



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2001 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

In November and December the following people were nominated for the TKCA Board of Directors: Bob Blasingame, Chuck Dominy, Mike Fisher, Terry Hearn, Wallace Pollock, Bill Ruple and Johnny Stout. The three board members elected were Bob Blasingame, Bill Ruple and Johnny Stout.

NEWS RELEASE FROM CHRIS CARLSON,

Central Texas Knife Show

The show on August 2nd – 4th is a little over 2/3 sold out and is shaping up to be another good show this year. A few of the folks that are signed up to be there are as follows: Bill Ruple, Bailey Bradshaw, Allen Elishewitz, Johnny Stout, Bruce Voyles, Jim Sargent, Joe Seale, Harvey Dean, John Fitch, Masao Takahashi, Claude Eddy, J. B. Moore and Duane Dushane. There will be another Texas style knife auction this year and door prizes. If anyone would like to donate door prizes please contact me. Tables are \$120.00. If you plan to get a table do not put it off too long. Contact: [Central Texas Knife Show](#)

HAMMER-IN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This picture was taken at the Mesquite show. It's the first scholarship award presented to Tony Huffman by Jim Lemcke, President of TKCA, and Johnny Stout, as representative, for the Guadalupe Forge Hammer-In & Knifemaker's Rendezvous.



This award is sponsored by the TKCA. It is awarded twice a year to paid up members that attend the Hammer-In. A random drawing is held during the weekend of the Hammer-In and the names include

all the attendees that are members. The winner is reimbursed \$150.00, the cost of his tuition.

The latest scholarship recipient for the January Hammer-In is Bill Foote, knife maker and TKCA member from Austin. Sorry, no picture is available at this time.

TKCA 2001 HALL of FAME

The first induction to the Hall of Fame was done in January 2002 at the Guadalupe Forge Hammer-In and Knifemaker's Rendezvous. The first ever TKCA Hall of Fame Award was presented to Glenn Marshall from Mason, Texas.



TEXAS ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

The Texas Arts & Crafts Fair is held each May during Memorial Day Weekend. We have over 22,000 attendees

who spend about \$850,000 on fine arts & crafts. As a part of our mission we are tasked with promoting Texas artists and craftsmen. We are also tasked with promoting "rare" Texas crafts.

I am looking for a knife maker to demonstrate knife-making skills during the fair. This year the fair is May 24 to May 27 located on the Schreiner University Campus in Kerrville, Texas. The Texas Rangers will be exhibiting, along with our theme of "the cowboy years" for the 2002 fair.

I would like to have a knife maker that makes knives that would have been used in cowboy years by cowboys, soldiers and settlers of the time. If you have someone who comes to mind I would appreciate talking with him or her. They will be able to sell or obtain commissions during the fair and we will of course be happy to promote their participation at the fair.

R. B. Miller
Texas Arts & Crafts Educational Foundation
P. O. Box 291527, Kerrville, TX 78029
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NEWS RELEASE FROM ROBBY ARMSTRONG **Sec-Treasurer, Alabama Forge Council**

The Alabama Forge Council is proud to present the 14th Annual Batson Bladesmithing Symposium & Knife Show on 5-7 April 2002 at Tannehill State Park, McCalla, Alabama. Bring items for auction & knives for knife show on Saturday. Send the entrance fee of \$125 to Robby Armstrong, 189 Broad-Armstrong Drive, Brownsboro, AL 35741 (256/539-3975), armstrong37@home.com. Make check or money order out to "Alabama Forge Council". Master Card and VISA accepted; send card number, card expiration date and your name as it appears on card. For further information check the AFC website <http://www.afc.abana-chapter.com>

The Demonstrators are:

- * Joe Keeslar MS, Almo, KY, will forge a blade, heat treat and grind. He will then haft the blade with guard, handle and pommel. In short he will show you how to make a knife from start to finish.
- * Ron Newton MS, London, AR, will forge weld a powder Damascus blade and demonstrate Lock Back folders. He will also show his method of fabricating knife handles and sheaths from Stainless Steel.
- * Don Whitzler, Perrysburg, OH, will demonstrate old timey knife making for Rendezvous and the forging of silver into jewelry.
- * Don Fogg MS, Jasper, AL will demonstrate Damascus steel welding and patterns.

- * Alex Daniels, Town Creek. AL will form sheath fittings, pommels out of sheet silver using press & Bonny Doone methods. He will also demonstrate Silver Casting.
- * Mel Pardue, Repton, AL, will show you how to make liner lock folders.
- * Bill Hernden JS, Action, CA, will weld German silver with a tig welder and show you a multitude of knife making jigs and short cuts.
- * Jerry Fisk MS, Locksburg, AR & Mike Williams, will conduct the Cutting contest. Bring your 10-inch blade camp or Bowie. Knife must have one visible pin and thong hole.
- * Chuck Patrick, Brasstown, NC, Old Timey Friction Folders
- * "Hog" Larry Harley JS, Bristol, TN, will teach Knife Grinding, Metal Finishes.
- * Rick Furrer, WI, & Harley will make steel, from dirt to steel.
- * John DeMesa will demonstrate sword-polishing techniques.
- * Steve Schwarzer MS, Pomona Park, FL will assist.
- * B R Hughes & Mike Williams, ABS knife judging.
- * Kenny Rowe, Hope AR will demonstrate Leather Work.
- * Hands on Bladesmithing with John Wayne Taylor
- * Learn to Scrimshaw from Mary Bailey
- * Engraving from Billy Bates & Jesse Houser
- * Rendezvous Sheaths with Tom Sterns
- * Krydex Sheaths with Ray Kirk
- * Bader Grinders with Dan Johnson
- * Auction Colonels Tim Ryan & Anthony Goodrum

JASON HOWELL'S HAMMER-IN

I attended my first Hammer-In at Guadalupe forge in late 1997. Johnny Stout and Harvey Dean put on one heck of a good hammer-in. I learned more in one weekend than I could have in several years on my own. I knew I wanted to teach others as I had been taught.

Last September I bought a new place with a couple of acres. We made sure it was big enough to have room for all my knife making buddies to pile up and make stuff. The time had come to have my first Hammer-in. It was slated for Saturday and Sunday, Dec 1st and 2nd, 2001 and I was unsure of what the weather would bring. It rained the week before and was in the 40's, but by Saturday it had dried up and was in the 60's..

Seven guys showed up... Jimmy Cox, Arnold Finch, Beal Finch, Butch Roden, David Melass, Robert Richard, and Don Mayer. For some help in instruction, I lined up Richard Epting from College Station to show us how to make sheaths. He is a great craftsman and was on hand to show us how it's done right. He also makes knives (fixed, liner locks, scale release autos), but his sheaths make them shine.

Another Aggie I coerced into helping out was Chester Darcey. Chester makes slick fixed, slip joints, liner locks, scale release autos and manages to put on some awesome file work. I'm not very good at file work myself, so I appreciate the talent it takes to do quality file work.

Saturday AM we served coffee and donuts, introduced ourselves and started with Chester doing some file work. He covered the tools needed, patterns and technique. Before lunch we cut and stacked some 1094 and 15N20 for a straight laminated forged billet, using hot-cuts, the press, treadle, and trip hammer. The billet was then normalized and annealed.

In the afternoon Richard showed us some leatherwork, how to do a sheath start to finish, tooling and research material. I did a little grinding, flat and a hollow grind. Saturday after everyone left, Chester file worked and I heat-treated one of the blades I ground.

It rained all Saturday night and Sunday, so we were confined to the shop Sunday. It was mostly Questions and Answers, tips, tricks, fixes, and just visiting.

Thanks to Texas Knifemaker's Supply for providing several door prizes (stag scales, gift certificate, a cap). Arnold Finch also donated 2 sets of wood scaled, and we gave away the knife we made, complete with bolsters and scales, ready to assemble. Absolutely everyone walked away with a tangible prize in addition to everything learned during the weekend.

We plan on doing this every year, but will probably shift to a little earlier in the fall. If you're interested in being contacted, please let me know. Phone number is (979) 297-9454 or email: tinyknives@yahoo.com

EDGES OF HISTORY:

WW I Folding Fighter

By Curtis Wilson – Knifemaker



This folding fighter was forged and built in Prussia by Robert Klass. The knife was made during or prior to World War I. It saw use during that great conflict, and was brought to the U.S. by a relative of its current owner.

Originally the knife had an early synthetic handle material on it and a leather arm sheath that came with the knife but it had all but disintegrated.

The owner had previously had the original handle replaced with wood and was not happy with the results. He decided he wanted something a little more towards the original scheme and brought it to me.

The knife is not an automatic but a lock-back with a lock release button for the blade in the closed position. After doing a satin finish on the blade, saving the makers mark, I completely rebuilt the knife. The owner opted for a Kydex sheath covered with black suede to replace the original one. Of the several hundred or so knives that I have refinished or rebuilt over the years this piece was the most memorable, challenging, and enjoyable piece to rebuild and refinish.



**ROBT KLAAS
PRUSSIA**

The finished product with the Makers Stamp saved for prosperity. Blade was hand sanded to a 1200 grit finish. Liners, bolsters, button release spring, one button release mount, and the handle scales are the only things replaced on this Piece of History.

Knives from the Movie: Iron Mistress

from the unsheathed article in Blade Magazine by Steve Shackelford

Part of the knife collection of Joe Musso from the movie will be part of the Davy Crockett Exhibition. The exhibition will be at the new Texas State History Museum in Austin, Texas, from March 2, 2002 through August 18, 2002.

KNIFEMAKER / COLLECTOR SHOWCASE:

How to Turn a Small Work Area into a Shop

By Wallace Pollock – Knifemaker

Assisted by Pat Osborn

For handwork I have put together a work area that allows me to do many tasks in a small space. This room is 8 ft. x 10 ft. The table that I use to hand finish blades is set up with 2 vises, 2 knifemaker vises and a holding fixture. The pictures will show this in detail.

Picture 1 is the fixture for holding the blade while I sand by hand. I generally finish the blade to 320 grit on the grinders, then start with 180 grit wet/dry sand paper, using a 45 degree cross hatch pattern. As the scratches go away, I change to 280, 400, 600, and 800 grits. The 800 grit I use straight, i.e. with the grain of the blade, or straight with the length of the blade. Then I repeat the last step with 600 grit, again going with straight strokes. The last strokes need to be fairly rapid as it is easy to go off that nice straight line.



Picture 2 is a blade vise I made to finish handles and do some detail work.



Picture 3 is a small adjustable vise used for file work and fine details.



Pictures 4 and 5 show standard vise I use for multiple tasks. Mounted in the vise is a blade fixture that I made for long blades. I can also mount a flat piece of metal for rough squaring of handle material, and other flattening tasks.



YOUTH NEWS:

My First Knife

By Kevin Warner – Knifemaker, Youth Member TKCA

I am Kevin Warner and I have started making knives. I am eleven years old and after a long time of working around my dad's shop and helping him with different projects, I decided I wanted to try making knives. I got a Popsicle stick that my dad uses for mixing epoxy and carved out a knife with my pocketknife. It came out pretty good but it was not a real knife. My dad told me to make a knife out of wood and see how I do.

I got some pine wood with some pretty good grain in it and made a knife. I called it "Woodmascus" because of the grain in the blade. I used some mosaic pins to attach the walnut handle. I did file work on this knife also. It came out really good and I gave it to Gene Osborn at the Spirit of Steel show here in Texas. I also signed up as a junior member of the TKCA at the show.

After the show, I talked to my dad about making a "REAL" knife. The next Saturday, we took a high carbon railroad spike and cut the head off of it. My dad flattened it out a little in the hydraulic press and then gave it to me. Together we talked about the steps needed to forge the knife and then I started hammering. It took a long time because I don't hit the steel hard enough to move it fast but ended up with a pretty good knife. After forging the knife, I had to file it to shape and file the blade angles, and then I had to sand them down until it shined. I heat treated it in the forge and quenched it in water. Then I had to finish it up by putting the handle on. I used Maroon linen micarta for the handle.

I will not give this knife away and I won't sell it either. My parents have it in a display case to keep it for me. It is cool to make a knife out of an old piece of steel. You never know what you can do unless you try new things. I like knife making and am designing my second knife now. The best part of knife making is when people say, "You made this?"



CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN!



PRESIDENT'S VOICE:

By Jim Lemcke

Congratulations to Glenn Marshall our first Texas Knife maker's & Collectors Association Hall of Fame Inductee. I enjoyed visiting with Glenn and his wife Frances at the TKCA Hall of Fame presentation at the Guadalupe Forge Hammer-In in New Braunfels. Glenn talked about getting started in knife making and showed his first hand made knife. There will be an article on Glenn in Knives Illustrated in the next few months.

Curtis and LaRea Wilson have volunteered to publish the TKCA newsletter "Sharp Edges". They will need your help in providing articles, pictures, advertisements, want ads and suggestions to constantly improve our newsletter.

I would like to thank Pat Osborn for her work in the first publications and distribution of our newsletter.

I am looking forward to a great year in 2002 for the Texas Knifemakers & Collectors Association.

USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

FREE: Forge Material

One 16 inch x 40 inch water purification bladder canister. All you have to do is pay for shipping. First come first served. Contact Curtis Wilson for more information at (817) 295-3732.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

The TKCA offers 4-line classified space free for its members. The sale of advertising space will offset the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. The revenue from advertising will also help the newsletter evolve into an informative and entertaining publication.

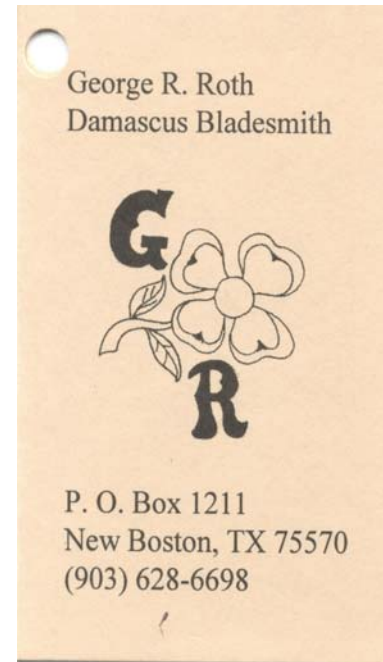
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