



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

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September 2017

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 45, NO. IX

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Established in 1972 by
Bob Wright and Russ
Merrill

“Ships are the nearest things to dreams that hands have ever made” - Robert N. Rose; Poet

MINUTES OF 8 AUGUST 2017 GUILD

MEETING

First Mate Ed Torrence opened the meeting at the San Diego Maritime Museum aboard the Steam Ferry *BERKELEY* on the Passenger Deck in the place of **Guild Master Jon Sanford** who was out of state on vacation. Here to the right, Jon and wife **Mary Ann** sent a greeting from the deck of the battleship *USS North Carolina* (BB-55) moored in Wilmington, NC. Twenty two (22) guild members were in attendance in addition to four (4) visitors. New Guild member **Ken Selzer** joined the meeting and will be part of our community build project. **Welcome aboard, Ken!** **Karl Zingheim**, History Director from the *USS Midway* Museum, joined us once again bringing us his insight on ship modeling with different mediums. **Isaac Wills** included two members of his High School JROTC who expressed an interest in ship modeling, **Alexie and Andrew Fisak**. Alexie told us how she will soon be moving to Guam with family while Andrew finishes school here and we hope he knows he is always welcome. **Jeff Loman**, who manages Group Tours, Volunteer Coordinator, and Safety for the Maritime Museum, gave membership a presentation about volunteer opportunities for the **Festival of Sail** event this Labor Day weekend. The August meeting was in celebration of the Guild's founding anniversary and **Howard Griffus** prepared one of his wonderful meals to honor the event!



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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 -

While awaiting the arrival of Howard and his able-bodied assistant, daughter **Diane**, Jeff Loman seen below spoke about volunteering for the Festival Sail before speaking more broadly



about volunteer opportunities at the Museum. He spoke at length about Sail Crew volunteers meeting on Sunday at 10 AM, docent volunteers, and group tours. For more detail, visit the museum website at sdmaritime.org and go to “Get Involved - volunteer at the museum”.

The meeting then proceeded directly to **Show and Tell** and **Maritime Museum Collection Manager Kevin Sheehan, PhD** began by showing membership a stunning Dr. W.F. Brown model of the Coast Guard cutter USS *Bear* (1874). This model brought to the mind of **Brendan Braden** how a friend’s father from New Zealand crewed aboard the *Bear* during the second expedition of Admiral Richard E. Byrd to

Antarctica. The power of ship models, indeed! A basic Wikipedia search on the *Bear* reveals a storied history on this forerunner to the modern ice breaker and her contribution to the history of the US Coast Guard! Additionally, **Mike Lonnecker, Don Dressel, Jay MacMaster, Karl Zingheim, James Pitt, and Isaac Wills** all brought in samples of their ship modeling. Pictures can be found in the **Show and Tell** section.

The meeting broke for dinner and a good time was had! **Bravo Howard! Outstanding meal!** We found out during dinner that the Guild might have been founded in 1971 and **Royce Privett** has been with the Guild for over 40 years!

Purser’s Report: Purser Gary Seaton reported a positive guild balance as of 1 June. A motion was made and approved by the assembled membership to reimburse Howard Griffus for expenses incurred in the preparation of the Guild Anniversary meal.

New Business: **Alert!** Ed Torrence reported **Mike Lonnecker** will present “**Masting and Rigging, How it looks**” at the September meeting. **Be on hand for what is sure to be an informative presentation!** Ed also reported progress with the shirt logo project.

At the conclusion of new business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting is
12 September 2017**

**5:30 PM - Social
5:30 Officer's Meeting**

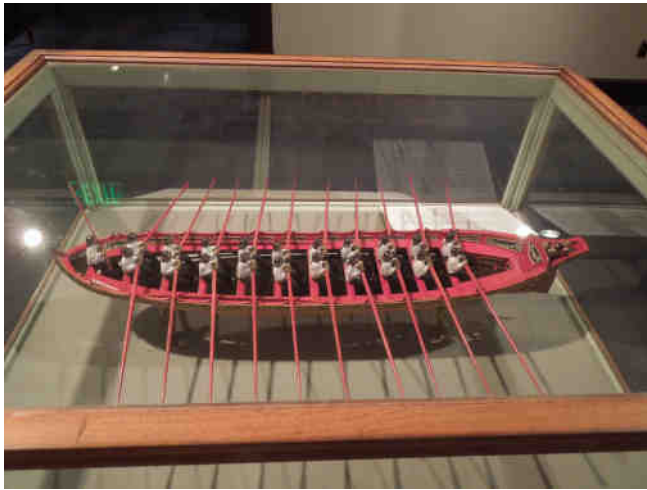
6:00 PM Meeting

Bring a Model!

September 2017

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

Community Group Build Report



Jon Sanford provided this picture of the Admiral's Barge as displayed in the Rogers Ship Model Collection at the Annapolis Naval Academy Museum.

Mike Lonnecker is showing additional pictures provided by Chuck Passaro of the Admiral's Barge of the Late 1700's in 1/24 scale which will be the subject of the upcoming Community Group Build.



Show and Tell

The August meeting is getting underway in anticipation of a Howard Griffus Guild Anniversary Meal! The Editor must also have been anticipating the meal and missed taking pictures of several models; apologies to Don Dressel, Karl Zingham, James Pitt, and Isaac Wills.



Coast Guard cutter USS *Bear* (AG-29)
shared by Maritime Museum Collection Manager
Kevin Sheehan, PhD





Mike Lonneker who will be giving a talk on rigging during the September meeting shared his 18th Century Longboat. Note on last month's discussion of Kurt Van Dahm's "Presidents Message" regarding pirated model kits. Isaac Wills shared his experience building a 1:100 scale *Halcon* 1840 that he purchased online for \$16 and made in China. Isaac told us of the model's poor quality and Mike strongly reinforced Kurt's message that extreme diligence should be applied before purchasing a kit that is of suspicious origin. At times, a deal is just too good to be true! Kurt's message is copied at the end of [Show and Tell](#).





Jay MacMaster shared his Brig *HMS Siren* (1841). Jay is ship modeling here with different woods. There is no paint used on this model, all the color is natural wood.



Received from Kurt Van Dahm, Director of Nautical Research Guild and President of Nautical Research and Ship Society of Chicago

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – AUGUST 2017

Anybody who has visited my shop knows I fly a Pirate flag under the American flag and have some pirate items in the shop. Maybe this is because I had to wear an eye patch as a kid. Or maybe it's because all things Pirate like are black and I rode motorcycles for years and you can't ride a Harley w/o wearing black (it's a law – look it up). But unlike the Pirates of old I have never condoned thievery by boarding another boat.

Today we in the model ship hobby are being plagued by another type of Pirate. Today's Pirates are stealing people's designs, plans and kits. Our hobby is being preyed upon by Pirates who take a legitimate set of plans, make copies and offer them for sale at prices way below the legitimate plan price. Kits are being copied and offered for sale at prices below the legitimate kits price. Products are being copied, sometimes without any changes, even reproducing the legitimate product's name, and offered for sale.

As almost all of this is happening beyond the US borders it's next to impossible to enforce copyrights or patents. However, there is one way that we can all help fight this – QUIT BUYING PIRATED STUFF. If there is no market for pirated kits or plans to sell to the criminal element will find something else that's easy to steal and sell.

Small businesses can't afford to spend the time and costs needed to bring out a new kit, a great set of plans, a great modeling book, or a new tool if they continue to be ripped off by Pirates and see their market decimated by cheap copies. When they quit developing new products the Pirates have won and from then on there are no new kits, books or products to buy – only cheap copies. And when that happens and the crooks don't have new stuff to steal and copy, we are going to be stuck with only being able to buy the same old pirated items because nobody's making new stuff for the to steal and copy.

The only defense is to QUIT BUYING PIRATED STUFF. Also, a gentle warning to all club members - Don't even think of bringing a pirated kit, book or set of plans to a club meeting – you and the product will be asked to leave. This has yet to happen and hopefully it never will.



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 Museum Model Shop!

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