

Founded
October 21, 1984
Milwaukee, WI

Badger Knife Club
38 Years Strong



BADGER KNIFE CLUB

June 2023

Guest Speaker Rich Heise at the Club Meeting Sunday, July 30, 2023

We want to thank **Jon Winski**, who was our guest speaker at the April meeting. His talk on various blade edges and the knack of how to sharpen a blade was very interesting and educational. A big thank you to Jon.

Our speaker for July will be **Rich Heise** who will tell us about his collection of miniature custom-made knives. This is worth your while to see and hear about this fabulous collection. The next meeting of the Badger Knife Club (BKC) will be Sunday, July 30, 2023, at 7 p.m. at the Three Harbors Council, Boy Scouts of America, 330 S. 84 St., Milwaukee, WI, lower level PieperPower Learning Center. (Exit 306 off I-94 at S. 84 St.).

Come and join in the fellowship and have some fun along with the coffee, juice and cupcakes—courtesy of **Jon Winski**. Bring one of your favorite knives or some of those that you like to collect and tell us why.

Bob Schrap, President, Badger Knife Club

2023 Annual Badger Knife Show Win-a-Knife Survey and Comments

By Lisa Schulze

Our 2023 Badger Knife Club show was a hit! Despite the unpredictable spring weather of Wisconsin, the show was well attended and very much enjoyed!

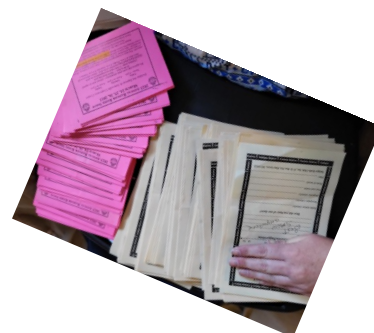
We want to thank all of our wonderful table holders, those who attended and those who spread the word about the show. From the “Win-a-Knife” surveys that were filled out this year, we got some great feedback!

The majority in attendance are members and/or attended the show because they received a postcard mailer. We had several come because they listened to the radio station commercials and interviews done at the show. A lot of people attending this year heard about it from others! We’d like to thank **Mark Nevling** and **Tim Perrin** who were specifically named in the survey for spreading the word about the show! There was a crew of people who heard about it from table holders at dinner one night at the local Texas Roadhouse. We also had a group of people attend because of social media publicity including from Facebook, specifically the Cross Knives Facebook group, several from Insta-

gram posts, a YouTube channel and from the BKC website. This is amazing! Thank you so much for spreading the word!

We have read all of the suggestions and comments and have overwhelmingly positive responses. There are suggestions that we will be taking in account for next year’s show. We truly thank you for your attendance and support for the show and the Club! We will see you at our next show from March 22-24, 2024! And if you have not already done so, follow the club on our **NEW Facebook** page:

The Official Badger Knife Club <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3279707665601251/>



Badger Knife Club, P.O. Box 511, Elm Grove, WI 53122—Bob Schrap (414)771-6472

Phone & Fax: 414-479-9765 E-mail: badgerknifeclub@aol.com www.badgerknifeclub.com

2023 Badger Knife Club Show Awards

Best Custom Folder—David Kulis - Best Custom Fixed Blade Knife—Cody Hofsommer



Best Custom Folder 2023
David Kulis



Best Custom Fixed Blade
Knife 2023
Cody Hofsommer



Judging 2023 and Changes for 2024

We want to thank **Bob Stachowicz** for handling the judging for 2023.

We are now taking the time to revisit the judging format for the 2024 show. We heard your comments from the 2023 show—and we have listened to your suggestions. We will try to bring back some of the former categories and add new areas to judge. We can revisit the time we do the judging. **If you feel that you have the knowledge and abilities to work in this area, please contact the club.**

BKC 2023 Show Notes

Attendance the last couple of years was affected by Covid. The good news is that attendance has begun to come back. The sales of *three-day passes* and *early birds* were well received—many attendees were seen *all three days*! From the article on page one, we can see that there are many ways to get the message out about our show.

Magazines were a hot item! Stacks were donated and placed on the sales table—and just as fast—SOLD—for the bargain price of \$.50 each or 3 for \$1.00! So, **save your magazines and donate them to the show next year.**

For the first time, club membership applications were included in the table holders packets, asking for their support of the club. Many responded. Thank you!

The **radio program** streaming live from our show was a great means of bringing people to the show. **Jon Winski** did a superb job of handling the commentary with the radio hosts and in securing people for interviews. Thanks to all those who participated.

Upcoming meeting dates for 2023 — July 30 & October 29

Club Meeting Programs

After thirty years I am running out of ideas for **Featured Programs!** I would like some of your thoughts of what you would like. We are always looking for interesting **speakers** and **topics** for our meetings. If you know of someone, or if you have something to share with us, please give us a call. **THIS** is **YOUR** Club! Get involved and become our October program! Please call Bob at 414-479-9765.

Patches and Pins

Back by popular demand! The NEW Badger Knife Club **cloth patches** and an all **NEW pin** will be available at the meeting for \$5.00 each. Patches can be mailed—but the pins cannot due to the thickness of the pin. Come to the meeting!

Club Dues

Because we had a couple of years of no knife shows, meetings or newsletters, dues were not collected. The Club is in need of reinstating the membership dues of \$5.00 a year (yes, still only \$5.00 a year.) payable on a one, two or three+ year basis. Please continue your membership. Make your check out to the Badger Knife Club and mail to Badger Knife Club, P.O. Box 511, Elm Grove, WI 53122. Check your yellow membership card for your expiration date.

Silent Auction

The BKC appreciates the many **generous people who donated** to the Silent Auction—a major income that keeps the club running. And we want to thank **all of you that bid** on the items.

Silent Auction Donors for 2023: Clarence De Young, Jim Enlow, Mark Erickson, Dave & Victoria Evans, Cody Hofsommer, Bob Lane, Landon Knives “Irish”, Gary Moore-Moore Cutlery (retired), Randy Peters, Doug Ponzio, Ron Richardson, Mike Sakmar, Helmut Sakschek, Mike Spors, and Bill Wright (In memory of Richard Wright). In addition of ten items donated by Friends of the Badger Knife Club or Anonymously.

Annual Badger Knife Show—March 22, 23, 24, 2024

If you are thinking of securing a table for the 2024 Badger Knife Show, now is the time! We are over 75% sold out. Tables have become available due to some past table holders retiring.

It will be held same time—same place—at the Holiday Inn Express and Janesville Conference Center located at I-90 and U.S. Hwy 14 in Janesville, WI. The date is **March 22, 23 and 24, 2024**. It was encouraging to see so many new table holders at the 2023 show from the next generation of knife enthusiasts—and younger faces as attendees. Good to see the traditions carrying on. Contact Bob Schrap at the number below.

2023 How Did You Hear of the Show

Compiled By Lisa Schulze

- 101 Postcard
- 33 I am a Member
- 10 Radio (The Hog 105.2, JLO and WJVL 99.9)
- 2 Janesville Gazette
- 28 Word of mouth— Names mentioned were Mark Nevling, Tim Perrin, (thanks) and people at Texas Roadhouse and from their friend, son, husband, dad or mom
- 3 Facebook
- 7 Return every year (5th time here, been here for 25 years!)
- 11 Website, Internet search, Instagram, used to have a table, chef, BKC staff, staying at the hotel
- 1 Show “Knife Show” - might be YouTube?

2023 Comments/Suggestions

Compiled By Lisa Schulze

- ⇒ I didn't know something like this existed. Great knives & axes. Great people. Great experience!
- ⇒ More signs by freeway or on main road to advertise.
- ⇒ Thanks for sending out the reminder card.
- ⇒ Have attended for years. Past member was expired 3-1-23 but renewed.
- ⇒ Great show, getting very crowded. May need to explore a new venue.
- ⇒ New address—update in database.
- ⇒ Love your show.
- ⇒ Good the way it is.
- ⇒ Show is great but COLD! Have people keep the rear exterior doors shut!
- ⇒ Good show/Great show (times 10)
- ⇒ Enjoyed the show. Would be nice to have more often.
- ⇒ Best show around.
- ⇒ Best show anywhere.
- ⇒ Nice show. Friendly people. Wish it was more often.
- ⇒ More room in aisles and between tables.
- ⇒ Loved the show. 5th time here.
- ⇒ First time at the show, so no idea what to expect.
- ⇒ Signage—mark table row to help find bladesmith.
- ⇒ It's fun!