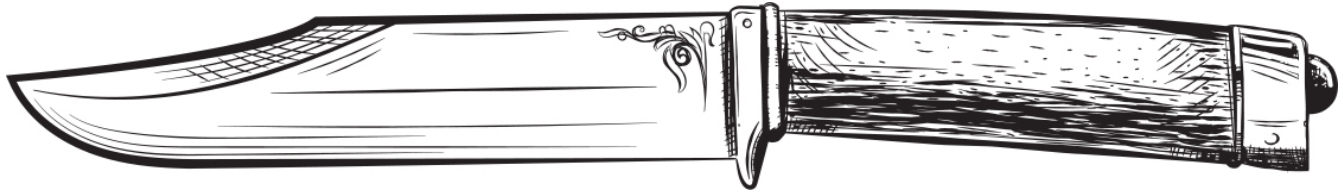


OLDE TOWNE

Post-Dispatch

October 2018

Volume XIII

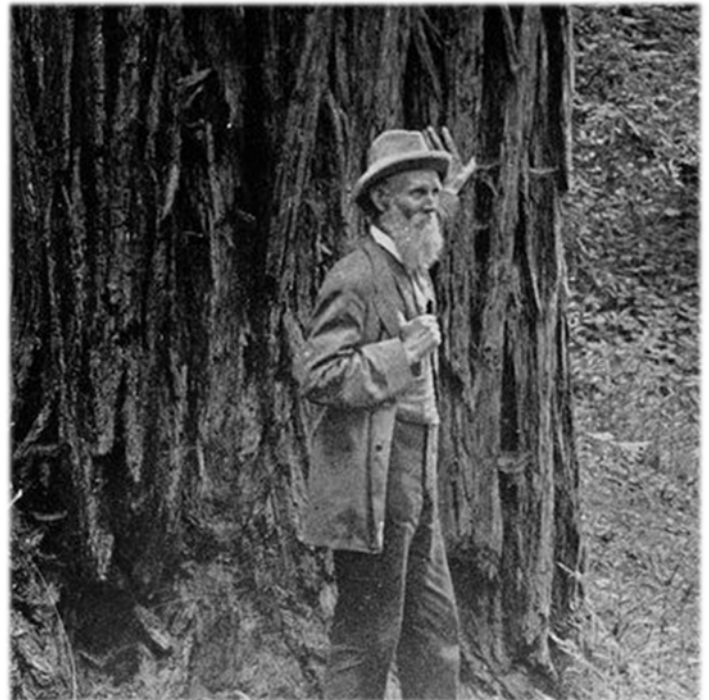


GREAT KNIFE STORIES IN HISTORY

THE GREATEST WALKING TRAIL IN THE WORLD - PART 2

It is a 2200-mile corridor of solitude and serenity. But don't let the scale of the AT deter your ambition. You don't need to be a hardcore backpacker to enjoy the wonders of this spectacular natural treasure. All you need is a pair of good shoes, some water and snacks coupled with a little motivation, and you will experience one of the best things in the country. Consider that the AT is accessible to everyone on the entire eastern seaboard in less than a day's drive and you may realize that parts are closer than you think.

John Muir said, "The mountains are calling, and I must go". What did he mean by that? There is something about the human experience when immersed in stunning natural beauty. It brings us back to the origins of our humanity. We become natural creatures again; reverting from our iPhone tethered existence. We need this. It feeds our souls. John Muir was a man in a modern society just like us today; with polluted city-life and the ever-present audible moan of the urban existence. Muir knew when he stepped out into the wilderness, the sound would change, the air would smell natural and healthy again, and the streams would have clear, clean water. These things coupled with the stunning visual aesthetic would feed his soul. "...and I must go" seems to say it all. He hungered for it. I think we all



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hunger for it whether we know it or not. The more we experience nature, the more we salivate for those experiences.

The Appalachian Trail has something for everyone, too. If you want the ultimate survival challenge, this will give you that. Or, if you just want a short afternoon hike with the family, the AT will give you a comfortable leisurely stroll in some places. Melissa and I are so fortunate to live just four miles from Amicalola Falls State park, which is the southern terminus of the AT. We can do sections across Georgia as day-hikes or short weekenders. Our favorite spot on the AT is Springer Mountain. We camped here once when we were dating, and it has a special meaning to us. We camped at the top, where it is suggested that you avoid as the trees at the top have a lot of their tops knocked out of them. Black bears like storm damaged trees as this is where they sleep. Mountain tops often have ice-storm damaged trees, and these are ultimate bear habitats; so, avoid this as your camping spot, if possible.



Springer mountain is accessible from a couple of different points if you would like to see this spot. You can get there from the Approach Trail out of Amicalola Falls State Park by hiking northbound. Or, you can go to the first entry point on the AT via a WMA just two miles up the trail and hike south to the summit. The approach trail is actually strenuous, but the 2-mile southbound trek from the WMA is an easy hike on relatively level terrain. Trust me when I

say, you won't be disappointed with the view from Springer Mountain.

The best thing to see on the AT is certainly contestable. A lot of it has to do with what appeals to you personally. But the nice thing is that there is something for everybody. I should also mention that there are many locations that are wheelchair accessible, and a list of those locations can be found on [a great site called Trailspace](#). The following list is a selection of the best destinations along the AT. The list was compiled by [Blue Ridge Outdoors](#), a magazine dedicated to tourism in this part of the country.

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1. The Pinnacle, Pennsylvania

A mixture of thru-hikers, school groups and intrigued day hikers beat along the moderate trail to soak in the beauty offered by The Pinnacle Summit. Located along the Blue Mountain Ridgeline, this rocky viewpoint enables its visitors to gaze out over the picturesque, rolling farmlands of Pennsylvania.

Getting There - From the trailhead parking lot, located on Hawk Mountain Road, begin hiking through the yellow gates along the gravel road. Turn right on the white blazed Appalachian Trail. Follow the Appalachian Trail along a rock filled trail to Pulpit Rock. Keep straight on the Appalachian Trail until you pass the turnoff to Blue Rock Campground. Just ahead, take a right turn for The Pinnacle overlook by way of Blue Trail.

2. Clingmans Dome, Tennessee

Standing at 6,643 feet of elevation, Clingmans Dome offers a 360-degree viewpoint high above the tree line of the Great Smoky Mountains. The Appalachian Trail crosses here, making Clingmans Dome the highest AT viewpoint from Georgia to Maine. From this man-made observation tower, hikers can peer out over a sea of mountains. On a clear day, all seven surrounding states; Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia; are visible from the tower.

Getting There - Driving, take Newfound Gap Road to Clingmans Dome Road. Clingmans Dome Road leads up to a parking lot and visitor center. From here, the walking path up to the Clingmans Dome observation tower is paved but steep. The half-mile path is straightforward and easy to follow.

3. McAfee Knob, Virginia

Tucked in the Jefferson National Forest of Virginia, McAfee Knob has earned quite a reputation for its beautiful viewpoint. A hike of around 4.5 miles will take you 1,740 feet in elevation, which will be well worth the reward as you sit out on the ledge of McAfee Knob practically floating above the Shenandoah Valley.

Getting There - From the VA311 parking area, cross the street and pick up the white blazed Appalachian Trail. Remain along the Appalachian Trail until McAfee Knob Spur Trail. Turn left and the overlook will be just a few steps away.



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4. Tinker Cliffs, Virginia

Hanging 3,000 feet over the Catawba Valley, Tinker Cliffs is a great place to stop for lunch and soak in the gorgeous view. Though the hike is relatively strenuous, making it to Tinker Cliffs will give you a bird's eye view of surrounding mountains including McAfee Knob to the South.

Getting There - On Virginia Route 779, halfway between Catawba and Daleville, you will find the trailhead for Tinker Cliffs day hikers. Head out on the Andy Layne trail, yellow blazed, until it intersects with the white blazed Appalachian Trail (about three miles). Turn right onto the Appalachian Trail and Tinker Cliffs will be within a mile.

5. Dragon's Tooth, Virginia

Dragon's Tooth, another breathtaking viewpoint along the Virginia portion of the Appalachian Trail, stands out atop Cove Mountain. Join other hikers on the climb to this popular destination as you crisscross creeks and make an elevation gain of 1,505 ft.

Getting There - The Dragon's Tooth parking lot is located along VA311. Start off on the blue blazed Dragon's Tooth trail. About two miles in, the trail will intersect the Appalachian Trail. Turn right onto the Appalachian



Trail for a strenuous 0.7-mile hike to pick up the Dragon's Tooth Spur trail. A leisurely hike of less than a mile on this path will place you at the foot of Dragon's Tooth.

6. Max Patch, North Carolina

The perfect place for an Appalachian Trail day hike, Max Patch is a moderate hike with an open grassy field at the summit. If heading there in the winter, make sure to bundle up and be prepared to soak in the deep blues of the Great Smokies to the west and the Black Mountains to the southeast.

Getting There - Take State Road 1181 until you arrive at the intersection for Max Patch Road (State Road 1182). Turn right onto Max Patch Road and travel about a mile and a half to the Max Patch parking lot.

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From the parking lot, you can then choose from two direct hiking routes, differing in length, to reach the Max Patch viewpoint.

7. Grayson Highlands/ Mount Rogers, Virginia

Where else, but at Mount Rogers, might you catch a mountain view as a herd of wild ponies roam along the trail? From the Grayson Highlands approach to Mount Rogers, wild ponies are often sighted as visitors hike their way up to the state's highest peak.

Getting There - The parking for Mount Rogers is located halfway between the cities of Independence and Damascus on U.S. 58. Day hikers have several trail options for reaching the summit. From the access point in Grayson Highlands, follow Massie Gap.

8. Mount Moosilauke, New Hampshire

The bare summit of Mount Moosilauke, located at an elevation of 4,802 feet, sits in western New Hampshire. Here, hikers are rewarded with a 360-degree view of the surrounding mountains of New England.

Getting There - For a moderate, but long hike, take Gorge Brook Trail to the Mount Moosilauke summit. Starting from Ravine Lodge, this trail is relatively easy though the route will put 7.4 miles under your feet. Other options for reaching the summit include more strenuous hikes with greater gains in elevation: Beaver Brook Trail, Glenciff Trail, Moosilauke Carriage Road and Benton Trail.

9. Mount Killington, Vermont

Mount Killington is a popular peak. Not only does the Appalachian Trail run along its summit, it is also the location of a bunkhouse for thru-hikers as well as a ski resort. Despite all the hustle and bustle that occurs on this mountain, Killington is still best known for its breathtaking viewpoint.



Getting There - Park in the Brewer's Corner Parking lot, located on Wheelerville Road, and begin hiking by way of Bucklin Trail. After about 3.3 miles, you will reach the Appalachian Trail. Turn right onto the Appalachian Trail and the Killington Summit will be about a half mile ahead.

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10. Baldpate, Maine

Baldpate offers two incredible summits. Connecting both the west peak and the east peak are a network of boardwalk-like structures and a wooden ladder. Stroll along the ridgeline and climb the ladder to take in the marvelous viewpoints of Baldpate. From the top, hikers can gaze out at the lush forests and rolling mountains of Maine.

Getting There - Hikers can choose from a variety of trails to reach the summit. The most direct route is by way of Micah Trail – an easy .6-mile hike. Parking for Micah Trail is located on Moose Cove Lodge Road. Follow signs for parking and Micah trailhead along the side of the road.

Whether you are a hardcore outdoor enthusiast, ordinary working folks, or over the hill, get out to the AT this fall and see a part of this national treasure. Remember, it's YOURS. Our National Park System is such a wonderful resource, and as Americans we are so fortunate to have these areas protected. SO, get out to the trail and enjoy!

MEET YOUR MAKER

Todd Hunt of T.M. Hunt Custom Knives

We featured Todd in our first month of operation, but our subscribership is now over twenty-fold larger, so we thought we should elevate his work in our newsletter again. T.M. Hunt custom Knives is one of our best brands, and we are extremely proud to represent Todd's work.

Todd Hunt, owner of T. M. Hunt Custom Knives, grew up in Seymour, Indiana, and from a very young-age, he remembers standing on a milk crate watching his father making knives as a hobby. "It always amazed me

how something so useful could be made with nothing more than a couple of tools, and some hard-work,"



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explains Todd. It forged a lasting image of craftsmanship and what a quality tool was supposed to be. Throughout life, Todd has enjoyed hobbies such as hunting, fishing, camping, martial arts, and metal fabrication; which always advanced his understanding in the use of knives. His career in the machining trade taught him metallurgy.



In 2013, he quit his full-time job of almost 20 years to pursue his passion, and set out to try to reintroduce fine craftsmanship, a sense of accomplishment, and pride in his products through hand crafted cutlery. Todd has sold knives in over a dozen different countries, has been featured in 6 different magazines to date, sold knives to celebrities, and even had his knives featured on the Food Network and the Discovery Channel. (Pretty good considering each piece is painstakingly made entirely by hand, one at a time, at his home shop!

Todd's work has been featured in the following publications:

- Self-Reliance Illustrated Issue #14 (Cover Article)
- Tactical Knives Magazine September 2013 Issue (Feature Article)
- S.W.A.T. Magazine July 2013 Issue (Feature Article)
- Self-Reliance Illustrated Issue #22
- The New Pioneer Magazine Spring 2015 Issue (Review)
- Woods Monkey May 2015 Issue,

Todd has also been featured in The Knife Journal and Murphnuge's Podcasts.

Todd is a phenomenal craftsman with rock solid integrity and unparalleled ethical standards. This is evident in his work, and you can feel the sense of pride in each piece he makes. When Todd personally delivered his first order to us at Olde Towne Cutlery, he said to us, "Now that you have bought my product, I am in your employ. We will do anything you need to help you be successful". You can't ask for a better commitment than that, and it comes from the heart. Knifemaking is Todd's passion as well as his paycheck, and that passion and integrity is why he is successful. If you own one of his creations, you will be as proud to own it as he was to make it for you. And that's a guarantee.



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FEATURED PRODUCT AND REVIEW

This week we have some amazing new items from Todd Hunt and much more. Take a look below!

T.M. HUNT CUSTOM KNIVES CUSTOM M18 CURLY MAPLE

Todd Hunt has mastered the execution on this Custom M18. T.M. Hunt Custom Knives Custom M-18 in a Curly Maple handle. Made from O1 Carbon Tool Steel with brass pins and stunning filework!! It also comes with a custom Skull Leather Sheath. If you're looking for an utterly amazing tool you can't go wrong with the M18. This is a knife, a machete, a draw knife, an emergency entry tool, a chopper, and much more. This wilderness tool is multi-functional in that, you are able to do large chopping, fine cutting chores, or the breaking down and skinning of game. This is the same pattern you may have seen on TV. So, whether you're ready to catch some big game, do some chopping or any other task, this is a definite pick! Todd has also outdone himself because this Custom M18 also comes with a stunningly beautiful handmade leather sheath with a skull and multiple embellishments. He's as good with leather as he is with steel!



\$665

[To see all of the T.M. Hunt Knives in stock, click here](#)

LION STEEL SR11 – ORANGE/BLACK LSTSR11AOB

Grooved orange aluminum handles with glass breaker, black oxide blade finish, lanyard hole, Sleipner Steel, RotoBlock system. Lion Steel is emerging as one of the finest cutlery makers in the world. They have repeatedly won awards at the Blade Show and they produce a knife with cutting edge techniques (sorry for the pun). For example, most knife companies' machine two halves of a handle. The Molleta and SR11 are all milled out of one solid piece of aluminum. Pivot pins and other hardware are perfectly machined to blend with the frame. They have also incorporated their RotoBlock System, which enables you to turn a folder into a fixed



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blade. You will not be disappointed in this knife. We put the quality up against anything else in the world.

\$145

[To see all of the Lion Steel Knives in stock, Click Here](#)

FALLKNIVEN FH9 FOLDING HUNTER

Fallkniven knives are of superb quality. Folding Hunter, 3G Steel, Maroon Micarta handle, Stainless bolsters, lanyard slot, stainless pocket clip, nail nick, Blade length 2 3/4", Handle length 3 1/2", OAL 6 1/4". This beautifully designed Swedish knife is an eye catcher. There is a reason why this knife has been so popular for so long. This folding hunter knife would be a great compliment for your next hunt at the deer camp and with the Micarta handles and 3G steel, it is proven for durability. So, you could easily pull this beautiful hunter out and use along with your other field dressing knives. The fit, finish and execution of this knife is absolutely superb.



\$249

[To see all of the Fallkniven Knives in stock, Click Here](#)

CURTISS KNIVES F3 MEDIUM WHARNCLIFFE – STONEWASH

The Curtiss F3 Medium, Wharncliffe might be the coolest folding knife in the country. The fit, finish and quality of Dave's product is simply superb. This knife is Dave's standard product without upgrade, but that does not mean that this is just any old knife. The lockup is a combination between a fine Swiss watch and an Abrams tank. In a word, "amazing". At 7 5/8" OAL the medium is a great size for everyday utility and function.

\$650



[To see all of the Curtiss Knives, Click Here](#)

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W.A. SURLS KNIVES DRIFTER DESERT IRONWOOD

Allen Surls is a phenomenal Custom Knife Maker. The Drifter in Desert Ironwood and Black liner has a Copper Wrap w/Rawhide, 1/8" A2 Carbon Steel, Spalted, 3 1/4" blade, 8" OAL, tapered tang. It's the attention to detail that sets his product apart. He has perfect symmetry with his grind and scales. This Drifter knife is simply exquisite with a Desert Ironwood handle and a Copper/Rawhide wrap.

\$330



[To see all of the W. A. Surls Knives in stock, Click Here](#)

AND THE WINNER IS!...



As part of our Capital Campaign which is meant to drive sales for our brick-and-mortar store, our wonderful community of knife makers have donated a knife to give away as part of our promotion to build awareness for the store. This is the conclusion of the ELEVENTH week. The knife was a Bubba Knife EDC Esquire with gorgeous stabilized Myrtle. The knife is paired with a custom leather sheath by Mike Wilson that has been beautifully embellished. This is a GORGEOUS package.

Drumroll please... The *WINNER IS Nola C of Lithonia, Georgia!*

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WEEK TWELVE - GIVE-A-WAY KNIFE!



The next knife in the give-a-way is a *T.M. Hunt Hedgehog* in G10 with a bone linen micarta inlay

Specs:

**Handle Material – Black G10, White Linen Micarta, Lime Green Pinstripe
Steel – 3/32” O1 Tool Steel – Stone Tumbled Finish
Blade length 2 3/4” Blade,
Flat Grind, Leather Sheath**



So how do you enter to win??

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See below for details!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are raising capital for our brick and mortar store, and our wonderful knifemakers have generously donated a knife to give-a-way to help drive some sales.

We are going to ***GIVE-A-WAY*** one knife per week.

EACH ORDER PLACED WITH US AUTOMATICALLY ENTERS YOU FOR EACH WEEKS DRAWING. (One order will enter you for *all sixteen* possibilities).

We have loaded the wagon with knives, and now we need to have three great sales months in a row to build some capital and make this a success. ***So now all we need is YOU!***

The GIVE-A-WAY

- Between now and the end of the year, we are going to ***GIVE-A-WAY*** one really amazing knife per week. ***TWENTY TOTALLY AWESOME KNIVES***
- **Each person who places an order is automatically entered to win.**
- Each week the winner will be announced in the Friday email. The knife for the following week will be listed and the maker promoted.
- The **GRAND PRIZE** will be a custom-made display case.

The Details

- Technically this is a give-a-way because we can't legally hold a lottery, so free entry forms are available by [clicking this link](#).
- One entry makes you eligible for every weeks give-a-way. So, if you enter the first week, you are eligible for any/all of the knives through the end of the campaign.
- No purchase is necessary for the giveaway. Although, your information is captured on an order and all orders are counted as submissions.
- If you place an order, no further action is necessary - except reading the weekly email from us to see if you won!

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- Each winner will be randomly selected from all entrants from the beginning of the Capital Campaign Give-A-Way.
- Product will be shipped to recipient free of charge. (US residents only. If winner is in another country, postage may may be requested)
- No product will exceed \$600 value and therefore does NOT need to be registered with the IRS.
- [Official Rules can be seen at this link here:](#)

[To see our short video shot on-location, click here](#)

We sincerely appreciate our wonderful customers and friends. Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Have a great weekend everyone!

Lee & Melissa

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Please don't forget to follow us on Social Media!



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