

Hampton Roads Ship Model Society Logbook!

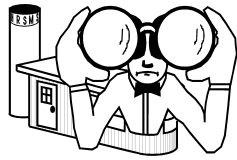


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From The Bridge



On March 21, several club members and I attended the opening of the new Steamship Gallery at the Mariners' Museum. This occasion also marked the opening of our new Model Shipbuilders Stand formally known as.....wait for it....Taco Stand. Although a few details remain to be completed, I am proud of our new work space that will give those volunteering a place to be appreciated. The display case was filled with some of our models and caught the eye of everyone there. In fact, I may be so bold as to say it was the focal point at the event. Of course there were a few other gorgeous models littered about additionally. While Dave entertained the guests and modeling groupies with his modeling prowess, the evening turned out a big success for both the Mariners' Museum and HRSMS. I did, however, notice that Howard spent considerable amount of time around our booth. We perhaps have a closet modeler amongst us!



Dave Baker manning the Model Builder's Stand
at the gallery opening.

In the coming weeks we continue to work towards the 50th Anniversary Exhibit and will work out a schedule to showcase our continuing work within the modelers stand display case. It's a great time for the club. Now...finish that project and get it in the show!

This year's banquet, held on March 11, was hosted by Greg Harrington and the Warwick Yacht and Country Club. A lot of work was put onto the event and I want to again thank

(Continued on page 2)

Mystery Photo



Remember the phrase, "it takes a village"? Well, sometimes it takes a river. Sometimes it takes a flood. Sometimes it's follow the leader. Sometimes it's ego. And sometimes it's just plain old bad luck. For whatever reason, sometimes ships go aground. And when they do, it's usually front page news. Who remembers those seven destroyers out in Cali? Who remembers the Italian cruise ship? And who remembers that famous incident that garnered the headline, "Whiskey on the rocks?"

What was the headline for our current Mystery Photo?

A British paper ran this: "German efficiency undermined as boat hits the rocks." A bit weak! Well, apparently the incident did not conjure a flashy catch phrase like the one that follows the Russian submarine to this day. You would think that the headline would include something like "Teutonic meets tectonic", or something equally eye catching. Not so, but the article did continue with: "The crew were intent on spotting mines off the coast of western Norway - evidently at the expense of less explosive obstacles."

(Continued on page 2)

From The Purser

Membership dues for 2017 were due by the March meeting. The annual dues have increased from prior years as approved by the membership at the January, 2016 meeting. The annual dues for Regular members are \$24.00 and Associate members are \$18.00.

I will be collecting dues at Saturday's meeting or you can mail a check payable to "HRSMS" to:

Ryland Craze
HRSMS
5708 Oak Knoll Lane
Midlothian, VA 23112-2405

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Saturday March 11, 2017

Place: Mariners' Museum

Time: 1000 Hours

(Continued from page 1)



Greg, Ryland, Bill Fox and his other brother Bill for their parts in making this evening a memorable one. Bob Moritz was recognized for his past year's service to the club and we welcomed our newest members to the club. Next year will be tough to top, but I have faith.

Gene, SDSMD



Viewing the display case at the new Model Builder's Stand.

(Continued from page 1)

The best British headline I could find reads: "Good reef, we've run aground!" This, obvious "Charlie Brown" reference is quite good. Unfortunately, it refers to a US Navy minesweeper that ran aground on the "Tubbataha Reef, a World Heritage Site, and protected area of the Philippines." Apparently, to the British, we are funnier than the Germans at the moment.



The incident in our Mystery Photo is quirky and embarrassing to say the least, and a gold mine to ship enthusiasts. It's not too often that we get to see a lady with her skirt hiked up. The opportunity to study an underwater hull form outside the confines of a form-fitting dry dock does not come along every day. So let's take advantage...

Basically we see the classic "double wedge hull form" resting atop a pile of rocks (some recently dredged and piled) with a pooped stern. "This form, while more [prevalent] in smaller, high speed vessels, is also recognizable in many large warships and in more modern auxiliary and naval support vessels"...writes Thomas Gillmer in his book Modern Ship design. While the quote is quite relevant today and applicable to our Mystery Photo, it is interesting to note that the book was written in 1975 and was documenting one of the many hull forms available to designers then. Fast forward and we see that the hull form is still very much in vogue.

The designers of this vessel not only used the double wedge hull they incorporated a knuckle as well for extra dryness on deck. The vessel is obviously a warship—there is armament on the foredeck. In addition to all the classic ship bits we see a badge on the bridge face and the German naval ensign flying from the top yard. The day shapes are interesting. According to the rules for day shapes 3 balls would indicate a vessel aground



Showing bow damage on the Gromitz

while 2 balls indicates the vessel not under command. I guess the captain had left the ship at the time of this image. The wreck was not abandoned by her owners however, and was later salvaged.

Before I identify the vessel, let's see how our responders did. OK, let's be real and see how the responder did. Only one reply this month and that came from Tim Wood. "Perhaps the Norwegians should invent a drink called "German Minesweeper" I'll have it on the Rocks!" Hum! I wonder how the recipe would go. First you Google German liquor—top result is Jagermeister. Then you Google Jagermeister on the rocks, and you get:

Drink Type: Cocktail

Ingredients: 2 oz. Jagermeister

Instructions: Fill rocks glass with ice. Pour in Jagermeister. Add a twist of orange or lemon peel.

And if you've ever had too much Jager, you will understand the minesweeper part!

That's Tim's German minesweeper and your free recipe of the month! It also could be that catchy headline we so desperately searched for. Our minesweeper exists in the form of a Mystery Photo. It is "on the rocks" but it's also "neat" in that it remains perfectly upright. In the space just below the fourth, fifth, and sixth hull ports you can see where the editor removed

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

I'd just as soon not beach my tacticals that way. I will, however, try Tim's drink. Now where did I put that bottle of Jager...

John Cheevers



the vessels hull number. If it were still there, you would have easily identified the ship as the German Democratic Republic Navy minesweeper M1064, *Gromitz*. Tim did identify the ship, but I'm not sure how. Perhaps he found it by Googling "German Minesweeper" while he was trying to invent a new cocktail.

Gromitz is one of twelve Type 332 *Frankenthal*-class of German mine hunters. The ships are built of non-magnetic steel. Our featured minesweeper was commissioned in 1994. She displaces roughly 650 tons, is 54.4 meters long, has a beam of 9.62 meters, and draws 2.6 meters of water. She is powered by 2 diesel engines but carries electric motors for silent running. The plant drives controllable pitch propellers to a max speed of 18 knots. Compliment is 41. On the bow is a single MLG 27mm autocannon. She is a minesweeper but she is capable of laying mines as well.

She also has bad luck. "On 21 February 2007, *Grömitz* ran onto a reef in the Floro fjord while on tour in western Norway and remained stranded in a spectacular way until being salvaged." One source called it a "tactical beaching." It made for a great photo opportunity! I don't know about you, picture opportunity or not,



German Minehunter GRÖMITZ M 1064 in Kiel, 21.06.2009



The Gromitz aground.



Long time member Bill Clarke



Bob Moritz receiving a plaque for his service as Skipper



Skipper, Gene Berger watches while Bill Clarke cuts the cake



Banquet Attendees



50th Anniversary Cake



Museum CEO Howard Hoega talking to HRSMS members

Mystery Photo

Contact John Cheevers by mail or e-mail if you know what it is.



NOTABLE EVENTS

APRIL

- 8 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation, Tom Matthews, Bicycles + Battleships = ?

MAY

- 13 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation, Bill Fox The James River: Boats and Steam
boats

JUNE

- 10 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: Ron Lewis, AC 35 (w/AC50s)

JULY

- 8 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation, John Cheevers, Carving the Chine Hull

AUGUST

- 12 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation, Greg Harrington, Building the Clue & Chata

SEPTEMBER

- 9 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting
19 Talk Like a Pirate Day

OCTOBER

- 14 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Picnic, Newport News Park
Presentation, Marty Gromovsky, TBA
26-28 NRG Conference

NOVEMBER

- 11 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation, Tim Wood TBA

DECEMBER

- 9 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: George Livingston, TBA

JANUARY

- 13 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum

FEBRUARY

- 11 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation,
Election of officers

MARCH

- 10 **HRSMS** Monthly Meeting:

WATCH, QUARTER AND STATION BILL



Skipper: Gene Berger (757) 850-4407
Mate: Ron Lewis (757) 874-8219
Purser: Ryland Craze (804) 739-8804
Clerk: Tom Saunders (757) 850-0580
Historian:
Editors: John Cheevers (757) 591-8955
Bill Clarke (757) 868-6809
Tom Saunders (757) 850-0580
Webmaster: Greg Harrington (757) 930-4615
Photographer: Marty Gromovsky

MINUTES



Hampton Roads Ship Model Society
Monthly Meeting
Norge Hall
March 11, 2017

Guest: Fred Nelson, 3rd meeting

The meeting was called to order by the Skipper, Gene Berger at 1010 hours. The Skipper announced the loss of member Bill Dangler, who died on March 7th. After the members talked about their remembrances of Bill, moment of silence was held in his honor. Next the Skipper talked to the members about the auction, asking them to be generous with their bids to support the HRSMS. Gene then gave some requirements for the 50th anniversary model display at the Mariners' Museum. Gene said that the name, type, scale and dimensions of the models is needed. Also a few sentences about the models will be necessary to help with the signage for the display. The information should be sent to the skipper along with a picture of the model so the display can be arranged. It was noted that cases would not be used and the models will be delivered to the museum in the June-July timeframe with the models remaining on display until February 2018. Lastly, the Skipper reminded everyone of the banquet on the 18th.

The meeting was adjourned to the auction conducted by John Cheevers.

Nautical Term

Pink An old term for a craft that had much rake or that was "sharp-ended"; also of a British coastal vessel with these characteristics.

Tim Wood

Get you models ready for the HRSMS 50th Anniversary Exhibition

THE ANSWER

The answer to mystery photo 369:

German minehunter M1064 *Gromitz* grounded in 2007

Thanks to Dave Baker for the March photo submission.