

THE BROADAXE

NEWSLETTER

of

THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

Founded in 1981



Volume 28, Number 12

December, 2010

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING November 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. In the absence of **Bob Fivehouse** and **Tom McGowan**, **Larry Friedlander** presided. There were 20 members present and no guests. There were no updates to the roster. The question "is the roster available on the website?" was asked. **Chuck Passaro**, our web guru, said "no" and the membership indicated that they preferred that personal information not be on the site.

Mike Gutsick was extolled (in his absence) for the 91st time for doing an excellent job on the Broadaxe.

Jim Caulkins pointed out that he is not the chairman of the "trees committee". He is the ex-chairman of the lumbering committee. The one tree that the committee ever handled was an apple tree, a crab apple tree, full of knots. Jim also told us that he is selling his Hannah kit. **Roy Goroski** hopes that a club member will buy it and join the Hannah group build. Jim also has a casting set from the Stuart Turner Marine Steam Engine Company. Several members expressed interest and we hope that Jim will bring the casting set along with the Hannah kit to the White Elephant Auction which will be held Tuesday, December 21. There being no further comments, the November 2010 issue of the Broadaxe was accepted into the minutes.

Al Geigel presented the Treasurer's Report. He received, on behalf of the club, a letter in appreciation of our \$50 donation to the Alzheimer's foundation in memory of Marion Schultz. There being no further comments, the Treasurer's report was accepted into the minutes.

Olie Eriksen brought in a picture of the building he will erect in Randolph, New Jersey. One of its features will be a 5,000 square-foot mezzanine. The area will have file cabinets for plans and

shelving for the projected club library. Ground for the building will be broken in March and Olie hopes the building will be completed in early 2012. Olie hopes that members of our Club will make an appointment and visit the library to use its materials when they become available. Olie was asked if any provision has been made to take care of the materials when he is no longer running the company. He assures us that the materials are insured but there is no legal provision as of now for the maintenance of the library. Olie's new building will have a lobby decorated with his ship model collection and he hopes we will come to the gala opening of the new building.

Mason Logie told us that he gave up his spot on the tour of the Brooklyn Navy Yard to a club member who had traveled from New Jersey. Since Mason didn't take the bus tour **Roy Goroski** told us about it. The tour bus made several stops but the visitors were unable to enter the buildings. The tour bus stopped by the Commodore's house and the paymasters where workers were paid every day. They passed along a building where propellers and shafts were tested and balanced. Some of the buildings are now used in the entertainment industry. A large part of the yard is now a power station. The tour went past Dry Dock One, where the *Monitor's* turret was installed and where the battleship *Maine* was built. Many of the old homes are rusting away and overgrown with weeds.

Tom Ruggerio told us about the Hannah Project meeting at **Bill Farrar's** house. The meeting began in Bill's living room, where all the members described their progress, and then moved to Bill's garage where frames were cut and sanded. The next meeting of the group will be January 8. The members seemed to be having fun and learning. **Chuck Passaro** said he will set up a Hannah Project page and asks for photos and other materials that he can post online. (Since the meeting Chuck has set up this page with several interesting links to Hannah sources and pictures of group members at several meetings.)

Mason Logie is writing an article about his railroad barges for Model Railroad Craftsman. The editors have asked him to keep them updated on his progress and to send photographs. We look forward to reading this article in a future issue.

We thank **Ossie Thalmann** for bringing refreshments to the meeting.



BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Chuck Passaro brought in the second edition of the book "17th and 18th Century models from the Kriegstein Collection". This is the second edition of this book and it is advertised as having additional material. Chuck was unable to compare this edition to the first so he couldn't tell us whether the new material justified buying it if a person already had the first edition.



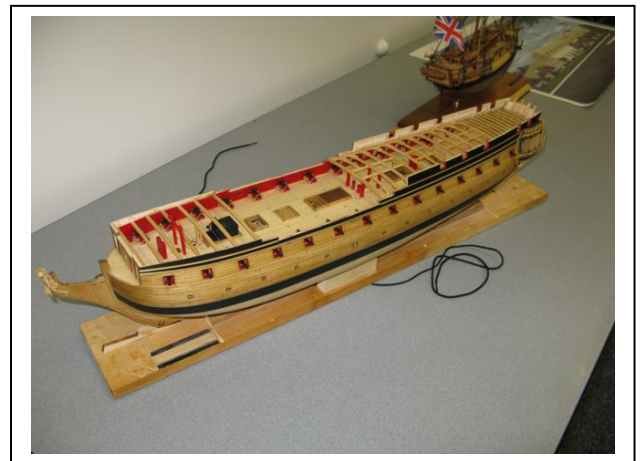
TOOL TALK

Larry Friedlander brought in three tools he finds useful in his model making. The first is a digital angle finder which he used in setting the miter angle for cutting frame parts for the *Hannah*. Next, Larry showed us a turnbuckle which he converted into a spall, (an internal expanding clamp), by cutting off the ends and replacing them with wood dowels and felt tips. Finally, Larry showed the group a "sled", which is a simple cutting platform with a miter bar that runs in the miter slot of his Byrnes saw. It is used for crosscutting stock at a right angle.



SHOW AND TELL

Chuck Passaro brought in his work in progress, the *Confederacy*, which he is building as a kit for Model Shipways. Chuck told us that all the fittings are done on the gun deck and he is now working on the deck beams, carlings and knees on the forecastle and quarterdeck. He is simplifying these for the kit. For example, he is omitting the deck clamps so the knees, which are laser cut, don't have to be notched to fit. Also, the carlings are not notched into the deck beams. All of this is intended to make the kit easier to complete. Virtually all the deck parts and fittings are laser cut to simplify construction. Chuck hopes to be finished with prototype construction in March, ahead of schedule. The *Confederacy* did not have a distinguished career. She was captured by the British who discovered that, because she had been built of unseasoned timbers, she was too rotten for further service. After her lines were taken off, useful parts were removed and she was broken up.



Chuck also showed us his copper plate stamping jig, which uses a block of wood with pins in the proper pattern and a holder for the copper tape to slide in. You can read about this method on our website.

Jeff Fuglestad again brought in his model of the *Beagle* to allow the group to ask questions about its construction. In answer to a question about the ship's coppering, Jeff told us that he coppers the hull using copper tape intended for making stained glass windows. He used a jig, devised by **Chuck Passaro**, to simulate nail heads in the copper plates. Jeff patinated the plates with a sulfur-based metal colorant and a patinating solution from Pearl Paint which Jeff preferred. Jeff used a lot of pear wood which is unstained but sealed with Min-Wax wipe on poly, satin, followed by rubbed in butchers wax. Jeff really enjoyed working with pear and holly woods which he feels bend easily and cut cleanly. Jeff estimates that he has spent 450 hours building his *Beagle*.

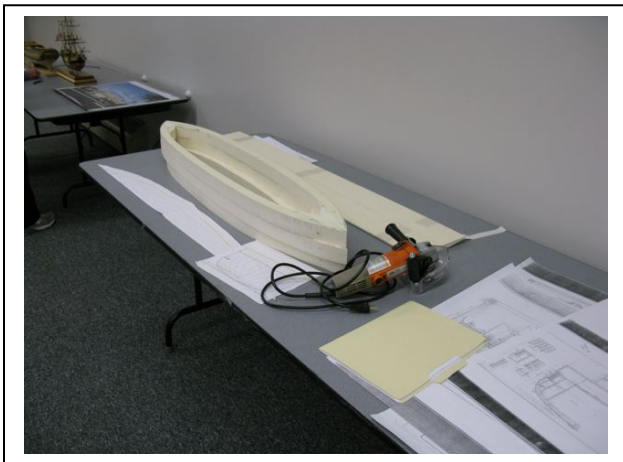
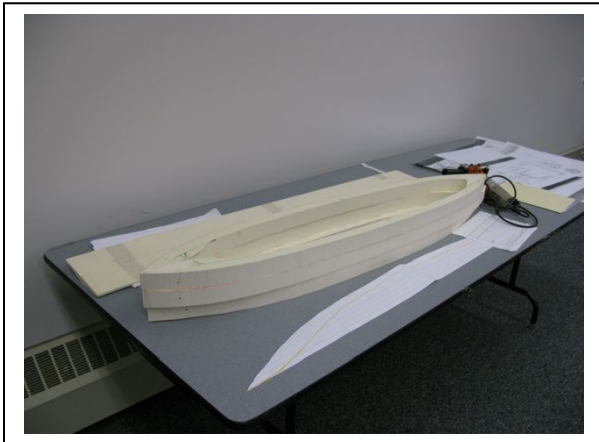


Ed Marie showed us his 3/16 inch to the foot model of the *Prince de Neufchatel*, a privateer from the War of 1812. The original was built in New York, displaced 310 tons and carried 16 twelve pound carronades and 2 eighteen pound long guns. Her normal complement was 150 men, though she was sailed by fewer after prize crews were put on captured ships. Although she could sail more than 15 knots per hour, she was eventually caught by the British. Before they could make use of her she broke in half in drydock. Ed followed the plans and instructions in the kit, though he felt that the rigging plans were not well detailed.



Gary Kingzett was approached by **Dan Pariser** who asked Gary if he would build a model for the Brooklyn Navy Yard when they get their Museum built. Dan will be working on a model of the *Monitor*, who had her turret installed in the Navy Yard, and Gary will be modeling the *Maine* which was built at the yard in 1893. Gary brought in the hull blanks which are made of "butter board", a stable wood substitute. Gary

has used butter board in the past to make small fittings and plugs for vacuum forming. Gary is using it because wood is difficult to finish to look like steel. Gary received two planks 60 inches long, 22 inches wide and 1 2/3 inches thick. After cutting these into smaller pieces, Gary cut the hull shape on his bandsaw using a metal cutting blade. He used plans of the *Maine* from the Maryland Silver Company. He had the plans converted to 1/72 scale. Gary asked the group for advice on how to use a motorized wood carver with a saw blade to shape the hull. Because there is no grain, he feels that hand powered carving tools will be ineffective on butter board. The group came up with several suggestions and we look forward to following Gary's progress.



The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM



FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to thank Larry Friedlander once again for providing me with well written minutes and Show & Tell commentary along with excellent photos so that I can put together this newsletter for all of you each month. I am greatly appreciative of his time and effort. I would also like to remind you all that December is **AUCTION TIME!** We always have had some very interesting items available for purchase and you just can't beat the prices!

To Jim Caulkins, I would just like to say I'm sorry for misstating your chairmanship. The actual operation of the committee was way before my time with the Club. I do remember the time that you brought in a piece of hatmatak and that's why I thought of *wood!* Next time I'll be sure to use "Lumber Committee", I promise!

Mike Gutsick



Ed and Dennis in deep discussion

The '**BROADAXE**' is published monthly by The Ship Model Society of New Jersey, a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching and promoting ship modeling and maritime history. Membership dues are \$25.00 for the first year and \$20.00 per year thereafter

Visit our Web Site at:

<http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org> where a Web version of the **BROADAXE** can be found. The **BROADAXE** is distributed by both US mail and e-mail in PDF format.

Regular meetings are held on the **FOURTH Tuesday** of every month at 7:30 P.M, at the Millburn Free Public Library, 200 Glen Avenue, Millburn, New Jersey.

Guests are always welcome.

Contributions to the **BROADAXE** are always welcome, and SMSNJ members are encouraged to participate. Articles, shop hints and news items may be submitted directly to The Editor as typed manuscript or electronic files, either on discs or by e-mail. Handwritten notes or other materials will be considered depending on the amount of editing and preparation involved.

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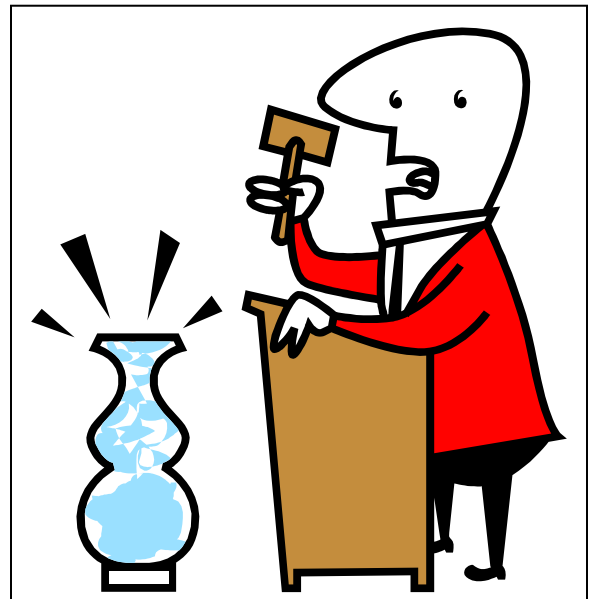
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Who will give me \$1.00 for this ship in a bottle – *OOPS!*

THE BROADAXE

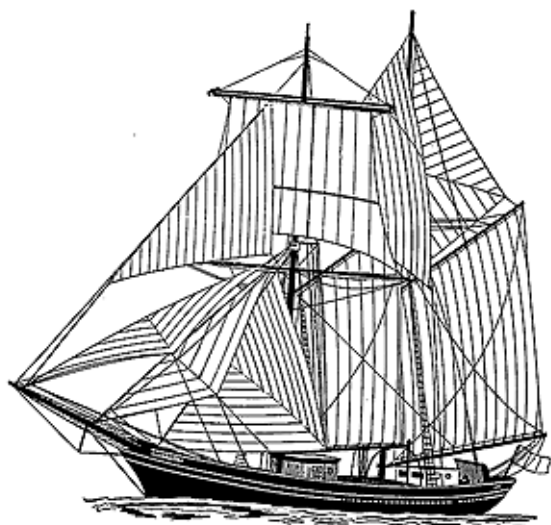
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NEXT MEETING:

December 21, 2010

7:00 PM

MILLBURN PUBLIC
LIBRARY

**White Whale
Auction**