

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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

The Foghorn

February-March 2021



Future Course Headings...

- **Future meetings: In-person meetings still cancelled until further notice.** Sorry for the delay in releasing the **Foghorn**, but my very elderly mother suffered a stroke January 31, and it has taken me a month to stabilize everything so that she is well taken care of and comfortable. So, this is a combined February and March issue.

Also, with the release of coronavirus vaccines and decreasing cases of infection along with a much more competent response taking hold, we can start seeing light at the end of the tunnel. Nonetheless, the end of the pandemic is still a long way off and precautions of social distancing and masks are still greatly encouraged. And, above all, get your vaccine!

Progress on member projects looked good last time, especially with Ken Lum's carronade model only needing its gun tackles and installation in its case which has already been made. Others have also made progress so we will discuss what we can of them below.

Above all, we all should give an homage of thanks to Prez Jim Rhetta who has kept up a great series of Zoom meetings informing attendees about what has been going on in maritime and model news and holding the club together. Someday, we should name a ship model after him, preferably one that has been finished !!

•All local museums are closed until further notice due to the coronavirus outbreak.

•Cancelled- International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS)/Silicon Valley Classic. This event has been cancelled for this year due to the pandemic. Perhaps a return in Spring of 2022.

• **October, 2021. Nautical Research Guild Annual Convention, Oxnard, CA.** The cancelled 2020 NRG convention has been rescheduled for October of 2021 still at the **Channel Islands Maritime Museum** in Oxnard, CA (Fig. 1). You can learn more about the museum at:

<https://cimmvc.org>

and there are several very nice video tours of the museum on YouTube as well. More news about this event can be found at the NRG website.



Fig. 1. **Xebec** model in the **Channel Islands Maritime Museum**



Maritime Matters of the Month

- **J & M Hobby House in San Carlos is closing.**

After decades of essentially living in their little hobby shop (Fig. 2), owner **Cliff White** and his wife, **Pam White**, are calling it quits to retire and seek their well-earned freedom. The estimated closing date is the **end of March, 2021**.



Fig. 2. **J & M Hobby House** in San Carlos. Looks sooo... 1950ish!

The contact information for this shop is:

J & M Hobby House
1660 Laurel St.
San Carlos, CA 94070
Phone: (650) 593-5019

Opening Hours

- Monday: closed
- Tue: 11am-6pm
- Wed: 11am-6pm
- Thu: 11am-6pm
- Fri: 11am-6pm
- Sat: 9:30am-5:30pm

This little shop is just packed with all kinds of modeling and crafts stuff relevant to ships, airplanes, trains, RC, doll houses, and decorative arts. There is also a wealth of tools, glues, miniature fasteners, plastic/wood and paints. Everything is now 20% off.

For ship modelers, there is a nice collection of **Model Shipways** kits (Fig. 3) and fittings as well as RC boats for those looking for something that offers more action.



Fig. 3. **Model Shipways** kits at **J & M Hobby House, San Carlos**

It is sad to lose another traditional brick and mortar hobby shop, but these things are mostly moving online. Look to our **SBMS Resource Guide** that comes with the **Foghorn** to find the whereabouts of the remaining brick and mortar hobby shops in the Bay Area.

Especially, don't forget **Ages of Sail** in **San Lorenzo** and **Hobbies Unlimited** in **San Leandro** which have the largest inventories of ship model kits. Plus, they are very near to each other!

- **Six skeletons discovered in pirate ship wreck.**



Fig. 4. Model of the **Whydah**
(**Whydah Pirate Museum**)

The skeletons of six individuals thought to be from the wreck of the pirate ship, **Whydah Gally** (Fig. 4) were found off the coast of Cape Cod, MA. This shipwreck is said to be the only verified pirate shipwreck in the world and is associated with famed pirate, **Samuel "Black Sam" Bellamy** known as the '**Robin Hood of the Sea**'.

In 2018, author and member of the investigative team, **Casey Sherman**, found a descendant of Bellamy's in New England, and has obtained some of the descendant's DNA to compare with DNA being obtained from the skeletal remains in the hopes that some of the remains actually belonged to Bellamy.

Whydah Gally was sunk in a violent nor'easter April 26, 1717, and its wreckage was scattered along a 4 mile stretch of the Cape Cod coastline. She was originally built in London in 1715 as a three-masted galley of 110 ft. length and 300 tuns burthen armed with 18 six-pound cannon for **Sir Humphrey Morice**, a foremost slave trader of the time. The ship's name came from the West African slave-trading **Kingdom of Whydah**.

While on her maiden voyage from West Africa to the Caribbean to trade a load of slaves, gold, Akan jewelry, and ivory, she was attacked and captured by Bellamy and his pirates between Cuba and Hispaniola on February, 1717. The **Whydah** was combined with Bellamy's 26-gun galley **Sultana** and the converted 10-gun [sloop](#) **Marianne** to form a three ship pirate flotilla that sailed for the northeast coast of America. While performing more acts of piracy along the way, a fourth ship, the **Mary Anne** was captured with a hold full of Madeira wine and added to the flotilla.

As the ships approached Cape Cod, they encountered a fog bank that caused the crews to lose sight of each other. Two of the ships eventually made it to port, but the *Mary Anne* and the *Whydah*, with Bellamy aboard, was caught in a severe nor'easter storm and driven aground at what today is **Marconi Beach at Wellfleet, Massachusetts** on April 26, 1717. Four metric tons of silver and gold, more than 60 cannon and 144 people, including Bellamy, were lost in the sinking. All seven of the *Mary Anne's* crew survived, but only two of the *Whydah* crew survived. The survivors were rounded up by local authorities and tried for piracy and robbery. Six were eventually hanged and a seventh was sold into slavery. The remaining two were freed. About a third of the crew was said to be of African origin perhaps consisting of freed slaves.

The *Whydah* wreckage was rediscovered in 1984 by underwater archeologist, **Barry Clifford**, using a 1717 map of the wreckage site drawn up by a local salvager, **Captain Cyprian Southack**. Clifford and his team have been able to recover some 200,000 individual artifacts from the wreckage which included gold and silver coins and bars, cannon, sailor's personal artifacts, and parts of the ship.

The skeletal remains have been found in large concretions now undergoing detailed examination (Fig. 5). Most compelling is a ship's bell with the name of the ship on it which definitively identifies the wreck (Fig. 6).



Fig. 5. Concretion containing remains of *Whydah* crew
(**Whydah Pirate Museum**)



Fig. 6. Left-artifacts from the **Whydah** wreck. Right-Ship's bell with ship's name. (Whydah Pirate Museum)

All in all, Bellamy and his crew had captured over 50 ships in their pirate career resulting in an enormous amount of booty being originally stored in the **Whydah**. Enough has now been recovered that a museum called the **Whydah Pirate Museum** was built and opened on Cape Cod in 2016 to display what has been found and provide a laboratory for extracting and conserving the artifacts (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7. **Whydah Pirate Museum** (Whydah Pirate Museum)

It is located on Cape Cod at:

The Whydah Pirate Museum

674 MA-28

West Yarmouth, MA 02673

Phone: (508) 534-9571

Website: <https://www.discoverpirates.com>

YouTube also has about half a dozen videos about the **Whydah** discovery including a **National Geographic** lecture by Mr. Clifford and various tours of the Museum offering close up views of many of the artifacts. These are very much worth your time to look at until you can find an opportunity to actually visit.



Kits News (Ken Lum):

Richard Walton kindly informed me about this interesting kit of a **Catspaw Dinghy** (Fig. 8) modified by **Joel White** from a **Herreshoff Columbia Dinghy** design being offered in **Wooden Boat** magazine. It is a nice lapstrake (clinker) exercise at a scale of 1 1/2"=1ft and makes a very pretty model for those hankering for a brief modeling project. The kit can be purchased for \$129.95 at:

https://www.woodenboatstore.com/collections/rowing-and-sailing-model-kits/products/catspaw-model-kit-wood?utm_source=MC&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=store&utm_content=Image&utm_campaign=Email-WBN-2021-02-14

or

tinyurl.com/2fxaux5z



Fig. 8. **Catspaw Dinghy** model kit

At this scale, it makes a hefty 19" Length x 7" Beam model. The wood supplied is basswood and cherry. Kit instructions can be downloaded from the webpage at:

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0053/4098/7482/files/Catspaw_model_kit_instructions.pdf?2796



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard

Contributions from members for this section of the **Foghorn** is a bit thin this month, but **Jacob Cohn** has offered a nice account of his Revell model of the German WW 1 light cruiser, **SMS Emden** (Fig. 9), in 1/350 scale.

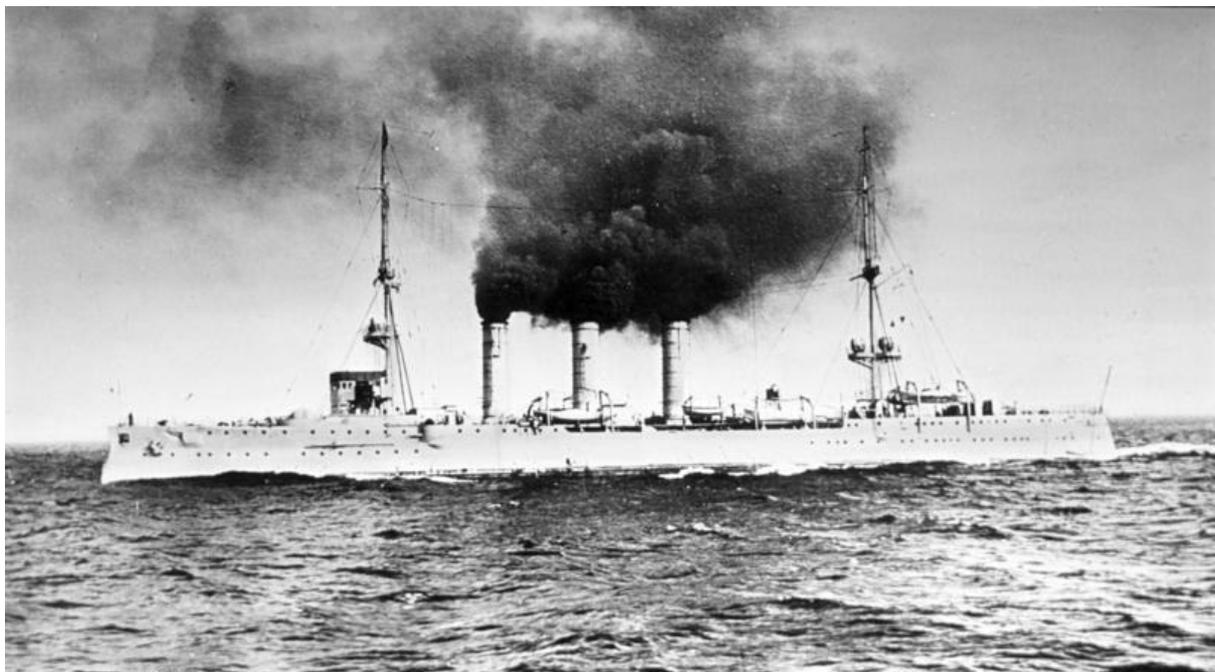


Fig. 9. **SMS Emden**
(Boy, looks like she was powered with "clean coal"!)

SMS Emden ("His Majesty's Ship **Emden**") was the second and final member of the *Dresden* class of light cruisers built for the **Imperial German Navy (Kaiserliche Marine)**.

Emden spent the majority of her career overseas in the **German East Asia Squadron**, based in **Tsingtao**, in the **Kiautschou Bay concession** in **China**. In 1913, **Karl von Müller** took command of the ship. At the outbreak of World War I, *Emden* captured a Russian steamer and converted her into the commerce raider **Cormoran**. *Emden* rejoined the East Asia Squadron, then was detached for independent raiding in the Indian Ocean. The cruiser spent nearly two months operating in the region, and captured nearly two dozen ships. On 28 October 1914, *Emden* launched a surprise attack on **Penang**; in the resulting **Battle of Penang**, she sank the Russian cruiser **Zhemchug** and the French destroyer **Mousquet**.

Müller then took *Emden* to raid the **Cocos Islands**, where he landed a contingent of sailors to destroy British facilities. There, *Emden* was attacked by the Australian cruiser **HMAS Sydney** on 9 November 1914. The more powerful Australian ship quickly inflicted serious damage and forced Müller to run his ship aground to avoid sinking. Out of a crew of 376, 133 were killed in the battle.



Fig. 10. Revell kit of the **SMS Emden**

Jacob is building the **Revell 1/350** kit of the **SMS Emden** using the aftermarket **Eduard Photoetch** set (Fig. 11) for the **SMS Emden**.



Fig. 11. **SMS Emden** photoetch set by **Eduard**.



Fig. 12. Work begins on the hull.

The first part of the project is to modify the ship's deck removing details that will be replaced by the photo-etch parts. Plasticard is used to fill the voids and then putty is used to make the surface even.

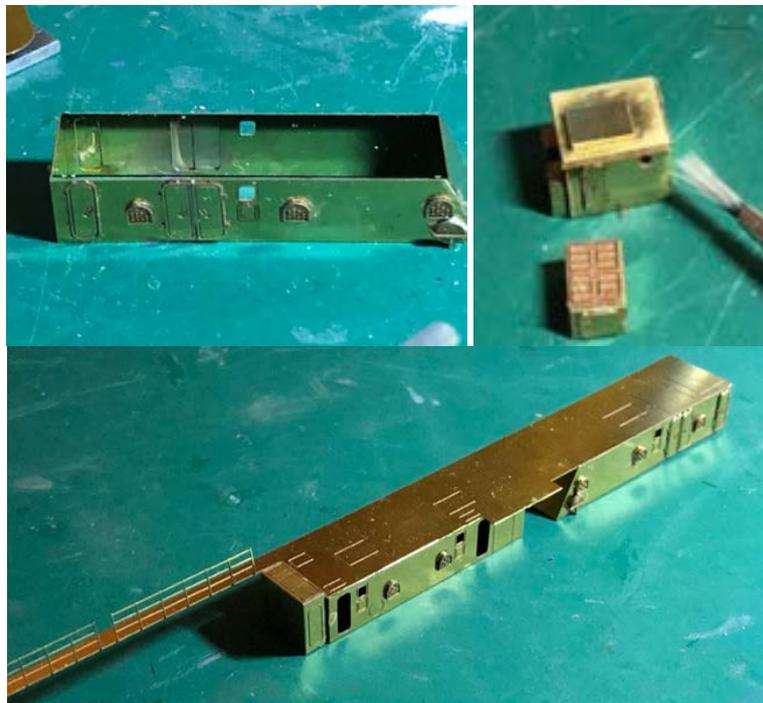


Fig. 13. Assembly of the deck structures begins.



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



2021 Meeting Dates: All in-person club meetings are cancelled by the Los Altos Public Library until further notice. Instead, we are conducting Zoom meetings as an alternative. Stay tuned for further news.



2021 Annual Club Membership

Send in your 2021 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!

2021 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