South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

Website : http://www.sbmodelships.com

The Foghorn

January 2022

Happy New Years!!

Fig. 1. ***USS Constellation*** (1854) in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.(Getty Images/Greg Pease)

Build Models!!

Future Course Headings…

•**Next SBMS meeting Thurs. February 10, 2022, 7:00PM via Zoom and in-person meeting Sat. February 26, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM .** We had our biggest in-person meeting so far this year on January 22 with no less than 7 people showing up with their projects! More on these in the **Show and Tell** below. Boy, it was fun! We even succeeded in establishing a Zoom connection for George Sloup so we now know that can work. The Game Kastle room almost seemed at capacity already. Wow!

Thursday, February 10, 7:00 PM will be our next Zoom meeting. So, keep an eye out for the link from Jim Rhetta. February's in-person meeting will be **Saturday, February 26, 2022** at **2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**. As usual, we will meet at:

The Game Kastle
1350 Coleman Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95050 (Fig. 2)
Pnone: (408) 243-4263

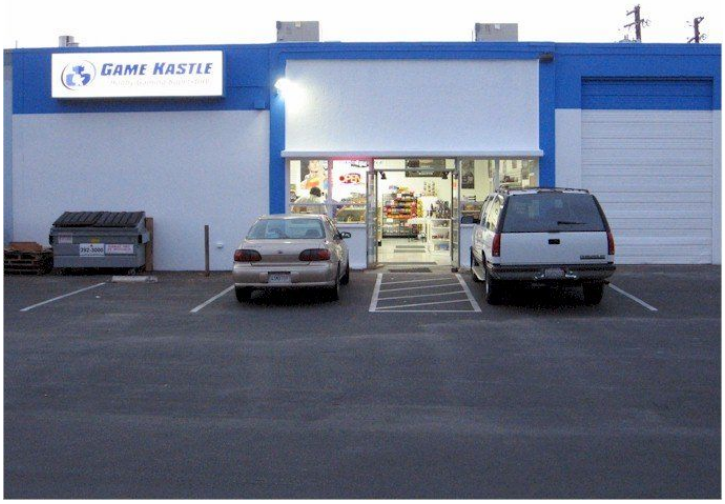

Fig. 2. Entry to the **Game Kastle** store in Santa Clara.

Masks are required by the proprietor and full vaccination is helpful but not checked for. So, get your projects ready to show and tell!

• Museums are opening up!

Great News! I see the museums are starting to open and have been doing so for the past few months! **For the most part, masks are required and being fully vaccinated is helpful.** To see what museums are open, I recommend checking their websites and/or calling. Check the museum list in the included **SBMS Resource Guide** for contact information.

•Saturday, March 26, 2022 9AM-5PM IPMS Silicon Valley Classic VII.

Oh, my goodness, already 2022! Pretty soon we will be sailing around in space ships rather than sea ships. And it's already been happening last year if you've seen the news!

In any case, the **IPMS Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** will be making another attempt to hold their annual **Silicon Valley Classic** scale modeling convention in San Jose this year on **Saturday, March 26. 2022, 9AM-5PM.** As in the past, it will be held at:

Silicon Valley Classic VII
Napredak Hall
770 Montague Expw.
San Jose, CA

Aside from looking at the fine craftsmanship of finished models on display there, much of the fun of this event is to look at what various vendors are offering with new kits. They are always so good at tempting us into our version of sin and debauchery (Fig. 3)!

Fig. 3. Left-**Jacob Cohn** and **Clare Hess** at the 2019 IPMS Silicon Valley Classic convention. Right-Model builders being tempted into our version of sin and debauchery by model vendors at the ***USS Hornet*** during a recent IPMS model-making convention.

Also, while the convention is mostly about plastic modeling, models made from other materials such as wood and paper, etc. are greatly welcomed.

Admission will be $5, and the SBMS will have a display table there where we can talk with attendees about our hobby and put our work on display. Volunteers will be needed to staff our table. And with the falling COVID infection rate, particularly in the Bay Area, things should look promising that this convention could actually happen this time. Most likely, masks will be required and being fully vaccinated will be helpful so bringing your vaccination certification will be a good idea in the unlikely event they will check.

Maritime Matters of the Month

•**A Search for Shackleton's ship, the *Endurance*.** Most everyone knows something of the story of **Ernest Shackleton** and his failed 1914-1917 attempt to cross the Antarctic continent through the South Pole, mostly on foot with a crew of 27 men. Although the expedition did not achieve its goals, their subsequent march out of Antarctica after the sinking of their ship, ***Endurance,*** and eventual rescue of every crew member has become a legendary story of adventure, stamina, and leadership celebrated in articles, books and movies.

Now, an expedition is being launched to search for the whereabouts of the ***Endurance*** at the bottom of the Weddell Sea. The ***Endurance*** (Fig. 4) was a three masted **barquentine** built in Sandefjord, Norway in 1912 for arctic tourism.

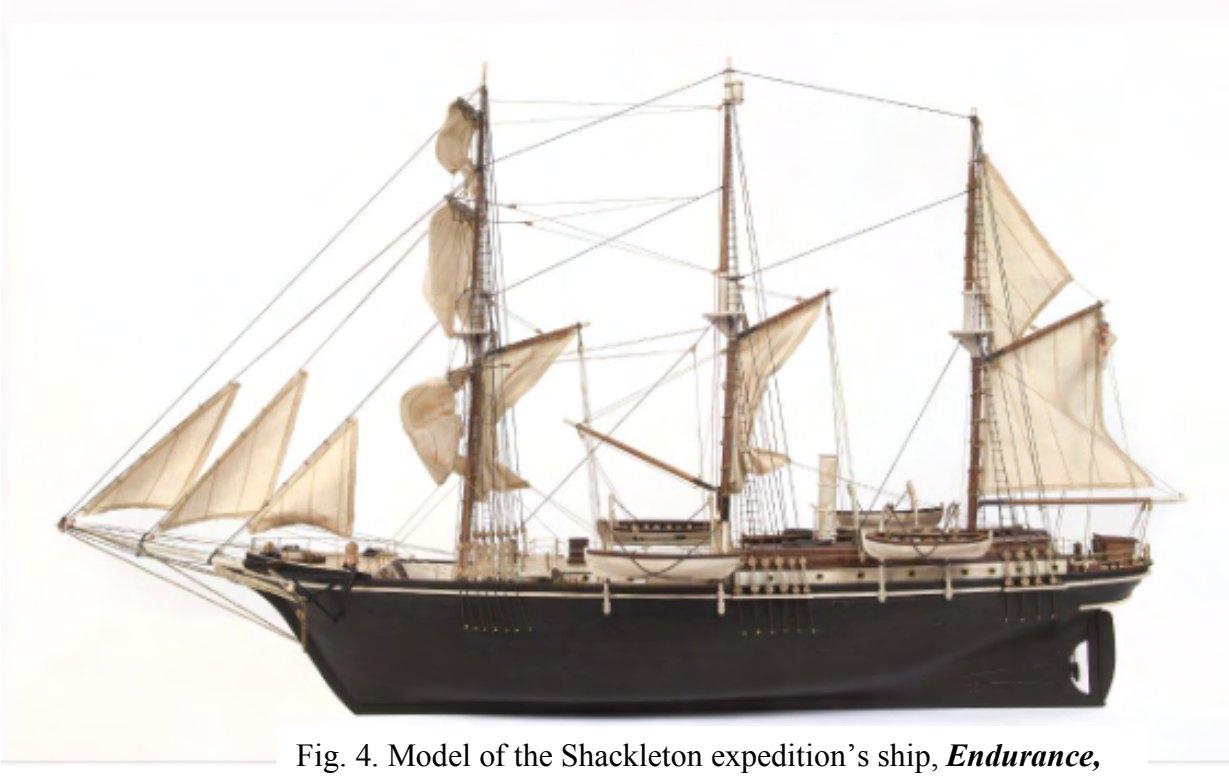

Fig. 4. Model of the Shackleton expedition's ship, ***Endurance,*** from a kit by Occre (Photo courtesy Ages of Sail).

However, the original owners ran into financial difficulties and were forced to sell to Shackleton at a significant discount. She was regarded as ideal for what Shackleton needed due to her extra-strong construction for arctic and antarctic conditions as well as having a steam engine to supplement her sail power.

Shackleton's expedition was named the **"Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition"** and departed British waters in August, 1914. After a stop at South Georgia Island, the expedition sailed into the Weddell Sea in December (summer in the southern hemisphere). The plan was to traverse the Weddell Sea and arrive on the Antarctic shore at Vahsel Bay where a crew of six led by Shackleton would cross the continent to the South Pole and continue on to McMurdo Sound on the opposite side of Antarctica. They would then be picked up by a support ship, the ***Aurora*** and her crew.

Unfortunately, the ***Endurance*** became trapped in sea ice on January 19, 1915 and the expedition was forced to overwinter until the following spring. The movements of the ice in September put much pressure on the hull and water began pouring in on October 24. Shackleton eventually gave the order to abandon ship as the crew off-loaded equipment and provisions onto the ice to begin their arduous journey back via Elephant Island to South Georgia Island. ***Endurance*** finally sank on November 21 (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5. ***Endurance*** sinks as the expedition's sled dogs watch (Photo courtesy of the Royal Geographic Society).

It is estimated that ***Endurance*** rests on the sea floor some 3,000 meters down in very cold waters making it likely that the ship is very well preserved. Beginning in 2001, several parties announced expeditions to find the wreck, but none were implemented.

During the summer of 2018-19 the **Weddell Sea Expedition,** led by **Dr. John Shears,** attempted locating the wreck with an Automated Undersea Vehicle (AUV) but failed when the AUV was lost.

More recently, in July 2021, a new organization named **Endurance22** was announced which will make another attempt this year at locating the ***Endurance*** wreck with different AUVs called **Sabertooths** built by **Saab.** The expedition will, again, be headed by Shears, operating out of the ice-breaking research ship, ***S. A. Agulhas II*** (Fig. 6), which was also used in the last attempt. This attempt is being funded by the **Falklands Maritime Heritage Trust**.

Fig. 6. The research ice breaker ship, ***S. A. Aguilhas II,*** entertaining curious onlookers. Seems oddly formal as everyone is in a tuxedo! (Courtesy Weddell Sea Expedition)

•Making Rope Coils (Ken Lum)

Rope coils are a good way to decoratively tidy up loose rope ends in rigging. Making them reliably typically requires a simple jig made up of a couple of disks that are set up to sandwich the rope ends between the disks while being wound around into a spiral disk. After looking at a post on the **Model Ship World** forum and one YouTube video, I developed an improved method using a couple of 1" clear plexiglass disks with holes drilled through their centers on a mini-lathe to accommodate a 4-40 screw. Wing nuts were then used to squeeze the disks together so the rope end could be wound around the screw in a flat circular spiral fashion between the disks (Fig. 7). 4-40 wing nuts are the smallest such nuts available. A smaller screw would need proper-sized hex nuts instead. The disks are sold by **Plasticraft** in West Nyack, NY.

https://plastic-craft.com/clear-acrylic-disc/

and can be obtained from Amazon as well in various diameters.

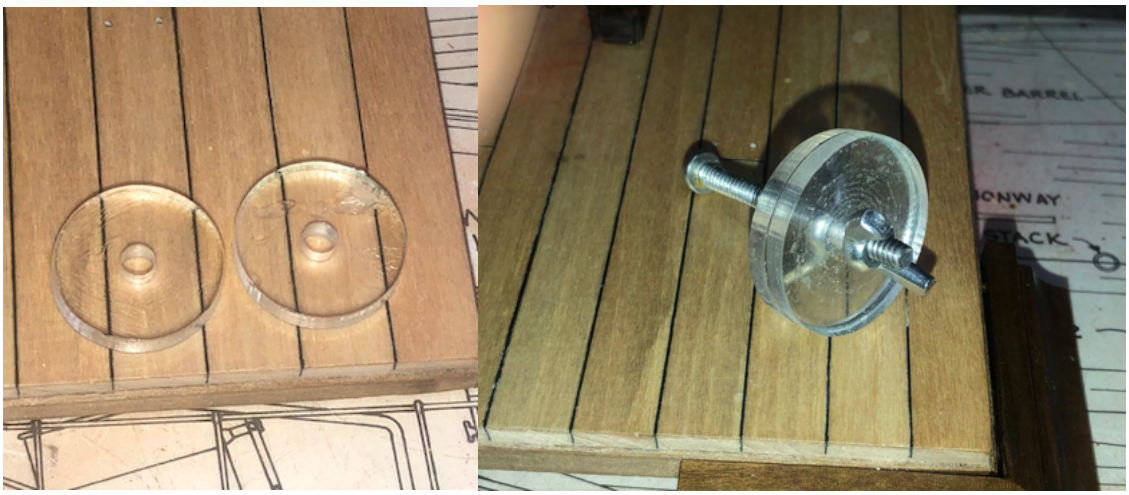

Fig. 7. Jig for making rope coils.

Clear disks were necessary so I could see whether the rope was actually wound in a circular fashion and not accidentally end up being ovoid or otherwise misshapened.

To wind the coil, I started by tying a light thread to the end of the rope to be coiled (Fig. 8. Left).

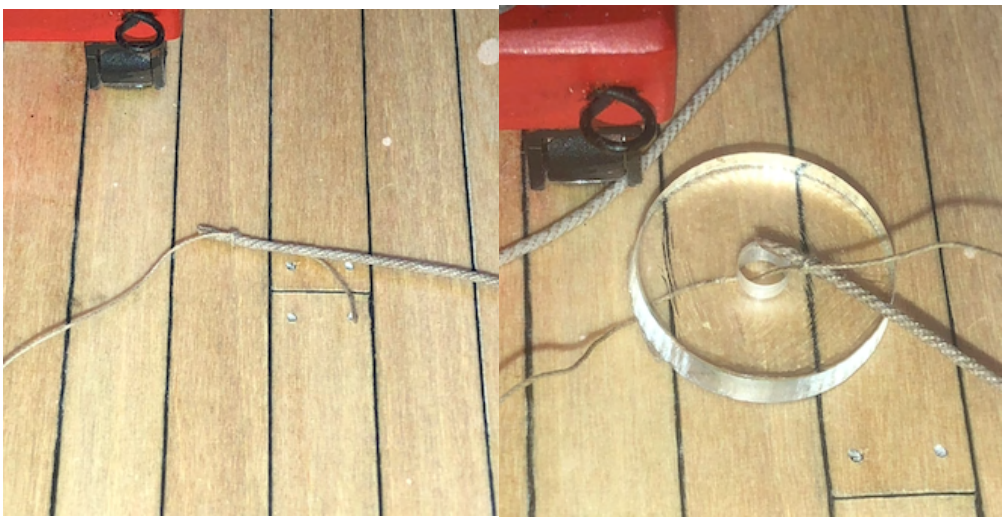

Fig. 8. Left: Tying a light thread on the end of the rope to be coiled. Right: Inserting the light thread into the hole of one of the disks.

The light thread is then inserted into the hole of one of the disks (Fig. 8. Right). This thread can now be used to maintain control of the rope end during the winding. Elmer's white glue is soaked onto the rope end, and then wound around the screw between the disks. (Fig. 9. Left). When the Elmer's glue is dry, the disk on the side of the rope coil that will be glued to the deck is twisted off (Fig. 9. Right) exposing the rope coil.

Fig. 9. Left: Winding the rope end into a flat spiral between the disks. Right: Removing the disk on the side of the rope coil that will be glued to the deck.

As the white glue holding the coil together is not adequate to keep it from unravelling, it will be necessary to reinforce the coil with super glue (Fig. 10. Left). Apply the super glue to the side of the coil that will be glued to the deck as it may stain the rope. Once the coil is glued to the deck, any stains will be hidden under the coil.

Fig. 10. Left: Applying super glue to reinforce the coil. Right: Lifting the coil off the disk with forceps after the super glue has dried.

Once the super glue is dry, the completed rope coil can be removed from its disk support by unscrewing the screw from the completed rope coil (Fig. 10. Right) and gluing it where appropriate (Fig. 11).

Fig. 11. Completed rope

Oh, by the way, should anyone want some of these disks, I have plenty of them as in order to get two, I had to purchase 50 of them so I have many to give away.

•YouTube Modeling Videos of the Month

Le Cerf and Other Single-Masted Naval Revenue Cutters (Fig. 12)(cont.)

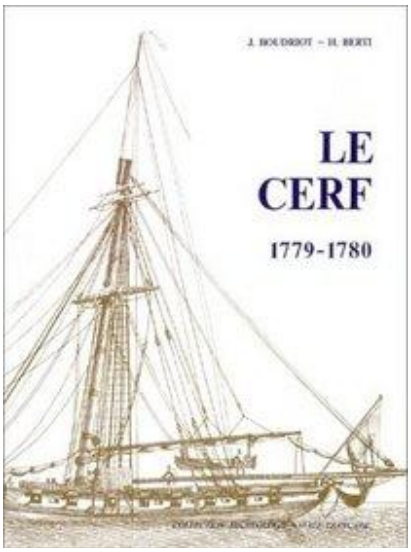

Fig. 12. Boudriot, Jean, ***Le Cerf*** *(The Deer),* 1779-80, ANCRE.

Here is the continuation and conclusion of **Olha Batchvarov's** video build logs of the French cutter, ***Le Cerf,*** that were begun last month.

6. **#6 - Scratch-built ship model - Deck planking - French cutter Le CERF (1779-1780)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=It6XGVAG5CM&t=409s

7. **#7 - Scratch-built ship model - Nailing the Deck - French cutter Le CERF (1779-1780)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wh33eKMf-2c

8. **#8 - Scratch-built ship model – Transom & Channels - French cutter Le CERF (1779-1780)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctHmultA7SA

9. **The French cutter Le Cerf (1779-1780) - monograph ANCRE by J. Boudriot**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzGqKKfVQKI

10. **Clinker boat for the model of the French cutter Le CERF (1779-1780)**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5L1INfp0lM

11. **Making Ship Nails out of Brass Wire and Nailing The Hull**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MG_Lpd9aovA

Under Construction at the Model Shipyard

• Restoration of a Model of the British Brigantine, S. V. Lurline.

Here is another outstanding restoration by **Jim Rhetta**, this time, of a model of the British brigantine, ***S. V. Lurline*** (Fig. 13)***,*** which was lost when she ran aground in 1892. The model is of 1/48 scale originally built by the late SBMS member, **Charlie Parsons**, whose other models are on display at the San Mateo Co. History Museum in Redwood City. The rigging on this model was damaged, and it is now repaired. **Walt Hlavacek** is now building a protective display case for the model. I believe the owners are descendants of Mr. Parsons.

Fig. 13. Restored model of British brigantine, ***S. V. Lurline,*** originally built by Charlie Parsons (Jim Rhetta).

• Models to be given away to anyone wanting to restore and own them.

Ship model owner, **Fred Rose**, is offering these damaged ship models for free to anyone who is interested in restoring and owning them. From left to right in Figure 14 is a **Massachusetts Lighthouse ship**, a ***Flying Cloud*** clipper ship model, and a model of the U. S. Revenue Cutter, ***Joe Lane.*** Contact Jim Rhetta about contact information for Mr. Rose if interested. These could also be nice kid's projects.

Fig. 14. From left to right are some damaged ship models of a **Massachusetts Lighthouse ship**, a clipper ship model of the ***Flying Cloud***, and a model of the U.S. Revenue Cutter ***Joe Lane*** all in need of TLC (Jim Rhetta).

• Model of the schooner *Emma C. Berry* being restored by Jacob Cohn.

Jacob Cohn has taken on the restoration of the schooner model of the ***Emma C. Berry*** (Fig. 15) as discussed in last month's **Foghorn**. Nicely repainted!

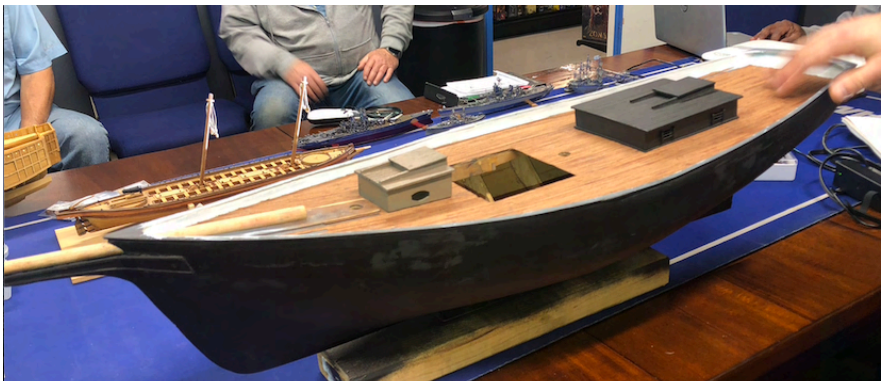

Fig. 15. Jacob Cohn's restoration of the ***Emma C. Berry*** model in progress.

• Metal Earth Photo-etch Metal Models by John Garis.

New SBMS member, **John Garis,** brought by some very unusual models made from photoetched metal sold by **Metal Earth** (Figure 15). Most of these models are assembled without glue using tabs attached to the parts. Here are some pictures of some of these.

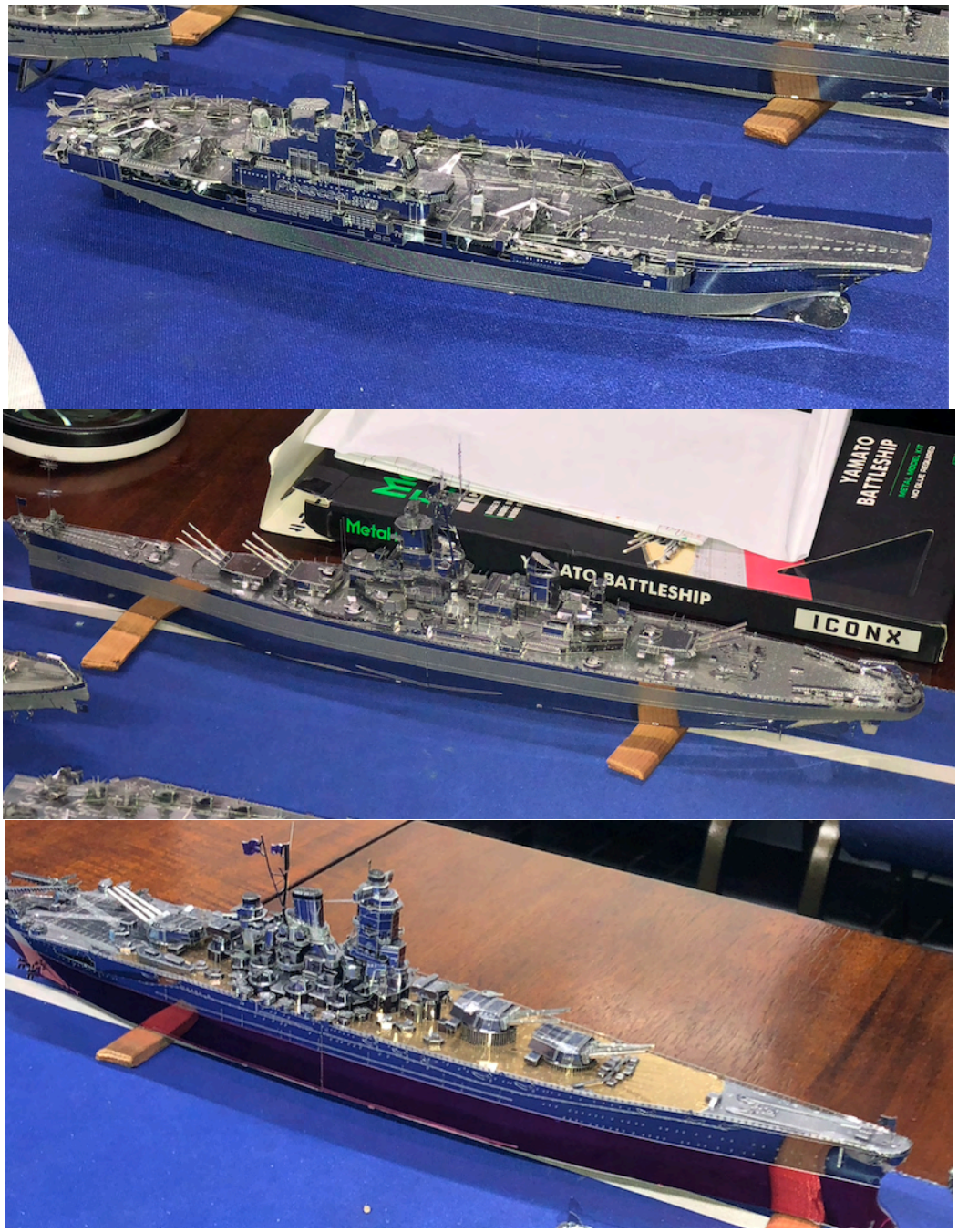

Fig. 15. **Metal Earth** photoetch metal models of (top) the Chinese aircraft carrier, ***Liaoning*****,** (middle) ***USS Missouri***, and (bottom) Japanese battleship, ***Yamato.***

• American Galley Gunboat of 1814 by Clare Hess.

Clare Hess brought in an impressive in-progress model of an American galley gunboat called the ***Arrow*** (Fig. 16) being built from an **Amati** kit. Ships of this type were an important part of the **Battle of Lake Champlain** in 1814. He is now starting to rig the model.

Fig. 16. Model of the ***Arrow,*** an American galley gunboat from the Battle of Lake Champlain in 1814.

• Model of the Ultimate Japanese Houseboat by Clare Hess!

Clare brought in what has to be one of the more bizarre projects I've ever seen! A kind of ultimate Japanese houseboat warship known as an ***"ATAKE BUNE"*** that employed a full complement of oarsmen to row the principle occupant around while enjoying the view from the top and occasionally fighting (Fig. 17). The model comes from a **Woody Joe** kit. This ship type dates from the the end of the **Muromachi period** (1336 to 1568) to the beginning of the **Edo period (**1603-1869).

Fig. 17. Model of an ***"ATAKE BUNE"*** houseboat warship built from a Woody Joe kit.

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

2022 Annual Club Membership

Send in your 2022 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!

2022 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