



Volume 44, Number 6 Newsletter of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey August/September 2026

Meeting Report

Since Roseland Library is closed on weekends in July and August, there wasn't a formal meeting for the summer. Hopefully, we all had some time to work on our current projects or start new ones.



Model Con 8

The Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) hosted Model Con in the Wardroom of Battleship New Jersey on August 1, 2026. SMSNJ was represented by Tom Ruggiero, Mike Ellison, and Leonard Xuereb. The Wardroom is on the tour route, so there were many visitors, individuals, couples and families. We were given a private tour of the ship, and I met several possible new members. Kroum and Olha Bachlova were there.

View the video at; [SHIP MODEL SHOW - ModelCON8 aboard Battleship New Jersey 2026 \(NJ, USA\)](#)



June is the end of our fiscal year and when dues are payable. Dues are \$20. **Some have not yet paid their dues.** Please send your check, payable to SMSNJ, to Tom Ruggiero. If you joined after November 2025, your initial fee covers you until June 2027

Next Meeting and Tech Session

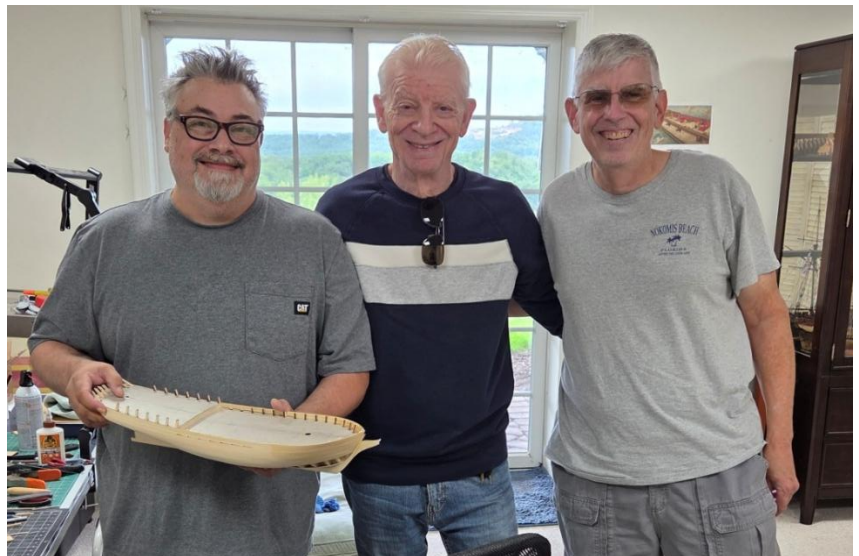
Next Meeting is Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Roseland Free Public Library, 20 Roseland Ave, Roseland, NJ 07068 at 10:30 am. The Tech Session topic is "Spiling Planks" presented by Chuck.



No new Business until the September 26 Meeting

A New Project

Last Summer we were able to get together up at Chuck's Workshop for a figure painting class with Larry and to work on our Speedwell Battle Station. Personally, my Summer was wall to wall and there just wasn't a time for us to all get together. An impromptu phone call and one open day meant that a few of us could at least go to lunch. Tom Ruggiero, Bill Brown, and Mike Rogers met up at Chuck's new workshop. Turns out that Chuck is working on a Hudson River Sloop project with Bill. Mike moved from New York to New Jersey. Chuck will likely talk about this project at the September meeting and use to model to demonstrate spiling planks. It was great to see Mike and to get together with Chuck and Bill. By the way, the lunch was excellent!



A visit to Boston and Furling a Sail

A few weeks ago, grandparent duty included a family trip to Boston. We stayed in Cambridge, strolled along the Charles River, through Harvard and MIT, Mass Science Museum, Tea Party, Boston Commons, and for certain, Constitution. I haven't been to Constitution since we were there with and NRG conference. Happily, the ship is fully rigged again, clean, and in great shape. Security is much tighter now and there is a separate museum that is operated by the government. Fletcher Class Destroyer Casin Young looks good, but it was closed when we were there. Across from Constitution is another museum. That has changed quite a bit over the years. It is well done, and very interactive in describing how Constitution was built and what serving on board would be like. I do miss the old-style museum with row upon row of ship models, but this museum's exhibits are well done and educational. One example is a full size mockup of a topsail yard with horses, jack stay, and sail. You can stand on the horse (the man rope hanging below the yard) and furl the sail. That was nice, mainly because my daughter and grandsons got interested in what I do. Success!



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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 Saturday of every month September through June except December at 10:30 AM, 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 Tom Ruggiero 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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