



NEWSLETTER IN A KNUTSHELL



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

March 2003

What Is New Is Old

by B. K. Brooks



I remember when the Lev-R-Lok knife first hit the market a while ago. Many people made exclamations about the "new" knife out that wasn't really a switchblade because of the lack of a propelling

spring. I first saw it at Cabala's in Nebraska while out there to watch my niece get married and turn from an IBM executive into a potato farmer. I was duly impressed by the Lev-R-Lok knife, which I am not prone to be unless a knife is old. The guy at the Cabala's sales counter suggested that other states might indeed consider the Lev-R-Lok, a switchblade knife despite what people say. I have also had disagreement, as well as agreements, with my proposal this Lev-R-Lok knife was not such a new invention after all.

I decided to research the matter and my own collection was the start. I had one very similar knife of recent construction except that it had the lever on top of the knife. Unfortunately it is unidentified except for the word stainless. I have 2 Tar Heel Cutlery Club pull levers made by SARCO dated 1989. I have several unidentified horse head pull lever knives, one that has RCA advertising from the fifties or early sixties. I also possess several pull lever knives that were Sam Siegal's 1947 invention produced by the Jet Knife Corp. I have reviewed a pull lever knife patent listed out to an invention by Giesen that brings the date back to 1927. I had seen other pull lever style knives listed on ebay that seemed by their advertising or



Unidentified knife with similar action to Lev-R-Lok with lever on top and SARCO lever Knife made for Tar Hell Cutlery Club.

claimed by the sellers to be from the early 1900's. These were good starts as parts to the puzzle.

I had to admit that I had not seen any older side lever knives similar to the Lev-R-Lok. Upon emailing my new but soon to be invaluable contact at Camillus Cutlery, I determined that the Lev-R-Lok was first marketed by Soque River Knives out of Clarksville GA. From a patent number 5,331,741 supplied, I found out that the inventor was William J. Taylor. Imagine my surprise that what seems to be the root of this knife goes back to a patent back in 1881.

William J Taylor Jr. obviously did his homework, listing 16 American patents and four foreign patents as references cited to the U.S. Patent Office. This listing of patents unlocks the other puzzle parts leading to his final invention of the Lev-R-Lok knife that has an ancestry of over 110 years. Although too numerous and lengthy to cover all in detail, I have highlighted some of the older ones for this article.

William J Taylor Jr. lists as his first patent example that of Edmund D. Chamberlain invention dated November 22, 1881 and can be viewed at the USPO site under the patent number 249,896. The drawing seems very similar to the Lev-R-Lock consisting of a lever and cam arrangement with a lever on the side of the knife. Chamberlain indicates the knife's purpose is to open for women without breaking their nails or for those without strength. It was touted to work no matter how strong the knife's spring is. Chamberlain notes that within the handle are a cam mounted on a



Four knives unidentified by maker, one with ad for RCA Tubes and another with old style phone number

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Knotes on United States Military Edged Cutlery

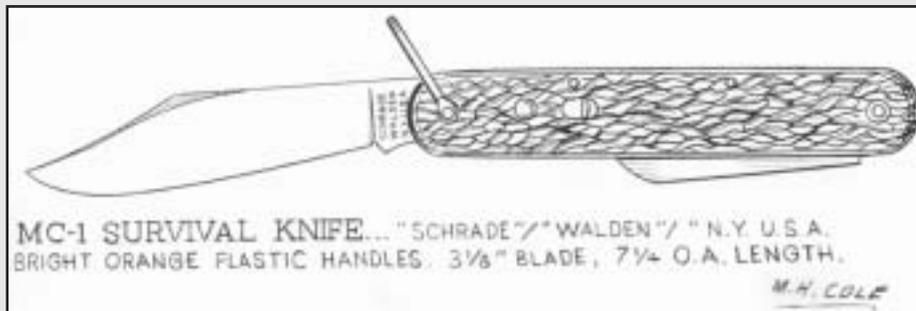
by Frank Trzaska

Schrade H-15

Often mistaken for a "Pilot Survival Knife" the Schrade H-15 was first manufactured in 1959, with a suggested retail price of \$1.25. It was strictly aimed at the commercial market of the times. It was a commercial success as it continued to be manufactured until 1975, when it retailed for \$7.50 at your local hardware store. It was called the "Utility Hunter", aimed at hunters, campers, scouts or the general outdoors man who spent weekends in the boonies. The blade was made from high carbon cutlery steel, many are found today rather pitted but most are excellent plus condition owing to the fact they were probably put in a drawer and forgotten. I have observed them with brown plastic spacers and red plastic spacers near the guard and pommel. Half guards were the norm for them and I have also seen them installed upside down. Anyway it's not military.

Schrade MC-1

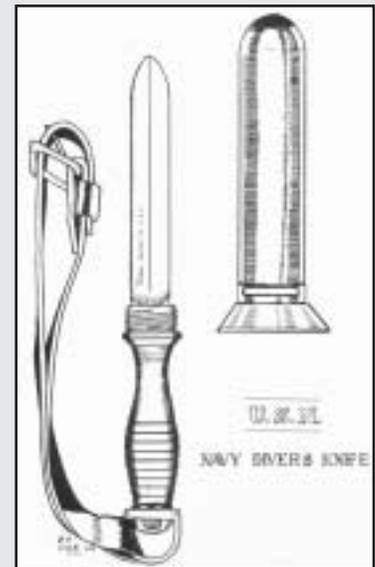
While we are talking about Schrade, I recently found out about a little known policy they have with the MC-1 Aircrew



Survival Knives they made. If sent back to Schrade for repairs, they will repair or replace any parts as they would any of their knives, usually for free if it has not been abused. The only stipulation they have was that it can only be sent back to a military base for release. Switchblade laws being all that they are you know I thought the fact that Schrade did this was pretty cool.

Bronze Diving Knives

Several manufacturers have supplied these knives to the Navy throughout the years. Many such as the Ka-Bar and the Schrader & Sons are extremely hard to come by. It seems that most of the ones I have seen are made by and marked "Morse Diving Equipment" on the turned brass scabbard. With good reason too, Morse is in the Diving Equipment business and still makes these knives. Morse is a full time manufacturer of "Hard Hat" diving equipment. A short company history is as follows: a partnership between Mr. Morse and Mr. Fletcher was formed in 1837 for the manufacture of brass goods at the corner of Water & Congress Streets, Boston, Mass. In 1864, the firm became Andrew J. Morse and Sons under which name it continued to operate until 1940. At which time the name Morse was incorporated as Morse Diving Equipment Company, Inc. Finally in 1998, the name of Morse was incorporated to Morse Diving Inc. which it remains today. As much as we may like the nostalgia of the Mark V diving helmet it is far out classed by the equipment provided today to "Hard Hat" divers. One thing that has not changed is that heavy knife. In an excerpt of the U.S. Navy Diving Manual (NAVSHIPS 0994-001-9010) dated March 1970 (obtained courtesy of our good friend, Carter Rila) we see the knife still in use. "The diver's knife is made of tough tool steel and consists of a bayonet shaped blade with one cutting edge and one saw edge, a metal sheath, hardwood handle. And a leather strap. The term of "knife" is



current NSN (5110-00-372-0656) and is still available for issue. The unit price as of 1999 was \$88.34 for replacement purposes. This is the cost of the knife at the last procurement, which could have been 20 years ago or last year. With all that said the Morse Diving Inc. is still in the knife business. They have recently advertised newly made knives for sale in a magazine. Be careful when you see that Morse diving knife for sale as a WW II veteran, it may have been made last month. I do not have any knowledge of the current markings so cannot tell you how to tell the difference, can someone tell me?? I do know the scabbards are etched with a figure of a diver on them so that is a give away if the scabbard is so marked. Morse is also producing a Commemorative Edition which is serial numbered and laser engraved on the blade which should be easy to spot if left intact. This also could be polished off very easy so look out also for a spotted or as such marked blade. Better to be safe then sorry.

Real Life Heroes

I constantly see young people refer to sports stars, musicians, actors and so on as their "heroes." While having a role model is good for young people, we should really focus their attention to true heroes. We should be constantly reminded of the sacrifice our parents and grandparents made during the World War Two era. We lose about 1200 veterans of World War Two right here in the United States every day. Too soon they will all be gone. If you want to pick a hero, that would be a very good place to start.

Frank Trzaska [trz@mcsystems.net]

OKCA Knews and Musings

ibdennis

We received a membership that....

was way beyond our expectations. Instead of a \$20 membership check, one person sent in a money order for membership for \$200. Thank you, thank you, and thank you. I couldn't resist a call to this person and exclaim wow and in my excitement even said it again backwards. But joyous moments are short lived when I was told that there were two payments that kinda got swapped. The person that was owed \$200 was somewhat ticked with his \$20 payment to the same degree that I was delighted. Oh, sigh. We sent the check back.

Knife display cases...

We will again have the knife display cases available for rental. These wood display cases can be locked.. If you want your knives under glass, a three day rental of \$30 is a rather minimal price for the security of your knives. Saves lugging a case across the country too. You must reserve these cases in advance as only so many are available.

The Opening Ceremony

I am currently awaiting an answer about the Opening Ceremony. This year it has been difficult to get a "happening" at the Show. For a brief while I figured we would forego it (and we may still.) If I get a positive response in the next few days, we will have an Opening Ceremony that will be unlike anything we have ever had before. It took a lot of talking just to get it into the "think about it" mode.

The Knewsletter is great because...

Of the many writers who contribute to this publication. Without the articles and without this support, we would have a one pager. **Frank Trzaska** has been writing for us for many years and continues to support our group even though he is 3000 miles away. **Jim Taylor** is equal distance away in Florida and continues to respond to my whining and cries for help. Out of California we have **B.K. Brooks** who has provided excellent historical and evaluation writings that are one of a kind. And to round out our handmade knife contributions is our own Oregon based **Merle Spencer**. Merle took a writing class and uses us for practice. Keep practicing on us for sure, Merle. We also appreciate

Lonnie & Judy Williams for their Cutoons that are all original works that grace our pages.

A Special Seminar before the Show....

Mark your calendars for Thursday, April 10th about noon for a new event that we are trying. **Jim Ricci** recently moved his company **Hydratech** to this area. Hydratech specializes in abrasive water jet cutting. This is a rare opportunity to see this process in action. The seminar will be free. Although seeing the machine in operation might only take a short while, the gathering of a gaggle of knife makers might prove to be an afternoon that will be a one of kind event. **Nate Clark** has also offered to explain the computer operation that goes along with this process.

Wanna Help with the Show.....

You can very easily by donating items that can be given away by the OKCA. One of the largest draws to our Show are the door prizes that we hand out each year. All these come from our members and interested sponsors who want to be a constructive part of this event. So either bring them to the Show or mail them to us ahead of time. Your support is what makes this come together.

The Willamette Valley Arms Collectors.....

Show is happening March 15th & March 16th at the Lane County Convention Center. This Show features Displays & Swap tables and is a locally bred event. We have a reciprocal entry agreement that allows Oregon Knife Club members free admission to this Show. Just show your membership card. We also recommend that you help by attending since attendance is what it is all about. Who knows but you might find that treasure knife that you have been looking for your whole life long.

Rope cutting & blade grinding.....

Don't forget our two most watched events at the Oregon Knife Show. The rope cutting will happen on Sunday while the blade grinding will happen on Saturday. We need to have people who want to grind. Let us know as early as possible that you are willing to do this. Also **Jim Rodenbaugh** we be demonstrating the art of forging on both Saturday and Sunday. This is an outside event that always draws a crowd. Rules and specifications for the rope cutting event can be found on our web site.

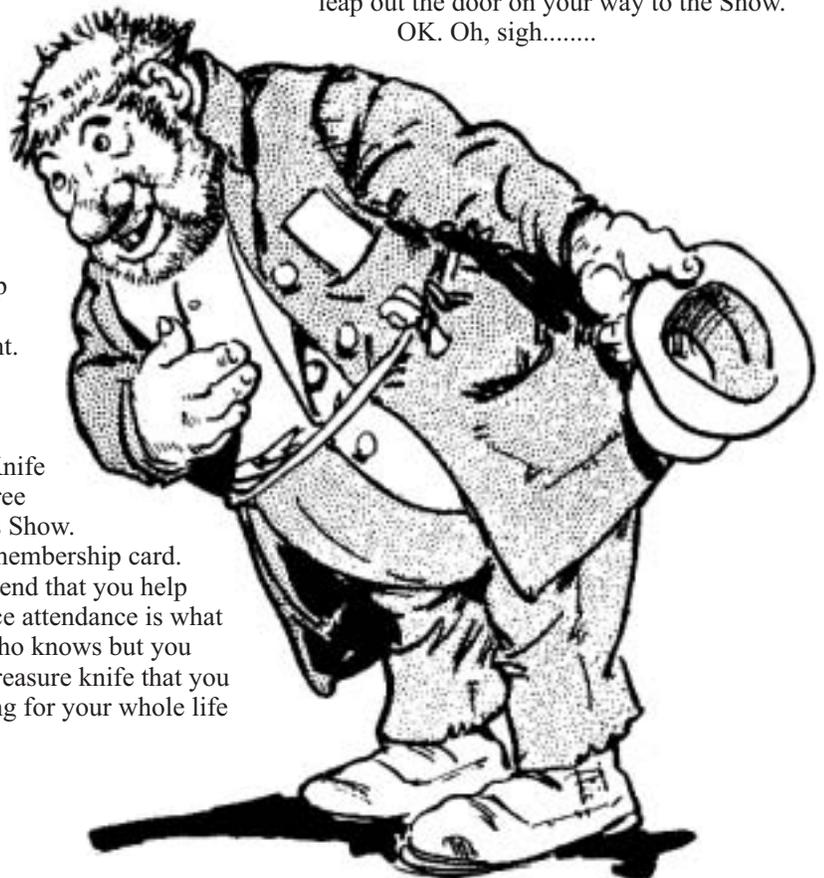
Knife Makers from Afar.....

Our Show has always attracted off shore table holders which allows us to use the word International with pride. We have had **South Africa, Italy, Japan, England, Australia, New Zealand and Canada**. This year we will have a special treat with the visit by a person who will be arriving from Thailand. The interesting part is that the people from South Africa, Italy and England are ones that keep coming back year after year.

You say you can't find it????

Just a month away from the Big Show and you say you know exactly where your membership card and/or your table confirmations are? You say you don't have to start looking for it now cuz ya all know exactly where it is and can snatch it as you leap out the door on your way to the Show.

OK. Oh, sigh.....



The Seek-re-tary Report

by elayne

The February 13, 2003 meeting was held at G. Willickers Restaurant, Eugene OR. There were 27 present for the meeting and dinner. I (Secretary/Treasurer) reported that we have been receiving very apologetic cancellation letters. The letters have been very complimentary to our annual Show and our group. We can take a good deal of pride in the fact that our message, "We are having a Show and it will be fun" seems to have been very effective and appreciated.

Our current membership is 1008; we ended the year with 1501. Many people renew at the Show but remember—no admission to the Show for membership renewal until 2:00 pm on Friday. All of our efforts and time must be directed to the table holders during the first several hours of Friday. Tables holders—the Show envelopes are already in the hands of **Phyllis Goddard**, and she is putting the typed names into the Show badges. If you have not advised us the names on your Show badges or the names have changed, please, please contact us (email—okca@oregonknifeclub.org, postcard, letter—P O Box 2091 Eugene OR 97402, phone call—(541)484-5564) with

the names you will need. This will help to minimize our work at the Show. Remember only persons with a Show badge or membership card can be in the auditorium on Friday or during early hours Saturday and Sunday.

If you have ordered your tickets for the banquet, they will be in your Show packet. If you want a ticket and have not purchased, they are available. We will have the meal in the courtyard. **Audra Draper** will be the speaker for the event. It will be a buffet and **June Morrison** is coordinating the happening with the staff at Lane County Convention Events.

Larry Criteser has not received the blade blanks for the grinding competition yet. They should be available shortly. This year will be a bit different since we are requesting the knives be finished, and we will present them as the award knives the following year (2004).

Wayne Morrison is coordinating the enhancement by the customer makers of the Al Mar knives which will be awarded to the displayers at the Show. The knives which have been returned from the custom makers are currently making their rounds to **Jerry Whitmore, Juanita Conover, Corina Conover and Bob Hergert** for the finishing touches. **Craig Morgan** has almost completed the boxes for the award knives.

Michael Kyle has arranged to have the same Security force 2003 as we had present 2002.

Jim Chartier has volunteered to oversee the silent auction.

Bowen and Noah Cannoy have volunteered to coordinate the raffle and door prizes.

All of the tables for the 2003 Show have been sold and we have about seven on the waiting list.

Meeting adjourned for the best part—Show and Tell.

Come see us at the meeting March 13, 2003 at G. Willickers Restaurant Coburg Road Eugene OR.

P.S. The Willamette Valley Arms Collectors Swap and Display Show will be at the Lane County Fairgrounds March 15 - March 16. Your admission is free with an OKCA membership card. Help support another nonprofit organization.



New Is Old (continued from page 1)

spindle being provided with a short lever by which the cam can be turned at will. The purpose of this invention is to relieve the pressure of the spring against the knife by pulling up on the lever thus activating the cam against the spring lessening its pressure against the knife blade, thus making it easier to open the knife blade using the nail nick.



Two knives patented by Sam Siegal marked Jet Knife Corp. and two unmarked knives that appear to be similar to Martin Berg's patent dated August 1943.

Once open the lever is put back down and the power of the spring is once again exerted against the knife blade. This appears to be a key step toward the Lev-R-Lok knife.

The next patent listed is that of Henry Treas dated April 22, 1902, and can be viewed at the USPO site under the number 698,080. It is described as a self-opening pocketknife that will lock in both open and closed positions. The function is a labyrinth series of springs, catches and slides; and I refer you to the patent itself without further comment.

The third patent is of Charles Keeran dated July 24, 1917, patent number 1,234,345 whose invention's object is to start the knife blade opening without use of the nail nick. Keeran's knife embodies in combination a haft, a blade provided with a tang, a pivotal mounting for the blade tang within the haft, a spring within the haft, a wedge member between the spring and the tang and

longitudinally moveable within the haft, the wedge member being arranged to forcibly engage with the tang to partially open the blade when the wedge member is moved longitudinally within the haft. I hope I have not confused anybody here.

The fourth patent listed is that of Max Neft dated Oct 10 1922 under patent number 1,431,835 whose diagram is a delight to the eyes and if the knife was ever made it would be a treasure for the owner to possess. Neft's knife purpose allows the blade to be concealed within the body of the knife but be readily and quickly moved to an open position when desired with a novel mechanism for locking the blade in a closed position and turning the knife on its pivot. This is not the Neft Safety knife commonly seen for offer at knife shows.

Fifth and sixth listed is Ciesnierski's gun

(continued on page 7)

Sheffield Cutlery Ephemera (partIV) by Jim Taylor

Places to Stay when attending the Show

The Valley River Inn

(800) 543-8266 • (541) 687-0123

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

The Campbell House

A City Inn

(800) 264-2519 • (541) 343-1119

Classic Hospitality. A very unique experience. Top quality.

The Red Lion

(800) Red Lion • (541) 342-5201

Not far from the Show and a great place to stay. Mention the Knife Show for the special rates.

Courtesy Inn

(888)-259-8481 • (541) 345-3391

The closest motel yet to the Knife Show. A Budget motel and special rates if you mention the Knife Show.

Say the words--the Oregon Knife Collectors--and you will get the special rate; and it helps to promote our Show.

Self-contained motor homes can be parked in the parking lot at the Convention Center. There is a charge of \$15.00 per night, or \$50.00 for up to a week. Register with the office.

Also for motor homes or campers:

Creswell KOA Mobile Home Park
(800) 562-4110 • (541) 895-4110
Premier RV Resorts (541) 686-3152
Eugene Kamping World & RV Park
(800) 343-3008 • (541) 343-4832

Go to www.oregonknifeclub.org to get more information on these places. Don't put off making reservations as you might find the place of choice to be all full up. Especially the Valley River Inn. Failure to mention our Show at these places will not afford you the huge discounts we have negotiated for you. A buck saved is a buck gained toward a new knife

Having droned on at some length previously in these few short articles, I figured that a change of subject matter was due. Accordingly, instead of cutlery labels and the like, I thought that a few words about the granting of Trade Marks would suffice? If the previous three articles didn't bore you to tears, then this should finish you off completely!

Photograph #1, shows an ORIGINAL Trade Mark; "Granting" and "Freedom."

The "Freedom" being the release from virtual serfdom of an apprenticed cutler, following seven years of "hard labor," during which, every aspect of the young man's proposed trade would be learned until it became second nature. The "Granting" becomes self evident.

The text within the photograph is not easily deciphered. Therefore I will transpose the text for you exactly as it is written. I happen to own three of these framed documents. This one is the earliest, and therefore, the most quaint.

Paragraph 1. "John Clarke the son of John Clarke of Sheffield in the County of York. Mason deceased and Apprentice of Octavus Twigg late of Sheffield Maker of razors deceased.

Paragraph 2. "was admitted by the Master, Wardens, Searchers, and assistants, of the Company of Cutlers, in Hallamshire, in the County of York, the twentyseventh Day of May in the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Six in the Time of Frederick Thorpe Mappin Esquire Master of the same Company, and entered in the great Paper Book under the title of Admissions of Freemen."

Paragraph 3. "MEMORANDUM, That the Day and Year abovesaid, the Mark stamped on the Margin and impressed on the Lead to these Presents annexed, was assigned by the Masters, Wardens, Searchers, and Assistants of the said Company, to the said John Clarke according to the Form of the Statute, to be stricken, impressed, or engraved upon his Goods, Wares, or Manufactures."

An attachment was then added to this document in the form of a simple strip of white paper. Upon this was affixed a rectangular lead ingot with the new Trade Mark stamped thereon. In this case; "N.E.V.A." The same mark is stamped onto the left hand margin of the original document.

The all important signature that authorised this "Granting" and "Freedom" was always that of the Master Cutler of the year in question. In this case; "Frederick Thorpe Mappin."

Photograph #2. I am pleased to show you one wall in our new Floridian home. The framed items that you see include three original "Grantings" and sundry renewals etc., I'm afraid that there is no hope for me. I got hooked too long ago. Consider me a lost case. 



The Shape of a Knife

by Merle Spencer

I walked into a hardware store in the town where I lived in the Black Hills and looked at the knives displayed in glass-topped case. With some money in my pocket and 15 years old, I thought I knew enough to spend my own money from a summer job. The knife I selected was a small straight hunter with a stacked leather handle and made by Western of Boulder, Colo.

The knife probably never got used for deer hunting as long as I had it, because buying a hunting license in November when my money would have had to last from August, just didn't seem to work out. Rabbit hunting didn't require more than a pocketknife. But I sure looked at that knife a lot. I still like to look at knives a lot. I remember the clerk very carefully wiping the blade of each knife I examined with a cloth as I put it down until I chose one. She explained that the polished blades would show fingerprints.

Whatever happened to that knife, I don't remember. A couple years later when I rode the train to Minneapolis to take the Navy officer-pilot trainee test, I bought another Western brand hunter. On the way home I remember turning on the light several times in that rocking upper berth and admiring that knife. I didn't sleep much anyway, whether from the swaying of the train or the excitement of now being in the Navy and of passing the test. I could see my reflection in the polished blade. This one had a full six inch blade and a stacked leather handle. I do remember what happened to that knife. About a half an inch of the point got broken off in a Forest Service work camp one evening while a few of us younger fellows were practicing knife-throwing. That was a lesson I never forgot.

Leather seemed to be the normal handle material of that era. I rarely saw stag, except on the more expensive brands. Sometimes stag would show on the knife-hatchet combinations we would see strapped around the mackinaw of a red and black wool plaid outfit on a hunter from out of our area.

A friend of mine used to carry a Case brand knife with a sturdy blade about four and a half inches long. It was beautiful, with a stag handle

that had a flat brass cap on the end. I have seen him, in the process of dressing a deer, reach over and pick up a fist-sized rock to use as a hammer to pound on that brass cap to drive the blade through the pelvis bone. I secretly wondered about such treatment, but since he had owned that knife for over twenty years, I wisely kept my own counsel.

When I was in my thirties, I carried and many times used, a folder by Western that sported an imitation pearl handle. I couldn't afford a sheath, so I made one out of part of the top of an old cowboy boot and stitched it with a leather thong. I still have it in my collection. It has two blades, one a little wider than the other, which was my hunting blade. The other blade is somewhat more slender, and I used it for my camp blade.

It seems as though in those early days, most hunting knives I saw had a longer blade than those of recent years. Six inches was apparently a standard of some sort. At shows these days I see many three and four-inch blades. I haven't been out in the game fields for some fifteen years, preferring to seek my quarry with a rod and line, but I have talked to a number of elk hunters here on the Oregon Coast. Some use a straight hunter, others use a folder, and one young fellow I know who is sometimes successful with bow and arrow prefers a short curved blade and a metal handle with finger holes in it. I talked to a knife maker at the OKCA Show one time, who showed a knife he had made that had a blade just one inch long. He claimed to have dressed out a whole deer with the knife just to prove it could be done.

For a few years I carried a knife that had a curved upswept blade about five inches long. It had stag handle insets and was a joy to look at. It was great for skinning, but the point was always where I didn't want it to be in other work. After I filed a quarter inch off the point, it worked better; but the scalloped edge leg trims that resulted from that upswept curve must have been a wonder to other hunters.

This knife came with a rather soft leather sheath that had a narrow belt loop that let the sheath swing and catch on most every piece of brush I came near. I discovered the knife missing after I had traversed a very brush-choked three hundred yards. No amount of back tracking and searching that weekend or the next produced the lost knife.

A new blade was purchased to finish out the season. This one also was unsatisfactory in that the edge had not been formed all the way back to the choil, resulting in difficulty in cutting efficiently. The curved blade was found three months later on a hike just for the purpose of searching. After that it was always carried in a heavy leather sheath with a tiny buckle on the safety strap.

What should the shape of a knife be, and how long? And what about the handle? What should it look like?

Many knives are beautiful to the eye of the beholder, but the big buffalo skinner that looked so impressive in the store doesn't seem so fine when the handle is gouging your ribs in the middle seat of a rig bouncing along just before daylight. Also, that mini-folder that would be easy to carry might be found wanting out on that steep

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New Is Old (continued from page 4)

and bayonet dated Sept. 25, 1925 under patent number 1,553,985, and Max P. Herrman's coil spring loaded Automatically Opening Pen Knife dated Oct 19, 1926 patent number 1,603,914.

The seventh is by Paul Giesen dated Nov. 7, 1927 patent number 1,647,405, seems more on track of the Lev R Lock with a pivotal blade, the pivoted end of which engages with "tooth like projections" in a "toothing" of a support movably arranged in the back of the knife handle. The novelty consists in that the support is guided by a cross pin in slots of the sidewalls of the knife handle, so that the support does not project from the knife handle even in the open position of the blade. This invention basically makes the pivotal end of the knife a partial gear.

The next listed patent is by Friedrich Hanns Greve dated May 7, 1940 with the patent number 2,199,430, is a more complex device



Parts from Lev-R-Lok knife made by Camillus Cutlery.

using two multi toothed adjoining gears with one gear attached the pivotal end of the blade and one gear attached to a lever. The lever gear also has another four notched gear attached to it with tension applied by two leaf springs to keep the lever from moving freely without pressure being applied on the lever.

Sam Siegal is next up to bat with his (continued on page 8)

Shape of a Knife (continued from page 6)

frozen slope when you're trying to keep a 400 pound carcass from sliding off into the creek.

I think I will have to agree that there is no all around knife. It's probable that one can come close by considering the needs for the job and selecting something that feels good in the hand and also is pleasant to look at. A three to four inch blade will probably take care of any hunting situation that most of us will ever encounter, and the shape of the blade and handle will be a matter of preference based on the owner's experience and information gained from conversations with others.

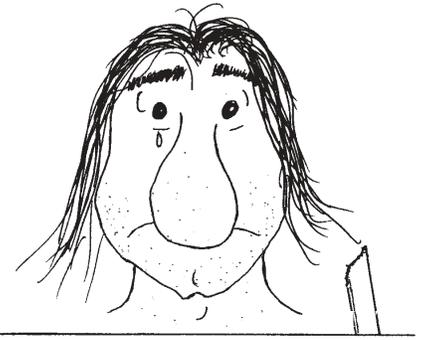
There certainly are plenty of blade shapes from which to choose: straight hunter, drop-

point hunter, upswept point, clip point and some unusual shapes. Various handle shapes are available as well. One can select from straight with a knob or dropped butt-cap on through different shapes with no butt-cap, and ends that are square or round or undercut or over swept. This may be confusing to a buyer, but add to that whether to have a guard or bolsters or finger grooves or nothing between the handle material and the blade. Then there is the question as to whether to have a palm swell or not. The same can be said as to whether to carry a straight blade or a folder. Either will do the job, and similar shapes of blades can be found in both. It is clearly an individual choice that should be given some time.

I guess the shape of a knife is what you want it to be. 

Cut-toon

Dronk Knives 10,000 B.C.



Dronk learns that knives make lousy pry bars. However, the tanto is born.

Williams? Knives? Bone for? Fung?

OKCA Club
Whot-zits & Whos Zits

- Darroid (Ole) Olson**
President (541) 914-7238
- Loy Moss**
Vice President (541) 747-7600
- Elayne Ellingsen**
Sec/Tres. (541) 484-5564
- Michael Kyle**
Master at Arms (541) 998-5729
- Dennis Ellingsen**
Show Coordinator (541) 484-5564
- Knewsletter** by elayne & dennis
- Cut-toons** by Judy & Lonnie Williams
- Web page** <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/>
- Club e-mail** okca@oregonknifeclub.org
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

OKCA Membership includes Knewslettter, dinner/swap meetings, free admission to OKCA shows, free OKCA Winter Show tables, and the right to buy the OKCA Club Knife.

Please mail to OKCA, Box 2091, Eugene, OR 97402

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Eve (_____) _____ Day (_____) _____ Date _____

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

Mike & Barbs Corner

I can't believe how time is going by. It is March already and the Oregon Knife Collectors Show is coming on very strong. I am trying to make plans to get my display set up very fast Friday morning so that I will have the entire day to just roam around and do as I please. I think some good buys could be had during this time on Friday. The excitement Friday morning before the Show is awesome. We have people outside waiting anxiously to get in and get set up to start selling, trading or buying.

That reminds me about something: who trades knives anymore? I have not traded any lately and have not heard of anyone trading a knife for a knife or two. I guess if you wanted something bad enough and were short of cash you might ask for a trade and some cash. If you want the knife that bad, you need to sell one of yours or visit the ATM. I don't know that I have seen any knives that I would do just about anything to get. If you wait and take your time, you will get the knife you want. If you don't get it today, you always have tomorrow.

Barb and I went to the Oregon Coast last week for the Newport Wine Festival and did visit a couple of antique stores. I did

manage to pick up a nice little knife. It is called a Wire-Jack and is a single blade knife. The blade has etching on it that reads "Keystone Steel & Wire Co. Peoria Ill. Red Brand" fence. The single blade knife also has a bottle opener and is marked Pat 9-21-26. I called Dennis Ellingsen, and he knew all about it right away.

Dennis has a collection of these knives and has done several articles on them. For me it was my first Wire-Jack, but I will be looking around and may pick up more.



I also just received a copy of the Shepherd Hills Cutlery Spring catalog for 2003. Something that did strike my eye was a knife that looked a little different. Most of the Case knives I have seen do not have the belt clip on them and do not have the one hand opening. On the front page of the book is a bone stag folding hunter type knife with single blade clip blade. The knife is 4" closed and is a 6512651C SS priced at \$64.99. It looks like a knife that you might want to carry.

Speaking of carrying, yes I am carrying my Christmas present from my Mom for December, 2002. It is a Schrade three bladed stockman pattern 885UH. It's a great pocket knife to carry on ones person. Fits in the pocket well and has three different types of blades to choice from. The handle is imitation bone but looks good and has Uncle Henry on the side.

I also carry another knife with me at all times. Barb bought it from Phyllis Goddard about three or four years ago. It is a Spyderco single blade lock back with one hand opening. The knife was designed by Wayne Goddard for Spyderco. This knife has Wayne Goddard's signature on the blade and is numbered 222 on one side and 322 on the other. The knife has a pocket clip, and the handle appears to be micarta. What I like about the knife is that all the corners are rounded off, and it fits in my pocket very well.

I am going to close for this Knewsletter, but don't forget to stop by our Remington display at the Show for the big surprise. Go through the main doors and make a hard left to the wall. You can't miss it. Have a good one.

Mike & Barb Kyle 2003.

New Is Old (continued from page 7)

invention dated Feb. 18, 1947 under the patent number 2,416,277 and commonly known to many as the Jet Knife Corp. knife which is still seen quite often for sale on ebay auctions. This appears to be advancement on the invention of Paul Giesen where the pivotal end of the knife is a gear. Siegal must have been a salesman as well as an inventor because where most inventors provide a short statement about the knife before getting into the mechanics, Siegal provides a lengthy sales pitch. Perhaps that is why so many of his knives were produced, as he was part inventor, part huckster.

There are other more modern day patents listed by William J Taylor Jr. including two by Phillip W. Gibbs a twenty-year employee with Camillus Cutlery that were filed with the U. S. Patent office in 1989 and 1991 dealing with lock open feature and improved spring element. I originally speculated if this was the cause of Camillus obtaining the rights to the knife. When running the rough

draft of this article past my contact at Camillus, he spoke to Phil Gibbs. Phil Gibbs told him that he asked that all credit for the design of the Lev R Lok go to Bill Taylor, that Bill designed the knife, Soque River Knives was the original brand and only later did Camillus acquire the rights.

Looking over the diagrams of William J Taylor Jr.'s Lev-R-Lok and the various patents listed one can ascribe how one patent affected the design of the knife, then looking at another patent easily come to another theory. I will leave that conjecture to the willing reader who has enough spunk to look these patents up. However when Taylor came to the final design it was a blending of art, science and research with that inventor's touch of genius.

Camillus Cutlery produced four models: #5848 clip blade, # 5849 Piranha (serrated), #5850 Tanto and #5851 seat belt cutter. I have also been told that they supplied for a while a gut hook model exclusively for

Cabalas. If you have the gut hook model or any older lever style knives, please send a scan to beaker@sunset.net with any information you have on them and patent numbers if visible. Happy collecting, as you breeze your way through life. 

B K Brooks

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OKCA Free Classified Ads

Free classified ads will run up to three issues and then be dropped. Available only to paid members. Write your ad on anything you have handy (except banana peels) and mail to the **OKCA, PO Box 2091, Eugene OR 97402**. The number and size of ads submitted by a single member will be accepted or excepted dependent on available space and the mood of the editors.

Wanted - Robeson whittler pattern #633499 in brown bone. Should say Pocket Eze on the shield. Consideration given to one close to this pattern. ibdennis (541)484-5564 or ibdennis@oregonknifeclub.org M

Display Cases - Get your reservation in now to rent a display case at the Oregon Knife Show. These are handcrafted wood cases that measure 24 x 30 x 8. They are lock-able. Only a limited number are available. Contact the OKCA to reserve yours - (541)484-5564 or okca@oregonknifeclub.org

For Sale - Mint Case folders prior to 1984. All Appaloosa modes, plus melon testers, elephant toenail, 1980 sterling silver Lake Placid Olympics, doctors knives. Many, many others plus old Case catalog and memorabilia. Call Frank Miller (541)822-3458 or email fshnfrank@aol.com M

Buy/sell/trade - Randalls and custom knives. Call or email for current inventory: Jim Schick (209)333-1155, email jbschick@pacbell.net M

Stolen Knives - My entire inventory of my hand made knives were stolen on Dec 30, 02- my stamp is (R. Clark) if you have any information, please contact Roger Clark at (360)691-7228 or nik_fury@geminico.com F

For Sale-Oregon Club knives. Case 1979; Gerber 1980; Gerber 1981; Corrado 1982; Gerber 1985; Gerber 1986; Walster 1991; Huey 1993; Corrado 1994; Corrado 1995 silver folder. All are as new. Storage condition. Priced Levine #4 less 10%. Theo Fisher (530)459-3804 F

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European Red Stag-Good supply of crowns and slabs available, also available some knife parts mostly nickel silver guards and pommels. Call or email for information or see me at the April Show (Tables S1) in Eugene. Wild Boar Blades-Kopromed USA 1701 Broadway #282, Vancouver, WA 98663 - (888)735-8483 info@wildboarblades.com D

Waterjet Your Knife Parts - no heat effect, finished edge. Tolerance to .005. We will accept your DXF files or we will reverse engineer your physical parts and convert to computer drawings. Price, quality, service! References upon request. HYDRATECH INDUSTRIES Springfield OR (541)746-3366 D

For Sale - Randall knives bought, sold and traded. Also looking for a 1983 OKCA Gerber Paul Club knife. Call or email for current inventory: Jim Schick (209)333-1155, email jbschick@pacbell.net N

For Sale -6" x 12" Covel Surface grinder, 1/2 hp 110v, includes diamond dresser and assorted grinding wheels. \$2,000.00, contact Jim Gillespey Vancouver, WA (360)576-9114 or jmgillespey1@attbi.com S

Wanted - Commemorative Blue Grass Series-Belknap Hardware Company. Need mint condition numbers 1, 2, 7, 9, and 10. Please call Mike at (541)336-2107 or email at Mtyler77@webtv.net S

Wanted - John Ek knives marked Hamden,Conn and Miami,FL. Also original sheaths, catalogs and advertising items. Contact Richard at (619)437-0564 or at: kaasu111@aol.com S

For Sale - Blade blanks. Also some A2, D2 and O1. Contact Gene Martin at (541)846-6755 or email me: bladesmith@customknife.com S

For Sale - Complete engraving outfit. Large GRS ball w/accessories kit (1 piece missing), Gravermiester compressor, foot switch, one hand piece, assorted cutters, engraving book,

GRS sharpener with diamond and stone wheels, tool sharpener jig. Won't break up the set. Firm \$1,800. Contact Bill Herndon (661)269-5860 bhernsons1@aol.com S

For Sale - Natural finish Oak display box lined with black velvet 13-1/4 x 3-3/8 id dimensions 1-1/8 deep \$50 + s/h Craig Morgan (541)345-0152 S

Wanted - M.W. Seguire knives, Juneau, Alaska maker. Will consider most any condition. Contact Jack (805)489-8702 or email jh5jh@aol.com S

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

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

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

Krause Publications #1 Best Seller Knife Making Book - "Wayne Goddard's \$50 Knife Shop" This book is soft cover 8½ x 11, 160 pages, 16 page color gallery. \$19.95 + \$3.05 (\$23.00) shipping in U.S. Send a check or money order to: Goddard's, 473 Durham Ave, Eugene, OR 97404. Or call (541)689-8098 to order using Visa, MC or Discover cards.

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The Knewsletter
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Events Calendar March 2003

----- March 2003 -----		----- September 2003 -----	
Mar	15-16 -	Willamette Valley Arms - Eugene OR (OKCA)	Sep 12-14 - Spirit of Steel -Mesquite TX (KI)
Mar	14-15 -	Mason Dixon Show - Sharpsburg MD (KW-B)	Sep 19-21 - Louisville Fall Show -KY (KW-KI)
Mar	14-16 -	NKCA Ohio Spring Show -Wilmington (KW-B-KI)	----- October 2003 -----
Mar	21-22 -	Knife Show at McKinney Texas (KW-B)	Oct 24-26 - Ohio Fall Show -Wilmington (KW)
Mar	21-23 -	Badger Knife Show - Janesville WI (KW-B-KI)	----- November 2003 -----
Mar	22-23 -	Western Canada Knife Assoc. - Kamloops (KXA Grounds) (B)	----- December 2003 -----
Mar	28-29 -	Palmetto Cutlery -Spartanburg SC (KW)	Dec 13-13 - Oregon Knife Collectors Mini Winter Show - Eugene
----- April 2003 -----			
Apr	04-06 -	Shenandoah Valley Show - Harrisonburg VA (KW-B-KI)	
Apr	12-13 -	Oregon Knife Collectors - Eugene OR (KW-B-KI)	
Apr	11-12 -	Canadian Guild Show -Toronto (KW-B-KI)	
Apr	25-27 -	Louisville Spring Show - KY (KW-B-KI)	
Apr	25-27 -	Solvang Custom - California (B-KI)	
Apr	26-27 -	Gulf Coast Custom -Gulfport MS (KW-B)	
----- May 2003 -----			
May	03-04 -	Lucano Switzerland Espolama Show (KW-B-KI)	
May	24-25 -	Australian Knifemakers Guild - Melbourne (KW-B-KI)	
May	31-01 -	The Dover Show - Ohio (KW-B)	
----- June 2003 -----			
Jun	05-07 -	Parkers' Greatest - Pigeon Forge TN (KW-KI)	
Jun	13-15 -	Blade Show - Atlanta GA (KW-B-KI)	
Jun	20-22 -	NCCA Knife Show - Stamford CT (KW)	
Jun	21-22 -	Midnight Sun Custom Knife Show - Anchorage AK (KI-B)	
Jun	27-29 -	Springfield Knife Show - MO (KW-KI)	
----- July 2003 -----			
Jul	11-12 -	Knifemakers Guild Show - Orlando FL (KI)	
Jul	18-20 -	Montana Custom Show - Missoula MT (KW-KI)	
Jul	25-26 -	Queen Cutlery Show -Titusville PA (KW)	
----- August 2003 -----			
Aug	01-03 -	Central Texas Show -Austin TX (KW-KI)	
Aug	08-10 -	Central Kentucky Knife Show - Lexington (KW-KI)	
Aug	16-17 -	Great Northwest -Salem OR (KW)	
Aug	22-23 -	Tar Heel Cutlery -Winston Salem NC (KW-KI)	

DINNER MEETING



Thursday Evening

March 13, 2003

**G. Willickers
 440 Coburg Road
 Eugene Oregon**

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

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

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

