

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

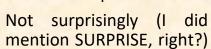
Community Build

BIGGER # BETTER

One of the common pitfalls when first starting down the path of model shipcrafting is giving in to the urge to "go big."

How many times have we heard a new modeler say "I've always wanted to build the CONSTITUTION" (feel free to substitute VICTORY, CUTTY SARK, CHARLES W MORGAN, or RATTLESNAKE here.)

This nearly always ends with a partial build being placed back in the box and up on the shelf because the new modeler has neither the expertise nor the endurance (didn't I mention ENDURANCE?) to successfully bring such a build to completion.





the less glamorous and complicated kits are the way to go when first starting out: Why?

Model shipcrafting is a very exacting, detailed pastime that requires a range of skills acquired over time in order to be able to apply them successfully to many of the larger builds one might contemplate.

Fortunately, nearly all the expertise required to build a MAYFLOWER or a SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS can be learned and honed on very satisfying builds of smaller stature that will reveal the ins and outs of planking, rigging, sanding, painting, and more. The skills gained while crafting the YANKEE HERO or a dory or a lobster smack will amply reward the future modeler downstream.



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



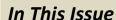
From the Quarterdeck by Guild Master John Walsh

Since our esteemed Newsletter Editor felt it best to assign my main topic as this month's feature article, my announcements here will truly be brief:

- The February Guild Meeting has been moved to WEDNESDAY, February 12.
- The Community Build Meeting has been moved to match the general meeting.
- Dues remain \$20 and need to be paid by the end of the March meeting.
- ♣ Go read my "The Fair-est of Them All" feature on the next page.
- No, I will not apologize for that terrible pun.
- Nor for the one that unintentionally follows:

Fair winds and following seas,

John Walsh, Guild Master



- ☑ Bigger ≠ Better
- **⋄** From the Quarterdeck
- **The Fair-est of Them All**
- **♣** A Sea Shanty
- Last Meeting
- Show and Tell
- **‡** Flotsam and Jetsam
- **♣** Roll Call
- **†** Officer Nominations
- **♣** Captain's Bookshelf
- **\$ Home Port**
- **The Bitter End**





The Fair-est of Them All by John Walsh

Even though it is still several months away, the Guild's preparations for this summer's San Diego County Fair are already in full swing thanks to Fair Coordinator Steve Scheet, who has really been pounding the pavement in his inaugural month in the position. Thanks to his efforts, we have an excellent opportunity to grow our presence as part of the Design in Wood (DIW) exhibit.



At the January Guild meeting, Steve reported that all DIW participants have been challenged by the exhibit organizers to include interactive elements in their booths. The goal is to allow visitors to have a hands-on experience unique to each group showcasing their craft. (For those that have done or remember the weekly "Build Your Own Mini-Titanic" workshop that we held in the past, this is not what the organizers are requesting. The idea is for there to be something readily available at the booth that isn't limited to just a few participants.)

Here is a list of ideas that have been collected from Members:

- The Knot-tying stations positioned along the perimeter of the booth
- Small wooden "puzzles" that showcase basic parts of ship structure and rigging
- Simple sail rigging setup (like Tadd Mannino presented at the May 2024 meeting)
- Coloring sheets of STAR OF INDIA's sail plan with a challenge to identify types of sail
- Your idea you've just thought of and are going to send to Steve Scheet

Now, I know what you are thinking: "John, isn't it enough that I am already working on a model and telling people where the bathrooms are all day? Now I've got to manage some newfangled interactive thing, too?!" I hear you, and this is where I think we have a great opportunity to grow our presence.

Thanks to Steve's initiative, we have confirmed that our booth's daily staff allotment does not have to be restricted to only the three Guild members who can fit at our booth's workstations. This means we can have a fourth person who — rather than working on a ship model — is free to interact more directly with visitors.



It might seem like a small thing, but this gives us a chance to offer more interactivity without having to negatively impact our usual workspace presence. (Besides, just think of how much more progress you will make on your fair model if there is someone else to answer the multiple bathroom inquiries!) Plus, for those of you who do not craft in wood, this would mean an opportunity to still represent the Guild despite your use of a different medium.

While the main priority of staffing the booth will remain manning the three workstations, anyone who is interested in potentially representing the Guild in this alternate manner should reach out to Fair Coordinator Steve Scheet.

With your help and ideas, we can truly make this year's booth the fair-est of them all!

‡ A Sea Shanty

Strike the Bell



Aft on the poop deck walking about There is the second mate so steady and so stout What he is a-thinking of he doesn't know himself We wish that he would hurry up And strike, strike the bell

> Strike the bell, second mate, let us go below Look away to windward you can see it's going to blow Look at the glass, you can see that it is fell We wish that you would hurry up And strike, strike the bell

Down on the main deck working at the pumps There is the larboard watch ready for their bunks Looking to windward they see a great swell And we wish that you would hurry up

And strike, strike the bell

CHORUS

Aft at the wheel poor Anderson stands Grasping the spokes with his cold, mittened hands Looking at the compass the course is clear as hell He's wishing that the second mate Would strike, strike the bell

CHORUS

For'ad on the fo'c'sle head keeping sharp lookout There is Johnny standing ready for to shout "Lights' burning bright, sir and everything is well" He's wishing that the second mate Would strike, strike the bell

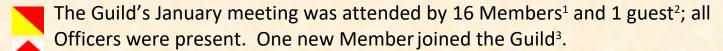
CHORUS

Aft on the quarterdeck our gallant Captain stands Looking to windward with a spyglass in his hand What he is a-thinking of we know very well He's thinking more of shortening sail Than striking the bell

CHORUS



Last Meeting photography by Alex Roel



Powder Monkey Karl Zingheim rang the bell at 6:00pm to signal the start of the second dog watch.

Guild Master John Walsh opened the lightly-attended meeting by welcoming new Member Bob Jones and guest Liz Hua.

It was noted that Photographer Chris Sullivan was once again on deployment to Japan: the US Navy has been notified of the inconvenience to the Guild.



Walsh, Wills, Powder Monkey

John reminded Members that annual dues (\$20) must be paid no later than the March meeting. He then gave an update on the Guild's tax-exempt status in lieu of the changes to the US tax code, reassuring all that despite the bureaucracy the Guild remains in good standing.

Finally, John noted that nominations for the 2025 Officer class are under way and will be accepted right up to the actual vote at the March meeting.

Reports from Officers garnered no useful information except by Fair Coordinator Steve

Scheet who updated those present on the 2025 San Diego County Fair.

Steve noted that he has attended two Design in Wood meetings to date and related that April 30th was identified as the entry deadline for those modelers wishing to enter a build, and that the entry cost will be slightly more than the \$25 of past years. He also said that May 20th was announced as this year's model drop-off date.

FEBRUARY 2025

¹ Dengler, Florio, Hairston, Hite, McKinley, Miller, Pizzuto, Roel, Sanford, Scheet, Seiler, Sellen, Thompson, Walsh, Wills, Zingheim

² Liz Hua

³ Bob Jones

Steve relayed that DIW has requested that participating groups consider ways to allow for a more "hands-on" experience for the public. In considering this challenge, one idea the Guild is considering is adding several knot-tying stations on the outer, front-facing part of our booth that the public can access. Each station would have a rope with a knot-tying directions placard, such as "Clove Hitch" or "Fisherman's Knot." John Walsh details these options in this month's feature article.



Kurtis Sellen, Phil Pizzuto

The Guild Master then called for a refreshment break, which was immediately followed by Show and Tell.



Jon Sanford, Niko McKinley

During Show and Tell, Jon Sanford wrapped up his presentation of a TITANIC kit that he came across at a yard sale by gifting it to fellow Member Niko McKinley. At 31" long and requiring no glue, this kit can be snapped together, taken apart and re-assembled as a puzzle.

At precisely 7:47pm the Powder Monkey rang the ship's bell to close out our January meeting.

Å

ast Meeting's Show and Tell photography by Alex Roel



<u>Editor's Note:</u> Last issue Mike Lonnecker's Show and Tell build was mistakenly identified as his MEDWAY longboat, when in fact it was his scratch build of a 21' 18th century pinnace, still under construction.

Jon Sanford kicked off Show and Tell by sharing a recent restoration project that came across his work station in the Museum Model Shop.

A family requested Jon to restore this pre-WWII hand-carved ivory junk that has both broken and missing pieces.

Jon is considering his options on the best way to clean and mend the junk, although his biggest challenge will be sourcing ivory which is a restricted commodity.



- JUNK by Jon Sanford (restoration)
- scratch build, ivory
- unknown scale, in restoration

Mike Hite brought in his admiralty style build of the Colonial ketch MARY BYRNE. Mike reported that the kit had excellent plans along with precise photos. This is Mike's first admiralty build and also his first with a notably rounded bow.



- MARY BYRNE by Mike Hite
- Modellers Shipyard kit, wood
- 1/4"=1' 1:48, complete





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

Steve Miller's PRINCE made an appearance

sporting a freshly installed working tiller and rudder, complete with gudgeons, pintles, and locking block. Steve also recently varnished the deck.





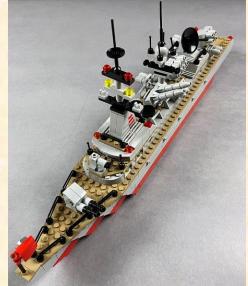


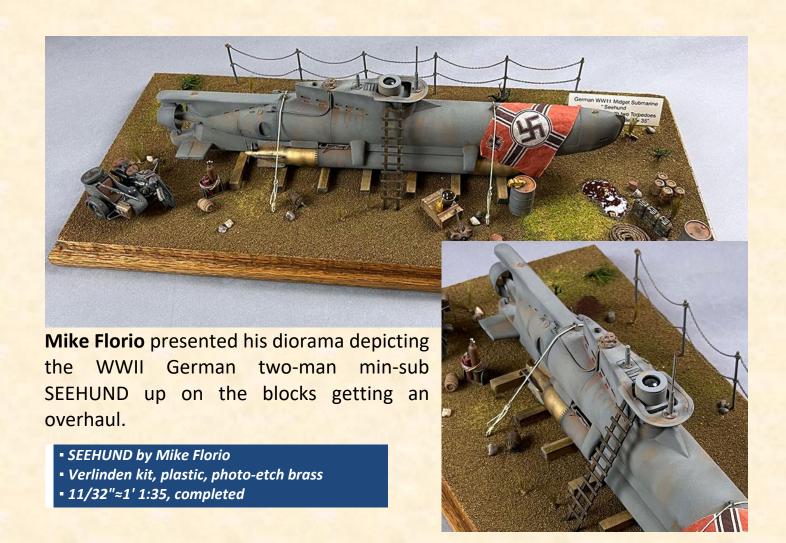
Niko McKinley returned to Show and Tell with three ships in tow including a LEGO destroyer, a hanging Christmas ornament of a ferry, and a 3D puzzle model of CONSTITUTION.



• 1/16"≈1' 1:188, completed





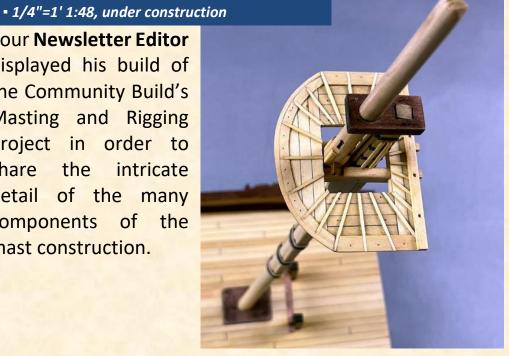


• Masting & Rigging Project by Alex Roel



Your Newsletter Editor displayed his build of the Community Build's Masting and Rigging Project in order to share the intricate detail of the many components of the mast construction.

• NRG kit, wood



Inspired by the success of his sea foam depiction for ARK ROYAL, **Karl Zingheim** is aiming at creating an even more dramatic scene for a future diorama. Pondering this, Karl zeroed in on the ANDREA GAIL, the fishing

boat featured in the movie *A Perfect*Storm. Karl intends to create a confused sea state in which to depict the doomed vessel, perhaps pitch-poling.



- ANDREA GAIL by Karl Zingheim
- Billing Boats kit, wood
- <u> 13/64"≈1' 1:60, not started</u>



Kurtis Sellen's SAN SALVADOR made a return visit to Show and Tell featuring a fresh set of sails, newly painted spars and early signs of rigging.

Kurtis has been utilizing SAN SALVADOR as his modeling test bed to acquire and hone his wood modeling skills.

- SAN SALVADOR by Kurtis Sellen
- MMSD kit, solid hull, wood, walnut
- 3/32"≈1' 1:135, under construction

Finally, **Phil Pizzuto** brought in and old (1950) Constructo kit of the clipper GREAT REPUBLIC (note the silverfish weathering technique on the boxtop.)



Phil related that he is torn between building this vintage kit or simply keeping it as is in her (not quite) mint-in-box condition.

- GREAT REPUBLIC by Phil Pizzuto
- Constructo kit, wood
- 3/64"≈1' 1:265, not started





Flotsam and Jetsam

Take her down!"

Commander Howard Walter Gilmore, USS GROWLER, 1943

Soundings – pronouncing nautical terms

A TREENAIL is essentially a wooden dowel or "nail" used to secure planking to the side or deck of a wooden ship. It is possibly the most mis-pronounced of all nautical terms... if you pronounce it correctly you can truly say you've nailed it.

tree.nale (one word, two syllables, accent on first) Reads like: truh•nil (one word, two syllables, accent on first) Pronounced:



Build Gallery * * *

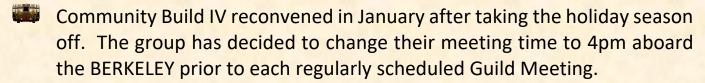
Members are invited to submit completed builds to Webmaster John Walsh for inclusion in our website's

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.

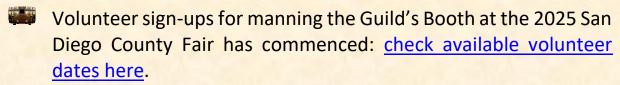


Around the Scuttlebutt - latest Guild news

MEETING DATE CHANGE: February meetings (both Community Build and Guild) will be on WEDNESDAY, February 12th due to a conflicting MMSD event. Please note the date and time changes!



Be on the lookout for the Purser! Annual dues are, well... due. \$20. Dues must be paid by the March Guild Meeting.





Nominations for Officer positions for the coming year remain open. Submit nominations to the Nominations Chair, Alex Roel.

On The Horizon note date and time changes

FEB 4	-Spm Z	Officers Meeting	online
FEB 12	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
FEB 12	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
FEB 25		The Second Dog Watch	Website, email
MAR 4	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
MAR 11	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
MAR 11	6pm	Guild Meeting / ELECTION	BERKELEY
MAR 25	_	The Second Dog Watch	Website, email
APR 1	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
APR 8	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
APR 8	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
APR 29	_	The Second Dog Watch	Website, email
APR 30	8pm	SDCF model entry (deadline)	online application
MAY 6	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
MAY 7	TBA	SDCF booth set-up	Del Mar Fairgrounds
MAY 13	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
MAY 13	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
MAY 20	noon	SDCF model entry (drop-off)	Del Mar Fairgrounds
MAY 27	_	The Second Dog Watch	Website, email
JUN 3	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
JUN 10	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
JUN 10	6pm	Guild Meeting San Diego County Fair (booth volunteering)	BERKELEY
JUN 11	11am	San Diego County Fair	Del Mar Fairgrounds
- JUL 6	- 6pm	(booth volunteering)	Ŋ Design In Wood
JUN 24	-	The Second Dog Watch	Website, email
JUL 1	6pm	Officers Meeting	online
JUL 8	4pm	Community Build Meeting	BERKELEY
JUL 8	6pm	Guild Meeting	BERKELEY
JUL TBA	noon	SDCF model entry (pick-up)	Del Mar Fairgrounds
JUL 11	TBA	SDCF booth take-down	Del Mar Fairgrounds
JUL 29	-	The Second Dog Watch	Website, email

* Roll Call an interview with Guild Member Chris Sullivan

1) How did you come to call San Diego home?

I'm a Boatswain in the United States Navy, and my wife Kelly and I chose orders here to San Diego, which is also Kelly's hometown.

2) Tell us a bit about your life/career path.

I am originally from New England; my family is from Massachusetts but I grew up in Connecticut where my father was an engineer at General Dynamics in Groton. From a very young age I enjoyed boats and ships and being on the water: I learned to sail at Mystic Seaport.

I grew up listening to my grandfather's stories of his time in the Navy and that inspired me to enlist after high school.

I started in the deck department as a Boatswain's Mate onboard mine sweepers home ported here in the States and overseas in Japan and Bahrain. transferred to Japan aboard USS BELLEAU WOOD and I have mainly served at amphibious commands ever since. Following a tour at the Naval Academy I was sent back to Japan, advancing to Senior Chief, and then I was selected for a commission as a Warrant Officer Boatswain. I remained in Japan as





the Ship's Boatswain aboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON. Additional tours included Virginia, Japan again and finally here in San Diego. We have been stationed here since 2017 and I currently work at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado.

3) How did you come to the Guild?

I was fortunate to do a tour at the Naval Academy as a Chief, and while at Annapolis I was a member of the Naval Academy Museum's model club which was a great experience. I learned a tremendous amount from the other members, and that experience was a big motivator for me to join the Guild.

4) Do you recall your first model?



It was the Revell 1/720 USS MASSACHUSETTS that was bought for me by my grandparents on a trip to that battleship in Fall River, Massachusetts when I was five or six years old. Recently my wife (being a big supporter of the hobby) found me the exact same

model kit for Christmas.

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

The Flyhawk 1/700 HMS KELLY: it was a fun kit to build and came out well with the added photo-etched parts. *And* it is my favorite since my wife's name is Kelly.



6) Describe another avocation you enjoy.

I enjoy studying history and collecting Imperial Japanese sake cups.









† Officer Nominations

Our annual Officer elections are approaching and nominations are open for the five positions.

Below is the slate of nominees to date. Please forward your nominations (names and positions) to Nominations Chairman Alex Roel.

NOMINATIONS — Officers					
Position	Nominee 1	Nominee 2	Nominee 3		
Guild Master	Steve Miller	open	open		
First Mate	Steve Scheet	Chris Sullivan	open		
Log Keeper	Karl Zingheim	open	open		
Purser	John Walsh	open	open		
Newsletter Editor	Alex Roel	open	open		

Nominees listed alphabetically, left to right

Newer Members may wonder "What about the various Committee Chair positions?" Good question! Per the Guild's Bylaws...

3.6 Committees. The Guild Master shall appoint committee chairmen as he sees fit. (Example: Program Chairman, Audio Visual Chairman, Webmaster, etc.) Committee chairs shall enlist the help of members of the general membership as required. Committee chairs shall attend Officers meetings as advisory members but will be non-voting. Committee chairs will have the opportunity to provide reports during the "Reports" section of general meetings.

Tales of the FLY: A Study by Mike Lonnecker



In *Part Five* I detailed creating and assembling the aft cant frames and seating them on the deadwood. However, completion of the stern framing involves some very complicated parts. Each part has many angles and curves that all play together: if one dimension is off it affects everything else. The parts that I will discuss here include the outer counter timbers (2), the inner counter timbers (4), and the quarter deck transom. When assembled, these parts form the structural frames for the stern lights (windows) and therefore the counter timbers must be equally spaced.

Counter Timbers

The two outer counter timbers are of an L shape and also curved to match the tumblehome of the sides of the hull. They also are tapered in thickness.

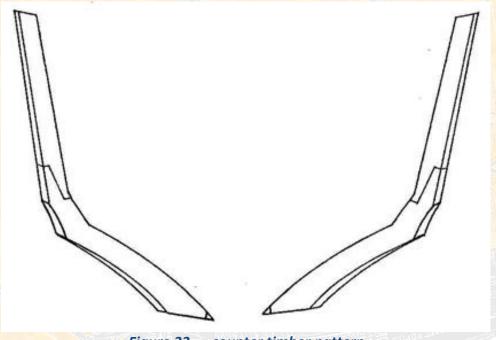


Figure 33 — counter timber pattern



Figure 34 — notice curve of the outer counter timbers and tapering of thickness and the curve of quarterdeck transom

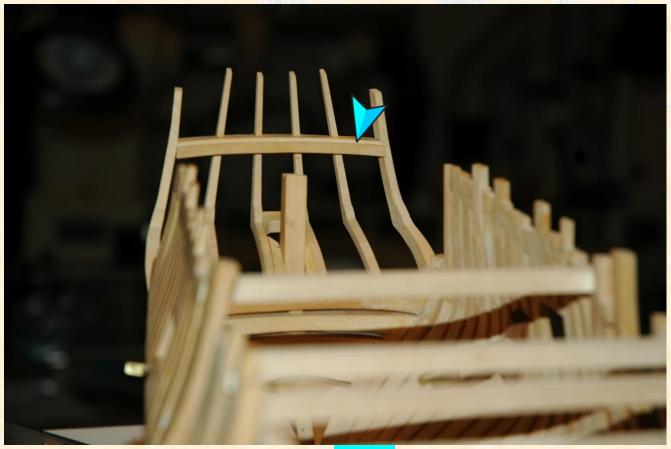


Figure 35 — quarterdeck transom rabbeted for quarterdeck planking

These parts were formed by starting with an over thick blank cut to the L shape and then carved and sanded to the correct curve and thickness. The inner counter timbers were of the L shape but were straight with only a slight taper. The feet of the counter timbers were then cut at the correct angle. The quarterdeck transom has notches to receive the vertical timbers and is curved vertically, fore and aft. It also has a rabbet at the upper leading edge to receive the quarterdeck planking, and correct angles cut on the ends. All of these curves, notches and angles had to fit each other to form the assembly seen here.

Trial and Error

The balancing of all this took SEVERAL tries. To get it right, the transom had to be at the correct height, the slope of the stern had to be correct, and the spacing for the lights had to be equal. After the first couple of failures to get this right I resorted to making a counter template to aid in proper alignment.

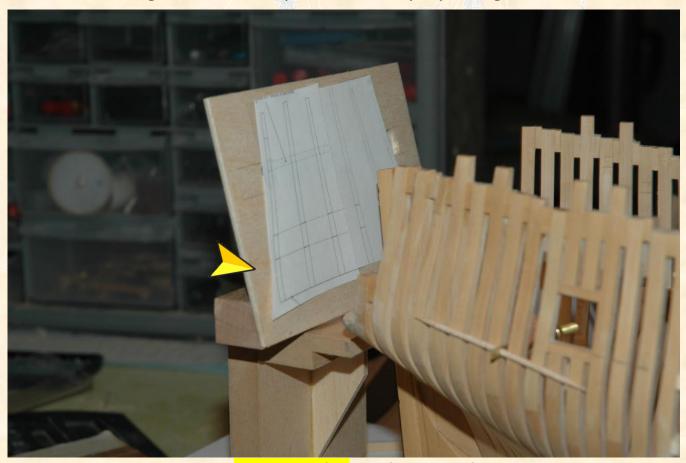


Figure 36 — counter template to aid in precise placement

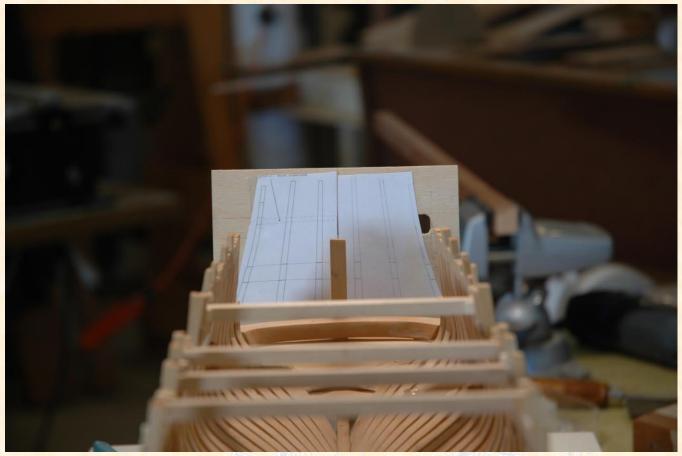


Figure 37 — counter template in position looking astern



Figure 38 — counters properly and exactly positioned

Side Counters

Finally, with the counter template I was able to get everything aligned precisely, and then I added framing on the sides to complete the quarter windows.



Figure 39 — side counters framed



Figure 40 — lower ends of counters planked

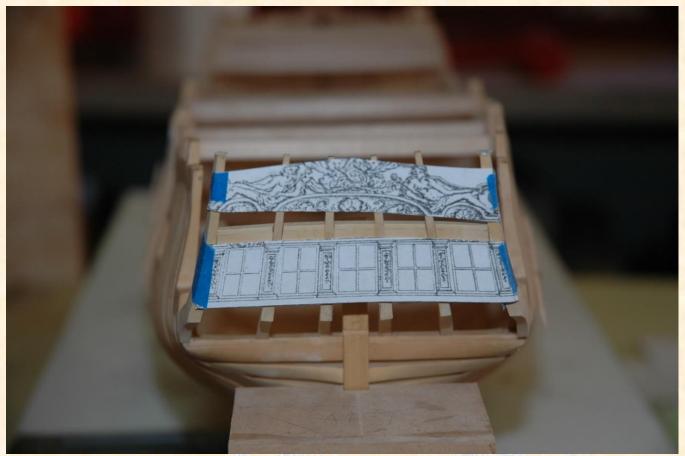


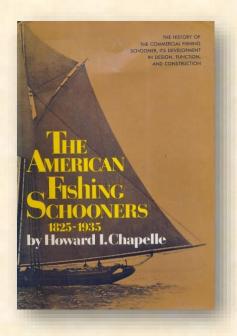
Figure 41 — pattern overlays for lights and stern decorations atop counter

Next time: I will discuss the black strake and wale installation on the hull.



Captain's Bookshelf submission by Dave Yotter

The American Fishing Schooners 1825-1935 by Howard I Chapelle | published 1973 | 716 pages



Guild Member Dave Yotter notes that recommends this book because his "[f]irst scratch model was of BLUENOSE — a Canadian schooner, but used for rigging which were similar for US and Canadian racing schooner practices."

From the Back Cover

"The history of the development of the unique vessels built for the New England fishing industry from colonial days to the first third of the twentieth century is here recounted by the leading authority on the subject. This book traces the evolution of the American fishing schooner from the eighteenth century to the last working and

racing schooners of the mid-1930s. The designers, builders, and crews are also discussed. An important feature of the book is its illustrated glossary-appendix based on Mr. Chapelle's notebooks. It covers scores of items of hull construction and equipment, rigging and gear, color and carving, and includes notes by the builders and riggers themselves, in fact, everything that could be recorded about these crafts, then fast-disappearing."

† Home Port 32°43′N, 117°10′W



San Diego Bay, January 11 2024, 7:56am

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.





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.

Mission Statement



The <u>San Diego Ship Modelers Guild</u> 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 <u>Maritime Museum of San Diego</u>. 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 <u>Nautical Research Guild</u>. 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.



Back Issues

Back issues of *The Second Dog Watch* are accessible via the <u>Newsletter Archive</u> which has digital copies dating back to Volume I, Issue 1 (May 1977.)