

APRIL 6, 2016MAY 6, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

1. An Introduction

Hello

This blog is dedicated to Colonial Knives of Providence Rhode Island. The original Colonial Knife Co 1926 – 1998. I am a long time Colonial knife collector and I also enjoy the interesting history of the knives and the amazing Paolantonio family behind them. I will be posting pictures of the family, the factory and discussing some history of the company. One of my favorite hobby's besides knife collecting is photography. So I will also be sharing pictures I have taken of my large Colonial knife collection. To me, each one is a little piece of history. I look forward to sharing them with you.

Brian



2016

2.The Beginning

Frederick Paolantonio. Born in Frosolone, Italy. This story starts with him. Frosolone, much like Sheffield, England and Solingen, Germany is known for its cutlery that is a large part of the local industry.

Fredrick arrived in America in 1903 already a skilled cutler. Having no trouble finding work he first lives in Providence R.I. working in the cutlery shop of Mr.J.M.Schmidt. After that he moved to Winsted, Connecticut where he worked for years at Empire Knife Company.

In 1914 he moved to Meridian, Connecticut and began working for Miller Bros Cutlery Company as a foreman. After working for Miller Bros for years, he and someone he worked with at Miller Bros started the Meriden Knife Company to make knife skeletons to sell to the Miller Bros company.

Later Fredrick sold his interest in the company to the other owner. In 1920 he started the P.& S.Cutlery Co.to manufacture knife skeletons and paring knives. After only 1 year he sells this company to Imperial Knife Company and went to work for them back in Providence as their assembly room foreman.

While Fredrick Paolantonio worked in the American Cutlery industry his 2 brothers were still working as cutlers back in Frosolone. In 1910 Dominick Frosolone came to American and went to work at Empire knife Co with Fredrick. The following year Anthony Paolantonio also comes to America and goes to work with his brothers at Empire.

After Fredrick decides to leave Empire and pursues his own business, Anthony and Dominick also decide to start their own company in 1917. They called Providence Cutlery Company.

With World War 1 beginning, Anthony leaves the business to his brother Dominick and joins the US Army where he works as a blacksmith.

Anthony comes back from the war in 1920 and starts his own successful company, the A.Paolantonio Cutlery Company in Providence. In 1925 Dominick sells his company and joins back up with Anthony at his company. In 1926 Fredrick leaves Imperial and the 3 brothers are back together again. In the loft on Calendar Street in Providence where the A.Paolantonio business had been,they start the Colonial Knife Co.

The 3 brothers soon outgrew the loft and in 1926 they bought a big 2 story brick building. It must not have been long before they started running out of room again. A few years later they began construction of a huge factory. This factory would become the 2nd largest manufacturer of pocket knives in the world.

In the picture below men are making the foundation for what will be the new Colonial Knife Co factory in the 1930's. You can also see the red brick building where Colonial made its first knives. Its the tall one in the center to the left of the construction work. They continued to substantially expand this facility for years to come, at times producing thousands of pocket knives every week.



Below is an old page from Paine's Cutlery Journal about the beginning of Colonial. I have never been able to find the rest of the article but the first page is pretty interesting. It shows a good picture of the front of the brick building where the first Colonial knives were made. It also has pictures of Fredrick, Dominick and Anthony. Old pictures sure can be funny. Fredrick looks proud, Dominick looks confident and Anthony looks like he saw a ghost ha ha.



Colonial Company Makes Quick Progress in Five-Year Period

Paolantonio Brothers, Learning Business in Italy, Apply Latest American Methods at Pocket Knife Plant in Providence

NEAR the city of Naples, in Italy, is a town named Prosolone, which may be likened to the Solingen district of Germany, the Thiers district of France or the Sheffield of England, although, of course, operations are conducted on a much smaller scale than in any of the aforementioned places. Italy is not without its cutlery district, however, and the town of Prosolone harbors a population of 7,000, all of whom are dependent upon the cutlery industry as a means of livelihood. The entire district is comprised of small shops, each employing two, three or four workers and after each opera-



DOMINICK PAOLANTONIO, President

tion the work is carried from place to place much the same as with the home workers in Solingen.

In 1903 Frederick Paolantonio, having learned his trade in Prosolone, arrived in this country and went to work in the cutlery shop of J. M. Schmid on Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Later he went to Winsted and entered the employ of the Empire Knife Co., where he continued along for a period of five years. For a brief period he went with the American Shear & Knife Co. and then returned to Winsted.

In 1914 Mr. Paolantonio joined

the organization of the Miller Bros. Cutlery Co., Meriden, Conn., one of the old-line pocket knife concerns, where he remained for four years as foreman of production. The late Edward Oefinger was also with the Miller concern at the time and together Paolantonio and Oefinger started the Meriden Knife Co. to manufacture skeletons for the Miller company.

Mr. Paolantonio then sold out his business to Oefinger and in 1920 organized the P. & S. Cutlery Co., in Meriden, to manufacture skeletons and paring knives. About a year later he sold the business to the



FREDERICK PAOLANTONIO, Vice-President



ANTHONY PAOLANTONIO, Treasurer

Below is a picture of a knife from my collection made by Miller Bros where Fredrick worked before Colonial.



Below is a picture of a knife from my collection made by Prov Cut Co. Dominick and Anthony Paolantonio formed this company in Providence R.I. in 1917 and it was sold in 1925. The amazing Robert Anthony Paolantonio(1958-2014), grandson of Fredrick, identified this knife at All About Pocket Knives.com as being made by his uncles between 1917 and 1920. I am lucky to have it in my collection.



APRIL 14, 2016APRIL 18, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

3. Good Times

Fredrick, Dominick and Anthony created a legendary business. Big sales to hardware stores, lots of advertising knife orders from company's and large military contracts kept Colonial very busy.

Colonial supplied many different knives to the US Military. A couple of the most well known ones are the US Navy's Mark 1 fixed blade knife and the US Navy Pilot survival knife. There were also orders for other special purpose military jack knives such as electricians knives and sailors knives.

The Mark 1 was purchased from Colonial by the US Navy in huge quantities. They were issued throughout WWII and remained in inventory through the Vietnam War.

Below is a picture of a US Navy Mark 1 made by Colonial.



The US Navy pilots survival knife, nicknamed the giant jack knife by the men who used it, was a big folding knife with 2 blades, one of which was a saw. The US Navy discovered that in many emergency's such as being under attack, a ship sinking or a plane going down the men didn't have their fixed blades on them and they would not have them when they needed them most.

The US Navy ordered the pilots survival knife from Colonial to go in the C-1 Sustenance/Survival Vest. During this time Antonio Paolantonio served on the war production board in Washington D.C where he oversaw the allocation of steel to the cutlery industry.



Below is a picture of Antonio Paolantonio pointing at the colonial knife that was included in the C-1 survival vest.



The Pictures below are the Navy pilots survival knife.



Below is the Colonial marking from the blade of the US Navy pilots folding survival knife.



U.S. MILITARY UTILITY KNIVES

From the introduction of the utility pattern early in this century, cutlery manufacturers advertised one or another version of the four-blade or six-blade utility knife as an "army and navy" or "military" pattern. No doubt individual servicemen bought lots of these knives, but with only one exception the U.S. government seems not to have issued any multi-blades until just before World War II.

The one documented exception was purchased by the Army Medical Department prior to World War I. It was a 3 1/2-inch barehead swell-center regular pattern with bone stag handles. It had a corkscrew on the back, a spear master blade marked MED.DEPT/U.S.A. and A.KASTOR & BROS./GERMANY; and a saw blade marked KASTOR over a contract date — I have seen 11-8-12 and 10-22-14. Value \$350.

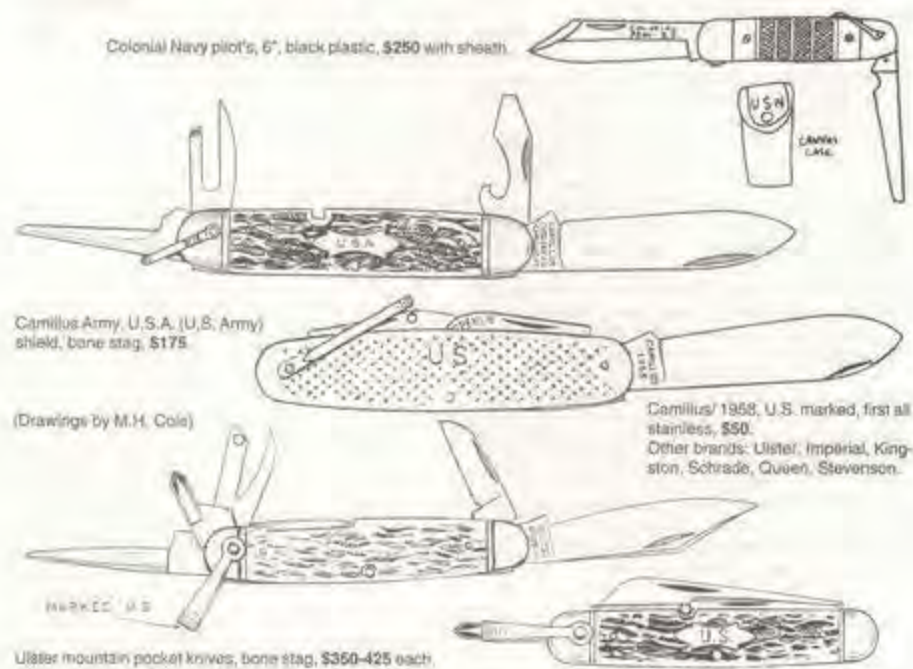
During World War II the U.S. government purchased millions of utility knives for issue to soldiers, marines, and Navy hospital corpsmen. Most had the standard four blades (rarely three), bone stag handles, and steel mounts. Some had shields marked with branch initials (U.S.A., M.D.-U.S.N., U.S.N., U.S.M.C.). For these add 100% as shown in the price chart. Most had no shield or military markings, and they command no premium.

About 1944 the Army and Marine Corps switched to checkered stainless steel for utility knife handles, although the blades were still carbon steel. In 1958 they switched to stainless steel blades.

For Army commandos and mountain troops, beginning in 1942, Ulster made junior-sized utility knives with an added Phillips screwdriver, either as a fifth blade or welded to the extra-wide hilt; also a sheepfoot or spey blade in place of the cap-lifter. Handles were bone stag, mounts steel, hilt or shield usually stamped U.S. Value \$300-350.

The oddest G.I. folder of the war was the Navy pilot's survival knife. It was 6 inches long, with blacked steel mounts and checkered black plastic handles secured by screws. It had a stout suber ground clip blade with a finger-type lock in one end, and a flexible fine-toothed saw in the other. Some had a bail at the saw end. The sheath was canvas. They were made by Colonial Knife Co. and by United Machine Tool Co. of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Value of either with no bail \$75; "sterile" unmarked \$85; Colonial with bail and sheath, \$125.

Other military folding knives are found under *Special Purpose Jack Knives* (*Electrician's Knives* and *Sailor's Knives*) and under *Cattle Knives*. G.I. folding machetes are included with *U.S. Military Fixed Blade Knives*.



The Military contracts were just a part of what made Colonial knife so successful.

During its time Colonial sold millions of knives and registered over a dozen different brands.

Forest Master (1934), Topper (1938), Ranger (1938), Tiny Champ, Cub Hunter, Sport Topper, Master, (1939) Junior Topper (1940), Snappy and Sure Snap (1948), and Fish Master (1949). They also had the Ambassador line which they started in 1951. Ambassador was a line of fine gentleman's knives mostly sold in department stores and men's clothing stores.

Below are some old Colonial Knife advertisements.

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

PAGE 82

GLAZE-Master

UTILITY KNIFE

★
HIGH CARBON QUALITY STEEL
HARDENED and TEMPERED

★
SOLID THROUGH TANG
CONSTRUCTION

★
SOLID BRASS RIVET
COMPRESSION
TYPE

★
PACKED ONE (1)
DOZ. TO A
DISPLAY BOX

No. P38
Approximate Wt. Per Doz. 2¾ Lbs.



"Over One Quarter of a Century of Progress"

Price Per Doz.

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"



THIS CARD FOR ONE DOZEN
PARING KNIFE OR SPREADER

Your New **KITCHEN AID** **STAINLESS STEEL**

NEW MODERN CONTOUR
DESIGNED HANDLE OF HIGH IMPACT
STYRENE IN ASSORTED COLORS.

ATTRACTIVE FULL COLOR
DISPLAY CARD FOR 1 DOZ. PARING
KNIVES OR 1 DOZ. SPREADERS.

ASSORTMENT NO. KA68 CONSISTS OF
 $\frac{1}{2}$ DOZ. KM88 AND $\frac{1}{2}$ DOZ. KM66.

HIGH CARBON STAINLESS STEEL MIRROR
FINISHED. HOLLOW GROUND KNIFE BLADE.
HAND EDGED.



No. KM88 PARING KNIFE

Approximate Wt. Per Doz. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ Lbs.



No. KM66 SPREADER

Approximate Wt. Per Doz. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ Lbs.

"Over One Quarter of a Century of Progress"

Newport Stainless

New Modern Contour Design. Handle of High Impact Styrene, High Carbon Stainless Steel, Hollow-Ground Hand Edged.



No. KM99
6 PIECE STEAK SET
Approximate Wt. Per Unit $\frac{3}{4}$ Lb.



Colorful Gift Box Sets Up To Eye Catching Display. Illustrated.

Factory No. should be followed by one of these letters.

- I—Ivory Color Handle.
- M—Maroon Color Handle.
- B—Black Color Handle.

Actual Size

"Over One Quarter of a Century of Progress"

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

PAGE 84

SANDWICH SNACK SPREADER and CAP LIFTER STAINLESS STEEL



No. KM 33

ASSORTED COLORED SHUR-GRIP
"TENITE" HANDLES.

THE PERFECT KITCHEN TOOL
FOR ALL SPREADS WITH HANDY
CAP LIFTER.

PACKED ONE DOZEN TO AN
ATTRACTIVE DISPLAY, 6 ON
FRONT, 6 ON REVERSE SIDE.
ILLUSTRATED ABOVE.



No. KM 33

Illustration Actual Size.
Approximate Weight Per Dozen 1 1/4 lbs.

"Over A Quarter of A Century of Progress" PRICE PER DOZEN

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

PAGE 28 PAGE 50



THE BIG CHIEF DUO

Interchangeable
KNIFE and HATCHET
COMBINATION



No. H69

APPROX. WEIGHT PER DOZ. — 17 Lbs.

Illustrated $\frac{1}{2}$ Actual Size

"Over One Quarter of a Century of Progress"

Price Per Doz.....

ALL PURPOSE OUTDOOR
COMBINATION KNIFE

HIGH CARBON STEEL BLADES
HARDENED and TEMPERED

SHUR-GRIP SIMULATED
STAG HANDLE
WITH BOLSTERS OF LONG-WEARING
NICKLE ALLOY

RUGGED GENUINE LEATHER SHEATH
FOR FULL PROTECTION

PACKED IN INDIVIDUAL GIFT BOX

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

FOREST-MASTER
BOYS' KNIFE

NOTE THE FEATURES OF THIS KNIFE!

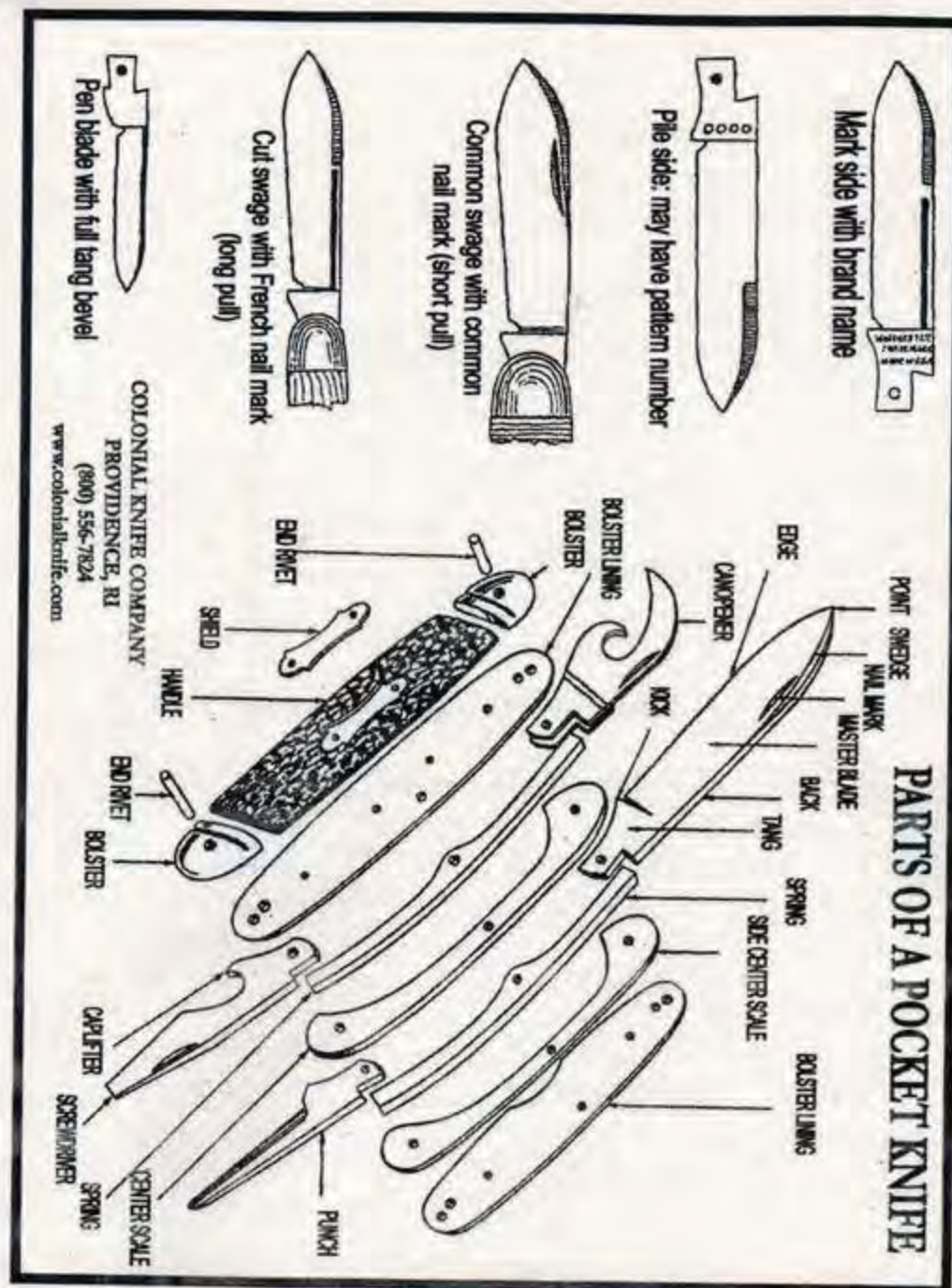
PRICE

FOR HUNTING, CAMPING, FISHING
AND GENERAL SPORT USE

The "he-man" youngster's closest pal!
Make YOUR boy a present of this fine husky all-purpose knife.

"A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED"
THAT'S THE "FOREST-MASTER" KNIFE!

#12-00





THE RAINBOW KNIFE
 MAN'S REPRODUCTION OF
 ABALONE PEARL



An
 All Around
 Pocket Knife
 Full Polished
 Keen Steel
 Blades
 Sturdy Enough
 for
 Heavy Duty
 yet
 An Ideal
 Pocket Size

PRICE **25¢** EACH

#3000T



"A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER"

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"PAGE 77 **PAGE 98****OFFICIAL****RIN-TIN-TIN
AND RUSTY
JACK KNIFE****No. RT 101**

Approximate Weight Per Dozen 2 Lbs.

- COMBINATION BELT LOOP and SNAP.
- CUTTING BLADE.
- SCREW DRIVER and CAP LIFTER.

HIGH CARBON STEEL
HARDENED and TEMPERED.

Packed (1) One Dozen To An
Attractive Display Shown Above.



WITH INTERNATIONAL
MORSE CODE ON
REVERSE SIDE.

(Actual Size)

"Over One Quarter Century of Progress" **PRICE PER DOZ.****"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"**



Colonial Knives ASP

TARGET MASTER



Throwing Knife

● Exciting easy-to-learn sport! Follow these instructions!

● COLONIALS—Perfectly balanced knives—enable anyone who can judge distances to quickly learn the art of knife throwing. However, the amateur can improve his skill only by practice and by following these helpful suggestions.

1. THE GRIP. For short distances hold the knife by the end of the blade as shown in Figure 1. The turn of the knife can be varied either by the force it is thrown or by changing the grip. A knife held with the hand further up the blade as shown in Figure 2, will make a slower turn than when held as in Figure 1.

2. JUDGING DISTANCES. It is very necessary that the knife-thrower learn to judge distances accurately. Unless he is able to do so, his throwing skill will have to develop entirely by trial and error. According to our tests, this balanced tomahawk knife, when held as in Figure 1, will make a half-turn in the air at a distance of eight to ten feet, depending upon the force with which it is thrown. The beginner should start his practice and develop his individual "feel" for the knife with a half-turn throw at this distance. Practice a uniform half-turn throw until you can land your knife in the target consistently.

3. THE PRINCIPLE OF "THE TURN." In the hands of an expert knife thrower, the dagger will make an additional half-turn every three feet beyond the distance which you establish as your own "half-turn" distance. Depending on the force with which you throw, you can soon master a "turn-and-a-half" throw at a distance of approximately 14 to 16 feet. Remember, while you are learning, it is not important to throw a knife hard. Master a steady uniform throw, and later, when you have developed accuracy, it will be easy to throw your knife harder and farther.

This simple principle can be applied with a uniform throw up to distances of 50 feet or more.

Obviously, the grip and power of the throw will vary with individuals. But the foregoing instructions are recommended as an invaluable guide for the beginner. Only by watching the exact way the knife hits the target can the amateur determine whether he needs more or less force, distance or grip change, to make the knife stick properly at these distances.

4. THE STANCE. As with the grip, the stance will vary with the individual, but in general the stance is the same in knife throwing as it is in throwing any object at a target.

Face the target in your natural throwing position with the left foot slightly ahead of the right. (For left-handed people, the right foot ahead of the left.) Grip the knife as instructed and shifting the body weight to the right foot, raise the arm as you would in a natural throwing position. Be certain that the blade is held vertical (as shown in Figure 3) and throw in a strict overhand motion, shifting the weight of the body in a smoothly coordinated movement with the arm, so that at the point of release the weight is nearly all on the left foot.

● FORM A NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB

Once you have mastered the essentials of knife-throwing, you will find that it is an excellent target sport. Form a club in your neighborhood and match your skill with others who are willing to learn the art of knife-throwing. With competition, you will be amazed how quickly you can learn this thrilling sport.

● TARGETS

For out-of-doors practice, a good target backstop can be fashioned from a 2-foot square of heavy board on which you can paint a bulls-eye or pin on paper targets. This backstop can be nailed to any post or tree which provides adequate throwing range, and soft soil in the background. Place board grain vertically.

Indoors, it is important to provide a much larger backstop to compensate for your misses. One Southern California knife thrower, who practices in his basement, has his practice target mounted in front of a padded canvas backstop which covers an entire wall. If you plan to practice indoors, it is best to provide some protection of this kind for your walls.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

- GENUINE LEATHER THONG HANDLE
- PERFECTLY BALANCED
- HIGH CARBON CUTLERY STEEL

ACTUAL SIZE

No. T-15

Approximate Wt.
3 1/4 Lbs. Per Doz.





No. 2633S

Closed Length 3 3/4"

Large 3-Blade Master Jack with black and red handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross 30 lbs.



4-BLADE FOREST MASTER

Polished spear, pen, can opener, and screwdriver-caplifter blades. Simulated Black stag handles. Nickel-plated trim. Brass lined. Length closed, 3 3/4". One dozen on easel display card. Ship. wt. 4 lbs.

11K342-784.....RETAIL, Card of 12 \$14.40



Forest Master Set. For Hunting and Camping. Consists of Hunting Knife—4 1/2" saber clip blade—length overall 8 1/4" with genuine leather sheath; full size 4-bladed camp knife, blades of high carbon steel, mirror polished. Simulated stag handles of non-breakable plastic, cap and bolsters of nickel alloy highly polished. Each set in gift box.

No. 10C127. Per Dozen Sets.....**17.50**
Per Set**1.50**

SHUR-SNAP
AUTOMATIC

PRICE

Press Button Pocket Knife

**PRECISION
BUILT**

OPENS AS QUICK AS A WINK

**HIGH CARBON
STEEL BLADE**
Mirror Polished

"The Knife With A Sharp Edge"



Display Cards

* These cards are so rare and especially with original knives on them, plus the fact that it would be nearly impossible to find a truly Mint set since you're dealing with several knives plus the card, prompted me to make an exception and list their values as Near Mint. If you had a truly Mint set there are many collectors who would pay much more than the values that I have listed here.

SHUR-SNAP display card from the 1950s has 12 original Fatjack knives held in place by an elastic cord. Near Mint value with knives: \$4,000* Mint card empty: \$400



SHUR-SNAP display card from the 1950s has six original Jumbo Jack knives held in place by an elastic cord. Although this is not the display card that came with the Jumbo Jack knives, it is an original SHUR-SNAP fishtail card and retailers in the 1950s often reused the display cards so it is quite possible that this card is just as it was when taken off the shelf in 1958. Near Mint value with knives: \$2,560* Mint card empty: \$400



SHUR-SNAP display card from the 1950s has 12 original fishtail and bowtie knives held in place by an elastic cord. These knives, though all near mint and authentic, weren't likely together in the 1950s since they are all different and represent three different time periods in production. I thought it would be interesting to show the subtle variations by putting them together on the display card. Near Mint value with knives: \$3,200* Mint card empty: \$400

PATTERNS CONTAINED IN THE YC 100 CABINET ASSORTMENT



No. DC 610

Closed Length 3"

Medium Dogleg 2-Blade Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 18 lbs.



No. DC 1950

Closed Length 3 3/4"

Medium 2-Blade Serpentine Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 18 lbs.



No. DC 4602

Closed Length 3 3/4"

Large 2-Blade Serpentine Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 24 lbs.



No. DC 350

Closed Length 3 1/4"

Medium 2-Blade Equal End Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 22 lbs.



No. DC 2621

Closed Length 3 1/4"

Large 2-Blade Equal End Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 30 lbs.



No. DC 4122

Closed Length 2 3/4"

2-Blade Slim Jack Knife with burnt brown stagged handles. Stainless steel.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 18 lbs.



No. DC 902F

Closed Length 4 3/4"

2-Blade Fish Knife with burnt brown stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 36 lbs.



No. 292

Closed Length 3 1/4"

2-Blade Barlow Knife with simulated bone handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 30 lbs.



No. 493Y

Closed Length 2 1/4"

Small 3-Blade Bantam Knife with plastic yellow handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 15 lbs.



No. 2633S

Closed Length 3 1/4"

Large 3-Blade Master Jack with black stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 30 lbs.



No. 1200

Closed Length 3 3/4"

4-Blade Forest Master Knife with black stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 36 lbs.



No. F5BO

Overall Length 8 5/8"

Hunting Knife Combo with black stagged handles.
Shipping Wt. per gross . . . 57 lbs.

INVESTIGATION REVEALS THAT "G-MAN" POCKET KNIVES

ARE INDISPENSABLE
WHEREVER GOOD
KNIVES ARE NEEDED

PRICE

25¢



COPYRIGHT 329,487

CLOSE
INSPECTION
SHOWS THE
"G"MAN POCKET
KNIFE HAS
BLADES OF FINEST
QUALITY STEEL
AND STRONG
STEADY GRIP
HANDLES



4. Not such good times

In the 1970's and 1980's, cheap imports from places like China heavily impacted knife company's in America. Some went out of business. Others were lucky to find ways to adapt and stay in business but profits weren't what they used to be for many of them.

One approach by Colonial to fight low profits were to bring out a few nicer lines of proudly made in U.S.A. knives.

Anvil knives was started by Colonial in 1972. This line of knives was designed by students at the Rhode Island School Of Design. There were only made in one style, a Stockman. It was available in 3 sizes, small, medium and large. They were made in 2 colors, brown and white.

Below are 2 of my Anvil knives. These are the smallest size, the peanut stockman. The brown one was my first Colonial knife, given to me by my grandfather over 30 years ago.



Old Cutler was another very nice knife line made by Colonial. There were more styles and colors available.

It consisted of a small stockman with both 2 and 3 blade models, a large 3 blade stockman, A 2 blade Barlow and a 2 blade trapper that was actually completely made by Camillus knives for Colonial.

Colors such as solid black, white, yellow and brown were made as well as 3 colors of jugged handles.

Below are pictures of some of my Old Cutler knives.

The Old Cutler trapper made by Camillus knives for Colonial. Colonial decided it would be cheaper to order the trapper from them instead of tooling up their own machines to make them.



Colonial also made a very neat collectors edition box with the Old Cutler line. It is called the Old Cutler Mark 1 Series. Its a wood box with soft red inside and a red foam liner that that has 6 knives. As well as having the name on the top it also says original issue and collectors edition. The 6 places inside are for 2 small stockman knives, 2 large stockman knives, a trapper and a Barlow.

Below are pictures of my Old Cutler Mark 1 series collector edition box.







5.RAP Cutler

Robert Anthony Paolantonio. Grandson of Fredrick Paolantonio and the only 3rd generation Paolantonio to become a cutler. Starting at Colonial at the age of 13, working in the knife packaging room every Saturday. Later working in the shipping room in high school and continued there full time while attending college at night and learning to be a cutler at the same time. After college working as a cutler for over 30 years at Colonial until the last few years they were in business.

For years Robert begged his family to let him put out a higher class of knife they could all be proud of. Finally in the 90's he managed to convince his Father, Uncles and Cousins to let him give it a try. He must have dreamed of saving the struggling company with this line. It was a wonderful knife called the Colonial 5 star series and was the beginning of R.A.P. Cutler Quality Knives.

Below is a picture of my R.A.P. Cutler knife and some advertisements showing the RAP Cutler and 5 star series of knives.

R.A.P. Cutler Large Stockman with Cape Buffalo Horn handles.



Colonial Knife Company, Inc.

Phone 1-800-556-7824

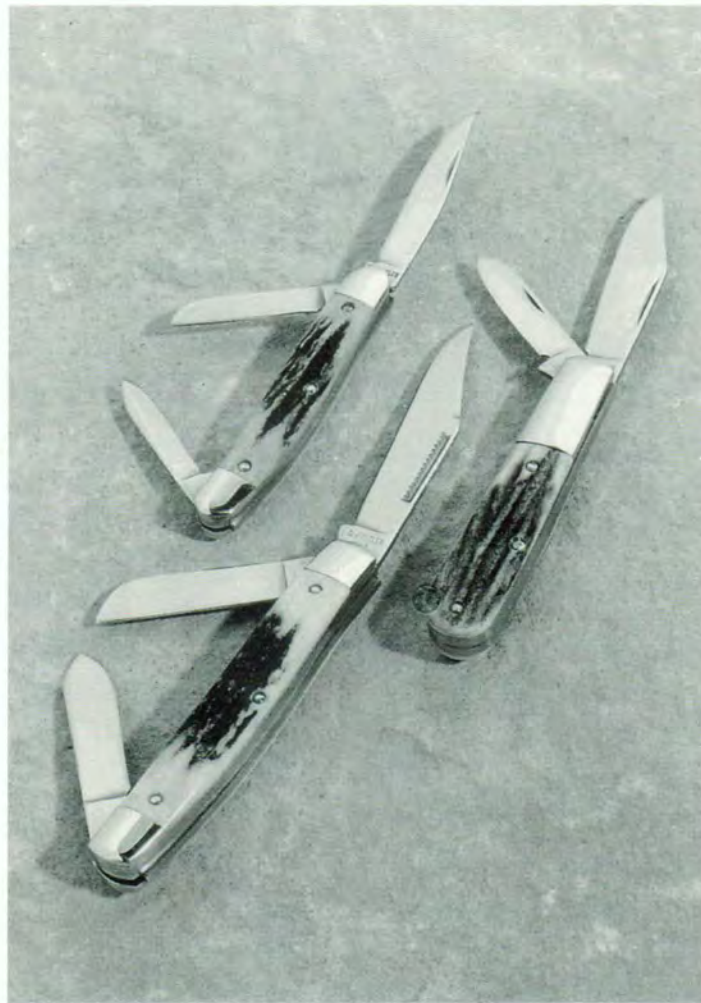
Fax 1-401-421-2047

**You can buy a more expensive pocketknife,
but not one that's more effective.**

*Stop by and visit
our booth at the
1995 S.H.O.T.
Show in
Las Vegas, Nevada
January 19-22.
Booth No. 10514.*

*Attending the
1995 ASD/AMD
National Trade Show
in
Las Vegas, Nevada,
March 5-9. Booth No.
to be determined.*

*Attending the
1995 Fanning Show
in
Idaho Falls, Idaho
on January 28-30.*



*Introducing
the Old Cutler
all new
5 Star Series*

*Genuine Stag
Handle.*

*All knives are
handmade.*

Made in America.

**Model RAP #43S
Sugg. Retail \$13.95
(Left)**

**Model RAP #53S
Sugg. Retail \$14.95
(Middle)**

**Model RAP #72S
Sugg. Retail \$12.95
(Right)**

Colonial Knife Co., Inc.

Agnes at Magnolia

P.O. Box 3327

Providence, RI 02909 U.S.A.

Four Generations Strong

Below is one of the last advertisements by Colonial.



COLONIAL

OLD CUTLER 5-STAR SERIES

By R.A.P. Cutler

MODEL: RAP-72S 2-BLADE BARLOW

Genuine American Stag
Length: closed 3 1/2"
Packed: Gift Boxed only
Weight: 3 oz./ea.
2 lbs. - 4 oz./doz.
UPC Item No.: 00072

**MODEL: RAP-43S 3-BLADE STOCKMAN**

Genuine American Stag
Length: closed 3 1/2"
Packed: Gift Boxed only
Weight: 2 1/2 oz./ea., 1 lb., 14 oz./doz.
UPC Item No.: 00043



Cutlery, as a general term, refers to one of the earliest utensils crafted and used by man – knives. Knives, cutting instruments, have either a straight or folding blade. Flint, bronze, stone, iron and copper knife artifacts prove they were in use from at least 1500 B.C. For cutting, hunting and defense, a well-formed knife has been one of man's most prized and primary possessions. Old Cutler knives are made in the true manner of the master cutler. Carefully fitted and finished to provide a top quality cutting instrument with smooth action, smooth feel, and rugged dependability.

OLD CUTLER – STAG

HANDMADE 5-STAR SERIES

MODEL: RAP-53S 3-BLADE STOCKMAN

Genuine American Stag
Length: closed 4"
Packed: Gift Boxed only
Weight: 3 1/2 oz./ea., 2 lbs., 10 oz./doz.
UPC Item No.: 00053



- 100% Lifetime Guarantee
- 100% American Handmade
- High Carbon Cutlery Steel Blades
- Brass Liners
- Nickel Silver Bolsters

Below is a picture Of Robert Anthony Paolantonio.



GEDSC DIGITAL CAMERA

APRIL 17, 2016JULY 7, 2018 LEAVE A COMMENT

APRIL 19, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

6. Out Of Business

The last few years at Colonial were very different from years past. Struggling to find the money to stay in business they began looking for ways to cut corners. Laying off employees to a bare minimum was one attempt. Cutting steps out of the knife production was another. They stopped putting the badges on the front of knives, only made a few models and at one point even bought knives from Pakistan to re sell.

Despite the attempts they couldn't save the company and went out of business in 1998.

There was an auction on may 29th 2002 selling everything inside the factory.

ABSOLUTE

Sale By Public

AUCTION

Appraisers



FAX 831-1170

Liquidators



(401) 831-8850

ROB RESNICK
RI Lic. #6893

AL CHRISTOFARO
MA Lic. #545

AL CHRISTOFARO
NH Lic. #2990

**MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT INCLUDING:
HUNDREDS OF TOOLS & DIES FOR MANUFACTURING KNIVES**

**COLONIAL KNIFE CO.
287 OAK STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002 AT 10:30 AM**

INSPECTION 9:00 AM SALE DAY

(2) 45 TON L&J POWER PRESSES W/AIR CLUTCH & BRAKE • SCRAP CHOPPERS • 60 TON L&J STRAIGHT SIDE POWER PRESS W/AIR CLUTCH & BRAKE • ROWE & COOPER WEYMOUTH STOCK LEVELERS • 30 & 50 TON STRAIGHT PRESSES • DIE TABLES • COOPER WEYMOUTH PARTS LEVELER • (2) LUNDWALL 7 TON POWER PRESSES W/OSHA TRIPS • (2) VAN DORN PLASTIC INJECTION MOULDERS • (2) R&A GRANULATORS • (2) REED PRENTICE PLASTIC INJECTION MOULDERS • C.J. HAYES FURNACE W/5" BELT & DISSOCIATOR • BERGER, NICHOLAS & SIEPMANN KNIFE GRINDERS • HOFFMAN COOLANT SYSTEM • LINDBERG BATCH FURNACE • KRAEMER TUMBLING BARRELS • DOALL 16" BANDSAW W/WELDER • 25 HP INGERSOLL RAND AIR COMPRESSOR • 25 HP JOY TWISTAIR AIR COMPRESSOR • (2) KELLOG AMERICAN RESERVE TANKS • DIVINE BLADE GRINDER • WALKER TURNER PEDESTAL DRILL • HAMMOND 16" PEDESTAL GRINDER • THERMOLYNE "DUBUQUE" FURNACE • ABRASIVE 8"X18" WET SURFACE GRINDER • 8&S MICROMASTER 6"X18" WET SURFACE GRINDER • 10" SOUTH BEND LATHE W/ACCESSORIES • HANDI-KLEEN PARTS WASHER • MILWAUKEE "H" HORIZONTAL MILLER • (2) GRANITE SURFACE PLATES 24"X18" • CLAIR POLISHING MACHINES • FRANKLIN, PEERLESS & KEN SOL HOT STAMPERS • (50) SINGLE & DOUBLE HEAD MILFORD & TRS RIVETING MACHINES • POWER DOME AIR PRESSES • BRANSON ULTRASONIC • HEAT SEALERS • SHRINK WRAPPERS • STACKBINS • PALLET & HAND TRUCKS • FLOOR SCALES • TIME CLOCKS • SHOP VAC • BENCHES • CHAIRS • LARGE QUANTITY OF TOOL STEEL • SCREWS • DOWELS • WOOD & STEEL TOTE PANS • TAPESHOOTERS • FLOOR FANS • CLARK 3000 LB. PROPANE FORKLIFT • THOUSANDS OF FINISHED & UNFINISHED KNIVES • THOUSANDS OF LBS. OF METAL IN COILS • (2) SNOWBLOWERS • SMALL TRACTOR • 1999 OLDSMOBILE AURORA 4 DOOR SEDAN (V-8 4.0 LITER AUTOMATIC - LOADED) • FILING CABINETS • DESKS • AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!

TERMS: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) refundable deposit in cash, certified or bank check required to obtain a bidder's number. (No Personal Checks, Business Checks Or Credit Cards Accepted.) Balance due immediately after sale. Removal upon completion of sale.

NOTE: 10% BUYER'S PREMIUM WILL APPLY TO ALL PURCHASES.

Another Sale
Under Management of



APPAISERS • AUCTIONEERS • LIQUIDATORS
475 HARRIS AVE. PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
(401) 831-1170

Visit our Website at: www.maxpollack.com

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MICHAEL A. SALVADORE & ASSOCIATES
945 EDDY STREET PROVIDENCE, RI 02905
401-941-1950 - FAX: 401-781-5840
AUCTIONS - LIQUIDATIONS - APPRAISALS

Our E-Mail Address: maxpollack@aol.com

A sad picture of the closed and vandalized Colonial factory.



APRIL 19, 2016APRIL 20, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

7. The Current Colonial Knife Co.

I dont know much about the current Colonial knife company. I dont buy many new knives.(I do still buy old Colonial knives regularly.) But I feel this part of the story deserves a page here so I am giving it a try.

Colonial was started up again by Steve Paolantonio. Apparently the imported knives that put the original Colonial out of business were what made the resurrection possible.

I guess he was having knives made in China and selling them under the Colonial name here in the USA. At some point he secured a \$4.5 million contract with the US military to supply a switch blade knife designed to save soldiers tangled in a parachute.

They also have some large pocket knife contracts, one of which is with the Girls Scouts of America.

I recently checked out the new Colonial knife website and I see a lot of very nice looking knives being made in the USA.

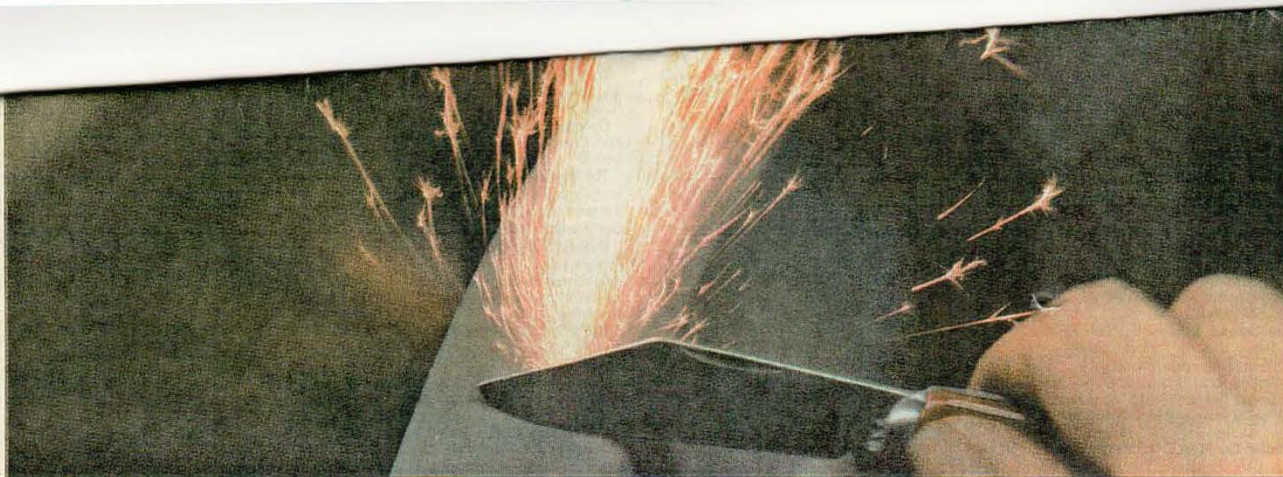
Seeing the Colonial name on a knife made in China is a bit sad to me but I have a lot of respect for Steve Paolantonio for managing to keep the family name alive in a very different world.

It looks to me like he is doing what the Paolantonio family have always done.

Supplying the American people and the US military with a quality knife.

Check out the new Colonial website here. <http://www.colonialknifecorp.com>
(<http://www.colonialknifecorp.com>).

Below is a newspaper article I found online about current day Colonial.



Journal photos/BOB THAYER

STAYING SHARP: A worker polishes an imported jackknife as part of the finishing process at Colonial Knife in Providence.

Cutting its losses

Imports hurt, then save knife company

By **RUSSELL GARLAND**
Journal Staff Writer

PROVIDENCE

The imports started gnawing away at Colonial Knife Co. in the mid-1980s. Loyal employees retired and were not replaced. Lines of knife-making machines stood silent. The tool-making department dwindled from 12 employees to 2.

By the mid-1990s, the third-generation managers had run out of time. Steve and Barry Paolantonio knew they had only a few months to save the family business.

"Made in America" had been the company's proud slogan but it no longer worked.

Rejecting the advice of their accountant, the Paolantonios gambled.

They decided to import knives from China.

Afterward, Steve Paolantonio walked through the factory. He wondered "what would grandpa think?"

Sometimes it takes a bold move to save a failing business. Facing a crisis, Steve and his cousin Barry saw that the old formulas no longer worked. To survive, Colonial would have to cut costs while exploiting knife manufacturing opportunities that were profitable.

Colonial Knife is an Olneyville institution, a rambling factory in a warren of industrial

Turn to **SMALL**, Page E 3



PROFILE

Steve Paolantonio, 37, president, above, and Barry Paolantonio, 45, treasurer

♦ COMPANY:

Colonial Knife Co.

♦ BACKGROUND:

The Providence knife manufacturer nearly closed several years ago.

♦ ISSUE:

Rescuing a failing business

If you have information about an issue affecting small business, contact Russ Garland at 277-7356 or by E-mail at rgarland@projo.com

SMALL BUSINESS MAKING IT WORK

IN THE FOLD: A popular jackknife, assembled at Colonial, is ready for packaging.



8. A great book about the history of Colonial Knife Co.

I want to tell you about a great book. It has details and information about the Paolantonio family and the old Colonial Knife factory you wont find anywhere else.

Written by Robert Paolantonio, grandson of Fredrick Paolantonio who was the first Paolantonio to come to America and started the family down the path to Colonial Knife Co. Its called My Family Business.

Robert worked for over 30 years in the factory where he learned how to operate every machine and work every position there.

Robert published and sold this book himself. Since he passed away in 2014 its only available in E book form.

I enjoyed this book so much and have read it several times. If you are a Colonial knife fan you wont be disappointed.

Buy it here. <https://gumroad.com/l/ZLDb#> (<https://gumroad.com/l/ZLDb#>).

MY FAMILY BUSINESS COLONIAL KNIFE COMPANY

BY: ROBERT ANTHONY PAOLANTONIO



APRIL 19, 2016APRIL 20, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

9.A great website for Colonial knife collectors

There is an amazing website called All About Pocket Knives. It has forums for discussing all kinds of different manufacturers pocket knives.

One particularly amazing forum there is the Colonial knife collectors forum.

Pictures of so many Colonial knives there as well as lots of nice guys sharing information about these great old knives.

Robert Paolantonio was a member there posting under the name Bonfirebob. During his time there he posted many pictures and left an amazing amount of information behind about Colonial knives. He made many friends and made it very clear what a nice, generous guy he was. I wish I found AAPK in time to meet him.

Check out the AAPK Colonial Collectors Forum here.

[http://www.allaboutpocketknives.com/knife_forum/viewforum.php?
f=87&sid=e68974369633366f9f317053d46b6db5](http://www.allaboutpocketknives.com/knife_forum/viewforum.php?f=87&sid=e68974369633366f9f317053d46b6db5)
([http://www.allaboutpocketknives.com/knife_forum/viewforum.php?
f=87&sid=e68974369633366f9f317053d46b6db5](http://www.allaboutpocketknives.com/knife_forum/viewforum.php?f=87&sid=e68974369633366f9f317053d46b6db5)).

10.Colonial knife pictures

Now for the fun part. I will be posting pictures of my Colonial knives. I have a lot of knives to photograph so come back often to see new additions!







11. More Colonial knife pictures

More pictures from my Colonial collection.

A rare coffin handled folding colonial knife. Its 9 inches long open!



Below are a couple very nice Colonials made between 1926 and 1938. A Forest Master and a Fish Knife.



Below are a couple old Colonial key chain knives.



Below is the first model forest master knife. Made between 1934 and 1938. It has the arched stamp that is the first tang stamp used by colonial from 1926 to 1938.



Master Barlow with imitation saw cut handles. 9 inches long.



APRIL 20, 2016 APRIL 20, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

APRIL 26, 2016 2 COMMENTS

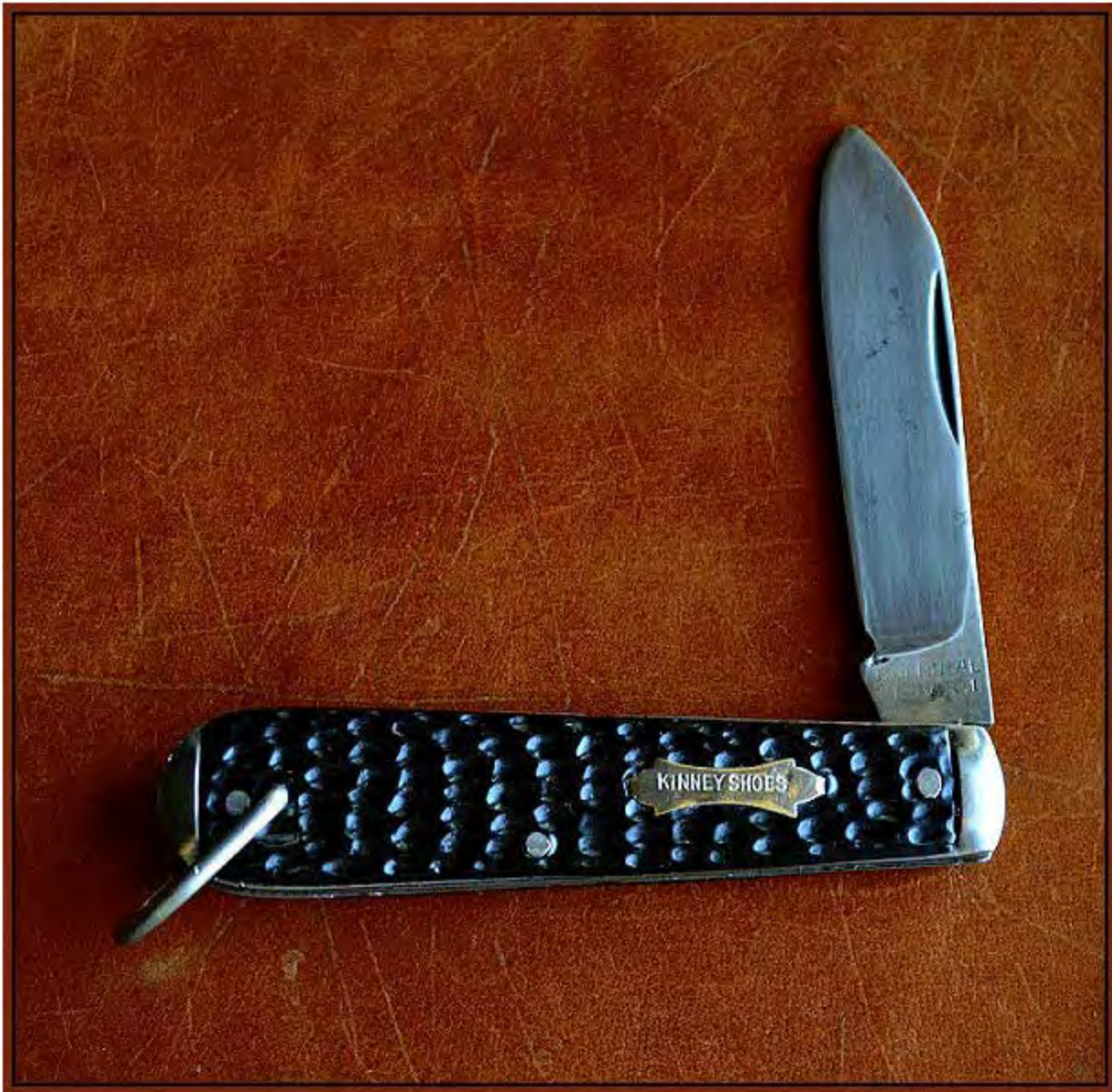
12. Advertising Knives

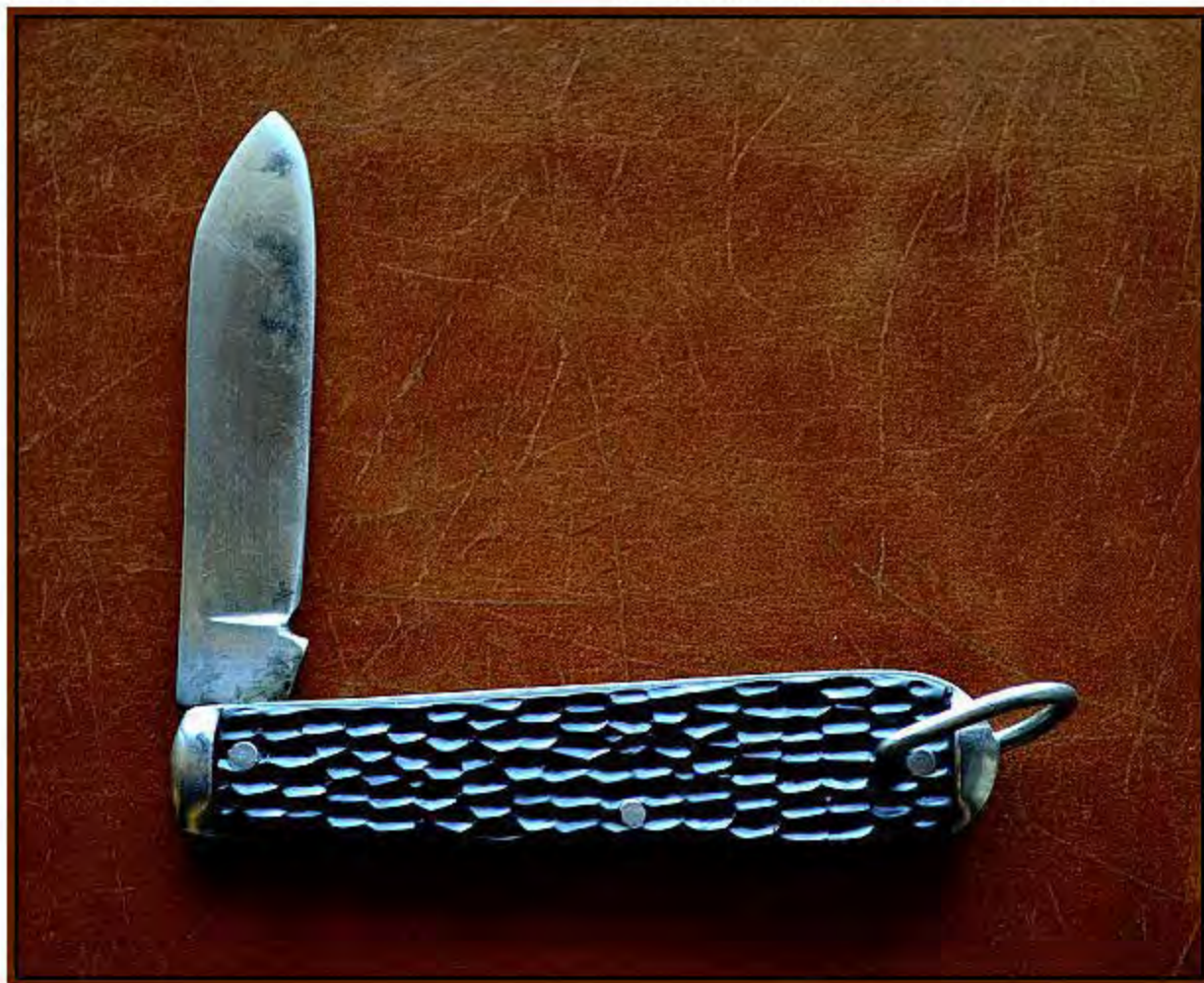
The 1930 to the 1960s was a time when advertising knives were most popular. It existed before and after but I find most advertising knives were made during this time.

Colonial knives made MANY advertising knives. The Dole banana company was one of their biggest customers. One time placing an order so large it took Colonial 2 years running the printing machines 24 hours a day to complete it. Chiquita banana, Chevron, auto dealerships, hardware stores and so many other big company's all the way down to small places like Bobs plumbing ordered advertising knives from Colonial.

One very neat advertising knife from the 40s and 50s was the Kinney Shoes knife.

Below is my Kinney Shoes knife and an assortment of advertising knives also made by Colonial.









APRIL 20, 2016APRIL 26, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

13. Forest Masters

The Forest Master was a very popular knife. It was a camp or scout knife style.

During my research I have identified so many different kinds of Forest Masters. So far I have 9 different Forest Masters in my collection. There are many models I have only seen in pictures, never one for sale.

There are 10 different black Forest Masters I have seen so far. The first 2 models were not shell knives. All models made after that were. Besides the 10 black Forest Masters there is an imitation stag, imitation wood, several different multi colored ones (purple and black, orange and black, light brown and black,) white plastic and one of the hardest to find, red plastic.

Below are a couple of very old Forest Master advertisements. Probably from a magazine or catalogue.



Forest Master Set. For Hunting and Camping. Consists of Hunting Knife—4½" saber clip blade—length overall 8¾" with genuine leather sheath; full size 4-bladed camp knife, blades of high carbon steel, mirror polished. Simulated stag handles of non-breakable plastic, cap and bolsters of nickel alloy highly polished. Each set in gift box.

No. 10C127. Per Dozen Sets.....**17.50**
Per Set**1.50**



4-BLADE FOREST MASTER

Polished spear, pen, can opener, and screwdriver-caplifter blades. Simulated Black stag handles. Nickel-plated trim. Brass lined. Length closed, 3¾". One dozen on easel display card. Ship. wt. 4 lbs.

11K342-784.....RETAIL, Card of 12 \$14.40

FOREST-MASTER
BOYS' KNIFE

NOTE THE FEATURES OF THIS KNIFE!

PRICE

FOR HUNTING, CAMPING, FISHING
AND GENERAL SPORT USE

The "he-man" youngster's closest pal!
Make YOUR boy a present of this fine husky all-purpose knife.

"A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED"
THAT'S THE "FOREST-MASTER" KNIFE!

1412-00

Below is a picture of my Forest Masters.

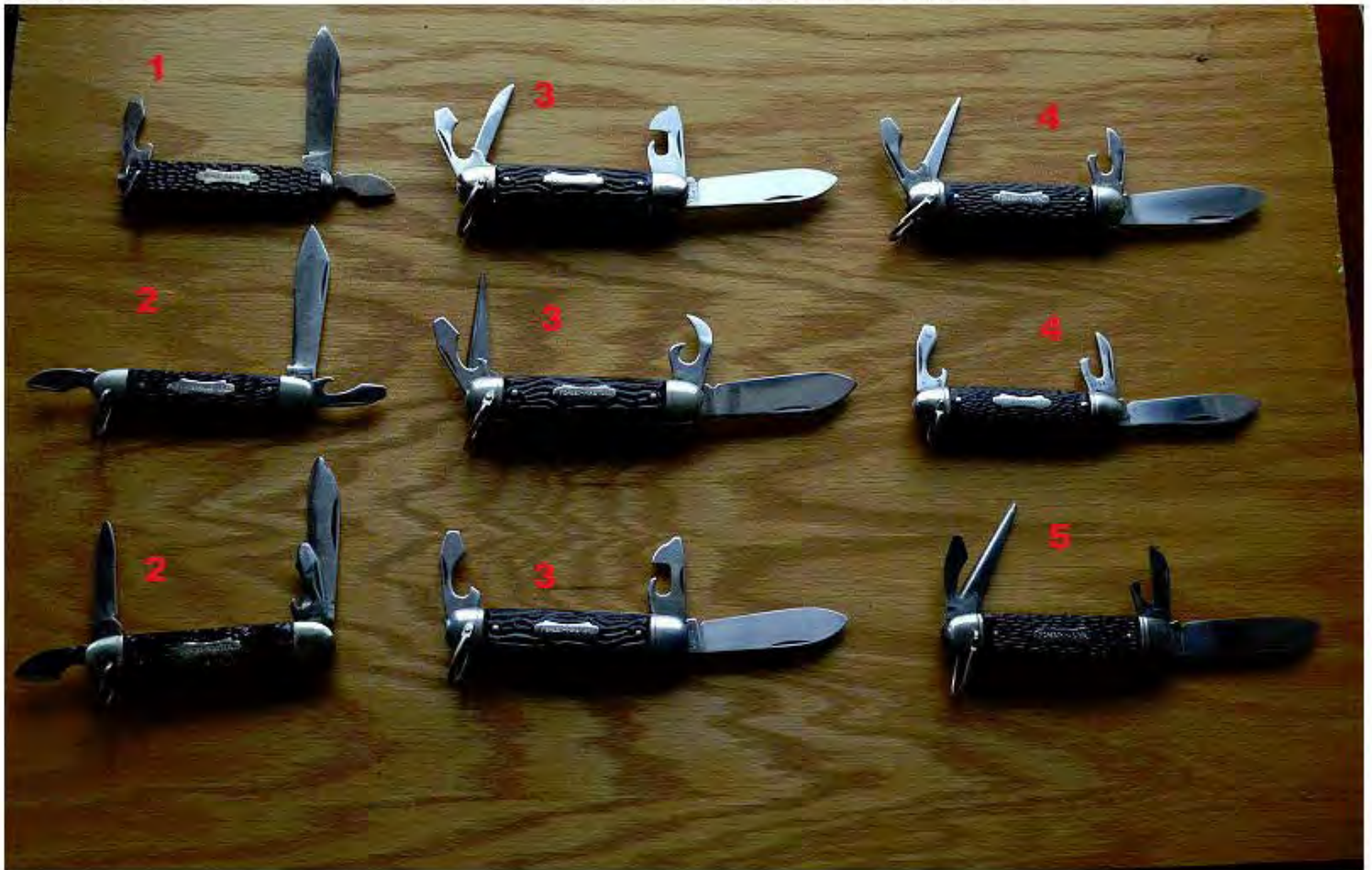


The next picture is the 9 different models I have so far.



Below is another picture of the 9 different Forest Masters I have. They are numbered in the order they were made.

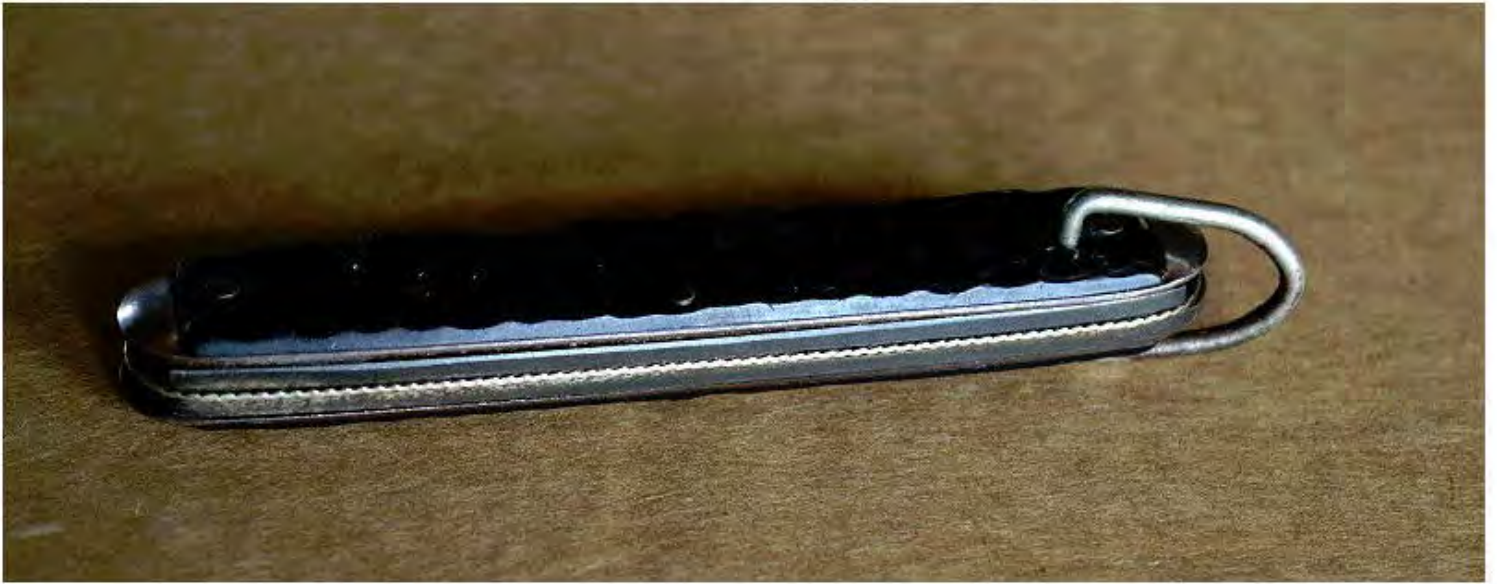
EDITED on 5/15/2016 I found some information that has pointed out a mistake in this order. I will be updating with new pictures soon.



The following pictures are of the first model of Forest Master. It has the curved tang stamp that Colonial used between 1926 and 1938. The smallest of the Forest Masters. It has the old style can opener and was a 3 blade model without an awl. It was very thin.









The next 3 models of Forest Master all had a 4 blade large and a 3 blade small model. Model 2 large knife had a secondary small blade and no awl. It had large blade, small blade, can opener and bottle opener. The small model 2 had a large blade, can opener and bottle opener.

Model 3 (1971) and Model 4 (1973) Large models had leather tools for the 4th blade.

Below are pictures comparing the model 1 and the small model 2 Forest Master.





Below is the 2nd Model Forest Master. The 3 blade smaller one.





The picture below shows model 2, 3 and 4 Forest Masters that have a large and small model. The large ones have 4 blades and the small ones 3. Model 2, 4 blade has 2 knife blades and no awl. Model 3 and 4 have a large blade, leather awl, can opener and bottle opener. The small models had no awl, so large blade, can opener and bottle opener.



The 3rd model Forest Master has 3 models. The 3rd model is a 4 blade with what Colonial called a belt punch instead of the leather awl. They are shown in the 2 pictures below.





The picture below shows the 4th and 5th models of Black Forest Masters.

The 4th model had 3 and 4 blade model. Both having the large blade, can opener and bottle opener. The larger 4 blade also had a leather awl.

The 5th model I have only found in a 4 blade. Large blade, can opener, bottle opener and leather awl. It is very similar to the 4th model 4 blade but the sides are more square while the 4th model was very round.

I believe model 5 also shows some of the first sign of trouble at Colonial regarding Forest Masters. It has a lighter, cheaper feel to it. The leather awl is very thin and feels like I could easily bend it with my fingers. The base of the awl had to be reinforced with a second, thin piece of metal. I believe Colonial realized the awl was so thin at the base it would be trouble so they re enforced it last minute to continue with what I assume is a money saving strategy to lighten the Forest Master.

I know the year of manufacture of Model 3 (1971) and Model 4 (1973) because I have seen them new in the original package marked with the year they were made.

I believe the last model was made between 1975 and 1979. Definitely no earlier than 1974.



Below is one last picture of all 9 different black Forest Masters I have.



MAY 5, 2016MAY 22, 2016 2 COMMENTS

14. Colonial Knife Pictures

Here are some more of my Colonial knives.

Below is a CKCO marked Colonial Knife.

This is one of Colonials first tang stamps and possibly the most rare. This one was made in the late 1920s.







Curved stamp Colonial Fish-Knife. Made between 1926 and 1938.





Colonial Toothpick with handles replaced with Micarta.







The 2 blade jack knife below is a very popular style made by Colonial. Its big brother with the 3rd blade is not often seen.







MAY 13, 2016MAY 22, 2016 LEAVE A COMMENT

15. Featuring other Colonial collections

One of the things that makes collecting knives fun from a company that was once the second largest manufacturer of pocket knives in the USA is the amazing variety still out there.

I still find Colonial knives all the time that I have never seen before. Also new in the package Colonial knives are seen quite often. Some collectors even specialize in only collecting new in the package knives.

Then there are the guys like me who will dig a Colonial out of the middle of a ball of rust if we think we can save it.

I think it will be interesting to feature other Colonial knife collections on here some times. The variety will be fun I am sure.

The first one is coming soon.

16. Featured Collector Ed Beauregard

Here is a great collection of Colonials that belong to my friend Ed.

Ed is a man that knows what he likes and I really admire this collection.

His collection consists mostly of Barlow's and electrician's. He likes advertising knives which I think are such fun knives to due all the variety and history involved.

The pictures below shows an amazing assortment of old Colonials.

All pictures courtesy of Ed Beauregard (edbeau at Bladeforums.com)





The 2 Barlow's below are highly collectable. They are salesman's samples.

Salesmen would show these to someone interested in placing an advertising order so they would see what they were getting. The electrician blade in the Barlow is pretty interesting too.



Here is a Dole advertising knife. Dole was one of Colonials biggest advertising knife customers.



17. The Roy Rogers Knife

Colonial made some fun western knives in the 1950s. One of them is the Roy Rogers knife. Its a model #826 with 2 blades. A main knife blade and a second blade that is a bottle opener and screwdriver. There is a clear front with a picture inside of Roy Rogers on Trigger. It says Roy Rogers and Trigger. The back is black plastic.

Below is a picture of my Roy Rogers knife.



Next is the contract between Colonial and the Rohr Company allowing Colonial license to make the Roy Rogers knife. The letter is dated May 10, 1950.

THE ROHR
A ROY ROGERS

COMPANY
ENTERPRISE

1418 NORTH HIGHLAND AVENUE

HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF. • HOLLYWOOD 9-2168

May 10, 1950

Mr. Al Paolantonio
Colonial Knife Company, Inc.
Oak and Agnes Streets
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Paolantonio:

Enclosed herewith please find completely executed
copy of your license agreement with Rohr Company
for the Roy Rogers pocket knives.

With our best wishes for a long and successful
relationship,

Sincerely yours,

ROHR COMPANY

Jack L. Danov

JLD-mw
Encl.

ROY ROGERS

W. ARTHUR RUSH

JACK L. DANO

with a contest, game or any other means whereby

the recipient of the premium is selected, nothing shall prevent the sponsor from requiring some form of compensation for the premium. No premium shall

Next is an advertisement for The Official Roy Rogers Knife.

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"



New!

Roy Rogers

**OFFICIAL
POCKET KNIFE**

- CUTTING BLADE
- SCREW DRIVER
- CAP LIFTER and
BEAD CHAIN with
BUTTON CLIP

Packed One Dozen to
Three-Color Counter
Display Card

No. RR262
Illustrated Actual Size

"Over A Quarter Century of Progress"

"THE KNIFE WITH THE SHARP EDGE"

Below is the Roy Rogers knife card. This is how they were sold in stores. There would have been about 12 of the Roy Rogers knives hanging on the card.



MAY 19, 2016MAY 22, 2016 2 COMMENTS

18.The Tip Knife Patent

The picture below is a Colonial tip knife from the 1940s.



Many company's made tip knives but Colonial held the patent.

Patented by Antonio Paolantonio. U.S. Patent # 2,264,453

This patent was filed for on January 27, 1940 and approved on December 2, 1941.

I believe Colonial made and sold tip knives for many years before applying for the patent.

I have tip knives made by Colonial with curved tang stamps that are known to be made between 1926 and 1938.

A tip knife has no solid bolsters at each end like a lot of knives at the time. There were small hollow bolsters connected to each end of the metal plates in the body of the knife. The skeleton of the knife could be assembled and stored and a celluloid handle attached later when ordered.

So basically Colonial said the benefits of this knife were ease of assembly, stronger than other knives of its type and it looked better to hide the rivets in this way.

Here is exactly how they said that.

"This invention has for one of its objects to provide a more rugged and stronger hinged mounting of the knife blade than heretofore provided in a knife of this character."

"Another object of the invention is to conceal the rivets which are usually provided for holding the cover

upon a knife.”

“Another object of the invention is to provide an arrangement whereby the cover sections will be assembled after the metallic portion of the knife is all assembled in relation so that the main body portion of the knife may be made up ahead of time and then covers assembled on the body portion of the knife in accordance with the choice of the customer to whom they were furnished.”

“Another object of the invention is to conceal the rivets which are usually provided for holding the cover upon a knife. The rivets are somewhat unsightly, especially as they sharply contrast with the color of the cover section”

Below I will be adding the original patent and Antonio Paolantonio's description and drawings of his invention. I will also add pictures of Colonial tip knives from my collection.

There are many typos, misspelled words and other weird things like funny old words included in the original patent. I edited some that were confusing while leaving the ones that weren't as bad because I think it is interesting.

This is from the original patent.

Filed Jan. 27, 1940

Patented Dec. 2, 1941 For Antonio Paolantonio, Johnston, R. I., assignor to Colonial Knife Company, Inc., a corporation of Rhode Island 11 Claims.

This invention relates to a knife of the character often referred to as a tip knife; that is, one in which there are no bolsters at the ends of a size adapted to receive rivets therethrough; and this invention has for one of its objects to provide a more rugged and stronger hinged mounting of the knife blade than heretofore provided in a knife of this character.

Another object of the invention is to conceal the rivets which are usually provided for holding the cover upon a knife.

A further object of the invention is to provide a knife in which the cover sections may be held against separating from the metallic plate or scale portions over which they extend.

Another object of the invention is to provide an arrangement whereby the cover sections will be assembled after the metallic portion of the knife is all assembled in relation so that the main body portion of the knife may be made up ahead of time and then covers assembled on the body portion of the knife in accordance with the choice of the customer to whom they were furnished.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of the knife completed;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof; v

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the body portion of the knife with the cover removed;

Fig. 4 is a top plan View thereof;

Fig. 5 is a section on line 5-5 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a section on line 6-6 of Fig. 3;

Fig. '7 is a sectional View through one of the plates or scale portions of the knife; n

Fig. 8 is an elevation of one of the cover sections;

Fig. cover;

Fig. is a sectional View on substantially line III-III of Fig. 3, illustrating one of the cover sections assembled and another of the cover sections in one of the positions which it assumes in being moved to assembled position;

Fig. 11 is a sectional view on line II-II of Fig. 10.

Folding knives of the so-called tip type in which there are no bolsters of a size to receive rivets there through usually have the rivets extending through the covers which extend along the scale or outer plates of the knife body whereby the rivets hold the knife body as well as a cover in assembled relation. The covers are usually of Celluloid or some non-metallic material which is rather soft and the rivet heads which engage these softer cover portions will permit of some relative movement of the assembled parts if some pressure is brought to bear upon the knife blade which is pivoted upon the end rivets of such assembly.

Further, the rivets are somewhat unsightly, especially as they sharply contrast with the color of the cover section; and again, when knives are formed up in the above-mentioned manner, the covers are a part of the complete assembly and cannot be easily changed if a different colored cover is desired.

Accordingly, in order to provide a stronger construction I have riveted the metal parts of the knife together as a unit body and have assembled the cover so as to conceal these rivets; the cover being assembled as a separate operation enables the body to be made up and the covers assembled as a last operation whereby a large number of bodies maybe

made up without covers, and the covers assembled thereon as a last operation in accordance with the orders for various colors which may be received, thus enabling a large part of the assembly operations to be performed ahead of time and minimizing the carrying of stock upon manufacturers shelves.

I further provide for the better holding of the cover in position by welding the opposite covers together against the metallic scales of the knife; and the following is a more detailed description of the present embodiment of the invention, illustrating the preferred means by which these advantageous results may be accomplished:

With reference to the drawing, III designates a center plate and II, outer plates or scales spaced from the center plate II] by spacers I2 and I3. These spacers also serve as resilient or spring portions for assisting in holding the knife blades I4 and VI5 in different adjusted positions.

The knife blades I4 and I5 are pivoted upon a rivet I6 which extends through the plates and blades to hingedly mount the blades between the plates and also engages the end of each blade so as to hold the blade in either closed or open position in a usual manner.

The rivet II extends through the plates and spacer at the opposite end of the knife and is headed over the metallic plates so as to hold them firmly in assembled relation. kThe hollow rivet also extends through the plates and spacer atsuboutwardly to open position, even though there is considerable lateral stress brought to bear upon v the blade, the portions which embrace the pivot rivet i6 are well supported against spreading by the blades by reason of such pressure.

This unit assembly so far described may be made up ahead of time or in quantities, leaving the cover sections which are now to be described to be later assembled.

Each of the scales or plates ii consists of a sheet of stock in which the tip ends i9 are split and raised as at 2G so as to provide openings 2i beneath these tip portions. The cover, riesig nated generally 22, shown in Fig. 8, is formed of non-metallic material such, for instance, as Celluloid, although any moldable material which is somewhat flexible may be provided. This cover section is molded with fingers 23 at either end and a projecting portion 24 at its middle point which will be in such position that it may extend into the hollow rivet i8 above referred to.

These cover sections will be of Various colors and will be assembled onto the body of the knife in the color ordered by iixing to draw the fingers 23 at the ends toward each other a distance sufiicient to project them into the slots 2i in the scale and beneath the tips and then releasing to permit these sections to move back into a straightened position and by such straightening cause the fingers 23 to extend beneathf heat the knife at this location so that a welding v of the ends 26 of the projections li may occur, or I may so moisten the end portions of the projections 24 with a solvent that they will become

softened and upon pressure forcing these two tips together, they will become welded for effectively becoming a single piece extending through the rivet i8. One such solvent which may be used for Celluloid is acetone.

In this manner, when the portions 24 become dried and hardened, the two cover sections will be held against movement apart or separation, and not withstanding changes in temperature which often affect Celluloid, the cover sections will be held firmly against the scales or plates 11 and against separation or release therefrom, While at the same time covering the rivets making a more sightly appearance and enabling the rivets to engage the metal surfaces to better hold the parts against stresses which may occur.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is susceptible.

I claim:

1. In a tip knife, a plurality of metal plates, a spacer between said plates, rivets extending through said plates and headed over in contact with said plates, a non-metallic cover over said rivets hiding the same from View, means to secure said cover in said assembled position, one of said rivets being hollow, and said cover being provided with a non-metallic projection extending well into said hollow rivet.
2. In a tip knife a plurality of metal plates, a spacer between said plates, rivets extending through said plates and headed over in contact with said plates, non-metallic covers over said rivets hiding the same from View, means to secure said covers in said assembled position, one of said rivets being hollow, and means extending through said hollow rivet from opposite sides thereof to lock the covers together against outward movement.
3. In a tip knife, a plurality of metal plates, a spacer between said plates, rivets extending through said plates and headed over in contact with said plates, non-metallic covers over said rivets hiding the same from view, means to secure said cover in said assembled position, one of said rivets being hollow, said covers being each provided with a projection to extend into said hollow rivet from opposite sides thereof and said projections being secured together.
4. The method of securing a non-metallic cover on a knife which consists in molding the cover in side sections with a projection on each section and welding said projections together through the knife to hold the opposite sections on each side of the knife.
5. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates, a spacer between said plates, rivets extending through said plates and headed over in contact with said plates to provide a unitary assembly, and non-metallic covers on opposite sides of said riveted assembly over said rivets hiding the same from View, said covers being integrally connected to each other by non-metallic material extending through said riveted assembly.

6. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates, a spacer between said plates, rivets extending through said plates and headed over in contact with said plates to provide a unitary assembly, non-metallic covers on opposite sides of said riveted assembly over said rivets hiding the same from view, and means carried by each plate to secure one of said covers in assembled relation thereto, said covers being integrally connected to each other by non-metallic material extending through said riveted assembly.

7. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates each having each end portion thereof provided with a hollow integral outer tip with an opening extending thereinto, rivets securing said plates in assembled relation, and a cover over said rivets and having end projections formed of the stock of the cover extending through said openings into said tips to assist in holding the cover over said plate.

8. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates, each having each end portion thereof provided with a hollow integral outer tip with an opening extending thereinto, rivets securing said plates in assembled relation, a cover over said rivets with the ends thereof extending through said opening into said tips to assist in holding the cover over said plate, one of said rivets being hollow, and said cover being provided with a projection formed of the same material as the cover and extending into said hollow rivet.

9. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates, each having each end portion thereof provided with a hollow integral outer tip with an opening extending thereinto, rivets securing said plates in assembled relation, a cover over said rivets with the ends thereof extending through said opening into said tips to assist in holding the cover over said plates, one of said rivets being hollow, and non-metallic means extending wholly through said hollow rivet and fast to each cover to lock the covers together against outward movement.

10. In a tip knife, a pair of outer metal plates, each having each end portion provided with a hollow integral outer tip with an opening extending there into, rivets securing said plates in assembled relation, cover sections over said rivets and extending through said openings into said tip portions to assist in holding the covers over said plates, one of said rivets being hollow, said covers being provided with projections to extend into said hollow rivet from opposite sides thereof and said projections being secured together.

11. The method of forming a backing plate for a tip knife which consists of providing a metal blank, splitting the stock adjacent the ends thereof and raising the portions of the plate extending from the splits to the end extremity of the plate to form a pair of hollow integral outer tips.

ANTONIO PAOLANTONIO.

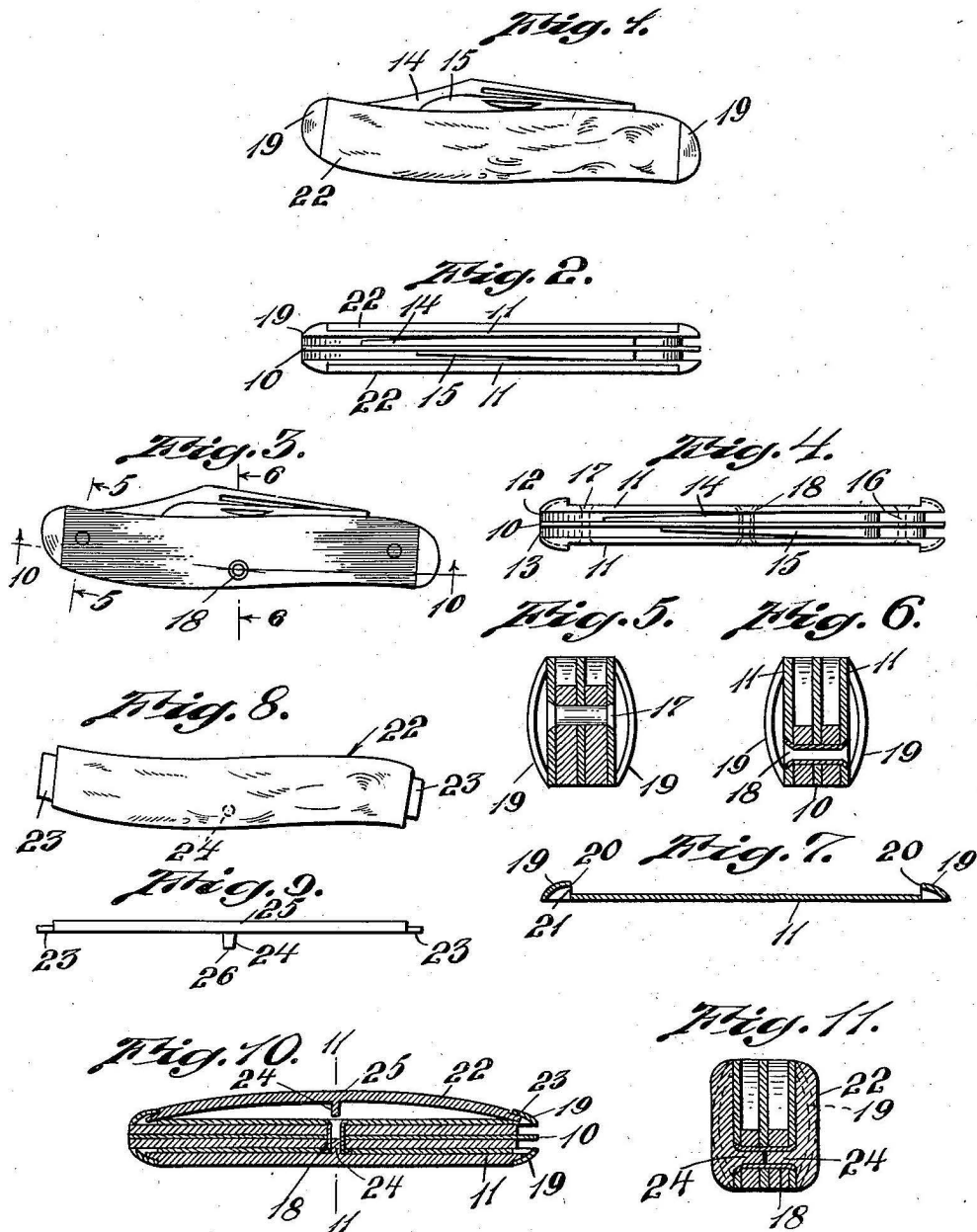
Dec. 2, 1941.

A. PAOLANTONIO

2,264,453

KNIFE

Filed Jan. 27, 1940



INVENTOR.

Antonio Paolantonio

BY

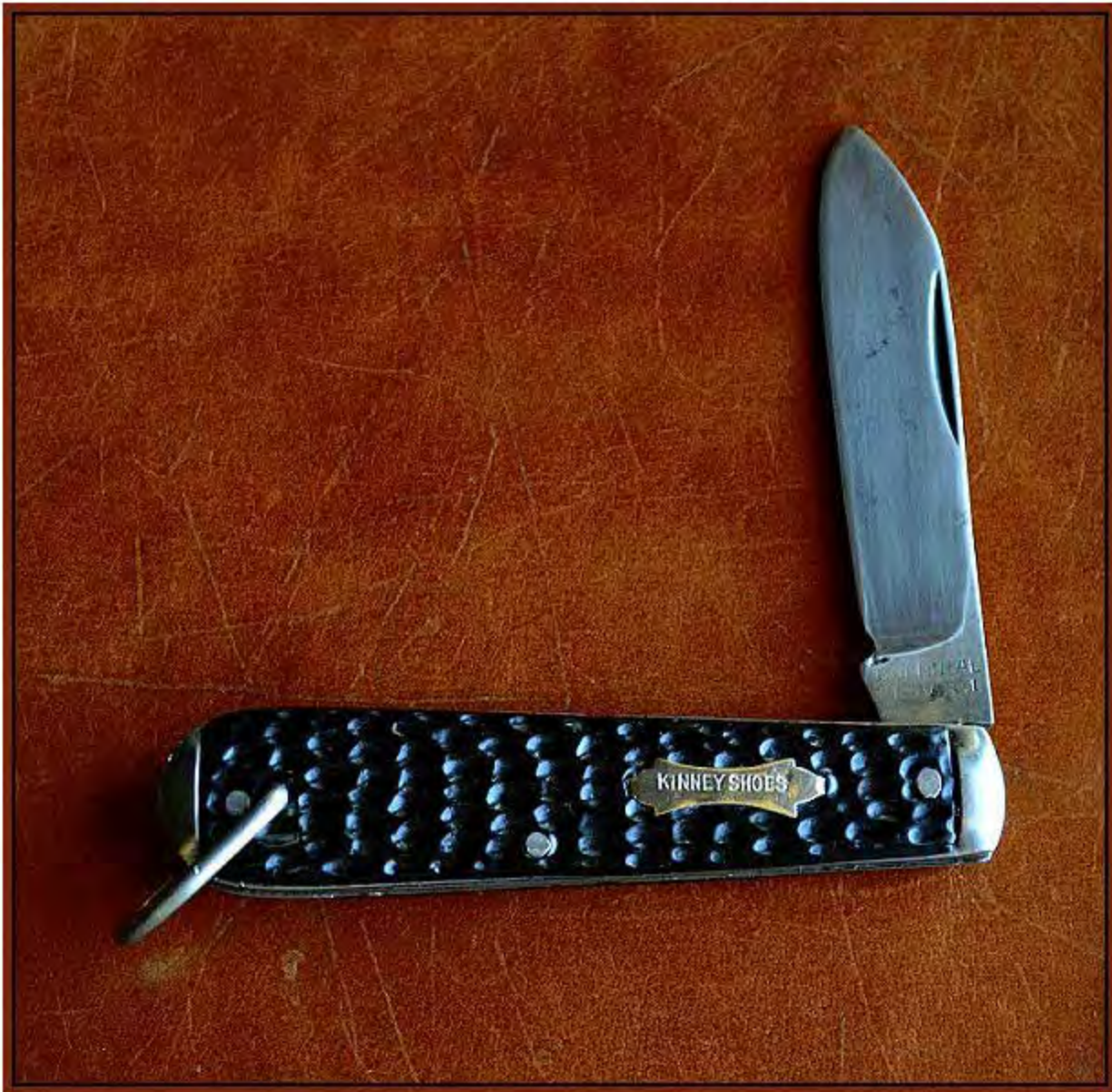
Barlow & Barlow
ATTORNEYS.

These are pictures of some of my Colonial tip knives.

This is an old one made between 1926 and 1938.



A Kinney shoes tip knife from the 1950s.



The Model 826 by Colonial was also a tip knife. This was a very popular knife due to all its use for the novelty character knives like Roy Rogers, Davy Crockett and many others.





More Colonial tip knives.



Even this old Forest Master made between 1926 and 1938 is a tip knife.

5/29/25, 12:44 AM

Colonial Knives – A blog dedicated to Colonial Knives



19. The Bolster Patent

Colonials knife bolster assembly patent is for an interesting way of making knives.

Patent # 3,317,996 was applied for on July 6th 1965 by Antonio Paolantonio. It was approved on May 9th 1967.

It allowed the bolsters to be added to the knife as one of the last steps in making it. The bolsters had a pin sticking out on the inside and it was pressed into a hole in the frame of the knife securing it. Colonials reason for this was to make it faster and easier to make knives as well as looking better because you cant see a pin through the bolster.

Colonial designed a machine that installed 2 bolsters at the same time. An operator would sit at the machine and put a bolster on each end of the knife then pull a lever and boom, the machine came down and pressed both bolster in place at once. Flip the knife, add 2 more bolsters and a lever pull, boom. Bolsters finished and the knife was off for final sharpening and polishing.

Here is how Antonio Paolantonio explains his invention.

“This invention relates to a knife, more particularly a pocket knife, and more especially to the assembly of a bolster at one end of the knife.

Heretofore, it has been customary to assemble the bolster on the liner plate and then secure the bolstered liner plates, springs, and pivoted blades together by passing a pin completely through the bolster and riveting it over the outer surface of the bolster.

This invention provides the assembly of the bolster as nearly the last operation and secures the bolster without a pin extending completely through both bolsters by utilizing a recess in the cover for the liner plate and a heading over of a projection which passes only through the liner plate and does not pass through the springs. Thus the bolster may be positioned as nearly a last operation after the remainder of the knife is assembled.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an assembly so that there is no need for piercing the bolster or the passing of a securing pin therethrough.

Another object of the invention is to provide a construction so that the bolster may be assembled as substantially a last operation and hide the rivet which holds the remainder of the knife assembled.

Another object of the invention is to eliminate the grinding of the tips of the pin which heretofore was used to secure the bolster in position."

Below are the original patents.

United States Patent Office 3,317,995 Patented May 9, 1967 3,317,996 KNIFE BOLSTER ASSEMBLY
Antonio Paolantonio, Johnston, RI, assignor to Colonial Knife Company, Inc, a corporation of Rhode Island Filed July 6, 1965, Ser. No. 469,431 3 Claims. (Cl. 30-164) This invention relates to a knife, more particularly a pocket knife, and more especially to the assembly of a bolster at one end of the knife.

Heretofore, it has been customary to assemble the bolster on the liner plate and then secure the bolstered liner plates, springs, and pivoted blades together by passing a pin completely through the bolster and riveting it over the outer surface of the bolster.

This invention provides the assembly of the bolster as nearly the last operation and secures the bolster without a pin extending completely through both bolsters by utilizing a recess in the cover for the liner plate and a heading over of a projection which passes only through the liner plate and does not pass through the springs. Thus the bolster may be positioned as nearly a last operation after the remainder of the knife is assembled.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an assembly so that there is no need for piercing the bolster or the passing of a securing pin therethrough.

Another object of the invention is to provide a construction so that the bolster may be assembled as substantially a last operation and hide the rivet which holds the remainder of the knife assembled.

Another object of the invention is to eliminate the grinding of the tips of the pin which heretofore was used to secure the bolster in position.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a pocket knife with my bolster in position thereon;

FIG. 2 is an elevation with parts assembled except for the bolster;

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the parts shown in FIG. 3;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of the bolster looking at the underside; and

FIG. 5 is a sectional fragmental view showing the manner of assembling the bolster in position on the liner plate with the parts greatly enlarged.

The knife here shown comprises liner plates and 11 with an intermediate plate at 12 between the two liner plates. Springs 14 and 15 separate the intermediate plate from the two liner plates and are secured in position at one end of the knife by a riveting pin 16 headed over as at 17 and 18 against the outer surface of the liner plates and passing through the intermediate plate and the springs. Prior to the assembly of the liner plates with the springs, the liner plates are equipped with covers 20 and 21 by reason of rivets 22 passing through the covers and the liner plate. As a further assembly of the liner plates with their covers and the springs, there is a rivet 23 which passes through the covers, liner plate, intermediate plate and springs securing the springs in fixed position. The opposite ends of the springs are left free, but there is a pin 24 which passes through the blades of the knife 25 and 26 pivoting them so that they are held in closed position or in open position when swung out from between the liner plates and intermediate plates against the action of the spring.

The covers 20 and 21 do not extend the full length of the liner plates, and the knife as thus far described would leave showing the heads of the rivet pins 16 and 24. These heads and the ends of the liner plates are covered with the bolsters which in each case comprises a solid body 30 with a finger 31 extending from the edge thereof which is to be adjacent the end of the cover. The cover is recessed as at 33 (FIG. 5) for the reception of this finger 31, while the bolster is also recessed as at 34 for the reception of the head of the rivet such as 17 or 18. A protuberance 35 extending from the inner surface of the bolster is also received in a hole 36 in the liner plate. Thus, after the knife is assembled as above described, the bolster may be assembled by inclining the bolster at an angle to the liner plate (FIG. 5) where there is a hole 37 to receive it and then swinging the bolster so that the finger 31 extends into the recess 33, while the protuberance 35 will enter the opening 36 in the liner plate. The protuberance 35 may by reason of its engagement with the springs 14, 15 at the fixed end of the springs or some jig at the opposite end, when struck from the outer surface will cause the protuberance 35 to head over or rivet itself in the flared part 39 of the opening 36 so as to firmly secure the bolster in position. By reason of this sort of assembly, the bolster may be positioned near the end of the assembly operation with no need for grinding off pins to hold it in position and no need of providing a hole in the bolster for the reception of such pins, thus providing a smooth unmarred outer surface of the bolster and yet one which is held securely in position.

I claim:

1. In a knife a liner plate having an opening adjacent one end, a rivet having a head that retains the plate in assembled position and said rivet is adjacent said opening, a cover over a portion of said liner plate terminating in an edge short of said rivet head, said terminating portion having an undercut pocket in the edge thereof extending from the edge away from said rivet head, a bolster secured on the uncovered end of said plate having a finger extending into said pocket and a protuberance extending into said opening in said plate and locked therein by having a riveted end.
2. In a knife as in claim 1, said bolster having on its inner surface a recess to receive said rivet head.

3. In a knife as in claim 1 wherein said rivet head extends above said liner plate and said liner plate has a second opening adjacent said pocket permitting said bolster finger to enter said second opening and be swung into position into said pocket.

References Cited by the Examiner UNITED STATES PATENTS 449,499 3/1891 Schmachtenberg 30155 850,420 4/1907 Cooper et al. 30164 FOREIGN PATENTS 906,054 1/ 1954 Germany.

WILLIAM FELDMAN, Primary Examiner.

G. WEIDENFELD, Assistant Examiner.

May 9, 1967

A. PAOLANTONIO

3,317,996

KNIFE BOLSTER ASSEMBLY

Filed July 6, 1965

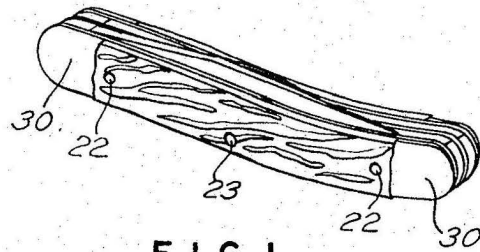


FIG. 1

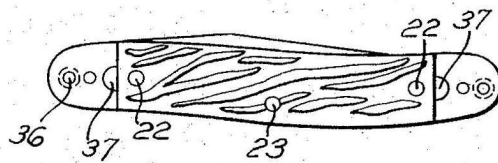


FIG. 2

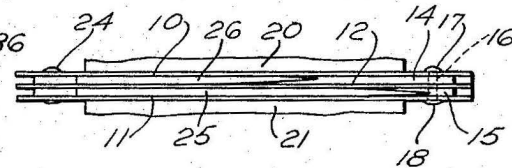


FIG. 3

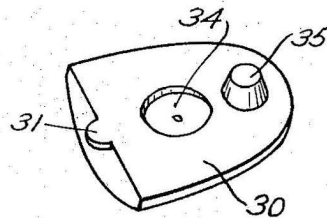


FIG. 4

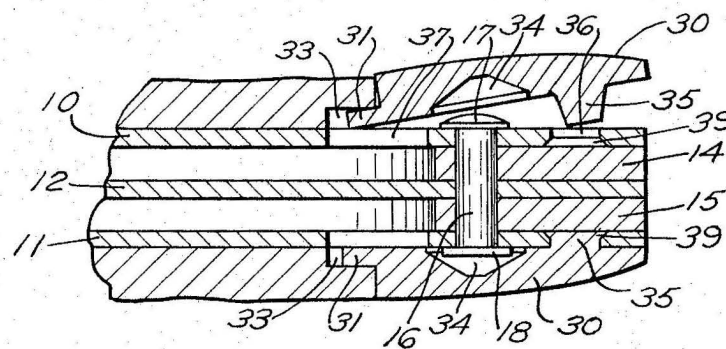


FIG. 5

INVENTOR.

ANTONIO PAOLANTONIO
BY*Barlow & Barlow*
ATTORNEYS

Below are some pictures of Colonial knives I have with the pressed on bolsters. These knives were never finished being assembled so you can see very well how they worked. These came from the Colonial auction in 2002.





FEBRUARY 3, 2017 LEAVE A COMMENT

20. The Shell Knife Patent

Patent #2,310,648 was applied for on Nov. 25th 1942 and the patent was approved on February 9th 1943.

Colonial called this patent a Knife Handle Patent.

The resulting knife became known as a shell knife. A shell knife was made by completing the inside of the knife first and adding the handle as one of the last steps in the process. The inside was called the skeleton. It was the frame of the knife, fully assembled with blades and springs and it just needed a handle attached to be finished. The handle had little tabs on it and it could be attached very quickly by just sticking the handle on and bending the tabs down.

There were many benefits to this way of making knives.

Selling knife skeletons to other company's who would make their own handles and sell the completed knives. There was a huge jewelry industry in Providence, Rhode Island and was a big part of the reason so many knife company's were in Rhode Island. Selling knife skeletons or very basic completed knives to jewelers so they could fancy them up with jewels or engraving and re sell them. A pocket watch with a nice knife at the end of the watch chain was a very popular thing at the time.

It also really sped things up at the Colonial Knife factory. Not only could they make knives so much faster than ever before but they could make the skeletons and many different kinds of handles ahead of time and store them until an order was received. Then it was a very quick process to assemble whichever style of knife and handles the customer ordered.

I believe this patent and later the new bolster patent were pivotal in Colonial becoming one of the largest manufactures of pocket knives in the USA.

Colonial knives dont have the best of reputations among some the knife world. Especially the shell knives. It seems to be a love them or hate them kind of thing. Honestly the handles do have a tendency to come loose and rattle around on some models. The shells with one tab on each end seems to be worse than the ones with tabs in the middle under the handles in my experience. So there are people who wont have anything to do with them and then there are the people like me who love them because they are such a neat reminder of the way things used to be. These knives take many of us back to our childhoods.

I also would like to point out that these shell knives were a cheaper model of knife. Colonial also made Ranger, Anvil and Old Cutler which were a much higher class of knife if thats what you wanted to pay for.

Back then cheap import knives were not around and Colonial provided a much wanted low priced knife. Colonial sold so many of these shell knives that Camillus brought out a lower priced line of knives just to compete with Colonial. At the time the average Camillus knife sold for \$4. Colonial's shell knives were \$1. So Camillus found a way to lower costs by using the same high quality blades and springs they normally used but cheaper, more basic handle materials and cutting out some stuff like shields and bails. Camillus called that line Camco and it sold for \$1 just like the Colonial.

So clearly the main reason Colonial came up with this invention was for easier, faster knife manufacturing. They also claimed that the cover would be more securely held in place providing a more rigid handle that would not only be more durable in use but would have a more attractive appearance. Now that I don't agree with

Here is how Antonio Paolantonio explained his invention.

"In the use of pocket knives it has been known to provide a cover for the handle part of the knife by wrapping a piece of thin, flexible material such as Celluloid about the shell which is attached to the frame plate and securing this flexible material by tucking the edges beneath the shell plate and binding the edges in position upon assembly of the shell. In many instances such as due to different climatic conditions, the cover would slide or raise at its end, and difficulty was experienced in holding the cover in this form in place.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a cover which will be more securely held in place and one which does not rely upon a gripping relation between the shell and the frame for holding the cover in position.

Another object of this invention is to provide an arrangement for securing a cover to the shell prior to the assembly of the shell on the knife frame.

Another object of the invention is to provide a knife handle of more attractive appearance and more rigid and durable in use.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims."

Below is the actual patent information.

KNIFE Filed Nov. 25, 1942 INVENTOR – ATTORNEYS Patented Feb. 9, 1943 KNIFE Antonio Paolantonio, Providence, R. I., assignor to Colonial Knife of Rhode Island Company, Inc., a corporation Application November 23, 1942, Serial No. 466,574 6 Claims. (Cl. 30-164) This invention relates to a knife, more particularly the handle of a pocket knife.

In the use of pocket knives it has been known to provide a cover for the handle part of the knife by wrapping a piece of thin, flexible material such as Celluloid about the shell which is attached to the frame plate and securing this flexible material by tucking the edges beneath the shell plate and binding the edges in position upon assembly of the shell. In many instances such as due to different climatic conditions, the cover would slide or raise at its end, and difficulty was experienced in holding the cover in this form in place.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a cover which will be more securely held in place and one which does not rely upon a gripping relation between the shell and the frame for holding the cover in position.

Another object of this invention is to provide an arrangement for securing a cover to the shell prior to the assembly of the shell on the knife frame.

Another object of the invention is to provide a knife handle of more attractive appearance and more rigid and durable in use.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a jackknife in which the invention is embodied;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the frame and blade of the knife alone;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view showing the shell and its bolsters with the cover attached;

Fig. 4 is a section on line 4 I of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view illustrating the frame and blades of the knife with one shell of the handle secured in position and omitting the shell of the handle on the opposite side;

Fig. 6 is a section on line 66 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the shell alone, omitting the cover;

Fig. 8 is a central section of Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a top plan view of the flexible cover;

Fig. 10 is a top plan of the binding member.

In proceeding with this invention I have used the same thin, flexible, ornamental cover material such as thin Celluloid and of a sufficient width to tuck under the shell to a sufficient extent to be secured by an independent added binding member which I have provided and which metallic binding member itself may be secured by means of prongs to the shell.

With reference to the drawing, Fig. 2 shows the frame of the knife, designated generally 15, with blades 16 and 17 fitting between the frame plates 18 which are assembled with a spring bar in a known manner and provided with spacers 19. Notches 20 are provided at each end of the frame plate 18 for the assembly of the shell therewith.

The shell is designated generally 21 and is shown alone in Figs. 7 and 8. It is pressed from sheet stock to provide bolsters 22 at either end thereof which are equipped with tabs 23 to fold through the notches 20 and lodge in the recesses 24 in the plate 18 (see Fig. 5). These bolsters are connected by a strip of material 25 which is concave-convex (see Fig. 6) and is provided with prongs 26 cut from the stock thereof and located in spaced relation as shown in Figs. 4 and 8. This strip 25 sets below the bolsters so as to provide shoulders 21 between this strip and the bolsters as shown in Figs. 7 and 8.

The cover, designated generally 30, consists of Celluloid or other flexible material, which is folded about the convex surface of the member 25 and by sharply folding and fixing by such folding the edges of this sheet 34, the edges are located beneath the shell. This ornamental material 38 thus covers the openings

formed by cutting and bending down of the prongs 26. The flexible material is held firmly to the shell by a binding member 31 (see Fig. 10) having openings 32 through which the prongs 26 extend to be bent over the surface of the member 31 and hold it firmly against the under side of the shell to bind the edges 33 of the cover material against the under side of the shell and between the binding member 31 and the shell.

In this manner the cover may be assembled upon the shell prior to the securing of the shell to the knife frame and the cover is firmly held in position on the shell between the bolsters and cannot ride up over the bolsters by reason of the shoulders and the secured attachment of the flexible material to its reinforcing member. It is unnecessary that the tabs 23 be strong or that the shell be so strong as to act as a means for binding a cover member in place. Further the binding member may be made sufficiently heavy to reinforce the shell and make a strong handle.

I claim:

1. In a knife having spaced plates providing the frame thereof, a shell secured to said frame, a cover over said shell with its edge portions extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same, said cover comprising a sheet of thin, flexible material and a binding member on the under side of the shell and secured thereto.
2. In a, knife having spaced plates providing the frame thereof, a shell secured to said frame and provided with bolsters at each end, a cover over said shell between said bolsters with its edge portions extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same, said cover comprising a sheet of thin, flexible material and a binding member on the under side of the shell and secured thereto for binding the edge portions of the cover in position.
3. In a knife having spaced plates providing the frame thereof, a shell secured to said frame, a cover over said shell with its edge portions extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same, said cover comprising a sheet of thin, flexible material and a, binding member on the under side of the shell and prongs on said shell engaging said member for binding the edge portions of said cover in position.
4. In a, knife having spaced plates providing the frame thereof, a shell secured to said frame and provided with bolsters at each end, a cover over said shell between said bolsters with its edge portions extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same, said cover comprising a sheet of thin, flexible material and a binding member on the under side of the shell and prongs on said shell engaging said member for binding the edge portions of said cover in posi-
5. A scale for a knife comprising a shell having the end portions thereof in the form of bolsters, a cover located between said bolsters comprising a thin, flexible material extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same and a binding member on the under side of the shell and means to attach the member to the shell to bind the cover material in position and tabs at the end portions of said shell for attaching the same to the frame of a knife.
6. A scale for a knife comprising a shell having the end portions thereof in the form of bolsters, a cover located between said bolsters comprising a thin, flexible material extending over the edges of the shell and beneath the same and a binding member on the under side of the shell and attached thereto to bind the cover material in position.

ANTONIO PAOLANTONIO.

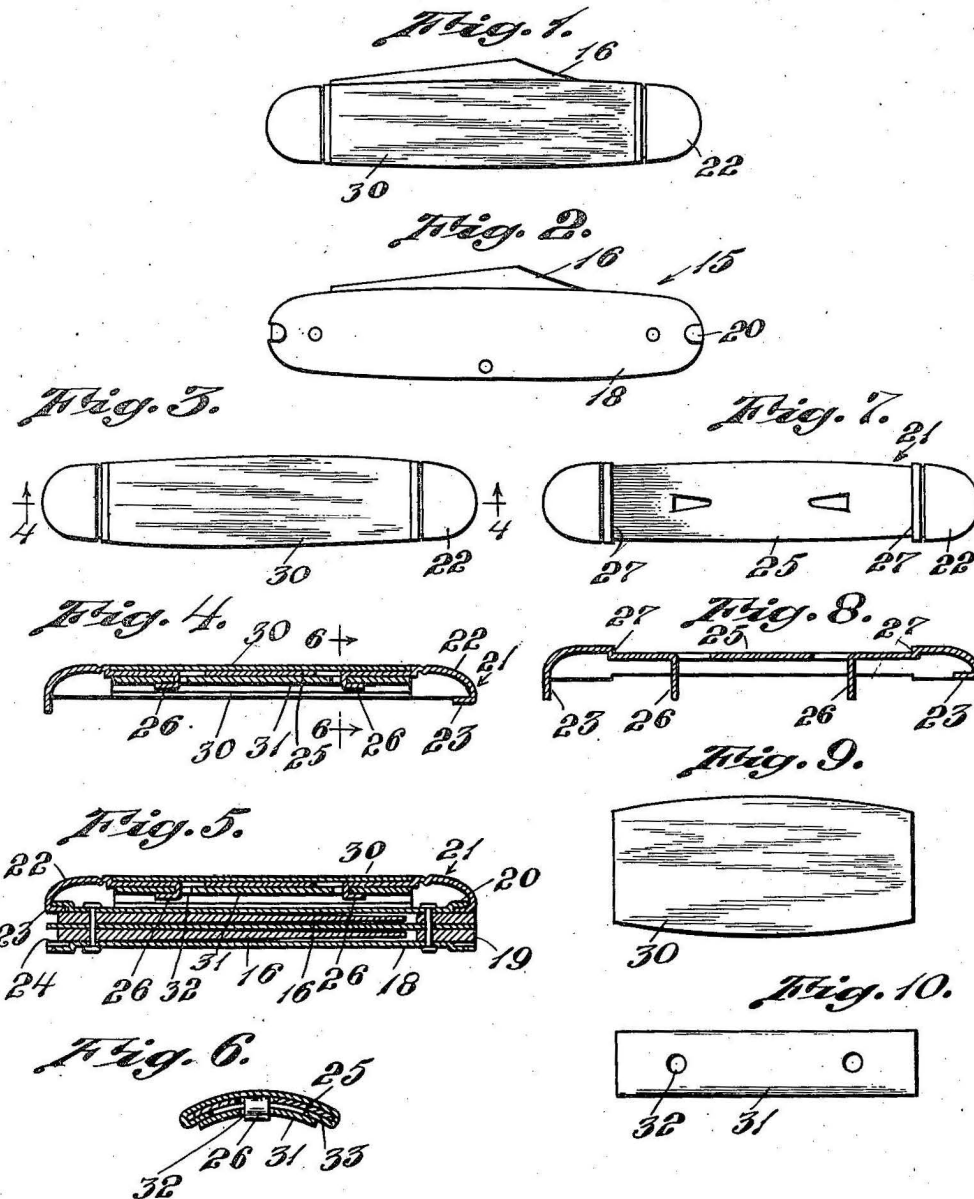
Feb. 9, 1943.

A. PAOLANTONIO

2,310,648

KNIFE

Filed Nov. 23, 1942



INVENTOR
Antonio Paolantonio
 BY *Barlow & Barlow*
 ATTORNEYS

Below are a couple of my shell knives I removed the handles from to show the skeletons.



The tabs that are folded over to hold the handles on can be seen in the picture below.

5/29/25, 12:44 AM

Colonial Knives – A blog dedicated to Colonial Knives



21.The Combined Pocket Knife Fishing Rod Handle

Now this is an interesting patent.

Most of Colonials inventions were patented by Antonio Paolantonio, this time it was Alfonso F. Paolantonio that received the patent for Colonial.

Patent #3,312,989 was filed July 6, 1965 and was approved on April 11,1967. The patent was called a combined pocket knife fishing rod handle by Colonial.

This invention was a fishing rod where the bottom of the handle was a pocket knife. You could remove the knife and use it like any other knife. Then put it back on the rod.

Other than the illustration accompanying the patent no pictures are known to exist. If anyone ever comes across one of these, even a picture please let me know.

The typos and mis spelled words below are exactly as they appear in the real patent paperwork.

Alfonso F. Paolantonio had this to say about his invention.

" This invention relates to a combined pocket knife and rod handle, such for instance as for the reception of a fishing rod.

The invention comprises the utilization of the springs of a folding blade pocket knife for providing a means for holding a clutch to detachably receive a fishing rod by reason of the provision of means extending lengthwise of the spring beyond the knife for this purpose.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple means of providing a clutch for detachably gripping a rod so that the handle of the knife may serve the purpose of the handle for the rod as well as the handle for the knife.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination tool which will be of simple and inexpensive construction and yet one "which will have a plurality of functions.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims."

Below is the patent paperwork for this invention.

April 1967 A. F. PAOLANTONIO 3,312,989

COMBINED POCKET KNIFE AND ROD HANDLE Filed July 6, 1965 ni 6 /9 i 5 5 INVENTOR.

ALFONSO F. PAOLANTONIO ATTORNEYS United States Patent 3,312,989 COMBINED POCKET KNIFE AND ROD HANDLE Alfonso F. Paolantonio, Providence, R.I., assignor to ICiflonial Knife Company, Inc., a corporation of Rhode s and Filed July 6, 1965, Ser. No. 469,411 2 Claims. (Cl. 7-11) This invention relates to a combined pocket knife and rod handle, such for instance as for the reception of a fishing rod.

The invention comprises the utilization of the springs of a folding blade pocket knife for providing a means for holding a clutch to detachably receive a fishing rod by reason of the provision of means extending lengthwise of the spring beyond the knife for this purpose.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple means of providing a clutch for detachably gripping a rod so that the handle of the knife may serve the purpose of the handle for the rod as well as the handle for the knife.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination tool which will be of simple and inexpensive construction and yet one "which will have a plurality of functions.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a pocket knife with a clutch secured to the end thereof and the fragmental portion of a rod engaged by the clutch;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the structure of FIG. 1 with the rod omitted; and

FIG. 3 is a sectional view substantially on line 3-3 of FIG. 2.

The knife portion of this invention comprises lining plates 10 and 11 with an intermediate plate 12 all held in spaced relation by reason of the provision between these plates of springs 14 and 15. A cover extends along the outer surface of the lining plates 10 and 11 as at 16 and 17, while there are bolsters 18 and 19 at one end of both covers. The lining plates, intermediate plate and covers are held together at one end of the assembly by a rivet 20 which extends through the portion 21 of the springs to fixedly hold the springs at this end and the other parts above mentioned in assembled relation. A second rivet 22 spaced about midway of the knife also extends through the lining plates, intermediate plate, and

3,312,939 Patented. Apr. 11, 1967 springs and cover to hold these parts assembled. The springs, however, at their opposite end are left free as at 23 in FIG. 3, while a rivet 24 extends through the cover, intermediate plates, and knife blades 25 and 26 to pivotally mount these blades, these blades being held in closed position as shown, or in open position by reason of the springs extending along surfaces 29 or 30 thereof.

Each of the springs 14 and 15 is provided with an arm 27 and 28 which extends lengthwise of the springs outwardly beyond the lining plates and cover. Upon these arms there may be assembled a clutch which comprises a sleeve 31 of a size to closely fit the arms 27 and 28 and may be fixed thereon by striking the sleeve to indent it inwardly as at 32 (see FIG. 3) to clamp it tightly upon the arms. This sleeve has integral with it and extending beyond its outer end two jaws 33 and 34 which may be threaded as at 35 so that, when the nut 36 is screwed I onto this threaded portion, the taper 37 of the nut will engage the jaws contract them for gripping a rod such as 38 when positioned into these jaws.

I claim:

1. A combined implement of the class described, having a handle comprising spaced plates, spring means between said plates, pins extending through said plates and spring means fixing one end of the spring means with reference to said plates, the other end of the spring means being free and movable with reference to said plates, said spring means at its fixed end having arm means of the same piece of material projecting in a direction lengthwise of the plates beyond the plates, a sleeve receiving said arm means in one end portion and split to provide a plurality of jaws at the other end thereof and means for contracting said jaws.

2. A combined implement as in claim 1 wherein said jaws have external threads, and said contracting means comprises a ferrule threaded onto said jaws for contracting said jaws.

References Cited by the Examiner UNITED STATES PATENTS 719,275 1/1903 Swan 27942 X 1,368,944 2/1921 Kurose 715 1,456,844 5/1923 De Bie 7-11 2,430,638 11/1947 Hoffman 711 X 3,034,798 5/1962 Portz 279-42 WILLIAM FELDMAN, Primary Examiner.

G. WEIDENFELD, Assistant Examiner.

April 11, 1967

A. F. PAOLANTONIO

3,312,989

COMBINED POCKET KNIFE AND ROD HANDLE

Filed July 6, 1965

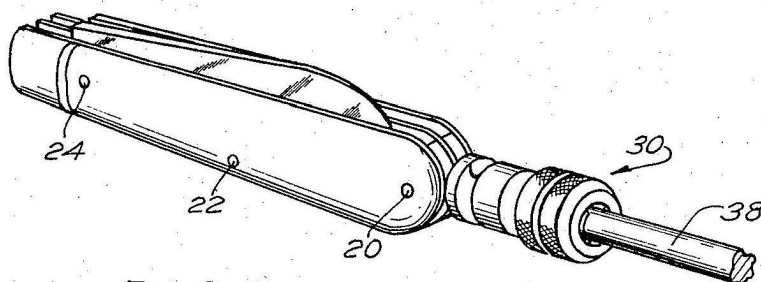


FIG. 1

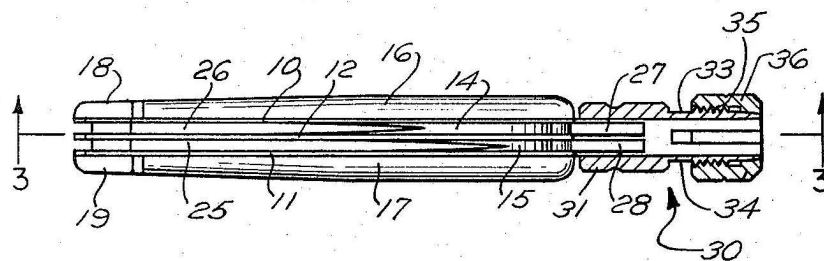


FIG. 2

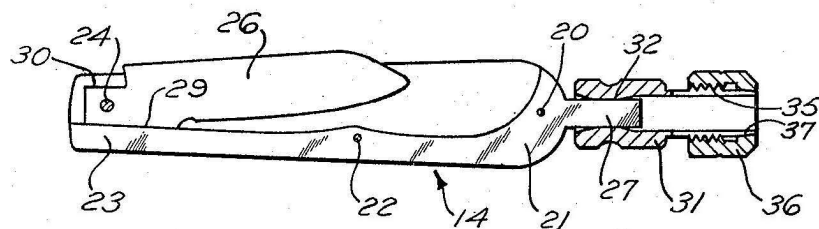


FIG. 3

INVENTOR.

ALFONSO F. PAOLANTONIO
BY

22.Sharp™ USA Knives Made By Colonial

Colonial made the knives and owned the trademark for Sharp™ USA. These knives were sold at Kmart stores across the USA from the late 1970's through the mid 1990's. Colonial did not make or own Sharp Japan.

These were stainless steel and marked as such on the package. Some were also marked Stainless on the tang. I believe them to be 420 but Colonial never advertised which stainless. Colonial used 420 for most of their stainless steel knives reserving their 440 for what they considered their higher end knives.

The Sharp knives were made on the anvil knives machines. So they were basically an Anvil knife with just a couple changes. Colonial would stamp the main blade with the Sharp tang stamp instead of Anvil. Then they used the Colonial Stagalon handles instead of the Anvil handles.

Below are some pictures of Sharp knives.

Here is a Model 380 which Colonial called the Trapper. This one is still in the original clam pack from 1992.



CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 - **Sharp** knives are made of high carbon stainless steel. It is important to always dry and clean blades after use.
- 2 - Never use your knife as a chisel, screw driver or crowbar.
- 3 - Never sharpen your knife on a motor driven grinding wheel (The heat produced by such a wheel can affect the temper of the steel.)

SHARPENING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 - When sharpening your knife, hold edge at approximately a 20° angle to stone (Holding knife at too shallow an angle against stone produces an edge too thin for practical use.)
- 2 - Use fine honing oil and high grade Arkansas type stone.
- 3 - Place blade at edge of stone at 20° angle to stone and push it across stone as if cutting a thin slice off the stone. Reverse blade and sharpen other side the same way. Never use a coarse stone emery wheel.



LIFETIME UNCONDITIONAL WARRANTY

1. If this item fails to give complete satisfaction, please return it to any Kmart store and it will be replaced free of charge or your money will be refunded.
2. Federally required law language: "This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state."
3. Warranty performance is assured by K mart Corporation 3100 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48064

CAUTION: BLADES ARE SHARP. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

MADE IN U.S.A.

K mart CORPORATION TROY, MICHIGAN 48064

© 1992 K mart Corporation

Here are a couple I have. A model 380 and a little moose peanut with a blade marked 260.







There is some confusion when it comes to identifying these different models. There is a number stamped on the main blades that is the model number. The problem with relying on that number comes from something Colonial did in the 90s when things were not going very well for them.

Colonial would go through the warehouse and find knives to assemble using parts from different models or even lines. Many sharp knives used the exact same blades other than the model number stamped on the tang. They were just configured differently. So you could take the frame from a 260 or 280 and use a main blade marked 270 and it would come out the same other than the number.

So at this point the only model number I know for sure is the 380 because its the only one I have seen in original packaging.

Remember what I said about Sharp being made on Anvil machines?

There must have been quite a bit of Sharp parts sitting around because I even have a knife that is mostly Anvil other than a Sharp 380 main blade.

Here it is with a Sharp 380 for comparison.







I also have an old Colonial model #426 peanut that was made in the early 1960s. It has the solid nickle silver bolsters used before Colonial went to the pressed on bolsters. Its shape is the same as Anvil and Sharp so I thought it would make an interesting picture for this thread as well with how similar it is.



MAY 22, 2018 4 COMMENTS

23.Forest Master Advertising Contract Knives

These are knives that were contracted from Colonial by other company's to advertise their own company's.

Colonial made a huge amount of advertising knives but these knives are different because they are Forest Masters. Most advertising knives were lower priced models.

I have researched these knives a lot and have only ever seen five Forest Master knives advertising other company's. It have been hunting for all 5 of these knives for years and I finally found the last one I needed.

Below are the knives.

The first is a Solder Seal Forest Master. Solder Seal is an automotive product poured into radiators to stop leaks.It says Solder Seal on the shield instead of

Forest Master but is otherwise exactly the same as any regular forest master including the PROV USA tang stamp.



Next I have two different Forest Masters contracted by the same company, Lee Olsen Jr's Olsen Knife Co.

The first one is the older of the two knives. It has the older curved can opener used on Forest Masters in the 60's and 70's. It says Lee Jr on the shield but is otherwise the same as any other Forest Master.



The second one says Olsen Ok Brand on the shield instead of Forest Master. This knife also has some other differences. Its stainless steel and it also has a different tang stamp.

The tang stamp says Colonial USA Stainless Rostfrei. For anyone who doesn't know, rostfrei means rust free, meaning stainless steel. I am assuming for use in Europe. This is the only Colonial I have ever seen marked rostfrei.





Next was the hardest to find. Its a rat poison advertisement. Instead of Forest Master the shield says "Star" Kills Rats Bever Falls, PA but is otherwise the same as a regular Forest Master.



The last one is a Palco Forest Master. Its only difference from a regular Forest Master is it says PALCO WORC., USA.

Palco is the Pressed Aluminum Co in Worcester Mass. They made outdoor equipment like canteens and mess kits. Some of them were official Boy Scout items.



[FEBRUARY 19, 2017 LEAVE A COMMENT](#)

MENU

Colonial Knives

JULY 9, 2018 2 COMMENTS

24. The Rainbow Knife

Wow! This is an exciting find.

I have had the advertisement for this knife for years but never expected to find one.

Its in great condition for a 1930's celluloid handled knife. Not a single crack or chip in it.

The Rainbow Knife. Mans Reproduction Of Abalone Pearl.

An all around pocket knife

Full polished keen steel blades

Sturdy enough for heavy duty yet an ideal pocket size

A Thing Of Beauty Is A Joy Forever

THE RAINBOW KNIFE
MAN'S REPRODUCTION OF
ABALONE PEARL

An
All Around
Pocket Knife
Full Polished
Keen Steel
Blades
Sturdy Enough
for
Heavy Duty
yet
An Ideal
Pocket Size

PRICE **25¢** EACH
#30007

"A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOREVER"

Here is my knife.



