



NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ Custom Knife Judging
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- ✓ Three Day Knife
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Our *international* membership is happily involved with "Anything that goes 'cut'!"

February 2008

Finishing Ivory by Dan Westlind

Many people have asked me about finishing ivory and if there are any good tricks. I can't say that there are any tricks, but here is how I sand and finish ivory and most of my knife handles. If I am starting out with a larger piece of ivory such as a piece of mammoth tusk, I usually like to rough sand the outside so I can match the colors better as the color can vary greatly in a short distance due to the mineralization. If I have a larger piece of mammoth or fossil walrus tusk, I usually start with a Porter-Cable model #7335 Random Orbital Sander. This is a larger sander to take off the rougher exterior crud of the ivory. I start with either 60 or 100 grit, depending on the roughness. One must be careful not to take too much off the outside as most of the color is on the very outside, and you can sand through the color very quickly and be left with little outside color. Fossil walrus is a little different as the color is usually deeper than on mammoth. After I get the heavier crud off, I switch to 220 grit, lightly sand and buff, just to see what colors I have.

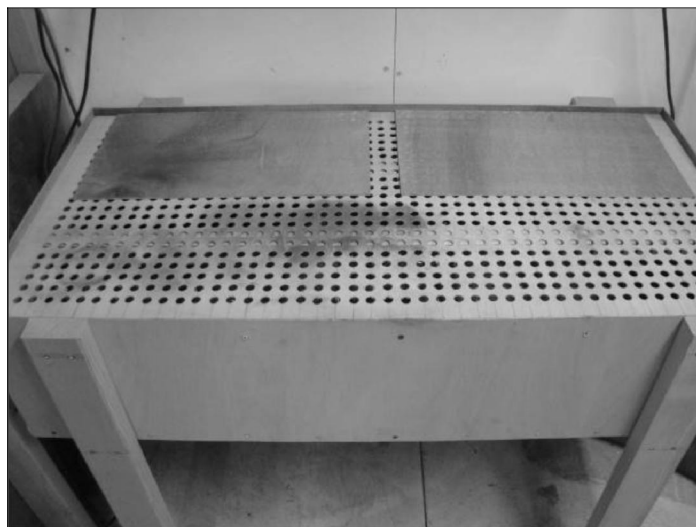
Now I lay out the sizes of scales I am going to cut, and it is off to the bandsaw. After I have cut the scales and rough fit them to the knife they are going on, I flatten the back sides of the scales. Remember, ivory reacts to heat much like steel in the fact that if you are using a dull belt or disc and the ivory gets hot, it can warp and be very difficult to keep flat. I always use a fresh disc or belt on low speed to flatten the back. Also, you want to take material off the back of the scale if you are profiling it down to match the bolsters or guard. The color is very shallow on the outside so you want to take the material off the back side to save the color.

Once the scale is secured to the knife and I am finishing the handle, I switch to a Porter-Cable Model #332 Random Orbital Palm Sander. I



use the five inch models, and I like the PSA (pressure sensitive adhesive) discs. I normally start with 220 to 320 grit depending on how much I have to take off. I then go to 400 grit for my final sanding. Remember that the color on mammoth can be very shallow so it may only take a few seconds to get the scratches out. I have always said that you can have a \$200.00 pair of blue mammoth ivory scales and ten seconds later have a \$60.00 set of white scales. Sanding on mammoth and seeing how much to take off or leave on takes a little experience. Fossil walrus is much more forgiving.

After the final sand with 400 grit, I go to the buffer. I use a Baldor #332B Buffer that runs at 1800 RPM. I do not like buffers that run any faster as the surface footage of the buffing wheel is too much, and you can burn the ivory. When it burns on the buffer, it normally shows up as white spots. I use a 600 grit white buffing compound and use it sparingly. If the texture on the ivory is rough, then I usually do not even use buffing compound as it fills the cracks with white compound and looks terrible. If this happens, I clean as much of the compound out with a toothbrush and, this is a trick, I take a Sharpie brand felt pen (I buy the multi-color packs



Continued on page 8

Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

by Frank Trzaska

Red Cross Knives Revisited

In a past update I discussed the folding pocket tools the Red Cross has included in packages to our troops supporting the War on Global Terrorism. One of our ever astute field observers and good friend, Major John C. Jacobi, proceeded on a mission to find one for closer observation. John is stationed over in the land of the big desert with the 2nd Battlefield Control Detachment of the United States Army. After a few e-mails between us, Major Jacobi finally procured an example of the noted specimen. The following is a letter sent to me with the item for further research.

SWORN STATEMENT

After having seen information on Frank Trzaska's website about the American Red Cross sending tool-kit knives to deployed soldiers in Operations Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operations in the Horn of Africa, I called the Red Cross Coordinator, Mrs. Brenda Hindman, at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar. Mrs. Hindman stated she received a shipment of over 200 of the tool-kit knives in November, 2003, and sent them to First Sergeant of the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Camp Andy, Al Udeid Qatar.

Senior Airman Matthew Carlson of the 379EAMXS/391AMU provided this example for edged weapon researchers; it was then sent to Mr. Frank Trzaska. It is reported that the tool-kit came with a key chain ring and black Velcro pouch. The Airmen, however, upon receipt of these tool-kits, would remove the chain and discard the pouch.

The interesting feature of this tool-kit knife is that it incorporates a miniature LED flashlight in addition to the pliers, serrated edge blade, Phillips head blade, bottle opener blade/flat tip screwdriver and normal knife blade.

The LED light is very bright and assists in no light conditions.

Major John C. Jacobi
2nd Battlefield Control Detachment
United States Army Reserve
Al Udeid Air Base Qatar

The multi-tool is completely unmarked. In its folded state it measures in at 2-5/8 inches long by 1-3/16 inches at its widest point. Very compact unit when folded. Open with the pliers folded out, it runs to 4-1/8 inches and with the longest tool open it stretches out to 5-3/4 inches. The LED flashlight is powered by 4 AG3 button cell batteries and provides a very powerful blue light. It has a machined aluminum body with the typical screw type on/off switch. The unit is waterproof with a rubber o-ring in the top to seal the battery compartment. The life expectancy of LED bulbs is very long, thousands of hours. While they are also impervious to most shock and vibration situations they can be broken, just not easily. The tool blades consist of a clip point blade which is very sharp right from the factory. A cutout in the tool handle aligns with the nail nick in the blade for easy opening. The next tool in line is the Phillips head screwdriver. Typical stamped blade with the end tapering down to the rounded head in with the screwdriver tip is machined. The next blade is a straight blade screwdriver tip with a cut in bottle-cap opener. Straight blade screwdrivers are always handy to have for picking or prying as well as the traditional function. The bottle-cap opener would certainly come in handy when a few bottles of good beer are passed around. In times like these the man with the cap opener is a very good friend indeed. And last but not least we have the fourth and final blade, a full serrated cutting edge. Not really a saw but more of a rope or fabric cutting blade. This blade being at the opposite side of the first blade also possesses a nail nick and a cut out in the frame to access it. The pliers are of a needle nose design with serrated teeth in a pipe gripping curved center. The rear of the jaws contain a wire cutter for small gage soft wire like commo cord and such. They are also spring loaded to remain in the open position, a great feature when trying to use only one hand. All in all a very compact tool that is more than capable of light chores around a base when a handy tool will save the walk for the proper one or in those instances where it may be the only tool available.

As for the absence of markings on the tool it leaves me wondering, who makes them and where are they being made? As the box was not enclosed with the package, it yielded no clues to the original manufacturer. As this specimen was only received two days before this was posted, I have not had time to dig into it yet, but I will. Further exploration is intended, and the results will be provided as they are found.



Commercial on left Red Cross on right.



Commercial and packaging



Red Cross issue and pouch



Red Cross issue and pouch



Red cross issue open

Continued on page 10

OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

The Knewsletter Policy...

We have had several calls of late concerning a recent passing, "Why wasn't this death noted in our Knewsletter?" Many years ago we decided upon a policy that the Knewsletter would be a vehicle for education about knives and things that go cut. We would not include announcements such as weddings, births, sickness, injuries, hospitalizations, puzzles, recipes, garden health, wealth, religion, politics, sex, lotteries or deaths. Likewise our policy on advertising is that we advertise only for members and contributors to our organization, no others. Hopefully all will agree.

The Show is Sold Out...

A waiting list has been started for tables at our April Show. We have already had a cancellation for health reasons and depending on the size of the waiting list we **MIGHT ALLOW** table sharing.

We asked for donations and...

They are arriving. The flow of mailed in donations for raffle and door prizes has started. This is a key factor in the success of our Show. To date we have received items from **Chris Hyde (World Knives), Ken and Sharon McFall (Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies), Bud Lang, David Shirley (The Custom Shoppe), Sheldon and Edna Wickersham (Blue Star Knives)**. Thank you for your support of our organization. Many thanks to Bernard Levine for his letter which requested the donations.

The silent auction has been a great funding project for our organization. We have been advised that **Terry Davis, Roy Humenick and Bill Ruple** will again donate a special knife for our auction. It doesn't get better than that.

The Contributors to the Knewsletter...

I want to thank those that write for our Knewsletter. I have always believed that this is the glue that keeps us together. Thank you for your help in this issue **Ron Edwards, Ray Ellingsen, Craig Morgan, John Priest, Mike Silvey, Merle Spencer, Frank Trzaska and Dan Westlind**.

At the Show this year...

Some events that are special are in the works for this year's Show. Thursday will start the all day seminar on Japanese Swords. Thursday evening at the Valley River Inn we will have the Thursday Nite Social. Friday morning we will have a metallurgy seminar before the Show opens. Friday afternoon starts the

Custom Knife Competition. Saturday we will have a grinding competition on blade blanks that are profiled for a Japanese tanto. Ray Richards will give a forging demonstration as he makes a Japanese tanto on Saturday and on Sunday. Throughout Saturday we will have demonstrations scheduled.

Opening ceremonies.....

We were attempting to have an opening ceremony on Saturday, and our first thoughts directed us to the local Japanese Taiko drummers. That was short lived as the group stated we were culturally incompatible to their views. They basically stated that they would not participate with an organization that dealt with weaponry. I thought this strange as the Taiko drums originated as weapons of war in early Japan. Go figure. We are still searching for entertainment that will be compatible with the Japanese theme for an opening ceremony. If all else fails we have an offer for bagpipes but hesitate on this as these too were weapons of war. Just another place and another time.

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.

An Un-Smile knife....

Elsewhere in the Knewsletter we have an article on a smile knife; however I decided to share an un-smile knife. Yes this was another eBay fiasco. I have purchased many low end knives to supplement our utility knife collection. The Mayer-Krom Co (Forsheim Shoe) knife looked well enough to purchase... until it was received. The blade was so loose it came out when just held in a vertical position. When the spring metal is harder than the blade metal and someone opens and closes a knife like this a bazillion times due to a nervous twitch, then the blade steel gets severely worn. Throw in "no oil" and the grating produces the results as seen in the picture. When blades open too easily, that is the time to look for a

problem. A very merry un-smile to me.

Places to stay in Eugene

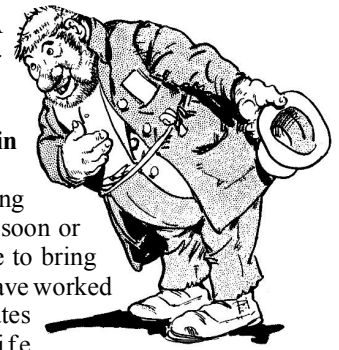
Get your lodging reservations in soon or you might have to bring your tent. We have worked out special rates for the Knife Show so take advantage with the suggestions below.

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.

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 Oregon Knife Show for a very special rate. You must call this location for that rate.

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



Tales of the Samurai

Raymond Ellingsen

THE LESSON OF PRIORITY

One day a young Ronin was walking a path down the mountainside. A group of ruffians approached him coming from the other direction. Upon seeing the Ronin they decided to harass him. Their taunts turned to shoving and suddenly one of the thugs drew a weapon. Without warning, the Ronin leapt off the narrow path and tumbled down the mountain. The ruffians stared in disbelief as the Ronin picked himself up at the bottom of the hill, dusted himself off, and walked away.

Several weeks later the Ronin was walking along a river near a village when he was approached by the same group of bandits. Upon recognizing the Ronin the ruffians picked up their pace, eager to torment the timid warrior once again. As they approached, the Ronin calmly threw himself into the swift current of river, floating away from the troublemakers to safety.

Some time later, the Ronin was granted an audience with the local Shogun, who was seeking a warrior to protect him. The Shogun, although impressed with the young Ronin's appearance and demeanor, expressed his concerns about hiring the warrior. "I have been told that on several occasions you have demonstrated cowardice in the face of adversity. This concerns me; but as I am in dire need of a warrior's services and can find no one else, I shall hire you." The Ronin did not respond to the allegations, but simply bowed quietly.

One day the warrior was escorting his new master through the province when they were set upon by the now familiar group of ruffians. The bandits, recognizing the Ronin turned Samurai, all grinned maliciously and charged forward to chase the cowardly warrior off. Without hesitation, the Samurai drew his sword and stabbed the first man through the stomach. In one deft motion he withdrew the blade and stepped forward, severing another bandit's head from his body. With two more swift motions of his blade, the warrior dispatched the remaining two thugs.

As the Samurai cleaned his blade, the Shogun and his charges stared at the carnage around them. The Shogun turned to the warrior and asked, "Are these the same brigands that you once ran from?" When the Samurai nodded, the Shogun added, "You obviously are not a coward, but why did you flee from these men before?" The warrior turned to his master and said, "When I met these men before, the only thing that was at stake was my pride. Today the stakes were our lives. A true warrior must know the difference between the two."



A Word About The Custom Knife Judging by John Priest

This will be year 15 that I have run the Custom Knife Competition; and I think I finally have an idea of what's going on. For those of you makers who want to better your chances of winning: pay heed, those of you who don't, go to the next article.

First and foremost, Read the Rules!! These are the rules that you will find in your Show envelope when you arrive. Especially those parts that pertain to categories, disclosure and new makers.

Every year we get several knives that are obviously in the wrong category. Before you choose, think about whether it really fits.

On every entry there is a place to disclose what part of the knife (if any) was not done by the person entering it. This would be things like engraving, scrimshaw, specialized heat treating, etc. The maker is responsible for conceiving and executing the knife, not just assembling parts. The judges are looking at the basic knife and will take into account any special embellishments that couldn't reasonably have been done by the maker.

And now for the judges. These guys know what they're doing. Knife judging is highly subjective, so we try to get people with differing tastes who will balance out. However, they all know what to look for in a winning knife. In the last five years they have differed some on the category winners but have been unanimous on the Best of Show.

The judging this year will take place **Friday, April 11, 2008.**

We will start accepting the knives at **2 PM** and stop at **4 PM.** The judging takes place starting at 4 PM, and the winners will be

announced after the judging. We expect about 100 entrants and encourage everyone to enter, but please do your part. Read the rules that will be included in your Show packet and enter early.

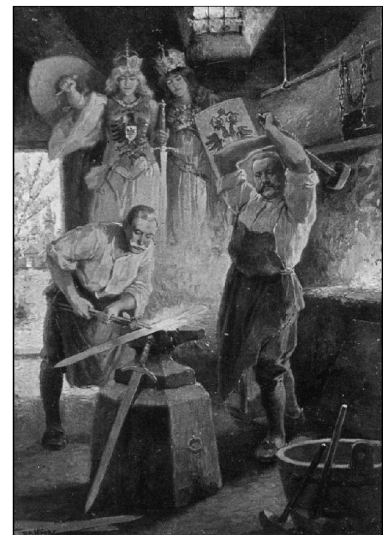
The categories for the Custom Knife Competition are:

ART KNIFE
BOWIE KNIFE
DAMASCUS KNIFE (You must forge your own blade)
FIGHTING KNIFE
FOLDING KNIFE
HAND FORGED (Non Damascus)
HUNTING-UTILITY KNIFE
MINIATURE KNIFE

NEW MAKER

There will be one knife designated as **BEST of SHOW.**

This year we will again allow any OKCA Club member to submit a knife into the New Maker category. The knife must be presented in person, and you do not have to be a tableholder for this category. A New Maker is one who has not entered custom competition ever before. You must be a tableholder to enter all other categories.



Damascus Party by Craig Morgan

On Saturday, January 26, 2008, I had the pleasure of getting together with a group of friends from the Oregon Knife Collectors to make some Damascus steel. The event took place at the shop of Lynn Moore. I picked up Wayne Goddard early in the morning and we went over and helped Martin Brandt load up an anvil and some other equipment, and then it was off toward Fall Creek. I had directions from Map Quest, but the scenery was so pretty we drove right by the place! But we made it eventually.

When we arrived at the shop on the back of property, the forge was hot; and our host was already working. The shop was impressive. It was large, well lit and tooled up nicely. And unlike my own, you could actually walk through it! Large windows provided a nice view of the woods, and the big bay door opened right onto the creek. It was an ideal setting for beating hot steel.

After a little while Martin showed up and Lynn put all of his equipment in the bucket of the tractor and brought it right up to the shop door. I wished we would've had the tractor at Marty's house, but that's another story in itself. So now there were two forges and two anvils. Our new Club member, Jeff Crowner, arrived; and we began working. Wayne had prepared some bundles of steel cable that we would forge weld into wire rope damascus. Each small bundle was welded to a length of rebar that acted as a handle. As the steel was heated it was fluxed with anhydrous borax. The flux helps to keep the surface of the steel from forming scale. When scale does form, the borax reacts with it and welding can take place at a lower temperature than it could without the flux. That way you don't burn as much carbon out of the steel.

When the steel was hot enough, it was over to the power hammer. This was the most fun for me, as it was my first time using one. It took a little time getting used to, but I got the hang of it pretty quickly. The speed and pressure of the power hammer take a lot of work out of making damascus. It would be very difficult to do it by hand with just a hand held hammer. It took a few heats and trips to the hammer to get the cable forge welded into a solid billet. After a knife is completely finished it gets etched in a solution of ferric chloride, which brings out the patterns of all the wires in the cable. Cable damascus has always been my personal favorite because the patterns that come through are so unique and beautiful.

Later in the morning, several more Club members joined the party. Ole Olson, Dave Rider and Bowen and Noah Cannoy rounded out the group. We all took turns sharing the forges and anvils, and the exchange of ideas and techniques was very enlightening. There was a wealth of knowledge in the room. Around mid-day, Lynn brought out fried chicken so we stood at the workbench and ate lunch while keeping an eye on the steel in the forges.

After lunch it was back to work. The forges were running all day, and we all seemed to get quite a bit accomplished. It was really nice to work in a group setting like that for a change, and everyone was so supportive of each other, which is a great motivator. Working in such a nice shop was sure a lot of fun as well. I came home with three billets of cable damascus, which will eventually be worked down into finished knives in my own shop. Thanks to Wayne Goddard for supplying materials and the gift of his vast knowledge, and thanks, Lynn for opening up your shop to us for what was a very memorable time. Hopefully we can do it again!



The Three-Day Two-Man Knife by Merle Spencer

Five or so years ago, I bought a beautiful Damascus blade from Gerome Winenand, the Missoula, Montana knifemaker. This blade was already polished and ready for a handle; but it was so beautiful the way it was, that I put off doing any thing with it for a couple years, while I worked on other projects.

I took the blade with me to the Montana show, where I was going to meet my cousin, Maynard, a rancher from the Black Hills area in South Dakota.

He was so taken with the beauty of the blade that he offered to buy it and finish it himself. I had no doubt that he could do this, as I had seen a knife he made out of an old drag saw blade (See "Good Ol' Knives", Oct. 2003). Thinking that I could always find another like it on Gerome's table at a show (I haven't yet), I sold it to him.

Another couple years went by. (What does time matter when you're around eighty?). Last summer there was to be a reunion of some of our relatives in north Seattle, so I called him and told him if he would fly to Portland, I would meet him and bring him here and then drive to the reunion. I said if he would bring the blade we would work on it together.

He came.

We started on the knife on a Wednesday morning about ten o'clock. We both took part in the project. While one was cutting a bolster, the other drilled holes in one already cut. This system of working together continued as the knife developed.

By mid-afternoon we had riveted the bolsters to the blade and had rough shaped them on the sanding belt. Maynard was raised on the ranch and was experienced in many kinds of machinery repair, and he took to that bolster riveting as if he had been doing it all his life. Right away he got the swing of the ball peen hammer down to where he got the rivets peened flush to the bolsters with hardly any unwanted dents.

We had to leave for Seattle on Sunday and didn't plan on using all his time here on knife work, so we took the rest of the day off and went sight seeing along the ocean.

Thursday morning was my usual men's breakfast, and I took him along. We took the unfinished knife with us for a show and tell that these friends had been subjected to with some of my previous projects. They knew that I sometimes take over a year to complete a knife at this hobby; and they were skeptical when we told them we planned to



Maynard

Merle

finish this knife before he was to leave for South Dakota the next week, especially since they knew we were going to Seattle, also.

"I don't believe you'll get it done," said one friend who always makes enthusiastic comments when examining my work.

Back at the shop after breakfast, we went to work on profiling the stabilized California buckeye maple scales he had chosen from my small stock of handle material. Again we worked together, one outlining the scales over size on the band saw, while the other marked and drilled holes on my old Montgomery Ward drill press.

The bolsters weren't entirely true on the front and back, so work with a square file, smoothed on one side, cleaned them up. A needle flat file, also smoothed on one edge, took the rough marks out.

He didn't want any pins to show in the handle, because he had plans to inlay a couple pieces of Fairburn agate in the scales. There were six small holes for pins in the tang. We marked these on the scales and drilled holes about an eighth inch deep so we would have blind pins to hold the scales to the tang with the epoxy.

After cutting six pins, the holes in the tang needed to be reamed slightly to allow the pins to go through. Since the blade was hardened, it was necessary to use a diamond-coated reamer from a little kit I had purchased at a show.

We stopped working for several hours to do some more sight seeing and to have lunch.

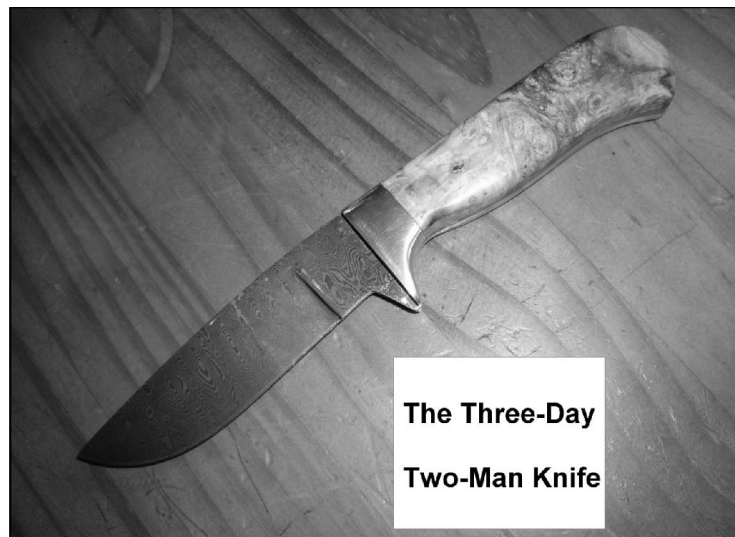
When we returned in the middle of the afternoon, I said, "You know, if we glue those scales on now, they'll be cured and ready to shape tomorrow."

He was all for it.

We got the scales all ready with the short pins in the holes and tried it all together. Everything fit tight, so we roughed the tang with sand paper and wiped the dust off with an alcohol-dampened paper tissue.

After the epoxy was well mixed, we smeared it on both sides of the tang and inserted the short pins. With two of us working together, we applied epoxy to the scales and slipped both of them over the pins down tight to the tang. We tightened three small clamps to hold it all together and knocked off for the day.

Friday morning we were ready to shape the handles and bolsters. The epoxy had cured nicely; and we actually had a knife, although the handles and bolsters were oversize and square-cornered.



The Three-Day
Two-Man Knife

United States Army Signal Corps Inspector's Pocket Kit - Revisited

by Mike Silvey

We set the belt disc sander on a bench in the open garage doorway with a new belt and a new disc installed. With the blade taped, we started to shape the maple scales and brass bolsters as one. While Maynard watched, I sanded some of the excess material above and below the tang steel on the disc, but left enough for him to bring on down to the steel. Then I showed him how to place the side of handle on the curved end of the belt to cut down for the palm swell. The handle tang was somewhat short, so he decided to taper out toward the end of the handle instead of leaving a swell at the center of the handle.

Leaving him to work on that, which I knew would keep him occupied for some time, I proceeded to install a new one-inch coarse belt on my small sander. I went back to watch him now and then and to show him how to turn the handle so as to round the corners off.

He moved next to the vise and used a coarse rasp to get in the places he couldn't reach on the sander.

When he had a nicely shaped coarse, bulky handle, I advised him to move to the one-inch belt for detailed shaping. After awhile we exchanged the coarser belt for a fine one. He had pretty much got the hang of things by now and understood when to go to fine files and sand paper and when to go back to the belt, if more material needed to be removed.

I do my finish knife work at a bench in a corner of a room above the garage, and I saw him up there working away after supper. There was a lot of fine finish work to be done, especially on the front of the bolsters, where it was necessary to use a needle file with one edge ground smooth, and to use finer and finer sandpaper.

About here in the process, I ran the blade across a fine belt on the one-inch sander to put an edge on it. He spent a lot of time on the slanted rods getting that edge keen. After that we were very careful to keep the blade taped.

When I looked up at that room before breakfast on Saturday morning, here he was working away again on some real or imagined rough spot. He was really proud of his accomplishment, and so was I. Altogether we had put in 36 hours total.

There it was, a beautiful knife, with a fine Damascus blade, polished brass bolsters and attractive buckeye maple scales with light areas and complimentary dark grain figure.

I really liked that finished knife, and I told him so; but he took it home with him.

In a recent article on this subject we took a look at the World War I version of the Signal Corps Inspector's Pocket Kit, see **Fig. #1A** and **Fig. #2A**. When World War II came along the name of the kit was changed to "Signal Corps U. S. Army/Tool Equipment TE-5", see **Fig. #1** and **Fig. #2**. The change, however, encompassed more than just the name. The pliers and scissors in the earlier kit were nickel plated whereas those in the World War II kits were parkerized. The four part folding rule was changed from the nicely brass bound boxwood No. 62 1/2 rule to the unbound painted wood No. 163 rule. The Signal Corps electrician's knife of earlier times was replaced with the TL-29 (**T**ool, **L**ineman - **29**). See **Fig. #3** and **Fig. #4** for tool details. Unexpectedly, none of the tools in the later kit possess Signal Corps markings expect for the TL-29. The half-round file and tweezers do not show a maker's name. The electrician's pliers are marked Klein & Sons/Chicago, U.S.A. and are 5.125 inches long. The 24-inch rule is by Stanley, the 5.75 inch screwdriver by Tuck and the 5.125 inch scissors are made by Madison/Fremont. The TL-29 has the Camillus three-line mark. Finally, the well made leather case has remained unchanged, (**Fig. #5**)



Fig. #1



Fig. #1A

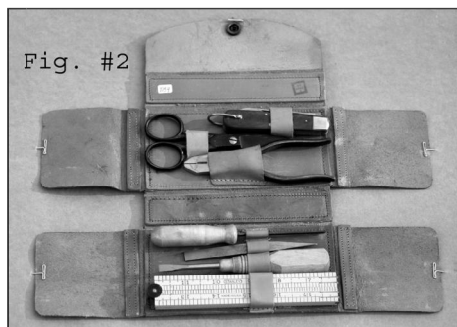


Fig. #2



Fig. 2A WWI Kit

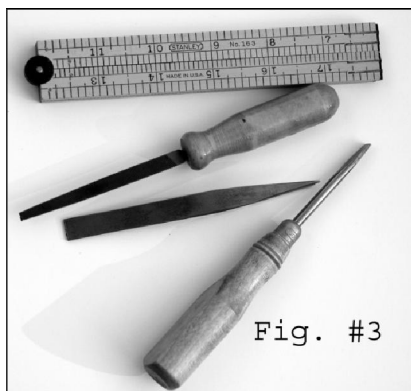


Fig. #3



Fig. #4



Fig. #5



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) \$ _____

Finishing... (Continued from page 1)

to match the color of the ivory) and use the felt pen to color in the cracks and the compound. You may want to try this on a scrap piece of ivory first. I normally do not stabilize my ivory, nor do I use a finish like laquer. I do use wax to shine the ivory up though. I use the above method on almost all of my handles, including wood, bone, antler and tooth.

I made a sanding table which I have in my grinding room. It is 12 inches high, 24 wide, 48 inches long and stands 30 inches tall. The top is paneling drilled with 5/8" holes on one inch centers, much like an air hockey table. I have my dust vacuum hooked up underneath to cause a down draft to suck the dust down into the dust collector. I have baffles made of the same paneling to block off the areas I am not using. This works great and did not cost much to build. I have the sanders on a shelf right above it and my Foredom tool on the side. If you go on to SHOP FOX brand tools, they make a smaller down draft table that is 5" x 15" x 25" for \$135.00. Mine cost less than that to make; but if you have the sanders with dust collectors on them, you may not need this kind of table.

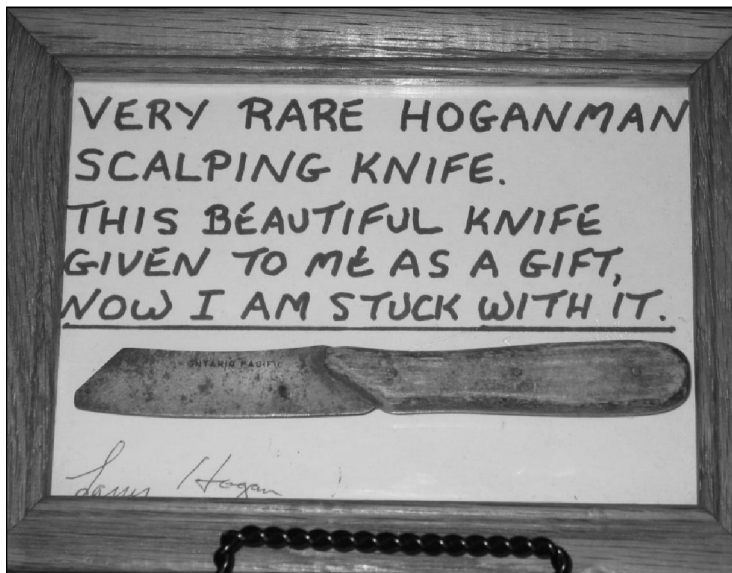
Another trick I use is a rectangular magnetic tray available from most auto parts stores that I keep stuck to the top of the buffer. This



conveniently holds the buffing compound I am using. One thing, I mark my buffing wheels with a felt pen as to what compound is on them, and I always use the same buffing wheels for ivory and nothing else. I keep those buffs in a zip-lock. This keeps unwanted grits from getting on them as it only takes a little grit from the belt sander to get on them and cause scratches on the finish of the handle. I hope this information helps.

Our Reason to SMILE by Ron Edwards

Larry Hogan gave me this knife many years ago because he knew I liked wood handled knives and that I was born in Ontario, Canada. Well, he was right on both counts. I do like wood handled knives, maybe a wee bit different than this knife; and he was definitely correct, I was born in Canada.



The fact is, the guy was thinking of me, it was his feeling I should have it and in some small way the knife would help me to appreciate my future in collecting. At the time he thought he was laying it on me and maybe he was.

The SMILE section in our paper gives me the opportunity to share Larry's gift, and in that way I can share this fine (a bit of a stretch here) knife with you all.

I will keep it safe for all of us to love, cherish and have the knowledge that it's out there. A Fine Smile Knife from someone who always made us smile. Thanks, Larry.

See you in April, maybe I'll bring it along, and you can see this knife at table "X08"



The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The January meeting was held at Sizzler Restaurant, Springfield, OR, January 16, 2008.

It was the annual election of officers. All the current officers had pledged to be committed for another year. A motion from Larry Criteser nominated all the current officers to be officers for 2008. The motion was seconded by Ford Swauger. No additional nominations. The vote was unanimous for the 2007 officers to be officers for 2008. President-Ole Olson, Vice-President-John Priest, Secretary/Treasurer-Elayne Ellingsen, Craig Morgan-Master at Arms and Show Coordinator-Dennis Ellingsen. Thank you for your support. We will continue to strive to provide service and a smile to our fellow members in the world of "anything that goes cut."

The membership cards and table confirmations have been mailed. Have you received your membership card for 2008? Note the label on your Knewsletter to be sure of your membership expiration date. You must be a current 2008 member to be admitted Friday of the Show; no card, no entry. If your card has not been received, email, call or write. If you want to renew, mail your application now. Renewal at the Show will be after 2:00PM, Friday, April 11..

There are no tables available for the 2008 Show. We have started a waiting list.

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 reported that the knife blank for the grinding competition would be Damascus which would be made with the help of **Ford Swauger**. Plan to participate in this event. These blades will be the foundation for our 2008 display award knives.

I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of the display award knives for 2008. I have contacted the makers who are enhancing the blade ground at the 2007 blade grinding competition. We hope to have photos of the knives in the March Knewsletter. We also would like to have them so we can display them at the cutlery store **Excalibur Cutlery** which is in the Valley River Mall, Eugene.

We are planning a Thursday, April 10, seminar on the topic Japanese swords. There will be a modest cost for attendance. It will be necessary to reserve a place at this seminar. We are attempting to finalize the schedule and will advise in advance so you can reserve a place.

We have planned a Thursday Social at the Valley River Inn. We are hopeful we will receive donations which will offset the cost of this event. It is necessary that you advise us if you will attend so we can order a sufficient amount of food. It will be a mill around and chat with finger food, just an appetizer before your dinner. Contact us by email, phone or mail to advise you will be attending. It has been a super event: a chance to visit before the push of the Show and the food isn't bad either.

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.

Bernard Levine will be mailing the letters requesting donations for door prizes and raffle which are to be shipped to the postal box address

OKCA 3003 W 11 Ave PMB 172 Eugene OR 97402

Please help us by contributing. (We have received donations from **Chris Hyde-World Knives**, **Bud Lang**, **David Shirley-The Custom Shoppe**, **Ken & Sharon McFall-Knife & Gun Finsihing Supplies**, **Sheldon & Edna Wickersham-Blue Star Knives**.)

We have also arranged a secure facility for the shipment of merchandise by the tableholders, **The Barons Den** has a walk in vault which can house your items until you pick them up prior to the Show. See their website www.thebaronsden.com They can accept shipment FedEx or UPS. No shipments via USPS (Postal Service) can be accepted. Be sure to address the shipment

OKCA % The Barons Den 86321 College View Road Eugene OR 97405-9631. (541)744-6229. It will be necessary for you to prearrange return shipment of your merchandise.

Do not ship to the Lane Events Center since they have no arrangements which will provide for secure storing of your merchandise. If you intend to ship to your hotel/motel, be sure to contact them via phone to insure they can accommodate the shipment and will be awaiting its arrival.

See you at the meeting February 20 at the Sizzler Restaurant, Gateway Mall, Springfield OR.



THE ESTATE OF DONALD LITTMAN, PT 1 THE LARGEST KNIFE AUCTION EVER

AUCTION: February 25 in San Francisco
PREVIEW: February 23-24



Over 600 Antique, Folding, Specialty, Ethnic, Fighting, Military and Collectible American and English Bowie Knives



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More on the Red Cross Knives

It later pointed out in a Brigade Quartermasters' catalog the same pattern item. They list an almost identical tool as Dakota [trademark] micro tool with led light for \$18.99, Catalog # DTT39. So I sent for a few of them for comparison. There is no doubt these items were made by the same company. The Dakota item is unmarked like the one sent to me from overseas, but the new item contains a small sticker inside the handle which reads "Made in China" which is enough to beat the importation laws on marking cutlery. There is one significant difference in the tool, the flashlight lens is constructed in an entirely different manner. You can note from the side by side photos this difference. I point this out as a way of telling the difference in a Red Cross supplied knife from one purchased commercially. Perhaps the RC knife is an earlier model of the same item, I do not know and will not speculate on it at this time. I am still trying to gather information on them to put it all together. The current item is imported by the Dakota Watch Co., but so far little information on the actual manufacturer is known.

In another front I also received from Major Jacobi the black nylon pouch the tool was originally supplied with. It has a Velcro tab to close the cover and a small sewn on loop in the back for hooking to a belt. It would have to be a very small belt as the opening is 1-1/2 inch total. Most likely it would be affixed to the many MOLLE straps on today's gear, not worn on the belt.

Again I would like to thank all those involved with helping me gather all the info on these items so far. I still have a lot further to go to know the whole story, but I am certainly on the right track to uncover it. Stay tuned for further updates on the new tools; and if you have any additional information on these, please let me know.

trz123@comcast.net



Red Cross issue with nickel for size comparison



Red cross issue with full size Gerber

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 tri-metalite paper) 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.

USEFUL BLADE BOOK REFERENCES -Custom knives, collectible knives and other blades, Military blades, swords, tools, etc. If we don't consider it to be a good book we will not sell it. Rick Wagner, P.O. Box 41854, Eugene, OR 97404 (541)688-6899 wagner_r@pacinfo.com www.qualitybladebooks.com

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

New Product to be introduced at April Oregon Knife Show - Walker Wax -The best product around for cleaning and protecting your knives and guns. Everyone who has used it loves it. See us at our table (E15) at the Show or email walkerwax@hotmail.com. Jim Walker.

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

Buy, Sell, Trade: Victorinox and Wenger knives. Need SwissBuck Models 87533, 87535, 87536, 87544 and 87553. New in box or like new preferably. Call Allen Shurtliff at (208)454-9966 or allenknives@msn.com

Wanted: Seller of Wegner Swiss Army Aviator 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 merelead@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 stabilized.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 usgre@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.

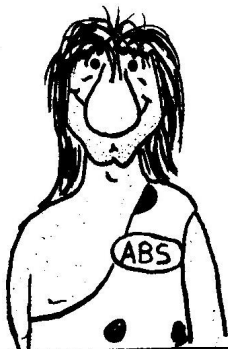
Wanted: OKCA Club Knives #16. Need years 79 Case --- 80 Gerber ---81 Gerber---83 Gerber ---87 Al Mar --- 89 Cripple Creek --91 Mark Walster --- 92 Gerber, will buy or trade . Contact Fred Coleman (541)915-6241 or leave message (541)688-3624 . DESPERATELY LOOKING AND NEED AND WANT.

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



That's right, the Aboriginal Bipedal Society

Williams
Knewslettter

OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

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The Newsletter

Oregon Knife Collectors Association
PO Box 2091
Eugene, OR 97402

Knife Events Calendar

February 2008

- 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-B)
- Feb 23-24 - Dayton Ohio Knife Show (KW-B)

March 2008

- Mar 01-02 - Bunker Hill Knife Show - Bethalto IL (KW-B-TK)
- Mar 07-08 - Northwest Georgia Knife Show - Dalton (KW-B)
- Mar 15-16 - Canadian Knifemakers Guild - Mississauga, ON (B-TK)
- Mar 28-30 - Badger Knife Show - Janesville WI (KW-B-TK)

April 2008

- Apr 04-06 - Shenandoah Valley Show - Harrisonburg VA (KW-B)
- Apr 12-13 - Oregon Knife Show - Eugene OR (KW-B-TK)**
- Apr 11-13 - Ohio Spring Show -Wilmington OH (KW-B)
- Apr 18-19 - Mason Dixon Knife Show - Fredrick MD (KW)
- Apr 19-20 - Wolverine Knife Show - Novi Michigan (KW-B-TK)
- Apr 25-27 - Solvang Custom - California (KW-B-TK)

May 2008

- May 03-04 - NCCA NorthEast Cutlery -Mystic CT (KW-B)
- May 16-17 - NKCA Springfield MO (B)
- May 17-18 - Knife Show - St. Charles, Missouri (KW)
- May 23-26 - Shepherdsville KY Spring Show (KW)
- May 30-01 - 2008 Blade Show - Atlanta GA (KW-B-TK)

July 2008

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

August 2008

- Aug 01-03 - Knifemakers Guild - Lake Buena Vista FL (KW)
- Aug 22-24 - Montana Knifemakers Assoc. - Missoula

September 2008

- Sep 12-14 - Ohio Fall Show - Wilmington OH (KW-B)
- Sep 26-28 - Blade Show West - Portland OR (B)

October 2008

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

DINNER MEETING



Wednesday Evening
February 20, 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

