



Quarterdeck

SEPT.
2017

PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

www.philadelphiashipmodelsociety.com

Launched January 7, 1931

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Representatives toISM

Joe Jordan
Pat & Ed Leaf
Tom McElhinney

CORRECTION;

Please note the corrected spelling and e-mail address of Historian John Oddo

Our apologies to John. Ed.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES

The 843rd meeting of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) was held at the Independence Seaport Museum (ISM) on 7th day of September 2017. President Jim Wheeler called the meeting to order at 19:10 and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for beloved member Alice McElhenney..

Thirty people attended including guests Tom Ruggiero visiting from the Ship Model Society of New Jersey, Laurie McGinnley, and Tom Gilchrist from the Battleship New Jersey

The Secretary's minutes were approved as printed in the August QUARTERDECK.

Treasurer's report Ed Leaf presented the Treasurer's report and it was approved as read.

PSMS was a participant in the **Seaport Museum's Coast Day**. See page 4 for a full report.

Seaman's Church donation reminder. Page 6

Insurance issues with SSMA. Ed Leaf to confirm coverages.

Camp Englewood. The site and the event were excellent. We have been invited back next year..

Task Force 50 in York, PA. A large number of RC models participated..... several PSMS members participated and ran models.

The Christmas party at the Corinthian Yacht Club was discussed and we will again invite the Steamship Society to participate.

Show and Tell begins on page 7

Meeting adjourned at 21:12.

Respectfully submitted: John Bullock, Secretary



THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

Launched January 7, 1931

The Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Independence Seaport Museum (ISM) at 1900 hours. ISM is located at Penn's landing, 211 South Columbus Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106. **Guests are always welcome!**

PSMS annual dues are \$35.00 for an INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$40.00 for a FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: Includes MEMBER as well as family with children FREE

Sept. Program

DR. MIKE ZIMMERMAN PRESENTS THE STORY OF "VASA"



Dr. Mike Zimmerman gave a presentation about the 64 gun Swedish war ship illustrated with personal photos taken on a recent trip. "Vasa," which sank in Stockholm harbor on August 10, 1628 on her maiden voyage, never left the harbor. After sailing no more than 1300 meters (less than a mile). Although her guns were salvaged in the 1660s, the wreck sat underwater for 333 years. Vasa was raised and broke the surface on April 4th 1961.

There was discussion with members about how the wood was preserved and deteriorating nails carefully replaced to keep the ship together. Dr. Zimmerman, a pathologist, showed pictures of and was asked to explain, skeletal remains (Filip the helmsman) found in the ship. His findings were published in the *Journal of Paleopathology* and also in his book "My Patients Were Mummies". This led to the discovery of a condition now known as *osteochondritis dissecans* or "Helmsman's Elbow", (lesions on the elbow) caused by the stress of operating the mechanism.

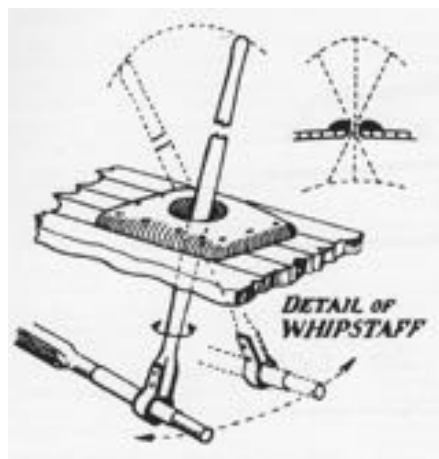
All in all great overview of the ship's history. The ship survived for two main reasons: the harbor was cold and the water brackish preventing the worms from eating the wood.



His Majesty's ship "Vasa" raised and preserved today.



A museum model depicts "Vasa" as launched.



The whipstaff, the steering used in large ships until the 18th century adaptation of the steering wheel.

Drawing
by Model Expo, Inc. Mt

BECUNA MODEL DELIVERED TO INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM



Club member Ron Spicer delivered a scratch built model of the submarine *Becuna*. Working from plans supplied by the museum, the model is 40 inches long and approximately 12 inches high- 1/96 scale. It will eventually be displayed along with *Olympia* and *Diligence*, also in 1/96 scale showing three phases of the growth of the U.S. Navy. They will represent the 3 full size ships that are a part of the museum.

ISM BOAT SHOP NEWS.

BLOCK MAKING FOR THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



The boat shop was asked to supply 4 blocks so that the canon could be run out for their visitors. Two were single, two were doubles. We made 5 more for the guns on *Diligence*.

We used oak for the sides, and turned mahogany for the sheaves.

The wood was milled to the needed thickness, and a groove was cut into the side for the iron frames.

The next step was to cut the outer edges to the outlined proper shape. To maintain a free spinning sheave, a spacer was glued top and bottom and a hole drilled for the gavel. The edges were rounded over by hand. The spacers were pinned by a brass rod on each side at the bottom. The irons were hand-forged by Jeffrey Huffenburger to the needed dimensions. He also made enough becketts (iron rings to tie off a line too, for the spares we made.

A shallow cut was made in each side of the blocks with a Forstner bit to hold a 2" brass circle, screwed in place to keep the shaft in place and the pieces were ready for stain and varnish. Joe Jordan, Charles Bernstein, regular volunteers and Jeffrey Huffenburger, a staff member, worked on this project.



This article contributed by Joe Jordon

COAST DAY AT ISM

On September 9th PSMS joined the Coast Day festivities at the Seaport Museum. The weather was pleasant but windy. We had 6 tables set up behind the museum outside the boat shop with canopies and chairs. We were prepared for a fun float with RC models but the wind and water did not co-operate. The tide was out and the river bed grass was showing. Not good conditions for sailing. However, Steve Bulova braved the conditions and floated 3 boats on his own!

The crowds were large and loved our display of models. Lots of young of families. Members displaying models or attending were: Steve Bulova, Jim MacIntyre, Francine Serratore, Joe Jordan, Jim Wheeler, Jerry Wiegand, Ron Spicer, Ed and Pat Leaf, Mike Zimmerman, Dave Zinni and New Jersey Ship Model Society's Tom Ruggiero and Spencer Anderson





PSMS SHIRTS & CAPS WITH EMBROIDERED SOCIETY LOGO

LONG SLEEVED POLO SHIRTS NAVY BLUE

Men's sizes small thru 4 XL.

Add \$2.00 for 2XL, \$3.00 for 3XL and \$4.00 for 4 XL

\$35.00

Women's sizes thru 2X.

\$35.00

SHORT SLEEVED POLO SHIRTS, NAVY BLUE

Men's sizes small thru 6XL and tall in XL thru 3X

Women's sizes small thru 3XL

\$28.75

Hat 6 panel wave cap, navy with white trim **\$14.50**

FOR ORDERS:

Contact Pat Leaf At pjlebl@comcast.net

Please be sure of your size

THE SHACK

We always need volunteers to sit the Shack on Saturdays and Sundays. We play an important roll as an interactive museum attraction, demonstrating building skills and exciting young kids to try a model at home.

PARKING

Parking is free at the Parking Authority Municipal Lot located directly in front of the Seaport Museum for members attending the monthly meetings. You must enter at the Walnut street entrance. A volunteer member will be there to monitor the gate between 6:15 and 6:50 PM. Those arriving earlier or later should temporarily park to the side in the oval and go to the front desk and obtain a parking pass, which, after use must immediately be returned to the front desk.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

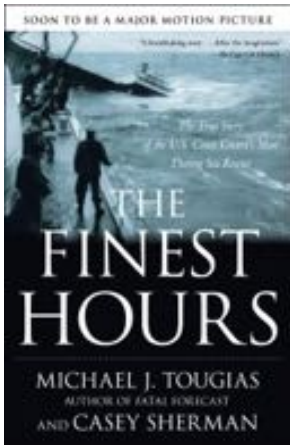
Sept 7th	7 pm PSMS Meeting
Oct 5th	7 pm PSMS Meeting
Oct 6 -7	Maritime Model Expo St. Mihaels, MD
Oct 5th.	7pm PSMS Meeting, Program Kalamar Nyckle Talk
Oct. 26 - 27	2017 Nautical Research Guild Conference
Nov 2	7 pm PSMS Meeting, Program Celestial Navigation, Peter Orvis WHITE WHALE SALE
Nov 11	VETERANS DAY
Dec 7	7pm PSMS Meeting
Dec 17th	Christmas Brunch, 12 noon Corinthian Yatch Club Essington, PA

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Our guest speaker will talk about the Kalamar Nyckle, (Key of Kalamar) a Dutch built armed merchant ship famed for carrying Swedish settlers to North America



in 1638 to establish the colony of New Sweden. A replica was launched from Wilmington DE in 1997.



THE FINEST HOURS
 The true story of the U.S. Coast Guard's most daring sea rescue is the story of the heroic rescue following the splitting of two oil tankers in the middle of the icy Atlantic in 1952. The film, The Finest Hours is based on the book

TUGBOATS ILLUSTRATED

A gorgeously detailed guide to the evolution, design, and role of tugboats from the earliest days of steam to today's most advanced ocean-going workboats.



From the deck layout of a 19th century side-wheel tug to the mechanics of cable towing to the operation of an anchor handling supply vessel.

TIME RUNNING OUT ON BATTLESHIP TEXAS



Supporters of the Battleship Texas warn there isn't much time left to save the ship, a veteran of 2 world wars. The hull is becoming more and more difficult to patch. 300,000 gallons of water a day are pumped out of the ship. The best course of action, is to dry berth the ship, creating a system around the vessel allowing restorers to control the amount of water surrounding the hull. The cost of such a project is estimated at \$40 million.

The State of Texas owns the ship, currently berthed in the Houston Ship Channel.

Launched in 1912, Texas took part in Woodrow Wilson's intervention in Mexico, and during WWI, trained Naval Armed Guard gun crews, and protected troop convoys in the North Sea. In the Second World War, she participated in the battle of Iwo Jima and the Normandy invasion. Today she is the country's only remaining world War I - era dreadnought battleship.



**SEAMAN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTH JERSEY
 IT'S DITTY BAG SEASON!**

Ditty Bag Wish List - PSMS will be collecting these items at our **October** and **November** meetings for the Seaman's Church Institute of Philadelphia and South Jersey. **They need our support and these items are needed! Thank you!**

Hats & Scarves (dark colors only) Razors, Cans of Shave Cream (7 to 11 oz), Combs, Heavy Socks, Toothpaste (4 to 6 oz), Work Gloves, Deodorant Sticks, Mini Sewing Kits, Nail Clippers, Pens and Writing Paper with Envelopes.

PSMS SWAP OR SELL TABLE

There is a "Sell or Swap" table at every meeting. Look around your home and workshop See anything you don't need or use anymore for model building and think someone else could use it....tools, books, kits, other material? Label it with your name and price and put it on the swap table at the meeting. The good thing is - **you keep the money!**

TASK FORCE 50 REGATTA, AUG 20TH

Steve Bulova participated in the Task Force 50 Regatta held outside of York PA. This was a new venue - the old site was short of water. Attendance was down but they had a beautiful day - perfect sailing weather.

SHOW & TELL



MIKE WEAVER

Egyptian River Boat, Scratch built from National Geographic Illustration.

Material- Wood, Scale 1/48

This was the first war scale wooden boat to travel on the Nile river. It had neither bracing ribs nor keel.

This ship had a two legged mast that could be lowered and a thick taut cable bound the bow to the stern. This cable reinforced the hull.

An impressive model complete with crew!



RON SPICER

SS Robalo Scale 1/240

Gato class submarine. Kit needed extensive modification. Changed the profile of the hull and scratch built the conning tower. Replaced the deck to meet scale. Scratch built hatches and anchor and anchor housing.

Launched on 9 May, 1943 - sunk by a mine July 26, 1944 in the S. Chins Sea.

Built for a friend who lost an uncle on the boat.

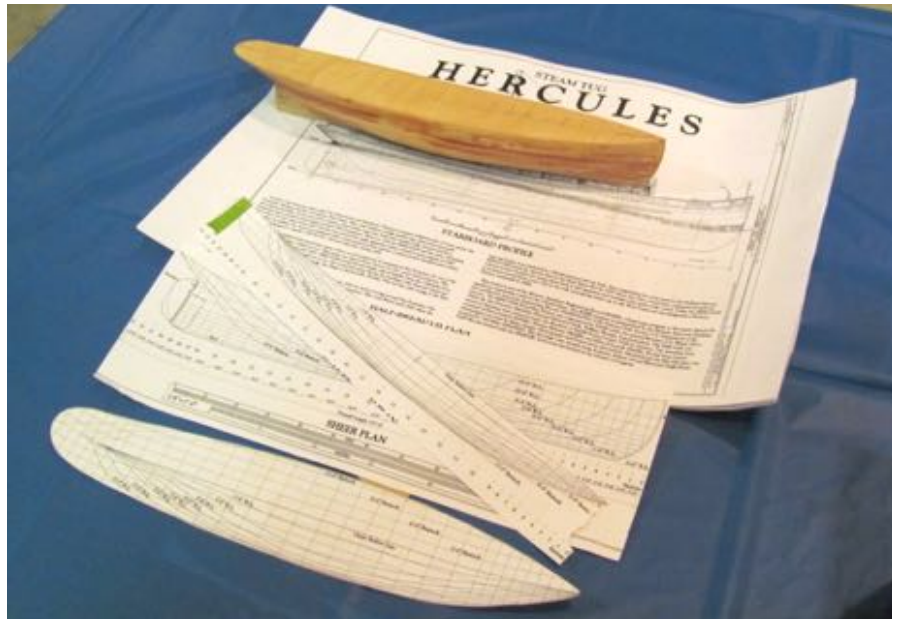




**LOE GUDONIS
DIORAMA**

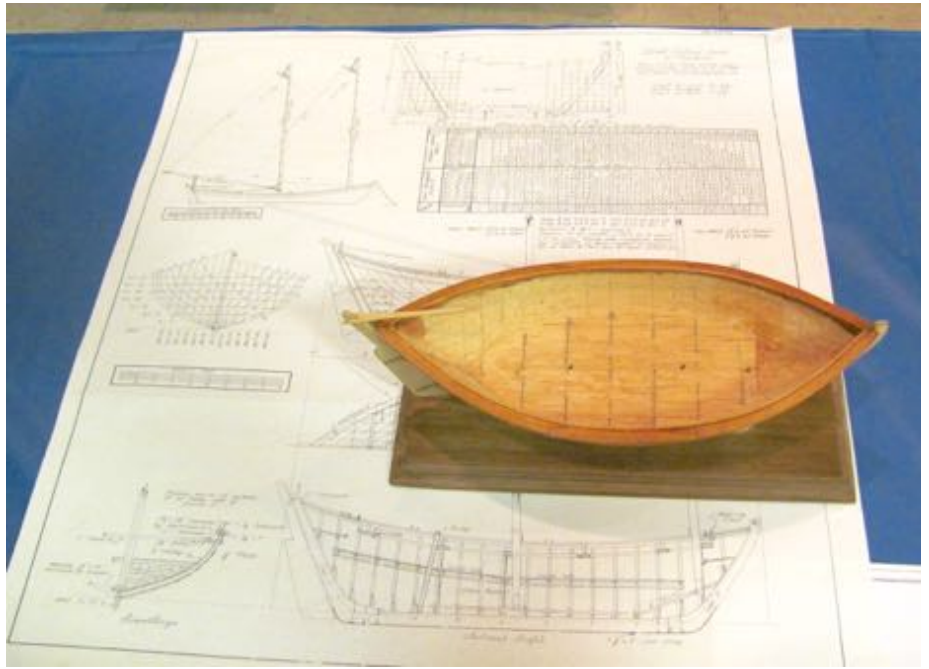
U.S.Coast Guard stopping an Illegal “Rock ’n Roll radio operation in 1987. Back in 1980’s, believe it or not, Rock and Roll music during that era was virtually banned by commercial radio stations. Disgruntled broadcasters transmitted from an offshore radio station.

Disgruntled broadcasters transmitted from an offshore radio station aboard the good ship “Sarah” set up 4.5 miles off shore south of Atlantic Beach Long Island. The Coast Guard quickly raided and destroyed it without the authority to do so



JOE JORDAN

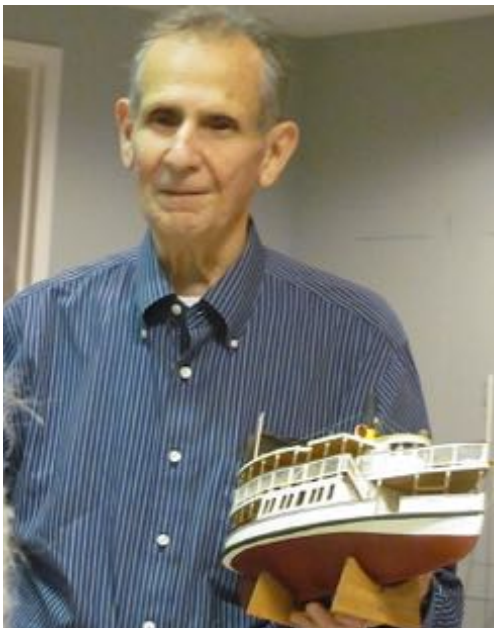
SS Hercules - San Francisco harbor tugboat Scale 1/144Circa 1906. Sister ship of the “*Goliath* and still a working museum steamship in San Francisco. Built in Camden, the 151 ft tugboat was sailed to San Francisco via the Straits of Magellan with her sister ship *Goliath* in tow and towed barges of material to help build the Panama canal. Plans are available on the Hercules web site and were enlarged for the 12 5/8” model. Joe explained the lift method of construction to develop the hull on the scratch built model. Joe’s daughter lives near San Francisco and will send pictures of the details on the ship.



SPENCE DELIN

Block Island boat - scratch built. Work in progress.

Scale 1/32. Double ender and double framed. The original boat is approximate 22 feet long and used for fishing purposes. Also known as a Block Island Cowhorn. Has pronounced sheer, is double ended, clinker built. Broad beam relative to length and has interior planking (ceiling) planking. Carved from a wood block, Spence described his method of keeping the 1/16th inch bulwarks the same thickness. Drill into the wood 1/16th of an inch with a small drill. The holes are revealed as you carve. The exterior planking will cover the holes.



EDD LEAF

Sabino: Steamboat - scratch built. 100% complete. Tulle (bridle veil material) was used for open railing work. Scale 1/8 Sabino is the oldest wooden, coal fired working steamboat in regular operation in the U.S. Built in 1908 in east Boothbay, Maine, she spent most of her career ferrying passengers and cargo between Maine towns and islands. Sabino was purchased by Mystic Seaport Museum in 1974 to serve as a working exhibit. She is still powered by the 2 cylinder Paine compound steam engine installed in 1908. Beautiful little model.



DR MIKE ZIMMERMAN



Mike and Bobbie Zimmerman were on a transatlantic crossing of the QM2 in August. There were 7 WWII vets on board ages 91 to 97 years old, who talked about their experiences, where they were then the war ended and how their mothers said " I never expected to see you again ". They were sponsored by the Greatest Generation Foundation, which takes WWII vets back to German and Japanese battle sites. " Meeting and talking to them was a great experience for us." Above: Mike showed brochures from the trip.



HAROLD LAZAAR

Showed a folding ruler from England
Made of Brass and boxwood. The ruler showed old inches (the width of a thumb)

BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY MUSEUM DISPLAY

Dennis Levitt and Tom Gilchrist displayed a newly donated model of the ship. 1/96 scale, 9'3" long. Radio controlled by a 7 channel radio. Built by R. Quinlan in 7 1/2 months in 1981. Weight 75 lbs. All 4 props rotate, twin rudder steer the ship, port anchor raises and lowers, radar antenna rotates, strobe lights on after superstructure, port and starboard running lights, helicopter with rotating blades, stern crane rotates, Main gun turrets rotate, elevate and fire, smoke emits from stacks, installed sound system. Materials: Hull-fiberglass, superstructure - boxwood and plastic, weapons - brass and bronze. The museum plans to install it in a river pond as an attraction for public participation.





FRED SIGNOR

Fred brought in his model of "VASA" to compliment Dr Zimmerman's talk. A work in progress, it shows beautiful craftsmanship. The model 70% completed. The next stage is the to add the exterior. ornaments and all masts and running rigging. Very impressive.



The USS CONSTITUTION - 1777

An additional model brought by the N.J. curators. It had been offered as a donation to the Battleship N.J. since it does not fit into the mission of the Battleship New Jersey Museum, they, in turn, offered it to anyone who would give it a good home. Joshua Fichmann was the happy recipient.



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