

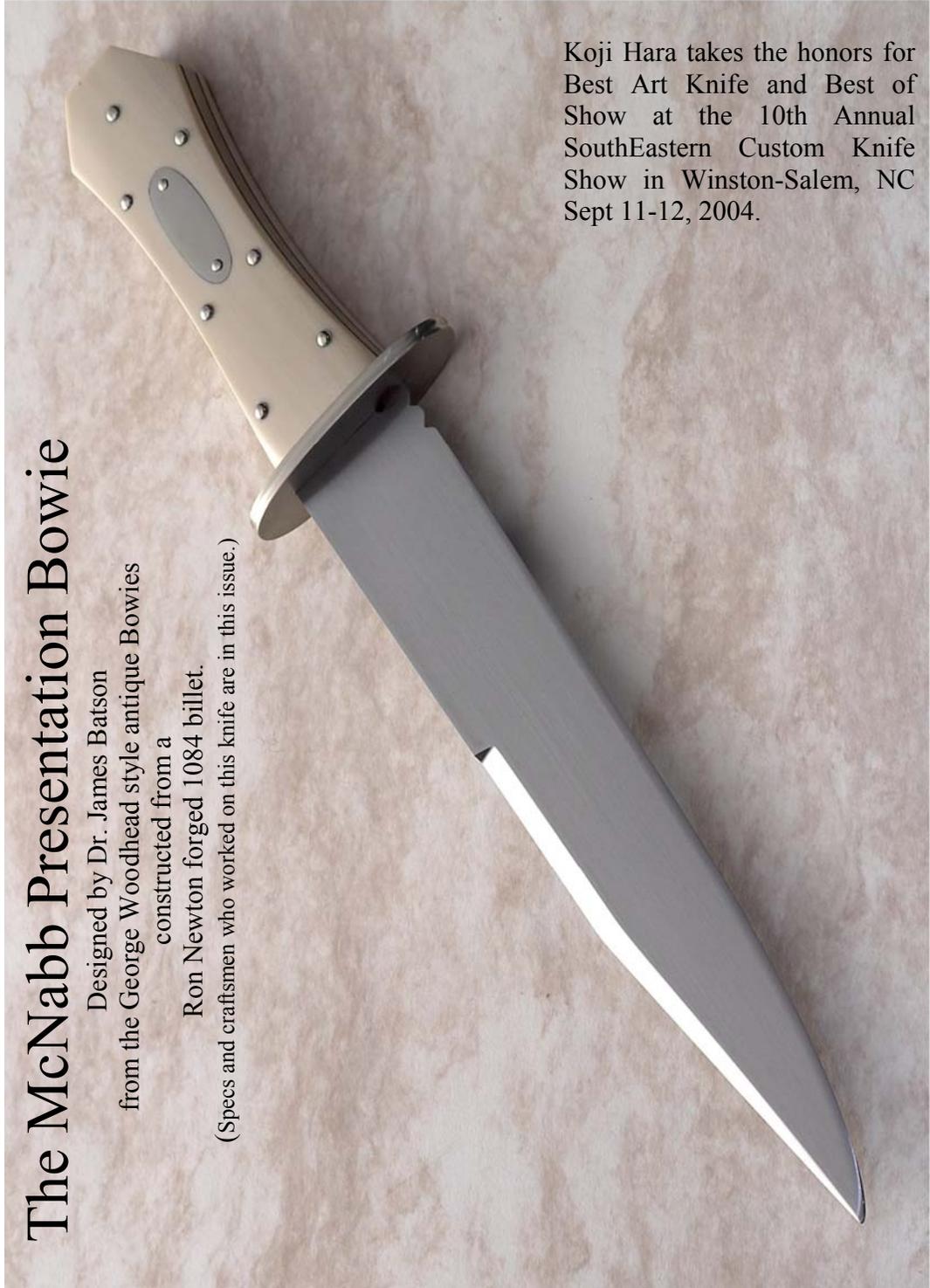
Billets & Blades

Sept 2004

The McNabb Presentation Bowie

Designed by Dr. James Batson
from the George Woodhead style antique Bowies
constructed from a
Ron Newton forged 1084 billet.

(Specs and craftsmen who worked on this knife are in this issue.)



Koji Hara takes the honors for Best Art Knife and Best of Show at the 10th Annual SouthEastern Custom Knife Show in Winston-Salem, NC Sept 11-12, 2004.

The Official Publication of
The North Carolina Custom
Knifemakers' Guild

Dedicated to the Art & Craft of Custom Knifemaking

Billets & Blades

NORTH
CAROLINA
CUSTOM
KNIFEMAKER'S
GUILD

Billets and Blades is the official publication of the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers' Guild. It is compiled and published in four issues annually with two additional special publication dates possible each year. Compiled, published, and distributed by The Knifemakers' Guild.

The North Carolina Custom Knifemakers' Guild was formed to meet the needs of a growing body of custom knifemakers in the southeastern United States. The purpose of this newsletter is to serve as a medium of exchange for the members of the NCCKG.

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Please address correspondence about this newsletter to the President or the Editor at the above addresses. Please direct requests for information about the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers' Guild to the President, Andrew McLurkin, at the above address.

The President's Letter

The 10th anniversary SouthEastern Custom Knife Show by all accounts was a great success. Show visitors streamed through the exhibit hall both Saturday and Sunday with knives and supplies in hand as they left. Table holders reported good sales and spirits were high. The members of North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild did an exceptional job taking care of table holders and visitors alike. To everyone who worked to make this show a success, the Guild extends a special thank you. To those who donated auction items and door prizes your generosity is very much appreciated. Lastly we want to congratulate the winners of the knife competition (results listed below). The entries were numerous and the quality of the submissions continues to be excellent.

Tickets for the raffle Bowie sold out the first day with a few more showing up on Sunday that were quickly snatched up. A young boy attending the show with his family drew the winning ticket and Trena McNabb took home the prize. With Tommy McNabb receiving another collaboration Bowie knife (cover picture) in recognition of his years of selfless service to the guild, the McNabb household has surely fallen into debates about whose knife is the finest. We can only hope that this doesn't result in too much discord.



Plans are well under way for next year's show. It will be held at the Benton Convention Center on September 10-11, 2005. The new management of the convention center and adjacent hotels will continue our current accommodations with full renovations of the hotel rooms planned before our next stay. If you have any suggestions for the 11th Annual SouthEastern Custom Knife Show please feel free to pass them along.

Our next meeting will be held on October 23, 2004 at Wayne Whitley and Travis Daniel's shops located in Chocowinity, NC. Their two shops being

next door to each other should create the opportunity for members and visitors to get more involved in the planned demonstrations. We hope to see you all there!

Andrew McLurkin

The 2004 SouthEastern Custom Knife Show

From the moment the doors opened on Saturday morning, there was a steady stream (sometimes deluge) of people coming



through the door and visiting the tables. This continued right on through Sunday afternoon.



Many of those attending found that "one of a

kind" treasure they just could not go home without.



And with so much to see, it could be a tough decision to make up your mind.



There was so much to see at the show that a "ride" was a welcomed relief for some there.

You can never quite

tell who or what will turn up at the show and this colorful fellow over saw some of the most valuable items that could be found in the building (turn the page to see just what that is).





This is just a small sampling of all the wonderful, home-made items that were available in the Hospitality Suite. The ladies of the Guild once again put our show as one of the

top rated among table holders. Marge, Carol, Susie, Kathy, and others who pitched in and helped, did a great job decorating with our "dragon" theme and keeping the tables stocked and the table holders full and content.

At the banquet on Saturday night, Koji Hara took home Best Art Knife and the coveted Best of Show for this beautiful folding dagger.



Koji Hara © 2004 Koji Hara



Beginning on the front row on the left, other winners are: Best Engraved Knife - Jessie Houser; Best Utility/Hunter, Burt Foster; Best New Maker - Bill Roberson; Best Art Knife and Best of Show, Koji Hara; Best Scrimshaw - Dean Gates; Best Fighter - Jones Brothers (Barry is on the first row and Phillip is behind him on the 2nd row); Second row on the left are: Best Hand Forged Knife - Ken Durham; Best Damascus Knife, Jerry Grice; Best Fantasy Knife, Dianna Casteel; Best Miniature, Wayne Beck. Best Fixed Blade, Alan Folts. Best Folding Knife was won by Murray Sterling. Murray was not available at the time of this photograph.



The Bowie Symposium, held on Friday afternoon, always draws a good mixture of folks who are true Bowie and Bowie style enthusiast.

This year Dr. Batson gave everyone an overview of how to put together a Bowie, Mark Zalesky talked on the evolution of the Bowie and Buddy Thomason talked about the history of Bill Scagel and brought his collection of Scagel knives.



After the presentations, all 3 men brought out their collection on Bowie, Scagel and other antique knives for everyone to see. John and I really enjoyed talking to these men and seeing these old knives.

Members of the newly formed Georgia Guild was warmly welcomed by her sister guild, the NCKKG. Pop was at the show but was not available at the time this picture was taken.



You know Koji has had a successful show when he is too tired to even notice!

Congratulations Koji on taking home the Best Art Knife Award and the Best of Show Award!





**The North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild
Video / DVD Library**

Video / DVD Checkout

- GRS Engraving Methods & Techniques Tapes I & II**
- Intermediate & Advanced Engraving w/ Lynton McKenzie**
- Focused Listening Skills**
- The Woodsmaster Vol. 9—Primitive Knifemaking**
- Take Your Time and Enjoy Your Forging by Dr. James Batson**
- An Introduction To Knifemaking**

Videos and DVD's must be returned within 3 weeks of checkout time (Date noted below).

There will be a penalty of \$50.00 per item incurred for loss or damages sustained during the checkout period. The person or persons checking out the videos or DVD's is responsible for said loss or damages.

Name

Check Out Date

Address

Due Date

Phone

Email

Signature

Return Videos / DVD's to:

**Barry Jones
221 North Avenue
Danville, Virginia 24540
(434)793-5282
Jknives@gamewood.net**

**Guild Demonstration Schedule
October 23, 2004
Travis Daniel & Wayne Whitley**

Saturday:

8:30 am	Board meeting
9:00 am	Guild meeting
10:00 am	All About Buffers – Travis Daniel Selection of buffs, compounds, methods & safety for various materials. Bring your questions and specific problems or material examples to try
11:30 am	Multi-Position Kydex Rigs – Alan Folts
12:30 pm	Iron in the hat
1:00 pm	Lunch – Eddy, our favorite cook, will be doing a BBQ'ed pig demo for us
2:30 pm	Color & Patina on Bone Handles – Travis & Wayne— Dying camel leg bones to simulate other handle materials
3:30 pm	Forging a Railroad Spike Knife Hands-on instructions for anyone who wants to take one home
5:00 pm	Adjourn

The October 23 meeting of the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers' Guild will be held at the home / shop of Wayne & Susan Whitley and Travis & Doris Daniel. If you need more detailed directions, you can call Wayne at 252-946-2348.

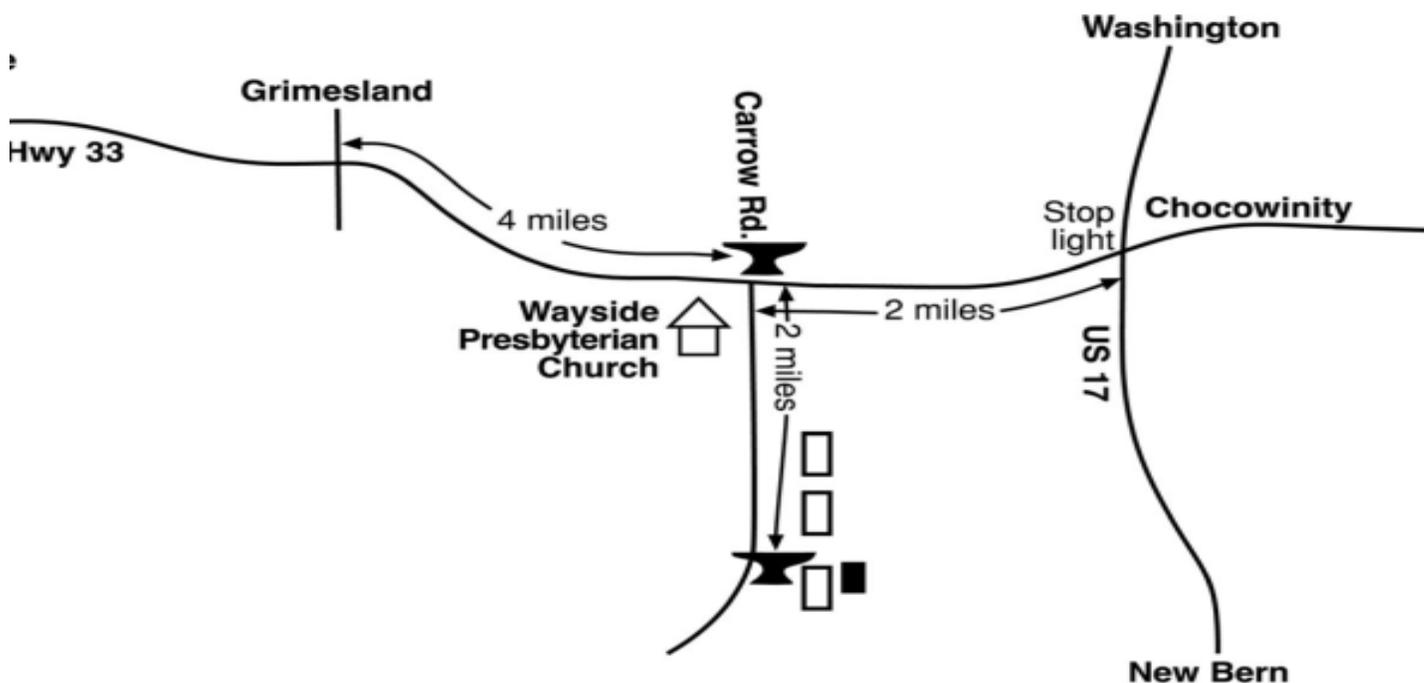
Motel Listing for the Chocowinity Area

All motels are right on Hwy. 17 within 6 blocks of each other. Washington, NC is about 5 miles further north on Hwy. 17

Comfort Inn Washington
Hwy. 17
Washington, NC
252-946-4444
Rooms from \$62.95 to 94.95

Holiday Inn Express
Hwy. 17 at Carolina Ave
Washington, NC
252-946-5500
Rooms from \$52.00 to 65.00

Econo Lodge North
1220 W. 15th Street
Washington, NC
252-946-7781
Rooms from \$45.00 to 50.00

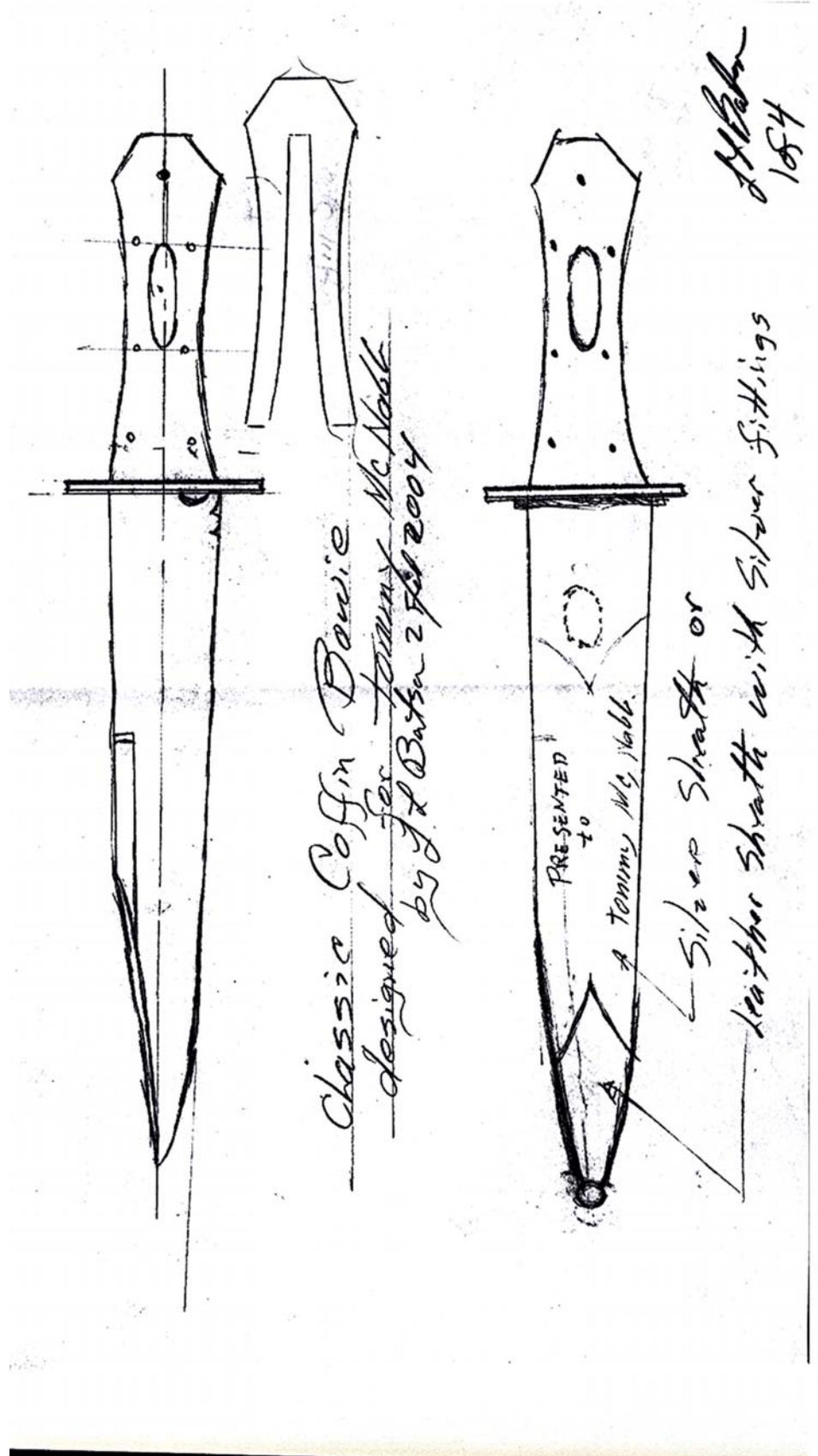


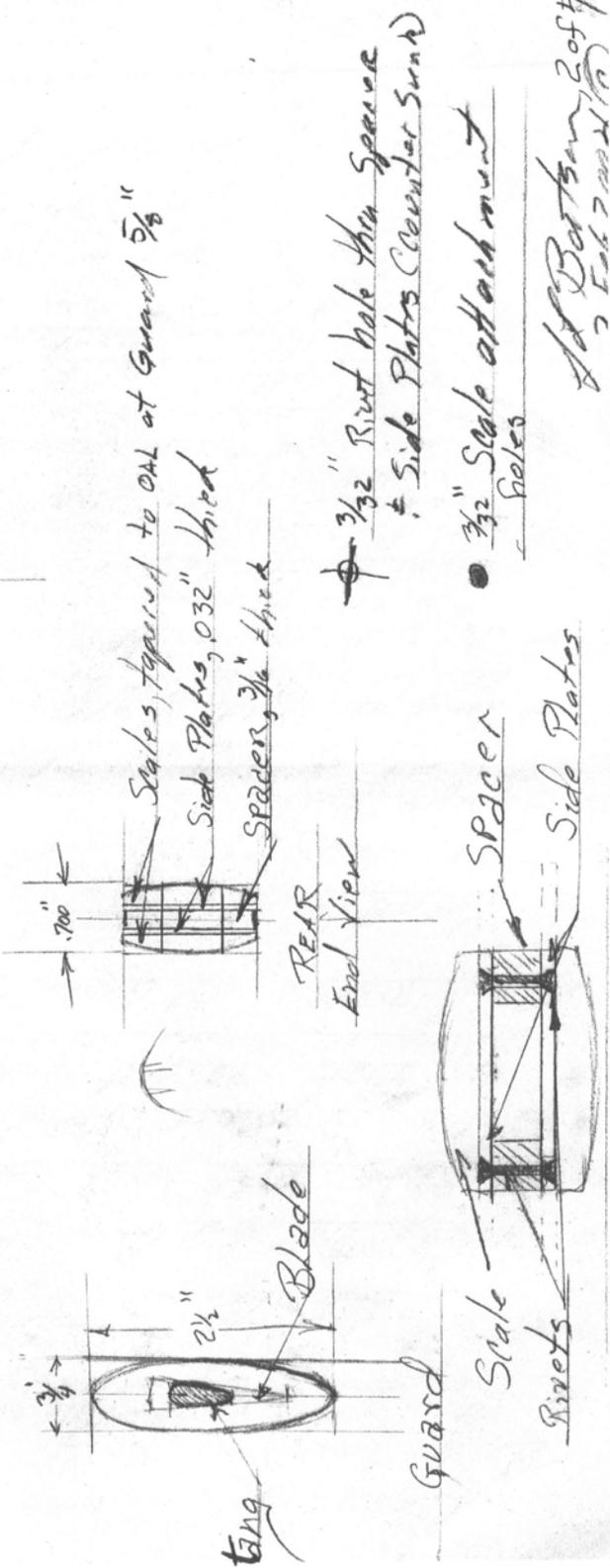
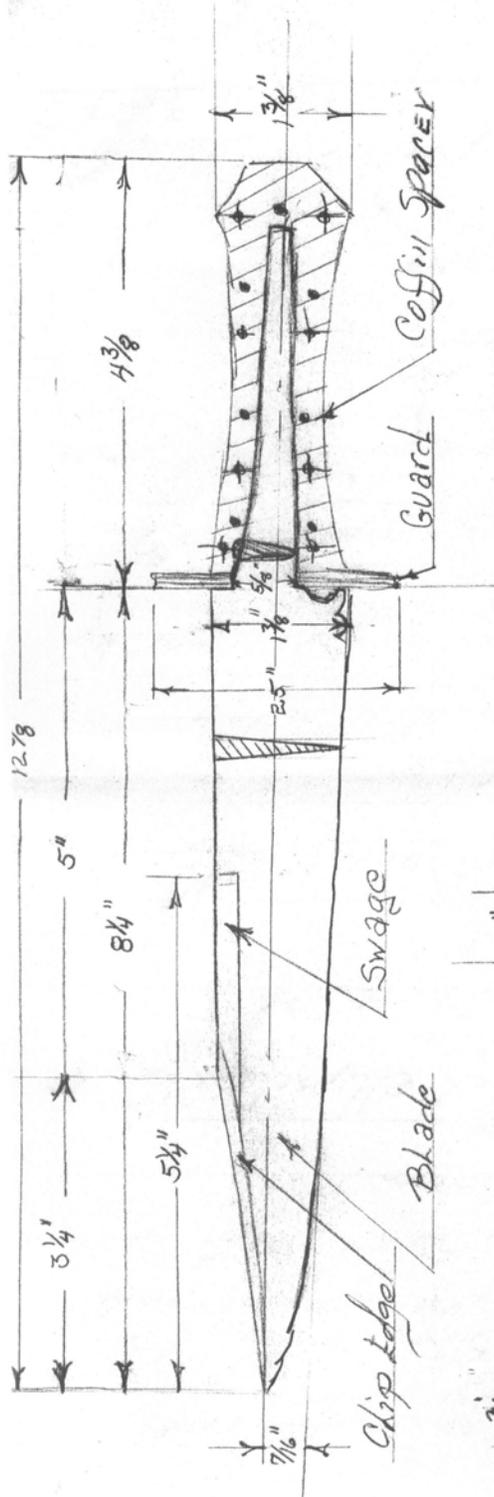
The McNabb Bowie

At the 10th Annual SouthEastern Custom Knife Show, Tommy McNabb was presented with a Commemorative Bowie in grateful appreciation of his leadership in the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers' Guild. Tommy.

The Bowie was designed by Dr. James Batson and built to the specs he provided. The billet for the Bowie was generously provided by Ron Newton, the handle was constructed by John Poythress, the finishing of the blade and the development of the guard was done by Philip and Barry Jones, the tempering of the blade and the final fit and finish was handled by Wayne Whitley and Tim Scholl.

These are the specs set up by Dr. Batson. It is based on a George Woodhead style antique Bowie. I thought you might be interested in "seeing" the design process for creating this beautiful piece.





Classic Coffin Bowie Details

- o Blade forge from $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4}$, 1084 steel
Edge harden, draw file swage after heat treat, grind in clip false edge after
- o Guard, $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick German Silver, edge filed in using small chain saw file, use a plate as a guide
- o Spacer, $\frac{3}{16}$ " thick German Silver plate
- o Side Plates, .032" thick German Silver
- o Scales Ivory or Bone
- o Name Plate, .040-.050" thick ellipse ($\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$)
Silver or German Silver
- o Pins & Rivets, .093" German Silver rod

Handle

- Lay tang over $\frac{3}{16}$ " plate mark & cut
- shape Coffin
- Locate & drill all holes
- Clamp on 2 side plate & drill holes
Counter sink rivet holes
- Put sides on with pins & grind to spacer stop
with rivet pins in super glue plates to spacer
- Place Scales on sides & drill holes
- Put Pins in Scales & Box & shape the Coffin
handle on spacer, sides & scales finish
to 400 grit
- disassemble & remove .010 from edges of spacer
on top & bottom of handle on spacer file
a rope pattern, on the back 3 facets file
the following pattern



- take a metal checkering file & notch the edges of the side plates.

JH Batsen
3 of 4

- o Print Side Plates to document spacer
- o Mill out & insert new plate to sack
- o Attach Sacks to Box using pins as guides with Super Glue on locs to 324
- o Final finish block to 600 Grit
- o Attach Guard with J.B. weld
- o Attach fabric to handle with super making sure of good fit to ~~strong~~

4 of 4

J.R. Baker
 2 Jul 2004 ©

July 2004 Meeting “sights and sounds”



The July meeting is always a good time to learn more about knives and have fun. John tells me that knifemaking can be hard but it looks like Tony can do it with his eyes closed!. How do you do that Tony?

At the July meeting Dana Acker did a demo on sinew wrapped antler bone handles. Phillip Jones and Bill Pate took those in attendance through the steps for forging the “half-penny” guard, as well as other styles. Andrew McLurkin demonstrated Rockwell Hardness Testing. Rob Wotzak forged a spiral scroll belt buckle, which was added to Iron n the Hat. And can anyone tell us what Tony was doing with supplies in his hands but his eyes closed?

As usual the food at the “lake meeting” was good the fellowship was rich, the weather was beautiful and the lake water was warm. All of this combines to make the July meeting at the Gervais’ home a very special meeting.

John and I were not able to attend the meeting at home of Norm & Marge Gervais. We missed seeing everyone and learning from the demos. But I do appreciate the help from Tommy & Trena McNabb and Bob and Laura Ham with getting shots of the meeting. It is the willing help of the members of the Guild that makes the newsletter possible. Thanks guys!

Marriage Seminar

While attending a marriage seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife, Grace, listened to the instructor. “It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other.”

He addressed Tom asking, “Can you describe your wife’s favorite flower?”

Tom leaned over; touched his wife’s arm gently and whispered, “It’s Pillsbury, isn’t it?”

The rest of the story gets real ugly so I’ll stop right here.

James Poplin of Pop’s Knife Supply is very appreciative of the help the Guild always supplies loading and unloading at the SECKS. He will not be able to attend the October meeting but has made arrangements with Travis to have supplies delivered to the meeting. If you are interested in this, just let him know about a week before the meeting so he can get your order filled. This is a good way to save on shipping.

Calendar of Events

September 2004

10th Annual SouthEastern Custom Knife Show: Sept 11-12, Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, NC
Forged Blades: Sept. 16-19, Dr. James Batson, Instructor, \$315.00, Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC

October 2004

Powder Damascus Steel: Oct 15-17, Darrel Ralph, Instructor, \$240.00, Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC
NCKKG Meeting: Oct. 23, Wayne Whitley's Shop, Chocowinity, NC

November 2004

Trackrock Hammer-In: November 06-07, Trackrock Camp Grounds, 4887 Trackrock Campgrounds Rd., Blairsville, GA.

January 2005

NCKKG Meeting: Jan. 15, Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC

April 2005

NCKKG Meeting: April 23 - 24, Montgomery Community College, Troy, NC

**** Date TBA Trackrock Hammer-In:** Trackrock Camp Grounds, 4887 Trackrock Campgrounds Rd., Blairsville, GA

June 2005

The Blade Show: June 03-05 , 2005, Cobb Galleria, Atlanta, GA

**Tentative Dates

Complete details on classes at the guild website at www.ncknifeguild.org

(Directions and meeting details will be sent in the Newsletter preceding each meeting)

(Register for classes at Montgomery Community College; located in Troy, NC. Lodging is available close by.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Date:		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip
Phone:		
Email:		
Website:		
Choose One:	New Member:	Renewal:
Choose One Membership Category:	Collector:	Student

Membership / Renewal fees are: \$50.00 per year

Collector membership fees are \$25.00 per year

Student memberships are \$10.00 per year

Please send this form with a check or money order to:

NC Custom Knifemaker's Guild

Attn: Tony Kelly

348 Bell Road

Kinston, NC 28504

<http://www.ncknifeguild.org>