

THE BROADAXE

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



Volume 22, Number 8

August, 2004

FROM THE QUARTERDECK

Since this is my inaugural Quarterdeck address, I thought I'd reiterate some thoughts that appeared a few years ago when we were planning our first (or was it our second?) model ship exhibit at Teterboro.

We have, without a doubt, some of the finest ship modelers in the world in our midst. In my time with the group, I've never met a nicer group of people, who are more than willing to help out the novice or rookie ship modeler. In my travels, I've met clubs that scorn anything but wooden sailing ship models. The scornful 'purists' are few and far between, but their impact has caused many people to assume that we're the same type of modelers, simply because we're good at what we do, or that we take pride in our work.

This stigma we face is not just our merry band, but it pervades the hobby as a whole. The upcoming ship model exhibit, and the ones we've had in the past, will hopefully encourage more people to join our wonderful hobby. We do need to recognize that times, techniques, and trends in modeling change, and we must be willing to change with them, to embrace new technology and new techniques, in order to maintain a strong club.

Resin and plastic kits have revolutionized the ship model industry, and many of us are dedicated steel hulled warship fans. To be perfectly honest, I don't know a jib from a halyard, but I can recite chapter and verse the development of the Fletcher class destroyer from WW2. We all have our favorite subjects, and this is what makes our group unique. My theory is simple, and reflects the success of previous presidents and our founders: if it floats, or is nautical in nature, then it

should be welcomed into the Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey, whether it's wood, resin, plastic, steel, or paper.

As our ranks sadly thin with time, we need to start thinking about what we (as a group) need to do to get new membership, new blood, and retain them. While meeting with everyone once a month is a nice thing to do, we still need to be 'out there' in the public eye, showing off what we do, and getting folks interested. It is with this in mind that I will ask for volunteers to form an 'outreach committee', tasked specifically with getting us into libraries, schools, anywhere we can to introduce the club to the community, and the community to ship modeling.

I come into this term of office with lots of enthusiasm and idealistic expectations, hoping to continue in the fine tradition of past presidents. I'm hoping some of this enthusiasm will rub off on the rest of you, because although we're a great club with great people, there's always room for more enthusiasm.

By the time you read this ramble, we will have hopefully confirmed a location for the ship model exhibit for 2004. Although the time is short (mid-August to mid-November), 4 months is more than enough time to get the word out, and I will be depending on the membership to make this event even better than the previous two.

This club can only be as good as you, the membership, makes it...we're doing pretty well right now, but we can always improve.

Jeff Herne
President

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING
JULY 27, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President **Ed Hegstetter** with 25 members in attendance. We had one first time visitor, **Ragnar Johnsen** from Annandale. Hopefully, Ragnar will become a member in due course.

The first order of business was the election of officers for the next two years. President **Ed Hegstetter** stated that for health reasons he would not stand for re-election at this time. He thanked the membership for their support over the past two years and once he recuperates from hip surgery will be back as a regular attendee at meetings. The members present gave Ed a round of applause for his excellent stewardship of the club since 2002.

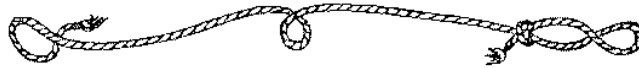
The nominating committee has proposed the following members to serve as officers for the next two years: **President - Jeff Herne, Vice President - Jeff Fuglestad** (currently Treasurer), **Treasurer - Bill Dunphy** and **Secretary - Tom McGowan** (continuing). The members present, constituting a quorum, approved the slate and the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the aforementioned individuals.

Bill Dunphy (now Treasurer) has handled the coffee/cookie responsibility for the past two years and now will step down from that post. Ed asked for a volunteer for the job but there were no takers from the members present. If no one steps up for the job we will have to do away with refreshments at the meetings. Think about it!

Outgoing Treasurer **Jeff Fuglestad** reported on the status of members delinquent in dues for last year. All active members have paid but in canvassing the truants, Jeff was told by one person that he was not staying in the club because the skills of the members were far beyond his own. Most of us (myself included) are relative newcomers to ship modeling and need all the help we can get. Everyone agreed that we are definitely not an elitist group and we should make sure new members, in particular, are aware of our outlook.

Everyone agreed that the efforts of our new *Broadaxe* editor, **Mike Gutsick**, were excellent and we look forward to his new style.

Tom Ruggiero had a copy of a club contact list showing the names of clubs in the northeast. Most of these clubs are in our website with the possible exception of the Upper Valley Ship Model Guild in New Hampshire which is a new club.

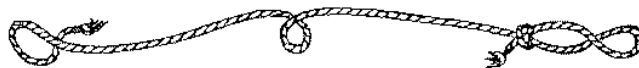
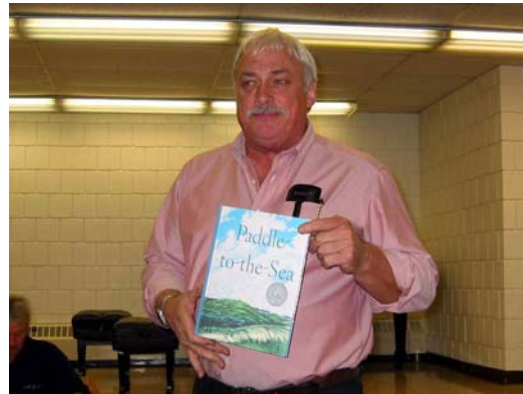


BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Steve Fletcher brought along two books. The first was Milton Roth's, *Ship Modeling From Stem To Stern*, McGraw Hill. Steve likes this standard book for the many construction tips and techniques included. Second was *The Boats of Men of War* by W. E. May, published by The Naval Institute Press. This book details the history and construction of ships boats.



Gary Kingzett showed a book by H. C. Holling titled, *Paddle to the Sea*, originally published by Houghton Mifflin in 1941 which tells the inspirational story of an Indian boy who carves a model canoe which he sets afloat in the Nipigon River. The canoe makes its way through the Great Lakes and crosses the Atlantic to France. One member (was it Jim Davis ?) mentioned that the story was made into a film which he had showed to his students many times.



SHOW AND TELL

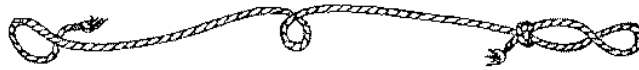
BERNIE BAHR showed two light boxes which he uses on top of display cases to illuminate a model. The boxes are easily made from craft boxes available at A. C. Moore (or other craft stores). Bernie cuts off the bottom of the box, stains and finishes it as appropriate and glues in a battery powered closet light and sets the box on a display case.



STEVE FLETCHER brought in his nearly finished scratch model of the Civil War river gunboat *Carondolet*. The model needs only boats to be constructed. Steve talked about his construction methods for fabricating the boats, which he thought would be more difficult to make than it turned out.



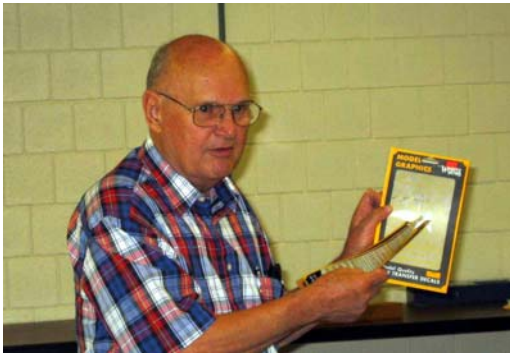
JEFF HERNE showed a resin model of the Japanese cruiser, the *Tone*.



TECH SESSION

KEN SCHUETZ gave a talk on his techniques for producing name boards on models using dry transfer lettering on decal paper. The talk was a bit too detailed to digest in these minutes but thankfully Ken distributed a paper explaining his methods in detail.

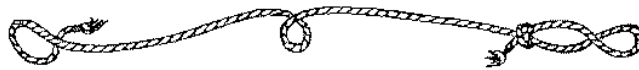
(Editor's Note: Ken's two page handout, which covers sources of material, types of dry transfer letters and procedures to create your own decal, has been included in the online version of the Broadaxe.)



Ken shows the members the dry transfer letters he uses



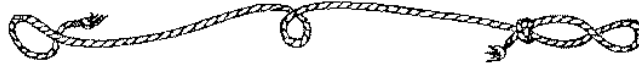
It's not easy getting the letters straight freehand!



FROM THE EDITOR

One of the more difficult tasks I am finding as editor is choosing which of the many pictures Tom Ruggiero provides me with each month. I would love to include them all but the size of the file would be enormous! Thank you, Tom, for giving me so much to work with. In the batch of pictures from the July meeting were pictures of three ships that had not been included in Show & Tell. Two of them I remember seeing and I believe they were built by **Martin Quinn**. The third vessel, I am sad to say, I don't remember seeing. In any event, I include them here because they are well worth seeing again. Can you identify them? If not by name, then type of vessel? Good luck!





"Soundings from D Deck"

As I noted in the last issue of the *Broadaxe*, this section is a general sounding board for the members. I am somewhat disappointed that I have not received **any** feedback from owners of "precision" miniature table saws with their opinions of their tool. I hope that this will change as I feel that an in-house review of these table saws will be of benefit to many of us.

I received an e-mail from Stan Sinowitz (and thank you all for pointing out that he was sitting in front of me!). Stan has a client who is interested in obtaining a model of an ocean capable Chinese Junk and the Danish Training Ship *Danmark*. As Stan put it, his client would like bigger rather than smaller. If you happen to have either of these models available for sale, please contact Stan at 201-342-1220 or by e-mail at FiddlersGreenModelShips@hotmail.com.

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.

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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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Mark your Calendar

Nautical Research Guild Conference

Portland, ME

September 14 -19, 2004

THE BROADAXE

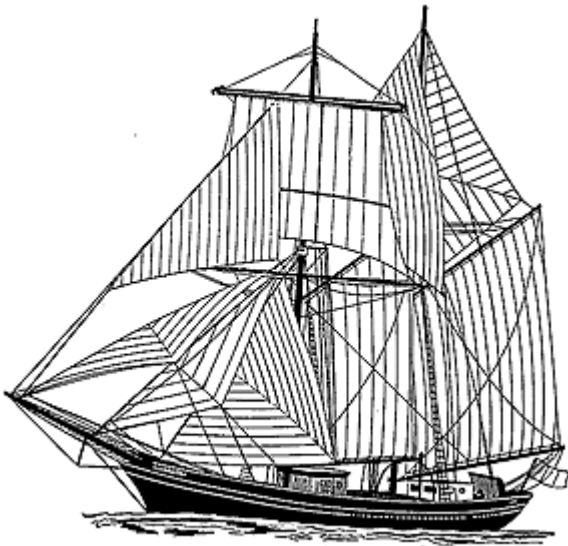
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NEXT MEETING:

August 24, 2004

7:30 PM

**MILLBURN PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Tech Session:

**To Be
Announced**