



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights ♦ www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com ♦ January 2013

● Scuttlebutt ●

FORECASTLE REPORT EDITOR John Mitchell, came down with the “Rockin Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu”, as Johnny Rivers once described it, and could not attend the December meeting. Risking mutiny, he sent out the press gangs, and came up with a replacement who, understandably, wishes to remain anonymous. So don’t send John any hate mail about the content or length of this newsletter. It was not his fault, and he had to take what he could get. Hurry back, mate!

COMMODORE Gus Agustin opened our December meeting with 31 hands aboard. Since the arrival of the pizzas was imminent, Gus got down to the most important business on the agenda, election of officers. Our Commodore announced that he would be stepping down, and nominated Flag Captain, Bob Filipowski, as his successor. This was quickly seconded, and approved by the membership.

Bob then nominated Paul Pollowy for second in command, which was also approved by the members. Club treasurer, Ken Goetz, was hoping that he would be able to relinquish his duties, but that was quashed, and he was quickly voted in for another term. These swabs know a good thing when they see it!

Our newsletter editor, John Mitchell, was ill, and could not make the meeting, so the crew took advantage of the situation by making sure that John would serve for another year.

The remaining staff, John Pocius—Web Master, Leon Serota—Club Photographer, and Tony Serigos—Ship’s Clerk, all graciously shipped over without any argument.

Thanks Gus!

On behalf of the entire crew, here’s a special thank you to Gus Agustin for his two years of service as commodore. Under his guidance, the Midwest Model Shipwrights have continued to grow and prosper. Enjoy your “retirement,” mate, but don’t get too comfortable. ☺

2013 OFFICERS & STAFF

President (Commodore)	- Bob Filipowski.....(847) 398-5208
Vice Pres (Flag Captain)	- Paul Pollowy(847) 298-0563
Treasurer (Ship’s Purser)	- Ken Goetz(847) 678-4249
Secretary (Ship’s Clerk)	- Tony Serigos.....(847) 392-3275
Newsletter Editor	- John Mitchell(847) 392-2259
Photographer	- Leon Sirota(847) 541-6285
Web Master	- John Pocius.....(630) 834-9477
	- johnpociusdesign@att.net

January Meeting Notice

Charlie Nobles



If you don’t know what a “Charlie Noble” is, attend the January meeting and find out.

John Mitchell and Bob Filipowski will kick off the new year with a presentation on how they made these unique pieces for their models. These guys always put on a good show, so you don’t want to miss this one!

Group build meeting at 6:00 PM.

(See Tri-Club Group Build, page 2, for details.)

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, January 16, 2013

At the Community Presbyterian Church
407 Main Street in Mount Prospect

Due\$ Blue\$

PURSER Ken “The Squeezer” Goetz reminded all hands that he is open for business, and you don’t want to miss making your annual “donation” to the club treasury. If you have not paid your 2013 dues yet, you could be risking curtailment of the Forecastle Report. The price for membership is still a paltry \$20, so don’t get marooned. Now’s the time to ship over, and continue receiving our great newsletter. Thanks, mates!



Welcome Aboard!

The press gang was very active in November and December as our happy band of boat building brothers welcomed aboard Mike Black, Bill McCready, Jerry Voorhees and Roy Ford. Roy lives in Bradenton, Florida, so he probably won’t be making many meetings. Never the less, we hope he’ll keep in touch, and send a photo now and then of his current project. Mike Black is actually a returning member. Welcome back, mate!

NRG Update



Kurt Van Dahm advised us that the **2013 NRG Conference** will be held in Charleston, South Carolina from the 16th to the 19th of October. A number of excellent tours are being considered, including the first submarine to ever sink a ship, the *CSS Hunley*.

Scheduled speakers include Ab Hoving and Fred Hocker. Mr. Hoving is recognized by the international academic community as one of the world's renowned specialists in historic shipbuilding, and undoubtedly the most knowledgeable scholar in the field of Dutch shipbuilding from the late 16th century onwards.

Fred Hocker's credentials are no less impressive. Since 2003 he has been the Director of Research at the Vasa Museum in Stockholm, Sweden, where he is responsible for the comprehensive publication of the find. His research interests focus on shipbuilding and maritime economics in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

As president of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, he participated in the [Port Royal](#) excavation, and the reconstruction of the 11th-century [Serçe Limani](#) hull remains. Hocker also directed the recording of a 15th-century cog and a 17th-century passenger ferry in the Netherlands, the excavation of an 18th-century pilot sloop at [Clydesdale Plantation](#) on the Savannah River in South Carolina, and the excavation of a 9th-century Byzantine shipwreck at [Bozburun](#), Turkey.

Further details will be posted on the NRG web site as they become available (www.theNRG.org).

Tri-Club Group Build

By now, all of you are aware of the fact that members of the Chicago Tri-Club Association will be participating in a group build. The model that everyone will be building is the 17th Century Long Boat, a kit designed by Chuck Passaro for Model Shipways.

Kurt Van Dahm and Bob Filipowski will be the coordinators for this project. Kurt stated that there will be 20 participants, which are spread out among the three clubs. He will be distributing the kits at the January meeting.

The group will be getting together one hour before the January meeting at 6:00 PM

We will continue these early meetings each month as long as there is interest, or until the longboats are completed. There are also plans to have online meetings utilizing an application called GoToMeeting. A number of participants have already been instructed on how it is used, and are very excited about the concept.



● Ships on Deck ●

The December meeting is the one time each year when members are not encouraged to bring in models for Ships on Deck. Never the less, some decided to showcase an item of interest.

Pete Pennigsdorf stated that the club has never seen his Egyptian funeral ship in a completed state. Shortly after



completing it, the model was given to his granddaughter as a gift. The piece is scratch-built, and based on an actual artifact. Paintings on the rudder are home made decals.

Pete also brought in the conning tower for his 1/144 scale *Type XXI U-boat* by "Revell" (Germany). Research is showing that the kit has many inaccuracies, which are presenting Pete with more challenges than he bargained for. Hang in there, mate!



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Ships-on-Deck, continued from Page 2



Doc Williams isn't sure, but he thinks that he took over as the North Shore Deadeye president in 1996. Sixteen years is a long time, and he certainly has earned the right to step down.

At the NSD holiday party that was held in December, new club president, Rob Wicklander, presented Doc with a very nice cutlass as a token of the club's appreciation. Williams was asked if he would like to cut our pizzas, but he declined. He stated that the cutlass wasn't very sharp, which is probably a good thing.



Fred Widmann brought in some small billets of wood that were there for the taking. They processed a beautiful coloration, and were very hard and dense. Fred stated that he thought the wood might be hackberry, which may have been the first time ever that we have seen that species at a meeting!

Tim Riggs has traveled to many places around the world, and he invariably has made sure that those exotic places also featured maritime museums. He recently completed digitizing the hundreds of photos taken at these attractions, and is offering the snapshots to anyone who would want them. Thanks, mate!

Paul Bien's offering was a most unique, and controversial, artifact that dated back to May, 1915. Known as the *Lusitania* Medal, this medallion was minted in Germany after the sinking of the Cunard Liner by a German U-boat.



allowing the *Lusitania* to sail despite the German embassy's warnings. One side of the medal showed the *Lusitania* sinking laden with guns (incorrectly depicted sinking stern first) with the motto "KEINE BANNWARE!" ("NO CONTRABAND!"), while the reverse showed a [skele-](#)



[tun](#) selling Cunard tickets with the motto "Geschäft Über Alles" ("Business Above All"). Goetz made copies of the medal and sold them in Munich and also to some numismatic dealers with whom he conducted business. The British Foreign Office obtained a copy of the

medal, photographed it, and sent copies to the United States where it was published in the *New York Times* on 5 May 1916. Many popular magazines ran photographs of the medal, and it was falsely claimed that it had been awarded to the crew of the U-boat. Needless to say, the medal created outrage in Great Britain and the United States.

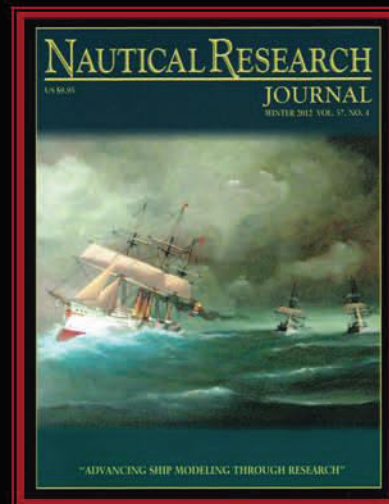
Don't miss Charleston

The NRG will be holding its 2013 conference in Charleston, South Carolina, on October 16th to the 19th. Visit the CSS *Hunley*, and listen to esteemed speakers such as Ab Hoving, restorer of ship models at the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, and Fred Hocker, Director of Research at the *Vasa* Museum Stockholm, Sweden.

As a member, special rates will be available to you. Visit our new website at www.theNRG.org for more information about membership, the Journal, our library sale, and the 2013 Photographic Ship Model Competition & Review.

THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"Advancing Ship Modeling Through Research"

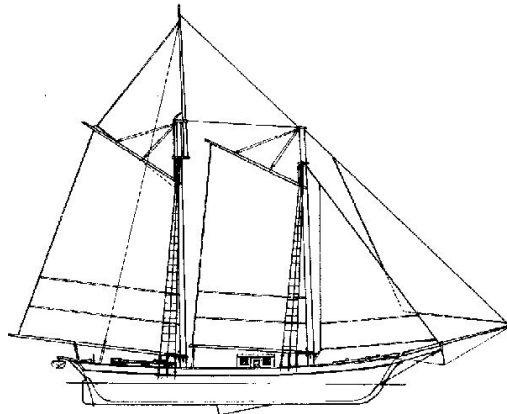


Scenes from the 2012 holiday pizza party





John R. Mitchell, Editor
2011 N Charter Point Dr. • Arlington Hts., IL 60004



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