

South Bay Model Shipwrights

Founded by Jean Eckert 1982

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

The Foghorn

January 2025

Happy New Years!!



Fig. 1. Year of Sea Level Rise? (Burak Akgun / Alamy Stock Photo)





Future Course Headings...

- **Saturday, January 11, 2025, 2 PM: In-person SBMS meeting.** The first in-person meeting of the year will be on **Saturday, January 11 at 2 PM.** As usual, it will be held at:

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

Bring your latest projects and other maritime goodies for discussion! We had a lively and informative discussion on December 14 about the War of 1812 and was so much fun! And there were no casualties!

- **Thursday, January 23, 2025, 7PM: Monthly Zoom meeting.** And then our monthly Zoom meeting will be **Thursday, January 23 at 7 PM** so the Zoom specs will be sent out just before the meeting. Keep an eye on your inbox



Maritime Matters of the Month (Ken Lum)



Fig.2. Here we are! Having a tsunami of fun with great food and conversation at Chef Chu's Chinese Restaurant in Los Altos for the Holidays on December 11! Front center to right, Sherle Frost, Walt Hlavacek, Jim Rhetta, Vikas Kapur, Loh-chung Lum, Ken Lum, George Sloup, and Clare Hess. (photo courtesy Vikas Kapur)

• **Bill Sherman (1942-2024)**



Fig. 3. Bill Sherman
(1942-2024)

It is with great sorrow that I inform everyone that our loyal SBMS member of the last approximately 10 years, **Bill Sherman**, has passed away as of August 31. His passing was announced to us by his wife, Vickie. While I am sorry to say I cannot recall any particular ship models that he built, I do recall his encyclopedic memory of his experiences in the Air Force which he enjoyed sharing with all of us during our monthly meetings. It was a real treat to hear about his expertise on military matters gained over his early career, and he obviously enjoyed conversing with the many club members with similar interests and experiences.

Bill was born in 1942 in White Plains, New York, just north of New York City. (Mark Zuckerberg, co-founder of Facebook and Meta was also born much later in the same town). Unfortunately, his mother died when Bill was only 2 leaving behind Bill, his father and four brothers. After Bill's father remarried, the family moved to San Francisco where he attended the Town School for Boys. Then, he attended the Lycée Carnot in the South of France during a family year abroad, and followed by the Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. After high school, he went to Princeton University where he was in ROTC and earned a B.A. in Romance Languages and Literature.

Upon graduation, Bill was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Air Force and served in Peoria, IL and the Panama Canal Zone rising to the rank of Captain. After he left the Air Force, he and his own new family returned to the Bay Area where he attained a combined M.B.A./J.D. from UC Berkeley. Then, he joined the law firm of Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro in San Francisco and was made partner in 1979.

In the 1980s, Bill and his family moved to the Peninsula where he joined the law firm of Morrison & Foerster (MoFo) and helped establish their Palo Alto office. He specialized in IPOs for technology companies including Intel, Tandem, and Compaq and developed a reputation as a maverick in his field. Bill was listed in "America's Best Lawyers" for over 10 years, taught at the Haas School of Business, and retired in 2015 as a senior partner at MoFo. Bill then joined the SBMS to add to his many retirement activities including trips to the Sierras. He is survived by his wife, Vickie, four children and six grandchildren. **Vickie most generously made a \$500 donation to the SBMS to help with expenses. Thank you to Vickie and the rest of the Sherman family, and fair winds and following seas to Bill!**

•**The Thomson Ship Model Collection at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Canada. (Ken Lum).**

I went to Toronto, Canada in mid-November to attend a meeting of the Antique Telescope Society and visit the 1930s vintage David Dunlap Observatory located there. But less well known is the fact that Toronto is also home to an outstanding ship model collection at the **Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)**. The collection was the result of the acquisition efforts of British/Canadian businessman, **Kenneth Roy Thomson, 2nd Baron Thomson of Fleet (1923-2006)** (Fig. 4). Baron Thomson inherited from his father, **Roy Thomson, 1st Baron Thomson of Fleet**, and managed a media empire, the **Thomson Corporation**, that included many Canadian, British, and American publications. At the time of his passing in 2006, he was listed by **Forbes** as the richest person in Canada and the ninth richest person in the world, with a net worth of approximately US \$19.6 billion in 2006 dollars.



Fig. 4. **Kenneth Roy Thomson, 2nd Baron Thomson of Fleet (1923-2006).** (Wikipedia/Ambassador's Magazine)

Baron Thomson began collecting art in the 1940s which ultimately included thousands of mostly paintings including works by Canadian-American artist, **Cornelius Krieghoff (1815-1872)** and the 1610 masterpiece, **The Massacre of the Innocents** by **Peter Paul Rubens**.

In addition to traditional artistic items, there includes some 69 ship models of exquisite quality including **eight Navy Board Admiralty models, thirteen Prisoner-of-War models and five miniatures** by the famed ship model miniaturist, **Donald McNarry**. They are all exhibited in the AGO in Toronto (Fig. 5).

The oldest Admiralty model dates from 1692 (Fig. 6) and the rest of the collection represent ships dating up to WW2. Below are representative examples of the models exhibited. (Fig. 6-12)



Fig. 5. The **Thomson Ship Model Collection** stylishly displayed at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) in Toronto, Canada. (courtesy AGO)



Fig. 6. British third-rate two decker 70-gun warship. c. 1692. (AGO)

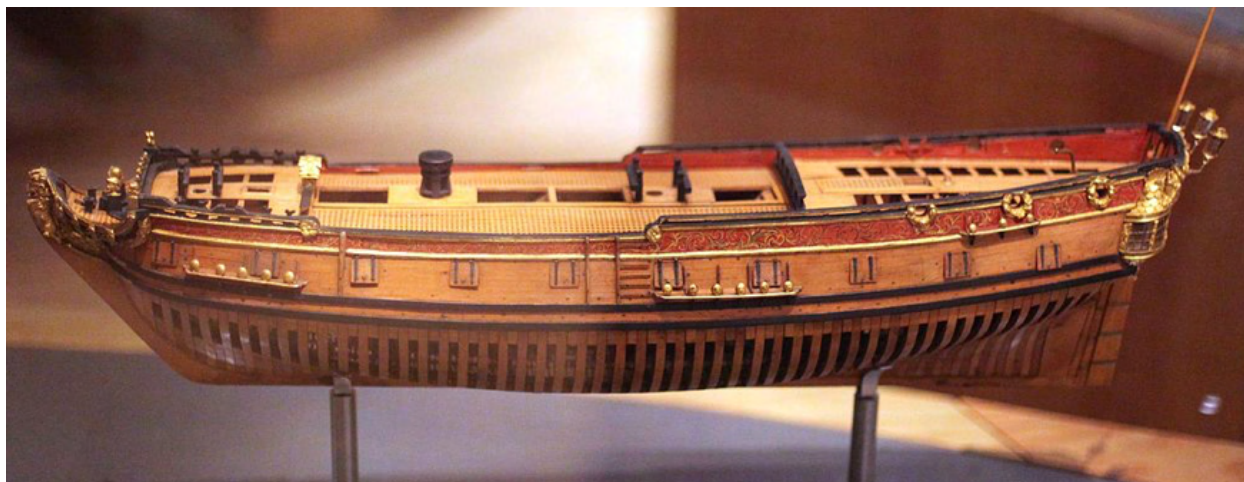


Fig. 8. British sixth-rate 20-24 gun warship. *Nightingale*. c. 1702. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)



Fig. 7. British third-rate two-decker 70-gun warship, *Edinburgh*. c. 1721. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)

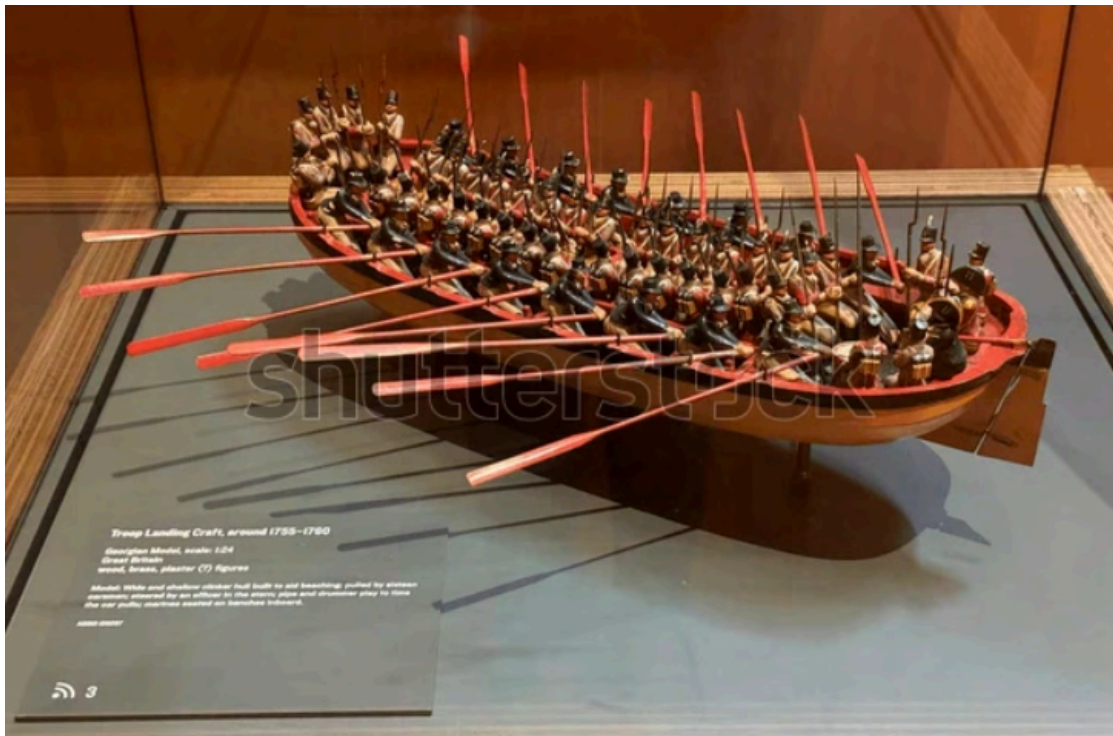


Fig. 8. Troop-landing craft. c. 1755-1760. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)



Fig. 9. British three-decker 100-gun warship. *Victory* (funerary catafalque for Lord Nelson.) Probably made by French naval POWs c. 1806. Different from the one used at the actual funeral as the model makers did not see the event. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)

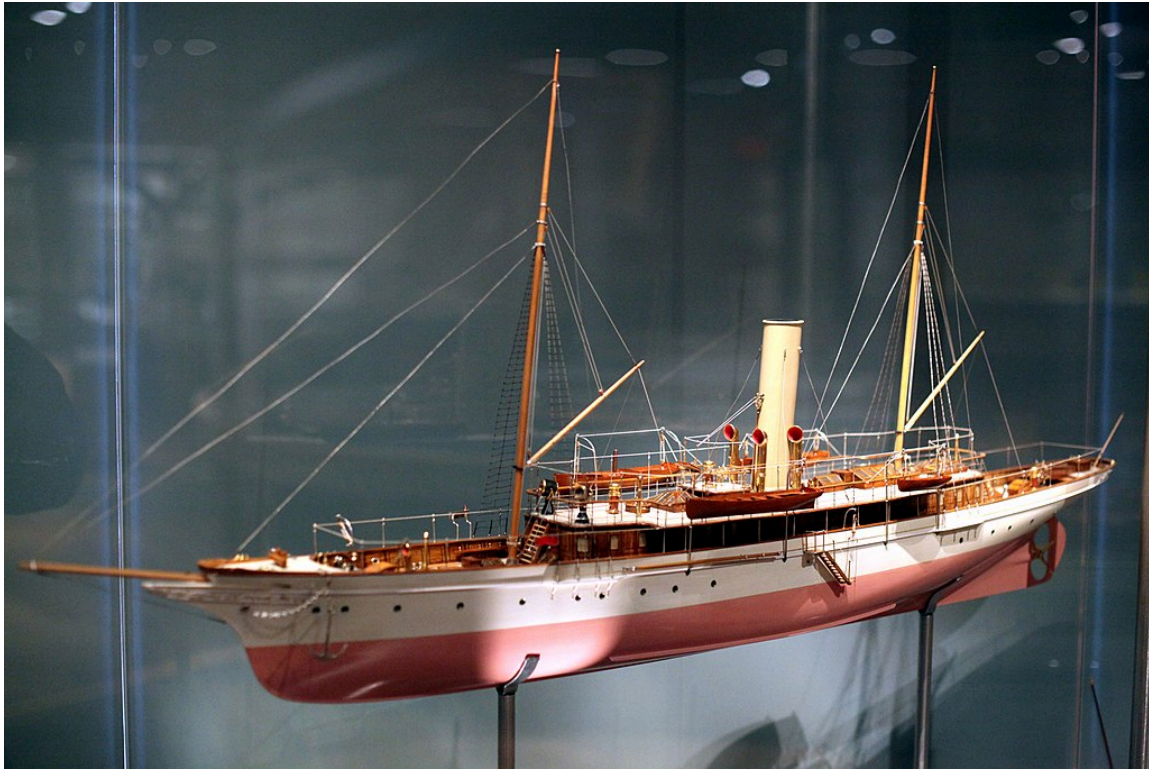


Fig. 10. American schooner rigged steam yacht *Gunilda*, c. 1897.
(Wikimedia Commons, AGO)



Fig. 11. British armoured steam-cruiser, *HMS Hogue*, c. 1900. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)

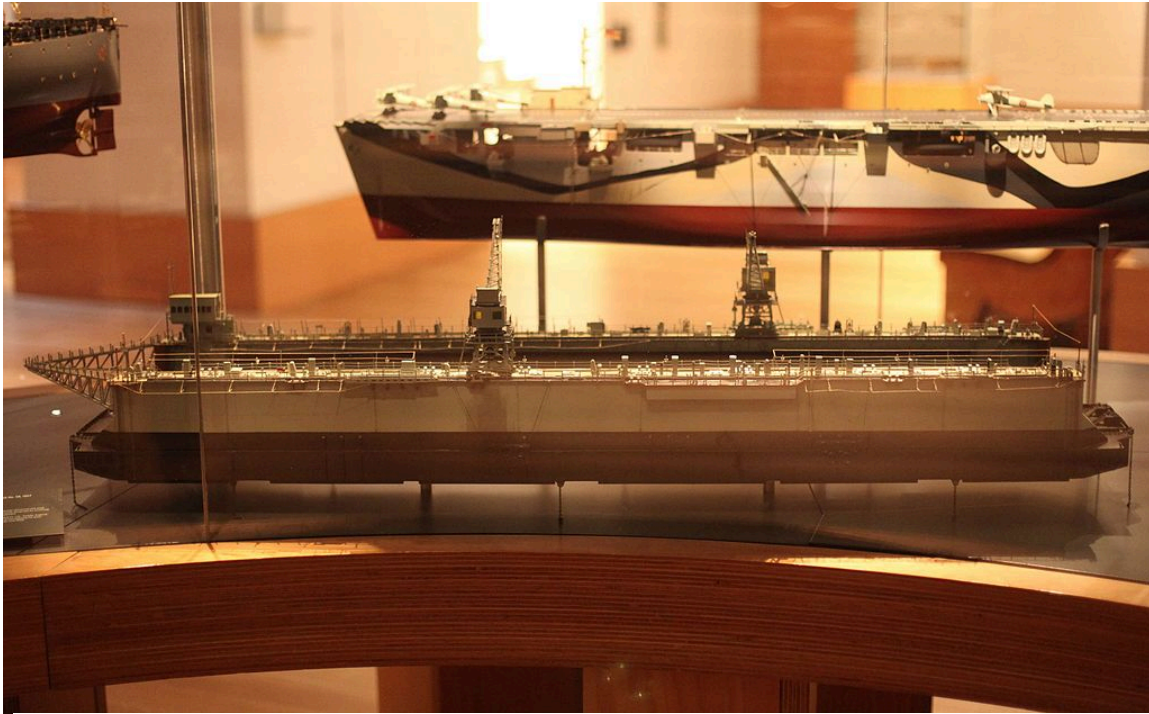


Fig. 12. Below Foreground: British Admiralty floating dry dock No. 58. c. 1957.
Above Background: British escort aircraft carrier, *HMS Activity*, c. 1942. (Wikimedia Commons, AGO)

As is evident from the photos, Baron Thomson collected only from among the best. Should you be visiting Toronto any time (presumably to visit the nearby Niagara Falls), this collection is definitely worth a look. However, should you not have an opportunity to go there, the AGO has published an excellent color catalogue of these models (Fig. 13) which can be purchased from the AGO gift store or other internet retail sources. This is one of several volumes which collectively catalogue the rest of Baron Thomson's remarkable art collection.

Here also is a video tour of this ship model collection:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_GF7KZ--Fk



Fig.13. Catalogue of Ship Models in the Art Gallery of Ontario. (AGO)



Kit News (Ken Lum):

- **A New Model Pilot Boat *Phantom* in 1/48.** For many years, the ship kit company, **Model Shipways**, offered a 1/96 scale kit of a New York pilot boat named the ***Phantom*, 1868**. This model was offered as a beginner's kit with a solid wood hull. But **Model Expo**, in Florida, which has been the main distributor of Model Shipway kits, has now released an upgraded 1/48 scale **plank-on-bulkhead version** (Fig. 14 and 15). Twice as large for more credible detailing including new photo-etched parts. And still looks suitable for beginners! Currently on sale from Model Expo for \$149.99:

https://modelexpo-online.com/Model-Shipways-PHANTOM-NY-PILOT-BOAT-148-SCALE_p_9187.html?srsIid=AfmBOopi0miThKyuN2HFO_AZYmOiNw0OZW_V2amGqupogS3CI1uLDZ2V



Fig. 14. New 1/48 scale New York Pilot Boat, ***Phantom*, 1868** (Model Expo).



Fig.15. **Phantom** kit with laser-cut bulkheads (left) and photo-etch details (right). (Model Expo)



Under Construction at the Model Shipyard



Fig. 16. SBMS members enjoying our discussion on ship models and the War of 1812 during our December 14 In-person meeting at the Game Kastle in Santa Clara. Starting at the front left clockwise just out of the picture is Jacob Cohn, Chris Gounarides, Walt Hlavacek, John Garis, Clare Hess, George Sloup, and just out of the right picture edge, Prez Jim Rhetta. (from Ken Lum).



Fig. 17. George Sloup's Russian tender, *Avos* stepped mast, bowsprit, and accumulating deck detail.



Fig. 18. Stepped masts for Clare Hess's paper model of *HMS Wolf* from Shipyard kit.

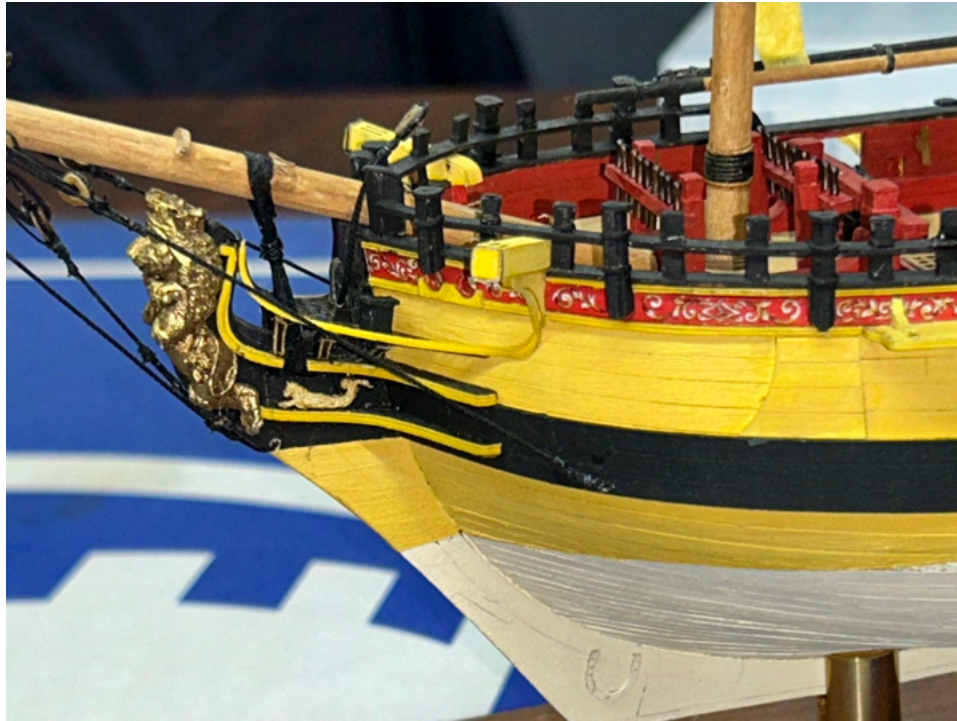


Fig. 19. Details around the bow of the *HMS Wolf* model.

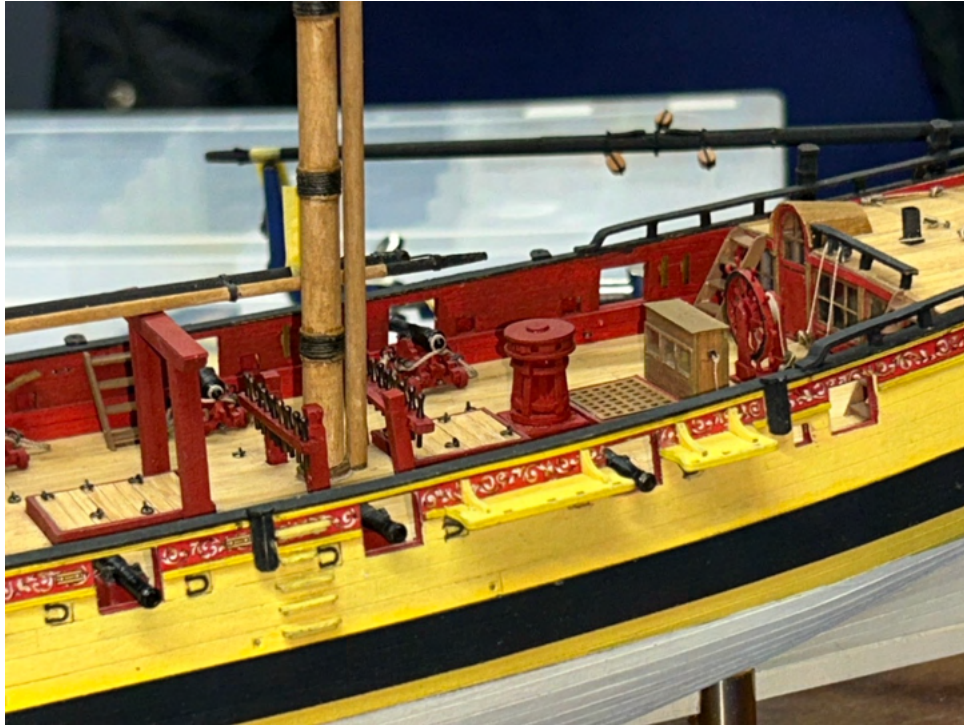


Fig.20. Details around the midships of the *HMS Wolf* .model.



Fig. 21. Details around the stern and transom of the *HMS Wolf* model.



Fig. 22. Setup for rigging one of the yards.

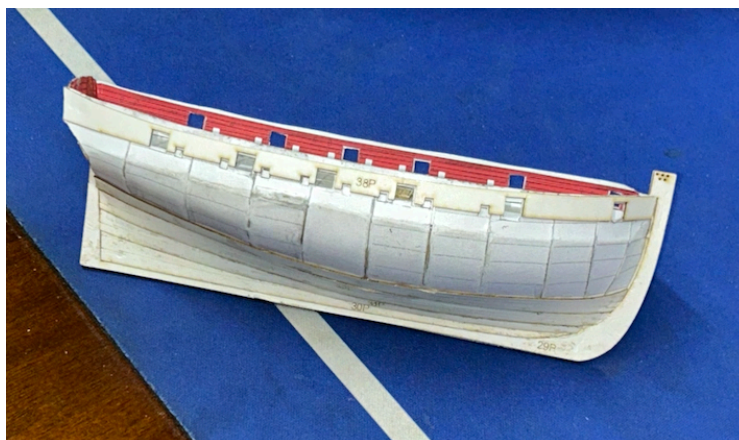


Fig. 23. Paper model of the cutter, *HMS Fly*, from a Polish magazine by Jacob Cohn.



Fig. 24. *HMS Chatham* with completed planking from Caldercraft kit built by Jacob Cohn.



Fig. 25. Photo-etched miniature of *USS Constitution* from **Metal Earth** kit built by John Garis. The parts come pre-painted.



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	Clare Hess	email: catopower@mac.com



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 (<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 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

