



# San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

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NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 47, NO. I

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Established in 1972 by  
Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

Happy New Year! Best Wishes for a Year of Good Cheer and Happy Ship Modeling! (Note the First Guild Meeting of 2019 is Early in the Month, January 8th!)



"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."  
- Albert Einstein

Bill Grolz offers this picture of *Star of India* and HMS *Surprise* replica alongside the *Berkeley* outfitted with lights for the Holidays!

## MINUTES OF 11 DECEMBER 2018 GUILD MEETING and GUILD HOLIDAY DINNER

Guild Master Ed Torrence (seen here helping with dinner setup) brought the meeting to order at the San Diego Maritime Museum on the Passenger Deck aboard the Steam Ferry *BERKELEY*. Following a recitation of *The Pledge of Allegiance*, Ed announced there would be an abbreviated meeting to allow time for our Guild's Annual Holiday Dinner. Twenty two (22) members and ten (10) guests



made for a jolly time and there was even time made during dinner for a **Show and Tell** period.

Bill Grolz' picture of *San Salvador* on meeting night and Ed Torrence, James Pitt, and Tom Hairston share a moment before the meeting gets underway

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



<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

**Ed** continued the meeting by acknowledging the passing of our esteemed Guild member **John Wickman** earlier in the year. He also reported that a donation was received by the San Diego Ship Modelers Guild in the name of **John Wickman** for the amount of \$<redacted>.

**Ed** noted the upcoming 2019 Guild Officer elections and encouraged members who would like to serve as Guild Officers to contact him. If any member would like to help out or become familiar with any of the Officer or Coordinator duties, please contact **Ed**. He then adjourned the business portion of the meeting and the Holiday Dinner began. Following are pictures from the evening. Editor's note: **Purser Gary Seaton** reported the Guild balance as of December 1 including the aforementioned donation was \$<redacted>.

Right from the lower left: Howard Griffus and Daughter Diana, Karl Zingheim and Mary Ann Sanford with Mark Weber standing by the post, then Don Dressel and James Pitt are at the end of the table, followed by Marion Privett with her husband Royce standing behind her, and in the lower right corner Bill and Janet Grolz complete the group



Left: Jay MacMaster, Jim Potts, and Tom Hairston talk a bit about ship modeling!



Left: Sema Yumoto is recruited to cut the cake!



David Yotter, Don Dressel and Mike Lonnecker talk with Jim and Laura Potts

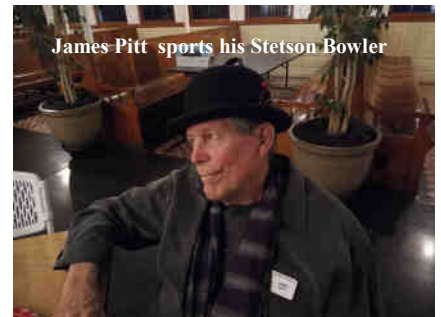


Marian Privett and Janet Grolz share a moment before dinner

Below: sitting at the table, Doug Yumoto listens to RG Head talk about his model, Karen and Robert Hewitt stand at the bar with Frank Dengler to the side, the Privetts round out the table with Alex Roel at the lower right



Jon Sanford with a restoration in the Model Shop



James Pitt sports his Stetson Bowler

January 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Next meeting is  
8 January 2019

## Show and Tell

### Honoring a Wintry Theme for the Christmastime Meeting - “Yacht Cruising off Greenland”

by **Karl Zingheim** - To the right Karl begins to tell the story about his diorama as members look on

### Greatly Modified Yacht Florida Otaki Big Model Kit out of production Japanese kit released in 1979

Scale 1/36



**Karl** brought in another of his thought provoking dioramas for the Holiday Party and told Members he wanted to keep in the spirit of the season with a Winter theme depicting a 68-foot ketch skirting an arched iceberg off Greenland. Another job well done! **Guild Master Ed Torrence** reports that in 2019 following **Jon Sanford's January presentation** on his trip to Maine to attend a BlueJacket Ship Crafters rigging class, **Karl** will be giving a **February presentation** on construction techniques of diorama special effects. **Two meetings not to miss!**

**Karl** reported he named the yacht in accordance with an alphabetic system of monikers from fiery femmes in history and legend. As the second in the series, this vessel is named *Bouticca*, after the Celtic queen who fought against the Romans in ancient Britain. He reported he made the following modifications to the Otaki kit:

- an opened cabin door to access an interior with a table and padded bench seats
- drawn curtains for the “ops center” in the aft cabin behind the cockpit
- a hand brushed varnished wood grain simulation for the cabin exterior
- a collapsible cabin screen made from the clear plastic bag the kits parts came in and a Target shopping bag
- a scratch built “pulpit” extending over the bow to properly house the kit’s Danforth anchor
- a suite of radar and radio gear
- upgrades to the kit-supplied boat davits as well as a scratch built outboard motor for the boat
- a stowed inflatable life raft atop the cabin
- new deck finish in white and champagne
- converted 1/35 scale Finnish infantrymen in winter gear for the male crewmen, and a pair of female passengers in parkas
- The *Bouticca* also features certain flags, such as the red and white Greenland courtesy flag, and our guild’s logo rendered in burgee form. The larger flag is my personal yachting ensign based on my family’s supposed coat of arms motif



**Karl Zingheim's Yacht *Bouticca* continued:**

**Karl** reported the kit went together well, although next time, he would install the sails first before any rigging. The next yacht scene will feature the *Cahira* (Gaelic for "female warrior") coping with heavy seas.



The berg has two features, a surface ached-shaped superstructure often found in glacial bays made from heavily carved and painted florist's foam, and a much larger underwater base mounted beneath the modeled water surface. It is comprised of sheet styrene with layered paint effects to create the impression of depth. The foam berg is held together with Gorilla Glue and wood dowels, and absorbed so much white acrylic paint, it must weigh well over a full pound!



Karl's presentation is interesting and animated!

**U.S. Brig *Syren* (1803)**

**by Royce Privett** - Seen here returning to his chair next to his wife Marian after telling members about latest progress on *Syren* as James Pitt sits next to Doug and Kim Ward

**Chuck Passaro designed Kit by Model Shipways MS2260**

**Scale - 1:64, 3/16 inch = 1 foot**



Back in October 2017 as Royce was laying the keel and installing bulkheads for his model he reported the following story taken from the kit. "USS *Syren*, a 240-ton brig, was built by Nathaniel Hutton at Philadelphia in 1803. On September 27th, she set sail for Gibraltar under the command of Lt. Charles Stewart. *Syren* cruised the Mediterranean during the spring and summer of 1804 and participated in the attacks on Tripoli. She remained there for almost a year after the peace treaty with Tripoli was signed on June 10, 1805. Departing Gibraltar on May 28 of 1806, she reached the Washington Navy Yard in early August, where she was laid up until her reactivation in 1807.

### Royce Privett's U.S. Brig *Syren* (1803) continued:

During *Syren's* service in the War of 1812, she was captured by the 74-gun HMS *Medway* after an 11-hour chase." Wikipedia tells us the British never commissioned her but apparently used her for a year or so as a lazaretto



(quarantine ship for maritime travelers). She then disappears from the records.

Royce reports since the last meeting the binnacle has been added, belfry with ship's bell has been added, the ship

wheel is in place, the bilge pump is in place, the main fife rail with belaying pins are complete, and mast pads are in place. Last month Royce reported **2 years 3 months and 446 hours working time** on

this project and just adds to those building numbers! Impressive! **Let us also note as we begin a New Year, Royce is our longest standing member with 42 years of Guild time!**



### USS *Lexington* (1776)

by Jay MacMaster - Seen here starting to tell us about building this model for his daughter and how it is now in a case

Kit bashed from C. Mamoli No. MV48

Scale 1/100



Note the case is constructed of tempered glass with a burnt wood frame, no paint! Earlier in 2018, Jay told us that he took only the frame from the kit of an American brig. He used the plans even though they required research and modification to perform such work as properly taper masts and yards. Jay used no paint on the model relying on African Ebony, Indonesian Boxwood, Holly, Alder, African Mahogany, and African Bloodwood to color the brig. Wikipedia tells us *Lexington* (1776) was originally named the *Wild Duck* when she was purchased for the Maryland Committee of Safety in February 1776. She soon got underway for the Delaware

Capes and reached Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 9 March with a cargo of sorely needed gunpowder for the patriot forces. Four days later the Marine Committee purchased *Wild Duck* and renamed her *Lexington* after the Battle of Lexington (the first battle of the American Revolutionary War). *Lexington* took part in numerous engagements in 1776 with British and Tory forces taking several prizes. She sailed for military supplies and ran blockades during 1776 but British frigate *Pearl* overhauled the brigantine just short of the Delaware Capes 20 December and captured her.



### Jay MacMaster's USS *Lexington* (1776) continued:

The commander of the frigate removed *Lexington's* officers, but left 70 of her men on board under hatches with a prize crew. But by luring their captors with a promise of rum, the Yankee sailors recaptured the ship and brought her to Baltimore. By early 1777 *Lexington* sailed for France and after porting in early March at Bordeaux, she saw action in the seas between France and Ireland taking several prizes. Sadly, she found herself in the harbor of a Brittany fishing village throughout the summer, hemmed in by British warships. However, France, under strong British diplomatic



pressure, ordered the American ships out of French waters 12 September. *Lexington* got underway the next morning but made little headway because of light wind. She lay becalmed near Ushant on the morning of 19 September when British 10-gun cutter *Alert*, commanded by John Bazely, came into view. In the ensuing fight, *Lexington's* rigging was seriously damaged precluding flight. When the American brigantine ran out of powder her Captain reluctantly struck his colors and was captured by the British. A monument to the first *Lexington* can be found near the historic Lexington Battle Green.

### USS *Constitution* (1797)

by RG Head, PhD - Seen here beginning to tell us about building his model

### Model Shipways Kit (Model Expo MS2040)

### Plank-on-Bulkhead

### Scale 1:76

RG is a new member of the Guild and brings a storied and varied background to the Guild including his craft skills and background as an author of non-fiction stories of World War I flying. Certainly we are looking forward for more background from this pilot, military expert, and retired USAF Brigadier General.



Mike Lonnecker views the **Show and Tell** models including RG's *Constitution*. Though RG told us the purpose of presenting *Constitution* was to give a progress review and to gauge if the level of workmanship and detail is up to the standard of "museum quality", we can assure him he will be a welcome member to the Guild!

The following information on the model is taken directly from Model Expo's site description of the model. The kit is based on the 1927 Navy drawings, photographs and documentation used during the 1993-97 restoration. It is so complete and highly detailed that shipping weight is an incredible 12 pounds!

Plank-on-bulkhead construction features laser cut wooden parts. High quality basswood planking strips cover the hull and we include self-adhesive copper tape for hull plating. True-to-scale Britannia metal, brass and hardwood fittings and 16 photo-etched brass sheets provide life-like detail. Over 50 cannon,

**RG Head's USS Constitution (1797) continued:**

(Model Expo's model description follows)

Plank-on-bulkhead construction features laser cut wooden parts. High quality basswood planking strips cover the hull and we include self-adhesive copper tape for hull plating. True-to-scale Britannia metal, brass and hardwood fittings and 16 photo-etched brass sheets provide life-like detail. Over 50 cannon, carronade and gun barrels duplicate original armament. Extra touches include laser cut gratings and engraved scrollwork. Four-hundred yards of rigging line in six diameters is also supplied.



Model Shipways kit includes eight sheets of detailed plans and 48 page step-by-step instruction manual by Ben Lankford uncover the secrets of building a museum quality replica. (Display base and pedestals not included.)

***H.M.S. Victory***

**by Doug Ward** - Seen here somewhat blurred talking about building *Victory* and showing a lifeboat under construction

**Mantua/Sergal 782 Kit No. SM23****Plank-on-Frame****Scale 1:78**

**Doug** spoke about his *Victory* project and how he has finished rigging her, see the picture below. The model is delicate and Doug brought a picture with one of *Victory's* lifeboats, a sixteen oar. The lifeboat is approximately 5" long giving a sense of scale of the model. The



founder of Model Expo wrote, "I've seen them all ... HMS Victory kits from other manufacturers ... and although this kit was designed in 1971 I've yet to see a better design nor better materials. Plywood is the finest available and the laser cutting is perfect. Planking is limewood (basswood in Europe) and walnut. Castings are bronzed white metal, there is an abundance of machined brass, photo-etched brass. Instructions in English, Italian, French and German are beautifully illustrated in 34 pages and accompanied by 8 giant sheets of plans. Even the flags are made of delicate cloth designed to drape realistically." The highlight of Doug's presentation was his wife, **Kim**, explaining the joy of living with a ship modeler!



## USS *California* (BB 44)

by Frank Dengler

### Modified Iron Shipwright Resin Kit

Scale 1:350

Following is a direct copy of Frank's documentation for the *California*.

#### 1. Ship's History

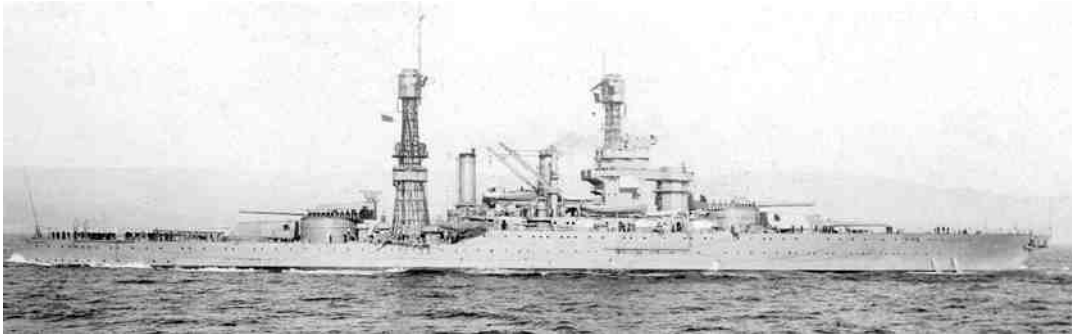
- a. Type/Class: Battleship / CALIFORNIA (BB 44)
- b. Namesake: State of California.
- c. Shipbuilder & Location: Mare Island Naval Shipyard (MINSY), CA
- d. Date Commissioned/In-Service: 10 Aug 21
- e. Characteristics: Displacement 32,300 tons, Length 624' 6", Beam 97' 4", Draft 30' 3", Speed 21 knots, Armament 12 x 14"/50, 14 x 5"/51, 4 x 3"/50, 2 x 21" torpedo tubes, Complement 1,083
- f. Operations: 1921 to 1940 based in Long Beach/San Pedro, CA serving as flagship Pacific Fleet then flagship Battle Fleet (Battle Force). Received the Battle Efficiency Pennant 1921-22 and the Gunnery "E" 1925-26. Participated in 1925 cruise to Australia and New Zealand. Participated in 1927, 1930, and 1934 Presidential Reviews. Received 8 x 5"/25s with Mark 19 Gun Directors to augment anti-aircraft capability in 1929-30. Shifted base along with the rest of the fleet to Pearl Harbor, HI in 1940 in an effort to deter Japanese aggression. Struck by 2 torpedoes, 1 bomb, and damaged by a bomb landing nearby and sunk during 7 Dec 41 Japanese attack suffering 98 killed and 61 wounded. Refloated 25 Mar 42. Received initial repairs at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and departed for Puget Sound Navy Yard (PSNSY) 7 Jun 1942, about the same time as the Battle of Midway. Reconfigured for better watertight integrity and anti-aircraft capability, CALIFORNIA departed Bremerton 31 Jan 44 for shakedown off San Pedro. The battleship steamed from San Francisco 5 May for the invasion of the Marianas. While conducting shore bombardment on Japanese positions on Saipan, CALIFORNIA was hit by an enemy shore battery 14 Jun 44 suffering 1 killed and 9 wounded. CALIFORNIA bombarded Japanese positions on Guam and Tinian 18 Jul to 9 Aug 44. On 24 August CALIFORNIA arrived at Espiritu Santo for repairs to repair damage inflicted in a collision with USS TENNESSEE (BB-43). On 25 Oct 1944 CALIFORNIA along with other battleships as well as cruisers, destroyers, and PT-boats under RADM Jesse B. Oldendorf defeated a Japanese force that included battleships FUSO and YAMASHIRO, a heavy cruiser, and 4 destroyers commanded by VADM Shoji Nishimura in the Battle of Surigao Strait. On 1 Jan 45 she departed Palau for landing on Luzon. On 6 Jan 45 while providing shore bombardment at Lingayen Gulf CALIFORNIA was hit in her aft control tower by a Kamikaze aircraft suffering 44 killed and 155 wounded. The crew performed damage control and CALIFORNIA continued bombardment until departing 23 Jan for repair at PSNSY. CALIFORNIA returned to action off Okinawa 15 Jun to 21 Jul 45. Next the battleship covered minesweeping the East China Sea, and served in the Philippines and off Okinawa. The war ended 2 Sep 45. CALIFORNIA covered 6<sup>th</sup> Army landings at Wakanoura Wan, Honshu and supported forces occupying Japan until 15 Oct when she steamed to Philadelphia, PA via Singapore, then a British Crown Colony, Colombo, Sri Lanka, and Capetown, South Africa arriving 7 Dec 45; 4 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor. CALIFORNIA was placed in reserve 7 Aug 1946. Frank Dengler saw CALIFORNIA, TENNESSEE, and many other World War II veteran warships on visits to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard (PNSY) about 24 miles from his home during the 1950s.



**Frank Dengler's USS *California* (BB 44) continued:**

g. Fate: Decommissioned 14 Feb 47. Stricken 1 Mar 59. Sold 1 Jul 59 and scrapped by Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation, Sparrows Point, MD. One of CALIFORNIA's anchors is on display at Newport Harbor High School, Newport Beach, CA and her bell is on display at the California State Capitol Museum in Sacramento, CA.

h. Awards / Accomplishments: California received the American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 7 Battle Stars, World War II Victory Medal, and Navy Occupation Service Medal.



USS CALIFORNIA (BB 44) Oct 1921 "as built" 2 stack, cage mast configuration, minimal anti-aircraft battery from <http://navsource.org/archives/01/044/014421b.jpg>



USS CALIFORNIA (BB 44) Dec 1941 with CXAM radar atop pilot house, camouflaged in Measure 1A, Sea Blue up to stack tops, Haze Gray above, Deck Blue on decks sinking off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, HI

from <http://www.ussflierproject.com/tags/pearl-harbor-salvage/>



USS CALIFORNIA (BB 44) Jan 44 repaired/reconfigured at PSNSY. This is how CALIFORNIA appeared in Battle of Surigao Straits 25 Oct 44 from <http://navsource.org/archives/01/044/014444j.jpg>

**Frank Dengler's USS *California* (BB 44) continued:**

USS CALIFORNIA (BB 44) in Dec 45 as she appeared from after PSNSY repairs following a Jan 45 Kamikaze attack from <http://www.navsource.org/archives/01/014468a.jpg>

**2. Model Fabrication**

- a. Materials: Modified Iron Shipwright Resin Kit
- b. Scale: 1:350
- c. Era & Configuration Depicted: Apr to Dec 1945
- d. Model Construction Period:  $\approx$ 4 months
- e. Techniques: Located numerous photographs and modified 1944 configuration kit with 2 quad 40mm mounts replacing 20mm mounts on aft 01 level, accurate asymmetrical 20mm battery port and starboard outboard of Turret 3, electronic warfare installation forward of upper stack, SC-1 Seahawks replacing OS2U Kingfisher aircraft, and other detail improvements
- f. Issues & Solutions: Camouflage Measure 32, Design 16D Dazzle pattern on sides and decks applied in Apr 1944 was difficult to reproduce at 1/350 scale and would have distracted attention from design features so the model was finished in 1945 configuration with Measure 21 Overall Navy Blue (5-N) camouflage tending toward gray since blue pigment inventory was depleted with wood decks finished lighter than prescribed Deck Blue (20-B) to minimize heat absorption as depicted in a color photo of NEW MEXICO (BB 41) at [http://www.navweaps.com/Weapons/WNUS\\_14-50\\_mk11.php](http://www.navweaps.com/Weapons/WNUS_14-50_mk11.php) and evident in the lighter wood deck in the 1945 black and white photo of CALIFORNIA above.

**Frank Dengler's USS *California* (BB 44) continued:**



USS *CALIFORNIA* (BB 44) Model, 11 Dec 2018 in 1945 Configuration

**BONUS ITEM**

USS *Princeton* (CG-59) homeported in San Diego and decorated for the Holidays

Picture found on the internet

