

Newsletter

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Meeting - Wed., July 20, 7 PM,

Red Cross Building, 1207 N.

Lemon, Fullerton, CA. 92832

Officers meeting - Wed., August 3,

2011, 7 PM, Bob Beech's house,

130 Clove Pl., Brea, CA. 92821 -

(714) 529-1481.

Work in Progress

June 16, 2011

Reporter: Dave Yotter

As many of you are aware, Bill Russell was unable to attend this month's meeting due to some needed surgery. I am happy to report that Bill had a very successful surgery to remove a tumor on his pancreas. Bill is at home now recovering from the surgery. Bill indicated that the surgeon believes he had been successful in removing the tumor and he is very thankful that it was caught early. He indicates that he should be able to return to his normal activities in 4 to 5 weeks. We all wish him well and are hoping for a full and speedy recovery.

This month's meeting was our first one held in the Red Cross building at Hillcrest Park in Fullerton. The building is old but seemed to be big enough for our usual crowd of around 40. The lighting was good enough but what was that smell? Hopefully opening the building for a little cross ventilation at least once a month will help. Traffic getting there was quite congested due to the graduation ceremonies for Fullerton College. This traffic congestion should not be a problem next month. The parking seemed adequate so it looks like our new (temporary) home for the next several months will work fine. Don't forget that the SMA meeting in July will, once again, be on the **third Wednesday of the month (JULY 20th)**.

In Bill's absence, Dave Yotter has agreed to be our intrepid Work in Progress reporter and the position may become permanent depending on the desires of

Bill Russell once he returns in August.

HMS ROEBUCK – Don Dressel

Don Dressel brought in his scratch built 1:64 model of the HMS ROEBUCK. The last time we saw ROEBUCK, Don was discussing a problem that was thought to be a stem that was too short. However, upon reexamination and a discussion with **Dr. Henry Bikhazi** it was decided that a repositioning of the wales would take care of most of the problem. So the wales were removed and he is in the process of installing them again. He has also reconsidered the material he was using. Previously the wale material was made of 1/8" ink stained holly and he was not happy with the result, so decided to go back to using ebony. This brought up another problem in that ebony in 1/8" thickness will not bend easily around the bow. So Don has resorted to laminating the wale material of 2 pieces of 1/16" ebony to reach the required thickness (a prototypical practice). Don bends this material by soaking it in water for about an hour, pops it in the microwave (wrapped with a wet paper towel) for 10 to 11 seconds and then clamps it into position on the hull to dry. Once the ebony dries, it can be easily glued in place. He also mentioned that when gluing ebony, an oily wood, it is a good idea to wipe down the gluing surface with acetone to achieve a solid glue joint.



HMS NELSON – Bob Zmuda



Bob Zmuda is working on a 1:600 model of the British battle ship HMS NELSON. This model is being built from an Airfix kit. Airfix was an early plastic kit maker. HMS NELSON was a sister ship of HMS RODNEY and took part in the battle with the BISMARCK. NELSON'S main battery was 9 - 16" guns arranged in 3 triple turrets, all on the forward deck. These triple turrets were a first for the British Navy, as they preferred to doubles. This arrangement was a result of being built in the mid 1920's under the guidelines of the 1920 Washington Naval Treaty. Bob is planning to change the turret

the guidelines of the 1920 Washington Naval Treaty.

arrangement as supplied in the kit to how she appeared later with two turrets forward and one aft.

NORDLANDSHAVEN – Paul Alkon



Paul Alkon brought in a model of a nordlandshaven or northlands boat from a 1:20 kit he purchased in Oslo, Norway years ago. The kit (which is no longer available) was made by Billings Boats and represents a 40-foot long Norwegian fishing boat of the 19th century. The boat has 5 to 6 positions for sweeps and when finished will have a single mast with two square sails. Paul mentioned that the little cabin, aft, could be removed and placed on shore for temporary living quarters while the boat was being used on a particular fishing ground.

IJN TONE – Sean Fallesen

Sean Fallesen is making his usual remarkable progress on a remarkable model of the IJN TONE. The TONE was a heavy cruiser finished in 1938 and she had one sister ship, CHIKUMA completed in 1939. She was 680 feet by 60 feet with a top speed of 35 to 36 knots. Her main armament consisted of 8 – 8 inch guns and 8 high angle 5 inch guns. The unusual arrangement of all the main turrets on the forward deck allowed the entire after deck to be used for the compliment of scout planes she carried. The primary duties for these ships were to act as scout plain carriers for the main carrier fleet. TONE and her sister were involve in nearly all of the carrier battles. Sean is building the model from a newly released Tamiya kit in 1:350 scale. He has added railings and radar to the kit material and is using fly fishing thread for the rigging. Sean was very pleased with the completeness of the kit and stated that there were even 17 to 19 decals for each of the planes, including numbers.





CLARA MAY - Paul Carter

Paul Carter is continuing work on the CLARA MAY, an 85-foot coastal cargo vessel built in Plymouth, England in 1891. The vessel lived into the 1920's. The model is being built from an Artesania Latina kit in 1:50 scale. The woods used include walnut, boxwood and cherry. Paul has started working on the deck structures including the hatches, galley, steering flat, masts, bowsprit

and skylight. We look forward to seeing the finished model.

USS SYREN - John Simmons

The USS SYREN, a 240-ton brig, was built at Philadelphia by Nathaniel Hutton in 1803. On September 27th of that year she sailed for Gibraltar under the command of Lt. Charles Stewart. SYREN cruised the Mediterranean during the spring and summer of 1804 and participated in the attacks on Tripoli. After the peace treaty with Tripoli was signed in June of 1805 she remained in the area until May of 1806 and then departed for Gibraltar. In August she reached the Washington Navy Yard and was laid up until reactivated in 1807. She saw service in the War of 1812 until the 74-gun HMS MEDWAY captured her after an 11-hour chase.

John Simmons brought back his 1:64 Model Shipways kit of the SYREN. The hull construction is double plank on bulkhead representing a hull length of 94 feet by 27 feet by 12 foot draft. John Pronounces the kit as great and says that the laser cutting of components is excellent. He was not pleased, however, with the deck mounting of the masts and changed this to be a more prototypical keelson mounting. After planking the hull was smoothed using microsphere containing resin and coppered using adhesive backed copper strips used in the leaded glass process. He used a sharp chisel to simulate copper plate joints. The kit includes nice brass belaying pins. The bulwarks are finished using india ink and he



notes that the quarter galleries were fake, hopefully making the brig look like a much bigger ship when viewed from a distance. The model looks great so far, John – great work.

ARMED VIRGINIA SLOOP – Mike Lonnecker

Mike Lonnecker brought in a finished model of an Armed Virginia Sloop of ca. 1770, built from a Model Shipways kit in 1:48 scale. This was Mike's first ship model and it was built per the kit instructions and with the kit parts and materials with the exception of using ebony for all the black parts and bloodwood for the bulwarks. The rigging is Morope, a polyester material, which looks very nice but can be difficult to work with. It wants to unravel unless glued before cutting. Blocks are from Warner Woods West. Mike reports that



the ebony responded well to steaming and then clamping the wood to a jar lid for pre-forming prior to placing on the hull. He said that bloodwood is brittle but it also bends well with steaming. The Armed Virginia Sloop is a model of a generic coastal revenue cutter of about 1770 with the rig likely reconstructed by Chapelle. The armament was probably 4 pounders and swivels. Nice work, Mike, on a beautiful model.

Members Models - June 2011



Pictured here are a couple of RC models brought in by Cornelius Van Dorp, who decided not to talk at the meeting but simply display his models.



Members Models - June 2011

Bob Zmuda's HMS NELSON



Paul Alkon's NORDLANDSHAVEN



Sean Fallesen's IJN TONE



Paul Carter's CLARA MAY



John Simmon's USS SYREN



Mike Lonnecker's ARMED VIRGINIA SLOOP



Western Ship Model Conference & Exhibit – 2011

By Don Dressel



Besides the wonderful ship model exhibition that was held on the second floor of the Pavilion, there were many other exciting events that took place at the WSMC&E. The Conference kicked off with five great talks given by some of the top ship model builders in the country. The talks were conducted in a wonderful environment furnished by the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum with many museum ship models surrounding the area. The talks were narrated by **Rob Napier**, who was also one of the speakers. Rob is a professional ship model builder that resides in Newburyport, MA. He has authored several excellent books on ship modeling published by Sea Watch Books. His talk was based on his latest book Legacy of a Ship Model Examining HMS *Princess Royal* 1773.

The next speaker was **Justin Camarata** who spoke on “The Ship Modeler and the Artist”, with emphasis on the relationship between ship modelers and artists. Justin is the author of

Waterline Dioramas, A Model Builders Artform . His insight into the ship model medium via the diorama was very informative, as well as the relationship drawn between artistic effort and the presentation of the ship model.



Greg Herbert gave a wonderful talk on the use of power tools in the ship modelers workshop. Author of the third book The Fully Framed Model, Building a Swan Class Sloop PEGASUS 1777 Volume III, Greg partnered with David Antscherl to construct a Swan Class Sloop and wrote the third volume of four in the series of books plus conducted numerous classes and a practicum on construction of the model. The talk was very informative and instructive.

The next speaker was **Gilbert McArdle**, the author of the book Building a Navy Board Model of HMS SUSSEX 1693. Gilbert’s talk centered on the material in the book with many highlights and added insights into construction techniques. The book comes fully furnished with a complete set of 1:48 scale plans for the model, which are based on an Admiralty Navy Board model now in the United States Naval Academy Museum.





The final speaker of the day was **Don Preul**, Professional ship model builder, Director of the NRG, and Curator of the Annapolis Naval Academy Museum. He researched and built a very fine model of the USS ARIZONA for the Arizona Museum in Hawaii. His talk was based on the research that he did for the model and the fact that he discovered the color scheme for the top of the battleships turrets.

During the lunch break on Friday a wonderful lunch was provided at a great price which everyone who attended was able to enjoy. This was a full sit down meal with a variety of choices in the food selection at the Newport Landing. The choices were Potato Wrapped Salmon, Chicken Fettuccini or the Landing Cheeseburger. The lunch included soup or salad and choice of coffee/tea/soda. Price was \$20.00.

Following the talks, there was an excellent reception at Harborside with a full sit-down dinner at an excellent price, the food being very good. Again, there was a choice of Orange Coconut Crusted Salmon, Prime Top Sirloin or Artichoke and Mushroom Chicken, Vanilla Crème Brulee for desert and drinks. The cost was \$30.00 including tax and tip. This was followed by touring the exhibit hall on the second floor. There was also excellent opportunities to visit the fine group of vendors that were also on the second floor of the exhibit hall. These included Sea Watch Books, Model Expo and Admiralty Models with gifts from other vendors, HobbyMill being one.



Saturday, April 1st, the people attending the WSMC&E had another great set of speakers to



enjoy, again at the wonderful venue of the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum. Rob again being the MC, the first speaker was **Michel Mantin** from France, Vice-President of AAMM (Association des Amis du Musée de La Marine) and retired editor of NEPTUNIA. He spoke on the "Art of French Ship Modeling" which was very informative on many aspects of ship model construction. The French technique of leaving one side of the lower hull "open" to show the interior structure and features is very different from what is normal here in the U.S.



Models from the National Maritime Museum , Greenwich, **John Graves**. He talk was entitled “Fit for a King: the Model Collection of George III.” John gave a very intriguing and informative talk on ship models and their origins. If any member of the SMA travels to England and plans to visit the National

David Antscherl followed with an excellent talk on the masting and rigging procedures for a ship model of a sixth rate. It was interesting that he utilized cotton thread for his rigging line. His book [Rigging a Sixth Rate Sloop of War 1767-1780, volume IV](#) is one of three companion books he has written on the Swan Sloop. David is a master ship model builder and designer who resides in Canada. He is considered a “wizard” with chisels.

We were then fortunate to have the Curator of Ship



Maritime Museum, Greenwich, perhaps they may want to contact John.



Another aspect of ship modeling and the research involved with the hobby was brought to light by **Bradley Krueger**. He is with the Nautical Archaeology Program, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University in Texas and his talk was “Full Steam Ahead: Steamboat Archaeology at Texas A&M University”. His talk highlighted the events diving on the remains of the steamers *Heroine*, *Anthony Wayne*, *Phoenix* and *A.J. Goddard*.

The final speaker for Saturday was **Mike Wall**, owner of the American Marine Model Gallery in Gloucester, MA. His talk was on the market for ship models, a subject which he is very well versed in and had extensive experience and knowledge about. He also has extensive knowledge of the builders of many of the finest models, Donald McNarry being one of them. He did indicate that known modeler’s ship models will fetch more money that those modelers who are not know. Craftsmanship is important!



During the lunch break, we had another fine luncheon, this time again at the Harborside Restaurant. There were three choices of entrée, Reuben Sandwich, Poached Salmon or Yankee Pot

Roast. The meal included the house salad and coffee, tea or soda for \$20.00 including tip and taxes. The desert was chocolate mousse. We have to thank the people at the Pavilion for providing such wonderful food at such great prices.

The transportation between the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach and the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum was very good and we had virtually no problems with “moving our guests”. The Hyatt Regency is one of the finest hotels in Newport Beach and had



excellent accommodations. The banquet that completed the events for Saturday was very well done, the food was good, and the final speaker, **Dave Grant**, President of Orange County College and local maritime expert, gave an interesting talk on sailing ships “going around the Horn”. Prizes were given out at the banquet thanks to the generosity of the vendors. A quick auction was

also conducted, a Hegner table saw being one of the items.

There was also an excellent “sale” of wood working tools conducted by the Newport Harbor Nautical Museum on the second floor of the Pavilion while the exhibit was open. Many of the fine



tools went for exceptional prices and most of them were purchased by those attending the exhibit.

Also included as part of the exhibit was a fine demonstration of ship models in various stages of development put on by the Mayflower Group. All in all, one of the best Ship Model Conferences held in a long time by acclamation of the ship modelers who attended!

Bill Wicks Memorial

It is with very deep regret and sadness that I have to report the passing away of one of the Ship Modelers Association's premier modelers – **Bill Wicks**. I just received information tonight that he had passed away on July 13 at about 1350 in the afternoon while in the hospital. Both John Bakker and Steve Jones informed me that he had gone into the hospital for further cancer treatment, had a mild heart attack while in the hospital and went downhill from there. There will be no memorial service according to his wife Diane, as he will be cremated.

Bill was one of the real mainstays of the SMA and will be sorely missed by all who knew



him. The last time he made a presentation to the SMA was in July of 2010, when he talked about his new project, a scratch built model of a 50-gun ship from 1710. The last time I saw Bill at a recent Mayflower Group meeting, he was apparently recovering from cancer and doing well. Please see next page for the "Who's Who in the SMA" printed years ago.

"Bill"
Wicks



- A founding SMA member from 1974
- Born July 24, 1939 in Polk Co., IA. Grad. of Drake Univ., IA and attn'd. MIT, MA. for computer-designed blueprint expertise.
- Wife - Diane Lee - 1 daughter - Kimberly Dawn, Des Moines, IA
- U.S. Army 1958-1965. (E-6) S/Sgt. A Ranger w/U.N. Advisory Grp. attached to Regt. of Rep. of Korea (ROK) Army. 3 Tours of Duty. Along with other medals Bill rec'd 3 Purple Hearts, Silver Star, Bronze Star, all in Viet Nam.
- Douglas Acft. Co., Long Beach - "A-Team" (world-wide troubleshooters).
- Builds 16th-18th Century, square-rigged "men-of-war," mostly scratch-built using Hahn methodology.
- Founder/Leader of "Mayflower-Sultana Group," a monthly-held Seminar for any SMA member who wants to learn "scratch-built" modelling. They separately build the same model and then share their problems at their mtgs. Bill usually solves the problems or between the 15 to 20 attendees they will work out the solution. Anyone may bring any model project to Bill's seminars and usually leave with their problem solved or question answered.
- Has a vast library of shipmodelling books, magazines, blueprints, etc.
- With time permitting, owns & operates a Barber Shop in West Garden Grove.
- Has held several Club Offices incl. V.P. Is on Board of Directors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SMA Club Meeting Location

The map at right shows the location of the new meeting sight for the SMA meeting in July, which will again be on Wednesday, July 20. The next two months will be again on the third Wednesday of the month, as usual. The entrance to the location is off E. Valley View Drive. There is no entrance to the park from Lemon.

Treasurer's Report

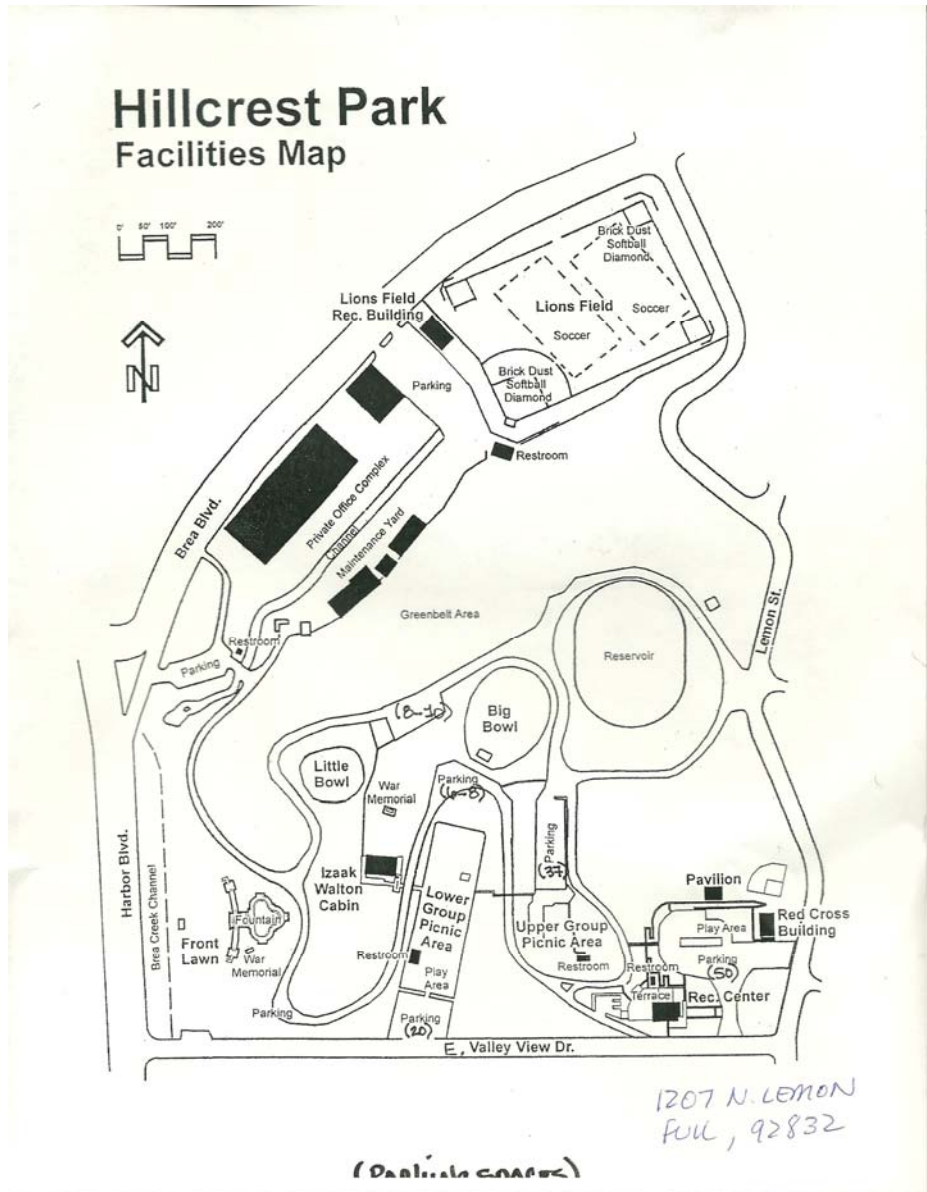
The treasurer, Mike DiCerbo, indicates that the current balance in the SMA is \$2,645.90 as of July 1st, 2011. So we should have plenty of funds to see us through the rest of this year.

Web Manager's Report

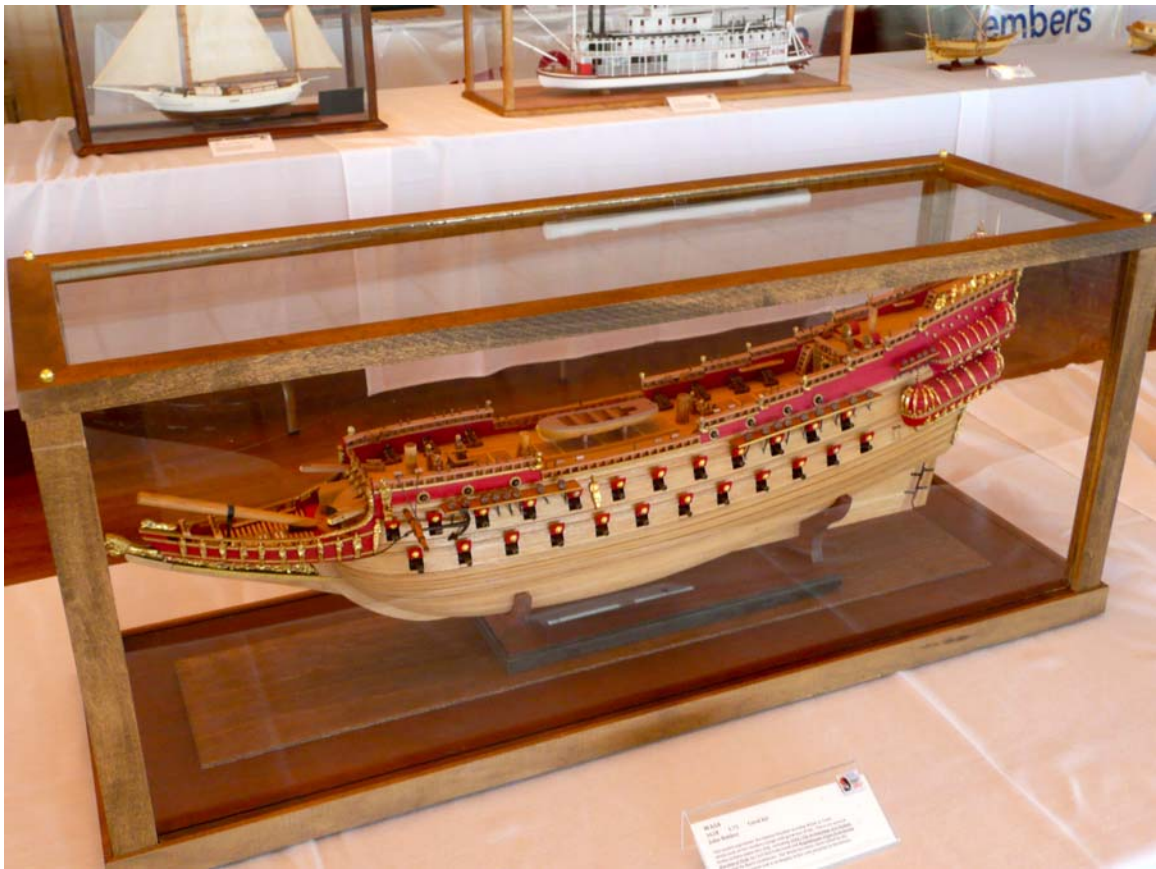
Below is the chart of the hits experienced by our SMA web page through the end of June of this year. You should check out the web page within the next several weeks, as there will be a great set of articles on the speakers who were at the recent WSMC&E, according to Doug. There is a little fall off which is not too surprising due to the fact that the WSMC&E is now history.

NRG Conference

For those interested, there is an upcoming NRG Conference in San Francisco this coming August. Check out the NRG Web site at www.thenrg.org for additional information.



SMA Website Visits. This chart shows, by month, total visits to the SMA web site over the last year. "Visits" estimates the number of users accessing the site. The average visitor views about four pages per visit.



John Bakker's cased WASA at the WSMC&E



Donald C. Dressel
908 W. 22nd Street, Upland, CA. 91784-1229

Next meeting Wednesday, July 20, 7 PM, Fullerton Community Center