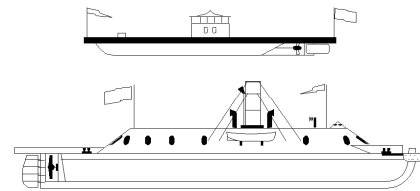


Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

Logbook



No. 210

WWW.HRSMS.ORG

DECEMBER, 2003

FROM THE PILOTHOUSE



D'YOU HERE THERE FORE AND AFT!

Many thanks to Mareke and Heinz Schiller for welcoming the membership and many of our wives into their home for the November meeting. We were all treated in a wonderful manner - a Schiller tradition. It was good to see two longtime members who have not been able to make to recent meetings, Bill Fox and Graham Horne. It was even more pleasant to see their wives. Hopefully Bill and Graham will be with us on a more regular basis. We were also fortunate to have two out-of-town guests with us, who are both outstanding ship model builders, Don Preul and Harry Ohanian. Harry is a member of the Washington Ship Model Society and Don is the Secretary of the Nautical Research Guild. Good show by Bill Clarke to bring them along (the whip marks and rope burns were barely visible). Our members also appreciated the trip report by Alan Frazer and Jack Bobbitt on their experiences at the NRG Conference in Chicago in October.

Our membership decided to hold another society banquet in the spring at the Radisson Hotel in Hampton in order to entertain and thank our wives for the support that they regularly lend. Bill Clarke was asked to start the action on this project, and he did not let any grass grow under his feet. So mark your calendars now for Saturday evening, March 20, 2004. Further details will be forthcoming shortly.

Be sure to bring a wallet full of cash to the next HRSMS meeting at the Bobbitt's house on December 12th. In addition to the regular business meeting, we will also conduct another auction to support our society. An outstanding array of tools, books and plans are being offered. It is also rumored that one of the rare, famous and highly desired "Food de Lyon" models may go on the block also.

Some of you may have seen the new movie based on the books of the well-known author Patrick O'Brian, "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World". The Mariners'

(Continued on page 2)

Mystery Photo



AMystery Photo

Answer to Mystery Photo No. 209: This month, Bill presents an unusual drydock scene—one with little activity. The usual hustle and bustle of dock work is absent; I don't even see a gangway to the ship. The vessel under review has a cold, desolate, and defeated look about it, and can only be in dock for one reason—inspection. With no flags visible, it's doubtful the vessel is in commission. Notice how the harsh marine environment has destroyed the vessel's crisp, neat appearance leaving only chalky and flaking paint mixed with rust streaks? Is it possible that this vessel is nearing the end of her days? It seems that dockworkers, or maybe relic hunters and caretakers, have begun to remove objects and equipment. Let's call this image "Picked over bones (the carcass of the Thanksgiving turkey)". It's just possible that this is the best, if not the most seasonal, way to describe this Mystery Photo. So, how do we discover the name of this "dead" warship sitting forlornly in drydock, and is there an interesting story as well?

From what little we see, we can determine a great deal about the vessel. For starters, she is fairly large having one partial and two complete decks above the waterline. Visually, she is larger than a destroyer but not as robust as a battleship. The distance between the masts indicates a substantial length. The three funnels reveal a large power plant fired by many boilers. The middle of the three stacks is larger in diameter than the others and is an excellent visual clue. The side-by-side mounting of the forward main guns is unusual and may signal a vessel built in Europe. The break in the hull where the forecastle hull plating has been pinched in to provide a large field of fire for a waist gun mount or maybe torpedo tubes is reminiscent of the US 1000-tonners, but this is no US destroyer. Notice the unusual "X" arrangement of yards on the foremast, the empty boat davits, and portholes in the hull.

There is one additional clue to help in defining this

(Continued on page 4)

HRSMS AUCTION

An auction to benefit the HRSMS will be held at the December meeting. Contact Dave Baker if you have items to donate.



(Continued from page 1)

Museum sponsored a benefit performance just before Thanksgiving. The evening included a chance to taste some of the dishes and drinks featured in the Aubrey-Maturin series as well as a discussion on the merits and authenticity of the movie. A number of HRSMS members attended this event. Frankly I thought the movie was very good, and most unusually, better than the books. The Museum will repeat this event at a date in late January.

Many of our members have probably received a brochure on the 2004 Western Ship Model Conference and Exhibit scheduled to be held on board RMS Queen Mary at Long Beach California April 30 to May 2. If you have not seen a copy of the brochure, I will bring a copy to the December meeting.

THAT IS ALL, Joe McCleary

MINUTES



HRSMS Monthly Meeting
November 11, 2003
Host, Heinz Schiller

Guests: Don Pruel, Secretary NRG
Harry Ohanian, "Ballroom Dancer"

The meeting was called to order by the skipper at 2000 hours.

A Purser's report was given.

Old Business: There was discussion of the 2005 Ship Model Competition. Jack Bobbitt gave reports on the 2003 NRG Conference. There was a discussion of future training sessions. Bob Comet handed out a survey form so members could provide feedback for future topics.

New Business: Alan Frazer said that he would host the February meeting. Bill Clarke broached discussion of the annual banquet. It was affirmed that the tradition would be continued. Bill Clarke was asked to contact the Radisson Hotel and confirm a date in our usual timeframe. Greg Harrington said that he received communication from a professor wanting newspapers from this area in the 1860 era. Harry Ohanian broached the idea of a tri-society meeting. He said that the Washington group is open to such a meeting.

Show & Tell: Alan Frazer show a jewelry tool catalog and his whaleboat in progress with a set of pliers configured to hold the floor planks while gluing. Ryland Craze showed the kit model of the *Duke William*. John Cheevers showed a newspaper stating the City of Newport Kentucky wants the submarine Narwhal. Bob Comet showed the Model Shipways kit model of the Emma C. Berry. Joe McCleary showed a map of the brush fires in California and

(Continued on page 4)

FROM THE WEBMASTER

Since I posted our new website a few months ago, along with the corresponding email addresses, we have seen very little in the way of correspondence. Apparently, if our skipper acts now, he can get rock-bottom prices on Viagra and other prescription drugs; our first-mate has been offered some rather interesting... shall we say... "enhancement" possibilities; the son of a very powerful, but recently assassinated diplomat in an undisclosed African country can get his hands on billions of \$US that his father squirreled away before his untimely demise, if only our clerk would help him with some legal documents and a little cash; and yours truly, the webmaster, has privileged access to some of the worlds finest art at deep, deep, discounts – maybe I can get a genuine Boudin for a few bucks. But there has been very little that pertains to ship modeling or ship research. Little that is, other than this - our first inquiry, from a professor at a university in Florida:

I came across your group's 1999 posting of a newsletter.

I wonder if any members have an interest in a group of Navy vessels that visited Norfolk/Hampton Roads in march of 1869. One of those ships was the USS Terror. I am looking for references to the visit, old pictures, diaries and the like that may give me a clearer picture of the times and the events of the visit.

I am presently transcribing the deck log of the Terror, having already transcribed a diary of a Private Marine from Virginia (an 18 year old cavalryman in the last fall of the civil war who enlists in 1869.)

Does anyone know of Norfolk newspapers of March-April 1870?

I immediately sent this out to those subscribing to members@hrsms.org, but with no response. I was also to have brought this to the attention of those in attendance at the October meeting, but I must admit it slipped my mind. My apologies to the professor.

So, please call me or send me email at info@hrsms.org if you have anything to contribute for the benefit of the professor.

Happy surfing, Greg

HRSMS NAMETAGS

Orders are now being taken for HRSMS nametags. If you need one, please contact Len Wine

FROM THE AUCTIONEER

Gentlemen: This Friday's auction at the monthly meeting of the HRSMS at the Bobbitts' will be conducted in the time-honored format rather than as a silent auction. I will serve as auctioneer and will brook very little nonsense (other than the usual verbal harassment of members from Poquoson). Add to the previous list a stack of back issues of MARITIME TRADITIONS magazine and a book by Grimwood on ship modeling techniques, both from Jack Bobbitt. Enjoy!

Thanks to all those who have given already and especially to Eric Harfst, who has agreed to act as cashier. See you all next Friday.

Dave Baker

LIST OF ITEMS TO BE AUCTIONED AT THE DECEMBER 2003 MEETING OF THE HRSMS

From Bill Clarke:

- Book: Jane's Fighting Ships, 1942 (\$25.00 reserve on price)
- Book: Jane's Merchant Ships, 1963 (\$25.00 reserve on price)

From Len Wine:

- Dremel electric disc and belt sander

From Jack Bobbitt:

- 1 flat-nosed pliers
- 3 misc. pin vises

From Joe McCleary:

- Unimat jigsaw/saber saw attachment for Unimat SL 1000 lathe (may work with similar models)
- Black & Decker Precision Detailing Tool (requires 12-v. power supply, not included)
- Set of three miniature spoke shaves
- 3X Magnifier (clips on to a pair of glasses)
- Machinist's barrel micrometer
- Miniature Archimedes drill
- Small Archimedes Drill, with spring return
- Micro-Jet butane mini-torch
- Metal spring clamp
- Tin snips
- Miniature block plane
- Book: Anatomy of Nelson's Ships, by Longridge (1st edition, with duct tape binding)
- Ship-in-a-Bottle (Reputed to have been built by the world-renowned modeler Bill Clarke during is Foude de Lyon period--a collector's item!)

From Bob Comet:

- 30-in. Midwest Boothbay Lobster Boat kit, with hull 2/3 complete.
- Radio control gear for the above kit, including 2-channel, 2-stick MRD Radio Control System; 1 Revolution electric

racing motor; 2 7.2-V battery packs; 1 variable resistor speed control; 1 universal joint kit; 1 Midwest MEPS II speed control unit; 1 Midwest MEPS II marine electric motor. (Starting bid for both of the above items/sets: \$60.00)

- Guillow's balsa flying model kit for a Junkers Ju-87B Stuka World War II dive-bomber in 3./4"=1-ft scale. Wingspan is 34 1/4 in. Kit is in original box and looks complete (Starting bid \$15.00). It won't float.

- "Sail Boston 2000" print series by Earl Collins, showing U.S.S. Constitution, Juan Sebastian de Elcano (Spain); Libertad (Argentina), Sagres (Portugal), Amerigo Vespucci (Italy), and USCG Eagle. (Suggested starting bid \$5.00)

From John Cheevers:

- Millers Falls airbrush compressor. Needs motor and belt.
- Boucher model kit of the World War I 110-ft. SC submarine chaser, partially built. Includes set of plans for a craft of the class from the National Archives
- Set of ship plans:
 - Bluenose II
 - Sea Witch
 - Constitution
 - Thermopylae
 - Cutty Sark
 - Essex
 - 74-gun ship
 - Jefferson Davis
 - Constellation
- Fairplay World Ship Directory, 1997-98 (book and CD-ROM)
- Cordless electric soldering iron
- HRSMS shirt--First edition, size Large
- Set of Bluejacket ship plans: ALFRED, heavy cruiser CHICAGO
- Can of compressed air (a rare 1997 Toledo, Ohio, with just a hint of petrochemical smog . . .)
- Softcover books:
 - Tall Ships Pacific
 - Shipmodel Builders' Handbook
 - Running Critical Submarine (Tom Clancy)
 - Battleship Pearl Harbor, 1941 (hardcover)
 - Ship Modelling Hints and Tips
 - World's Worst Warships, by Antony Preston

From Dave Baker:

- Polish plastic kit for liner PILSUDSKI (1/500)
- Russian plastic kit for sail-training ship TOVARISCH (scale unk.)
- 1/87 (HO model railroad scale) waterline resin kit for a Maine fish transport--kit designed and manufactured by Al Ross II
- 1/700 resin waterline kit for a GRIDLEY-class destroyer
- 1/700 resin waterline kit for 4-piper destroyer WARD
- 1/700 resin waterline kit for Italian heavy cruiser ZARA
- 1/700 resin waterline kit for Italian heavy cruiser POLA

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

- 1/700 resin waterline kit for a U.S. Navy HASKELL-class (VC-2) attack transport
- seven misc. 1/2400 metal waterline kits for warships (wargamers scale, Harpoon series; nicely detailed, considering the size)
- 2 commissioning day posters for the U.S.S. YORKTOWN (CG 48)--separate items
- set of four large color prints of U.S. Navy warships
- C.G. Evers color print for the U.S. Navy cruiser OLYMPIA

John Cheevers is also donating one HRSMS/NRG 2000 notepad to every successful bidder.



(Continued from page 1)

vessel's country of origin. Hidden on the weathered exterior, we spy the remnants of two crests (coats of arms?) located forward of the anchor bolster. All that remains are their bolting or riveting flanges, but they suggest what was there. Their shape and placement does not match the US Navy standard for bow crests, which, again, indicates that this is a foreign built warship. This vessel shows two; I wonder what they symbolize?

Dave Baker responded early to this mystery and emphatically states that, "This month's Mystery Ship is the German-built, *Wiesbaden*-class light cruiser *Frankfurt*." In fact, his response is so good that I will beg his forgiveness first and then print almost the entire letter, verbatim, because I would only make it worse by fiddling with it.

To quote Dave:

"The ship was launched at the Imperial Dockyard, Kiel, on 20 March 1915, commissioned on 20 August 1915, and interned at Scapa Flow, Orkney Islands, on 26 November 1918. Her crew made an unsuccessful attempt to scuttle her on 21 June 1919, and she was beached by RN personnel and then salvaged the following month. The *Frankfurt* was assigned Under the Treaty of Paris as a war prize to the U.S. Navy and was taken over on 11 March 1920. Commissioned as a U.S. Navy ship on 4 June 1920, the *U.S.S. Frankfurt* was taken to Norfolk, VA. She was used as an aerial target by U.S. Army bombers under the command of BGen "Billy" Mitchell and was sunk on 18 July 1921 off Cape Henry, VA sinking at 1825 hours local.

The stage is set, the location identified. What is left to for us to review? How about her specifications?

Again, Dave comes to the rescue: The *Frankfurt* displaced 6,601 tons maximum and was 145.3-m [476.6'] overall (141.7-m [464.9'] constructor's waterline/pp) x 13.9-m [45.6'] beam x 5.76-m [18.9'] draft forward/6.06-m [19.9'] draft aft. The geared steam turbine propulsion plant developed

31,000 shp on two shafts, one of which was fitted with a cruise turbine and the other not. There were ten Marine-type coal-fired boilers plus two oil-fired, double-ended Marine-type boilers in four boiler rooms; the boilers operated at 16 atmospheres pressure. *Frankfurt* had two 240 kw, 220V d.c. generators. Maximum speed was 27.5 kts, and the ship had a range of 4,800 n.m. at 12 kts or 1,200 n.m. at 25 kts. She carried 1,280 tons of coal and 470 tons of diesel fuel under normal conditions. The crew comprised 17 officers and 457 enlisted in Imperial German Navy service. Armament was eight 150-mm 45-cal. single-mount quickfire guns (with a total of 1,024 rounds aboard and a max. range of 17,600 m) four 52-mm 44-cal. guns (replaced during the war by two 88-mm 45-cal. AA guns), and four 500-mm torpedo tubes (1 reload each) mounted two below the waterline and two on single trainable mounts amidships; rails aft could accommodate up to 120 mines."

From all this information, Dave logically and (I hope) correctly concludes that "the photo shows her in a dry dock at the Norfolk Navy Yard not long prior to her being used as a target in July 1921." How about it, Bill?

Mystery Photo No. 152 introduced this group to the experiment turned political demonstration in aerial bombardment of naval ships conducted by noted aviator Billy Mitchell in the early 1920s. What was initially planned as an exercise focusing on scientific study quickly became something of a carnival sideshow that limited the amount of detailed technical data produced on how warships react to aerial bomb attacks. Since the full scope of the event lies outside the confines of this column (has that ever happened before?), I refer everyone to MP No. 152, or to the source listed below.

As to the crests? That, too, is a subject for another time.

John Cheevers

Sources:

- 1) Erich Groener, GERMAN WARSHIPS 1815-1945, Vol. One: Major Surface Vessels, revised and expanded by Dieter Jung and Martin Maass, Conway Maritime Press, London: 1990.
- 2) Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships (DANFS)
- 3) Egan, Robert S. and Anderson, Richard M. "S.M.S. Ostfriesland," *Warship International*. Toledo, Ohio: Naval Records Club Inc., Vol. 12, No. 2, 1975.

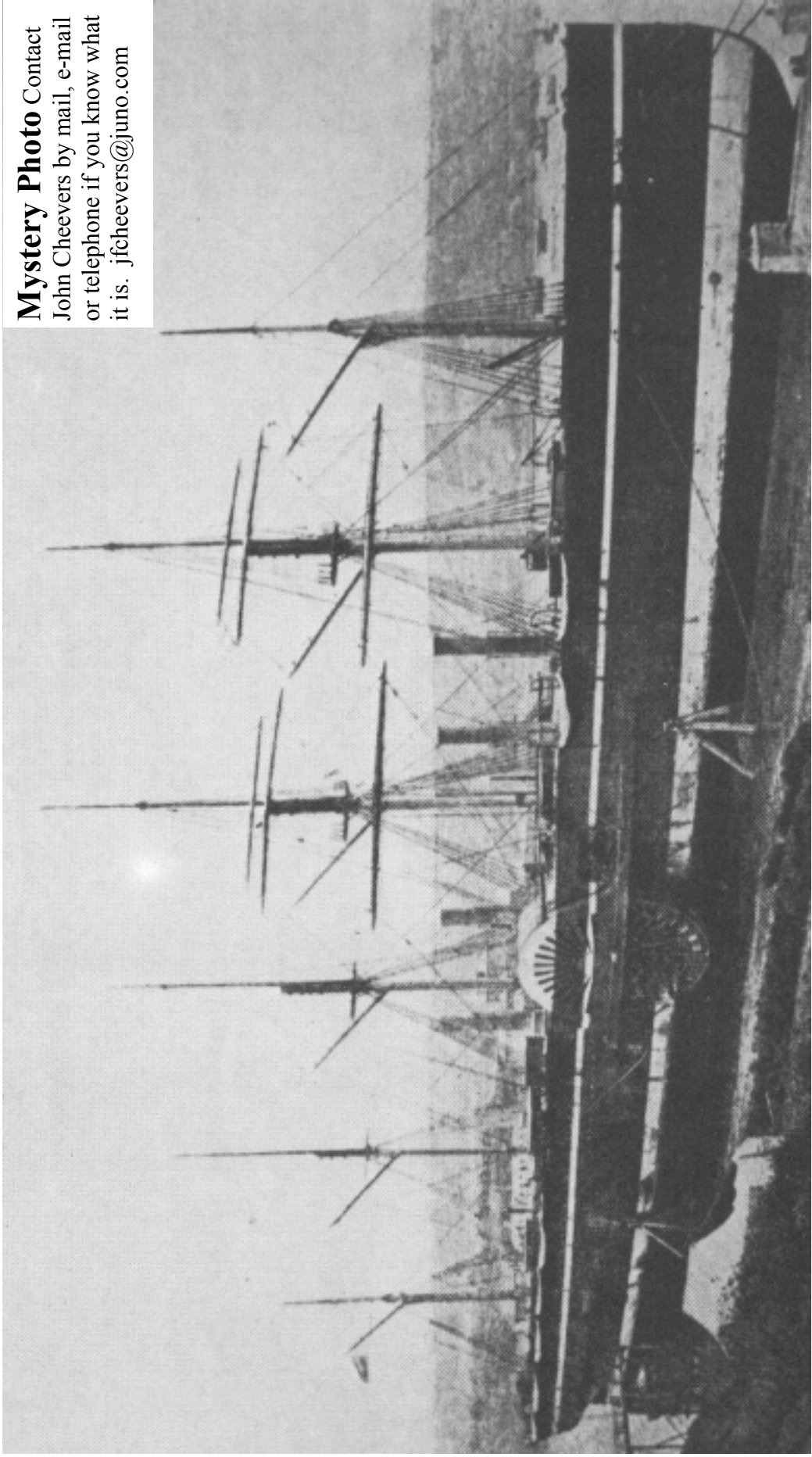


(Continued from page 2)

several catalogs. Graham Horne showed some small paint brushes and a book of engravings of 18th century vessels.

The meeting was adjourned to a presentation on "Cast Resin Models", by Dave Baker.

Mystery Photo Contact
John Cheevers by mail, e-mail
or telephone if you know what
it is. jfcheevers@juno.com



NOTABLE EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 12 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host, Jack Bobbitt
Auction, Dave Baker, Coordinator and auctioneer

JANUARY

- 9 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host: Bob Comet
Tips on Rigging and Block Rounding machine, Jack Bobbitt

FEBRUARY

- 13 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host, Alan Frazer
Election of Officers

How to make art work and other tips on ordering brass etchings, John Cheevers

- 29 Cabin Boy's Birthday

MARCH

- 12 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host: Bob Krumpen

APRIL

- 9 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host, Southside Bunch
30-May 2 Western Ship Model Conference

MAY

- 14 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host, Bill Clarke

JUNE

- 11 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting:

JULY

- 9 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting:

AUGUST

- 13 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting:

SEPTEMBER

- 10 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting:

OCTOBER

- 8 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting:

NOVEMBER

- 14 **H.R.S.M.S.** Monthly Meeting: Host; Heinz Schiller

The Answer

Mystery Photo Caption

Navy Yard, New York
4-7-21 Ex Ger. Ship Frankfurt

Thanks

The members would like to thank Heinz Schiller and his wife Mareke for hosting the October meeting.

Next Meeting

Date: December 12, 2003

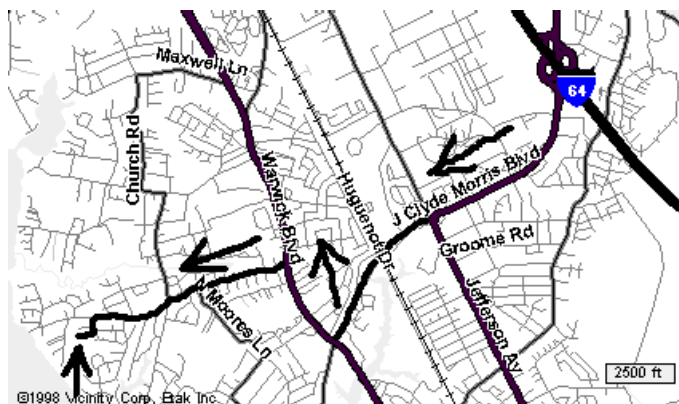
Time: 2000 Hours

Location: 69 Queens Court
Newport News, Va.
(757) 599-0557

Host: Jack Bobbitt

From I-64 go west on J. Clyde Morris Boulevard to Warwick Boulevard. Turn right on Warwick, proceed to Hiden Blvd. Turn left on Hiden. After Hiden Blvd. narrows, turn left on James Landing Road and proceed to Queens Court. Turn right on Queens Court. Number 69 will be several blocks down Queens Ct. on the right.

Please call if you are planning to attend.



WATCH, QUARTER AND STATION BILL



Skipper: Joe McCleary (757) 253-1802
Mate: Dave Baker (757) 565-7991
Purser: John Cheevers (757) 591-8955
Clerk: Tom Saunders (757) 850-0580
Historian: Len Wine (757) 566-8597
Editors: John Cheevers (757) 591-8955
Bill Clarke (757) 868-6809
Tom Saunders (757)-850-0580
Webmaster: Greg Harrington