



FEATURE STORIES

Union Sportsmen's Alliance Strengthens Ties with Producer of American Made Knives

BUCK® KNIVES



Chuck Buck, Chairman of Buck Knives, and International President Kinsey Robinson tour the Buck manufacturing plant in Post Falls, Idaho, after discussing the working relationship between the firm and the Union Sportsmen's Alliance.

ued at \$29.95, with their \$25 USA membership. Buck Knives has worked closely with individual unions and the Union Sportsmen's Alliance to offer their members significant discounts on quality knives made in the United States. President Robinson said that "it is important that our members who enjoy the outdoors with their families, those who fish, hunt, backpack, etcetera, know that they can purchase a superbly made knife that is also made in the United States by American workers." Aside from creating top-quality products, this is what distinguishes Buck Knives from other knife companies. "The *Made in the USA* stamp makes a critical difference to union members," said President Robinson.

Buck Knives has a long history of producing knives made in America by skilled craftsmen and women. The first Buck knife was made in 1902 by Hoyt Buck, who was an apprentice blacksmith in Leavenworth, Kansas. Tired of sharpening and re-sharpening tools for farmers, Hoyt decided to try to find a way to make the steel hold an edge longer. Using worn-out file blades and rasps, he experimented until he developed a tem-

pering system that helped the blade retain its edge after most blades would have worn down. In a far more sophisticated and controlled system, Buck's current heat-treat methods reflect Hoyt's original innovative concept.

During World War II Hoyt contributed to the war effort, at a time when America was woefully lacking in material, by making knives in the basement of his church and donating them to airmen at the nearby Army Air Corps base at Mountain Home, Idaho. Buck Knives began to gain fame for its knives which had very special blades, ones that held their edge much longer than any other knife.

After the war, Hoyt joined forces with his son, Al, producing fixed-blade hunting knives and maintaining a reputation for the highest quality knives. The true breakthrough for Buck Knives came in 1963 when Al Buck perfected the famous Model 110 Folding Hunter. It literally revolutionized the knife industry as the first workable folding lockblade. Proving that buyers wanted real quality and were willing to pay for it, more than 14,000,000 Model 110 knives have been sold.

In 1980 Al Buck's son, Chuck, took over the company, and from that point on Buck Knives rolled out one innovative new product after another to become the number one name in knives. Today Chuck and his son, CJ Buck, manage the company, producing impressive new lines of knives in their state-of-the-art plant in Post Falls, Idaho, while continually improving on the traditional Buck quality.



President Robinson, Chuck Buck and Special Project Manager Billy Bates pose in front of the Buck Knives facility.

USA/Buck Knives Special!

Renew Your USA Membership-If you're already a member of USA, you'll receive a complimentary Juno model Buck knife valued at \$29.95 when you renew your membership.

Sign up for USA at the Roofers Convention-Stop by the USA booth and sign up for your USA membership to receive a complimentary Juno model Buck knife valued at \$29.95 and be entered in the USA's onsite gun raffle.



"Juno" Buck knife