



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights ♦ www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com ♦ July 2012

● Scuttlebutt ●

FLAG CAPTAIN Bob Filipowski opened our June meeting at 7:30 sharp with 28 hands present. Bob reminded the crew that the **NRG** "Special Membership Offer" still had ten days to run and encouraged all interested hands to make use of the registration forms he passed out to get on board. One of the benefits of becoming a new member is that, when five or more sign up, the Club will receive a free copy of "Shop Mates II" for its library or for offer in a raffle; a \$30.00 value.

October 20th has been set for the *2012 Tri-Club Symposium*. It will again be held at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 460 Sunset Ridge Rd, Northfield. No speakers or other plans have been set, as yet. The day will include the usual continental breakfast, a fine box lunch, door prizes and a great flea market, as well. More info to follow but, if you have ideas on program subjects you would like to see presented, give Kurt or Bob a shout.

Doc Williams advised that the July meeting of the **Dead Eyes** has been rescheduled to July 11, due to the 4th being a holiday.

John Pocius reports that our web site has been recently reworked and the Manitowoc show photos added. If you want to view all the show photos, that's the place to go. Also, be sure and let your other modeling friends know about our web site and encourage them to view it. This site is a great advertisement for our club and one that we can be truly proud of, as few other clubs have such an asset. We hope the site will help us draw new members, once people see what great modeling knowledge is available from our club.

Kurt Van Dahm reviewed the exciting new list of models being turned out by "Model Expo" under the guidance of master modeler Chuck Passaro. There is a 1/2" scale model of the US Gunboat *Philadelphia* that features a great cannon and an admiralty model of the USS *Essex* in the works that is said to be awesome.

Dave Botton gave us a heads up on a fine publication, "Model Ship Journal", that can be viewed on the web site www.modleshipworld.com.

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July Meeting Notice

Deckhouse Construction

By Bob Filipowski

You won't have to join a carpenter's union to learn how to build a first class deckhouse. Bob Filipowski is going to show us how in one easy lesson; and he's had a lot of experience in this line of work. One look at the deckhouse he just built for his latest model, *Arrowsic*, should be enough to convince you. But you, too, can achieve fine results by attending this month's meeting.

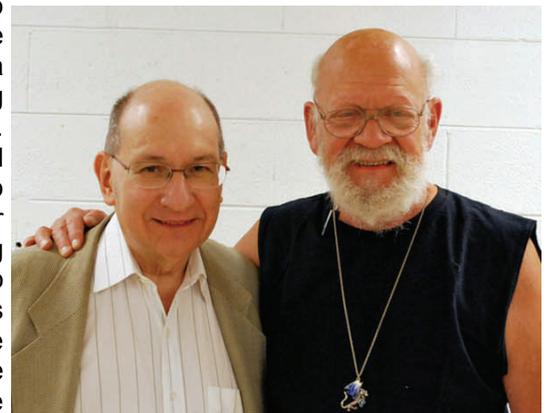
Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday,
July 18, 2012
At the Community Presbyterian Church
407 Main Street in Mount Prospect

● Manitowoc Review ●

June's program featured the slides of **Dave Botton** and expert commentary from two of the judges at the Model Boat Show in Manitowoc this year, **Doc Williams** and **Coleman Seskind**.

All-in-all, we got to see the highlights of the show and were able to see and judge the important features that make for a winning model.

Thanks to all who gave us such a rewarding evening. We're all primed to carry our modeling efforts to new heights with the valuable insights we shared.



See Bob Filipowski's Manitowoc Report, Page 4-5

● Ships on Deck ●

Doc Williams says all the inboard elements on his 1:64 "Model Shipways" kit of the whaler *Charles W. Morgan* have now been completed with only the scratch-built windless left to be permanently mounted to the deck. Even though he rated the cast wind-



less supplied with the kit as acceptable, Doc still felt he could do better—and he did!



His next big project on this model is building the lower masts using the "made-up" technique of cementing together multiple planks, not dowels, and then rounding them off. The results are stronger and will not warp like dowels are prone to do. It sounds like a fine technique and one that we'll be watching develop with great interest.

Last on Doc's building list will be the whale boats.

Alan Siegel has completed the mounting of his 1:48 model of the US Brig *Fair American* ca 1789. His conversion from using pedestals to a cradle mount worked out



very well and created a great looking presentation.

With the hull complete, masts and rigging are next on Alan's list of things-to-do. She's looking very "fair", mate.

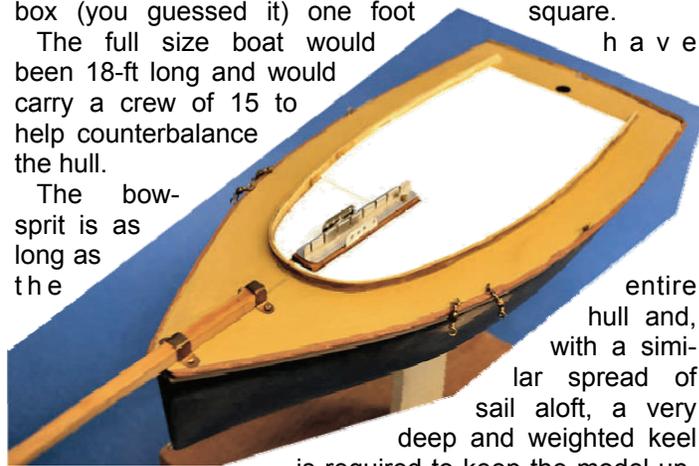
Peter Pennigsdorf brought in his "Footy" model to show us the progress he has made toward getting her "pond ready". For those of you who may have missed



Pete's description of a "Footy", this is a class of sailing model used for competition and one that must fit inside a box (you guessed it) one foot square.

The full size boat would have been 18-ft long and would carry a crew of 15 to help counterbalance the hull.

The bowsprit is as long as the



entire hull and, with a similar spread of sail aloft, a very deep and weighted keel is required to keep the model upright. Pete custom cast the weight at the bottom of the keel to offset the sail area he expects to run - and he hopes he got his math right!

The first test sail will tell. Happy sailing, mate.

John Pocius gave us another look at his diorama of the model pond yacht *Pirate* and the skiff *Rinky-Dink*, which was on display in Manitowoc. The finished model, complete with case, is, like all of John's work, very fascinating.



One's eye keeps searching out all the details and, the more one looks, the more one sees. Just the seated figure alone is a marvel, what with his costume typical of the year 1927. The "Johnson" outboard motor is another draw to the eye and some of us could actually remember seeing such an item in our past.



Not only is your work very finely done, mate, but it gives us all a lot of pleasure - a great combination.

The 36th Annual Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest

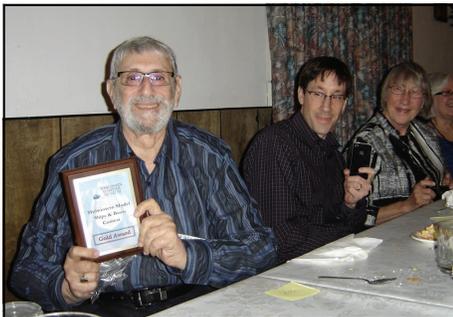
By Bob Filipowski

When it comes to Manitowoc, I think I was filled with more anticipation this year, than I have been in a long time. After watching Sid Wotman shed blood, sweat and tears over his *Charles W. Morgan* for the past seven-



teen years, it was finally time. It was done, and he was entering it in the competition.

For better, or for worse, his wife and one of his sons wanted to be there when the moment came. They would not be disappointed. The "Morgan" would take a gold medal! I think everyone in the Midwest Model Shipwrights couldn't have been happier for Sid and his family. The award was well deserved.



Sid's accomplishment was certainly the exclamation

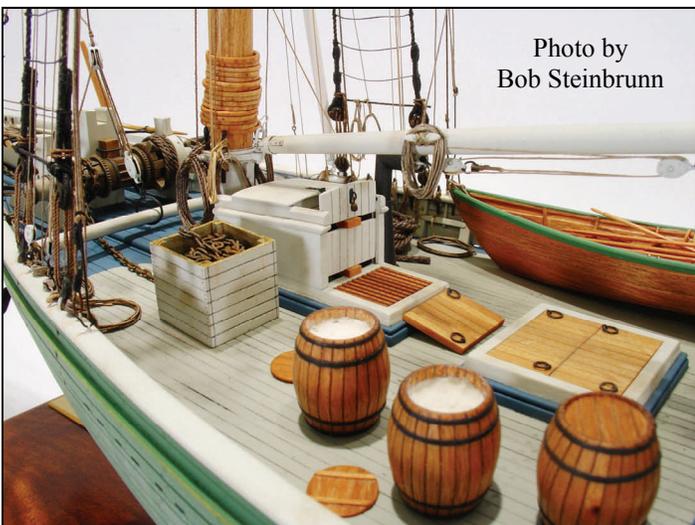


Photo by Bob Steinbrunn

point on what can only be considered an outstanding weekend and competition. The models continued to be of the highest quality, and the camaraderie was the best.

Bob Steinbrunn would win Best of Show, the Badger Airbrush Best Paint Finish Award, and a gold medal for his remarkable *Smuggler*. As one of the symposium speakers, Bob would also share some of the techniques used to create this lovely model.

Steve Wheeler received the Roger Jaekel Best Great



Lakes Award, Modelers' Choice Award, and a gold medal for a pristine PIERCE ENGINE CO. 16' LAUNCH, which was a joy to behold. Steve was also a guest speaker at the afternoon symposium.

The Dana McCalip Best Miniatures Award and a gold



medal went to Joseph Simon for a truly detailed example of the WW II Japanese battleship, *KONGO*.

Paul Gagné earned the Best Novice Builder Award for a very innovative *BOOTHBAY LOBSTERBOAT*.



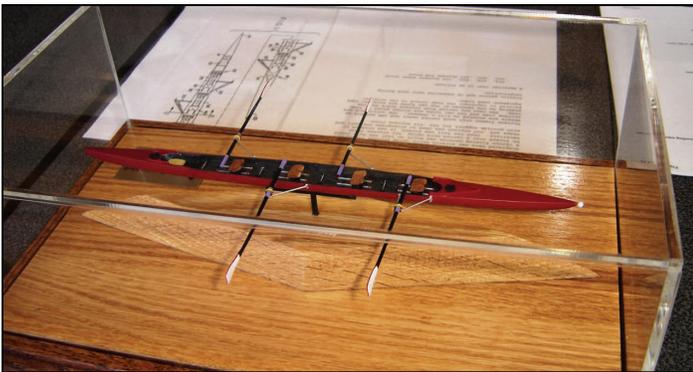
The Forecastle Report, July 2012 - P.5

In all probability, the honor for the largest model ever entered in the 36 year history of the Manitowoc competition would have to go to Gerry Kocken for *SAN FRANCISCO II*. By itself, the case weighed approximately 450



to 500 pounds, and took at least eight men to unload from a trailer. The model was too large for the entrance to the model room, and had to be exhibited out in the main lobby. This amazing piece won the Midwest Model Shipwrights Peoples' Choice Award.

Another Shipwright who did well was Paul Pollowy. His

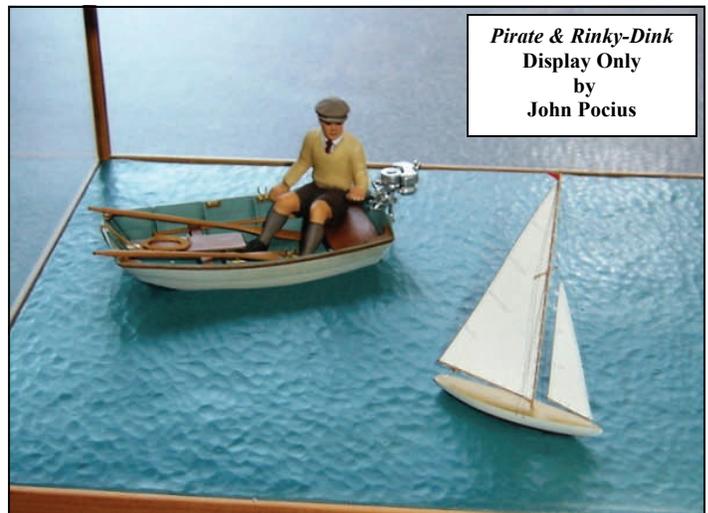


Four-Man with Coxswain Rowing Shell took a silver in the Intermediate, Scratch-built, Category I. Other Tri-Club



Ken Goetz
and his
"Constitution"

members in attendance included Ken Goetz, Doc Williams, Coleman Seskind, Ed Urbanczyk, Rita Berg, John Pocius, David Botton, Gus Agustin, Paul Bien, Bob George, Fred Widmann, Robert Wicklander and Kurt Van Dahm.



Pirate & Rinky-Dink
Display Only
by
John Pocius



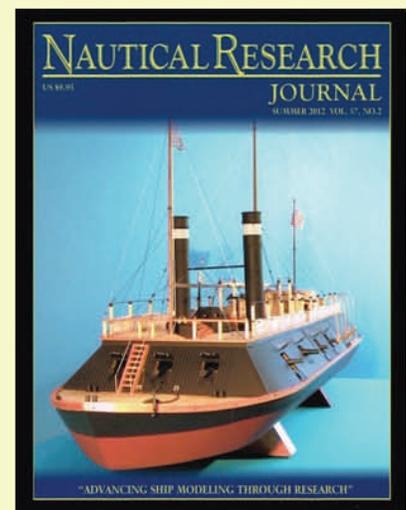
Take the time...

Please check out our website. We are now featuring, in its entirety, C. A. Raven's treatise on building the *USS Cairo*. You can find it, and much more, at www.theNRG.org.

In addition to features on naval architecture, maritime trade, nautical history, and maritime arts, the Journal now offers more color photographs, articles on ship model building, and an expanded Shop Notes.

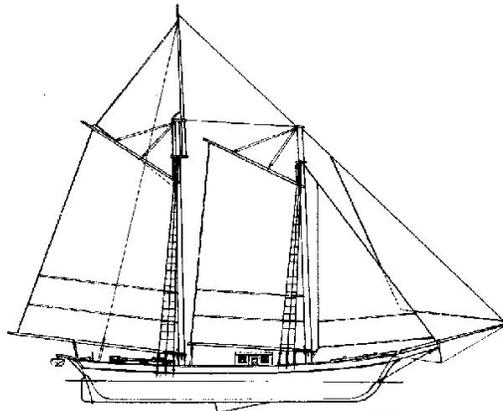
THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"Advancing Ship Modeling Through Research"





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