

HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

NO. 76

NEWSLETTER

October 1992

The meeting, at John Cheevers' home, was called to order by Skipper Bill Altice at 2015, with 15 members present. Hal Rodriguez of Logan, New Mexico was our only guest. Hal is working on Model Shipways' large-scale ESSEX, and he and Alan Frazer have been friends for nearly 30 years: great fringe benefit of ship modeling! Bill Hinrichs also knew Hal from the Long Island Ship Model Society.

Old Business 1. There was discussion about a banner for public events; suggestions were made to contact a sailmaker, and that someone with the right computer might lay out a full-sized paper pattern to save costs.

2. David Tagg confirmed that the club will again help to "Celebrate the Park" at The Mariners' Museum on Sunday, October 18. Help wanted.

3. Bill Clarke announced that John Cheevers had gotten a few more days to deliver the last pilot boat model to the Virginia Pilots Association, just so we could see it tonight; it "sails" to Virginia Beach tomorrow.

New Business 1. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Society, as a member of the Nautical Research Guild, endorse Capt. Joe McCleary's nomination petition to the Guild's board of directors. The Skipper signed.

2. The Purser announced that the next meeting would be a cruise aboard Paul Brindza's boat; see "Next Meeting."

Tech Talk Bill Altice summarized procedures for airbrush painting:

1. Surface preparation: for wood surfaces use sandpaper, sanding sealer, and more sandpaper; always wipe off dust after any sanding, using cloth dampened with a mild solvent such as alcohol; for metal, clean surface thoroughly and do not touch with bare hands after cleaning.

2. Primer coat: Bill likes "Sandable Primer #7865" from NAPA dealers; it works with all types of finish paints; sand very lightly. Primer is useful as it gives an overall color and will show up any roughness or other defect that needs more work. Sand lightly, and damp wipe, before finish coat.

3. Finish coat: Bill discussed Floquil Railroad Colors (also available in Military and new Marine Colors, and in compatible Flo-Paque craft line, thus giving a very broad range of colors and also can be mixed) and Poly-S, a non-compatible line of acrylic paints. Floquil is petroleum-based, with odorous and hazardous solvent fumes, particularly noxious in spray application; Poly-S and other acrylics may be thinned with alcohol (or water, for brush application). Some modelers also like automotive lacquers.

4. Tools: Bill showed Paasche double-acting brush (needs 20 psi pressure) and Thayer & Chandler (okay on 10 psi); air sources are pressure can (expensive if you use much), refillable tank, or compressor; some have used large inner tube, inflated at gas station.

5. Techniques: thin paint correctly (info available from manufacturers, and in Walthers' catalogs); keep brush moving smoothly, steadily; move *beyond* edge of surface before reversing (stopping or reversing on the object causes blobs and runs); maintain correct and constant distance from surface for smooth and even coat (if the paint rubs off like dust when dry, it *landed dry* because you held the brush too far away); use several *thin* coats, with *brief* drying

between, to attain necessary coverage (heavy coat will run and puddle); use correct air pressure (low pressure causes fuzzy, stippled effect).

6. Safety and maintenance: always airbrush in well-ventilated area, away from open fires. Use of a respirator is recommended, especially with petroleum-based paints. Clean out your airbrush thoroughly, with correct solvent, immediately after each use.

Meeting adjourned at 2125 to Ellen's (and her mother's) unusual and tasty goodies, and to John's shop for a long look at the VIRGINIA. Both lovely!

Next Meeting: A cruise aboard Paul Brindza's boat on Saturday, October 17 [Note change of date], 0900 hours. We'll sail by 1000 from Cook's Marina, near Bena and Achilles in Gloucester County. Directions: Route 17 North, across Coleman Bridge. Turn right at 3rd stoplight, opposite Hardee's (Route 216). Go three miles, take another right; then one mile and a third right. Another half mile, turn left and take second entrance into marina; park at far end of lot. Each turn is marked with "Cook's Marina" signs, fairly large but may be somewhat overgrown. Rain date, Sunday, October 18 (check with Paul at 898-7756 early Saturday if in doubt). Paul will provide lunch, including beer and soda. Bring other stuff if you like. Dress for the weather (always cooler on the water) and be ready for a good time. **PLEASE** call Len Wine by Thursday night if you plan to attend, so Paul can know how many to prepare for.

On the Bridge:

Skipper: Bill Altice 748-4880
Purser: Alan Frazer 865-7300

1st Mate: Leonard Wine 588-5831
Historian: Bill Fox 253-0310

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c/o Alan D. Frazer
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**NEXT MEETING: CHANGED
TO OCTOBER 17**

TO: