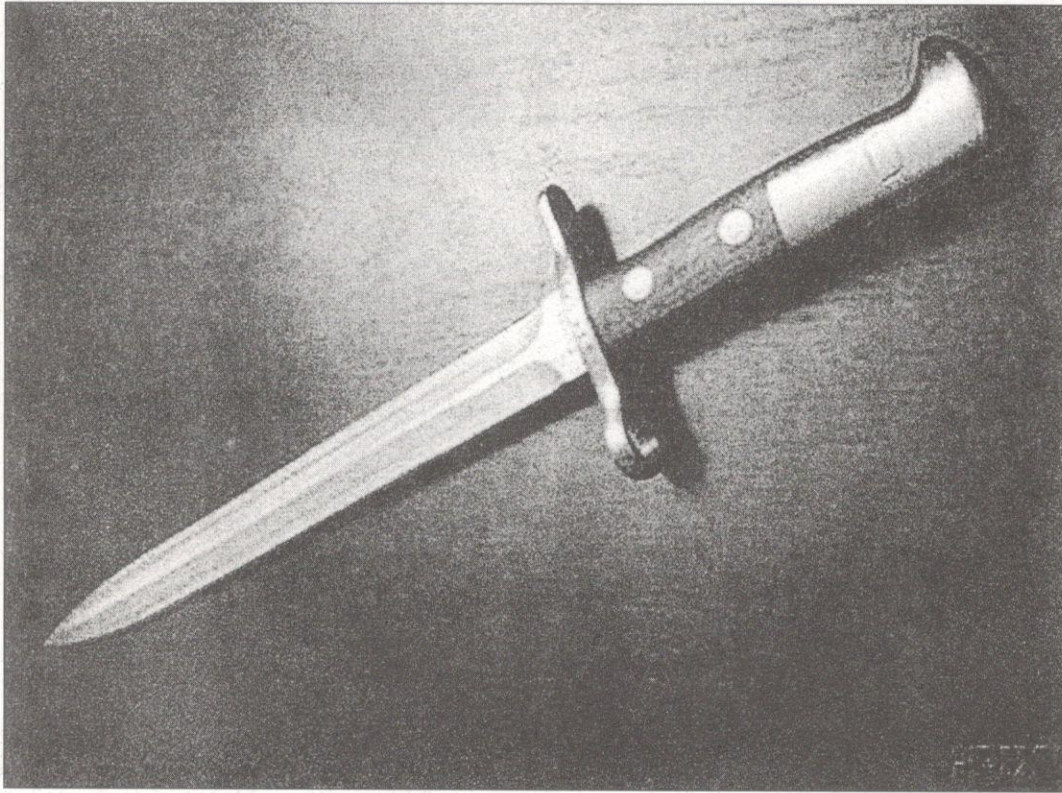


The Victorinox® Blade

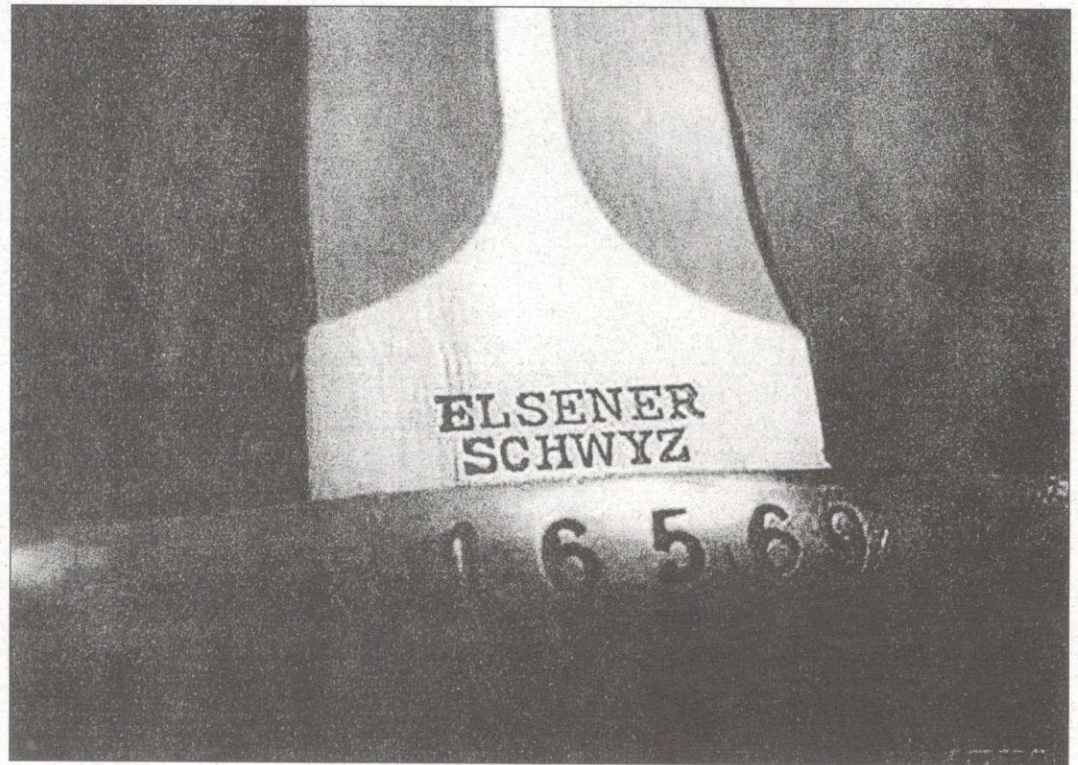
July 2002

Issue No. 12

Official Newsletter of the Victorinox® Swiss Army™ Knife Collectors Society



Model 1918 Bayonet
Issued with: Schmidt-Rubin Rifles
Model 1911 Carbine, K31

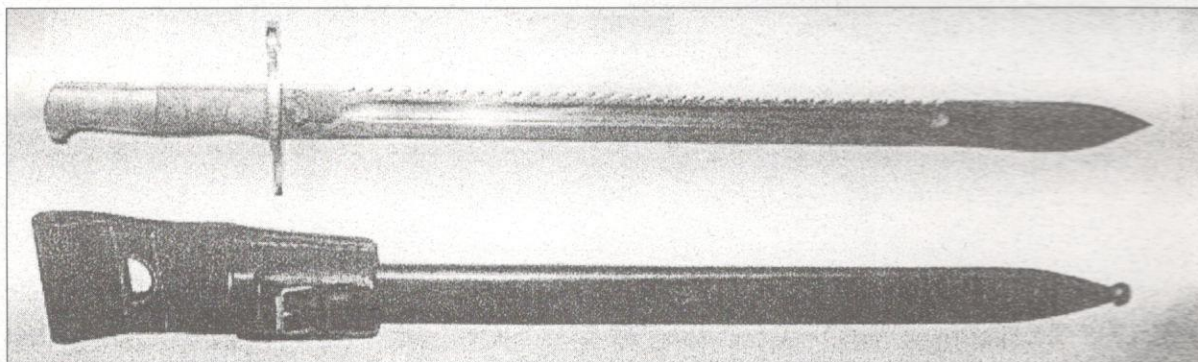


BAYONETS – a side of Victorinox® that is not too well known.

In this newsletter, I am touching on an area of “knives” that I am surely no expert on, but yet I believe it has a place in the collecting scene that deserves some mention. In an increasing amount, some of our members have been exposed to bayonets (and also daggers, which we will address at another time) that were produced by Elsener Schwyz/Victorinox®, and they are questioning if there is a source of pertinent information.

There does not seem to be much information available in English concerning Swiss bayonets. A book titled “Bayonets From Janzen’s Notebook” is a popular reference, but I am told it has numerous errors and is incomplete. Information found on the Internet refers to some more complete and accurate sources of data, see Ebayonets.com and BigLEE@SwissRifles.com and search their sub titles listings. There is a lot of information contained in them, and you will even have the opportunity to search out the serial numbers of your bayonets through a serial number survey offered.

Model 1914 Pioneer Bayonet - Often mistakenly referred to as 1911 Pioneer



Blade Length - 18.9" (480mm)

Handle Length - 4.9" (124mm)

Total Length - 24" (610mm)

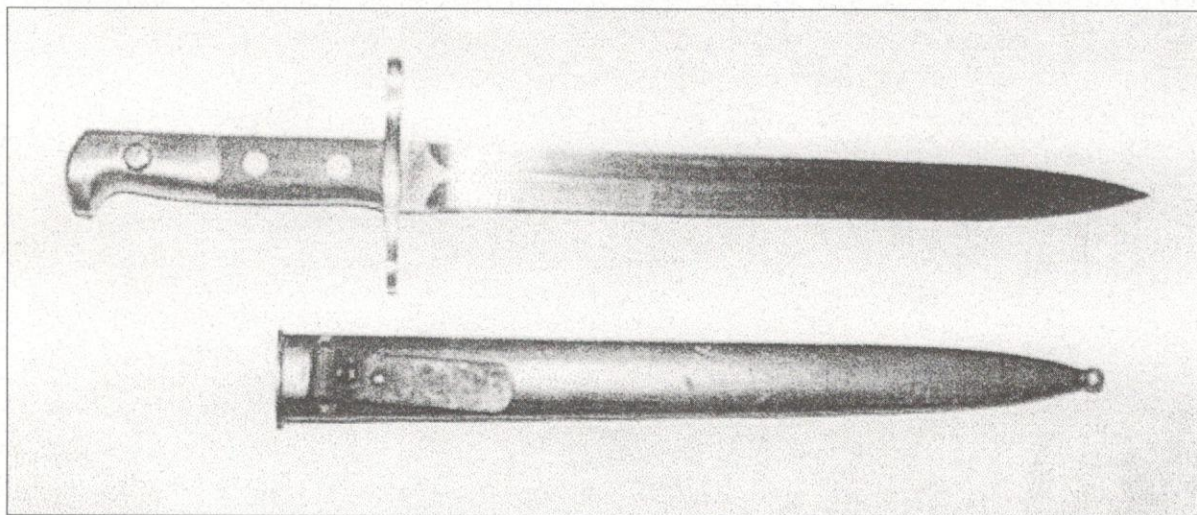
Muzzle Ring Diameter - .56" (14.2mm)

Issued with : Schmidt-Rubin Models 1911 Carbine, K31

Manufacturers: Elsener Schwyz, H.S., H.St., Waffenfabrik Neuhausen

Description: The Model 1914 differs from earlier sawtooth models with the addition of the bulge at the end of the blade. Also, the 1914 is fullered on only one side. A musician's variant also exists, where the handle groove is filled in.

Model 1918 Bayonet



Blade Length - 11.81" (300mm)

Handle Length - 5" (124mm)

Total Length - 17" (431mm)

Muzzle Ring Diameter - .56" (14mm)

Issued with : Schmidt-Rubin Models 1911 Carbine, K31

Manufacturer: Waffenfabrik Neuhausen, Elsener Schwyz (AKA Victorinox)

Description: The Model 1918 has a double-edged blade and lacks a fuller. A variant exists in the form of the Model 1918/55. The 1918/55 has a 1918 blade fitted on a 1914 handle.

A segment titled "Swiss Bayonets" deals with bayonets made from about 1863 to present, and even identifies manufacturers, where they are known. The survey mentioned previously contains a serial number, manufacturer, date chart that lists production dates from 1863 on to present.

A note regarding serial numbers – I have been told that the serial number assigned to a Swiss bayonet is typical to the rifle that it was issued with. So, it would be possible to have a rifle and a bayonet with matching serial numbers, if this is in fact true. The Internet lists mentioned previously will give you a clue to the rifle model for which a particular bayonet was issued, so – good luck and good hunting!

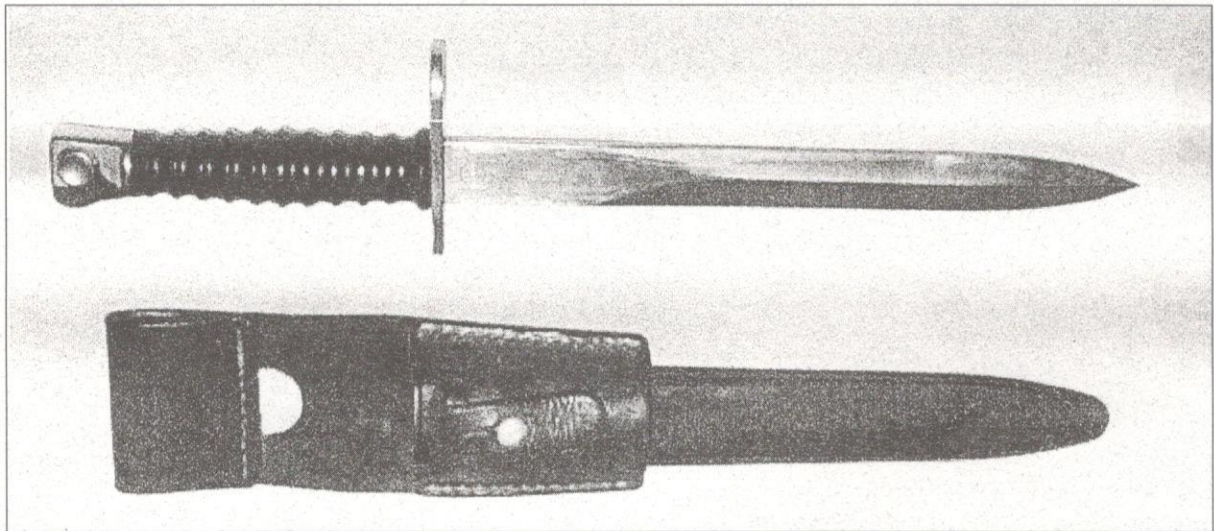
Back for a moment to my mention of "Janzen's Notebook", 1987, ISBN 0-9618173-0-5. Jerry Janzen was a Consulting Industrial Engineer who spent more than 15 years collecting bayonets. The collection of more than 1000 pieces was one of the largest in the United States, and included many examples not previously cataloged by anyone. They were the references used in publishing his book. He has since passed away, and I believe that his wife and a friend/fellow collector is now handling the publication and its

updates. The book contains a lot of useful information, and I know many collectors use it as a reference guide. As is the case with any reference book of this sort, remember that some of the information it contains may be incorrect and not up to date. I have seen copies of the 1987 edition, and it also contain a HUGE bibliography of reference books, magazine articles, and other materials on the subject. If interested, you might contact them at: Janzen's Notebook, P.O. Box 2863, Tulsa OK 74101, (918)299-7414, or Larry Johnson, (918)252-3106 johnsoncrp@aol.com.

The pictures used in this article are from the Internet sources mentioned, and may not be a complete history of the Elsener/Victorinox manufactured bayonets. It is only meant to show the variety of products which continue to be a part of their business.

Later Model Bayonets

Model 1957 Pattern Bayonet



Blade Length - 9.4" (239mm)

Handle Length - 4.88" (124mm)

Total Length - 14.6" (370mm)

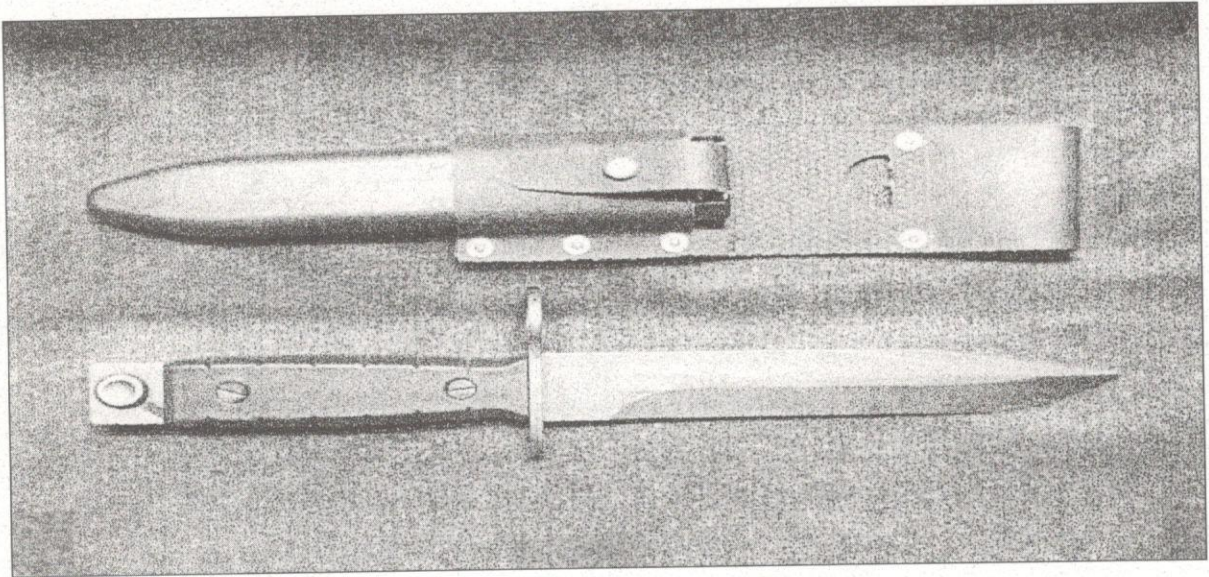
Muzzle Ring Diameter - .885" (22mm)

Issued with : Stgw.57

Manufacturer: Waffenfabrik Neuhausen, Wenger, Victorinox

Description: Model 1957 Bayonet's frog dispensed with the leather strap previously mounted on the scabbard. Instead, the frog had it's own strap to attach to the metal loop on the scabbard. The Model 1957 is double-edged and unfullered

Stg.90 Bayonet



Blade Length - 7.0" (177mm)
Handle Length - 4.88" (124mm)
Total Length - 12.2" (310mm)
Muzzle Ring Diameter - .885" (22mm)
Issued with : Stg.90
Manufacturer: Vicotrinnox, Wenger

This bayonet is issued with the Stg.90 Assault Rifle. The blade is single-edge, with the false edge not sharpened. Only one side of the blade is ground. The reverse side is flat. The frog is made from rubberized cloth. Unlike most of the previous models of bayonets, the Stg.90 bayonet is strictly utilitarian.

FROM THE PREZ

A lot of water continues to pass under the bridge. I am finding that as the club continues to grow, there is more and varied things that happen to take the monotony? out of things.

We recently signed up member number 100 – Welcome to Carter M. Roberts, who happens to be also our youngest member at age 5. (Both Dad and Grandpa are also members, along with a few other members of the Roberts clan.)

We also welcome a 15 year old member that comes from Belgrade Belgium, Bryan Job, and new members also Andi Tettamanti from Switzerland and Christina Goos from Germany. (Note mailing list additions.)

A recent happening in the Victorinox® camp, an International sales meeting, prompted us to publish our Club Mission Statement. The intent is to have our address and the statement added to Victorinox® distributor websites all over the world. Based on the

CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

VICTORINOX® SWISS ARMY™ KNIFE COLLECTORS SOCIETY

We, the members of the Victorinox® Swiss Army™ Knife Collectors Society are dedicated to fostering the interest in, and the knowledge and history of Victorinox® Swiss Army™ Brand knives. The club will encourage and support those who are interested in and collect this brand of knives, and will act as a clearinghouse for information and related activities in these activities.

The club will publish a quarterly newsletter. The club will offer to club members annually, a limited edition club knife. The club will make additional benefits available in the future.

Though being a collector is not a membership requirement, the club encourages all members to interact in seeking to buy, sell and trade knives and to exchange information about these knives with other members. The membership list will be made available upon request to members only.

We are actively seeking new members, and invite you to contact us as follows:

VICTORINOX SAKCS
P.O. Box 145
Cochrane, WI 54622-0145

or E-mail: tovsakcs@mwt.net



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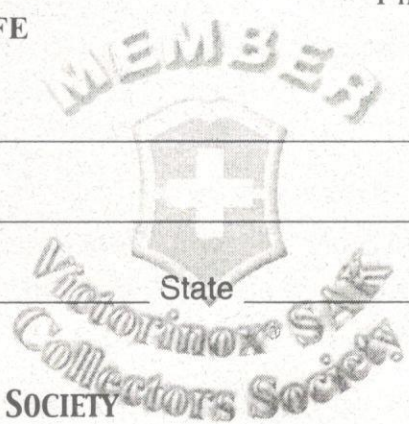
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