



## Don Bell

ABS journeyman smith Don Bell refers to his knives as “usable art,” emphasizing both words. “Fixed blade or folder, no matter how nice the knife looks it will ultimately cut and hold an edge,” states Bell. The Lincoln, Montana, resident has been making knives full time since 1999, and credits Ed Schempp and ABS master smith Rick Dunkerley for his development as a maker. Although he forges fixed blades, Bell prefers the challenges of crafting a folder. “It will never be possible to master knifemaking, but my work is constantly evolving, and I will do it for the rest of my life,” he says. The drop-point locking-liner folder (right) parades a 2-inch ladder-pattern-damascus blade, fileworked liners and pins, and red-and-black-linen-Micarta® handle scales. Bell’s list price for a similar piece: \$425. Contact Don Bell, Dept. BL3, POB 98, Lincoln, MT 59639 406-362-3208 [dlb@linctel.net](mailto:dlb@linctel.net).



## Logan Pearce

Growing up in De Queen, Arkansas, Logan Pearce spent much of his childhood making small letter openers out of nails and wrenches. His grandfather, Perry Pearce, also a knifemaker, taught Logan to forge. “When I was a teenager, we went to Uncle Al’s [Al Lawrence of Riverside Machine] Thursday meetings, where I saw art knives by the master smiths there,” says Pearce, who builds working knives, bowies and art knives. “I like to forge, but my favorite part is carving and sculpting handles.” The “Talon” (left) features a sculpted 5160-and-L6-damascus blade and handle, a blue-brain-coral handle insert and stainless steel pins. Pearce’s list price for a similar piece: \$300. Contact Logan Pearce, Dept. BL3, 1013 Dogtown Rd., De Queen, AR 71832 580-212-0995 [night\\_everclear@hotmail.com](mailto:night_everclear@hotmail.com), [www.pearceknives.com](http://www.pearceknives.com). (Ward photo)



## Kevin Cross



“One year I was vacationing with the family in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and I stopped to browse in a knife shop. There was a kit knife from the Rigid Knives company on the wall, and I thought, ‘I’m good with my hands. Let’s give this a try,’” Kevin Cross relates. “I love matching the blade, handle and hardware so they complement and flow into each other.” Cross received his first sheath knife at 6 years old, and found his first folder while fishing at 8 years of age. “I had a typical childhood 50 years ago, hunting, fishing, camping and Boy Scouts,” he says. “My grandfathers always carried knives on the farms, and I usually had one on me as well. Now my knife is just like my watch. If I don’t have it, I feel naked. My favorite part of knifemaking is hand sanding the blade. It is peaceful and intense.” Cross makes fixed blades for outdoor and kitchen use, and is learning to fashion folders. The majority of his blades are damascus forged by Robert Eggerling, Devin Thomas, Chad Nichols, Delbert Ealy, Mike Norris and Alabama Damascus, though he also offers stainless and high-carbon-steel blades. The drop-point hunter (right) sports a 3.5-inch Robert Eggerling damascus blade, a brass guard, spalted-hackberry handle, and buffalo-horn and copper spacers. Cross’s list price: \$450. Contact Kevin Cross, Dept. BL3, POB 38, Higganum, CT 06441 860-345-3949 [kevincross@comcast.net](mailto:kevincross@comcast.net), [www.kdcknives.com](http://www.kdcknives.com). (Point Seven photo)

