

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



Volume 30, Number 6

June, 2012

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
June 25, 2012**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 with 28 members present. **Bob Fivehouse** chaired the meeting. We are sad to note that **Tom McGowan** missed his last meeting as vice-president. We thank him for his efforts on our behalf and hope to see him at the next meeting.

All members present confirmed that they are getting club e-mails on a regular basis. Please notify the secretary if you are not getting the Broadaxe and other communications that are forwarded on occasion. We are trying to eliminate the mailing of hard copies of the Broadaxe, preferring to instead send you the beautiful color edition by e-mail.

(A few days after this meeting, **Dennis Powell** sent the executive committee a rundown of mailing expenses for the last five months. Those expenses averaged \$43.50 a month or just over \$500 a year. A black and white copy of the Broadaxe, printed both sides, is mailed to 19 members every month. The cost of that mailing to each of those members is \$26.30; that is \$6.30 more than their dues. At the July meeting we will explore ways to remedy that imbalance.)

The minutes, as presented in the Broadaxe, were accepted and in the absence of complaint, (or, in spite of it) the Broadaxe will continue in its current format.

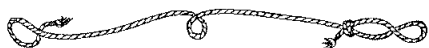
**Al Geigel** presented his final treasurer's report including a summation of our finances after the Northeast Joint Club's conference. Taking into account such items as payments for the Jim Roberts award plaque, refunds, and sales of commemorative mugs, Al was relieved to tell us that the club basically broke even. Not mentioned in his report was the unpaid effort put in by him and the other conference committee members and their wives; **Ed** and **Joan Hegstetter**, **Michael Storch**, **Tom** and **Clara Ruggiero**, and **Al** and **Joan Geigel**. We thank you.

**Bob Fivehouse**, **Al Geigel**, and **Tom McGowan** have completed their terms of office and with the sincere

thanks of the membership they return to the other side of the table and will watch as the new board struggles to live up to the high standards they have set. Tom, we hope that in your imagination you can hear the round of sincere applause given the board by the members attending. Thanks again guys for your sometimes under-appreciated efforts.



**Larry Friedlander** has served one term as the club's secretary making him eligible for a second term. The club unanimously requested that Larry seek a second term as secretary [club photography, author of the Broadaxe, one of the driving forces of the Hannah group, etc., etc.]



### OLD BUSINESS

**Tom Ruggiero** reminded us that in addition to hats he is now selling commemorative mugs. Each mug sells for four dollars; this is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity ... get them while they're watertight. It was (facetiously) suggested that new members pay \$40 membership dues for the first year and receive a hat and a mug. Tom is exploring the possibility of ordering golf shirts with an embroidered club logo. Estimated cost would be between \$30 and \$40. If you're interested please let Tom know at the next meeting.

**Michael Storch** asked the group if there was an interest in a club picnic or other form of get together. Bob five house suggested that maybe this year we get together in a situation where all the attendees provide food for the group with just a minimal charge for beverages. A majority of the members attending raised their hands to indicate that they would be interested in some kind of social get together. **Tom Ruggiero** suggested forming a committee and three members volunteered: **Mason Logie**, **Dennis Powell** and **Dick Berg** volunteered.

The nominating committee's slate of **Tom Ruggiero**, **Chuck Passaro** and **Ken Schuetz** has agreed to fill the roles of president, vice president and treasurer respectively. **Larry Friedlander** agreed to continue on in his role as secretary.

**Bob Fivehouse** asked if there were any members present who wish to put themselves forward for any of those positions. No hands were raised and therefore following Roberts's rules of order the secretary cast a single pro forma vote and they were elected to two-year terms.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers:

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Tom Ruggiero</b>      | President      |
| <b>Chuck Passaro</b>     | Vice President |
| <b>Ken Schuetz</b>       | Treasurer      |
| <b>Larry Friedlander</b> | Secretary      |

Ed.'s Note: I would like to also extend my thanks to each of the officers [past and present] on behalf of the NJSMS. Being an officer means wearing multiple hats. For all their services to the club, thank you!



### NEW BUSINESS

**Dennis Powell** brought up the subject of a model ship exhibition in the Somerset area. If you are interested in displaying one or more of your models in the late fall or winter please let Dennis know.

**Roy Goroski** and **Chuck Passaro** have been in touch with Lambert Castle. Right now Lambert Castle is being renovated but they would be interested in an exhibition in the future, preferably linked to the local area. Roy also spoke to some people at Mystic Seaport and inquired about getting someone to speak to the group about the Whaler Charles W Morgan. Roy noticed that one of **Bob Fivehouse's** models is on display in the sales area.

On a positive note, **Bill Farrar** is home and would be very happy to hear from his fellow ship modelers. Bill, be well and we looking forward to seeing you again at our monthly meetings.



### WEBSITE & LENDING LIBRARY

Website: <http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org/>

#### Lending Library:

<http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org/club-library.php>

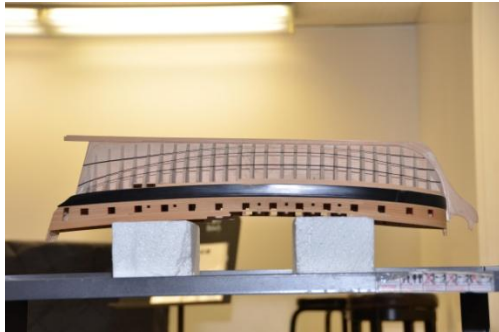
Every month our club receives 20 to 30 online requests for books, publications and plans from our library; few if any of which are from members. Posting the contents of the library online seems to create a problem without being a service to the members. If this situation continues, it might make sense to remove the library from our website. It would still be available to members but would not cause difficulties for the webmaster.



### BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS



## TECH SESSION



**Chuck Passaro** presented a tech session on planking. Chuck has finished planking one side of his model of the *Winchelsea* and is taking this opportunity to show us how he does it. Chuck planks in two stages. The first is lining off the ship's hull, which creates a planking plan. The second part is sizing and spiling your planks and fastening them to the hull. Beginning modelers have problems because they don't take into account the changing width and shape of the planks as they approach the ends of the model. A ship's hull is rounded and therefore the planks must be shaped to fit a curved surface. In addition to having a curved shape, they must also be made wider or narrower as the distance from the keel to the top of the planks changes. Looking at contemporary models shows us how the planks were shaped to achieve a fair run from stem to stern. If the planks are shaped properly there should be little or no need for drop planks or stealers. Drop planks occur where the planks become so narrow that one is used to replace two planks and stealers occur where the planks become so wide that two planks are needed to fill the space of one. Chuck uses very narrow graphic tape to divide his hull into four belts. The stickiness of the tape allows Chuck to move the tape across the hull until he has achieved a "fair run" for each of the belts. Tick strips are then used to divide each segment of the belts into equal widths and those measurements are used to form planks to the proper dimensions. A much more complete discussion of this process, written by Chuck Passaro for his upcoming book, can be found on the club's website.

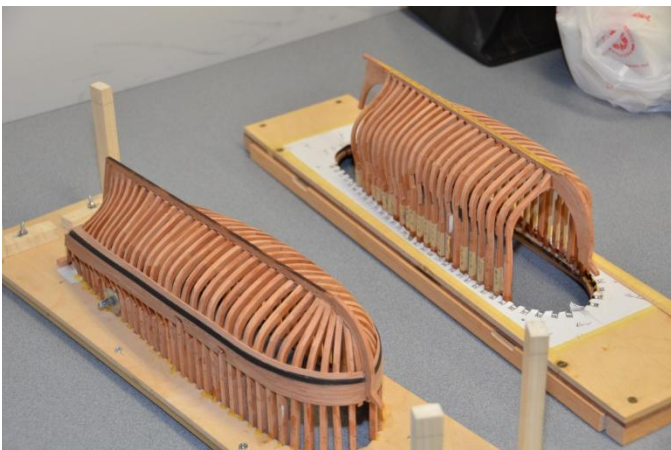
<http://www.shipmodelsocietyofnewjersey.org/downloads.php>





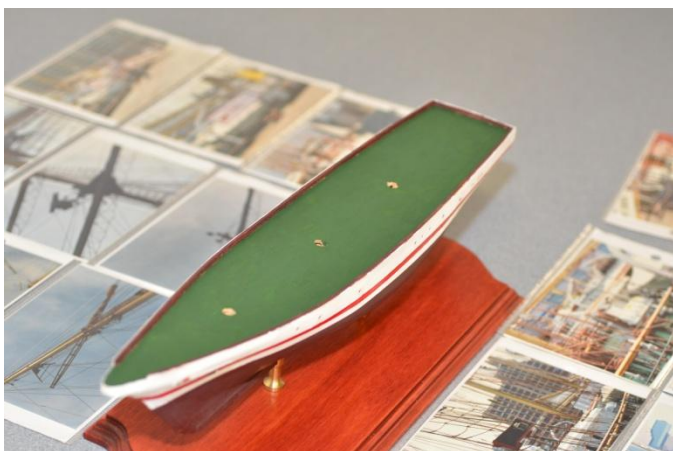


## SHOW AND TELL





**Don Otis** continues to demonstrate his interest in ships designed and built in Eastern Europe by bringing in his model of the *Iskra* (Spark), a Polish sail training ship built in 1982 for their naval academy and designed by Zygmunt Choron. Zygmunt Choron is a designer of many ships, but the *Iskra* is the only one for which Don could get model plans. The *Iskra* participated in the 1992 ops sail event held in the Hudson River and Don was able to get many detailed photographs. Don's model is 19 inches long, four and a half inches wide and is built to a scale of 1/8 inch to the foot. His plank on bulkhead hull has plating simulated with Bristol board. The deck of Don's model is painted grass-green to simulate the use of an Astroturf like surface on the actual ship. Choron was known for his innovative use of modern materials in shipbuilding. The *Iskra* is a classic example of this.



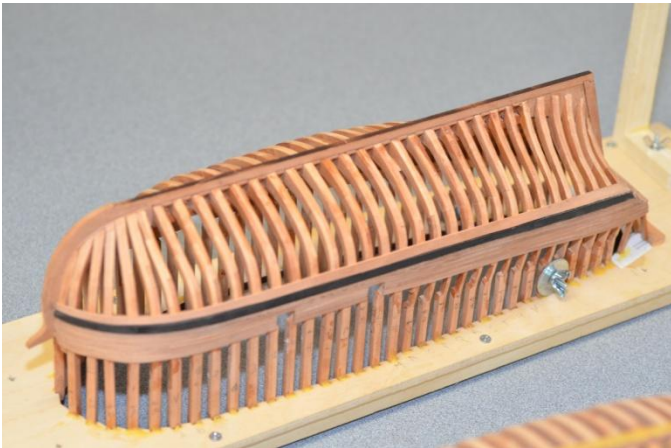
Over 500 whaling barks were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, some in New Bedford Mass. **Henry Schaefer** has brought in his full hull, plank on frame model of an 1838 whaling bark as a generic example of the type, which he has been working on for a year and a half. Henry modified Model Shipways *Charles W Morgan* kit. Henry added details such as a roof over the try-works and oars for the whaleboats. Each member of a whaleboat crew had his own set of oars marked with stripes and Henry has included this detail. Henry coppered the models hull and gave it a patina using a solution sold by Bluejacket.







**Tom Ruggiero** and **Dennis Powell** brought in their models of the *Hannah*. Tom has finished most of the side and counter planking and will soon begin working on the fashion pieces and taf-rail. The fashion pieces cover (hood) the ends of the planking so that they don't become soaked and distorted. Dennis has finished the whole frames and will now begin installing the cant frames at the stem and the stern. When Tom completes the external planking he will cut the hull free from the building jig and then remove the frame extensions.



**Al Geigel** is working on the Chuck Passaro designed kit of the pinnacle circa 1750-60. A pinnacle is a rowboat used to ferry officers from ship to shore. The quarter-inch scale, plank on frame model is 7 inches long and 2 inches wide. Al intends to man his pinnacle with scale figures which he has never done before.

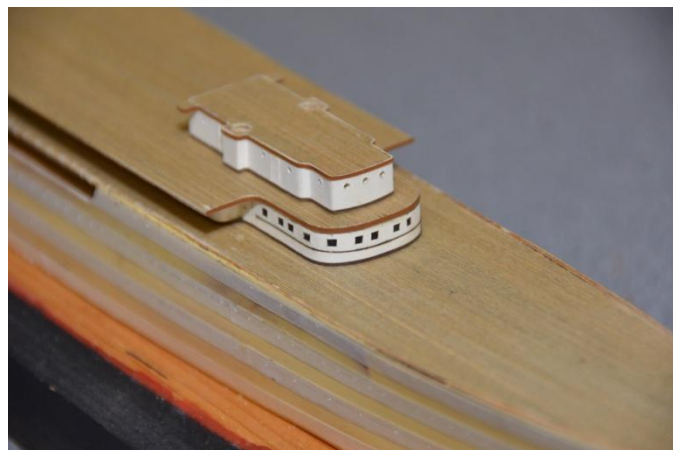




In or around 1934 **John Marinovich's** uncle Tony build a “pond” sailboat. It is believed to be a model of a “J-boat”, one of the America's Cup contenders of the 1930s. This model was raced on New York City's Central Park boat pond during the same time. The model is hollow and scratch built and originally had sails of Egyptian cotton. It is 49 inches long 14 inches wide and 7 feet high. The hull is made out of one piece of a lighter's mast, which was beautifully hollowed out. The boom has a triangular cross-section and travelers so that the sail could be adjusted. John will use the Internet to find out when the “Lucky 2” raced. A model with this large a sail requires a very heavy keel and the Lucky 2's lead keel therefore weighs 37 pounds. A “Central Park rig” controlled the model.



When built in 1893, the Cunard lines *Campania* was the fastest, largest ship afloat. **Bob Fivehouse** built his model to his usual 32nd of an inch to the foot scale. The notches cut into the hull are for the lifeboat stanchions. Since stockless anchors were just coming into use the *Campania* didn't have them so Bob will make working models of the older style anchors. The *Campania* had very large, 19-foot diameter, round smokestacks and a lot of cowled ventilators. The raised bridge has no building under it so it was supported on metal stanchions, which will provide an interesting modeling challenge. The *Campania* was eventually sold for scrap but before she could be demolished she was bought by the Royal Navy and transformed into the first aircraft carrier. She sank two weeks before the end of the First World War when her anchor chains parted in a storm and she drifted across the Scapa Flow harbor until she impaled herself on the ram-bow of *HMS Ramilles*.





## HANNAH GROUP

The next Hannah group met will be held on August 11th at **Barry Rudd's** house.



## CANDID SHOTS







Before the meeting adjourned **Bob Fivehouse** delivered a few parting words. He thanked the membership for the good work they have done in putting on shows, conventions and picnics and wished the incoming board well.

We in turn thank him for four years of patience, wit, good humor and auction skills and we hope we'll have the benefit of those qualities for many years to come. Thank you Bob, tiny models but a big heart.

Welcome aboard Tom, Chuck and Ken, fair winds and calm seas...

Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome in the Broadaxe. Please submit them to Larry Friedlander.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

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 \$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 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.

The **Broadaxe** is written by **Larry Friedlander**, edited by **Michael Storch**, and distributed by **Dennis Powell**.

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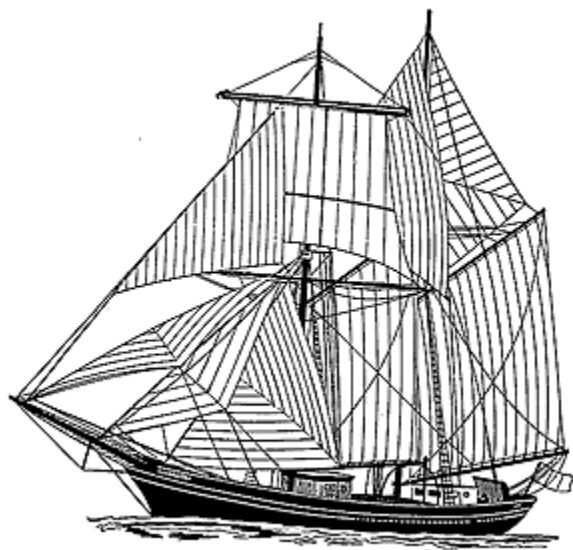
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**NEXT MEETING:**

**July 23, 2012**

**7:30 PM**

**MILLBURN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

**Bring Your Models**  
**[Finished or Unfinished]**