



## KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ Finnish Puukko Knives
- ✓ Every Day Carry - EDC
- ✓ Hammer In for Wayne
- ✓ 2015 Show Application
- ✓ Would U Like to know Wood
- ✓ Japanese swords

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

November 2014

## Every Day Carry, What's in Your Pocket?

Michael Yoh

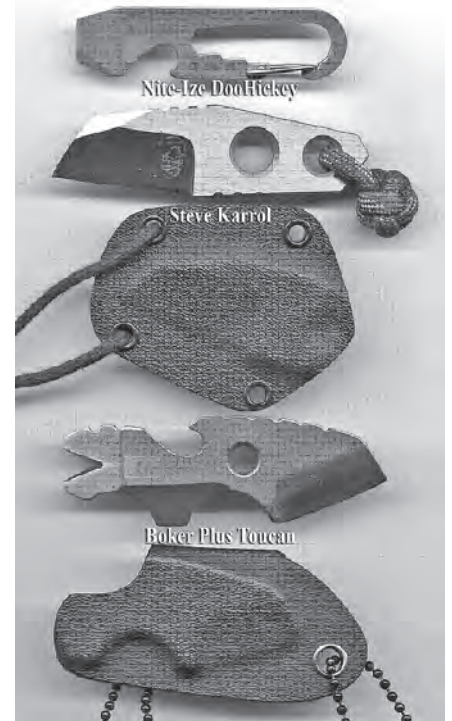


Back in the 70's, my nickname was the "knick-knack kid." I was always looking for the latest neat gadget to carry when canoeing, camping, hiking, or working that would make life simpler and provide me with a tool that could be used to do the job at hand. My primary criteria were did the product serve a utilitarian purpose, was it efficient and was it easy to carry? After having tried many types of tools and devices, I finally settled on what I wanted in my pocket or on my keychain everyday, essential items that could get me out of 90% of the situations that I might find myself in. This is not to say that at times, when venturing out with a specific purpose in mind, I might not supplement these tools with mission specific ones, perhaps one of the Leatherman multi-tools. After much trial and error, I settled on a Swiss Tech Micro-Technician, small keychain flashlight and a Swiss Army knife (Victorinox of course). Sometimes I would substitute another



knife for the Swiss Army knife, maybe something like the Benchmade Pardue or a Sebenza if I needed a larger blade. These items became my EDC even before the term Every Day Carry was coined.

Times, they sure are a changing! I stumbled onto an EDC Underground group on Facebook recently. The people in this group like to showcase their toys and to buy, sell and trade them. The picture at bottom left is fairly typical of what they like to refer to as their "pocket dumps" or what they usually have in their pocket on a daily basis. There seems to be a whole cadre of new custom makers catering to the modern concept of EDC- Peter Atwood, Steve Karroll and Brian Fellhoelter, among many. Several knife companies have also gotten into the act and are producing small tools and gadgets. Nite-Ize has their "Doohickey Key Tool" for only \$4.95.



Continued on page 5

# The Finish Puukko - Part 2

Theo Eichorn

The next model also has very old roots but was fairly formalized before the mid nineteenth century and is called the *Härmä* Puukko. It is interesting to note that this puukko is especially regional (*Härmä*), and today is really only made by one man who is the last descendant of a famous *Härmä* Puukko family. Although I don't think there is any official rule, it is also manufactured by Iisakki Järvenpää and maybe by a few students; it is really considered to be a design belonging to these *Härmä* families and is not a model that is typically made by others with any regularity.



*Härmä Puukko*

The *Härmä* is distinguished as having both upper and lower ferrules, a very long ridge on the back of the handle, the pommel, a very flat oval handle wider at the back and narrower at the front (blade) end. The handle was often painted either red or black or striped with red and black which often was enough to identify the maker, even without a marked blade. The sheath is typically covered with the same brass reinforcements as the *Vöyrin*, minus the front decoration, instead having a very characteristic set of stampings and red paint or dye and engravings on the brass.

It also has a much slimmer sheath and the upturned tip that is so easily recognized on Finnish. *Härmä* can often be found with two or more knives in one sheath.

*Kauhava* has a long and famous knife tradition. There are individual makers who made names for themselves, Kuusta Lammi and Iisakki Järvenpää probably being most famous. But it was also the home of a huge cottage industry, ranging from shops of only a couple people, maybe lasting a few years, to factories employing relatively large amounts of people. The company started by Iisakki is still running and was still held by his family until it was sold earlier this year to three gentlemen whom, I hear, have some big plans... So we'll see what happens with that pretty soon. On the other end of the spectrum, Altti Kankaanpää is an old man (and very nice, by the way) who has been making knives since just after the War and still makes knives in his home using the same old original equipment that his family imported from Germany!

*Kauhava* puukko come in many different styles, but there are certain things that are more or less common to them all. They tend to be very slender in blade and handle. The blade is usually around 16 mm. wide, but this is not a rule. The ferrule is closed at the front, formed over a mandrel. They are sometimes considered better looking than working, although one often finds the old blades worn down to nothing! One of the best known styles is the Horse Head (*Hevosenäpää*) puukko, based on a horse head cane given to the Emperor of Russia and designed by Kusta Lammi. The biggest difference between the different *Kauhava* models is the pommel style and handle materials. The pommel can be rounded and filed with a sort of nipple on top or a ridge similar to the *Härmä*. Sometimes it is made of wood and is what they call a *puoliponsi*, or half pommel, kind of like what we call a bird's beak. The handle may be of wood, birch bark, casein, even plastics that were first imported from Germany in the twenties or thirties.

Another common feature of the very high end *Kauhava* style puukko is to inlay brass or nickel wire into the birch bark handles to create very fine ornate designs, called *sorkoupotus* (*intarsia*) in Finnish. The sheaths also vary pretty broadly but are consistent in being very sleek, having a very similar pattern stamped on the "mirror" or front panel of the blade area with an upturned tip. *Kauhava* puukko often have a lot of engraving on the metalwork of the handle and sheath and even etching on the blade. This is also where the fuller was introduced in the late teens. It really caught on in the twenties and is now considered a classic part of the style. This is also a style that was made as doubles, even triples!



*Stuurra-Niibi*



*Hattutupuukko*



*Rautalampi by Arto Liukko*

One of my favorite models is called the *Rautalampi*. It is similar to the *Kauhava* and could easily be confused, but it is very different in a few aspects. For one, it is a much more substantial knife and so it is much more of a user, IMHO. The ferrule is wider and closer to round. The blade is usually about 18mm. wide. It does not have a fuller. The pommel is always rounded, but there are a couple different styles, but not nearly as many as the *Kauhava*. The handle may be curly birch, rarely horn, very often birch bark, dyed red and laquored, with a stylized Lilly of the Valley inlay (*sorkoupotus*), the date often on the other side. As far as I know, no other motif is used on the

**Elayne in her article has really said it all.**

The December 06 Mini Winter Show -  
The deadline for first right of refusal on  
the 2014 April Show table - Toys for Tots  
- Plan for the April 2015 Show - Meeting  
on November 19th.



*Michael Kemp*

## Articles herein....

I want to thank **Bob Cook, Larry Davis, Theo Eichorn, Mike Silvey and Michael Yoh** 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 medium for contributions from our membership. The *Knewsletter* is what floats the boat, so to speak, and marks where the buoys and bowies are. Hey, if Bob can write articles on napkins, what is holding you back?



*Lynn Moore, Dave Rider,  
Wayne Goddard and Dave Thompson*

## The Sizzler...

Don't forget our monthly meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant. It is the third Wednesday of the month which makes it November 19, 2014. I always look

forward to this gathering so mark your calendar and come be with us.

## 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. The rooms fill up fast. Mention the Show when you register, as we are offered a special rate for the Oregon Knife Collectors. (541)687-0123. You might also note the Courtesy Inn - (541)345-3391 - the closest motel yet to the Knife Show. A Budget motel that has worked well with us over the years.



*Mike Johnston and the power hammer*

## The November 01 Hammer In

I went to this special "Hammer In" not so much that these hands have ever held a hammer, but more because it was a tribute to **Wayne Goddard**. **Dave Thompson** has a workshop where he has pretty impressive metal making tools like power hammers, belt sanders and grinders; and Dave wanted to host this special event since Wayne has been a friend to Dave over the years. I was pretty surprised to see this impressive gathering of 30 to 50 people who, in addition to honoring Wayne, wanted to learn more about the working of metal with the beating of hot bars to make the beginning stages of a knife.

There was much to say about Wayne who has given of his time and knowledge to help anyone who was interested to make knives. Most had studied Wayne's books and considered this the starting point of their interest in knives. He has authored *The \$50 Knife Shop* and *The Wonder of Knifemaking* including second editions

of each.

There were several tables which laid testament to Wayne with the knives he has made. There were about 50 or more knives that were brought in by **Lynn Moore, Dave Rider, Wayne and myself**. There is no mistaking a Wayne Goddard creation. These knives are varied and bear witness to this super craftsman.



I actually saw Wayne wielding a hammer that day and heard and saw him beat metal to hot metal. This was a day when there was never a moment when there was not the sound of metal on anvils or the roar of the fire in a forge. The comradery was at its best as people exchanged ideas and learned more about the making of hammer forged knives. **Martin Brandt and Michael Kemp** were big factors in this event along with the support of the 5160 Organization. One person there had surgery less than a week ago on his appendix and strict



*Wayne Goddard*

instructions not to "lift" (?) more than 20 pounds. Bull headed for sure when involved in a knifemaking session, I never saw him pause for a moment in his making a blade. I watched him all day long heating metal and using a four pound hammer on an anvil. Later in the day he was seen using Dave Thompson's power hammers making quick work of laying out metal and layering it to make

*Continued on page 4*

# The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

The October 15 meeting had 33 present. The meeting was conducted by **John Priest**, Vice President, in the absence of **Craig Morgan**, President. Old business: we have 2014 Club knives available for sale. Please help the Club with your support of this project. The money from this project keeps the prices of membership and tables low. The cost for the Queen knife set is \$190.00 plus \$15.00 for shipping. We have not made a decision re the 2015 knife. Much negotiation is still necessary.

The down payment for the rental of the facilities for the December/Winter/Mini Show has been paid. We are very far from the desired 80 tables (we can accommodate 125, but 80 will offset the costs). We only have 22 tables as of this *Knewslettter*. The Show will be held December 6, 2014 in the Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center, Eugene OR. The cost of a table is \$40.00. No application is necessary - note on the check payment for the December Show. Also bring an unwrapped, new toy for a boy or girl to contribute to the Toys-4-Tots. Help make Christmas special for a child. Hours are 7:00AM set up 8:00AM public (admission is free) until 4:00PM.

We do not have a crystal ball that will forecast the weather in December with any degree of

accuracy. We do hope that it will be cold but no snow or ice. We can always hope. I will need to make the final payment this week so I will gamble and hope that the support of the membership will be forthcoming. It is a fun event and I look forward to it. A last opportunity to buy knives before Christmas as well as a last chance to pay for your 2014 reserved table and membership for 2015 and pick up 2015 membership cards.

We mailed an eight page *Knewslettter* for the September and October in a cost saving mode. The November and December *Knewslettter* will be at least ten pages. Can't go too many pages without excess charges by the Postal Service.

**Tim Cooper** and his crew have volunteered to be Facilitators for the 2015 Show. It is very much appreciated. During the 2014 Show we totaled more accidents than we had during the previous 20. All of us must be more alert to safety and do our best to avoid the accidents. Please be careful when handling your knives and the knives of others. Caution any of your visitors to your tables that they must be careful also.

Of special note is the following: we only allow children under the age to 18 to be admitted to the April Show if they are accompanied by an adult. The adult must also accompany the child throughout the Show attendance. If you are a table-holder and you have a child in attendance, that child MUST have a table-holder badge for admission and roaming. No exceptions.

The 5160 Club is honoring **Wayne Goddard**, one of the founders of the OKCA, at a local hammer in November 1. Hopefully the attendance will be good, and I know the weather will be rainy. ibdennis will be attending and hopefully will have an opportunity to coax an article for the *Knewslettter*. Congratulations Wayne.



The theme for the 2015 Show: Japanese swords and kitchen cutlery. **Ray Ellingsen** will coordinate this event. Hopefully this theme will be as successful as the 2014 theme: bowie knives which was coordinated by **B. K. Brooks**. We hope to have special displays and awards for best examples of the swords and cutlery.

Do note the date on your *Knewslettter*. If it reads 2014, you must renew your dues prior to the April 2015 Show for early hours entry and free entry.

If you have volunteered to complete an award knife for the 2015 Show, it is not too early to ship it to us. All items shipped should go to OKCA 3003 W 11 PMB172 EUGENE OR 97402. Please include a description of the materials used for the knife completion. We hope to have several for display at the Winter Show. Also we will post the photos on our website.

See you at the meeting November 19 at the Sizzler, Eugene OR. Bring a show-and-tell item.

Happy Thanksgiving.

*Continued from page 3*



*Just a few of the Goddard knives this day*

a damascus billet. Oh, for sure, he said he was fine all day long. Yeah, right. The boys and their toys.

The rains finally came at 4 pm, but all it did was move people indoors. It actually moved me to the home TV where I watched the Oregon Ducks

beat Stanford in a great football game. The earliest Wayne Goddard knife I have is a 1967 creation of a bowie knife. I had brought mainly forged Goddard knives with gorgeous damascus blades with elk handles, folding knives, an axe, a belt buckle and many more that are treasures

to Elayne and me as they exhibit the creativity and craftsmanship of this friend of ours. It was a great day and a special thank you to the Thompson's who hosted and provided for this memorable day.



EDC continued from page 1

Peter Atwood makes small knives and pocket gadgets, such as the Mini Keyton. These limited releases sell for around \$100.00 and have a waiting list for each release. Older and rare ones can bring \$1,000.00 on eBay. Other makers are producing metal (titanium) beads, miniature tops, little glow lights (Ti-lanterns). In my humble opinion, for many people bling has replaced function. In my job, I wear dress or casual pants; and I don't need extra non-essential items bulging my pockets.

What is the definition of EDC? According to Wikipedia, "Everyday carry (EDC) refers to a small collection of tools, equipment and supplies that are carried on a daily basis to assist in tackling situations ranging from the mundane to the disastrous. The term EDC also refers to the philosophy or spirit of 'preparedness' that goes along with the selection and carrying of these items. Implicit in the term is the sense that an EDC is an individual's personal selection of equipment, arrived at after deliberation, rather than a standardized kit. EDC items normally fit in pockets or a small pack and/or are attached to clothing such as a belt. Emphasis is placed on the usefulness, accessibility and reliability of these items. The core elements of a typical EDC might include a knife, a flashlight, a cell phone and a multi-tool."

One poster on the EDC Underground Group expressed my own thoughts very well. "This post might offend some but



*I needed to get this out there. Over the years I carried a knife, a multi tool and maybe a small flashlight. Back in the early nineties EDC was not really a term or even an idea, it's just stuff I used every day and it really hasn't changed. Now in 2014 we have EDC as a life style, and it seems very cluttered... every thing has paracord on it and little do dads swinging from them ... People have tabs and badges, coins and widgets attached to key rings that do nothing. All I'm thinking is, shouldn't the things we carry be there for a purpose and ease of use and carry... Just thinking out loud."*  
Tim Steckbauer

Of course, what a person considers EDC is personal taste, and who am I to suggest what one should choose to carry in one's pocket. It is just interesting to note

how the concept of EDC has been expanded to include what one might call bling. A whole new market and culture has arisen. Certainly, most of the new custom makers are turning out quality products, many of which are more an art form than functional.

I actually purchased one of Steve Karroll's used small neck knives (pictured on page 1) for a decent price. It is a quality piece made of CPM 154 and razor sharp. I even carry it from time to time. Pictured here is a Ti anodized Atwood DreadKnot. It is a beautiful piece of art and has a cap lifter, but would it be something I would carry in my pocket? Ouch! These Atwood pieces have accrued in value, selling on the secondary market for several times their cost. There are collectors who have every variation of an Atwood release. Looking at the "pocket dump" on the right, I see several pieces of jewelry; but the only functional piece I can see may be the cap lifter.

Most people enjoy pretty things, and many go beyond choosing basic utilitarian tools. Perhaps you wear a Rolex when a Timex would give you the same time. Often there is no utilitarian purpose for an item in your pocket. My father-in-law carried a worry stone every day in his pocket, which he would rub when anxious or in thought. So, readers, take a minute and do a "pocket dump." What is your EDC? Does everything in your pocket serve a practical purpose, or is some of it carried everyday simply because you like it? Whatever you carry, that is your right, your choice and what sets us apart as individuals. ↘



# 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 quillion protractors) 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.

**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)295-5568.

**I am a jewelry designer** and manufacturer in Salem OR, and I do custom work. I can set stones into steel, blades and handles of various materials. I have studied gemology and have a small collection of gemstones and Oregon rocks that can be cut to size and set. I also work in silver and gold and do just about any design. Meghan Donahue Jewelry Design - 189 Liberty St NE Unit B2a -Salem OR 97301 - (503)967-5581 www.meghandonahue.com

**Sharpening Stone** - Non functioning for display only. Make an offer - Ed Holbrook - (503)266-2478.



**For Sale** - Oregon yearly Club knives, 1979 to 2012. Selling singly, 10% off current pricing. Call Fred (541)915-6241

**Looking for** 1902 US Saber marked "1st. Lt. Robert M. Porter". Please contact Don Hanham at dwhanham@gmail.com

**SOG Knife Collector** is a new book by Michael W. Silvey in the military knife series. It covers a narrow area of collecting and helps the collector identify honest specimens and distinguish them from fakes. The format is 8.5 inches by 11 inches and is all in color. The soft cover book is less than fifty pages but includes all the know variations of SOG knives. The information covered by this book will be valuable to both the new and advanced collector. The printing is limited to 2,000 copies. \$20 plus shipping. Mike at (530) 644-4590 or m.silvey@comcast.net



**WANTED :** Western Wildlife Series knives produced from about 1978 to 1982 (letters B, C, D, E, F). I'm missing the knives with blade etches of eagle, elk, cougar, hunting dog, antelope and bear. Call Martin at (406)422-7490

**WANTED:** Custom knifemakers and collectors for the first annual (hopefully) Portland Knife Makers Show. The show will be held at the Portland Expo center Oct. 24 & 25, 2015. That's next year. Open to knifemakers only, no Chinese stuff, no factory knives, no factory bloms. Limited to 175 tables the first year. The show will be held at the same time, but in a separate hall, as the famous Antique show so there will be thousands of potential customers. Or at least their husbands. For more details contact Dave Rappoport, Hawthorne Cutlery, Portland OR (503)234-8898, or sword rep@comcast.net. You can also contact Christine Palmer at chris@christinepalmer.net. I will also be handing out fliers at the Dec. and April OKCA Shows. Hope to see you there.

**FOR SALE:** Handle material, horns and antlers. Also blades and some power tools. If interested contact me Dewald Boswell (541)786-9833

**KNIVES FOR SALE:** Antique, custom & factory, pocketknives, folders, fixed blades, dirks, daggers, bowies, military, Indian, frontier, primitive & ethnic. Other collectibles also. Current colored catalog - FREE, Northwest Knives & Collectibles (503)362-9045 anytime.

**SPYDERCO KNIVES** wanted. Entire collections. River Valley Knives (715)557-1688.

**AL MAR, BENCHMADE, PACIFIC CUTLERY** wanted. Entire collections. River Valley Knives (715)557-1688.

**Wanted:** 2012 Case XX USA medium stockman #6318 PU CV jugged bone w/punch w/signature of Skip Lawrie. Ralph Nuno Sacramento (916)682-9305.

**For Sale:** Buck knives. Large consignment. List available from Larry Oden. Typically have Buck standard production, limited edition, BCCI, Buck Custom and Yellowhorse models. Email loden@dka-online.com or call (765)244-0614 8AM-8PM EST.

**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.

**Spyderco/Goddard Model C16POD** \$85.00; free shipping when you mention OKCA. Goddards 473 Durham Ave Eugene OR 97404 (541)689-8098 email: wgoddard44@comcast.net.

**For Sale:** Duplicates of my old "WOOD HANDLE" Coke knives, \$100.00 each.. email: ronjoyceedwards@comcast.net

**For Sale:** older knives. Please visit HHknives at www.allaboutpocketknives.com. Thanks for looking.

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**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.

**Blades and knifemaker supplies.** All blades are ground by Gene Martin. I also do custom grinding. See at www.customknife.com, contact Gene at bladesmith@customknife.com, or call (541)846-6755.

**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

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

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## OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

**Craig Morgan**  
President (541)345-0152

**John Priest**  
Vice President (541)517-2029

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

**Joshua Hill**  
Master at Arms (503)580-8998

**Dennis Ellingsen**  
Show Chairman (541)484-5564

**Knewslettter** by elayne & dennis

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

**Club email** --- [okca@oregonknifeclub.org](mailto:okca@oregonknifeclub.org)

**Letters to.....**  
OKCA P O Box 2091 Eugene OR 97402

**Packages to.....**  
OKCA 3003 W 11 Ave PMB 172 Eugene OR 97402

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# 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 knewslettter, dinner/swap meetings, free admission to OKCA shows.

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

## 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 11-12, 2015 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 2014 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2015, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2014. 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 12/15/2014.

**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, 2015. **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 10, 2015.**

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

**Saturday, April 11, 2015.**

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

**Sunday, April 12, 2015.**

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

# BUCKEYE

## A wood most dear to knifemakers

Larry Davis

Funny name, "Buckeye," but this popular handle wood has another equally unusual name as "Horsechestnut." Thanks to Dennis's encouragement to do these articles, I've had to crack the research books a bit wider than normal and have uncovered many interesting (to me) wood facts along the way, including the source of these two nicknames. We'll get to that shortly.

Buckeye belongs in the *Hippocastanaceae* family and the genera *Aesculus*, with several species world wide. *Aesculos californica* or "California Buckeye" is the species most used by knifemakers, I believe, because wood suppliers have access to good amounts from cutters on a consistent and dependable basis. We harvest our burls directly in the Sierra foothills about forty miles from the shop. California Buckeye seems to like growing in shallow, rocky soil, so burls are generally not large

or deep underground like walnut or maple burls can be and tend to be more "saucer" shaped with ingrown rocks that play havoc with chain saws (sigh).

Buckeye wood is soft and porous and doesn't have much commercial use except a past history in the prosthetics industry. Its light weight, stable fiber made carved wooden "legs" and such desirable from it. It also has use as a fine carving wood. When freshly cut, Buckeye's color is creamy yellow; and the highly regarded blue and grey colors only show up after the wood has aged and fungus has produced a stain in it. This coloration is unpredictable (darn); and fortunately, some knifemakers prefer all grey color and others prefer a mix of grey and yellow while others like the solid yellows. Buckeye must be stabilized to be of good use.

Buckeye gets its name from the resemblance of the large, shiny brown seed with its pale scar upon it to the eye of a deer....buck eyes. This source I was aware of, but the Horsechestnut name was a surprise. Seems Matthioli,



physician to Emperor Maximilian II, received a specimen from Constantinople in 1565 with information that the Turks fed their horses meal prepared from seeds. Matthioli gave the tree the Latin name of *Castanea equina*. Later this was translated into Greek as *Hippocastanum*; and Linnaeus adopted this form in the name he gave to the tree, *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Both the Latin and Greek names mean horsechestnut.

The photo is of a Buckeye burl harvested from the Sierra foothills last year when land was being cleared for a new vineyard and is the largest I've ever seen. 🐿️

## Plum SOG: A Third Variation

Mike Silvey

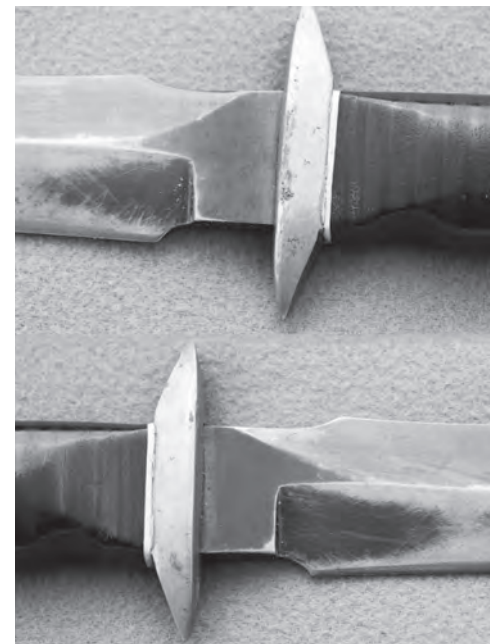
Back in the early 1960s the United States Counterinsurgency Support Office (CISO) on Okinawa was charged with supplying our clandestine army in Southeast Asia (MACVSOG) with special equipment to carry out their mission. Among the many items supplied was a knife, later to be known as a Plum

SOG. It is so called because its blade is a reddish brown color. (It should be noted that some of these knives had blue blades.) All of these knives, however, are highly collectible.

There are two variations of this knife. Some 3,700 of these had their blades serially marked with an etched number. Another 1,700 were made with a presentation etched on the blade which showed the U.S. Army Special Forces crest and the words "5th Special Forces Group (Abn)/Vietnam." All markings

were on the reverse side of the blade. That was it, just two variations. That is, until recently. Some time ago I acquired one of these Plum SOG's that was completely unmarked: nothing on either side of the blade. At the time I attributed this to a

production error where someone forgot to include it for etching. These things happen. Then at this year's OKCA Show I obtained another unmarked version. One is an anomaly, and two is a variation. I could be wrong on this last assertion, but it does provide food for thought. 🐿️





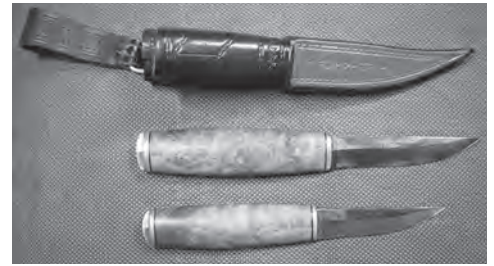


Modern puukko by Anssi Ruusuuvuori

hook as a hanger on the fully dressed models. The ferrule will then be engraved with an ancient symbol called the *Hannun Vaakuna*, a central square with a small square on each corner.

There are many models, too many to describe here, some simple, some complicated; but they all employ these basic elements. There is the

*Kokemäki*, which has the blade driven into a *visakoivu* handle. It has a fairly wide blade with a tightly radius tip. The shoulders of the blade are left exposed, so there is a small gap between the blade edge and the handle. The end of the handle has two flats carved on the side that take the form of a crescent moon. The sheath has a simple line around the edge, and the hanger is of leather (like Sami knives). The *Pekanpää* has thin plates of brass at the top and bottom of the handle to hold the birch bark handle in place. I should explain here that in order to make a handle of birch bark, you thread disks of



Double Tommi



Hattutupipuukko



Sorkoupotus on a Kauhava puukko

bark onto the tang between two washers of metal, then peen the tang over tight to compress the bark. It can then be shaped with carving or abrasives. In the case of the *Pekanpää* model, the handle usually has a very rounded and bulbous style of handle. (To be continued...)

*Puukko continued from page 2*

*Rautalampi*. The sheath is a large part of what makes this particular puukko stand out for me. It is dyed black with a maroon "mirror." The mirror has a series of stamps down the front that consist of four elements: the moon, a star, a heart and birch leaves. The order in which they're stamped will indicate the maker. The top portion is decorated with spiral flutes, and the steep broad sides have a fine cross hatch, giving it a very strong style all its own. It may also have a nickel tip on the sheath and a nickel collar around the throat and a chain and

The knife I carry -  
 Never a day goes by  
 without my Bench-made  
 Griptilian / custom German  
 made grips in softy orange  
 also my Spyderco 100% serrated  
 blunt tip, plus many other blades  
 at my shop. Lets make knife  
 ownership "one knife in every  
 pocket" a monthly goal to enrich  
 a new person into knife ownership!  
 its our duty to do this - I do every  
 day -  
 Bob Cook  
 -Bobs Donuts-





## The Knewsletter

Oregon Knife Collectors Association  
PO Box 2091  
Eugene, OR 97402

### The Second Lesson of Spirit

One spring morning the renowned sword maker Muramasa was visited by a young swordmaker named Hidoshi. "I have been told that you are the greatest swordmaker in the land. I am here to prove that I am better," stated the journeyman bladesmith. Muramasa shook his head sadly and ignored Hidoshi, continuing with his work. Hidoshi was relentless, however, and challenged Muramasa to make a better blade than his own. "How do you propose that we judge such a contest?" asked Muramasa.

"We will cut through the bodies of convicts, as they are condemned already, and see who's blade cuts deeper," said Hidoshi. Muramasa refused this method but finally agreed to have a neutral party test the blades on inanimate objects.

The whole province gathered to watch the contest, as an elected samurai tested each blade. First the warrior sliced through several large bamboo stalks with each blade. While both blades severed the stalks cleanly, the tester noted that Muramasa's blade cleaved through the stalks with slightly more difficulty. Next the samurai placed each blade between two rocks and bent the blades as far as they would go to test the strength of their steel. While both blades bowed, they each straightened back to true. The finishes on each blade were flawless, and after exhaustive testing the exasperated samurai declared that he could tell no difference between the two swords.

Hidoshi clenched his fists in frustration while Muramasa sat calmly. Finally, Muramasa stood and said, "There is one final test if you are

willing to take it." Hidoshi eagerly agreed, believing that his blade could best Muramasa's if given the chance. Muramasa took both swords and walked down to a large cherry tree at the bottom of a hill. A stream wound through the forest and around the base of the tree.

There in the shade Muramasa handed Hidoshi his blade and said, "Place the spine of your blade across the top of the water with the edge facing skyward." Hidoshi complied. As they waited, cherry blossom petals drifted down into the stream to be carried away. Several of these fell across the edge of Hidoshi's blade and were cleaved cleanly



in half as they touched the blade. Hidoshi smiled and withdrew his blade. Muramasa placed his blade in the water in the same manner. Several petals floated down; but upon reaching Muramasa's blade, the petals veered off at the last moment, landing unharmed in the water. Hidoshi's smile faded. He flung his blade into the water and bowed before Muramasa. "Though I thought myself a master, you have shown me that I am still only an apprentice. You are truly a master, and I can only hope that one day I may achieve your greatness." In the coming years, Hidoshi studied faithfully under Muramasa, and one day did indeed himself become a master.

