



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

November 2006

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXX, NO. 11

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Established in
1972 by
Bob Wright and
Russ Merrill

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



NRG 2006

By **Robert Hewitt**

We started our meetings for the planning of the NRG in January. Our first task was to squeeze all of the events onto two ships. At one time the plan was to put some of the vendors on the orlop deck. **Chuck Seiler** and I surveyed both of the ships to determine the maximum number of tables we could fit on board. We also had to satisfy **Jim Davis** with aisle space requirements and access to all of the museum's displays. We decided to not use the orlop for other than **Jacki Jones'** dance group and sawdust sessions. We squeezed forty- four tables onto the ships; there were fourteen on the **BERKELEY** and thirty on the **STAR of INDIA**. Our first actual duty was on Saturday- stuffing all of the canvas tote bags with catalogs and other goodies. The bags are decorated with a yellow and blue logo featuring the **STAR** and the Coronado Bridge in the background. The logo style is by **Bob Crawford** and the design was made by **Gus Agustin** of Chicago. The name badges were made and envelopes assembled and alphabetized.

The following Wednesday the rented tables arrived and I was happy to see that the order was correct, as I had to change it four times. The table set-up went quickly. As the drapes and covers were being applied, we were informed that there was going to be a school sleep-over on the **STAR** that night and all of the tables needed to be out of the way. Thanks to **Ron Render**, the tables were numbered and stacked forward of the hatch.

The next day, thanks to me, we were all in at 7:00 a.m. only to find that because of the overnight we could not get onto the **STAR** until 9:00. The children were off at exactly 9:00 and we re-set and covered the table tops. The vendors, the attendees, and the ship models started arriving along with the general public. Luckily the **BERKELEY** tables were finished and all of the arriving models were placed there. **Karen Johl** was in the library typing the plaques, and the model placement went quickly and smoothly. The small models on the **STAR** created a bit of a problem as to viewing and security. Salmon boxes were brought up from the orlop deck and placed on top of the tables. **Ron Render** donated some planks from his work shop so we had most of the minis at a better viewing position. We also had plastic covering the easily- taken models. I had **Gus Agustin's** models in my care and these were the first to be covered. The model display went well- no damage, no missing models, no complaints-yet. However I did see one guy sneak out with a riverboat without turning in his ticket!

Speaking of tickets, at the November meeting, we will be dispensing unclaimed raffle items left over from the Conference. **Richard Strange** will give a talk about lead corrosion in ship models. Richard will also supply informational hand-outs. We'll also be planning the December Holiday meeting, so be there or be square.

Highlights of the 2006 NRG Conference



Bill Luther explains his techniques for manipulating and installing photo-etch parts. This technology has made an incredible difference in the amount of detail can be put into modern vessel.

Chuck Seiler demonstrates computer techniques used to reproduce flags.



Clyde Emerson

Sherline products provided demonstrations of their products





Doc Williams demonstrates his home made ropewalk that, as of this writing, I still have not shipped back to him.

Ernie Andrews and Al Sorkin provide a little comic relief in front of HMS Surprise. Al score many points with our visitors with stories of life at sea and filming *Master and Commander/The far side of the World* as an extra in the Fox film.



Joe Bompensiero showed his techniques for “rattin’ down” the shrouds. Many people were asking about his serving techniques as one of the vendors had a serving tool that Joe has used for years to properly serve his standing rigging

Peter Jaquith





Karen Johl did yeoman service in the Library typing out the many plaquards for ship models needed to properly display the many models. She did a wonderful job and was a great help the entire event.

Two of our speakers, Roger Cole from Canada, and Lloyd McCaffery of Arizona. Other speakers included Don Pruel from the Naval Academy, Clayton Feldman of ships in Scale, Don Dressel from SMA, and our own San Diego Maritime Museum Executive Director, Ray Ashley.

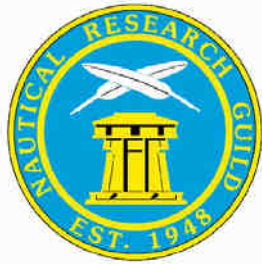


The bow of USS Midway (CV-41) as seen from the San Diego Maritime Museums Pilot boat *Pilot*. Except for a brief shower during the second set of trips, the weather was beautiful. Everyone was pleased with the clockwork precision demonstrated by the crews of the various boats.

Your newsletter editor, in hopes of relieving a little stress from work and NRG conferences played around with 1:350 models of U.S. Destroyers. Shown here are 23 of 27 built mostly since last October. They got to be like eating potato chips...I couldn't stop at just one. I'll try to have one of the USS San Diego's that I am also building at the next meeting.



The following went out to all attendees of the 2006 Nautical Research Guild Conference



October 23, 2006

Dear Conferee:

Thanks for coming to our Nautical Research Guild 2006 Conference and we hope you enjoyed your experience. I wanted to be sure to acknowledge and thank the many people that made this all possible.

First, I think the San Diego Maritime Museum Staff and Volunteers outdid themselves in putting our best foot forward. It's a privilege to work with such people. The San Diego Ship Modelers Guild also put in a Herculean effort. Of particular note are Robert Hewitt's organizing and running of the model show (his girlfriend Karen did a heck of a job putting together plaques), Chuck Seiler did a masterful job of organizing the vendor display, acquiring door prizes and building an ark to negotiate lake T'ween decks aboard the *Star of India* during the flood Saturday, and Dave Dana organizing the Sawdust demonstrations. Finally, Bob McFail and Ron Hollod were great hosts in the model shop, taking care of the many minor glitches that always accompany large events like these. Each of these gentlemen was assisted by many members of the San Diego Ship Modeler's Guild and Maritime Museum docents. Jackie Jones did a marvelous job as Mistress of Ceremonies of the tech sessions and the banquet. Did you notice that she was also a member of the Maritime Museum Dance Troup who danced for us Thursday night? Charming!

Also of note was the contribution of brochures, printing and mailing services, and the canvas "goodie bags", all from Mr. Mike Herman. By-the-by, that beautiful conference logo was designed by Gus Agustin, who had the unfortunate lack of foresight to marry Barb exactly 25 years before our conference, thereby missing a golden opportunity to learn from the miniatures master, Lloyd McCaffery.

Speaking of Mr. McCaffery, our speakers did a wonderful job and I wish to profusely thank Lloyd, Roger Cole, Clayton Feldman, Dr. Ray Ashley, Don Preul, and Don Dressel for their hard work and excellent presentations.

In addition, the Sawdust session presenters were also very well received and much appreciated. Thanks to Phil Mattson, Ed Trasoras, Bob Graham. Steve Vick, Doc Williams, Joe

Bompensiero, Tony Bunch Chuck Seiler, Kurt Van Dahm, Clyde Emerson, Bill Luther, and Peter Jaquith for all of their help.

Vendors were wonderful and provided a great set of door prizes, including; two \$25 gift certificates from Lloyd Warner of Warner Woods West, a Cannon Display donated by Doug Stout/Kingshouse Cannons, Ten \$50 gift certificates donated by Model Expo, Two Packages of Modeling Wood donated by Jeff Hayes of Hobbymills Wood, a 4 inch/100mm digital caliper donated by Ken Lee/Lee Jewelry and Craft Tools, two draw plates donated by Jim Byrnes of Model Machines, two CD Practica for Models Shipways kit armed Virginia Sloop donated by Bob Hunt-Lauck Street Shipyard, Book *Table Top Machining* donated by Sherline, Book *The fully Rigged Model, HMS Swan Class Sloop* donated by Pier Books/Dupont Communications, Serving Tool donated by Bob Prezioso-Ship Ahoy Models and Miniatures, two Mini Mamoli ship model kits donated by Lois Roth of Dromedary – Shipmodeler’s Center, a Treenail Maker donated by Vanda-Lay Industries, “Hold It” tool donated by Vanda-Lay industries, an airbrush and compressor donated by Kurt Van Dahm and BADGER, \$50 gift certificate from PREAC, and finally, a Model Shipways/Model Expo Kit *Niagara* donated by the San Diego Ship Modelers Guild.

Thank you again, one and all, for helping to make this year’s Conference one of the best ever.

Sincerely,

Bob Crawford
Conference Chair



The *Star of India* and *Californian* at Sea in the past. *HMS Surprise* will join them November 11 & 12 this year.

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San Diego Ship Modelers Guild Officers

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**Next Meeting Wednesday November 8 on the Ferryboat Berkeley
6:30 pm social, 7 pm Meeting**