

Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The September meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 10 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of Victorinox Mountaineer and a Ka-bar "2795" Lockback. Robert Coy Baughman III won the Victorinox knife and the Ka-bar went to Bill Cyphert. The Monthly 50/50 drawing of \$27.00 was won by Stephanie McDonnell. The **Best Special** featured knife for the month was won by Renate Taylor for her Utica Girl Scout knife.

Next meeting Date: 5th of October – Free Door Prizes Drawing.

Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and /or Sell
October's Feature Knife will be your best: Tactical Straight Knife.

Bring your best to win a Prize

Monthly Knife Show Schedule

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GUN & KNIFE SHOWS - GO THIS WEEKEND !!!

Oct 2-3 Ft Myers - Florida Gun Shows - Lee Civic Center

Oct 9-10 Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds

Oct 9-10 Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte Cty Fairgrounds

Oct 16-17 Tampa - Florida Gun Shows - Florida State Fairgrounds

Oct 23-24 Palmetto - Florida Gun Shows - Bradenton Convention Center

Oct 23-24 Englewood - Florida Expo Gun Show - Dever Regional Rec. Center

Oct 30-31 Punta Gorda - Florida Expo Gun Show - Charlotte Harbor Event Center

TACTICAL FIGHTER — BURBRO





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FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com



CLUB OFFICERS

Bill Cyphert, Pres - (239) 851-0666 # Casey Philibert - Vice Pres (239) 565-5339 # Russ Smegal - Sec/Treas (239) 233-5611



OPINEL KNIVES



The **Opinel** company has manufactured and marketed a line of eponymous wooden-handled <u>knives</u> since 1890 from its headquarters in <u>Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne</u>, <u>Savoie</u>, France where the family-run company also operates a museum dedicated to its knives. The company sells approximately 15 million knives annually. Opinel knives are made of both high carbon and stainless steel, the latter being <u>Sandvik</u> steel from Sweden.

Originally sold as a working man's knife, an Opinel knife has become emblematic of French culture, with <u>Pablo Picasso</u> reportedly using one of the company's knives as a sculpting tool. In 1989, the <u>Larousse</u> dictionary cited "Opinel" as a registered trademark.

HISTORY: Joseph Opinel began making knives in 1890 in Savoie, France as a simple working man's or *peasant's knife*. It proved popular with the local farmers, herdsmen, and *paysans-vignerons* (peasant winemakers) of the area. In 1897, a series of twelve sizes, numbered 1 to 12, was developed. From 1901 to 1903, Joseph Opinel built his first factory in Pont de Gévoudaz and produced a machine for mass production of the knife's wooden handles.

The company hired peddlers to sell the knives and opened a small shop near the Chambéry railway junction, where the knives became popular with <u>PLM</u> railroad workers, who in turn spread word of the brand throughout France. By 1909, Opinel had registered his first trademark for the Opinel knife, choosing the *main couronnée* ("crowned hand") as his emblem. A few years later Opinel annual sales were in the hundreds of thousands, and by the start of World War II as many as 20 million

knives had been sold.

The Opinel *Virobloc* or safety twistlock mechanism was invented by Marcel Opinel in 1955, increasing the safety and versatility of the knife by allowing the blade to be locked in the open position. In 2000, the Virobloc locking mechanism was improved to allow locking the blade in either the open or closed position.

The traditional Opinel knife has a <u>beechwood</u> handle and a <u>high carbon</u> XC90 steel blade. Opinel also offers most of its models with a <u>Sandvik 12C27M</u> stainless steel blade. Custom Opinel models are available using luxurious or exotic handle woods such as <u>oak</u>, <u>walnut</u>, <u>olive wood</u>, <u>bubinga</u> (African rosewood), <u>ebony</u> and stained <u>hornbeam</u>, as well as other materials such as cowhorn.



Notice: Receive your monthly newsletter via e-mail instead of snail mail. Contact the club secretary, Russ Smegal at: rsmegal@comcast.net By doing this you will save the club the newsletter mailing cost.