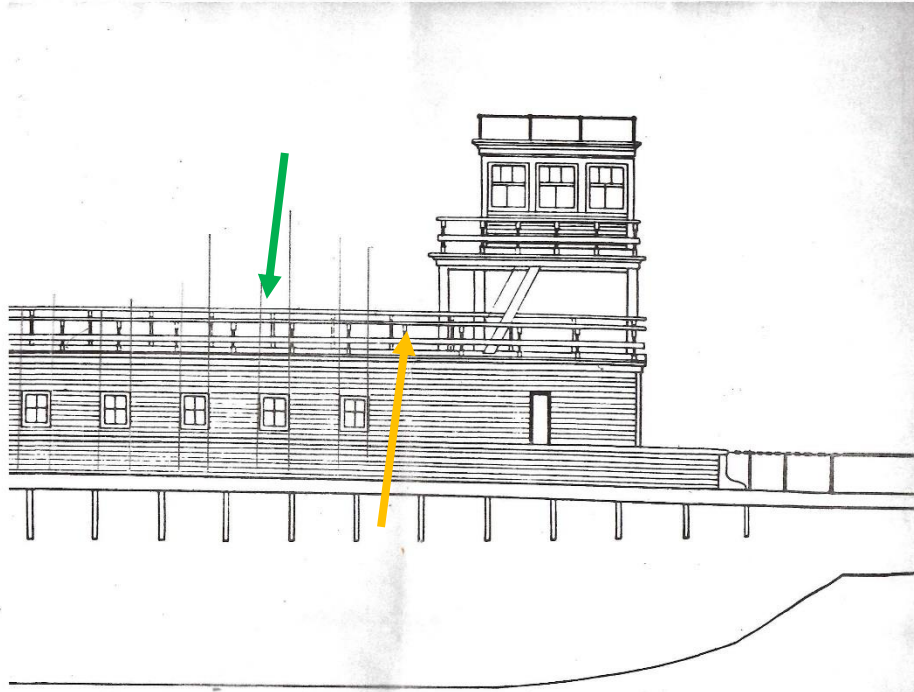


Notes and Tips from **THE BEAKHEAD**

Connecticut Marine Model Society

This month's "How I did it:" **Transfer II's** had a little over six feet in railing requirements, and the inner railings were at one height and the outer railings a bit taller.

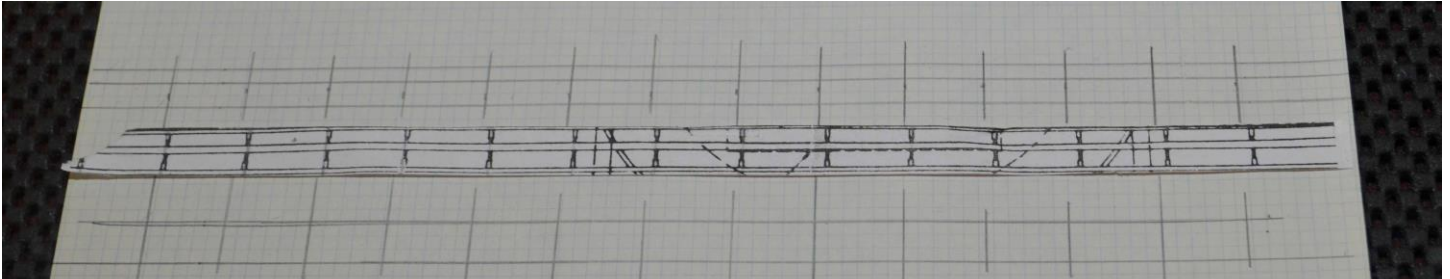


No. 1: Note the two railings. The higher outer rail (**green**) and the inner rail (**yellow**).



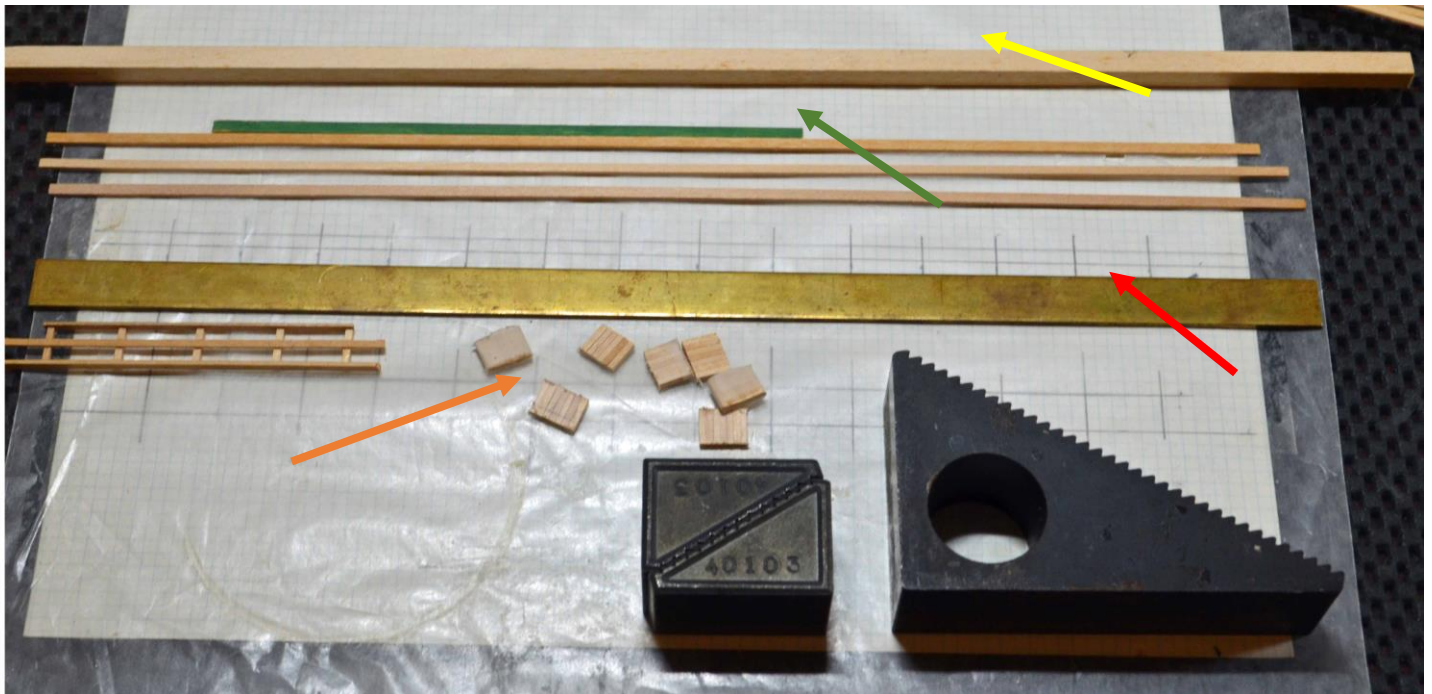
No. 2: I stated with working from the C/L out, the inside railing.

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No. 3: The plan is trimmed to dimension and just held in place to provide the location of the stanchions.

I work off a glass surface: From the plans I clipped out a run of the railing. On a piece of graph (1/8") paper I draw top and bottom lines and the center line of the plank safety rail. The lines of the stanchions are transferred. Putting the plan aside, I use two strips of Double Stick Tape (**DST**), top and bottom, to hold the paper tight to the glass surface. Now, I cover with wax paper with two more strips of DST to secure the wax paper in place.



No. 4 The needed planking, and the tools I will use are set out. Note the stanchions.

The Red Arrow is a brass strip 1/8" x 1/2" being used as a straight edge. It is held in place along the lower penciled line with **DST**.

The Yellow Arrow is a 3/8" square strip of basswood and will be used to hold compression to secure the stanchions stay vertical.

The Green Arrow shows the railing cap will be painted before being set in place.

The angle blocks will help with alignment, keeping alignment pressure and 90-degrees secured.

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NOTE: Never throw anything away in this hobby. For *Transfer II*, the plans were only 3 sheets. I had only outside profiles fore and aft, one view looking head on, a layout of the floor of the main deck and the upper deck. So, I had to go from actual measurement to measurements based on appearance; if it looks good and fits as it should, we will go with that!



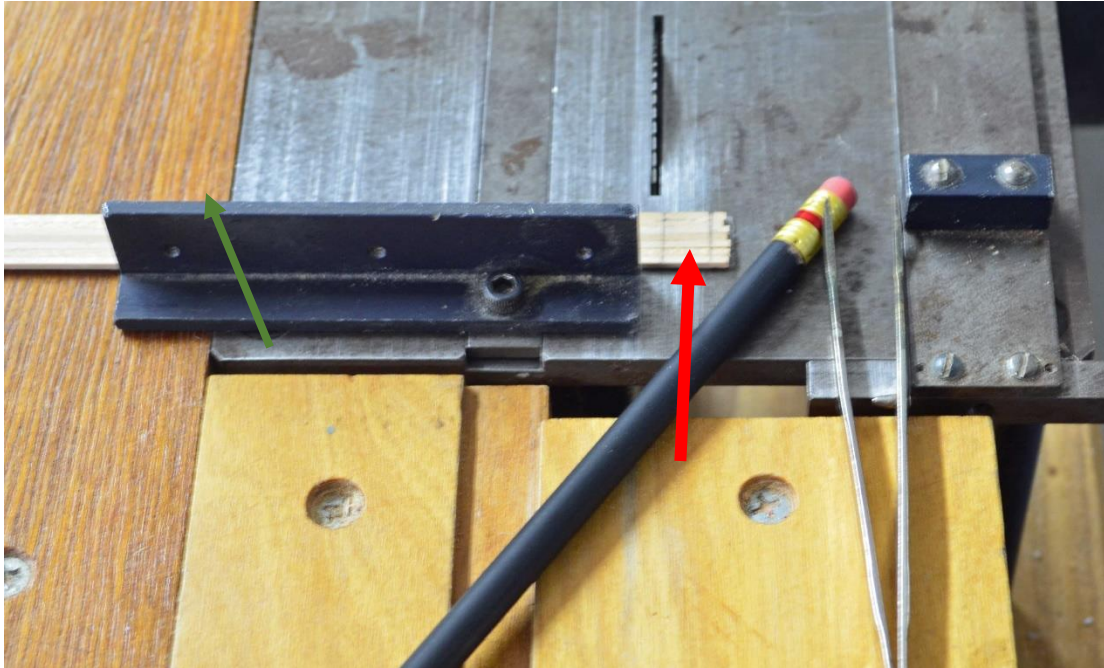
No.5: My Lumber Yard: A railing consists of a floor deck support plank, stanchions, railing caps, and an outer mid “safety” plank. Put your glasses on: There in the boxes somewhere.

Since I needed 12” lengths to cover the draft paper I started here. I also used a 3” sheet of 1/32” basswood, to save time. With my Preac saw, I also milled from 1/4” x 48” Limewood strips left over from a prior kit build. It was slightly larger (mm) for the stanchions.

I took a pencil and marked the size estimated to rip the. Limewood. The stanchions were then laid flat to the glass and secured flat with a wraparound of scotch tape (blue,) going down the line with tape strips every 8 to 10 inches.

I went back to the railing clip and marked the stanchion height, first for the inner railing, onto the limewood bundling. To prepare the stanchion for cutting (and knowing the wrapping tape would hold the limewood strips together, I put a piece of scotch tape to the underside of the wood. Since my tape was wider than my wood, I carefully trimmed the tape to fit the wood without overlapping. This will hold the wood edges to be clean, cut, and separate and save you from getting on hands and knees on the floor looking for them.

Notes and Tips from THE BEAKHEAD

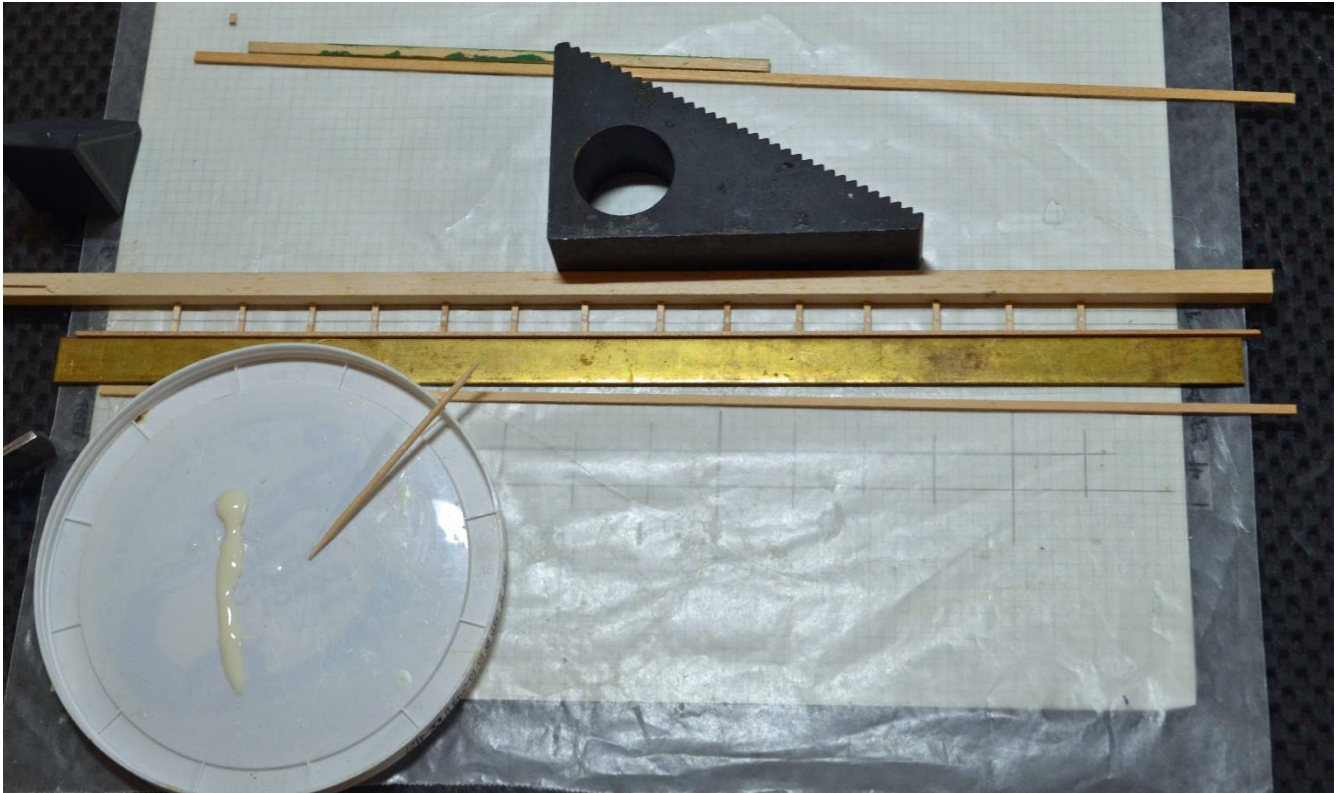


No. 6: The pencil needs to cover the last stanchion through the cutting and guide the eraser. You could also use tweezers to guide the way through but be careful.



No. 7: Now were ready.

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No. 8: I use “Elmer’s Xtreme School Glue for bigger, tougher Projects” and the tip of a toothpick. **The glue will give you time to make sure there are no “waves” along the run.**

The deck floor strake is laid against the brass strip. I now use the angle blocks to keep it there. The blocks are going to “slide” along the strake as the stanchions are glued in place. Start going from right to left leaving access to three or four stanchions at a time. The glue is applied with the toothpick to the bottom of the stanchion and set in place. I use a tweezer and a finger tip to put pressure on the strake and the wax paper. When I get to the middle of the brass strip, I stop and lay the basswood strip against the stanchion laid. The angle block takes over.

NOTE: The process goes pretty fast, and the Elmer’s is sticky but not set. With the tweezers you can reset to vertical. In re-tweaking do not release the stanchion glued. Keep the pressure on. With the first half done, I usually watch a Net Flix show and let the glue dry. Repeat the other half and go on to the next episode.

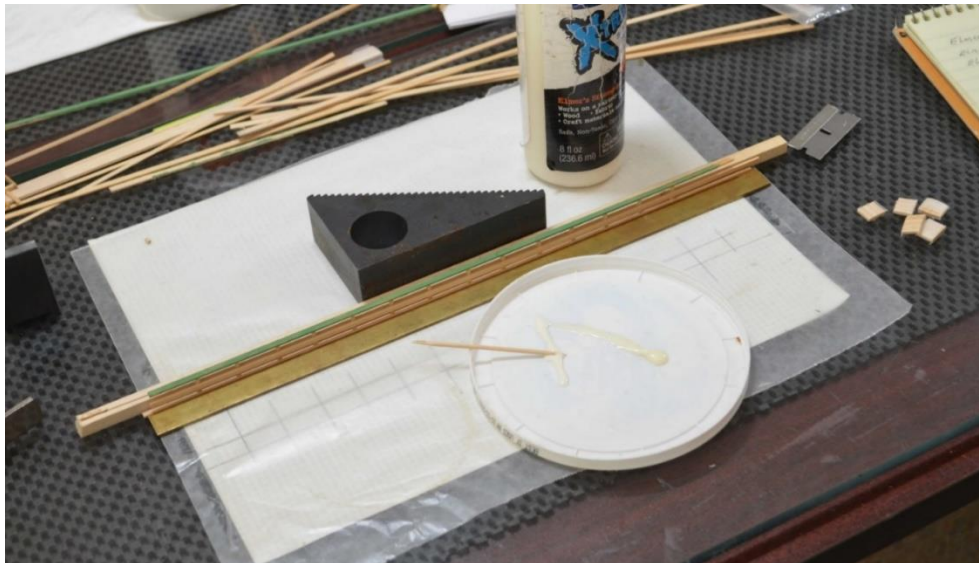
Notes and Tips from **THE BEAKHEAD**



No. 9: The middle rail is set in place. I penciled the C/L position to stanchions and used the toothpick to glue the rails in place.

When set, you will have some glue keeping the sticking the stanchions fixed to the wax paper. I use a single edged razor blade to slide under and free the railings. Since the Elmer's dry clear any squeeze left to the stanchion can be easily removed with a No. 11 blade.

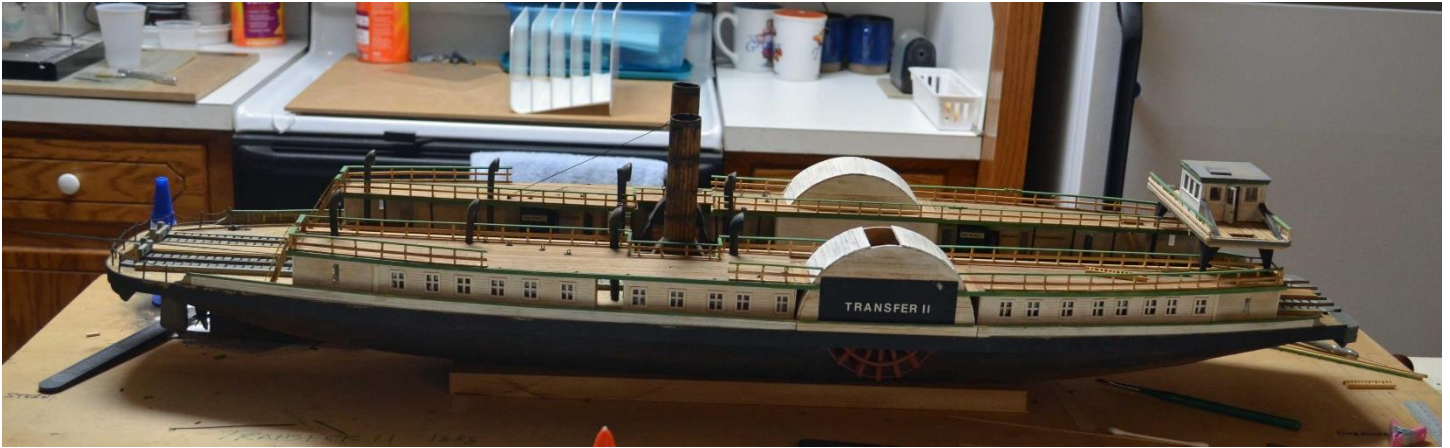
You have seen that the railings show an overhang of the drawings. Do not trim. Do not throw away any leftover stanchions. The trimming will come with the installation.



No. 10: You can see securing of a finished vertical railing. The cap rail was glued in place using the toothpick glue applied to the top of each stanchion.

To paint the railing. I placed the cap rail flat on a paper towel and took a Q-tip to paint the green to the top and sides. I left the bottom free of paint to allow better adhesion when glued to the stanchions.

Notes and Tips from THE BEAKHEAD



No 11: This caps it off.



Notes and Tips from **THE BEAKHEAD**



Coming next - Phase 8: The Stacks

Bill Strachan, CMMS, February 24, 2023