



# San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive San Diego, CA 92101

June 2016 NEWSLETTER VOLUME 44, NO. VI

## OFFICERS

### Guild Master

Pete Jaquith  
address redacted

### First Mate

Jon Sanford  
address redacted

### Purser

Gary Seaton  
address redacted

### Editor

Guy Lawrie  
address redacted

### Log Keeper

Bob McPhail  
address redacted

## SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

### Webmaster

Barry Rishel-  
address redacted

### Presentations Coordinator

Pete Jaquith  
address redacted

Established in 1972 by  
Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

## MINUTES OF 10 MAY 2016 GUILD MEETING

Guild Master **Pete Jaquith** was out of town and in his stead First Mate **Jon Sanford** opened the meeting on board the Steam Ferry *BERKELEY*. Twenty-three members were in attendance including three new members that came aboard this meeting. Joining the guild are **Deward (Dewey) Houck, Bob Kyle, and Ed Torrance. Welcome Aboard, mates!** We look forward to getting to know you all and your ship modeling interests!

**Editor's Report:** Editor **Guy Lawrie** reported that the newsletter welcomes submissions and articles from members and anything of interest can be forwarded to his email address. He also reported that the newsletter is shared with several other ship modeling associations around the country and our guild shares their informative newsletters. **Lawrie** again urged any member having difficulty receiving the newsletter to contact him. **Lawrie** reported that an updated "Join Our Guild!" flyer and redacted newsletter has been posted at Discount Hobby Warehouse located on Clairemont Mesa Blvd in San Diego. If a member knows of any other location that might support a similar posting, please contact any of the guild officers for current documentation. In this same vein, there was a brief discussion regarding continuing efforts to promote our guild outside the membership. **Isaac W.** responded to this discussion by referring a possible speaking engagement with his ROTC unit. Any member with interest in speaking to this wonderful group of young people can contact any guild officer for further detail.

**Webmaster's Report:** **Guy Lawrie** is coordinating the maintenance of the website with much appreciated aid from Web Master **Barry Rishel who has retired and is leaving the area in the very near future. Our thanks and may the wind be at your back, Barry.** **Lawrie** asked Members to submit pictures of their ship models for inclusion on the website. **Lawrie** reported that the website was visited at its highest a recorded level over the last month and that he will continue to report web activity in future meetings.

*Continued on Page 2*

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



<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

**MINUTES-Continued from Page 1**

**Purser's Report:** Gary Seaton gave a brief report indicating a positive balance as of May 1.

**Presentations Report:** Jon Sanford reported there are no future presentations currently scheduled. Ideas, mates? Possibilities discussed: SD tuna fleet / Portuguese House of Hospitality, favorite sea story or tall tale, favorite ship modeling techniques?

**Maritime Museum Collection Manager Kevin Sheehan, PhD** was unable to attend the meeting.

**New Business:** Former Guild Master Mike Lonnecker reported that the upcoming NRG conference that is scheduled in San Diego during October '16 is well into its planning stages and registration will be online in the very near future. (Ed. Note: registration is now online at [www.thenrg.org](http://www.thenrg.org) From the "Home" page, click "NRG Events", then click "NRG 2016 Annual Conference in San Diego") Mike reported that conference details will be found on the NRG website. Gary Seaton volunteered to look into dining opportunities for attendees and Jon Sanford volunteered to put to-gether a list of places of interest in San Diego for attendees to visit in addition to the world class SD Maritime Museum.

**New Business continued:** The Dana Point request for display case assistance was closed due in part to travel distances from San Diego. Jon Sanford distributed some surplus screwdrivers to anybody interested. Don Bienvenue volunteered as Electronic Media Coordinator with Jon Sanford backing him up when he is unable to attend meetings.

**San Diego County Fair:** Bill Grolz reported that the fair booth planning is finalized for the San Diego County Fair which runs from June 3 to July 4. Many fine mini-ships built for the fair giveaway contest were brought to the meeting. See page 4 for pictures of these remarkable mini-ships that were built to give away to young visitors at the guild fair booth, every participant in the build is to be commended. Though selecting a winner for the contest was a challenge of its own, John Wickman was selected as the winner. John's creative idea in making partially completed mini-ships that can be put into small bags with instructions for completion by the youngster is outstanding for its goal of inspiring young modelers. (Ed. Note: John Wickman and Jon Sanford are working hard to assemble the kits. Other members including Howard Griffus are working on other giveaways, too!) Not to despair, in recognition of every participant, pizza is on the menu for the June meeting, bring your appetite!

**Scuttlebutt:** Look to the last page for Chuck Seiler's light hearted and helpful "The Top Answers to Frequently Asked Questions at the Del Mar Faire"

**Next meeting is  
14 JUNE 2016**

**5:30 PM- Social  
5:30 Officer's Meeting  
6:00 PM Meeting  
Bring a Model!  
Bring a Tale, Taller the  
Better!**

June 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	<b>14</b>	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30		



# From the Helm

By Guild Master

Pete Jaquith

First Mate **Jon Sanford** ran the May meeting as I was not able to attend. I was at a National Shipbuilding Research Program meeting in Biloxi, MS where we discussed programs for reducing the cost of naval shipbuilding. I will give a brief report on this topic at our June meeting.

At our May meeting **Don Bienvenue** gave a fine in depth presentation on *Modeling HMS Queen Mary*, the historic Atlantic liner now preserved in Long Beach, CA. **Don** is doing a fine job on his *HMS Queen Mary* and this was a very interesting presentation. I want to thank **Don** for sharing his work with the guild and his ongoing contribution to our club.

**Guy Lawrie** has volunteered to manage the SDSMG Web Site and has worked with **Barry Rishel** to take over this duty. **Don Bienvenue** has volunteered to be our Electronics Coordinator with **Jon Stanford** as his backup. I want to thank **Guy, Don, and Jon** for taking on these important tasks and I also thank **Barry** for all his assistance over the past year. We are still looking for a Meeting Program Coordinator; remember this is your guild so please step forward if you are able.

I want to thank **Jon Sanford, John Wickman**, and the many other guild members who designed and built the mini-models to be passed out to kids at the San Diego County Fair. We will have pizza at our June meeting to celebrate their contribution.

With the San Diego County Fair now underway, I want to thank **Bill Grolz** for his work in organizing our volunteers. In October we have the Nautical Research Guild Conference. **Mike Lonnecker** is coordinating this event, so please prepare to assist **Mike** when requested. For the NRG Conference we will need ship models, so please consider entering your models so we can show off our work.

There will be no presentation at our next meeting and we are looking for members to step forward with presentations for the July meeting and beyond. At the June meeting we have a large variety of turned wood shapes to pass out, and bring your models for our usual "show and tell".

See you at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting,

*Pete Jaquith*

Guild Master

# Show and Tell

## Fair Giveaway Mini-ship Entries

by Guild Members including Jon Sanford, Isaac Wills, Don Dressel, Mike Lonnecker, Howard Griffus, and Jay MacMaster

My apologies to those I missed, please excuse my poor note taking. Honorable Mention goes to Chuck Seiler for his well-planned and executed paper boat!

Amazing effort by all builders!



Honorable Mention, Chuck!



The Winner!

C'mon budding modelers, build the *Star of India* or perhaps a Coastal Schooner!



Nicely done, John Wickman!



**Show and Tell** —continued from page 4

### ***USS Porter (DD-356)***

by **Don Dressel**

**Blue Water Navy  
Resin Model Kit**

**Scale: 1/350**

**Don** told how he built his model of the *Porter* a number of years ago when he was taking a break from making wooden ships. **Don** spoke of the work to correct



the imperfections of working with resin and prepping the material for the painting took a lot of time and effort. Never the less, **Don** reported he had a lot of fun building the model. **Dave Yotter** reported in the Orange County Ship Modelers Association (SMA) May 2016 Newsletter on the history of the *Porter* which he attributed to his search in Wikipedia. Please refer to that newsletter to read the interesting history from the *Porter's* naming and 1936 commissioning to its sinking during action northeast of Guadalcanal in the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands in 1942. One can just imagine this brave ship cutting through the high seas at 35 knots!



### **WHALEBOAT** by **Royce Privett**

**Model Shipways Kit**

**Scale: 3/4"= 1' 1:16**

**Royce** points out the progress on his basswood and beech whaleboat as **Don Dressel** and **David Yotter** look on. The details added to the build include: 1. thwarts and thwart knees; 2. cuddy boards, lions tongue, and loggerhead; 3. standing cleats; 4. foot brace; 5. lifting strap; 6. peak cleats; 7. thigh board with clumsy cleat; 8. bow box with chock pins; 9. harpoon chock; 10. preventer cleats and rowlock pads; 11. rudder and tiller; and 12. bow roller. Wonderful build, **Royce!**

Show and Tell —continued from page 5

***San Salvador*, a paper based kit found on a website referred to in the San Diego Maritime Museum book, “*San Salvador—Cabrillo’s Galleon of Discovery*”**

**By Isaac Wills**

As **Robert Wills** looks on, **Isaac** provides an update on his paper based project, *San Salvador*, first reported in the April newsletter. Isaac reported at that time that he found the web site kit “a remarkably entertaining kit”. He is making fine progress working with this challenging medium and shows his progress with the stem, sternpost, and wales.

Needing a diversion earlier in the month, Isaac saw a picture of the *Queen Mary* and decided to produce his freehand drawing. No idle hands here! Now he can compare it to **Don Bienvenue’s** presentation model of the *Queen Mary* that set the standard for mid-20th century ocean liners.

**Isaac’s freehand drawing of the *Queen Mary***



**Don Bienvenue holds his model of the *Queen Mary***



**Doug Yumoto** talks about building his \$2 tool to mark waterlines and other hull furnishings as **Jay MacMaster** listens in. A penny saved!



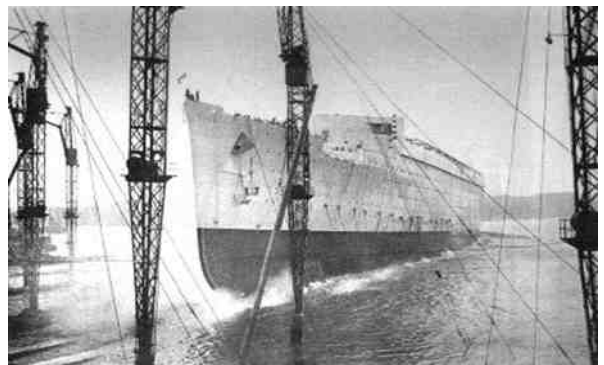
# Presentation Program

## *RMS Queen Mary, a Luxury Liner* by Don Bienvenue

Revelle plastic model kit enhanced by after-market photo etched parts, primarily railings

Scale: 1/570

Don opened his slide show presentation with a brief historical perspective of the *RMS Queen Mary*; named after King George's consort, Queen Mary, starting with construction beginning in 1930. Don discussed how the ship construction was impacted by the Great Depression resulting in the merging of the two British companies, White Star Line and Cunard on condition of the British Government financial support for the project. Another condition for the government support was that the ship could be conscripted by the government in the event of national emergency. The ship was launched in



September of 1934 and made its maiden voyage to New York in May of 1936. Though the *Queen Mary* briefly competed with its rival French liner the *Normandie* for the trans Atlantic speed record in 1936, the *Queen Mary* set the record in 1936 which she held until taken by the U.S. ship, the *United States*.



During WW II, *Queen Mary* and her sister ship, *Queen Elizabeth*, were converted to troop carriers and transported troops from the Pacific and North America to Europe. Don talked about how the *Queen Mary* was repainted navy grey and because of her speed she was often called the "Grey Ghost". The *Queen Mary* survived the threat of German U-Boats though she had an incident with an escort cruiser when she sliced through it costing 239 lives that were aboard the cruiser. In December 1942, *Queen Mary* carried 16,082 American soldiers from New York to Great Britain and during this trip she was struck by a rogue wave estimated at a height of 92 feet that almost capsized her. This story eventually inspired the book, "The Poseidon Adventure", by Paul Gallico.

Continued on Page 8

**Presentation Program—continued from page 7**

The *Queen Mary* returned to passenger service until she completed her final 1,000th crossing of the North Atlantic on September 27, 1967. She sailed on around Cape Horn arriving at her final port in Long Beach, CA on December 9, 1967. In Long Beach, she was converted into a tourist attraction with a hotel, restaurants, and a museum. The *Queen Mary* can be found there still and is a well-visited attraction. Further information on her long and storied history can be found in her museum or many other sources.



Arrival in NYC, U.S.A. after the final North Atlantic crossing



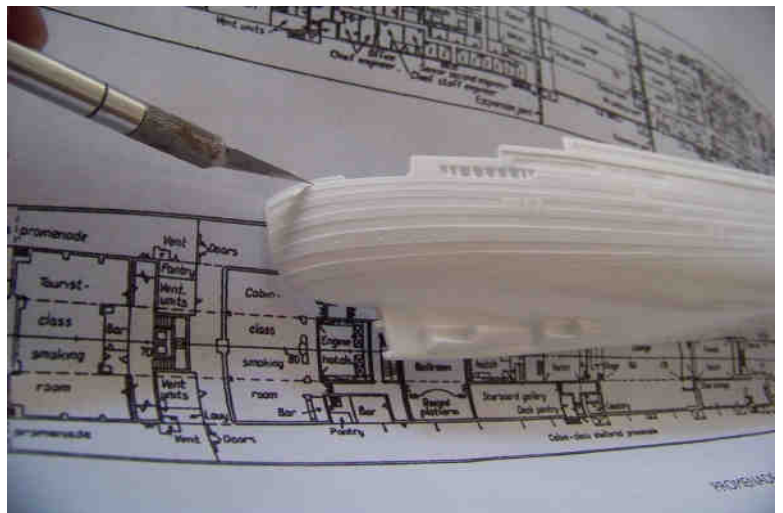
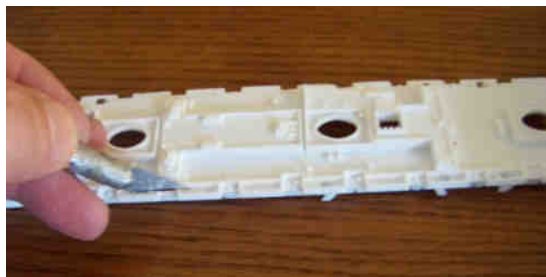
Final port in Long Beach, CA

**Model Construction Tips**

1. Preparation of model prior to construction requires knife work. A #11 Exacto blade is used to remove most excess plastic flashing and a chisel blade is used for scraping. When working in small places, a nail file or other tools used for traditional model making are most helpful.
2. Preparation for photo etched railings required removal of solid plastic railings which were completely unrealistic.
3. Once prepped, the hull was painted with Testor plastic model spray paints. The waterline pinstripe was applied with artist tape.

Removal of solid railing in prep for photo etched railings

Clean up with knife work



Continued on Page 9

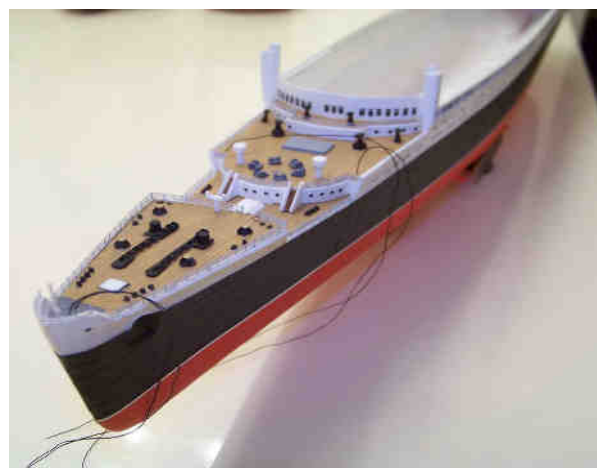


### Presentation Program—continued from page 8

4. Window and portholes are painted with a Rapid-O-Graph 000 technical pen to complete the hull.
5. Forecastle and poop decks are painted with wood-colored enamel and rigging is installed before gluing the decks to the hull. Photo etched railings are then added.
6. Imperfections in the assembly are repaired by gluing excess flashing in place and sanding to shape.
7. Smaller parts are painted separately by placing them on tape then painting prior to assembly.
8. Funnels require special planning to drill the funnels and install stays made from monofilament line and painting.
9. Display the finished model!



**Detailing windows and port holes**

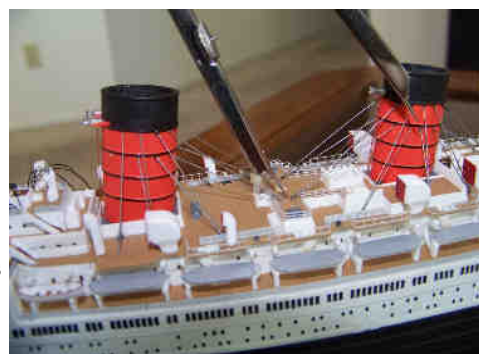


**Deck is installed with pre-threaded rigging**



**Finished details!**

**Funnels require planning and accurate measurement for drilling and installation of monofilament stays**



**Proudly displayed!**



# Scuttlebutt: 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 it's not a pirate ship (unless, of course, it is).

7. I don't know what that is. We think the builder may have been hallucinating 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 it's made of balsa.

## Do's and Don'ts for Working at the Fair

**DO** bring a wood ship model to work on.

**DO** be prepared to discuss ship modeling with Fair goers.

**DO** spend time talking to Fair goers about the Maritime Museum. Remember, we are representing the Guild AND the Museum.

**DO** arrive early to the booth. The letter you received with your tickets and parking passes tells you when to report. I try and get there about an hour early so you can take in the sights of the Design in wood Pavilion and be ready for when the Fair opens.

**DO** be familiar with the Top Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (above).

**DO NOT** wear sandals or open toed shoes.

**DO** wear your name tag.

**DO** bring and use protective eyewear if you are using power tools.

**DO** bring and utilize a dust mask if you are doing alot of sanding.

**DO** consider bringing a 'hands on' model or project Fair goers can handle and ooooh, ahhhh at.

**DO NOT** use one of Hewitt's models as a 'hands on' model.

**DO NOT** eat 3 orders of deep fried chocolate covered bacon before you go on the Bungee Jump.

**DO** take time and see the Fair.

**DO** Enjoy your time representing the Guild and Museum in the Ship Modeler's booth.