



Volume 39, Number 1

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

January 2021

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The January Meeting of SMSNJ will be a virtual meeting. The meeting will be;

January 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM (1900).

Tech Session for January is, "A Hobby Store and Ship Builder in NYC"

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

Future workshops are on hold due to the pandemic.

Please watch your email for updates as they become available.

Message from President Bill Brown

Happy New Year to all our Ship Model Society of New Jersey Members!

2020 certainly proved to be a challenging year to say the least. I recall sometime last March getting a phone call from the Roseland Library Director informing me that our club would no longer be able to meet at their facility due to the pandemic. When I asked when do you think that could change, she soberingly said hopefully sometime in 2021. Suddenly we were faced with the cold hard fact that we may not be able to meet for at least a year. I remember thinking, what will this do to our club? Will we lose members? Will we survive? All you heard on the news was "in these Uncertain times.."

But the Ship Model Society proved to be stronger than the virus. Shortly after the realization of not being able to meet at the library, I was contacted by Eric Marshall saying we should consider meeting virtually. There is an app that his work was using and it proved to be effective in allowing people to continue to meet. In came Zoom and we held our first virtual meeting in April. It was not without its shortfalls. Startup issues with bandwidth, folks learning the tool, speaking while on mute, all were overcome as we became more adept with the tools capabilities. Sadly some of our members do not have the hardware necessary to operate the tool and thus cannot join. We miss those members very much and look forward to when we can reunite at the library. The year was not without sadness as we lost Olaf Erickson and Dr. Fletcher's wife Justine. Our deepest sympathies to those families coping with their losses.

Meeting virtually has provided us with some new capabilities. Some of our remote members were now able to participate at meetings. We were also able to invite speakers that would not normally be able to get to our library. We have also grown our membership. Our budget is sound and awaiting to be spent on some fun things in 2021. I wanted to say a big thanks to all of you that have helped keep this club thriving and a special thanks to Tom Ruggiero and Mason Loggie. Tom has two of the toughest roles in the club being both Secretary and Treasurer and he recently took over publishing the Broadaxe where he has done a tremendous job. Mason has been responsible for securing some great speakers and planning future tech sessions. Both have gone well above and beyond the call of duty.

So in closing, Happy New Year to all and here's to eventually getting back to "Certain" times ;)Bill

The Broadaxe

Meeting Report: The virtual meeting was called to order by President Bill Brown at 1900 on Tuesday, December 23, 2020. There were sixteen members and nine guests. Joe Jorden is from the Philadelphia Ship Model Society. We even had Kevin Kenny, who joined in from Tobago. Welcome to you all.

The Treasurer reported of transactions for the month and the balance in the SMSNJ bank account.

As has become a standard for our virtual meetings, President Bill has us touring the members workshops to check on their current project. Here are a few of the current projects.

Gene Berger from the Hampton Roads Club is working on a 1:48 scale Destroyer Escort. He is incorporating incredible detail to tjer model. He does his own photoetching as well as making the drawings, and is making extensive use of 3 D printing. For example, on the 5" mounts will have a fully detailed interior. He uses brass in seceral places (like gun tubs) due to structural considerations. Gene's workmanship is something to behold.

Eric Marshall continues working on the Model Expo Pinnacle . This is Eric's first attempt at planking so he is on a very steep learning curve as an open boat is particularly challenging to plank.

Joe Jordan of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) says that the rotunda exhibit at the Philadelphia Independence Seaport was a huge success. He showed an inherited model of the Sequin. It is the 39" version. It is one of fourteen models that were bequeathed to the PSMS. He is offering a completed model of the Morgan, free to a good home. Contact Joe.

Jeff Fugelstad has moved up the Cape Cod. All is going well, but his shop is still in boxes in his garage. He will be getting back in business very soon, I'm sure.

Josh has come by a veneering kit of a clipper ship by CONstatines that used to be on Eastchester Road in the Bronx. The kit was missing two pieces that he had to replace as well as a completely evaporated tube of rubber cement. He completed it is one evening.

Mason continues working on a Bump head barge in HO scale. He completed the shutters and simulating tar paper on the roofThe barge is getting very close to completion.

Bill Brown has gotten the plans for the Chris Craft tour boat that he will be building for the upcoming museum and carousel in Seaside Heights, New Jersey. He is planning to make the hull using poplar lifts. More to come.

The meeting adjoined at 2030.

January Tech Session: The Tech Session will be a presentation of a Hobby Shop in Manhattan and the models that the owner builds.

BOOKS AND PUBS



No Books or Pubs this month.

OLD BUSINESS



The following is a letter that was received from the Lake Champlain Maritime museum thanking SMSNJ for our donation.



December 18, 2020

Tom Ruggiero
Ship Model Society of New Jersey
54 Peach Orchard Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Dear Tom,

Thank you for the Ship Model Society of New Jersey's generous donation of \$100 (processed online December 14) to Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Your generosity helps our community stay connected – to the environment, to history, and to each other.

Your gift makes it possible for the Museum to continue to be here for the thousands of people who look to us to dive deeper into the history, archaeology and ecology of Lake Champlain.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to seeing you in 2021. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,

Susan
Susan Evans McClure
Executive Director

Thank you so much! It was great to meet you all and talk about Spillfire!

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is a 501(c)(3) organization and your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were given in exchange for this donation. Please retain this acknowledgment for tax purposes.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum • 4472 Basin Harbor Road, Vergennes, VT 05491 • 802-475-2022 • www.lcmm.org

NEW BUSINESS



Model Builder Help

Kevin Kenney attended this meeting. Kevin is a member of the Nautical Research Guild and has a You Tube channel providing instructions and guidance for various modeling methods. He is currently building HMS Thurwhich is the subject of these videos. Bill Brown is one of his biggest fans. Check these out.

Northeast Joint Clubs 2021

It has been announced that the Northeast Joint Clubs Meeting will occur in 2021. However, due to Covid recovery, it has been moved to Saturday, October 2, 2021. More detail will be provided as we get it.

Virtual Tour

Tom R reports that Turnstile Tours in Brooklyn runs virtual tours. Some of them are free, but most cost \$5. The tours are conducted via ZOOM are one hour in length. The last one that Tom took was in commemoration of the fire on board the aircraft carrier USS Constellation that was building in the Brooklyn Navy yard. The fire occurred on December 19, 1960. Many are of the opinion that it was a reason for the Navy to stop building ships in Brooklyn, but it could also be because the ships could not fit under the Brooklyn Bridge with any masts installed. Tom's uncle worked for the Navy and was at the Navy Yard during the fire.

Simply Google Turnstile Tours.

Nautical Research Guild (NRG) Chartered Chapter

The NRG has instituted Chartered Chapters for local clubs. The Ship Model Society of New Jersey is now a Chapter of the Nautical research Guild.



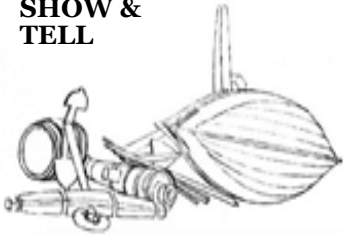
**Tech
Session**

"Rebuilding the Charles W. Morgan"

Ryland Craze presented a video of the extensive rebuild of the Charles W. Morgan for it's cruise up and down the east coast in 2014. The video was prepared by Mystic Seaport. A good amount of frames and planking needed to be replaced and the ship was completely re-rigged. Since the ship was going to carry passengers for the cruise there needed to be several upgrades to fire protection and navigation equipment.

The required modifications were made with very little disturbance of the general impression of the whaler. Thank you Ryland.

SHOW & TELL

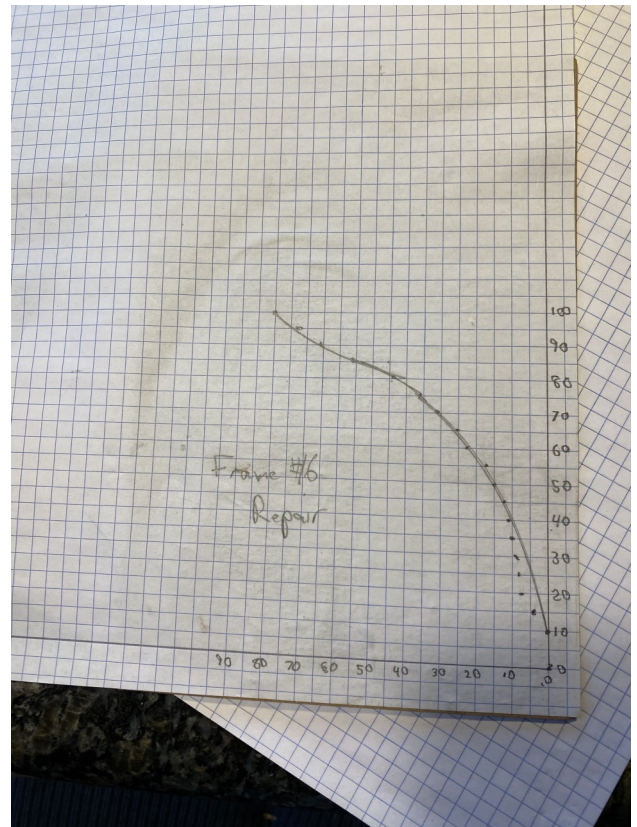


VOC Retourschip Restoration

- Dan Caramagno

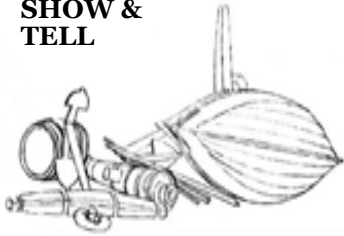
Dan is continuing with the restoration of this contemporary model. The ship's name is not known, but by researching other ships plans he has been able to identify the type and size of the ship and narrowed it down to the prototype being built between 1714 and 1730.

At this point, Dan has removed and cleaned the interior of the model's hull. He is now repairing broken and displaced frames.



The Broadaxe

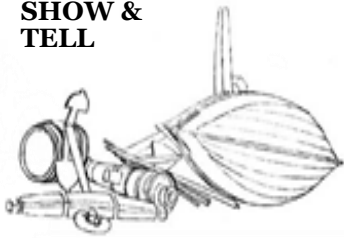
SHOW & TELL



He explained that there were three different types of frames in the model as the photographs show. He also found a what appears to be a builder's mark. Unfortunately, it cannot be identified. Great work, Dan.



**SHOW &
TELL**



Leon, Brigantine, Norway, 1:48

- Doug McKenzie

The Leon was built in 1880, carried coal and lumber and maybe other stuff, land was lost to excessive leaking 1917. Doug has used Plans from Underhill and extra research by a friend in Norway. The model is mostly scratch built, plank on frame.

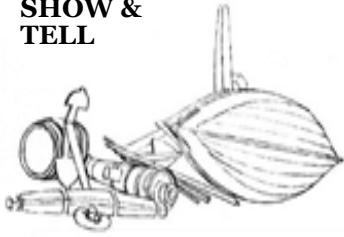
Since we last saw the model, the hull is finished, the spars are well underway and the standing rigging is just about to be started. Doug stated that he is having a lot of fun with this project.

Very impressive and coming along very nicely.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



HMS Liverpool, English 6th Rate, 1776, 1:96 Scale

- Tom Ruggiero

Except for painting five figures, the Liverpool is finally complete! It has been a very long time coming.

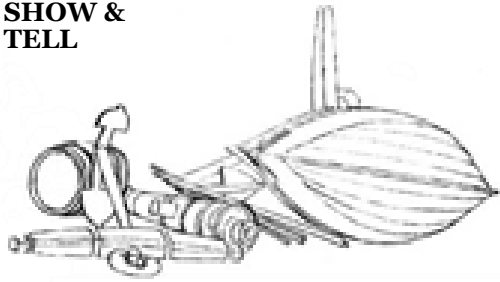


The final steps were to add three boats (a pinnace, a launch, and a jolly boat), add a Red Ensign, a commissioning flag on the staff on the bowsprit cap, and a blue pennant on the main topgalant truck. The flags were made using Chuck's method of printing them out on tissue and the over spraying with matt finish.

The acrylic cover was fabricated by "Every Thing—Plastic" on North 2nd Street in Philadelphia. While there are less expensive online places to get the cover, they all had very large tolerances. I was able to bring the base frame to the establishment and they matched the case to the frame exactly. Thank you to the PSMS for the very good advice. While I did other models while Liverpool was building, it did take a very long time. The hull blanks for this model were cut out in 1995!

The Broadaxe

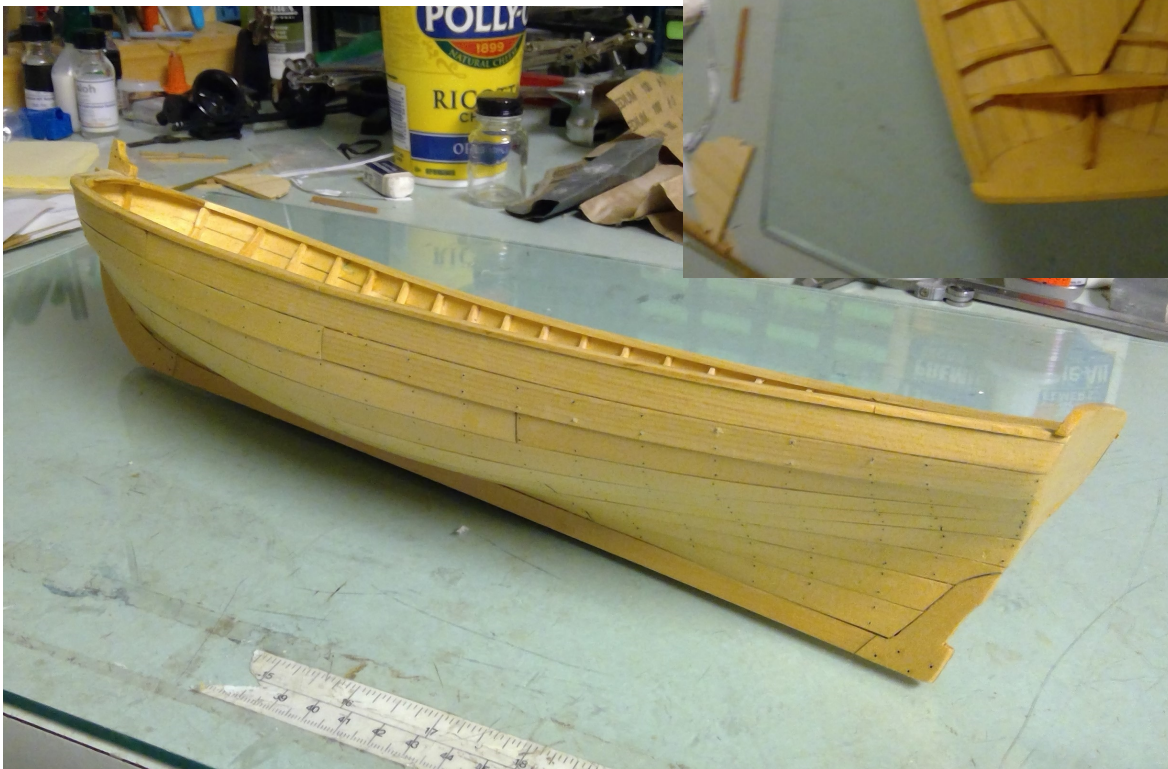
SHOW &
TELL



Medway Longboat, English, 1742, 1:24

- Tom Ruggiero

My next project is to finish the Long Boat that I had begun when SMSNJ was doing their group build. I will not be masting or rigging the boat as it would make it too large to display. Nevertheless, I will be adding all of the attachment point for the rigging, mast and bowsprit irons. The photos show progress to this point.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



Providence, Colonial Schooner, 1776, 1:48 Scale - Ken Whitehead

Since last time, Ken made a ship's boat using the technique from Tom'sTech Session.

He made a rudder from holly. Using the Syren kit for the pintles and gudgeons (rudder hinges). The shaft is extra long and will be shortened once the quarter deck is made.

Last, Ken finished rigging the guns on the Providence's hull as well as adding the channels, more belaying pin racks and made the belaying pins for those racks.

Looking very good, Ken.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL

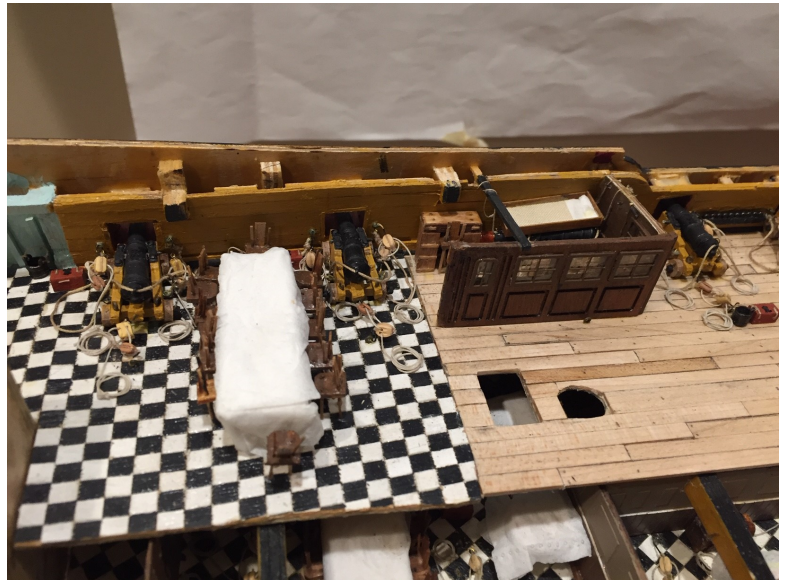


HMS Victory, English 1st Rate,
Scale 1:72, Modified Calder-
craft Kit

(54 x 21 x 37 inches)

- Mort Stoll

Mort is moving along very nicely. As of to-day, he partially completed master's cabin and the captain's dining cabin. The master's cabin includes a hammock, desk, chair and 2 clothing trunks. it's only missing the after bulkhead. For now the captains dining cabin only has a large table and chairs which look much better in person than in the pictures.



The Broadaxe

SHOW &
TELL



HMS Victory, English 1st
Rate, Scale 1:72, Modified
Caldercraft Kit

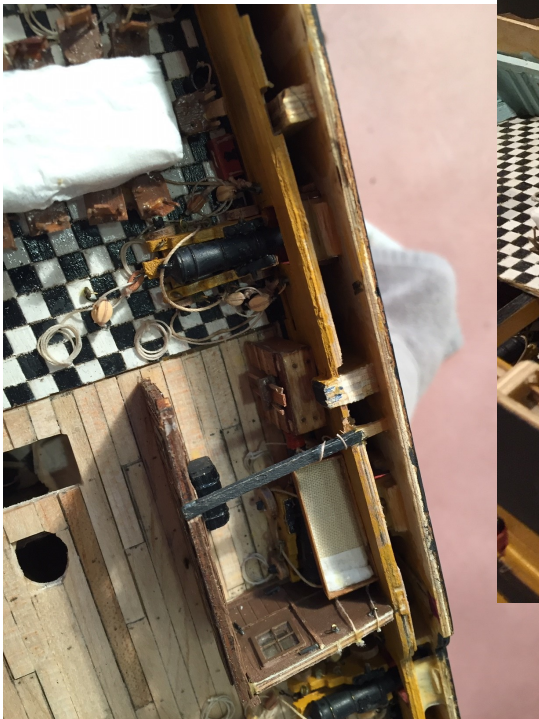
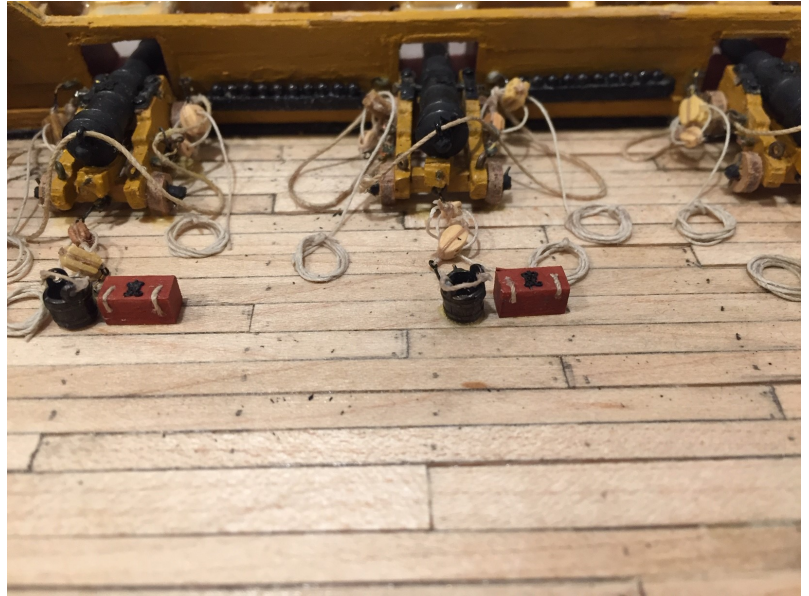
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- Mort Stoll

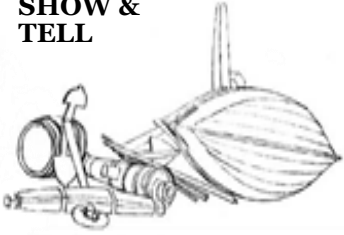
He still has to build the side serving tables
and the fore and aft bulkheads furniture for
his day cabin - dresser, chest and a desk.

All of the quarterdeck cannons are mount-
ed and rigged.

Very well done, Mort!



**SHOW &
TELL**

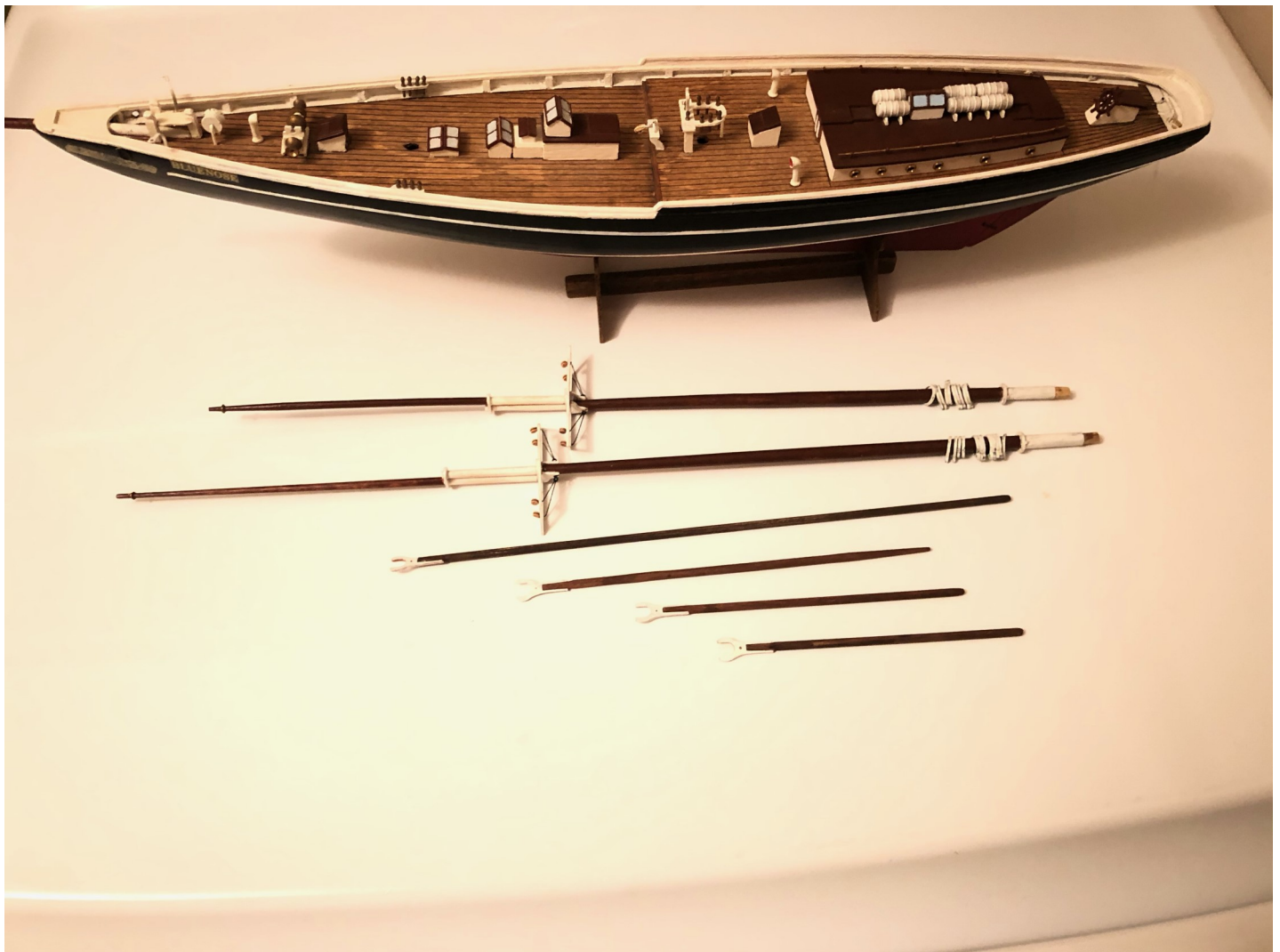


Bluenose II, Billings Boats Kit

(21 x 3 1/2 x 17 inches)

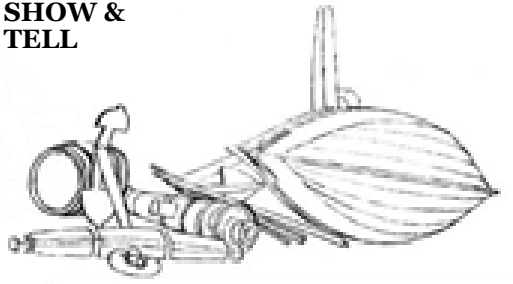
- Len Schwalm

Len got this model in a partially completed condition from an estate sale for the princely sum of \$8! At that price, he couldn't pass it up. He is now fabricating masts and spars. Looking forward to the finished product.



The Broadaxe

SHOW &
TELL



Medway Longboat, English,
1742, 1:24

- Ryland Craze

Ryland has begun rigging his long boat. The shrouds need to be served where they wrap around the mast. He is using the Serv-O-Matic from Syren to do an excellent job. The fine detail is wonderful. Coming Great work Ryland.



Thank You, from Susan McClure

In October, "The Battle of Valcour Island" was presented by Evans McClure. The following is the letter thanking SMSNJ for our donation. Maybe we will all go to see the museum at some point.

**LAKE
CHAMPLAIN
MARITIME
MUSEUM**

December 18, 2020

Tom Ruggiero
Ship Model Society of New Jersey
54 Peach Orchard Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

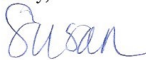
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We are grateful for your support and look forward to seeing you in 2021. Happy holidays!

Sincerely,


Susan Evans McClure
Executive Director

*Thank you so
much! It was
great to "meet"
you all and talk
about Spifine!*

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is a 501(c)(3) organization and your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were given in exchange for this donation. Please retain this acknowledgment for tax purposes.

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THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly 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

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 each month by 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 edited by Tom Ruggiero. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please submit them to Steve Maggipinto at trugs@comcast.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. 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. Direct All Correspondence to Tom Ruggiero.

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