



# San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

P.O. BOX 6725, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92106

Volume 11, Number 2

February 1987

## THE CUP COMES TO SAN DIEGO



THE "AMERICA'S CUP"

CONGRATULATIONS to Dennis Conner and the Crew of STARS AND STRIPES

On hand to welcome the "Auld Mug" to San Diego last Saturday were Guild members Bob Crawford, Bob Ross, Gordon Jones and Bill Kelly-Fleming as part of the STAR OF INDIA crew. They gave DENNIS and CREW a traditional British Merchant Marine "Cheers" from the STAR's shores and rails. From their high perches they got an excellent view of that shiny Cup Dennis was clutching.

Several of our members have had some kind of involvement with the America's Cup or with Dennis himself. The late Bill Benson was a big fan of the campaigns and races, and he built a tank model for one of San Diego's 12 meters that hangs in the window of the Shelter Island Chart House. Many of us have built models of the AMERICA. One of us played street football as a youth with Dennis. Another of us is a good friend of Dennis's mother and has a 6' long 12 meter model hull and spars that Dennis and his late father built together.

So, it is with a lot of personal sentiment we say, "Well done, Dennis and everyone connected with Sail America!"

### FEBRUARY MEETING

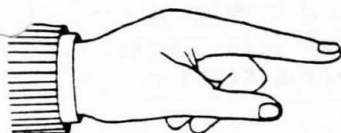
February 20, 1987 8:00 p.m.

STAR OF INDIA - ORLOP DECK

- \* SHOW and TELL -- BRING A MODEL
- \* Problem Solving Session
- \* Presentation by Philip Mattson on the Unique Great Lakes Whaleback Freighters

### Inside this Issue:

Museum Projects  
Regatta Announcement  
Crow's Nest  
January Log  
Master's Message





BY BILL KELLY-FLEMING

Needless to say, the brightest thing to show up around the harbor has been the America's Cup. I've been at the Embarcadero for most of the major events of the past decade, including the three sailings of the STAR, the Home Port Festival and the Bring Home the Cup festivities over a year ago, and to my eyes, the crowd gathered on Saturday (Feb 7) has to have been the largest that I've seen

There are other developments around the Bay. A new Alden design schooner called RED WITCH is due this week to begin charter service out of the Harbor Island area. A new sight will be the BEECO ASIA, which will be loading/unloading yachts while at anchor. Boat Shippers, Inc. will be transporting yachts between Cabo San Lucas and here and Long Beach. The starting date keeps changing, but it should be sometime before you receive this newsletter. A

preview was to be had last month when the Dutch ship FAIRMAST loaded an Indonesian ketch while at anchor. An unusual design for this "Jumboship" of about 350 feet has two large mast/cranes, forward and aft of midships at the pilot house, with the housing all on starboard. I'll have a picture at the next meeting.

The Super Bowl and hopefully the America's Cup, mean that cruise ships will have special calls here. At least two cruise ships are talking about being floating hotels here next January for the Super Bowl.

On the modeling waterfront--recently, I got word of a new model magazine. I can't find my notes right now, but it seems to me it concentrated on R/C. John Kirk reports that a new model kit has been released of a WWII era trawler. It is a good looking kit with a lot of running gear for an operational model included. The cost is about \$250 and John can give you more details.

Apparently, I just missed seeing Jean Eckart of South Bay Model Shipwrights on February 1, at the Maritime Museum. Jean, I was in the area almost the whole day making my rounds as Chaplain! She did get to talk a bit with Bob Ross as the STAR crew was having a drill day. Come back again, Jean!

We are always receiving notes on shows around the country and have contacts with many other clubs. If you are going to be traveling, why not check with me to see if anything special is going on, or to arrange a visit with another club. And, for those of you outside San Diego, if you come here to visit, give one of the officers a call and we'll be glad to welcome you! At the very least, we can make sure there is someone in the model shop when you visit the Maritime Museum.

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#### JANUARY MEETING LOG

Tim Petitt - Clerk

The meeting began with the unanimous ratification of the new slate of Guild Officers. For 1987 they are: Bill Kelly-Fleming, Master; Doug McFarland, Mate; Herman Boehme, Purser. These intrepid souls were welcomed to their new posts and immediately put to work.

OLD BUSINESS: The Guild is still looking for a few officers and crew members to help in the following areas: 1) Radio Officer for this year's Regatta. Al L'Heureux has graciously volunteered to be the Commodore; 2) The position of Logkeeper's assistant also needs to be filled; 3) Two or three additional members for the Steering Committee. Please contact Bill K-F if you would like to help.

So far, 71 members have renewed out of last year's 108, keep those renewals coming in.

NEW BUSINESS: Bob Crawford gave an update in the static show to be held on the BERKELEY, April 17 - May 15. He needs two or three volunteers to help with a seminar on model building at the show. Bob is also looking for people to build models of vessels made famous in local waters, and "Sabot" or dingy models in multiple scales. (See George Oliver's article for further details). There will be pre-registration

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+ + + + +
+ ADS -- FOR SALE
+
+ Gary Anderson /redacted/
+
+ Two electric motors - new and unused
+ $75 each or trade
+
+ -- Crocker Sea (or is it 'C') Wasp 12
+
+ -- Astro 25 with Beltdrive
+
+ * * * * *
+
+ Bob Wright /redacted/
+
+ Two Billings Kits
+
+ -- Viking Ship
+
+ -- Dutch Striker
+
+ Call Bob for details
+
+ * * * * *
+
+ John Kirk /redacted/
+
+ FUTABA 2-Channel - 80 Gray/Black
+ (75.790 Mhz)
+
+ Transmitter, Receiver, Servo and a
+ Doug MacFarland Speed Control
+
+ + + + + +

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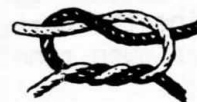


## SHOW & TELL

by Nilson



"THEY'RE PROBABLY SEA LAWYERS."



LOG continued:

for the static show and secure areas will be provided for the models entered. Bob reminded us that there are still time slots available to work on models in the model shop aboard the BERKELEY.

The Guild is still looking for a volunteer to be our representative at the Argonaut meetings. Bill K-F would prefer an R/C modeler take on this task; please contact Bill if interested or for more information.

George Barber is interested in locating someone to build a model of the Summer Class Destroyer DD739. It is a fee project, and if interested contact George at /redacted/. He is also looking for maritime memorabilia that can be loaned for a stamp show to be held the last week in March or first week in April.

PRESENTATIONS: 1) Bob Eberhardt of the Maritime Research Society gave a brief overview of the efforts underway to secure drawings scaled 1/8":1' of the original Ferryboat BERKELEY. See Bob's article later in this newsletter for details.  
2) Mike Rivera an excellent talk on fiberglassing techniques. The notes on this presentation will be written up as an article in a future issue, when materials are scarce. So, keep on reading.



\* \* \*

ANNOUNCING

\* \* \*

SDSMG'S TENTH ANNUAL SCALE MODEL R/C REGATTA  
June 20, 1987

The San Diego Ship Modeler's Guild announces their Tenth Annual Scale Model R/C Regatta to be held Saturday, June 20, 1987 at the Model Yacht Basin in San Diego's Mission Bay Park. The contest will be open to all types of scale ships and boats (hydroplanes excepted) and is limited to steam, electric or sail power.

The competition will consist of two events: a static portion in which the models will be judged only on their scale appearance (display models may be entered) and operational. The operational part of the contest will include an obstacle course and a scale operational capability demonstration (special effects). Each model will be judged on scale appearance and operation and the ability to navigate the obstacle course.

Static categories will be powered military, powered civilian and all sail. R/C operational categories will be steam, all sail, electric military, electric civilian, submarine, tug and salvage/workboat. Trophies will be awarded to the first place winner in each category with ribbons being given to the second and third place winners. Additional trophies will be presented to the Best of Show, Best Jr. (under 18) Modeler, Spectators' Favorite and Modelers' Favorite. Entry fee will be \$3.00 per model for operational and \$2.00 for static. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

A potluck dinner will follow the contest around 5:30 p.m. with the Guild supplying the barbeque grill and briquettes. The Guild has also reserved the Pond for open running Sunday, June 21, for those who would like to stay over.

Regatta participants have been invited by the management of The Vacation Village Hotel to run their models the evening of the 20th in the hotel's lagoon.

For a complete copy of the contest rules send a stamped, self addressed envelope to:

Mr. Albert L'Heureux  
/redacted/

Our Guild members are looking forward to having you join with us on June 20th.

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LOG continuation, continued:

Doug McFarland - HOTSPUR, about 85% complete with little progress since last meeting. He is in the process of rigging footropes.

Bob Paylor - Very nice 1/300 scale model of the HANNAH about to be launched into a bottle.

Peter Glor - PAMALA ANN, an East coast trawler based on the Midwest kit, and substantially enhanced by use of original photos and other research. It is a very handsome model, and he intends to write an article on the detailing of this vessel.

Al L'Heureux - Brought some plastic pellets that when melted can be used to modify other plastic and metal parts such as miniature characters.

Norm Haitt - Brought in his hull of the CONSTELLATION that he planned to take to the pond for power trials the day after this meeting.

Bill Kelly-Fleming - A very detailed 1/200 paper model of the TITANIC. He had some interesting construction problems not normally encountered in wooden model making. An identical model was used by the TITANIC survey team for reference.

MEMBERS

MUSEUM PROJECTS -- by George Oliver

In a continuing effort to increase our support, help and standing with the San Deigo Maritime Museum, it has been suggested that a number of additional ship model displays and programs be initiated aboard the BERKELEY. At the present time many manhours are put in at the museum by members of the Guild not only in the model shop aboard the BERKELEY but in a number of other areas of the museum. A number of suggestions have been mentioned as possible additions to the museum to further acquaint the visiting public to the art and hobby of model ship building.

A couple of the latest ideas are as follows:

- A) Pick out some easily identifiable item such as a "Sabot" sailboat (8 ft dingy) or an old sailing ship block, for example, that could be displayed at full size and then reduced in model versions at 1/2, 1/4, 3/16, 1/8, & 1/16 inch to the foot scale to graphically demonstrate how building a model at different scales can allow it to fit into almost any space or location.
- B) With the extensive media coverage of the AMERICA's Cup races in Australia, San Diego has been well established as a leader in the world of sailboat racing by Dennis Conner and STARS AND STRIPES. Going back over the years a great many regional, national, world and Olympic sailing champions have gotten started in small one design class sailboats here in San Diego. A very interesting display of model sailboats such as "Sabot," "Penguin," "Snipe," "Lightening," and "Star Boats" could be built to 1.00 inch to the foot scale with the names of each champion from San Diego under each class that is represented. This could be a very informative display.

If anyone in the Guild would be interested in contributing to the above efforts in any way, it would be greatly appreciated. Bob Crawford can be contacted for further information.

A PROJECT TO RECONSTRUCT A PLAN FILE  
FOR THE FERRYBOAT "BERKELEY," UNION IRONWORKS HULL 55  
ON 3770

The ferry BERKELEY was built in San Francisco in 1898 at the Union Iron Works. She went into service in 1901 and was kept occupied in the San Francisco-Oakland run for much of the time until 1957. The BERKELEY was the first screw-driven ferry in the bay fleet. For some time there was doubt whether she had enough power to be used in the tidal race at the Ferry Building slip.

When the BERKELEY arrived in San Diego in 1973, she did not come with anything like a file of ship's plans. One reason for this situation arose because of a disastrous fire in 1916 that entirely destroyed documentary materials belonging to the Central Pacific Railroad, her nominal owner. Such plans as there were on the ship at the time constituted the plan file used while she operated under the Southern Pacific herald. These have gradually been consumed by use and time.

What we have today are the midship section, and inboard profile, one general arrangement piping diagram, and an underway photograph, ca. 1914. This photograph shows the main engine on the test block, probably the day before it was installed. A set of reliable deck plans is available for an engineering journal article published in 1899. No lines of form nor set of offsets has as yet been found.

Our intent is to prepare a 1/8 scale booklet of general plans based on such materials as we now have in hand.

Bob Eberhardt      /redacted/

## MASTER'S MESSAGE

When I first joined the Guild, some ten years ago, there were so few of us that we met in the aft cabin of the STAR OF INDIA. We didn't even have a newsletter then. Most of us concentrated on display models. At the end of 1986 we had over 100 members and normally our meetings attract thirty plus modelers. Now more of our members are involved in radio control models.

You have asked me to take the helm in 1987 and I hope I will be worthy of the charge. We all owe Doug a big "THANK YOU" and "WELL DONE" for his leadership --not only this past year but in his previous terms as our Guild Master. He will be valuable to me as Mate this year.

I have set two major goals for this year: 1) More "how-to" programs, and 2) a closer involvement with the museum. Both your written and verbal comments have indicated that more demonstrations and programs on modeling are desired. Of special concern has been to pay more attention to the detailing aspects of interest to the static modeler, which is important lest we allow this traditional side of our craft to die out. Next, the Museum has been a most gracious host to us since the Guild was started. We, however, have been slow to show our support to the Museum, especially since we dropped the dues requirement. We are looking at new ways to work together for the good of our common interests--the preservation and propagation of model ship building and our nautical heritage.

As for programs, I have selected several topics for member requests and will be looking for speakers to help us out:

- How to display a model
- Award winning finishes
- Airbrushing techniques
- Lift method of constructing hulls
- Silver Soldering
- Basic radio principles
- Using tools (with company reps)
- Developing plans
- What makes a model "museum quality"

If you, or anyone you know, can do one of these presentations, let me know so I can complete our schedule.

Since Bob Crawford took over as Curator of Models at the Museum, new opportunities for us have been opened. The Show this Spring is a major first step and a form for pre-registration is enclosed in this newsletter to help us with the planning. We do need help in publicizing the seminar scheduled for Saturday, April 18. We could also use a few more people to work in the model shop, especially on Saturdays. Right now only about half of the Saturdays find someone in the shop. Elsewhere in this issue you will find an article by George Oliver on projects for the Museum. There are some other very specific ideas also suggested from the Museum:

- "AMERICA'S CUP DEFENDERS," models built and donated/loaned by Guild members of representative defenders of the Cup. We have an AMERICA and WEATHERLY, how about some of the others.
- EUTERPE/STAR OF INDIA, three models of her life, there are funds available for materials.

Another project still in the contemplation stage is the shop being used as a clearing house of completed models for sale. As Guild Master, I want to coordinate and encourage one or more of these worthy projects by the Guild.

Several of you wrote on your renewal forms, "keep up the good work" or "everything is great." Our Guild can only be as good as the involvement of our members. That we practically had to draft all our officers out of 100+ members with some positions still unfilled is disturbing. Doug and I cannot do it all by ourselves (and if you're smart you wouldn't want us to, as we're known for steering zig-zag courses that would frustrate even the best U-Boat skipper!)--we need you, too.



1st Bi-annual San Diego Maritime Museum Ship Model Show

Pre-registration

Entry Date and Time      Friday April 17, 1987    8-9 P.M.  
                                 Saturday April 18, 1987    1-3 P.M.  
Pick-up Date and Time    Friday      May 15, 1987    8-9 P.M.  
                                 Saturday      May 16, 1987    1-3 P.M.

Name of Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year Started \_\_\_\_\_ Year Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Construction \_\_\_\_\_

Source(plans, kit, Etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Scale \_\_\_\_\_

Brief History of vessel \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Construction Techniques or Material \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is model cased Y/N      Dimensions of Model and/or Case

Height

Width

Depth

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Case \_\_\_\_\_

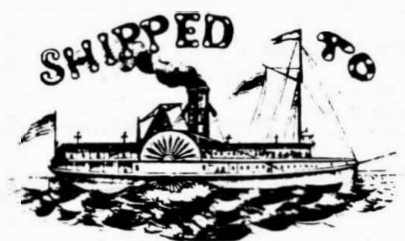
Any special requirements (handeling, late pick-ups, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the Museum? \_\_\_\_\_

SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS' GUILD  
BILL KELLY-FLEMING  
/redaCted/



Fred Fraas  
/redaCted/

SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS' GUILD  
OFFICERS FOR 1987

MASTER - LOGKEEPER	Bill Kelly-Fleming	/redaCted/
MATE	Doug McFarland	/redaCted/
PURSER	Herman Boehme	/redaCted/
EDITOR	Aurora Joan Selenian	/redaCted/
STEERING COMMITTEE	Al L'Heureux	/redaCted/
	Fred Fraas	/redaCted/
MEETINGS:	3 rd Friday of each month, 8:00 P.M. aboard the bark STAR OF INDIA on the Orlop Deck.	
MEMBERSHIP:	Dues are \$10.00 yearly. After July the dues are $\frac{1}{2}$ for the rest of the year. We highly encourage all to join the S.D. Maritime Museum.	