

Mar 2021

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 February meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 14 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of a Frost Earnhardt Jr. Trapper and a tube of Simichrome Polish. Fred Harrington won the Frost Trapper and the tube of Polish went to Coy Baughman III. The Monthly 50/50 drawing was for \$40.00 and was won by Robert Campbell. The **Best Special** knife for the month was won by Russ Smegal for his CASE XX Abalone Mini-Trapper.

Next meeting Date: 2nd of March – Free Door Prizes Drawing.

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

March's Feature Knife will be your best: Pre-1940 Antique Knife.

Bring your best to win a Prize

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

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

Mar 6-7	Brooksville - Florida Gun Expo Show - Army National Guard
Mar 13-14	Brooksville - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Hernando Cty Fairgrounds
Mar 20-21	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
Mar 20-21	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte Cty Fairgrounds
Mar 20-21	West Palm Beach - Sports Show Specialists - South Fl. Fairgrounds
Mar 27-28	Palmetto - Florida Gun Shows - Bradenton Conv. Central

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Membership dues for 2021 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 2021 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..



**Pre-1940
Antique
Knives**



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

CLUB OFFICERS

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THE KIND OF MEN WHO CARRY A POCKET KNIFE

*Article Extracted
From the Internet*



Less than 40 years have passed and I am astonished to see how the times have changed since my father bought this knife for me as just a small boy. I do still have it, which by today's standards is an anomaly. I'll leave the discussion of our throwaway culture for another time.

Yes, this pocket knife has witnessed many changes in our society. Technology, communication, transportation, and even education have dramatically changed from the way it was just a generation ago. My pocket knife and I are neither quite certain if all the changes have been for the good. When I look across the landscape of America and take note of the differences, the greatest change that I see is in the people themselves.

Growing up in rural Northeast Alabama in the foothills of the Appalachians, I was privileged to catch the tale end of what was an era marked by ruggedness and self-sufficiency. I grew up around men that were willing to fix what was broken and take the time to do it right. My father was a Vietnam veteran and the product of growing up farming the hills of these same mountains where I was raised. He always carried a small pocket knife much like the one pictured. He had an affinity for Case knives, but would carry the occasional "Old timer" or "Buck" or even "Schrade". One thing was for sure, that he had one with him, wherever he was. You could also be pretty sure that his pocket knife would be so sharp that if you were to stare at it too long your eyeballs would bleed. Now that's pretty sharp.... The pocket knife was an important part of his life. Whether it was to slice a freshly picked apple, or to cut some twine, (coincidentally twine can patch most any broken farm implement until you can get home) he was always prepared. At Christmas time, my father always had his knife waiting to help open those pesky gifts that needed cutting open as only a father can do best.

My father was not the only man in my young life that I watched wield his trusty 3 bladed pocket knife as if it was a surgeon's scalpel. My uncles, my friend's dads, my bosses, they all carried pocket knives. I watched. I learned. I saw a resourcefulness in these men, that is seldom seen today. For my father and so many others of a generation gone by, a pocket knife was an essential tool for daily life. The men who carry pocket knives are hardworking, do it yourselfer types, who were raised to rely on themselves and be prepared in nearly every situation. I have seen a pocket knife start a tractor, remove a splinter, slice a watermelon, carve a toy, and open a can. They have been used to clean wild game, cut gum/tar out of hair, sharpen a pencil, cutting fishing bait, and teaching responsibility. The list goes on and on. The uses of the pocket knife are as varied and strong as the men who use them.

I adopted this tool at a very early age as one that would always be at my side. A pocket knife has always been a part of who I am. So much so that I was almost offended when I would encounter a grown man who didn't have one in his own pocket. I took it upon myself in my 20's to start gifting knives. Sometimes to random strangers, sometimes to close friends. The conversation would generally start by asking if I could borrow someone's knife, knowing full well that I had 2 in my own pocket. If the answer was a proud "why sure", then I would gladly take the knife and inspect it for its level of wear as an indicator of how much work it had actually seen. Often paying a simple compliment as I return the knife. If the answer was that they didn't have a knife to let me borrow, I would quickly reach into my pocket and deliver one to their hand along with a reference to the fact that every man should carry a knife. To date, I have given out somewhere north of 300 knives.

So, who are the kind of men who carry pocket knives today? They are typically utilitarian. They are the type of men who work hard for a living, fix what is broken, and stand fearless in the face of a world full of evil. To put it simply, they are the type of men that I feel this world needs more of.

If you find yourself in a tight spot and need some help, just ask the guy with the pocket knife. Although they are few are far between these days, chances are he can and will be able to lend a hand.

GREAT ARTICLE

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.