



Forecastle Report

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

● Scuttlebutt ●

COMMODORE Bob Filipowski opened the meeting at 7:15PM with 29 hands on board.

One visitor was introduced, **Larry Sperling** from Sycamore, IL, who has been away from modeling for some time but is now wanting to get back into it. We're very happy to welcome Larry and hope that the club will give him lots of inspiration.

A vote was held to decide if a members list should be circulated among active members. The results were yes but, if you do have any objections to having your name and phone number given out to the other members, you should contact **Ken Goetz** to have your info deleted.

The date for the local **Model Boat Show** in Schaumburg was mentioned and members were encouraged to attend and bring a model for display. This same show was held two years ago and everyone who attended had a great time (see attached flyer on p. 6).

Kurt Van Dahm gave us a quick update on the plans for the annual model boat contest being held in Manitowoc the week of May 17th. One of the featured speakers will be John Fox, who is a renowned miniaturist. There will also be a talk on the USS Monitor's steam engine, which was recently raised and conserved. Saturday's dinner has been booked at the local Yacht Club, so a great time there, for sure.

Charleston is coming up starting October 16th with a tour planned for "Patriot's Point" to view US Navy ships and museums. On another day the morning will be spent viewing the CSS Hunley exhibit and the afternoon cruising out to Ft. Sumter in Charleston Bay.

Kurt and Bob will be making presentations at the upcoming NRG symposium in Houston, TX and we wish them much success on their trip.

Bob let us know about the new features to be found in the NRG Journal including 16 more pages covering model building, tips and articles. The "Secretary's Newsletter", which is now included with each Journal issue, is being written by Bob and includes, among other things, references and news from other clubs around the country.

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2013 OFFICERS & STAFF

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April Meeting Notice

Using a Lathe

By Paul Bein

Paul will give us a live demonstration on how he sets up and uses a lathe. Based on the impressive examples we have seen of his miniature marine engines, we're sure you'll want to be there to see him work his magic with a lathe.

Leon Sirota will also give us another review of a new "Model Shipways" kit coming on the market.

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday, April 17, 2013
At the Community Presbyterian Church
407 Main Street in Mount Prospect

The Models of Donald McNarry

By Gus Agustin

While visiting England, Gus was given special permission to photograph Mr. McNarry's collection. Since this is copyrighted material, his photos may not be reproduced, or, most likely, ever shown again.

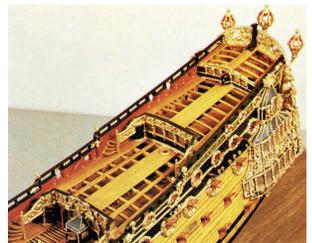


We were lucky enough to view Gus' presentation entitled: "The Models of Donald McNarry" and had a look at approximately 70 models built by this remarkable miniaturist.



The models pictured here appear in Mr. McNarry's definitive book on the subject of building miniature models: *Ship Models in Miniature*.

Gus also shared with us his experiences when visiting Mr. McNarry's home and workshop.



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"Scuttlebutt", continued from Page 1

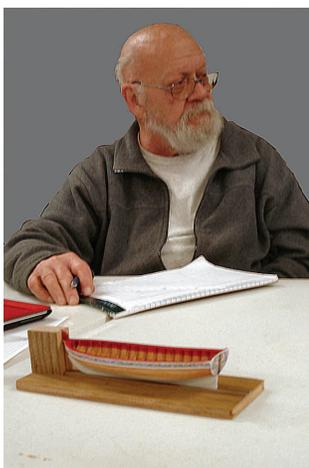
Bob says our club has been invited to possibly conduct summer classes on beginning boat building with children from the local church where we meet. **Leon Sirota** has done some preliminary scouting for appropriate kits that could be used for such a project (example shown here). Details on this proposal are still lacking but an effort is being made to get something going. If anyone has any ideas along this line, please let Bob know.



The "Group Build" has been gaining great momentum and the group has actually begun to work with spiling.



Bob Filipowski's longboat



Doc Williams' longboat



Fred Widmann's longboat

Even though you are not building the boat, club members are welcome to come in to the meeting early and sit in on the discussions - a great way to learn.

Spiling is also now being covered at the *North Shore Deadeyes* meetings and our members have been invited to attend with no obligation to join that club. This is a 4-month program which started in March. The Deadeyes meet at 7:30 PM the first Wednesday of every month at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 460 Sunset Ridge Rd., Northfield, IL (corner of Willow and Sunset Ridge).

● Ships on Deck ●

John Mitchell departed from the usual boat display to give a mini-presentation on the use and care of "Britania" metal objects. In keeping with the current interest in the movie "*Lincoln*", John showed two sets of 54mm Civil War toy soldiers, one authentic "Britain's" (ca 1950) and another a copy made with a more modern metal formula.

These original "Britain's" figures were hollow cast from antimonial lead, which will corrode easily if not properly stored. The copies were made from a mixture of antimony, tin and lead and show less tendency to corrode. "Britania" metal fittings on ship models also need to be kept in favorable storage conditions (i.e. with adequate air circulation and preferably not in sealed oak cabinets).



John Pocius is doing the English cutter yacht *Coquette* in a scale of 1:64 and has finished the cabin and cockpit since we saw her last month. The hull, solid and made with longitudinal lift sections, has now been painted.



Walt Philips has built his fishing schooner *Emma C. Berry* (1:32) from scratch using a set of plans from "Model Shipways" and has added planking to one side only. The opposite side will be left unplanked to show the framing.

Walt posed several questions for the group:



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"Ships-on-Deck", continued from Page 2



First of which was how to deal with the timberheads that do not flush with the outer hull

surface due to their angle. This would create a gap between bulwarks plank-



ing and timberhead (use filler). Second problem was how to make the hull plank runs visible, as the planks are made of bass wood and lack contrast (stain plank edge).

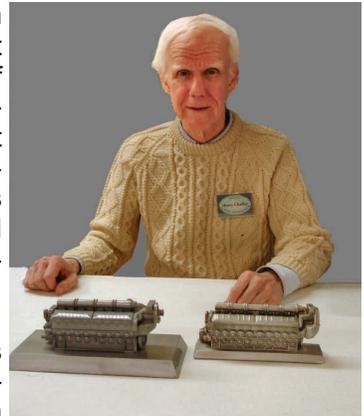
Gus Agustin is well into assembly of his 1:192 model of the HMS *Royal William*. Upper and lower sections of the hull have been attached and he is now concentrating on the stern section, where decorative carvings and windows are underway. A window template was made of



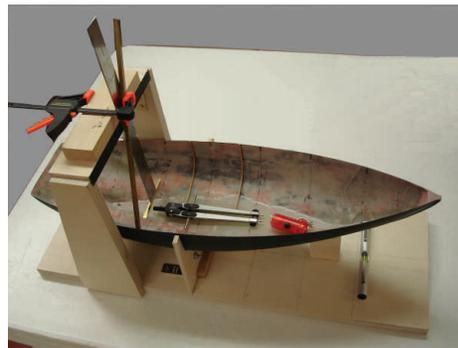
paper to check shape and dimension and will be replaced by the same thing in cherry. To fill in some "extra" time on his hands, Gus also built a very nice ship's boat in a slightly larger scale. This is a boat that anyone would be proud to call his own. Beautiful work, Mate.

Gus also gave us a look at a new book that he feels is worth adding to your library: Donald Dressel, *The Many Aspects of Ship Modeling* (Seattle: Sea Watch Books, 2012). Plenty of photos and illustrations make this a very useful reference.

Hal Chaffee brought in an historical resin casting that exhibited the technique of coloring the object by coating the mold with pigment or, in this case, with aluminum dust. No painting was required to finish this model of a railroad locomotive engine.



Kurt Van Dahm has his 1:12 model of the 23 ft Burger-built sailboat *Splash* ca



1935 out of its mold and mounted in a marking jig. With this device, Kurt is able to properly locate all the hull ribs being installed to duplicate the construction of the original.

"McNarry, continued from page 1

Donald McNarry (1921-2010) was a Londoner by birth and built miniature ship models for well over seventy years. He worked as a freelance professional from 1953 to his retirement in 1983 and his work is scattered worldwide in public museums and private collections. He specialized in miniature versions of 17th and 18th century models of Admiralty Board dockyard models together with waterline, scenic and full-hull models.¹



HMS *Constant Reformation*



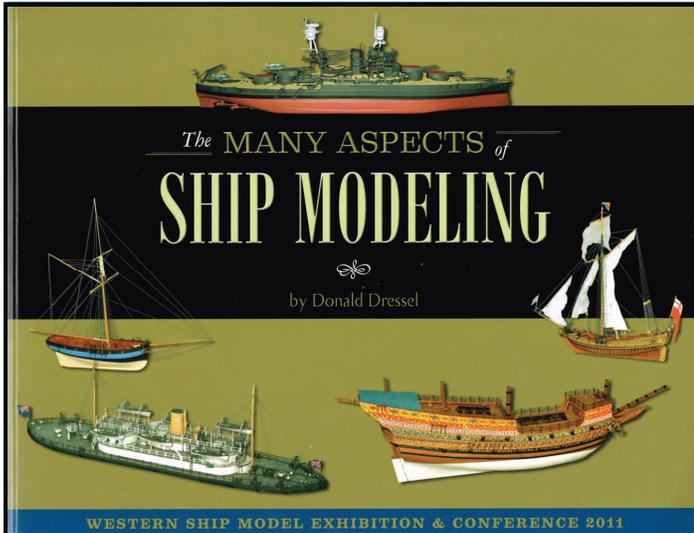
HMS *Royal William*

¹<http://donaldmcnarryshipmodels.com>

The Many Aspects of Ship Modeling

by Donald Dressel

Distributed by: Sea Watch Books, LLC, Florence, Oregon
www.seawatchbooks.com, seawatchbooks@gmail.com

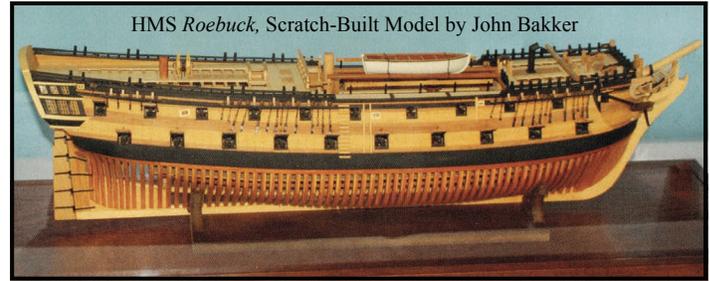


In 2011, this writer had the privilege of attending the Western Ship Model Exhibition & Conference, which was held at the Newport Harbor Museum in Newport Beach, California. Although I have witnessed many model ship exhibits, I came away from this event feeling that none could rival what was on display in terms of quantity and overall quality. An event of this magnitude is a rare occurrence, and even the host organization, the Ship Modelers' Association, could not say for sure if there would ever be another one.

Consequently, it was a pleasant surprise when Sea-WatchBooks LLC released THE MANY ASPECTS OF SHIP MODELING by Donald Dressel, which allowed me to "relive" this experience. Every model that was exhibited at the WSME&C is noted in this book, which makes for a profusely illustrated publication.

This is no simple task, since 191 models are featured in

full color, with a write-up on each subject. Staying consistent with the theme of the book, the author starts out with an introduction that explains how the models can be broken down by categories, with subgroups within those



HMS Roebuck, Scratch-Built Model by John Bakker

categories. They are scratch-built, semi-scratch built and kit. Skill level, and information available on the actual ship also impacts these subgroups.

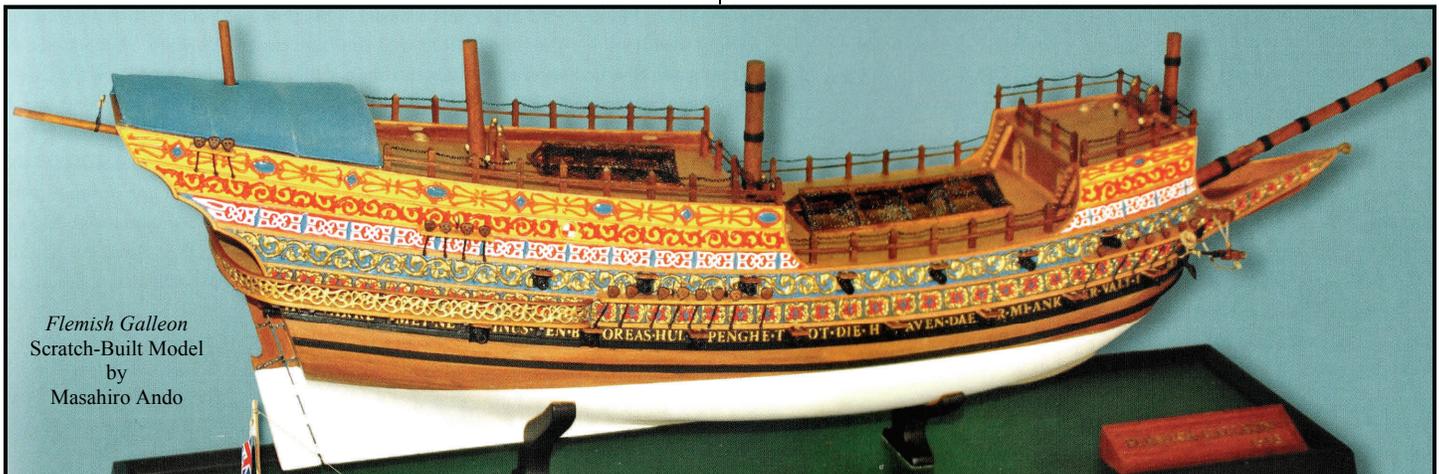
Dressel goes into some detail on the five different styles of wooden ship model construction. They include solid hull, bread and butter, plank on bulkhead, plank on frame, and a style where blocks of wood are glued together to form a block with the seams vertical, that is, running along the deck.



USS Gambier Bay
Kit Model
by
Robert Boyens

Although rarely attempted, bone and ivory models are also mentioned. One such model was exhibited that was built by an expert modeler with a high level of craftsmanship.

The plastic kit model is well represented in this book. With the advent of better ejection molding procedures, reference material, photo etched parts and laser cut materials, many of the vessels showcased in this publication can be considered museum quality!



Flemish Galleon
Scratch-Built Model
by
Masahiro Ando

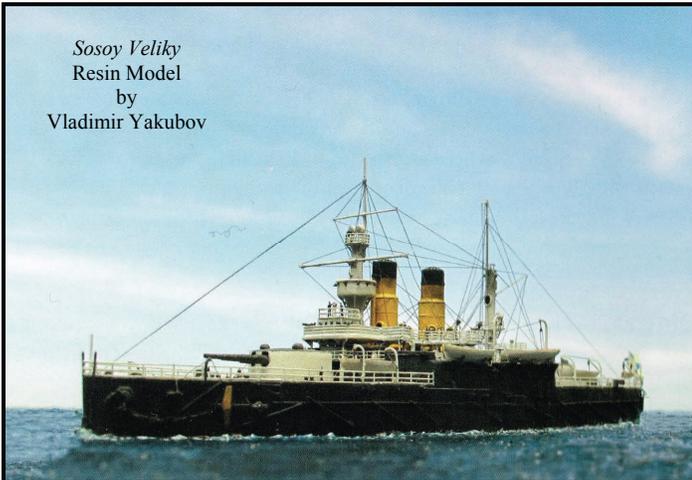
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Several RC models are noted that display a high level of detail and many automated features.



CSS Richmond
RC Model
by
Steven Lund

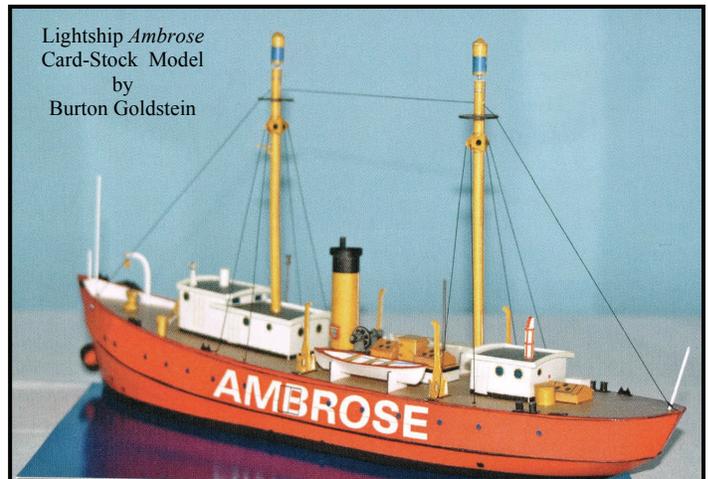
Among the more unique subjects are resin models, which represent many lesser known vessels. These miniatures are also very intricate, and many are the subjects of dioramas.



Sosoy Veliky
Resin Model
by
Vladimir Yakubov

Rounding out the featured offerings are card models. These pieces are remarkably well done, and possess a

high degree of detail. Some of them are scratch built. Considering the material being used, it's hard to imagine how that is possible!



Lightship Ambrose
Card-Stock Model
by
Burton Goldstein

The next segment in the book is a "Chart of Ship Models by Year," which covers a time span from 1500 to the twenty-first century. This certainly helps if you are looking for a specific ship type or period. This is also how the photos and descriptions of each model are presented. The book concludes with a brief history of the Western Ship Model Exhibition & Conference.

In Donald Dressel's opening remarks he states that the purpose of the book is to introduce the reader to the various levels of skill in the making of ship models, the different materials used, and the methods employed. That statement would indicate that the book is not intended to merely be a compendium of ship model photos. The author is attempting to make the reader aware of the many possibilities that are available within our hobby, and to motivate him or her to attempt projects that will broaden their experiences and abilities. This book certainly achieves that goal!

Reviewed by
Bob Filipowski

Want more bang for your buck?

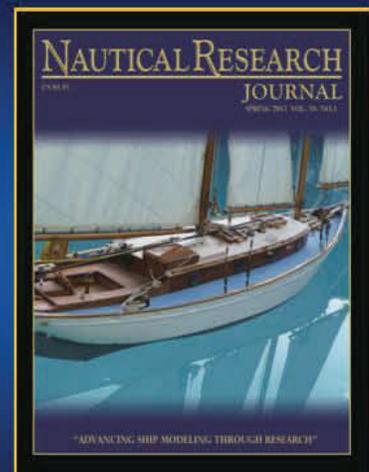
An NRG membership is more valuable than ever! Starting with our Spring issue of the Nautical Research Journal, we will feature a new 80-page format. That means more quality color photographs and articles on ship model building, as well as an expanded Shop Notes section, and features on naval architecture, nautical history, and the maritime arts.

The annual cost of membership will remain at \$38 US and \$50 for all other countries. Visit our new website at www.theNRG.org for more information about becoming a member, the Journal, our library sale, and the 2013 Photographic Ship Model Competition & Review.



THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"Advancing Ship Modeling Through Research"



MODEL BOAT SHOW

April 14th 2013

11 to 4 PM

**Meineke recreation center
220 East Weathersfield Way
Schaumburg Illinois**



Presented by

FLEET 4 COMMANDERS
RADIO CONTROL SCALE MODEL BOAT CLUB

CHICAGO R/C MODEL YACHT CLUB

MIDWEST MODEL SHIPWRIGHTS

NORTHSHORE DEADEYES

NAUTICAL RESEARCH & SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

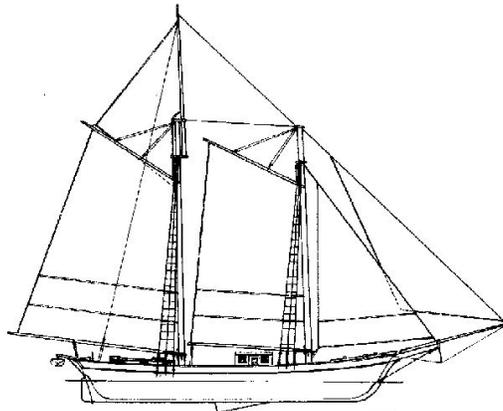
Models will include static and radio controlled boats and ships including radio controlled models of pleasure boats, work boats, tug boats, and sailboats, and many types of static models including magnificent old sailing ships. There will be members of the five participating clubs to answer any questions you may have on model boat building and sailing

**Admission is free
so come and join the fun**

Information Dick Chvojka 847-639-7894 or chivk@comcast.net



John R. Mitchell, Editor
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www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com