

April 2026

Meetings are held at Smoke's 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 each month, at 4:30 PM



## *Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update*

The March meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had 5 members and guests in attendance. This month's door prizes consisted of Trophy Stag Hunting Knife and a Chief Cut-A-Trail Knife. The winner of the Trophy knife was won by Jim McDonnell and the Chief knife went to Bill Cyphert. No 50/50 Drawing of was held this month. The best knife of the month was won by Jim McDonnell for his Stag Case XX Mini-Copperlock.

**Next meeting Date: 7th of April - Free Door Prizes Drawing.  
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and/or Sell  
Best Knife: Any Exotic Knife**

**Bring your best knife to win a Prize**

## *Monthly Knife Show Schedule*

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

Apr 11-12 Tampa - Florida Gun Shows - Florida State Fairgrounds  
Apr 17-18 Ft Myers - Militaria & Gun Show - St. Celia's Catholic Church  
Apr 18-19 Ft Myers - Florida Gun Shows - Lee Civic Center  
Apr 25-26 North Port - Expo Gun Show - George Mullen Activity Center

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



**Exotic Knives**

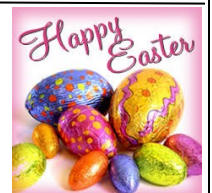
**REMINDER:** Annual Dues of \$10.00 are required before April 2026. Non-Payment will remove you from the club membership role.



# FMKC WEB SITE

**~NOTE~  
New Site**

**<https://mgmikutis.com/ftmyersknifeclub>**



*Happy Easter*

### CLUB OFFICERS

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

# FMKC NEWSLETTER



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF POCKET KNIVES

The term “[pocket knife](#)” is a fairly ubiquitous one around the world. That’s probably because this seemingly-modern invention — a folding blade one can carry around in their pocket — actually dates back thousands of years into human history. It’s difficult to discern exactly when the first folding blade was invented, but there is plenty of evidence to suggest that, at the very least, they existed to a discernible degree during the time of the Roman Empire.

Used by Roman soldiers who were far from home, the earliest examples of folding knives (friction folders consisting of a blade, a handle, and a simple pivot at their meeting point) were not made for war, but rather simple utility — looking and functioning a bit like the [Swiss Army Knives](#) we know and love today. And they apparently functioned well enough to hold up over time, as archaeologists from across the ancient world found other, similar examples of friction folders used later by farmers, Vikings, craftsmen, etc. Later, sometime in the 1600s, these folding blades would see their first evolution into slipjoint knives — non-locking blades that were a bit easier to use and more secure than the friction folders that came before them.

These types of knives wouldn’t see their greatest and quickest evolution, however, until the late 1800s. Starting around the time that brands like Victorinox and Opinel were first launched, the modern period of pocket knives has evolved exponentially into the vast landscape we know today. What were once simple handles with swinging blades attached have become something more entirely — individualized tools used for an expansive number of tasks that have as much personality as the people who use them. And the variety of the tech built into them — in regards to their materials, design, and construction — has increased ten-fold. It would be impossible to distill the significance of every pocket knife into a single article, but there are a few that stand out from the crowd for their staying power, iconic design, and overall impact on the knife industry.



**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.*