larger. At the bow, this is not the case, since the forecas-
ttle lacks bulwarks, which reflects how the vessel was
launched. The author suggests that this situation proba-
bly didn’t last long, since captains preferred the additional
protection they afforded gun crews.

The book starts out with a brief history of world events at
that time, and how frigate development was spurred on by
the ongoing conflict with France. Historical records indi-
cate that Naiad was the only ship in her class, but she
represented a transition point, which would influence fu-
ture designs.

It is not often, if ever, that an author discusses the men-
tal aspects of model ship building, and how it can effect
quality. Edward Tosti outlines a series of practices and
goals he refers to as “Micro Processes.” They are sur-
prisingly simple, yet they require a certain discipline on
the modeler’s part to achieve them. After viewing the list,
there’s no doubt that they can result in a significant im-
provement in workmanship, no matter what model you
are building.

The drawings (6) and CD that come with this book are
huge pluses. The two go hand-in-hand, as the author
explains how the CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) draw-
ings and lofting helped develop the many patterns that
are used to build Naiad. These patterns can be found,
along with many other building aids, in the CD. The draw-
ings, which are done to a scale of 1:60, are produced in
four colors, and can be found in a pocket at the back of
the book.

For a model as complex as Naiad, preparation is a
must, and Tosti walks the reader through the many details
that will help ensure that construction goes as smoothly
as possible. One prime example is the fixtures that pro-
mote proper alignment of the hull components during con-
struction. This is especially important since the model is
built in the upright position. They include a model ship-
way (building board), sliding gantry, clamped squares,
end supports and a vertical caliper. Drawings for these

First and foremost, Naiad was a 38 gun frigate, and
Euryalus was rated for 36 guns. Naiad was 2 feet longer
(147’) and proportionately greater in beam, depth of hold
and tonnage. A cursory comparison of the plans that
come with both books indicated that Naiad’s additional
gun port resulted in a different arrangement of channels,
deadeyes, chain plates, catheads, head rails and boat
skids. Notable variations also occur on the quarterdeck
and forecastle, which are somewhat longer than HMS
Euryalus’.

Ed Tosti shows the Naiad as launched, with the quarter-
deck ports configured for a mix of 32-pounder carronades
and 9-pounder canons. It is quite evident as to the loca-
tion of each gun type, since the carronade gun ports are

SeaWatchBooks touts The Naiad Frigate (38) 1797, by
Edward Tosti, as the second ship in their Frigates of
the Royal Navy series. It’s interesting to note that HMS
Naiad and HMS Euryalus, the subject of the first book,
were launched only six years apart, and designed by the
same individual, Sir William Rule. After realizing this, I
couldn’t help but wonder how they differed?
The book concludes with two appendices. Appendix I can assist those who wish to make their own model plans and patterns for fully framed model ships using CAD, and adapting it to a process that essentially follows historical drafting methods. This supplemental information is quite extensive, and demonstrates the author’s interest in these concepts.

In addition to the special fixtures used to build Naiad, Tosti designed and fabricated some miniature tools that are discussed in Appendix II. They include simple and flexible screw clamps, planking clamps, and paring and mortise chisels. The segment on chisels is particularly intriguing.

The attention to detail, and Edward Tosti’s easy writing style, make this book not only enjoyable, but a remarkable treatise on building a fully framed frigate from the Napoleonic period. It is highly recommended.

Volume II will cover internal and external details needed to complete the model. The photo above is a preview of what will be featured.

Reviewed by Bob Filipowski

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Keep up to date in style.

If you have not heard about it by now, the hottest thing going is the new 2013 NRG Calendar. The Guild Directors and Officers are justifiably proud of this inaugural issue, which features thirteen remarkable models that were entered in the 2011 Photographic Ship Model Competition and Review. Beautifully illustrated, this calendar would look great in your office or workshop, and would make an excellent “stocking stuffer” for the holidays. Quantities are limited, so please do not wait. For more information, or to place an order, visit our website at www.thenrg.org, or contact our Home Office at (585) 968-8111.

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