

May 2010

Meetings are held at PERKINS Restaurant, 12300 S. Cleveland Ave. (US41), 2.5 miles South of Edison Mall or 1.2 miles North of Daniels Pkwy (SR865). First Tuesday of every month, 4:30 to 7:30 PM



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The April meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had a attendance of 19 members and guests. This month's door prizes were a Queen Muskrat and a Smith & Wesson Stag Trapper plus a Marvin Franz donated Ceramic Sharpener. The winner of the Queen was Frank Fulton, Mike Mikutis won the Stag Trapper and Jim McDonnell won the Ceramic Sharpener. A 50/50 drawing was held and the winner of \$30 was Russ Smegal. 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.

A meeting attendance reflected the end of the Snow Bird season. We will miss their smiling faces during the hot summer months but welcome them back later in the year.!!!

*Next meeting Date: May 4th – Free Door Prizes Drawing
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and share with the members*

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GUN & KNIFE SHOW – GO THIS WEEKEND !!!

Apr 30-May 2	NKCA Greater Ohio Knife Show - Drawbridge Inn - Ft Mitchell, KY
May 1-2	Ft Myers - Suncoast Gun Show - Lee Civic Center
May 15-16	Bushnell - Cliff Hangers Gun Show - Sumter County Fairgrounds
May 15-16	Orlando - Southern Classic Gun & Knife Show - Central Florida Fairgrounds
May 29-30	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte County Fairgrounds



THE WORLD'S BIGGEST KNIFE SHOW!

June 4-6, 2010
Cobb Galleria, Atlanta

Hundreds of knifemakers and antique knives, plus 160+ manufacturer booths!



PHOTO: JERRY PORTER FOR BLADE

JUNE 4-6 ATLANTA, GA The 29th Annual BLADE Show & International Cutlery Fair, Cobb Galleria Centre, I-285 & US 41, one exit off I-75 across from the Cumberland Mall, adjacent to the Renaissance Waverly Hotel. The world's largest combined show of handmade, factory and antique knives. Over 700 tables and almost 175 factory booths. Join the world's greatest national and international knifemakers, cutlery manufacturers, collectors, collections and knife lovers.

NOTICE: *If you would like to receive your monthly newsletter via e-mail instead of snail mail. Contact club secretary, Russ Smegal at: rsmegal@comcast.net*

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: The club has a new URL address for our Web Site. Our resident web site person, Mike Mikutis had to change our old web site. Changes are being made to enhance the site for your usage and enjoyment. Please enter and review the many changes that Mike has made to your Web Site. Remember that you can always view and/or download the latest club newsletters for your use. Any changes that you would like to see made, please ask.



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

Pres: Ken Rabedeau (239) 466-8175 -V. Pres: Bill Cyphert (239) 936-4746
Sec/Treasurer: Russ Smegal (239) 283-7253 ~ E-Mail: rsmegal@comcast.net

FMKC NEWSLETTER



RC Knives Robeson Cutlery

Robeson Cutlery Established 1879

Millard F. Robeson founded the company which bore his name in 1879 as a cutlery jobbing firm, operating from his home in Elmira, NY. Selling knives was, at first, a side-line but business grew. Robeson's first storage area was his dresser drawers but, as additional space was needed, it overflowed into the closet and underneath the bed. Upon returning from a business trip and finding his cutlery inventory moved to the porch, he agreed with Mrs. Robeson that larger facilities were needed. They first came in the form of a new room added to the house, next a new building adjacent to the home, and finally a move to the New York town of Camillus.

After leasing the cutlery works in Camillus, Robeson employed about three dozen workers making knives. Their tenure at this factory lasted about four years, until 1898. Robeson had purchased an interest in Rochester Stamping Works and it became Robeson Rochester Corp. A move of the Robeson Cutlery Co. headquarters and manufacturing was made to Rochester and, about two years later, an additional location was found in Perry, New York.

In 1901, the trade name SHUREDGE was adopted for Robeson's quality line of cutlery. After Millard Robeson's death in 1903, his company remained although business declined. In 1940, the then-bankrupt company was purchased by Saul Frankel, a Rochester businessman. Frankel was not like Robeson, who had the knowledge and expertise for manufacturing high quality knives. But he was an excellent businessman and recognized his shortcomings. In order to seek success for his company, Frankel sought out and hired Emerson Case to serve as Robeson's Vice-President and General Manager. Case reorganized the company and became its Vice President in 1948. Robeson continued to make knives until 1965 when Case retired.

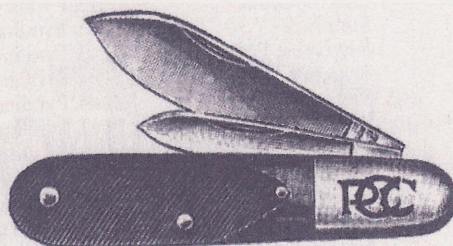
The company had been purchased by Federal Cutlery, Inc. in 1964. In 1971, the Ontario Knife Co. bought Robeson and began making Robeson-brand pocketknives through their sister company, Queen Cutlery Co..

Robeson knives were stamped ROBESON CUTLERY CO. from 1894 until 1922. During the years of 1922 to 1977, the well-known stampings of Robeson Shuredge Rochester and ROBESON SUREDGE USA were used, and beginning in 1900 the trademark R.C./CO. was also used. A few Robeson knives will be found with a German stamping, indicating their country of manufacture.

A trademark popular with collectors is the line of Robeson knives named POCKETEZE and identified by the shield name. Registered in 1914, the trademark meant that the blade backs were recessed below the knife handles, reducing their wear on pant pockets. MASTERCRAFT, another Robeson trademark, was used and these knives were also identified by shield marking. Etched on the blades of some Robeson knives are the words "Frozen Heat," indicating a tempering process developed in 1950 by Emerson Case.

Older Robeson knives are handled in green bone, brown bone, and a unique red bone referred to as strawberry bone. Of the handles used, strawberry bone was used later in the company's manufacturing years. It was dropped from the line in the 1950s in favor of plastic or composition handles of a similar color. The last Robeson knives made had a darker delrin handle.

Although Robeson bone was and is quite popular, in its best days Robeson also handled knives in mother-of-pearl, genuine stag, and the various composition handle materials. The shortage of bone during World War II forced the company to use rough black composition handle materials.



Barlow

Robeson
"ShurEdge"

Current Address:

PO Box 500
Franklinville, NY 14737
1-800-222-5233