

The Buffalo by the Horns

ZAC BUCHANAN FOLLOWS
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS
KNIFEMAKING DAD

Zac Buchanan said he has made knives since 2008—he figures he has made about 50 so far—and is full time. He also does his own leatherwork. (Point Seven photo)

Zac Buchanan
Oregon, USA

SPEC CHECK

Knife: Loveless-style boot
Maker: Zac Buchanan
Blade Steel: CPM-154 stainless
Blade Length: 4.75"
Blade Grind: Double
Handle Material:
Exterior cape buffalo horn
Overall Length: 9.5"
Maker's List Price: \$550

Zac Buchanan fashions knives that are obviously a chip off the old block of his father's, award-winning maker Thad Buchanan. Much like the "ol' man," Zac also likes challenges—and the handle of his repro of a Loveless-style boot knife illustrates the point.

Zac opted for the bumpy, rough exterior of cape buffalo horn instead of the smoother interior of the material for which most makers opt. "[Knifemaker] Mitch Jenkins used the [exterior] material and that inspired me to do the same," the 27-year-old Buchanan said. He added that the outer surface of the horn is hard to finish—so much so the handle bolt on the right handle slab is partially raised. "Most don't seem to mind the raised bolt, though one or two who saw it at the BLADE Show weren't too crazy about it," he noted.

In addition to sporting the unusual handle material, it is also the first double-ground knife Zac made, and also the initial knife he had professionally photographed. In our humble opinion, such "Zac firsts" overshadow any raised-bolt issues.

For more information contact Zac Buchanan at 541-815-6706 zacbuchanan-knives@gmail.com. At press time, Zac said his new Website—zacbuchananknives.com—should be up and running by early November.

To read similar stories and the latest knife news, forums, blogs and much more, see <http://knifeshowcase.blademag.com>.

BLADE



7 Hawk Haft Is Micarta In Tier 1 Cerakote Finish

Canvas Micarta with a Tier 1 Cerakote™ finish comprises the haft of Dave Wenger's Beohawk W.C. The 3-inch blade is 80CrV2 carbon steel. Overall length: 14.5 inches.

Contact Dave Wenger, Dept. BL6, 2656 Perry St., Hudsonville, MI 49426 616-366-1401 dave@wengerblades.com, wengerblades.com.

8 Firecraft Features Two Tools For Fire Starting

A Jason Tietz design, the Firecraft from White River Knife & Tool features an integral stainless steel bow drill divot and a ferro rod striker notch on the spine, both to assist in fire starting. The 7-inch blade is CPM S30V stainless and the handle is Micarta.

Contact White River Knife & Tool, attn: John Cammenga, Sr., Dept. BL6, 130 Mason Dr., Coopersville, MI 49404 616-997-0026 john@thewhiteriver.com, whiteriverknives.com.

9 1095 Blade With Hamon Completes Camp/Hunter

A 6.5-inch blade of 1095 carbon steel with a hamon, desert ironwood handle and nickel-silver guard and bolsters complete Clarence DeYong's camp/hunter. Overall length: 12 inches.

Contact Clarence DeYong, Dept. BL6, 8716 Camelot Trace, Sturtevant, WI 53177 630-465-6761 clarence.sparex@gmail.com, deyongknives.com.

10 Guide to Knives Features More Than 400 Models

The Shooter's Bible Guide to Knives 2nd Edition by Roger Eckstine features pictures and descriptions of over 400 knives, including detailed specs and prices, buying and collecting tips, knife anatomies, legal knowledge, accessories and sharpeners, and more.

Contact SkyHorse Publishing, Dept. BL6, 307 West 36th St., 11th Floor, New York, NY 10018 212-643-6816 skyhorse-publishing.com.

11 Utility/Fighter In W2 Tool Steel And Osage Orange

Pat Biggin outfits his utility/fighter in a convex-ground blade of forged W2 tool steel, an aluminum guard and a handle of osage orange. The knife includes a leather belt sheath.

Contact Pat Biggin, Dept. BL6, 1084 Saratoga Ln., Lake Geneva, WI 53147 608-391-0324 biggincustomknives@gmail.com.

12 Buchanan Fighter Pays Homage To Bob Loveless

Zac Buchanan's fighter in the Bob Loveless style includes a wavy blade grind line, an ancient ivory handle with pins engraved by Joe Mason and a double guard.

Contact Zac Buchanan, Dept. BL6, 168 Chapel Dr., Eugene, OR 97404 541-815-6706.

BLADE



MAKER: Zac Buchanan
MODEL: Oregon Hunter
TYPE: Fixed
BLADE LENGTH: 4 inches
OVERALL LENGTH: 8 1/2 inches
HANDLE MATERIAL: Amber sambar stag
PRICE: \$600
WEB: www.ZacBuchananKnives.com

Zac Buchanan
Eugene, OR

Artistry In Knives



Gail Linn, 411 E. R. 122, Mountain Home, MO 62651
www.linnknives.com Point Seven photo



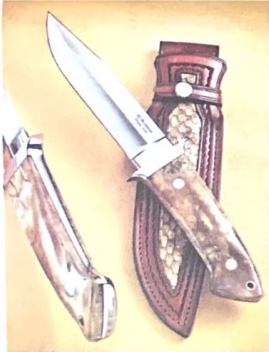
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E.R. (Russ) Andrews, PO Box 7732, Sugar Creek, MO 64054
www.russandrewsknives.com SharpByCoop photo



Zac Buchanan, 315 NW Perennial Way, Prineville, OR 97754
www.zacbuchananknives.com SharpByCoop photo



Johs Muller, 3159 S. 225th Road, Goodson, MO 65663
www.mullerforge.com SharpByCoop photo



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PH 394-727-8312 SharpByCoop photo



Wayne Hensley, PO Box 904, Conyers, GA 30012
PH 770-482-8938 Point Seven photo

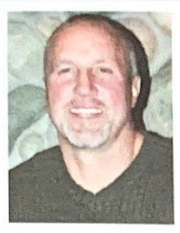


Jim & Joyce Minnick, 141 North 7th St., Middletown, IN 47356
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KNIFEMAKER SHOWCASE |

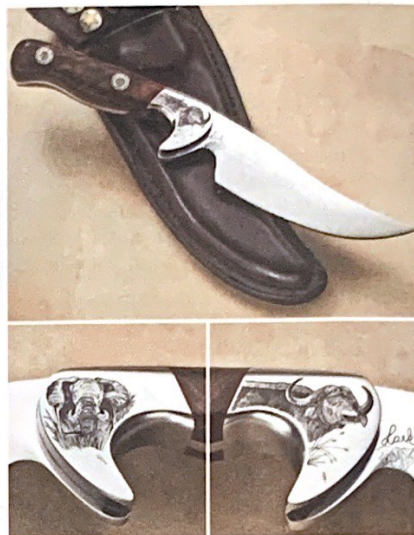


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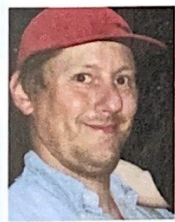
DAVID LARK

David Lark builds knives and custom rifles, engraves his own work and that of others, and is a partner in a machining business. "I was teaching gunsmith machining at Trinidad State Junior College [Colorado] when one of my students, George Beaudoin, a knifemaker, showed me how to make my first fixed-blade hunting knife," Lark relates. "I make custom rifles and wanted a knife to go along with each rifle. My mother instilled the love of art in me. When I was a young boy, she would spend many hours with me drawing and painting. She was a very good, creative artist." Lark, who grew up hunting, spends time hiking and hunting in Michigan and in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. "I have always questioned, 'Who doesn't like a knife?' It's just like when man broke his first rock and realized it had an edge, and by using that edge, it made his life easier," Lark reasons. "I think a love of knives is ingrained in me. I like the feeling of accomplishment when I start with raw materials and end up with a knife that has become a part of me." The ATS-34 fixed-blade hunter (right) showcases an engraved 416 stainless steel guard in a water-buffalo and elephant motif, a black-walnut handle, engraved pins and a leather sheath. Lark's list price: \$4,200. Contact David Lark, Dept. BL5, 6641 Schneider Rd., Kingsley, MI 49649 231-342-1076 dblark58@yahoo.com, www.larkengraving.com. (SharpByCoop.com photo)



ZAC BUCHANAN

Son of knifemaker Thad Buchanan, Zac Buchanan says it was Oct. 1, 2008, that he began to help his dad full time in the knife shop. "I instantly fell in love with the artistic nature and functional aspects of knifemaking, and my major influence is obviously my father, who walked me through everything step by step for four years," he allows. "I owe him all I know about knives." Zac says his favorite part of knifemaking is attaching the handle and seeing the personality of the knife start to show. He also admits that just talking to other knifemakers puts a smile on his face. The drop-point hunter (left) sports a 3.5-inch Devin Thomas damascus blade, a brass guard, and a three-piece cape-buffalo-horn handle. Buchanan's list price for a similar piece: \$800. Contact Zac Buchanan, Dept. BL5, 168 Chapel Dr., Eugene, OR 97404 541-815-6706 zacbuchananknives@gmail.com, www.zacbuchananknives.com. (SharpByCoop.com photo)



JUSTIN CARNECCHIA

Living in the mountains of northern Idaho, Justin Carnecchia says it is difficult to travel to hammer-ins and knife shows. He's never even met another knifemaker! As a chef, it was his work that led him to bladesmithing. "I was looking for a new knife when I came across a website with Japanese knives, and I was blown away," he notes. "Eventually I landed on another website that showed how to make a forge from a grill, and forge a knife from an old file. I built a propane forge and started wrecking all the old files I could find in the garage." His bowie (right) features a 10.75-inch W2 tool steel blade with a temper line, a heat-blued-damascus guard and spacer, and a mesquite-burl handle. Carnecchia's list price: \$850. Contact Justin Carnecchia, Dept. BL5, 538 E. Wrenco Rd., Sandpoint, ID 83864 208-263-9425 wrencoforge@hotmail.com, www.wrencoforge.com.

