



Quarterdeck

**JUNE
2020**
OUR 89th
YEAR

THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY.

www.philadelphiaSHIPmodelsociety.com

Launched January 7, 1931

Minutes of the Meeting

The 871st meeting of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) was on the internet utilizing the Zoom application. The meeting was hosted by Bobby Zimmerman using her Zoom account. There were 16 members signed on with 6 participating in Show and Tell.



Sick Call: Rick Rathgeber

Business Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Steve Bulova -

Name Tags; Spence Delin: sdelin@verizon.net

Club Outings /Events:

MODELCON:

The availability of the Battleship New Jersey is in doubt. At this writing, the New Jersey is open for self guided tours of the exterior decks on the ship. After a discussion by all members which included social distancing, and expected attendance, etc., it was decided to cancel the 2020 ModelCon until summer of 2021. The final date will be announced.

INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM:

The museum is closed and will open when Philadelphia goes "green". However, it is expected that when that happens, the museum will have to perform extensive preparations to receive the public. Joe Jordan is the Society liaison to the museum and is continuously monitoring the situation and will report to the membership when there are any changes.

THE PSMS JULY MEETING

The next PSMS meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM. It is scheduled to be a ZOOM meeting. Reminder emails will be sent ahead of time. Watch your inbox.



QUARTERDECK SUBMISSIONS

Take pictures with your camera or cell phone of your current or past project that you would like to show (maybe you already have). Include a description. Be sure to include the name of your (project, ship), scale, scratch or kit(manufacturer), era (year) and country and anything you would want to say about your project. just as you would when you fill out the presentation sheet at the meeting or stand up and talk.

A word about pictures. Make sure they are well lighted, (possibly take them outside) and in focus and no more than 2 or 3. Put them against plain backgrounds if possible - not on your oriental rug. But workbench shots are

OOPS!

Spence Delin's scratch built model of the English sixth rate warship *Truelove* in the May edition of the Quarterdeck was mislabeled 1866. The correct date is 1666.

Our apologies to Spence - The Quarterdeck Staff



SHOW and TELL

MIKE WEAVER



Here is a photo of my three Titanics. They are 50% completed. Three different model companies with the same molds. They were purchased at yard sales. They all have a lot of missing parts that I have replaced with Evergreen Plastics. For plastic models, they all have a lot of rigging that has to be added as you build. The models are challenging. i am grateful to the Society for teaching me the necessary skills.

Photo by Mike Weaver

JOE JORDAN



RESCUE 40 FT SPORT FISHERMAN Scale 3/4" =1ft

Joe showed the completion of a very old Lindberg Kit that had been badly started by someone else, that he came across in his basement. Half finished, he decided to complete the model. Joe veneered the interior with mahogany. The forward deck is covered with "linoleum" which is actually a screen shot of the pattern glued to card stock. The back deck panels lift off to show the motors and servos. "The boat also has two foot long outriggers with guy wires that make it awkward to get out of the house, let alone carry in the car. If it wasn't for the stay-at-home stuff, I'd have put the model in the trash. But it is Radio controlled so we'll see how it goes."

Photos: Joe Jordan

SHOW and TELL

SPENCE DELIN



HELLEN B. THOMAS,
Grand Banks fishing schooner, circa 1901.
Scratch built. Scale 1/48. her hull followed
the general shape of Grand Banks
fishermen of the period, except that the
bow section is elongated to permit the
omission of the bowsprit while still carrying
the necessary jibs. Many sailors were lost



crawling out on the bowsprits. Fishing was done from the ten dories. The thwarts (seats) were removable to allow two stacks of five boats to be carried on the deck space for two. Banks fishermen carried a horse shoe for luck on the forward side of the windlass post. the shoe always faced up (U) so the luck would not run out.

Photos: Spence Delin

JOE GUDONIS

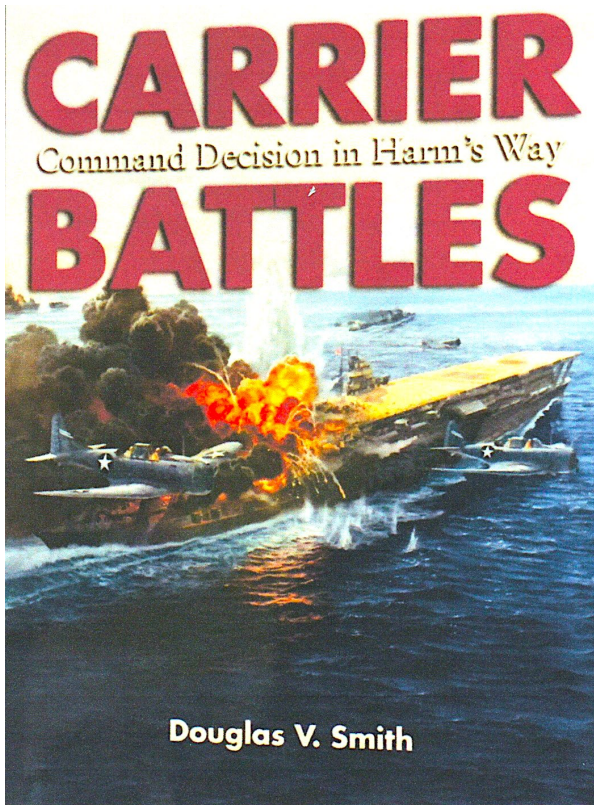
JOE REMINISCES

“ In 1972, I got a radio controlled sail boat.” (He witnessed an RC race of 12 meter models on Bristol Lake in Bristol Pa., bought one and joined the club.) “By 1978 I was racing four sailboats. When I joined “Tall Ship GAZELLA”, I stopped racing RC sailboats and went to other RC boats. At right, Joe is shown in a “FAMILY” photo, taken in the 1976 in his back yard. “I had ten boats as you can see- none of them finished. When I see a boat I like, I start again. What ever catches my eye. I now have 14.

Photo by Joe Gudonis



Book review by Mike Zimmerman



CARRIER BATTLES

Command Decision in Harm's way

By Douglas V. Smith

I counted up my aircraft carrier fleet: Saratoga CV-3 (plus converted battle cruiser USS Saratoga CC-3), Hornet CV-8 (with B-25's), Intrepid CV-11, United States CVA-58, Kitty Hawk CV-63 (under construction), HMS Ark Royal, and HMS Furious (in planning). Still waiting in boxes are Langley CV-1, Yorktown CV-10, and Theodore Roosevelt CVN-71. Having 10 carriers and everything from biplanes to jets and missiles, I was pleased to see the Naval Institute Press publication of *Carrier Battles: Command Decision in Harm's Way*, by Douglas V. Smith, Naval Historian and Professor Emeritus at the U.S. Naval War College.

After an introduction and first chapter on Preparing for war: Naval Education between the wars, the layout of the following chapters is an examination of the command decisions made by the U.S. Navy's WWII top leadership, based on criteria developed by the Naval War College. Covered are 5 WWII carrier battles: Coral Sea, Midway, the Eastern Solomons, Santa Cruz, and the Philippine Sea, and as the author notes, modern technology and the global economy make future open ocean warfare unlikely and "there will be no more".

In each battle, the events are covered and the commanders' decisions are evaluated by 8 criteria (in brief):

1. The estimate of the situation and the significance of decisions.
2. The ability to formulate a course of action.
3. The adequacy command arrangements and chain of command.
4. Adherence to operational and tactical doctrines and procedures.
5. Communication of mission requirements.
6. Understanding of political importance from attack to withdrawal.
7. Audacity in conceptualizing and executing plan of attack.
8. Ability to learn and pass lessons on for later engagements.

Each commander, including Nimitz, Spruance, Fletcher, Mitscher, and others, is graded, ranging from A (Nimitz) to D (Turner). Halsey is not included in this list, as his sinking of undefended carriers disqualifies as a battle.

There is a lengthy chapter of conclusions, but the best conclusion included is a speech given by Vice-Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher on Navy Day, 1946. In summary, "What, then, prompted Japan's surrender?... Her Navy was sunk! Her raw materials were exhausted... Her surrender was inevitable... all by our control of the sea - on it, under it and over it."

There are only a few small photographs, there are a number of maps and charts and extensive notes and bibliography. This paperback book is reasonably priced and I highly recommend it to those of us old enough to remember WWII in the Pacific and younger readers who want to learn about the past

PSMS OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD 2019

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REMEMBER 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 Or sign up on the web: philadelphia_ship_model_society.com

**Please remember, one of the reasons we get free parking is because
WE KEEP THE LIGHTS ON IN THE SHACK!**

PARKING

FREE PARKING FOR MEMBERS

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@](mailto:gwilliams@phillyseaport.org)

phillyseaport.org

Phone 215-413-8679

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

GUESTS: The Society will pay the parking fee for the first visit only to a Society meeting and must be sponsored by a member.



ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING
DISORDERLY IS THAT ONE IS CONSTANTLY
MAKING EXCITING DISCOVERIES

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 pilebl@comcast.net

Please be sure of your size

FORTHCOMINGEVENTS

July 14th

PSMS Meeting

ZOOM meeting 7:00 PM

August 7th

PSMS MEETING

To be announced

August 15th

PSMS MODELCON

CANCELLED

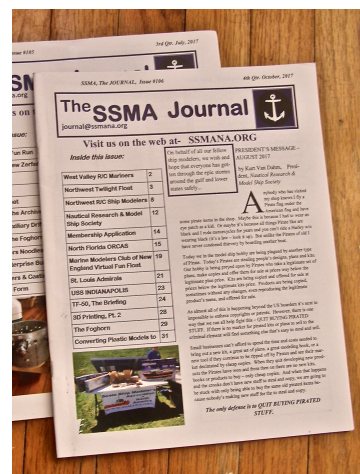
September.

To be announced

DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SAY WHEN OR HOW FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD. WHEN WE RESUME OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE. A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE SENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP.



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 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

THE BENSON FORD SHIPHOUSE

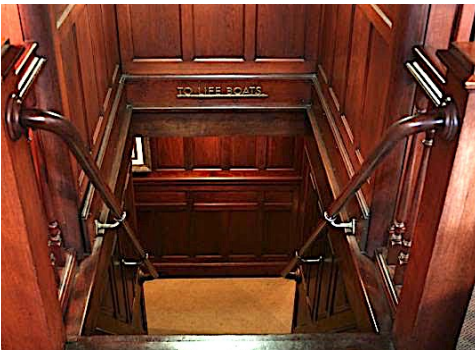


The historic shipping vessel has a new life towering over the rocky shoreline of South Bass Island. The ship was decommissioned after 50 years of service. After being decommissioned, it was left to rust for four years before the front part of the ship was removed and perched on top of an 18-foot cliff above Lake Erie, to serve as a vacation home.



Looking across the bow, it seems the ship actually steaming full speed ahead and visitors must be okay with the heights if they take a tour onto the bow of the boat and see the water so far below. The ship-house has maintained the historic and beautiful interior, which is updated with modern amenities. The ship still contains the beautiful state rooms, dining room and lounge designed by Henry Ford. The ship was used by Henry Ford to travel across the Great Lakes. Thomas Edison was a frequent guest.

The present four deck ship-house is 7,000 sq. ft., and includes walnut paneled staterooms, a dining room with galley and passenger lounge designed by Henry Ford designed for his personal use while on board. The ship-house was then owned by Frank J. Sullivan, but after failing to turn it into a hotel in 1992, he auctioned the building to father and son Jerry and Bryan Casper, who still enjoy relaxing there while taking time off from work. It has been modernized with a garage, game room, Bar, and State-of-the-art kitchen, and 4 bathrooms. The 90 year old cargo ship is beautiful as she sits overlooking her former waterways and is amazing. To watch the sunsets is amazing.



Bryan Kasper says: "Everyone who sees our home from the outside, wants to look inside. Everyone who sees it is amazed at the gorgeous woodwork. I love the deck on the fourth floor. It's a great to enjoy a cocktail overlooking the lake. throughout our beautiful home.

Videographer Nick James, who conducts tours of the home says" the most incredible part is standing at the helm the way the boat hangs over the cliff. It actually feels like you are on the open water. I love the history that remains all around the Benson Ford.

"In the parlor, you can imagine Thomas Edison and Henry Ford sitting there and puffing their cigars. When you're there it's like.

Continued on next page



Photos: Caters News Agency

stepping back in time, and that those two famed gentlemen could appear at any moment". The impressive getaway includes four bedrooms, a captain's office and living room with panoramic views across Lake Erie. The incredible beauty of a long-ago ship, still available for water lovers to see.

Contributed by member Jerry Kates

A BOAT MADE OUT OF A PLANE

This strange but really cool looking boats actually made out of the fuselage of an old plane. The plane that lent its body for this unique vessel is the Boeing 307 Stratoliner. A ground-breaking aircraft based on the iconic B-17 bomber. Only 10 of these planes were made in the late 1930's. The 307 was the first commercial aircraft that featured a pressurized cabin. This allowed it to fly higher and avoid weather and turbulence.

Ken London, a private pilot, bought the plane at an auction for just \$62. He took the airliner to Ft, Lauderdale, where he decided to convert it into a boat. After removing the wings, Ken turned the airplane into a motor yacht.



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