



Masthead

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Next Meeting

June 15, 2004

7:00 p.m.

South Street
Seaport Museum
Model Shop

Tech Talk:

Understanding
Ship Plans

with Dan Pariser

Those Screw Numbers...

... the ones associated with wood and machine screws. What do they mean and what arcane code is being used? Sure they are related to diameter, but what size specifically? And what about the second number for machine screws?

Let's take machine screws first (the straight sided ones that fit into nuts). Typically the designations will be something like "8-32" or "10-32". The second number indicates the 'threads per inch' (TPI), which you will need to get a matching nut. The first number indicates the diameter, and can be from 00 to 12 for machine screws and from about 0 to 12 for wood screws. The smallest screws available at the local hardware store are probably #4 in either category. The smallest ones must be sought in modelmaker's or specialty engineering catalogs.

OK, so what diameters go with those numbers? Well, there is a simple formula you can use to find out, to wit:

$$.06" + (.013" \times \text{dia}\#) = \text{screw dia.}$$

So for a #8 screw:

$$.06" + (.013" \times 8) = .06" + .104" = .164" \text{ diameter}$$

(An exception is the #00 size, for which you use -1 as the diameter number, so that you subtract .013 from the .06" base)

If you take a hardware store machine screw and measure it with a micrometer or dial caliper you will find it to be less than what the formula gives. This is due to manufacturing tolerances on the diameter and Class of Fit. For machine screws and nuts there are three classes of fit, 1, 2 and 3, with 1 being the closest and 3 being the loosest. The probably class for most commercial machine screws is 2. For tapered wood screws the diameter applies just under the head and may be closer to "formula" as class of fit does not apply.

See, I told you it was simple!

Al Gruber

Thanks, Al, this was a good article, and greatly appreciated by Your Editor.

All submissions to the Binnacle are very welcome. Just write up a little something and you can see your name in print too! - ed.

Minutes of May 18, 2004

Call to Order:

Our Meeting was called to order about 7:15 in the Model Shop on the 5th floor of the Low Building that Dan has set up at the Seaport Museum. The space is a bit cramped, but the inconvenience is balanced by the availability of modeling tools and tables for demonstrations.

Present were 11 members: Dan Pariser, Ben Pasantino, Nancy Nalbantian, Frank Rinato, Larry and Mitch Munter, Phil Benson, Al Gruber, Frank Puydak, Paul Mitchell and John Magno.

Minutes:

Dan has been very busy recently, but promises to resume publishing *The Binnacle*. Fung Pang has offered to assist with production and mailing.

Treasurer's Report:

Our balance is now \$2,339.26. We will have to find some way to spend it soon.

Good and Welfare:

Ray Daughtry wrote in from South Carolina. He may be moving back to New York for family reasons. We look forward to seeing him and his fine models again.

Old Business:

1. Club Project: Our model of the *Diligence* is recovering from its unplanned swim. John Magno has repaired the bulwarks and transom so well that you can't tell that they are replacements. He also has almost completed the deck furniture, including the hatches, skylight, binnacle, tiller and pumps. He is working on the deck ladders. Everything looks very good. Al Gruber made a realistic water keg (known as a butt) for the deck, with individual staves and hoops, [the opening in the top of the butt was known as the scuttle, and the men stood chatting as they waited for their turn,

hence the word 'scuttlebutt']. Bob Rickmeyer is scratch building cannon for the deck, then the model will go to Nancy Nalbantian for masting.

2. Mystic Trip: The date for the Club trip to Mystic has changed again. Now it is scheduled for July 17 or 24, depending upon when Dan can get a special tour of the models from their curator. Final word to be given at the June meeting. As previously decided, transportation will be by car pool, with Dan, the Munters, and others volunteering. The Guild will offset some or all of the gas costs and some of the ticket cost as well. The day will conclude with a lobster dinner at Abbott's Lobster in the Rough restaurant in Noank.

3. Joint Clubs Meeting: Nancy and Dan attended the 22nd annual Conference on April 24. They were the only attendees from the Guild. This year the turnout was smaller than usual, which the host club, The Philadelphia Ship Model Society, attributed to late notice of the event, low publicity, and the \$35 fee. There were about 30 models, many of which were quite well done. The speaker was a forensic pathologist who spoke and showed slides of his examination of the bones of the sailors recovered from the sunken *Vasa* in Stockholm harbor. He pointed out how the repeated specific exertions of the sailors affected their bone structure, as compared to the skeleton of a purser or servant, which showed none of the thickening and strengthening seen in the sailors' bones. This year there was no "People's Choice" award, which was missed, and only three vendors. The tabletop demonstrations were good, with Dan showing off his portable ropewalk on behalf of the Guild, and others doing vacuum forming and soldering. But, all in all, not one of the better conferences. Next year it is our turn to host (see New Business), and we hope to do a much better job.

New Business:

1. Guild Website: Paul Mitchell has generously offered to set up a web site for the Guild. He has access to a web host that will provide space for us, at little cost. He has reserved the domain name "*shipcraftguild.org*" for us, and will set up links to the Nautical Research Guild website as well as some of the other ship model sites. Paul will use a template that is available and modify it for the club. He passed around printouts of the sample template, which looks quite good. The site will also have the capacity to set up email addresses for each Guild member who does not have one, so even if you do not have a computer, you can go to the library (or your grandchild's home) to view the site. It is planned to put each edition of The Binnacle on the site, as well as photos of our models and tech tips from the membership.

2. Guild Roster: Dan is compiling a new roster, with phone numbers and email addresses. The draft Roster was passed around at the meeting and those present filled in their information. If you did not attend, please send Dan your current address, phone, and email address (if you have one). The Roster will be included in an upcoming Binnacle. You can leave a phone message or email at Dan's numbers listed in the Masthead.

3. 2005 Joint Club Conference: As noted in Old Business, the Guild will host next year's Conference in New London, CT. Unless there is a problem with the date, it will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2005.

Before committing to host, Dan got assurances from the Guild that there would be lots of support provided by the membership, and he is going to hold you to that promise. This is not going to work if only a few people contribute.

Of those present at the meeting, the following volunteered to be responsible for the listed areas:

Dan: overall coordination, room reservation, catering, vendors, model tables and

room setup, master of ceremonies

Al: finance

Nancy: registration of people and models, name tags

Phil: People's Choice Awards

Paul: speaker, tech talks, publicity

Ben: door prizes, raffle, gift bags

All of the volunteers will need advice, support and assistance. If you can provide any, especially if you have experience at organizing a similar event, please contact Dan or the specific person for that area.

We are not a large club, and it will take the combined efforts of the entire membership to make it a success. Your generosity with your time and efforts will be greatly appreciated.

Books, Pubs, etc.

1. Al Gruber - brought in "The 50-Gun Ship" by Rif Winfield. This has been seen before, but is always welcome. The text and drawings are superb, as is the full set of plans for HMS Leopard provided with the book. Al got his copy from The Scholar's Bookshelf (www.scholarsbookshelf.com/military) Phone 609-395-6933. He paid only \$14.95, down from the list price of \$49.95.

2. Ray Daughtry - from South Carolina Ray sent up a clipping from his local paper on the burial of the 3rd crew of CSS Hunley, the first submarine ever to sink another warship. Unfortunately, she sank, probably after being inadvertently rammed, after her successful raid. She was recently found and raised, and the remains of her crew analyzed by forensic pathologists, with some surprising results. The bones were finally interred with full military honors, the last burials of Civil War dead,

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 when Museum personnel wanted to go home, otherwise we would have stayed even longer,