

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

Website: <http://www.sbmodelships.com>

The Foghorn

August 2023



Fig.1. After the American Revolution, the Federal Government began to establish various revenue streams in an effort to finance its operations. One of these streams was to come from import tariffs imposed on sea-going trade. But rampant smuggling made enforcement of these tariffs difficult. Then on August 4, 1790, at the encouragement of Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, Congress established the Revenue-Marine to enforce these tariff laws. This service was eventually merged with the US Life-Saving Service in 1915 to become the **United States Coast Guard**. This model from a **Blue Jacket Ship Crafters** kit is an example of one of these early Revenue Cutters. (Blue Jacket Ship Crafters).





Future Course Headings...

- **Upcoming SBMS meetings for September. In-person mtg. Saturday, September 9, 2 PM at the Game Kastle; Zoom mtg. Thursday, September 21, 7PM.**

Oh, my goodness, is it already about to become September? And I was just settled in to enjoy the miraculous California summer that we have, so far, had. All while the rest of the world has been incinerating all around us! We should count our blessings to live in such a nice place!

Our September meetings will be **Saturday, September 9, 2 PM** for our In-person meeting at:

The Game Kastle
1350 Coleman Ave
Santa Clara, CA 95050
(408) 243-4263

And **Thursday, September 21, 7 PM** for our Zoom meeting. So, get your projects ready for show and tell!

- **San Francisco Fleet Week, October 2-10.**



After cancellation by the COVID pandemic and some bad weather, our annual visit to San Francisco by ships of the US Navy, the Blue Angels, and other aviation demonstration groups will resume during these dates.

The **Parade of Ships** with US Navy ships passing under the Golden Gate Bridge will happen on **Friday, October 6 from 11 AM-12PM**. Then the spectacular **Blue Angels** and other aviation demonstrations will perform on the afternoons of **Friday, October 6; Saturday, October 7; and Sunday, October 8** (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. The Navy's **Blue Angels** flying over the Golden Gate Bridge.
(Timothy Shumaker, US Navy)

While the show can be observed for free anywhere on the north shore of San Francisco, ticketed reserved box seats can be purchased to provide a better view on the Marina Green.

More on this event and ticket purchase can be found at:

<https://fleetweeksf.org>

• **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures, October 14 and 15.**



Fig. 3. Poster for the **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures**. (Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures)

This annual convention of mostly dollhouse miniatures in San Jose is scheduled this year for the weekend of **October 14 and 15** (Fig. 3). Last year, we had a very successful display of almost a dozen ship models from the SBMS. The event will be held at:

Doubletree Hotel, San Jose
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose, CA 95110

Website: <https://goodsamshowcase.org>

This year, the dates of Fleet Week and the Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures do not interfere with each other so it should be possible to attend both events. Should you want to exhibit your masterworks, please send a completed registration form to Ms. Rhona Lee at rhonalee@aol.co or

Rhona Lee
1455 Wellburn Ave.
Gilroy, CA 95020

To be received no later than **September 15**. To help expedite this process, I am including a copy of the exhibition registration form at the end of this month's Foghorn. The Saturday, October 14 date will serve as our in-person meeting date. So, get your registration form in and prepare your favorite projects ready for display to show off what we can do!



Maritime Matters of the Month

- **Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL (Ken Lum)**

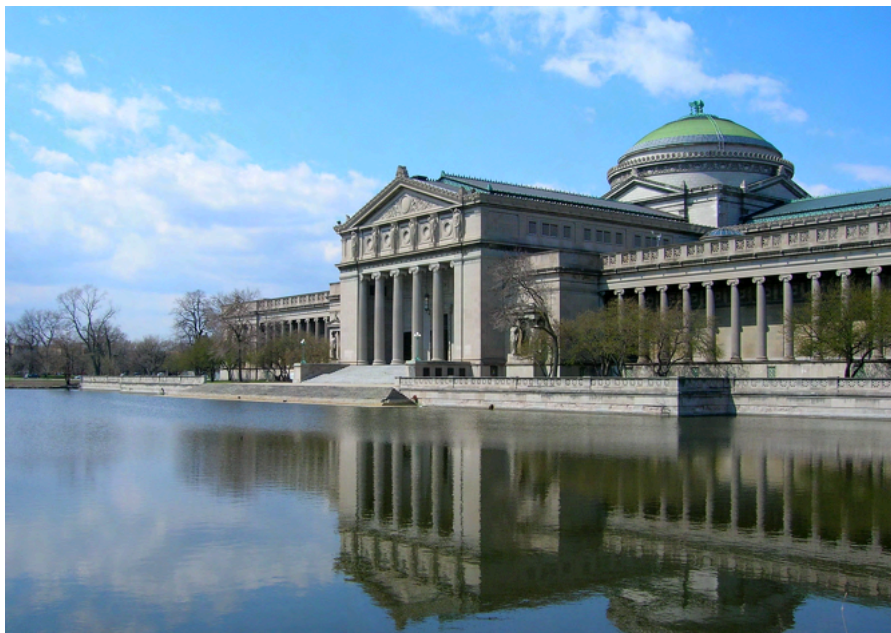


Fig. 4. **Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL. (MSI)**

I grew up in Chicago which is, perhaps, not well known as a center for maritime history to say the least. Nonetheless, it does sit next to Lake Michigan and there is a proud maritime heritage to this city which should be better appreciated.

To help this happen, an outstanding collection of ship models is located in the **Museum of Science and Industry (MSI)** (Fig. 4) in the **Hyde Park** neighborhood on the south side of the city and near the campus of the University of Chicago. The museum was founded in 1933 in an exposition building built for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. **Julius Rosenwald**, then president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, along with others from the **Commercial Club of Chicago**, financed renovation of the original Exposition building into the present MSI building. Its exhibitions were modeled on those of the **Deutsches Museum** in Munich, Germany which is also devoted to exhibiting topics in science, technology, and industry and also has an outstanding ship model collection illustrating the development of ships over time.

A. Ship's Gallery

The models from various builders began to be acquired during the 1930s mostly under the supervision of **Major Carlos de Zafra** (Fig.5) who was an Engineering professor at New York University and became Curator of Shipbuilding & Navigation at MSI.



Fig. 5. **Major Carlos de Zafra** (Dorothea de Zafra-Atwell)

My last visit to the exhibition was in 2013 when the models looked to have not been cleaned or conserved since opening in the 1930s and looked mostly the same as it did when I was in high school. Nonetheless, all 43 of the models were still in good shape despite acquiring a thin patina of about 80 years of dust.

Fortunately, it appeared the museum staff agreed with me that the models at least needed a cleaning and proceeded with an extensive renovation of the exhibit in 2016. Not only did they bring in a team of expert conservators from Litas Liparini Studio of Chicago to clean the models, but the exhibit area was completely remodeled and modernized to better tell the story of sea-borne transport and the maritime history of the Great Lakes.

Some additional models were added to the collection to round out the narrative and the **Oracle America's Cup Team USA** has contributed one of their racing catamarans to add an exhibit on racing which has connected the MSI to the Bay Area (I have not seen this part of the exhibit although I did see the America's Cup races involving these yachts on San Francisco Bay in 2013).

Below are photos of some of the outstanding models as I saw them in 2013 before they were cleaned. All photos were taken by me.



Fig. 6. Left- *Santa Maria* 1490s
Right- *Mayflower* 1620



Fig.7. Left- *Gradenigo Venetian Galley* 1650: Right- *Falmouth* East Indiamen 1752

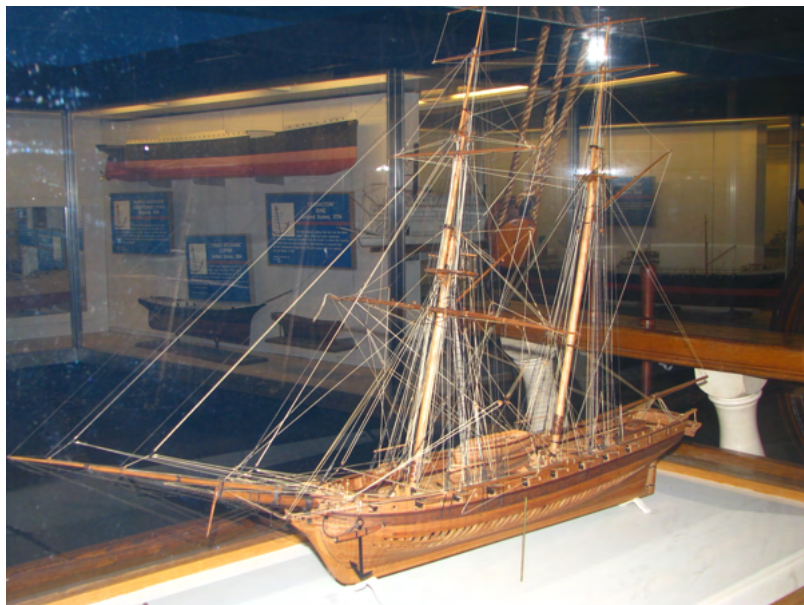


Fig. 8. Baltimore Clipper *Prince de Neufchatel* 1812

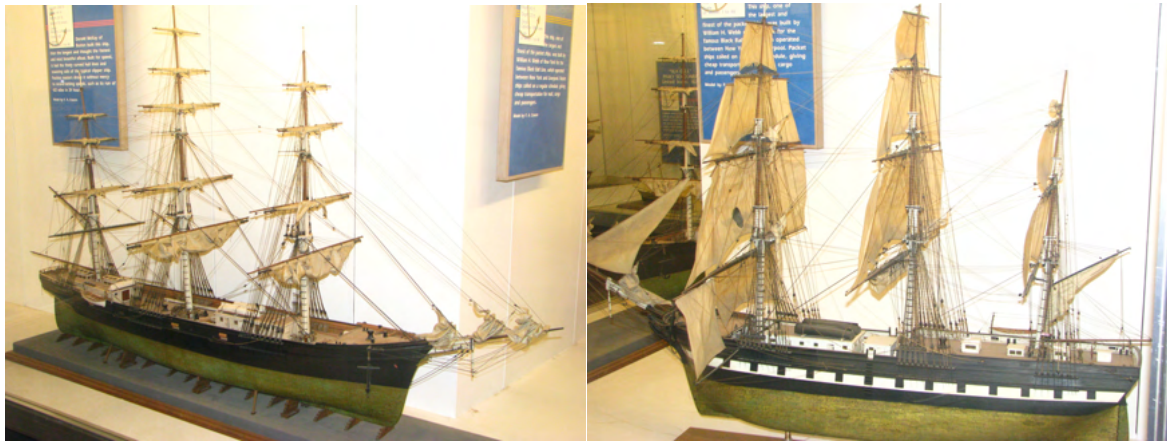


Fig.9. Left-clipper ship *Sovereign of the Seas* 1852. This model has the finest set of scale furled sails on any model I have ever seen.

Right- *Isaac Webb* packet ship 1850



Fig. 10. Left-Whaling ship *Alice Mandell* 1850

Right-Whaling boat with deployed sail to same scale

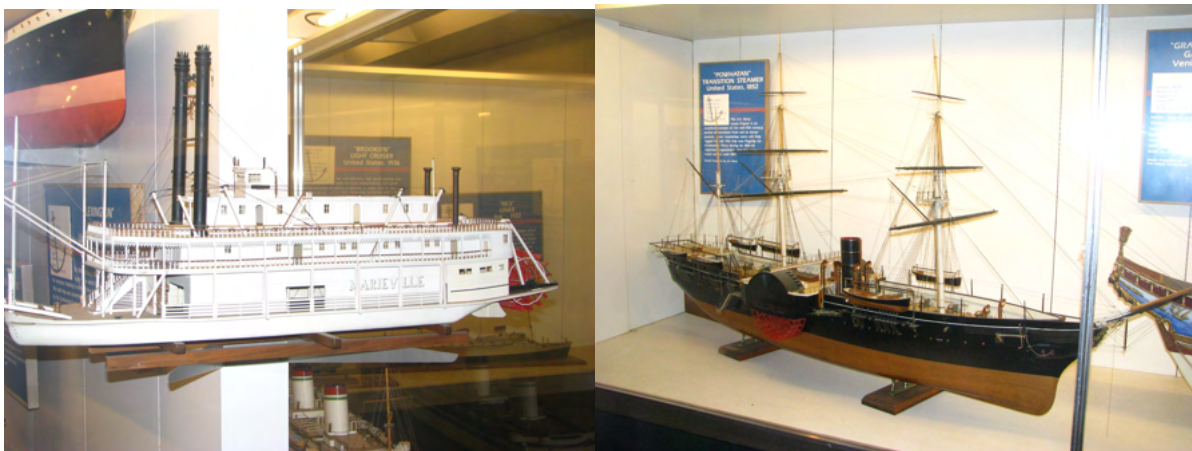


Fig. 11. Left- Steam River boat *Marieville* 1886

Right-Steam Frigate *USS Powhatan* 1852. Part of Admiral Matthew Perry's squadron on his 1854 mission to open Japan to foreign trade.



Fig. 12. Left-German steel barque *Pamir* 1905
Right- 6 mast East coast schooner *William L. Douglass* 1903



Fig. 13. Magnificent large-scale dry dock diorama of the liner, *City of New York* 1888.



Fig. 14. Detail views of *City of New York* dry-dock diorama model.

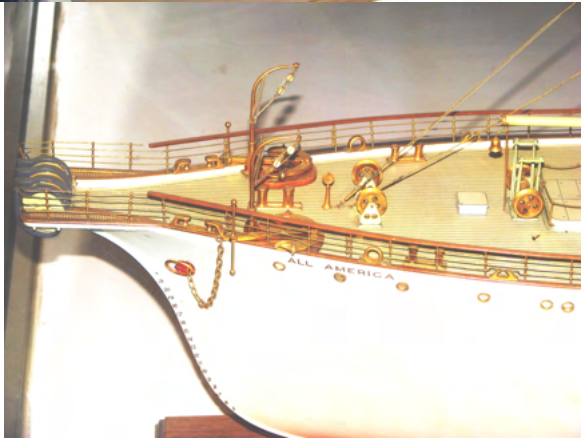
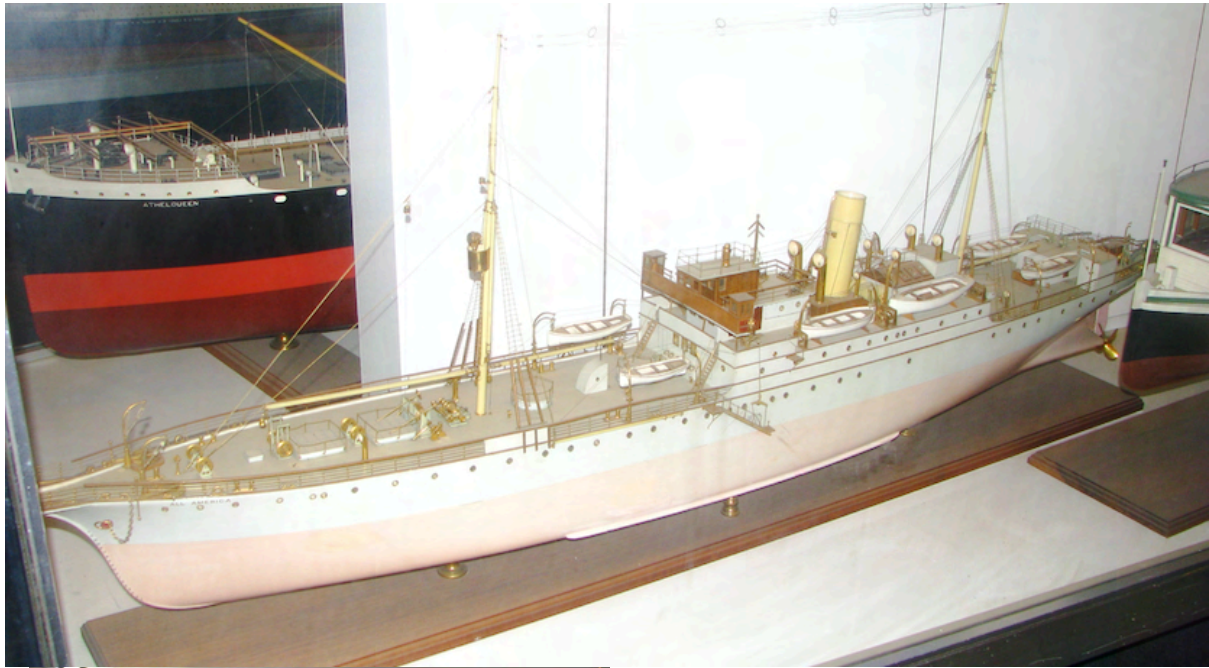


Fig. 15 Cable layer ship *All America* 1921

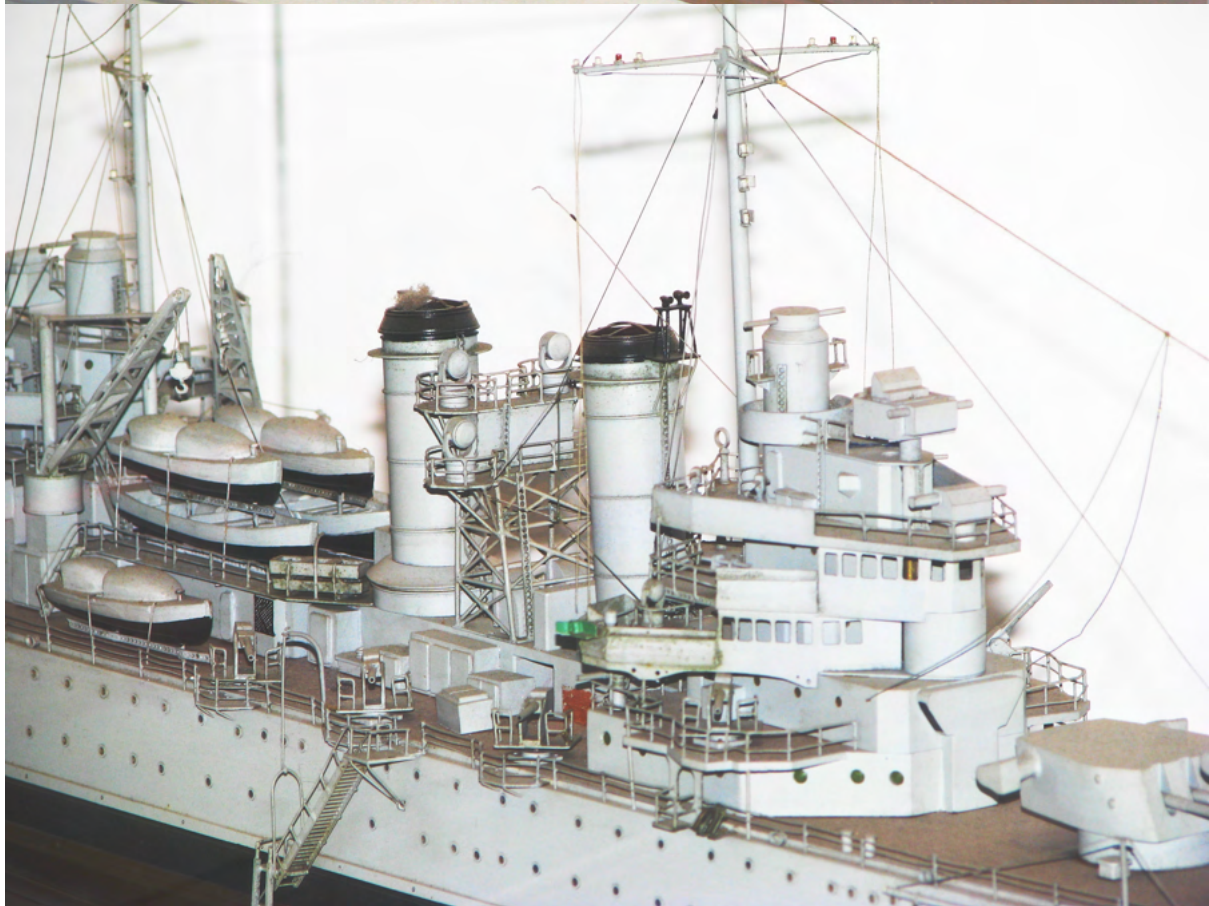


Fig. 16. US Light Cruiser *USS Brooklyn* 1936.

Finally, here is a YouTube video tour of the newly renovated Ship's Gallery.

Chicago MSI Model Ships replica exhibit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc2smnRkHDE>

B. U-505 German Submarine Exhibit The MSI is unique in having the captured German WW2 vintage U-boat, **U-505** (Fig.17), submarine on exhibit, the only one in the US. **U-505** is a Type IXC submarine that served with the Kiregsmarine from 1942 until her boarding and capture by an American Task Force on **June 4, 1944**. Prior to her capture, she was credited with sinking 8 merchant ships.

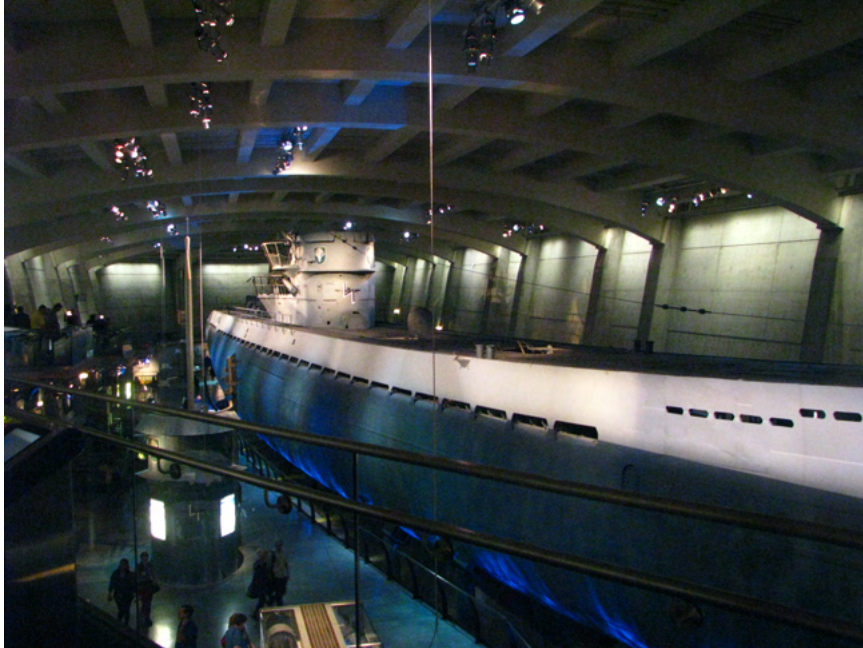


Fig. 17. The current indoor exhibition area of the *U-505*.

While on patrol off the coast of **Rio de Oro** in the western Sahara, **American Task Force TG 22.3** under the command of **Captain Daniel V. Gallery**, made a sonar contact with the submerged **U-505**. The escort carrier, **USS Guadalcanal**, in the TG launched aircraft to search for the submarine while accompanying destroyer escorts closed in on the target location (Fig.18 & 19).



Fig. 18. Model of escort carrier *USS Guadalcanal* accompanied by a destroyer escort at the exhibition.

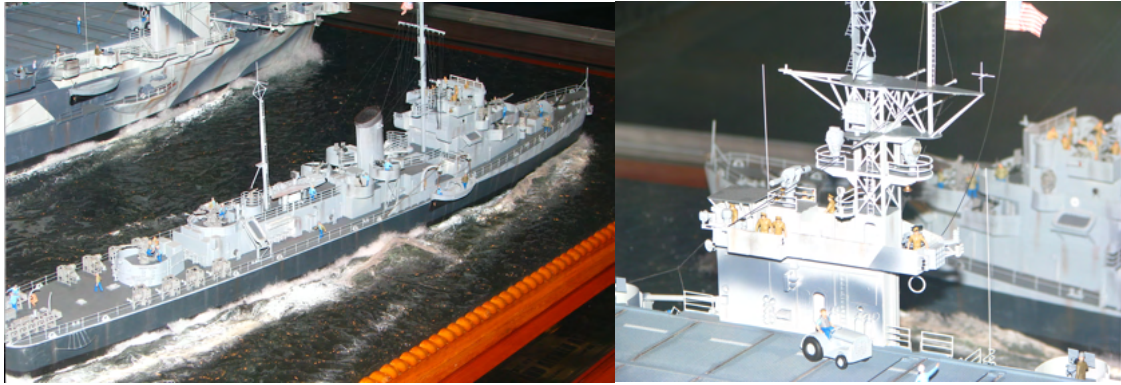


Fig. 19. Left-model of one of the destroyer escorts in TG 22.3.

Right-Detail on the carrier island of *USS Guadalcanal* model.

The closest destroyer, *USS Chatelain*, began depth-charging *U-505* forcing it to surface just 600m away. Ships from the TG immediately began firing their weapons on the U boat. *Oberleutnant zur See Harald Lange*, commander of *U-505*, gave orders to abandon and scuttle the ship believing the submarine to be too severely damaged to fight against such overwhelming odds.

USS Chatelain and *Jenks* began picking up survivors while a boarding party from *USS Pillsbury* under Lt. *Albert David* entered *U-505* through its conning tower. Finding the submarine completely abandoned, they secured charts and codebooks, closed scuttling valves, and disarmed demolition charges (Fig.20). The submarine was eventually pumped out and taken under tow by *USS Guadalcanal*.

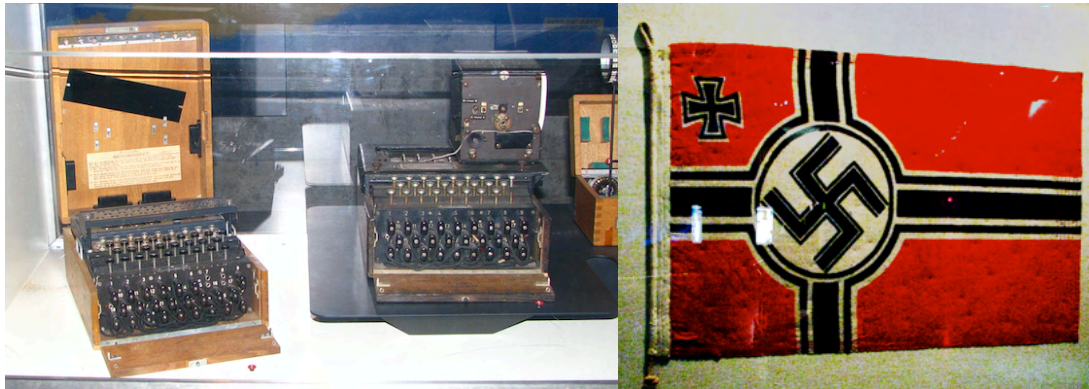


Fig. 20. Left-Enigma code machines recovered from the *U-505*.

Right-The *U-505's* insignia recovered from the ship.

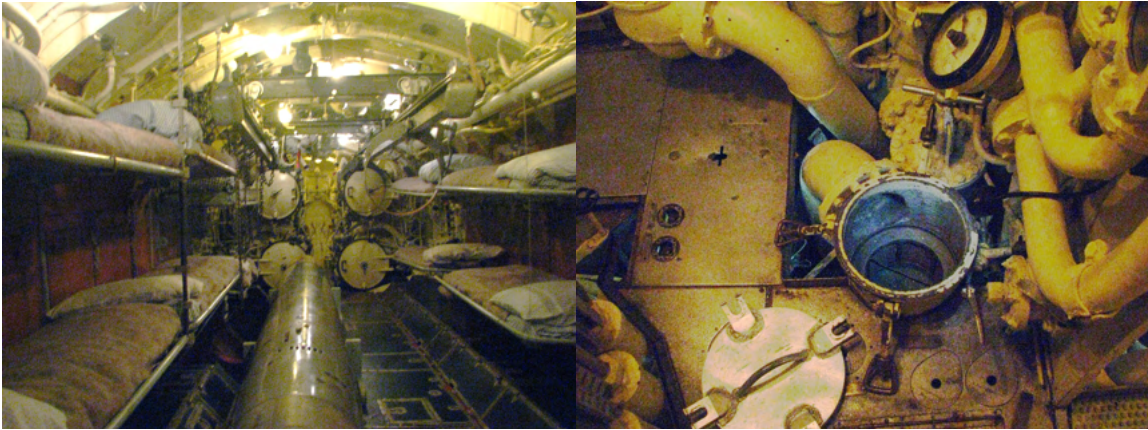


Fig. 21. Left-View towards the forward torpedo tubes. Looks like the cleaning crew has tidied up **Das Boot!**

Right-One of the scuttling valves closed by the boarding party thereby saving the ship.

Believing the nearby port of **Casablanca** in French Morocco was infiltrated by German spies, towing was transferred to the fleet tug, **USS *Abnaki***, which took the sub 1,700 nautical miles west across the Atlantic to the US Navy's Naval Operating Base in Bermuda in order to maintain secrecy. The Kriegsmarine believed all of the crew of **U-505** was lost at sea while the Americans isolated the surviving crew as POWs in Louisiana in great secrecy not to be returned until 1947. **U-505** Signalman First Class **Gottfried Fischer** was the only fatality of the entire operation.

Subsequently, **Lt. Albert David**, who led the boarding party, was given the **Medal of Honor** while **Captain Daniel Gallery**, who conceived and led the mission, received the **Navy Distinguished Service Medal**. Numerous awards were also issued to many other participants and the Task Group was awarded the **Presidential Unit Citation**.

After the war, the US Navy decided to use the **U-505** for target practice. However, Captain Gallery's brother, **Father John Gallery**, contacted **Lenox Lohr**, President of the MSI in Chicago which was interested in acquiring a submarine for exhibition. After a successful local fund-raising effort, the **U-505** was towed to Chicago via the St. Lawrence River and set up as an outdoor exhibit and War Memorial in 1954.



Fig. 22. Left-The submarine's periscope has been removed and remounted in a replica conning tower to improve public access to the instrument.

Right-The bow of the *U-505* with a display torpedo suspended in front of one of the torpedo tubes.

Upon finding corrosion in 2004 from exposure to the harsh Chicago weather, a big operation was started to move the submarine into a protected underground indoor exhibit area in front of the Museum. Along with some restoration, the ship was reopened to the public as an indoor exhibit in 2005. A great time-lapse video about how that was done can be found on YouTube at:

Moving the U-505 Submarine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUuQlpVuhCg>

It's pretty spine-tingling to see how such a major operation was handled!

The *U-505* is one of many great things to see in Chicago so I encourage everyone to go there to see this extraordinary artifact and compare it to our own *USS Pampanito* in San Francisco if possible! YouTube has many video tours of this famous submarine as well.

• **Other Maritime Sights in Illinois** There are several other maritime attractions in Illinois despite its relative inland location. I will write about these in the next Foghorn!



Methods to Our Maritime Madness

- **Painting Decorative Friezes** A number of mostly 18th Century vintage ship and boat models have very elegant frieze decorations painted into their bow trailboards, railings and stern transoms. These can be seen in such kits as the **Medway Longboat** kit from Model Shipways and the Syren Ship Model company (Fig. 23).



Fig. 23. Decorative friezes on the transom and railing of the **Medway Longboat** kit from Syren Ship Model Company (Syren Ship Model Company, Chuck Passaro).

These can be painted freehand like the model builders of old (Fig. 24), patterns transferred to the model from printed stencils that are painted over, painted on printed paper stencils that can be glued in place (Fig. 25), or made from photo-etch patterns such as those provided by Vanguard Models (Fig. 26). This last option mostly is available only for manufactured model kits.

The well-known ship modeler, **Olha Batchvarov**, has put together a nice YouTube video on her way of applying painted friezes to ship models.

HMS PEGASUS : Amati : Scale 1/64 : Step By Step Model Ship Build : #14 - PAINTING THE FRIEZES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqAwBCHkgss>

In this version, Ms. Batchvarov practiced painting a replica pattern on paper first. Then she repeated the process on her model. Apparently, she felt the photo-etch version was too perfect and the hand-painted version looked more authentic to an original Admiralty dockyard model.



Fig. 24. Free hand painting of decorative friezes on a railing. (O. Batchvarov)



Fig. 25. Replicating a decorative pattern onto a piece of paper for practice or that can be cut out and glued in place. (O. Batchvarov)



Fig. 26. Photo-etch frieze work on model transom of *HMS Sphinx* (Vanguard Models).

No matter how it is done, the fine detail will require much work!



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard



Fig. 27. Jim Rhetta with restoration of *Pinta* model with replacement decorated sails provided by owner Fred Fisher.



Fig. 28. Jacob Cohn's model of a Xebec from an Amati kit.



Fig. 29. George Sloup's *Papegojan* model with sails and rigging being prepared for installation.



Fig. 30. **Kitamaebune** (北前船) Japanese transport ship used on the route from Osaka through the Seto Inland Sea and the Kanmon Straits to ports in Hokuriku on the Sea of Japan and later to Hokkaidō during the Edo to Meiji periods. From a kit by Woody Joe built by Clare Hess.



Fig. 31. Building and installing scratch-built hatch gratings on Clare Hess's **Royal Charles Yacht** by Woody Joe.



SBMS Club Officers

President	Jim Rhetta	email: jmrhetta@aol.com
Vice President And Newsletter Editor	Ken Lum	email: lum40@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jacob Cohn	email: jcohnster@gmail.com
Harbor Master	George Sloup	email: george.p.sloup@outlook.com
Webmaster	Jim Tortorici	email: oday20@earthlink.net



Annual Club Membership

Send in your Club Membership fee with the attached renewal form. Submit a \$20 check made out to South Bay Model Shipwrights and mail to Jacob Cohn, 726 7th Ave, Redwood City, CA 94063. Mostly, we use the money to pay for our in-person meeting venues and hosting of our website.. Welcome Aboard!

Membership Form

Make check out for annual membership of \$20.00 to South Bay Model Shipwrights and mail to Jacob Cohn, 726 7th Ave, Redwood City, CA 94063

Print your name _____ Phone# _____

Address



Receive our Foghorn newsletter by email? Yes ___ No__

Email address _____

To order a club name badge, add \$15.00 to your check and print your name exactly as it should appear on the badge



2023 Showcase of Miniatures - Good Sam Show

Exhibit Entry Form

(One form per exhibit)

If you would like to share a miniature house, room box, or other miniature display(s) at the 2023 Good Sam Show, please use this form. Your contribution greatly enhances the show experience for both new and veteran participants. Thank you in advance!

Exhibitor's Name: _____ Email: _____

Club/Group Name (If the exhibit is part of a club/group project): _____

Mailing Address: _____ Cell Phone: () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Exhibit Title: _____

Exhibit Type: House Room box Dome Other _____

Exhibit Scale: 1" 1/2" 1/4" 1/144" or Microscale Other _____

Exhibit Size: Width _____ Depth _____ Height _____

Does your exhibit need electricity? Yes No

Does your exhibit feature a piece made by or taught by Brooke Tucker or Sandra Rubin? Yes No

Please include some interesting information/history about your Exhibit (25 words or less)

Photography (to share with print/online publications for publicity purposes)

- May we take and/or use photographs of your Exhibit(s)? Yes No
- May we share your contact information with publications for publicity purposes? Yes No

Photography under artificial lighting and/or through protective cases can be very tricky.

- May we remove the Exhibit front and/or cover to take photographs? Yes No
- If possible, prior to the show, would you email us with clear digital Exhibit photos (both whole and close-ups)? Yes No

Volunteering

Can you volunteer to help watch the Exhibits? Yes No

If you can help, the show's volunteer coordinator will contact you to arrange a date/time.

Exhibit Drop off & Pickup Times

- **Set-up** - Friday, October 13th from 5 pm – 7 pm **or** Saturday, October 14th from 7 am – 9 am
- **Pick-up** - Sunday, October 15th from 4 pm – 5 pm

Entry Form Submission

Please complete a separate form for *each* entry and return the form(s) by September 15, 2022.

Mail to: Rhona Lee
1455 Welburn Avenue
Gilroy, CA 95020

OR

Email to: rhonalee@aol.com