



Black and White or Color?

This is in response to the individuals who seem to have no appreciation for the knife as a work of art. I like and have both art and working knives. While there are some knives in both categories that I do not like, there are many in both categories that I find very interesting. Unlike some, I have a high appreciation for a knife that functions and has beauty.

Knives can be like guns, cars, houses, etc., in that it is acceptable to have added features beyond what is necessary for function for the purpose of pleasing the eye. The people who are so opposed to art knives probably see the world in black and white rather than in color. They would probably rather go to a junkyard or yard sale than a class museum, and that's fine.

To the artists, please keep the art knives coming. There are many of us who want to see them.

Rick Royster, Oxford, North Carolina

A Vote for Jerry Rados

“The Masters” (page 42, January *BLADE*) was interesting, but to really consider the masters I think you need to separate the knife-makers from the bladesmiths. Making the steel for a knife requires a different set of skills and more effort than grinding the steel to shape.

I have been collecting knives since 1980 and have seen many of the makers' work since the early days of custom knives. To omit Jerry Rados is a mistake. He is a bladesmith who has supplied damascus steel for makers since the start of the knifemaking movement. Of the high-end pieces I have in my collection, I consider the Rados knives some of the very best.

Ronald C. Pearlman, Laurel, Maryland

More Wayne Editions

Regarding “Unsheathed” in the March *BLADE*: I couldn't agree more on your idea for Case to do more John Wayne editions! I have rerun the scene back so many times in *True Grit* where Wayne as Rooster Cogburn cuts the snakebite. The knife looks like a Case folding hunter or even a Buck folding hunter—just like the one I own.

I am trying to get a good still of Lee

Marvin from *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* so I can reproduce his bowie.

Zane Blackwell, a letter via e-mail

New Maker To Watch

I have been a *BLADE*® guy for many, many years. I was with *BLADE Magazine Cutlery Hall-Of-Fame*® member Jimmy Lile for some time and considered him one of my best friends. Saying that is just to make note to you that I read with interest the top makers identified by the magazine (see the January, February and March issues of *BLADE*).

My suggestion is that a maker from Sweden is the best I have seen and his knives are just unbelievable in skill and performance. Michael Henningsson of Sweden is the finest maker I have seen or been acquainted with for some time. His work is ingenious and his knives are flawless. That is a difficult thing to say and even more to see in this world of makers with skill and access to machinery and methods to produce knives. His work is just beyond outstanding in my opinion, and I urge *BLADE* to pursue and highlight for the knife public this outstanding maker.

I became acquainted with Michael through an Internet inquiry some time ago, and now consider him a friend and

someone with whom I keep in contact. It is difficult to be known in the USA when your life and work is primarily in Sweden and not seen much here. I encouraged him to join the Knifemakers' Guild and he did so, and I am hopeful that will be a good thing for him. He sold all of his knives at his first show.

I encourage *BLADE* to follow up with him. He is truly outstanding. His skill and ideas amaze me.

Thank you for providing the magazine for makers, customers and the public. I have the first issue and will always keep it.

David L. Highers, a letter via email

Editor's note: Mr. Henningsson can be reached at +46 76 626 06 51 michael.henningsson@gmail.com, henningssonknives.com.

Sharp Headman Says “Thanks”

I enjoyed Dexter Ewing's great story “Troop Trio of Sharp” in the December *BLADE*® (page 50). Many thanks for including DMT—we always appreciate being part of one of your articles.

Mark Brandon, President, Diamond Machining Technology

BLADE

WEB CHATTER

The Knife for You?

I bought a Gerber Gator clip point with a fine edge years ago to fill a dual role of everyday carry, and as another tool for law enforcement purposes. (I served 35 years as a deputy sheriff.) It worked admirably in both roles. The only flaw was it did not have a stud for one-hand opening, a necessity for law enforcement use. I remedied this by purchasing a One Arm Bandit thumb stud attachment for the princely sum of \$9.95. The Gator was \$39.95, now \$44 on Gerber's website. It can also be purchased for the same price in a serrated version.

I feel this knife is excellent. It has a bowie-style clip-point blade and an extremely comfortable grip. Most knives these days concentrate on a slim design

and a clip for fastening them to your pocket. The Gator eschews this in favor of a tough blade and comfy grip. If you're looking for slimness, it won't fill the bill. If you're after a well-made, tough blade and locking device with a hand-filling grip, this could be the knife for you.

Unkei

Unkei's post is under the heading “Gerber Gator. Clip Point-Fine Edge” in “KnifeForums.com Members' Knife Reviews” of KnifeForums.com. To read it and similar posts visit www.knifeforums.com at www.blademag.com.