



SAN DIEGO¹ SHIP MODELERS' GUILD

JANUARY 2010

NEWSLETTER

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



GUILD MEETING REPORT

9 December 2009

Bill Grolz opened the meeting and welcomed all of the members present and their guests. There was no formal meeting but a social/pizza party was held on the *Berkeley*. There was a raffle conducted for two door prizes: Nautical Research Guild Shop Notes II, (won by Chari Wessel) and the Model Kit "Emma C. Berry" (won by Don Dressel). Bob McPhail summarized the benefits of membership in the Guild and Bill Grolz wished everyone a happy holiday season.

A good time was had by all.

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Established in 1972

by BOB WRIGHT
& RUSS MERRILL



MMSD FAMILY DAY

30 December 2009



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In conjunction with the Holiday Bowl Parade, the Maritime Museum held their Family Day and children were admitted free along with a paying adult. Kevin Sheehan, Robyn Gallant and Maggie Plant from the Museum arranged for a number of wooden kits to be given free to those attending. Captain Gregg Potter made two hundred little boat kits consisting of red, green, blue and yellow hulls which were drilled for three masts. He also included the masts made of birch dowels. The Museum provided an area in the Gould Eddy Gallery, to make the models, where the Masterpieces in Miniature are currently being displayed. There was colored poster paper, scissors

and glue to assemble the kits. Robert McPhail and Jon Sanford from our Guild volunteered their time to guide the children in assembling the boats. The kids had a great time and Jon and Robert did a wonderful job of helping the kids along. They let the children create their own version of what a ship should look like. There were many styles made with triangular, square and even round sails. At times it was a madhouse with paper all over the area and mothers and fathers waiting in line to grab a spot at the two tables provided. It was a rewarding day for all and who knows, we may have created some future guild members.



THROUGH THE LUBBERS' HOLE 3

by Robert Hewitt



Two meetings ago, I was asked how I turned the tiny posts on the stern railings of my model of AGAMEMNON. The model is to a scale of 1:480, one inch equals forty feet. I was surprised and pleased that the railing looked as if the posts were turned. Actually the railing was fabricated on my Priac table saw.

The wood I used was holly. I cut about ten strips of wood from a sheet that was .020" thick. That number of pieces was required to make a stable platform while cutting the slots. The wood was purchased from the Hobby Mill. Jeff Hayes, the owner, will mill sheets to any specification. The blanks were 1.75" long and .22" wide, (1 3/4" x 1/4") the grain being perpendicular to the long axis. Figure 1.

The strips were then grooved on one side. Two slots approximately .005" deep were cut with a saw blade that was .008" thick. The first slot was .010" from the bottom, and the second slot was .025" from the bottom. Figure 2.

The strips were glued together, one at a time, with school glue. It is important to be sure that the entire sheet is coated with glue. This operation is tricky, as the strips tend to warp due to the grain running in the short axis. The pieces also need to be aligned on the bottom and one edge. When all of the pieces are glued, the stack was clamped, and the alignment re-checked. The stack was allowed to cure overnight. Figure 3.

Slots were then cut in the stack. The saw blade was .012" wide, set to a height of .070". The stack was placed in the cross slide of the Priac saw and the first cut was made 1/4" from the end. The stack was then positioned over the saw blade, with the saw turned off. A .032" spacer was placed on the end of the stack and the fence pushed tight against the spacer. The spacer was removed and the next cut was made. This operation was repeated until twenty-eight slots were cut. This made the post between each slot .020" thick. Figure 4.

The stack was then soaked in water to separate the strips. The pieces warped in all directions, but were easily flattened out with a weight placed on top of them while drying. Each piece then was cut to .105" high. A thin strip of holly, .007 x .012 was glued to the top of the rail. The piece was trimmed to length and edge glued to the deck (A) of the stern. This is very easy to do because of the run of the grain in the wood. A piece of holly, .012" thick, shaped to the curve of the deck, (B), was glued under the deck. Figure 5.

Figure 1

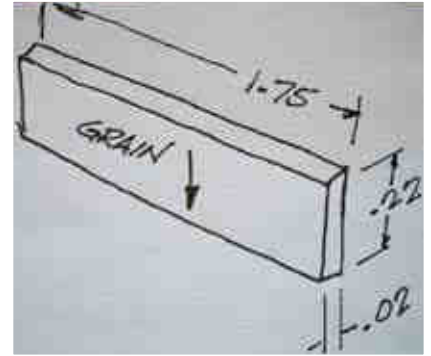


Figure 2

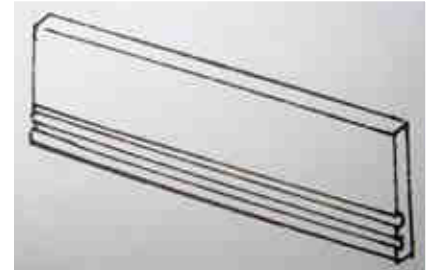


Figure 3

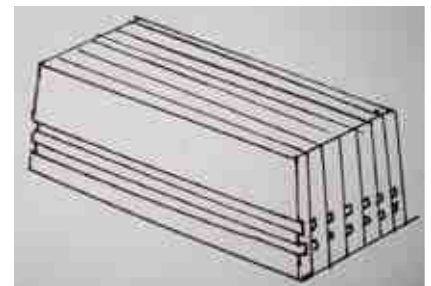


Figure 4

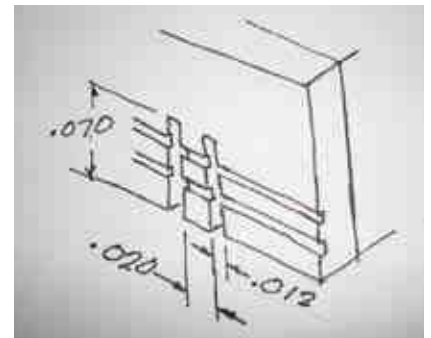
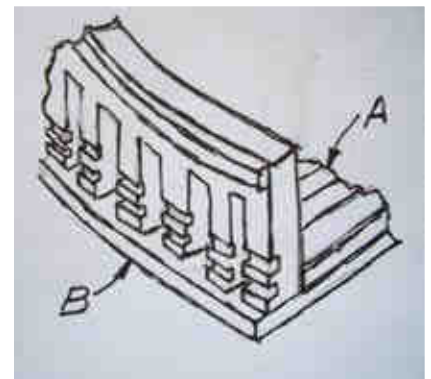


Figure 5





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SHIP MODELERS' GUILD

The next meeting will be
Wednesday, 13 January 2010
aboard the Berkeley at 7:00pm

