



San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

Volume 5 Number 9

September 13, 1981

Notes from the August Meeting

Among the Items discussed at the meeting was an offer by Dick Manser, Author of a number of model books, to rebate to the club \$10.00 from the sale of each copy of his upcoming 320 page book on ship modeling from sales through the club. The retail price of the book will be \$35.00 and I know many of you will be purchasing this book from your local book store, so here is a chance to help the club. If you are interested, please contact John Woodard or Bob Crawford.

Another subject to come up was a request for speakers or subject to be presented at future meetings. Among those to be covered in the coming months will be John Woodard on Propellers, Lou Harmiling on Carving, Ships in bottles by Vic Crosby, and model restorations by Bob Crawford and Bill Benson. If you feel like you would like to discuss a subject or have a item you would like discussed please bring it up at a meeting.

Models present

Operating 5"38 Gun Mount 1:96
Prusen-full rigged ship in bottle
7' 6" RC Long Beach 1:96
Billings Kraben Kutter
Eileen Fishing Trawler

Albert L'heureux
Vic Crosby
Doug Smay
Doug McFarland
Tony Gugino

Notes on The September Meeting

John Woodard's Steam Topics will again precede this month's meeting with "What to do with condensate". Our main subject will be Carving by Lou Harmiling. Also at the meeting will be Fred Blaisdell with some inexpensive shop tool that will shortly be on the Market.

Regatta Work Party aboard the Berkeley

There are a great many tasks to be completed before next week's regatta such as engraving trophies, making trophies, rebuilding bouys, etc. If you have an hour or two available we would appreciate your help. We will be aboard the Berkeley from 9:00 A.M. until every thing is ready. Hope to see you there.

Want Ad

Tony Gugino is looking for a Woodlathe, grinder-sander, and/or a metal Lathe. If you have any of the above or know where they may be found please let us know at the meeting.

News Letter Articals

If you have heard this before, I've said it before. Please take a few moments to write a few lines for the news letter. If you have recieved a little useful information from these letter its because busy ship modelers like yourself have taken some time to help inform you, so how about returning the favor. The following pages are blank because no one has helped, and I cant do it myself. Thanks

* BOB WRIGHT *
- - SEPTEMBER MODELER OF THE MONTH - -
by Bill Kelly-Fleming

One day ten years ago (1971), a ship modeler in San Diego was working on a model of the VOLANTE. He had a problem and wished he had another modeler to talk to. Out of that desire evolved the San Diego Ship Modeler's Guild. The individual who had the problem is our Modeler of the Month, Bob Wright.

Bob tells of how the Guild got started this way. After running into problems on the VOLANTE, he went to talk to the late Russ Merrill at Hillcrest Hobbies to see if he knew of any fellows who might be interested in a ship modeling club. When Bob mentioned that he might be able to arrange to meet on THE STAR OF INDIA, Russ got very interested in the idea. Bob obtained written permission from Captain Reynard to meet on the STAR. The Guild started to meet on the last Friday of the month, but a conflict with the Nautical Research Society led to a change to the third Friday.

Bob chaired the Guild for five years and then gladly turned the reigns over to Bill Benson and subsequent Guild Masters.

Bob claims to have always had an interest in ship models, but his involvement in helping restore the STAR spurred his interest along. As a volunteer, as long ago as 1962, he did a lot of little jobs in restoration before the STAR was opened to the public. Later, after a divorce, he moved aboard the STAR as ticket taker and night watchman. This position he held for seven years, until his marriage last January.

He started a model of the FORESTER, but turned it into a model of the IRENE due to a connection between his ex-wife and the IRENE. The model is done except for the rigging. One disadvantage to being on the STAR was that he did not have a place to work on the models. He hopes to get back to several half-done projects in the near future as he gets a new work space set up. Much of his skill as a modeler comes from his background as a watch repairman and watch maker. Most of his tools are watch making tools.

Bob is also quite a ship historian. He has traveled to Europe several times and visited maritime museums, including his very recent trip which included the museums at Greenwich and Paris. Bob also has interviewed many old timers on tape, including Captain Rosenal who was skipper of the IRENE in 1925-26. He feels that the passing on of a heritage in ship modeling is a very important aspect of our hobby. He reminds us that a good model will last longer than any of us.

Bob Wright is pleased with the way the Guild has grown. He has been discouraged at times because often the very good and serious modeler is an introvert who does not like to join groups. Many of us are glad he persisted. While we may appreciate the hints we pick up from other Guild members, Bob says, "It brings me satisfaction to see others get a benefit from the Guild. I'm a low profile type guy who likes to get a job done and then sit back."

Bob found building the VOLANTE to be a "real high." He still enjoys looking at his completed work on display in his home. Bob's message to the Guild is "Keep modeling! It's fun to do and it's also a heritage thing."

In this tenth anniversary we pay a special tribute to our founder, that quiet, but friendly fellow modeler--Bob Wright.

SHOP HINTS:

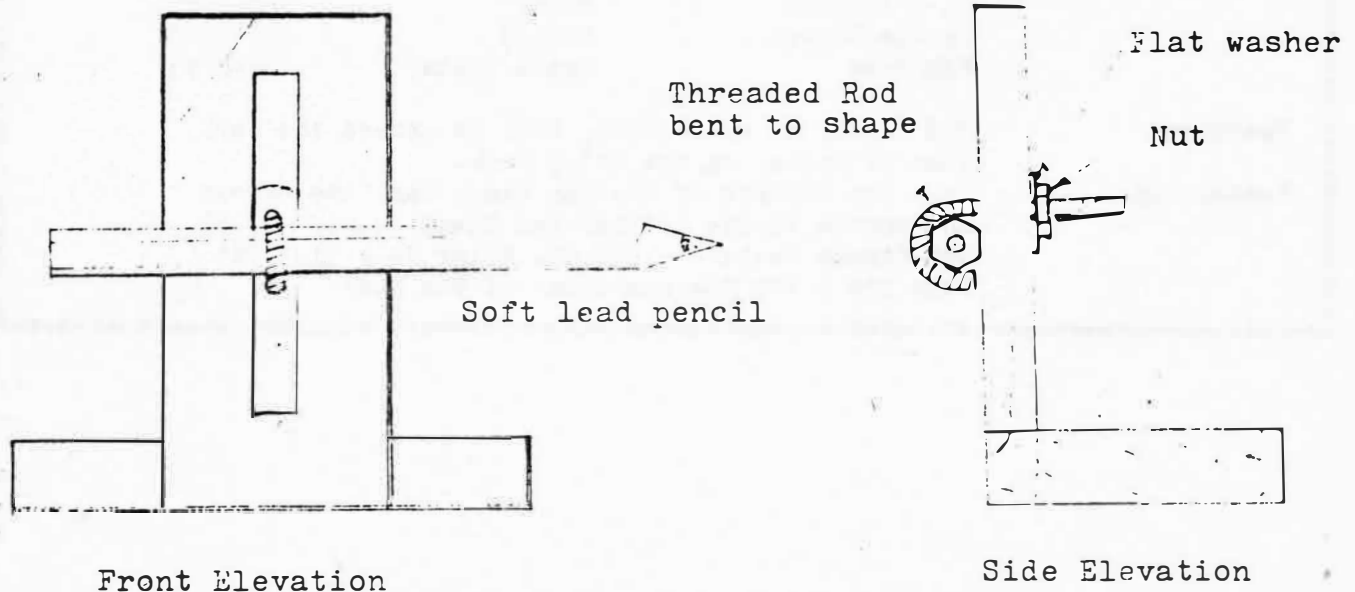
Below are two shop hints taken from "VALLEY LOG", the newsletter of the San Fernando Chapter of Ship Modelers Associates. Thank you Les, Howard and Ken. (C'mon, you guys, why can you send in hints like these).

FANCHER'S METHOD FOR BENDING PLANKS

1. Using a baking pan approximately one inch deep, fill with with sand, preferably silica sand nearly to the top.
2. Place in oven pre-set to a temperature of 300° F. for the time it takes the sand to reach that temperature (use a meat thermometer to check)
3. Remove from oven and make furrows long enough to receive planks.
4. Cover planks and tamp down.
5. In 10 to 15 seconds, planks are plastic and ready to assemble.

Ken says this method insures against shrinkage and warpage, and gives satisfactory results. His source is an optometrist technique for shaping eye glass frames. Thanks, Ken.

Harold also showed us his waterline marker - previously he said he had used a piece of "2 x 4", but felt this was unsatisfactory so he made this tool from spare scraps of wood. The height can be to the modeler's own needs - very simple yet effective!



Your son at five is your master, at ten your slave, at 15 your double, and after that, your friend or foe, depending on his bringing up.

— Abraham Haddai, quoted in *American Seaman*

There would be no strife in mankind if humans would take the lesson from nature herself. The world was made round with the thought that in a complete circle no one is first.

— Harry Bushfield, reprinted in *Catholic Quest*

San Diego Ship
Modelers Guild Bob Crawford -
Logkeeper /redacted/

TO:

San Diego Ship Modelers Guild
Officers for 1981

Master:	John Woodard	Point Loma	/redacted/
Mate:	Doug McFarland	Mira Mesa	/redacted/
Logkeeper:	Bob Crawford	State College	/redacted/
Steering Committee:	Bill Kelly-Flemming	Hill Crest	/
	Al L'heureux	Poway	redacted
	George Oliver	Santee	/
	Bob Ross	Chula Vista	redacted
Meetings:	3rd Friday of each month, 8:00 pm aboard the Bark Star of India, on the Orlop Deck.		
Membership:	Dues for Members of the San Diego Maritime Museum and anyone living outside San Diego County -\$7.50 Non-Museum Members - \$15.00. After July 31, 1981 dues are $\frac{1}{2}$ for the remainder of the year.		