

Ship's Log

\$12. DUES ARE DUE! TampaBayShipModelSociety

Meeting of November 28, 2023

TampaBayShipModelSociety.org

This regular meeting was called to order by President and Treasurer, **Steve Sobieralski**, who reported the contents of our treasury. No other significant business was discussed or transacted.

At the January meeting, please be prepared to pay your nominal dues. Cash is welcome and checks **MUST** be made out to **Steve Sobieralski**, personally. If mailed, to: 2906 Bay Villa Ave. Tampa, FL 33611.

Guests, **Jean and Brian Field** visited. They are primarily interested in encasing a lot of models.

Chuck LaFave reported that duplicates from our library were delivered to *The Shipmodeler's Guild of Southwest Florida*. At this November meeting, Chuck took a car-load of wood, tools, finishes, plans, kits and other model materials for that group, after a paw-through by TBSMS members present.

(Again), **Brad Murray** suggested that we try an alternate lunch spot across the street from The Hollander, in *the Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement*. It is quieter, the menu is similar and the prices are right; most under \$10. "*Handcrafted Burgers; Pressed Panini; Artisan Sandwiches; From the Grill (Reuben, Corned Beef, Pastrami, Brisket); Flatbreads & Pizzas; Soups & Salads + Sweets.*" (Portions might be daintier). Brews, too. Clearly, up to the membership. – Scouting Party?

\$12. DUES ARE DUE!

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 of \$12 are payable in **January**.

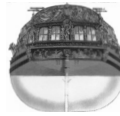
Presentations

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, Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m.



Johnny Johnson displayed *La Jocelyne*, a Seine River Barge with family accommodations: Scratch, 1/30, Radio Controlled. See Page 15.



Charles Gravalles:

"Debris Control during construction of Admiralty style models – having arrived at the point in my project where I am fabricating and installing the quarter deck, forecastle deck, and the gangways that connect

them, I now have to deal with the problem of debris contamination of the lower gun deck and berthing deck. The process of cutting fitting, gluing, and fairing the upper deck planks creates a fair amount of wood sanding dust, etc., that wants to settle on the previously completed lower decks. To solve this problem, I use three simple steps.

First, several times a day during the deck planking phase, using the MICRO MARK miniature vacuum kit attached to my household vacuum, I carefully clean out as many nooks and crannies that I can safely reach with the vacuum tip. Second, around once a week, depending on how much debris is accumulating, I take the model outside and using a miniature lawn blower, I gently blast out as much dust and debris as possible.

The blower I use is battery powered at 20 V max, has variable speed, and can also function as a vacuum attached to the MICRO MARK mini vacuum set. I obtained this blower on Amazon. When blowing out debris, always start at the low power setting so as not to blow away any loose deck fittings. A little practice provides a "feel" for how much power can and should be applied. The third step for dust control is to cover the entire model with a dust cover every night after the work day has ended. I keep my model covered most of the time and only uncover when I'm actually working on it. Also, it should be noted that while these steps work well for freshly settled dust and debris, they will probably not be as effective for dust that has accumulated and hardened over a long period of time."

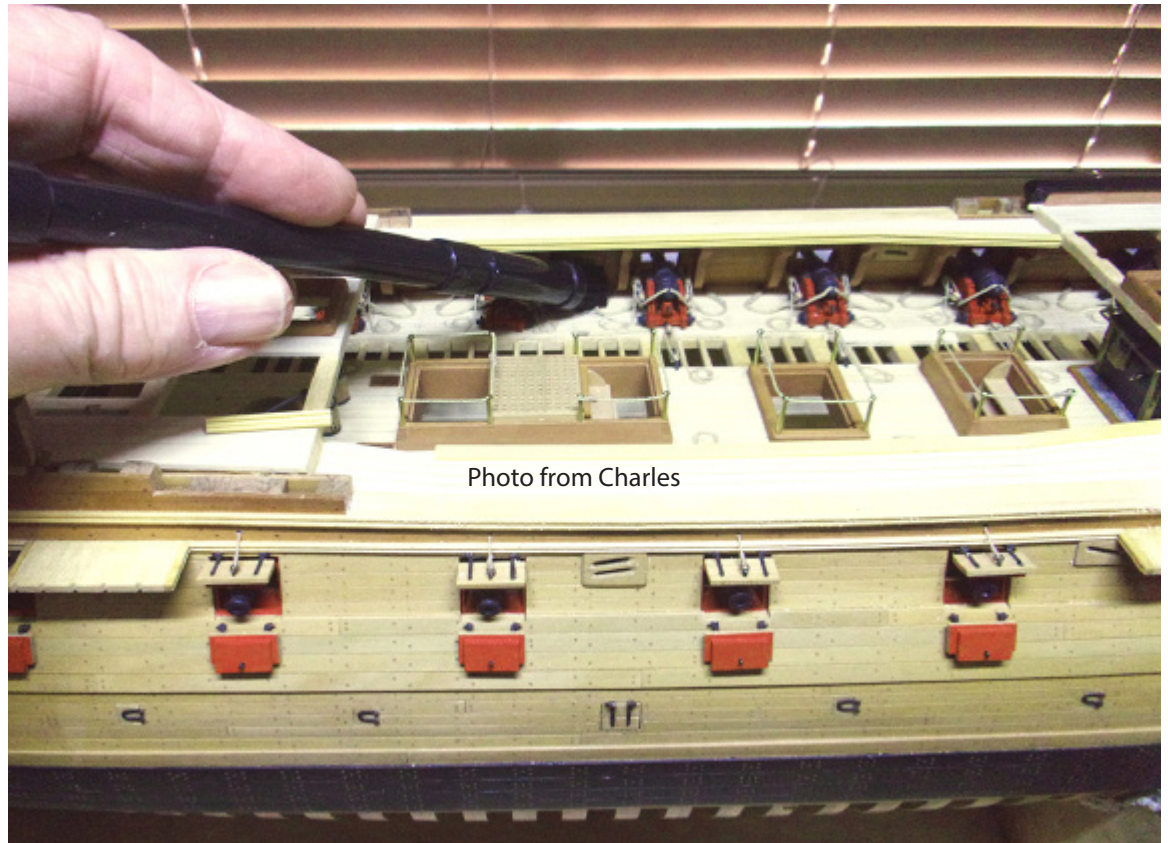
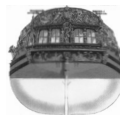


Photo from Charles



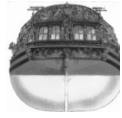
Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society 3



Chuck LaFave: "I purchased these three cannon kits from a gentleman on FACEBOOK. They were made by MANTUA at 1/17; well-made and fun to build.

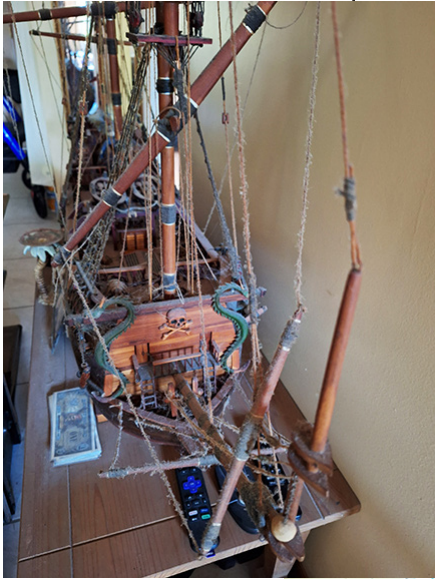
- American Coastal Cannon of 1780-1812
- Napoleonic 18th century 12# cannon
- French Fortress Siege Mortar 15th century, fired explosives, stones, scrap iron"





Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society 4

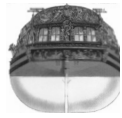
Later, Chuck sent these, as he mentioned at the meeting. A commission from a professional diver of the Atlantic coast, whose favorite artifacts need some cleaning, repairs and sprucing up.



Photos from Chuck



Photos from Chuck



Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society 5



3:58 65%

Model Roundup



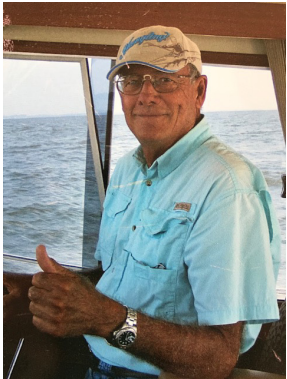
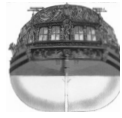
Jolly Roger Series: Hex Marks the Spot (1/12) (fs)

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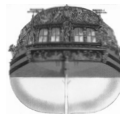
Photos from Chuck. The flag chosen to fly on the ship, a commercial photo of a diorama to be cleaned, and a delightfully horrid mermaid to be repaired by your Sec/Ed.



Howard Howe: "Assembly work continues on *Restless*, the Italian AMATI Grand Banks model kit. The teak decking is fabricated by using 1 x 2 mm mahogany strips that I brushed with alcohol and then set the required bow curve using a nail pattern fixture. The individual strip was then removed and bonded to a substrate. Once the substrate was filled with the strips and trimmed, it was bonded in place in the hull. A similar nail fixture and technique was used to set the curve in the transom mahogany strips that were then individually glued to the transom.

After a lot of consideration, I changed the recommended sequence of assembly of the gunwale and hand rails. Each side consisted of two pieces which I carefully bonded the lengths with an end butt joint. Then I aligned and taped the 2-piece hand rail on the 2-piece gunwale.





Using my drill press, I was able to carefully drill through the gunwale holes a 2 mm depth into the bottom of the 3 mm thick hand rail for the stanchions and not break through the top of the hand rail.

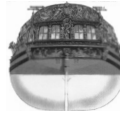
Whee!

Next, I glued the gunwales pieces to the top edge of the hull sides. Then I cut the 24 stanchions to the length as measured off the scale drawing. Since the handrail is fairly level and the gunwales have a slope, I bonded each stanchion into the bottom of the hand rails. Then I applied glue in the gunwale holes, and carefully positioned the hand rail with its stanchions over the gunwale and into their corresponding holes!

The ends of the hand rails are die-cut curved pieces that require two similar pieces to be bonded together, sanded and glued in place to match the width of the rails. This has been a challenging section of the model assembly! Effort will continue to complete the model with the dive platform, mast, and other details before launching her."



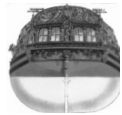
Above photos from Howard



Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society 8



Images from Howard, showing his technique for laying the *Restless* decks.

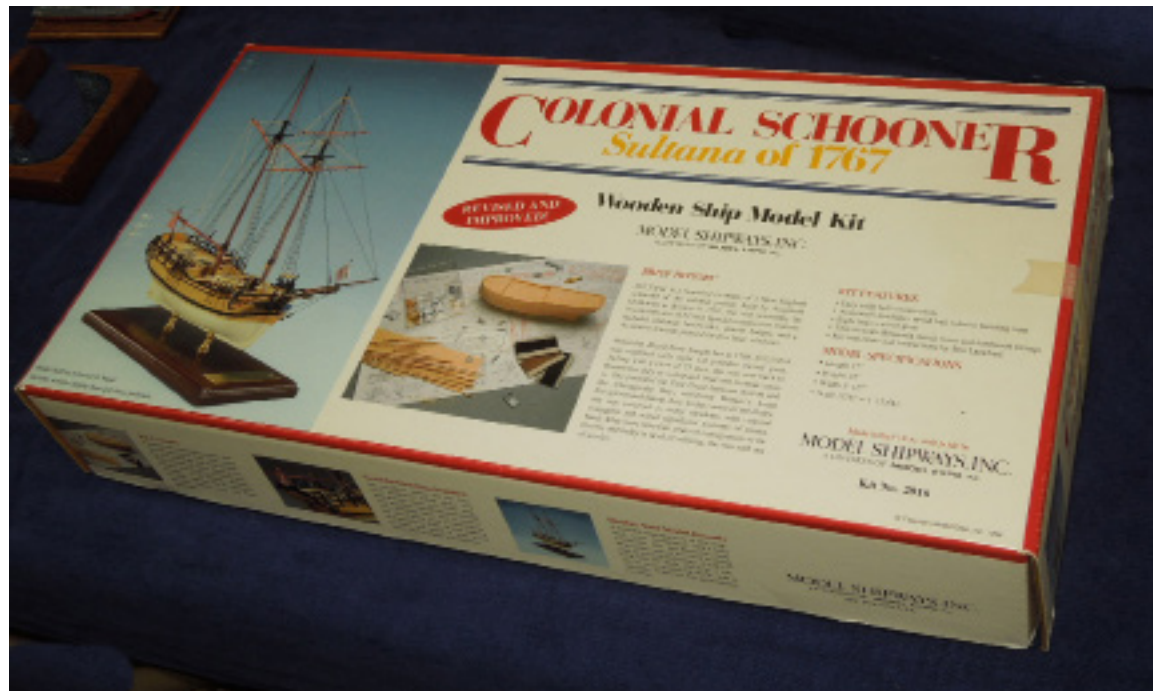
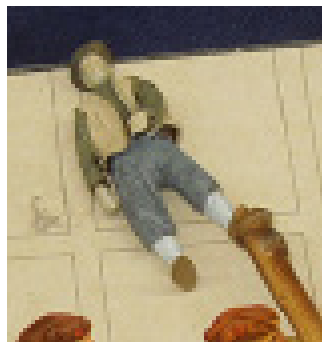


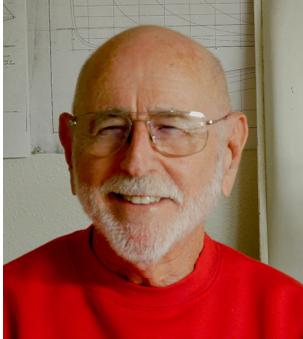
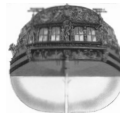
Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society⁹

Guy Hancock: "I showed the figure cobbled together from several parts of the Partisan Figures given to me by **George Hecht** at the Oct. meeting. The upper and lower torsos and the arms are all from different bodies in the set. I cut off one hand and rotated it 90 degrees. The paints are brushed acrylic applied over a sprayed-on primer.

I am not fully satisfied with how it looks but it will give some scale to the model of the Capt. John Smith shallop. I bought a jar of ARTIST'S LOFT modeling paste to use in filling in some gaps on the figure and used it as filler on the hull of the MODEL SHIPWAYS, 1/64 Colonial Schooner *Sultana* I am building from a kit picked up from the club a couple of years ago. It dries harder than the spackling compound I've used in the past and can be carved.

I found a practicum online for the *Sultana* by Chuck Passaro and am following it. He offers some great tips, and also upgrades the solid hull by planking the part above the wale and the deck. He points out some errors in the kit, and I found some others that he didn't mention. I am in the process of carving and sanding the hull to fit the templates."





Irwin Schuster (Sec/Ed): This Gulf Coast Butt-Head Scow Schooner was drawn by Howard I. Chapelle from lines taken off in 1941 near Galveston, TX. Her length between perpendiculars was 37'-7-1/2" and while flat bottom scows were standard issue for shallow water carrying in this period, the V-bottom or deadrise model may have originated on the Western Gulf of Mexico." See "American Small Sailing Craft" Page 333. Deadrise at the ends, but quite flat amidships, so still able to "take the ground" safely.

The type was used in shallow and tidal areas where they need to rest at low ebb. Centerboard, outboard rudder (minimum through hull openings). Cargoes piled on deck as well as in the hold.

This mini is a 1/96 scratch-built model (2014), with basswood hull of 5 parts, split at the WL (for ease of WL painting) and CL, to make cheeks attached to the center plate forming the stem-keel-rudder post.

Deck is individually planked. Sails were computer-generated and printed out on rag tracing paper.

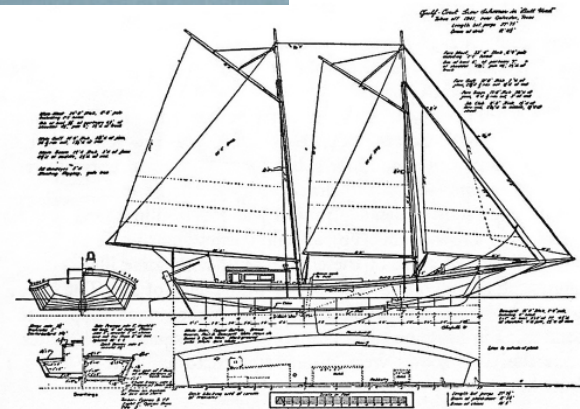
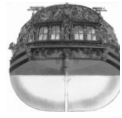


Fig. 120. V-bottomed scow schooner of a type once popular on the Gulf Coast. (See Appendix for offsets and dimensions.)



A needle point used to pierce the sails, lacing done with the thread itself, end stiffened with ELMER'S.

The figure, only about 3/4" tall was made by winding colored thread on a wire armature. That was touched up with craft acrylics. This little ship was seen by folks at the Port Aransas, TX Museum & History Center. They were building a full-size replica and planned to use the model for raising funds. They wanted to buy it, but I did not want to part with it.

I offered to build another, and made a larger, half-model designed specifically for shipping. I used structural foam for the hull to reduce weight so as to elude g-forces in handling. It arrived safely and is on display today, as far as I am able to tell. I have no idea of progress on the full-size boat.

Next page shows construction details from 10 years ago.

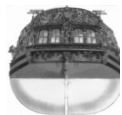
I told that my research on SS *Mistletoe* is complete and so is my treatise. I distributed it in December. Done, as well as submitting an article to the NRJournal.

Finally, I spouted about making cases, and the subject was bandied about. More to follow on this ever-green subject.



Port Aransas Update: **TEXAS SCOW SCHOONER** SURVIVES **HURRICANE HARVEY**





Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society | 2



Jig for sanding deck crown.



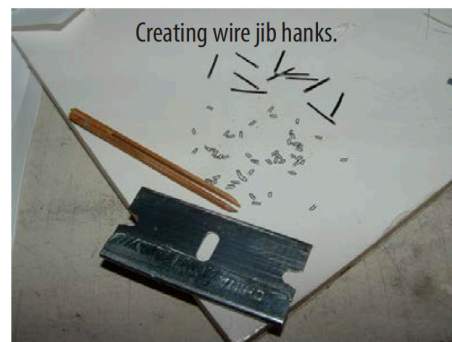
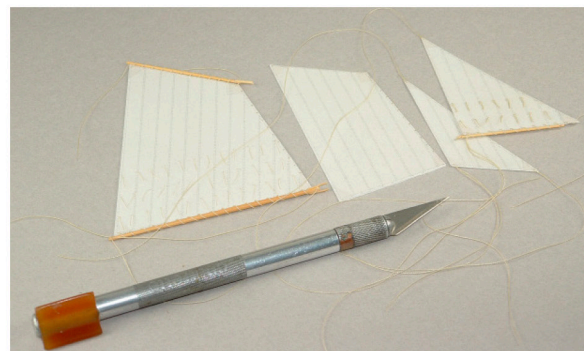
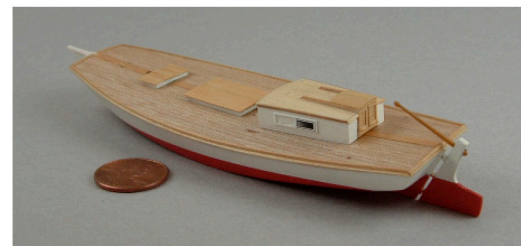
Gluing toe rails.



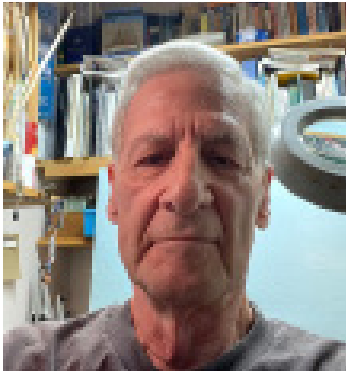
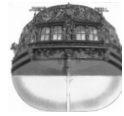
Individually laid deck planks.



Fixture for holding hull.



Creating wire jib hanks.



Neil Hurwitz (Friend of the Club, west of Atlanta): "Here is my finished model of *Gerda III*. The model was built based on the information you (Sec/Ed) sent me, many discussions with (former TBSMS member) **Mike Marcus**, and the numerous photographs found on the web for the boat that now resides at Mystic Seaport. I had intended to take a trip to Mystic, but that never happened.

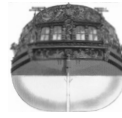
What is kind of neat is that I first saw *Gerda III* in Mystic on 11/7/1998, exactly 25 years later on 11/7/2023, I completed a model of her.

Thank you very much for your NRG article on your build that rekindled my interest in *Gerda III*, and for sending me the plans (from Mike) that enabled me to begin this model.

A friend of mine, who has macular degeneration, sent me an unfinished model of the *HMS Fly*, so I may take a shot at it. It is a VICTORY model kit. I also have an old whale boat kit, parts printed on wood and not laser cut, that I may start. But first I need to make the case for *Gerda*."



Photos from Neil

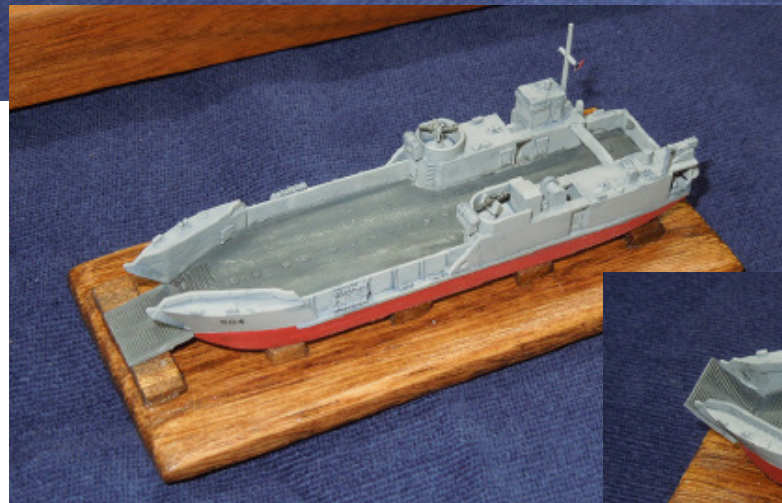


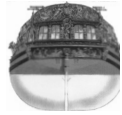
Doug Hamilton: "This month I brought three models. The first on is the 1/200 scale USS *Keokuk* by VERLINDEN. This resin model appeared at a previous meeting. I brought it to be displayed with the photograph that appeared in *Fine Scale Modeler Magazine* a few years ago. **George**

Fehér was going to bring the photo but didn't make it to the meeting. The model is a waterline kit I displayed on Walnut. I use Artist Gel medium textured and painted to look like water. I added anchor davits and the poles that support the flag.

The second was my recently completed AFV Club 1/350 scale LCT MK6 kit. I got the kit from IPMS/USA for review, which meant it should be building as from the box. Due to small size, two craft are included in the package. The models are easy to assemble and only took about 1-1/2 hours. More time was needed for the 3-color paint scheme. I used SCALE COLORS paint. Although I used modern Navy colors, I think they're representative of how these craft were painted in the days of WW II. The LCTs were also used in Korea and Viet Nam, so being painted in modern colors may be OK for later in its operational life. I used artist oils to create shadow and highlights.

The build was simple and straight-forward. All parts fit well. No filler was used and the models look fine. I found a number of enhancements online, produced by AFV Club including a Photo Etch detail set, and WW II era vehicles that would provide additional build options should a builder wish to use them as part of a diorama. I opted for an oak base with keel blocks made from a paint stick!! Simplicity and a quick turn-around was important and I figured that base would be the easiest way to go. I enjoyed the quick build and had fun with them. You can choose whether the ramp is up or down. I did one with each. The completed review can be seen at the IPMS/USA web site IPMS/USA Home Page | By Modelers... For Modelers (ipmsusa.org) under the review section. Check it out!!"





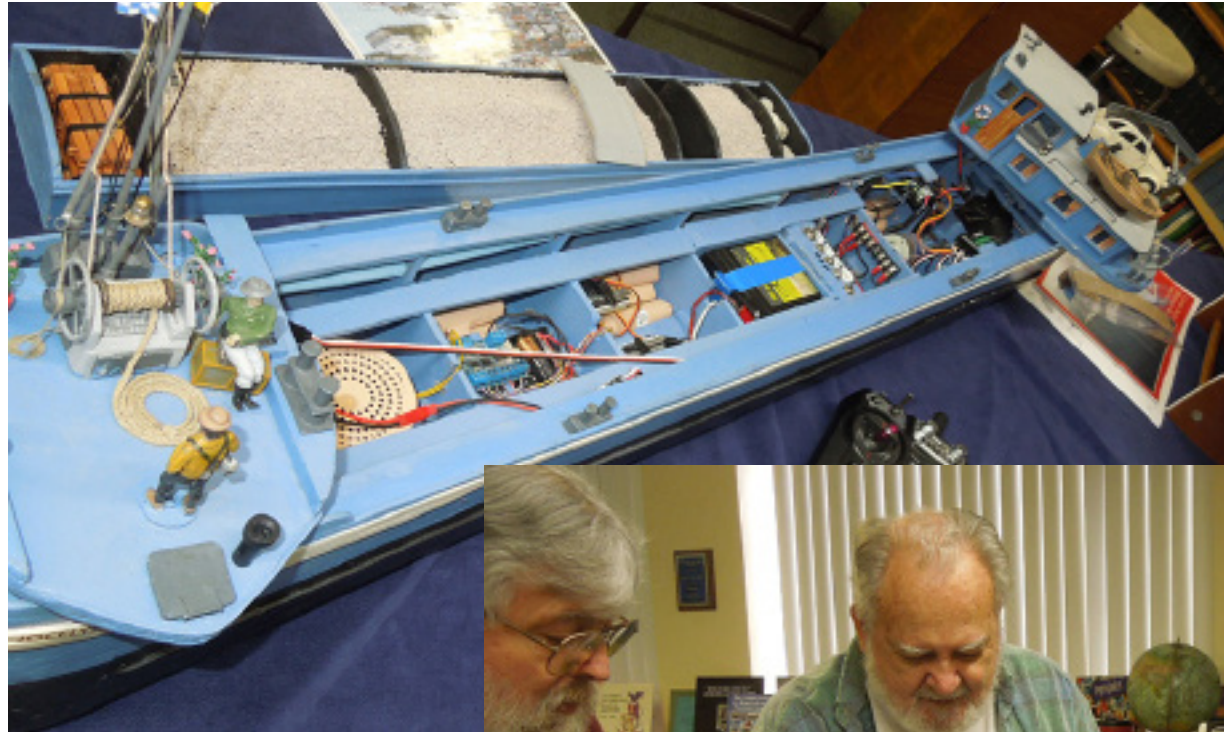
Johnny Johnson: "(I presented) *La Jocelyne*, a French river barge that runs up and down the Seine River. This is a 1/30th scale scratch-built, radio-controlled model based on drawings that are in millimeters with instructions in French and German. It weighs 30 lbs. and power is via a 6-volt DC battery.

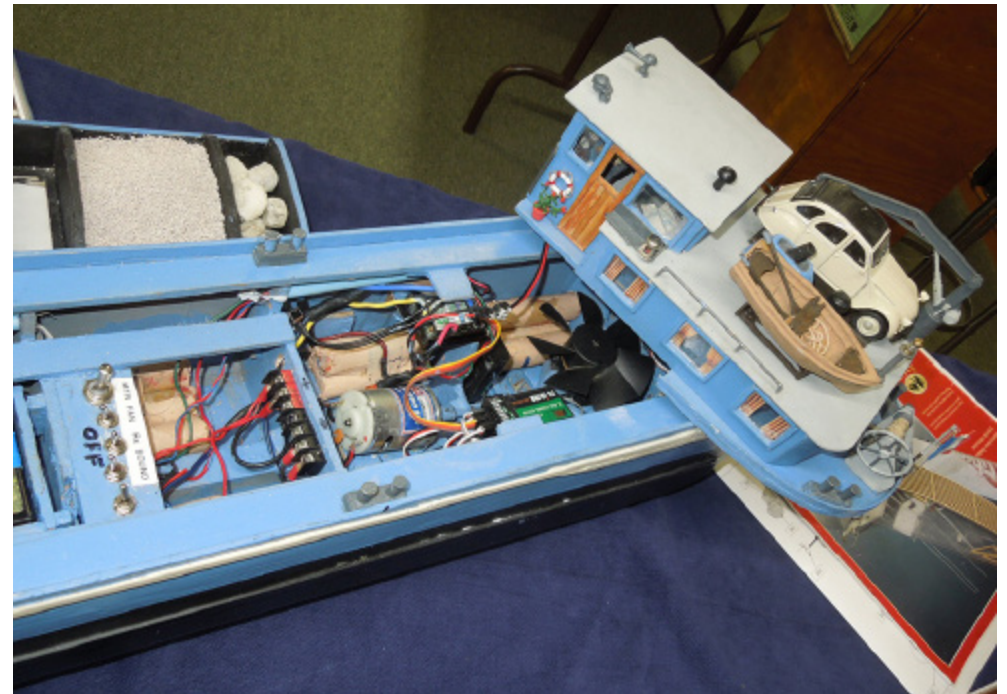
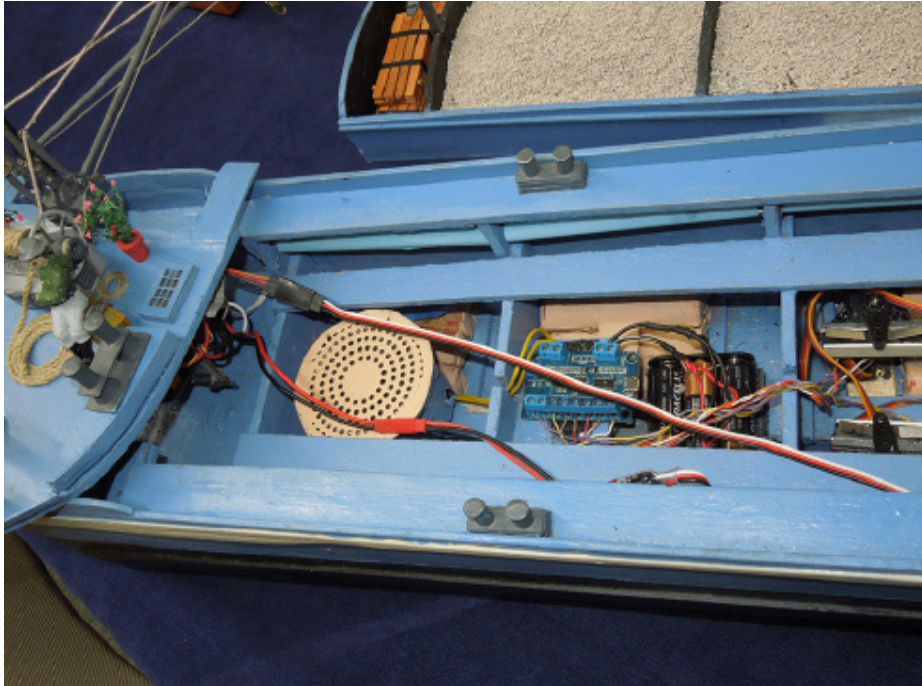
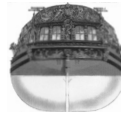
My father was stationed in Fontainebleau, France. We lived in a house one block from the Seine and 2 blocks from a dam and locks that the barges used. I spent a lot of time watching them pass through.

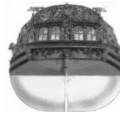
Families lived aboard the boats in a multi-level cabin in the rear house and any additional crew lived in the dual cabins forward. Small cars, motorcycles, and bicycles were all carried aboard these boats.

It is obvious that this is not a super detailed model. Since it gets handled a lot, stuff gets broken. When I take it to the lake, I first take it off its shelf, open it and check all the operating parts. It then goes into the trunk of my car. At the lake, I remove it from the trunk, place it on a picnic table and get it ready to go in the water. Then it goes in the water. After running it for a while, I take it out of the water, place it back on the table and clean it up. Then it's off to the trunk, back to the house and onto the shelf.

I have 5 RC boats: Two paddle-wheel river boats, a ferry, a freighter, and *La Jocelyne*. I also built a barge for the paddle-wheel boats to push."







Skipper Steve Sobieralski:

1/200 USS *Maryland* –

“I brought in my in-progress build of the battleship USS *Maryland* which, when completed, will show her as she appeared c.1935.

The hull above the waterline was purchased on-line and is 3D printed. The hull below the waterline was scratch-built by me using plastic bulkheads and ‘planking.’ This was then sanded smooth and faired with Bondo™ and epoxy putty. Other 3D components used will include the main guns and turrets and the cage masts.”



USS *Maryland* (BB-46), also known as “Old Mary” or “Fighting Mary” to her crew-mates, was a Colorado-class battleship. She was the third ship of the United States Navy to be named in honor of the seventh state.

Wikipedia:

Launched: March 20, 1920

Builder: Newport News Shipbuilding

Construction started: April 24, 1917

Length: 624 Ft.

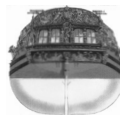
Nickname: Fighting Mary

Aircraft carried: 4 × float-planes

Aviation facilities: 2 × aircraft catapults

Image: Naval History and Heritage Command





Paper Models

"Pursuant to a discussion during the October meeting, I also brought in a few of my collection of paper ship kits. These ranged in size and complexity from a 1/400 British cruiser (simple) to a 1/300 US aircraft carrier (more complex) to a very large and detailed 1/200 USS *Missouri* which contains thousands of individual pieces to be cut out and assembled.

There was also a 1/24 P-47 fighter plane to demonstrate the variety of what's available. In my opinion, the advantages of paper kits are that they are relatively inexpensive, do not require a lot of tools and supplies or workshop space, and do not use potentially harmful substances such as noxious paints and glues.

The main disadvantage is the time involved, as many small components, which in plastic or wood kits are provided as one piece or a few pieces to be assembled, have to be cut out and pieced together from multiple parts and often many times over.

I hope everyone had good holidays and is looking forward to our meetings in 2024!"

USS Missouri (BB-63) is an Iowa-class battleship built for the United States Navy in the 1940s and is currently a museum ship. Completed in 1944, she is the last battleship commissioned by the United States.

Wikipedia:

63 Cowpens St, Honolulu, HI 96818

Length: 887 Ft.

Launched: January 29, 1944

Weight: 40,820 tons

Construction started: January 6, 1941

Builder: Brooklyn Navy Yard

Gun size: 16-inch

Nickname(s): "Mighty Mo"

Recommissioned: 10 May 1986

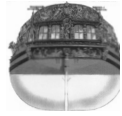
Complement:

1,515 officers and enlisted men

Laid down: 6 January 1941

NRHP reference No: 71000877





A really cool encasement scheme, even if leaving the model exposed, which defeats the whole purpose, but the presentation is super!

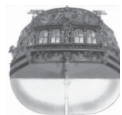


Bluenose schooner

71 Pins

Bluenose schooner? I have to believe that AI is involved in tracking predilections and interests on the web and suggesting, via Pinterest, subjects to follow. The logic and linking are sometimes mysterious, however. This AI is going to be in charge of your medical care pretty soon. Are you worried yet?

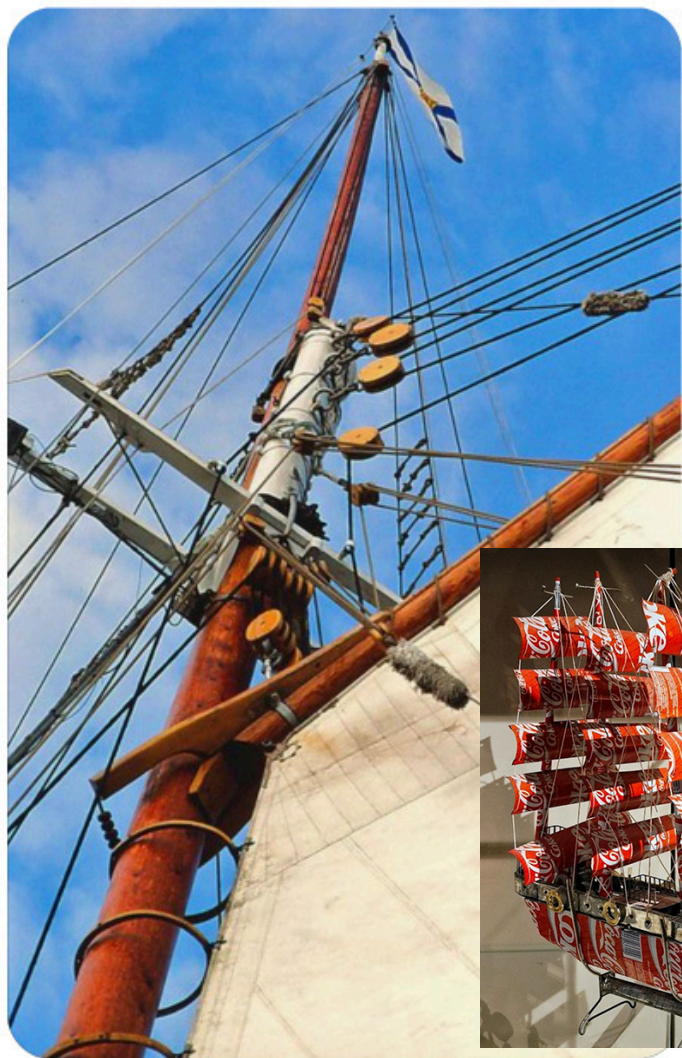
& FINALLY...



Ship's Log Tampa Bay Ship Model Society 20



Believe It Oar Knot!



Good image for detail on the original *Bluenose II*, sailing in Halifax harbor.



Can't get enough ship models? Search the International Maritime Museum in Hamburg.

THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

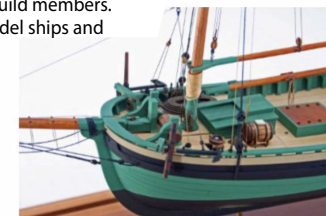
"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, the *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 Virtual Workshops, 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.



JOIN TODAY!



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