

TAUNTON RIVER NEWS



TAUNTON RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON NEWS LETTER

FALL 2016



**Taunton River
Sail & Power Squadron
Bridge**

www.usps.org/localusps/tauntonriver

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Vacant

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Vessel Safety Check

Chairman:

P/D/C W. Lee Blackburn, SN
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UPCOMING EVENTS

IN TWO WEEKS!

FALL COOKOUT

Thursday, Sept. 15 - 1730 (5:30 PM)

Taunton Yacht Club

2125 Water St, Dighton, MA 02715

\$25 SPECIAL OFFER! \$75 VALUE SEAMANSHIP COURSE

Tentative starting date - 10 weeks

Starts Wed., Sept. 28 - 1900 (7:00 PM)

Masonic Lodge

66 Winthrop Street, Taunton, MA

Contact trsps.edu1@yahoo.com for details

PADDLING EVENT

Saturday, September 17 - 1000 (10:00 AM)

Westport River, Westport, MA

Contact KEAmaral@aol.com for details

SQUADRON MEETING

Thursday, October 20 - 1930 (7:30 PM)

The Arbors Assisted Living

763 County St, Taunton, MA 02780

SQUADRON MEETING

Thursday, November 17 - 1930 (7:30 PM)

The Arbors Assisted Living

763 County St, Taunton, MA 02780

SQUADRON CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday, December 15 - 1930 (7:30 PM)

The Arbors Assisted Living

763 County St, Taunton, MA 02780

Come for the Boating Education... Stay for the FriendsSM

SEAMANSHIP

The Cornerstone of
Your Boating Education



As with many things in life, the more you learn the more you realize you don't know. I imagine that our recent America's Boating Course graduates can relate to this. Well here is your chance to build on the things that you have already learned!

The Seamanship course is the next step, taking the knowledge and skills you've learned and expanding on them. It builds boating confidence and competence for safe and fun on-the-water adventures. The material is applicable to both power and sail, covering: the construction and functioning of a boat, the skipper's responsibilities, preparing the boat for use, handling and maneuvering a vessel under various conditions, rules of the road, anchoring, emergencies, and marlinespike/basic knots. Just \$25 each!

DON'T MISS OUT • SIGN UP TODAY!

Contact KEAmaral@aol.com for details

Have you tied a Bowline lately?

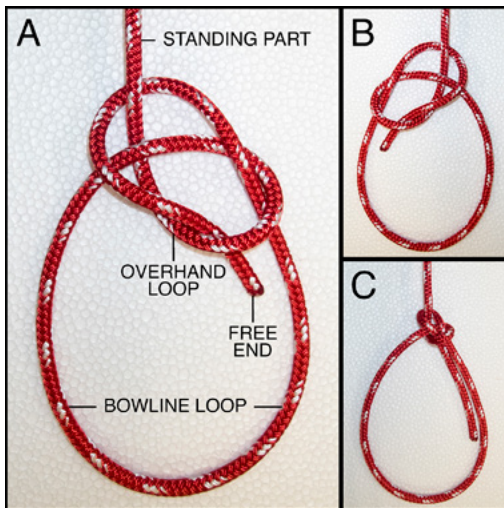
Do you remember how?

Marlinespike Seamanship, the art of knot tying, has been the mark of an accomplished seaman, be they power or sail for hundreds of years. Knowing the right knot for the job and how to tie it is an indispensable skill. That skill is only achieved by study and practice.



Scuttlebutt

1. cask on a ship that contains freshwater for a day's use
2. nautical slang, from the sailors' custom of gathering around the scuttlebutt to gossip.



A. Right-handed B. Left-handed C. Finished

1. Make an overhand loop
2. Feed free end up through the loop, around the standing part and back down through the loop
3. Grasp free end and sides of bowline loop with one hand and the standing part in the other — Pull tight, take out slack

HINT: *The rabbit comes out of the hole, around the tree and back down the hole*

USES: Anytime you need a strong secure loop, Securing sheets (control lines) to sails, etc.

PROS: Easy to tie, Easy to untie, Does the job, Maintains 60% of rope strength

CONS: May chaff through if it moves against a hard surface, such as an anchor shackle

MATERIALS: **GOOD - CAUTION - DANGER**
Choose a quality rope that is right for the job
NYLON® - soft, stretchy

POLYESTER - Dacron® - stiffer than nylon

BLENDS - if stiff or slippery, unties easily

POLYPROPYLENE* - slippery, unties easily

ARAMIDS - Kevlar® - weakened by knots

POLYETHYLENE - Spectra® - unties easily

*some softer braids may be OK - test it!

Disclaimer: *How well a knot holds depends on proper materials, technique and application. Test every knot before betting your life on it.*

Are You Lost? ...or is your aid to navigation missing?

Keeping up to date, by checking the US Coast Guard "Local Notice to Mariners" might have told you. Right now: The Buzzards Bay Entrance Light is not working. The Woods Hole Passage Lighted Bell Buoy is sinking. In the Narragansett Bay area, Naval exercises, dredging, and bridge work are taking place. And some of those things that you see on your charts, may be going away. It also lets you know about sailboat races and other events that you might want to attend — or avoid.

The USCG Notice to Mariners is available on-line and is updated weekly. We are in the First District. Don't be intimidated by the number of pages. A lot is repeated week to week and new stuff is often in bold type. Once its familiar, you'll be able to quickly skip past information that isn't useful to you. But print out the abbreviations on pages 1 & 2.

This is how the Coast Guard describes it: "The US Notice to Mariners provides timely marine safety information for the correction of all US Government navigation charts and publications from a wide variety of sources both foreign and domestic. To ensure the safety of life at sea, the information published in the Notice to Mariners is designed to provide for the correction of unclassified nautical charts, the Unclassified NGA/DLIS Catalog of Hydrographic Products, United States Coast Pilots, NGA List of Lights, USCG Light Lists, and other related nautical publications produced by NGA, NOS and the U.S. Coast Guard. The US Notice to Mariners will contain only those chart corrections of interest to ocean going vessels." **Check it out!**

Website: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=InmDistrict®ion=1>

Editors Note:

The information on knot tying given here is simplified for ease of use. This is meant as a guide, not the definitive text on the subject. Proper training and practice is required to master Marlinespike Seamanship. Always use caution when using new or unfamiliar knots and materials.