

Ship's Log

TampaBayShipModelSociety

Meeting of April 23, 2018

TampaBayShipModelSociety.org

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Meetings

are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except December (none).

Location

is the lower level of Trinity Lutheran Church, 411-5th St. N., St. Petersburg. From I-275, Exit at I-375 East to second exit (4th Ave. N.). Proceed to traffic light at 5th St. N., turning left. Church is on right. Parking is to the left of the church.

Objectives

This Society is an organization of model builders, historians and artists who encourage the construction of nautical models, creation of marine art, and research in maritime history, at every level of expertise, through the exchange of ideas and presentations.

Membership

There is no charge to attend meetings, and all interested parties are invited. Annual dues are \$12. payable in **January**.

Presentations

Members and guests are encouraged to bring in projects current and past, plans, modeling problems or maritime-related items of interest for discussion, or inclusion in the *Ship's Log*.

Next Meeting
Tuesday, May 28, 7:00 p.m.

The regular April meeting was gaveled to order by **Skipper Sobieralski**. He noted a free program at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg, to be presented by David Meares, Sunken Ship Hunter, on 7 May, 7:00, of course, now passed (successfully found ~20 wrecks). "Meares turned his 1986 degree from the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science in physical oceanography into a high profile career of finding lost ships – from a 16th Century caravel that was part of Vasco de Gama's fleet to some of the great maritime tragedies of World War II."

It was also announced that BIG RC planes would fly / will have flown, at Top Gun event in Lakeland, May, 1-5.

Our crew, **Mike Marcus** and **Guy Hancock**, accounted for a couple of sales of the case kits offered by **Henry Rey**, in Ga. Guy has not quite figured at what point the model is to be inserted, in the assembly sequence.

Our past skipper, **Tim Roberts**, has had some health issues, but when your Sec/Ed spoke with him on 5/16 he was on the upswing and sounding positive. Be Well, All!



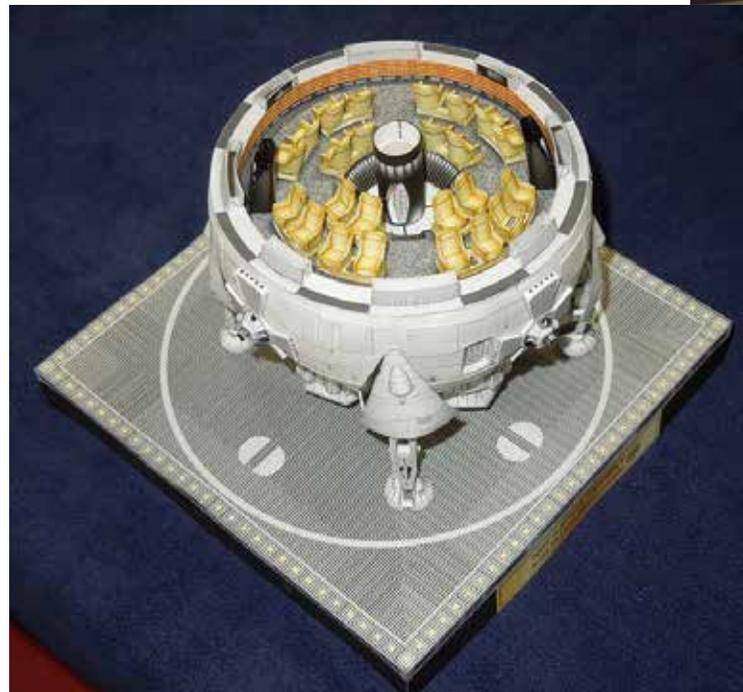
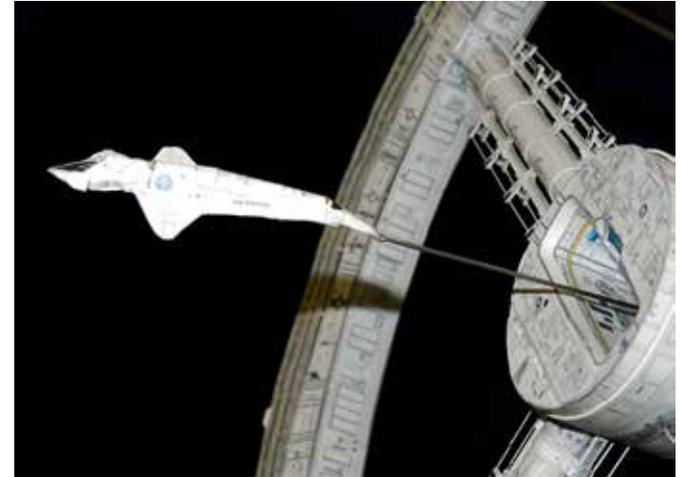
Steve Sobieralski's Arizona based on a TRUMPETER kit Injection-molded, 1/200, 1935 AZ Class. More on page 6.



Show & Tell

Roger Griffith on (Space) Ships in Paper: "The space station from the movie "**2001: a Space Odyssey**" has fascinated me since the film came out in 1968. This second model is made entirely of paper. The design was by a Japanese fellow who loves to create three-dimensional models of famous subjects and was transmitted to me over the Internet. I just had to print it out and assemble (easier said than done). It was printed on card stock. Cutting out all the little frames and girders with an X-Acto knife was a real finger buster. There were 39 pages of tiny parts to be cut and it took a week of tedious work. The model is 1/1,200 scale with a finished diameter of 11 inches. With the space station mounted on a 2-1/2 RPM motor, it replicates the docking scene from the movie.

Also made of paper from the same designer is the Aries 1B, moon shuttle. This was built with a full interior as seen in the movie. The model has fully articulated movable landing gear completely made of paper. The scale of the moon shuttle is about 1/100."



Some photos by Roger.

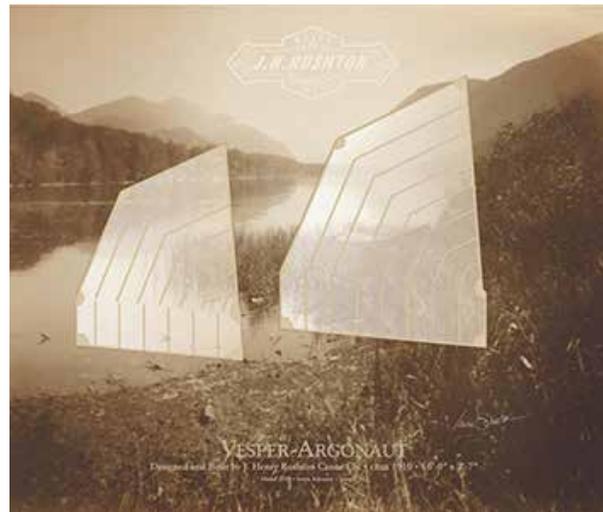
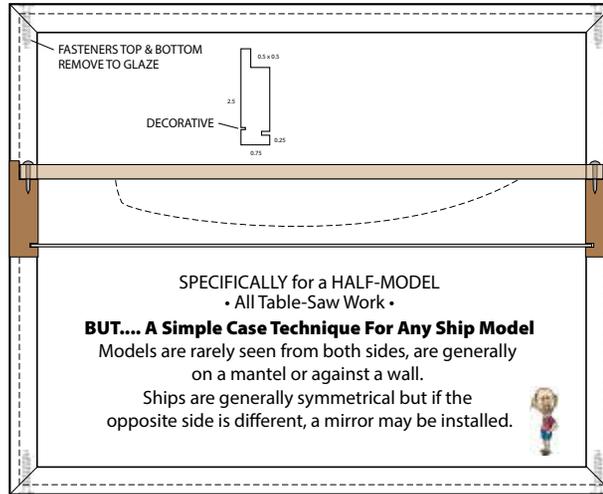


I, your faithful Sec/Ed presented the ongoing *Vesper-Argonaut* half-model, saying, "I am approaching this model hind end foremost it seems, with the encasement finished before the model. I believe I have refined the shadow box to the ultimate, using a single 1 x 3 cedar plank from Home Depot. All work was done on the table saw, as detailed in the drawing. In this case (note the pun), I turned the rustic cedar to the inside for woodsy effect and painted with Home Depot, \$3.27 Behr, 8 oz. matched sample interior paint, achieving what I wanted in only two tries. Glazing By Ace Hdw. for \$8.99.

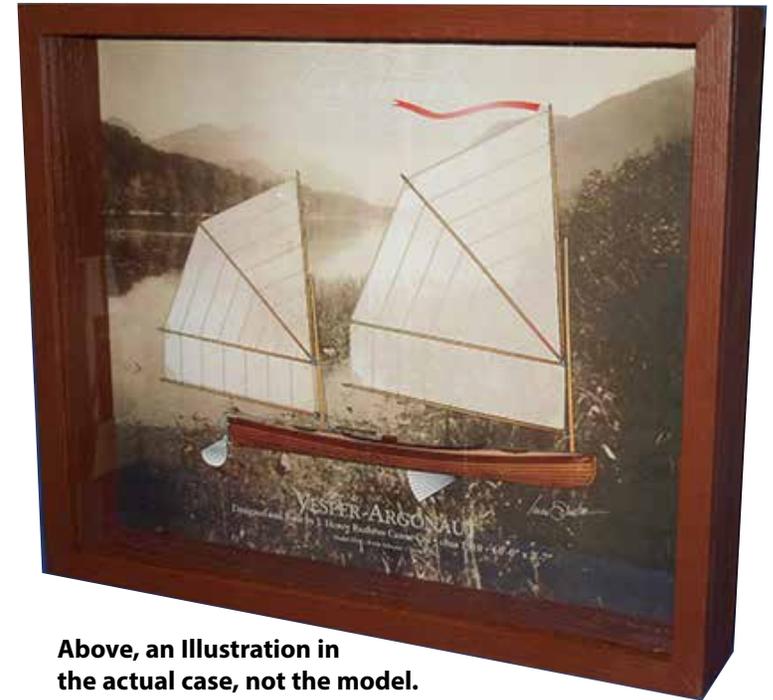
I could make the case (again) for this construction for almost any model, even full hulls, as ships are pretty symmetrical, and if desired, a mirror could be installed as the background, providing a view of the opposite side and lighting by reflection, to boot.

Half spars were accomplished, not by rounding a laminated, 2-piece square and separating the halves. These are too small for that. These were made by shaping a flat panel, half-rounding with the sandpaper-shoe-shine technique, and sawing off with my PREAC. Pennant is soda can (*Sam Adams*) aluminum stock.

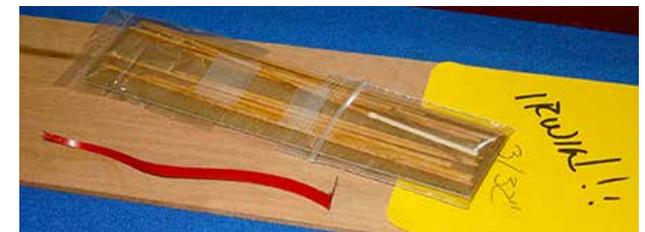
My thanks to **Curtis Miller** for thickness planing or sanding 1/8 x 3 x 24 cherry, down to 3/32" for hull lifts. I plan to cut hull deck profiles and bend them to the sheer line, saw out the cockpit, laminate the stack and shape in the usual way. There will be a centerplate simulating stems and keel. I will probably use silvered paper for most of the rig hardware. Rushton hardware was all copper or brass, nickel-plated. LOA is 9", scale 1/21.33!"



Above, the field to which hull, spars, hardware and rigging will be added.



Above, an illustration in the actual case, not the model.



HALF-ROUND SPARS in small scales

1. Taper Plank
2. Round Edge
3. Saw/Slit Off Spar





Byron Rosenbaum on *Sinbad*

Darriabar: "I am almost finished with the good ship *Darriabar*, designed by my son, Robert Val Rosenbaum. The hull and superstructure design is contemporary elegance. This 3-masted schooner has 6 vertical wings mounted on 3 masts with a boom controlled by computerized commands based on wind speed, wind force and direction. All sails can be reefed automatically. The O.A.L. is 234 ft.

The model is solid carved clear construction wood with paper sails. Overall composition is 12" h x 14" x 3". Finishes are painted acrylic. Mirror completes the half hull into a full appearance. Building time is 2 weeks off and on."

Model is finished and gifted to the designer son BOB. Here are 3 best pictures. Scale 1" = 25 Ft.

(Other son) Michael manipulated the lighting of the profile picture by using an indirect source with the model surrounded by a diffused shower curtain to minimize reflections. It lost the duplicate 3rd dimensional reflection. Michael's quarter view retained the 3 dimensional look.

2. The black background quarter view picture which shows the 3 dimensional look of the hull, was taken in a dark room to minimize and eliminate reflections with the lighting angled so that reflections bounced away from the camera lens. The only lighting was from the aft quarter toward forward, that lost the bow shape.



Photos from Byron.





Brad Murray on Rainbow Fleet Whirligig

progress: "To get the 3 spokes to fit the hub I needed to cut a 1" dia. semi-circle in the end of each spoke. Having previously destroyed a 1" hole saw attempting this on the drill press in aluminum, I now chose to use some 1/16" x 1" bronze flat stock. A metal cutting blade in a jig saw roughed out the shape followed by a rat tail wood rasp and finally finished with sand paper wrapped around a 1" dowel. Clamped to the flange on the hub I drilled through the existing bicycle spoke holes and secured each spoke with two tiny bolts. The fit seems secure and strong enough to not need further reinforcement but in the final assembly I plan to isolate the bronze from the steel with a thin vinyl gasket to discourage any electrolytic corrosion between the dissimilar metals as the finished piece will be living a stones throw from salt water. The next task is cutting three 1/16" x 1/2" wide x 1/2" deep slots on the inside of the rim and tapering the spokes to fit. It's the gift that keeps on giving (me fits of anxiety followed by sublime pleasure)."

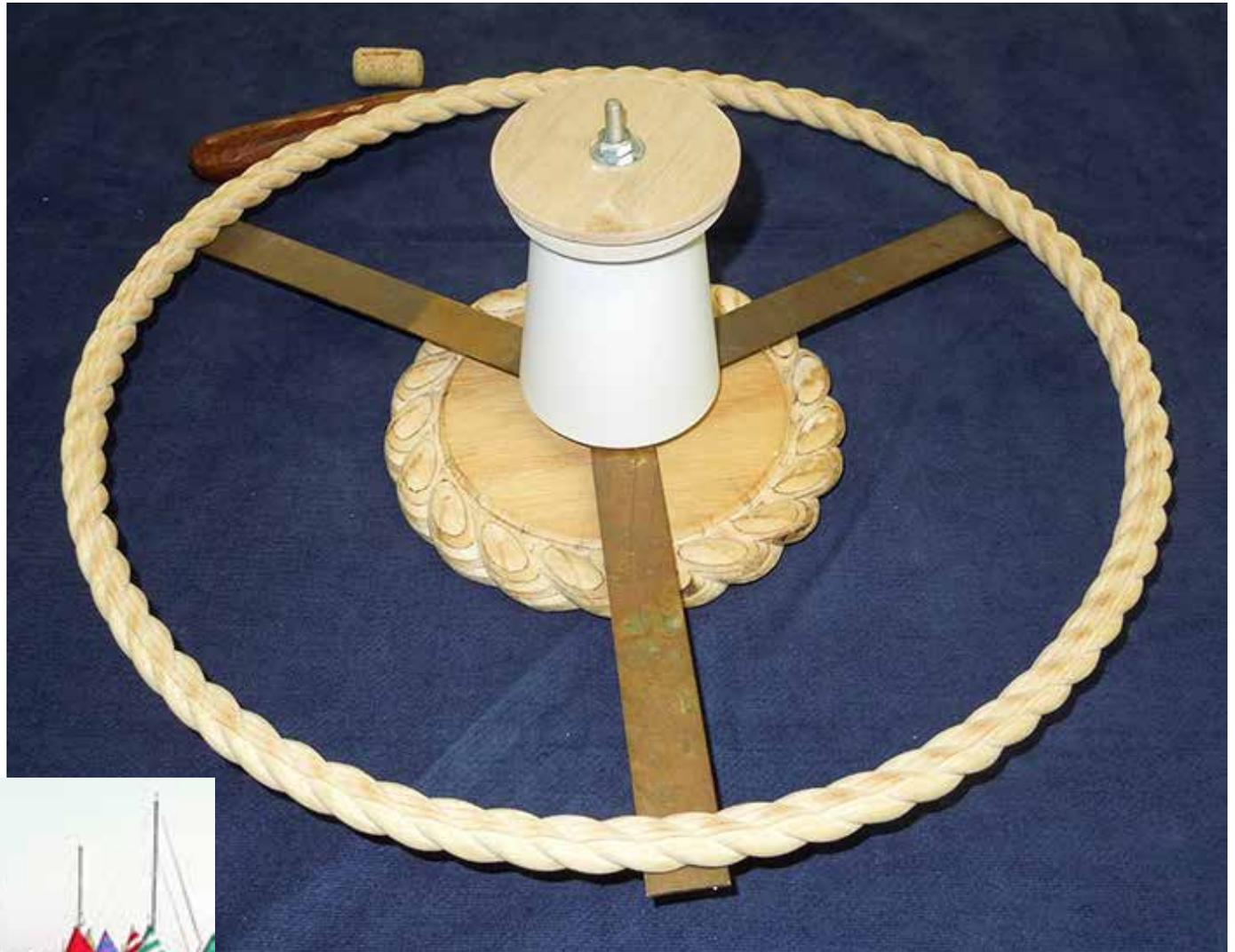


Photo by Michael Galvin.

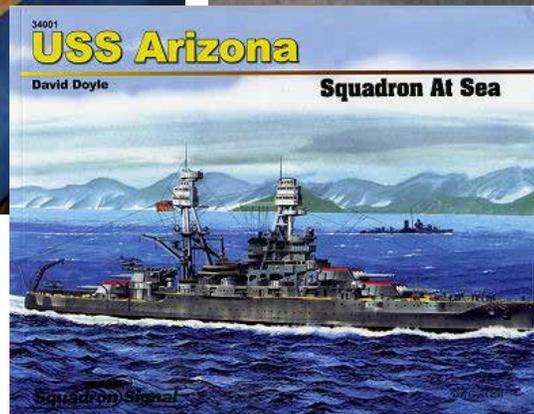
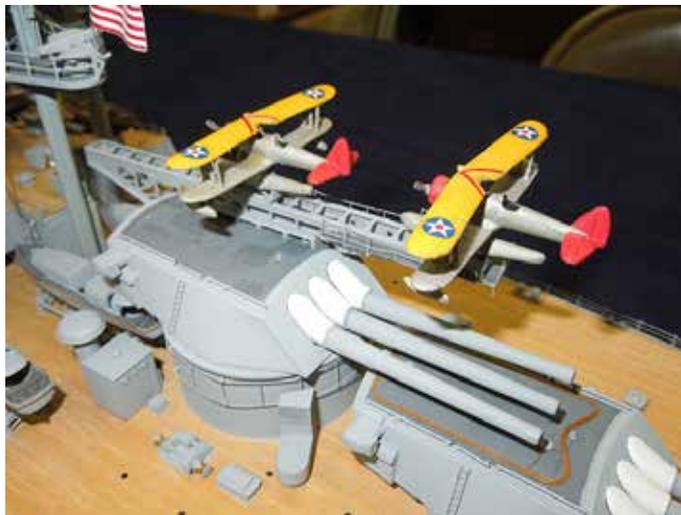


Steve Sobieralski on TRUMPETER's Arizona:

Injection-molded, 1/200, 1935 AZ Class, of which 2 were built, AZ & PA. Turbine engines. "Here is my write up on the *Arizona* model. I have also attached a couple of in-progress photos of the bridge modifications and the deck planking.

This is my 1/200 scale model of the USS *Arizona*, built from the plastic kit by TRUMPETER. Built out of the box the kit represents the ship as she was sunk on the morning of December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor. I revised the kit to show her as she appeared in the mid 1930s, for while the overall configuration of the ship in 1935 was very similar to how she appeared in 1941, there were some subtle differences that made her earlier appearance more appealing to me. I also preferred to show her as she appeared in happier times rather than on the day she was sunk. In addition, there is long standing disagreement among many modelers, researchers and historians concerning whether the ship was painted 5S Sea Blue or 5D Ocean Gray on the morning she was sunk. For the mid-thirties, however, there is no doubt about her color of 5 Standard Navy Gray, so by building the ship to that time frame any controversy regarding her color was avoided.

In addition to the modifications required to back date the ship I also utilized EDUARD photo etch to enhance some areas such as the cranes, catapults and boats, as well as ladders and other minor details. The decks were planked with individual 1/32" x 1/32" x 1" bass wood planks which were lightly stained and sealed. The Vought O2U observation biplanes were 3D printed items sourced from SHAPEWAYS and add a bit of color to the model."



In-progress photos by Steve.



Guy Hancock on snapping acrylic sheet:

"I showed my tools and described success and failure at cutting the acrylic plastic sheet for my display case. I bought a piece of angle iron and that clamps down the plastic securely enough that it won't bow up when I break it. The score lines may need to be a lot deeper to get a clean break. I found a sanding disk in my drill, a good way to square up and trim any rough edges before unclamping it."



Paper shipbuilding carried to the extreme.



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Ed Brut's Report on the April 6th and 7th Pelikan model show and contest: "The show was not as well attended as expected but shown were 200 plus models by 57 competitors. The ship categories were not well represented but there was a number of very well done models. The submarine category was well represented, and our own **George Feher** won first place in the category and best ship for his HMS *Trafalgar* running on the surface. A well done 1/72 scale US *Gato* class sub also was shown. Also the TV series subs from "*Voyage to the bottom of the Sea*" in a nice display. The (Historic) RC boat club did come and display a number of very nice ships of all types. Sailing ships had no ships represented. In all the ships shown were well done, just not much in quantity."





Ship Models as Art vs. Craft – Bloviation on a Raging Controversy

Let us consider first the pure, posed, static ship model. Art, to me, implies creativity, and while much creative thought goes into the solutions of construction problems, none of that should be apparent to the viewer of a ship model. Further, as a scale representation of a prototype vessel or the actualization of plans for one never built, a perfect ship model would not introduce any evidence of “hand”, at all. If multiple builders were to produce scale models of the same subject, I would argue that the more skilled the builders were, the less one would be able to distinguish one’s model from the others. In other words, if the goal is to show a shrunken ship, then they would be identical. If the goal is otherwise, well, to each his own. Speculative models of ships for which no plans exist, are interpretative art.

On the occasions of a builder applying weathering, art does start to creep in, and that brings us to the fuzzy edge of the diorama. A different standard would be applied to dioramas, where interpretation and story-telling become a major part of the presentation. Here, artistic intent and execution of context are definitely in play. What is stranger to observe than a ship under power or sail, with no figures aboard? That is art, albeit poor art (*Mary Celeste* and submarines excepted).

I see this as analogous to art vs. illustration. One is interpretational and communicates to the emotions while the other documents and communicates information and/or instruction.

There is art in producing a quilt of unique design, for instance, but not in making another exactly like it. The second one requires skill, but the product is not art. The person who creates the plates for a dollar bill is an artist. The output is a lot of bucks, not a lot of art. Any representational painting is art because translating three dimensions to two, demands interpretation. A handmade duplicate of that painting is not art. A sculpture of a living thing is art, because it is necessarily interpretational. A sculpture (model) of a building is not. It is a 3D illustration. And so, a pure, static ship model of a documented vessel is craft.

At any rate, that’s the way I see it!

– Irwin Schuster, Tampa, FL

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Please make dues checks to:

Steve Sobieralski, noted as “2019 TBSMS Dues.”

Mail to: 2906 Bay Villa Ave., Tampa, FL 33611

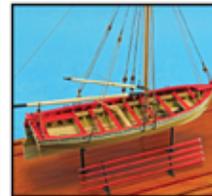
**The 2019 NRG Conference will be October 24 - 26,
at the Whaling Museum in New Bedford, MA.**

THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

“ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH”

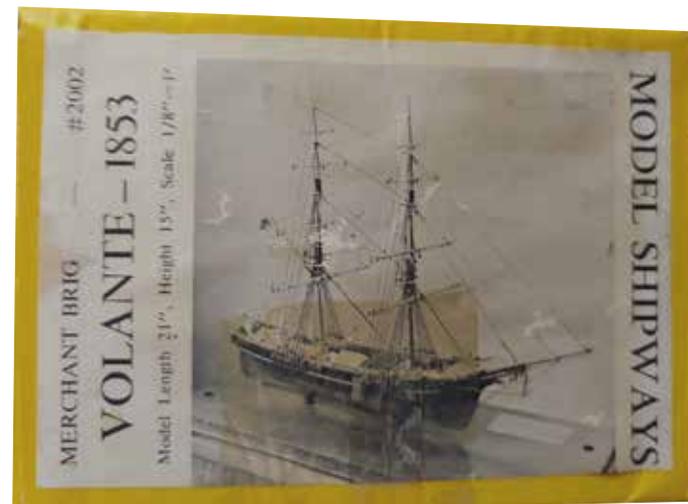
Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, *Nautical Research Journal*, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology and maritime art.

Other benefits include discounts on annual conferences, ship modeling seminars, NRG products and juried model competitions which are offered exclusively to Guild members. We hope you will consider joining our ongoing celebration of model ships and maritime history.



For more information contact us at: www.thenrg.org or call 585 968 8111

Sec/Ed visited the NBWM a few years ago, and it is a greatly improved. Further, The Herreshoff, Mystic and other maritime venues are nearby.



This kit came to our attention from Henry Rey near Savannah, GA. \$29, \$36, \$75 have been asked for same kit.