Knotty Professor Newsletter

Spring 2026

Upcoming Shows

March 28-29
St. Augustine

April 11-12
Santa Fe College



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Knottyprofessor.com
and on Facebook

Website upgrades coming soon!

No Aches, No Pains, No Ailments, Just Pens…



I first started making styluses because I know that there are many of us with fat fingers. I then added click stylus pens and two kinds of inertia stylus pens. The hardware for these is no longer available, so I have moved on to two kinds of twist stylus pens along with a bolt-action pen that comes with an optional stylus top. I've also added dragon pens (inspired by a little-known TV show), and more recently, horse pens and rifle bolt pens. I'm trying to resist, but I feel myself being dragged closer to the rabbit hole of pen-making. One company that sells pen hardware boasts that they have hundreds of different kits. Even if I'm very selective, I suspect that, in the not-too-distant future, I will be one of the many occupants of that hole.

And Pens…

Before my first Fall show last November, I thought to myself that I'd like to sell about 20 pens at the show. The Fates (The Parcae, The Hemsut, The Deives Valdytojos, Divine Entities, Cosmic Forces…) listen, and interpret your words literally. After selling a number of pens on the first day, I had to comment that I meant I'd like to sell 20 pens, **in addition to other items!** At that show, I sold 16 pens (the most I have ever sold in a single show), one wine stopper and one small cutting board. At the next show, one week later, I again sold 16 pens, but a few larger items sold as well.

And Pens…



Speaking of rabbit holes, I happened to be browsing one of the pen catalogs and saw a new item the company had just introduced to commemorate the 250th year of the Republic. They call it the `We The People' pen, and it features the year of independence on the top, the words `We The People' engraved on the cap, a replica of the Betsy Ross Flag as the clip, and the full Preamble to the U.S. Constitution engraved around the tip. I fell in love with this immediately (rabbit hole!) and have made a few to offer for sale during the celebration of America's 250th Birthday.



And Finally, Not Pens!

Over the years, a number of people have asked me if I make humidors. I haven't made any, but I came across these recently and decided that I would give them a try. They are single-cigar humidors and making them is very much like making… pens. I am planning to make a full humidor over the summer.