

GUNS & AMMO'S THIRD EDITOR, BUZ FAWCETT

The July 1964 issue of *Guns & Ammo* marked the beginning of Buz Fawcett's tenure as *G&A's* editor, which lasted until September 1965. Previously, Buz had served as associate editor at *Sports Afield* and brought a wealth of editorial know-how to the magazine (at the time—and for decades afterward—*Sports Afield*, *Outdoor Life* and *Field and Stream* comprised the Holy Trinity of New York-based outdoor magazines). Prior to that, Buz—a graduate of Tulane University—had served as a shooting instructor while in the Army at Fort Benning, Georgia.

It was during Buz's reign that *G&A* produced what is arguably its most iconic cover—the July 1965 shot of Robert E. Petersen's personalized nickel-plated S&W Model 29 backed by the polar bear he took with it.



Buz in his *Guns & Ammo* days.

Long-time technical editor Bob Forker recalls Buz: "He was an interesting character, very creative and a lot of fun to be around. One time we were shooting photos for an article on guns of the Vietnam conflict. We ended up going to Buz's backyard 'cause there were plenty of ferns there for a good backdrop."

Retired *G&A* publisher Tom Siatos remembers how Buz used to bring his pet boa constrictor into the office in a basket, much to the consternation of several staffers who didn't share his enthusiasm for herpetology.

During his multifaceted career, Buz has been a professional photographer, owned and operated a diving school, taught creative writing, written motion picture scripts and served as a hunter/photographer on an around-the-world voyage for *National Geographic* on the brigantine *Yankee*. He has also contributed to *Sporting Clays*, *Gun Dog*, *Wing & Shot*, *Double Gun Journal* and *Petersen's Hunting*.

Although Buz was—and is—proficient with rifles and handguns, his true love is wingshooting. He now lives in Idaho, where he has been running Buz Fawcett's Wingshooting Workshop (208/896-5276)—stressing his own idiosyncratic methods of instinctive shotgun shooting.

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