



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

JULY 2004

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, NO. 7

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Opening Day at the Del Mar Fair

San Diego County Fair Edition



The 2004 San Diego County Fair and a month of Guild members struttin' their stuff has just come to an end. As I write this, **Robert Hewitt** and his destruction crew are taking down our beloved booth. The Fair ran from 11 June to 05 July.

During almost four weeks 16 Guild members represented both the Guild and the San Diego Maritime Museum in the "Design in Wood" pavillion/exhibit. Our purpose was to put the word out about the Museum and the Guild, drum up some new members and enlighten the public about the hobby of ship model building. Most of us actually got work done on our models and had a fine time to boot.

San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild is affiliated with and supports the Maritime Museum of San Diego



June Meeting

MINUTES OF MEETING 09 JUNE 2004. Contributed by Bob McPhail

Guildmaster **Robert Hewitt** opened the meeting precisely at the stroke of six bells of the second dog watch. He asked us all to rise for a moment of silence in honour of the recently deceased Ronald Reagan. On an interesting note, President Reagan is the only president since FDR that did NOT have a ship model in the Oval Office-he had a sculpture of a cowboy on horseback. ☺ While on the subject, by the time this newsletter is published the aircraft carrier *RONALD REAGAN* will be in its new homeport of San Diego.

Visitors and New Members: Welcome aboard to **Ed Trasoras** who brought a model of an English Galleon. Details and photos are in the show and tell section.

Purser Report: Purser **Ron Hollod** (who just took over from **Dick Strange**) reported current balance of funds as of May 31 is \$<redacted>.

Olde Business:

Robert Hewitt went through the details pertaining to the Fair. Since it is now over, I will not get into them at this time. The MEDEA cruise for those who participated in the Fair is scheduled for July 23.

The Koehler Kraft Wooden Boat Show was held June 19/20, 2302 Shelter Island Drive. **Robert Hewitt** was there on June 20.

Renewed call for volunteers. **Bob Crawford** would like volunteers for the model shop especially on the weekends. There is also a need for volunteers for SURPRISE/ROSE. Call **Kay Johnson** 619 234 9153X 120 if you like to volunteer.

The STAR of INDIA's 141st birthday is 07 November with the STAR sailing on 13 and 14 November. The MEDEA will celebrate it's

100th birthday on 29 August. Stay tuned for details on both events.

New Business:

Robert Hewitt reported a new memorial at the entrance to the G Street Pier. It is for the USS SAN DIEGO CL53, an anti-aircraft light cruiser that served in the Pacific theater during World War II. It was also mentioned that the "USS" MIDWAY (CV 41) Aircraft carrier Museum had just opened up on Broadway pier. It should be noted that while the MIDWAY is an actual ship, the USS SAN DIEGO memorial is not the ship itself.

It was announced that next month's Round Table discussion will be on deadeyes and ratlines.

The annual party was discussed. It will be held during the August meeting onboard the STAR of INDIA (this was confirmed as of press time). It will be pot luck with some dishes bought. The following people have signed up to bring dishes. Please contact John Wickham if you would like to bring something.

ED WHITE- COOKIES/DESERT
ERNIE ANDREW-DESERT
RON HOLLLOD-MAIN DISH (HAM)
RICHARD STRANGE-FRUIT TRAY
ED TRASORAS-SPAGHETTI
DAVE DANA-SALAD
DOUGLAS YUMOTO-DESERT AND 1
OR 2 TURKISH DISHES
JACKIE JONES-POTATO SALAD
DON BIENVENUE-SODA
BOB GRAHAM -CHICKEN
ROBERT HEWITT-BAKED BEANS
JOHN WICKHAM- PLATES, NAPKINS,
ETC.

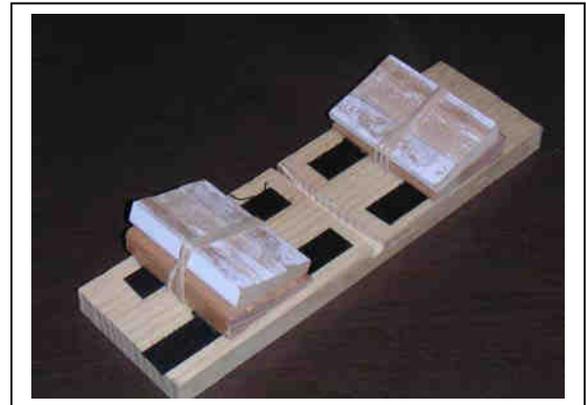
SHOW AND TELL

Let's start with the new guy. **Ed Trasoras** brought a plastic English Galleon built from a Revell Kit he got for \$10 at a church bazaar. While it did not have a specific name, this ship was typical of the Race ships or Race-built galleons the English used in the late 1500s. These were used very effectively in 1588 to defeat the Spanish Armada and were captained by the likes of Francis Drake and John Hawkins. These galleons were an improvement on existing design so that the ship could sail closer to the wind. This was a significant advantage. The many colors on the hull were to create a more hospitable environment for the crew and to identify the admiral or fleet commander.



Ed Trasoras' English Galleon

Ed undertook the task after sitting in a box for 30 years (the model, not Ed). He did not indicate how long it took him to assemble the hull, but it took 3 months to paint the hull, 2.5 months to mount and rig the guns and 2.5 months to make sails, set up masts and rig the ship. The hardest part, Ed said, was to paint the ship since the model was originally black plastic. The old plastic sails were starting to crack, so he used them as a form and made new ones by layering tissue paper (the stuff used on model airplanes...not silkspan though) mixed with Elmer's glue. **Guildmaster Hewitt** is trying to put the pinch on Ed to do a demo in the near future. What's the next model Ed?



Ed's unique base for the model. The supports are mounted on Velcro and can be moved to support various sizes. Photo by John Wickman

Royce Privett brought in his 1/8 scale model of the frigate ESSEX. He finished it some time ago and has shown it since, but figured he should bring something in since most of us slugs come empty-handed. :-)
Seriously...somebody had asked about the model so he brought it in, but the person who asked was not there. We enjoyed looking at it again.

Royce recounted his 6 year building experience. It was originally a Model Shipways kit that somebody else had started. He got it at an auction. He ended up having to scratch build/rebuild most of it.



Royce Privett's frigate ESSEX. Photo by John Wickman

Sandra Hermanson brought in the schooner HARVEY which her father, Amadeo Menendez, built completely from scratch. She did not have much in the way of information on the model. HARVEY is a representation of a classic Baltimore clipper. Baltimore clippers won fame as privateers and in trades where "deviltry and speed sailed together" - smuggling, running slaves and opium. These ships also served as revenue cutters for the government-more deviltry, eh. Developed in Chesapeake Bay before the Revolution, these lean topsail schooners "clipped along" at 12 knots or more. Deep draft helped them sail closer to the wind than other vessels; raked mast lent a swift look

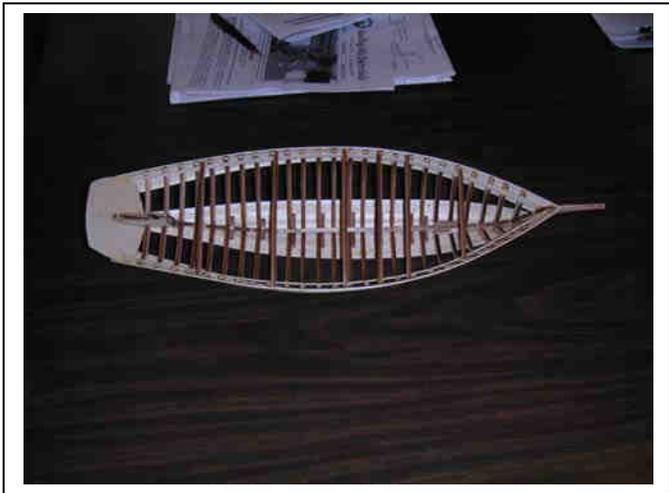


Schooner HARVEY. Photo by John Wickman

but added no speed. The schooners were armed and raided British shipping in the War of 1812. The type faded by 1850, but its sharp lines lived on in the clipper ship.



K. C. Edward's fiddles with his LIGHTNING day sailer



Howie Franklin's EMMA C. BERRY. Photo by John Wickman

Howie Franklin brought his in-progress model of the EMMA C. BERRY. Launched in 1866 as a fishing vessel, the original EMMA C. BERRY was sometimes rigged as a sloop and sometimes as a schooner. It had a wet-well to keep the fish alive so they would be fresh when they got to market. It was eventually restored at the Mystic Seaport Museum in Connecticut, where it is currently on display. Howie proclaims this Model Shipways kit to be very good. It is plank on frame with laser cut parts. It has 4 sheets of plans that Howie says are so good you could build a real ship from them. EGAD! Keep them away from Bill Luther!!

Robert Hewitt brought in the GLASGOW again and described how he made his ladders. See page 5.

A round table discussion was held on masting techniques by Bob Graham. If I could get him to write up what he talked about, I would put it in the newsletter.

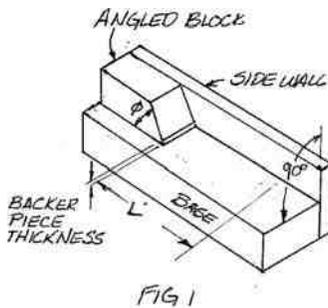
SHOW AND TELL- Continued

HMS GLAGOW: Making quarterdeck stairs

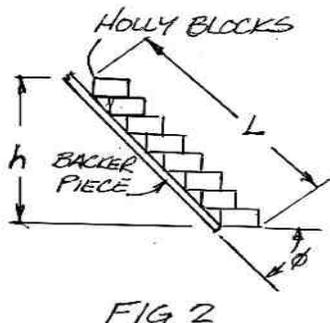
by Robert Hewitt

The upper decks have been installed. The round houses and the basket works were added next. The belfry and railing are carved from ebony. The stern windows are silk thread coated with Testor's clear parts cement. I had a difficult time with the quarter deck stairs. I finally decided to build a jig and to make them solid.

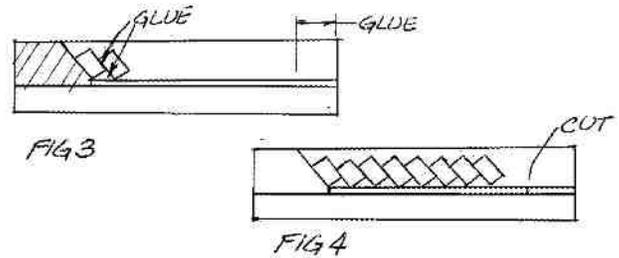
The Jig is two pieces of pear glued together to make a 90 degree nest. An angled piece of pear was made by trial and error, as my computer was not operating, and glued to the 90 degree nest. The tip of the angle was cut off so the flat portion is the same height as the backer piece of the stair assembly. (Figure 1)



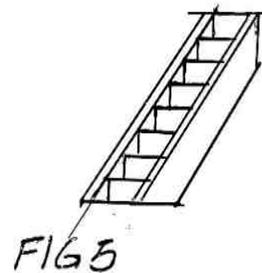
I measured the height (h) from the quarter deck to the gun deck. Eight pieces of holly were cut to make up this height. Fig. 2 They were trimmed to the width of the stairs and made twice as deep as the tread. The backer piece is then glued to the far end of the jig. This should be the width of the holly pieces. I did not make this piece as wide as should be and the result is one of the treads is out of line. This was not noticed until I saw John Wickman's photo of the model.



I positioned the first holly block on the fixture and glued the second block to the first and also to the backer piece. The blocks are also pushed against the side wall. Fig. 3.



When all of the pieces have been added and the glue is dry, cut the backer piece from the fixture. Fig. 4. I added a piece of pear to the flush side of the assembly and let the glue dry. I sanded the opposite side flush and added a piece of pear to it. The sides of the stair assembly were trimmed with a razor blade and it was glued to the two decks. Fig. 5

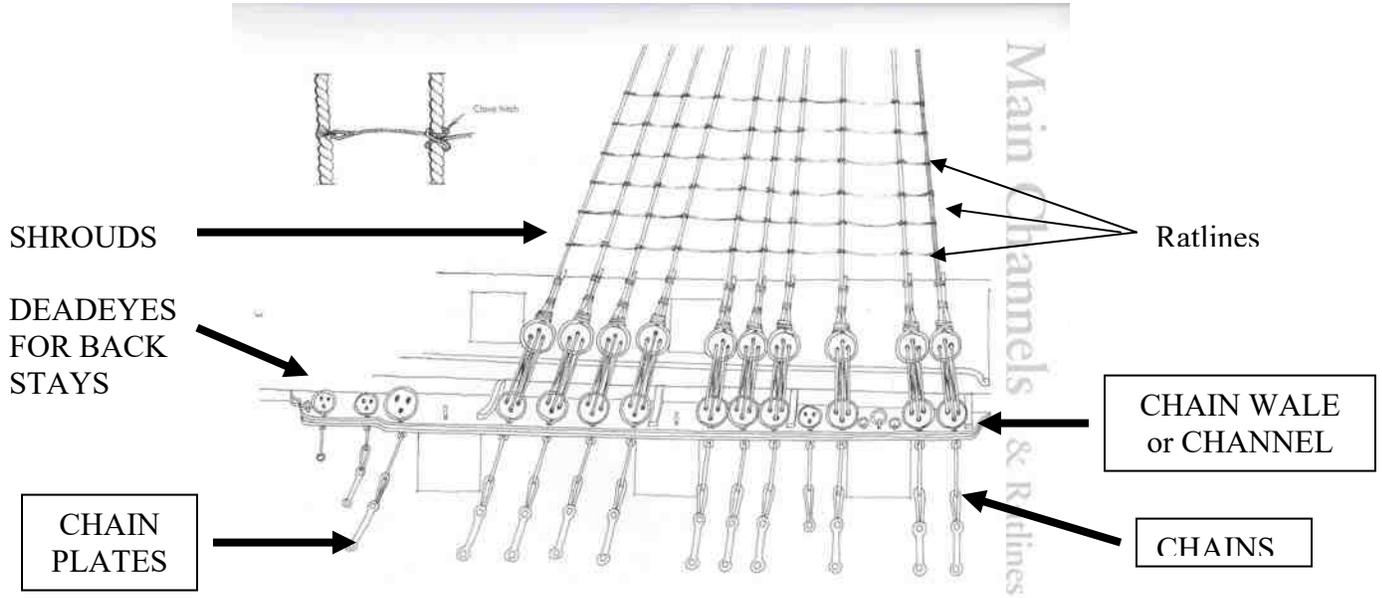
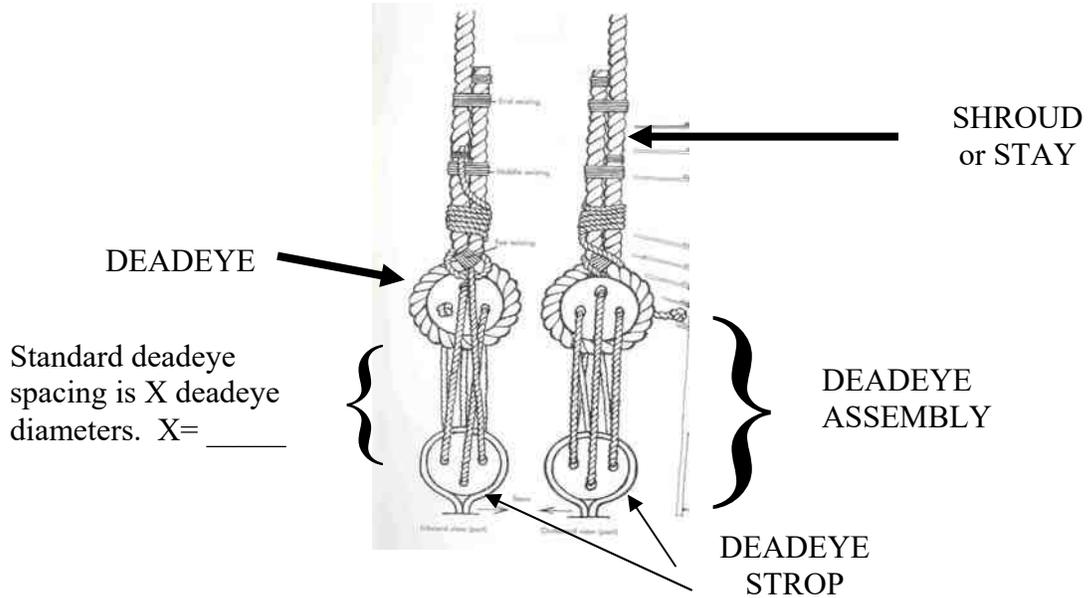


Good luck and good modeling.

DISCUSSION NOTE TAKING GUIDE/READ-UP SHEET

DEAD EYES and RATLINES

Diagrams Excerpted from
"Rigging Period Ship Models" by Lennarth Peterson



The Faire

The San Diego County Fair gets a lot of attention at the Guild. It is not entirely because we are big cinnamon bun fans or because we love riding those double-decker buses to and from the Horse Park. Four or so weeks every late-June and early-July, more than a dozen Guild members dedicate almost 30 man-hours a day, every day (except Mondays) representing the Guild and the Museum.

The primary purpose of what we do is to inform the public about the craft/hobby of model shipbuilding as part of the “Design in Wood” display. Not only do we spread the word about modeling, we inform the public about the Maritime Museum of San Diego and attempt get new members into the Guild. One benefit of NOT having our July birthday party is that we can encourage new prospective members to come to the

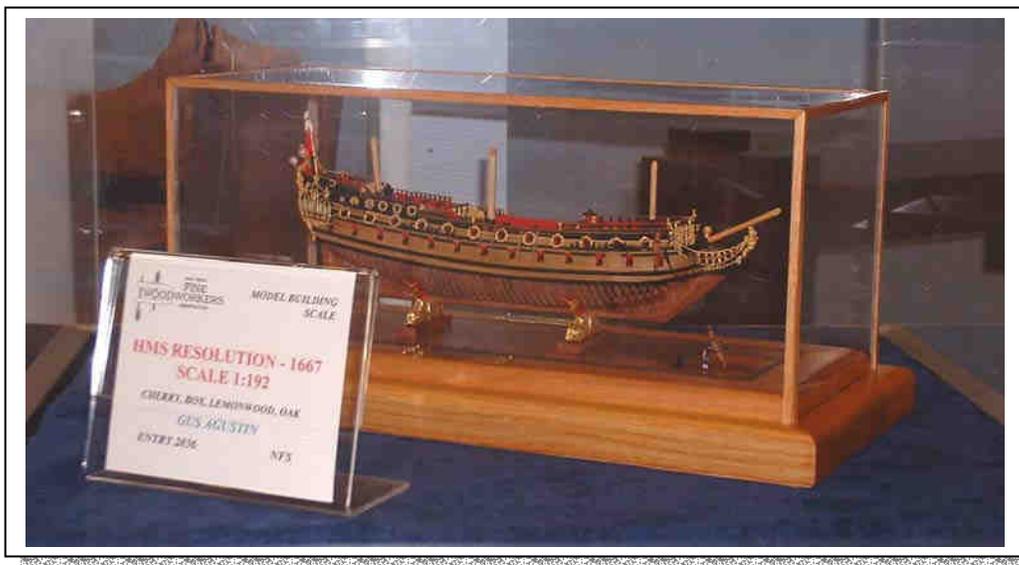
“next meeting” rather than wait until August, by which time they have forgotten.

Hats off again this year to **Robert Hewitt** and **Jack Klein**. They put in a lot of time and effort working with the Design in Wood chaps and the Fair Board in preparation for this event. Thanks also to **Ron Zuenges** for helping me liberate those semi-comfortable chairs from the beer garden, sparing us all from the torture devices they had intended for us to use.

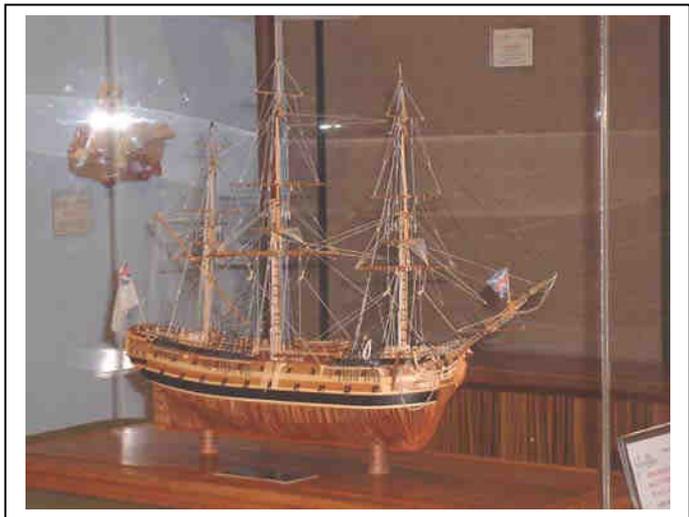
In addition to our participation at the booth, there is a scale model category in the “Design in Wood” competition. There is also a special award for best ship model, sponsored by the Maritime Museum of San Diego. This year’s Fair had some great models, interesting woodworking pieces and the ever-present ‘mystery piece’.

2004 San Diego County Fair Honour Roll In Order of Appearance

Jack Klein Ron Zeunges Chuck Seiler Ernie Andrew Don Bienvenue	Ron Hollod Chari Wessel Dick Strange Dave Dana John Wickman Tom Taylor	Chuck Peabody Bob McPhail John Scranton Bob Graham Nick Rugen
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Gus Agustin's HMS RESOLUTION takes first place in the SCALE MODEL category



Joe Bompensiero from the model shop takes second place in the scale model category with HMS ROEBUCK, a 44 gun frigate.



Jack Klein's PELICAN did not take any honors, but it looks nice.



This miniature dollhouse took third place in the scale model category. This is the front as seen from the model booth



Third place dollhouse as seen from the back. Model booth is off in the distance.



Robert Hewitt's GOLDEN HIND takes fourth.



The Mystery Piece (there's always one). What can I say?



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WANTED: *Coffee Maker* REPLACEMENT PURSER

Purser **Robert Hewitt** reports, for personal reasons, he wishes to step down as the Guild *Coffee Maker*. While no hard deadline for stepping down was mentioned, he wishes to do this as soon as possible. He is willing to spend however much time is required getting the new *Coffee Maker* up to speed. More to follow.

MEDEA CRUISE

NOTE: The "reward" cruise on the MEDEA for those Guild members that worked two or more days at the Fair is scheduled for Friday 23 July. Sign-up details to follow.

Ahrr Matey, Its coming! 19 Sept 2004
Will you be ready?

SHIPS IN SCALE MAGAZINE ASKS FOR ASSISTANCE

We recently became aware of two requests for assistance from SHIPS IN SCALE magazine. The first was sent to Jacki Jones (former editor and Guildmeister) from somebody who was looking to do an article on crafting hulls for HO scale resin models used by railroaders. The person cites a specific model company and says it may be a good project.

The second request was posted on the SIS discussion group by the new publisher, Mike Kosten. He is looking for knowledgeable modelers and historians who are fair and open-minded, and would like to assist in reviewing books for the magazine. The review can be short or long as the subject dictates, but generally 1/3 page is adequate.

Anybody interested in either project, please contact me (seiler) for more details.

SURPRISE VOLUNTEERS

The Museum is looking for volunteers to act as docents on "HMS" SURPRISE. Watches are 0900-1300 (9AM to 1PM), 1300-1700 (1PM to 5PM) and 1700-2000 (5PM to 8PM). The Museum provides background info and (for anybody committing to 8 or more watches) an "HMS" SURPRISE shirt. Volunteers who stand 8 or more watches will tentatively be invited to sail aboard the CALIFORNIAN. Time spent working as a docent on the SURPRISE is counted as museum volunteer hours. To volunteer, Contact **Kay Johnston**, volunteer coordinator at 619-234-9153 ext. 120, or email at volunteer@sdmaritime.org

GUILD BIRTHDAY BASH

The annual Guild birthday party will be held during the August meeting instead of July this year. It will be a pot-luck event this year. At press time it was not known if it would be on the STAR of INDIA again, or elsewhere...stay tuned. Hey! Maybe we can have it on the MEDEA! Be ready to discuss your contributions at the next meeting. (See page 2 for a list of items already promised.)

July Round Table Topic

Reminder: The topic for July's Round Table discussion / brawl is in the area of rigging; specifically, DEAD EYES and RATLINES-tying, making, avoiding, tips and hints, things you would like to know about them. Bring your questions, knowledge, techniques and diagrams. See page 6 for 'read-ahead' info on this topic.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles, photos, tips and hints are appreciated. Please have newsletter inputs to me by 31 July 2004. If you cannot get it to me on-line, call me to arrange transfer of info. **NOTE:** Due to projects at work, I will be unable to spend as much time next month editing and filling. Articles and inputs will be inserted pretty much as received. Plan accordingly. I'll see you in the funny papers.

mp♦



Don Bienvenue and Ernie Andrew holding down the fort at the Fair. Where's the bathroom?

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July 2004

Next meeting is Wednesday July 14th on the Berkeley 6:30 pm Social, 7 pm Meeting

Bring a model!