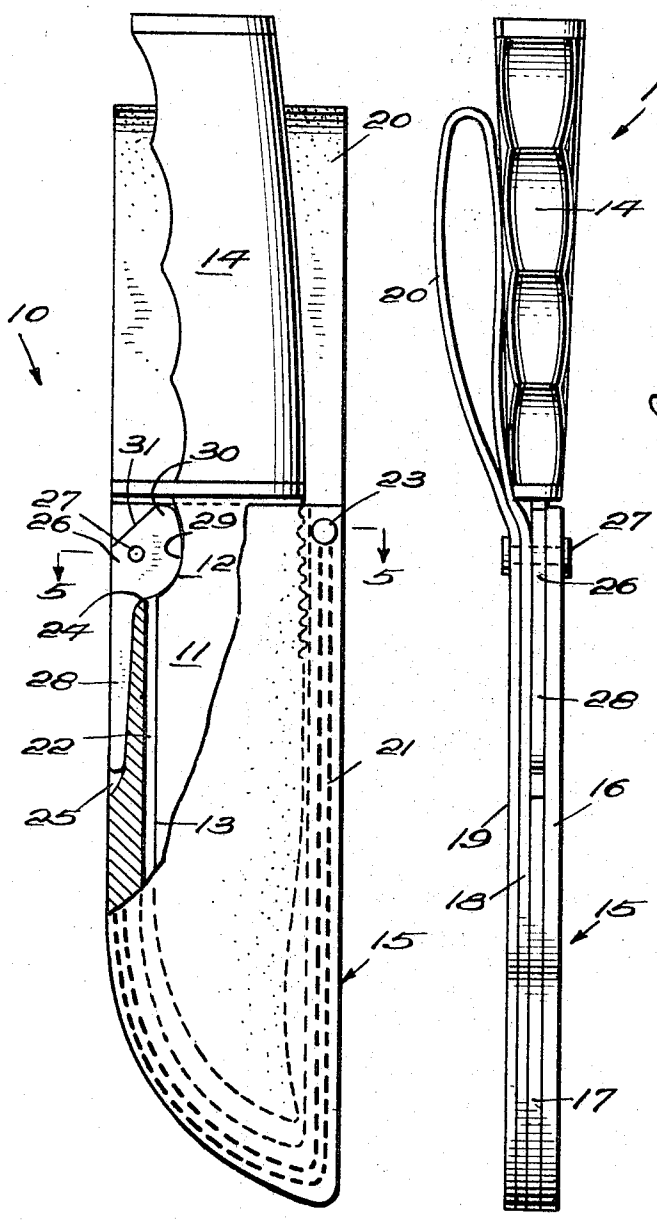
Aug. 18, 1970 M. W. SEGUINE 3,524,570

RETAINER FOR SHEATH KNIVES

Filed Sept. 4, 1968

Fig. 1. Fig. 2. Fig. 3.



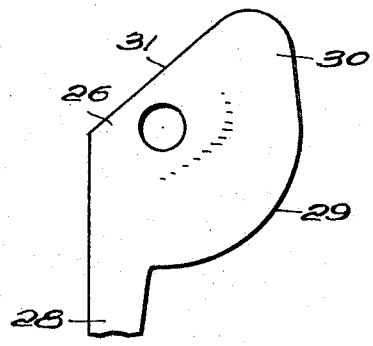
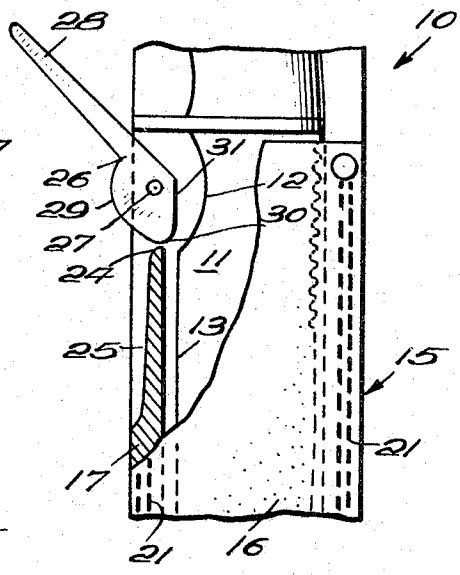


Fig. 4.



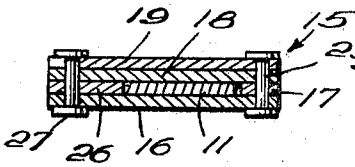


Fig. 5.

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RETAINER FOR SHEATH KNIVES

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U.S. Cl. 224—2 4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A retainer for a sheath knife which pivots to a locking position to secure the knife in the sheath and can be pivoted to a release position to permit the knife to be removed from the sheath.

Sheath knives of the type adapted to be attached to a belt for use by hunters, fishermen, trappers, and outdoorsmen generally oftentimes becomes dislodged from the sheath and are lost since, in conventional sheath knives, there is no means, other than gravity, to retain the knife within the sheath.

Prior art retainers for sheath knives require that both the knife and the sheath be modified and add considerably to the cost of the knife. Most of the known prior art retainers require a two-hand operation to hold the retainer in retracted position while the knife is withdrawn.

The present invention is directed to a retainer pivotally secured to the sheath and adapted to pivot into and out of locking engagement with a conventional semicircular opening in the cutting edge of the knife adjacent the handle of the knife. The retainer can be pivoted to released position where it will remain while the knife is removed from the sheath with the same hand that released the retainer.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a retainer for a sheath knife which is positive in its action and can be released and the knife withdrawn from the sheath with one hand.

Another object of the invention is to provide a retainer for sheath knives which is inexpensive to manufacture, simple to use, and which is completely effective in its retaining of the knife in the sheath.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side elevation of the invention shown partially broken away and in section for convenience of illustration;

FIG. 2 is an edge view of the invention;

FIG. 3 is a side view of the retainer removed from the sheath partially broken away for convenience of illustration;

FIG. 4 is a view similar to FIG. 1 with the retainer in unlocked position; and

FIG. 5 is a transverse section of the invention taken along line 5—5 of FIG. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the several figures the reference numeral **10** indicates generally a sheath knife constructed in accordance with the invention.

The sheath knife **10** includes a blade **11** of conventional shape and having a semicircular recess **12** formed in its

cutting edge **13** adjacent the handle **14** secured to one end of the blade **11**. While the recess **12** has been illustrated as formed in the cutting edge **13** of the blade **11**, it may also be formed in the back edge of the blade **11** when desired. A sheath generally indicated at **15** includes a leather front panel **16**, a leather pocket forming strip **17** having its outer edge coincident with the outer edge of the front panel **16**. A pair of superposed leather rear panels **18, 19** form the rear of the sheath **15** and extend upwardly beyond the front panel **16** to form an integral loop **20** for attachment of the sheath **15** to a belt on the wearer's body. The front panel **16**, strip **17**, and rear panels **18** and **19** are secured together by lines of stitching **21** to delineate a pocket **22** adapted to receive the blade **11**. A rivet **23** extends through the front panel **16**, strip **17**, and rear panels **18** and **19** at the open upper end of the pocket **22** to bind the sheath together.

Strip **17** terminates at **24** on the side of the knife opposite the rivet **23** and is cut away at **25** to form a recess, opening outwardly of the sheath **15**. A retainer **26** is positioned between the front panel **16** and the rear panel **18** and is pivotally secured thereto by a pivot pin rivet **27**, or other suitable fastener such as a bolt or screw, extending therethrough. Retainer **26** has an elongated handle **28** extending outwardly of the rivet **27** and adapted to lie in the recess **25** when the retainer **26** is in its locked position. The retainer **26** has an arcuate portion **29** which is concentric with the pivot rivet **27** and is further provided with a cam nose **30** which extends outwardly of the radius of the curved portion **29** for reasons to be assigned. The retainer **26** has a flat side **31** which is adapted to be swung into a position parallel to the line of withdrawal of the blade **11** from the sheath **15** and out of the path of the blade **11** completely. Surface friction of the surfaces of the retainer **26** and the adjacent surfaces of the panels **16** and **18** prevent the ready movement of the retainer **26**, and the cam nose **30** engages against the recess **12** in the blade **11** to also provide resistance to the pivoting of the retainer **26** from a locked position, as illustrated in FIG. 1, to unlocked position, as illustrated in FIG. 4.

In using the sheath knife **10**, the handle **28** is grasped with the fingers and moved to the position illustrated in FIG. 4 whereupon the hand is transferred to the handle **14**, and the knife blade **11** is withdrawn from the pocket **22** for conventional use of the knife. On returning the knife to the sheath **15**, the retainer **26** is positioned as illustrated in FIG. 4 until after the knife is completely within the sheath **15**, whereupon the retainer **26** is swung downwardly to the position illustrated in FIG. 1 with the blade **11** locked in the pocket **22** of the sheath **15**.

Having thus described the preferred embodiment of the invention it should be understood that numerous structural modifications and adaptations may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A sheath knife retainer comprising

a sheath, said sheath having a knife blade receiving pocket therein,

a knife blade adapted to be positioned in said sheath and having a semicircular recess formed in an edge thereof adjacent one end of said blade, and

a retainer pivotally secured to said sheath for rotating into said recess to lock said blade in said sheath,

said retainer being provided with an arcuate portion coaxially arranged with its pivot and having a cam nose integrally formed therein extending outwardly of said pivot a distance greater than the radius of curvature of said arcuate portion.

2. The structure as claimed in claim 1 wherein a pivot pin secures said sheath together and said retainer is pivotally mounted on said pivot pin.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said retainer has an elongated handle extending outwardly therefrom and said sheath has a recess to receive said handle with said retainer in locked position.

4. The structure as claimed in claim 3 wherein said retainer has a flat surface adapted to be swung into a released position with said flat surface parallel to and out of the line of the said edge of said blade.

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