



# San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive San Diego, CA 92101

MAY 2014

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXXI, NO. 5

## OFFICERS

### Guild Master

Robert Riddoch  
address redacted  
phone redacted

### First Mate

Mike Lonnecker  
address redacted

### Purser

Gary Seaton  
address redacted

### Editor

Chuck Seiler  
address redacted  
phone redacted

### Log Keeper

Bob McPhail  
phone redacted

### Photographer

John Wickman

### Webmeister

Barry Rishel  
address redacted

Established in 1972

by

Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

## MINUTES OF 09 APRIL 2014 MEETING

Newly elected First Mate, **Mike Lonnecker**, called the meeting to order. Guildmaster **Riddoch** is on travel to Japan. Sixteen members were in attendance. There were no visitors or guests.

Purser's report: **Gary Seaton** reported that as of 31 March 2014, the treasury balance was \$<redacted>.

Editor's Report: The newsletter editor's report was given by **Chuck Seiler**.

-He mentioned that **Bob Wright** sent a thank you for printing the history of the Guild in the newsletter. He also mentioned he had heard from **Kurt van Dahm** from one of our sister clubs. Kurt wanted to congratulate us on having such a rich and storied history. (Kurt is the Chairman of the NRG and President of his model club. He understands rich and storied histories.)

-Chuck also mentioned that he sent a request to MODEL EXPO for 150 copies of their catalog. He received one. Chuck is hoping that the remainder will be arriving soon (got 'em).

-He also mentioned that hand outs during the fair will be limited and he gave recommendations what these hand outs should be. Bring catalogues to the next meeting.

-He reminded members to let him know if they did not receive their newsletter or had issues with the newsletter.

The San Diego County Fair will be held June 7 through July 6. The museum will again sponsor the competition for best wood ship model. There will be a first prize of \$500 for best entry. The model can be from a kit or scratch built. Several members indicated that they plan to submit entries. Entry deadline is May 2. Everyone is also requested to save catalogs and bring them to the May meeting so they can be given away as handouts at the fair.

Pictures for the booth collage were requested in order to update the current one for the fair. Pictures should be in "JPEGs" format and sent via email to **Chuck Seiler** or **Bill Grolz**. It was also mentioned that booth volunteers should bring a model that can be given to booth visitors to hold and examine (while they were at the booth). This has increased interaction with visitors during past fairs.

*Continued on page 2*



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

<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

Webmaster **Barry Rishel** indicated that the website was up and operating. He would like to post pictures from the fair (past and present) as well as pictures of ship models throughout the ages. He is working on getting EMAIL for the site.

There was discussion about the summer museum schedule. This should occur after Memorial Day thru Labor Day. The Guild will need to vote whether to adjust times for the meeting or leave the times as they are. More information will be provided at the May meeting.

There was a technical discussion on how to install deadeyes on sailing ships. (It was pretty lame....not what I wished for.) Suggestions for future topics should be sent to Chuck Seiler

Under new business, everyone is requested to bring in names and addresses of ship modeling sources and resources for the newsletter. Also, the Guild is always interested in speakers and items of interest for "Show and Tell".

Finally, the "new" guild officers were introduced.  
Hi Mike!!!! A

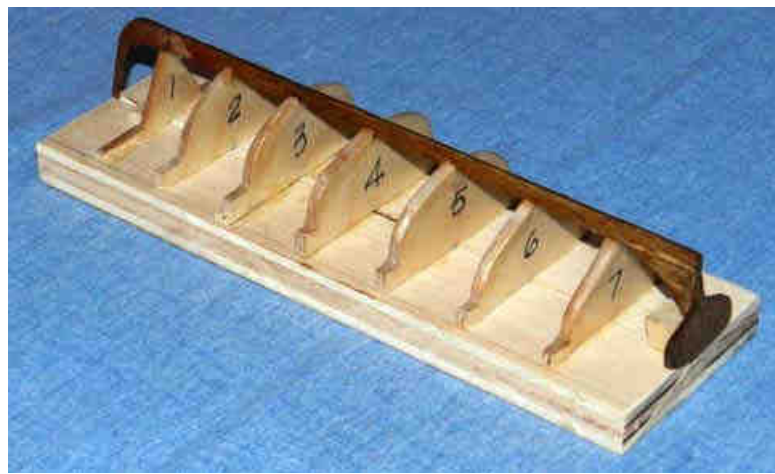
## April Community Build

By Mike Lonnecker

The April Community Build Meeting was attended by Gary Seaton and Mike Lonnecker. Gary wanted to discuss some parts he had made for the stem of his Naiad Frigate that were not matching the drawing. The parts were well made but were about 1/8 inch too long as an assembly. We compared the individual parts with the part drawings and everything matched. All of the drawings were printed on the same printer and were from the book on building the Naiad by E. Tosti. After much head scratching we printed the assembly drawing on my printer. The parts now matched and problem solved. The lesson here is that when printing copies of drawings try and have a scale or known distance on the drawing that can be checked on the new print. I have experienced problems like Gary did where the printer printed 99% instead of 100%. Some printers must have the scale factor set for each print. I also have had problems at professional architectural/engineering copy houses where I said that the copy had to be exactly 100% and when I got the print it was off. If this happens to you refuse the print and ask them to do it again.

See ya next month.  
Mike Lonnecker

## SHOW AND TELL



Second launch for frigates, 1854 by John Wickman

I wanted a model for the County Fair that was small and easily portable. I decided to scratch build a ship's launch. Looking for plans I consulted Chapelle's *"The American Sailing Navy"*, and found a number of ship's boat plans in the Appendix. I selected the one on page 510. These launches were used to move cargo, troops or sailors between ship and shore. Both oars and sail could be used to propel the launch

Now the challenge was to get to 1:48 scale. I took a digital photo of the plate and with my computer finally got the scale 1:48 plan, which is scale for the 28' launch and 7" long. The plan shows 7 cross sections (formers), fortunately which come out to be 1" apart. I traced them onto tracing paper and cut them using my scroll saw, glued the formers a plywood base. I treated these formers with paraffin (melted and applied with a paint brush) such that the planking would not stick to the formers.

I plan to install 7 rowing benches, 5 removable to allow cargo to be low in the launch. There will be spaced floor boards in the cargo area and a mast and sail. (Photo by John Wickman)



#### JAPANESE MERCHANT SHIP

by Don Dressel

Scale: 1:72

The HIGAKI KAISEN is a Japanese merchant ship model, built to the scale of 1:72, based on a kit by Woody Joe. The basic material for the model is Japanese cedar wood, which is very good to work with and has the added benefit that it smells nice.

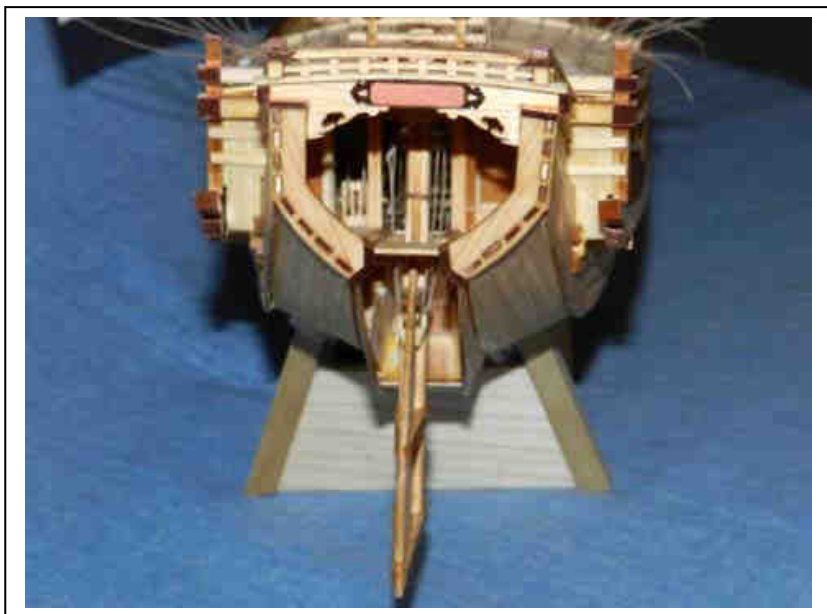
The ship operated between 1804 to 1817 and is based on original plans. There is a 1:1 scale replica in the Osaka Maritime Museum. The ship basically sailed between Osaka and Edo (Tokyo). She originally had a single mast. Trials conducted by the Japanese with the replica indicate that it sailed pretty well.

#### Don Dressel's WOODY JOE

Photos by John Wickman

The instructions in the kit are well illustrated, but the written portion is in Japanese. It would be much more difficult to build the model with no Japanese translation-fortunately, I had a number of friends in Japan who helped translate the Japanese to English.

The availability of Woody Joe kits in the United States is difficult. Maybe you can purchase one through the Internet, but otherwise no one here carries the kits and Woody Joe does not export.

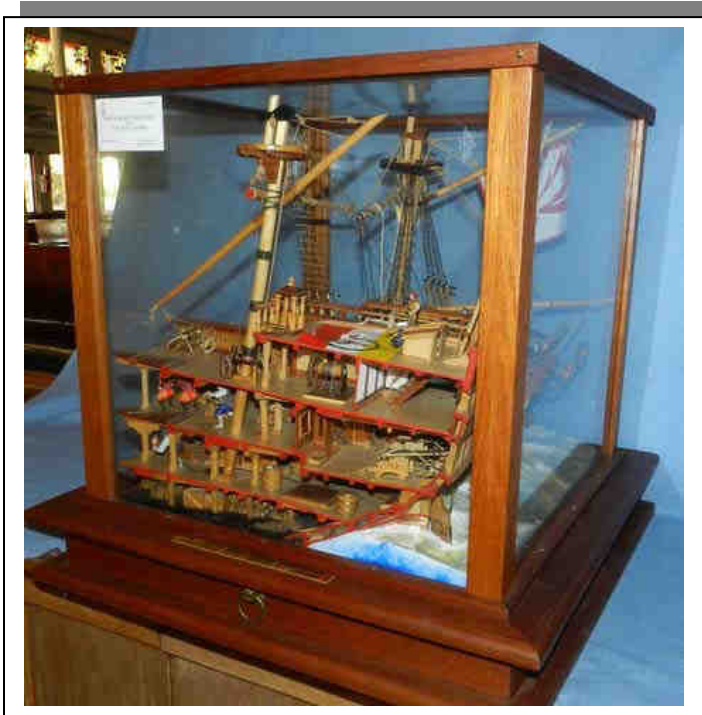


Don Dressel's WOODY JOE-View of the open stern

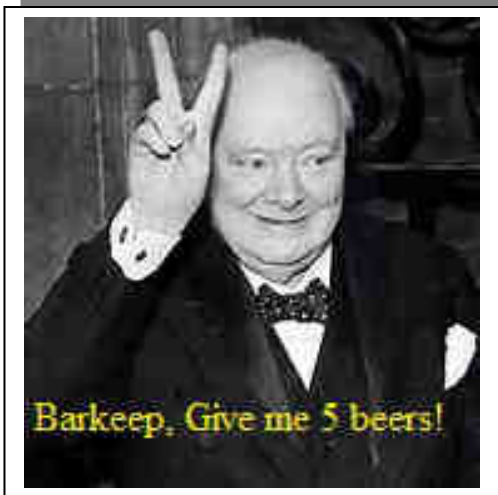




## SHOW AND TELL-Continued



Jay MacMaster's FINAL BATTLE Diorama  
Photos by John Wickman



A Roman and his four buddies walk into a bar....wait...stop me if you have heard this one.



Robert Hewitt's booty from ROCKLER Swap Meet  
Photo by John Wickman

# TIPS AND HINTS

From Jon Sanford.

## Tip of the Month - Coloring Rigging Line

### Here is an interesting tip on coloring rigging from Bluejacket

Some kits come with line that is black and tan, or black and white. Actual observation is that tarred rigging (standing rigging) is actually a very very dark brown color. The running rigging is generally a more or less pale tan color, depending on the fiber used (mostly hemp up through the early 1900's.) So, quite a few modelers stain their rigging line to make their models look more realistic.

Modelers are an inventive bunch. While Googling for ways to stain rigging line, I came up with nine different ways people do this. I'm sure there are probably nine dozen more ways, but these are all good solid solutions. Although several people use coffee or tea, they contain acids and I would stay away from those methods.

One method that came up multiple times is to use RIT fabric dye. An extra tip is to add some Kodak Photo-Flo to the water to reduce surface tension, letting the dye penetrate into the fibers better. As with all water-based stains, the line has to dry before you wind it on a spool or card.

Minwax wood stain was another popular choice, as was "General Finishes" brand of water-based wood stain. The famous author and modeler Underhill used shellac to color his lines.

One person uses colored beeswax, which a Google search revealed that it is readily available, and used in candles. Talk about killing two birds with one stone! Color and wax at once.



Thinned down oil and acrylic paints also came up frequently, especially because of the almost infinite variety of colors.

Personally, I have used two methods. In the past, I would get Kiwi liquid shoe polish, made sure the foam applicator was soaked in the polish then run the line across it. Like beeswax, you get the benefit of doing two things at once, since the shoe polish has wax in it.

My current method is to buy Prismacolor brand artist markers, and run the line across the tip. Most craft stores carry this brand. I find the "sand" color #70 is a good hemp shade. Being artists supply, I am reasonably sure the colors won't fade out.

(Courtesy of BLUEJACKET Ship Crafters)



## Guild Master's Corner

Greetings all,

I made it home from Japan safe and sound and I am now fighting the jet lag battle. I brought a few items home which I will be sharing with the Guild at the next meeting and over the course of the next couple of Newsletters. As I mentioned last month, I once again had the opportunity to attend the 39<sup>th</sup> Exhibition of The Rope. I took well over 200 pictures and will be turning those into a DVD to share during the June Guild meeting. I will also be writing a 2 part series on my experiences with The Rope. I was also able to pick up a hard to get Woody Joe model kit of a traditional Japanese barge from the Edo Period called a Higaki Kaisen. **Don Dressel** has been building this model and brought it in for display during the last Guild Meeting. I am excited to get started on mine.

The San Diego County Fair is just around the corner and the deadline for display entries was 2 May. I personally entered my 18<sup>th</sup> Century Longboat as I know a few other members did. We are also in need of a few more volunteers to either man the booth or help with set up and take down.

Finally, I want to congratulate our First Mate **Mike Lonnecker** who has just been named to a Director position for the Nautical Research Guild. Well done Mike! Hope we have a Conference here on the west coast soon.

Our next Guild Meeting is on Wednesday, 14 at 6:00pm onboard the steam ferry Berkeley. Please bring a Show and Tell item. Our next Community Build meeting will be held on Saturday, 10 May at 10:30am at **Mike Lonnecker's** house.

Bob Riddoch

*Bob Riddoch*

<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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

MAY 2014

COMMUNITY BUILD