



Volume 33, Number 12

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

December 2015

In This Issue

[Old Business](#)
[New Business](#)
["Tech Session"](#)
[Show and Tell](#)
[Cool Tools](#)
[Books and Pubs](#)
[Club Info](#)

Our next club meeting is
January 26 at 6:45PM

**ROSELAND PUBLIC
 LIBRARY**

DECEMBER NOTES...

All those who have received reimbursement checks from the club are asked to be timely in cashing them. Seems we have a couple that were written last May that are still floating in the ether somewhere. Plays havoc with the Treasurer and is not an acceptable way of getting back at Ken if you have a beef with him. Better to take it outside in the parking lot. Ken has settled on a less violent but perhaps more painful solution: If 6 months have passed since the check was written and it has not been cashed, the entry will be reversed and the funds will be designated a "donation to the club".

As a token of our appreciation for the hospitality and support received from the Roseland Public Library, SMSNJ has donated \$100 to the organization. From our first request for space to meet, the library staff have been most gracious and helpful to the club. Our thanks to all the staff, who have gone out of their way to make us feel at home.

We still have the 2 models (one of a Chinese Junk, the other a New Bedford Whaleboat) that were entrusted to our care by John Francis, who moved out of state and did not want to take the models with him. Our plan is to donate these to the library. [Click here](#) for photos of the models.

Congratulations to member Jason Clark, the proud Papa of a new baby girl, Lillian Therese. Our best wishes go out to the Clark family!

MONTHLY MEETING

In attendance were 25 members and 1 guest: Randy Smith, a painter who works in oils. Cool [website](#), Randy — like the video! We met in the library proper, as our normal meeting room was taken up with the annual Lionel train display. Brought for auction were a miniature block plane, complete with razor blade, and 2 packets of coping saw blades. [Click here](#) for photos of the meeting.



OLD BUSINESS



Tom R. received the following Thank You letter from Linda Dianto, Executive Director of the National Lighthouse Museum:

Dear Tom,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Model Ship Society of New Jersey for their wonderful model ship exhibit held at our museum. The display was extremely impressive and the narratives were very informative.

We look forward to working with your group again in the future. I encourage you to please tell others about the museum and its hidden Staten Island history.

Linda

Thanks once again for supporting our efforts and sharing your talents with our visitors. It was great working with you and I look forward to your return next year. Thanks so much to all the guys who took the time out of their busy schedules to make this happen.

L.

The museum will soon be moving to a larger building next door to the current location. That's the good news. The bad news is that the space previously designated for parking will not be available in the future. Underway is construction of a parking structure for the museum and surrounding venues, but this won't be finished for another year. There is parking at the ferry terminal, but it's a good hike from the museum and it's not free. Linda has assured us that we will work out necessary details when the time comes for our next visit.

Quilt Shoppe. Once the Aardvark is no longer available, we will be having our group work sessions at a member's house the third Saturday of the month. Potential venues are the homes of Tom Ruggiero, Chuck Passaro and Barry Rudd, and Bill Houston's framing shop. All of these locations are equipped with adequate working space and power tools.

NEW BUSINESS



We have a few Tech Sessions already planned for 2016, but if you have a topic you would like to see covered, or if there is a session you would like repeated, please send an email to an Executive Committee member. If you have something to share, please share it. We'll put it on the agenda for a future meeting. If you don't like doing presentations, we'll find someone else to do yours. Just let us know.

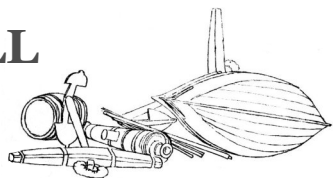
Jeff Fuglestad has 3 or 4 holly logs about 4 feet long and 3-4" in diameter. If anyone is interested, Jeff will cut them into desired lengths and the member can then use his own table or band saw to shape them as needed. The logs have been aging for about a year.

Larry Friedlander suggested that we consider putting up a Facebook page for the club. Larry said he would be willing to create the page if another/others would keep the site updated. Chuck Passaro said this would be very easy to set up, as the software he uses for the website is equipped to create an instant Facebook page. The problem then becomes keeping the page updated on a regular basis. Larry believes the main benefit of having a Facebook page is an increase in club exposure and expanded membership. A potential solution is giving all members access to post blurbs/photos of their current projects. But opening up the page to free input creates another problem: unwanted posts. Someone would have to act as administrator and monitor the site on a regular basis to delete undesirable input. Following a great deal of discussion, it was left that Larry will investigate this further and report his findings and recommendations at a future meeting.

“TECH SESSION”



SHOW AND TELL



Chuck Passaro updated the progress on his cutter *HMS Cheerful*. He has now finished everything outboard — a real milestone for him, as he hasn't had a lot of time to devote to the model. Notable completions:

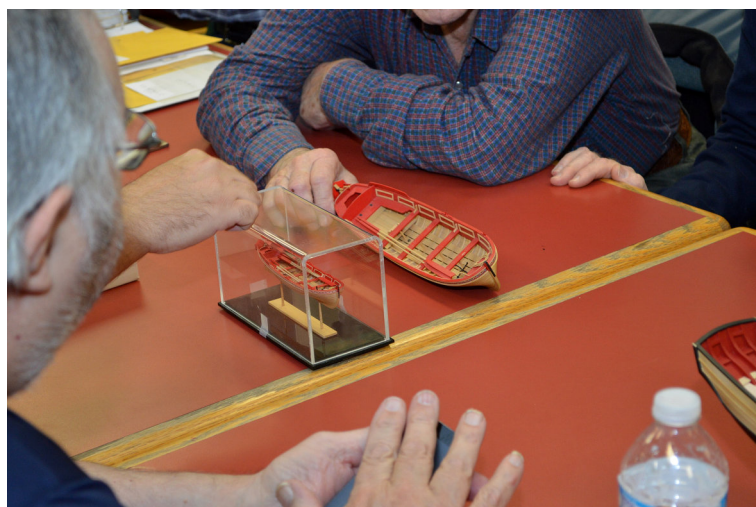
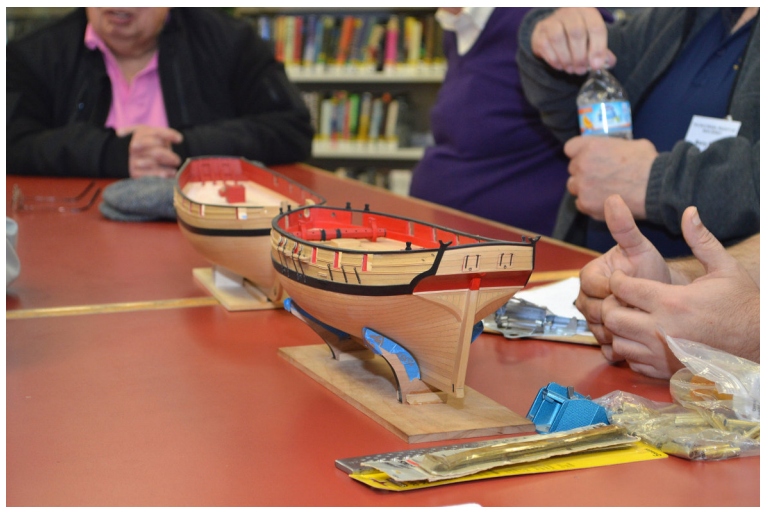
- All the metalwork ([chain plates](#) and [deadeyes](#)). Chuck made these out of brass, but instead of blackening or painting them, Chuck airbrushed them. This was a learning experience, involving trial and error to get the proper paint consistency. After the paint dried, Chuck took

some rust colored and charcoal gray weathering powders and applied these to distinguish the metal pieces from the painted wood parts. This gave them a brownish tone without leaving the impression that they had been beaten up with heavy use.

- The windlass (see photos). This construction is made up of 50 separate pieces, shaped individually and glued together! Nice work.

Viewing the model, a member raised the following question: "If you have open deck gunports, why do you need lids?" Answer: it's a way to keep everything a bit drier when underway with a following or athwartship sea.

Also brought for Show and Tell were 1/4" and 1/2" scale *Pinnaces*, and **Mike Rogers'** *HMS Cheerful*, at roughly the same stage of completion as Chuck's. All fine looking models.



COOL TOOLS



Larry Friedlander showed a battery operated [electric hand drill](#) from Tamiya, a tool in the \$20-\$25 range. The drill is actually a kit. It comes on several sprues (!) with a bag of metal pieces, ready for assembly. Even has a tube of grease for motor lubrication. Larry plans to build the kit by next month's meeting, and may

"put a little sail on it with figures". The drill is primarily designed for plastic modelers. Its advantages include low speed and high torque, major benefits when trying to (for example) drill gun barrels without melting the plastic. As with just about everything else these days, there are several YouTube videos on how to build the kit. [Click here](#) for further information.

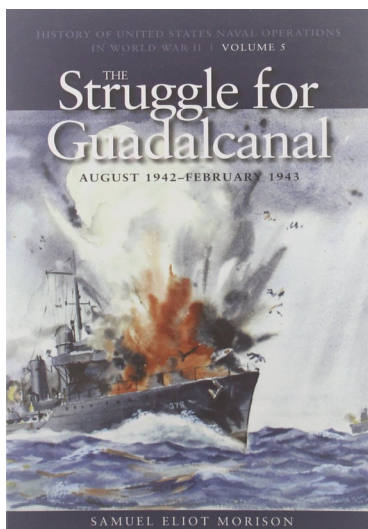


BOOKS AND PUBS



Growing up in the late '40's, I have always been a WWII history buff. My Dad was a Navy veteran of the era, having served in both Atlantic and Pacific theaters.

I've also always been an avid reader. The other day, I had an urge to revisit accounts of naval action during the war recorded in a 15-volume series by [Samuel Eliot Morison](#), a 2-time Pulitzer Prize winner. I first read all 15 volumes as a teenager.



Morison was a history professor at Harvard. At the outbreak of the war, FDR tapped him to write a first-hand history of naval operations during the conflict. His accounts are colorful and his books are easy reads. One volume that especially impressed me many years ago was his account of the campaign for [Guadalcanal](#) (mid-summer 1942 to early 1943). The book is packed with action: virtually nonstop sea, air and ground combat in vivid detail. It recounts the ferocious and extensive surface actions that occurred during the period, as well as the carrier actions of the [Eastern Solomons](#) and the hardships that faced Marines hanging on by their fingernails. Fascinating, inspiring stuff. The book is chock full of charts of the engagements and some interesting photos.

I bought this book from [Amazon](#). The original was hardcover, but the paperback is just fine. Tried to find *any* Morison volume in the Morris County Library system, but it seems they're all gone now and are not being replaced. That's sad.

The Ship Model Society of New Jersey

The Broadaxe is published monthly by The Ship Model Society of New Jersey (SMSNJ), 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 email in PDF format.

Regular meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:45 PM, at the Roseland Free Public Library, 20 Roseland Avenue, Roseland, 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 email. Handwritten notes or other materials will be considered depending on the amount of editing and preparation involved.

The Broadaxe is written and edited by Steve Maggipinto.

Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please submit them to Steve Maggipinto.

If any member would like an email copy of the roster, please drop a note to Steve Maggipinto at the email address listed below. If there is an error in the roster let Steve know and the roster will be amended. Please make sure that your spam filter is not blocking emails from Steve because if it is, you won't get *The Broadaxe* and member bulletins. You can eliminate the filtering by adding Steve's email addresses to your contact list. 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 Steve Maggipinto at the address below and one will be mailed to you. Rosters are also available at the monthly meetings.

Please keep your contact information up to date. Your email address is particularly important because that is the main avenue of communication for club announcements. In case of emergencies such as last-minute cancellations due to weather, emails will be sent to the members.

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