



Volume 42, Number 5

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

May 2024

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**Upcoming Events
& Tech Sessions**

The next meeting is **12:30 pm, Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Roseland Library.**

June 1, 2024: Day at the Farm. Ship Model Exhibit in Pennsville, New Jersey

June 8, 2024; Workshop at Chuck's.

August 3, 2024: USS New Jersey Modelcon hosted by the Philadelphia Ship Model Society.

Meeting Report: The meeting was opened at 12:30 pm at Roseland Library by Tom Ruggiero. Thirteen members attended. Tom presented the status of our finances.

We are back at the Library but on Saturday. If you are within driving distance we ask that you attend in person. Meeting on Saturday has the big advantage of much better traffic and not having to drive at night. The downside is that the Library will be closed weekends in June, July, and August. See New Business for a discussion of our options.

Since we will not be meeting in person in June, we request that in possible, you bring your payment to the May meeting. If you cannot be at the Library in May, please mail your check to Tom.

The meeting adjourned at 14:05.

Saturday Workshop

The next Saturday Workshop is June 8, 2024 at Chuck Passaro's at 10 am. Please let him know if you plan to attend.

Dues for 2024 due by June

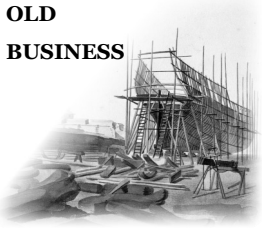
June is the end of our fiscal year and when dues are payable. Since we are not going to be in the Library in June, you can bring your payment to the April or May meeting or send your check, payable to SMSNJ, to Tom. If you joined after February 2024, your initial fee covers you until June 2025.

Next Tech Session

The April 2024 Tech Session is a presentation of the "InfoAge Science and History Museum". World War II Mission Curator Bob Perricelli will present the Ship Models at their Museum.

The Broadaxe

OLD
BUSINESS



Tech Sessions Wanted

We need volunteers to present tips and techniques at meetings. If there is something that was presented in the past that you would like to see again, let us know and we will schedule it. If you found a new or better way to do something, share your learnings. Tom noted that as and NRG Chapter, we can show any of the NRG Workshops at our meeting. There will be some logistics to work out as the workshops are about ninety minutes and showing them over zoom may not work. Kevin stated that his videos could also be shown at our meeting but bandwidth may be an issue. We will be exploring the logistics of doing this.

Joint Clubs 2025

In 2025, SMSNJ will be hosting the 42nd Northeast Joint Clubs. We discussed a committee, and Mike Ellison volunteered. If you wish to help out on the planning etc, please contact Eric.

Summer Meetings

Roseland Library will be closed on weekends for June, July and August. We must decide our plans for the summer. During the summer months, several will have other priorities on weekends. That said, as a Club, we have exhibits like Modelcon and Pennsville, and we do have business that needs to be transacted for activities in September.

We discussed options and decided that, in general, virtual meetings could be on Tuesday night as our meetings were before.

Mason has arranged that the July meeting will be combined with a museum tour at the "InfoAge Science and History Museum" at the former Fort Monmouth. It will be the third Saturday in July, and we will also have a virtual hookup. At present, it looks like the June meeting will be virtual only on the fourth Tuesday at

We ask that if you have any suggestions, please let Eric and Tom know.

BOOKS
AND PUBS

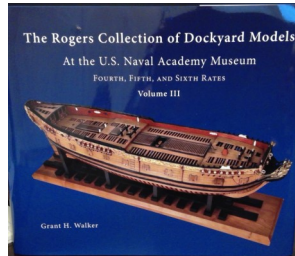


Many Ship Model Builders have found a very good source for models with the series of books called "Anatomy of the Ship". We became familiar with the buff, orange and white dust jackets and the short history discussion with copious drawings and photographs. Tim Murphy showed us a new incarnation of the series; 'The Destroyer USS Kidd (Anatomy of The Ship)' Hardcover, Osprey, – March 5, 2024. This brand-new addition to the "Anatomy of the Ship" series combines a brief narrative history of the USS Kidd, its design, and construction, with a series of detailed plans of the destroyer, contemporary photographs, and Stefan Draminski's superbly detailed digital color artworks.

The book is a larger format and has many more photographs, plans and history. It is very good that this series continues and the new format looks terrific. Thanks for bringing this, Tim.

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BOOKS AND PUBS



SMSNJ Member, Mike Ellison brought in the newest publication from Seawatch Books. "The Rogers Collection of Dockyard Models" Volume III, by Grant Walker. All of use should be familiar with volumes I and II. As with those two volumes, the publication quality is outstanding. Differing from the other two is that Volume III is over 100 pages longer. First, Second, and Third Rates were addressed in the first two volumes while the subjects of this volume are Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth rates. There are hundreds of photographs, many in color, and drawings all beautifully clear.

Grant has studied each of these models in finite detail and he is responsible for the design of the new Gallery where these models are housed. While these books are of great use to a model builder, they are important historical works.

Is there a Volume IV in the offing? Maybe.

NEW BUSINESS



Vice President

In June, Mason will have completed his second two year term. Several years ago, one of the presidents resigned his office a year early. Instead of appointing someone to complete the unexpired term, the next president served for a full new term. The effect is that the president and vice president elections are out of sync. It was proposed that the present Vice President serve an additional year so that both president and vice president terms are in sync. The question was proposed at the meeting, and the members present were in agreement. Mason has consented to serve as Vice President for one more year. In May 2025, both President and Vice President offices will be open.

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

Northeast Joint Clubs

The 41st Northeast Joint Clubs took place on April 27, 2024. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all who attended. A few door prizes were won by SMSNJ members. In the photograph, left to right, top row; Josh, Mike, Chuck, Dan, Larry, Roy, Mort, and Ryland. Seated; Tom, Eric, and Ethan.

The Jim Roberts Award was won by Spence Delin of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society for his scratch built Pilot Boat. We thank the Connecticut Marine Model Society for a well run event.



Eric with Roberts Winner Spence Delin



The judges discussing the finalist



Northeast Joint Clubs

Photographs from the conference. Next year, SMSNJ will be the host. We have already reserved Saturday, April 26, 2025.

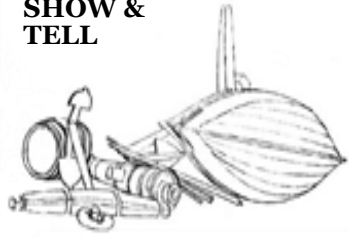


Battleship New Jersey

Battleship New Jersey was towed from Camden, New Jersey to the drydock where it was built to undergo repainting and maintenance. The Navy recommends that museum ships be drydocked every twenty years. The battleship was last drydocked over thirty years ago. Josh and Tom went to see the ceremony in Camden in March, as well as toured the drydock on April 13. Much of the repainting and other work is well on the way to completion and the ship will be back in Camden in June. With the ship in the drydock, you see the ship out-board at deck level. Then, you go into the drydock and see it from below, and under the ship. This was quite an experience that will not happen again for another thirty years.



SHOW & TELL



Armed Virginia Sloop

1800, Scale 1:48, POB

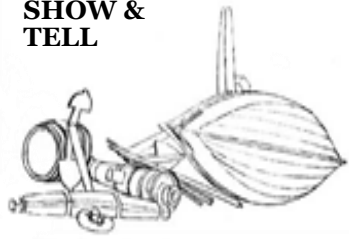
Model Shipways Kit

Mort Stoll

Mort has restarted an old project, the Armed Virginia Sloop. He is about to tackle the deck furniture. He noted that the kit instructions are a bit confusing and that he is using research of build logs on MSW as well as the practicum by Geoff Hunt.



**SHOW &
TELL**



Cutty Sark, Schooner, UK

1800, Scale 1:220, Plastic

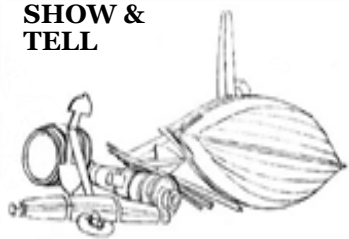
Revell Kit

Mason Loggie

Mason brought this very small scale of Cutty Sark. Deck is weathered and hull plated. Mason noted that the cabins aren't very detailed. He will make railings from wire. The kit was started, and was rediscovered due to water damage cleanup in his apartment.



SHOW & TELL



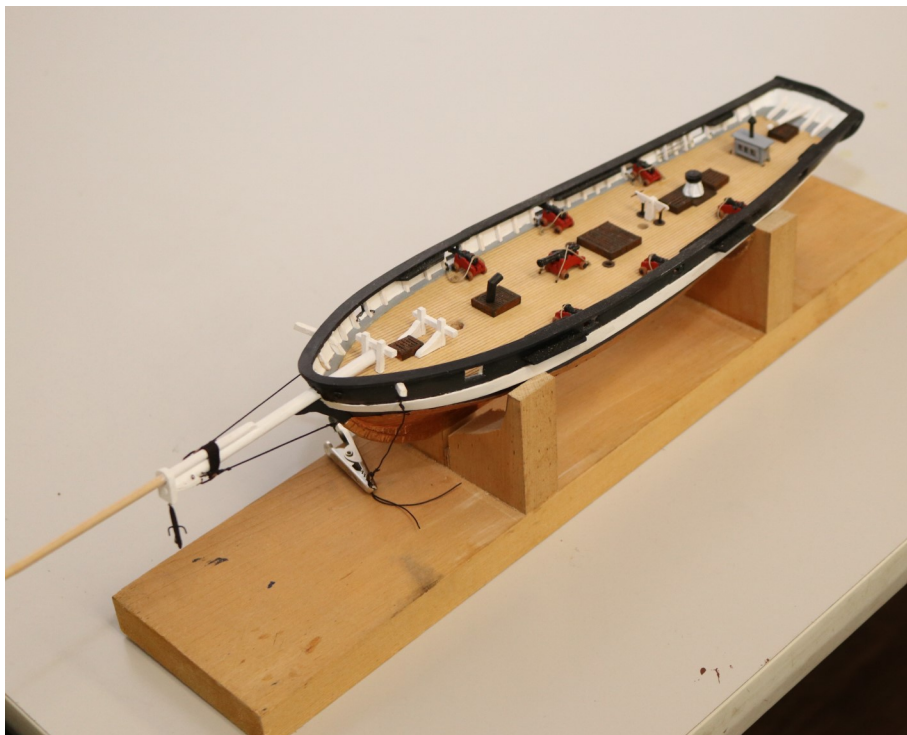
Lark, Schooner, US

1812, Scale 1:96

AJ Fischer Kit

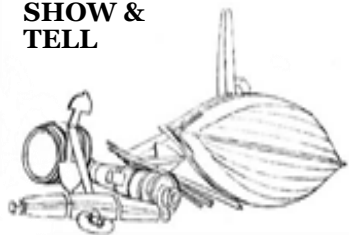
Mike Ellison

Mike brought in the Lark. It is a privateer/Baltimore Clipper. He is currently rigging the bowsprit. Cannons are mounted as is much of the deck furniture. He scratch built the binnacle to replace the very poor casting that came with the kit. Mike wasn't satisfied with the gratings that came with the kit, so he made very nice, to scale, gratings using card stock. They look very good. Tom mentioned that on a sailing ship, gratings are a focal point and are many times, overscale. The spacing between slats is about 2" so that a sailors heel doesn't get caught. In 1:96 that is roughly twenty thousands of an inch. Tom mentioned that there are ways to make them from wood. At some point, Mike and Tom may do a presentation on making very small gratings. Mike also discussed methods to make the horses on the yardarms. Mike is intending to use wire, and asked if there were alternatives. Tom mentioned that he uses cotton rigging line weighted and then painted with very diluted white glue.



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SHOW & TELL



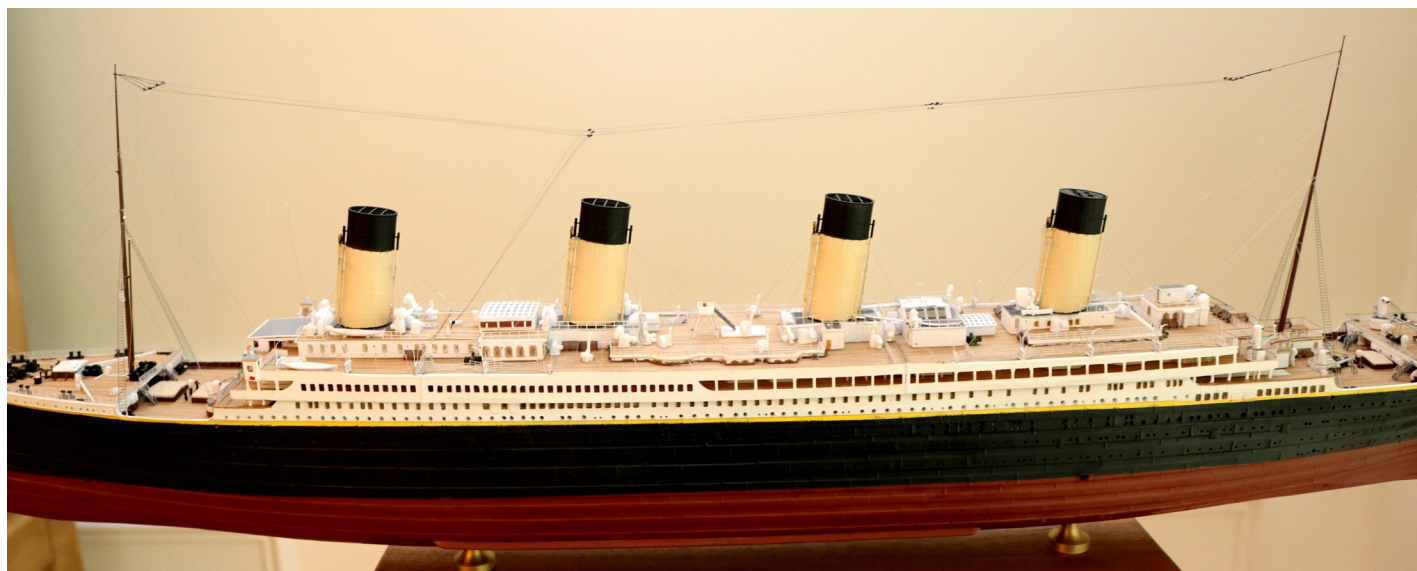
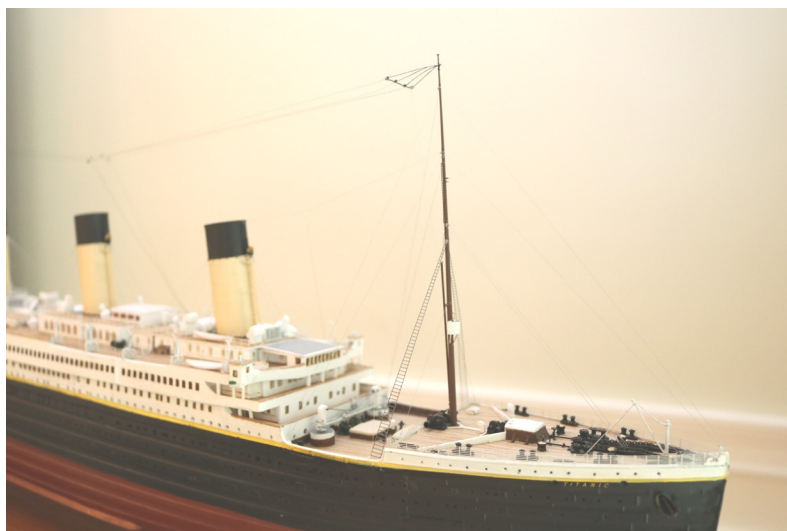
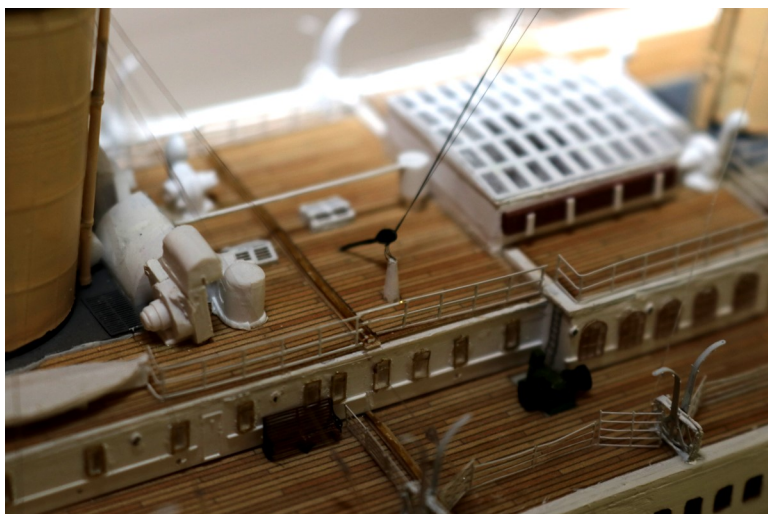
RMS Titanic

British Ocean Liner 1912

Scale 1:350, Minicraft Kit

Tom Ruggiero

Tom has made more progress on Titanic with the completion of all of the rails including those on the Boat Deck that separated the various sections of the Deck. Staring at the bow, there was the Officer's Promenade, followed by First Class Promenade, followed by the Engineer's Promenade, and then Second Class. The davits have been installed. At each boat station except for the one at the Officer's Promenade, there is a rail for passenger safety. They didn't bother with one for the Officers. All of the standing rigging is installed as well as the Marconi antenna. The antenna is made with wire from ModelKasten. It is from Japan and measures 0.002" in diameter. The full scale diameter was 5/8" so this was required at 1:350 scale. The wires droop with the two outboard ones slightly more drooped than the inboard. Four leads go down to a stress insulator before attaching to the staff on the overhead of the Radio Room. The next challenge is to install the Life Boats. The falls for each boat run through a three sheave block. Tom is trialing a few methods for faking the blocks and falls.



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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