



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

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December 2016

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 44, NO. XII

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Established in 1972 by
Bob Wright and Russ
Merrill

MINUTES OF 8 November 2016 GUILD

MEETING

Editor's Note: December, 2016 draws to a close and we can easily recall Clement Clarke Moore, *The Night Before Christmas*. Perhaps more appropriate for the **San Diego Ship Modelers Guild** and a thought towards what would drive a person to man the ships we model are some words from John Masefield, *Sea Fever*.

I must go down to the seas again, to the
lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer
her by;
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and
the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey
dawn breaking.

Happy Holidays, Guild!

Minutes: In **Guild Master Jon Sanford's** absence, **First Mate Bill Norris** opened the meeting at the San Diego Maritime Museum on board the Steam Ferry *BERKELEY*. Fourteen (14) guild members and one guest were in attendance on this 2016 Election Day. After welcoming member **James Pitt**, who had not attended meetings in several years, James told us he is working on several kit projects and we look forward to having him join us more often. The meeting then moved directly into **Show and Tell**. **Ron Render** brought in a beautiful restoration project of a pond yacht. He told us how he restored the hull, fittings, and re-casted the keel. **Robert Hewitt** shared figures he has carved for his previously shared *Galliot Dutch Merchant Ship*. An explanation of how he accomplished this is described along with pictures in the **Show and Tell** section. Also to be found in the **Show and Tell** section, pictures of **Royce Privett's** continuing work on his *New Bedford Whaleboat* and a fascinating look at an analysis of the color red by **Chuck Seiler**. **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 -

Purser's Report: Purser Gary Seaton reported a positive guild balance as of 1 November. Everyone is reminded that 2017 Dues are due starting from the January 2017 meeting. The Holiday Party scheduled for the December 13th meeting aboard the *Steam Ferry Berkeley* was discussed. Howard Griffus will prepare the turkey dinner and it was voted on to provide him with \$150 for food, refreshments, and miscellaneous items.

Editor's and Web Coordinator's Report: **Editor Guy Lawrie** once again noted that the newsletter welcomes submissions and articles from members. **Web Coordinator Guy Lawrie** reported a decrease of (162) website visits over the previous month with 477 visits in October. Google and NRG linked searches accounted for 46% of the visits. The website continues to be viewed from overseas including Beijing and Amsterdam being our most prolific off shore visitors. Again, fully 68% of our visits originated from outside California and other international locations. **Our guild's presence is more than just San Diego! Your ship model pictures and documentation help show off our guild!**

Presentations Report: There was no presentation at the November meeting and there

is not a presentation scheduled for future meetings at this time. Your ideas for presentations and demonstrations are welcome!

Maritime Museum Collection Manager Kevin Sheehan, PhD reported the upcoming edition of the museum's magazine **Mains'l Haul** will feature an article about **Dr. Bill Brown**. His model ship building skills are currently on display aboard the *Berkeley's Steering Small* exhibit. Also discussed was the elevator access to the passenger (upper) deck of the *Berkeley*. It is currently in disrepair and therefore access to the passenger deck is limited to the stairwell. Reports on this matter will be ongoing in future newsletters.

New Business: Guy Lawrie reported on the presentation given by **Jon Sanford, Mike Lonnecker**, and himself at Point Loma High School's NJROTC program. Ship modeling was discussed with approximately 120 students over five class periods and each student was provided a small ship model of the *San Salvador* to build. Additionally, each student was provided an admission pass to the Maritime Museum courtesy of the museum. Thank you for the invite, **Isaac Wills**.

Guy Lawrie opened the book auction from the **Fred Frass** collection as announced November 3 in a separate mailing. \$75.00 was raised from this auction and several guild members expanded their libraries. **Robert Hewitt** offered this background on **Mr. Frass**: "Fred built "first of" ships. There is a huge aircraft carrier built by Fred at the Air & Space Museum in Balboa Park, San Diego."

**Next meeting is
13 December 2016
5:30 PM- Social
5:30 Officer's Meeting
6:00 PM Meeting
Bring a Model!
Bring a Tale, Taller the
Better!**

December 2016

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

From the helm Guild Master Jon Sanford invites and encourages all guild members, spouses, and other guests to **join us aboard the *Berkeley* on December 13** to share in a **Holiday Dinner** prepared by **Howard Griffus!** Not only will we share a delicious meal but we can always hope for a **Holiday Give Away!** Please signal your intent to attend by sending an email to <redacted>

Very Best Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday

And Happy New Year!

Guild Master Jon Sanford

Show and Tell

(not so much tell in this edition but pictures are worth a thousand words)



Ron Render prepares his pond yacht as the Guild assembles to get the meeting underway



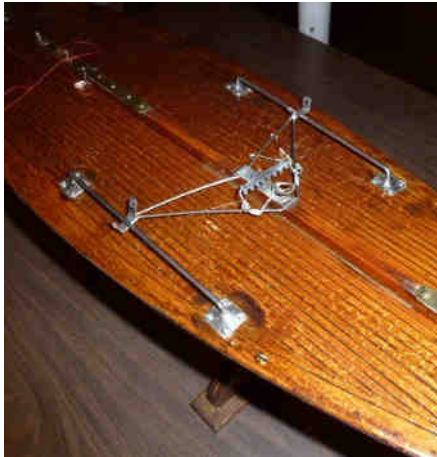
Attention on deck!



Ron Render speaks about his rebuild effort including his recast of the brass keel



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Show and Tell continued -

Ron Render talked about how pond yachts prior to the time of radio controlled boats were equipped with sliding masts and riggings (left). Autopilot equipment (right) helped steer the boats. This is a beautiful Restoration!



Galliot Dutch Merchant Ship Crew and Anchors

by Robert Hewitt

Scale 1/16 in = 1 foot, 1:192

Scratch built model as last reported in the September 2016 San Diego SMG Newsletter Vol. 44, No. IX



The Crew by Robert Hewitt

The model will be mounted in a carved sea, so a crew will be needed. The usual method I use is to make a crew member is to start with a copper wire frame, which includes twenty to twenty-two bending and cutting operations. The wire frame is then coated with gesso and painted. This works well for scales of 1"= 20 feet and smaller. For this model I thought I would try carving the figures. I have carved figure heads for the British warships including an elephant head, but never a crew member. A six foot sailor at this scale would be 3/8" (.375") tall. I used pear wood instead of the usual boxwood and found it to be easier to carve but not as sharp in detail. I marked the height, 3/8" on a piece of pear wood .09" x .188" x 4" long. Pencil marks were then made for the head, shoulders, waist, groin, and knee. A saw cut was made from the foot to the groin. The feet and legs were carved next. The butt, waist and shoulders are shaped next. A stump is left for the arms and the head carved but left on the stick. The whole affair rounded off and sanded or filed smooth and then cut off of the stick. The arms are carved separate. The hand is a round ball carved in the wood. The arms are glued to the body. A brass ring is glued to the head of one figure to simulate a hat brim. All are painted with Floquil enamel paint except for the brown trousers, which are unpainted pear wood.

Continued on Page 5

Show and Tell continued -**The Anchors by Robert Hewitt**

The two anchors are made of ebony and pear wood for the stocks. The shank is made rectangular. The two arms are ebony pieces glued together, then carved to shape, separated and glued to the thicker portion of the shank. The arms are placed slightly above the end of the shank to simulate a crown. The flukes are .005" thick. The pear wood stocks are glued to the thinner portion of the shank. Then the two stock pieces are glued to each other at the ends. A blackened brass ring is glued to the shank.

WHALEBOAT
by Royce Privett

Model Shipways Kit
Scale: 3/4" = 1' 1:16

Basswood and Beech



Since reported last in the June 2016 San Diego SMG Newsletter Volume 44, No. VI, **Royce Privett** tells us the following work has been completed. 1. Row locks have been completed and installed. 2. Five harpoons have been made. Note: The harpoon shafts were usually made from hickory saplings with the bark left intact to provide a better grip. 3. The mast hinge has been made and installed. 4. Waist and stern tubs are complete. 5. Harpoon and lance racks are installed. 6. Water and lantern kegs are installed.



7. The model was partially mounted. Following Royce's update on the *Whaleboat*, a general discussion of San Diego off-shore whaling ensued. It is found that Ballast Point whaling station was established in late 1857 at the end of Rosecrans Street, Point Loma, San Diego. Shore whaling was a natural for people in this area since the whales came to the whalers during their migration and New England whalers hunted the gray whales off Point Loma.

Show and Tell continued -



Chuck Seiler offered an analysis of the color red. He related how it is difficult to match model colors with the original colors especially those reds used on hulls. He mixed the colors shown on the left and if anyone would like a copy of the .jpg files, please contact the editor or perhaps reach out directly to Chuck.

Below, Chuck Seiler and James Pitt become engaged in a technical discussion during the meeting break. The editor could not resist posting the picture!



Bonus Pictures



Clockwise from upper left, **Mike Lonnecker, Jon Sanford, and Guy Lawrie** speak ship modeling to NJROTC at Point Loma High School and then students build a mini ship.





Model Boat Parade of Lights

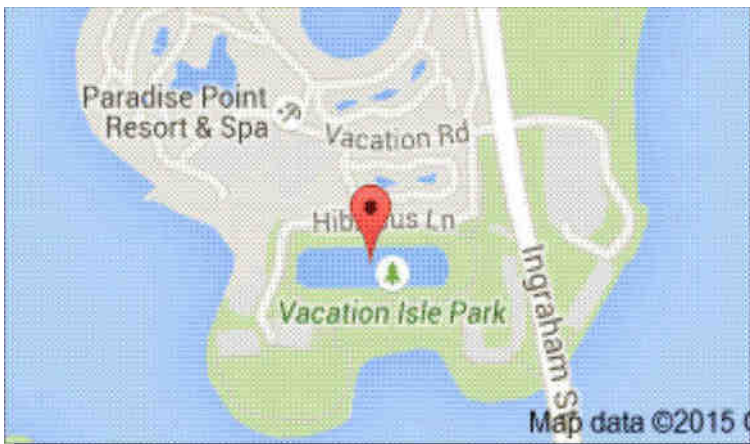
See Our Christmas Lights on the Water

When: December 14, 2016, 5:00 – 7:00 PM.

Where: The San Diego Model Boat Basin on Vacation Island

The San Diego Argonauts Scale Division invites the public to attend its model boat Parade of Lights inspired by San Diego's popular annual event.

The Argonauts will kick off the Christmas season with their own mini parade of lighted remote controlled model boats sailing around the San Diego Model Boat Pond.



The Argonauts are an enthusiastic group of scale model builders and armchair captains who enjoy sharing their enchanting hobby with future sailors or all ages. They meet almost every Saturday at San Diego's Model Boat Basin from 9:00 to noon.

On December 14 bring the family, some lawn chairs, some hot chocolate, and a camera to enjoy this festival of lights.

Check out our Facebook Page for pictures of our weekly adventures on the high seas.

<https://www.facebook.com/sandiegoargonauts/>

Check out the YouTube link below to see last year's event.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtH8xE4uV6k&feature=youtu.be>