



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

DECEMBRRRR 2004

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, NO. 12

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*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 10 NOVEMBER MEETING

By Bob McPhail

First Mate **K.C. Edwards** opened the meeting and asked for purser's report. There was no report due to the absence of **Ron Hollod**, but it can now be reported that since last report there were expenditures of \$<redacted> and income of. \$6 9from magazine sales. Balance as of 31 October is \$<redacted>.

New members and guests were asked to introduce themselves. **John McShefferty** recently moved to California with his collection of models – some of which he built. **Sean Hermanson** visited with his Father in law, who lives in Spain. He showed the HARVEY.

Editor **Chuck Seiler** discussed the newsletter. With the dog-days of winter upon us, there are no major events to fill the pages. While there is enough to adequately put out the newsletter, there is room for more. He welcomes additional input.. See ANNOUNCEMENTS. The email version of the newsletter is being well received with about a dozen members and three or four other clubs receiving it that way. Chuck mentioned that the email version will be an expanded version of the one that is mailed. Specifically, when there are events

with a large number of pictures, the e-newsletter will contain more than the 10 pages normally allocated. Also, there is a possibility that the on-line members could get newsletters from other clubs. We presently get newsletters from several other clubs via email. These are normally printed and made available to members in the model shop. One club has authorized wider distribution. Chuck recommended we allow other model clubs to distribute our newsletter IF the corresponding club will permit us to do the same. There was some discussion about this. Since we often share information from the newsletters and since the one of our primary objectives is to promote the hobby and share information to a greater degree it was decided this is a good idea. There was concern about whether this would cause some persons in other clubs who join our Guild for the newsletter to drop out. This is not seen as a big problem at this time, but will be monitored.

Chari Wessel received a letter from a modeler in Belgium who wants to build HMS SURPRISE. (This was passed to her from Robert Hewitt at the last meeting.) He wanted to get information about the vessel's dimensions. She sent them and got a nice thank you note.

Minutes-Continued

Maybe we can get him to join the Guild ☺. Chari obtained much of the information from a website she has found which contains much good information regarding the ships of Jack Aubrey. [HTTP://MEMBERS.AOL.COM/BATRNO/INDEX.HTM](http://MEMBERS.AOL.COM/BATRNO/INDEX.HTM)

Speaking of Jack Aubrey...**Bill Luther** brought in a couple of plastic kits that he was going to use as a basis for the frigate SURPRISE and the brig SOPHIE; both from Patrick O'Brian's series. (See SHOW AND TELL). Bill then gave a tutorial on scaling using the kits he brought as examples.

It was reported that the museum did purchase the SURPRISE. Tentative plans are to make her seaworthy. Volunteers are still needed for HMS SURPRISE

Chuck Seiler reported that Abe Taubman had, indeed, sold his plans service, as discussed last month. See ANNOUNCEMENTS for details.

It was recommended that the December meeting include holiday "goodies". Members attending the December meeting are requested to bring in holiday treats to share.

A well deserved coffee break, filled with much discussion and camaraderie followed by show and tell.



SHOW and TELL

Dick Roos's model of the BLUENOSE II. This is a 1/8" scale plank on solid hull Bluejacket kit. The BLUENOSE II is a Canadian built replica of the famous Canadian fishing/racing schooner. Dick even mounted a Canadian "Bluenose" dime on the baseboard.



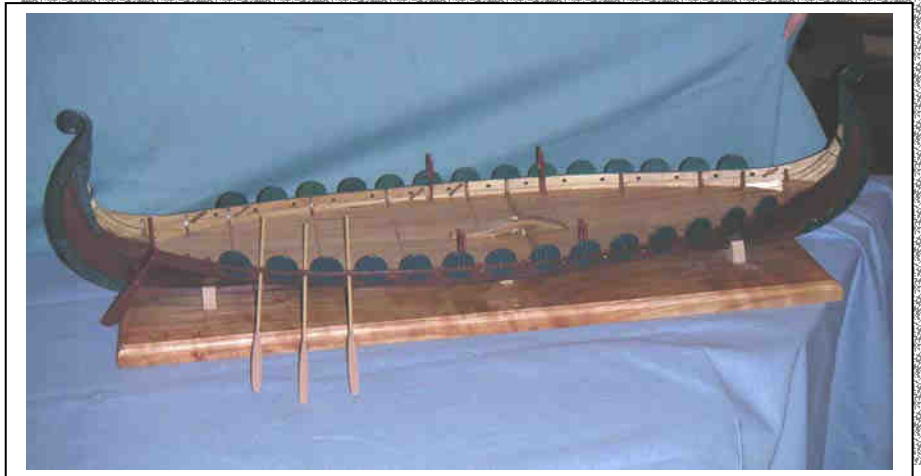
Some of BLUENOSE II's Dories and Deck Furniture
Photo by John Wickman



Dick Roos' BLUENOSE II
Photo by John Wickman

SHOW AND TELL-continued

The ever productive **Howie Franklin** presented his 2 foot long model of the Viking ship **OSEBERG**. This is a Billings kit. The **OSEBERG** is an actual ship believed to have been built around 900AD. It was found sunk in the mud some years ago. It was restored and is now on display in Denmark. Howie says it is a very good kit, but not suited for beginners, most due to the lack of plans and instructions. The planks are laser cut 1/32" birch plywood with most of the embellishments in plastic. What? No dragon's head?



Howie Franklin's **OSEBERG**

Photo by John Wickman



Karl Burde's Fregatten **JYLLAND**

Photo by John Wickman

Tom Northrup has been working two months on his Model Shipways model of an Armed Virginia Sloop. It is an 1/4" scale single masted 18th century privateer. This is Tom's first model and he wanted to get some feedback from other members. He said he learned much at the meeting and got a lot of valuable input. (No picture available)

Fregatten (frigate) **JYLLAND** by **Karl Burde**. This is a 1:100 scale kit by Arch. E. Billings made in 1961. The **JYLLAND** was Danish built in 1860 with an engine and prop as well as sails. It fought in a battle in 1864. The original ship, which is now in a museum in Denmark, was built out of oak from the King's forest. Karl's wife and daughter originally bought this kit for him in 1967 but living on a boat and raising a family gave him little space or time to work on it. This will be his first model. It is somewhat difficult since there is only one sheet of instructions...and its in Danish. When painting the hull, Karl originally used bootstripe color from West Marine. These turned out too shiny and plastic looking for his taste. He later repainted much of the hull using his wife's acrylic hobby paints. Karl had a question about how the the gunport lid was raised. Hopefully he got an answer. It looks like you have a good beginning Karl. Hopefully you can get all the help you need from the other members.

SHOW AND TELL-Continued

Don Bienvenue brought his Del Mar Fair project for us to have a look-see. This is the 1:80 scale, double plank on bulkhead Mamoli kit of HMS BOUNTY. Built in the late 1700 as the collier BETHEA, the ship was purchased by the Royal Navy, refitted and armed. It was sent to the South Pacific under the command of LT William Bligh to collect breadfruit trees so the crop could be grown in the West Indies to feed the workers there. It was during this voyage that the famous mutiny against “Captain” Bligh occurred. Of interesting historical note, this was the first of three mutinies against William Bligh, who eventually retired as an admiral. Ironically, the whole breadfruit experiment was a bust-the workers would not eat it.

The inner planking for this model is limewood. Outer planking and deck planking are both walnut. The upper hull is painted blue and yellow ochre, with the area below the channels a dark brown varnish. Below the waterline Don used a lighter stain/varnish instead of paint so you could still see the wood grain. The inside surface of the bulwarks are painted dark red. Next on the list of tasks is bending and laminating the caprail at the bow, followed by the deck furniture.



Don Bienvenue;s BOUNTY

Photo by John Wickman

Sean Hermanson's father-in-law from Spain, **Amedeo**, built the schooner HARVEY from scratch. His daughter brought it to a meeting previously. Amedeo also hand carved the dolphins used as a display stand. Sean and Amedeo are both new members. Great work! We hope to see more.



1847 Schooner HARVEY

Photo by John Wickman



Hand carved dolphin display stand for
HARVEY

Photo by John Wickman

SHOW AND TELL-Continued yet again



Royce Privitt has just started the 1:80 scale American privateer PRINCE de NEUFCHATEL. Built in New York in 1813, it was relatively successful during the War of 1812. (Still in the box-no picture available)

HARVEY's deck

Photo by John Wickman

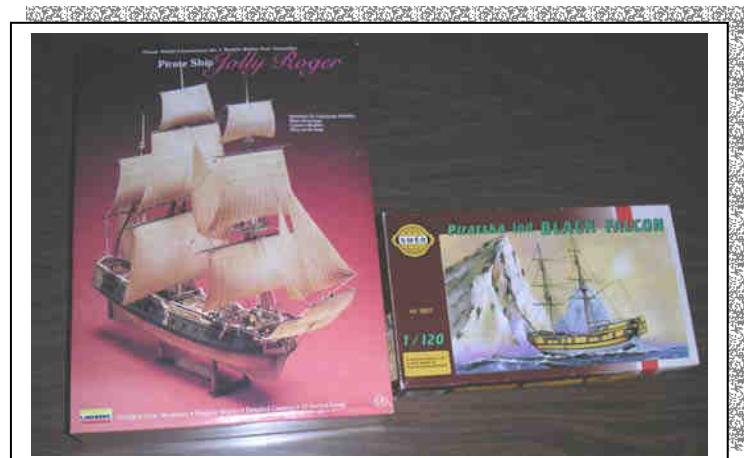


Bill Luther has long wanted to model two of Captain Jack Aubrey's ships from the Patrick O'Brian series- frigate SURPRISE and brig SOPHIE. These are fictional ships but are based, in part, on real or combinations of real vessels. Since nobody makes kits of these, Bill went about to find "close enough" so he could bash them using descriptions from O'Brian's books.

. The fictional HMS SURPRISE was based on the real HMS SURPRISE which was the captured 28 gun French frigate L'Unite'. While the times of their existence is not exactly the same, their structure is pretty close. Linberg's plastic model JOLLY ROGER is really a model of the French 28 gun frigate LaFLORE. The biggest difference between the two is that the La FLORE has an extra pair of guns on the gun deck and no carronades on the quarterdeck. That can be easily fixed.

The fictional HMS SOPHIE is an amalgamation of 2 ships; HMS SPEEDY and HMS VINCEJO- both brigs carrying 12 guns. The plastic model BLACK FALCON by Smer is a brig also carrying 12 guns. The model needs the stern/transom modified in order to resemble the description of SOPHIE by O'Brian. The quarterdeck bulwark also must be removed, but once again this is easy.

Bill says that these models are not the same size as the ones he wants to build using the given scale of 1:130. However, at a different scale all the proportions are almost exact. The magic of shipbuilding allows him to do this. Since there are no "standard sized" doors or fittings on most period ships (unlike standard sizes for building doors) scales can be finagled.



Plastic pirate ships to be bashed into SOPHIE and SURPRISE

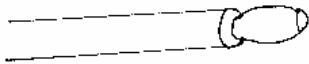
Photo by John Wickman

SMALL WOODEN BARRELS, CASKS & PAILS

by Dave Dana

Ships use barrels, casks and pails for all sorts of things: water storage, sand for putting out fires, grog, and more. Every ship has many of them aboard. Scatter a few on the deck to add a realistic detail. Here's a technique for making small wooden barrels (up to 1 inch) that I developed after some trial and error. It works pretty well, and can probably be adapted for some semblance of mass production.

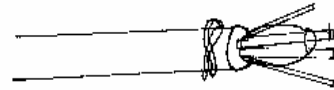
1. Turn a dowel of the appropriate diameter to the shape desired – barrel, tapered pail, etc. This will be covered by staves. The dowel should be of diameter smaller than twice the thickness of the material to be used for the staves. The barrel is shaped on the end – don't cut it off – yet. The rest of the dowel is the handle.



2. Prepare pieces of strip wood for staves. It's not really necessary to taper them, if they are narrow. Figure about 8 pieces to go around a ¼ inch diameter dowel. The length is immaterial – keep each long enough so you can get a grip when you place it in glue.

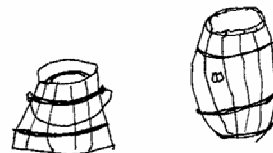
3. Around the dowel near the barrel put a rubber band, twisting it a few times to keep it tight. Put a ring of carpenter's glue around the bottom of the barrel. This

will glue one end of the staves. The other end may fly in the air. That's OK. Roll the rubber band over the staves to hold them while the glue dries. They can be pushed, squeezed, slid, straightened and fussed into place while they are held by the band.



4. When the glue dries, place glue on the rest of the dowel. Then roll the rubber band to the end of the barrel tightening the staves against the barrel shaped dowel. Be careful not to break off a stave, or roll all the way off. Wipe off any glue that has squished out, and let dry.

5. Trim the staves to the top of the barrel. Leave as much stave over the end as you want. For a pail, allow room for its contents. A piece of sandpaper, for example. Wrap the staves with a piece of thin wire, or tape. Drill a hole in the side and insert a toothpick or small dowel for a plug. Then cut the barrel off the dowel. Stain, seal or varnish as desired. Ta Da!



Who built the windjammer?

Here is the answer to the puzzle in last month's newsletter. The butler did it.

House #	1	2	3	4	5
House Color	yellow	blue	red	white	green
Country	Dutch	Norwegian	American	Canadian	British
Drink		Aqua Vite	whiskey	bourbon	tea
Smoke	pipe	Lucky Strike	Corina	Havanas	Chesterfields
Ship	barks	whalers	frigate	subs	

. The Dutchman drinks genever and the British model maker builds windjammers. What? No steamboats?



ANNOUNCEMENTS



“TAUBMAN PLANS” CHANGE HANDS

Confirming what I put out at the meeting, Taubman Plans Service International has been sold. It was purchased by Don and Renee at Loyalhanna Dockyard of Bergen, New York. They indicate they will retain the name “Taubman Plans Service International” as a subdivision. It should be back up and running by the time this newsletter goes to press.

KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL SHIP MODELING

Dick Roos dropped off a magazine for the Guild library called “Keys to Successful Ship Modeling” I took it home to get some tips and hints for the newsletter (future editions). Not only is it a jolly good publication, I find it was written by Dick Roos himself. Highly recommended!

December Meeting

It was decided that we would spice up the December meeting with a pot luck sort of deal. It was a bit confusing but after checking around, it appears the gist of it is: fingerfood and goodies. If you want to bring something else, make sure there is a way for folks to eat it (i.e. plates, forks, etc.)



Robert Hewitt working hard below deck on the STAR of INDIA during the STAR's 141st birthday bash. Its hard work!

Photo by Rupert Morgan

DEL MAR FAIR COORDINATOR FOUND

Many thanks to **Ernie Andrew** for volunteering to help **Robert Hewitt** as the Guild liaison with the folks who coordinate the Design in Wood exhibit at the San Diego County Fair. Robert had previously assisted **Jack Klein**, who is moving out of the area and will no longer be able to participate..

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

With the dog days of winter at hand and nothing but meeting stuff to fill the newsletter, your humble newsletter editor would like input from the members. Since I would like to fill it with helpful/useful information, the **first priority** for material is anything ship model building related. This includes tips and hints, how-to articles as well as questions, problem areas you might be having or any item you would like discussed or answered in future. **Second priority** is nautical related or museum related news, stories or anything that helps expand our knowledge of ships and ship building. **Last priority** is nautical related fillers, such as cartoons, puzzles, etc. This will be used if I have nothing else to go with. I'm not wild about it, but....

Round Table Topic

Anybody's guess at this point

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles, photos, tips and hints are appreciated. Please have newsletter inputs to me by **31 DECEMBER 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.

mp♦



The Band: Local Scottish attired musicians provide entertainment on deck of the Star of India for the Star's 141 birthday celebration on November 9th.

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	

December 2004

**Next meeting is Wednesday December 8th on the
STAR of INDIA 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 PM Meeting**

Bring a model! and Goodies