



# San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

July 2017

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 45, NO. VII

## OFFICERS

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## SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

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Robert (Rob) Wood  
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### Presentations Coordinator

Ed Torrence  
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Established in 1972 by  
Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

## MINUTES OF 13 JUNE 2017 GUILD

### MEETING



## Happy July 4th to all!

Picture of *USS Constitution* in dry dock  
taken by RS Moore, Navy retired

“Boats, like whiskey, are all good.”  
- R.D. (Pete) Culler; author of  
“Skiffs and Schooners”

**Minutes: Guild Master Jon Sanford**  
opened the meeting at the San Diego  
Maritime Museum aboard the Steam  
Ferry *BERKELEY* on the Compass Deck.  
Eighteen (18) guild members were in  
attendance in addition to three (3)  
visitors, one of whom brought his young  
son. The visitors expressed their interest  
in ship modeling and guest **Mark Shaw**,

who belongs to the San Diego Argonauts, spoke about his restoration project of a  
10 foot steel-hulled model of the *USS California*.

The meeting began with a presentation on the “Misadventures in Scratch  
Building and Kit Conversions” led by **Karl Zingheim, History Director, USS  
Midway Museum**. The talk centered around plastic modeling and several  
remarkable dioramas of naval action were presented. A summary and pictures of  
the presentation are included in the **Presentation Report**.

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



<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

MINUTES continued -

Prior to break (thank you **Jon Sanford** for the coffee and treats), the meeting proceeded to **Show and Tell**. **Jon Sanford, Robert Hewitt, Doug Ward, Howard Griffus, Bob Kyle, and Isaac Wills** all brought in samples of their ship modeling.

**Purser's Report:** **Purser Gary Seaton** reported the guild balance as of 1 June remains positive.

**Editor's Report:** **Editor Guy Lawrie** left the meeting early. There are no reported new concerns with email delivery of the newsletter but if anyone has a problem please report it. Stories of interest by members are always welcome.

**Web Coordinator's Report:** **Web Coordinator Rob Wood** was unable to attend this meeting. As a side note, there were 486 website visits in June to the current website. Visits continue to originate from places such as Beijing and Amsterdam in addition to state side cities. **Our guild's presence is more than just San Diego!**

**Maritime Museum Collection Manager Kevin Sheehan, PhD** was unable to attend. **ALERT: The elevator to the upper deck repair is complete! Come Aboard for the July meeting!** **Jon Sanford** also reminded the membership a volunteer sign-up sheet for the 2017 Labor Day

Festival of Sail is being circulated. Volunteers for the event, including the staffing of the SD Maritime Museum Model Shop, will receive a Festival of Sail tee shirt. Our goal is to staff the model shop with two members the days of the festival so put this on your calendar, September 1-4.

**San Diego County Fair Report: Coordinator Bill Grolz** reported the fair is underway and the visitor activity around the booth activity is strong and positive with many small ship give away kits being handed out. **Reminder: Booth take down is scheduled for July 5 for those who volunteered to help out.**

**New Business: Gary Seaton's** investigation of a guild logo update is reported as ongoing and a discussion on setting a date to vote a change in the logo was begun.

**Ed Torrence** is working on bringing a shirt with an embroidered guild logo for sale to the membership. The shirts will use our current logo and give members volunteering at events a unique identifier.

**Mike Lonnecker** reported progress with organizing a community build and has opened a discussion of what project to build. He requested a list of all those interested in a community build. If you interested please contact Mike, <redacted> with your interest.

A visit to Orange County's SMA meeting is being planned for August. Interested? Contact Jon Sanford. At the conclusion of new business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting is  
11 July 2017  
5:30 PM - Social  
5:30 Officer's Meeting  
6:00 PM Meeting  
Bring a Model!**

July 2017

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## Presentation Report

### Misadventures in Scratch Building and Kit Conversions

By

**Karl Zingheim, History Director, *USS Midway* Museum**



Left: **Karl Zingheim** begins his talk with the membership. He has the full attention, from the left, of **Don Dressel**, **David Yotter**, and **James Pitt**.

Karl opened his talk by describing his work as a “ship dioramist” and that his projects are designed to present an historically accurate picture of naval events. His preferred medium is plastic and he spoke about “kit mashing” and scratch building ship elements of his models. As an example, Karl brought in a model of the *Bonhomme Richard*, a warship of the 1779 Continental Navy, that was “mashed” and scratch built from a kit of the *HMS Victory* (unfortunately pictures of this build were sub-standard). Karl described his work as a personal hobby rather than dedicated project work isolated to the museum and that he posts his work and build logs on [modelshipwrights.com](http://modelshipwrights.com). He is working in larger scales such as 1:350 and 1:200 and related the historical relevance of several of the dioramas he shared with the membership. For example, Karl talked about the *USS McFarland* and her participation in the Guadalcanal Campaign as well as the *USS Monaghan* and her participation in the Battle of Midway. Note the diorama of *USS Monaghan* engaging a Japanese mini-sub and *USS McFarland* drawing fire.



# Show and Tell *(less Tell more Show this time!)*

Meeting getting underway!



A restoration of a “Steam Yacht”  
by Jon Sanford



Jon passed around the operational brass steam power plant from this restoration, very impressive!

*Kathleen*, 1901 James River Spritsail Barge  
by Robert Hewitt



***HMS Victory by Doug Ward***

Doug tells the membership about this challenging build!



***Soleil Royal by Isaac Wills***

Isaac shows off progress on this continuing project.

***HMS Bellona, a 74-gun Warship Commission build by Howard Griffus***

Howard explains some challenges with this kit by Corel!





### A Scratch Built Sabot by Bob Kyle

Bob tells us a bit about the history of these popular class racing boats that could be found sailing all about San Diego Bay and how it is said, "If you can sail a Sabot, you can sail anything!"

## Bonus San Diego Fair Pictures

Special kudos to all who staffed the fair booth and the effort of Fair Coordinator Bill Grolz!



**Blue Ribbon Winner!**

***Galliot Dutch Merchant Ship***  
by Robert Hewitt

**Scratch Built**

**Scale - 1:192, 1/16 inch = 1 foot**

For a complete description of this build see the April 2017 edition of the newsletter.

Congratulations, Robert! Unfortunately, the model was damaged by fair staff when moving it for display, see right. Yipes!



# Fair Pictures Continued



**Red Ribbon Winner!**  
*Ranger*, US Revenue Cutter  
 by Gary Seaton



Above and middle left David Dana will not be left out of the fun interacting with visitors and below Bill Grolz awards young visitors with small ship kits!



Below left Isaac Wills and Guy Lawrie wait for their turn!





**Think about**

(Bob Kyle making progress on a project in the Model Shop)

**Helping Out**  
(Tommy Thompson working on a restoration project and interacting with Museum visitors)



**In the Model Shop**

(with Bob Duncan who tells a fine tale of the P-51 Mustang as he works on *La Santa Maria*)

