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Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

June 2016

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

ROSELAND PUBLIC
LIBRARY

JUNE NOTES...

Our thanks to Tom McGowan for setting up the annual club luncheon at the Kenilworth Hotel. "And a good time was had by all..." Proof of the pudding: several wives said they would be back for next year's event.

Jim Lavelle's presentation of *Fun With Flags2*, preempted last month by Ed Tosti's review of his *Naiad* model, is still in the offing and will be scheduled at a future date. According to Jim, it's just as well. It seems Jim was doing some rehearsing on his patented method for scale flag creation and discovered a snag. When Jim tried the method earlier this month, instead of ending up with the desired drape the flag ended up perfectly straight. So it's back to the drawing board and some follow-up with David Antscherl. It was at one of Antscherl's workshops that Jim had learned about this technique. More to follow.

June saw the election of a new slate of officers. Following Tom R.'s review of club officer duties as outlined in the Constitution, ballots were handed out for the one contested position, that of President. As a result of the election, Jim Lavelle was voted in as the new Club President. Chuck Passaro will be our new Vice President, Tom R. will become Secretary and Al Geigel will assume duties as club Treasurer.

Tom R. thanks all club members for their support during his just ending 4-year term as President. He had the opportunity to lead the club through some interesting times, not the least of which was finding a new home following our unexpected and last minute departure from Millburn. Tom's term featured multiple exhibits, workshops with such experts as David Antscherl, luncheons, group working sessions, visits (e.g. [USS Ling](#)) and many others. Tom encourages club members to talk the club up among friends and associates and to work to increase our membership. This is especially important as several of our long time members will be moving shortly to other states. He also asks that members share their many and varied talents with others at meetings and working sessions, and emphasizes that Executive Team members will always be happy to step in and help where necessary with presentations. There's a lot of expertise out there in the club, and experience has shown that, virtually without exception, we have traditionally been generous in sharing on a one-on-one basis. A big and heartfelt THANK YOU, Tom and to the other members of the Executive Committee, Jim Lavelle, Ken Schuetz and Steve Maggipinto for your leadership and service to the club!

In attendance at the June 28 meeting were 20 members and 2nd-time guest, Jack Cremens. For photos of the meeting, [click here](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY

- 16 - Group Working Session
- 26 - Monthly Meeting - 6:45PM,
Roseland Public Library, 1st Floor

AUGUST

- TBD - Group Working Session
- 23 - Monthly Meeting - 6:45PM,
Roseland Public Library, 1st Floor

SEPTEMBER

- TBD - Group Working Session
- 27 - Monthly Meeting - 6:45PM,
Roseland Public Library, 1st Floor

On the Horizon

Exhibition

December and January at the Morris County Library, Whippany, NJ

OLD BUSINESS



On June 4th, Tom Ruggiero attended **Farm Day** in Pennsville, NJ, across the Delaware River from the State of Delaware. He was accompanied by 4 members of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society. Pennsville is an interesting place. You don't think you're actually in New Jersey; it's more like being in the South. There was an exhibitor there who

builds 1/2"=1' models of such items as stagecoaches, sleds, baby cradles – all phenomenal work. For photos of the event and the May group workshop, [click here](#).

Morris County Library Exhibit. We requested a September/October timeframe for the show, but the library had other season-specific events scheduled, so we are now looking at the beginning of December 2016 to mid-January 2017. We would like to have 30-40 models on display on folding tables along the library's corridors and in a glass display case just inside the entrance. Steve Maggipinto passed around a sign up sheet at the June meeting. Steve, Chuck Passaro, Ozzie Thalmann, Tom McGowan and Mason Logie signed up to bring one or more models for the show. The sign up sheet will be available at future meetings. We are also looking to line up folding tables, in case the library does not have enough to display our collection. We have nice cloth covers for the folding tables. Steve put together a brochure for the event and will forward this to club members. A couple of members indicated they would like to have this event brochure plus a general club brochure to pass out in their shops or to display in shop windows.

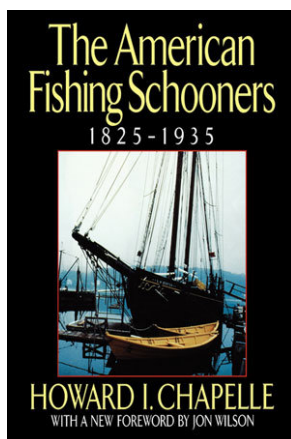
NEW BUSINESS



Chuck Passaro brought 3 planks for auction, one each of walnut, cherry and Castelo (South American) boxwood. The planks sold quickly. And this is not the end of it. Chuck has more to bring to future meetings.

Also brought for auction were 3 rough-cut hulls, made by a company that manufactures shoe trees. These were created with a pattern and cut using a follower that runs along a drawing, much like a [pantograph](#) (mechanical linkage connected in a manner based on parallelograms so that the movement of one pen, in tracing an image, produces identical movements in a second pen, or in this case, a cutter). One of the hulls was a New Bedford whaleboat, the second a *Mayflower*, the third a (?). These sold as well.

BOOKS AND PUBS



Jim Lavelle brought a "double header" book, [The American Fishing Schooners 1825 - 1935](#), that he purchased from Sea Fever Books for \$38. The book was written by Howard Chapelle.

Jim was looking for something to finish up details on his model of [Bluenose](#). Like all Chapelle books, this one is soup to nuts. It has lots of drawings, though not too many photos. The last 300 pages contain notes from all of Chapelle's research on these boats, things that did not fit in the chapters. This "notebook" section contains every detail one could possibly imagine on Gloucester fishing schooners, the boats that used to race against [Bluenose](#). Jim considers the book the Bible on fishing schooners. He found the service he got from Sea Fever Books was very good. Sea Fever's website is excellent; it's nicely laid out and searchable.

COOL TOOLS



This month's entry is not an item of hardware. It's an article that discusses how to make conversions from one scale to another.

Have a 1/48 plan that you want to shrink to 1/85? Easy, or "Cinchy" as my kids used to say. Just use the charts (opposite) shown at [this link](#), or make the conversion yourself using simple calculations. For example, if you want to build Columbus' *Pinta* in 1/85 scale, but only have 1/48 scale drawings, simply divide the scale you have by the scale you want: $48 \div 85 = .5647058$. Round this up to .56. Now, walk over or travel to your nearest scaling copier. Adjust the reduction to 56 percent and Voila!, you have your plans in 1/85 scale.

Cinchy. Of course, this will only work if your original plans fit on the platen. Otherwise, you might need to go to Staples.

Building Blocks

Tips for the scales

Understanding and converting scale ratios

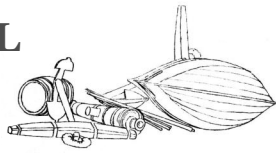
By Chris Appelt

At right: 1/72 scale are the little plans, and 1/32 are the great big ones. 1/32 scale is what they scale from. What scales are available, and what types of kits are available in which scales?

Some popular modelling scales				
Scale	1 inch =	1 scale foot	1 scale	Comments
1/4"	1"	1"	1"	1/4" scale, 1/4" scale
1/8"	1"	1"	1"	1/8" scale, 1/8" scale
1/16"	1"	1"	1"	1/16" scale, 1/16" scale
1/32"	1"	1"	1"	1/32" scale, 1/32" scale
1/64"	1"	1"	1"	1/64" scale, 1/64" scale
1/128"	1"	1"	1"	1/128" scale, 1/128" scale
1/256"	1"	1"	1"	1/256" scale, 1/256" scale
1/512"	1"	1"	1"	1/512" scale, 1/512" scale
1/1024"	1"	1"	1"	1/1024" scale, 1/1024" scale
1/2048"	1"	1"	1"	1/2048" scale, 1/2048" scale
1/4096"	1"	1"	1"	1/4096" scale, 1/4096" scale
1/8192"	1"	1"	1"	1/8192" scale, 1/8192" scale
1/16384"	1"	1"	1"	1/16384" scale, 1/16384" scale
1/32768"	1"	1"	1"	1/32768" scale, 1/32768" scale
1/65536"	1"	1"	1"	1/65536" scale, 1/65536" scale
1/131072"	1"	1"	1"	1/131072" scale, 1/131072" scale
1/262144"	1"	1"	1"	1/262144" scale, 1/262144" scale
1/524288"	1"	1"	1"	1/524288" scale, 1/524288" scale
1/1048576"	1"	1"	1"	1/1048576" scale, 1/1048576" scale
1/2097152"	1"	1"	1"	1/2097152" scale, 1/2097152" scale
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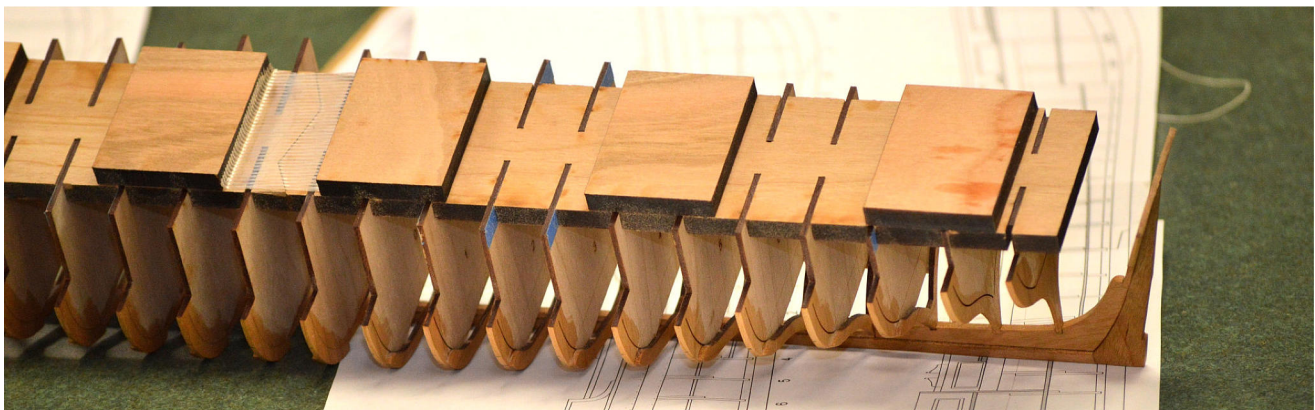
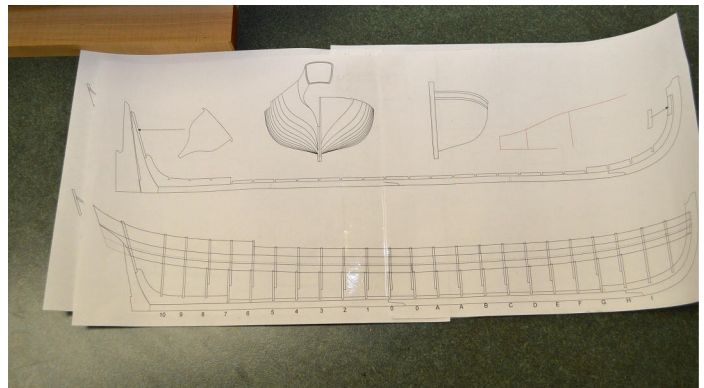
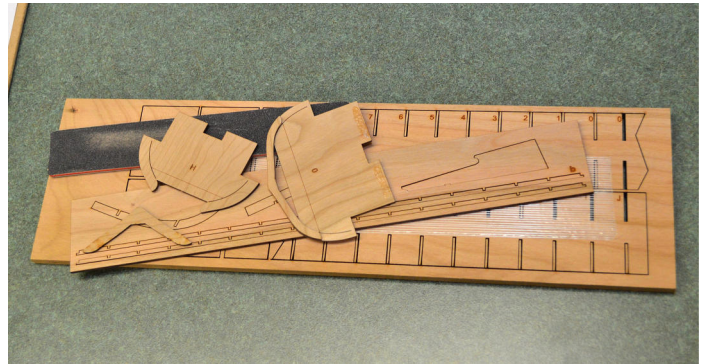
For figures and scales, see the book *Modeling* by John H. Van Dine, Inc. (see the back cover). The figures are 1/4" scale, 1/8" scale, 1/16" scale, 1/32" scale, 1/64" scale, 1/128" scale, 1/256" scale, 1/512" scale, 1/1024" scale, 1/2048" scale, 1/4096" scale, 1/8192" scale, 1/16384" scale, 1/32768" scale, 1/65536" scale, 1/131072" scale, 1/262144" scale, 1/524288" scale, 1/1048576" scale, 1/2097152" scale, 1/4194304" scale, 1/8388608" scale, 1/16777216" scale, 1/33554432" scale, 1/67108864" scale, 1/134217728" scale, 1/268435456" scale, 1/536870912" scale, 1/1073741824" scale, 1/2147483648" scale, 1/4294967296" scale, 1/8589934592" scale, 1/17179869184" scale, 1/34359738368" scale, 1/68719476736" scale, 1/137438953472" scale, 1/274877906944" scale, 1/549755813888" scale, 1/1099511627776" scale, 1/2199023255552" scale, 1/4398046511104" scale, 1/8796093022208" scale, 1/17592186044416" scale, 1/35184372088832" scale, 1/70368744177664" scale, 1/140737488355328" scale, 1/281474976710656" scale, 1/562949953421312" scale, 1/1125899906842624" scale, 1/2251799813685248" scale, 1/4503599627370496" scale, 1/9007199254740992" scale, 1/18014398509481984" scale, 1/36028797018963968" scale, 1/72057594037927936" scale, 1/144115188075855872" scale, 1/288230376151711744" scale, 1/576460752303423488" scale, 1/1152921504606846976" scale, 1/2305843009213693952" scale, 1/4611686018427387904" scale, 1/9223372036854775808" scale, 1/18446744073709551616" scale, 1/36893488147419103232" scale, 1/73786976294838206464" scale, 1/147573952589676412928" scale, 1/295147905179352825856" scale, 1/590295810358705651712" scale, 1/1180591620717411303424" scale, 1/2361183241434822606848" scale, 1/4722366482869645213696" scale, 1/9444732965739290427392" scale, 1/18889465931478580854784" scale, 1/37778931862957161709568" scale, 1/75557863725914323419136" scale, 1/151115727451828646838272" scale, 1/302231454903657293676544" scale, 1/604462909807314587353088" scale, 1/1208925819614629174706176" scale, 1/2417851639229258349412352" scale, 1/4835703278458516698824704" scale, 1/9671406556917033397649408" scale, 1/19342813113834066795298816" scale, 1/38685626227668133590597632" scale, 1/77371252455336267181195264" scale, 1/154742504910672534362390528" scale, 1/309485009821345068724781056" scale, 1/618970019642690137449562112" scale, 1/1237940039285380274899124224" scale, 1/2475880078570760549798248448" scale, 1/4951760157141521099596488896" scale, 1/9903520314283042199192977792" scale, 1/1980704062856608439838595584" scale, 1/3961408125713216879677

SHOW AND TELL



Chuck Passaro brought the skeleton of a Queen Anne Royal Barge, circa 1700, that he is building. It will be made just like the original with floors, futtocks and frames. Rather than trying to glue the model up over a template, Chuck laser-etched a line to guide placement of the floor, which, using a straight edge, can easily and accurately be glued directly to the futtock. The model is designed to be built upside down, with the frames pushed (not glued) into slots. It will be clinker planked. Jim Lavelle has agreed to do the Beta testing for the barge. The next step in the process will be planking. Planks will be pre-spiled and laser cut. A laser etched reference line will be on the clinker strakes to indicate where to put the bevel. There will only be 3 planks on the top, so you can easily see the frames. The bottom two planks are lapstrake or clinker. If the build of the prototype goes well, Chuck will be offering the model for sale. Since the last meeting, Chuck has also started rigging *Cheerful*, a time consuming process that can "only be done so much during the day". He is alternating the rigging process with the barge build. For more info on the barge, [click here](#) (Pages 2–6).

Chuck also discussed the use of professional grade emery boards or sanding sticks for smoothing laser cut material. He buys these on Ebay. They are much stronger, stiffer and effective than commercial emery boards used to file fingernails. The sanding sticks come in multiple grits. One of Chuck's favorites is a board with 120 grit on one side, 180 grit on the other. The stiffness of these boards is especially useful in removing laser char and producing a smooth edge. A case of 50 of these costs \$24 on Ebay. Only one problem: the company Chuck bought these from is called "Bedroom Desires" (guffaws from the crowd!). So be careful if your spouse or S.O. reads box labels or credit card statements – best to forewarn her...

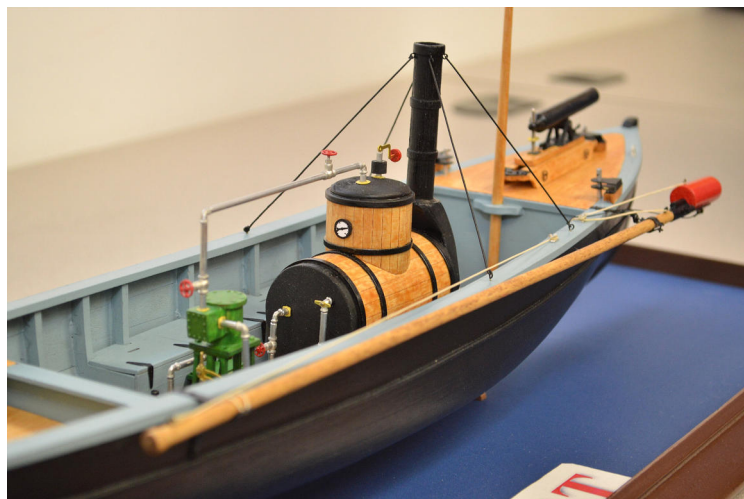


SHOW AND TELL



Ozzie Thalmann was up next with his 1/24 Model Expo Picket Boat #1. It's a completed model of the kit he bought at the March auction. Is Ozzie trying to compete with Don Otis for the title of the club's fastest builder? Real-life Picket Boat #1 was built in 1864, was 45' long and had a crew of 15. The boat was famous for sinking [CSS Albemarle](#), a Confederate ironclad, in October 1864. During the attack, 2 Union men drowned, 11 were captured and 2 escaped. The sinking was a true case of David vs. Goliath, with the small boat able to sink the ironclad with a [spar torpedo](#). Ironically, Albemarle had surrounded herself with log booms to ward off such an attack. But the picket boat was able to ride over these, partly because they were covered with slime from long exposure to the surrounding waters. With her spar fully planted against the ironclad's hull, the picket boat's commander stood up in the bow (amidst gunfire from the Confederates) and pulled the lanyard, detonating the torpedo's explosive charge. The result was a hole at the waterline "big enough to drive a wagon through".

The only thing Ozzie did not like about the model was the prospect of spiling the hull planking (for more on this, [click here](#), page 35). He opted instead for stealers. Everything shown on the model is provided in the kit, including the boiler and engine piping. In true Ozzie style, the rudder and propeller are working parts.



SHOW AND TELL



Mason Logie showed a 1/75 Heller kit model of [Nina](#) that is in its initial stages. It's one he rediscovered while packing for a move to new digs. It seems like a really easy kit until you realize it has such things as plastic deadeyes that need to be threaded! Now that he has rediscovered the kit, Mason would like to finish it by Christmas. He will need to do some scratchbuilding, e.g., seats for the lifeboat. The kit comes with a water barrel; Mason was planning to add a spigot to this but then wondered if they had such things in 1492 (further investigation showed they didn't – access was provided by a hinged barrel cover). Mason also brought a figure of [Blackbeard](#). He will be asking for help with painting the pirate's face. Both of these projects are the perfect size to bring to Saturday group working sessions.



SHOW AND TELL



Second-time guest **Jack Cremens** brought a ship-in-a-bottle. It's unique in that it includes 4 masts and a landscape background. It was inherited from Jack's uncle, a former Merchant Mariner. Jack has had the keepsake for nearly 50 years, and based on the color and condition of the bottle, he estimates it is between 120 and 150 years old. Jack also brought a couple of sperm whale's teeth, also inherited from his uncle. Estimated value: \$1500 apiece. The teeth are numbered, but for what reason, he doesn't know. Jack was going to have them scrimshawed, but found that he'd have to send them to Hawaii to get that done and he wasn't sure he'd get them back. Scrimshawing at this point would also end up devaluing the pieces.



The Ship Model Society of New Jersey

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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 edited by Steve Maggipinto. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please submit them to Steve Maggipinto at Stevemagg@optonline.net.

If any member would like an email copy of the roster, please drop a note to Tom Ruggiero at the email address listed below. If there is an error in the roster let Tom know and the roster will be amended. Please make sure that your spam filter is not blocking emails from Tom because if it is, you won't get member bulletins. You can eliminate the filtering by adding Tom's email address 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 Tom Ruggiero 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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