



# THE BROADAXE

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



Volume 27, Number 9

September, 2009

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING August 25, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President **Bob Fivehouse** at 7:25 PM with 16 members in attendance. We had no visitors this evening.

Comments, questions and or corrections to the August issue of the Broadaxe were requested. There being no corrections, the August 2009 issue of the Broadaxe was accepted into the minutes.

**Al Geigel** presented his Treasurer's Report to the members. There being no discussion or comments on the report, the Treasurer's Report was accepted into the minutes.

**Henry Schaefer** reminded the members that models are to be dropped off at the Ocean County Library on September 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 2 PM. Since this is the Labor Day weekend, a second drop off date has been added. You may also drop off your models on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 2 PM as well. Henry also said that you should go to the back of the library by the loading docks and take the elevator to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The display will be in the History Room and will run until October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Ossie Thalmann** stated that he is still getting comments from the Parsippany Library about how great the model display was and they hope we will be back soon.

**Bob Fivehouse** mentioned that he received an email from Michael Storch regarding a workshop that David Antscherl will be running

immediately after the NRG Conference in Buffalo. The same discount hotel rate will be available as for the NRG. Further details can be obtained from **Michael Storch** via email at [mstorch@stro.com](mailto:mstorch@stro.com).



## TECH SESSION

**Ernest Connor** presented a method he has used to construct oars for the ship's boats he has made for many of his models. No power tools are used in the process at all. The basic material for the oars is inexpensive bamboo toothpicks available in the Dollar Store. The blade is made from scrap planking material left over from a model kit. Ernest scores the toothpick at two points and then carefully slices away material on the outside of the scored lines. He then rounds the thinned sections with very fine sandpaper. Ernest pointed out that this sanding must be done delicately; otherwise you will break the oar. Using a small piece of scrap planking, Ernest thins it by scraping it with the edge of a single edge razor blade. All of this work is done by eye until it "looks right" in comparison to the ship's boat. Cyano is used to attach the blade to the oar handle. A little bit of additional sanding and with a snip of a fingernail clipper on the blade to give it a curved end, your oar is now complete. Great job, Ernest, thanks!



## SHOW AND TELL

**Don Otis** brought in his completed model of the *Grossherzog Friedrich August*, a German sail training ship built in 1914. The model is scratch built using plank on bulkhead construction at 1/8" = 1' scale. The sails are set to suggest a good wind coming across from the starboard quarter. Don spent some time explaining his approach to constructing a model in that he works from the middle out and from the stern forward. The sails are worked from top to bottom. Careful review of the plans and the model help to plan belaying points for the rigging which in some cases need to be done first at the belaying point and then run up to the yards as life boats and other deck furniture would make tying off the running rigging very difficult once these components are in place.

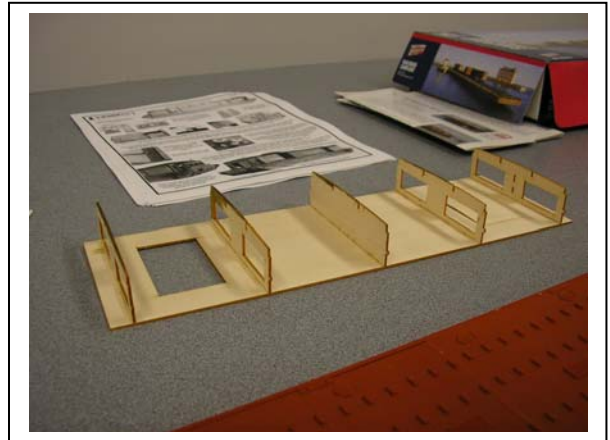


**Tony Alworth** had on hand *Katy C*, a Virginia pilot boat built around 1800. This type of vessel was used by both the American and British Navies as pilot and dispatch boats. This is a Model Shipways kit in 1/4" scale with a solid pre-carved hull. Tony stated that with any solid hull kit with bulwarks, the first thing he does is remove the bulwarks and replace them with wood strip planks, waterways and timberheads. The deck planking was installed using individual strips of the correct scale width. Tony felt that this is a very nice kit with excellent plans and building notes.



**Mason Logie** continues to build up his fleet of barges for his planned diorama. This evening he had two barges that he is currently working on. They are both in HO scale. The first is a railroad car float of the New Haven Railroad of 1950. The barge is 300' long. This model is a plastic kit. The barge transported railroad cars

around New York Harbor from the 1950's to the 1970's. One is still used by the New York Dock Railroad. The second model will be a covered railroad barge of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. It is also a kit of plank on bulkhead construction.



The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**September – October 2009 - Model display at Ocean County Library, Toms River, NJ**

**October 6-11, 2009 – NRG Conference, Buffalo, NY**



## FROM THE EDITOR

Have you ever noticed how some authors of nautical books assume that the reader is as familiar with certain terms as the writer is? They'll rattle off terms and phrases that leave me puzzled and then don't include any glossary to help landlubbers like me understand what the heck they just said. I find it as bad as reading a William F. Buckley editorial, which often requires one to have a hefty dictionary on hand in order to be not totally lost. One such book is the "Gaff Rig Handbook" by John Leather and published by Woodenboat. I found myself googling the parts of a sail on the internet to help me figure out what I had just read. Just too many terms were being thrown out at once for me to easily picture what the author was describing. Whether or not I'll remember the terms the next time I come across them remains to be seen. If not, I guess I'll have to do a Google search again! On the following page I have a drawing of a triangular sail. Test your knowledge of the parts of a sail by matching the letters with the names. Hopefully you can do better than me and not have to do an internet search!

*Mike Gutsick*

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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 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 e-mail. Handwritten notes or other materials will be considered depending on the amount of editing and preparation involved.

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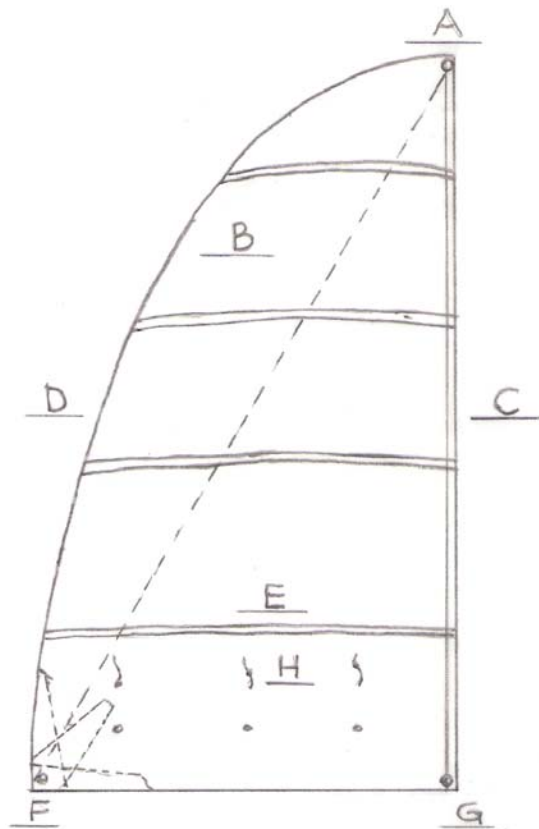
##### **WEBMASTER:**

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**Can you identify the parts of the Sail?**

Match the letters on the sail with their correct names:

- Leech \_\_\_\_\_
- Reef Point \_\_\_\_\_
- Luff \_\_\_\_\_
- Head \_\_\_\_\_
- Roach \_\_\_\_\_
- Clew \_\_\_\_\_
- Foot \_\_\_\_\_
- Batten \_\_\_\_\_
- Tack \_\_\_\_\_



*Answers: Leech - D; Reef Point - H; Luff - C; Head - A; Roach - B; Clew - F; Batten - E; Tack - G; Foot - has no letter - it is between F and G*

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# *THE BROADAXE*

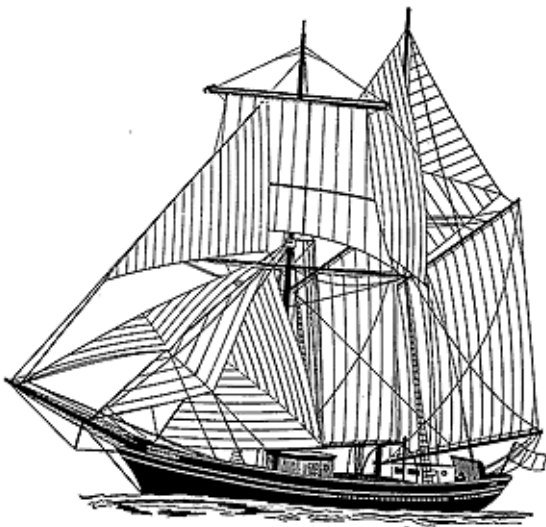
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**NEXT MEETING:**

**September 22, 2009**

**7:30 PM**

MILLBURN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

Tech Session

**To Be Announced**