



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive San Diego, CA 92101

DECEMBER 2015

NEWSLETTER

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OFFICERS

Guild Master

Mike Lonnecker
address redacted

First Mate

Lee Greene
address redacted

Purser

Gary Seaton
address redacted

Editor

Chuck Seiler
address redacted

Log Keeper

Bob McPhail

SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

Webmeister

Barry Rishel
address redacted

Presentations Coordinator

Peter Jaquith
address redacted

Established in 1972 by
Bob Wright and Russ
Merrill

Non-Minutes of the 10 November Non-Meeting

The 10 November Guild meeting was cancelled due to parking issues, 12 people still showed up.

I was notified by **Jon Sanford** (email) on 09 November that parking in the vicinity of the Museum would be dicey Tuesday night (10 November) due to preparations for the 11 November Veteran's Day Parade. He got the info from signs posted on Harbor Drive. After I read the email early Monday evening, I sent an email to the membership warning of parking issues. It is unfortunate we received this information at such a late date. It gave us little opportunity to plan/consider our options. **Bob McPhail** attempted to get some details from the city/county but was unsuccessful. This was an unfortunate dilemma.

Tuesday, First Mate (acting Guild Master) **Lee Greene** consulted me regarding a course of action. His concern, rightly so, was when faced with a popular/large Hornblower event earlier in the year, parking was also very restricted. Many people could not find parking and went home after having driven all the way downtown. Should we proceed or cancel? Based on the limited information we had at the time, that ALL of Harbor Drive was affected, I recommended cancel. Lee agreed and he put the word out. Unfortunately, but the time we reached this conclusion, it was afternoon.

Knowing that some would not get the word, I went to the Museum to scope out the situation and if I could find a reasonable spot, let people know what was going on. I work on Point Loma so it's not far out of the way. If I couldn't find reasonable parking...they'd figure it out. I found parking!

It appears that some of the parking marked for closure was not closed. The signs for the parking north of the museum were turned over...parking was permitted for at least a little while. I never did find out how long. All told, 11 other members showed up. **Doug Yumoto** parked on Ash and walked over. **Barry Rishel** and others parked in the Ace lot for \$10. **Brian Davies** showed up after months of not being able to attend. Sorry Brian. **Don Bienvenue** showed up after a long hiatus from the Guild and brought his model of TITANIC. Sorry Don.

Many of us stuck around and chatted until shortly after 6PM, watching workers set up the bleachers for the next day and watching hundreds of Marines in their dress blues walk by. It was the Marine Corps birthday and they were leaving a formal birthday bash somewhere on the waterfront. Another day in Paradise.



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

<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

A Mystic Journey by Gary Seaton

This article really began last year, though you are not likely interested in that part. Diane and I went on a driving trip into New England that included a stop in Mystic, CT. One of my great pleasures includes reading about and working on models of 18th and 19th century wooden ships so I made sure the trip included Mystic. I loved wandering around the city and the Seaport museum, etc. so I was ecstatic when the NRG board selected Mystic as the location of the national conference for this year--a second trip to Mystic in as many years!

(Another parenthetical note: the annual NRG conference will be in San Diego in 2016!)

The NRG conference committee had arranged for special in-depth tours for attendees on Thursday, the first day. We saw some of the ongoing activities of the Henry B DuPont Shipyard, toured the *Charles W. Morgan*, examined the special collections of models, plans, books, videos, photos, etc. in the Seaport's Collections Research Center, and were shown the many small boats in the Watercraft collection in the center's boat hall.

Fine collection models on display:



Topsail Schooner *HANNAH*
Built by William F. Wiseman

Scale 1/4":1' (1:48).
Built in approximately 3,008 hours

Materials: Apple handles on swivel guns

Birdseye maple windlass and treenails
Ebony wales, transom framing, dead eyes, bull eyes and sheaves in blocks
English hornbeam planking above gunwales, transom planking, quarterdeck
bulwarks, block cheeks and mast hoops
European plum planking below gunwales, barrel and anchor buoy
Holly sails, belfry and figurine
Red beech quarterdeck bulwarks
Redgum masts, spars, channels, posts for swivel guns, treenails, etc.
Walnut frames, bulwark frames, keel, stem, stern post, rudder, hatches, etc.
White beech deck planking and tiller

Scratch built plank-on-frame to plans by Harold Hahn depicting the 1790 American warship. All the blocks have ebony sheaves turning on brass pins. The sails on Hannah represent the next step in the challenge to make sails naturalistic shape. Made of thin panels of wood glued together with "tap" edges and boltropes sewn on, they are thinner and much more deeply curved than the wood sails on Al Bahran of 1986. Reef bands and reef points have been added. Most remarkable, the foretopsail has a three-dimensional compound curve; that is, it billows naturalistically (the fore-and-aft sails

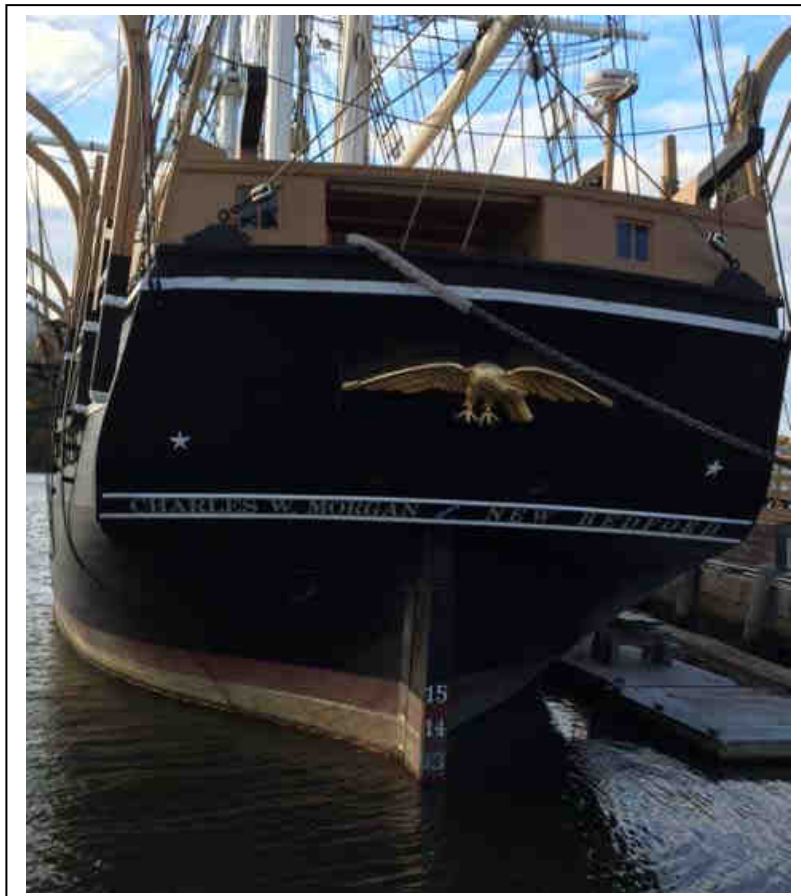
Contact/visit the Mystic Seaport for much more detailed information regarding the collections, etc. at:

<http://library.mysticseaport.org>

A MYSTIC JOURNEY-Continued

Friday was centered on the presentations and “technical sessions” by friendly and informative modelers who were willing to share some ideas and skills learned from their work. David Antscherl offered some “Rigging tips and tricks” including creating served strops and splicing a line eye, regular and served. Kurt VanDahm discussed airbrush basics, and Chuck Passaro presented his current inexpensive rope serving tool. Nick Damuck, from Blue Jacket Inc., showed how he creates silk span sails for models and Steve Wheeler talked about modeling clinker-built boats and demonstrated a jib for creating oars for his models. Throughout the two days of presentations, the vendor room was open and available for viewing models and making purchases. This allowed me to locate and purchase one more Howard Chapelle book (this time on the history of The American Sailing Navy) and a booklet on creating sails for models by David Antscherl.

Saturday started with presentations from Seaport staff on (1) primary and secondary research materials available through the Collections Research Center; and (2) a summary of the original restoration and recent upgrade of the whaling ship, Charles W. Morgan. Dr. Kroum Batchvarov of the Institute of Nautical Archeology presented original research on the discovery and identification of a 17th century Bulgarian shipwreck in the Black Sea. The conference ended with a membership meeting and final conference dinner and awards of the NRG photo contest. I was hurrying to catch a plane in Boston so I personally missed the last activities—darn!!





FROM THE HELM

Left full rudder! All Stop! Abandon Ship!!!! Well, that sure was the kind of month it was last month. Because of the meeting cancellation (as discussed on page 1) a number of issues, burning or otherwise, were not covered. They are presented here for your information and action, as appropriate.

Guild Christmas/Holiday Party. It's a pizza Christmas Charlie Brown!! The December meeting will be a regular meeting, truncated by moments of merriment and pizza (if anyone volunteers to bring the pizza). For planning purposes, let **Mike Lonnecker** and **Lee Greene** know if you plan on coming to the meeting and if you plan to bring a guest. Guests are welcome.

Voting on the By-Laws. The first formal voting for the changes in the by-laws has been moved to the December meeting. Consult your November newsletter for details. **Bob McPhail** reports only 5 persons sent their ballot to him prior to the November non-meeting. Two thirds (the required percentage of "Yes" votes to pass) of the membership is roughly 35.

With only 20 or people coming to the meetings, even if all voted YES, we would still fall short of the required number to pass. **However**, election protocol says that if the membership vote at the meeting gets 2/3 YES but does not get the a total of 2/3 of the membership voting in total, we vote again the next month, requiring 2/3 YES *only of those votes cast*. **Let's put this thing behind us and vote NOW.** If you voted already, you need not vote again (unless you want to change your vote).

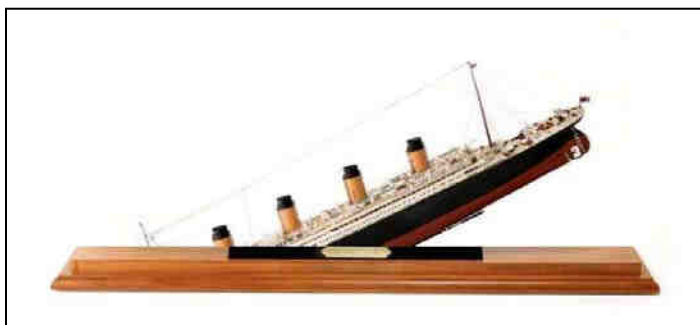
Presentation. Because of the November disruption and the Guild party in December, presentations have been pushed back. The program schedule for 1st quarter 2016 includes:

--January '16 – Iron Navy Camouflage Systems by **Bob McPhail**

--February '16 – Modeling the *Fair American* by **Bob Costa**

We are currently planning presentations for March '16 and beyond. If you have a subject of interest to fellow guild members, please contact **Pete Jaquith** at the e-mail address noted below. Please include your presentation title, a short description, and computer and audio visual support requirements.

mp♦



Don Bienvenue's TITANIC



We few, we happy few assemble in front of the Museum for the non-meeting:

Chuck Seiler, Bob McPhail, Brian Davies, Doug Yumoto, Barry Rishel, Don Vienvue, Dave Yotter, Don Dressel, Jay MacMaster, Robert Hewitt, Royce Privett, Bill Grolz, with a special guest appearance by Al Sorkin.

<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

Next meeting is
TUESDAY
08 DECEMBER 2015
5:30 PM- Social
5:45 Officer's Meeting
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 2015

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