FORECASTLE REPORT

Newsletter of the Chicago Tri-Club Association ◆ March, 2023

• Scuttlebutt •

• The February NSD Meeting•

The February North Shore Deadeyes meeting did not have any models for Ships on Deck, but that did not stop Rick Szydelko from conducting an excellent meeting. Rick started out with a video taken in 2005 that featured a presentation by a very young looking Gus Agustin.

Bob Filipowski then presented a brief talk on various fixtures and jigs he has used over the past 30 years. In every case the net result in terms of time saved and model quality was quite evident.

Gold Leaf Application

Gus Agustin demonstrated his techniques for applying gold leaf material to ship's detail items in such a way as to take all the mystery out of this procedure. Gus outlined his "Tips for Success" – read instructions, test products before use, sand wood properly and clean metal surfaces. The steps also included: 1) Priming the area to be gilded, 2) Sizing the area to be gilded, 3) Gilding, 4) Sealing the surface.

One good thing is that you can buy kits from hobby shops to do this work in a variety of materials that include gold, aluminum and copper. Genuine gold and silver leaf can also be purchased, but the results don't justify the cost.

Other materials you will need are gilding primer, leaf adhesive (sizing) and acrylic clear coat. Some fine cheesecloth for wiping off the unwanted leaf material and a paint brush, which you wet to transfer leaf to the object, are also needed. Gus admitted that there are times when gold leaf can be "too much" and common gold paint will give you a more realistic appearance. Have a go at it and you'll be amazed how nice the job will turn out.

Registration Now open!

Registration for the Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest is now open. Additional details on contest rules, hotels and a tentative event schedule are also available on the museum website.

Important dates for your calendar:

January 31 - Online/Mail-in Registration Open

April 13th - Cut Off Date for Hotel Registration at Maritime Inn & Suites

May 1 - Closing Date for Registration

May 19-21 - Contest takes place at the Museum

Tri-Club March Meetings

The NSD March Meeting

By Rick Szydelko

The March Deadeyes Zoom meeting will focus on vintage Deadeyes Tips and Techniques. A package (PDF) of this North Shore Deadeyes long running feature about making your models more accurate, less time consuming, or in some cases, less expensive, will be sent to you for your examination. Instructions and the hope for the results of the discussions will also accompany the message. The materials for this meeting will be distributed by the end of the week of February 19th.

Proceedings will begin on Wednesday, March 1st, at 7:00 PM CST, but you will be able to log on at 6:30 PM CST. See you then?

The NRMS March Meeting

Conducted by Kurt Van Dahm

Normally, the Nautical Research & Model Ship Society holds hybrid gatherings in Westmont, IL on the second Saturday of the month. Unfortunately, due to the unpredictability of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NRMS has not confirmed whether F2F meetings will resume. In any case, invites for a virtual meeting will be sent out a few days before the March 11th session. Proceedings start at 7:00 PM CST, but you will be able to log on at 6:30 PM CST. Hope you can make it!

The MMS March Meeting

Building a Vietnam Era PBR

By Joe Lorenzo

If there is one combat vessel that is synonymous with the Vietnam era, it's the US Navy PBR. Joe Lorenzo will explain how he and a team of fellow members from the Model Shipwright Guild of Western New York built a model of this iconic vessel for the Military History Society of Rochester Museum.

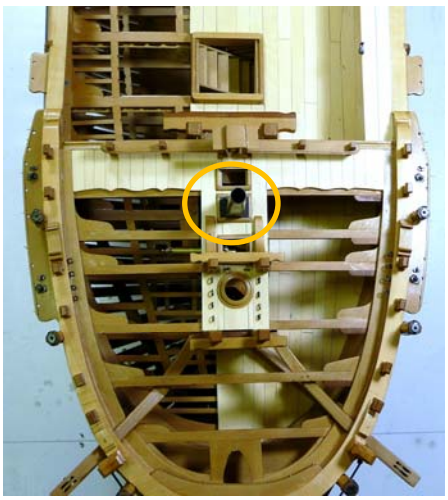
This Zoom meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th at 7:00 PM, CST. You will be able to log on as early as 6:30 PM.

Tri-Club Presentations

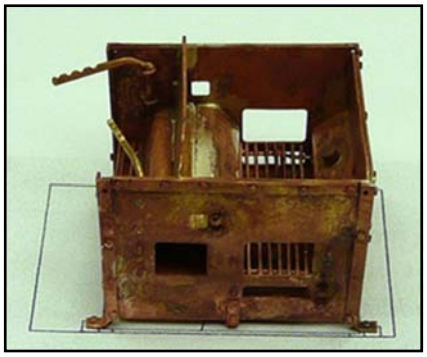
Building A Brodie Stove, Part 2

By Bill Maxwell

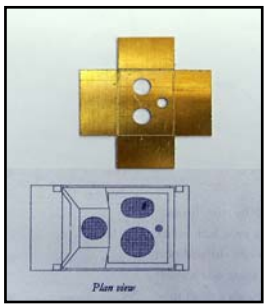
Part 2 of Bill Maxwell's presentation on building a Brodie stove began with some overall shots of HMS *Fly*. Bill pointed out the stove's location as well as some other points of interest on this magnificent model. Woods used during construction included Costello boxwood, Holly, and Swiss Pear. The windows were glazed over with thin mica. The overall finish is Danish oil. It is interesting to note that in spite of the level of excellence the model exhibits, Bill still feels that HMS *Fly* has been a learning tool for him.

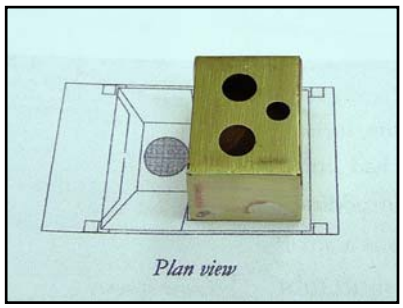


The stove had a bit of a rough appearance at the end of last month's presentation, which was to be expected due to the flux and three different grades used during the process. Bill stated that for this reason he never had two pieces separate during the soldering procedure. He did admit that unless he used a wider flame on his oxy-acetylene torch, it was possible to burn a hole through the thin brass.



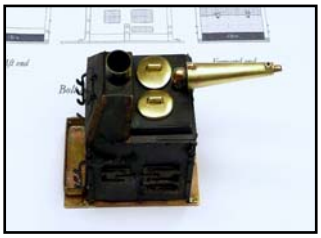
When forming the various segments, Bill would cut kerfs .005" deep in the patterns. It produced sharp clean bends when being formed. He emphasized the need to use carbide endmills when building this stove.





In these views the stove is almost finished. The lids were turned down and filed to shape, and are permanently attached.

After the assembly was blackened with a product called *Win-OX*, it was installed on the model. Originally, Bill had intended to keep the doors open, but reconsidered when he realized that they could fall off the hinges if the model was tipped upside down or bumped violently.



The two final major pieces were the still and the chimney. Both assemblies offered the same challenge since their overall shape was a taper. However, the still was the easier of the two since its cross section along its entire length was circular. Although, in real life, it could be pivoted, Bill opted to mount it permanently in what he felt was the best position.

The chimney presented more of a challenge since it went from square to round along its length. The outside shape was machined from square bar stock, and the core was drilled out.

Tri-Club Presentations

Making a Ship in a Bottle Hull the John Fox Way

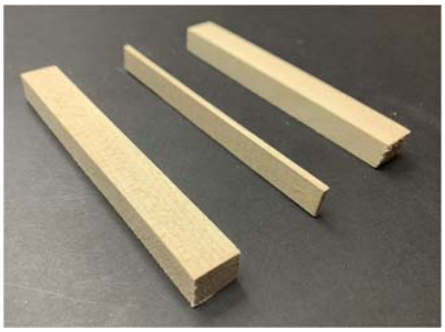
by Dan Cicero

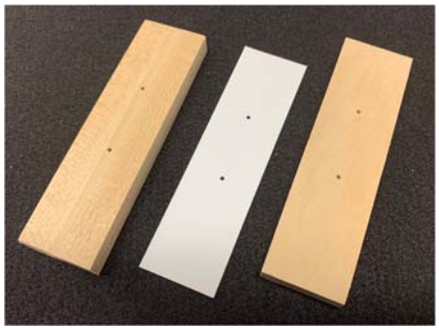
Construction of the Yacht *America* was started by making a hull block sandwich. This was done by gluing 1/16" x 3/8" basswood pieces between two basswood pieces 1/2" x 3/8".

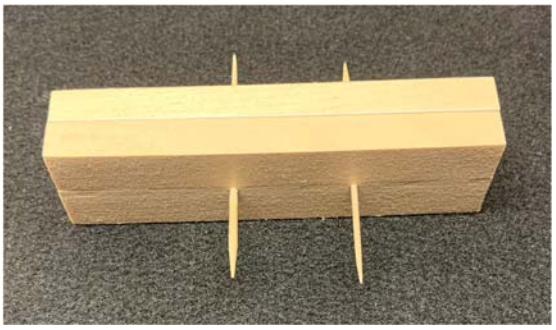
The rest of the hull block was made with .010" sheet styrene cut 1" wide to the same length as the lower hull piece. A piece of 1" x 3/8" basswood with also cut to this length.

The three pieces of the hull block were then taped together and 1/16" holes were drilled through all three parts in the locations indicated in the plans.

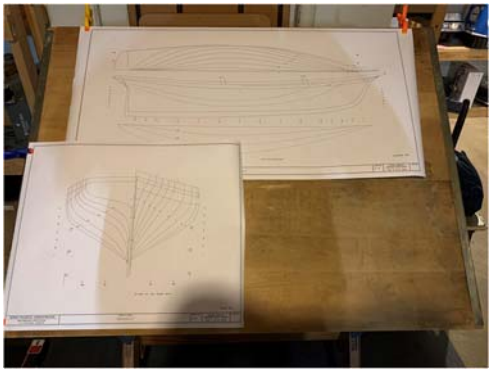
The thin piece of basswood running fore and aft through the hull forms a reference line for the keel. The styrene sheet forms the waterline. The dowels held everything in place as the hull was formed.

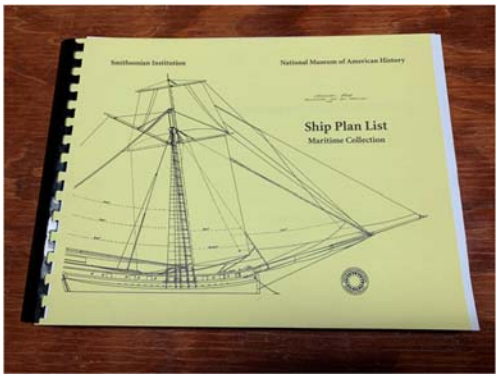


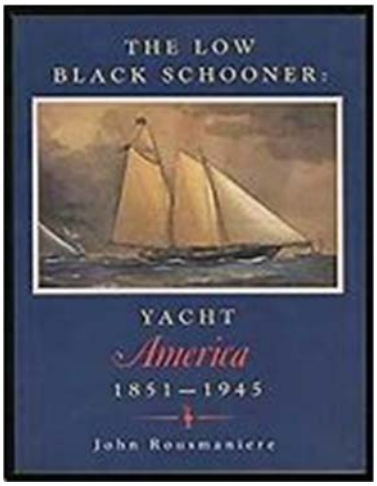




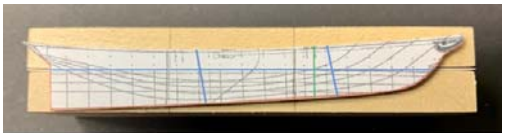
Sources for the hull lines: Chappelle (1933) and WPA Historic American Merchant Marine Survey (HAMMS) drawings from the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History, Ship Plan List, Maritime Collection

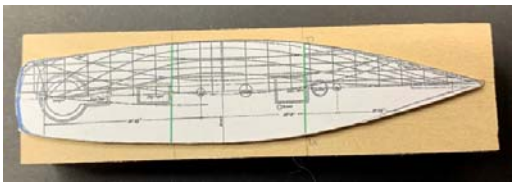
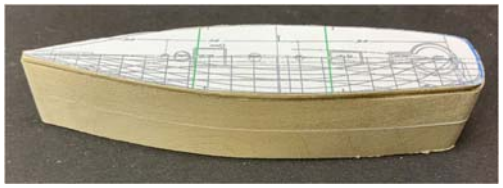


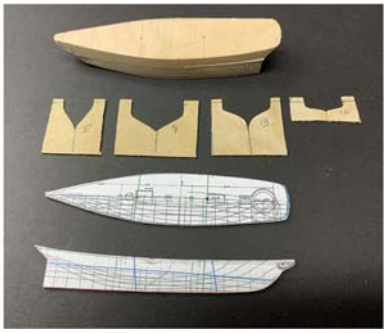




Plan View and Side View scaled to the proper size, mounted to plywood and aligned with the centerline and waterline.







See Ship in a Bottle,

Making a Ship in a Bottle Hull the John Fox Way

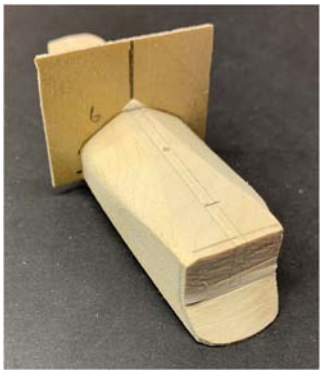
by Dan Cicero

CONTINUED

Carve, sand and fit the templates against the hull until they touch at every point.

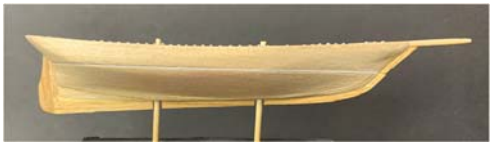
John Fox recommends carving the bulwarks with a #11 X-Acto blade, but Dan couldn't make that work. He used a Dremel in a drill press stand with a mill bit.

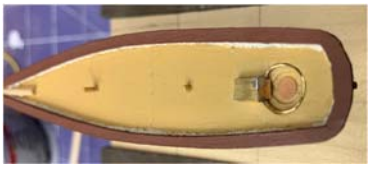
Cicero did the same thing for the bottom of the upper hull. This indentation will provide room for the threads to run through the hull when raising the masts.



The hull, carved with the keel, rudder, and bowsprit installed.

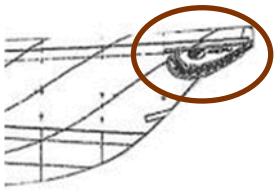
Thin paper strips were used to make the timberheads, which were mounted to the bulkheads. The cockpit is a distinctive feature on *America*, so that was also added.



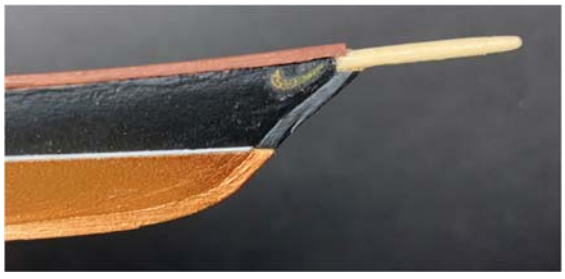


To make the cap rail, Dan traced the bulkhead on tracing paper. Copies of the tracing were cut out and mounted to plywood. He covered the drawings with waxed paper, wetted the cap rail stock and edge bent them to the final shape. The cap rails are installed and painted, and the brass cockpit trim and deckhouse are in place.

The trail boards are very distinctive, and the stern eagle still exists, so he wanted to include them on the model.



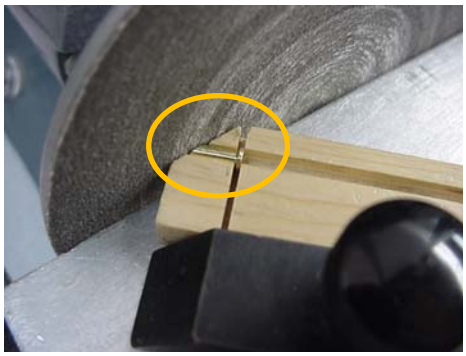
Dan started by tracing the trail board, copying the tracing and then using PowerPoint to clean up the drawing. He changed the color and put it on a black background. The images were scaled to size, and multiple copies were made on the same page. After printing them out, cigarette paper was taped over the copy and it was run through the printer again. Finally, they were sprayed with lacquer to protect them. They were then secured to the hull with white glue.



Misc. Fixtures & Jigs

By Bob Filipowski

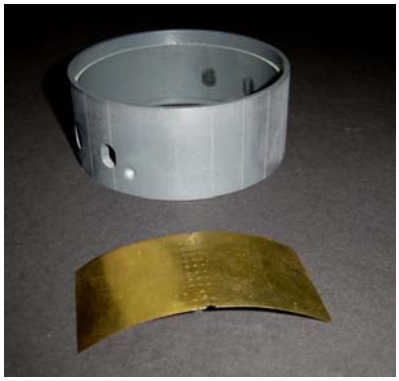
Bob Filipowski opened his presentation by stating that fixtures and jigs are one of those unique aspects of our hobby that can be immensely helpful in terms of quality and productivity, but you may use a particular design only once. He then proceeded to show the membership some examples.



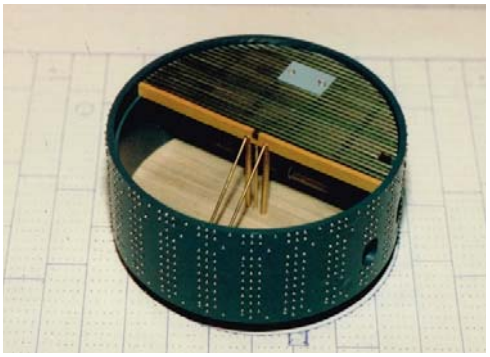
Making a Charlie Noble. The flange is soldered. The two halves were epoxied together.

A fixture for coiling a dory anchor cable. The fixture is the same size as the actual model, and it's surface is coated with candle wax.

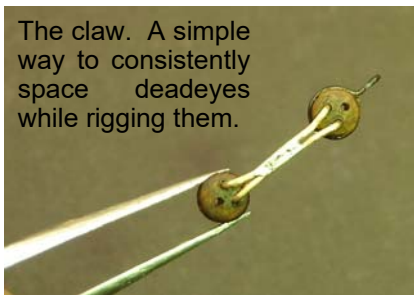
A simple way to line up your gudgeons and pintles while mounting them.



Duplicating the rivet pattern on the *Monitor's* turret.



The claw. A simple way to consistently space deadeyes while rigging them.

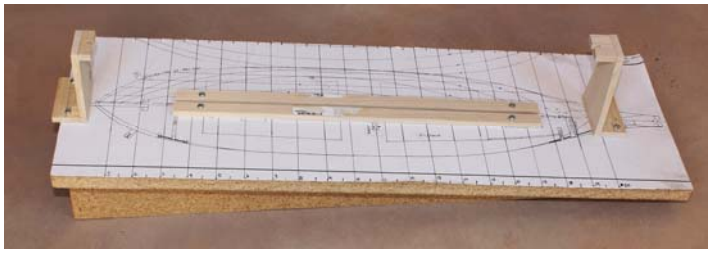


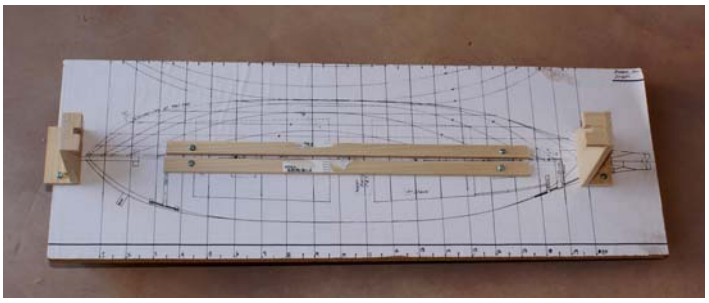
Aligning and gluing a cap rail.

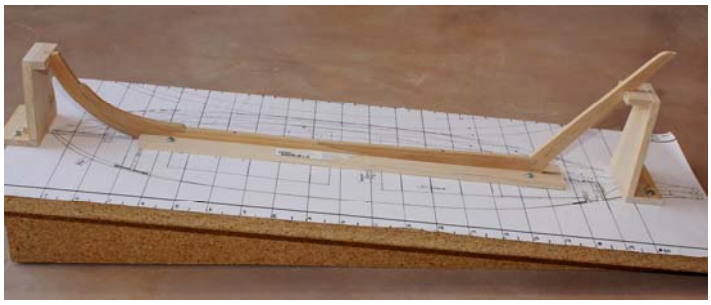
Ships on Deck

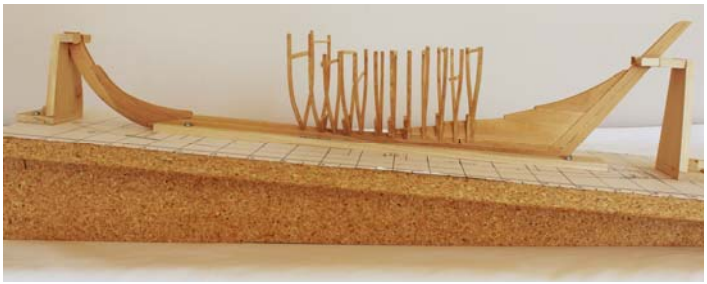
Glad Tidings by Toni Levine

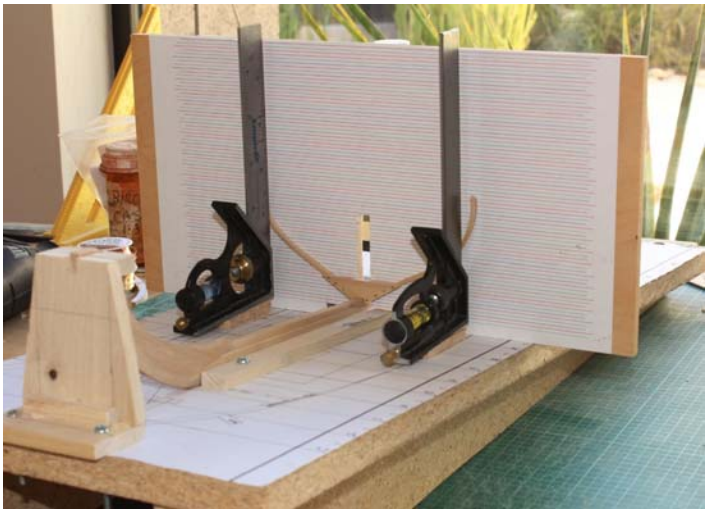
Photos by Toni Levine

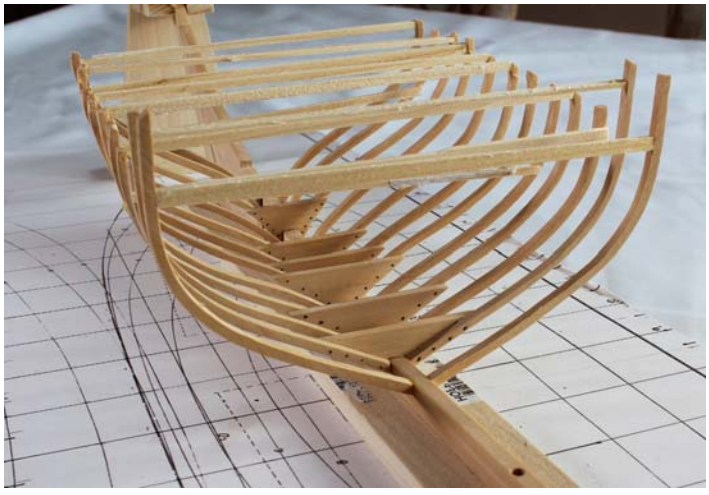












"Ships on Deck" , continued on Page 7

Ships on Deck

Krabbenkutter by Dave Amstutz

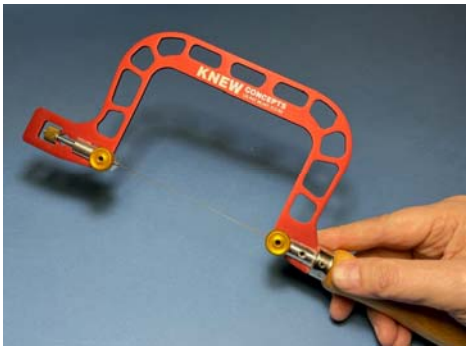
Photos by Dave Amstutz

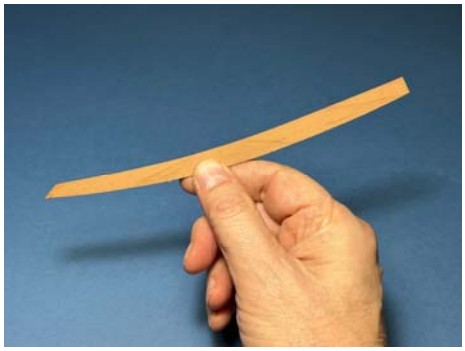
"Ships on Deck" , continued on Page 8

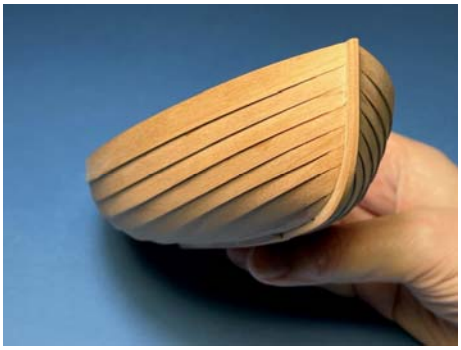
Ships on Deck

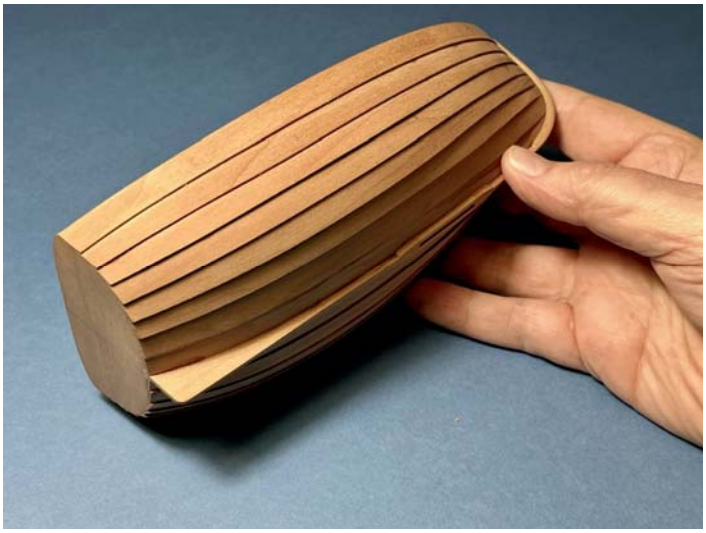
Auklet by John Pocius

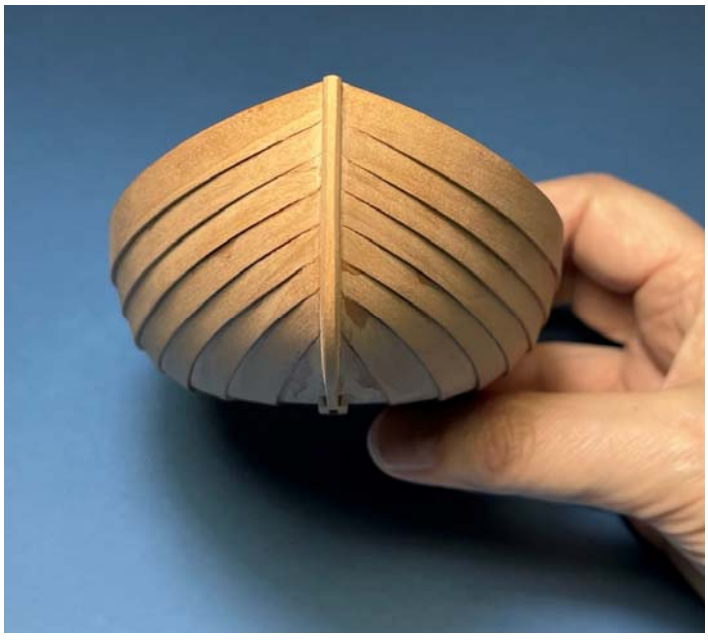
Photos by John Pocius









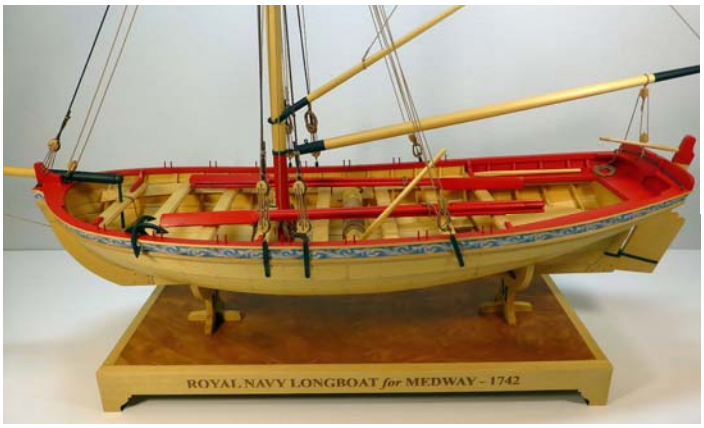


"Ships on Deck" , continued on Page 9

Ships on Deck

Medway Longboat by Ryland Craze

Photos by Ryland Craze



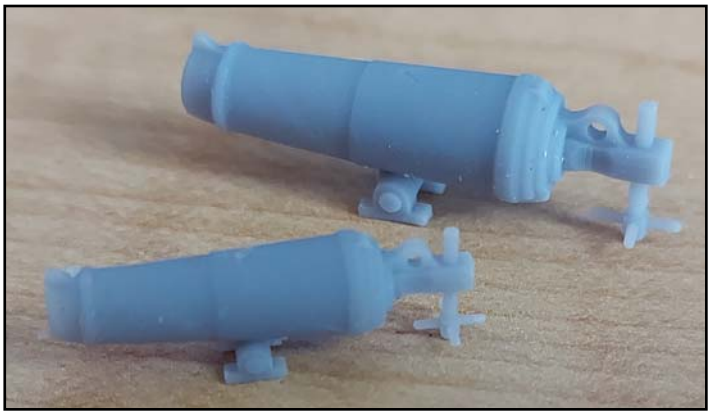
"Ships on Deck" , continued on Page 10

Ships on Deck

3D Carronades by Alan O'Neill

Photos by Alan O'Neill

Alan e-mailed STL extension files to a member of his local club and the pieces were printed for him with a resin printer. Here are two examples. The larger is about 1" long and the smaller about 3/4" in length. Alan will clean them up a bit, being very careful with the fragile screw nut handles. They will then be painted flat black with multiple light coats from a spray can of acrylic paint. O'Neill will highlight the maker's arrow and powder pan with a smoky grey acrylic paint. This is a mixture of black and white from tubes being applied with a fine brush.



Here are a pair of elastic operated wooden clamps that Alan made. These have a reach of 8-1/2" and it was discovered that when set they do not budge!

• Tri-Club Anti-Piracy Policy •

Here is a list of banned companies that have been pirating and duplicating kits, books, and plans from reputable manufacturers. Quite often these disreputable companies offer their products at what appear to be reasonable prices, but these items are often poor in quality. Many of them do not have websites. They market their illegal products via the Internet on sites such as eBay.

If you are contemplating your next project, please check this list. If you are not sure, discuss it with Kurt Van Dahm before you commit to a purchase. For easy reference, this information will appear in all future issues of the *Forecastle Report.*

Please note that *CAF* has been removed from this list.

ZHL	WN
RealTS	Unicorn Model
Snail Model	YQ (YaunQing)
XinFeng	Master
JD Model	CN
LHQK	CF
Shi Cheng	Shi hai
Woodenkit (Russian MFG)	4H Model
YengFan	SC
Moxing	DUJIAOSHOU

"Ships on Deck" , continued on Page 11

Ships on Deck

HMS *Bounty*

By Keith Zeilenga

Chicago Tri-Club Association Officers & Staff

NSD President - Rick Szydelko –szydelko@sbcglobal.net
NSD Vice President—Kurt Van Dahm –modelshipyard237@gmail.com
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NSD Treasurer - Ed Urbanczyk—turband@comcast.net

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