

## As I was saying



Jack Hilsher

This winter when you can't garden, golf or goof off, you should have a hobby and I have a suggestion. How about woodworking - without a workshop, without power tools, even without sawdust. Impossible, you say?

Oh but you're wrong! With the world's oldest hobby - model ship-building - the wooden 2x4's you'll work with are 2x4 millimeters, not inches. They can be cut to length with a single-edge razor blade, not a saw, so there is no sawdust.

As for a workshop, all the space needed is about four square feet, or a plain old card table. The only other thing you'll need is patience, lots of it, for this hobby is not for the impatient type who quickly lose interest in anything.

Wooden ship models become heirlooms, a source for pride for a lifetime and a cherished keepsake for family and friends. Wooden ships have been made for centuries, but as a hobby their construction is almost unknown in the United States. Exactly the opposite prevails in Europe.

At least a dozen manufacturers make ship kits, and their instruc-

## Go down to the seas again - build a model sailing ship

tions are printed in German, French, Italian, Spanish and English. Competitive events are commonplace, drawing hundreds of entrants and attracting thousands of visitors.

Ships are judged for prizes awarded for craftsmanship and finish, compared model to model for attention to detail. None of the finished models look anything like the group of parts you'll find in a kit. As opposed to "scratch built" ships where everything is indeed started from scratch, most all kit materials are pre-cut and need only gluing and slight sanding to be complete.

Besides glue (white glue that dries clear) you probably will be better off with a small "Xacto-type" knife, rather than a razor blade. Other tools, which aren't really tools at all, will be helpful and can be found around the house... emery boards for sanding small parts, eyebrow tweezers for holding those parts, a nailclipper, a needle-threader for rigging, push pins and straight pins. You can certainly tell from this there is no fancy cash outlay needed to get you started in modeling.

My first model was the SWIFT, a "plank-on-frame" model of an 1805 two-masted schooner. Swift was 21" long, and spread out over several months took me about 100 actual modeling hours to complete. It came from Model Expo Inc., Box 1000, Mt. Pocono, PA 18344.

Wood for the first planking was limewood, with an overlay of wal-

nut. With a bit of oil polish the finished hull was just gorgeous. Model Expo told me at the time they had sold tens of thousands of SWIFT kits (the price was reasonable, well under \$50) but that they knew, sadly, most never were completed.

That is why I say patience, patience, patience, is the prime ingredient. And if it takes some time, isn't that why you're into the hobby in the first place?

Model Expo probably has replaced the SWIFT with another model but they have others suitable for beginners. They moved to Mt. Pocono a few years ago from Jersey, and for one buck will send you a 92-page color catalog which is an absolute delight to browse through. You'll see models from a few feet up to four feet long, from kits containing pre-finished parts, even metal fixtures and brass cannon. When finished you can squint at your handiwork and imagine you see Maureen O'Hara tied to the mast, with Errol Flynn poised on the railing to rescue her. Think I am kidding, don't you?

Just take your spouse out to dinner at Cooper's Waterfront. Easy to find at 304 Kennedy Boulevard in Pittston. After checking your coats, look at the ships in two glass cases, one to the right and one to the left. Are you looking at the foremast? Squint. See? There's Maureen, just like I said. Too bad the guy who built them isn't there so you could buy him a drink.



### Class wins membership drive

Mrs. Glogowski's first grade class, Lehman-Jackson Elementary, recently won an ice cream party at Hillside Farm for enlisting the most PTA members during a membership drive, sponsored by the Lehman-Jackson PTA.

Class members are, front row, Crystal Tillery, Josh Maye, Angela Basta, Chris Kabosky, Greg Piazza, Bryan Buckman, Gina Coombs, Janna Elston, Brian McMahon, David Walters, Amy Kline; back row, Jennifer Hodle, Colleen Kocher, Matthew Cilvik, Josh Baranowski, Ed Becker, Eric Rogowski, Bill Hazeltine, Corey Cooper, Geoffrey Walp, Amy Womelsdorf, Amanda Boytin, Ryan Blaszcak, Ashley Yanchik, Jessica Caines, Chelsea Andrews, Jaclyn Schaffner and Mrs. Marilyn Glogowski.

### Hablett

(continued from page 1)

pills and more than \$9,800 in cash from Hablett's home.

The heroin was in a green rubber boot and the pills and money were in a safe, both in Hablett's padlocked bedroom in his house on Chase Road, Hahn said.

Hablett had been released on \$20,000 bail after Tupper bound the case over to Luzerne County Criminal Court.

Hablett has two prior convictions on drug charges, according to Luzerne County court records.

In May, 1989, he was sentenced to three to 23 months in the Luzerne County prison on the weekender program after being convicted of selling prescription drugs with the intent to deliver and delivery of a controlled substance.

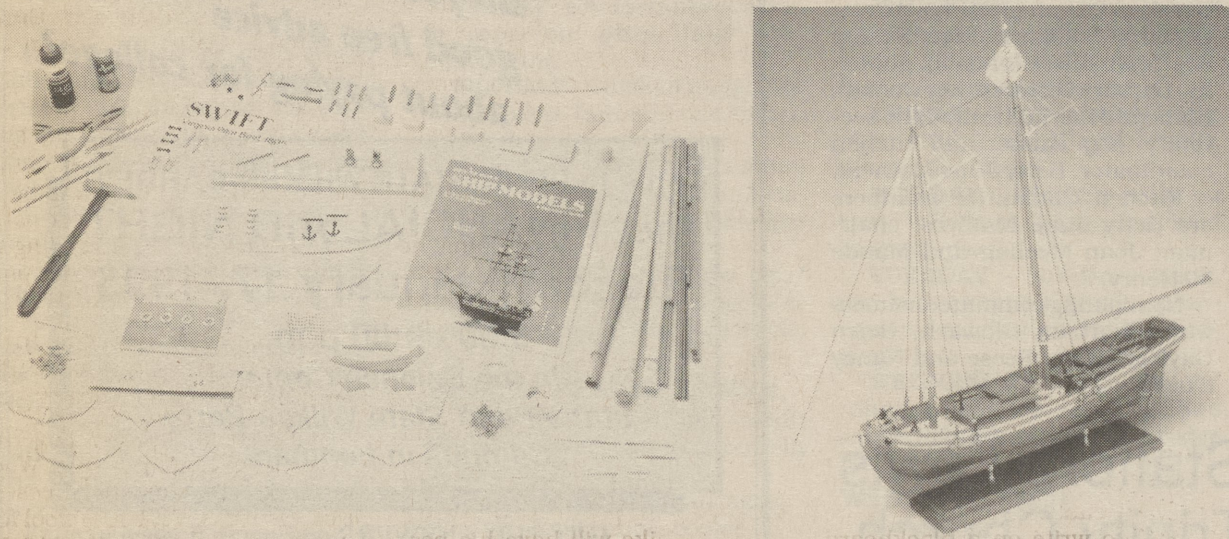
He was also ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine plus court costs and given six months' probation after his release from prison.

In February, 1990, Hablett

pled guilty to possession of prescription drugs and paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance with the intent to deliver.

He was sentenced to two to 12 months in the Luzerne County prison and ordered to pay court costs.

If Hablett fails to report to the Luzerne County sheriff January 23, a bench warrant will be issued for his arrest.



The SWIFT, in kit form, and the finished model. Photos courtesy of MODEL EXPO INC.

### Senior citizen menu

Senior Citizen's Centers sponsored by the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Bureau For the Aging offer hot noon meals Monday through Friday to people 60 years of age or older. Donations from participants are gratefully accepted and needed in order to expand this program.

The following is the menu for the week of January 16. All lunches include margarine, milk and coffee.

**MONDAY** - Centers closed! Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

**TUESDAY** - Stuffed peppers w/tomato sauce, whipped potatoes, broccoli, whole wheat bread, chocolate chip cookie.

**WEDNESDAY** - Barbecue pork chop, oven brown potatoes, peas-carrots, dinner roll, grapefruit juice, lemon pudding.

**THURSDAY** - Turkey Divan, parslid rice, sliced beets, whole wheat bread, cinnamon apple-

sauce.

**FRIDAY** - Cottage cheese and fruit salad platter, carrot sticks, assorted crackers, orange juice, Manhattan clam chowder, birthday cake.

For further information, contact the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Bureau For the Aging Nutrition Program or call the Senior Citizens Center nearest your home.

### Life Improvement Loans<sup>SM</sup>

### Library news

### Breyer horse collection shows off at library

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is showing a collection of Breyer Horses, complete with a barn and fenced-in corral. These were borrowed from Joey Kupstas of Dallas. She is 10 years old and in 5th grade at Dallas Elementary School. She has loved horses since she was two years old and collected My Little Pony horses. She started to collect Breyer horses at age 8 and then received the barn and fencing for the horses. She hopes to take horseback riding lessons in the near future; but, in the meantime, the collection of the horses is a fun time hobby.

Included in the display are Black Beauty, Misty, a special Palomino, a mare and other breeds. There is a grouping of a white horse with two ponies. There are also horses in the stalls in the barn and many out in the corral.

Extra items in the barn include a saddle, a bit and grooming equipment. These horses will be showing their stuff until February 1 at the library.

The 'green jar' campaign for the past two months was an appeal for funds to enable the library to buy a snow blower. The amount collected reached \$92.00, which will be put in the bank as a start towards a snow blower purchase. Thanks to all who contributed.

New books at the library: "Politically Correct Bedtime Stories" is a book of modern tales for our life and times, written by James Finn Garner. Many of the heavy-set middle-age men's stories found their way into the general social consciousness, and reflected the way in which they lived and saw their world. After centuries, this author has taken it upon himself to enlighten and liberate these classic bedtime stories.

"Black Cross" by Greg Iles is a

novel which starts with "It's odd how death often marks a beginning rather than an end." This is an electrifying spellbinder that shatters the boundary between thriller and novel. A young Atlanta physician attends the funeral of the grandparents who raised him, he is approached by a silver-haired rabbi who claims to have known his grandfather well. In the grandfather's safe, they find four mysterious objects.

"Don't Stand Too Close To A Naked Man" by Tim Allen takes us through the rites of passage, from fixing up his banana-seat Stingray—which was fine until he decided to spray-paint it purple—to a discourse on the various 'sugar food groups.' He ponders why parents believe that kids don't want to eat the same thing every night, the nature of his mom's cooking and fun with BB guns. He reveals his earliest moment of sexual awareness.

It's easy to subscribe to The Dallas Post Use the coupon on page 2 or call 675-5211

**SKI TIP #17**  
by Sean O'Shea  
**Q. Is man-made snow icy?**  
A. Actually it isn't, but in high-traffic areas the soft surface gets scraped off exposing the hard packed base. If your edges are dull you skis will not cut in to turn well. So keep your edges sharp!

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