



THE BROADAXE

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



Volume 24, Number 10

October, 2006

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING September 26, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Vice President **Ed Hegstetter**. We had 33 members in attendance and 2 guests, **John and Jack Pignatello** attending their second meeting.

Comments and/or corrections to the September issue of the Broadaxe were requested. There being none, the September 2006 issue of the Broadaxe was accepted into the minutes.

Ken Schuetz presented his Treasurer's Report to the members present. There were no comments or discussion regarding the Treasurer's Report.

Tom Ruggiero reported on the successful model exhibit at the South Amboy Library. Tom advised the members that the models will need to be picked up from the Library on September 30th.

Allen Hamilton told the members of his visit to the Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum in Savannah, Georgia. It's an excellent museum with some very large scale models on display. The *SS Savannah* was nine feet long! The museum is a must see if you are in Savannah.

Along those same lines, **Henry Schaefer** told us of his visit to the Lighthouse Museum in Rockport, Maine. There is an outstanding diorama of a 6 masted schooner under construction on display.

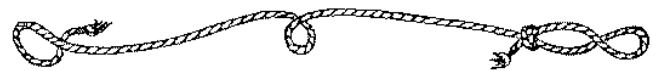
Tom McGowan has offered to host an open house to show us his modeling work shop. The date of November 18th, a Saturday was agreed upon for the open house. Directions to Tom's house are included later in this issue of the Broadaxe.

Ozzie Thalmann reported that he has approached the Parsippany library to determine their interest in

having a model exposition similar to the Morris County Library. The library would like to have such a display in early 2007. Ozzie and Jeff Fuglestad will make another trip to the Parsippany library to get more information.

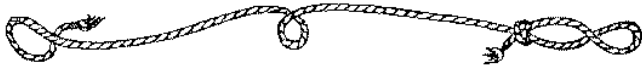
Michael Storch told us he had recently gone to Mystic Seaport and had spoken to one of the curators about the noticeable decrease in models on display. He was told that the models are still on site and arrangements could be made to see them. There was a general consensus among the members that this would be a good side trip to make in conjunction with the North East Joint Clubs show held each April in New London.

Mason Logie, Jr. reported to the members that he met with the base historian at Sandy Hook State Park. Mason explained that there is a Royal Navy cemetery on Sandy Hook dating back to the Revolutionary War. Sandy Hook is also the site of the oldest lighthouse in the country. There are also bunkers built during World War II to house artillery to protect the harbor against the *Bismark* and *Tirpitz*. With the sinking of both German warships, the guns were never installed. Mason also said that a Cold War era Nike missile base is being restored. Mason would like to set up a tour of Sandy Hook in late spring of next year.



BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

Buddy Plechata brought in two books, "Resurrection" by Daniel Madsen, published by the Naval Institute Press in 2003 and "United States Battleships" published by Monitor in 1968. "Resurrection" recounts the salvage history of the aftermath of the Pearl Harbor attack while "United States Battleships" provides a history of U.S. Battleships. Both books provide excellent resource material.

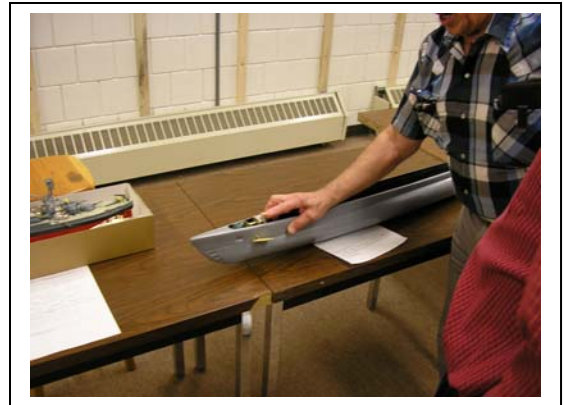


SHOW AND TELL

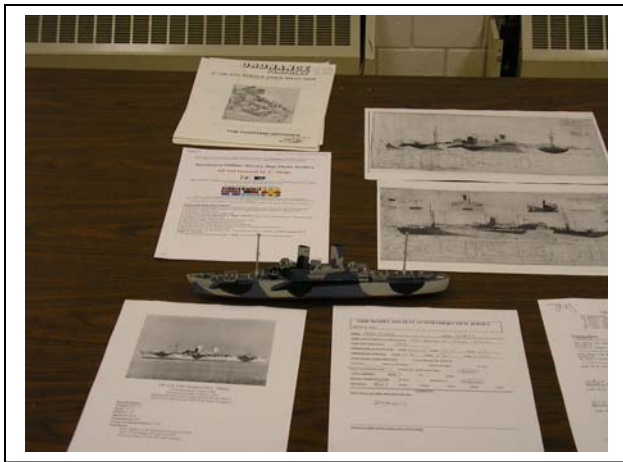
Buddy Plechata brought in his model of the *USS Arizona BB-39*, a Trumpeter kit in 1:350 scale. The *Arizona* was constructed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and launched in 1915. She was assigned to various fleets between the wars, ultimately serving as flagship of Battleship Division 1, Pacific Fleet. She was sunk by Japanese torpedoes and bombs on December 7, 1941. The kit is an easy build having a clear set of instructions. The painting is airbrush. Buddy included Kingfisher airplanes on his model and is as she appeared on December 7th.



Ozzie Thalmann had a hull of U.S. submarine, *USS Hardhead SS-365*, that he is using to work out the details and mechanics of operating diving planes that he will be installing on a model of U-505 which will be his next project. Using clock gears, a 1rpm motor and a 9 volt battery, Ozzie demonstrated how the dive planes will be raised and lowered. Ozzie also told us his U-505, in 1:72 scale, will have operating torpedo tubes. **Torpedo .. Los!**



Mike Gutsick showed his work in progress of the fast troop transport, *USS General M. C. Meigs AP-116*, the ship his father served on during World War II. The *Meigs* was designed to carry 5,100 troops. The model is in 1:600 scale. Mike is using photo-etch railings and ladders from Gold Medal Models and Tom's Model Works. The hull is of bread and butter construction using 3/16" basswood for the lifts. The camouflage scheme is Measure 32 – 10T and was the second of three paint schemes used on the *Meigs*.



Tom Ruggiero showed us his scratch built *HMS Liverpool*. Tom has completed the head rails and grating and has positioned the deck beams. Tom explained the difficulty in making the head rails due to their complex compound curves and varying thicknesses. The next construction detail Tom will be working on will be the cannon carriages. The *Liverpool* carried twenty-four 9 Ponders on the gun deck and four 3 Ponders on the quarter deck.

Don Otis brought in his nearly completed model of the 1934 J Class racing yacht *Endeavor*. It was only a few months ago that Don had brought in the partially completed hull. Don used a number of fittings from the Amati kit of *Endeavor* on this model.





TECH SESSION

Tom Ruggiero and **Jeff Fuglestad** provided the members with a very informative presentation of making the most of ship plans and how to best utilize these plans to construct your hulls using lifts, both waterlines and buttock lines, or frames and bulkheads. Both Jeff and Tom had several plans and section templates on hand to illustrate their techniques. Tom was also kind enough to type up his discussion which is included here for the benefit of those members who were unable to attend the meeting.

How to use Ship Plans (Or Develop your Own)

Kit model makers have the advantage of having all of the structural parts of a hull ready to assemble. But what if you break a bulkhead or need additional bulkheads? Suppose that you've decided to take the plunge into scratch building and you need to make your own set of plans?

This presentation is intended to help you sort through the process. Although the descriptions are complicated, the process is fairly straight forward.

First, we need to describe the basic ship plan. This is typically referred to as the "Lines Drawing". Usually, there are three views that comprise the basic drawing. Note that even today a typical plan includes two or three orthographic projections. This means that any third view can be produced using the other two views.

On a ship's line drawing, the three views are; the sheer plan, the body plan and the half breadth plan.

The Sheer Plan

The largest view is the sheer plan. This view is a broadside projection of the ship's hull. The sheer plan is divided horizontally by waterlines and vertically by station lines. The water lines typically start at the top of the keel and rise up to the waterline. In the case of the station lines, they are designated alphabetically from amidships (or dead flat station) forward to the bow and, numerically from amidships to the stern. Usually, there is one station line for each two frames. Below the sheer plan is the half breadth plan. To the left of the Sheer Plan is the body plan.

The Half Breadth Plan

The half breadth plan is the top down view of the ship's hull. Sometimes only half the hull is shown; most times, the view on top shows the waterlines while the view below the centerline shows the deck arrangement. The vertical lines are the station lines and they project down from the sheer plan. The curved lines are the waterlines. The waterlines are projected from the sheer plan.

The Body Plan

The body plan is a vertical series of slices through the hull at each station. The centerline is the centerline of the ship. It can be developed using the sheer and half breadth plans using orthographic projection (or Descriptive geometry). To the right of the center are the stations from amidships forward. To the left are stations from amidships aft. Lines perpendicular to the centerline are a projection of the waterlines from the sheer plan. Note that although they look horizontal, they're not.

The distance from the centerline to the station line at each waterline is the same distance as that in the half breadth plan.

How the Lines Are Used

No matter how you want to build your hull, you will use these three views in combination. If you plan to use a Bread and Butter or "Lift" Method, you can either use lifts built vertically or horizontally. If you're doing it horizontally, you will need to redraw (or copy) the reverse of the half breadth and tape them together at the centerline. You will cut one lift for each waterline. The thickness of the lift is the width between the lifts on the sheer plan. The pattern is the shape on the half breadth plan. Suppose that you want to make thinner lifts or the stock you have is not exactly the same dimension as the plan? No problem. You modify the shape by using the other two views.

First, draw a line on the sheer plan for the actual wood thickness that you have. Carry the same line to the body plan and mark the centerline on the body plan. At each station on the body plan, measure the distance from the centerline to the hull line. In the half breadth plan, measure that same distance above and below the centerline and make a tick mark. Do the same thing at each station line. When you've done all of the stations, connect the dots. You now have the line for the actual lift thickness that you have. When you assemble all of the lifts, you can use the body plan to make templates to help you when you carve the hull to shape.

If you're doing a bulkhead or framed model, you use the same technique except that now you're using the dimensions that you take from the half breadth plan and you project them onto the body plan. This is a basic form of lofting ships lines although it is a little more complicated in prototype practice.

Try it a few times. As I noted previously, it sounds more complicated than it is.

Tom Ruggiero SMSNNJ

September 26, 2006

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.



"Soundings From D-Deck"

Directions to Tom McGowan's house are as follows:

Garden State Parkway to Exit 109 (Red Bank)
West on Route 520 (Newman Springs Road) to Route 34, continue past Route 34 about one tenth of a mile to the first road on the left, Clover Hill Lane
Turn left onto Clover Hill Lane. Tom's house is the fifth driveway on the right - #36. Go up the driveway and bear right to the large garage and park on the back lawn. Tom will have coffee and donuts waiting!

Now that we are all hyped up about working with ship plans after our most excellent tech session, the next question that comes to mind is where can I get these ship plans? The scratch builder probably has an extensive list of sources for plans already. For the rest of us who are just starting out, here is a short list of sources for ship line drawings:

Ship Plans
Smithsonian Institution
P.O. Box 37012
NMAH 5004/MRC 628
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Three catalogs are available and can be ordered individually. They are *Ship Plans List/ Maritime Collection* (\$20), *The Maritime Administration Collection of Ship Plans (1939-1970)* (\$15) and *The Smithsonian Collection of Warship Plans* (\$15)

Taubman's Plan Service, a division of Loyalhanna Dockyard on the internet at www.taubmanonline.com

The Floating Dry Dock specializing in modern warship plans at www.floatingdrydock.com

Useful tools that you should have for this process is a set of divider's and a flexible rule. **Michael Storch** sent me an e-mail with online sources for flexible ship's curves. You can check them out at www.hoylegrips.com/rulers.htm, www.alvinco.com or www.southernphoto.com. Modeling software can be found at www.rhino3d.com/marine.htm for anyone interested in CAD.

Henry Schaefer pointed out that if you are interested in seeing additional pictures of the South Street Seaport show, they can be found on the internet at www.modelwarships.com. Click on the Feature Articles

button on the left side of the screen and select the article for the South Street Seaport Model Show. The articles are listed by date. I recognized two of our members' models, Jeff Fuglestad's whale boat and Ozzie Thalmann's liberty ship *SS Stephen Hopkins*.



UPCOMING TECH SESSIONS

October 24, 2006 – Bring a Model Night

November 28, 2006 – Tom McGowan will discuss resistance soldering techniques

December 19, 2006 – White Whale Auction

JUST A REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 18, 2006 – Work Shop Open House, Tom McGowan's house, 36 Clover Hill Lane, Colts Neck, NJ

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 \$30.00 for the first year and \$25.00 per year thereafter

Visit our Web Site at: <http://www.njshipmodelsociety.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.

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*A few photos from the South Amboy Library Show
Courtesy of Tom Ruggiero*



THE BROADAXE

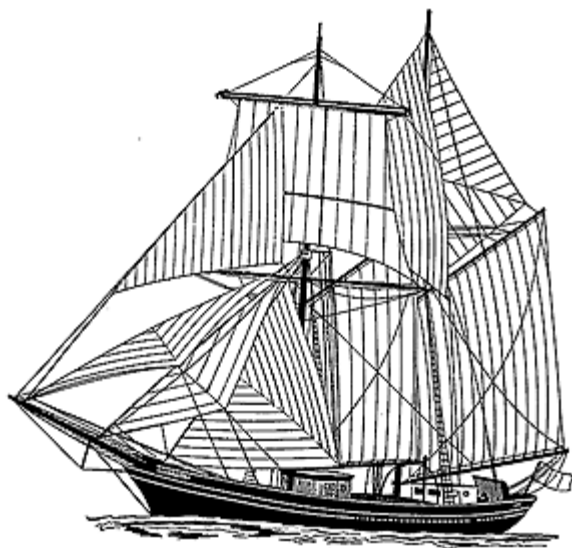
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NEXT MEETING:

October 24, 2006

7:30 PM

**MILLBURN PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

**Bring a Model
Night**