

# South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

Website : <https://sbmodelships.com/>

## The Foghorn

May 2024



Fig.1. The *USS Olympia (C-6)* is a protected cruiser built at the Union Iron Works in San Francisco 1891-2 and commissioned into the US Navy in 1895. She is best known as the flagship of **Commodore George Dewey** at the **Battle of Manila Bay** in the Philippines on May 1, 1898 when a fleet led by Dewey destroyed ships of the Spanish Navy stationed there during the Spanish-American War. The defeat led the US to assume governance of the Philippines until WW2. Over many years, the *Olympia* has escaped being scrapped and is now undergoing continuous maintenance to preserve her as a museum ship in Philadelphia, PA. (Jan's Cat, Wikipedia)





## *Future Course Headings...*

- **Saturday, June 8, 2024, 2 PM: In-person SBMS meeting.** Our in-person meeting for next month will be on **Saturday, June 8 at 2 PM** at the **Game Kastle** in Santa Clara at:

**Game Kastle**  
1350 Coleman Ave  
Santa Clara, CA  
(408) 243-4263

Bring your latest projects and other maritime goodies for discussion!

- **Thursday June 20, 7PM: Monthly Zoom meeting.** And then our monthly Zoom meeting will be **Thursday, June 20 at 7 PM** so the Zoom specs will be sent out just before the meeting. Keep an eye on your inbox!
- **Saturday, June 15, 2024, 10AM-4PM: IPMS Silicon Valley Classic convention.**



Fig. 2. Models entered by SBMS members in the recent 2023 **IPMS Tri-City Classic** model convention in Fremont. Left to Right: Fishing cutter, *Dana*, American Gunboat, *Arrow*, HM Schooner, *Pickle*. Close up photos of these models in the **November Foghorn**. (Jacob Cohn)

This year's **IPMS Modeling Convention** (Fig. 2) will be held at an earlier date of **Saturday, June 15**. As like 2023, this convention will be held at:

**Fremont Elks Lodge**  
**38991 Farwell Dr.**  
**Fremont, CA**

**Website:** <https://ipmsusa.org/event/silicon-valley-classic-2024>

Bring a finished model to this convention. Last year, Jacob Cohn and Clare Hess won prizes for outstanding craftsmanship!

- **Saturday, June 15, 2024, 8:30AM PDT: Nautical Research Guild (NRG) Virtual Workshop. CREATING REALISTIC WORKING & FURLED SAILS by Ron Neilson & Tom Ruggiero.**



Fig. 3. Left-Model of the German windjammer, *Pamir*, with fully deployed sails. Right-Model of the American clipper ship, *Sovereign of the Seas*, with beautiful suite of furled sails. Both models in the **Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL**.

This workshop will explain materials, techniques and tools for creating realistic-looking sails for ship models. The first presenter's section will focus on crafting working sails while the second presenter will explain techniques for creating furled ones. Both approaches use an inexpensive and adaptable paper-like material called "Silkspan." (The models shown in Fig. 3 are larger scale models so cloth sails were used.)

The Virtual Workshop is open only to NRG members via ZOOM on **Saturday, June 15, 2024, at 8:30 AM PDT**. If you are not an NRG member, by all means take this opportunity to join as the cost is very modest for this

wonderful and only remaining organization devoted to sharing information and techniques on ship models. This can be done at their website:

<https://thenrg.org>

They also publish an outstanding quarterly journal, the **Nautical Research Journal**, which is devoted to ship modeling and related maritime history. A subscription (available as hard-copy and/or digital) is a benefit of NRG membership.

**I see that this event does conflict with the IPMS Silicon Valley Classic convention listed above, however.** Fortunately, the NRG event will be **recorded** and accessible later on their website, but only to NRG members with their User IDs and passwords. Prior workshop recordings are also accessible in the same way on the NRG website. All worth watching if you have not seen them yet.

- **[July 25-28 and August 1-4: Santa Clara Co. Fair.](#)**



It has been a while since the SBMS participated in a County Fair, and Prez Jim Rhetta suggested we participate in an exhibition of our handiwork at the **Santa Clara Co. Fair** which is scheduled for **July 25-28 and August 1-4** at the:

**Santa Clara County Fairgrounds**  
**344 Tully Rd**  
**San Jose, CA 95111**  
**Website:** <https://thefair.org>

Prez Jim Rhetta has been in contact with the organizers about setting up a display table for the SBMS and members will be needed to staff it. More on this closer to the date.



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

- **L'Hermione Day in Palo Alto, May 19, 2024.** We had a terrific meeting with the **French-American Cultural Society (FACS)** at the **Emerson Montessori School** in Palo Alto to do a fund-raiser to help with repairs to an operating replica of the French frigate, **L'Hermione**, which is currently dry-docked at the Basque port of **Bayonne**. The original **Hermione** was built in 1779 and was most famously used to transport **Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette** to America to participate in the American Revolution in 1780. **Lafayette**, as he is best known in the US, eventually led American troops during the last battle of the American Revolution at Yorktown in 1781 blocking the escape of British troops under General Cornwallis earning much notoriety.

The **Hermione** replica was built between 1997 to 2014 in the French port of **Rochefort** under the lead of **L'association Hermione-La Fayette** for purposes of tall ship tourism. Construction was done using wood shaped mostly with traditional wooden boat building techniques. Unfortunately, the ship was found to have a serious fungal infection of much of its wood during a maintenance inspection in 2021 rendering the ship not seaworthy. Now, as much as € 6.5 million needs to be raised to finish the repair work. We heard a Zoom meeting presentation at the Emerson School about these problems on May 19.

The SBMS and its members have donated several hundred dollars to this effort. In addition, we set up a ship model display during our meeting with the FACS showing several examples of late 18<sup>th</sup> Century French ship building in model form (Fig. 4 -8). We happily did this at the request of **Mr. Thomas Celerier** from the FACS when he met with us in January.



Fig. 4. FACS participants checking out the models in the SBMS exhibits (Thomas Celerier)



Fig. 5. The SBMS display at the FACS meeting at the Emerson Montessori School in Palo Alto with Jacob Cohn looking on. From Left to Right: Battle Station model by Walt Hlavacek, *Le Coureur* by Jacob Cohn, model of *L'Hermione* by Richard Walton, French carronade by Ken Lum, *Royal Louis* built by Kent Dutrieux and contributed by Clare Hess. The pictorial poster by Jim Rhetta and Walt Hlavacek.

And here is a brief story about the replica *Hermione* situation.

<https://www.connexionfrance.com/magazine/fungus-attack-repairs-on-historic-french-ship-need-further-65million/244847>

For those wishing to donate something to this worthy cause and help conserve this remarkable ship, please make your contribution at:

<https://donorbox.org/association-hermione-la-fayette>

or

<https://frigate-hermione.com/en/support-the-adventure/>



Fig. 6. Left-*Le Coureur* by Jacob Cohn, Right-*L'Hermione* by Richard Walton



Fig. 7. Closeups of the *Royal Louis* ship-of-the-line by Kent Dutrieux and contributed by Clare Hess.

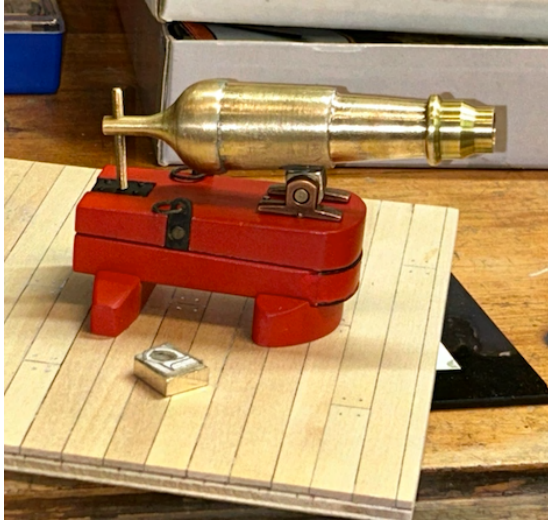


Fig.8. **French carronade** model in progress by Ken Lum derived from a Mantua kit with a scratch-built carriage built according to plans from **Naval Artillery, French Navy, 1650-1850** by **J. Boudriot and H. Berti (Ancre) 2015**.

Much thanks to all who contributed models and money to this project!



## *Under Construction at the Model Shipyard*

Aside from the models on display at the FACS meeting, others also saw progress as shown below.

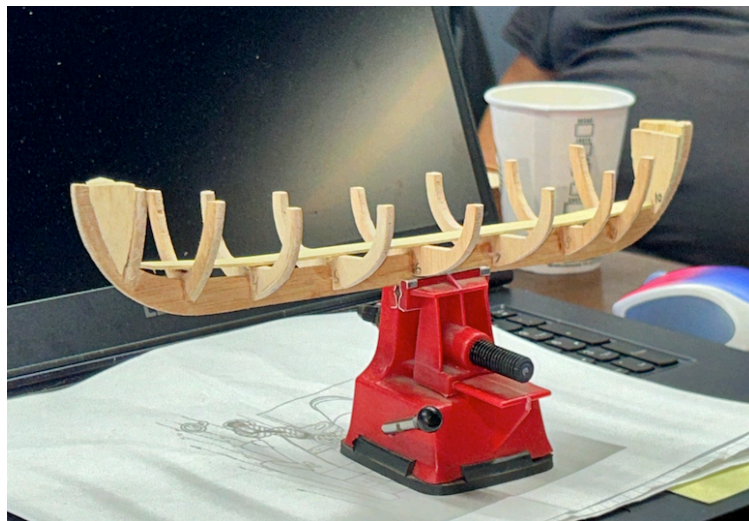


Fig. 9. Whaleboat model in progress by Jim Rhetta. This was also displayed at the FACS meeting on May 19.



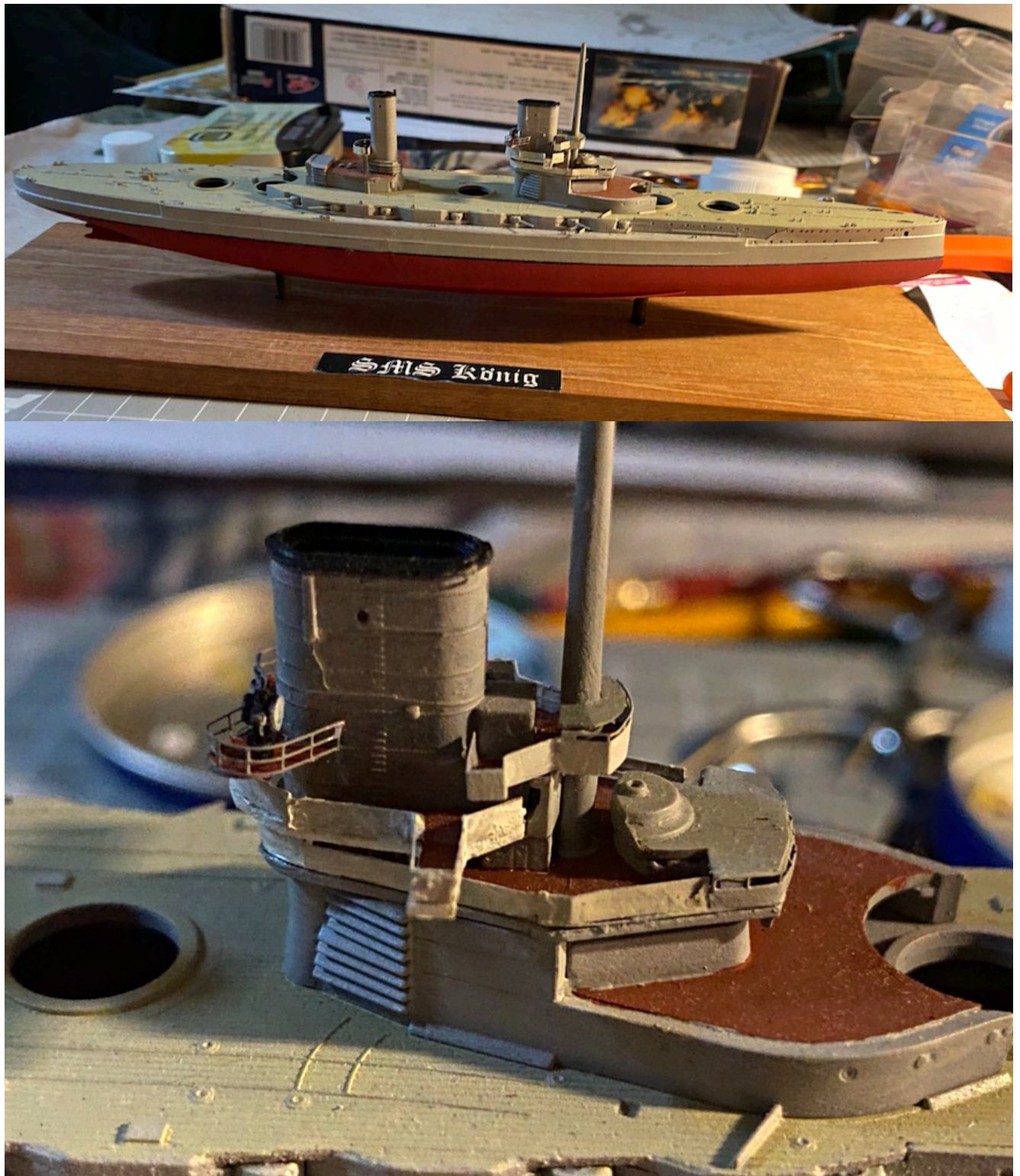


Fig. 10. 1/700 scale model of the WW 1 German battleship *SMS König* by Jacob Cohn. Below is a picture of the bridge area. The *König* participated in the Battle of Jutland in 1916. (Jacob Cohn).



Fig. 11. Now completed **Monterey Salmon Fishing Boat, c.1916** by Clare Hess and Paul Reck. It is scheduled for display in the **Japanese American Citizens League Heritage Hall** in Monterey, CA. The boat is displayed on a set of launching ways about to go to its new owner, one of the many Japanese immigrants who settled in the Monterey area in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Scratch built at 1:24 scale or ½" to a foot.



## 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>Clare Hess</b>	email: <a href="mailto:catopower@mac.com">catopower@mac.com</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 (<http://www.sbmodelships.com>). 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



