



OKCA 44th Annual • April 13-14

KNIFE SHOW

Lane Events Center EXHIBIT HALL • Eugene, Oregon

April 2019

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

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE OKCA 44th ANNUAL KNIFE SHOW & SALE

April 13-14 * Lane Events Center & Fairgrounds, Eugene, Oregon

In the super large EXHIBIT HALL. Now 371 All Cutlery Tables!



WELCOME to the Oregon Knife Collectors Association Special Show *Newsletter*. On Saturday, April 13, and Sunday, April 14, we want to welcome you and your friends and family to the famous and spectacular OREGON KNIFE SHOW & SALE. Now the Largest Global Organizational Knife Show east and west of the Mississippi River. The OREGON KNIFE SHOW happens just once a year at the Lane Events Center EXHIBIT HALL, 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene, Oregon. April 13 - 14. Saturday 8:00AM - 5:00PM. Sunday 9:00AM - 3:00PM. Two day admission \$6.00. Keep your ticket stub for reentry both days.

At the Show don't miss the special live demonstrations on Saturday. This year we have: Blade Forging, Flint Knapping, Kitchen Cutlery Seminar, Martial Arts, Scrimshaw, Self Defense, Sharpening Knives, Sword Fighting Demonstrations and Bowie knife events.

Don't miss the FREE knife identification and appraisal by **Tommy Clark** from Marion VA (Table N01) - **Mark Zalesky** from Knoxville TN (Table N02) and **Mike Silvey**, military knives, from Cameron Park CA (Table J14).

When you arrive sign up for a chance to win a special door prize. We will have a Silent Auction Saturday

only. Just like eBay, but real and live. Anyone can enter to bid in the Silent Auction. See the display cases at the Club Table to make a bid on some extra special knives .

Along the side walls, we will have 20 MUSEUM QUALITY KNIFE AND CUTLERY COLLECTIONS ON DISPLAY for your enjoyment and education, in addition to our hundreds of tables of hand-made, factory and antique knives for sale. Now 371 tables! When you arrive you can get lots more information about the Oregon Knife Show and about the Oregon Knife Collectors Association (OKCA) at the Club Table, to the left of the entrance. 🗑️

COME JOIN US AT THIS 44th ONCE A YEAR KNIFE/CUTLERY SHOW!!!

The Bowie Knife

- A (Very!) Brief Introduction

Mark Zalesky

This April, the Oregon Knife Show hosts the annual meeting of the Antique Bowie Knife Association. This is no everyday occurrence, and I hope that the ABKA'ers will enjoy the experience as much as I think the OKCA'ers will.

For those who might be a little rusty on things "bowie," the following short preface might be of some use. [I feel a bit like it's an attempt to write the history of Western civilization in 500 words or less, but we'll give it a go anyway!]

The bowie knife has been called "America's Knife" – a lofty title, but one well earned. It helped to open the Western frontier, to free Texas from Mexico, to name "bloody Kansas," and armed brother against brother in this nation's Civil War. And while many have claimed that it also died in that conflict, it's hard to deny that the favored knives in the more lawless sections of California and the far west were anything but further evolutions of the bowie. From its birth to the present day, surely no American knife has captured more imaginations.

The bowie knife craze was sparked by a duel gone wrong on a Mississippi River sandbar just above Natchez, Mississippi, on Wednesday, September 19, 1827. After the duel's principals fired the usual two exchanges without effect and began to leave the field on friendly terms, some of the "seconds" declared the affair unsettled, and commenced an attack resulting in what was called a "melee or rough fight." Among those involved was a man by the name of James Bowie who, despite being shot in the lung and thigh and suffering seven wounds from sword canes, was able to kill his primary aggressor using what the press described as "a large butcher knife." Bowie survived, and newspaper accounts of these events captured the public's imagination, prompting law abiding – and otherwise – citizens across the country to seek out local cutlers and merchants for "a knife like Bowie's," or more simply, a "bowie knife."

This instant surge in popularity is likely one of the reasons that there are so many different forms of bowie knives, and one of the hindrances to researchers seeking an understanding of early bowies. It's easy for us to forget that practical photography did not exist in 1827, and that printed illustrations were infrequently used and often inaccurate. Coupled with the extremely vague descriptions of the bowie in early accounts, it's no wonder that today's historians don't really know what James Bowie's knife looked like – the only people that knew in 1827 were those who had seen it firsthand!

So, what did the early bowie knives look like? Poll collectors and historians in the know, and you'll find three forms that seem to stand out as the earliest popular styles: the "coffin-handle" bowies, the "dogbone" handle bowies, and the Searles style, all three of which seem to have originated in the Deep South – Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.



Coffin-handle Bowie

- "Coffin-handle" bowies have handles that narrow in the middle, and an end with angled corners vaguely resembling a coffin in shape. The earliest "coffin hilt" bowies were made without guards, though crossguards to protect the hand from sliding up the sharp blade soon appeared. Controversy notwithstanding, recent research has suggested that some of the earliest examples of this style may have originated in southern Arkansas.



Dogbone Style Bowie

- The "dogbone" style also draws its name from the shape of the handle, which resembles half of a large leg bone, bulbous on the end. None of the early examples of this style have been found with a maker's mark, but they are thought to have originated in Mississippi or Louisiana.



Searless Style Bowie

- Finally, the Searles or straight-back style is named after gunsmith/cutler Daniel Searles, whose shop in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, turned out several impressive bowies with wide, straight backed blades and handles generally resembling the mediterranean dirk in form. At least one of these knives was presented by James Bowie's brother, Rezin; and another appears to have been Rezin's personal knife. A third knife of similar form was also presented by Rezin Bowie to a family friend, but it was made by the famous Philadelphia cutler Henry Schively. A fourth, similar in form but its maker unknown, is said to have been presented by James Bowie to the actor Edwin Forrest, and will in fact be on display at this year's Show. These knives with connections to the Bowie family lend additional significance to this form.

It's my belief that these three are the earliest styles that achieved popularity, and that the tremendous variety of forms that followed can be traced to them. Others that soon appeared on the scene included the "waisted" handle types of makers like Philadelphia's English & Hubers, perhaps a modification of the coffin hilt style; and the best known style of the aforementioned Henry Schively, which resembles nothing so much as a large butcher knife with a guard added – but its straight backed blade likely owes something to the Searles type.

At first, these knives were crafted by the fine cutlers, gunsmiths, and surgical instrument makers – the "custom knifemakers" of the day, as well as by the tool and industrial knifemakers whose goods were more practical than beautiful. Far outproducing all of these, though, were the factories of Sheffield, England, where production steps were divided among specialized workers, and the quality ranged anywhere from the very finest to fine looking goods at cheap prices. Though the knives were

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What Can U Expect To See At A Knife Show?

A knife is man's earliest tool. It has evolved from a simple tool to a symbol for royalty and to an art form. It is used daily in all facets of our lives and has also become a protector of freedoms in our battles. The knife can be made of steel but also stone, bronze, ceramic or other exotic materials.



The knife at our Show takes on a new definition under the umbrella of "anything that goes cut." It can mean a butter knife, a corkscrew, a hat pin, a hunting knife, a kitchen knife, a military knife, a pocketknife, scissors, a sword, or an art form.

Our once-a-year gathering brings in cutlery enthusiasts from around the world; and, with much excitement, we now rightfully claim to be the largest organizational event like this in the world. All parts of the globe are represented at our Show with visitors from Europe, Africa, Asia and North America. You will also be hard pressed to find a state in our country that is not represented either by a table-holder or a visitor. Interest in this cutlery world runs from the historical to the artistic. And in this realm you will see knifemakers display their products. You will also see suppliers of products that are used to make up the knives. This can be leather for sheaths, handle materials that are man made or natural, tools to make knives and art forms that are specialized to enhance the knife with exotic material like gold and silver. The knife also presents itself to the artist who will use their talents for scrimshaw and engraving to make knives with artful expression.

As in all collecting circles there are specialists that home in on special arenas of a subject. See the displays that adorn the walls on the perimeter of the room. These are truly museum quality displays. Enjoy and learn from them.

On Saturday we have seminars and demonstrations that will show the making of stone knives, scrimshaw, culturally unique knives, skills at knife handling and the making of knives through forging. We will have it all at this year's spectacular 371 table all knife show.

As you wander the aisles of our Show, you can stop at any of the custom maker's tables and examine their skill and craft. You can stop at the tables where you will find knife collectors selling their knives and find out why that knife in your tackle box or the one in the drawer could be just like the one offered for \$100.00. Further exploring will find many commercial knives for sale that are



from Al Mar, Buck, Case, Coast Cutlery, Gerber, Great Eastern, Kershaw, Queen, Randall, Ruana, Spyderco and numerous other companies. You will also see the latest knives being offered with new and innovative patterns and opening mechanisms.

Don't forget to bring grandma's or grandpa's old knife or the one you have no idea about and have it appraised for free at our Show. You never know what that knife you use to dig weeds might be worth. It might even stop you from



digging weeds with it, as has happened in some cases. Or in some cases you might want to even upgrade your weed digger and attack those weeds with a little class.

This organization has encouraged donations which are used for two purposes. We have door prize drawings, and some pretty spiffy knives are given to lucky winners. We will also have our Silent Auction on Saturday. These are the extra special knives that are donated to help fund our event and are sometimes one-of-a-kind knives or special collector's knives. Watch this auction carefully and get involved. It is located at the Club Table, and anyone can get in on the bidding.

The idea for the Oregon Knife Show evolved some 40 plus years ago. The idea then was the same as it is today. This is a fun Show. It is designed to be educational, informative and a happy-face place. It is designed to show off the skills and craftsmanship that are so much a part of the "World that goes cut." It is a once-a-year museum. It is a once-a-year art show. It is a once-a-year show for people to share interests and get to see friends. We do not specialize in interest groups that are lumped together but instead randomly have all types of knife related merchandise on tables scattered throughout the building.

And just like Disneyland, all the food here has no calories.

If yours is an interest in pointy things or "things that go cut"..... Come join us.... 🗡️

Demonstrations & Educational Seminars At The Show

The demonstrations on Saturday will feature various facets of the cutlery world. The seminars or demonstrations will vary from the educational to the entertaining.

Edge-U-Cation On Kitchen Cutlery - Joshua Hill. Did you ever wonder about the proper use of those knives in your kitchen? Joshua will teach you about kitchen cutlery and the correct knife for the correct job. There is nothing to sell here except for an education on something everyone has in their home. If there is a knife you have in the kitchen and you have curiosity about its form and function, bring it to Joshua. **9:00AM.** (Table R01)

What Is A Bowie Knife? - Josh Phillips - Josh will offer an explanation of what a Bowie knife is all about. There are numerous facets to these knives based on use, artistic endeavor and collect-ability. After this over view, Josh will take you on a walking tour of the Show and present examples from the displays and collections of Bowie Knives. **10:00 AM** (Table M02)

Sharpening Of Knives - Lynn Moore. Lynn is passionate about knives. To be passionate about something is to know it; and Lynn will share his sharpening skills with those who actually want to cut with their knives. When you are done with this seminar, you will understand how to sharpen a knife and what sharp is all about. **11:00AM.** (Table O13)

Forging A Knife - Martin Brandt. The actual forging “may involve” basic forging, making an all steel knife and using the anvil. “May involve” means anything can happen. It doesn’t get better than this as far as demonstrating this art form. Entry to this demonstration is through the doors at the southeast corner of the building. Starts at **12:00 NOON** (Table N14)



Martial Arts. Since this is a knife show, you will see uses of knife manipulation in this martial arts demonstration. **12:00 NOON**

Bowie Knife Show-N-Tell - The theme of this year’s Show is the Bowie knife. This hour is devoted to a Show-N-Tell by our members who will present a Bowie knife they have and explain why it is interesting and important. The public should get a delightful education on what makes a Bowie knife. Our OKCA members are encouraged to check in with B. K. Brooks at table N04 to get in line for this **1:00PM presentation.** This gathering will take place in meeting room #3.

Non Lethal Response With An Edged Tool - Bram Frank. A demonstration of the new CRMPT2. It’s a modern yawara or kubaton but shaped like a folding pocketknife. It’s the best non lethal tool in one’s tool box! The demo will



show basic impact and striking with the tool such as how to: disrupt an opponent’s balance, intercept incoming attacks, escape choke holds and grabs, extend/open the tool kinetically, control an opponents limbs. Thumb locks, arm bars and basic take downs will also be covered. Basic rescue capabilities will be shown. **1:00PM.** (Table T04)

Northwest Fencing Academy. This demonstration will cover the swordsmanship and knife system of Armizare, an Italian medieval martial art. The art was originally recorded 600 years ago by a master who was also a professional soldier and swordsman. The demonstration will cover the use of sword, spear, poleaxe, dagger and wrestling. “We will show specific techniques that we train, as well as some sparring; we’ll be on hand to answer questions about the art.” The school is run by fencing master **Sean Hayes** and offers complete training in this fascinating and highly effective European martial art. **2:00PM** (Table X12)

Flint Knapping - Martin Schempp. Martin has been giving presentations at our Show for many years. He started demonstrating at our Show in 1998 at a very young age and has continued each year to share his talents on this 10,000 year old craft. **3:00PM.** (Table T11)



The following can be seen both Saturday and Sunday all day:




Engraving - Jim Jordan- Jim is passionate about his engraving and the enhancement of cutlery with this art form. See Jim as he engraves at Table A15.

Scrimshaw - Bob Hergert. Bob is an artist who enjoys sharing his art skills with interested persons. He will be demonstrating his craft during the whole Show at Table X15.

Scrimshaw - Bruce Lanham - Bruce specializes in scrimshaw on swordfish swords and will be demonstrating his skill during the Show at Table I09.

Photography - George Filgate - George is our official Show photographer and has table X14 throughout the Show. See George for any photographic needs you may have.

There are many people who come from far away but want to start their Sunday at a worship service. We have brought the Chapel to our Knife Show. **8:05AM Sunday morning** meeting room at the south end of the building. Howard Hoskins, Culdesac ID, presides over this Chapel Service. Howard has a table at L04. 

still handmade by skilled craftsmen, this was as close to mass production as the cutlery industry came in that day and age; and Sheffield knives were sold in large numbers.

By the end of the American Civil War, the need for huge, hastily fashioned knives with which to defend oneself had been replaced by improved firearms. Bowie knives grew smaller, generally falling into a more utilitarian role in all but a few areas.

One region that had a real need for last-ditch weapons was wild-and-woolly California. The origins of the California knives are traced to the early 1850s; and, while self-defense knives fell from popularity elsewhere, they remained popular in California late into the 1800s. Nowhere else in the country did such a local style evolve, and the knives of San Francisco's cutlers achieved a level of perfection that even today's finest craftsmen find difficult to achieve.

I hope that this brief article gives you a sense of the bowie knife's evolution. There's much more to explore – “bowie hunters,” dirk knives, push daggers, foreign relatives, and folding knives of proportions both mammoth and moderate – all of which will be represented in displays and sale tables at the big Show. It's not everyday that these knives come out of the safes of the collecting elite to appear before the general public, so be sure to stop and visit the Antique Bowie Knife Association's tables at the big Show, and thank these folks for sharing their prized possessions with the “knife world.”

Author Mark Zalesky edits KNIFE Magazine for a living and collects American-made bowies for fun. He can be reached by email at knifepub@gmail.com. ↘

george filgate
- photography -



Photographs of your work
available during the
OKCA KNIFE SHOW

Visit us at table x14



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Show Schedule

The Oregon Knife Collectors 44th Annual Knife Show will be held at the Lane Events Center EXHIBIT HALL, 796 West 13th Avenue in Eugene Oregon. This is the same location as the 2018 Show, 371 TABLES, the Largest of its kind Knife Show in the World!!!

Friday - April 12 - 10:00AM - 7:00PM:

Exhibitor set up and members-only day. No exceptions. No renewal or new membership accepted on Friday.

Saturday - April 13 - 8:00AM - 5:00PM:

Open to the public. \$6.00 two day admission. 9:30AM new member sign up at the Show. Demonstrations will be held throughout the day.

5:15PM Saturday Night Awards Presentations and recognitions. Meeting Room #4.

Sunday - April 14 - 8:05AM: Chapel service, Meeting Room #4. Chaplain Howard Hoskins conducting.

Sunday - April 14 - 9:00AM - 3:00PM: Open to the public. \$6.00 admission. The Show is open until 3:00PM, and all tables will be full until that time. Admission gate closed at 2:00 PM.

City and County Regulations require that there be:

No smoking within the Exhibit Hall at any time. No firearms allowed.

No alcoholic beverages within the Exhibit Hall. ↘

OKCA Website and FaceBook <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/>

Our website will surprise you with all the aspects of cutlery we have to show. We have included links to our members and the special articles from our *Knewsletter* that are educational and informative. All our *Knewsletters* are posted dating from April, 2001; and that is a pile of reading if you like knives. Questions about our Show can also be found on the FAQ page. The library of all our Club sponsored knives can be found here, in addition to all the people and companies who contribute to our Show; and, when available, we provide links for these contributors. Want to know what the demonstrations will be at our Show? Go to our web page. Do a Google search on “OKCA,” and our site should be the first one on the list. Let your fingers do the walking to our web page. From our website you can find a link to our Facebook page which is Oregon Knife Collectors Association. ↘

OKCA 44th Annual KNIFE SHOW **Cutlery Displays**

April 13 - 14 • Lane Events Center • Eugene, Oregon

“Balisongs a.k.a. Butterfly Knives”

A05 - Ron & Justin Carriveau

Balisong/butterfly knives from production made to rare handmade models, including information and history about these knives.

“Fairbairn Sykes Fighting Knives”

A06 - Ron & Justin Carriveau

The Fairbairn Sykes fighting knives display with info and history on these historical knives.

“Miniature Knives”

A08 - Barbara Kyle

Barb's miniature knife display has a Western theme. This collection keeps growing with new knives, including a gold scimitar with rubies. Miniature knives by Wayne Goddard, Wendell Fox, Craig Morgan, Paul Wardian and many others can be seen if you get up close to this display. In actuality, more effort is required by the knifemaker to create a miniature than a standard size knife.

“Present Day Bowie Knives”

A10 - Fred Coleman

Fred is showing, in his two glass front cabinets, 15 bowies each and a 3 foot tall and a 1 inch tall Bowie, all are modern by different makers with their own designs.

“Antique Sheffield Folding Bowies and Dirks”

A11 - Dave Lennon

This collection showcases Sheffield cutler's skills from the late 1700s to the U.S. Civil War period in producing exquisite self defense cutlery using only simple hand tools to create cutlery masterpieces. On display are rare examples with many one-of-a-kind folding Bowies and folding dirks with horse heads, reclining lions, coffin shaped pommels, Liberty and Union Eagle and other fancy cross guards, bolsters and pommels, extended blades, switchblades, exhibition pieces, etched blades, daggers, pocketknives and other unusual cutlery items in fine to mint condition. Examples include carved, inlaid, pique and plain mother of pearl, ivory and tortoise shell scales; as well as in rosewood, bias cut horn, stag, German silver and bone. Also on display for the first time is a collection of the best 15 folding dirks from the New England Treasure Trove; a sensational find of original, untouched pristine mint folding dirk knives from the W crown R period (1830 - 1837), some in carved pearl and carved ivory, that were discovered in the 1990s and were still attached to the original display board!



“Devices of the Allied Clandestine Services of WWII”

A12 - Bob Lowry

Bob's display is of weapons and devices of the Allied Clandestine Services of WWII, the American OSS and the British SOE. Among those items featured are the truly rare, even in the “collecting world.” Some of these items are not even in collections of either the CIA's museum nor even the London Imperial War Museum.

“Bowie Knives at War”

A13 - Phil Bailey

With this year's theme featuring Bowie knives, Phil brings us an array of Bowie-blade style knives that were carried and used by servicemen during WWII and many of the wars thereafter. Some were issued, many were private-purchase and others were theater-made. All are a fascinating part of our history.



“Kukri Knives You Do Not Want to Collect”

A16 - Ted Fitzwater

Ted's display covers tourist kukris, fake kukris and fraudulent marked kukris.

“Cascara /Chium Bark Harvesting Knives”

A17 - Ted Fitzwater

A country boy will survive Cascara/Chium bark harvesting knives. These are knives that are hand forged and designed for cutting and, in most cases, for peeling Cascara tree bark. Cascara is a substance used in the making of a natural laxative.

“Sunday Knives”

A18 - Dave & MaryAnn Schultz

Pearl and abalone knives are the pretties of the pocketknife world. Also the most fragile. Dave and Mary Ann will be showing the pearl fancy gents' (and ladies') knives from years gone by dating from the middle 1800s to the 1930s.

“The American Bowie”

A19 - Bob Vines

Bob is showing the American Bowie from 1830-1870. You will see several examples of Bowies used by the Confederate Army as well as others from the Civil War and the Alamo.



“Der Hirschfänger”

X01 - Lorraine & Jim Hayden

This is a study collection of German Hunting Swords, 1664-1900, or, how research on one old civilian sword led to a small collection of similar swords with interesting cultural and historical features.

Collecting in Historical Context

X02 - Kirk “Corky” Vyverberg

This display includes poster boards and photos of two separate collections of knives shown in the context of other collectibles from the same period - (1) Early 19th century Fur Trade Era & (2) Mid-Century New England Makers. Highlights of superb condition include The McLean Bowie (Hudson Bay era primitive) with original Bird Quill and Sterling presentation sheath, a rare William Rogers trapper's sheathed cartouche, and Journeyman's fringed bag and powder horn, fighting spike, and knives with a rare Huron Assomption sash. Mid-Century beauties include a NYC Alfred Hunter Bowie paired with a custom 1864 Ballard 44XL c. - one of the only sporting rifles made by this famous Connecticut maker during the Civil War.

San Francisco Knives”

X03 - Bill Berg

This is a display of San Francisco knives. These were made in the 19th century following the gold rush of 1849. The cutlers made use of local materials such as walrus ivory, abalone shell, silver – and, of course, gold. The major producers were Michael Price and Will & Finck. For additional information on these types of knives see *Knifemakers of Old San Francisco* by Bernard Levine.

“The Edwin Forrest Knife – A Gift From James Bowie, And Related Items”

X05 - Dale Larson

In 1827 James Bowie became famous for using a knife to save his life in a rough melee on a sandbar above Natchez MS. Widely published accounts of the event captured the public imagination. “Bowie knives” soon



became popular accoutrements for gentlemen and scoundrels alike and remain among the most desirable knives for collectors today. But what happened to Bowie's knife or knives? Dale Larson's new book, *The Knife Behind the Curtain: The True Story of Actor Edwin Forrest, James Bowie, and the Blade that Binds Them*, (available at his table) lays out the extensive historical documentation that Edwin Forrest's claim that James Bowie gave him the so-called "Forrest Knife" is indeed true. That would make it the only known surviving knife that belonged to James Bowie. Included with the knife in this display is part of the knife's documentation, along with other historical items relating to James Bowie, Rezin Bowie and Edwin Forrest, including a letter signed by James Bowie, period newspaper accounts of the Sandbar Fight, James Bowie's sword, Rezin Bowie's powder horn and highlighted by a full size reproduction of the portrait of Rezin Bowie holding his knife that once hung in the barroom of Bishop's Hotel in New Orleans and was described in a story in the New York Herald in 1836. Other early Bowies, including one attributed to James Black will also be displayed.

"Schatt and Morgan"

X07 - David Gentry

To provide quality cutlery to the growing American market, John W. Schatt and Charles B. Morgan started an importing business in New York City in 1895 calling it the New York Cutlery Co. Shortly thereafter, tariffs put the squeeze on cutlery imports; so in 1896 they moved to Gowanda, N.Y. and manufactured their own cutlery, using S & M NEW YORK, S & M - GOWANDA N. Y. and NEW YORK CUTLERY CO tang stamps until 1902. In late 1902 they incorporated as Schatt and Morgan Cutlery Company; and, in their brand new factory in Titusville PA, they began making some of the best cutlery in America, becoming one of the biggest cutleries until the late 1920s. Sadly the company went downhill and closed its doors by 1929. But they left a quality legacy, represented by this collection of their work from that era!

"Remington Official Boy Scout Knives"

X08 - Jim Pitblado

This collection shows the variations of the Remington Official Boy Scout Knife and its advertising from 1922-1939. It covers over 49 Official Remington Boy Scout utility knives and Official Remington Boy Scout fixed blade knives. Look for the new, rare fixed blade mint knife and sheath and a rare double etched #4233 junior scout knife. The Heroism Knife Section will be upgraded to include two replica heroism knives. In addition, pictures and history of the two Spanish Remington scouts are included; so the viewer is aware that the display is otherwise complete.

"A Salute To Things That Cut"

X09 - Richard Hill

History and man's ingenuity have given us many cutting inventions thereby making our lives easier, better and, for sure, more productive. Before you is a small selection of a collection of items that cut. Accented will be agricultural items, items for defense, harvest, kitchen, butcher and industrial knives.

"Naval Swords, Cutlasses and Dirks"

X10 - Gary Thompson

This display is all about naval swords, cutlasses and dirks from the Age of the Fighting Sail, 1780 - 1840. There will be Revenue Marine swords, 1834 and 1870 patterns, as well as many cutlasses and a large number of naval dirks along with other naval items from that period. This display is a collaboration by Gary Thompson and Kenneth Clifford.

"Buck Factory Custom Knives"

X16 - James Gedlick

This collection of Buck factory Custom knives will feature a wide array of exotic handle materials and styles from large d-guard Bowies to smaller folding knives.

"Buck Special Runs & Collector Club Knives"

X17 - James Gedlick

These Buck display cases will reveal a wide array of examples of some of the different special runs, limited editions, etched blades and Buck Collectors Club only knives.

"Knives I Want to Keep and Why"

X18 - Don Hanham

A mixed collection of personal knives and why I want to keep them. Why most of us have certain knives we want to keep. You all have a few of those stashed away- I just know it!!!! Let's hear your reasons. Family knives - gifts from special friends - custom knives either friends made or quality feel good or "just because" knives - historical knives?

"Fred James' Bowie Knives"

A19 - Mike Adamson

Fred James' Bowie Knives. Before his death in 1986 Fred James was Sheffield's best known Bowie knifemaker. His knives are collected in his own right. This display is the story of their creation and the Richard Washer connection. This display is a collaboration of Mike Adamson with Connie and Chuck Morgan.

"Indonesian & Philippine Swords"

X20 - David Schmiedt

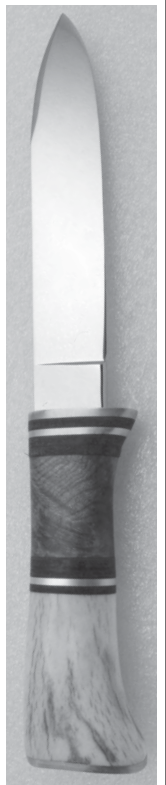
David will exhibit his collection of swords from Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, including Moro swords, Nias Island swords and Borneo headhunter swords. These are some of the finest and most beautifully crafted edged cutlery ever made.



Display Award Knives

Blanks of 1095 steel in the pattern of a Bowie knife were cut and profiled and given to makers to complete. The completed knives will be awarded to the individuals who will be recognized for their displays at the 2019 Oregon Knife Show. The following are the names of those who have graciously finished these blanks to make the award knives:

Chuck Cook - Dundee OR
Theo Eichorn - Grants Pass OR
Michael Faber - Reno NV
Gary Griffin - Bend OR
Cameron House - Salem OR
Jim Jordan - Junction City OR
David Kurt - Molalla OR
Gene Martin - Williams OR
Sterling Radda - Grants Pass OR
Ray Richard - Gresham OR
Blair Todd - Gresham OR
Mike Tyre - Wickenburg AZ
Harlan Whitman - Portland OR
Gene Martin - Event coordinator



The Sunset Route

ibdennis

It was many years ago that I happened to find a particular advertising knife that intrigued me. It was a metal handled knife that read San Francisco - Washington on either end of the handles and in the center had the words "Washington Sunset Route." The tang marking was Bastian Bros. Co., Rochester N.Y. I was vaguely familiar with Bastian Bros.; and because I was sure they were not a pocketknife maker, this knife presented some questions to me.

I didn't know a lot about the knife or the apparent maker, and for many years this lack of information stayed the same. Little by little a few facts drifted in about the who, what and why of this knife; but it seemed like there were never enough solid facts to make good conclusions. The style of the knife was early 1920s, in my crystal ball approach to dating this knife; and the word "Route" suggested air or railroad in nature. Railroad certainly was the more likely correct guess. As far as the apparent maker, Bastian Bros., I did learn that they started business in 1895 and are still in business today. Bastian Bros. has the distinction of making the official stamped metal shields on the pocketknives for the Boy Scouts of America. Bastian Bros.' mainstay of business over the years was the making of shields and also die cast handles for pocketknives.

I would be hard pressed to believe that Bastian Bros. actually made this knife. Like so many other knives of this period, I suspect it was contracted to be made by a cutlery company and the handles were supplied by Bastian Bros. This seems logical as Bastian Bros. might have

had a better sales and marketing approach than did the respective cutlery company. If I were to make a wild guess, I would suspect that Empire might have been the cutlery company.

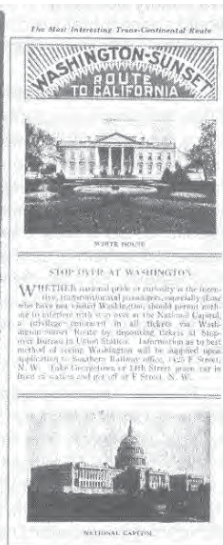
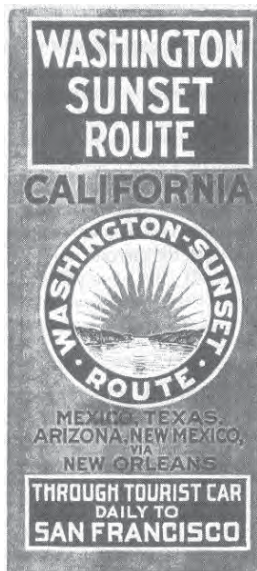
I was convinced that this was a railroad advertising piece, and I was constantly asking and looking for clues to the reason this knife was made. Railroads in the early 1900s were always dreaming up new routes and promotional ideas for the traveler. If someone were to even suggest railroad interests, I was all over them with questions. So it was one day several years later when I happened to hear a gentleman ask for railroad items at a gun show. "Excuse me sir" sez I, "but have you ever heard of the Washington Sunset Route?" Fully expecting the all familiar "Nope," I was shocked to get a positive answer.



of copying. Luck was on my side as I did get the copies, and I could read further about the Sunset Route. My first challenge with any literature is to date it. In small print on the map I discovered the date 9/15. My guesses had been very close. Likewise the route they were depicting was a scenic route which started from San Francisco and skirted the lower edges of Arizona, Texas, via New Orleans and on to Washington D.C. or vice versa. The big advertising promotion of that day had to be the "four nights" from Washington to San Francisco. What a difference time makes when I think of going the same distance in only five hours today. (Obviously I am not still talking train travel.)

As I was reading through the brochure on the Sunset Route, I couldn't help but reflect on the nostalgia evoked by visiting places in our country that are historical and the scenic wonders then as they are now. Washington D.C. still has that wonderful library that it boasted of in 1915, and the scenery going through the Southwest is still prime tourist travel.

Well, the mystery of the Sunset Route knife has been answered in part; but the search goes on. I would indeed like to get the "other half" of the brochure, and I would like to know the dates the route was started and stopped. For now I am very content to know the significance of this knife. Yes, it took a fair amount of patience to find out about this knife; but then again this to me is the tremendous joy that I get from knife collecting. 🐉



Michael Henning was the railroad collector from Ashland, Oregon; and he did indeed have some clues to my age old search. The fact is he had living "half" proof to this mystery. I say half proof as he had half an old advertising brochure for the Washington Sunset Route. Half was better than none, so I trekked down to meet with Mr Henning to see what I could see. The brochure that he had was a fragile piece of paper that folded like a street map. Time and many openings had made this very delicate. When Michael offered to loan me this brochure, I was eager but fearful that I might damage this in the process



Bowie Knives

Bernard Levine

The Vidalia Sandbar Fight

THE STORY of the bowie knife began September 19, 1827, on a Mississippi River sandbar just above Natchez, where was held an “interview” to settle an “affair of honor” -- in other words, a duel. The meeting proved harmless to the two principals, but then swiftly degenerated into a “rough fight” among the dozen men present, leaving two of them dead and two others wounded.

One of the men wounded was James Bowie (1796-1836), a young planter residing in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. Bowie was a friend of one of the principals in the duel.

In the rough fight Bowie had been shot in the thigh and knocked down. He was then set upon by a member of the opposing party, Major Norris Wright, who attempted to stab Bowie with a sword cane.

By then Bowie had already emptied both of his single-shot pistols, so to defend himself he drew from under his coat a large hunting knife that his brother, Rezin Bowie, had loaned him for his protection. He struggled up to a sitting position and, with one blow of his brother's knife, James Bowie killed Major Wright.

This incident, which later came to be called the “Vidalia Sandbar Fight,” attracted intense popular interest. The image of a

undefined virtue of his knife. “Bowie knives” quickly became a fad, then a fashion, then a fundamental fixture of the American scene. Young men of Bowie's planter class in the South came to be called the “bowie knife and pistol gentry.” And then, in 1836, James Bowie's dramatic martyrdom in defense of the Alamo in Texas guaranteed that his name would ever after be linked to the American fighting knife.

Personal Defense

In 1807 the introduction of percussion cap pistols revolutionized personal defense. Both more reliable and more compact than their flintlock predecessors, “cap and ball” pistols could be carried discreetly concealed. For backup men often carried a dirk, a dagger, a clasp knife, or a sword cane. So in 1827, when the bowie knife came along, it was perceived as a substantial improvement. For the next half century the bowie knife was America's most popular sidearm.

Early Bowie Knives

In September 1827, only a handful of people had actually seen Rezin Bowie's hunting knife. Nevertheless, men all over the country now wanted to have a “knife like Bowie's.” They could only guess what one should look like, so their bowie knives were made long and short, light and heavy, single-edged and double-edged, straight-backed and curved-backed, clip-point and spear-point, plain and decorated, fixed blade and folding, with a cross guard (or two) and without.



Like hunting knives and hangers, fixed blade bowie knives were sold with scabbards to be thrust through or suspended from a belt. That way one's bowie knife would always be handy for attack or for defense. But unlike a hunter, who only wore his hunting knife when on the chase, an American, especially a southerner, wore his bowie knife all the time.

Bowie Knife Makers,

Rezin Bowie later wrote that he himself had made the knife which he had given to his brother James, prior to the Vidalia sandbar fight. Other Bowie family members claimed that “made” should not be taken literally here, that Rezin had in fact commissioned the knife from a neighbor and sometime employee of the brothers named Jesse Clift who owned a blacksmith shop in Marksville, the seat of Avoyelles Parish.

In later years, Rezin Bowie commissioned fancier knives from the custom knifemakers of his day, “experienced cutlers” and surgical instrument makers. These highly skilled merchant craftsmen could be found in nearly every American city, offering “Cutlery of all descriptions on hand and made to order.” Two such cutlers who made elegant knives for Rezin Bowie in the early 1830s were Daniel Searles of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Henry Schively, Jr., of Philadelphia.

Continued on page 10



wounded man, his guns empty and useless, yet who managed by one blow of a knife to slay an opponent who was attacking him with a sword, this image caught the fancy of the nation.

In the popular mind James Bowie's feat was attributed, not so much to the pluck and desperation of the man, as to some special

Although shape, size, and decoration varied widely, all bowie knives had this in common: they were designed primarily as weapons. A sense of propriety prompted most people then (including Rezin Bowie) to call them “hunting knives,” and many of these knives were similar to the stout knives and short swords then used by sportsman to kill stag and boar.

Bowie Knives

continued from page 9

In California after the 1849 Gold Rush, demand for fine bowies was so great that a local cutlery industry sprang up in San Francisco to fill it, a tiny workshop industry that from 1852 to 1915 created its own rich and distinctive styles.

Decline and Revivals

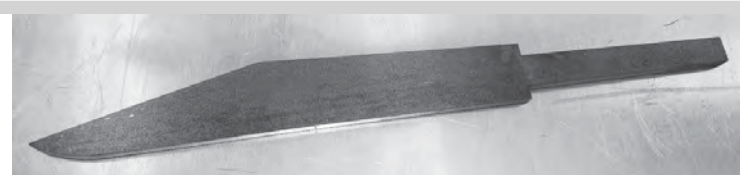
after the Civil War, the bowie knife, along with the percussion pistols that it accompanied, were rendered obsolete for everyday wear by the center-fire metallic pistol cartridge. This reliable, quick-loading, waterproof ammunition was first made about 1866, but the Colt Single Action Army revolver, introduced for it in 1872, made the brass cartridge universally accepted. Since an edged weapon was no longer essential to back up one's personal firearms, the bowie knife faded quietly away.



Yet its soul has lived on. In the 1880s the soul of the bowie was transmigrated into the mass-produced bowie-style hunting knife, beloved of greenhorn outdoorsmen. Then, in the 1940s, after two generations in limbo, the bowie's soul was reincarnated in the combat utility knives of World War II. And now that knives are so popular to collect, the once fearsome bowie knife has been transmogrified into an art form. 🐾

Metallurgy Seminar

We will be hosting a free metallurgy seminar on Friday at 9:00AM in Meeting Room #3 at the south end of the building. Entrance only at the south end of the building. **Frank Cox** from **Niagara Specialty Metals** and **Bob Skibitski**, the metallurgist from **Crucible Industries**, will be the presenters for this event.



This has always been a high attendance happening at the Show. Want to know the real deal on that metal used on knives? This is the event to take part in. 🐾

Where they are:

Many guests who come to the Show want to know a little bit about a knife they have and know so little about. Our Show has collectors and cutlery related people who have the answers about your mystery knife or cutlery related items. See them at their tables.

Tommy Clark	<i>Identify that pocketknife?</i>	Table N01
Mark Zalesky	<i>Bowie knives?</i>	Table N02
James Gedlick	<i>Buck Knives?</i>	Table U11
Ted Fitzwater	<i>Kurki knives?</i>	Table B10
Mike Silvey	<i>Military knives?</i>	Table J14
Jim Schick	<i>Randall knives?</i>	Table I04
Larry Davis	<i>What kind of wood is this?</i>	Table D09

Knife Show Etiquette

Knife Shows are a lot of fun. They are best, however, when visitors follow a few basic rules of courtesy. These are:

- ✂ Do not handle knives without permission.
- ✂ Do not touch the blade or the edge of any knife offered or displayed as a collector's item.
- ✂ Do not wipe off the blade of a knife. Let the exhibitor do it.
- ✂ Do not open more than one blade of a folding knife at a time.
- ✂ Do not block a sale table if you are only "window shopping."
- ✂ If you have brought knives to trade or sell, obtain permission before displaying them at or in front of someone's table.
- ✂ Please do not interrupt or comment on any transaction.
- ✂ Do not cut yourself. 🐾



Non-denominational Chapel Service

Sunday morning 8:05AM

Meeting Room #4

Chaplain Howard Hoskins conducting

Welcome to all friends to come and worship with fellow knife collectors.

For information Table L04. 🐾

Hand-Made Knives

Knifemakers from all over the U.S. and from several foreign lands come to the Oregon Knife Show. You can meet well-known makers and perhaps order that special custom-made knife you have always wanted. Prominent knife dealers are offering everything from classic knives by makers long gone, to the latest in high-tech and high-art cutlery from the U.S.A., Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia.



Hand-made knives range from solid practical hunting, fishing, kitchen and utility knives that are priced competitively with good factory knives--though with that one-of-a-kind hand-made touch--on up to exquisite, investment-grade, fine-art pieces suitable for the most discriminating collector.

The Northwest is an important center of bladesmithing, so be sure to note the wide variety of hand-forged cutlery offered here. Each forged blade was individually hammered-to-shape red hot by its smith or maker. Many have Damascus blades, built up of layered or braided steels of varying composition, then etched or specially polished to reveal the resulting pattern.

Another regional knifemaking specialty is traditional obsidian knapping, as practiced in Oregon in the Stone Age. Some modern obsidian knives are made for use, and they work as well as similar knives did 10,000 years ago. Others are fine art display pieces.

For the do-it-yourself knifemaker, don't miss the wide assortment of knifemaking supplies and guidebooks offered by several of our exhibitors.

Contributions

Many companies and individuals contribute knife-related items and financial support to the Oregon Knife Collectors Association Annual Show.

Silent auction and door prize items are displayed prominently during the course of the Show. Door prizes are awarded by drawing to the public who have paid Show admission.

The contributors to our organization are listed on our web page <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org>

The following is a list of the people and companies who have contributed to the OKCA:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Benchmade Knives | KAI Shun |
| Buck Knives | David Kurt |
| Matthew Caldwell | Kyocera International |
| Coast Cutlery | Leatherman Tool Group |
| Cold Steel | Michael Luft |
| Columbia River Knife & Tool | Ed Schempp |
| Country Knives Inc | Mike Silvey |
| -Brian Huegel | SOG Knives |
| Dexter-Russell | Spyderco Knives |
| ETE Knives | Ron Stuntzner |
| Great Eastern Cutlery | Victorinox Swiss Army |
| Bob Hergert - Scrimshaw | Wustoff Trident |
| KA-Bar Knives | Xikar |

About The OKCA

The Oregon Knife Collectors Association (organized in 1976) is a non-profit organization, happily involved with "Anything that goes Cut!" The OKCA Oregon Knife Show, with 371 8-foot exhibitor tables, is the largest all-knife organizational show east and west of the Mississippi River.

OKCA current members receive admission to the Friday "set-up" day at the Knife Show, nine *Knewsletters* per year, invitations to our popular no-host dinner meetings and a chance to buy our annual limited-edition Club Knives. Membership is open to all. No new/renew memberships on Friday. Sign up at the Show as a new member and get your dues paid through 2019.

Dues are \$20.00 calendar year (individual) or \$25.00 (family under one roof). Come to the Club Table after 9:30 AM Saturday or Sunday, to sign up and get your membership card or mail your check to: OKCA - PO BOX 2091 - EUGENE OR 97402.



So many Knives, So little Time !!

OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

Craig Morgan
President

Joshua Hill
Master at Arms

Club email — okca@oregonknifeclub.org

John Priest
Vice President

Dennis Ellingsen
Show Coordinator

OKCA PO Box 2091 Eugene OR 97402

Elayne Ellingsen
Sec/Tres.

Knewsletter by elayne & dennis

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OKCA CUTLERY DEMONSTRATIONS

44TH Annual Show - April 13, 2019

All the demonstrations will take place in Meeting Room #3 or #4 which are located to the right (South) of the Show Entrance. Demonstrations will start promptly at the specified times. These demonstrations and seminars are designed to be highly educational and entertaining and are presented to show the many facets of our interest in cutlery and cutting tools.

Demonstrations	Saturday	Sunday
Edge-U-Cation On Kitchen Cutlery - Joshua Hill (R01)	9:00	
Explanations On Bowie Knives - Josh Phillips (M02) This will include a walk-about of the displays of Bowies at the Show	10:00	
Sharpening Knives - Lynn Moore (O13)	11:00	
Forging A Knife - Martin Brandt (N14) - Outside Southeast Corner	12:00	
Martial Arts	12:00	
Bowie Knife Show-N-Tell - B.K. Brooks (N04)	1:00	
Non-lethal Response With An Edged Tool - Bram Frank (T04)	1:00	
Northwest Fencing Academy - Sean Hayes (X12)	2:00	
Flint Knapping - Making Stone Tools - Martin Schempp (T11)	3:00	
Sunday Morning Chapel Service - Howard Hoskins (L04)		8:05
The Art Of Scrimshaw - Bob Hergert (At table X15)	All Day	All Day
Bruce Lanham - Scrimshaw On Swordfish Swords(At table I09)	All Day	All Day
Engraving With Jim Jordan At table A15)	All Day	All Day
Glendo - Engraving (At table Y07)	All Day	All Day
George Filgate Photography (At table X14)	All Day	All Day

The number & letter following each name is the Show table location for that presenter.

