



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

Volume I

NEWSLETTER -- September 1977

Number 5

"They that go down to the sea in ships,
doing business on the great waters;
these see the works of the Lord,
his wonders in the deep....."

Psalms 107:23/24

NOTES From the Last Meeting:

Our club had the opportunity to purchase a builders' half model for presentation to the Maritime Museum Association of San Diego. The model appears to be either the President Polk or President Harrison built by NASSCO about 1965 or 1966. Attending members had the chance to view the hull model (with complete plating lines) and is nearly 12 feet in length; 1/4" scale.

The model is most likely President Polk, as she was the first of four built by NASSCO during this period. Bill BARKER attended the launching of President Polk on January 23, 1965 and supplied the following info: built for American President Lines (APL), President Polk was classed as a C-4-S-1QA, 563 feet in length, 21,090 tons fully loaded, (13,330 tons DW) with a 76 foot beam. She carried a crew of 58 and had accommodations for 12 passengers. Her shaft horse power of 17,500 enabled her rated speed of 20.5 knots. Total cost to APL was \$12,600,000 which wouldn't buy much of a comparable ship at today's prices.

Executive members of the Maritime Museum had expressed a very enthusiastic interest in displaying this model aboard BEREKLY, since it represents a San Diego-built ship. A local resident who is giving up ship modeling had offered to sell us this model for the unheard of bargain price of \$25. We voted unanimously to buy this out of our club treasury.

Efforts are being made to obtain pictures of the actual ship being built, the launching, sea trials etc. These will also be displayed with the model, as well as an appropriate plaque stating the display was donated by the "San Diego Ship Modelers Guild."

MODELS Displayed:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Bob BECKER | "Little Wonder" - Scratch, plank on frame |
| 2. Bob CRAWFORD | "H.M.S. Victory" - Kit, cross section |
| 3. Bill KELLY-FLEMING | "Flying Cloud" - Kit (Sterling) |
| 4. Doug MCFARLAND | "Norske Love" - Kit, plank on frame |
| 5. Royce PRIVETT | "Constitution" - Kit (Bluejacket) |
| 6. Dave SELLERS | "H.M.S. Victory" - Kit, plank on frame |
| | "Rattlesnake" - Kit, plank on frame |
| 7. Doug SMAY | "I.J.N. Yamato" - Kit, 1/200 scale, all PVC |
| 8. Mel TRUELLE | "Runny Mead" - Scratch |
| | "Thomas W. Lawson" - Scratch |
| 9. Don WESLEY | "Dapper Tom" - Kit |

SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS GUILD

Elected Officers

CAPTAIN: WILLIAM D. "Bill" BENSON

LOGKEEPER/

EDITOR : FRED FRAAS

PURSER: BOB BECKER

STEERING

COMMITTEE: VIC CROSBY - DOUG MCFARLAND - AL LHEUREUX

MEETINGS: 3rd Friday of each month aboard the BEREKELY

MEMBERSHIP

DUES: \$3.00 per year (Membership in the Maritime Museum of San Diego is very highly encouraged.)

Prospective members are entitled to two visits as a guest of a member. After two visits, dues must be paid for further participation in the activities of the Guild.

NEW MEMBERS for August:

Carl JOHNSON

Dick LITTLE

Jack TIGHE

Val PETERSON

The Gray Whale

We're mighty glad to have you all aboard!!

MORE National Publicity:

Members who subscribe to "Model Ships & Boats" cannot help but to notice the cover picture and very fine feature article on Al LHEUREUXS' U.S.S. MISSOURI (BB-63) (9 feet in length; 1/8" scale), in the July-August issue of MS & B. Al is also listed as a "Contributing Editor" and I believe his territory covers the whole west coast. (that covers alot more than just the "waterfront.") With the many, many excellent models right here in San Diego, Al probably has enough material available to ensure some San Diego coverage for each issue. From what I've seen in other model magazines, I believe San Diego should rank very high on a list of "ship modeling centers" in the United States. How 'bout it Al; are we going to keep you busy in our town for awhile???

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

3 - 4 September	Mission Bay M.Y.B. closed for regional meet.
16 September	Friday, 07:30 PM - Next Meeting
24 September	Saturday, 06:00 PM - Second "California Cruise"

FULLERTON Ship Model/Picnic Regatta:

Early reveille was held Sunday, August 21st, for members driving up to Fullerton for the regatta addressed in last months' newsletter. Although it started at 09:00AM, your editor along with Harry KARUZICH, Vic CROSBY and the wives, did not arrive until 10:00 AM. (Actually, we were ready but had to wait on the wives, which at lunch time, proved well worthwhile.) Harry ran his R/C electric tug "BETH I" which incidentally, was featured in the July 1975 issue of "Scale Modeler." Vic brought along a half dozen of his "one of a kind" ships in bottles, which created wide-spread interest. He was not to be out-done by those with "afloat" models, however. Vic also had a boat to put in the water -- a really neat miniture in a globe-type bottle (about the size of a 150 watt light bulb), which was tied-up to a much larger scale, red channel buoy. --In real life, this is a Coast Guard no-no!!

Val PETERSON ran his magnificent model of "EAGLE", a halibut schooner on which he sailed in the Puget Sound area as a boy. He built this model over 40 years ago and only in recent years, adapted it for electric power and R/C. Vals' "EAGLE" was profusely featured in the June 1975 issue of "Scale Modeler."

Bill BROWNS' working fireboat captured undivided interest as it charged off pumping "firewater" in five different directions. Besides bringing his charming wife, Bill brought several other models (of ships), but, alas, - your editor was having so much fun he neglected to get accurate details. Dick RICE and several others who frequent the Mission Bay Model Yacht Basin on Saturday mornings, also attended, rounding out a fun group and a fun time. All in all, we had a real fine showing from "Americas' finest city."

P.S. - One very unique experment was witnessed. Tom PALEN, who is your editors' counterpart for the Ship Model Associates in Orange County, mounted a movie camera on his superb R/C electric, 1/16" scale model of a 450,000 ton super tanker. He took two reels of film as his tanker charged about trying to avoid collisions. Hopefully, the films will turn out and Tom promised to lend them to us to be shown at our October meeting. ---Should give us a real birds-eye view of what a scale model skipper would see, from his scale model bridge.

We will be certain to invite our Orange county friends down for our next regatta, with the usual invitation for "any Saturday morning."

The "TRIPLE F" MODEL YACHT BROKERAGE COMPANY: **

FOR SALE: 46" SUPER TUG (3/8" scale); scratch-built from Underhill plans. Fiber-glass hull; all fittings are bronze-cast or machined from brass stock. Over 1,000 hours of construction time required in building. 4 electric motors for R/C functions. Will pull a 175 lb man in a small row boat. This model is truly "museum quality." Being offered by a non-member giving up R/C boating. --Asking \$2,500 Contact Fred FRAAS for additional.

FOR SALE: 42" HARBOR TUG - Scratch-built on a Hartman (kit) fiber-glass hull. Exceptionally well-done and has had many hours of trouble-free operation. Very reasonably priced at (I believe) \$400. Contact Fred for more detail, or see July 75 issue of "Scale Modeler". North county members contact owner: Harry KARUZICH at (Harry also has his superbly built large trawler for sale, but have no further details at press time.)

**= "Freds' Fee Free"

CALIFORNIA CRUISE:

(submitted by Doug MCFARLAND)

A warm breeze, a beautiful sunset, a full moon. A banquet fit for a king, a beautiful sailing ship and good friends. Such were the ingredients of our first California Cruise. One couldn't have asked for a more perfect evening.

The July 30th trip begins promptly at 6:00 PM when Capt. George Falkesgaard gives the order to cast off. The diesel engine rumbles to life and the California slips away from her dock at Cabrillo Marina on Harbor Island. Moving down the waterway with a myriad of boats in their slips to port and Spanish Landing on the starboard beam, the ship seems to be awakening from a slumber. Then, as we round the turn heading for the entrance to the marina, she comes alive! Her masts blossom with thousands of square feet of canvas as her fore-and-afts are set. Her deck tilts as a light westerly urges her forward. Out in the channel we head east toward downtown and the crew clamors to set the square sails. The fore-top and topgallant billow in the wind and her engine is silenced. Gracefully, she moves past Harbor Island and we toast the poor landlubbers aboard the Reuben E. Lee as we glide by.

Past the Embarcadero, past Anthonys', past the Star of India; we swing back toward the main channel and horrors! We lose our wind to the lee of the wharf. Capt. Jones starts the engine and we move back into the harbor where, once again, California takes her natural head. With the wind off the starboard beam, the square sails are reefed and we head for North Island. Carl Page at the helm. We pass nearly under the flight deck of the aircraft carrier, "Kitty Hawk" and Mike RIVERA feverishly wig-wags signals which our "G" rating prevents us from interpreting. As we swing by the guided missile cruiser, "Chicago", more signals from Mike. Rather than risk confrontation with the U.S. Navy, we head into the sunset, under power for the rest of the evening.

As we cruise westward down the harbor, a beautiful full moon rises above the skyline and several people begin behaving strangely. (I've never seen whiskers grow so fast.) Lew HARMELING learns what sea legs are all about (how's your aft end, Lew?), and we move toward the commercial basin.

The anchorage just off the end of San Diego's main sportfishing landing offers an indescribable variety of small craft. As we pass by all see everything from Chinese junks to houseboats. We wave hello to Bill BENSONS' sail boat and bow reverently to the Gray Whales' backside. Off the starboard beam, (why is everything off the starboard beam??), we wave to the Bali Hai restaurant and suddenly realize our glorious cruise is nearly at an end. All too soon we head back to the marina from whence we came, warm in the memories of a beautiful evening.

At the dock Capt. Falkesgaard bids us a fond farewell and we, too, rejoin the ranks of the landlubbers.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Bette THORPE and Bunny BENSON for coordinating the delicious pot-luck dinner and to all the wonderful people who contributed their time and effort.

When, you may ask, is the next cruise? If you haven't already heard, it's September 24th at 6:00 PM. If you haven't already made your reservation, do it now! Same as last time--\$11.00 per person. Make checks out to:

Doug MCFARLAND

See you next time!