



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

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



Guild Meeting Report: 13 May 2013

June 2013 Vol. XXXVII No. 06

Robert Riddoch opened the meeting on board BERKLEY. There were no guests or new members present. The purser, Ron Hollod stated that the current balance was \$<redacted> as of April 30. It was mentioned that the donation of \$500 to the Museum has not been presented yet.

The San Diego County Fair will be held again this year (8 June through 4 July). The Museum will sponsor the competition for best wood ship model. Copies of the booth schedule were made available at the meeting. If help is needed to transport items on a volunteer day, a volunteer should go to the Docent Booth (in the Design in Wood Building) for assistance. It was requested that if you have any old copies of catalog and/or magazines that are no longer wanted, they should be brought to the booth for "giveaway" items.

The "community" work project is ongoing and models are almost finished. New projects are currently being considered.

A list of members will be completed soon and given to current members. If you do not want your name and address listed, please contact the guild master.

The newsletter editor is looking for information sources, websites, local vendors, small hand tool suppliers, etc. that could be beneficial to model ship building enthusiasts. Please send any information to the newsletter editor.

The Coffee Mess is running low on supplies and, as an information to all, will be replenished.

It was reported that Brian Rowe is getting better and is planning to start attending meetings in the Fall.

Robert Hewitt will be contacting Don Hubbard, who makes ships in bottles, to find out if he can give a talk and demonstration at a future meeting on this art form.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 June at 7:00pm

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Established in 1972

*by Bob Wright
& Russ Merrill*

SHOW & TELL

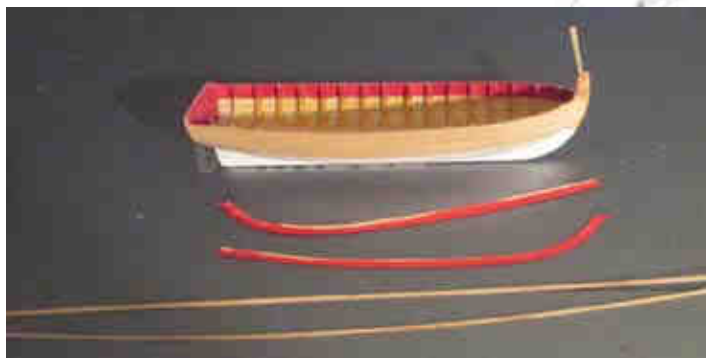
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18th c. LONGBOAT **Chuck Seiler**

Model Shipways kit. Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$ "=1'

I continue to make slow but sure progress on this model. Participating in the Guild community build and Model Ship World ship building blog gives me a lot of great incentive, lessons learned and tips. Since the last time I brought the model, I painted below the water line, added the printed frieze on the stern and sides, added the caprails, and attempted to install the aft platform.

I previously showed my waterline marking device. Despite marking, checking, double checking and sinking the model into a bowl of sand, the final waterline did not look right. Optical illusion. I was also not very happy with the actual paintjob, specifically the waterline itself.



One good way to get a crisp line between paints, or paint and wood is to pre-color the wood before you attach it. Included is a pic of my caprails that I pre-colored the underside using red alcohol based Trans Tint wood dye. The alcohol based dye does not interfere with the gluing process. Included is a pic showing a close-up after the caprail is installed. Note the crisp line. The red Trans Tint is much brighter than I would like. Once the caprail is installed, I over-painted the rail using Badger Paint Caboose Red. Although the underside of the rail remains unpainted/Trans Tint red, you cannot tell the difference between unless you get REALLY close.



USS CONSTITUTION **Bob Riddoch**

Scale 1:76, Kit by Model Slipways

Bob is currently applying the copper plating to the hull below the waterline. Bob is going old school and using individual plates cut to $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{5}{8}$ " which is to scale as original plates on Constitution are 14" x 48". Bob is also using a ponce wheel to replicate the rivet marks on the plates. When complete, there will be approximately 3000 plates installed.



HMS ELEPHANT **Robert Hewitt**

Scale 1:480, Scratch Build

The model was finished on May 1st and took seven months to complete. The SD county Fair entry deadline was the 3rd and I just made it. There were many days that I put in 12 hours to complete it on time. The hardest part for me was the two blocks the model rests on. I used Behlen spray varnish and sealer purchased from Rockler. There must be at least forty coats on the red piece, and it looks terrible. Carving a sea and painting it is much easier for me.

The masts and yards are of bamboo. The yards are painted black along with the copper wire foot ropes. The tops, caps and tressles are made from holly. There are eight sizes of wire used in the rigging. The stays are blackened with gun metal blacking. There are five different sizes of blocks made from strips of pear wood, .005 thick, black wire and black glue. I followed Petersons "Rigging Period Ship Models and Lavery's 74 gun Bellona.



SHOW & TELL

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LEXINGTON **Bob McPhail**

Scale 1:100, Kit by Mamoli

This merchant ship was converted to warship and served from 1775-1777, she was commanded by John Berry, and enjoyed success in several engagements. On Sept. 20, 1777 after a 3 hour battle when she expended all her munitions, she surrendered to the British Cutter Alert.

The model was started 2 months ago, in order to have a model to work on during the Fair. The first layer of planking is 90% complete. I plan to finish planking the hull and deck during my time at the Fair.



SLOUP COQUILLER **John Suavajot**

Scale 1:25, Kit by Corel SM#43

In Brittany, north-west France on the English Channel, during the last part of the 19th and into the 20th Centuries, distinctive types of small sailing fishing boats were developed for specific fishing uses. The model is a 1912 representation of a typical fishing smack designed for collecting shellfish, in particular scallops and oysters. The boat's length was usually 18 to 25 feet, with a single mast and two sails – foremast, spanker and often a counter spanker. It was gaff-rigged, no jib, and had a strongly sloping keel. It was decked only at the bow and stern; the center, where the catch was stored, was covered with removal panels.

In Wales, on the other side of the Channel, fishing vessels of similar design, but with a bow sprit, were also in use. These fishing smacks and oyster boats sailed out of Swansea Bay and Mumbles Bay in large numbers. By the end of the 19th Century, over-fishing brought an end to the Welsh fisheries. In France, over-dredging also depleted the oyster and scallop beds but to a lesser extent. "Sloups," operated exclusively with sails, continued to fish into the 1950's. A number of them have survived as pleasure boats, but most of those now have an auxiliary engine.

About the Model: This is the second time I bring this model to a meeting. It is about 99% complete because whenever I make a model, I always find that I could add or remove something to make it better.

The kit provides detailed plans and sketches of various component assemblies. It does not provide, however, any information as to the order in which the various components should be built. While this is a relatively simple project, it requires some model-making experience to avoid making annoying mistakes in construction sequence. The construction materials are generally acceptable, but I have replaced some of the wood and thread to upgrade the final appearance of the model.

The kit contains finished sails that should be dyed ochre or gray as they were on the actual vessel. Normally I don't install sails on my models, but because the standing rigging is simple, adding the sails may improve the model's appearance. At this stage of completion, however, I don't intend to install the sails.

The rigging plans that came with the kit are hard to follow and show no belaying points. I rigged based on photographs of both Welsh and French fishing boats of the time.

The paintingschemeisbasedoncontemporary paintings of Brittany fishing boats.



SHOW & TELL

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TITANIC Don Bienvenue

Scale 1:400, Kit by Academy Centennial.

The Titanic model is 99% complete at this stage. Adding the flags and the marconi wireless cables between the masts is what remains. Since the last time I showed this model, I have added the funnels, railings, lifeboats and davits, Titanic nameplates, and masts.

The funnels were painted with Model Master British Light Stone enamel, with a semi-gloss black on the upper section. Photo etched framing was inserted into the top of each funnel. Also added were photoetched ladders at the front of each funnel. These were also painted the same color as the funnels. The funnel stays were rigged using 6-pound monofilament fishing line and painting black with a permanent black ink marker.

The railings were from the photoetched sheet supplied with the kit. They came with a white finish on them. I found the photoetched rails to be a great improvement from the optional plastic rails which also came with the kit. They looked too bulky when compared to the photoetched version.

The lifeboat davits were also from the photoetched sheet and were some of the smallest photoetching assemblies I've ever worked with. I usually did only two per day. The lifeboats were then rigged to the davits using waxed beige sewing thread.

The ship's name was quite an adventure! I thought the names were typical decals, but were actually individual letters with an adhesive backing. These were difficult to put on the model and align correctly. A close mishap was when I dropped the "I" from "Liverpool" onto my carpet. I eventually found it using a bright flashlight and seeing a tiny line, which was the letter. Words of advice: Try to keep away from carpets when working on photoetching or other small pieces.

The masts are delicate since they are so thin at 1:400 scale. I had to be careful not to bend the masts when attaching the rigging. All in all, this was one of my most enjoyable plastic kits to work on.



Tools from Dave Yotter

The GRS Multi-Purpose Vise is a very stout vise made from steel that tilts and rotates and will handle numerous fabrication duties on a variety of oddly shaped parts. The vise is made as a base to be used while engraving jewelry so it will handle a lot of pressure. The vice jaws slide on a plate and has a fat lead screw and close fitting guide rods that make it only a short downgrade away from a precision machinists vise. The jaws measure a little over two inches wide and rise about one inch above the lead screw. Maximum opening is a little less than one and one half inches. The tops of the jaws have holes in them so you can drop in pins and jigs to hold your work piece. The rotation and tilting functions operate smoothly and lock down solidly. A unique feature of this vise is that it solidly attaches to your workbench by dropping it onto a two-inch by three-inch dovetail plate that you screw to the front of the bench. This enables you to remove the vise easily to get it out of the way when necessary. This dovetail plate is part of a whole system developed by GRS that allows you to attach many other devices to the front of your bench such a bench pin, a soldering station, a sawing plate and their BenchMate. This BenchMate is a whole other product – more to follow on this later. The Attachment Set increases the utility of the vise by allowing the holding of round parts and parts made from rod stock. One of the attachment sets includes two semi-circular pin plates drop onto the top of the vise jaws. One of these has a single pin so it swivels for clamping of odd shaped parts. Another useful item from the attachment set includes two leather faced ring clamp jaws.



Trimmer showing power connection and platform adjustment

The second tool is the Wolf Tools Belt Sander. This tool was developed for jewelry makers too. The belt sander uses one inch by 10 1/2" belts and attaches to your work bench by an included clamp system or can be attached using the afore mentioned GRS BenchMate. Either mounting system allows the sander to be rotated to any convenient position including upside down taking advantage of different areas on the belt. For motive power you attach your Foredom flex shaft tool! Belts are available from 80 grit up to 1200 grit in 5 different abrasive materials. The belts cost typically around \$2.50

each. I have been looking for a quality, small belt sander useful for modeling work for a long time. This one is unique.



Wolf Tools Trimmer, showing router bitrouter

The Wolf tools Adjustable trimmer is another Jewelry maker's tool that might be useful for model makers. Like the Wolf Tools belt this tool was developed to use a Foredom flex shaft tool for power. It is made to use the Foredom #30 hand piece to hold trimmers, burrs or mini router bits. It can also use the #44 hand piece, which has the same one-inch diameter as the #30. The #44 is a collet style hand piece whereas the #30 uses a Jacobs chuck. The hand piece slides into the bottom clamp and you adjust the height of the bit before locking it down. The tools table tilts and slides on the undercarriage to keep the gap between the burr and the table to a minimum. The tool comes with an adjustable fence that slides nicely and locks down securely. It also comes with a collar so it can be held with the GRS BenchMate. I have a nylon collar from Foredom that holds the hand piece and trimmer in my workbench vice. I think of this as having a router table or shaper about the right size for model makers. The #30 hand piece can handle any type of cutting, polishing, routing or sanding tool that will fit. The device is very well made and of quality construction.

So the price question always rears its ugly head. I admit to being a tool junky and am always on the lookout for quality tools. I got this stuff from Otto-Frei, a jewelry supply company in Oakland. I found their prices to be somewhat cheaper across the board for most all their products compared with other jewelry supply companies. (www.ottofrei.com) Poke around, you will be amazed at what you find. The vise was \$148 and the Attachment set was \$108. The Wolf Sander was \$179. The Wolf Adjustable Trimmer was \$109.

SDSMG COMMUNITY BUILD

M a y 2 0 1 2

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4 in attendance: 5/11/13
Mike Lonnecker, Lee Green,
Bob Riddoch, Chuck Seiler

Models present were in various stages of construction.



Bob had just returned from Japan the previous day and had not made any progress on his Longboat. He is itching to get building. Chuck has painted and dyed his hull and is currently working on mounting. He also brought in the plans for his next project which will be a scratchbuilt Philadelphia based on Model Shipways new plans.

Mike has made quite a bit of progress and is currently building the oars and is scratch building his sheaves. Lee is complete with his Longboat and is working on a way to mount the completed model.

Back east, John Nickum is also complete and has sent along a picture of his beautiful work.

Dust covers are on order for those who prepaid and hopefully will be ready for our next get together on 2 June.



Lee's completed 18th Century Longboat.

Our next get together is Sunday 2 June at 10:30 am at Mike's house. Again, all Guild members are welcome to attend.

You can also follow us at Model Ship World using the following link:

<http://www.modelshipworld.com/phpBB2/viewforum.php?f=75>



Completed and cased 18th Century Longboat by John Nickum.



Mike's excellent workmanship.

Greetings. With summer here we are shifting our hours back to the normal 7:00 pm meeting time. We are scheduled for the second Wednesday for June, July, and August with a 7:00 pm start. Hopefully this shift in start time will bring more folks and models to the meetings. The San Diego County Fair is also in full swing and as always, this is our opportunity to share our passion with others and bring new blood into our Guild.

As I have previously mentioned, we have a few events coming up at the Museum which involves the Guild. We have been asked to man a booth and demonstrate model-

ing during the Festival of Sail which runs through Labor Day weekend. We are also about to start the refurbishment of our Model Shop library. We will be seeking volunteers for both of these events. The survey of models is ongoing onboard the Berkley and a few of our members are heavily involved in this large and worthwhile project.

Summer also brings the heat so please stay safe. This is a great time to clean your shop and find the perfect spot for that fan.

Bob Riddoch

Yokohama Sailing-Ship Modelers Club 35th Exhibition of World Sailing Ship Models Part 1

Bob Riddoch

One of the many benefits of my current job is the opportunity to travel to Japan quite frequently. I often find myself in Japan during the spring months and this is when The Rope has their yearly Exhibition and I have been very fortunate to attend many of these excellent shows including the most recent.

A week after the 38th Exhibition of "The Rope", I decided to spend some time in Yokohama and enjoy the great weather during the Japanese holiday period called Golden Week. A coworker and I were walking past the beautiful sailing ship Nippon Maru when I spied a sign, in English, telling me that the 35th Exhibition of World Sailing-ship Models was currently taking place at the Yokohama Port Museum not 50 yards away from where I stood. Not being able to contain my enthusiasm, I dragged my friend into the museum to take a look. What I discovered was not just great models, but great people and new friends.



NIPPON MARU

Established in 1978, the Yokohama Sailing-Ship Modelers Club was founded by members of The Rope who wanted a similar club in the Kanagawa area. Today, the YSMC has 160 members from all parts of Japan. Although their primary activity is building historically accurate wooden sailing ships, some members prefer painting or wood carving. Some just like to discuss sailing ships and their history. Anyone is welcome to join the YSMC and exhibit their work at the annual exhibition. Members of the YSMC meet three or four times a year to discuss their interests and projects over food and drink. They also hold

seminars and conduct beginner modeling courses throughout the year.

As we walked into the exhibition area we were greeted with a packet, in English, giving a detailed explanation of each of the 98 items on display. I introduced myself to our guide as the Guild Master of the San Diego Ship Modelers Guild and soon found myself being introduced to the President of the YSMC, Mr. Masahiro Nishitani, the Webmaster Mr. Kiyoo Izawa, and their Foreign Affairs Secretary Ms. Ingeborg Toda.

We took a quick tour of the exhibit and I took a few pictures but since I was with a coworker and had promised to show him around Yokohama, I ensured Mr. Nishitani, that I would return the following Sunday and spend the afternoon enjoying the displays. With a promise to return at 11:00 am the following Sunday, I reluctantly departed.

Here are a few samples of the exhibit.



I will be bringing you the entire collection over the next couple of months. You can also visit the YSMC website in English at:
<http://ysmc-world.la.coocan.jp/>

Let's All Go to the Fair !!!

Its time once again, boys and girls, for the San Diego County Fair. It is a special occasion for many of us at the Guild because it is a time when we get to interact with thousands of people on a daily basis and tell them a little bit about ship modeling. For many, its an idle curiosity. Most know nothing about model ship building and we provide an interesting tidbit of knowledge. For some, however, it is an opportunity to learn about something that may soon be (or already is) an enjoyable hobby.

Aside from having a great time, we are at the Fair to inform. Here are some things to consider:

--Bring a model to work on that you can display various modeling techniques

-- Check with others in the booth before arrival to possibly include different types of models or different phases of construction.

-- Bring various tools, jigs, etc that you normally use but may NOT be using at this point in the model so they can be shown/explained to the public.

-- Be familiar with the information sheets and handouts available at the booth. In addition to those, we have included catalogues and old newsletters to show people who interested or who have questions about kits etc. Familiarize yourself with some of the basic kits and their good and bad points.

-- Take time to listen to your boothmates when they talk. I must admit, I have learned a thing or two at the Fair myself.

--Make sure to sign in and out. Get around to see the Fair and have a good time.

Sandy Eggo County

The Top Answers to Frequently Asked Questions at the Del Mar Faire

by Chuck Seiler

It is time once again for the San Diego County (formerly Del Mar) Fair. Here we are able to set up our booth and wax wise about model shipbuilding to all who wish to wander by. Some of the newer members may be intimidated and may feel they do not have the knowledge for such a daunting task. Never fear! I bring you the answers to the most frequently asked questions we get at the Fair. Take this with you and feel free to use the answer you think most appropriate to the question asked.

1. Yes, I know where the restroom is. From the expression on your face, I'll bet you wish you did too.
2. No, this is NOT made of balsa wood.
3. No this is NOT a pirate ship (unless you are in fact building a pirate ship, then say "yes").
4. Yes it does take patience to build one of these...and desire. STOP TOUCHING THAT!!!!
5. Huh? What's that you say? Loud? The bowl makers are too loud? Sorry, I can't hear you.

6. No kid, I'm SURE its not a pirate ship (unless, of course, it is).

7. I don't know what that is. We think the builder may have been on drugs at the time. (This is describing the mystery project of the year. It changes each year, so I cannot describe it. You will know it when you see it, however.)

8. No, I don't know how they get the ship into the bottle. My job is to EMPTY the bottle. After that, I don't remember much.

9. I don't care if the guys in the bowl booth gave you something. You cannot have Hewitt's model as a sample. STOP TOUCHING THAT!!!

10. Okay! Okay, kid! You're right. It's a pirate ship! A balsa wood, Mississippi river sternwheel steam powered pirate ship! Don't you have some place else you need to be? Hey lady, doesn't he need to go to the restroom or something?

Enjoy the Fair. If you are not working it, drop by and say HI! But don't ask me if its made of balsa.