

Ship's Log

TampaBayShipModelSociety

\$12. DUES ARE DUE!

Meeting of January 25, 2022

TampaBayShipModelSociety.org

The regular January meeting was called to order by **Captain Sobieralski**. Dues were collected from 18 members. **Dues of \$12.00** for the year 2022 were due at the January meeting and (still) may be paid in cash or by check. If writing a check please, make it out to **Steve Sobieralski**.

Checks made out to Tampa Bay Ship Model Society cannot be accepted.

New Business: **Charlie Gravalles** proposed that the TBSMS meetings be moved up to 10:00 a.m. to allow more time before the traditional lunch at The Hollander Tap. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Old Business: TBSMS By-laws require annual re-approval. (It's in the By-laws.) A vote was taken and the By-laws were certified without change.

Captain Sobieralski proposed that **Irwin Schuster**, holding the position of Sec/Ed for the past 16 (approx) years be made "Emeritus" - non dues paying. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Your Sec/Ed, searching for possible additional benefits, found that the title applies to retired folks. Was I booted? This requires some clarification.

Remember the new 10:00 meeting start time!

President & Treasurer Steve Sobieralski

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Meetings

are held at **10:30 a.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 payable in **January**.

Presentations

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

Next Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 22 10:00 a.m.



Chuck LaFave accepted a partial *La Candelaria* that, when complete, will look about like the above. This is an OCCRE, 1/85 kit.

"The Candelaria is a Mediterranean bomb vessel, the size of a brig but broader and with two masts: the main mast is positioned almost in the center with a round rig (?) and the small mizzen mast has a gaffsail. Between the main mast and the forecastle are the mortars. The ship was designed to work as a floating battery (for blockading ports or forts.)"



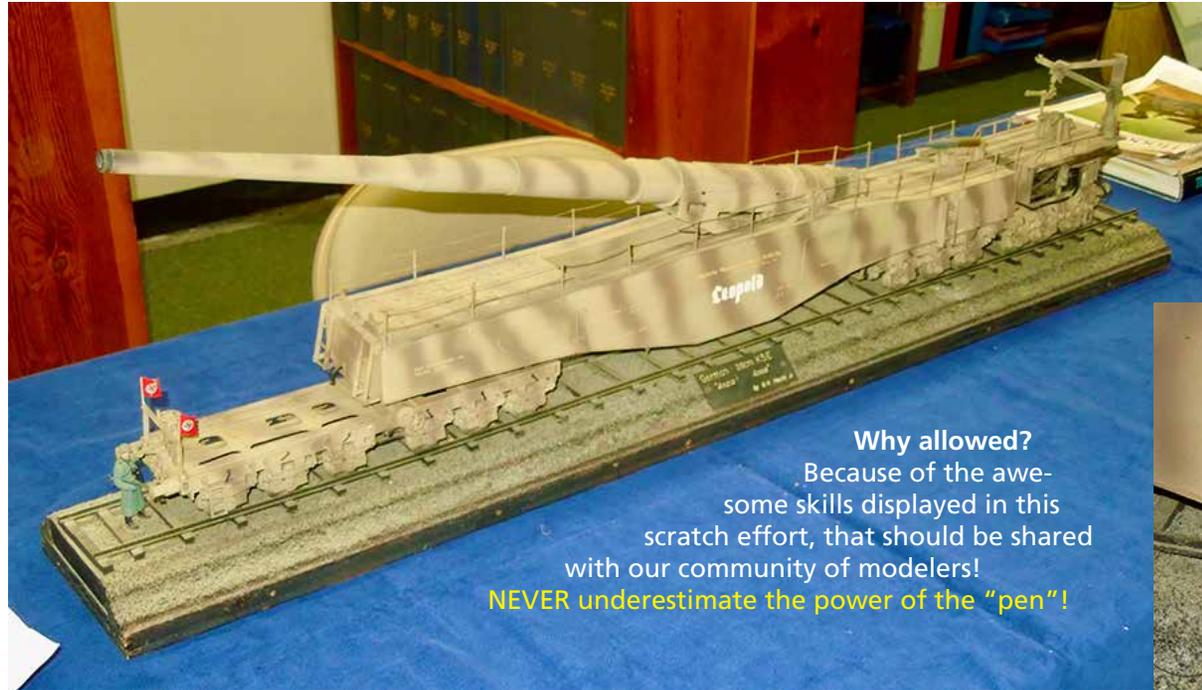
Show & Tell

George Hecht Reports on a RR Gun: "I know, this is a ship club, but, the real one of these fired a shell from France to England over the English Channel, so it has some nautical theme. I saw the real gun at Aberdeen Proving Ground in 1971. Then, I found a fellow who had a set of blueprints and the rest is history.

It took about 6 months to build, from plastic card and Plastruct™! The barrel was a problem due to the lack of suitable materials (*Hey George – ever hear of wood?*). I had a friend who worked at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. They had a new material called Delrin® and could I use some? I didn't know it was a classified material. I turned it on a lathe and BOOM, I had a barrel.

Other stuff used were tank wheels, hypodermic needles for the elevating unit, truck parts for the generating unit and all manner of stuff from the spares box. Painted just like the real thing, and I used a Leroy Lettering Set to engrave on the body of the gun.

It is, hands down, the best model I have ever built and probably ever will."



Why allowed?
Because of the awesome skills displayed in this scratch effort, that should be shared with our community of modelers!
NEVER underestimate the power of the "pen"!

280mm (7 ft.) shell, Delrin® barrel Scratch!, ~\$250 in materials.

George admits it is not nautical, but was designed to shoot across the English Channel; Allowed.



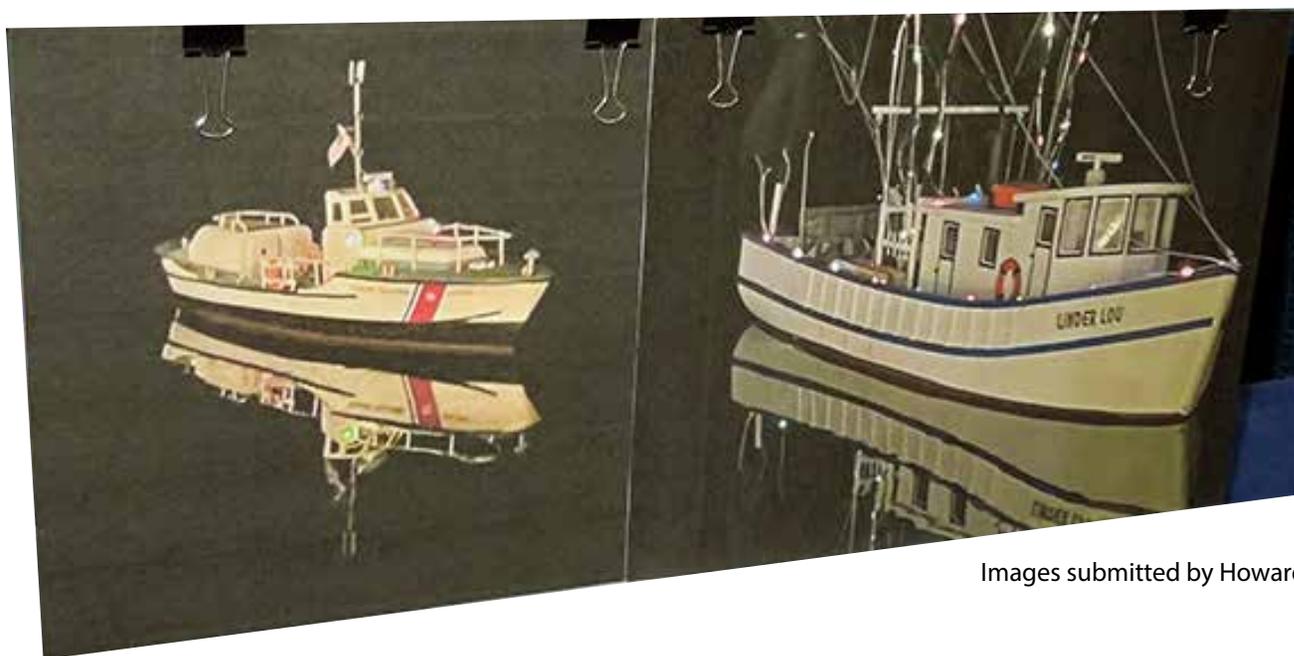


Howard Howe on Christmas Eve Boat Parade, 2022:

"Christmas Eve we had a family get together at my son's home which is on a large retention pond and small dock in the back yard. With a great weather forecast, I decided to provide a boat parade by lighting my model shrimp boat and using the Coast Guard boat for patrol!"

I located a string of 50 warm white LED lights that was 16 ft long and battery operated, that could be set for blinking. I hand painted the lights red, blue, and green. I temporarily installed the string of lights which was long enough to cover the gunwale and outrigger structure.

The seas were calm, no arrest were made, and everyone enjoyed the parade."



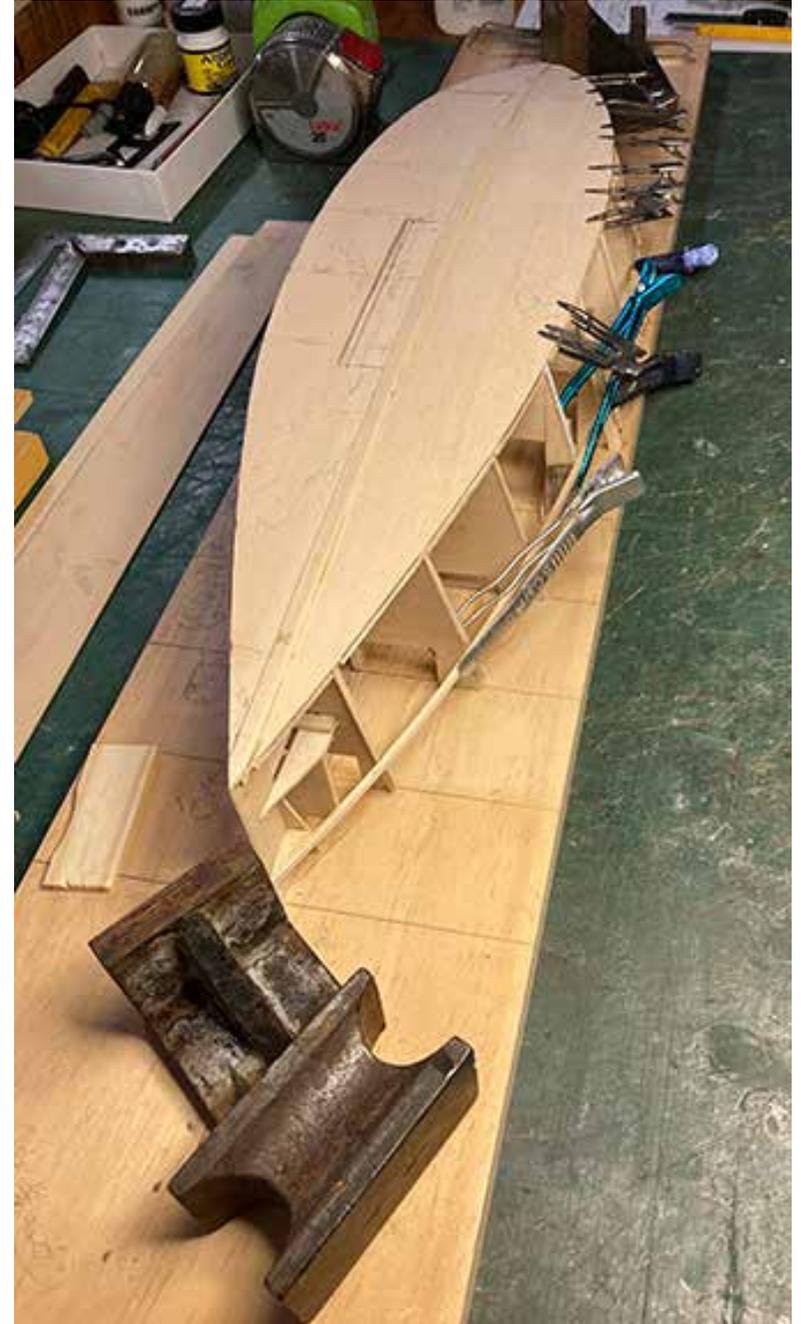
Images submitted by Howard



Bob Johnson on *Lightfoot*: "Just starting a 1"=1' model of a cat ketch (21' long) that was also a launch (hidden 6hp outboard motor) that I designed and built at home in 1976, that we called *Lightfoot*, that (indirectly) lead to my creating ISLAND PACKET YACHTS. May have something related to share for next meeting, but not sure. However I will bring a book I bought (for two dollars) at our Largo library called "The History If Ships" by a mister Kemp...\$2 well spent! English author so one must accept that perspective, but full of great images and info that I would think our group would be very interested in reading.



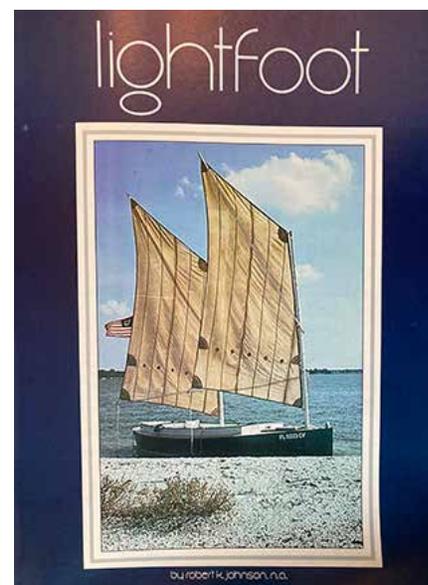
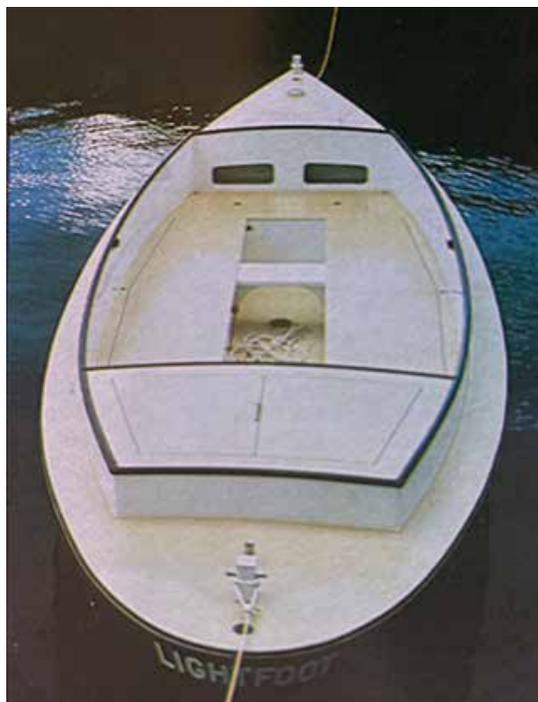
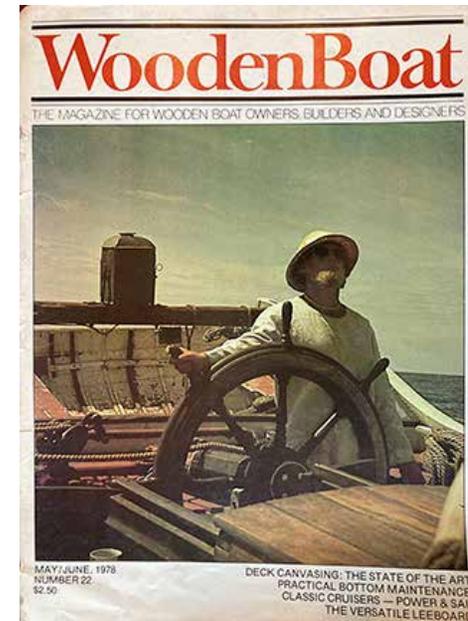
These images provided by Bob.



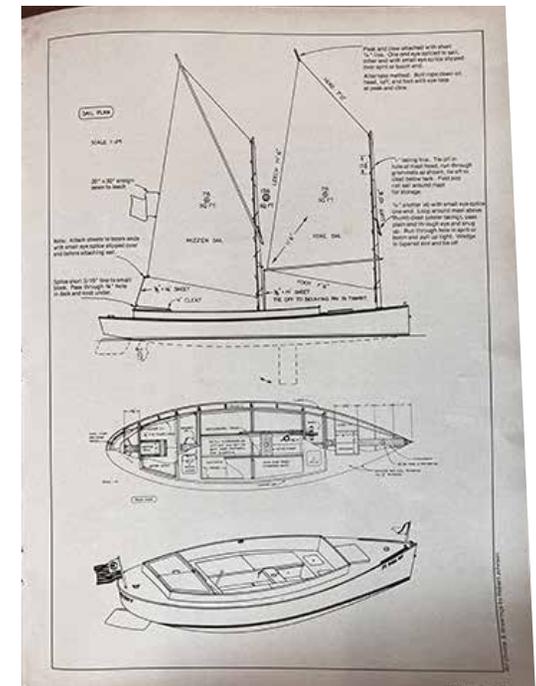


I designed and made a (wood) *Lightfoot* about 47 years ago (in our carport) for our family's use. Sold lots of plan sets for home construction and got some favorable press. Eventually made fiberglass molds and sold them either completed or in kit form. Evolved to become a business that became ISLAND PACKET YACHTS. (IPY was a DBA for our actual company name of TRADITIONAL WATERCRAFT, Inc.). Could not have anticipated every step along the way but in retrospect it all made sense.

Just decided to (finally) make a model of *Lightfoot* (basswood). Photos are current...not really ready to bring to next meeting but I will bring plans and related stuff. Note offset slot for a "centerboard" drawn on bottom...worked very well with no perceptible difference on either tack. Trunk was integral with port footwell side so virtually no lost interior space). Enclosed outboard motor well aft of cockpit (6hp)...used as a launch or cat ketch...spars stowed under cockpit seats."



These images provided by Bob (Except upper left)





Chuck LaFave on DOMANOFF WORKSHOP PL4 Series Czech PL4 "endless" rope making machine with traverse:

- 2-, 3- or 4-stranded;
- With/without the core;
- Plain laid or cable laid;
- Left or right lay.

PL4-3: makes 2-, 3-stranded ropes, no core:

PL4-4: makes 2-4-stranded ropes, with/without core;

Package Contents:

PL4-x automated machine with traverse
Built-in programmable Smart Control Unit
EU power supply***.

SM4 Series Serving Machine

- serving rope
- making beackets,
- stropping blocks,
- making eye-splices,
- laying seizings,
- making stay mouse (diamond knot),
- other jobs where one rope is to be wound

Special design allows you to serve extra long ropes with or without "endless" option. Motor option helps to automate serving process.

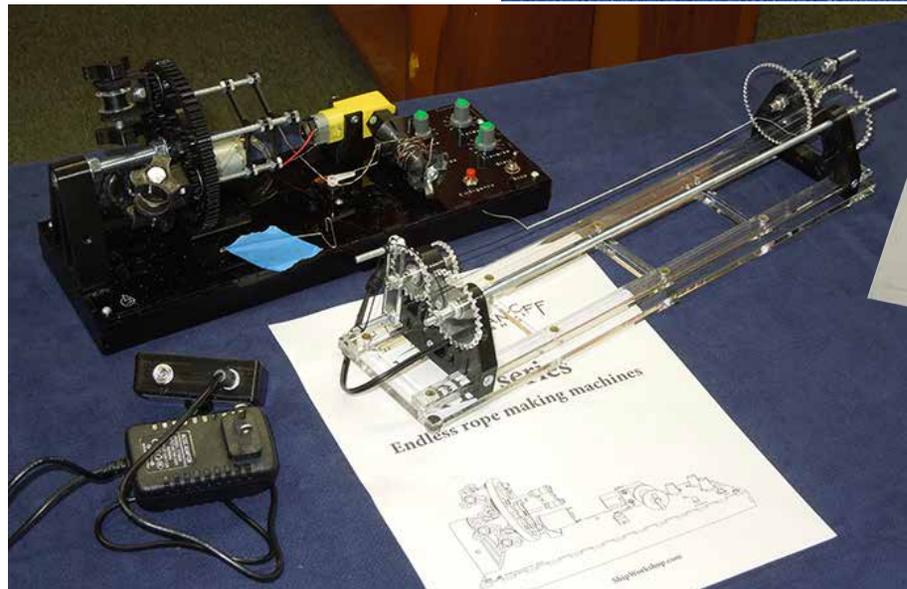
New "rail" design allows you to move cheeks to any desired position along the length of the machine.

Package Contents:

- Serving machine.
- Hooked wires for making beackets;
- Alligator clips.
- Wheels for making stay mouse.
- Motor, control unit, power adaptor (only for SM4-H, SM4-F models.)
- "Endless" option (only for SM4-F model)



Chuck has not yet had the time to play with his new toys!





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Chuck LaFave labors on completions and restorations:

Top two show progress on *La Candelaria*.

The bottom three are the state of an *HMS Victory* damaged by a professional mover.



Photos submitted by Chuck



Steve Sobieralski on US Revenue Cutter *Alexander Hamilton*:

"For a change of pace from my normal steel navy models I have started a kit I purchased 10-15 years ago, of the *Alexander Hamilton*, one of a class of eight ships designed to enforce tariffs and coastal security. Built in 1832 at the New York Navy Yard, the *Hamilton* served in the Boston area for the first twenty years of her life. In 1851 she was transferred to Charleston where she was lost in a storm in 1853.

The kit, produced by COTTAGE INDUSTRY MODELS LTD, is to my knowledge, the only resin kit of an age of sail ship. The hull and other major components are one-piece resin castings, as are many of the smaller detail parts. Other details are provided in cast metal, turned brass, photo etch and wood dowels for the masts and spars. The kit also includes several sizes and colors of a product called "Cim-Rope", a "hand made ship model rigging designed to look like real rope." The scale of the kit is 1/96 or 1/8" equals 1 foot.

As with most resin kits, a fair amount of time needs to be expended cleaning up the parts and I have completed this for most of the major components. I also decided to plank the deck with wood strips as opposed to retaining the scribed deck on the resin hull."





Chas. Gravalesse: Ram Products Microtorque™ & Carving the *Confederacy* Figurehead: "I have arrived at the point where I can no longer postpone the start of carving the numerous miniature decorative carvings which are required to complete the *Confederacy*; a task I have been avoiding for years. Unlike Harold Hahn's approach of carving with edged hand tools that he manufactured himself, I have taken the approach of power carving using a micro motor rotary grinder and a variety of miniature carving bits. While originally put off by the idea of miniature carvings, since starting I am finding the experience quite enjoyable, even therapeutic. The figurehead pictured is in progress. Miniature carving does take time to learn. There is much trial and error but every false start is a step in the learning process. Here is what I found necessary to do the job:

Power Carving Unit – mine is the RAM PRODUCTS BP-50 with the standard hand-piece. The important features are its high torque rating, takes 3/32" and 1/8" bits, hand switch or foot pedal operation, variable speed, forward or reverse rotation.



The old, "take it away" device.



Home / Dental Products / Brush Type Microtorques / Microtorque



Digital Microtorque Sets
\$285.00 - \$309.00

RAM ITEM NO.: DIGITALMICROTORQUE

Digital Microtorque Sets: Required

- Tech2000 /On-Off Pedal
- Tech2000/Variable Pedal
- 45000/On-Off Pedal
- 45000/Variable Pedal

Quantity:

Add To Cart



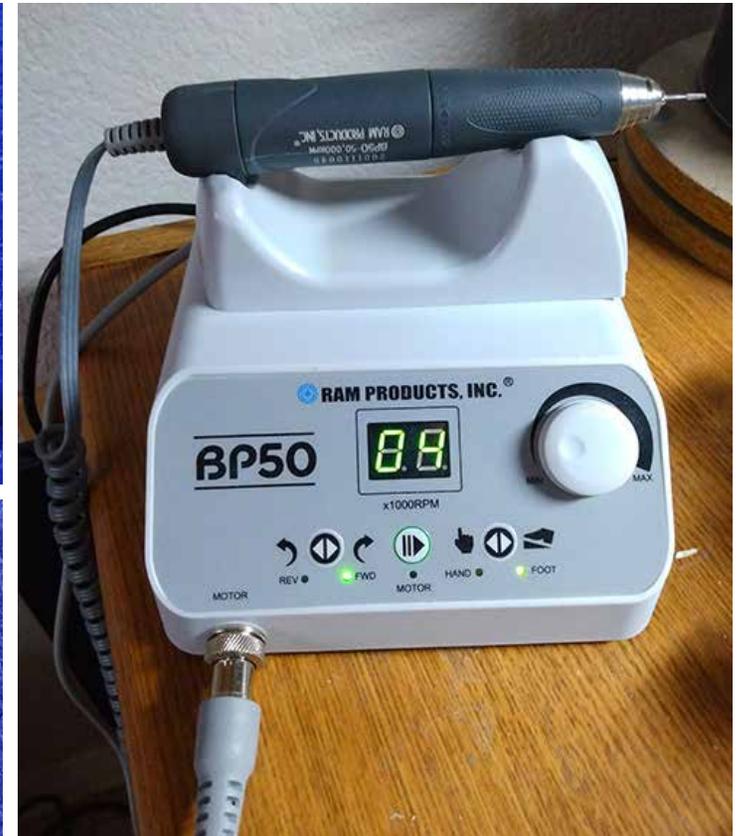
While the machine is rated to run as high as 50K RPM, for this application I run at only 3-4 K rpm. I have found that higher speed does not get the job done faster but instead leads to loss of control of the cutting bit.

Lighting – I use a high power adjustable LED Architect desk lamp, @ 2,200 lumens.

Magnification – (I guess this goes without saying). My favorite is the Optivisor #5 power.

Carving bits – A German company named Busch offers a wide variety of miniature carving bits. These can be obtained from CONTENTI Jewelers supply in Rhode Island. These bits are steel cutters marketed for jewelers but also perfect for the miniature carving application. They produce a smooth surface on the finished piece.

Wood – I have experimented with many types of wood and have come to the following conclusions. The wood must be dense and hard, close grained, and non porous. My choice is Boxwood. Softer woods like Basswood are not suitable; they fuzz up and tiny detail areas of the carving will break off, not having the strength to stand up to the carving process at such tiny sizes. Other hardwoods such as Pear may also suffice."



The new, replacement device.

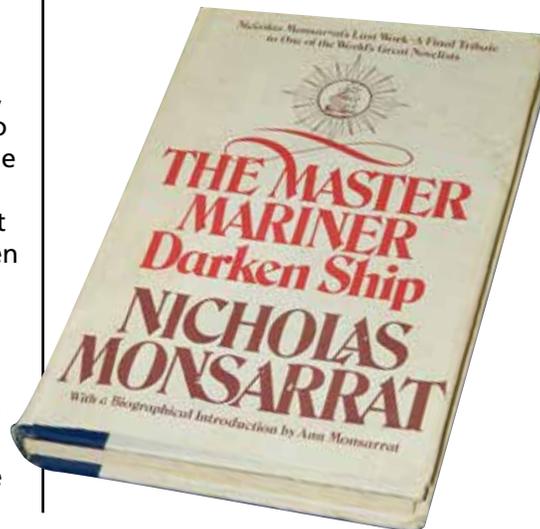
Photos submitted by Charles



Guy Hancock's Adventures: "I brought the book about Nicholas Monsarrat that I purchased for a dollar and left it in the library. It has a short synopsis of *The Master Mariner: Running Proud* and the first chapters and drafts of the unfinished parts of the next book in the series. The intention of the series was to tell the stories of navy and ships from 1588 to World War II.

My adventures in soldering continue by making some metal fittings for the mast. I used the solder paste and a heat gun after pinning the pieces to a board. It took several tries, readjusting, etc. In soldering one part I de-soldered another, and soldered the pin holding the parts to the work piece. The good news is that the heat gun takes only 30 seconds or less to melt the solder. This solder paste melts at 318° F. I will file the pieces clean and then blacken them.

Bob Johnson gave me some model RR sand and grass, and instructions on using them to make a landscape on the baseboard below the model. I did a little experimenting and testing on a piece of cardboard. Next step is to apply it to the actual baseboard."





Henri Baillargeon on a ~1/700

Steel Yamato: Sec/Ed cannot identify the manufacturer of this item. Henri said he had spent around 50 hours in the assembly.

IJN Yamato is listed as:

Length: 863'

Weight: 65,030 tons

Launched: August 8, 1940

Builder: Kure Naval Arsenal

Speed: 32 mph (pbs.org)

Commissioned:

16 December 1941

Laid down: 4 November 1937





Ed Brut's Remarks on CSS Hunley:

"Hunley was the first military naval submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat, the USS Housatonic, Feb 1864. She used a Spar torpedo, a power charge at the end of a long wood lance which was driven into the Housatonic's underwater hull. Hunley was lost with all hands after the attack and not located until 1995.

My wife and I have visited the Hunley Museum twice spread out over about 10 years. We visited within a few years of it opening and I of course obtained some souvenirs of our visit.

Shown is a set of buttons (6 reproductions) from the uniforms of the sailors recovered after author Clive Cussler's team located and raised the Hunley in 1995.

The buttons purchased for the close-out price of \$5 were a bargain souvenir. They show the varied background of the men who volunteered for this dangerous mission. I added to the inside case top, an illustration of the Hunley and labeled what service branch the buttons came from, artillery, rifleman, a Confederate staff officer, a Confederate navy button and even a Union general service button are present.



CSS Hunley in preservation tank at Warren Lasch Center



On another trip I acquired a reproduction of the fastener nut which held the infamous spar torpedo's wood shaft in place. In the recovery of the hull, the wood shaft had to be removed and the story goes, that the recovery team did not have a wrench set big enough to remove it. A trip ashore to a Sears obtained a wrench set, soon had the nuts removed and the wood spar removed. This artifact was then cast up for the souvenir shown.

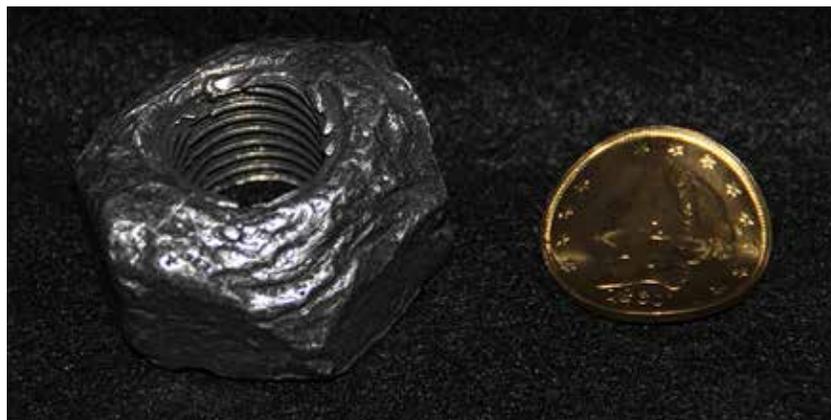
Another item is a replica of the 20 dollar gold coin which saved Lieutenant George E. Dixon's (captain of the *Hunley*) life on the Shiloh battlefield as it stopped a bullet from severely injuring him. The coin was said to have been a good luck gift from a sweet-heart. Unfortunately, its luck did not extend to him surviving the *Hunley* attack.

The *Hunley* was searched for many years and when found many speculations have come about on her demise. One recent theory is a musket ball fired by a Union sentry may have shattered a small porthole viewing glass which allowed the green sea monster to enter the sub.

Several books, first day post cards and models were also shown, purchased over the years or received as gifts. I have two kits of the *CSS Hunley*, one in 1/35 scale and one in 1/72nd scale and yes, both still in the boxes.

The *Hunley* is located at the Warren Lasch Conservation Center in North Charleston, SC where she and her artifacts are being stabilized and preserved. Her gallant crew was buried with full honors. Well worth the visit at about 2-1/2 to 3 hours. Check the website as their hours are limited to weekends and by reservation."

Web site: <https://www.hunley.org/>



Images submitted by Ed

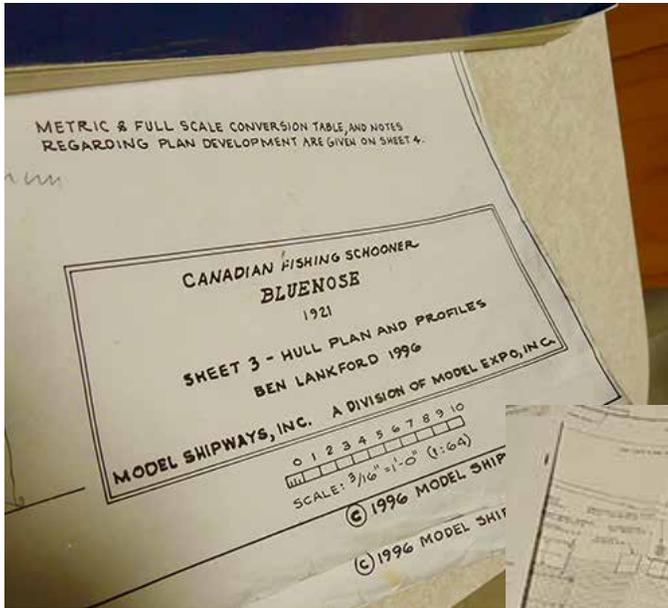


Tim Roberts has agreed to complete a *Bluenose* over half done by a very skilled gentleman named **Denis Johnson**. Tools, materials, this model and a Sopwith Camel, barely started, were donated by Denis' daughter.

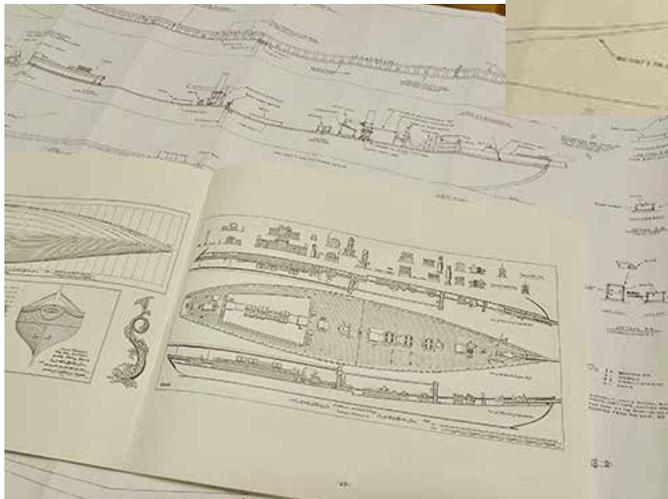




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There is ample documentation, including a couple of books and a very fine set of plans with this model.



The materials and many fine tools will be brought to the upcoming meeting for dispersal. Denis was also an auto modeler and there are supplies from that craft as well. Boats, cars and planes; an all-around guy.





Craft Cutting Tool: "You will get a 360-degree craft cutting tool, a A5 cutting mat, an Acne needle tool kit, a steel rule, 3 carbon steel blades (15°, 30°, 45°). The practical craft cutting tools set meets your many DIY needs. Craft knife is a perfect tool for all kinds of creative paper-cutting activities. Weeding tools set contains 4pcs different tools. Double head design is more convenient and practical.

Easy to Use - Precision Art Knife Cutter: Our cutting tool is as easy to use as a fountain pen. Precision art knife cutter uses a non-slip handle, allowing you to quickly and easily cut all kinds of complex patterns you need without fatigue. This craft knife is very suitable for beginners of handicrafts, Halloween paper-cutting enthusiasts and professionals to use in various occasions such as schools, offices, homes, etc.

Wide Use - Craft Knife: Craft cutting tools can be used for cutting paper cutting, template making, planning stickers, artwork, graphic design, architecture, scrap-booking, vinyl lettering, cutting airplane decoration, using adhesive film for signatures, creating artwork and other applications. Craft cutting tools has many uses in homes, offices, studios and workshops.

360-Degree Rotating Blade: This craft cutting tool has a 360-degree rotating blade, art knife make you to enjoy the DIY cutting process precise and smoothly. Unlike other craft knives, craft knife the blade will not cut the skin easily during normal use, and beginners can use it with confidence. However, the carbide blades have sharp cutting points and are not recommended for children under the age of 10 years.

High Quality Carbon Steel: In model making it will enable you to cut complex shapes out of vinyl, covering materials to create your own creating artwork. Craft knife is also perfect for cutting model aircraft trim, tissue paper and other model trimming products."

(Apologies for the Chinglish, a bit edited)



Roll over image to zoom in

Looks like a useful set for a modest sum.

360-Degree Craft Cutting Tools Set, Specialty Rotating Blade Craft Cutter Stainless Steel Craft Knives with Cutting Mat, Weeding Tool, Steel Rule, 3 Blades, Halloween Craft Tool Scrapbooking Stencil

Brand: DAMOTK
★★★★☆ - 91 ratings

\$12⁹⁹

& FREE Returns

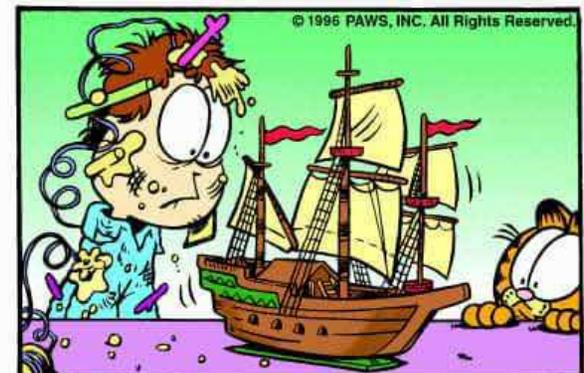
Color:
Blue

Material	Stainless Steel
Brand	DAMOTK
Color	Blue
Blade Material	Stainless Steel, Carbon Steel





Vise Admirable Brut studies the world of joculariousness for ship modeling-related humor. This is printed purely as a promotion for cartoonist Jim Davis. Your Sec/Ed's experience follows all but the last panel





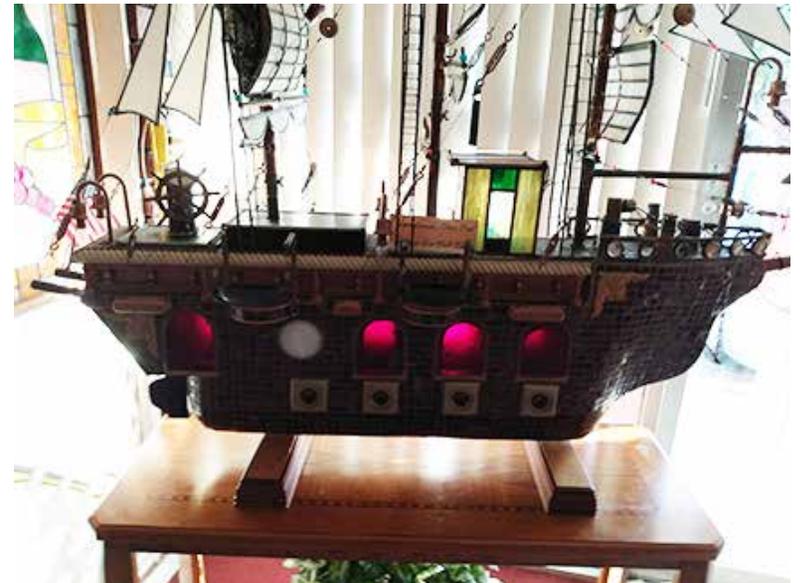
Ed Brut pushes the envelope with Ships That Don't Float:

"Attached find some pictures (my phone camera sucks or its the photographer) on an Italian restaurant's hand built ships.

They are made by hand with ceramic tiles covering the hull, deck and cabins, the sails are of leaded-in stained glass. A three masted ship and a two masted sailing boat.

You could title the article, "it won't float," could inspire others who have pictures of boats that "don't float" from exhibits, art displays, or restaurants etc., to send stuff in for the grin of it.

(These) Ships can be found at the *Italian Touch Restaurant* in St Pete. Proof the Italians do have a navy, but it just won't float."





The recent storms now past, brought to mind a couple of past entries in The ShLog:

A Nautical Extravagance

*I stood one day by the breezy bay a-watching the ships go by,
When a tired tar said, with a shake of his head: "I wisht I could tell a lie!
"I've seen some sights as would jigger yer lights, and they've jiggered me own, in sooth,
But I ain't wuth a darn at spinnin' a yarn what wanders away from the truth.*

*"We were out in the gig, the Rigagajig, jest a mile and a half to sea,
When Captin' Snook, with a troubled look, he came and he says to me:—
"O Bos'n Smith, make haste forthwith and hemstich the fo'ard sail;
Accordeon pleat the dory sheet, For there's going to be a gale.'*

*"I straightway did as the Captin' bid — No sooner the job was through
When the north wind, whoof, bounced over the roof, and, murderin' lights, she blew!
"She blew the tars right off the spars, And the spars right off the mast,
Sails and pails and anchors and nails flew by on the wings o' the blast.*

*"The galley shook as she blew our cook straight out o' the porthole glim,
While pots and pans, kettles and cans went clatterin' after him.
"She blew the fire from our gallant stove and the coal from our gallant bin,
She whistled apace past the Captin's face and blew the beard off his chin!*

*"O wizzel me dead!' the Captin' said (And the words blew out of his mouth);
'We're lost, I fear, if the wind don't veer and blow awhile from the south.'
"And wizzel me dead, no sooner he'd said them words that blew from his mouth,
Than the wind switched round with a hurricane sound and blew straight in from the south.*

*"We opened our eyes with a wild surprise, and never a word to say —
In changin' her tack the wind blew back the things that she'd blew away!
"She blew the tars back onto the spars, and the spars back onto the mast;
Back flew the pails, the sails, and the nails, which into the ship stuck fast.*

*"And 'fore we could look she blew back the cook straight into the galley coop;
Back dropped the pans, kettles, and cans, without even spillin' the soup.
"She blew the fire back into the stove where it burnt in its proper place —
And all of us cheered as she blew the beard back on the Captin's face.*

*"There's more o' me tale," said the sailor hale, "As would jigger yer lights, in sooth,
But I ain't wuth a darn at spinnin' a yarn what wanders away from the truth."*

– Wallace Irwin (1875 - 1959)

Sailor's Consolation

*One night came on a hurricane,
The sea was mountains rolling,
When Barney Buntline turned his quid,
And said to Billy Bowling:
"A strong nor'wester's blowing Bill,
Hark! Don't ye hear it roar now?
Lord help 'em! How I pities all
Unhappy folks ashore now!"*

*"Fool-hardy chaps who lives in towns,
What danger they are all in,
And now lie quaking in their beds,
For fear the roof should fall in;
Poor creatures! How they envies us,
And wishes, I've a notion,
For our good luck, in such a storm,
To be upon the ocean!"*

*"And as for them who're out all day,
On business from their houses,
And late at night are coming home,
To cheer their babes and spouses;
While you and I, Bill, on deck;
Are comfortably lying,
My eyes! What tiles and chimney pots,
About their heads are flying!"*

*"And very often have we heard,
How men are kill'd and undone,
By overturns of carriages,
By thieves, and fires in London,
We know what risks all landsmen run,
From nobleman to tailors;
Then Bill, let us thank Providence,
That you and I, are sailors!"*

– by Charles Diblin (1745 - 1814)