

THE SWISS BLADE

Victorinox® Swiss Army Knife Collectors Society Newsletter

JUNE 2022
SPRING
EDITION



Hello VSAKCS Members!

2022 is turning out to be a busy year for Swiss Army enthusiasts!

May began the 125th Anniversary celebration of the original production Officer's model Swiss Army knife. This model has evolved many times over the years into what is now known as the Spartan.

Like the 125th replica Soldier's knife that was released in 2009, a replica is now available, and this model is all about the presentation! A time-capsule style package comes buried in a box full of information. This special edition is limited to 9999 pieces world-wide, and retails at \$500.00 each for the USA market. Prices will vary by international region.

There is also talk about additional '125th' celebration items in works, of which we are excitedly waiting the reveal!



On behalf of Victorinox, and their new International Community Director, the following information comes directly to the fans of this multi-generation spanning iconic brand!

We want to especially thank our community that has accompanied us this long way. Over all these years our community has shown trust in our brand and built-up personal ties with the brand. As part of this campaign, we have therefore set up a website just for our community - I think it's great and we haven't had anything like this before!

With this website we want to show the power of the community and tell all those many beautiful stories that our community members have experienced with their SAKs - this page is the place where the community gets a voice!

We would like to request that you, and anyone in the

Victorinox fan network to please share a story with us!

A photo and a short text (maximum of 50,000 characters) can be uploaded via this link at the bottom of the page: <https://vx.ag/stories-from-fans>. Let's start collecting as many stories as possible!

(Important note: Unfortunately, people are not allowed in the photo uploads for data protection reasons. The site is globally accessible and since there are so many different regulations in different countries, we didn't want to limit ourselves to individual countries. By not allowing persons in the images, we could include all countries, which was more important for us. After all, it makes sense to present collections or special SAK models that you have certain memories with and use them to tell your own story.)

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In January we saw the launch of the Thunder Gray LE Alox lineup, the 8th color in the series. Although sadly for many we have not seen the return of the Pioneer or Cadet, I would encourage fans of this series to not give up hope just yet; you never know what the future might hold! Currently this lineup includes the following:

Classic SD - \$43.00 USD

Pioneer X - \$75.00 USD

Hunter Pro - \$130.00 USD

In April the Swiss Spirit 2022 made its debut, a cadet with an unusual deviation, produced with cellidor scales! Only once before have we seen this tool set available in cellidor, a special edition from 2007 known in the USA as the 'Cadet Rose Edition', or to the European market as the 'Officer's Knife - Rose Edition'. The 2022 Swiss Spirit depicts a collage of famous Swiss landmarks, printed in a black Haptic 3D embellishment. This piece really pops! This knife is limited to 12,000 world-wide and is still available at retail for \$52.00 USD.



At the beginning of May we saw the release of the Facebook group - 'Victorinox Swiss Army Knife Collectors' exclusive edition Blue Alox Harvester X, the very same model that VSAKCS introduced to the collecting world in 2020. Despite the group's overwhelming 14,500+ members, only 200 knives became available for purchase. To manage such a release, a lottery was established for existing members (those who joined prior to April 30th). Sign up began on May 1st, and ended the following weekend.

This offer was available for the international community, shipping & handling managed by our good friend Jan Schiesswald out of Austria.



Picture accredited to Mr. Erwin Macalalad, SAKC Group Admin.

Later that same weekend, Mr. Schiesswald held a live video reveal of another noteworthy offering. Exclusive to the Victorinox Freunde (Victorinox Friends) club, a unique design made its international debut! This limited-edition model is a simple design containing only a primary blade, pruning blade, and metal file/saw, the first such Alox design to contain this implement. Only 400 pieces will be available internationally.



Overwhelmed yet? This is only the beginning for what 2022 has in store!



VSAKCS members who read the December 2021 newsletter might recall the mention and great anticipation we experienced awaiting the arrival of our 30th Anniversary Freeport Knife Co. INC red Alox Solo. The Knife has arrived, and somehow, we still have a few left unclaimed! These won't last long.

Limited to 100 pieces (only 35 left in stock) – the engraving on the main blade reads as follows: 'Freeport Knife Co. INC' – 'Celebrating 30 years!' and our years of operation on the Alox engraving panel 1991-2021.



Price \$30.00 USD + Shipping & +5.5% ME state sales tax. Anyone can place an order either through VSAKCS.USA@gmail.com (utilizing PayPal) or USA residents can call the shop and order over the phone with a credit card at (207) 865-0779.

I'm not done yet... there's more!

The 2022 VSAKCS Special Edition Colorist Deluxe Tinker sold out faster than any previous release club knife on record. Believe it or not, some much smaller editions took months to sell out!

This was of great shock to us, we knew it was a cool design, but we had no anticipation for its overwhelming popularity. Of course we cannot reproduce a limited edition, but we can make alternations, and this one is specifically designed for those who missed out. In fact – if I personally turned you down on a 2021 VSAKCS order, then I already have one of these reserved under your name, you just need to reach out.



This 2nd edition is technically not a club knife. It will not include a certificate, does not have any special engravings or plaques, and does not come in a fancy box. The first of many planned ‘VSAKCS’ branded limited run ‘store exclusives’, like the beautiful designs we often see coming out of Smoky Mountain Knife Works, only on a smaller production scale.
 Super Tinker Colorist – Casco Bay Cutlery / Freeport Knife Co. INC. limited production store exclusive.
 Price \$54.99 USD + Shipping & +5.5% ME state sales tax (for USA residents).



Anyone can place an order either through VSAKCS.USA@gmail.com (utilizing PayPal) or USA residents can call the shop and order over the phone with a credit card @ #(207)865-0779.

Please note to all our overseas members, shipping during the pandemic has been very difficult and often stressful in finding appropriate and affordable methods. The United States Postal Service has revamped their First Class option, and all parcels destined to leave the USA now get processed through a new facility and come with a limited insurance option. This is still considered the slowest method of shipping, and for the time being we will not be offering it on high value parcels.

We again plan to continue our relationship with several distribution partners overseas. These folks have been wonderful in helping spread the enthusiasm and we look forward to continuously smoothing out the process, so everyone gets a fair chance at these fabulous tools!

The VSAKCS 2022 club knife order has been solidified, we hope to see it a bit earlier this year, and in a larger quantity (350)! Look for an end of season newsletter a bit earlier this year, and expect it to be longer than usual. There is still a lot left to cover for 2022 that I just can't reveal yet!

Have a great summer and stay safe!
 VSAKCS Director
 Jason Dillman