



# Quarterdeck

AUGUST  
2021  
Our 90th  
year

THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY.

www.philadelphiahipmodelociety.com

Launched January 7, 1931

## Minutes of the Meeting

885th Meeting (Virtually) called to order by President Jim Wheeler at approximately 7:10pm - opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

♥ **Sick Call:** Nothing to report.

**Visitors:** Tom Ruggiero, Ship Model Society of New Jersey, Ryland Craze Hampton Roads Ship Model Society.

**Minutes and Newsletter** accepted from the July meeting.

**Members Present:**

Steve Bulova, Jim Wheeler, Mike Weaver, Fred Signor, Ron Spicer, Joe Jordan, Spence Delin, Francine Serratore, Joshua Fichmann, John Bullock, Al Curatolo and son Enzo.

**Presentation;** No presentation

**Treasurer's Report:** Accepted as read.

## Old Business

**Northeast Conference update:** October 2, 2021. Tom Ruggiero

PSMS has 90 days to fulfill our commitment as a participant. Tom Ruggiero noted that PSMS needs to give them the name of Society member to judge the Jim Roberts Award. Fred Signor said he would consider it and has been penciled in as the PSMS judge.

We will also need a volunteer for a table-top demonstration. If anyone has a skill they would be willing to show, contact Steve Bulova.

The Society gift of a model for the raffle has been donated by Mike Weaver.

## New Business

**The Shack:** Joe Jordan could not sit Saturday, August 14th and 21st. The Shack was dark for those two days. The Shack move is going very slowly. Joe Jordan will keep us in the loop.

**Zoom :**

Joshua Fichmann requested \$50.00 to continue for another year. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.

**PSMS Name Tags;**

Contact Spence Delin [sdelin@verizon.net](mailto:sdelin@verizon.net)

## SEPTEMBER ZOOM MEETING

The next PSMS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 PM at 7:00PM. The ZOOM application password will be sent to the membership.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Weaver, Vice President



## OTHER NEWS



**BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY:**

The battleship is open for tours every day from 11 am to 3pm. Add a free guided tour of turret II or an engine room tour on weekends

**INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM**

**Hours of operation**

Open full time: 10AM to 5PM seven days a week



After almost a year and a half of being closed, Submarine *Becuna* is welcoming visitors aboard.

# THE SHIP SHACK- on the move

The Museum is relocating it to the old book shop space ( up front adjacent to the entrance). The Museum will give us two weeks notice to empty the shack of personal items in order to lighten the load of moving. When the shack is moved, we will have six windows in the front of the building next to the main entrance. These windows will give public exposure to our craft. The Museum will place signage to draw visitors to the Boat Shop.

Joe Jordan enlightened them as to how much of a gem the actual building of wooden boats is to visitors. It is deeply appreciated by the public. The submarine pool will be placed behind the Diligence and in front of the Indianapolis model. The Shack, in its new location, will draw visitors down the hallway we use to get to the elevator to the 2nd floor.



**Give a day to the ISM Shack experience.**  
Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM. Sunday 12 noon to 4 PM  
Contact: Joe Jordan [jjvtown@aol.com](mailto:jjvtown@aol.com) 609 518-9672

**NOTICE : At the present time, Shack sitters will have to pay to park. Parking costs will be reimbursed thru the Treasurer Steve Bulova. Call 215-747-7441 or email [bulovastevel@msn.com](mailto:bulovastevel@msn.com)**

## SHACK VISITORS

### John Bullock Entertains The national Maritime Historical Society

On Saturday, August 31, 2021, The National Maritime Historical Society held their 58th annual meeting at the Independence Seaport Museum. Their conference was on the 4th floor and there were approximately 150 participants.

The members toured the museum after they had lunch. I set up a table next to the shack with 10 models and John Bullock was in the shack showing his grand model of the San Felipe, a Spanish ship of the line circa Trafalgar. What a hit! John entertained the conference members for some time covering many topics of interest. The showing was a positive image of our Society. Mike Flynn, an ISM manager was very pleased.

Mike Weaver

Photos by John Bullock



John Bullock at the shack with Mike Weaver in the background. At right, John's model of the 3 deck ship of the line San Felipe, a work in progress.





# SHOW & TELL

## STEVE BULOVA

Steve has a follow-up to his presentation last month and the problem of the water entering through the anchor hole (hawse pipe ) in the hull of his model Anteo. When testing a model in the bathtub, the model sits level and there are no apparent water leaks in the hull. But when you put it in a lake or a pond and rev up the motor- the bow goes down and the bow wave rises! So, what happens in the bathtub is not necessarily what happens in the pond.

Photo: Steve Bulova



## JOHN BULLOCK



The model of the New Bedford Whaling Bark was built from a modified Model Shipways kit by John Bullock. The original plans were copied and used in part for the combined construction. The ship was originally built in 1841 by Hillman Brothers Shipyard in New Bedford, MA. Logging 37 voyages over her 80 year career. She was registered at 351 tons and processed more whales than any other whaling ship in history.

The model's hull is basswood planked on frame with Mahogany inlay. Masts and yards were all turned from various hardwoods and made to ship specifications. The stoves on the main deck are copper lined with brick outworks. The 5 whaling boats were all individually built and include an assortment of harpoons, cutting tools, rowing oars, sails and buckets of lines. The ship's bottom was coppered with individual plates and antiqued with an acid patina. The original ship was purchased by Mystic Seaport in 1941 and restored to its original splendor.

Photo: John Bullock

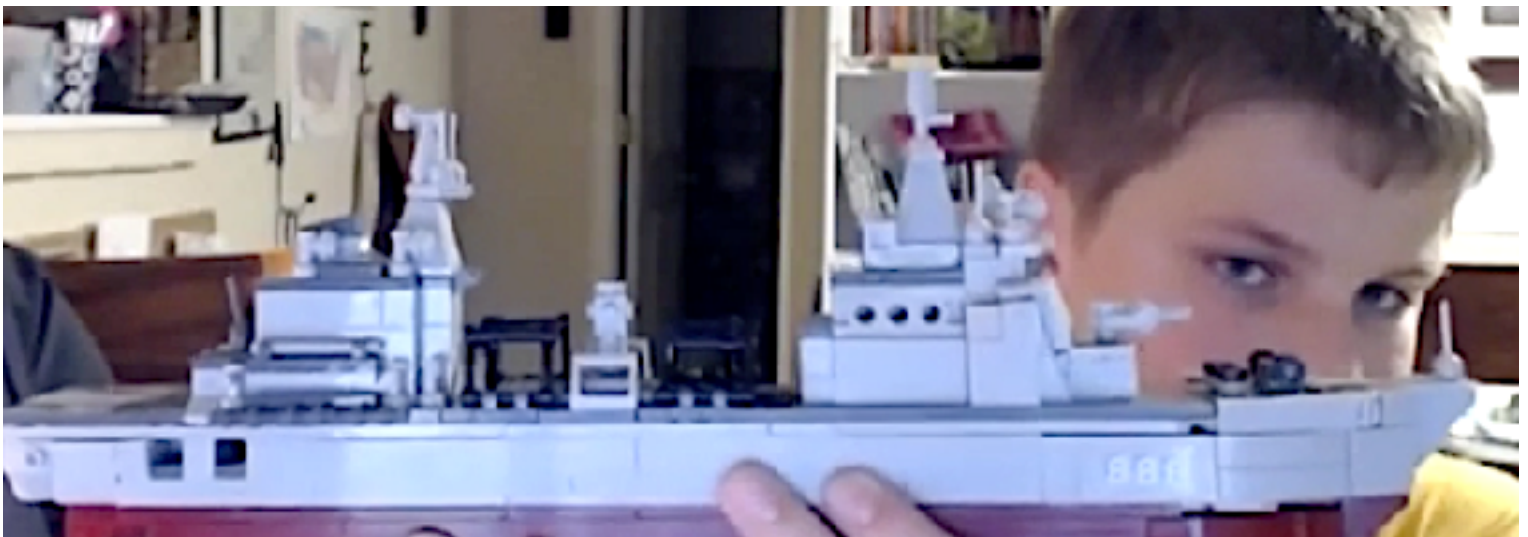
SPENCE DELIN

Photos; Screen capture



Spence showed a photo of his father's scratch built model of the Continental Frigate Raleigh, circa 1776. The largest model his father built. Scale 1/4" = 1 ft. Kept in a 5 ft. x 5 ft. glass case and eventually donated to the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts and can be seen through the windows when patrons buy a ticket. Fully rigged, the hull was carved from a block of pine. Other woods used were ebony and box wood.

ENZO CURATOLO



A resupply ship kit made from lego type bricks. Can also be converted to a waterline model as seen at right. When asked when he is going to build a wooden ship model, Enzo replied that he would probably build in paper first. Obviously an influence of his father Al. We look forward to it Enzo.



Photos: Screen Capture



# SHOW & TELL

MIKE ZIMMERMAN.

Photos by Mike Zimmerman



Here are pictures of my latest model. A WWII LST converts to a mini-aircraft carrier for Piper Cubs. We visited the Piper Cub Museum in Lock Haven, PA recently and they had a large (about 3 feet long) model of this unusual ship. The Navy modified several LSTS with a 220' x 16' flight deck to carry Piper Cubs. They could take off over an invasion beach, scout out enemy locations, and call in artillery strikes. The Cubs could not land back on board. While this was not ideal, it did get the small planes ashore and ready to operate rather than land them in crates and reassemble them on the ground. They proved themselves off of Italy, France, the Philippines, Okinawa and Iwo Jima. My 16" long model was built from an old Lindberg kit by scratch building a flight deck, Piper Cubs from wood, paper and internet plans. The structures on the sides of the hull are pontoons used for landing trucks, tanks, etc. Thanks to Frank Blazich, Smithsonian Curator of Military History, for his help in identifying these structures.



Photo: US Navy

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## SHOW & TELL

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MIKE WEAVER



Photo: Ron Spicer

Photo: Jim Wheeler

Mike would like his display at ModelCon to represent his show and tell. These 12 models, all plastic, are just a part of his display. Mike is a prolific model builder and a dedicated volunteer of the Shack. Many of Mike's models are scratch built.

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## FIRST WOMEN COMMANDING A NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIER



Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, newly appointed commanding officer of the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln, delivers remarks during a change of command ceremony on the flight deck becoming the first women to lead a nuclear carrier in U.S. history.  
(MC3Jeremiah Barbelt/Navy)

Capt. Bauernschmidt previously served as the carrier's executive officer from 2016 to 2019. This isn't Bauernschmidt's first CO tour. She previously served as commanding officer of Helicopter maritime Strike Squadron 70 and Amphibious transport dock San Diego. Altogether she has racked up more than 3,000 flight hours during her career.

Photos: US Navy



FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1944

New York

# Life on An LST

By Ernie Pyle

**WITH THE ALLIED BEACHHEAD FORCES IN ITALY, March 24.**—The sailors aboard an LST (landing ship tank) have the same outlook on life



that the average soldier overseas has. That is, they devote a good part of their conversation to home and to when they may get there.

They are pretty veteran by now and have been under fire a lot. They've served the hot beaches of Sicily, Salerno and Anzio. They know a gun fired in anger when they hear one.

On the whole, although the boys who man these beachhead supply ships are frequently in great danger, they do live fairly comfortably. Their food is good, their quarters are fair, and they have such facilities as hot baths, new magazines, candy, hot meals and warmth.

The sailors sleep in folding bunks with springs and mattresses. The officers sleep in cabins, two or so to a cabin, the same as on bigger ships.

An LST isn't such a glorious ship to look at—it is neither sleek nor fast nor impressively big—and yet it is a good ship, and the crews aboard LSTs are proud of them.

The LSTs are great rollers—the sailors say. "They'll even roll in drydock." They have flat

bottoms, and consequently they roll when there is no sea at all. They roll fast, too. Their usual tempo is a round-trip roll every six seconds. The boys say that in a really heavy sea you can stand on the bridge and actually see the bow of the ship twist, like a monster turning its head. It isn't an optical illusion, either, but a result of the "give" in these ships.

The sailors say that when they run across a sandbar the ship seems to work its way across like an inchworm, proceeding forward section by section.

The LST has handled every conceivable type of wartime cargo. It has carried a whole shipload of fused shells the most dangerous kind. Among the soldiers of many nationalities that my LST had carried the crew found the Indian troops of Jahore the most interesting. The Indians were friendly and as curious as children. The Americans liked them. In fact, I've found that Americans like practically anybody who is halfway friendly.

The Indian soldiers base practically every action on their religion. They brought their own food, and it had to be cooked by certain of their own people.

They made a sort of pancake out of flour that was full of weevils and worms. But it was sacred, and if an American cook tried to help out and touched the pan the whole panful had to be thrown away.



## 1921 MODELCON

MODELCON was a success by any measure. Thanks to Joshua Fichmann, who's brainchild this was, ModelCon came off without a hitch. The weather cooperated and provided a warm and sunny day. There were approximately 38 individuals that displayed 108 models representing ten organizations along the Atlantic Seaboard. They included: The Sub Committee, Ship Model Society of New Jersey, New York Shipcraft Guild, Model Ship Guild/NRG, Hampton Roads Ship Model Society, Connecticut Marine Model Society, AMPS, IPMS, DVSM and unaffiliated individuals.

Joshua Fichmann, Secretary/Webmaster of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society was the moving force behind this event, as he has been for the previous two years. It should be pointed out that more than one member of the Society came forward to make this a success story. Jim Wheeler, President of PSMS and docent at the Battleship New Jersey was always there to step in along with VP Mike Weaver. Joe Jordan handled the "front gate" giving directions, wrist bands and handling the vaccine paper work with exhibitors and of course, there were others who eagerly stepped forward asking how they could help. We thank them all. Now we look forward to next years' MODELCON 4.

Participating PSMS Members were: Francine Serratore, Jim Wheeler, John Bullock, Ron Spicer, Joe Gudonis, Kurt Faust, Steve Bulova, Mike Weaver. Joe Jordan, Member Applicant Ron Neilson, and Wayne.



# MODELCON



Joe Jordan

Jim Wheeler



## SNAPSHOTS





**SAVE THE DATE !!!!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021.**

**What** --- The **Oxford Community Center** is planning its eighth **Model Boat Show !!!**

**Who** --- 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.

**When** --- **Saturday, November 13, 2021** from 10a.m. until 4p.m. Set-up starts at 8:30a.m. Take-down at 4p.m. Doors open to visitors at 10a.m.

**Where** --- **Oxford Community Center** auditorium, **Oxford, Maryland.**

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

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In Oxford the other scheduled event at this time is the traditionally popular Oxford VFD Auxiliary's Annual Antique Show and Sale. It is held next door in the firehouse main room on both Saturday and Sunday, and helps get people to drive down from Easton to Oxford. These two events complement each other as once folks park the car they can walk between the buildings.

Other interesting locations and restaurants in the town are open as well.

In Easton, Maryland, The Waterfowl Festival (World famous for its decoy carving and wildlife art.) is held Friday November 12, Saturday November 13, and Sunday November 14.

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Registration and information sheets will be e-mailed to you in early October.

Please share this information, and my e-mail address, with other model builders.

It will help with planning if you are able to let me know now that you **intend to participate** (or not) this year.

It is you and your models that visitors come to see - you make the show a success! We enjoy providing the venue for showcasing your talents and sharing your passion for the history and artistry of model-making.

Thank you all for your past participation – last show about 400 visitors came from throughout the Eastern Shore, and farther, to enjoy your work and to have the opportunity to get to know the 30+ model makers. This was a tribute to the quality of your models and your enthusiasm for displaying and talking about them.



## IN THE KINGDOM OF ICE:

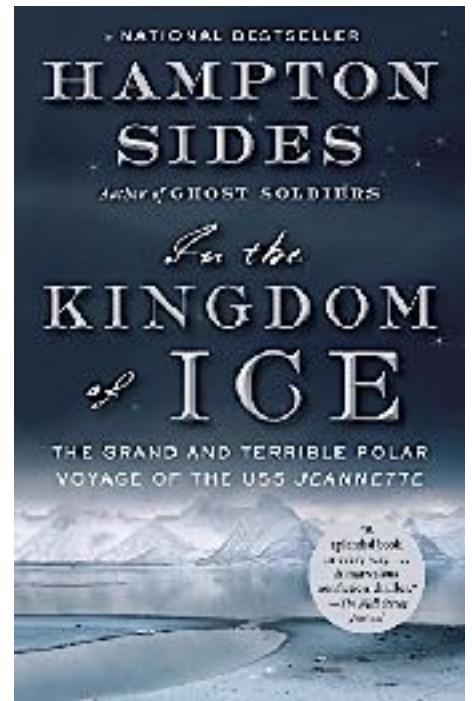
### The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeanette

By Hampton Sides

In the late nineteenth century, people were obsessed by one of the last unmapped areas of the globe: the North pole. No one knew what existed beyond the fortress of ice rimming the northern oceans. The foremost cartographer in the world, a German named August Peterman, believed that warm currents sustained a verdant island at the top of the world. Once a ship broke through a rim of ice circling the top of the globe, the thinking went, it would encounter an open polar sea and easy sailing to the pole.

The idea caught the attention of James Gordon Bennett Jr., the exceedingly wealthy and flamboyant owner of the New York Herald, the man who, believing that “a newspaper should not merely report stories; it should *create* them,” had sent Stanley to Africa to find Livingston in 1871. Smelling sensational headlines, Bennett met with the German geographer August Petermann and with a young Navy Lieutenant named George Washington De Long.

On July 8, 1879, De long and his team of thirty-two men set sail from San Francisco on the USS Jeanette. Heading deep into uncharted Arctic waters, they carried the aspirations of a young country burning to be the first nation to reach the North Pole. Two years in to the harrowing voyage, the *Jeanette's* hull was breached by an impassable stretch of pack ice, forcing the crew to abandon ship amid torrents of rushing water. Hours later the ship had sunk below the surface, marooning the men a thousand miles north of Siberia, where they faced a terrifying march with minimal supplies across the endless ice pack. Enduring everything from snow blindness and polar bears to ferocious storms and labyrinths of ice, the crew battled madness and starvation as they struggled desperately to survive. With thrilling twists and turns, *In The Kingdom of Ice* is a spellbinding tale of heroism and determination in the most brutal place on earth.



### Nikola Tesla Describing a Cell Phone in 1926

"When wireless is perfectly applied the whole earth will be converted into a huge brain, which in fact it is, all things being particles of a real and rhythmic whole. We shall be able to communicate with one another instantly, irrespective of distance. Not only this, but through television and telephony we shall see and hear one another as perfectly as though we were face to face, despite intervening distances of thousands of miles, and the instruments through which we shall be able to do all of this, will fit in our vest pockets."

Nikola Tesla, 1926



**The difference between school and life?**

**In school, you're taught a lesson and then given a test. In life, you're given a test that teaches you a lesson.**



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



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Jim Wheeler.



Vice President.  
Mike Weaver.



Treasurer:  
Steve Bulova.



Secretary  
Joshua Fichmann

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Vice-president: Mike Weaver [eghannah@yahoo.com](mailto:eghannah@yahoo.com)  
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Webmaster: Joshua Fichmann [Fichmann@yahoo.com](mailto:Fichmann@yahoo.com)  
Editor: Ron Spicer. [rspicer33@aol.com](mailto:rspicer33@aol.com)  
Joe Jordan, Representative to ISM. [jjvtown@aol.com](mailto:jjvtown@aol.com)

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Fred Signor, President, Emeritus

## 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](mailto:rspicer33@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](mailto: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**

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| August        | <b>Society Picnic</b> Undertermaned        |
| October 2nd   | <b>NE conference</b> , New London, CT      |
| November 13th | Oxford Md, Boat Show                       |
| December      | ISM Parade of Lights. Date to be announced |
| December      | <b>Holiday Brunch</b> Date to be announced |



**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](mailto:slldvesshsa@gmail.com) or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining



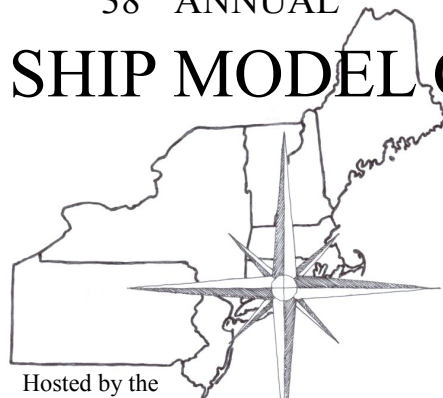


## THE ISM BOAT SHOP

Now that the Seaport Museum is open, the museum is resuming its regular hours. This is the “other attraction” at the museum that can respond when you ask a question. Still called “The Workshop on the Water” even though it is no longer on the water, it is one of the most popular spots to visit. Visitors can see them repair, build and restore boats.

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# 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NORTHEAST SHIP MODEL CONFERENCE



Hosted by the  
USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild

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

Port'n'Starbord Convention Center

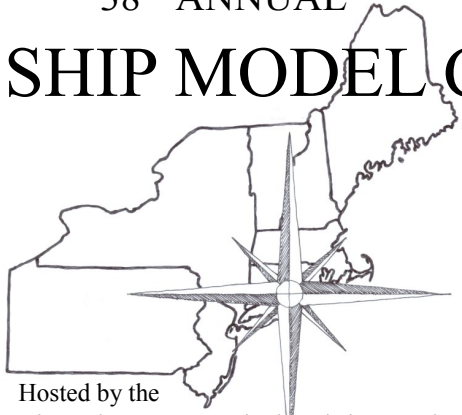
Ocean Beach Park, New London, Connecticut

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- 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

38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# NORTHEAST SHIP MODEL CONFERENCE



Hosted by the

USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild

## REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Model Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

Sail (  ) Power (  ) Other (  ) Display Area Required (inches) \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_

Peoples' Choice Competition (  ) Jim Roberts Award Competition (  )

Use the rear of this form if you are displaying additional models.

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

### Conference Registration Fees

(All fees are per person)

\$42.<sup>50</sup> If received by 8/1/21

\$47.<sup>50</sup> If received by 9/1/21

\$49.<sup>00</sup> After 9/1/21 or on day of conference

Return completed form to:

USSCMSG c/o Ross Hunter, Purser

153 Tamarack Lane

Boxborough, MA 01719

Make check payable to: USSCMSG



# FOR SALE

**10% OF THE SALE PRICE WILL BE DONATED TO  
THE PHILADELPHIA SHIP MODEL SOCIETY**



I have a large scale small freighter that I am selling for Tom Smith (twin brother of deceased Dennis). Length: 36". Beam: 8.5". Has speed control, s futaba servos, futaba receiver, motor and looks ready to go (with a little repair work). Asking price \$175, but can be negotiable.



Also, a large scale tug for sale for \$125. It has 1 servo and a Dumas Pitman motor. Length: 24" Beam: 7.5 inches. It was running at one time.



**CONTACT FRANCINE SERRATORE:  
[fserratore@verizon.net](mailto:fserratore@verizon.net) or Phone 267-529-9321**