



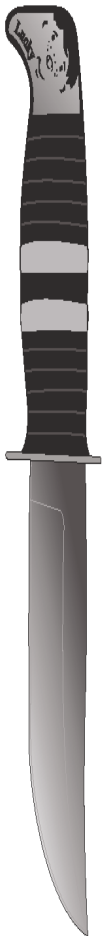
BUCKAROO NEWS

Spring, 2010—Issue 1

Lucky's

Travels & Adventures

Russ Donoghue, BCCI



*Watch for more of
"Lucky" in future issues of
the Buckaroo News*

Many years ago—108 to be exact I was a lonely piece of metal living in a drawer with other metal files. I remember it was 1902 in a Leavenworth, Kansas blacksmith shop and I felt like I would never get out of the drawer to do what I was trained to do—sharpen farm tools like hoes, shears, and pruning knives. I slept most of the time with a tear.

I was actually born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1898, and came west to Leavenworth in a wagon with other tools and things. My new owner—father, was going to set up a new blacksmith shop to help the farmers make and repair their farm equipment. I was excited to be traveling with my friends. The wooden box I was in had a crack between the boards and I could see the countryside as we bumped along. I didn't sleep the whole trip, or complain about the time in the wagon.

For four years, I worked hard to help my blacksmith father be a friend of the farmers. Sometimes the work was hot and noisy. In the winter it was always nice to be laid on a big piece of steel called an anvil near the stove to just rest and enjoy the quiet. Most of the time, workers used hammers to hit all types of steel. They used the hammers in a constant beat, much like the beat in a song. One day, a little boy came in the shop

with his dad and he asked the blacksmith, "Why are you called a blacksmith?" The large man with the strong hands answered the boy, "Well, son, you see we spend much of our time here making tools and things for farms and homes out of metal. Most of the metal we use is black in color. Here, watch me hit this piece of steel with my hammer. Years ago that was called 'smitting', which means to hit hard. That word was changed to smith and now we are called blacksmiths.

The little boy listened to every word and looked up at his dad and said, "Wow dad, I want to be a blacksmith when I grow up". As I rested on a shelf nearby, I was glad that I was helping people in Leavenworth.

As the months went by and I became an older metal file, my ability to do hard work each day sharpening tools came to an end. That happens to files, so I wasn't alone. I thought in that drawer in 1902 that my life was over. Then one day in the spring of 1902, a 13 year old boy opened the drawer and his strong, warm hands reached for me and took me out of the drawer with a couple of other files. A man nearby said "Hoyt, what are you doing. Those files are used up." The boy with warm hands, Hoyt Buck, replied, "Oh I'm thinking of trying to make knives out of them". I thought wow, maybe my Lucky day has arrived.



Knife Skills and Safety

Larry Oden, BCCI Vice President

When is a young person ready to carry and handle a knife? May I suggest that there is no certain age that should be attained before this responsibility is awarded? Rather, the youth should exhibit maturity to safely handle a knife and should demonstrate by his or her actions that he or she understands that a knife is not a toy but it is a most useful tool.

While some adults prefer “pocketknives” of the slip-joint variety I would highly recommend a lock-back blade type for young people due to their inherent safety feature. It seems wise for one to become familiar with handling a knife without the additional concern of a blade accidentally closing on the fingers. Further, the young person should be able to demonstrate that they can easily operate the locking mechanism without undue strain or force. If the lock is difficult to operate, select a different model that works smoothly and requires no undue force.

Until the youth has demonstrated the ability to safely handle a lock-back knife, I do not recommend a liner-lock type mechanism. The inherent danger of placing the thumb across the blade is too great.

Proper Opening and Closing of Your Knife

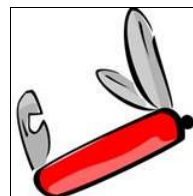
To Open—Hold the knife in your left hand. Place the right thumbnail into the nail nick and pinch the blade between the thumbnail and index finger. Pull the blade out, continuing to hold the handle firmly until the blade snaps into open position. If the knife has no nail nick, just pinch each side of the blade between your thumb and index finger.

Lock—blade—Be sure to depress the lock far enough to release the lock before attempting to close the knife.

To Close—Hold the handle with your left hand, fingers safely on the sides. Push against the blade with the fingers of the right hand, swinging the handle up to meet the blade. Let the blade snap shut.

Proper Use of Your Knife

1. Always cut away from yourself.
2. Never hammer on your blade, use it as a screwdriver or pry with it.
3. When using your knife, insist that other people remain a safe distance away.
4. Never walk or run with the knife blade exposed.
5. Never play with your knife. It is a tool and NOT a toy..



Proper Care of Your Knife

1. Keep your knife clean and dry. Wipe it down after use or whenever it gets damp.
2. Do not leave your knife lying on the ground.
3. Keep your knife sharp. Avoid cutting things that will dull, chip, or break the blade.
4. Never apply heat to the knife. Keep it away from campfires. Extreme heat will take the temper out of the blade, causing it to soften.
5. Never throw your knife. This is very dangerous and you will most likely break the blade and/or damage the knife frame or handle.
6. Occasionally lubricate the pivot joint with light oil. *Caution! Do not “over oil”.* To insure a safe grip, wipe the handle clean and dry after applying oil.

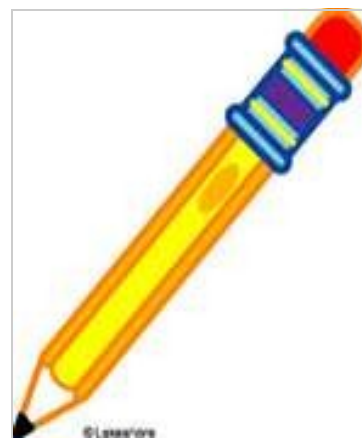
Buckaroo Word Search

Vicky Burns, Life Member

Good Luck Finding All The Words

G		R	A	L	O	H	C	S
	N					A		T
	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	I
P		M	B	L	A	D	E	C
A		P		M	A	L	T	K
P		U		V	I	E		K
E		L	Y		D	L	T	N
R		S		A	E	H	C	I
S	H	E	C	T	G	A	A	F
T	A	L	C	I	M	N	M	E
O	T	H	L	P	E	A	P	R
N	N	O	I	P	T	N	A	E
E	C	N	R	A	R	S	X	R
E	G	A	F	R	O	R	E	I
R	H	P	O	N	Y	A	W	F
S	H	S	L	Q	U	E	B	K
G	I	E	D	G	E	H	E	C
T	K	P	I	A	D	S	A	I
J	I	G	N	K	Q	Y	R	U
R	N	N	G	G	G	Y	G	Q
S	G	I	S	N	H	I	N	Y
E	G	R	A	I	N	L	E	N
S	E	T	W	T	D	I	T	O
R	P	S	F	N	N	T	E	B
O	R	T	R	U	A	U	N	L
H	N	U	B	H	P	W	O	E
W	K	C	U	B	I	N	I	M
O	W	H	N	L	R	S	H	A
L	E	S	M	I	D	G	E	N
L	T	T	E	K	C	O	R	C
E	A	Y	O	M	W	U	E	A
Y	R	E	D	P	O	I	N	T

Blade	Cadet
Camp Axe	Camping
Climbing	Colt
Crockett	Cut string
Davy	Ecolight
Edge	Etch
Fishing	Folding Saw
Gent	Grain
Handle	Hiking
Hunting	Impulse
Metro	MiniBuck
Mountain	One Ten
Nobleman	Paperstone
Pony	Quickfire
Redpoint	Scholar
Sharpen	Smidgen
Stick Knife	Tang
Utility Shears	Yellowhorse



Grab On To Collectibles That Count

By Marjorie Donoghue, Life Member

I remember when I was young that it was important to collect something so that you had shopping to do wherever you went,. Finding and buying a new piece to add to that collection on the shelves in your room was sometimes as entertaining as the trip itself. Stuffed animals, frogs,



and armadillos were at the top of the list with me and my friends, At the time, it was important and fun.

However, I also remember after I left home to go to college, that my mother threw all of these ‘collection’ items away. She felt that they were worthless and had no sentimental value because I did not box them all up and take them with me. She was probably wrong on both counts; but, nevertheless, they were gone on my first visit home, never to be seen again.

Even at a very young age, with the help of your parents, grandparents, or friends, it is possible to take an interest in collecting items that are not only fun, but that can be a significant investment for the future. It is important, however, to find someone who is as enthusiastic about your collection as you are. It is important to have a collection that will not be thrown in the trash for lack of love and work, whether evident or not.

A collection of **Buck Knives** can be just the ticket Not only can it be fun and interesting; but, if done right, can have some significant investment value in the years to come.

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Let’s talk about this a little:

- Do you like knives?
- Do you like big knives or little knives?
- Do you like fancy knives or simple knives?
- Do you have access to resources such as the internet or books to read about knives?
- Do you have someone close to help you with this type of project ?

I’ll bet you can answer yes to all of the above questions, or you would not be reading the new **Buck Youth Newsletter**.

One of the best places to start is by looking at the **Buck Knife** catalog that you should have access to if you are a member of the Club. If you don’t have one, find one to borrow.. Depending upon your age, you might want to collect Buck Knives that feature dogs, horses, fish, deer, elk, or something significant like flags, historic places, or events. You would be amazed at the variety of knives that have been produced by **Buck** over the years. The important thing is to pick a model or type that can be studied, collected, and create excitement and interest as you progress. By doing that, the value of your collection will be much more significant in the future.

Make sure that you catalog each knife that you purchase by noting the date it was purchased, and the price that you paid at the time. With the help of another collector, you can even find out how to note the year that it was made by reading the symbol on the tang of the knife, if it was made after 1986. If it was made prior to 1986, it takes a little more research to determine the exact year.

Getting excited about the research for the exact type of knife that is of interest to you is the purpose of the **Buck Youth Membership**, and the **Buck Youth Newsletter**. Read about knives, and attend knife shows when possible. Talk with knowledgeable **Buck** collectors, study their exhibits and see which knives appeal to you. Grab on to their enthusiasm .

My collectibles today do not include stuffed animals, frogs, or armadillos, but rather carved wooden birds from all over the world, and small replicas of light houses that I have visited. It has taken me years to work on those two collections. And, now, I am adding to those, my small **Buck** collection of 55’s and other assorted models, a couple of which have been made for me by special friends. Get on board

Grab On To Collectibles That Count!

The ABC's of Talkin' Knife Handles

By Brent Schindewolf, Life Member

When it comes to **HANDLES**, Buck knives has just about used up the alphabet naming them. Would you believe that there have been close to 150 different combinations of names used to describe the handles of Buck knives over the years. From Abalone to Zytel there's only three letters of the alphabet that are not the first letter of a material used: "U", "X", and "Y".

Someone might try to claim that the Yellow Kraton fish file next to the purple in their display qualifies as

a "Y". We should agree right now that both file knives would be listed under "K" for Kraton with a comma, then the color. The same would be true of Rosewood, Brazilian; Rosewood Indian; Rosewood, Mexican...Same material, different country. That's **Ground Rule #1 for HANDLE Talk**.



Another rule we'll throw in here for free is that we're talkin' catalog names not Custom-Types. If you know experts like Wilde Bill

Cody, Leroy Remer, David or Brian Yellowhorse, or other Custom Knife makers, you could come up with just about any material under the sun.

So, continuing with this CATALOG research, we can only find one "N" entry Nickel Silver, one "V" for Valox, a single "Z" for Zytel, and just two "Q" handle names,: Quartz and Quince.

Now, for **Rule #3**: the fellow writing this article doesn't have all the answers! What if my research wasn't compete? What if there really are handle materials on a Buck catalog knife whose name does, in fact, begin with "Y" or "U" or "X"? I challenge our highly intelligent Youth readers to do some searching of their own. Ask a collector you trust to work with you to discover more about the fascinating world of handle materials. By the way, the reason I know I'm dealing with "highly intelligent" Youth is simple—you've chosen Buck Knives to collect—a smart choice.

In the coming months, we'll explore other interesting facts about knife handles and discover details that will help us grow as collectors.



Until next time, this is the **HANDLE Guy** signing off with the words that sit on top of my knife display...**How do you HANDLE a Buck knife...very carefully, beautifully, with an eye toward function.**



The Following is a Letter the BCCI Received from a Boy Scout Leader.....

Thanks tons to Mr. Larry Oden of the Buck Collector's Club for contributing his time and wonderful knowledge to our Telco Scouts Chapter.

Telco Scouts aims to raise well-rounded, godly young men into Christian maturity through the hands-on influence of loving fathers and mentors. And as far as our chapter is concerned, a boy is not truly well-rounded until he knows how to sharpen his Buck knife!

Larry's presentation was fantastic. First he presented a terrific start-to-finish overview of the heat treating process used by Buck. In doing so, he taught an important life application by comparing the heat treating process to the various trials a man may face through life. In essence, he conveyed that like a fine tool, a man may consider a trial in life as a refining and tempering opportunity that will allow him to be effective and worthy of service. Though a man may feel pressured when he "faces the heat", he will in the end be bettered if he keeps his character in check. Good stuff!

Blade Steel

As an experienced knife maker, you will have many types of steel to choose from depending on what type of knife you are making. The world of steel is changing rapidly. But, beginning knife makers usually start with carbon steel; AISA number 01,w2 and saw blade steel which is L6. A lot of "first knives" are made of saw-blades, files, and leaf springs from cars. You have little or not money invested in these, so mistakes along the way won't bankrupt you. I feel the best way to get started is to research by finding out if there are local knife makers that can answer questions and possibly allow you in their shop. Also contact suppliers for a catalog and do not be afraid to ask questions. Knife makers are a great group of individuals.

Eddy Birdwell, Life Member

Afterward, the boys and their fathers took their places around a couple of work stations. Larry presented a primer on the use of an Arkansas stone and the Lansky sharpening system. Fathers and sons alike were taken in by the demo. More than one dad learned proper sharpening skills for the first time, and all the boys will now know these skills for life.

There is a sort of indefinable pleasure in regard to a properly sharpened knife. Likewise, there is that subtle yet very present frustration when one's blade is starting to dull from extended use. How delightful it was to see one boy's Model 110 honed to perfect satisfaction, another boy's Vanguard back in business for yet another skinning, and so on. But perhaps the person most appreciative was the mother of the hosting party who later discovered, much to her delight that it was her terribly dull yet favorite paring knife that Larry had sharpened during his initial demo!

The day was capped with a presentation on the history and mission of the Buck Collector's Club. How interesting and worthwhile it was to see some of the organization's efforts in various print and media. A packet was also provided to each of the boys, complete with really cool BCCI hat pins, a newsletter, and a new MiniBuck!

Thanks again to Larry, who drove more than just a country mile to Northern Michigan to make his presentation. Of course, thanks also to Buck Knives for providing our young men with products they can be proud to own. But thanks mostly to the Buck Collector's Club for providing a means for our young men to advance their skills and interests. We are indeed proud to be members!

Warm Regards,

Kenneth Knott

Telco Scouts President/Founder

Pellston, Michigan

Terms & Definitions for Collectors of Buck Knives

By Larry Oden

Backspring Tension bar on a pocket knife that keeps pressure on an open blade and requires a small amount of intentional force to close. See Slip joint

Bolster On a folding knife, the metal (usually brass, nickel, silver, or stainless steel) tip at one or both ends of the handle

Crescent nail nick Grooved, curved notch cut on folding knife blade to facilitate opening of the blade via thumbnail or fingernail. See long pull

Escutcheon Medallion or shield inset in handle of a knife. See shield

Guard A widened handle or handle attachment where the blade meets the handle that provides protection to prevent hand from sliding off handle onto sharp edge of blade.

Lanyard hole Hole in pommel or bolster to facilitate a cord or rope. Originally used by sailors to prevent loss of dropped knife.

Long pull (Also known as French pull) straight groove to enable a pocketknife blade to be securely pinched between a thumb nail and finger to assist opening the blade

Master blade Generally the largest blade on a multiple bladed knife. Usually is the “stamped” or marked blade.

Nail nick Curved slot in the blade to facilitate opening; also see crescent nail nick

Shield insert in handle inlay for medallion logo, decoration, name, etc. Also see escutcheon

Slipjoint Traditional pocket knife with no means of locking blade(s). Open blade is held in place via pressure from the backspring but it can be overcome with a bit of pressure applied to the blade spine.

Tang The projecting blade portion on a fixed blade knife that fits into the handle; on a folding knife, the portion of the blade that is drilled to allow the blade to pivot open from and closed into the handle.

****Welcome****

Hello Youth Club Members! I am very pleased that we now have a newsletter just for our youth! It is our goal to make your new newsletter not only fun and exciting, but we also want you to learn as much as possible about knives and how to safely use them. We welcome and encourage you to send us

your thoughts and ideas or questions about Buck Knives. You are important to our club and we will value your input! After all, you are the future of the 'Buck Collectors Club'. You may one day play a leadership role in your club.

Be safe,

John Foresman, Lifetime Member