COLLECTOR'S

KNEWSLETTTER IN A KNUTSHELL

- ✔ Remington Pearl Knives
- ✓ A Tale of Two Knives
- ✓ Memories

- ✓ Woody Showed Me
- ✓ No meetings for awhile

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

October 2020

Two Remington Advertising Pearl Knives

Jim Pitblado

For much of my knife collecting, I have had an interest in Remington advertising knives. They are all unique; and in many cases, they have an interesting history that goes with each knife. Mark Zalesky got me started collecting these knives about 25 years ago when he sold



me a 3-blade pyremite bartender knife with the name 'Robert L Remensnyder' on it. In my spare time I researched the name and wrote an article about the bar named for its owner, Robert Remensnyder. After about six months, I had a call from a relative who wanted the knife. She lived about 20 miles from me, so I sold it to her for what I had paid Mark. Then guess what? It showed up on eBay this year, being sold by my relative. However, it had not been well cared for and was not mint like it was when I purchased it. It is pictured in Sargent's sixth book on page 421.

Since then I have written a number of articles on Remington advertising knives, including the Moby Dick kitchen knife and, most recently this year, my article "Unusual Remington Advertising Knife" on the Simonds Saws R6473. This company started in Massachusetts in 1832 and currently has an office in Eugene, Oregon. Since writing this article, I have traded this knife and obtained two little pearl handled knives which I will call the S.S.S. knife and the other the Harold G. Hoffman knife.



As you can see from the picture the "1826 S.S.S. 1929" is engraved on the pearl handle of the R7094, 3-blade lobster. It is done in black with a red S.S.S. The three blades are a spear, pen, and manicure. The tang stamp on both blades is Remington UMC inside a

circle, and it dates to 1929. The R number is stamped on the back of the master blade. To me what is unusual is that the bail is at the master knife end of the knife while the Remington catalogue shows it at the manicure blade end. This is the first of this pattern I have seen, so maybe it was produced with two bail variations. The catalogue also shows this knife with no blade etch. The knife closed is 2-5/8 inches.

So, who was, or is S.S.S.? Well, it is the result in 1926 of the Creek Indians giving a treasured remedy now known as SSS tonic to Captain Irwin Dennard of Perry, Georgia. He was gifted this because he saved a Creek chief's life. Dannard sold the formula to Colonel Charles Swift who partnered with Colonel H. Lamar of Macon, Georgia, to bottle and sell the tonic with SSS standing for Swift's Southern Specific.

In 1873 they moved the company to Atlanta, Georgia, and operated for more than 100 years with just the one tonic product. I can imagine them riding into town in a covered wagon and hawking the tonic to the locals until they had sold all their inventory.

Today the company has diversified to S.S.S. International with three subsidiaries, eight products, and 65 employees in Atlanta. Sales are estimated to be 14.5 million dollars. The company is also just six years of being 200 years old.

The next pearl knife to look at is a more common R8004, 3-blade pen knife. It is 2-3/4 inches in length closed. The blades are a small spear, a file and scissors. This knife is hard to find without a chip to the end of the pearl. The name of Harold G Hoffman is



engraved in gold color on the front side of the knife as you can see from its picture.

A look through Google reveals quite an interesting history for, who was born in 1896 in New Jersey and died in June 1954.

Following his enlistment in the Army in 1917, he became a captain who was eventually discharged as a lieutenant colonel in 1942. He also went to work for a bank after WWI and ended up as its president.

*Continued on page 3**

The Seek-Re-Tary Report

elayne

Thank you to all who have been understanding of the inconvenience and disruption of our 2020 Show plans. We are coping, the OKCA is strong; but we need the continued support of our membership to endure. Be there for us. You are needed.

Thank you to all who have read our *Knewslettter* and have forwarded an article for publication. It will be a surprise to you when you learn that others are very interested to hear about your interests, mistakes and pleasures. During the Show, we don't have an opportunity to learn about the knifemaker from whom we purchased a knife or where the collector found the items he is selling or the history of the item we purchased. The *Knewsletter* affords us an opportunity to advise us of the history and variety of our common interests.

I always review the article I wrote the previous year as well as the article I wrote the previous issue. It reminds me of subjects I might otherwise forget. This issue should include the hype for the Holiday (December/Winter/Mini) Show. But the crystal ball is very cloudy right now; so, unfortunately, the Board the Directors have decided it is not in the best interests of our organization

to have a Show in December. We do not know, as of this date, if the Oregon Governor will continue to restrict the number of persons at an event (as has been done since March, 2020). The current limit is an ever changing number. Searching the website for Lane County or Eugene, there are no definitive numbers. We are also unsure we would have sufficient participation of table-holders and visitors to warrant an event. There is a lot of work and expense associated with any Showeven a small one. We would rather have memories of successes and not duds. We are also concerned that it might be like a petri dish for transmission of the flu. We do not want to contribute to an already severe caseload of illnesses. We have had a few who have already paid for their Holiday Show table. They will receive a refund of their payment of \$40.00.



We have had phone calls with all of the Board of Directors during this trying time to decide issues of concern, such as meetings and the Holiday Show, etc. We do not have meetings during the summer months but did have a no-

host dinner in June. Nothing in July or August. We have had no member meetings since May, 2020. We had no meeting in April. We were not able to have a meeting in September nor will we have a meeting in October. We will await the new directive and advise if a November meeting is possible.

We request that you forward a 2021 table application to insure your fees for 2020 will apply to the 2021 April Show. It is recommended you include your 2021 dues so you will not forget to renew by the December 15, 2020 table renewal deadline for the 2019 tables for 2021.

We sold all of the 2020 Great Eastern Club knives. Thank you to all who supported this moneymaking project. Not sure what 2021 will be. **Roy Humenick** will again coordinate the project for 2021 as he has for the last several years. His decisions have helped us to offer items that have been very desirable

Thank you to **Lisa Wages** who has continued to monitor our FaceBook page. The number of persons wishing to join or add comments has increased with the shutdown. Please remember that only members may offer items for sale, but anyone may join.

Stay safe and keep a distance from others (especially those we have designated as partners). It reduces the arguments and frustration.

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OKCA Knews & Musings

ibdennis

The December Show

After much gnawing and grinding of the teeth, it has been decided that the Holiday Show would not be a good idea. **It has been cancelled.** Aside from the health issue which is primary, it is hard to envision it would be a well attended event. From table-holders to event attendees, we do not predict a packed venue.



"Dad, watch me juggle!"

The April Show

The April Show is in limbo right now waiting to see which way the pandemic turns. Participant attendance from table-holders to visitors is a key to having this event. There have been many contingency plans passed on to us, but to understand why some of the ideas won't work requires the understanding of what it takes to have an event like this happen. The idea of table separation to meet spacing requirements means that the number of

tables would be severely reduced. Also who would be the persons deleted from the table-holder list?? That equates to the reduction in the finances that are needed to meet the rental of the building and the advertising costs. If sanitizing of items is required, it means that one should not touch items.

I should hazard a guess that a slight few understand the insurance issue. We have to pay a huge amount of money to insure our Shows. Without Shows we do not need insurance. In 2020 we paid for insurance that was not needed, we do not want to repeat that pattern. We will need to wait for the directives to arrive before we commit to a payment. This in itself makes us take a hard look at the future of a Show for 2021.

The September Knewslettter

I took a stance of tough love in my words in the last *Knewslettter*. I received numerous telephone calls suggesting that it sounded like I was tossing in the towel and was burned out with the OKCA. Not so. Elayne and I are continuing to have high hopes we can get back to the organization for which we have worked and have high regard and respect. We are not burned out, but yes we are discouraged about the events that we call a pandemic. The Knewslettter will continue as long as we have words to print. That pretty well means we need to have the support of the membership. The knowledge is out there so we need to corral it.

'Really Diabolical': Inside the Coronavirus That Outsmarted Science

The new coronavirus is a killer with a crowbar, breaking and entering human

cells with impunity. It hitchhikes a c r o s s c o n t i n e n t s, carried on coughs and careless hands, driven by its



own urgent necessity to survive.

It has a gregarious side that makes it hard to resist. It loves a party. The persistent social climber claims its victims around the world by riding on moments of the most innocent of human interactions—a shared laugh, a conversation, an embrace. And it is a liar. SARS-CoV-2, which causes Covid-19, often misleads the body's immune systems.

Taken on its own terms, SARS-CoV-2 is the infectious disease success of the past 100 years.

Monthly Meetings

Aside from the ban on group gatherings, our meeting place of several years has closed their doors. Finding an alternate site once things loosen up will prove to be interesting. So for now - no monthly meetings. Besides that there is a call for no gathering of any size which has been down to ten at one point or another.

Articles this month

Thank you Jim Pitblado, Herb Rockey, Merle Spencer, Scott Vollstedt for their words this month. Thank you Vincent Van Gogh for lending an ear to this publication.

Two Remington Advertising Pearl Knives continued from page 1

Hoffman spent much of his career as a politician serving in congress as a representative from 1927 to 1931. He was the youngest and 41st governor of New Jersey from 1935 to 1938. As governor he was noted for fighting with reporters over his advocation for a state sales tax and for a secret meeting with Bruno Hauptman who was on death row following his kidnapping conviction in 1935. The purpose was to try to reopen the case, as Hoffman

suspected Hauptman might not be guilty. After his governorship, Hoffman ran the New Jersey Unemployment Commission, until shortly before his death, when he confessed to embezzling \$300,000.00 from this employer. A character with quite a political and business history.

I have found that Remington made many advertising knives with different shields, etches, initials, signatures, names, emblems, coloring. These were widely ordered by both individuals and companies. I have seen these variations on both Remington folders, hunting knives and kitchen knives. I expect I will see more in the future, when we get back to having knife shows again. I think that the majority of these speciality knives were made with pearl scales. In looking through my collection, I find I currently own 27 different pearl advertising folders.

October 2020 Page 3

Woody Showed Me

Merle Spencer

Woody Woodcock is a name many of you will remember as the maker of beautifully finished knives who had a table at the OKCA Shows for many years.

I first saw a couple of his knives at a flea market in Tillamook, Oregon, sometime after we had moved to the Nehalem Bay area from Eastern Oregon in 1986. Both these knives were stamped "Woody," as that was before he got his etching marker. He still lived way up the Trask River then. I learned that area during the three years I drove the Tillamook County Library bookmobile.



I first became acquainted with Woody when I stopped at his store in Nehalem, Oregon, about two miles from where we lived. An oval sign emblazoned "Knife Emporium" hung out in front.

I think it was then that he gave me a valuable first lesson. We were talking about handle shape; and he explained how the profile of a handle, looking from above, should be dished in on both sides from the guard toward the middle of the handle, gradually widening to form a palm swell and tapering toward the tang again with a graceful flair at the end. I visited him many times after that during the years we lived there, and I used that handle shape on most of my knives.

He later moved his store and shop the two miles to Wheeler, and this was very convenient for me; since I lived just two blocks up the hill. I remember a couple times meeting him just coming out of his shop with some finished knives to take around the corner to his store. Of course, not all of them got there; and the collection in my knife chest grew.

I stopped in Woody's store quite often just to talk when he wasn't busy. We became good friends, and our conversations weren't always about knives; but when you're in a knife store with cases full of knives.....

I learned very much about making knives during those sessions; but sometimes when I was working on a knife in my own shop, I got stuck and had to stop and go see Woody.

Woody was an artist. He designed his own blade shapes, and they were graceful.

I declined his offer to show me how to grind blades, as I had experienced enough grinding in jobs in my youth. I just wanted to complete pretty knives, so I bought blades from him as well as from other makers.

He did some scrimshaw also, and some of it was displayed in his workplace.



He showed me how to do back filing. I had seen him sit with a blade in his lap and file a climbing vine design without measuring or marking spaces at all. He filed one cut, moved the file along with his thumb, filed the next cut and kept going toward the point. I found later that with all my measuring and notching, the cuts aren't going to all be the same distance apart, anyway.

Once I was working on putting together a folding lock-back knife from a kit. I asked Woody questions about how to make the parts fit tight. My rancher cousin was to be the recipient of this stag-handled folder, so I engraved some vines and cattle brands on the bolsters. When it was finished, I showed it to Woody and told



him I was going to give it to my cousin. He said, "No, you ought to just give this one to me."

After 15 years or so of my enjoying Woody's companionship, he fell ill to a disease that made it necessary for him have dialysis treatments three times a week. The closest facility was in Astoria 45 miles away. I offered to drive on the middle day, and his wife drove the other two days. This arrangement went on for a year or more. He used to want to buy gas, but I would refuse. This day was a vacation for me. I got to go shopping at Fred Meyer and Costco. I could take my guitar and practice or read down by the river and watch the big ships go by. At noon I could lunch at one of the good eateries in Astoria.

But you need to let people say thank you; so one morning as he got in the car, he handed me a Puma folding knife. On another morning after I had asked him for some steel scraps to try to make miniatures with, he handed me a 6" by 6" display case containing six miniature blades from an inch and a quarter down to three-eighths inches long. Over time some of the little blades were not put back in the case. Now the case contains some Woody miniature knives.

In answer to a request in Blade magazine, I sent a story about Woody for "My Mentor Knifemaker," and it was published in the October 2005 issue.

I miss Woody still.





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

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OKCA membership includes knewslettter, dinner/sv	wap meetings, free admission	to OKCA shows.
Start/Renew my/our OKCA membership (\$20 individual/\$25	family) \$	

46TH 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 AP-PLICATIONS 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

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 COV-**ERS 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

SHOW **SCHEDULE**

Friday, April 09, 2021. 10am - 7pm set-up; open ONLY

to table-holders and members of

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.

granted if reservatio MAIL THIS PAGE	RACT: PLEASE ENCLOSE FULL PAYMENT WITH n canceled by February 15, 2021. DON'T GET L AND YOUR CHECK TODAY. A signature is requ	EFT OUT!!! ired.
Type of knives on your	tables	
Name for second badg	ge	_(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	h\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED (make check payable to O.K.C.A.)		
Signature	Da	ate

A Tale of Two Knives

Herb Rockey

Here we have a couple of knives that I sharpened for a friend. Now, these are not just any two knives. They are on the leading edge of a new Covid-19 pastime. But first, a little back-story.

A friend of ours does a lot of fishing, and I mean almost every weekend during the summer. She and her husband catch a lot of trout. My wife also does some sewing for her. So the natural outfall is my wife does sewing for her, and they bring us smoked fish. A win-win situation. I've also done some simple leatherwork for her (other than collecting knives I do leatherwork).

So it came as a surprise one day that our friend showed up with these two knives, wanting them sharpened. No problem I told her but asked her where she got them, knowing that they filleted fish all the time and had the hardware to do it. She explained that they were working on fish and dropped their fillet knife into the

water under the pier. Uh oh. So they went and got a fairly large magnet and attached a rope to it. They did not find their knife, but they did find these two knives.

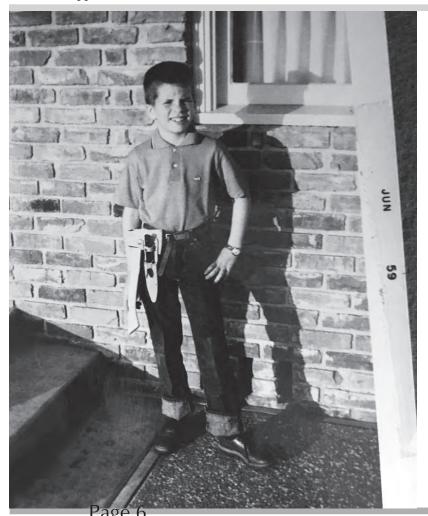
The Chicago Cutlery is a nice fillet knife and had been used very little it would seem. The other is a Rapala in its own Finnish type sheath. I sharpened both of them and treated the sheath with some reconditioner. For the other, I threw together a quick sheath from some scrap leather I had laying around, just to protect the knife and to keep from getting cut; since it had been sharpened to a razor sharp edge. On both I finished the wood in boiled linseed oil, which

darkened the wood somewhat. As you can see, the Rapala knife wood was pretty weathered. All in all, a pretty good find.

But to close the loop. The pastime discovered is called magnet fishing... So with some good social distancing



you can get yourself some strong magnets and rope and spend some good quality time fishing for those rare finds under the fishing pier. I personally would use a 24" magnet for picking up construction nails. Who knows what you might find!!



Memories of Long Ago

Scott Vollstedt

You never know what you are going to find in the attic when you downsize. This photo was taken on my eighth birthday, note the new shirt and rolled up jeans, but especially the knife and hatchet on the hip. I found it in an old scrap book that my mother made over 50 years ago, and it memorializes the beginning of my knife collection.

My collecting days were influenced by my grandmother when she would take me to the Portland Salvation Army Store - she taught me the value of looking for old and useful things, while my mother would go "antiquing." My father was a retailer for Gerber knives in the early 1970s, and I still have a knife or two from that era. My very first collection was kept in a red satin lined cigar box and consisted of ten to twelve knives - as many as could be displayed in such luxury - but my mother told me that was lost when we moved (perhaps that was a reflection of her preferences in those days!).



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 Doctor prescription orders) 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 jaxxxrman@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.

Custom Leather for 43 years. Mail PO Box 333 Idyllwild CA 92549 (951)303-4666. Visit website mountainmikecustomleather.com.

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 (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 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

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.

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.

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

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 jigged 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.

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.

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

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.

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The Knewslettter

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Vincent Van Gogh

ibdennis

The name Vincent Van Gogh should be known to a few of you. He was an artist in the 1880s period. During his lifetime he only sold one of his paintings. Now the best and richest knife connoisseur could not even afford to purchase one of his paintings. We are talking about millions of dollars should one come up for sale. Stick with knives, not paintings. After all, you can stick a knife on the wall just as easily as a painting.

There is a mystery surrounding the question of why Van Gogh cut off his ear. He did a self portrait after the fact called "Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear" (1889). As a knife person I was always curious as to what kind of a knife was used for this operation of self mutilation. Or was it a razor? Better yet, why was this done? He was not married, so it wasn't because of a nagging wife. Some say it was a mental breakdown. Some say it happened during a fight and not self inflicted. Some say it was due to a letter he received. We will never know for sure, but the theories abound even today.

If the suspected knife that did the deed ever comes up for sale on eBay.... I will bid on it.

