



KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ Music In The Shop
- ✓ Military Knives
- ✓ USS Galena
- ✓ Lefty
- ✓ Table Deadline 12/15/05
- ✓ 2005 On Label = Dues Due

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

November 2005

How to Play Music in the Shop by Bob Crowder



Many who have given thought to the effects created by media masters in movies have developed some appreciation for the use of music to create or amplify viewer mood. We have, through not altogether laborious experience, learned to identify by the background music alone when the plot is about to change, when the victim is about to be startled, and when problem resolution is being effected. This is probably part of what we enjoy the most; being driven not just intellectually but emotionally to fear, to

anticipation or to horror. Over the years, I have keenly experienced all of these emotions as I have worked in my own shop.

Musical selection in an effective knife making shop must be more thoughtful than simple preferences. It's wrong to make musical selections upon so trite a criteria. It's so much deeper than that. It is said "there's no accounting for taste," however, good work cannot be done in an inherently hostile environment. Let's face it, if you're making \$10,000 knives while listening to country and western, the likelihood is that you simply found some gracious buyers that may not wish to hurt your feelings. Just try to imagine knives made to [Achy Braky Heart](#).

The choice for the most appropriate music must follow the same basic rules that are applied in the theatrical arts, with one exception. Power. Let me illustrate. In my own shop, I initially put on my ear muffs. Then I turn on all of my machinery. This, of course, makes the appreciation of the musical background somewhat prohibitive. The first issue is power. I've found that a 200 watt amplifier is the minimum that it takes to do the trick. I've gone through several amplifiers and many more speakers to learn what works the best. But, some music just can't be played loud like that. Pieces along the order of Pachelbel's Canon in D must simply be reserved for those periods of tranquil folder assembly.

Volume aside, let me share with you some of the syntheses of music and task that I have learned.

1. Grinding is an act of will and power. Freiderich Nietzsche would have been a good knife grinder. Volume and tempo, therefore, rule the moment. AC/DC, Metallica, Ted Nugent, [Also Sprach Zarathustra](#) by Richard Strauss. Wagner



arias from any of his operas. Aria is really too gentle a term for what he wrote. Are you aware that the reference to "completion after the ample female sings," comes specifically from Wagnerian opera? Iron Maiden works especially well here, at least until you have to straighten your grind lines. Then you've got to back off.

2. I found that I couldn't do mirror finishes under that kind of musical pressure without creating orange-peel. So, when I polish, I use a more traditional rock and roll like Eric Clapton, The Doors or some of the better Rolling Stones stuff. Hard-core blues works well in this application too. Look for Melvin Taylor, Hound Dog Taylor or Koko Taylor. These artists seem almost made to fit for mirror finishes.

3. I don't like to do hand-rubbed finishes; but when they're necessary, I put on something soothing; like almost any of the Mozart concertos, The Brandenburg Concertos, or anything with an Irish lilt, like the Cranberries, The Chieftans, or even Enya. Since hand-rubs annoy me, I need to keep "the beast" at bay. If I err on the side of aggression with some KoRn, for example, I'm likely to completely wear away my grind line, take out all of the trash and set the shop on fire. So I try to avoid that. On the other hand, this is also a poor application for traditional blues singers like Elmore James, Muddy Waters, or especially Sonny Terry and Brownie Magee. When I get to crying hard it's hard to keep focused. Hand-rubbed finishes are touchy all the way around.

4. Handle selection is a delightful though often an arduous task. It requires just the right tone to complement handle selection, as well as installation. I've found Mouret's Fanfare an excellent piece for horn of any kind. Horn also likes Handel. Ivories require something regal like B.B King, Freddie King or Albert King for choosing the right chunk. Though installation requires more *finesse*, and for that I like Vivaldi. I tried once, in a moment of distraction, to install ivory on a handle to the music of Jimi Hendrix and ended up with lots of ivory haze, all around. That wasn't good. Bone, especially stag, requires lots of patience to choose the right set of scales. That means mellow; but if the music is too gentle, I'll never be able to make a decision, so I have to force the issue somewhat. That requires music that just doesn't quite fit, like Clifton Chenier. I can only take so much zydeco so I have to make my decision and get done. Wood requires female vocalists like Susan Tedeschi, Shemekia Copeland or Koko Taylor. While it's true that they tend to shriek, this is perfect for highly figured burls. Micarta is all about alternative rock. Pearl Jam is good. Nirvana works well too, but there's not been much new stuff of late; so does much of the newer neo-punk sound, like the Vines, Puddle of Mudd and other groups with funny names. Even when I'm not in the shop that neo-punk sound makes smells like micarta.

4. Opening mail is a potentially emotional enterprise, depending upon your financial theories. For me it's often drama. If I'm looking for money, Rossini overtures work until I find that I have none. Rossini was used often by Warner Brothers for their Bugs Bunny cartoons. My finances scream for humor in spite of the drama. If I know that I'm opening bills, then I have to steel myself with George Thorogood or Stevie Ray Vaughn. Thorogood did Bad to the Bone, Get a Haircut and Get a Real Job, as well as a host of drinking songs. That just works for me.

I offer one word of warning. Don't use the radio. Take responsibility. The unpredictable nature of radio broadcasting can place your work in serious

Continued on page 4.

Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

by Frank Trzaska

The Color of Money and Knife Blades, Parkerizing!

At a recent gun show I stood back and watched a fellow scrutinize a WWII era bayonet. The price was high; and the bayonet was mint, or as close to it as you want to find. The price was not the debate, the finish was. The seller had a mint bayonet, a mint scabbard and a price to match; he was not worried about selling it. The buyer did not even ask about the price as he examined the blade. He stated the bayonet was refinished, and the "color of the Parkerizing was wrong" for the particular maker. He put it back down and walked away. I looked at the bayonet afterwards and could not find any indications it had ever been touched, let alone refinished. In about 10 minutes the fellow came back with a friend to look at it again. The friend pronounced it an "amazing" find, but the original fellow then told him about the "color" problem. They agreed on that and wandered off. It left me scratching my head. Is this possible, to tell original items by the color of the parkerizing? In a perfect world, yes, in the real world, no. You could look at 1,000 bayonets that are the same color from the same batch, and then one could be off color. The color process is effected by several things, one of which is the strength of the solution. Yes, it does get weak from use! Did they mix up a new batch just before quitting time, or could they have used the same batch for the last few bayonets? Type of steel, steel from a different melt, temperature differences in forging, tempering, straightening procedures, water density, water purity, age of the pipes in the plant, solution mix strength, etc. all add up to possible variations in color. I contend that you cannot disparage an original parkerized bayonet, or for that matter any item parkerized, by the color; I don't care how god damn good you are. I have seen green, gray, brown, black and red parkerized bayonets over the years. Other than off-colors, such as a bright silver or a solid black, it is all but impossible to tell the originality of parkerizing without a detailed, physical inspection beyond the color. Upon that inspection you need to look for a grainy texture of the finish and rounded or buffed markings, that can tell you something is wrong, not the color. To keep rifles the same color Springfield Armory eventually used a dye in the final oil coating so they would not raise a concern over the color issue. The Parker Rust Proof Co. was the main provider

to the government and all the separate Ordnance controlled facilities and manufacturers. The same product, "Parko Powder" was being sold to every manufacturer, yet they produced different colors in different parts of the country. Yes, it is a great indication to look harder if the color does not look right; but, as a reason to condemn a piece without further indications, it is crazy.

Springfield Bluing Procedures

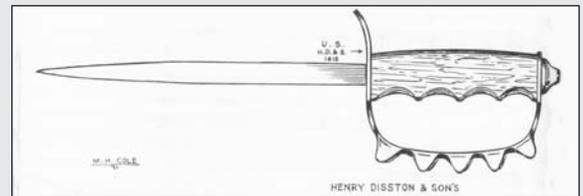
Just for the record they called it browning not bluing, but bluing is what we know it by. Did you ever wonder how they got such beautiful deep rich colors? Hard work is the answer. The process, according to government instructions, are as follows: Boil all parts for 20 minutes in lime water to remove all traces of grease. They were then removed from the solution and wiped free of lime. The next step is to coat them with the browning mixture which consisted of: 6 oz. Tincture of iron (ferric chloride, anhydrous) 6 oz. Sweet spirits nitre (ethyl nitrite) 1 oz. Nitric acid 1 oz. Corrosive sublimate (mercuric chloride) 2 oz. Sulphate copper (copper sulphate) 2 qt. Water. Mixed in that order, which is extremely important. (Please note these chemicals are extremely hazardous and lethal to humans, don't try this at home!) After the parts stood for 15 minutes, a second coating was applied and the parts were placed in a steam cabinet for 16 hours. This produced a fine coating of rust. The parts were then boiled for 5 minutes to remove the acid traces. Next the parts were "carded" or wire wheeled. Another coating of the lethal mixture was applied, and the parts were placed in the cabinet for 3 hours but wet and dry this time. After removal they were again wire wheeled to remove the built up enhanced rust. A third coating was applied, and the parts placed in the cabinet overnight. After the final rust removal by carding, the process was finished, except for a final cleaning and oiling. So as you can see, the browning/bluing process was extremely time consuming and a lot of work. It was a natural when the Parker Rust Proofing Company came along with their original, immediate process using their proprietary "Parko Powder" mix. Sandblasting to clean and etch the exterior. A 30 minute boil in the phosphoric acid and powdered iron coated the surfaces. After the bath the products were coated with oil and a black dye to add consistency to the color and the process was finished. Yeah, a pretty easy decision to convert over for higher production.

Tea Anyone??

Did you know the Boston Tea Party was over a 5% tax? Makes you think, doesn't it?

Henry Disston & Sons

Looking back at the grand old firm, we find that they go all the way back to the 1860s. They were once one of the largest employers in Philadelphia, employing up to 5,000 men at the old Saw Works. They were one of the old-fashioned good guys too, they provided low cost housing for their employees, sponsored recreational leagues, outings etc., some of the homes they built or financed for employees are still standing in the Frankford section of Philly. In fact there is even a Disston Street still in Philadelphia. They were primarily famous for their saws although we know them best for their machetes, bolo's and trench knives. They still sell saw blades under the Disston name, most being the circular saw type not the grand old hand saw. They were a



very large government contractor in WWI and WWII. In fact they are credited with the design of the WWI Model of 1917 trench knife. Unfortunately they went the way of many American industries in the 50s or 60s when they could no longer compete in the marketplace due to cheaper competition and lack of forward thinking. I have had quite a few Disston saws over the years, both as users and as collectors items. They seem to be plentiful around the Delaware Valley area. As in the traditional manor of just about everything old or handmade, they made a very fine product. Some of their old factory buildings are still standing and are used as factories and retail sales facilities down along the river. Quite a sight to see, wish they were still active to furnish some old records. They were bought out at some point in time, and the Stanley Tool Works acquired the right to the name. Records are long gone on the 1917/1918 era, oh well...

Frank Trzaska [trz@mcsystems.net]



OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

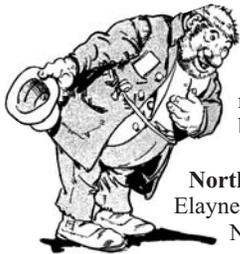
Monthly meeting....

The next get together will be Wednesday, November 16th, at the Sizzler restaurant. This is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We seem to be having a good response to the knife show-n-tell and the awards for the best judged knife. Dee Boje brought a custom made knife for us to see and ooh and ahhh over. It sure were pretty.

December Winter Mini Show details.....

We have about 80 tables spoken for at this time for the December 10th Winter Mini Show. The tables are free to members. We do not assign tables at this show, instead it is first-come first-serve when the doors open at 7 am on Saturday morning. It is imperative you reserve a table as early as possible as there are only 100 tables. Please call or email me that you will want a table. The Show goes until 4 pm, and you may not leave early or cover your table; grave consequences will result. Don't show if you intend to go. At 5 pm we will have our traditional pot luck. **June Morrison** will put this part of the event together. **Bryan Christensen** has volunteered to coordinate the Toys for Tots part of the day. This is one fun event so mark your calendars accordingly.

The Mini Show is a result of the dollars we get from our Club projects, and the generosity of the people who donate knives that generate dollars. This Mini Show is the only event where sharing of tables is allowed, and that is why we only allow one table per member. As long as we can continue to raise money we will feed it back to the organization.



Northwest Knife Collectors
Elayne and I did the October Northwest Knife Collectors

Show in Puyallup, Washington. The building is brand new and one huge place. We had a great time and enjoyed spending the time in the world of cut. We were told there were 75 tables of cut and 700 tables of go bang. The "go bang" tables also had their fair share of knives too. The Washington Arms organization is a bit strict on cameras so I was not able to document the fine people and fine knives we saw. This new facility makes it a nice venue for the "sharp" group.

Smile Knives

I was out of smile knife contributions so I started rooting through some of my knives that I hadn't looked at in a while. One made me smile. The Case pattern 62131 is a two blade canoe pattern. Now how rare is this 62131 four blade Case canoe? The "6" on the pattern number says it should be a bone or delrin handle. Not! The second number, "2", tells you how many blades it has. Not! Many years ago my good friend, George Rousseau, made this knife up with glitter handles and took two Case 62131 knives and put them together. In addition he put two nail marks on each main blade. Oh, yes, he also etched his name with a pantograph on one of the main blades. It still makes me smile.



Article contributors.....

We want to thank **Frank Trzaska, Mike Silvey, Bob Crowder, and Bernard Levine** for their contributions in this month's Knewsletter. It is greatly appreciated.

Get your table reservations in now.....

Those who had tables at the 2005 Show have the first right of refusal on their tables until December 15th. If you desire a change in table location, please apply early so that we can plan on changes. There is an application form for tables and for membership in this Knewsletter. Not to put off that which you should do today. We will have additional tables at the April Show.

The Atrium room which is next to our room will be opened up expanding the show with 50 more tables. This room pictured from the outside will hold the Bowie Knife Collectors and the Miniature Knifemakers/Collectors Society and possibly one other specialty group. We are working on that. This should be the granddaddy of all shows ever.



Lodging in Eugene....

We have suggested possible lodging for your visit to Eugene. With the added tables at the Show, it might be wise to plan ahead. We have made arrangements with several facilities in the area. The Valley River Inn has been our strongest partner over the years and will continue for 2006. You can book rooms today if you like as everything is in place.

The Valley River Inn -(800)543-8266 -

(541)687-0123 -Our top recommendation. Fills up fast. A quality place to stay. Official home for folks away from home visiting the Oregon Knife Show. Special Show rates if you mention the OKCA Show.

The Campbell House -A City Inn -(800)264-2519 -(541)343-1119 -Classic Hospitality. A very unique experience. Top quality.

Courtesy Inn - (888)259-8481 -(541)345-3391 - The closest motel yet to the Knife Show. A budget motel and special rates if you mention the Knife Show.

La Quinta Inn - (541) 344-8335 - Cost effective and in a delightful setting. Close to a park, the river, the bike trail and in the city. Call direct for special OKCA rates.

Phoenix Inn - 800-344-0131 - (541) 344-0001 - Cost effective and close to the college campus and downtown. Nice, clean and a pleasant place to stay.

Medallions

During the last ten years we have given special silver round coins or medallions to those who have helped in the workings of our Show. These, one troy ounce of .999 fine silver, are proof quality coins specially minted for the OKCA. The themes for the last five years have been Oregon lighthouses, and the obverse side has our Club name and a picture of our beaver mascot. For the last five years we have had some of these medallions finished with gold relief, and they are indeed handsome. These gold medallions have been presented to the board members for their special efforts at keeping our organization going. This year will mark



medallion number six that will have our special logo on the obverse side.

The Oregon lighthouses on these gold relief silver medallions are: Heceta head, Yaquina Head, Tillamook Rock, Bandon, Cape Blanco and Cape Arago.

We had a sample of four of these coins placed in a special box and came up with the idea of offering a set of six of the gold relief medallions to members of our organization at a reduced price and to others at a different price. We are working out the details at this time and should have information in our next Knewsletter. The medallions will be available at our April Show. Purchase will be in advance. Peek for view in color to the link in the site map at www.oregonknifeclub.org or go directly to www.oregonknifeclub.org/medallions.html.



The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The October 29 meeting at the Sizzler, Springfield OR was attended by 37.

Wayne Morrison will coordinate the display award knives. None have been returned. We are hoping to have some for the December Show for display.

Please advise **June Morrison** the dish you will bring to the Potluck dinner which will be held after the December Show (541) 942-1374.

Do not forget to bring Toys For Tots. **Barbara and Michael Kyle** started that tradition a number of years ago and **Brian Christensen** will carry on this year. A new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl.

Please contact **Dennis Ellingsen** if you are interested to have a table at the December Show. The tables are free for current members. (The expense is paid by the OKCA from the money from the Annual Show proceeds)

We have received a letter from the Board of the Lane Fair Events Center which thanked us for our response to the meeting re the Fairgrounds. The sale discussions have been tabled for 10 years.

Gary Kelley has advised the Miniature Knifemakers/Collectors Society will hold their annual meeting in conjunction with the 2006 Oregon Knife Collectors Show in April. We have also coaxed the American Bowie Knife Collectors Association to be at our April Show.

We are still negotiating for the 2006 Club knife. It will be a Paul knife produced by Lone Wolf. The particulars will be advised as they are known. We are also trying to arrange forPaul to be at the Show to hand out the knives.

We have a current membership over 1400. The table reservations are being mailed to us slowly but surely. Please remember you must be a 2006 member to have a table at the 2006 Show. The deadline for reservation of your same table is December 15. The December 10 Show will give a number of members an opportunity to renew memberships and table reservations or to check to be sure that all is as it should be.

Hope to see you at the meeting of the OKCA November 16 Sizzlers Gateway Springfield.



Music... (Continued from page 1)

jeopardy. While you've got your hands committed to epoxy, your best station might change from appropriate music to some rap c—p, even if only in a commercial. Everyone knows that rap and most hip-hop can completely ruin an epoxy bond. It's just not worth the risk, to have your work ruined by inattentive or insensitive disc-jockies. I even make sure that I'm never gluing handles when school lets out so that no student driving by with a bass-amplified vehicle playing (c)rap can mess up my work. It's that sensitive, so you can't be too careful.

Many people in my neighborhood have expressed a keen interest in knifemaking and have generously shared their opinions with me concerning my musical selections. I think that's sweet. Mr. and Mrs. Schaller, across the street, for example, don't like it when I play too much opera. My neighbor to the south likes the more gentle classical stuff, except when they're inside. John, my neighbor across the street to the north, likes classic rock, especially Led Zeppelin. When I see him pull up, I like to fling the door open and pop in a piece just for him, usually from Led Zeppelin IV. It always makes my heart glad to see him waving both his hands at me so vigorously. I guess he really loves knives. Phil Grossarth two doors down likes that "southern" rock like Bob Seger and quite a bit of the blues that I play. Over all, I feel that in my own way, I'm spreading the word of custom knifemaking, at least as far as 200 watts will carry it.

It's not enough to just buy the equipment and to find some time to work. We've all got to work smart. It's quite a bit like athletics. In order to perform at our best we've got to place ourselves and our work in the most favorable conditions. Good and appropriate music is as essential as good lighting. Don't be deceived. There is such a thing as bad music. Bad music equals bad knives

On a somewhat personal note, I'm looking for one of those older Phase Linear amplifiers with 505 watts/channel. Just think, a full kilowatt. Boy, could I do some grinding with that.

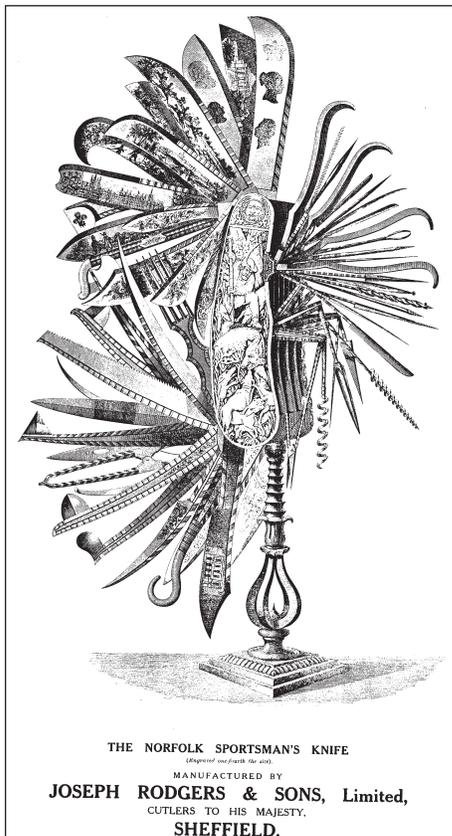
From Bernard Levine

Giant 4-blade swell-center balloon pen knife, made in 1910 by Novelty Cutlery Company, Canton, Ohio.

Novelty's specialty was picture handles --clear celluloid over photos or lithographs. These could be made to order, with customer-supplied pictures. This giant exhibition knife has a picture of the factory under the handle. It is dated 1910 on the master blade.



The knife shown on this page with picture of our President, Mr. A. Vignos, and our factory shown under the handle, is the largest perfect working knife ever made. Its weight is 5 1/2 lbs. and length, blades open, 5 ft. 1 in. It is a perfect facsimile of our Novelty style and merely demonstrates the ability of our factory to do great things.



THE NORFOLK SPORTSMAN'S KNIFE

MANUFACTURED BY
JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS, Limited,
CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY,
SHEFFIELD.

Joseph Rodgers & Sons "Norfolk Sportsman's Knife."

From the frontispiece of Rodgers' 1912 catalog.

The "Norfolk Sportsman's Knife" (named after the Joseph Rodgers factory and showroom, at No. 6 Norfolk Street in Sheffield) was made by a Rodgers' cutler named William Bamforth, over the course of two years. It has "only" 75 blades, but it is 14-1/2 inches tall closed, not counting its ornately carved stand, 38 inches tall open. Each of its large blades is gorgeously etched with detailed scenes and portraits, and the handles are carved in deep relief. It was made for exhibit at the very first World's Fair, the Great Exhibition of 1851 at the Crystal Palace in London.





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 _____ Email _____

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) \$ _____

31ST ANNUAL OREGON KNIFE SHOW • APRIL 7-9, 2006 470 — 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 2005 Show, you have an automatic reservation for the same table in 2006, but THIS RESERVATION EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 2005. 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 12/15/05.

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 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 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 OR COVERS THEIR TABLE 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.

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.

SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday, April 7, 2006.

10am - 8pm set-up; open ONLY to table-holders and members of OKCA.

Saturday, April 8, 2006.

7am-9am set-up. 9am-6pm open to public.

Sunday, April 9, 2006

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, 2006; 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) \$ _____

_____ Saturday Night Social Tickets \$5.00 each \$ _____

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

_____ Collector Display table(s) free with sale table: Quantity _____

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 _____ Date _____

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

www.oregonknifeclub.org

Cutlery And The Southpaw by ibdennis

The Smithsonian and a Christmas Present

This article is a result of a Christmas gift and the Smithsonian magazine. In a back issue of the Smithsonian magazine a fantastic article appeared entitled "LIFE FOR LEFTIES: FROM ANNOYING TO DOWNRIGHT RISKY" by Nancy Shute. I was entranced by this article as it brought to my attention some of the problems that cutlery can pose to left-handed users.



This Wayne Goddard pattern Spyderco knife is easily used by right handed users whereas the left hander could be at risk.

A Lefty in a Right-Handed Family

I am not left handed. I am very much right handed with a keen awareness of left-handed people. My son Ray is a lefty, and I have always believed that there were reasons beyond my comprehension for this fact. I did nothing to discourage Ray's left-handed tendency, but instead encouraged him. As Ray grew older his interest in wilderness survival and martial arts directed him to devices that could be easily used as left-handed tools. The advent of the thumb tab on folding knife blades was a real boon to Ray as now he could easily open a knife blade in an un-encumbered manner. That is if he could find a model that had the thumb tab extended in either direction.

After reading the article in the Smithsonian, I decided to give Ray a knife for a gift; but I wanted it to be special. I went to one of my favorite knifemakers, Bill Harsey, and contracted for a titanium handled folding fighting knife with a LEFT handed thumb open blade and lock. "Not a problem", sez right-handed Bill "if I keep reminding myself that I am making a left-handed variety of this model."

Raising a lefty

It was difficult for me to heft a bat on my left shoulder when I was teaching Ray about baseball; and when it came to showing him how to tie a necktie, I was all thumbs and flying fingers. Firearms were not a major problem as I shifted my interests to single shot rifles which are easy for the right and left-



This is a right handed version of the Bill Harsey thumb ball titanium handled folder. Bill made the left handed version of this for Ray which has a left hand thumb open and left hand release liner lock.

handed user. I even went one step further and specialized in single shot BSA Martinis which are not partial to right or left handed shooters. (Safety buttons can be construed as right handed devices, but the BSA Martini has no external safety.)

When our interests turned to the collecting of knives, I felt that this would be an ambidextrous interest, which it was up to a point.

Scissors

The most amazing revelation to me for the lefty was the problem presented by the use of every day, common scissors. I was under the impression that the problem was the size of the finger openings in the handles of scissors. Although this is awkward for the lefty, it seems that this is not the major problem. The inexpensive scissors used by a grade school youngster have equal size openings but refuse to cut in the hands of a left handed user. The right hand user exerts not only a downward pressure but also a little bit of forward pressure of the thumb and a little backward pressure of the fingers. This pressure pushes the thumb blade against the finger blade below the pivot. These combination of actions cause scissors to cut.

In the hands of a lefty the thumb blade is pushed away from the finger blade which results in the bending of the paper between the slightly separated blades. For the lefty to use scissors they must



What is wrong with this picture? There are several things not quite right but the big point for this article is that this is a left handed Swiss Army knife.

push with the fingers and pull with the thumb, which is a concentrated challenge. Without this conscious effort the results are bent and ragged edges of paper in addition to a very sore thumb.

The Search is On

Armed with this revelation I went to my friendly cutlery store where it came alive with answers when I started asking questions about left-handed scissors. In addition to showing me a supply of left handed scissors, I was also enlightened on the new ambidextrous variety of scissors now available. These scissors overcome the problem by having the handles in a vertical plane directly in line with the cutting blades. Up and down motion of the handles by left or right-handed users achieve flawless precision cuts.

Aside from scissors, there are many other tools that present problems to the lefty in a right handed world. The serrated knife blade is no new invention, however serrated blades have become more popular these days. Popular and neat for users, but a real concern for both right and left-handed users when holding small items for cutting.

Serrated and single Beveled Blades - Left bevel

When I investigated the world of serrated blades, I became quickly confused. Serrated blades and single beveled blades have purpose in

their designs. I am not intending to go into the purpose but more so the ramifications of these beveled edges. Most pocketknives that have serrated blades have the bevel on the tang mark side of the blade. One source suggested that the bevel was placed on this side so that it would photograph and market better.

A blade with the tang mark bevel (left side) tends to travel or veer to the right when a downward cutting stroke is made. Usually this slight travel from the straight isn't important for the right-handed user. But for the left-handed person this can be a hazard if they are holding a small item like fruit or a bagel. The knife held in the left hand can travel to the holding right hand and cause a mishap. An awareness of this characteristic can avoid accidents by guiding the serrated blade with a better determination. It is called blade control.

Serrated and single Beveled Blades - Right bevel

If one pays close attention to the bevel on larger knives, it is on the obverse tang side or on the right side. While it is reasonable to



Scissors can be right handed or left handed. The right scissor in the right (left) hand can cut but when used by the wrong hand tends to bend paper and not cut.

assume that this blade travels to the right, a larger blade like this is not typically used for cutting small hand-held objects. These knives are for cutting food such as roast meat, ham, bread, lettuce, cheese, cabbage etc. The purpose of the bevel on the right side

now serves a different function, the sliced items are pushed away from the blade and from the item being cut. A slice of ham when cut by a right-handed cutter falls to the right. A slice of ham when cut by a lefty tends to stick to the blade and must be separated from the cut item. Serrated and single beveled cutlery is typically designed for the right-handed world.

Ray was well aware of serrated pocketknife blades. His teachings in outdoor survival has shown him that the serrated pocketknife can work to his advantage. Sharpening sticks in the woods is a common use for a knife and in his left hand the blade travels downward sharpening a stick in a natural motion. In the hands of a right-handed person, it takes several more strokes to make a sharpened point as the serrated blade travels upward and away from the desired point.

User Beware

As with any tool, correct and proper use of that tool can make it a useful device; but improper use can make it a hazard. Knowing what the effect is of a serrated blade and making corrective compensations assures safe and proper use of this tool.

Interviews with the Lefty in mind

In researching for information about articles I write, I enjoy the revelations gained by talking to just anybody that I come across who may add details to my studies. A lady who was laying tile attributed her fear of knives to the fact that she was left handed. She spoke of the fingernails she has cut in her use of a knife, and also her recollections of the sores on her thumb that she experienced as a child using scissors. I fear that I may have polluted her thinking as

she had never consciously dwelled on non specific tools before. She had just assumed that the world was right handed and that was the way it was and a fact that she had to live with.

Another person I interviewed happened to be the pilot of a ferry boat. We were on holiday leaving the San Juan Islands on our way to Canada. I always ask about knives, and there was no disappointment here as every crew member carried a knife of one sort or another. Quality ones I might add. Barry was at the "wheel" when the question came up as to lefties on the crew, Barry said yea and out came his Spyderco knife. On examination I asked if he was aware that his serrated Spyderco was a "right-handed" model. He was not aware and when I explained how the blade could turn into his holding hand, he was surprised. He had thought the reason he cut himself so often was because he was clumsy.

Further conversations with a high school shop teacher revealed many obstacles that the left-handed person must overcome when using power tools. The biggest concern was the button that is used to keep the electric power tool running without holding on to the trigger. This button is designed with the right-handed user in mind. A dangerous cross over motion is required for the lefty. Another tool of concern is the circular power saw. Yet another obvious right-handed device is the switch used to turn on band saws, table saws and drill presses which is always located for the ease of use of the right-handed user. The teacher I talked to commented that the left-handed students tend to adapt to the right handed world of tools and are actually more conscious of the tools operation. And who could imagine the dangerous threat that a chain saw represents to the lefty.

It is certainly a right-handed world

Now that you have an awareness of this right-handed world, dear elayne wanted you to think about the devices that you take for granted everyday. There is the screw and the screwdriver, the corkscrew, telephones, camcorders, hair dryers, golf clubs, notebooks with spiral rings, baseball gloves, potato peelers, right-handed school desks, numerical keypad on computers, calculator, telephones, oven mitts, ladles, hand weeders, power lawn mowers, and the list goes on.

Left handed history lesson

History shows us that there are "left" ideas that go back to religious and cultural roots. The left side of the body is associated with evil, and the right side with luck and virtue. Satan sat on God's left and is often portrayed as left handed; the Bible, Koran and the Talmud refer to saintly right and sinister left; the Latin term sinister (left); the English word "left" comes from the Anglo Saxon "lyft" which means weak or broken; the right hand is used for shaking hands, saluting, making the sign of the cross and swearing on the Bible; the left hand in the Middle East and Asia is used for toilet hygiene; and Buddha sends his adherents down the right path to Nirvana.

Approximately 75 percent of the human population is strongly right-handed, and approximately 90 percent is predominantly right-handed. Among the remaining 10 percent, a great deal of variability exists. Some people are strongly left-handed, and others, called ambidextrous, are left-handed for some activities and right-handed for others.

Among the more interesting facts concerning the lefty; left handed baseball players (southpaws) as well as tennis, martial arts, boxing and fencing sports players are to be respected. The reason for this is that most of their opponents are right-handed giving them the unaccustomed advantage. However in the game of polo and jai alai lefties are banned from playing left-handed since these sports have

Continued page 8.

U.S.S. GALENA – NAVAL IRONCLAD by Mike Silvey

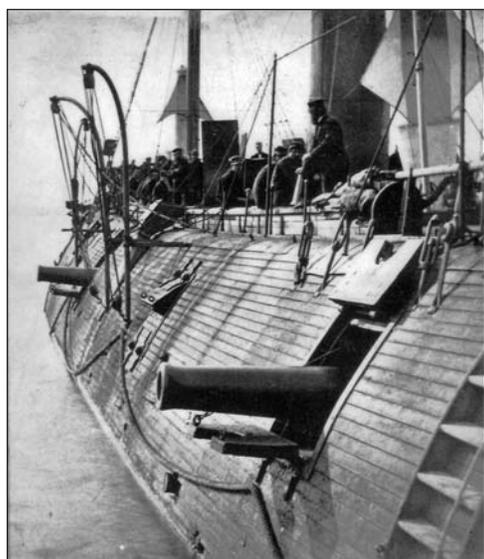


ideas and paramount among these were new ship designs. The Union ordered three ships of differing designs, but all were ironclads. The first was the U.S.S. Monitor. On September 16, 1861 the order for the second ship came down. This was a ship 210 feet in length, with a 36 foot beam and displaced 738 tons. She was an ironclad screw steamer with 164 officers and men armed with

It was 1861 and our world was splitting apart as the Civil War was ramping up toward maximum death and destruction. The Union and Confederate Navies were experimenting with new technologies and

four nine-inch Dahlgren guns and two 100-pounder Parrott rifles. She was launched in February 1862 and commissioned two months later. She was decommissioned in 1869. She was the U.S.S. Galena, and she saw much action over her short military career.

Perhaps her greatest test was when she was sent up the James River to bombard the



Perhaps it was one of these sailors shown here on the deck of the u.s.s. Galena in 1862 that had a new rope knife in his pocket.

Confederate Fort Darling, located at Drewry's Bluff, some eight miles from Richmond, Virginia. She nearly silenced the battery at Fort Darling but ran out of ammunition and then took several hits which damaged and penetrated her iron plating. Twelve of her crew were killed and 15 were injured. A young Marine Corporal by the name of Mackie was aboard during this battle and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism during this engagement. He was the first Marine to receive the nation's highest medal. This much is recorded in written history.



There is some historical evidence that also tells another story. This story begins in 1862 when a sailor received orders assigning him to duty on this new ship. This sailor obtained a new and substantial rope knife he was certain would help him perform his duties aboard ship. Like the ship, it was a beauty to behold, and like the ship, it was mostly iron with iron liners and iron bolsters. Its handle scales were handsomely textured stag. The knife was made by T. Turner and Company of Sheffield, England and was so marked on the blade. And it was this blade that made the knife stand out. It was beautifully etched with a wax mask that left the obverse side with U.S.N. standing tall. The reverse side was similarly marked with the ship's name, U.S.S. Galena. I don't know the travels this knife took since it was slipped into this sailor's pocket some 143 years ago ;but it does shows a bit of its age and honest use. It also displays its character and the remnants of its markings with pride and dignity. It is indeed handsome evidence of United States military history.

Southpaw... (Continued from page 7)

considered a left-handed ambush too dangerous. To name but a few lefties of fame; General Schwarzkopf (he had trouble with Middle East scorn of left-handed people); Charlie Chapman, Babe Ruth, Gerald Ford, Harry Truman, Ty Cobb, Ted Williams, Leonardo da Vinci, Benjamin Franklin, Lewis Carroll, Martina Navratilova and John McEnroe. But the real first-time-in-history fact came in 1992 when the three political contenders for the presidency were all lefties: Ross Perot, George Bush and Bill Clinton. I won't even say it.

The U.S. military gives no latitude to the left-handed soldier. The M-1 and the M-16 rifle throws hot brass in the lefties face, and all pistol holsters are right handed. From the beginning of time all swords are carried on the left side so the right hand can draw it.

Left Handed tools

Getting back to the world of "cut", we take for granted that the lefty can sure appreciate a left-handed corkscrew and as a practical joke would no doubt like to sneak this into the pocket of a right-handed restaurant waiter. The Swiss Army knife is made in a left hand version where the blades are geographically placed for the ease of the lefty. The main blade, file and can opener blades are all oriented

to the left handed. Of course the big issue here is the placement of the nail nick which is opposite to what we refer to as the tang side blade marking. There are precious few knifemakers today that make knives for the left-handed customer. The real clever ones are the ones that place nail nicks on both sides of the blade. The best of all worlds. Another left-handed consideration is the company that makes the Fiddle Bow bread knife. This is a tool that is absolutely a right hand device unless of course you order a left hand model. For those that are interested in collecting cutlery with a theme, how about "Left-Handed Knives for People in their Right Mind."

The humor of the last statement may catch you unaware unless you know that the right side of the brain controls the left side of the body while the left side of the brain controls the right side of the body. Oh sigh.

A Left handed Mystery

And then there is the mystery that I have yet to figure out. The majority of official Girl Scout sheath knives that I have found have sheaths that are designed to be worn on the left side. These knives were made by Remington and Marbles. Anybody who has an answer to this will find me forever grateful. And no it isn't because all girls are left handed.

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FOR SALE: Oregon Knife Collectors' Club Knives '93, '94 Silver, '95 Silver and '95 Gold. All mint condition. Phone Chris Lindsay (541)389-3875 evenings for more information. N

FOR SALE: One set consisting of 12 Bullet Pattern knives. These were made by Terry Davis and are his version of the original Remington Bullet knives that



were manufactured in the 1920s and 1930s. Terry made this set in 1990 and said that he would never make another one. Contact

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BLADE's Guide to Making Knives, new book from Krause Publications. Contact Goddard's for an autographed copy. \$25. plus \$5. shipping in the US. 473 Durham Ave. Eugene, OR, 97404. (541)689-8098 e-mail wgoddard44@comcast.net N



Knife Maker's vise -I will only be bringing to the show those vises that have been prepaid. They are \$160.00 and if you order before March 1st 2006 you can choose

your own pool ball numbers. Bob Patrick 816 Peace Portal Dr. Blaine, WA 98230. (604)538-6214 or bob@knivesonnet.com O

WANTED: Seguine knives. Please call or email Jack. (805)489-2222 or (805)431-2222 (cell) email: jh5jh@aol.com S

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For Sale - 50 year collection of Case knives. Tested thru 10 dot. Mostly all mint. Toenails, doctors, melon testers, stag museum set, many others, plus old boxes, display, etc. Frank Miller (541)822-3458. Leave message or email fshnfrank@aol.com S

WANTED: I am a collector of Ek knives. I have limited my collecting to those models made during WW2 and Vietnam periods. I am always interested in purchasing additional pieces including original sheaths; silent partner books and other vintage advertising items. Contact Richard Schechner P.O. Box 181923 Coronado, CA 92178 (619) 437-0564; email: rgs522@san.rr.com J

Wanted: Pea Knives. I eat my peas with honey



I've done it all my life
It makes the peas taste funny
But it keeps them on the knife.
ibdennis@oregonknifeclub.org S

Wanted to buy: Folding bowies Larry Hogan (253)927-3909 email rhogan39@net-venture.net J

Books on US Military Knives and Government Reports. Send \$2.00 for a list of over 300 declassified govt. reports and current listing of military knife books in stock. Knife Books - PO Box 5866, Deptford, NJ 08096 or free via e-mail at trz@mcsystems.net. J

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The Bowie Knife™: Unsheathing an American Legend by Norman Flayderman. 512 pages, over 260 color plates, hard cover. This book covers the fact, fiction and folklore of the world's most famous fighting knife. Only \$79.95 plus \$5.00 shipping. James D. Hayden Bookpeddler, 88360 aCharly Lane, Springfield OR 97478. Check or Visa/MC orders (541)746-1819. Info email jhbkpdlr@pacinfo.com

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Collectible Knives of Finland by Lester C. Ristinen. 176 pages of Finnish knife history, factory and cottage. Knife catalogs from the 1920s to present. 40 pages with color and introductions to makers of today. \$40.00 + \$3.00 postage. Les Ristinen 17533 Co Hwy 38 Frazee MN 56544

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Cut-toon



Let me guess, your husband's a Knife Collector and yesterday was your anniversary.

williams knives

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Events Calendar November 2005

----- November 2005 -----		
Nov	11-12	- Ohio Valley Knife Show - Cambridge OH (KW-B)
Nov	11-13	- New York Custom Knife Show (KW-B)
Nov	12-13	- Oklahoma Custom -Okmulgee OK (B)
Nov	19-20	- A.K.C.A. Phoenix -Mesa AZ (KW-B)
----- December 2005 -----		
Dec	01-03	- Parkers' Greatest -Pigeon Forge TN (KW-B)
Dec	10-10	- Oregon Knife Collectors December Mini Show
----- January 2006 -----		
Jan	20-22	- American Bladesmith Expo -Reno NV (KW-B)
Jan	27-29	- Gator Cutlery -Lakeland FL (KW-B)
Jan	28-29	- Gateway Area Knife Show - St Louis MO (KW-B)
----- February 2006 -----		
Feb	10-12	- Las Vegas Nevada Custom Show (B)
Feb	18-19	- The Collector's Show -Napa Valley CA (B)
Feb	24-26	- Knife Expo - Pasadena CA (KW-B)
Feb	24-26	- East Coast Custom Knife Show - NY (B)
Feb	24-26	- NKCA Dayton Ohio Show (B)
Feb	25-26	- Keystone Blade Show - Lewisburg PA (KW)
----- March 2006 -----		
Mar	10-12	- Northwest Georgia - Dalton GA (KW)
Mar	24-26	- Badger Knife Show -Janesville WI (KW)
----- April 2006 -----		
Apr	08-09	- Oregon Knife Collectors - Eugene OR (KW)
Apr	08-09	- Bunker Hill Knife Show -Bethalto IL (KW)
Apr	22-23	- Vancouver Knife - Coquitlam, B.C. Canada (KW)
Apr	21-23	- Shepardsville KY Show (KW)
Apr	28-30	- Solvang Custom Show -CA
----- May 2006 -----		
May	11-13	- Parkers Greatest Pigeon Forge TN (KW)
May	13-14	- NCCA Mystic, CT Show (KW)
May	19-21	- NKCA Springfield Knife Show (KW)

----- June 2006 -----		
Jun	08-10	- ParkersShow -Pigeon Forge TN (KW)
Jun	16-18	- Blade Show - Atlanta GA (B)
Jun	23-25	- Springfield Show -MO (KW)
----- August 2006 -----		
Aug	04-05	- Dutch Land Show Adamstown PA (KW)
----- September 2006 -----		
Sep	15-17	- Ohio Fall Knife Show (KW)
----- October 2006 -----		
Oct	20-22	- NKCA Fall Show - Shepherdsville KY (KW)
----- November 2006 -----		
Nov	30-02	- Parkers Greatest -Pigeon Forge TN (KW)

DINNER MEETING



Wednesday Evening
November 16, 2005
 Third Wednesday of the Month

Sizzler Restaurant
 1010 Postal Way
 Gateway Area
(Across from the Post Office)

6:00 PM Dinner
 Followed by meeting

Come Knife with us!
 Bring a Show-N-Tell 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

