



## NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ Good Ol' Knives
- ✓ M.S.I. Knife
- ✓ A Strange Viewpoint
- ✓ Knives in Iraq
- ✓ Stripping Knives

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

## October 2003

### GOOD OL' KNIVES

By Merle Spencer

This past June my wife and I took a trip back to western South Dakota where I grew up. One day while we were at my cousin's ranch, he showed me a knife he had made some thirty years ago. He is not a knife maker but has been a rancher all his life. This means he had to learn how to fix any of the equipment used for haying or harvesting or raising stock, and he learned well. Welding and working with metal in general naturally became everyday procedures.

As a kid I remember, among all the other equipment around the ranch that we used to inspect and sometimes play on (and sometimes get into trouble on), there used to be an old drag saw. The blade must have been six feet or so long and probably more than six inches wide and about 3/16 inch thick. He had made a hunting knife from a piece of this blade.

My cousin told me he cut the knife blade to shape with an acetylene torch and ground it smooth on whatever grinder was available at the ranch at that time. The result was a very usable blade some four or five inches long with an upswept profile similar to a couple of skinning blades that were used in butchering on the place for many years. The tang has a slight drop with finger grooves, even a guard, and to this he attached a handle using small bolts and nuts. For handle material he used the palm section of an old moose antler that was a part of the sundry materials that collect on a ranch over the years. The piece of antler was thick enough that he split it to form the two slabs for the handle.

This knife feels good in the hand and has nice balance. He says it cuts just fine. I imagine it could be used just fine, also, from the feel of it.

Over the years I have had a number of other people tell me that they had cut a knife blade from a saw or other flat tool with a cutting torch and then ground it to shape for a finished blade. I always wondered how this was accomplished without ruining the temper of the steel. I have heard several stories about blades made this way being very useful tools.

In the early 1960's, while managing a farm labor camp, I met a man who was selling kitchen knives made out of

handsaw blades. They seemed to be pretty good knives and the price was right, so I purchased two of them for use in the kitchen. They were still there when the camp was finally closed and the equipment auctioned. I procured the shorter knife, which had a blade 7 1/2 inches long. The other one, with a blade about 10 inches long, looked too large to me. I couldn't picture that knife at home in the kitchen.

This knife has a clear plastic straight handle held together with three copper rivets. The blade long ago took on a dark, mottled color. But that knife will cut. It doesn't stay sharp long, but a few strokes with a ceramic rod gets it going again. My wife has several good name brand kitchen knives, but when she wants something that will cut for sure, she still reaches for the old saw-blade knife. ✂



# Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

by Frank Trzaska

## A Strange Viewpoint

We have written about this phenomenon before and it hit us again today. Knife collecting is a rather recent invention. Only the rich could afford to have a knife in the 18th or 19th century and not use it. Knives were tools and like any other tool they were used until they broke and then they were replaced with another. There just wasn't any need to have two of them.

The great gun scribe Townsend Whelen once quipped that "only accurate guns are interesting." We wonder what he would think in this day and age? Are only sharp knives interesting? A knife is a tool made for cutting, all sorts of knives are made to cut all sorts of materials. Some are very specialized, such as a surgeon's tenotome or a chef's cheese slicer. Many are made for general utility purposes, such as the four bladed folding utility or a bone handled equal end jack. The common purpose of the knife is to cut. In eight years of doing this column, we have only spoken of it one time before, do you find that strange? We do.

It seems to be prevalent among collectors of all sorts to study the

artifact, yet have little use for it in its stated form. Custom car collectors rarely drive their cars, coin collectors do not spend their coins, while stamp collectors rarely lick the backs and mail them! We study them for the finest of details and minutiae only other collectors of the same genre can appreciate. Most likely you can enter any home in suburbia and find a knife that actually works for a living at its stated purpose, it is there to cut. Rarely will you find a home that possesses 50 or more knives that have not cut anything as long as the current owners have held them. We have drawers full of knives that have never cut anything since we have owned them. Is that strange behavior?

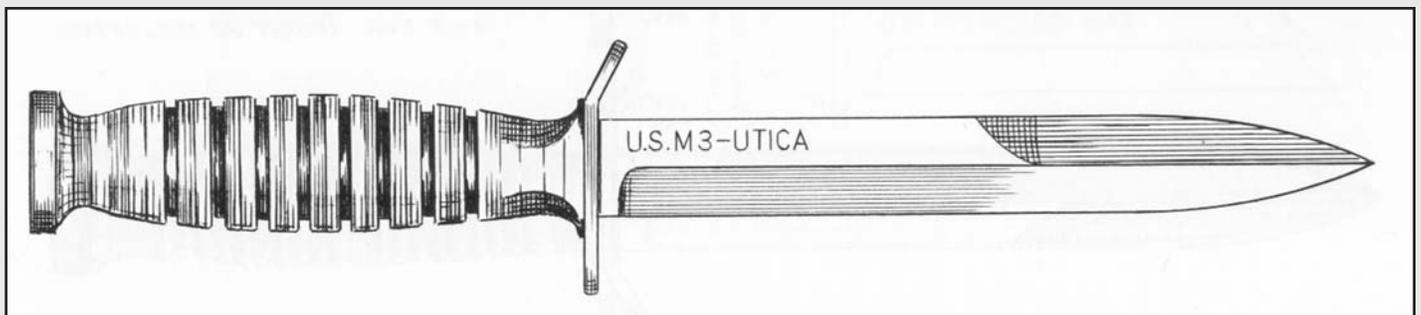
Many of our knives are conversation pieces simply because they are made differently than others. We have well over 250 variations of the simple Mark 2 style knife, why would any normal person do such a thing? We can count several rolls full of MIL-K knives in our possession merely because they have different date stamps on them, yet we only have four pockets in our pants and only carry one knife on a daily basis.

We compare knives to photos and drawings of known examples, trying to find one like it and passing up dozens in the process that may well be much better at cutting. The finding of a knife not in "the books" is comparable to a collector like finding the Holy Grail would have been to the Crusaders. In fact, of the knives stated above, we do not know which brand actually cuts better; and we have collected them for 35 years! We have noted on occasion that many of the

most collectable knives are really rather poor cutters and crudely made.

One that comes to mind is the highly sought after SOG knives of the Vietnam War era. Poor balance, poor steel, small handles and bad edge geometry, yet they sell for thousands of dollars more than a current high quality production knife one can purchase new for \$100.00 or less and would cut your finger off if you were to slip with it. To top it off the higher the price range the less likely it is the object is to be used. When was the last time we saw a Rolls Royce Silver Ghost tooling around Manhattan as a taxi cab or a lovely lady wearing the Hope Diamond? How about sticking a Honus Wagner baseball card on the spokes of some kids bike to make noise with, it just isn't done.

We have elevated simple objects to celebrity status through demand. What confuses us the most is why are they in demand? If we compete against each other to purchase one sample, it raises the price, this in turn raises the demand, which in turn raises the price. Before long others notice it and demand rises again, now due to increased demand, not just price alone. We could purchase a nice Utica guard marked M3 in an M8A1 scabbard tomorrow for \$175.00, yet if we wanted to purchase a mint condition Robeson blade dated M3 in a mint SBL M6 scabbard we could offer \$1500.00 and have to look long and hard to find one. The funny part about it is we still wouldn't know which one cuts better! We certainly are a strange breed we humans.  
trz@mcsystems.net



# OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

## We Goofed up.....

Actually, I didn't as it was really Elayne that did. We ran the awesome article on the Remington advertising paper last month and failed to tell who wrote it. Maybe most of you guessed. It was by **Jim Pitblado**. Jim was most gracious and understanding as I told him it was Elayne's fault. But any way as an apology to Jim we are doing something awesome special in honor of him. No one will know until next April, but I can assure you that Jim will understand and appreciate what we will do because Elayne screwed up.

## Things are Always in Motion...

And that is what makes our organization so spectacular. A new idea was generated from **Hannah Morgan**. Hannah is one of our younger and newer knife makers. She suggested that it might not be a bad idea to have a custom competition category at the Show that would be open to the members who are in High School or younger for that matter. **John Priest** heads up the



competition for the Custom Knife event and said if there was interest we could do it.

At this point there are four that have expressed honest interest in this competition. So here are the ground rules at this time: High School age or younger are eligible to enter this competition. All the work on the knife must be done by the entrant. A non OKCA maker can enter if that person is sponsored by an OKCA member. Entry in this competition will not affect future entry

into the New Maker category that we have each year. A trophy will be presented to the Best Junior maker of Show.

**Craig Morgan** at first suggested that the category limits would be anyone that had not graduated from High School, however I thought that Craig might enter this category and I knew he couldn't stand being beaten by his daughter.

## Help us Promote the Show.....

Over the years we have worked to develop an advertising method that was simple and cost effective. I call them Show Flyers and our printer calls them notepads. Or you can call them hand bills or hand outs or..... The main point is that they are concise, informative pieces of paper that let people know about our Show. And even when you turn them over to use as a scratch pad there is a message telling you not to forget our Show. They fit nicely into a #10 envelope, and we pad them in 25 count tablets.

I rarely have people write me asking for these so that they can put them in their knife mailings. I rarely get a telephone call requesting these so everyone can advertise our event. The local folks here in Eugene take then because I growl if they don't. I also growl at a knife or gun show if I see a member with a table without these flyers visible.

So help us promote our Show by email or writing or calling and request a number of these so you can be on our advertising team. I would be glad to have **elayne** send you as many as you can use. Let's make our Show bigger for 2004. Encourage a knifer to come to Eugene in April 2004.

## The Secret Code and Hand Shake.....

If you look on the label that is affixed to this Knewsletter there is a four digit code in the upper right hand corner. That code should best read 2004 pretty soon. And you know how to make it read that way, don't you?

Paid for your table yet? Dunno? The clue might be in your label once again. If the code sezs 2003 the odds are that not only is your membership getting due, but your tables more than likely aren't paid for either. I looked in my crystal ball the other night (actually it was Elayne's and she was out flying on her broom so I sneaked a peek) and I saw that we are gonna have another sold out Show with our 470 tables. Not to forget to get your tables paid for or U B Solly.

## The 2004 OKCA Club Knife....

We have the knife in mind and we thought that we could present it in this issue, but there are a few more details that need to be worked out. The colour of the bone handles needs to be finalized and just exactly what will be the scheme of things. The next issue for sure will have an order form and details. I can tell you that the knife will be a Butch Vallotton knife and very much in the flavor of last years sell out knife. It will also be a knife that we heard many people comment they would like to have seen in the last knife. And so it shall be.



## Articles - Articles - Articles ...

The cupboard is getting a bit bone dry with articles for our next year of Knewsletters. Next month or two are good but..... Can you help us?

## The vise...

I purchased the vise that was mentioned in the last month's article by **Bill Herndon**. He got his on sale for a few dollars less but that was OK. I am absolutely pleased with this vise. I do not use a vise much but I am always plagued by it never being at the angle that I need. This vise does and it locks itself into position when tightened. What a great tool and cost effective too.

## Here is the latest....as of today....

A photo of what happens when an executive retires. He lets himself go!! Atta Boy **Jim Pitblado**. And ya know what else... Jim and Barbara are part time Oregonians now.



# The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The first meeting at G. Willickers, September 11, 2003 was a reminder that the new business year has begun. Technically a calendar year is our business year for all financial matters, but all of us know the year really ends and begins with the SHOW. Build up to it and wind down from it. We are now building up to it.

There were 29 present and all were anxious to begin the race for the best of all shows. The first order of business was a sincere apology to **Jim Pitblado** who wrote a very informative article regarding Remington that appeared in the September, 2003 Knewslettter without his name as author. Mea culpa, mea maxima culpa, Jim.

The December show will be held in the Wheeler Pavilion December 13, 2003. This is a larger facility (as some of you may remember we had the Big Show in this building for many years) and has been remodeled with better lighting and more heat. (You also may remember that heat, or lack of heat, has been an issue at several of the December shows in the past.) Please contact **Michael Kyle** at (541)998-5729 or email a-doxxie22@att.net for reservations.

The Willamette Valley Arms Collectors show will be held September 20 and 21 in Eugene,

Oregon. The Great Northwest Show will be September 27 and 28 in Salem OR. The Northwest Knife Collectors will have a knife show in conjunction with the Washington Arms Collectors in Puyallup WA October 4 and 5. Many of our members will have tables and will be attending all of these shows. (Please review the events calendar on the back of the Knewslettter. Many great shows are held in all areas of the US.)

Please always remember to call before traveling to any show. Changes do occur. (We even changed the dates of an OKCA Show and a nightmare was a happy time in comparison. It gets ugly.) There is a note on each entry on the events calendar to advise who to call about any event we list on the Knewslettter.

**Butch Valloton** has volunteered to produce the Club knife for 2004. It was a very pleasant surprise that he would be willing to do it again. We had great success with the 2003 knife and anticipate the same for 2004. We will have additional information and an order form in the next issue of the Knewslettter. (Sorry, but no can do. Still some rocks to grind and polish. Will be in November, 2003 Knewslettter for sure.)

We currently have 1500 members but know that more will be renewing as the year progresses. Always a major sign up at the December show and another large group in April. (Please to remember no entry to April Show if not a member. Membership renewal at the Show will be PM not AM.) (Also must be sure you list the name of the second badge on your table reservation.)

The men who participated in the blade grinding competition 2003 Show have graciously agreed to finish the blades. These will be presented at the 2004 Show to the winners of the display competition. Thank you, **Bruce Bump, Bill Burke, Matt Cook, Scott Cook, Ray Ennis, Tedd Harris, Gene Martin and Nick Wheeler**. We have several more blades and will seek volunteers to finish them also. Please contact **Wayne Morrison** (541)942-1374 if you are willing to finish a blade for the 2004 Display Awards.

Last Knewslettter I thanked **Bernard Levine** for his hospitality re his summer picnic at his garden. I am repeating myself since he hosted another do at his garden in September. A fun time was had by all. It was pleasant surroundings and the weather was to order. The pavilion was a good shelter for the warm day and the fellowship could not be beat. Thank you.

Meeting adjourned for Show and Tell.

See you at the meeting at G. Willickers, October 9.



## OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

**Darrold (Ole) Olson**

President (541) 914-7238

**Loy Moss**

Vice President (541) 747-7600

**Elayne Ellingsen**

Sec/Tres. (541) 484-5564

**Michael Kyle**

Master at Arms (541) 998-5729

**Dennis Ellingsen**

Show Coordinator (541) 484-5564

**Knewslettter** by elayne & dennis

**Cut-toons** by Judy & Lonnie Williams

**Web page** <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/>

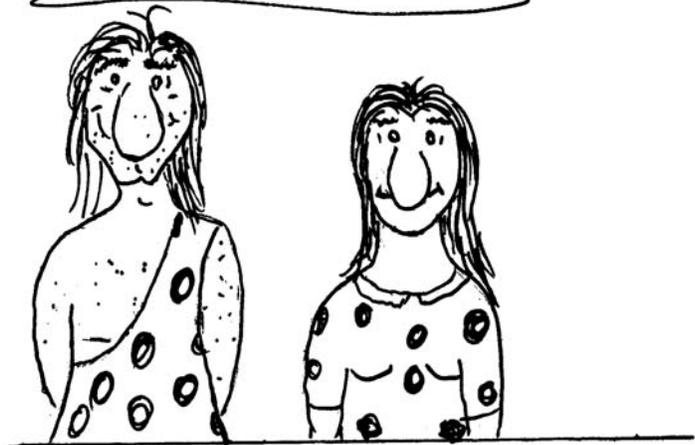
**Club e-mail** [okca@oregonknifeclub.org](mailto:okca@oregonknifeclub.org)

OKCA, PO BOX 2091, EUGENE, OR 97402  
(541) 484-5564

Copyright © 2003 Oregon Knife Collectors Association. No part of this newsletter may be reproduced without permission of the OKCA. Email [info@oregonknifeclub.org](mailto:info@oregonknifeclub.org). Layout and printing by Insta-Print - 1208 W. 6th - Eugene, OR 97402

## Cut-toon

Drunk Knives 10,000 B.C.



Drunk-Stones, meet the Drunk-Stones

Williams & Bare For 10/3



# OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

BOX 2091 • EUGENE, OR 97402

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND SHOW TABLE CONTRACT

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Eve ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Day ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Collector \_\_\_\_\_ Knifemaker \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer \_\_\_\_\_ Mfr./Distrib. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

OKCA membership includes newsletter, dinner/swap meetings, free admission to OKCA shows, free OKCA Winter show tables, right to buy OKCA club knife.

\_\_ Start/ \_\_ Renew my/our OKCA membership (\$20 individual/\$23 family) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 2004 29TH ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 17-18, 2004 470 — 8'x30" TABLES

Exhibit Hall, Lane County Convention 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 2003 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2004, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2003. 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 12/15/03.

**ALL TABLE HOLDERS AND VISITORS** agree to abide by the OKCA show rules, and to hold the OKCA, its officers, and the Lane County Fair Board 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 predominantly 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 made after 1898 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: 9 AM Saturday to 3 PM Sunday. ANY EXHIBITOR WHO LEAVES BEFORE 3 PM SUNDAY FORFEITS HIS FUTURE RESERVATIONS AND WILL BE DENIED TABLES AT FUTURE OREGON KNIFE SHOWS.**

**DISPLAY TABLES** will be around the perimeter of the room. All displays are eligible for display awards, which are handmade 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.

**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 handmade knife competitions, contact the Show Chairman.

**SECURITY** 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 County Fair Board 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.

## SHOW SCHEDULE

**Friday, April 16, 2004. 10am - 8pm** set-up; open **ONLY** to table-holders and members of OKCA.

**Saturday, April 17, 2004. 7am-9am** set-up. **9am-6pm** open to public.

**Sunday, April 18, 2004 8am-9am** set-up. **9am-3pm** open to public.

**Tables that are cancelled will revert back to the OKCA. Subcontracting tables is not permitted.**

**EXHIBITOR CONTRACT:** PLEASE ENCLOSE FULL PAYMENT WITH THIS FORM. Full refund granted if reservation canceled by February 15, 2004; for later cancellation, refund will be granted only if your table is rented to someone else. **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)

\_\_\_ Club Dues (Total from above) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Sale/Trade table(s) @ \$95 each (members only) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Collector Display table(s) free with sale table: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 County Fair Board harmless for any accident, damage, loss, theft, or injury.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

www.oregonknifeclub.org

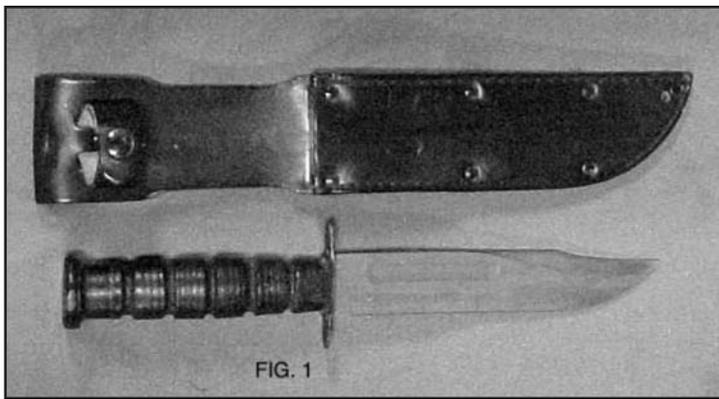
# AN UNCOMMON K-BAR

Mike Wiedemann

The search began shortly after I found out there were really other folks out there who collected knives. I joined a local club and discovered a book called *Levine's Guide to Knives and Their Values* and purchased a copy of the then current 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. In 1993 a new edition was published and I purchased it. I turned my attention to the area of the book that really interested me the most, US Military Knives. The section on US Marine Corps 1219C and Navy Mark 2 knives had been updated and I found a listing of a knife I had not seen before. On page 446 under the heading of "Post-World War II two-line markings" was a new entry "U.S./(over) M.S.I.". To avoid any confusion I will use "Mark 2" to designate the knives under discussion, not the generic term "K-bar", for the remainder of this article.

I didn't have one but thought that it would be an easy task to acquire one. Little did I know that the search would take nine years. I go to a number of flea markets, garage sales, gun and knife shows in the local area, but never found one. I also occasionally make it up from Florida to Pigeon Forge or to the Blade Show in Atlanta. I kept the MSI marked Mark 2 on my want list, but didn't ever find one for sale or even to look at. I had given my want list to several dealers and hoped that they might turn one up, but no luck. Searching the Internet also turned up nothing. My friend, Frank Trzaska, eventually found one for his collection in the mid-1990's, but I still had a hole in my collection of Mark 2's.

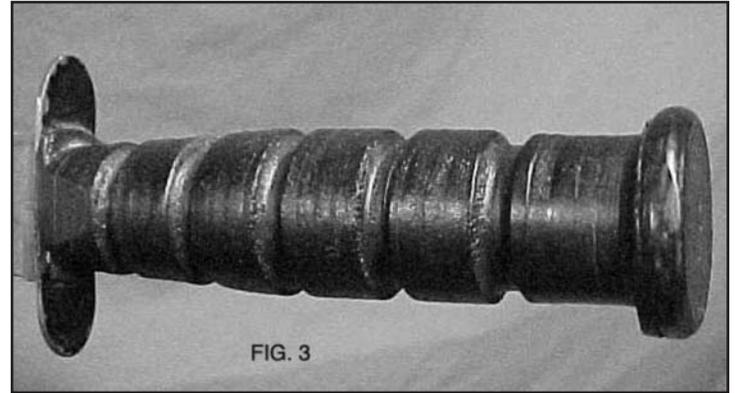
After putting up a small web site of my own, I used it to list my wants including the MSI stamped Mark 2. Over time I was able through it to locate and sometimes purchase knives for my collection, but never got any email about that MSI stamped Mark 2. Frank Trzaska also had started a web site called "US Military Knives.com" and one of the many features on Frank's site is a "Wanted" area. I had Frank list my wants, and I recently



received an e-mail from a collector in California who had a near mint MSI marked Mark 2. A few e-mails later we struck a deal and I became the new owner of the knife (Figure 1).

Now that I had it I was really curious to see if it looked like it was made by one of the other known Mark 2 manufacturers. Measurements and comparisons of my MSI marked knife and Camillus, Conetta, Ontario, and Utica knives of the Late 60's and early 70's found that the MSI marked knife did not exactly

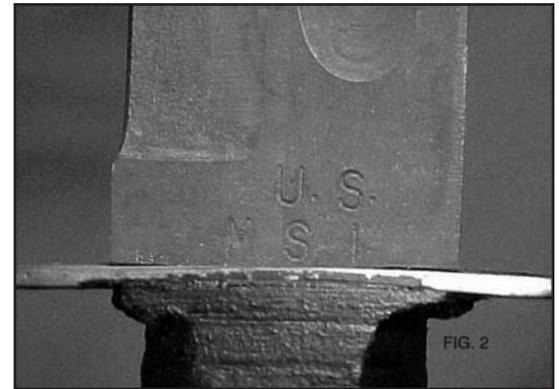
match any of the examples I have in my collection. The blade appears to be pitted, and the fit and finish of the knife is rough. The fuller shows machine marks and is narrower than any of the others I compared it to. The sheath that came with my knife did match one that came with an Ontario Mark 2 that I had purchased in the 1990's. The M.S.I. knife most closely matches those made by Ontario, including the black leather preservative on the leather handle. The width of the tang of the M.S.I. knife matches that of the Ontario knife that it was compared to. Several things seem to stand out about the knife I have. First the ricasso is smaller (shorter) than that on any of the others mentioned and the grip is of smaller diameter (1.08 in. by 1.18 in.) than any of the other knives measured (Figure 2 and 3). The cross guard is of the same 0.076 stock thickness and the butt



thickness and diameter as that found on Ontario knives, but the M.S.I. knife's pommel has machine marks and the Ontario is smooth.

It is possible that MSI knives were made by Ontario or made from parts originally rejected by Ontario. The example I have could be fabricated

from an Ontario marked knife, i.e., the blade could be ground down a little closer to the guard and the leather handle of an Ontario made knife could be reshaped to match the dimensions of the M.S.I. marked knife. The problem is that the number of examples inspected and measured is really too small to be entirely sure that the M.S.I. knives were produced by one of the existing manufacturers.



E-mails with Frank indicated that the MSI marked knives were pretty darn scarce. Aside from my example Frank said that he had seen and owned only four. Since my purchase I have learned of the existence of two more examples for a total of seven. I'd be most interested in hearing from anyone who has an M.S.I. marked Mark 2. Please contact me at Box 6130A, Titusville, FL 32782 or via e-mail at [cmikew@mindspring.com](mailto:cmikew@mindspring.com).



# STRIPPING KNIFE

ibdennis

During the summer months I was given a knife. A Gift. Someone was thinking of me when they were cleaning out drawers and closets. I told them right out that it was a dog grooming knife but couldn't go much beyond those words. Kind of like my endeavors to learn the martial arts... I got by the yells OK but dropped out shortly after that.

So I started the search. Bernard Levine also knew what it was but apparently he went to the same Karate school I did. So the journey was on. I was told that there was an article in one of the knife publications about this type of knife. So I tracked it down and voraciously digested every word. The only problem was that once finished I had this idea that the writer didn't know the real use for this tool either so he made up his own version. Subsequent information proved this to be the case. The writer suggested that the origin of this knife was England, and it was used to remove debris from a dog's coat which was acquired while hunting in the hedge rows. But I just couldn't digest the idea that stripping tools were invented solely for this purpose. Maybe in a pinch but certainly not as a standard carry device.

My next quest was to the local dog groomer. They had not seen this knife before as a folding knife, but they had plenty of non folding varieties of these. Purpose: for thinning the coats of terriers. More

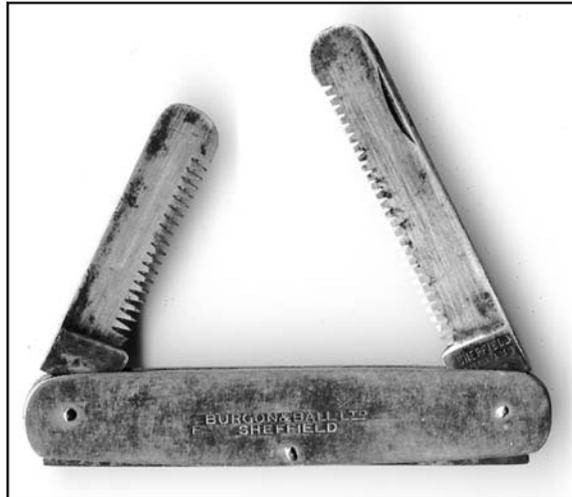


on that later. The more I asked the more the same answer came up. Houston Price provided a thorough explanation of the stripping tool..... His answer:

*A stripping knife, whether it is our utility knife with stripping blade(s) or those known by the same name in the dog world, is used as you have expected.*

*First, today's "stripping knives" have a much shorter cutting/pulling area and are one-piece blade with wood, plastic handle slab or slabs. See the pix that I scanned of three examples. Stripping knives come in left-and right-hand styles and in varying degrees of coarseness/fineness.*

*The folding knife variety that we've see by Remington, etc. and the Sheffield "model" that you have --newer versions of course, are still occasionally found in dog grooming supply catalogs.*



*They are used mostly by folks who show their dogs and use them to "develop" a good coat. For certain (many terriers and/or some "coated") breeds, the natural coat is enhanced by stripping. There is some relationship to the "razor cut" haircuts rather than clippers and scissor haircuts in humans.*

*Stripping knives combine cut, break and pull features to remove some undercoat (fur) while shortening the outer coat (and allows the coat to breathe better.) The blade type (number, depth and spacing of "teeth") is selectively used for the amount of coat that is to be removed or shaped up and that sometimes varies with position on the dog. For instance,*

*on a Bouvier (coated -fur undercoat with longer and harsher outer or guard hairs) one might use a coarse stripper for the back, sides, neck and chest, and chose a finer blade for the closer cut skull top.*

*As one might expect, stripping a dog's coat is a long, tedious and tiring process --for "stripper" and "stripee." So most folks take the quicker, easier and more mechanised route of using clippers and scissors.*

*And, as you suspected, the stripping knife is a handy pocket tool for a quick touch-up that one may find on his/her dog while in the ring, to be used when the judge is not looking.*

*The two blades question applies to my coarse/fine comments above. Houston Price*

-----  
And from Tedd Harris in Portland Oregon:

*Just got the Knewsletter. I think I know what the knife is used for. It is a stripping knife, used by dog groomers to strip the coat of terriers. I have seen such knives used on Miniature Schnauzers, although the knives I have seen weren't folders. The coat is stripped for dog shows, rather than being clipped. This gives an entirely different look to the coat. This practice is an old one, probably brought over from England.*

*The knife is used by gripping it in the hand and "combing" the coat a small section at a time, and as the teeth enter the coat, trapping the hairs between the thumb and the knife blade, then pulling the hair out. This is done repeatedly at a given depth in the coat until it is nice and even. Sounds pretty painful for the dog, but I have seen them stand still and let the groomers work them over.*

*I imagine that there is some fatigue and tendon trouble that develops for the groomer as a result of this type of grooming. Might explain why it is not a popular method anymore!*  
Tedd Harris



## Mike & Barb's Corner

October, 2003 is here and the mini show is just around the corner folks. I think that this years' mini show is going to be a big mini show. We are in a different building which seems to have more room and the lighting is just as good. They have these big lights overhead and they have a small snack bar to eat from. Coffee, pop and etc.

I have been taking reservations and have about ten so far. This building will hold about 100 tables so we should all have plenty of room. I will go over this one more time so no one gets lost; we want you all to get there. OK?

Mini Christmas Show, December 13, 2003, Saturday. Set up at 7AM, doors open to public at 8AM, and show is over at 4PM. Show is free to public and table is free to Oregon Knife Collector Club members. Pot luck after show at 5PM in the same building. The show is at the Lane County Fair Grounds in Eugene, Oregon. The Oregon Knife Club will furnish the meat for the potluck which is honey ham, smoked turkey and a surprise which Barb is working on. Members who are staying for the potluck, please bring a main dish. The Club will also furnish soda pop, water and coffee. It's a

great meal and you get to mix with other members.

All table holders are asked to bring a gift for Toys For Tots by the U.S. Marines. The toys should be new, not wrapped and up to age twelve. We will have the toys on a table up front. The Marines give out the toys to kids for Christmas. Do something nice this year and bring a gift for Toys For Tots for a kid. You will feel great for doing it. Each year the gifts seem to get bigger. Oh yes, a US Marine will pick up the Toys For Tots at the show.

You can call me at 541-998-5729 for a reservation for the mini show or e-mail me at. a-doxiex2@att.net.

I went to a flea market last weekend and found some knife magazines for sale and bought them. I got about thirty magazines from *Edges*, *The National Knife Collector*. I found some really good information from the books that I have started reading. They date back to 1978, '79, '80 and on up to 1990. One has an article about Remington bullet reproduction knives. Big black bold letters "Gold Mine Through the Roof." The writer is talking about Remington Repr knives that started in 1982 and is still going on now thirteen years after the article was written in 1990. So values for the knives go like this for 1990:

*R 1123 (1982) sold for \$39.95*  
*Value in 1990 \$575.00*  
*R 1173 (1983) sold for \$39.95*  
*Value in 1990 \$275.00*  
*R 1173L 1984 sold for \$39.95*  
*Value in 1990 \$175.00*  
*R 1303 1984 sold for \$42.95*  
*Value 1990 \$190.00*

The book also talked about how the Remington posters sold for \$5.00 each, and you all know the bullet knives are still going up in value and more people collect them. Another article talks about Moran knives selling originally for \$35 to \$60 dollars, now in 1990 selling for \$800 to \$900. The old magazines are a good source for information on knives and the values.

See you!  
Mike Barb Kyle.



## KNIVES AT WAR

In the last issue of the Knewsletter we showed pictures of Matt Veatch and Jake Trzaska while in Iraq. I was curious as to what knives they had with them while there. Matt carried two knives with him. One was the Leatherman Wave and the other an Applegate Fairbain style knife. Matt said "Both knives have taken a lot of abuse ( more than knives should). They have stood up very well."

Frank Trzaska gave a listing of the knives his son, Jake, had with him:

- 1.) Kodiak Knives custom boot knife made from ATS 34 with micarta handle and kydex multi position scabbard
- 2.) Custom Lan-Cay USMC M9 bayonet with EDMF knuckle handle. I got the bayo from Barry Brown of Lan-Cay with the EGA engraved on it and the MOLLE scabbard and the custom handle from Dale Sandberg. Both fellows were great, they shipped immediately to me to get it to him with utmost speed.
- 3.) Ka-bar warthog folder
- 4.) Gerber multi-tool. The most valuable knife in the desert, worth much in trade to anyone without one.
- 5.) Kabar USMC current production.

I sent him many knives while he was there to

give out to other folks who needed them. Many were donated by people to send to them.

While doing this project I talked with Joshua Hill from Salem, Oregon who is a member of the OKCA. He had returned from a tour in Korea and was headed to Iraq on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. At Bernard's picnic I asked which knives would be traveling with him. Joshua said that he would take three knives with him. A Buck

Strider sheath knife, a CRKT Ryan folder and a Greg Lightfoot CRKT.



In our conversation I was surprised to hear that very few soldiers carried knives. No knives are issued so they must bring their own. Another point was made that this article is history in the making. Most of our knife knowledge about knives in the War come after the fact. Very little is written as to knives of the 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 tingly titanium sheets) and 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.

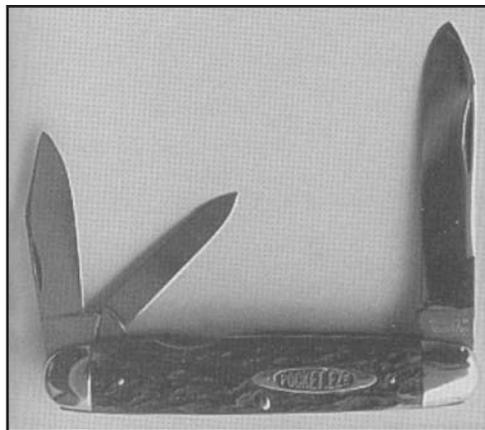
**Interested in the OKCA 2003 Club knife?** This is the Vallotton bone handled pattern that sold out rather



quickly. Contact the OKCA for further information. 541.484.5564

**Wanted - Seguire Knives.** Call Jack (805)489-8702 or email [jh5jh@aol.com](mailto:jh5jh@aol.com)

**Wanted - Robeson whittler pattern #633499** in brown bone. Should say



Pocket Eze on the shield. Consideration given to one close to this pattern. [ibdennis](mailto:ibdennis@oregonknifeclub.org) (541)484-5564 or [ibdennis@oregonknifeclub.org](mailto:ibdennis@oregonknifeclub.org)

**For Sale -** Collection of 700 plus American-made pocketknives, mostly pre1940. Highlights: full set of 12 original (1920s-30s) Remington bullets, over 200 pre 1940 Case knives (some super-rare models), plus numerous other Remington, Winchester, Cattaraugus, Queen, NYK, etc knives. Email or call for more information and/or to arrange personal viewing. Dan Walters (916)786-6530. [dwalters@surewest.net](mailto:dwalters@surewest.net)

**For Sale-** Peirce-Arrow and vanishing point throwing knives as well as the new M-2 thrower. See [www.knivesonnet.com](http://www.knivesonnet.com)

**Wayne Goddard's two-hour,** knifemaking-adventure video is now available on DVD. "The Wire Damascus Hunting Knife, How To Do It", \$25.00 plus \$5.00, still available on VHS \$45.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. "THE WONDER OF KNIFEMAKING" by Wayne Goddard, \$20. plus \$5.00 shipping. "WAYNE GODDARD'S \$50 DOLLAR KNIFE SHOP" \$20. Plus \$5. Shipping Buy any two together and save \$5 on shipping. Contact: Goddard's, 473 Durham Ave, Eugene, Oregon, 97404 541-689-8098 e-mail [wgoddard44@earthlink.net](mailto:wgoddard44@earthlink.net)

**US Bayonet Letters Patents.** Over 600 pages of full text and original drawings on U.S. Bayonets and related equipment. Offered for the first time on convenient CD-ROM format for your PC. Special Introductory Offer of \$16.00 postpaid for 90 days, a regular retail cost of \$19.95, get yours now! Send to: Knifebooks PO Box 5866, Deptford NJ 08096

**Your Knife Questions ANSWERED ON-LINE.** Bernard Levine, author of Levine's Guide to Knives and Their Values, will answer your knife questions on the Internet. Is that knife on eBay real or fake? Is the knife you're thinking of buying authentic? What kind of knife do you have, and what is it worth? What is the value of your collection, for insurance or tax purposes? Instant payment by Visa, MasterCard, or PayPal. Go to: <http://pweb.netcom.com/~brlevine/apprk.htm> or to [www.knife-expert.com](http://www.knife-expert.com)

**"Randall Fighting Knives In Wartime"** by Robert E. Hunt. A colorful and interesting guide to Randall knives spanning the three major conflicts (WWII-Korean-Vietnam). Call (270)443-0121 Visa/MC (800)788-3350

**"Knife Talk"** by Ed Fowler. 60 past *Blade Magazine* articles combined w/the author's updates and 200 photos. Take a trip with the father of "Multiple Quench" \$14.95 plus \$3.20 S&H - Ed Fowler - Willow Bow Ranch P O Box 1519 Riverton WY 82501 - (307)856-9815



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.



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

First Class Mail  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Eugene, OR  
 Permit No. 388

## Events Calendar October 2003

### ----- October 2003 -----

Oct 10-11 - Edgerton Wisconsin Knife Show (KW-B-KI)  
 Oct 24-26 - Ohio Fall Show -Wilmington (KW-B)

### ----- November 2003 -----

Nov 01-02 - Ft Myers Knife Show - FL (KW-B)  
 Nov 01-02 - Mt Vernon Show - Illinois (KW-B)  
 Nov 07-09 - New York Custom Show -NYC (B)  
 Nov 14-15 - Greater Ohio Valley -Cambridge OH (KW)  
 Nov 15-16 - Arizona Knife Collectors -Mesa AZ (KW-B)  
 Nov 22-23 - Rocky Mountain Show - Denver CO (KW-B)

### ----- December 2003 -----

Dec 04-06 - Parkers Greatest - Pigeon Forge TN (KW-B)  
**Dec 13-13 - Oregon Knife Mini Winter Show - Eugene**

### ----- January 2004 -----

Jan 16-18 - Las Vegas Classic - Nevada (B)  
 Jan 23-25 - American Bladesmith Expo - Reno NV (B)  
 Jan 23-25 - Wolverine Knife Show - Novi MI (KW-B)  
 Jan 30-01 - Gator Cutlery Show - Lakeland FL (B)

### ----- February 2004 -----

Feb 07-08 - Arkansas Custom - Little Rock AR (B)  
 Feb 21-22 - Flint River Show - Atlanta GA (B)

### ----- March 2004 -----

Mar 26-27 - Badger Knife Show - Janesville WI (B)

### ----- April 2004 -----

**Apr 17-18 - Oregon Knife Show - Eugene OR**  
 Apr 17-18 - Canadian Guild Show -Mississauga Ontario (B)

### ----- June 2004 -----

Jun 04-06 - Blade Show - Atlanta GA (B)

### ----- September 2004 -----

Sep 10-12 - Chicago Custom - Arlington Heights IL (B)

## DINNER MEETING

**Thursday Evening**

October 9, 2003

**G Willickers**

**440 Coburg Road  
 Eugene, Oregon**

**6:00 PM Dinner  
 7:00 PM Meeting**

**Come Comradery with us!  
 Show-N-Tell - Bring a  
 special knife!**



Contact Dennis or Elayne (541) 484-5564 for additional information on OKCA events. For non-OKCA events, contact the sponsoring organization.  
 Additional info = (B)lade Mag. -(KW) Knife World - (KI) Knives Illustrated

