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Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

January 2024

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Upcoming Events

The next meeting is **10 am, Saturday, January 20, 2024 at Tom Ruggiero's home.**

The February 2024 Tech Session is scheduled to be "Exploring the Sunken Canal Boats of Seneca Lake" by Al Cohn.

Workshops

None scheduled at this time.

Meeting Report: The meeting was opened at 6:45 PM by our President, Eric Marshall. Fourteen members attended. One guest. The guest was Jennifer Marland. Jennifer is the Assistant Curator, Office of the Curator of Models, Naval Surface Warfare Center. At our November 2022 meeting, she presented "The Navy's Ship Model Program". She came to see our models and we hope that she came join us in the future. See the December 2022 edition of Broadaxe for a report on that presentation.

President Eric Marshall has emailed a survey to members. At this meeting preliminary results were discussed (see inside).

Tech Sessions are an important part of our meetings. Members are asked to suggest topics that they can present. A recent survey has been sent via email. More to follow.

Next Tech Session

The January 2024 Tech Session is scheduled to be "Methods for Quickly Bending Planks" presented by Eric Marshall.

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

Meeting Options

At this meeting, we discussed several options for future monthly meetings. As was announced in the last Broadaxe, we need to be out of our meeting room at the Roseland Library by 8 pm. Unless we significantly moved up the start time, this leaves about an hour for a meeting. That is simply not sustainable. Roseland Library has been very accommodating to us and is a good location for most of our members. That said, closing at 8 pm is just not workable.

We discussed moving the meeting to different locations, or moving to the weekend. A weekend will allow a longer meeting. However, it could also conflict with other family activities especially for those with children and grandchildren. Moving the venue would require room for up to 35 attendees, internet capability for remote hookup, adequate availability to allow scheduling meetings for at least a year and, most importantly, low to no cost. We also need to consider that distance to the meetings is a major consideration and that some members would prefer not to drive at night.

We requested that our members look into meeting places (libraries, VFW, churches etc.) that fit our needs. Roy and a few other members have researched several alternatives. Eric asks that the information be forwarded to him so that he can tabulate advantages and disadvantages of each.

In the mean time, the January 2024 meeting will be held on January 20, 2024 at Tom Ruggiero's home. We will have a regular meeting as well as Show and Tell. At that meeting, we will also discuss options that we have developed.

Membership Survey

Ship Model Society started in 1981. Since then we have made changes to remain relevant and a positive experience for our members. Our mission, as stated on our website;

"The Ship Model Society of New Jersey is dedicated to the pursuit and enjoyment of ship model building in all its forms.

"We welcome those who enjoy or would like to learn more about our fascinating hobby. Our membership spans all skill levels, from neophyte to highly accomplished and a wide range of interests, from gadget guru to historical recreator. Our meetings aim to share our collective wisdom and resources, and provide the opportunity to enjoy the company of other modelers. We invite you to attend and join the fun."

We want to continue to do all of the things that our mission statement notes. Since Covid, there have been challenges. We have done a few things to address those, but we want your input. President Eric Marshall recently sent out a survey to our members. At the December 2023 meeting, preliminary results from the survey were discussed.

We will discuss the survey results at the January 2024 meeting.

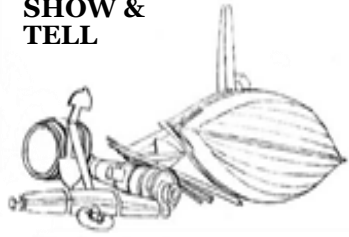


The Ship Model Society of New Jersey is a Nautical Research Guild Chapter Club. We have been renewed for 2024. As a Chapter we have an SMSNJ webpage on the NRG website (Nautical Research Guild - Home (thenrg.org)). We also can include various SMSNJ announcements in the Guilds Secretary Newsletter. Please forward any items to Tom Ruggiero.

Model Kits and Tools

A Ship Model builder in Princeton New Jersey has passed away. Eric was contacted by his widow. He was a kit modeler that passed at 86. He had several built models such as Fair American. He had many supplies that his widow has passed onto SMSNJ for sale. There are several kits, power tools, hand tools and books. These items will be brought to a future meeting to auction, sell, or distribute to a good home.

SHOW & TELL



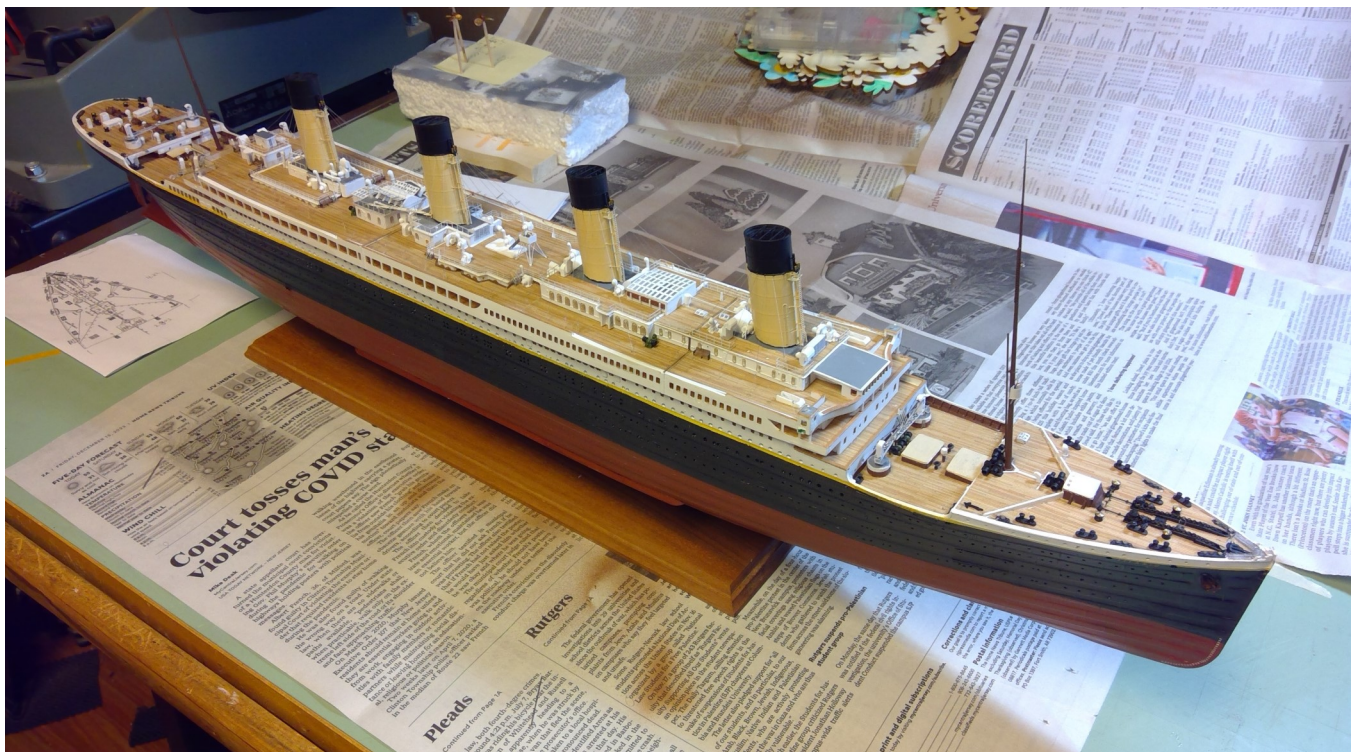
RMS Titanic

British Ocean Liner 1912

Scale 1:350, Minicraft Kit

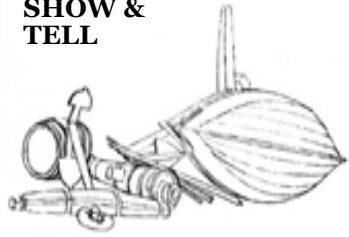
Tom Ruggiero

Detailing of the Forecastle and Poop decks is just about done. The cleats at the forepeak as well as the head of the ship needed to be scratch built as the kit had a poor reproduction cast into the deck that was out of scale, not accurate, and in the wrong location. The capstans are turned brass rod as the kit parts were much too large and oval rather than cylindrical. Both masts are now installed and rigging is next. Note the lookout and bells on the fore mast. The rigging is 8/0 fly tie thread. It is barely visible, but can be seen. Most of the rigging was about one inch in diameter.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



Dorade

Yacht 1912 Scale 1:20,
Amati Kit, 38" x 8" x 40"

Barry Rudd

Dorade was built 1929/30 in City Island , NYC. It is considered to be the first of today's modern yacht design . It is considered to be the first of today's modern yacht designs. It is still in use and is home ported in Newport Rhode, Island. The model has a hollow plastic hull with wood bulkheads and other features.



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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