



NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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

November 2019

KNIVES, FRIENDS AND WEALTH Another Knife Story

Dan Westlind



Somewhere around 35 years ago, I met a doctor from Denver, Colorado, at the fossil show in Tucson, Arizona. At the time, I sold him some fossil ivory and a couple knives with ivory handles. Over the years we became good friends; and I did a lot of work for him, restoring fossils and selling him fossil ivory, and an occasional knife, especially if it had fossil walrus or mammoth ivory for the handle.

One particular knife I sold him was one I had done some experimenting with to the Damascus blade. The blade had several different

patterns in it, and I put in some decorative pins in patterns of dice. I made the blade, drilled holes for the pins, finished and heat treated the blade and put the pins in the pre-drilled holes. I peened the pins in and spun the heads. I then etched the blade and polished the blade afterwards, giving the brass and nickel silver pins their bright finish. The handle was carved from a piece of fossil walrus ivory that I got from the late Jim Hunter of Hunter's Fossil Ivory in Springfield, Oregon. It was carved into a beautiful snake with a skull at the top. The handle may not be to everyone's liking, but it fit the recurve blade that was in the style of a fighter. There was just something about this knife that gave it an appeal that brought a lot of attention. I hated to sell it; but as we all know, the money was needed. Over the years, I would have loved to buy the knife back; but I was never able to come up with the \$1,500.00 the doctor had paid for the knife. I often mentioned that knife to the doctor, and he said he loved that knife also and did not want to part with it.

A few weeks ago was my birthday, which depresses me as I know I am getting older and my health has gotten worse. I am no longer able to forge much and cannot put the hours in the shop that I used to and still want to. I got lots of "Happy Birthday" wishes from my friends on Facebook, and that helped take away the depression. The afternoon of my birthday, I went to get the mail; and there was a box from the doctor. I opened the box and there was a note saying, "Happy Birthday, here is a token of appreciation for being my friend and for all the work you have done for me over the years." You guessed it, there was the knife. I had made that knife in July of 1999. Twenty years go by and I get the knife back, for free. I have never been wealthy by any means and know I never will be in terms of money and finances. My wealth is measured by the friends I have, and I may be one of the wealthiest guys around. Most of my wealth came from the people I have met at knife shows over the years, and I hope to add to my wealth in the years to come. 🐍



Military Knives Theme Displays Wanted for 2020 OKCA Knife Show

B.K. Brooks

In the past, some themed OKCA Shows have really brought out some great displays, example being the Bowie knife theme Shows we have had in the past decade. A large section of OKCA members have some really interesting military knives squirreled away in their safes, not having seen the light of day for years. Many more table-holders have military knives for sale and need to bring out their wares to the 2020 Show.

Older unique military knives are not seen as much, and the olden days of World War II military side knives piled in a bucket for ten bucks a knife are long gone. Many legendary military knives are mass produced fakes. Displays of what the "real thing" is, explaining their history, identification markings

and correct maker materials help novice collectors understand what they are buying, what to look for and keep them collecting.

So do you have a military knife or knives you can display? Does someone have a real Dahlgren Bowie bayonet hidden in their closet? Can you come up with a complete M3 collection which many collect as a desirable World War II combat knife because of its double-edge blade, which was made by Camillus, Boker, Kinfolks, Robeson, Utica, Imperial, Case, Aerial and Pal?

Someone must have a Commando knife collection to end all collections in this group. I have yet to hold a real BC-41, but held a lot of fakes. Can you demystify Fairbairn Sykes knife history in a display? Are you going to wait until you die when people

can finally see your collection at some auction and not enjoy their oooh's and awww's when looking at what you took years to amass? I had talked a Club member into finally showing his unique collection hidden away for years; he had a blast and met other interested collectors. He showed again the next year and had even more fun. Are you a collector who never had a day of fun in your whole life?



Get out there, create a display and share with the OKCA community.

For the Vietnam era the 1961 U.S. Navy SEAL and UDT knife made by Imperial Knife Company is what M. H. Cole claimed - "it is the rarest U.S. Military issue knife ever made." Do you have interesting military knives from Vietnam to display?

Personally, I would like to learn more about military knives of the recent wars our troops fought in the Middle East Wars. Teach this old dog the knife lore behind these knives. About all I know is the U. S. Military stopped stamping the tangs around this time to prevent stress fractures, something I learned studying Ciphered Bowie knives. What else can you young'uns teach us old timers?

Well, I could spend pages going on about the variations of military knife displays that are possible. This is a pretty darn open subject; and you, as an OKCA member, most likely have a fascinating collection hidden away at your home. So this is your chance to share, win praise and meet other collectors interested in what you like and have collected. So OKCA members start working on your display today, don't put it off. 🐌



The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

The October meeting was held October 16, 2019, at the Sizzler Restaurant. There were 34 present. Thank you **Bernard Levine** for your emails to our members to encourage them to attend.

We have been receiving 2020 membership renewals, reservations for the December 7, 2019 Winter/Mini Show and payments for 2020 tables. A waiting list has been started for those who have paid but did not have a table in 2019.

Remember your membership expires December 31, 2019. You must be a current member to enter the April Show on Friday, April 17, 2020, which is members-only and set up day. We must have receipt of your payment for new or renewal memberships by Wednesday, April 15, 2020. We do not accept any new or renewal membership on Friday, April 17, 2020. We reserve the right to offer entry to individuals who have supported our organization during the year and not those who want last minute specials.

If your address information, phone number or email address is changed, please contact me. It is very costly for us if a *Knewslettter* is returned. Your information is not shared with anyone who is not a current member of the organization. If we receive a request from a non-member, we ask for their information and contact the member ourselves. Your privacy is very important.

We have flyers available for the December 7 Winter/Mini Show and for the April 17-18-19, 2020 Show. The flyers will be mailed to you when requested. Please help us advertise our events. We must now start to generate the enthusiasm for the 2020 OKCA April Show that is required to have a successful event.

The 2020 December 7 Winter/Mini Show is held in the Wheeler Pavilion. We

are hopeful the members will support the event to the tune of at least 80 tables. You must be a current member to purchase a table. Please forward payment of \$40.00 per table. No application is necessary for the December Winter/Mini Show, note on the payment December Show. The hours are 7:00AM to 4:00PM. Admission is free. The tables are not assigned. We will have the 2020 membership cards available for pick up. Thank you **Ana Cooper** and **Tim Cooper** who volunteered to laminate the cards. It is a time consuming and mind numbing task. If you unable to pick up your card at the December Winter/Mini Show, they will be mailed with the table confirmations after January 1, 2020.

Please remember the Toys-4-Tots program at the December Winter/Mini Show. **Bryan Christensen** has agreed to coordinate this event. It must be a new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl.

The deadline for first right on your 2019 table for 2020 is December 15, 2019. The December Winter/Mini Show will be an opportunity to pay your money. We have been receiving payment for the 2020 Show. We do have a waiting list for tables. There is a table application and membership application in this *Knewslettter*, as well as an application on our website. If you have difficulty downloading the form, please call; and I will mail one to you. A confirmation of your table reservation will be mailed after January 1, 2020.

Please note the section for the second name requested for the table-holder badge. We limit the table-holder badges to two per table-holder. The badges have the individual's name (company name if available) and city and state. Because of the work involved to print the badges, we must limit them. It also reduces the number of people behind each of the tables. The table-holder badges are picked up at the Show in the lobby of the Exhibit Hall on the day of the Show.

We have now, as of this *Knewslettter*, made a decision regarding the 2020 OKCA Club knife. It will be a Great Eastern two blade trapper pattern. The handle material has not been decided,

but it will be natural (bone, stag, or wood). We will order 102 of the knives. All of the knives will have the OKCA logo (the beaver). Fifty of the knives will be numbered, 50 will have the logo but no number, two of the knives will be prototypes number #0 and #00. Thank you **Roy Humenick** for coordinating this project with Great Eastern. We do not have a cost quotation from Great Eastern. As soon as that information is available, an application will be posted on our website, and the information will be posted on Facebook. The individuals who have previously purchased that number will have first right for the 2020 numbered knives. Those who have previously purchased the unnumbered knives will have first right on those. A waiting list will be started for those who wish to purchase a knife and have not previously ordered a knife. Payment must accompany your order to secure your knife. Please support this money making project for our group. The money is used to keep our table cost low.



45th Annual **OREGON KNIFE SHOW**
April 18-19, 2020
Set Up Friday - Members and Table Holders Only!

LANE EVENTS CENTER
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- Old & New Pocket Knives
- Kitchen and Sport Knives
- Competition Awards for Best Displays
- Awards Competition for Custom Knives
- Access by car, train, plane, or boat
- Private Collections on Display
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- Interesting Live Demonstrations
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OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS

Overnight RV parking is allowed at the Lane Events Center. The cost is \$20.00/night. The vehicle must be self-contained, since there is no electricity available. Also there are no restroom facilities available after the buildings

Continued on page 4

are closed. Payment is at the LEC office, which is the building north of our Show.

We have an arrangement with Valley River Inn for reduced rate for rooms at their facility. We have been offered two tiers of rooms, river view and non-river view. There is a link on our website to the VRI website. If you have any problems with reservations, please contact us. The phone number for reservations is (541)743-1000. This is the number for the local VRI which should be better able to answer any questions and process the order more quickly. There have been a couple of bumps in the road for those who have attempted to make reservations. We have forwarded the information to the VRI who have contacted the individuals and apologized for the VRI error.

We thank all of the members who have contributed to our *Knewsletter*. This publication helps to bind our group together. If you have words to share but do not type, handwrite the article; I will type it for publication. We all have a want to share our knowledge and interests.

Our Facebook page is constantly receiving requests for inclusion by individuals interested in our “world of cut.” Anyone may join our Facebook page; however you must be a current member to advertise on our 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 monitors our Facebook page throughout the year.

If you attempt to contact us by phone, (541) 484-556, and reach the answering

machine, pretty please leave a message. Cross our heart your call will be returned in a timely manner. Please accept my apology if I appear curt when I answer. As you are aware, we (everyone) are being plagued by robocalls and scammer calls. We do not want to lose a call from an individual who wants a table or membership and must answer all calls.

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

See you at the meeting, November 20, 2019, at the Sizzler Restaurant, Gateway Blvd, Eugene/Springfield OR. 🐾

Why I Collect Folding Bowie

Garry Zalesky

Over many years I've been asked why I collect folding knives and not the big Bowies. It's a good question, since it seems that the real money is in the big Bowie knives. In the 80's I tried my hand in making custom knives, and I made (and sold) some 300 of them. I've never made a folding knife simply because they are much more difficult to make. I'm not alone, there are some highly regarded custom makers who never made a folder or gave up in disgust when they tried. So, long ago, I gained a respect for the folders; because they take a lot of talent to make; and there are far fewer available as a result.

Steve Miller wrote an article about the folding Bowie knife in *American Blade* magazine in 1973 and I was hooked! Before long I had sold out all my military stiletos and knuckle knives and was pursuing folding dirks and folding Bowies. That was 46 years ago and I've stuck with the folders ever since. Working my way up into the big folding Bowies took a long time, but persistence and good luck has paid off. Here are three photos of some of my favorites

that I keep at the bank here in “tornado alley.” The first box is all “Spring Dirks” (switchblades), and there are two more in the second box. Since intricate mechanical things fascinate me, it was natural that the switchblades from over 160 years ago would be high on my list of favorites. While I can appreciate a big beautiful Bowie knife, and especially those made by the early American makers, I would suggest that you take a closer look at the knives that fold.

In some cases they are every bit as rare and well made as some to the most highly regarded American Bowies. At this point they are still underpriced, but I



see that changing more and more as they're “discovered.” These are the reasons why I collect folders. 🐾



OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2091 • EUGENE, OR 97402

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND SHOW TABLE CONTRACT

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

email: okca@oregonknifeclub.org

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Eve (_____) _____ Day (_____) _____ Date _____

Collector Knifemaker Dealer Mfr./Distrib. Other _____ Email _____

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

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

45TH ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 17-19, 2020 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 2019 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2020, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2019. 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 12/15/2019.

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, 2020. **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 17, 2020.

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

Saturday, April 18, 2020.

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

Sunday, April 19, 2020.

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

State your business!

We are absolutely fed up with telemarketers calling our telephone number. We have slammed the phone down, pushed and held a key and blew whistles into the phone. We know our number is being passed around, but we are helpless now. When you call us, the first thing you will hear is a terse and not so friendly, "State Your Business." When we know it is a Knife Club call or personal, we switch to the friendly and helpful mode. If it is a real person solicitor call, we advise them that they have called the police department homicide division and ask them to state their emergency. Without fail, there is a click on their end. I suspect they delete our number after that.

Details on Mini Show

The December Winter/Mini Show date is December 7. This one day Show on Saturday has become an expected event. We usually have between 75 and 100 tables. It is a casual event that has proven to be fun for all. The history of this event has seen weather of all variations, which I find rather baffling. All weather conditions from rain, snow/ice, dense fog and flooding. First of all, an Oregonian does not predict Oregon weather. But the Show doth go on. So don't procrastinate, put your \$40.00 in an envelope and pay for your table for this event. Doors for members/tableholders opens at 7:00AM, and the Show is open until 4:00PM. All tables will be open until this hour. For those unfamiliar, the event happens in that round building at the Lane Events Center. Admission is free unless you mention my name, and then you will pay \$5.00 to the OKCA.

This event will let you meet up with friends, maybe buy or sell something that goes cut, learn about things that go cut, renew your membership, pay for your April table and just enjoy yourself amongst friends. You might even donate a toy to the Toys-4-Tots. A new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl.

An Application form

for the April 2020 Show can be found in this *Knewsletter*. The right of first refusal for 2019 table-holders will be December 15, 2019. From the success of the last Show, I suspect that the momentum will carry over; so early requests for tables should be considered post haste. Like now. We already have a waiting list of individuals who are anxious to attend our Show as a table-holder. Don't forget to up your membership also.



Display Award Knives...

Gene Martin has distributed the Seax knife blanks in 1095 steel which will be finished for the 2020 Show. These are the knives that are presented to the winning displayers that will be at the 2020 Show. The individuals that have these blanks are as follows: **Brion Baker, Great Falls MT - Peter Bromley, Spokane Valley WA - Gary Dekorte, Sequim WA - Theo Eichorn, Grants Pass OR, - Gary Griffin, Bend OR - Cameron House, Salem OR - David Kurt, Molalla OR - Gene Martin, Williams OR - Glen Morris, Vancouver WA - Jeff Murison, North Plains OR - Bryan Wages, Eugene OR - Harlan Whitman, Portland OR - Gene Martin - Williams OR - Event coordinator - Peter Bromley and Gary DeKorte** have completed their knives. See these knives on our website and in this *Knewsletter*.

Articles this month....

are from **BK Brooks, Dan Westlind, Gary Zalesky, Little Orphan Annie**

and **Auggie Schmirtz**. There is some great reading this month which is truly educational. I must remind our membership the *Knewsletters* are available on line, and the Google bots pick up on the 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.



Make your room reservation

soon for the April Show. The Valley River Inn has been our partner for many decades. As properties sway and swing with new owners, the same holds true for this place of lodging. We have hit a few lows in accommodations at the VRI, but a meeting this last May seemed to convince me that the new management is getting their act together. They have extended the hand of partnership to the OKCA and provide the first class rating that they held for so many years. The phone number for reservations is (541)743-1000. This is the number for the local VRI which should be better able to answer any questions and process the order more quickly. Make sure you mention the April Knife Show. Please contact us if you have difficulty.

The Sizzler...

Don't forget our monthly meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant. It is the third Wednesday of the month, which makes it November 20, 2019. I always look forward to this gathering so mark your calendar and come be with us. Come smile with us with your latest purchase or that which will educate us. It is always nice to see my fellow knife enthusiasts that are a cut above.

The Great Eastern Club knife

The selection for the 2020 club knife has been made. It will be trapper model. Prices and, hopefully, a sample will be at the Mini Show. 🖱



Pearl Utility Knives

ibdennis

First we need to determine what is referenced when the term scout knife is used. One could think that it is a knife sanctioned by the scouting organizations. Then again, one could be referring to a utility knife that exhibits, generally, four blades: master blade, punch, can opener and screwdriver/cap lifter. Or any combination, plus more. In other words, not all utility knives are scout knives; but, most, if not all, scout knives are utility knives. Then there is the question, "What Is Pearl?" refer to the October *Knewsletter* for the David Schultz article.

To avoid confusion, this article will reference Mother of Pearl (MOP) (Nacre) as just pearl.



Most of us know that pearls are used to grace necklaces for ladies that can cost a bazillion dollars. But this is not the same product that goes to make a knife handle. The material that is used is called mother of pearl or nacre. It is often referred to as MOP. This is the inner shell layer of a mollusk. It is colorful and can be used to enhance knife handles. Aside from its delightful colors, this material is brittle and can break easily. It is very necessary to use proper eye and face protection when it is ground or cut.

Utility/scout knives have many different handle materials, but usually materials that will stand up to the rigors of hard use and abuse. Bone was the early, most popular, choice, as well as handles of celluloid, delrin, plastic, stag and wood. The focus of this article is the scout/utility knives that have pearl handles. Pearl is an unlikely choice for a common carry tool like a pocketknife, since it can frequently be damaged. Any slight

pressure will crack the pearl, just as any drop from any height will also damage the pearl. So the question of note is, "Why would pearl be used on a scout/utility knife?"



Small single or two blade pocketknives are common with pearl handles. They were made for the person who wanted an item of prestige and flaunt their status. These knives were functional for small tasks such as fingernail repair, thread cutting, letter and package opening. They normally were carried in a secure pocket and were protected from damage. It was easier for the cutler to acquire a piece of pearl to handle a small knife than a large knife. Because it was very eye catching with its changes of color, pearl was also marketed to the person who was purchasing a gift for that special someone or for that special presentation award. Many have endured the ravages of time; as they were put into special places, never used or carried and eventually forgotten. Pearl was used on pocketknives and often used on presentation awards.

I am a utility/scout knife collector, and it is a rare day when I find a pearl handled scout/utility knife. Even rarer is finding one in perfect condition, blades and pearl intact. If the knife has been used, the pearl would be damaged with cracks or chips. If one collects pearl knives, the

percentage of mint, unspoiled (whole, not split or cracked), pearl is about five percent, optimistically speaking. One can also add that an officially marked scout knife in pearl would usually be used and abused. That brings us to the nudge I got to write this article.

I was bidding on an Ulster Official Scout Knife on eBay which, aside from the blade stains, had a pronounced crack in the pearl handle. As a sample for our collection, it was desirable; so I reached deep into the pocket to bid on it. Not deep enough, as this knife approached the \$700.00 mark. Too rich for me. But it got me to thinking about the pearl utility/scouts we have. We have over 1,000 of the scout/utility patterns and only 12 are pearl. The two in perfect mint condition were presentation knives. The most rare of these knives was made by Ulster in the early 1920s. It was a scout pattern presentation knife to F. N. Cooke who was with the Boy Scouts of America. It carries a red BSA shield that was only used for special awards or acknowledgments. The knife had never been used, and it is without flaw.

The other pearl knives show testament to use as they are cracked, chipped and flea bit. Camillus, Cattaraugus, Ka-Bar, Pal Blade, Remington, Schrade Cutlery, Ulster and Union Cutlery were the companies that made handles of pearl for the scout/utility patterns. These and many other cutlery companies made one and two blade Sunday knives in pearl. But even these are hard to find in undamaged condition. 🐛



Teddy Roosevelt

ibdennis

It started out as a simple email to a group of historical firearms collectors. I included a picture of Teddy Roosevelt with a rifle in hand and a knife. The purpose was to just inject a visual in the reminder for a meeting date. I asked the simple question: who was the person in the picture and what was the rifle he was holding? I gave them the date of 1885 and noted it was not a Winchester Model 94. That picture generated comments beyond my wildest expectations.



I enjoy identifying firearms in old pictures, so I blew the picture up and started the process of elimination to identify the firearm. From the side plate, I knew it to be a Winchester. I suspected a Winchester Model 1873; on closer inspection it was determined to be a Winchester Model 1876. I based this on the cartridge belt that Teddy was wearing, and also the fact that this picture predated his trip to the West where he did some big game hunting.

Of course this then evolved into a search on the Internet for additional information. I discovered

numerous pictures of Teddy in this famous studio picture shoot. I also discovered numerous accounts of his trip out West. The biggest find was the documentation that identified the rifle as a Winchester Model 1876 and the caliber to be a Winchester 45-75. So now this thread of information was beginning to grow. The 45-75 Winchester was the original chambering for the 1876 Centennial Rifle. Since the 1876 action could only handle cases no longer than 2-1/4 inches, the 45-75 case evolved which gave performance results similar to the 45-70. Further reading found that this rifle and cartridge were favored by Theodore Roosevelt for grizzly bears.

The next step was to magnify the picture and focus on the knife. It was a knife that still exists today. There are two knives that are accredited to Theodore Roosevelt that were passed down to the Roosevelt family.

The one knife that recently sold at auction was a presentation knife given by James W. Gerard to Teddy in 1909 before he left for his African hunting trip. The knife was quite ornate and made by Russell out of Massachusetts. The handle is in the shape of an eagle's head made of gold with garnets for the eyes. The guard has two wolves' heads sculpted in gold. The knife has an inscription stating it was presented to Theodore Roosevelt. The 1909 cost



was \$1,250.00 (today's dollars would be \$33,266.00). In 2016 it sold at auction for \$440,000.00, which was the highest recorded price for any knife ever sold.



The knife that is shown in the 1885 photo of Teddy, before he went to the West, was made by Tiffany; it still resides with the Roosevelt family. I suspect, were it to be put to auction, it also would hover in around the price level of the Russell knife.

This is where a simple photo turned into a fascinating historical search. The person, the firearm, the knife, the trip out to the West and some reading about this wonderful man. Did you know that Theodore Roosevelt did a whistle stop train tour to Eugene in 1911? Postcards showing him at the rear of the train while he delivered a speech can sometimes be found. I had an original one which I gave to my son who is a huge fan of Teddy and then just by luck found an original one for myself. Happy Teddy time! 🐻





OKCA Free Classified Ads

Free classified ads will run up to three issues and then be dropped. Available only to paid members. Write your ad on anything you have handy (except longitudinal charts) 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.

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

OKCA ball caps for sale: \$28.00 plus shipping. Quality black ball cap with camo and barb wire accent, embroidered OKCA logo as seen at Gunstock Jack's table U-3 during the 2019 show. Caps available on-line at <https://gunstockjacksknives.com/> or send email to gunstockjack@embarqmail.com or available at the 2020 OKCA Show. For info call: (360) 516-0948.

Even Heat Knife Kiln Model KO18 with SetPro digital control for sale, less than 1 year old and in very good condition. Comes with a nice quench tank and tempering oven. Located in Marcola OR. \$1,200.00. Call Carey (208)476-7480 cell

Wanted: Sequine Knives that are unusual, such as custom orders, gut hooks, or any other unusual models. Please email jh5jh@aol.com with a picture attached or call (805)431-2222 and ask for Jack.

Time to Sell? OKCA member St. Croix Blades buys collections and estates. Military knives, antique knives, Randall, Ruana, customs, modern folders and fixed blades-- ALL knives. We also buy Japanese samurai swords. Matthew Brice--large collection buyer. <http://www.stcroixblades.com> Email at info@stcroixblades.com (715)557-1688.

Shelton Pacific has outstanding Koa, and the other excellent knife handle blocks we are known for. If you want to shop, visit www.stores.sheltonpacific.com.

FOR SALE: Custom hand-made Sheffield Bowie by Bruce Bump of Walla Walla WA. Made 10/2/05. Damascus 1084 15N20 600 layer steel blade. 12" OAL, 8" blade. Mammoth ivory scales, nickel silver guard. As usual this is a very beautiful Bruce Bump knife. No sheath but comes with a Bill's Custom zippered case. Can email pics, see on eBay. Hawthorne Cutlery in Portland. (503)234-8898

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For Sale: 88 lb Striker air hammer \$5,500.00. I can load on flatbed for you. Robert Martin, cell (561)685-5222.

For Sale: Model 4500 Sherline bench top lathe \$450.00. Call or text Zac & Sara Buchanan (541)815-2078.

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

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

For Sale: Dan Osterman custom Bowie knife. ATS 34 blade, ivory handles, gold pins and fittings. Sheath made from silver. Display stand. Show quality. Paid \$2,500.00 will sell for \$2,000.00, firm. Call Steve Huey evenings (541)234-2664.

For Sale: Steve Huey custom Bowie. ATS 34 blade. 9" blade. Stainless fittings. Ironwood handle. Made in 1988. With sheath. \$595.00. Call Steve Huey evenings (541)234-2664.

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

For Sale - Hardcore grinder 1.5 hp variable speed 8" wheel \$1800.00. Black G10 1/4"x4' x3' sheet \$480.00. Gary (253)307-8388.

Buying OKCA Club knives for my personal collection. Looking for the 1998 Wayne Goddard with the wood beaver handle. I would consider buying other Club knives and Wayne Goddard knives. Also looking for Spyderco Kopas. Call or email Jordan (310)386-4928 - jgl321@aol.com

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

Randall Made Knives. Buy, Sell, Trade. Also a good selection of Case knives and many custom knives for sale or trade. Jim Schick www.nifeboy.com (209)295-5568.

Wanted : Western Wildlife Series etched knives as follows: 532 bear, 532 eagle, 521 eagle, 534 antelope. Will pay fair price for any. Call Martin at (406)442-2783 leave message.

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 Yellow horse models. Email loden@dka-online.com or call (765) 244-0614 8AM-8PM EST.

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

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

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

Useful reference books on blades. Collectible knives, custom knives and knifemaking, military knives, swords, tools, and anything else that has an edge. Email for a list. Quality Blade Books C/O Rick Wagner P O Box 41854 Eugene OR 97404 (541)688-6899 or wagner_r@pacinfo.com.

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

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The Knewsletter

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The 2020 Seax display knives



Peter Bromley Knives

Peter Bromley - Spokane Washington

Peter was inspired to maintain the theme of the original Seax knife. The elk horn is torched and dyed. The furniture is copper intended to look Celtic.



Gary DeKorte

Sequim, Washington

The award knife is 1095 steel as provided, antiqued with a mustard finish. The handle is a maple burl, cord wrapped. The guard is nickel silver, with a peened finish, fluted edge. My rendition of the Seax knife is an attempt to make it as original as I could imagine, without ever having seen one!

See these knives in color on our website.

