



International Guild of Knot Tyers **TEXAS BRANCH** **NEWSLETTER**

February 2004

Issue 19

The Prez says

I hope that we are finished moving the meetings around. While the last meeting was great for working on a project, attendance was much too low.

The value of having the Guild is creating the opportunity to expand what you know and to share what you are working on with others. The larger the group, the better this works as variety and expertise increases with size.

Ok, now off the ole soapbox.

As I recall, Gary will wrap up the sessions on becketts (sea chest handles) at the June meeting. His instruction has been great and even though I do not have plans on building a sea chest, I will have a pair of handles, just in case. The process has been interesting for me and I appreciate Gary's expertise and indulgence of folks like me who have four thumbs.

The TxB is still in need of someone to take over the program position. Please let Gary, Rob, or myself know if you are willing to take this on for awhile. We are not looking for a life long commitment, just some assistance to spread the wealth.

Recently I was attending a training course and was doing my usual. Fiddling with tying a turks head while listening to a presentation. My ADD was acting up so that was keeping me on task. After typing one and the promoting it once (something I learned at a TxB meeting) I began to get questions and even got a convert to ask for some line and to show her how. Too bad I am married (28 years) ...what a good come on. Oh well back to the message. Sharing one's knowledge is one way to promote knot tying which just happens to be the goal of the guild. Please make time on June 13th for our next meeting. See you there.

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April 4, Meeting

Well, once again attendance was down. Way down. Due to bad planning on my part I had scheduled our April 2004 meeting on Easter Sunday so it was decided to have the meeting a week earlier on 4 April instead. An email was sent out to that effect but...

In attendance were:

Charlie Holmes

Jack Keene

Rob Higgins

Gary Sessions

...and that was all.

No business was discussed.

Rob and Charlie continued working on their becketts. They both have made impressive progress and are doing well.

Jack Keene and Gary Sessions watched Rob and Charles and discussed Oak Cliff history. Jack recently moved to Oak Cliff and has become a fount of information about Oak Cliff.

Make a note on your calendars that our next scheduled meeting will be on 13 June 2004. The location will be decided and emailed to you prior to the meeting.

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TxB Calendar

The only activity on the schedule is the June, 2004 meeting to be held on 13 June. Location to be announced.

And remember, meetings are scheduled for the second Sunday of the even numbered months.

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Membership

Membership in the Texas Branch (TxB) of the International Guild of Knot Tyers (IGKT) is available to all. The only requirements for membership are paid up membership in the International Guild of Knot Tyers and the TxB annual fee of \$6.00 payable to Rob Higgins, the TxB Treasurer.

Annual subscription to the IGKT costs £18.00 (British Pound Sterling) which equates to about \$27.00 (US Dollars). The easiest method of payment is with credit card (Master Card or Visa). Provide your credit card details and write to:

I.G.K.T. c/o
The Charities Aid Foundation
Kings Hill,
WEST MALLING
ME19 4TA
England

Subscription through the Charities Aid Foundation is a new procedure implemented to relieve the Hon. Secretary of the IGKT, Nigel Harding, of one of the more onerous tasks of his office.

Please keep your IGKT subscription (and your TxB dues) current.

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From The Mailbag

The Pacific Americas Branch of the IGKT has officially announced that it will host a meeting in June, 2004. The dates are June 25th, 26th, and 27th. The location of the meeting is Bellingham, WA.

If you plan to be in that part of the world about that time it would be worth your time to try to attend. The PAB is a very active group and there are some very good knot tyers in their group. If you need more information contact me.

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From the Ditty Bag

The Program Chairperson and Member At Large positions remain unfilled. Just to refresh your memory the job descriptions are printed below.

Program Chairperson:

Develop programs for the regularly scheduled Branch meetings to include projects and invited guest presenters. The Program Chairman may also call upon Branch members to help develop programs or to demonstrate and teach any specialty a Branch member may have developed .

Branch Member at Large.

A voting member of the Board with no specific duties. This person may be assigned specific Ad Hoc duties by the Board.

This issue will be brought up as a Business item at our next meeting. If you have an interest in either position, or think you might know of a member who might be, contact Charlie Holmes or me.

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Editorial

Nothing in particular to editorialize about so I'll ramble a bit.

Attendance has been down and I hope that is because of the screwed up schedule we have had to live with for the past couple of meetings. I'll try to do better in the future – like noticing important Holidays, like Easter, and not schedule a meeting on the same date. I'll try to dream up some new project for the group to work on for the June meeting. If you have any ideas for a project let me know and I'll try to get it worked up.

As announced, the PAB will be hosting a 3day meeting in June in Bellingham, WA. I really think that most of the TxB members would enjoy one of these IGKT confabs. There are some really neat people who are interested in tying some knots. The PAB is an extremely active group that meets regularly and has some really talented knotters. The President of the PAB is a working rigger.

So, in closing this issue of your newsletter, I will wish you...

Fair leads.

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