

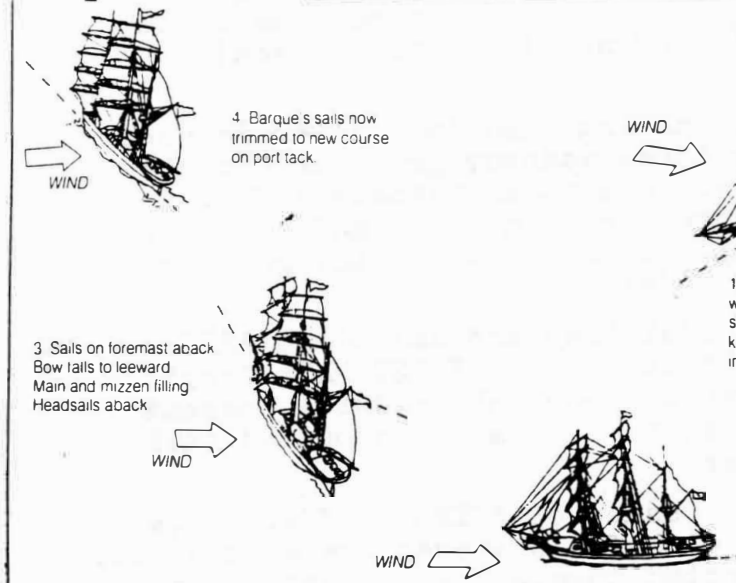


San Diego Ship Modelers' Guild

1306 N. Harbor Drive

San Diego, CA 92101

September 1996 NEWSLETTER Volume 20, Number 9



OUR NEXT WORK/FUN PARTY:

Maritime Museum Model Curator Bob Crawford is looking for a few more good men to work on the "Star." Well, not the actual Star, but models of same. Specifically, twelve "Stars" in 1/16" scale.

Bob wants to build a display which will show the Star under twelve different sail rigs. The graphics in this newsletter depict various sails under tacking and wearing situations. The models will be very simplified hulls with sails of minimum complexity. The project will start later this fall and Bob will speak more on this subject at the next few meetings. In the meantime, please give this project some thought.



1. Barque on the wind, port tack.



OUR NEXT MEETING NIGHT

Aboard the "Berkeley"
7:00 PM

Models make the Meeting!!
--BRING YOURS --

Mystery Guest Speaker!!**

(Who he will be is a mystery to your editor at press time.)

"A wise man will make more opportunities that he finds."
-Francis Bacon

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EVENTS OF LAST MEETING, HELD AUGUST 15th, 1996.



1 Barque on the wind, port tack.

Guild Master Tom Taylor opened the meeting to sixteen members on the upper deck of the ferryboat BERKELEY at 7:10 p.m. The first order of business was the introduction of new (and seldom seen) members.

GARY EMERY introduced himself as having been interested in boats and ships since youth. Gary is a maritime academy graduate and his present interests include merchant sail and steam vessels and also yachts. ROBERT HEWITT also became interested in boats and ships at an early age and later in the evening--during SHOW & TELL, gave us an interesting account of his latest model.

Tom Taylor announced the joint Model Club and San Diego ARGONAUTS' GET TOGETHER on August 25th. at the pond. FIRST MATE Jack Klein discussed our experiences at the Del Mar Fair and will present a full report at a later date. Several members also recounted their visits and experiences there this year.

PURSER Ed White organized several issues of SHIPS IN SCALE magazines, which had been donated to our club for whatever use we saw fit. It had previously been decided to auction them off at a meeting and this was the night. Several volumes sold at \$12 per volume (six issues), or \$2 per copy.

At this time it was decided to take a coffee break--Jack had set up the coffee-maker earlier, since our main speaker had not yet appeared. It was a beautiful evening on the bay. The sun was just setting and the only interference in this tranquil scene was the sound of a jet taking off from the airport directly across the water near the north shore.

Several interesting models and exhibits had been set out on the tables by members, so MASTER Tom Taylor suggested SHOW & TELL time. New member, Gary Emery showed us a small model he had purchased at a garage sale of the Long Island steamer ELLA. Since Gary hails from the northeast he could not resist purchasing the little paddlewheeler. This is a weakness which we all fall prey to sooner or later--the inability to satisfy the collection urge.

PHIL MATTSON presented a detailed report and exhibit of making a full set of deck guns for his latest project. The full complement he showed consisted of: 28 thirty-two pounders, ditto on eighteen pounders, 14 nine pounders on deck and four on the forecastle. They were all lined up, as if ready for delivery to the vessel from the gun foundry at the naval shipyard. Each gun is assembled from many individual parts--all sizes of which are detailed in Harold Hahn's report on the subject of manufacturing these old muzzle-loaders. Phil couldn't say enough in praise of Mr. Hahn's research and writing on the subject. The brass cannon barrels were blackened by treating them with copper carbonate & ammonia, available at chemical retailers. We have yet to see work of this quality on any other models.

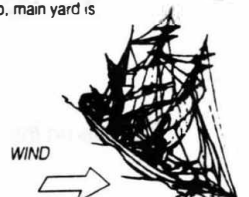


2. Spanker and mizzen staysail taken in, helm put to weather and main yard squared. Without spanker, head falls off to leeward.



3. Running downwind. Foresails braced round and headsails sheeted to port.

4. Coming round to starboard tack. Spanker and mizzen staysail being set. Head coming up, main yard is braced round.



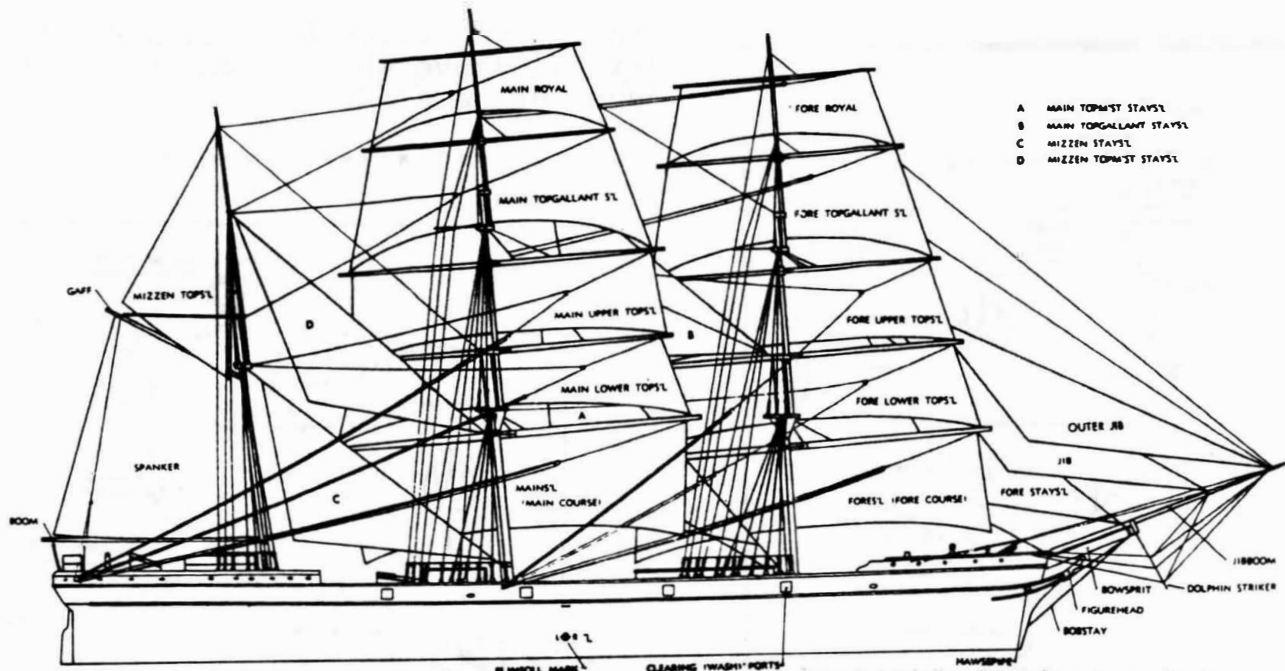
New member Robert Hewitt displayed a nicely done plastic model from Heller, in a wooden case. These detailed hulls provide a good base from which to construct an attractive vessel in miniature. For this galleon Hewitt made 350 walnut blocks. The 200 deadeyes were provided by our own "KC" supplier. Scratch my description "galleon" and substitute British ship-of-the-line, the famous VICTORY (note-taking writing not very clear). Proper flags of the proper scale were produced in color by Kinko's.

Some of Fred Fraas' shipmodels are almost as old as the original vessels themselves. He started a scratch-built, bread-and-butter model of a Victory ship, post WWII era freighter, in 1979 of 1/16 th. scale. She was to be the UNITED VICTORY, the first of 457, 14-boom commercial freighters--after the fighting had stopped, that is. 127 of these ships were Navy Attack Transports and many did enter the commercial freighting trades after the war. Fred had time constraints in his model shipyard, however, and found it necessary to take this model "on the road" with him in his job with a candy manufacturer.

But he has taken her out of the layup fleet, re-painted where required and constructed her deckhouses from his favorite material for this--styrene, using #3 Weldwood glue for adhesion where required. The hull of this Victory is one-inch poplar from Frost Lbr. Co.

Founder-member---Bob Wright's project of restoring a "boneyard" model of the U.S. Frigate CONSTITUTION is progressing nicely. However, at this point, Bob must decide just how far, or in what direction he wishes to proceed. A discussion on this matter proceeded, with references to McCann's books and articles about this vessel. Major cleaning began with removal of cobwebs (extra rigging!), replacement of missing spars etc. But do we add lanyard rigging and other niceties, or leave it as the original builder intended?

Join the San Diego Maritime Museum and help
send the *Star of India* to sea!



Our Pond and the Tides

Model Boaters and spectators (yes, even some Argonaut members) inquire about how the water level in the pond is maintained. Such questions are most prevalent when the water level appears to be unusually low. It just takes high tides in Mission Bay but we have no control over this action. When the water level in the bay is higher than that in the pond the difference, which is called the hydraulic head, pushes the big fill valve open and water enters the pond. When the valve is closed the water filters back into the bay.

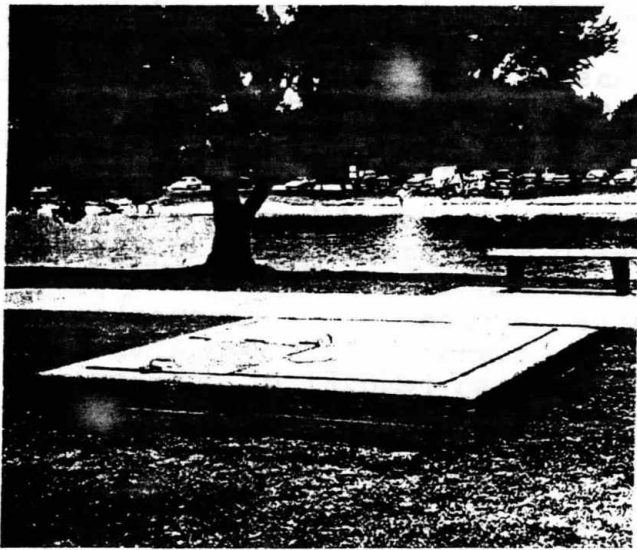
In tidal language, the nominal level of the pond is 5.5 feet. The tide range in Mission Bay varies from plus 7 feet to as low as minus one foot, a "tidal range" of around eight feet. You've heard the expression: "a rising tide lifts all ships"? In the same vein a high tide lifts our model boats, too.

When the pond was first created back in the early 1940's a cast iron check valve was installed. It finally corroded away in the mid-seventies and a manually operated "butterfly" style valve replaced it. This required that some dedicated retirees spent several hours, sometimes in the wee small hours before dawn, to open and then close the valve. When that valve too, required major repairs, the Parks Department, replaced it with a steel fabricated valve made by their own personnel. Being of plain boiler plate steel, it too, gave up the ghost after a few years.

After pleas to the municipal agencies, a fourth valve; cast of highly corrosion resistant iron called Ni-resist, has been working fine with the promise of a long trouble free life expectancy. It is of the original valve's configuration: hinged from two arms in the middle, and requires less hydraulic head (Water pressure) to open it. Further, it has provision to be blocked open for extended periods for pond maintenance and weed control.

Those who have sailed and raced in Model Boat facilities across the country will appreciate the unique location and access of San Diego's Model Yacht facility. For this we owe the City of San Diego a big thank you! It is up to us, then to show our appreciation by being good citizens when we use the pond. This means picking up sandwich wrappers, coffee cups and cigarette butts, as well as not spilling fuel or other harmful liquids on the grass. We're not callous in these matters at home, are we? *Written by Robert Cornell*

The Pit... With Model Boaters in the background...sitting halfway between the Model Yacht Pond and Mission Bay...resembling a small ballistic missile silo...buried deep in the sand...lies the main control valve that opens and closes with the tides and fills up the pond. This has been affectionately known as the "Pit". Many argonaut veterans have earned their stripes monitoring the the water level of the pond through this valve. At one time, the door had to be opened and the valve hand cranked by a member at high tide in order to allow the water level to be high enough for our events. "What a Job!", especially in the wee hours of the morning. When working properly, it is not even noticed other than comments about what great water we have; but when it fails to close or fill, everyone notices and the conversation around the pond focuses about the condition of the valve...and the "Pit".



Editor's Note: Thanks to Bob Cornell and the San Diego Argonauts for the article above which appeared in their June '96 newsletter.

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Fig. 37. Wearing ship: simultaneous bracing

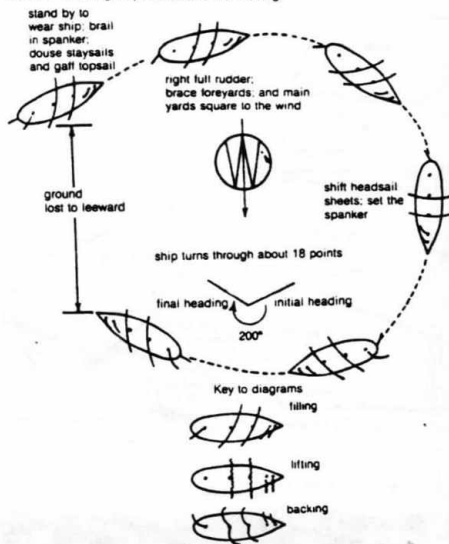
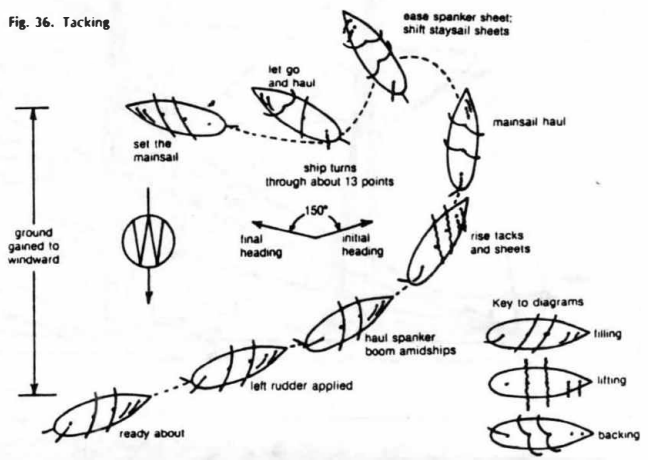


Fig. 36. Tacking





CHULA VISTA'S HARBOR DAY FESTIVAL SAILS INTO ITS FIRST DECADE!

Hey there matey! Pull out your trusty knife and scratch this date into your wooden mast or risk walking the plank! Chula Vista's Tenth Annual Harbor Day Festival is coming in with the tide on Saturday, September 21, 1996.

Adventure back in time *TOURING* the beautiful tall ship *CALIFORNIAN* and viewing other historic vessels such as *ORION*, *DAUNTLESS* & *BEGERA*. Sing sea chanties with your favorite pirate friends, this old salt included of course! View miniature models of beautiful ships handcrafted by ancient mariners --- perhaps some inside an old rum bottle or two! The Maritime Museum will even be there showing off their bounty of landside displays including the *BUTCHER BOY* and *CHALUPA*.

After you get your land legs back, sneak over to the *CRAFT FAIRE & BUSINESS SHOWCASE* where ya can pilfer some unique gifts for your sea chests. And don't forget to stop by Chula Vista Marina's *USED MARINE GEAR SWAP MEET* so you can add provisions for our next sail...I hear they have a bounty of wooden legs! Stock up on the food -- exotic and sizzling stuff that'll relieve you from that diet of hard tack and salt pork.

To liven up the scenery, word on the wharf says there will also be --- *no, you smarmy devil, not merry maidens* --- but a fancy *KITE FESTIVAL!* Take care to carefully wade through the sea of metal at the *CLASSIC CAR SHOW*...an interesting traveling tool but nothing like ye old and loyal ship.

And the entertainment will knock your scruffy pantaloons off! Can you believe *FIVE ENTERTAINMENT STAGES* featuring all sorts of music from Rock & Roll to a capella. (Sare beats that solo harmonica always found aboard.) *Shhhh...Just a note of caution fellow sailors, keep your guard up around those jugglers, magicians and clowns -- I've had run ins with those crazy buccaneers and they can be a tricky lot indeed.*

Remember! *CHULA VISTA'S TENTH ANNUAL HARBOR DAY FESTIVAL!* That's Saturday, September 21, 1996 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Chula Vista's harbor. We'll be sailing in by sea but you landlubber types, take I-5 to the J Street exit and turn west to the water.

Harbor Day is cosponsored by the Port of San Diego, City of Chula Vista, and Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce

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Veterans Memorial Center, Inc.

Cordially invites you to participate in Greater San Diego's

U. S. Armed Forces

19 96



GRAND MILITARY ENCAMPMENT

U.S. NAVY -- U.S. MARINE CORPS -- U.S. COAST GUARD
U.S. ARMY -- U.S. AIR FORCE -- U.S. MERCHANT MARINE

1965

1991

1776

1812

This annual exposition honors all who serve or have served in the U. S. Armed Forces of the nation. Units of the U.S. AIR FORCE, ARMY, COAST GUARD, MARINES, NAVY and MERCHANT MARINE, join with VETERANS, CADETS, the HOME FRONT, MILITARY HISTORIANS, REENACTMENT FORCES from all periods of American history, MUSEUMS, SUTLERS, ANTIQUE MILITARY EQUIPMENT and MEMORABILIA COLLECTORS to produce in one place a stirring pageant that depicts Americans in uniform throughout the Nation's history. As a special theme for 1996, the encampment will salute the 75th Anniversary of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. Along with current Armed Forces, the exposition will include camps from each military period, parades, firing demonstrations, history booths, displays of antique military vehicles, cooking contests, pioneer camp, a homefront pavilion, entertainment, memorabilia vendors, and much more.

1950

1846

1941

1917

1898

1861

Sponsored by the City, County, and Unified Port District of San Diego

LARGEST MILITARY HISTORY EXPOSITION IN THE WEST !

October 5th & 6th, 1996 at Embarcadero Park N., San Diego, Cal.

Sponsored by the City, County, and Unified Port District of San Diego
LARGEST MILITARY HISTORY EXPOSITION IN THE WEST !
 October 5th & 6th, 1996 at Embarcadero Park N., San Diego, Cal.

----- cut off -----

1996 Armed Forces Grand Military Encampment -- Registration Form

Unit Name _____ Historic Period _____

Contact Person _____ Tel. (____) _____

Address _____

Unit Type _____ Special Features _____

No. Personnel _____ Equipment/Displays _____

Space Requirements _____ Estimate Date/Time of Arrival for setting up _____

Mail form to 1996 Armed Forces Grand Military Encampment, Vets. Memorial Center, Inc., 2115 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101 - Tel. (619) 421-6192

**S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien
 in Seattle, WA.**



Photo: N. Tonnefoss (July 6, 1996)

1996 Calendar of Events

August 20 or 21 (estimate)

O'Brien arrives back at Pier 32 in late August
 (call 441-3101 for updates)

September 21 & 22

Steaming weekend includes special events

"Home Front to Front Lines"

Military Vehicle and Vintage car show

Special sale of vintage Model Kits

Featuring Korean War Jets and WW II kits
 ships, planes, vehicles

October 12 & 13

Fleet Week Cruises

Cruise the Bay with the O'Brien and the fleet!
 Reservations a must!

November 16 & 17

Maritime Book Fair

Meet Maritime Authors and see the latest
 publications

**Fleet Week Cruises
 October 12 & 13-1996**

**We are back from our
 Canada/Pacific Northwest
 Voyage, and we have a busy
 Fall Schedule!**

**Home Front to Front Lines
 Vintage Vehicles & Model Kit Sale**

Our Steaming Weekend in September will feature a show of vintage vehicles, and Military vehicles. Our V-J Day event in 1995 was so successful we have brought it back this year. Military vehicles and vintage cars will be displayed on Pier 32, next to the ship. This exhibit brought over 60 vehicles last year, and we expect more this year.

If you have a Military or Vintage Vehicle and would like to participate, please call 415-441-3101.

This weekend will include, for the first time in almost 50 years, the sale of Korean War model airplane kits. These kits reflect the public's fascination with the jet age. They are of American and Russian jets, including fighters like Shooting Star, Skyrocket, and MIG 15, and some bombers like the B-47 stratojet and the Convair B-36. Over 500 kits will be available, including a WWII selection featuring jeeps, battleships, bulldozers, bombers, fighter planes, helicopters, destroyers, landing craft and subs.

Knowledgeable model builders will be on hand to discuss the models with visitors. Prices range from \$7.00 to \$45.00.



ORDER FORM

October Fleet Week Cruise Reservations

_____ Tickets @ \$100 per person
 _____ Saturday, October 12, 1996
 _____ Sunday, October 13, 1996
 Tickets and boarding instructions will be mailed
 Sorry--No Phone Orders for Cruises

Please send a check made out to
SS Jeremiah O'Brien to the address below
 or your credit card information filled out on the
 slip below and mailed to the address below
 or credit card information faxed to 415-441-3712.

Please charge my card.



Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

name _____

address _____

city/state/zip _____

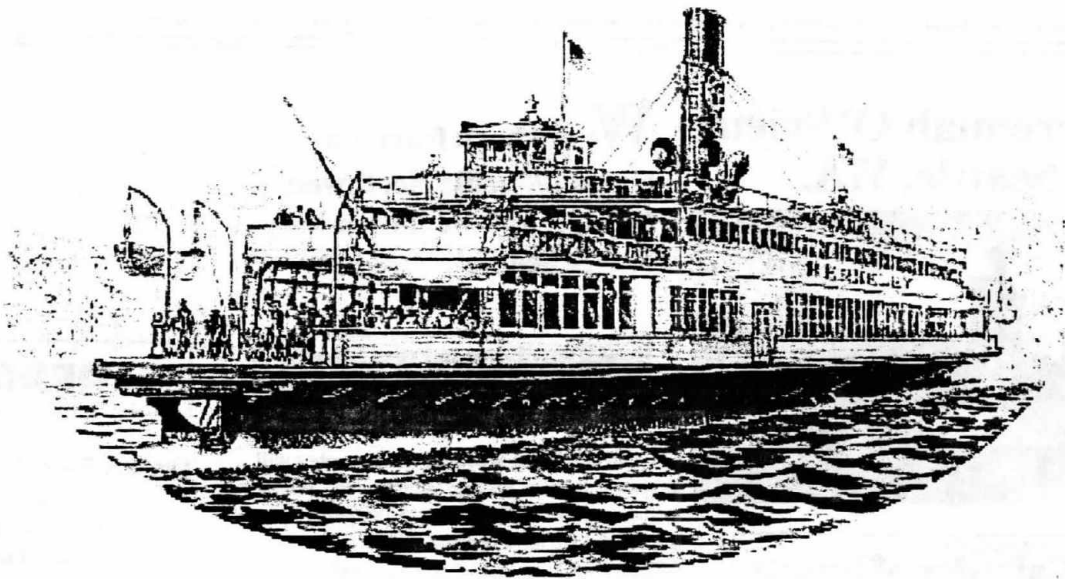
phone _____

SS JEREMIAH O'BRIEN
 Building A, Fort Mason Center
 San Francisco, CA 94123-1382
 Phone (415) 441-3101 • Fax (415) 441-3712

Octoberfest on the Bay!

October 2, 4:30 - 9:30 PM

Aboard the 1898 steam ferryboat *Berkeley*



Delicious Bavarian Octoberfest fare, beer, wine, soft drinks!

For your dancing pleasure, the six piece Edelwiess band will play a constant variety of German and Latin tunes!

Museum members: \$10.00

General Public: \$15.00

Admission includes food and two beverages



Call 234-9153 for reservations

“ WOODEN BOATS ON PARADE ”
SPONSORED BY
THE SAN FRANCISCO MODEL YACHT CLUB

“Wooden Boats On Parade” is an exclusive showing of Wooden Model Boats. It will be a non-competitive, unjudged exhibit providing an opportunity to see a variety of beautiful boats ranging from rarely seen vintage classics, to newly constructed wooden models on static display or running free style in open water.

In past eras it was common to see beautifully made model boats, displaying the fine arts of intricate woodcrafting, metal working, and old fashioned yankee engineering, on our ponds and lakes. But today, in an age of plastics and quick assembly, many of those traditional modeling skills are becoming the lost crafts of yesterday. “Wooden Boats On Parade” is a tribute to those hand-crafted wooden models, and their associated skills.

This exhibit is open to all classes and levels of Static and RC Wooden Boats such as Yachts, Cabin Cruisers, Runabouts, Tugs, and Launches, powered by Sail, Steam, Electric, or Gasoline powered muffled engines built from scratch or from kits. You are encouraged to display your boat whether it is in finished or unfinished condition.

The setting will be a serene one. San Francisco is a city with a long history of boating activities. The exhibit will be at beautiful Spreckles Lake in Golden Gate Park. Built in 1898 to enhance the art of model boating, Spreckles Lake and the adjoining Clubhouse for the San Francisco Model Yacht Club remain as one of the finest facilities of its kind in the US. **Come Join the Fun.**

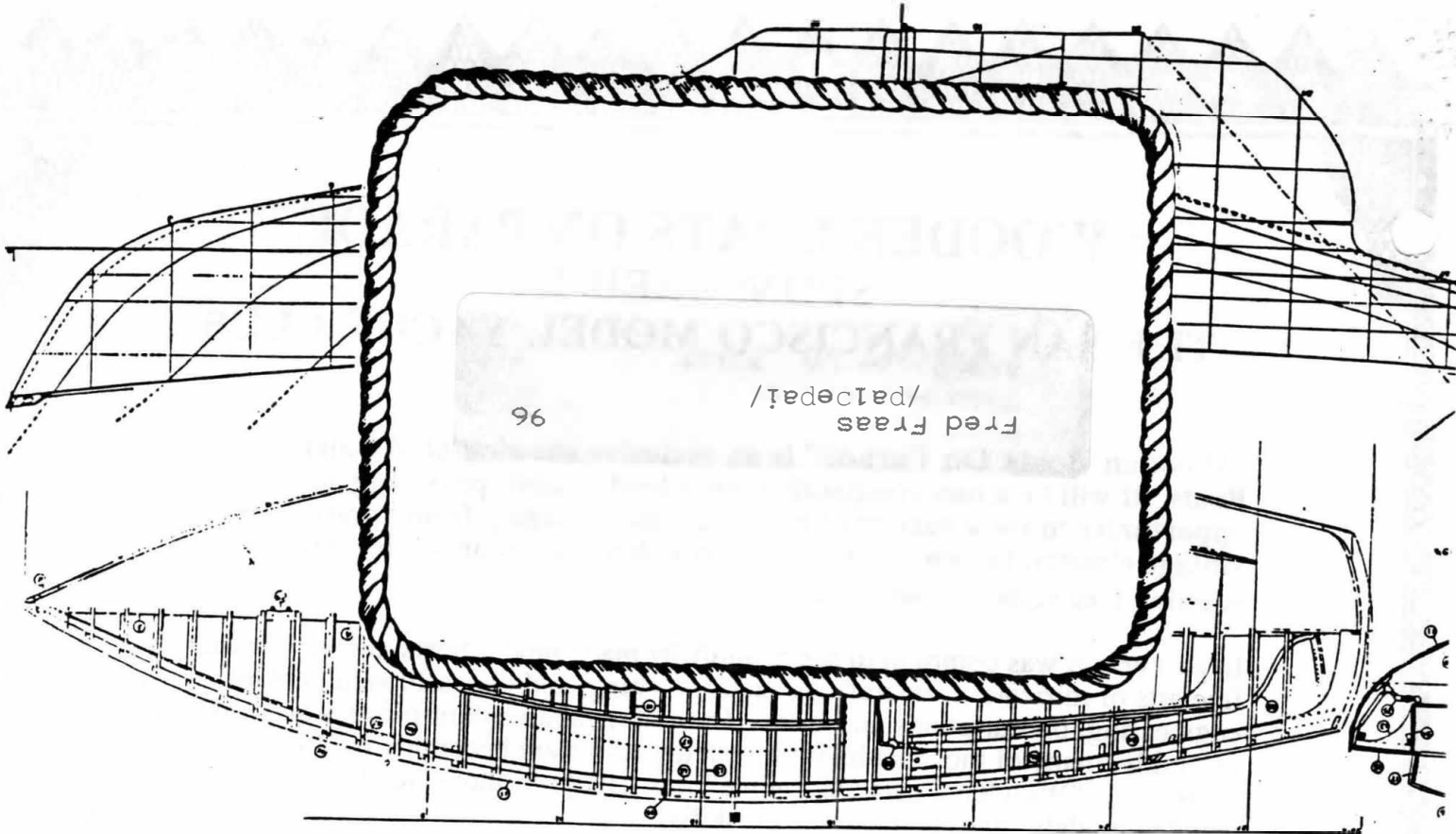
Date: Sunday, October 13th, 1996.

Place: Spreckles Lake, San Francisco. The lake is located in Golden Gate Park at 36th Avenue, off Fulton Street.

**Time: 9:30am: Registration and Free Running.
1:30pm: Lunch in the Clubhouse for Participants and Guests**

**Entries: Participants are asked to call the Event Director with the number of boats they will bring. Fee: \$3.00 per boat.
Proceeds will go toward the Club's 100th year Anniversary Celebration scheduled in 1998.**

Information: Ken Valk, Event Director, 415-755-2325



San Diego Ship Modelers Guild
 306 N. Harbor Dr.
 San Diego, CA, 92101
 /O Maritime Museum Assoc. of SD

San Diego Ship Modelers Guild

Officers for 1996

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Guild Master | Tom Taylor | /redacted/ |
| First Mate | Jack Klein | /redacted/ |
| Purser | Ed White | /redacted/ |
| Logkeeper | (open) | |
| N'letter Editors | Fred Fraas | /redacted/ |
| | Gordon Jones | /redacted/ |
| Regatta Commodore | Dave Manley | /redacted/ |

Schedule of Activities:

Meetings -- Third Thursday of the month. 7:00PM Social, 7:30PM Meeting, held on board the ferryboat "Berkeley."

R/C Operations -- Saturday mornings at the Model Yacht Pond. (Mission Bay)

Annual Regatta -- Third weekend in June.

Membership:

Dues are \$15 annually (\$7.50 after July 1st)

We strongly encourage all to join the San Diego Maritime Museum as an expression of appreciation for the facilities they provide for our benefit.