



## PSMS at the The Delaware River Festival



Photo: Mike Weaver



Photo: Ron Spicer

The Seaport Museum supplied 6 tables and 2 of our tents were used for the display of ship models at the Delaware River Festival formerly Coast Day. The weather could not have been any better. The crowds were large and a lot of interest was shown in our display of models. This year, two tables were located inside the boat shop, by far the best location since you could feel the effects of the air conditioning, even though the sliding doors were open. Members attending were, Francine Serratore, Joe Jordan, Steve Bulova, Jim Wheeler, Mike weaver and Ron and Jean Spicer.

### The September program

## SHADOW BOXES ON THE QUEEN MARY II

Avid cruise line travelers, Mike Zimmerman and his wife Bobbie showed slides of their their Atlantic crossing on the Queen Mary II which is fresh off a 132 million dollar refit. It is the only true ocean liner in service today.

Of the many things to see are a series of shadow boxes containing various objects. Since they did not have captions, interesting discussion insued about their use and their era. The boxes included a lantern, fire extinguisher, sextant, engine telegraph, 2 half hull models and small sailing ship models and a board of knots. This last one prompted Fred Signor to offer a program to demonstrate how to tie nautical knots.

His talk is scheduled for the October meeting.

Below is Mike's model of the retired QE II that commemorates their trip, and has a light that marks their cabin.



Photos: Ron Spicer

The 862nd meeting the Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) was held at the Independence Seaport Museum (ISM) on the fifth day of September, 2019. President Francine Serratore called the meeting to order at 19:10 and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Minutes of the Meeting

♥ **Sick Call:** Jim Wheeler

**Visitors:** Adam Geibel

**Presentation:** Mike Zimmerman - Shadow Boxes on Queen Mary 2.

**Show and Tell**

**Refreshment Break**

## Business Meeting

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve Bulova - will produce a budget for 2020. **Name Tags;** Spence Delin

**Club Outings /Events:** Camden Museum- Todd wardwell- Let's set a date. **Lakehurst Airport:** Mike Zimmerman.

**Northeast Conference-:** Steve Bulova- club to be refunded money, not our year. **Website:** One new visitor from the site.

**Future Presentations: October-** Fred Signor- Knots, how to tie, what they are used for. **November-** Tom Mc Elhinney's friend- 3D Printing. **December-** Holiday Party and White Whale Sale.

**New Member Committee:** Mike Weaver- Library presentations.

## New Business

**PSMS-ISM show 9/28 Maritime Conference Show:** 50% reimbursement for non-members who pay parking (\$10). Must pre-register. Currently, about 5 people have done so. John and Nancy Esposito to pick up donation of a Blue Jacket models. IPMS will debate a \$50 prize ( to AAA Hobbies).

Partnership for Delaware Estuary. Saturday, September 7th , 9AM to 4 PM. Attending so far: Joe Jordan, Steve Bulova, Ron Spicer, Jim Wheeler, and francine Serratore.

**Election Committee 2020:** Pat Leif, Mike Zimmerman and Mike Weaver.

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## Changes to the Constitution

At the last meeting, it was discovered that PSMS does not have a budget process for dispersant of funds.

Steve Bulova will do a budget for 2020. Remember, a budgets a projection and we can't predict the future. but based on prior years, we should have a handle on most expenses and income.

There have been couple of incidents that show we are out of control on spending of PSMS funds:

- 1) a member paid for North East conference even though it is not our year to host. Steve is working on getting reimbursement of funds from our hosting Club
- 2) The cost of the 2018 holiday party was \$200 over what was expected and no one knows the reason. I know there were several no-shows- which must be addressed. We need to have a drop dead date for giving a count and people who have not paid should not be in the count. Also we have paid for guest that were no-shows - let's make sure they go or not invite.
- 3) Flyers were printed for the club without adequate review of the leadership or PSMS membership with no competitive bidding. This has resulted in the contact being a person who has not been at a meeting for at least three years. It also gives his address, telephone number and email.

Part of what Josh is doing it is to make the website our contact point. The PSMS website and email address should be on the flyers. Josh also wants other executive board members to have the password, so that it can be monitored.

In light of two known incidents, I want to share the NPS ( North Penn S Gaugers) bylaws:

No expenditure over \$25 without membership approval ( unless a budgeted item).

### I propose the following:

No expenditure over \$50 without for executive committee members of approval.

No expenditure over \$200 without PSMS membership approval.

All flyers to be reprinted must be brought to the executive committee for review and if deemed necessary, the PSMS membership.

There should be competitive bidding on purchases (which can be done by individual members, many of whom have contacts).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted, Francine Serratore, President

# Philadelphia Modelcon

( ROTUNDA GATHERING AT ISM )

**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

10am to 3pm



For the first time, the Philadelphia Ship Model Society in cooperation with the Seaport Museum is planning to display ship models at the Seaport Museum's brand-new waterfront space facing the Delaware River, referred to as the rotunda. Outside organizations and other participants are being invited to participate. Exhibitors and vendors will receive a \$10 refund for parking on the street level parking lot. To qualify for this refund, they must obtain a receipt for payment. PSMS will refund. There is no charge for table space and admission to the museum is free. Set-up at 9 AM.

### **ATTENTION PSMS MEMBERS**

This is a prestige event for our Society. These kind of events are a chance to advertise the Ship Model Society. Our leadership has worked hard to make this event possible. The Seaport Museum is supporting us 100%. Displaying our work will entertain the public and encourage the growth of our Society and our hobby. Your participation will help to make this a success. If you plan to participate, please email Event Chairman Joshua Fichmann at:

**Modelship@yahoo.com or phone 609-760-4727**

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### **PSMS OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD 2019**

President: Francine Serratore [fserratore@verizon.net](mailto:fserratore@verizon.net)  
Vice-President: Fred Signor [fsignor@comcast.net](mailto:fsignor@comcast.net)  
Secretary: Joshua Fichmann [fichmann@yahoo.com](mailto:fichmann@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer: Steve Bulova [bulovastevel@msn.com](mailto:bulovastevel@msn.com)  
Webmaster: Joshua Fichmann [fichmann@yahoo.com](mailto:fichmann@yahoo.com)  
Editor: Ron Spicer, [rspicer33@aol.com](mailto:rspicer33@aol.com)

Todd Wardwell, President 2018  
Jim Wheeler, President 2017  
Fred Signor, President 2016  
Tom McElhinney, President 2015  
Mike Zimmerman, President 2014  
Mike Weaver, President Emeritus

Joe Jordan, Representative to ISM



# THE SHIP 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](mailto:jjvtown@aol.com)

Or sign up on the web:

[philadelphia\\_ship\\_model\\_society.com](http://philadelphia_ship_model_society.com)



## THE 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, ( 7 to 11oz. ) Combs, Heavy Socks, Toothpaste (4 to 6 oz.), Work Gloves, Deodorant Sticks, Mini Sewing Kits, Nail Clippers, Pens and Writing Paper, with Envelopes.



## INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM

Join us as we read Herman Melville's entire novel over a 25-hour period, starting on Saturday, November 9 at 2 p.m. and reading through Sunday, November 10 at 3 p.m.. This collaboration with the Rosenbach will feature a boatload of food and fun activities for all ages. Celebrate the great white whale with us!

[Tickets available at the Seaport Museum web site](#)

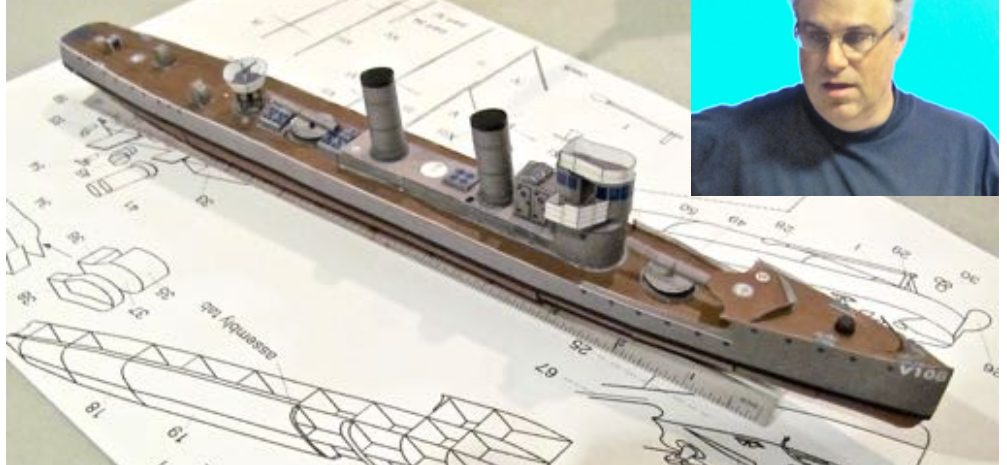
If you would like to be a reader, please email Edward G. Petit at [epettit@rosenbach.org](mailto:epettit@rosenbach.org) . Please indicate what times you are available to read and we will do our best to accommodate.

# SHOW and TELL

## AL CURATOLO

GERMAN V108 TORPEDO BOAT 1914  
Scale 1/150

A digital Navy kit. Paper model with some wood. Al estimates completion by October. The model was free and a good experience. He felt if he did the model it again, he would build it as a waterline instead of full hull. The super structure was the most difficult part and the instructions terse. But all in all, a good build experience.



## JOE JORDON

1973 SCHOONER, *HARVY GAMAGE*

Scale 1/48

Scratch built

Materials: Mahogany, Sitica Spruce and basswood.

“Started with freshman skills in 1975, now redoing poor workmanship”.

Too late to do it the first time. The ship still operates. Summer in Portland, Winters, south (Cuba, Bahamas).

All parts except ship’s wheel are hand made including block spindles and masts. Rigging is cotton for crocheting-natural.

Plans- S.D. Warren advertising brochure and Google.

Joe’s final comment “NA - Never again”.



Photos by Ron Spicer

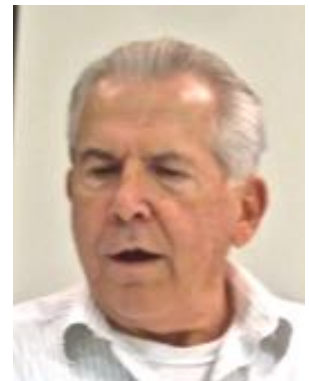
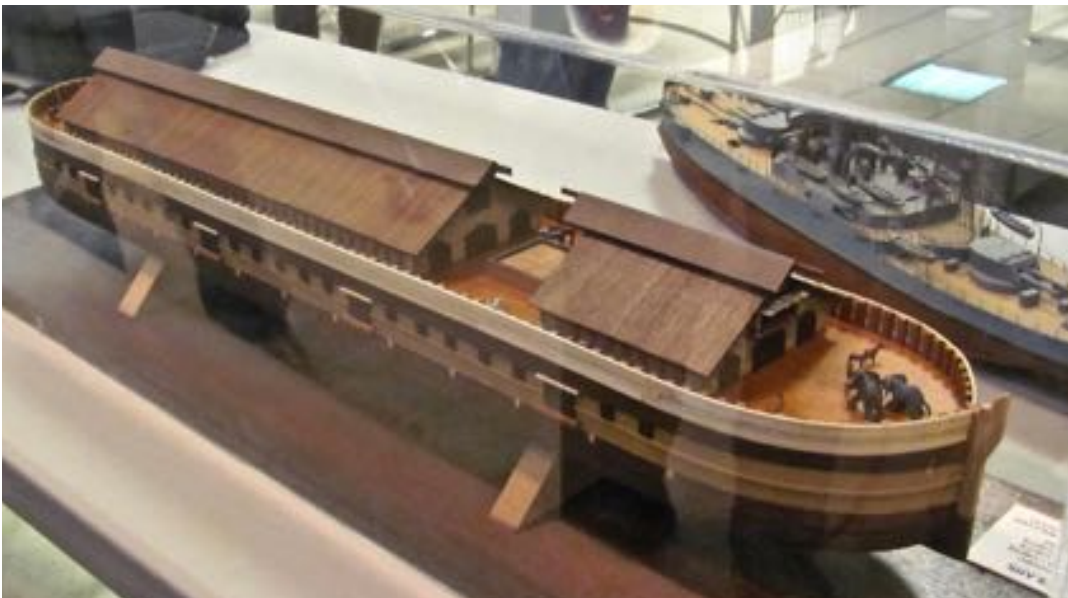
# SHOW and TELL

JOE GUDONIS



37 FT EGG HARBOR SPORT FISHERMAN *BLACK JACK* Circa 1980  
Scale 1/2 " = 1ft.  
Scratch built.  
90% finished. Materials- "everything".  
Built from photographs and sales brochures.  
This boat was a constant winner at the Ocean City New Jersey "Night in Venice."  
"It was easy to build, it just is taking a while".

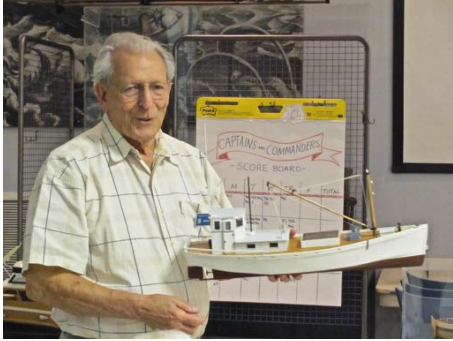
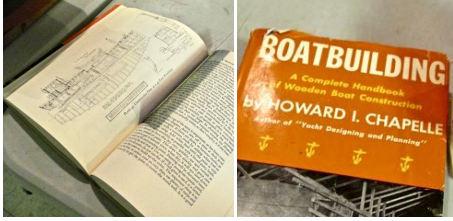
MIKE WEAVER



NOAH'S ARK Circa 3000 BCE  
Scale 1/192  
Country of origin- Black Sea  
Material, all wood.  
% of completion, 100 %

# SHOW and TELL

HAROLD LAZAR



45 Ft. WORK BOAT *ANGELA*

Scale 1/2" = 1'

Plans adapted by Ed Leaf from a book by Howard Chapelle.

When asked "If you built it again, what would you do differently?" Harold replied. "no balsa".

ED LEAF



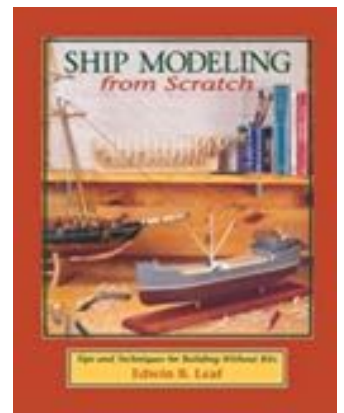
BATTLESHIP USS ILLINOIS Circa 1900  
Scratch built.

Scale 1/16" = 1 ft.

100 % complete

Of the many model ships Ed has built, this one stands out because of its cage masts and often raises the question "how to make a complicated object that flares out at each end?". For the answer, Consult Ed's book:

"SHIP MODELING FROM SCRATCH"



# SHOW and TELL

ENZO CUROTOLO



## LANDING CRAFT INFANTRY (LC I), WWII

Lindberg plastic kit

Scale 1/150

A work in progress. Nicely done and an excellent presentation This is Enzo's second presentation. His first presentation was his Lego model of the U.S. Subchaser SC-1



## THE CRAZIEST THINGS OVERHEARD ON A CRUISE SHIP

With the ship in port, one passenger arriving in his cabin immediately complained he had booked a cabin with a porthole for an outside view and he didn't have one. His steward gently explained that the terminal building blocking his view would not be there for the rest of the view.

A couple first arriving in their cabin were puzzled by the only bed being covered by a large protective plastic sheet proclaiming it was for luggage only. They rang the pursers' office asking where they were meant to sleep.

After being shown to his cabin, one passenger rang guest services to complain he couldn't get out. Asked to check the internal lock, he said he only had two doors: one was to the toilet and the other was marked "Do Not Disturb".

A passenger that first crossed the Atlantic on the *Queen Mary* and then returned home on the *Queen Elizabeth*, complained that putting the clock forward every night meant he got less sleep than when he was on the *Queen Mary*, as on that ship' the clock was put back every night so passengers could get plenty of rest.

It was discovered that a lonely lady on a cruise ship was eating all of her meals at the buffet. When asked why she preferred the buffet to the dining room, it turned out that she didn't realize there was no charge for eating in the dining room



# 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 Penns 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



Short Sleeved Polo



## 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](mailto:pjlebl@comcast.net)

Please be sure of your size

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

September 28th **Philadelphia ModelCon**

October 24th-26th NRG Conference, New Bedford, MA

October 3rd **PSMS Meeting**

**Program:** Fred Signor

**Notes and how to tie them, what they are used for**

October 24-26th. Nautical Research Guild

2019 Conference

November 7th **PSMS Meeting**

**Program:** 3D Printing

November 9th-10th ISM Moby Dick Marathon Reading

November 9th Oxford, MD Boat show

December 5th **PSMS Meeting**

**Holiday Party/ White Whale Sale**

December 7th ISM Parade of Lights



Remember Pearl Harbor



Delaware Valley Chapter meetings are held at The Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's landing on the Delaware River. Membership is \$15 for one year. Contact Steve Lovless at [slldvesshsa@gmail.com](mailto:slldvesshsa@gmail.com) or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining



## 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

# One of the worst warships ever built!

## Russian monitor *Novgorod*



A scale model of Novgorod as she appeared after 1875.

Novgorod was a monitor built for the Imperial Russian Navy in the 1870s. She was one of the most unusual warships ever constructed, and still survives in popular myth as one of the worst warships ever built. The hull was circular to reduce draft while allowing the ship to carry much more armor and a heavier armament than other ships of the same size.

The idea of a circular battleship emerged in a 1868 report published by Scottish ship builder John Elder that advocated widening the beam of a ship would reduce the area that needed to be protected and allow it to carry thicker armor and heavier, more powerful guns in comparison to a ship with narrow beam, as was typical practice of the day. Also, such a ship would have a shallower draft and only a moderate increase in power would be required to match the speed of a normal ship.

Sir Edward Reed, then director of Naval Construction of the Royal Navy agreed with him.

Rear Adm. Andrei Alexandrovich Popov of the Imperial Russian Navy further expanded on Elders concept by broadening the ship so that it was actually circular and he made the design flat bottomed to minimize its draft.

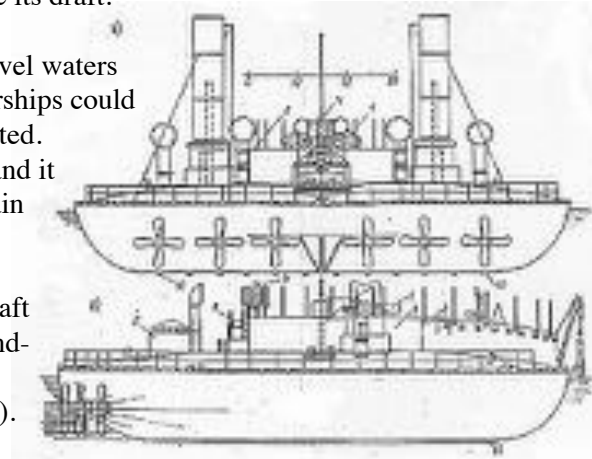
Then pressed home the Construction..

The design revolved around a shallow draft vessel capable of traversing low level waters such as rivers and lakes, giving it access to more battlefronts than traditional warships could ever reach. The end result became one of the most panned warships ever completed.

It's circular hull did not allow for the expected armoring and ornament benefits and it suffered from stability in anything other than calm waters and accuracy of its main armament was left wanting.

Originally *Novgorod* was developed along the lines of a monitor ironclad. Her dimensions included a length of 101 feet with a beam equaling that, while her draft was just 13.5 ft. Displacement was 2,500 tons and power was from six compound-expansion steam engines fed by eight boilers- all this driving six shafts (the outboard pair were removed in 1876-77 due to their minimal propulsion benefits). At best, the ship could hope to make upwards of 6.5 knots in ideal conditions.

Two smoke funnels were fitted along the sides of the circular shape with the main armament, 2 x 11" (280mm) guns sited dead center). While rifled, they remained muzzle loading weapons. The guns traversed on a rotating turntable and could be fired jointly or individually. But in other respects the ship was considered a dismal failure. It was too slow to stem the current in the Dniepr, and proved very difficult to steer. In practice the discharge of even one gun caused it to turn out of control and even contra-rotating some of six propellers, was unable to keep the ship on the correct heading. Nor could it cope with rough weather which is frequently encountered in the Black Sea. It was prone to rapid rolling and pitching in anything more than a flat calm and could not aim or load its guns under such circumstances



Novgorod's first and only call to arms came during the Russo-Turkish war (1877-78) where she was stationed at Odessa to act as a deterrent. In 1892 she was re-designated "coastal defense ironclad". Struck from the Naval register in July, 1903 and used as stores ship until she was sold for scrap in 1911.





# 2019 CONFERENCE UPDATE

New Bedford, MA

October 24th through October 26th



The NRG is partnering with the New Bedford Whaling Museum located in New Bedford, MA. for the 2019 Conference, <https://www.whalingmuseum.org/>  
The Conference will be held at the Museum. Attendees will have free access to the Museum during the Conference and on Sunday following the Conference.

## \* CONFERENCE MODEL REGISTRATION \*

### CONFERENCE MODEL SHOW MODEL REGISTRATION FORM

The registration form for the 2019 Conference Model Show is now available for downloading from the web site. <https://www.thenrg.org/nrg-2019-conference.php>

Members attending the conference who are planning to bring models for display must preregister their models on a first come basis. We expect a lot of models and there is limited space. Models must be preregistered to be displayed. Please mail or scan and email the registration form - your signature is required.

### **PREREGISTRATION OF MODELS IS REQUIRED**

October 6, 2019 is the cutoff date for registration of models and the final date in order to have a tent card made up with the model's information, as listed on the registration form.

**All models for display must be accompanied by their registration confirmation.**

### **PREREGISTRATION OF MODELS IS REQUIRED**

## **Hotel Information**

We have a block of rooms the Fairfield Inn and Suites New Bedford. At this date, half the rooms have been reserved-it's looking like it will be a well attended event.

## SAVE THE DATE

# Oxford Model Boat Show

**Saturday, November 9, 2019**

**Oxford Community Center Auditorium, Oxford, Maryland**

10 AM until 4 PM Set up starts at 8:30 AM. Take down at 4 PM. Doors open to visitors at 10 AM

Model boat builders with their models are invited. Set up your models and discuss them with visitors as I do, or you can set up your booth and sell as much as you can. If you have a story to be told this is your opportunity.

There is no charge for table space. Tables and burlap covers are provided or you may use your own.

**Registration forms and updated information will be emailed about October 1.**

For more information contact:

edthieler@yahoo.com

Ed Thieler III, M.D.  
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Easton, MD 21601  
410-820-5028

## 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.theng.org](http://www.theng.org) or call 585 968 8111