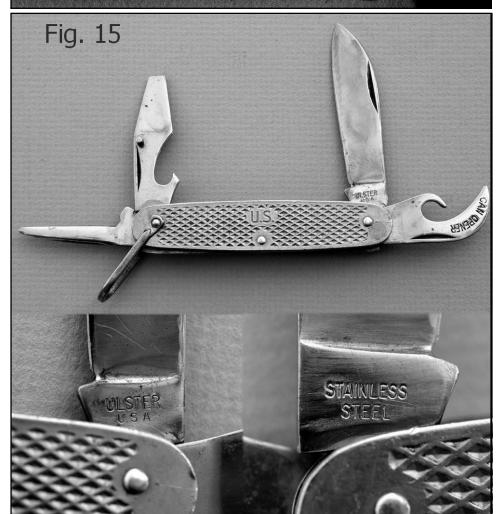


Fig. 5



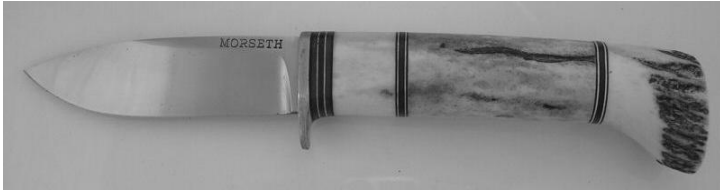
Fig. 10



# Me and My Morseth's by Rod Smith

(with assistance (a lot) from Rhonda Smith)

I first met Steve Morseth at the Kenmore Gun Club, not too long after he had taken over from his grandfather, Harry. Steve put on quite a demonstration, bending the blade 30 degrees and then straightening it again; although he did admit you can't do it too many times without the blade fatiguing. He then cut



newsprint with the weight of the knife, then cut the top off a coffee can and then went right back to cutting newsprint again.

I had a mink ranch at the time and needed a good fleshing knife, but it didn't need to be as big as a 5" standard model. About a 3-1/2" blade would do and only a "three finger handle". Steve agreed to make one and would have it ready in two weeks or so. I got a call that it was ready at his shop, which was then in Redmond WA. When I got there, he said he was about ready to throw the knife at me. It was the first time he had to cut down one of the Brusletto/Geilo Norwegjan blade blanks, and he hadn't realized how darn hard the center core was!

Several years later, it must have been in 1984, there was an article in the Everett Herald paper that Steve was going to be at a gun show at Payne Field. The article said he would like to see any knives made by his grandfather, Harry, who started making knives in Everett. Steve was planning on writing a history of Morseth knives.

I took my little pelting knife along. He remembered it and sniffed the leather handle and said, "Oh, yes, the mink rancher!" He then looked at me and asked, "Rod, did I ever make a sheath for you?" I smiled and said, "No, all I got was the knife." He put my knife in his briefcase, took my name and address and said he would mail it to me. The knife and sheath came in the mail in a couple of weeks.

Steve was taking orders for 50th Anniversary knives that would have a gold dot inlaid in the blade. I paid in full for a 6" Model 6 survival knife but wasn't to see the knife for about three years! I would see Steve at gun shows and hear a bunch of excuses for not having my knife. Things like, "I lost your address, somebody was in the shop and bought it, I had to make another for you, and it's waiting for more gold wire to come in..." Finally, in the mail, a package from Selah WA! I guess it was worth the wait.

On our way to the 2004 Oregon Knife Collectors Show in Eugene, we stopped for lunch at a place we like in Kalama WA. After eating we strolled through a couple of antique malls. In one showcase I found three hunting knives, two Marbles Woodcraft knives, one with no sheath for \$135.00. The other Marbles had a sheath and was in better condition for \$185.00. Between them was a knife just marked MORSETH, \$35.00. I asked the clerk if I could see it, and as I was examining it, she whispered, "If you are interested in that one I can give you 10% off." Such a deal!! I went for it! The knife turned out to be a Harry Morseth with a one piece stag handle and a brass hilt, most likely made in Everett, WA.

Later as I was unpacking the car at the Oregon Show, I was showing the knife in the parking lot to another collector from Washington. He offered me \$350.00 for it! Another fellow from California heard the story and said, "I have five big bills for it!" Not for sale!! I just got the darn thing.

During the Show knifemaker Jerry Twitty saw it and said he could make a Morseth style sheath for it, which has now been done. As it turned out I found that Jerry had been apprenticed to Steve Morseth and has all of Steve's equipment. Jerry does beautiful work! I'm keeping my Morseth knives! I have also added a "Twitty" to my collection, kind of a "third generation Morseth."

# Oregon Knife Collectors' 2007 Club Knife

This year we are offering a Ford Swauger folding pocketknife for the members of the OKCA. This will be our second Damascus folding knife. The blade steel is made in Ford's shop and is a blending in what Ford calls a "left right composite twist pattern" with an L6 center. The bolsters are 140 layer random pattern Damascus. The handles on the manual knife are polished amber bone. The handles on the Oregon Special knife are Australian Mother of Pearl. The handle length is 4 inches, and the overall length is 7 inches. The back strap has ornate file work on it, and the blade will have a false edge top grind. We can handle requests for left hand versions if orders are placed well in advance. There is no price adder for this request.

The knives will be serial numbered, year dated and marked as Oregon Knife Collectors knives. The marking will be on the inside of the knife to preserve the beauty of this knife. These knives are only available to Oregon Knife Club members, and the Oregon Special is only available to Oregon residents who purchase the set. There will be 25 sets available and 25 manual knives making a total of 75 knives.

The Oregon Special knife is referred to as a double action knife and is what Ford calls his Dial-Matic mechanism. This dial serves as a blade lock release in the manual version and as an opening and lock release in the Oregon Special version. This mechanism is a Ford Swauger exclusive design and works very easily.



Serial number special requests will only be honored for those who have purchased knives with the same number in the last two years. All other serial numbers will be random drawn. Delivery will be at the April Oregon Show.



This is a fund raising project for the OKCA so help out and also make an investment in what will soon be a very desirable knife to own. These knives will go fast so don't delay. One knife or set is available per member on this first offering. Additional knives can be purchased after December 15 if there are any left.

The price on the manual knife is \$325, and the set will be \$700.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Regular manual knife \_\_\_\_\_ quantity.

Oregon Special set of two knives \_\_\_\_\_ quantity.

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Your 2005/2006 serial number if desired was \_\_\_\_\_

Please add \$10 for shipping if you are not able to pick this knife up at the Show on April 14 - 15, 2007. The Oregon Special Knife cannot be shipped.



# 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 pickle skins) and email or snail mail to the **OKCA, PO Box 2091, Eugene OR 97402**. The number and size of ads submitted by a single member will be accepted or excepted dependent on available space and the mood of the editors.

**Wanted To Buy:** Old imported knives from around the world. Anything considered that is in fair to excellent condition from any of a number of countries. Collections or single pieces. Chris Hyde (360)250-1573. chris@worldknives.com

**Wanted** Thistle Top Knife any maker maybe considered. If I have it I still may want to trade up. See example in Levine's 4th page 346. Send photo(s) description and your price via email to Beaker@sunset.net

**For Sale:** The latest Goddard Lightweight ClipIt with a Burgundy handle is now available. 3-5/8" blade of VG10 steel. Limited quantity at \$75.00 each. US dollars, Visa, MasterCard and Discovery gladly accepted. Call (541)689-8098 ask for the ClipIt Lady. Or e-mail to wgoddard44@comcast.net

In stock: Knives 2007, The Encyclopedia of Marble's Knives and Sporting Collectibles, Mokume Gane, plus an extensive list of blade and blade related books. Collectible, custom, antique, and military. Quality Blade Books, P.O. Box 41854, Eugene, OR 97404 -- (541) 688-6899 -- wagner\_r@pacinfo.com Web Site www.qualitybladebooks.com

**Wanted:** Seguine Knives ---Call Jack at (805)431-2222 or (805)489-2222 or email jh5jh@aol.com

**Collection** of W.C. Overholser knives consisting of eighteen folders and one dagger. For additional information please call (541)923-5210 or email gshown@uci.com

**Wanted:** Knives made by Angus Arbuckle (1924 - 1982) of South Africa. Marked on ricasso: CUSTOM HANDMADE KNIVES above a Griffin logo and ARA below. Please contact: Richard Schechner (619)437-0564 or email rgs522@san.rr.com

**The new, revised, full color edition** Wayne Goddard's \$50 Knife Shop is here and ready for delivery. This all new book is fully revised, updated and has a new

chapter on jigs and fixtures for the knifemaker. This will be an autographed copy. \$20.00 if you pick it up. \$25.00 shipped priority mail within the US. Cash, check, Visa, MasterCard and Discovery welcome. Call (541)689-8098 to order or mail to Goddard's, 473 Durham Ave., Eugene, OR, 97404 e-mail wgoddard44@comcast.net

**For Sale:** Knives by American Blade, Camillus, Case, Cripple Creek, Gerber Paul, Remington, Hen and Rooster, Schrade and Winchester. Please call evenings Chris Lindsay (541)389-3875 for more information.

**Wanted:** Gerber Mark II Combat/Survival knives: interested in early and unusual pieces, 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 13000-A Portland OR 97213-0017 -(503)281-6864, email: pbailey@europa.com

**1000 + Knife sheaths** 5 different sizes excellent quality fits 4" and smaller hunting knives. \$15.00 each or 3 for \$40.00. Wild Boar Blades Ray Simonson (360) 735-057- info@wildboarblades.com www.wildboarblades.com

**Wanted:** OKCA Club Knives #16. Need years 79 Case --- 80 Gerber ----81 Gerber---83 Gerber ----87 Al Mar --- 89 Cripple Creek ---91 Mark Walster --- 92 Gerber, will buy or trade . Contact Fred Coleman (541)915-6241 or leave message (541)688-3624 . DESPERATELY LOOKING AND NEED AND WANT.

**For Sale:** Criswell Swords. Rob has again started making swords. Woohoo! 28" katana w/G10 saya. 7-1/2" tanto w/G10 sheath. Hawthorne Cutlery 3208 Se Hawthorne Blvd Portland OR 97214 (503)234-8898

**Wanted:** Carbon steel kitchen/butcher knives and top quality stainless steel. Buying single piece or large quantities. email Leroy: knipenifer@gmail.com

**For Sale:** Oriental makers..cured stiff white/clean ray skins. All sizes. Special. 4x10 packs of 5 only \$60.00. Prepaid shipping. Call Elliott (480)945-0700 or send order and Visa/MC to Hiltary 7303 E Earll Drive Scottsdale AZ 85251

**For Sale:** Tourquoise, lapiz, coral, malacite, amber, only \$20.00 per piece. 5x1-1/4 square. Shipping \$5.00. Call Elliott (480)945-0700 or send order and Visa/MC to Hiltary 7303 E Earll Drive Scottsdale AZ 85251

**I have 157 knives for sale.** Most are riggers and sailor's knives. Can send a CD with pictures and info on each knife. E-mail lgunn@yahoo.com - Leonard Nunn (509)456-6954

**Knife Maker's vise** -\$160.00. Bob Patrick 816 Peace Portal Dr. Blaine, WA 98230. (604)538-6214 or bob@knivesonnet.com

**Wanted to buy:** Folding bowies Larry Hogan (253)927-3909 email rhogan39@net-venture.net

*The Bowie Knife: Unsheathing an American Legend* by Norman Flayderman. 512 pages, over 260 color plates, hard cover. This book covers the fact, fiction and folklore of the world's most famous fighting knife. Only \$79.95 plus \$5.00 shipping. James D. Hayden Bookpeddler, 88360 Charly Lane, Springfield OR 97478. Check or Visa/MC orders (541)746-1819. Info email jhbkpdlr@pacinfo.com

KNIFE LAWS on-line. Federal, state, local. <http://pweb.netcom.com/~brlevine/appr-k.htm> Bernard Levine (541)484-0294 <http://www.knife-expert.com/>

*Official Scout Blades* a new book by Ed Holbrook 112 pgs. Boy Scouts ,Girl Scouts,Cub Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls. Pocket knives, sheath knives, axes, 99% complete from 1910 to date + price guide \$25.00 + \$3.00 postage Ed Holbrook 12150 S Casto Rd Oregon City OR. 97045

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## Cut-toon

Drunk Knives 10,000 B.C.



Cool huh? But it's just an "iron on".

## OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

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**John Priest** Vice President (541) 689-6020

**Elayne Ellingsen** Sec/Tres. (541) 484-5564

**Craig Morgan** Master at Arms (541) 345-0152

**Dennis Ellingsen** Show Coordinator  
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**Knewslettter** by elayne & dennis

**Cut-toons** by Judy & Lonnie Williams

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## Events Calendar November 2006

----- **November 2006** -----  
 Nov 10-12 - New York Custom Show - NYC (KW-B)  
 Nov 11-12 - Fort Meyers Florida Knife Show (KW-B)  
 Nov 18-19 - Arizona Knife Collectors -Mesa AZ (KW)  
 Nov 30-02 - Parkers' Greatest -Pigeon Forge TN (KW-B)  
 ----- **December 2006** -----  
**Dec 09-09 - Oregon Mini Knife - Eugene OR (KW)**  
 ----- **January 2007** -----  
 Jan 05-07 - Las Vegas Invitational Knifemakers (KW-B)  
 Jan 26-28 - Bladesmith Exposition -Reno NV (KW-B)  
 Jan 27-28 - Gateway Knife - St Louis MO (KW-B)  
 ----- **February 2007** -----  
 Feb 02-04 - Gator Cutlery - Lakeland FL (KW-B)  
 Feb 03-04 - AKA -Little Rock Arkansas (KW-B)  
 Feb 16-18 - East Coast Custom - New York (B)  
 Feb 23-25 - Knife Expo -Pasadena CA (KW-B)  
 ----- **March 2007** -----  
 Mar 09-11 - Northwest Georgia - Dalton (KW-B)  
 Mar 17-18 - Bunker Hill - Bethalto Illinois (KW-B)  
 Mar 23-25 - Badger Knife Show -Janesville WI (KW)  
 ----- **April 2007** -----  
**Apr 14-15 - Oregon Knife Collectors Show - Eugene**  
 Apr 27-29 - NKCA Ohio Show - Wilmington OH (KW)  
 Apr 28-29 - Gulf Coast Custom -Gulfport MS (KW)

Apr 27-29 - Solvang Custom Show -California (B)  
 Apr 28-29 - Wolverine Knife Collectors - Novi MI (KW)  
 ----- **May 2007** -----  
 May 11-12 - NKCA Shepardsville KY (KW)  
 ----- **June 2007** -----  
 Jun 08-10 - Blade Show -Atlanta GA (B)  
 ----- **September 2007** -----  
 Sep 14-16 - NKCA Ohio Fall -Wilmington OH (KW)  
 ----- **October 2007** -----  
 Oct 26-28 - NKCA Shepardsville KY Fall Show (KW)

## DINNER MEETING



*Wednesday Evening*  
**November 15, 2006**  
 Third Wednesday of the Month  
**Sizzler Restaurant**  
 1010 Postal Way  
 Gateway Area  
*(Across from the Post Office)*  
 6:00 PM Dinner  
 Followed by meeting  
 Come Knife with us!  
 Bring a Show-N-Tell knife!

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 - (KI) Knives Illustrated