

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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

The Foghorn

March 2023



Fig.1. Extraordinarily well-preserved silk gown recovered from the **Palmwood** (also named **Burgzand Noord 17**) shipwreck off the island of Texel about 55 miles north of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The wreck is dated to no earlier than 1636. More on this wreck below. (Kees Zwaan/Courtesy Province of North Holland)



Fig.2. Using a cross-staff (Courtesy Interfoto)



Future Course Headings...

- **Upcoming SBMS meetings for April. In-person mtg. Saturday, April 8 at the Game Kastle; Zoom mtg. Thursday, April 20, 7PM.**

Oh, the weather has been playing hide and seek with us again, and intermittent rain forced us into Zoom mode March 11. But we did have a pretty good turnout of six or seven people, and had a lively discussion about our projects. **George Sloup** has made considerable progress on rigging his paper model of the 17th Century *Papegojan*. And **Ken Lum** is on the verge of completing his model of a naval carronade (but he's always on the verge!). **Jacob Cohn** joined us on the road via his phone on the way to southern California. In the meantime, **Clare Hess** has started work on the **Woody Joe** kit of the *Charles Royal Yacht* which looks really terrific! **Jim Tortorici** continues to make progress on his *USS Constitution* cross-section. Finally, **Jim Rhetta** is finishing up another restoration project which is a four-masted barque.

We will make another brave (or reckless) attempt at an in-person meeting on **Saturday, April 8, 2 PM** at the **Game Kastle** in Santa Clara at:

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

And our Zoom meeting will be Thursday, **April 20, 7PM**. I will send the Zoom specs out near the time just before the meeting. So, back to work!

- **Upcoming Online NRG Workshops**



The Nautical Research Guild

The NRG has announced a series of very interesting **online workshops** relevant to ship modelling. They are **open only to NRG**

members so if you are not now a member, I would take this as a good excuse to join this marvelous organization by registering at the NRG website (<https://thenrg.org>) and make a contribution to keeping it afloat(!).

All the workshops are broadcast on **Zoom** on **Saturday mornings** at 10:30 AM Central time (**8:30 AM Pacific time**). All of them are being recorded, and the recordings will be accessible on the NRG website to members only. The dates and topics of the upcoming workshops are below:

March 18 and April 15: Paper models. This two-part workshop on paper models by the **Society of Model Shipwrights** in the U.K. has already started, but the first one has been recorded and will be posted soon.

June 17: Diorama Watercrafting presented by **Ron Neilson**.

July 15: Online Resources in Nautical Research presented by **Paul Fontenoy**.

There is no registration necessary if you are an NRG member. The **NRG Secretary, J. D. Bondy** (jdbondy007@gmail.com), will send out the Zoom link to all members near the time of the event. Any further inquiries can be sent to Mr. Bondy or to the **Office manager, Mary Van Dahm** (nrghomeoffice@gmail.com). Other previous workshops have also been recorded and can be accessed by NRG members on the NRG website at: <https://thenrg.org/events/workshops>.



Maritime Matters of the Month

- **Discovery of Remarkably Well Preserved Artifacts from 17th Century Dutch Shipwreck.** An exhibition of extraordinarily well-preserved artifacts recovered from a 17th Century shipwreck near the island of **Texel** off the coast of the Netherlands about 55 miles north of Amsterdam has opened at the **Museum Kaap Skil** which is located on the island. The shipwreck, named **Palmwood** (also named **Burgzand Noord 17**), is actually one of many surrounding Texel as it was used as a stopover point during the age of sail where goods from merchant ships would be unloaded into smaller boats to be taken to Amsterdam which did not have facilities to accommodate the larger ships. However, the weather around Texel tends to be volatile due to its

exposure to the North Sea, and many ships have been lost over the centuries from storms and swells.

The wreck yielding these artifacts is estimated to have been sunk no earlier than 1636 as a cross-staff was found marked with that year in it (Fig. 3). The ship was buried in sand to a depth of around 30 ft. which helped the preservation in a hypoxic environment. Members of an amateur diving club found the wreck in 2014 and recovered many of its artifacts. After years of conservation and cataloguing, many of the items are now on display at the museum. They give an indication of the global extent of the trade conducted at that time of the **Dutch East India Co. (Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie or VOC)**.



Fig. 3. Part of a cross-staff with a date label of 1636 from the Palmwood shipwreck. (Heerlen Restaura/Courtesy Province of North Holland)

Without a doubt, the most unbelievable artifacts are two dresses, one made of silk (Fig. 1 and 4), and another of silk and silver thread (Fig. 5) that survived being in the ocean for over an estimated 370 years!



Fig. 4. Recovered silk dress on display at the **Museum Kaap Skil**.
(Courtesy Museum Kaap Skil)



Fig.5. Silk and silver wedding dress. (Courtesy Museum Kaap Skil)

Corina Hordijk, the artistic director at the museum, is quoted as saying, “The thought that this dress was on the bottom of the sea for centuries is insane. The last person who touched it before this was probably the person who wore it.”

Other incredibly well-preserved items are shown below.



Fig. 6. Knotted silk and wool carpet, found in fragments, possibly made in the city of Lahore in present-day Pakistan indicating the geographic extent of trade conducted by the **Dutch East India Company (VOC)**. (Margareta Svensson/Courtesy Province of North Holland)



Fig. 7. Well -preserved **Silk Purse**. (Kees Zwaan/Courtesy Province of North Holland)



Fig. 8. Highly decorated metal ball that may be a pomander originally containing fragrant material meant to hide foul odors or a button or both. (Kees Zwaan/Courtesy Province of North Holland)



Fig. 9. Leather book cover with the Stuart coat of arms. The paper contents have disintegrated. (Heerlen Restaura/Courtesy Province of North Holland)

To date, the identity of the ship and its owner remains unknown. But the luxurious nature of these items suggest a connection with people of very high status. The presence of a book cover embossed with the **Stuart coat of arms** also suggest a connection with the **English Royal Family** at the time (Fig.9). Exploration of the wreck continues and more artifacts may yet be retrieved. Anyone headed for a vacation in Holland should try and make a visit to the **Museum Kaap Skil** to see these amazing finds.

The museum also has an excellent diorama of Texel in its heyday complete with many very accurate ship models as they awaited unloading (Fig.10).



Fig.10. Diorama of Texel in the 17th Century showing many models of ships awaiting unloading. (Courtesy Museum Kaap Skil)

References:

News Stories:

New York Times:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/14/world/europe/shipwreck-dress-netherlands.html>

Archeology: <https://www.archaeology.org/issues/296-1805/features/6507-netherlands-texel-shipwreck>

Museum Kaap Skil: <https://kaapskil.nl/en/>

Videos:

17th-century dress recovered from shipwreck:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--oVCEpp7GI>

Four Centuries on the Seabed, The Dresses from the Palmwood Wreck I Museum Kaap Skil (Narrated in Dutch with English translation via closed captioning):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTCAw3sXxJg&t=54s>



Kit News (Ken Lum): During our last Zoom meeting, Clare Hess informed us about several new kits entering the market. They are all available from the **Ages of Sail** hobby shop in San Lorenzo and prices are from Ages of Sail.

- **SANSON TUGBOAT - NEWLY REVISED KIT (ARTESANIA LATINA, 1:50)-\$199.99**



Fig. 11. Completed model of the tugboat, *Sanson*, from **Artesania Latina**. The model can take radio control, electric LED lights and a smoke generator. (Artesania Latina)

- **HERCULES TUGBOAT (OCCRE 1:30) - \$385.00**



Fig. 12. **Occre** model of the tugboat, *Hercules*. Also capable of RC and other electrical features. (Occre)

This tugboat spent her working days carrying out towing duties in and around San Francisco Bay and the Pacific. She was designated a National Historic Monument in 1986 and became part of the exhibition collection at the **San Francisco Maritime Museum**. Fig.13 shows her moored at the museum. The model looks to be a very accurate rendition not to mention that any local model builder will have excellent access to research sources.



Fig. 13. The tugboat *Hercules* at Hyde Street Pier in San Francisco. (Julia Sumangil)

- **GONDOLA, THE JEWEL OF VENICE (AMATI, 1:22)-\$129**



Fig. 14. Venetian Gondola model from Amati. (Amati)

- ***HMS Indefatigable* (1794) (Vanguard Models 1:64)-£ 1350 (\$1665).**



Fig. 15. *HMS Indefatigable* is a superb model kit of a British 44-gun razeed frigate cut down from a 64-gun ship-of-the-line. It's a very expensive kit due to the high quality of materials and superior design. But if you are spending months to years building the model, it may be worth it. (Vanguard Models)



Methods to Our Maritime Madness

- **Making Flags for Ship Models.**



Fig.16. The addition of flags shaped like they are waving in the wind can add a dynamic feel to a static ship model. **Shipyards** card model of *HMS Alert* built by Clare Hess. (Courtesy Clare Hess)

Adding flags to a static ship model can give a very dynamic feel to the model (Fig. 16). Paper flags are usually supplied as mirror-image paper prints that can be folded around a flag pole or flag halyard, glued, and then folded to simulate it waving in the wind. However, sandwiching a sheet of aluminum foil between the leaves can make this process easier as the foil enables the flag to more malleable and hold its shape better (Fig. 17).



Fig. 17. Sandwiching a piece of aluminum foil between flag leaves to make the flag more malleable so it better holds whatever shape you want. (Courtesy An Extrovert)

This video gives a good demonstration of this technique using ordinary PVA glue (Elmer's glue) to glue the leaves together.

How to Make Realistic Flags for 28mm Miniatures (Technique Tutorial): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7bjEkFDqAs>

The video also recommends a couple of good suppliers of miniature flags usually sold to war gamers.

Flags of War: <https://www.flagsofwar.com>

GMB Designs: <https://gmbdesigns.com>



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard

Ah Ha!! Ken Lum's English Carronade model is finally finished! And fully secured in its case, now ready for display (Fig.18). Time to move on to another project!





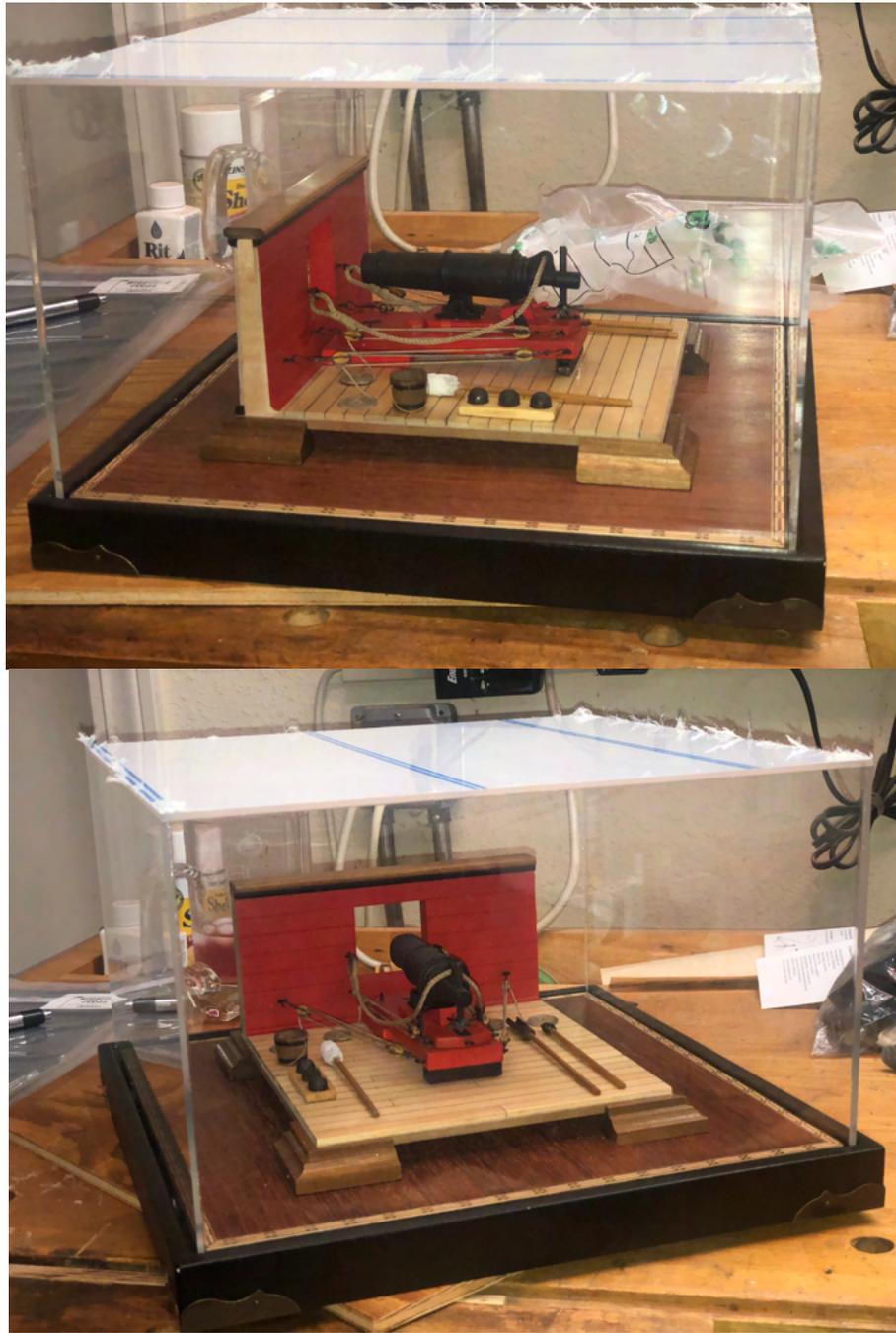


Fig. 18. Completed Carronade model in its case!!



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