

THE BROADAXE

NEWSLETTER
of
THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY
Founded in 1981



Volume 24, Number 4

April, 2006

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING March 28, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President **Ed Hegstetter**, who was running the meeting tonight. There were 33 members in attendance and 3 visitors; **Allen Hamilton**, **Buddy Plechata** and first time visitor **Bob Markovic** from Morristown. Almost overlooked at his third meeting, Allen was voted in by loud acclamation as a member during the break. Welcome aboard, Allen!

Jeff Fuglestad announced that **Michael Storch** has agreed to become the archivist for the club. No one seems to be to sure exactly what the archivist is supposed to do but I am sure Michael will do it well.

Gary Kingzett gave a final wrap up on the very successful exhibit at the Belskie Museum in Closter. The exhibit was extended by two weeks and about 1,100 visitors attended. About 25-30 people took our flyer, so we might expect some new members from that source. Gary was thanked with a round of applause for his excellent work in coordinating this event.

A summer cruise on the retired NY fireboat *John Harvey* is being contemplated. **Mason Logie** is talking with the operators and will report further.

We have agreed to participate in a small exhibit at the South Amboy Public Library during the month of July. Enough members indicated willingness to provide models so that we probably will have 10 to 15 models to show. Space at the library is somewhat restricted so very large models won't work. **Tom McGowan** and **Al Geigel** are coordinating the event.

Doc Fletcher has scrounged another supply of tweezers, hemostats and other medical tools that are now on sale.

The Executive Board made a formal proposal to increase the annual dues effective July 1, 2006, the start of the new fiscal year. A motion was made and seconded to increase the annual dues to \$25.00 for renewing members and \$30.00 for new members. For new members joining after January 1st of a fiscal year, the \$30.00 will also cover the dues for the succeeding fiscal year. A vote to approve the increase in dues will be taken at the April 24, 2006 meeting.

Jeff Fuglestad gave a report on plans for the Northeast Joint Conference which we are hosting this year. The conference will be held on April 29 in New London. A guest speaker has been arranged and about 30 registration forms have been received so far. **Barry Rudd** has agreed to give the tech session for our club (each club will give a tech session) and the menu for lunch has been finalized. Jeff encouraged all members to attend this year's function and bring models as well. The registration form is on our website and even if you don't get around to mailing in your registration you can always pay at the door (\$35.00). BUT COME!

A decision has been made to henceforth drop from membership those who have not paid their annual dues within 6 months of each July renewal date.

Tom Ruggiero mentioned that Jim Byrnes, the manufacturer of a new table saw, will probably offer a jig to assist in the fabrication of gratings.



SHOW AND TELL

First time visitor **BOB MARKOVIC** brought along his work in progress of the Dumas kit of a Chris Craft inboard runabout. He had quite a few questions to ask about certain aspects of construction which were addressed by the members present.



LEN SCHWALM showed his model of the old Airfix model of the *Bounty* in 1/87th scale. Len found the kit sorely lacking in accuracy and used the "Anatomy of the Ship" book on *Bounty* to assist him in making a long list of modifications to the kit.



TONY ALWORTH showed his work in progress of a typical Cape Cod catboat. Tony is making rapid progress on his model.



STEVE FLETCHER brought in an old model woefully in need of restoration. It was a builders model of a war time cargo vessel named *Chatham* that was built at Manitowac, Wisconsin. Earl Young said this vessel was called a "knots" class of Victory ship built late in the war.





FROM THE EDITOR

Our April meeting is Bring a Model night. I've always enjoyed these evenings and look forward to the many styles of models that our members bring in. It's a great way to see other building techniques and ask "How did you do that!?" If it's been awhile since you brought any of your models in, I encourage you to do so. Many of our newer members have not seen the work of some of our longtime members.

Mike Gutschick

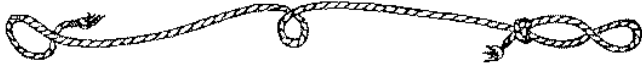


"Soundings From D-Deck"

"To CAD or not to CAD – ah yes, *that* is the question!"

As I begin to delve into the realm of scratch building, I move into, for me at least, uncharted waters. Available plans are not in the scale I desire to build or detail views are lacking. What is the novice to do? In my youth, I had a desire to become an architect. I took drafting classes in high school and went to college to study to become an architect. I was quickly disabused of that dream in my first quarter of college and eventually graduated with a degree in accounting. However, I still kept my drawing equipment which I recently put to use to redraw various deck superstructures which were in 1:192 scale to my building scale of 1:600 (actually 1:603.7). It was a time consuming process, first determining the dimensions in feet and inches from my plans using my architect's scale, then converting them to the equivalent decimal inches of my building scale and marking the dimensions on paper with the help of my digital caliper. After several hours, I now had scale templates of the footprints for the superstructures for the boat deck, bridge deck and navigating

bridge deck which I replicated in .02" styrene. Needless to say, I made photocopies of the master drawing to cut out the templates. While I enjoyed putting pencil to paper once again, I did not relish the prospect of repeating this process for creating profile views of the life boat davit support rails for which I do not have any scale drawings, only photos, and most of those not very sharp and clear. It would require several drafts and much tweaking until I would get something that looks reasonably close to the real thing. The answer to many of you is obvious – use CAD! I actually did have a CAD program at one time, way back when I was using the wonderful Windows 3.1. The CAD program was about a half step above DOS so I never bothered trying to install it on my Windows XP system. Occasionally I would think about getting a CAD program but was turned off by the price. A recent PC Magazine article, however, gave me web links for free, yes, free, CAD programs. Granted, they were not current versions of their products, but the price was right for someone looking for a basic CAD program. I selected two programs to try out, CadStd Lite v3.6.3 and Cadvance v6.5. I've been trying out both programs and while Cadvance has more drawing features than CadStd, I've only met with frustration in trying to figure out how Cadvance works. I've not been able to create a drawing in Cadvance. I was, however, able to figure out how CadStd works with a little bit of playing around with the program, which I have not been able to do with Cadvance. I was able to create a profile drawing of the davit support rail in a scale of 1/16" = 1'-0" and, what I found to be precisely what I needed, to automatically rescale the drawing down to my building scale by changing the scale from 1" on the paper = 16' actual size to 1" on the paper = 50' actual size. I simply copied the reduced drawing several times and I now have templates for the davit support rail in my 1:600 scale. If you've been thinking about using CAD in your modeling, I recommend that you try out CadStd Lite. The program can be downloaded from their website at www.cadstd.com. There is also a pro version available with more features for only \$25.00.



UPCOMING TECH SESSIONS

April 24, 2006 – Bring a Model Night

JUST A REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 29, 2006 – North East Joint Clubs
Conference, New London, CT**

**Summer 2006 – New York Harbor
cruise aboard the restored NY Fire Boat
John Harvey. Date and time will be
announced in the near future.**

**July 2006 – Model exhibition at the
South Amboy, NJ Public Library. More
details will be forthcoming.**

**October 12-15, 2006 – San Diego, CA,
NRG Conference**



The '**BROADAXE**' is published monthly by The Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey, a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching and promoting ship modeling and maritime history. Membership dues are \$20.00 for the first year and \$15.00 per year thereafter. Visit our Web Site at: <http://www.njshipmodelsociety.org> where a Web version of the **BROADAXE** can be found. The **BROADAXE** is distributed by both US mail and e-mail in PDF format.

Regular meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 P.M, at the Millburn Free Public Library, 200 Glen Avenue, Millburn, New Jersey.

Guests are always welcome.

Contributions to the **BROADAXE** are always welcome, and SMSNNJ 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 e-mail. Handwritten notes or other materials will be considered depending on the amount of editing and preparation involved.

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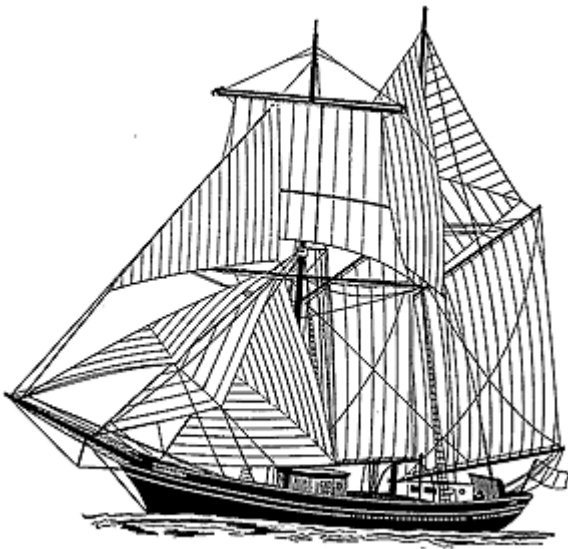
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NEXT MEETING:

April 25, 2006

7:30 PM

**MILLBURN PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

*Bring a
Model
Night*