

FORECASTLE REPORT



Newsletter of the Chicago Tri-Club Association

March 2024

● Scuttlebutt ●

Members Only



In the last Forecastle Report it was stated that nonmembers can view NRG workshop videos for a small fee. Unfortunately, this was incorrect. Only NRG members have access to this perk, and this is at no cost.

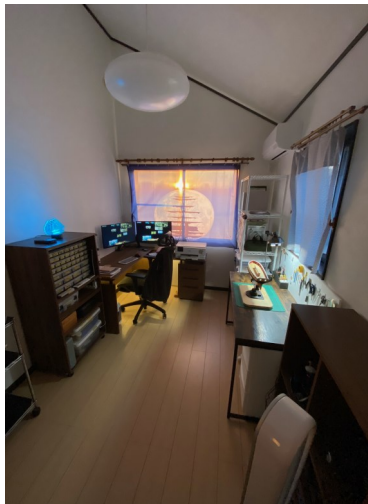
The video of the just completed workshop featuring Mr. Ian McLaughlan, an authority on the history of sloops of war, is now available for viewing. This presentation dealt with the sloop's development in the latter part of the 17th Century. This talk included a substantial amount of graphic images and watercolors, many of them done by the presenter. If you couldn't attend this forum, here is your second chance.

As of this last workshop, 15 forums have been presented with 14 of them being available to members as videos. Plans are already underway for number 16. These videos can be accessed using the links provided on the NRG website. With this wealth of information being available, why wouldn't you want to join the Nautical Research Guild?

● Patrick's New Mancave ●

Patrick Sand's workshop can be described as neat, functional and classy! It was quite a challenge utilizing the limited space he had available in his new home in Japan, but it looks like he hit a homerun!

We are sure its pristine appearance will result in some excellent model ships. Congratulations, mate!



March Tri-Club Meeting Schedule

The NSD March Meeting Has Been Cancelled



Rick Szydelko is taking a well-deserved vacation, and will resume North Shore Deadeye virtual meetings in April.

The NRMS March Meeting



For March, the Nautical Research and Model Ship Society meeting will be the only "game" in town. As usual, a hybrid session is planned. The face to face segment will be held at 237 S. Lincoln Street, Westmont, IL. Kurt Van Dahm 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 March 9th meeting. Proceedings start at 7:00 PM, but you will be able to log on as early 6:30 PM.

A Shipwright Hiatus



The Midwest Model Shipwrights will not be meeting until April but do not despair! You can still get your monthly model ship fix by attending the Nautical Research and Model Ship Society gathering. We hope you will support our sister club during this shutdown.



USS Constitution
by Robert Fryszak



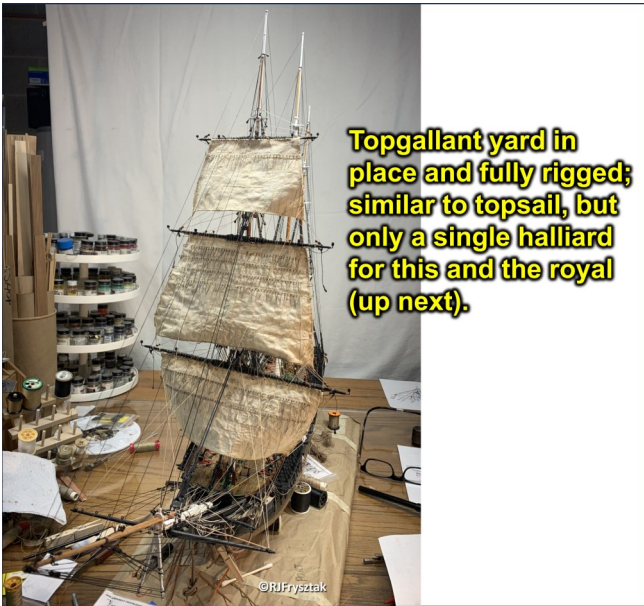
Added all the tackle to the Topgallant yard, and trimmed the sail as before. Only one row of reef lines – yeah!



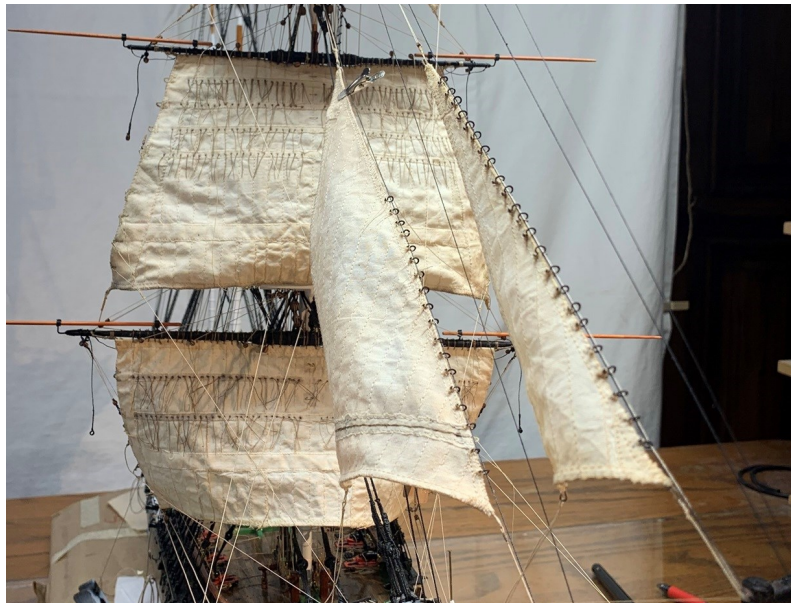


USS Constitution

by Robert Fryszak



Topgallant yard in place and fully rigged; similar to topsail, but only a single halliard for this and the royal (up next).



Royal completed. Fron and rear views of rigging.

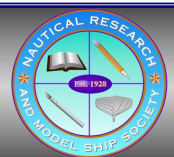


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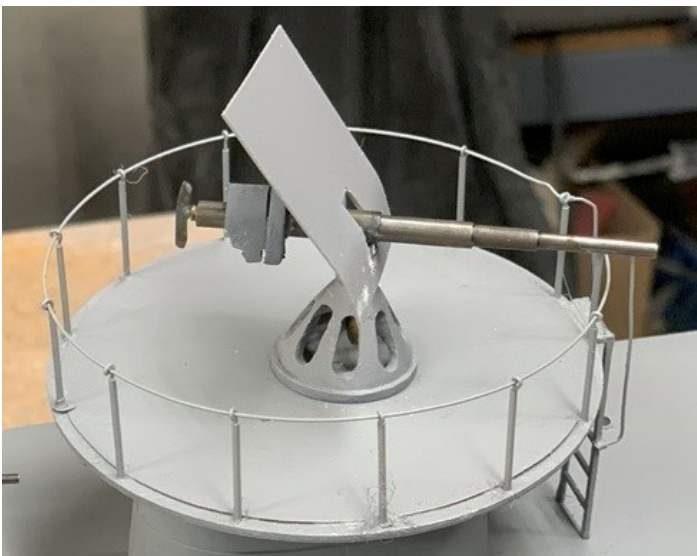
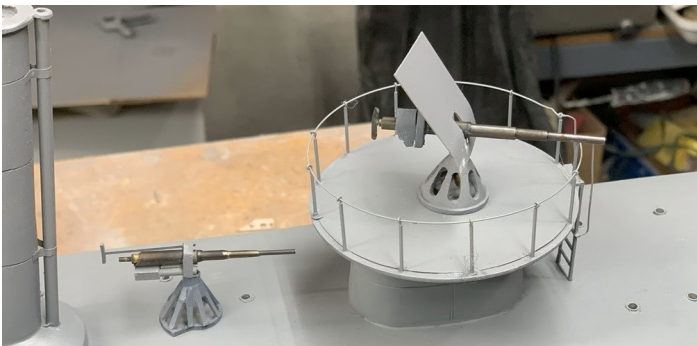
An Inaugural Blackening Effort

By Bill Emerson



Bill Emerson has never been pleased with the results he obtained when blackening metal parts. So he contacted the North Shore Deadeyes and requested a copy of a Tri-Club video that was presented at a meeting in 2023. He watched it twice and followed the tips as best he could. The photos below speak for themselves. In a subsequent email he stated that it was the best blackening he ever did, and this was on the first try!

Bill did change one thing. After building a coffee can heater and not finding a suitable candle, he decided to try just heating up the 2 oz of water in a paper cup. After 40 seconds in the microwave, it was warm to the touch and the pickling agent dissolved without any problem.





Hybrid Canons

By Ralph Martin



This tip dates back to September, 2014. Back then, Ralph Martin, our associate member from Leawood, KS, sent us a couple of pictures of a project he was working on at the time. The subject was a Euromodel kit of the Armed Merchant Ship, *Falmouth* (1:75). Ralph stated that this kit had been turning into a scratch-built project for quite some time. A good example was the significant changes made to the lower gun deck. The kit only supplied half gun barrels, which were going to be attached to wood blocks. Ralph found that to be unacceptable.



Instead, he scratch-built gun carriages, and created a planked gun deck, complete with gratings, stove, capstan and riding bits. Martin made his own guns by casting acrylic barrels from a piece he had in his spare parts box. He then cut off the ends and added the kit's brass barrels to the aft portions. It would be safe to say that there probably aren't many other model ships out there with that kind of armament! Nice job, mate!



Items of Interest



Staying Focused

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and in this case, they are all spelled O-U-C-H! One of our ship-



mates failed to watch where his hand was after turning off his Byrnes Saw. Unfortunately, the blade had not stopped rotating as he reached across the saw table.

Mates, you have to keep your mind on what you are doing when it comes to operating power tools. If you don't, the results could be very, very painful to say the least. This individual will not be doing any modeling for a while.



**WISCONSIN
MARITIME
MUSEUM**
AT MANITOWOC

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 17th - Cut Off Date for Hotel Room Block Registration

May 1 - Closing Date for Contest Registration

May 17-19 - Contest takes place at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum

• 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*.

DryDock Models and Parts (Canada) selling for companies that pirate.

CN	ZHL
CF	RealTS
shi hai	Snail Model
4H Model	XinFeng
Moxing	Crown JD Model
Microcosm	JD Model LHQK
WN	Huasong
Jaocdoen	Shi Cheng
SC	woodenkit (Russian MFG)
DUJIAOSHOU	YengFan
LHQK	Unicorn Model
Master	YQ (YaunQing
	Modelship Dockyard (China)



Chicago Tri-Club Association Officers & Staff



NSD President - Rick Szydelko — szydelko@sbcglobal.net

NSD Vice President—Kurt Van Dahm — modelshipyard237@gmail.com

NSD Admiral Emeritus - Richard Williams—shipdoc27@comcast.net

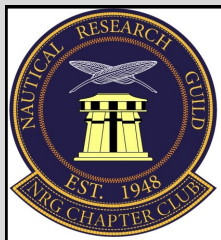
NSD Treasurer - Ed Urbanczyk—turbaned@comcast.net

NRMS President – Kurt Van Dahm – modelshipyard237@gmail.com

NRMS Vice President - Richard Williams—shipdoc27@comcast.net

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www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com