



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

NOVEMBER 2004

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, NO. 11

OFFICERS

Guild Master

Robert Hewitt
phone redacted

First Mate

K.C. Edwards
phone redacted

Purser

Ron Hollod
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*

MINUTES OF 13 OCTOBER MEETING

Guildmaster **Hewitt** called the meeting to order right on the dot of six bells of the second dog watch; 1900 for you nautical types, 7PM for you landlubbers. The first order of business was a grand HUZZAH to **Ed Trasoras** for the acquisition of a low cost voice amplification system. HIP HIP...and so forth. Thanks alot Ed and thanks to **Don Dressel** and **Lyle Starkweather** for their research as well.

New members and guests: **Karl Burde** lives in Chula Vista. He has a 35 year old model, a 3 masted Danish ship, he wants to refurbish. He heard about the Guild from **K. C Edwards**. **Jim McCorison** also lives in Chula Vista, but he lives on a boat. He wants to try building smaller ones for a change. Welcome aboard guys!

Guildmaster **Hewitt** took the opportunity to review the benefits of membership in the Guild. Aside from the great comraderie and outstanding coffee, members have use of the model shop onboard BEREKELY, along with a bevy.

of tools and significant library. **K. C. Edwards** offers a discount to Guild members at his store. Every year, Guild members get the opportunity to strut their stuff at the San Diego County Fair...and as a reward, get an afternoon excursion on the 100 year old steam yacht MEDEA.

Purser's Report: Beginning balance 05 SEP 2004 was \$<redacted>. Income of \$<redacted> resulted from dues and last months auction. A total outgo of \$<redacted> were attributed to newsletter related costs and renewal of two periodicals. Balance as of 13 OCT 2004 is \$<redacted>. **Purser Ron Hollod** also requested people update their information on a sheet he passed around. This will be used for a new social roster. (Note: Roster is about ready to go to print. It will be in your mailbox any day.)

Chuck Seiler gave an update on the Lexington Practicum. (See October newsletter "KITNEWS")

See "KITNEWS" this issue

Continued on Page 2

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



Guild's new 'sound system'



Somebody get the Master-at-arms to keep the crooners and Karaoke Kings away! Heaven help us!

MINUTES-Continued from Page 1

Other Old Business. **Don Bienvenue's** proposal that the Guild purchase the "Ships in Scale-First ten Years" CD was voted down. The Guild voted purchase the Nautical Research Journal CD after **Don Dressel** advised us we could get it at a discount. The issue of a replacement Coffee Barista was resolved. See article later this issue.

A lively discussion about deck planking followed. While it was best to be at their meeting and involved in the discussion, I have tried to include as much as possible below.

A much needed coffee break/free for all discussion, followed by show and tell, rounded out the meeting. Details below.

OCTOBER DISCUSSION-DECK PLANKING

The October discussion on deck planking was informative and spirited. As in the past, it is quite impossible to capture everything on these pages, but I will do my best to include the important part (at least the ones I was able to write down).

Deck planking is a bit easier than hull planking because there is normally not a requirement to taper the plank and no need to steam and bend the plank. You do, however, have to deal with hatches, deck furniture and other obstructions. Since deck planking is not painted, it can be treated to show the caulking between planks. Normally deck planks are cut to discreet lengths and the butt ends shown/caulked.

How long is a deck plank? About 20 feet, but I varies with time period.

How wide is a deck plank? From 4 to 12 inches, depending on time period. Four to six is most common.

Deck planks, like hull planks, are staggered to avoid weakening the structure. Since deck plank butt ends are shown, this practice is more obvious in deck planking. There are rules to plank placement; so many planks between butt ends on the same frame and so many frames between butt ends on adjacent planks. This can be easily adhered to using a 4 plank (1-3-4-2) or 5 plank (1-3-5-2-4) shift.

Deck planking on real shifts was seldom symmetric due to wear and replacement of the planks over time.

The king plank is the center plank while margin planks are on the side adjacent to the bulkhead and waterways. In older ships, (13th century-thereabouts) the king plank was a special plank-often wider and thicker than the other planks. It served as a structural member. Later, when deck beams and other internal

structural improvements made frames much stronger, the king plank was merely the reference to the center plank.

Whereas on most ships, the planks are parallel to the king plank and are nibbed or joggled into the margin planks as the ship gets narrower at the bow and stern, on modern yachts the planks are parallel to the margin planks and nibbed into the king plank.

While hull planks fastened to frames, deck planks are fastened to deck beams, which are not as regular as frames.

As with hull planking, modelers should refer to more in depth resources regarding planking, specifically practices common to the era and/or ship you are building.

MOVE OVER STARBUCKS

I would personally like to thank three of our crew members who stepped forward to aid the Guild. **Ed White** is going to take up the chore of making coffee at the meetings. Ed is going to bring another pot for decaf coffee so all of the decaf drinkers won't be awake all night! Also many thanks to **Chari Wessel** for making coffee at the last meeting and as always, for bringing in the sweets that are most welcome at the break. The sound system quest was solved by **Ed Trasoras**. When I arrived at the last meeting to my surprise was a system set up and ready to go. Ed purchased a karaoke system for \$20.00! The other systems were in the hundreds and this system works perfectly. .

Robert Hewitt

SHOW AND TELL

First on deck is **Don Dressel's** SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS ship's longboat. This is to the same scale as his fantastic model of the SOVEREIGN. He built it because he wanted to display the SOS at a gathering of the "Rope", the SMAs sister club in Japan, but it was too large to transport overseas. The longboat was the next best thing. The model is 1:78 scale, scratch built and is based on drawings by Willem van Velde of ship's boats and contemporary technical data.



The model will be displayed with the Royal Standard at the bow, and a canopy installed at the stern for King Charles II. The oars and all boat's equipment are stored in the boat. A bronze cannon originally built for the SOVEREIGN is mounted on the baseboard. The sides of the longboat are heavily decorated as was depicted in one of the original paintings of the period. The model is clinker built using holly for the framing; holly, satiningwood and ebony for the hull planking; boxwood for the carvings; pear for the canopy and degame for the flagpole. The carvings were gilded using 18 carat gold leaf.



John McDermott brought his 1/4"=1' scale scratch built WASP. WASP was an 18 gun sloop of war built for the US Navy in the Washington Navy Yard and launched in 1806. It was considered an excellent sailer. It was captured by the British during the War of 1812 and renamed PEACOCK. It was lost in 1813. The model is built from Chappelle's plans acquired from the Smithsonian. It is made from 1/8" plywood for the bulkheads and basswood for hull planking. Deck planks were made from HO scale railroad ties.

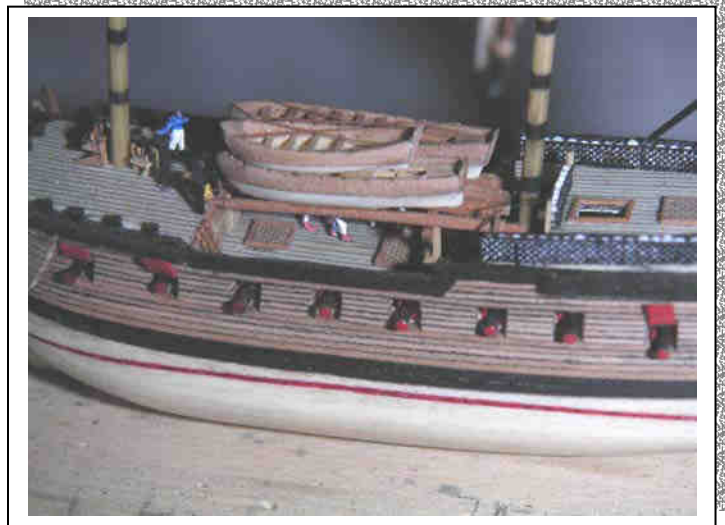


K. C. Edwards' LIGHTNING Day Sailer. This is a 1"=1' kit from Dumas that K.C. did some bashing on. It was laying around the shop so he just started putting it together like a jigsaw puzzle. This 19 foot boat is popular on the east coast, but can also be found at the sailing club in Coronado.

Picture by John Wickman

Show and Tell Continued

Chuck Seiler's GENERAL HANCOCK is a 1"=12' scratch model of an 1880's Mississippi river cotton packet. While the GENERAL itself is fictitious, it is based on plans of the CAPE GIRARDEAU with inspirations from the cotton packets NATCHEZ and T. P. LEATHERS. When completed, GENERAL HANCOCK will be a sternwheel paddleboat.



Robert Hewitt's GLASGOW (left) and close up of nested boats (right).

Photos by John Wickman

Above is **Robert Hewitt's** frigate HMS GLASGOW of 1756. It is scratch built with a scale of 1"=40 feet. Robert tells us about it. "All of the rigging is finished on the three masts. Each mast is built off of the ship and all yards, sails and rigging are attached. The next portion to be added is the shrouds with deadeyes.

"The diameter needed for the deadeyes is .025. I had a .0275 (# 70 should be .028). A piece of bass wood was selected that was 3" long x 3/4" wide and 1/8" thick. I drilled 6 holes in each end of the bass wood about 3/4" deep. I then turned down 12 pieces of pear to .026"/.027" x 3/4" long, using my Dremel and a sanding block. I painted the diameters black and when they were dry I pushed them into the holes in the bass wood block.

"The fence on my Preac saw was set to .007. Placing the bass wood block on the cross slide, I cut off slices which had six pear discs inserted in it. It was easy to pop out the pear wood discs from the bass wood strip. This gave me discs of .027" in diameter x .007" thick, with the edge painted black. All of the discs were burr free and I had more than 90% of usable parts."

SHOW and TELL Continued



Ed Trasoras' ENGLISH GALLEON
Photo by John Wickman

It's finally done!!! One year from start to finish... about 400 to 500 hours. Ed feels the paper sails came out well although he feels the main course should have used 5 ply instead of 4. As it was, he embedded a fine steel wire in the edge of the sail. The wire was manipulated to give the sail a wind blown effect. He is now looking for a name for his ship. He is also looking for a new "wooden" galleon to start. Perhaps the GOLDEN HIND.

Another Done Deal...Howie's EMMA C. BERRY is completed and mounted. He was experimenting with mounting to make it look like it was underway, heeled over on a starboard tack. He is looking for a way to make the sails look like they are billowing in the wind. **Bill Luther** suggested using diluted white glue (anywhere from a 3 to 1, to 5 to 1 water to glue ratio). It can be sprayed on and left to dry with a fan to cause the billowing effect. It dries flat with texturing. **Don Dressel** suggested a product called "Dip and Drape" which is used on doll houses and other miniatures. It is long lasting.



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



Kit News

by Chuck Seiler

Lexington Practicum. I checked with **Clay Feldman** regarding plans. He indicated they would be part of the "Ships in Scale" articles and would have to be enlarged. There continues to be discussion on this matter. Clay will include a statement allowing reproduction of the plans in the article...just so there are no copyright glitches.

Both **Ron Hollod** and I have been in touch with **Dave Stevens** of The Lumberyard regarding the associated 'semi-kit'. It includes bulkheads, profile piece and various types of planking (specific list available upon request) for \$75. If desired, you can go with some or all of the kit...pro-rated of course. You can also specify the wood you want.

It appears Ron will be going with the kit while I will make a scratch attempt. There looks to be enough NOT included in the kit so as to make it a challenging project just the same. Any other takers?

. . .

Good news for those of you who model in 1:64 scale: Caldercraft will be selling kit parts as fittings in the near future. **Paul Toscano** says that the belaying pins and blocks in the new new GRANADO kit are far superior to those found in other 1:64 kits, and that things like copper plates and other fittings will be available in a few months. At last, an end to chubby belaying pins and oversized, square blocks!

A Puzzle to Amuse the Fleet

By Fleet Admiral Sir Horatio Hewitt

Who built the windjammer?

1. In the model makers street there are 5 houses next to each other. Each house has a different color and is occupied by people of a different nationality with different drinking and smoking habits. Each one builds different types of ships.
2. The American lives in the red house.
3. The Canadian builds submarines.
4. In the green house they drink tea.
5. The Norwegian drinks Aquavit.
6. The green house is on the right side from your viewpoint of the white house.
7. The smoker of Corina cigars builds frigates.
8. In the yellow house the builder smokes a pipe.
9. In the middle house he drinks whiskey.
10. The Dutchman lives in the first house on the left.
11. The man who smokes Lucky Strikes lives in the house next to the man who builds barks.
12. A pipe is smoked in the house next to the man who builds whalers.
13. The man who drinks bourbon smokes Havana's.
14. The Englishman smokes Chesterfields.
15. The Dutchman lives next to the blue house.
16. Who drinks genever and who builds windjammers?

This puzzle came from the Bottle Shipwright news letter. Start by making a box with house 1 through 5 at the top and the color, country, drink, smoke and ship underneath. Start by filling in 9, 10 & 15. Next is 6, 4, 7 & 14, Assume the Englishman drinks tea!

Bring your answer to the meeting; we will publish the answer in next month's newsletter.

SHIPBOARD MENAGERIES

A Glossary of animal terms used on ship

Contributed by Bob Wright

Boom Horse- A circular device of iron made into the boom band for the sheet block to travel on.

Cat- The process of raising and securing the anchor.

Camel- a buoyant device placed alongside a vessel to assist in clearing a shoal or bar, or to enable her to float over shoal water. Also a floating fender or raft secured alongside a dock to prevent chafe.

Dog Watch- One of the two-hour watches between 4:00PM and 8:00PM (1600-2000)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



“TAUBMAN Plans” to Change Hands

I picked up the following scuttle-butt on the Shipways Subscriber List over the past few weeks.

Clay Feldman reported that **Abe Taubman's** daughter, **Linda**, contacted him and indicated the family wanted to sell Taubman Plans International, as Abe (age 92) could no longer keep up with the business. A later email indicated this was partially due to the passing of his wife on 29 October and his own failing health. **Bruce Bollenbach** of Golden, Colorado reported he spoke with Linda as recently as 31 October Sunday night. She told him somebody has made an offer for the business that looks as though it may go through.

Many of us have had the opportunity to meet Abe over the years. Despite his age, he has always been a dynamo. A ship modeler in his own right, he was one of the best sources of ship model plans in the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer condolences to Abe. I would also like to salute him and thank him for the outstanding contributions he has made to the ship modeling community and wish him good luck and good health in the future.

Round Table Topic To be determined

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.

DEL MAR FAIR COORDINATOR WANTED

Long time Guild member **Jack Klein** will soon be moving out of area. For many years, Jack was the Guild liaison with the folks who coordinate the Design in Wood exhibit at the San Diego County Fair. His able assistant, **Robert Hewitt**, will be taking over the reins, however he is looking for somebody to help him out, as needed.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles, photos, tips and hints are appreciated. I will be on a road trip from 21 November until 1 or 2 December. I hope to have everything just about ready so I can finish up and go to press upon my return. Please have newsletter inputs to me by **20 November 2004**. If you cannot get it to me on-line, call me to arrange transfer of info, I'll see you in the funny papers.

mb♦



Happy Thanksgiving to All!!!



Don Dressel's SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS longboat

Photo by John Wickman

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				

November 2004

Next meeting is Wednesday November 10th on the
BERKELEY 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 PM Meeting

Bring a model!