

Shipping Your Knives to the Oregon Show  
ibdennis

If you are driving to the Oregon Knife Show in April, you need only throw your knives into the car and then go. But if you are coming via air.... then that is another matter. The security systems at our airports do not lend themselves to ease of travel with knives or, for that matter, anything. The horror stories abound with the hassles and indignation. The knives get there, but the agony lingers on. And in some cases the memories are so strong that some will not travel with knives ever again.

We asked ourselves just what it is that we could do on this end to make the transportation of knives to our Show a bit easier. We do not have all the answers, but we do have some directions and ideas that might be attractive to those coming to our Show.

The carriers that deliver packages have become pretty reliable these days. In the business that I am in, we experience almost no losses; and the damage to cartons is usually the result of poor packing rather than poor handling. We also can track the package from the point of departure to the destination with a high degree of accuracy.

In year's past I have volunteered to be the recipient of knives and packages as a service to the visitors that come to the Show. I am always nervous about this, as the burden of responsibility weighs heavily on me; and I really do not have a secure storage facility for items of value. So what to do?



Well the first thing was to find out which carriers could handle items such as those with which we are involved. There were several that provide tracking and will carry up to 150 pounds per package. They also require a signature at the point of receipt, and you can get a delivery confirmation if so requested. The carriers that I checked on were United Parcel Service (UPS), Federal Express (FedEx), Roadway Express (RPS), Airborne Express and the US Post Office. All of these have Internet web sites so detailed information can be had through these pages. More details as to your particular needs must be requested of the carrier of choice. Some of those might be round trip planning and also pick up and delivery details.

The real problem on our end was where to send these packages. A solution has been found. I frequent a firearm's store and shooting range here in Eugene called the **Baron's Den**. They have installed a bank vault on their premises for firearm's storage. The security here is the best you can find. The Oregon Knife Collectors has arranged with the Baron's Den to receive your packages. On arrival they will be stored in the vault until you claim them. The Baron's Den is also open on Sunday so you can deliver your return packages to them with delivery instructions. **The Baron's Den will serve as a safe house only; you must arrange packing and shipping the packages for return. This means you make the calls and other arrangements to have it returned. The return via our West 11<sup>th</sup> site on Monday may prove better.** We have arranged with the

Baron's Den so there will not be a charge for their services. You must mark your packages for OKCA and provide identification when you pick up your knives. Pretty neat I think. The Baron's Den has a web site. Check out the hours when they are open.

There were a few last year that wanted to ship USPS, but the Baron's Den does not have delivery directly with USPS (US Post Office); therefore any shipped USPS must be shipped to the address below. I will then hand deliver to the Baron's Den. All other carriers can be sent direct. Please mark your packages in some way so we will know that these are for the Knife Show. Just OKCA and your last name will work wonderfully.

So ship only the below directly to the Baron's Den (Not USPS).

United Parcel Service (UPS) - <http://www.ups.com>

Federal Express (FedEx) - <http://www.fedex.com>

Roadway Express (RPS) - <http://www.roadway.com>

Airborne Express - <http://www.airborne.com>

Ship USPS (Post Office) packages and anything else to the address below. Please advise to take to the Baron's Den. Catalogs and no value items will be stored elsewhere.

Oregon Knife Collectors Assn.

3003 West 11<sup>th</sup> PMB 172

Eugene OR 97402

US Post Office - <http://www.usps.com>

The Baron's Den - <http://www.thebaronsden.com>

86321 College View Rd Eugene Oregon 97405-9631 Phone: (541)744-6229

Oregon Knife Collectors - <http://www.oregonknifeclub.org>

