



# *Knot* *News*

**International Guild of Knot Tyers  
Pacific Americas Branch**

**December 1997**

**Joseph Schmidbauer-Editor**

**Issue #6**

## **IGKT-PAB is now Official**

I received a phone message on Nov. 13th from IGKT Council member Brian Field telling me that we have finally been accepted as a Branch and our bylaws have been ratified. Nigel Harding, Secretary of the IGKT, also sent me an e-mail that same evening apologizing for the delay and promised to send the formal confirmation letter by the next post. So we are now an official Branch of the International Guild of Knot Tyers! It has been some time coming but it has been worth the wait.

There have been two monthly meetings since the last minutes were published. They occurred on October 14th and November 11th. Members attending were: Darrell McNurlan, Lindsey Philpott, Joe Schmidbauer, Sean Vattuone, Tom Gergen, Tim Howard, Mike McLaughlin, Mark Sherman, Mike Bowman, Steve Van Orson, Ron Haralson, Mike Waring. Tom Mortell also showed up as a prospective member.

## **Web Site**

The Pacific Americas Branch is now up and running on the internet with our own home page. Lindsey has gotten the

initial site working and everyone is welcome to come see. The address is:

<http://home.millenia.com/~igktpab>

We are hoping this should help advertise our presence and it might even bring in a new influx of members. We are working to get our site linked to the other knotting pages on the web that will help people to find us in cyberspace.

## **Newsletter**

The editor of the *Knot News* put out a request to all Branch members and any IGKT member (even casual readers if they want) to send in filler for future issues of the knotting newsletter. He's looking for articles, drawings, puzzles, hints and tips, jokes, trash or treatises. Anything that you can imagine can be put into print.

## **LA Maritime Institute**

The Maritime Institute will be having their annual dinner next spring and they have appealed to the Branch for centerpieces. A dozen are needed. There was some discussion about design which will be worked out by Lindsey before the next meeting. It was agreed to have a 'making-up party' at the next meeting and try to get as many done at one time as was possible. Many hands



make light work; so come help out with this pleasant task.

### LA Maritime Museum

Lindsey has been in contact with Dr. Pete Lee of the Museum and we have been offered an official affiliation with the Maritime Museum. Some discussion followed about what this entailed for the Branch. Would we be limited by the affiliation just to this Museum? No, we would not. We would just appear in their publications as being associated with the Museum, helping to heighten the prestige of each. Is there any cost entailed? No, there is no cost to the Branch.

It was agreed to pursue the affiliation with the Museum.

The Long Beach Naval Ship Yard closed this year and the Museum was able to acquire some valuable pieces of memorabilia, among them three very fine knot boards. The museum has put a request to the Branch to refurbish these boards, where needed, and to help make a catalog the knots that are displayed.

Tom Gergen suggested to contact LuAnn Kozma and Terry Ridings for advice on how to proceed on such a project without doing too much damage and how to preserve line in such displays.

### Sign & Flyers

Discussion then turned to how best advertize our presence to the public at large. Sean manages a marine hardware store and asked for information flyers, posters with meeting times and handouts for the curious prospects. He also pointed out that since we meet in the back classroom of the Museum, we might have lost members who showed up for a meeting and found a dark front door. Joe will work up a sign for the front door and one for the sidewalk leading to the classroom, directing new people to our meeting place.

After more discussion it was agreed that the Branch needs a publicist to help

spread our presence to the newspapers, magazines and other media. This would be a new position within the Branch, so the request is being put out to ALL members for someone to fill this spot. Do you think you could help?

### Workshops

After business was concluded there was time for some knot fun.

On October 14th, Tim Howard did a lively discussion and demonstration on the 'Evolution and Enlargement of the Turk's Head.' Tim works mainly in leather and some of his Turk's Heads and Pineapple Knots are truly breathtaking. For those interested in seeing his work, he has a web site at:

<http://www.dwntwn.com/leather>

On November 11th, Darrell McNurlan gave a class on 'Knot Coverings.' He showed members the French Spiral Hitching, St. Mary's Hitching, Moku Hitching and Coxcombing.

### Puzzles

Those of you who took the time to do the word search in the last *Knot News*, here are the answers:

BACK SPLICE - BOWLINE - BUTTERFLY (knot)  
CARRICK BEND - CLOVE (hitch)  
DIAMOND (knot) - EYESPLICE  
FIGURE EIGHT (knot) - FISHERMAN'S (knot)  
HALF (hitch) - HIGHWAYMAN'S (knot)  
LARK'S HEAD (knot) - LONG SPLICE  
MARLINESPIKE (hitch) - MONKEY FIST  
OVERHAND (knot) - REEF (knot)  
ROLLING (hitch) - SHEEP SHANK  
SHEET BEND - SLIP (knot) - SURGEONS (knot)  
TAUTLINE (hitch) - TIMBER (hitch)  
TURK'S HEAD

Did you get them all?

The next Meeting of the Pacific Americas Branch is set for January 13th at the Museum at 7:00 PM.

**Happy Holidays to You All!**