



NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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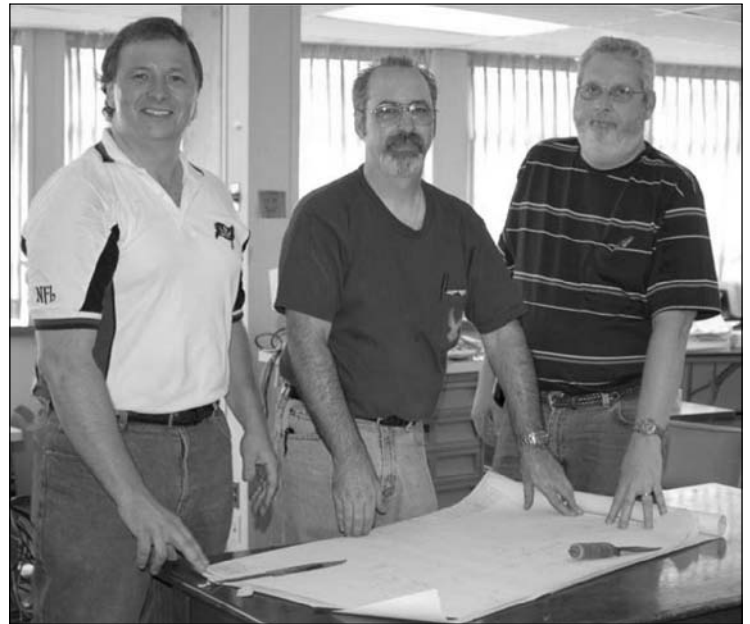
Our *international* membership is happily involved with "Anything that goes 'cut'!"

Goodbye Camillus by Frank Trzaska

January 2008

It is with a sad heart that I report the Camillus Empire is officially gone. I was there to witness it and can tell you that the place was taken apart and sold off to the highest bidder. In many cases the high bid was just a few dollars, much of the equipment went for pennies on the dollar. Many of the knives went so high I don't know if they will ever turn a profit, while others, sleepers in many cases, went for practically nothing. While a sad event it was exciting in many ways, seeing folks I had not seen in a long time, meeting new friends, some of whom I have communicated with for years and just met. In just a few days many highs and many lows were experienced, talking with many of the longtime employees of the Cutlery was tough, let me tell you. Meeting the wives and families of many of these talented people was tougher yet. I met folks with up to 40 years in the factory, now out of work, some of the most talented knifemakers in the world doing odd jobs for a pay check. These are true working people with families, the real back bone of the country who know how to put in a day's work who only ask for a day's pay at the end, now staring at the equipment moving out the doors. Most have moved on to other employment, but you could tell by looking at the expressions on the faces as the gavel sounded that the adventure was really over now that the tooling was sold. Folks who worked for years on these very workstations touring through the halls showing their children where their old workstations were. Many with spouses and adult children taking photos of workstations where relatives worked in generations gone by. I am here to tell you there were some hard stories to swallow there, many a tear being shed as they walked out of the facility never even turning to look back, the story was over.

Along with the sad stories were the highs, the adventure of exploring every inch of the factory with nothing out of limits. Looking in any drawer or closet I wanted to during the days of the pre auction viewing period. Wandering around the place with my own personal tour guide, company historian, Tom Williams. Tom and I have communicated for years now, pre e-mail days back to the old pencil and paper days. Hard to believe it was the first time we ever met and talked face to face. Tom held a get together at his house the night before the viewing started and invited me to attend. I did so gleefully and met many of the talented ex-employees of the Cutlery. To name a few in attendance we had Wallace Rockwell and his lovely wife, Tom Liggett, Perry Lozano, Don Cook and Wendy Wilson. I am sorry to those whose names I didn't get, it was great talking with you all. I was the first to arrive, not counting Tom's mom, Angie Williams, who had over 50 years employed at Camillus, and the last to leave. I hope I didn't overstay my welcome, but I have to tell you that listening to the stories of these folks and looking through Tom's information collection had me mesmerized. We even had an old broken spring MIL-K knife repair class with a 38-year cutlery veteran, Tom Liggett, as the instructor! We didn't have the proper tools; but Tom knocked out the old pin, changed the back spring and installed a new pin and spun the head on a drill press in Tom Williams's garage! I'm telling you folks it was hog heaven! Afterwards we went in and started reading old clippings and production cards. Tom has a copy machine so I was quite busy. After midnight we called it quits, and I headed for the hotel for the rest of the night. Once there I dug into what I quickly copied and spent another few hours reading about the knives made in Camillus NY for the men in World War II. Needless to say there was little sleep that night as I was back at the cutlery the next morning before it opened at 8AM. I ran into Bill Adams early that morning, and we toured around for a bit looking at the place and taking photos. I tried to pace myself; but the night before the guys had primed me, it was a set up I think! They told me where all



Left to Right - Nick Trbovitch, Frank Trzaska and Ken Griffey.

the old blueprints and engineering drawings would be held. All the old records in dozens of file cabinets were in there. I kept reminding myself, pace yourself Frank; and then I ran into Wallace Rockwell and had to ask, where was the engineering office! Wallace, being the great man that he is, personally walked me up to the second floor offices and led me into the old cubicle. He opened the last row of blueprint files and believe it or not the first drawing I pulled out was for the M4 bayonet sent from Springfield Armory in 1944! I found a historical information mecca! How the hell could I afford to buy this room, alas I couldn't and I knew it. So I spent some time in the office reading and taking notes. Files upon file cabinets were filled with old stuff! More then I could take in, I needed a breather, pace yourself Frank, you have days to go.

I met up with Tom again, and we started looking through other areas of the building. We found all sorts of items, one old box was a surprise even to Tom, and the old E Flags from WW II presented to Camillus for Excellence in Production. Tom had been looking for them for years, and here they were in a old copy paper box taped shut. We went into the factory showroom where the factory collection was held; alas it had been ransacked. Somewhere along the line the knives had been removed, not stolen mind you, as the factory was still in operation when the knives were removed so the story goes. In any case a few dozen remained and of the few dozen left some of the rarest military knives of WW II were in the cases. I asked and received permission of the Auctioneer to photograph the items in the room; quick paper backgrounds were made and photos taken. Bill Adams on one side and Tom Williams on the other positioning knives so I could just keep shooting, digital cameras are worth every cent! Thanks to quick thinking by Bill and Tom we managed to shoot them all and keep the auction folks happy. Is it karma or juju or luck or what that of all the knives left in the room the rarest prototype military knives produced by Camillus were still there? Unbelievable is one word that comes to mind.

Continued on page 2

Goodbye... (Cont. from page 1)

It was an interesting week to say the least, several folks commented on it being like a kid in a candy store and I would have to agree. Another high point was meeting and chatting with Ethan Becker for a bit. Ethan was there to buy back his own name. He had entered into a contract with Camillus to produce his Becker line of knives. As happens with companies going down, royalties are not paid and communications are avoided. Ethan wanted to buy out his contract, he could win the case in court; but it would take time and most likely cost him more to fight it even if the opposition was bankrupt. The down and dirty quick and easy way out was to buy out the contract, life sometimes sucks like that. In any case Ethan was there and so were a few cases of Becker products in all sorts of unfinished condition. For those of you who don't know it, Ethan Becker is a classically trained chef who studied at the Cordon Bleu in Paris. Becker is also the current editor of the book *The Joy of Cooking* which just celebrated it's 75th anniversary. The book was created by Ethan's grandmother, Irma Starkloff Rombauer, in 1931 and continued on in the family by his mother, Marion Rombauer Becker. On Tuesday morning the intellectual property was to be auctioned off first. The auctioneer, Harry Stampler, held the event outside from a wooden deck off the office side door. As people moved towards the area for the 10 AM start, I took a seat along a cinderblock retaining wall to just observe. As the clock grew closer I was joined by Bill Adams, Paul Tsujimoto of Ka-bar Knives, AG Russell, Nick Trbovitch and Ethan Becker. We sat along the wall and talked for a bit before the start; the weather was pleasant, a nice crisp clear morning, the items up for sale that morning were discussed. Several items were auctioned off and phone bids claimed a number of the items. Then the Becker contract came up for bid. The auction was started at \$1,000.00; Ethan stood up and called out \$100.00 as his bid. The crowd and the phone were silent, as I looked out at the faces in the crowds there were all smiles, not a single person spoke a word, it was silence. The auctioneer kept calling out for other bids, and Ethan again called out \$100.00. Not a word... the auctioneer then spoke to the crowd that he could not go lower then \$1,000.00, silence again. Ethan smiled, scratched his beard and called out \$1,000.00, and the auctioneer screamed sold a split second after the bid. It was simply amazing to watch, everyone wanted Ethan to have his name back, even the auctioneer! The first one up to Ethan to congratulate him was Phil Gibbs, a long time veteran of Camillus Cutlery and now with AG Russell, and he was wearing a button that proclaimed Becker is Back! I snapped a photo immediately of the two. I was holding a copy of the Licensing and Royalty Agreement in my hands and asked Ethan to sign it for me although I would not need anything to remind me of that sale.

As the auction progressed and items were sold and tagged for later pick up, I again wandered the property taking photos of the machines used to make military knives and all the items in boxes piled around them. The grinders were set up to make the Mark 2 and the Jet Pilot permanently, as these were high production items for Camillus. They had machines to groove the handles set up for each as well. Don Cook explained to me each of the workstations from a chunk of steel to the handle coating station to dye the Mark 2 handles. With the proper equipment, it is really a simple task. Did you know they used common nails for the pommel pins? Looked like a regular four-penny nail to me, maybe a six. The auction managed to wind its way to the Engineering Room so I was in close attendance at that point. The bidding started for the entire room and quickly went up into a few thousand dollars; I was out of it at that point. The final bid was placed by Ken Griffey of Bear & Son Cutlery. Ken had bought all of the tooling from the factory, and the Engineering Room held all the drawings and blueprints to the machinery and tooling he had purchased. It was a point I had not taken into consideration... maybe someone wanted it for its actual use and not the historical aspect alone! Ken was talking with Nick Trbovitch of Ontario Knife Co., and a deal was quickly struck between the two. As Nick had also purchased quite a bit of the machinery, he too could use the engineering drawings to the machines and tooling he had purchased. The sale had worked out well as the two could actually use the items in the continued production of knives made on AMERICAN soil. I walked over to congratulate them on the success of the bidding and take a few photos. We spoke for a few minutes and Nick said to me, "If there is anything in here you can use, please let me know and you can have copies of it"... I was floored by it. Ken quickly agreed that for historical purposes it should be preserved. The heads of two of the largest, most prominent American knife companies, were concerned with preserving knife history, these are two absolutely outstanding gentleman; and guys I thank you for what you have done for many future generations of collectors.

Alas my time had expired and I had to leave, go back to the real world of work; but my mind stayed in Camillus. I spent a few days in the office at the real job

and on Friday at noon raced back up to Camillus NY. During the week Bill Adams had called me and told me of a few items he purchased, items we had seen along the way and looked over. Bill had to fly out and asked if I could pick up the items as I was returning anyway, sure, no problem! Bill managed to buy what was left of the factory collection, remember the rarest of rare military knives we first discussed above! Bill threw them all into an overnight bag and left them with Tom Williams for safekeeping. Bill also purchased a few other small boxes of knives that Tom also had, no problem, as I drive a truck anyway. The last item Bill purchased was a closet in the main building we had spotted on the first day. It held a lot of paperwork and office supplies, but on a top shelf it had a set of loose leaf binders that held the military specifications of knives, steel, packaging and every other military spec you could think of, ten oversized loose leaf binders jammed with old info. No sweat, still had plenty of room; but it would be great material to go through, little did I realize what was in store.

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OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

2007 vs 2008

If the date on your mailing label shows 2007 that could mean that this will be your last Knewsletter. We mail this January Knewsletter as a reminder that your membership has lapsed since our membership is a calendar year. Help support our organization by renewing your membership today. An application form can be found in this issue.

Also note that links on our web page are for current members only. If we have a link to your site, it will be removed if your membership is not up to date. Membership cards and table confirmations went out December 28 so if you think you should have received one or both but didn't, please get in touch with us.

The January Meeting...

We will be having the election of officers at the January 16 dinner meeting. All the current officers have agreed to take on their roles for yet another year. Come to the meeting and show your support for our organization and its officers.

The Mini Show was.....

Awesome. We were worried about the turnout because of the weather situations, but that didn't play a factor in our Show. The crowds were consistent, and I heard from many that they had brisk sales. We were pleased with the results. The donations for Toys for Tots was tremendous too. **Bryan Christensen** got the ball rolling but because he was called out of town **Laura and Michael Christensen** (daughter and son) carried the ball until the Marines came by.

Display Award Knife...

Ray Richards is the first to hand in his custom display award knife. This is a beautiful knife that will be given as an award for one of the displays that surround



the room at our 2008 April Show. At the last Show we had steel blanks that were used for the grinding competition. These blanks were then given to twelve makers to finish.

Thursday Nite Social....

We will again be having the Thursday Nite Social at the Valley River Inn. We were hesitant to do this again due to the expense, but we were vastly out voted. Everyone enjoys the relaxed atmosphere and the social aspect of this event. Please help us raise additional donations earmarked for this event.

2008 OKCA Club Knife....

There isn't anyone that has seen the **Roy Humenick** Club knife that hasn't spoke well of this special knife. It is gorgeous and beautiful, and oh yes very functional. It is handmade and the effort to do this is considerable. This is one special offering so don't get left out. Besides that it is a contribution to our organization when you order one.

An application form is in this Knewsletter and is posted on our website which has the advantage you can see it in color. Get yours ordered today. This is a limited edition knife.

Smile Knife

Ron Ridenour handed me this item at the Mini Show. We had no idea what it was at



the time, but it evoked big smiles from both of us. Bernard Levine knew what it was.

"Parmesan cheese knife. Used for prying off chunks that are small enough to fit in a cheese grater. That's gotta be the fanciest one I have ever seen. Usually they are very plain, not sharpened and often given away with a cheese purchase."

Places to stay in Eugene

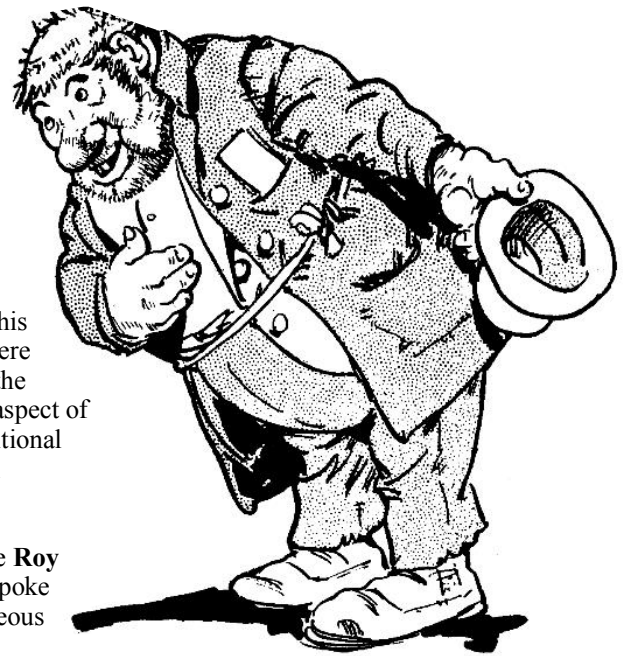
It is not too early to stake your claim (reservations) on lodging in Eugene for the April 11 - 13, 2008 Show.

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 to boot if you mention the Knife Show.

Hampton Inn - (541-431-1225) - My personal favorite when on the road in other cities. Mention the OKCA for a special rate. You must call this location for that rate.



Tales of the Samurai

The following are stories and parables about the exploits of the famous Samurai warrior, Miyamoto Musashi. For the most part, these tales were an oral tradition, passed down from instructor to student. While there were many stories about numerous warriors throughout the ages, it seems that Musashi is credited with most of these deeds, even though he may not have been present during the said event. It must be understood that these adventures are not necessarily about a person, but rather an ideology. As such, it is the lesson and not the individual which must be acknowledged. Ray Ellingsen.

THE LESSON OF PREPAREDNESS

One day Musashi and his attendant were walking down a forest path. Several dozen yards behind them, quite by chance, a fellow samurai followed, traveling in the same direction. After a time, Musashi and his charge came upon the body of a man lying along the side of the narrow path. Musashi calmly drew his Wakasashi and held it casually at his

side as they passed by. Once they were a good distance away, Musashi re-sheathed his blade.

The Samurai traveling behind them approached the same body and stopped to kick it. When it failed to move, the samurai laughed, and in a loud voice taunted Musashi. "Do all the Samurai in your province fear the dead so?" he asked. The attendant's face reddened with shame as he heard the man continue to ridicule his master. Musashi ignored the comments and continued walking.



Suddenly the "dead" man leapt to his feet and, brandishing a knife, stabbed the criticizing Samurai through the heart, killing him instantly. The deceptive bandit quickly began stripping the fallen warrior of his possessions.

Musashi stopped to witness this. The thief, seeing that Musashi was watching, gathered what he could and fled into the forest. Musashi's attendant turned to his master and asked, "When we passed that man, how did you know that he was not dead?"

"I didn't," replied Musashi. "But only a foolish man walks unprepared into something that stands plainly before him."

Roy Humenick

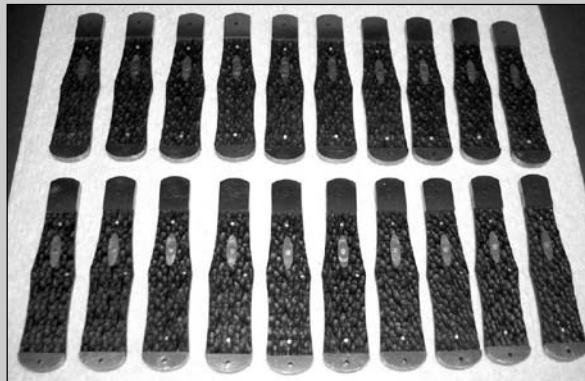
I received two pictures from Roy on the progress of the Club knives and decided to share. In Roy's own words:

The first view shows how I keep the scales clamped once the bone is attached. We have had some rain here and the scales tend to bow due to the humidity change. Then we



will get a freeze and the humidity drops drastically and they want to bow the other way. So this is how all 20 scale sets are living right now. The other day we had some really thick fog, and that was the worst.

The second picture shows 20 scales with pinned shields, before I grind off the top of the peened pin. I call this picture "screwed, glued and beat-to-heck." I am talking about the pins.



Roy is confident he will have all the knives done by Show time. Don't forget to order yours. An application form is in this Knewsletter.



Goodbye... (Cont. from page 2)

My wife Karen went with me for the ride; New York State is a beautiful place to travel through so we could make a weekend of it as well. We arrived late Friday evening so checked into the motel for the evening and to get an early start for the following day. Saturday morning arrived and we were at the Cutlery bright and early. I checked in to clean out the closet Bill had purchased and quickly realized the closet was over 40 feet long! It was a full line of closets down the entire hallway! Well, we jumped right in and started loading up stuff. It was full of advertising items, catalogs and single sales sheets, thousands of them. It also held all the artwork and photos used in the advertising, thousands of photos and negatives along with post up work in all stages of completion for every item Camillus, Western, Remington and any other trade name marketed by Camillus. A number of knives in the promotional packaging and sheaths of all sizes and types were also stacked in there. Good thing we had a truck! As we were loading it became evident that the majority of the buyers in the office area were interested in the office furniture. They emptied file cabinets and desks on the floor and moved the furniture out to be loaded. They did not want the paperwork and in fact were to take it to be disposed of. As we were talking to some of the folks loading, they were eager to give me the contents of any file I cared to have. I was starting to look like Sanford and Son, and Karen was getting a little concerned if it would all fit in the truck! We agreed we would leave enough room for us to sit; and, if possible, we would take home the suitcase with our clothes, all the rest of the space would be occupied by Camillus Stuff. Well I agreed on it anyway, she would leave me before she left her hair dryer and clothing!

As we made the trips back and forth carrying items, we bumped into Nick Trbovitch and Ken Griffey in the parking lot again. They had started to empty the Engineering Room and had found

quite a few items. They found a metal file of blueprints to the cutlery grounds from the turn of the century up to the present day. They wanted to donate these items to the local Camillus Historical Society for the town to keep, two amazing gentlemen. As Tom Williams is a member of the Historical Society, he received them on behalf of the Society. We continued to load stuff and look through even more stuff. Karen was separating a few of everything we found, for



Tom and his collection, as well as the town of Camillus. Nick walked over to the building we were in and told me they found a blueprint tube from the Aberdeen Proving Grounds behind a file cabinet and wondered if I would like to be there when they opened it, would I! We cleaned up the section we were working and made our way to the building Engineering Room. It was a simple brown cardboard tube type mailing container postmarked to 1967. It had obviously not been opened in quite some time. I snapped a few photos as Ken and Nick opened the tube and found the original blueprints to the C4 Demolition knife inside! I could hardly believe it; we had looked for years for these items. Tom Williams had scoured the area looking for any hint of this knife. He hung photos of it on the company bulletin boards years ago asking if anyone remembered it or had worked on it. Nothing could be found, that is until moving the huge cabinets around. What a fantastic find, I spent some time looking over the prints and took a few more photos, outstanding. Thanks again guys.

Well we managed to pack every available inch of space we could with STUFF, in fact the tires were bulging a bit which did scare me somewhat, hey I am a AAA member, no sweat. We even managed to pack Tom's truck with stuff for him as well. The items we found interesting were what most of the others were throwing away. Off we went to Tom's house to pick up the knives... oops where would we fit them! A little rearranging and we squeezed in the three small boxes of knives. The large bag with the factory collection went up front with me. A little cramped but the seatbelt fit around the knives quite well. The knives went into the hotel with us that night; they were not getting out of my sight. We made another trip back to the factory on Sunday morning for a final look around and to say goodbye to everyone we had met and who helped us along the way. We had a six-hour ride ahead of us at a decent speed; I wasn't sure how fast we could go with this load. All went well, we listened to Breakfast with the Beatles on the radio as we drove home.

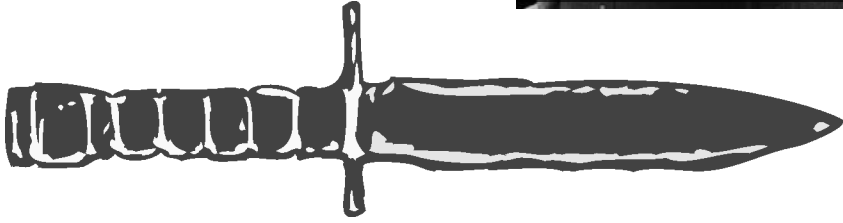
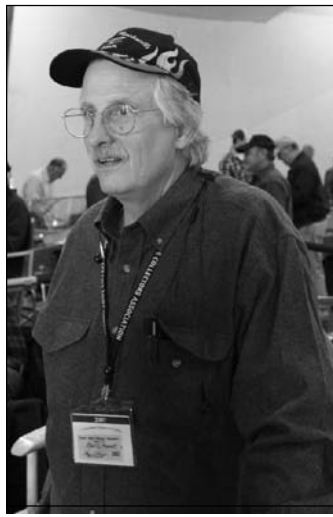
Goodbye Camillus, Rest in Peace you Quiet Giant of Cutlery.



December



Mini-Show



OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

BOX 2091 • EUGENE, OR 97402

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND SHOW TABLE CONTRACT

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) \$ _____

SHOW TIME IS COMING by Jim Pitblado

Well it is just around the corner, April 11 through the 13, the 33rd Annual Oregon Knife Collectors Knife Show.

I am writing this short article for the purpose of convincing all of you to attend this great show.

What does it have to offer? Well, I have been attending this Show since 1990, originally as a member to search for a great Remington knife, later to search for a great Remington knife and put on a small display of Remington Scout Knives, and more recently to search for a great Remington knife, present a larger display of Remington Scout knives, and enjoy the camaraderie of the many friends that I have made over the last 17 years.

So what can we all expect from this great Show? Well the list is endless and begins on Thursday night with a great reception at the Valley River Inn. This is a great time to meet many of the people who help put this Show together, and many of the tableholders and other participants.

Friday is the day for set up and attendance by OKCA members and tableholders. It starts early and ends late and offers one an excellent chance to acquire some great knives in a relatively uncrowded environment or just spend time talking with the many tableholders who are putting up their items for sale. This is when you realize for sure that THIS IS A KNIFE SHOW as there is no junk and every table is devoted to CUTLERY.

Saturday is another long day which has been know to start with a great opening ceremony and ends with a great social gathering where there is way too much to eat and the numerous awards are presented.

One can spend hours walking the aisles viewing the many cutlery items for sale, new, antique, custom, factory, you name it and you will see it at this Show. Of course after you are really worn out from the hunt, you can spend another few hours looking at the 50 or so displays of some of the most beautiful cutlery items you would ever expect to see. Many of these displays are of museum quality and show items that you will never see outside of this Show. Just the display time has always been worth while for me. I have also always attended the Saturday Night Social just because it follows right after the Show on Saturday, and I get a chance to visit with many of the attendees. I highly recommend this event.

Sunday is another great day, much as Saturday but ending earlier and followed by a mad rush for the door at 3:00 after an annual countdown by Dennis so that none of the tableholders fold up his tent before 3:00. More great knives, friends to say good by to, more exhibits to view and another busy day.

Throughout this great Show there are a constant group of scheduled activities which vary from year to year but are always educational and well worth attending. These are first class exhibitions of skill by various professionals. In addition, there are drawings of various sorts none of which I have ever managed to win but always worth the bucks to try to win.

Finally, there are many friends to see and visit with over the three to four days that one spends in Eugene for the purpose of attending this Show. Eugene has numerous activities where one could spend weeks attending, but I will not discuss these now. Over the time I spend attending this Show, I probably meet at least 20 new people who have a similar interest in cutlery and who look forward to attending this Show each year. In fact after a few years one gets to look forward to greeting these people like old friends and spending social time with them before and after the Show, since at the Show we are all busy looking for that next great piece of cutlery for our collection.

The picture of some great friends from across the hall at the Valley River Inn who always arranged for a very early morning discussion hour with coffee and a Ramos

Fizz to start the day properly. From left to right are pictured, Joe Seale, Russ Haehl, Mark Nagle, Jim Pitblado, bottom left to right, Tony Foster, Jerry Light, and Ray Roe. Not pictured is Joe Chance who was busy on a knife deal and missed the picture.



Behind the Scenes

I think many of us are unaware of all the efforts that go into making this organization thrive. There are many unsung heroes who play a major role in supporting the Oregon Knife Club. There are many of us people movers who gets things done on a large scale, but the real foundation is the people that make donations of knives and items that we raffle off and give away to promote our Show. These supporters are listed on our web page. There are also those who purchase the Club knives. The makers who make and the people who buy provide solvency to our financial situation. Buying a Club knife supports our Club while also providing a one-of-a-kind item of cutlery for your pocket or your collection.

With the Club knife (this year by Roy Humenick) and the donations, we have been able to hold our table prices, membership dues and our



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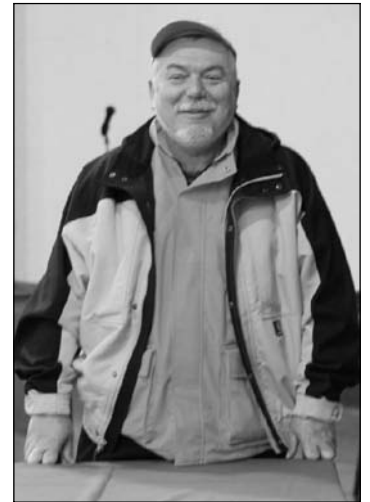
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admission to a low price and yet make our Show a cost effective event. We also get financial donations from those who donate the dollars to make our Thursday Nite social and our Saturday Nite Social possible. It is truly a group effort that makes this come together.

Elayne and I recognize several stalwart folks that stand up to help when we get overwhelmed with the tasks. John Priest makes the membership cards and Larry Criteser laminates the finished cards. Phyllis Goddard stuffs the Show packets every year which is no easy task. The mailing of the membership cards and table confirmations took Elayne and me six to eight hours. Now with the help of about a dozen people we tailor it down to about three hours. Glenda Brown, Larry Criteser, Wayne and Phyllis Goddard, John Priest, Craig Morgan and two of our helpers from the April Show (Eric Bucklew and Angel Mann) were the workers at this happening.

No Show comes together unless someone promotes it. Bernard Levine is unrelenting in his efforts to exhort donations, advertise and promote all our events. In fact in life itself, nothing happens until the word is out. Bob Hergert is another who supports our organization with his talents of art work. The special medallions we have made are a result of his efforts. This year we will again have a grinding contest which is handled by Larry Criteser. Ford Swauger will be doing the Damascus blanks for this event. We also have the knifemakers who take these blanks and create display awards for the 2008 Show. These makers are: Bill Amoureux, Bruce Bump, Jose Diaz, Ray Ennis, Wayne Goddard, Chris Guenther, Tedd Harris, Cameron House, Gene Martin, Craig Morgan, Matt Otto, Raymond Richard, Alan Warren. And don't forget the many who conduct our seminars and demonstrations at our April event. These demonstrations and seminars increase our attendance (the gate receipts) which help to make our Show an exciting event.



Our Knewsletter has no match. From the state of New Jersey we have Frank Trzaska who submits an article every month to keep our Knewsletter alive and healthy. In addition for the past five months we have had Dave Anderson, Ray Ellingsen, Ted Fitzwater, Roy Humenick, Bob Patrick, Jim Pitblado, Mike Silvey, Rod Smith, Merle Spencer, and Lonnie Williams contribute words and pictures to our Knewsletter.

This organization is blessed to have a person like Elayne working for this organization. With her accounting skills and her strict demands of business, we are able to keep going forward and provide an enjoyable happening for those who enjoy the "World of Cut." The bookkeeping chores which keep a membership of 1500 in order is a daunting task. This involves answering the phone, answering the mail, double entry bookkeeping, budgeting, organizing and taking care of the many problems that crop up unexpectedly.

So the next time you get the idea that this organization just kinda sorta comes together, please be aware there are many unsung heroes that make it happen for the good of the group. If you would like to kick in your help, you to can do this with an article, donations of time, raffle items or cash, or purchase a Club knife. These are the things that keep the boat afloat. And oh yes, renewing your membership shows your major support for our group and its goals and efforts.

The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The December show has come and gone, the December meeting is over and we have had the mailing party for the paid memberships and 2008 OKCA table confirmations. December is one of the busiest months for the OKCA--after April, but before March (final prep for the Show) and January (mailing the batch of renewals for tables and memberships that are post the mailing party). If you have not received your new membership cards for 2008 and/or table confirmations for the 2008 Show (and you believe you have paid), contact me via email (elayne@oregonknifclub.org) phone (541-484-5564) or snail mail (PO Box 2091 Eugene OR 97402). I will check the records and correct my error. Thank you **Glenda Brown, Erin Bucklew, Larry Criteser, Phyllis Goddard, Wayne Goddard, Angel Mann, Craig Morgan and John Priest** for your help with the mailing. The task is so much more enjoyable when friends are there to help with smiles and laughter.



The December meeting was held December 19 at the Sizzler Restaurant in Springfield OR. The December show had been a success, 85 tables of knife swapping and knife tales. We had hoped for more tableholders, but the weather (floods, landslides, power outages) and illness were a detriment.

The Toys for Tots program was well over the top. Tables piled with toys for the Marines to distribute for Christmas. Applause greeted the Marines when they arrived in their dress uniforms. Thank you, **Bryan Christensen and Laura Christensen and Michael Christensen**.

The potluck was well attended and thank you all who contributed food and fellowship to this event. I shall not thank She Who Shall Remain Nameless, however the potluck would not been done without her help. That is a positive.

Thank you, **Eric Weidenhaft** for your help at the Club table. It was a busy time with table renewals and membership renewals. The 2008 membership cards were available for pick up (thank you **Larry Criteser and John Priest**) so that was an added task.

We still have Club knives available for purchase. This is a project which helps to offset the costs of our Show, allows us to have a December show (free tables for members--but trust me when I say there is a considerable cost to the Club) and helps us to keep our low price for tables and memberships. Contribute please.

Larry Criteser has advised the blank for the grinding competition will be Damascus. Plan to enter the competition and contribute to our organization.

We are planning a Thursday, April 10, seminar on the topic Japanese swords. There will be a modest cost for attendance.

Crucible Steel, T Scott Devanna and Frank Cox, will host a Friday steel seminar before the doors open to tableholders and members on Friday, April 11.

January is the election of officers. All of the current officers have agreed to be committed for another year. Please cast your vote of support at the January 16 meeting.

The majority of the display awards knives have not been returned by the makers who are finishing them. Please contact me so we can coordinate their arrival. We want to acknowledge your contribution with photographs in our Newsletter.

See you at the January meeting, January 16, Sizzler Restaurant, Springfield OR. Dinner 6:00pm, Meeting 7:00pm. Election of officers.



Oregon Knife Collectors' 2008 Club Knife

This year we are offering a Roy Humenick handmade folding pocketknife for members of the OKCA. This knife is a Coke Bottle pattern and measures 3 5/8" closed. The blade is made from S30V steel and is flat ground and hand rubbed. The unique bolster/liner material is made of 416 stainless. The handles are select mahogany bone with beautiful jiggling. All pins are stainless steel, and the oval shield is pinned in place. This is a knife that just begs to be put in a pocket and used. Pretty it is but user friendly too.

Roy Humenick has been making knives since 1984, and this project has been in the works for several years. The time was right, and the special pricing was arranged as a favor by Roy.

The limited edition of only 50 knives will be serial numbered, year dated and marked as Oregon Knife Collectors' knives. These knives are only available to Oregon Knife Club members.

Serial number requests for your 2007 number will be honored if possible. All other serial numbers will be random drawing. Delivery will be at the April 2008 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 is available per member on this first offering. You may order multiple knives but getting more than one will be determined after December 15th.



The price on this knife is \$325.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Roy Humenick knife _____ quantity.

Total amount enclosed _____

Your 2007 serial number if desired was _____

Please add \$20 for shipping if you are not able to pick this knife up at the Show on April 12 - 13, 2008.



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 football bladders) 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.

FOR SALE AT AUCTION: The Estate of Donald Littman; Over 600 Antique, Folding, Specialty, Ethnic, Fighting, Military and Collectible American and English Bowie Knives; Auction February 25; Free Public Preview February 23-24 in San Francisco; www.gregmartinauctions.com for catalog and auction details; (800) 509-1988

Spyderco/Goddard Model C16PSBRG, \$65.00, free shipping when you mention OKCA.. Goddards 473 Durham Ave Eugene OR 97404 (541)689-8098



Wanted: Seller of Wegner Swiss Army Anvator watch who was at December show. Contact Steve Lyons (541)296-4811

Wanted: Information re H M Finch stag handled Bowie knife. History info?? Michel Luft email mereload@aol.com

For Sale: Boss sewing machine. Jack Squires P O Box 495 McMinnville OR 97128 (503)472-7290 or (971)237-7595 (cell)

Wanted: Information regarding the 20th Anniversary OKCA knife created by Wendell Fox. Scrimshaw by Jerry Whitmore. Who has it??? Contact Elayne OKCA (541)484-5564 email info@oregonknifeclub.org

Wanted: Coote belt sander Jack Squires P O Box 495 McMinnville OR 97128 (503)472-7290 or (971)237-7595 (cell)

For Sale: Handle Material, Beautiful Quilted, Tiger Stripe & fiddle back Maple.. Hickory, Cherry. Blocks 1/12x1 1/4x4.5to 5 inches. \$3.50 . Scales 3/8x1 1/2x5 \$3.50 not stablized.I will e-mail pictures. Call 541-856-3980 or e-mail akmabe2003@yahoo.com or see you at the show in April.

WANTED: Knives by Angus Arbuckle (1924-1982) of South Africa. Marked "ARA: in a diamond (early mark) or "Handmade ARA" over a winged cat. Contact: Richard Schechner P.O. Box 181923 Coronado, CA 92178 (619)437-0564 rgs522@san.rr.com

Knife Laws on-line. Federal, state, local. Bernard Levine (541)484-0294 www.knife-expert.com.

For Sale - Cotton wood bark for carvers. By the piece or in large quantities. Will ship or deliver at April Show. Jim Bond (541)451-3645.

The Keen Edge of Perfection -A History of the Morseth Knife by James R. Beall with Gordon Morseth Sr. Told by family members. Acclaimed by experts. Great gift for outdoor sports enthusiasts, collectors, and history buffs. Available online at: www.saviolopublisher.com, or from Saviolo Publisher PO 2675 Mandeville LA 70470. (985)792-0115; Fax: (985)792-0199 email to: ssj@saviolopublisher.com or jbeall@fred.net

For Sale: Made in France. Ready to blue or polish. Heavy 1095 French drop forge patch knife blades- 5 assorted- 2-1/2 to 3-3/4 plus strong rod tang. Pre hand shaped. You just sharpen and handle with stag or branch wood. Then sharpen as you will (5 blades) including shipping \$33.00. Visa/M/C/AMX. Sorry no pictures. 100% satisfaction. Club member Elliott-Hiltary Diamond 6060 E Thomas Rd Scottsdale AZ 85251 (480)945-0700 Fax (480)945-3333 usgrc@cox.net

Wanted: SEGUINE Knives -Please call Jack at: (805)431-2222 or (805)489-8702 --email:jh5jh@aol.com

Randall Made Knives. Buy, Sell, Trade. Also a good selection of Case knives, and many custom knives for sale or trade. Jim Schick www.nifeboy.com (209)333-1155.

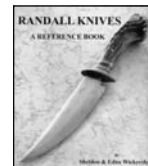
Knife Maker's Vise with the pool ball handles. If you need one of these -and everyone does-and would like it personally delivered to the April Show please pre-order. If you order very soon, you can choose your own ball numbers. These vises are now selling for \$175.00 and shipping is usually about \$25.00. For bonafide OKCA members in good standing, who pre-order, this year's price will be an outstanding \$150.00. I'm also a knife collector and love to trade so call me up or email and let's talk. Bob Patrick (604)538-6214. bob@knivesonnet.com.

Pierce-Arrow throwing knives, Claw Z throwing knives and the new NEV-R-MIS throwing Bowie will be at the Show again this year. I ran out last year so please pre-order if you want to be sure to get what you want. Bob Patrick (604)538-6214. bob@knivesonnet.com.

I'm working on a display about Stan Shaw for a future show. Knives and any ephemera, information, stories etc. would be greatly appreciated. Bob Patrick (604)538-6214. bob@knivesonnet.com.

Wanted: OKCA Club Knives #16. Need years 79 Case --- 80 Gerber ---81 Gerber---83 Gerber ----87 A1 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.

Randall Knives - A Reference Book by Sheldon & Edna Wickersham. A comprehensive guide for knife collectors and enthusiasts to help approximate the age of knives owned. This is not a pricing guide. 8-1/2" x 11" hardcover format. 250 pages consisting of 22 chapters with 250 full color photographs. \$64.95 + \$5 S&H. Check or MO payable to Sheldon Wickersham (406)257-2228. Credit card orders can be placed through bluestarknives.com.



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Cut-toon

Drunk knives 10,000 BC.



Drunk's the name, Knives the game.

William Williams
Oregon Knives

OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

Darrold (Ole) Olson
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The Newsletter

Oregon Knife Collectors Association
PO Box 2091
Eugene, OR 97402

Knife Events Calendar

January 2008

- Jan 18-20 - Las Vegas Custom -(KW-B-TK)
Jan 25-26 - American Bladesmith -Reno NV (KW-B)
Jan 26-27 - Gateway Area Knife -St Louis MO (KW-B-TK)

February 2008

- Feb 01-03 - Gator Cutlery Show - Lakeland FL (KW-B-TK)
Feb 09-10 - Dover Show - Dover OH (KW-B)
Feb 15-17 - Knife Expo 08 - Pasadena CA (KW-B-TK)
Feb 22-24 - East Coast Custom -New York, NY (B-TK)
Feb 23-24 - Arkansas Custom Knife -Little Rock (KW-B-TK)
Feb 23-24 - Keystone Show - Lewisburg, PA (KW)
Feb 23-24 - Dayton Ohio Knife Show (KW-B)

March 2008

- Mar 01-02 - Bunker Hill Knife - Bethalto IL (KW-B-TK)
Mar 07-08 - Northwest Georgia Knife Show - Dalton (KW-B)
Mar 28-30 - Badger Knife Show - Janesville WI (KW-B-TK)

April 2008

- Apr 04-06 - Shenandoah Valley Show - Harrisonburg VA (B)
Apr 12-13 - **Oregon Knife Show - Eugene OR (KW-B-TK)**
Apr 11-13 - Ohio Spring Show -Wilmington OH (KW-B)
Apr 19-20 - Wolverine Knife Show - Novi Michigan (KW-B)
Apr 25-27 - Solvang Custom - California (KW-B)

May 2008

- May 03-04 - NCCA NorthEast Cutlery -Mystic CT (KW)
May 23-26 - Shepherdsville KY Spring Show (KW)
May 30-01 - 2008 Blade Show - Atlanta GA (KW-B-TK)

June 2008

July 2008

- Jul 31-02 - Knifemakers Guild Show - Orlando FL (B)

August 2008

September 2008

- Sep 12-14 - Ohio Fall Show - Wilmington OH (KW)

October 2008

- Oct 24-26 - Shepherdsville KY Fall Show (KW)

DINNER MEETING



Wednesday Evening
January 16, 2008
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 - (TK) Tactical Knives

