

# South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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

## The Foghorn

September 2023



Fig.1. **World Maritime Day** is meant to recognize the importance of the maritime industry. It promotes innovations in the industry to improve maritime security, maritime environment, safety, and shipping. The day is marked every year on the last Thursday of September. This year it is on **September 28, 2023** and is emphasizing the prevention and minimizing of **marine pollution** due to operations or accidents via the **International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)** adopted in 1973-1978 by the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** following a series of tanker accidents in 1976-77. Unfortunately, it did not prevent the **Exxon Valdez** oil spill incident in 1989. But everyone is reminded to keep trying to do better!



**MARPOL AT 50**  
OUR COMMITMENT GOES ON





## *Future Course Headings...*

- **Upcoming SBMS meetings for October. The In-person mtg. for Saturday, October 14 will NOT be held as we will be at the Good Sam Showcase of Minatures instead; we will still have our Zoom mtg. Thursday, October 26, 7PM.**

As noted above, the SBMS will conduct our annual exhibition of models by our members at the **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures** in San Jose **October 14-15** rather than have an in-person meeting at the Game Kastle. I hope all those with finished models are able to show off their handiwork at this important event so as to demonstrate the skill of those in our club. We had a great turnout last year and looking for a similar participation this year. See the announcement below for more details on this event.

Otherwise, we will also have our usual Zoom meeting as scheduled for **Thursday, October 26, 7PM**. We had a great in-person meeting on September 9 with many show-and-tell as detailed below in the **Model Shipyard** section. Looking ahead to more as we move forward!

- **San Francisco Fleet Week, October 2-10.**



After cancellation by the COVID pandemic and some bad weather, our annual visit to San Francisco by ships of the US Navy, the Blue Angels, and other aviation demonstration groups will resume during these dates.

The **Parade of Ships** with US Navy ships passing under the Golden Gate Bridge will happen on **Friday, October 6 from 11 AM-12PM**. Then the spectacular **Blue Angels** and other aviation demonstrations will perform on the afternoons of **Friday, October 6; Saturday, October 7; and Sunday, October 8** (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. The Navy's **Blue Angels** flying over the Golden Gate Bridge.  
(Timothy Shumaker, US Navy)

While the show can be observed for free anywhere on the north shore of San Francisco, ticketed reserved box seats can be purchased to provide a better view on the Marina Green. As always in San Francisco, parking is an issue so early arrival to find a parking space is essential.

More on this event and ticket purchase can be found at:

<https://fleetweeksf.org>

## • **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures, October 14 and 15.**



Fig. 3. Poster for the **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures**. (Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures)

This annual convention of mostly dollhouse miniatures in San Jose is scheduled this year for the weekend of **October 14 and 15** (Fig. 3). Last year, we had a very successful display of almost a dozen ship models from the SBMS. The event will be held at:

**Doubletree Hotel, San Jose**

**2050 Gateway Place**

**San Jose, CA 95110**

**Website: <https://goodsamshowcase.org>**

This year, the dates of **Fleet Week** and the **Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures** do not interfere with each other so it should be possible to attend both events. Although the deadline for registration of your model was September 15, you can try to contact **Ms. Rhona Lee** at [rhonalee@aol.com](mailto:rhonalee@aol.com) to see if you can still register a model. I have sent out registration forms earlier, but if you still need one, you can contact me at [lum40@comcast.net](mailto:lum40@comcast.net) and I can email you one.

Hope to see you all at this great event one way or another!

• **MAKER FAIRE Returns, Mare Island, October 13-15 and October 20-22, 11AM-6 PM.** It has been a few years since we have had a **Maker Faire** convention (Fig.4). The initial series of these annual events for DYIers had been at the San Mateo Expo, but that is now out of business since 2019 as best as I can remember and find out



Fig. 4. Lego ship models at the 2013 **Maker Faire**.

However, Maker Faire is back for another convention this year **October 13-15** and **October 20-22**, but at **Mare Island** in **Vallejo** which is far afield for most of us. Nonetheless, there are a few loyal SBMS members up in the Concord/Walnut Creek area which is actually not too far from Mare Island so this event may be of interest to them. More on this convention at:

<https://makerfaire.com>

Although the first weekend conflicts with our being at Good Sam's House of Miniatures, the second weekend does not. So, the second weekend should allow any of us to attend if they want.

In the past, Maker Faire had an RC battleship model shoot out with BB-firing models in an improvised pool. The audience was protected from these projectiles by a clear plastic curtain. The event was conducted by the **Western Warship Combat Club**:

<https://www.westernwarshipcombat.com>

and was lots of fun to watch. However, I am not sure if they will be coming this year.

Mare Island was used as the first US Navy base on the west coast from 1854 and served in that capacity until it closed in 1996. The **Mare Island Museum** is an educational facility on the site telling the story of those years. But it is listed as temporarily closed according to its website.

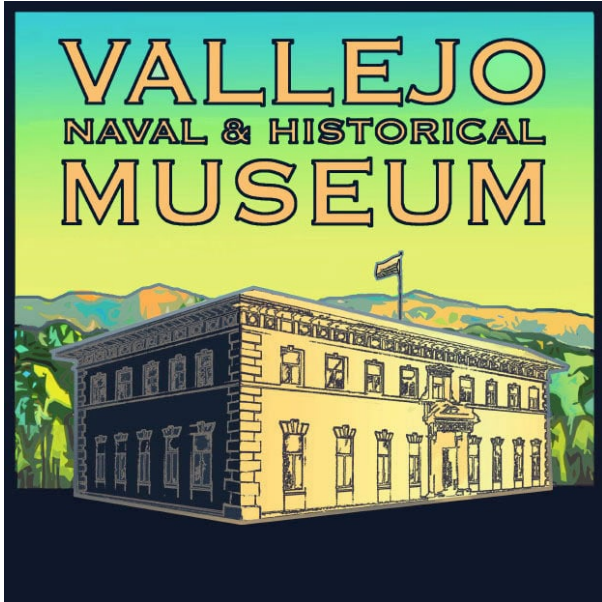


Fig. 5. The Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum in downtown Vallejo (Vallejo Museum)

However, downtown Vallejo has the [Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum](#) (fig. 5) which is listed as open on Tuesday-Saturday to 4 PM offering maritime-themed attractions to visit for those looking for more than Maker Faire. I hope to write about this little museum in the future for the Foghorn.

**•Nautical Research Guild Online Workshop, Saturday, October 14, 8 AM PDT (10AM Central).**

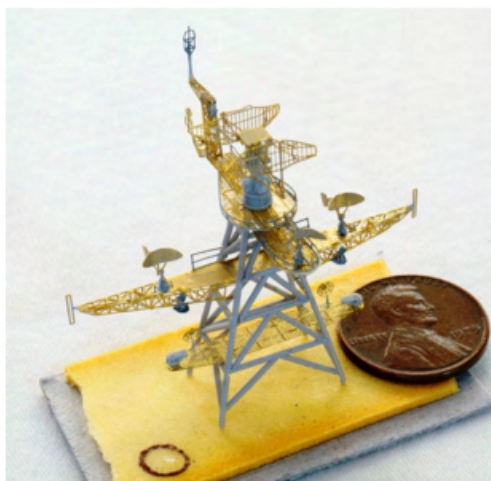


Fig.6. Detailed warship radar tower (Chuck Bauer)

My goodness! Mid-October is certainly busy! While finishing up this newsletter, I just got an announcement for another wonderful online NRG workshop coming up **Saturday, October 14, 8 AM PDT**. The workshop is being given by **Mr. Chuck Bauer** and titled **“Strategic Detailing, Part 3”**. The announcement says he will talk about **model flags, use of photo-etched parts, and painting and finishing**.

His previous presentations on this topic were given June 25, 2022 for Part 1 and July 23, 2022 for Part 2. All these prior and upcoming

workshops are recorded and posted on the NRG website for access by NRG members only at:

<https://www.thenrg.org/events/workshops>

The announcement says that the online link to the talk will be posted as an email to NRG members at **6 AM PDT, October 14** and those who want to attend it should click on it at **8 AM** and connect. No advanced registration will be required.

As this event will conflict with the **Showcase of Miniatures** convention happening on the same day, having the recording of Part 3 will be most helpful for everyone to catch up.

• **San Francisco Model Yacht Club Swap Meet, Saturday, November 4, 10 AM.** The **San Francisco Model Yacht Club** has held this swap meet annually in the **SFMYC club house** off **Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park** for quite a long time, but we have never noted it in the Foghorn. This year, I intend to go and try to sell some left-over unbuilt kits that I have retrieved from various estates. This sounds like a fun event and look forward to see what else shows up aside from finding good homes for surplus kits. Set up time is **10 AM** and sales start from **11 AM** until whenever.

• **IPMS Silicon Valley Classic convention, Saturday November 25-Maybe?** This annual model convention sponsored by local chapters of the **International Plastic Modelers Society** in the San Jose area has been on-again and off-again throughout the pandemic. Prez Jim Rhetta tells me they are intending to hold it again on **Saturday, November 25** just two days after Thanksgiving. However, these particulars have not yet been confirmed. So, I am awaiting official announcements to be posted. Stay tuned.



## *Maritime Matters of the Month (Ken Lum)*

• **The Chicago Maritime Museum** My continuing account of the maritime museums of Illinois now turns to the **Chicago Maritime Museum** (Fig. 7) located at:

### **Chicago Maritime Museum**

1200 West 35th Street, River Level

Chicago, Illinois 60609

Website: <https://www.chicagomaritimemuseum.org>



Fig. 7. The Bridgepoint Art Center, home of the Chicago Maritime Museum (Chicago Maritime Museum)

This museum was established in 2016, very long after I had left to come to the west coast. Also, my last visit to Chicago was in 2013 before it opened. So, I confess I have never visited this place. It is located in the **Bridgepoint Art Center** which was once a warehouse.

The maritime history of Illinois, and most especially the Chicago area, began in Native American times who used local rivers for canoe traffic. By the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Chicago had become the principal center for water-borne traffic along the Great Lakes. Although Chicago is in deep inland North America, the city has access to the Atlantic through the Great Lakes via the **St. Lawrence River** to the northeast (Fig.9).

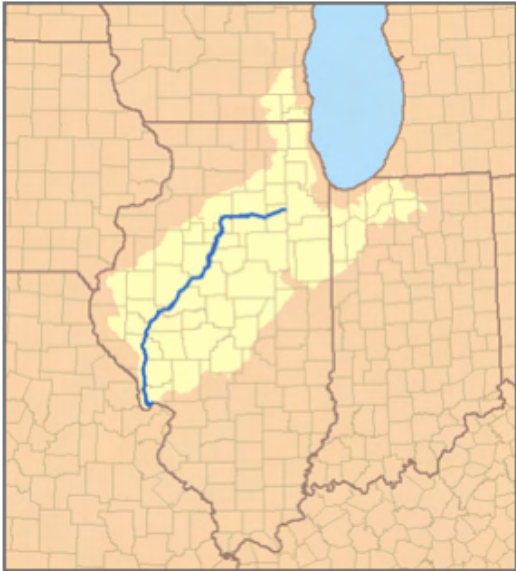


Fig. 8. Course of Illinois River from the Chicago area to the Mississippi River (USGS)



Fig. 9. The complete inland route from the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico (Chicago Maritime Museum)

It also has access to the Gulf of Mexico via the **Illinois and Michigan Canal** which opened in 1848 connecting with the **Illinois River** that traverses the entire width of the state to the Mississippi River (Fig. 8 and 9). Access to the Mississippi then provides river connection even as far as some places near the Rocky Mountains. That's amazing! Few waterways anywhere in the world connect so much territory. The Illinois and Michigan Canal was superseded by the **Chicago Ship and Sanitary Canal** in 1900 and then the **Illinois Waterway** in 1933. Although railroads now transport the most goods throughout the region, these waterways are still in use.

The museum provides a great source of information on the story of the development of this critical and underappreciated piece of infrastructure. On display are artifacts ranging from Native American canoes to mostly models of larger cargo and passenger transport ships used on the waterways as well as many other items (Fig. 10 and 11). A visit to this museum would be worth including in any trip to Chicago.





Fig. 10. Native American canoe in the Chicago Maritime Museum (Eric Allix Rogers, Chicago Maritime Museum)



Fig. 11. Ship models in the Chicago Maritime Museum (Eric Allix Rogers, Chicago Maritime Museum)

A fine YouTube video tour of this museum can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9NEctyA4sl>

which appears to give a relatively thorough tour. Others can also be found on YouTube.

## • **The National Museum of Ship Models and Sea History in Sadorus, IL**



Fig. 12. The location of the National Museum of Ship Models and Sea History in Sadorus, IL (Daniel Schwen)

This has to be one of the more bizarre ship model museums I have ever heard of. While most of the ship models appear to be of conventionally high quality and accuracy, the museum's location in the remote farming town of **Sadorus** in rural east/central Illinois just south of Champaign/Urbana (where the University of Illinois is located) far from any large body of water

is a trifle strange. Sadorus is said by the US Census Bureau in 2020 to have a tiny population of 402 so maybe this is their principle tourist attraction.

The museum was founded by architect **Charles Lozar** in 2001 and is located at:

### **The National Museum of Ship Models and Sea History**

201 S. Market St.

Sadorus, Illinois, 61872

Website: <http://www.lincolnshireprop.com/museum>

He is said to have been accumulating these items since he was a teenager in the Chicago area, and the collection is said to contain around 220 models. Some of these are left over from famous old movies such as **Tora, Tora, Tora!**, **Cleopatra**, **Ben-Hur**, **Porgy and Bess**, and **Tugboat Annie**. There is also a very large model of the liner, **Queen Mary**, and a ship of the line model built by a prison inmate out of toothpicks. Pictures of the museum give the impression of a ramshackle pile up of marine artifacts accumulated by an eccentric, sea-loving hoarder. Dr. Lozar ended up here as he needed a place to store and display his collection when he ran out of room in his previous home and was looking for a place with more space and where the cost of living was low, I suppose.

Nonetheless, visitors are welcome and can come during open hours or by arrangement. Of course, donations are also welcome. Perhaps those visiting the University of Illinois might find time to come to this unusual establishment! Here are some photos I found from the website. Many are actually very well done! The pictures are courtesy of Dr. Lozar.



Fig. 13. Some of the ship models in Dr. Lozar's collection.

A couple of good YouTube videos on this collection can be found at:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Yc3swxHx\\_0&t=30s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Yc3swxHx_0&t=30s)

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UP714eNbyYk&t=3s>



## *Under Construction at the Model Shipyard*



Fig. 14. Progress on Jacob Cohn's **Xebec** model. Note the filigree decoration on the poop deck railing.



Fig. 15. George Sloup installing the sails on his *Papegojan* model. Note the furling courses on the fore and main masts.



Fig. 16. The planking and wales of Clare Hess's *Charles Royal Yacht* are now completed!

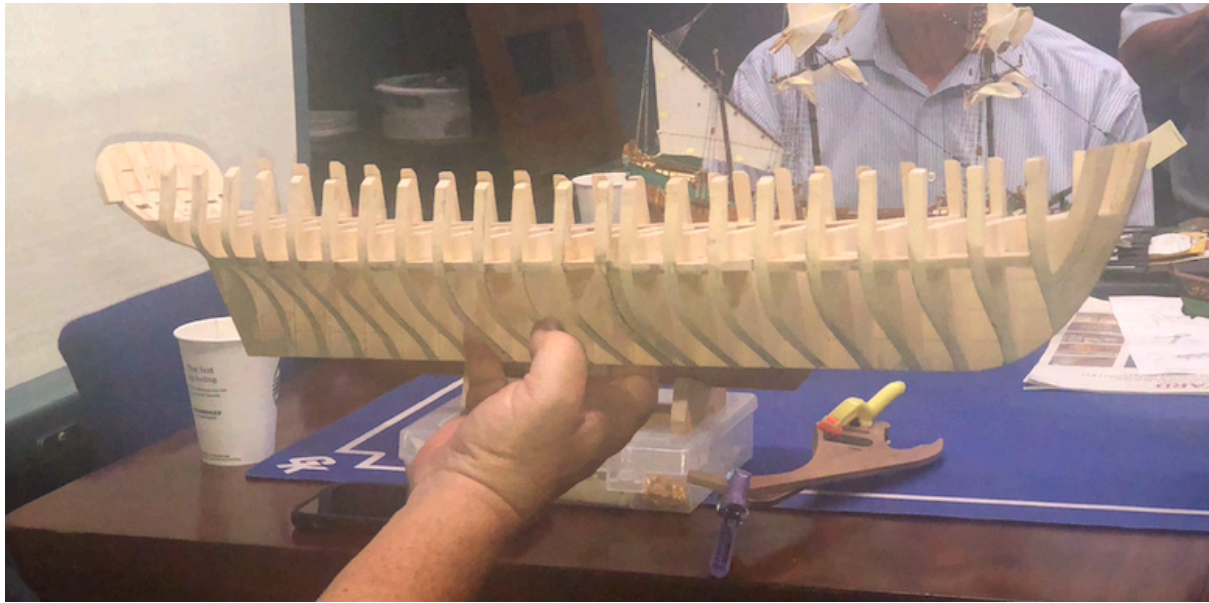


Fig. 17. A trial scratch-built frigate frame by Clare Hess.



Fig. 18. A scale bow stem being prepared to mount a model figurehead by Clare Hess.

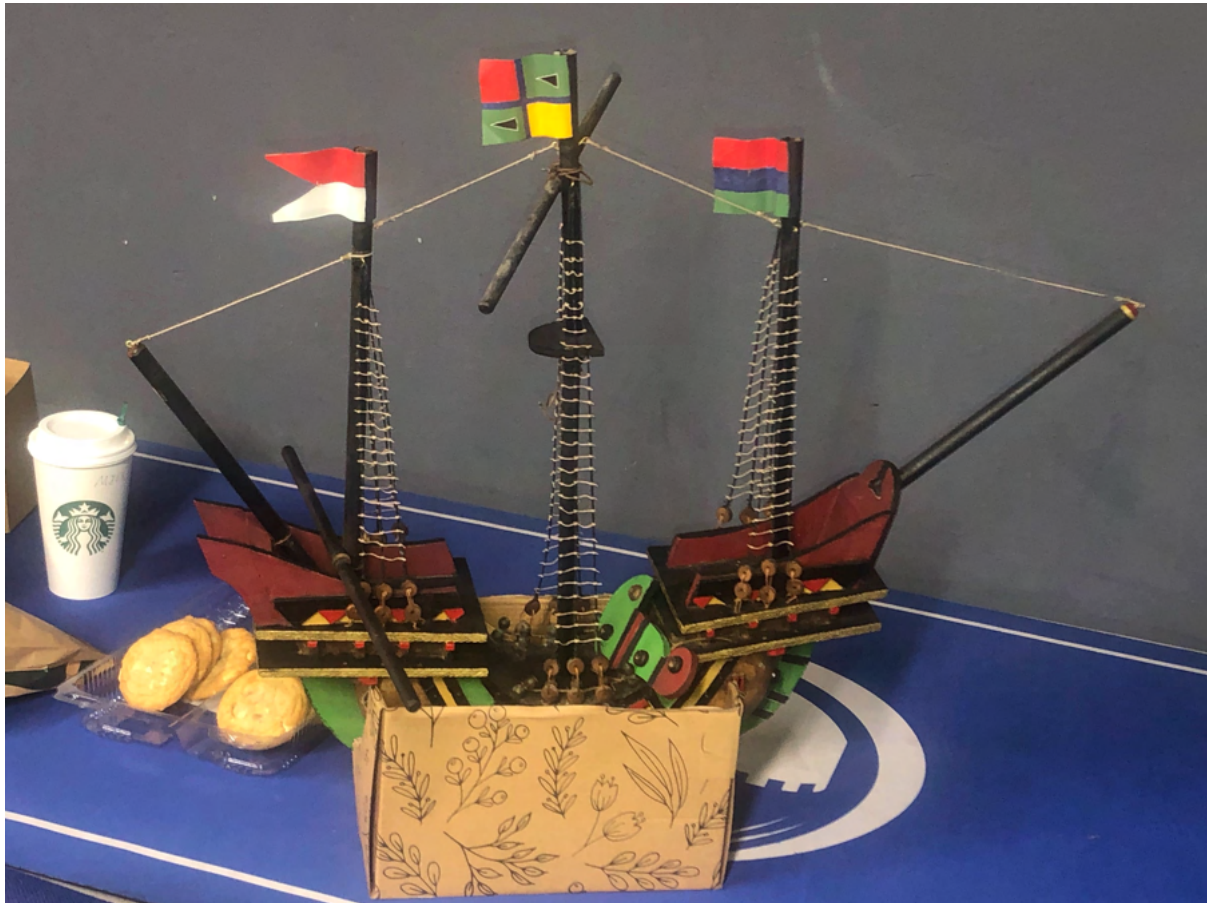


Fig. 19. Jim Rhetta's restoration of Fred Fisher's *Pinta* awaiting installation of new sails.



## *SBMS Club Officers*

<b>President</b>	<b>Jim Rhetta</b>	email: <a href="mailto:jmrhetta@aol.com">jmrhetta@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice President And Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Ken Lum</b>	email: <a href="mailto:lum40@comcast.net">lum40@comcast.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jacob Cohn</b>	email: <a href="mailto:jcohnster@gmail.com">jcohnster@gmail.com</a>
<b>Harbor Master</b>	<b>George Sloup</b>	email: <a href="mailto:george.p.sloup@outlook.com">george.p.sloup@outlook.com</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Jim Tortorici</b>	email: <a href="mailto:oday20@earthlink.net">oday20@earthlink.net</a>



## 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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