

HYDE STREET PIER MODEL SHIPWRIGHTS

April Meeting Notes, 2015



Meeting Commencement:

The April meeting took place as usual aboard the ferryboat Eureka. Meeting commenced at 9:30am with 10 members present, two of which are brand new members Dale Rappleye and Mark Rosenbush.

Treasurer's Report:

Paul Reck reported our balance, with more members now paid up, at \$819.19. Remember that dues have been reduced from \$25 down to \$24 to simplify pro-rating.

Gracie S. Report:

Gracie S's move to a permanent home is moving forward again! She will be moved into the Museum Building (Bath House) as soon as a case and table for it are completed. The Park has agreed to buy a case for the model, and Paul agreed on behalf of the club, that we would build the table.



Web Report:

With more postings on our website (<http://hspms.wordpress.com>), we're riding a bit of a wave on visitors which peaked at 35 visitors and 150 views in March and 27 visitors and 118 views in April. We're still looking for members to contribute articles, or permanent information to put into the website pages.

Announcements and Club Business

NRG Conference This year's Nautical Research Guild conference is being held in Mystic, Connecticut. The conference will be held at the Mystic Hilton, Thursday, October 22 through Saturday, October 24.

NRG Photographic Ship Model Competition May 31st is the deadline for entries to this year's competition. Entries must be received by the NRG by that time. The competition is open to NRG members. If you're not a member, there is a special discount to enter the competition with new membership. Also, all Model Ship World forum members automatically receive associate NRG member status, allowing you to enter the competition.

For information on either the NRG conference or photographic ship model contest, visit the NRG website at <http://www.thenrg.org>. For information on The NRG's Model Ship World forum, simply go to <http://www.modelsipworld.com>.

Summer BBQ:

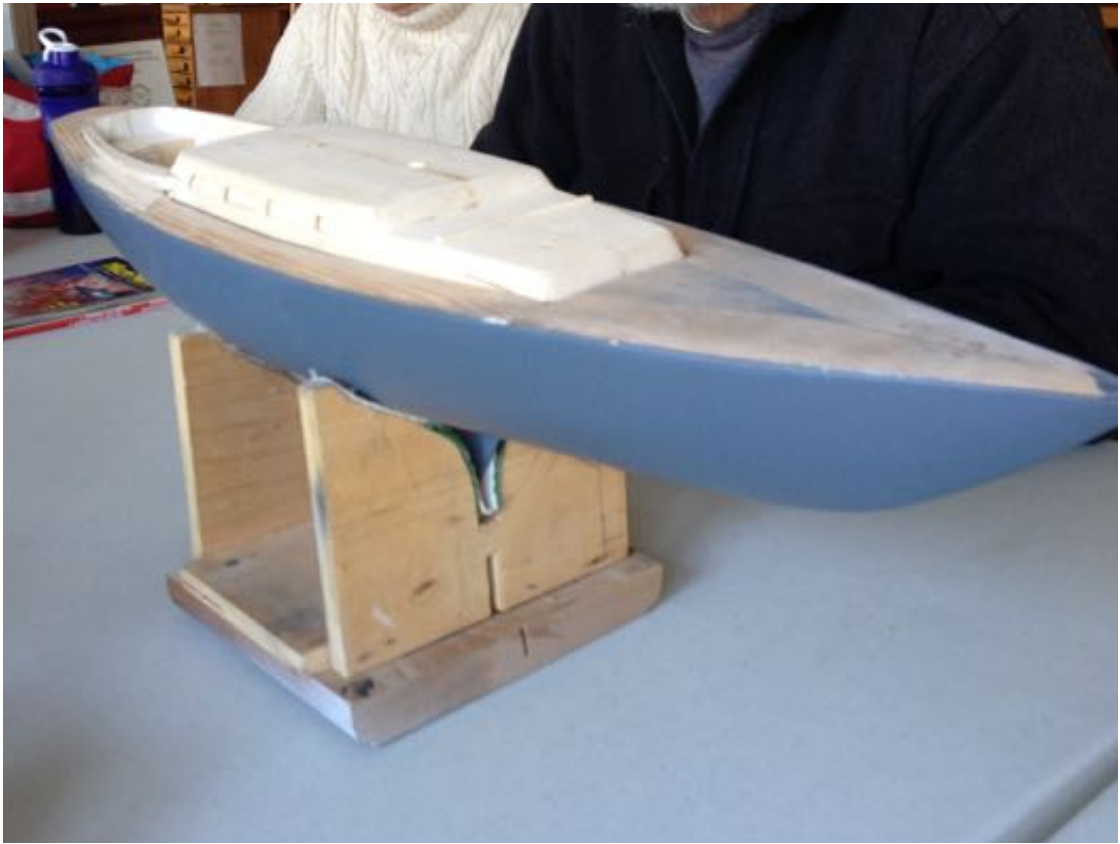
July has already been ruled out for this year's annual club barbecue. August is possible at either Paul Reck's backyard as in the past or, another possibility that Paul suggested, at the San Francisco Yacht Club. To be decided at a later date.

Show and Tell Segment

There always more to this segment of our meeting than what appears in the notes, as the notes are generally limited to physical things that people bring in.

Paul Reck showed a model of 52' Morris Sloop *Audacity* that he started earlier this year with Tom Shea's help. The real boat apparently features a lot of automation and is used as a day sailor.

It seems that every model that Paul takes on offers new challenges. In this case, among other challenges, the boat features 9 skylights, which had beveled stainless steel frames. It also has a U-shaped trough built into the main boom, with a motorized furling gear that lowers the sail into and out of the trough.



The hull of the model is a solid hull carved out of red cedar. In order to depict a modern fiberglass hull, Paul considered using epoxy sealer, but opted to use multiple coats of paint, sanding between coats.

Tom Shea has come a long way on his brig Niagara, having completed the planking and adding the caprail. The model is shown below with its initial base coat of black paint. The actual ship served on the Great Lakes in the War of 1812. She was armed with 18 32-pdr carronades and 2 12-pdr long guns and was approximately 111 ft long between perpendiculars.



Tom's model is based on the 1/64-scale kit by Model Shipways, which his son had initially started. Because of the thickness of the model's built-up bulwarks, Tom noted that the caprail barely extended out over the planking, so he had to remake them for a proper fit.

Clare Hess brought in his colonial schooner model, showing some of the recent additional work he completed, including the quarter deck railings and swivel gun posts. He also made some additions to the stern decorations, adding decorative columns in between the galley lights.



The schooner model is based on the *Independence* kit produced by Artesania Latina, but is highly modified using pear wood for hull planking and boxwood for deck planking. Cannons are temporarily installed using brass rod to hold them down to the deck. Both the barrels and carriage kits were purchased from The Lumberyard for Model Shipwrights, as was all of the replacement wood.



Clare also brought plans he obtained from boat builder Douglas Brooks, who used to work in the small boat shop just up the wharf from the Eureka. The plans are for a small traditional Japanese boat called a Bekabune (beck-ah-boo-nay). Clare mentioned that the boards that make up the hull are edge fastened and someone pointed out that there is a replica currently being built of a Chinese small boat that features edge fastened planking. While Chinese boat construction followed different approaches than the Japanese boats, there is a lot of similarity.



Reproduction of a Chinese boat that was used on San Francisco Bay being built in the small boat shop on Hyde Street Pier.

Leo Kane is working diligently on his 3/16" scale scratchbuilt model of the US Frigate Essex. He didn't bring the plank-on-frame work this meeting, but brought the ship's stove that he had recently completed – a miniature work of art!

After our meeting ended, Paul brought out a beautiful set of large scale plans of the gunboat Philadelphia that he recently obtained from the Smithsonian.

Did I miss anything? Let me know at catopower@mac.com.

**Next meeting is Saturday, June 20th
9:30 am Aboard the Eureka**

Please bring your projects to share and discuss!

Visit our blog site at <http://hspms.wordpress.com>

Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/hydestreetpiermodelshipwrights>