

Knot



News

International Guild of Knot Tyers – Pacific Americas Branch

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Joseph Schmidbauer- Editor

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On the Dutch Naval and Merchant Marine Bowline

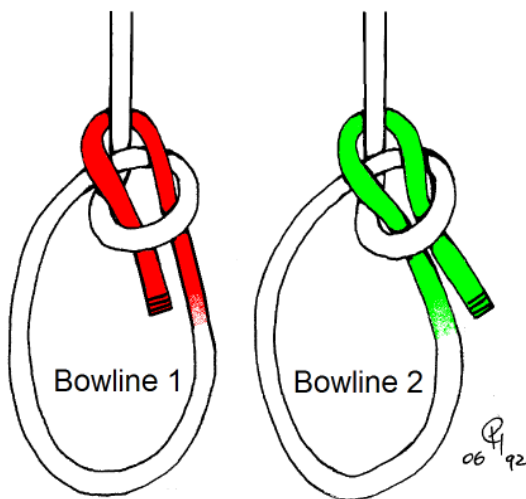
Pieter van de Griend

It is not generally known that there are two ways to tie the bowline.

Cyrus Day.

Prologue

Any able-bodied knoter knows, or at least can immediately spot, the differences between the pair of non-sliding loop knots illustrated below. Let us denote them by **Bowline 1** and **Bowline 2** respectively.



It is obvious that they are functionally identical and structural look-alikes. In Holland these twins are occasionally called Naval Bowline and Merchant Marine Bowline (*Marine Paalsteek* and *Koopvaardij Paalsteek*). Furthermore the pair is blessed with plenty of confusion. There are questions about which knot is which, where do the names come from and how old are these names? Nobody

seems able to give any definitive answers. Over the years I have heard of aspects which are mutually conflicting. However, when vetted on an individual basis they sound pretty plausible. In this paper I shall try to put this matter in a knot-historical perspective.

There is no doubt about the Bowline being an ancient knot, but we shall henceforth be searching for *documented* recordings of this structure. An obvious place to look is in the knotting literature. For our investigation the relevant sources are Western textbooks about seamanship and shipbuilding, which began to appear in the early seventeenth century. They were largely written by authorities from a naval-military background.

Let us first focus on the *name* this non-sliding loop knot goes by. When restricted to the language areas around the North Sea, we may encounter the word "Paalsteek" ("Pole Hitch") or phonetic equivalents such as "Pfalstich", "Pålstek" or "Pælestik". An exception is the English name "Bowline". In the English subset of the aforementioned early seamanship manuals – Smith (1627), Manwayring (1644), Blanckley (1750) and Falconer (1769), the Bowline is mentioned as one of the first, and assumedly one of the most important, knots for this user-group. The English name and the earliest (merited) description, given in Smith's *Seagrammar*, has the Bowline connect a sheet to a sail:

The Boling Knot is also firmly made and fastened by the bridles into the creengles of the sailes, they will break or the saile split before it will slip [9, p32].

Unfortunately Smith's text does not benefit us with the aid of a diagram. Neither does Thomas Blankley's who states:

There are two Sorts of Knots used at Sea; one they call a Bowline Knot; by this the Bowline Bridles are fastened to the Cringles and will not slip [1, p87].

With Falconer illustrations begin to occur. This is also the case in some of the Scandinavian seamanship manuals. After Smith almost two centuries pass before the majority of the non-English language sources dares commit itself to an unambiguous linkage between the Bowline name and structure. The first of such reports, outside of the English-speaking literature, occur around 1850 and all, except the Danish, show Bowline 1. A possible reason could be that this Loop Knot version is less likely to get snagged in the rigging during a tack that could result in a potentially dangerous situation.

The first Dutch-language Bowline source seems to have been Kapitein Luitenant ter zee J.C. Pilaar's *Handleiding tot de kennis van het tuig, masten, zeilen, enz. van het schip* from 1858. He describes the function of Bowline 1:

waardoor men een oog bekomt, dat niet digt kan trekken en alzoo zeer geschikt is om gelegd te worden in trossen of kabeltouwen, die bij het varhalen over de koppen der ducdalves gelegd en telkens vervaard moeten worden. [8, p141, pl.6, fig.99].

by means of which one obtains an eye, which cannot close itself and is thereby useful to be laid in cables, which are passed between mooring posts.

Contrary to earlier recordings, Pilaar is discussing the Bowline as a temporary loop knot that is used during mooring operations.

If we assume knot names are context dependent, then Navy-man Pillar's Bowline 1 would be *the* Dutch Naval Bowline. Bowline 2, *not* recorded by naval authorities, would render it the Dutch Merchant Marine Bowline. The disadvantages adhering to the practical usage of Bowline 1, which has changed in the mean time, do not justify that assumption. The bitter end is moved to ensure that it cannot be pushed out of the loop, causing the Bowline to collapse, when the ship may be working its mooring ropes due to a swell.

Between 1766 and 1808 the earliest mention of Bowline 1 in the Danish maritime literature surfaces in the works of Georg Albrecht Koefoed [6, pl.21, fig.275]. However, in 1839 Capitan i Søstaten C.L.L. Harboe [3, p.393] and in 1846 royal shipbuilder Diderich Funch follows [5, pl.11, fig.9], by showing Bowline 2. Only the Dutch follow the

Danish Bowline 2 example. About a century later Bowline 2 makes its appearance in the Dutch knotting literature. Navy-man J.H. Coolhaas in his book *Schiemanswerk*, which was originally published in 1932, describes how to make a Bowline (with loop "a") and continues:

Velen leggen de slag B in het geval van fig. 2 en 3 tegen zon, dan komt dus de tamp b aan de binnenkant van a. Dat is geen bezwaar en de steek is dan niet fout. Integendeel bij het gladde kunstvezel touwerk kan het zelfs een voordeel zijn omdat de ann de binnenzijde liggende tamp b tussen a en de paal vastgeknepen wordt. Maat "model" is het niet; b moet aan de buitenkant van a liggen. [2, p.61].

Many make the twist B in the case of fig. 2 and 3 counter clockwise, then the bitter end b will end up on the inside of a. That is no problem and the knot is not wrong. On the contrary with the smooth synthetic rope it may even be an advantage because the inner bitter end b between a and the mooring post may become nipped. But it is not "exemplary"; b must be on the outside of a.

Coolhaas omits to mention why it is not "exemplary", but after the foregoing it is easy to guess.

In the more formal production titled *Handboek voor de Scheepsonderofficier der Koninklijke Marine*, Chapter 6 ("Het Schiemanen") below an illustration of Bowline 2 one may read:

Om een tijdelijk oog in het eind van een tros of een lijn te leggen.

To create a temporary loop in the end of a hawser or line.

Curiously Bowline 1 is the basis for the Running Bowline in that same source. This leaves open a non-explainable mild inconsequence. Grounded in the foregoing we could assume that Bowline 2 is the Naval Bowline, but it strikes me as quite unlikely that the Dutch Royal Navy suddenly prefers temporary loops instead of fixed eye-splices in her mooring ropes. In order to justify such a name change they would have had to officially insist Bowline 2 to have been indicated as the standard.

Due to demands with respect to the bitter end and the appearance of Bowline 2 in some nautical handbooks the need for a new name may have arisen. In Great Britain, in the vicinity of Hull one finds the name *Keelman's Bowline*. A "keel" is said to be a local craft for the inner waterways. Crews on these barges would traditionally have used

Bowline 2. When many mooring ropes were placed around one bollard, it would have been easier to reach the bitter end for untying. A name-distinction such as naval and Merchant Marine Bowline does not appear to have been confined to the Netherlands. Curiously it has never occurred in Denmark, at least not that I am aware. Not even after the turn of the century when Bowline 1 rises in popularity again.

We can clearly conclude that there have been many shifts in the “officially recorded” applications for the Bowline. By practical experience these user groups have encountered the various pros and cons. It is reasonable to assume that contemporary knot authors based their illustrations on that specific knowledge. It would have been unfeasible for them to document all possible uses and specialized applications on a case by case basis. All of this shows up as the wake of confusion.

In actual fact the placement of the bitter end would have been a futile matter, were it not for the fact that this kind of thing too often has been paid for with someone's life. As names such as the Naval, Merchant Marine and Keelman's Bowlines are not to be encountered in the international literature, they must stem from the languages spoken around the North Sea.

In our investigated cases it was not possible to unambiguously retrieve whether the names were propagated by specific applications and placement in the literature of specific user groups or not. Probably a combination of multiple factors plays a role, as popular notions of official handbooks were also involved. During my first encounter with Bowline 2, at the beginnings of the 1970's, I was informed that this is the version the Dutch Royal Navy prefers because it would be “neater” and “to be found in the books”.

Personally I think these names are rather recent development in the Bowline history and stem from the small boat world. The name distinction does not occur due to a breaking strength argument. The Sheet Bend Structure, which forms the basis of Bowline 2, appears to be inferior to that in Bowline 1 during breaking tests. Neither is it a matter of reliability, as the oldest recordings and usage of the Bowline 1 in the alpine world, reject this outright. The essence of the names is not a question about what is a better knot, but what is the most appropriate knot for some specific purpose.

References

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7. H. **Manwayring**, *Sea-mans Dictionary*, London 1644.
8. J.C. **Pilaar**, *Handleiding tot de kennis van het tuig, masten en schip*, Amsterdam 1858.
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Stiphout July 2009

Original Dutch version of this article, “De Koopvaardij- en Marine Paalsteek”, appeared in Notes on Knots (1993, ISBN 87-983985-6-3) and has been translated exclusively for Knot News.



[I was recently contacted by a researcher on the TV program CSI with this unusual email:]

Hello Mr. Schmidbauer:

This is David Berman, the researcher from CSI. It has been a while! I hope all is well with you and your family. I'm still working away at CSI. We just started our tenth season!

You've been so wonderful in the past about helping our program with our knot questions. I was hoping to call upon your expertise once again with a query for an upcoming episode.

Our investigators find some intestines that are tied in a bow tie. How would a knot expert describe the knot without mentioning the word *bow tie*? In other words, is there a technical name for a *bow tie*? If not, can you explain in as technical language as possible what a *bow tie* is?

I know this is a strange one. As always, we at CSI sincerely appreciate your time and assistance.

David Berman
Researcher CSI: Crime Scene Investigation

IGKT-Pacific Americas Branch
Corona, California
25 July 2009

Hello Mr. Berman,

Okay, so where were we? I will pass over the question of why anyone would actually want to tie intestines in a bow tie and proceed to the question about the knot itself. My first question to you is what bow tie do you mean?

Off the top of my head I know of two Bow Ties. The first one is the knot that everybody knows because they use it to tie their shoe laces. This Bow Tie is based on the Square Knot (American usage) or Reef Knot (English usage). It is composed of two opposite Half Knots right and left, with the second Half Knot finished with two Bights or Loops instead of the Bitter Ends. The Square or Reef Knot has many names among them True, Hard, Flat, Common, Regular and Ordinary. Now, if instead you try to tie your shoes with two Half Knots tied in the same direction you will get a Granny or Lubber's Knot. This knot is totally unsatisfactory and should never, ever be used. It is unstable, unsound and useless. You can tell which knot you have used by how the knot lays across your shoe. If the bows lie across your shoe "amidships" (side to side), it is the proper Square Knot. If the bows run "fore and aft" (front to back), it is the Granny Knot and you will know this anyway because your shoe lace will continually come untied.

Remember with all knots you need the Bitter Ends (the ends of the cord) to make them. It is impossible to make a knot without letting go of the ends somewhere in the process, so we are talking about a cut section of intestine and not one still in the body. I know of a sleight of hand "magic" trick that will lead you to believe it is possible to tie a knot without letting go of the ends, but I digress. So when you tie two cord ends together (letting go of the ends) you are making what is called a Bend. A Square Knot should never be used as a bend when joining two loose pieces of cord together. It is not the best knot for this job even though everyone insists on using it that way. It can spill into two weak hitches with a tug of one end along the knot and is the way sailors would loosen this knot from the reef points of a sail. A Square Knot (and by extension a Bow Knot) should only be used when the standing part of the cord is around something such as a package, a sail or a shoe. When you make your Bow Knot you are actually lashing your shoes to your feet. A much better and safer knot to use as a bend is a Sheet Bend. And having learned a Sheet Bend you are a step away from the Bowline because they are structurally identical, except that one is a Bend and the other is a Loop. This is the knot I always try to teach first in knot classes because having learned one you have actually learned two knots, but I again digress.

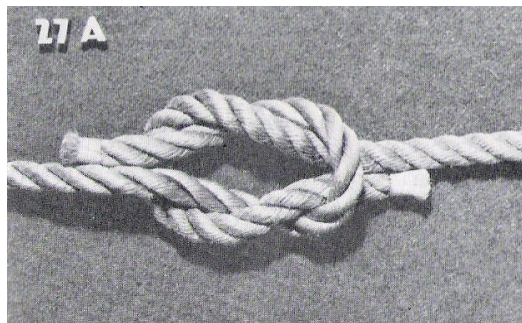
There is another knot that is similar in look to a Square Knot called a Thief Knot. This is constructed in a different way entirely (pictured below). The story behind this knot is that in the old sailing ships days a sailor would use this Thief Knot to tie up his personal ditty bag. A thief would come along, untie it, take whatever he pleased and then retie it unknowingly using the regular Square Knot. In that way a sailor would know when someone had been into his things. It doesn't seem to be much help in actually finding the thief but this is only a small part of the lore of the sea.

Returning once again to the shoe Bow Knot, if you form just one loop instead of the normal two you will make what I think of as a "Reef Knot". This is tied in the reef points of

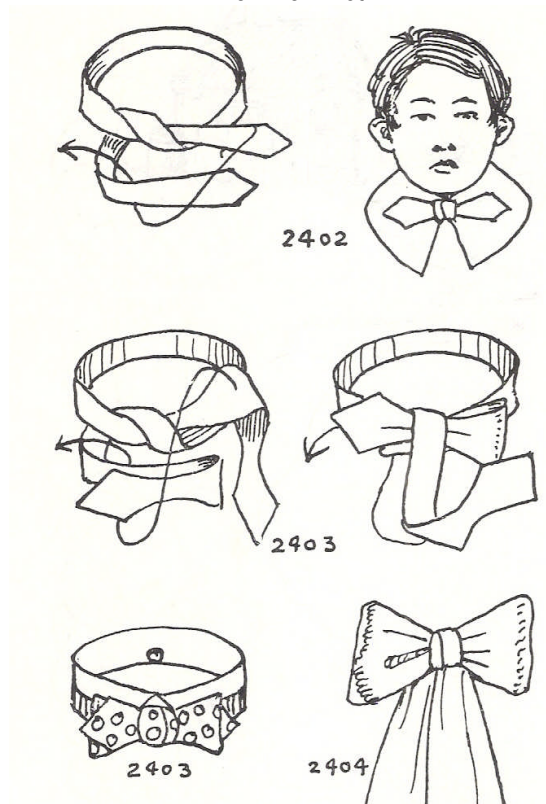
a sail when you shorten them in rough weather and is the knot that Richard Henry Dana (of Dana Point fame) was so proud of learning as a novice sailor in his "Two Years Before the Mast".

The second Bow Tie I know of is the one used to make a formal wear neck bow tie. Think of Fred Astaire in a tux and you have a picture of the knot. Come to think of it, this tie was not only used in formal wear. My High School chemistry teacher, Wally Winburn, was a big fan of bow ties. I guess he wanted to make sure his tie ends were kept out of the Bunsen burners.

Be that as it may, this Bow Tie is again made with the Square or Reef Knot. It is normally tied in flat material to give the desired effect. Learning to tie a tie correctly was always the mark of a gentleman, something that should never go out of fashion. Remember, a white tie is more formal than black. Do intestines come in colors?



The Thief Knot



The making of a Bow Tie

In the above illustration, #2402 is known as a String Tie and #2403 is the actual Bow Tie. I have not included an illustration of the shoe-type of Bow Tie since I must assume that most everyone already knows this one by heart. My sister taught me how when quite young and for that reason she has always had a special place in my thoughts. It does not do my heart good to see so many misguided youths walking around with open lace un-tied sneakers or (worse yet) with Velcro straps on them, but youth must rebel in their time and we hope maturity will bring them back again to the time-honored knot.

I have, I hope, answered your question or (at best) given you something to think about and discuss. I do not actually watch your show (shame on me, I know) so I have no way of knowing if any of my ideas have ever made it onto TV. Would it be possible to be informed if I do make the big time?

With nothing else to say I will send this off. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Yours in knotting,

Joe Schmidbauer
Editor 'Knot News'

Picture sources: *The Art of Knotting and Splicing* by Cyrus Day
The Ashley Book of Knots by Clifford Ashley



Some miscellaneous knot pieces I made recently

[You, gentle reader, may have answered this query quite differently but this was my take on it. Mr. Berman was happy and replied: "This is a remarkable answer! I cannot thank you enough for all the time and energy that went into its composition. I have forwarded all the information to my boss and will certainly let you know if any material ends up in an episode. I'll keep my fingers crossed!]

The Bishop's Eucharistic Girdle

Bob Solon

The girdle, or cincture, is a rope belt worn by clergy as part of their vestments used to celebrate the Mass. It symbolizes having truth encircling your inward being and is based upon Ephesians 6:14 KJV: "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness".



The cincture is usually between 9' and 15' with no designated specified length. It was part of what a Roman wore in the second century AD. As part of the liturgical vestments it may be made of a variety of materials including hemp, linen, cotton, wool or silk. For everyday wear some religious orders wear nylon. Most are white but occasionally are in different colors.



Some incorporate knots which have significance to various religious orders such as the Benedictines or the Franciscans. Three knots in a row, for example, (ABOK #517 or variation) may remind the wearer of the vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Note the illustration at the end of

the article – it is called a Roman Knot. I could knot (a little rope humor there) find anything based upon that name. However, you probably recognize it as a Double Ring Hitch (ABOK #60). I have asked clergy friends, mostly Anglican, why this knot is used and none seem to know the answer other than: "That's just how we tie it."

The idea of this design was to show that some of Christ's apostles had a nautical background. Ultimately He made them "fishers of men". It is simple cotton. Yes, there is some adornment. Purple is traditionally reserved for a bishop. The red whipping twine is merely a contrast. Red is a liturgical color along with violet, white, green, and often blue and gold. Liturgical colors help proclaim the significance of the various seasons of the church year.

Start with 12' of 5/8" cotton line, the more flexible the better. 5/8" cotton is thicker than many cinctures. Since I don't wear one I figured it was better to follow directions, meager as they were. The decorated area is 9 inches long, only because 9 inches looks right to me. You decide.



The purple ribbon is one inch wide and is textured and ribbed. If there is a next time I will experiment with smooth ribbon. Sew in the ends of the ribbons so that you can keep it tight. Don't make the ends too wide or your decorative knots may be too narrow to cover your stitching. Experience is a wonderful teacher! Anchor the ends of the whipping twine. Otherwise it will tend to constrict the ribbon, causing puckering. You will see in the pictures that I was not able to totally avoid this. Maybe smooth ribbon and a tighter wrap will help.

The knots are simple Turk's Heads. The small ones are 3 leads by 5 bights by 3 strands of #30 cotton cord. The large ones are 9 leads by 4 bights by 2 strands of #120 cotton cord. I had hoped that the purple would show through the gaps in the Turk's Head but I was only partially successful. The knots were tied tightly to avoid the need of sewing them in place. Don't hesitate to sew or whip the area under the small Turk's Heads. This helps hold the lay taught, which keeps everything in place over the 9 inches of decoration.



This Eucharistic girdle was presented to the Episcopal Bishop of Newark, New Jersey on Sunday, July 26th, 2009.



When laypeople wear an alb, the cincture is usually tied to the right. As deacons tie their stoles on the right, they often fasten the cincture on the left instead. Priests and bishops usually have the knot of their cincture in front of them; the loose ends are often passed around the stole and tucked through the waist of the cincture at each side. When the cincture is tied in the front and the ends are draped on either side, it is called a Roman Knot.



An Anglican priest wearing a white cincture around his waist to hold his alb and stole in place

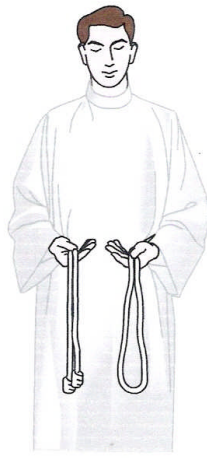


CM ALMY

HOW TO TIE A ROPE CINCTURE



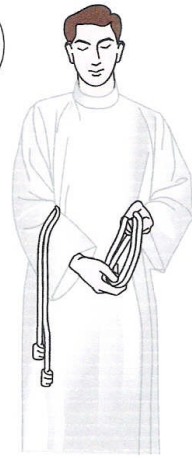
Fold cincture in half



Wrap around waist with knots on your right side



Grab end of loop made by the fold and overlap as shown



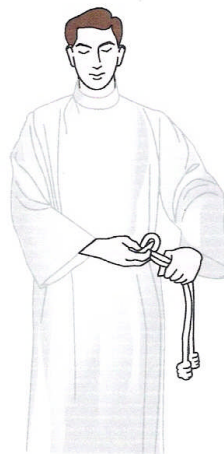
Using right hand, slip loop over left hand, keeping hold of cincture



Grab knotted end with your right hand



Slip knotted ends through loop (where left hand is making sure that single loop is on top of double cincture.) Feed knotted ends through loop from top to bottom



Drop loop and then tighten around waist

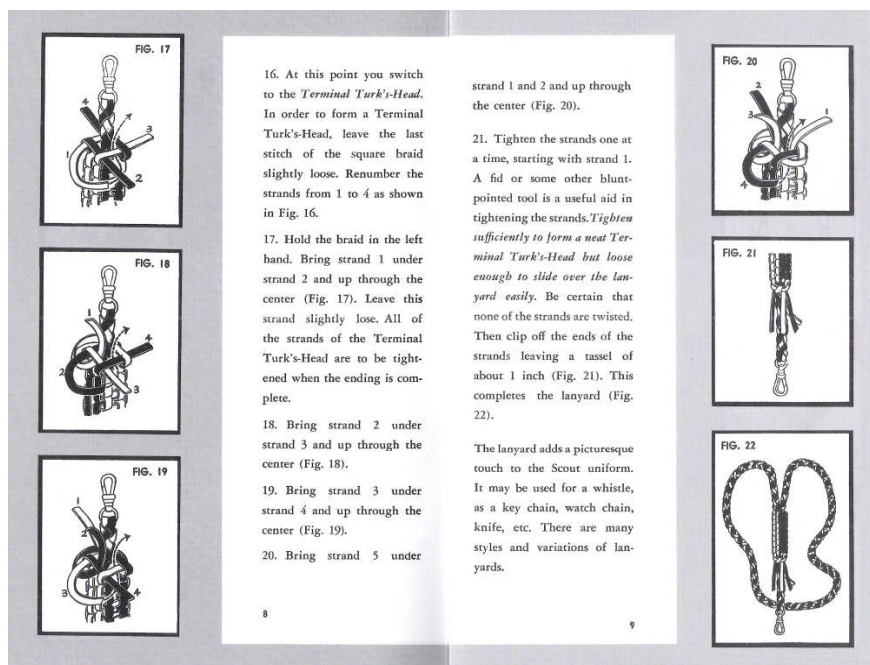


Knot is on left hip

A Poem Takes Me Back to My Early Knotting Days at Camp

I recently read the poem "The Lanyard" in a book of collected poems by Bill Collins entitled *The Trouble with Poetry: and Other Poems* (Random House, 2005). Billy Collins was the Poet Laureate from 2001 to 2003.

Reading his poem I was transported back to my earliest memories of knotting. These memories involved long strands of flat plastic lanyard material (sometimes called gimp), and the magic one experiences as a child of carefully crossing one strand over another in a simple and repetitive manner until, lo and behold, you produce a beautiful multi-colored square or round lanyard knot.



As I read the poem, I fondly recalled crafting numerous odd, and often useless, but highly colorful "do-dads" out of that flat plastic lanyard material as a child, while at camp or at a crafting workshop at a local park. Once you have completed a few of these items the inevitable question becomes, "What do I do with all these things?" In "The Lanyard" Billy Collins experience paralleled my own.

I, like Mr. Collins, frequently gave these handcrafted lanyards, key chains and other bobbles to my mother. I know many of them ended up in the top drawer of my mother's dresser along with all of the other little reassures my sisters and I gave her over the years. Gifts that could never equal all she had given us, but each one a small deposit toward that un-repayable debt that we all owe to those who brought us into this world and raised us.

I wrote to Mr. Collins and asked his permission to have his poem included in our newsletter. I thought other Guild members might enjoy it as much as I did. He generously granted this permission and he stated he found my request to be quite unusual as he "never imagined the existence of an International Guild of Knot Tyers." He also shared his memories of tying knots as part of his training as a Boy Scout ("I seem to remember mastering the Half-Hitch and having trouble with the Bowline.")

The full poem is reproduced below. If you prefer to watch a short video clip of Mr. Collins reading "The Lanyard" you can find one at: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/poetryeverywhere/collins.html>.

Paul Nagle-McNaughton, IGKT-PAB
Yakima, WA

The Lanyard

by Billy Collins

*The other day as I was ricocheting slowly
off the pale blue walls of this room,
bouncing from typewriter to piano,
from bookshelf to an envelope lying on the floor,
I found myself in the L section of the dictionary
where my eyes fell upon the word lanyard.*

*No cookie nibbled by a French novelist
could send one more suddenly into the past –
a past where I sat at a workbench at a camp
by a deep Adirondack lake
learning how to braid thin plastic strips
into a lanyard, a gift for my mother.*

*I had never seen anyone use a lanyard
or wear one, if that's what you did with them,
but that did not keep me from crossing
strand over strand again and again
until I had made a boxy
red and white lanyard for my mother.*

*She gave me life and milk from her breasts,
and I gave her a lanyard.
She nursed me in many a sickroom,
lifted teaspoons of medicine to my lips,
set cold face-cloths on my forehead,
and then led me out into the airy light
and taught me to walk and swim,
and I, in turn, presented her with a lanyard.
Here are thousands of meals, she said,
and here is clothing and a good education.
And here is your lanyard, I replied,
which I made with a little help from a counselor.*

*Here is a breathing body and a beating heart,
strong legs, bones and teeth,
and two clear eyes to read the world, she whispered,
and here, I said, is the lanyard I made at camp.
And here, I wish to say to her now,
is a smaller gift – not the archaic truth*

*that you can never repay your mother,
but the rueful admission that when she took
the two-tone lanyard from my hands,
I was as sure as a boy could be
that this useless, worthless thing I wove
out of boredom would be enough to make us even.*

**Pacific Americas Branch
12th Annual General Meeting
Jimmy Ray Williams**

Our Twelfth Annual General Meeting and dinner was hosted by the Newport Beach American Legion Yacht Club (ALYC) on Friday, August 7th, 2009. It was a wonderful venue on a beautiful Southern California evening.

Attending were Mike Bromley (President); Jose Hernandez-Juviel (Librarian), Joe Schmidbauer (Editor *Knot News*) & wife Linda, daughter Erin and her finance Tom Woodard; Lindsey Philpott (ex-President and Editor-in-Chief *Knotting Matters*) & wife Kim Moore; Jimmy Ray Williams (Secretary/Treasurer) & wife Codie; Darrell Ausherman; Cliff Case & friend Jill Campbell; John Houck; Lily Morales; Vicki Paul; Joe Soanes & wife Evelyn.



Lily Morales, Joe Soanes, Jose Hernandez-Juviel, Darrell Ausherman

The Treasurer gave his financial report and the Secretary reported on our active membership. That was followed by the President's talk about our upcoming displays at the Antelope Valley Fair as well as the Los Angeles County Fair. We also discussed our planning on offering educational meetings and possible venues for that activity. Nothing is decided as yet, but we hope to offer some valuable information to the public.

We gave a report on a communication received last month from Judith Small. Ms Small indicated that her Grandfather, Earl Lester, had left a rather large collection of assorted knot work when he passed away in 1995. She wanted to know if we were interested in receiving some or all of his collection. Mike Bromley, Lindsey Philpott and I met with her and her mother on Sunday August 2nd. Upon viewing the collection, it was decided

we would, indeed, enjoy adding his collection to ours. (I tried to take some of it home with me but Mike and Lindsey were not having any of that!) In the near future, we hope to have some biographical information on Mr. Lester and pictures of the collection to share with the IGKT.



Joe Schmidbauer, Lindsey Philpott, Kim Moore

John Houck only stopped by long enough to give us a box of assorted cotton cordage donated to the PAB by Marty Combs (www.knotstuff.com). Marty indicated that we should distribute it among the membership and we all agreed to use it for projects that will be donated to various organizations.

The remainder of the evening was spent socializing with fellow knot tyers and an excellent dinner was served by the ALYC. Speaking for myself, I had a thoroughly enjoyable evening and surely wish we could gather in such a fine setting more often.

On a sad note, Master Rigger Joe Soanes and his wife will be moving to Petaluma, California by the end of August. We will surely miss them as Joe has always been a big part of our activities and events, a generous mentor and a good friend.



PAB President Mike Bromley

PAB Myerchin Knife Auction

These knives were donated to the PAB by Robert Blanchard. It was decided at the AGM to hold a silent auction as a fund raiser to our Branch.

If you wish to bid on one or more of them, you are welcome to submit your bid(s) to igktpab@yahoo.com or mail your bid(s) to:

IGKT-PAB Secretary/Treasurer
Jimmy R. Williams
15521 Cerise avenue
Gardena, CA 90249-4417

This auction is only open to PAB members and bids must be received before the end of November 2009. All knives come complete with a fitted knife case and its original box.

Please place your bids using the model name of the knife:



Offshore Crew



Offshore Folder



Offshore Safety (some scratches on the blade)



Black Offshore System



Brown Offshore System



White Offshore System



Roy Chapman of _____, Washington was commissioned to make a knob for a classic restored Model A Ford. Here is the knob in place and ready for use.



Top and side view of the knob



PAB friend Bob Solon of _____, Ohio and sometime contributing author to *Knot News*. Any resemblance?



As a gesture of thanks we donated a bell rope to the American Legion Yacht Club for their welcome and generosity in allowing us the use of their facilities for our 2009 AGM.