

THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY
★ OF NEW JERSEY ★
Founded 1981

Volume 36, Number 2

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

February 2018

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Our next club meeting is
February 27th at 6:45PM

ROSELAND PUBLIC
LIBRARY

FEBRUARY NOTES...

The January meeting was opened at 1845 by our President, Chuck Passaro. Chuck welcomed 21 members and one guest. As this was the third meeting for Rich Verost, he was nominated for membership and unanimously approved. Welcome Rich!

There was a moment of silence for Al Geigel. Al was a plank owner (founding member) of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey. We will miss him and his help tremendously. Tom Ruggiero will pick up the Treasurer's duties for the time being. The Treasurer's Report will resume next meeting.

January's meeting was our annual Auction, with Tom Ruggiero acting as auctioneer. Because of this, much of our normal business was dispensed with. A notable highlight: Don Otis brought a Wasa kit for the auction and will be donating much of the proceeds to the club in Al Geigel's memory. Thanks, Don. Doctor Steve arrived with surplus forceps and tweezers. We will be sending emails to buyers and sellers listing amounts earned and owed. See pages 3 and 4 for a few auction photos. More are available at [this link](#).

The February meeting will be Tuesday, February 27th. Tom Ruggiero will be doing a presentation on making sails in small scale. We ask you to bring models. As always, download the [Show and Tell form](#) and email it to Tom and/or bring it to the meeting.

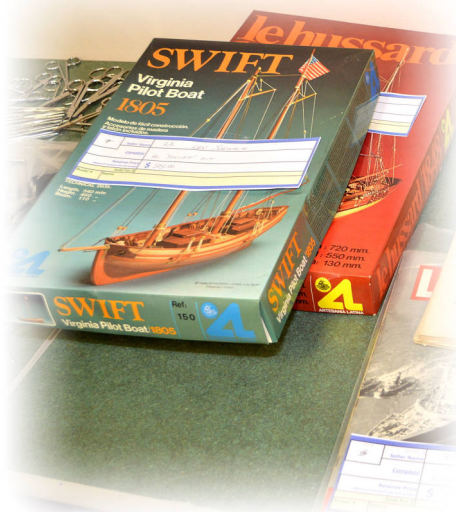
The next Saturday Workshop will be held on February 24th at Chuck's place. Please let him know if you are coming.

OLD BUSINESS



Northeast Joint Clubs Meeting. Date: Saturday, April 28th. Time: 8:15am (model setup). Location: Port 'N' Starboard Convention Center, Ocean Beach Park, New London, CT. Tom had several registration forms available at the January meeting. The forms, as well as the Entry Requirements and the Judging Criteria for the Jim Roberts Competition have been

—Continued on Page 2



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

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

APRIL

TBD - Group Working Session
24 - Monthly Meeting - 6:45PM,
Roseland Public Library, 1st Floor
28 - Joint Clubs Meeting, New London, CT

On the Horizon

Trip to [Gulliver's Gate](#) (Times Square)

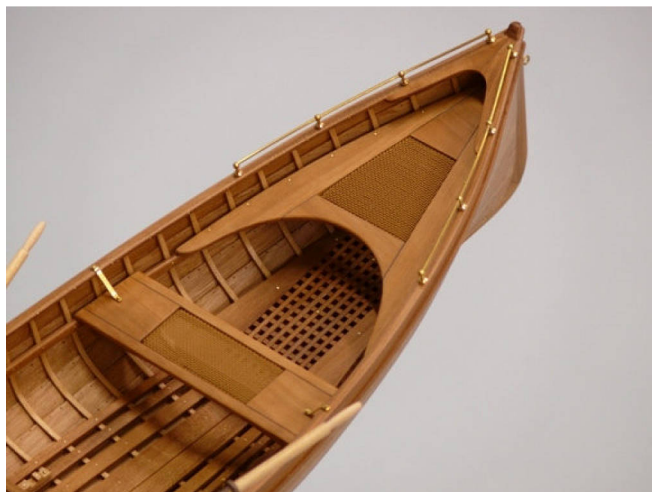
emailed to all of our Club contacts. They are also available on our website, *Model Ship World* and pages 6-8 of this newsletter.

All of the vendors have been lined up (thanks, Jeff!), and several round tables readied. The conference speaker will be Steve Wheeler, a valuable find. To quote Chuck:

"Steve is a very accomplished model builder and just about the nicest guy you would ever have the pleasure of meeting. I have known Steve for some time now, and his attention to detail on his models is as good as it gets. Steve will be presenting an examination of modeling a lapstrake hull. As you can see from the photo (opposite, top) he seems to have a masterful grasp on that topic."

And this shot is just a preview. For more photos, [click here](#) and scroll down. Enjoy the eye candy!!!!

So far, preparations are moving along nicely. Stay tuned. Did I mention that there will be a raffle for a brand new [Byrnes Saw](#)?



NEW BUSINESS



As we all know, Al Geigel was a tremendous asset to SMSNJ. With him, for all those commitments he made to the club, was his wife Grace. In recognition of Grace's efforts over the years, it was proposed at the January meeting and unanimously approved to make her an Honorary Member. President Chuck drafted a letter to Grace announcing her honorary membership. The letter, signed by the other officers, was read by Secretary Tom at the meeting. It appears on page 5 below.

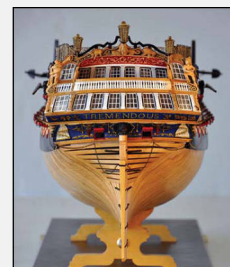
THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

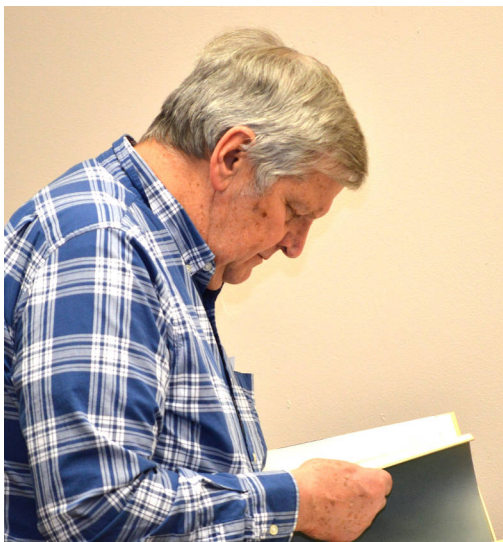
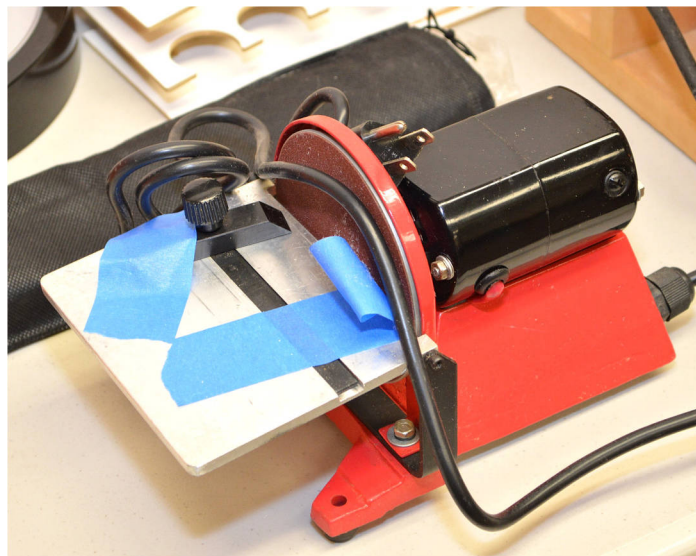
Annual membership includes our world-renowned magazine, *Nautical Research Journal*, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology, and maritime art.

Other benefits include discounts on annual conferences, ship modeling seminars, NRG products and juried model competitions which are offered exclusively to Guild members. We hope you will consider joining our ongoing celebration of model ships and maritime history.

For more information contact us at: www.thenrg.org or call 585.968.8111



JANUARY MEETING – WHITE WHALE AUCTION



JANUARY MEETING – WHITE WHALE AUCTION





Chuck Passaro
President Ship Model Society of New Jersey
175 Orient Way
Rutherford, NJ 07070
January 23, 2018

Mrs. Grace Geigel
453 Second Street
Dunellen, NJ 08812

Dear Grace:

Al was a founding member (Plank Owner) of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey and his passing was a shock to us all. He was always so giving of himself as an officer of the club, and in all of those functions that he organized, or planned. We all will miss Al and his tremendous contributions to SMSNJ, and as a very good friend. With all of his help, you were a big part of those efforts. Your constant support of him and of SMSNJ is well recognized. We all will fondly remember the Geigels in those marathon planning and envelope stuffing sessions, as well as all those times with you at the registration table at all of those various functions.

As a club, we have a category of membership for those that contributed so much. Therefore, as President of SMSNJ it gives me great pleasure to inform you that the membership has voted you as an Honorary Member of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey. As an Honorary Member you will be on our mailing list as well as invited to participate in any of our meetings or functions. Also, you are entitled to vote on any issue that is before the membership.

With great admiration and respect,

Chuck Passaro
President

Jim Lavelle
Vice President

Tom Ruggiero
Secretary



The Ship Model Society of New Jersey presents
The 36th Annual Northeast Joint Clubs

SHIP MODEL CONFERENCE AND SHOW

SATURDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2018

Port 'N' Starboard Convention Center, Ocean Beach Park, New London, CT

driving directions at: www.ocean-beach-park.com then click on "contact"

Model Setup 8:15 AM --- General Admission 9:00 AM

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Club: _____

Email Address (optional): _____

Guest(s): _____

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for the Conference

- Before March 15, 2018 @ \$35.00/person
- Before April 22, 2018 @ \$40.00/person
- After that or at the door @ \$45.00/person

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____

Please make your check payable to:

And mail it to:

The Ship Model Society of New Jersey

c/o TOM RUGGIERO

54 PEACH ORCHARD DRIVE

EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816

SHIP MODEL REGISTRATION

We encourage you to bring one or more ship models for display. We will prepare a display placard for each model using the information that you provide below. Please indicate the size of the model so we can determine space requirements.

You can choose to enter the model for The People's Choice Awards and/or the Jim Roberts Craftsmanship Award. Check the box(es) that apply. See attached for Jim Roberts award instruction.

If you want to bring more models, just list them and their pertinent data on the reverse side or on another sheet.

Model Name: _____ Country: _____ Year: _____

Scale: _____ Length: _____ Depth: _____

Please enter this model for: The People's Choice Awards []

The Jim Roberts Award []

Questions? Contact Tom Ruggiero - Trugs@comcast.net or
Chuck Passaro - cpassaro123@gmail.com



JIM ROBERTS AWARD REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

1. The model must be of a ship, boat, or diorama with a ship or a boat in it.
2. The model must be completed.
3. Kit models as well as scratch and semi-scratch built are fine.
4. Each Model should include a short five to fifteen point list of features that the model builder believes would help the judges make a more informed decision. For example; all of the fittings are turned from brass stock; the rigging line was purchased, I did the following to kit bash this model, etc.
5. A model that is a previous Roberts winner cannot be entered again.

JIM ROBERTS AWARD JUDGING CRITERIA

The Jim Roberts Award has been created in memory of Jim Roberts, one of the founders of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey (then the Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey). As a modeler, Jim was noted for craftsmanship, beauty, and attention to detail of his models. The criteria that we have selected for this award are designed to identify the model that best exemplifies the standards to which Jim aspired.

This is a judged competition. Due to the short period available, individual critique sheets will not be provided. A judge may enter, but cannot judge his or her model. In this case, the model needs to be scored on at least three other sheets and the missing score will be the average of the other sheets.

CATEGORIES OF JUDGING

1. Effort: Apparent* amount of work expended on the model

☐ **Complexity of the prototype**

The apparent complexity of the actual vessel on which the model was based.

☐ **Skills required to create the model**

The different skills that were exhibited: woodworking, metalworking, rigging, carving, diorama building, water, weathering, flags, decorations, painting and any other skills appropriate to the vessel modeled.

*Where the term "apparent" is used, it is the judge's personal evaluation without recourse to information supplied by the modeler.



2. Construction: Fabrication and fit of the components**

- ☐ **Mastery of skills**

How well did the modeler use the necessary skills that were required to create the model (i.e. woodworking, metalworking, rigging, carving, etc.).

- ☐ **Integration of pieces and parts**

The overall fit and quality of the components of the model.

3. Finish: Scale fidelity and uniformity of surface treatment

4. Proportion: Appropriate size and interrelationship of components in the designated scale.

5. Overall Impression: The “Wow” effect

- ☐ **Reasonable attention to historical accuracy**

- ☐ **The realism of the model**

- ☐ **The aesthetic effect the model has**

**In the event of a tie, the Construction Category score will be used as the tiebreaker.

USS OLYMPIA (C-6)

USS Olympia is a protected cruiser that saw service in the U.S. Navy from her commissioning in 1895 until 1922. This vessel became famous as the flagship of Commodore George Dewey at the Battle of Manila Bay in 1898 during the Spanish–American War. The ship was decommissioned after returning to the U.S. in 1899, but was returned to active service in 1902.

Olympia served until World War I as a training ship for naval cadets and as a floating barracks in Charleston, South Carolina. In 1917, she was mobilized again for war service, patrolling the American coast and escorting transport ships.

After World War I, *Olympia* participated in the 1919 Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War and conducted cruises in the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas to promote peace in the unstable Balkan countries. In 1921, the ship carried the remains of World War I's Unknown Soldier from France to Washington, D.C., where the body was interred in Arlington National Cemetery. *Olympia* was decommissioned for the last time in December, 1922, and placed in reserve.

In 1957, she was released to the Cruiser Olympia Association, restored to her 1898 configuration and she became a museum ship under their auspices. The main 8-inch guns and turrets, scrapped before World War I, were replaced with sheet metal fabrications. *Olympia* was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966, and is the oldest steel American warship still afloat. In 1996, faced with mounting debt and overwhelming deferred maintenance issues, the Cruiser Olympia Society merged with Philadelphia's Independence Seaport Museum.

Today, *Olympia* is berthed at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia. She is the sole floating survivor of the U.S. Navy's Spanish–American War fleet. Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Midshipmen from Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania regularly work on *Olympia*, functioning as a maintenance crew. *Olympia's* stern plate and bow ornaments are on display at Dahlgren Hall at the United States Naval Academy.

Historic steel-hulled ships should be drydocked for maintenance every 20 years, but *Olympia* has been in the water continuously since 1945. Essential repairs at the turn of the century were estimated at \$10 million. Initially, plans were drawn up to scuttle *Olympia*, making her an artificial reef. These plans were soon overruled.



Faced with mounting financial issues, revised plans were then drawn up to close *Olympia* to visitors. These plans were also scrapped, and Independence Seaport Museum agreed to keep the ship open with regular hours through the end of December 2010, followed by reduced hours through March 2011. At this juncture, the Navy expressed its willingness to let the museum "responsibly dispose" of the vessel. This could potentially have resulted in the ship being transferred, sold as scrap, or sunk as a reef.

The museum held a summit in early 2011 with the Navy, Navy Sea Systems Command, National Park Service, and the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission to determine what steps could be taken to save the cruiser. As a result of the summit, the Independence Seaport Museum (ISM) began a search for another nonprofit organization to assume stewardship of *Olympia* to provide for her maintenance and restoration. In March, 2011, the ISM published a Transfer Application (TAPP), a document similar to a Request for Proposals. Those who qualified to apply for the TAPP included domestic governmental organizations and not-for-profit organizations with valid 501(c)(3) (charitable) IRS status. There were several organizations from the East, Gulf and West Coasts who submitted applications to preserve and display *Olympia*. Only four, from Pennsylvania, California, South Carolina, and Washington, DC were found to be acceptable. In May, 2011, the National Trust for Historic Preservation set up a national donation repository to allow donations received to be used directly for much-needed temporary and future hull repairs. The Independence Seaport Museum, although originally committed to giving up the vessel, agreed to manage any repair work undertaken, should funds become available.

In April 2014, Independence Seaport Museum announced the end of the TAPP process as it could not find an organization that could present a viable, long-term solution for the ship. *Olympia* will remain in Philadelphia for now. Last year, the Independence Seaport Museum announced plans to launch a \$20 million national fundraising campaign for her long-term preservation.

—Data for this article from [Wikipedia](#). Photo from [Jan's Cat from Philadelphia](#)

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 in both print form and as an email attachment 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 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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