



Quarterdeck

FEBRUARY
2021
Our 90th
Year

THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY.

www.philadelphia_ship_model_society.com

Launched January 7, 1931

Minutes of the Meeting

The 879th meeting of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society (PSMS) (virtually) was called to order by President Jim Wheeler at 19:00 and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.



Sick Cal: Joe Gudonis has recovered after hospitalization and rehab. Joe believes he contracted Covid 19 at a holiday family get-together.

Visitors: Tom Ruggiero and Bill Brown- the Ship Model Society of New Jersey and Ryland Crane- Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

Presentation; Tom Ruggiero presented a tech talk on sails.

Show and Tell: Bill Brown continued his work on Zip Along 2 Chris Craft speed boat.

Spence Delin represented English Brig Pantaloon, scratch built.

Michael Weaver- Akagi 1/450 Scale a rescue build.

Old Business

90th Newsletter

Ron Spicer, Mike Weaver, Joe Jordan, Steve Bulova and Joshua Fichmann are participating in assembling the 90th anniversary newsletter edition for PSMS.

Rotunda Exhibit has been closed down- restaurant to be opened in the near future.

New Business

ISM re-opening March 20th- Parking is still an issue.

Peter Siebert named recent CEO to the Independence Seaport Museum, his most recent experience being CEO of the Buffalo Bill Center in Cody Wyoming. Has a strong background in obtaining contributions to non-profits.

Jennifer Blasy, Controller of the Seaport Museum has resigned.

Farm Days Pennsville, N.J - Set for June 5th

Banner Sign; A motion was made by Mike Weaver for the Society to investigate getting a new sign- potentially a larger sign for the battleship. Josh Fichmann to collaborate with Jack from the Battleship and to determine vendors and pricing

MODELCON- Projected for August pending the covid environment and the Battleship NJ schedule. Date to be announced.

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

The USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild, host of this years NE Conference has announced the new date agreed upon by the five clubs is October 2, 2021. Mark your calendars.

PSMS Modelcon: The Battleship reached out, date set August 7 available areas to exhibit are the Officer Wardroom, Admiral's Quarters, and a tented area on the fantail. All areas are accessible by elevator.

PSMS Modelcon: The Battleship reached out, date set August 7th. Available areas to exhibit are the Officer's Wardroom, Admiral's Quarters, and a tented area on the fantail. All areas are accessible by elevator pending the environment and Battleship NJ schedule. NY Shipcraft Guild would like to participate

Treasurers's Report: SSMA paid-PSMS insured, accepted as delivered.

Respectfully submitted.

Joshua Fichmann

Secretary

OTHER NEWS

MARCH PSMS ZOOM MEETING

The next PSMS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 4th at 7:00PM. The ZOOM application password will be sent to members.



BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY:

The battleship is temporarily closed for tours, events and overnights through fall and winter. The battleship plans to reopen in April with a full arsenal of programs.

INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM announced that they will be opening the doors to the museum's building and gangway of the National Landmark ship Cruiser *Olympia* on Saturday, March 20 ... also known as the first

day of spring. Can you think of a better way to celebrate?

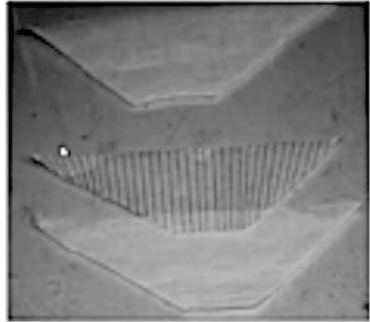
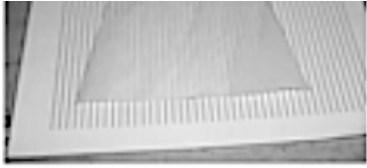
The Museum will be operating on a weekends-only schedule, Saturdays 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. The timed ticketing system will remain in place. Tickets in advance are highly encouraged well as the requirement that all guests wear masks, ensure social distancing and utilize hand sanitizer stations.

*Please note that the National Historic Landmark Ship Submarine *Becuna* remains closed.

February Program:

BOWLINES, BUNTLINES AND REEF TACKLE: MAKING SAILS WITH SILK SPAN

A Zoom meeting presentation by Tom Ruggiero of the Ship Model Society of New Jersey



Laying out the seams



Furling the sails



Shaping the sails

Why silks pan? At a scale of 1/4" and smaller (1/48 and smaller) any cloth tends to look out of scale, especially if you intend to furl the sails. As Tom Ruggiero began his talk on making sails, he pointed out that this technique of making sails was developed by the late John Wisner (NRG Shop Notes II, page 197, Nautical Research Journal 41:126) and Justin Camerata's book on dioramas. Also demonstrated by Nick Damuck of Bluejacket.

Adding sails is a decision that adds quite a bit of work. The method is simple in concept but can get very complicated. The thinnest grade of silk span is 0-0. Other methods work fine , but they tend to be a little thick in 1:96 scale. Photos showed how to layout and draw the seams on a piece of Silk span if the sail is to be set. The piece for the furlled sail to be cut roughly 33% of the length of the full sail.

Tom's talk was well planned. He knew his subject and the photos, illustrated the talking points. Thank you Tom for an enjoyable and informative presentation.

Photos: Screen capture



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 the responsibility, we need volunteers to sit the shack on weekends.

Sadly, the Museum is closed to the public, but this will not be forever, and when things get back to normal and we can again demonstrate ship modeling to the public, we look forward to the day when we can take a model, meet the public and share our hobby.

CORRECTED FLYER FOR THE NORTHEAST SHIP MODEL CONFERENCE

Some of you may have received a complimentary copy of the USSCMSG newsletter, the Broadside. In it was a copy of the flyer which announced the change in date for our next clubs conference to be held on October 2, 2021. However, we should have omitted the registration information, as the registration is on hold. We anticipate activating the registration link in approximately 5 or 6 months. Attached is a new temporary flyer which serves to announce the official change in date. Please feel free to share this.

38TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST SHIP MODEL CONFERENCE



Saturday, October 2, 2021 - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Port'n' Starbord Convention Center

Ocean Beach Park, New London, Connecticut

- Up to 100 detailed models on display from award winning craftsmen and artists
- The opportunity to display & enter your own model(s) in competition judged by fellow conference attendees
- Vendors offering maritime & modeling books, kits, tools & supplies
- Demonstrations of modeling techniques & procedures
- Featured guest speaker is author & USSCMSG member, Rob Napier who will be speaking about aspects of his life in ship modeling
- Continental breakfast & buffet lunch
- Renew old friendships and make new ones

Conference attendees who wish to display models must pre-register. We need to know how many models and their display area requirements in order to allocate enough space when setting up the room.

Conference Registration Fees

(All fees are per person)

To Be Determined

Registration Options

To Be Determined

SHOW & TELL

SPENCE DELIN



HMS PANTALOON

8 gun experimental Brig, 1832.

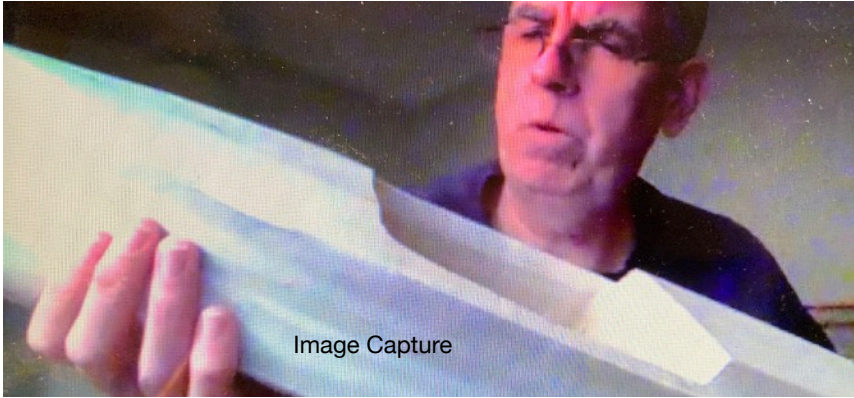
Scale 1/4 " = 1'. Scratch Built

Designed by Admiral Sir William Symonds. The design featured extreme dead rise and wide beams. It was first used as a yacht and then sold to the navy to serve in the suppression of the slave trade.

Photos by Spence Delin

SHOW & TELL

BILL BROWN Ship Model Society of N.J.



1931 CHRIS-CRAFT TRIPLE COCKPIT RUN-ABOUT

Photo courtesy Seaside Heights Museum

Being built for the Seaside Heights Museum. Scratch built using the lift method using poplar and then planked with 1/32" cherry wood. Having built both plank on frame and now the lift method, Bill commented that the lift method is a quick way the build a hull.

MIKE WEAVER



From Mike: "This last month of self quarantine, I finally got into the closet of stored models and am assembling ocean liners 1/600 scale; RMS Mauritania, SS United States and RMS Queen Mary. Also: WWI Sub Chaser (1/72 scale) repaired Aircraft Carrier, Japanese WW2 Akagi (1/450 scale)"

FOR SALE

USS PERRY

Blue Jacket Kit

The brig USS Perry was launched at Norfolk in 1843. She was active in suppressing the slave trade, and was active in both the Mexican and Civil Wars.

The scale is 1/8" = 1"

It has a pre-carved bass wood hull and laser cut wood parts and includes styrene, brass rod and thread. The skill level of this kit is marked high intermediate. She was a beautiful ship.

The price is negotiable

Contact: Ed or Pat Leaf at pjlebl@comcast.net



QUARTERDECK SUBMISSIONS

Take pictures with your camera or cell phone of a 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 welcome.** Send them to the editor:

rspicer33@aol.com

THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

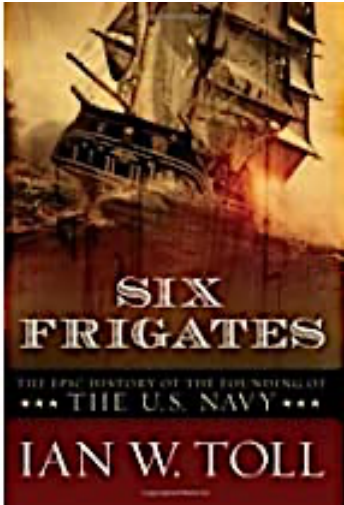
Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, Nautical Research Journal, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology and maritime art.

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

BOOKS



SIX FRIGATES; The Epic History of the Founding of the U.S. Navy. Illustrated

“A fluent, intelligent history... gives the reader a feel for the human quirks and harsh demands of life at sea.” New York Times Book Review.

Before the ink was dry on the U.S. Constitution, the establishment of a permanent military became the most divisive issue facing the new government. The founders- particularly Jefferson, Madison and Adams- debated fiercely. Would a standing army be a thin end of dictatorship? Would a navy protect from pirates or drain the treasury and provoke hostility? Britain alone had hundreds of powerful warships. From the decision to build six heavy frigates, through the cliff-hanger campaign against Tripoli, to the war that shook the world in 1812. Toll tells this grand tale with the political insight of *Founding Brothers* and the narrative flair of Patrick O’Brian.

FILM

THE DIG:

Recreating a Huge Archaeological Discovery

A review by Peta Knott, Nautical Archaeology Society Education Manager.

Normally, when I watch movies or TV shows claiming to have an archaeology bent, my viewing companions know that they are more likely to be entertained by my cries of shock or disgust at the characters’ methodology techniques than by the actual movie. But the early promotional material for ‘The Dig’ gave me high hopes for a credible production, and I was keen to see how Netflix would represent this significant archaeological discovery on the screen. On a Friday night, with popcorn at the ready, my family settled in to watch ‘The Dig’. My husband knew he was going to be entertained one way or the other!

Fortunately, my hopes were proved correct. ‘The Dig’ is an excellent example of how significant archaeological discoveries make excellent viewing, with no Hollywood sensationalism necessary. Before I go any further, I should get the spoilers out of the way- the main focus of the movie is the discovery of an early seventh century AD Anglo-Saxon ship burial that changes our understanding of the dark ages. And as is typical with many archaeological sites - there’s a motley crew of archaeologists, excavators and interested locals to add another dimension to the story. Now on to why this movie is so important for our archaeology cause.

It was so refreshing to see a well-told story laid out with a factual basis, allowing the historical events and (mostly accurate) characters to keep the viewers transfixed rather than any excessive drama caused by out-of-control boulders, treacherous Nazis or damsels in distress.

While the majority of the movie is factually correct, it is based on a book that took artistic license with some of the characters to make for more gripping reading. It is unfortunate that some of the ensemble cast characters have been omitted or their roles changed, but for those who want to find out more, Wikipedia gives a well referenced summary of how the film characters differed from the real people. The main events have also been compressed for ease of story-telling. But it really is the little details that give the movie its authenticity, such as the final scenes reburying the ship to protect it during the impending WWII.

One of the major discoveries at Sutton Hoo was a considerable number of artifacts made of gold and precious stones. One might be forgiven (but not by me) for making this golden hoard the focus of the movie, to entice the punters in with promises of treasures. Thankfully this is not the case with this production. These items of intrinsic monetary value and historic significance are kept in context both on the archaeological site and within the movie storyline. It’s interesting to note that the artifacts used in the movie were made by the same craftspeople that made the replicas for museum display.

While I might be a little biased when it comes to archaeology movies, I am not the only one that has taken notice of this remarkable story, told in such an idyllic setting.

Cast; Ralph Fiennes as Basil Brown, Carey Mulligan as Edith Pretty. Directed by Simon Stone. A Netflix production.



Sutton Hoo excavations in 1939, early Anglo-Saxon, 7th century, Suffolk, England.
© British Museum Trustees

THE SUTTON HOO SHIPS COMPANY

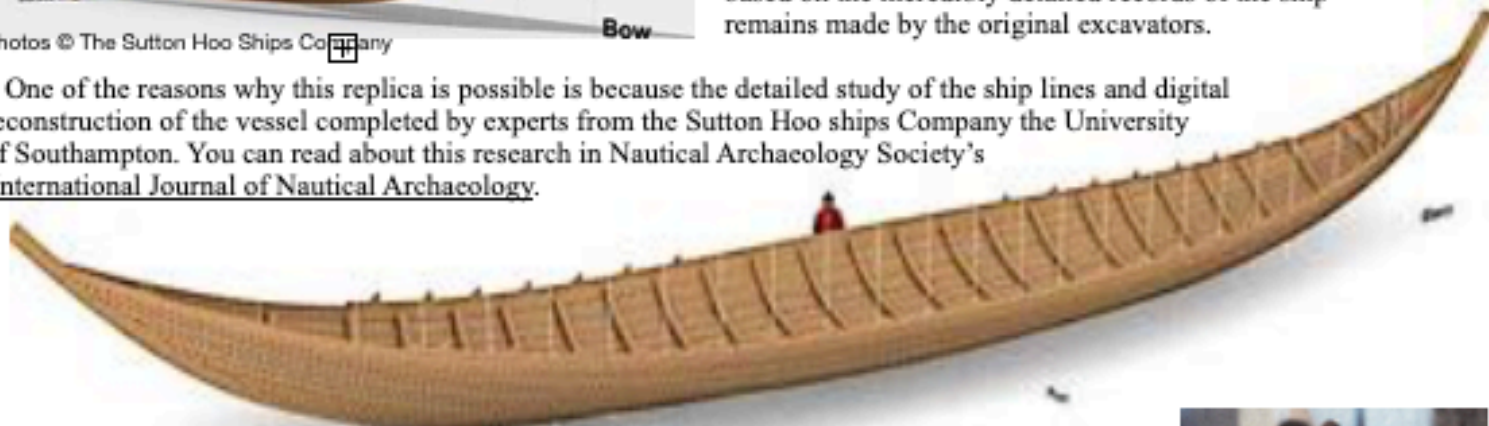


Photos © The Sutton Hoo Ships Company

While the discovery and excavation at Sutton Hoo commenced over 80 years ago, there has been a recent resurgence in interest - even before the movie.

The Sutton Hoo Ships Company was established in 2016 with the aim to build a full sized replica of the buried ship, using traditional methods. Despite the challenges faced by Covid, they are persevering to build a replica of the vessel based on the incredibly detailed records of the ship remains made by the original excavators.

One of the reasons why this replica is possible is because the detailed study of the ship lines and digital reconstruction of the vessel completed by experts from the Sutton Hoo ships Company the University of Southampton. You can read about this research in Nautical Archaeology Society's [International Journal of Nautical Archaeology](#).



No human remains were discovered, although chemical analysis of the sand beneath the burial chamber showed that a body had decomposed there. It is widely thought to be that of Anglo-Saxon king [Raedwald](#), a ruler of the [Wuffinga](#) dynasty that controlled East Anglia in the early 7th century. He is believed to have died around 625, which corresponds closely to the sites estimated age.

The 27-meter-long oak ship, at first thought to be of Viking origin, was identified as Anglo-Saxon. More than 200 artifacts were found within the mound. These included an intricate gold belt buckle, gold coins from Aquitaine and the greatest treasure of all, the beautifully worked ceremonial helmet that has since become the site's trademark.

Sutton Hoo sits on top of a spur of land - a hoo in Old English - above the [Deben](#) River in Southeast Suffolk, East Anglia.



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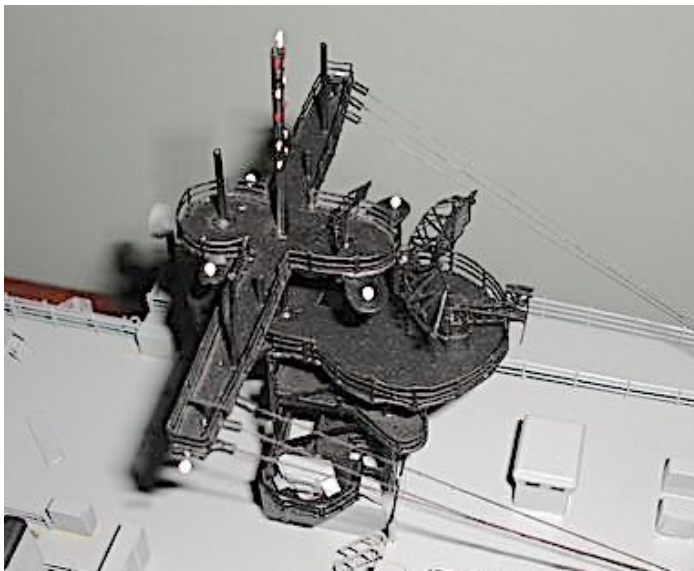
Joe Jordan, Representative to ISM jjvtown@aol.com

LAST CALL! (Again) THIS MODEL NEEDS A HOME

From Joe Jordan

I have a scale model of an LSD 41 *Whidbey Island* in scale 1/92. It needs a home. I will cheerfully give it to someone who served on her. It is large and heavy. Not going to ship it. It is a builders model made by master model maker Al Seebode in the 1980's. A glass case is included. This model is absolutely first class in workmanship and detail. **Will call only.** I'm in Lumberton, NJ.

To contact Joe call 609-518-9672 or jjvtown@aol.com





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

Please be sure of your size

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



FORTHCOMINGEVENTS

February 4th

PSMS Zoom Meeting

March 4th

PSMS Zoom Meeting

March 20th.

Independence Seaport Museum Reopens (First Day of Spring)

August 7th

Modelcon

August

Society Picnic Date to be announced

October 2nd

NE conference

Registration and fees on hold.

See page 2

December 12th

Holiday Brunch



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



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