Hello from PA
Posted by WalterMcVey - 15 Feb 2013 11:02

I tried posting this yesterday, to no avail. I placed my order for the ProI a couple of days ago, and I truly cannot wait for it to arrive. I got pretty good at sharpening knives freehand decades ago, but frankly I have not kept the art active. It took me a long time to achieve a really sharp edge. Additionally, variations in angle prohibited getting a truly sharpened edge, and I know it would take almost daily practice for years to master the art. I knew people who could do it, but I also know people who can play the trumpet well enough to perform at Carnegie Hall. I have played trumpet for 48 years, and I will never play at Carnegie Hall.

This tool will allow me to learn to sharpen knives at the "Carnegie Hall" level. I am so excited, I bought 5 more knives to add to my collection, and I intend to join the knife a month club for the next year (assuming that my wife does not cut off my fingers with one of my hair whittling edges before the year is out).

I have a question. Do people still place the Subway straw on the rods of the modified standard rods, or has the rod diameter been increased to 0.250" to remove some slop to the stones?

I look forward to working with this system, and I thank all of you for a great forum with very good information. I would also like to thank jdavis882 for all of his very informative videos on this system and his contributions to what is by almost all accounts an excellent system. Lastly, I would like to thank Clay and the rest of the WE family for being committed to providing an exceptional sharpening system. Now all I have to do is learn how to drive it.

Walt

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by leomitch - 15 Feb 2013 12:58

Hi Walter

Welcome to the forum and to the world of elite sharpening with the WEPS! I mean elite in the sense of the fine edges you will produce...none of us here are elitist, quite the opposite.

Yes I understand, I have played the clarinet for almost double the number of years you played with the trumpet and I too will never make it to Carnegie Hall, nor will people swoon at my great ad lib solos as they did with Artie Shaw! Sigh! However my knife edges produced with the WEPS are worthy of being called artistic in the sense that you cannot get much better than with this fine tool from Clay. The new

modified arms, if I am reading your question right, do not benefit from nor do they need the straw modification, they are just plain tight and accurate.

Glad to have you aboard mate! Don't hesitate to ask questions or to post your experiences. I look forward to hearing from you as time goes on.

All the very best

Leo

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by cbwx34 - 15 Feb 2013 17:11

Welcome to the forum!

Leo's right, the straws should no longer be needed.

What knives did you get?

Hasn't been mentioned in a while, but adding knives to the Knife Database can result in prizes !

Have fun!

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by WalterMcVey - 15 Feb 2013 17:36

MicroTech Socom Elite, Olive Drab

Kershaw Diskin Hunter

Kershaw Blur with cf and 154 cpm blade

Benchmade mini Griptillian

Got a cheap Chinese tactical fixed blade that I returned. I'm sure the WE could sharpen it, but the edge was a chisel grind, and very dull. No thanks.

I looked at the DB. Excellent resource.

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by Geocyclist - 15 Feb 2013 19:32

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Welcome to the forum.

Some very nice knives there. The cheap knives are great to start out with to practice on and also to break in your diamond stones.

The upgrade arms kits eliminates the need for straws, allows you to use more acute angles, has a secondary fine adjust screw to make it easy to dial the angle in to anything you want, and it's beefier. For me the upgrade is worth it, not just to remove the play in the arms but also for the ability to easily adjust the angle.

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by WalterMcVey - 15 Feb 2013 21:26

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I have plenty of old and some cheap knives to practice on and break in the stones. I am asking about the modified standard arms where mods have been made to take the play out, not the new design. Are the rods on these 0.250"?

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by PhilipPasteur - 15 Feb 2013 21:50

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Welcome Walter.

I noticed that you asked about the standard arms that I believe still come with the Pro Pack 1, and everybody seemed to be replying about the upgraded ball joint arms. I too am interested to know if the stndard arms have any increase on the OD of the rods. I am pretty sure that, at one point, Clay said something that indicated they were the same as they always have been.

If this is the case, the properly fitting straws could make a slight improvement for you.

Phil

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by WalterMcVey - 16 Feb 2013 04:49

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Thanks Phil, that is exactly what I am asking. Thanks for the information.

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by mark76 - 16 Feb 2013 16:46

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I just compared the old and the new arms. The new arms are slightly thicker. I very much doubt they will even fit the straws.

[Edit: Didn't properly read your post. The old arms are slight thicker than the new PP II arms. I don't know what arms are shipped with the current PP I, but Phil could be right. That said, I found the Subway straws a nuisance on the old arms, definitely not an aid.]

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Re: Hello from PA
Posted by mark76 - 16 Feb 2013 16:47

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Welcome Walther, by the way. I managed to miss this thread for a couple of days.

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