

Hyde Street Pier Model Shipwrights

November News, 2017



Into the Winter

Summertime is commonly a slow period when it comes to ship modeling. Warm weather draws us outside to do outdoorsy things and to do some traveling. But, the weather has definitely gotten cooler, days are shorter, so many of us are staying indoors more. Hopefully, this will mean more ship modeling. And, hopefully, members will be bringing those projects to our upcoming meetings to share with our interested, and interesting, members.

Those of you who don't have the tools and workspace at home, remember our workshop aboard the Eureka is well equipped, and is always there for you to make use of. It's also a great way to volunteer your time to speak with visitors and to show them what ship modeling is about.

Even if you're not working on a ship modeling project at home, start something in the shop that you can pick up from time to time, if only to keep yourself busy between Park visitors. You should also be able to find a spot in the shop to keep your model when you're not around. And, if you're not sure where to put your model when it's done. If you pick a smaller subject, maybe we can find a spot in one of our display cases outside the shop.

Don't forget that as a volunteer, your time working in the shop gets recorded for the benefit of the Park. So, put in a little time and don't forget to record your hours!



NEXT MEETING: Saturday, November 18 9:30am aboard the Eureka

October Meeting Notes

Our October meeting was postponed for one week due to injuries, illnesses, and other issues. So it was held the on Saturday, October 21st, at 9:30 a.m. aboard the *Eureka*. The meeting had 7 members in attendance, plus one guest.

Announcements and Club Business

Treasurer's Report

We didn't have an exact report this month. But, our balance stands pretty well unchanged for the past couple months with no new income or expenses.

Web Report

We operate a Facebook page, and a website hosted by Wordpress. Our Facebook page is now up to 217 followers. Visitors on our website fluctuate over time, but has been generally trending upwards. With an average of about 40 visitors a month over the past year, our site was up to 86 visitors in October. However, September was our biggest month ever, with 174 visitors, spurred by a number of posts including one on the Japanese ship model society, The Rope, and photos from our Alma Sail.

Holiday Party

Since we ended up not having our annual barbecue this year, we're looking at some options for a holiday get-together. A couple options were discussed, but basically look to be some kind of lunch gathering immediately following our November meeting. Details to be announced.

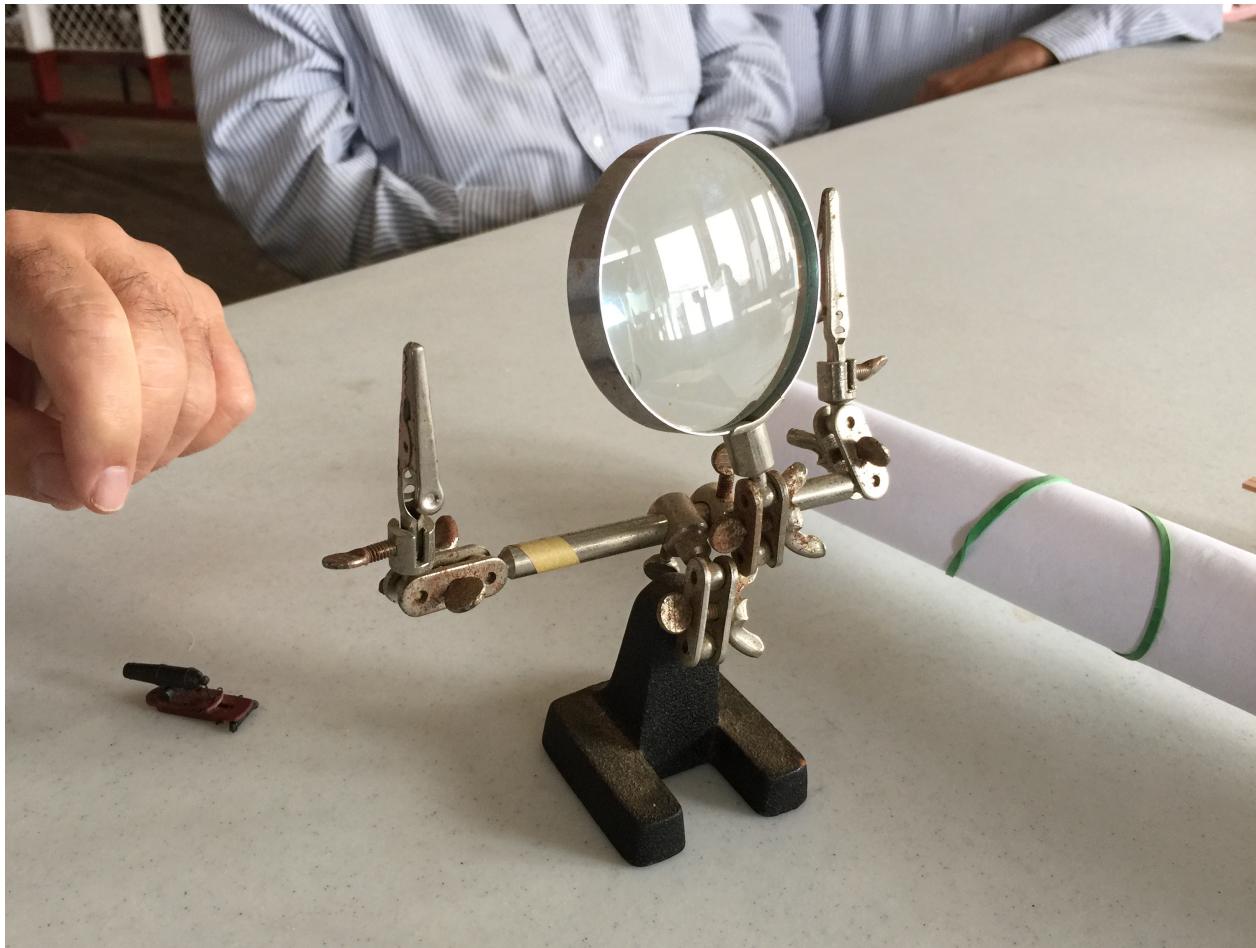
Dues

It was brought up that we are supposed to be discussing any changes in dues for the coming year. With dues not coming up for a couple more months, the issue was put off until the November meeting.

Special Model Shop Warning

ALL HSPMS MEMBERS TAKE NOTE:

Tom Shea, who has returned to us recently from an extended stay in Hawaii, pointed out that he noticed some burn marks in a table of the model shop recently. Investigating this, he discovered the culprit and has a warning to all members who use the shop...



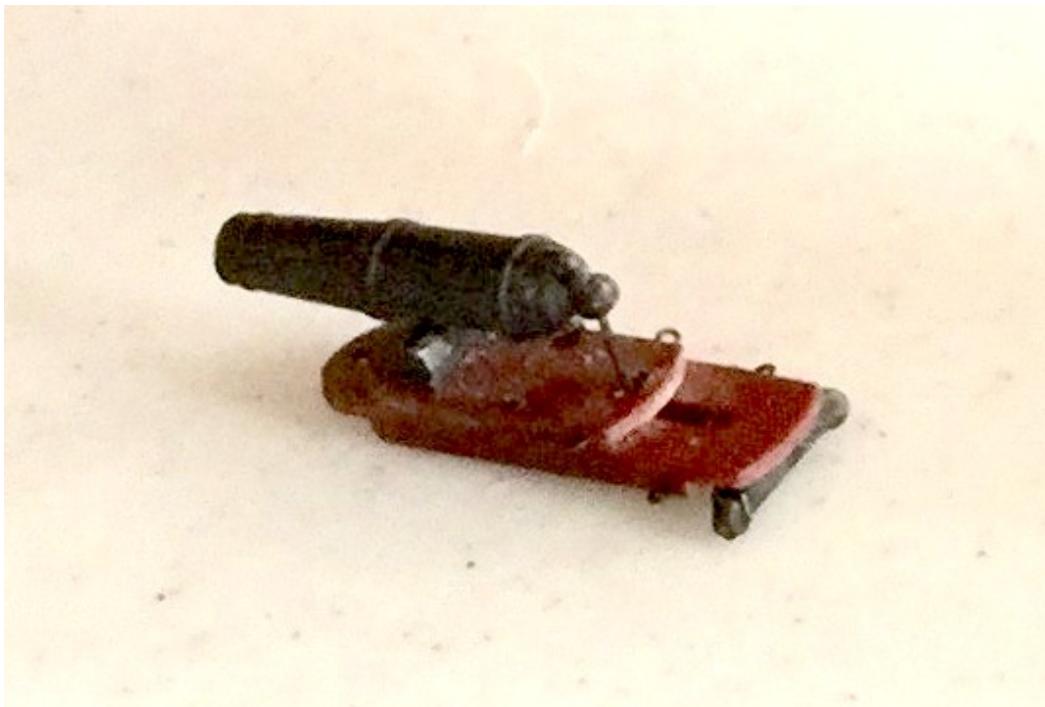
The Two-Armed Culprit – DO NOT LEAVE THIS ANYWHERE NEAR THE WINDOW!!!

Apparently, sitting on the workbench by the window, this little guy created a hot spot on a particularly sunny day, enough to leave burn marks.

From now on, this gizmo needs to be placed on a shelf, out of the way when not in use. Please heed!

Show and Tell Segment

Tom Shea has been away for a few months now, basking in the tropical paradise of Hawaii, but has returned, bearded and looking well. He has since started taking on the construction of the guns for his model of the brig Niagara. This Great Lakes ship from the War of 1812 is being built from the 1/64-scale kit by Model Shipways.



The majority of guns aboard the Niagara were carronades on slide pivot mounts. Above is the first one he completed – only 17 more, plus a pair of long guns to go! Tom pointed out how much rigging is going to have to go onto the gun and it's just the beginning. We're thinking he's going to be building an unarmed vessel next.

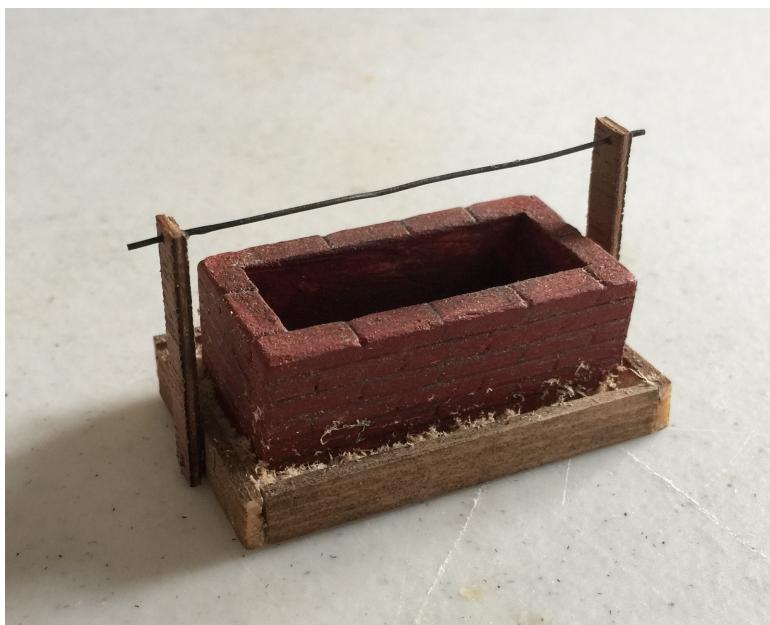
As you may recall, USS Niagara was Commodore Oliver Hazzard Perry's second flagship at the Battle of Lake Erie in September of 1813. Perry's original flagship was Niagara's sister ship, the Lawrence. After nearly 3 hours of fighting, the Lawrence was a wreck and Perry transferred his flag to the Niagara. The battle ended hours later with the note Perry penned "We have met the enemy and they are ours..."

The Niagara's hull measured 123 feet long and she carried eighteen 32-pounder carronades and a pair of 18-pounder long guns.

Paul Reck is busy working on his gunboat Philadelphia and making great progress. He seems to be really enjoying this project, which he is building from scratch using plans he obtained from the Smithsonian. The model is being built to a scale of 1:24.



Ship modeler Dan Canada looks on as Paul Reck discusses building his Philadelphia model



The Philadelphia's stove



The Philadelphia was built in the Summer of 1776 under the supervision of Benedict Arnold who was previously a merchant ship owner and master. The boat was one of eight 54-foot gondolas and four 72-foot galleys built over the course of two months for the control of Lake Champlain. The Philadelphia was armed with a 12-pounder and two 9-pouner carriage guns, plus 8 swivels. She found at the Battle of Valcour Island in October of 1776 and was sunk.

While the British defeated the Americans, the construction of the American fleet delayed the British attack until too late in the year for the British to carry out their plans to reach the Hudson River Valley, resulting in a strategic victory for the Americans.

Tony Lee was our guest at our October meeting. He brought with him a beautifully done model of the brig Leon, which was built by his father based on Harold Underhill plans. The model was built in 1/8" scale, beautifully made from English boxwood.

Mr. Lee was hoping to get some advice on display and possibly completing the model. As beautiful as it was, the majority of the members in attendance suggested displaying it "as is", perhaps adding stub masts and building a display cradle for it.

Paul Reck offered to help with the stand.

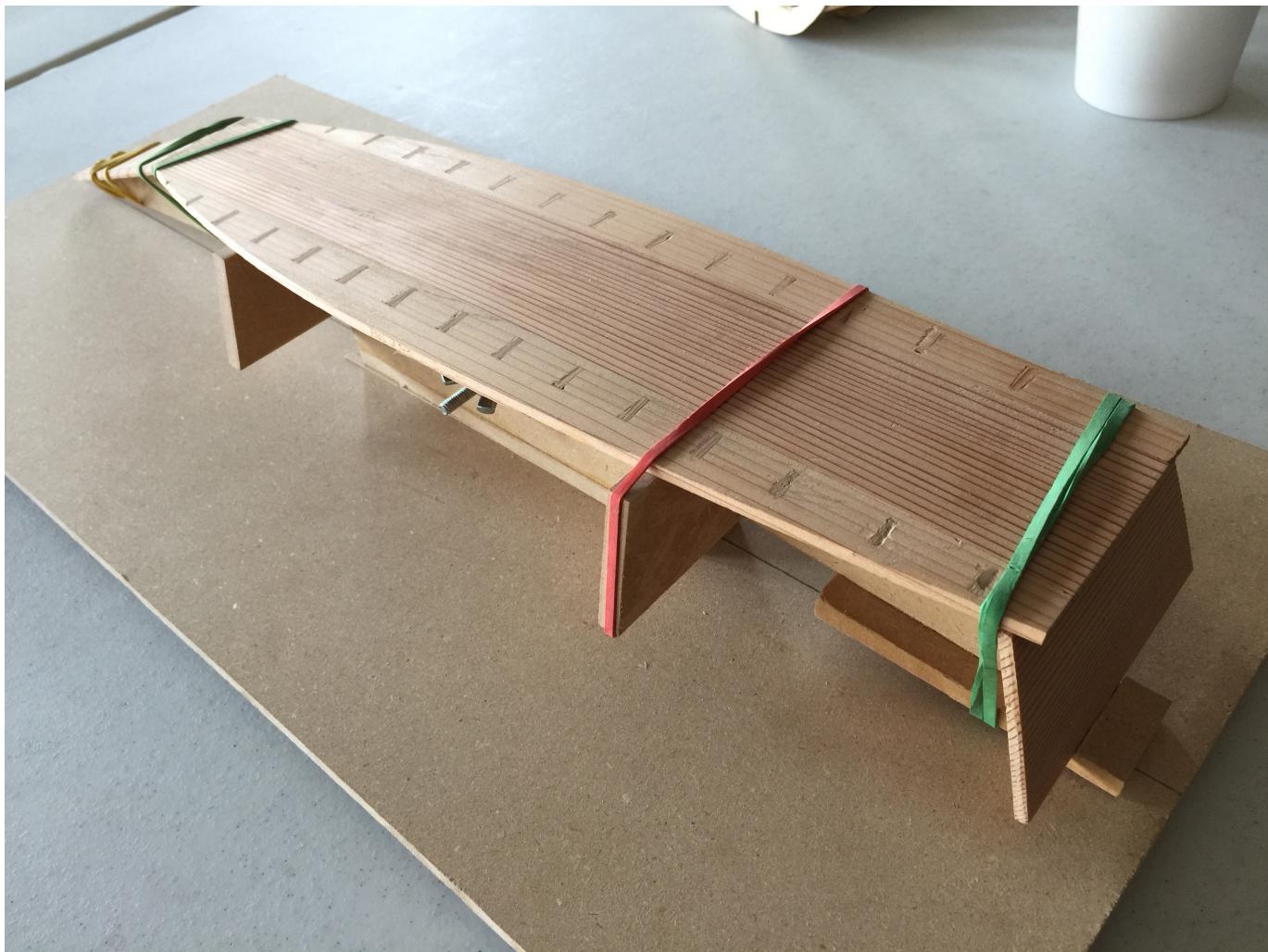


Paul Reck looking over the brig Leon model.



Clare Hess brought in his model of the Hozu river net fishing boat called an Ayubune (Ah-you-boo-nay). The 1/10-scale model is based on boats built by American boat builder Douglas Brooks from measurements taken from a boat he found in Japan.

The model is made from very aromatic Japanese cedar, or sugi. Because it is an open boat with no frames and no way to cover up any holes cut into the hull, he had to come up with a building fixture for it. Hull planks were rough cut, but have to be detailed before attaching them to the rest of the boat.



In addition to the model, Clare also brought a set of 1/10-scale plans for the construction of a Japanese whaleboat he obtained from the Japanese whaling museum in Taiji, Japan. Generically called kujira-bune (coo-jee-ruh-boo-nay), this particular boat was a 34-foot long chaser boat called a seko-bune.

Japanese whaleboats were fast, sturdy boats, brightly painted and used for offshore whaling.



Replica whaleboats racing.

Any corrections? Let me know at catopower@mac.com.

**Next meeting is Saturday, November 18th
9:30 am Aboard the Eureka**

Please bring your projects to share and discuss

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THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, Nautical Research Journal, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology and maritime art.

Other benefits include discounts on annual conferences, ship modeling seminars, NRG products and juried model competitions which are offered exclusively to Guild members. We hope you will consider joining our ongoing celebration of model ships and maritime history.



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