

Nife Notes

Badger Knife Club 30 Years Strong

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2016 Meeting Dates All Sundays!

January 31
April 24
July 31
October 30

2016
BKC Show
April 1, 2 & 3, 2016

The next meeting of the Badger Knife Club (BKC) will be Sunday, January 31, at 7:00 p.m. at the Three Harbors Council, Boy Scouts of America, 330 S. 84 Street, Milwaukee, WI, lower level PieperPower Learning Center.

Note: The Reconstruction of the I-94/U.S. 45 corridor continues to be a factor in accessing the meeting area—use caution. The road in front of the BSA Center is now open.

The Feature Program will have Life Club Member **Bob Schrap** talking about knives by Herter's. Some of you may recall the yellow Herter's Catalogs

from the fifties and sixties. Every item in the catalog had a long description of the item and proclaimed to be the "World's Best" by George Herter in Waseca, MN.

In addition to the outdoor goods catalogs he authored many cookbooks and outdoor living survival guides. Bob has used and collected Herter's knives over the years and will have examples with him to show. If you have a Herter's knife in your collection, bring it to the meeting.

The Progressive Attendance prize is up to \$10 after **Jim Konz's** name was select-

ed but not present. The Regular Attendance prize was won by **Paul Katzer**.

A special THANK YOU to the following persons who donated items for the club raffle: **Peter Albert, Ed Brandsey, Clarence De Yong, John Fleming, Col. Joe Fox and Keith Jacobs**.

Free coffee, juice and donuts. Bring some knives to buy, sell or just show off. Come and enjoy an evening of knives and the fellowship. See you there.

Email address? ! ?

Please be sure we have your current and correct email address. This way we can contact you in the event we have to reach you in a hurry, such as a meeting change.

Badger Club Knives

- We have a couple extra 2014 and 2015 Badger Club Knives available. This happens when we order a few extra for late responders and to round the order up for the next closet number.
- Up to now the club has offered to buy back Badger Club Knives from club member's widows at the original issue price if the are:
 1. Mint "as issued" condition
 2. Original box and papers if they come in one
 3. Unsharpened
 4. No rust or blemishes or damage
- The club would then make them available to members at the original issue price. This was well receive by newer

club members or members that might have missed out when they were originally sold.

- However, this can only be done as club funds are available and/or there is a need for them as determined by the club.
- We currently have Badger Club Knives available for years 2002 thru 2015. Contact Bob Schrap at 414-771-6472 who administers this. I will have them at the upcoming meeting.

Pound of Fun—June 25

The 2016 Pound of Fun will be June 25, 2016. **Jake Jakus** has graciously again opened up his property to a limited number of persons (50) to watch several skilled craftsmen demonstrate forging, grinding and finishing a knife. More in next newsletter.

2016 Badger Club Knife

The 2016 Badger Club Knife will be discussed at the meeting.

Miniature Knife Collecting by Rich Heise

I have had a strong interest in knives since I was about nine or ten years old. It is one of those things that if you had to ask why, you probably would not understand anyway. I always carried a pocket knife and had a nice sheath knife too. My buddies and I would sometimes play games like Mumbly Peg and Stretch as a reason to use our pieces. Because we lived out in the country south of St. Louis our blades often came in handy as we explored the woods and fields. As I got older I would add a few items to my collection, but of course there wasn't much money to spend on such things back in those days. Later I actually had to resist the urge to buy more knives because I didn't know what I would use them for, where to store them, etc.

After we moved to Milwaukee in 1968 I began to get some new ideas about knife collecting. I attended a Badger Knife Club show and was very happy to see so many others who shared my interest.

I'm not sure if I saw my first mini there or not, but likely did. Of course eventually I joined the club and began to get even more information. Miniature knives seemed to be a way own custom pieces without the higher cost and storage concerns. But still it was a pretty stiff price for such a small item. It was not until January, 1987 when I attended the AECA show in Chicago [actually in

Harvey, Ill.] that I bought my first mini. A fine knife maker and great guy, Paul Myers, had a beautiful little Bowie on his table for \$60. I took a breath and thought, I'm going to buy this and decide when I get home if it was a mistake. Well now some 28 years later I've collected over 170 pieces by over 100 makers, so it proved to be the right decision. I was hooked!

Miniature knife collecting is really much the same as any collection of custom made knives. These are one of a kind, individually made, rarely used pieces of art. Of course many full sized customs are used regularly for hunting and some minis are used as jewelry, etc. I decided to limit my collection to fixed blade knives. There some nice mini folders produced but they are fairly rare and usually more expensive.

Also I tried to stay in the range of 3" in length as these are visually appealing and easy to display. Some micro-minis are around but they are very small and really need magnification to appreciate. I tried to buy nice quality pieces that would look like full-sized knives if they were enlarged in a photograph. Also I wanted to get examples of as many different makers as I could.

I started to attend knife shows to build my collection. I went to Chicago, St. Louis, Nashville, Atlanta, Orlando and others. It was really interesting to

meet and buy from so many different dealers. Most miniature knives are made by makers who produce mostly full-sized pieces. They may try a mini when they have a small scrap of Damascus or blade material left over or just decide to try it for fun. These guys will usually say that the minis are often as difficult to make as their larger knives. Some few makers specialize in minis. They generally turn out some real gems. I found many interesting blade styles and materials including meteorite Damascus, a railroad nail, knapped sunset jasper and chert stone. I have over 40 different handle materials. Some unique ones are pink ivory, black pearl, abalone, oosic, mink jaw, mokume, leather, tiger coral, turquoise, amber and muskrat jaw.

The market for miniature knives can vary. When I started collecting back in the 80s they were becoming quite popular and readily available. I think things have slowed down over the last number of years but there are still plenty of minis out there for anyone interested. The internet has also opened up a new option for buying and selling. However, the greatest pleasure for me has been meeting and buying from all the talented makers. Each knife in my collection has a story and memories that are irreplaceable. I would encourage any curious newcomers to give it a try.

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 1, 2 or 3 years at a time at \$5 per year. You can mail in your dues or pay at the next meeting. Check made out to Badger Knife Club. Your continued interest and support is truly appreciated.

Legislative Updates

The bill that will allow statewide possession and carry of switchblades and preemption in Wisconsin is in the State Senate awaiting action. It has already past the State Legislature and the Governor has indicated that he will sign it when it reaches his desk—hang in there!

Be sure to support the American Knife & Tool Institute (AKTI) by joining and receiving their notifications and express your views concerning all types of knives. See www.akti.org.

You can also contact Knife Rights at www.kniferights.org.

Please support the generosity of our makers and dealers that donate knives and other items to the Club's silent auction and Club meeting raffles. We are placing their business card ads at no cost. Thanks everyone. The Club truly appreciates your support.



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Purveyors of High Quality Collectable Knives

The Collectable Edge

Gary R. Glowinski
Owner

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2016 Badger Knife Show

The Annual Badger Knife Show will be held the first weekend in April. (Easter falls on our normal last weekend in March.)

Remember, members of Badger Knife Club are FREE! (Not including Early Birds!)

BE SURE

TO COME AND

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB.



Badger Knife Show

APRIL 1-2-3

Displays • Silent Auction

Friday Noon-7pm	Saturday 8am-5pm	Sunday 9am-2pm
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Janesville, Wisconsin*
Holiday Inn Express & Janesville Conf. Cntr.
One of the finest regional shows in the United States,
with 175 tables featuring custom knives, factory knives, antique
knives, dealers, suppliers and displays.

\$5.00 at door • \$8.00 3-day pass
Under 13 free when accompanied by an adult
Early Bird Passes Available for \$20

*Janesville is located approximately 1/2 hr. south of Madison, WI & 1/2 hr. north of Rockford, IL - Exit 171C from I-90 & U.S. Hwy. 14 east to 3100 Wellington Place

Badger Knife Club • Robert G. Schrap
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See you at the meeting!

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July 31
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Address Correction Requested



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