



January 2005

Flint River Knife Club

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Alex Whetsell
1600 Palmetto-Tyrone Rd.
Sharpsburg, GA 30277
aw@atlantavirtual.com
Alex is our webmaster (and doing a fine job at it!)

Russell ("Rusty") Hawkins
437 Wagon Wheel Trail
Fairburn, GA 30213
770-306-3915
He is in the knife making supplies business.

Bobby Patterson
131 Lake Run
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
678-467-4313
bsp@charter.net

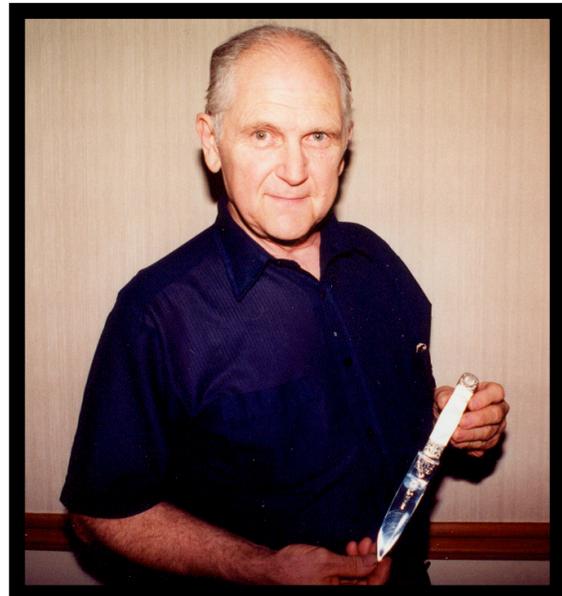
George Egbert
8494 Lake Forest Drive
Jonesboro, GA 30236
770-712-7772 or 770-471-9599
gwegbert@yahoo.com

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 4, 7 pm
First Baptist Church of
Jonesboro

SAD NEWS

Fred Henderson, a long time member of Flint River Knife Club, passed away Tuesday, December 21, 2004. He was an artist whose work is coveted by the rich and famous. His woodcarvings and metal engravings, which he created in his spare time using a hammer and chisel, earned



him prominent friends "but not a lot of money," said Laura Henderson, his wife of 49 years. "He always said we had a roof over our heads and that's all we needed."

Fred chiseled naval scenes on a miniature cannon and presented it to Gov. Jimmy Carter in 1974. A hunting rifle that Fred engraved with images of Abraham Lincoln, the Liberty Bell and other historical events -- to commemorate the nation's bicentennial in 1976 -- is displayed in Gerald Ford's presidential library in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He became friends with Hank Aaron after presenting the Atlanta Braves star an engraved shotgun to commemorate the slugger's 715th home run. Fred also carved a jewelry box for singer Amy Grant.

"He was just a super fellow. He was a master engraver...and he was known the world over," said lifelong friend, James Steinbrecher of Huntington, W.Va. A native of Huntington, Fred enjoyed the fame but was most proud of being named to his Huntington East High School's Hall of Fame.

"I've stood in the White House and the Oval Office but being recognized by the town, school you grew up in is No.1," he said in a 1987 interview with *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

During W.W.II, Fred served as an instructor at West Point Military Academy. He later worked as a firefighter in Alaska.

A talented athlete, Fred was an all-star baseball catcher in high school and tried out with the Cleveland Indians and the Cincinnati Reds. The Reds offered him a contract, but he stayed in Huntington to be with his mother who was ill with cancer. He eventually went to work at glassmaker Owens-Illinois and transferred to Atlanta in 1957. (*Excerpts taken from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution*)

This knife club could always rely on Fred to help in whatever way he could. He frequently engraved knives at no charge for the benefit drawing for the club. He would also help out at the annual knife shows. Last year he and John Anderson won the first "Recognition of Service Award" for their faithful and outstanding service to this knife club. Fred said that he

was "quite honored" to have received this award, but it is all of us who knew Fred that feel honored; to have known such a kind and caring man. We will miss him greatly.

CLUB KNIVES

The 2005 club knife will be available at the February meeting. A low number drawing will be available to those who have paid for their knife at or before the February meeting. The cost of the knife is \$63.00. Add \$5.15 if you want the knife mailed. Make your check out to "Flint River Knife Club" and send it to the club treasurer, Marsha Brewer, 2940 Medina Drive, Jonesboro, GA 30236. You may also choose to pick up your knife at the annual knife show, February 26 & 27, 2005.

To bring the club current with our club knives, we will have 2 club knives in 2005. Confused? Don't be! Here's how it works. The 2004 club knife came out this past November. The 2005 club knife that is available in February commemorates the 20th anniversary of our annual knife show. The club knife for 2006 will be available November 2005. **Now** it all makes perfect sense, doesn't it? I thought so.

THE CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

was a lot of fun. The food was delicious. We enjoyed talking with many members that often aren't able to attend the monthly meetings. We had a benefit drawing for a marvelous set of steak knives, which Charles Dunn won. The 3 knives made for the benefit drawing at the

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FRKC Newsletter

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Our Webpage:

[www.flintriver
knifeclub.com](http://www.flintriver
knifeclub.com)

annual knife show were also on display. (Oh my, they are beautiful!) There was also a slide show, "Photographic Memories," presented by Mike Mullikin on his iMac computer.

A "Recognition of Service Award" was given to Rebecca Hensley and James Martin for their many, many, tireless hours of service to the club over the years. (Thank you again, Becky and Jim!) We surprised June Hawkins with a gift in appreciation of her years as Club Treasurer and Chairlady for the annual knife show. It was a gorgeous custom dagger made by Wayne Hensley. June was **almost** speechless.

THANKS FROM JUNE

In a note to the club after the Christmas dinner, June wrote: "You truly surprised me at the dinner last Tuesday night. I treasure each of your friendships. The beautiful custom dagger by Wayne Hensley will be displayed in my collection with pride.

I have enjoyed being Chairlady of our annual show for many years and made many new friends each year. I am confident that Marsha will enjoy it as much as I have and will incorporate new ideas once she gets started.

I hope all of you and your families have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your friendship and the beautiful dagger. I hope each of you will have tables at the 20th Show February 26 & 27 or attend and join the fun."

HAPPY NEW YEAR!