

May 2019

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



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The April meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 15 members & guests. This month's door prizes consisted of a Frost Radical Edge Folder and a Bayes USA Barlow. David Masten won the Frost Folder and the Bayes Barlow went to Judy Masten. This month's 50/50 drawing of \$27 went to Robert Coy Baughman III. 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. There were no entries for the **Best Special** knife for the month.

*Next meeting Date: 7th of May - Free Door Prizes Drawing
Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and/or Sell
May'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 !!!

May 4-5	Lakeland - Rifle & Pistol Club Show - Sun & Fun Expo Campus
May 11-12	Sarasota - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Robarts Sports Arena
May 18-19	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
May 25-26	Naples - Naples Gun & Knife Show - Italian American Club
May 25-26	West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - South Florida Fairgrounds

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FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com

FMKC NEWSLETTER



Why Carry a Knife?



A few years ago, I witnessed a car accident where a driver rolled his truck down a cliff. I was the first capable person on the scene, so I shouted at someone to go find cell reception and call 911 while I climbed down to the driver. The truck was perched against a manzanita and at risk of falling farther. With official help at least 45 minutes away, it was clear I needed to do something. Fortunately, I was carrying a pocketknife with a glass breaker on the handle, so I was able to smash a window. The guy was conscious but incoherent, having sustained a bleeding head wound and various other injuries. He was hanging upside down, and the seatbelt wouldn't release, so I used the knife to slice him out. Without the knife, I might have been able to smash the window with a rock, but it wouldn't have been easy. And I might have been able to wiggle him out of the seatbelt, but that could have exacerbated his injuries. Both of those actions would have been slower than just using the knife. In the end, because I had a good knife on me, a bad situation was made slightly better.

In far less exciting circumstances, I use my knife every day to open packages, cut fasteners and rope, assist with small vehicle and home repairs, and prepare and eat dinner. A sharp pocketknife makes an excellent replacement for the a dull restaurant steak knife.

Is a Knife a Weapon? Technically, yes, albeit a poor one. Poking very small holes in a foe can cause major damage, but not the kind that hurts enough to cut through adrenaline and stop an attacker. But that doesn't stop knives from being subject to labyrinthine legislation, which varies by country, state, municipality, and facility. Look up regulations where you live or are visiting. Where I live in Los Angeles, I'm allowed to carry a knife of any size and locking configuration as long as I don't conceal it. There's no clear definition of "concealment," so if you run into the wrong cop at the wrong time, you risk getting in trouble for having even a small Swiss Army knife buried in a pocket. Use common sense and do some research, and you'll be okay.

What Type of Knife Should You Carry? I'm talking about pocketknives you want to carry with you every day, so I'm going to focus on folding designs, not fixed blades. With folding knives, the mechanism that holds the blade open is crucial. Knives that rely on tension between the handle and the blade to stay open or Swiss Army-style designs that use a tensioned bar to press against the blade's back fold under pressure. For that reason, you want a knife with a strong locking mechanism.

You'll want a knife with a single blade between two and four inches long. These designs are ubiquitous: all the big brands, such as Spyderco, SOG, Benchmade, and Cold Steel, make them. With such a design, you get a high-quality blade, a strong and reliable locking mechanism, and a handle that actually lets you wield the thing.

How You Carry It Matters! Like multitools, the entire point of a pocketknife is to have one in your pocket. If it's too big, too bulky, or too awkward, you won't have it on you when you need it. Most people carry their knives in their pants pockets. You can clip one inside a jacket or shove it in your cargo pants or put one on a keychain, but for rapid access and secure carry, nothing beats the pants pocket. In that pocket, you'll want the knife to ride with the blade's tip pointing up. The back of the blade should face rearward, flush with the back of your pocket. This configuration allows you to grab the knife easily and prevents the blade from accidentally falling open in your pocket. Look for pocket clips that sit adjacent to the blade's tip and let you carry the knife low in your pocket. SOG makes really great pocket clips; Spyderco makes really bad ones. And there are people on knife forums who can make you better clips for a few bucks if you do your research.

Bigger Isn't Always Better! Right now, I'm carrying a fancy Benchmade 484 that a friend gave me as a gift. At just three inches long and 0.114 inches thick, the blade is shorter and thinner than I'm used to carrying. But that makes it a lot better at daily tasks. For example, I'm a steak enthusiast, and I use this knife to cut meat at home and restaurants. The thin blade is much better at slicing and doesn't sacrifice any capability. It's the pivot more than the thickness of the blade that determines strength. A knife is supposed to be useful when you need it. A shorter, thinner, lighter design may be a better choice than something that looks impressive but is difficult to carry.

Extracted from the internet.

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.*