



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

February 2008

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXII No.2

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**Newsletter
Distribution**
Bob Wright
Robert Hewitt

Established in 1972
by
Bob Wright and
Russ Merrill

Guild meeting Report January 9, 2008

Robert Hewitt opened the meeting and provided an overview of the meeting schedule. Most of the meeting will be taken up with items brought in for the auction sale. Ron Hollod read the pursers report. The balance as of 31 December was \$<redacted>. Expenses for November and December included: \$300 for newsletter expenses, and holiday party \$126.59. Ron mentioned that yearly dues are now being collected (\$20.00 per year or \$27.00 if you also want a nametag). Ron requested that dues be paid no later than March 31 or membership will be terminated.

Bob Crawford gave his editor's report. Some email addresses are still not quite right. Contact Bob at collections@sdmaritime.org with any corrections

Bob McPhail briefly discussed the SAN SALVADOR Project. Minor progress is being made. Bob will start working on a rigging plan to be completed by 28 February.

The LPD 22 (USS SAN DIEGO) project has shown a little progress. Bob Crawford stated that an official letter was sent to the Navy requesting plans. A reply is hopefully expected next month.

Bill Luther discussed the USS CHICAGO project. A list of "photo etched" items was being prepared. Tony Bunch mentioned that he has a source for four propellers (1/92 scale) for \$100.

Chuck Seiler mentioned that he has a source for digital readout calipers. If anyone is interested they should contact him. Chuck also mentioned that there will be a model railroad trade show (Jan 12/13). This show is especially good for "steel" navy parts.

Other activities: CANON BATTLES near Newport Beach (LYNX, PILGRIM and CHIEFTEN (13/14 JAN)) & CANON BATTLES on San Diego Bay (19/20/21 JAN).

Dave Grolz has information on dug out canoes.

FESTIVAL OF SAIL: The Maritime Museum will participate in a Festival of Sail this August. Volunteers are being recruited. More information will be put in the February newsletter along with an application form.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR UPDATE: Robert Hewitt mentioned that he will be attending a meeting about the fair. Members who plan to volunteer should check their calendars and plan to sign up for spots at the February meeting.

During the break, there was an "impromptu" swap meet of items that were brought in by members. After the break, Robert Hewitt acted as auctioneer and auctioned many interesting items. There was some spirited bidding on model kits as well as on tools, plans, and miscellaneous items.

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



SDMSG SHOW & TELL
JANUARY 2008

Several members brought models for Show and Tell this month. However, an extensive sale and auction of books, plans, kits, tools and miscellany resulted in postponing the presentations and discussions. **John Wickman** took pictures and here's some reporting that the discussions may have revealed.



Canoe “Tippie” – Lew Johnson

Lew Johnson brought his Midwest Products kit Indian canoe, ready for Lake Superior and the Canadian rivers. Lew promised that it floats! Built of basswood with cherry for the trim, it is 23 ½ inches long, 4 inches abeam, and 2 7/8 inches high. Lew named it the *Tippie* and is looking for a couple of Indian braves (brave Indians?) for scale decoration to be named Pete and Repete. May we suggest that in this political season he use one brave soul (a sole brave?) and name him Tyler? - “Tippie Canoe and Tyler, too.”

Rattlesnake – Royce Privett

Since **Royce Privett’s** last showing in October, his Model Shipways 3/16 = 1 foot *Rattlesnake* has grown gangway railings for the portable gangways, channels, deadeyes and chain plates on the channels, and kevels and cleats on the quarterdeck area. The original *Rattlesnake* was built in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1780. Despite her moderate size of 89 feet on deck, she was fast and weatherly. She sailed with 85 men and carried twenty 6-pounders. She captured over a million dollars worth of British goods on her first cruise, establishing her reputation as a formidable vessel. The British ordered her captured at all cost. She was seized by the 44-gun *H.M.S. Assurance* in 1783, sent to England and taken into the Royal Navy. She was sold out of service in 1786.



Californian – Shari Wessel

Shari Wessel has made a good start on the hull of her *Californian*. This model is a labor of love, as is Shari’s enthusiastic crewing on the Museum’s “real” *Californian*. She was disappointed to miss this chance to talk about the famous California state ship and show off her model.

San Salvadore

John Wickman's independent model *San Salvadore* is leading the pack of three volunteer teams making museum models as awards for the Museum's replica *San Salvadore* fund-raising. John's efforts uncover problems, furnish examples of construction techniques, test work-saving ideas, and help the teams find solutions to scratch building issues. **Dave Dana** reported that he had made the string of tiny arched windows for all three ships, and distributed the sets of windows to **Howard Griffus** and **Ron Hollod**, representing their teams.



USS Brewton – Tony Bunch

Last November, many of us got a close up look at **Tony Bunch's** astonishingly detailed miniature *USS Brewton*, a fast frigate class deep-water submarine hunter. The model was then under construction on a deadline for a client who had served on her. We did not expect to see it again. Some of the extraordinary details are too small to be seen with the unaided eye, anyway. But Tony brought the completed masterpiece. "Not a problem" for his client.

William Bentley, ST-G3, sonar tech on the *Brewton* in the 1970s, accompanied Tony to our meeting.

In a booth on the Berkley Bentley told *Brewton* stories. The ship's commissioning was a grand affair: to impress Admiral Zumwalt and his wife, all the crew, many of whom had to scrounge for the proper items, lined the railings in dress whites, service medals, ascots, leggings, and spit polish. The *Brewton's* high tech propulsion system included an off center screw – she could make a sharp fast right turn, but a left turn was twice as slow and half as sharp! She was designed as a deep-water ship but her captain wanted to try everything – he soon broke the sonar equipment off on the sea bottom!

She continually tested new armament and delivery systems. One of the first ships to get a LAMPS, a small remote control helicopter that carried torpedoes, she sent off the first LAMPS flight, it fired a torpedo, setting the helicopter off balance so that it veered sideways and flew out of sight. They lost it completely! They fired the first ASROC, a rocket thrown torpedo launched off the bow. It hit the water, its sensor searched for a target, it circled around, and came right back to the *Brewton*! In 1972 or 3, Playing war games off San Diego with submarines, *Brewton* searched and successfully found one. She called "Uncle Joe, Uncle Joe," the signal that "We've got you." The reply came back: "It ain't us!" *Brewton* had found a Russian sub! The games were over. For real, the *Brewton* chased the Russians away from San Diego, back up the coast and away. Bentley said, "We almost fired at it. That would have been a mess!"

Brewton saw action during the Vietnam War. One day the ship was cruising near the coast, the crew relaxing on deck, smoking, playing cards, when one man leapt up and danced wildly. They thought he was fooling around, but soon realized that he had been shot! Not used to being under fire from the shore this deep-water ship hit General Quarters, everyone got off the deck, and she high tailed it out to sea and out of range! *Brewton* had aluminum bulkheads. Bentley recalled lying on the deck of his sonar room, ducking, listening to bullets ricocheting around inside the sonar. Bullets went right through the aluminum! *Brewton* displayed a large E – the emblem of battle efficiency!



Nautical Research Guild (NRG) - Symposium

A one day NRG Modeler's Symposium will be held in the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum in Newport, California on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The symposium is not restricted to members of the NRG, all modeler's are invited and encouraged to attend.

Coffee, rolls and lunch are included. Space is limited – registration will be limited to 100 attendees.

Time registration/Check In – 8:00 AM to 8:45, Concludes – 4:30 PM.

Speaker topics:

1. Sharpening Mini Saw Blades – Lloyd Warner will explain how he sharpens the slitting saw blades used on small table saws to cut wood more efficiently with better results.
2. Metal Casting – Don Preul will show the steps in making a metal mold and casting.
3. Framing – Richard Snyder will present the framing process for plank on frame models using Portia Takajian's method for HMY Fubbs as altered by Father Romero with his own improvements to that.
4. Air Brushing Acrylics – Kurt Van Dahm will explain all about airbrushes, airbrushing techniques and specifically the airbrushing of acrylics.
5. Brass Cannon Casting – Dave Yotter will demonstrate his method of sand casting his brass cannons for his gondola model of the Philadelphia.
6. Ship Hull Planking – Don Dressel will go over his method of planking the ships hull from the garboard strake to the main wale using the rules for planking and proportional dividers.

Newport Harbor Nautical Museum

600 E. Bay Avenue, Newport Beach Ca. 92661

Parking is about 2 blocks away at the beach - \$8.00 for the day.

Cost of symposium - \$65.00 (late registration \$75.00)

Registration Form

NRG Modeler's Symposium

Newport Harbor Nautical Museum – April 5, 2008

Registrant

Name: _____

Street _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone # _____ Work # _____ E-Mail _____

May we mail your confirmation and other information regarding this symposium to you? Yes ___ No ___

Description Cost Total

Symposium Cost \$65 \$

Late Registration – After March 19 \$75 \$

Total Remitted \$ _____

Make checks payable and send form to: Credit Card Payments Circle: MasterCard/Visa

Nautical Research Guild, Inc.

31 Water Street, Suite #7 Card# _____ Expires _____

Cuba, NY 14727

Have questions? Please contact: NRG Home Office, Valerie

Don Dressel OR Phone: (585) 968-8111

E-mail: dressel4@earthlink.net E-Mail: nrghomeoffice@theNRG.org.

For nearby accommodations and Map if needed contact Don Dressel



2008 San Diego County Fair "Summer of Sports"

The **2008 San Diego County Fair** will run from Saturday, June 14 through Sunday, July 6. The Fair will be closed two Mondays, June 16 and 23. Our "Summer of Sports" theme will celebrate a wide variety of sports at all levels, from youth to professional.

Its that time again and Robert Hewitt is looking for volunteers to man the Model Guild booth at the Design in Wood Exhibit. If you are interested in helping, contact Robert at (619) 234-8032 or see him at the next meeting.

San Diego County Fair

San Diego Ship Modelers Guild Display Booth Schedule 2008

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SAT	SUNDAY
Fair Theme: Summer of Sports 14 JUNE-06 JULY Time: Fair opens 1000 (10 AM). Be on-station by at least 0930. Booth closes 1800 (6PM) Telephone # at Design n Wood Pavilion: (858) 755-1161 ext 2472				June 13	Opening Day 14 Chuck Seiler <redacted>	Father's Day 15 Chuck Seiler <redacted>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
DARK						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
DARK			Chari Wessel <redacted>	Chuck Seiler <redacted> Chari Wessel <redacted>		
30	JULY 1	2	3	4	5	Last Day 6
				Chuck Seiler <redacted>		



**FESTIVAL OF SAIL
VOLUNTEER APPLICATION
MARITIME MUSEUM OF SAN DIEGO
AUGUST 20-24, 2008**



Name _____

Birth Date ____ / ____ / ____ Foreign Language(s) spoken _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____ (Cell) _____

Email _____ T-shirt size) _____

We would encourage you to join the museum as a member and participate in other event opportunities. All volunteers need to be a minimum of eighteen years old. Parking will be available at an off-site lot with shuttles to and from provided.

Event T-shirt, ticket and beverages will be provided to each volunteer. Discount food coupons will be distributed as well.

Volunteers may be required to stand for up to four hours and move around ships decks and ladders. Please list any physical limitations that would make this difficult. _____

Work location preferences (we will try and accommodate requests but cannot guarantee)

Check all that apply:

Retail Greeters Supply/clean-up Security Info Any

Shifts will be a minimum of four hours. Please commit to two or more shifts in four hour increments. Please select from the following options:

Day of the Week	Morning 7:30 - 12:30	Afternoon 12:30 - 4:30	Evening 4:30 - 8:30
Wed. Aug 20			
Thursday Aug 21			
Friday Aug. 22			
Saturday Aug 23			
Sunday Aug 24			

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM, NO LATER THAN JUNE 16, 2008 TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR WORK PREFERENCES. Return to: Volunteer Coordinator at the Maritime Museum of San Diego, 1492 North Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101, (619) 234-9153 x 135, or jloman@sdmaritime.org

Signature _____ Date _____

THRU THE LUBBERS HOLE

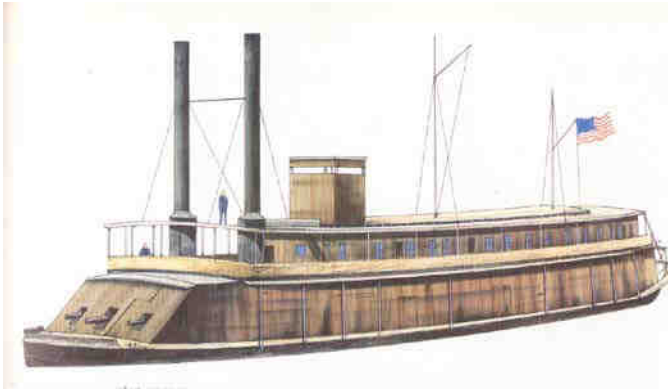


Two Civil War Tinclad Gunboats

From *Warships and Naval Battles of the Civil War* by Tony Gibbons

By Robert Hewitt

USS Rattler

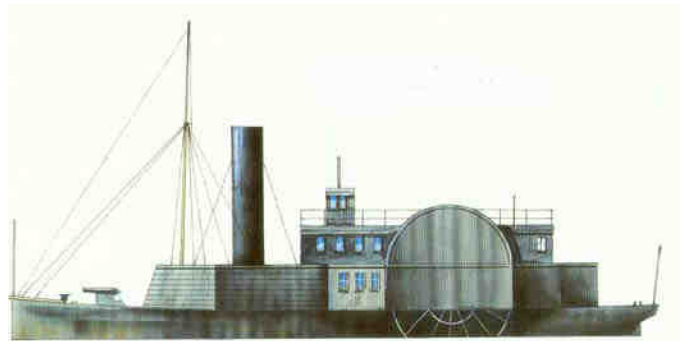


Rattler was formerly the wooden river steamer *Florence Miller*, built in 1862 in Cincinnati, Ohio. She was purchased by the navy for \$24,000 in November 1862 and commissioned the following month. She took part in the attack on Fort Hindman in January 1863. On the Mississippi River, she was the flagship to a flotilla of tinclads and transports conveying General Sherman's command of 6000 men in the Yazoo Pass expedition. The plan was to isolate Vicksburg by seizing the bayous, but ended in failure.

Rattler subsequently took part in the attack on Fort Pemberton, the Red River campaign, and raids up the Black, Tensa, and Ouachita rivers. In September 1863 her commanding officer and sixteen crew were captured while ashore attending church. On December 30, 1864, after dragging her cable in a severe storm, she was driven into an obstruction and sank. Later she was set on fire by Confederate troops. She displaced 165 tons and in 1863 had two 30-pound Parrot rifles and four 24 pound rifles, armament then varied.

CSS Planter

Planter was a wooden wood burning side wheel steamer built in 1860 at Charleston for cargo use. She served as an armed dispatch boat and transport for the Engineering Department in Charleston, where she was used to carry armament and supplies to the local forts and batteries. She had white officers and a Negro crew of eight.



In early May 1862 the Negro crew plotted to seize the steamer and escape. At 3 am, when they and their families were safely aboard and the officers asleep ashore, the *Planter* left the wharf and headed off into the harbor, still flying the Confederate flag. The tiny band was led by pilot Robert Smalls, and as they passed each fort, they gave the usual signal on the steam whistle, and the unsuspecting sentinels let the vessel pass.

Well away from danger, *Planter* ran up a white flag and headed for the nearest Union vessel, *USS Onward*. When handed over, *Planter's* cargo consisted of one seven-inch rifle plus four smaller weapons that were to have been installed in a battery ashore at Charleston. Smalls and the crew received half the estimated value of the ship and cargo, about \$4,500, as a result of a special act of Congress.

Planter was not retained by the navy as she was not a coal burner.

She displaced 300 tons, was 147 ft x 30 ft. x 3ft 9 in. She had two non-condensing engines with a 6 ft. stroke. Her armament in 1862 was one long 32 pound and one 24 –pound howitzer.

Need Great Britain Plans and someone to build big model



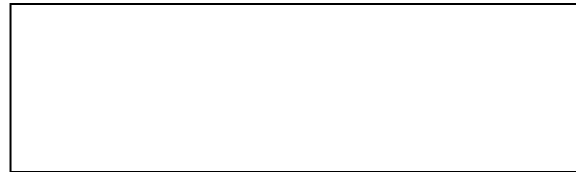
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San Diego Ship Modelers Guild Officers

Guild Master	Robert Hewitt	<redacted>
First Mate	Bill Grolz	<redacted>
Purser	Ron Hollod	<redacted>
Editor	Bob Crawford	<redacted>
Log Keeper	Bob McPhail	<redacted>



**Next Meeting will be Wednesday February 13, 2008
aboard the Berkeley at 7:00 pm**



On the Museum's wish list - USS Dolphin (AGSS-555)