



Forecastle Report

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

● Scuttlebutt ●

COMMODORE, Bob Filipowski, opened the December 2016 meeting at 7:30 with a hungry crew of 24 on board.

Bob started the meeting with a session on business results for the year ending. He reported an increase in our cash balance, even after subtracting expenses for meeting hall rent, 2016 pizza, and donations to the *Wisconsin Maritime Museum* for boat contest awards, and gave thanks to excellent sales of program CDs.

Kurt Van Dahm reported that the Tri-Club also ended the year ahead due to CD sales - and this after investing in new audio equipment for use in making presentations.

With new presentations being created by all three clubs, videos from YouTube and the internet can be edited with our newly acquired software for inclusion in presentations at meetings - they will not be for sale, however.

Our Purser reminds us that it's time to pay our 2017 dues. Please send your check for **\$20**, made out to *Midwest Model Shipwrights*, to: **Allen Siegel, 843 Bryant Ave, Winnetka, IL 60093** or bring check or cash to the January meeting. Membership is still a bargain. Thanks, mates.

Elections were held for 2017 officers. There being no nominations from the crew, the current officers were returned to duty again next year by unanimous vote. Your officers want to thank you all for your confidence in the way the club is being managed. We're glad you're happy.



LtoR - Glenn, John, Bob, Allen. Some of the returning Officers and Staff for 2017 that also include Bob Sykes, Leon Sirota and John Pocius.

"Scuttlebutt", continued on Page 3

2015 OFFICERS & STAFF

President (Commodore)	- Bob Filipowski.....(847) 394-0757
Vice Pres (Flag Captain)	- Glenn Estry(847) 259-1574
Treasurer (Ship's Purser)	- Allen Siegel(847) 446-7248
Secretary (Ship's Clerk)	- Bob Sykes.....(630) 766-6645
Newsletter Editor	- John Mitchell(847) 392-2259
Photographer	- Leon Sirota(847) 541-6285
Web Master	- John Pocius.....(630) 957-7298
	jpdesign@mindspring.com

January Meeting Notice

Façades

By Rick Szydelko

The dictionary defines "façade" as: (2) *The front part of anything: often used figuratively, with implications of an imposing appearance concealing something inferior.*

In terms of model building, Rick's definition is: *Cabin walls that can be seen from the outside of the model.*

Here's a technique that everyone really needs to learn and promises to be a real eye opener.

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

At: **The South Church**

501 S. Emerson Street

Mount Prospect, IL

● Pizza & Flea Market ●

Bob is busy checking in the pizza delivery to make sure everything is ship shape. We had more than enough for the crew and everyone got a taste of a great assortment of toppings - including anchovies for the pizza connoisseurs. There were plenty of beverages to wash it all down with, too. Once again, a great job by the planners - thanks, mates, for a fine year end party.



The flea market was amazing for all the good stuff that was for sale.



There were a lot of very fine books as well as a number of excellent tools. And, for the ambitious builders, a couple of super kits went at good prices. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped make the evening a success.

The Forecastle Report, Jan. 2017 - P.2

● Ships Launched in 2016 ●

February saw two launchings. The first of these was the 1:200 scratch built model of the HMS *Halifax* by **Kevin Hudson**. News of the launching took a while to reach us, as Kevin hales from Australia. Despite the distance, he keeps close tabs on all our activities via email.



John DePew, our associate member in Florida, sent us a photo of his frigate HMS *Diana*, which we also received a bit after the event.



March rolled in with **Gus Agustin's** 1:168 "near" miniature model of HMV *Kitchen*



and was followed closely by **Richard Romaniak's** 1:90 16th century *Trading Vessel*.

April featured **Gordon Field's** excellent 1:32 scratch built model of the fishing pink *Dove*.



May warmed up with **Kurt Van Dahm's** 1:48 model of the lumber tug *Smokey Duck*, which he built from a very unique kit.



June saw **Bob Sykes** launch another of his fine kit models, the 1:75 *San Felipe*.



July gave us the remarkable 1:96 R/C model of the freighter *Manitou Spirit* by **Tim Foster**.



September, saw **Gordon Field** roll out another fine model; a 1:64 *Longboat*.

December ran out the year with two fine models. **Bob Sykes** finished yet another wonderful job on a kit of the 1:75 Swedish warship *Wasa*, followed by **John Hirsch's** 1:48 English *Longboat*.

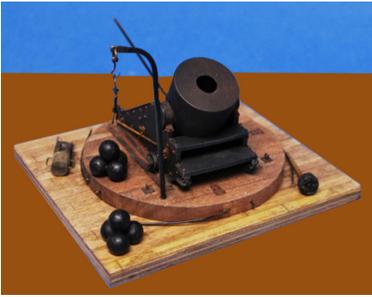


Hearty congratulations to all our mates who completed such a find body of work this past year. If we missed any, Please let us know so we can publish corrections in a future issue.

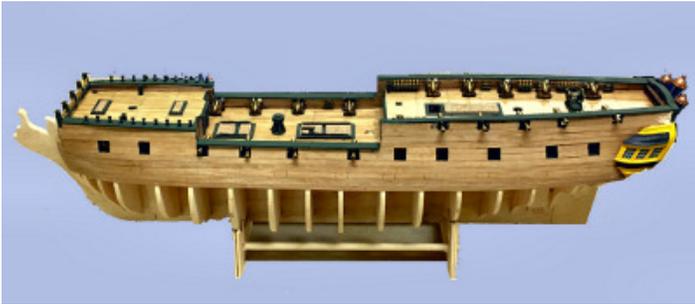
Happy modeling and a Happy New Year to all in 2017!

● Ships on Deck ●

Glenn Estry's Gold Medal win at the recent IPMS show went unreported, as his model got lost in the "Arms" category. The *Civil War Mortar*, built from a kit with major scratch built updates, was a real beauty. Congratulations mate.



Bob Sykes purchased a partly complete frigate model at the IPMS show that he plans to finish off this year.



Gus Agustin showed us several of his miniatures made to store in life-like antique books. A really fascinating display technique showing great skill not only in ship modeling but bookbinding too!



This first example is entitled "*Launch*" and depicts a ship's launch with mast, tied up to a mooring post (seagull on top!).

The second model is entitled "*State Barge*" and features one of Gus' famously done flags, which we'd all like to be able to duplicate.



Thanks for showing us your very special work, mate.



They were very entertaining and fun to view - a real holiday treat!



Richard Kuenstler was true to his holiday costume and holiday spirit in bringing in his "*Santa's Skiff*" - a new take on the "sleigh and eight tiny reindeer" theme. Who knows, maybe this is the favored transportation mode down south? Thanks for helping us all celebrate the evening in style, mate.



Paul Bien entertained us with his 1:1 model of a *Walking Beam Engine*, c. 1840. This was the first time we actually got to see it move under compressed air power and it was really fascinating.



"*Scuttlebutt*", continued from Page 1



Kurt Van Dahm asked all members of the Nautical Research Guild to vote on the proposed bi-laws change this month, so that the Guild's documents can be finalized.

The dates of 26/27/28 October have been confirmed for the 2017 NRG Conference to be held in St. Petersburg, Florida. Wonderful venue so you can expect a superior meeting.

Making a list and checking it twice, **Bob Filipowski** put in his wants for next year with **Richard "Santa" Kuenstler**. They included a new member's list and an updated video list. We're sure he will get his wish.



There was a lot of reading going on while we awaited the arrival of the pizza. Thanks to Kurt and Bob for providing the magazines.

HISTORIC SHIP PROFILES

● U-boat UC - 97 ●

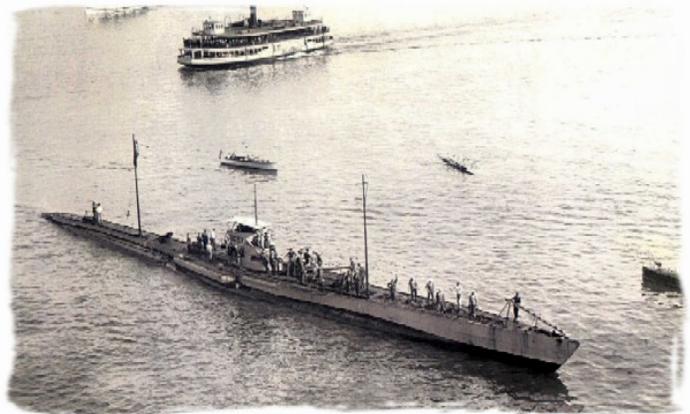
A German submarine lying on the bottom of Lake Michigan? No way, you might say. But you would be wrong. History is often stranger than fiction and so we find that, indeed, a U-boat is lying out there in our lake.

UC-97, a mine-laying submarine, was laid down late in 1917 at Hamburg, Germany, by Blohm & Voss and launched on March 17, 1918. She was never commissioned in the Imperial German Navy because the armistice of November 11 ended hostilities before the submarine was ready for sea. She was surrendered according to the terms of the armistice and was probably interned at Harwich, England.

In any event, the United States Navy expressed an interest in acquiring several of the surrendered German submarines for display purposes in conjunction with a Victory Bond drive. Early in 1919, UC-97 and five other U-boats were allotted to the United States.

On April 3, 1919 the five U-boats together with the US Sub Tender *Bushnell* sailed first to the Azores, thence to Bermuda and four boats plus *Bushnell* sailed to New York, arriving on April 27.

The UC-97 was assigned to the Great Lakes region and, after negotiating the locks of the Canadian-controlled St. Lawrence canal, entered the Great Lakes to begin a whirlwind series of visits to American ports in Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron and Michigan.



Though scheduled to visit Lake Superior ports as well, the U-boat had to cut its voyage because of wear on the engines. In August, 1919, she started back down the coast of Lake Michigan toward Chicago, where she arrived at the beginning of the last week of the month.

At Chicago, her crew turned UC-97 over to the Commandant, 9th Naval district. She was laid up at the Great Lakes Naval Station until June 7, 1921 when she was taken out into Lake Michigan and sunk as a target during naval reserve gunnery drills (by the USS *Wilmette*, formerly known as the S.S. *Eastland*).



THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

“ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH”

Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, *Nautical Research Journal*, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology and maritime art.

Other benefits include discounts on annual conferences, ship modeling seminars, NRG products and juried model competitions which are offered exclusively to Guild members. We hope you will consider joining our ongoing celebration of model ships and maritime history.

**YEARLY
MEMBERSHIP**

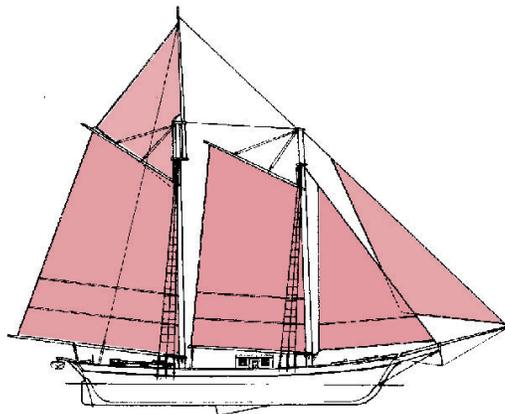
\$48.00 USA
\$60.00 Foreign



For more information contact us at: www.thenrg.org or telephone 585-968-8111



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



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights
www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com