

March 2018

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



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The February meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 18 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of a Stauer Liner Lock w/Clip and a Chinese Metal War Axe. Casey Philibert won the Stauer Liner Lock and the Chinese War Axe went to David Hyre. The monthly 50/50 drawing of \$32 went to Barbara Philibert. 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.

The **Best Special** knife for the month was your best **Best 3 Blade Whittler w/Split Back Spring**. The winner was Frank Veasley for his 1988 FMKC club knife made by Bob Cargill. The Best Special knife for March is your **Best Abalone Folder**.

*Next meeting Date: Mar 6th - Free Door Prizes Drawing
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and/or Sell
March's Feature Knife is : Best Abalone Folder.*

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

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

Mar 3-4	Lakeland - Florida Gun Shows - Lakeland Center
Mar 3-4	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte County Fairgrounds
Mar 17-18	West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - South Florida Fairgrounds
Mar 24-25	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
Mar 24-25	Ft Myers - Gun, Knife and Civil War Show - Araba Shrine Temple
Mar 24-25	Largo - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Minnreg Hall Largo, Florida

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Membership dues for 2018 are due. 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 a one-time fee of \$75.00. If you are unsure that your dues are paid for 2018 please contact the club secretary at 239.233.5611 or e-mail: rsmegal@comcast.net. You may pay your dues at any upcoming club meeting or submit payment to the club's address: FMKC, PO Box 706, St James City, FL 33956-0706. Checks will be accepted, however all checks must be endorsed to RUSSELL SMEGAL. Any other endorsement will result in return of your check. Sorry..



**AL MAR
Abalone Folder**



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

FMKC NEWSLETTER



KERSHAW (LEEK)

The **Leek** is part of Ken Onion's series of onion-related-named models he made for the Kershaw brand during his time working there from 1996-2010 (which also included the Scallion, Chive, and Shallot) and is one of the best-known and best-selling Kershaw models ever. Even people who aren't "knife people" are likely to have seen one before. It's been in production for an eternity, with no signs of slowing down. Why is it so popular?

Well, it's light, useful, fun to operate, and unique. Leeks are made with liner locks – which weigh in at 2.50oz – and frame locks – which weigh 3.00 ounces. All except for the **Random Leek** have a needle-pointed Wharncliffe blade, which is strange to the eye but is extremely useful in day to day utility tasks as well as for food prep.

The hallmark of the Leek is its **Speedsafe** assisted opening mechanism – which seems incredibly commonplace now, but was a revolutionary idea that Onion spearheaded for Kershaw. In order to skirt arcane laws relating to possession and use of switchblades and "gravity knives" Onion created a torsion bar system that legally fulfills the same tasks. The spring is hidden inside the scale which is connected to the blade tang and the frame itself, and acts both as a closed detent and snaps the blade open once it's been opened manually the first 10% or so of its travel. In practice, it is just as fast as an automatic knife – but by the letter of the law it's legal. While the enthusiast market has moved on from assisted knives as being more of a gimmick than a feature, in a knife with a super-light blade like the Leek it would be borderline impossible to make a good manual flipper without an uncomfortably hard detent. There is also a "tip lock" mechanism built into the end of the handle which prevents the blade from accidentally opening in your pocket, which is usually forgotten about shortly after acquiring the knife.

So with a pull of the flipper tab the 3" blade snaps out, and in doing so has created a whole new generation of knife fanatics – pulled in by the Speedsafe action into a lifetime of knife addiction. And that's OK, because the Leek is still a great knife – thinner than a cell phone, only a half-ounce heavier than a Zippo, sharper than Louis CK's sarcasm, you can't go wrong with a Leek in your pocket. Whether it's a standard model – a liner lock with Sandvik 14C28N steel and brightly colored aluminum handles, or an upgraded model such as the exotic composite blade – which melds a spine of 13C26 steel and a sharpened end of D2 steel sintered together with copper, or the new Carbon Fiber leek with a stone-washed CPM-154 blade and carbon fiber laminate G10 scales. Regardless, you'll have a timeless piece of knife design from one of the true masters of the field – and you might even forget it's in your pocket.



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.*