

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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



Future Course Headings...

- **Next SBMS Meetings Saturday, August 13, (3PM-5PM) (In-Person) and Thursday, August 25, 7PM (Zoom)-Ken Lum.** With great sadness, I was informed by Lou Cierra's wife, Patricia, that Lou passed away March 4, 2021 last year. For that reason, Patricia contacted me to take away his old ship modeling wood and tools. Our thanks to Lou's family for donating his modeling items. Lou was an active model builder who built a model of the paddle

wheel steam schooner, **Guinara**, from a **Krick** kit which is pictured in the July, 2018 **Foghorn** and below (Fig. 2). He was often at our meetings until the pandemic came and will be missed. We spent our July 9 in-person meeting mostly distributing his model building items to good homes.



Fig. 2. Model of the paddle wheel steamer, **Guinara**, from a **Krick** kit by **Lou Cierra**.

Our next **in-person** meeting will be at the **Game Kastle** at:

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

Saturday, August 13, 3 PM-5 PM. As usual, bring your projects to share.

And then, our next **Zoom** meeting will be on **Thursday, August 25, 7 PM.**

- **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

•**IPMS Silicon Valley Classic VII, Saturday, September 10, 2022, 9AM-5PM.** Well, here we go again! Maybe fourth time (or thereabouts) is a charm! The **IPMS Silicon Valley Scale Modelers** will be making another attempt to hold their annual **Silicon Valley Classic** scale modelling convention in San Jose (Fig. 3) this year on **Saturday, September 10, 2022, 9AM-5PM.** As in the past, it will be held at:

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



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 2021 IPMS model-making convention.

The SBMS will have a table to display the products of our labors along with invitations for others to join our group. So, bring your best and partly finished stuff for showing off and for having fun. Of course, we will need volunteers to crew the table so come, if you can, and spend a bit of time with us to help promote our hobby.

Admission will be \$5. The COVID rules are as yet unclear. For the time being, I would bring a mask in case you need it and a copy of your vaccination record. **Oh, can it be, can it really beee finallee...!?**



Maritime Matters of the Month

•**Sale of Jerry Blair's stuff.** After many years of semi-professional and very expert ship modeling (Fig. 4 for an example), long-

time SBMS member, **Jerry Blair** is hanging up his spurs to retire. This is sad news, indeed, but I suppose all good things do come to an end.



Fig. 4. Jerry Blair's brilliantly constructed model of the *S.S. Keewatin*, formerly owned by the **Canadian Pacific Steamship Company**. Built in 1907, she transported cargo and passengers around the Canadian Great Lakes. She is now in **Port McNicoll, Ontario, Canada** awaiting plans to convert her into a maritime museum. She is even pictured on the Google maps rendition of the town.

For this reason, Jerry is putting his tools up for sale at heavily discounted prices. As can be seen, Jerry was a supremely expert ship modeler. I am sure anyone using his tools will have some of his magic rub off on them!

Pictured below are the tools he is offering for sale along with estimated prices. Please contact Walt Hlavacek at: hlavacek.walt@gmail.com if you are interested. As of this writing, I am not sure which tools are still available. Best to contact Walt about that.

- Micro Mark Microlux Table Saw # 80463. \$ 240 This is a model makers tilt arbor table saw (Fig 5).
- Model Maker (Multi-Saw / Jig Saw) with bench mount \$120 (Fig 5).



Fig. 5. (Left) Microlux Table Saw, (Right) Multi-Saw / Jig Saw

- Variable Speed Grinder (small)
Ref Micro Mark # 85287. \$ 35
w/o flex shaft. May have adapter flex shaft in boxes (Fig. 6)
- Model Maker - 1" Belt sander w/ 5" disc \$ 90 (Fig. 6)



Fig. 6. (Left) Variable Speed Grinder, (Right) Belt and disc sander

- Micro Detail hand sander with some tips Micro Mark # 81266.
\$ 45 (Fig. 7)



Fig. 7. Micro Detail hand sander

- Delta Band Saw (9") \$ 65 (Fig. 8)

Infinitely variable speeds are in three ranges: low (0-5000rpm), medium (0-6500rpm) and high (0-8500rpm)



Fig. 8. Delta Band Saw

- Grobet Bench Top Drill Press, Item No. 28.618. \$ 70 (Fig. 9)

Infinitely variable speeds are in three ranges: low (0-5000rpm), medium (0-6500rpm) and high (0-8500rpm)

- 8" mini Shear / Brake combo. \$ 50 (Fig. 9)



Fig. 9. (Left) Bench Top Drill Press, (Right) 8" mini Shear / Brake combo

- Chop Saw. \$ 40. Micro Mark # 84656 (Fig. 10)



Fig. 10. Chop Saw

- 3 speed drill press \$ 120 (Fig. 11)



Fig. 11. 3 speed drill press

- **Video of Costa Concordia salvage.**

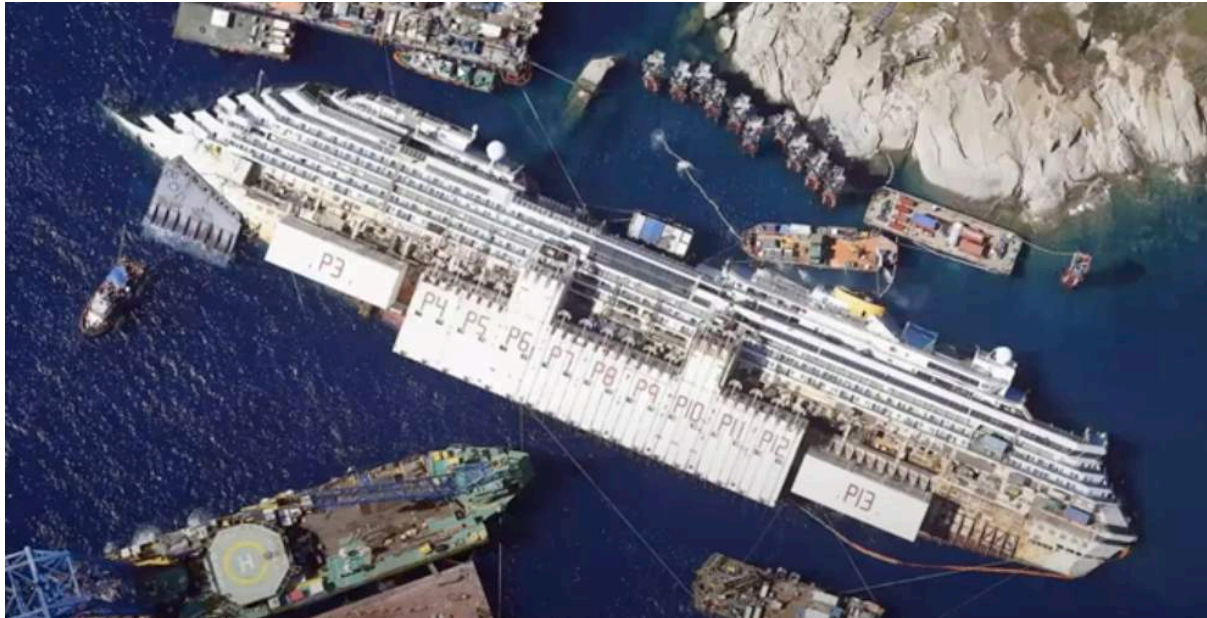


Fig. 12. The *Costa Concordia* lying on its starboard side as the world's biggest beached whale during salvage operations. (Paris Mangriotis)

On January 13, 2012, the Italian cruise ship, **Costa Concordia**, ran aground on the shore of the island of **Giglio** off the coast of Tuscany, Italy (Fig. 12.). The ship was carrying 4,252 (3,206 passengers; 1,023 crew and personnel) people at the time. Tragically, 32 people died in the grounding. The captain, **Francesco Schettino**, is currently serving a 16 year prison sentence for his role in the disaster.

The subsequent refloating and scrapping of the ship cost in excess of \$2 billion and the latter was carried out in the port of Genoa. The task was not finished until 2017. About 53,000 tons of material was recycled. So, on your next vacation to Italy, consider whether the refrigerator in your hotel room has any bit of **Costa Concordia** in it!

This riveting video, titled “**Technical Challenges Encountered during the Costa Concordia Wreck Removal**” was done by **Mr. Paris Mangriotis**, a naval architect in London, U.K., telling the dramatic story of how the ship ran aground and how the biggest marine salvage operation of all time was carried out. It was broadcast by the **Wellington Trust** on July 11, 2022 and deserves your undivided attention. It's sooo... much better than the movie, “**Raise the Titanic**” (1980)!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MA5BRqxKNyg>



Methods to Our Maritime Madness

•**YouTube Modelling Videos of the Month.**

Photoetch Treatise

More videos on using **photoetch** have been posted on YouTube of late. Some especially good ones are from **FineScale Modeler** magazine. Naturally, there are others not listed here that also show helpful techniques, and they can be searched for on YouTube. But these are the ones that caught my attention.

1. Photo Etch Removal : Tutorial This video shows a very clever, but basic tool for cutting photoetch parts. The device is a kind of “Why didn’t I think of that?” item (Fig. 13). The tool can also be used for bending photoetch. If you should want to purchase one of these instead of making one, it, and/or other photoetch tools, can be purchased from **The Small Shop** at: <https://thesmallshop.com>



Fig. 13. Photoetch cut off tool for cutting such parts (Genessis-Models.co.uk)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TiZ_7qba4k

Below are excellent **FineScale Modeller** magazine videos on photoetch technique. There is much to learn here that can be incorporated into whatever techniques you use.

2. Scale Model Basics: Bending photo-etched metal (Fig. 14)



Fig. 14. Bending photoetch with a razor blade against a steel ruler. (FineScale Modeler)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtXytEkJ0YE>

Micromark (<https://www.micromark.com>) and **The Small Shop** (<https://thesmallshop.com>) sell photoetch bending tools that enable this same technique.

3. Scale Model Basics: Annealing photo-etched metal parts (Fig. 15)



Fig. 15. Heating a piece of photoetch to soften it for easier bending and shaping. (FineScale Modeler)

Annealing is heating a piece of photoetch with a butane torch or hot plate to soften the metal so it can be bent and shaped more easily. This video does a nice job of showing how.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzOjETON828>

4. Scale Model Basics: Soldering Photo-etched Metal (Fig. 16)



Fig. 16. Soldering photoetch parts.
(FineScale Modeler)

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

5. Scale Model Basics: Painting photo-etched metal parts (Fig. 17)



Fig. 17. Painting brass. (FineScale

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

To complete what amounts to a kind of treatise on working with photoetch for this issue of the **Foghorn**, I am copying a couple of articles previously published in prior **Foghorns** to provide comprehensive coverage of the many ways in which photoetch parts can be handled.

6. Painting Brass

How to paint photo-etched parts - VMS METAL PREP 4K metal primer:

Here is a demo of a very good metal primer that greatly improves the adherence of paint to metal. (Fig. 18)



Fig. 18. Improving paint adherence with VMS Metal Prep 4K primer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4A92rxxe0>

A Method for Installing Brass Photoetch Parts to Models

Brass photoetched (PE) parts have now become a staple of super-detailing for many kinds of models, but most especially models of modern steel ships. These kinds of parts are extremely delicate and easily distorted when picking them up with fingers or tweezers. Plus, they have no ability to spring back to shape if accidentally bent. Because of this and their small size, they can be a challenge to install (Fig. 19).



Fig. 19. A set of PE rails on a fret.



Fig. 20. Black and White glass pieces used for cutting and manipulating PE.

Recently, I finished a model that required the installation of an extensive system of hand rails in 1/700 scale, a common scale for plastic steel ship models. Although what I worked on is not a ship model, the method I developed is completely applicable to small scale plastic ship models of mostly steel ships commonly found in 1/200, 1/350, and 1/700 scale especially.

I started by ordering some 1/700 PE hand rails from a variety of Internet hobby providers (Fig. 19). Then, I watched some YouTube videos of other model builders installing brass rails and other parts to their models to get some ideas. I found only one to be that helpful for ship models, by [TheMuseumModeler](#) (check hyperlink). But his rails seemed of an older vintage and thicker and more robust than the very thin, delicate, and more realistic rails available today and easier to install than the newer ones.

To cut the PE, I got a couple of black and white glass samples from a local glass supplier (Fig. 20). I found the black glass to enhance the visibility of unpainted PE whereas the white glass enhanced the visibility of painted PE. The glass also provides a hard surface on which to cut the PE using a #10 curved X-Acto blade or small curved edge surgical scalpel (Fig. 21). Be careful not to cause the cut piece to flick off into oblivion by gently holding it down or using a plastic dome to constrain where it goes.



Fig. 21. Cutting PE with a scalpel on black glass.



Fig. 22. Tacky glues

Most modelers glue PE in place using cyanoacrylate (CA) super glue. But this glue dries very fast often before one has an opportunity to maneuver the PE into its proper position. I imagined that if I could only make the plastic surface just slightly tacky without causing the PE to permanently bond, then I could have all the time needed to position the PE properly.

I initially considered using sugar water to make the plastic surface tacky. But I realized that could cause my model to become crewed by an army of ants! Instead, I found two glues that could make a surface tacky without making a permanent glue bond (Fig. 22). **Aleene's Tack-it Over and Over** can be gotten from Amazon. **Detail Tack** is sold by Micro-Mark. Both work very well.

I placed a glue droplet on an index card and scooped up a bit on a disposable microbrush swab (Item #: 8317M) from Micro-Mark (Fig. 23). Then I painted a glue line on the place where I wanted to place the PE (Fig. 24).



Fig. 23. Picking up a bit of tacky glue on a disposable paint brush.

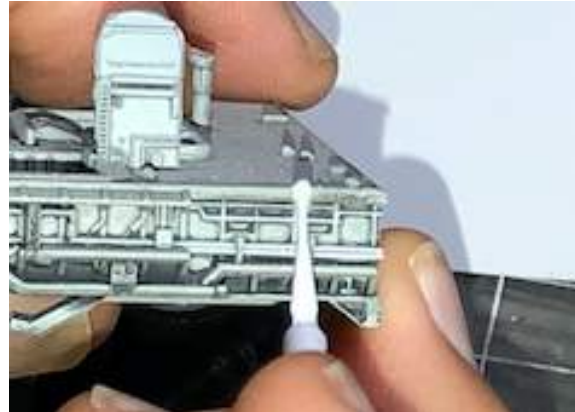


Fig. 24. Painting a line of tacky glue on the edge of a model.

As mentioned above, the current PE railing offerings are much more delicate than ones from prior years making them susceptible to damage by fingers or tweezers. To solve this problem, I got some **Pulpdent Pic-n-Stic** which are a sort of Q-tip with a sticky cotton tip (Fig. 25) allowing the PE to be picked up without having to squeeze it.



Fig. 25. Picking up a PE rail with a **Pic-n-Stic**.



Fig. 26. Precise placement of the PE rail where it belongs sticking via tacky glue.

The stickiness of the **Pic-n-Stic** can be reduced by rubbing skin oil into the cotton tip by rolling it between one's finger tips to make it easier to release the PE onto it's designated site. With this, there is plenty of time to maneuver the PE precisely into its desired location with tweezers or a needle on a dowel handle (Fig. 26).

Now the PE joint with the plastic base can be made permanent by applying a small amount of **super thin CA glue** with applicators made from sewing needles where the eyes of the needles have been half cut off (Fig. 27) allowing the glue to be taken up on the applicator via capillary action and then applied on the joint also via capillary action (Fig. 28).



Fig. 27. CA glue applicators made from half clipping the eyes of sewing needles.



Fig. 28. Applying super thin CA glue to the PE rail joint with the plastic base. The glue gets into the joint via capillary action.

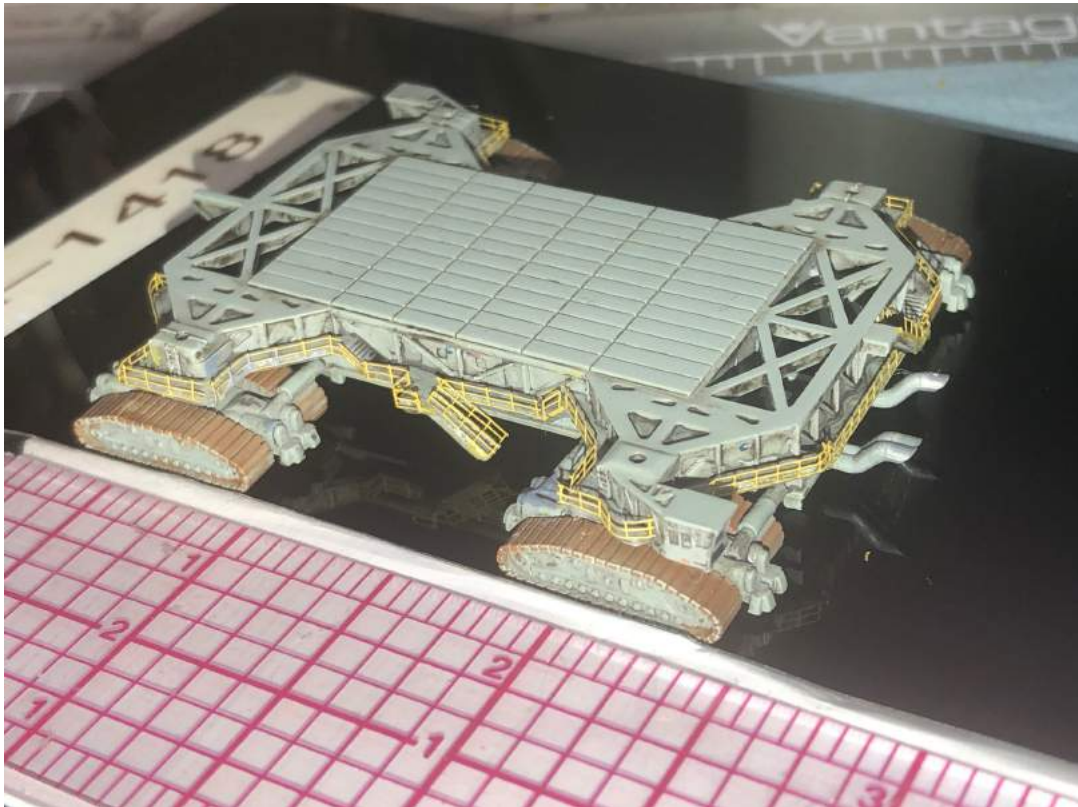


Fig. 29. An example of the near-perfect placement of 1/700 scale yellow hand rails on a circumferential catwalk of a space shuttle crawler-transporter using this method.

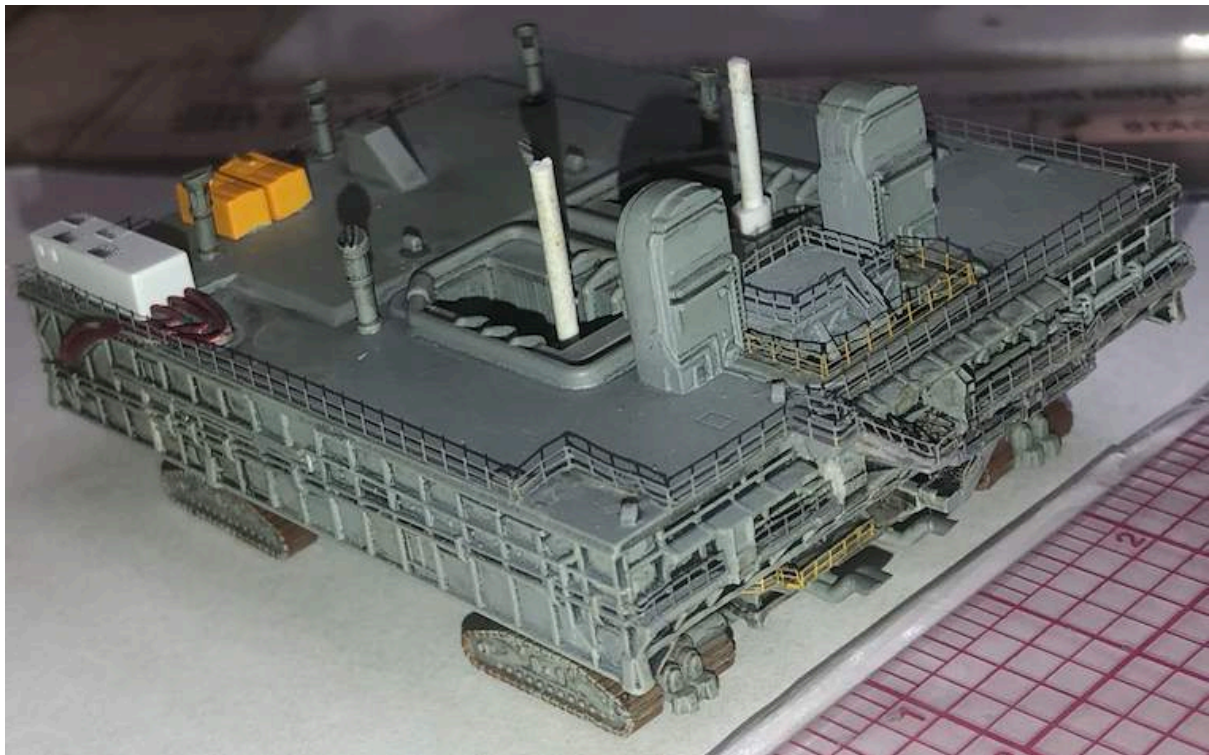


Fig. 30. Excellent example of placement of 1/700 handrails on a space shuttle launch platform.

Although these are not ship models, they do illustrate what can be done with this method of applying small scale handrails and any other PE detail to any model. Boy, 1/700 takes good eyes! With the carronade, I am moving up the scale ladder to an easier modelling life!



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard



Fig. 31. Installation of the smoke stacks on Jacob Cohn's 1/700 scale *USS Salem* as originally described in the June **Foghorn**.



Fig. 32. Jacob Cohn's 1/700 scale model of *SMS Lützow* German WW 1 period battlecruiser from **Flyhawk**. The deck superstructure is in front and the waterline hull is behind.



Fig. 33. 1/250 Paper model of a WW 1 vintage German U boat, the ***U-35***, by the Polish manufacturer, JSC. Model built by George Sloup. The ***U-35*** was the most successful German submarine of WW 1 having sunk 220 merchant ships totaling 505,119 [gross register tons](#) (GRT) all in the Mediterranean.

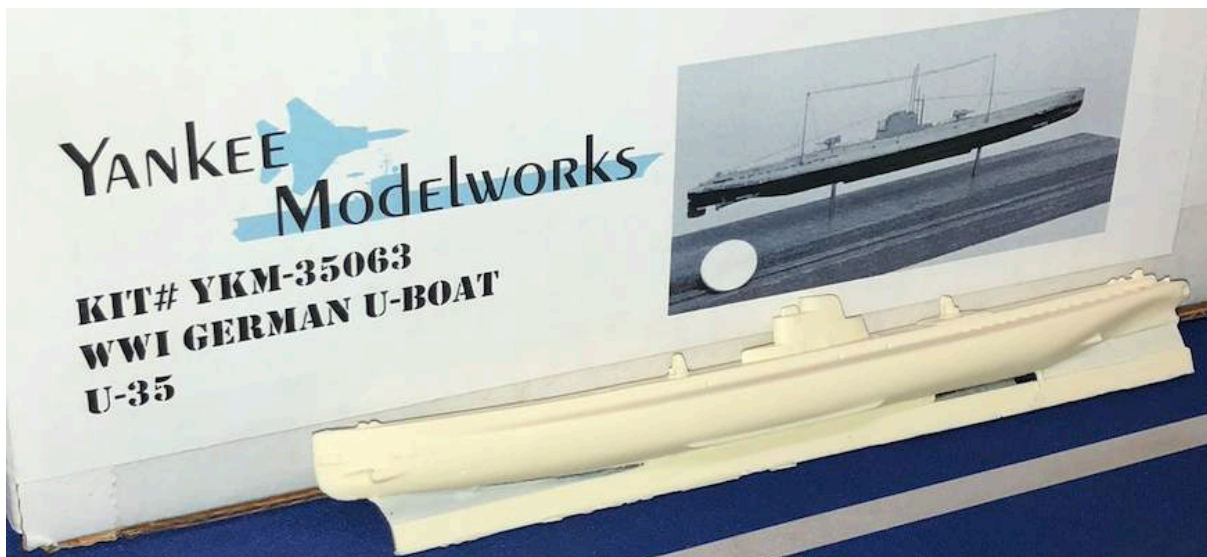


Fig. 34. 1/350 scale resin kit of the same submarine as above by Yankee Modelworks. Model also belongs to George Sloup.



Fig. 35. Continuing progress on Jim Rhetta's *Candelaria* bomb ketch.



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