

May 2012

Meetings are held at ABE's Kountry Kitchen, 4921 Palm Beach Blvd, Morse Shores Plaza,
1 mile West of Interstate 75, Exit 141. First Tuesday of every month, at 5:00 PM



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The April 2012 meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had a attendance of 11 members and guests. This month's door prizes were a Buck Knight Lockback and a Sabre Utility knife. The winner of the Buck Knight was Tom Hurst and the Sabre went to Kathy Harrington. This month's 50/50 winner was Bert Burnell for the sum of \$20.00. 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.

This month's BEST SPECIAL KNIFE Award was for the Best Stag Folder knife was Russ Smegal for his KA-BAR Trapper with beautiful colorful stag. Next month's BEST SPECIAL KNIFE will be your best **Pearl Knife (Straight or Folder)**. So bring your favorite Pearl knife to impress the members and the judges. You may also be rewarded with a small prize from the club.

Next meeting Date: May 1st - Free Door Prizes Drawing
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and share with the members
May's Best Special Feature Knife is : Best PEARL
Bring your best to win a Prize

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

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

May 5-6	Fort Lauderdale - Suncoast Gun Show - War Memorial Auditorium
May 12-13	West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - Central Florida Fairgrounds
May 12-13	Palmetto - Suncoast Gun Show - Manatee Civic Center
May 19-20	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte County Fairgrounds
May 19-20	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds

NOTICE: New banking rules for club's checking account. All checks must be issued only to: **Russell Smegal**. All checks issued to the **FMKC** or **Ft Myers Club** will be returned to you for correction. Simply enter into the memo area what the check is issued for. Sorry for the inconvenience.....



*"Blue Blazes" Titanium
S30v and Mother of Pearl*

Maker: Terry Renner

**Current President of Florida
Knifemakers Association.**

He learned his craft initially from several Guild members living in his hometown of Estes Park, Colorado. R.D Nolen, T.J. Yancy, and Howard Robbins were kind enough to invite him into their shops. At that time he also began doing deep-relief carving, and has incorporated this feature into many of his creations. He is also the officially endorsed PUMA® Knife restoration expert



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

FMKC NEWSLETTER



-Machetes-



You would not want to be left alone in the wilderness without a machete with you – a dependable one at that. In fact, it may be the only thing you need so you can survive out there. It cuts, grazes, mallets, mines, or even toils. It is handy and does the basic and crude jobs for you.

For over 300 years, machetes are known to be the best survival tool. It is a kind of fixed blade knife which knife collectors could not miss to have since it is most of the time affordable and functional.

While tribesmen in Africa consider this as one of their very prized possessions and probably a basic need, it also offers various qualities that any person searches for in a working knife. This knife is almost identical with a bolo knife (used in the Indonesia, Philippines, and Cuba) since bolos are also large cutting-tools and purposely used in rural areas. They are usually 3mm thick and 50-60 cm long which means they must have a good weight in them. A bolo, however, is also said to be under the category of machete.

Also known in South and Central America as “matchet”, this huge knife can break open hard bamboo stems or a coconut and may cut branches of trees. When you get stuck in a forest, this fixed blade knife, can be your savior. It can make a clearing on your trail by slashing off tall and bushy plants against your way or when you get trapped in the forest by dusk, you can chop wood and make fire. It can cut fruits for your food or herbs for your medicine. And though you would not really hope for it, when wild animals would come to attack you, you can use your tool for self-defense.

The machete is widely used in many tropical and subtropical countries wherein there is thick vegetation. But aside from that, this knife is also readily used as a weapon especially in uprisings. That of course, if you are in uncivilized and isolated areas.

Usually in third world countries, this huge cutting tool is considered as a very sharp knife. On the other hand, many movies have featured this kind of knife. A popular example is Rambo, where Sylvester Stallone starred on, wherein he used this type of knife as his ultimate weapon in his attacks to soldiers. Consequently, his knives in all Rambo series became as popular as the films that the Rambo knives have also become famous collectible knives.

But so much for that, how do we qualify a dependable machete knife? A good matchet should have a huge weight in them and that comes from the blade which is millimeters thick. This is so not to send your knife flying in just a second when you are applying full force in chopping lumber or slaying hunted animals.

A very thin blade is useless that it could just fracture when put to tough use when in the first place they are intended for rough and hard jobs. The blade must also not be too glossy and clear because that does not manifest sharpness. In addition, a good blade is made of high carbon steel which is as sturdy as the grip.

The handle is usually black and is made of stronghold compounds while the sheath should be made of very thick, flexible plastic so that it covers the knife from blade handle to tip. The sheath is needlessly attractive. Actually, there are yet many factors to consider in buying a machete if you search in through the net. There are many types and styles of it available in markets whether you opt for a working matchet or another one of your collection. It is a good thing that they are generally not very pricey but have dependable quality.

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.