

Knot



News

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Fisherman's Fall Festival Seattle Fisherman's Terminal 100th Anniversary

On Saturday, October 4th 2014 the IGKT-Pacific Americas Branch attended the 26th Annual Fisherman's Fall Festival in Ballard, Washington. The PAB members attending this event were **Pat Ducey** of WA; **Maggie Machado** of OR and **Joe Schmidbauer** of WA.

The weather that day was especially nice, given the time of year it occurred in Seattle. This helped to bring everybody out, so we had a constant crowd of people coming and going by the booth all day.



The PAB knot collection on display

From Pat Ducey

The Fall Fisherman's Festival is an annual event for the IGKT-PAB in the northwest. It has become routine, we set up a table and display knots. This year, the staff at the Festival asked if we could do a little more. Can we do a craft for the kids? I had an idea for a bracelet template that

might work as a kid's craft, and so I said sure, let's give it a try.

The template (see attached pdf) is the craft we worked at the Festival. It prints five templates to a sheet of copy paper, and when cut out, I could punch in about eight sheets to a stack. Several hours of cutting and punching gave me 300 templates. The staff at Fall Fisherman's Festival found me a local marine supply store who generously donated string. I had two different colors of nylon cord and some white cotton.

The template is for a 4 lead x 9 bight Turk's Head and I punched a hole at every grey doughnut. When I had someone interested in tying a bracelet, I pulled off seven feet of line (their choice of color) and taped the ends so the crafters had a little aglet. I then taped a template into a circle and I would teach them how to do the over-and-unders by threading their line through the paper.

It takes about 10 to 15 minutes for someone to complete all the pulling and tugging. When the knot was tied, they would have to rip off all the paper and they were left with a bracelet. I tied a Matthew Walker to finish off the ends and they had a souvenir of their trip to the IGKT booth.



Pat Ducey (dark shirt) teaching the Turk's Head bracelet

This craft worked well for kids about 10 and older. Much younger took too long and was too confusing. This really turned into the adult craft of the Festival. I had way more adults tying knots than kids, but they were having fun and that is what the Festival is all about. I think next year I will have an easier craft for the younger people, maybe a small Breastplate Knot using the same holes-in-a-paper style template. I will still have a bracelet template for those who want a challenge, but this craft was a little much for the younger set.

From Maggie Machado

We couldn't have asked for better weather on Saturday October 4th for the Seattle Fall Fishermen's Festival. Doug and I didn't make it quite on time, but pretty close with us coming up all the way from the Portland area. It's an annual affair for me, displaying my decorative knotting items, and this year coming with twenty-two out of the twenty-eight projects featured in Linda Hendrickson's new book *"How to Make Ply-Split Braids & Bands"*. I demonstrated the process, had a few brave souls find out how easy ply-splitting is, and showed passers-by how fun it was to make Snake Knot zipper pulls with scrap paracord.



Maggie's Ply-Split display

Joe was busy showing everyone his beautiful knotting collection as well as demonstrating his always popular Wee Blasting Mat. Patrick Ducey was a hit (did you ever take a break, Patrick?) with another brilliant template for a Turk's Head bracelet. I spoke to several adults who were thrilled for the opportunity to make a bracelet and our special thanks goes to the Lummi Co. for their donation of the cordage used.

It was a great day for me, and one that we will hope to repeat many times in the years to come.



Joe Schmidbauer & Maggie Machado



The Seattle Fisherman's Memorial



The Ballard boat harbor

From Joe Schmidbauer

We always look forward to the Fall Fisherman's Festival with the chance to show our knot display and talk knots to the people of Seattle. It is always great fun. I bring the Wee Blasting Mat Jig to try and make as many mats as I can during the Festival, while also answering questions about the knot display and any other knotting related topic that comes up. I use the mat making jig to draw the people in, it is a good conversation starter.



The Wee Blasting Mat jig and a completed mat



Just starting a mat and already answering questions



Heave away handsomely now!

Once I have a mat woven to the top of the jig, I remove it and enlist the help of a youngster willing to help me complete it by snake the ends back and forth through the mat. This is always great fun with them taking turns pulling on the rope. I keep it running smooth and have them snug down each row. The parents seem to get a little restless waiting around, there are 19 passes to complete, but the kids seem to enjoy the activity once they realize they can't hurt anything or themselves.

I work off of a spool of manila that I suspend on a bar between two chairs, so I could make quite a few mats given the time and no interruptions. This year I completed two and felt good about it, considering all the people we had at our booth during the day.



Pat Ducey's knotting tool display

Let us remember that the Festival is also celebrating the seafood that that is brought to us by the local commercial fisherman. We learned that the Puget Sound area brings in 40% of the seafood consumed in the USA.

During the day we were able to sample the seafood available and it was incredible! The cod tacos and the scallops over rice were both amazing but the salmon dinner (slice of salmon, corn on the cob, coleslaw, bread and ice cream for dessert) was the most delicious fresh salmon I have ever had the pleasure to eat. Come visit us next year.



Fisherman's Survival Suit demonstration

Silent Knotters

It is with a sad heart that I must announce the passing of some of our PAB members.

Roy Stanley Chapman died the evening of August 12, 2014 at his residence in WA. The cause of death was arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease and the manner of death was natural. He was 69 years old.

Roy was a past President of the PAB.

I only met Roy in person one time but I did have a long correspondence with him both personally and with him as a contributor to the *Knot News* newsletter. He was very active on the knotting scene and was always willing to pass on his knowledge and skills. He will be missed.

Don Rempe of WA passed away on Sept 11, 2014. He had just turned 80 and his passing was very peaceful. Don truly enjoyed the art of knot tying and valued his membership in the IGKT and the PAB.

Ply-Splitting Book Review

Maggie Machado

Maybe you're one of those not familiar with Ply-Splitting, but once you've seen the possibilities of this fiber technique in the new book about Ply-Split Braids and Banks, and just how easy it is to learn the simple techniques...well, like me, you just might become addicted!

Linda's first book on Ply-Splitting: *"Great SCOT! A Beginner's Guide to Ply-Split Braids in Single-Course Oblique Twining"* is an excellent introduction to ply-splitting. "Braids & Bands" is a creative and beautiful expansion of specific techniques used. There are twenty-eight projects, each accompanied by detailed step-by-step written instructions and photos. From simple to complex, the results are always satisfying and impressive, as one learns to manipulate colored plied cords into amazing patterns.

I have a particular interest and some expertise in decorative knotwork, and appreciate Ply-Splitting as both a unique fiber art and having great potential as a popular craft.

"How to Make Ply-Split Braids & Bands" is now available for purchase, along with other books and tools, at lindahendrickson.com Also, helpful tutorials about Ply-Splitting can be accessed on YouTube.

Copying Crosses

Jimmy Ray Williams

Do you remember the article about Richard Cornish in the June *Knotting Matters*? Well, I stole his idea, but I had to ask him where the instructions could be found. He kindly pointed me to Don Burrhus' site, and there were the instructions.

In the Cardiac Rehabilitation program I'm in, there are eight workers. They are a dedicated, pleasant, and effective group of folks! So - I made eight of these crosses for them.

I am also going through Physical Therapy for my shoulder (I killed my right rotator cuff). There are fifteen folks working there. So I made fifteen crosses for them. Here is a photo of my work.



The Seal on King Tutankhamun's Tomb