



## KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ The Virus Event
- ✓ At Long Last
- ✓ High Points
- ✓ Unusual Advertising knife
- ✓ Giant Knife
- ✓ Application for the 2021 Show

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

April 2020

### Much ado about..... actually a lot!

#### The OKCA Board

No matter what thoughts you have regarding the pandemic situation of March and April 2020, we, the Oregon Knife Collectors Association, were required to cancel our April Show. We may be down but hardly out.

#### A No Show....

The cancelling of the OKCA Annual Knife Show has been tough to accept. However, the financial impact to our organization has been minimal. The Lane Events Center has assured us the payments already made will be applied to the 2021 Show.

All advertisements for the Show have been cancelled. The Fire Marshall has returned our permit/inspection check. There were expenses which could not be cancelled, and those have been paid and will not be too much of a hardship.

Having another Show in 2020 like the April Show is not a reality. Part of our success has been the timing of our event. The dates have been reserved for five (5) years into the future. Another consideration is the location or building space.

#### Getting the Word out....

We made massive efforts to alert our members of the "No Show." The website had a large notice of cancellation. Our Facebook page was updated to inform everyone about the cancellation. The general spirit of acceptance was outstanding. All the emails (lots and lots) were promptly answered, and all the telephone calls were handled quickly and courteously. We also mailed out 800 plus postcards to our 2019 and 2020 member to the addresses we had on file.

The cancellation of the Show was decided by the edict of the Oregon State Governor. Until that moment in time, the Show was scheduled to happen. However, the directive by the Governor could not be ignored.

#### The 2020 Club Knife

The edict for company closures has affected the Club knife delivery. Delivery on schedule is not possible. Great Eastern has complied with the State and Federal directives

and is closed.

Therefore we are expecting a delay. But a delay only. Nothing more. We will advise when we have delivery of the knives and when they will be shipped. Many of the members intended to pick up the Great Eastern Club knife at the Show, however it will be necessary to mail them when they arrive. That will be the most expedient way. For those who did not specify a mail out, we will go forward in the mailing. Our standard charge for mailing has been \$20.00. No one is obligated to forward that payment, however any help from you to offset this extra cost will not be refused.

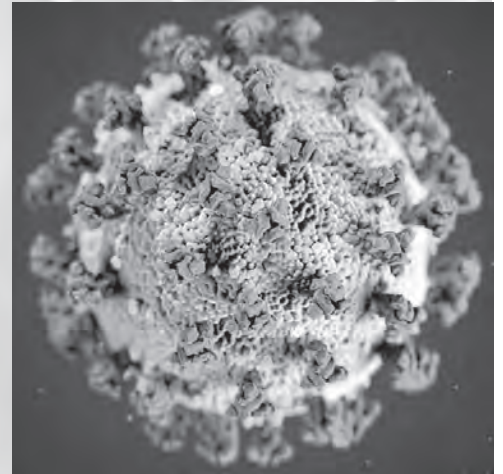
#### And about the 2021 Show tables.....

The Board has decided to rollover the 2020 table payments made to the OKCA for tables at the 2021 Show. However, we do require you to fill out an application form for the 2021 Show. On that contractual form, you must advise it is from a "roll over" payment. It might be a good idea to also include your dues for membership for 2021. Not a requirement since you have until December 31, 2020. But it is a good idea. We have included an application form in this *Knewslettter* and have also made this form available on our website.

#### The 2021 Show theme

The 2020 Show theme was to be military knives. The theme had been very enthusiastically accepted, so we have decided to carry this theme to 2021. All of the 2020 enhanced display award knives (Seax pattern) will be awarded in 2021. A special thank you to those people who volunteered to participate in this project. You can see photos of these fantastic knives on our website.

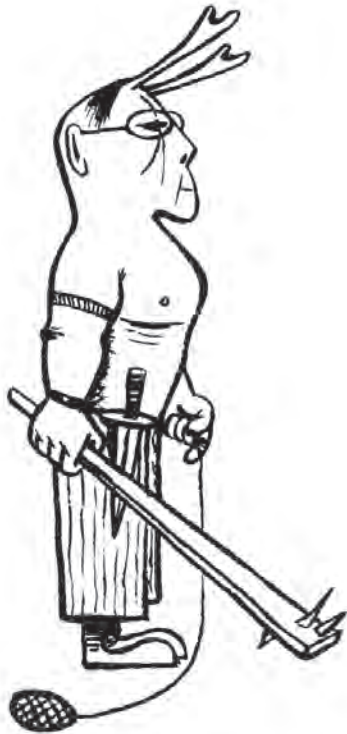
We had ordered blade blanks for the 2021 display award knives and were unable to cancel. Those will be distributed in 2021 for the 2022 display award knives. 🐾



# The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

There was no March meeting due to the Oregon Governor's edict on March 16 regarding the closure of events and restaurants. We (the OKCA Officers) are still reeling after the announcements which closed the 45th Show. We had been so sure we would weather the panic. We were outside the window for so long. Sigh. It was not to be. We will



I DO NOT BELIEVE IN MISLEADING PEOPLE

not schedule another 45th Show. We will await the 45th Show April 9-11, 2021.

We do have the **December Holiday** (was called **Winter/Mini**) **Show** scheduled for December 12, 2020. Hopefully you can mark your calendar for this event. Tables are \$40.00 per table. No application is necessary. Mark on the payment December Show.

We have contacted the members by postcard regarding the closure of the Show. We are attempting to cancel ads, orders, etc. Some items had already been ordered and paid for and could not be cancelled. They will be used and distributed at the 2021 Show.

We have contacted the vendors who forwarded merchandise for the Silent Auction to ask if the items are to be returned or if we can hold them for the **April 9-11, 2021 Show**.

We have sold all of the 2020 GEC OKCA Club knives. They were to be available for pick up at the 2020 Show. It will be necessary to mail all of the Club knives. We had requested payment of \$20.00 to cover shipping and insurance. We are not requiring payment of the additional \$20.00, but any donations for the cost will not be refused. We do not know when we will have receipt of the knives but will

advise on our Facebook page and website when they are shipped.

We thank all of the members who have contributed to our *Knewsletter*. This publication helps to bind our group together. We have had to make major changes to our April and March *Knewsletter*. If you have any articles to share with us, they would be very much appreciated.

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.

The blade blanks which were distributed by **Gene Martin** at the 2019 Show for the 2020 display awards have been arriving. Each of these makers is to be thanked for their contribution to our event. See them on our website and acknowledge the artistry exhibited by our custom makers. These knives will now be presented at the 2021 Show.

Be sure to look at our Facebook Page. Thank you **Lisa Wages** for your efforts on our behalf to keep this page current. Anyone can request to be added to the page, however you must be a current (2020) OKCA member to advertise on this forum.

We do not expect an April meeting; but we can hope for a May 20 meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant, Gateway Blvd, Eugene/Springfield OR. 🐾



The views and opinions implied or expressed herein by authors and advertisers are not necessarily those of the Oregon Knife Collectors Association, its editors, or its officers; and no responsibility for such views will be assumed. The OKCA, its officers and its editors assume no responsibility for claims of advertisers for the quality of goods and services the advertiser provides. The act of mailing or delivering a manuscript or advertisement shall constitute an express warranty on the part of the contributor that the material is original and in no way an infringement upon the rights of others. The act of mailing or delivering a letter or question to the editor shall constitute permission to publish the letter or portion thereof unless the Oregon Knife Collectors Association is informed otherwise in that letter. This *Knewsletter* is devoted to the general interest of the knife community and does not include personal information such as births, deaths and illness. We also strive to use only material that is directed to the world of cut. Our charter mandates that our mailing list of the membership cannot be sold or used by other than the Oregon Knife Collectors Association.

## OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

**Craig Morgan**  
President (541)968-5278

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

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

**Joshua Hill**  
Master at Arms (503)580-8961

**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

Copyright (C) 2020 Oregon Knife Collectors Association.  
No part of this *Knewsletter* may be reproduced without permission of the OKCA.  
Layout and printing by instaprint -  
1208 W. 6th - Eugene, OR 97402 -  
Phone (541)686-8591



## Tuff Love....

We held off as long as we could before cancelling the 2020 Oregon Show. We postured ourselves with "Wait & See." We were harangued by a few members to cancel the Show in the spirit of looking out for our members. There were even negative vibes on Facebook from non-members who rasped at us to protect the others and cancel the Show on our own. The statement in an email received summed it up. "My email was about leadership responsibility to the safety of the members..." In this case it wasn't a leadership issue, as the results were out of our control. It was a case of *force majeure*.

## Thank you

To all who have supported us as we have dealt with the decision of "The Show must be cancelled." It is a once a year event, and it was very painful to cancel. Many of the callers and emailers offered donations to offset any costs we incurred. This is a very special group of people. Very generous and giving.

There was another, small percentage, who caused us angst, strife and worry. "Oh, don't let it bother you," we were told. But we care, so it did bother. Then the edict from Governor Kate Brown. Having no group activity larger than 25 (and later 5) would have put a crimp in our Show. No restaurants would be open except take out. Hotels closed, where were the visitors to stay?

## We the Officers and Board of Directors

have devoted better than 45 years of our lives to making the Oregon Knife Show one of the best in the world. We have dealt with a huge percentage of happy campers. Yes, there are the grumbles from those who didn't sell much. Some even objected to the rules that made us great. (No early departure, and also no table cover ups during public hours of the Show.) There were some who thought having things run their way was the only way. But the formula we have used has worked. We have had sell out Shows. And the faithful keep coming back.

## Fist bumps for all

I started the idea of fist bumps for me as an alternate to handshakes six years ago. I took a lot of flack about being a germ-phobe or being like a youngster with the exploding hand. But my work six years ago had me shaking a bazillion hands in my role as a salesman. I was blessed with more colds than I deserved until I went to the fist bump greeting. My customers, and even our OKCA members, soon got into it too; and it became an *ibennis* thing. Going from multiple colds a year down to no illness in six years speaks well of my policy (for me for sure). But now I have to catch up with elbow bumps, *namaste*, bows and hand-over-my heart greetings. I am okay with that.

## Latest word

Social distancing is going through until April 30. This is hard for elayne who always wants to be close to me.

## Great Eastern Club knives

At least the 2020 Great Eastern knives will be a reality. The doors at the factory are closed for now; but when open again, our order will be shipped and arrive here. We will advise you via website and Facebook when they are shipped so you will be watching for them. We had originally required a \$20.00 fee for shipping and insuring of the knives, however all knives must be mailed. Any offer on your part to offset our cost would be appreciated and not denied. If one multiples 100 knives by the cost \$20.00, it would be \$2,000.00. Not a great amount, but an amount for which we had not planned.

## Remember

To take advantage of the table "roll over" for 2021, a 2021 application must be filled in and signed and have a notation you would like the roll over option. You can also renew your 2020 membership to 2021 at this time, or you can wait until year end, December 31, 2020. But remember, do not forget. You must be a paid 2021 member to have a table at the 2021 Show.

## The Knewsletter....

The April *Knewsletter* is usually full of words and pictures of the upcoming Show. The May *Knewsletter* is filled with pictures of the Show and a recap of the event. The cancelling of the Show has put a crimp on words for the May *Knewsletter*.

We could certainly use help on articles or words. The word now is HELP.

## Display Award Knives...

Gene Martin had distributed the Seax knife blanks in 1095 steel which were to be presented at the 2020 Show but will be presented at the 2021 Show. These will be the knives presented to the winning displayers at the 2021 Show. The individuals who 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** -

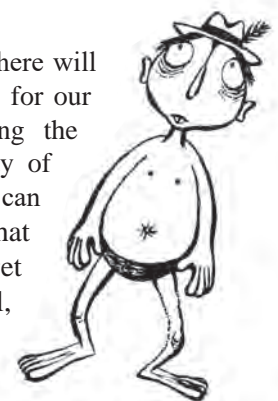
See photos of the completed knives on our website. Applaud the individuals who have contributed to this event. The artistry should be recognized.

## Articles this month....

are from **Jim Pitblado, David Schultz, Merle Spencer, 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.

## The Sizzler...

I am sure that there will be no gathering for our intended meeting the third Wednesday of the month. I can only hope that things will get back to normal, and we will have our regular May meeting. 🐸



FORGIVE ME-I'M ONLY HUMAN

# Unusual Remington Advertising Knife

Jim Pitblado

I do not know about the rest of you knife collectors, but I have gotten to the point in my collecting that I really have to think long and hard about the purchase of a knife for my collection. I attribute this to a couple of things. First, I have more knives than I probably should have. I have collected Remington for about 25 years now and started with fixed blades, then Boy and Girl Scout, then bullets and bone handled folders and finally, pearl handled folders. Along the way I also got a wall full of Remington advertising which I really like. So in addition to having too many knives at my age, I begin to wonder about where this all ends and what will become of all this Remington stuff. Finally, I have found that there are only a few Remington items for which I am still really looking to find. These include a couple rare Remington scouts and utility knives and about 30 Remington pearl folders and one bullet.

So when this little R6473, two blade pen knife with a spear and file, only 3" long but with bone handles and a crest shield, came to my attention, I had to really think it over and also do some investigation. What I liked about it was: First: its condition, almost mint, never used, sharpened or cleaned up. Second: the pattern number is a very uncommon one due to the added expense of the crest shield. Third: it is an advertising knife



with the blade etched "SIMONDS Saws - Files" on the master blade rather than a Remington trademark etch. The final decision was, however, based on looking the name up on Google and finding out the company is well over 100 years old and still in business and has quite an interesting history.

SIMONDS Saws - Files was started in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, in 1832 by Able Simonds, making scythes and woodworking knives. He was 20 years old, and the company was originally named J. T. Farwell, after his brother-in-law who was a partner. They changed the name to A. Simonds and Company in 1851, after Simonds bought out Farwell and started making saws, the Simonds handsaw, which is now quite a collector's item. The name was then changed

to Simonds Mfg. Co. It had one of the first all electrical manufacturing plants in Mass. and, in 1906 purchased the Canada Saw Company and renamed it Simonds Canada Saw. The company continued to grow and built the first windowless factory and changed its name to Simonds Saw and Steel. During the WWII years, fourth generation Don Simonds took over; and the company expanded making armor plates, cross-cut saws and other war materials.

In the 1950s and 60s, it was the second largest file producer in the world; and the name was changed to Simonds Industries, Inc. Today it is Simonds International, a world wide company making files, saws, cutting tools and band saws. It has been in business for more than 180 years. It also has a fabrication plant in Portland, Oregon. It merged with Burton Saw Company of Eugene, Oregon, in early 2018.





# 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) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 09-11, 2021 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 2020 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2021, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2020. 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 12/15/2020.

**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, 2021. **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 09, 2021.**

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

**Saturday, April 10, 2021.**

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

**Sunday, April 11, 2021.**

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)

# At Long Last!

Dave Schultz

I was pretty sure it would never happen; but at long last, after 20 years of “Lusting After” them, I have finally managed to acquire a small part of the collection that seemed to me to be the “end all” in my quest for the best of the best in “Fine” pocketknives.



I first learned of the knives in 1999 when I got my copy of the book *Sheffield Exhibition Knives* from my friend Bill Clausen. On pages 171 through 185 contributing writer J. Bruce Voyles tells the fascinating story of the John Blyde/John Greenhough exhibition knives.



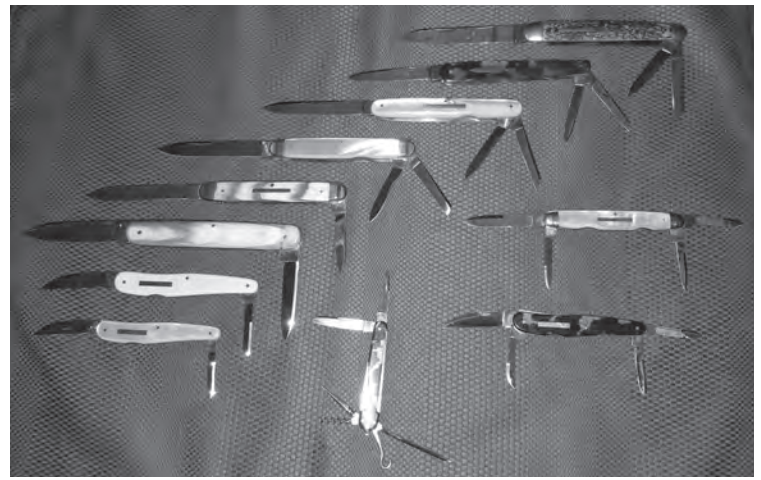
Greenhough was originally just across the street behind George Wostenholm’s Washington Works. They were tenants of Wostenholm for something around 100 years. They were a very small company, probably around 25 or so, and were absorbed by John Blyde pretty early on. They must have kept some autonomy though; as all the knives in the display are stamped “J. Greenhough,” some with the “Gofer” stamp that was a

trademark shared by both Blyde and Greenhough. Judging by the workmanship, close tolerances and file work, I would not be a bit surprised if the Greenhough cutlers built some of the “exhibition” grade fine pocketknives shown by Wostenholm and, possibly, even Rodgers in the late 1800s. There is certainly a great deal in common in regards to outstanding workmanship in these “Fine” pocketknives from that time period. (This is me “supposing” and NOT gospel!)

The knives were made prior to 1879 and were awarded first place at the Sheffield Cutlery Fair in 1879 and an award in Sydney, Australia, the same year. The Greenhough knives also won first place at the Crystal Palace Exhibition in 1894. During the “Golden Age” of Sheffield, when their knives were judged the best in the world, these were judged the best of the best!

Thankfully, the collection on the original display board was purchased intact in 1970 and was photographed intact before the knives were removed from the display board in the 1980s. Unfortunately the center piece “Carnovan” knife disappeared when the collection was broken up. If anyone finds that one, he has something truly amazing!

All of the knives are just outstanding workmanship. All with that famous “black polish,” incredibly tight construction and great natural handle materials. There are a couple two blade pen knives, several whittlers, a six blade wonder only about 1-1/2” long and three Wharncliffe pieces that are just fantastic. The four blade Wharncliffe piece with tortoise shell is one of the neatest pocketknives I can ever remember seeing, unabashedly my favorite! Eight of the eleven came directly from Voyles, and the other three from Claussen, Thank You!, both.



My plan was to show these in April along with my “Sunday Knives” exhibit, however a tragedy interfered with that.

Herein are some pictures of the Greenhough knives. All are just gorgeous, some a bit more than others, what with filework on the blade backs and inside the back springs. Some have gold wash on the bolsters and back springs. All built to exceptionally close standards, the four blade Wharncliffe is just 1/4”-size thick!! Have you ever seen knives where the through the tang nail marks curve with the shape of the blades? The whittlers and two blade pieces are about what one would expect of finely built pocketknives, the other five knives have all the bells and whistles and are just exquisite pieces. 🙌



# The Colonial Survival Knife

ibdennis

In 1944 during WWII, the call went out for a survival knife for the Army Air Corps and also the Navy. Sheath knives were bulky, big and long; so a folding compact survival knife was required.. Colonial Knife Company produced what is sometimes referred to as a folding pilots' knife. The knife that was selected was called the Jiant Jack Knife or Jumbo Jack Knife. The size and weight of this knife could serve as a knife that would fit into a vest type emergency kit, be used as a machete, could cut through wood, plexiglass and metal and be used for personal defense. This was then classified as a survival knife.

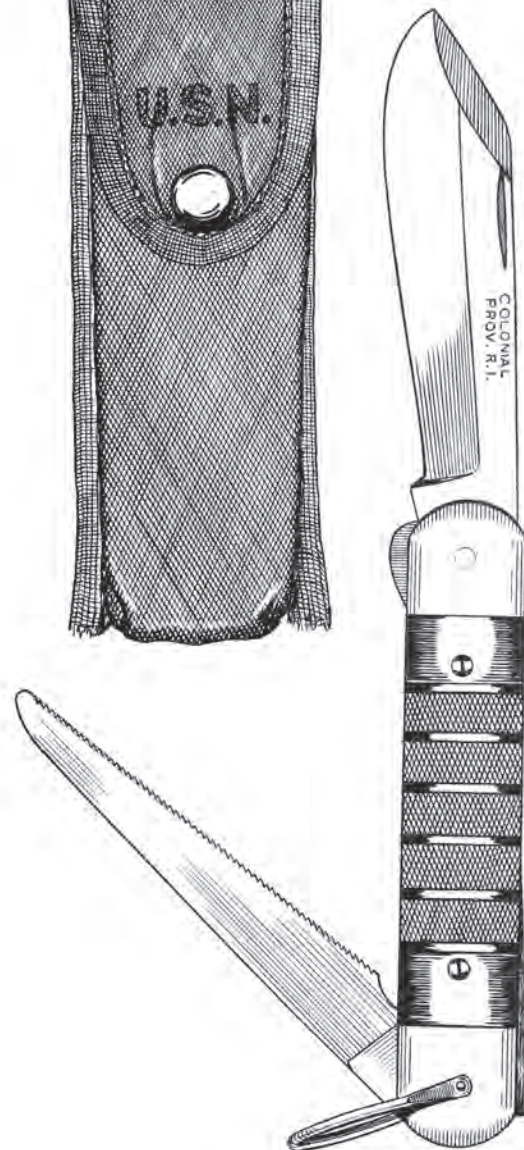
This Jiant (Giant) weighed 14 ounces, 6" closed, 7/8" wide and measured 15-3/4" with both blades open. There was also a liner lock for the main cutting blade. The blades were black parkerized (black oxide); and the handle was made of black Tenite, a durable form of plastic. These were made by the Colonial Knife Company of Rhode Island and United Machine Tool of Michigan. The Army knife did not have a bail (lanyard or sometimes referred to as a staple), whereas the Navy issue had a bail. The Navy knife also came in a canvas web sheath that fit on a belt.

A sheath knife was difficult to carry in an airplane and often got caught up on things. Prior to the Jiant knife, each of the services left the knife of choice to the individual. There was the need to be consistent, which is the military way. This made the folding Jiant knife a perfect solution.

I think they made a hundert bazillion of these knives for the military up through the 1960s. They were also sold in the commercial market place at the astonishing price of \$2.95. In the commercial market a pocketknife of this size was not especially popular. Bear in mind that all these knives came

with a main blade and a high speed steel saw. It is common to see these knives with the saw blade broken. This spurred the removal of the blade, and the knife was reassembled with just one blade. Sometimes the saw was replaced by another handmade blade. Often the blades and bolsters will show a high polish, but again not the military way. The military required that the finish be dull black to avoid sun or moon reflections. And then there is the seller who has one who will swear on a stack of bibles that this was the way they were created for the military in the war years. Not so.

I believe the saw blade was made incorrectly. Yes, it would cut metals and wood; but the cutting stroke was on the push. If the saw blade bound up, it would snap. Western/Coleman made a reproduction of the Jiant Jumbo knife in the 1980s but corrected the saw blade to cut on the back stroke. These knives are not often seen as, again, it is a big knife and the market is really small. Basically, as the Aussie said, "That is not a knife. This is a knife." 🐣



# High Points In My Knife Life

Merle Spencer

There have been many high points in my years of working with knives and knife people. If you like knives, most of your experiences concerning them are enjoyable, but some are more memorable than others; and I will relate a few of mine here. Since I have been writing about knives for twenty years, both for the *Knewslettter* and some magazines, I will refer you to several of my articles, if you want more detail on any given instance.



The first high light, naturally, concerns the first knife I had completed from a blade and handle materials bought at a gun show. The seller was having some wrist problems and was selling all his stuff. With his instructions, I was sure I could put the handle pieces together on the blade. In just a few days I had completed a knife that looked good and felt good in the hand, too.

I showed it to a friend, and he thought it was beautiful. He liked it so well that I made one for him along with a leather sheath I had learned how to make in a book. Then my brother wanted one and then another one to give to his stepson. Next another friend wanted one, and I began to think it was pretty nice to hear people say how nice my work looked and enjoy working on them, too.

Of course, I soon was ordering knife blades and handle materials by mail and also buying knife books, as well. I also talked to makers at shows, where I bought more blades and handle materials.

Another high point occurred at a Show close to twenty years ago. I had already written some articles for the Club by then.

I went to the awards session at the close of the day and towards the end I was surprised to hear my name called. I went forward and was handed a small folder. When I opened it, there was a silver medallion with a beaver on one side and a lighthouse on the other.

Beautiful! I've received one every year since.

Of course, every Show is a high point. I enjoy the displays, the friends, meeting new people and looking for treasures. I always go home happy. (See "Another Show..." April 2011 p. 4)

A younger (teenage) hunter in our group was the catalyst for the next high point I describe. We all had nick names we called each other. This kid's dad was Long Knife, so we called the youngster Pen Knife. After a couple years he said he wanted to be called Hunting Knife. He was approaching six feet so it looked reasonable, but we decided he should earn it by getting a bull elk all by himself. A year or so later, he and another lad in our group went out from our camp over a ridge and downed an elk between the two of them. But...neither one of them had a knife with him. So Pen Knife got a new name, but not Hunting Knife. We called him No Knife for quite some time. He did however later get a bull elk all by himself, and we were proud to call him Hunting Knife. (See "From Pen Knife To Hunting Knife" Dec. 2003 p.9)

As a result of all this, I asked him if he would like to have a handmade hunting knife. He indicated he could not afford a knife like that. When I convinced him it would be a gift, I went to work on it. About a year later it was finished, and I delivered it to him. I don't know who enjoyed that meeting more...him enjoying the knife or me enjoying him being pleased. That's another of my gift knives that never went to the woods, instead sat on a shelf for display.

Seeing my first article published in the *Knewslettter* was a high point, as were the knife articles in *Blade Magazine*, *Knife*



*World*, and *Dakota Outdoors*. Every time I bought a knife at a show was a high point.

Early on in my membership in this association, I went to an after-show potluck dinner that used to occur at the close of the Winter Show. There was a chance to visit with other knife people that we weren't able to contact during the Show. At time to eat one member asked a blessing for our food. It was good food. The President of the association stood up at the end and advised us to be nice to each other and be careful going home. I like knife people.



The best one I have saved for last. At a wedding breakfast years ago, a relative asked me to make a knife for her son who had just retired from military Special Forces. I agreed to do it, but it took two years at my hobby pace. Every few months I sent him pictures by email to show my progress. When I finally sent it to him, I got an email back expressing his appreciation and a picture of the knife lying on a deer he and his son had taken. He said the gift made him feel like he did when his grandfather gave him a shotgun when he was fourteen years old. I was tearily moved. (See "Responses To Gifts Of Knives, Feb. 2009 p 1)

*Editors note. All these articles by Merle can be viewed on the OKCA web site.* 🐾





## 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 laminated gossamer wings) 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.

**David Boye Knives** are available for sale. Dan Pfahning. qcutery@yahoo.com or (406)261-4873

**For Sale** - Mint Randall 50 year commemorative #257 - Call Jim, (562)716-9857 or email jpitt306@earthlink.net,

**For Sale** - 1990 Terry Davis OKCA Club Knife. \$750.00 or make an offer. Jack (909)908-1952 or jaxxrman@yahoo.com

**For Sale** - Hard core 2x72 variable speed grinder 1.5HP 115V 8" wheel, plat platen, small work rest \$1,800.00. Contact Gary Martindale (253)307-8388

**For Sale** - Jet Knee Mill w/2 axis DRO. See ad in Portland craigslist.org. Ray (503)658-2252

**For Sale** - Bader BMII belt grinder. Frame and motor only (motor needs work.) No attachments or guards. \$325.00. Ray (503)658-2252.

**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 Matthew Brice at St. Croix Blades buys collections and estates. Military knives, antique knives, Randall, Ruana, customs, modern folders and fixed blades--ALL knives. Also buy Japanese samurai swords. website <http://www.stcroixblades.com> or email [info@stcroixblades.com](mailto:info@stcroixblades.com) (715)557-1688.

**Consignment.** Want to get the most you can for your collection? St. Croix Blades will sell your knife collection alongside other collectors' knives. Gain exposure for your knives by having them appear alongside Scagels; Randalls; Ruanas; Liles; fighters; folders; customs; antique; modern Spyderco, Benchmade, etc.; and antique Samurai swords. <http://www.stcroixblades.com> Email at [info@stcroixblades.com](mailto:info@stcroixblades.com) (715)557-1688.

**Like to shop the internet for knives?** St. Croix Blades sells knives of ALL types. WW2 knives--Huff, Stelzig, Messenger, Case V42, Raider Stiletto, M3's, etc. Antique Japanese Samurai swords. Vietnam knives: Randall, Dan, SOG, etc. Customs: Loveless, Scagel, Cooper, Morseth, Ruana, BUCK, etc. Folders: Benchmade, Spyderco, Lone Wolf, Chris Reeve, etc. Go to: <http://www.stcroixblades.com> and St. Croix Blades | eBay Stores

**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](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.

**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](mailto:jgl321@aol.com)

**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 :** 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 [lodend@dka-online.com](mailto:lodend@dka-online.com) or call (765) 244-0614 8AM-8PM EST.

**For Sale:** older knives. Please visit HHknives 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). (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.

**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 Sign up" tab. Non Facebook users can still find us at: [facebook.com/5160Club](http://facebook.com/5160Club).

**Want to Learn to Make a Knife? The \$50 Knife Shop** by Wayne Goddard is back in print and available from Steve Goddard. Also has copies of the **Wonder of Knifemaking**. Books are \$25.00 plus shipping. Call Steve (541)870-6811 or send an email to [sg2goddard@comcast.net](mailto:sg2goddard@comcast.net)

**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).

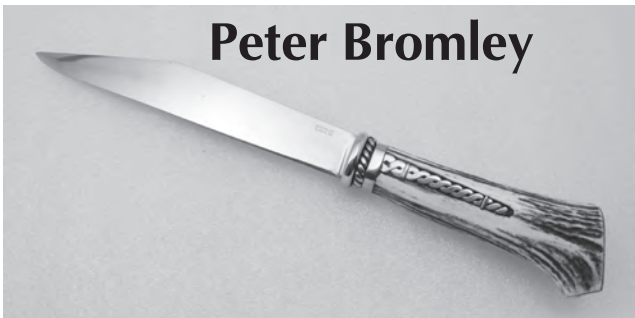
**Knife Laws on-line.** Federal, state, local. Bernard Levine (541)484-0294 [www.knife-expert.com](http://www.knife-expert.com).



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

PRESORTED  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
US POSTAGE PAID  
EUGENE OR  
PERMIT NO. 17

## 2020 Seax Knives



**Peter Bromley**



**Gary DeKorte**



**Gary Griffin**



**Brion Baker**



**Harlan Whitman**

