



## KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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

October 2013

## The Death of The Whatchacallit Knife

Wayne Goddard

There has been a lot of paper and ink used on the subject of what a Bowie knife is. I know what one is, it's the kind of thing where I know one when I see it (at least, what I believe a Bowie to be). I don't get it anyway; big knives that look like what we call a Bowie knife had been made for hundreds of years before Jim Bowie was born. Somehow they never caught on quite like the Bowie did. Perhaps it had to do with the name. Consider for a minute where we would be if Jim Bowie's last name had been Smith. "The Smith Knife," there is no magic there. The legend may have died out except for the name Bowie. (Well, that's part of my story; and I'm sticking to it.)

For me, a Bowie knife has to be a wicked looking thing; you know... the type of weapon that would start a legend. The little knives that some folks call Bowie knives belong in some paper-pusher's desk drawer. They could open envelopes but not win a battle or start a legend. Bruce Voyles said that when you hold a Southern Bowie in your hand, you can hear the cannons and smell the smoke. I like that. Why not let your emotions tell you what kind of knife it is and to heck with names?

Well anyway... I didn't start out to write about Bowie knives but to vent my frustration over the way that knives are defined today. Knives are often categorized by sometimes silly names. A few are: tactical, hunting, utility, art, fighting, survival, Bowie, camp, fish, bird and trout and who knows what else. Can a knife hunt? Does a knife fight? Will a dead animal know if the correct type knife is carving on it?

### WHY CAN'T IT JUST BE A KNIFE!

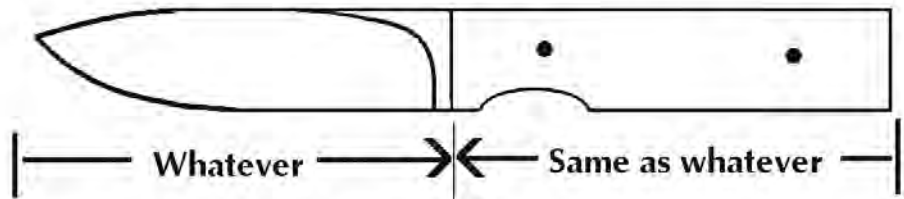
We live in such a highly specialized world, and it would not be the knowledgeable thing to do to use a fish knife to skin a deer. Or, heaven forbid, gut a fish with a hunting knife.

I've stood behind enough tables at knife shows to know that if I give a knife the wrong name I will probably miss the sale.

## "Sort Of" Blueprint for The Dinky Little Knife

Blade stuff goes here.

Handle stuff goes here.



I called a knife a utility model once, and the customer put it down like a hot potato. The fellow was in the market for a hunting knife, and he didn't want a knife by any other name. It could actually have been a magnum size bird knife, and I'll just bet I could have made the sale if I had told him it was my #4 New and Improved Oregon Special Hunting Knife...

For about twenty years I've carried a little fixed blade knife that was used for 99% of everything I cut in the course of a day. They are dumb looking little things, straight handle with a sort of drop-point blade about three inches long. I don't put a lot of finish work in the ones I carry because they go away so fast (wear out from keeping them sharp). They usually have a finger cut-out, but never have a guard. The blades are made of D-2 planer blades worked in the hard state, and brown Micarta handles are fairly standard. I wear them out in about 18 months because I'm always sharpening them. It's not that they don't hold an edge; it's just that I use them hard enough that they get dull on a regular basis, and I won't tolerate a dull knife.

Quite often someone or the other will ask me what kind of knife it is. This seems like a dumb question to me, and so my answer could be either nonsensical or serious and often depends on the mood I'm in. I'll call it a fighting knife, letter opener, paring knife, steak knife, utility knife, shop knife, work knife or whatchacallit knife. I probably shouldn't have, but I always felt somewhat ignorant for not knowing what kind of knife I was carrying.

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# Confessions of a Knife Knewbie

Art Tyler, Vancouver, Canada

At the tender age of 58, I became a member of OKCA this year.

I have been interested in knives from my earliest memories and remember finding it intolerable to be made to wait until I was deemed 'old enough' to be able to carry a pocketknife like the one my Dad had. I was five when I began my campaign to get on equal terms with my little friend, Neil Klassen, from around the corner, who was the exact same age as me, and already had a cool pocketknife. I guess it was a couple of years before Mum let me get one. She liked to be over-protective, but I likely wore her down.

I have always had at least one knife; and, coming from a family of military sailors and soldiers, I seemed to gravitate to the kinds of gear and weapons they used. I would watch every episode of *Combat* on TV and would make every effort to watch all the war movies I could. Dad was often there watching them with me; so I was able to ask questions sometimes, even if I didn't really understand the answer. I knew well that what my Dad and my uncles had achieved in the wars in Europe, the Pacific and Korea was super-human; and, together with all their fighting mates, they had saved us from an unspeakable fate. And yet these were my Dad and uncles, strong, great, loving, friendly and kind human beings for whom I had profound respect and admiration. Being such nice people, yet having to go to fight in a war and potentially kill other people seemed bizarre to me; but I was proud of them and, because I knew them, I knew that whatever they did was the right thing to do. That was good enough for me.

Most of my friends' Dads had been in the War too. My Dad was Royal Canadian Navy (1938-1958) and had served in the Battle of the North Atlantic and Korea. Dad's Navy friends had kids too, and we'd always play 'war' whenever we got together. I even asked for (and received) a genuine military surplus Canadian Army helmet and bayonet from Santa Claus one



Canadian First Paratroop Para Stiletto  
(Like Uncle Tony's)

Christmas. Who knew that Santa shopped at Capitol Iron? Also, who knew that at eight years old, I wasn't able to keep that very heavy helmet on my head and simultaneously run around the neighborhood playing war? It felt like it weighed as much as me. Alas, it was relegated to my toy box on a semi-permanent basis along with my relatively dangerous bayonet.

So now my Dad and Mum and all my uncles and aunts have passed away; and, although I didn't join the military, I did keep my interest of things military, especially in terms of history and also in terms of taking the opportunity to attend open houses for Naval ships, armouries or special events where the militaries are represented and their gear and/or weapons are on display.

I've also done some research to learn about the unit that one of my uncles, my Mum's sister's husband, Tony, belonged to, The First Special Service Force, a.k.a. The Devils' Brigade. Uncle Tony, my aunt and cousins were stationed in Calgary during the latter 1960s, and we would go to visit them almost every year. He was younger than my Dad, so was in the service for about 33 years. My Dad was retired at 20 years, which was mandatory for a Naval NCO in those days. Uncle Tony's basement was a store house for his camping gear and old military gear, and I would always snoop around to see what was there. I found an interesting knife amongst the gardening tools on one occasion, and so asked Uncle Tony if it was alright to play with it in the yard. He was very easy going and said "Sure;" so every year for several years when we were visiting in the summers, I

would find myself throwing this knife into his front lawn to see how many times I could make it 'stick.' I was about 11 or 12 at that time. I have since come to realize that the knife was Tony's 'First Canadian Paratroopers' stiletto, which was the same as the U.S. Marine Raiders Stiletto, only black rather than grey.

It was about that time in my life when we heard from my aunt that Tony had been invited to take part in a Hollywood movie called 'The Devils Brigade' with William Holden, Cliff Robertson, Claude Akins et al; and Tony would be gone for some time consulting for the project. He was so well liked by both cast and crew that they gave him a small speaking part in the movie. That's Tony guarding the German prisoners and saying, "Take your pick" to Claude Akins when he's looking for two German stretcher bearers to take the mortally wounded 'Sgt. Peacock' to safety near the end of the movie.

All these bits of my history have conspired to prompt me to do more research about what I consider the most poignant and intense part of a soldier's gear, the fighting knife. I've done much reading, book buying, internet surfing and, ultimately, communicating, with a few people in the military knife world whom I have come to learn are some of the 'heavy hitters' in the world of experts when it comes to military knives. They have been very kind and giving in helping me with my now burgeoning collection of fighting knives,

*Continued on  
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## Mini Winter December Show....

We are getting reservations for December 07; and we are like the bottle of alcohol, one-fifth of the way to goal. It is early, but the encouragement is good. Many times we relate our Shows to being a dealer or maker to sell things. To support the organization, get a table and do a show-n-tell or attract others to your specialties. You do not have to sell things to have a table. With that said, think about supporting the organization and get a table for the December Show and, for that matter, the April Show. Most of us can rustle up a table sitter to help with a table and still not impede the ability to peruse the Show. We have paid for the building, so the Show must go on. Tables are \$40.00 each (get two!). The hours are 7AM (8AM to the public) until 4PM on Saturday. December 07 - "A date which will live in infamy."

## The NorthWest Knife Show

**Don Hanham** can bow proudly for a successful Knife Show on October 5-6 in Kelso WA. Elayne and I enjoyed the myriad of knives and the social aspects of the Show. Knife gatherings are fun events. Elayne promoted the December Show and gathered a bunch more tables. The Shows will go on.

## Show note pads or flyers...

For years we have struggled to advertise the December Show. The cost of advertising is horrendous for the printed or broadcasted word. Since this is a one day event, the best we can and do is word of mouth. It is a powerful advertising tool. This year we had an epiphany and decided to use both sides of our April notepad and made an announcement of the December Show. One side sezs December - the other side sezs April. Brilliant huh? Not so much, but then maybe. Seems like when someone hands the flyers out they are begging for a notice about the April Show. Soooo the plus to this is when handing them out, call attention to the duality of the this piece of paper; and the efforts of advertising are

doubled. Anyone can be a sales person if they try. To quote: "I was halfway through my first pad before I noticed both Shows are on the same flyer."

## Dennis and big words....

**Horrendous** - Causing fear, dread or terror. Seeing the knife you want but can't afford it.

**Myriad** - Too numerous to be counted. Los-sa knives.

**Epiphany** - A moment of sudden understanding or revelation. Twelve days after Christmas; celebrates the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus.

**Duality** - Being twofold; a classification into two opposed parts or subclasses. A blade sharp on both sides.

**Alcohol** - Any of a series of volatile hydroxyl compounds that are made from hydrocarbons by distillation. Something that does not help make knives.

**Impede** - Be a hindrance or obstacle to, like a flaw in a knife blade

**Peruse** - Examine or consider with attention and in detail. Like flaws in a knife.

**ibdennis** - A peddler by profession who likes to use big words like facetious.

**Occasion** - An opportunity to do something. The OKCA 2014 Show.

**Appeals** - Taking a knife and ridding the skin off an orange.

**Galore** - Existing in abundance. An individual in a James Bond movie.

**Linguistic** - Consisting of or related to language or something you spread on bread with a knife.

## Bowies galore

Thanks to **B.K. Brooks** for his suggestion of a Bowie theme for the April 2014 OKCA Show. The idea of new and old Bowie appeals, and this will give the present day knifemaker a chance to be a part of this theme. I have had conversation with several knifemakers who are seriously entertaining the idea of making a Bowie just for the occasion. Mister or Madam knifemaker - come join in on the fun.

## Articles herein....

I want to thank **B.K. Brooks, Wayne Goddard, Mike Silvey, Merle Spencer and Art**

**Tyler** for their words in this issue. More words are needed, and I know that they are out there. Please share your knowledge as this *Knewsletter* is a perfect media for contributions from our membership. The *Knewsletter* is what floats the boat, so to speak.



I would like to see articles from our members about file knives, specialty knives, knives you like, the history of cut, custom knives, how to do knives, collectable knives, advertising knives or experiences you have had with knives or things that go cut. Come on out and be linguistic about it.

## Free ads....

As a member you can have an ad placed in our *Knewsletter* for free. Reports over the years have suggested that these ads seem to get results. Email or snail mail, and we will add your ad to the *Knewsletter*.


## Show application...

Use the application herein to apply for and reserve a table for the April Show or just use it to up your membership.

## It ain't too early to...

Make lodging reservations for the April Show. The Valley River Inn, which is our partner in lodging for the Show, had a complete remodel; and, from the reports heard, it is one awesome place to stay. Get your reservations in early. Mention the Show when you register, as we are offered a special rate for the Oregon Knife Collectors. 541-687-0123.

## Other Shows in the West

The Willamette Valley Arms Collectors of Eugene brought up the issue at the 2013 Show that we were not honoring reciprocal entry to them. It was true because several years ago they declined to do this for our members. Enter a new Board in their organization and a different tune. We can now say we will each honor entry into the other's shows. So at future WVACA events, show your current OKCA membership card; and it will get you into the door. And of course likewise for them to our events on public hours. The WVACA Show is November 23-24, 2013 at the Lane Events Center in Eugene OR. 

# OKCA 2014 Show Bowie Knife Challenge Update

B K Brooks

## But first some more Bowie Knife Facts

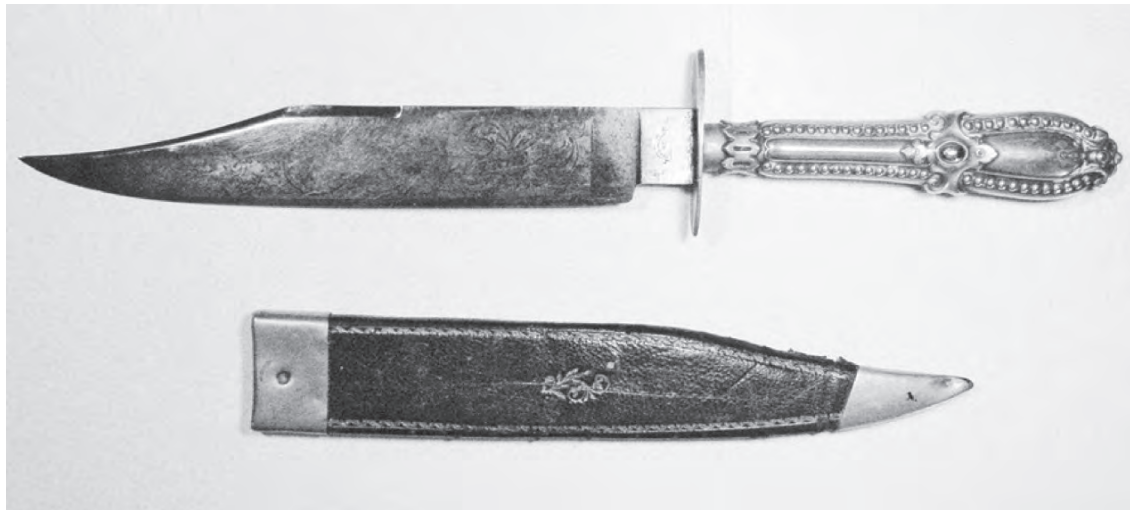
A interesting facet of Bowie knife collecting is the hollow handle or cutlery style of Bowie knives. These were popular from the time period of the mid 1800s, and they had mostly ended in manufacture by the 1880s. They were directed towards the gold rush 49ners at first with etchings such as California Bowie or similar gold rush sayings on the blade. They really became popular during the Civil War, being etched with patriotic sayings for both the North and the South. But what really made them popular was the fact that they were, for the most part, very cheap; and they were usually very light in weight which made a big difference after a few weeks of twenty mile forced marches. For more information on hollow handle or cutlery style of Bowie knives go back to the *Knewsletter* article of December 2011.

Have the OKCA Members Responded?

Remember you don't have to have a big display worked up, but yes we would prefer it. But even if you only commit to bringing a few of your finer examples to show at your OKCA Show table, that would be fine too; and you would still be eligible for an award. For a large display we would need to know the highlights of what you plan to show. If you plan a small display at your table, we would need to know exactly what

you plan to bring and your table number. These will be listed in the April 2014 *Knewsletter* so people can come over and visit your table specifically. Wow, that's all you need is more possible customers coming to your table. All displays, whether large or small, must be shown until the end of the Show on Sunday.

Please commit soon. The more commitments, the more we can advertise that this will be a special Oregon Knife Show in 2014. If you want to see our Organization prosper, please open up your lock boxes and safes and let your Bowie Knives out for a little Oregon vacation! 🗡️



**BRING YOUR  
BIGGEST  
BOWIE**

**or your smallest**

**Oregon Knife  
Collectors Association**

**BOWIE  
KNIFE  
CHALLENGE**

**April  
12 & 13  
2014**

39th Annual Oregon  
KNIFE SHOW  
Lane Events Center  
Eugene Oregon

More info at: <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/>

An illustration of a Native American teepee with a Bowie knife and a rifle leaning against it. The teepee is made of dark material with a lighter-colored top section. The Bowie knife is positioned vertically, and the rifle is leaning against it. The background shows a simple landscape with trees and a horizon line.



# OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2091 • EUGENE, OR 97402

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND SHOW TABLE CONTRACT

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: Eve ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Day ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Collector  Knifemaker  Dealer  Mfr./Distrib.  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

OKCA membership includes knewsletter, dinner/swap meetings, free admission to OKCA shows.

\_\_\_\_ Start/\_\_\_\_ Renew my/our OKCA membership (\$20 individual/\$25 family) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 12-13, 2014

360 — 8'x30" TABLES

Exhibit Hall, Lane Events Center and Fairgrounds, 796 West 13th Ave., Eugene, Oregon.

For Information Contact Show Chairman: Dennis Ellingsen, (541) 484-5564

**AUTOMATIC RESERVATIONS:** If you had a table at the 2013 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2014, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2013. You may still apply for a table after this date, but we cannot guarantee a table after December 15. NO RESERVATIONS HONORED OR APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT! Note to NEW exhibitors: your table(s) will be assigned after 12/15/2013.

**ALL TABLE-HOLDERS AND VISITORS** agree to abide by the OKCA Show rules and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane Events Center harmless for any accident, loss, damage, theft, or injury.

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

**THIS IS A KNIFE SHOW.** All tables must be 90% knives or knife related items (e.g. swords, axes, edged tools, edged weapons, knife books, knifemaking supplies). If in doubt, check with the Show Chairman ahead of time. The OKCA reserves the right to bar any item from display or sale. No firearms made after 1898 may be sold or shown at this Show.

**ALL EXHIBITORS are required to keep their tables set up throughout the public hours of the Show: 8 AM Saturday to 3 PM Sunday. ANY EXHIBITOR WHO LEAVES OR COVERS THEIR TABLE BEFORE 3 PM SUNDAY FORFEITS FUTURE RESERVATIONS AND WILL BE DENIED TABLES AT FUTURE OREGON KNIFE SHOWS.**

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

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

**BADGES:** Each table-holder is entitled to one additional Show badge. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

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

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on categories and judging criteria in the display and hand-made knife competitions, contact the Show Chairman.

**SHOW FACILITATORS** will be provided by OKCA from 10AM Friday until 4 PM Sunday. However, exhibitors are responsible for watching their own tables. Neither the OKCA nor the Lane Events Center will be responsible for any loss, theft, damage, or injury of any kind.

**CITY AND COUNTY REGULATIONS** require that there be:

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

Violators of these safety rules will be asked to leave.

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

The Oregon Knife Collectors Association is not responsible for force majeure.

**EXHIBITOR CONTRACT:** PLEASE ENCLOSE FULL PAYMENT WITH THIS FORM. Full refund granted if reservation canceled by February 15, 2014. **DON'T GET LEFT OUT!!!** MAIL THIS PAGE AND YOUR CHECK TODAY. A signature is required.

Type of knives on your tables \_\_\_\_\_

Name for second badge \_\_\_\_\_ (two badges per table-holder)

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

Qty \_\_\_\_\_ Sale/Trade table(s) @ \$120 each (members only).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Qty \_\_\_\_\_ Collector Display table(s) w/o trade table @ \$100 each.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

I have read and agree to abide by the OKCA Show rules as set forth in this contract, and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane Events Center harmless for any accident, damage, loss, theft, or injury. **Signature and date required.**

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

### SHOW SCHEDULE

**Friday, April 11, 2014.**

10am - 7pm set-up; open ONLY to table-holders and members of OKCA.

**Saturday, April 12, 2014.**

7am-8am set-up. 8am-5pm open to public.

**Sunday, April 13, 2014.**

8am-9am set-up. 9am-3pm open to public.

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

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

www.oregonknifeclub.org

# I Became A Case Pocketknife Collector

by Merle Spencer

Writing now five days after the 38th annual Oregon Knife Collectors Association Show in Eugene, Oregon, I have been a Case pocketknife collector for almost a week. I now have four Case pocketknives in my collection, a number I expect to grow in the coming years as my enthusiasm-fed knowledge increases.

As per my usual practice of walking up and down the aisles at a show, checking to see what may be interesting to purchase or just look at, I stopped at my friend Cameron House's table to visit and look at his display. There was a beautiful pocketknife with a colored handle. I asked his daughter, Amanda, if Cameron had made it.

She said, "No, that is a Case knife I bought over there where all those new Case knives are. I buy one from them each year." So I went over there.

Now, I have always owned one or more pocketknives since I was a little kid and got my first one with a pair of lace boots that had a knife sheath on the side. Since then I have always carried a pocketknife and don't feel dressed without one, although for the last few years my carry knife has been only a small Victorinox Classic.

However, I never spent much time looking at displays of pocketknives at shows but would pass by and glance to see if maybe there was a special pearl-handled knife.

That all changed at this last Show. I went over to the table where all the Case pocketknives were and was immediately captivated by what I saw. There, neatly arranged on the table, were brand new Case pocketknives of various patterns and sizes, starting at about two and a half inches long. Some of the knives were offered at a sale price.

I have always liked small knives; and with the idea of getting some Christmas gifts, I selected two baby trappers with blue handles. Then I noticed a small knife with kind of pinkish-colored handles lying on a met-



al box marked "Happy Mother's Day." On further investigation I found that this was a mini-stockman with three blades. The main blade was etched "Happy Mother's Day."

I completed my purchase; and, since I was ready to head for home, I took my prized gifts to my vehicle and briefly examined them before I drove the short distance home. Of course I stopped at Cameron's table to show my new knives.

When I got home, I showed them to Janie and told her the watermelon mini-stockman was for her.

I got down my price guide to knives and found there were about a hundred pages on Case knives. One thing I found was that patterns are very significant – names like trapper, jack, stockman etc. Baby stockman also shows up in the text. My book is about ten years old, so I went online for patterns of Case knives and found a wealth of information.

I spent the whole evening and part of the next morning studying about my new hob-

by. The week before the Show, all I knew about Case knives was that they were nice, durable knives. Within a week after the Show, I have enough information that I can discuss Case pocketknives confidently with an established collector. Some of the things I learned are worth noting, although this is common knowledge to any Case aficionado.

Apparently every blade on a Case pocketknife has some numbers and/or letters, and these all mean something important to the collector.

Collectors of Case pocketknives differ widely. One may collect anything that says "Case" on it. Another may collect only stag handled, large trapper pattern knives. Still another may collect only pearl handled Case knives with two blades. The field is wide, since Case has been a name in knives since 1889. Some older knives are expensive.

The little watermelon stockman I gave Janie has Case XX on the tang of the main blade with



three small x's above that and three dots and two x's below it. The sheepsfoot blade has 6327R with USA above it and SS underneath. The pen blade has SS on it.

If I told an expert on Case knives that information, he probably could tell me which kind of Case knife it was, except perhaps the handle color.

From research, the 6 denotes the bone handle material. The 3 means three blades. The 27 is the pattern number for a 2-3/4 inch mini stockman. I also have another mini stockman with number 33, only 2-5/8 inches long – a different collecting category. The xx shows the blade went through the two step hardening and

tempering process. The SS means stainless steel blades, and the R shows there is a bail at one end.

The x's and dots which Janie says look like little hugs and kisses? I did find in my research that this started in 2000, but the nice gentleman at the table told me that each new decade Case makes a new die with five x's and five dots for stamping the blades. Each year one x or one dot is filed off. Dies are expensive, so one will last ten years. The total number of x's and dots gone is the ending number of the date in that decade that the knife was manufactured. I discovered there is a way to tell the dates before that, but it

necessitates a study of the Case emblem shape and other letters there.

A few days ago a friend showed me a knife that had only one x. I told him it was made in 2009. We verified that by looking at the date on the end of the box it came in.

I'm sure you can see how easy it is to become intrigued with such a wide open hobby. Right now I'm sticking with small knives. The bigger you go; the bigger the cost, you know, except when something special like pearl handles or another desirable attribute is involved. I'll look with new eyes wherever there might be a small Case knife. 🐾

## The Death of The Whatchacallit Knife

*Continued from page 1*

I was talking about this dilemma with my friend, Jim Hayden, who is known as "The Book Peddler." He suggested the name "Dinky Little Knife." I instantly liked the name, there was a certain "ring" to it. It was a big load off my mind to finally know what kind of knife I had on my belt; I'm proud to say that the DLK has been a huge success. Almost everybody wants one now that it has a name, and it probably helps that I'm no longer confused about what kind of knife it is. The Whatchacallit knives used to just lie on the table at shows and gather dust. When I have a DLK on my table now, there is often a line of people waiting to look at it. Who could resist a knife that can be used to cut everything under the sun, and yet you don't have to explain what kind of knife it is. When asked what kind of knife it is, I say "Dinky Little Knife" with authority; and there are usually no more questions.

(Some facts stretched to make a good story. No names were changed to protect the guilty or innocent.) 🐾

## Confessions of a Knife Knewbie

*Continued from page 2*

and I'm told I have a good collection. I know I definitely have a few very fine and important examples.

I attended my 'first ever' knife show this past April in beautiful downtown Eugene, Oregon, and loved it! I was very happy and excited to meet two of my favourite knife people, Mike Silvey and Roy Shadbolt, both of whom have helped me with my collection of knives, books and other supporting artifacts. All the people I met at the Show were great; and I'll be back next year with my wife, Georgina, in tow.

One other person who has helped me with my collection is John Gibson of 'Military Fighting Knives.' His site offers many of the iconic military pieces that collectors look for, and I was able to replace a Pal Mk I that my Dad always had in his tool box but which eventually went missing. That was the first genuine WWII knife I bought. There have been many since.

I'm proud and happy to be a new member of OKCA and just wanted to share some of the inspirations that brought me to your doorstep. 🐾

Photo by Roy Shadbolt.

# The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

The first meeting of the year on September 18 was attended by 28. The topics ranged from the Bowie Knife Theme and Challenge for the 2014 OKCA Show to the 2015 OKCA Show theme, Japanese Swords and included the Club knife questions as well as the December/Winter/Mini Show.

The 2014 Show Theme will be a Bowie Knife Challenge which will include displays as well as single knife entries. Awards will be presented, but the logistics are still in the works. If you wish to enter the competition, please contact the OKCA (541)484-5564 or okca@oregonknifeclub.org to advise. Our coordinator for the event will be **B.K. Brooks**.

The table reservations for the 2014 Show are slooowwwly trickling in. Hopefully all will remember that December 15 is the deadline for reservation of the same 2013 table for 2014. We hope the theme idea will generate enthusiasm for a table at the 2014 Show.

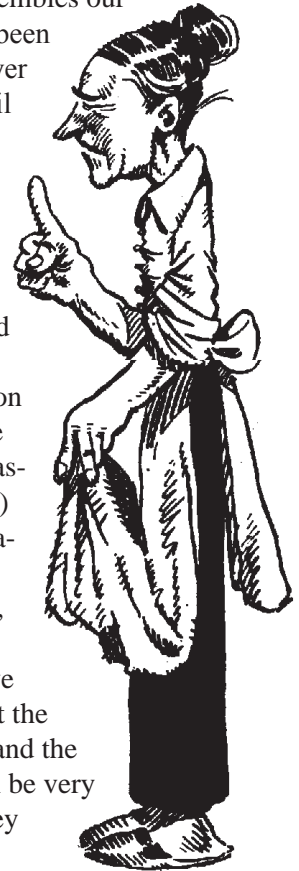
The idea of a theme for the 2014 Show has encouraged us to suggest a theme for the 2015 Show - Japanese swords. We will see how it fits.

The 2014 Club knife is still in the negotiation process. We need quotes from the supplier to finalize our decisions. Keep some money in reserve to support our organization's fund raising event.

The 2013 December/Winter/Mini Show has 17 tables reserved. We are able to accommodate 90, so we are well short of the number needed to fill the room. December 7 is the date; hours 7:00AM (Public hours 8:00AM ) to 4:00PM. Cost is \$40.00 per table for current members. This year we have attempted to increase our advertising. We have had a flyer

printed for the December Show. It resembles our April Show flyer, but the colors have been changed. We printed the December flyer on the front side of a flyer for the April Show. We are hopeful that this will double our advertising punch.

Dennis and I have just returned from the NorthWest Knife Collectors Show in Kelso WA. If you have not attended, you have missed a very good opportunity to see knives and friends, people who help to further our common interests. The Show had an abundance of tables of knives, and many enthusiastic vendors (makers/collectors/dealers) ready to sell or educate and demonstrations during the day. Of special note, aside from all the friends you will see, is the Ruana display: twelve tables. It is a must see. We are hopeful that we can cajole Frank Towsley to display at the 2014 Show in Eugene. Don Hanham and the NorthWest Collectors Association can be very proud of the excellent event which they are offering to all.



I noted that we have 17 tables for the December/Winter/Mini Show. That number has been doubled by the table-holders at the Kelso Show. We are now at a total of 35. Please make a commitment to support the December/Winter/Mini Show.

See you at the next knife gathering on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at the Sizzler Gateway, Springfield OR. 6:00PM dinner, 7:00PM meeting and then Show-N-Tell (the real reason we all attend). ↘

## THE ORDE KNIFE

Mike Silvey

As reported in Ron Flook's great book, *British and Commonwealth Military Knives*, the subject knife was made during World War II as a last resort weapon.

They were used by the Chindits of Brigadier Orde Wingate's 77th Infantry Brigade and by the SOE when they operated in the Far East. The Chindits were a British India special forces type unit that served in India and Burma in 1943 and 1944. They were one of the first units to operate using newly developed guerilla warfare tactics, and they were trained to operate deep behind enemy lines. The Special Operations Executive (SOE) was the British spy unit.

The Orde Knife is a deadly palm dagger with a 4-7/8 inch darkened blade and has an overall length of 7-1/4 inches. The blackened brass guard is 2-1/4 inches wide and sits below a handle of buffalo horn that measures 1-1/8 at its widest and 1/2 inch at its

narrowest. It was issued with a special sheath made in the fashion of an F/S sheath but was unique to this knife. The tabs on the back of the sheath allow for a belt to be threaded through and used to hold the knife and scabbard on the arm or wrist. It is reported that the knives were made in Calcutta, India. Little is known about these knives, and very few published pictures exist. At the 2012 OKCA Show two of these knives were offered for sale by the California collector, Dave Lamerrill. I had the good fortune to be at his table at the right time. ↘



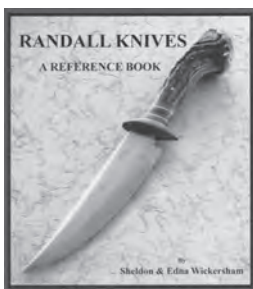


# OKCA Free Classified Ads

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 chortle chokes) 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:

**Randall Knives - A Reference Book.**  
8-1/2x11 hardcover format. 22 chapters with 252 pages, 250 full color photos. \$54.95 including domestic shipping, payable to Blue Star Knives P O Box 841 Bigfork MT 59911.



**Knife Sheaths:** Many, many different sizes and styles. If we don't have what you want, we can make it for you. Ray Simonson Wild Boar Blades P.O. Box 328 Toutle WA 98649 (360)601-1927 [www.wildboarleather.com](http://www.wildboarleather.com) - [ray@wildboarleather.com](mailto:ray@wildboarleather.com).

**Mosaic pins** and lanyard tubes by Sally. See at [www.customknife.com](http://www.customknife.com), email at [sally@customknife.com](mailto:sally@customknife.com). Phone (541)846-6755.

## Hot off the press

- 2ND edition *The Wonder of Knifemaking* by Wayne Goddard, revised and in color! \$30. shipped by priority mail. Get your autographed copy now by calling Wayne at (541)689-8098.



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**Useful reference books on blades.** Collectible knives, custom knives and knifemaking, military knives, swords, tools, and anything else that has an edge. E-mail for a list. QUALITY BLADE BOOKS, C/O Rick Wagner, P.O. Box 41854, Eugene OR 97404 (541) 688-6899 or [wagner\\_r@pacinfo.com](mailto:wagner_r@pacinfo.com).

**Knife Laws on-line.** Federal, state, local. Bernard Levine (541)484-0294 [www.knife-expert.com](http://www.knife-expert.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](http://www.nifeboy.com) (209)333-1155.

**For Sale:** Complete set of OKCA Club knives (minus Oregon special) \$6,900.00. Call Fred Coleman (541)915-6241.

**For Sale:** Duplicates of my old coke bottles (state make) and other knives. email: [ronjoyceedwards@comcast.net](mailto:ronjoyceedwards@comcast.net).

**For Sale:** older knives. Please visit HH-knives at [www.allaboutpocketknives.com](http://www.allaboutpocketknives.com). Thanks for looking.

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## The Newsletter

Oregon Knife Collectors Association  
PO Box 2091  
Eugene, OR 97402

### Sushi

I am a big fan of Sushi; Elayne, not so much. We, on occasion, go to the Sushi Station on Fifth Street in Eugene. Aside from the endless conveyor belt of eye appealing and delicious Sushi, I am fascinated by the people who prepare and serve the myriad varieties of Japanese Sushi.

And you ask why; and I reply, "The knives." The knives used to delicately cut and slice the fish are traditional Japanese style knives with very thin blades. They have long slender blades which deftly slice into thin pieces the products that go into the making of the food I like; and Elayne, not so much. I have always wanted to do a write up on the Sushi experience and never seemed to have my big camera there to record the event. But then an epiphany occurred when I realized that my cell phone has a camera which is a pretty good one at that. Sushi makes me smile, and hopefully this article will make you smile too.



Don't forget the meeting at the Sizzler on Wednesday, October 16. 