

THE BROADAXE

NEWSLETTER
of

THE SHIP MODEL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY
Founded in 1981



Volume 20, Number 3

February 2002

IN MEMORY OF JIM ROBERTS



One of our founders passed away on Friday, February 1. He will be greatly missed by us all. Your editor cannot think of a better memorial than the following message from Barry Rudd posted on the Seaways Ship Modeling List.

I was very saddened to read about the passing of Jim Roberts. I first met him about 30 years ago at the old Model Shipways store/factory in Bogota, NJ.

Jim was a wonderful and kind person.

His knowledge of ship modeling and maritime history it seemed was endless. He was a true and talented expert when it came to these fields. I learnt a tremendous amount of information regarding ship modeling from Jim. When Jim complimented me on a model I was building or had built I really felt I had gotten a seal of approval for my efforts. And belonging to the same club I was always picking his mind for more information, which he always patiently and gladly gave to me.

He will truly be missed by everyone who knew him. And the world of ship modeling has lost great teacher and talented modeler.

My condolences to his wife Marilyn and his family.

Rest in peace, Jim.

Barry Rudd

From the Quarterdeck Nicholas F. Starace II, President

We are very saddened by the loss of Jim Roberts. He was one of the founding members of the Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey, a group he served so well in every capacity. His friendship, skills and knowledge will be sorely missed. Insofar as ship modeling, Jim was a walking encyclopedia! More importantly, there was always a willingness to share his craft with anyone, no matter the skill level. I do not think there is a single person who knew Jim, who did not learn something from him.

Befitting his stature as a devoted family man and master craftsman, a memorial service was held in his honor on February 9. All who attended could not help but be touched by listening to the fond recollections of his life. Of special note were the loving remarks given by Jim's daughters Corinne and Jennifer. They shared with all of us their memories of him, his life and his legacy. I do not think there was a dry eye in the house.

Jim did indeed have a great send off.

On behalf of the SMSNNJ we extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Marilyn and their family. She and Jim had a wonderful 35 years together and that is certainly a lot for which to be thankful.

Fondly,
Nick

A tribute to Jim can be found on the SMSNNJ Website at:

<http://www.njshipmodelsociety.org/Main/Roberts.html>

MINUTES OF THE EXCOMM MEETING, JANUARY 22, 2002

President **Nick Starace** discussed the need to find a new editor for the *Broadaxe*. Dave Watkins agreed to edit an abbreviated version until a permanent editor can be found.

Our April meeting will be held in the small meeting room at the Millburn Library. It was decided to have our "Bring a Model Night" at the **MARCH** meeting.

Nick asked **Bob Brehm** to act as the club archivist. His first task is to identify what materials exist and where they are located.

The club has been asked to do a model exhibit at Fairleigh Dickinson University. **Nick** is talking to the FDU representative.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 22, 2002

President Nick Starace called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM. Thirty-three members and four guests were in attendance. Our guests were **Dave Sasher** of Lake Hopatcong, **Ken Davis** of Hillsdale, and **Paul Whelan** of Ridgewood. Fourth time guest **Ernest Connor** was unanimously accepted to membership. Welcome aboard **Ernest!**

Ken Schuetz reported that our Morris County Library exhibit was a rousing success. **Nick Starace** stated that a Fairleigh Dickinson University Show on a smaller scale is still being investigated.

Our scheduled speaker, Scott Kodger, Director of Curatorial Affairs, at the *USS New Jersey* Battleship Museum in Camden had to cancel at the last minute. He plans to speak at our next meeting on February 26.

To fill the breach, **Len Schwalm** shared with us a 20 minute video tape that he had made on our cruise on the *Richard Robbins* October 21, 2001. Also on the tape was a survey of our model exhibit at the Morris County Library.

SHOW AND TELL

Henry Schaefer is scratch building *City of Naples*, a cargo-passenger vessel 1:100 scale. **Ken Schuetz** showed his nearly completed 1928 Mississippi River sternwheeler towboat *Wild Goose*. **Don Otis**

showed two *Sultana's* and a *Benjamin Latham*, all of which he is building simultaneously. **Steve Fletcher** has framed and partially planked *Carondolet*, an ironclad Mississippi River gunboat from the Civil War. **John Marinovich** presented a 5" long bottle with a catboat, two people and the Barnegat light all inside. **Henry Schaefer** is scratch building *City of Naples*, a cargo-passenger vessel 1:100 scale. **Ken Schuetz** showed his nearly completed 1928 Mississippi River sternwheeler towboat *Wild Goose*. **Gary Kingzett** is progressing nicely with BB16, the first *USS New Jersey*. Arch Griffith showed *Tuggy Tooter*, a ceramic caricature of a tugboat, as well as two "chairs in bottles" made by a former shipmate of Arch's. **Roy Goroski's Emma C. Berry** has its interior completed. **Bob Fivehouse** showed his 1:200 White Star liner *Republic*, noting that the exploration of this ship's wreckage is a current news story.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Watkins has agreed to issue an abbreviated version of the *Broadaxe* for the next month or so. He will also try to issue a version via e-mail and on our web site. Bob Brehm will locate the club's archives and see whether portions are suitable for the club's web site. Bring-a-Model night will at our March meeting. Barry Rudd will present the April Tech Session.

BOOKS AND PUBS

Len Schwalm showed a large sized picture book, "Battleships" by Paul Atwell. **Nick Perrella** passed around photos of miniature models on display at the San Diego Maritime Museum. **Dave Roach's** Pier Books will be publishing "Modeling Late Victorian Battleships" by Brian King (\$35). Other new titles available from Pier Books include "Bottled Up" (techniques for airplane models in bottles, \$12.95); Hudson's Bay Co. "Beaver" by John McKay, boxed with 42 sheets of plans (\$50); and a French publication of David Steele's "Naval Architecture" with a full set drawings from the engraved plates (\$100).

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://njshipmodelsociety.org>

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, electronic files, or on 3.5" floppy discs. Handwritten notes or other materials will be considered depending on the amount of editing and preparation involved

Direct All Correspondence To:

ACTING BROADAXE EDITOR:

David C. Watkins, 4 Knollwood Ave, Madison, NJ 07940

E-mail davidwatkins@telocity.com

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Nick Starace II, 9 Fielding Rd., Short Hills, NJ 07078(973) 376-9026 E-mail: nstaracell@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Bob Brehm, 11 Portland Road, Summit, NJ 07901 (908)273-1288 E-mail Boblyle@bellatlantic.net

TREASURER:

Al Geigel, 237 Maple Ave., Dunellen, NJ 08812 (732) 968-5969 E-mail: AlGeigel@worldnet.att.net

SECRETARY:

Don Otis, 1008 Windsor Rd., Teaneck, NJ 07666 (201) 866-1810

WEBMASTERS:

Al Geigel, E-mail: AlGeigel@worldnet.att.net

David Watkins, E-mail: davidwatkins@telocity.com

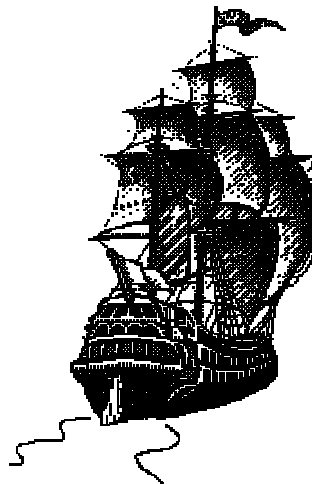
Regular meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 P.M, at the Millburn Free Public Library, 200 Glen Avenue, Millburn, New Jersey.

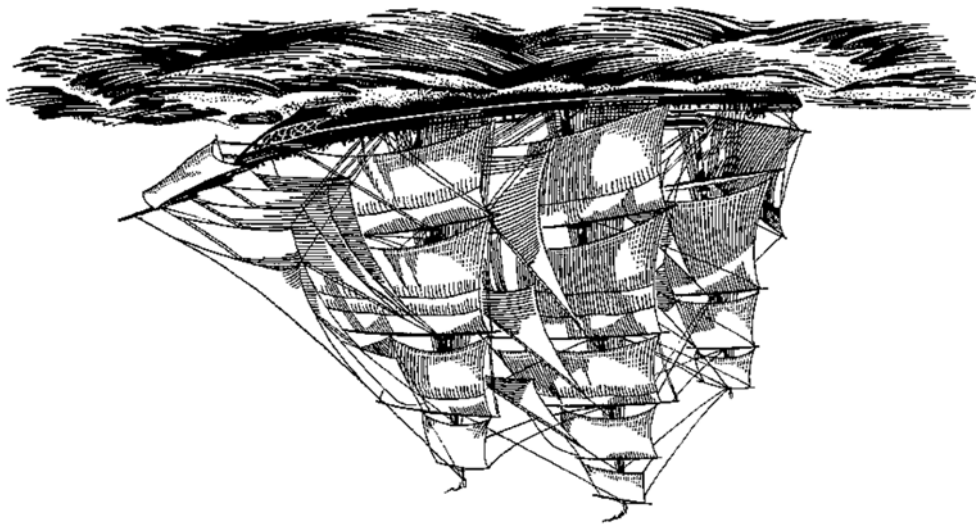
Guests are always welcome.

FROM THE EDITOR

It is with a heavy heart that I temporarily assume the duties of *Broadaxe* editor. Jim Roberts did this job so well for so long that there is no way I can replace him. His knowledge of nautical lore and model building made him uniquely suited to the job. We will all miss the sea stories and the good advice contained in his columns.

We wish him a fair wind and calm seas.





MUSEUM
BATTLESHIP
USS NEW JERSEY
AT THE
AFFAIRS
CURATORIAL
DIRECTOR OF
SCOTT KODGER
TECH SESSION:
LIBRARY
MILLBURN PUBLIC
7:30 PM
FEBRUARY 26, 2002
NEXT MEETING:

THE BROADAXE

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

Volume 20, Number 3

February 2002

Acting Newsletter Editor:
David Watkins
4 Knollwood Ave.
Madison, NJ 07040