



BUCKAROO NEWS

Fall 2012

Travels With a Knife Named Lucky

“Lucky – Alone in His Sheath” By Russ Donoghue

The early morning sun coming through the window woke Lucky up. He blinked his eyes and looked around the large room. It wasn't a strange room, but it wasn't his. He still worried about his owner Frank and where he was. Had he just been left along the dusty road to rust and fade away? He thought they were close friends.

The room had a nice fireplace and lots of places to sit. He would sit for hours and even days on a shelf next to the big Grandfather clock listening to Phil and Bernice Strong talk. He did learn from them that Frank was somewhere in New Orleans and would be coming home on Christmas to see his mother. Did that mean that he would see Frank too? He sure hoped so.

Even though Phil took him out of his sheath once a month to check on him, he spent the rest of his time in his sheath alone. Once a year, Phil would rub Lucky's blade with warm oil that didn't smell very good. He wasn't sure why. Maybe it was so he would look nice for Christmas Day.

At first it was hard for Lucky to be alone. He wanted to be with Frank on hunting and fishing trips. He also liked helping him at the hardware store. But then he learned to be happy with his own thoughts and dreams. His mind would try hard to be with Frank on the river. He found that by being alone with himself and thinking and dreaming, the days didn't seem so long.

The fall in Missouri had been very wet and cool. Phil always had on a rain coat when he came home. One evening Lucky's skin started to burn and itch. It felt like he had been wearing a wool coat and pants. His face started to turn a red color. The evening before Thanksgiving Day Phil took him out of his sheath. He looked at Lucky and said, “Dang old bud, this wet weather has made you rust a bit. Let's see if we can fix you up. Don't worry. We caught it in time.” He took Lucky to the big white wheel where he started to touch him lightly to the stone. He said, “You are going to be ok. Did you know that after 2 years Frank is coming back to see you?” Lucky tried to smile, but his skin was on fire. After the wheel work, Phil then put a nice smooth gel all over his blade and handle. Phil's gentle hands made Lucky smile. He felt better.

REMEMBER – THE WRITTEN WORD

Remember the writing contest that was offered to you by Life Member Heath Stone in the June issues of the Club and Buckaroo Newsletters? If not, you might go to the Club Web Site and find each Newsletter and discover the great offer that has been made by Heath. The writing contest lasts for four issues. Submit an article or articles about a Buck Knife by the following publication deadlines – August 15 – November 15 – February 15 – April 15. You will need to discover the rest of the rules yourself through your research in the past Newsletters.

WHAT MAKES THE BEST SHEATH?

The answer to this question is hidden somewhere in this article. What do you say we have another one of those contests that'll put a fantastic Buck Knife in the pocket of one of our youth members? I know it's a long time 'til the Shenandoah Valley Knife Show but I think there's a BCCI Youth out there with a good memory (and good "scramble" skills)... Besides, I'll ask Brother Rusty to put a reminder in a future "Buckaroo" Newsletter prior to the end of March, 2013. So here's what you have to do to win: Find me (The Handle Guy) in front of our Gen 5 display in Virginia and tell me the exact answer to "What Makes the BEST Sheath?" After you tell me, turn around once, clockwise, and hand me a piece of paper with that same exact answer written down. All words must be spelled correctly and the sentence must be properly punctuated. So what do you get if you are the first official BCCI Youth to do this? For a ridiculously small amount of cash (\$10) you may choose one Buck folding knife from among three (3) I will be holding in my hand. I guarantee you'll want all three!...but you can only "buy" one.

Well, we can't have a contest if we don't have an article, so we had better get started on our second look at Buck sheaths.

LEATHER is the most common and most traditional material used for sheaths. You can be sure that those early Buck Knives sent out by Hoyt and Al were in a hand-made leather sheath. The early production knives had a special quality about them, too. When you opened one of those pale yellow boxes you could tell by the rich aroma that quality was inside. The sight of a 102 Woodsman or a stair-step cousin and the smell of that leather let you know you had chosen the best! Since the early days, there have been many types and many names for the leather used for sheaths. Look in the various catalogs descriptions as: Harness, English Bridle, Wet Molded and Hand Tooled. A variety of too.... there's brown, black, tan, maroon, and collector in your family name a sheath with attached to the word "leather"? Hint: Years ago, ordered for almost any Buck Knife. Its name you as you walk east early in the morning on a Foresman keeps one on his belt at all shows. It if you knew this. Of course, if you really someone with your knowledge of sheaths, Grandmother-who grew up in Germany-might



and you'll see such Saddle, Distressed, colors can be found burgundy. Can any a different name this type could be is like what is behind sunny day. President would be impressive wanted to impress you'd say what my have said,

"het steb hehats si het hatesh taht scemo twih royu ratifove enkfi"

Now that we've covered leather, let's talk about those other materials used by Buck to wrap around their knives.

CORDURA and CORDURA PLUS were suitable for such knives as the original Zipper, the V52 Selector, and one type of Mentor.

KYDEX went hand in hand with the Strider fixed blade models like the 888 Solution and that 890 SPX spearpoint. Mean looking knives in a tough case.

PLASTIC – often referred to as "high impact" or "injection – molded" tended to be around knives that might get wet or muddy – like fishing or diving ones. The Buck / Phrobis III M-9 Bayonet, on the other hand, came with a high – impact style so specialized that the sheath itself had a **WARNING!** And **DANGER!** Tag on it. Can you find out what exactly the danger is? Look carefully at the picture to discover the **DANGER!**



NYLON is used for sheaths almost as much as leather – maybe more in some years. As a matter of fact, if you look in the 2012 Buck catalog, just about every sheath that isn't leather is made of “heavy – duty nylon”. Over the years there have been some very popular knife models put inside nylon sheaths. Almost all the CrossLocks came



YES! That's a 539 SAWBY

with that material – except the ones with CLIPS. There are quite a few other models that have a clip instead of a sheath. You might say that clip is the “other” sheath. The wide variety of Vantage Series knives all come “clipped”. Back to Nylon once again. Did you know that at least one old collectible came with a BLUE Nylon sheath. Early versions of this fishy fixed blade came with a sheath that was not only blue, its belt loop swiveled. Our modern day tactical and survival knives all rely on the tough and functional “Heavy Duty Nylon” to make them even more usable to their owners. It's amazing how much thought has gone into the design of ones that come with such knives as the Bravo, CSAR – T, Nighthawks, and Hoodlum. AND they are all M.O.L.L.E. compatible! Now what in the world does that mean?



M.O.L.L.E. Compatible
Modular Lightweight Load - Carrying Equipment

I suppose its time to draw this sheath discussion to a close...but it just wouldn't be complete without mentioning the REVOLUTION. This BLADE Show Knife of the Year, had a very unique “sheath”! In its advertisements it claimed that “ITS HANDLE WAS ITS SHEATH”. If you get a chance to open one, you'll know why.

Hope to see you in Virginia.
The Handle (and Sheath) Guy



Revolution's Handle / Sheath



BLADE Magazine Award



Buck Collector's Club
110 New Kent Drive
Goode, VA 24556

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
San Bruno, CA
Permit No. 655

The Buck That Changed Everything

Hello my name is Heath Stone. I am a long time Buck knife user and collector. My Dad is a very special person to me, he's the one who got me interested in Buck Knives. He always took the time to take me hunting and fishing. One of the most important lessons he taught me was to buy quality products and you will only have to buy them once. That is unless you get "Buck fever" like my Dad and I and you cannot stop buying them. My Dad carried a Buck 112 Ranger and I always admired it. When I was 11 years old he allowed me to purchase my first Buck so like my Dad I chose the 112. I have skinned many deer and used my 112 for almost anything you can imagine. I am very thankful that my Dad took the time to make a difference in my life and for teaching me about Buck Knives. I encourage each of you to make a difference in someone's life and share the Buck experience with them.

Heath Stone

Stone
Knifeworks

