

# Quarterdeck

JANUARY 2018 OUR 87th YEAR

PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

www.philadelphiashipmodelsociety.com

Launched January 7, 1931

PSMS OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Francine Serratore

Mike Weaver

Jim Wheeler

Mike Zimmerman

Representatives to ISM

Joe Jordon

Pat & Ed Leaf

Tom McElhinney

# **JANUARY AND FEBRUARY MEETINGS CANCELLEI**

The safety of membership proved to be the proper call. February an event conflict.

Due to the weather risk and the multiple strains of flu and bronchitis, it was determined, with much regret, to cancel the January 7th meeting of PSMS.

Also, a poll was taken over the internet and the majority of members voted to cancel the February 4th meeting due to a conflict with the Super Bowl.

Therefore, our next membership meeting will be Thursday night, the 1st of March, at 1900 hrs (7pm). We will have the regular business meeting with discussion on the following: Name tag order, Meet-up page for the club (This will be explained), Booking next year's X-mas party, Basic meeting frame work for the new year. Intermission for food.

As we are not on our normal meeting time and date, Pat and Ed may need help getting the food set up. Show a leg and lend a hand!

Don't forget to let Pat pjlebl@comcast.net know what you are bringing.

Lastly. **Show and Tell.** The format will be the same but there will be an added bonus for those those that bring in a show and tell item! Got a technique, a half finished model, a new air brush or kit for Xmas? Bring it in!

#### **MARCH PROGRAM**

## A PRESENTATION BY PAT LEAF Food Service in the Royal Navy During the Napoleonic Wars



This year marks the 87th anniversary of the founding in 1931 of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society. It is the oldest ship model club in the United States. Other happenings in 1931:

- Alka Seltzer introduced.
- Star Bangled Banner becomes the National Anthem.
- 1st electric shavers go on sale.
- Nevada legalized gambling.
- Ist air conditioned ship launched. (SS Mariposa)

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# NAPPY NEW YEAR 2018!

#### 2018 DUES NOTICE

Treasurer Steve Bulova requests that you send a check by mail or bring a check or cash to a meeting.

Dues are \$35.00 for an individual membership or \$40.00 for a family membership.

Please make the check out to PSMS.

Fill out the form below and return with cash or check in the proper amount.

If you choose to mail your dues, send them to:

STEVE BULOVA PSMS 4631 Larchwood Ave Philadelphia, PA 19143 bulovastevel@msn.com

#### **NOTICE**

If you have already paid your dues for 2018, please complete the coupon below, check the box and return to the treasurer. Thank you.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
PHONE		
Email		
AMOUNT ENCLOSED		STEVE BULOVA
I HAVE PAID MY DUES FOR 2018	PSMS	TREASURER PSMS 4631 LARCHWOOD AVE. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143 bulovastevel@msn.com

## THE SSMA JOURNAL

Become a member of SSMA Annual dues are \$25.00 All membership applications and Renewals should be sent to: Heinz Ricken 514 Cranford Avenue Cranford NJ 07016



# Steamship Historical Society of America

The Delaware Valley Chapter meets at The Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing on the Delaware River at 2:30 pm. Membership is \$15 for one year. Contact Chapter Chairman Steve Loveless at <a href="mailto:slloveless1959@gmail.com">slloveless1959@gmail.com</a> or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining.



As in past years, the Annual Holiday Brunch was held at the Corinthian Yatch Club. The surroundings of large windows, bright sunshine and cash bar encouraged conversation and appetites. And once again we welcomed the participation of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Steamship Society of America.

Also in attendance were John Brady, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Independence Seaport Museum and members of the staff of the ISM boat shop.

After a delicious lunch and comments by newly elected President Todd Wardwell, President Jim Wheeler announced awards. Ed Leaf, retiring Treasurer, received a special award of thanks for over 25 years of service and Ron Spicer received the Member of the Year Award for revival of the PSMS Quarterdeck and his contribution of several ship models to ISM.









## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jan 7th CANCELLED Feb 4th CANCELLED

March 1st PSMS meeting - 7pm Thursday

Program; "Food Service in the time of the Napoleonic Wars in the Royal

Navy" by Pat Leaf

April 5th **PSMS meeting** 

Program to be announced.

May 3rd **PSMS meeting** 

Program to be announced

June 7th **PSMS meeting** 

Program to be announced

# PSMS SHIRTS & CAPS WITH EMBROIDERED SOCIETY LOGO

LONG SLEEVED POLO SHIRTS NAVY BLUE

Men's sizes small thru 4 XL. \$35.00 Add \$2.00 for 2XL, \$3.00 for 3XL and \$4.00 for 4 XL

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 pilebl@comcast.net

Please be sure of your size



### **FOR SALE**

I have some 75 mgz radios, surplus after switchover to 2.4 ghz. 2 Futaba 4 channel radios w/ receiver \$45 each extra receiver \$25 4 Futaba 2 channel radios w/ receiver \$30 each extra receiver \$23 1 MRC 2 channel radio w/ futaba receiver \$25 (broken gimbal, but it works . Also have extra crystals.

**CONTACT**: Francine Serratore

fserrtore@verizon.net

#### 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.

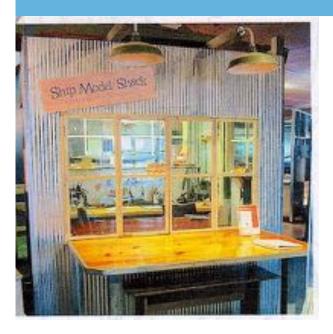
Remember! You must have your license number on file with ISM in order to get special parking. If you use more than one auto, send both license plate numbers.

Send your license number to:

Joe Jordan Phone 609 518 9672

jjvtown@aol.com

## VOLUNTEER FOR THE SHIP SHACK

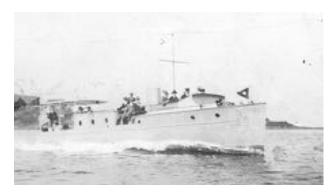


The Seaport Museum has chosen PSMS to represent ship modeling to the public. We are one of the few exhibits that can respond when asked a question (one other being the boat shop). We need volunteers to sit the shack on weekends. Take a model, meet the public and share our hobby. Contact: Joe Jordan at <a href="mailto:ijvtown@aol.com">ijvtown@aol.com</a>

Or sign up on the web: <a href="mailto:philadelphiashipmodelsociety.com">philadelphiashipmodelsociety.com</a>

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# US NAVY SHIP NAMED FOR THE BOY SCOUTS?



# USS BOY SCOUT (SP-53) UNDERWAY, CIRCA 1916-1917

A wooden - hulled motor boat that served as a section patrol craft, the only ship of the Us Navy to be named for the Boy Scouts of America. Keel was layed down at Lynn Mass., by Britt Brothers. Acquired by the US Navy from Albert Geiger Jr, of Brookline, Mass. and given the hull no. SP-53 and she was shipped overseas for "aviation service" perhaps for her speed, for use as a crash boat at a naval air station. However, records of her operations and ultimate fate have not survived. 1920 Naval records merely state "overseas' but do not state where and " not definitely accounted for".

Displacement: 9 tons

Length: 45 ft (14 m)

Beam: 9.25 ft (2,82 m)

Draught: 10.167 ft (3.009 m)

Propulsion None Speed 29 knots

Compliment Four officers and men
Armament one one-pounder cannon

# SS SAPONA, HAUNTED GHOST SHIP OF THE BAHAMAS? INTRIGUING.



If you ever visit Bimini Island in the Bahamas, chances are you will hear about the "Ghost Ship" that tourists love to snorkel and dive around. While the Ghost Ship is far from being haunted, it does provide refuge for hundreds of species of tropical fish. But while many have visited the historic wreck, few know how it got there.

Soon after declaring war, Woodrow Wilson approved the Emergency Fleet Program which ordered 24 steel and reinforced concrete ships to be constructed. With steel being so scarce, shipbuilders were pressed to find alternative hull materials which is why *SS Sapona* was uniquely constructed with concrete. *USS Sapona* was one of only 12 completed and most would end up as breakwaters and barges.

A South Florida developer purchased her and planned for a floating club but it never worked out. After changing hands in 1924, the ship was moved to the Bahamas with plans for a floating night club or the rum running business during Prohibition.

In 1926 a destructive hurricane with winds of 150 mph ripped through the Bahamas and the unrelenting seas landed *Sapona* in 15 ft of water atop a reef where she remains to this day. She would never sail again. During WWII the US Army and Navy used her for target practice with machine guns and bombs. Today, USS SAPONA is a popular diving and snorkeling destination in Bimini, Bahamas.



# FORGET DRIVERLESS CARS: SAILORLESS SHIPS ARE ABOUT TO MAKE WAVES



Norwegian company Yara will launch the worlds first electric cargo ship next year. Initially manned, the vessel will move to remote control in 2019 before becoming totally autonomous in 2020.

Named Yara Birkeland, the vessel will sail between Yara's main factory facility in Norway to some of the country's bigger ports, carrying cargo which is currently transported by road. It is estimated that the battery powered ship will remove the need for 40,000 truck journeys a year.

#### MAKING 'DRONE' SHIPS A REALITY

Although advances in driverless cars are getting more attention, major advances have already been made in bringing artificial intelligence to the shipping and freight industries. Rolls Royce is also making autonomous ships a reality by the end of the decade, in conjunction with ship builders and researchers in Finland.

Meanwhile, research body MUNIN or Maritime Unmanned Navigation through Intelligence in Networkshas been part funded by the European Commission to develop the technology to make robotic ships.

# WWII MUSEUM'S PT-305 SAILS AGAIN



PT-305 was manufactured by Higgins Manufacturing industries in New Orleans. She was launched on May 27th 1943.

For the American Navy the PT boat was a critical asset in the days after Pearl Harbor. The actions of the PT boat crews in the Philippines and the Solomon Islands represent an outstanding example of the American spirit in action.

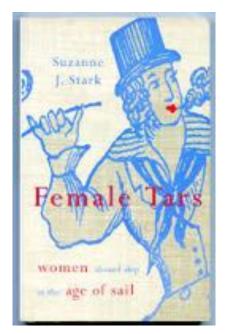
In 1948 she was sold and modified for work as an oyster boat in the Chesapeake Bay. The 3 Packard engines were replaced by 2 diesel engines. All upper works were removed and a chart house fitted to the stern and the stern shortened by 13 feet.

In 2006 it was acquired by the WWII Museum and with the help of Higgins boat volunteers, Pt-305 has been completely restored to her war time condition.

Everything except the weapons is fully operational. Its home is now a custom built boathouse on Lake Ponchartrain where guests can purchase tours and rides on the boat. Her restoration cost approximately 3.5 million dollars. Estimated worth-7 million dollars



### **BOOKS**

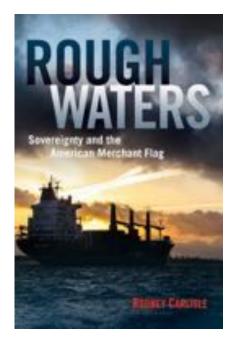


#### **FEMALE TARS**

By Suzanne J. Stark Women Aboard Ship in the Age of Sail

The wives and female guests of commissioned officers often went to sea in sailing ships of Britain's Royal Navy in the 18th and 19th centuries, but there were other women on board as well, rarely mentioned in print.

Suzanne Stark investigates the custom of allowing prostitutes to live with the crews of warships in port. She provides answers to questions about what led so many women to such an appalling fate and why the Royal Navy unofficially condoned the practice. She offers some revealing first hand accounts of the wives of warrant officers and seaman who spent years at sea living, and fighting, beside their men without pay or even food rations, and some in male disguise who served as seamen or marines



## **ROUGH WATERS**

By Rodney P. Carlisle

Sovereignty and the American Merchant Flag

Traces the evolution of the role of the U.S. merchant ship flag, and the U.S. merchant fleet itself. Rodney Carlisle looks at the conduct and commerce at sea from the earliest days of the country, when battles at sea were fought over honor and the flag, to the current American - owned merchant fleet sailing under flags of convenience via foreign registries. Carlisle examinees the world -wide use , legality, and continued acceptance of this practice as well as measures to off-set its ill effects.

Looking at the interwar period of 1919 - 1939, he examines how the practice of foreign registry of American - owned vessels began on a large scale, led by Standard Oil with tankers under the free city of Danzig and followed by Panama. He concludes with a look at how the practice of foreign registry shape presents day commerce and labor relations

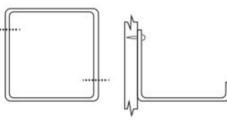


SHOP TIP

From the Secretary/ Editor of the Tampa Bay Ship Model Society Irwin Shuster
A storage system for dowels

A storage system for dowels, strips and flats, tubes, wire and other long skinny stock.

The lipped shelves are 6' X 4" X 4" vinyl fence extrusions cut into 2-foot lengths and rip-sawn to make two shelves each



## FROM THE EDITOR

Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter by sending in material. An article with pictures, websites, pictures of your work (please include the name of the model, scratch or kit and anything interesting about it), interesting events, shop tips, or how-to's. Anything that has to do with ship modeling- We'll print it! We ran our first classified ad in this issue so if you have anything you want to sell or buy, we will run your ad.....FREE to members.

This is your newsletter.
Thanks for your support!
Send to:

rspicer33@aol.com