



OFFICERS

Guild Master  
(Acting)

Mike Lonnecker  
address redacted

First Mate

Vacant

Purser

Gary Seaton  
address redacted

Editor

Chuck Seiler  
address redacted

Log Keeper

Bob McPhail

Webmeister

Barry Rishel  
address redacted

Established in 1972

by

Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

## BOB RIDDOCH STEPS DOWN AS GUILDMASTER

As I was preparing the December newsletter, we received news that **Bob Riddoch** would be stepping down as Guildmaster. Bob was not at the last guild meeting because he was back in the Boston area taking care of family issues. Apparently the issues could not be readily resolved and he has already moved. From Bob:

"All,

I have reached the conclusion that I will be unable to fulfill my duties as Guild Master. Family issues back east have forced me to make a drastic move. Letty and I are moving to Boston immediately. This has been a difficult decision and one that I hope you can all understand.

It has been a true pleasure leading the Guild these past 3 years and I know that we will all be seeing and talking with each other soon.

On a positive note, you will have an inside man in the Constitution Guild.

Bob"

First Mate **Mike Lonnecker** will take over as Guildmaster until the March election. Mike wants to have a discussion on the way ahead at the December meeting. It is requested that Guild officers get to the meeting by 5:30PM in order to hold an officers council before the general meeting.

### 12 November 2014 Meeting

The San Diego Ship Modelers Guild November meeting was kicked off at 6PM onboard the ferry BERKELEY. First Mate **Mike Lonnecker** chaired the meeting due to Guildmaster **Bob Riddoch's** absence. There were seventeen members in attendance, including three new members.

Continued on page 2



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

# SHOW AND TELL

My heartfelt thanks to **Robert Hewitt** who stepped in as this month's photographer. All show and tell pictures were taken with his cell phone camera.



HMS Janus (44 gun frigate)  
Robert Hewitt  
Scratch built  
1"=40 feet

The eighteen pound guns on the lower deck were turned on my moto- tool (We-Cheer) from .09 inch square pear wood. The barrels were made long enough to exit the gun ports. The square stock was left on the end and glued to the deck. The upper gun deck was then glued in place. This deck had twenty-two nine pound guns. Twelve were made as dummies that are beneath the upper deck and forecastle. These were made and glued the same as the in the lower gun deck. The other ten were made as close to the real guns as possible at this scale. Two long strips of .01 holly are glued at each end to a 3"x5" card, and then .01 trapezoid pieces are glued to the strips. The sides of the guns are added. At this point they are all painted yellow. The gun barrels are turned on the We Cheer. These are painted black and glued to the carriages. The assemblies are cut off and pear wood discs .02" diameter representing the wheels and are glued to the two axles. Each gun consists of eighteen wood pieces and six wire pieces simulating the rigging.

The belfry, charley noble, and the riding bits have been added to the forecastle. The two six pound guns are also added. The hatch grating, ladders and capstan are installed in the ships waist.

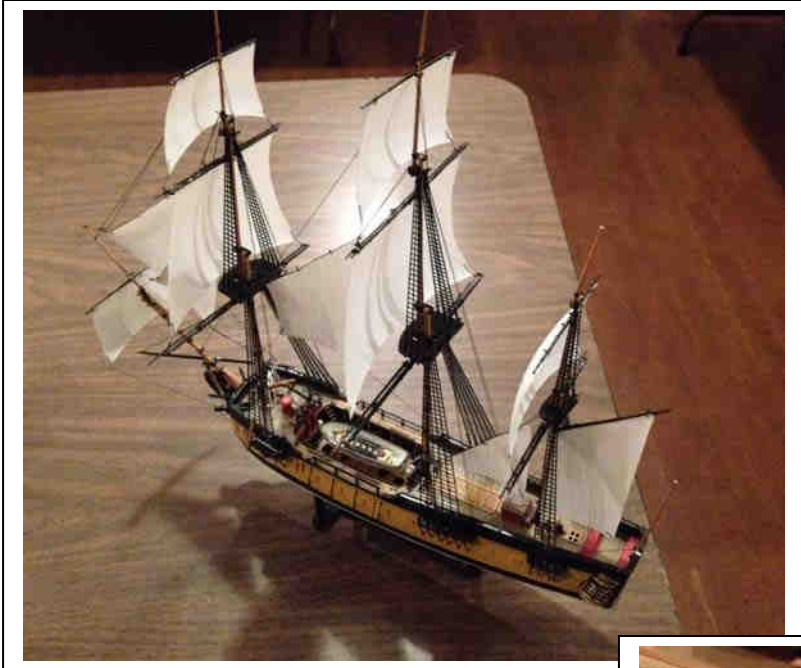


Hewitt adds realistic figurehead carvings to JANUS.



Hewitt's jig for making hatch gratings in micro scale

SHOW AND TELL-Continued



Isaac Wills'  
Spanish frigate LA FLORE (top),

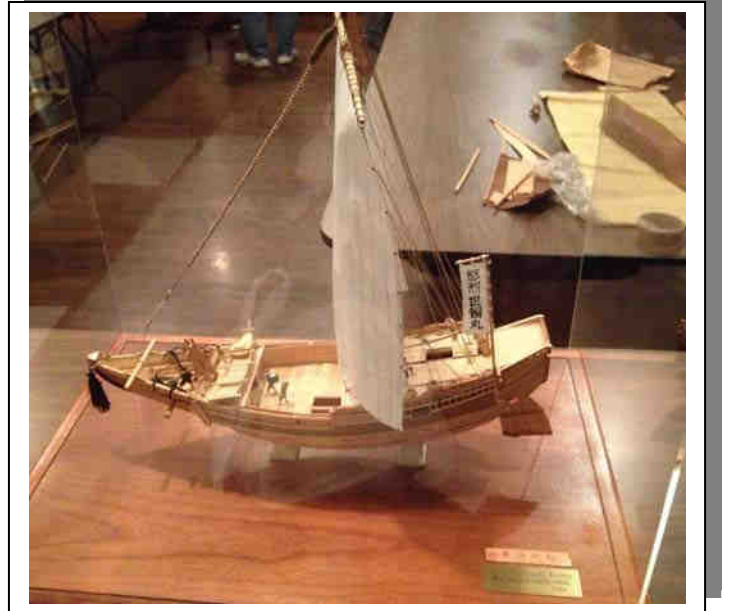
HMS VICTORY (right)

HMS BOUNTY (Bottom)





SHOW AND TELL-Continued



Don Dressel's HIGAKI KAISEN is finally complete. Don says it was a fun kit to build. Japanese cedar gives off a wonderful smell. It cut and works well. The kit itself was a joy to build, even though the instructions were in Japanese.

The jolly boat (on the bow) was not included in the kit. It was built from scratch using plans from the internet, using Japanese construction.



Bob McAllister brought in a number of plans. I believe the model is of the FLYING FISH

SHOW AND TELL-Continued



Some of the Museum's model restoration projects



Restoration project in progress.



## FAIR AMERICAN BUILD

By Mike Lonnecker

Last year I entered my model of the Fair American in the NRG photo contest and was fortunate enough to win a gold medal. As a result of this Paul Fontenoy asked me to write an article about how the model was built. I wrote the article and it was recently published in the NRJ. As many of our members are not members of the NRG (you should be) I thought I would from time to time reproduce portions of the article that might be of interest. The first installment is below.

### BUILDING the FAIR AMERICAN 1780

Scale: 1:48

By Mike Lonnecker



After finishing my first model I started looking for a new project. I had seen many photos of Fair American models and found it a very attractive ship, or in this case, model. I liked the overall shape and the oversized rig and highly curved sheer gave it a very balanced look to me. There is speculative information concerning the Fair American and little about her actual looks. A 1:32 scale model in the Rodgers collection at Annapolis defines what she looked like and provides the most definitive information. I

## FAIR AMERICAN BUILD-Continued

started looking around for more information and possibly for a kit to build. I found two kits. The first was from Model Shipways. It was a plank on bulkhead fully rigged model in 1:48 scale. The plans were also posted on the internet. The plans were by Erik Ronnberg Jr. and provided lots of detail. The second kit was by Lauck Street Shipyard. This kit was plank on frame, but only provided the basic hull, deck framing and some basic deck furniture. During the search for a kit, I found a CD of a book "Progressive Scratch Building in Ship Modeling" written by Clay Feldman M.D. describing his scratch build of a 1:32 scale model of the Fair American. He did an exhaustive search for information about the full size ship. The reader may want to consult his book to learn more about the Fair American. The information about the model was quite complete including sparring and rigging. His model was plank on frame. My first model was 1:48 and I wanted to stick with this scale/size model. I also wanted to expand my skills and try a plank on frame model. Another consideration was to scratch build or kit build. The Lauck Street Shipyard kit offered a little of each as I felt in order to get the best impression of the ship it had to be fully rigged.

While searching for the new project I was reading a couple of books by David Antschrel. "The fully Framed Model, HMN Swan Class Sloops 1767-1780" which contains detailed information on how almost every part of the real Swan Class was built and assembled. These books inspired me to want to include as much interior detail in my model as I could. Consulting books by Lavery, Goodwin, Chapelle, and Petrejus convinced me I could do this. Proportioning of the interior proved to be an interesting task and made me feel like a real master shipwright. As I describe the construction of the interior I will relate how these sources were used.

### **GETTING STARTED**

To get started I ordered the Feldman CD, the Lauck Street Shipyard kit and downloaded the Ronnberg drawings. The keel, fore and aft deadwoods and framing of the basic hull structure was built upside down Hahn style following the kit instructions. The cherry wood in the kit was of high quality, so it was used. The gun ports were CNC'd blocks. They were installed and faired on the outside along with the outside of the hull. The wales were added to stabilize the framing. The stern framing was added in accordance with the instructions. The lower counter was also planked at this time. Fairing of the inside of the hull was a real challenge. I tried every sanding tool in my box. Finally settling on a small sanding disk with stick on disks of about 180 grit in a motor tool with right angle head. This combination had to be used at a moderate speed with very light pressure. Work proceeded with strokes from the keel parallel with the frame. This was a very slow process with lots of measuring to insure consistent frame taper and thickness. The topsides were planked and the gun ports cut out. At this point I sawed the hull from the build board and trimmed the timberheads to the sheer line. To this point everything had been done to the kit instructions and with an eye to the Ronnberg drawings.

PART 2 will be in an upcoming Newsletter



## Meeting Minutes for 12 November 2014

### Guild Meeting

Contributed by Bob McPhail

**Mike Lonnecker** opened the meeting. There were two new members present. The father/son team of **Robert** and his son **Isaac Wills** decided to join the Guild after their first meeting as guests last month. The other new member's name was **Bob McAllister**.

**Purser's Report:** **Gary Seaton** reported the balance as of 31 October was \$<redacted>.

**Editor's Report:** **Chuck Seiler** mentioned that he would like any submissions for the newsletter sent two weeks before the next monthly meeting. Ideas were

discussed to increase the size of the newsletter. These include people actually writing articles, coming up with modeling tips and generally anything other modelers might want to learn about. This does not include cut out articles from newspapers. Chuck requested that everyone getting the newsletter electronically should reply to Chuck to verify current membership and email address.

**Museum Report:** **Dr. Kevin Sheehan** provided a report to the membership. He discussed the work of model restoration and cleaning currently being conducted by several guild members including: **Bill Norris** and **Ron Render** and **Jon Sanford**. He acknowledged the fine work they are doing and gave them a WELL DONE! Dr. Sheehan also mentioned that the 1:1 ship replica SAN SALVADOR is almost ready for launching. He did not give the exact date but an estimate was given for the first part of January.

The Community Build program was discussed. Meeting dates are the second Saturday of each month. If anyone would like to attend, please contact the guild master if you need directions to Mike's house. Projects currently being considered for construction are the SYREN and/or YACHT MARY.

**Mike Lonnecker** talked about the just completed NRG Conference. It was held at St. Louis, Missouri. There were several interesting speakers and topics covered: River Boat Restoration and Stern Wheelers. Round Table topics included: trim piece fabrication, 3-D printing, and painting friezes. The next conference will be held at MYSTIC, Connecticut, October 22-24, 2015. Don Dressel mentioned that membership in the NRG is not required in order to attend the convention.

Parking along Harbor Drive was discussed. It was reported that meters on the "water side" are in effect until 8 PM.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Holiday (December) meeting was discussed. Guild members are encouraged to bring guests, any desserts they wish to share, and ship models for show and tell. It will be a regular meeting but food/soft drinks will be provided.



**Chuck Seiler** reported that he had received word that **Richard Strange**, a past Guild member, passed away. It was also reported that he requested that he be cremated and his ashes scattered at sea. Richard was a former Guild Purser as well as treasurer of the Nautical Research Guild.

As noted in the November newsletter, HOBBY MILL is going out of business. HOBBY MILL will still take orders until the end of the year or sooner if wood supplies are depleted. (Note: As of 02 December, **Jeff Hayes** is still taking orders, but he is out of Holly, Beech, Apple, Ebony and Redheart. He has plenty of boxwood and pear, but if you order now, expect deliver some tie in July. Alot of people are stocking up.

**Don Dressel** and **Lloyd Warner** were voted life membership in the NRG. Don served fourteen years as one of the Directors.

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## SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Guild's annual Christmas Party will be held on the Berkley December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Bring your spouse and/or sweetheart and your model (the ship kind). Jon "The Santa" Sanford will be providing appetizer/snacks and drinks. Hopefully we will also have a couple of surprise activities. We will have the usual business meeting and show and tell. Please everyone bring a model even if shown before or you have made no progress.

Merry Christmas, See Ya There.

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Your Article Here

# November Community Build

by Mike Lonnecker

The November Community Build Group met at **Mike Lonnecker's** house on the second Sat of the month. In attendance were **Brian Davies, JayMacMaster** and **Mike Lonnecker**.

Brian brought in his scratch built Yatch Mary. He showed lots of built up frames, but admitted he has many to go. We discussed how to best cut the frames to final size.

Jay had several items to discuss. The first was a motor support to help repair the model shop lathe. He will take to the shop and install. The second was a stack of newsletter back issues. These will be turned over to Newsletter editor **Chuck Seiler**. Last but not least was his build of the kit Syrene. Since his last showing he has installed some nice looking thru hull blocks. We discussed how these were done in the real ships. Jay also plans to turn his own carronade barrels. Mike brought in as new tool he found at the recent NRG convention. It is a set of about 20 punches with diameters from approx .015 inch up to .08 inch. The tips of the punches are concave so that when press into wood leave a nice ring impression with no danger of removing the center plug. Great for simulated trunnels.

Mike Lonnecker



## FROM THE HELM

As you can see from the headlines Bob Riddoch has resigned as Guild master. Family business and health concerns for his mother have forced him to move back to Boston. On behalf of the Guild, I want to thank him for all the great work he did for the guild, both as Guild Master and as a member. Bob, you will be missed.

In accordance with the bylaws I will assume the duties of Guild Master until the next regularly scheduled elections. This has come on me rather suddenly; therefore I can't give a great speech or make lots of promises. One thing that is on my mind is how to increase activity of all the members, at meetings, demos, and as inspired modelers. If you have any ideas or thoughts about what you want from the club please let me know. I hope to contact as many members as I can to discuss this personally.

I have asked Chuck to include my phone number on the newsletter header. If you have thoughts about the club or just want to talk, please use it.

Bon Voyage Bob and Merry Christmas to all.

*Mike Lonnecker*

Mike Lonnecker  
Guild Master

<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

Next meeting is  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**10 DECEMBER 2014**  
5:30 PM- Social.  
5:30 PM Officer's Council  
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			

DECEMBER 2014

COMMUNITY BUILD  
@ Mike Lonnecker's

-FINIS-