

Queen Cutlery Collectors Inc.

News

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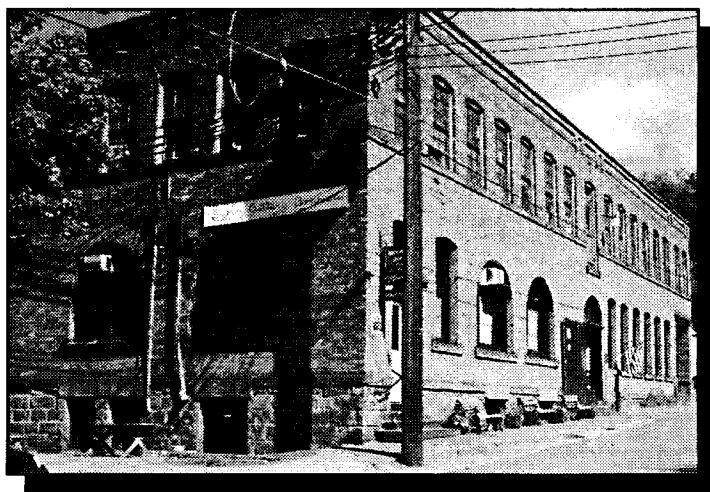
The Show

It's Over! It was FUN! The first Biannual Queen Cutlery Collectors Knife Show is in the history books. For our first show, given our expectations, it was a success.

The events started on Thursday afternoon, July 15th, with a plant tour. While the plant was on summer shutdown vacation, some folks were there to show us "how" Queen Knives are made. The factory was spruced up, with fresh paint everywhere and anxious employees waiting to show off their workplace.

It was interesting to see the number of steps required to make a great knife, many of which are still "done by hand". Pride in craftsmanship is alive and well at Queen.

A chance to browse and shop was a welcomed opportunity. I had to make a last minute butcher knife purchase for the evenings cookout, as I left



home in a rush. The price was right and so I bought several.

Forty three members toured that afternoon, and comments were most favorable regarding the hand operations and the resultant quality product.

We had a chance to see prototypes #4 and #5 in the Schatt Morgan "file and wire" series. They are excellent.

We also got to see the bone selection as well as candidate knives for the next Schatt Series; I believe they will be well received. I keep rooting for a



John Wyllie and Mike Sullivan

straight blade "Outers Pattern"; you never can tell who is listening.

The cookout started at 5:30 pm at the Titusville Sportsmans' Club, with a menu consisting of chicken, ribs, salad, rolls, potato salad, ribs and baked beans.

Cookouts have become a Sportsmans' Club event over the years as they are part of the special shoots that are held throughout the summer, with yours truly as the chef. There will never be a shortage of food.

The company was well represented with Nick Trbovich Jr. for Servitronics, John Willie, President of Queen Cutlery/Ontario Knife, John O'Brien Vice-president—Sales and marketing, Jennie Moore, Queen Sales Representative and Kathy Barter, Manager of purchasing.

Nick took the time to talk to all, and promised to be at the next show, gavel to gavel. We appreciate the support of company, and enjoy the relationships that we have built in the last year.

John Wand John O were with us all the way and I'm sure you enjoyed the opportunity to talk with

these folks. Howard and I were glad they could come to the show.

When we cleaned up, we realized that we had 52 for the cookout, with chickens left over.

As the sun peeped over the hills into the Oil Creek Valley, we were ready and opened the doors at 8 am for setup.

We had 70 tables with 34 dealers present, with room to expand.

Doors opened to the public at 12 noon. Our format was to open on Friday, and Saturday. This seems to be gaining favor as it leaves Sunday for travel home. My experience has been that Sunday is almost always a waste of time, and I'm glad for the change, as it gives me a chance to go further.

We were pleased that Queen Collectors and former employees of note, came to the show.

John Lussier of Rhode Island, Fred Fisher of Columbus, Ohio as well as retired Master Cutler, Fred Sampson, and retired Sales manager Bob Siple were present.

Those who stayed late on Saturday got to meet Jerry Mathews, former owner of Queen Cutlery; Jerry brought along an original Schatt Morgan #1 catalog. It is a Beauty; we hope to get a chance to reproduce some or all of it.

For us, the show was a chance to meet members of the club, answer questions and just B.S. about Knives in general. While we view the show as a success, there are things we would do differently. It is interesting to note that we have paralleled the case

interesting to note that we have paralleled the Case effort, which also had a slow start.

Things We Learned:

- It's not the location, as Bradford is in the middle of nowhere as well.
- We asked all who attended, how they found out about the show.
- You can't rely on the locals to boost attendance.

- Newspaper advertising was a waste of time, as was local T.V.
- Knife World and Blade Magazine, as well as Handout Flyers worked the best.
- You need to reach the collector.

Based on the above, there are things we will put in place for the September 1999 Allegheny Mountain Knife Collectors Show. We will let you know how it works.

What's Now

- Mike Sullivan

- In this packet, you should find the Charter Member's Certificate.
- A copy of an original Queen Stock Certificate. (For charter members)
- Your membership card.
- Have you tried the website? www.queencutlerycollectors.com
- Have you sent an E-mail to? queen1922@aol.com
- Would you like to put an ad, no charge, in the newsletter or website? Send it.
- We are working on a selection for "The Millennium Knife". The annual knife for the year 2000.
- The deadline for the 1999 annual Knife is September 1, 1999—you should have received a Separate flyer during the week of the 15th August.

Deb & Doug Armentrout,

Nick Trbovich Jr.

President Ontario Knife & Queen Cutlery

Jennie & Rob Moore



Showtime

by Don States

The Mason Dixon Show was held on April 30th and May 1st and 2nd at Greencastle Pennsylvania. An extra bonus at the show was the beautiful area. We came east on the Pennsylvania Turnpike then down Route 75. This was a beautiful drive with lots of red Bud in full bloom along with the spring flowers. This club always puts on a great show. A must at this show is the banquet Saturday evening. Tony Foster told his candle story at the banquet. If you have never seen him do this you have missed something special.

The Western Reserve Show, Dover Ohio was held on July 10th and 11th at Tuscarawas County fair grounds. It was good to be in a building instead of a tent. This is always a good show. Their banquet was held at Dutch Valley restaurant on Saturday evening. If anyone left the banquet hungry it was their own fault. This is another good area to spend

some extra time looking at antique shops and don't miss the Warther Museum.

The Queen Cutlery Collectors Inc. held their first show at Titusville, Pennsylvania July 16th and

17th. July 15th was for club members only and included a very interesting factory tour. A barbecue was held that evening at the sportsman club. Mike Sullivan and Howard Drake did a great job of



preparing ribs, chicken and there was lots of food for everyone. There was good attendance with about 50 members at the barbecue. They came from several states including Washington state. The show opened Friday morning with 70 tables of knives. The hall was nice and was air-conditioned which we all appreciated. By Saturday afternoon at 4:00 when the show ended everyone seemed to have a good show. See you in 2001.

Collectors of Interest

by Howard Drake

In writing these articles about different Queen collectors, I got to thinking maybe it would be a good idea, and fitting, that we back up a bit and take a look at some of the people who made all this collecting possible.

At our first biannual knife show this year, there were two or three of the people present that helped make all this come about.

The first of these gentleman, is Jerry Mathaws, one of the past owners of Queen Cutlery. It was a pleasure to shake his hand, and personally thank him for all the fine knives that he and the people of Queen were responsible for marketing over the years. Jerry, said to me, "Why are you thanking me, no one ever mentions my father," Harry Mathaws, who was one of the original owners. Well, Jerry, I will thank him, because without people like him and others, there may not have been a Queen Cutlery Company.

The second person at that show was Bob Sipel, who many of you know from going to knife shows over the years. I bet many of you didn't know that Bob was a sales manager for Queen for a few years, and had the responsibility for putting the Queen product out on the market for you and me to buy.

"MANY THANKS BOB!"

The third, and the real reason for this article is Fred Sampson. Fred started at Queen in 1948; over the next forty years, Fred learned the knife trade from the bottom up, by working in every department. In 1952, he was appointed foreman of the cover room, in 1955, the assembly room. In 1976, Fred became Master Cutler and designer, and was responsible for the Master Cutler Collector series that we see today, along with a host of other Queen knives.

I guess I'm lucky in many ways because I only live four or five blocks from Fred, and when I started out collecting Queen Knives he would always help me identify the knives; and there always seemed to be a little story to go along with each one, something you never pick up just collecting.

If anyone has a question about a Queen knife, Fred would help you out; and for all the Queen collectors and myself *THANKS FRED.*

Howard J. Drake

If anyone would like to submit an article, or knows of someone who should be featured, contact me on the web at: queenrg22@aol.com • Or write to: Queen Cutlery Collectors, Inc.

P.O. Box 109 Titusville, PA 16354

From The Factory

by Jennie Moore

The factory is busy, but quiet. We will have a sneak preview of the Schatt-Morgan series \bar{X} at the Louisville show on September 24th. The #3 in the "File's Wire" series, the English Jack, is ready for shipment. The 4th in this series will be announced shortly.

We are working on a display case, a reproduction of the original Schatt-Morgan, for the Millennium series that would include a glass etch. The factory will have a display at the following shows:



Factory Tour

Gene Draa, John Lussier, Doug Armenout, Ernie Bennett

Sept 18-19
Allegheny Mountain Knife Collectors
Washington fairgrounds

Sept 25-26
Louisville show

Oct 29,30,31
Cincinnati/Covington show

Look forward to seeing you and answering questions.

Jennie

My Favorite Pattern

by Mike Sullivan

It's hard to remember when I started collecting knives in earnest; I'm almost sure it started in 1968 when I was living in Connecticut. A proposed tax/registration fee on guns gave me a chance to rethink gun collecting; I believe that was the cross road.

When I first started to hunt, I carried a case "48" Pattern, a simple kind of knife that got the job done from deer to rabbits. I still have that knife, although it has been sharpened to the point where less than 50% of the blade remains. I started picking up other 48 Blade Markings from time to time. When I moved to Ticusville in '86, Howard Drake introduced me to Queen's Version of the 61048, the #11 in Winterbottom Bone. To me, with a liner lock, it's a great knife which just fits well in your pocket or pack. Since that time I have continued to collect all the Blade Stamps, and Handle combinations.

The above statement can never be considered a complete definition of the range of this task, as I continue to find a combination that is different. Given the above, you need to just keep on looking.

At the moment my collection numbers 77 by Queen, 18 by Case and 6 others. Case can get very expensive; I recently "screwed up" when I passed up a 48 (Case XX) in Green Bone-Mint @ \$125 only to find out that it was worth at least double that. I find that the older Queen Tang Stamps are tough to come by in excellent to mint condition. But I never cease to be amazed by what turns up.

If you have any photos of old #11's with different handle materials, send a copy along.

Why not write a short article for the newsletter on "Your Favorite Pattern", and send it to us.

Mike

Classified—Buy, Sell & Trade

WANTED—Outer's Pattern Knives

Queen, Scharr-Morgan, Case, Western, Catteraugus, or other brands in excellent to mint condition—

Call Mike Sullivan-724-733-5433 e-mail—ironmkr@aol.com

WANTED—LL Bean Sheath Knives, mint condition

Call Mike Sullivan-724-733-5433 • e-mail—ironmkr@aol.com

WANTED—Queen Sheath Knives must be excellent to mint

Call Howard Drake(614-827-6923 or • E-mail-howardj@csnline.net



Shopping at the company store



Jemie Moore and Jerry Mathews, former owner Queen Cutlery