



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights ♦ www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com ♦ December 2017

● Scuttlebutt ●

COMMODORE, Bob Filipowski, opened the November 2017 meeting at 7:30 with a crew of 21 on board. There were no guests this evening so Bob moved right into the announcement that we would have a raffle with a choice of one of two prizes. Really nice ones, too! A Dremel General Purpose Kit or a fine Surface Gauge. In the end, Hal Chaffee won the raffle and chose the Dremel Kit. That leaves the Surface Gauge for another time. Congratulations to Hal for his good fortune.

Bob circulated a pizza wish list, which everyone signed. Anyone who was not at the November meeting but who will come to the December pizza party is asked to contact Bob by phone or email at logline2@gmail.com and let him know that you will attend and what you'd like on your pizza. This is very important, so that Bob can order enough food for everyone. Also, spouses are invited, so let Bob know if you are bringing a guest and their pizza choice. Thanks, mates.



Once again, Bob put out a call for all members to let him know what kind of presentations they would like to see in the coming year. If you have any subjects that you feel you would like to know more about and that would help you become a better modeler, be sure and let Bob know.

All the fine things the club does for you, the members, comes at a price - and your annual dues help make them all possible. Renting the meeting hall, holding the yearly pizza party, making video CDs, publishing a newsletter and supporting the area modeling activities and contests all add up. So, mates, open your moneybags and make the Ship's Purser happy by bringing your \$20, cash or check, to the December meeting. If you can't attend in December, then how about mailing a check (made out to *Midwest Model Shipwrights*) to **Allen Siegel, 843 Bryant Ave, Winnetka, IL 60093**. Thanks very much in advance, for your early action on this request.



"Scuttlebutt", continued on Page 5

2017 OFFICERS & STAFF

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Treasurer (Ship's Purser)	- Allen Siegel(847) 446-7248
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December Meeting Notice

"Pizza Party & Flea Market"



Ahoy, mates, let's all see out the modeling year together with a great pizza party and an active flea market.

Be sure and bring stuff you'd like to sell and enough cash to take home some treasures, too.

This is the time to really enjoy the comradeship we've built up over the years and share our triumphs and misses with each other. Hope to see you all there!

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday, December 20, 2017
The South Church
501 S. Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL

Manitowoc 2017 By Bob Filipowski

One thing is for certain, if you weren't at this year's model ship contest, you missed a great outing. Another thing for certain is that, if you missed the contest this year you need to put it on your "bucket list" for 2018. The more modelers who attend, the more fun everyone has.

The fine models Bob showed us this evening should whet anyone's appetite for taking part in the contest. The models set a high mark of excellence towards which we can all strive. Arranged by Gold Medal recipients and "Best" Awards, here are the winners:

Lewis & Clark Keelboat by David Ritchey - Gold Medal



"Manitowoc", continued on Page 2

The Forecastle Report, Dec. 2017 - P.2

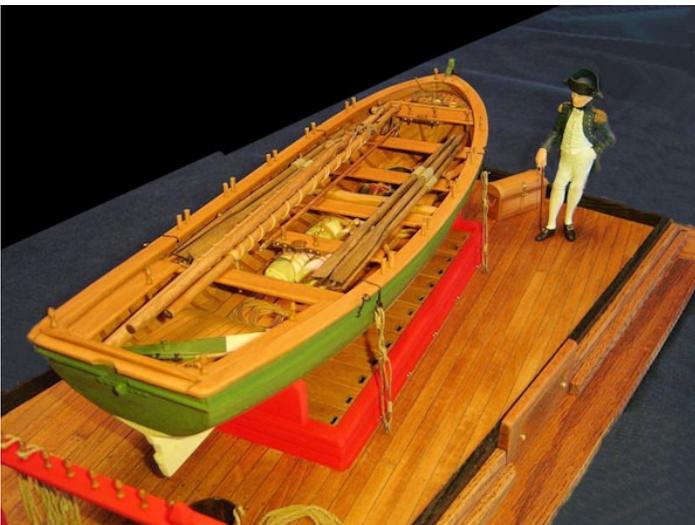
"Manitowoc", continued from Page 1



Robert E. Lee Riverboat by Lee Kimmins - Gold Medal



Half Moon by Allen Siegel - Gold Medal



21-Foot Ship's Launch by Samuel Parent - Gold Medal

Best Racing Class Sailboat and Roger Jaekel Best Great Lakes Award -

16' Decker Canoe by Steve Wheeler



Modeler's Choice and Badger Airbrush Best Paint Finish Awards -

HIJMS Yahagi by Joe Simon



Dana McCalip Best Miniature Award - HMS Bellona 1760 by Gus Agustin

Best Novice Builder Award - Confederacy Frigate by Peter Koch



Gordon Stiller Best Maritime Carving Award - Book Model Viking Head by Gus Agustin

People's Choice Award

Friedrich Wilhelm zu Pferde by Jeffrey Goldberg



● Ships on Deck ●

Rick Szydelko lead off with a show of unique tools that he found or made himself. A really nice angle jig was found at this year's IPMS show that Rick says he can use as a gluing jig. A pair of lighted magnifying glasses was found on line (made in China) and Rick made his own rigging weights by soldering a wire to a mini-clip with a loop at the other end used to attach various sized fishing weights. What a great idea! Thanks, mate.



Tim Foster's 1/20th scale model of the *Elco PT 159* turned out to be the "elephant in the room". At this scale, his boat took up one entire table and it was truly astounding. This was made from a discontinued "Dumas" kit and



was set up for R/C operation. The one piece hull and deck were fiberglass. Propulsion was by two 6V motors



that are capable of



delivering 30 mph scale speed, so she really will fly! To enhance the deck detail and replace some bad metal parts, Tim purchased many 3D-printed nylon parts from "Shapeways". The only problem he found with them was in painting. After priming with "Testor's" enamel primer, the final coat of OD enamel would not properly cure - parts had a tacky feel. Kurt Van Dahm recommended the use of "Badger" Stynel-Rez, which works well on nylon parts. All-in-all this is one very beautiful and exciting model, mate. We only wish we could see her moving through the water. The actual stern mount gun was a 40mm, not the 20mm as modeled.



As a footnote, Tim located some details on PT 159's history on "Naval History Online" - PT 159 saw action in all of the South Pacific theaters from 1942-1945. She picked up Lt. Kennedy and his crew after the loss of PT 109. Her nickname was "Aces and Jacks" to her crew. She was stripped and destroyed by the Navy 11/45.



Doc Williams continues to cut out the many gun ports on his 1:72 model of the *HMS Royal William*. His techniques are spot on, as the rows of ports cut to date are perfectly

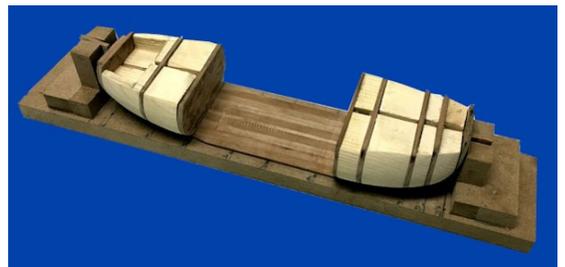


aligned, and that is an absolute must on a model of this size and grandeur. After drilling the center locating hole, Doc sets a template over the hole and draws the port's outline. Then, using a combination of sharp carving knife and emery board, he enlarges the opening very carefully to reach the pre-drawn outline. Skill and patience abound, mate.

Allen Siegel's 17th Century *Dutch Kaag* (1:48) is looking more like a ship, now that he has added new spacers between the bulkheads and sanded them off to the proper hull shape. In keeping with this being a true scratch-built model, the

spacers were cut from a piece of 2x6 pine cut-off that he got from "Craft Wood" in Highland

Park. There was also some effort made to mill an opening in the poop deck, but that will be explained at the next showing. She's looking very fine, mate.



The Forecastle Report, Dec. 2017 - P.4

"Ships-on-Deck", continued from Page 3

Neil Hurwitz sent us some photos of the "Model Shipways" *Picket Boat No.1* kit that he says he finally got around to photographing. The kit was modified using some of the suggestions given by **Kurt Van Dahm** in his "Ships in Scale" articles.

Next up is building a case for her.

The end result certainly has produced a very fine model, mate. Keep up the great work.



NRG Conference Review 2017 Text and photos courtesy of Toni Levine

The 2017 Conference was held October 25-28 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Happily, they did not incur any significant damage from the hurricane. We were blessed with wonderful weather, allowing participants who arrived early the opportunity to visit the local attractions.

Thursday started with a tour of the USCG installation in St. Petersburg. We were able to climb aboard two of the ships moored at the base and enjoyed lunch at the USCG Galley. The most



amazing part of the tour was the overwhelmingly positive attitude exhibited by enlisted men and officers alike. Even the tour guides learned something as Coasties stopped what they were doing to talk to us about their specialty. We concluded this part of the tour with lunch at the USCG's dining facility - a great meal for less than \$8.00!

The next stop was the Florida Institute of Oceanography where we toured the new research vessel *WT Hogarth*.



Friday morning was devoted to the technical sessions. Lectures were given by:
Bill Maxwell - Construction of the Brodie Stove
Gus Agustin - Techniques of a Miniaturist
David Antscherl - Research Process

The afternoon was comprised of five excellent roundtables presenting seven different topics. Roundtable Presenters and Topics included:
Chuck Passaro - Carving
Bill Maxwell - Brodie Stove Techniques
Gus Agustin - Flag Making
Paul Wharen - Copper Plate Making
Charles Gravallesse - Solid Hull Modeling
Irwin Schuster - Sail Making
David Antscherl - Frieze Painting



On Saturday there was a full day of lectures. The morning presentations were:

Dr. William Murray - Large Ancient Roman Warship
Charles Harris - Presentation of American *Victory*
Clay Feldman - Hawaiian *Fair American*

After a very nice sandwich buffet lunch there were three more presentations:

Keith Holland - US Army Transport *Maple Leaf*
Paul Fontenoy - WWI German Submarine
Irwin Schuster - SS *Mascotte*.



With 69 members in attendance, there were a total of 58 models displayed. Some are pictured above.

"NRG Conf.", continued on Page 5

The Forecastle Report, Dec. 2017 - P.5

"Scuttlebutt", continued from Page 1

Kurt Van Dahm gave us a quick summary of the NRG Conference held in St. Petersburg, FL this year. Attendance was 69 members, 30 wives and 58 ship models. Representing the Tri-Club were Gus Agustin, Coleman Seskind and Toni Levine. Some details on the conference for 2018 were also available: October 25,26,27 in Las Vegas, NV. The Palace Station Hotel and Casino has been selected as the Conference HQ and a special conference rate for attendees tentatively arranged at \$120/night (Sat/Sun). Incidentally, 2018 will mark the 70th anniversary of the NRG, so the conference will have special meaning to all members.

Bob Filipowski announced that he now has video CDs on the subjects of "Lofting" (by Gordon Field) and "Deadeyes and Masting" (by Allen Siegel). If you have any requests for any of the other fine videos in the Tri-Club's library, please let Bob know in advance and he will have one ready for you at the next meeting. Charges remain at \$5.00 per copy for members and \$10.00 for non-members. There will be an additional \$5.00 charge for USA out of town orders. The new Tri-Club 2017 list:

Airbrush Techniques - 3 hours
Barrels
Brodie Stove Construction
Building the C.W. Morgan - Doc Williams
Belaying Ship's Lines (new) - Bob Filipowski
Card Models
Carving an Ocean for Waterline Models - Gus Agustin
Cases for Model Ships
Casting Resin Parts - Kurt Van Dahm
Casting & RTV Molds - Alumilite Talk
Colorado River Cataract Boat Construction
Copper Plate Coloration - Bob Filipowski
Coppering Techniques (2 versions)
Crow's Feet Rigging - Doc Williams
Deck Cabin Construction (Bob)
Deck Cabin Construction (Gus)
Deck Construction - Older Version
Deck Planking & Trunnels - 1 hr 6 min.
Dockyard Model Construction - Gus
Deadeye Construction - Phil Krol, 30 min.
Electroplating - S. Wheeler
Electroplating Cast Resin Parts - J. Merritt
Flags - Gus Agustin (2 versions)

Gold Leaf Application - Gus Agustin
Grating Construction
Gudgeons & Pintles
Head Rails & Transoms
Lathe Operation
Lofting Explained (new)
Mast Hoops
Masts & Yards - Marty Meyer
Masting & Rigging with Fixtures
Metal Castings - Steve Wheeler (new)
One Way to Make Accurate Facades (new)
Paint Brush Care & Maintenance
Photographing Ship Models - Kurt Van Dahm
Photo Etched Parts Made in Your Own Workshop
Plank on Bulkhead Models
Planking Concepts - 3 hours
Resistance Soldering - David Crement
Resistance Soldering - Doc Williams
Rigging Techniques
Rope Making
Sail Making
Ship's Boats - 2 versions, Gus Agustin & J. Mitchell
Small Boat Construction - Ray Oswalt
Ship's Lines & Draughts
Ship's Lines & Solid Hull Models
Silver Soldering
Stun Sail Booms
Scratch-built Oars - Steve Wheeler
Tool Sharpening
Turning Brass Canons
Tops, Deadeye Fixtures, Mounting Masts (new)
Weathering Techniques
Windless Construction (2 versions)

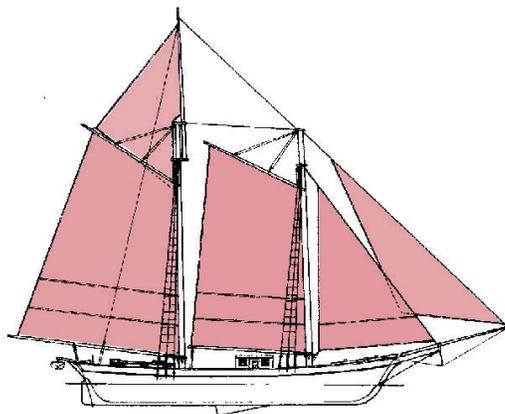
"NRG Conf.", continued from Page 4

Three of our Tri-Club members were in attendance; Gus Agustin, Coleman Seskind and Toni Levine. Gus was both a lecturer and a roundtable presenter and also, once again, created the fine pin for the conference. Nice work, Gus, and many thanks for all your contributions to the event.





John R. Mitchell, Editor
Arlington Heights, IL



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