

Around The Horn

Gulfport Flotilla 3-7 Newsletter

1 November 2014

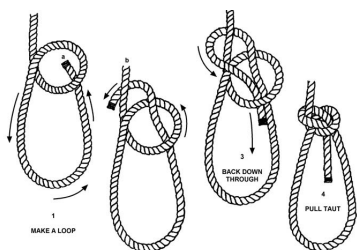
The Funny Papers

The week of October 6th has proven traumatic for your humble correspondent. I was denied the privilege of playing with my friends on the Ring-Dang-Doo. While Ricky, Barry, Jimmy and Johnny were all happily out playing in the water on their boat, my Mommy made poor little me work with her at Cruisin the Coast. I tried everything to get out of it, but nothing seemed to work. First I begged Mommy to let me go play with my friends, she wouldn't hear of it. My next plan to get my way was to stomp my feet and throw a hissy fit, no luck, she hung tough. My next effort was to mess up everything she told me to do, that usually makes her mad and she screams get out of here, that didn't work either. What am I to do? I simply must get my way, "I KNOW", I will tell her that she is meanest Mommy and that I hate her that always works! She gets to feeling guilty and lets me have my way every time, she didn't budge. Oh I know what will get her! I will refuse to ever eat again, that's it, I'll starve myself to death. Oh no, she got me again with ice cream and a candy bar. What am I to do? My friends will be out on their boat playing in the water having all kinds of fun on Tuesday and Thursday and I can't be with them, I'm so angry I'm going to pout for a month.

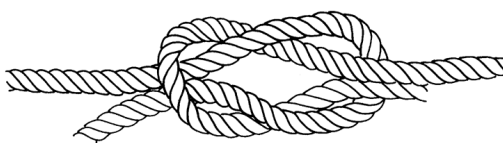
Don't let this happen to you, tell your Mommy you will be extra good for a year if she lets you play with your friends on the Ring-Dang-Doo.

COME PLAY WITH US

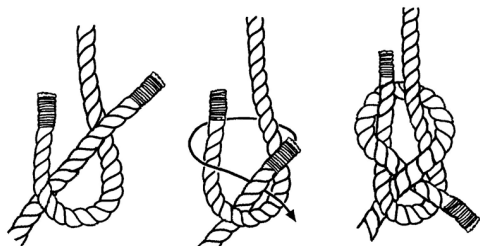
Seamanship Corner



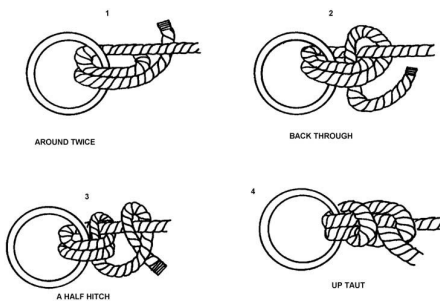
Bowline



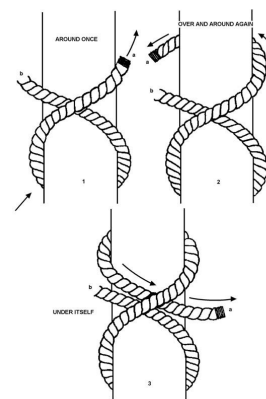
Reef Knot (Square Knot)



Becket Bend / Sheet Bend



Anchor Bend



Clove Hitch

Auxiliarist of the Month

This month we present James T. King, an Auxiliarist since 1972

Jim joined the Gulfport Flotilla in 1972, which at the time was designated Flotilla 3-1. Jim held the duties of Flotilla Commander in 1973, 1976 and 1989 and during his tenure the Flotilla won and was presented the Silver Oar award each year. In 1978 Jim held the position of Division Vice Captain. For the last 9 years Jim has held the position of FSO-FN and currently holds that position.

Jim's many qualifications include Coxswain, Vessel Examiner, Instructor, Marine Dealer Visitor and in 1974 completed all seven Specialty Examinations and was designated (Operational Member) Auxop.



The Rewards of a Safety Patrol by James T. King

Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel 37-130, Coxswain James T. King and Crewman Gary Brauer, were performing a Safety Patrol July 4, 1999. At Ship Island we made a trip down the Island and returned to the area of Ft. Massachusetts where most of the boats were located. It had been a very pleasant and uneventful patrol when a boat approached informing us that he had seen a large object floating in the water as he was nearing Ship Island. I decided to investigate and headed in a north west direction as the winds were from the south east about 12 to 15 knots. We traveled about a 1/4 mile when we spotted what we believed to be the object about a mile from our position, and we headed toward it. We traveled approximately 1/2 mile when we spotted someone in the water about fifty yards off our starboard beam waving their arms. I immediately cut speed, turned the vessel around, and headed back towards the people. It was a mother and her two sons, all wearing PFDs, holding on to each other, just waiting to be rescued. We got them aboard our vessel and they told us that they had fallen off their PWC, the wind had blown the PWC away from them and the mother did not want to try to catch it and leave her boys alone. They said they had been in the water about 15 to 20 minutes when we came by. They were hoping that they would be missed and someone would come looking for them, but they were in serious trouble because they were being blown further and further north west away from the Island. The PWC was being blown away even faster and anyone looking for them would be looking for the PWC somewhere around the Island, not looking for people in the water 3/4 mile from the Island. We then proceeded to pick up the PWC which was approximately 150 yards from the position of the people in the water. We secured a line to the PWC and headed back towards the Island. As we approached the Island we were met by three people in a small skiff, they informed us that they were the owners of the PWC and the husband and father of the mother and sons. They said they were looking for the PWC because they thought it must have ran out of gas. They were not worried, they thought it would be in shallow water close to the Island and the riders would just be waiting for gas. The people transferred from our boat to the Skiff, we handed the PWC line over to them, they thanked us and we departed. We feel very thankful that we made the decision to investigate the reported floating object and very thankful that we were able to see the people in the water. I don't know how much longer they could have survived in 2 to 3 foot seas and 10 to 15 knot winds. This, I feel is the purpose of our Auxiliary Training and Safety Patrols.

James T. King, 081-03-07-130
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Famous Quote Of The Month

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others

Mahatma Gandhi