



Ft Myers Knife Club - Last Meeting Update

The July meeting of the Ft. Myers Knife Club had an attendance of 10 members & guests. The attendance was down because of the Hurricane (Elsa). This month's door prizes consisted of Schrade-Walden Trapper and a Schrade Liberty Bell. Casey Philibert won the Trapper and the Liberty Bell went to Jim McDonnell. The Monthly 50/50 drawing of \$22.00 was won by Russ Smegal. The **Best Special** featured knife for the month was won by Renate Taylor for her Ralph Harris (Brandon, FL) custom pearl switchblade (*see picture below*).

Next meeting Date: 3rd of August – Free Door Prizes Drawing.

Bring your favorite knives for Show & Tell and/or Sell

Aug's Feature Knife will be your best: Foreign Made Folder.

Bring your best to win a Prize

Monthly Gun & Knife Show Schedule

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

Aug 7-8	Ft Myers - Florida Gun Shows - Lee Civic Center
Aug 7-8	West Palm Beach - Sport Show Specialists - South Florida Fairgrounds
Aug 14-15	Naples - Expo Gun Show - Italian American Club
Aug 14-15	Sarasota - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show- Robarts Arena
Aug 21-22	Port Charlotte - 2 Guys Gun & Knife Show - Charlotte Cty Fairgrounds
Aug 28-29	Tampa - Florida Gun Shows - Florida State Fairgrounds



Maker:
Ralph D. Harris
Brandon, Florida.

Specialties: Collector quality interframe folders. **Patterns:** High tech locking folders of his own design with various mechanisms.

Technical: Grinds 440C, ATS-34 folders and commercial Damascus. Offers various frame materials including 416ss, and titanium; file worked frames and his own engraving.

General Remarks: Full-time maker; first knife sold in 1978. **Mark:** Last name, or name and city.



FMKC WEB SITE

www.FtMyersKnifeClub.mgmikutis.com



CLUB OFFICERS

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

FMKC NEWSLETTER

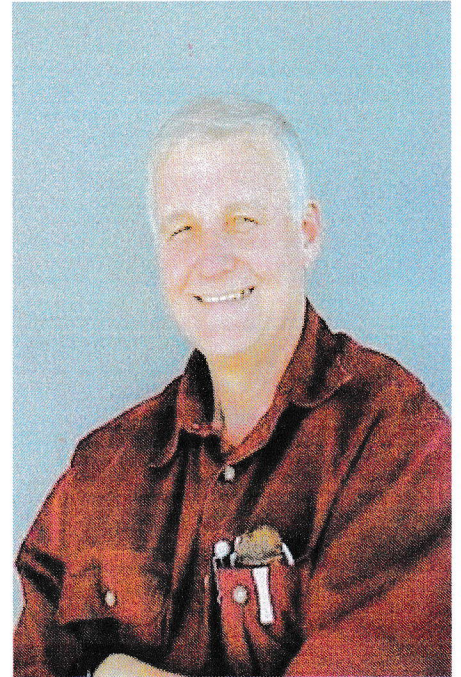


Christopher (Chris) Reeve Famous South African Knife Maker

Christopher Stanley Reeve was born on December 4, 1953, in Durban, South Africa. His original vocation was that of tool and die making. Reeve trained at the Pineware Manufacturing Company, serving a four-year tool- and die-making apprenticeship that finished in 1978. Reeve credits his experience in tool and die for developing his grinding skills and giving him the manufacturing and materials knowledge he needed to jumpstart him in professional knife making.

As a young man, Reeve's spare time was largely spent engaged in motorcycle racing. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, he was a regular competitor in South Africa's Grand Prix motorcycle racing circuit. Unlike many of his competitors, Reeve did not have corporate funding. As a result, Reeve used the highly competitive race setting to hone his problem-solving skills, custom tuning his motorcycle with components often designed and fabricated in his own shop.

In 1987, Chris married Anne Cameron in Johannesburg, South Africa. In order to pursue improved business opportunities, Chris and Anne moved to the United States in 1989, and settled in Boise, Idaho. In 2003, Chris and Anne were granted US citizenship.



Reeve began his knife-making career by chance. Before being called up for a 3-month compulsory military service period in 1975 on the Mozambique / South African border, he noted that the standard army kit did not include a good all-purpose knife. As a result, Reeve decided to design and make one.

A subsequent three-month military service period in 1978 was spent on the Angola/ Namibia border. Reeve had previously designed and made for himself a hidden tang knife with a wooden handle, inlaid with silver wire. The climate in Durban where the knife was made is hot and humid, while the Angola/ Namibia area is semi-desert. After a few days in the dry air, the wooden handle had dried and large cracks appeared. This set Reeve thinking about a knife that could be used across all climates without such damage. The idea of an all-steel knife, with both handle and blade made from a single solid bar, started to germinate. Reeve's resulting one piece knife concept was first produced as a custom knife in 1982. The one piece concept hit production as the 7 inch bladed MK IV, with 40 pieces becoming available for sale early in 1983. Chris stopped tool making and became a full-time knifemaker in January 1984.



Large Sebenza 21

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.