



# Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights ♦ www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com ♦ March 2014

## ● Scuttlebutt ●

**COMMODORE, Bob Filipowski**, opened the February 2014 meeting promptly at 7:15 with 24 hands aboard. Fewer present but more models on display and a great presentation made for a very enjoyable evening.



Once again, we were advised that those who's dues have not been paid by the end of February, will not be receiving the newsletter in April. If you fall into this group, it's not too late to make out a check to "Midwest Model Shipwrights" for \$20 and send it to our Purser: **Allen Siegel, 843 Bryant Ave., Winnetka, IL 60093**. Thanks, mates.



The first 2014 **Air Brush Workshop** will be held March 22nd from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the workshop of **Kurt Van Dahm, 237 S Lincoln St., Westmont, IL**. This workshop was so popular that it is already full, but a second workshop is planned in April (19th or 26th) for those who missed out on the first date.

For those attending, you can bring your own airbrush but you will have to also bring a compressor or have ¼" quick connect "Badger" fittings on your air hose.

Looking forward, an intermediate level workshop may be held in May or at a later date, depending on demand.



The 2014 **Tri-Club Symposium** will be held on Saturday, September 20th at the **Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Willow and Sunset Ridge Roads, Northbrook, IL**.

This year's fee will be \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Morning coffee/rolls and a box lunch with refreshments will be provided. Setup is 7:00 - 8:00 AM. More on the Speakers and Round Tables later.

Mates, put this event on your calendar now and be sure and attend. This is a great outing where you can get to know your fellow modelers and learn something, too!

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### 2013 OFFICERS & STAFF

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## March Meeting Notice

### Deck Planking Techniques - Part I

*By Bob Filipowski*

Now is your chance to get the scoop on how to plan, lay down and finish that deck of yours and achieve an authentic and professional result.

Bob Filipowski has spent many years developing this art and knows just how to present it in a clear, understandable manner. You don't want to miss his opening presentation on this critical modeling technique.

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 19, 2014  
At the Community Presbyterian Church  
407 Main Street in Mount Prospect

## ● Folk Model Restoration ●

*By Doc Williams*

As Bob Filipowski said in his meeting summary email: *"Doc Williams showed us that restorations can represent a very different discipline. We all left...with a better understanding of what it takes"*.

All hands agreed that the work Doc did to restore this historic model was truly professional. Pictures being worth 1000 words, let these "before & after" photos speak for themselves.

**Before**



(c) Midwest Model Shipwrights

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"Folk Model", continued from Page 1

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We were led through the restoration process one step at a time with photos to illustrate the work performed. Doc thus accomplished the first requirement for professional restoration; DOCUMENT EVERYTHING! Use photos and keep a work log.

A complete inventory of all the broken, missing or dirty items was first made to help assure that nothing would be overlooked or forgotten (nothing worse than having parts left over).

Once the entire scope of the project was known and documented, work to dismantle parts of the model was started. Only those elements that needed removal, either for repair or to allow access to interior parts, were attacked.



Where wooden parts needed replacement, every effort was made to match the antique "patina" of the original using a variety of "artists oils". Oils were selected rather than stains because they could be more easily mixed to the desired colors and could be removed, if that



became necessary.

Flags were added, at the request of the model's owner, using the methods developed by Gus Agustin. Some research was needed here to be sure the Spanish flags were representative of the model's period.



All-in-all, a magnificent job, mate. You've saved a gem.

"Scuttlebutt", continued from Page 1

The following press release was just received and is reprinted here for your information:

*The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest and Display will be held May 16-18, 2014 at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, Manitowoc, WI. The show will feature models from across the nation as well as Canada built by all levels of model ship craftsmen.*

*The contest judging does not pit one model against another, rather each model is judged individually and awards are based on a points earned basis with Novice, Intermediate and Advanced skill levels with Gold, Silver and Merit awards within each level. Awards are based on the points earned with as many awards at each level awarded as earned. Models can also be entered strictly as exhibits and not judged.*

*Saturday afternoon will feature a Modeler's Symposium that will lead off with a welcome from the museum's new CEO, Rolf Johnson who will invite the modelers to brainstorm ideas for the future model contests with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the horizon. Speakers will be Alex Derry with a hands-on discussion about the techniques used to build the model Ticonderoga. Joe Simon will follow with Secrets of a Plastic Modeler; Tips to Take Your Model to the Next Level.*

*Awards will be presented at the Saturday night Banquet Dinner with Captain Gary Schmidt, a freighter captain for 40 years, giving an excellent after dinner program; "Real, Honest Sailing with a Great Lakes Captain."*

*Sunday morning's Informal Modeler's Roundtable will be a brainstorming session about future contest ideas and informal discussions on modeling.*

*The event will conclude at 2 PM on Sunday with the awarding of the People's Choice Award.*

*For more details and complete registration information check the museum's web site:*

[www.wisconsinmaritime.org/special-events/](http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/special-events/)



The **2014 NRG Conference** is being held at the Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel, St. Louis, MO. From the 16th to the 18th of October. Special room rates have been arranged for attendees.

The Conference schedule includes a tour on the 16th with tech sessions on the 17th and general discussions on a wide range of nautical interests on the 18th. Speaker commitments are still being worked out and will be announced when finalized.



In a special offer being made on the "Model Ship World" web site, those signing up for NRG membership in the month of March will also receive a free copy of "Shop Notes II". This is valid for new memberships only, but it is a real incentive for those not already members to get on board with a very valuable bonus. This is a \$35 value.

## ● Ships on Deck ●

**Tim Riggs** has set up a workshop at his new home in Texas and has launched a carving project to make a pair of dolphin supports for his model brig.



Tim also found a useful tool that he wanted to pass on to the crew. In order to repair broken band saw blades, he wanted to silver solder them together but didn't want to invest in expensive welding equipment. The solution was a small butane torch that has a small, 2400-degree flame. Two were found and his favorite was offered by *Woodcrafter* at around \$12.00. He now has a ready supply of welded blades. Nice going, mate. Thanks for the tip.



**Neil Hurwitz** has finished off the *English Longboat* sent to him by **Sid Wotman**. Sid lost interest and sent it to Neil, but Neil found the project to be a pleasant diversion from



working on larger scale models. His results were



right on the mark. Nice photo work, too, as the ocean scene background really adds a touch of realism. Thanks very much, mate, for sharing your work with us.



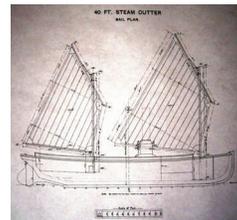
**Kurt Van Dahm** brought in two books that he found very worthwhile: “*Secrets of Expert Mold Making & Resin Casting*” and “*Real Honest Sailing With a Great Lakes Captain*”.

In addition to these reading recommendations, Kurt also sent us photos of the results he achieved with his repair work on the HMS *Pandora* model we saw last month. Nice work on the sticks and strings, mate.



**Bob Filipowski** continued the literary theme by showing us a book he has added to the Tri-Club Library; a copy of “*Standard Designs for Boats of the United States Navy*” ca. 1900.

The book is a treasure trove of information with plans for everything from balsa boats to steam launches. Drawings are all inclusive and detail everything including flagstuffs. The book can be borrowed by any Tri-Club member in good standing.



**Paul Pollowy** says he has completed work on the hull for his Roen Barge *Solveig* (a converted LST). Since the



original engines had been removed, Paul only had to install the rudder & prop guards—no props or shafts. Work is progressing on the traveling crane and aft crew quarters. She's taking shape beautifully, mate.

**Your Editor** has mounted the *Ship's Boat* to the stern of his 1/4-scale scratch-built model of Great Lakes schooner *Challenge* ca. 1852 and has started working on the masts.

A “gripe” was added to help secure the ship's boat, per plan.



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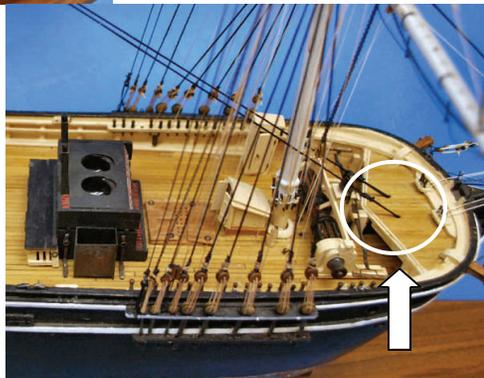
**Doc Williams'** 1:64 whaling ship *Charles W. Morgan* ("Model Shipways") has all yards, masts, booms & gaffs installed and all standing rigging complete. The windlass and lead and



spare whale boats have also been installed. Work in progress is all the running rigging, which we'll see later.

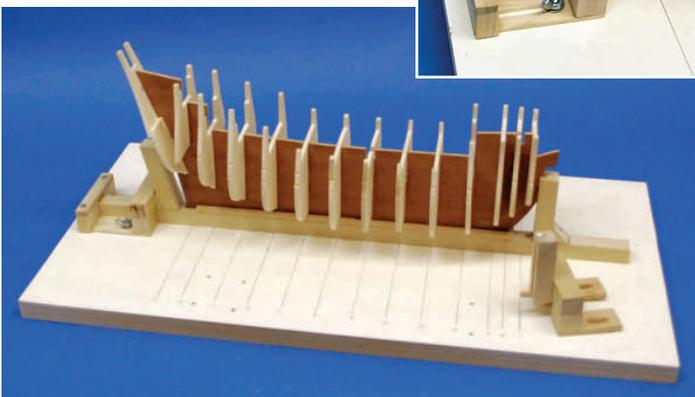
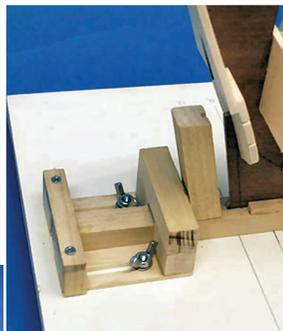


Of special interest is the way the main stay passes through the foredeck. That took some considerable skill and planning to achieve. Nice going mate. She's a real beauty.



**Allen Siegel** is working on a 1:50 kit of Henry Hudson's ship *Half Moon* and says the initial experience has been fun and full of learning opportunities.

Allen spent some time designing an adjustable frame alignment jig that allows him to snug



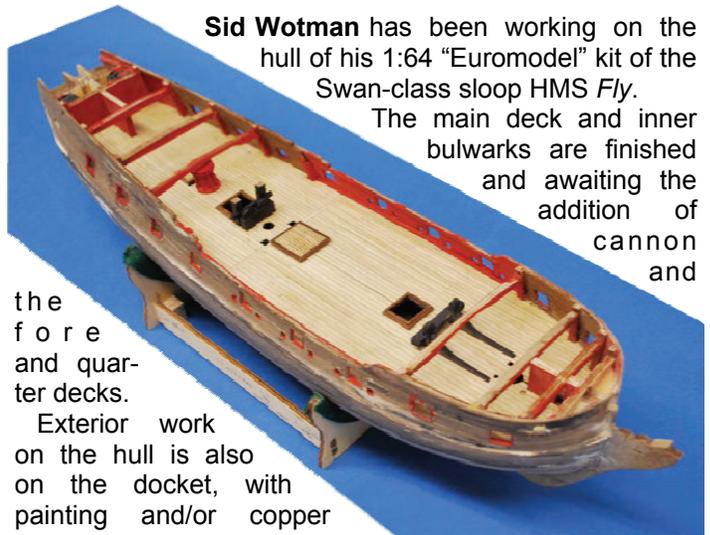
up the frames fore & aft. Nice work, mate. This is well on its way to becoming a great model and we look forward to following your progress in the coming months.

**Sid Wotman** has been working on the hull of his 1:64 "Euromodel" kit of the Swan-class sloop *HMS Fly*.

The main deck and inner bulwarks are finished and awaiting the addition of cannon and

the fore and quarter decks.

Exterior work on the hull is also on the docket, with painting and/or copper



plating below the water line in question. Sid is leaning toward copper, as he likes the appearance it gives. Whichever, she'll be a beauty, mate.

**John DePew**, our Associate Member from Tallahassee, FL, has sent us a photo of his model *HMS Diana*, which

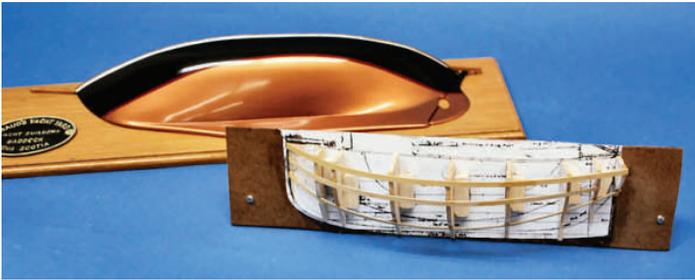
he has been working on for the past six years. Two very neat additions to his project have been a bowsprit guard to protect against damage in his workshop and the use of a mobile PC stand that allows him to move his model around easily. Thanks, mate, for your great ideas. We enjoy hearing from you.



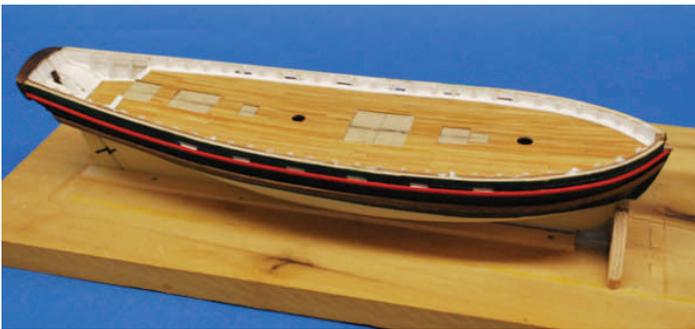
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"Ships-on-Deck", continued from Page 4

**Peter Pennigsdorf** showed us two half-hull models, one over 33 years old and one started 4 weeks ago. Peter hopes to use the lines from the old model to create a new one exactly one foot long (footie), which he will sail.



**Gordon Field** has solved all the "waterway mysteries" on his 1:48 model of the pilot schooner *Katy of Norfolk* and now she's really shaping up nicely. Very neat painting



and a finely laid deck have added greatly to the beauty of his model. Keep up the great work, mate.

Our mate, **Dave Botton**, has sent us word of his continuing modeling activity and has started work on a fine looking card model. Your new project looks outstanding, mate. Welcome to the card model fraternity!



**Bob Sykes** has put in a lot of hours on his 1:60 "Euromodel" kit of the *Friedrich Wilhelm* ca. 1660.

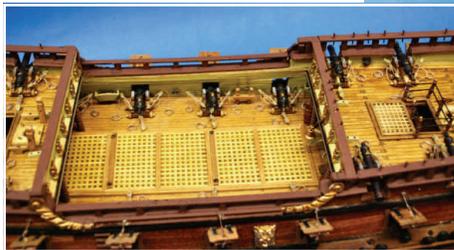


The results are very dramatic. This model has such a richness and beauty about her that you'd swear this was an historic patina.

Finish on the cast metal parts is very good and Bob has worked them into the hull and decorated them so well that they look to be hand carved.

A great job of mounting the cannon also adds to the model's attraction.

This is approaching the pinnacle of kit building and



it's hard to imagine any result on this kit achieving greater beauty.

**John Pocius** has done up his model of the *Type XXIII German U-Boat* in a diorama depicting an aerial attack from a flight of British fighter bombers. The background is an original oil painting and the water spout is cotton. A very imaginative



and appealing result, mate. Details on the sub's bridge are very fascinating with hand painted figures made of gesso on wire armatures. A really great job, mate!



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"Ships-on-Deck", continued from Page 5

**Richard "Rich" Romaniak** has achieved a final launching of his 1:64 composite model of a late 19th century working schooner.

This model began life as a 1974 "Revell" kit but was embellished with the addition of scratch-built blocks, masts, spars, sails, decks and ship's boat. Deck figures also form a deck diorama. A real winner for sure, mate.



**Helmut Reiter** has finally joined together the bow and stern of his 1:48 model of the HMS *Pegasus* and we can see the total scope of his project. The ship has really come together with the completion of the hull framing and

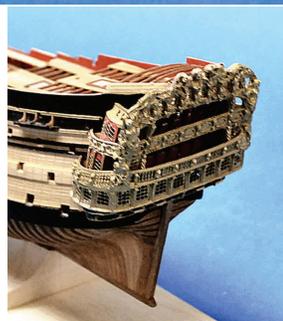


now it is on to work that Helmut says will be a lot more fun for him. Cutting and fitting all those frames was a real chore, but Helmut has carried it off with his usual attention to fine detail. We're sure the rest of this model will come up to his high standards, as well.

**Gus Agustin** has again taken up work on his 1:192 model of the HMS *Royal William* - 1719 after an 8-month



break (see July 2013 Fcstl Rpt). To get back to work after almost a year of other distractions, Gus will first work up a check list of things needed to finish this model. These photos do not give a reference to the true size of this great miniature. She's a masterpiece, mate!



## HISTORIC SHIP PROFILES

### ● HMS *Pegasus* - 1779 ●

HMS *Pegasus* was a 28-gun Enterprise-class sixth rate. This frigate was launched in 1779 at Deptford and sold in 1816. *Pegasus* had a relatively uneventful career and is perhaps best known for the fact that her



captain from 1786 to 1789 was Prince William Henry, the future King William IV.

After commissioning in May of 1779, she participated in actions at the Great Siege of Gibraltar, action off Cape Finisterre, the Battle of Cape St. Vincent, and the Battle of Martinique. During

action in the Caribbean, she captured the French sloop *Allegiance*. After being paid off in 1783, she was recommissioned in 1786 for duty on the North American station. *Pegasus* returned to Plymouth and was decommissioned in 1788.

Toward the end of her career she was fitted out as a troopship and participated in the siege of Alexandria, Egypt. In 1803 she was in the Mediterranean and by May 1805 she was a guard ship at Harwich.

By 1811 *Pegasus* was a *receiving ship*\* at Chatham and was sold in 1816.



#### Career

Name: HMS *Pegasus*  
Builder: Deptford Dockyard  
Launched: 1779  
Commissioned: May 1779  
Fate: Troopship 1800  
Guard ship 1805  
Receiving ship 1811  
Sold 1816

#### General characteristics

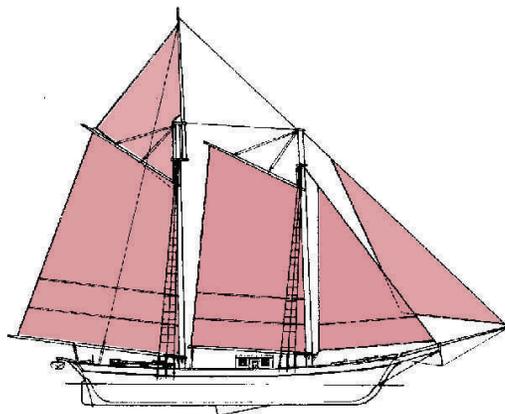
Class & Type: *Enterprise*-class sixth-rate frigate  
Tons burthen: 593  
Length: 120 ft 6 in (36.7 m)  
Beam: 33 ft 6 in (10.2 m)  
Depth of hold: 11 ft (3.4 m)  
Complement: 200  
Armament: Upper deck:  
24 x 9-pounder guns  
Qtr deck:  
4 x 3-pounder guns

\**Receiving ship*: "an obsolete or unseaworthy ship moored at a navy yard and used for new recruits or men in transit between stations". *Merriam-Webster @ m-w.com*.

Ref: *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. en.wikipedia.org.



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