



Newsletter of the Chicago Tri-Club Association ♦

December 2023

● Scuttlebutt ●

Congratulations to Tri-Club member Ken Goetz. Ken's model of the sea-going tug *Sanson*, was the featured model for November in the NRG 2023 calendar.



Originally an Artesania Latina kit, Goetz upgraded the 1:50 model with numerous improvements.

The actual vessel was equipped with a powerful 2,000 CV steam boiler. The vessel could develop speeds of 14 knots while coming to the rescue of much larger vessels. In the middle of the 19th century, navigation underwent a great revolution, the main factor being the introduction of mechanical propulsion. As a result, ships gradually increased in size and displacement, losing in the process the ease of maneuvering in docks and ports. Thus, the tugboat was born. A new type of shallow draft, small-tonnage vessel with more than enough motive power and maneuverability to assist vessels much larger than themselves.

● Holiday Pizza Bash ●



The Holiday Pizza Wish List was passed around at the October and November meetings, and most of you indicated your choice of toppings and beverage. For those of you who intend to be at

the December gathering, but were not at the last two meetings, please contact Bob Filipowski by no later than December 13th with your choices. If, by chance, there is a change of plans, and you can't make the December session, please let us know as soon as possible.

December Tri-Club Meeting Schedule

The NSD December Virtual Meeting Civil War Ironclads, Torpedoes, and Submarines



The December North Shore Deadeyes Zoom meeting will feature a video on various types of naval vessels and weapons used during the Civil War. Innovation was the name of the game during this violent period in our history. Narrated by Craig L. Symonds, Professor Emeritus of History at the US Naval Academy, this is a most interesting presentation.

Proceedings will begin on Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00 PM CST, but you will be able to log on at 6:30 PM. Invites will be sent out a day or two before the meeting.

The NRMS December Meeting SHIP MODELING RELATED VIDEOS



The Nautical Research and Model Ship Society's December meeting will be a hybrid session. The face to face segment will be held at 237 S. Lincoln Street, Westmont, IL. Kurt requests that those who plan to attend in person let him know so they can be accommodated.

For those preferring to attend the virtual version, an Invite will be sent out a few days before the December 9th meeting. Proceedings start at 7:00 PM, but you will be able to log on as early 6:30 PM.

Kurt will be showing some modeling related videos.

The MMS December Meeting The Annual Holiday Pizza & Flea Market Celebration



Arguably the most popular meeting of the year is upon us. In addition to featuring our holiday pizza bash, we are inviting you to bring in your unwanted kits, tools, plans and books. This is a great chance to make a few dollars, and maybe, pick up a bargain or two!

The meeting will commence at 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday, December 20th at
The Dasom Community Church
501 S. Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL



Ships on Deck



Gerda III by Neil Hurwitz

Photos by Neil Hurwitz

Here are a few photos of Neil's finished model of the Danish lighthouse tender, *Gerda III*.

Hurwitz first saw the actual boat at Mystic Seaport on 11/7/98. Exactly 25 years later on 11/7/2023, Neil put the finishing touches on her. Congratulations, mate!



"Ships on Deck" continued on Page 3



Ships on Deck



(2) *HMY Mary's Circa 1660* by Gus Agustin

Scale: 1:384

Photos by Robert Fryszak & Gus Agustin



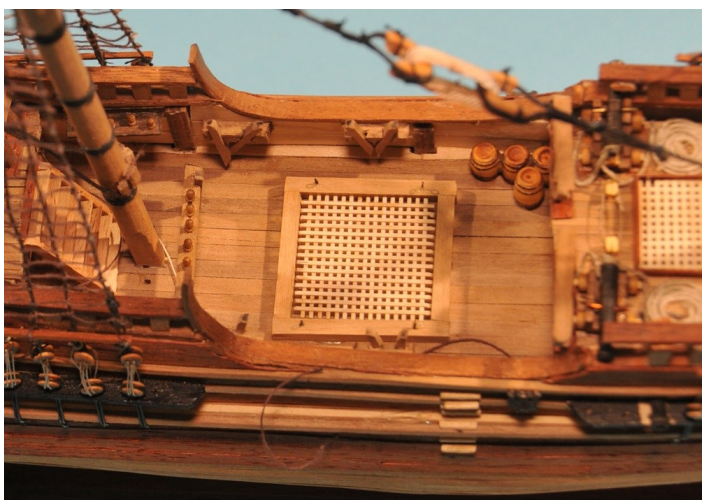
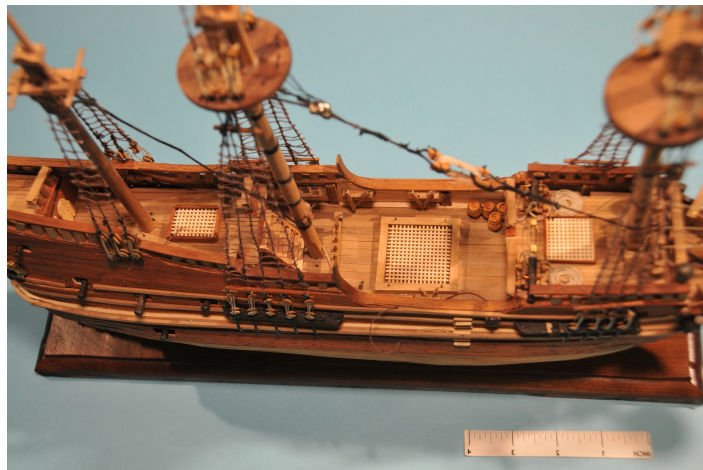


Ships on Deck



Dutch Flute by Raymond Kroschel

Photos by Robert Fryszak



"Ships on Deck" continued on Page 5

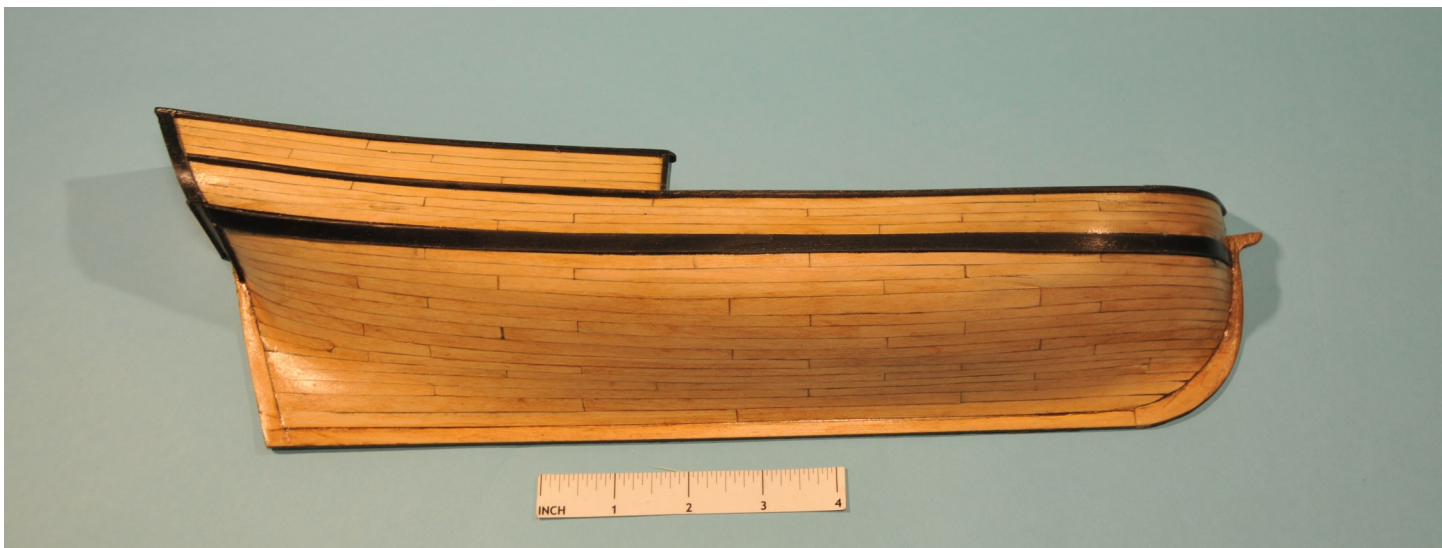
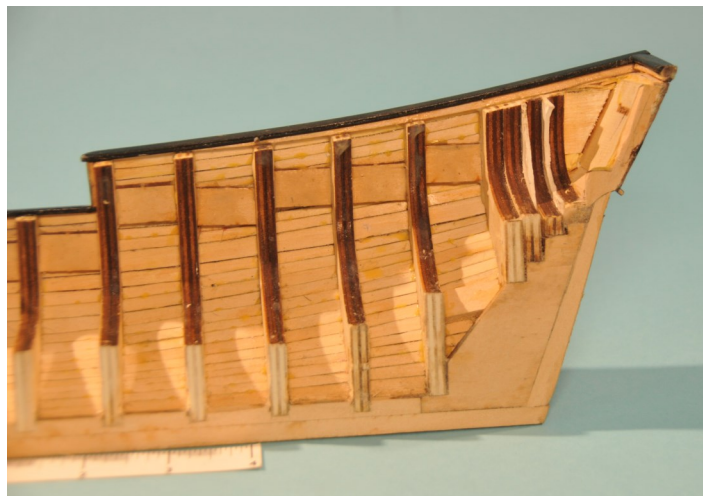
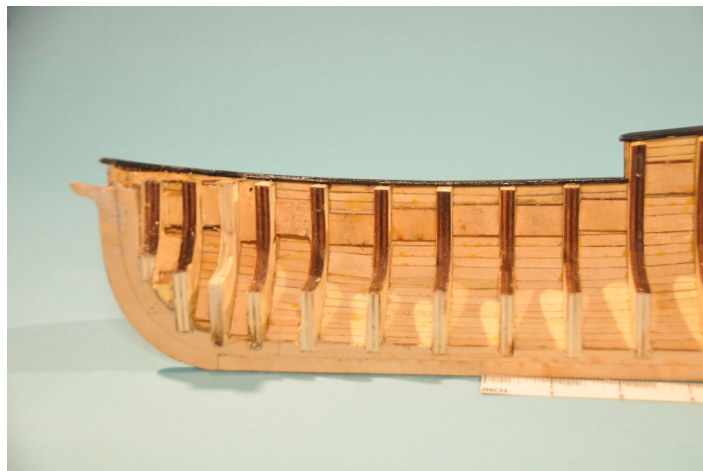
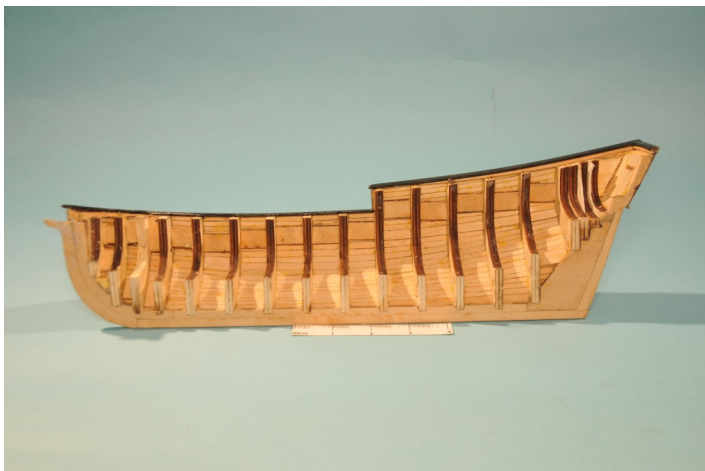


Ships on Deck



NRG Spiling Kit by Don Purney

Photos by Robert Fryszak



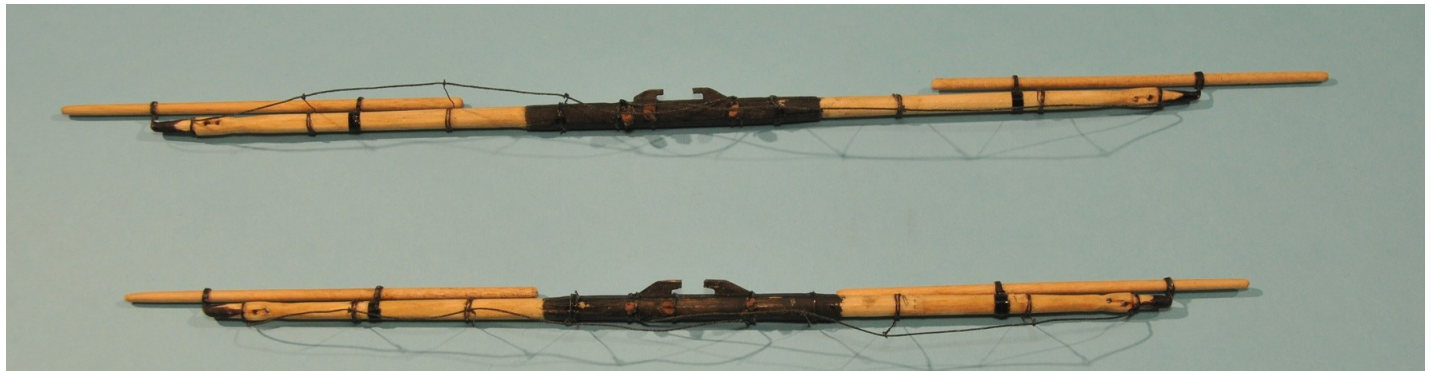


Ships on Deck



Fair American Yards by Don Purney

Photos by Robert Frysztak



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November Presentations



The Army LT-5

By Bill Emerson

Bill Emerson has gained quite a reputation among Tri-Club members for his quality work and excellent presentations. His November talk for the North Shore Deadeyes meeting was no exception. A member of the Model Shipwrights of Western New York, Bill has contributed models to numerous museums in the Eastern part of the United States.

One of his most recent contributions featured a model of the US Army Tug LT-5, which was donated to the H. Lee White Museum in Oswego, New York.



Emerson's presentation began with a brief history of this tug, which was also known as the *Major Elisha K. Henson*. Built during WWII, she was a major contributor during the DD Day landings. She was tasked with towing two monstrous elements of the Mulberry artificial harbor across the Atlantic for the June 6th invasion. While on station, she also shot down a German fighter.

Bill builds all his models plank on bulkhead. He then coats the planks with two-part auto body epoxy. Many of the tug's parts are made with the help of a laser cutting machine, thus insuring greater accuracy.

One interesting aspect of this project was the research that was required to complete the model. Some of it involved the location of the two 50 caliber machine guns and the life boat which differs from the one used in 1944. Bill used the vacuum forming method to fabricate the hull for this prominent feature.

Glue: How To Use and How To Undo

By Kurt Van Dahm

It would be safe to say that Kurt Van Dahm's treatise on glues gave you all the information you will ever need. Starting out with an extensive list, Kurt discussed the pros and cons of each type.

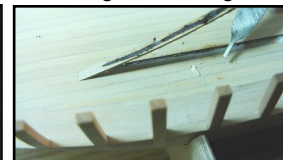
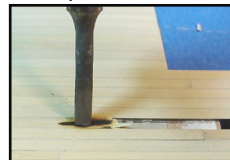
The various glues mentioned included white (PVA), carpenter's (yellow), epoxy, CA, solvent types for plastics, contact cement, rubber cement, cellulose (Duco, Ambroid) and hide glue. One of the largest and most popular family of glues is the Polyvinyl Acetate or PVA types. Their uses range from children using them in school to industry and the hobbyist. The big plus is the fact that no MSDS is required for them.



A large number of carpenter's glues are PVA based, and possess qualities such as high tack, different levels of water resistance, variable drying times and color when dry. Kurt stated that Yellow Carpenter's Glue has a yellow additive so you can differentiate it from the white varieties.

One of the more intriguing segments of Van Dahm's talk involved undoing glued joints. Depending on what type of glue you are dealing with, different procedures or chemicals are required. They can include the use of something as simple as water, or as aggressive as acetone or 99% isopropyl Alcohol.

In some cases, heat may be required, which can range from an open flame to a low-wattage soldering iron. Both can present their own hazards.



Removing a plank with a soldering iron.

• 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*.

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

Please note that CAF has been removed from this list.