



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

JANUARY 2014

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXVIII, NO. 1

OFFICERS

Guild Master

Robert Riddoch

address redacted

First Mate

Chuck Seiler

Interim Purser

Gary Seaton

Acting Editor

Chuck Seiler

address redacted

Log Keeper

Bob McPhail

Photographer

John Wickman

Webmeister

Barry Rishel

address redacted

Established in 1972

by

Bob Wright and

Russ Merrill



MINUTES OF 10 DECEMBER 2013 MEETING



Guildmaster Riddoch presides over Guild's December Meeting/Party

Photo by John Wickman

Guildmaster **Bob Riddoch** called the meeting to order at 1800. Fifteen members were in attendance with a number of party guests. This was going to be a short business meeting and show/tell combined with the annual Christmas/holiday party.

Editor's Report: Articles, book reviews, announcements, vendors and modeling tips are requested on an ongoing basis. Please get newsletter inputs to Chuck 2 weeks prior to meeting date.

Purser's Report: Treasury balance as of 30 NOV 2013= \$<redact>. Dues (\$20.00) are due in January.

Museum Report: There are some good articles in recent edition of "FULL AND BY". SAN SALVADOR build continues. Go down and check it out.

Continued on page 2

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

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES - Continued

Community Build Report: The first full scale working seminar was to be held at **Mike Lonnecker's** house on Saturday 14 December. A report on that seminar can be found on page 8.

Webmaster Report: Still working on upgrading the site. Barry is working on being able to insert PDFs on to the site (particularly the award winning SDSMG Newsletter) as well as a "Contact Webmaster" button. Suggestions and inputs are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS.

- CDR MATTHEWS will. **Bob Riddoch** is still waiting to hear from the lawyer for the estate.

- Bob Riddoch is looking for volunteers to help rehab/reorganize the library in the model shop. He also wanted to remind members that there IS a library in the mode shop. This is the property of the Guild and is separate and distinct from the Museum library.

NEW BUSINESS.

- Dues are due in January.

- Guild elections for Guildmaster, First Mate, Purser, Newsletter Editor and Logkeeper will be held in March. Nominations in March. Reminder: **Chuck Seiler** will NOT be running for First Mate.

- The San Diego County Fair is right around the corner. Fair Coordinator **Bill Grolz** reported the dates of the 2014 Fair are Saturday, **June 7** through Sunday, **July 6**. The 2014 San Diego County Fair theme has been announced: The Fab Fair (a take off of 'The Fab Four' no doubt) will kick off the summer of 2014 with a tribute to the British Invasion and music phenomena that began 50 years ago. Coordination meetings start in January. Bill will have more info for us later. Sign up roster will be available in February. Start planning on a Fair project.

- **Bob Riddoch** mentioned an email scam he received from **Ron Hollod's** email address. He contacted Ron, who was not aware of this. Apparently he had a virus that sent this out to most of his address book. **Chuck Seiler** mentioned a technique that can be used to detect if your address book has been hijacked in this manner. Put a wildly fictitious name/address in your email address book, such as HarryButtkiss@biteme.com. While it cannot prevent the hijack, if a false email goes out to your whole address book, this email will be kicked back as undeliverable and you will be alerted.

- **Bob Riddoch** showed us his 2014 Model Ship World calendar. It can be acquired at the Model Ship World website or from **Chuck Passaro's** "SYREN SHIP MODEL COMPANY".

SHOW AND TELL



Robert Hewitt's SIR EDWARD HAWKE.
Progress continues.

Photo by John Wickman

SHOW AND TELL-Continued

U.S. Brig SYREN - Model Shipways Kit Scale-1/64 (3/16"=1') circa 1803-1812 by **Lee Greene**

The SYREN was built specifically for the siege on Tripoli according to Naval History Vol. 1 by James Fenimore Cooper. Chapter XX. "The government soon became aware of the necessity of possessing some light cruisers, which to a marine, are what the eyes and ears are to man. Without vessels of this character, a commander could never conduct a vigorous blockade, like that required before Tripoli, in particular; a law passed February, 1803 authorizing the construction of two brigs and two schooners. In the course of the spring of that year, these vessels were built, and the navy received an addition to its list, of the ARGUS 16, SIREN (SYREN) 16, NAUTILUS 12, and VIXEN 12. The two former were beautiful and very efficient brigs, mounting 16 twenty-four-pound carronades, and 2 long twelves; and latter were schooners, carrying 12 eighteen-pound carronades, and 2 light long guns, each. They were all finely modeled and serviceable vessels of their size, and now intimately associated with the early traditions of the navy." The SYREN, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Stewart played an important role in the siege on Tripoli.

This has been a fun build. The copper was a first for Lee. He was greatly helped by **Larry Van Es** from the SMA who kindly lent him his copper jig, which ingeniously used a computer chip to stamp the pieces.

The trenails were also a first for Lee. He tried three different techniques: **Chuck Passaro's** method suggested in the kit directions, traditional approach of drilling a hole, inserting wood dowel & sanding (Boxwood), and lastly, **Bob Filipowsky's** method from the Fall 2013 NRG article (Holly).

Lee learned to substitute Boxwood (or Pear) for Basswood. It was also his first successful effort to silver solder the pintel pins for the rudder. The inner bulwarks are supposed to be red but he wanted to carry through the Boxwood there to match the exterior.



Lee Greene's SYREN.
Note plastic wrap
used to protect copper
plating from
fingerprints, etc.



A close-up shot of SYREN deck
and interior planking.

Both photos by John Wickman



SHOW AND TELL-Continued

U. S. Brig NIAGARA Circa 1813
Model Shipways Kit
Scale-1/64 (3/16"=1') by **Royce Privett**

Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry took command of the American naval forces at Lake Erie in the spring of 1813. The famous battle with the British fleet began on September 10, when Perry raised a flag bearing the words "Don't Give Up the Ship" and sailed into action. After three hours of murderous fire, Perry was forced to abandon his flagship, the brig LAWRENCE. In a daring move, he rowed a half a mile to the brig NIAGARA where he continued the attack. Having won the battle, Perry returned to the shattered LAWRENCE and penned a quick message to General Harrison; "We have me the enemy and

they are our's." This decisive victory at the Battle of Lake Erie ensured American control of the Great Lakes throughout the rest of the War of 1812. NIAGARA was 123 feet long with a 32 foot beam. She carried eighteen 32 pound carronades and two 12 pound long guns.



Royce Privett's NIAGARA

Photo by John Wickman

Information about the model. Since the model was last displayed in September 2013, Royce has completed the following:

1. Deadeyes and chainplates have been installed on the channels.
2. Fore and main masts have been completed.
3. All yards have been completed. Stirrups and footropes have been attached to half the yards.
4. The ship's boats have been finished. Royce has to wait until the shrouds are installed to attach the boat skids.
5. Jib boom and flying jib boom have been completed.
6. Spanker boom and gaff have been completed.
7. Spritsail yard completed.



Scratch built 24 pound field gun by John Wimberly. John brought this by to show us what he was working on. We hope to see more at a future date (with write ups).

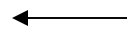
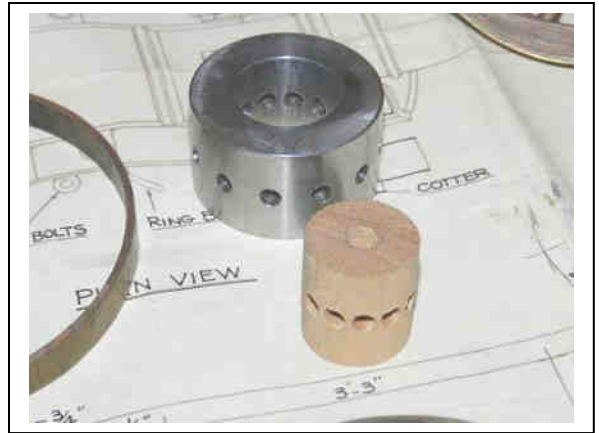


Photo by John Wickman

SHOW AND TELL-Continued



Wheels for the gun carriage. John made the wheel by laying in multiple layers of wood into a ring cut out of an old 3" naval gun shell



The jig John used to make the wheel hub

Photos by John Wickman



Ship's boat by John Wickman

Photo by John Wickman

Ship's Boat 1/48 Scale Model Shipways Kit by **John Wickman**

This was John's first attempt at plank on mold method. Kit had laser cut mold frames at 1" intervals plus a transom and bow frame. Kit instructions are poorly written as after the mold frames were installed on the base, he found that he had to cut slits in the base so he could install the keel with stem and stern post attached. In the future he will put plastic tape over mold frames to prevent glue adhering to them. The pictures in the plans were of poor contrast such that much detail could not be seen. The models beam also seems short, and he thinks it would be more accurate if widened by 25 to 50%. He enjoyed building this model form and I learned a lot form the experience.

USS NEW JERSEY
BB 16 by **Don Dressel**

Photo by John Wickman



The History

The USS *New Jersey* (BB-16) was a *Virginia* – Class battleship of the United States Navy. She was Launched on 10 November 1904 by the Fore River Shipbuilding Company, Quincy, Massachusetts and commissioned on 12 May 1906. She displaced 14,948 tons; length 441 ft 3 in; beam, 76 ft 3 in; Draft, 23 ft 9 in; Speed, 19 knots; Complement, 812 officers and men; Armament, 4 x 12in/40 cal main guns; 8 x 8 in/45 cal guns; 12 x 6 in/50 cal guns and 4 x 21 in torpedo tubes.

Her main claim to fame was her participation in the cruise of the *Great White Fleet* in 1908 – 1909. There are many books written about this cruise and what took place, but it was a significant period in US history and announced to the world that the US was now a major maritime power. She carried out normal, routine duties from 1910 through 1913, when she became involved in the Mexican War in 1914 as part of the fleet of Admiral Frank F. Fletcher and participated in the landing at Veracruz and the subsequent taking possession of the city until changes took place in the Mexican government.

During WW I *New Jersey* made her major contribution by training gunners and seaman recruits in Chesapeake Bay. The reason was she was a pre-dreadnought and essentially obsolete. She did participate in the effort to bring home the troops of the American Expeditionary Force in 1919. She was decommissioned at the Boston Naval Shipyard on August 1920 and was sunk off Cape Hatteras in September 1923 in Army bomb tests conducted by Brigadier General Billy Mitchell.

The Model

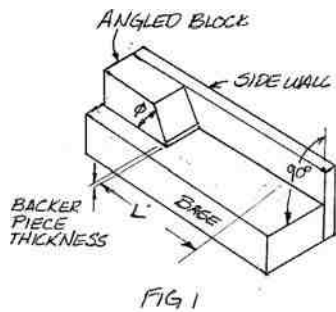
The model of the *USS NEW JERSEY* (BB-16) is a resin hull model available from Iron Shipwrights at <http://ironshipwrights.com/ships>. As remarked at the meeting, there were a number of “pits and holes” that had to be cleaned up and patched on the resin hull prior to painting. An air gun was used for the painting of the hull, the lower portion of the hull being masked off and painted (again, using the air gun) red. The deck was painted by hand. A form tool was provided in the kit to fabricate the cage masts. It is an option to replace the cage masts with brass tubing and rods as required if it is desired to show the ship as she appeared with the *Great White Fleet*. Very fine, thin fiber line was used for the rigging of the model. The 12” and 8” guns were super-imposed, one on top of the other, which makes this battleship unique. The photo-etch railings were installed using white glue beaded along the edges of the hull, which makes for a very neat installation. All parts were pre-painted before assembly as painting after assembly would have been much more difficult. The model is housed in a simple acrylic glass case.

SHOW AND TELL-HMS GLAGOW: Making quarterdeck stairs

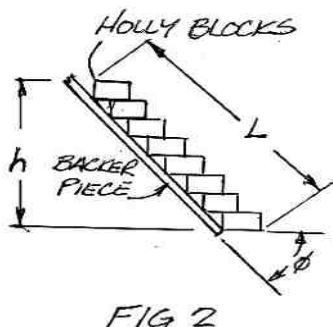
by Robert Hewitt

The upper decks have been installed. The round houses and the basket works were added next. The belfry and railing are carved from ebony. The stern windows are silk thread coated with Testors clear parts cement. I had a difficult time with the quarter deck stairs. I finally decided to build a jig and to make them solid.

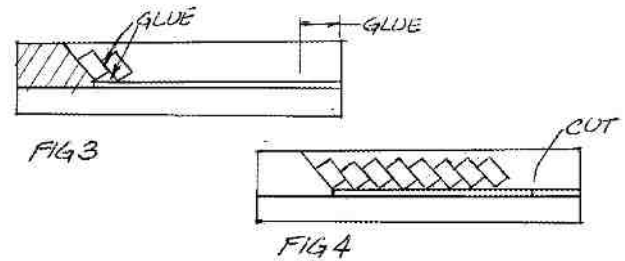
The Jig is two pieces of pear glued together to make a 90 degree nest. An angled piece of pear was made by trial and error, as my computer was not operating, and glued to the 90 degree nest. The tip of the angle was cut off so the flat portion is the same height as the backer piece of the stair assembly. (Figure 1)



I measured the height (h) from the quarter deck to the gun deck. Eight pieces of holly were cut to make up this height. Fig. 2 They were trimmed to the width of the stairs and made twice as deep as the tread. The backer piece is then glued to the far end of the jig. This should be the width of the holly pieces. I did not make this piece as wide as should be and the result is one of the treads is out of line. This was not noticed until I saw John Wickman's photo of the model.



I positioned the first holly block on the fixture and glued the second block to the first and also to the backer piece. The blocks are also pushed against the side wall. Fig. 3.



When all of the pieces have been added and the glue is dry, cut the backer piece from the fixture. Fig. 4. I added a piece of pear to the flush side of the assembly and let the glue dry. I sanded the opposite side flush and added a piece of pear to it. The sides of the stair assembly were trimmed with a razor blade and it was glued to the two decks. Fig. 5



Good luck and good modeling.

Reprinted from a previous newsletter

COMMUNITY BUILD

Mike Lonnecker once again hosted the December edition of the SDSMG Community Build. This event, held on 14 December, was a demonstration involving methods of silver soldering and metal blackening. Eleven persons were in attendance:

Mike Lonnecker (Host)
Larry Van Es (SMA)
Don Bienvenue
John Wemberly

Bob Riddoch (Photographer)
Gary Seaton
Dave Yotter

Mr. and Mrs Lee Greene
Jon Stanford
Chuck Seiler

The December meeting was our first “Seminar Series” meeting and we had a record breaking turnout. Prior to the seminar we had our normal round table discussion on the models that were present.

Bob Riddoch brought his nearly completed 18th Century Longboat. Bob has finished rigging the shrouds and is working on the back stays. As I sit here and type this write-up I am happy to say that the rigging is complete and the only things remaining are the oars and grapnel hook.



The usual suspects gather indoors to cover shipmodeling topics before adjourning to the garage
Photos by Bob Riddoch

Gary Seaton displayed his Corel Ranger. He has completed the hull planking and it debating on whether to paint or not. The walnut planking looks great and the consensus of the group was to leave it natural. Of course, it's Gary's call.

Everyone was anxious to get on with the seminar so the meeting moved to Mikes' workshop.

Mike spent a lot of time developing a Lesson Plan and it certainly showed. Mike quickly covered the safety requirements when soldering and moved to the materials required to Silver Solder. He explained the proper way to clean the parts prior to soldering, the variety of different solders and tools, the different torches that can be used and the heat generated from each. He demonstrated soldering on both brass and copper and answered any questions that the group had.



After a quick break, Mike started his blackening seminar in the same fashion. Safety was stressed as the chemicals used can be dangerous. He then explained the necessity for pickling the parts prior to blackening and the choices of pickling solutions available. After cleaning the parts, Mike demonstrated brass blackening using different solutions. A copper blackening demonstration followed using Liver of Sulfur which worked great but quickly cleared the room due to the smell.



The Seminar was declared a rousing success and everyone was looking forward to the next topic. We are still looking for any member who would like to demonstrate their special modeling skills.

Our next Get Together at Mike's will be on **January 11 at 10:30 am**. *Everyone attending is requested to bring a model to discuss.*

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

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS



NOTICE: The January Community Build Meeting will meet at **Mike Lonnecker's** house at 10:30 Saturday 11 JAN 2014. Bring your own Sherpa.

HELP WANTED- An Opportunity to Excel!!!! Since **Chuck Seiler** has assumed duties as Newsletter Editor (and will probably be re-elected to same) he will not stand for re-election as First Mate. Any takers? Well, you have to win the election.

DUES- Dues are due in January. Annual dues are \$20. Failure to pay dues by March will result in being dropped from the rolls.

AVAILABLE- After the recent Community Build seminar, **Chuck Seiler** picked up some pool Ph reducer (Used as a pickling agent post solder/pre-blacken. Not for use with cucumbers). Two gallons. He can give you some if you need it.

Wooden ship to sail after big overhaul

John Christoffersen
Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, CONN. It survived countless storms and Confederate raids during the Civil War while taking crews across uncharted oceans in search of whales whose oil lit the world.

The Charles W. Morgan, the world's last surviving wooden whaling ship and America's oldest merchant ship, is hitting the water again after a nearly \$7 million, five-year restoration project at Mystic Seaport.

"She is, if you will, an authentic way to enter the past," said Matthew Stackpole, the ship's historian. "The Morgan makes 200 years of American maritime history come alive."



The Charles W. Morgan is the world's last surviving wooden whaling ship. DENNIS A. MURPHY, MYSTIC SEAPORT/AP

The 380-ton, 106-foot-long ship will be lowered into the Mystic River on July 21, the 172nd anniversary of the vessel's original launch in New Bedford, Mass.

The ship, a National Historic

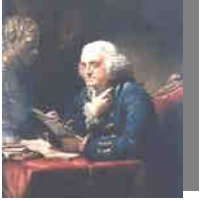
Landmark, made 37 voyages over 80 years starting in 1841 across every ocean in the world from the heyday to the waning days of whaling.

The ship was hauled out of the water in 2008 and stabi-

lized. Like many wooden ships, the Morgan had become misshapen, with the center bending upward and the bow and stern dropping down.

One of the biggest challenges was finding wood for such an old ship that would replicate the material it was built with in 1841. Restorers were able to get large old oaks destroyed from hurricanes, including Katrina.

Workers excavating the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston for a hospital a few years ago discovered a stockpile of wood. "This was old-growth timber that was selected by master shipbuilders in the age of wooden ships. It just doesn't get much better," said Quentin Snediker, the Mystic Seaport Shipyard director overseeing the project.



Guild Masters Corner

Greetings all,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season and had the opportunity to spend some time with friends and family. As we transition into 2014, I want to take just a few minutes and remind everyone of some the events lined up and a special events that I am currently working on.

Last month we kicked off season 2 of the Community Build. We had a great turn out at **Mike's (Lonnecker)** house for a fantastic seminar on Silver Soldering and Brass Blackening. Our thanks to Mike for putting on a great demonstration. The current plan is to have these seminars every other month or so with a regular "Community Build" meeting in between as scheduled on the second Saturday of every month. We are still looking for volunteers to demonstrate topics.

The San Diego County Fair is quickly approaching. Now is the time to think about getting that model in the show and clearing your schedule to "Man the Booth". I would like to see some new faces at the Fair this year.

I am currently working on having one of the Master Shipbuilders from the San Salvador Project come and speak to us during one of our Guild Meetings. That is one event you do not want to miss. I will keep everyone posted on the progress.

Well, time to get back to my shop. Hope to see you all with models in hand at our next Guild meeting scheduled for **January 8, 2014** onboard the Berkeley at 6:00pm. And our next Community Build Meeting scheduled for **January 11, 2014** at Mikes house at 10:30 am.

Bob

Bob Riddoch



Next meeting is
WEDNESDAY
08 JANUARY 2014 on the
Berkeley.
5:30 PM- Social.
6:00PM Meeting
Bring a model

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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	

COMMUNITY BUILD

JANUARY 2014

-FINIS-