

# San Diego Ships Modelers Guild

Volume I

NEWS LETTER -- JUNE 1977

Number 2

"Admiral, I think this ship will do us very well. She'll carry a good load. She isn't much to look at, though, is she? A real ugly duckling."

.....President Franklin D. Roosevelt to RADM Emory S. Land, 1941  
(after reviewing plans for the Liberty ship designs) see note 1.

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## NOTES From the Last Meeting:

Our special thanks to Captain KEN REYNARD of the Maritime Museum of San Diego, for attending our last meeting. Captain REYNARD was responsible for the restoration of the STAR OF INDIA, and is currently in charge of the restoration of the BEREKELY. Toward the close of our meeting, he took members for a guided tour through the engine room of the BEREKELY, which eventually will be completely restored and open to museum visitors.

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## MODELS Displayed:

1. BOB PRANKA - "Leon" - Scratch, Plank on Frame
2. DOUG MCFARLAND - "Norske Love" - Kit, Plank on Frame
3. ROYCE PRIVETT - "Constitution" - Kit, (Bluejacket)
4. MIKE RIVERA - "Dutch Yacht" - Scratch
5. BILL THORPE - "Sovereign of the Seas" - Kit (Sergal)
6. BOB BRADY - "Disaster #67" - Scratch
7. VIC CROSBY - "Johnny Boy" - Ship in the bottle - Scratch
8. MIKE ANDERSON - "English Galleon" - Scratch
9. MILDRED BECKER - Scrimshaw Display - Scratch

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KEELS LAID: ?????

LAUNCHINGS: ?????

COMPLETIONS/COMMISSIONINGS:

Future newsletters will list who is doing what, in these areas. Let your editor know the "happenings", particularly if you don't plan on bringing the model down for one of our meetings in the near future.

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## SPECIAL MEETS for the MISSION BAY MODEL YACHT BASIN:

The model yacht basin on Vacation Isle (west of Inghram St) is open to the public everyday, year 'round. The unspoken law, however, is scale electric and steam models on Saturday mornings, RC sail on Saturday afternoons, (generally there is no wind in the mornings, anyway), and high speed gas engine RC models all day on Sundays. These simple rules provide equal opportunity to share the limited number of RC frequencies available and reduce the threat of damage from possible high speed boats hitting or colliding with detailed scale models.

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Each year the basin is closed about five weekends for special regional and even national meets sponsored by the local chapter for gas & sail. The dates remaining this year are:

19-20 June  
3-4 September  
22-23 October  
3-4 December

While this is a completely different aspect of model boating from what most of us know, there is never-the-less, thrills and excitement in this highly competitive hobby.

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NEW MEMBERS for May:

1. Michael ANDERSON
2. Bill BROWN
3. John DUNHAM
4. Art GRENZEBACK
5. Chuck RAUNER
6. Doug SMAY

On behalf of all Guild members, "WELCOME ABOARD."

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ANAHEIM Model Arts & Crafts HOBBY SHOW:

San Diego ship models were aptly represented on 7-8 May for this show held at the Anaheim Convention Center. Our heartiest congratulations go to DON WESLEY for winning FIRST PRIZE for his beautifully scaled "Kate Cory." Of seven models displayed (from San Diego), three were awarded prizes. Other winners were:

Bob BECKER - Second Prize - "Pilgram" (in class)  
Doug MCFARLAND - " " - "Santa Maria" (in class)

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"FIRST" Model Yacht Basin "Show & Tell":

On Saturday, May 14, a "show & tell" display was set-up at the Model Yacht Basin which combined static displays of members with operating R/C electric, steam, and sail models of others. The word had been circulated widely among the "Saturday morning crowd" to all come down and bring as many models as possible regardless of current condition. The north bank of the basin at one point contained over 30 models at anchor and perhaps there were that many again displayed on the beach. Except for the southerly gusty winds which created choppy conditions, the day was regarded as a success. While it did not rain, the winds approached nearly gale force (in scale), for some of the smaller models.

Members displaying static models were: DAVE BASH ("Sultana & Rattlesnake"), LEW HARMELING (R/C live steam tug "Black Cat"), BOB BECKER ("Endevour & minitures of a British Admiralty yacht & Anchor Hoy"), DOUG MCFARLAND ("Norske Love & Santa Maria"), BILL BROWN (R/C Fireboat "City of L.A.#2 & sailing schooner Fergie"), BILL KELLY-FLEMING ("Flying Cloud, Hurricane Bird, Mediator, Constitution & Enterprise") FRED FRAAS (R/C electric of USS Camden (AOE-2) among others), and VIC CROSBY with his "Herring Siener" in a bottle, of course.

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One of the days' highlights was the maiden voyage of a R/C live steam model of USS Oregon (BB-3) by JOHN SANDS. Although AL LHEUREUXS' 9 foot model of the USS MISSOURI (BB-63) was the largest operating model, an 8 foot model of the USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN-65) was present, a large model of USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59) as well as PHIL HEDLYS' 6 foot operating/diving model of a WWII Fleet Submarine. Several local newspapers gave appropriate picture coverage and Channel 39 apparently shot much footage, as did DAVE BASH. Perhaps his movies as well as many still shots will be seen at future meetings??

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DOWNTOWN MAIN LIBRARY:

A member mentioned his disappointment concerning the number of books available in the downtown main library in reference to last months' newsletters note. The books on ships, modeling etc. are actually in several locations as follows:

1st Floor Science Room 623 section: Ship modeling, small boat design and building, seamanship, navigation, radar, marine engineering, submarines, fishing boats etc.

3rd Floor Social Science Room 387 section: Sailing and historical ships, ocean liners, coastal vessels, tugboats, cargo ships, tankers, maritime industry and general seafaring etc.

3rd Floor Social Science Room 359 section: Foreign and US naval warships and Coast Guard vessels.

Ask a librarian to help you locate any book or subject you do not find on the open shelves. Many duplicates are available at the CALL DESK (1st Floor) and books currently checked out may be reserved for about 25¢ each. Good Hunting!!

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COFFEE/TEA & SET-UP COMMITTEE:

At our last meeting it was agreed to set-up a rotating committee for this purpose. Chairs and tables need to be brought down from the second deck of the Berekely and also returned at the conclusion of the meeting. (everyone helping out at this point.) A coffee pot is available which will be used to heat hot water for instant coffee/tea. Initially the set-up costs will be borne by the clubs' treasury with those users "paying as you go." Three members will be assigned in alphabetical order from the membership roster starting with the August meeting. More info to follow.

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NEXT MEETING - JUNE 17:

"Show & Tell" will be omitted from our next meeting and instead we will have a social hour on the quarterdeck of the Star of India similar to our party last Christmas. BILL BENSON has generously offered to provide the champaign and ANN MERRILL has volunteered to act as chairman, or is it chairperson?? Please call ANN at \_\_\_\_\_ if you can provide any assistance with snacks, cookies, sandwiches, snacks or whatever. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Remember to bring your wife or girlfriend, but preferably not both.

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SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS GUILD

Elected Officers

CAPTAIN: WILLIAM D. "Bill" BENSON

LOGKEEPER/

EDITOR : FRED FRAAS

PURSER: BOB BECKER

STEERING

COMMITTEE: VIC CROSBY - DOUG MCFARLAND - AL LHEUREUX

MEETINGS: 3rd Friday of each month aboard the BEREKELY

MEMBERSHIP

DUES: \$3.00 per year (Membership in the Maritime Musuem of San Diego is very highly encouraged.)

Prospective members are entitled to two visits as a guest of a member. After two visits, dues must be paid for further participation in the activities of the Guild.

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HOW WE'RE DOING:

Purser BOB BECKER states we now have 48 paid members and about \$/redacted/ in the "hold," after mailing etc. this months' newsletter. For May, 65 copies were mailed (at a cost of \$13 ++ ) of which two were returned. BILL BRENNAN apparently moved from his/redacted/ address and DEXE KILMERS' address on/redacted/ must be in error. --- Incidentally, dues may be mailed to: BOB BECKER

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CLASSIFIED ADS:

FOR SALE (or Trade?): 79 3/4 inch WWII GEARING class Destroyer hulls. Plank-on frame, resin-coated inside & out. Scale 1/5 inch to ft. Excellent for larger static or R/C electric. Extremely strong & durable ---Also have 47 monthly issues (69-74) of "Model Boats" magazines for sale or trade. If interested see or call FRED FRAAS for additional.

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.....well "10-4" good buddies until next month.

note 1: Subsequent to FDRs' statement, the Maritime Commission made the following press release also in 1941:

"The Liberty ship, will present a trim, sea-going appearance. Riding low in the water, with its long, slender prow and its simple, straight-lined superstructure, it will knife its way through the waves as gracefully as any vessel afloat." \*\*

\*\* from: John Gorley Bunkers' "THE LIBERTY SHIPS - The Ugly Ducklings of World War II."