



KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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- ✓ Battle Axe knife

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

September 2017

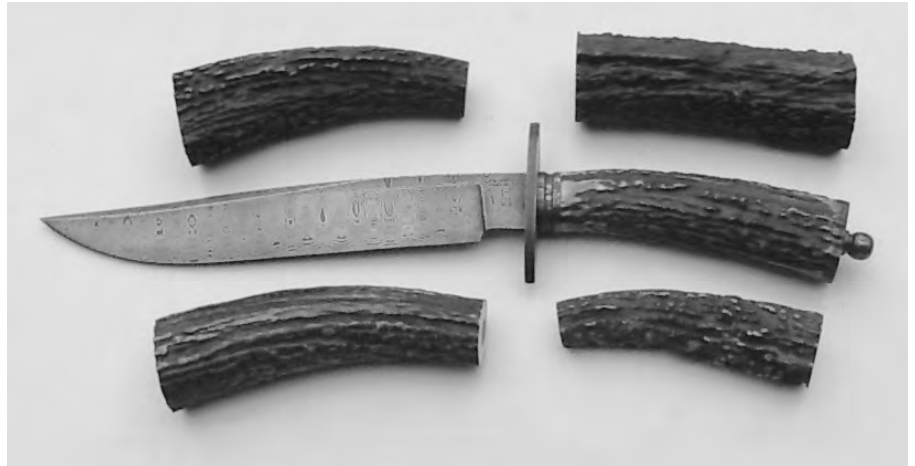
HANDLES WITH CARE

Dan Westlind

After all of these great years of knifemaking, I find myself spending a lot of time tutoring new makers. The most often asked question is "Where do I start?" My answer is usually the same, buy some blades and learn to put handles on them. I have always felt there was too much emphasis put on the blade and not enough on the handle. The handle is, after all, half of the knife. I have always had a saying, you can take a \$20.00 handle and a \$200.00 blade and have a \$20.00 knife when you are done; or you can take a \$200.00 handle and a \$20.00 blade and have a \$20.00 knife when done. So, let me explain. The blade and the handle should have equal values in the knife, not monetary values, but workmanship values. If the blade is perfect and you do a crappy job on the handle, the handle can de-value the blade; and the same goes if you have a great handle and a crappy blade.

Over the years I have seen more people struggle with handles than blades, perhaps because of the emphasis put on the blades. Learning to fit handles on a knife can be challenging to say the least. There are a lot of things to know to get a good, tight fit. Practice helps, but there are a lot of tricks to be learned from watching someone who has put a good amount of knives together. I can remember hearing all these things like stick tang, full tang, hidden tang, tapered tang and more and was mind boggled over that; but I learned.

I spend a lot of time choosing the right handle for the right knife. With the choices of handle materials out there today, it can be difficult to choose the right handle or handle material for a certain knife; but when the right choice is made, the knife usually sells quickly and you know you got it right. Sometimes the handle has to have the right shape, the right taper, the right color, the right texture and the right fit to the hand and sometimes the right grain. When working with Damascus, there are times when I can match the grain of certain woods to the pattern in the Damascus, and it makes the knife flow. I love the word "flow" used to describe a knife. It means that everything went together, and the vision of the knife you had in your head when you started was achieved. The knife is now



a piece of art, with flow and beauty, waiting to be picked up and caressed. O.K. enough of that, let's get back to the handles.

When I first started making knives, I was getting blades, usually from older knives when the original handle had worn out or broken. My favorite replacement was antler, with the crown. I just loved the way it looked when on a knife and I still do. Good stag is still one of my favorites, and I cherish stag when I find it. I still use a lot of wood and good old desert ironwood is hard to beat, although I have been seeing some redwood burl that rivals ironwood.

Since most of my knives are Damascus, I use a lot of "exotics" such as mammoth tooth and mammoth ivory. I shake my head when I look through the knife supply catalogs and see stabilized corn cob, blue jeans, pine cones and an array of other things I deem "novelty handles," much like oosik used to be. Although oosik made a darn good handle; and hey, what is more fun than trying to explain to people what an "oosik" is. Stag is one of the handles that can add one of many looks to a knife. Few things have the nostalgic and classy look that stag can have on the right knife.

Synthetic handles such as G-10, Micarta and many of the newer resin based materials have their place. These materials are perfect for tactical knives and some hunting/utility knives, but they are rather sterile and just do not have the warmth and feel of natural products. Don't get me wrong, I use them all; but they go on the appropriate knife.

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A Buck For A Buck, And The Ranger

Merle Spencer

Blade magazine had a nice article on the Buck 110 Folding Hunter knife. It got me thinking back to the late 70's and early 80's when some friends and I were nearing the end of a thirty-year stint at seeking the stealthy deer and the mighty elk in Eastern Oregon.

There was a lot of talk about Buck knives then; how great they were for dressing and skinning game, how tough and durable they were...but hard to sharpen. They were also a little more out of the pocket than some.

They had become so well-known that a friend, who had a fine Case knife (a gift from his grandfather at 16) stolen from his pickup at work, put out notice that if the knife were returned, a new Buck hunting knife could be had, and nothing said. His knife was returned.

I had decided by then that I wanted a new Buck Ranger, known now as the 112. A friend stopped by one evening after work, and I mentioned to him that I was saving my spending money to buy one. Several nights later he stopped by again and handed me a Buck folding knife. I knew it was a Buck because of the name stamped in the leather.

Of course I quickly unsnapped it and pulled out...not a Buck Ranger, but a Buck 110 Folding Hunter! Well, what do you do in a case like this?

I wanted a Ranger, but this good friend had given me a present; and I responded appropriately with thanks and a smile. So I forgot about getting a 112 and went about enjoying my new Buck knife. After all, you usually only carry or use one knife at a time, anyway.

Deer season was soon upon us, and I accompanied my friend's son on a hunt. He was successful, and I was pleased at how well the 110 did the job of field dressing.

That was the one and only time that knife was used on game. We moved to the Oregon coast soon after that, and the only hunting I did was in pursuit of the wily salmon.

The Buck 110 is still among the knives at my house, though it has only been used mainly for cutting items at roadside lunches – bread, meat, cheese and fruit. The black folder sheath shows wear around the folds, not from pushing through the brush, but from riding thousands of miles under the seat and in the trunk of several cars.



Buck model 110

A Ranger 112 may never have come under my ownership, except for the fact that in the 1990s I started working on knives myself. I also started collecting a few knives, especially those by other makers.

After a number of years had passed and I was enhancing knives, collecting knives, talking about knives and writing about knives, it turns out that my brother had two Buck Ranger knives.

The company he worked for as an electrician gave awards for safety improvement suggestions. He received an award twice, and each time it was a Buck Ranger.

Since now I was a collector, I wanted to own one of them. After a long conversation on the phone, where we discussed things like would it ever be used and where it would be kept, etc., he sent me one of them.

It sits here before me as I write this. Etched on the blade is BPA Safety Award.

Both my Buck folders were gifts. When I look at them or show them or other knives I have, many pleasant memories return.

Until I decided to write this article, I hadn't looked at these knives for a long time. That's the way it is with the others I have. Months will go by and they're out of mind; and then something strikes a memory that causes

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Buck Ranger Model 112

This Knewsletter....

Is the most difficult for me as we have been on a three month hiatus. The summer here was good except for the talking points of real hot summer temperatures and forest fire smoke that permeated the city. Not being faced with a deadline and not having knife chatter throughout the summer, I must now knuckle down and get on with the program.

The December Mini Show is slated for December 09, 2017. Hours are 7 to 8AM set up and do things that go cut until 4 PM. This is a placebo for the big, big Show in April. It has always been an appreciated event. The cost is but a mere \$40.00 just to help defray the room cost. There is no application form necessary so just send in your request with the \$40.00 to have a table. You can include it in your table application form (included in this issue) for the 2018 April Show or include it in your membership for 2018. Remember that our membership is the calendar year.

Down turn in Shows....

We have noted a decrease in Gun & Knife Shows country wide, which includes smaller attendance. We do not want this to happen to our Show. With that in mind, help to promote the April Show and make it the grand event that it has been for years.

The Ads...

We start out the September issue with ads that carry over from last Spring. Please review the ads and update them or purchase from them. Come the next month, we will purge many of these ads unless you speak up or.... why not place an ad? They are free so do not ask for your discount.

Dinner meetings...

We have had dinner gatherings all through the summer, and they were quite enjoyable. Love the Sizzler restaurant. We get the room for the meeting, because we have the bodies that participate in the

gathering. If the attendance shrinks too far, we might lose this site. We are good for now but help support the organization by attending and educating us about a thing that goes cut that you will bring.

Articles this month....

are from **Auggie Schmirtz, Merle Spencer, Dan Westlind, Roger Worley, Garry Zalesky and Little Orphan Annie**. There is some great reading this month that is truly educational. I must remind our membership that all our *Knewsletters* are available on line, and that the Google bots pick up on these articles. That makes these words available worldwide. You are an expert on your specific collecting interests, be they antique or custom, so let us hear from you and do an article for us.

Custom Knife Awards for 2018

Gene Martin designed the blank for the Kukri knife that will be customized and completed by knifemakers that opted to do this project. The following have accepted the 1095 steel blank: **Chuck Cook, Steve Goddard, Gary Griffin, Cameron House, Jim Jordan, David Kurt, Gene Martin, Craig Morgan, Lynn Moore, Jeff Murrison, Bernard Ortiz, Sterling Radda, Blair Todd and Bryan Wages**. Thank you for your participation in our event.

2018 Club Knife...

Plans are already in the works for a 2018 OKCA Club knife. **Roy Humenick** has moved forward on a unique design working with **Great Eastern Knives**. This special knife will be announced in future *Knewsletters*. All of the Great Eastern knives have been a success, and all knives were sold prior to the Knife Show in April. We have been fortunate to have Roy and Great Eastern partner with us on this project.

The Sizzler...

Don't forget our monthly meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant. It is the third Wednesday of the month which makes it **September 20, 2017**. I always look forward to this gathering, so mark your calendar and come be with us. Come smile with us with your latest purchase. It is always nice to see my fellow knife enthusiasts that are a cut above..



From the OKCA Facebook

September 9 at 10:20pm

The OKCA knife show in April is at the top of my list for things I look forward to in my life, it is a class act run by amazing people. Every year when the Show ends I am sad to go home, there are people there every year that I only see once a year and they feel like family. Thousands of people that all love knives in one place, how can you not love that? Everything about this show is top notch, the displays are amazing and most are Museum quality. Custom knifemakers from all over the country, scrimshaw artists, authors and book sellers, knives of every description, and did I mention the people? Knives are what bring us, but it's the relationships that keep us coming back. Thank you Dennis, Elayne and all the rest of you that make this Show great. Can't wait until April.

Dave (Kershawguy) 🙏

The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

The May meeting was held May 17, 2017 at the Sizzler Restaurant. As all are aware, it was all about the Show. See May 2017 *Knewslettter* for all the photos and details. The *Knewslettter* is available on the website (if you are unable to locate your copy).

I always review the article I have written for the previous year, and I noted that the summer of 2016 was very calm. I was worried it would portend a slow 2017 Show year. That was not the case, but there was a delay in the payments of dues and tables.

This summer presented even less inquiries about the OKCA or the OKCA 2018 Show or even about knives. We were also advised of a cancellation of a Tennessee Show that was worrisome. We, ibd and elayne, were able to relax and enjoy however is there a lack of interest in knives and things that go cut?? Can we generate the enthusiasm for the 2018 OKCA April Show that is required to have a successful event? We now must rally for the 2017-18 Show Year. We need to use the reserves we have gathered during summer to push ahead. It is time for all of us to promote the 2018 Show and our organization.

You can begin by reserving a table for the December 9 Mini Show. No admission charge to the public. No application is necessary. We usually

have about 80 tables. It is an opportunity to pay for your 2018 membership, pick up your new card and also pay for 2018 tables. We will also have tables set aside for the donation of toys for children. Cost is \$40.00, and the hours will be 7:00AM (set up) - 4:00 PM. Mail your payment to the OKCA PO Box 2091 Eugene 97402 with the notation December Show.

Now is also the time to consider payment for your April 2018 table and also your 2018 membership. The deadline for first right on your 2017 table is December 15. You must be a 2018 member to have a table at the 2018 Show. You also must be a 2018 member to gain admission on Friday, April 6, 2018. We do not accept new membership or renewal membership payments on the Friday of the Show and do not accept new or renewal memberships after Wednesday, April 4 before the Show. We reserve the privilege of entry to persons who have supported our organization during our year.

The Board and **Roy Humenick** have been negotiating for a 2018 Club knife. We have no price but do have a possible choice that we hope will be supported by the membership.

During the summer we continued to have no-host dinners at the Sizzler Restaurant. The attendance was not as great as our usual meetings, but we were pleased. We had a show-and-tell at the end of our dinner, and there were many treasures that were purchased during the summer months. Knives will go on.

If you attempt to contact us by phone,

(541) 484-556, and reach the answering machine, pretty please leave a message. Cross our heart your call will be returned in a timely manner.

Our Facebook page is constantly receiving requests for inclusion by individuals interested in our "world of cut." Please note that only persons who are current members can advertise on our Facebook page or be linked to our website. Check out our page. Go to the OKCA website, and you will find the link. Thank you, **Lisa Wages**, who was responsible all summer (and throughout the rest of the year) to answer the many requests to join our group.

We also receive requests to advertise knife shows. We will do so if we are requested by a current member or the show is a non-profit event. Previously we had a page in our *Knewslettter* that listed the dates of shows in the US; the amount of work to keep the list current exceeded our ability to keep up. It was discontinued.

If you ship an item to us, please use our shipping address: OKCA 3003 W 11 PMB 172 EUGENE OR 97402. The mailing address for memberships, renewals or new memberships and knife orders is OKCA BOX 2091 EUGENE OR 97402.

Thank you to the individuals who have spent the extra time to share their knowledge with us with the articles we publish in our *Knewslettters*.

See you at the meeting, September 20, 2017, at the Sizzler Restaurant, Gateway Blvd, Eugene/Springfield OR. 🐉



OKCA Dinner meeting



What is wrong with this knife?



When Harry Met Tom

Roger Worley

After the 1992 show season was over, I decided to make some major changes in my display; and I contacted wood crafter John Bright of Ontario, Oregon, to make some new frames and display cases. After a couple of weeks, John called to tell me that he had the first group finished and ready to pick up.

Arriving in Ontario, I entered John's cabinet shop and spotted my frames stacked up, ready to go, and lying on the bench next to them was a 2-bladed folder, obviously handmade. John told me that his sister had wanted me to see the knife when she learned of my collecting interests. I picked it up and examined it. Not impressed, I laid it back down; and then John said, "Harry Orchard made that knife and gave it to my sister's husband when they were in prison together." I was immediately interested and made an arrangement to purchase it for a modest sum. The name Harry Orchard will likely not be familiar to most readers; but to an Idahoan, his name is legend.

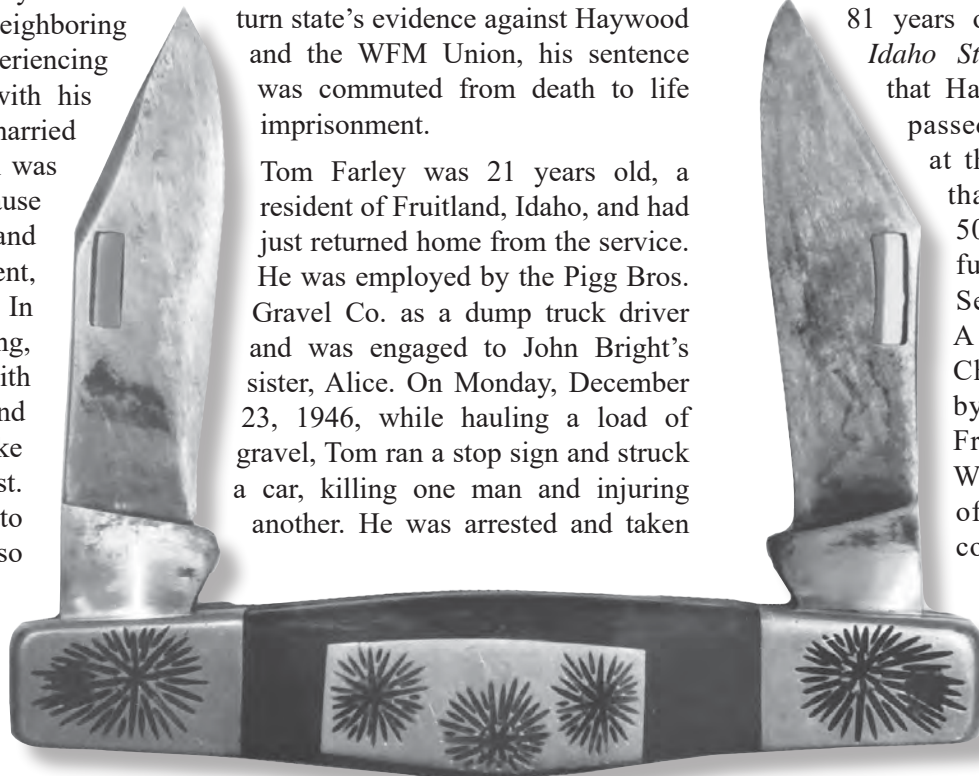
Harry Orchard was born March 18, 1866 near Ontario, Canada. At an early age he went to work on the family farm and was soon hiring out to neighboring farmers, all the while experiencing a stormy relationship with his father. At age 22, he married and for a short while all was bliss. But soon because of his lavish lifestyle and money mismanagement, they began to quarrel. In the course of his carousing, he became infatuated with a married woman, and they decided to make a break and head west. Divorces were hard to come by in those days; so Harry just left his wife and baby daughter and disappeared, becoming a fugitive from justice. Soon the new relationship

went sour, and Harry was again on his own. He found himself in Wallace, Idaho, working in the mines and a member of a radical labor union, becoming entangled in the miner's strike of 1899 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Because of the strike at the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mines at Wardner, the company endeavored to operate with non-union labor. The union officials decided to blow up the mine; and Harry Orchard, along with another man, volunteered for the job. They set the dynamite and a quarter million dollar mill was blown to splinters. Thus was launched the bombing career of Harry Orchard, as he became a chief tool of William B. (Big Bill) Haywood and the Western Federation of Miners. Over the next several years, Orchard blew up numerous mines and depots resulting in the deaths of over 20. In 1905 he was hired to assassinate Idaho ex-governor Frank Steunenberg who had been a constant thorn in the Union's side while he was in office. On a snowy night in Caldwell, Orchard affixed a bomb to the gate of Steunenberg's home; so that when he opened it, the explosion fatally wounded him. Both because of Orchard's carelessness and some expert detective work, the bomber was soon apprehended. When Orchard agreed to turn state's evidence against Haywood and the WFM Union, his sentence was commuted from death to life imprisonment.

Tom Farley was 21 years old, a resident of Fruitland, Idaho, and had just returned home from the service. He was employed by the Pigg Bros. Gravel Co. as a dump truck driver and was engaged to John Bright's sister, Alice. On Monday, December 23, 1946, while hauling a load of gravel, Tom ran a stop sign and struck a car, killing one man and injuring another. He was arrested and taken

to court in Emmett, Idaho, where he was sentenced to six months to ten years for involuntary manslaughter. On arrival at the Idaho State Penitentiary, he was immediately sent in to be interviewed by Warden L.E. Clapp, who upon review determined that a miscarriage of justice had occurred and set about to rectify the situation. Not wanting Farley to be in with the general population, the warden assigned him to the prison's top trustee, Harry Orchard, who at this time had been incarcerated for over 40 years and had found redemption enough that he was allowed to live outside the prison walls in his own little shack where he raised crops and pigs to help feed the prison population and also had the job of taking new, young prisoners under his wing to show them the ropes. The two were together for three weeks, during which time Harry presented Tom with his homemade pocketknife. After the three weeks Tom was sent to Eagle Island prison farm, a minimum security facility about 10 miles away. Three months later, Tom was paroled and returned home to Fruitland where he and Alice were married in June, 1947. They remained there, farming and working construction until Tom's untimely death in 1977 at the age of 51. When Tom and Harry parted

company in 1947, Harry was 81 years old. In 1954, the *Idaho Statesman* reported that Harry Orchard had passed away in prison at the age of 88 and that more than 500 attended his funeral at the Boise Seventh Day Adventist Church, officiated by Dr. L.E. Froom, General World Secretary of the church who collaborated with Orchard on the book, "Harry Orchard - The Man God Made Again"



Knives with Personalities

ibdennis

I recently pointed out to someone that there was a rather unusual knife offered on eBay. The response was that it would have been better were it a mint condition knife. But it wasn't; it had seen the ravages of use for more than 85 years. I should look so good after 85 years. Old mint knives are a challenge to find and capture, and this collecting circle is a niche group. Every one of us has encountered a "mint" knife at one time or another, but getting several is a real challenge.

Of course there are the knife manipulators who make a knife to mint (their reasoning), and there are those who make a knife to mint by deception. Neither of these have a place in my heart.

This subject has brought back a memory that went back to the 1980s. It was in San Jose, California, at a knife show that was in a rather nice hotel. The names you may remember that were there were Bob Loveless, Bernard Levine and Michael Bell. There were more people of note there also, but the story revolves around these three. I am reminded that dear elayne was there too, and she bought her first Loveless knife from Bob himself and got a kiss to boot. But I digress.

Bernard struck up a conversation about a sword maker who was at the Show and did Bob Loveless know Michael Bell? He did not, so it prompted Bernard to introduce the two to each other. Bernard also encouraged Michael to show Bob his latest Japanese sword creation. Michael was being shy about

it, and it took some coaxing from Bernard to have him show the Japanese *katana* for Bob's inspection. Bob was impressed beyond simply looking, for the beauty and execution of this sword was fantastic. A compliment from Bob was unheard of, but yet Bob gave Michael several words of encouragement and praise.

And then Michael told Bob he was going to destroy this sword. Michael explained that there was a carbon flaw in the blade, and it was unacceptable to him. Bob closely examined the sword again and said he could not find the flaw. Michael pointed out the flaw, and Bob stated that this minuscule flaw is what gave the sword its personality. He maintained that he could make flawless knives; but to differentiate and give each knife its personality, he introduced a flaw or anomaly in his knives. And that was when Elayne discovered the personality mark on her Loveless knife. You really have to look for it to locate it. (After that I still feel that Michael went home and destroyed this sword.)

I have always thought more of a knife that has a personality that shows use, but not abuse. A knife that has a repair that was done at the knife's infancy is just fine. A knife that is repaired for the purpose of a knife sale on eBay or at a knife show is questionable. Yes, the



knife was repaired; but it was repaired to bring back its functionality. Yes, the bail was removed; because it got in the way of the original user. Yes, the blade has scratches in it; but that was because the original owner sharpened the knife on a rock or the bottom of a dinner plate. That is all good; as I like to collect variations of knives, and a variation shows legitimacy of a real product. Many years ago I purchased a pre 1910 Case scout style knife that was a mess with broken everything. I had it for years until I found a better specimen. This "ugh" knife proved that my nice specimen was legit. Ugly knives sometimes have beauty.

So if a knife, be it custom or collectable, has a personality, maybe that is good. After all "mint" is in the eye of the beholder. 🐱





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!

email: okca@oregonknifeclub.org

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) \$ _____

43RD ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 06-08, 2018 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 2017 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2018, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2017. 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 12/15/2017.

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 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, 2018. **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 06, 2018.

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

Saturday, April 07, 2018.

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

Sunday, April 08, 2018.

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

HANDLES WITH CARE

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I wish the natural materials were as stable as the synthetics. There is nothing more frustrating than to put a great handle on a knife, attend a knife show in a dryer climate and have the handle shrink or warp. Stabilizing helps, but it is not a cure all. There are ways to overcome the shrinkage problems, and I use them; but there are and always will be times when I have had to cut a handle off a knife and replace it because it warped or shrunk. Case in point, last year I made a small folder and put musk ox horn scales on it. This was a small folder, and the scales were only 2-1/2" long; I had them dried and stabilized. I took the folder to Las Vegas to a show; and by time the show opened, the folder would not. The musk ox scales had warped so badly I could not open the knife. Unbelievable but true. That little folder now has some of that composite pearl shell on it. It looks better now than it did with the musk ox.

One thing that was not available years ago when I started making knives is the array of CNC textured handle materials that are around today. Some of the textured G-10 that is out there is beautiful and appealing, and I find myself drawn to it.

Handle "hunting" is probably one of the most addictive aspects of knife making. Most experienced knifemakers I know look forward to a knife show just for hunting down that particular handle that is going to give their knife that special look when

it is finished. To me, handle hunting comes in second only to selling a knife, and sometimes it is difficult to let a knife go because you get attached to it.

Another thing I find myself doing, and I know a lot of other makers do this too, is to find the handle first and then plan the blade around it. Many times I have found a handle either at a show, at a friend's shop, or even some place like an antique mall; and soon as I saw that handle I knew what knife I was going to make for it. I consider myself very fortunate to have been in the knife handle business for the years that I was. I learned a lot and looking back on it, how cool it was to be able to travel to Alaska and search out the fossil ivories and bring to shows to share with other makers. I can remember cutting over 1,000 blocks of maple burl for an order, buying 800 wart hog tusks at one time, buying 1,000 pounds of mammoth ivory at a time and being involved with a million pieces of stag. Does a knifemaker ever have too many handles? I doubt it. I know retired knifemakers that still buy handles, even though they are no longer making knives (due to health). No knifemaker ever retires!! The only problem I see with too many handles is that it makes choosing more difficult.

In my future articles, I am going to cover some tricks and some other technical secrets that I hope will make you a better knifemaker, or at least help cut some time down on your handles. The goal is to take a \$20.00 handle and a \$20.00 blade and make a \$200.00 or better yet, a \$400.00 knife. 🐾



A Buck For A Buck, And The Ranger

continued from page 2

me to go look at a knife and forget, sometimes, what I was supposed to be doing.

The 110 was lost for about a year, or at least misplaced. When we went on trips, I carried it under the front seat and then took it out with the rest of the luggage. Once I wanted the knife and couldn't find it. I looked all through the house and even searched the car. It was gone. Then one time I was getting the car ready for a trip, and

I took a really good look under the seat and – guess what? Yup.

The 112 also evaded me for a short while. The other car had a double compartment in the center console, one under the other. I used to keep the 112 in the under one. My car was broken into; and everything in it stolen, no great amount, but still upsetting. I thought the knife was gone, too. But I remembered that a few days before I had taken it in the house for some reason. I looked in the den, and there it was! Pretty lucky, huh? 🐾



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 man hole covers) 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: Antique blacksmith post/leg vise. Made by THE COLUMBIAN HARDWARE CO, CLEVELAND, OHIO, MADE IN U.S.A. The previous wording is marked in a triangle shape on the top side. The letter "C" and words "jaws # 10 also appear on the bottom. Measured from the tip of the leg to the top of the jaws is 42 inches. The jaw are 5 inches wide. The jaws open 5 1/2 to 6 inches. The vise weighs 42 pounds. There are no breaks or repairs, condition is excellent. Price is \$200. Telephone contact with Gary DeKorte of Sequim, WA. (360) 808-9498.

I buy and sell knives. I buy and sell classic and vintage US knives: Marbles, Camillus, Ka-bar, Cattaraugus, Schrade, Gerber, Buck, Western and more. I love all years but especially the WW II knives and the classic designs of the 70's-80's. Details: www.fitzwillies.com or e-mail to: sdirgo@hotmail.com

Eugene 5160 Club: A Club for knifemakers of all stripes, meeting monthly. Check out our newsletter archive to get a feel for the group: elementalforge.com/5160Club. Sign up for newsletter & meeting reminders by finding us on Facebook at "5160 Club" and click the "Newsletter Signup" tab. Non Facebook users can still find us at: facebook.com/5160Club.

For Sale: Model 4500 Sherline bench top lathe \$450. Call or text Zac & Sara Buchanan (541)815-2078

Loveless Style Sheaths: made to order. Call or text Zac & Sara Buchana (541)815-2078

Niagra Knife Steels: email zabuchananknives@gmail.com for a quote.

Wanted: Remington scout/utility knife with pioneer boys or highlander boys shield or heroism shield. Email jpitt306@earthlink.net or phone Jim (562)716-9857

For Sale - WHK 2004-2009 (William Henry Knives). OKCA knives 2008 Humenick and 2009 Swauger, misc production and custom. See Glenda at the December Show.

For Sale - Hardcore grinder 1.5 hp variable speed 8" wheel \$1800.00. Black G10 1/4"x4' x 3' sheet \$480.00 Gary (253)307-8388

For Sale - prices negotiable. : BADER BIII knifemaker set up, flat platters & wheels. Some belts. - C&M Topline Tumbler, Vibratory stone wash. TLV-25 with fluid system. Electro-Etch for logos. HiTorque Mini Mill, Solid Column with Air Spring - knives@threesistersforge.com Three Sisters Forge, llc, Bend OR.

For Sale - I am retiring from knifemaking and have a lot of tools for sale. 20" Sherline bench lathe w/collets and 3 and 4 jaw chucks, plus handtools \$350.00. NC gas fired vertical melting furnace \$100.00. Commercial metal cutting vertical bandsaw w/blade welder, made by JET, like new \$750.00. H. H. Frank, Newport OR (541)265-8683.

Buying Club knives for personal collections. 1998 Wayne Goddard wood beaver handle and 2010 Lonewolf Paul defender. Contact Jordan Lake (310)386-4928.

For Sale - Recon, turquoise, lapiz and coral. I will trade for knives, Damascus or parts. This material is used by D-alton Holder, Randy Lee, David Yellowhorse and many other famous makers. Perfect for scales, full handles, jewelry and wood inlay.- Elliott Glasser - Hiltary Industries - Scottsdale AZ (602)620-3999

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.

For Sale - Oregon yearly Club knives, 1979 to 2012. Selling singly, 10% off current pricing. Call Fred (541)285-1894.

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

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.

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.

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

Mosaic pins and lanyard tubes by Sally. See at www.customknife.com, email at sally@customknife.com. Phone (541)846-6755.

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. Email 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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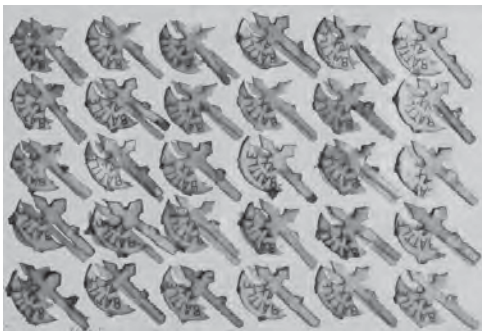


The Knewsletter
Oregon Knife Collectors Association
PO Box 2091
Eugene, OR 97402

Tobacco tag knife

Garry Zalesky

Back 25 years ago I saw a knife at Tulsa and it was \$225. So I asked what the big deal was, and the dealer told me it was a premium that you got by saving the tobacco tags. Of course, I didn't know what a tobacco tag was; but I learned that around 1900 tobacco came in a "plug" and you cut off a piece for a "chaw". All this stuff looked alike, so the tobacco companies began putting little metal "tobacco tags" on their wares.



As a premium, one could collect the tags and send them in for prizes, like maybe knives.

This Miller Bros knife only

took 24 tags to get in 1897. I would guess that there aren't very many of these knives around, and they are collectible by both the knife and tobacco guys. 🐉

