



Knifemakers' Guild Newsletter
Fall 2016

The Knifemakers' Guild Board of Directors



President Gene Baskettt



Vice President Wayne
Hensley



Secretary/Treasurer
Charlie Mathews



Director Bill Johnson



Director Jerry Moen



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Director Calvin Robinson

International Custom Cutlery Exposition 2016

The International Custom Cutlery Exposition 2016 was another success. The tables were sold out and attendance and knife sales were up compared to the inaugural edition. The Knifemakers' Guild and American Bladesmith Society are pleased with the show's outcome and are

happy to announce that next year the two knife organizations will meet again in Kansas City, Missouri. The 2017 dates are September 22nd through the 24th. The ICCE 2017 will be held at the ***Kansas City Marriott Downtown***, Kansas City, Missouri. Their address is: 200 W 12th St, Kansas

City, MO 64105, and the show special room rate is \$149.

Knifemakers' from overseas, from Italy, Sweden, and South Africa, attended the 2016 ICCE along with makers from across the United States. The art exhibited on many of the knives was also eclectic in range: from collaborations between American makers and engravers, to sole authorship, or collaborations between makers from the US and artists from Europe, Russia, and South Africa. Many of the knives were one of a kind and easily fell in the art knives category. The attendants present at the ICCE Reception on Thursday evening chose the *ICCE awards*:

Best Collaboration: Kevin Casey and Konstantin Pushkarev
Best Art Knife: Rick Eaton
Best Fixed Blade: David Lisch
Best Bowie: Harvey Dean
Best Hunter: Edmund Davidson
Best Combat: Harvey Dean
Best Damascus: David Lisch
Best Folder: Johnny Stout
Best of Show: Rick Eaton

The Knifemakers' Guild Awards were:

Best Art Knife: Michael Henningsson
Best Bowie: Paul LeBatard
Best Folder: Tom Overeynder
Best Multi-Blade Folder: Bill Ruple
Best Hunter: John Bartlow
Best Dressed Fighter: Todd Begg
Best Fighter: Travis "T-Bone" Payne

Best Collaboration Riccardo Mainolfi & Antonio Montejano

Best Tactical Folder: Bob Ohlemann

The Red Watson Award: Calvin Robinson

The Nate Posner Award: Watfa Halum and husband

The Hank Rummell Memorial Award for the Best first year probationary maker: William Allen Surls

The Aldo and Edda Lorenzi award that was drawn from 17 Guild members present that had at least 25 years of membership with the Guild: Billy Mace Imel.

New Members

The Knifemakers' Guild is very happy to announce the names of the knifemakers who became Voting Members:
Todd Begg
Dan Lance
Ian Van Reenen.

The Knifemakers' Guild is also happy to announce the new 2016 Probationary Members:

Jim Provost
William Allen Surls
Michael Zieba.

The membership reelected President Gene Baskett to a three year term, Wayne Hensley to another two year term as Vice President, Director Edmund Davison to another two year term, and Director Calvin Robertson for another two year term. The President's term was extended by one year

(from two to three) so that his position and the Vice President's will not be up for reelection at the same time. After this one time three year term, the President will be again up for reelection every two years.

The Board, on behalf of the membership, would like to thank the following associate members for their contributions for the door prized at the Business Meeting:

**Joe and Kristy Culpepper,
Charles Turnage,
Brad Vice,
Terry Summers of Admiral Steel.**

Thank you as well, Evenheat for donating a heat treating oven, Rowe's leather for donating a leather apron and a custom sheath, Chad Mock and J.T. Miller for donating knives for door prizes.

Also, the Guild's Board and membership thank Jeff Knox for his work on making the VIP passes and for promoting the ICCE and the Knifemakers' Guild online.

Thank you to the Guild membership, Culpeppers, Brownells, and the American Blade Society for sending out VIP passes.

Attendance and Sales

The show was well attended with over 451 VIP passes being returned. The Guild members continued to be excited about the ICCE show and we have commitments and Table fees paid for over half of the Guild tables in 2017 already.

Betty Dowell and Raymonde Pugh, wives of deceased Founding members Ted

Dowell and Jim Pugh, were in attendance at this year's ICCE as well as Past Honorary President A. G. Russell and his lovely wife, Goldie.

Buyers from three foreign countries were present at the show: China, Taiwan, and Canada. From the US, twenty six states were represented. Missouri purchased the largest number of knives at 37. Buyers from eleven other states purchased between ten and twenty knives. There were a total of 300 tickets returned and 5 or 6 of them were not legible.

These figures came from a compilation of tickets we received from people that actually purchased a knife at the show. Each ticket represents the purchase of one knife and the address of the person making the purchase. It is our estimate that we receive a ticket for around 60% of the knives sold. This is a guesstimate based on conversations with knife makers and customers many of which just forgot to turn in the tickets.

Clarifications on Hand made Knives

At the 2016 ICCE, several people asked about what would make a knife acceptable to the Knifemakers' Guild membership. The best explanations are in *Article I, Section 4 of The Knifemakers' Guild Bylaws*, referenced directly here:

Section 4:

The Guild recognizes that the term "Handmade Knives" is difficult to define and subject to varying interpretations, but hold that, at a minimum, it requires that a

maker personally grind, forge, or knap the blade, and honestly disclose how each component is produced.

The term Kit Knives is not used and is really not the problem many people are running into. The real question is how much work someone else can do one's knife and still claim it as one's own knife. The Bylaws say that at a minimum a maker should grind, forge or knap the blade. The key to the situation is the last part of the sentence telling makers to "honestly disclose how each component is produced". Note that it doesn't say "if a maker is asked".

The one most important thing offered by the Knifemakers' Guild is the assurance to the customer that they are dealing with reputable knife makers selling a quality product. Each member of the Guild has the reputation of the whole membership backing him up and likewise each member can hurt the reputation of the entire guild.

Each member and those interested are encouraged to read the Bylaws, which are available on our website, and become familiar with their content. Many functions of the Guild and procedures the Board must follow are spelled out in our bylaws and are there for our protection.

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