

**RECORD  
PRICE!**

**CUSTOM KNIFE CRACKS \$200,000 MARK**

**JANUARY 2008**

**BLADE**

**JANUARY 2008**

**BLADE**

**World's #1 Knife Publication**

**F+W Publications**

# **BLADE**

**THE WORLD'S #1 KNIFE PUBLICATION**

## **MONSTER FLIPPER**

**Little Knives With  
GREAT BIG Blades**

**Sole Men: The  
Do-It-All Makers**

**Sheaths As Sharp  
As Their Knives**



**TODD BEAGLES MODULAR  
FRAME-LOCK FOLDER**

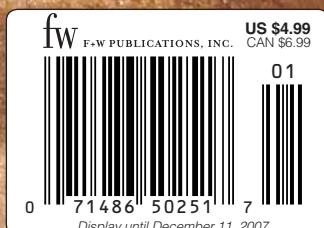
**- ALSO -**

**TOP Sources For  
All Things Sharp**

**EDGE EXAM:  
Ringed Razel**

**Bad Bob's  
Carry Knife**

[www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com)



# *Case/Tony Bose* *Swing-Guard Lock*

*Custom Inspired. A Case Factory Made Masterpiece.*

Jigged Antique Bone



W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery Company and Custom knife maker Tony Bose continue their collaboration with the release of the Case/Bose Swing-Guard Lock, the ninth and perhaps most impressive in the series to date. Like previous models, Case worked with Tony Bose to produce a factory-made knife that nearly duplicates the custom knife Bose makes in his workshop. A locking clip blade, with double nail mark and dramatic swedge is made from ATS-34, steel preferred by Bose as well as discerning knife enthusiasts. With stainless steel bolsters, stainless liners milled for improved blade fall and an old style shield pinned to the scale; there's no doubt about it – this Case/Bose knife has it all.

**W.R.CASE & SONS CUTLERY CO.**

HAND-CRAFTED KNIVES SINCE 1889



Ebony Wood



Abalone



Jigged Brown Bone



Genuine  
Mother-of-Pearl

# MEYERCO®

Exclusive designs by *Blackie Collins*®

Sovereign knives represent another great design from Blackie Collins.

All three blades feature the cross hatch pattern and CNC machined aluminum handles with concentric flute patterns for added gripping texture. These are the best of the best and, of course, come with the Meyerco® FOREVER! warranty.



MCSV1 - Ridgeback Serpentine



MCSV2 - Ridgeback Modified Spear Point



MCSV3 - Ridgeback Clip Point



We're bringing back the most requested knife we ever produced. Blackie's custom tactical knife featuring 8CR13 stainless steel blades, G-10 handles, CNC machined stainless steel liners and a stainless steel reversible clip with non-glare finish.



MCNTCBH - Also Available in Bead Blasted Blade



MCNTCTH - Also Available in Non-Glare Black Blade

4481 Exchange Service Drive • Dallas, TX 75236  
phone: 214-467-8649 • fax: 214-467-9241

[www.meyercousa.com](http://www.meyercousa.com)



January  
2008



12

## FEATURES

### 12 Loveless Knife Sets Price Record

Engraved Delaware bowie fetches a reported \$250,000. *By Steve Shackleford*

### 20 Precise Tolerances, Japanese Style

Be sharp and look sharp with a knife from Mcusta Knives USA. *By Mike Haskew*

### 26 Those Mega-Big Begg Knives

Grab a Todd Begg knife and you've got a handful of cut. *By Jerry Minor*

### 32 Absolute Jewels of Sharpening

Hewlitt's diamond rods sharpen an array of blade types and sizes. *By Dexter Ewing*

### 36 The "Business" of Custom Knives Part I of II

Learn what every maker who tries to sell a knife should know. *By Les Robertson*

### 42 The Razel's Edge

Graham Knives' Ringed Razel is a versatile knife with cutting cachet. *By MSG Kim Breed*

### 50 Little Big Knives

Small pieces with large blades pack a big punch in a compact package. *By Dave Rhea*

### 56 Top Sources For All Things Sharp

No matter the need, knifemaking suppliers have the knife part for you. *By Brendan O'Brien*

### 62 Friction Forging: How Much Pressure?

The author updates you on Friction Forging and much more. *By Wayne Goddard*

### 80 Sheaths as Sharp as Their Knives

Know the ones who make both knives and sheaths of top quality. *By Mike Haskew*

### 86 A Little Knife Revolution Can't Hurt

Changing the general public's attitudes toward knives begins with you. *By Ed Fowler*

### 92 Bad Bob's Knife

Here's the knife Bob Loveless made and carried. *By Pierluigi Peroni and Roberto Allara*

### 98 Sole Men

In the final analysis, sole-authorship knives are defined by the collector. *By Don Guild*

### 106 A Splash in Steel

Jeffrey Cornwell's "Pearl Diver" scores a "10" with our judges. *By BLADE® staff*



32



98

## BLADE SPOTLIGHT

- 6 Readers Respond
- 7 Cover Story
- 9 Web Services Page
- 10 Unsheathed
- 18 The Knife I Carry
- 46 Your Knife Rights
- 67 Next In BLADE®
- 68 BLADE Shoppe
- 74 BLADE List
- 74 Classified Ads
- 75 Ad Index
- 76 What's New
- 78 Knifemaker Showcase
- 90 Where To Net 'Em
- 96 Show Calendar
- 105 Where To Get 'Em



106

*Superlative function deserves to be elevated to Superlative art...*

The William Henry Studio now boasts 13 separate Blade 'Knife of the Year' Awards from our first 10 years in business... And we've re-defined and energized the gent's folder as a viable and essential part of the knife industry.

What remains, from day one until now, is a passion to design and build the finest knife we can imagine. We continue to stretch our imaginations, working to deliver a dynamic and evolving range of heirloom quality pieces to collectors and users alike.

To learn more about our latest distinctive offerings, visit our website or your local authorized dealer...

**William Henry**  
STUDIO

[www.williamhenrystudio.com](http://www.williamhenrystudio.com)  
8 8 8 . 5 6 3 . 4 5 0 0

THE ART OF KNIFEMAKING

AUTHORIZED STRIDER DEALER EXCLUSIVE

**STRIDER**  
**SMF GG/G10**

GUNNER GRIP  
G-10 UPPER SCALES  
"HEAT STRIPED"  
TITANIUM FRAME  
4" CPM S30V  
STAINLESS BLADE  
STARTING AT  
\$500.00

TRUE NORTH KNIVES  
**TNK**  
Purveyor  
Neil Ostroff  
514.748.9985  
[WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM)

ad by armscise.com

BLADE® (ISSN 1064-5853) is published monthly, including the directory and calendar issues, by F+W Publications, Inc., 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-001. Periodical postage paid at Iola, Wis., and at additional mailing offices. Canadian Agreement Number: 40665675. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BLADE, P.O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142 877.485.6426 or outside the U.S. 386.246.3419.



# readers respond

**This Is Your Column!** And we want to know what you think. Do you like what you've read in BLADE®? Do you have a complaint, a suggestion or an opinion you'd like to share with the largest knife audience in the world? Mail your comments

to: BLADE, P.O. Box 789, Ooltewah, TN 37363-0789, or e-mail: [BladeEditor@fwpubs.com](mailto:BladeEditor@fwpubs.com), or visit our website: [www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com). We reserve the right to edit your comments to fit the space available.

## Century-Mark Maker?

Is there a list somewhere that I can access of all the knifemakers who are in the Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall Of Fame©? We have a well-known, but definitely aging, knifemaker living here in Mason, Texas, who I would like to nominate if he has not already been inducted. I would think that he had been but I am not certain.

He is Glenn Marshall, now working on a new knife to celebrate his 80th anniversary in knifemaking. Obviously, that puts his age close to the century mark.

Tommie Campbell, Mason, Texas

*Editor's note: Those best- or oft-described as custom knifemakers who are in the Cutlery Hall Of Fame are (listed in order of induction): Bo Randall, Jimmy Lile, Bob Loveless, Bill Moran, George Herron, William Scagel, Gil Hibben, Buster Warenski, Blackie Collins, Frank Centofante, Ron Lake, Rudy Ruana, D'Alton Holder, Michael Walker and this year's inductee, Dan Dennehy. There are a number of others in the hall as well. While several of them made or make knives in a custom-shop-type setting, their induction was based on reasons other than their custom knifemaking ability.*

*As for Mr. Marshall, we are well acquainted with his work (see "Greatest Generation Knifemakers," July 2005 BLADE®). However, to be nominated for the Cutlery Hall Of Fame, he must be nominated by a sitting Hall-Of-Fame member. This is to keep the relatively small number (20) of living members from being inundated with nominations from outside sources, and to hold the nominations to a manageable number.*

## The Barrel Knife

I am interested in any information about a fourth-generation knife I own called the Finnish Knife or Barrel Knife. Johan Engstrom made it in Eskilstuna, Sweden. It is stamped "Joh. Engstrom, 1874."

I am interested in selling it and would like to know its value. It is in excellent shape. I do not believe it has ever been sharpened. I was told that the knife is buoyant, the handle being made of Karelian birch.

It has a carbon steel blade which folds

into a box-like brass frame, which in turn slides into a hollow handle, being held by a straight, flat spring.

To my knowledge, the knife has not been used in over 80 years.

John Cox, a letter via e-mail

*Editor's note: According to the most recent copy of BLADE's Guide To Knives and Their Values, a barrel knife such as the one you describe may be worth anywhere from \$100-\$400, depending on its condition. (To order your copy of BLADE's Guide To Knives and Their Values, call 800.258.0929 or visit [www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com).)*

## Independent Knife Study

I am looking to buy a back issue of BLADE®. It is the one that featured the Tom Brown Tracker from the movie, *The Hunted*. Also, where can I find a design for the knife (without having to draw one myself)?

I am an anthropology major at Penn State and my independent study is on humans and the evolution of the knife. I am showing the evolution from simple sharp rocks to swords, to what I would consider to be the most "evolved" knife. The parameters are that I cannot include information about knives that contain electric "gadgets and other bells and whistles." It has to be a knife that has all the tools for survival worked into its design without adding extras such as a survival kit.

Steve Carter, a letter via e-mail

*Editor's note: The issue in question is the April 2003 BLADE. However, since Krause Publications, a division of F+W Publications, has well over 50 magazine and other titles, it does not have the storage space to keep back issues. As for the knife in question, contact TOPS, attn: Mike Fuller, Dept. BL1, POB 2544, Idaho Falls, ID 83403 208.542.0113 [www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com) for more information.*

## Doing It Right

I was pleased to see the article and photo of one of my knives ("Temporal Distortion") on the inside back page of the October BLADE®. I first want to thank the BLADE staff for giving my knife this kind of cover-

age. It is always gratifying to see my work in print. Secondly, I want to compliment the staff for taking the time and effort to get the details correct. It is refreshing to see someone still cares enough to do the job right.

Jim Arbuckle, Yorktown, Virginia

## Gold Seeker

I am trying to find some information about an engraver, Eric Gold, of Flagstaff, Arizona. Do you have any information, history or pictures pertaining to him? I was so impressed when I saw his engraving work. He is a fabulous artist. I hope to meet him someday.

Any information you can supply would be appreciated.

Mrs. Corrine Smith, a letter via e-mail

*Editor's note: We have checked our sources and, unfortunately, have been unable to find any information about Mr. Gold. If you can help, please send any information to BLADE, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990 [BladeEditor@fwpubs.com](mailto:BladeEditor@fwpubs.com).*

## Brendan's First Letter

You probably will not get a lot of fan letters from contributors to other magazines, but I have always had an orientation to knives and writing that was out of the mainstream. I wanted to congratulate Brendan O'Brien on being added to the BLADE® editorial staff and compliment him on his "Crisp Weather, Cool Blades" article in the October issue.

I had seen EKA's game gutter in a Blue Ridge Knives catalog but it just had not made sense to me until I was reading Mr. O'Brien's article, and the proverbial light bulb went on. Now I am going to get an EKA for myself and plan on retailing the Outdoor Edge Swing Blade in the sporting goods emporium for which I function as the knife buyer.

Thanks for the tip, Brendan, and good luck in your new position! I hope we can meet in person some day.

Mike Black, a letter via e-mail

**BLADE**



# cover cover story story

**T**odd Begg said the inspiration for the name of his magnum-sized tactical folder—**The Grond**—comes from the third installment of *The Lord Of The Rings* trilogy, *The Return Of The King*. “Grond,” Begg noted, is what the “bad guys” chant repeatedly as they use a battering ram to bash in a door in a scene from the movie.

If ever a knife were built to withstand a “bashing,” the robust Grond would appear to be it. The 4.5-inch blade is ground from 5/32-inch 154CM stainless steel and the handle is carbon fiber. Begg said he made the flipper folder’s liners thin at only .060 inch, but the removable/replaceable lock of the “Modular Frame Lock” thick at .160 inch for maximum strength.

**“He will make  
10 of the knives.”**

—the author

The Grond was one of Begg’s featured knives at BLADE Show West in Portland, Oregon, this past Sept. 14-16. (For a review of BLADE Show West, see the February *BLADE*®.) He said he will make 10 of the knives, all as an exclusive for **KnifeArt.com**.

For more information on the cover knife, contact Todd Begg, Dept. BL1, 420 169th St. S, Spanaway, WA 98387 253.531.2113 [tntbegg@comcast.net](mailto:tntbegg@comcast.net), [www.beggknives.com](http://www.beggknives.com), or see the story on page 26. The cover photo is by Kris Kandler.

**BLADE**



## FEATURED EXCLUSIVES

### DARREL RALPH

**NAME: THE TRIGGER**  
**TYPE: Frame Lock Flipper**  
**BLADE: CPM S30V - 3 3/8"**  
**HANDLE: Titanium**  
**OAL: 7 3/8"**  
**OTHER: Aluminum Armor Inlays**  
**COST: Starts at \$525.00**

### STRIDER

**NAME: SMF GG / GIO**  
**TYPE: Frame Lock Folder**  
**BLADE: CPM S30V - 4"**  
**HANDLE: Titanium**  
**OAL: 8 1/8"**  
**OTHER: Gunner Grip G-10 Scale**  
**COST: Starts at \$500.00**

### MIKE OBENAUF

**NAME: OBIE NECKER ONE**  
**TYPE: Neck Knife**  
**BLADE: D2 - 3 1/4"**  
**HANDLE: Various**  
**OAL: 7 1/4"**  
**OTHER: Kydex Sheath w/ Cord**  
**COST: Starts at \$250.00**

ad by: armsraised.com

**TRUE NORTH KNIVES**  
**TK**  
**NEIL OSTROFF**  
**514.748.9985**  
**WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM**

**LEFT-HAND KNIVES IN STOCK**  
**WORLDWIDE SHIPPING**  
**ALL NEW KNIVES IMMEDIATE DELIVERY**  
**DEALER EXCLUSIVES**

**Chris Reeve KNIVES**  
*Excellence Since 1983*

**STRIDER**

**MOKI  
100<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**

~ 300 PIECES, LIMITED KNIVES IN EACH MODEL ~  
2007 summer release



Distribution in USA.  
Blue Ridge Knives.  
E-mail:onestop@blueridgeknives.com  
TEL:(276)783-6143. FAX:(276)783-9298.

Moteng.  
E-mail:info@moteng.com  
TEL:(800)367-5900. FAX:(800)367-5903.

PO BOX25, Seki City, Gifu Pref., JAPAN. 501-3224 Web Site : <http://www.moki.co.jp>

Ever since our foundation in 1907, we have been producing high quality knives with original design and high precision. Backed by our proud history of 100 years, every one of our handmade knives is made for unmatched "Sharpness and durability".



# TIM BRITTON

---

## Knifemaker



**BABY BULLET LOCKBACK  
2 3/4" BLADE, B642  
\$245; \$465 ENGRAVED**

[www.timbritton.com](http://www.timbritton.com)

**336.923.2062**

P.O. Box 71, Bethania, NC 27010

**BLADE®**  
WORLD'S #1 KNIFE PUBLICATION  
Vol. XXXV, No. 1, JANUARY 2008

Publishers Of

**EDGES**  
*Inside World Knife Collecting & Investing*

**BLADE TRADE**  
*And Cutlery Retailers*

700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001  
715.445.2214 [www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com)  
[BladeEditor@fwpubs.com](mailto:BladeEditor@fwpubs.com)

**Group Publisher**  
HUGH MCALOON

**Publisher**  
BRAD RUCKS

**Editor**  
STEVE SHACKLEFORD

**Associate Editor**  
BRENDAN O'BRIEN

**Production Coordinators**  
MARK LILLA

**Field Editors**

LOWELL BRAY, MSG KIM BREED, DEXTER EWING, ED FOWLER, WAYNE GODDARD, ROBERT E. HUNT, B.R. HUGHES, JOE SZILASKI, RICHARD D. WHITE, TIM ZOWADA

**Advertising Sales**  
MISSY BEYER, EXT. 642  
BRUCE WOLBERG, EXT. 403

**Advertising Assistants**  
MARY ANN RICE  
STEPHANIE WILCOX

**Art Director**  
CRAIG NETZER

**Graphic Designer**  
JEROMY BOUTWELL

**F+W Publications, Inc.**  
DAVID H. STEWARD, CHAIRMAN & CEO  
JOHN SPERIDAKOS, CFO  
BARBARA SCHMITZ, VP, MANUFACTURING  
ERIC SVENSON, GROUP PUBLISHER INTERACTIVE MEDIA

**F+W Publications, Inc. Magazine Group**  
COLIN UNGARO, PRESIDENT  
SARA DECARLO, VP, CONSUMER MARKETING  
SARA DUMFORD, CONFERENCE DIRECTOR  
TOM WIANDT, BUSINESS PLANNING

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES: 877.485.6426  
OUTSIDE THE U.S., CALL: 386.246.3419

BLADE® is published by Krause Publications, a division of F+W Publications, Inc., 700 E. State Street, Iola, WI 54990. BLADE and its logo are registered trademarks. Other names and logos referred to or displayed in editorial or advertising content may be trademarked or copyrighted. BLADE assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials sent to it. Publisher and advertisers are not liable for typographical errors that may appear in prices or descriptions in advertisements. The possession, transportation and sale of certain types of knives is restricted or prohibited by federal, state and local laws. BLADE and F+W Publications, Inc. rely upon the fact that collectors, dealers, exhibitors, advertisers and manufacturers are expected to know and comply with these regulations.

**fw**  
F+W PUBLICATIONS, INC.

# BLADE Magazine ONLINE

BRINGING THE WORLD OF KNIVES TO YOU!

WWW.BLADEMAG.COM

**NEW! Become a member of the BLADE Magazine Web Forums. All it takes is a user name and a password. Register today.**

Go to [www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com) and click on "forum."



Reggie Barker displays his GRS championship belt buckle after the 2007 BLADE Show Cutting Competition. At left is GRS' Linda Schreck.

## Online Subscription Services

- \*Subscribe or renew online!
- \*Pay your bill
- \*Change your address
- \*Get the best deal on subscribing to the World's #1 Knife Publication

[subscribe.blademag.com](http://subscribe.blademag.com)

**SUBSCRIBERS - REGISTER ONLINE NOW AND ENJOY EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO THE LATEST ISSUE!**  
[WWW.BLADEMAG.COM](http://WWW.BLADEMAG.COM)



William Henry's 2007 BLADE Show Investor/Collector Knife of the Year®

## Have you been to the largest knife show in the world?

BLADE® Magazine is the proud owner of the BLADE Show held each June in Marietta, Georgia.

\*Over 660 tables and more than 125 booths of the latest and best in handmade, factory, antique, military and any and all knives.

\*The factory industry's new knives vie for the Blade Magazine Knife-Of-The-Year® Awards.

\*A slate of the most educational and entertaining seminars of any knife show.

\*Attendees enter the Win-A-Blade Game.

Find out more at [www.bladeshow.com](http://www.bladeshow.com)



**\*NEW! BLADE Magazine Forums - discuss everything knife-related in our new online chatrooms**

**\*Read the latest BLADE articles**

**\*Peruse the expanded "Show Calendar"**

**\*See the list of Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famers®**

**. . . and much more!**

BLADE Magazine Forum				
Search the Forum:				
Forum: Blader's Lounge   My Profile   Help   Address Book   My Subscriptions   My Threaded Posts   Delete My Account   Logout   Logged in as: Guest				
Active Users: 30	Forum Description	Topics	Posts	Last Post
2 [BLADE Forum]	Forum Description	Topics	Posts	Last Post
<a href="#">The Knifey I Carry</a>	13	76	8/1/2007 12:30:05 PM	
<a href="#">Knife Shop: How to Hike Knives</a>	3	24	8/1/2007 7:11:18 PM	
<a href="#">Question &amp; Answer</a>	11	26	8/13/2007 6:20:08 AM	
<a href="#">Your Knife Rights</a>	2	8	8/13/2007 9:47:15 PM	
<a href="#">Blade Roundtable</a>	4	20	8/13/2007 5:23:38 PM	
<a href="#">Knife Sharpening</a>	1	18	8/13/2007 7:10:11 PM	
<a href="#">The Tactical Edge</a>	3	4	8/23/2007 1:37:01 AM	
<a href="#">Knife Materials</a>	2	7	8/13/2007 8:46:05 PM	
<a href="#">Knife Design</a>	3	6	8/13/2007 8:46:39 PM	
<a href="#">Treat Your Knife Right</a>	3	5	8/13/2007 9:41:59 PM	



# unsheathed

unsheathed

By Steve Shackelford

## Don't Ignore the Bigger Picture

Whenever a knife sells for a record price, it should mean only good things for the cutlery industry. Such is the case with the reported \$250,000 amount paid recently for the engraved Delaware bowie made a half century ago by Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless. (See page 12.)

For most people—including this beans-onions-and-cornbread writer—spending a quarter million dollars for anything, much less a knife, is beyond comprehension. As a result, the tendency is to dismiss it as being frivolous, if not downright decadent. “Just give me my \$50 folder and leave the high-dollar stuff to the ‘beautiful people,’” some might say.

While such a sentiment is understandable, it ignores the bigger picture. Let me explain.

A sure sign that an item has intrinsic worth in any society is that it is collectible. Even if that item is seemingly worthless otherwise—such as a rare baseball card, for instance—the fact that it is collectible gives it real value. If you disagree, try convincing the guy who recently sold a Honus Wagner baseball card for \$2.8 million.

As a result of the \$2.8-million buy, there no doubt has been a trickle-down effect on all baseball cards. Of course, in all likelihood no other baseball card will ever approach the Honus Wagner card in value, but some working stiffs who read about the Wagner card will be inspired to pay attention to baseball cards, and chances are that someday one of them will find a card worth a significant amount of money. Other working stiffs who read about the Wagner card know this, and the baseball card market grows and benefits as a result.

The same applies, though to a lesser extent, with the \$250,000 Loveless knife. If news of the sale attracts just a few more collectors and knife enthusiasts, it will benefit and grow the world of knives. Besides, knives are much more utilitarian than baseball cards.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the socio-economic spectrum, perhaps some collectors of high-dollar guns and/or other items will see the amount the Loveless knife brought, and it will attract one or more new high-dollar collectors to the

I remember from my journalism days at the University of Tennessee: Have a writer cover an event and slant the story to stereotype all the participants as gum-munching rednecks whose DNA was contaminated with 'shine, a generous helping of inbreeding and/or both.

At one point McNamara writes: “Jon Ukman displays [a tactical knife], though at \$6,000 his priciest knife seems too nice to dull on a task so pedestrian as cutting.” Get it? “Too nice to dull,” “so pedestrian as cutting”? What a laugh riot! Another of McNamara’s Henny Youngman-esque forays into primary school humor involved a show patron, his wife and his daughter looking for a birthday present: “He has allotted himself a \$1,000 budget, but his progeny has seen a few blades she’d like to own, so that figure may get cut to shreds.” Bodda-bing, bodda-boom! Did I mention that McNamara was there all weekend? (Though chances are he/she did a quick show walk-through in a couple of hours, returned to the office and wrote the story in less time than that, and was back online reading MoveOn.org’s latest rantings.)

The point here—besides McNamara sending both comedy and journalism reeling back into the troglodyte era—is that while such four-figure amounts as those McNamara described apparently do not impress newspaper editors, the six-figure private transaction of the Loveless knife, as well as the five-figure prices generated for other handmade knives during the Chicago show’s auction, do impress high-dollar collectors. Actually, five- and six-figure prices impress newspaper editors, too—but most of them are so anti-knife and anti-gun that they will suppress such things unless they are dragged kicking and screaming into that sharp good night.

But that’s OK. Those who count, the collectors, know great values when they see them—and more and more of those great values are emerging from the handmade knife industry.

**BLADE**



*A knife made by Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless sold for a reported \$250,000 to a private collector during the Chicago Custom Knife Show. (Weyer photo of Loveless from Living on the Edge: Logos of the Loveless Legend)*

knife game. All it takes is one high-dollar collector such as the one who bought the Loveless knife to further the idea of knives as a legitimate, lucrative collectible. And then another and another and—well, you get the idea.

It was a story in the *Chicago Tribune* about the very same Chicago Custom Knife Show where the Loveless knife was sold that got me thinking. Written by what would appear to be some fresh-out-of-college hack journalist named Chris McNamara (q@tribune.com), the story had all the earmarks of an old ploy



**#0424 COLOSSUS™**

Main: 8" x 5" x 10" deep  
Top: 6" x 5" x 1" thick  
Front: 8" x 7" x 1.5" thick  
Rear and back CCW pockets  
B, G, K \$118.99, DFC \$124.99



**#0454 MERLIN™**

Folded size: 8" x 5" x 4"  
Main: 15" x 12" x 6"  
Front pockets: 7" x 5" x 2"  
Hydration Reservoir compatible  
B, G, K \$22.99, DFC \$18.99



**#8002 MANTA™**

Manta Versipack (Ambidextrous)  
Main: 10" x 9" with CCW loop field  
Back: 9" x 8" with CCW loop field  
B, G, K \$78.99, DFC \$82.99



**#0419 REMORA™**

Main: 9" x 7" x 3" with dividers  
Front: 6" x 5" x 1" with divider  
Ambi, concealable shoulder strap  
B, G, K \$88.99, DFC \$93.99



**#0517 Pygmy Falcon-II™**

**www.maxpedition.com**  
**TOLL FREE : 1-877-629-5556**

**Color Options: Black (B), Green (G), Khaki (K),  
ACU-compatible Digital Foliage Camo (DFC)**



**#0455 OCTA™**

Main: 8" x 5" x 3" with dividers  
Front: 6" x 5" x 1.5" with elastic loops  
Removable waist strap, modular attachment  
B, G, K \$68.99, DFC \$72.99



**#0223 TACTILE™ POCKET - SMALL**  
**#0224 TACTILE™ POCKET - MEDIUM**  
**#0225 TACTILE™ POCKET - LARGE**

Ultra Flat General Purpose Utility Pouches  
Small TacTile: B, G, K \$22.99, DFC \$24.99  
Medium TacTile: B, G, K \$24.99, DFC \$26.99  
Large TacTile: B, G, K \$27.99, DFC \$29.99



**#0807 MOIRE™ POUCH 7x5**  
**#0809 MOIRE™ POUCH 8x6**

Translucent mesh organizer pouches  
1" quick release hook for hanging  
Moire Pouch 7x5: Black Mesh \$13.99  
Moire Pouch 8x6: Black Mesh \$14.99



**#8001 JANUS™**  
**EXTENSION POCKET**

Main: 8" x 4" x 1.5" with dividers  
Splice in two-faced modular pouch  
Strap adjustable from 8" to 13"  
B, G, K \$35.99, DFC \$37.99



**JUMBO**  
MEMBER TESTED  
and RECOMMENDED

**#0412 JUMBO™**

Monsoon Versipack (Right Side Carry)  
Main: 9" x 8" x 3" with internal subdividers  
Collapsible 32oz. / 1L Nalgene pocket  
B, G, K \$82.99 DFC \$86.99  
Also #0413 S-Type Jumbo (Left Side Carry)



**#0410 MONSOON™**

Monsoon Gearslinger  
Main: 18" High, tapers from 15" wide at base to 6" wide at top  
1600+ cu. in. single shoulder pack  
Uses 100 oz. water reservoir  
B, G, K \$125.99 DFC \$136.99



**#0605 OPERATOR™**

Fits up to 15.4" Laptop (Diagonal Screen Size)  
✓ Internal velcro divider  
✓ For Discreet CCW

Fully-padded large tactical attache  
Main: 15.5" L x 4" W x 11" D with Velcro Divider  
Includes 2" Shoulder Strap and Pad  
B, G, K \$121.99 DFC \$132.99



**#0512 CONDOR-II™**

Condor-II hydration backpack  
1950 cu. in. / 32 L capacity  
Main: 17.5" (H) x 14" (W) x 6.5" (D)  
Fits up to 100 oz / 3 L Reservoir  
B, G, K \$121.99 DFC \$132.99

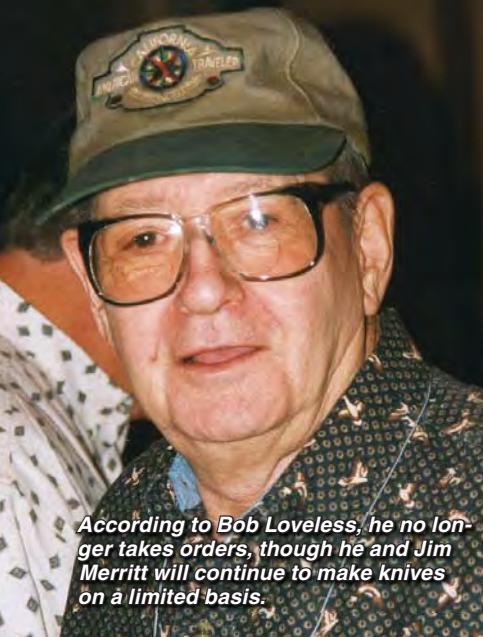
**landmark sale**  
landmark sale

This picture of the "engraved Delaware bowie" by Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless appeared on page 56 of the September BLADE® and, according to sources, inspired a private collector to buy the knife. The purchase price was a reported \$250,000. (Hiro Soga photo)

By Steve Shackleford

# Loveless Knife Sets PRICE RECORD

Engraved Delaware  
bowie fetches a  
reported \$250,000



**According to Bob Loveless, he no longer takes orders, though he and Jim Merritt will continue to make knives on a limited basis.**

**A** knife made a half-century ago by Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless—one that he calls simply the “engraved Delaware bowie”—recently sold to a private collector for a reported \$250,000 during the Chicago Custom Knife Show Sept. 7-8.

It is thought to be the most ever paid for a Loveless knife. It also appears to be the most paid for *any* modern handmade knife—or at least the most that can be confirmed for a modern handmade knife.

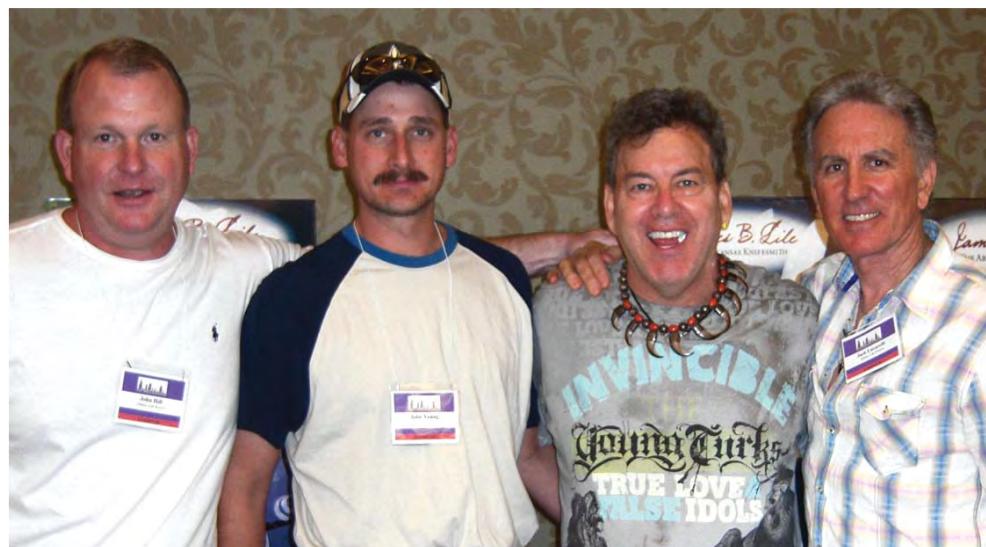
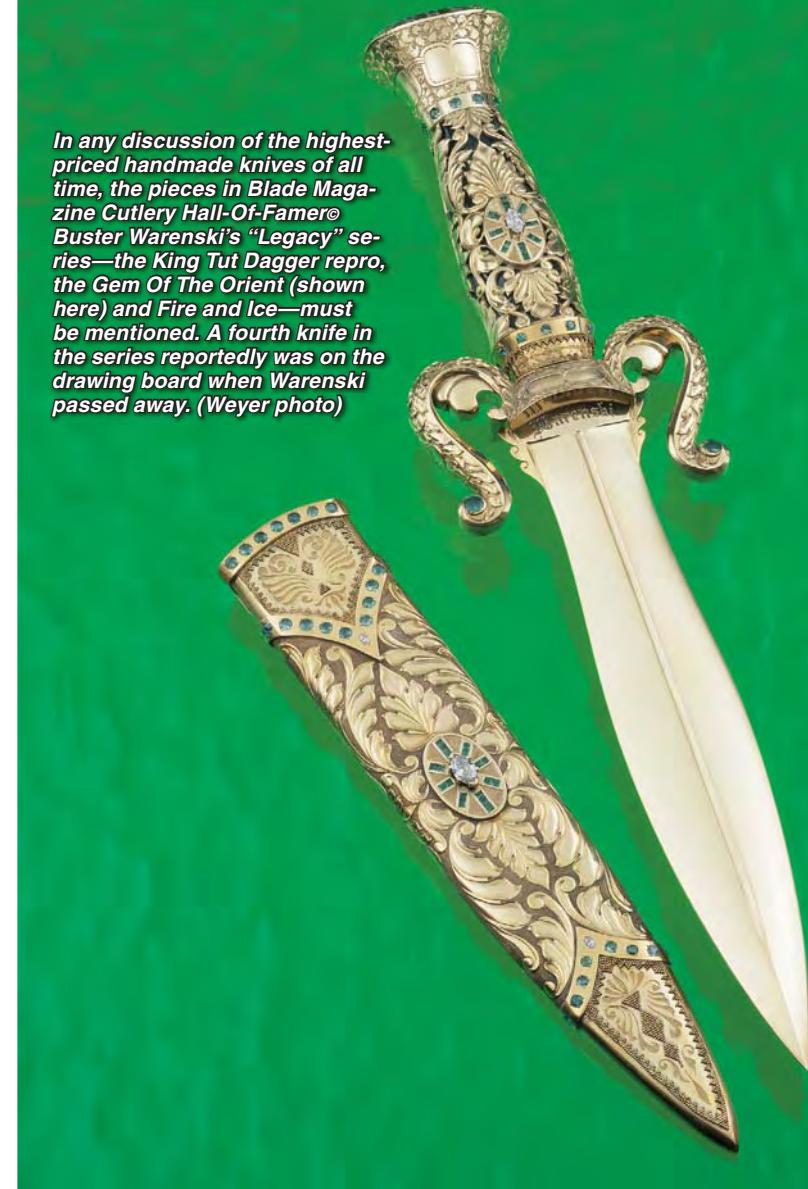
It was the second time the knife was sold within a period of about 24 hours. It sold on Friday, Sept. 7, for \$150,000 to a private collector, who turned it the next day to the current owner for the reported \$250,000. The latter amount was said to include some trade in collector knives and guns.

Due to the trade part of the payment, some questioned the accuracy of the \$250,000 figure. However, according to sources, it would appear that, if not \$250,000, the value of the payment was at least \$200,000, which would still be a milestone amount.

“The [true value of the payment] could be anywhere between \$200,000 and \$250,000, and people will speculate,” one purveyor who attended the show said. “\$100,000 is a landmark amount, \$150,000 is a landmark, and anything between \$150,000 and \$200,000 is a big jump.”

The reproduction of the King Tut Dagger by Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer Buster Warenski was billed as a \$100,000 knife in the February and April issues of the 1988 *BLADE*®. Warenski’s Gem Of The Orient was touted as a \$1.5 million dollar knife in the August 1991 *BLADE*, though there was never any confirmation that it was sold or bought for that amount. In addition, there have been reports of Arab royalty buying gold-and-jewel-encrusted handmades for six-figure amounts. “But you can’t prove them or the people in-

*In any discussion of the highest-priced handmade knives of all time, the pieces in Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Buster Warenski’s “Legacy” series—the King Tut Dagger repro, the Gem Of The Orient (shown here) and Fire and Ice—must be mentioned. A fourth knife in the series reportedly was on the drawing board when Warenski passed away. (Weyer photo)*



**(From right) Collector Jack Lucarelli, show producer Ed Wormser, knifemaker John Young and collector John Henry Hill all appeared to be happy campers at the Chicago Show. (photo courtesy Jack Lucarelli)**

# landmark sale

## landmark sale

### BOKER SWISS DAGGER



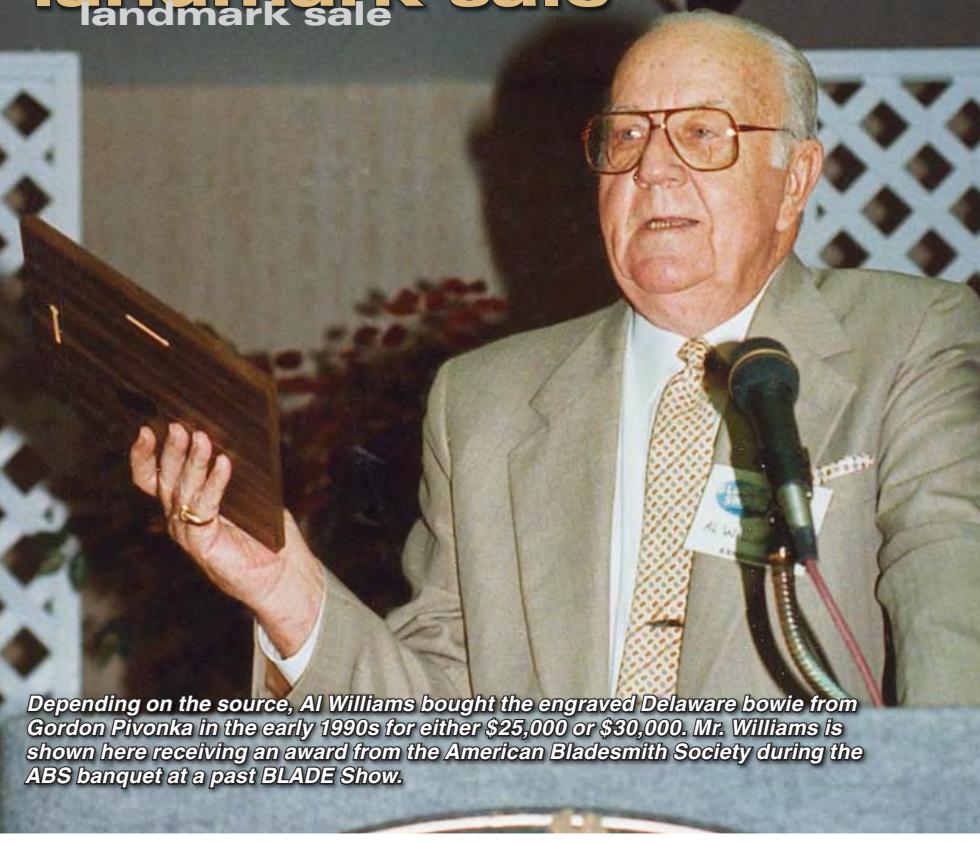
**BOKER**  
BAUMWERK · SOLINGEN

Boker USA, Inc., 1550 Balsam Street  
Lakewood, CO 80214-5917  
Phone: (800) 992-6537  
Fax: (303) 462-0668  
Email: sales@bokerusa.com  
Website: www.bokerusa.com  
Mo. - Fr. 8:00 am - 4:30 pm (MST)

Item No.  
121550

A reproduction of the Baselard dagger carried by the 15<sup>th</sup> century Swiss pikeman and originally manufactured by Boker, in Solingen, during the 1930's.

- Cherry wood handle
  - Stainless steel pommel and guard
- High carbon steel blade
  - Includes metal sheath
  - 14 1/4" overall length
  - \$ 350.00



*Depending on the source, Al Williams bought the engraved Delaware bowie from Gordon Pivonka in the early 1990s for either \$25,000 or \$30,000. Mr. Williams is shown here receiving an award from the American Bladesmith Society during the ABS banquet at a past BLADE Show.*

volved don't want to talk about them," the purveyor observed of the latter.

On the other hand, there have been antique bowies and swords that reportedly have fetched well over \$250,000.

Meanwhile, when told of the reported \$100,000 jump in the Loveless knife's sale price in a span of 24 hours, Phil Lobred, producer of the Art Knife Invitational in San Diego and a collector in his own right, seemed duly impressed. "Man, that's a pretty good one-day profit," he understated. The collector who sold the knife for \$150,000 on Sept. 7 originally bought it for \$50,000 seven years ago—not a bad return, either.

#### Private Transactions

Produced by Ed Wormser, the Chicago Custom Knife Show was held in Arlington Heights, Illinois, and though the show included an auction, the reported \$250,000 Loveless knife sale was not made during the auction. It was instead a private transaction negotiated and then finalized during the Friday and Saturday of the show.

As for the previous \$150,000 sale, it was arranged well before Sept. 7.

"We had the deal made before the show and consummated it there," the initial seller noted. "I thought the knife would bring more. I had turned down \$100,000 and \$125,000 for it because I liked bragging about being able to pay \$50,000 for it, so I just hung onto it because I wanted

to own it for a while."

Apparently, the current owner who paid the reported \$250,000 decided he wanted to purchase the knife when he saw the photograph of it by Hiro Soga on page 56 in Don Guild's story "Loveless Nation: United By Steel," in the September *BLADE*. Like the \$150,000 sale, it, too, appears to have been pre-arranged.

"It was more of a delivery than a last-minute buy," a purveyor/collector of Loveless knives who was at the show noted. "Friday night, at the Tactical Invitational [held in conjunction with the Chicago Custom Knife Show], we talked about the [current owner] getting it. Between Friday night and Saturday morning they sealed the deal.

"We wanted to keep the knife in the USA, an important point to me and a lot of collectors. I know that the [current owner] appreciates the knife and its workmanship. Plus, he's grown to like Bob [Loveless] a lot. I would say it couldn't be in a better home than it is now."

#### First Modern Art Knife?

Made in 1957, the engraved Delaware bowie is what Loveless calls "the first modern art knife." The handle is ivory with hidden-tang construction. The hilt is 3.75 inches wide and is sterling silver, as are the sub-hilt and pommel. The nameplate is 28k gold and the parry strip atop the blade is brass.



1-800-351-8900

**JANTZ SUPPLY****MOSAIC PINS & TUBES**

**1/8" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP840 MP835 MP850**  
**\$14.25 \$18.50 \$14.25**



**5/32" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP510 MP530 MP520**  
**\$19.95 \$19.95 \$19.95**



**7/32" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP972 MP976 MP785**  
**\$29.95 \$29.95 \$31.50**



**1/4" diameter x 12" length**  
**MP945 MP485 MP465**  
**\$34.95 \$36.50 \$36.50**

**RIVETS, PINS, DRILLS**

Brass or nickel silver rivets. Corbys are precision machined with 5/16" slotted heads. Cutlery rivets 5/16" heads, 1/2" long shanks. RD3 rivet drill for corby rivets. RD4 rivet drill for cutlery rivets.

**CP601** 12 Brass Corby Rivets...**14.64**  
**CP611** 12 NS Corby Rivets.....**25.44**  
**RD3** Corby Rivet Drill.....**26.95**  
**RV125** 25 Brass Cutlery Rivets...**7.95**  
**RV225** 25 NS Cutlery Rivets.....**8.95**  
**RD4** Cutlery Rivet Drill.....**26.95**  
**AB118** 12 Brass 1/8" Pins.....**2.95**  
**AN118** 12 NS 1/8" Pins.....**3.50**

**LEARN to MAKE KNIVES  
GET THESE DVD'S**

**VL106** Ed Caffrey  
**VL101** Johnny Stout  
**VL116** Harvey Dean  
**VL106** Basic Bladesmithing.....**29.99**  
**VL101** Fine Art-Hollow Grinding...**29.99**  
**VL116** Flat Grinding.....**29.99**



**VL125** Kit 1-Taper Tang Hunter...**19.99**  
**VL126** Kit 2-Hidden Tang Hunter.**19.99**  
**VL127** Kit 3-Lockback Folder.....**19.99**

**BISON SKINNER KIT**

Pioneer style Skinner ground from high carbon stainless. Includes blade dymondwood handle material, pins and nylon sheath.  
8 1/2" overall, blade 3 3/8" x 1/8" thick.

**SS635** Bison Skinner Kit.....**12.95**

**RAZOR EDGE KITS**

440C Stainless Steel Satin Finish Blade. Kit includes blade, brass rivets, tubing, pinned guard, and handle material.

**Choctaw Drop Point**

8 1/2" overall, blade 3 1/2" x 1 1/8", 9/64" thick.  
**SS441** Blade Only.....**17.95**  
**SS441K** Choctaw Kit.....**27.95**

**Cherokee Clip Point**

8 1/2" overall, blade 3 1/2" x 1 1/8", 9/64" thick.  
**SS442** Blade Only.....**17.95**  
**SS442K** Cherokee Kit.....**27.95**

**Chickasaw Skinner**

8 1/2" overall, blade 3 1/2" x 1 1/8", 9/64" thick.  
**SS443** Blade Only.....**17.95**  
**SS443K** Chickasaw Kit.....**27.95**

**ULU BLADES**

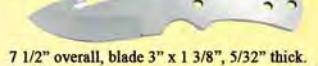
440 stainless steel. Blades 3 1/4", cutting edge 6", 1/16" thick with 7/32" holes.  
**SS271** U-Style Ulu.....**4.95**

**MIRROR POLISHED KITS**

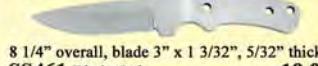
440C Stainless Steel Mirror Polished Blades. Kit includes blade, brass rivets, brass tubing, guard, dymondwood handle material.

**Navajo Skinner**

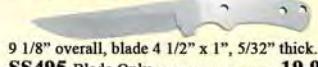
8 7/8" overall, blade 4 1/4" x 1 3/8", 5/32" thick.  
**SS783** Blade Only.....**21.95**  
**SS783K** Navajo Kit.....**30.25**

**Kaw Skinner**

7 1/2" overall, blade 3" x 1 3/8", 5/32" thick.  
**SS782** Blade Only.....**24.95**  
**SS782K** Kaw Skinner Kit.....**32.68**

**Apache Hunter**

8 1/4" overall, blade 3" x 1 3/32", 5/32" thick.  
**SS461** Blade Only.....**19.95**  
**SS461K** Apache Hunter Kit.....**28.95**

**Cheyenne Hunter**

9 1/8" overall, blade 4 1/2" x 1", 5/32" thick.  
**SS495** Blade Only.....**19.95**  
**SS495K** Cheyenne Hunter Kit.....**28.95**

**WEEKEND PROJECTS**

440C Stainless Steel Blades. Kits include blades, pins, dymondwood handle material and instructions.

**Renaissance Dagger**

6 1/4" overall, blade 3 3/4", 1/8" thick.  
**SS167** Blade Only.....**9.95**  
**SS167K** Renaissance Kit.....**12.95**

**Cobra**

7 3/8" overall, blade 3 3/4", 1/8" thick.  
**SS166** Blade Only.....**8.95**  
**SS166K** Cobra Kit.....**11.95**

**Sportsman**

7 3/8" overall, blade 3 1/2", 1/8" thick.  
**SS164** Blade Only.....**9.95**  
**SS164K** Sportsman Kit.....**12.95**

**PRE-SOLDERED GUARD KIT**

8A Stainless Steel Blade with a pre-soldered nickel silver bolster. Kit includes blade, nickel silver rivets, nickel silver tubing, dymondwood handle material and instructions.

**Bearcat**

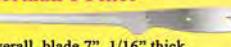
8 3/8" overall, blade 3 3/4" x 7/8", 1/8" thick.  
**SS874** Blade Only.....**19.95**  
**SS874K** Bearcat Kit.....**25.95**

**Nevada Drop Point**

8" overall, blade 3 3/8" x 1", .144" thick.  
**SS650** Blade Only.....**19.95**  
**SS650K** Nevada Drop Point Kit.....**25.95**

**FILLET KITS AND SHEATHS**

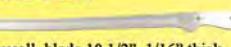
8A Stainless steel fillet blades. Each kit includes blade, pins, handle material and instructions. Optional leather sheaths sold separately.

**Fisherman's Fillet**

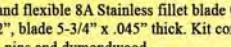
12" overall, blade 7", 1/16" thick.  
**SS910** Blade Only.....**6.95**  
**SS199K** 7" Fillet Kit.....**9.95**

**Fisherman's Fillet Sheath**

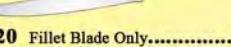
KT101 7" Fillet Sheath.....**14.50**  
**Alaskan Fillet**



16" overall, blade 10 1/2", 1/16" thick.  
**SS912** Blade Only.....**9.95**  
**SS912K** Alaskan Fillet Kit.....**12.95**

**Trout Fillet Blade**

Thin and flexible 8A Stainless fillet blade Overall 10-1/2", blade 5-3/4" x .045" thick. Kit contains blade, pins and dymondwood.



**SS920** Fillet Blade Only.....**8.95**  
**SS920K** Fillet Kit.....**10.95**

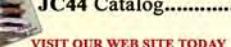
**Trout Fillet Sheath**

Leather sheath ready for the final finish. Use #OS2290 snap setter for completion.



**KT117** Fillet Sheath.....**14.50**  
**JANTZ/KOVAL CATALOG**

Everything you need to make knives. 100 Pages 4000 products, full color  
**JC44 Catalog**.....**5.00**



VISIT OUR WEB SITE TODAY  
[www.knifemaking.com](http://www.knifemaking.com)

**LEATHER CRAFTING AND KNIFEMAKING BOOKS**

**BOH603**

Leatherwork Manual.....**12.95**

**BOH604**

Making Leather Cases.....**16.99**

**BOH607**

ABC's of Leatherworking.....**4.95**



**BOH606**

Blade's-Making Knives.....**19.96**

**BOH608**

Custom Knifemaking.....**17.96**

**BOH609**

How To Make Knives.....**11.95**

**BOH610**

Blade's-Making Knives.....**19.96**

**BOH611**

Custom Knifemaking.....**17.96**

**BOH612**

50 Knife Shop.....**15.95**

**BOH613**

Step By Step Knifemkng.....**19.95**

**BOH614**

Complete Bladesmith.....**39.95**

**LEATHER 8-9 oz.**

Top quality vegetable tanned leather.

**AG512** 12" x 12".....**9.95**

**AG524** 12" x 24".....**18.95**

**DELUXE SNAPSETTER KIT**

Easy to use hand snap set. Includes 25 of the #24 standard nickel plated brass snaps.

**OS2300** Snap Set Kit .....**28.95**

**AUTOMATIC SEWING AWL KIT**

Sews an automatic lock stitch just like a machine. Comes with 2 1/2" yard black thread, one straight and one curved diamond point needle, wrench and instructions.

**OS4130** Kit .....**16.95**

**DIAMOND HOLE PUNCHES**

One piece forged steel construction for punching holes for sewing or lacing leather. Sharp point, size indicates space between prongs.

**WV8065** Single prong punch.....**6.50**

**WV8066** 4-prong 3/32" punch.....**7.75**

**WV8067** 4-prong 1/8" punch.....**7.95**

SEND ORDERS TO:

**JANTZ SUPPLY**

309 W MAIN, DAVIS OK 73030

Phone- 580-369-2316

ADD \$8.95 FOR SHIPPING



PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**CONDOR**  
Tool & Knife  
**MULTI KNIFE**  
Light. Fast. Effective. Need we say more...

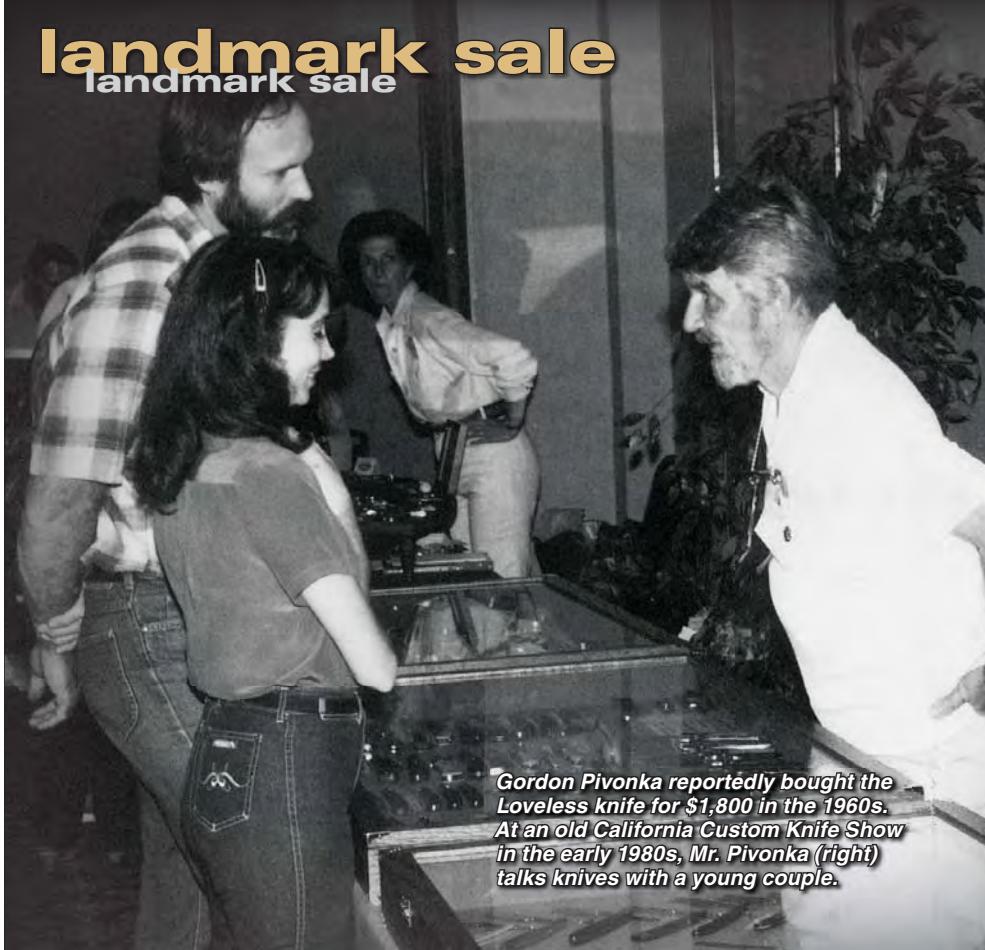
- UltraBlac<sup>2</sup>, Blasted Satin, Mistic Camo blade finish
- Hand Ground and Polished beveled edges
- 1/8" 420 HC Stainless Steel
- 6" Blade, 14 1/2" OAL
- Posigrip Santoprene Grip
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Satisfaction Guaranteed
- Hand Crafted in El Salvador

Request Free Catalog: [rtj@earthlink.net](http://rtj@earthlink.net)

EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY. INCREDIBLE VALUE. OLD WORLD HAND CRAFTSMANSHIP

Condor Tool & Knife, Inc.  
16405 Villa del Norte Dr.  
Houston, TX 77073  
Ph. 407-876-0886  
[www.condortk.com](http://www.condortk.com)

# landmark sale



Gordon Pivonka reportedly bought the Loveless knife for \$1,800 in the 1960s. At an old California Custom Knife Show in the early 1980s, Mr. Pivonka (right) talks knives with a young couple.

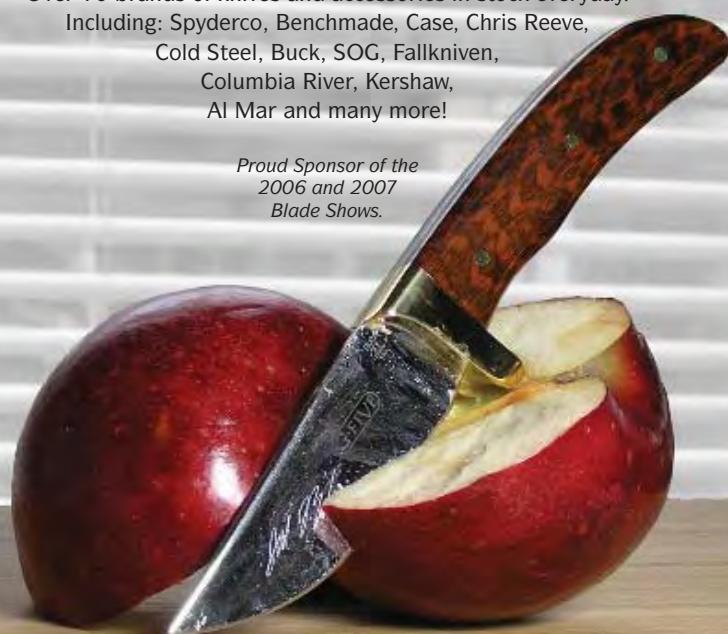
## New Graham Knives

[www.newgraham.com](http://www.newgraham.com)

Over 70 brands of knives and accessories in stock everyday.

Including: Spyderco, Benchmade, Case, Chris Reeve, Cold Steel, Buck, SOG, Fallkniven, Columbia River, Kershaw, Al Mar and many more!

Proud Sponsor of the  
2006 and 2007  
Blade Shows.



The people to call when you need a knife  
Toll Free **1.866.333.4445**

Ground from 139B Jessop nickel-alloy saw steel, the engraved blade bears the words, "The Delaware Maid," above "Bowie Fighting Knife" in bold, above "R.W. Loveless • Maker" above "'Claymont, Del." Francis Monaghan engraved the hilt, sub-hilt, pommel and blade, and also carved the ivory handle.

**"I sell them  
for whatever I  
feel like."**  
—Bob Loveless

"I looked at it and was blown away by its condition," observed collector Jack Lucarelli, who also attended the show. "There's not one crack in the ivory—and [the knife] was made in 1957!"

"I'm not averse to being quoted on what it's worth," Lucarelli added. "It's at \$250,000 now and there have been two offers to buy it from [the current owner] at a profit, but he doesn't want to sell it."

The engraved Delaware bowie is well traveled.

"I had to sell it for \$350 for grocery money in 1959," Loveless was quoted as saying in "Biggest Loveless Collection Changes Hands," a story in the August 2000 *BLADE* about the sale of 287 Loveless knives by Al Williams to Loveless purveyor J.W. Denton. Gordon Pivonka reportedly bought the knife for \$1,800 in the 1960s and sold it to Williams for \$25,000 in the early '90s (though one source indicated that Williams said he paid \$30,000). "Up to that point, nothing by Loveless had ever sold for over \$12,000," observed purveyor John Denton, J.W.'s son and fellow purveyor of Loveless knives. Several years later the knife sold for \$50,000 to the collector who owned it up until Sept. 7.

Aside from the engraved Delaware bowie, the most ever paid for a Loveless knife was \$40,000—by the collector who bought the very same engraved Delaware bowie. The \$40,000 knife was made when Steve Johnson worked with Loveless and is also a sub-hilt bowie with an ivory handle.

According to Loveless purveyor/collector Louis Chow, the purchase of the engraved Delaware bowie gives the current owner "hands down" the best collection of Loveless knives in existence. "That's because he has the most valuable Loveless knives. That's only my opinion," Chow stressed, "[but the Loveless knives he has] are at the top of Loveless quality."

#### Million-Dollar Knife?

After word of the record sale spread at the show, speculation began swirling whether the Loveless knife would one day be the first million-dollar knife.

"I don't think I'll be around to see it but I truly think that will be the first million-dollar knife one day," Lucarelli observed. "I've seen baseball cards and coins go from \$1,700 to \$150,000, and I saw the Honus Wagner baseball card that went for \$250,000 at one time recently go for \$2.8 million."

"I'm seeing handmade knives double and triple in value. [Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer] Jimmy Lile knives that were selling for \$400-\$500 are now going for \$1,500. The [Lile] Rambo knife I sold for \$7,500 resold for \$10,000 and then \$16,000 at [the Chicago Custom Knife Show auction]."

And as the prices of other collectible makers go up, so too will the prices on Loveless knives, Lucarelli predicted.

"No matter how much these other makers' knife prices rise, they'll just push Bob's stuff up further in value," he said. "His knives will never be subject to market conditions and will never come down."

Added John Denton, "Loveless knives are like the Ferrari car. The older ones bring the most money. Bob is the only knifemaker out there where the older knives [command higher prices] than the newer ones."

Chow and Lobred, meanwhile, were a bit more conservative in their million-dol-

lar-knife predictions.

"You really can't tell," Chow noted, "though I would think that \$300,000 and \$500,000 are not out of the question for the Loveless knife." Added Lobred, "I think we're a ways off from [the knife selling for a million dollars], though that piece certainly has some potential."

**"I had to sell it for  
\$350 for grocery  
money in 1959."**  
—Bob Loveless

Lobred owns Warenski's King Tut Dagger repro, a knife that must be mentioned in any discussion of what will be the first million-dollar knife (if, indeed, there ever is one). (Lobred said that, as far as he knows, Warenski's Gem Of The Orient is in Japan.) In fact, if the Tut repro was worth \$100,000 in 1988, that amount would be much more in today's dollars due to inflation. (Incidentally, Chow said that a Loveless Big Bear fighter that went for \$4,000 in 1988 brings \$18,000 now.)

The Tut repro has over 32 ounces of gold alone. "The materials themselves are worth a small fortune," Lobred observed. "The workmanship is unbelievable. Buster always claimed that the [most difficult] knife he ever made was the Tut piece." Lobred added that he has received higher "feeler" offers than \$250,000 for the Tut repro, but has never put it up for sale and is not interested in selling it.

#### No More Orders

Ironically, the landmark sale of the engraved Delaware bowie came a little over a month after Loveless said he had decided to quit taking orders. Though he and Jim Merritt will continue to make knives—reportedly up to 50 a year—a golden era of sorts has come to a close.

Meanwhile, like fine wine, Loveless knives continue to appreciate in value. According to Lucarelli, "There's not a double-edge fighter out of his shop anymore that doesn't sell for \$10,000."

When asked what kind of prices he charges today for knives directly from his shop, Loveless did not skip a beat.

"I sell them for whatever I feel like," he told this writer in no uncertain terms. "When I finish I'll quote you a price and then you'll know."

Whatever the price is, chances are excellent that the knife will be worth a lot more in a short time.

## Inyoni

Small enough for convenient carry, large enough for substantial work

Inyoni is the Zulu word for 'bird'; the slim blade is ideal for birds, fish and small game.

Angled "Kubili" serrations give maximum efficiency for cutting fibrous material or disjointing.

**Blade:**  
2.5inches  
CPM S30V  
stainless steel

**Handles:**  
Cocobolo  
**Sheath:**  
Tan leather



Proudly US made to the legendary **Chris Reeve Knives** standard of quality and ready for a lifetime of service.

*Chris Reeve*  
**KNIVES**

Visit our web site for a complete listing of our fine fixed blade and folding blade models.

[www.chrisreeve.com](http://www.chrisreeve.com)

Chris Reeve Knives  
11624 W. President Drive, # B  
Boise, ID 83713  
208-375-0367

**BLADE**



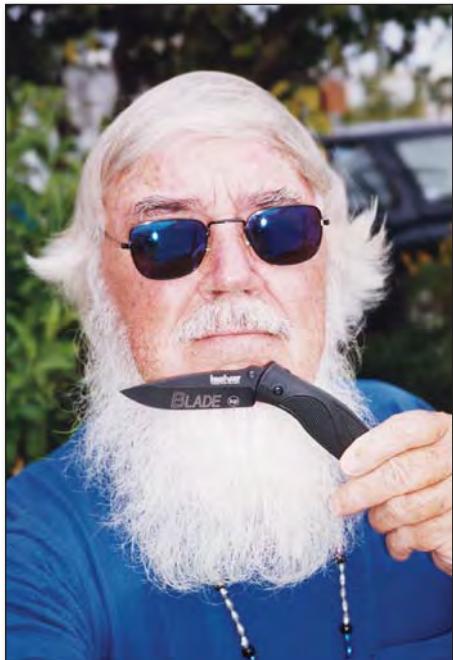
# the knife i carry

the knife i carry



*"A few years ago, I broke my hip and the surgeon inserted stainless steel pins and bolts into it. After I healed, I had further surgery to remove all the hardware. The doctor asked if I wanted the hardware and I said yes, not knowing what I would do with it at the time. I subsequently met knifemaker Larry Mensch. We discussed a custom knife that would include the hardware. The screws and bolts were incorporated into the handle, making it truly a one-of-a-kind custom knife."*

David L. Getter, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania



*"The knife I carry is the Ken Onion-designed Kershaw Blackout that was made specially for BLADE® to use as a special deal for three-year subscription customers several years ago. I'm pleased with the knife, which I use for other jobs besides shaving."*

Don Cleary, Pompano Beach, Florida

*"I carry the Spyderco Tasman. The serrated hawkbill blade practically eats rope and the curved needlepoint tip is great for reaching hard-to-get-to areas. It's light as a feather, and I like the way its blade heavy, which makes it seem like it can't wait to get to the cut."*

Shane Anderson, Bozeman, Montana

# Win A Knife!

Tell us briefly what knife you carry. Add a little history or an interesting anecdote. Try to include a photograph of you holding your knife. We will publish your comments in an upcoming "The Knife I Carry." Your name will then be entered in a drawing to win a free, high-quality, name-brand pocketknife. The drawing will be held Nov. 15. Mail to: BLADE®, POB 789, Ooltewah, TN 37363-0789 or e-mail [BladeEditor@fwpubs.com](mailto:BladeEditor@fwpubs.com). If you send your entry by e-mail, please include your mailing address in case you win the drawing for the pocketknife.

# LAS VEGAS INVITATIONAL CUSTOM KNIFEMAKERS SHOW™



Knifemaker:  
Gill Hibben

*January 18, 19 & 20, 2008  
The Riviera Resort & Casino*

— OPEN TO THE PUBLIC —

**Hours:** Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Daily Admission:** \$15.00 - Three Day Pass: \$35.00

**Honored Guest Badge:** \$90.00

( Includes 3 Show Days and Set-Up Thursday )

**EXHIBITOR'S CALL, EMAIL OR FAX  
FOR YOUR INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE**

**HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WORLD RENOWNED**

**LAS VEGAS ANTIQUE & INTERNATIONAL  
SPORTING ARMS SHOWS™**



*Beinfeld Productions, M.B.*

P.O. BOX 2197, CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92235  
PHONE: 760.202.4489 FAX: 760.202.4793  
EMAIL: GUNSHOWPRO@AOL.COM • [www.ANTIQUEARMSSHOW.COM](http://www.ANTIQUEARMSSHOW.COM)



**PRODUCER OF THE FINEST HAND HELD ARMS & COLLECTIBLES SHOWS IN THE WORLD TODAY**



Each year, the Mcusta Custom Studio produces a limited-edition design from themes related to the spirit of the Bushido and Zen codes of conduct/philosophies. The LMC-1208 is the latest example in a blade of 33-layer damascus forged with a VG-10 core, and a cocobolo handle inlaid with Japanese images, one with a turquoise accent. Weight: 3 ounces. Closed length: 3.25 inches. A Nishijin pouch and Kiri wood box (neither of which are shown) are included. The limited editions may come in runs of as few as 10 each.

# Precision Tolerances, Japanese Styling

**Mcusta Knives USA**

**By Mike Haskew**



The "Take" in the Classic Wood/Damascus series boasts the 33-layer damascus and VG-10-core blade and a cocobolo handle with a bamboo look. Weight: 2 ounces. Closed length: 3.5 inches. The Nishijin pouch caps off the Japanese styling.

**W**hen George Sessions surveyed the landscape in high-quality production knives, he settled with certainty on Mcusta as the brand that promised to grab and hold the attention of the American market.

A veteran of the cutlery industry, Sessions worked with Gerber for nine years as a senior design engineer and said he was involved in the development of a number of the company's most successful products.

**"The appearance gives that beautiful layering effect."**  
—George Sessions

"The Multi-Plier was one of my inventions, along with the Gator knife and the E-Z-Out," he commented. "There were four inventors of the Multi-Plier listed in the patent. I came up with the basic idea and another engineer fleshed that out into a design, and then a couple of others contributed. I believe I have six patents currently with my name and those of others on them which are related to knives."

Sessions added that he has contributed knife designs on a contract basis and earned royalties from such companies as Columbia River Knife & Tool, Brown-

ing, Timberline and Maserin. When he started his own manufacturer's representative business, one of the primary initial functions involved was the selection of lines that would sell.

"I met the representatives of Mcusta

**Mcusta Knives USA**  
attn: George Sessions  
Dept. BL1, POB 22901  
Portland, OR 97269-22901  
503.659.9958  
[sales@mcustausa.com](mailto:sales@mcustausa.com)  
[mcustausa.com](http://mcustausa.com)

**Specialties** Locking-liner and money-clip folders and fixed blades; limited-edition folders

**Blade Steels** VG-10 stainless, 33-layer damascus w/VG-10 core, *santai* clad w/VG-10 core, and AUS-8 stainless

**Handle Materials** Micarta® in green or black, ebony, cocobolo, corian, quince wood, damascus, anodized aluminum, staminawood, layered copper/steel/brass, stainless steel, turquoise, spiny oyster, malachite, some w/various inlays, including ray skin and traditional Japanese images of cherry blossoms, birds or butterflies

**Miscellaneous** All models made in Seki City, Japan; some come w/decorative, woven Nishijin pouches

**MSRP Range** \$70-\$320 and up

**Amazing knives forged throughout a history of 800 years, which are strong, beautiful, and exceedingly sharp!**



Seki City, the City of Blades, is the 800-year-old blade capital of the Orient. In Seki City we have the greatest number of Japanese sword craftsmen in all Japan, actively work on passing down the imitable craft and tradition of Japanese sword-making from generation to generation, and intent upon introducing these excellent swords from Japan to the world.



**www.kanetsune.com**  
[info@kt-kitasho.co.jp](mailto:info@kt-kitasho.co.jp)



## KITASHO COMPANY LTD.

### Head Office

5-1-11 Sakae-machi, Seki City, Gifu-Pref, Japan 501-3253

### Tokyo Branch

2-37-12 Minamiotsuka Toshima-ku Tokyo Japan 170-0005

### Nigata Branch

3-1-13 Kohya Sanjo City, Nigata-Pref, Japan 955-0046

**Edged tools for  
the Good Life built  
Wolf-Tough**



### **Automatic Satisfaction!**

#### **Diablo-DA double action Automatic!**

Scale release automatic or manual one-handed-opening. 3.3 inch CPM-S30V blade, locking-liner, Textured/contoured handle, 4.1 oz LD23150

Also available in one-handed-opening. Non-automatic version LC23155



#### **Paul® Prankster**

3.2 inch 154 CM blade, Patented Paul® lock system locks, blade opened and closed, Cocobolo handles, 3.3 oz., one-handed-opening. LM22750.

Also available with G-10 handles LM22820.



#### **LONE WOLF KNIVES™**

9373 SW Barber Street, Ste A.  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
Dealer Locator At  
[www.lonewolfknives.com](http://www.lonewolfknives.com)

## **factory focus**



*A traditional Japanese tanto blade in VG-10 sanmai and an anodized aluminum handle with an integral pocket clip (not shown) designed for low pocket carry highlight Mcusta's "Katana" folder. Weight: 3 ounces. Closed length: 4.25 inches.*

at the SHOT Show in 2006," he recalled, "and we had what amounted to a one-minute meeting. We showed one another our 'toys,' and later they contacted me about an opportunity as a potential distributor here in Oregon. I've been to a lot of knife shows, and after a while it seems like all you see [are] knives that really don't capture your attention. But, when I saw [the Mcusta knives], they really stood out. These are knives of high quality with unique and attractive designs."

Manufactured in Seki City, the heart of the Japanese cutlery industry for more than 800 years, Mcusta knives

have been available in the United States for about three years. Sessions formed Mcusta Knives USA and formally became a company distributor in late 2006. Paying tribute to the centuries-old art of Japanese cutlery making, the hallmarks of Mcusta knife production include traditional Japanese styling combined with the precision and exacting tolerances that can be achieved with modern technology.

Every Mcusta knife is designed using a state-of-the-art 3D.CAM (computer assisted manufacturing) system. Prototypes are then constructed, inspected and field-tested. Components are laser



# 1-800-351-8900

# JANTZ SUPPLY

## VG10 JAPANESE BLADES

**NEW!**

High Carbon Cobalt Core, clad with 33 layers of stainless steel, producing a damascus look. A true super steel, holds a razor sharp edge. Absolute best cutlery available.

### Paring



6-1/2" overall, 3-3/4" blade, .078 tang thickness  
**HD801** Paring Blade.....\$29.95

### Steak



8" overall, 5-1/8" blade, .078 tang thickness  
**HD802** Steak Blade.....\$34.95

### Sandwich



8-5/8" overall, 6" blade, .078 tang thickness  
**HD803** Sandwich Blade.....\$49.95

### Nagiri



9-1/2" overall, 6-1/2" blade, .098 tang thickness  
**HD806** Nagiri Blade.....\$69.95

### Santoku



9-1/2" overall, 6-3/4" blade, .098 tang thickness  
**HD807** Santoku Blade.....\$59.95

### Chef



11-3/8" overall, 8-3/8" blade, .098 tang thickness  
**HD808** Chef Blade.....\$64.95

## **NEW!** SUSHI BLADES

The Deba a thick, heavy blade used by Japanese Chefs for boning poultry, fish, and other meats. The Sashimi blade is for slicing fish, meats and vegetables. Each blade is beveled on one side, flat on the other, for straight penetrating cuts.

### Sashimi



12-3/4" overall, 9" blade, .135 tang thickness  
**HD804** Sashimi Blade.....\$99.95

### Deba



9-1/2" overall, 6-1/2" blade, .218 tang thickness  
**HD805** Deba Blade.....\$149.95

## LOCKING LINER KITS

Exceptional quality at a great price! Each kit includes all components except handle material. Easy to follow instructions make these perfect for the beginner.

### VG10 Folder Kits

**SPECIAL\***



4 3/4" overall, 3" blade, .100 thickness  
**JD808** Eagle Claw.....\$29.95

### Tarpon



7" overall, 2-3/4" blade, .135 thickness  
**JD809** Tarpon.....\$49.95

### Barracuda



7" overall, 2-3/4" blade, .135 thickness  
**JD810** Barracuda.....\$59.95

## TRADITIONAL CUTLERY

High polished, 440C Stainless blades. Complete Kit includes 11 blades, one each as shown below. Steak set includes four SS826 blades. Carving Set includes SS825 and SS822 blade. All kits include handle material, Rivets and complete step by step instructions.



**evenheat**  
kiln inc.



Heat treat your own blades with ease.

**KF135** 13.5 Depth.....\$850.00  
**KF180** 18.0 Depth.....\$895.00  
**KF225** 22.5 Depth.....\$940.00

## ELECTRO-CHEM ETCH



Etch metals the easy way. Type or draw a personal logo on stencil material provided. Easy to follow instructions included.

**EC302** Personalizer Plus.....\$179.95

## **FOREDOM** **SPECIAL\***



Carve, Grind, and Shape with this 1/8 hp reversible ball bearing motor flex shaft kit. Includes electronic foot control, handpiece with 3/32, 1/8, and 1/4" collets plus a special accessory kit to get you started.

**FT524** Foredom Kit.....\$199.95

## KNIFEMAKER'S VISE



Swivels a full 360 degrees, locks in place when the jaw is tightened. Jaws measure 3 1/2" w, 2 1/2" h. Open to 9" capacity, 9" tall, 11" long and 3 1/2" wide. Base has three holes to bolt to work bench or pedestal. The Base foot is 5" x 6".

**JS315** Knifemaker Vise.....\$49.95  
**JS316** Optional Tilting Jaws(pr.)\$12.95

## CUSTOM DINNERWARE

Crafted from heavy duty top quality stainless. Rivets included for each piece.



**SS501** Knife 8-3/4" overall.....\$2.25  
**SS502** Fork 7-1/4" overall.....\$2.05  
**SS503** Dinner Spoon 7-1/4" overall...\$2.10

## JANTZ/KOVAL CATALOG

Everything you need to make knives  
Blades, Fittings, Metals, Tools,  
Finishing Supplies and more.

**JC44 Catalog**.....\$5.00

VISIT OUR WEB SITE TODAY

[www.knifemaking.com](http://www.knifemaking.com)

SEND ORDERS TO:  
**JANTZ SUPPLY**

309 W MAIN, DAVIS OK 73030

Phone: 580-369-2316

ADD \$8.95 FOR SHIPPING

\* SPECIAL PRICES THRU JAN 2008

High Carbon Stainless blade, Nickel silver bolster, belt clip. Supplied with preshaped, drilled handle material. 7 13/16" long when opened, 4-1/2" closed. 3-1/4" cutting edge, 3/32" thick. Use torx wrench T10 and T6.

**SS656** Fallow Locking Liner.....\$19.95

**FX106** T6 Torx Wrench.....\$4.50

**FX110** T10 Torx Wrench.....\$4.50

**A MUST for  
Bladesmithing**

**Quick and  
Efficient**

**Reaches 2350  
Degrees**

**Many  
Models  
to Choose  
From**

**Fire Your Forge Today!  
Call for Free Catalog  
800-446-6498**

**NC**  
NC Tool Co. Inc.  
6133 Hunt Road  
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313  
336/674-5654 • Web site: [www.nctoolco.com](http://www.nctoolco.com)

# factory focus

cut with CNC (computer numerically controlled) machinery. Each knife is then assembled and finished by hand. Following a rigorous inspection, the knife is cleared for shipment.

According to Sessions, the traditional Japanese elements, which are so much a part of the Mcusta look and feel, include not only the sleek curve of the Japanese-style tanto blade and the Nishijin woven pouch available with several models, but also the forging process of the steel. Comparing the Japanese tanto-blade configuration of the MC-4 Katana Series folders to that of the Americanized chisel-point tanto reveals the elegant sweep of the Mcusta blade and the meticulous attention to detail. The forging process results in a satisfying combination of strength and flexibility in VG-10-clad blades. The clad blades include a core of VG-10 stainless steel with 33 layers of nickel damascus or *san mai*, Sessions noted, providing great looks and increased ductility.

"The forging process of the raw blade material itself is traditional," he explained. "We start with a VG-10 core and hammer forge the layers on each side. The VG-10 provides good edge retention, and 16 layers are on either side

of the cutting edge. They also do the Japanese *san-mai* alloy in outer layers on the blades. Solid VG-10 tends to be on the brittle side, and the cladding does provide more ductility. The appearance gives that beautiful layering effect as well, and when they bevel grind the steel a wavy look comes out, probably due to the hammering as opposed to pressure forging and compressing."

**"It's a different reaction that I've seen to these knives."**

*—George Sessions*

Inspired by the Samurai sword, the Katana Series of locking-liner folders features 4.25-inch blades of VG-10 or VG-10-clad steel that operate smoothly on slick Teflon™ washers via either hand. The handles are forged-and-machined aluminum



**kershaw**  
KNIVES  
speedsafe® assisted  
opening technology

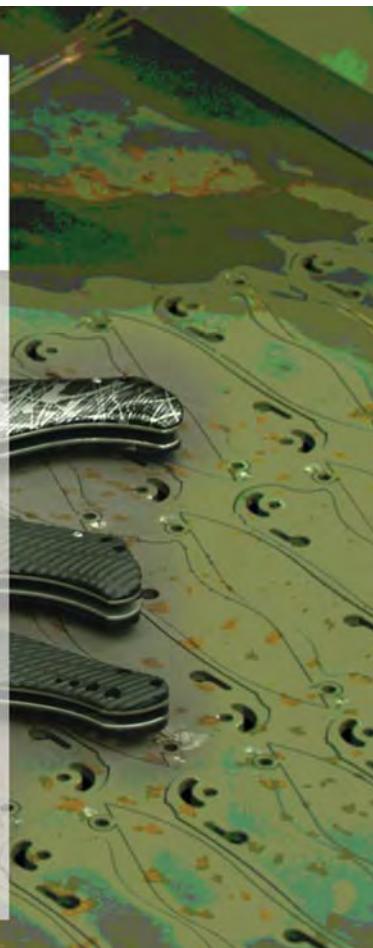
**NEW07**

**G-10 OFFSET** Designed by Ken Onion  
**Model 1597G10**

Steel.....Metal injection-molded (MIM)  
440C stainless-steel with  
Chromium Nitride coating  
Handle...Black G-10, 3-D machined  
Lock.....Stud-lock  
Liner.....410 stainless-steel  
Blade....3 3/4 in. (9.5 cm)  
Closed...5 1/4 in. (13.3 cm)  
Weight...8.5 oz.

**MSRP \$299.95**

[www.kershawknives.com](http://www.kershawknives.com)  
800.325.2891



**When advanced technology becomes reality.**



# Vulcan

**There is nothing weak about the Vulcan.**



The General Dynamics Vulcan is a 6-barrel 20mm cannon of the gatling-type. It fires standard M50 ammunition at 6,000 rounds per minute and is integral part of the armament of modern fighters. Our Vulcan is just as formidable thanks to the power and strength of its construction. Take for instance our patented Arc-Lock™, the full steel liners encased in glass-reinforced Zytel™, and a .125" thick VG-10 blade.

**SOG**  
Extraordinary Tools & Blades

[www.sogknives.com](http://www.sogknives.com) | 888-SOG-BEST



Part of Mcusta's Classic Damascus Folder Series, the "Kasumi" sports a blade of 33-layer damascus surrounding a VG-10 core and damascus slabs with an anodized pivot pin. Weight: 2 ounces. Closed length: 3.5 inches. A traditional Nishijin pouch tops off the package.

anodized in complementary colors. Each knife tips the scales at 3 ounces.

Also bolstering the Mcusta line is the MC-3 Classic Damascus Folder Series. The blades of six of the seven folders feature the visually appealing layered steel wrapped around a VG-10 core, while the seventh, the MC-37C Yoroi, encases the VG-10 core with san mai. Each handle is solid damascus, with the aforementioned locking-liner-opening system and an anodized pivot pin.

**"These knives are aimed for higher-end collectors."**

—George Sessions

The traditional Japanese motifs of the flower, bird, wind and moon grace the special-limited-edition designs offered annually by the Mcusta Custom Studio. Carrying on themes related to the Japanese Bushido and Zen philosophies, these custom models feature exotic woods such as cocobolo and African ebony inlaid with traditional images such as butterflies and cherry blossoms. Limited to 100 pieces, each annual edition comes with a Kiri wood display box and the Nishijin pouch.

Mcusta also has moved into the fixed-blade arena with its MC-6 Series, which includes slim, utilitarian knives designed for cleaning small game and other uses in the field or kitchen. With attractive handles of

spiny oyster, malachite, turquoise and cocobolo, the knives feature 3.5-inch blades and are feather light at 1.5 ounces each.

Ranging in manufacturer's suggested retail prices from \$70 to approximately \$320 for the limited-edition knives, Mcusta is competitive on aesthetics, performance and cost.

"These knives are aimed for higher-end collectors, and I hate to use other companies' names but William Henry comes to mind," Sessions observed. "Although they're not to the price level or the detail level of William Henry at this time, knives like those are targeting the same market. The unique styling and the price point combined in Mcusta present a very good value compared to some of the other knives out there. They are very well constructed, and I've seen very good reports on their performance."

One distinct advantage that Sessions said he has noticed with Mcusta is the eye-catching appeal of the pieces on the table at a knife show. "I've worked with different companies and seen how salesmen work," he commented. "They're always busy selling, and when you work the Mcusta booth you stand there and people come up and say, 'Cool!' You just help them. It's a different reaction that I've seen to these knives."

Mcusta Knives USA is operated primarily as a distributor for Mcusta Knives of Japan and typically does not sell to individuals. However, there is one notable exception. If you do not have a Mcusta dealer in your area, Sessions said he usually will be able to accommodate you.

**BLADE**

**profile in steel**  
**profile in steel**

# THOSE MEGA-BIG BEGG KNIVES

By Jerry Minor

*Todd Begg*



*This issue's cover knife, Todd Begg's "The Grond" is a monster flipper folder in 154CM stainless blade steel. The 4.5-inch blade is hollow ground with a flat grind on the false edge. The handle is carbon fiber and the liner material is 6AL4V titanium. Six steel posts secured with screws on both ends anchor the handle. The rear handle scale is pocketed to fit over the lock, preventing the detent from pressing into the lock, thus providing "over-bend protection." The lock of the "Modular Frame Lock" is removable and replaceable. The liners and pocket clip sport Begg's "Jeweled Ice" texturing. Closed length: 6.25 inches.*



**Todd's full-integral "Yeti" fighter has a 7.25-inch blade of KG-coated D2 tool steel. The blade pattern is a recurve kukri/bowie hybrid with an elongated false edge. The center of the handle has a radiused groove for balance and reduced weight. The four black canvas Micarta® inlays are radiused and textured for an enhanced grip in all conditions.** Weight: 14 ounces. Overall length: 12 inches. True North Knives' list price: \$1,380.

## BLADE®: How long have you been making knives?

**Todd Begg:** Off and on since 1994 as a hobbyist doing kit knives while in the Army. I went full time in 2003.

### What brought you to knifemaking?

My brother and I spent quite a lot of time in the woods learning bush craft, wilderness survival and doing a lot of hunting. In these early years, my appreciation for knives began. Later, while serving in the military in a recon unit, I began to appreciate edged weapons as a combat tool. Since I was 15 I have been reading *BLADE* and such publications, drooling over the knives of my heroes and knowing I couldn't afford them. I determined I would have to make my own.

I made my first knife at 17 out of a file in shop class. My love for cutlery grew until my fascination led to my dream of

earning a living creating the very types of knives I used to covet.

### What prepared you for being a knifemaker?

When I got out of the military, I used my G.I. Bill to earn [a degree] in machine shop technology. I was a knifemaker who became a machinist to become a

better knifemaker. For the most part, I'm self-taught; that's not to say I have not learned from many people through books, conversations and shop visits. However, I have not tutored under anyone or attended knifemaking schools.

You seem to have received a lot of exposure on the Internet discussion forums, etc. How important has the Internet been in your development as a knifemaker?

It has been an invaluable tool for mar-

**"My wife, Tanya, works very hard on the forums."**

—Todd Begg



BILL JORDAN'S  
**REALTREE**  
hardwoods HD  
HIGH DEFINITION

**REALTREE Hardwoods HD®**  
has 13 natural colors, life-like shadows and photorealistic limbs and leaves. Extreme light to dark contrast creates maximum visual disruption whether or not an animal can see colors.  

- Razor sharp 400 Grade Stainless Steel fixed blade.
- Ergonomically designed for perfect palm and thumb placement.
- Full tang construction.
- Overall length - 8.5".
- Heavy-duty black cordura sheath.

**UTICA CUTLERY COMPANY**  
820 Noyes Street • Utica, NY 13502  
Tel: 800-888-4223 • Fax: 315-733-6602  
E-Mail: Sales@kutmaster.com  
Website: www.kutmaster.com

# Culpepper & Co. Inc.

**Pearl slabs including:**  
white, gold, pink, black, brown & abalone

## OTHER MATERIALS:

Jig, Pick, Smooth & Stag Bone  
in a variety of colors & patterns: Mosaic Abalone, Buffalo  
& Ram's Horn, Stingray Skins,  
Wallets & Belts.

**See Us At:**  
**New York Custom Knife Show**  
New York, NY  
November 16th-17th, 2007

**Parker's Knife Show**  
Pigeon Forge, TN  
December 6th-8th, 2007

Catalog send \$5.00 or download from our  
Web site to:

**Culpepper & Co., Inc.**  
P.O. Box 445, Franklin, NC 28744  
Phone (828) 524-6842  
Fax (828) 369-7809  
[www.knifehandles.com](http://www.knifehandles.com)  
[www.stingrayproducts.com](http://www.stingrayproducts.com)

**Terms:**  
C.O.D. • Prepayment • MC/VISA

# profile in steel



Todd won the award for best tactical folder at the 2006 BLADE Show West for his second-generation "Glimpse" flipper model. The 3.75-inch blade is 154CM stainless and the handle frame is black G-10 with silver-twill G-10 inlay. The clip and jeweled liners are titanium. (BladeGallery.com photo)

ketting, research and sales. It has allowed us to reach a market worldwide. Shows can get expensive and Internet forums help expose a larger collector base to my work. My wife, Tanya, works very hard on the forums to develop relationships with our collectors and promote my knives. It's a great venue

for getting current work exposed quickly and to a mass market with little outlay of expense. It's also been a terrific tool in helping educate people on just what goes into making my knives through work-in-progress threads; we have several in our forum on the USN [Usual Suspect Network].

# Adam Unlimited

FOR THE ULTIMATE IN QUALITY EXOTIC LEATHER AND ACCESSORIES



See me at the New York  
Custom Knife Show



5456 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. #119 Atlanta, GA 30341  
**310-574-3689** [www.adamunlimited.com](http://www.adamunlimited.com)

**DEALERS WANTED**



*The "Mach 2" fixed blade showcases Todd's "pseudo trademark" groove design in the frame above the koa wood handle. The 3.25-inch blade is 154CM stainless. Overall length: 7.25 inches. (Point Seven photo)*

Being a part of the USN as well as other forums has been invaluable when getting feedback on new models, tracking trends, checking out what's hot and what's not, etc. It has increased our sales by over 60 percent. We're able to take pre-orders on a model by introducing a prototype and, if it's well received, move forward with production. It has definitely boosted my exposure.

The Internet allows me to view and study what other makers are doing that is new and innovative. We've also been blessed with making some friends along the way, one of those aspects that you don't expect. Another facet is having people come to shows specifically to meet me and handle my knives after having seen them online.

#### **Which models have struck a chord with your customers?**

The Glimpse folder is in big demand. The Clandestine series with the inlaid camouflage handles has been super popular. People seem to really enjoy my more complex integrals and inlay work as well. I haven't made more than 15-20 knives of any model, with the exception of the Glimpse, so it's difficult

**Marty Miller**  
marty@mmcustoms.com

800.966.3494

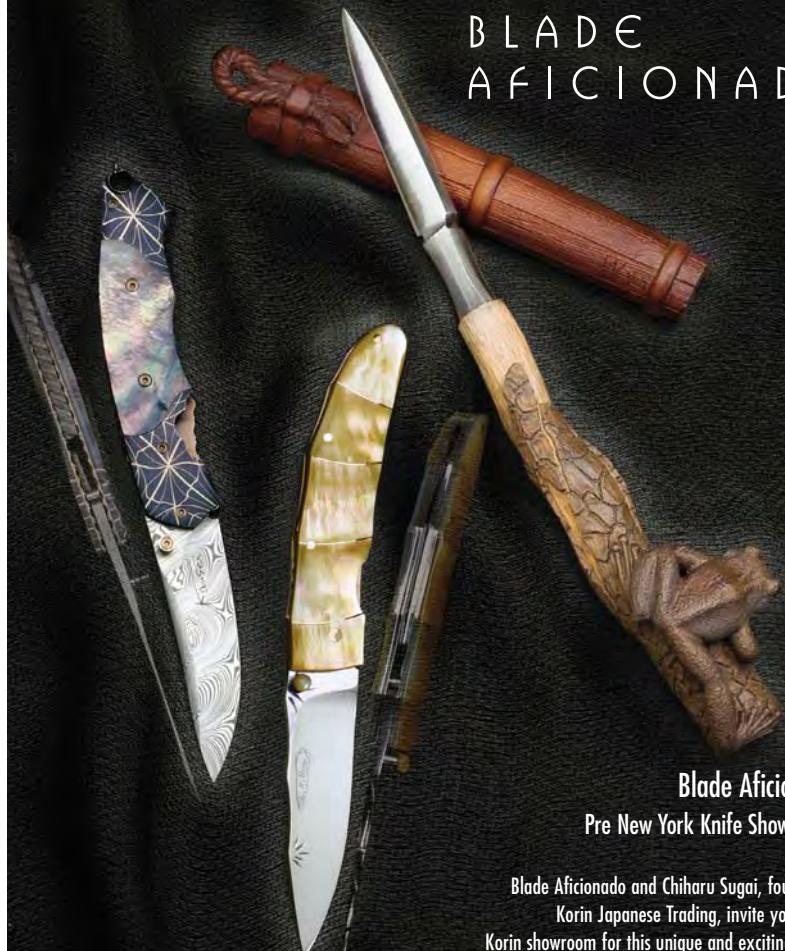
# MM CUSTOMS



## Purveyor of Fine Knives

[www.mmcustoms.com](http://www.mmcustoms.com)

## BLADE AFICIONADO



### Blade Aficionado

Pre New York Knife Show Event

Blade Aficionado and Chiharu Sugai, founder of Korin Japanese Trading, invite you to the Korin showroom for this unique and exciting event.

We will be hosting four renowned knife artisans from Japan, Mr. Hara, Mr. Matsuno, Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Ota. They will be showing and selling their stunning collection of handcrafted pocketknives and offering tips on maintenance, care and sharpening of these knives.

Thursday, November 15th  
2-8pm

Korin Japanese Trading  
57 Warren Street  
New York, NY 10007  
800.626.2172

Don't miss this opportunity to see this collection of rare pocketknives in one place.

For more details [www.bladeaficionado.com](http://www.bladeaficionado.com)

**profile in steel**  
**profile in steel**



*When You Want More Than A Wall Hanger*

**TRADITIONAL DESIGNS  
MODERN MATERIALS  
REAL SWORDS**

Introducing the Valiant Armoury Signature Collection designed by Christian Fletcher and the Practical line designed by Angus Trim. Expected availability late 2007



<http://www.valiantarmouryswords.com> 1-877-SWORDS-4

to gauge which is most in demand.

The stylized blood grooves in your blade designs often carry over into your handles. Is there a function to them?

Yes, on the bigger integrals your fingers naturally index in the groove and it serves to lighten the overall knife. It has also become a pseudo trademark of my knives, helping to make my work instantly recognizable to collectors. It helps give my knives a "face" and gives continuity to my overall body of work. Plus, they just look cool!

**What is it about integrals that is so appealing?**

I find the challenge of making an integral very rewarding and the knife itself is, in my opinion, superior in strength to what I call stack-on or traditional-style construction. My creative juices really flow when working on an integral.

**All your knives are made via the stock-removal method. Why does this appeal to you more than, say, forging?**

As a machinist, I tend to think more spatially and approach my knifemaking from a very logical standpoint. When you do the type of knives I do, you have to plan it out from the beginning. Stock removal affords me the ability to be more logical on my progression on a knife. For example, I profile the knife after machining all the features on both sides. A forged-to-shape knife would not al-

# THE 2008 Knife Exposition

American Bladesmith Society

**JANUARY 25th and 26th**  
Silver Legacy Hotel, Reno NV

**FRIDAY**

10AM - 3PM  
Demonstrations  
and Seminars

4PM - 6PM  
Knife Preview

7PM  
Banquet

**SATURDAY**

10AM - 11AM  
Knife Preview

11AM - 6PM  
Exposition Open  
For Sales

**Featuring all-forged  
blades by ABS Master  
and Journeyman Smiths**



A.G.Barnes

Red St. Cyr

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: [absknifeexpo.com](http://absknifeexpo.com)

or contact: Rick Dunkerley (406) 677-5496

**Begg Knives**  
attn: Todd or Tanya Begg  
Dept. BL1, 420 169th St. S  
Spanaway, WA 98387  
253.531.2113  
[tntbegg@comcast.net](mailto:tntbegg@comcast.net)  
[www.beggknives.com](http://www.beggknives.com)

**Specialties** Tactical and utility folders and fixed blades, many of the latter in full-integral construction (including Begg's "Straddle-Tang" style)

**Blade Materials** CPM 154 and 154CM stainless steels, D2 tool steel and others

**Handle Materials** Green and black Micarta®, G-10 (including silver twill), carbon fiber (including his "Lightning Strike" version) and others; his "In-Line" handle design reduces bulk and weight

**List Prices** Neck knives \$150, folders \$600-\$2,000, standard fixed blades \$500 and up, and integrals \$1,200 and up

**Knife Show Schedule** BLADE Show, Chicago Custom Knife Show and the Tactical Invitational, BLADE Show West and the Plaza Cutlery Custom Knife Show

**Todd's full-integral fixed blade offers up his "Lightning Strike" carbon-fiber-handle inlays and titanium pins. The 7.75-inch blade is D2 tool steel. Overall length: 12.75 inches. (Point Seven photo)**



returning e-mails, which frees me up to focus on making knives. She really knows our customers, stuff about their families, their jobs—we go to shows and tons of people ask for her. Half the time she has to introduce me! It's pretty funny.

Tanya views Begg knives as a legacy for our children. She's also a fantastic mother to them—no small feat when coupled with everything else she does. The fact that she enjoys it all and appreciates knives just tops the cake. Most makers have to do it all themselves, and I know just how lucky I am.

#### **Has she ever produced any knives?**

That's a yes-and-no answer. She's pretty intent on building our business and widening our collector base. We talked about needing to have some smaller neck knives and less complex knives at really super affordable prices. After we bantered about it, she decided she wanted to try her hand at a line of knives and came up with the "Doom" series. The name is something some of her forum friends coined. She made a letter opener called the "Thumb Shovel of Doom," which sold like hotcakes, then a small "Push Dagger of Doom" which was also well received. Both were out of titanium and then a few of [carbon fiber]. She plans on more "Doom Gear." I had to help her, though she's getting pretty good at it for a beginner! She had fun with them but she also came to realize making knives isn't easy. I doubt she will have the same passion for it that I do. I'm passionate about making them—

low me to do this [since there are no straight lines from which to index]. As far as the finish goes, I believe the collector deserves to see my best effort on every surface of that knife—no tool marks or belt marks.

#### **Do you take custom orders?**

That depends. I will design a knife for someone to meet their requirements, but I feel the knife has to look like one of mine. Generally I come out with a new model and collectors say, "I want one of those," but they choose their own materials and finish. My waiting list is about one year but that also depends on the model.

#### **Talk a little about Tanya's input.**

I couldn't do this full time without her support and effort. She is my biggest fan, cheerleader and harshest critic. She is my business partner and wears many hats—customer service rep, sales manager, accountant, shipping manager, PR person, general shop lackey and, not least of all, head chef! She is super savvy when it comes to marketing and developing customer relations. Ninety-five percent of the time when collectors call or e-mail, it's her they want to talk to. She spends an average of two-to-four hours a day online interacting with buyers, potential collectors and

she's more passionate about selling them!

#### **Any big, upcoming projects on tap?**

I have a little integral neck knife exclusive that I'm doing for BladeArt.com that should be done in six-to-eight months. I'm doing an exclusive mortised-tang integral for True North Knives, the Cogent, with four inlays in the handle. I'm also making a monster flipper for KnifeArt [this issue's cover knife]; both should be done within a few months. By next year, I want to make some throwing knives and shurikens. I'm working on a design for an integral *gladius* also. We have plans to introduce a mid-tech folder and combat knife sometime in the next two years.

I have an exciting project planned for after BLADE Show West. [Editor's note: BLADE Show West was Sept. 14-16 and will be reviewed in the February BLADE.] Over the past few years, many makers have approached me with questions on machining as it pertains to knifemaking. I've decided to begin offering machining classes. It's not a "how-to-make-knives" class or an introductory to knifemaking, but one geared to makers who want to maximize the use of their machine tools. It will address the use of mills, lathes, fixture building and the specific applications to knifemaking. I will gear the curriculum to individual attendee's needs and interests.

**BLADE**

WWW.HAYESKNIVES.COM

ad by armsraised.com

Image - SharplyCoop.com

WALLY HAYES

MASTER

BLADESMITH

Hand-made knives,  
one at a time.

6 1-519-776-1284

The Jewelstik's 10-inch length is designed for long blades, such as Kershaw's Zero Tolerance ZT0100.



By Dexter Ewing  
**BLADE® field editor**  
all photos courtesy of the author

# Absolute Jewels of Sharpening

*Hewlett's Jewelstik and Flipstik three-sided diamond rods sharpen a smorgasbord of blade types and sizes*

I have used a Hewlett three-stage, 10-inch Jewelstik 1-2-3 diamond-sharpening rod for about a decade now. It has sharpened countless knives: kitchen, tactical, utility and sporting. And after all these years, it still performs like new!

Hewlett also has another neat sharpener in its Flipstik 1-2-3 model. It is a short diamond rod that is compact enough to carry in a glove compartment, backpack or suitcase. Its plastic protective cover also serves as the sharpener's handle when open. As with the Jewelstik, the Flipstik is three sided, too.

The three-sided sharpening surface of both models offers coarse, medium and fine grits. The surface of each grit has a curve to it. This means that the rods can handle tricky blade shapes such as recurves, "S" curves, hawkbills and karambits with relative ease. The three-sided nature increases the sharpener's versatility, so you do not have to tote multiple hones to give you the performance of either Hewlett model.

# You need iron to cut steel

If you're a person who thinks that making a special knife means a bit more than putting a handle on a blank, then you better be prepared to cut some steel. It takes iron to cut steel, and with more than half a ton of iron behind it, the Tormach PCNC 1100 is ready for the task.

Precise computer control, 1.5 hp spindle, and a rock solid frame combine to produce a machine that can follow graceful curves with incredible accuracy, even cutting the toughest materials. Whether creating a complex blade lock out of titanium or engraving a bas-relief scene in CPMS30V, the PCNC 1100 is the tool that can do it all. Let imagination—not your tools—be your only limitation in bringing your ideas to life.

## Tormach PCNC 1100 features:

- R8 Spindle 1.5 hp variable speed to 4500 RPM
- Standard G code with DXF & HPGL file support
- Composition bonded slideways (similar to Turcite®)
- Computer controlled spindle speed and direction
- Digitizing and tool touch off port
- Easy to use in manual or automatic modes
- Ground ballscrews and single shot lubrication

**3 Axis Mill  
\$6800**

*plus shipping*

Precise angles and detailed engravings are no problem for the PCNC 1100.

Photo of knife product group, courtesy of MIL-TAC.

Shown here with optional stand, LCD, keyboard arm, and keyboard



**Product information  
and online ordering at  
[www.tormach.com](http://www.tormach.com)**



## HOT FOR 2007

**BUCK**  
KNIVES

401-MT5-0



### Limited Edition

Kalinga, Burlwood Handle,  
Burgundy Leather Sheath

**kershaw**  
KNIVES

K3200SSBL



### Limited Edition

Ripcord, Black Handle,  
Polished Blade, Plain

**COLUMBIA**  
RIVER KNIFE & TOOL

CR5515



### 2007 Most Innovative Imported Design

K.I.S.S. 2 Timer, 2 Blades,  
420J2 Handle, Plain

 **Moteng**

**DEALERS ONLY PLEASE**

12220 Parkway Centre Dr., Poway, CA 92064

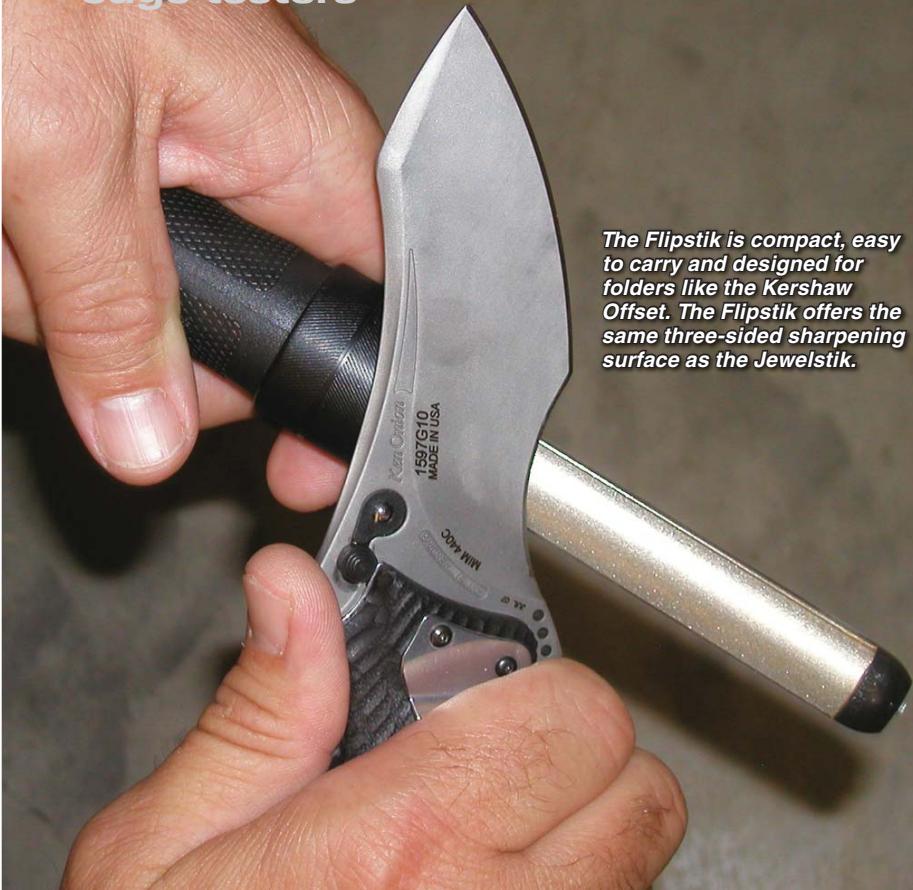
Ph: (800) 367-5900 or (858) 715-2500

Fax: (800) 367-5903 or (858) 715-2525

E-mail: info@moteng.com

**WWW.MOTENG.COM**

## edge testers edge testers



*The Flipstik is compact, easy to carry and designed for folders like the Kershaw Offset. The Flipstik offers the same three-sided sharpening surface as the Jewelstik.*

### Jewelstik

The 10-inch length of the Jewelstik's sharpening surface provides plenty of room to work on big knives, such as the 8- and 10-inch blades of chef's knives, bowies, chopper-style models and the like. The sharpener's durable, molded plastic handle affords a secure and comfortable grip, and the integral guard prevents a knife blade from running up onto your hand. At the rear of the handle is a hole for a lanyard to hang the Jewelstik for convenient access and out-of-the-way storage.

Through the years, whenever I have sharpened curved blades, the Jewelstik has been my main go-to sharpener. Harder stainless steels such as 154CM, BG-42 and CPM S30V respond very well to the coarse grit, and the sharpener hones softer stainless steels such as AUS-8, 440A and 420HC in a jiffy. Since the Jewelstik is diamond coated, all you need for lubrication is water, or simply wipe it down with a moist paper towel to remove the fines that collect during sharpening.

As noted, I have had my Jewelstik model for about 10 years, and it has held up very well considering the amount of use it has seen. I have highly recommended the Jewelstik to friends for the proper sharpener to work on multiple sizes of curved blades.

### Flipstik

Because I was—and continue to be—very satisfied with the performance and durability of the Jewelstik, I decided to buy the Flipstik sharpener, too. It offers the same three-sided sharpening surfaces as the Jewelstik, but in a much more compact package that is easy to carry. The Flipstik is an ideal sharpener for hiking or a camping trip. It is lightweight and does not take up much room in a backpack.

A protective cover twist locks over the diamond rod to protect the sharpening surfaces from damage. Unlock the protective cover and twist lock it onto the end of the sharpen-

### Jewelstik 1-2-3 and Flipstik 1-2-3

**Company** Hewlett Mfg.

**Hone Type** 3-sided diamond rods

**Grits** Coarse, medium and fine

**Miscellaneous** Both sharpeners are

well suited for sharpening curved blades; of the two, the Jewelstik is better suited for longer blades, while the Flipstik is more compact and easier to carry; both require water or a damp wipe for lubrication

**MSRPs** Jewelstik: \$49.95; Flipstik: \$39.95



**Hewlett's Jewelstik 1-2-3 (top) and Flipstik 1-2-3 are diamond rod sharpeners that the author said are especially well suited for use on curved blades.**

er's base, and the cover doubles as a sizable handle to firmly hold the Flipstik during use.

Since the Flipstik is considerably shorter than the Jewelstik, it has its limitations, including not being suited for sharpening longer blades. Nonetheless, the Flipstik is ideal for putting an edge on any blade 5 inches long or less.

The diamond rod's bulbous base offers full protection from accidental cuts during sharpening. Use and care is the same as with the Jewelstik, and water is recommended only for lubrication. However, be sure the diamond-coated steel rod is dry prior to locking the protective cover/handle or the rod may rust.

The Flipstik is suited for folders of all sizes and some small-to-medium-size fixed blades. I have resharpended a few of my folders with it and it is very effective, especially for recurves and hook-shaped blades. The major selling points of the Flipstik are its compact nature and three sharpening grits in one easy-to-carry package.

You might ask, "How do you tell which side is which grit?" No matter which sharpener you choose, Hewlett uses the same labeling method. Molded onto the plastic tips of the sharpeners to correspond with each side of the sharpening rod are "1 Coarse," "2 Medium" and "3 Fine." Sharpening is easy as 1-2-3! (Sorry, I couldn't resist.) Since the molded-in numbers/letters can be difficult to read, there is a simpler way to identify each side. Take a metallic silver Sharpie® and mark dots on the end of the guard. On the coarse side put one dot, for the medium side mark two dots, and on the fine side, three dots. This provides an easy, foolproof visual reference at a glance.

#### Final Word

Both the Jewelstik and Flipstik are well-manufactured, professional-grade sharp-

eners that will serve very well in the kitchen, workshop or campsite.

*For more information, contact Hewlett Mfg., Dept. BL1, POB 446, Linesville, PA 16424 814.683.4762 fax 814.683.4091 sharpen@jewelstik.com, www.jewelstik.com.*

## BLADE

### LANSKY'S SPORTSMEN'S CLASSICS

For over 25 years, sportsmen all over the world have relied on Lansky Sharpeners for the finest knife and tool sharpening products.

Others have copied many of Lansky's designs, but no one has matched them for ergonomics, ease-of-use and professional results.

The Lansky Controlled-Angle Knife Sharpening System is the top choice for putting a factory-new edge on all your sport and kitchen blades before going afield. The pocket-sized Turnbox sharpener is a sure way to touch up or resharpen blades in the field. The Deluxe Quick Edge Tungsten-Carbide Sharpener can sharpen a knife or machete in the field with just 3 or 4 strokes.

Check out the Lansky classics at your favorite outdoor store or visit our on-line catalog at:

[www.lansky.com](http://www.lansky.com)

NO DULL KNIVES • NO UNINSPIRED TOOLS • VALUE ALWAYS

Gotta have it.

**Zilla-Tool™**

Meet the monster tool.

Yes, ya gotta have a Zilla-Tool™. Locking spring-loaded pliers, wire cutter, combo serrated knife, screwdriver with two hex bits, clip. Get all the details on our web site.

The latest inspired design from I.D.Works™ also includes a nylon sheath and the CRKT Limited Lifetime Warranty. \$39.99 MSRP

**i.D.Works™**  
CRKT INSPIRED DESIGN WORKS

[www.crkt.com](http://www.crkt.com)  
Toll free 1-800-891-3100

NO DULL KNIVES • NO UNINSPIRED TOOLS • VALUE ALWAYS



Controlled-Angle  
Knife Sharpening  
System



Deluxe  
Turnbox  
Sharpener



Deluxe Quick Edge  
Tungsten-Carbide  
Sharpener



An edge above the rest

**LANSKY**  
SHARPENERS

PO BOX 50830, DEPT. BLA  
HENDERSON, NV 89016

# The "Business" of Custom Knives



## *Part I of II*

Learn the things every maker who tries to sell a knife should know

By Les Robertson

While knifemaking is a lot of hard work—as Scot Matsuoka (left) will be the first to admit—running a knifemaking business is just as difficult if not more so. Scot's "Pahinui" (above) features a 3.5-inch blade of CPM 154 stainless steel and a titanium frame with giraffe bone inlay. (Sharp-ByCoop.com knife photo)



*By conducting SWOT Analysis on other makers who produce a similar knife to his, the maker will find his position in any market. These bowies in damascus and stag are by John Perry (bottom) and Tim Tabor. (SharpByCoop.com photos)*

I have been involved in custom knives for over 23 years. I have never seen the custom knife market as competitive as it is today. By now I suspect that many custom knifemakers out there have noticed that there are many custom knifemakers out there!

As custom knife enthusiasts themselves, most makers enjoy the camaraderie of their fellow custom knife enthusiasts. However, whether a maker is part or full time, there is a hollow feeling on the last day of a knife show when he or she still has several knives left on the table. Inevitably there are all the questions but really only one that counts: Why? Believe it or not, the answer is simple: The maker brought the wrong knives for that show's group of buyers. Perhaps it was the style or the materials or the price—or maybe all three!

While it is simple to ask other makers what they think or blame the show, the economy, etc., the truth is that what is best for the maker is to find out what the buyers want. Corporations around the world spend billions of dollars to find an answer to this question. They understand that a business

exists to make a profit. How does a business make a profit? It follows the most basic of business rules: Sell the product for more than it cost to buy it. In this case,

it is a custom knife. Now, here comes the part to highlight: In order to sell it, the seller has to have someone who will buy it.

Too many small business people, espe-



*While it is simple to ask other makers what they think or to blame the show, the economy, etc., for bad sales, the truth is that it is best for the maker to find out for himself what the buyers want. Few makers would appear to understand this concept better than Ernest Emerson (far right), here discussing a knife with a customer at the 2007 BLADE Show. Megan, Ernest and Mary Emerson's daughter, looks on in the background.*

## KNIFE AND GUN FINISHING SUPPLIES

Order Line  
1-800-972-1192

Customer Service  
928-537-8877

**STABILIZING -- OUR SPECIALTY SINCE 1990**

BLADES	GUARDS	HANDLES	SOLDER	BOOKS	ADHESIVES
HOW TO DVD'S	GRINDERS	BELTS	DC MOTORS	ETCHING MACHINES	BUFFERS
BUFFS	HORN	IVORY	BONE	FLITZ	SCRIBES
SCREWS	TAPS	DRILLS	SHEATHS	POMMELS	RIVETS
STABILIZED WOOD	KNIFE CASES	HERMES ABRASIVES	STEEL & BLADES	416 STAINLESS	1080 STEEL
CM POWDERED STEEL	154	440C	1095	D2	PURE NICKEL

1972 Forest Ave  
Lakeside AZ 85929

[www.knifeandgun.com](http://www.knifeandgun.com)  
[csinfo@knifeandgun.com](mailto:csinfo@knifeandgun.com)

# INSURANCE

## For The Knife Collector

Your homeowners insurance is rarely enough to cover your collectibles. We've provided economical, dependable insurance since 1966.

- Our insurance carrier is AM Best's rated A+ (Superior).
- We insure knives, edged weapons...and scores of other collectibles. And we offer you "one-stop" service for practically everything you collect.

• **Personal Attention.** Consumer friendly service. Dedicated staff. Network of expert assistance in valuing collectibles at time of loss. You won't deal with someone who doesn't know the collectibles business.

• See our website (or contact us) for full information, including standard exclusions.



**CIA**

**Collectibles Insurance Agency**

11350 McCormick Road • Suite 700 • Hunt Valley, MD 21031  
E-Mail: [info@insurecollectibles.com](mailto:info@insurecollectibles.com)



More Info? Call Toll Free:  
1-888-837-9537 Fax: (410) 876-9233 or  
Visit: [www.collectinsure.com](http://www.collectinsure.com)

**blade biz**  
**blade biz**

cially those in the arts, feel that it is about their "art." To a degree, this is true. Obviously, if the person does not have the skills to make the "art," he would not have potential customers.

I would like to provide basic but very important information that every knifemaker who tries to sell a knife should know.

### Business Entities

There are two basic types of *business entities* that a custom knifemaker uses. This is not the entire list, as other business entities apply as well.

1) *Sole proprietorship.* Most small businesses begin as sole proprietorships, but some eventually convert to a partnership, limited liability company (LLC) or corporation.

A sole proprietorship is not a separate entity from its owner, so the business does not file its own tax return. Its income or loss is reported on Schedule C of the tax form that is filed with the owner's tax return.

While most business people start and

**"Find out what  
the buyers want."**  
—the author

finish their ventures as solos, others take on partners, incorporate or later form an LLC. Tax reasons alone rarely justify changing the ownership structure of a business. More often, entrepreneurs growing out of sole proprietorships are influenced by non-tax issues, such as the shield from personal liability for business debts that corporations and LLCs offer. Also, partnerships, corporations and LLCs allow co-owners to be brought into the business. Some proprietors believe the letters *Inc.* in a business name may impress customers, investors and lenders, and so they incorporate without even bringing in any co-owners.

2) *Limited liability company (LLC).* The main reason for starting an LLC is for the personal liability shield it provides, much as a corporation does. The LLC differs from a sole proprietorship in that the individual is not responsible for business debts. In addition, if the LLC is sued, only it can be sued. In most cases the owner's personal assets cannot be included in the lawsuit.

The LLC is a "pass-through" tax entity. Owners report and pay taxes on the LLC



**The image of knifemakers as a bunch of happy-go-lucky guys who have a great time at what they do is not always the case—though (from left) it would be hard to tell that from the looks of Kim Breed, Roger "Mudbone" Jones, Gary Wheeler and James Rodebaugh at the 2007 BLADE Show. All, though, will stress the need for a maker to have a sound business approach.**

income on their individual tax returns and are responsible for filing estimated taxes, just as sole proprietors and partners are. Owners who draw a salary from an LLC must pay self-employment tax on earnings (Social Security and Medicare). This is arguably the best set-up for a part-time maker because of the personal liability shield.

**"Time management is essential."**  
—the author

Local and state laws will determine how the maker sets up as a business entity. The maker's first phone call in selecting the entity that is right for him should be to a certified public accountant (CPA). In many states a CPA can set up the maker's business entity. In addition, the CPA can help the maker with the Internal Revenue Code, a document that baffles the best of business people.

Once the maker establishes his business entity, one of his favorite words will be *deduction*. Each maker should remember: It is not how much money he makes that counts, it is how much of it he gets to keep! Since each tax situation will be different, each maker will have to discuss it with his CPA. Almost without exception a CPA is worth the money, and remember—what the CPA charges the maker will be the maker's first deduction.

#### A Business Plan

Now that the maker has become a business entity, a business plan is next. A *business plan* is a document that defines the maker's goals. Once the business plan is done, the maker can focus on the tasks that must be accomplished to obtain his goals. This is essential, as time is the only commodity that a business cannot buy, trade or borrow.

A business plan will not give a maker more time. However, by helping him focus on what needs to be done, the business plan will enable him to maximize the time he has, making his business more efficient.

Time management is essential for a maker to meet his objectives and subsequent goals. Everyone gets the same 24 hours a day. Learning how to maximize that time will provide the maker with a competitive advantage over the majority of his competitors.

A business plan can be as detailed as need be. Not having one hurts a maker's business and gives his competitors the competitive advantage.

#### SWOT Analysis

A business plan consists of several components, perhaps most important of which is the *marketing plan*. It is here that the maker can apply the use of basic marketing analysis tools such as SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Tactics) Analysis.

In my opinion, the *SWOT Analysis* is the backbone of the marketing plan. It is here that the maker will determine his position in any given market. The analy-



## Al Mar Knives

**NEW FOR 2007**

### Eagle Classic



100SBM

100SC

100SMT

100SCT

### Mini SERE 2000™



SER

S2KB

### The Back-Ups™



BU2-2

BU1-2

For more info on Al Mar Knives visit  
[almarknives.com](http://almarknives.com)

## blade biz



*When you talk to a successful maker at a knife show—as a knife enthusiast does with Stephen Olszewski (right) at the 2007 BLADE Show—it is likely that the maker is taking mental notes on you and just about every other aspect of the show experience. Standing behind the table in the background is John Denton.*

**Handle Material** - Reconstituted Stone, Micartas, Stabilized Woods, Mother of Pearl, Water Buffalo, Mammoth Ivory, Exotic Woods, plus many more!

**Metals** - Nickel Silver, Brass, Stainless Steel, Titanium, Damascus, D2, 154CM, O1 Toolsteel, Forging Steels, ATS34, 440C and more

*Blade Kits are available for most blades.*



Example Shown Above: **Finest Filet Kit** - BL546K  
Includes blade, Dymondwood handle material, nickel-silver guard, pins, & thong hole tubing & 30 minute epoxy. Only \$30.95

We put customer service first!



### WANT SAME DAY SHIPPING?

- Call our Toll-free, Express Hot-line, 1-888-461-8632, before 2 p.m. Central time, Monday-Friday, and all supplies that are in-stock, will be shipped the same day.
- **\*Please ask for same day shipping.**

### Heat Treating & Cryogenic Quenching

*\*Air Quenchable Steel Only for Heat Treat*

**Shop on-line 24/7 at [www.texasknife.com](http://www.texasknife.com).**

Texas Knifemaker's Supply

**Toll-Free 888-461-8632**

10649 Haddington, #180

**Fax 713-461-8221**

Houston, TX 77043

**Tel. 713-461-8632**



Catalog \$4.00 (\$10.00 International) or Free if placing order.

sis will lead him to the answer of one of the most oft-asked questions: How much should I charge for each of my knives?

Understanding his position in the market is invaluable for a maker and his business. This understanding will remove the guesswork in pricing. It will allow the maker to price his knives in such a way that he can take advantage of the findings in the SWOT Analysis. This will enable him to improve his position because he will truly offer a knife that is at the right price point and provides value for the money. By conducting SWOT Analysis on other makers who produce a knife similar to his, the maker will find his position in any market.

**“SWOT Analysis is the backbone of the marketing plan.”**  
—*the author*

SWOT Analysis can be done by style of knife, price of a style of knife, style of knife with particular materials used, geographic region, the maker's work time in the knife, etc. Knife shows and websites are an excellent place to start the process. I started doing SWOT Analysis 14 years ago and have found it to be an invaluable tool for my business as a purveyor of custom knives.

I cannot stress strongly enough that, for long-term success, it is imperative that the maker determines his position in the market and prices his knives accordingly. Too many makers seek the advice of other knifemakers on pricing. While other makers will give the inquiring maker what they feel is their best advice, the inquiring maker must take their advice in the context of his position in the market.

Remember, McDonald's does not ask its competitors for pricing advice—it does SWOT Analysis on them instead!

*Next time, in the conclusion: “Pro-active marketing,” including advertising, publications, websites, knife shows, knife/product mix, purveyors, Internet knife discussion forums, sales pointers and more.*

*About the author:* Les Robertson has been involved with custom knives for 23 years. Robertson's Custom Cutlery was established in 1986. Les went full time in 1995—which, he said, is the same year he earned his masters degree in business administration.

*For the contact information for the knives in the story, see “Where To Get 'Em” on page 105.*

**BLADE**

A photograph of a Kershaw Groove knife against a background of vertical-grain wood. A red horizontal band across the middle of the image features a silver flipper knife with black G-10 overlays. The text "When TECHNOLOGY and NATURE share a common GOAL." is written vertically in white serif font across the center of the red band. To the right of the red band is a white rectangular area containing the Kershaw logo and product details. The Kershaw logo consists of the word "kershaw" in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol, and "KNIVES" in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font below it. Below that is the slogan "flipper opening technology". To the right of the logo is a large, stylized "NEW07" in a serif font. Below "NEW07" is the product name "GROOVE" in a bold, serif font. Underneath "GROOVE" is "Model 1730". The text continues with "Steel.....Sandvik 13C26 stainless-steel with 3-D machined grooves", "Handle...410 stainless-steel with Textured G-10 overlays", "Lock.....Frame lock", "Blade....3 1/2 in. (8.9 cm)", "Closed...4 1/2 in. (11.5 cm)", and "Weight...5.2 oz.". Below these details is the MSRP "\$84.95". To the right of the text area is a circular commemorative logo for Kai USA Ltd. The logo features a stylized K-shape in the center, surrounded by the text "Kai USA Ltd" at the top and "1974-2007" at the bottom. Inside the circle, it says "Lifetime Guarantee" and "kershaw". Below the logo is the text "Designed by RJ Martin". At the very bottom of the white area are the website "www.kershawnives.com" and the phone number "800.325.2891".



# spec sheet

By MSG Kim Breed  
5th Special Forces (retired)

## The Razel's Edge

Graham Knives' Ringed Razel is a versatile cutter with an unforgettable look and comfortable feel

Melissa and I walked out the door to enjoy a day off. We were heading to the river to break in her new fishing pole on some bluegills when the mail came. I saw the package and had to stop and open it. It was a brand new Ringed Razel from brothers Josh and Jon Graham. Cool!

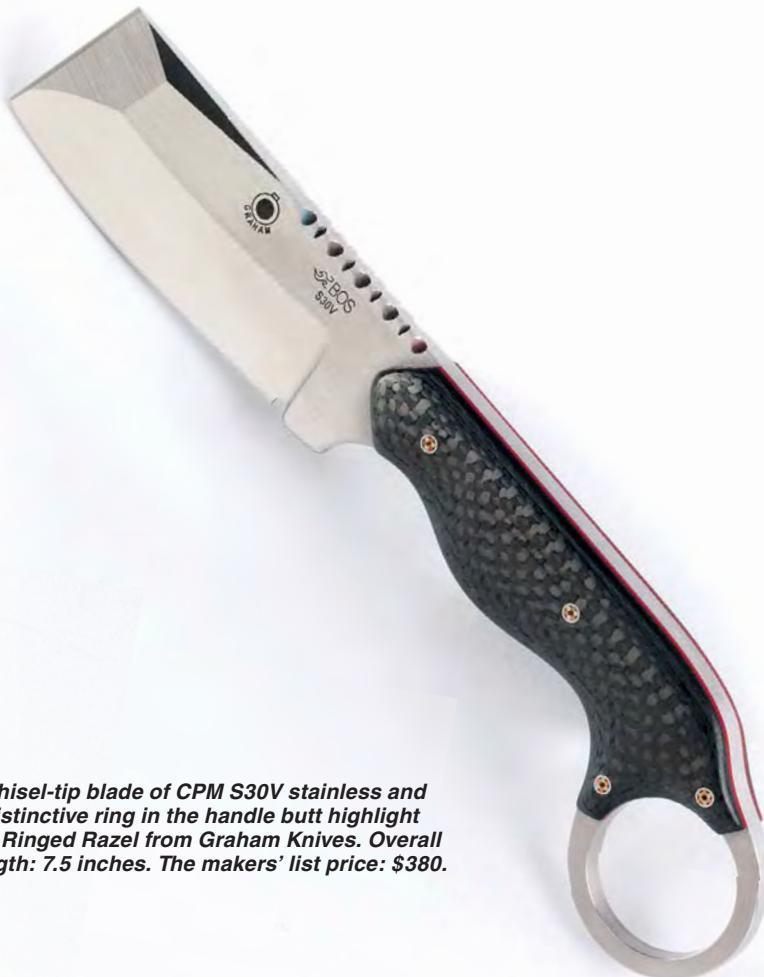
I picked the Kydex® sheath option because it would be easier to clean if it got nasty with mud or fish slime. I was playing with the knife during the walk down to the river, spinning it over in my hand. This did not set to well with my bride-to-be, as she was trying to hold my hand. Needless to say, the knife went back into the sheath after one look.

### Test Time

Down at the river I used the Ringed Razel to rid a tree of its bobber-eating branches. The knife worked very well at snicking through them.

I wanted to use it to clean some fish. I figured that the Ringed Razel's two different cutting edges would come in handy for filleting. I baited Melissa's pole and tried a few fishing holes, with no success. Finally I caught a small bluegill—and I do mean small—but I can fillet anything.

While I was preparing to shoot some photos, Melissa started to whoop and holler. She had a nice bluegill dangling from the end of her pole. (I suppose it will take awhile for me to live this one down.)



A chisel-tip blade of CPM S30V stainless and a distinctive ring in the handle butt highlight the Ringed Razel from Graham Knives. Overall length: 7.5 inches. The makers' list price: \$380.

# spec sheet



**Melissa proudly displays "Jaws the Bluegill."**

I put the fish on a rope and into the water to keep it fresh. As I was climbing back up the bank, she had another big one. Two on the stringer for her, zero for me.

It was getting close to the time to leave and pick up Melissa's daughter, Taylor, from the bus stop, so I went to retrieve my bride-to-be's two fish to finish cleaning them. I forgot one important thing; the long hot spell we had this past summer brought the turtles out. Yep, they took her two fish off the line. That did not set too well with Melissa. She managed to catch another bluegill but said she would handle her fish herself.

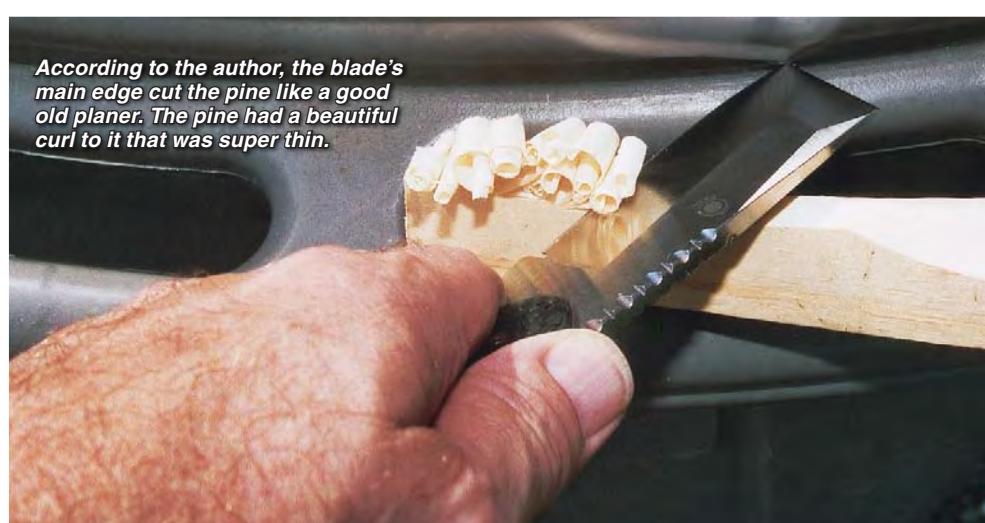
I used the jibbing on the back of the Ringed Razel for a scaler. It worked pretty well. The main edge did a very good job



*The filework worked just fine for scaling fish.*



*The author had to use a steeper angle with the secondary edge but it still curled the pine.*



*According to the author, the blade's main edge cut the pine like a good old planer. The pine had a beautiful curl to it that was super thin.*

## SPEC CHART

<b>Knife</b>	Ringed Razel
<b>Pattern</b>	Utility fixed blade
<b>Maker</b>	Graham Knives
<b>Blade Length</b>	3"
<b>Blade Steel</b>	CPM S30V stainless
<b>Rockwell Hardness</b>	59.5 Rc
<b>Heat Treater</b>	Paul Bos
<b>Handle</b>	Carbon fiber w/red liners
<b>Pins</b>	Eighth-inch mosaic
<b>Overall Length</b>	7.5"
<b>Sheath</b>	Leather or Kydex®
<b>Makers' List Price</b>	\$380

# spec sheet

**ARIZONA CUSTOM KNIVES**  
A LARGE SELECTION  
OF HANDMADE AND  
PRODUCTION KNIVES

**Z KNIVES**  
**BUTTER BEAN**  
**CHRIS ENGLISH**

[www.ARIZONACUSTOMKNIVES.com](http://www.ARIZONACUSTOMKNIVES.com)

WE BUY TRADE AND CONSIGN KNIVES  
LAYAWAY AVAILABLE

**(904) 826-4178**

Visa MasterCard  
Discover American Express

**BLUE RIDGE KNIVES**

THE ONLY KNIFE & SWORD SOURCE YOU'LL EVER NEED!

DEALERS ONLY! / MORE THAN 300 BRANDS / ONLINE SHOPPING

200+ PAGE MONTHLY PUBLICATION WITH HUNDREDS OF NEW ITEMS EACH MONTH

Hundreds of Different Swords

PHONE (276) 783-6143  
FAX (276) 783-9298  
E-MAIL: ONESTOP@BLUERIDGEKNIVES.COM  
WEB SITE: WWW.BLUERIDGEKNIVES.COM  
BLUE RIDGE KNIVES • DEPARTMENT BL  
166 ADWOLFE ROAD • MARION, VA 24354

CATALOG 25

**816 Page Color Catalog**

SEND A COPY OF YOUR BUSINESS LICENSE AND \$3 (REFUNDABLE) FOR A CATALOG. MINIMUM ORDER REQUIRED.

**WORLD-WIDE WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR**

filleting the small fish. The knife exhibited great control and the finger ring in the handle butt actually helped in that regard. Now it was Melissa's turn. She scaled and beheaded her fish so I could cook some on the grill. I guess that means we will have to go fishing again. (*Yes!*)

After cleaning up at the house, I went out to the garage to finish off some more cutting. I grabbed a plastic sign and sliced it into a Christmas-tree-looking chunk. The Ringed Razel zipped through the plastic like butter and kept on slicing.

From there I grabbed some scrap leather and shaved off the smallest pieces I could. The knife cut the leather thin enough to curl on every pass. The CPM S30V blade was really aggressive cutting the leather, giving that nice crunching sound. I also used the second-

*After the author resharpended the edge, the Ringed Razel made 95 cuts on half-inch sisal rope.*



ary edge in the front of the knife to skiv the leather. The handle design made controlling this mode of cutting easy.

I switched to a harder medium—pine. The blade's main edge cut it like an old planer. The pine had a beautiful curl to it that was super thin. I changed grips and

**“The Ringed  
Razel zipped  
through the  
plastic like butter.”**  
—the author

started using the secondary edge. I had to use a steeper angle because of the chisel-type edge, but it still curled the pine.

Half-inch sisal rope was next. The edge lasted for 52 crunching cuts. Giving the Ringed Razel the benefit of a resharpening, I administered a few licks with a fine diamond hone. This made the edge cut more aggressively but not for as long a time, so I gave it a quick dressing with the ultra-fine side. Man, did that wake up the S30V! It went all the way to 95 crunching cuts. Sometimes you have to play with the sharpening to get maximum results.

#### Sheaths

The knife I received had both a leather clip-on sheath for carry inside the pocket and a variable-position Kydex sheath with a Tek-Lok fastener. The leather is my favorite for everyday carry but the Kydex is better around water. Both sheaths held the Ringed Razel securely.

#### Changes

I would like to see a little more depth to the filework toward the center.

#### Overall

The Ringed Razel should work extremely well processing deer. It takes a small amount of time to get used to the ring but it is well worth it. The Graham brothers' knife makes an excellent edged companion.

For more information contact Graham Knives, Dept. BLI, 339 Lyles Rd. SE, Cleveland, TN 37323 423.715.1125 (Josh) or 423.715.7391 (Jon), [www.Grahamknives.com](http://www.Grahamknives.com).

**BLADE**

*World's Finest*

Hardwood Display Chests

*for*

Discriminating Knife Collectors



**www.GerstnerUSA.com/blade.htm**

**Made in USA Since 1906**

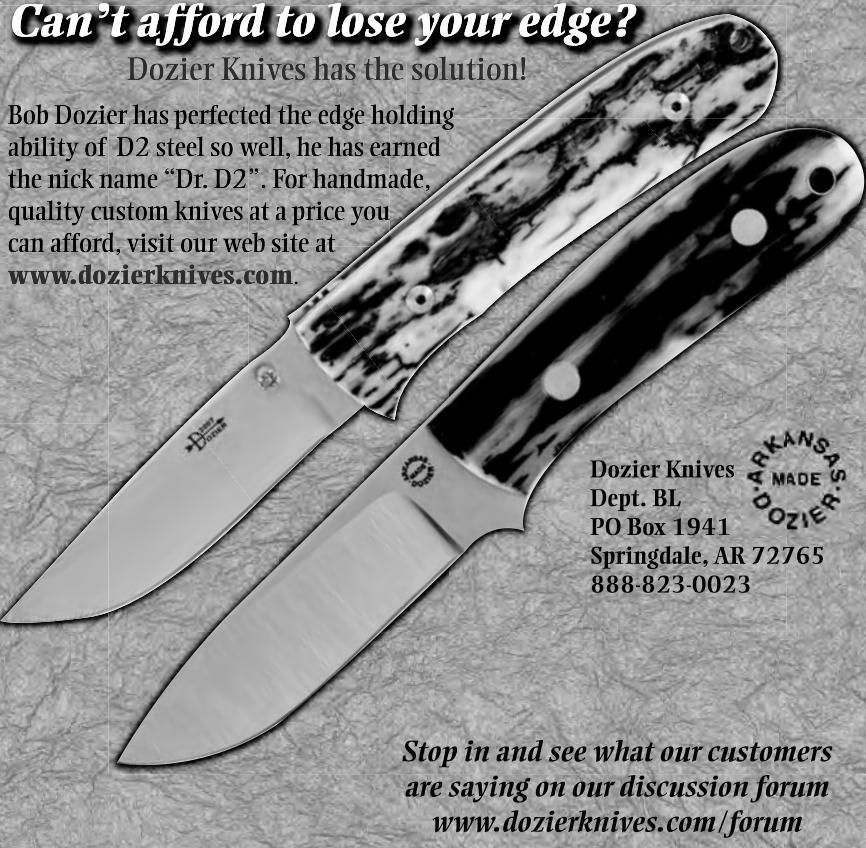
H. Gerstner & Sons, Inc.

Dayton, Ohio USA

***Can't afford to lose your edge?***

Dozier Knives has the solution!

Bob Dozier has perfected the edge holding ability of D2 steel so well, he has earned the nick name "Dr. D2". For handmade, quality custom knives at a price you can afford, visit our web site at [www.dozierknives.com](http://www.dozierknives.com).



Dozier Knives  
Dept. BL  
PO Box 1941  
Springdale, AR 72765  
888-823-0023

*Stop in and see what our customers  
are saying on our discussion forum  
[www.dozierknives.com/forum](http://www.dozierknives.com/forum)*



# your knife rights

**your knife rights**

# Knives of “Like Kind” and Other Catchall Copouts

## A Virginia court sidesteps a chance to properly clarify its own definitions

*By Judge Lowell Bray  
BLADE® field editor*

**R**andy Richards was the victim of an assault, but that turned out to be the least of his problems.

The Lynchburg, Virginia, police officer who investigated the crime noticed an object sticking one-half to three-fourths of an inch from Richards' right back pants pocket. The officer said he did not know what the object was. When the officer asked about it, Richards replied that it was a knife. At the officer's request, Richards withdrew the knife and handed it over.

The knife had a broken spring mechanism and the blade was fixed in the open position. At trial the officer identified the object as a *spring knife*.

The Virginia concealed weapon statute says, in part, that a person is prohibited from carrying “about his person, hidden from common observation ... (ii) any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, [or] ballistic knife ... or (v) any weapon of like kind ... [A] weapon shall be deemed to be hidden from common observation when it is observable but is of such deceptive appearance as to disguise the weapon’s true nature.”

Richards was convicted of carrying a concealed weapon. The trial court's theory of the crime was that it was a spring

knife that was concealed because it was deceptive in appearance.

### The Appeal

On appeal, the court considered four issues: whether the knife was hidden from common view, whether it was a switchblade or ballistic knife, whether it was disguised, and whether it was of “like kind” to one of the prohibited knives.

**“Aren’t they  
all dirks or  
daggers under  
these definitions?”**  
—the author

The appellate court noted that Virginia law did not address the issue of whether a knife had to be completely hidden to be concealed. The court considered the law of other states, and then said that it would accept the ruling of the trial court that the knife was not physi-

cally concealed, saying:

This case does not present us with an opportunity to define the limits of the phrase “hidden from common observation.”

The next two issues were interrelated. The trial court had found that the knife was disguised because the handle was deceptive in appearance and hid the fact that it was a spring knife. The appellate court felt that the term *spring knife* could refer to either a ballistic knife or a switchblade, and considered whether Richards' knife was either.

The Virginia criminal code defines *ballistic knife* as “any knife with a detachable blade that is propelled by a spring-operated mechanism.” It defines *switchblade* as “a knife with a blade that opens automatically by operation of inertia, gravity or both upon the release of a spring mechanism.” (Author’s note: It is beyond the scope of this installment of “Your Knife Rights” to determine exactly what knives the definition describes, but most switchblades operate on the energy stored in a spring. Richards’ knife would seem to fall outside the definition.)

Observing that the knife, in this case,

did not have a detachable blade and that the spring was inoperable and the blade was fixed in the open position, the appellate court ruled that it was neither a ballistic knife nor a switchblade under the statute. Since the trial court had based its finding that the knife was disguised on its determination that the knife was a spring knife, the appellate court overruled the trial court and found that the knife was not concealed by virtue of being deceptive in appearance. Again, the court left itself an opening for future cases by saying:

“The public  
is entitled to  
specificity.”  
—*the author*

The facts of this case do not present the question whether a functional ballistic knife or switchblade is per se deceptive in appearance so as to disguise the weapon’s true nature.

The court then found that, for the conviction to stand, the knife must be either a “dirk” or a “bowie” or a weapon that is of “like kind.” However, in a long footnote the court stated:

“‘Dirk’ and  
‘bowie knife’  
are not defined  
by statute.”  
—*Virginia  
appeals court*

The terms “dirk” and “bowie knife” are not defined by statute, nor has any appellate decision in this Commonwealth [Virginia] clarified the difference. We assume that the two terms have their usual meaning. A “dirk” or weapon of like kind is any stabbing weapon having two sharp edges and a point, including daggers, short swords and stilettos. A “bowie knife” or weapon of like kind is any stabbing weapon having a single sharp edge, a dull or serrated flat

[www.levineknives.com](http://www.levineknives.com)



- Specializing in folders
- The best makers

- The rising stars
- Fair prices

Dealer of Handmade Knives

Phone: (203) 438-5294

PO Box 416 • Ridgefield, CT 06877

GARY LEVINE FINE KNIVES

# Chef'sChoice® Diamond Hone® Sharpeners



Model 120

**The choice of professionals worldwide!**

- The world's most advanced sharpeners, for **fine** edge and **serrated** knives.
- Diamond abrasives and a revolutionary stropping/polishing system, create the most durable, razor sharp edges in seconds.
- Precision guides eliminate all guesswork.
- Safe for quality knives.

For a store near you, call:  
**800-342-3255**  
[www.chefschoice.com](http://www.chefschoice.com)

© 2006 EdgeCraft Corporation, Avondale, PA 19311



Twin Blades  
STATESBORO, GA  
*Trout and Bird Model*  
Sambar Stag Handle  
Stainless Bolts  
3.75" CPMS 30V Blade



CHARLIE MATHEWS  
HARRY MATHEWS

121 Mt. Pisgah Church Rd.  
Statesboro, GA 30458

912-865-9098

[www.twinxbldades.com](http://www.twinxbldades.com)  
twinblades@bulloch.net

# AKA

**FEB. 23 & 24, 2008**  
**SAT: 9AM - 5PM SUN: 9AM - 4PM**  
**LITTLE ROCK, AR**  
**Robinson Center Exhibit Hall**

**424 W. Markham (adjacent to the DoubleTree Hotel)**

**KNIFE SUPPLIES**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**ADMISSION \$5.00**

**AIRPORT SHUTTLE**

**CUSTOM KNIVES • AWARDS • KNIFE AUCTION**

**SPECIAL SHOW HOTEL RATE:**

**\$97 SINGLE/DOUBLE**

**\$107 TRIPLE \$117 QUAD**

**800/937-2789 501/372-4371**

*Arkansas Custom Knife Show Partial List of Tableholders as of 8/30/07:*

Mike Allen, TX	Gordon Graham, TX	Chad Nichols, MS	Jim Walker, AR
Larry Bailey, OH	Chris Jones, AR	John Perry, AR	John White, FL
Jim Baston, AL	Jack Jones, MS	Paul Piccola, TX	Mike Williams, OK
Craig Braschler, MO	Harvey King, KS	Ray Pieper, AL	Curtis Wilson, TX
Sam Butler, AR	Ray Kirk, OK	Clifton Polk, AR	Gary Zweimueller, AR
James Cook, AR	Jim Krause, MO	Rusty Polk, AR	
Gary Crowder, OK	Jerry Lairson, OK	J.W. Randall, LA	
Jim Crowell, AR	Ken Linton, TX	Vernon Red, AR	
Steve Culver, KS	Jim Magee, KS	Lin Rhea, AR	
Jesse Davis, MS	John Martin, OK	Ron Richerson, KY	
Bill Duff, OK	Peter Martin, WI	Dennis Riley, AR	
Ken Durham, AL	Roger Massey, AR	Les Robertson, GA	
Fred Durio, LA	Jerry McDonald, TN	Dickie Robinson, TX	
Shawn Ellis, AR	Don McIntosh, TX	George Roth, TX	
Lee Ferguson, AR	Ron Mobbs, AR	Michael Ruth, TX	
Linda Ferguson, AR	Sidney Moon, LA	Richard Self, TX	
Jerry Fisk, AR	Gary Mulkey, MO	Marvin Solomon, AR	
John Fitch, AR	Bob Neal, GA	Robert Spradlin, AR	
Joe Flournoy, AR	James Neilson, PA	Charles Stout, AR	
Ronnie Foster, AR	Mark Nevling, IL	Brion Tomberlin, OK	
Brett Gatlin, AR	Corbin Newcomb, MO	Art Tyser, AR	
Terry Glassco, AR	Ron Newton, AR	Ricardo Vilar, Brazil	

**SUPPLIERS:**

American Bladesmith Society  
Culpepper & Co.  
Emerson Horseshoe  
Forrest Case Co.  
Giraffebone.com  
Glendo Corp/GRS Tools  
Green River Leather  
Knife World  
Riverside Machine  
Pop Knife Supply  
Roland Quimby  
Rowe's Leather  
Texas Knifemakers  
Charles Turnage

13th Annual Show [www.arkansasknifemakers.com](http://www.arkansasknifemakers.com)

# ARKANSAS

**CUSTOM KNIFE SHOW**

David Etchieson 501/554-2582 email: aka@alliancecable.net

## your knife rights your knife rights

edge and a point, such as a hunting knife, a fishing knife or a survivalist's knife. It is generally agreed that in using terms, legislatures intend to exclude from concealed weapons statutes innocuous household and industrial knives which may be carried for legitimate purposes. The determination of whether a particular knife falls within the meaning of a term used in the statute is a question of fact determined by the trier of fact according to the circumstances of the case.

**"The court gave no authority for its definitions."**

*—the author*

The court gave no authority for its definitions of *dirk* and *bowie knife*. The definitions do not seem to have come from any dictionary, statute, reported case or learned treatise on knives. They appear to have come solely from the mind of whoever drafted the opinion.

There are a lot of questions that suggest themselves immediately. What does "flat edge" mean? What about daggers that have three, four or no sharp edges? What is it about a hunting knife or fillet knife that makes it less "innocuous" than a household knife such as a steak knife or butcher knife? What about a hunting knife makes it a "stabbing weapon"? (Author's note: I have made a number of hunting and fishing knives and did not consider myself to be designing or making a weapon. Nor did I make them with stabbing in mind.) Because almost every knife has a point and one or two sharp edges, aren't they all dirks or daggers under these definitions?

**"What does 'flat edge' mean?"**

*—the author*

As poor as the definitions are, they are not the most disturbing thing about this case. The really disturbing part is the last sentence: "The determination of whether a particular knife falls within the mean-

ing of a term ... is a question ... to be determined by the trier of fact." This makes every jury, or judge sitting without a jury, a legislature—one that gets to decide after the fact what the law proscribes.

As "Your Knife Rights" has pointed out many times before, it is a basic constitutional principal that a criminal statute must be clear enough and specific enough to put a man of common understanding, experience and intelligence on notice of what conduct constitutes a crime. It is the duty of legislative bodies to enact clear and specific criminal statutes. Though it must be tempting to legislative bodies to throw in catch-all phrases such as "like kind," the law-abiding public must be able to conform its conduct to the law. To do that the public is entitled to specificity, and it is the duty of the courts to hold legislative bodies to that standard.

In the Richards case, the appellate court held:

An examination of the weapon's blade reveals that it most closely resembles a dirk. Clearly, it is a weapon of like kind contemplated in the statute. Nothing about the appearance of the handle suggests that it is anything other than a knife. We hold that where, as here, the weapon from common observation is just as it ap-

pears, a dirk or weapon of like kind, it cannot be said to be "of such deceptive appearance as to disguise its true nature." Accordingly, Richards cannot be said to have concealed the weapon under either provision of the statute defining the term "hidden from common observation."

#### A Befuddled Bench

It is interesting to note that twice in this case the court was careful to say it was not deciding points of law that were not appropriately raised by the case. Then it talked extensively about the totally irrelevant issues of the meaning of *dirk*, *bowie knife* and *like kind*. These definitions are irrelevant because the court decided the knife was not concealed. Therefore, it made no difference what kind of knife it was.

Interesting to note—and unfortunate.

*Facts and law taken from Richards v. Commonwealth, 443 S.E. 2d 177 (Va. App., 1994).*

*The author has been a lawyer since 1973 and a judge since 1982. He is also secretary/treasurer of the Knifemakers' Guild, a journeyman smith in the American Bladesmith Society and a charter member of the Florida Knifemakers Association.*

**BLADE**

# FRESH STEEL

William Henry Fine Knives  
20+ Alaskan Knifemakers  
Custom Kydex

Rob Criswell      Al Polkowski  
John M. Smith      Randall Knives  
Neil Blackwood      Steve Voorhis  
Ruana Knives      Trace Rinaldi  
L.A. McConnell      Stan Fujisaka  
Allen Elishewitz      Darrell Ralph  
Gaetan Beauchamp      Joe Kious  
*and many more!*

**NORTHERN**  
Anchorage, AK  
**KNIVES**  
907-569-1800  
northernknives.net

*Only Fine Knives*



VAN BARNETT      WILLIAM HENRY  
GEORGE BEECHEY      BOS VENETIAN #1 OF 10  
TIM BRITTON      SIMON LITTON ENGRAVING  
FRED CARTER  
FRANK CENTOFANTE  
JEFF CHAFFEE  
MATT CONABLE  
PAT CRAWFORD  
RICK DUNKERLEY  
DUANE DWYER  
RICK EATON  
RUSSELL EASLER  
ALLEN ELISHEWITZ  
KAJ EMBRETSSEN  
JIM ENCE  
STAN FUJISAKA  
BARRY GALLAGHER      CHRIS REEVE MNANDI  
RON GASTON      AFRICAN BLACKWOOD  
JERRY RADOS LADDER DAMASCUS  
RICK GENOVESI  
TIM HERMAN  
HOWARD HITCHMOUGH  
JESS HORN

- JUST RELEASED -  
ONLY FINE KNIVES EXCLUSIVE  
GREG LIGHTFOOT HAMMER STRIKE  
NUMBERED EDITION  
AVAILABLE NOW AT  
[www.ONLYFINEKNIVES.COM](http://www.ONLYFINEKNIVES.COM)

RICK EATON PEARL DAMASCUS BOWIE

KIRBY LAMBERT  
GREG LIGHTFOOT  
JOE KIOUS  
DUSTY MOULTON  
WARREN OSBORNE  
FRANCESCO PACHI  
WD PEASE  
RANDALL KNIVES  
CHRIS REEVE KNIVES  
BILL RUPLE  
JOHN W SMITH  
JOSH SMITH  
RALPH SMITH  
KEN STEIGERWALT  
MICK STRIDER  
STRIDER KNIVES  
BOB TERZUOLA  
BRIAN TIGHE  
MICHAEL VAGNINO  
ROBERT WEINSTOCK  
WILLIAM HENRY KNIVES  
OWEN WOOD

[www.ONLYFINEKNIVES.COM](http://www.ONLYFINEKNIVES.COM)  
434 738 8647

**short 'n' sharp**  
short 'n' sharp



*Spencer Reiter said he placed holes in the 3-inch blade of quarter-inch CPM 154 stainless steel on his Hornet XL EDB for indexing, "enabling the user a grip that [is] secure and precise." A braided nylon-cord lanyard is attached at the upper back of the handle, which includes a pewter skull with "eyes." When charged with a light, the eyes glow a super-luminous red to help locate the knife in limited visibility. Reiter's list price: \$275.*

By Dave Rhea

# LITTLE BIG KNIVES

***Small knives with large blades  
pack a big punch in a compact package***



*Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Blackie Collins designed the Meyerco Baby G-10 folder to rest in your hand so your index finger runs out to the end of the 2.25-inch 440A stainless blade. Collins said that the design is based on the earliest skinning implements used by American Indians—a small flint stone that fit just so in the hand. Replacing a hole or thumb stud to assist opening is what Collins calls “a smooth, recessed, symmetrical concavity, which is very pleasant on the end of your thumb.” MSRP: \$22.99.*

**B**little knives with big blades are taking their rightful place in the world of sharp. Like a small performance car, the knives pack a big punch in a compact package. Whether short and stout or in a seemingly out-of-proportion blade-to-handle design, the knives are finding more and more fans throughout the cutlery industry.

The “little big knives” are not what this writer automatically thinks of when it comes to skinners. I am used to the traditional 4-inch-or-so blade with a like-size handle. But things are changing, and a big part of facilitating that change lies in the hands of David Bloch, owner of Outdoor Edge. His pistol-grip-handle Game Skinner (manufacturer’s suggested retail price [MSRP]: \$49.95) set the skinning world on its ear when it debuted in 1988. It was that year’s Blade Magazine Imported Design Of The Year® and is as utilitarian today as it was then.

“With a traditional skinning knife

you’re generally using the tip of the [blade],” Bloch pointed out. “The front quarter of the blade is curved, and that’s generally what you’re using in your skinning stroke. With the [Game Skinner’s] T-shaped handle, basically, without even using your wrist, you get a lot of blade service in your skinning stroke. If you add a little wrist action, you can pretty much utilize the whole blade surface.”

The Game Skinner’s flat-ground AUS-8 blade is 3 inches long and hardened to a Rockwell of 57-58 Rc. The knife’s overall length is 5 inches. Outdoor Edge uses the rubber-like polymer Kraton for the handle material.

Bloch explained that another key benefit of the “T” handle is that you can cradle it between your fingers and still use both hands. “It gives you more leverage for pushing if you’re cutting through a [game animal’s] ribcage,” he explained. For the latter task, the Game Skinner is also offered with a partially serrated edge.

**MCUSTA®**  
SEKI JAPAN



Model Shown: MC-66D Fixed Blade, 3-1/2" Damascus blade with VG-10 core, malachite handle, 7" overall length

**US Distributor:**

**Mcusta Knives USA**  
[www.mcustausa.com](http://www.mcustausa.com)

**877-714-5487**

NO DULL KNIVES • NO UNINSPIRED TOOLS • VALUE ALWAYS

Gotta have it.

**Guppie™**



Let me go to work for you.

Yes, ya gotta have a Guppie™. Adjustable wrench, knife, screwdriver with four hex bits, removable bit carrier, LED flashlight, bottle opener, and a handy carry carabiner plus a removable clip and the CRKT Limited Lifetime Warranty. It's the latest inspired design from I.D.Works™. Get all the details on our web site.

\$29.99 MSRP



**i.D. Works™**  
INSPIRED DESIGN WORKS

[www.crkt.com](http://www.crkt.com)

Toll free 1-800-891-3100

NO DULL KNIVES • NO UNINSPIRED TOOLS • VALUE ALWAYS

**short 'n' sharp**  
*short 'n' sharp*



*On the eve of its 20th birthday in 2008, the Outdoor Edge Game Skinner was the Blade Magazine 1988 Imported Design Of The Year® and can make a strong case as being the granddaddy of today's little big knives. The combination of a relatively short (3 inches) deep-bellied blade of AUS-8 stainless and a T-shaped pistol-grip handle make for a small knife with large cutting power. MSRP: \$49.95.*

## FREE KNIFE CATALOG

A complete catalog of knives and swords, including Damascus knives, collectors knives, tactical and work knives, and much more.



To request a free catalog of knives, either call (toll-free) 1-800-835-6433 ext. 18, write to Boker USA, Inc., 1550 Balsam Street, Lakewood, CO 80214-5917, or visit our website at [www.bokerusa.com](http://www.bokerusa.com).

Another benefit of the handle design is that you can flip it over and work in the other direction, tugging against the conveniently located gut hook for pull cutting. "Plus," Bloch added, "it's safer. You're not going to slip like with a traditional handle."

### Hornet XL EDB

The style of eliminating all the frills a la the Game Skinner is a legitimate one that has caught on again almost two decades later. The handle is fairly minimalist and the blade is short, fat and all business. Like a chopper motorcycle that has shed all the flashy blinkers and extra sheet metal, a new generation of little big knives goes straight to the heart of what a knife is really all about—pure function.

Custom knifemaker/soldier Spencer Reiter of SAR Knives seems to understand the concept. His various Hornet designs capture the essence of the little big knife, especially the Hornet XL EDB.

"When I started this design, my goal was to build a small knife that could be used in conjunction with a larger Skinner for when a hunter needed something for fine detail work with a very secure handle," Reiter observed. "I wanted to place holes that one could use for indexing the blade,

enabling the user a grip that was secure and precise."

However, he added that his customers typically buy the Hornet more for self-defense and as a compact, everyday beast of a fixed blade—thus the name, EDB (Every Day Beast). With a hunky blade and a minimalist, skeletal handle that screams "form follows function," the EDB is a super-cool little big knife. "This design is a drastic departure from the norm, but some 300 customers says something about its place in the knife industry," Reiter said.

**"The blade is  
short, fat and all  
business."**  
—the author

The 3-inch blade is quarter-inch-thick CPM 154 stainless steel deeply hollow ground, and it is heat treated and hardened by Paul Bos to a Rockwell of 59 Rc. Reiter said he has all his blade blanks water-jet cut—profiles only, no bevel work—by

# VISIT WWW.KNIFEKITS.COM

Always Your Source for Folder Kits, Fixed Blade Kits,  
Handle Supplies, Equipment, Tools, Specialty Parts,  
Sheaths and Kits, Accessories, Books, and Videos

## THE MODERN SKINNER



KKSK1BL Modern Skinner (Parts Only).....	\$37.95
KKSK1K Modern Skinner Kit .....	\$45.95

## G13 MODERN INLAY FOLDER



G13 Modern Inlay Folder (single).....	\$17.95 ea.
G13 (5 Pack)-pre-order only.....	\$14.25 ea. (machined pre-drilled inlay handles available)

## FLX25 FRAMELOCK



KKFLX25 FLX-25 Frame-Lock Folder Kit .....	\$18.95
KKFLX25-5 FLX-25 Frame Lock Folder Kit (5 Pack) .....	\$16.25
KKFLX25-COCO Pre-Machined Cocobolo Scale Set.....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-TEAK Pre-Machined Teak Wood Scale Set.....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-CURU Pre-Machined Curupay Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-MACA Pre-Machined Maca Wood Scale Set.....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-PURP Pre-Machined Purpleheart Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-BLM Black Linen Micarta Scale Set .....	\$12.95
KKFLX25-BCM Black Canvas Micarta Scale Set .....	\$12.95

## DR2 MODERN BOWIE

2nd Generation Design



DDR2-MB (1) DDR2™ Modern Bowie (base parts kit) .....	\$36.95
DDR2-MB5 (5 units) DDR2™ Modern Bowie .....	\$34.95/ea.
DDR2-CF (1) set of pre-machined Carbon Fiber scales .....	\$29.95
DDR2-BOL0 (1) set of pre-machined Cocobolo scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BG (1) set of pre-machined Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BLG (1) set of pre-machined Blue G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BBG (1) set of pre-machined Blue/Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-RG (1) set of pre-machined Red G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-GG (1) set of pre-machined Green G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BGB (1) set of pre-machined Green/Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-LAP (1) set of pre-machined Lapis scales .....	\$19.95
PBWS532-1 (1) set of Phosphorous-Bronze Washers (5/32) .....	\$1.79/set

## DR2 MODIFIED TANTO

2nd Generation Design



DDR2-TA (1) DDR2™ Tanto (base parts kit) .....	\$36.95
DDR2-TA5 (5 units) DDR2™ Tanto .....	\$34.95/ea.
DDR2-CF (1) set of pre-machined Carbon Fiber scales .....	\$29.95
DDR2-BOL0 (1) set of pre-machined Cocobolo scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BG (1) set of pre-machined Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BLG (1) set of pre-machined Blue G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BBG (1) set of pre-machined Blue/Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-RG (1) set of pre-machined Red G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-GG (1) set of pre-machined Green G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-BGB (1) set of pre-machined Green/Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR2-LAP (1) set of pre-machined Lapis scales .....	\$19.95
PBWS532-1 (1) set of Phosphorous-Bronze Washers (5/32) .....	\$1.79/set

## TYPHOON COMPETITION TRAINER

New Butterfly Model. Pre-Order Now.



TYPHOON-CT (Parts Kit) Typhoon™ Competition Trainer Kit (Pre-Order Only) .....	\$99.95/ea. Pre-Order Price \$79.95/ea.
--	---

## FL009 FRAME LOCK KIT



KKFL009 FL009 Frame-Lock Folder Kit (Single) (includes 1 set standard finished cocobolo handles) .....	\$16.95/ea.
KKFL009-B FL009 Frame Lock Folder Kit (5 Pack) (includes standard finished cocobolo handles) .....	\$14.95/ea.

Optional Items (Upgrade handles below are machined and pre-drilled)

KKFL009-COCO Pre-Machined Cocobolo Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set
KKFL009-TEAK Pre-Machined Teak Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set

KKFL009-CURU Pre-Machined Curupay Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set
KKFL009-MACA Pre-Machined Maca Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set

KKFL009-PURP Pre-Machined Purpleheart Wood Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set
KKFL009-BLM Black Linen Micarta Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set

KKFL009-BCM Black Canvas Micarta Scale Set .....	\$12.95/set
--	-------------

## CLASSIC CHEF



KK529BL Classic Chef Knife Blade (no handles) Cryo-Treated .....	\$17.45
KK529K Classic Chef Knife Kit (includes Cocobolo scales) .....	\$24.95

R125SS-6 1/8" 416 Stainless Pin Material (6") (For handle construction) .....	\$0.95
R125B-6 1/8" Brass Pin Material (6") (For handle construction) .....	\$0.50

## DDR3 BUTTON LOCK

Hot Design



DDR3BL Base Parts Kit .....	\$56.95
DDR3L-CF Carbon Fiber scales .....	\$29.95
DDR3L-TEAK Teak scales .....	\$19.95
DDR3L-BG Black G-10 scales .....	\$19.95
DDR3L-Coco Cocobolo scales .....	\$19.95

## DELTA 5TH SERIES



The Delta 5 series includes 4 distinct tactical blade styles. Pictured above is the D5 chute grind. And shown in stag, a modified D5 spear point. Please see web site or catalog for more.

D5BL-M5 Delta 5™ Modern Bowie Parts Kit .....	\$37.95
D5BL-Ck Delta 5™ Chute Knife Parts Kit .....	\$37.95
D5BL-DP Delta 5™ Drop Point Parts Kit .....	\$37.95
D5BL-SP Delta 5™ Spear Point Parts Kit .....	\$37.95
D5-COCO Cocobolo wood scales .....	\$12.00
D5-CURU Curupay wood scales .....	\$12.00
D5-BCM Black Canvas Micarta scales .....	\$12.00
D5-BLM-Black Linen Micarta scales .....	\$12.00

## SENSEI TANTO

New Tanto Design



KK534BL Sensei Blade (base kit) w/Bolsters/Pins (No Handles) Cryo-Treated .....	\$33.95/ea
KK534K Sensei Kit Base Parts Kit w/Blade/Bolsters/Pins, 1 pair of Cocobolo 1.5 x 5 scales with epoxy. (SAVE!!) .....	\$39.50/ea

## JAPANESE CORD WRAPPING WITH KIRBY LAMBERT DVD

\$29.95 EA.

## DREMEL TOOLS FOR FILE WORK



275-02 Dremel® Single-speed MultiPro Tool Kit .....	42.95
2850-02 Dremel® 2850-02 Two Speed Multipro Kit .....	59.95

## CLIPOVER BELT LOOPS



## THERMOFORM SHEATH PRESS



## KYNDEX SHEET MATERIAL! 7 NEW COLORS!

## ECONO ZIPPER POUCHES



## CHECK OUR SITE FOR NEW KNIFEMAKING BOOKS & VIDEOS

## Purveyors and Collectors ART KNIFE OFFERING

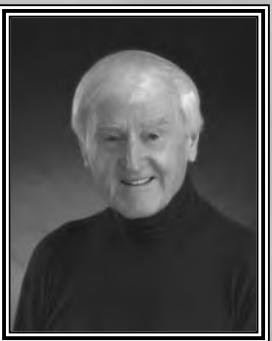
Why do purveyors and collectors buy knives from me? Because I search the field constantly for the best in art knives: at major knife shows, on the web, collectors' estates, eBay, and directly from makers. I buy only the best. I also work with master makers co-designing singular knives.

Recent winners: *Best Art Knife Collaboration* at the 2005 and 2006 Blade Shows and the *Cronk Award* at the 2005 Guild Show.

Several times a year, I search my personal collection of over 400 knives (I simply can't resist the artistry and buy too many knives). I select 50 to 70 knives and place these knives on my Web site. I buy right. I sell right.

People say I have an eye for art knives of enduring aesthetic value. Knives from my collection were chosen to appear on two *Blade Magazine* covers. I know quality assures lasting financial value.

I add 60 or so knives to my Web site three or four times a year, then I send an e-mail notice to my secure list of collectors and purveyors. Do you want to be on my e-mail list? Simply e-mail your request to me. Good things are coming up. Don Guild



**GET ON MY LIST NOW**  
**don@guildknives.com**  
**www.GUILDKNIVES.com**

Halpern Titanium. "Marianne and Les [Halpern] do a wonderful job," he noted. The full-tang design also features a skull buster on the butt that, Reiter pointed out, doubles as a pinkie-finger support.

Handles vary from wood and other natural materials to Micarta®, G-10, carbon fiber and titanium. A braided nylon-cord lanyard is attached at the upper back of a handle that includes a pewter skull with super-luminous red eyes, which, when charged with a light, help locate the knife in limited visibility.

"This is something new," Reiter allowed. "[I'm] always trying to improve on the functionality of this design."

### Baby G-10

Another little big knife is the Meyerco MBBS Baby G-10 folder (MSRP: \$22.99). Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Blackie Collins originally designed it because of a wide acceptance of the full-size Meyerco G-10 folder and his desire to follow through with the smaller version. The result is a skinner that doubles as an everyday carry knife.

The Baby G-10 folder is a short, fat, little big knife with a blade that is not that large in relation to the handle. Instead, it is designed to rest in your hand so your index finger runs out to the end of the blade. Collins said that the design is based on the earliest skinning implements used by American Indians—a small flint stone that fit just so in the hand.

"It's a great little skinning knife," Collins opined. "It fits in your hand perfectly for skinning a deer."

The 2.25-inch hollow-ground blade of 440A stainless steel has a Rockwell hardness of 58-59 Rc. Measuring 1.25 inches from the spine to edge at its widest point, the blade is almost 1/8 inch thick. It has a 3-inch handle—almost a half-inch thick—of blue G-10.

"It's not a miniature, skimpy knife," Collins noted. "It's short and well built. It's a very useful, sturdy little knife—I'm just getting rid of what you don't need in a knife. You drop this in your pocket and you don't even know it's there."

Replacing a hole or thumb stud to assist opening is what Collins calls "a smooth, recessed, symmetrical concavity, which is very pleasant on the end of your thumb." The indentation is a tad over 3/8 inch in diameter and prevents getting animal blood and gunk stuck up inside what would otherwise be a cavity or checkered stud.

"I believe it's more effective than a traditional knife because you really don't need blade length to field dress game," Collins observed. "You need the end of the blade—the part that's going to do the work."



**"Handles With Care"**  
*from*  
**MASECRAFT  
SUPPLY COMPANY**

**Pearl, Horn, Bone, Exotic Woods, Micarta,  
G-10's, Carbon Fiber, Celluloid, India Stag,  
ImiStag, Pearl Laminated Veneer Sheets,  
COLORPLY Laminated Wood Veneer,  
Imitation Pearl, Ivory Alternative, Recon Stone  
and a lot More.**

**Call to order our catalog**

**P.O. Box 423 BL**

**254 Amity St., Meriden, CT 06450**

**Phone: (203) 238-3049**

[www.masecraftsupply.com](http://www.masecraftsupply.com)

E-mail: [masecraft@masecraftsupply.necoxmail.com](mailto:masecraft@masecraftsupply.necoxmail.com)





**According to Boker's Dan Weidner, the Boker SUBCOM (top) fits large hands. "Even guys with gloves, like those in the military and law enforcement, can use that knife," he noted. The 1 7/8-inch blade is bead-blasted AUS-8 stainless. MSRP: \$39.95. At right is the RESCOM, a rescue version of the knife that some also use as a gut hook for skinning. MSRP: \$41.95.**

This knife is function first."

#### Subcompact SUBCOMs

Boker tapped the design talents of Chad Los Banos for its pure-function little big knife. Together, they came out with the SUBCOM line, knives all based on a specific platform of just-under-2-inch blades of sixteenth-inch-thick AUS-8 stainless steel. Blade lengths vary between 1.75 and 1 7/8 inches, and in bead-blast or black finishes, depending on the model.

"With the SUBCOM series, it's subcompact," explained Dan Weidner, vice president of sales and marketing for

Boker. "It's a small knife but it's still wide. There's a lot of cutting surface on the blade. What Chad was after was to provide a real work knife."

All models have a chunky 2.75-inch handle with a single-side, fiberglass-reinforced nylon scale in a choice of black, desert tan or foliage green. The other side is the exposed stainless frame sporting a reversible pocket clip that aptly doubles as a gentleman's money clip. All models have MSRPs around \$40.

"With the design of that handle," Weidner continued, "even with the largest user, it melts right into the hand."

#### More Little Big Knives

Other examples of little big knives include: the Gerber Fatty; Ranger Knives Little Bird Neck Knife from Brigade Quartermaster; Kellam R145; Knives of Alaska Light Hunter; Kutmester Mountain Quest Field Dressing Knife; Master Cutlery MT-056; and TOPS ATM. There are others.

The SUBCOM series includes the original and most popular SUBCOM, the wharncliffe-styled WHARCOM, a new karambit-styled SUBCLAW and the RESCOM model.

The SUBCOM, with its swooped-up blade, is great for skinning in that same palm-of-your-hand way. But, Weidner added, "With the RESCOM we have a lot of people using that as a gut hook for skinning."

**"You get a lot of  
blade service  
in your  
skinning stroke."**

*—David Bloch*

Also sporting a serrated portion of blade edge, the RESCOM reportedly has been used by the military as a rescue knife for tasks such as cutting away seat belts, by climbers for cutting rope, and even by those on the rodeo circuit.

The SUBCOM, whatever incarnation you choose, is a great little big knife because it has a short, fat blade with a lot of cutting surface that folds into a stout, compact handle.

"I'll grab somebody with large hands, and they'll say, 'Aw, that's a little trinket,'" Weidner offered. "And I'll say, 'Put it in your hand.' It fits large hands. Even guys with gloves, like those in the military and law enforcement, can use that knife. It packs a lot of punch in a little package."

#### One's For You

Whatever the model, little big knives are making a great big impact on the world of knives. If something small and handy yet fat, tough and sturdy is what you are looking for, one of these blade babies is for you.

*For the contact information for the knives in the story, see "Where To Get 'Em" on page 105.*

**BLADE**

**supply n' demand**  
Supply n' demand

# WHO YOU GOING TO CALL?

THESE KNIFE SUPPLY  
COMPANIES HAVE YOU COVERED

By Brendan O'Brien

*The newest locking-liner-folder kit from Jantz, the SS652 Black Widow is complete with pre-drilled and shaped handle material, as well as every part necessary to complete the knife. The finished black blade is one of Jantz's hottest-selling looks.*





**The Jantz Supply showroom is on Highway 7 just off Interstate 35 roughly halfway between Dallas, Texas, and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The showroom is open 8:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.**



**The new Norton Blaze grinding belts from Tru-Grit are the next generation of ceramic belts for metal removal. According to Tru-Grit officials, due to better grain adhesion, these belts will last 50-200 percent longer on all types of steels and metals, including stainless, titanium, cobalt, etc.**



**With easy and precise tracking and adjustable belt tension, the Bader grinder from Hawkins Knife Making Supplies is one of the easiest machines to use on the market. Hawkins offers individual knifemaking packages designed for the individual maker's needs.**



**Dyed stabilized woods have long been the claim to fame for Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies. "We are the original company to do stabilizing for the knife industry," says Ken McFall of Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies. "Most in the industry will agree that our process has been copied but never duplicated for quality and consistency."**

**W**hat do you do when you're toiling away in your shop—beads of sweat beginning to form as you enter that familiar “zone” which all artists frequent—when all of a sudden you realize you are out of bandsaw blades, buffalo horn or handle screws?

While the local Wal-Mart is fine for Wranglers and frozen pizzas, odds are you aren't going to find specialized knifemaking supplies there.

That's where the companies mentioned in this article come in. With steady mail-order business and the emergence of the Internet, it has never been easier to have the knifemaking supplies you require delivered right to your door.

What follows are four knife supply companies ready and willing to make that happen.

#### **Your One-Stop Shop**

It isn't hard to see what sets Davis, Oklahoma's Jantz Supply Co. apart from some of the other supply companies. "We have everything," says Venice Jantz, the company's marketing coordinator.

And when she says everything she means, well, everything. Jantz's inventory ranges from how-to-books and DVDs to a variety of handle materials, including Micarta®, G-10, buffalo horn, "fantasy pearls," elephant ivory and over 75 stocked colors of Dymmond-wood®, to knifemaking kits, scrimshaw kits and engraving tools, as well as spacing materials and measuring and holding tools.

When Jantz Supply and Koval Knives combined into one company in 2005, the result was one of the largest importers and distributors of knifemaking supplies worldwide. The underlying factor in its ongoing success continues to be the company's realization of its place inside the knife industry.

"We do not compete with our customers," says Venice. "We do not make knives to sell. We sell the supplies and equipment to make the knives. Knifemaking is a true art—the knifemaker as artist—and it is our job to make sure they have everything

**BURR KING® ADVANTAGE**  
Since 1951

**MODEL 960-272**

**THE KNIFEMAKER'S EDGE!**

- GRIND, POLISH, BUFF WITH ONE MACHINE!
- HOLLOW GRIND, FLAT GRIND, CONTOUR, SLACK BELT, VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL PLATENS
- FIXED & VARIABLE SPEEDS, SMOOTH RUNNING
- SMALL WHEEL ATTACHMENT
- SERRATED CONTACT WHEELS FOR RAPID STOCK REMOVAL

800-621-2748 • FAX: 660-438-8991  
1220 TAMARA LANE, WARSAW MO 65355  
INFO@BURRKING.COM • WWW.BURRKING.COM

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

**Doing the Chop**  
Bandsaw blades are just one of the many items that can be found at Hawkins Knife Making Supplies in Fayetteville, Georgia. Formerly known as Hawkins Custom Knives and Supplies, Hawkins has established itself as one of the top knife supply companies on the Internet.

One of the many items it specializes in is the Lenox Diemaster II Bi-Metal saw

**supply n' demand**  
**supply n' demand**

necessary to put that artistry to work."

While business remains steady for nearly all of Jantz's inventory, a new line of pre-shaped VG-10 Japanese blades are among the newest items the company offers. Each blade's VG-10 high-carbon cobalt core is clad with 16 layers of stainless steel on both sides that results in a 33-layer damascus look.

"Our warehouse is continually growing and overflowing with merchandise," notes Venice. "We are continually amazed by the artistry of our customers. They leave our store with a sack of steel, blades, rivets, pins, a few tools and return with this fantastic creation that just blows us away."

Jantz ships its assorted knifemaking products worldwide and can be found on the Internet at [www.knifemaking.com](http://www.knifemaking.com).



**PULL THE TRIGGER!**

**EXCLUSIVE**

**DARREL RALPH THE TRIGGER**

DDR

Titanium Frame Lock

Manual Flipper

NRS (non-reflective satin) CPM S30V, 3 3/8" Blade

7 3/8" Overall Length

Aluminum Armor Inlays

Starts at \$525.00

TRUE NORTH KNIVES

**TNK**

PURVEYOR

NEIL OSTROFF

514.748.9985

WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM

add by armstronest.com

### **Other Knifemaking Supply Companies\***

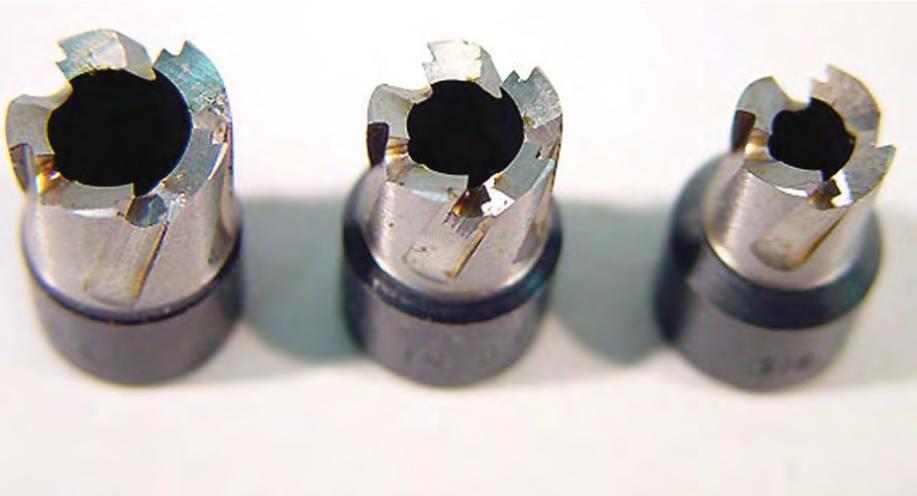
Blacksmiths Depot (blacksmithing tools, forges, etc.); Buckeye Engraving (hand stamps, dies and brands); Burr King Mfg. Co. (knifemaking equipment); Centaur Forge (blacksmithing tools, forges, etc.); Culpepper & Co. (handle materials); G.L. Pearce Abrasive Co. (sanding belts); Giraffebone Inc. (handle materials and blade steels); Hawkins Knife Making Supplies; Jantz Supply; Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies; Masecraft (handle materials); NC Tool Co., Inc. (forges); Paragon Industries (heat-treating furnaces); Red Hill Corp. (sanding belts, buffing wheels, polishing compounds, discs, etc.); Sheffield Knifemakers Supply; Stephen Bader & Co. (knifemaking equipment); Texas Knifemaker's Supply; Tormach (PCNC); Tru-Grit, Inc.; and Universal Agencies (handle materials and blade steels).

*Editor's note: The information after each company indicates each company's specialty. The company may offer other supplies as well. Those listed without such information are general knifemaking suppliers.*

\*There are others; space limitations preclude listing them all.



**Arbors for spring cutters (above) and cutters for auto springs are just two of the many tools and accessories available from Hawkins Knife Making Supplies.**



saw blades in 64.5- and 93.5-inch lengths. "These are the best bandsaw blades I have ever used," says Rade Hawkins of Hawkins Knife Making Supplies.

Other consistent sellers for Hawkins are stabilized wood, small stainless steel screws and automatic folder parts.

Lately, however, the company has noticed an increased popularity in tomahawks and has stocked inventory to fill the demand.

"[Tomahawks are] gaining popularity with both forgers and stock-removal makers," says Hawkins. "This includes pipe hawks and smaller varieties called 'mouse' or 'lady' hawks. We stock a supply of all of these with beautiful grained woods such as curly maple in the extra fancy and fancy grade, some curly ash, oak and hickory, or straight-grain ash or hickory."

Hawkins also offers the drifts—both standard and mouse hawk—used to forge the hole in the tomahawk head, as well as finishing supplies such as Majestic maple stain and Tru-Oil.

Hawkins Knife Making Supplies can be found on the Internet at [www.hawkin-knifemakingsupplies.com](http://www.hawkin-knifemakingsupplies.com).

#### Standing the Test of Time

For over 15 years, the folks at Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies have been one of the knife industry's top suppliers of stabilized woods. Therefore, it is no surprise that it's dyed stabilized woods, as well as desert ironwood, that are the company's current hot sellers.

"We are the original company to do stabilizing for the knife industry," says Ken McFall of Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies. "We began in 1991 and while there are several imitators out there today, most in the industry will agree that our process has been copied but never duplicated for quality and consistency."

It's an unwavering attention to detail that brings Knife and Gun Finishing Suppliers its success.

"We dye many of these woods," explains McFall. "We also custom stabilize wood,

NO DULL KNIVES • NO UNINSPIRED TOOLS • VALUE ALWAYS

# Gotta have it.

**SAFEST FOLDERS ON THE PLANET.**

**AUTOLAWKS™**

Look for the red dot. Our exclusive patented\* AutoLAWKS™ mechanism turns equipped CRKT folders into virtual fixed blades. Get all the details on our web site.

[www.crkt.com](http://www.crkt.com)  
Toll free 1-800-891-3100

\*U.S. Patent No. 5,596,808,  
other patents pending.

**CRKT**



#### SANDING BELTS FOR SHARPENING

Add 10% to Zirc prices for Ceramic belts.

SIZE	A.O. BROWN	ZIRCONIUM BLUE	S.C. BLACK
1"x30"	\$8.00 ea	\$1.50 ea	\$1.10 ea
1"x42"	.85	1.65	1.40
2"x48"/2"x42"	1.20	2.75	2.20
2"x60"	1.60	3.00	2.30
2"x72"	1.70	3.75	2.50
2"x132"	2.80	Sale 4.00	5.00
3"x132"	4.00	Sale 6.00	7.00
4"x36"	1.70	3.75	2.75
4"x132"	6.00	9.00	9.50
6"x48"	3.70	7.00	4.50

#### BLACK SIL. CARBIDE WATERPROOF

9"x11" Sheets \$30.00/100 150-2500 Grit  
5 1/2"x9 1/2" Sheets \$12.50/50 1000/2000 Grit

CERAMIC BELTS - NORTON "SG" / CARBO "MEDALLIST"  
NORTON® BLUE "NORZON" ZIRCONIA, CORK BELTS

#### COTTON BUFFING WHEELS & POLISHING COMPOUNDS

#### DISCS, FLAP WHEELS, SHOP ROLLS

RED HILL CORP., P.O. BOX 4234, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325  
**(800) 822-4003**   
\$8.00 S&H  
Free 48p.  
Catalog  
[www.supergrit.com](http://www.supergrit.com)

# supply n' demand

Supply n' demand



Desert ironwood is one of Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies' hottest sellers.

stag, ivory, horn, bone and osic for our customers. It is advantageous to stabilize because it minimizes or totally eliminates shrinking, cracking, expanding and warping, and it makes the handle impervious to oils and resilient to water absorption."

In addition to stabilized woods, Knife and Gun Finishing also offers blades, belts, polishing products and various handle materials.

"We carry a complete line of knifemaking supplies for the beginner or the professional," says McFall.

Knife and Gun Finishing Suppliers can be found on the Internet at [www.knifeandgun.com](http://www.knifeandgun.com).

## And Then There Were Two

In addition to the aforementioned companies, two more knifemaking suppliers—Texas Knifemaker's Supply and Tru-Grit, Inc.—are also offering introducing new products this fall.

Texas Knifemaker's, a full-time supply and service company in Houston, Texas, has a range of new knifemaking products, including DVDs and books, CPM 154 in three different sizes, Chad Nichols stainless and carbon damascus billets, Devin Thomas stainless and carbon damascus billets, Chad Nichols mosaic damascus and Devin Thomas mokume, Paragon heat-treat ovens and forging anvils in three different weights.

## BE AN EDGE EXPERT GUARANTEED RESULTS EVERY TIME.



### SMITH'S® DIAMOND FIELD PRECISION KNIFE SHARPENING SYSTEM (DFPK).

Smith's® Diamond Field Precision Sharpening System offers an easy way to sharpen all types of knives... including serrated. The Precision System maintains a constant angle between the sharpener and the blade – the key factor in achieving razor-sharp edges every time. It comes with a Coarse Diamond Stone, Fine Diamond Stone, Fine Arkansas Stone, Medium Triangular shaped Arkansas Stone, and Diamond Retractable Sharpener. Smith's® Precision Sharpening Systems are also available in DPSKP and SPSK models shown above.



[WWW.SMITHABRASIVES.COM](http://WWW.SMITHABRASIVES.COM)  
[WWW.SMITHSHARPENERS.COM](http://WWW.SMITHSHARPENERS.COM)

*One of the more advanced liner-lock kits from Jantz Supply, the KV605M (shown with scales here) includes everything except the handle material.*



Texas Knifemaker's also offers a variety of exotic handle materials, including sting-ray skins in three different sizes, Mérino sheep horn dyed either black or brown, stabilized and dyed giraffe leg bone, stabilized and dyed camel bone, axis horn, hippo tusk and wart-hog tusk.

Tru-Grit, located in Ontario, California, and long known for its extensive lineup of abrasives, belt grinders and Baldor buffers, is offering the new ceramic Blaze grinding belts from Norton.

"This belt will lower your grinding cost and improve part quality," Tru-Grit announced in a recent press release. "These

*Here are just a few of the exotic toma-hawk handles offered by Hawkins Knife Making Supplies.*



belts will last from 50 to 200 percent longer on all types of steel [and metal], including stainless, titanium, cobalt, etc., due to better grain adhesion. The Blaze belt cuts 20 percent faster than the current generation of ceramic grinding belts and it also has better edge-fraying resistance."

Texas Knifemaker's Supply ([www.texasknife.com](http://www.texasknife.com)) and Tru-Grit ([www.trugrit.com](http://www.trugrit.com)) both offer a full inventory listing on their websites.

*For the contact information for the knifemaking supplies in the story, see "Where To Get 'Em" on page 105.*

**BLADE**



## TRU GRIT KNIFEMAKING SUPPLIES

*The leading edge in high performance abrasives and knifemaking supplies. We offer the highest quality products, because we work with the highest caliber knifemakers. Home of the Blaze, Hoggers & Gators !*

<b>ABRASIVES</b> 3M, Norton , Hermes, Klingspor, Standard	<b>BELT GRINDERS</b> Burr King, Hardcore, Bader, Wilton, Kalamazoo & Multitool <b>9" DISC GRINDER</b> 1/2 HP 110V 0-2500 RPM REVERSABLE VARIABLE SPEED. ALSO AVAILABE IN 1/3 HP SINGLE SPEED	<b>BALDOR BUFFERS</b> <b>BUFFING SUPPLIES STEEL</b> ATS34, 440C, 416, 154CPM, S30V,5160,1075
<b>CUSTOM SIZE BELTS</b> Micarta Sheets or pairs, G-10 Sheets or pairs, Stabilized Dyed woods, Ironwood, Maple Burl, Pearl, Mammoth, Bone, Buffalo Horn, Sambar Stag	<b>MOSIAC PIN DAMASCUS HANDLE MATERIAL BLADE BLANKS ETCHING SUPPLIES BILLS CASES</b>	

760 E. Francis St. Unit N, Ontario, CA 91761  
(909) 923-4116 \* Fax (909) 923-9932 \* Out of state (800) 532-3336  
Visa - MasterCard - American Express - Discover  
Email us at - [Trugrit1@aol.com](mailto:Trugrit1@aol.com) - Call or go online for a Catalog  
SHOP ONLINE AT : [WWW.TRUGRIT.COM](http://WWW.TRUGRIT.COM)



# question & answer

By Wayne Goddard  
BLADE® field editor

## Friction Forging Update: How Much Pressure?

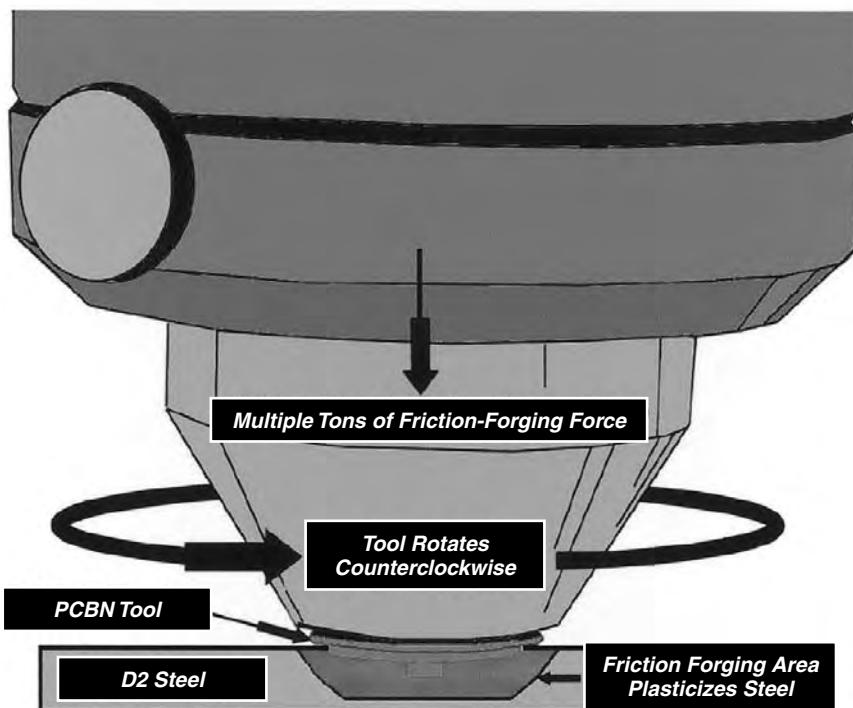
Also; how to apply the final edge, revisit the choil, and the straight “whinny” on horse-stall-mat rubber for knife handles

My article “Has The ‘Old Favorite’ D2 Been Reinvented?” in the November BLADE® generated a question about the pressure involved in Friction Forging. I went to Brigham Young University’s Tracy Nelson, Ph.D., for an answer. Following is his reply.

In regards to the pressure of [Friction Forging]: once the tool is fully engaged in the steel, we maintain a force of about 8,000-10,000 lbs. on the tool while it traverses the blank. This is mostly applied to the shoulder of the tool to produce the forging pressure beneath it to consolidate the stirred metal. This is critical to making a defect-free processed zone. There is very little force/pressure generated by the stirring action of the pin. The stirring action of the cubic boron nitride pin creates most of the heat in [Friction Forging].”

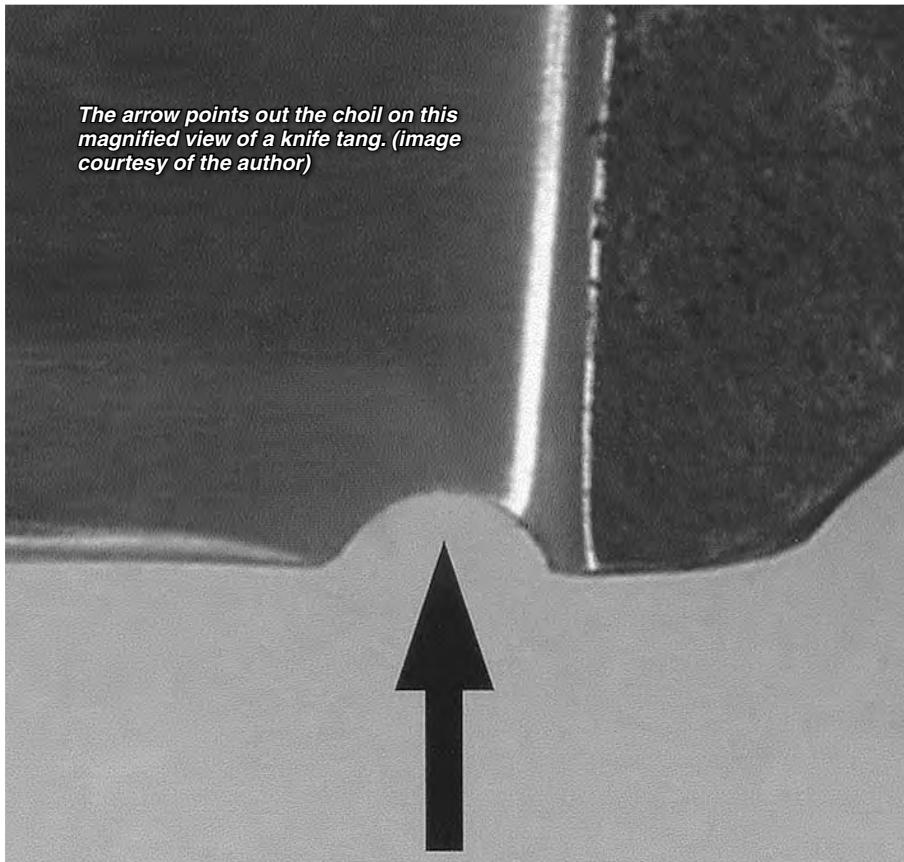
Mr. Nelson’s answer may satisfy some who do not see friction forging as a legitimate forging process. See the accompanying drawing that shows a cross section of the mechanics of the process and watch the video at [http://www.diamondbladeknives.com/f\\_video.aspx](http://www.diamondbladeknives.com/f_video.aspx).

**1: How do you apply your final edge? Do you grind the blade edge up? And what part of the grinder do you use (i.e., the platen or slack-belt portion)? (Patrick Doyle, address n/a)**



This cross-section drawing illustrates the action of the stirring pin in Friction Forging. (image courtesy of the author)

*The arrow points out the choil on this magnified view of a knife tang. (image courtesy of the author)*



Most makers, including this writer, keep a *flat* on the edge of the knife until it is completely finished. The width of the flat is based on the intended use of the blade. I grind my hunting knives to a flat of .015 to .020 inch. I might grind a fillet knife to .005 inch or less, while I might give a bowie or camp knife a flat of .030 inch or more. In my case, keeping the edge flat has allowed me to make knives for 44 years—and I still have all my fingers! Once I have completely finished the knife, I remove the flat by setting up a primary sharpening angle.

**“I do all grinding edge-up, as does every maker I know.”**  
—*the author*

I do all grinding edge-up, as does every maker I know. I have never had a blade catch and that is because I make sure there are no flaws in the belt before I turn on the grinder.

To set up the sharpening bevel I use a half-dull 120-grit belt on the flat platen. I take a light cut down one side, then a light cut down the other, and then check

to see if I have reached the centerline of the edge. (The sharpening bevel is approximately 12-15 degrees.) I keep up the light cuts, alternating from one side to the other until the two angles meet at the middle of the edge.

From the belt I go to the Norton medium Crystolon stone to set up for the final edge, which I do with the fine India stone. The medium stone is 240-grit silicon carbide; the fine is 320-grit aluminum oxide. Both of those grits and types of grit are available in one stone, the India/Crystolon. (Among others, the Norton India/Crystolon is available from Tru-Grit, Inc., attn: J. Mallett, Dept. BL1, 750 E. Francis St., Suite N, Ontario, CA 91761 909.923.4116 [in California] or 800.532.3336 [outside California], [www.truegrit.com](http://www.truegrit.com).) If the cutting edge has an inside curve, a slack belt or shaped platen will be necessary to establish the primary sharpening angle.

#### **The Choil Revisited**

I had a production knife on my table at BLADE Show West (see the upcoming February *BLADE* for a full report on the show—Ed.), and a visitor pointed at the small groove where the edge ended and asked me the purpose of it. I explained that it was called the *choil* and it allowed the full length of the edge to be sharpened.

The corners of a sharpening stone become rounded with use and will not



## **SL Pro System with Glock® Tool**

The SL Pro is the knife for Glock® shooters and professionals. This tough, versatile multitool features a razor sharp blade, waterproof LED flashlight, Glock® tool and signal whistle. Plus four more interchangeable unique features.



**TOOL LOGIC®**  
**BUILT FOR LIFE™**

**Five inserts to choose from**  
MSRP with one insert:  
\$59.95 Silver  
\$64.95 Tactical Black

2290 Eastman Ave., Ste 109  
Ventura, CA 93003  
Fax: 805-339-9712

**800-483-8422**  
[info@toollogic.com](mailto:info@toollogic.com)

**[www.toollogic.com](http://www.toollogic.com)**

Glock® is a registered trademark of Glock, Inc.®, Tool Logic® and the SL Pro are not affiliated in any way with Glock® nor does Glock, Inc.® endorse these items.

# question & answer

Individually handmade knives and swords  
by Michael Rader, J.S.

◆ Free Brochure

Santoku  
forged 52100  
with stabilized  
Koa handle \$595

Michael Rader, J.S.

PO Box 393, Wilkeson, WA 98396 ◆ 253-255-7064

michael@raderblade.com - www.raderblade.com

**LONE STAR WHOLESALE  
GREAT PRICES  
DEALERS ONLY 806-356-9540  
MOST MAJOR BRANDS**

Resale Certificate or FFL Required

Lone Star Wholesale, PO BOX 587,  
Amarillo, TX 79105 FAX 806-359-1603.

All FAX Correspondence, please include  
Tax info, and phone number.

### The Raven Combat

7" Blade 12 5/8" overall 530-V Rc 59-60  
G-10 Gunner Grip™ Handles  
Blackhawk Sheath

**\$329.00**

Combat Tested in Afghanistan



**Simonich Knives LLC**

Box 278

Clancy, MT 59634

(406) 933-9151

[www.simonichknives.com](http://www.simonichknives.com)

E-Mail: christine@simonichknives.com

# Knives-Plus

Retail cutlery and cutlery accessories since 1987

**EXCELLENT MAILORDER PRICES & SELECTION**

CALL FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG

**800-687-6202**

**KNIVES PLUS®**

Retail cutlery and cutlery accessories since 1987

2467 I 40 West, Amarillo, TX 79109

[www.knivesplus.com](http://www.knivesplus.com)

reach the whole edge where it meets the shoulder of the tang. The clearance created by the choil allows the stone to reach the full length of the edge.

I do not put a choil on the blades I make because I do not think it is necessary. I prefer not having the *stress riser* created by the choil, plus it can become entangled on fabric and like things when they are cut with the knife. (Editor's note: As the author has noted in the past, "The classic stress riser that has caused many knives to break is a square corner where the tang meets the blade"—which can result in the case of a choil.) I have been known to pull nails, staples or just do something dumb with the slightly dull section of blade just ahead of the tang. I am not saying the way I do it is right, just different in the way I expect to use a knife. (See the illustration on page 63 that shows the Goddard "dull spot.")

**"There are  
no flaws in  
the belt before  
I turn it on."**

—the author

Just the other day on an Internet knife discussion forum a participant stated that he would like a folding knife with a "finger choil" added to the handle. I believe what he meant was a *finger groove*. Why is it necessary to change the meaning of the word *choil*? The choil is a little cut-out where the edge meets the tang of a knife. *The choil is not a finger-sized cut-out in either the ricasso or the handle.*

I realize this is somewhat of a rerun from 2004 when I answered a question about the mysterious choil. I call it "mysterious" because the meaning of the word seems to be changing and there is no reason for a change. The definition I found at Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® A.G. Russell's website matches very well the traditional use of the word and the way I have always understood it. I found the following at [http://www.agrussell.com/knife\\_information/knife\\_encyclopedia/glossary/c.html](http://www.agrussell.com/knife_information/knife_encyclopedia/glossary/c.html):

**"CHOIL:** The cut-away area between the edge and the tang of a pocketknife blade, and between the edge and the guard of a straight knife. The choil may or may not have enough space for a finger. Its true purpose is to allow the edge

to be sharpened all the way to the tang in a pocketknife and to the end of the edge in others. Any reference of choil and finger space or choil and handle is improper."

#### Horse-Stall-Mat Rubber

A reader, who shall remain unnamed, saw a picture of a knife in another magazine that had handle slabs made of what was described as horse-stall-mat rubber. It was easier to ask me what it was and where to get it than to look up the maker.

At BLADE Show West I got to see some of the knives used in the BladeSports International cutting competition. (For more on the results of that competition, see the upcoming February *BLADE*.) I liked the look and feel of competition contestant Warren Osborne's knives with the rubber handles. And, sure enough, he appears to be the first one to use the horse-stall-mat rubber for knife handles. The rubber is from the mat material used for the floor in horse stalls. It has a better feel to it than some of the softer rubber materials used for handle material.

I found horse-stall-mat rubber in

**"It appears to be somewhat porous, which gives it a nice 'grip.'"**  
—the author

3/8-inch thicknesses at our local Coastal Farm and Supply store. I am told that it is made from recycled rubber, and that is a plus for using it. It appears to be somewhat porous, which gives it a nice "grip." This rubber should take some of the shock out of using a knife in extreme cutting events.

I wanted to test the material by gluing two strips of it together. I cut strips that were approximately 2x5/8 inch. I then roughed up the matching surfaces with 120-grit abrasive paper. I glued them together with the gel-type Super Glue™ and clamped them together with light pressure. After allowing an hour for the glue to cure, I went to work to see if I could pull the strips apart.

The slight porosity of the rubber, combined with the gel-type Super Glue (which is designed for porous materials), gave a very good bond. I could not separate the two pieces by hand, so I locked one end in a vise and applied pressure on the other end via a pair of locking pliers. The glue bond did not fail, but under extreme pressure I got a tear started in

Lambert Knives  
**Inferno**  
(306) 737-2333  
kirby@lambertknives.com  
www.lambertknives.com  
Photo: Jim Cooper

# FRESHSTEEL

William Henry Fine Knives  
20+ Alaskan Knifemakers  
Custom Kydex

Rob Criswell	Al Polkowski
John M. Smith	Randall Knives
Neil Blackwood	Steve Voorhis
Ruana Knives	Trace Rinaldi
L.A. McConnell	Stan Fujisaka
Allen Eishewitz	Darrell Ralph
Gaetan Beauchamp	Joe Kious

and many more!

**NORTHERN**  
Anchorage, AK  
**KNIVES**

907-569-1800  
[northernknives.net](http://northernknives.net)

## GIRAFFEBONE INC.

SEE US AT:  
**AKCA CUSTOM KNIFE SHOW**  
**MESA, AZ**  
**Nov 17-18**

Damasteel Stainless Damascus  
Mosaic Damascus  
Powder Steel & Nickel  
South African Handle Material

[www.giraffebone.com](http://www.giraffebone.com)  
1-888-804-0683

**CATCH DOG**  
Blade: 4" Hollow ground BG-42  
Carbon Fiber Bolsters, G-10 Scales  
Titanium Liners, Skull Cracker on butt  
Price: \$495.00 US

**EXTREME JEWELRY**  
CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW!  
[WWW.LIGHTFOOTKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.LIGHTFOOTKNIVES.COM) 780.846.2812

# question & answer

**plaza cutlery**  
CALIFORNIA'S LEADING CUTLERY STORE

A Plaza Cutlery  
**EXCLUSIVE!**

Plaza Cutlery Exclusive by Chris Reeve Knives "Doggy Knives"! Featuring the Large and Small Sebenza with silver contrast paw prints on the side of the knife! Large Sebenza is \$449.95 and the Small Sebenza is \$399.95! We usually have stock, but can run out, so order early for the holidays!

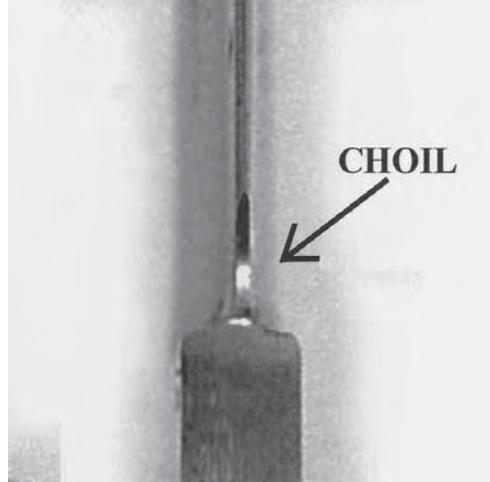


Reminds  
you of your  
best friend each  
time you use  
your knife!!

**Plaza Cutlery**

[www.plazacutlery.com](http://www.plazacutlery.com) • E-mail: [dan@plazacutlery.com](mailto:dan@plazacutlery.com)  
3333 S. Bristol St., Suite 2060, Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
714-549-3932 • Ordering Toll Free 866-827-5292  
Phone orders welcome and we accept all major credit cards!

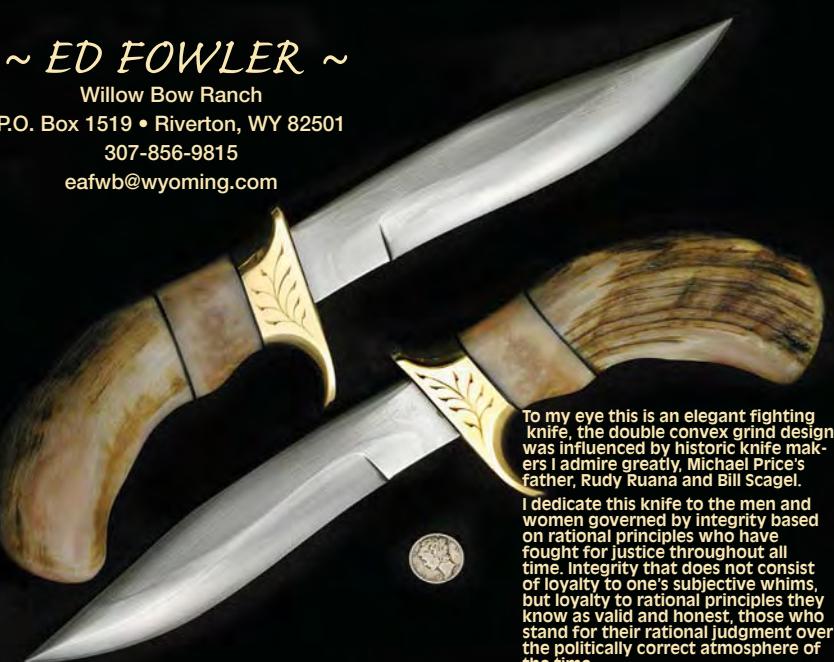
**NO CHOIL**



*The edge-on view of these two blades shows the no-choil system that the author prefers at left and the choil cutout at right. (images courtesy of the author)*

*~ ED FOWLER ~*

Willow Bow Ranch  
P.O. Box 1519 • Riverton, WY 82501  
307-856-9815  
[eafwb@wyoming.com](mailto:eafwb@wyoming.com)



To my eye this is an elegant fighting knife, the double convex grind design was influenced by historic knife makers I admire greatly, Michael Price's father, Rudy Ruana and Bill Scagel.

I dedicate this knife to the men and women governed by integrity based on rational principles who have fought for justice throughout all time. Integrity that does not consist of loyalty to one's subjective whims, but loyalty to rational principles they know as valid and honest, those who stand for their rational judgment over the politically correct atmosphere of the time.

[www.edfowler.com](http://www.edfowler.com)

Talk about it at: [www.knifetalkonline.com](http://www.knifetalkonline.com)

the rubber.

My plan is to make a camp knife using the horse-stall-mat rubber and give it a good test in survival-type conditions.

Send your questions for Wayne Goddard or Joe Szilaski to BLADE®, POB 789, Ooltewah, TN 37363-0789 [Blade-Editor@fwpubs.com](mailto:Blade-Editor@fwpubs.com). Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your full name and address for a personal response from Wayne, or e-mail him at [wgoddard44@comcast.net](mailto:wgoddard44@comcast.net). If you would rather contact Joe by e-mail, his e-mail address is [joe@szilaski.com](mailto:joe@szilaski.com). If you wish, BLADE will not print your name with your question.

**BLADE**

# NEXT ISSUE

# BLADE

THE WORLD'S #1 KNIFE PUBLICATION

**On Most Newsstands  
by Dec. 10**

**•Carbon vs.  
Stainless: Tougher  
When Thinner?**

**•Titans of Touch-Up:  
Sharpening Steels**

**•The Coming  
Collector Crisis**

**•Top Gent's Knife  
Makers**

**•BLADE Show West  
Review**

**•2007  
BLADEhandmade™  
Winners**

**•Knife Storage:  
How, Where & In  
What**

**•International  
Maker: David  
Brodziak**

**•Factory Focus:  
Simonich Knives**



KNIFE EXPO 08

New Dates!!! February 15-17, 2008 New Dates!!!

## Pasadena Conference Center

Lower Level Conference Bldg • 300 East Green Street, Pasadena

**California's Largest, Oldest & Finest Knife Show**

Door Prize - Double Blade Trapper Knife by Bill Rupel

Friday 12:00-7:00 Saturday 10:00-6:00 Sunday 10:00-4:00

For Additional Information visit our web site [scblades.com](http://scblades.com) or call (562) 225-9703

Custom Knives • Cutlery Knives • Antique Knives • Swords  
Razors • Supplies and Equipment • Prize Winning Collections  
Continuous Raffles and Demonstrations  
Free Knife Appraisals

## Special Events in 2008!!!

Knife Throwing by Bob Karp  
Rope Cutting and Knife Making  
Demonstrations

Special appearance by Chef Andy Matsuda  
(kitchen cutlery demonstrations)

Wood Carving by California Wood Carvers  
Amateur Knife Making Contest Open to Public

American Blade Smith Society  
presents  
special exhibition section by members  
and ongoing demonstrations  
with Red St. Cyr

## Do You Have Knives For Sale?

SMKW is interested in purchasing knife collections, antique and unique knives from collectors, individuals and estates. We also purchase overstocks and excess inventory from manufacturers, dealers and importers.

Please let us know about knife shows and auctions in your area.

Call Jay Parker at 865-428-8137 Mon-Fri

## Are You Looking For Knives?

Tune in each week to **KnivesLIVE** for COLLECTIBLES,  
EXCLUSIVES, SHOW SPECIALS & CLOSEOUTS  
Only Available on KnivesLIVE TV!

DIRECTV® - CHANNEL 225 MONDAY 8pm -11pm

DISH NETWORK - CHANNEL 221  
MONDAY & FRIDAY 8pm - 11pm



**SKnivesLIVE.com**

For a **FREE** Catalog visit SMKW online at  
[www.SmokyMountainKnifeWorks.com](http://www.SmokyMountainKnifeWorks.com) or call 1-800-251-9306

**BLADE**



## **LOVELESS KNIVES**

### **-Buy-Sell-Trade-**

Call or Write:  
**J.W. Denton**  
 102 N. Main St., Box 429  
 Hiawassee, GA  
 30546-0429      FAX 706-896-1212

706-896-2292 24 Hrs.

The Knifemakers' Guild

Associate Member  
 Knifemakers Guild

E-mail: [jwdenton@alltel.net](mailto:jwdenton@alltel.net)

## **Knives Wanted**

**Antique/Commemorative/Custom**

**NO COLLECTION  
 TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL!**



- Immediate Payment For Knives
- We Purchase Entire Knife Collections
- A Fair And Reputable Dealer For Over 25 Years

**BLUE RIDGE KNIVES**

166 Adwolfe Rd. • Dept BL • Marion, VA 24354  
 Phone 276-783-6143 • Fax 276-783-9298  
[www.blueridgeknives.net](http://www.blueridgeknives.net)

**www.KnivesShipFree.com**

**Everything Ships FREE!**

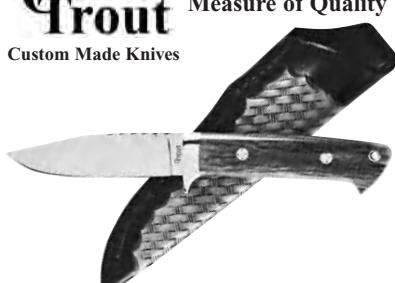


Beautiful Custom Knives  
 Quality Factory Knives  
 Sharpening Accessories

\$5 off orders over \$100 for Blade Magazine Readers  
 Just enter "blademag" as your Coupon Code during Checkout  
[www.KnivesShipFree.com](http://www.KnivesShipFree.com) (918) 440-1311

**Trout** Measure of Quality

Custom Made Knives

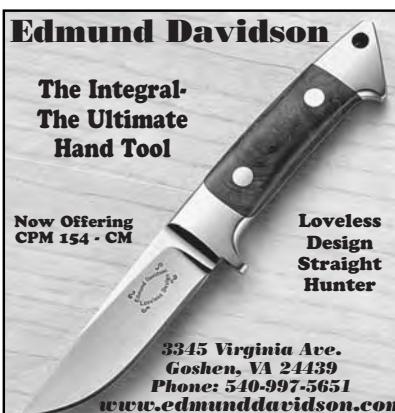


George Trout  
 P.O. Box 13 Cuba Ohio 45114  
 Ph. 937-382-2331  
[gandjtrout@msn.com](mailto:gandjtrout@msn.com)

**Edmund Davidson**

The Integral-  
 The Ultimate  
 Hand Tool

Now Offering  
 CPM 154 - CM



Loveless Design Straight Hunter

3345 Virginia Ave.  
 Goshen, VA 24439  
 Phone: 540-997-5651  
[www.edmunddavidson.com](http://www.edmunddavidson.com)

## The Original Razel

Extreme Utility  
in Your Pocket



**THERE IS A RACE OF MEN  
THAT DON'T FIT IN...  
THEY'RE A ROLLING STONE...  
IT'S BRED IN THE BONE**



## MASTERSMITHS

STORE LOCATED AT  
403 EAST 58th ST, NYC

877-8KNIVES

WWW.BEAUTIFULBLADES.COM

## FIXED BLADE HEAVEN !

**Waterjet Cutting Service  
Maximize Material Yield  
Titanium and Blade Steel  
In Stock**

**Call For A Quote**  
[www.halperntitanium.com](http://www.halperntitanium.com)  
Introductory Offer For 10 Sets

Ph: 888-283-8627 • Fax: 413-289-2372  
Email: info@halperntitanium.com

**HALPERN TITANIUM, INC.**   
P.O.Box 214 • Three Rivers, MA 01080

## Truncali Custom Knives

[www.truncaliknives.com](http://www.truncaliknives.com)

Hunting Knives  
Lock Back Folders  
Automatic Folders



Pete Truncali (214) 763-7127  
[ptii@truncaliknives.com](mailto:ptii@truncaliknives.com)  
Garland, Texas

SOLUTIONS FOR X-TREME FIELD CONDITIONS ... IN ACTION NOW



## •KNIVES WANTED•

Custom Handmade Knives

One Knife or Entire Collections

- Highest Prices Paid•
- Quick Payment•
- Free Appraisals•

~~~~~

We Also Sell the Finest Knives

**Knifemasters  
Custom Knives (1963)**  
P.O. Box 208 Westport, CT 06881  
Ph: 203-226-5211  
Fax: 203-226-5312

## Dustar Israeli Combat Knives

William Henry Knives

Benchmade Knives

Micro-Tech Knives

Tops Knives

Lone Wolf Knives

## J.T.'S Knife Shop

264 East Main Street  
Port Jervis, NY 12771  
Toll Free 877-364-9114

[www.jtknives.com](http://www.jtknives.com)

...SPECIAL OPS TRUST TOPS...  
...CAUSE THEY'RE HARD TO THE CORE! ...  
Tactical-OPS USA  
P. O. Box 2544 Idaho Falls, ID 83403  
PH: (208) 542-0113 FAX: (208) 552-2945  
TOPS ...BORN IN THE USA... [www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com)

For Dealers Only!

For Dealers Only!

For Dealers Only!

# National

Knife Distributors, Inc.



Call Us Toll Free

1-800-447-4342

120 W. Trade St. Forest City, NC 28043 Telephone 828-245-4321 Fax 828-245-5121  
E-Mail us at nkdi@nkdi.com or Visit our web site at www.nkdi.com

•Brand Names

•Dependable Sales Staff

•Courteous Operators

•Quick Service

## Sculptured Ivory Handles

Earl Mann



Fossilized & Mammoth Ivories

5532 Merry Oaks Road  
carvermann101@aol.com The Plains, VA 20198  
www.eaglestoneone.com 540-349-2518

Making A D-Guard Bowie

With Harvey Dean ABS Mastersmith

CENTER CROSS INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

(817)281-5424

5325 TOPPER DR, NRH TX 76180

www.KNIFEMAKINGVIDEOS.COM

## Randall Made Knives



P.O. Box 1988  
Orlando, Florida 32802

WRITE FOR 40-PAGE FULL COLOR CATALOG - PRICE \$2.00  
INTL. MAILING - CATALOG US \$5.00 <http://www.randallknives.com>

## Buy One Take One



X-MAS  
SALE

[www.palacio.ph](http://www.palacio.ph)

Dick Faust  
CUSTOM KNIVES

624 Kings Highway North  
Rochester, NY 14617

585-544-1948

## Finest Quality Superior Service

### Popular Blade Material

440C, 440V, ATS-34, 154 CM,  
BG-42, 52100, D-2, 0-1, A-2, 1084,  
15N20, Nickel 200, Damascus.

### Guard Bolster & Liners

304, 416, 410, Nickel Silver, Titanium,  
Brass, Copper and Aluminum.

### Handle Material

Colored G-10, Carbon Fiber, Colored  
Phenolics, Natural Woods,  
Dymondwood®, Horn, Bone and  
Reconstructed Stone.

### Pocket Knife Supplies

Steel Balls, Washers, Thumbbobs, 6  
Spline and Hex Screws, Clips, Mokume,  
Mosaic Bolsters and Pivot Pins.

### Machinery

Heat Treat Supplies, Tools, Handle Bolts,  
Polishing Supplies, Engraving Supplies,  
Abrasive Belts, Blades, Books & Videos.

Catalogs \$5.00 U.S.A.  
\* \$8.00 outside U.S.A.

### SHEFFIELD KNIFEMAKERS SUPPLY INC.

P.O. Box 741107, Orange City, FL 32774-1107  
Phone: 386-775-6453 • Fax: 386-774-5754  
Web: <http://www.sheffieldsupply.com>  
E-mail: sheffsup@totcon.com

# When Its Time To Turn UP THE TEMPERATURE On The Bad Guys..They Call...MARINE HEAT®...



101%  
Made  
In  
USA

SEMPER FI !!!

LAWRENCE E. KEEN  
USMC RET'D

#### FORCE RECON TYPE

23 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY - INSTRUCTOR  
COMBAT SPEC OPS - PARA, SCUBA,  
RANGER, RECONDO, TRACKER  
HIT WITH A .51 CAL + 82 MM  
MORTAR IN NAM AND STILL  
A "HARD  
CHARGER!"

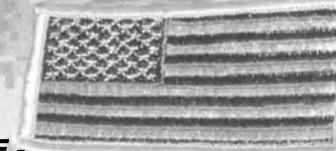
MARINE HEAT  
L-001  
PATROLLING  
THE STREETS -  
BOTH DAY AND NITE -  
KEEPING THINGS IN CHECK + DOING IT RIGHT !!!

Tactical-OPS USA • P. O. Box 2544 • Idaho Falls, ID 83403  
Phone (208) 542-0113 • FAX (208) 552-2945 • [www.topsnives.com](http://www.topsnives.com)

U. S. MARINES TRUST TOPS ...  
...CAUSE THEY'RE HARD TO THE CORE!™

Dealer Inquiries  
Welcome

"DOWNTOWN IRAQ"

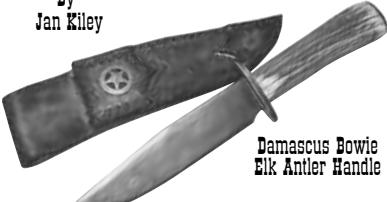


**JapaneseKnifeDirect.com**

Fine Japanese Knives direct from Japan  
With 750 years of sword-making history and tradition, we offer the finest brand knives direct from Seki, Japan at the great saving prices.  
**HATTORI, HIRO, SEKI-CUT, MCUSTA, SAJI & MORE**  
[www.JapaneseKnifeDirect.com](http://www.JapaneseKnifeDirect.com)

## Rocking K. Knives

Antiqued Sheath  
By  
Jan Kiley



1325 Florida Lane  
Chino Valley, AZ 86323  
PH: 928-636-2076

## "Knife Making Sanding Belts"

## LOWEST PRICES

### Top Quality Cloth Belts A/O

| Size     | Any grit   |
|----------|------------|
| 1" x 30" | .70¢ ea.   |
| 1" x 42" | .70¢ ea.   |
| 2" x 48" | \$1.15 ea. |
| 2" x 60" | \$1.40 ea. |
| 2" x 72" | \$1.70 ea. |
| 4" x 36" | \$1.20 ea. |
| 6" x 48" | \$2.90 ea. |

|                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Special Prices</b>                                                                                |
| 9" x 11"<br>Sil Carbide<br>Wet & Dry<br>180-2500g.<br><b>\$21.00</b><br>/100                         |
| <b>Special</b><br>1" x 42"<br>Blue Zirconia Belts<br>120, 100, 80 or 60<br>grit<br><b>\$1.00 ea.</b> |

\* Belts (any-size) sheets, discs, rolls, etc.  
Available in A/O - sil-carbide, Zirconia, Cork, Scotch-brite material

### G.L. Pearce Abrasive Co.

(Abrasive specialist)

12771 Rt. 536

Punxsutawney, PA 15767

No Catalogs Available At This Time

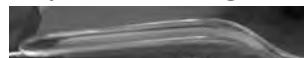
814-938-2379 for info

800-938-0021 purchases only

VISA, MasterCard, C.O.D.  
shipping & handling \$8.95

## BLACKSMITHS DEPOT

All your Metalworking Needs!



Induction Forge!



Kayne and Son  
100 Daniel Ridge Rd  
Candler, NC 28715  
(828) 667-8868

[www.blacksmithsdepot.com](http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com)



**What do Chris Deringer  
(Canada)... Thomas Gerner  
(Australia) ... Heather & Kevin  
Harvey (South Africa)... Jim  
Jackson (England) ... Jean-Paul Thevenot (France) have  
in common?**

They and many other great ABS master smiths studied at the *W. F. Moran School of Bladesmithing* in Washington, Arkansas!!

YOU can follow in their footsteps.....

Contact: Mr. Scotty Hayes  
ABS School Director • Texarkana College  
2400 North Robison Road • Texarkana, TX 75501  
903-838-4541 • [shayes@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:shayes@texarkanacollege.edu)

**AMERICAN BLADESMITH SOCIETY**



Queen Cutlery Company

**BROWNING**

Schatt Morgan  
Cutlery Co.

**Scagel** M.S.A. Co.

**Northwoods**

ONTARIO knife COMPANY

**DLT Trading Company**  
P.O. Box 674  
Menominee, MI 49858  
[www.dlttradingcompany.com](http://www.dlttradingcompany.com)  
Call Toll Free  
877-622-2397

**VALIANT ARMOURY**

*When You Want More Than A Wall Hanger*

**TRADITIONAL DESIGNS  
MODERN MATERIALS  
REAL SWORDS**

Introducing the Valiant Armoury Imperial Arms Collection

Golden Lion Tai Chi Sword VA1502

Chinese Han Sword VA1505

Double Edged Blind Warrior VA1506

Chinese Great Sword 1504

Chinese Broadsword VA1503

**Imperial Arms**

<http://www.valiantarmourswords.com>

1-877-SWORDS-4

*Don't miss the next*

**BLADE Magazine**

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>FEB. '08</b> | <b>OCT. 17, 2007</b> |
| <b>MAR. '08</b> | <b>NOV. 14, 2007</b> |
| <b>APR. '08</b> | <b>DEC. 19, 2007</b> |
| <b>MAY. '08</b> | <b>JAN. 16, 2008</b> |
| <b>JUN. '08</b> | <b>FEB. 20, 2008</b> |
| <b>JUL. '08</b> | <b>MAR. 19, 2008</b> |
| <b>AUG. '08</b> | <b>APR. 23, 2008</b> |
| <b>SEP. '08</b> | <b>Nov. 21, 2008</b> |

---

**ORDER YOUR ADVERTISING TODAY!**

700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001  
1-800-272-5233  
FAX (715) 445-4087

Missy Beyer, Advertising Sales  
x642, [missy.beyer@fwpubs.com](mailto:missy.beyer@fwpubs.com)

Bruce Wolberg, Advertising Sales  
x403, [bruce.wolberg@fwpubs.com](mailto:bruce.wolberg@fwpubs.com)

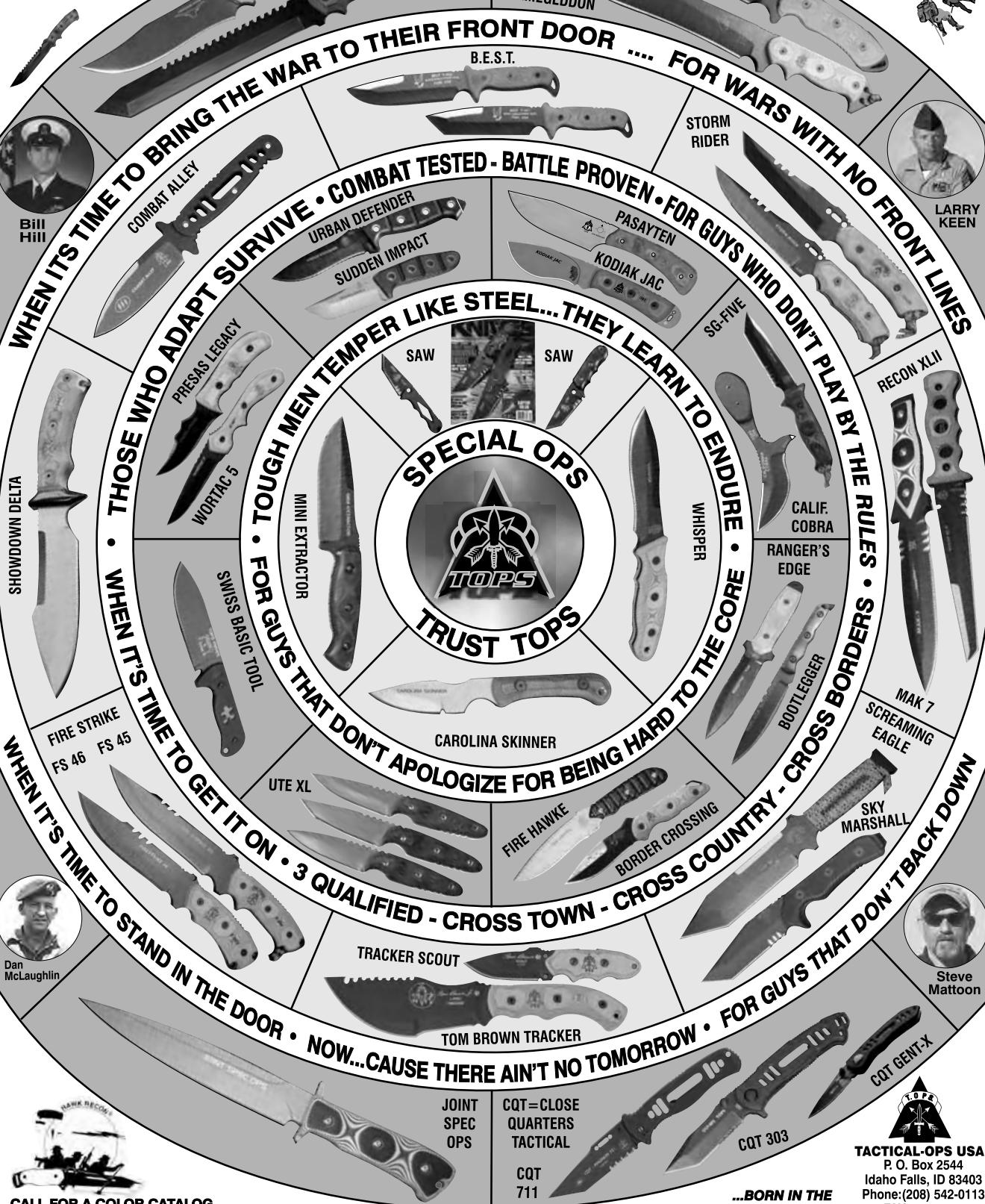


[www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com)

# TOPS KNIVES

\*ACTION IS A WORD WE UNDERSTAND\*

- Real Men
- Real Steel
- Real Stories
- Real Performance



**TACTICAL-OPS USA**  
P.O. Box 2544  
Idaho Falls, ID 83403  
Phone: (208) 542-0113  
FAX: 552-2945  
[www.topsknives.com](http://www.topsknives.com)

**...BORN IN THE  
USA...**

# BLADE

THE WORLD'S #1 KNIFE PUBLICATION

MAGAZINE CLASSIFIED  
HEADINGS AVAILABLE

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Only 60¢ per word**

Minimum charge is \$9.00 per ad.

**800-942-0673**

**CLASSIFIED FREQUENCY DISCOUNT**

(Consecutive Issues Only Of The Same Ad.)  
1-2 Issues No Discount; 3-6 Issues 15%; 7-12 Issues 20%

**ANTIQUE FACTORY KNIVES**

- 6135 Grohmann
- 6010 American Knife Co.
- 6140 Heimerdinger Cutlery Co.
- 6020 Baldwin Cutlery Co.
- 6150 Henry Sears 1865
- 6025 Belknap Hardware Co.
- 6175 John Prumble, Belknap
- 6030 Bertram (C) Cutlery Co.
- 6200 Klaas, Robert
- 6035 Boker Germany
- 6210 Lackawanna Cutlery Co.
- 6040 Boker USA
- 6225 Marble Arms & Manf Co.
- 6045 Bruckman (E) Cutlery
- 6235 Napanoch Knife Co.
- 6050 Bruckmann, Solingen
- 6254 Ontario Knif Co.
- 6055 Burkinstaw Knife Co.
- 6262 Pal Cutlery Co.
- 6060 Camillus
- 6282 Russell Barlows
- 6065 Canton Cutlery Co.
- 6300 Utica
- 6070 Case Brothers
- 6310 Wade & Butcher
- 6075 Cattaraugus
- 6325 Misc. Antique Factory Knives
- 6080 Central City Knife Co.
- 6090 Christy Knife Co.
- 6095 Colonial Cutlery Co.
- 6100 Cripple Creek, USA
- 6105 Diamond Edge
- 6110 Eagle Pocket Knife Co.
- 6120 Eye Brand Knives
- 6125 George Wostenholm
- 6130 Gerber Legendary Blade
- 6448 Buck

**FACTORY BRANDS**

- 6340 Al Mar
- 6380 Barteaux Machetes Inc.
- 6132 Bayonets
- 6390 Bear MGC
- 6398 Benchmade
- 6421 Blue Mountain
- 6120 Eye Brand Knives
- 6424 Boker
- 6448 Buck

- |                                        |                                  |                             |                                  |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6466 Bulldog                           | 7290 Diving                      | 8030 Goddard (Wayne)        | 9710 Catalogs / Mail Order Lists |
| 6476 C.A.S. Iberia Inc                 | 7322 Fighters                    | 8128 Holder (D')            | 9712 Cigar Cutters               |
| 6480 Camillus                          | 7334 Folding                     | 8188 Hudson (Robbin)        | 9715 Collectible Advertisements  |
| 6486 Case                              | 7338 Folding (Multi-Blade)       | 8348 Lile (Jimmy)           | 9720 Collections                 |
| 6492 Case Classics                     | 7344 Fruit                       | 8400 Loveless (Bob)         | 9730 Dealers Wanted              |
| 6510 Cold Steel                        | 7374 Hunting (Folders)           | 8450 Moran (Bill)           | 9735 Design Services             |
| 6523 Columbia River                    | 7376 Hunting (Straight)          | 8708 Randall                | 9738 Distr Wanted                |
| Knife & Tool                           | 7420 Machetes                    | 8788 Ruana (Rudy)           | 9740 Engraving                   |
| 6530 Cripple Creek                     | 7450 Navy                        | 8808 Scagel (William)       | 9750 Factory Reps Wanted         |
| 6580 Fairbairn-Sykes                   | 7460 Office                      | 8880 Shadley (Eugene)       | 9770 Handle Materials            |
| 6586 Fight'n Rooster                   | 7466 One-Hand                    | 8900 Smith (J.D.)           | 9780 Heat Treating               |
| 6614 Gerber                            | 7526 Razors                      | 8968 Terzuola (Robert)      | 9790 Knife Boxes / Containers    |
| 6650 Henckels                          | 7532 Rifleman's                  | 9000 Tighe (Brian)          | 9800 Knife Cases / Displays      |
| 6660 IBCA/ABCA                         | 7540 Scout                       | 9100 Walker (Michael)       | 9810 Knife Clubs / Societies     |
| 6700 Ka-Bar                            | 7546 Senator                     | 9150 Wareski (Buster)       | 9825 Knife Rolls                 |
| 6766 Marble's                          | 7576 Sog (Type)                  | 9170 Wile (Peter)           | 9840 Knifemaking Equipment       |
| 6842 Puma                              | 7602 Swords                      | 9180 Whorhouse (David)      | 9850 Knifemaking Instruction     |
| 6860 Queen                             | 7622 Tool/Pliers                 | 9224 Miscellaneous Handmade | 9875 Knifemaking Supplies        |
| 6876 Remington                         | 7628 Toothpick                   |                             | 9890 Knife Shops                 |
| 6940 Smith & Wesson                    | 7640 Trench                      |                             | 9895 Knife Shows                 |
| 6944 Sog Specialty                     | 7650 Utility                     |                             | 9900 Leather / Sheaths           |
| 6952 Spyderco                          | 7660 Wharncliffe                 |                             | 9915 Manufacturers Wanted        |
| 7000 Tops                              | 7666 Whittler                    |                             | 9924 Memorabilia (Knife)         |
| 7040 Valley Forge                      | 7674 Misc. Knife Types/ Patterns |                             | 9935 Multiple Brands For Sale    |
| 7046 Victorinox                        |                                  |                             | 9936 Multiple Brands Wanted      |
| 7084 Winchester                        |                                  |                             | 9938 Oils & Lubricants           |
| 7090 Misc. Factory Brands              |                                  |                             | 9940 Original Catalogs           |
| <b>KNIFE TYPES / PATTERNS</b>          |                                  |                             | 9945 Repair (Knife)              |
| 7100 Advertising                       |                                  |                             | 9965 Sales / Auctions            |
| 7126 Baseball Bat                      |                                  |                             | 9975 Scrimshaw                   |
| 7132 Bayonets                          |                                  |                             | 9980 Services, Miscellaneous     |
| 7138 Bolos                             |                                  |                             | 9985 Sharpening / Sharpeners     |
| 7144 Boot                              |                                  |                             | 9988 Show Cases                  |
| 7152 Bowies                            |                                  |                             | 9991 Steels                      |
| 7158 Bowies (Antique)                  |                                  |                             | 9993 Tobacco Products            |
| 7180 Camp                              |                                  |                             | 9996 Miscellaneous Products      |
| 7232 Commemoratives / Limited Editions |                                  |                             |                                  |
| 7232 Commemoratives / Limited Editions |                                  |                             |                                  |

**7674**

**MISC. KNIFE TYPES/PATTERNS**

**FOR SALE:** Real Stag Horn- India, Crown- (12)- 1" & (14)- 3/4". Straight- (4)- 1-1/4" to 1-3/4". Tips- (8)- 4" to 5" long. \$35 each. 785-582-4529.

**7958**

**FISK (JERRY)**

**FISK BOWIE**, large, Journeyman stamp. Custom made for owner. Used, but excellent condition. Unused since reconditioned by maker. \$1700 firm. Details and link to online photos email [fisk\\_bowie@charter.net](mailto:fisk_bowie@charter.net).

**8450**

**MORAN (BILL)**

**MORAN KNIVES** bought, traded and sold by collector. Bob 415-768-4821.

**8808**

**SCAGEL (WILLIAM)**

**SCAGEL KNIVES** and axes wanted: Gordon White, PO Box 181, Cuthbert, GA 39840. 229-732-6982 anytime.

**9224**

**MISCELLANEOUS HANDMADE**

**FRANCINE ETCHED** Knives. Formerly David Boye Knives Gallery. Made by Todd Kopp from Boye Dendritic Steel & Boye Dendritic Cobalt ...Continuing the Tradition. Basics, Outdoor Knives, Kitchen Cutlery, Cutlery, Carving, & Table/Steak Sets. Blades Plain or Etched with Original Artwork. 1-800-557-1525. [francine@francineetchings.com](mailto:francine@francineetchings.com)

**WANTED: SCAGEL**, R.H. Ruana, Randall, Loveless, Morseth, Remington, and Marbles knives and axes. Any Heiser knife or axe sheaths. 229-732-6982, anytime. Gordon White, Box 181, Cuthbert, GA 39840.

**9705**

**BUY, SELL, TRADE**

**FOR SALE:** Antlers (deer, elk, moose), buckskins, tanned furs, etc. Over 150,000 items. Complete Internet catalog (pictures). <http://www.hideandfur.com>

**GOT PROTECTION?** Keep yourself and your family safe! Complete selection of high quality products for personal and home protection. Affiliate program for Web site owners also offered. <http://www.icelandprotected.com>

**LEE'S CUTLERY** knives for work, sport, pleasure & collecting. For a wide variety of knives, check out [www.leescutlery.com](http://www.leescutlery.com)

**SELLING BUCK**, Randall, Case, Custom, and more. Great selection. Call Gary 727-515-2479 or see us on the web: [www.nelsoncustomknives.com](http://www.nelsoncustomknives.com)

**WANTED: ANY** condition handmade knives; Randall, Scagel, Ruana, F.S. Richtig, Morseth, Bone, Cooper, Loveless, Moran, Lile, etc. Also military knives and pocketknives, watches. Send description and price to: Angelo Solino, 6 Wesley Court N, Huntington, NY 11743. 631-423-1729.

**9710**

**CATALOGS/ MAIL ORDER LISTS**

**COLLECTOR KVIVES-** Queen, Schatt & Morgan, Ka-Bar, Remington and Case. Send \$2 for our catalog. S & S and Sons Cutlers, Po Box 501C Lomita, CA 90717 PH 310-326-3869 or [www.snsandsontcutlers.com](http://www.snsandsontcutlers.com)

**9780**

**HEAT TREATING**

**HEAT TREATING/** Tempering all steels. Bearclaw Knives, P.O. Box 1391, La Porte, TX 77572-1391. Call for prices 281-587-6080.

**9790**

**KNIFE BOXES/ CONTAINERS**

**DISPLAY CASES:** Oak, Walnut, wood, glass, standard or custom sizes. 28 page catalog. Send \$1. Woodland Products, 61292 CR 7, Elkhart, IN 46517.

**DISPLAY CASES:** Oak, Walnut, wood, glass, standard or custom sizes. 28 page catalog. Send \$1. Woodland Products, 61292 CR 7, Elkhart, IN 46517.

**9840**

**KNIFEMAKING EQUIPMENT**

**GRINDER PLANS!** 2"X72" knifegrinder plans for the no weld grinder sander. Easy, low cost build! No welding or machining required. 15 pages CAD, 27 page assembly manual, \$25. Get this and other knife making supplies from: Midwest Knifemakers Supply LLC. [www.midwestknifemakers.com](http://www.midwestknifemakers.com)

**6340**

**AL MAR**

**AL MAR** Knives. Buy, sell, trade. 1 or 100. Stu Shaw 772-285-3755. Email: [stushaw@comcast.net](mailto:stushaw@comcast.net)

**6448**

**BUCK**

**BUCK KNIVES** on consignment. To sell or for list of knives to buy, call Larry Oden. 765-472-2323 weekday eves or Sat. References available.

**6486**

**CASE**

**OLDER CASE** pocketknives for sale. XX, USA, 10 Dot and others. Clean outstanding knives with pretty handles. Please call or write. Charlie Mattox, PO Box 1565, Gallatin, TN 37066. Mobile phone: 615-419-5669. [www.mattoxknife.com](http://www.mattoxknife.com)

**WANTED: CASE** pocketknives especially 10 Dot and older. Check with Charlie before you sell. Call or write. Charlie Mattox, PO Box 1565, Gallatin, TN 37066. Mobile phone 615-419-5669. <http://www.mattoxknife.com>

**7100**

**ADVERTISING**

**SELL YOUR** knives online- Balance Digital specializes in knife photography, web design, and website maintenance for knife makers and dealers. Call Rob today: 760-815-6131 or visit [www.balancedigital.com](http://www.balancedigital.com)

**TWO POWERFUL** machines designed for grinding and polishing. 2 HP Dayton motor. Belts 2" x 72" \$600 ea. 941-627-9468

## 9875 KNIFEMAKING SUPPLIES

**ANTI-SCALE COATING** protects steel up to 2300 F. during heat treating. Water based, easy to apply, easy to remove, cost effective. Available in pint and gallon containers. Contact Advanced Technical Products, 508 Northland Blvd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45240. Phone: 513-851-6858. E-mail: ATP\_Supply@hotmail.com

**BUY WHOLESALE** "Cheyenne Bowie" knife blank. 440c Steel. Heavy construction. 13-1/4". Double hit Mirror polished. \$24 VISA/MC EKnifeSupply 828-389-2575.

**BUY WHOLESALE** Classic "Patrick Henry" Bowie 440c steel. 14" overall brass guard Coffin style handle Semi Polished \$24. VISA/MC EKnifeSupply 828-389-2575.

**BUY WHOLESALE** S8 or S9 Drop Point and "Wyoming Skinner" 440c steel, heavy construction. 7-1/2" Mirror Polished \$12 each. VISA/MC EKnifeSupply 828-389-2575.

**BUY WHOLESALE** Drop Point (S23) or Clip Point (S21) Hidden tang 440c steel, sharp, heavy construction. 9-1/2" Mirror Polished \$11 each. VISA/MC EKnifeSupply 828-389-2575.

**EVERYTHING FOR the knifemaker.** Steel, handle material, hammers, tongs, forges, all kinds of tools. Contact: Uncle Al 870-642-7643 or e-mail: uncleal2@att.net

**STEEL STAMPS:** Personalize knives with a Buckeye Stamp. Manufactured to fit your needs and made per your artwork with name, logo or design. Standard-letter name stamps also available. Buckeye Engraving 330-677-5685 www.steelhandstamps.com

**STEEL TANG** Stamps: Mark your knives with your name, logo or design. Quality hand-cut hardened steel stamps made to your specifications. "If it's worth making, it's worth marking." Established 1898. Henry A. Evers, Corp. 72 Oxford St., Providence, RI 02905. 800-553-8377.

## 9890 KNIFE SHOPS

**CANADA'S ONLINE** knife source is now [www.SWORDS.CA](http://www.SWORDS.CA). Great prices, in stock, ships now. Ph. 1-866-371-7973. [www.SWORDS.CA](http://www.SWORDS.CA).

**KNIFESUPPLY.COM** - ALL Major Brand Knives at Rock Bottom Prices! America's #1 Knife Supply. <http://www.KnifeSupply.com>

**NEW YORK CITY'S ONLY CUSTOM KNIFE SHOP** MasterSmiths, 403 E 58th St, NY, NY 10022 877-8-KNIVES [www.beautifulblades.com](http://www.beautifulblades.com)

## 9900 LEATHER/ SHEATHS

**CUSTOM LEATHER** Knife Sheaths in your design or mine. Write or call: Robert Schrap, 7024 W. Wells St., Wauwatosa, WI 53213. 414-771-6472 or [knifesheaths@aol.com](mailto:knifesheaths@aol.com)

## 9975 SCRIMSHAW

**CUSTOM SCRIMSHAW** by Juanita Rae Conover. Single or full color. Wildlife a specialty. Exceptional quality. Call for sample pictures and turn around information. PO Box 70442, Eugene, OR 97401, 541-747-1726 or [juanitaraeconover@yahoo.com](mailto:juanitaraeconover@yahoo.com)

## 9980 SERVICES, MISCELLANEOUS

**SELL YOUR** knives online. Balance Digital specializes in knife photography, web design, and website maintenance for knife makers and dealers. Call Rob today: 760-815-6131 or visit [www.balancedigital.com](http://www.balancedigital.com).

## 9996 MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

**SELL YOUR** knives online. Balance Digital specializes in knife photography, web design, and website maintenance for knife makers and dealers. Call Rob today: 760-815-6131 or visit [www.balancedigital.com](http://www.balancedigital.com).

# ADVERTISERS' INDEX

## A

- A.G. Russell Knives Inc. 107  
Adam Unlimited ..... 28  
Al Mar Knives ..... 40  
American Bladesmith Society ..... 72  
Arizona Custom Knives ..... 44  
Arkansas Custom Knife Show ..... 48

## B

- Beckwith's Blades ..... 104  
Beinfeld Productions ..... 19  
Blade Art ..... 93  
Bladegallery.com ..... 84  
Blade Show ..... 89  
Blue Ridge Knives ..... 44, 68  
Bob Dozier Knives ..... 45  
Boker USA ..... 14  
Bond's House of Cutlery ..... 102  
Bowie Corporation ..... 72  
Bradley's Blades ..... 101  
Britton, Tim ..... 8  
Burger Knives ..... 105  
Burr King Mfg Co. Inc. ..... 58

## C

- C. A. S. Iberia ..... 108  
Canada's Knife Zone ..... 103  
Center Cross Video ..... 70  
Chopra Deepak ..... 82  
Chris Reeve Knives ..... 17  
Collectibles Insurance Agency ..... 38  
Columbia River Knife & Tool ..... 35, 52, 59  
Condor Tool & Knife, Inc. ..... 16  
Crawford, Pat ..... 105  
Culpepper, Inc. ..... 28  
Custom Knife Company ..... 69

## D

- Davidson, Edmund ..... 68  
Denton, J W ..... 68  
Diamondblade LLC ..... 84

- Du-Star Knife ..... 70

## E

- Eaglestone ..... 70  
Edgescraft Corporation ..... 47

## F

- Faust, Dick ..... 70  
Finer Points ..... 94  
Fowler, Ed ..... 66  
Frost Cutlery ..... 87

## G

- G. L. Pearce Abrasive Co ..... 71  
Gary Levine Fine Knives ..... 47  
George Trout ..... 68  
Gerstner & Sons ..... 45  
Giraffebone.com ..... 65  
Graham Knives ..... 69  
Guild, Don ..... 54

## H

- Halpern Titanium ..... 69  
Hawkins Knife Making Supplies ..... 102  
Hayes, Wally ..... 31

## J

- Jantz Supply ..... 15  
JT's Knife Shop ..... 69

## K

- Kayne Custom Hardware Inc. ..... 71  
Kencrest/Hara/Mucsta ..... 51, 71  
Kershaw Knives ..... 24, 41  
Kitasho Company, Ltd ..... 21  
Knife & Gun Finishing Supplies ..... 38  
Knife Center of the Internet ..... 101  
Knife Depot ..... 103  
Knifekits.com ..... 53  
Knives Plus ..... 64  
Kniveshipfree.com ..... 68

- Korin Japanese Trading Co ..... 29

## L

- Koval Knives & Supplies ..... 23  
Lambert, Kirby ..... 65  
Lansky Sharpeners ..... 35  
Lightfoot Knives ..... 65  
Lone Star Wholesale ..... 64  
Lone Wolf Knives ..... 22

## M

- Magnum USA ..... 52  
Masecraft Supply ..... 54  
Mastersmiths ..... 69  
Maxpedition Hard-Use Gear ..... 11  
McDonald, Rich ..... 103  
Meyerco ..... 3  
MM Customs ..... 29  
Moki Knife Company ..... 8  
Moteng International Inc ..... 34

- Myknifedealer.com ..... 97

## N

- National Knife Distributors ..... 70  
NC Tool Company ..... 24  
New Graham Knives ..... 16  
Nordic Knives ..... 97  
Northern Knives ..... 65

## O

- Only Fine Knives ..... 49

## P

- Pacific Solution ..... 104  
Palacio Enterprises Inc. .... 70  
Paragon Industries ..... 93  
Paragon Sporting Goods ..... 102  
Parkers' Knife Collector Service ..... 102  
Plaza Cutlery ..... 66

## R

- Rader, Michael ..... 64

- Randall Made Knives ..... 70  
Red Hill Corporation ..... 59  
Reno ABS Show ..... 30  
Rocking K Knives ..... 71  
Rummell, Hank ..... 103

## S

- Sheffield Knifemakers Supply ..... 71  
Simonich Knives, LLC ..... 64  
Smith's Abrasives ..... 60  
Smoky Mountain Knife Works Inc ..... 67  
SOG Specialty Knives Inc ..... 25  
Southern California Blades ..... 67  
Steel Addiction Custom Knives ..... 87  
Strider Knives ..... 39

## T

- Texas Knifemakers Supply ..... 40  
Tool Logic ..... 63  
Tops ..... 69, 71  
Tormach LLC ..... 33  
Tru-Grit ..... 61  
True North Knives ..... 5, 7, 58, 83  
Truncali Custom Knives ..... 69  
Twin Blades ..... 48

## U

- Underhill Jewelers ..... 101  
Utica Cutlery ..... 27

## V

- Valiant Armory ..... 30, 72  
W

- W. R. Case & Sons Cutlery ..... 2  
William Henry Knives ..... 5

The advertisers' index is provided as a reader service. Occasional last-minute changes may result in ads appearing on pages other than those listed here. The publisher assumes no liability for omissions or errors.



# what's new

## "The Veteran" Is The New Remington Bullet

New for 2008, Remington introduces "The Veteran"—its annual Bullet knife done in a classic barlow pattern with an amber jiggled-bone handle.

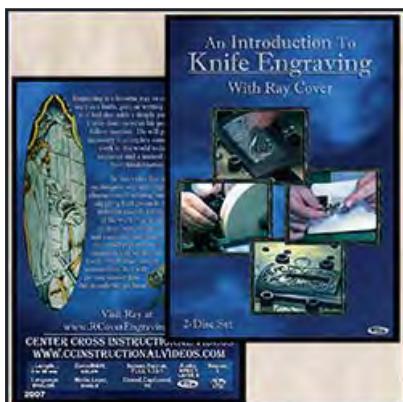
For more information contact Remington, Dept. BL1, 870 Remington Dr., Madison, NC 27025 800.243.9700 [www.remington.com](http://www.remington.com).



## New DVD from CCIV Focuses On Engraving

In association with Center Cross Instructional Videos, Ray Cover introduces "An Introduction To Knife Engraving," the first of a two-disc set.

For more information contact CCIV, attn: Rich Brown, Dept. BL1, 5325 Topper Dr., North Richland Hills, TX 76180 817.281.5424 [www.CCInstructionalVideos.com](http://www.CCInstructionalVideos.com).



## Schneider Set Offers Dining in Damascus

The knife, fork and spoon set from Herman Schneider features Fritz Schneider damascus and gold engraving by Julie Warenski.

For more information contact Herman Schneider, Dept. BL1, 14084 Apple Valley Rd., Apple Valley, CA 92307 760.946.9096.



## Walnut Handle Tops Off 10.5-Inch Hunter

Walnut is the wood of choice on a long-handled hunter forged in 5160 carbon steel by John Parks. Overall length: 10.5 inches.

For more information contact John Parks, Dept. BL1, 3539 Galilee Church Rd., Jefferson, GA 30549 706.367.4916.



## CAS/Hanwei Mammen Is Simply Striking

The Mammen Axe from CAS Hanwei is a reproduction of a Viking throwing axe designed to display the Viking's blend of art and war.

For more information contact C.A.S. Hanwei, attn: B. Ross, Dept. BL1, 650 Industrial Blvd., Sale Creek, TN 37373 423.332.4700 [www.casiberia.com](http://www.casiberia.com).



## Case Cheetah Comes In Hot Tiger Stripes

Bright tiger stripes highlight the bone handle of the Case Cheetah. The blade is a 400 series stainless. Closed length: 4 3/8 inches.

For more details contact Case, attn: J. Sullivan, Dept. BL1, Owens Way, Bradford, PA 16701 814.368.4123 [www.wrcase.com](http://www.wrcase.com).



## Damascus Hunter Is Beautifully Engraved

Carbon damascus blade steel, a big-horn sheep grip and attractive engraving combine on a handsome hunter from Ernie Self. Overall length: 10 inches.

For more information contact Ernie Self, Dept. BL1, 950 O'Neill Ranch Rd., Dripping Springs, TX 78620 512.858.7133 ernieself@aol.com.



## Box Elder, Big Horn Highlight Handle

Beautiful shades of brown, beige and red highlight the box-elder-and-big-horn-sheep handle of Bob Lay's "Personal Carrier." Overall length: 8 inches.

For more information contact Bob Lay, Dept. BL1, Box 122, Falkland BC, Canada VOE 140, 250.379.2265.



## Salmon Creek: What A Way to Fillet Fish!

Designed by Ken Steigerwalt, Benchmade's Salmon Creek Folding Fillet features a "sliding tailfin" that cradles the 5.8-7.1-inch blade when the knife is closed.

For more information contact Benchmade USA, attn: E. DuPlessis, Dept. BL1, 300 Beavercreek Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045 503.655.6004 www.benchmade.com.



## MT 2 SC Is Another Sleek Mantis Design

The MT 2 SC from Mantis features a hand-rubbed handle and CPM S30V blade steel. Closed length: 4 inches. MSRP: \$69.99.

For more information contact Mantis Knives, attn: J. West, Dept. BL1, 1580 N. Harmony Cir., Anaheim, CA 92807 714.701.9671 [buymantisknives.com](http://buymantisknives.com).



## Hensarling Does It All On His Custom Hunter

All forge work, heat treating and tempering are done by Robert Hensarling on his custom hunter. Overall length: ~9.5 inches. A custom leather sheath is included with each knife.

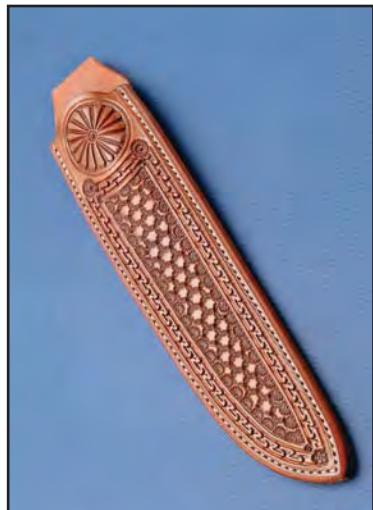
For more information contact Robert Hensarling, Dept. BL1, 4326 East Main St., Uvalde, TX 78801 830.278.1832 [www.mesquiterocker.com](http://www.mesquiterocker.com).



## New Leatherwork From Larry Parsons

The intricate artwork on one of his more elaborate sheaths won Larry Parsons the award for Best Leatherwork at the 2006 Oklahoma Knife Show.

For more information contact Larry Parsons, Dept. BL1, 1038 W. Kyle Way, Mustang, OK 73064 405.376.9408.





# knifemaker knifemaker showcase showcase

"Knifemaker Showcase" spotlights the photographs of knives sent by any and all custom knifemakers to *BLADE*® for filing in the Knifemakers' Archive. The Knifemakers' Archive is the most complete collection of photographs of knifemakers' knives and information in the world. If you are a custom knifemaker and have not sent us a photo (the better quality the photo, the better chance it has of getting in the magazine), write to: *BLADE*, c/o F+W/Krause Publications, 700 E. State, Iola, WI 54990 [BladeEditor@fwpubs.com](mailto:BladeEditor@fwpubs.com). Please include a close-up mug shot of yourself with your knife picture.

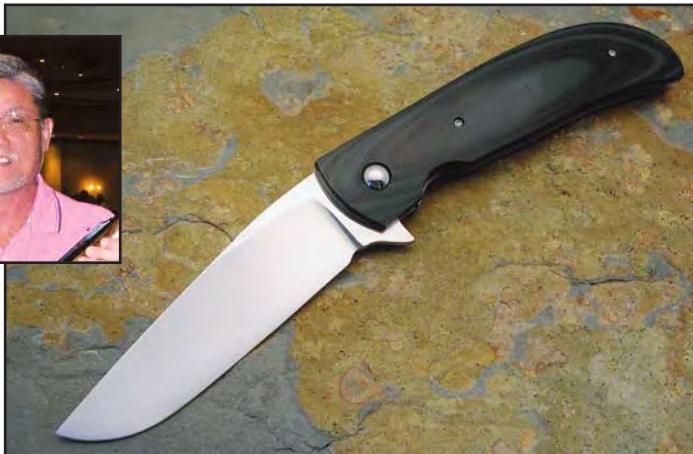
## Don McIntosh

Don McIntosh says he has long had an interest in blacksmithing and knifemaking. Luckily for him, it's a pursuit encouraged by his employer. "Texarkana College, in cooperation with the ABS, offers the Bill Moran School of Bladesmithing in Washington, Arkansas," he notes. "As an employee of the college, I've taken one or two classes a year since I first started making knives in 2003. Since then I've taken classes under Joe Keeslar, Jim Jackson, John Fitch, Mike Connor and J.R. Cook." McIntosh earned his ABS journeyman smith stamp in 2006. His frame-handle hunter (below) is 9 inches overall and is done in 1084. His knives range in price from \$300-\$850. His address: 766 Southbend Rd., Dept. BL1, Texarkana, TX 75501 903.293.1530 [www.McIntoshknives.com](http://www.McIntoshknives.com).



## Ross Mitsuyuki

As friends with knifemaker Ken Onion, Ross Mitsuyuki says it was difficult not to become wrapped up in the world of knives during his frequent trips to Onion's shop. Before long, Mitsuyuki notes, Ken's consistent "badgering" finally led to a knifemaking lesson. "Sure enough, after my first lesson I was hooked," Mitsuyuki says. A talented artist, he finds that his drawing skills serve him well when it comes to engraving. He works with 440C, ATS-34, BG-42 and CPM S30V stainless steels for blades, and prefers G-10, giraffe bone and curly koa for handles. His "Japanese Dragon" folder (right) is done in ATS-34 with titanium liners. His address: 94-1071 Kepakepa St. C-3, Dept. BL1, Waipahu, HI 96797 808.671.3335.



## Kathleen Tomey

"I've loved and collected knives since I was very young," says Kathleen Tomey.

"And, after meeting Wally Hayes nine or 10 years ago, I became interested in making." Tomey primarily uses O1 tool and ATS-34 stainless steels, and recently began using CPM S30V stainless. "It always amazes me how steel and wood can become such a wonderful work of art as well as a useful tool," she observes. She is a founding member of the Georgia Knifemakers Guild and used to be a member of the North Carolina Knifemakers Guild as well. "I've met many wonderful people through knifemaking, both makers and customers," she adds. Her "Day Hiker" (above) is done in ATS-34 with a thuya burl handle. Her list price for something similar: \$300. Her address: 146 Buford Pl., Dept. BL1, Macon, GA 31204 478.746.8454 [ktomey@tomeycustomknives.com](mailto:ktomey@tomeycustomknives.com), [www.tomeycustomknives.com](http://www.tomeycustomknives.com).

## Jeff Vesley

Jeff Vesley's knifemaking career began out of necessity. "I started making knives simply because I needed them," he says. "I bought books and studied all I could." For handles he works mainly with synthetics, wood, bone and antler, and uses 1060 carbon steel and Nicholson files for his blades. "I enjoy the creativity of using raw materials other people may pass over," he offers. Vesley is a member of the Texas Knifemakers and Collectors Association, as well as a founding member of the Texico Knife Association. His sub-hilt fighter (right) in Sambar stag measures 12.5 inches overall. His list price for a similar knife: \$350. His address: 4106 Woodland Creek Dr., Dept. BL1, Corpus Christi, TX 78410 361.242.0630 rntknives@aol.com.



## Eric Elson

Inspired by a copy of *BLADE*®, 25-year-old Eric Elson made his first knife when he was 14. "In that same issue of *BLADE*, I found out about a group of Canadian knifemakers. As soon as I had made the required number of knives, I joined the Canadian Knifemakers

Guild and I've never looked back," Elson says. Specializing in tactical and working knives, he makes between 100-150 models per year via stock removal. "I like to use CPM S30V for most of my hard-use knives and 154CM for my EDC knives," he remarks. "I will use any steel a customer requests as long as it is the proper steel for the design." Elson's "Grappler HD" models (left) sport 154CM stainless steel blades and G-10 handles. His contact information: Eric Elson, 519.854.1253, [www.elsonknives.com](http://www.elsonknives.com).

## Jody Muller

Calling southwest Missouri home, Jody Muller concentrates on making a vast array of knives, many of which feature individual hand engraving and carving. "My college time studying art and design has served me well," Muller says, "in my first job as a jeweler and watchmaker, and since becoming a full-time knifemaker as well." All of his knives are sole authorship. He uses his own damascus steel and also a variety of natural handle materials. His "Corkscrew Knife" (right) features a damascus blade and corkscrew, with titanium liners and a gold thumb stud. His list price for a similar knife: around \$2,000. His address: 3359 South 225th Rd., Dept. BL1, Goodson, MO 65663 417.752.3260 [www.mullerforge.com](http://www.mullerforge.com).



# knife and sheath

knife and sheath



**Anders Hogstrom made the sheath for his wakizashi from a piece of what he terms "AAA quality" curly koa that he got from knifemaker Tom Mayo years ago and was saving for just the right project. Anders prides himself on sheaths with a high-gloss finish that makes the wood look wet at all times, thus showing maximum grain pattern and color. The clay-tempered blade is 18 inches long, the fittings are carved bronze and the handle is ancient walrus ivory. The maker's list price for a similar piece (including a stand, not shown here): \$6,300. (Hogstrom photo)**



**Using a block of wood and sandpaper, Anders Hogstrom sands and polishes the curly koa sheath in his shop in Tyreso, Sweden. (Hogstrom photo)**

# Sheaths as Sharp as Their Knives

**Those who produce both knives and sheaths of top quality are ones to watch**

**By Mike Haskew**



**Randy Golden learned sheathmaking from sheath-master Kenny Rowe—and it shows. The sheath for Randy's Joseph Rodgers-style bowie in 154CM stainless blade steel has a scalloped edge, some tooling and a leather lining. The unusual front is made from alligator with rolled edges. A medallion is included. Randy said he has many requests for sheaths from customers and other makers but cannot accept them all or he would not have enough time to make knives.**  
*(Golden photos)*



Craftsmanship, visual appeal and performance potential sell knives, and attracting the attention of a customer is always about the presentation. If the knife is the driver, the sheath is the navigator. If the knife is the salt, the sheath is the pepper. Well, you get the idea.

Too often, a fine knife is laid on a table and passed by because its companion sheath is sub-par. In the case of many artisans, though, the sheath may carry the day, making the difference between the sale of the complementary package or someone simply shuffling on their way. Actually, the custom fashioning of a high-quality sheath may indeed pose as great a challenge as making the knife itself. For those who truly want to put their best cutlery foot forward, the quality of the accompanying sheath cannot be an afterthought.

"I make wooden sheaths in both stabilized and non-stabilized woods," related Sweden's Anders Hogstrom. "Often, these sheaths have a high-gloss finish that makes the wood look wet at all times, thus showing maximum grain pattern and color. I sometimes cast hangers, buttons and tips in copper, bronze or sterling silver. I make daggers, fighters, utility knives and some swords, even a folder here and there these days, and my favorite material is ancient walrus ivory, which comes in so many different colors that two pieces are rarely alike."

Hogstrom, who learned much of his knifemaking skill as a cabinetmaker and then spent a great deal of time learning from veteran knife-and-sword smith Scott Slobodian, makes wooden belt and stocking/boot sheaths, and offers leather slip-on and fighter sheaths through an associate. He terms the leather sheaths "works of art" in their own right, and passes the cost along to the buyer. Rarely does a collector ask to buy a knife without a sheath, but when the occasion arises, Hogstrom simply does some subtraction to arrive at his sale price. He does not take orders for sheaths only and flatly says, "I'm a knifemaker who supplies sheaths—not the other way around!"

#### Doing It All

When Jay Hendrickson, a serious knifemaker since 1974, makes one of his well-known sheaths, it is virtually impossible to do so without thoughts of the late, great Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer, Bill Moran.

"Bill was a wonderful friend and he impressed me about the importance of doing it all," Jay said in referring to his preference for sole authorship [see page 98] from knife to sheath and everything in between. "One thing for sure is that Bill did a lot of wood sheaths with leather wraps, and I found that to be quite nice. We used to talk about safety so that

if someone fell off a horse or something while they were wearing a big bowie knife they wouldn't jab themselves."

Often for the sheath liners Hendrickson uses woods such as bass, tupelo or Southern pine. The leather is soaked and stretched around the wood, then stitched up and dyed in various colors to accent the look of the damascus and other blade steels he uses. Paired with a selection of curly maple, black walnut, curly ash, rosewood or stag handles, or sometimes done in combinations, the resulting package is quite striking. Hendrickson also makes Scandinavian puukko and leather sheaths, without the wood liners in some cases. One of his trademarks is a stunning style of curly maple sheath with silver inlay.

"Actually, I style the curly maple with wire inlay from Bill Moran, and he got it from Kentucky rifles," Jay explained. "I've seen work like that in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in museums overseas. It's like everything else. The more you do it the quicker it gets, and I'm on my feet in the shop so much it's nice to go to the workbench and sit down and put the silver in. It isn't that difficult, but it's important to get the layout and the scrolls as right as you can."

Jay is fairly adamant about making the knife and the sheath in combination.

"If I make the knife, it will have one of my sheaths with it. I've had others ask me

## Deepak Chopra Cutlery & Accessories, Inc.

A True Microtech Distributor

Who supports his dealers with Honesty and Integrity

Celebrating

Our 10 Year Anniversary

Providing the best quality cutlery in the world for 10 years.



Also handling the following product lines.

Al Mar  
Arc Flash Light  
Autotech Knives  
Black Hawk  
Boker  
Buck Knives  
California Knives  
Camillus  
Case  
Chris Reeves  
Wayne Clark  
CMG Lighting Tools  
Cold Steel  
Colt Knives  
Columbia River Knife and Tool  
Barry Dawson  
Delta Z Knives  
Desert Knife Works  
Emerson  
Extrememra Ratio  
G.G. and G.  
G.T. Knives  
Galco  
Gerber  
Inova  
Jungle  
KABAR  
KATZ  
Kershaw  
Lanskey  
Longbow

Masters Of Defense  
Merc Worx  
Microtech  
Mission Knife and Tool  
Ontario Knives  
Paragon  
Peak LED Solutions  
Phantom Knives  
Photon Micro Lights  
Piranha Knives  
Protech Knives  
Rob Dalton  
Round Eye Knife And Tool  
Ryan Wilson Tactical Knives  
S.O.G.  
Sheffield Knives  
Simonich Knives  
Smith And Wesson Knives  
Spyderco  
Super Knife  
SWAT  
Ti Knives  
Timberline  
Tool Logic  
TOPS Knives  
Victorinox  
Wenger Swiss Army  
Woodard Knives  
Xikar

Columbia River and Buck Conversions

**Wholesale only, information on a retail location also available.**  
**Ready for immediate delivery.**  
**Limited quantities available.**

**Phone: 925-454-0595**

**Fax: 925-454-0289**

deepak@deepakcutlery.com

www.deepakcutlery.com

12 noon - 8 pm PST



# knife and sheath

knife and sheath



**Karen Shook is well known for her colonial or frontier style, which complements ABS master smith Daniel Winkler's knives and includes the use of rawhide wraps, beads, porcupine quillwork, fringe and tooling. Everything is handstitched. The 3.25-inch blade of Winkler's frontier hunting knife is damascus with copper forged in the spine area. The handle is ancient walrus ivory and the ferrule is patterned copper. (Point Seven photo)**

to make a knife and say that they would make the sheath, and I just say no because I don't want the knife in someone else's sheath. I don't go there," he pointed out.

Hendrickson figures the list prices of his knives and sheaths on an almost daily basis, figuring the package in terms of time, shop and equipment overhead. His goal remains the crafting of such high-quality knife-and-sheath combinations that, a century from now, there will be no question who made them.

### The Frontier Look

When Karen Shook and Daniel Winkler first became associated with one another, they had nothing to do with knives. Then,

all that changed in the mid-1980s, when the two left corporate America and dedicated their efforts to the making of period knives and sheaths.

"I liked to do things like quilting on the side and had been making sheaths for Daniel since 1984 or 1985," Karen recalled. "We decided to go full time in 1988 and I'm working exclusively with Daniel. I had done some work for other knifemakers early on, but one guy sent me a knife that, after it was complete, I decided I wanted to make sure going forward there would be no mistake that a knife and sheath were actually a Winkler-Shook set. Now, there's no time to do anybody else's sheaths."

Trying to factor in time and overhead

**One of ABS master smith Jay Hendrickson's trademarks is a stunning style of curly maple sheath with silver inlay. "Actually, I style the curly maple with wire inlay from Bill Moran, and he got it from Kentucky rifles," Jay explained. "I've seen work like that in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in museums overseas." The flowers on both the sheath and handle are nickel silver. The 9.5-inch blade is a damascus of 1095 and 203E. (Point Seven photo)**



like anyone else in the business world, the two artisans know that the prices for a knife by Winkler and a sheath by Shook are driven by materials and other costs. Typically, a sheath will run about one-third the price of the overall combination; however, this may vary depending on embellishments. Karen does not take separate orders for custom sheaths.

"Daniel does most of the pricing, and he will know about how much to allow for a 10-inch sheath. Everything is hand-stitched, and I try to give him guidelines on how long it takes to decorate. That can sometimes be four or five hours with a few leather thongs and beads, and until I have the exact flow I want, I don't stop. I tell people that my sheaths are a little pricey, but I do give a Winkler knife with every one of them," she smiled.

Shook is well known for her colonial or frontier style, which complements Winkler's knives and includes the use of rawhide wraps, beads, porcupine quill-work, fringe and tooling. The two have attended black-powder events to buy antique beads and to stay on top of what is popular among their constituents.

One event has stayed with both Karen and Daniel and shaped their perspective on work for some time. "We had a customer come up to us at a show some time ago," said Karen, "and the sheaths

# MIKE OBENAUF OBIE NECKER ONE

3.25" D2 STONE  
WASHED BLADE  
OVERALL 7.25"  
VARIOUS SCALES  
KYDEX SHEATH WITH  
BREAKAWAY PARACORD  
STARTING AT \$250.00

TRUE NORTH KNIVES  
**TNK**

PURVEYOR NEIL OSTROFF 514.748.9985  
[WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.TRUENORTHKNIVES.COM)

ad by armstrated.com

## knife and sheath knife and sheath

WWW.BLADEGALLERY.COM

SEATTLE, WA



one-of-a-kind knives  
by the best makers  
in the world

877-562-5233

- competitive prices
- knowledgeable service
- best selection on the web

*the online source for fine custom knives*

Mammoth by Cliff Parker

were kept in a bag under the table. The customer said that he was going to buy the knife because he liked it but that the sheaths were not very good. He said that the knife and the sheath should be of the same quality. We have always remembered that."

### Rowe Schooled

Randy Golden of Montgomery, Alabama, retired from careers in the U.S. Air Force and as a financial planner and took quickly to knifemaking, an interest he had intended to pursue for years. Making fixed-blade bowies, hunters and fighters that are gaining a growing following, he also has become quite proficient at producing his own sheaths. While attending Jim Batson's Alabama Forge Council Bladsmithing Symposium a few years back, he not only became acquainted with forging techniques but also met well-known sheathmaker Kenny Rowe.

"I love the leatherwork on the sheaths," Randy commented, "and most say that's obvious. At that hammer-in, Kenny, one of the premier sheathmakers in the country, was there, and I actually learned to make sheaths from Kenny before I learned to make knives. Later that year, I went to some knifemaker friends of mine and



- DiamondBlade's Patented Friction Forging® process creates the sharpest, toughest, longest lasting knife edge ever manufactured
- Corrosion proof edge zone eliminates chemical etch dulling
- Differentially hardened and tempered blade has an edge zone hardness of Rockwell (RHc) 65-68 and spine hardness of RHc 42-45
- Custom features include tapered tang & perfectly fitted hand-crafted handles



### *Chosen by Field & Stream as the "Best of the Best" knife for 2007!*

"I've been testing the Friction Forged® blades for close to two months now and they get sharper and stay sharp longer than anything I've tested. I've cut rope, leather, whittled on wood and skinned a wild boar and cut it up for the freezer with a Friction Forged® knife. I've never had a knife go more than 80 cuts on a rope and still shave but the Friction Forged® blade went to over 300 cuts and was still shaving sharp."

Wayne Goddard, Master Bladesmith, American Bladesmith Society

"DiamondBlade's Friction Forged blades are probably the biggest legitimate improvement in the knife industry in over 40 years"

Dr. Tracy Nelson, PhD, Mechanical Engineering Dept.  
Brigham Young University



*Pride & Prestige Through Performance*

[www.diamondbladeknives.com](http://www.diamondbladeknives.com)

3100 Airport Dr. • Denison, TX 75020 • USA  
Phone: 903-786-8044 • Fax: 903-786-7371



*Here's how Anders Hogstrom's wakizashi looks in the sheath. Impressive, huh? Inset is the kurikata (cord knob of the sheath; also kuri-gata) with cord wrapped on either side and one strand through it. (Hogstrom photos)*



learned about knifemaking—but I give credit to my knife sales in no small measure to the quality of the sheaths. Sometimes you see a beautiful knife on a table but it has a really crappy sheath with it. I try to make the sheath at least as good or better in quality than the knife."

Golden often works with animal skins, including rattlesnake, crocodile, alligator, ostrich and frog, and his knives include a lot of oosic and mammoth ivory handles. The skins, along with leather tooling, work well with the combinations of colors and textures in his knives. His list prices range from \$400-\$500 on hunters, \$500-\$700 for camp knives, and about \$1,000 for bowies and fighters. He has no real formula for calculating the price of the sheath alone, but his list price for a leather belt sheath with alligator inlay would be at least \$150 if sold separately.

"I've done custom sheath orders for friends who are knifemakers, but I want to be a knifemaker who also makes gorgeous sheaths," Randy reasoned. "The sheaths have gotten so much attention that I could almost shut down the knifemaking side of the business. I don't go looking for it, but there's a lot of that type of business out there."

#### Most Successful?

The sheath brings another dimension to the knife it protects, adding to the visual appeal as well as performing its functional role. The makers who pay as much attention to the quality of their sheaths as their knives are likely to be the most successful.

*For the contact information for the knives and sheaths in the story, see "Where To Get 'Em" on page 105.*

**BLADE**



*Conchos—such as the one on the sheath strap—and beads are among the ornaments ABS master smith Joe Keeslar uses to decorate his elaborate sheaths. The 8.5-inch, fileworked blade of Joe's Southwestern-style Bowie is 5160 carbon steel, and the handle is stag with silver insets. (Point Seven photo)*

*As a youth, the author recalls watching the senior citizens around his local courthouse whittle and carve chains, dolls, animals and other things from wood. Former Dallas Cowboy running back Walt Garrison has carved and whittled in his spare time for many years, including for the old Schrade in demos at past SHOT Shows. Here's Walt in a vintage photo with some of his carved art.*

*By Ed Fowler  
BLADE® field editor*

# A Little Knife Revolution Never Hurt Anyone

*Changing attitudes toward knives begins with you*

**A**s a youth, I cannot recollect a time when I did not have a knife, though I well recall the day my grandfather gave me a folder to carry. I also well remember when I somehow earned a real Cub Scout knife. It may have said *Boy Scout* on it but I was a Cub Scout; it was, however, an "official" scout knife. I also remember every knife that was ever given me.

My hometown courthouse was near the school and, weather permitting, usually had some of our senior citizens sitting on a bench, their hands occupied whittling on a piece of wood. While some made only shavings and smaller sticks from bigger ones, others had special talents that were a challenge to the skills of those of us who watched them.

A man named Vertis carved connected links of chain from 1x1-inch pine boards. He also carved small picture frames for post-card-sized photos. The frames were amazing. Lon carved little dolls for the girls. "Doc" carved rabbits and bears and coached us all about mumblety-peg. I remember one gentleman who carved birds out of bars of soap; they were beautiful! The old men and their knives and what they and we could do with them are a focal point of my memories—not just the knives but also the magic that can be produced skillfully with them.

One man who had been in a mine accident that cost him a leg—he wore a wooden one in its place—was probably the most prominent of our whittlers. Whenever a new kid came to watch his work, the old man would make it a point to stick the knife in his wooden leg rather than lay it down after he finished whittling. This remarkable feat always opened our eyes.

One new kid watched the event, then took out his pocketknife and started whittling. After a few minutes, he stabbed the knife in his leg just like the old man had done in his. It did not quite work out the same way. Several of us walked the new kid home. When he told his mother what he had done, I can still hear her comment: "What in the world were you thinking of?" He told her that there was another man who did it all the time and did not bleed. I do not think she believed him at the time. By the way, the kid was an absolute genius in less basic venues.

I can remember knives being used for testing watermelons, cutting twine, string, rope and a garden hose to make a splice, stripping electrical wires, and scraping paint, stickers and excess putty off windows. Their fine points dug out splinters, trimmed up oddball carpenter jobs, scraped carbon buildup out of spark plugs, and trimmed tire-tube patches. Special blades were used to open cans, punch holes in leather, pull corks from bottles, split sinkers for fishing lines and carve bobbers, as well as clean fish. In short, a man or boy was not prepared for life without a knife.

**Frost Cutlery**  
Celebrate 35 years of the world's finest cutlery!

**Hen & Rooster®**  
WORLD'S FINEST CUTLERY SINCE 1845 SOLINGEN, GERMANY

**HR-5001 Smooth Stag Bowie**  
14 3/4" overall

Call 1-800-251-7768 to locate a dealer in your area.

**35th ANNIVERSARY 1972-2007**

Call and ask about our other best selling knife brands or visit our websites:  
<http://www.frostcutlery.com>  
<http://www.cutlerycorner.net>

**BUCKCREEK** **German Bull** **FIELD PRO** **Steel Warrior**

**FF-109IAB Small Toothpick 3" closed**

# Steel Addiction Custom Knives

Come Feed Your Addiction ! We Buy Sell And Trade

**Large Selection of Custom Knives In Stock We Ship World-Wide**

**Featuring Allen Elishewitz Knives Damascus Anubis Button Lock**

**WWW.SteelAddictionKnives.com**  
**Dave Stark 909 731 3903**

# knife talk

knife talk



*In the early 1980s, the BLADE Show held wood-carving demonstrations. In this instance, carved wooden ducks were the result.*

out a pocketknife.

On my Internet knife discussion forum, knifetalkonline.com, a member mentioned that he was sitting on a bench outside a store peeling a piece of fruit he had bought. He mentioned that folks stared at him with astonished looks as if he were a terrorist. Acceptance and respect for man's most basic and oldest tool, lady knife, is decreasing. I ask you, how could this happen? And what can we do about it?

## The Mustard Seed

My first suggestion reflects the legends about a tiny grain of sand or the mustard seed. Each of us can re-create the life we once knew around us. I believe it can happen if, as individuals, each of us does his part one seemingly insignificant step at a time.

First, check what kinds of laws your local politicians have passed while you were not paying attention to make sure you will not land in jail when you act. You can check out the American Knife & Tool website, akti.org, and get access to all the state statutes. Most local jurisdictions have their own laws, and not all law enforcement officers exercise the discretion to which you

may be accustomed. According to David Kowalski, AKTI communications coordinator, generally speaking a small, friendly looking knife with a 2-inch blade and no serrations is probably considered OK in public places. Once you have done your homework, you are ready to start our little knife revolution.

When shopping with your spouse, take out one of your friendliest-looking knives and do like my friend did; buy an apple or something that needs peeling and sit on the bench in front of the store and peel and eat the piece of fruit. Be sure to smile and greet the folks who pass by. While there, you can also carve or whittle something of note. There are many books about whittling, some geared to the younger generation, some for more adult minds. I respectfully suggest that you buy a few of these books, read them and then pass them on down to younger generations.

Practice woodcarving and then, the next time you are waiting for your spouse to finish shopping, sit on the bench and do a little creative whittling work. Carry an old rag to catch the shavings so you do not litter. Should a youngster come

watch your work, show him, tell him and maybe hand him one of the kid's whittling books. There are bookstores on the Internet and elsewhere where books about whittling can be had for much less than the full retail price.

Years ago, Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bruce Voyles invited a woodcarver's association to put on some woodcarving demonstrations at the BLADE Show when it was in Knoxville, Tennessee. Their skill and willingness to share their hobby was a welcome example to all craftsmen. A quick check on the Internet will reveal many woodcarving associations and supply houses and publications. While I would like to limit this discussion to woodcarving with a nice, friendly knife, there can be much more to it.

Whenever someone you know graduates or is up for some tribute in some competition, give him a knife. You can have the blade engraved at any jewelry shop with the person's name and the event in question. You can give him a knife for simply competing or anytime you find an opportunity—birthdays, any holiday, etc. Naturally, I always gave my grandmother a knife anytime I could. Some of the knives made their way to her friends and other family members. None of them were ever wasted or forgotten! I assure you, the recipient will always remember the gift.

## Monitor School Officials

While raising my children, I strongly encouraged them to carry a knife so that they would be prepared for any task, be it an emergency or simply cutting the string on a bale of hay. When our local school district banned pocketknives, I protested strongly and won in that when my son arrived at school, he handed his knife to his teacher, who returned it to him when school was out.

Today, public school administrators may claim the ban on knives is because of "federal law" to avoid any responsibility for their rules. I asked our local public school officials to show me the law; they could not find it and finally refused to talk to me about it. As long as we support such irresponsible school officials, they will continue to flourish. Remember this kind of irresponsibility and vote for school board members who are on the side of practical education and support our goals for responsible future citizens. If not, just maybe there will be a private school for your children that will recognize the future need for responsible members of your community.

I sure hope so!

Yours truly,

Ed Fowler

**BLADE**



# 2008 BLADE SHOW

**May 30 – June 1, 2008**  
**In Atlanta's Cobb Galleria Centre**

## SHOW OPENS TO THE PUBLIC

Friday, May 30: 2pm - 7pm      Saturday, May 31: 9am - 6pm  
Sunday, June 1: 9am - 4pm

## Show Highlights

- American Bladesmith Society Annual Convention
- Special Knifemakers Guild Section
- FREE "Super Seminars"
- Blade Magazine's 2008 Knives of the Year™ and Handmade Awards™
- 2008 BLADE Magazine Cutlery Industry Hall-of-Fame Inductions
- The Nation's Top Collections
- Over 600 Knifemaker and Antique Tables and Manufacturers' Booths
- All Major Knifemaking Suppliers

You could WIN A PRIZE  
like this one donated by

### YELLOWHORSE COLLECTABLES



For more information on Yellowhorse Collectables see  
"Where to Get Em."

## 2008 Hotel Reservations

Renaissance Waverly Hotel

Phone: **(770) 953-4500**

Mention the Blade Show for  
Special Rate

*Book early as rooms do sell out!*

for additional information contact

## 2008 BLADE SHOW

700 East State Street

Iola, WI 54990-0001

**(877) 746-9757**

Fax: (715) 445-4087

E-mail: mary.lutz@fwpubs.com

FOR UPDATED INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO:

**<http://www.bladeshow.com>**

# BLADE

The World's #1 Knife Publication

**700 East State St.  
Iola, WI 54990-0001  
PH. 715-445-4612  
Fax: 715-445-4087  
www.blademag.com**

**Missy Beyer,  
Advertising Sales  
ext. 642  
e-mail:  
missy.beyer@fwpubs.com**

**Bruce Wolberg  
Advertising Sales  
ext. 403  
e-mail:  
bruce.wolberg@fwpubs.com**

# Where to NET 'EM

**A.G. Russell Knives, Inc.  
www.agrussell.com  
ag@agrussell.com**

**Angel Sword  
www.angelsword.com  
info@angelsword.com**

**Arizona Custom Knives  
www.arizonacustomknives.com  
sharptalk@bellsouth.net**

**Ars Cultri  
Custom Knives - handmade knives  
www.arscultri.com  
info@arscultri.com**

**ArtisanIdeas.com  
Bladesmithing Books & DVDs  
info@ArtisanIdeas.com**

**Artknives.com  
www.artknives.com  
fred@artknives.com**

**Atlanta Cutlery  
www.atlantacutlery.com  
atlcut@mindspring.com**

**Automatic Knives & Italian Switchblades  
"Retail & Wholesale"  
www.knives4wholesale.com  
sales@knives4wholesale.com**

**Autumns Edge  
www.AutumnsEdge.com  
sales@autumnsedge.com**

**Beckwith's Blades  
www.beckwithsblades.com  
info@beckwithsblades.com**

**Benchmade  
www.benchmade.com  
Benchmade\_Update@Benchmade.com**

**Benchmark/National Knife  
Distributors  
www.nkdi.com  
nkdi@nkdi.com**

**Best Blade  
www.bestblade.com  
info@bestblade.com**

**Blade Art Inc.  
www.bladeart.com  
info@bladeart.com**

**Blade HQ, LLC  
www.bladehq.com  
cam@bladehq.com**

**Bladegallery.com  
www.bladegallery.com  
Omalley@bladegallery.com**

**Bob Neal Custom Knives  
www.bobnealcustomknives.com  
bob@bobnealcustomknives.com**

**Brian Tighe  
www.tigheknives.com  
tighe@allstream.net**

**Buckeye Engraving  
www.steelhandstamps.com  
stamps@steelhandstamps.com  
Manufacturer of Custom  
Hand Stamps**

**Busse Combat Knife Company  
www.bussecombat.com  
busse@bright.net**

**C.A.S. Iberia  
www.casiberia.com  
cas@casiberia.com**

**Canada's Knife Zone  
Online Knife & Sword Store www.  
knifezone.ca  
sales@knifezone.ca**

**Carlson Knives  
www.carlsonknives.com  
kellycarlson@tds.net**

**Classic Knife Kits  
www.knifekits.com  
info@knifekits.com**

**Cobra Imports  
Swords, Knives, Armor  
www.cobraimports.com  
cobraimports@aol.com**

**Condor Tool & Knife, Inc.  
www.condortk.com  
arlan@hughes.net**

**Culpepper, Inc.  
www.knifehandles.com  
www.stingrayproducts.com  
mopco@earthlink.net**

**Custom Knife Gallery of Colorado  
www.customknifegallery.com  
bob\_glassman@yahoo.com**

**Custom Knife Consignment  
www.customknifeconsignment.com  
bob@customknifeconsignment.com**

**CustomKnives.com  
www.customknives.com  
atbarr@alltel.net**

**Custom Leather Knife Sheaths  
www.customsheaths.com  
rschrap@aol.com**

**Cutlery Specialties  
www.restorationproduct.com  
Renaissance Micro-Crystalline  
Wax/Polish  
Dennis Blaine; dennis13@aol.com**

**Dantes Knifeworks  
www.dantesknife.com  
sales@dantesknife.com**

**Don Hanson III  
Sunfish Forge  
www.sunfishforge.com  
www.donhansonknives.com**

**DLT Trading Company  
www.dlttradingcompany.com  
customerservice@  
dlttradingcompany.com**

**Bob Dozier Knives  
www.dozierknives.com  
info@dozierknives.com**

**E-Blades.com  
www.e-blades.com  
sales@e-blades.com**

**EDC Depot  
www.EDCdepot.com  
The Solution to your Every Day  
Carry Needs  
marc@EDCdepot.com**

**EdgeDealer.com  
www.edgedealer.com  
edgedealer1@yahoo.com**

**Dave Ellis - "CA. 1st ABS M.S."  
www.exquisiteknives.com  
ellis@mastersmith.com**

**Emerson Knives  
www.emersonknives.com  
info@emersonknives.com**

**Eric Bergland  
Fine Quality Scandinavian  
Style Knives  
www.berglandknives.com  
eric@berglandknives.com**

**Ernie Lyle - Knifemaker  
www.ernestyleknives.com  
ernestyle@msn.com**

**Flames N' Knives  
www.Flames-N-Knives.com  
Steve@flames-n-knives.com**

**John Fraps  
www.frapsknives.com  
jfraps@att.net**

**Frost Cutlery  
www.frostcutlery.com  
knives@frostcutlery.com**

**Georgia Knifemakers' Guild  
www.georgiaknifemakersguild.com  
"Member List, Web sites and  
Galleries"**

**Grand Prairie Knives  
www.gpknives.com  
gpk@gpknives.com**

**Great Lakes Custom Knives  
www.greatlakescustomknives.com  
bud@greatlakescustomknives.com**

**Guild Knives - Selling  
Custom Collection, Don Guild  
www.guildknives.com**

**Halpern Titanium  
www.halperntitanium.com  
info@halperntitanium.com**

**Hawkins Knife Making Supplies  
www.hawkinsknifemakingsupplies.com  
sales@hawkinsknifemakingsupplies.com**

**Hoffman Knives - Selling  
Top Quality Collection - Walt  
www.hoffmanknives.com**

**Jays Knives/American Edge  
www.jaysknives.com  
jay@jaysknives.com**

**Jot Singh Khalsa  
A Wise Investment in Handmade  
Knives and Swords  
www.khalsakirpans.com  
jotkhalsa@comcast.net**

**Knife Center of the Internet  
www.knifecenter.com  
info@knifecenter.com**

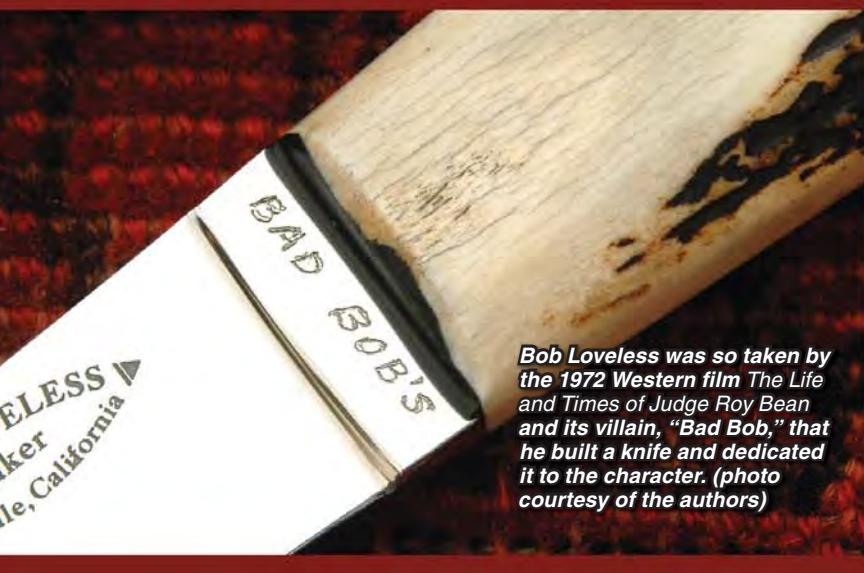
**KnifeMan  
www.knifeman.co.uk  
High Quality Knives - Low Prices  
Sales@Knifeman.co.uk**

**Toll Free 800-272-5233**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Knife Mart</b><br><a href="http://www.knifemart.com">www.knifemart.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sales@knifemart.com">sales@knifemart.com</a>                                                      | <b>Museum Replicas</b><br><a href="http://www.museumreplicas.com">www.museumreplicas.com</a><br><a href="mailto:musrep@mindspring.com">musrep@mindspring.com</a>                                                      | <b>Ruth Knives</b><br>Mike Ruth ABS Journeyman<br><a href="http://www.ruthknives.com">www.ruthknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:mike@ruthknives.com">mike@ruthknives.com</a>                                         |
| <b>KnifePurveyor.com</b><br><a href="http://www.knifepurveyor.com">www.knifepurveyor.com</a><br><a href="mailto:mdonato@knifeSurveyor.com">mdonato@knifeSurveyor.com</a>                           | <a href="http://www.myknifedealer.com">www.myknifedealer.com</a><br>Lynn O. Olson<br><a href="mailto:blade@myknifedealer.com">blade@myknifedealer.com</a>                                                             | <b>Shepherd Hills Cutlery</b><br><a href="http://www.casexx.com">www.casexx.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@shephills.com">info@shephills.com</a>                                                                    |
| <b>Kniveshipfree.com</b><br><a href="http://www.kniveshipfree.com">www.kniveshipfree.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sales@kniveshipfree.com">sales@kniveshipfree.com</a>                               | <b>Neilson's Mountain Hollow</b><br>J & Tess Neilson<br><a href="http://www.mountainhollow.net">www.mountainhollow.net</a><br><a href="mailto:mountainhollow@epix.net">mountainhollow@epix.net</a>                    | <b>Smoky Mountain Knife Works</b><br><a href="http://www.SmokyMountainKnifeworks.com">www.SmokyMountainKnifeworks.com</a><br><a href="mailto:webmaster@smkw.com">webmaster@smkw.com</a>                              |
| <b>KnifeShows.com</b><br><a href="http://www.knifeshows.com">www.knifeshows.com</a><br><a href="mailto:tedmerchant@comcast.net">tedmerchant@comcast.net</a>                                        | <b>New Graham Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.NewGraham.com">www.NewGraham.com</a><br><a href="mailto:mdye@newgraham.com">mdye@newgraham.com</a>                                                                    | <b>Sooner State Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.soonerstateknives.com">www.soonerstateknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:ssknives@swbell.net">ssknives@swbell.net</a>                                               |
| <b>Knives Plus</b><br><a href="http://www.KnivesPlus.com">www.KnivesPlus.com</a><br><a href="mailto:KnivesPlus@KnivesPlus.com">KnivesPlus@KnivesPlus.com</a>                                       | <b>Northwest School of Knifemaking</b><br><a href="http://Bronksknifeworks.com">Bronksknifeworks.com</a><br><a href="mailto:bronks@bronksknifeworks.com">bronks@bronksknifeworks.com</a>                              | <b>Steel Addiction Custom Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.SteelAddictionKnives.com">www.SteelAddictionKnives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:davestark@steeladdictionknives.com">davestark@steeladdictionknives.com</a> |
| <b>Last Legend Competition Blades</b><br><a href="http://www.lastlegend.com">www.lastlegend.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sales@lastlegend.com">sales@lastlegend.com</a>                              | <b>Ohare Knives</b><br><a href="http://sean@ohareknives.com">sean@ohareknives.com</a><br><a href="http://www.ohareknives.com">www.ohareknives.com</a>                                                                 | <b>Peter Steyn</b><br><a href="http://www.petersteynknives.com">www.petersteynknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@petersteynknives.com">info@petersteynknives.com</a>                                             |
| <b>Lee's Cutlery</b><br><a href="http://www.LeesCutlery.com">www.LeesCutlery.com</a><br><a href="mailto:beeneJL43@earthlink.net">beeneJL43@earthlink.net</a>                                       | <b>Okuden Custom Kydex</b><br><a href="http://www.okuden.net">www.okuden.net</a><br><a href="mailto:info@okuden.net">info@okuden.net</a>                                                                              | <b>Johnny Stout</b><br><a href="http://www.stoutknives.com">www.stoutknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:johnny@stoutknives.com">johnny@stoutknives.com</a>                                                            |
| <b>Legendary Knifemakers.com</b><br><a href="http://www.legendaryknifemakers.com">www.legendaryknifemakers.com</a><br>We Buy Collections                                                           | <b>O'Machearley Custom Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.omachearleycustomknives.com">www.omachearleycustomknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:omachearleycustomknives@yahoo.com">omachearleycustomknives@yahoo.com</a> | <b>Swamp Rat Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.swamprat.com">www.swamprat.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@swamprat.com">info@swamprat.com</a>                                                                        |
| <b>Lightfoot Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.lightfootknives.com">www.lightfootknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:pitbull@lightfootknives.com">pitbull@lightfootknives.com</a>                    | <b>Only Fine Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.onlyfineknives.com">www.onlyfineknives.com</a><br>Specializing in William Henry,<br>Chris Reeve, Strider and Custom<br>Handmade                                        | <a href="http://www.swords.ca">www.swords.ca</a><br>Canada's Best Online Knife Store<br>Great Prices • In Stock • Shipping Now<br><a href="mailto:inquiries@swords.ca">inquiries@swords.ca</a>                       |
| <b>Lone Wolf Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.lonewolfknives.com">www.lonewolfknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sales@lonewolfknives.com">sales@lonewolfknives.com</a>                            | <b>Oso Famoso</b><br>Fossil Ivory-Mammoth Bark Knife Scales<br><a href="http://http://www.osofamoso.com">http://www.osofamoso.com</a><br><a href="mailto:oso@osofamoso.com">oso@osofamoso.com</a>                     | <b>The Knifery</b><br>Canada's #1 Knife Store<br><a href="http://www.theknifery.com">www.theknifery.com</a><br><a href="mailto:knifery@telus.net">knifery@telus.net</a>                                              |
| <b>Luna Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.lunaknives.com">www.lunaknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:lunaknives@aol.com">lunaknives@aol.com</a>                                                     | <b>Peter Martin Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.PeterMartinKnives.com">www.PeterMartinKnives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:martinknives@hotmail.com">martinknives@hotmail.com</a>                                      | <b>The Cutting Edge®</b><br><a href="http://www.cuttingedge.com">www.cuttingedge.com</a><br><a href="mailto:ce_info@cuttingedge.com">ce_info@cuttingedge.com</a><br>THE aftermarket for Knives                       |
| <b>Mackrill Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.mackrill.co.za">www.mackrill.co.za</a><br><a href="mailto:info@mackrill.co.za">info@mackrill.co.za</a>                                               | <b>Peters' Heat Treating</b><br><a href="http://www.petersheat treat.com">www.petersheat treat.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@petersheat treat.com">info@petersheat treat.com</a>                                    | <b>The Sword Armory</b><br><a href="http://www.swordarmory.com">www.swordarmory.com</a><br><a href="mailto:sales@swordarmory.com">sales@swordarmory.com</a>                                                          |
| <b>Mantis Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.MantisKnives.com">www.MantisKnives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:gwest@mantis.bz">gwest@mantis.bz</a>                                                     | <b>Pocket Knife World</b><br><a href="http://www.pocketknifeworld.com">www.pocketknifeworld.com</a><br><a href="mailto:owner@pocketknifeworld.com">owner@pocketknifeworld.com</a>                                     | <b>Toolshop</b><br><a href="http://www.toolshop.de">www.toolshop.de</a><br><a href="mailto:info@toolshop.de">info@toolshop.de</a>                                                                                    |
| <b>Marzitelli Custom Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.marzknives.com">www.marzknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@marzknives.com">info@marzknives.com</a>                                      | <b>Quintessential Cutlery</b><br>Grazyna Shaw Custom Knife Purveyor<br><a href="http://www.quintcut.com">www.quintcut.com</a><br><a href="mailto:gshaw@quintcut.com">gshaw@quintcut.com</a>                           | <b>True North Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.truenorthknives.com">www.truenorthknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:info@truenorthknives.com">info@truenorthknives.com</a>                                           |
| <b>Mastersmiths</b><br><a href="http://www.beautifulblades.com">www.beautifulblades.com</a><br><a href="mailto:b ill@beautifulblades.com">bill@beautifulblades.com</a>                             | <b>Darrel Ralph</b><br><a href="http://www.darrelralph.com">www.darrelralph.com</a><br><a href="mailto:darrel@darrelralph.com">darrel@darrelralph.com</a>                                                             | <b>Twin Blades</b><br><a href="http://www.twinxb lades.com">www.twinxb lades.com</a><br><a href="mailto:twinblades@bulloch.net">twinblades@bulloch.net</a>                                                           |
| <b>Matt D. Tactical, LLC</b><br><a href="http://www.mattdtactical.com">www.mattdtactical.com</a><br>Strider dealer/gun parts<br><a href="mailto:matt@mattdtactical.com">matt@mattdtactical.com</a> | <b>Ray Rogers Handcrafted Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.rayrogers.com">www.rayrogers.com</a><br><a href="mailto:knives@rayrogers.com">knives@rayrogers.com</a>                                                    | <b>Daniel Winkler</b><br>Master Bladesmith<br><a href="http://www.winklerknives.com">www.winklerknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:daniel@winklerknives.com">daniel@winklerknives.com</a>                             |
| <b>Charlie Mattox</b><br><a href="http://www.mattoxknife.com">www.mattoxknife.com</a><br><a href="mailto:charlie@mattoxknife.com">charlie@mattoxknife.com</a>                                      | <b>Uncle Al</b><br><a href="http://www.riversidemachine.net">www.riversidemachine.net</a><br><a href="mailto:uncleal2@alltel.net">uncleal2@alltel.net</a>                                                             | <b>World Knives, Ltd.</b><br><a href="http://www.worldknives.com">www.worldknives.com</a><br>Featuring a unique selection of<br>exotic imported knives from over<br>20 countries worldwide.                          |
| <b>Moore Cutlery</b><br><a href="http://www.moorecutlery.com">www.moorecutlery.com</a><br><a href="mailto:gary@moorecutlery.com">gary@moorecutlery.com</a>                                         | <b>Robertson's Custom Cutlery</b><br><a href="http://www.robertsoncustomcutlery.com">www.robertsoncustomcutlery.com</a><br><a href="mailto:customknives@comcast.net">customknives@comcast.net</a>                     | <b>Richard S. Wright</b><br><a href="http://www.richardswright.com">www.richardswright.com</a><br><a href="mailto:rswswitchblades@hotmail.com">rswswitchblades@hotmail.com</a>                                       |
| <b>Moulton Knives</b><br><a href="http://www.moultonknives.com">www.moultonknives.com</a><br><a href="mailto:dusty@moultonknives.com">dusty@moultonknives.com</a>                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

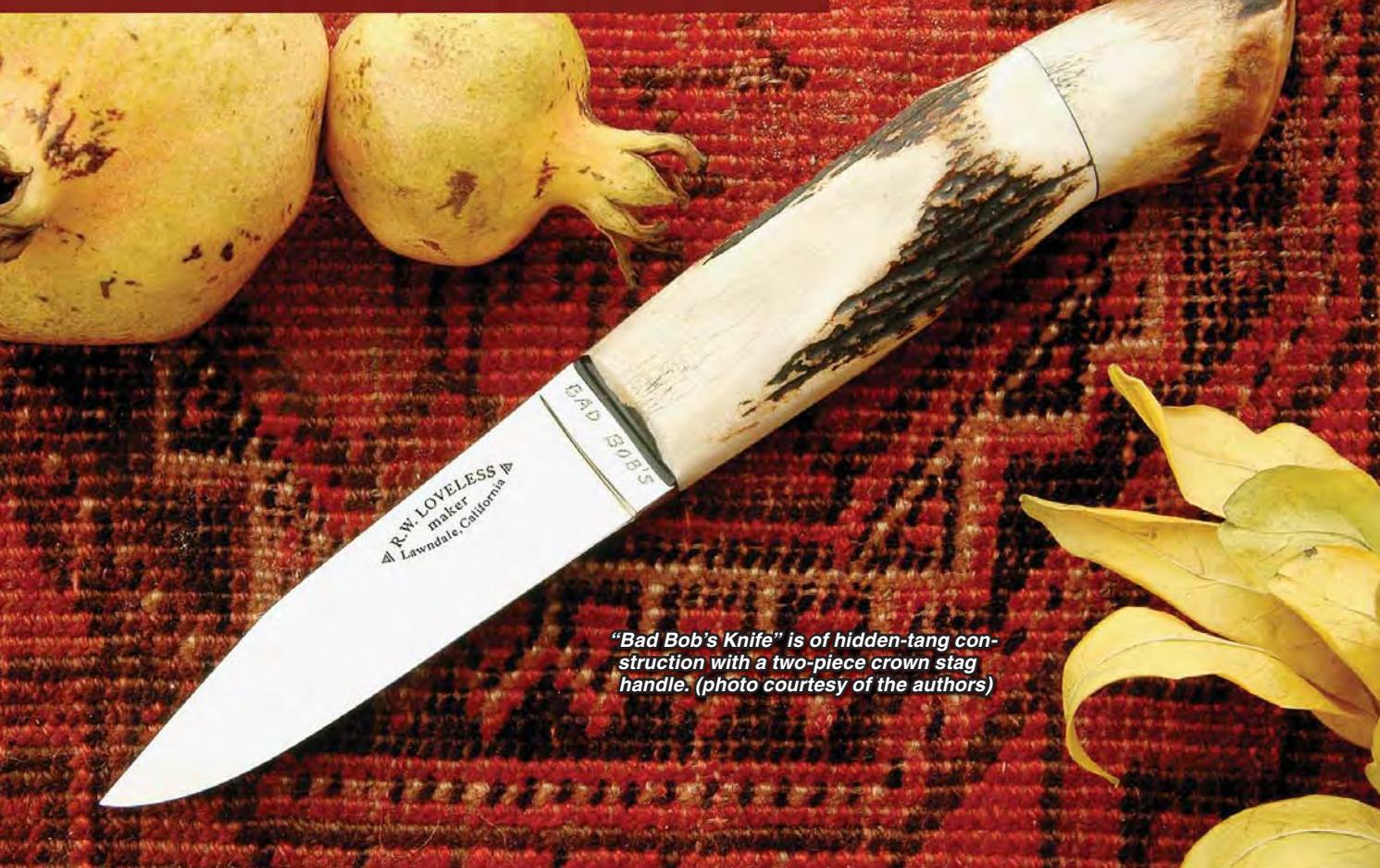


# BAD BOB'S KNIFE



*Bob Loveless was so taken by the 1972 Western film *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean* and its villain, "Bad Bob," that he built a knife and dedicated it to the character. (photo courtesy of the authors)*

**BOB LOVELESS  
MADE A KNIFE  
THAT HE LIKED  
SO MUCH THAT  
HE KEPT IT  
FOR HIS OWN  
PERSONAL USE**



*"Bad Bob's Knife" is of hidden-tang construction with a two-piece crown stag handle. (photo courtesy of the authors)*

# ◀ R.W. LOVELESS maker Lawndale, California ▶

**As the logo indicates, Loveless made the knife in his Lawndale, California, shop.  
(photo courtesy of the authors)**

**Editor's note:** When the following story was scheduled for this issue in late summer of last year, little did anyone know that the "engraved Delaware bowie" that *Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless made in 1957 would fetch record prices in back-to-back transactions this past September (see page 12). However, rather than bump the authors' story to a later issue, we decided to print it. After all, if anyone deserves more than one story per issue of BLADE®, it is Bob Loveless.*

**W**hen a knifemaker becomes famous, a common question is whether or not he uses his own knives. If the knifemaker is *Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Bob Loveless*, the question is not "whether" but which one?"

In his catalogs, Loveless writes that no one should expect to see much of him during hunting season because, "You must excuse me but in that period I go hunting as well." But which knife did he use when he hunted? The question has more than one answer. (Editor's note: Loveless said in a recent interview that he hunts no more.)

Some writers reportedly have seen him pull a factory folder from his pocket. The knife was a tool for doing small jobs. It was very sharp because every great maker knows how to sharpen a knife, though almost mundane for a great artist of his stature. In any case, the factory folder met Bob's standards, though he kept using the knife he had created himself.

Known simply as "Bad Bob's Knife," it is among Loveless' most famous knives, one he used as his personal piece for many years. It is a true one-of-a-kind custom knife, one he made for himself.

In your writers' humble opinions, "Bad Bob's Knife" is by far the most famous piece Loveless ever made. There is a larger-than-life photo of it on pages 40-41 of the book *Living on the Edge: Logos of the Loveless Legend* by Al Williams and Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer Jim Weyer, the text of which is dedicated entirely to the Loveless knives that were in Williams' collection. In your writers' opinions—and, no doubt, that of many others—it is inarguably the most important book on the topic, a true "Loveless Bible." Your writers also would submit that the late Mr. Williams must be considered the greatest collector of Loveless knives.

### Origin of Bad Bob

The oft-told story about how Bad Bob's Knife came to be goes back to 1972 and the Western film starring Paul Newman, *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean*. A good movie, though to Loveless it was most definitely a great one.

Bob was so struck by the film's villain, called "Bad Bob" and played by Stacy Keach, that he wanted to build a knife and dedicate it to the character. As soon as the knife was completed, Bob liked it so much that he used it for several years before selling it to a shopkeeper in Indiana, who then passed it on to J.W. Denton, another great

**The handle is extremely utilitarian. Loveless smoothed the stag, leaving some rough parts to improve the grip. The vantage point is from atop the handle spine. (photo courtesy of the authors)**




### Paragon heat treating furnaces for knife makers

"I couldn't achieve the control I now enjoy had I not had a Paragon furnace," says Ed Fowler. "Owning a Paragon is extremely beneficial to blade smithing."

The KM-24D shown above features the new Sentry digital controller and a larger,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide thermocouple. Ask about our optional gas injection flow meter.

Interiors of our knife maker furnaces: 14  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long KM-14D, 24" long KM-24D, and 36" long KM-36D. (All three models are 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 4  $\frac{1}{4}$ " high inside.) Free brochure available.

**Paragon Industries, Inc.**

2011 South Town East Blvd.,  
Mesquite, Texas 75149-1122  
800-876-4328 / 972-288-7557  
Toll Free Fax 888-222-6450  
[www.paragonweb.com](http://www.paragonweb.com)  
[paragonind@worldnet.att.net](mailto:paragonind@worldnet.att.net)

# maker's user

collector and purveyor of Loveless knives.

It was through Denton that Williams saw the knife and wanted it at all costs. Williams did not give up easily, and Denton eventually gave in and sold the knife to him. The importance that Williams attributed to the knife is demonstrated by the treatment that he gave it in his book.

Several years later, Williams decided to sell 287 of his Loveless knives. (See page 67 of the August 2000 *BLADE®*.) Meanwhile, all the knives in *Living on the Edge*—about 160 of them—reached Denton, who put them up for sale, planning to add the unsold ones to his personal collection. An Italian collector who also happens to be one of your writers, Dr. Pierluigi Peroni, bought Bad Bob's Knife and added it with great pride to his collection of custom blades.

## No Holes

It would be easy, given the extremely utilitarian finish of Bad Bob's Knife, to say that the shoemaker goes around with holes in his shoes. Nothing could be further from the truth. In this case, the shoemaker goes around with custom-made shoes.

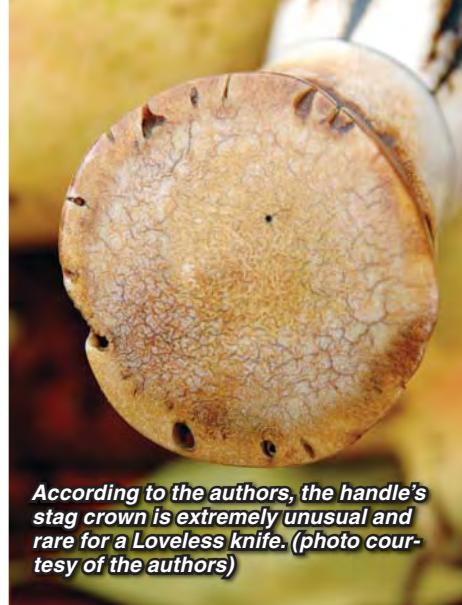
The knife does not have a perfect assembly of stag slabs. The tang is hidden and the two fragments of stag that com-

prise the handle are quite apparent. Even the joining of the blade with the handle is not perfect, to the extent that some spaces have been filled with resin.

In any case, mere photographs do not and never have done justice to Bad Bob's Knife. To better understand the piece, it is necessary to hold it in your hands. Loveless, who perfected the grip of the "improved handle," is a knifemaker whose knives you can recognize even in the dark simply by holding them. They are different from any other knives because they are made to be used in the field, and are designed by someone who knows well how to use them.

In this case, however, Bob surpassed himself. The crown of stag used as a buttcap, while atypical of his creations, keeps the knife firmly in hand. The stag was polished so it is not very rough, though not polished so much that it compromises the grip—even with wet hands. The alternating rough and smooth parts are a masterpiece of balance. The joint between stag and crown is expertly refined. The shape fills the palm of the hand well and allows you to operate the knife in all conditions without ever irritating the skin.

One person not knowledgeable about knives saw the Bad Bob's Knife together with other more sophisticated examples from other great makers, and dismissed it at first glance. However, after handling



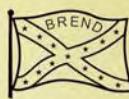
*According to the authors, the handle's stag crown is extremely unusual and rare for a Loveless knife. (photo courtesy of the authors)*

the other knives he discarded them, saying that if he had to choose a knife for himself among all those he had been shown he would absolutely have chosen Bad Bob's Knife. The person said it was a "perfect" blade that gave a sense of security and a natural grip. Your humble writers believe that, coming from a non-expert of custom knives, this appreciation is the highest compliment that could be made to Bad Bob's Knife and the genius of Bob Loveless.

**BLADE**

## PRO-TECH AUTOMATIC KNIVES WALTER BREND DESIGN

Pro-Tech Knives, LLC  
Santa Fe Springs, California  
(562) 903 - 0678



MODEL 1121 / RETAIL \$320 / XXL- 4.5" BLADE LENGTH  
LAPD SAMPLE ONLY / CUSTOM LASER ENGRAVING AVAILABLE



MODEL 1251 TUXEDO / RETAIL \$270 / PERFECT POCKET SIZE  
SATIN FINISH 154-CM BLADE 2.9" LENGTH

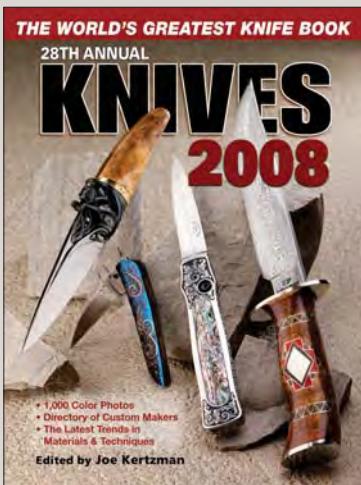


CUSTOM SMALL BREND AUTO II / 2.9" BLADE LENGTH/ 416 STAINLESS STEEL  
FRAME ABALONE INLAYS / NORRIS DAMASCUS / RETAIL \$ 900

**WWW.PROTECHKNIVES.COM**

# Razor Sharp Books!

We Offer FREE SHIPPING!!



## Knives 2008

28th Edition

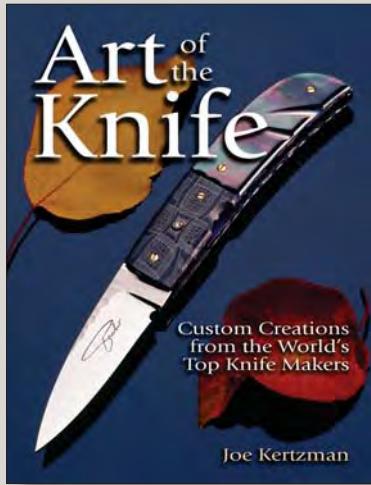
by Joe Kertzman

With more than 1,000 fresh new color photos of every type of custom knife imaginable, plus industry news and trend and technique reports, this is your must-have knife book.

Softcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8 • 312 pages

1,000+ color photos

Item# Z0946 • \$27.99



## Art of the Knife

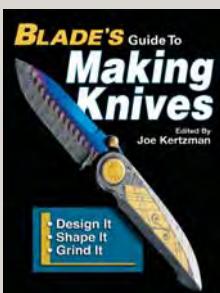
by Joe Kertzman

Explore the creativity and craftsmanship of knifemaking in 350 brilliant color photos of highly engraved folders, engraved fixed blades, wire-wrapped knives and more, with a basic explanation of materials.

Hardcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8 • 256 pages

350 color photos

Item# Z0733 • \$35.00



## BLADE's Guide to Making Knives

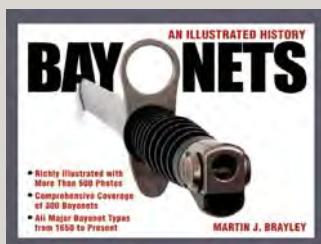
by Joe Kertzman

Gain professional tips for grinding blades, crafting hunting knives, forging pattern-welded steel into intricate designs, making folding knives, and fashioning the important bolster between knife and blade. Features detailed instructions and 250 striking color illustrations.

Softcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8

160 pages • 250 color photos

Item# BGKFM • \$24.99



## Bayonets: An Illustrated History

by Martin Brayley

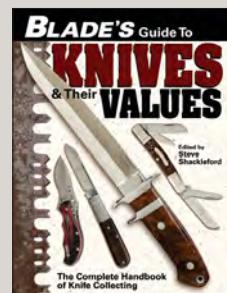
Covers the history of the bayonet and includes listings with description, manufacturing data, service history, effectiveness and more. Over

500 color photos!

Softcover • 12 x 9 • 256 pages

500 color photos

Item# BAYIH • \$29.99



## Blade's Guide to Knives & Their Values

by Steve Shackleford

Covers most all knives made around the world, mostly from the 19th century through to the present, with up-to-date values, 2,000+ photos, and feature articles covering trends in the industry. Plus, detailed histories of knife companies, and contact information.

Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11 • 576 pages

2,000 b&w photos

Item# LGK6 • \$29.99

## To Order

Offer K87K

Call 800-258-0929 -mention offer K87K • Order Online [www.krausebooks.com](http://www.krausebooks.com)

Free shipping to one U.S. address only.

**krause publications**  
An Imprint of F+W Publications

700 East State Street • Iola, WI 54999-0001



# show calendar

*Note: Shows marked with an asterisk have knives as the main focus; with two asterisks are knifemaking seminars or symposiums, knife-throwing competitions, auctions, etc. or other events; and with "BH" participate in the BLADEhandmade™ program. "Show Calendar" also can be seen on BLADE®'s website at [www.blademag.com](http://www.blademag.com).*

## NOVEMBER

**NOV. 3-4 NASHVILLE, TN** The NKCA Nashville Knife Show in conjunction with Goodman's Gun Show, Tennessee State Fairgrounds. Call NKCA 423.875.6009 [NKCALisa@hotmail.com](mailto:NKCALisa@hotmail.com).

**NOV. 3-4 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK** Oklahoma Custom Knife Show, Holiday Inn Ballroom. Call Ray Kirk 918.456.1519 [ray@rakerknives.com](mailto:ray@rakerknives.com), [theknifegroup.com](http://theknifegroup.com).\*

**NOV. 3-4 FORT MYERS, FL** The 7th Annual Fort Myers Knife Club Show, Araba Shrine Temple. Contact Russ Smegal 239.283.7253 [rsmegal@comcast.net](mailto:rsmegal@comcast.net).\*

**NOV. 3-4 MOUNT VERNON, IL** The 25th Annual Mount Vernon Knife Show, Roland Lewis Community Building, Mount Vernon Veterans Park. Contact Nancy or Larry Hancock 618.242.4514 fax 618.244.5536 [jcckc1982@yahoo.com](mailto:jcckc1982@yahoo.com).\*

**NOV. 16-17 NEW YORK, NY** New York Custom Knife Show, Park Central Hotel. Contact Steve D'Lack 417.866.6688 fax 417.866.6693 [hg\\_inc@hotmail.com](mailto:hg_inc@hotmail.com), [nyck-show.com](http://nyck-show.com).\*

**NOV. 16-17 WOODMEAD, SANDTON, SOUTH AFRICA** The November Knife Show, Liban Conference Centre. Contact Melinda Rietveld +27 83 236 4860 [rietveld@netdial.co.za](mailto:rietveld@netdial.co.za).\*

**NOV. 17 LAFAYETTE, TN** Northern Middle Tennessee Knife Show sponsored by the Lafayette Lions Club, Macon County Fairgrounds. Contact Mike Johnson 615.666.2428 or Joe Eden 615.666.4631.\*

**NOV. 17-18 WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA** The 2nd Annual "Expressions in Steel" Windsor Custom Knife Show, Holiday Inn Select. Contact Jim Downie 519.243.1488.\*

**NOV. 17-18 MESA, AZ** Arizona Knife Collector's Association Knife Show, Mesa Community Center. Contact D' Holder, Dept. BL1, 7148 W. Country Gables Dr., Peoria, AZ 85381 623.878.3064.\*BH

**NOV. 17-18 FORT MYERS, FL** Fort Myers Florida, Gun, Knife & Civil War Show, Araba Shrine Temple. Contact Lee County Gun Collectors, Dept. BL1,

POB 6168, Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33932 239.463.2840.

## DECEMBER

**DEC. 6-8 SEVIERVILLE, TN** Parker's Greatest Show on Earth, Sevierville Events Center at Bridgemont (new location). Contact PKCS, 6715 Heritage Business Ct., attn: B. Parker, Dept. BL1, Chattanooga, TN 37422 423.892.0448.\*

**DEC. 8 EUGENE, OR** Oregon Knife Collectors Mini Show, Lane County Convention Center. Contact OKCA, Dept. BL1, POB 2091, Eugene, OR 97402 541.484.5564 [oregonknifeclub.org](http://oregonknifeclub.org).\*

**DEC. 9 TIMONIUM, MD** Chesapeake Knife Show, Timonium Plaza Holiday Inn. Call Ted Merchant 410.252.7373 or 410.343.0380.\*

**DEC. 28-30 KNOXVILLE, TN** The NKCA Knoxville Show held in conjunction with RK Gun Show, Chilhowee Park. Contact the NKCA office 423.875.6009 [NKCALisa@hotmail.com](mailto:NKCALisa@hotmail.com).

## JANUARY 2008

**JAN. 18-20 LAS VEGAS, NV** The 46th Annual Las Vegas Antique Arms, International Sporting Arms & Invitational Knifemakers Shows, Riviera Hotel. Contact Beinfeld Productions, attn: W. Beinfeld, Dept. BL1, POB 2197, Cathedral City, CA 92235 760.202.4489 [gunshowpro@aol.com](mailto:gunshowpro@aol.com), [antiquearmsshow.com](http://antiquearmsshow.com).

**JAN. 25-26 RENO, NV** The 6th Annual American Bladesmith Society Knife Exposition, Silver Legacy Casino. Contact Rick Dunkerley 406.677.5496 [www.absknife-expo.com](http://www.absknife-expo.com).\*

**JAN. 26-27 ST. LOUIS, MO** Gateway Area Knife Club Show, Carpenters Hall. Contact Glenn 314.729.9592.\*

## FEBRUARY

**FEB. 1-3 LAKELAND, FL** The 30th Annual Gator Cutlery Club Show, Lakeland Center. Call Dan Piergallini 813.754.3908 or 813.967.1471.\*

**FEB. 15-17 PASADENA, CA** Knife Expo '08, Lower Level Conference Building

of the Pasadena Conference Center. Call 818.368.7110 [scblades.com](http://scblades.com).\*BH

**FEB. 16 WYOMING, MI** West Michigan Edge Show, Knights of Columbus Hall. Contact West Michigan Promotions 616.997.9555 1@palladiumgunshop.com.\*

**FEB. 16-17 HUNTINGTON, WV** Gun & Knife Show, Veterans Memorial Field House. Contact H.R. "Bear" McGinnis 423.255.3669 [huntgunshow@yahoo.com](mailto:huntgunshow@yahoo.com).

**FEB. 22-24 NEW YORK, NY** East Coast Custom Knife Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel. Contact Steve D'Lack 417.866.6660 [hg\\_inc@hotmail.com](mailto:hg_inc@hotmail.com).\*BH

**FEB. 23-24 LITTLE ROCK, AR** Arkansas Custom Knife Show, Robinson Center Exhibit Hall. Contact David Etchieson 501.554.2582 [aka@alliancecable.net](mailto:aka@alliancecable.net), [www.arkansasknifemakers.com](http://www.arkansasknifemakers.com).\*BH

**FEB. 23-24 DAYTON, OH** The NKCA Dayton Knife Show in conjunction with Goodman's Gun Show, Hara Arena Conference & Exhibition Center. Call 423.875.6009 [nkcalisa@hotmail.com](mailto:nkcalisa@hotmail.com).

## MARCH

**MARCH 1-2 BETHALTO, IL** The 24th Annual Bunker Hill Knife Show, Knights of Columbus Hall. Contact Mike Pellegrin 618.667.6777 or Gene Winston 618.288.6974.\*

**MARCH 28-30 JANESEVILLE, WI** The 25th Annual Badger Knife Show, Holiday Inn Express and Conference Center. Contact Bob Schrap 414.479.9765 [badgerknifeclub@aol.com](mailto:badgerknifeclub@aol.com).\*BH

## APRIL

**APRIL 4-6 BESSEMER, AL** The 20th Annual Batson Bladesmithing Symposium, Homecoming, Rendezvous and Knife Show, Tannehill Ironworks. Admission FREE in celebration of the 20th anniversary. Contact Judd Clem, Dept. BL1, 111 Yorkshire Dr., Athens, AL 35613 or 256.232.2645 [ajc665@peoplepc.com](mailto:ajc665@peoplepc.com).\* \*\*

**APRIL 5-6 TULSA, OK** Wanenmacher's Tulsa Arms Show, Expo Square/Tulsa Fairgrounds. Contact Tulsa Gun Show, Inc., POB 33201, Tulsa, OK 74153 918.492.0401 [tulsarmsshow.com](http://tulsarmsshow.com).

**APRIL 12-13 EUGENE, OR** The 33rd Annual Oregon Knife Collectors Association Show, Lane County Convention Center. OKCA members-only show day April 11. Contact OKCA, Dept. BL1, Eugene, OR 97402 541.484.5564 okca@oregonknife-club.org.\*

**APRIL 19-20 NOVI, MI** Wolverine Knife Collectors Show and Michigan Antique Arms Collectors Show, Rock Financial Showcase. Call Pat Donovan 586.786.5549 or Frank Meek 586.264.2031.\*

**APRIL 25-27 SOLVANG, CA** Solvang Custom Knife Show, Royal Scandinavian Inn. Contact Nordic Knives 805.688.3612 www.nordicknives.com.\*

## MAY / JUNE

**MAY 30-JUNE 1 ATLANTA, GA** The 27th Annual BLADE Show & International Cutlery Fair, Cobb Galleria Centre, I-285 & US 41, one exit off I-75 across from the Cumberland Mall, adjacent to the Renaissance Waverly Hotel. The world's largest combined show of handmade, factory & antique knives. Over 675 tables and 135 factory booths. Join the world's greatest national and international knifemakers, cutlery manufacturers, collectors, collections and knife lovers. Site of the Blade Magazine 2008 Knife-Of-The-Year Awards® for factory knives, points for the 2008 BLADEhandmade™ Awards for custom knives, the Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Fame® induction & much more. Site of the annual ABS meeting and special Knifemakers' Guild section. Seminars include BLADE Show World Championship Cutting Competition, forging demo, how to collect, how to make, the latest materials, etc. Contact BLADE®, c/o F+W/Krause Publications, 700 E. State, Iola, WI 54945 715.445.2214 blademagazine@krause.com, www.bladeshow.com.\*BH

## JULY / AUGUST

**JULY 31-AUG. 3 ORLANDO, FL** The 39th Annual Knifemakers' Guild Show, Buena Vista Palace. Contact Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Gil Hibben, Dept. BL1, POB 13, La Grange, KY 40031 502.222.1397 gil\_hibben@bellsouth.net.\*

To ensure timely publication of your knife show in the "Show Calendar" BLADE® requests that you send all pertinent information concerning your show in written form—dates, locations, etc.—at least three months before the show takes place to F&W Publications, attn: B. O'Brien, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54945 715.445.2214 fax 715.445.4087. BLADE depends on the shows themselves for prompt and accurate information.

**BLADE**

## Nordic Knives

1634-C Copenhagen Drive  
Solvang CA 93463  
800-992-6574

Featuring the finest in  
Custom & Randall knives  
since 1971



We buy, sell & consign  
entire collections

To view our collection,  
please visit our website at  
[www.nordicknives.com](http://www.nordicknives.com)

Your satisfaction is guaranteed by our return policy

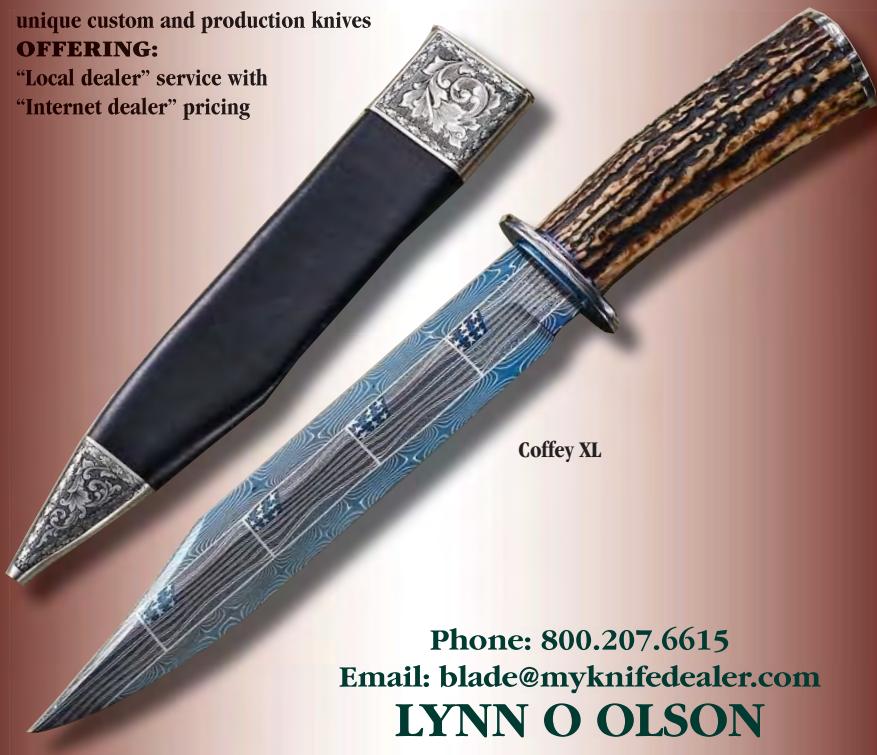
**WWW.MYKNIFEDEALER.COM**

### FEATURING:

unique custom and production knives

### OFFERING:

"Local dealer" service with  
"Internet dealer" pricing



Phone: 800.207.6615  
Email: [blade@myknifedealer.com](mailto:blade@myknifedealer.com)  
**LYNN O OLSON**

**only the lonely**  
only the lonely

# Sole Men

By Don Guild



*As purveyor Mike Donato noted, "At the top are only a handful of makers who have mastered the many skills needed to do it all and do it well." One of those, Donato said, is Rick Eaton, sole author of this window-frame folder in mosaic damascus, Arabesque engraving, black-lip pearl and a line of 24k gold weaving between handle and blade. Closed length: ~4.5 inches. (Point Seven photo)*

With apologies to female  
cutlers who also make  
them, sole-authorship  
knives are defined  
by the collector



*Perhaps better known for his sole-authorship folders, Ken Steigerwalt shows his fixed-blade stuff integrally here in 440C, 18k-gold inlays and Mike Norris damascus. Is the fact that Norris forged the damascus and Steigerwalt did not disqualify this knife as sole authorship? What do you think? (SharpByCoop.com photo)*

*...when you get it, you got something,  
So don't worry, 'cause I'm coming,  
I'm a soul man ...*

*Got what I got, the hard way  
And I'll make better, each and every day.  
So honey, don't you fret  
'cause you ain't seen nothing yet  
I'm a soul man ...*

—Soul Man, "Blues Brothers," John Belushi

To paraphrase the Blues Brothers and with a tip of the hat to Sam and Dave, "Each and every day, you get it a little more, and when you get it"—it being the definition of a sole-authorship knife—"you've got something."

My odyssey on the road to the real meaning of sole authorship as it applies to the world of custom knives led me to interview 30 or so experienced makers, purveyors and collectors. I found opinions as varied and controversial as the ongoing debate among members of the Knifemakers' Guild for the meaning of *handmade*.

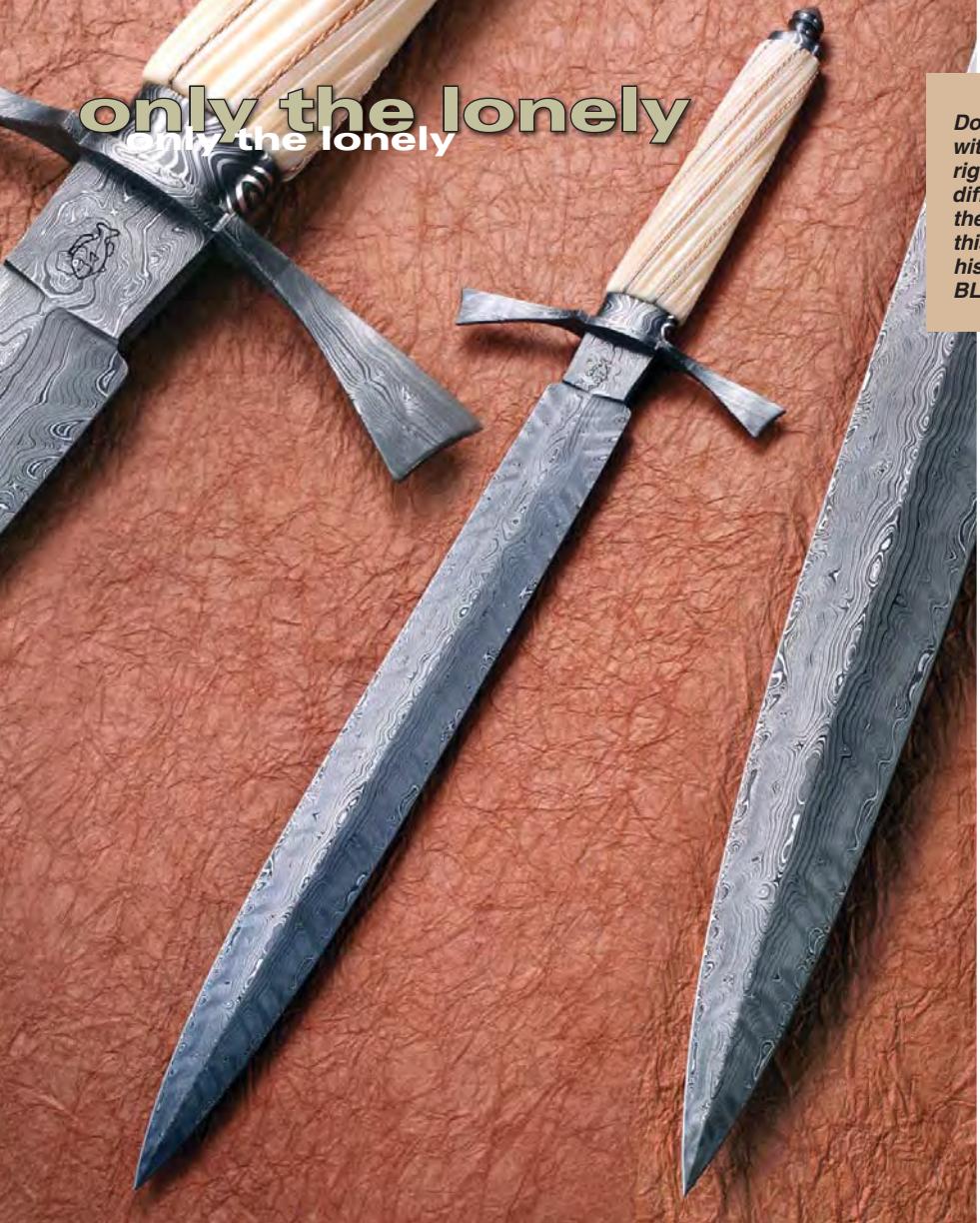
Though a sole-authorship knife can be simple or complex, generally it is a knife of superior workmanship by one person.

Virtually every top maker's first knife was sole authorship—the blade most likely made from a bastard file and the handle from a hunk of wood—and not exactly of superior workmanship. Consider the view of Mike Donato of KnifePurveyor.com.

"I think there are various degrees of sole-authorship knives. At the top are only a handful of makers who have mastered the many skills needed to do it all and do it well, like Rick Eaton, Larry Fuegen and John W. Smith. [John even machines his own screws.] For one must be distinct," Donato observed,

Purveyor Dave Ellis said that knifemaker Arpad Bojtos creates his knives entirely by hand, using only hammer, chisel, file and sandpaper. Bojtos' "Hercules and the Hydra" is a sculpted wonder of ATS-34, mammoth ivory and gold. Overall length: 10 inches. The sheath is hippo ivory, snakewood, gold and silver. (Point Seven photo)





# only the lonely

*Don Hanson, who credits the late Jim Schmidt with coining the term sole authorship—and rightly so, since Schmidt mastered so many different phases of knifemaking—forged all the damascus and otherwise sole-authored this quillon dagger, which helped Don gain his ABS master smith rating during the 2007 BLADE Show. (SharpByCoop.com photo)*

“or become extinct. There are excellent sole-authorship makers who buy stainless or damascus from others, and [I consider] their knives to be sole authorship.”

As knife enthusiasts, many of us drool when we eye the work of Larry Fuegen, a member of both the Guild and a master smith in the American Bladesmith Society (ABS). “I think the important concept for me, when I try to define sole authorship, is that the maker designs the knife, grinds the blade, assembles and embellishes the finished knife and scabbard in his own shop with his own equipment and by his own hand, without assistance from other artisans or employees,” assessed Fuegen, who has taken on the added burden of helping coordinate the ABS Knife Exposition in Reno, Nevada, Jan. 25-26, 2008. “I feel strongly about sole authorship, and I’ve been following this definition since 1975.”

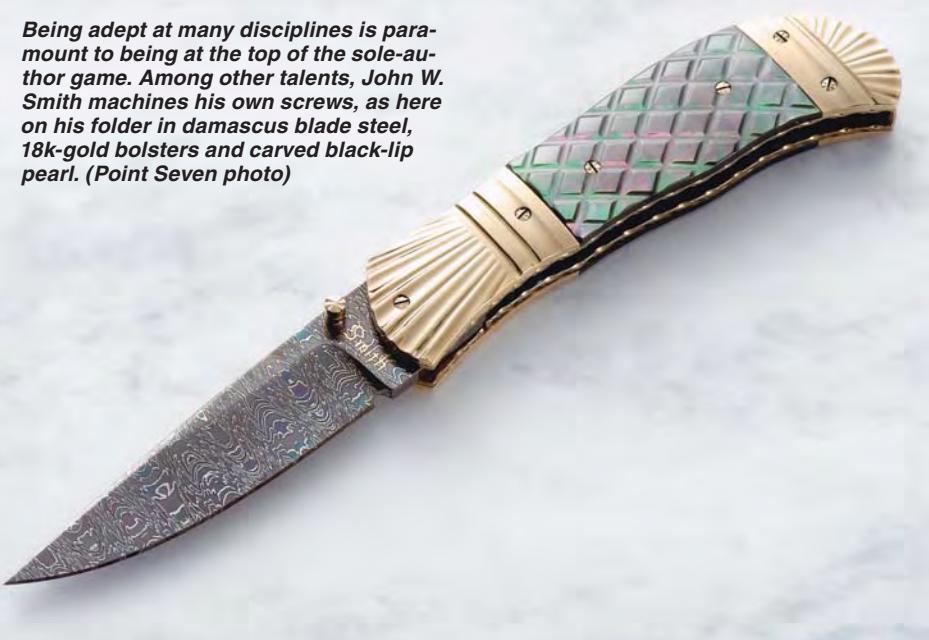
OK, then try this one. Ken Steigerwalt orders a bar of ATS-34, removes stock, flute carves the blade and handle, inserts gold inlays, files the spine, and assembles the knife. Is this sole authorship? Yes, for sure. Now, what if Ken phones the steel supplier and, instead of asking for a bar of ATS-34, requests a bar of Damasteel’s factory-made stainless damascus and proceeds to replicate the first knife? Is the second knife sole authorship? Half the sources I interviewed answered “no” and half “yes.” Most of the “no” votes came from ABS members, who as bladesmiths forge their own damascus.

When I asked Steigerwalt about the two knives, he said, “I think both knives are sole authorship. My choice of factory-made steels such as ATS-34 and Damasteel is not like my buying damascus from Jerry Rados, an artisan who makes small batches of handcrafted damascus. When I use Jerry’s damascus, my knife does not earn the title of sole authorship. But what if an ABS knifemaker buys factory-made stock for handle pins [rather than forging it themselves]; is that sole authorship?”

## What About CNC?

That brings us to another touchy subject: the use of computer numerical control (CNC) machines. Surprisingly, disdain for CNC use, the old “killer topic,” has markedly subsided—or at least it had among the sources I interviewed. Wolfgang Loerchner gave this wise perspective: “CNC machines are fine—one of today’s realities—but their use does eliminate a knife from the category of custom handmade knives.”

*Being adept at many disciplines is paramount to being at the top of the sole-author game. Among other talents, John W. Smith machines his own screws, as here on his folder in damascus blade steel, 18k-gold bolsters and carved black-lip pearl. (Point Seven photo)*



*Incomparable Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Buster Warenski was mentioned often by those interviewed by the author as one of the top sole-authorship knifemakers. When it comes to art daggers, nobody did it quite like Buster. (Point Seven photo)*



On the other hand, ABS master smith, collector and purveyor Dave Ellis of Exquisite Knives commented, "When the maker programs the CNC machine himself, his knife should be considered sole authorship. Yet at the far end of the CNC controversy you'll find Arpad Bojtos of the Slovak Republic. He's possibly the only top maker in the world who creates his unique knives entirely by hand, using only hammer, chisel, file and sandpaper." Wow! That is singularity in a sole-authorship knife.

Gerald Hopkin is the renowned collector and designer of some of the most fabulous art knives seen in David Darom's new book, *Great Collections*. According to Hopkin, "CNC is simply another machine that

## Show your love for a fine edge

Our sterling silver tsuba pendants are a great gift idea for anyone who loves knives and swords



Dragonfly Tsuba \$98.00

Visit us at  
[UnderhillJewelers.com](http://UnderhillJewelers.com)  
or call us at 206-933-0533  
9am to 5pm Monday-Saturday

**Bradley's Blades**



817-596-2894  
[www.bradleysblades.com](http://www.bradleysblades.com)  
[gaylebradley@bradleysblades.com](mailto:gaylebradley@bradleysblades.com)

 Gayle Bradley, Maker  
1383 Old Garner Road  
Weatherford, TX 76088-8720

## The KNIFE CENTER of the INTERNET

The Original and Largest Catalog of Cutlery on the Web

**WWW.KNIFECENTER.COM**

**The Only FULLY SEARCHABLE Database  
of the Cutlery Industry**

**800-338-6799**

5111 Berwyn Rd., Ste. 110, College Park, MD 20740-4132

# HAWKINS KNIFE MAKING SUPPLIES

110 BUCKEYE RD., FAYETTEVILLE, GA 30214

PHONE 770-964-1023 FAX 770-306-2877

Contact us for your  
Knifemaking Supplies and Equipment!

[www.HawkinsKnifeMakingSupplies.com](http://www.HawkinsKnifeMakingSupplies.com)

Send \$2.00 for Complete Listing • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

only the lonely  
only the lonely

has evolved over time. What is the finished knife? It's a creative masterpiece conceived by one man, who has a vision and coordinates all the facets the knife exhibits in its final state. The acid test of sole authorship lies within the knife's original design. Its parts and pieces, if done by the best in the field, all come together under the concept of the originator, and it results in a synergistically superior knife. If he's had help on segments of it but his mind originated and directed all the work, it's a sole-authorship knife."

Added long-time maker Lloyd Hale, "Man's connection with the blade is through his eyes first, the handle second. You pick it up and, like it or not, there's a connection that runs from you through the knife all the way back to Paleolithic man. No one can claim sole authorship."

Next we encounter Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Michael Walker's "Zipper" folder. It would sell in the \$20,000 range. A sole-authorship knife? Half the sources I queried voted "no." "Sorry," was the consensus of the no voters. "Walker used Damasteel and did not make the damascus." However, a yes voter said, "That knife would be sole authorship—absolutely. After all, it's made by Walker, one of the finest knifemakers working today." And your vote?

Purveyor Paul Shindler of Knife Legends said, "The sole-authorship term should never be used for self-interest to exclude another knifemaker's work. What's of utmost importance is the artistic commitment of the maker, not the tools or materials he uses. The one big essential is that he grinds the blade himself."

Including Steigerwalt, the stock-removal makers interviewed said that the line from sole to non-sole is not crossed when a maker orders a bar of damascus or a bar of steel from a factory, because in both instances he or she forms and grinds the finished blade.

Are we splitting hairs here? Is this like

KNIVES  
AND MORE

Bonds House 702.870.2347  
Of Cutlery LAS VEGAS, NV.



**Boker Collectables**  
Largest Dealer On The West Coast

**Al-Mar/Gerber**



Knife by Leon Treiber

Mammoth Handle, 420V Steel Blade



**PARAGON SPORTS®**

New York's Finest Sports Specialty Store

18th Street and Broadway, NYC 10003 (212) 255-8036

Also Available At [ParagonSports.com™](http://ParagonSports.com)

~Parker's Knife Collector Service~

~Bulldog Brand Knives~

~Weidmannsheil Sporting Knives~

~Case Factory Distributor~

With over 50 years experience in the Cutlery industry,

we strive to offer the best prices for authorized dealers.

We also sell antique knives and "out of production" knives too.



For a FREE copy  
of our current catalog

Please call

(423) 894-5102

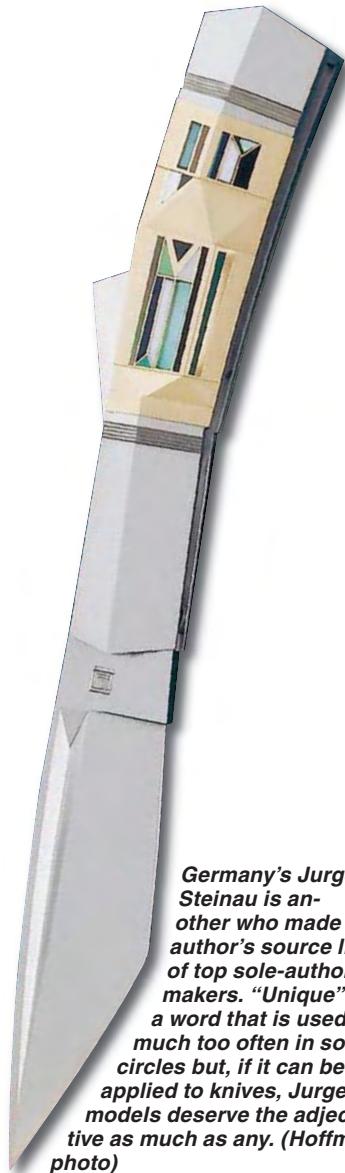
Email

[bbknife@bellsouth.net](mailto:bbknife@bellsouth.net)

## Top Sole-Authorship Makers

So who are the top sole-authorship makers? The following artisans, listed in alphabetical order, were mentioned most often in the author's interviews with his sources: Harvey Dean; Steve Dunn; Rick Eaton; Don Fogg; Henry Frank; Larry Fuegen; Don Hanson; Blade Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer® Ron Lake; Wolfgang Loerchner; Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer Bill Moran; John W. Smith; Jim Schmidt; Ken Steigerwalt; Jurgen Steinau; and Cutlery Hall-Of-Famer Buster Warenski.

Who else belongs? Let us know.



*Germany's Jurgen Steinau is another who made the author's source list of top sole-author makers. "Unique" is a word that is used much too often in some circles but, if it can be applied to knives, Jurgen's models deserve the adjective as much as any. (Hoffman photo)*

the bard's "Much To Do About Nothing"? It depends on the viewpoint of the maker, purveyor or collector—but possibly most importantly the collector, because until he says "yes," nothing moves through the system. Makers, who master the variety of skills needed to produce a complex knife, are firm on the definition of sole authorship. Forging one's own damascus is 100 percent essential from the viewpoint of an ABS member.

I have heard of several makers who dig their own ore, smelt it and form the steel. (See page 20, October *BLADE*®.) And then there is Donald TwoDeer, the American Indian who not only knaps obsidian to make the blade, but also hunts a deer with bow and arrow, tans the leather, and crafts the sheath. Nice story.

#### **Does It Really Matter?**

Do collectors actually care or actively seek out knives of sole-authorship makers? Veteran collector Ed Wormser put it simply:



**A Cut Above**

**Canada's** Largest Online Knife and Sword store  
with well over 7000 quality items for sale.

Our Friendly and Knowledgeable staff has made our customer service "a cut above."

[www.knifezone.ca](http://www.knifezone.ca)

1-866-885-6433

[WWW.NEWYORKCUSTOMKNIVES.COM](http://WWW.NEWYORKCUSTOMKNIVES.COM)

**NEW YORK**  
CUSTOM KNIVES

HOME  
OF THE  
MINIATURE  
EDGE



HANK RUMMELL  
914-213-5977

[HANK@NEWYORKCUSTOMKNIVES.COM](mailto:HANK@NEWYORKCUSTOMKNIVES.COM)

**knife depot**

**10,000+ KNIVES**

**Great prices and selection**

**[www.knife-depot.com](http://www.knife-depot.com)**

**Rich McDonald**  
**Custom Knives**  
&  
**Tomahawks**

4590 Kirk Rd.  
Columbiana, OH 44408  
Phone (330) 482-0007  
Web site:  
[www.longknivesandleather.com](http://www.longknivesandleather.com)

*Recreating the past;  
for the future*



**Color Brochure  
\$3.00**

# only the lonely

only the lonely

Sole-author Wolfgang Loerchner's knifemaking expertise is legendary. His carved folder in 440C stainless blade steel, gold, damascus and black-lip mother-of-pearl is but one example. (SharpByCoop.com photo)

"Sole authorship doesn't mean a thing to me. It's valueless, no influence on my buying a knife. Nobody cares about sole authorship. I buy a knife based on how the finished knife appeals to me."

I asked Dave Ellis if sole authorship has any effect on his buying or selling a knife, and he emphatically said, "No!"

Conversely, long-time purveyor Dave Harvey of Nordic Knives said, "Over the

years, I have had many collectors that value sole authorship to the point where they give it large value when deciding to buy a knife. But, generally, sole authorship has little effect on a knife's salability."

Recently, I talked with Don Hanson, one of the few who is a member of both the ABS and the Guild. Half his knives are folders, the other half fixed blades. As we chatted about sole-authorship knives, he observed, "I'm quite sure Jim Schmidt originated the term *sole authorship*. Of course, very early on Jim exemplified just that by mastering so many disciplines. Today, even though he's been gone for many years, his work brings large sums of money due to the many talents he expressed in his finished knives."

#### Plunking It Down

Imagine you're at the BLADE Show. Two similar knives, offered at the same price, sit side-by-side on a table. One is the work of four artisans, the other the work of a sole knifemaker. Ask yourself: Which one gets a "yes"? Is sole authorship important?

In quantum mechanics, "the expectation of the observer affects whether a photon is seen as a wave or as a particle." In custom knives, the expectation of the "observer" (buyer) affects whether a knife is seen as sole authorship or not. The definition can be debated from now to eternity, but the bottom line is when a knife meets the expectation of the buyer and he plunks down his cash.

For the contact information for the knives in the story, see "Where To Get 'Em" on page 105.

**BLADE**

Pacific Solution Marketing, Inc.

MUSASHI

14225 Telephone Ave. Unit D Chino, CA 91710  
Tel: (909) 465-9858 Fax: (909) 465-9878  
sales@pacificsolution.com www.pacificsolution.com

COLLECTABLE HAND FORGE SWORDS  
CALL TO BE AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS

**Beckwith's** Blades

The right knife...  
at the right price...  
for the work you do!!!

AL MAR KNIVES

BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY

DMT

COLUMBIA RIVER KNIFE & TOOL

KERSHAW

KA-BAR Knives, Inc.

HANWEI Knives, Inc.

LANSKY SHARPENERS

PRO-TECH USA

SOG

Spyderco

VICTORINOX

MICROTECH

Smith & Wesson

ZT FOLDING KNIVES

[www.beckwithsblades.com](http://www.beckwithsblades.com)

713-935-0886 - 10801 Hammerly Blvd., #240, Houston, TX 77043



# where to get 'em

*where to get 'em*

## SOLE MEN

Arpad Bojtos, Dept. BL1, Dobsinskeho 10, Lucenec, Slovakia 98403 bojtos@stonline.sk; Harvey Dean, Dept. BL1, 3266 CR 232, Rockdale, TX 76567 512.446.3111 dean@tex1.net; Steve Dunn, Dept. BL1, 376 Biggerstaff Rd., Smiths Grove, KY 42171 270.563.9830 dunndeal@verizon.net; Rick Eaton, Dept. BL1, 313 Dailey Rd., Broadview, MT 59015 406.667.2405 eatonknives.com; Don Fogg, Dept. BL1, 40 Alma Rd., Jasper, AL 35501-8813 205.483.0822 dfoggnives.com; Henry Frank, Dept. BL1, 1147 SW Bryson St., Dallas, TX 79738 503.831.1489; Larry Fuegen, Dept. BL1, 617 N. Coulter Cir., Prescott, AZ 86303 928.776.8777 fuegen@cableone.net; Don Hanson, Dept. BL1, POB 13, Success, MO 65570 573.674.3045 info@sunfishforge.com; Ron Lake, Dept. BL1, 3360 Bendix Ave., Eugene, OR 97401 541.484.2683; Wolfgang Loerchner, Dept. BL1, POB 255, Bayfield, Ontario, Canada N0M 1G0 519.565.2196; John W. Smith, Dept. BL1, 1322 Cow Branch Rd., West Liberty, KY 41472 606.743.3599 jkknife@frontiernet.net; Ken Steigerwalt, Dept. BL1, 507 Savagehill Rd., Orangeville, PA 17859 570.683.5156 kasknives@yahoo.com; Jurgen Steinau, Dept. BL1, Julius Hart-Strasse 44, Berlin 0-1162 Germany phone/fax 372-645-2512.

## TOP KNIFEMAKER/SHEATHMAKERS

Randy Golden, Dept. BL1, 6492 Eastwood Glen Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117 334.271.6429 rgolden1@mindspring.com; Jay Hendrickson, Dept. BL1, 4204 Ballenger Creek Pk., Frederick, MD 21703 301.663.6923 ejhendrickson@adelphia.net; Anders Hogstrom, Dept. BL1, Granvagen 2, Tyreso, Sweden andershogstrom@rixmail.se; Joe Keeslar, Dept. BL1, 391 Radio Rd., Almo, KY 42020 270.753.7919 sjkees@apex.net; Karen Shook, c/o Daniel Winkler, Dept. BL1, POB 2166, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 828.295.9156

## LITTLE BIG KNIVES

Boker USA, attn: D. Weidner, Dept. BL1, 1550 Balsam St., Lakewood, CO 80215 303.462.0662 fax 303.462.0668 www.bokerusa.com; Brigade Quartermasters, 1025 Cobb Int'l. Blvd., Kennesaw, GA 30152-4300 800.241.3125; Gerber, attn: R. Robley, Dept. BL1, 14200 SW 72nd, Portland, OR 97281-3088 503.639.6161 www.gerberblades.com; Kellam Knives Worldwide, Inc., attn: J. Kellokoski, Dept. BL1, 902 S. Dixie Hwy., Lantana, FL 33462 561.588.3185 fax 561.588.3186 800.390.6918 www.kellamknives.com; Knives Of Alaska, attn: C. Allen, Dept. BL1, 123 W. Main, Denison, TX 75021 903.463.7112; Kutmaster, attn: R. Joswick, Dept. BL1, 820 Noyes, Utica, NY 13503 315.733.4663 www.kutmaster.com; Master Cutlery, attn: V. Lee, Dept. BL1, 701 Penhorn Ave., Secaucus, NJ 07094 201.271.7600 mastercutlery.com; Meyerco, attn: M. Manrose, Dept. BL1, 4481 Exchange Service Dr., Dallas, TX 75236 214.467.8949 www.meyerco.com; Outdoor Edge, attn: D. Bloch, Dept. BL1, 6395 Gunpark Dr., Ste. Q, Boulder, CO 80301 303.530.7667 fax 303.530.7020 www.outdooredge.com; Spencer Reiter/SAR Custom Knives, Dept. BL1, 1618 Coach St., Deridder, LA 70634 337.460.9495 sc6surf@aol.com; TOPS,

attn: M. Fuller, Dept. BL1, POB 2544, Idaho Falls, ID 83403 208.542.0113 www.topsknives.com

## KNIFEMAKING SUPPLIERS

Blacksmiths Depot, Dept. BL1, 100 Daniel Ridge Rd., Chandler, NC 28715 828.667.8868; Buckeye Engraving, Dept. BL1, 5305 McCartney Rd., Sandusky, OH 44870 419.357.5488 info@buckeyeengraving.com; Burr King Manufacturing, Dept. BL1, 1220 Tamar Lane, Warsaw, MO 65355 660.438.8998 info@burrking.com; Centaur Forge Wisconsin, Dept. BL1, 117 N. Spring St., Burlington, WI 53105 262.763.9175 info@centauroforge.com; Culpepper & Co., Dept. BL1, 1108 NW Frontage Rd., Troutdale, OR 97060 800.987.7781; G. L. Pearce Abrasive, 12771 Route 536, Punxsutawney, PA 15767 814.938.2379; Hawkins Knifemaking Supplies, Dept. BL1, 110 Buckeye Rd., Fayetteville, GA 30214 770.964.1023 www.hawkinsknifemakingsupplies.com; Jantz Supply, Dept. BL1, POB 584 BL, Davis, OK 73030 800.357.8900 www.knifemaking.com; Knife and Gun Finishing Supplies, Dept. BL1, 1972 Forest Ave., Lakeside, AZ 85929 www.knifeandgun.com; Masecraft Supply, Dept. BL1, 254 Amity St., Meriden, CT 06454 203.238.3049; NC Tool Co., Dept. BL1, 6133 Hunt Rd., Pleasant Garden, NC 27313 336.674.6554; Paragon Industries, Dept. BL1, 2011 South Town East Blvd., Mesquite, TX 75149 800.876.4328; Red Hill Corp., Dept. BL1, POB 4234, Gettysburg, PA 17325 800.822.4003; Sheffield Knifemakers Supply, Dept. BL1, POB 741107, Orange City, FL 32774 386.775.6453; Texas Knifemakers Supply, Dept. BL1, 10649 Haddington, #180, Houston, TX 77043 888.461.8632; Tormach, Dept. BL1, www.tormach.com; Tru Grit Knifemaking Supplies, Dept. BL1, 760 E. Francis St., Unit N, Ontario, CA 91761 909.923.4116; Universal Agencies, Dept. BL1, 4690 S. Old Peachtree Rd. Ste. C, Norcross, GA 30071 678.969.9147 www.knifesupplies.com

## BUSINESS SIDE OF KNIFEMAKING

Scot Matsuoka, c/o Koloa Duck Knives Hawaii, Dept. BL1, 94-415 Ukalialii Pl., Mililani, HI 96789 808.625.6658 scottym@hawaii.rr.com; John Perry, Dept. BL1, 9 S. Harrell, Mayflower, AR 72106 501.470.3043 jpknives@cyberback.com; Les Robertson, c/o Robertson's Custom Cutlery, Dept. BL1, 4960 Sussex Dr., Evans, GA 30809 706.650.0252 customknives@comcast.net; Tim Tabor, Tabor Knives LLC, Dept. BL1, 18925 Crooked Ln., Lutz, FL 33548 813.948.6141 tim.tabor@intrepidmachine.com

## 2008 BLADE SHOW AD

Yellowhorse Collectables, attn: Richard Harris, Dept. BL1, 715 Karen St., Rector, AR 72461 870.595.2517, 870.236.0133

**BLADE**

## THE SURVIVAL STAFF

By Pat and Wes Crawford  
Handmade for 15 years

Hiking Staff



Walking Stick

Baton

Blow Gun

Lance

All in one package  
Made from Hard Aircraft Aluminium

**\$269.95** - Ready for delivery

**CRAWFORD KNIVES, LLC.**

205 N. Center Drive  
West Memphis, AR 72301  
(870) 732-2452

[www.crawfordknives.com](http://www.crawfordknives.com)

email: patcrawford1@earthlink.net

**BURGER KNIVES**  
distinguished craftsmanship  
Est. 1987

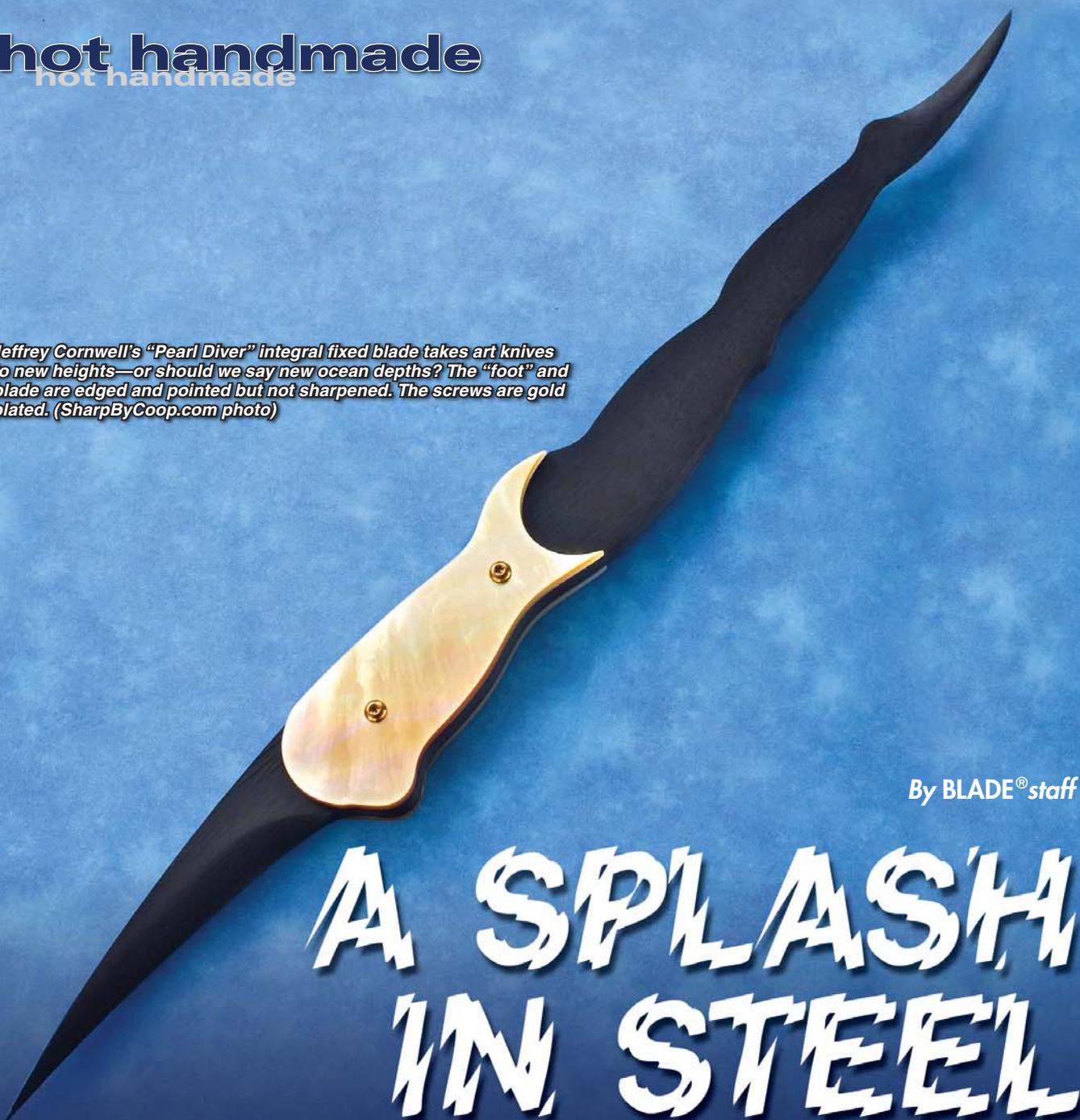
RENNED WORLDWIDE FOR  
THEIR QUALITY TACTICAL  
WALKING STICKS

AND A  
WIDE RANGE OF  
SUPERIOR HAND MADE KNIVES

[www.swordcane.com](http://www.swordcane.com)  
info@swordcane.com  
Tel: 301.393.5423  
(message service)  
PO Box 436 Munster 4278 South Africa

**hot handmade**  
hot handmade

*Jeffrey Cornwell's "Pearl Diver" integral fixed blade takes art knives to new heights—or should we say new ocean depths? The "foot" and blade are edged and pointed but not sharpened. The screws are gold plated. (SharpByCoop.com photo)*



By BLADE® staff

# A SPLASH IN STEEL

Jeffrey Cornwell's "Pearl Diver" scores a "10" with our judges

## Spec Check

|                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Knife</b>              | Pearl Diver                  |
| <b>Maker</b>              | Jeffrey Cornwell             |
| <b>Blade Steel</b>        | Acid-etched, heat colored O1 |
| <b>Handle</b>             | Gold-lip mother-of-pearl     |
| <b>Overall Length</b>     | 10.75"                       |
| <b>Maker's List Price</b> | \$500                        |

The knife immediately grabs you. The long, shapely leg extends south of the swimsuit/handle, the latter boasting a wasp waist and comely figure. From there, the female-like lower extremities and torso give way to an alien-like "stinger" of a head/extended arm/blade. The result is an art knife in every sense of the word that is equal parts riveting, fascinating and even somewhat disturbing—all at the same time!

Called the "Pearl Diver," it is the first-

ever edged creation of Alaska's Jeffrey Cornwell. The blade is acid-etched, heat-colored O1 tool steel and the handle is gold-lip mother-of-pearl.

Makes quite a splash, doesn't it?

For more information contact Jeffrey Cornwell, Dept. BL1, POB 244014, Anchorage, AK 99524-4014 907.349.5210 cornwellsjej@alaska.net.

**BLADE**

# A knife is a knife, unless of course that knife is an A.G. Russell...

*The A.G. Russell Rider's Knife. Field tested by three generations of customers – both hooved and hoofless – and guaranteed to satisfy.*



Of course, as any horse lover knows - a horse is **not** just a horse. And as any knife lover can tell you, a knife is **not** just a knife. Some knives are A.G. Russell Knives – made with superlative quality and absolutely guaranteed to satisfy any customer. Regardless of hooves, claws, or just regular old feet.



For your free catalog, call 479-571-6161, Dept #H0108

2900 S. 26<sup>th</sup> St.  
Rogers, AR 72758

**VISIT US ONLINE AT**  
**[www.agrussell.com](http://www.agrussell.com)**

# A.G. Russell™ KNIVES



SWORDS, KNIVES, COLLECTIBLES  
<http://www.cashanwei.com>

CAS Hanwei, celebrating the arts  
of the warrior for over 20 years.

Browse our entire line of arms and  
armour at [www.cashanwei.com](http://www.cashanwei.com)



Dragon Armour  
AH2193

Tori Elite Katana  
SH76007KFE

<http://www.cashanwei.com> | 800.635.9366

The CAS Logo, CAS name, and the 'Forging Steel, Making History' marks are property of CAS Hanwei, Inc. and cannot be used without written permission. © 8. © 2003-2007 CAS Hanwei, Inc.

source code #  
MOBL071