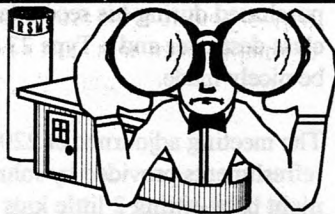


## From the Pilothouse



Having just come back from the Steel Navy Modeling Seminar at Annapolis I am all set to make some progress on my model, which has sat untouched for several months. It was particularly nice to see the Maury again, which happens to be one of my all time favorite models. Chris Evers did an absolutely fantastic job on that model. There is certainly a lot to be said for building a "museum" quality model. On the other hand, we met a bunch of guys from Task Force 50 at the seminar. Task Force 50 is an RC club located in southern Pennsylvania. They build good models, probably not "museum" quality, but they have a huge amount of fun doing it. Just watch the video that Bill Clarke got from their regatta last year to see how good a time they have. What I'm trying to get at is that we shouldn't lose sight of the fact that we're all in this hobby to have fun and sometimes I think we get hung up on this idea of creating the "perfect" model. I, for one, don't think I will ever create a model that approaches the quality of the Maury or Jack's Virginia but I will find a level of quality that is right for me and be happy and have fun with that. Considering my progress to date, the Lang may not be finished until after the turn of the century, sometime after I finish grad school, but I intend to enjoy ship modeling along the way. Len

A reminder to all members that the new fiscal year for the club has begun and the dues for 1996 are now due.

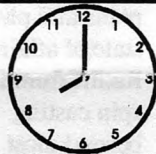
**New Member** Kenn Knittel was unanimously accepted as our latest member.

### Old Business

**Bermuda Sloop-** Graham Horne has proposed that a short session at each meeting be devoted to building the sloop. This might be a good way to twist some arms to get some models started. There is a general feeling that we can cover these topics generically and that there is no need to concentrate solely on the sloop. Joe McCleary felt that the sloop project actually needs a little structure and perhaps we can follow it step by step and include the details in the newsletter. (Ed. note: I am always looking for material for the newsletter.)

**Mid-Atlantic Maritime Festival-** As mentioned in the last issue, this festival is coming up and the WSMS has offered space for our members to display some models at St. Michaels. John Cheevers has the form to send in. (Ed note: Jack received a call from Mike Montgomery of the WSMS, to the effect that getting hotel reservations is difficult. Anyone having problems getting a room can call Mike at Work: 202 682-8021 or Home: 703 771-7193. He may be able to help.)

## Minutes



March 8, 1996

Members: 17

Guests: Kenn Knittel  
Dean Sword

Meeting called to order at 2008.

**Corrections** Concerning Graham Horne's model of a St. Lawrence skiff that he entered in the Mariners' Museum contest last year; the judges felt that the thole pin fasteners were not sufficient, the thole pins themselves were okay.

**Steel Navy Seminar-** This seminar has about 34 people signed up and should go off without a hitch at the end of the month. (Ed. note: The seminar was a whole lot of fun and very informative. Look for a report later in this issue.)

### New Business

**Mariners' Museum-** Bill Clarke mentioned that the museum plans a session on the Proper Care of Photographs on May 4. There is an upcoming book sale, look for the date to be reported later. Joe McCleary and Bob Comet have moved the modeling area back close to the Crabtree Gallery. Alan Frazer brought along a copy of the museum's annual journal sent out recently to the museum members. Alan also mentioned that the museum will be hosting some kayak building classes.

**Ada Mae-** The Ada Mae is an 81 year old skipjack, named

## Minutes Continued

after Paris Aikens' mother-in-law. This boat is being rebuilt in North Carolina. Jack Bobbitt brought along a recent Daily Press article about the boat.

**Constellation-** Joe McCleary mentioned that a new organization has taken over the Constellation in Baltimore. This civic group has accepted the ship as a sloop of 1854. The ship is in pretty poor shape, badly hogged according to Joe, and the new group is looking for funds for rebuilding. There is some concern that dry-docking the ship may be very risky. Time will tell.

**Scale Woodcraft-** Bil Peach donated 3 back issues of this magazine to the club.

**Silver Soldering-** Nick Runsey brought along an article he found on silver soldering. It seemed to be very complete and anyone interested in getting a copy should contact Nick.

**Resistance Soldering-** Someone mentioned resistance soldering as substitute for silver soldering. Bill Altice has a resistance rig that he got from MicroMark and stated that he loves it and that it was well worth the price.

### Show and Tell

**Mississippi-** John Cheevers had a model of the USS Mississippi that he started 15 years ago. The hull was made out of sugar pine but John feels yellow poplar would have been better. The paint used is just enamel out of a spray can.

**RC Tugs-** David Tagg had a requirement to build ten RC tugs for the Monitor Merrimac museum. David came up with a very simple and easy installation for the receiver and running gear. The models appear to be very tough, a prerequisite for models intended for children to run. The motors appear to have enough oomph to make these models get up and plane. David said he plans to tone it down a little. The models themselves came from England and David managed to keep the cost for each model to around \$300.

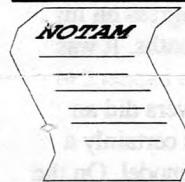
**Metunga-** Jack brought the Metunga along to show the progress he has made. All of the deck structures are done. As Jack put it, the rubrail was a b\_\_ch to get right. Jack used Watco oil as a finish. Jack is getting ready to paint the model. The doors on the deckhouses are superb and the canvas tops look good. Jack used Pima Batiste cotton to simulate canvas.

**Paints-** The Metunga brought up the question of paints. Many people have gone to acrylics because of the easy cleanup. There is some concern that acrylic paints may not have the long term staying power of some other types of paints. Jack uses enamel paints. The consensus is that airbrushing is

much better than brush painting and really isn't very hard to learn. Brushing also requires a very long time between coats. You can add some glaze to Floquil paints as they tend to be very flat and there is now an airbrush thinner for these paints.

**Hulls-** Bill Clarke brought along 2 fiberglass hulls that he purchased during his recent jaunt to the UK. He had a Battle class destroyer and a Type 23 frigate. Both hulls appeared to be nicely made.

The meeting adjourned at 2200 and everyone enjoyed the refreshments provided by John Cheevers. John had a rough night baby-sitting 2 little kids and 19 big kids. Thanks John.



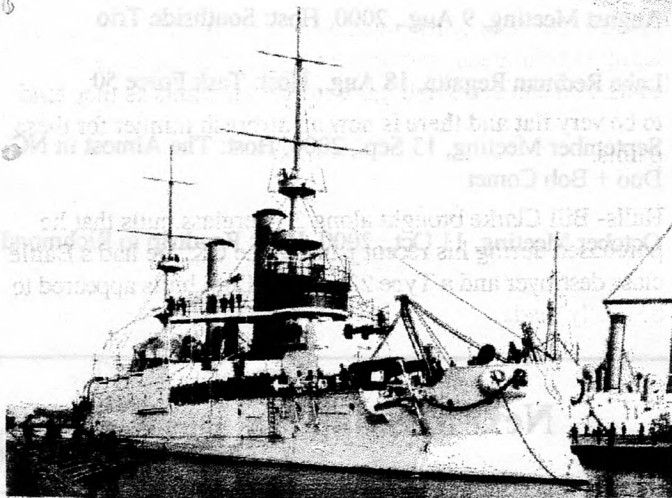
## Notice to Mariners

### Steel Navy Modeling Seminar-

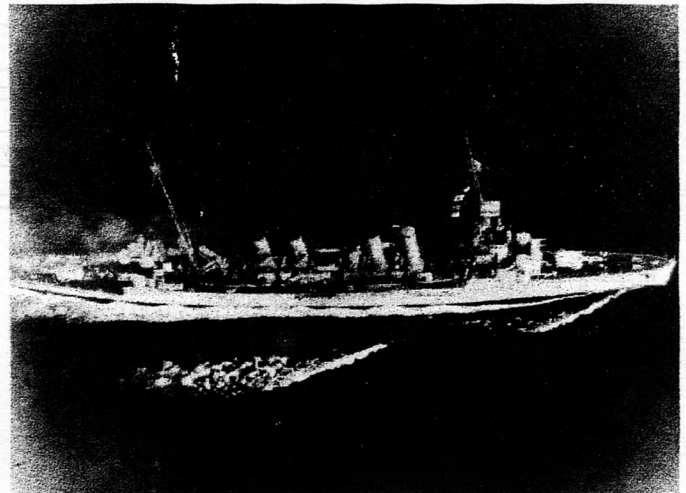
Here's a quick rundown on the seminar. Our club had nine representatives at Annapolis. Some of us got a start a day early by visiting the National Archives. Bill Clarke, Bob Comet and Len Wine spent the day holed up in the photographic and plans branches. Bob and Len even went back on Friday morning. Friday afternoon was spent checking in at the museum at the Academy and looking around the area. The actual seminar kicked off on Friday night with a reception upstairs in the museum and a tour of the whole museum conducted by Jack Hudock.

Saturday morning got off to a quick start with Chris Evers talking about painting and detailing models. He had the Maury there to help point out certain techniques. Bob Sumrall and Don Montgomery followed up with a session on plans and photographs. Don had lots of insight on the current state of affairs on getting photos from the government. Colin Ratiiff from David Taylor followed up with a description of spin casting. The amount of casting done at DT is probably beyond most home modelers but the techniques could be scaled down to a manageable level.

After lunch out in town, John Higgins, of Abercrombie fame, covered some of his scratchbuilding techniques. John has more patience than most of us. The lifelines alone, on the Abercrombie, took him 6 months to build. Mike Condon, also from DT, covered some of the models in the Navy's collection and then Jack Hudock conducted a tour of the Yard, in particular the models in Rickover and Bancroft Halls. Jack carefully explained that the whining sound coming from the chapel was JPJ spinning in his grave. A sound heard since the mid 70's. Jack had lot's of good stories to tell about his days at the academy.



**USS Kearsarge**  
Date unknown



**USS Marblehead**  
Date Unknown

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## NOTAM Continued

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Dinner on Saturday night was held at Bush's Chesapeake and the food and speaker, Ken Hagan, Academy professor, were excellent.

Sunday got off to a good start with Bob Sumrall covering some of the issues involved in doing photoetched parts and then the seminar wound up with a panel discussion chaired by Bob. The afternoon was reserved for a bull session back in the museum workshop. Some of the attendees had models along to show and everyone got a chance to trade ideas and info. All in all the Steel Navy Seminar was very successful and the consensus seemed to be that everyone would be ready to do it again very soon.

Annual Banquet- Jack and Jeanne Bobbitt once again hosted a very successful annual banquet at the James River Country Club on March 30.

As always the country club provided good food and excellent service. The layout of the golf museum room is very good for allowing dinner time conversation, since the tables keep each group at about 8. We all learned that there is at least one person around who is able to keep Joe McCleary in check, Helen McCleary. It seems that Joe's models get a much more thorough critiquing at home than they ever do in a competition.

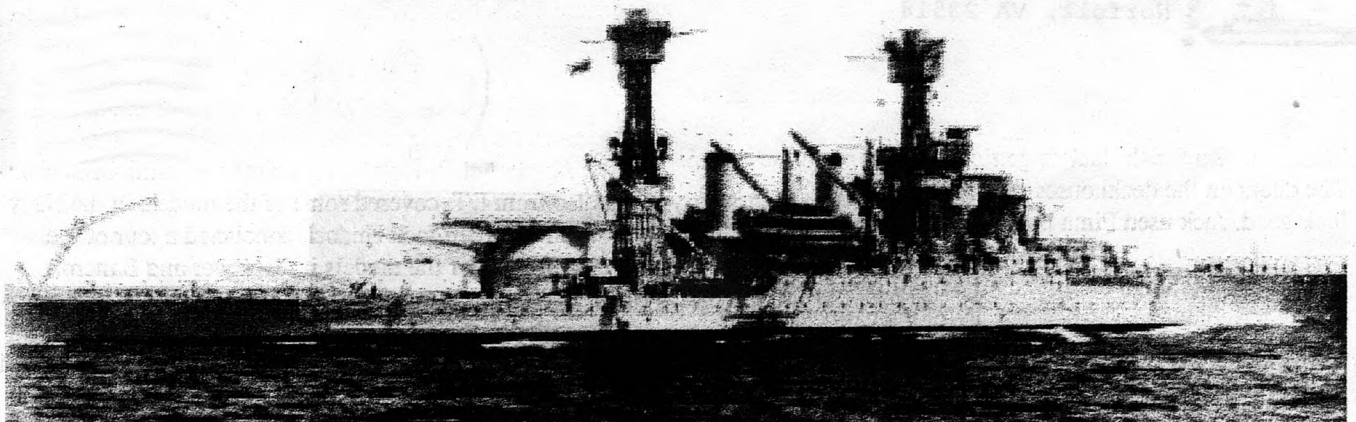
Nobody took Jack's offer to give an impromptu speech about the recently completed steel navy seminar. We were all pretty much talked out by that time.

Many thanks to Jeanne for taking the time to produce the menu and make the arrangements for the banquet room and set-up the table decorations. Hopefully, Jack and Jeanne will agree to host the banquet again next year at the JRCC.

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## Colorado Class Battleship underway in the 1930's.

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# Watch, Quarter and Station Bill

WQSB

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1st Mate: Alan Frazer  
(804) 865-7300

Purser: Bill Clarke  
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Editor: Len Wine  
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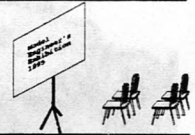
August Meeting, 9 Aug., 2000, Host: Southside Trio

Lake Redman Regatta, 18 Aug., Host: Task Force 50

September Meeting, 13 Sep., 2000, Host: The Almost in NC Duo + Bob Comet

October Meeting, 11 Oct., 2000, Host: Roadtrip to Richmond

## Next Meeting



The next meeting, hosted by the HRSMS Williamsburg chapter of the AARP, will be held on 12 April, at 2000 hours, at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 1333 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, VA. From either direction on I-64 take exit 242A onto Route 199 West. Stay on 199 for approximately 5 miles until you get to the corner of Jamestown Road (4th stop light). Turn left onto Jamestown and go about 300 yards. Immediately after passing the Shahia Rug Shop turn right into the church driveway, there is a sign but the church is not really visible from the road. The meeting will be held in the main sanctuary. See you there.

## Upcoming Events

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

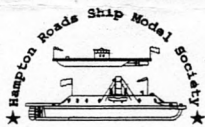
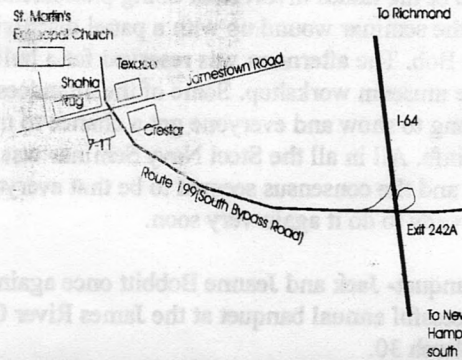
April Meeting: 12 April, 2000 Hrs., Host- Joe McCleary

May Meeting: 10 May, 2000 Hrs., Host- Bill Clarke

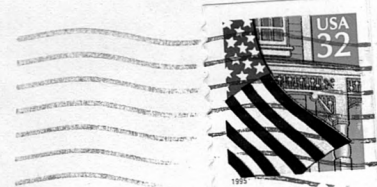
Mid-Atlantic Maritime Festival: 17 - 19 May, St. Michaels, MD

June Meeting: 14 June, 2000 Hrs., Host- Ulrich Guenther

July Meeting: 12 July, 2000 Hrs., Host- Tom Saunders



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



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

P: Dues Paid D: Dues Due

