



April 2022 NEWSLETTER VOLUME 50, NO. IV

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ELECTION NIGHT FOR SDSMG!!!



It’s an even-numbered year, and for some that means smog checks for their vehicles, and for the Guild, that means it’s election time to select and install new officers to lead us into a new term. Just as with the nation and its elections, pandemic concerns promoted the use of mail –in balloting for our officers which added to the tallies at our

meeting on March 8th. With fourteen members present, and the input from four absentee ballots, **Guy Lawrie** enjoyed a unanimous landslide for Master, while a tight race for First Mate saw **Tom Hairston** come out ahead with a margin of four votes over **Don Dressel**. Unanimous wins went as well to **Doug Yumoto** as Log Keeper and **Jon Sanford** as Pursor. Dark horse candidate, and Powder Monkey, **Karl Zingheim** likewise enjoyed the complete consent of the members to serve a six year term as Newsletter Editor.

“From the Quarterdeck” by the Guild Master

As another Guild Master assumes the post, let us send a hearty “Bravo Zulu!” to **Alex Roel** for his service to the Guild over the last two years that included steering the Guild through the worst of the health crisis. He was able to implement virtual monthly meetings to safeguard the membership, and, lest it be forgotten, captained a spectacular celebration of the Guild’s 50th Anniversary! Luckily, Alex will continue to man the post of Web Master. That valuable resource for sharing our ship modeling craft will remain in steady hands not only for the Guild, but for the public, too.

John Sanford will continue to keep his eyes on the Guild’s wallet as well as coordinating our participation in the County Fair’s “Design in Wood” exhibition this summer. He will also remain as our coordinator with the San Diego Maritime Museum’s model shop. **Tom Hairston** will be our able backup and **Doug Yumoto** has reported aboard to keep the log. Our own impish **Karl Zingheim** will be learning the ropes as Newsletter Editor—continue to send



The San Diego Ship Modelers Guild is affiliated with and supports the Maritime Museum of San Diego
1492 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101



“From the Quarterdeck” by the Guild Master continued:

pictures and descriptions of the incredible ship modeling that is happening in your life, especially if you are unable to attend monthly meetings.

In the coming months, a successful fair season will take place with many of you participating in the fair’s model competition and manning the Maritime Museum’s ship modelers booth that attracts the public to the Museum and our modeling craft. Don’t be shy! A regular feature for our meetings to come will be presentations on modeling techniques, and to this end, **James Pitt** and **Tom Hairston** have generously donated projectors to bring this knowledge to all. A new photo backdrop has also been obtained to upgrade our photography. Come to the April meeting on the 12th and participate! Bring a model!

Be well in calm seas with a fair wind,

Guy Lawrie

Help Make It a Fair to Remember



The San Diego County Fair returns to Del Mar from June 8th to July 4th (except Mondays and Tuesdays in June) with the theme “Heroes Unite!” Help contribute to the Guild’s presence this year by sending a model or manning our booth to bring the joy of model ship crafting to the public. **Jon Sanford** reports we still need two more members to fill out crew for the booth. Entries for the model competition are **due April 29th** to get your tickets. Set up is on May 7th at 10 am, and take down will be on

July 5th by 10 am. We will have 545 *Star of India* mini kits for kids visiting the booth. Useful links: Design in Wood Brochure <https://tinyurl.com/2p8686cj>; model entry form: sdiago.fairwire.com.

March 8th Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by outgoing Guild Master **Alex Roel** with fourteen attendees including **Art Arroyo, Don Bienvenue, Frank Dengler, Don Dressel, Tom Hairston, Guy Lawrie, Mike Lonnecker, Jay MacMaster, James Pitt, Alex Roel, Jon Sanford, Dave Yotter, Doug Yumoto, and Karl Zingheim.**

Jon’s proposal for a \$500 donation to the Museum was accepted, and he confirmed the establishment of the Model of the Quarter program where any member may loan a model for public display in front of the Model Shop for three months. Protective coverings may be provided by request. Tom generously contributed his superb scratch build of the Museum’s own topsail schooner *Californian* to inaugurate the program. To participate in this worthy endeavor, see Jon for details.

SDSMG Donates to the San Diego Maritime Museum



Newly-elected Guild Master **Guy Lawrie** presents a check for a \$500 donation to our gracious hosts, the San Diego Maritime Museum, in gratitude for their ongoing support into our second half-century. Accepting on behalf of the Museum is Curator Kevin Sheehan inside the Museum's research library aboard the ferryboat *Berkeley*.

James Pitt Models in the Air as well as on the Sea



Master modeler and Guild member **James Pitt** crafts models in many genres, as this panoramic view of his extensive shop demonstrates. Here, he is laying formers for an upcoming balsa biplane project, while a sailing vessel awaits more attention in the back of the room.

Model of the Quarter: Tom Hairston's *Californian*



A new Model of the Quarter program was announced last month by **Jon Sanford**, and our inaugural contribution is **Tom Hairston's** recently completed miniature replica of the Maritime Museum's own topsail schooner *Californian*. Built from official plans, and Tom's own notes on the exhibit ship, the model will reside outside the Guild model shop for the next three months.

Show and Tell Models

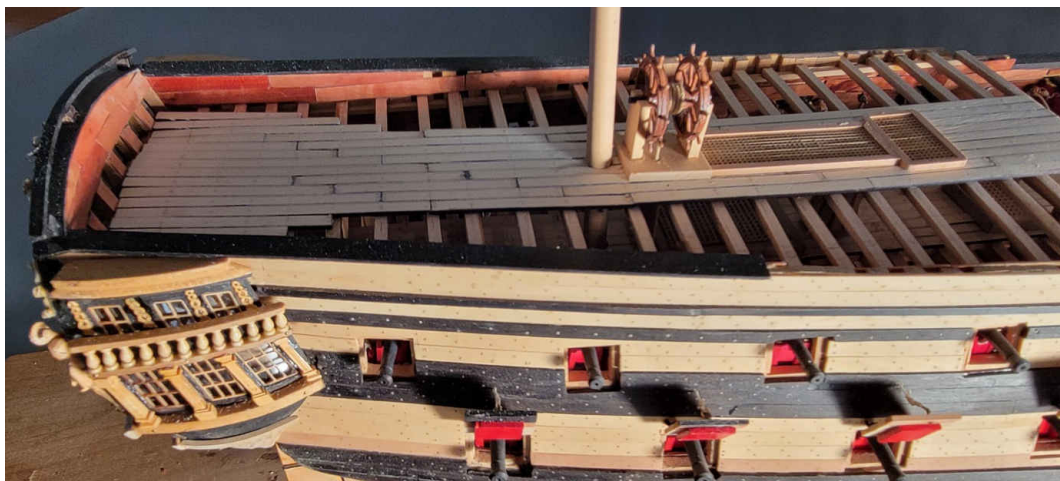
Art Arroyo's *Suzanna II*



New member **Art Arroyo** debuted in a big way with his scratch built model of the tuna boat *Suzanna II*. Built from plans, his model is crafted from basswood and is ballasted with shotgun shot. Capable of radio control, the model features a removable wheelhouse to access the machinery. He is also looking into incorporating a smoke generator aboard his craft to create an even more realistic appearance on the water.



Don Dressel's HMS *Roe-Buck*



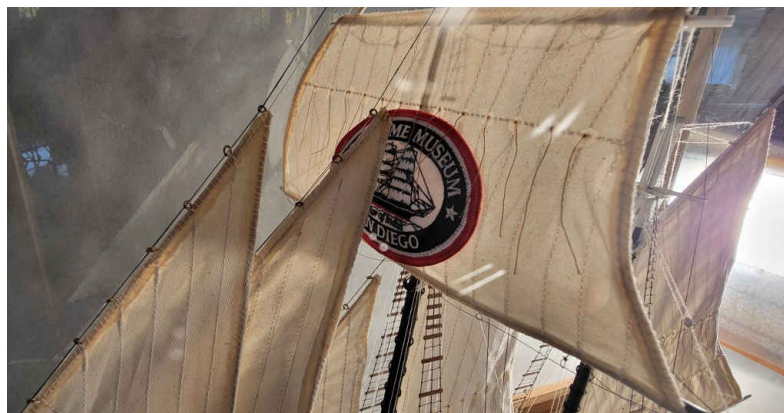
Don Dressel's magnificent scratch built 18th century Royal Navy frigate *Roe-Buck* is developing steadily, and has reached the lower masts and rigging attachments, as well as the ship's brass bell. Don also mentioned a nifty method to fabricate metal rings for deadeyes by slicing sections of brass tubing. Research has been an ongoing challenge as Don reflected on the conflicting material from the Hahn plans and the few surviving images from the Admiralty drawings of this famous vessel. Compounding the dilemma is the very era the ship represents, approximately when the American Revolution was fought, a time when details like belaying pins were not standard in the fleet yet. At any rate, Don is confident he is on an accurate path to complete a faithful model.

Tom Hairston's Topsail Schooner *Californian*

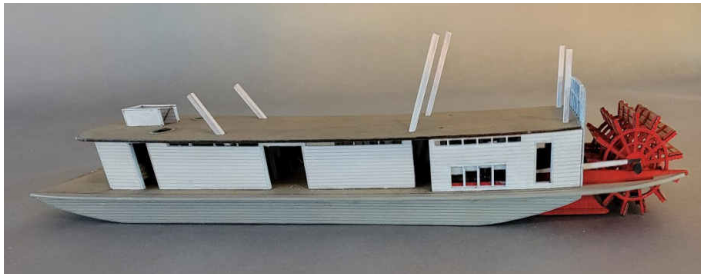


Tom Hairston presented his latest addition in a personal project to replicate the ships of the San Diego Maritime Museum. After completing his model of the clipper *Star of India*, Tom promptly shifted to the topsail schooner *Californian*, itself a replica of a 19th century U.S. Revenue Cutter. Working from plans of the actual ship, as well as

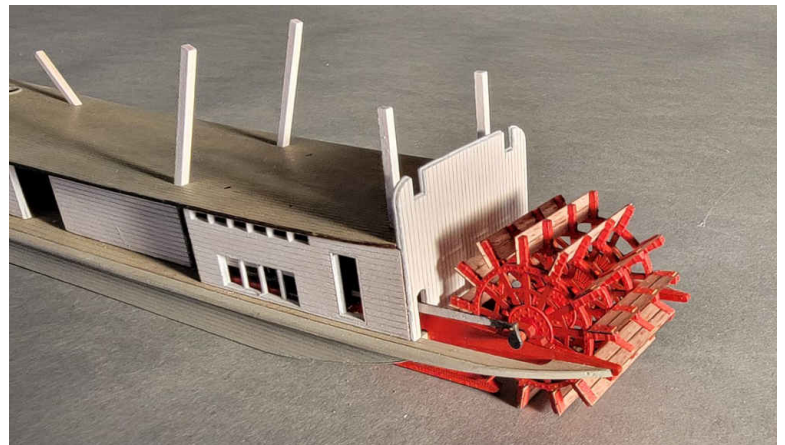
personally taking photos and measurements aboard the vessel at the Museum, Tom skillfully reproduced the ship, right down to the custom Museum logo on the topsail. A master craftsman, Tom also constructs all his own display cases. This model is currently on public display outside the Guild model shop aboard the *Berkeley*.



Dave Yotter's River Towboat *K.C. Belle*



A fascinating subject is **Dave Yotter's** build of a 19th century logging industry paddle towboat employed in the rivers and backwaters of the Pacific Northwest, the *K.C. Belle*. Constructed from a Train Troll kit, the model is in the popular HO model railroad scale. Dave is nearing completion and intends to depict the *Belle* in a river diorama.



Karl Zingheim's "Final Friday" diorama



Plastic modeler and diorama specialist **Karl Zingheim** brought in his 1:200 scale scene entitled "Final Friday" depicting the arrival of the battleships *Arizona* and *Oklahoma* to Pearl Harbor just two days before the fateful attack that destroyed both vessels. The *Arizona* was built from the Trumpeter kit, while the *Oklahoma* and tug *Osceola* were scratch built.

To depict the smooth water of a harbor, Karl used transparent stippled vinyl blotter material, placed over a colored base, and textured where necessary for wake effects. Scaled crew figures and harbor accessories completed the scene.

