

Sporting Wood Creations

So much more than shooting sticks

By Randy Rieman

Last year, I had the opportunity to review the wonderful African shooting sticks made by Sporting Wood Creations (SWC). But you should know that those sticks, increasingly popular with hunters at home and abroad, are only one of the many safari-inspired items offered by this unique company.



Sporting Wood Creations offers an ever-expanding and diverse line of "accoutrements" for the shooting sports enthusiast.

Like so many successful niche businesses, SWC is an extension of someone's personal passion – in this case, Jim and Elisabeth Morando whose shared passions are the shooting sports in general and Africa in particular.

Of course, it takes more than passion to build a business, and Jim and Elisabeth have the energy and the savvy to harness that passion into a successful business.

First things first, SWC is a great source for hunting-related items and accessories. In addition to the African shooting sticks, you can purchase expertly crafted gun cases made from Cape buffalo,

antelope or zebra for double rifles, scoped rifles and shotguns. Maybe a nice Cape buffalo culling belt, an ammo wallet or one of four models of shot shell box carriers is on your wish list.

SWC offers a beautiful takedown stalking staff that is an improved version of the traditional Scottish stalking staff. The SWC model has a one-inch shaft, your choice of five different exotic hardwoods with a fallow deer antler cradle at the top, and an aluminum tip at the bottom. An aluminum joint in the center can be unscrewed in seconds so the staff can be packed for airline travel. The stalking staff can be custom built to your height.

Collectors turn to SWC for some of the finest examples of authentic African collectibles and crafts, including one of

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the largest collections of antique African weapons in the country. SWC offers a large variety of antique African edged weapons, clubs, spears and shields from the Zulu, Maasai and Matabele tribesmen.

SWC's inventory includes shields made of basketry, cane or rawhide (giraffe, hippo, etc.), some with hair on, others hair off.

Custom knives made by two of Africa's premier contemporary knife makers, Thuens Prinsloo and George Mueller, range from "using" knives to one-of-a-kind specialty pieces complete with multi-colored and patterned Damascus steel, intricate file work and exotic ivory, horn or bone handles.

SWC's clothing and accessory lines include a jewelry-quality warthog tusk key chain and handmade "hornback" crocodile belts, one for dress and one for casual wear. A



new line of sterling silver jewelry is also in the works.

Finally, SWC offers fine hardwood furniture for home and camp. I do mean fine furniture, too! There are gorgeous bookcases, tables and chairs, display cases and gun racks made from exotic hardwoods like African mahoga-




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ny and iroko, Rhodesian teak, Australian jarrah, South American andiroba as well as American black walnut and red oak.

All the furniture is built by a veteran cabinetmaker to the highest standards and beautifully finished. I am particularly partial to the hardwood and ivory hippo tusk gun racks custom fit to your favorite dangerous game rifle!

Many of us like to decorate our homes with "objets d'art" that evoke memories we cherish, tokens from some special time and place. Whether you are a hunter or just a romantic about all things Africa, you owe it to yourself to take a look at Sporting Wood Creations and its many fine product lines. 

Sporting Wood Creations
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Advertiser Index

American Bladesmith Society	22	18, 25, 29, 30, 46, 55
Andy Sanchez Furniture	49	Hunterbid.com 59 Hunters Headquarters 62
Bad Boy Buggies	57	
Bar-Sto Precision Machine	28	Lloyd McConnell Knives 63
Bear Creek Outfitters	55	Long Grass Outfitters 45
Blade Connection	27	
Blu-H2o.com	34	Michael Vagino Knives 11
Boyt Harness Company	16, 18, 19	Montana Watch Company 36
Brian Janvi Studios	13	
Carolina Sporting Arms	25	NECO Cartridge Company 62
Chiron	59	Nesika 60-61
Clint Orms Engravers & Silversmiths	37	P.L. Holehan Custom Rifles 30
CraigBoddington.com	43	Pacific Tool & Gauge 59
Core-Vens Insurance	55	
CZ-USA	19	Richard Stump Jewelry 28
D.E. Friedly Handmade Knives	24	Sauer USA, LLC 67
Dakota Arms	2, 5, 64	She Safari 54
Doug Turnbull Restorations	6-9	Shootist Gun Shop 53
Dunkerley Handmade Knives	45	Sporting Products, LLC 66, 67
Electronic Shooters Protection	49	Sporting Wood Creations 47
Elite Gunsmiths, LLC	66	Sportsmen's Edge 46
Empire Rifles	15, 58	Sturgis Industrial Expansion Corp. 23
FIELDSPORT Ltd.	59	Susquehanna Stockworks 50
First Stop Guns	45	Swarovski Optiks Back Cover
Fort Knox Security Products	17	T. Jeffrey Safari Company 31
Gaetan Beauchamp Knives	33	Texas Safari Hunting Products 53
Gallager Custom Knives	16	Weldon G. Whitley Knives 23
Gene Klein Silver	23	Westley Richards 26
Gulf Breeze Firearms		Wildgoose Manufacturing 44

The line includes sturdy folding directors chairs and tables of Rhodesian teak as well as light fixtures, table lamps, hat and coat racks, zebra rugs, bookends, wildebeest rugs, warthog tusk bottle openers, wine corkscrews and walking sticks, picture frames, carved bone and teak salt and pepper shakers, etc. You should be getting the picture.