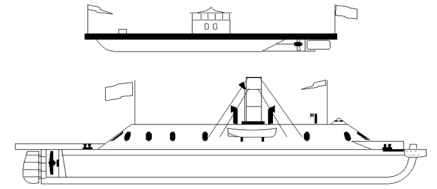


# Hampton Roads Ship Model Society Logbook!



No. 333

WWW.HRSMS.ORG

March, 2014

## From The Bridge



## Mystery Photo



As I write this month's 'From The Bridge' spring is less than three weeks away, even though winter still has a strong grip on much of the country.

There are two events for HRSMS members that signify winter is slowly slipping away. The Old Dominion Open hosted by Richmond IPMS and the HRSMS annual auction. The Old Dominion Open was last week and again this year our members continued to bring home numerous awards. Marty Gromoskey took first place in Armor Diorama. (Someone needs to tell Marty we are a ship model club). Gene Berger took second place in the Submarine Class; Bob Moritz took third place in the Surface Powered 1:350 scale and larger class and Ulrich Guenther took third place in the Wood Constructed Class with his Skipjack Willie Bennett. Bill Altice won first place in the Powered 1:350 and larger class with his Elco PT Boat. Bill also went on to win first place in Sail Class, Best Maritime Award and Best in Show with his Yacht America. Congratulations go out to all our members who brought home awards.

(Continued on page 6)

### MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** Saturday February 8, 2014  
**Place:** Norge Hall  
**Time:** 1000 Hours

### Auction

Gather material to be donated for the HRSMS March Auction. Books, tools, materials, plans or kits, or any items you have as a spare will be appreciated.

Mystery Photo #332: There is nothing quite like the shape and appearance of any group of United States Navy battleship. There is something in their design, shape, and arrangement that says United States Navy and not some other navy, like the Royal Navy or the Kriegsmarine or the Regia Marina. Did you notice that I said group and not class? I did so because if you only consider shape and appearance you can categorize these ships in some interesting ways—ways outside of the official USN ship classification system and ways that cross international boundaries. For instance, you could group these ships by counting features. And if you were a counting man, this method could easily lead you astray. So let's count and let's see how far astray we get: I count one stack, five visible main gun turrets, one platform enclosed lattice mast, two large boat cranes trained outboard, one range clock, zero flags. I'll stop there. There are many more groups of objects to count, but you get the idea.

To further illustrate the point, let's see what happens if we only count visible main gun turrets. An international outlook provides opportunities to identify the vessel in the Mystery photo as a unit from the Royal Navy, the French Navy, The German Navy, the United States Navy, and a few more. The pool of candidates becomes very large and crowded. If we take a jingoist view, we reduce the pool to three classes forming a group of only six candidates. The United States Navy built six battleships that carried five big gun turrets: two each in the *Delaware* class, the *Florida* class, and the *New York* class. By going back to the image and counting some more we see that this vessel has one continuous main deck, what we call a flush deck. Back to our group, we see that only one class featured that flush deck: the two *New York*'s. This might be the most significant count made against the Mystery Photo.

But does it work for us? Does this Mystery photo show an image of *USS New York* or her sister *USS Texas*? This was my first choice, and it was so because I counted. And it led me astray, led me to an inaccurate conclusion. My initial choice was a flop. And it was a flop for Alan Frazer as well. We both

(Continued on page 2)

## Hampton Roads Ship Model Society Banquet Saturday March 22, 2014

See Page

(Continued from page 1)



counted guns and chose *USS New York* as the identity of this Mystery Photo. It was only when I tried to get additional features to fit in place that I realized the Mystery photo did not show *New York* at all, or



the notorious 'Chesapeake Raider'? I'll tell you why - deception, communism, local tie-in, and the arc - not Noah's, the arc of the character of this ship." Bob makes the second direct hit on the nail with: "The Mystery Photo I believe is the USS Wyoming BB-32 underway at sea with 10 of her 12/50 guns trained out to starboard March 24 1930." Finally Dave, rising out of his previous months misidentification induced depression, drives it home with: "This month's photo shows U.S.S. WYOMING (BB 32) during March 1930, at least according to the entry in Wikipedia. From this angle, she could be distinguished from her sister ship ARKANSAS by the two portholes facing broadside below the forward most 12-in. gun turret (i.e., where there used to be a casemate-mounted 5-in. 51-cal. gun below the main deck); ARKANSAS had three portholes there." John then provides the convincing evidence when he says, "the MP is USS WYOMING, BB-32, 24 March, 1930, in photo 80-G-466464." Look it up; these guys are right!

Before we delve into John's local communist, biblical deception issue, let's explore several of Bob and Dave's comments. Let's begin by agreeing that they agree about certain elements surrounding that scout plane. Bob says that "[He] started out studying her main guns. The picture shows 10 out of 12 barrels. Turret 4 is still center line with the rest

(Continued on page 3)

even he sister *USS Texas*. So it was back to counting.

Two things that I did count were the open searchlight control platform on the main mast and the Bi-wing scout plane sited just before it. A review of extant images of these two battleships did not produce anything close to a match, so the search had to go elsewhere. By looking at the classes in build order, it was easy to see that another class United States Navy battleships existed that carried more than four main gun turrets. Coming in between the previously mentioned second and fourth classes, the *Arkansas* class superficially looked like the *New York's* but carried six turrets instead of the now familiar five. Also, by studying the shape of the turret housing you will immediately dismiss *New York* as a choice and begin to feel that one of the *Arkansas* ships is our Mystery photo.

Three written replies this month plus the phone message from Alan. John Wyld, Bob Moritz, and Dave Baker all sent e-mail choosing what ultimately is the correct vessel as the identity to this month's Mystery photo. John hammer's it coming out of the box: "WYO why did the submitter use this photo of



## PRESENTERS NEEDED

**Presenters are needed for the 2014 meetings. Please sign up with Tony Clayton if you are willing to give a presentation.**

## Nautical Term

**Dog Watch** A two-hour watch, 1600-1800 and 1800-2000; a long standing practice followed when it is desirable to have the crew change the times their watches every day. The origin is not certain, but a good guess is that they were called curtailed watches (which they were), this slid to docked, and that in turn to dog.

Submitted by, Tim Wood

(Continued from page 2)



Mystery Photo

trained to starboard. This ship has 6 main turrets and only 5 showing with turret 3 having a catapult and aircraft on it.” Dave concurs with his own spin on the

least she began service that way. He sums up her career by stating that a “Major reconstruction came in 1925-27. Beam was increase to 106 ft and full displacement to 30,610 tons. The forward battery of 6 x 5' guns were resited to upper deck level and 6 x 3' AA added. After funnel was removed, cage mast replaced by stump tripod. And aircraft catapult fitted on third turret with cranes abreast funnel to handle 3 floatplanes.”

“Wyoming was demilitarized under the London Naval Treaty and became the training ship AG-19 in 1931-32. From 1935, she regularly trained US Marines for amphibious assault landings and in WW II was an AA gunnery training ship. She ended her war service as the major unit of Task Force 69, an anti-kamikaze research group. She was stricken and scrapped in 1947-48.”

That’s the short version, now let’s see how Mr. Wyld sees this Mystery in all its unabridged glory:

“The deception goes way beyond last month's crude airbrushing out the ship's name. No, the first bit of deception is the darkness of the print - clearly



turret: “I can see this photo being misidentified as NEW YORK or TEXAS, since only ten main caliber gun barrels are visible; that's because the turret abaft the funnel is trained to port for the launch of the Vought O2U-4 floatplane seen on the catapult.”

And Bob mentions a “stump tripod foremast.” A comment for which I have no comment. Another interesting comment surrounds the heavy beam-like structure atop turret two. Bob notices that “turret 2 has a range finder fitted on top of it.” I was prepared to argue that the structure was a beam designed to hoist shells for loading into the magazine but Bob is, indeed, correct. This is a trainable range finder and if you look closely at its face you can see the round, stereoscopic viewports at each end.

According to Bob’s research, “the ship was laid down on February 19, 1910 in Philadelphia by Cramp and launched on May 25, 1911. Was 562 ft loa by 93 ft beam by 29 ft dt in size. Weight of 27,700 tons full load. Armament of 12 x 12' (6 main turrets) and 21 x 5' mounts.” At

ly intended to hide some of the identification features. But the (range) clock says High Noon and we will draw down on this rogue submitter. My first guess is a WWI-era US battleship that has been somewhat modernized - yet lacking the tri-

(Continued on page 6)



Photo #19-N-3047 USS Wyoming (AG-17) off Norfolk Navy Yard, June 1942

# HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY ANNUAL BANQUET

**Saturday March 22, 2014**

**Riverwalk Restaurant**

**323 Water Street**

**Yorktown, VA**

**Cash Bar 6:30 pm      Dinner 7:30 pm**

**Price \$40.00 per person, includes tax and gratuity**

**Dinner Menu**

**Lobster Bisque**

**House Salad**

**Warm Bread**

~

**Sliced Beef Tenderloin**

**Red Wine Sauce**

or

**Seared Maine Salmon Fillet**

**Dill Butter Sauce**

~

**New York Style Cheesecake**

**Fresh Berries**

**A vegetarian dinner is available**

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**HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY ANNUAL BANQUET**

**Riverwalk Restaurant, Saturday March 22, 2014**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Number in your party \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form and funds to Eric Harfst  
not later than March 15, 2014.

Eric Harfst  
119 Reserve Way Apt 213  
Williamsburg, Va. 23185

X      \$40.00

Total      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Hampton Roads Ship Model Society 2014 Founder's Award Nominations and Ballot

The Founder's Award is voted by the membership to the person who has most furthered the goal of the Hampton Roads Ship Model Society in the year awarded. This year's nominating committee (Bill Clarke, Tom Saunders, and John Cheevers) submits the members whose names appear below as nominees for the Founder's Award.

Bill Clarke, Nominating Committee Chairman

## Ron Lewis

Ron is nominated for being the leader and driving force behind the revival of our participation and use of the Ship Modeling Booth at the Mariner's Museum. His efforts have resulted in more than a doubling of the man days we occupy the booth and increased our community outreach through promotion of the HRSMS. He is also an excellent liaison with the Mariners' Museum for business related issues keeping us informed on topics that affect the club relative to our use of the Museum and its facilities. He also is active in modeling and giving presentations through the 'To Build a Ship Model' technical series.

## Gene Berger

Gene is nominated for his mentoring role in ship model making. In the past year he has been instrumental in helping several members begin new modeling projects by offering assistance and guidance. Also he has become an ambassador for the Society, helping to spread the club name and message by entering his work in juried events—and winning!

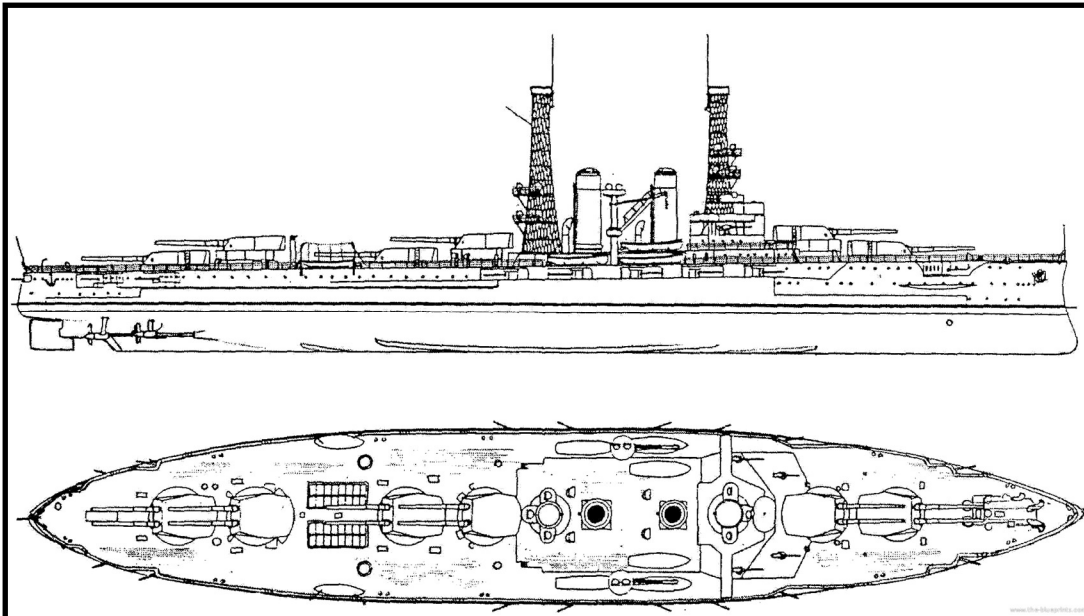
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## 2013 Founder's Award Ballot

Vote for one:     **Ron Lewis** \_\_\_\_\_                      **Gene Berger** \_\_\_\_\_

Give the completed ballot to the Skipper at the March meeting, or mail this ballot to the skipper not later than March 8th. (Timothy Wood, 2208 First Landing Lane Virginia Beach, VA 23451), or vote by e-mail at: [tgwood1958@gmail.com](mailto:tgwood1958@gmail.com). Only Members in good standing may vote

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BB-32  
USS Wyoming  
1912

(Continued from page 1)



The second sign that spring is close at hand is our highly anticipated annual auction, once again; Tony and Dorothy Clayton will host our auction at the Norge Hall. Again this year our very own John Cheevers will conduct the auction, John never fails to bring home the money for the club, so be sure to bring enthusiasm and your checkbooks Saturday.



Bill Altice in front of his award winning models

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our annual banquet and Founders Award presentation on March 22nd at the Riverwalk Restaurant, Yorktown.

We will have a brief business meeting before the auction, also please return your completed Founders Award ballot to me at Saturdays meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you then.

Tim

(Continued from page 3)



Mystery Photo

pod masts normally associated with modernizations of that era (1920s - 30s). No matter, everything is visible to identify this ship - especially the main battery turrets. Also visible are anti-torpedo blisters often seen in modernizations after WWI. Though only four (or parts of four more correctly) turrets are visible, five pairs of gun barrels are visible, so that will make ID short work. My first guess was USS TEXAS which I know to be of that configuration. I was a bit puzzled to see just a single stack in the MP, but later on I realized that the ship in the picture had probably been converted from coal to oil in the 20s / 30s so that was not too hard to explain and further set the era of the picture. As I looked at pictures of TEXAS, it looked like a good general match, but I could not correlate some of the MP features exactly with TEXAS - the placement of the blanked-out casement guns in particular. TEXAS had two blanked out casement guns forward of #1 turret, the MP only one. Removing the hull indentation for the second casement gun and not the first did not seem likely for any reason I could think of, so the MP is clearly (in my mind) not TEXAS. Sweat not, I think, TEXAS had a sister ship -

# MINUTES



Hampton Roads Ship Model Society  
Monthly Meeting  
February 8, 2014  
Mariners' Museum  
Guests: Kevin Ray, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting  
John Proudley, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

The meeting was called to order by the Skipper, Tim Wood at 1010 hours. The Skipper had the guests introduce themselves and give some details of their interest and experience. There were no corrections to the minutes as published. Eric Harfst gave the Purser's report, detailing account balance, disbursements and membership numbers. Eric said that the annual dues are due in March. Eric also requested that dues and banquet funds be given on a separate check to facilitate his bookkeeping. Greg Harrington gave the Webmaster's report. Greg said that he added a list of museums to the web site and requested that if members were not going to man the model builder's booth, that they update the web site calendar to reflect the open date.

Old Business: The Skipper asked the members to gather their "model making paraphernalia" for the auction to be held in March. Bob Moritz was asked about the International Plastic Model Society (IPMS) show in Richmond. Bob said that there had been no changes. Bill Clarke was asked to report on the Founders' award committee. Bill informed the group that a ballot would be forthcoming. Ryland Craze said the Washington Ship Model Society would attend the IPMS show and give a

(Continued on page 10)

**THE ANSWER**

Mystery Photo 332  
USS Wyoming  
Date: March 1930  
Photo No. 80-G-466464

Thanks to Tim Wood for submitting the Mystery Photo

NEW YORK. Same deal there, though. Bottom line - the MP was not of this class. Then my blood ran cold as I sensed a communist plot by the submitter. I steeled (!) myself and pushed back in time to the previous two ship WYOMING class and there saw the depth of the perfidy. Starting with WYO, I pushed through the Navsource picture file for her in the appropriate era (1920 - 1940) and there saw the MP labeled as provided above. Oh the humanity. WYOMINGS had six main turrets, not five, mounting 12 X 12"/50 guns. As I looked at the MP, several things became more obvious. The sixth turret was either trained on centerline or to port making it not visible in the MP. Secondly, a biplane is clearly visible on the catapult track atop turret #3 facing to port. All the photos I saw later showed the plane on the catapult pointed opposite to the gun barrels, by

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the way. And finally, I noticed that I had missed the fact that a relatively small cage mast was installed above the gunnery spotting platform above the bridge - the dark photo and the dark metal vertical supports kind of blended together when I first looked at the photo before being drawn immediately to other spotting features. (Symbolic of the dark



Mystery Photo

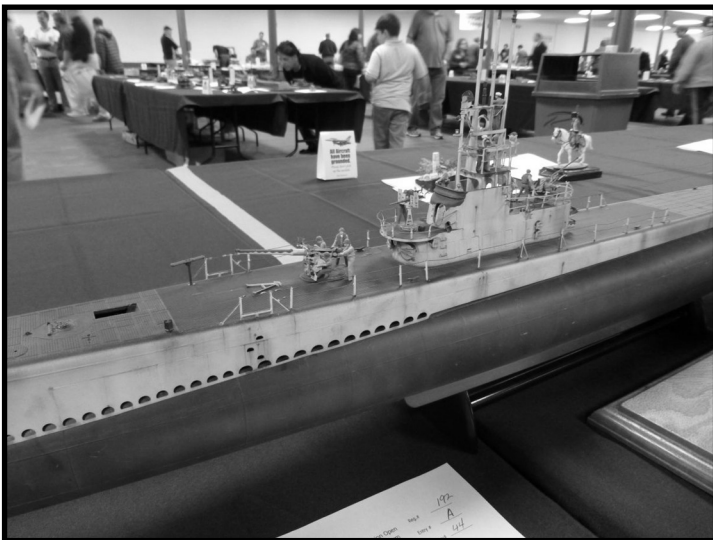
scourge of communism, of course.)

Now that the name of the MP is known, consulting the Wikipedia page for WYO and the various images a Google search provides more background. In the WYOMING's story arc, the MP would probably represent the apogee. While she began life in 1912 as a smoky, double stacked, double cage-masted US 'Dreadnought' response, the MP shows here with a few more miles on her but with a more modern look despite that funky cage mast. A 1926 modernization was responsible for the look in the MP. Alas it was not to last. The long downhill slide began in 1932 when WYO was partially disarmed in compliance with the 1930 London Naval Conference which adjusted battleship tonnage for the signatories. Her six main battery turrets were reduced to three - retaining #1, #2, and # 6 (as shown in attachment 1) and her role changed to a gunnery training ship, and redesignated AG-17. In early 1942 many of her secondary 5"/51 mounts and 3" AA mounts were replaced by 5"/38 dual purpose guns in three types of mount (enclosed twin and single, and single open) to cover the range of configuration of those weapons then in service. Of note, she received the Measure 12 Mod camo scheme similar to HORNET CV-8 during the same timeframe (See attachment 2). Beginning in 1942 she spent a great deal of her time running up and down the Chesapeake Bay training gun crews and earning the nickname 'The Chesapeake Raider' in the process. Finally in 1944, all claim to 'battleship' nomenclature was severed when her armament was further downgraded by substituting three enclosed 5"/38 twin mounts for the remaining 12" turrets. She looked for all the world like a very large destroyer capable of little more than half the speed of an actual destroyer of the period (see attachment 3). WYOMING was decommed on 1 August 1947 and sold for scrapping on 30 October.

So my final message for MP enthusiasts - keep digging and watch for the dark pitfalls of communist photo submitters."

We can count on John as we couldn't have said it better! Til next time....

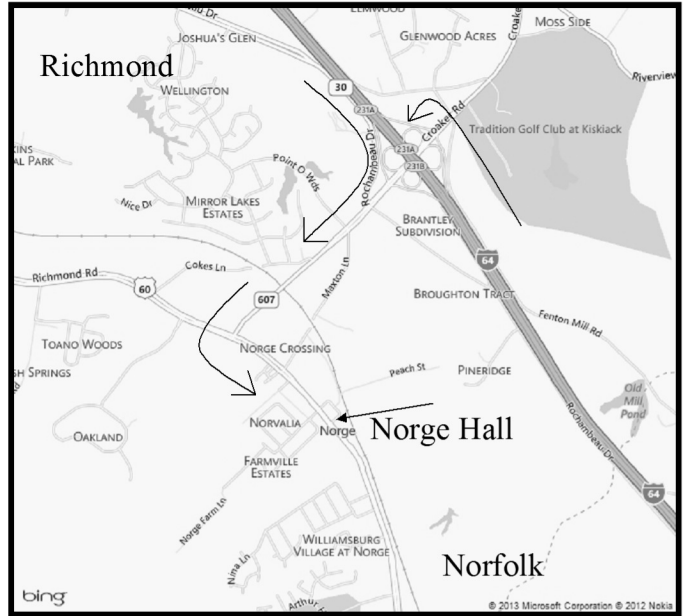
John Cheevers



# 2014 Auction

## Norge Hall

The hall will be open at 930 hours



From either Richmond or Norfolk, take I-64 toward Williamsburg

Take exit 231A to merge onto State Route 607/Croaker Rd toward Virginia 30/Norge/Toano

1.5 mi Turn left onto US-60 E/VA-603 E/Richmond Rd  
Destination will be on the left after 0.6 mi

Norge Community Club  
7402 Richmond Rd  
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Gene Berger's model won 2nd place in the  
Submarine Class  
IPMS Richmond  
Old Dominion Open 2014

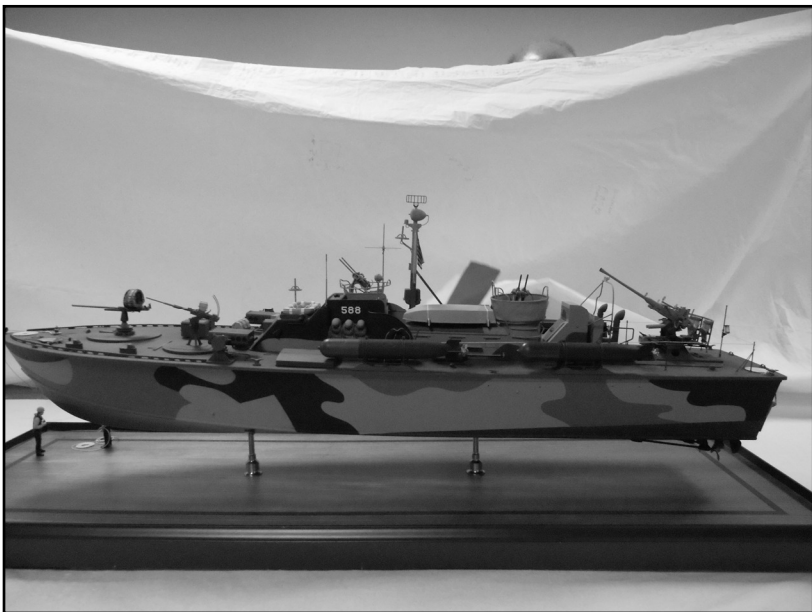
If you have an item for the Logbook, send it to the editor, Tom Saunders, [tesaunders@verizon.net](mailto:tesaunders@verizon.net)





Bill Altice's Yacht America  
First Place Sail Class  
Best Maritime Award  
Best in Show  
IPMS Richmond  
Old Dominion Open 2014

Ulrich Guenther stands beside his  
Willie Bennett at the  
IPMS Richmond  
Old Dominion Open 2014  
3rd Place Wood Constructed Class



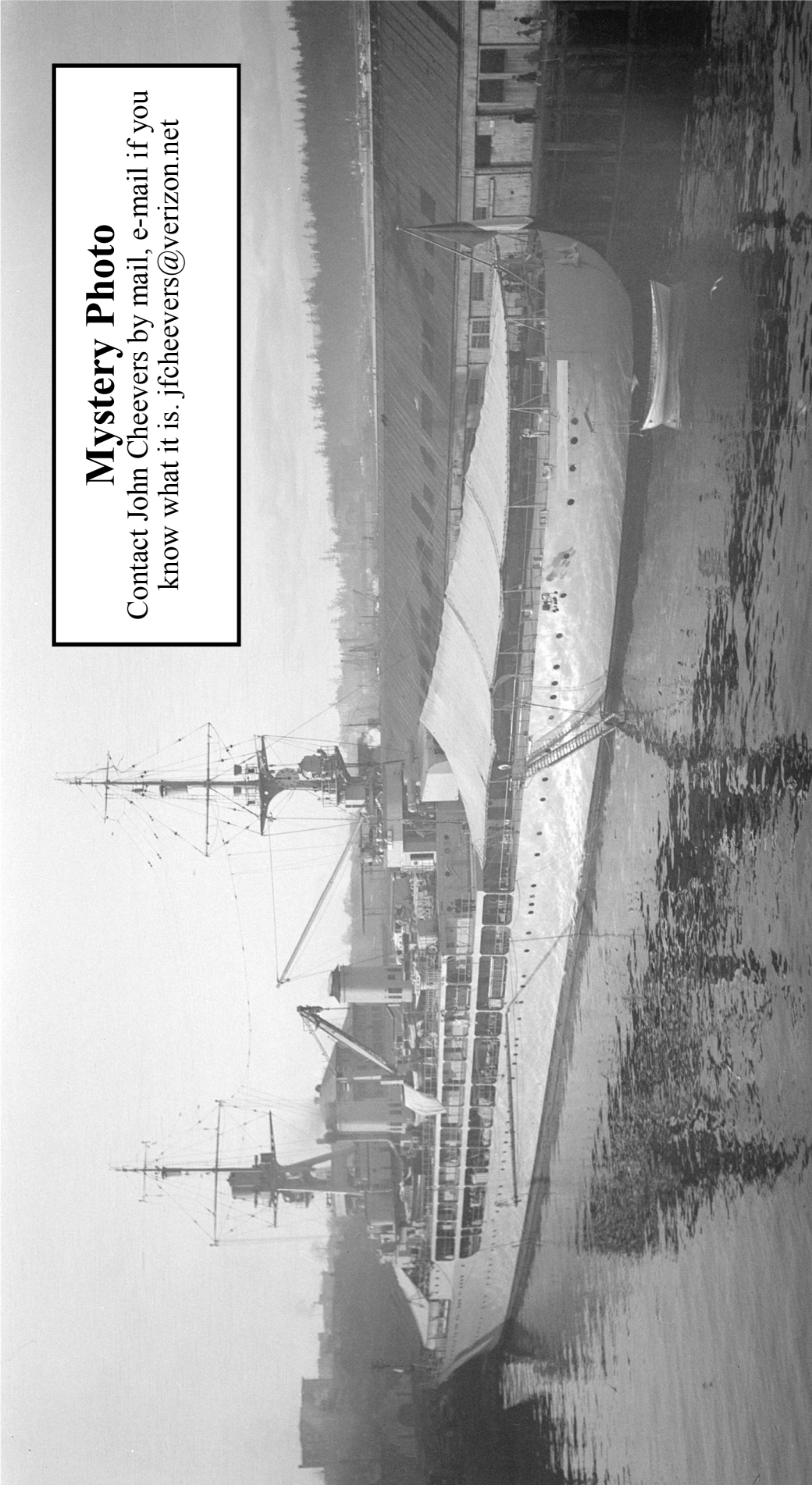
Bill Altice's Elco PT Boat  
1st Place Powered  
1:350 and larger class  
IPMS Richmond  
Old Dominion Open 2014

Photos submitted by Marty Gromovsky



## Mystery Photo

Contact John Cheevers by mail, e-mail if you know what it is. [jfcheevers@verizon.net](mailto:jfcheevers@verizon.net)



# NOTABLE EVENTS

(Continued from page 6)

## MARCH

- 8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Auction, Norge Hall
- 22 HRSMS Banquet, Riverwalk Restaurant, Yorktown, Va.

## APRIL

- 5 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: Tim Wood, TBA
- 11-13 Cabin Fever Expo, York, Pa.

## MAY

- 10 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: Ryland Craze, TBA

## JUNE

- 14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: Martin Gromovsky, Figure Painting

## JULY

- 12 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: John Cheevers, TBA

## AUGUST

- 2 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: John Wyld, TBA
- 6 - 9 IPMS National Convention, Hampton, Va

## SEPTEMBER

- 13 HRSMS Monthly Meeting, Picnic, Newport News Park
- 19 Talk Like a Pirate Day

## OCTOBER

- 11 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum

## NOVEMBER

- 8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum

## DECEMBER

- 14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum

## JANUARY

- 10 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Nomination of officers,

## FEBRUARY

- 14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Election of officers



demonstration on model building. Marty Gromovsky asked about including photos of member's models in the Logbook. As no good deed goes unpunished, Marty was asked to send photos with captions to the editor for inclusion in the Logbook. Greg Harrington reminded everyone of the Macarthur Memorial 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to be held on April 11-12. There will a military model building showcase on the 12<sup>th</sup> and military models are being solicited for this event. Tony Clayton said that Norge Hall would be open at 930 hours for the auction. The Skipper told the guests they were welcome to attend the auction as well as the banquet. A motion was made and passed to direct the Clerk to cast a single vote for the unopposed slate of officers. The 2014 officers are Skipper, Tim Wood – Mate, Bob Moritz – Purser, Eric Harfst and Clerk, Tom Saunders.

New Business: Bill Clarke announced that former member, Tom Abbott had passed away. Greg said that two people had contacted him about donating items to the HRSMS. John Cheevers is going to handle donations from Williamsburg. Greg said that he was willing to retrieve the donations from the western part of the state.

Show & Tell: Bob Moritz showed the progress on his destroyer escort and talked of the travails of piercing the hull for the installation of the shafts. Gene Berger showed his DE progress and talked about casting parts in resin to save weight and increase accuracy. Ryland Craze showed the boxwood planks on his 1:48 longboat. Marty Gromovsky showed his cased longboat and a diorama using a Trumpeter 1/350 S-100 Schnellboot. Greg Harrington showed his thickness and sander and explained its construction. Greg also showed the framing for his caravel-planked Portuguese cargo boat. Ron Lewis showed carbide micro drill bits from Harbor Freight and CA glue applicator tips from Hobby Town. Ron also detailed the restoration work he has done on a *Willie Bennett* model from the Deltaville Maritime Museum, talking about the construction of the winder, a two cylinder Palmer winder engine and an anchor winch. Tim Wood presented his half-hull of the Atlantic and showed a Veda airbrush. Bill Clarke talked about several tri society banquets held in the early late 60s and early 70s in conjunction with the Richmond and Washington clubs. Bill Dangler showed an articulated clamp similar to a PanaVise. Bill said that he could procure more of them at a very reasonable price and would take orders for those interested.

The meeting was adjourned to a video presentation on the CSS Hunley

**WATCH, QUARTER  
AND  
STATION BILL**



Skipper: Tim Wood (757) 481-6018  
Mate: Bob Moritz (804) 779-3365  
Purser: Eric Harfst (757) 221-8181  
Clerk: Tom Saunders (757) 850-0580  
Historian: Bill Dangler (757) 245-4142  
Editors: John Cheevers (757) 591-8955  
Bill Clarke (757) 868-6809  
Tom Saunders (757) 850-0580  
Webmaster: Greg Harrington (757) 930-4615

## HRSMS NAME TAGS

**Pin Back \$5.25**

**Magnetic Back \$7.25**

**If you need a name tag contact Ryland Craze  
E-Mail CKart55@aol.com  
or  
See him at a meeting**