

July 2009

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 June meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had a attendance of 12 members and guests. Rain in the area explained the low attendance. This month's door prizes were a Buck 112 Ranger and a Frost Bone Handled Copperhead. The winner of the Buck Ranger was Dave Hyre and the Frost Copperhead went to Bill Cyphert. The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner of \$30.00 was Ken Rabedeau. 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.

The meeting's low attendance did not prevent the sale and trading of many knives. A good time was had by all although the members had to wait until after the rain showers had slowed down before leaving. Thanks to all that attended and we hope to see a larger turn out at the next meeting.

*Next meeting Date: July 7th – 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 !!!

July 4-5	West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - South Florida Fairgrounds
July 4-5	Orlando - Florida Gun Shows - Central Florida Fairgrounds
July 11-12	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte County Fairgrounds
July 18-19	Palmetto - Suncoast Gun Show - Manatee Civic Center
July 24-25	Queen Cutlery Collectors 6th Biennial Show - Titusville, PA
July 24-26	Central Kentucky Knife Club Show - Lawrenceburg, KY
July 24-26	AG Russell Knife Event 2009 - Rogers, AR
July 25-26	Miami - Southern Classic Gun & Knife Show - Miami-Dade Fairgrounds

As we celebrate this Fourth of July, with our Fireworks, and hot dogs, may we remember what this day is all about.

Don't let us forget those brave men and women that fought and died so that we might have the freedom to speak up when things are not as they should be.

The freedom to worship in churches of our choice.

I don't know about you, but I still get "goose bumps" when I hear the song, "God Bless America", or when I stand and "Pledge Allegiance To The Flag".

So enjoy the holiday, but don't forget those who made it possible.

Extracted from the Internet....



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*



Check this website out

FMKC WEB SITE

www.geocities.com/mikegm.geo/knifclub.html

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



U.S. Customs Seeks to Prohibit Assisted Opening Knives

Assisted opening knives could be reclassified as illegal switchblades if a measure proposed by United States Customs and Border Protection becomes law.

On May 21, Customs proposed a revision of what constitutes a switchblade. This new interpretation would deem assisted opening knives, as well as those featuring one-hand operation, illegal per the U.S. Switchblade Act of 1958.

Specifically, Customs seeks "revocation of four ruling letters and revocation of treatment relating to the admissibility of certain knives with spring-assisted opening mechanisms." Those four ruling letters do not classify assisted openers as switchblades.

The current federal definition of a switchblade is any knife that opens automatically using gravity, inertia or hand pressure to a button or device on the handle. Assisted openers and one-hand operation knives rely on studs, grooves or other devices attached to the blade to open. These blades must be manipulated by hand to open.

If enacted, the Customs proposal would effect the 35.6 million people who own one-hand operation knives, according to the American Knife & Tool Institute (AKTI). Furthermore, Knife Rights indicates roughly 80 percent of all knives sold in the United States use one-hand operation. The knife industry as a whole employs 24,000 people and contributes an estimated \$8 billion annually to the economy, according to Knife Rights.

Both knife advocacy groups are voicing opposition to the measure.

"The [Federal Switchblade] Act is very clear that a switchblade must have an activating button on the handle," a post on Knife on Knife Right's Web site states. "Without a button, it is not a switchblade and this has been upheld by numerous cases on many levels over the years. CBP's convoluted reasoning in their proposal to reach back beyond the law and to expand their regulatory purview by rationalizing 'intent' as justification for this new interpretation is a stretch, at best, and illegitimate at worst."

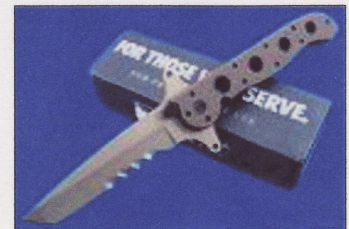
AKTI filed for an extension of the 30-day minimum public comment period required of Customs. That period ends June 21. **Update:** *Customs denied AKTI's request for an extension.* AKTI is also drafting an official response to the proposal.

History

This is not the first time Customs sought to restrict assisted opening knives. In 2000, Customs seized 80,000 Columbia River Knife and Tool (CRKT) knives. Over a 16-day period, CRKT lost roughly \$1 million in sales due to the seizure, according to AKTI. Customs eventually released the knives back to CRKT.

Extracted from Blade Magazine Web Site.

**Example of
affected
knives**



FMKC Club Knives/For Sale: Attention all club members that are looking to start a collection of the club's Annual knives or to fill missing gaps in your present collection contact Russ Smegal, I have many of the club knives for sale, including the first FMKC CLUB KNIVES (1984 Case Trapper w/New Grind). I also have some of the 10th and 20th Anniversary knives, plus many of the Annual show Knives. For further information contact me at (239) 283-7253 or e-mail me at: rsmegal@comcast.net.