

# HYDE STREET PIER MODEL SHIPWRIGHTS

## May Meeting Notes, 2015



### Meeting Commencement:

The May meeting was something of a surprise for attendees. It took place as usual aboard the ferryboat Eureka, commencing slightly early at 9:28am as everyone seemed to be present with a good turnout. But, as we progressed, more and more members started showing up and we ended up with 11 members present, plus 3 guests, one of whom joined up by the end of the meeting.

In addition, four two guest were member Warren Gammeter's son Darin and grandson Will, who is building his first wooden ship model.

### Treasurer's Report:

Paul Reck reported our balance. After purchasing a couple "kid kits" for the club, and collecting new member dues, we are at \$804.19.

### 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.

### Member Report (addendum):

As mentioned earlier, one of our guests, new ship modeler Seymour Greenstein of Walnut Creek, joined our motley crew at the end of the meeting.

*So, please welcome aboard "Si", along with new members Dale Rappleye of Rocklin, and Mark Rosenbush of San Francisco, who have given our club a nice boost in size this year!*

## 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.

It appears that registration is now open for this event and can be made online at <http://www.thenrg.org>. There was a bit of agitated discussion about the limited number of slots available for the NRG member tours of Mystic Seaport, and the suggestion that wives weren't welcome. This, and other issues seem to be coming up more with the new crop of NRG directors.

**NRG Photographic Ship Model Competition** May 31<sup>st</sup> was the deadline for entries to this year's competition. The competition is a relatively recent development and takes place every other year. It is open to all 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 (MSW) forum members automatically receive NRG Associate Member status, allow them to enter the competition. MSW membership is free.

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.modelshipworld.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. Please keep bringing your project work so we can share about them with everyone.

**Dan Canada** started off the segment with a model of the *Carrie Price*, an oyster dredger "Skipjack". The real boat is still in the water, and is the last working sailboat in the U.S. Dan's model is 1/4" scale (1:48) and was originally started by Paul Reck, who scratch-built the hull. The model is based on details given in V.R. Grimwood's book.



Skipjack *Carrie Price*

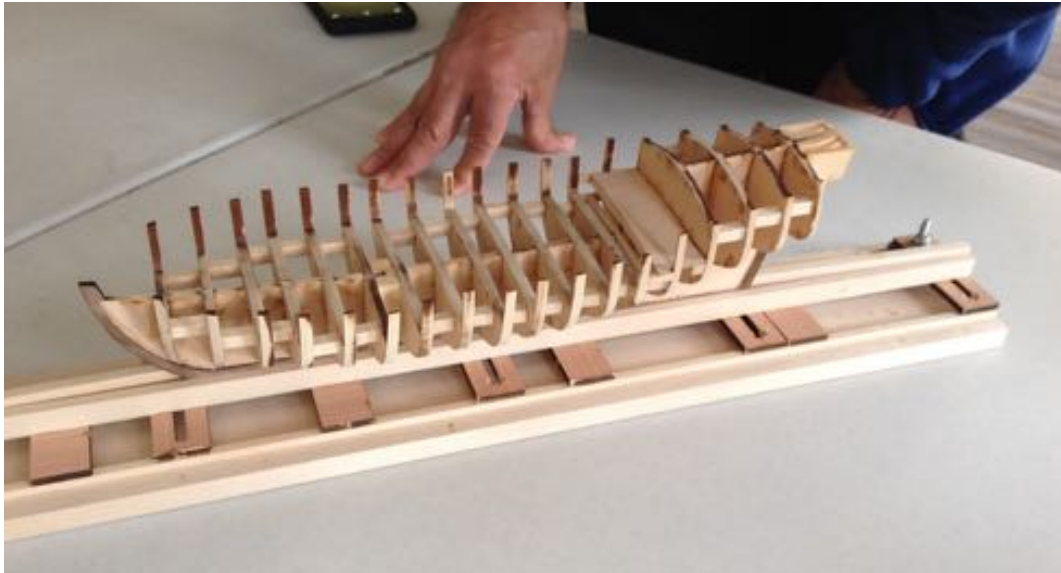
**Clare Hess** brought in his *HMS Alert*, which is a 1/96-scale paper model of the English cutter built in 1777. The *Alert* initially patrolled the English Channel for smugglers and carried out surveillance duties. In her first engagement, she captured the American brig *Lexington*, which had used up most of its ammunition in the capture of 14 prize ships



The model is built from a kit from a Polish company called Shipyard. Clare pointed out that paper models are very inexpensive and take very few tools. They can have many of the features of a wooden model. This particular model even features a clinker-built hull.

**Dale Rapple** showed us the progress he's made on his Armed Virginia Sloop model. He now has the bulkheads all in place and the model has taken on the form of a ship. The ¼"-scale model is now temporarily mounted on a special building jig made by Model Shipways called a Fair-A-Frame.

The ship is a replica of a Virginia Built privateer of 1768, a direct descendant of the Bermuda sloops of c.1740.



Armed Virginia Sloop, 1768

**John Ferguson**, who we haven't seen for a while, brought in a half hull he has been working on for the San Francisco Yacht Club. The model is of the 1928-29 yacht Water Witch. It is ½"=1' scale model built up bread and butter style using lifts of red cedar.



**Barbara Hayes** brought in her mini-Oseberg that she is building for the club. This has been quite a challenge for her as it is her first wooden ship model. This is one of the kits the club acquired as a kid project. The idea being that we will have a kit or two that visiting kids can participate in building. These aren't projects that they are expected to see to the finish, rather kits that they can have a hand in by adding a piece or painting a part.

Barbara is taking notes on construction so we have some idea as to what difficulties a kid may have in construction.

Barbara also showed off some of her wonderful ship's wheel rope work.



**Charles Hayes** brought in a set of plans for a Monterey Clipper fishing boat that he is going to start building soon. The Monterey Clipper is a type of fishing boat common to the San Francisco Bay Area. It is a direct descendent of the Italian Felucca.

**Leo Kane** has been working on his 3/16"=1' plank-on-frame model of the U.S. Frigate Essex of 1799. Leo is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year of construction on the model and he is now in the process of finishing up the gun deck. The model is getting more complex every day and this may be one of the last times that we will see the model at our meetings due to increasing difficulty in transporting it.

The Essex is famous for her exploits in the Quasi War with France, the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812 when she took the war into the Pacific and did irreparable damage to the British whaling fleet before she was finally cornered and captured off Valparaiso.



U.S. Frigate Essex, 1799

**Our Final Show and Tell project** was from Warren Gammeter's grandson Will who brought in his model of a Boston Whitehall Tender. This model being built from a Midwest kit is an open boat at a scale 7/8"-1'. With the first planks in place, the young shipwright is well on his way!



Did I miss anything? Let me know at [catopower@mac.com](mailto:catopower@mac.com).

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

**Please bring your projects to share and discuss!**

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