



## NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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

November 2017

## American Gravity Knives

B.K. Brooks

You say Gravity Knives and most people think German made knives; especially the wood handled World War II Paratrooper *Fallshirmjager* Luftwaffe Knife which has eight variations at minimum from ten manufacturers (not counting different designs made in the 1950s and 60's). These variations can be what many a collector may think are post World War II "put together" but can actually be the more rare models; so before having a fire sale at the OKCA Show, check out *Luftwaffe Gravity Knife* by Mack A. Pattarozzi for an enlightening read. Did you know the correct name for this knife is *Fliegerkappmesser* (flyers cutting knife)?

We were going to take a quick look at two early American gravity knives, but thanks to OKCA member Art Green, it will be three from the late 1800s. I have already covered the Eagle Pencil Co. gravity knife in a past OKCA article (*A Knife Meant to Drop* Sept. 2005), which has no example of a full size pocketknife being made by them (just pencil sharpeners); and I suggest you read that article, as it is related.



Art Green's Knives

Will Hanna's *101 Patented Knife Designs: Portfolio's One and Two* has numerous early patents for gravity knives. But getting a patent and actually getting said knife in production are two different things. If you know of another full size early American gravity knife factory produced, give me a call.



Miller Bros Knives

We will start with Miller Bros. USA 1863-1926. *Goins' Encyclopedia of Cutlery Markings* notes there were at three different locations in Connecticut taken over and reorganized by William Rockwell in 1978. Ah the plot thickens when you view

the patent of William Rockwell for a dirk (clip/spear) style gravity knife - patent number 317,208 patent date May 5, 1885.

Also found was a British patent 5487 for the square pointed navy gravity knife by Miller Bros.

Both Miller Bros. variations were factory produced. *Goins' Encyclopedia* shows an 1890 ad for this gravity knife (noting Millers Bros. patented screws) which matches the patent. Miller Bros. also made a very sturdy Navy square point Gravity Knife which can be seen on page 31 of Mike Silvey's *Pocket Knives of the United States Military*.

The patent notes the patented latch is key to the invention holding the knife in its extreme positions (open and closed). This style seems to have been reinvented in a different and actually faultier version in the German *Fliegerkappmesser* which tends to have spring failures. Most blades seem not to have a notch in their blade, but there are some notched blades out there to assure the knife holds the blade in the closed position. Check out *Knife World* July 2006 for more Miller Gravity knife info which has a rare example of a Simmons Hardware tang marked made by Miller Bros.

The next Gravity Knife was patented by I. W. Heysinger patent number 307,767 on Nov 11, 1884. Manufactured by the Novelty Knife Company and purposed as a hunting knife which is stamped on the knife's upper body, along with the company's name and patent date. Various tools can replace the knife blade such as a screwdriver or buttonhook. This gravity knife came in two sizes which are approximately 5-1/2" and 8-1/2" in length with the smaller size frame in brass and the larger frame in steel with screwed on wood handles.

The Novelty Hunter is a sturdy and well-built knife having a curved (half clamshell) thumb latch with a very strong wire spring mechanism that inserts the latch into a rectangle indentation in the blade when in the open position and acts as a block to the blade point in the closed position.



Novelty Knives

While writing this article, a third early American gravity knife from the 1800s was tracked

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# The Lessons (or maybe) Lessons I've Learned

Garry Zalesky

After forty years as a knife collector, I took a little time recently to look back on some of the significant people and key moments in my years as a collector. This is not a braggart's list of treasures that I've acquired, although I have been very fortunate in that regard. More importantly, I was thinking about what caused me to become who I am today; and what were the lessons that I learned? Whether a new, young collector was asking me, or I was reminiscing with an old friend, these are the things that I believe were milestones in my life.

I had been going to gun shows with my Dad since I was old enough to tag along. While there were other shows, in the 60's our "big" show was the Aledo, Illinois gun show. It was 116 miles from our home in Iowa, with much of it on two-lane blacktop. The show was held at a 125 year old fairgrounds, in a rickety old two-story building that creaked and popped under floor loads that the builders had surely never considered. The building was always overcrowded; and you were forced to "go with the flow," whether you wanted to go that direction or not. We ate loose hamburger "steamburgers;" and then there was always the smell of burnt popcorn in the air, but we loved it! There were always lots of interesting things to be seen there and doing "guy stuff" with my Dad was something I won't ever forget. As a teenager, I was tempted to get into gun collecting; but it seemed like an awfully expensive hobby for someone sacking groceries after school, besides I'd spent all my money on a car! From what I'd seen, the typical gun collector seemed to be an older man who had money to spend, and that certainly wasn't me! Knives, on the other hand, were fascinating and relatively cheap; so I decided to learn about knives.

I found a bookstore where I bought a copy of Peterson's *American Knives* and before long I was quoting the book, "chapter and verse." I was now an irritating "one book expert," and I talked incessantly about knives. A friend at work took pity on me and took me to see an antique collector that he knew in a nearby town. His friend lived in a nondescript little house that was jammed full of wonderful antiques that he and his wife had gathered over many years. We made our way down some rickety stairs into a musty old cellar where there were four chests of drawers and three broken-down armchairs. My friend took a seat and indicated that I should do the same. Once we were seated, the "show" began. Clearly enjoying his audience, the old fellow opened a drawer and produced a wool sock with a Colt Root pistol inside. He said, "Have you ever seen one of these?" I had seen them at the gun shows, and I knew that they were expensive. He put the Colt back in its sock and pulled a box-lock flintlock pistol from another wool sock. It was obvious that he loved every one of his treasures. I decided to ask why he put everything in a wool sock? "Well," he said, "the lanolin in the wool prevents rusting." I wasn't so sure if that was true, but I was looking for knives and not a debate on wool socks. After looking at a few knives, he handed me a 1918 Mk1 trench knife, the one with the brass knuckles handle. This was exactly the one shown in my *American Knives* book and just about the coolest knife I'd ever seen! When I asked about buying it, he said, "If I sell it to you,



1918 Mk1 trench knife

where will I get another one?" Well, I wasn't about to leave without it; and eventually we agreed on a price. Over a two-year period I spent many afternoons in that damp basement and came home with some really good knives. Visiting there was better than going to a museum; and he was a friendly guy, always happy to see me. One



1849 Ames Rifleman

day I happened to spot an 1849 Ames Rifleman's knife, which I knew was an extremely rare and expensive knife. Would he sell it? The answer was the same, as always, "If I sell it to you, where would I get another one?" I kept pushing for a price, and he decided that he might let it go for \$125.00, far more than I could come up with. In 1968 you could buy some really good knives for \$15.00 or \$20.00, so this was a major purchase. (Keep in mind that \$3,000.00 would buy a really good car back then.) I went home to my new bride and talked incessantly about the Ames knife. After all, an Ames Rifleman's knife was worth hundreds of dollars, and this was an incredible deal! The old guy obviously didn't know what he had. We raided our savings account for the \$125.00, and I made the trip back to buy the knife. A week later I went to a local gun show and was telling a knife dealer there about my fantastic Ames Rifleman's knife. A strange look went across his face; and he said, "You didn't buy that down in a basement out of a wool sock did you?" "Well," I said, "yes I did, why?" "Because it's a fake, I almost got stuck with it myself. Some outfit is selling them in *Shot Gun News*. I've seen a real one, and this is a phony. You better get your money back." I went home to tell my wife I had been cheated, and we needed to go pay my former friend a visit. I felt betrayed, and I was furious when I showed up at his door and he knew it. He steadfastly denied that the knife was a fake and insisted that he wouldn't take it back. After a long and heated session, he finally stood up, got out his wallet and handed me a \$100.00 bill. "But I paid \$125.00, you owe me \$25.00 more," I complained. "Well," he said, "I'm going to give you \$100.00, take it or leave it! The \$25.00 is your fee for the best lesson you'll ever get in this business. You better learn what you're doing before you go trying to pull a fast one on an old man who's selling something too cheap." I stuck the hundred in my pocket, and we drove off. To this day I haven't forgotten what I call Lesson #1. "Know what you're doing before you start throwing money around."

I called the knife collector/dealer from the gun show, with the news that I had gotten almost all of my money back; and we agreed that I had been lucky. He invited me up to look at his knives, and we had a nice visit. He was nearly seventy years old and had been collecting all his life, and I was twenty-six and just starting out. His two sons weren't interested in knife collecting; but I was, and he was willing to show me the ropes. I asked what advice he could give me, and this is what he said, "I never lost money on any book I ever bought. If I learned just one thing, I would know that much more than the next guy." He continued, "My advice is to buy a lot of books and study them, learn everything you can. It will pay off." He was right; I've bought knives that have only been pictured in one book or magazine article, ever! If you don't have that book or magazine, you're operating at a disadvantage. Many are the times I've piled books and magazines on the floor, looking for information on one specific knife. When I found what I was looking for, I could make an informed decision, something that many others couldn't do. "Knowledge is power" as they say, and frankly I'm amazed at the collectors who don't see the need to buy

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## December Show

We have had as of this time a few requests for tables for the December 9 Mini/Winter Show. We would like to encourage an abundance of registrations. So get your \$40.00 mailed in as soon as possible and declare, "I will be there as a participant." We want to show our support for the worthwhile "Toys-4-Tots" program, so you are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Mini Show. **Bryan Christensen** is spearheading this event once again. Table-holders, members and visitors can bring toys.

The December Mini Show is slated for December 09, 2017. Hours are 7:00 to 8:00AM set up and do things that go cut until 4:00PM. 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; just send in your request with the \$40.00 to have a table. You can include it with your table application form (included in this issue) for the 2018 April Show or include it with your membership for 2018. Remember that our membership is calendar year.

## Leather

In 2001 and in 2009 at the Oregon Knife Show, we gave out souvenirs of deer hides that would remove fingerprints from knives. Fingerprints on shiny metal objects can be a problem to remove. A cotton or fabric cloth tends to spread the oils left by a fingerprint. A deer or elk hide removes the oil and restores the shine once again. Back then cell phones were not the rage they are today. Dear elayne reminded me the other day that these hides could remove fingerprints from smart phones. So with one of these hides in hand, I wiped across the screen and the fingerprints disappeared. Gone for me today is the breathing on the screen and quickly wiping the screen with my handkerchief. I can't hide the fact that hides remove incriminating fingerprints.

## Choil....

For months at our OKCA meetings, the term choil has been a pervasive conversation. In our meetings if someone sezs "choil,"

there are audible groans. I think that **Merle Spencer's** article can be the ultimate definition and explanation of this word. And the end it is hoped. So I propose that during our dinner meetings if someone sezs choil they have to pay a dollar penalty. I figure that our treasury will blossom to overfull.

## Down turn in Shows....

We have noted a decreased attendance (table-holders and visitors) at gun and knife shows countrywide. 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. We have flyers for the December Mini/ Winter Show as well as the April Show. Please help distribute flyers in your local area. Call or email and they will be there.

## Shipping Knives to the April Show

We have for years used the Barons Den Shooting range as a depository for those who ship their knives to the April Show. The Barons Den closed their doors, so an alternate plan is in the works. That plan has been put into concrete. **The GunRunner Gun Store** is located seven miles north of the airport and an easy find. The store has a security system and will receive and send your packages. More information to follow.

## 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.

## Articles this month....

are from **B.K. Brooks, Wendell Lewis, John Priest, Merle Spencer, Little Orphan Annie, Auggie Schmirtz and Garry Zalesky**. There is some great reading this month which is truly educational. I must remind our membership that all our *Knewsletters* are available on line, and 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.

## 2018 Handmade Knife Competition

In the past we have had comments that the guidelines for the custom competition at the April Show were not published early enough for the makers. So this November



issue will have those rules and guidelines so that if you want to enter--now is the time to start that project. Be aware that there are additional categories this year that will be open for members in addition to table-holder members.

## Custom Knife Awards for 2018

Gene Martin designed the blank for the *kukri* knife that will be customized and completed by knifemakers who volunteered to do this project. The following have accepted the 1095 steel blank: **Chuck Cook, 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. These knives will be awarded to the display table-holders for their displays at the the 2018 Show.

## 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 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 November 15, 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.

# The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

The October meeting was held October 18 at the Sizzler Restaurant. There were 24 present.

We have been contacted by Lane Events Center to assure us that the strike of the Lane County employees should not impact us. Luckily they will have a few months to reconcile before our event in December. (The strike has ended and hopefully all should be as before. We have been very spoiled by them. Special treatment by them has always been appreciated, and we try to make them aware that we are aware of the special handling we receive.)

The OKCA 2018 Club knife is still in the negotiating stage. **Roy Humenick** deserves especial thanks for his efforts and frustrations on this project. We have a possible but need pricing so we can start the advertising cycle. We have explained that it is helpful, and even necessary, for us to advertise as early as possible. In years past, we have had a prototype available for the December Show. Ain't happening again this year. However our sales of the Great Eastern knives have been very successful.

## American Gravity Knives

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down. The handle is of brass construction and on one side in the middle is a flexible metal plate which controls the latching device, with a patent date of May 22, 1877 which led us to the patent number 191,063 which matched its construction. The other side of the handle says Patent Slide molded into the brass handle. The *Hingham Agricultural and Horticultural Society* booklet dated 1879 on page 32 gives an award (one whole dollar) to the Patent Slide Knife Company for their design for pocket knives.

The patent description notes in part: "When the blade is within its handle or sheath, and it is desired for use, it is simply necessary to press the thumb against the spring, at which place it is thus depressed, while its ends are both forced away from contact with the sheath or holder, and the rear projection. "01" is caused to leave the hole "a", in the heel of the blade, when, by a quick movement of the hand

**Lisa McCranie** will coordinate our facilitators for the 2018 Show.

We have received commitments from some of our members for tables for the December 9 Winter/Mini Show. We are hopeful that more individuals will be encouraged to attend as table-holders. Forward payment for your table (\$40.00), no application is required. Note on the payment "December Show." Please remember the Toys-4-Tots program which is coordinated by **Bryan Christensen**. A new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl.

The hours for our December Winter/Mini Show are 7:00AM setup, 8:00AM general public and 4:00PM close. We usually have about 80 tables of knives. Come join us. An opportunity to pay for 2018 dues and the April Show table. The **last date** for reservation of your 2017 table for 2018 is **December 15**.

If you call us at (541) 484-5564 and reach the answering machine, pretty please leave a message. Cross my 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 answers 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 *Knewsletter* 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 *Knewsletter*.

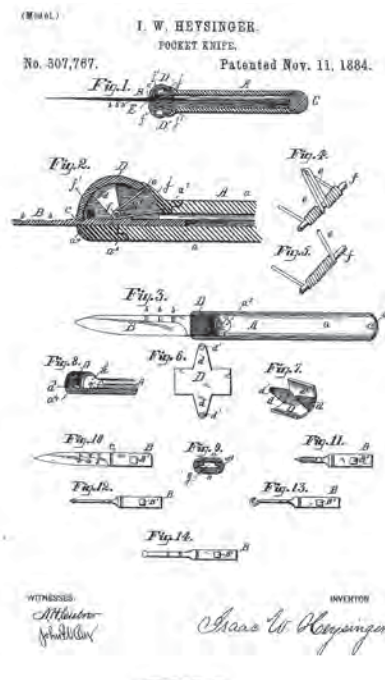
See you at the meeting, November 15, 2017, at the Sizzler Restaurant, Gateway Blvd, Eugene/Springfield OR. 🐾



to the right, the blade is thrown out till its shoulder "9" comes against the shoulder "10" on the inside of the open end of the sheath or handle, after which the pressure of the thumb is removed, and the front projection "d" enters the hole a of the blade, keeping it securely in its open position. When the blade is out, and it is desired to return it within its sheath, pressure is applied by the thumb, as before described, which causes the front projection "d" to be withdrawn from the hole "a", when, by inclining the point of the blade upward, it is free to slide by its own gravity back into its sheath or holder, where it is locked

and prevented from sliding out by the rear projection "d" on the removal of the pressure of the thumb from the spring-catch. Our invention is particularly useful to seafaring men in positions aloft, where one hand is employed in holding fast to prevent falling, as a knife may in such positions be conveniently opened and closed with one hand only."

These three American Gravity knives make an unusual collection showing innovative early American designs that would make any American knife collector happy.



# To Choil or Not...

Merle Spencer

While hand sanding a knife blade using 320 grit wet or dry sandpaper as a start, I noticed a discrepancy where the plunge cut meets the original thickness of the blade blank.



This would be in the choil area, if indeed this blade had a choil – Oh, there's that word again – choil! For the past dozen years I have been reluctant to use that word, and I have almost avoided it altogether. But now I can feel free to say it –“choil, choil, choil...,” and I'll tell you why.

Back in December, 2005 my article “The End of the Edge” appeared in the December *Knewsletter* on page 8. I was trying to find out why some knife edges were sharp all the way back to “the place where the edge stops” and meets original thickness of the blade blank; and others were not sharp as much as 1/4” from “the place where the edge ends.” Do you see where it might be cumbersome not to have a name for such a place?



Oh, don't worry, I had done my research. The word “choil” had come up, but there was so much disagreement at the time - several articles in knife magazines, unclear definitions on line and varying opinions from knifemakers - that I had decided to avoid the word altogether. Yes, there was quite a bit of agreement when the sharp edge actually ended in a notch, or an angle, or an arc etc.

But there was no name to define that place where sharp part flowed right into the rest of blade.

I had never ground blades, preferring to do the enhancing only, so the term “plunge cut” had not yet become a part of my vocabulary. “Plunge cut” was not a label in knife nomenclature gathered in my research.

So, I believe I have gotten by without using the word until just a few months ago. For several years a friend customarily has asked, “Is that one for me?” whenever I showed him a new knife I was working on. His is the blade I was hand sanding.

As the wet sandpaper began to take away the dull color left by the heat treating, a little discrepancy appeared in the “choil area” (I'm adding 'area', since my most recent research still has not been

firecracker sure) just at the juncture of one plunge cut and the edge. (I added “plunge cut” to my vocabulary just a couple years ago when we were buying the blade for the glass-handled knife.) The vertical line of the cut went off south, as it were, just an 1/8” before it reached the edge.

I had bought this blade from Gene Martin, knifemaker, at the OKCA Show. Blades he had ground were always fine in other knives I had completed. Well, it was only a few weeks till the Midwinter Show, so I decided to take it to him then and see what could be done.

On the day of the Show, I went to Gene's usual table. Nobody was there. Early the next week, I called him and found that a health problem had prevented him from coming to the Show.

As soon as I described the situation at “the place where the edge stops and meets the original thickness of the blade blank,” he said to send it to him; and he would re-grind it.

So, I sent the blade to him, and in just a few days it came back to me with the choil area looking just as good as I have ever seen. Now here's a guy that stands behind his work.

I am pleased to know Gene and his wife, Sally as my friends.

During the next few months I didn't spend much time on the blade. It's cold in my shop in winter. I did manage, however, to hand-sand the blade to 600 grit (mirror smooth), and rivet brass bolsters on it by late spring. The fellow who will receive this knife works in the complex where I live, so he gets frequent progress reports.

During the winter I did some more research on “choil.” I thought maybe after a dozen years there might be new information as to the definition. Not much.

I found lots of knife nomenclature. I found diagrams and pictures with parts or areas of various knives labeled. I found close to twenty names for places on knives between the front end and the back end.

“Choil” appeared often. A choil can be a finger cut-out between the edge of the blade and the guard or bolster. A finger cut-out behind the guard can be called a choil. A little notch or arc at the end of the edge has long been called a choil. It seems that any shape cut-out can be a choil.

Some knife nomenclature material answer I found that seems generally acceptable is that the choil is the area between the cutting edge and guard. If it has a cut-out for a finger, it is a finger choil. If it has a small notch at the end of the edge, it is a sharpening choil.

I didn't find a word for the place in question when there is no cut-out, so I will still use “choil area.” Still doesn't name the exact spot, does it?

As I write these last paragraphs, I am enjoying the completion of my 90th trip around the sun; riding on this good, old earth, and I'm still working on knives. My friend's knife is nearly done.

Life is good. 🐱

## Competition at the April Show

The standard handmade knife competition and rules are included in this *Knewsletter*. This is to give each maker a head start on creating that special knife to enter in the competition in April. The theme of the Show is *kukri* knives. As is the case with the regular competition, all knives submitted must be presented by the maker or owner. Submittal times are on Friday between

1:00PM and 2:00PM. Only one knife per owner/maker category. If a category does not have at least three entries, that category will be eliminated for awards.

First there will be a category for best handmade *kukri* knife of Show. This will be open to all members. The knife must have been made after April 15, 2017.

In addition the *kukri* knife blanks which have been enhanced by the knifemakers and which will be used for display awards will be judged.

These Show theme categories should be a bacterious fun event and will be a once only event. The same overall rules apply here as in the regular handmade competition.



# 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](mailto: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) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 43<sup>RD</sup> 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](http://www.oregonknifeclub.org)

# What Would You Take?

Wendell Lewis

I've been accumulating "stuff" for years. All kinds of "stuff." My true passion is knives, but I tend to buy things that I find interesting as well. Old tools, glassware, books and documents, etc. My collection, if you will, is very eclectic.

A few evenings ago, my wife Linda and I were sitting down for supper; and she asked me a question that was totally untypical of something that I would expect from her. She asked, "If there was an emergency and we had to leave right now, what three things would you take from your collection?"

I'm sure that the question was driven by all of the recent natural disasters that we could all fall victim to, given a bad twist of fate. In that context, what I would normally view as a silly, inane question suddenly became serious, and it gave me pause. What WOULD I take?

No time to load up boxes. No time to hash over anything. Just make a quick grab and run. Knowing that there is a high likelihood that all else will be gone. It's a very sobering thought, to say the least.

All of my books and research material. Hundreds of knives, ranging from tiny little quill knives to military and hunting knives to machetes. All of the other things that I have accumulated over the years. No easy answer.

Not knowing where we would land after such a calamity, I decided that a survival strategy would seem to be the common sense thing to do. Provide shelter and fire. I really started looking at what I had. All had to be easy to carry. Nothing big and cumbersome. Everything had to have utility.

## *The Lessons continued from page 2*

books. To them I should probably say "Thank you," especially when they're bidding against me on eBay. When I started collecting in the late '60's, *American Knives* was our only resource but today there are a wide variety of books available. A wise person will take advantage when the knowledge is so readily at hand. Accumulating a large library of reference books and magazines was Lesson #2.

Going to knife shows is very important also. While the smaller, local gun shows may be more convenient, attending a "real" knife show is a treat you won't forget, even if it's far away. Nothing beats the knowledge gained by seeing really good knives, the kind you've been reading about in your books. So, go to the bigger shows and join knife clubs too. Pick up the knives, hold them in your hand, ask questions and study them wherever they can be found. We'll call this Lesson #3.

By now, everybody has heard of eBay, a place to buy and sell nearly anything. If you search for knives on eBay you'll find a virtual knife show that's open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can bid from the boondocks, from a big city or a foreign country, it makes no difference; because all you need is a computer with an Internet connection. The sellers may, or may not, know what they have. It might be real, or it might not; but one thing is sure, they will never meet you face to face. Because of that, some sellers are more than happy to offer fakes in an effort to separate you from your money. So we will remind you that eBay could be a goldmine

It boiled down to these items. A Pro-Tech Walter Brend Model #1 fighting knife. A big knife. Full tang with micarta scales. An indestructible work horse. It



comes in a well made ballistic cloth sheath that has a pouch that can hold a large Leatherman multi-tool. It also has lots of paracord attached.

Next is a Poll Tomahawk that I purchased from Mark McCoun.



Another real utilitarian user.

Well made. Forged 4140 chrome moly steel at 56 Rc. A hickory handle. A hatchet and hammer.

At the end of the day, Linda's question has made me realize that we aren't prepared at all. I don't intend to go off the deep end with "prepper preparedness" but do intend on making some well thought out choices and putting a small collection of things together in a bag that I can grab at a moments notice. All in one place; all in one grab. A contractor's tool bag would serve the purpose nicely.

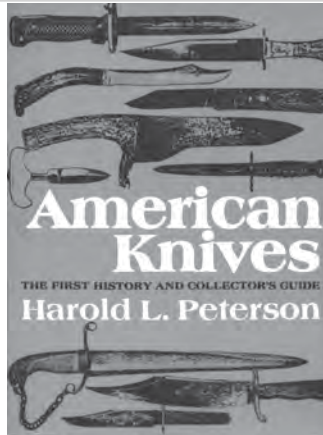
Hopefully this is a scenario that none of us will never have to deal with. But given the recent disasters that have occurred, it's better to be prepared and not complacent. 🗡️

## *The Lessons continued from page 2*

books. To them I should probably say "Thank you," especially when they're bidding against me on eBay. When I started collecting in the late '60's, *American Knives* was our only resource but today there are a wide variety of books available. A wise person will take advantage when the knowledge is so readily at hand. Accumulating a large library of reference books and magazines was Lesson #2.

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or a landmine, and the difference is your ability to separate the good from the bad. We'll call this lesson #4

You can learn a lot by just watching. We were set up at a show long ago, and a white-haired collector came by with his wife to look at our knives. There was one that he really liked, but he didn't want to pay our price and we wouldn't sell for any less. He made one last offer and left the table muttering that we were making a big mistake. We watched him leave, and soon he was looking through more knives five tables from us. We barely noticed that his wife had come back and now was asking the

price of the knife again. We repeated the original price along with a comment that we wouldn't sell for any less. She quietly took out her checkbook and wrote us a check then slipped the knife into her purse. Then she looked up and said, "You know, I've been married to him over fifty years, and I know exactly what's going to happen. Seventy miles from here he'll suddenly cuss and say, "I should have bought that darn knife!" Well, I'm going to reach into my purse and hand it to him!" Sometimes the desire to "win" causes us to throw logic out the window. If this is something really rare or in exceptional condition, you may never have another opportunity to buy one again. In that case, swallow your pride and pay the money! E.C. Simmons said it best in his *Keen Kutter* catalogs when he said, "The recollection of quality remains long after price is forgotten." Buy it now, you'll be happy later. We'll call this lesson #5. 🗡️

# About The Handmade Knife Judging

John Priest

The following rules are in effect for the 2018 Oregon Knife Show Handmade Knife Competition.

The categories for the custom knife competition are :

**ART KNIFE - BOWIE KNIFE - DAMASCUS - FIGHTING KNIFE - FOLDING KNIFE - HAND FORGED - HUNTER/UTILITY - KUKRI - MINIATURE - SCRIMSHAW - NEW MAKER**

- 1) Knives can be submitted and accepted only from table-holders at the 2018 OKCA Show. The exceptions are the New Maker and the Kukri category which can be entered by any OKCA member. A "New Maker" is one who has never entered any competition, anywhere, ever.
- 2) The maker must personally submit the knife and identify himself as the maker of the submitted knife.
- 3) The Oregon Knife Collectors shall not be held liable in any way for the submitted knife after it has been turned over to the Oregon Knife Collectors Association.
- 4) If there is a question by the judges as to the class/division/category into which the knife is submitted for judging, that knife may be ineligible for that class/division/category. The judges, at their discretion, may change that knife to a more suitable category.
- 5) The submitted knife must have been made after April 15, 2017 and never previously received an award to be eligible for competition, .
- 6) Knives submitted will have their marks covered and will be numbered. Cover material will be provided if you do not have any. **You will be asked to cover your mark on your own knife. This must be done before you submit it for judging.**
- 7) Awards will be announced Friday afternoon about 5:00PM. Winners knives will be kept for display until 6:00PM. All other knives will be returned after judging is completed. The winners will also be announced at the Saturday Nite Awards Presentation.
- 8) The submitted knives must be 88% made by the knifemaker who submits the knife for judging. Disclosure of the other 12% must be noted.
- 9) Damascus knives can be placed in any category, except hand forged. Hand forged knives can be placed in any category, except Damascus. A knife can only be entered into one category.
- 10) There must be at least three knives, or submittals, in a category before that category will be eligible for an award.



- 11) A new category this year will be Scrimshaw. The artwork must be on a knife. It must be submitted by the scrimshander and be original artwork. The knife does not need to have been made by the scrimshander.
- 12) Knives for the **Custom Knife Competition** will be accepted in **Meeting Room #3** during the hours of **1:00PM to 2:00PM Friday - April 06, 2018**. The cut off time will be 2:00 sharp if you get the point.

Any violation of these rules will make the knife and the maker ineligible for awards. Any infraction identified after the awarding will result in forfeiture of the award. It will be the responsibility of the knifemaker to abide by these rules. The Show Chairman shall be the absolute decision maker on any conflicts or questions should it become necessary.

## FAQ

### Why do I have to cover my logo?

(Answer) To keep the judging fair and not distract the judges and also to have somewhere to put the contest number. We realize that some makers have a very distinctive style, but this is the most equitable way we have found.

### How many knives can I enter?

(Answer) One per category.

### Who are the judges?

(Answer) We aren't telling. It's hard enough to get people to leave their table for an hour or so on Friday without making them justify their decisions. I will say that we have three judges: one local, one a maker and one a collector. They are all highly qualified, and we couldn't have the contest without them.

### What time do I enter?

(Answer) 1:00PM - 2:00PM on Friday, April 06, 2018.

### What time do I get my knife back?

(Answer) After the judging is completed, there will be an announcement. We ask that you pick them up as soon as possible. The only exception: If you win, then we will keep them long enough to take pictures and display them.

### I'm undecided about which category to enter.

(Answer) The judges can change the knife to another category if, in their opinion, it's better suited to a different category.

### What about disclosure?

(Answer) We are judging knives that were carried from concept through finished product by one person. We realize that this isn't always possible, but we also expect you to tell us what you did not do to the knife. We do not want a knife made by committee.

### What about cheating?

(Answer) We work on the honor system. If you cheat, your fellow makers will know; and you will know.

In the event of a question not answered, the Show Chairman will be the last word. ↘





# 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 onion skins) 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.

**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](http://www.fitzwillies.com) or e-mail to: [sdirgo@hotmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 [zacbuchananknives@gmail.com](mailto:zacbuchananknives@gmail.com) for a quote.

**Wanted:** Remington scout/utility knife with pioneer boys or highlander boys shield or heroism shield. Email [jpitt306@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**Selling:** Antique Japanese Samurai & WWII Swords. Swords for the first time buyer to the experienced collector. Also--buying collections, estates and individual swords. [www.StCroixBlades.com](http://www.StCroixBlades.com). Matthew Brice. (715)557-1688 [mbrice@stcroixblades.com](mailto:mbrice@stcroixblades.com).

**Buying Knife Collections:** Pocketknives, military knives, hunting knives. Antique/modern. All brands, all makers. No collection too large or too small. [www.StCroixBlades.com](http://www.StCroixBlades.com). Matthew Brice, buyer. (715)557-1688 [mbrice@stcroixblades.com](mailto:mbrice@stcroixblades.com).

**Wanted:** Benchmade/Spyderco Collections. [info@stcroixblades.com](mailto:info@stcroixblades.com), 715-557-1688

**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](http://www.nifeboy.com) (209)295-5568.

**Wanted:** 2016 Great Eastern Oregon Camp knife. Call (541)285-1894.

**Looking for** 1902 US Saber marked "1st. Lt. Robert M. Porter". Please contact Don Hanham at [dwhanham@gmail.com](mailto: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. 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](mailto:loden@dka-online.com) or call (765) 244-0614 8AM-8PM EST.

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

**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.

**Blades and knifemaker supplies.** All blades are ground by Gene Martin. I also do custom grinding. See at [www.customknife.com](http://www.customknife.com), contact Gene at [bladesmith@customknife.com](mailto: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](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).

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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

**Knewsletter** 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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Layout and printing by instaprint -  
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Phone (541)686-8591



## The Knewsletter

Oregon Knife Collectors Association  
PO Box 2091  
Eugene, OR 97402



## December 9 Winter/Mini Show

The hours for our December Winter/Mini Show are 7:00AM setup, 8:00AM general public and 4:00PM close.

We usually have about 80 tables of knives.

Come join us.

An opportunity to pay for 2018 dues and the April Show table.

The **last date** for reservation of your 2017 table for 2018 is **December 15**.

Please remember the Toys-4-Tots program which is coordinated by **Bryan Christensen**. A new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl.

