



# THE BROADAXE

NEWSLETTER  
of  
THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY  
*Founded in 1981*



Volume 28, Number 11

November, 2010

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING September 28, 2010

At 7:30 PM **Bob Fivehouse** rang the ship's bell to call the meeting to order. Because there was a large number of very interesting models which attracted long conversation, it took a few minutes for the 29 attending members of the group to be seated and ready. There were no guests present.

The Broadaxe was approved and acclaimed for the 90th consecutive time. As always, we thank **Mike Gutsick** for his outstanding effort. There being no further comments, the October 2010 issue of the Broadaxe was accepted into the minutes.

**Al Geigel** presented the Treasurer's Report. The club sent a donation of \$50 to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Marion Schuetz, Ken's wife. We thank Al for his continuing diligence and for not blowing all our funds on wine, women, and song. The Treasurer's Report was accepted into the minutes.

### Old Business

**Mason Logie** brought us up to date on plans for the visit to the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Sunday, November 14. There are 10 spots reserved on the bus for the Yard's two hour tour which departs the gate at 1:48 PM. Mason asked that those planning to attend sign up and give contact information. A carpool will be arranged by them. After the tour, those who want to will be able to go with Mason to Snug Harbor, to see the models recently found in their attic. Mason will give driving directions. Members are encouraged to wear their Club hats.

A Jim Roberts Award letter should be sent to the clubs participating in the April get-together, reminding them of the award's existence and that they should select a judge for the competition. The award should be mentioned on the web lists and on the club's website (maintained by **Chuck Passaro**, thank you!) Chuck reminded us that the address of our website is: [www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org](http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org). Mike Gutsick will update this in the Broadaxe. Chuck will

put a picture of Jim Roberts on the website along with judging criteria, pictures of the award, and all of the winners.

Model Expo is moving and therefore is discarding old materials. **Chuck Passaro** is going through the material to preserve original plans, illustrations and any other interesting documents he comes across. These materials will be stored in the Club library. In addition to seven books at present in our library, Chuck has many plans that he will catalog and also add to the library. **Ollie Eriksen** has volunteered to store the plans along with tracings he used to construct his Constitution. He would like to know which books, and how many, will need to be stored. Ollie has offered to make a CD listing of all books in the library. Chuck pointed out that these books are listed on our website and can be requested.

It was proposed again that Club funds be used to buy a book or two every year for the library. A motion was made that a committee be appointed to explore the idea. **Ollie Eriksen**, **Michael Storch**, and **Chuck Passaro** volunteered to look into structure, spending, and selection criteria. The committee will report back to us in January. Funds could also be used to buy plans or research materials for future group builds. These purchases are to be added to the Club library and will be accessible to the members. **Bob Fivehouse** volunteered to bring requested materials to club meetings.

We congratulate **Tom Ruggiero** on the upcoming marriage of his daughter.

### New business

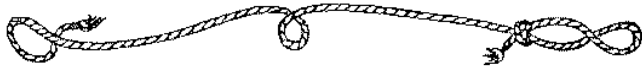
**Ed Hegstetter** visited the Monmouth County regional Library in Manalapan. They would like us to put on a display of our models. They will advertise, put up signs, distribute flyers, and in general take care of publicity. They have a big room where our ships could be shown. The exhibition would last one or two months, perhaps in May of next year. It will offer about 30 models made by club members. Mason Logie told us that Snug Harbor would like to do a joint exhibition of their recently found models along with some made by us, perhaps next Christmas.

**Bob Fivehouse** was contacted by an elderly lady, asking how she could dispose of her late husband's models. Bob will ask her for pictures so we can know which kind of models they are. Members are asked for suggestions.



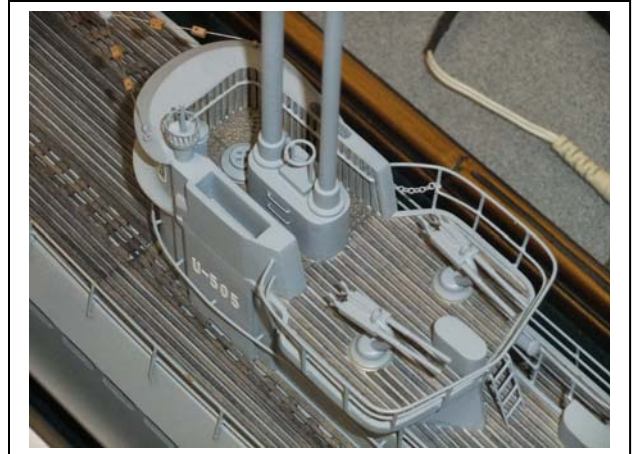
## BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

**Dr. Steve Fletcher** passed around a book containing pictures of his cruise on the USS *Nimitz*.



## SHOW AND TELL

**Ozzie Thalmann** brought back his plastic, scratch built U 505 which he has exhibited at the Wisconsin show. Ozzie didn't use plans. He took pictures and measurements of the original submarine which is now on public exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois. His model is built to 3/16 inch to the foot scale. He modified the hull of a kit U-boat to represent the 505. He has incorporated many moving features in his model. The propellers rotate as do the machine guns, deck guns, and rudder. The periscopes should go up and down, though only one is working now. The periscope is a modified Pontiac car antenna. Ozzie demonstrated that both bow and stern torpedo tubes fire. There are seven motors in the model U505, which Ozzie can reach through access panels on the deck.



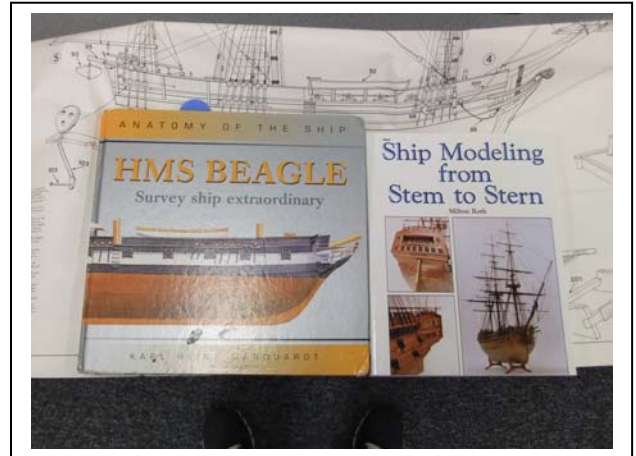
**Ed Hegstetter** showed the club his model of the schooner, *Sir Edward Hawke*. She was built in New York for the Royal Navy for use on the Jamaica station. She was armed with eight swivel guns and four three pounder cannon. She arrived on station in September 1767 and was sold out of the service in 1773. The *Sir Edward Hawke* is a 1/8 inch to the foot,

plank on frame, scratch built model. Ed built her using the Harold Hahn method. Ed got the plans from the book; Ship Modelers Shop Notes. The frames are maple. The black parts are made of ebony. The keel, rudder and deck items are cherry and the deck is Holly. It took him four years to finish. He will soon begin working on the *Pelican*.



**Jeff Fuglestad** was asked to build a model of *HMS Beagle*. Originally a frigate, the *Beagle* was transformed into a survey ship. Jeff was given this 3/16 scale Mamoli kit and built it following the kit plans. Partway through, he began reading about the ship and realized that the kit plans were not accurate. For example, the sheer is too curved. It should be fairly straight. The ports are placed incorrectly and the stern should be round, not square. The poop and fore deck were raised 10 inches on the prototype to give more headroom. Jeff used ebony for the ports. He worked it using a Jim Byrnes saw, a thickness sander and a plank bender. Other woods used were; box, pear, walnut and holly for the deck in the Fivehouse method. He said he had no problem working the ebony as long as it was not too thick. Jeff

also planked the kit's solid hull ship's boat.



**Bob Fivehouse** showed us his model of the merchant ship *Grecian*. Built in 1900, it was an American East Coast coastal steamer running between New York and Charleston for the Old Dominion line. She carried about 80 passengers and cargo. There are no winches or cargo booms on her

because these ships were loaded through side doors from piers. The prototype sank in the 1920s after crashing into a fleet mate in a fog off Montauk Point. At one time, ships of this type were very common. Before the highways were built almost all cargo on the East Coast was shipped by sea in similar vessels. Built to a scale of 1 inch to 32 feet, it is a solid hull model carved from two pieces of wood glued together vertically.

Bob also brought his rowboat made of paper, glue, and poster-board over a former.



**John Marinovich** brought in his 1 inch to the foot model of a catboat. The model is scratch built of teak wood left over from building the actual 22 foot catboat that John and his father built. The model is 22 inches long and 10 1/2 inches wide, plank on bulkhead. It was built for his son JT. Radio control was added for the rudder. John used model aircraft plywood to form the hull. The rudder is made from Plexiglas.

This is a typical east coast fishing boat. Catboats have one mast and one long boom. They are about half as wide as they are long. They were very popular from Maine to Virginia. Some were used to take tourists out for a sail and some were used for racing. Catboats don't have a keel. Instead they use a centerboard so they can sail in shallow waters.



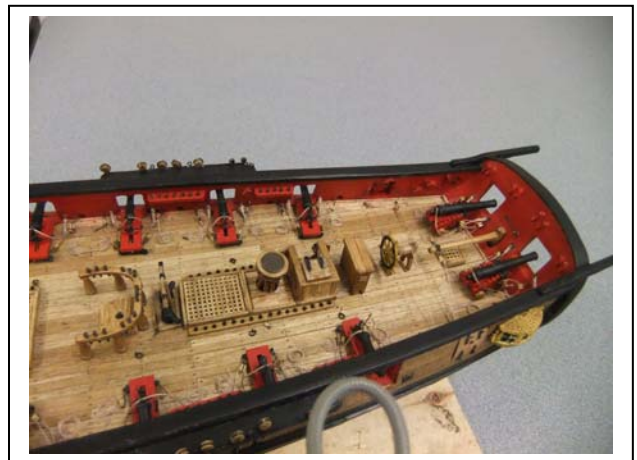
**Henry Schaefer's** model of the *Atlantis*, a German commerce raider, is 5 1/2 feet long and 16 inches wide and is built to a scale of 1 to 100. It is based on a fiberglass hull. Henry bought many fittings but many parts had to be scratch built or adapted.

The prototype was built in 1937, was 155 meters long, drew 7,865 tons, and had a crew of 347. She sailed in March 1940 and her cruise ended in November 1941. The *Atlantis* was a master of disguise. She was painted

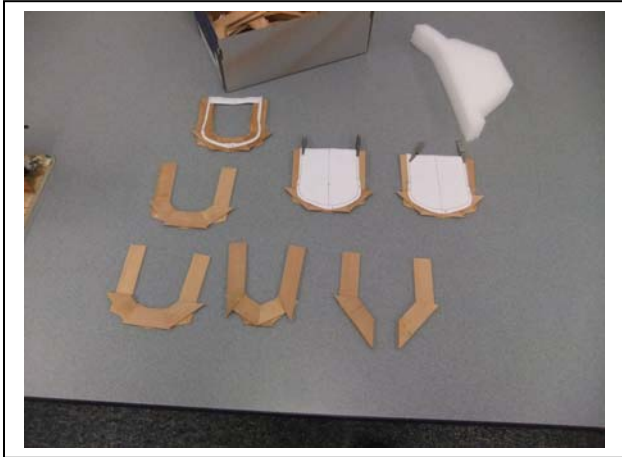
differently many times to appear as an innocent merchantman. When close enough, bulkheads in her sides would drop to reveal her armament and crates on deck would be lifted off to reveal deck guns. Her running lights could be altered to confuse other ships. The *Atlantis* was also equipped to drop mines in the mouths of enemy harbors. She carried two planes with folding wings which were stored in the hold. All told she sank 22 ships



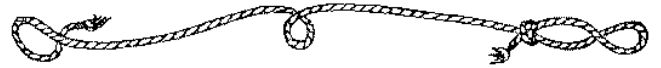
**Tony Alworth** returned his model of the *Syren* to show the progress he is making. Tony has had to make some pieces up to five times before he was satisfied. He refers to Chuck Passaro's instructions and finds them very helpful. Overall, Tony is very pleased with the kit, though the blocks and nylon rigging line are not up to the quality of other components. When he brings it next time, he plans to have the masts stepped.



**Tom Ruggiero**, a participant in the Hanna group build, showed us the frame blanks he has constructed. Tom told us that the Hahn method can be wasteful of wood because the generalized blanks have to be made to fit a variety of frames. A larger number of frame blank formations would allow the frame patterns to fit more closely and thus use less wood. Tom demonstrated his use of cellophane to allow easier cutting of the timber-heads at a later stage. Tom noted that the wood from the lumberyard varies in width from piece to piece and will have to be finish sanded to fit the assembly jig. Tom is researching the size of the four cannon that she carried and her sailing rig.



The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM



## FROM THE EDITOR

I had asked Tom McGowan for information on upcoming tech sessions and the date of the December meeting via e-mail. When I hadn't received a reply, I gave him a call and found out from his wife Julie that Tom was in the hospital in Philadelphia for a medical procedure. She said that he was doing very well and she expected him home very soon. We all wish him the best. I will send out an e-mail and a letter to the members regarding the date of the December meeting subsequent to the mailing of this issue.

*Mike Gutsick*

*Speaking of the December meeting and our annual White Whale Auction, I have been asked to include the following information from our esteemed Chairman of the Wood Committee, **Jim Calulkins!***

### **Bargain Sale in December**

*Bad case of MSS\*. Have to give away complete Hannah Swiss Pear kit for a song! Includes Hahn's "Colonial Schooner" (total cost about \$250).*

*\* - **M**odel **S**hipbuilder **S**yndrome. 7 kit backlog is just too much! Can't handle! **\$125** will take it!*

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.

**Direct All Correspondence To:**

**BROADAXE EDITOR**  
Michael Gutsick, 34 Junard Drive, Morristown,  
NJ 07960  
(973) 206-1004 E-mail:  
[mikejgutsick@optonline.net](mailto:mikejgutsick@optonline.net)

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:**

Robert Fivehouse, 53 Ironia Road, Randolph, NJ  
07869  
(973) 927-3426 E-mail: [Fivehouse@verizon.net](mailto:Fivehouse@verizon.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

Thomas McGowan, 36 Clover Hill Lane, Colts  
Neck, NJ 07722  
(732) 946-8322 E-mail: [jmcgcla@optimum.net](mailto:jmcgcla@optimum.net)

**TREASURER:**

Al Geigel, 453 Second Street, Dunellen, NJ 08812  
(732) 529-5147 E-mail: [algeigel@optonline.net](mailto:algeigel@optonline.net)

**SECRETARY:**

Larry Friedlander, 112 Holliday Lane, River Vale,  
NJ 07675  
(201) 666-6984 E-mail: [Twomai@gmail.com](mailto:Twomai@gmail.com)

**WEBMASTER:**

Chuck Passaro E-mail:  
[cpassaro@mindspring.com](mailto:cpassaro@mindspring.com)



*Have a Great Thanksgiving Holiday!*

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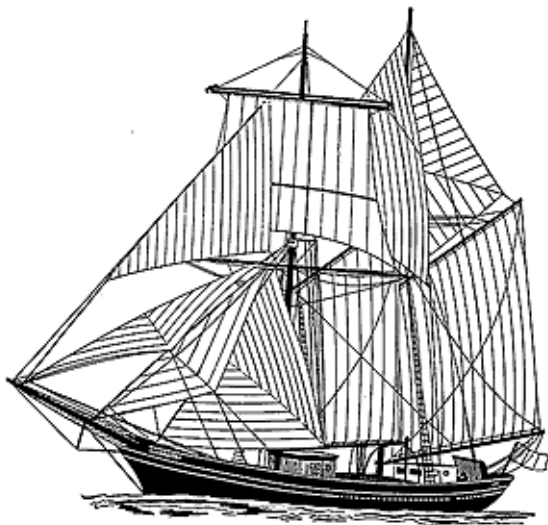
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Newsletter Editor:  
Michael Gutsick  
34 Junard Drive  
Morristown, NJ 07960



## **NEXT MEETING:**

**November 23, 2010**

**7:30 PM**

**MILLBURN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

**Tech Session  
To be  
Announced**