

April 2022

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 March meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 16 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of a Tac-Force Lockback and a Colonial Swiss Master Hiker. Renate Taylor won the Tac-Force and the Swiss Hiker went to Bill Cyphert. The Monthly 50/50 drawing of \$30.00 was won by Barbara Philibert. The **Best Special** featured knife for the month was won by Casey Philibert for his Hubertus Stag 2-Blade Switchblade.

*Next meeting Date: 5th of April 2022 – Free Door Prizes Drawing.*

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

*April's Feature Knife will be your best: Balisong (Butterfly) Knife.*

**Bring your best to win a Prize**

## *Monthly Knife Show Schedule*

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

|           |                                                                      |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Apr 2-3   | Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds            |
| Apr 2-3   | Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte Cty Fairgrounds |
| Apr 2-3   | Englewood - Expo Gun Show - Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Center        |
| Apr 9-10  | Tampa - Florida Gun Shows - Florida State Fairgrounds                |
| Apr 16-17 | West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - South Florida Fairgrounds |

*For Additional Florida Shows see Web site: [gunshowtrader.com/gunshows/florida-gun-shows/](http://gunshowtrader.com/gunshows/florida-gun-shows/)*



## FMKC WEB SITE

[www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com](http://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



# Butterfly Knives

A **butterfly knife**, also known as a **Balisong**, **fan knife** or **Batangas knife**, is a type of folding pocketknife that originated in the Philippines. Its distinct features are two handles counter-rotating around the tang such that, when closed, the blade is concealed within grooves in the handles. A latch holds the handles together, typically mounted on the one facing the cutting edge (the "bite handle").

The balisong was commonly used by Filipinos, especially those in the Tagalog region, as a self-defense and pocket utility knife. Hollow-grind balisongs were also used as straight razors before conventional razors were available in the Philippines. In the hands of a trained user, the knife blade can be brought to bear quickly using one hand. Manipulations, called "flipping", are performed for art or amusement. Blunt "trainer" versions of these knives are available and can be used to practice tricks without the risk of injury.

The knife is now illegal or restricted in some countries, often under the same laws and for the same reasons that switchblades or concealed weapons are restricted. Within the Philippines, it is no longer as common in urban areas as in the past.

1. There are two main types of balisong construction: "sandwich construction" and "channel construction".

Sandwich constructed balisong knives are assembled in layers that are generally pinned or screwed together. They allow the pivot pins to be adjusted more tightly without binding. When the knife is closed, the blade rests between the layers.

For a channel constructed balisong, the main part of each handle is formed from one piece of material. In this handle, a groove is created (either by folding, milling, or being integrally cast) in which the blade rests when the knife is closed. This style is regarded as being stronger than sandwich construction.

2. There are also three methods of operation balisongs use: bearings, bushings, or only washers.

Bearing operated balisongs have small ball bearings housed in a circular concavity around the hole in the pivot. These bearings allow the handles of the balisong to rotate.

Bushing operated balisongs have a small metal bushing slightly thicker than the tang in each pivot hole with a usually bronze disc known as a washer on each side. These washers clamp down on the bushing, but not on the tang, when the pivot screw is tightened, allowing the handle to rotate around the tang.

There are also washer-only operated balisongs which are usually much cheaper and lower quality than the other kinds, as they don't need bushings, but the handles will always bind to the tang when the screws are tightened enough and the washers, tang and handles all wear themselves down much faster due to the increased friction.

Some of the blades of traditional butterfly knives in the Philippines were made from steel taken from railroad tracks thus giving them a decent amount of durability and toughness, while others are made from the recycled leaf springs of vehicles.

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