

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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



The Foghorn

December 2019



Future Course Headings...

- **Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 6:30 PM:** Happy Holidays to all! This is the date and time of our annual **SBMS Annual Holiday Party!** We will again return to the **Duke of Edinburgh Pub** at **10801 N. Wolfe Road, Cupertino, CA** to enjoy their excellent menu and selection of beer. Please let Ken Lum know by email at: lum40@comcast.net by Wed. Dec. 18 if you and any guests plan on coming.



I understand that our last year's experience was very noisy compared to the previous year when we were in an ornate private back room called the "**Duke's Room**" that was much quieter. So, I have prevailed on the proprietor to specifically give us back that room, and let's see how it goes this year. Just hope no one comes in and sets off a 12 pounder to get some attention!

- **Saturday, April 18, 2020, 9 AM-5 PM:**

The **International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS)/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers 7th Annual Silicon Valley Classic** scale modeling convention will be held on this day at **Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expwy, San Jose, CA**. We have had exhibitions there annually over the last several years in conjunction with **Ages of Sail** and always had great fun. Here are a couple of pictures from the last convention this spring. Should you have any models you want to show off, by all means bring them.



Clare Hess staffing the **Ages of Sail** table | Various WW 2 ship models on display

Our table will need volunteers to staff it all day, and we can set up an informal shift schedule to have at least one person on duty to promote our hobby. **And impressment is not even necessary!** More on this as we get nearer the date.



Maritime Matters of the Month

- **Planning for 2020(Jim Rhetta)**-It's time to start looking at plans for events in 2020. We could consider is another visit to the **Red Oak Victory** in Richmond which we visited in 2015. This could be combined with a meeting of the **Red Oak Victory Model Shipwrights**. Another activity could be a visit to the **SS Jeremiah O' Brien** and **USS Pampanito** combined with a visit to the **SF Maritime National Historic Park** and a meeting with the **Hyde Street Pier Model Shipwrights**.



USS Pampanito in San Francisco

The ***USS Hornet*** in Alameda, which held celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo Moon landings this past summer is another possibility. We can discuss this and other ideas at the dinner and again in the Jan 2020 meeting.

•**Excavation of the Wreck of *HMS Invincible* (Ken Lum)-*HMS Invincible*** was probably the most influential ship in the design of large British warships in the age of sail. Built by the French in 1744 as the 74-gun ship-of-the-line, ***L'Invincible***, she was captured on May 3, 1747 while under the command of **Captain Chevalier de St. Georges** and **Admiral Marquis de la Jonquière** by a British fleet commanded by **Admiral George Anson** off the northwestern coast of Spain near Cape Finisterre during the **War of the Austrian Succession**. French merchant ships being escorted by **de la Jonquière** managed to escape.

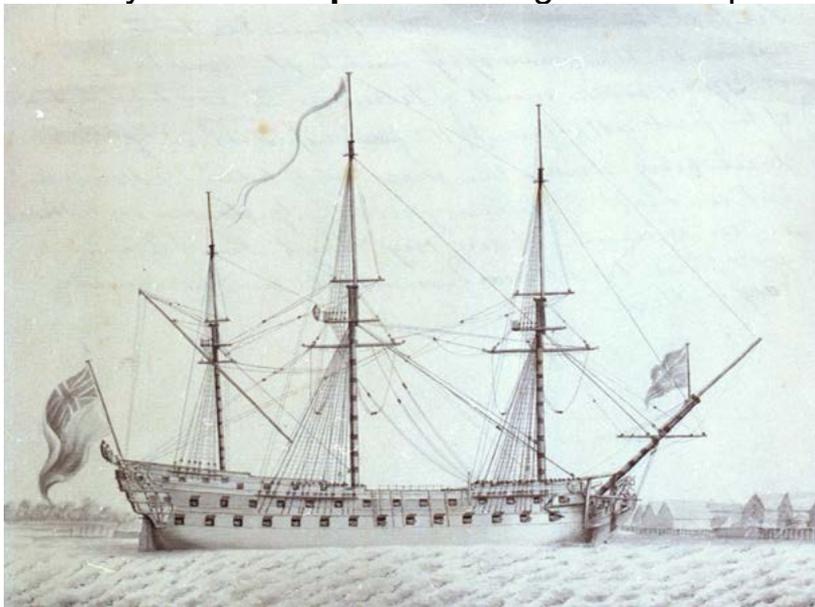


Fig. 1 HMS Invincible in Royal Navy Service

Anson was very impressed with the layout of ***L'Invincible*** and had her measured out and recorded. She was then brought into service with the Royal Navy as ***HMS Invincible*** (Fig. 1) where she drew effusive praise from

her captains. At this time, the British Admiralty had settled into the administratively ossified **1745 Establishments** which greatly suppressed innovation. As a result, British warships of this time were often poor performers being slow, unstable, and having relatively inferior firepower.

By contrast, the French shipbuilders were free to experiment and produced many individually excellent ships, including the **L'Invincible**. Anson and others fought many political battles to allow shipbuilders to copy **HMS Invincible** and experiment with new ideas. By 1755 and then again in 1757, some British 74s were built whose designs were influenced by the **HMS Invincible**. These performed so well that by 1805 at **Trafalgar**, three quarters of all British ships-of-the-line were 74s of this type. And this influence continued all the way into the late 19th Century when steam ships started taking over.

HMS Invincible served in the Royal Navy altogether 11 years seeing much service but little combat. In 1758 she ran aground in **the Solent** outside Portsmouth and had to be abandoned (near the original site of the **Mary Rose** wreck). The wreck slowly disintegrated but was found by a fisherman, Arthur Mack, in 1979. Money was raised in 2016 to start an excavation of the wreck leading to some 2000 objects being recovered by this month by the **Maritime Archeological Sea Trust (MAST)**, **Bournemouth University**, and the **National Museum of the Royal Navy (NMRN)** in Portsmouth (Fig. 2-4). Some of these will soon be on exhibit at the **NMRN** for those visiting there. There are no plans to raise the rest of the wreck which is in too poor a condition to do that.



Fig. 2. Diver on the wreck of **HMS Invincible**
(Bournemouth News Picture Service)



Fig. 3 and 4. Ships blocks (Left) and Sailors' effects (Right) from *HMS Invincible* (NMRN)



Kit News (Ken Lum)

While at October's **NRG** meeting in New Bedford, MA, I learned of some new ship model kits to be released by **BlueJacket Ship Crafters** of Maine. These will be:

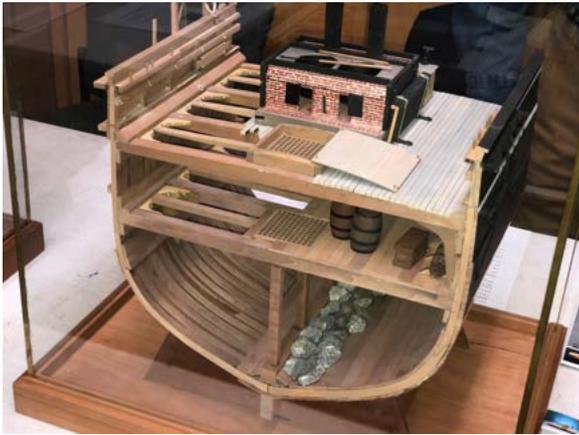
1. *USS Perry*



This brig was built in the **Norfolk Navy Yard** in 1843 and named after **Oliver Hazard Perry**. After commissioning in the US Navy, she participated in many actions around the world on behalf of US interests at the time. This included suppression of the slave trade from 1849-1854 (Slave capture, transport, and trading was banned by Act of Congress in 1808 and in the U.K. in 1807. But the use of slaves was not ended in the US

until the end of the American Civil War). Also, there was a show of force during diplomatic tensions with Paraguay in 1859 that led to a treaty, and Union blockade duty during the Civil War where she captured a number of Confederate blockade runners. The 1/8"=1 ft. (1/96) scale kit is being offered at \$295.

2. **Charles W. Morgan** midships cutaway



A new kit of the well-known last existing sailing whaling ship, **Charles W. Morgan**, now on display at **Mystic Seaport, CT**, is being offered as a midships cross section model. It's scaled at $\frac{1}{2}$ "=1 ft. (1/24) making it a large model of 10" long and 19" high. It will be priced at \$599. Obviously, the model would make an excellent complement to the $\frac{1}{4}$ "=1 ft. (1/48) scale complete ship model kit of the **Morgan** by **Model Shipways**.

3. Other proposed new ship model kits include:

- a. Cutaway **USS Cairo** Civil War ironclad-**BlueJacket** already has a kit of this ship without a cutaway of the interior. The new one opens the interior to view.
- b. **Ellie Mara**-Maine coastal schooner
- c. **Wyoming**-six masted Maine schooner which was the longest wooden ship ever built.
- d. **USS Oregon** (BB-3)-steel pre-dreadnought

More on these models later. Information on these kits is present on the **BlueJacket** website only on the digital copy of the print catalogue or the print catalogue itself which can be ordered at: <http://www.bluejacketinc.com>.



Methods and Techniques to Our Maritime Madness (Jim Rhetta)

Commercial chemicals used to blacken brass fittings are available from a number of vendors. However, some products such as **Blacken It** and BlueJacket's **Brass Black** seem no longer to be available.



I recently found one product called **Photoetch Burnishing** by **AK Interactive** at **Castle Hobby** at **1350 Coleman Ave, Santa Clara** that gives brass a black iron look and produces a finish that seems scratch resistant. AK Interactive also makes a solution in a similar container for producing a rust finish. Other metals such as copper and bronze might also be darkened with this solution.

A further search turned up some other products such as **Birchwood's Brass Black** and **Jax's Antique Blackener** among others. Because these are toxic chemicals, shipping restrictions may apply.



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard



Kevin Flaherty giving away his unfinished ship models



More progress on George Sloup's Dutch pinnace, the ***Papegojan***



Jacob Cohn with a 1/350 kit of the **SMS Markgraf** German battleship—a participant in the **Battle of Jutland (1916)**

There are more in-progress photos which will show up in the January, 2020 **Foghorn**.



Ship Model Clubs in the Bay Area

Astonishingly enough, there are no less than 5 ship model clubs in the Bay Area stretching from Los Altos in the South Bay to Rohnert Park in the north. Here is the list of them for those who would like to travel around and sample their offerings. List is courtesy of Clare Hess.

•**South Bay Model Shipwrights** – contact Jim Rhetta, jmrhetta@aol.com.

Meets at 7:30pm on the 3rd Friday (check the website for the schedule as it sometimes has to be on a different Friday) of every month at the **Los Altos Public Library** at 13 S. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos. Website is:

<http://www.sbmodelships.com>

•**Hyde Street Pier Model Shipwrights** – contact Leo Kane,

kanebulota@comcast.net. Meets 9:30am on the 3rd Saturday of every month aboard the Ferry Boat **Eureka** in the **San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park**. Website is:

<http://hspms.wordpress.com>

•**San Francisco Model Yacht Club** – contact **Colleen Stobbe**, commodore@sfmymc.org. Meets at 11am on the second Saturdays of most months at the **Spreckles Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park**. Emphasis is on radio control models of all kinds. The club holds frequent sailing regattas on Spreckles Lake. Check their calendar for the schedule of events. This is the oldest of such clubs in the Bay Area having been founded in 1898. Website is: <https://www.sfmymc.org/index.php>

•**Red Oak Victory Model Shipwrights** Meets at 10:00 am on the second Saturday of every month in the Petty Officers Mess aboard the **Red Oak Victory** at Pt. Richmond, **1337 Canal Blvd, Richmond, CA 94804**

•**Redwood Empire Model Shipwrights** – contact **Randy Smith**, redoakboat@aol.com. Meets at 10:00 am on the first Saturday at the **Fundemonium** store in Rohnert Park. The address and telephone is:

579 Rohnert Park Expy W Expressway Center
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 800-4060



Bay Area Hobby Shops

Here is a list of Peninsula, East Bay, and South Bay hobby shops with supplies relevant to ship modelers. There are other area hobby shops listed on the web, but they are not relevant to ship modelers. These are our Santa Clauses!

<p>Ages of Sail 676 Bockman Road , Unit B & C San Lorenzo, CA 94580 Phone:(510) 889-6000 Website: https://www.agesofsail.com Primarily wooden and resin ship kits. Outstanding resource for this area. <u>SBMS members are eligible for a 10% discount on all purchases.</u></p>	<p>Hobbies Unlimited 937 Manor Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94579 Phone: (510)351-7112 Website: http://www.hobbiesunlimited.net Outstanding selection of plastic steel navy kits. Great complement to Ages of Sail which is only a short distance away.</p>
<p>The Hobby Co. of San Francisco 5150 Geary Blvd. San Francisco, CA 94118 Phone:(415) 386-2802 Website: http://www.hobbycosf.com</p>	<p>Sheldon's Hobby Shop 2130 Trade Zone Blvd. San Jose, CA 95131 Phone:(408) 946-3801 Website: https://sheldonshobbies.com</p>
<p>Talbot's Toyland 445 S. B St. San Mateo, CA 94401 Phone:(650) 931-8100 Website: http://www.talbotstoyland.com</p>	<p>Michaels Website: https://www.michaels.com A chain of general crafts stores with many branches throughout the Bay Area. Great source for scale wood, paints, and tools.</p>
<p>J & M Hobby House 1660 Laurel St. San Carlos, CA 94070 Phone:(650) 593-5019 Cute little hobby shop with a good selection of tools, wood, paints, and a comprehensive selection of Model Shipways kits and fittings.</p>	



Club Ship Model Fittings Library

The club now has a substantial slop chest library of kit fittings acquired from the estates of members and other ship model builders who have passed away or retired due to disability.



It is all now in the possession of **Jim Rhetta** (jmrhetta@aol.com) and is available to members in need of fittings for their projects.

This library will be brought to meetings for us to pick over. They include a variety of blocks, deadeyes, pins, chains, belaying pins, rudder hinges, rings, guns in various sizes and more. We sincerely thank all those who have contributed to this library.



Traveling this Year?

Add these museums to your travel plans either locally or elsewhere if you can.

Bay Area:

- San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park: <http://www.nps.gov/safr/index.htm>
- San Mateo County History Museum (home of Charlie Parsons exhibit, Redwood City): <http://historysmc.org>
- Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum: <http://www.vallejomuseum.org>
- Mare Island Museum (Vallejo): <http://www.mareislandmuseum.org>
- SS *Jeremiah O'Brien* (San Francisco): <http://www.ssjeremiahobrien.org>

- *USS Pampanito* (San Francisco): <https://maritime.org/uss-pampanito/>
- *SS Red Oak Victory* (Richmond): <http://richmondmuseum.org/ss-red-oak-victory/>
- *USS Hornet* (Alameda): <https://www.uss-hornet.org> -By far the largest museum ship on the Bay
- *USS Potomac* FDR Presidential Yacht (Oakland): <https://www.usspotomac.org>

Elsewhere in US:

- Channel Islands Maritime Museum (Oxnard, CA): www.cimmvc.org
- Los Angeles Maritime Museum: <http://www.lamaritimemuseum.org>
- San Diego Maritime Museum: <http://sdmaritime.org/>
- *SS Lane Victory* (San Pedro, CA): www.lanevictory.org/
- *USS Texas* (LaPorte, TX):
<http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/battleship-texas>
- *USS Alabama* (Mobile, AL): www.ussalabama.com/
- *USS Constitution* (Boston, MA): www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org/
- *USS Constellation* (Baltimore, MD): www.historicships.org/constellation.html
- The Hart Nautical Gallery, MIT, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA
<https://mitmuseum.mit.edu/installation-or-collaboration/hart-nautical-gallery>
- New Bedford Whaling Museum (New Bedford, MA):
<https://www.whalingmuseum.org>
- South Street Seaport (New York, NY): <https://southstreetseaportmuseum.org>
- National Museum of American History (Smithsonian, Washington, D.C.):
<https://www.si.edu/museums/american-history-museum>
- National Museum of the U.S. Navy (Washington, D.C.):
<https://www.history.navy.mil>
- US Naval Academy (Annapolis, MD):
<https://www.usna.edu/Museum/index.php>
- Mariners Museum of VA (Newport News, VA): www.marinersmuseum.org/
- Steamboat *Bertrand* (DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, Missouri Valley, IA):
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Desoto/wildlife_and_habitat/steamboat_bertrand.html

Outside US:

- Vancouver Maritime Museum (Vancouver, BC, Canada):
<https://www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com>
- Royal Museums Greenwich (Greenwich, UK. Includes National Maritime Museum): <https://collections.rmg.co.uk>
- Portsmouth Historic Dockyard | Royal Navy Museum (Portsmouth, UK):
<https://www.historicdockyard.co.uk/index.php>
- Titanic Belfast (Belfast, N. Ireland): <https://titanicbelfast.com>
- National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam (Netherlands):
<https://www.hetscheepvaartmuseum.com>
- Maritime Museum in Rotterdam (Netherlands):
<https://www.maritiemmuseum.nl/en>
- Musée national de la Marine (National Navy Museum) (Paris, France):
https://web.archive.org/web/20130101102816/http://www.musee-marine.fr/version_uk.html
- Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum (Bremerhaven, Germany):
<https://www.dsm.museum>



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



2020 Meeting Dates

Third Friday of each month. Please note changes in the meeting schedule each month. The club does its best to schedule the 3rd Friday, but library priorities and competition for the conference room may require meeting dates to be rescheduled!!!

**Los Altos Public Library
13 S. San Antonio Road
Los Altos at 7:00pm**

***December 18, 2019, 6:30
PM-Holiday Party
January 17, 2020
February 21, 2020**

These dates are confirmed by the Los Altos Library. * Indicates date change



2020 Annual Club Membership

Send in your 2019 Club Membership with 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. Welcome Aboard!

2020 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

