



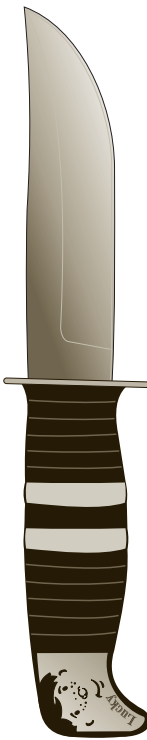
# BUCKAROO NEWS

Spring 2012

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## TRAVELS WITH A KNIFE NAMED LUCKY

By BCCI Member Russ Donoghue



The chilling last episode with Lucky left Frank and his injured dad under their wagon which had turned over in a ditch alongside the road. Frank was ok, even though he was tangled up in the mule reins and harness. But, his dad was hurting bad and asking his son for help to get the bunk of 2 x 4's off his chest. The automobile that had spooked the mule team stopped further down the road and the driver quickly got out and ran back to the over turned wagon.

After Frank finally got Lucky from underneath him they began cutting the reins so Frank could then crawl over to his dad. Lucky had very little problem cutting through the leather. A couple of times Frank had to make two attempts to make a cut. Frank was able to work himself free. As he did, he gave Lucky a fling toward his dad so he could crawl easier. His dad looked at him with a grim face as Frank touched his cheek. He was having trouble catching his breath. Frank picked up Lucky and then stood up. He found a rock just big enough to hold in one hand. He put Lucky's sharp edge on one band of wire that held the 2 x 4's together. He gave the hard working knife a hit with the rock. Lucky kind of yelled with a high pitched sound. Then, there was a second bang with the rock. Lucky just closed his eyes and pressed forward. The wire broke and went zing. Frank then hit the second wire. Lucky knew what was coming this time and cut right through the wire. The 2 x 4's broke free and kind of fell all over the ground. His dad had to turn his head to protect his eyes. By this time the man who owned the auto had reached them and helped Frank get his dad free of boards and other freight. His dad couldn't talk and was in pain. Frank broke out in tears. He said, "Can you stay with my dad while I go to the Strong's house for help?"

Frank ran and ran, stumbled and arrived at the house exhausted. He opened the front door and yelled, "Help!" Bernice Strong ran to him from the kitchen. "What's happened", she asked. By this time Frank was crying and tried to talk, "I turn....., we wrecked. Dad is hurt real bad down by the curve at the top of the hill. Bernice shouted to her husband, "Phil, come quick." While Phil and Frank got in the Strong's car to go to the accident, Bernice called the doctor in Wentzville.

Frank, Phil and the man at the scene worked hard to move Frank's dad very carefully up the hillside to Phil's car. By this time two other neighbors arrived. They told Frank to go with his dad and they would start to clean up the wreck. Frank said, "My knife is down on the ground by that big rock. Will you get it for me?" "Sure", said one of the men. As the stranger reached down in the dust to pick up Lucky, the knife was hurting and worried. The dusty blade thought, "What just happened? Where is Frank? Who are you?"

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## A ONE KNIFE DILEMMA

By BCCI Life Member Brent Schindewolf

I was just asked to tell about the Buck Knife I carry. Wait a minute! How can I talk about just one knife? The knife I carry depends on what I'm doing, what I'm wearing, or where I'm going. So, I'd like to tell you about the Buck Knives I carry.

As a guy who jumps on a tractor to mow fields, lift objects, or scoop all kinds of different stuff, I wouldn't step out the door without my trusty 360 Buck Tool. I've been carrying it on my belt since 1996 (let's see, how many years would that be?) By the time a typical day out on the farm is over, that Buck tool might have:

- Snipped bailing wire
- Cut Rope (love that serrated blade)
- Whittled a stick
- Turned a bolt
- Or, tightened a screw (Phillips or slotted)

Once I even carried it with me to a Southern Missouri knife store and had it autographed by Mr. Chuck Buck himself. He put an '02 beside his name to let me know what year it was signed. Raise your hand if that was the year you were born – Buckaroo.

*Continued on page 3...*

## AH YES, TO FEEL GOOD

There are many people in life who make us feel good with their actions or kind words. Other aspects of our lives are also heartwarming like a special pet, the beautiful mountains, deep blue oceans, large rivers, clear streams, or perhaps a morning sunrise or sunset.

Also adding to our personal enjoyment with life each day are certain special things (stuff) we each have that are important to us like toys, a new rifle, fishing pole, books, a car, bicycle or motorcycle. For those who like collecting Buck Knives, there are also “special” – one-of-a-kind models that can come into our lives that just fill us with joy and make us feel good. Sometimes we will receive them as gifts, or we may ask a skilled and talented person to create a beauty just for us. There are several Buck Collector Club Members who also use their talents to make knives, re-handle them and do other creative work for others to enjoy.



Two of those talented people that have been with the Club for many years and who use to work for Buck Knives in their Factory are Leroy Remer and Wilde Bill Cody.



Several years ago Leroy took a regular 701 Buck Bronco with standard Birch handles and re-handled the knife for me. We agreed what materials would be used to create a new look - Elk handles with guitar wood trim. I indicated to him that I wanted the knife to be my everyday carry model rather than a collectible knife resting on a shelf. So, the two pictures above show the standard issue, as well as Leroy's creation that sure made me feel good. I not only love the knife, but I admire and respect the talent of a knife guy who came into my life because of the Buck Collectors Club.

Wilde Bill Cody is a very creative friend of the Buck Collector Club Members. He has a very unique ability to create unusual and eye appealing knife treatments such as the Buck knife shown in the picture at right. Bill created it for me by once again taking the standard 701 Bronco issue as shown above and breaking it down. He removed the main clip blade and put it in another Buck Knife frame. As you can see, his final product is different than Leroy's. I use this knife as a collectible and don't carry it. Note that the rear bolster has been removed. Thus, the model is referred to as “bare headed” with Elk and turquoise in the handles. The eagle feather is a creation of Bill's that requires a steady hand, a keen eye and patience to produce.



So, if you want to broaden your love of Buck Knives and have something created just for you that will make you feel good, consider having a talented person make you a special knife to carry, or one to sit near your bed at night to help comfort you as you dream about the future.

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### Hello Youth Members

**BCCI President John Foresman [buckcustom@aol.com](mailto:buckcustom@aol.com)**

I hope that everyone has enjoyed the Buckaroo Newsletter. A lot of thought has gone into presenting you with a quality newsletter that contains something of interest for every age group. Quite a few of you will be turning 18 this year. Although that signals the end of your youth membership in the Buck Collectors Club, I sincerely hope that it doesn't signal the end of your affiliation with our Club.

It would be an honor to the leadership of your Club if you were to join us as a Voting Member of the Buck Collectors Club. I encourage you to join others in the Club with a heartfelt desire for you to enjoy a lifetime of collecting Buck Knives.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with any concerns, questions or ideas. The following Youth Members will be turning 18 in 2012. Good luck in the future:

Jared Ray – NC, John Fox – TX, Sarah Martin – NM, Nicholas Ochoa – CA, Aubrie Dollinger – CA, Anthony Lombardi – NC, Nathen Richard – VA, Robert Jones – TX, Brandon McGlothlin – VA, Lewis Mason – NY, Tyler Shelton – CA, Hayden Shelton – CA, Christopher Hartman – VA, Benjamin Stadler – FL, Frank Martin – GA, Andrew Sampino – CT, Dewayne Hunt – NC



## Some Knives Are Too Small – Too Large Craig Heflebower – Life Member

Someone asked me, “If you were talking to a group of young folks, what knives would you tell them to use to clean and prepare game?” Whoa, what a question! That covers a lot of ground. I would say my first reaction is that some are too small and some are too large. You sort of fit the knife to the job.

I have a photo of my hunting buddy gutting a cow elk with a 303 Stockman. Lots of guys would think a 119 or one of the other 100 series would be needed. But nope, not if you know what you are doing. That same person asked me if I used a “bird knife” to clean several types of fowl. The 321 bird knife is a specialized game cleaning knife, or so they have always said. That is what the curved gut hook is supposed to be for. A lot of gut hook knives were made in the past (especially in England) for gentlemen to use to remove the ‘entrails’ of game birds and fish. I have tried hard to use and understand one, but have given up in favor of a regular pocket knife on the order of a series 700 or 300. I have attached a photo of me in the process of cleaning some trout. A small single blade or multi-blade is all that is needed in my mind. I guess I’m just not cut out to be an English gentleman because I prefer to just use my fingers in place of a gut hook.

Other game cleaning tasks call for a knife you feel has a good edge, one that you feel you can control and one that will be large or small enough to do a good job on the size of the quarry. I would not use a bush craft knife like a Hoodlum to purposely clean game, even deer and elk size. Those knives are sized to be a one knife does all knife. I usually carry a couple of knives when hunting and

don’t expect to have to use just one knife to hack my way through the brush, whittle shavings to start a campfire and remove a splinter from my thumb. For deer to elk size game a 301 Stockman, or one of the 500 series would be fine to do the initial opening of the belly to begin dressing the animal. Even the newer Vantage series would work well as would the Ergo Hunter series. Later, I would use my small saw to cut thru the pelvis and other bones and then some curved blade skinner to remove the hide. The old 103 Skinner over its history has taken the hide off countless buck deer. I also like Vanguard series for this job, and the new 113 fixed blade looks like it could do an excellent job.

Those are only a few of the excellent knives Buck makes to prepare game for your table. But, don’t forget the fisherman angle also. Buck has always made several long bladed fillet knives. You will find some new versions called the Silver Creek series. The rubber handles let you keep a good grip on the knife even if your hands get wet and slimy.

As you can read, I try and fit the game knife to the size of the animal. In a pinch you can clean a big animal with a small knife, it’s just more difficult than if you had one the correct size and blade shape. Maybe I will try that 321 gut hook again and see if any Gentleman genes are in my DNA!!!!



### *A One Knife Dilemma continued...*

Another knife that has become very important to me is the 060 BKS Buck/Hood Hoodlum survival knife. Ever since I met the late Ron Hood I have been fascinated with his survival DVD’s and articles in Survival Quarterly magazines. I was very sad when I learned that he had passed away. Ron’s legacy lives on through his wife Karen, and son, Jesse.....and through the line of knife models that are being made by Buck. You need to wait a few years before you use a Hoodlum or the new Punk but look at those pictures and read about them – it’ll give you something to look forward to when you’re older.



Now when it comes to actual “pocket knives”, I still have that problem of tailoring my carry to what I’m doing, where I’m going, and what I’m wearing. If I’m going to church, I like to carry my Sunday-go-to-meeting knife, a 525 LB Statue of Liberty acrylic knife with “Spirit of America” on the back. For a deep down in the pocket bottom kind of choice, I always carry one of my two 425 Mini Bucks, one with red handle, the other with black. Those Mini Bucks are just about the best overall knife you can have for box opening, string cutting and pencil sharpening....unless you’re a died in the wool 300 kind of guy like Craig H. who might be pulling out a Lancer or Cadet, or Companion.

That would have been the end to my “favorite knife to carry” dilemma if it wasn’t for a new model Buck has brought out in the last couple of years. Its name starts with a “V” and has 7 letters. You can choose from “Select”, “Avid”, or “Pro”. Some of the models #s begin with a “3”, and some begin with an “8”. To the first Youth Member who comes to the “Handle Guys” display at the Shenandoah Knife Show this March with a parent or grandparent and says “three-four-zero” while standing on one foot, and whispering that V word, a very special knife will be available. Sorry Hanna, we’ll give someone else a chance on this one. In the meantime, just let me add that those of us who carry V\_\_\_\_\_ are in very good company, considering it’s also carried by most of the BCCI officers and by Mr. Buck himself.



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## YOUR KNIFE CLUB'S BIRTHDAY BY RUSS DONOGHUE – LIFE MEMBER

Just like people - clubs, organizations and events also celebrate birthdays. My wife is working on her High School Class Reunion Party – July 2012. The Class members will celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> birthday. We just saw Super Bowl number 46 – Giants vs. Patriots. So, next year the game will celebrate number 47, which means the first Super Bowl game was played in 1966. Your Club – Buck Collectors Club will be 24 years old this year, and of course next year will be cause to celebrate at a special birthday party – number 25, or a quarter of a Century. How did such a club start? Who started it?

The Club began to surface as an American organization, 20 years before it was even formed. How can that be, you might ask? Well, let's take a look back.

A man who was working for Buck Knives as a Sales Rep. in California – Vern Taylor - decided in 1968, that he should start collecting some of the knives he was selling. This simple decision set the course for the future formation of the Club in 1988. Vern gave a reason for his new found interest in collecting Buck models when he stated:

“My personal interest started in 1968, when I first noticed the stamp had changed”. Note: (he was referring to the Buck stamp that is on the blade tang of each knife). “The three letters U.S.A. had been added below the familiar Buck on the tang. I had been collecting percussion Colts for many years and I knew that this change might be of interest in another twenty or thirty years, so I put away a complete set (11 knives) with the old mark.”

So, our Club that we all know and enjoy today started in 1988 and its very roots can be traced back to three letters so important to this American knife company – **U.S.A.** In 2013, Club Members will gather at the Buck Factory in Post Falls, Idaho to celebrate a birthday. Hey, when you're eating supper with your family some evening, put your fork down and ask, “So, Mom and Dad, are you going to the Buck Collectors Club 25<sup>th</sup> birthday party next year?”

