



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

☺CTOBER 2004

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, NO. 10

OFFICERS

Guild Master

Robert Hewitt
phone redacted

First Mate

K.C. Edwards
phone redacted

Purser

Ron Holod
phone redacted

Editor

Chuck Seiler
phone redacted
address redacted

Log Keeper

Bob McPhail
phone redacted

Newsletter Distribution

Bob Wright
Robert Hewitt

*Established in 1972
by Bob Wright
and Russ Meyer*

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



MINUTES OF 08 SEPTEMBER MEETING

Contributed by Bob McPhail

Since GUILDMASTER **Hewitt** was out of action due to injury, First Mate **K.C. Edwards** opened the meeting and asked for purser's report. **Ron Holod** reported that the balance brought forward from August 7, 2004 was \$<redacted>. The current balance of funds as of September 6 is \$<redacted>. New Members and guests were asked to introduce themselves. **Gary Franks** is a new member and is building the *Prince De NEUFCHATEL*. **Tom Northrop** is also a new member.

Editor **Chuck Seiler** discussed the newsletter. He indicated that he sent out twenty emails with the newsletter as an attachment. Several people reported back indicating they wanted to continue getting the newsletter electronically AND hard copy, electronic only or hard copy only.

The August the Guild's party was discussed. There were many positive comments and it appears to have been a raging success. Since it was POT LUCK, it didn't cost much either.

Volunteers! The need for volunteers for the 3rd of October to help with ships in the bottle program was discussed. We'll see how that went. **We also need a volunteer Coffee Chef or two** to relieve Hewitt of those duties. Come on folks, pony up!

Don Dressel provided some info on the loudspeaker/microphone systems which he gave to **K. C. Edwards**. **Lyle Starkweather** also provided some info. These will be reviewed and reported on.

In **new business**, it was voted on and approved to renew subscriptions to "Ships in Scale" and Nautical Research Guild "Journal". A recommendation was made for the purchase of the CD collections for "Ships in Scale" and the NRG "Journal". This was tabled until the next meeting so a price of the CDs can be determined. In other new business, it was mentioned that **Robert Hewitt** won an award for his GOLDEN HIND at a recent show (of some sort). **Chuck Seiler** discussed a new practicum for the colonial brigantine LEXINGTON which appeared in the summer issue of the NRG "Journal". More to follow.

Chuck Seiler learned just prior to the meeting from Museum Director **Ray Ashley** that the Maritime Museum plans to purchase the HMS ROSE/SURPRISE. Plans are to repair the vessel. A movie sequel will probably not be made (at this time). It was not clear if the ROSE/SURPRISE would ever sail again. **Bob McPhail** reported There are also plans to acquire a Russian FOXTROT submarine for the museum.

After the break, there was an auction of the model kit of the steamboat, ROBERT E. LEE (Scientific Models), a table saw, scribe marker, keel clamp, and blue prints of a mine sweeper.

Show and Tell

Here's one we've seen before! **Dick Roos'** NONESUCH is nearing a state of completion where it can be rigged. Painting is NOT his first love but he managed to get through all the headaches of tough-up, re-touch and touch-up of the re-touch. He used Floquil lacquer as well as Pactra and Tamaya acrylic paints on his hull. The gun ports were done in German gold leaf. The paint job looks great and we are looking forward to its progress



Dick Roos' NONESUCH

Howie Franklin's EMMA C. BERRY is another return visitor. He had shown this east coast fishing boat back at the July meeting and wanted to show its progress. He is experimenting with mounting the model. He would like to make it look like it is sailing. He will bring it back when complete to let us see how it ended up. That is, if he doesn't sell it first. Take pictures Howie!



Howie Franklin's EMMA C. BERRY



Ron Hollod's SMUGGLER

Egad! Another fishing bateau! **Ron Hollod** displayed his model of SMUGGLER, a fishing boat built in Gloucester in 1877. She was built for speed so she could get her catch to market in the shortest of time. Her hull was of clipper design to enhance the speed, but had to be laid up in the winter since she would not do well in bad weather. Everything on the ship was designed for speed. The model is a solid hull Blue Jacket kit designed for beginners. It includes a 90 page instruction booklet. Ron says it really has nice lines and is great to work with. He has enjoyed his labors so far, except it took some time to paint. He highly recommends it as a project. Sweet!

John McDermott brought his scratch river monitor. This was one of three river monitors originally built for Brazil in 1910. They were purchased by the British government when the Brazilians could not afford to pay for them and were renamed Humber, Severn and Mersey. Severn and Mersey were used in operations in East Africa during WWI to sink the German cruiser KOENIGSBERG when low water levels prohibited larger vessels from entering the estuary. The model is about 1:380 scale and is made primarily from basswood, cardstock, brass and styrene. Many smaller parts were lost in a recent move....but John says "I'll find them!"



John Mc Dermott's River Monitor

New guy **Gary Franks** presented his Model Shipways model of PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL. The PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL was a three hundred and ten ton Continental privateer built in 1812. She was considered a "*splendid vessel*" in her day. She had a hermaphrodite rig and was thus a combination schooner and brigantine. The PRINCE carried four sails on the foremast, one square sail on the main, and a large fore-and-aft sail with gaff abaft the fore, with large staysails over and three jibs. Her spanker boom projected far beyond the stern. Eleven gun ports were cut in each side of her high bulwarks and two in her stern. Besides a couple of long chase guns, her main armament consisted of 12-pound carronades. She was fitted out in January 1814 after which she began her short but productive career as a privateer.

In addition to taking numerous prizes, PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL had a number of dust ups and near dust ups with larger vessels, including a notable action occurred off Nantucket on the night of October 11, 1814 with the British 40-gun frigate ENDYMION. After being frustrated by the smaller ship, the commander of the ENDYMION said, he lost as many men in his efforts to seize the smaller

PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL as he would have done had his ship engaged a regular man-of-war of equal force, and he generously acknowledged that the people in the privateer conducted their defense in the most heroic and skillful manner. Her career ended in December 1814 when she was unable to evade three British frigates in a storm. The model is 3\16" scale plank on bulkhead. The kit looks like it has lots of fittings. The instruction book is okay, but could use more and better pictures.



Gary Franks' PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL

And LET'S NOT FORGET....**Chuck Peabody** brought his model of CUTTY SARK which is still in the planking stage. Sorry Chuck, in all the confusion, I didn't get a picture.



Kit News

by Chuck Seiler

SCRATCH/SEMI SCRATCH LEXINGTON

Well, here's something a little different! For those of you that are thinking of breaking out from the routine kits, we have another off-the-beaten-path opportunity. **Clay Feldman**, formerly the publisher of "Seaways' Ships in Scale" magazine, is putting together a practicum to build the Continental Congress' Brigantine Lexington, 1776-1777, from the ground up (a semi-kit will be available). There will be a core magazine series with plans and basic instructions in the six 2005 issues of "Seaways' Ships in Scale" magazine as well as a problem solving e-mail group on Yahoo Groups ("The Lexington Practicum-<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lexingtonpracticum/>). In a month or so, a Lexington Practicum Web site with the additional information and educational materials that just overflowed the magazine format.

As I understand it, you will be guides through the process of scratch building the LEXINGTON. Clay is also in the process of working out a semi-kit for the Lexington project with Dave Stevens of The Lumberyard. A semi-kit is one in which the formers, keel, stem, etc., are laser cut and the wood for the planking and decking, chosen by the modeler, is already thickness sanded and cut. This will make the modeling process much easier and should permit relatively new modelers to join in. The "Lexington" for the practicum will be done to a scale of $3/16"=1'$, giving a bare hull size of about 16" long and 4" wide. The plans can easily be adjusted to any common scale though.

If you're interested, subscribe to "Seaways" if you haven't already done so (or just get it from K.C.) and join the Yahoo group. Clay says there are no charges or fees beyond the magazine subscription, but I am curious how he will work the plans. If you are interested, let me know... I will be following this closely.



Photo # KN-457 Raising the Stars & Stripes for the first time in home waters. Painting by F. Muller



GUILDMEMBERS CELEBRATE "TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY"

Three Guild Members and a Hubby pose like pirates at one of hundreds of TLAPD galas throughout San Diego County. "Fearless Fiona" Black, "Horse-Leech Chari" Wessel, Cap'n Jacques Frissee (Jacki Jones) and Swansea Jack (Terry Jones) prepare for mischief. Billy Bones (centre) is neither a Guild member nor is married to anyone in the photo.

Photo and Narrative by Rupert Morgan

Ye Ho, Ye Ho, A Pirate's life for me

HMS ROSE

A 20- gun Sixth Rate

By K. Clark from Model Shipwright # 127
submitted by **Robert Hewitt**

HMS ROSE was a sixth Rate or 20 gun (9 pdr.) designed by Thomas Slade on the lines of the Royal Yacht CAROLINE. She was of the Seaford class of 1753. ROSE was built to fight in the Seven Year War, also known as the French and Indian War. She was built by Blades of Hull under contract for the navy. The keel was laid on 15 June 1756. Her length was 108 ft. 11.5 in. on the gun deck, 30 ft. beam, and 9 ft. 6 in. depth of hold, 449 tons. The compliment was 160 men. She was launched on 8 March 1757.

Her first captain received his commission while she was still on the stocks. After she was masted and rigged she was taken down to Humber and sailed up and down the coast. In August 1757 she led small convoy to Ireland, and in May 1759 she saw action in the Channel Islands and France (Cherbourg) as part of a squadron under the command of the Hon. Richard Howe as a troop carrier. Later that year she sailed on to New York. In 1761 she was on duty in the West Indies, Barbados, Honduras Guadeloupe, where she docked for repairs to her topmasts and a repaint.

March 1764 saw her docked again for extensive repairs caused by heavy seas and storms. No details are given. In April 1768 she was reported to be at Sheerness, Kent, rigging ship and loading for a voyage in and around the British coast. In October she was sent to the coast of America where things were heating up due to the imposition of new British taxes. These were intended to recover some of the cost of defending North America during the recently concluded war with France. She sailed along the north – east coast of America, impressing or conscripting sailors from American merchant vessels when the opportunity arose. She was also looking for provisions for the British garrison in Boston. She docked at Halifax (Kings Dock) for various repairs and also received Governor Shirley aboard.

In 1774 she was under the command of James Wallace and was sent to Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island to stop the lucrative smuggling which helped

to make Newport the fourth richest city in North America. At that time Rhode Island had a very liberal charter of self-government from back to the time of King Charles. Rhode Island was the only colony to appoint its own customs agents. The combination of lax customs arrangement allowed Rhode Island merchants to broker the best trade deals in the colonies. Even in the French and Indian War, produce from the French West Indies went through Newport. ROSE was much larger than any of the American vessels of that time, and Wallace was very efficient at his job. Smuggling came to a near standstill. This so decimated the economy of Newport that four-fifths of the population left the islands. This made Rhode Island's powerful merchants to send a petition to their colonial legislature to create a navy to deal with Wallace and the ROSE.

They backed the petition with money and refitted a merchant vessel, a square topsail sloop by the name of KATY for naval service and renamed her the SLOOP of WAR PROVIDENCE. So the creation of the US Navy may be directly attested to ROSE'S presence at Rhode Island. In July 1776 she played a large part in the British invasion of New York, firing on land fortifications, and venturing far up the Hudson River for which Wallace was knighted for his actions in helping to drive Washington and his troops from the city.

In September 1778 she sailed to Savannah, Georgia. At that time the British held the city and the French, who were now fighting on the side of the Americans, sent a fleet to the Savannah River to attack the British from the river front. So ROSE was scuttled in the Savannah River to block the approach of the French fleet. By this time the ROSE was completely rotten. She was an old ship, which they done their best to patch her up for her assignment-her scuttling. Officers had her guns removed to the land where they were used against the French. There is a painting of the ROSE by M Hood in about 1760 but the author has not been able to trace.

Finis

Hewitt Wins BIG in Wisconsin (so to speak)

Don't let anybody say that **Robert Hewitt** fella lets any grass grow under his feet. He recently won big at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum's Annual Model Ships and Boats Contest held on August 6, 7 & 8, 2004 in Manitowoc, WI. Robert won Gold in Miniature class with the **GOLDEN HIND** and he also won the prestigious Dana McCalip Best Miniature Award with the same model.

He beat out his mentor **Gus Agustin** for these awards. Gus had the Stuart Royal Yacht and HMS Resolution (the ½ hull with complete interior). Robert is an associate member of the Midwest Model Shipwrights Club Coverage in SIS will be in the Jan/Feb issue (lead time for publication).

Congratulations Roberto!

SEPTEMBER DEMO: **Tool sharpening**

Bob Graham gave a terrific demonstration on how to sharpen bladed tools with a dremel. I was hoping to get some sort of written procedures, but did not. I will do my best to outline the procedures...although it would have been better if you were there to see it.

The process involved using a hard felt buffer wheel on your dremel to strop the edge. This is helped by using a polishing compound called "white rouge". Bob stressed it is important to ensure when you are stropping, the spin of the wheel must be away from the edge of the blade rather than towards (down-edge).

According to **Robert Hewitt**, the hard knife edge felt wheels used by Bob Graham are 1" in diameter, item # 281-0100, minimum quantity for 12 at \$1.05 each may be purchased at Paul H Gesswein & Co., inc. 1-800-243-4466. They have a thick catalog of many items in the jewelry business. Polishing rouge also can be obtained from this company. All hardware stores and jewelers supply houses also carry a wide variety of rouge

SHIPBOARD MENAGERIE

A Glossary of Some Animal Terms Used On Board Ships

By J. Nelson Daniel-Contributed by Bob Wright

Noah's Ark was one of the earliest vessels in recorded history. The principal cargo of this classic vessel was "two of every living thing of the flesh." Then, after the flood waters subsided, "every beast, every creeping thing and every fowl...went forth out of the Ark." (*Genesis 6:19:8:19*)

It appears, however, that a number of animals had gotten accustomed to the seafaring life and they have made their habitat on board ship ever since.

We find bees, cats, dogs, foxes, hounds, horses, jackasses, wildcats and even worms on board ships. In addition, animals have lent their names to parts of vessels to describe quite vividly their looks or functions. There are catwalks, crow's nests, dog's ears, goosenecks, monkey fists, ox balls and ratlkins.

The origins of some of the terms are obscure. Early seventeenth century literature, including journals of Captain John Smith of Jamestown fame, refer to cats,

dogs and other animal terms. The sailor must have been a truly imaginative person. Who else could describe a sounding lead as a blue pigeon?

ASH CAT-A name given to steamships by sailing men.

BAT-The hammered-up end of a rivet.

BEAR (or DECK BEAR)-A heavy mat loaded with sand, stones, etc, used for scouring the deck. Succeeded by holy stones.

BIRD'S NEST-A lookout barrel used on sailing ships. It is smaller than a crow's nest and placed higher up on the mast.

CROW'S NEST-A lookout station usually placed high on the fore side of the foremast or mainmast.

BLUE PIGEON-a hand lead used for depth sounding.

To be continued.....



A N N O U N C E M E N T S



Round Table Topic Deck Planking

We ran long with the auction and Bob Graham's demo last month. We'll try this again in October.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY STAR

Star of India is celebrating her 141st birthday on two special weekends in November. On Saturday, November 6 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., a birthday bash sponsored by the Star of India Auxiliary will take place on board. Visitors will enjoy birthday cake, kids make-your-own party hats, and live music all included with admission.

On Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14 the *Star of India* will embark on her annual sail off the San Diego coast. This year's sail will include a trip under the Coronado bridge for a fantastic photo opportunity. Boat owners are invited to join the flotilla of hundreds of watercraft that accompany the graceful windjammer on her voyage. Great views of this magnificent procession can be seen from Point Loma, Shelter Island, Harbor Island, Seaport Village, Coronado Tidelands park and other spots along the Embarcadero. The ship will leave her berth at 9:00 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m. (times are approximate).

This unique San Diego tradition cannot be seen anywhere else in the world. The birthday party on Saturday, November 6 is included with museum admission, free if a Museum member. Sailing on the *Star of India* is reserved for Maritime Museum of San Diego members, staff, special guests and her all-volunteer crew.

Newport Nautical Museum Model Exposition

The Newport Nautical Museum will be hosting a model exhibition featuring ship models or other nautically themed models. The exhibition will be open 10AM to 5 PM Tuesdays through Sundays from October 9, 2004 until February 13, 2005

VOLUNTEER COFFEE MAKER(S) WANTED



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles, photos, tips and hints are appreciated. Please have newsletter inputs to me by **01 November**. If you cannot get it to me on-line, call me to arrange transfer of info, I'll see you in the funny papers.

mp♦



Museum Flagship STAR OF INDIA Celebrates 141st Birthday on 06 November.
The star is the oldest active sailing ship in the world.

San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

☺ OCTOBER 2004

**Next meeting is Wednesday October 13th on the
BERKELEY 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 PM Meeting**

Bring a model!