



The Edgehog

Issue 1 - 2013

www.kgsa.co.za

March 2013



KNIFEMAKER BERTIE RIETVELD
PHOTO FRANCESCO PACHI

Dullstroom Knife Shop A Olivier knives



Sell your knives here !!

Contact Andries Olivier
082 410 3812
oli4rs@vodamail.co.za

1992 - 2013 Happy 21 st Anniversary !

Edgehog turns 21 this year !! It's amazing
— a great achievement for our Guild

Edgehog is very unique in that it is a news-
letter that also has wonderful, interesting
articles written by its members. Even with
the many articles and items easily available
on the internet, our members contribute
and share their knowledge with all who
read Edgehog.

So loyal readers of Edgehog, on behalf of
the Knifemakers Guild, a BIG THANK YOU
for 21 years and best wishes for many
many more.

Because Edgehog is so unique and has a
longstanding tradition of publishing articles
written by its members and readers, it was
decided to compile all these interesting
articles into a print book...So, A quick look
through the Edgehog file shows me that we
can't just publish the back issues as is —
we'd have a book close to a 1000 pages
with a lot of irrelevant stuff—so we are
now in the process of choosing the best
articles and those will be pub-
lished.....Yeah, some of you remember
we wanted to do this already in 2005, but
it didn't get going and now with Edgehog's
21st anniversary to celebrate - what better
time than 2013 to get this project under-
way.

So that's what I am spending my time with
and I am hoping to have the book available
for purchase at the Guild Show, if every-
thing goes as planned.

Edgehog

Melinda Rietveld

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Magaliesburg, 1791

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edgehog1@gmail.com

< — — — FRONT COVER :

**Bertie's Zanzibar Dagger - This dagger will be going to the Bos-
ton Art Knife Classic Show on 20 April 2013.**

**This Show is an Invitational Show, with only 20 exhibitors from
over the world invited to show just a limited amount of master-
pieces.**

www.bostonartknifeclassic.com

Guild Show dates for 2013

30 - 31 August

2013 - Knife Competition for non - guild members

If you haven't got the design yet please go to www.herbst.co.za and
download the design.

The closing date for the competition is **1 August 2013** and there are
superb prizes to be won !

The knife entries will be on display at the Knife Show

30 - 31 August

Knife entries may be collected at the end of the Show on 31 August..

Postal entries will be despatched soon after the Show.

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mdynamic@tiscali.co.za*Chairman's Chat*

Ons het skaars die kersbome en kersliggies afgehaal toe tref 2013 ons met n slag. 'n Nuwe jaar propvol nuwe uitdagings.

Vroeg Februarie ontvang ons n uitnodiging vanaf die Minister van Veiligheid se kantoor om n voorlegging te gaan doen aangaande die Voorgestelde Wet op Gevaarlike Wapens in die parlamentsgebou in Kaapstad. Gelukkig het ons vir Willie om ons saak so professioneel moontlik te stel en op 19 Februarie het Willie dan ook afgevlieg Kaap toe en dit gaan doen. Baie dankie hiervoor Willie ons almal skuld jou groot vir die reuse werk wat jy al die afgelope paar jaar gedoen het om ons saak te beskerm. Volgens Willie was die terugvoer baie positief en ons vertrou dat die wet baie gunstig vir ons mesmakers sal uitsien as dit aanvaar word. Soos wat die voorgestelde wet tans lyk is dit baie gunstiger as die wet wat tans in werking is (Wet 40 van 1968) en is die meeste kritiek daarop en die ou wet, dat die toepassing op straat baie afhang van die polisie beampte se diskresie. Die EXCO het dit gevolglik goedgevind om aan Gildelede ledekaarte te verskaf in die toekoms. Dit sal dit vir enige lid baie makliker maak om te verduidelik waarom hy messe wat as gevaarlike wapens gereken kan word in sy besit het indien nodig.

Die afgelope jaar het dit baie duidelik geword dat daar verskeie baie jong entoesiastiese mesversamelaars is. Ook uit my persoonlike ervaring as onderwyser weet ek dat baie jong seuns ywerige mes entoesiaste is. Dit is die mesmakers en versamelaars van die toekoms en dit sal dom wees as ons dit nie help aanblaas nie. Ons almal het daar begin toe ons jonk was – elkeen van ons kan ons eerste messe onthou! Dit was miskien Hong Kong se mesmaak pogings maar op daardie ouderdom het ons net so trots gevoel soos die groot manne wat vandag die mooiste en duurste messe koop. Wie kan die lekker van sy eerste mes vergeet en die groot hartseer toe jy hom verloor het?

Ons het dus besluit om n Jong Versamelaars Klub te stig wat deur die Gilde geadministreer sal word. Om aan die klub te behoort moet die aplikant nie ouer as ses-tien wees nie en ten minste een mes deur n Gilde lid gemaak besit. Die doel van die klub sal wees om jong entoesiaste en versamelaars in die algemeen aangaande messe te leer asook die moets en moenies van messe versamel. Om die opgewondenheid hoog te hou beplan ons ook om artikels gerig op hierdie jong klub lede in die Edgehog te plaas. Graag wil ek u versoek om indien u bewus is van enige sulke jong lede hulle aan te moedig om aan te sluit. Sien dit as n langtermyn belegging vir die Gilde.

Op n ernstiger noot wil ek graag n beroep op lede doen om vir 'n slag weer deur ons konstitusie te lees en u self op datum te bring daarmee. Ons almal weet presies aan watter vereistes ons messe moet voldoen en daar is lanklaas enige ernstige klagtes ontvang oor die kwaliteit van Gildelede se messe. Die Gilde se bepalings aangaande besigheids praktyk en optrede teenoor kliente soos in ons konstitusie se gedragskode vervat is egter net so streng en ongelukkig word daar deesdae wel klagtes teen lede daarvoor ontvang. Om n mes reg te maak is baie makliker as om n teleurgestelde klient weer goed te laat voel.

Voorspoed aan almal en skerp wees
Carel

Out 'n' About

Please send pics and details of your knife club meetings..... edgehog1@gmail.com

The South Coast Knifemakers Club recently held their annual Cutting Competition...

Well done guys - hope to see you at the Cutting Competition at the Guild Show... Thanx to Joyce Steyn for the pics



Fred Burger



Michael Richards



Des Simpson



Peter Richards



First meeting in Feb 2013 was held at Heavin forge in Belfast and was a very interesting meeting....Kevin gave a talk on steels and edges and then he showed us all (and I mean all) how to grind some mean edges...After the demo there was a cutting competition and then braai-time and shopping @ The KnifeShop from Bethlehem...Great day !!



Edgehog is enjoyed by everyone !

At the Miniatures Fair, I decided that this gent needed something to read as the Fair had quietened down..... so I gave him an Edgehog to read (I always have copies with me at Fair) and he was delighted and had to show me ALL the knives he has...He carries 5 knives with him at all times.



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FOR SALE

All these items must be collected in Cape Town:

Hoby Craft Multispeed Bench Top Drill Press 1/2inch chuck
Model: JDT10
R2000

French (very old) long Bayonet excellent condition, collectors item.
R4000

Assagiaas / Throwing Spears x 2, collectors items. One is Zulu in origin and the other is Somali.
R2000 each

Kontaktcheibe Grinder 40m/sek
Made in Tullingen Germany
Good working on solid steel stand (legs)
R3000

METABO Circular saw, heavy duty
R2000

Elephant Heavy Duty Buffer
Ball Bearing / Industrial
3000rpm - Model G150 Rated
Wheel 150mm
Amps 2
R800

Please contact Anne La Grange at 0718868455, after 17:00.



This knife was an order from a client in Alaska who specified he wanted a knife that resembled a Coral Snake.

The client was so happy he ordered another one (same design but Black, Yellow and Red G10).

Visit www.petersteynknives.com to see more

Knifemakers and their workshops

There's a strange phenomena in the knifemaking world...once your partner starts making knives they will soon start with "machine acquisition"

Now this starts as a way to fill the workshop and excuses are made that every machine is "essential for knifemaking"

And sometimes this machine acquisition goes a little far !!

We have a new recruit to this phenomena - we call him Panto Pete and he recently took delivery of his 3rd pantograph !!



PANTO PETE aka Peter Steyn

Assisting Bertie and David with the offloading of his third pantograph.

So I went for a walk through Bertie's workshop and I found 5 drill presses and 3 huge hammers for making Damascus.....



Question for Bertie - you need 5 drill presses ??

Anybody else seen this phenomenon in their own workshop or a fellow knifemakers workshop ?

Quick, take a pic and send it to me @ edgehog1@gmail.com



Rhino Knife made by Dennis Theck
Overall length is 95mm, so it sort of falls into the Miniature class.
The steel is Sandvic 6C27 with HRC56
The handle is Stinkwood



Article from USA Today :

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/flights/2013/03/09/passengers-airline-flights-planes-knives/1974255/>

Flight crews warn knives could add to air rage threat

Flight crews warn knives could add to air rage, Flight crews, which report confrontations with unruly airline passengers more than 100 times a year, are warning that allowing pocketknives back on planes can make tense situations in the air even more dangerous.

"My concern is that it would essentially add fuel to the fire," says flight attendant Ian Funderburg, who's based in Charlotte. "My main concern is with safety. It's not so much that we're in fear, but it's an unnecessary risk that doesn't need to happen."

Travellers can start carrying small knives and sports equipment, such as golf clubs and hockey sticks, aboard passenger planes starting April 25, the Transportation Security Administration said last week.

TSA Administrator John Pistole justified loosening the restrictions, which have been in place since right after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist hijackings, as part of a shift to more risk-based security threat. After hardening cockpit doors to protect pilots, the agency says its goal is to look for terrorists and explosives. "The focus is on what could present catastrophic damage to the aircraft," says David Castelvetter, a TSA spokesman.

Some pilots, flight attendants and air marshals oppose the change, which has sparked a debate about dealing with unruly passengers — and whether allowing travellers to have items that can be used as weapons turns often stress-filled passenger cabins into a more dangerous place for other passengers and crew.

Incidents of so-called air rage do break out in the skies every few days or so.

Knives Allowed

A knife is allowed if:

- The blade is no longer than 2.36 inches or 6 centimeters in length
The blade width is no more than 1/2 inch at its widest point
- The knife does not have a locking or fixed blade
- The knife does not have a molded grip



Crew members filed 101 complaints last year about unruly passengers, who face fines up to \$25,000, with the Federal Aviation Administration. The numbers were higher in previous years, with 140 in 2011, 149 the year before that and 176 in 2009.

Flight attendants say they don't report all incidents. Airlines worldwide collect internal reports of so-called air rage that they don't release, but which the airline trade group International Air Transport Association says rose 29% from 2009 to 2010, after rising 27% a year earlier.

Andrew Thomas, an associate professor at the University of Akron who's written books about air rage and aviation security, says stress has been ratcheted up aboard planes because of security hassles and more crowded planes. He says allowing small knives into the cabin will make flights less safe.

"Acts of aberrant, abusive and abnormal behavior known as air rage remain the most persistent threat to aviation security," Thomas says.

Crew members agree and worry that confrontations could become more incendiary with weapons.

Funderburg, the flight attendant, says a colleague on a recent flight confronted a man who wouldn't turn off his cellphone and became belligerent, finally lunging at the woman. "What if you added a knife to that situation?" Funderburg asks.

Disputes also can distract air marshals, who fly armed and undercover on some flights to discourage terrorist hijackings.

"There is no justifiable reason for implementing this policy, and it only serves to place law enforcement officers and flying Americans at greater risk," says Jon Adler, president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, which includes air marshals.

In line with global standards

Although the International Air Transport Association says air rage incidents remain "a serious concern," it supports the TSA's decision to loosen restrictions to match international standards.

Jean Medina, a spokeswoman for the trade group Airlines for America, says domestic airlines also support TSA's approach of combining its vast experience from screening billions of passengers with risk-based assessments to find security threats.

The move puts U.S. carry-on rules more in line with airline security standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization, a branch of the United Nations.

Perry Flint, an association spokesman, says global standards give passengers confidence that they won't be subject to different security restrictions in different countries, which translates into fewer hassles.

"We believe that global standards, consistently applied, are a key element of effective security, as they have shown to be with safety," Flint says.

And a former TSA official says the agency created in the aftermath of 9/11 was never intended to stop every squabble on a plane.

"What we were trying to do is focus its attention on the next threat, instead of fighting the last war," says Jeff Sural, a for-

mer assistant administrator for legislative affairs at TSA now practicing law at Alston & Bird LLP. "We took care of that with a few things: locked cockpit doors, armed pilots, air marshals. What other threats are out there?"

The policy change leaves crew members worried about weakening a layer of protection in the security blanket for flights.

Mike Karn, president of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations, which represents 22,000 pilots, says the group rejects having knives of any kind in the cabin because they would put crew members and passengers in harm's way unnecessarily.

"We are concerned that the proposed changes to the prohibited items list could represent a step backwards in aviation security," Karn says.

Flight attendants are working to change the policy. Funderburg has begun a petition at change.org/TSAknives to keep knives out of aircraft cabins.

The Flight Attendants Union Coalition, which represents 90,000 flight attendants, also has a petition on the White House website in a bid to overturn the TSA decision.

Veda Shook, president of one of the coalition unions, the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, is circulating a letter in Congress opposing the policy and plans to meet this week with House lawmakers who oversee TSA.

"We are totally appreciative of the cockpit door being reinforced. But what about the rest of us?" Shook asks. "It's a grave concern. If a weapon is introduced, that rapidly escalates the threat."

Sharp Objects Not Allowed





Guess who ??

Who's the only knifemaker who has attained Guild membership using only handtools to make his knives ? 26

Who makes a lock-back biltong knife ? 91

Who is the only knifemaker in SA to do double hollow grind ? 116

(The answers are in the Guild Book on the page numbers as listed above)

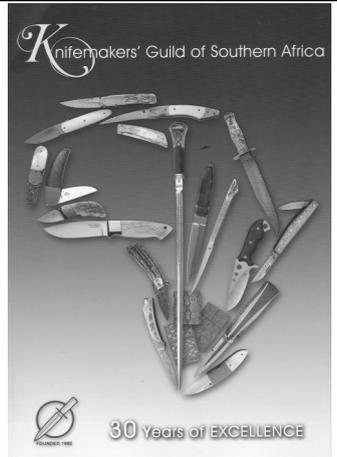
The book costs R 295.00 softcover

To purchase:

Contact

Melinda 071 303 5259 edgehog1@gmail.com

Marietjie 082 6501441 marietjiethorburn@gmail.com



Knife Club Events

25 May 2013 - Rand Bladecrafters

Topic - Casting and using urethanes and making moulds from silicon.

Contact

Wesley - email marnett@absamail.co.za for more details and to join the mailing list.

13 July 2013 - Sharp Shapes Knife Club

Topic and demo - Making your own Micarta

Contact

Melinda - melindarietveld@gmail.com for more details and to join the mailing list.



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Have a Knife Day

Workshop Savvy

Economy of movement

By Bertie Rietveld

When looking at your workshop, does related workstations find themselves close to each other? How much time do you spend walking between machines? Is the washbasin outside and every time you want to rinse a blade you have to leave the shop?

These are all questions you need to answer in order to find the most economical way to make knives. It matters not whether you are making knives for a living or just a hobby, time must always be saved where possible.

Work smarter not harder.

The stress level is a lot lower if you can spend the time set aside for knifemaking, in a productive manner. Some makers say they don't know how another maker can make knives so quickly, and it all comes down to economy of movement. When making knives, be aware of your movements. If you have to walk more than a few steps to accomplish a task, think about how you could organize your shop to avoid unnecessary movement. Maybe adding another bucket of water to cool the knife when grinding, might save some having to walk a pace or so to the only bucket in the shop.

Consider not only the horizontal plane of movement, but also the vertical. Is your workbench at the right height or does your back hurt after working there for a while because you have to stoop? Try to always have benchtop space available, so that you avoid working on the floor because it is the only flat surface available. And have a board or rack on the wall within easy reach where all your hand tools live, and after using them always make a habit of it to put the tools back when the job is done. Time wasted looking for tools is time you could have spent doing something else. Organize the tool boards in such a manner that the tools you use most, are closest to hand.

Develop systems!

You should ideally have a grinding section and a machining section that is separate so that you don't have all that grit flying around and settling on your lathe bed, or the milling machine guide ways, as it is time-consuming to have to clean those every time you want to turn or mill something. Maybe a small disc grinder next to the drill press will save having to leave the room to deburr a hole drilled before you can drill the next one. Keep machines covered with a dustproof cover, to avoid unnecessary cleaning, and put it

back when you finished with the machine.

Do you have good light where you need it, or do you have to walk to a good light to check a fit? I have a couple of stands for my microscope and can move it from station to station so that I don't have to dash off to the scope every time I want to check a fit, or use a head mounted magnifier to save time. Keep a block with all the sizes of drills you use close to the drill press and if some drills are used a lot, stick them to a magnet on your drill press. If you don't have to open a drawer to get the correct drill and can just grab one off the magnet it saves time.

Keep your shop tidy, a fellow knifemaker I visited once when I just started making knives, had a workbench piled high with tools and all kinds of stuff, and when I asked him how he finds his tools when he needs them, he smiled and said he has 3 of everything, to increase his chances of finding one! It's a system I suppose, but not one I will employ!

Saving time in small amounts over and over again, amounts to huge savings, and this will allow you to make an extra knife for each show, the time you save is the time you won't have to rush and spend all hours of the night working feverishly to finish before a show.

Having a few drill presses, each with another drill already fitted, when it comes to drilling a hole simply turn the machine on and drill the hole, no having to check if the drill is sharp, the right size etc, and the machine is set to the right speed for that particular drill...a huge saving in time, that repeats each time you drill a hole.

Another time saver is to have a brake on any machine that spins, and here the belt grinder springs to mind. Imagine having to wait a few seconds each time you need to change a belt, for the machine to stop spinning. It may only be 10 seconds each time, but if you change belts 100 times, you have saved 16 minutes! The VFD (variable frequency drives that most of us use for speed control has a built in feature that brakes the motor, but you need to configure it so that it does so as rapidly as possible.

And while we are on that topic, when you enter the workshop, turn on the speed control and turn it off again when you have finished working, most of these devices take some 3-5 seconds to start up before you can start the motor.

And now for the biggest time saver of all: Lay rubber mats on the floor! If you work in a space that has concrete floors, you are going to drop a knife or finished part of a knife and it is going to get that dreaded concrete rash on the most delicate and difficult to fix corner. You could spend hours fixing the damage, and sometimes you would need to remake the part...not to mention the damage if you accidentally drop a delicate measuring tool such as a digital caliper or DTI (dial test indicator).

Junior Collectors Club

Welcome

Daniel Mason is our first member of the Junior Knife Collectors Club. He has an amazing collection of knives and is a regular visitor to the Guild Show.



How to become a member :

Send a picture of your child/grandchild with their knife collection to the Chairman (see page 3 for contact details) with a request for membership.....as easy as that.



Daniel Mason - Son of Justin Mason

Here's a few more photo's of our young collectors - we need your parents/grand parents to please send a request for membership to the Junior Collectors Club and we will confirm your membership.

Thanx ☺



Robert Vermeulen

Grandson - George and Veronica Baartman



Zjack

Received this folding knife made by Peter Steyn for Christmas 2012



Matthew

Grandson - Peter and Joyce Steyn

Anyone got pics of their children/ grandchildren with their knife treasures ?

OR how about a proud pic of you taken with your first knife ?

Please send to edgehog1@gmail.com



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Supplies Page

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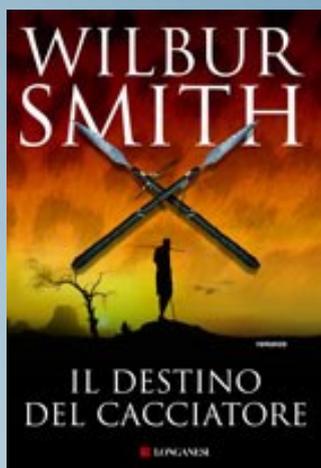
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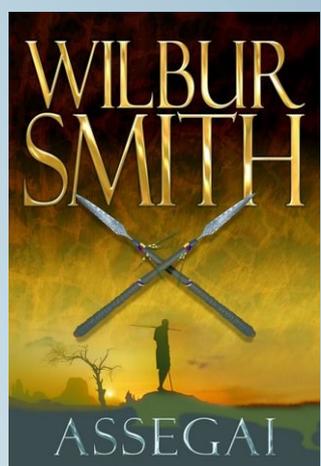


Honour for Heather...



Here are some of the photos of the book covers. Pan Macmillan approached me to use a photo of an assegai that I had made many years ago on the cover of Wilbur Smith's book "Assegai". Of course this was no problem! They gave the photographer and I credit on the back cover. They sent me two, unfolded book covers that I have had box framed and Tannie Rhoda scrounged some posters from the CNA. They then asked if they could use a photo of an African Sword that I had also made and sold a while ago, for the cover of the reprint of his first book "When the Lion Feeds". As you can see from the photos there are a few different colour schemes that were used. His books are printed a lot of different languages. The funny thing is that Wilbur Smith is the spitting image of Kevin's dad! I never got to deal directly with Wilbur but I did offer that I would happily make any weapon that may fit in with the theme of his future books, I haven't heard from them yet.

Another assegai of mine was used on the cover of a new book on the early childhood of Nelson Mandela called "The Boy Called Troublemaker" by Ellie Crowe. Ellie grew up in South Africa and now lives in Hawaii. The assegai is on the front and back cover. It was an e-book but has just been made in a paperback version and is being supplied to many schools in South Africa.



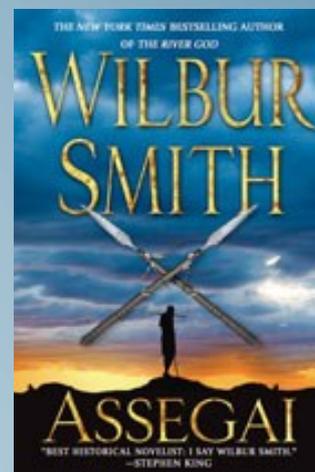
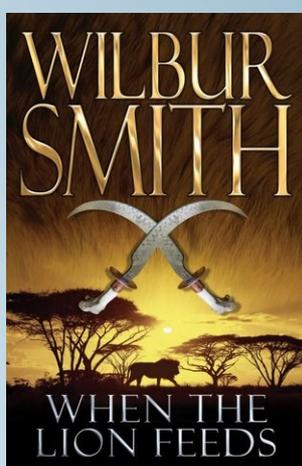
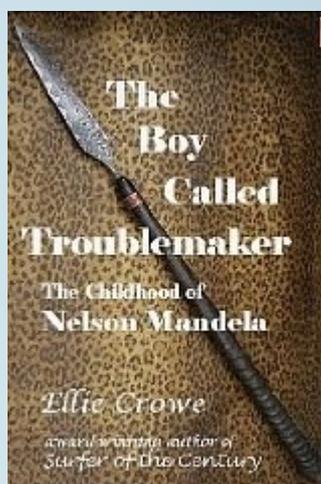
I haven't seen a "hard copy" yet and haven't read the book yet. I should read it as I was lucky enough to meet Mr Mandela in 1995 and got to wish him happy birthday! At the time I was working at Gold Reef City Theme Park and he had his birthday party there and booked out the entire park and invited 20 000 children to his party!

I never asked for any payment for the book covers, the publicity and privilege is worth more than any payment.

Another upcoming story is about a book that is busy being written on Kevin and I by a knife collector/author in China. We will let you know when that is published.

Tannie Rhoda and I will also be featured, separately in one of David Daroms upcoming books. The other lady Master Bladesmith, Audra Draper of Wyoming and I did a collaboration project of two forged integral Damascus knives called "Dangerous Curves Ahead" which is featured in the book.

Heather Harvey



The last word....

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important .