

Oct 2023

Meetings are held at Smoke'n Pit Bar-B-Que, 1641 North Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers, located on Rte 41 (Bus) between Pine Island Rd (SR78) & the Edison Bridge. First Tuesday of every month, at 4:30 PM



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The September meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 11 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of a Chip Away Cutlery Bowie Blade and Mossay Oak Lockback. The Chip Away Bowie went to Frank Fulton and the Mossay Lockback was won by Bill Cyphert. The monthly 50/50 drawing winner of \$22 went to Frank Fulton. The **BEST SPECIAL** featured knife for the month was won by Russ Smegal for his Case XX 4100 Melon Tester.

Next meeting Date: 3rd of October 2023 – Free Door Prizes Drawing.

Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and/or Sell

October's Best Knife: Custom Made Folder

Bring your best knife to win a Prize

Monthly Knife Show Schedule

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

Oct 7-8	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
Oct 7-8	North Port - Expo Gun Show - George Mullen Activity Center
Oct 21-22	Tampa - Florida Gun Shows - Florida State Fairgrounds
Oct 21-22	Venice - Expo Gun Show - Venice Community Center
Oct 28-29	Palmetto - Florida Gun Shows - Bradenton Conv. Center

For Additional Florida Shows see Web site: gunshowtrader.com/gunshows/florida-gun-shows/



WHITE DEER CUSTOM HANDMADE
EXECUTIVE SERIES KNIVES



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

FMKC NEWSLETTER



Jimmy Lile - Knife Maker

James Buel "The Arkansas Knifsmith" Lile is one of the most accomplished and famous custom knife makers in American history. He carved his first fixed-blade knife from wood at the age of eight, and by age eleven, he was grinding old files into fixed-blade knives.

James Lile was born on August 22, 1933, in [Russellville \(Pope County\)](#) to Leona and Buel Lile. His father was a [coal miner](#) who later worked for Arkla after the mines closed, and his mother was a housewife who also worked twenty years at the Local International Shoe factory.

In 1970, Lile decided to make knife making his full-time career. His shop and showroom were located on [Scenic Highway 7](#) in Russellville. Lile designed and made the *[First Blood](#)* and *[Rambo](#)*. *The Mission* knives that were used by Sylvester Stallone in the famous *[Rambo](#)* film series. Lile's *Rambo* knives have been credited by many for putting American custom knife making on the map. Lile also designed and made several bowie knives that were presented to Governor [Bill Clinton](#) and Presidents Ronald Reagan, Richard Nixon, and Gerald Ford.

Lile was elected president of the Knifemakers Guild in 1980, serving through 1982. He was inducted into the Cutlery Hall of Fame in August 1991 and was a member of various gun and arms organizations. His Patented Lile Lock folding hunting knife is on permanent display at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. Lile had been contacted by patent attorney Jerome Grosse of St. Louis, Missouri, to provide the knife for display in 1979.

Lile died at home in Russellville on May 5, 1991. He is buried in Russellville.



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.