



# San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

1492 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

July 2019

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 47, NO. VII

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### Presentation

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presentations@  
sdshipmodelersguild.org

Established in 1971 by  
Bob Wright and Russ  
Merrill

## Remembrance



John McShefferty  
manning the fair  
booth in 2011

**Dr. John McShefferty II** passed on in June and will be sorely missed. John was a longtime member of the Guild who volunteered his considerable talent and enthusiasm for ship modeling from working on the British team for the Trafalgar Project in 2005 to being an active San Diego Fair volunteer over the years. Here to the right, three friends share a moment at the San Diego County Fair in a year long gone by.



John Wickman, David Dana,  
and John McShefferty man  
the fair booth in 2004

"If there be any truer measure of a man than  
by what he does, it must be by what he  
gives." - Robert Smith

It is with sadness the Guild also notes the recent passing of **Dr. William Brown**. **Dr. Brown** joined the Guild in May of 1977 and though inactive in the Guild for many years, the Maritime Museum of San Diego's Manager of Collections, **Kevin Sheehan, Ph.D**, noted his passing with the following. "**Dr. William Brown** was an accomplished and internationally recognized ship modeler. The Museum displays many of his models – among the finest are HM Bark *Endeavour*, the *Euterpe*, the USS *Monterey* and the USS *Hartford*. For decades Bill had been an active supporter of the Museum – serving on the board, and always willing to lend his superb models for a variety of exhibits. In 2016 we published a special edition of *Mains'l Haul* that contains a definitive catalog of his amazing work."

## MINUTES OF 11 JUNE 2019 GUILD MEETING

In the absence of **Guild Master James Pitt** and **First Mate Ed Torrence**, **Log Keeper Tom Hairston** 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*, **Tom** greeted thirteen (13) members and a visitor who found us at the San Diego County Fair.

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



<http://sdshipmodelersguild.org/>

**Meeting Minutes continued:** Visitor Steven Shepersky spoke of his experience building and flying models built from wood and other materials (see the pictures below) and his recent interest in ship modeling. Steven is taking up a project of building the New York pilot boat, *Phantom*, and hopefully can utilize the resources the Guild has to offer. Tom continued with the business portion of the meeting and called for the following Officer Reports.



**Purser's Report:** Purser Jon Sanford reported the guild balance as of 11 June 2019 was \$redacted and that the backup signatories for the account are completed. Jon spoke about Guild staffing the Museum Model Shop and upcoming exhibits. **Guild Members are urged to consider becoming a member of the Maritime Museum of San Diego!** This is a wonderful way of showing the Guild's continuing support of Museum activities.

**Log Keeper Tom Hairston and Editor Guy Lawrie** reported there were no updates to their respective posts.

**Fair Coordinator's Report:** Jon Sanford reported the Guild is on the downhill run on manning the SDMM/ Guild booth at the fair and he thanked the volunteers for all the great work done to represent the Guild and museum. The mini models have again been a super success but the inventory is running low so volunteers need to be a bit sparing when passing out kits. Jon noted special thanks to **Bill Grolz** for running the Titanic Demo activity for the children on Wednesdays. Jon reports he has heard a lot of compliments on this from the DIW people. Reminder: **Fair booth take down day is July 5th, 10am.** Those scheduled are **Jon Sanford, Jay MacMaster, Bill Grolz, Guy Lawrie, and Howard Griffus.**



Left, Bill Grolz working on his gunboat!



Left, Howard Griffus studying up and Right, James Pitt and Ed Torrence enjoy a day at the fair!



**Next meeting is**

**9 July**

**5:15 Officer's Meeting**

**5:30 PM - Social**

**6:00 PM Meeting**

**Bring a Model!**

**July 2019**

**Celebrate America!**

| 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 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

## Website Traffic

| MONTH      | DAILY VISITS |
|------------|--------------|
| May 2019   | 55           |
| April 2019 | 53           |
| March 2019 | 20           |

**Web Master's Report:** Web Master Alex Roel reported the following activity on the web page.

1. Added search engine functionality to all pages of the website. Editor note: **Try this out!** For example, enter "hms victory" next to the spyglass in the upper right of the website home page or a member's name.
2. Created "SDSMG Website Architecture" document. This is a document for backup and security of the website.
3. Created new generic email (fair@sdshipmodelersguild.org). This is an email alias to the Fair Coordinator, currently Jon Sanford. Added Fair Coordinator to the "Current Officers" and "Contact Us" pages.
4. Added three new pages to the Website:
  - a. "Festival Of The Sea" under the Voyages menu
  - b. "About Our Masthead" under the Scuttlebutt menu
  - c. "Ship Ratings" under the Scuttlebutt menu

If any member has any input regarding the website they can contact [Alex](#) at webmaster@sdshipmodelersguild.org and he can help you. Members are urged to take a look at our website found at [www.sdshipmodelersguild.org](http://www.sdshipmodelersguild.org) and to explore some of the tabs.

Following **Show and Tell**, Tom adjourned the meeting.

## Presentation

Though a presentation was not made at the June Meeting, look for a series of articles by **Mike Lonnecker** and *Reprinted with the permission of the Nautical Research Guild* in the upcoming editions of the newsletter. These articles can also be found on the website by simply "clicking" on **Scuttlebutt > Documents > Presentations / Articles**.

### BASIC TOOLS

By Mike Lonnecker

I have often been asked by new modelers, "What tools should I buy?" Their thought is to purchase everything they need to build a ship model. I believe this is the wrong approach. The answer to the question as to what tools to buy is "none". Trying to outfit the shop before having a real understanding of what is needed will lead to the purchase of a lot of tools not needed or of the wrong type. The next question, then, is "How do I proceed?" The following are some guide lines that I hope the new modeler will find useful. As usual there is always more than one way to skin a cat, this is my way.

First a couple of basic philosophies on tool buying in general:

- Don't buy a tool until you know you need it and have identified the job it needs to perform. Do some research and figure out just the tool you need. Most tools are designed with a single function in mind.

**Continued next page**

**Lonnecker Article continued:**

- **First bullet point continued:** By waiting to purchase a tool until you need it, you will understand the function of the tool and be able to purchase one that will do the job it is designed for. Using the proper tool is a pleasure. Trying to use a tool for a job that it was not intended to perform can be very frustrating.
- Buy quality tools, they will last you and your grandchildren a lifetime. Quality tools will perform their intended function better.
- Don't buy sets of tools. You may get the tool you want but sets always contain tools you will never use. Sets may also be of lesser quality. There are exceptions that will be discussed later.

The first "tool" to acquire is the place where you will work. This can be a corner of a closet or a two car garage. The work space available will somewhat limit the size of the model you will want to build. It is hard to build a 1:48 Victory in a closet. Plan for the future. Your first project may be a small one but as you gain skills your projects will get larger and more complicated. Another thing to consider is to have a permanent place that allows you to leave your project set up. Having to pack everything up and then get it all out each time you want to work can become discouraging. A good light source and a comfortable chair are also necessary. Ship modeling can become messy. When setting up your shop, depending on the media you choose to work in (wood, plastic, metal, paper or a combination), give consideration to dust control, paint fumes, paint overspray, glue smells, noise etc.

The next step is to pick a project. Spend some time here. Search your local hobby shop and the internet. Read build logs from MSW. Choose a project that you have an interest in. Being truly interested in the model will help you get through some of the more tedious parts of the project.

Once a project has been settled on, study the plans, instructions and possibly any build logs very carefully. Think through the steps and envision how you will perform them. This will give you an understanding of the tools needed. Again, don't rush out and buy a bunch of tools, purchase them as needed and spend time researching what you need and what is available. An example might be that you need a needle file. Files come in various grits, shapes and sizes. Studying the availability on a jewelry supplier's web site will allow you to make an informed choice and purchase the right file for the job.

The following is a list of starting tools and some considerations for their purchase. This is by no means a complete list or a recommendation to purchase. (See above)

- Hobby knife. The standard is the xacto with a no.11 blade. Also to consider is a medical style scalpel with no. 11 blade. These are available in unsterile packages which lowers the cost. The difference is that the xacto is a thicker blade and will handle heavier cuts where the scalpel is thinner and sharper for finer cuts. You may also want to look at the various sizes and shapes the both handles and blades come in. Sand paper.
- Sandpaper is available in grits from 36 to 1800 or finer with lots of grits in between. The larger the number the finer the grit. Sandpapers come with various types of backings based on the intended purpose. There are paper, wet or dry, non-clogging, cloth, etc. backings. Sandpaper is available in sheets, self-stick shapes and rolls. The most useful initially will be paper backed 180, 220, 320 and 400 grits. Rubber cementing sandpaper to various shapes of scrap wood is an easy way to create sanding sticks for that special job.

**Lonnecker Article continued:**

- Measuring equipment. A 6 and/or 12 inch rule in English or metric units (Based on scale and personal preference) made of metal will be very useful. Very accurate measurements can be made with a good set of calipers. Calipers come in three types: Vernier, dial, and digital. I prefer the dial type as they are easier to read than the vernier type. The digital type are the easiest to read but require batteries.
- Drills. You will have to drill holes and this is one of the places that it makes sense to buy a set. Stick with drills made in the USA or Europe to ensure good quality. Drills come as number sizes as well as fractional sizes. Metric sizes are also available. Jewelry supply houses are a good source.
- Razor saw. Again lots of choices. Razor saws are available in various blade thicknesses, teeth per inch and backed (in various heights) or unbacked. The number of teeth per inch or coarseness of the cut is the most important consideration and is governed by thickness and density or hardness of the wood.
- Glue. Superglues or cyanoacrylate (CA) are available in various thicknesses and setting times. I don't use CAs (personal preference) but use Carpenters glue (PVA) for wood to wood, epoxy (5 or 20 minute setting time) for wood to metal and solder or silver solder for metal to metal. For paper, rubber cement is good or a glue stick such as Elmer's.
- Double sided tape. Masking and/or scotch type have multiple uses.
- Clamps, tweezers, pliers, a vice, squares, plastic triangles, mechanical pencils, and on and on.

The list is endless. If you are like me, collecting tools is almost a hobby in its self. Have fun and buy wisely.

Following is a listing of resources and web sites for tools and supplies. I have done business with almost all of these. My comments about each is included. Where a resource is referred to as local, that is the San Diego area where I live.

| MODELING SOURCE LIST   |   |                              |  |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| COMPANY                | LOCATION  | MATERIAL                     | COMMENTS   |
| 123STITCH              | <a href="http://www.123stitch.com">http://www.123stitch.com</a>                     | Sewing supplies              | DMC cotton thread for rigging                                      |
| ADMIRALTY MODELS       | <a href="http://www.admiraltymodels.com">http://www.admiraltymodels.com</a>         | Plans, photo etch, kits      | Excellent limited product line by David Antsheri and Greg Herbert  |
| AGES OF SAIL           | <a href="http://www.agesofsail.com">http://www.agesofsail.com</a>                   | Kits, parts                  | Complete line of Amati kits and parts plus others                  |
| BLUEJACKET             | <a href="http://www.bluejacketinc.com">http://www.bluejacketinc.com</a>             | Kits, parts                  | Long time supplier of good quality kits and parts                  |
| BYRNES MODEL MACHINES  | <a href="http://www.byrnemodelmachines.com">http://www.byrnemodelmachines.com</a>   | Table Saw, Disk Sander, etc. | The best   |
| CARVING ORNAMENTATION  | <a href="http://carvingbook.weebly.com">http://carvingbook.weebly.com</a>           | Carving tutorial             | Techniques, tools, materials for use in carvings for ship models   |
| CINCINNATI SURGICAL CO | <a href="http://www.cincinnati-surgical.com">http://www.cincinnati-surgical.com</a> | Surgical supplies            | Swann Morton blades and good selection of hobby blades and handles |



## Lonnecker Article continued:

| MODELING SOURCE LIST     |   |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| COMPANY                  | LOCATION  | MATERIAL                               | COMMENTS   |
| CRAWFORD TOOL            | <a href="http://crawfordtool.com">http://crawfordtool.com</a>                     | Screwdrivers, hex drivers              | Wiha, Bondhus and Knipex tools   |
| DEDECO                   | <a href="http://www.dedeco.com">http://www.dedeco.com</a>                         | Cutting tools                          | Rotary tool burrs, stones, cutoff wheels big selection                                     |
| ESSLINGER                | <a href="http://www.esslinger.com">http://www.esslinger.com</a>                   | watchmaker and jewelry tools and parts |  |
| FLAGSHIP MODELS          | <a href="http://www.flagshipmodels.com">http://www.flagshipmodels.com</a>         | Resin & photoetch kits, gun kits       | Mostly Civil War Ironclads in 1:192, gun kits in 1:32. Photoetch details in several scales |
| FOREDOM                  | <a href="http://www.foredom.net">http://www.foredom.net</a>                       | Foredom flex shaft tools               | Manufacturer's site. Variety of rotary tools hand pieces and accessories                   |
| FORSTER PRODUCTS         | <a href="http://www.forsterproducts.com">http://www.forsterproducts.com</a>       | Gunsmithing tools                      | Swiv-O-Ling Vise   |
| GESSWEIN                 | <a href="https://www.gesswein.com">https://www.gesswein.com</a>                   | Jewelry Supplies                       | High quality hand tools, drills,burs,finishing materials                                   |
| GRS TOOLS                | <a href="http://www.grstools.com">http://www.grstools.com</a>                     | Jewelry Supplies                       | Ring clamp system, vices, gravers, engraving tools   |
| GYROS TOOLS              | <a href="http://www.gyrostools.com">http://www.gyrostools.com</a>                 | Cutting tools                          | Wide selection cut off disks, saws, sanding disks/drums, for use in rotary style machines  |
| HOBBY LINC               | <a href="http://www.hobbylinc.com">http://www.hobbylinc.com</a>                   | Online hobby shop                      | Cars, plane, ship kits, paints and supplies  |
| HOBBY MILL               | <a href="http://www.hobbymillusa.com">http://www.hobbymillusa.com</a>             | Wood                                   | The best   |
| J.I.MORRIS CO            | <a href="http://www.jimorrisco.com">http://www.jimorrisco.com</a>                 | Miniature fasteners                    |  |
| JAPAN WOODWORKER         | <a href="http://www.japanwoodworker.com">http://www.japanwoodworker.com</a>       | Japanese Hand tools                    | Chisels, Gouges, Hand Planes, Sharpening stones & accessories.                             |
| LEE VALLEY               | <a href="http://www.leevalley.com">http://www.leevalley.com</a>                   | Wood working hand, power tools         | High quality tools, Small planes for models, sharpening systems                            |
| LITTLE MACHINE SHOP      | <a href="http://www.littlemachineshop.com">http://www.littlemachineshop.com</a>   | Bench top machinists tools             | High quality lathes and mills, tooling, parts, many sizes of lathes and mills, good prices |
| LOYALHANNA DOCKYARD      | <a href="http://www.loyalhannadockyard.com">http://www.loyalhannadockyard.com</a> | Kits, parts                            | Mostly steel navy  |
| LUMBERYARD               | <a href="http://www.dlumberyard.com">http://www.dlumberyard.com</a>               | Kits, wood, cannons                    | Wood kits for HAHN style scratch builds. Great cannon kits in 1/4 in and other scales      |
| MARSHAL'S HARDWARE       | <a href="http://www.marshallshardware.com">http://www.marshallshardware.com</a>   | General hardware                       | Hardware store with everything Local 8423 Production Ave. San Diego                        |
| MICROMARK                | <a href="http://www.micromark.com">http://www.micromark.com</a>                   | Modeling tools                         | Large selection of hand and machine tools. Mostly from China-med quality                   |
| MINI TAPS                | <a href="http://www.minitaps.com">http://www.minitaps.com</a>                     | Mini taps dies and fasteners           |  |
| MODEL SHIP WORLD         | <a href="http://www.modelshipworld.com">www.modelshipworld.com</a>                | Internet ship modelling club           | Tips, info, forums, build logs. Very informative   |
| MODEL-EXPO               | <a href="http://www.modelexpo-online.com">http://www.modelexpo-online.com</a>     | Kits, parts ,tools                     | Large selection of kits and parts. import tools med to poor quality                        |
| MODEL WARSHIPS           | <a href="http://www.modelwarships.com">http://www.modelwarships.com</a>           | Forums, Build logs                     | For the plastic ship modeler. Free   |
| NAUTICAL REASEARCH GUILD | <a href="http://www.thenrg.org/">http://www.thenrg.org/</a>                       | National modeling, research group      | Excellent quarterly magazine   |

## Lonnecker Article continued:

| MODELING SOURCE LIST       |   |                                    |  |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| COMPANY                    | LOCATION  | MATERIAL                           | COMMENTS   |
| OTTO FREI                  | <a href="http://www.ottofrei.com">http://www.ottofrei.com</a>                             | Jewelry tools and supplies         | Good prices, GRS benchmate and vices, Woolf tools, Foredom                               |
| PRECISION SCALE MODEL ENG  | <a href="http://www.psmescale.com">http://www.psmescale.com</a>                           | Parts, materials tools             | Huge selection, order their catalog  |
| PROXXON                    | <a href="http://www.proxxon.com/eng/">http://www.proxxon.com/eng/</a>                     | Power hand and machine tools       | Big selection of specialty modeling tools. Some machines used to be Preac                |
| RIDOUT PLASTICS            | <a href="http://www.eplastics.com">http://www.eplastics.com</a>                           | Plexiglas                          | Display cases, dustcovers, local 5535 Ruffin Rd., San Diego, CA 92123                    |
| RIO GRANDE JEWELRY         | <a href="http://www.riogrande.com">http://www.riogrande.com</a>                           | Jewelry supplies                   | High quality files ,pliers, Swiss,German,USA made  |
| ROCKLER                    | <a href="http://www.rockler.com">http://www.rockler.com</a>                               | Woodworking supplies               | Local 8199 Clairemont Mesa Blvd  |
| SAN DIEGO SHIP MODEL GUILD | <a href="http://www.sdshipmodelersguild.org">http://www.sdshipmodelersguild.org</a>       | Ship modelling club                | meets monthly second Wed on the Berkeley San Diego Maritime Museum                       |
| SCALE HARDWARE             | <a href="http://www.scalehardware.com">http://www.scalehardware.com</a>                   | Model size nuts and bolts          |  |
| SEAWATCH BOOKS             | <a href="http://seawatchbooks.com">http://seawatchbooks.com</a>                           | Books                              | Books geared to the model builder  |
| SHEERLINE MACHINES         | <a href="http://www.sherline.com">http://www.sherline.com</a>                             | Table top lathe, mill, accessories | Good machines excellent variety of accessories. Local 3235 Executive Ridge, Vista        |
| SHIP MODELLERS ASSOCIATION | <a href="http://www.shipmodelersassociation.org">www.shipmodelersassociation.org</a>      | Ship modelling club                | Largest club on west coast Meets 3rd Wed 1207 N. Lemon Street, Fullerton, CA             |
| SHIPS IN SCALE             | <a href="http://www.seaways.com">www.seaways.com</a>                                      | Ship modelling magazine            |  |
| Small Parts                | <a href="http://www.amazonupply.com">http://www.amazonupply.com</a>                       | Materials, hypo tubing             | Now part of larger Amazon supply, almost anything  |
| SPECIAL SHAPES             | <a href="http://www.specialshapes.com">http://www.specialshapes.com</a>                   | Materials, brass                   | Shapes, bars & sheets: round, square, rectangular tubing 4 wall thicknesses              |
| STARR GEMS, INC            | <a href="http://www.silversupplies.com">http://www.silversupplies.com</a>                 | Jewelry Supplies                   | Silver Solder Supplies   |
| SWAN-MORTON                | <a href="http://www.swann-morton.com">http://www.swann-morton.com</a>                     | Scalpels and blades                | The best   |
| TH&H                       | <a href="http://www.th-h.com">http://www.th-h.com</a>                                     | Wood                               | Mostly domestic wood and trim, Finishing supplies Local 8849 Complex Dr                  |
| THE NAUTICAL MIND          | <a href="http://www.nauticalmind.com">http://www.nauticalmind.com</a>                     | Books                              | Nautical books, some European  |
| TIAG MACHINES              | <a href="http://www.cartertools.com">http://www.cartertools.com</a>                       | Table top lathe, mill, accessories | Similar in size to Sherline but more robust Excellent quality Uses shoreline accessories |
| TRAVERS                    | <a href="http://www.travers.com">http://www.travers.com</a>                               | Machine shop tools                 | Drills, end mills, etc.  |
| TROPICAL EXOTIC HARDWOODS  | <a href="http://www.anexotichardwood.com">http://www.anexotichardwood.com</a>             | Exotic hardwoods                   | Lots of beautiful woods for display bases etc. Local 2270 Camino Vida Roble Suite "B"    |
| U.S.SHOP TOOLS             | <a href="http://www.usshoptools.com">http://www.usshoptools.com</a>                       | Machine shop tools                 | Drills, end mills, etc.  |
| UMM-USA                    | <a href="http://www.umm-usa.com">http://www.umm-usa.com</a>                               | On-line hobby shop                 | Kits, tools, accessories, detailing kits; Cars Aircraft, Armor, Ships (a few subs)       |
| UTOPIA TOOLS               | <a href="http://www.utopiatools.com">http://www.utopiatools.com</a>                       | jewelry/hobby supplies and tools   | Wide range of hobby and jewelry tools and supplies                                       |
| WARNER WOODS WEST          | <a href="mailto:warwoods@infowest.com">warwoods@infowest.com</a>                          | Blocks , linen line                | Excellent quality blocks   |
| WOODEN SHIP MODELING       | <a href="http://www.shipmodeling.ca/index.html">http://www.shipmodeling.ca/index.html</a> | Photos and videos                  | Tips for building models French  |
| WELD FABULOUS              | <a href="http://www.weldfabulous.com/">http://www.weldfabulous.com/</a>                   | Welding supplies                   | Smith Little Torch   |

## Show and Tell

The Guild did not submit a **Museum Model of the Month** for exhibit during the month of June. The Museum saved the space with a model by **John C. Washington** of *Katarina*, a Dutch warship of 1649. Note: Anyone interested in displaying one of their models at the Maritime Museum of San Diego can contact [Jon](mailto:purser@sdshipmodelersguild.org) at [purser@sdshipmodelersguild.org](mailto:purser@sdshipmodelersguild.org) and he will work with you. All are welcomed and urged to participate!



### H.M.S. *Bounty*'s Jolly Boat

by John Walsh

Kit: Artesania Latina

Scale 1:25

**John** reported he is in the early stages of building this plank-on-frame kit as he forays into wooden ship modeling. He tells about this being a model of one of *Bounty*'s launches like the one Captain Bligh and his shipmates were abandoned in as they embarked on their 3,600 mile and forty day journey. The Guild looks forward to seeing **John's** progress following his volunteer days in the fair booth!

### USS *TEXAS* (BB 35)

by Frank Dengler

Frank tells us about his model, note the base with a draw for storage of significant documents



### Iron Shipwrights resin kit with some modifications

Scale 1:350



In honor of the **75th D-Day Anniversary**, **Frank** showed the Guild his model of *Texas* who saw action on 6 June 1944 as Bombardment Force Flagship for Omaha Beach.

*TEXAS* in 1944 from <http://www.navsource.org/archives/01/013529b.jpg>

Note Measure 22 Camouflage with hull below main deck painted blue to blend with sea and upper works painted gray to blend with overcast sky when viewed from surface ship or submarine periscope. The ship has received numerous 3"/50, 40mm, and 20mm gun mounts and fire control systems for AA defense

#### Ship's History

- Type/Class: Battleship / NEW YORK (BB 34)
- Namesake: State of Texas
- Shipbuilder & Location: Newport News Shipbuilding, Newport News, VA
- Date Commissioned/In-Service: 12 March 1914



## USS TEXAS (BB 35) by Frank Dengler continued:

e. Characteristics: Displacement: 28,822 tons full load\*, Length 573 ft, Beam 95 ft, Draft: 29 ft 7 in full load \*, Propulsion\* 14 × Babcock & Wilcox coal-fired boilers, 2 × vertical triple-expansion steam engines, 28,737 shaft horse power, 2 × screws, Speed: 21 kts, Range: 7,060 nm at 10 kts, Complement\*: 1,042, Armament\*\*: 10 × 14"/45 in 5 twin turrets (firing 1,400 lb armor-piercing rounds up to ≈13 mi/11 nm), 6 × 5"/51 in casements, 10 × 3"/50, 10 × 40mm quad, 42 × 20mm single gun mounts. Notes: Asterisk \* indicates as of 1914. Double asterisk \*\* indicates as of 1944.



## f. Operations:

Pre-World War I - In April 1914 Mexican troops detained 9 U. S. Navy sailors from the gunboat USS DOLPHIN buying gasoline in Tampico, Mexico. RADM Frank Friday Fletcher, USN, demanded the sailors' release, an apology, and a 21-gun salute to the U. S. flag. The apology was provided, but not the salute, and President Woodrow Wilson ordered the U. S. Navy to prepare for action pending Congressional approval. It was learned that the German cargo ship YPIRANGA was delivering arms and ammunition to Veracruz, Mexico intended for troops under José Victoriano Huerta Márquez, a general who had taken the Mexican Presidency in 1913. President Wilson ordered the arms and ammunition seized and RADM Fletcher sent a naval landing party ashore 21 April 1914. This force was augmented as the "Veracruz Incident" escalated and TEXAS assisted the forces ashore and evacuation of U. S. citizens May to November 1914. In 1916 TEXAS became the first U. S. battleship with anti-aircraft (AA) guns (3"/50s atop crane king-posts), gunfire control directors, optical rangefinders, and analog gunfire control computers.



**TEXAS Circa 1917 from <http://www.navsource.org/archives/01/013688.jpg>**

**Note armored conning tower aft of 14"/50 Turret Two, 5"/51s in hull casements, two stacks, cage masts, and hydro-dynamic bow sloping forward towards the foot at the stem. TEXAS foremast search lights were mounted vertically while NEW YORK's were side-by-side; a feature enabling differentiation of the sister ships.**

World War I - After numerous submarine attacks and other provocations, the U. S. declared war against Germany 6 April 1917. To minimize exposure to submarine attacks, TEXAS and other battleships were based in the York River, VA where they trained Naval Armed Guard gun crews to defend merchant ships against surfaced submarine and raider attacks. During pre-deployment operations TEXAS ran aground on Block Island in Long Island Sound on the night of 27 September 1917. With the crew chanting "Come on TEXAS!", the ship's engines and those of 6 tugs enabled TEXAS to float clear after off-loading ammunition, coal, anchors, boats, and pumping tanks on 30 September 1917. Following repair, TEXAS joined Battleship Division 9 (6th Battle Squadron, Britain's Grand Fleet) on 11 February 1918. This force operated from Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands and the Firth of Forth in Scotland escorting convoys and conducting operations in the North Sea. During this period the German High Seas Fleet seldom forayed from anchorages in the Jade and the Ems

Rivers and there were no battle fleet engagements. At the same time U. S. and Royal Navy units laid about 70,000 mines between the Orkney Islands and Norway to deter German submarines from getting to the Atlantic, although there were encounters between Battleship Division 9 and "Unterseeboots" or "U-boats". After the Armistice ended hostilities 11 November 1918, TEXAS oversaw the German Fleet transit to surrender anchorages and escorted President Woodrow Wilson embarked in the liner GEORGE WASHINGTON to Brest, France in route to the Paris Peace Conference where he advocated formation of a League of Nations to mediate international disputes and thereby avert future wars.

## USS TEXAS (BB 35) by Frank Dengler continued:



1919-1941 - On 10 March 1919 TEXAS became the first U. S. battleship to launch an aircraft, a Sopwith Camel biplane piloted by LCDR Edward McDonnell, USN, pioneering use of aircraft for area reconnaissance and observation of ship's gunfire impacts and radioed adjustments to strike targets. In May 1919 TEXAS served as a plane guard and navigation reference during the first trans-Atlantic flight by the U. S. Navy flying boat NC-4. In July 1919 TEXAS became part of the Pacific Fleet and was designated BB-35 under the new classification system. TEXAS returned to the Atlantic in 1924 where she trained Midshipmen and sank the incomplete battleship WASHINGTON (BB 47) 25 November 1924 under the terms of the 1922 naval arms limitation treaty. On 31 July 1925 TEXAS began modernization in the Norfolk Navy Yard that included replacing coal with oil fired boilers, eliminating one stack, replacing cage masts with tripods, upgrading and repositioning gunfire control systems, moving her 5"/51 gun mounts up to the main deck from hull casements that were subject to sea encroachment, and augmenting her anti-aircraft battery. After this overhaul, TEXAS became flagship of the U. S. Fleet. TEXAS was the first ship to show the crew movies with sound in 1927. In 1928 TEXAS embarked President Calvin Coolidge for transit to Havana, Cuba for the Pan-American Conference. TEXAS returned to the Pacific for operations out of San Diego and San Pedro/Long Beach 1931 to 1937 less April to October 1934. After returning to the Atlantic in 1937, TEXAS received two quad 1.1"/75 AA gun mounts. In December 1938, TEXAS received a CXZ radar by Radio Corporation of America (RCA) while here sistership USS NEW YORK (BB 34) received an XAF radar by the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). RCA incorporated features of these initial prototypes in CXAM radars installed on several cruisers, battleships, and carriers in 1940/41.



**TEXAS in 1928 After Modernization from <http://www.navsource.org/archives/01/013572a.jpg>**

**Note five twin 14"/50 turrets (2 forward, 2 aft, 1 amidships), 5"/51s moved to main deck, single stack, tripod masts, catapult atop Turret 3. TEXAS' "V" shaped bridge differentiated it from NEW YORK.**

As tension between the U. S. and the Axis powers increased in the late 1930s, TEXAS helped convoy Lend-Lease materiel to the United Kingdom. On 1 February 1941 the First Marine Division was activated aboard TEXAS and ADM Ernest J. King, USN, made TEXAS his Atlantic Fleet flagship. On 19 June 1941 the German submarine U-203 sighted TEXAS while the battleship on a Neutrality Patrol about 800 miles SSE of Iceland. The submarine stalked TEXAS for about 20 hours but never got into position to launch torpedoes.

World War II - After the Japanese 7 December 1941 attack on U. S. forces in and around Pearl Harbor, TEXAS escorted convoys to England, the Panama

Canal, and West Africa against potential attacks by German warships. TEXAS' AA battery was initially augmented with 2 x quad 1.1"/75 mounts and then all these were replaced by 40mm and 20mm mounts in June 1943. In October 1942 TEXAS participated in Operation Torch landings on Port Lyautey, French Morocco firing on "Vichy" French positions and helping to clear ships scuttled to block the harbor. During the ship's return to Norfolk, fledgling reporter Walter Cronkite, who had been embarked aboard where he was unable to transmit stories to his editors, was flown ashore on one of TEXAS' OS2U Kingfisher float planes, enabling him to "scoop" other correspondents and thereby launch a long and successful career.

### USS TEXAS (BB 35) Port Quarter by Frank Dengler

**Note the flat surface on that aft side of the mid-ship control stations on which crew movies were projected and the ships galley forward of Turret Three**



**USS TEXAS (BB 35) by Frank Dengler continued:**

On 29 April 1944, TEXAS, NEVADA (BB 36), and ARKANSAS (BB 33) moved to Belfast Lough, Northern Ireland staging for Operation Neptune, the naval element of Operation Overlord, the invasion of France's Normandy coast. GEN Dwight D. Eisenhower, USA, came aboard 19 May 1944 and spoke to the crew. TEXAS was Bombardment Force Flagship for Omaha Beach, supporting the U. S. 29th Infantry Division and the U. S. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalions at Pointe du Hoc. TEXAS commenced fire at 0550 on "D-Day" 6 June 1944 targeting German artillery atop Pointe du Hoc (later found to have been withdrawn), U. S. troop routes inland from Omaha Beach, German positions around Vierville, and enemy reinforcement routes. In order to help U. S. troops trapped by German fire on Omaha Beach, TEXAS closed to within about 3,000 yds, as close as water depth would allow, and fired its main and secondary batteries at sniper, machine gun, mortar, and artillery positions. On 7 June, TEXAS sent provisions and ammunition via landing craft to the Rangers at Pointe Du Hoc, extracted 35 wounded for medical treatment and 27 prisoners, struck German positions around Formigny and Trévières, and fired on German aircraft. On 8 June, TEXAS hit German positions near Isigny and an artillery battery. After rearming at Plymouth, TEXAS resumed firing until troops had moved so far inland that the battleship had to flood its starboard torpedo blister causing a list that enabled the guns to elevate enough to strike targets that would otherwise have been out of range. According to <http://navsource.org/archives/01/035/013533j.jpg>, TEXAS expended 690 14-inch and 272 5-inch rounds supporting Omaha Beach landings. On 25 June, TEXAS and other ships engaged Battery Hamburg, four 24 cm (9.4 inch) guns that were part of the German defenses preventing allies from using port facilities on the Cherbourg peninsula. At 1233 TEXAS was straddled by German shells. At 1316, a German 24 cm shell skidded across the top of TEXAS conning tower and exploded wounding several and killing helmsman Christen Christensen. At 1447, a 24 cm shell struck TEXAS forward but failed to detonate. During the 3-hour engagement, German fire hit or nearly struck TEXAS about 65 times and TEXAS expended 206 rounds, destroying one of Battery Hamburg's guns.

At the outset of Operation Dragoon, the 15 August 1944 assault on German positions near Saint-Tropez on the French Riviera, TEXAS fired on a battery of five 15 cm (5.9 inch) guns. When allied troops moved inland beyond the range of naval gunfire, TEXAS ceased firing and withdrew, departing the Mediterranean for New York in September 1944.

Shifting to the Pacific, TEXAS provided naval gunfire support for Operation Detachment, the assault on Iwo Jima, and Operation Iceberg, the assault on Okinawa. TEXAS arrived off Iwo Jima 16 February 1945 and hit assigned targets until three Marine Corps Divisions hit the beach on the 19<sup>th</sup>, after which the battleship responded to call for fire requests from Marine forward observers (FOs) until 21 February. On 21 March 1945 TEXAS began 6 days of prelanding bombardment of Okinawa. When U. S. Marine and U. S. Army units landed 1 April 1945, TEXAS provided gunfire support until 14 May while defending against kamikaze suicide aircraft attacks. TEXAS shot down 1 aircraft and assisted in destruction of 3 others. On 17 May, TEXAS arrived off Leyte, Philippine Islands and began training for the invasion of Japan until 15 August 1945 when the Japanese ceased hostilities. TEXAS helped carry veterans home then proceeded to Baltimore, MD for transfer to the Atlantic Reserve Fleet 18 June 1945.



**USS TEXAS (BB 35) Port Beam by Frank Dengler**

**Note the foretop upper-tier main battery control surmounted by Mk 3 Fire Control Radar, mid-tier lookout station, and lower-tier secondary battery control and the similar upper-tier main battery control and lower-tier secondary battery control station aft of the stack**



## USS TEXAS (BB 35) by Frank Dengler continued:

g. Fate: On 21 April 1948, the 112<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto in which Texans under Sam Houston defeated Mexican forces under GEN Antonio López de Santa Anna, the battleship TEXAS was turned over to the State of Texas and established as a memorial museum at the San Jacinto Battleground Park in La Porte, roughly 25 miles from Houston, TX. TEXAS was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 April 1948. TEXAS was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service in 1976. Note: Model maker **Frank Dengler** was the ship's Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) Superintendent in the early 1990's.

h. Awards: Mexican Service, World War I Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, American Defense Service Medal, Europe, Africa, Middle East Campaign Medal with 3 Battle Stars, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 2 Battle Stars, World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal. TEXAS merited the subsequently created Combat Action Ribbon that did not exist during World War II.

### 2. Model

a. Materials: Iron Shipwrights resin kit

b. Scale: 1:350

c. Era & Configuration Depicted: 1944 (See 3<sup>rd</sup> photo above.)

d. Model Construction Period: ≈2 months

e. Techniques: A few modifications were made involving 20mm mounts, antennas, rafts, and directors to represent the 1944 configuration. Note that OS2U Kingfisher aircraft were not embarked or operated from the ship during the Normandy landings due to their armament, speed, and maneuverability limitations relative to German fighters.

f. Issues & Solutions: Thread used to represent long wire radio antennas between the masts was too thick, but it was never replaced.

**Museum Ship TEXAS 28 July 1990**  
from <http://navsource.org/archives/01/pdf/013541.pdf>

**Note Measure 21 Camouflage with blue on vertical surfaces to reduce detection by kamikaze aircraft in 1945. The ship is returning from overhaul in Galveston and refitting, including installation of 40mm gun mounts and Mark 51 Gun Directors, at Green's Bayou on the Houston Ship Channel. TEXAS appeared in the movies "Pearl Harbor" and "Flags of Our Fathers."**



Karl flanked by Bill Grolz on the right and Bob McPhail on the left waits to tell about his diorama

**“The Greyhound and the Flea”, USS *Monaghan* (DD-354), 7 December 1941**

**Diorama by Karl Zingheim**

***Monaghan* scratch built, Japanese midget sub from a kit long forgotten, Crew adapted from model railroad figures**

**Scale 1/144**

Keeping to the theme of the **75th D-Day Anniversary**, Karl's diorama brings to mind the event that led to **D-Day**.

From Wikipedia, USS *Monaghan* (DD-354) was the last ship built of the *Farragut*-class destroyer design and named for Ensign John R. Monaghan. *Monaghan* was laid down on November 21, 1933 at the Boston Navy Yard, and launched on January 9, 1935. *Monaghan* was present during the Pearl Harbor raid on December 7, 1941. She participated in the Battle of the Coral Sea and the Battle of Midway in 1942. *Monaghan* was sunk in a typhoon east of the Philippines in 1944.

**“Greyhound and the Flea” by Karl Zingheim continued:**

From Wikipedia, “On December 7, 1941, *Monaghan* was a ready duty destroyer in Pearl Harbor, and at 07:51 was ordered to join *Ward*, who had just sunk an unidentified submarine off the entrance to Pearl Harbor an hour earlier. Four minutes later, before *Monaghan* could get underway, the Japanese air attack began. *Monaghan* opened fire, and at 08:27 was underway to join *Ward* when notified of the presence of a Ko-hyoteki class midget submarine in the harbor. *Monaghan* headed for the trespasser and the captain giving the order to ram. The submarine turned and fired its torpedo at the *Monaghan*. It missed, passing within 50 yards of the destroyer's starboard side. The *Monaghan* rammed the submarine glancingly, then sank it with two depth charges. Because of the shallowness of the harbor, when the depth charges detonated, the explosions lifted the *Monaghan*'s stern out of the water. The destroyer then went out of control and smashed into a barge.”

***Star of India*, a barque****by Tom Hairston****Scratch built based on 1977 plans by Captain Kenneth B. Reynard, William F. Wilmurt, and Edmund F. White****Plank-on-Bulkhead****Scale: 1/8inch or 1:96**

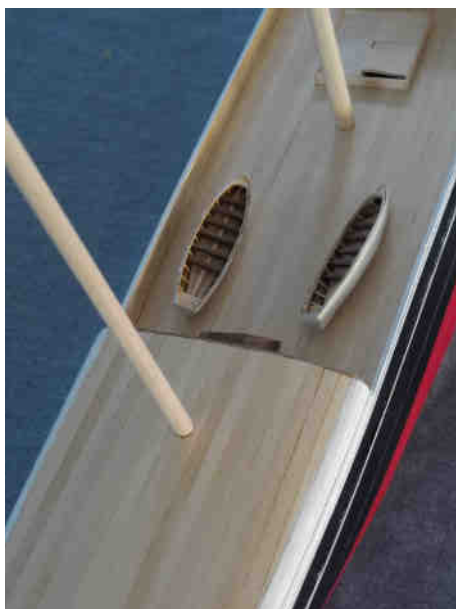
**Tom** tells that he is using his “scrap” box for materials and this is one of his first adventures into scratch building. *Star* is the world’s oldest sailing ship and as the Maritime Museum of San Diego tells us, *Star* “began her life on the stocks at Ramsey Shipyard in the Isle of Man in 1863. Iron ships were experiments of sorts then, with most vessels still being built of wood. Within five months of laying her keel, the ship was launched into her element. She bore the name *Euterpe*, after the Greek muse of music and poetry.”



***Star of India* by Tom Hairston continued:**

There have been several books written about the *Star of India* and especially about the voyages of the *Euterpe* as she was originally called. A book on the *Star's* history is available on-line through the museum's website store, [sdmaritime.org](http://sdmaritime.org), and a summary about her can also be found on the website. Suffice it to say, this iron ship sailed around the world 21 times and made many voyages carrying emigrants to New Zealand and sometimes to Australia in the last quarter of the 1800's.

*Star of India* as found today at the Maritime Museum of San Diego



*Star of India* is the flagship of the Maritime Museum's fleet and on occasion goes under sail with a volunteer crew. A marvelous sight to see! The Guild will enjoy watching **Tom's** project progress even though he tells us he has quite a way to go!



## Bonus Meeting Pictures



Royce Privett, Alex Roel, and John Walsh as the meeting gets underway!



John Walsh, above, and right, Bob McPhail with even a museum visitor looking in on Auction Day and the good deals!

