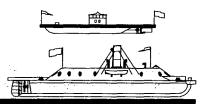
Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

Logbook!



No. 114

December 1995

From the Pilothouse



Well we've put another NRG behind us, at least for the next five years. We won't hear much about the next one from Bill Clarke until 1999 although he has already started rounding up speakers. I think Joe McCleary has been mentioned as a possible. Personally I would like to see a rematch of the 1995 saber duel between Bill and Joe. Only this time Bill gets to choose the weapons so he won't get "stuck," so to speak, with an inferior blade by that dastardly, low life, Joe. I guess we'll just all have to be at the 2000 NRG conference to see how this "drama" plays out. See ya there.

nevy

Len Christmas!

Minutes



November 10, 1995

Members: 14

Guests: Dick Moore

Hans Weiss (Hans built the U-boat model being used in the new Mariners' Museum exhibit.)

Meeting called to order at 2007.

Corrections: John Cheevers pointed out that he was not at the October meeting. Jack Bobbitt brought the copy of the Fife Rail mentioned in the minutes.

Old Business

Annusl Banquet- The annual banquet is scheduled for March 30, 1996 at the James River Country Club in the Newport News. There will be a cash bar at 1830 and dinner at 1930.

NRG Convention- Many thanks to the Hampton Roads Ship Model Society for another excellent convention. We received letters of commendation from many people including Michael Wall, Rob Napier and Tom Gilmer.

Bill Clarke wrapped up the NRG by thanking all of the presenters and mentioning the R/C run failed to draw any participation. It might be a good idea to consider cutting that event from the next conference.

A motion was made to refund the cost of the conference to Bil; Clarke for all of the work he did to make it happen. The motion carried unanimously.

Modeling Seminar- The Lifesaving Museum in Virginia
Beach responded to a letter Jack Bobbitt and the
seminar is on. We still have to pick a date in late January or
February. Anyone interested in presenting at the seminar
please contact Len Wine.

Club Meeting Site- We are still looking at a possible permanent meeting site. The topic should come up for more discussion at the December meeting. Tom Cooper, 245-1533, is the point of contact at the Monitor/Merrimac Museum for anyone hosting a meeting in 1996 who might be interested in the museum as the sight for their meeting.

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Chesapeake Bay Maritime Festival- Bil Peach and Len Wine were the only members who showed up for the festival. There was a good turnout of classic boats and it was a pretty good festival. Hopefully the club turnout will be better next year.

New Business

R/C Show- Gene Berger gave us a rundown on the R/C show held in Virginia Beach the same weekend as the NRG. According to Gene the show was very small but the Elite Fleet, the southside R/C club, had a very good turnout with some 30 models there.

<u>Carriers Codes and Silent Ships</u>- The new Mariners' Museum exhibit opens on November 11. Everyone who has seen it has been impressed. This should be a good exhibit and it includes the recognition models John Cheevers built.

The meeting adjourned at 2055.

Show and Tell

Metunga- Jack Bobbitt brought along his latest model which is shaping up nicely. Jack has located some cloth to cover the deckhouse roofs to simulate canvas. With thin enough paint the weave should show up nicely.

Minutes Continued

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Workboats and Dredges- An article in the Sun related the a couple of stories about older workboats being purchased and renovated for private use. Two brothers are using their boat to take underprivileged kids on short cruises. Seems like a good way to extend the lives of some of the older deadrises.

Crossplanked Skiff- While working on his model of the subject skiff, Bob Comet met a guy who owned and sailed one in the 1930's. Bob learned a lot about how the skiff was rigged and sailed. He also heard some great stories about life on the water then.

Queen Mary Competition and Exhibit-John Cheevers brought along the announcement of this upcoming model competition which is scheduled for March 22-23, 1996 in Long Beach, CA.

Japanese Model Club- John also brought along a brochure from the club the Japanese entrants in the Mariners' Museum contest belong to. They are primarily interested in building European kits and have no interest in WWII Japanese Navy subjects. The brochure was printed with color pictures of some the members models. (Ed note: I bet their annual dues is more than \$12.)

Apple Wood- John Brought along some extra apple wood he was giving away. There may be some left if anyone else is interested.

<u>Contest Models</u>- Just a reminder to everyone who had models entered in the Mariners' Museum contest that the December meeting is your chance to show off your model and show the members what the judges had to say about your model.

Steel Navy Workshop- The Steel Navy workshop at Annapolis will be held during the 4th weekend in March next year. The list of speakers includes John Higgins, Chris Evers, Dana Wegner, Colin Ratliff, Don Montgomery and Bob Sumrall. A couple of possible topics are Patterns and Casting, and Photoetching by Computer.

Following Show & Tell we all dug into a wonderful spread provided to Heinz and Mareke. Thanks to them for another great November meeting.

Sea Chest- An enclosure, attached to the inside of the underwater shell and open to the sea, fitted with a strainer plate. A sea valve and piping connected to the sea chest passes seawater into the ship for cooling, firefighting or sanitary purposes.



Notice to Mariners

Nautical Research Guild Conference-

By all accounts the NRG Conference hosted by the HRSMS was a great success, despite some minor glitches that popped up along the way. The club has received many congratulatory letters for the effort we put into bringing off another successful conference.

The conference got off to a good start on Thursday afternoon as the vendors began to arrive and set up in the vendor area. Starting at 1700 we began registering conference participants and had probably 40-50% registered by 1900.

Friday morning got off to an early start as Graham and Moira Horne manned the registration booth prior to the tour departing. The tour got underway in good shape and made it down to Norfolk and the Naval Base for the first event of the day. The Navy kindly put two Spruance class destroyers at our disposal for tours. At least one tour member, Graham Horne by name, came away thinking it might be fun to enlist. It sure seemed to him that sailors ate pretty well. Both ships did a good job of conducting the tours and they had hats and other souvenirs available for sale.

The tours took a little longer than expected so the buses got to downtown Norfolk a little later than the schedule called for. Bill Clarke made the command decision to extend the downtown portion by thirty minutes and everyone dispersed to all the points of the compass.

The Friday afternoon registration period covered most of the remaining conference registrants and that led into the Friday evening reception after the NRG's business meeting. The museum laid down the red carpet and left the whole museum open for the reception. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time and the museum catered a very successful event.

Saturday dawned with the weather looking a little ominous but the spouses' tour got off on time and then it was time for the main event to begin. Alan Frazer led off the conference with an excellent talk concerning the hull plating of models. He gave a good overview of typical ship plating practices. Jack Bobbitt followed with a discussion on Chesapeake Bay workboats. Jack has done a great job of collecting interesting photos on the boats and men who work the bay. Tom Gilmer finished off the morning with a talk on the early origins of ships and sailing in the Mediterranean.

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Lunch at the Holiday was a big success. After lunch Roger Cole gave an overview on the Canadian Flower Class corvettes of WWII. Roger has done a good job researching an aspect of the Battle of the Atlantic that most people forget, the tremendous effort put forward by the Canadian Navy. John Cheevers brought us all into the 21st century by showing how Newport News Shipbuilding is preparing to build the next generations of ships in a modern automated fashion. Stafford Davis gave us a brief overview of the convention to be held in Tulsa next year and then we heard about the model contest and convention to be held in Boston in 1997. And last but not least Joe McCleary closed the technical session with an excellent history of the HMS Epervier and a brief look at some of the techniques he used to build the model.

The spouses tour made it back in the late afternoon and it seems the tour was very well received despite some early morning rain. The Mariners' Museum did a great job presenting a talk on woman lighthouse keepers and providing a box lunch. The afternoon half of the tour was taken up by visiting Carter's Grove and Wolstenholm. Thanks to Jeanne Bobbitt for arranging an excellent tour.

Saturday evening culminated in the convention banquet and awards ceremony. Despite some glitches serving the meal it seems the food was very good and most people were satisfied. The awards ceremony followed and then cam the part everyone was looking forward to, the doorprizes. This years haul was very respectable.

Sunday morning the roundtable discussions got underway and the presenters got a chance to answer questions. The R/C model run at the Mariner's Museum flopped due to a lack of participants.

Overall, the conference was a big success and everyone seemed to have a good time. John Cheevers did a great job handling the funds and refunds, despite some kidding from myself and Bill Clarke. Bill himself is to be congratulated for putting on another successful conference. We all learned a lot this year and the next conference we host in 2000 should be even better.

Len Wine

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Festival

The Saturday before the NRG Conference dawned a little gray and the weather report was kind of iffy for an outdoor festival. I showed up at Town Point Park about an hour early to find the Festevents committee had put our tent in an excellent place in the park, up on a little hill out of the

soft, rain swollen grass. The festival brought in about 30-40 classic boats, a boatbuilding demonstration, R/C sail yacht racing, and assorted arts and crafts. Despite some morning rain the turnout was pretty respectable with maybe 500 people going by the HRSMS tent on each day. Unfortunately our club turnout was kind of sparse with only Bil Peach and myself bringing models, 3 on Saturday and 7 on Sunday. The weather turned out to be pretty good that weekend and although it is still a relatively small festival there is quite a bit to see and do. There are always lots of people asking questions and it is a good opportunity to show off your models. Keep the month of October open in 1996 so you can show off your work at the 1996 Chesapeake Bay Maritime Festival.

Len Wine

Modeling Seminar

The Lifesaving Museum in Virginia Beach has asked the club to present a modeling seminar on a Saturday in January or February next year. Ann Dearman of the museum would like to see a seminar running from 1000 to 1500. The plan is to do something similar to the seminar we did at the Mariners' Museum in July. I would like to give the opportunity to people who didn't present in July to do so at this next one. Anyone who is interested in participating should contact me so we can set a date for the seminar. Plan on a presentation length of about 45 minutes with 15 minute breaks and an hour for lunch. These seminars have been a lot of fun in the past and we have recruited several of our newest members this way.

Len Wine

Cofferdam- Narrow void space between two bulkheads or floors that prevents leakage between the adjoining compartments.

Deckhouse- An enclosed erection on or above the weather deck that does not extend from side to side.

Forepeak- The watertight compartment at the extreme forward end. The forward trimming tank.

Gangway- A passageway, side shell opening, or ladderway used for boarding a ship.

Watch, Quarter and **Station Bill**

WQSB

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the home of Jack and Jeanne Bobbitt, 69 Queens Court, Newport News, 599-0557. From I-

64 go west on J. Clyde Morris to Warwick and turn right.

Go to the 2nd or 3rd light and turn left on Hiden Blvd. Stay on Hiden until after it narrows and turn left onto James

Landing Road. Turn right on Queens Court and the Bobbitts



Skipper:

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Jack Bobbit

(804) 599-0557

1st Mate:

Jim McCurdy

(804) 482-5426

Purser:

Bill Clarke

(804) 868-6809

Clerk:

John Cheevers

(804) 591-8955

Historian:

Chuck Reyn

Editor:

Len Wine

(804) 588-5831

Upcoming

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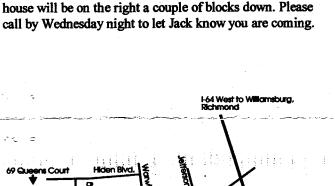
December Meeting: 8 December, 2000 Hrs., Host: Jack **Bobbitt**

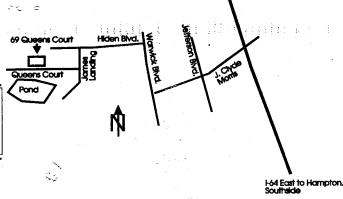
January Meeting: 12 January, 2000 Hrs.

Events

Lifesaving Museum Modeling Seminar: Saturday in January or February.

Annual Banquet: Saturday, 30 March, James River Country Club.

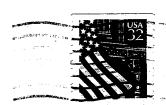






c/o Len Wine 7432 Red Brook Road Norfolk, VA 23518





John F. Cheevers 414 Burnham Pl. Newport News, VA 23606

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