

1 Gear for Today's "Civilization" 21

ger lever down with your right forefinger in order to start the blade opening. As the blade rises toward the perpendicular, that finger lever has now vanished within the body of the knife's handle and it is a perfectly natural movement for the thumb to catch the thumb stud and to push the blade to the fully open position.

This knife and cellular phone case combination is built to last. A thorough examination of the unit shows just how well it is made. The knife body is solidly riveted to a heavy ballistic nylon pad with full coverage hook material. The pad is snapped securely to the body of the holster, the body side fitted with loop. The sides of the holster are elastic gusseted and the holster closes with a hook and loop flap. When worn, the unit looks like half the cellular telephone holsters or pouches you see. The unit seems totally innocuous. When I first examined one of the units, my phone was one of several of various makes, shapes and sizes that was tried in the unit and each and every one of the phones fit and was securely cased. The sewing work is even nice. No one would ever be the wiser that the phone holster's belt clip is actually a knife.

You're probably not going to take your cellular phone holster off your belt in order to cut some string, however. For everyday knife chores, you need a good lockblade folder you can clip into your pocket. An excellent example of such a knife is a Dozier Trapper pattern folder from A.G. Russell (www.agrusell.com). It's more the conventional heavy duty folder, not designed for clandestine carry. It's called a "Tab Lock" and features a stronger version of the traditional liner lock. According to the knife's description on the A.G. Russell website, "In the years it has taken us to find a factory that would produce the knife to our specifications, Bob (Dozier) has improved the lock design and we have applied for a patent. This is a lock that stops on a flat line tab, able to stand up to the battering to which we knife nuts subject our knives. You get less wear, a solid lock-up and smooth action without blade movement when open."

The Dozier Tab Lock Trapper features a modified drop point blade of German D2, Rockwelling at 60-61, blade length 3-3/4", overall length about 8-1/2". Nicely textured G-10 handle scales

are over the stainless steel liners. The five-ounce knife features a deep-riding pocket clip, which is not moveable. It's a good knife. Honestly, I've never seen A.G. Russell offer an item for sale that wasn't all that it should be and more.

With winter nearly upon us as I write this, carrying concealed weapons is generally easier for most of us. When it's been cold enough – only a few days, so far – I've been wearing a jacket that I really like. From Woolrich (www.woolrichelite-tactical.com), it's the Elite Discreet Carry Twill Jacket. There's a story behind this jacket, namely that the non-concealed carry version of this jacket was and is very popular. It's based on the Dorrington and is hip length. The cuffs, like the waistband, are adjustable

and the "sleeves are insulated with diamond-quilted 60-gram Arctic insulation." There is an accessory tunnel that allows law-enforcement personnel to hide flex cuffs and the like or accommodate wires for electronic gear. This tunnel is concealed by a locker loop at the back of the collar. Interior and exterior pockets, some of which are fitted with elastic, allow a wide range of options for what you carry and how you conceal it. The front pockets are hand warmers, but, of course, can accommodate gear. The lining of the jacket is a sheepskin-like polyester and the jacket is "garment-washed," so it has a pre-broken-in feel to it.

I am usually not a big fan of specialized clothing for concealed carry, but I must say that my experiences with Woolrich's outerwear that is designed for accommodating weapons as well as everyday comfort has been well beyond anything I would have expected. What was pointed out to me once in discussing Woolrich Elite Tactical clothing with a friend was that Woolrich brings to tactical clothing all of the experience and design savvy it has accrued over the years in making clothing not designed for concealed carry, but designed for comfortable, everyday use under a variety of conditions.

Try this Elite Discreet Carry Twill Jacket and, even if you are not carrying a gun, you'll really find that it's a winner.

Be sure to visit Jerry on the web at www.jerryahern.com or look for him on Facebook at "The Survivalist" Page or the Official Jerry Ahern Fan Page.



The A.G. Russell Dozier Tab Lock Trapper is a large folder with a 3-3/4" modified drop point blade of German D2 at 60-61 Rc.

**A.G. Russell Photo.*



Jerry wearing the Woolrich Elite Discreet Carry Twill Jacket, a great jacket and excellent for hiding weapons and gear.