

HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

NO. 80

NEWSLETTER

February 1993

The meeting of January 8, again at Jack Bobbitt's home, was called to order at 2011, with 14 members present plus guests Norvin Alcorn and Henry Schekulin (2nd time each) and special guests Robert Sumrall, curator of ship models at U.S. Naval Academy Museum, Anne Jensen, author, and Robert Cook, modelmaker, of Whyccocomagh, Nova Scotia. Skipper Bill Altice introduced the guests.

Minutes of December 11 were approved, and the purser gave a financial report.

Old Business

1. Jack Bobbitt reported on cost of club name badges, but there is some question as to how well the logo will work at that reduction. Len Wine will investigate this and report in February.
2. Bill Altice read a brief thank-you letter from John Jamison, President and CEO of The Mariners' Museum, concerning the Society's donation.
3. Gene Berger asked interested members to sign up as speakers for our January 23 workshop at Life-Saving Museum.
4. John Fryant needs case sizes and values as soon as possible for the weekend event at Easton, MD on April 30-May 2.
3. Purser passed out rosters, updated to January 1 and including 1993 meeting schedule. Copies are enclosed for active members who were not at this meeting.

New Business

1. Bill Altice has woman looking for someone to recanvas an Old Town dinghy in Virginia Beach.
2. In view of number of guests and more "fun" stuff to come, we postponed election of officers until February meeting.

Sharing

Tom Hesse still has holly for the taking. Call him.

Bob Sumrall passed around a copy of the new book, *Naval Prints from the Beverley R. Robinson Collection*, U.S. Naval Academy, vol. I, 1514-1791. Lovely! Bob also discussed the new gallery, soon to be opened, and the coming catalog of the Academy's model collection. He and Ms. Jensen had earlier discussed and shown a copy of her new book, *Schooners of the Chesapeake*.

Bob Cook showed and described his stunning "modern dockyard model" of *BONHOMME RICHARD/DUC DE DURAS*, 1765-1779, finished and making a final port call in Hampton Roads enroute to its permanent berth at the Naval Academy. The model

shows the ship on the ways, under construction as East Indiaman (1765, port side) and hauled on a railway for conversion to warship (1779, starboard side). Bob mentioned variations in planking, ports, windows, lights and other details between two sides. Model mostly boxwood (Turkish, English, West Indian, and South African), with wales and drift rails of ebony and base mostly pear.

Additional notes and techniques on this impressive model, which Bob says took 4,000 hours of building time plus 1,000 hours of planning and "thinking about it," have been recorded in the formal minutes, which will be available to active members at the next meeting or by mail to active members who request a copy. We are delighted that Bob honored us with this "private showing," and sorry we don't have room for all details in the Newsletter.

We adjourned at 2153 to discussion and excellent refreshments; thanks again, Jeanne!

Next Meeting:

Friday, February 12, Election of Officers, and Alan Frazer will present a Tech Talk on modeling the Adirondack Guide-Boat. All at his home, 108-G Indian Summer Drive, in lower York County. Directions: From Hampton & east, use I-64 west to Exit 262-B, "134 North/Magruder Blvd/NASA Poquoson," then 4.2 mi. on 134 to 6th light, and turn left into Four Seasons Apartments. From Williamsburg & west, use I-64 east to Exit 256-B, "Victory Blvd East/Poquoson," then 2.2 mi. on Victory (becomes 171 East where it crosses US-17) to 2nd light; turn right on 134 South; 2.7 mi. to 3rd light on 134 and turn right at Four Seasons signs. Straight back to last building on left, then upstairs apartment on right. Please call 865-7300 by Thursday if you're coming, as we may have a number of guests from the workshop.

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
108-G Indian Summer Drive
Yorktown, VA 23693

**NEXT MEETING:
FEBRUARY 12**

TO: