



KNEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



- ✓ Remington Christmas 1939
- ✓ Edge On a Knife
- ✓ Doing Our Part
- ✓ Love What I Do
- ✓ Swiss Army Boat
- ✓ Bahn=Frei
- ✓ All About the Mini Show
- ✓ Table Deadline 12/15/05
- ✓ 2005 on Label = Dues Due

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

December 2005

Remington Christmas Display, 1939 by Jim Pitblado

Since it is December, and the heart of the Christmas season, I decided it is appropriate to write this article about a Christmas Counter Display.

I am sure that it is hard for anyone to ignore the Christmas season, as retailers throughout the country today bombard us with catalogues, advertising, special sales, additional discounts, extended hours, and large, colorful displays. All this is done to ensure that we spend more money in the month of December than in any other month of the year. In fact, most of us are aware that most small and medium size businesses, and many large retail establishments, depend on the Christmas season for all the profits they record for the entire year.

Remington Dupont Cutlery, the largest cutlery producer of its time, was also aware of the importance of advertising its products in retail establishments, predominantly the local hardware store. In order to increase its sale's rate for the Christmas season, it sent the cutlery retailer the "1939 Remington Dupont Cutlery Counter top Christmas Wreath Display." As one can see from the picture, this 37 inch x 26 inch, four color (red, cream, green, and orange) die cut display unfolds itself to a 12 inch depth which provides for six shelves which advertise "for her" on five shelves and "for him" on one larger shelf.

On the back of this very large, die cut, counter top display is attached a letter headed Remington Dupont which reminds the dealer that in addition to the inventory package that came with the display, he can reorder all of the items in the display package. The items are listed by stock number, description, and suggested retail value. There are five items "for him" as follows: RS195, Boy Scout Set at \$2.85; RS3333, Official Boy Scout Knife at \$ 1.50; and the RH 84, RH 70, AND RH 75 Hunting Knife and Leather Sheath at \$1.25 to \$1.50 each. There are 13 "for her" items listed, including a two piece Ladies Scissor set, seven different 8 inch or 7 inch carving knives, the Moby Dick Kitchen Knife, and four household knife sets at prices from \$1.25 to \$3.95 for the "Domino" Ivory handled knife and fork set.

I can only imagine the effect on store customers in December 1939 when they came into the local



hardware store to purchase Christmas gifts. I expect that this was probably the largest and most visible cutlery display in the sales area and with 19 items packed on the six display stands it must have attracted the man of the house to purchase a bunch of new kitchen cutlery "for her" and the woman shopper to buy a beautiful hunting knife "for him" or perhaps a Scout Set for the son.

My guess is that not many of these displays have survived and I have not found any mention of one in any Remington Catalogue or correspondence.

A good friend of mine visiting the

inventory auction of the Haggan Hardware Store, 411 N. Riverfront Drive, Mankato Minnesota in August 2004, saw this item come up for sale and was kind enough to purchase it for me. I do not believe it had ever been used, as it is in "factory fresh" condition and does not show any signs of ever being unfolded or set up on a counter. So I expect



that it must have sat folded up inside a cardboard shipping envelope in the basement of Haggan's Hardware from 1939 until the store closure in early 2004.

Have a very Merry Christmas.



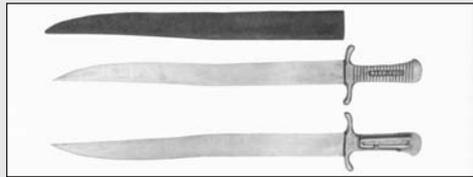
Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

by Frank Trzaska

Bahn=Frei

Recently I received a query about the wording Bahn=Frei cast into the handles of several brass handled bayonets. Many years ago the term was explained to me, but an exact determination was never concluded. As is the case with most translations, the wording in not exact. What makes this even more involved is that the term Bahn=Frei is not actually a word or a group of words that can be translated. The literal translation from modern day German is "freight paid in advance" or "prepaid freight." This of course has nothing to do with the old world German phrase used in the 1850's era bayonets. The bayonets themselves have been attributed to the Turner Sect established firmly in mid 1800's Ohio. Turners, meaning gymnast in German, were a tight knit group of German immigrants who escaped persecution in Germany. They came to America to practice their own religion and keep their values intact. Activity and working out was a way of life for the Turners. Ohio at the time was the western border of civilization, weapons were the order of the day. Rifles, pistols and knives were openly carried by peace loving people. With the border wars and the outlaw menace, the Turners learned quickly how to protect themselves. They manufactured weapons to the specifications they learned in Germany, hence the strange bayonet mounting system previously unknown in the United States. The Turner's created their own militias to protect the towns and were among the first to enter the Civil War on the Union side in large scale trained numbers. Quite a militaristic society created by the necessity of the times.

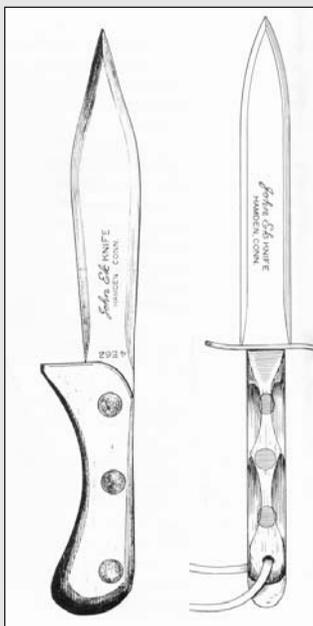
But we digress, back to the topic of the wording. Perhaps today we could call it a colloquialism or an idiom much like "What's Up" for a greeting or "Cool" but not meaning temperature. Bahn=Frei was explained to me as "Watch out" or "Look out of the way here we come" or as Bob Dylan put it: "Hey folks, The times they are a changin'." As I try to come up with ways to explain it, even worse in type, I find I am at a loss for words; as the direct definition of an idiom is that it only has one explanation and cannot be used in any other way. Try explaining one of them. The example used by a fellow e-mail researcher in a private conversation: try to explain to someone in another language why people jumping out of an airplane shout "Geronimo." It has nothing to do with an Apache Chief, but it doesn't explain well! So anyway, that, to the best of my knowledge, is why Bahn=Frei is cast into



the handles of many Turner bayonets. It was a common phrase at the time, and it extended their political feelings in a symbol of freedom, the bayonet. As long as a man is equipped with one he is never a subject. If you have a better explanation of the phrase, I would be grateful to hear it. My vocabulary is not that large; and this seems to be a perfect way to increase it, learn from others!

The John Ek Knife Company

In a recent conversation with a fellow collector he was describing an Ek knife to me which he told me was mis-stamped with the wrong nomenclature. It seems the knife was stamped



with the No. 3 prefix to the serial number; but according to the collector, it was a No. 6. He assured me it was a No. 6, and I told him it was a No. 3 knife, that I was certain of. He hunted up his copy of the Ek catalog and produced a picture and description of it. I agreed with him that the knife in the picture and the catalog was a No. 6, but that did not change the fact that his knife was a No. 3. It was marked correctly, and again I was sure of it. The fellow was becoming annoyed so I had to tell him the truth. He was right if the knife had been made in WW II; but it wasn't, and that dear reader is the key.

Most folks are not aware that John Ek changed his numbering system at some point after WW II. Several knives were discontinued, and several more were added. Due to the elimination of some of the WW II era knives, the remaining knives moved up a notch in the numbering system; and the newer models filled in the higher numbers. So a WW II era No. 6 knife became a No. 3 post war knife due to the elimination of the WW II No.'s 3, 4 & 5. Just for the record; the No. 8 WW II era knife, the Paratrooper, was also eliminated from the lineup. A short table follows to make all this a

little easier to visualize:

- 1 = 1
- 2 = 2
- 3 = Discontinued
- 4 = Discontinued
- 5 = Discontinued
- 6 = 3
- 7 = 4
- 8 = Discontinued
- 9 = 5
- 10 = 9
- New = 4A
- New = 6
- New = 7
- New = 8
- New = 10
- New = 11
- New = 12

One of the hard to believe facts concerning John Ek knives is the fact that the government allowed him to use chrome moly steel during World War II. There were huge factories and million dollar corporations that could not get that kind of approval to this finest of steel. Ek not only secured the steel but met with government officials on using disabled help and being under the suggested price ceiling.

While we are discussing Ek knives, let's put to rest the numbering system also. I have never seen the exact date pinned down, but most agree it was in 1943 that John started to serial number his knives. The numbering system worked on the power of tens. The serial number was also designed to contain the model number. To achieve this John selected an Alpha-Numeric system. The knives would be numbered 1 through 999 then a letter would be inserted into the serial number. This would continue through 999 again then the next letter in the alphabet would be inserted. Hence serial number 2G546 means this is a Model 2 with a serial number of G546 or the 6,546 Model 2 knife produced. A very simple yet effective system of counting and still keeping production levels somewhat of a mystery. During WW II John Ek Industries was based in Hamden, Ct. at 1242 Whitney. In 1949 John relocated the company to Miami, Florida, a much friendlier climate to be sure. John Ek passed away in 1976, ending that phase of the company; but the knives continued to serve on with the military men around the globe. Although made in great numbers, Ek knives continue to be among the most sought after combat knives pursued by collectors.

Quotes...

"The supreme power in America cannot enforce unjust laws by the sword, because the whole body of the people are armed, and constitute a force superior to any band of regular troops ..."

Noah Webster, An Examination of the Leading Principles of the Federal Constitution, Philadelphia (1787)

Frank Trzaska [trz@mcscsystems.net]



OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

Monthly meeting....

The November meeting had an attendance of 44. Paul Wellborn's show-and-tell knives were voted best of the meeting. It was a pristine carving set of Will & Finck. What a beautiful set to see and hold. There will be no meeting for December due to the Mini Show on the 10th and Christmas. It is a pretty busy time of the year for things that are family related or go cut.

December Winter Mini Show details.....

can be found elsewhere in this Knewsletter. Of note is the ability to log on to the Internet at this show if you have a wireless connection. You are on your own for doing this; however you must contact me by email way prior in order to get a free log in account good for this day. Remember the words of the sale's helper: "Not to let this be another way to ignore your customers."

Smile Knives

We are bone dry of contributions to the "Knives that make us Smile." But today I smiled at this sign. In this case it is "Knives that made me Smile" or "Smile at Knives." I went into the store to get permission to photograph this window sign; and after explaining my reason, I was treated to an interesting sale's idea. The



misspelling was indeed intentional. In fact if you bought a "knife" and mentioned the mistake you would get another 10% discount. I guess this only applies to knives as the word "swords" is correct. I know there are some smile knives out there; so if you like to smile and enjoy making others smile, send the smiles to us.

Article contributors.....

We want to thank **Frank Trzaska, Merle Spencer, Jim Pitblado, Mike Silvey, Bob Crowder, and Bernard Levine** for their contributions in this month's Knewsletter. It is greatly appreciated. This issue hits the bottom of the articles in waiting. But that is OK as we can fall in line with the other organizational publications that have a one page mailing every month. Or in other words help us out with original articles that relate to "cut."

Get your table reservations in now.....

Those who had tables at the 2005 April Show

have the first right of refusal on their tables until December 15th. 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 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.

Club Knife and the special Medallions....

We are still working out the details on our Club knife and the lighthouse medallions. We will have the final word for sure in our January Knewsletter.

Fill Space.....

For lack of ideas to write down this month I will dis and dat you with possible interesting dis and dats. This month I started work with another company. I am still classified as a peddler, and I still tinker with industrial electrical process control equipment. My time will be more work devoted, but Elayne has retired and has taken over more of the Club related tasks that were traditional ibdennis. There will be some changes in shipping large packages as my move means they cannot be shipped where I used to be. We will keep you posted on that. This was a great year on personal goals for health issues. I am more healthy and wiser then several years ago. This is my 6th year of bike riding with a vengeance. It is nice to live a few houses away from an extensive bike path. Early summer mornings and lingering daylight make this the third year I have exceeded 3,000 miles. Wayne Goddard and I know the importance of exercise and good health.

Our collection of American made scout/utility knives has grown, fast approaching the magic 800 marker. Ebay has been a great help in finding missing holes for the collection. The low end specimens can be had that do not have significant collector's value and the pricing is affordable. Those specimens that are collectable and highly desirable put stress on our pocket book and our marital compatibility factors.

Dealing with the inflated eBay market is tough but the finding of the items is supposedly what it is all about. Justification of purchase prices are not understood by all. The knife that brought this to question is an historical piece that I have done years of research on, and this knife provided the clue or the key that made it all come together. The saving grace to this is that I can recoup some of this expenditure based on the article that will detail this history. In the meantime I have served my penance of sleeping in the dog house, much to the joy of our dog.

And least we forget our Oregon Ducks football team. 9-1 and a bowl berth to boot.

Quote of the month: Never try to teach a pig to sing. It wastes your time and annoys the pig.

Just a reminder that this Knewsletter is devoted to things that go cut. Over the years we have

learned that the contents of this publication need to stay focused, not emotional and not confrontational. This also mean tiptoeing away from potential conflicts. These guidelines have been learned over the years and have not been ignored. For example we do not write about newly weds, nearly deads and flower beds. We do not do politics, religion, sex, puzzles, recipes or gossip columns. There are slight few letters to the editors due to a major conflict we had years ago on this subject. We do not publish disasters and impacts to our organization that are traditionally handled by the Board. And basically we make the decisions on what appears in this paper hoping that it achieves the goals to make us a great organization. We keep controversial events invisible to the membership. This works and has worked and we will continue on this path.

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.



The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The November 16 meeting at the Sizzler, Springfield OR was attended by 44.

Wayne Morrison hopes to have some of the display award knives at the December show. As of the meeting, none have been returned to him.

June Morrison is on schedule for the potluck which will follow the December show. Please contact her regarding the dish you will bring. Dinner starts at 5:00pm for members. The entree will be turkey and ham. (541-942-1374)

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

Please contact **Dennis or Elayne** if you are interested to have a table at the December Show. The tables are free for current members. (541-484-5564)

The December show costs (room rent, tables, fire department permit, advertising, entree, beverages) are subsidized by the sale of the Club knives and the donation of knives that are raffled at the April Show.

The Lane Events Center has advised we are required to meet a \$150.00 hourly minimum for food service. They have offered to reduce the hours of operation to 9:00am-2:00pm and waive the minimum. Elayne will meet with the Lane Events Center concessionaires in December prior to the show.

We have a need for an address to which donations for the April Show can be shipped. It is preferred it be a business address which would have standard hours of business. You can still ship to the Baron's Den any items which need to be secured in the vault on their premises. (UPS-FedEx -Truck-BUT NO PARCEL POST)

The 2006 membership cards will be available for pick up at the December show. **John Priest** will print the cards and **Larry Criteser** will laminate them and alphabetize. You can also pay for your table for the April 2006 Show--deadline for reservation of your same table is December 15. We will mail all table confirmations and any membership cards which have not been picked up the last week in December.

We will not have a December dinner meeting.

See you at the December show, December 10, 7:00am-4:00pm. Dinner 5:00pm.

Happy happy holidays to all. Best wishes for a fun New Year.



I Love What I Do By Bob Crowder

I attended the 2005 30th Annual OKCA Show this past April. I love going there. It is at least Spring by the time I get part way down the gorge toward Portland where the grass has greened up and so many flowers are in bloom. 'Asparagus-picked-daily' is promised for the return trip through Pasco. By the time I'm in the car erased is the pre-show hysteria which I can never shed myself of. Dreams of standing naked in the middle of the Lane County Events Center with only one non finished knife in hand have finally ceased. I drive with the music loud and a smile on my face almost the entire way there. And upon arrival I'm surrounded with my kind. So fine.

The OKCA Show was the first knife show that I ever attended. That was back in 1987. I had been buying your run of the mill, just starting out knifemaker supplies from Chris Lindsay, who was running the business of Northwest Knifemaking Supplies out of his home in La Pine, Oregon. He suggested attending this Show because it was intimate and friendly. Almost as a side note, obvious or not, he mentioned that not all shows are like that. I've learned that since then. As a new uncertain-of-everything knifemaker, something that had the promise of being non-threatening had quite a bit of appeal. After all, the first and early exposure of my work to public scrutiny for either critical, aesthetic observation or economic viability was hinged closely to my self worth, at least as a knifemaker.



Chris Lindsay was right though. It was a very pleasant Show indeed. Most all of the people I met were of that easy, unpretentious sort, all those other makers who were much better than I but willing to share details of their craft, show officials who were more concerned about the people than the business as well as the usual array of collectors, gawkers and talkers.

It was at this Show that I only partially facetiously learned that a full third of the people who stand in front of your table and talk are hopeful knifemakers themselves. I ran into some of those same knifemakers-in-holding at this year's Show again. Some of them have become friends over the almost 20 years that I've been making knives and almost all have bought knives from me.

All of these knifemakers-in-waiting reinforce for me the uniqueness and good fortune/blessedness of what I get to do. Most of them have stories of how their work relations or family obligations have made it impractical or impossible at this time to buy the necessary equipment or dedicate the necessary time to do what they want to do, make knives. They yearn to do what I get to do, what many of you also get to do. We stand at our grinders or forges and form from raw material of sorts a synthesis of beauty and function. We make tools of such quality that the act of 'parting' tomatoes or flesh is on par with that which hangs in frames across the globe. From each of our humble beginnings we arrive at a 'now' which includes at least a modicum, if not an abundance of tools and supplies that we couldn't earlier imagine. For the most part we don't have to work elsewhere, in a place of sterility, doing the bidding of our betters. We even often get to labor to the applause, immediate or delayed, of others who as yet don't understand the non-mystery of it all, who wish to be where we are, doing what we are doing. We're all dating the prom queen as far as they are concerned.

When I used to travel for shows to Florida or to California, the refrain of the yearning-to-be-knifemaker was to make plans realistic or otherwise, to get out into the woods, into the mountains away from the plastic madhouse. And to make knives. They almost all spoke with me from a range of almost hushed awe to wide-eyed madness. They want to live in Montana and make knives.

I love making knives. I love living in Montana. And I love being reminded of it all every time I go to the Spring Show in Oregon and spend a weekend with my kind, those who get to make knives and those who hope to.



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

The Mini Show ibdennis

It is only a few days away, and as of this writing, there are still a few of the 100 possible tables available. So if you thought you did and you didn't, then you won't. Now is not too late, maybe. The Mini Show will be held at the Lane Events Center (Fair Grounds) in the Wheeler Pavilion (the round building.)

The doors will open to tableholders and members (or anyone that can sneak in) at 7am, and not a millisecond sooner. The drill is walk (not run) to a table of your choice and lay claim to it. Once claimed you will find a piece of paper on that table that needs to be filled out



and returned to the Club table. If it is not filled out and returned by 9am, then we will accept this as a donation to our Club to the tune of \$20, which we will personally come by and collect. No excuses, please, so get those forms to us asap.

The Mini Show (not Winter Show because it doesn't become Winter until the 21st) is a casual fun event that allows certain rules to be broken. Sharing of tables by members is alright at this show (but not at the April Show). Dogs and four leg pets are OK with prior approval, and the leash law is three (3) feet and must be held by a two foot. Pets with membership rights need not check in. For those that find electricity nearby, you must have ibdennis approve the cords and the use of the cords. Multi outlet devices are a concern so unless you must... don't.

This is an all knife show and the selling of unrelated items is taboo. Food sales are double taboo; and ethnic, off color and political slander is quadruple taboo. Please exercise good taste in the items on your table. Automatics and switchblades are to be under cover of glass and under direct control and sales to anyone under 21 will not be allowed. Any doubts, check with elayne or dennis.

The food service has become a concern at this show. The deal now is that food service will commence at 9am and will cease at 2pm. This is a result of the minimum charge imposed by the Lane Events. Certain quotas have to be met to make this a profitable offering to our group, and this year will be a way to make it work financially for us and the Events Center. And that is a firm maybe!

Leaving early is a capital sin with our group. Don't do it as I have been strict on my threats. We advertise and commit so help us to this end. You know this coming in so please. If you are dead, we will allow you to leave; but the knives will stay. At 4 pm the show is over and you can then start to roll up your tables. Rolling up tables before 4 is the same as leaving so please do not push the envelope.

We have started a tradition of Toys for Tots and **Bryan Christensen** is heading this up. He has made the contacts to have a noted group come by and gather the toys so let's overwhelm them like we have in the past. Remember new toys unwrapped. And I wouldn't mind an extra for me too as I think Santa is gonna drop a chunk of charcoal in my sock.

At 5 we will have the Saturday night Pot Luck Social. Contact **June Morrison** at (541)942-1374 to advise her of your participation and what ya all will be bringing.

If you have renewed your 2006 membership, your card can be picked up. **John Priest** and **Larry Criteser** have gone to great effort to make the membership cards available. These are the pretty ones with your name on it. December 15th is the last day of first right of refusal for the April Show.

We have wireless Internet service available to us but I must know in advance. If this is your desire, email to let me know.

So a quick recap is 7am in and public at 8am. Food service available at 9 until 2 and the show is officially over at 4pm. Have the table forms turned in well before 9am. The Pot Luck Social starts at 5pm, and the night is over when we feel like it. Call **June Morrison** and advise her about the food (541-942-1374).

The Swiss Army Knife boat

Since meeting in 1970, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, have collaborated on more than 25 large-scale projects. In 1985 the city of Venice was introduced to the artists' humorously monumental vocabulary by *The Course of the Knife*, a two-day multimedia, multiwork, land-and-water spectacle that also involved human performers. As in Oldenburg's *Happenings of the 1960s*, objects in *The Course of the Knife* were transformed from props and sets into essential players, including an 18-foot-wide espresso cup and saucer, and Houseball, a 12-foot-diameter ball to which various pieces of foam furniture were bound. As a dramatic finale to the performance, the motorized sculpture *Knife Ship I*, a giant Swiss Army pocketknife set afloat like a colossal Venetian gondola, was launched from the Arsenale naval yard, its blade and corkscrew sails cleaving the air. Like many of their monuments to banal everyday items, Oldenburg and van Bruggen's *Knife Ship I*, in its absurdity, challenges viewers' ordinary relationship to objects and the environment.

For more information on the knife boat do a Google search on ISBN 084780822x or go to http://www.guggenheimcollection.org/site/artist_work_md_121_3.html.



Knife Ship I, 1985. Vinyl-covered wood, steel, and aluminum with motors, dimensions variable, maximum height 31 feet 8 inches x 40 feet 5 inches x 31 feet 6 inches. Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

Doing Our Part

by Mike Silvey

Is it hard to imagine a battle ready SWAT team arriving at the elementary school campus in response to a new threat? Helmet clad faceless enforcers in black BDU's, MP5's at the shoulder with red laser dots searching for the target. And there he is. But don't be fooled by this cherub faced third grader. This is the threat of a boy that brought a knife to school. OK, I exaggerate, but I know you've read or heard stories that approach this level of craziness. As a boy, I carried a knife in my pocket. I also recall laying my small rifle across the handlebars of my bike and heading to the rural areas to shoot rabbits and other targets and no one giving me a second look. It wasn't unusual to leave in the morning and not be back till dinner. I ranged a surprising radius on my bicycle and mom and dad didn't worry. Growing up in the late 40's and through the 50's was great, as were the freedoms of those years. Maybe, now looking at one of those folders with honey colored bone handles reminds me of visits to the hardware stores of my youth where the knives on display never failed to captivate my interest, attention, and yearning for at least three or four minutes. Maybe this is why I love these knives and collect and make them.

In contrasting my years growing up with those of my children, I regret that they couldn't experience the freedoms I had. My children were more closely supervised, with much attention given to organized sports where all the parents turned out as well as the kids. We, as parents, were more attuned to whom they were with and what they were doing and protecting them from harm. Their "roam free" radius from home was considerably shorter than mine was. Now, as I watch my grandkids grow up, the tether seems to grow even a bit shorter. It has become politically incorrect and perhaps unfashionable for kids today to carry a knife in their pockets. Whittling and mumblety-peg have given way to video games and other wonderful things that captivate the interest of youngsters. The neighborhood hardware stores have mostly disappeared. When the kids need a ball bat, they go to the Sports Mart. When they need a skateboard, they don't make it themselves but again head out to the sporting goods store. Times have changed and the pocketknife of my youth has become a historical artifact rather than a tool of daily living. So when I look around the tables at our annual Show, it is not too surprising that I see mostly seniors; guys who grew up with a knife in their pocket.

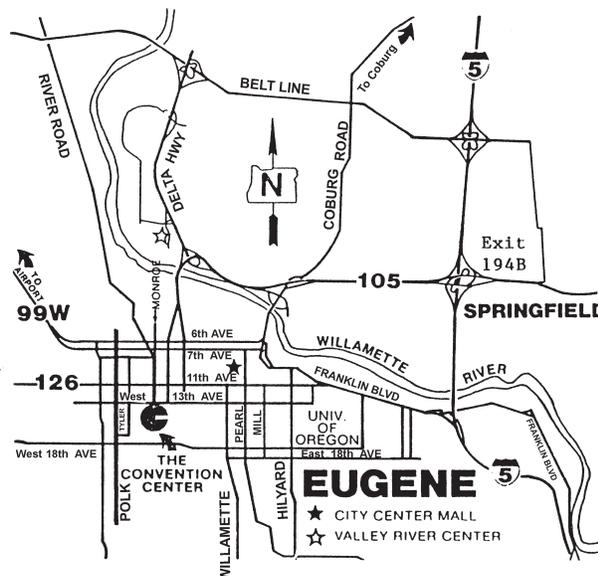
And as I walk through the Show and view these great old bone or celluloid handled folders and handsome hunters, it is not surprising that the question arises: what will happen to all this stuff when us old guys are gone? You have probably heard this question posed before. I have heard it many times. Most of us take it for granted that there won't be any interest after we're gone. But, I don't think it necessarily follows that because you didn't grow up with something that you can't have an interest in it somewhere down the road. Museums are full of stuff that attracts widespread attention, and this stuff usually predates most of the viewers. Coin and stamp collecting are other examples where the items of greatest interest predate the collectors. Yes, times have changed and many of the memories that are reflected to us old guys in the knives we value and collect won't necessarily be kindling any memories in the younger generation, but I do believe most of the antique knives we find collectible have an intrinsic value that at least whispers to all viewers. Who can pick up and handle an old Remington Bullet Trapper and not appreciate it for its quality, beauty, weight, functionality, mechanical perfection and just sheer artfulness? Yes, for us old guys it may speak of freer and younger times, of hunting trips and of a look in dad's gun cabinet. This is history and it



Almost anyone would be drawn to this handsome group of knives.

comes to us through our recollections, but it can also be shared. I think that we, as dealers and collectors, can impart an appreciation of this history and interest new and younger collectors. So, how do we spark this interest and fascination of the next generation of collectors? We do so by sharing our passion for what we collect and by sharing our collections with others. It might be as easy as putting some of what we do on an Internet site. Perhaps it's a display at the next show. Maybe it's spending a bit more time with a new collector giving him some information on his area of interest. I got started collecting when a dealer challenged me to get all 30 plus Navy Mark 1's. At any rate, it is in our own best interest to support our hobby and to actively try to bring others into the appreciation for and the pursuit of great old knives. After all, that's where the stuff's going to go when we no longer need it.

Directions to The Lane Events Center (Fairgrounds/Convention Center)



From 1-5 take exit 194B. Stay on I-105 West until the end (it crosses over the Willamette River and then curves to the left). I-105 ends at 7th and Jefferson (when I-105 widens to three lanes, stay in the center lane to avoid being forced to turn). Proceed straight ahead, south on Jefferson, straight through the intersection at 13th & Jefferson, where you will enter the Lane Events Center: 796 W 13th Ave., Eugene, OR 97402, (541) 687-0292. We are in the round building at the North end of the Fairgrounds.

The End Of The Edge

By Merle Spencer

I've been thinking about the cutting edge of a knife and the place where on some knives it no longer is an actual edge just before it reaches the shoulders of the original thickness of the blade, but becomes a narrow flat surface that will not cut.

A number of years ago I lost my hunting knife, and to finish out the elk season, I purchased what looked like a good knife with a sturdy well-shaped blade. One day in camp while we were considering the best ridge to climb in the afternoon (we knew better than to try the brush-choked canyons), I was using the knife to trim up some hide pieces or strips of something that needed to be done, and I wondered why the knife wouldn't cut when I pressed it down next to the handle end of the edge. After all, a new knife should cut fairly well, at least.



I turned the blade over and examined the edge. A good half-inch of what was supposed to be cutting edge was not finished for cutting. The blade had been ground normally all the way back to the part of the blade in front of the handle that is left in the original thickness, but no final edge had been made on this last half inch.

A few tries to extend the edge with a file didn't help, so I carried the knife that way the rest of that season. I didn't know anything about blade grinding at the time. By the next season I had found my lost knife.

A while back I had put the final edge on a knife I was completing, and I noticed that I hadn't made a true edge all the way back to the beginning of the original thickness of the blade. I went to my knife case and picked up a knife I had purchased from a well-known maker, so I could get an idea of what was satisfactory as to how far to carry the cutting edge back. That particular knife had about an eighth inch that could still be called unsharpened; but the overall appearance of the blade was good, and it looked like it could be very usable.

I went through my small collection, examining edges at the end nearer the handle. There were a few knives that were examples of the work of several known makers. I examined them, as well as some I had completed myself. In several cases there was a small area that was not completely sharp. In other cases this non-edge was almost not present at all, but in still others it was evident for as much as a quarter inch or more. One factory knife made by Schrade

had a true edge all the way back to the shoulders of the non-ground part. On knives that had a nick or cutout at that end, the blade was sharp all the way back.

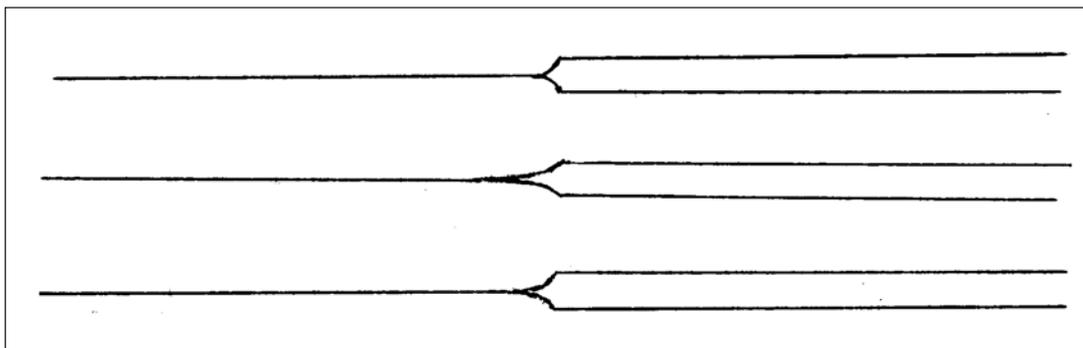
Now, I grant that anyone who has attempted to form the edge all the way back to the place where the edge is supposed to end, without marring one or both shoulders of the original blade thickness, has found that this is a pretty tricky operation. Perhaps the idea is to make the blade as nice-looking as possible without running the chance of a slip and ruining the whole thing, since it is hoped that a few sharpenings will bring the edge on back, anyway. But the fact remains that it can be done, as witness my previously described search.

When I finished my inspection of these several knife-edge ends, I went back to my work and very carefully formed the sharp edge all the way back to the end. I didn't mar either of the shoulders, and the edge looked even. I felt like a craftsman. I also felt lucky I hadn't marred the shoulders.

Since then I have looked at a few more knives at a show and found similar differences as to how far back the cutting edge was formed. Most had a short flat area where the sharp edge blended into the full thickness of the tang. They all looked fine to me.

I talked to several makers and found varying opinions as to what was desirable concerning this question. No one seemed to consider it a problem, although there seemed to be some concern about grinding at that end on a finished blade. Some agreed that a little flat there makes the edge stronger at this point.

The upshot of my queries satisfied me that it is up to the maker, and as long as there is a nice, graceful flow of lines from edge to guard area, and that the little area of non-edge is not excessive, there is no more to discuss. And so I won't.



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 Ding Dong wrappers) and email or snail mail to the OKCA, PO Box 2091, Eugene OR 97402. The number and size of ads submitted by a single member will be accepted or excepted dependent on available space and the mood of the editors.

I have 157 knives for sale. Most are riggers and sailor's knives. Can send a CD with pictures and info on each knife. E-mail lgunn@yahoo.com - Leonard Nunn (509)456-6954 D

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 Chris Lindsay (541)389-3875 evenings for additional information. N

FOR SALE - WORLD KNIVES LTD offers a huge variety of unique high-quality hunting, pocket, collector, specialty, horticultural, culinary and miniature knives and aggers from 20 countries world wide! Check out our website at www.worldknives.com or call toll free at (866)862-5233. email chris@worldknives.com D

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

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

Throwing Knives - Anyone wanting to pre-order Pierce Arrow, Vanishing point of the new Claw-Z throwing knives please contact Bob Patrick. See Knife Maker's Vise for contact info or www.knivesonnet.com J

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

Wanted - Folding bowies, no Pakistan. Larry Hogan (253)927-3909 email Rhogan@net-venture.net J

"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

KNIFE LAWS on-line. Federal, state, local. <http://pweb.netcom.com/~brlevine/appr-k.htm> Bernard Levine (541)484-0294 <http://www.knife-expert.com/>

Official Scout Blades a new book by Ed Holbrook 112 pgs. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls. Pocket knives, sheath knives, axes, 99% complete from 1910 to date + price guide \$25.00 + \$3.00 postage Ed Holbrook 12150 S Casto Rd Oregon City OR. 97045

Collectible Knives of Finland by Lester C. Ristinen. 176 pages of Finnish knife history, factory and cottage. Knife catalogs form 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

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.

Cut-toon



OKCA Club Whot-zits & Whos Zits

Darrold (Ole) Olson President (541) 914-7238

John Priest Vice President (541) 689-6020

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

Craig Morgan Master at Arms (541) 345-0152

Dennis Ellingsen Show Coordinator (541) 484-5564

Knewsletter by elayne & dennis

Cut-toons by Judy & Lonnie Williams

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

Club email okca@oregonknifeclub.org

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

Copyright (C) 2005 Oregon Knife Collectors Association. No part of this Knewsletter may be reproduced without permission of the OKCA. Email info@oregonknifeclub.org. Layout and printing by Insta-Print - 1208 W. 6th - Eugene, OR 97402



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

First Class Mail
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 IP

Events Calendar December 2005

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	04-05	-	Arkansas Custom -Little Rock (KW)
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)
Feb	25-26	-	Northwest Knife Collectors - Tacoma, WA
----- March 2006 -----			
Mar	10-12	-	Northwest Georgia - Dalton GA (KW)
Mar	18-19	-	Scottsville Knife Show - Scottsdale AZ
Mar	24-26	-	Badger Knife Show -Janesville WI (KW)
Mar	31-02	-	Ohio Spring Show - Wilmington OH (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 Show - Coquitlam, B.C. Canada (KW)
Apr	21-23	-	Shepardsville KY Show (KW)
Apr	28-30	-	Solvang Custom Show -CA
Apr	28-30	-	Wolverine Knife Collectors -Novi MI (KW)
----- 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	03-04	-	Western Reserve - Dover OH (KW)
Jun	08-10	-	Parkers Show -Pigeon Forge TN (KW)
Jun	10-11	-	Northwest Knife Collectors - Tacoma, WA

Jun	16-18	-	Blade Show - Atlanta GA (B)
Jun	23-25	-	Springfield Show -MO (KW)
----- August 2006 -----			
Aug	04-06	-	Guild Show - Lake Buena Vista FL (KW)
Aug	04-05	-	Dutch Land Show Adamstown PA (KW)
----- September 2006 -----			
Sep	15-17	-	Ohio Fall Knife Show (KW)
----- October 2006 -----			
Oct	14-15	-	Northwest Knife Collectors - Tacoma, WA
Oct	20-22	-	NKCA Fall Show - Shepherdsville KY (KW)
----- November 2006 -----			
Nov	30-02	-	Parkers Greatest -Pigeon Forge TN (KW)

DINNER MEETING



No dinner meeting for the month of December!

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

