



Volume 42, Number 11&12

Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey

November/December 2024

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Upcoming Events & Tech Sessions

Due to the unavailability of our meeting room, the December Meeting will be virtual only on December 21, 2024 at 10:15.

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

At this meeting we discussed the upcoming Northeast Joint Clubs meeting. See the report in Old Business.

The meeting adjourned at 13:40.

November Workshop: We were not able to have a regular meeting in November but we had a well attended workshop at Chuck's home. Chuck demonstrated his method for making flags. As always, we all brought a project to work on. We also distributed some of the items from the workshop of Ed Hegstetter.

Several of us have been to one of the Modelcon Exhibits on Battleship New Jersey in August of the last few years. Member Josh Fichmann has passed along an article that appeared in Militarytrader.com Here is the link to the article.

<https://www.militarytrader.com/militaria-collectibles/all-aboard-modelcon-2024>

Thanks Josh.

Combined Broadaxe

There was no formal meeting in November so this edition of Broadaxe combines our October meeting with the November Workshop.

Next Tech Session

The December 2024 Tech Session is "Acrylic Cases" presented by Joe Lorenzo.

The Broadaxe

OLD BUSINESS



Joint Clubs 2025

The Joint Clubs Committee will be meeting virtually to plan the event. Mike Ellison will Chair the committee.

There was a brief committee report. The meeting was a few weeks ago via zoom. We are close on a speaker as well as a special raffle prize. Tom will be keeping track of expenses. A meeting will be held via zoom soon. The goal is to have registration forms distributed by the second week of January 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

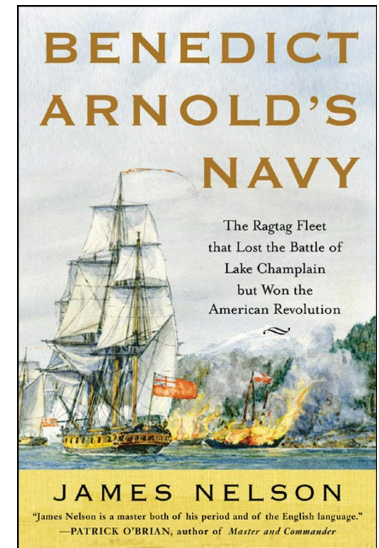


Nautical Books

Several members have asked where they can find a good home for books that they no longer need. One option is to donate these books. To that end, Bill has contacted Carla Lesh at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. They have a Nautical Library and would be interested in a book donation. We ask then, if you wish to donate books to please provide a list of books that include the Title, Author, and Publishing date. Mason noted that the Noble Maritime Museum in Staten Island is also interested in nautical books.

Please send the list to Tom Ruggiero and Bill Brown.

BOOKS AND PUBS



Benedict Arnold's Navy: The Ragtag Fleet That Lost the Battle of Lake Champlain but Won the American Revolution Hardcover – May 12, 2006

Ken has just started reading, "Benedict Arnold's Navy" by James L. Nelson. The model I'm currently working on was a major part of his navy battle on Lake Champlain. The galley Washington was the rear guard for Arnold's retreat up the lake to Fort Ticonderoga. The Washington was destroyed during the action. The book followed a history of the early revolution as concludes with the battle at Valcour Island.

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

"Making Mast Hoops" by Rich Lane

Technical Session

Modeling a masted ship requires a number of mast hoops. In the case of a lower mast that is a "made mast", the hoops fastened the several parts of the mast together. On upper masts and yardarms, the hoops are attachment point for blocks and rigging. Many of these hoops are different diameter. You can buy hoops, or cut them from brass tube, but in smaller scales these items are too thick and out of scale. At this meeting Rich Lane demonstrated his method for making hoops from paper.

Rich uses plane printer paper. The first step is to place a strip of masking tape on one end. Next, spray adhesive is applied to the paper (tape side up).

The hoop will need to fit snugly on the mast or spar. Since the diameters are different, you will need several different diameter dowels.

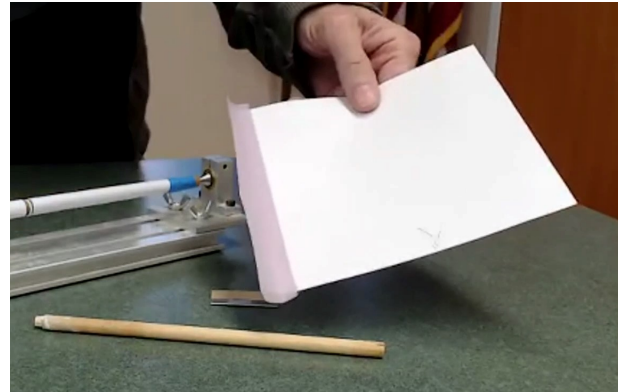
You don't want the paper to adhere to the dowel. So, starting with the taped end, tape side on the dowel, roll the paper onto the dowel. You want the paper to adhere. Let this dry for a bit.

Rich has a small lathe that he purchased from Amazon. It is only about \$40, made in China. For this purpose, it is good enough. Tape both ends of the paper to the dowel to prevent it from spinning inside of the paper.

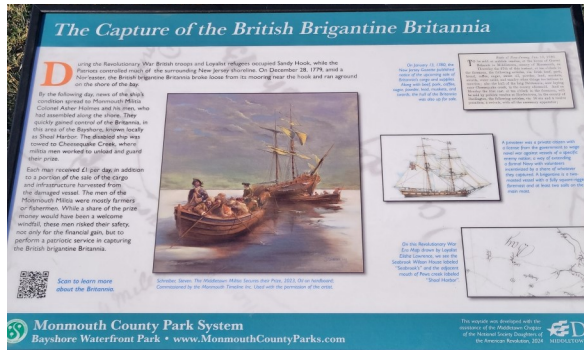
Chuck the paper covered dowel into the lathe. The next step requires care. Start the lathe spinning at a relatively slow speed. Now, using a single edge razor blade, slice the paper at intervals that will be the width of the hoops that you need. He does this completely by eye and doesn't premark the paper. Rich notes that only a very light pressure is required and you will readily feel the blade contact the wood.

Once a series of slices have been made, shut off the lathe and remove the dowel. The hoops will slide off. If you see the paper unraveling you can simply apply thinned white glue. You can now paint the hoops. You can put a string through the hoops so that you can spray paint them. Rich noted that not all of them will be keepers so make a goodly amount of spares while you are perfecting your technique.

Thank you Rich for your presentation.



The Capture of Britania



On November 16, Bill and Tom were at the Seabrook-Wilson House in Port Monmouth. The event was sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The **Seabrook-Wilson House** (also known as the **Whitlock-Seabrook-Wilson Home** and nicknamed the **Spy House**) for the unveiling of a painting and plaque to commemorate the capture of the *Britannia*, an English Privateer brigantine that was captured by the Colonials in 1779. Tom displayed his model of *Liverpool* that day as she was in Sandy Hook Bay at that time. Even though a completely different vessel, it is the same period and location. He also di a brief presentation on brigs and brigantines during that period.

From Wikipedia: The original house was built in 1663 by Thomas Whitlock, who came to the North America in 1641, first living in Brooklyn. It no longer exists. It started out as a 1+½-story, one-room cabin, and Whitlock lived here with his family. The house was turned into a two-story home by its second owner Thomas Seabrook, who was a patriot in the New Jersey militia. Over the years the Seabrook family added to the original structure. The home stayed in the Seabrook family for a total of 250 years. The Seabrook-Wilson House is one of the oldest surviving houses in the Bayshore. The Seabrook-Wilson House began as a small cabin about 1720 and over the years was expanded and altered many times by later generations. By 1896 (photo left) the house had grown to its present size and appearance. In attempting to create interest in the building, in the 1960s part-time caretaker Gertrude Neidlinger fabricated a story that the house was a tavern during the Revolutionary War where British troops were spied on by patriots. There is no evidence that the house was ever a tavern at that time. It was a private home. It remained a private home until the early twentieth century. However, the tale caught on and helped keep local interest in the house, probably aiding in preserving the property.

Bill and I enjoyed the day and the view of Raritan Bay was stunning.



"Making Flags" by Chuck Passaro

Technical Session

Due to the unavailability of our normal meeting room, the November meeting was replaced by a workshop at Chuck's home. On November 9th we met at Chuck's workshop. Chuck presented his method for making flags.

The first step is to search for a flag on the internet. Chuck notes that he will look for period flags that show some aging where the whites are a little off color. This adds realism. In the 18th and 19th centuries, flags were a little translucent so using tissue works well. While wrapping tissue is usable Chuck finds that the seperation sheets in a package of acetate film works very well. He also may manipulate the flag so that it drops a bit. This isn't absolutely required but makes furling latter on a bit easier. The flag is printed with an ink jet printer. The tissue is taped over the printed flag the printer paper and then printed again. You will note that the printed tissue paper allows the ink to soak in and this is what we want. When the flag is cut out, leave a border on the fly so that a halyard can be rolled in.

The flag is then sprayed with matte clear paint. Chuck uses Krylon Gallery Series, UV Archival Varnish. Folds and ripples are teased into the flag as the paint dries. To do this he uses top picks and paint brush handles to get various ripples. The results are very realistic.



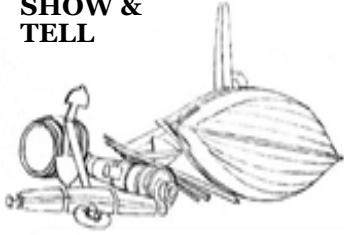
Lighthouse Museum 2024

On November 17, SMSNJ exhibited there projects and demonstrated their modeling techniques at the National Lighthouse Museum in Staten Island. Bill Brown, Mason Loggie, and Ken Whitehead attended. There was a good deal of interest and we may have picked up a new member or two. This is the tenth year that SMSNJ has exhibited at the Museum.



The Broadaxe

SHOW & TELL



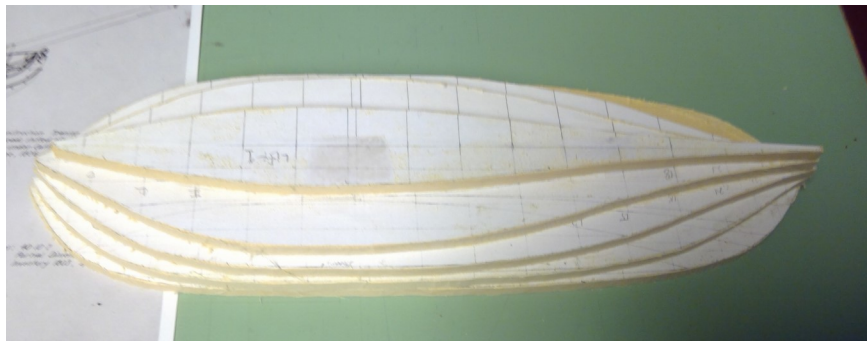
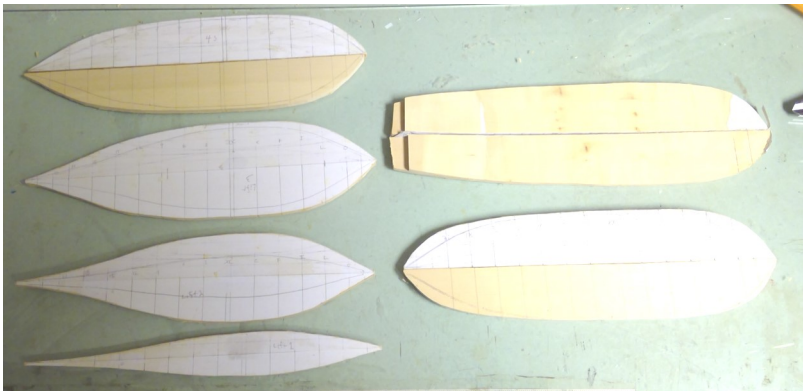
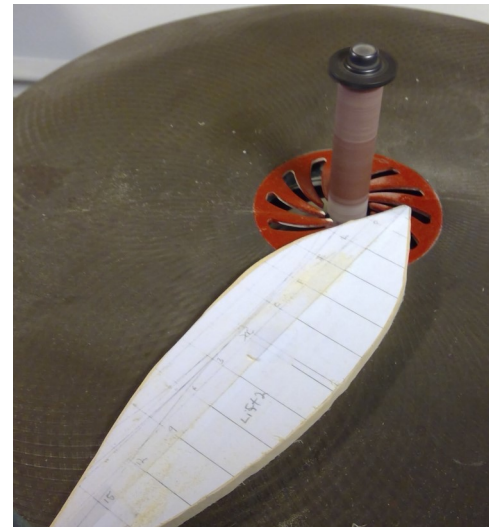
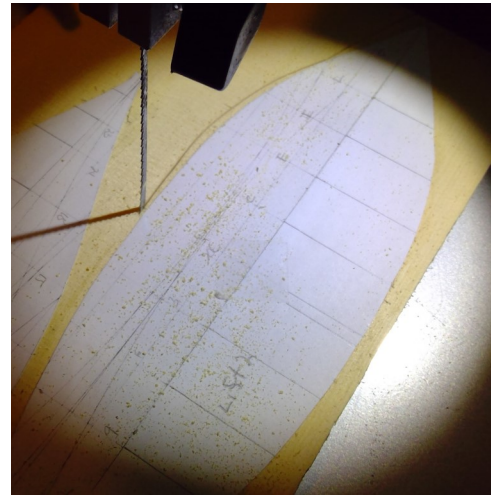
Argus US

1807, Brig

Scale 1:96, Scratch Build

Tom Ruggiero

Tom making the lifts for the lower hull. There are five lifts that will go up to the bottom of the deck. The lifts are cut from yellow cedar. First a scroll saw cuts close to the line. Next a spindle sander gets up to the line. The last three photos show all five lifts and their stack up.



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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