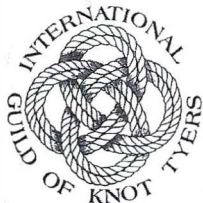


Knot



News

INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF KNOT TYERS - PACIFIC AMERICAS BRANCH

January 2004

Joseph Schmidbauer-Editor

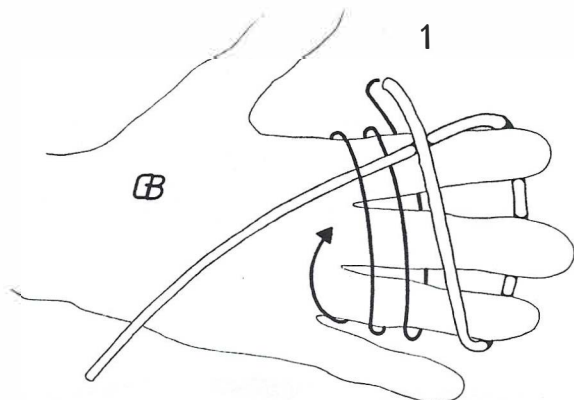
Issue #42

Knobbly Knot

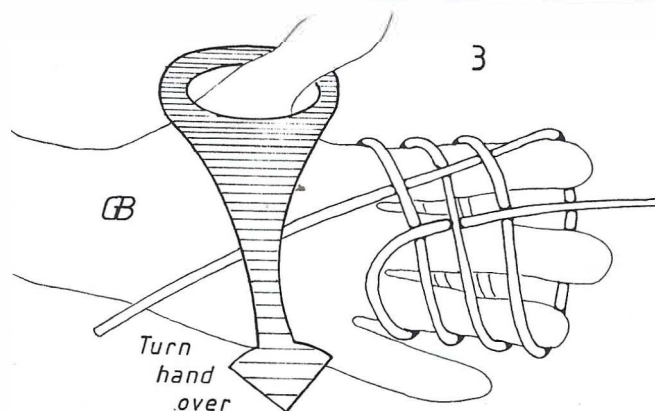
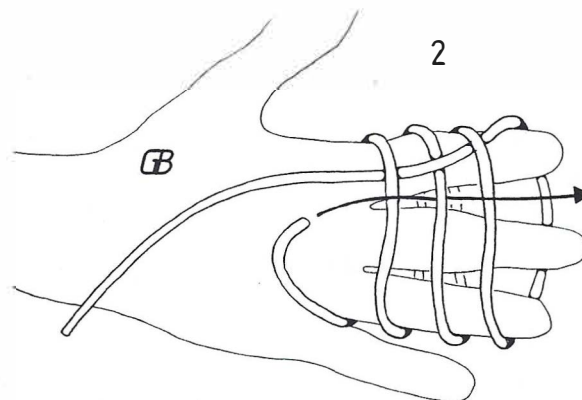
by Geoffrey Budworth

This can either be an elaborate Monkey's Fist or a simple end knot for a bell-rope, key fob or zipper pull. Learn one, get the other one free. It is tied in a single stand and so, depending upon the diameter of the cord used to tie it (and whether or not it is doubled, tripled or quadrupled), this versatile knot can be used to cover spherical cores of different sizes. The method of tying it in the hand is easy to follow and to learn.

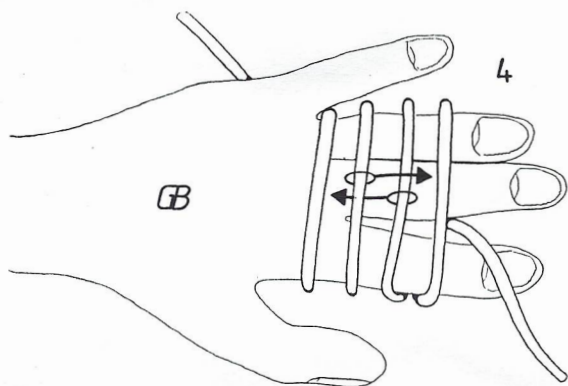
First wrap the working end three times around the first three fingers of one hand, trapping the standing part, taking care to go O-U-O as shown. [1]



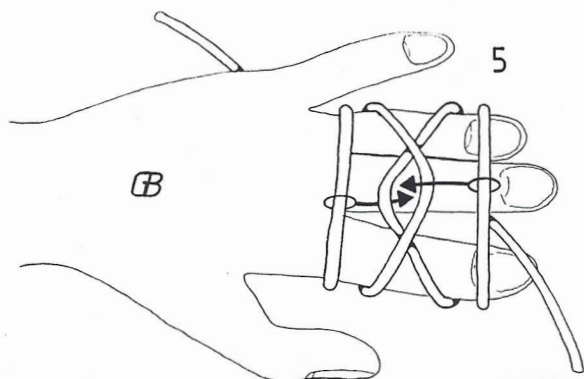
Next tuck the working end alongside the standing part with the opposite weave, going O-U-O [2, 3] and park the end between the index and middle fingers.



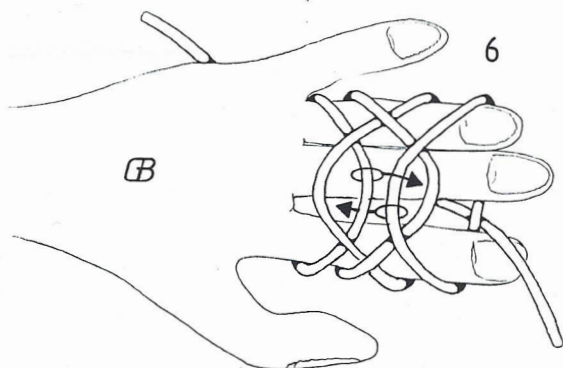
TURN THE HAND OVER and see how the layout now presented is four roughly parallel strands. Overlap the middle two as shown. [4]



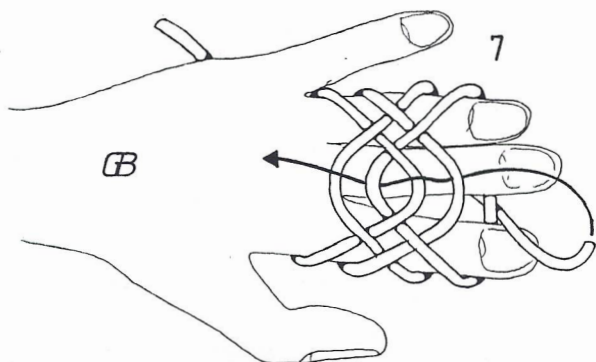
Overlap each of the outer two strands with its nearest middle neighbor. [5]



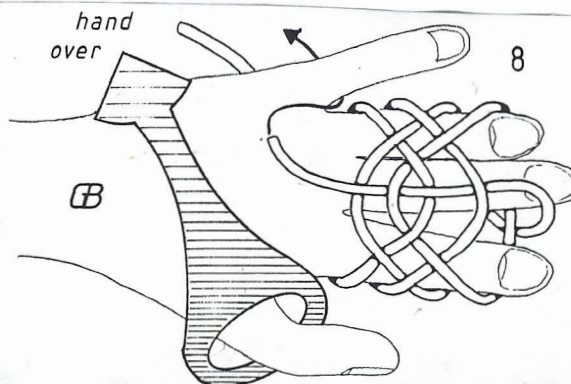
Overlap the central pair of bights. [6]



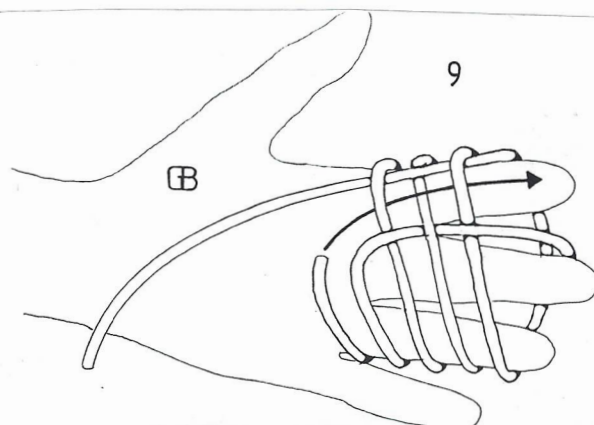
With the working end make a locking tuck U-O-U-O. [7]



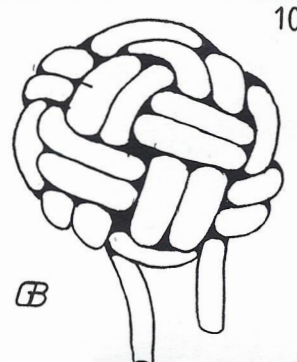
Pass the working end between the little finger and the ring finger and TURN THE HAND OVER. [8]



Lastly tuck the working end alongside the standing part in an identical U-O-U weave. [9]



Remove the completed knot from the hand. Fit it loosely around a spherical core, double (triple or quadruple) the ply as required, and finally tighten the knot. [10]



This neat knot of 18 panels was shown to me by Jeff Wyatt and Terry Barns, who were taught it by Luc Proveur at a meeting of the French Branch held in the Grand Banks Fishing Museum, Fcamp, France on 29th and 30th March 2003.

From the Secretary

The New Year is upon us and it is time once again to discuss the present state of the IGKT -Pacific Americas Branch.

After our latest "pledge drive" the membership for 2004 stands as follows:

Alaska

David 'Deuce' Audette
Louie Bartos
Dan Callahan
Don Vanderwal
Robert Young

California

Darrell Ausherman
Harley Babbitz
Charlie Bell
Robert Blanchard
Robert Bosch
Yvonne Chang
Dean Cole
Tillie Easton
Tom Gergen [Webmaster]
Ed Haegele
Jose Hernandez-Juviel [Librarian]
Alex Kleider
Ed Koepsel
Clair Gene LaZor
Karen Lee LaZor
Chris Letsche
David Meredith
Lily Morales
Tom Mortell
Dr. Ross Munnerlyn
Dan Peisker
Rudy Petschek
Lindsey Philpott [President]
Willard Salmons
Harold Schapiro
Joe Schmidbauer [Secretary/Treasurer]
Joe Soanes
Mike Sullivan
Sylvia wikle
Jimmy Ray Williams

Indiana

John Williams

Montana

Steve Brown

North Carolina

Dave Burke

Oregon

Clint Funk
Maggie Machado
Richard Woodfin jr.

Pennsylvania

Dan Cashin

South Carolina

E.J. 'Skip' Dickens

Washington

Dennis Armstrong
Roy Chapman
John Douceur
Patrick Ducey
Richard Gehring
David Peters
Don Rempe
Bob Schwartz

Wyoming

Mike Hickey "Tom Hall Braiding"

US Navy

Gene Smith

Belgium

Gert 'Willy' Willaert

A complete list with each member's address, phone number and email is available upon request to the Secretary.

My last check of our Branch bank balance shows that we have \$1063.79 funds available. I have a few outstanding checks yet to the Guild in England but this balance is close enough as no matter.

We have been stable at around 60 (or so) members for a number of years now and I don't see us growing much larger in the future. Members come and members go but we seem to stay at about the same level. Our website has been a great help in finding people who are interested in joining as well as the draw from the many shows and displays done by Lindsey Philpott, Tom Mortell, Joe Soanes and Charlie Bell.

We are up to issue #42 of the *Knot News* newsletter and it will continue as long as members send in articles, letters, drawings and other items to be published. This is the one way we have to keep in touch with each other and I would like to see everyone take advantage of it.

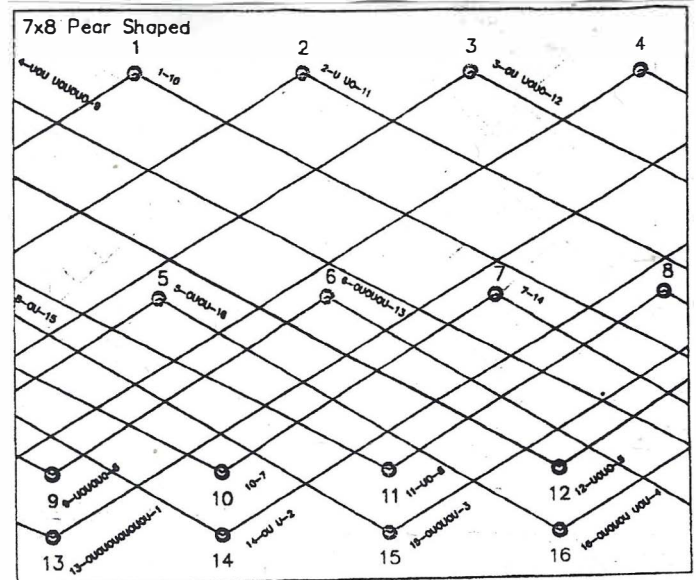
Jack moved forward to the rail and looked down into the waist of the ship. There he saw what he expected to see, some of the younger midshipman learning the fine points of their craft - long-splicing to leeward, a complex system of pointing to windward, and just beneath him Horatio Hanson was being shown some elementary skills such as sheet-bend, bowline, clove-hitch and rolling hitch by Joe Plaice, his recently-appointed sea-daddy, already horribly loquacious and didactic, though good-natured with it all."

Patrick O'Brian
The Blue Mizzen

Branch Bits

Tom Mortell of California saw this piece in L.M. Boyd's trivia column printed in the *Orange County Register* of December 30th, 2003: "A sixth-grade girl wrote in one of those "How I Spent My Summer" narratives that she "sat on a wharf and watched an old net maker tie a bunch of holes together with string." The teacher said the girl was confused, and gave her a 'C'. I would've given her an 'A'."

Roy Chapman of Washington has this to say about his latest project: "I just finished a 7Lx8B shaped Turk's Head by Pat Ducey. I am sure you have a carpenter's awl like I used for the pricker heaver in KN #29. In #60 tarred nylon it takes 3 plys to cover it perfectly. The finished handle is pretty big, 1.6" across the flats and 1.85" across the round sides. Still very comfortable. It would make a perfect gear shift knob. Saturday I finished a 13Lx6B closed ended Turk's Head on a wooden file handle (you know the kind you jam onto a mill file to keep it from eating your hand). I used #96 tarred nylon and it finished up about 1.3" diameter. Pat's pear shaped Turk's Head closes the 8 bights to what looks similar to the crown of the Little Lump knot (cross fid arcs)."



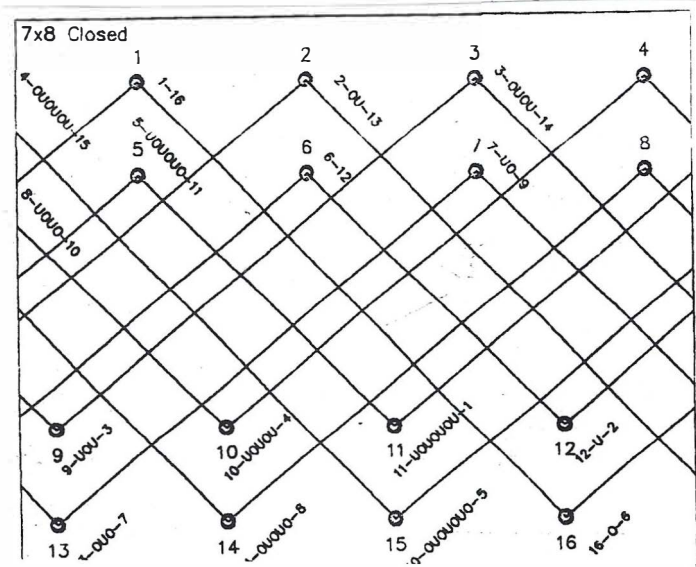
XEROX A SHORE
(TO READ) GOZLIND
TO LEAVE FLAT.

PUT AROUND
TIP TUBE.

STUFF TUBE
WITH PAIZER
OR ?

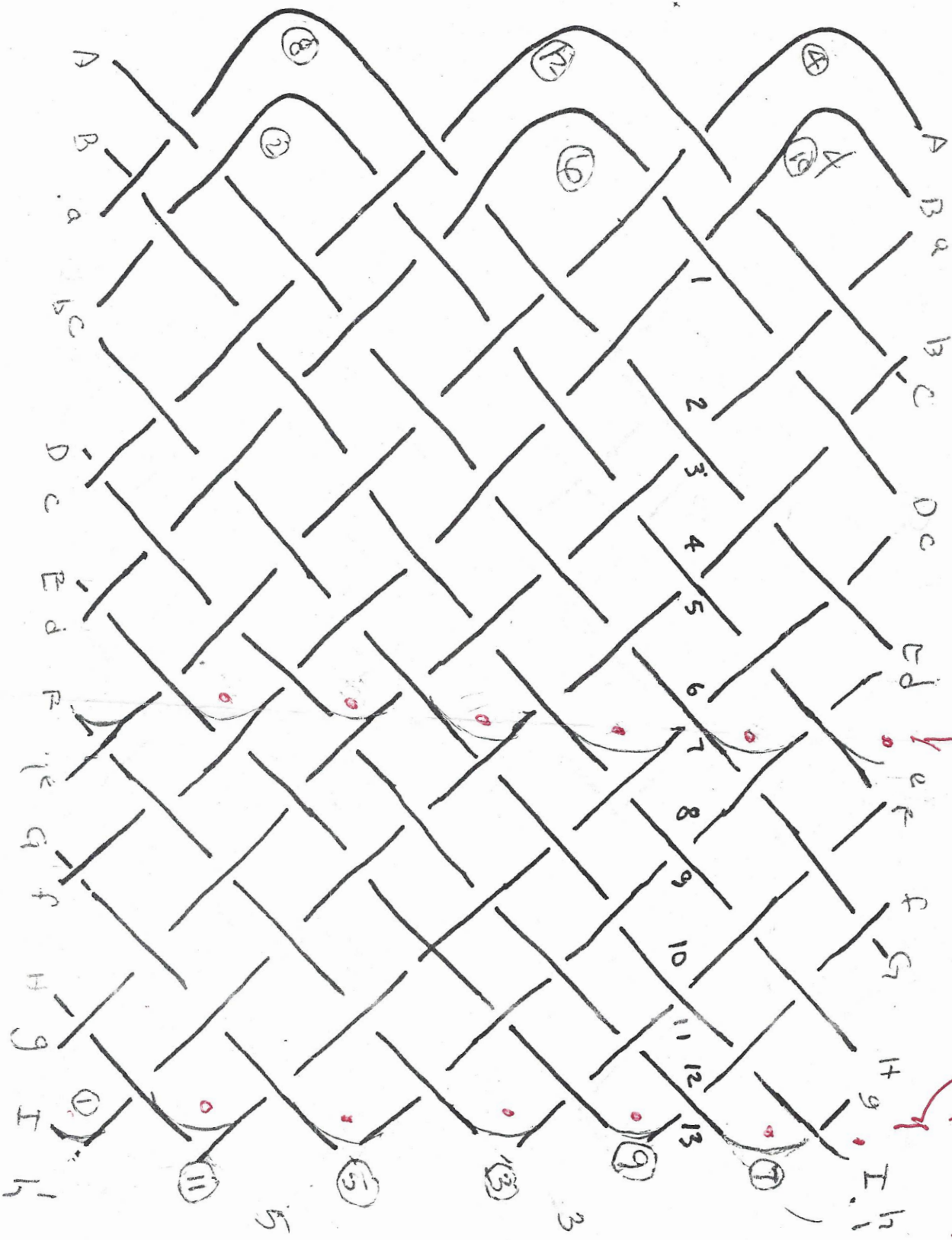
STICK PINS AT
POINTS.

HAVE FUN.



PINS HERE
FOR TLXCB

PINS HERE
FOR BLXCB

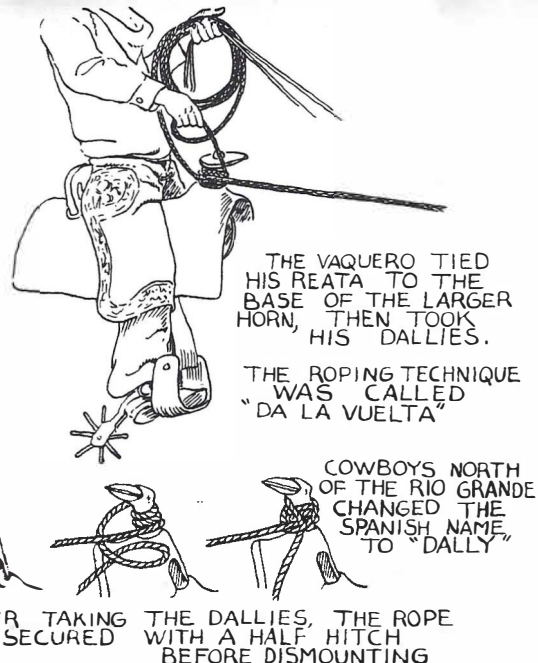


Thinking of Knotting...

by Roy Chapman

Have you ever noticed a phrase seeming to come from everyone at once? Lately I have been overrun with, "If they'd had it they'd have used it!" As so often occurs with me I have been nodding and agreeing, without really thinking. At face the statement is true: If they really had had "IT" they would have used "IT". In fact they did use "IT" as soon as it was invented, thus came the end of sail, the end of wooden ships, the end of hemp and manila, et al. You wouldn't have found CW Ashley chipping out flint knives and, though I don't know, I'll bet he wasn't grinding his own oil paints either. We knot tyers, on the other hand, are keeping alive an old art. I not only use my blocks and tackles daily but I use my hand woodworking and metal working tools, cut brush with a scythe (no gasoline powered "wheed whacker" here) and at least a few times a week I use my hand cranked food mill (AKA meat grinder). I have 100 mph duct tape, plastic cable ties, epoxy, nylon and poly rope, well most of the stuff of the age (except email). I even use a zippo whipping (like a butane back splice, sort of) from time to time. However, amongst my pocket trash is a little spool of twine for "proper" whipping. Yep, if they had it they would have used it. I find that although I do have "it" I more often than not will still do it the old fashion way. All this notwithstanding, I still take notes and use as my own the great ideas that folks have been showing me and saying, "If they'd had it they'd have used it". Sometimes it doesn't pay to stand and shout "Tradition" too loudly.

The Chief defect of Henry King
Was chewing little bits of String.
At last he swallowed some which tied
Itself in ugly Knots inside.
Physicians of the Utmost Fame
Were called at once; but when they came
They answered, as they took their Fees,
"There is no cure for this disease."
Hillaire Belloc



From the Mail Bag

Dan Cashin of Pennsylvania sent in this report: "Knot-wise I've been teaching the skill to several commercial clients in a Rigging Safety Class and have been having a good time of it. Hobby-wise I'm still involved with the *USS Constellation* as a member of Ship's Company. We're the Civil War reenactors that get to man her one weekend a month. [For a photo of Dan and friends please have a look at www.shipscompany.org -Editor] Also new this year are several Guild members who have been actually outfitting the ship, mostly the ratlines this season. Met them once when our schedules crossed and I can tell you they have done a GREAT job.

I too was involved in a forensic knot analysis this year for western state public defender. The task was serious but satisfying in that I think I helped the case. I'd recommend this activity to those folks who can SERIOUSLY study Robert Chisnall's excellent book on the subject."

Bob Schwartz of Washington writes: "I received KN #41 yesterday and was glad to see my 'directions' included. But a sentence was left out. The sentence, "Now turn the wheel so that the same spoke is now at the top of the wheel" should be inserted in line 18 of the directions between "Over the wheel" and "Rotate the knotting around". If the law of gravity was repealed the sentence wouldn't matter but, other than that, it's a hassle to work the knotting uphill." [Thanks for the correction - Editor]

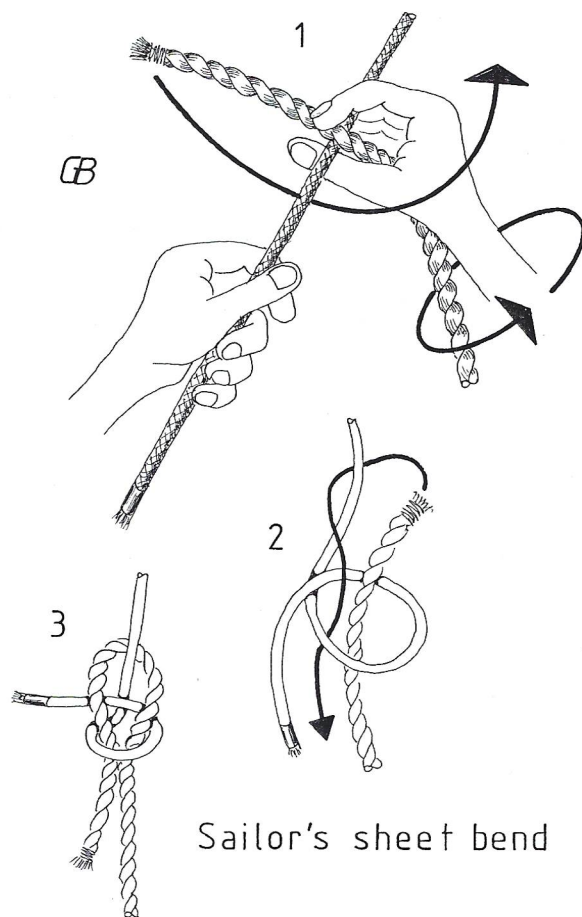
Sailors Sheet Bend

By Geoffrey Budworth

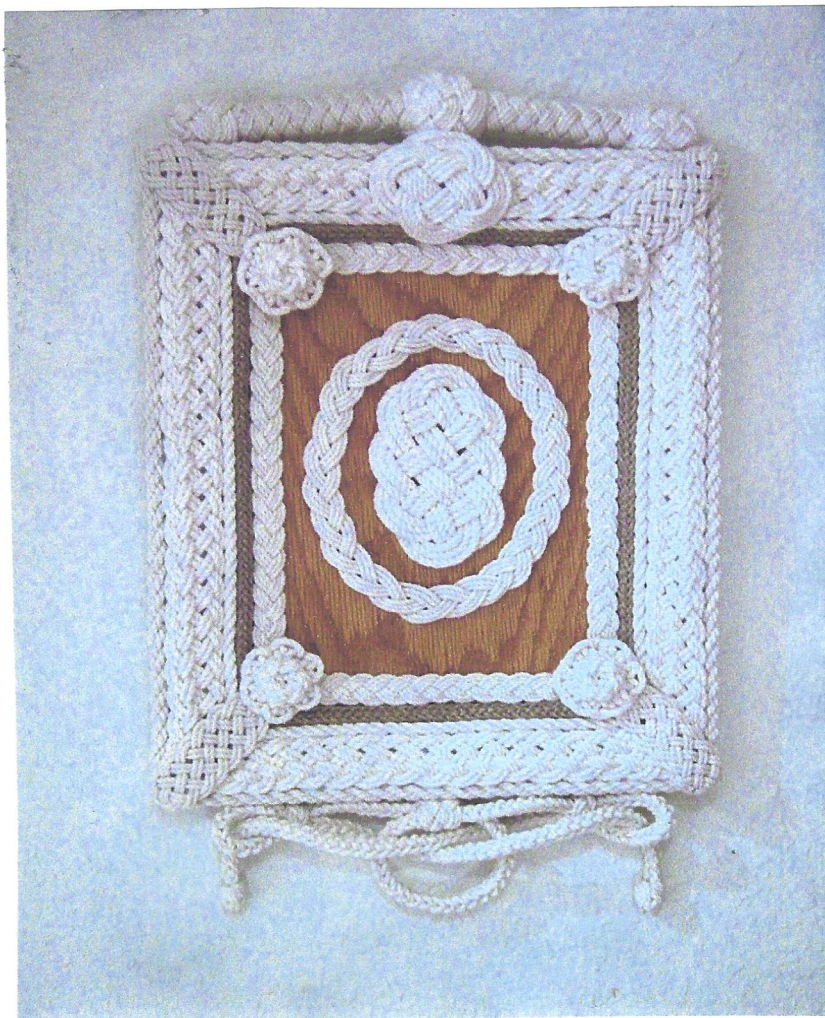
Most knotting manual – certainly mine – portray the common sheet bend as a pre-formed bight through which the other cord or rope is then passed, wrapped and tucked beneath itself. It is akin to the old hole, tree and rabbit way of learning the bowline... but there is a more streamlined technique.

Just as the bowline may be tied by the sailor's trip and throw method, so too may the sheet bend. It is merely a matter of locating the working ends in the correct positions [1] and then off you go. [2 & 3].

Avid readers of *Knot News* will, of course, already know this trick; but, for anyone who, (like me) does not get out much, it may be a fresh and welcome variation to your repertoire. For, as I often preach: "Knotting ventured, knotting gained".



Sailor's sheet bend



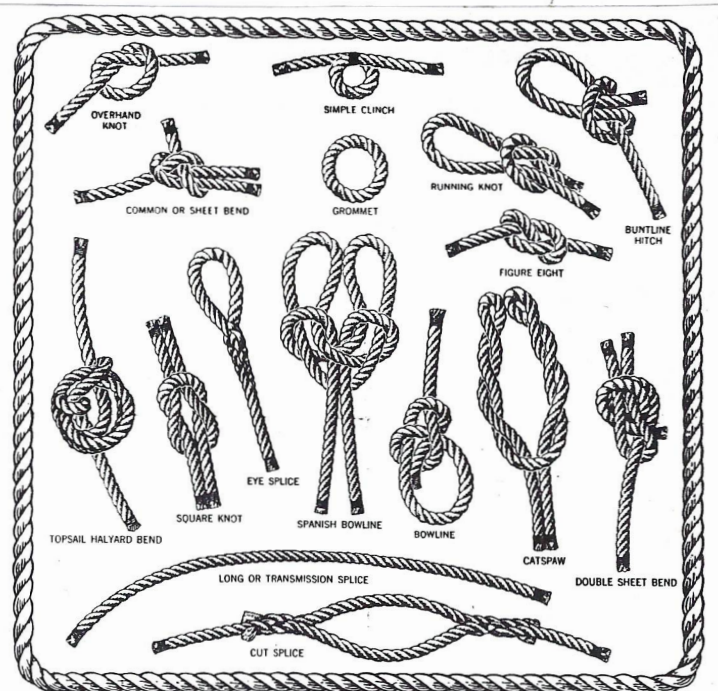
IGKT-PAB Meetings

Monthly Meetings are held at the Los Angeles Maritime Institute, which is right next door to the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, Berth 84, at the Foot of Sixth Street in San Pedro, California.

The meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Our gatherings are very informal and everyone is welcome to attend. Someone always brings a knotted work piece to show and it is great fun to see or share a new knot trick or technique.

The meeting schedule for early 2004:

February 10th March 9th
April 13th May 11th



Knot News

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