



Volume 41, Number 8

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

August 2023

In This Issue

- [Meeting Report](#)
- [Old Business](#)
- [New Business](#)
- [Modelcon 2023](#)
- [Books and Pubs](#)
- [Show and Tell](#)
- [Cool Tool](#)
- [Club Information](#)

Upcoming Events & Tech Sessions

The next meeting is;
 August 22, 7:00 PM (1900) in
 the Roseland Library.
 September 30, 2023 Parsippa-
 ny Library Show and Exhibit

Workshops

The next Saturday workshop
 at Chuck Passaro's will be
 August 26, 2023. Details will
 be emailed.

Meeting Report: The meeting was opened at 7 PM by our President, Eric Marshall. We had twenty three members and one guest. The guest was Ralph Egroff who attended for the second time.

Dennis Powell continues his work on his skipjack.

Bill Brown participates in a card board boat race at his yacht club. Last year his friend designed the boat and they sank rather quickly when the boat split in half. This year he designed one based on an 18th century long boat. It has a three ply cardboard keel and frames. The boat included cup holders. He says that it was a beast to row but they came in third with three of the six enties sinking.

The meeting ended at 20:15.

Dues 2023

Dues for 2023 were payable by the end of the June Meeting. If you did not yet pay your dues you can pay at the August meeting (cash or check) or you can send a check payable to the Ship Model Society of New Jersey to Tom Ruggiero. If you joined SMSNJ after November 2022, your initial fee covers the dues for 2023.

Next Tech Session

The August tech session is; 'Lakes Model Collection at the Buffalo Maritime Museum' by Ted Niziaiek

The Broadaxe

OLD BUSINESS



Parsippany Library Exhibit and Demonstration

SMSNJ will be doing an exhibit and demonstration at the Parsippany Library on September 30, 2023, from 9 to 3. We will have a Powerpoint presentation running on a loop. SMSNJ members can bring completed models as well as their current project to demonstrate techniques as well as to answer questions from the public. Tom has spoken with Jean Marie Embler at the Library. They will be providing publicity for the event. We ask for a good showing by SMSNJ members and some assistance in putting this together. Volunteers to help with the exhibit please contact Tom Ruggiero.

NEW BUSINESS



SMSNJ Picnic

Last year, we had a picnic/brunch at Tom Ruggiero's house. There was a discussion of having a picnic or some other event this year. Several members have expressed interest. Tom will not be able to host this year so we are looking for a venue. Another possibility is having a lunch at a hall or restaurant. A committee will be established to evaluate options.

ZOOM Renewal

We use ZOOM for remote meetings. The account is shared with the Philadelphia SMS and HAMPTON Roads SMS. Ryland is the Hampton Roads Treasurer and noted that it is time to renew. The motion was made to send the amount required to HRSMS for the renewal. The motion passed and the fee was sent to HRSMS.

BOOKS AND PUBS



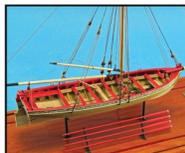
No books or pubs this meeting.

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

Modelcon 2023

Saturday August 5 was Modelcon 5 on Battleship New Jersey. The show was sponsored by the Philadelphia Ship Model Society. In prior years the show was on the fantail of the ship. The decision was made to move the entire show into the Wardroom. As the Wardroom is a stop on the ship tour more participation and interest from the general public was expected. As a side benefit, it is an air conditioned space. The exhibit was a resounding success with over fifty models as well attended by several docents for Battleship New Jersey as well as the Curator, Ryan Symanski. Kroum and Olha Batchvarov were there and they produced two excellent videos that can be viewed on Youtube at;

[ModelCON5 aboard Battleship New Jersey 2023 \(NJ, USA\)](#)

&

[3 models that I admired the most at the ModelCON5 show - \(2023\) Battleship New Jersey](#)

SMSNJ attendees were Eric Marshall, Tom Ruggiero, Ryland Craze, and Chris Scornavacca. We were given an excellent tour of the engine and boiler spaces, and Tom got to fire a 5" 38 caliber gun.



Tom Ruggiero, Eric Marshall, & Ryland Craze



Ryan Symanski & Tom



Modelcon 2023

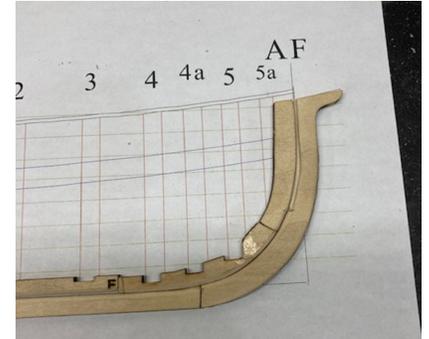
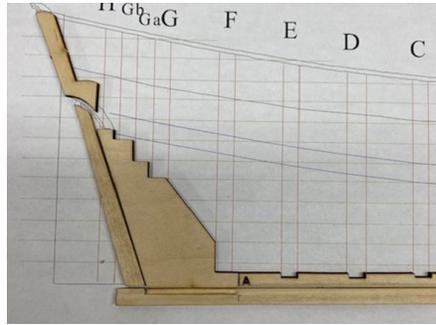


Congratulations to Josh Fichman and the PSMS for hosting a great event.

Technical Session

“Introduction to Planking Project” by Patrick O’Hare

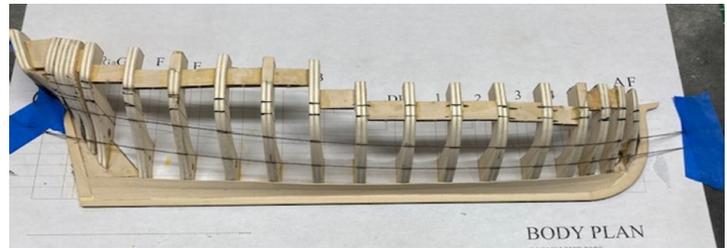
Paddy O’Hare wanted to get better planking a hull. Although there are many “How To” books and videos out there, the best way to learn is by doing. Given that purchasing an entire model just to experiment is quite expensive and frustrating, the Nautical Research Guild has a kit of a half hull that is intended as a training tool as well as being able to be displayed as a very nice half hull model. Paddy has presented his pro-



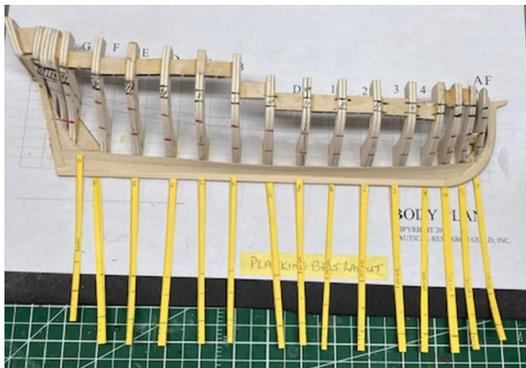
Stern post, keel, keelson, and stem



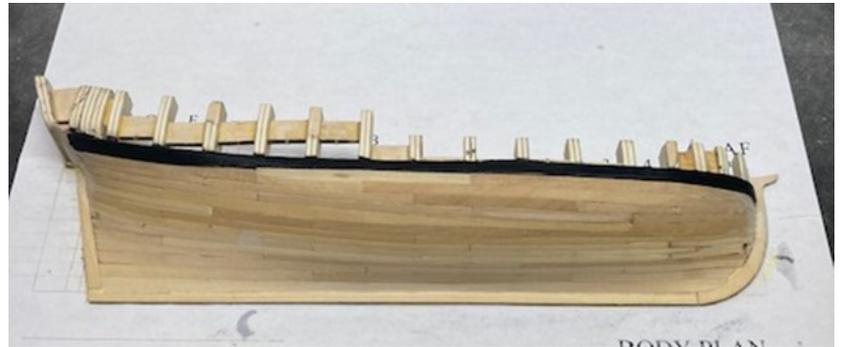
Installing the Frames



Establishing the plank runs with thread



Tick strips to mark the plank width at each frame

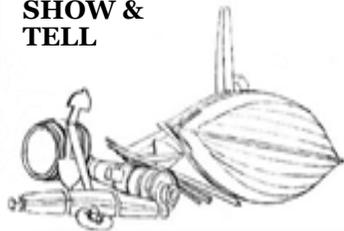


Planked up through the wale

The photos show the steps for assembling the half hull. With the plank widths established, each plank is spilled to get a smooth run and tight joints. This kit has very detail instructions by NRG Director and Chair, Toni Levine. There are details on how to incorporate stealers (where another short plank is needed) and drop planks (where the number of planks need to be reduced because they would be too narrow. The kit can be obtained from the NRG Website Store.

The Broadaxe

**SHOW &
TELL**



USS Constitution

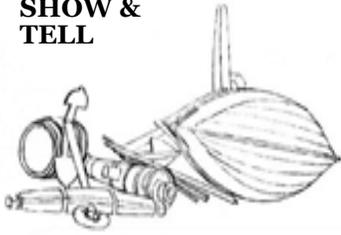
1797; Scale 1:96, Model Shipways Kit

Carmine Bianco

Carmine brought an the unopened Model Shipways kit. The kit was stored away in 1965. This will be his next project. He will be started mid-August. This is the 'yellow box' circa kit. It is a solid hull kit. The age was apparent as the plans were yellowed. Other than the hull, most of the other wood parts a simply bass-wood strips. The kit has brass pins and eyebolts and many castings that are likely white metal. White metal contains a good percentage of lead and is generally no longer used. Carmine is thinking of planking the solid hull. We all noted how muck kits have upgraded over the years. The kit contained a list of maritime terms that Carmine, copies of which were passed out at the meeting.

The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



Period Ship Boat

Scale 1:200, Lindberg Kit

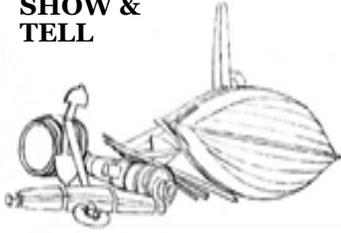
Chris Scornavacca

Chris brought in a model that had no name other than 'Period Ship Boat'. Chris says that most of the features were fairly accurate. Chris noted that it was a nice treat in that it went together pretty quickly. He replaced the kit rigging with supplies that he had remaining from other projects.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



Longboat

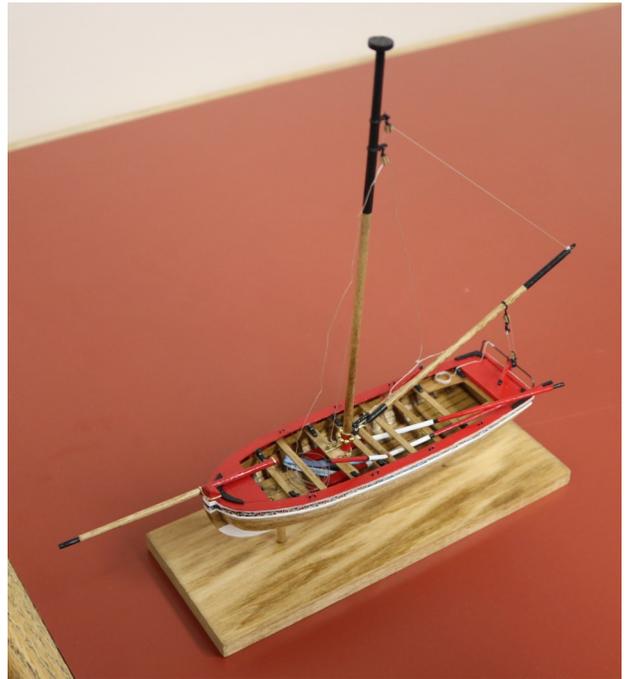
1752, Scale 1:48

Model Shipways Kit

Ralph Engroff

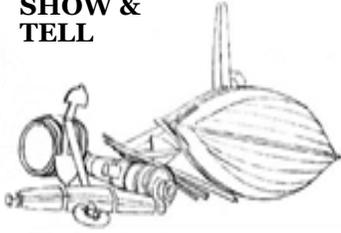
This is Ralph's second meeting and brought back his first model. At the meeting he met Chuck who designed this kit for Model Shipways. Chuck notes that this kit is not a beginners model even though Model Expo markets it as such. Planking in general is a difficult concept to master, and planking an open boat is much more of a challenge especially at smaller scales. Since the last time he has completed masting and the boom. He is about to hang the gaff and has started with the rigging. Chuck complimented Ralph's first attempt at planking and told him that the next model that he planks will go much easier. For a next project, Chuck advised Ralph to look at the progressive builder kits that David Antscherl designed for Model Shipways.

One more meeting to become a member.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



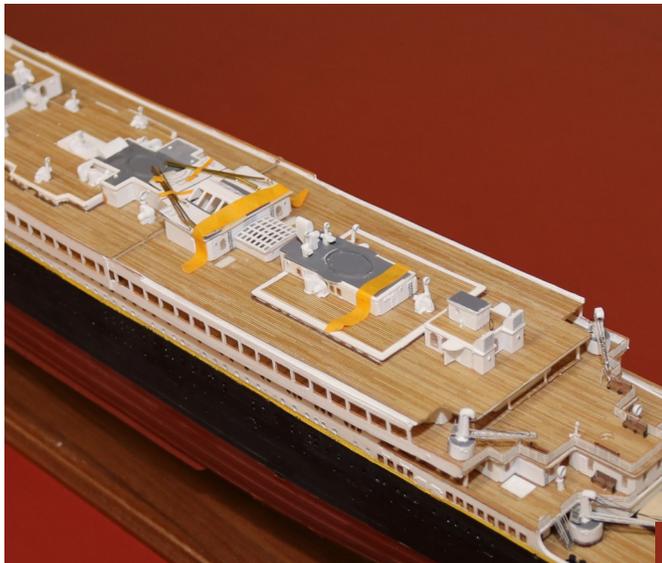
RMS Titanic

British Ocean Liner 1912

Scale 1:350, Minicraft Kit

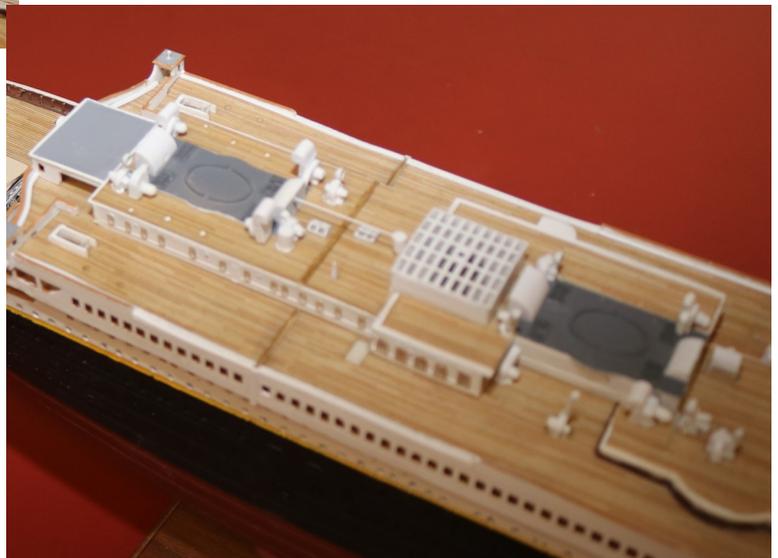
Tom Ruggiero

Tom continues with RMS Titanic. At this stage, most of the air handlers and vents and duct work on the Boat Deck have been installed. Much of this had to be heavily modified or entirely scratch built as the kit parts are not accurate and in many cases over size. The piping from the tank room has been laid out with brass rod to replace the kit parts. The kit parts were oversized and penetrated the tank room roof in the wrong places. These nine pipes connect to the third funnel.



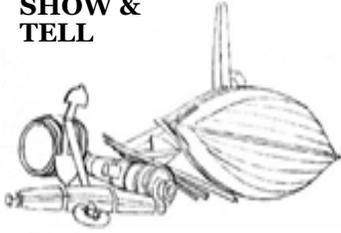
The roof that provides the landing for the fourth funnel was cast with ductwork and an air handler that were completely incorrect. Tom scratch built replacements for the air handler and for the ductwork that will connect to the funnel.

As Tom mentioned before, there is quite a bit of research, plans and studies available for Titanic including a full set of plans. Much of this work is provide by Bob Read DMD on his website for free to the model builder. His website is; titanic-cad-plans.website



The Broadaxe

SHOW &
TELL



HMS Thorn, English Swan Class, Scale 1:48, Scratch

- Kevin Kenny

Last month, Kevin showed us how he made scrapers to make his moldings. He noted that doing the straight section is fairly easy with the scrapers. However, the end pieces are quite a bit more difficult and he said that every fourth one is acceptable. For the end pieces he draws the shape onto a suitable piece of wood and then uses a turbo-carver to carve out the scroll. He has a video of the process on MSW. Below is the finished result.



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.

Club Officers

PRESIDENT:
Eric Marshall
237 Benner Street
Highland Park, NJ 08904 (732) 991-3856
E-mail: eric.marshall@mac.com

VICE PRESIDENT:
Mason Logie
20 Sylva Lane
Staten Island, NY 10305 (718) 273-1813
E-mail: mlogiejr@aol.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER:
Tom Ruggiero
54 Peach Orchard Dr
East Brunswick, NJ 08816 (732) 257-6063
Email: trugs@comcast.net

WEBSITE CONTACT:
Chuck Passaro
E-mail: cpassaro123@gmail.com