

SAN DIEGO SHIP MODELERS GUILD NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2024

32° 43' N 117° 10' W

VOL LII, No 8



FAIR DAYS

GUILD OFFICERS

[John Walsh](#)

Guild Master

[Tom Hairston](#)

First Mate

[Isaac Wills](#)

Purser

[Karl Zingheim](#)

Log Keeper

[Alex Roel](#)

Newsletter Editor

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

[John Walsh](#)

Web Master

[Chris Sullivan](#)

Photographer

[John Walsh](#)

Presentations

[Jon Sanford](#)

Model Shop

[Isaac Wills](#)

Youth Coordinator

[Steve Scheet](#)

Fair Coordinator

[John Walsh](#)

Community Build



photo by Rupert Morgan

Members Trystan Lee and Art Arroyo man the Fair Booth

The not-too-distant and fraught days of the pandemic have largely faded to a memory and now we find ourselves enjoying a spate of fair days – in all senses of the word.

What a joy it has been to reconnect and share our passion for model shipcrafting with fellow Members on a regular basis. And this past month we shared that passion with the public at the San Diego County Fair.

As a Guild we come together for a variety of reasons: our love of ships, shared experiences, craftsmanship, and much more. Take another look at the photo above...

Here's to many more *fair days*.

Alex



MMSD Supporter

San Diego Ship Modelers Guild
1492 North Harbor Drive, San Diego CA, USA 92101
sdshipmodelersguild.org

established 1971 by Bob Wright and Russ Merrill



NRG Chapter Club

The Guild's [Mini-STAR kits](#) remain the perennial favorite at the San Diego County Fair: approximately twenty kits were given away to youngsters each day of the Fair. At right are triplets Jett, Zelda, and Vera Pinzon who took their kits back to their Texas ranch.



photo by Jon Sanford

While the Guild was busy giving away Mini-STAR kits Tom Hairston lost no time in rebuilding the fleet for next Summer's 2025 Fair.



photo by Rupert Morgan



photo by Alex Roe

Steve Scheet's apprenticeship as Fair Coordinator included this curious moment as Isaac Wills dove into the booth locker for the day's setup... just the kind of nonsense that outgoing Fair Coordinator Jon Sanford no longer needs to deal with. 🏴‍☠️

Jay MacMaster and Mike Hite held court entertaining the crowds on a typical Fair day and Trystan Lee was all business demonstrating his rigging skills.

Thanks to all of our entrants and volunteers who once again made the Guild's presence one of the San Diego County Fair's most popular exhibits.



photo by Jennie Hite



photo by Kurtis Sellen



photo by Nolan Lee

[Check out the ribbon winners...](#)



From the Quarterdeck by Guild Master John Walsh

As we get ready to celebrate 53 years since our founding, I find it incredibly exciting that we're poised to make this next year a truly great one thanks to our Members finding opportunities to pitch in and use their enthusiasm to inspire and support the growth of our core mission.
















Volunteer spots for our *Design in Wood* booth filled up quickly this year (no bribery necessary!) Stories shared from both Members and the fair-going public are a testament to the joy that our hobby brings when practiced as a community.

There was a great response to the Community Build IV project. When it was first proposed, I worried that there would be only one or two interested, but instead over a dozen of us have purchased our kits and are preparing to kick off monthly build meetings. And, of course, a huge thanks to Mike Lonnecker for being a major catalyst in getting this all going.

Steve Scheet has taken up the reins as our new Fair Coordinator with a gusto that is truly invigorating. Back when Jon Sanford decided that this was his last year in the position, I thought it was going to be an almost insurmountable challenge to find someone who could manage to fill those enormous shoes, but Steve dove right in and is already hard at work to make our next County Fair outing the absolute best yet!

Tom Hairston is giving Santa Claus' toy shop a run for its money with his plan to turn making Mini-STAR kits into a year-round operation. Tom's dedication to making this initiative the best it can be is a model for us all.

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Mike Hite, Paco Lopez de Arenosa, and Patrick Sheehan have all been supporting the Guild's Model Shop throughout the past several months, and it's great to see our public "storefront" getting some more love in addition to Jon Sanford's ongoing restoration projects.



Youth Coordinator Isaac Wills with charges

Isaac Wills paying his Guild experience forward as our first official Youth Coordinator is one of our best success stories when it comes to safeguarding the longevity of our craft. Ours is a tradition handed down from countless generations; what an honor it is to see that continue!

But most importantly, for all of you who gather on the upper deck of the BERKELEY each month and share your passion and wisdom and experience with everyone present: you are what have ultimately made these past 53 years possible. We may have grown much from our humble beginnings, but at the heart of it all is a simple gathering of people all looking to help each other.

Fair winds and following seas,
John Walsh, Guild Master



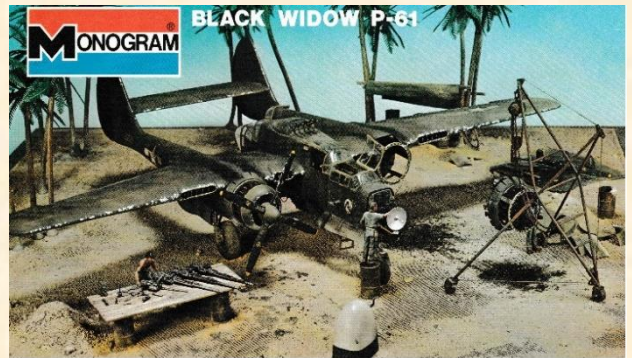
Scale modeling for me started at the same age as my interest in history. I grew up in the heyday of illustrated histories published by National Geographic, American Heritage, and of course, the Ballantine Battle Books, which produced lavishly illustrated volumes that employed contemporaneous artwork with modern photography on the American Revolution, the Civil War, and the World Wars. History was not just words on a page but human drama wrought with graphics and imagery: as a five- or six-year-old, I could not precisely contextualize the content, but they certainly made an impression!

I always had an affinity for miniatures as well, and model kit assembly was a natural extension of this enthusiasm. From the age of five I started assembling my own, and modeling for me became about striving for accuracy that involves crossing over into history for verification, and ultimately, inspiration.

Putting both history and modeling together beyond mere camouflage or “markings correctness” takes the enterprise into the realm of dioramas. However, it was not until I was nearing my teens that guidance on how to compose dioramas (a kind of storytelling) arrived in the form of a booklet by professional dioramist Shepard Paine that was included in many of the new aircraft and armor kits released by Monogram Models.

Much like the illustrated histories, these glossy two-pagers were packed with photos (mainly how-to snapshots) that showed how Paine rendered the model kit into a scale story in miniature.

Later, Kalmbach Publishing released a series of magazine-sized illustrated works on all manner of scale model work, including a few from Shepard Paine on dioramas. Active naval service and other matters took up my time and attention in young adulthood, but the desire to express model-crafting in scale settings never left, and the time to bring history and modeling together arrived with the new millennium.



Diorama created by Shepard Paine

TIPS ON BUILDING DIORAMAS

Building a diorama is an interesting and realistic way of displaying a favorite model. A scale model aircraft placed in an authentic setting will receive more attention and comments than the usual static model display. All it requires is average model building skills, some imagination and materials usually found in or around the home. Other materials can readily be purchased. Here's how it's done.

PLANNING

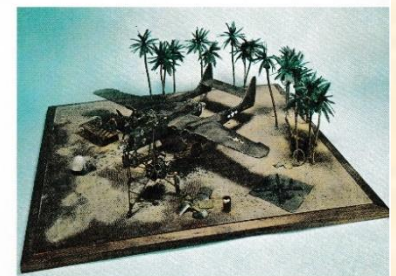
Before you begin the assembly of the model, you should have a good idea of what you want to show in your diorama. You may want to duplicate the scene shown here, or you may wish to develop one of your own. Of help in this area are numerous aircraft magazines and books which have photos showing various types of activity involving aircraft. The photos don't necessarily have to include the specific airplane you are modeling, but they may provide an interesting setting for your model. Of special interest are crashed airplanes and ground maintenance shots showing technicians at work, with related ground vehicles and equipment.

Imagination is the key ingredient in any diorama. A good imaginative idea does not necessarily need a slick and professional looking execution to be successful; even the average modeler can easily pull it off. On the other hand, don't try anything too elaborate, especially at first. Find out what your limitations are, then work within them.

MONOGRAM MODELS, INC.
Morton Grove, Ill. Copyright © 1974
All rights reserved. Made in U.S.A. 7540-0211

ABOVE: Our diorama represents an olive drab and gray P-61 of the 8th Night Fighter Squadron operating off Japan in October 1944. Numerous "super-detail" modifications were made to the model and give an idea as to what can be done in this line. Aircraft in heavy weathered, as was common in the Pacific. In addition to the ravages of sea air, heat and humidity, the prop blast during takeoff stirred up the coral sand and literally sand blasted the paint off the leading edges of the wings.

BELOW: This view shows the overall arrangement of the entire diorama. Fairly large base is 12" x 20" x 21" plywood with a 5/8" border. It was made as described in the text as was the ground which is raised 3/32" at the outer edges. Strips of wood were used to provide a sharp edge.

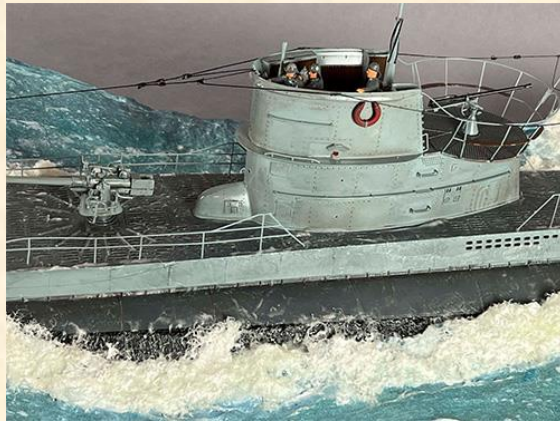


Naval modeling was always a favorite, and it was time to address putting my ships into a scale sea. Crude experiments were refined and better methods to simulate water, smoke, and flame were developed. The advent of the Internet and cloud searching revolutionized historical research and made accuracy truly attainable. Thanks to sites like [fold3](#), even primary sources like after-action reports can be accessed with ease to lend details not so easily obtained before.

Applying diorama techniques to nautical subjects is perhaps the best way to wade into the specialty since it is often much easier to suggest motion with ships than with aircraft or vehicles. Suggested motion is a sure attention-getter for scenes and it can inspire explanation and storytelling.

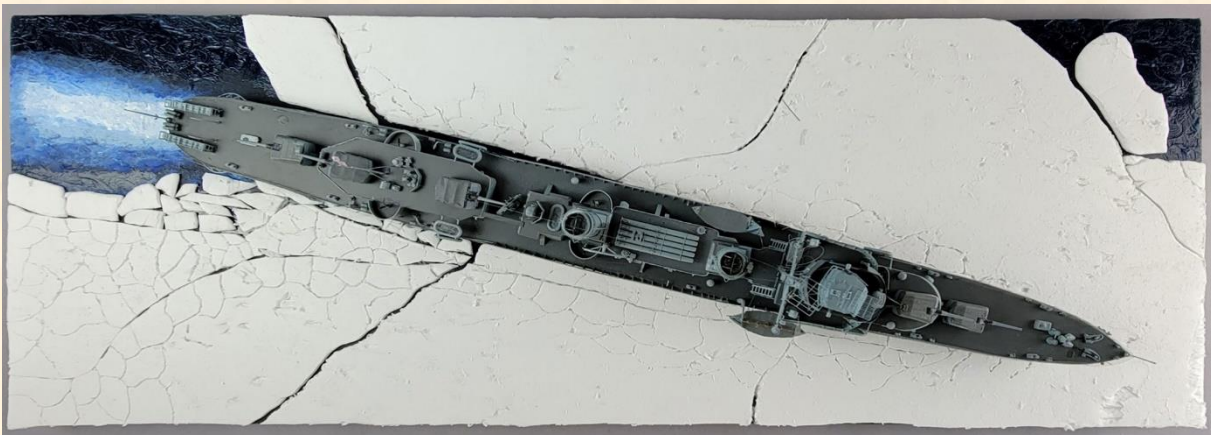


corvette SNOWBERRY cuts a wake



submarine TYPE VII in heavy seas

Venues like museums and modeling organizations, like the San Diego Ship Modelers Guild, offer wonderful opportunities to showcase examples of diorama work, and hopefully inspire others to take up the union of history and model crafting. By utilizing my abiding interests in history and scale model work, as well as my professional demands as a public and academic historian, I can truthfully declare that most of my waking hours are taken up in the practice of history! Perhaps others will too.



destroyer GLEAVES slicing through an ice floe



South Australia

Listen to it on  YouTube

In South Australia I was born
Heave away, haul away!
South Australia is my home
We're bound for South Australia!

Haul away you rolling kings
(To me!) Heave away, haul away!
Haul away, you'll hear me sing
We're bound for South Australia!

Now as I walked out one morning fair
Heave away, haul away!
There I met Miss Nancy Blair
We're bound for South Australia!

CHORUS

I shook her up, I shook her down
Heave away, haul away!
I shook her 'round and 'round the town
We're bound for South Australia!

CHORUS

There's just one thing that grieves my mind
Heave away, haul away!
That's leaving Nancy Blair behind
We're bound for South Australia!

CHORUS

And when we're walloping off Cape Horn
Heave away, haul away!
You'll wish to God you'd never been born
We're bound for South Australia!

CHORUS

I wish I was on Australia's strand
Heave away, haul away!
With a bottle of whiskey in me hand
We're bound for South Australia!

CHORUS



Last Meeting



The Guild's July meeting was attended by 22 Members¹ and 4 guests²; all Officers were present. 1 new Member³ joined the Guild.



Powder Monkey Karl Zingheim struck four bells at 6:00pm to signal the start of the second dog watch and thus brought the meeting to order.



Father and son Kevin and Jakob Nagatani were introduced as guests (Jakob signing up as a new Member) as were Jim Paulson, Paula Sheehan and former Member Mike Florio.



Guild Master John Walsh called for Officer reports. Jon Sanford was first up and made his final report as outgoing Fair Coordinator. At the conclusion of his remarks Jon was presented a "ship-in-a-bottle" whiskey decanter as thanks for his five years' service coordinating the Guild's Fair participation.

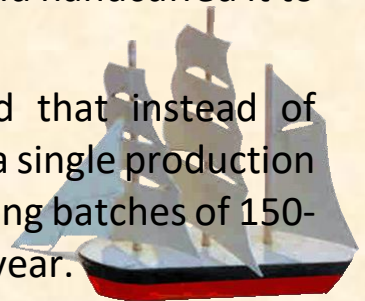


Incoming Fair Coordinator Steve Scheet was then recognized by the Guild Master for generously donating his Fair prize money to the Guild in order to purchase better chairs for the Fair booth. Steve then announced that he would would like to see more entrants from Guild Members next year.



John ceremoniously handed the Guild's annual NRG Charter documents to Log Keeper Karl Zingheim who promptly placed them in a briefcase and handcuffed it to his wrist.

First Mate Tom Hairston announced that instead of producing 600+ Mini-STAR kits during a single production as he has in the past, he will be producing batches of 150-200 over the course of the upcoming year.



Mike Lonnecker accepted Community Build payments.

With business concluded, John announced the break which was immediately followed by [Show and Tell](#), and at 7:36pm the Powder Monkey struck the bell a final time to close out our July meeting.

¹ Arroyo, Dressel, Hairston, N.Lee, T.Lee, Lonnecker, Miller, Roel, Sanford, Scheet, Seiler, Sellen, K.Sheehan, P.Sheehan, Sullivan, Tamayo, Thompson, Van der Beek, Walsh, Wills, Yotter, Zingheim

² Mike Florio, Kevin Nagatani, Jim Paulson, Paula Sheehan

³ J.Nagatani



Jon Sanford opened Show and Tell with the DOZER build that he introduced previously. This scratch build now sports fresh hull planking port and starboard and an intimidating series of four "teeth" affixed to the bow's stem that assist in wrangling floating logs on the lakes and rivers of the Pacific Northwest. John also noted the protective cage to prevent propeller damage while wrangling.

- *DOZER by Jon Sanford*
- *scratch build, solid hull, wood*
- *1"=1' 1:12, under construction*



- *PRINCE DE NEUFCHATEL by Steve Miller*
- *Constructo kit, plank-on-bulkhead, wood*
- *13/64"≈1' 1:58, under construction*



The PRINCE DE NEUFCHATEL returned this month as Steve Miller showed off her staining scheme using Danish Oil overcoated with a satin poly. The topside deck, deck furniture, and bulwarks are largely complete.



Chuck Seiler brought back his cross-section of a 17th century Dutch PINAS, now with upper frames, and also his JAMESTOWN SHALLOP. Both featured at this year's Fair: the



former as his Fair Project and the latter as the 2nd Place Red Ribbon winner.

- *PINAS CROSS-SECTION by Chuck Seiler*
- *Kolderstok kit, plank-on-frame, basswood*
- *1/4"≈1' 1:50, under construction*

- *JAMESTOWN SHALLOP by Chuck Seiler*
- *Pavel Nikitin kit, plank-on-frame, wood*
- *3/8"=1' 1:32, completed*



Don and VASA

- *VASA by Don Dressel*
- *Corel kit, plank-on-bulkhead, wood*
- *5/32"≈1' 1:78, under construction*

VASA made an appearance at Show and Tell as Don Dressel discussed the unique gun port design that Corel has incorporated into this kit. Each gun port is directly adjacent to and abuts an interior bulkhead; this is meant to make construction easier but depends upon the proper placement of each bulkhead; Don said that this seemed to work out satisfactorily, but noted that due to the hull's shape he could not plank by spiling.

Mike Lonnecker brought in his current build of a captain's PINNACE. A scratch build utilizing boxwood and holly, Mike mentioned that he builds all his models in admiralty fashion because he enjoys exposing the interior construction and details of the vessel.



amidships



stern

- *PINNACE by Mike Lonnecker*
- *scratch build, boxwood, holly*
- *1/4"=1' 1:48, under construction*



ANTELOPE



ARIZONA

Isaac Wills brought in a fleet of builds, including his Fair Project ANTELOPE which is a bash build based upon a Marine Model DILIGENCE kit.

- *ANTELOPE by Isaac Wills*
- *Marine Model kit bash, wood*
- *3/16"=1' 1:64, under construction*

- *ARIZONA by Isaac Wills*
- *Revell kit, plastic*
- *1/64"≈1' 1:535, completed*

Of particular note was the backstory of Isaac's ARIZONA who as a youngster filled her hull with olive oil to replicate how the actual memorial still seeps oil to this day off Ford Island. Isaac's placement of his

version of ARIZONA in the family pool was met with less enthusiasm than it was at Show and Tell, presumably.



BOUNTY

Finally, Isaac also brought his build of BOUNTY which is displayed sans rigging.

- *BOUNTY* by Isaac Wills
- Revell kit, plastic
- 1/16"≈1' 1:196, completed

- *J2F DUCK* by Patrick Sheehan
- Glencoe kit, plastic
- 7/32"≈1' 1:52, completed

Patrick Sheehan was up next and shared his J2F DUCK that he built from a Glencoe kit. Patrick said that this was an enjoyable kit to build, and that the DUCK was a biplane used for air-sea rescues, scouting, mapping, and other utility flights. She saw service from 1936 to shortly after the end of World War II.



J2F DUCK



Patrick



- *40mm QUAD BOFORS* by Karl Zingheim
- Zimi kit, plastic
- 11/32"≈1' 1:35, not started

Karl Zingheim continues his quest of introducing new and interesting models to Show and Tell each month, sometimes highlighting trends in the modeling industry. This month Karl discussed a new model of a QUAD BOFORS gun mount and noted that manufacturers are beginning to focus on discrete areas of a vessel around which to design a kit.





Trystan displays DOLPHIN

- *DOLPHIN by Trystan Lee*
- *scratch build, wood and card*
- *not to scale, under construction*

Trystan Lee debuted his scratch build of the submarine DOLPHIN. He has plans to paint the hull black once all the metal sheathing has been completed. Trystan also brought in another scratch build of a vessel of particular significance to his family.



PILOT BOAT

Tom Hairston closed out Show and Tell for us with his Fair entry, PILOT BOAT, which took the 3rd Place White Ribbon this year.

As Tom mentioned last month he was relying on his son to produce some 3D printed parts for the helm and anchor: he was happy to report that his son came through, allowing Tom to finish the build.

Tom also noted that his PILOT BOAT proudly flies the Maritime Museum of San Diego flag from a halyard.

- *PILOT BOAT by Tom Hairston*
- *scratch build, plank-on-bulkhead, basswood*
- *7/32"~1' 1:52, completed*

EDITOR'S NOTE: It was mistakenly reported last issue that Tom was building his *second* PILOT BOAT; in fact it was his MEDEA that had two incarnations, not PILOT BOAT. Apologies, Tom!

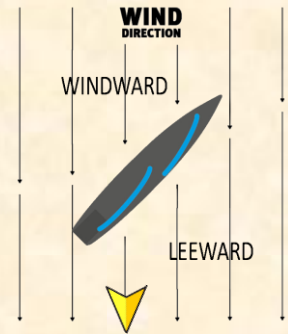
⚓ Flotsam and Jetsam

"We have met the enemy and they are ours..."

Captain Oliver Hazard Perry, USS NIAGARA, 1813

Soundings – pronouncing nautical terms

There are a number of nautical terms used to describe direction on a vessel such as fore, aft and aloft. These examples are not as interesting as the term used to describe the direction away from the wind... **LEEWARD**. You may find yourself leaning *into* the wind trying to square this with a similar term: LEEWAY.

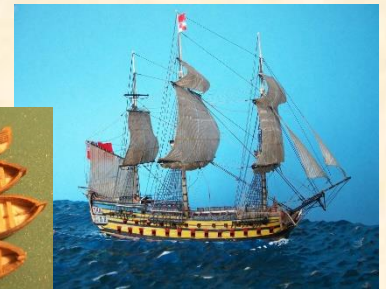


Reads like: **lee**•word (one word, two syllables, accent on first)

Pronounced: **lew**•erd (one word, two syllables, accent on first)

Build Gallery ★ ★ ★

Members are invited to submit completed builds to Webmaster [John Walsh](#) for inclusion in our website's *Build Gallery*. Provide the name of your vessel, circa depicted, scale, materials, and whether built from scratch, kit or bashed. Be sure to include a full view photo along with detailed supporting photos.



Around the Scuttlebutt – latest Guild news



Community Build IV is now officially a “thing”: 13 Members have signed up to participate so far. The focus of the build will be the new NRG “[Masting and Rigging Project](#)” kit, and Mike Lonnecker has secured discount pricing from the NRG for all participants. Meetings will be aboard BERKELEY at 3pm the same day of the regularly scheduled monthly Guild meeting starting in September (see [On the Horizon](#)); contact Community Build Chairman [John Walsh](#) if interested.



Outgoing Fair Coordinator Jon Sanford reports that our top three volunteers at the Fair Booth this year were Chuck Seiler (110 hours), Steve Scheet (64 hours) and Art Arroyo (45 hours.) A special thanks to each for leading the way, and thanks to all who volunteered.



Yes, the 2024 San Diego County Fair is over and the Guild Booth is in storage for another year. But you can get a jump on 2025 by using this Quick Response Code to get on the *Design in Wood* emailing list. You'll receive early alerts about model entry for next year's Fair. Contact Fair Coordinator [Steve Scheet](#) with any questions.



Summer travel options to the Embarcadero (see our [map](#)):

- ☞ Arrive early (5pm) and enjoy the Guild's social hour aboard the BERKELEY and/or help set up before the meeting
- ☞ Embarcadero public parking lots (metered pay stations)
- ☞ North Harbor Drive street parking in front of the San Diego County Administration building (parking meters)
- ☞ MTS trolley (Blue or Green Line / County Center Station); 0.2 mile walk
- ☞ AMTRAK train (Santa Fe Depot); 0.3 mile walk
- ☞ USS MIDWAY public parking lot; 0.5 mile walk
- ☞ Tuna Harbor public parking lot; 0.6 mile walk
- ☞ Uber / Lyft / taxi
- ☞ Car pool

On The Horizon

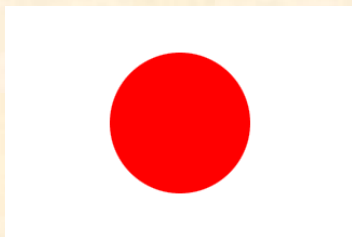
Aug 6	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
Aug 13	6pm	Guild (Birthday) Meeting	BERKELEY w/cake
Aug 27	–	Newsletter	website, email
Sept 3	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
Sept 10	3pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
Sept 10	6pm	Guild (Anniversary) Meeting	BERKELEY w/pot luck
Sept 24	–	Newsletter	website, email
Oct 1	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
Oct 8	3pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
Oct 8	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
Oct 29	–	Newsletter	website, email
Nov 5	3pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
Nov 12	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
Nov 26	–	Newsletter	website, email

How did you come to call San Diego home?

I moved to Michigan from Japan in 1978. This was before the Internet age and thus I relied on a study-abroad agency and enrolled in college there. Although the scenic beauty was indisputable, if I had known the Upper Peninsula was a very cold place with long winters, I might have made a different choice. Eventually I worked for Panasonic in Chicago, but after the passage of NAFTA in 1994, they moved their factories to Tijuana, Mexico, and established their design center in Otay Mesa. I moved to San Diego as a transfer employee.



Tell us a bit about your life/career path.



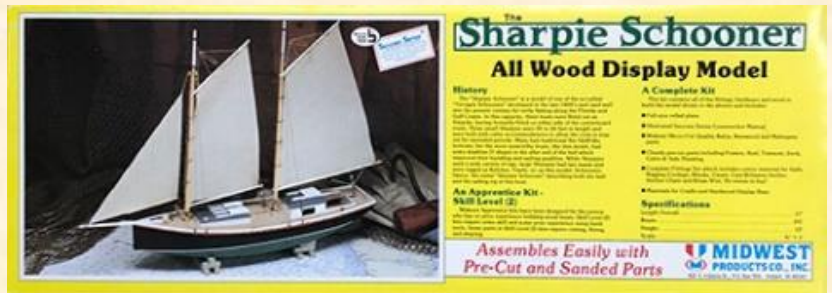
I was born in Tokyo, and when I was about 10 years old, I found a germanium crystal radio kit advertised in a children’s science magazine. I wasn’t confident that I could assemble it successfully, but the radio worked and I was hooked! Soon I received my ham radio

license and started making vacuum tube radios. My parents and school teachers encouraged me to follow an engineering career path. I moved to the States and graduated from Michigan Tech in 1980, and while working in Chicago I finished my master’s degree at the University of Illinois. I worked for Motorola and later Panasonic in engineering positions until I retired in 2014.



How did you come to the Guild?

I do not remember the exact year, but in the late 1990’s I went to Discount Hobby Warehouse (then located on Convoy Street) and came across the “West Coast Model Ship” shop inside the store. I chatted with the owner, KC Edwards, about model ship making and decided to give it a try. I ended up going home with a SHARPIE Schooner kit by



Midwest Products. KC was the Guild Master at the time, and I was introduced to the Guild and started attending meetings. I vividly remember KC's restored Model T Ford and his pet Golden Retriever.

Do you recall your first model?

My first model was the SHARPIE.

Of the models you've made, which is your favorite?

I like *all* my models.

Describe another avocation you enjoy.



I have too many avocations: electronics, amateur radio, HO train models (especially German) and gardening are a few. I used to volunteer at Poway-Midland Railroad at Old Poway Park, working at various times as station crew, stoker, conductor, and driver. Among them, the most challenging duty was stoker (fire man) because you have to maintain the right steam pressure, the proper water level in the boiler, and oil flow to the cylinders (both left and right) and the compressor.

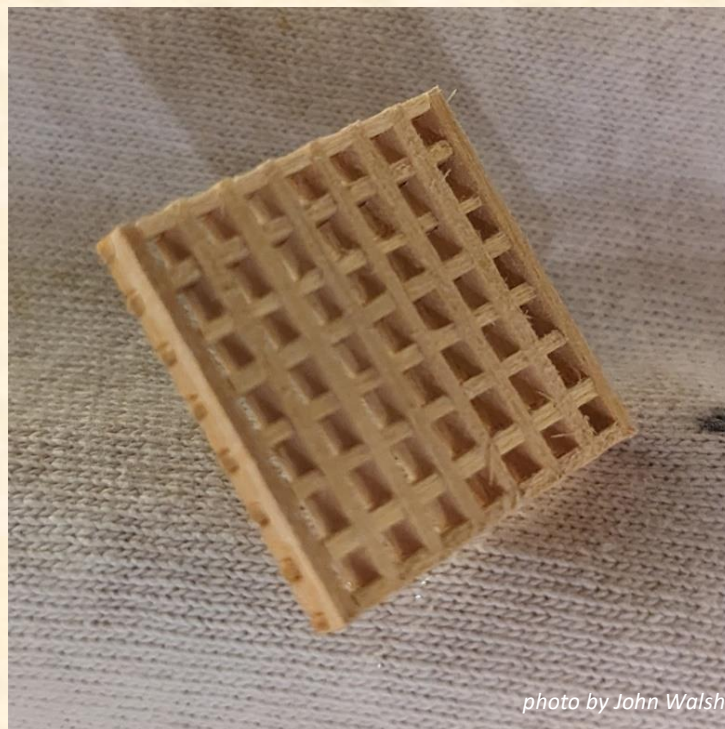


photo by John Walsh

This item nearly brought the Guild's Fair Booth to a stand-still... find out how next month.



Ribbons! Who won what at the 2024 San Diego County Fair



The Guild took part in the San Diego County Fair for the 32nd consecutive year and took home ribbons, awards, and cash prizes awarded by the Maritime Museum of San Diego and the SDCF *Design in Wood* competition. Congratulations to the winners and to all our entrants.



Jay MacMaster / SURPRISE / Model Building – Scale

Jay MacMaster was the big winner taking both the MMSD’s Best Scale Model Ship Award and the SDCF’s DIW Blue Ribbon for his SURPRISE. An eight-year, plank-on-bulkhead scratch build at 11/64”≈1’ (1:75) scale, Jay used no paint relying on exotic woods including alder, holly, basswood, box wood, red oak, birch, and African ebony, padauk and mahogany. Jay’s research included Admiralty plans, Mamoli’s kit instructions, and Patrick O’Brian’s “Far Side of the World” novel.



Chuck Seiler / JAMESTOWN SHALLOP / Model Building – Scale

The Red Ribbon for 2nd Place was awarded to Chuck Seiler for his JAMESTOWN SHALLOP. This Pavel Nikitin kit was built with alder, beech, boxwood and cherry at a scale of 3/8”=1’ (1:32) and represents the type of vessel used to explore the Chesapeake Bay area by American Colonists in the 1600s.



Tom Hairston / MEDEA / Model Building – Scale

Last year’s overall winner Tom Hairston took the 3rd Place White Ribbon with his scratch-built basswood rendition of the Guild’s mascot, MEDEA at 5/32”≈1’ (1:72) scale. Tom’s plank-on-bulkhead build was based on plans obtained from Isaac Wills and Tom’s own photographs of the MMSD’s vessel.



Steve Scheet / ULISES / Model Building – Scale

Newer Member Steve Scheet garnered a Yellow Ribbon 4th Place for his steam tug ULISES. Made primarily of basswood and mahogany, Steve’s OcCre kit build was heavily modified and he added some grimy weathering to finish off his first-time entry to the Fair. The ULISES is a plank-on-frame build at 13/32” ≈ 1’ (1:30) scale.

Steve jumped in to the Fair with both feet this year by apprenticing to Fair Coordinator Jon Sanford, working the Booth, and submitting a model. Steve’s apprenticeship positions him to assume the post of Fair Coordinator next year.



Chris Sullivan / 32 Pound Carronade Model Building – Not to Scale

Photographer Chris Sullivan was another first-time entrant at the Fair and made his debut with a vignette of a carronade station.

Entered in the “Not to Scale” category, Chris’s clean model shows off the carronade’s rigging and tools at the gunport.



Jay MacMaster / Treasure Chest / Model Building – Not to Scale

Master modeler Jay MacMaster also had an entry in the “Not to Scale” category with his Treasure Chest featuring a hidden diorama of the BLACK PEARL in a rocky cove. LED lights illuminate the model and are activated when the lid of the chest is raised. Built for his nephew, this is another example of his amazing legacy of work that he has produced for his family.

Bacon-Wrapped Turkey Leg



HONORABLE MENTION



The Guild awards an Honorable Mention to the “Midway Food of the Summer”: the bacon-wrapped turkey leg.

A trendy pick several summers ago, the turkey leg made a big comeback this year by narrowly edging out the bacon-wrapped hot dog, the bacon-wrapped burrito, the bacon-wrapped kielbasa, the bacon-wrapped cinnamon bun, and a small Pepsi (light ice.)



In [Part One](#) the method of building out the ship's hull with properly spaced frames was discussed.

Now we need to return to the start of the build and discuss the making of some of the more difficult parts. First, I will discuss some of the methods I used to make parts. Then I will discuss the mounting of the cant frames, fore and aft.

To make a frame, in the case of one of the square frames, a pattern was printed and glued to the raw stock. The frame was then sawn out on a scroll saw just outside of the edge of the pattern. It was then sanded to final size using a disk sander to form outside curves and an oscillating drum sander to form the inside curves. In the case of the cant frames, some of the sides were not parallel and those sides were again sanded with the same machines but with tables tilted or angle blocks used under the part.

Frame Types

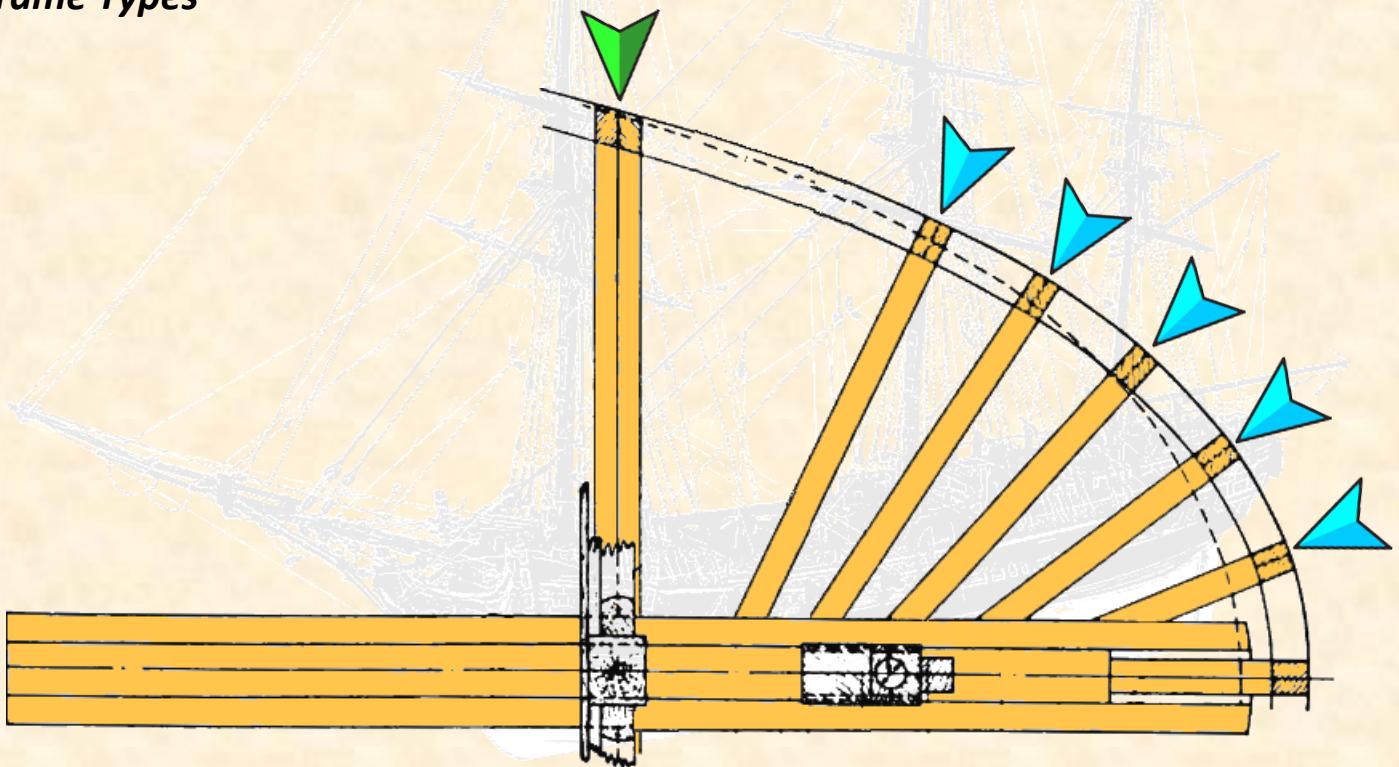


Figure 6 — square frame and cant frames (typical)

There are two basic types of frames in a ship. The square frames sit on the keel at a 90 degree angle and are continuous from side to side. The cant frames are located at the ends of the hull and sit at an ever-increasing angle as you move towards the fore or aft end of the hull. In the case of the FLY the cant frames sit in notches in the apron of the stem and the deadwood in the stern.

Plans and Patterns

The set of plans that I purchased from David Antscherl have templates for all the frames. There is also a scale on each drawing that can be measured to ensure that they are printed at the correct size. The forward cant frames are constructed of two or three pieces: each of the pieces are joined with a scarf or a chocked joint.

A word about using patterns: after printing and cutting the pattern (template) to size it is glued to the wood blank. Many recommend using a rubber cement to do this but I like Elmer's Glue Stick. It cleans up easily with water and goes on smoothly where as I sometimes have had problems with rubber cement getting lumpy.

Note the **scale**, **foot angle**, and the **staggered joints** (on the following two diagrams.) The staggered joints prevent a continuous line of weakness across the hull. This is true of the square frames as well.

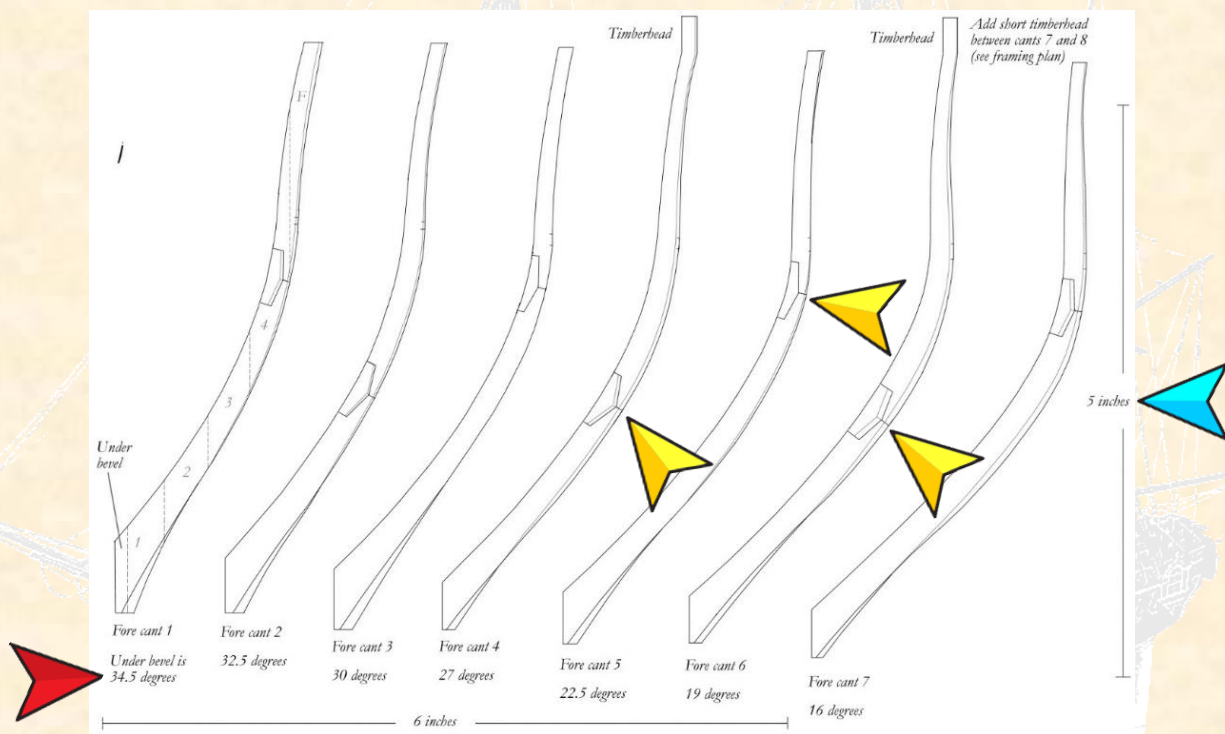


Figure 7 — forward cant frames 1 to 7

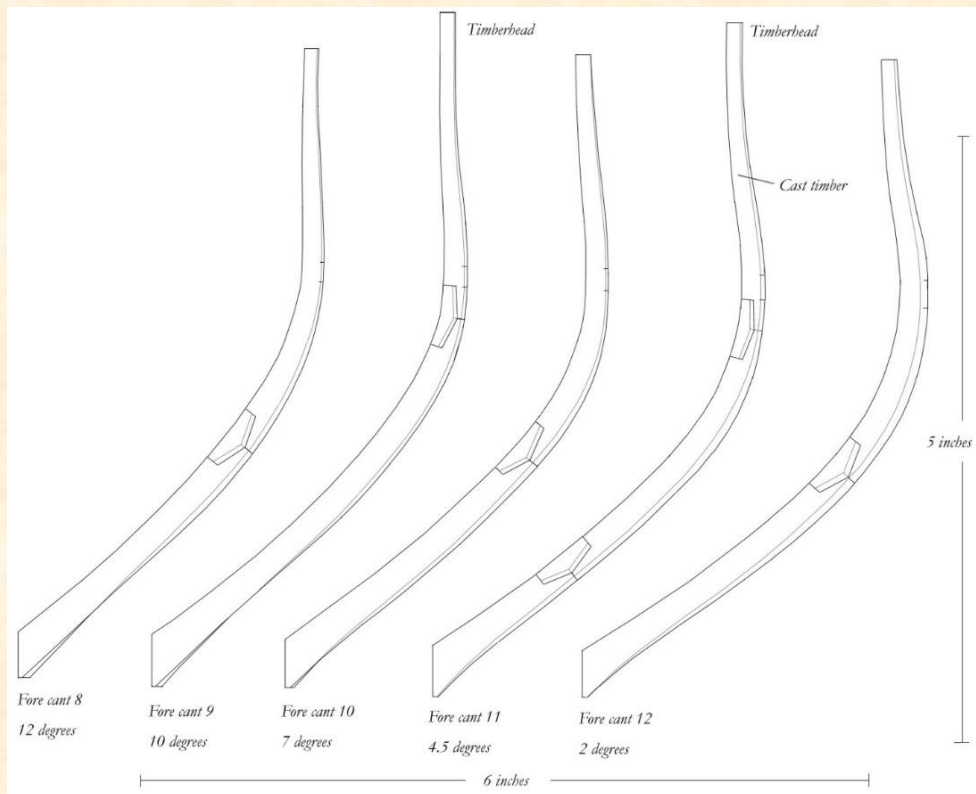


Figure 8 — forward cant frames 8 to 12

Making the Cant Frames

Making and mounting the cant frames was one of the biggest challenges of the model. To complicate things the hawse timbers (see next article) sit between the forwardmost cant frame and the stem. First, I created the forward cant frames. The angle of the foot was set up on the mill using an angle plate and a vise using a Vernier protractor.

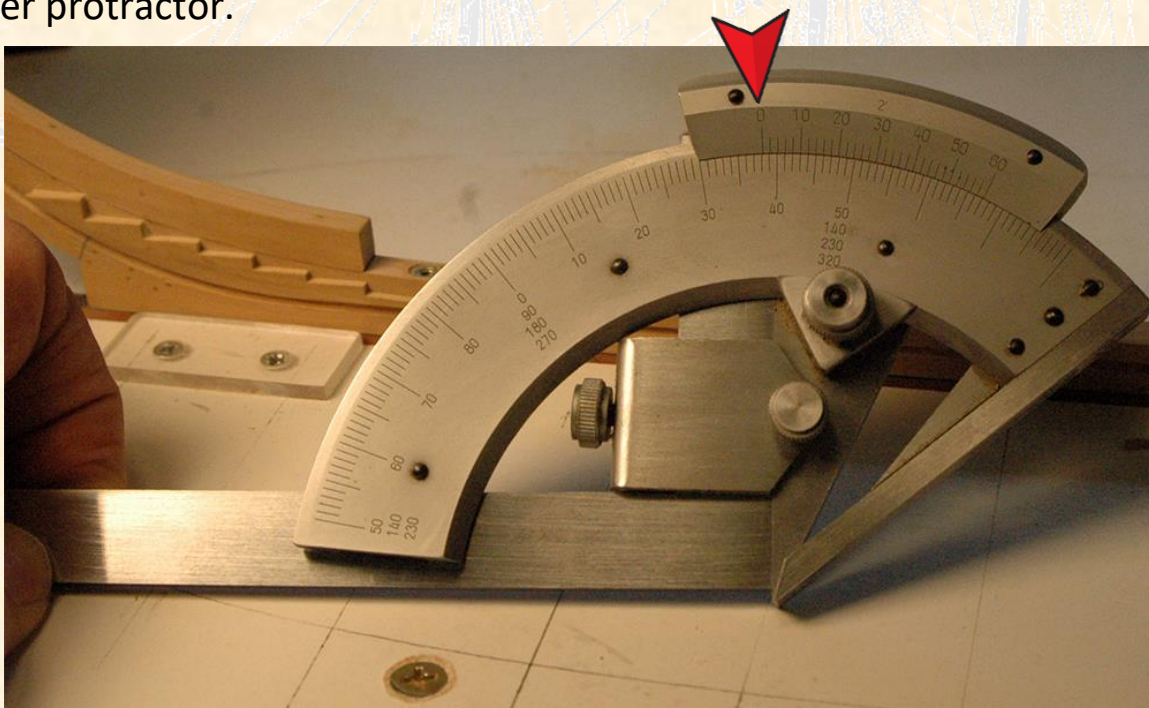


Figure 9 — close up of Vernier protractor used to set the angle (here set at 38°)

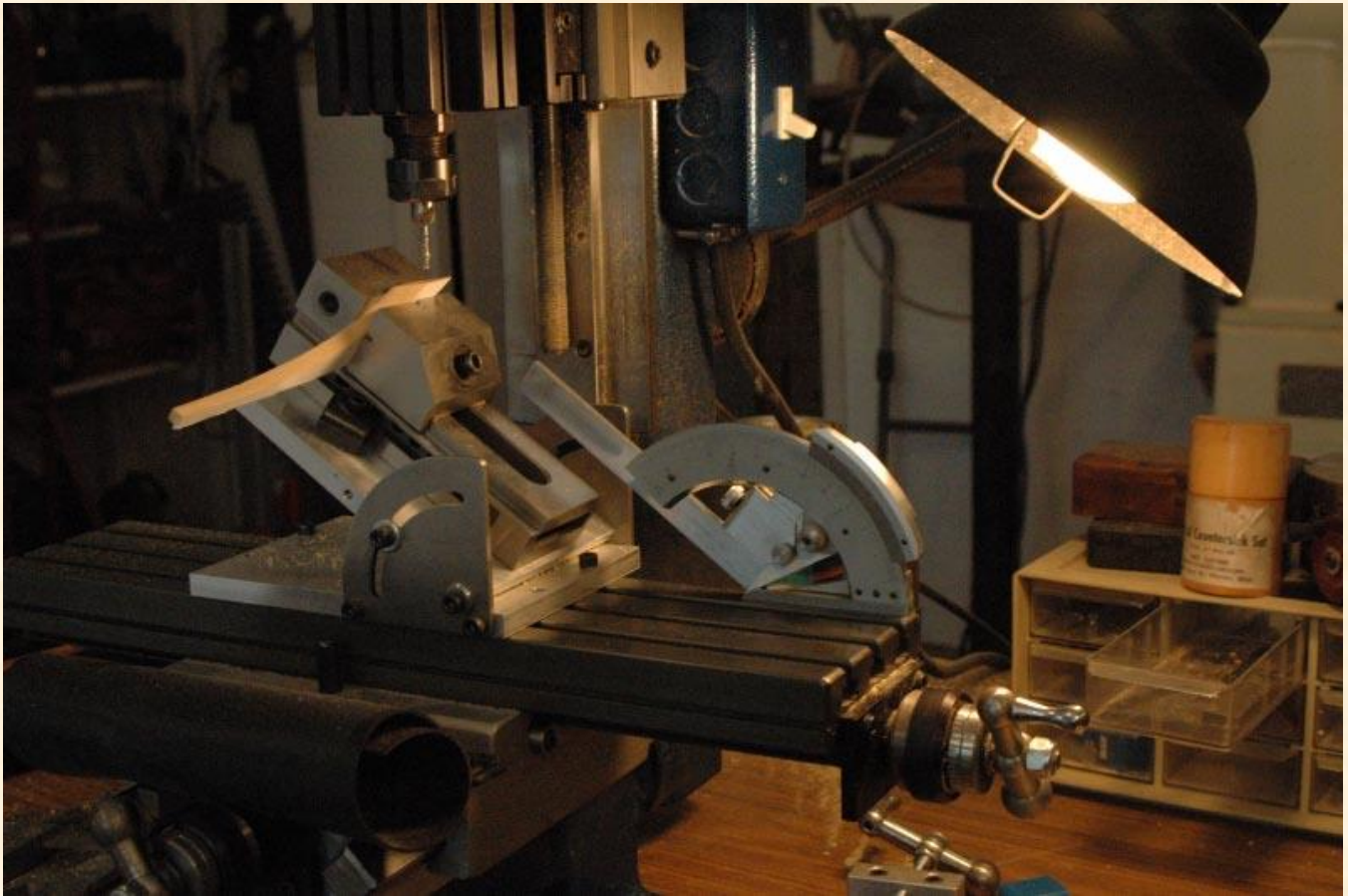


Figure 10 — the complete set up

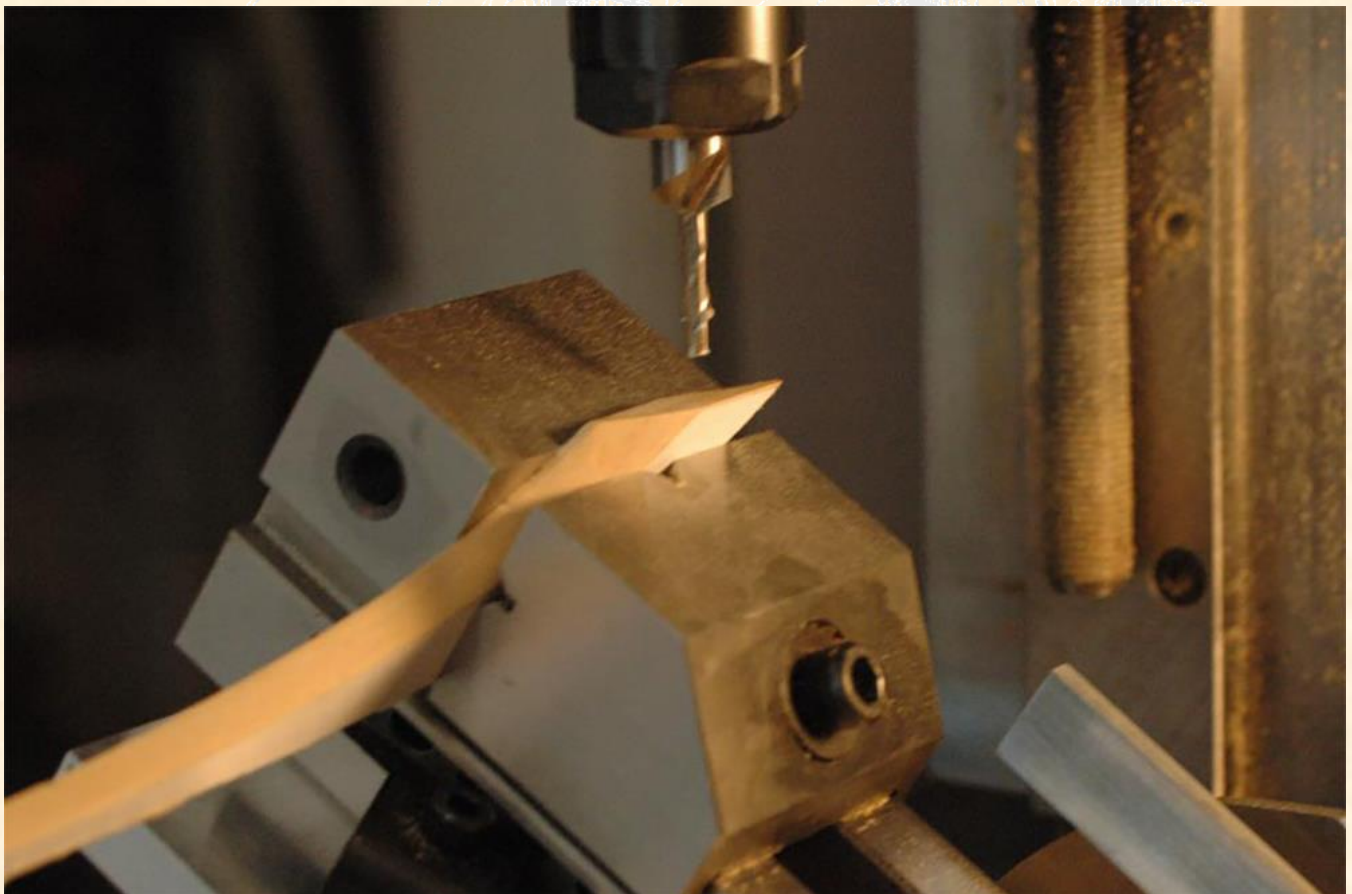


Figure 11 — milling the angle on a cant frame foot



Figure 12 — bollard timber, hawse timbers and first cant frame at the bow

Note the barrel nut embedded in the keel for mounting the model: I installed four of them. Also, nothing in the photo above is permanently attached: I used double-sided tape (both Scotch and masking) for temporary assembly. Double-sided tape is a real friend for holding parts and making temporary tooling. Both types can be easily released with acetone or alcohol as neither chemical will harm or stain the wood.

||| **Next time:** I will describe fabricating the hawse timbers.

In [Log Entry: No. 2](#) I discussed installing several decks; I continue now with the B and Promenade (A) Decks.

- *TITANIC* by Don Bienvenue
- Trumpeter kit, plastic, wood, photo-etched brass
- 1/16"≈1' 1:200, under construction

B Deck

B Deck includes the Cafe Parisian and Private Promenades. I showed work on the Private Promenades in the last Log Entry, but erroneously listed these rooms as being on C Deck. B Deck is mostly hidden by the hull walls and provides structure to the model.

Promenade Deck

The Promenade Deck, also known as A Deck, is one of the more interesting decks on the model. It includes numerous public rooms and the model has lots of photo-etched windows and doors. I installed the wood deck and then added floor patterns (Figure 1) to the Verandah and Palm Courts (checkered pattern to the right), the First Class Smoking Room (solid color in the middle) and the First Class Entrance (tiled pattern to the left.)

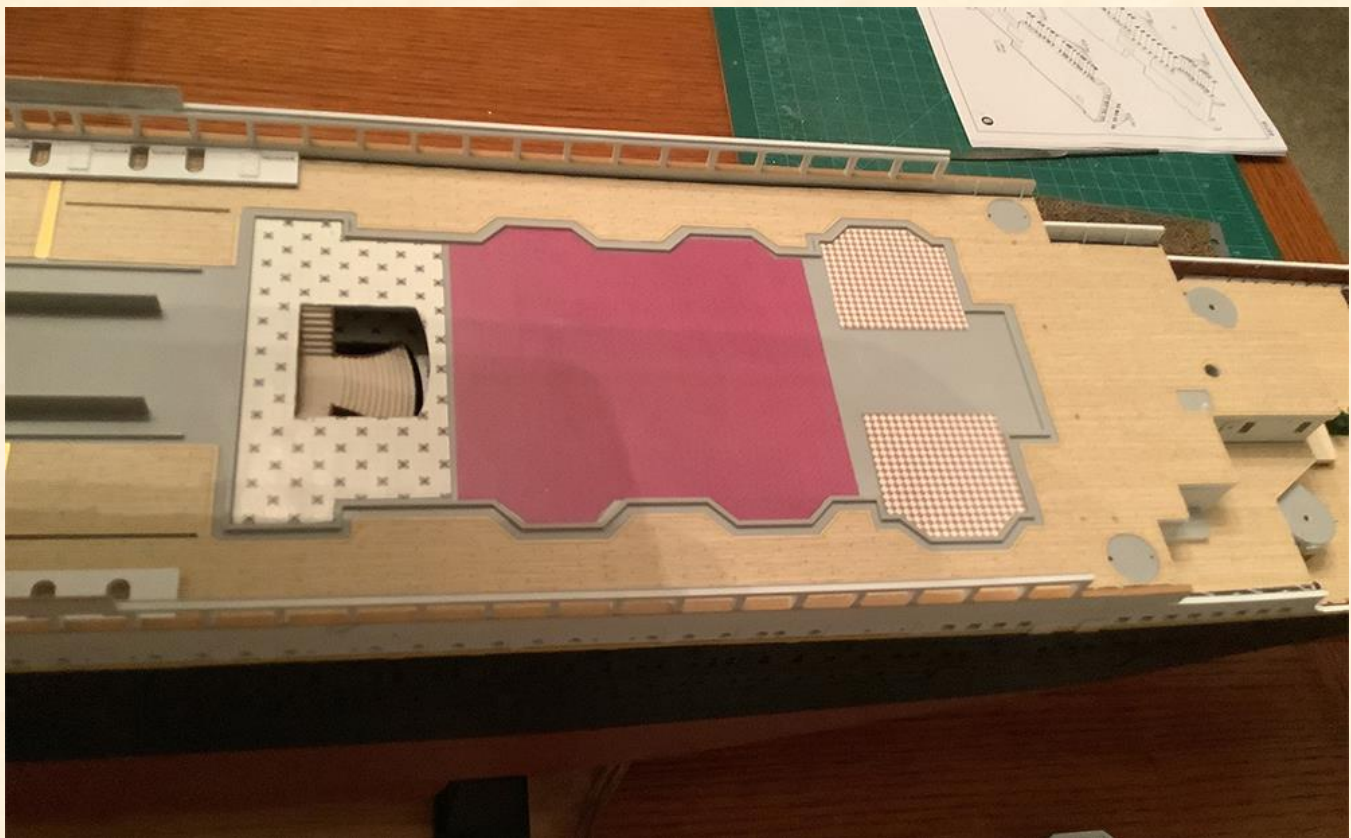


Figure 1 — Promenade Deck flooring

Windows

I then began installing photo-etched windows. Figure 2 shows the acetate window patterns which came with the KA Models aftermarket set, used for the windows in the rooms mentioned above. The acetate windows were cut and glued to the walls using Weldbond white glue. The photo-etched windows were then glued to the walls on top of the acetate.

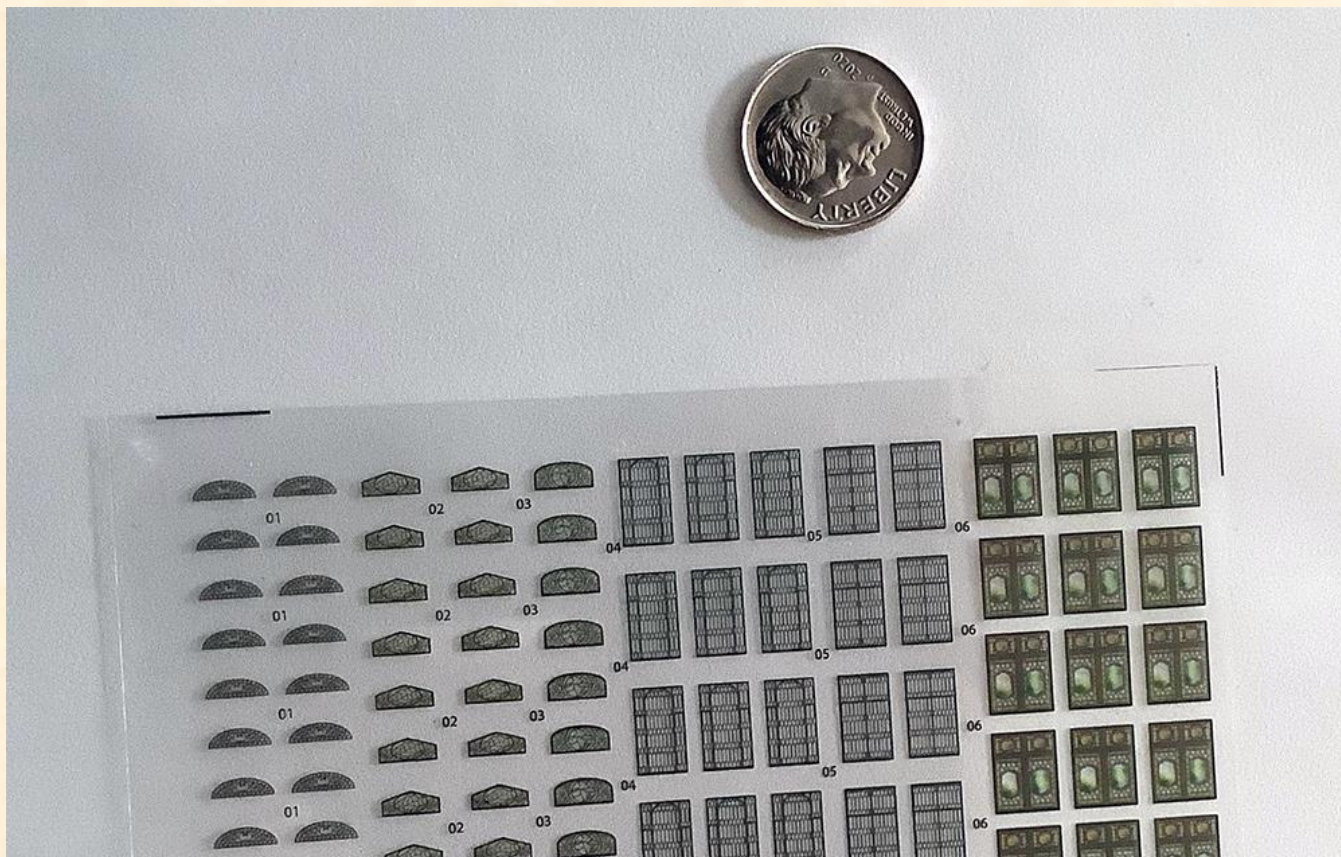


Figure 2 — acetate stained-glass windows

Superglue was used for attaching all photo-etched parts to the model (see Figures 3, 4 and 5.)



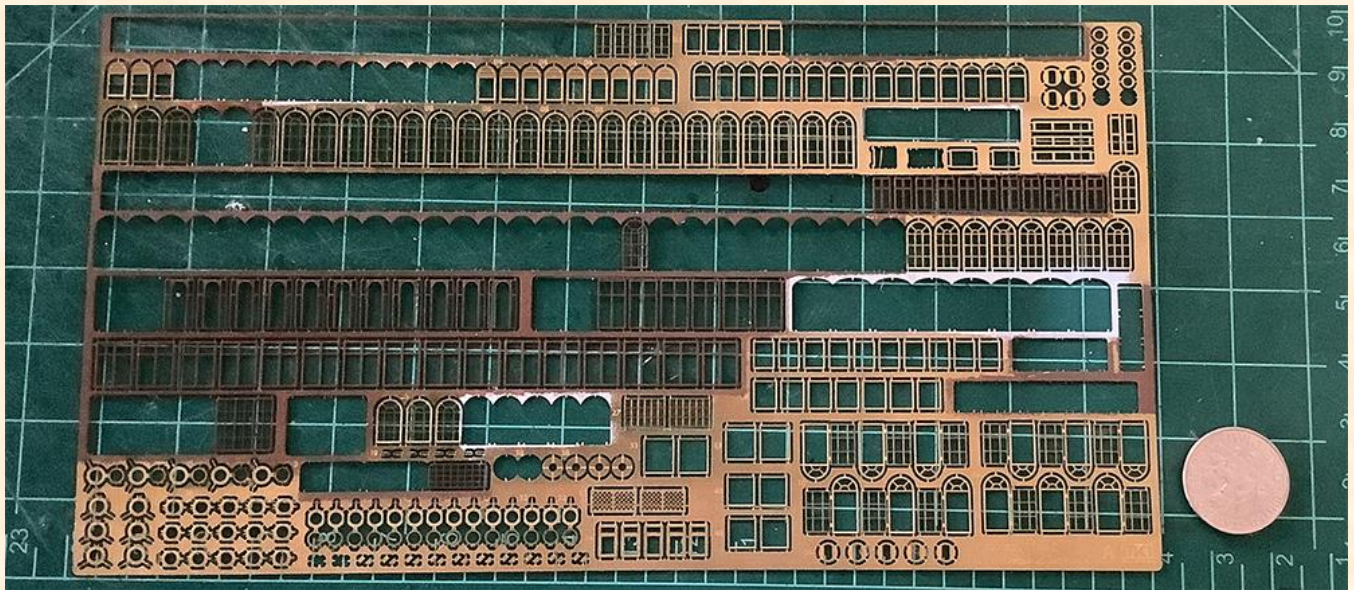


Figure 3 — photo-etched window frames



Figure 4 — window frames installed



Figure 5 — Promenade Deck rooms installed

Deck Chairs

After the Promenade Deck was installed, I constructed some photo-etched deck chairs. These chairs were folded on each side to give the shape to the chair. The armrests were then glued to each side (see Figures 6 and 7.)



Figure 6 — photo-etched deck chairs

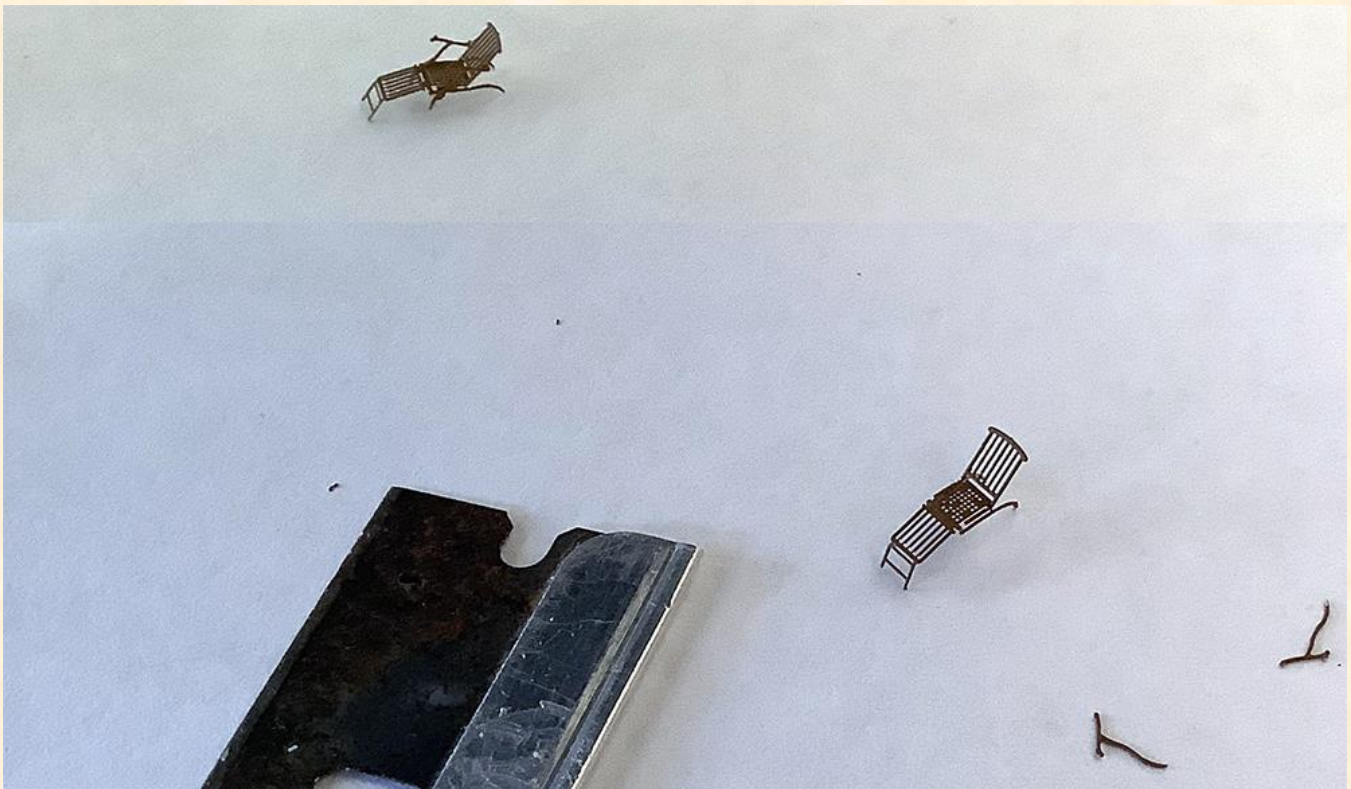


Figure 7 — deck chair construction

Figure 8 shows deck chairs installed on the Promenade Deck.



Figure 8 — deck chairs on Promenade Deck

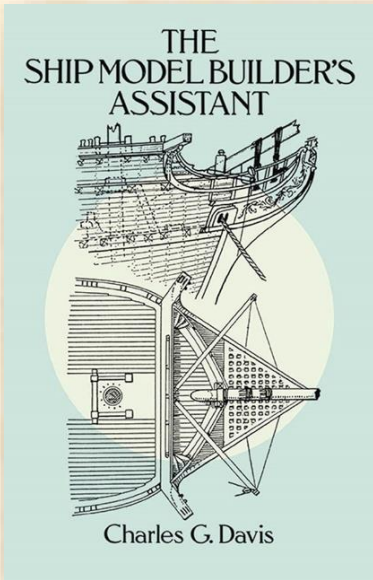
Next time: I will describe the construction of the Boat Deck and its Deck Houses.





The Ship Model Builder's Assistant

by Charles G Davis | published 1988 | 271 pages

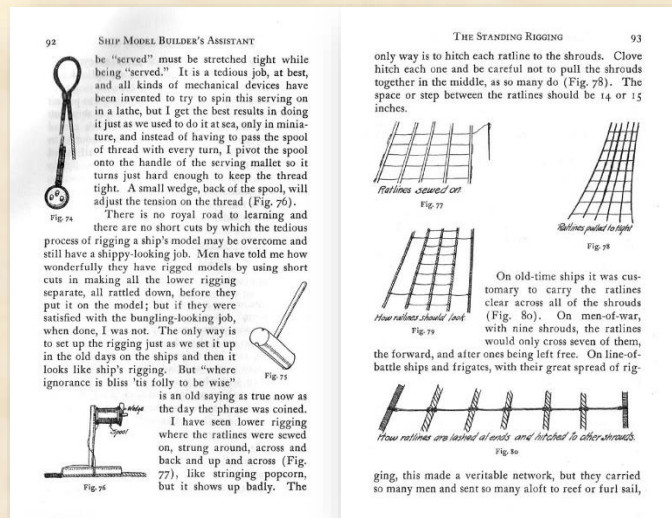


Guild Member Isaac Wills recommends this invaluable handbook because "Davis is an exception[al] draftsman who will split hairs with accompanying drawings." In other words: detail! This book is brimming with model shipcrafting knowledge and explanations, supported by illuminating drawings.

From the Back Cover

"Indispensable for the serious model builder, this book offers hobbyists a true understanding of the masting, rigging, and most important fittings of American clipper ships and packet ships of the Great

Age of Sail. It also represents a treasury of important information for naval and social historians, sailing enthusiasts, and students of Americana. Enhanced with over 270 clear, detailed drawings of ships' components, this volume gives the model builder a deep understanding of the workings of a fully rigged and appointed sailing ship."





Alex Roel

San Diego Bay, February 4, 2024, 8:08am

Thanks to our sponsor, the Maritime Museum of San Diego, the San Diego Ship Modelers Guild is fortunate to call not only San Diego Bay our home, but also the steam ferry BERKELEY, part of the Museum's fleet tied up on San Diego's Embarcadero.





The Bitter End

Mission Statement



The [San Diego Ship Modelers Guild](#) is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the craft of building scale ship models and to providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, information, skills, and techniques.

Maritime Museum of San Diego



The Guild encourages all Members to join and maintain an annual membership in the [Maritime Museum of San Diego](#). As our sponsor, the MMSD provides the Guild space aboard the steam ferry BERKELEY to hold monthly meetings; allows us to work in, store supplies, and maintain the Museum Model Shop; and annually awards Guild entrants ribbons and cash prizes for the Design In Wood competition at the San Diego County Fair.

Nautical Research Guild



The Guild also encourages all Members to join and maintain an annual membership in the [Nautical Research Guild](#). As a chartered Chapter Club, the NRG accords certain benefits, privileges, and protections to our Guild.

Piracy in Model Shipcrafting

Although there is no single, agreed-upon definition of what constitutes "piracy", the use of another's intellectual or physical property without recompense is the basis for any working definition. Unfortunately, this is an issue that affects our craft: be scrupulous and avoid purchasing pirated kits or materials.



Our Founders

The Guild was founded in 1971 by Bob Wright and Russ Merrill in collaboration with Ken Reynard, Captain of the barque STAR OF INDIA.