THE MOSTLY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

EUGENE 5160 CLUB ~ MARCH 2019 ◆

https://www.facebook.com/5160Club

newsletter archive: http://www.elementalforge.com/5160Club/





MARCH MEETING

Thursday March 7th – 6:00pm at David Thompson's shop. Please do not arrive before 5:45pm. If you didn't get the directions in the meeting notice, email me for them: michael@elementalforge.com

Bring your show-n-tell!

Request from the Thompsons:

"Please drive very slowly down our lane. The maintenance is all ours Thanks "



NOTES AND REMINDERS

OKCA April Show – this is the big one: April 12th is OKCA members only. April 13th & 14th are open to the public – admission is \$6/day – members free. \$120/table + OKCA membership. 360 tables at the Lane Events Center. Everything from the world of cut! http://oregonknifeclub.com/okcashow.html



Check out the "Classes for Knifemaking, etc." section at the end of the newsletter for offerings around the region. Let me know if there's more that I should add to this list

NWBA 40th Anniversary Conference – May 24-26 at the Cowlitz Expo Center, Longview WA. They'll have demonstrations, hands-on workshops, food, contests, auction, displays... Onsite camping available. Here's the website:

https://blacksmith.org/events/nwba-40th-anniversary-conference

David Thompson – has coke and coal for sale (near Jerry's in Eugene, OR) – Talk to him at one of our meetings or call 541 688-2348.



FEBRUARY MEETING

MICHAEL KEMP (that would be me) got the meeting going by putting some OKCA April show notices on the table as well as a few cut down pieces of the 15N20 industrial bandsaw steel for anyone interested.

The chunks of bandsaw steel and the notices disappeared by the end of the evening!



First up was **ERIK LAND** saying that he was feeling pretty productive and had gotten some knives made.

Erik usually does stock removal folders – but he'd been up to Frank Bobbio's

place. Frank is all set up for forging. Starting with some railroad J hooks and using Frank's power equipment, pretty soon Erik had a knife! Spark testing the railroad Js they feel that they are at least 1055 and maybe as high as 1070. Rockwell file testing came out around HRc 62.

"The last time I [forged] was at the hammer-in and Martin over here – he made me swing a hammer – and Frank he's got hydraulic presses and all..." *He's sold on power equipment - I don't think Erik's too keen on the hammer-n-anvil approach to forging*.

Erik got two knives forged and ground at Frank's place. Then they spent the better part of the afternoon "fiddling with sharpening... these knives came out way sharper than any before – not that my knives aren't sharp – these are razor sharp." Erik described the winning process as working with a worn 400 grit 2x72 belt until you raise the wire edge – then a few strokes on a "super fine ceramic stone, and it comes out blistering sharp." *After some light stropping*.

This one is hafted in a countertop material from Richlite.



... and this one is hafted in bamboo:



Erik seems a little puzzled that he's being drawn into fixed blades and forged knives.

Erik also passed around a piece of raindrop Damascus from Las Vegas Forge that he will be making a special order knife out of.



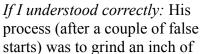
Erik's final two knives have some history. This knife was removed from his father-in-law's abdomen "after a polite conversation with a German."



... and a dagger also from his father-in-law.



BROME MCCREARY came to the front with a successful result for patching a belt that split at the seam (only worth doing for costly belts IMHO).



the material off the separated ends – down to the backing (this was a Scotch-Brite belt) – finishing with 120 grit. Then clean with alcohol. Smear on

"Shoe Goo" – clamp so that it won't move – press in some fiberglass tape – cover with wax paper – clamp between two flat boards and let set for 48 hours. He's run it working on 5 knives so far.

Your results may vary.

Next he passed around a

fruit knife, noting that he has a number of fruit trees and processes a lot of fruit in the fall. "This is my favorite shape for a fruit knife... but they're always manufactured with the blade the other way and I'm always holding it backwards!" So this one he set up with the blade & handle set the way he actually uses the knife. He noted that this was made out of the same industrial bandsaw steel that Dennis Ellingsen brought in (and which I was giving away that evening in cut-up chunks).



... um... and I don't think you can get a lovely burl handle like that down at Bi-Mart.

Brome then passed around the bolo that he'd brought last month – this time to show the result of a "mustard finish" experiment. This is where you dab French's Mustard onto a high carbon blade to force a protective patina – playfully called a "French Etch". In this case Brome used a chunk of large cell sponge for the applicator. "You dip it in a tray with the mustard – then shake it out until you can see the open pores..." and apply it to the blade. Since the patina develops best where the mustard is thinnest you don't want to smear out the pattern. This is the effect after two rounds of application (you let it sit for a few hours after the application – i.e. overnight):



A classic definition for the mustard finish was Wayne's demo back in 2013: http://www.elementalforge.com/5160Club/201306Newsletter.pdf

Brome then mused about the mysteries of heat treatment and decarburization. He relayed how a few years ago he had made three knives out of the same stock of O-1 steel. The first one heat treated great – but the other two (heat treated the same) were a bit soft (HRc around 54) – he re-heat treated them and they came out a little soft again. He later made another blade "from the same chunk of steel" and it hardened up nicely. Then he took the two softer blades and ground them down a bit and re-tested (without re-doing the heat treat) and they were more like HRc 58 – so apparently they had both had a noticeable outer layer that had decarburized – probably during forging.

So it might be wise to leave blades a little thick for heat treat and grind off the outer layer before finish sanding.

Frank Bobbio noted that he has detected the same decarburization issue – and leaves his blade edge a little thick – plus leaving the blade length a little long – so that grinding off a decarb layer will get back to the desired profile.

"If a good blade you would win, forge it thick and grind it thin." Also, in the latest OKCA newsletter, Gene Martin says that he coats his blades in ATP-641 before heat treat to prevent scale on the blade—which I would think would also inhibit decarburization during heat treat. A quick online search shows that some folks have success with this stuff—some not—and it has a limited shelf life.

Brome also passed around a beautiful puukko from Scandinavia that his wife purchased at a festival.





DENNIS ELLINGSEN informed the group that the OKCA had only 10 tables left for the April show. That was revised down to "a few" with the latest OKCA newsletter, and will soon turn into a waiting list.

The theme of the April show is the Bowie knife. There will be a lot of participation from Bowie collectors. "There's one collection that is considered one of the top in the country that's never been shown before – it's going to be in our show."

Dennis then passed around a Christmas gift from his son – a knife by Craig Morgan made from the Micarta and industrial bandsaw steel that Dennis has provided to us from one of his former clients (who wishes to remain anonymous). The sheath is by Craig's daughter Hannah Morgan (Grey Leather Company: https://www.facebook.com/GreyLeatherCo/).



MIKE JOHNSTON was up next. Someone asked him to make a bamboo handled knife – so he looked up a company out Southwest of Portland called Bamboo Oasis. "And they grow just about anything [bamboo] that you can think of including



black bamboo and something I'd never heard of called solid bamboo..." Yes folks, apparently there is a type of bamboo that is not hollow! "Really nice folks – really super people."

FWIW I notice that on the Bamboo Oasis website https://bamboooasis.com/ that they also offer "bamboo removal & containment" which you will know is no small feat – if you've ever battled containing a bamboo planting!

Mike then passed around a piece of bamboo he took from his own "plantation" - taken from near the base of a cane. It had been curing in his garage for 2 or 3 years. It was thick enough that he was able to grind it into a teardrop cross-section. He smoothed this down with a 60 grit belt.

"...one other thing this guy [at Bamboo Oasis] says was that a really nice way to finish bamboo is to take a hot air gun, work it over the piece, and it caramelizes it – turns it dark but not real dark – but makes it just shine like crazy."



For the next knife Mike said "This knife is a companion to a knife I brought in a while back that was a recurve chopper – and it had green Micartalike material – this one is forged out of the same rasp that the other one was. Also at the new owner's request it has dog paws on both sides out of the green material that's on the inside [darker Micarta liner]."

"If you ever want to do something like that, or if somebody wants you to do something like that? Tell them 'Oh h*ll no!' It is a MAJOR pain."

Mike shared that he achieved the dog paw pattern "Carefully. Very carefully. I started from the inside out..." he beveled the holes for the pattern wider on the inside – as well as tapering the inserts the same way. He started the holes for the pattern with a #51 drill (just over 1/16") and then worked them to the desired size and shape with a jeweler's saw blade.

The inserts were pressed in proud – glued in place – then sanded flat to the surface.



Mike's next knife was one he'd shared at the last OKCA meeting – but he's modified it slightly. He felt the African blackwood liners were too thick – so he'd run a saw down the tang on each side and reassembled the knife with the newly thinned liners. The scales are moose bone from a moose his son-in-law shot up in Alaska. "I think it turned out much better after I cut it way down."



Next was a large knife we'd seen as a work-inprocess. Spring-tooth harrow blade. Slight hamon from clayed heat treatment. Copper bolster dovetailed with bocote scales. Copper lanyard hole & pins. File work on the spine. Most of what looks like discoloration in the blade is reflection of the rafters – a little is the hamon.



Then Mike passed around a little every-day-carry knife he'd had on his table at the December OKCA show. Beautiful thuya burl handle.

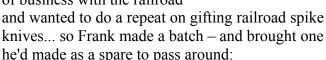


EDWARD DAVIS said that his aunt visited Mexico, and came back with a knife she bought at a local market made by a local artisan.

"It's got kind of a rugged bushcrafty look so I made a rugged bushcrafty sheath – and I made fringe for it – I thought 'that would be great' – I've never made anything with fringe before!"



FRANK BOBBIO said "I really didn't think I had any knifes to bring and then I realized I had one..." You might remember that Frank is trying to swear off making knives except for his own enjoyment – but when a previous customer emailed ~ ~ well. The customer does a lot of business with the railroad

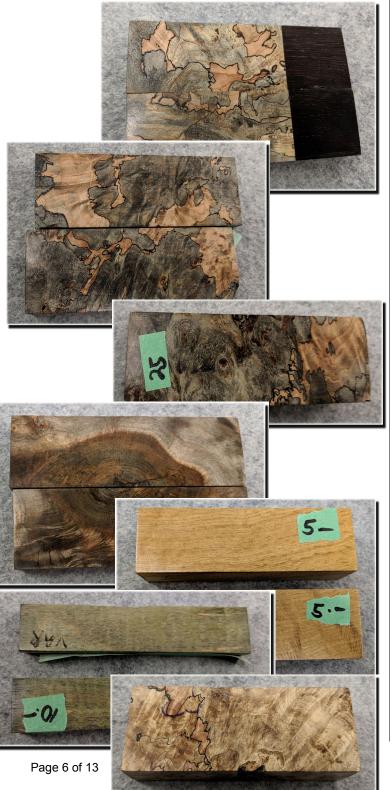






Next Frank started pulling stabilized wood out of a box saying he used some of the profit from the railroad spike knives to buy more Cactus Juice!

He stabilized burl with gray resin – an effect that is striking and not something you see around at the shows. Frank passed around wood scales and blocks that he has for sale. The first one has an African blackwood bolster epoxied to the front.



Moving right along – Frank brought out his newest sharpening stones. A 2"x8" diamond block with 400 and 1000 grit and a clamping holder to set it off the table surface. After searching, Frank found someone in California selling these for \$28. *I find similar whetstones & holders on Amazon in the \$70 range*. There are a couple of types of diamonds (one wears better than the other) and methods of attaching the diamonds to the whetstone – I gather gluing the diamonds down is not so great.



I (among others) will be interested to hear back on how well this whetstone holds up over time. There are some knives that really should be sharpened with diamond. Ceramic knives and S110V come to mind. I might need one of these.

Frank talked some more about the afternoon of sharpening tests that he and Erik did. Erik's ceramic stones versus Frank's belt sander versus the diamond whetstone. They also tested hand stropping against a 1x30 leather belt – they tried both green and white polishing compounds on the belt.

One finding was that the leather belt (motorized) would put a mirror finish on the edge but actually dulled the edge. "Maybe 30% loss of cutting ability."

"It seemed like it took a sharp edge and dulled it" Erik chimed in "because we'd do a test before the leather belt, and then after it, and there was a marked difference"

There was brainstorming about whether this was due to losing micro serrations at the edge – but that should not have affected push-cuts – which they also tested and also were notably worse after the leather belt. So: hand stropping on leather – good / powered leather belt – bad.

The discussion wandered to hand-stropping – with folks talking about using a light touch and having good results. The thought was that applying pressure during stropping might actually round the edge.

Mike likes using WD-40 and green compound on his leather strop.

I can never keep the compound colors straight in my head so I refer to this Wikipedia page: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polishing (metalworking)

Frank noted that he uses a light coating of WD-40 on his diamond whetstones. It makes cleaning the metal particles off the stone a cinch – just wipe the stone with a cloth when you're done.

Craig Morgan mentioned that he uses WD-40 for hand finishing with wet-and-dry sandpaper.

If I understood him right Mike likes Break-Free CLP for diamond whetstones and wet-and-dry sanding.



STEVE GODDARD brought one of his neck knives in to pass around.

"Dad always told me, but I haven't figured out how to do it yet: 'Start one thing and finish it' and there's 12 things on the bench!"

Steve noted that he gets the blade ground to shape and dressed up with a 400 grit, then finishes with Spyderco white diamond stone (2000 grit) to get the wire edge, then strop for a shaving edge. High speed steel blade. Acrylic handle material.



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He said that when he glues up the sheath he puts dowels through what will be the copper lined neck line holes to keep it clear and in shape.

... at that point we drifted into informal discussions – questions and answers – and quite a while later wandered into the night...



Have fun and work safe -

Your Scribe ~ Michael Kemp



WEBSITE LINKS 5160 CLUB

5160 Club Newsletters are archived at: http://www.elementalforge.com/5160Club/

Hint: to Google the archive for a specific knife style or presenter name, use a search like this: sami site:http://www.elementalforge.com/5160Club or this:

ron lake site:http://www.elementalforge.com/5160Club

OREGON KNIFE COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION (OKCA)

The OKCA hosts monthly dinner meetings where you are guaranteed to see treasures from the wide world of "things that go cut!" OKCA also puts on a small show in December and the big knife show in April – if you haven't seen it you've been missing something special!

http://www.oregonknifeclub.org/index.html
Go to the "Knewslettter" link and scan a recent
newsletter for a membership form and contact info.

FORUMS

Bladesmith's Forum aka Don Fogg Forum http://www.bladesmithsforum.com/

Knifedogs Forum (USA Knifemaker) http://knifedogs.com/forum.php

American Bladesmith Society http://www.americanbladesmith.com/ipboard/

Usual Suspects Network http://www.usualsuspect.net/forums/forum.php

Blade Forums http://www.bladeforums.com/

Hype-Free Blades http://www.hypefreeblades.com/forum

Peter Newman of Bent River Forge/Farrier Supplies has a closed Facebook group for Oregon Blacksmiths https://www.facebook.com/groups/173156733117832

REFERENCES

Wayne Goddard's books are available at Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/Wayne-Goddard/e/B001JS9M10 And you can email the Goddards directly for his DVD at Sg2goddard@comcast.net

Most of the companies in the "Knife Maker General" links (below) have a section for how-to books and DVDs.

Verhoeven's Metallurgy For Bladesmiths PDF – this is a very deep dive, not an introduction. http://www.feine-klingen.de/PDFs/verhoeven.pdf

Verhoeven's updated book:

 $\frac{http://www.amazon.com/Steel-Metallurgy-Non-Metallurgist-J-Verhoeven/dp/0871708582}{J-Verhoeven/dp/0871708582}$

ZKnives – Knife steel composition/comparison/etc. http://zknives.com/knives/steels

Kevin Cashen's Bladesmithing Info http://www.cashenblades.com/info.html

Knife Steel Nerds – a metallurgist's blog on the technical details of steel https://knifesteelnerds.com

Tempil Basic Guide to Ferrous Metallurgy http://www.tempil.com/wp-content/plugins/download-monitor/download.php? id=Basic Guide to Ferrous 2010.pdf

From the Heat Treating Society of the ASM – the Heat Treater's Guide Companion for Android devices.

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details? id=com.pfiks.mobile.heattreaters&hl=en

My own "Knife Info" has some of my knife musings and cheat sheet charts – plus Oregon and Eugene knife laws:

http://elementalforge.com/tips_notes/

CLASSES FOR KNIFE MAKING, ETC.

Erik Olson is teaching intro to forged knives in Eugene. I don't have a business contact but his personal Facebook page is:

https://www.facebook.com/erik.olson.77715

Farrier Supplies aka Bent River Forge offers intro and advanced blacksmithing classes – and supplies. 26729 99W, Monroe, Oregon Coal, coke, forges, parts, tools, classes... https://www.facebook.com/FarrierSuppliesOR (541) 847-5854

Gene Martin offers personal instruction at his shop south of Grants Pass for a daily rate. http://www.customknife.com/

Bear Iron in Cottage Grove offers classes through Lane Community College. https://www.beablacksmith.com/sign-up

Michael and Gabriel Bell of Dragonfly Forge offer an ongoing series of small group classes in Japanese style sword forging and fittings. Located on the southern Oregon Coast. http://dragonflyforge.com/

Murray Carter offers small group classes in a variety of subjects, primarily focused on traditional Japanese cutlery. Located in Hillsboro, Oregon.

http://www.cartercutlery.com/bladesmithing-courses/

White Hart Forge offers intro to blacksmithing classes plus some advanced classes and some intro to knife making classes. Oak Grove, Oregon (just south of Portland). https://whitehartforge.com/classes/

Blacksmithing and some bladesmithing workshops are hosted regularly by the Northwest Blacksmith Association: http://blacksmith.org/

David Lisch is an ABS Master Smith who teaches classes in Washington.

http://www.davidlisch.com/

The ABS (American Bladesmith Society) offers classes in Washington, Arkansas and elsewhere – if you are up for traveling across the country to take classes, check out their "Schools" link: http://www.americanbladesmith.com/

James Austin offers forging classes in Oakland, CA – axes, tongs, viking anvil, etc.: http://forgedaxes.com/?page_id=148

Keep an eye out on California Blacksmith Association for workshops and events: http://calsmith.org/CBA-Events

USA Knifemaker has a lot of fun & informative videos on their YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/USAKnifemaker/videos ... and hey - "free" is a hard price to beat!

Nick Wheeler also has a good YouTube channel with a lot of how-to videos:

https://www.youtube.com/user/NickWheeler33/videos

GENERAL TOOLS & SUPPLIES

MSC Direct

http://www.mscdirect.com/

McMaster-Carr

http://www.mcmaster.com

Grainger

http://www.grainger.com

Surplus Center

http://www.surpluscenter.com/

Victor Machinery Exchange http://www.victornet.com/

Zoro

https://www.zoro.com/

And of course there are the local hardware stores like Jerry's, and chains like Harbor Freight and Woodcraft.

KNIFE MAKER GENERAL

Knife kits, steel, tools, machines, supplies such as handle material, fasteners, belts, glues, finishes, etc.

Jantz Supply – Davis, OK http://www.knifemaking.com

Texas Knifemaker's Supply – Houston, TX http://www.texasknife.com

USA Knife Maker's Supply – Mankato, MN http://www.usaknifemaker.com/

Knife and Gun (K&G) – Lakeside, AZ http://www.knifeandgun.com/

Alpha Knife Supply – Cedar City, UT http://www.alphaknifesupply.com/

True Grit – Ontario, CA http://www.trugrit.com

Especially Abrasives – lower cost 2x72 belts http://www.especiallyabrasives.com/

KNIFE STEEL SOURCES

New Jersey Steel Baron http://newjerseysteelbaron.com/

Kelly Cupples (High Temp Tools) – Alabama http://www.hightemptools.com/steel.html

Niagara Specialty Metals – New York http://www.nsm-ny.com (click Products/Knife Steels)

SB Specialty Metals – New York & Texas http://shop.sbsm.com/

Bohler Uddeholm – numerous U.S. locations ttp://www.bucorp.com/knives.htm

Sandvic – stainless steels – Texas & Pennsylvania http://www.smt.sandvik.com/en/products/strip-steel/strip-products/knife-steel/sandvik-knife-steels/

Pacific Machinery & Tool Steel – Portland, Oregon http://www.pmtsco.com/tool-die-steel.php

Alpha Knife Supply – Cedar City, UT http://www.alphaknifesupply.com/

KNIFEMAKER EQUIPMENT

Beaumont (KMG) [Ohio] – the industry-benchmark 2x72 belt grinder

http://www.beaumontmetalworks.com/shop/

Travis Wuertz [Arizona] – premium versatile grinder http://www.twuertz.com/Home Page.php

Pheer [Gresham, Oregon] – affordable grinder made in Oregon http://www.2x72beltgrinder.com

Oregon Blade Maker [Oregon] – affordable chassis and accessories, good reputation – you supply the motor http://stores.ebay.com/oregonblademaker

AMK [Ohio] – affordable grinder, quick-change between platen & contact wheel http://amktactical.com/

Northridge Tool [Ohio] – precision manufactured belt grinders http://www.northridgetool.com/

Coote [Port Ludlow, Washington] – affordable, simple grinder – you supply the motor http://www.cootebeltgrinder.com

Marinus Kuyl [Hillsboro, Oregon] – another affordable grinder made in Oregon – and parts – you provide the motor. http://oregonblademaker.com

Grinder-In-A-Box – grinder kit, assembly required http://www.polarbearforge.com/grinder_kit_order.html

The "No Weld Grinder" plans can be purchased from http://usaknifemaker.com either as a booklet or as a download – just use the search box to enter "no weld grinder"

Wayne Coe [Tennessee] – grinders, motors, VFDs... http://www.waynecoeartistblacksmith.com

Contact Rubber Corp – wheels etc. http://contactrubber.com/contact-wheels.asp

Sunray – drive wheels http://www.sunray-inc.com/drive-wheels/

Renaissance Metal Art [Mulino, Oregon] – 80# ram air hammer http://www.rmetalart.com/tools.htm

Anyang [Texas] – air hammers from 20# to 165# http://www.anyangusa.net/

Meyer Machine Tool [Ohio] – treadle hammer http://www.meyermachinetool.com/Blacksmith-div-.html

Spencer/Clontz tire hammer plans/workshops http://www.alaforge.org/Trading_Post.html

Appalachian Power Hammer plans http://www.appaltree.net/rusty/index.htm

Helve Hammer and Quick-Change Dies Video – from a BladesmithsForum.com thread. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzruqYkKGNM

True Grit – under "Machines & Accessories" http://www.trugrit.com

FORGE & REFRACTORY

Chile Forge San Marcos, Texas http://www.chileforge.com/

Mankel Forge – Muskegon, Michigan http://mankelforge.com/forges.html

Western Industrial Ceramics Inc. All things refractory – Tualatin, Oregon http://www.wicinc.com/

High Temp Tools (scroll down the page for the category buttons) Tuscaloosa, Alabama http://www.hightemptools.com/supplies-mainpage.html

High Temp Inc. has also been recommended for Kaowool etc. Portland, Oregon http://hightempinc.net/

Omega – thermocouples & measuring equipment Stamford, Connecticut http://www.omega.com/

Auber – more thermocouples and controllers, etc. Alpharetta, Georgia http://www.auberins.com

Hybridburners – home of the venturi T-Rex Smithville, Georgia http://www.hybridburners.com/

Pine Ridge Burners – for ribbon burners and all associated fittings, blowers, valves, etc. Conway, Massachusetts http://www.pineridgeburner.com

Zoeller Forge – low cost venturi & parts: Z Burners Lanesville, Indiana http://zoellerforge.com/

Here's the original article on making a ribbon burners that John Emmerling wrote back in 2005 for the NWBA Newsletter: http://blacksmith.org/2005-1-hot-iron-news/
You can download the PDF from that site. John's

BLACKSMITH

Farrier Supplies aka Bent River Forge 26729 99W, Monroe, Oregon Coal, coke, forges, parts, tools, classes... https://www.facebook.com/FarrierSuppliesOR (541) 847-5854

Blacksmith Depot http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com

Pieh Tool http://www.piehtoolco.com

article starts on page 11.

Centaur Forge http://www.centaurforge.com

Quick and Dirty Tool Co. http://quickanddirtytools.com/

LOGO/ETCHING/STAMPS

Ernie Grospitch – Blue Lightening Stencil http://www.erniesknives.com/

IMG International Marking Group http://img-electromark.com/

Electro-Chem Etch http://www.ecemmi.com/products.html

Steel Stamp, Inc. www.steelstampsinc.com

LectroEtch – Ohio https://lectroetch.com/

HEAT TREAT SERVICES

Here are some folks who provide heat treating services for blades. While all of these have been recommended by one reputable person or another I have not had experience with them. If you use one, let us know how it went!

Paul Bos Heat Treating at Buck Knives. Paul Bos has retired and handed the torch to Paul Farner. Highly reputable. Post Falls, Idaho:

http://www.buckknives.com/about-knives/heat-treating/

Peters Heat Treating is another highly reputable operation. Meadville, Pennsylvania: http://www.petersheattreat.com/cutlery.html

Texas Knifemaker's Supply offers heat treat services. Houston, Texas:

http://www.texasknife.com/vcom/privacy.php#services

Tru-Grit provides heat treat services. Ontario, California: https://trugrit.com/index.php? main page=index&cPath=34

K&G also provides heat treat services but I can't find a reference on their web site – you'll have to contact them for details. Lakeside, Arizona: http://www.knifeandgun.com/default.asp

Byington Blades heat treat service is in Santa Clara, California: http://www.byingtonblades.com/

It's my understanding that Chris Reeve Knives uses ACE Co in Boise Idaho – which is enough for me to add them to the list:

http://www.aceco.com/heattreat/index.html

WOOD & HANDLE MATERIAL

Burl Source – handle blocks/scales – So. Oregon http://www.burlsales.com/

Shelton Pacific – stabilized wood – Shelton, WA http://stores.sheltonpacific.com/

Gilmer Wood – N.W. Portland https://www.gilmerwood.com/

Bamboo Oasis – wide variety of bamboo – Beaverton, OR phone 503-703-1345 https://bamboooasis.com/

North Woods Figured Wood – Gaston, OR http://www.nwfiguredwoods.com/

Atlas Billiard Supplies – Wheeling, IL – cue blanks of Micarta and exotic woods – with some sizes suitable for knife handles. http://www.cuestik.com/

For Eugene area boards, planks, etc. there's:

Crosscut Hardwoods at 2344 W 7th, Eugene http://www.crosscuteugene.com/

Tree Products Hardwoods at 150 Seneca, Eugene http://treeproductshardwood.com/

and it doesn't hurt to check Mike's Bargain Center on Hwy 99 just south of Beltline, Eugene https://www.facebook.com/MikesBargainCenter/

WOOD STABILIZING

K&G (Knife and Gun) – Lakeside, AZ Good reputation with everybody. http://www.kandgstabilizing.com

Gallery Hardwoods – Eugene, OR I've purchased stabilized blocks from them at the April show. They tend to be heavier, presumably more durable/stable but less wood-feel than others. http://www.galleryhardwoods.com/stabilized.htm

WSSI (Wood Stabilizing Specialists International, Inc.) – Ionia, IA – some folks have had issues with them, some folks are totally happy. http://www.stabilizedwood.com/

Alpha Knife Supply – Cedar City, UT http://www.alphaknifesupply.com/

Turn Tex Woodworks – San Marcos, TX "Cactus Juice" and pressure chambers etc. for the doit-yourself folks – your mileage may vary. https://www.turntex.com

OTHER GOODIES

Grey Leather Company – Eugene – Hannah Morgan does custom leatherwork, including sheaths. https://www.facebook.com/GreyLeatherCo/
https://www.etsy.com/shop/GreyLeatherCo

Sally Martin Mosaic Pins – So. Oregon http://customknife.com/index.php?cPath=13

Oregon Leather – 810 Conger Eugene and 110 N.W. 2ND Portland http://www.oregonleatherco.com/

Coyote Steel – wide variety of new steel, scrap, copper, brass, bronze – Garfield & Cross St. Eugene http://www.coyotesteel.com

Cherry City Metals – Salem, Oregon – metal recycling and useful objects http://www.cherrycitymetals.com/

Burcham's Metals – Albany, Oregon – recycled metal of all sorts. Very good pricing. http://www.burchamsmetals.com

Amtek – tool steel & cutting tools http://websales.amtektool.com

Rio Grande – jewelry tools/supplies http://www.riogrande.com

Otto Frei – jewelry tools/supplies http://www.ottofrei.com

M3 Composite – space age mokume & other http://www.m3composite.com/

Voodoo Resins – striking resin handle material http://www.voodooresins.com/

Minarik automation & control http://www.minarik.com/

The Engineering Toolbox (formula & info reference) http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com

Valley Stainless (that does water-jet cutting) is one of Craig Morgan's customers. They told Craig "bring in a pattern" and they'd work with you on small batch cutting. They don't have a website yet. 29884 E Enid Rd, Eugene, Oregon 97402 (541) 686-4600.