

Knot



News

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Joseph Schmidbauer-Editor

Issue #44

The Long Pineapple Knot

by Clarence "Bud" Brewer

The basic knot is a long two bight. It can be any desired length. This will be a small one. Leave the knot as loose as possible to make it easier to work with. When finished, either or both leads can be doubled or tripled as desired.

The basic knot can also be used to make a herringbone knot instead.

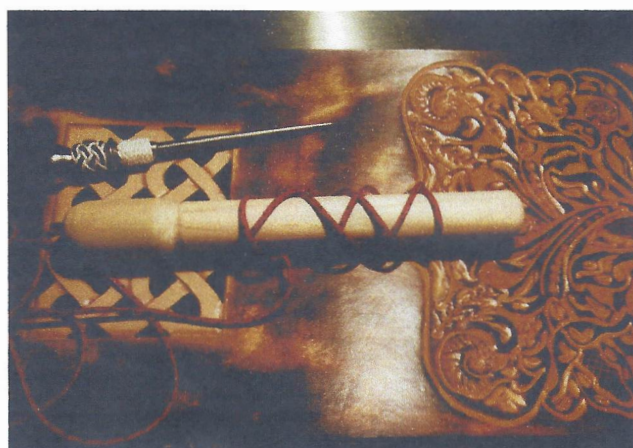


Fig. 1

Tie the basic long 2 bight and follow the standing end to the top, go over 2 leaving an open bight. [1 & 2]



Fig. 2

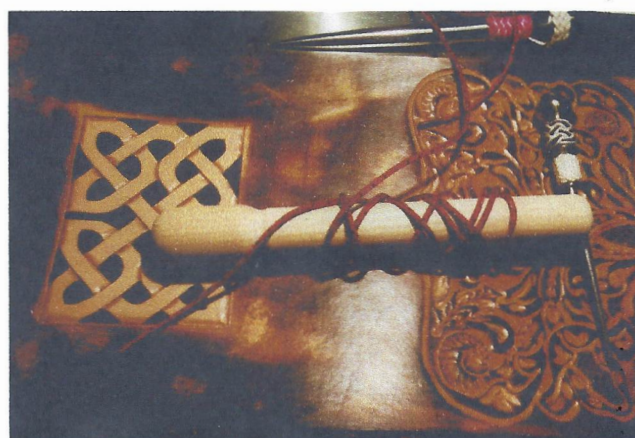


Fig. 3

Down - under 1 over 2 under 1 over 2 under 1 over 2 at the bottom leaving another open bight.

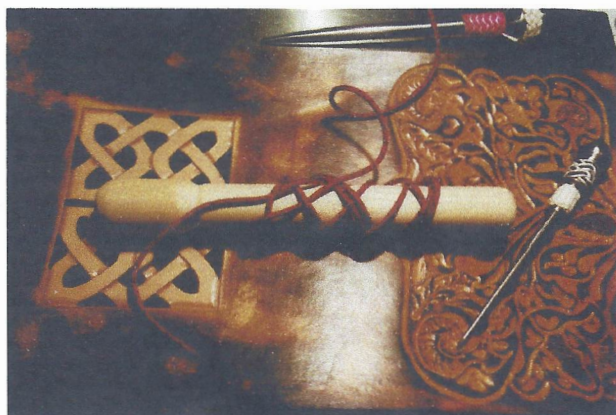


Fig. 4

Up - under 1 over 2 under 1 over 2 under 1 over 1 under 1 locking the open bight



Fig. 5

Down - follow an over 1 under 1 sequence to the bottom locking the other open bight and you are back to the standing end with a completed long 4 bight.



Fig. 6

Follow the original standing end in an over 1 under 1 sequence to the top. Go under 2 where they cross.



Fig. 7

Where ever you have a pair of colored leads, you will split them with the running end.
Down - over 1 under 1 over 2 splitting the pair, under 1 over 1 under 1 over 2 splitting a pair, under 1 over 1 under 2 where they cross. [7 & 8]



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

Up - over 1 under 1 over 2 split, under 1 over 1 under 1 over 2 split, under 1 over 1 under 3 at the cross and split a pair.



Fig. 10

Down - over 1 under 1 over 2 under 2 split pairs, over 1 under 1 over 2 under 2 split pairs, over 1 under 3 at cross and split a pair.



Fig. 11

Up - over 1 under 1 over 2 under 2 split pairs, over 1 under 1 over 2 under 2 split pairs, under 3 at cross split a pair.

Down - over 2 under 1 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 1 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 3 at cross.

Up - over 2 under 1 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 1 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 3 at cross.

Down - over 2 under 2 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 2 over 2 under 3 along side the standing end and you have a completed Long Pineapple Knot.

Where I am able, knots are tied on a mandrel then transferred to what I am working on. It works better for me.



Fig. 12

The original lead was doubled, the knot tensioned and dressed.

From the Secretary

The Knot Faire and Annual General Meeting in Bellingham, Washington on June 25th, 26th and 27th is fast approaching. An information flyer was mailed to all members that included a listing of hotels in the area as well as a schedule of events. If anyone has additional questions please feel free to contact Lindsey, Jose or myself for help.

The AGM brings with it the nomination and election of officers. The Pacific Americas Branch has been operating with the same people in the offices of President and Secretary/Treasurer since its inception in 1997. It is hoped that there are members who would like to step forward and carry on with these duties into the near future. A proxy ballot is enclosed with this newsletter to volunteer your name (if desired) and to cast your vote. If no one decides to fill these voids, a decision must be made at the meeting on the future growth and development of the Branch.

I think what we have attained so far is very impressive: a 100 plus volume lending library, a large and varied knot-display collection, and a membership this is spread over most of the western US, Canada and Alaska. We even have our first member from Hawaii! It would be a shame to see it all end from a lack of enthusiasm or dedication.

From the Mail Bag

Ken Yalden of Hampshire sent in this very complementary letter:

First, I will say I am an avid reader of *Knot*

News. It is a good mixture of old and new, even though I do not always agree with what I read. That in itself is good because it sends me in all directions to check my references, less it is me that has missed the point.

In issue #37 [Feb 2003] Alex Kleider reports on 2K2, he says the English members he met were in the main in Scouting. This is not the whole picture; he must have missed one corner of the room, as it was so full of men from the sea, there was so much salt it would make your hair stiff. Having said that, many have roots in scouting. For me I started my hands on knotting as a Wolf Cub/Cub Scout then onto Boy Scout. I joined the Royal Navy aged 15 and for 25 years I was a sailor. Then having swallowed the anchor I find myself teaching knots to Scouts again, a full circle as with so many things in life. My only regret I never became a 'Deep-sea Scout'. At the age of 16 I thought those I met drank too much (those nautical skills I picked up later). So I never joined the troop on my first ship.

I look forward to the gems on Knotting and the bright ideas on tools and methods from Roy Chapman. I hope he has a deep locker.

Back to the way *Knot News* saved my bacon. Lesley and I have recently returned from a 'Voyage of Discovery' in the South Pacific. Our main interest was to see the Mora (Stonemen) on Easter Island. As by the very size of the ocean we had to spend some days at sea. I took with me some drawings of Turks Heads and some fine line, just to keep the cobwebs away. As I was working my travel companions asked if I would show them some more knots. I arranged to do one session but I had to cadge some old halyards from the Bosun and cut these into fathom lengths (find out lubbers!). My only paperwork was *Knot News*; issue #42 had arrived the day we flew out and I carried it still unopened as my in-flight reading, in the main for my benefit, but also to provoke anybody who looks over my shoulder. I was

lucky, the first pages carried the 'Knobbly Knot' and I was in France when Luc Proeur gave his master class to Jeff Wyatt and Terry Barnes, so at least my finger went the right way. Lesley had 24 copies run off, but culture vultures hit us 30 minutes early, they were really keen, and they lifted most of the copies, hence Lesley had to dash to the office more, then more! I even had requests for a full copy of the whole magazine less they missed anything. In short 70 people turned up and we were swamped, and as ever they come at all levels of skill. From the ham fisted to the craft worker.

We had so many we had to do a second session not to mention the impromptu meetings that developed as they bumped into each other onboard with line in their hands.

So, Joe, keep up the good work, and thank you to all the contributors because without your bits and pieces there would be no *Knot News* and what will save my bacon then?

Please note as a Gunnery Instructor (Chief Gunner's Mate) I never jumped in with both feet, regarding brass monkeys. Monkeys are primates and when cold more than their teeth chatter! It is just a sailor's saying, but it has to be cleaned up or justified before you can say it in front of your maiden Aunt, like many nautical things.

Your Aye
Ken Yalden

[Mr. Yalden is past IGKT Chairman of the Board]



Another letter showing how we are becoming the knotting resource for people to turn to:

Hello Mr. Schmidbauer,
My name is Ted Bender. I am an engineer at a small medical device company called Cardica Inc. We are working on surgical devices to help with heart bypass surgery. We are trying to utilize a knot to cinch down a loop. After the loop is tightened, we'd like to lock the

knot out, to prevent the loop from sliding open. We've been using knots like the Tarbuck and modified versions of the Surgeon's and Hangman's Noose - but none have been ideal.

We're not sure if there's an appropriate knot for our needs, or if it will be possible to 'invent' our own knot.

[I suggested the Crabber's Eye Loop to Mr. Bender]

Hi Joe,

Wow, thanks for that tip! I just looked up the "Crabber's Eye" on the Internet, found an illustration, tied it, and was amazed! That might be exactly what we were looking for. It's certainly much better than anything we've found - and we've been pouring over the books for days now. It's really an elegant knot. I keep loosening it, tightening it - and watching the knot twist on itself, and lock up.

Thanks for your assistance,

Ted



Don Vanderwal of Alaska offers this advice:

Is this old stuff? - hard to find something

new. Every knot I tie that I don't want to untie I use Satellite City "Hot Stuff Adhesive" in the 2 oz bottles. This is cyanoacrylate instant glue and is 100% water- acetone- gas- and sunlight-proof. It does not get yellow in the sun or seem to break down. Super strong - very thin and travels through cord. Strong right away but 100% in 24 hours.

Willem Wouters of Antwerp, Belgium, wrote for us of his annual meeting of the French Branch of the Guild. It was very nice and we learned a lot of new techniques.

On April 24th I organized together with Ronny Wouters a Belgian Guild in Antwerp. If you have some vacation, please be welcome!

This summer I'll try to go to Douarnenez in France for the tall sailing ships!

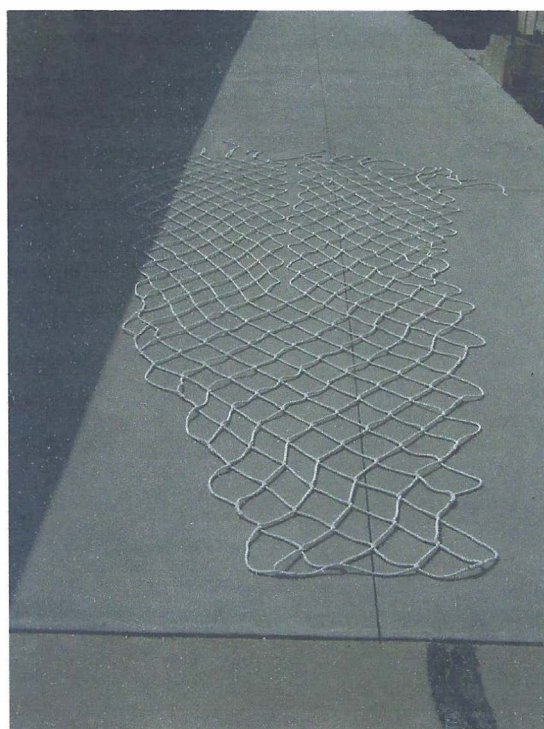
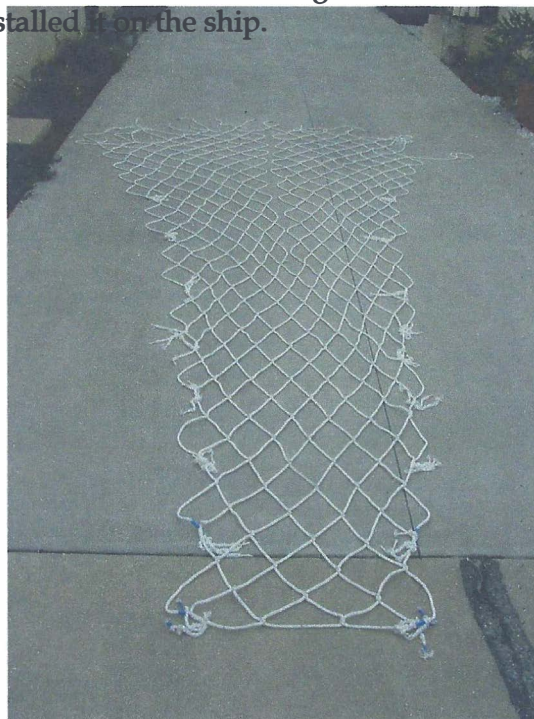
Branch Bits

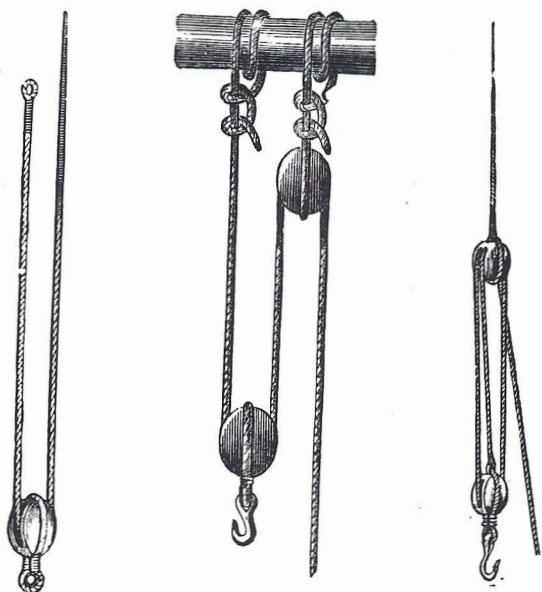
Our PAB Librarian Jose Hernandez-Juviel

of

California made this

bowsprit net for the brigantine *Exy Johnson*. He made them in his living room and recently installed it on the ship.





Thinking of Knotting....

By Roy Chapman

Why is the sky blue and is there really a free lunch?"

I hope you have had the pleasure of raising children through that wonderful stage of: "Why? Why? Why? But WHYYY?" My Grandfather was a wonder, for I never remember him saying, "Just because." Or "Because I say so!"

I guess we all know to count the number of support lines in a tackle to figure the power or to count the moving shivs and double the force at each one (which I still find easier when figuring out some compound tackles or multiple purchase lifts).

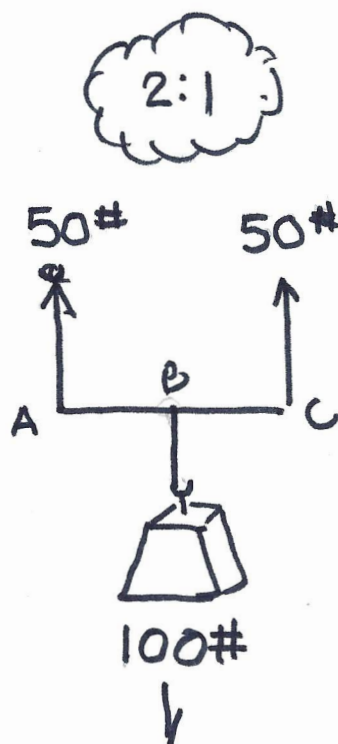
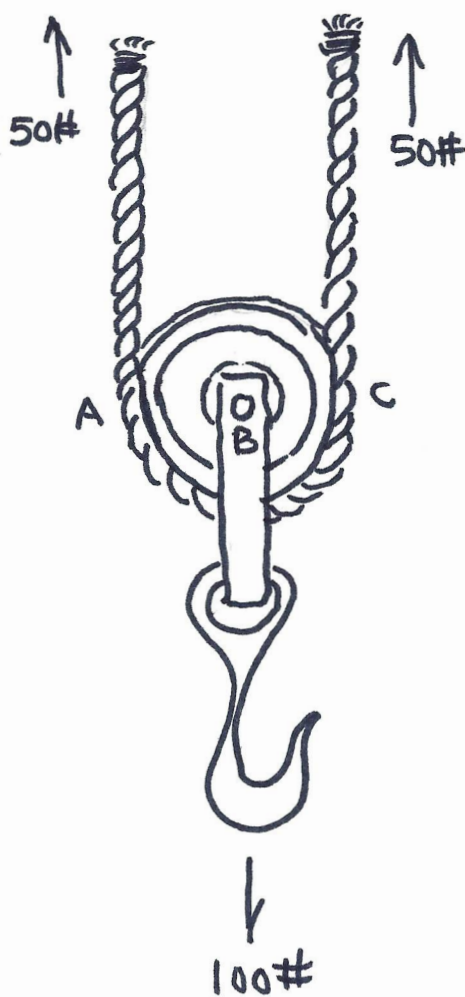
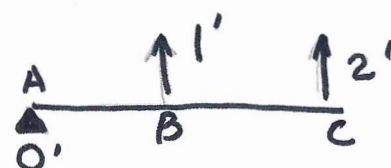
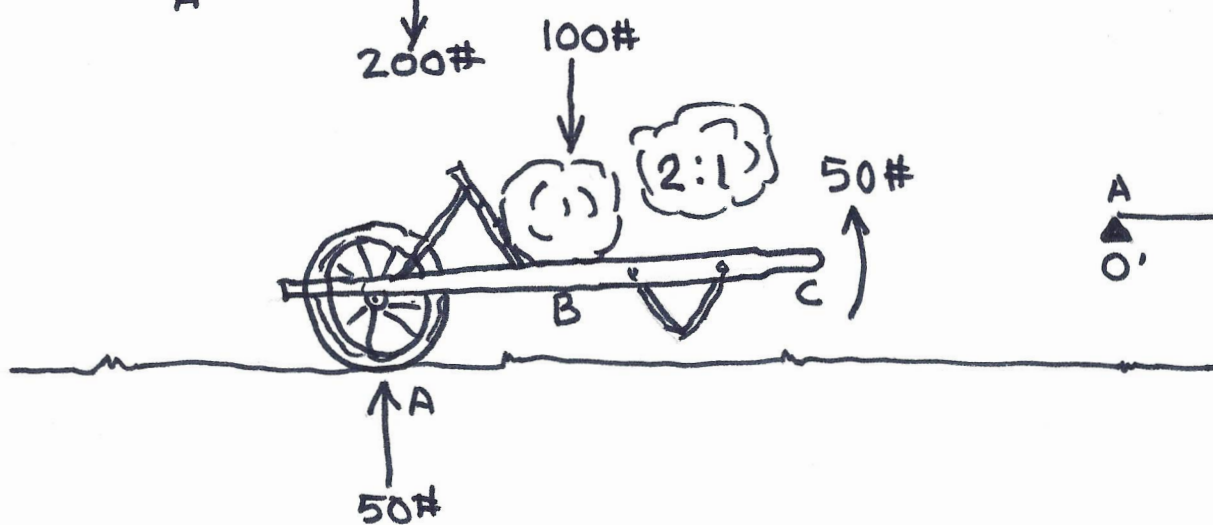
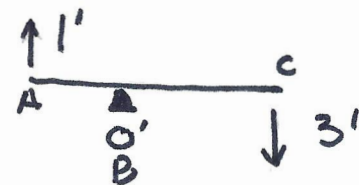
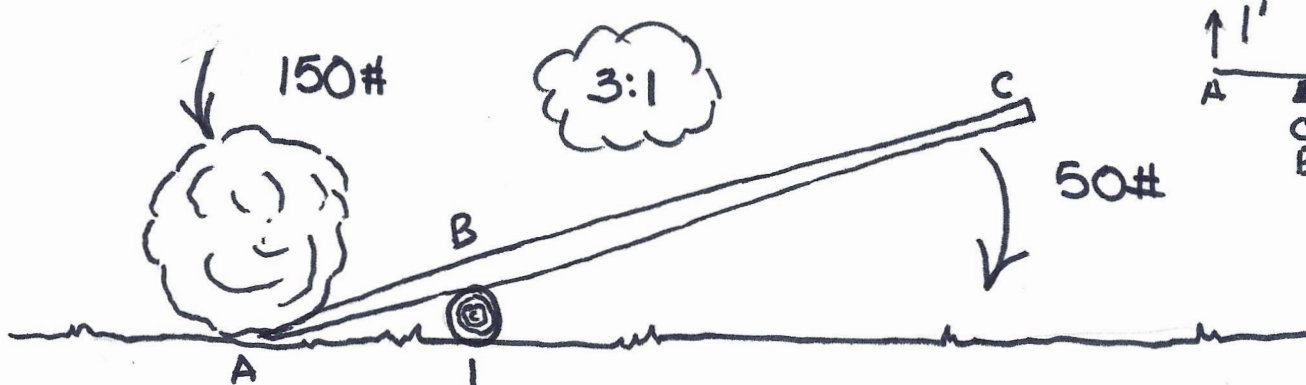
When Grandfather showed me how to use blocks and tackles for lifting big stuff, he explained to me that each moving shiv added two times the lifting power. I automatically asked "Why". "Because a moving shiv works as a rotating lever." Obviously it was time for an object lesson in levers. Although I could hardly drag the steel rock bar to the stone

wall we were repairing, I soon found that I could move rocks many times my meager weight. "Ahhh, I get it... *leverage!*" Of course a wheel barrow is a much better example of the lever as it is used in a tackle block so I got a long lesson in pushing the wheel barrow too. And since nobody needs a wall only one rock high we used the tackle and tripod to lift the big ones into the wall.

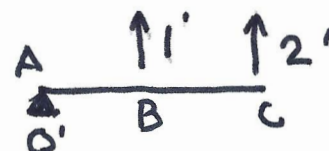
Hauling cow feed to the loft I soon discovered that my single block had some serious limitations. If I didn't keep the standing part and working line mostly parallel I could hardly lift anything.

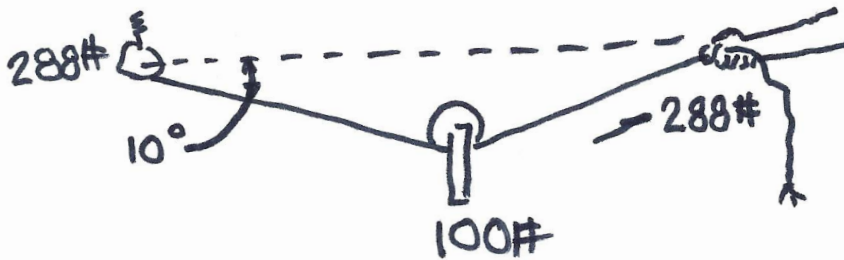
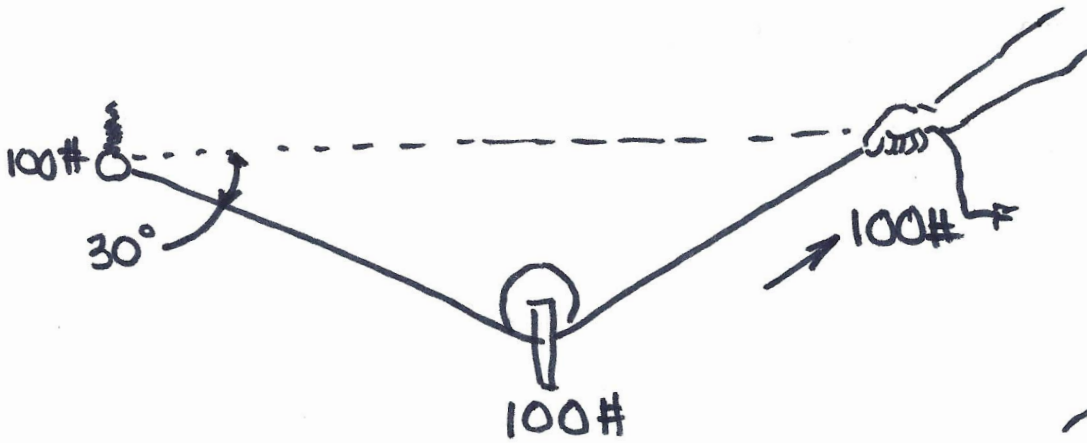
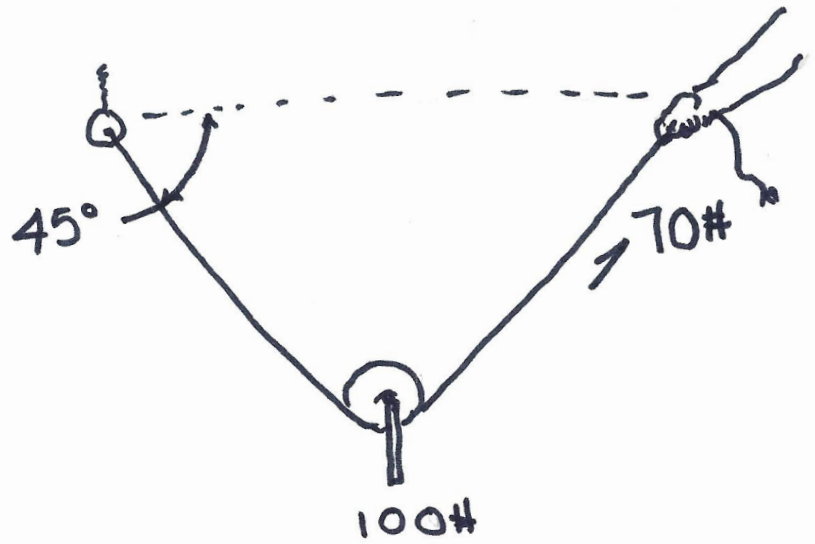
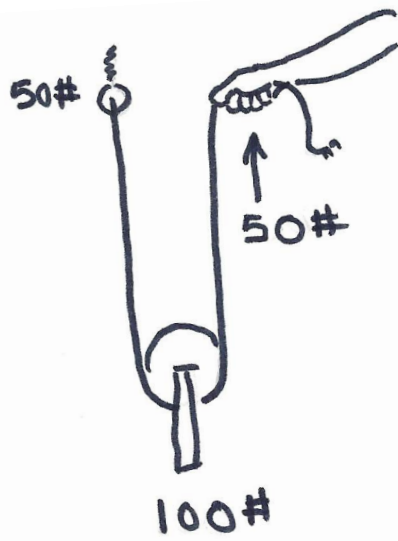
I've made a couple of sketches to show the way in which a lever, a wheelbarrow and a tackle block are kin. I made a couple more pictures to show that the force changes if you begin to work at an angle to the pull of gravity. For a fast mathematical answer to how strong your hand must be (and you have a trig table handy) you will notice that the pulling tension in your hand found by taking the cosecant of the angle from horizontal and multiplying it times half the load. Who carries a trig table? Grandfather Moss gave me a pocket reference with trig, logs, weights, measures, useful formulas and things arcane (I am very successful at turning gold into lead).

Now you may well ask what all this has to do with knots. Here is what I think: a knot is a static machine (sometimes a dynamic machine, as in the Munster Friction Hitch). Sure, for thousands of years ships have been sailed by thousands of hands for millions of miles and nobody thought (too much) about rotating levers. I sit at my PC and haven't the foggiest idea how it works. But for me the more simple the machine (for instance a knot) the more important it becomes to understand why it works. Simple machines have more diverse uses. For me it makes it easier to remember, develop, improvise and use knots, tackles, winches and all the other hardware when I have already thought about the answer to "Why" and don't content myself with "Just because". You see, I really do walk around "Thinking of Knotting".

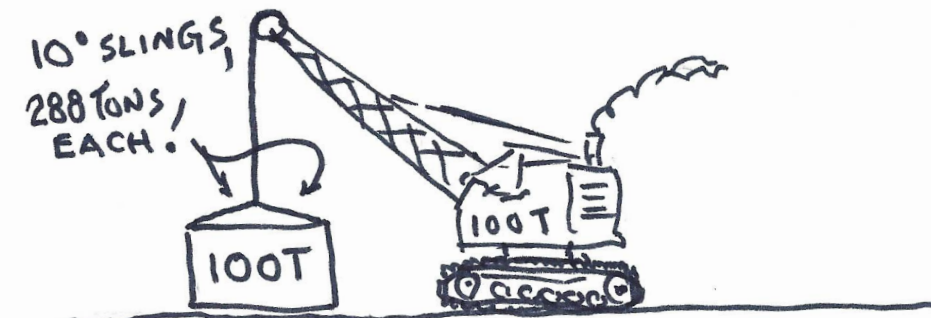
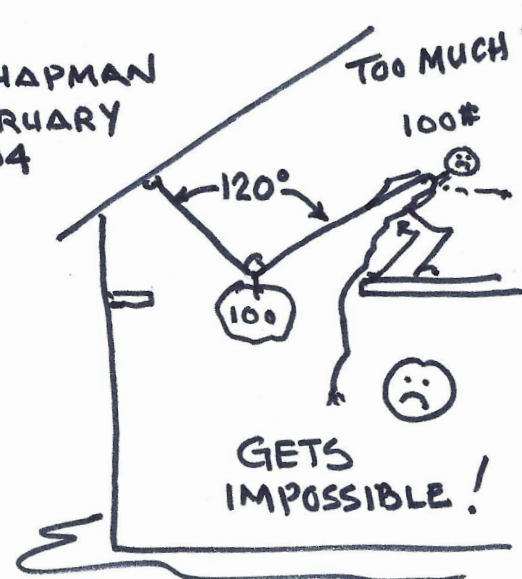


R. CHAPMAN
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THE CRANE CAN,
BUT CAN THE SLINGS?