

January 2010

Meetings are held at PERKINS Restaurant, 12300 S. Cleveland Ave. (US41), 2.5 miles South of Edison Mall or 1.2 miles North of Daniels Pkwy (SR865). First Tuesday of every month, 4:30 to 7:30 PM



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The December meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had a attendance of 24 members and guests. This month's door prizes were a Frost Jim Bowie Trapper and (2) Collecting Case Knives books. The winner of the Frost trapper was Aida Wrona, Ken Rabedeau and Gary Wrona each won one of the Collecting Case book. A 50/50 drawing was held and the winner of \$30 was Mike Mikutis. Congratulations to all the winners, you too can be a winner of our monthly door prizes, 50/50 and/or raffles just simply attend one of your monthly FMKC club meetings.

This month's attendance brought a variety of knives for trade, sell or show & tell. It was a enjoyable evening for all. Also during the meeting the club picked up two new members, Richard & Kristin Caile from North Ft Myers. Welcome aboard to them. Annual membership fees for 2010 were collected during the meeting.

*Next meeting Date: January 5th – Free Door Prizes Drawing
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and share with the members*

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GUN & KNIFE SHOW – GO THIS WEEKEND !!!

Jan 2-3	Orlando - Southern Classic Gun & Knife Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
Jan 9-10	Bradenton - Bradenton Gun & Knife Show - Bradenton Auditorium
Jan 16-17	Lakeland - Rifle & Pistol Club Show - Lakeland Center
Jan 16-17	Miami - Southern Classic Gun & Knife Shows - Miami-Dade Fairgrounds
Jan 23-24	Ft Lauderdale - Suncoast Gun Show - War Memorial Auditorium
Jan 23-24	St Louis - Gateway Area Knife Club Show - 1401 Hampton Ave, St Louis
Jan 29-31	32nd Annual Gator Cutlery Club Show - Lakeland Center /DON'T MISS/

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: Membership dues for 2010 are due now. In order to maintain all privileges of the club you need to fulfill this requirement. The Annual Dues are \$10.00 or you may consider becoming a Life Member, this is a one-time fee of \$75.00. You can pay at the January meeting or submit payment to the club's address: FMKC, PO Box 706, St James City, FL 33956-0706.



32nd Annual Gator Cutlery Show
Custom, Modern, & Antique Knife Show
January 29-31, 2010 Lakeland, Florida
Fri 10:00 to 5:00, Sat 9:00 to 5:00, Sun 9:00 to 3:00
Knife Auction Saturday Night 7:00 PM

**KNIFE RAFFLES
TO BE HELD**

NOTICE: *If you would like to receive your monthly newsletter via e-mail instead of snail mail. Contact club secretary, Russ Smegal at: rsmegal@comcast.net*

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: The club has a new URL address for our Web Site. Our resident web site person, Mike Mikutis had to change our old web site. Changes are being made to enhance the site for your usage and enjoyment. Please be patience with us as we update. Remember that you can always view and/or download the latest club newsletter for your use.
The new site is: www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com.



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

Pres: Ken Rabedeau (239) 466-8175 -V. Pres: Bill Cyphert (239) 936-4746
Sec/Treasurer: Russ Smegal (239) 283-7253 ~ E-Mail: rsmegal@comcast.net

FMKC NEWSLETTER



Pocket Knives 101

A pocket knife is a type of folding knife with a blade that fits inside the handle. Blades are typically no larger than 3 to 5 in. (8 to 13 cm) in length, and are small enough that they may be carried in a pocket, hence the name. Pocket knives are very versatile tools, and may be used for anything from opening an envelope, to cutting twine, to slicing an apple.

Pocket knives can cost anywhere from \$1 from gas stations and thrift stores, to thousands of dollars for custom, hand-crafted pieces. Most well-made knives start at around \$20.

Early pocket knives were usually slip joints, meaning that the blade did not lock, but was held in place by a hammer and lever device that would fold if a certain amount of pressure was applied. These knives often had more than one blade, including an assortment of knife blade types (serrated, plain edged, saws) as well as a myriad of other tools such as cap lifters, corkscrews, and scissors. A large tool selection is the signature of the Swiss Army knife. These knives were produced mainly by Victorinox and Wenger and issued to the army and sold to the public.

Locking knives

The 1900s brought a new facet to the knife world with the popularization of locking pocket knives. Companies such as Buck, Benchmade, Spyderco, Gerber, and Kershaw, to name a few, have created a wide range of products with locks of all types. The lockback knife (the most popular form) is similar to a slip joint, except that instead of the hammer releasing the blade with pressure, the user has to press on a lever located on the back of the knife handle to release the blade, adding a level of safety. There are other types of locks; some of the more popular ones are the liner lock, the frame lock, and the Axis lock (A Benchmade patent). Even the Swiss Army knife product range has adopted the locks on some of their knives.

Other features

Traditional knives were opened using nail-nicks, or slots where the user's fingernail would enter to pull the blade out of the handle. This became somewhat cumbersome and required use of two hands, so there were innovations to remedy that. The thumb stud, a small stud on the blade that allows for one-handed opening, led the way for yet more innovations, such as the opening hole (a Spyderco patent where the user presses the pad of his thumb against a hole and opens the blade by rotating his thumb similar to the thumb stud), as well as the Emerson Wave system, where a hook catches the user's pocket upon removal and the blade is opened during a draw. One of the first one handed devices was the automatic spring release, also known as a switchblade.

Another innovation of Sal Glesser, Spyderco founder, was the clip system, which he named a "Clip-it". Clips are usually metal or plastic and similar to the clips found on pens except thicker. Clips allow the knife to be easy to accessible, while keeping it lint free and unscathed by pocket items such as change.

Legal issues

While nearly all pocket knives are legal to own, they are increasingly facing legal restrictions on their use. While pocket knives are almost always used as tools, they do have the potential to become weapons. In many places it is illegal to conceal knives larger than a certain size, or with certain locking or opening mechanisms. They are often banned or heavily restricted in secure areas, such as schools and airports. Switchblades and other "auto-openers" are banned entirely in many places, including 37 US states. Nevertheless, they retain a significant following, associated especially with the outdoors and those who practice camping, hunting, fishing, and so on. The Boy Scouts offer merit badges that involve knife work, such as Wood Carving.