

Founded
October 21, 1984
Milwaukee, WI

Badger Knife Club
25 Years Strong

BADGER KNIFE CLUB



Spring 2009

Club Meeting Sunday, April 26 — 7 p.m.



The next meeting of the Badger Knife Club (BKC) will be Sunday, April 26, 2009, at 7 p.m. at the Milwaukee County Council, Boy Scouts of America, 330 S. 84 St., Milwaukee, WI (Exit 306 off I-94 at S. 84 St.). The meeting is held in the PieperPower Learning Center, lower level.

The **Featured Program** will be a very interesting panel-type discussion about judging done at the Annual Badger Knife Show. We will learn more about this aspect of the show from the person who organizes the awards and judging, from a judge and finally from a knife maker.

We will have the Attendance prize and the Progressive Attendance prize, which is up to \$15.00. **Peter Jansen** would have won \$10.00 at the last meeting if he would have been there. Dave Rortvedt won the \$5.00 Attendance Prize.

THANK YOU to **Col. Joe Fox, Gary Glowinski, Jake Jakus, Paul Katzer, John Stackpole and John Woodruff** for their donating prizes for the club raffle.

Bring along some of your knives to sell or trade—along with what you purchased or traded for at the recent Badger Knife Show to show off! We'll have free coffee and donuts waiting for you.

2009 Club Knife

We still have a few of the 2009 Club Knives available. It is a beautiful Schatt & Morgan two blade English Jack. This is a limited production of 50 made especially for our Club by Queen Cutlery. The order deadline is May 1 and cost is \$84.00. Contact Bob Schrap at (414) 771-6472 or email at badgerknifeclub@aol.com to order one.

Club Dues

Check the mailing label for your renewal date. If you received a dues statement with this newsletter, please send in your dues right away. You can pay one, two or three years at a time at \$5.00 per year. You can mail in your dues or pay at the next meeting. Check to be made out to Badger Knife Club. Your continued interest and support is truly appreciated.



Would you like a banner or afghan with your logo?
Contact Bob Schrap at (414) 771-6472.

Collecting Miniature Knives

By Richard Heise

Miniature knives come in several forms. First there are souvenir pieces such as small swords, folders or fixed blades, sometimes having a logo on them. They can be found while on vacation, in second-hand stores, at knife shows and often in unexpected places. These are usually relatively inexpensive and can make an interesting and memorable collection. There are also factory made miniatures of all types. You may have seen some of the little switchblades, daggers, folders and others which are usually of fairly good quality. They are mass-produced and reasonable priced. Often found in dealer catalogs and on sale tables at knife shows, these again are a nice variety to collect. All of the above mentioned knives come in many sizes and there is no standard scale in their production. Sometimes they are made to be used as letter openers, jewelry with a neck chain or even as earrings.

Finally there are the custom miniatures made by knife makers all over the world. These are one-of-a-kind pieces produced by hand with the skill of each individual knife maker. Most of these pieces are by makers who normally produce full sized knives but occasionally make a mini just to try something different. There are also quite a number of high quality makers who specialize primarily in miniature knives. The sizes of these minis can vary but usually they are about 3 inches long give or take a half-inch and can be fixed-blades or folders. Occasionally you will see “micro-minis” which can be as small as 1/4 inch. The prices of these customs can range from under \$50 to several hundreds of dollars depending on quality, maker reputation and materials used such as Damascus, jewels, gold, etc. These can be procured primarily from makers

Continued on page 6

Silent Auction Donors

Each year the BKC receives generous donations of knives, books, art work and many knife-related items to be used at the Silent Auction at the show (with a few items for our ladies!). This year was no different. The proceeds of the Silent Auction makes the difference between breaking even or having proceeds to fund the Club expenses and activities for the year. Thank you to all of these generous donors:

Dave Ricke: Ricke folder lock back & case

Glen Mikolajczyk & Peter Martin: Hunter knife

Peter Martin: Martin W-2 steel tanto w/ostrich leg handle & sheath

Cecil Douglas: Set of 9 knife pins

Jerry Kohls & Fred Harrington: Kohls hunter & sheath with engraving by Fred Harrington

AffeeNevling: Red/black glass bead necklace

Ed Brandsey: Brandsey neck knife & sheath

Dave Kohls: Kohls hunter & sheath, red to charcoal apaca handle

Clarence De Yong: Snake—hand forged from a metal file

Mike Sakmar: Three-color Mokume “Raindrop Pattern” bolster material

Mike Spors: Pete Syverson Nordic skinner

Rick Barrett: Barrett Damascus neck knife

Zaza Revishvili: Fabríge style egg

Matt Lerch: Lerch & Steigerwalt nitrous assisted framelock knife

J.P. Miller: Miller mini neck knife & sheath

Jeannette Rochford: Handmade purse

John Metry: Mother-of-pearl necklace w/gold filled bail

Nick Smolen: Smolen Forge Damascus bolsters

Blade Magazine: 2009 *Knives Annual* & 1997-2009 (132 issues) of *Blade* magazine on DVD

Richard Johnson: Johnson Damascus hunter knife & sheath

Chuck Syslo: Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) hunter & sheath

Peter Albert: Odocoileus hunting knife & sheath

Jerry Kohls: Kohls hunter & sheath w/ Sucupira handle

Steve Kohls: Kohls kitchen knife 440C linen marcarta

Doug Ponzio: Ponzio Damascus “Feather & Twist” patterns bolster material

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO Dwight Mason for making and donating the Custom Makers draw knife

2009 Badger Knife Club Show Awards

BEST CUTLERY ARTISTRY – Lori Ristinen

Scrimshaw of a leopard and a cheetah done on legal ivory on a Frank Centofante folder. One jungle cat on each side of the folder.

BEST BASIC KNIFE – Douglas Alcorn

A Bird & Trout style fixed blade knife. Odin's Eye pattern, stainless Damasteel (Damascus) with 416 stainless steel bolster and pins and a desert ironwood handle.

BEST FANTASY / ART KNIFE – Philip Booth

One of a series of hot rod themed knives that Philip is making. This is a front engine, rail-type, dragster with a liner-locking blade. The dragster body is forged and heat colored tool steel with stainless steel supercharger scoop, header pipes, and valve covers. The wheels are micarta. When open, the blade simulates smoke behind the dragster. There is a place behind the dragster body for a cap so that the knife can open with a "bang"!

BEST FIXED BLADE KNIFE – Peter Martin

A traditional "S"-guard Bowie with upset ladder pattern Damascus blade with fossil walrus ivory handle. The guard and spacer are also Damascus. Pins are 14K gold. The sheath is wood lined inside with velvet and covered outside with shark skin.

BEST FOLDING KNIFE – Peter Martin

Single blade, liner-locking style folder with mosaic Damascus blade incorporating both 3-leaf and 4-leaf clovers. The bolsters are matching Damascus. Handle is blue, fossil "brain" coral. The knife spine has inlaid tangerine garnets. Settings and thumb stud are 14K gold. Bolsters are inlaid with 22K gold wire. Liners are titanium. Knife is fully fileworked.

JUDGES' AWARD – Ed Lary

Hunting knife made to honor a US Navy Korean War veteran. The blade is polished ATS34 stainless steel. The ricasso was hand carved to incorporate a 3-dimensional ship's anchor with twisted, bronze wire simulating the anchor rope. The handle is northern, white-tailed deer antler. The patriotic display stand has a polished and lacquered wood base with a spread-wing eagle that incorporates fiber-optic lights and a flag background.

BEST-IN-SHOW – Mike Zscherny—Traditional, Slip-Joint Folder

A bare-end, dog-leg, 2-blade, slip-joint, jack knife pattern with jugged, dark green bone handles and front, threaded bolsters. The spear and pen blades are of 154CM, satin-finished, steel. Inlaid, bowtie shield. The closed length is 3.625". According to the judges, fit, finish, and function were near perfect.

Commemorative

Collection/Display Plaques

Commemorative plaques were awarded to the following five displays:

1. Karl Hallberg: Collection of miniature, ivory handled, Bowie knives by various makers. Includes legal whale, hippo, elephant, fossil mammoth, and fossil walrus ivory.
2. Karl Hallberg: Collection of 25 handmade, skinning knives by various makers with legal whale tooth handles. Several have scrimshaw embellishment.
3. Joyce Hembrook: Collection of antique, glass knives.
4. Lester Levinson: Collection of miniature knives by various makers – his "babies".
5. Thompson Irish Settlers: Display of knives handmade by youth in the 4H arts and crafts program.

Upcoming Shows 2009

April 25-26: Wolverine Knife Collectors Show, Novi, MI, contact Pat Donovan 586-786-5549

May 29—31: 28th Annual Blade Show, Atlanta, GA. Contact Krause Publication 715-445-2214.

Did You Know:

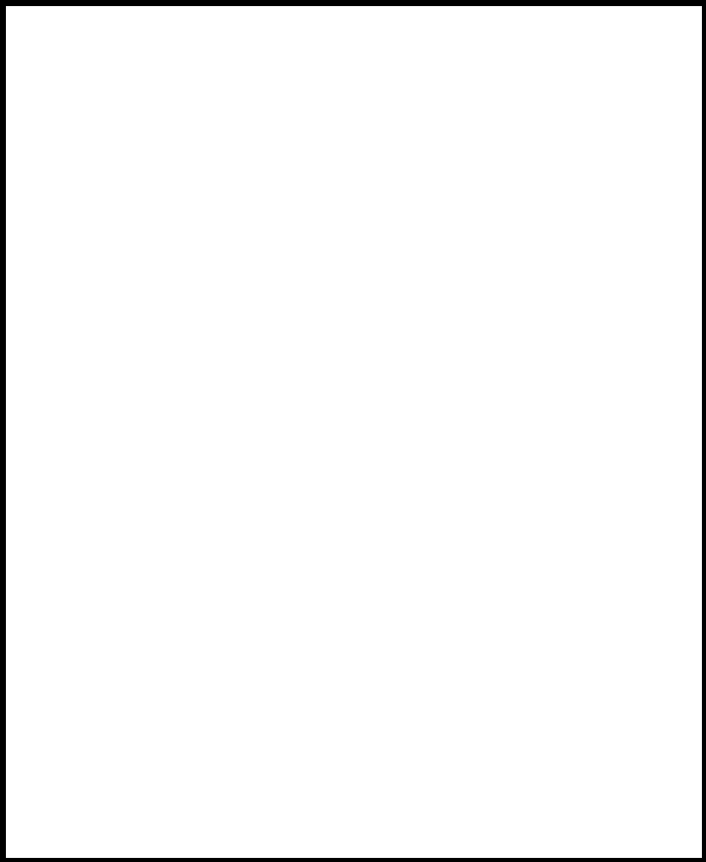
- Ants don't sleep
- A donkey can see all four feet at the same time
- Kangaroos can't walk backward
- Dolphins sleep with one eye open
- Cows can walk up stairs but not down
- If you cut off a cockroach's head, it can survive for weeks before it starves to death

Editorial: Reprinted with permission from the *North Star Blade* Newsletter and the author.

Collecting Miniature Knives by Richard Heise continued:

and secondary dealers at knife shows and of course the internet is always a good source of information

I have enjoyed knives all of my life but didn't start serious collecting until I bought my first custom miniature from Paul Myers in 1987 at the Chicago show. Since then my collection has grown to 163 knives by 104 different makers. Twenty-one of these is the very first miniature produced by a maker. There are also 42 different handle materials. I have specialized in fixed-blades because they are more available and are just my favorites. Mini folders are harder to find and usually quite a bit more expensive. I look for well-proportioned pieces that would appear to be full sized knives if a picture of them were blown up. An advantage of minis is that they are very easy to store, transport and show. Collecting has taken me to knife shows all over the mid-west and southern part of the country allowing me to meet many a great makers and knife enthusiasts. There are a lot of stories and memories that make this a fun and recommended way to collect high-quality custom knives.



2009 BKC Meeting Dates
April 26 July 26 October 25
Annual Badger Knife Show
March 26, 27 and 28, 2010

See you at the April 26th meeting!



*Badger Knife Club
P.O. Box 511
Elm Grove, WI 53122*