



Quarterdeck

**JANUARY
2019**
OUR 88th
YEAR

THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY.

www.philadelphiaSHIPmodelsociety.com

Launched January 7, 1931

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Francine Serratore

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Jim Wheeler

Todd Wardwell

Mike Zimmerman

Representatives to ISM

Joe Jordon

Pat & Ed Leaf

Tom McElhinney

The 854th meeting of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society was held at the Independence Seaport Museum on January 3rd, 2019. President Francine Serratore called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours with 21 members in attendance. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of George (Gerry) Wiegand and Spencer Anderson.

Visitors: None noted, but Kurt Faust has returned as a member.

SICK CALL



Kathleen Wheeler, Francine Serratore, Joanne Wardwell,

Nancy MacIntyre and Mike Weaver

No presentation- Extended Show and Tell

Treasurer's report: Steve Bulova: treasurer's report approved as read. To date, 30 members have paid their 2019 dues.

OLD BUSINESS

Name tags: Anyone in need of a name tag, contact Spence Delin at sdelin@verizon.net

The Ship Shack: Joe Jordon reports that Mike Weaver is incapacitated so Sundays are hurting. Kurt Faust and Fred Signor volunteered to sit for one weekend but more volunteers are needed for weekends. Contact Joe Jordon at jjvtown@aol.com

Proposed Club Outings: *Annapolis Maritime Museum and Washington Navy Museum:*

Todd Wardwell is seeking a range of dates convenient to members for participation- need to ensure we have a good head count to make it worth renting a bus. The goal is 40 reservations for a large air-conditioned bus.

Kalmar Nyckel, John Bullock is seeking a range of dates in the spring. There is a minimal cost for entrance.

Camden Ship Museum, Todd Wardwell reports there is minimal parking (possible car pooling), no costs to the club-donations accepted.

2019 Dues are due: \$35.00 per person, \$40.00 per family. Send a check, made out to **PSMS** and sent it to: Treasurer Steve Bulova at 4631 Larchwood Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143.

Parade of Lights: On December 8th, four members of PSMS, Mike Weaver, Joe Jordon, Jim Wheeler and Francine Serratore, showed their lighted models at the Ship Model Shack held this year on December 8th. Joe Jordon reports there was good traffic and that they left at 4pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Activity Committee: The preliminary presenters are President Fred Signor for February, Todd Wardwell for March, April, Joshua Fichmann, DVD presentation, May will be Captain Peter Orvis and June, a possible YouTube Light Ship video.

PSMS Website: Joshua Fichmann is seeking a good digital version of the PSMS logo with high resolution. Todd will see if he can get his daughter to assist. Joshua showed the work he has done on the revamped website. Still a work in progress, but at least now it shows our general information. We are up and running again! Josh and Todd Wardwell have been posting to our web site so please "like" or "share" as this will increase our visibility. Also, it's noted that the PSMS video is no longer on YouTube and we are seeking to see who has the original file. Josh created ModelShip@yahoo.com as a mailing address for people to reach out to us.

Josh also encourages input from the membership with any suggestions or improvements.

Donation: As a token of appreciation for all that Independence Seaport Museum does for PSMS we give a donation of \$450. This has been our custom for the last 5 years.

Survey: By vote of the Executive committee, a survey will be sent out regarding content, dates and times of the meetings to better serve the membership. Please watch for this and respond.

50/50 winner: Harold Lazar

Joshua Fichmann, Secretary

IN MEMORIAM



George Wiegand November 9, 2018, age 77

At the Philadelphia Ship Model Society and the Independence Seaport Museum he was known as "Gerry". He was always involved in both and could be counted on to fill in at the "Ship Shack" when needed. Recently, he could often be found working on his model of the U.S.S. Savannah in the museum boat shop. Gerry was also a long time crew member of the Schooner *Gazella*, docked at Penns' Landing. He had a good heart and was a gentle man.



Spencer A. Anderson December 23, 2018, age 65

An Iowa native, Spencer was a very active member of the Ship Model Society. A former Secretary and editor of the news letter and a docent on the Seaport Museum's submarine "Becuna". Known by some as the "Gentlest of giants" and one of the most kind and caring people with a good word for everyone. Always willing to help, he volunteered for tasks and worked tirelessly to perform them. He was a regular at meetings and was working on a large model kit at the time of his death.

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS



The Ship Model Shack

The Seaport Museum has chosen PSMS to demonstrate 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). To fulfill this responsibility, we need volunteers to sit the shack on weekends.

See if you can find the time in your schedule.

Take a model, meet the public and share our hobby.

Support PSMS.

Contact Joe Jordan:

jjvtown@aol.com

Or sign up on the web:

philadelphia_ship_model_society.com



Designed by Society member John Christinzio and built by Society members.
December 9th 2018 marked the 9th anniversary of the Ship Shack at ISM.

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



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



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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 7th

PSMS Meeting

Program by Fred Signor TBD

March 7th

PSMS Meeting

Program by Todd Wardwell

April 11th

PSMS Meeting

Program by Joshua Fichmann

NE Ship Model Conference

Date to be announced

May 2nd

PSMS Meeting

Program by Captain Peter Orvis

June 6th

PSMS Meeting

Program TBD

Parking



NOTICE:

The Walnut St. entrance to the parking lot is not manned after hours. Members should use the Market Street entrance to the parking lot. That entrance is 2 blocks north of the Walnut Street entrance.

IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YOUR VEHICLE

Email your name, car make, model and color, along with your license plate number(s). (please include the state as well). State that you are a member of PSMS. If you use a 2nd car,

register that car as well.

Send the information to:

Greg Williams at: gwilliams@phillyseaport.org

Phone 215-413-8679

This policy is for volunteer days, and not for visiting Penn's Landing during non-volunteer hours.



The Delaware Valley Chapter meets at The Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing on the Delaware River, Sunday at 2:30 pm. Membership is \$15 for one year. Contact Chapter Chairman Steve Loveless at sloveless1959@gmail.com or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining.

2019 DUES NOTICE

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

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

Please make the check payable to PSMS. If you choose to mail your dues, send them to:

STEVE BULOVA, Treasurer

PSMS

4631 Larchwood Ave.

Philadelphia, PA

19143

To contact Steve by email: bulovastevil@msn.com

The Secret Language of Ships



A maritime pilot would board this ship using the two ladders pictured. First he or she ascends the rope ladder, sometimes called a Jacobs ladder. Part way up the pilot sidesteps onto the relative security of the diagonal gangplank, called an accommodation ladder.

Sometimes the pilot makes do with just the rope ladder.

According to IMO regulations, if the distance between the water to the deck (which changes according to the ship load and sea conditions) is more than 9 meters, the ship must deploy an accommodation ladder in addition to the rope ladder. Nine meters or more is a long climb on a rope ladder, especially under difficult sea conditions.

Boarding and disembarking are probably the most dangerous parts of the job. Getting off the ship, pilots may let go of the ladder and use what's called a man rope to help them on to the deck of the pilot boat. That way they're less likely to be crushed between the pilot boat and the ship.

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

The surest sign that
there's intelligent
life elsewhere in
the universe, is
that it has never
contacted us.

A GREAT SEA STORY

The passenger steamer SS Warrimoo was quietly knifing its way through the waters of the mid-Pacific on its way to Vancouver Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain John D.S. Phillips the result.

The Warrimoo's position was LAT 0° 31' N and Long 179 30' W. The date was December 31st 1889. "Know what this means?" First Mate Payton broke in, "We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line". Captain Phillips was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigational freak of a lifetime. He called his navigators to the bridge to check and double check the position. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he adjusted the engine speed. The calm weather and clear night worked in his favor. At midnight the SS Warrimoo lay on the Equator at exactly at the point where crossed International Date line! The consequences of this bizarre position were many.

The forward part (bow) of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere and in the middle of summer. The rear (stern) was in the Northern Hemisphere and in the middle of winter.

The date in the after part of the ship was 31 December 1889.

In the Bow (forward) part of the ship it was 1 January 1900. This ship was therefore not only in:

Two different days,
Two different months,
Two different years,
Two different seasons

But in two different centuries-all at the same! time!



Contributed by member Jerry Kates

CLUE SURFACES IN UNDERWATER HUNT FOR CONQUISTADOR'S LOST SHIPS

Among the earliest European conquerors of the New World, Hernando Cortez sailed into Mexico's Yucatan peninsula with strict orders from the Cuban Governor to explore and trade with the residents. Instead, he established the settlement of Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz claiming the town in the name of the Spanish king. When the members of his crew rebelled and attempted to seize a ship, Cortez ordered all ten of his ships scuttled at Vill Rica de la Vera Cruz.

High above the bay where Cortez established Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz are the ruins of Quihuitlan, its residents allied with Cortez.

A tantalizing clue that may help solve the 500 year old mystery around the "lost fleet" has been found in the Gulf of Mexico.

An iron anchor consistent with the type carried by European ships in the early 16th century has been discovered off the coast of Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz, where Cortez founded a settlement in 1519. While researchers cannot say at this time that the anchor conclusively belongs to one of the ships of Cortez, it provides the first compelling clue to the location of the wrecked vessels.

The anchor was discovered during a six-week survey this summer, in which researchers combed a 30 square-mile area off Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz with remote sensing equipment that detected unusual features the sea floor.

Stylistically consistent with what a 16th century ship would carry, it was its unusually well-preserved wooden stock that provided important evidence. Accelerator mass spectrometer and carbon-14 dating of the wood indicate that it was felled sometime between 1417 and 1530. It appears that the wood may be a species of red oak that grows in Spain's Basque region. Further testing is being conducted to confirm the identification.



BOOKS

SHIP MODELING FROM SCRATCH

By Edwin B. Leaf

Scratch building a ship model makes you master of your own fate. You do the research, choose the subject, the scale, the material. The choices are limited only by your enthusiasm. Ed Leaf scratch built his first model nearly 50 years ago and he's been refining and building on his skills ever since. In this book, he lays out the principles -from concept to construction to display. With Ship Modeling From Scratch open on your work bench, you have your own private tutor guiding you.

Ed Leaf is a member of Philadelphia Ship Model Society



"Your ship model -- the one stuck in the bottle ... I got it out."

SHOW & TELL

FRANCINE SERRATORE

Photos by on Spicer



USS RALEIGH 1894 Protected Cruiser

Scale 1/96 Scratch built from plans, 75% complete.

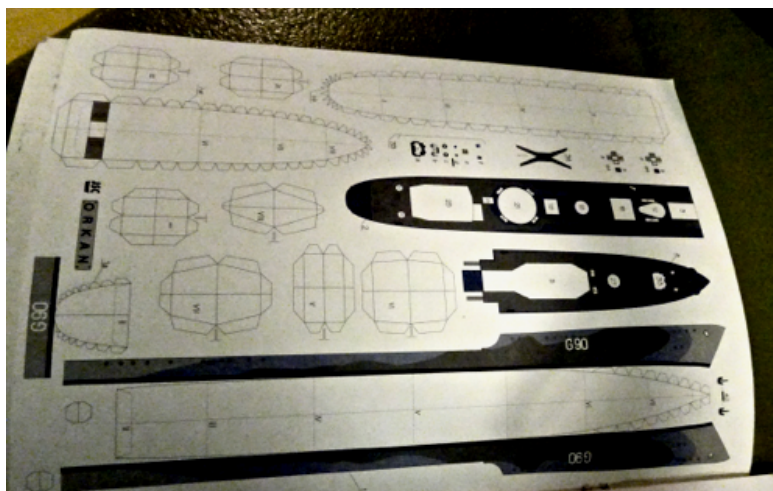
USS Raleigh was part of the new navy and was with Dewey's squadron at the Battle of Manilla Bay. She did convoy duty and served as a patrol unit along the East Coast during World War I. Deck planks were replaced first. Old style. Outer deck was

glued to the hull to improve appearance and watertight integrity. Hull sponsons were added along with the deck walkway. Purchased ventilators from BlueJacket, however they are too short and I am having difficulty finding tubing that matches exactly (plastic or brass). Ships boats and racks will be added along with door hatches and crew

Continued next page



Known primarily for his scratch built models, Ed presented 3 paper models from a Polish Kit maker that were completed some time ago.
SMS SAUKEN- German armored Corvette. Scale 1/ 250
HMS ADMIRAL- Minesweeper
KUSTENWACH- German Coast Guard



Paper models are most popular in Eastern European countries. These models show how intricate they can be even with small detail. the process is dirt free. All you need is glue and scissors or razor blades. He pointed out that, when all sources failed to turn up plans for a particular model that he wanted to scratch build, he used enlarged paper model plans in their place.

JOHN BULLOCK

Presented completed Hermoine and Constitution, both scratch built- 1/350 including all fittings. He also presented the W, Charles w. Morgan which is being scratch built from plans purchased at Mystic Seaport.



CHARLES W. MORGAN 1860 Whaling ship - Scale 1/200. Scratch built from plans purchased at the Mystic Seaport A Whaling ship from mid 1800's to early 1900's. Ship is moored in Mystic Seaport. Materials include boxwood and mahogany.



LE HERMIONE

French Frigate 1750

Scratch built. Scale 1/350. Materials: Mahogany and Boxwood.

John found the the rigging at this scale difficult. This is the ship that brought Gen. Lafayette to meet George Washington.



USS CONSTITUTION

Heavy Frigate 1779

Scratch built. Scale 1/200

Materials: Mahogany and boxwood.

This model was inspired by Donald McNarry, considered "the master of extreme miniature ship building."

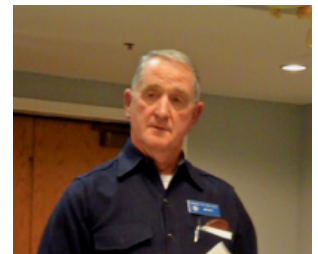




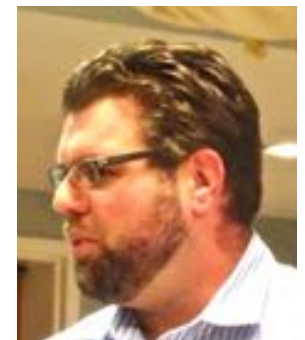
DOCTOR'S BUGGY

19th Century, Model Trailways Kit. Scale 1/12 from Model Expo.

Materials: Wood, cloth, leather, brass and Britannia. The kit comes with just the wagon but Jim improvised and scratch built a canopy, and found harness from a hobby dealer. He also found a model of a Man Of War horse which he felt looked the best and was the appropriate scale. He found some of the materials difficult to work with, especially the cast soft metal axels. He intends to continue working on the model to add some lanterns from the Syren Company.



JOSHUA FICHMANN



Presented the BLACK PEARL model by ZHL from China.

Captain Jack Sparrow's ship as depicted in the movie "Pirates of the Caribbean". The finished model will be approximately 46" long and 26" tall. The kit came with lots of resin cargo and fittings and a remote control lighting system. The hull will be cut away on one side and the lighting system will illuminate the interior of the model. Joshua is still deciding on tattered or intact sails. The best feature of the model? "the topic"



Joe presented his ongoing work on the Dumas Kit of the Typhoon, a model he started back in the late 1990's and decided he either had to trash it, or finish it. Since then he has put roughly 14 coats of varnish to create the deep wooden shine you see. He also presented the lighting kit he uses from the RC Airplane Model Company, E-fligh and some of the options for adding LED lighting to a model.

He discussed some of the challenges of scratch building the window frames and the rub rails and he showed us a jig he built that allows him to feed brass tubing into a saw to cut it in half for the rails. Rails and window frame were then nickel plated. Bad fittings were discarded. Bought new, un-plated fittings which he polished and plated at home.

Built in the 1920's for Edsel Ford (\$39,000), bought by Howard Hughes in the 1940's, burned in 1960. New 34ft version of this boat now sells for \$550,000.



KURT FAUST



SPANISH GALLEON

This nick-knack caused a lot of discussion at Kurt's house.

What was it? Where did it come from? Who made it?.

Some thought it was made in Japan, Others differed.

Somebody looked at the label on the bottom-
Made in the USA!

STEVE BULOVA



Steve presented a 3d Metal Earth Kit build of the USS Arizona- made from laser cut stainless steel. No glues required. It's all slot and tabs that are bent over resulting in a 5.5" model of the WWII Battleship.





Ron presented his build of the 1/400 Academy RMS Olympic/Titanic in response to a request to the club by a citizen to assist in finding the gift for her son. Member Dennis Levitt generously offered to buy the model if someone would build it for the boy. Ron, now turned Santa, has worked to provide this model in a timely fashion.

Also presented - The USS Olympia in her 1918 configuration which was achieved by fabricating the fore and aft guns and platforms, on a Revell 1/232 plastic kit, enlarging the stern bridge and adding a large radio shack and boat crane. Ron added that the Olympia was painted gray twice in her life. At the battle of Manilla Bay and again in 1918. Working with the Curatorial Department at ISM, this model and 3 more will be part of a display on the ship itself depicting the USS Olympia as she looked in four stages of her life: As built in 1895, The battle of Manilla Bay, 1902, and 1918.





Photos by Ron Spicer

Joe Gudonis demonstrated how to fibreglass a hull for an RC model.

He suggested using #4 oz. fabric. Using a postal scale, he measures 4 ounces of resin and adds 40 drops of catalyst (10 per oz). This is enough resin to finish one side of the hull.

He doesn't recommend applying the resin first as it will quickly set prior to attaching the fabric.

1. Instead, first drape the fabric over the hull on one side allowing a small portion to drape over the keel.
2. Then paint the resin directly on to the fabric and allow to dry for a couple of hours.
3. Then mix another batch of resin/catalyst mixture and repeat the procedure for the other side.
4. Once that is dry, cut off the excess fabric.
5. Spray with gray automotive primer which assists in spotting imperfections.
6. Then it's a lot of wet sanding.
7. If the fabric weave is still visible, then re-apply another coat of resin.
8. One alternative for fabric is women's nylon panty hose. Slip the hull into the hose and then apply the resin. Cut off the excess.
9. Fibreglass materials can be acquired at any auto body product provider.
10. Any mess can be cleaned up with acetone.
11. Once dry, test the hull in the bath tub with lead weights evenly distributed until it's to the waterline to ensure that there are no leaks.

