

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



Volume 30, Number 7

July, 2012

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
June 25, 2012

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 with 25 members and one guest; Ted Wyka, present. Ted has done some woodcarving and ships in bottles and he is now working on a couple of sailboats. Bob Fivehouse chaired the meeting because our new president, Tom Ruggiero and our new vice-president, Chuck Passaro were unable to attend.

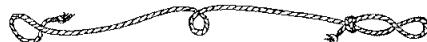
A new roster has been prepared and e-mailed to the membership. Please keep the secretary informed of any changes so that the roster can be kept current. If you would like a printed copy of the roster please send a SASE to the secretary (address at the end of the Broadaxe) and one will be mailed to you. Rosters are also available at the monthly meetings.

The monthly minutes as presented in the Broadaxe were accepted.

Our new treasurer, Ken Schuetz has successfully completed the transfer of the club's accounts from Al Geigels' name to his own. This turned out to be a more arduous task than Ken had anticipated. Restorative measures were called for and Ken has included an expense of \$32 for energy replenishment at the local diner. We thank Al for his past service and welcome Ken aboard and hope that his future endeavors will not prove so taxing. In spite of this unanticipated outlay, the club's finances remain sufficient for our anticipated expenditures.

As one of his first official duties, Ken reminded us that dues are payable in July. Members who have not paid their dues after six months are liable to be removed from the membership rolls. As one of his last duties, Al Geigel reviewed the payment lists for the past three years and noticed that there were several members who had not paid for two and three years. We are a small club and hesitate to make our numbers even smaller but it seems fair to assume that if a person hasn't paid their dues for that length of time they are no longer interested

in being a member. If you have not paid your dues and would still like to be a member, please pay your arrears and we will welcome you back with open arms. (Dues should be sent to Ken Schuetz, address at the end of the Broadaxe)



OLD BUSINESS

Last month we began a discussion concerning the economics of printing and mailing the Broadaxe. As mentioned in the last issue, it costs approximately \$26.50 to mail a black-and-white copy of the Broadaxe to members who don't receive it via e-mail. There are nine or 10 people who do have e-mail addresses who still receive the Broadaxe by "snail" mail. Several suggestions were made such as: increase the dues to \$30 a year for those members who wish to continue receiving the Broadaxe by mail, discontinue mailing the Broadaxe entirely but make it available for pickup at club meetings and, mail a stripped-down, no-pictures version. After a lengthy discussion, Olie Eriksen volunteered to do the printing and mailing of a full colored version at his own expense. The membership voted that those people who have a valid e-mail address not be given the option of receiving the Broadaxe by mail. However, in light of Olie's offer it is not clear that that step is necessary. Thank you Olie for absorbing this cost and effort!

Tony Alworth's wife owns a quilting shop in Morris Plains (48 Speedwell Ave. Aardvark Quilt shop, next to the Plaza Restaurant) and has generously offered us the use of its classroom space as a club meeting room on the last Saturday of every month. The room is available from 10 in the morning till two in the afternoon. The first get-together has already taken place and the date of the next meeting will be posted on the club's website. Please bring something to cover the tabletop and to clean up. Thank you Tony!

Chuck Bergman, Dennis Powell, and Mason Logie are the three members of the picnic committee. While Dennis was dealing with new work and family situations, Chuck was having an operation on his foot. This left Mason as the lone functioning member of the committee. Mason's search has produced a promising site, the New Jersey Ship Wreck Museum that seems to fill more of our requirements than any other site so far discussed. There will be more details at the next meeting.

Roy Goroski gave us a brief update on his continuing efforts to interest Lambert Castle in a ship model show. The officials at Lambert Castle insist that any show be relevant to their location in New Jersey

a ship modeler could work and also answer questions from the public. Olie would like to know which members of our club are interested in manning the booth on some Saturday afternoons. Olie told us that, sadly, his model of the USS Constitution, which is now residing on one of the top floors of the museum, has been badly damaged and needs to be moved to an area where it can be repaired.



NEW BUSINESS

Bob Fivehouse's wife volunteers at Greystone and is requesting that club members donate any used but wearable T-shirts for the "clients". Please bring what you have to our next club meeting.

Dan Pariser told us that the NRG will be putting on its' fall modeling seminars October 13 at Ford Schuyler at SUNY Maritime College, the oldest maritime college in the country. Fort Schuyler is under the northern approaches to the Verrazano Bridge in the Bronx. The seminars will start at eight in the morning and are expected to end around five in the afternoon. They will be held in modern "smart" classrooms, which are Wi-Fi enabled so that tablets and laptops can be used. There will be five modeling talks and then a tour of the museum guided by one of the docents. The seminar topics will cover basic rigging, figure making and diorama creation, spiling and hull planking, silver soldering and one workshop to be determined. The fee for the day will be \$65, which will include a continental breakfast, a catered lunch and admission to the museum. More information can be found on the NRG's website.

Olie Eriksen opened his new company across the street from his old one and he invited the club to show us his new plant and his model collection in September or October. The Science Center in Liberty Park is considering having a corner of an exhibition room where



WEBSITE & LENDING LIBRARY

Website: <http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org/>

Lending Library:

<http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org/club-library.php>

Every month our club receives 20 to 30 online requests for books, publications and plans from our library; few if any of which are from members. Posting the contents of the library online seems to create a problem without being a service to the members. If this situation continues, it might make sense to remove the library from our website. It would still be available to members but would not cause difficulties for the webmaster.



BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS



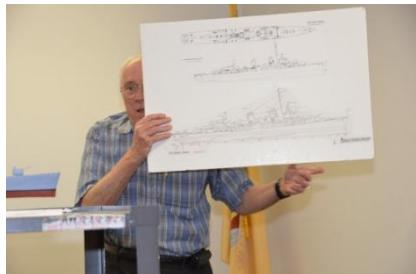
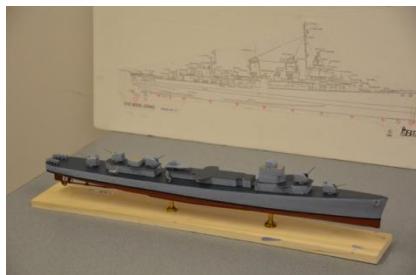
TECH SESSION



SHOW AND TELL



In 1941 the *USS Kidd*, destroyer 661, was built in Kearny, New Jersey. Ed Hegstetter was given the 1/16th of an inch to the foot Bluejacket model as a Christmas present in 2001. The hull is solid wood and had to be shaped by carving and sanding. The upper portions of the hull are also wood. Ed is covering those with styrene to match the texture of steel. He is super detailing the ship using photo-etch brass parts. Ed supplemented his Bluejacket plans with Floating Drydock plans, which are much better, but to a different scale. These plans are being supplemented with pictures, taken from a TV documentary, showing the proper colors and the placement of deck details.

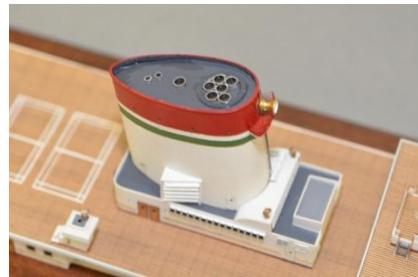


Tom McGowan likes to buy tools and his favorite tool source is Lee Valley Tools. Tom brought in three of his latest purchases: a digital angle indicator, switchable magnets and very thin cutting discs. The digital angle indicator will read angles down to 10ths of a degree and can be used for such tasks as measuring the rake of a mast. The switchable magnets have a lever, which raises and lowers the magnets to release them or to form a powerful bond with an iron surface, which would hold a jig or fence firmly in place. Tom will use thin cutting discs, from Dedeco Co., to form moulding shapes in single edge razors and jigsaw blades. These cutting discs are thinner than those usually supplied with Dremel tools and will cut a more accurate moulding. One of the drawbacks of these discs is that they are fragile and must be used with care.





When she was built in 1931 SS *Rex* was the pride of the Italian liner fleet. She set speed records across the Atlantic winning the Blue Riband in 1933. She was 850 feet long and 40 feet wide. In spite of World War II, the *Rex* continued commercial cruising until 1940. In 1944 British aircraft firing rockets to prevent her being used to block the harbor of Trieste sank her. Dan Pariser has received a commission to build a model of the *Rex* to a scale of 1/200. He has completed the hull and is now working on the superstructure, which is built of blocks of wood, sheathed with plastic. An interesting detail is a boxing ring erected on the sun deck. The deck is paper, printed to recreate the effect of planking. One of the two pools has been re-created using more than 300 parts. Dan works from photographs rather than plans because they show more detail and show ships as they were built rather than as they were planned.



Tony Alworth brought in his model Expo kit, *Syren* and proudly announced that it is “Done”. While there are a few things that Tony may revise in months to come, Tony is ready to move on. Tony felt it was “a real learning experience” and that the ship’s boat posed new and difficult challenges. Tony is not happy with the way some of the rope coils lie and pointed out that one of the yards is not perfectly parallel with the other yards. Tony’s next project will be a 36 foot Coast Guard motor lifeboat. The real boat is being restored up on Cape Cod in Orleans. Tony has a complete set of builder’s plans and using information from the restoration and the plans he hopes to build an accurate model.





Chuck Bergman decided that since his model of the cutter *Lady Nelson* was his first effort he would not follow prototypical practice and spile the hull planking. Feeling that this is a learning experience, he has continued using the kit-provided wood. With filler, wood putty and sanding, he has produced a surface suitable for painting. He is now planking his decks, using 80 mm lengths of wood stained on the side with a magic marker to simulate caulking. Chuck gave voice to the kit builders lament; why is the wood in this kit inadequate to my needs? And the club responded that the first sign of enlightenment is to recognize that there is a problem.





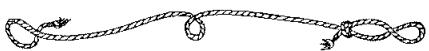
On a visit to a flea market, **Richard LaRue** found the Model Shipways kit of the fishing schooner *Elsie* on sale for \$25 and recognizing a bargain when he saw one, he bought it. The kit requires that the hull be sanded, so Richard made templates to be sure he got the final shape correct. Scribed deck planking was provided but Richard replaced that with individual planks. This was a very old version of the kit with minimal instructions. Richard found a newer and more complete set of instructions on the Internet. The kit fittings contain lead and **Ed Hegstetter** suggested that they be replaced because old pieces like that tend to rot.



Steven Fletcher wishes Harold Hahn had designed the jig for his plank on frame model of the *Emma C. Berry* because the one that came with the kit is totally inadequate. Also the basswood supplied breaks when it is curved to fit. In spite of these deficiencies Steve has enjoyed building the kit. Instead of building the mast in place, he will lay it alongside the model as if ready to be shipped and display it that way. One of the remaining challenges is putting the stripes along the hull. **Bob Fivehouse** suggested cutting thin strips of paper and cyanoing them onto the hull, **Tom McGowan** suggested painting the hull white, putting thin tape over the white, over-painting in black and then peeling off the tape, and **Henry Schaefer** pointed out that warming the tape over a lit light bulb would soften it and make it conform to the curve more readily

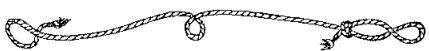


CANDID SHOTS



HANNAH GROUP

The next Hannah group met will be held on August 11th at Barry Rudd's house.



AARDVARK WORKSHOP

SMSNJ members, the next workshop get-together at the Aardvark Quilting Shop will be August 25th, 10AM-2PM.

Aardvark Quilt shop, 48 Speedwell Ave. Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950 [next to the Plaza Restaurant]



Bob Fivehouse informs us that, sadly, Jim Wiser, one of the movers and shakers of the Conn. club and one of the founders of the Joint Clubs meeting (and a very nice guy!) has passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

The '**BROADAXE**' is published monthly by The Ship Model Society of Northern 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 SMSNNJ 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.

The **Broadaxe** is written by Larry Friedlander, edited by Michael Storch, and distributed by Dennis Powell.

Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome in the Broadaxe. Please submit them to Larry Friedlander.

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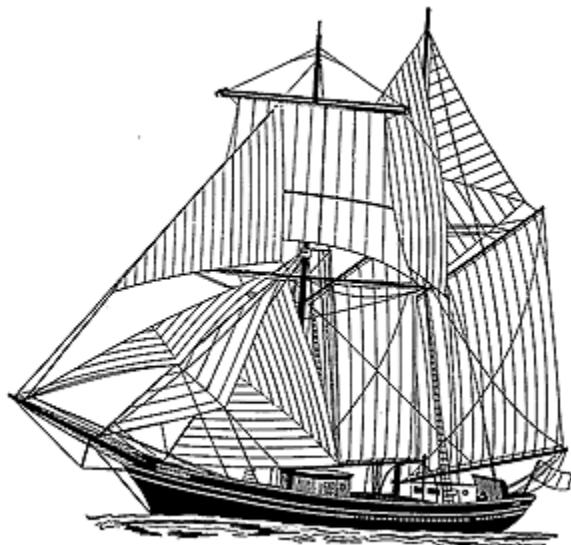
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NEXT MEETING:

August 27, 2012
7:30 PM

**MILLBURN PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Bring Your Models
[Finished or Unfinished]