

# HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY

No. 89

NEWSLETTER

November 1993

The October 8 meeting convened at 2020 at the home of Harvey Williams in Virginia Beach, with nine members and four guests, but without the Bell; Skipper claims it is too heavy to carry! Two of the guests were former members John Ferebee, from the late 1970s, and Bob Moritz, who dropped out in 1992. Other guests were Chuck Reynolds and Bob Dillingham of Chesapeake, making their second visits. Len Wine took minutes, and there was no purser's report, since the purser was at the NRG conference in Kingston, Ontario.

## Old Business

1. Bill Altice reminded the members that October 16-17 will be Yorktown Days and that the club has volunteered to man a table and display modeling at the Watermen's Museum. David Tagg agreed to cover one day and Len Wine the other.
2. The Skipper also announced that the joint meeting with the Washington Society is confirmed for the first weekend in April. Bill asked for preference as to site, and the consensus favored the Calvert Marine Museum at Solomons Island, Maryland. There was discussion of booking a block of rooms, but no action. The Skipper asked for volunteers to make presentations, concentrating on "how to" subjects.

## New Business

1. The Skipper reported that work is progressing on new bylaws, one provision of which is to prorate dues of new members. In anticipation of electing a new member, the Skipper asked members' opinion on this idea. Len Wine made a motion in favor of this change, which was carried unanimously.
2. Bill then introduced Bob Moritz, who was a member two years ago and desired to rejoin. He was unanimously accepted as a new (old?) member.
3. There was lively discussion on Gene Larson's When Is It "Scratch"? questions published in the October Newsletter. This report is based largely on notes from Bill Altice and refers to numbers of the original questions [with later interpolations by the purser]:
  1. No. This is only modifying factory parts. [Some feel the new parts are scratch-built, since there is no factory workmanship, but from a dubious research source.]
  2. Only the parts he makes himself are scratch; the gear, nuts and bolts are not.
  3. Yes, since he has direct control of the results, which would not happen without his input; the photographic and etching processes are pretty much automatic.
  4. No. Copying someone else's work is not your work.
  5. In the strictest sense, no. But again [the molding/casting work is a technical service and] the parts are from his master; the logic of the photo-etching situation (#3) again applies.
  6. Tubing, channel, etc. are off-the-shelf products; cutting to length does not make them scratch components. [Len Wine reports about 50 per cent disagreed here, feeling that these are scratch materials, like stripwood and wire; nobody has seriously suggested that a scratch-builder must harvest his own lumber, or cut it from large barks, or draw his own wire. There seems to be general agreement that brass ladder strip is not scratch.]
  7. You don't know; must rely on the integrity of the builder [In a contest situation, sharp judges may spot the cheating.]

John Cheevers read the definition of scratchbuilding from the 1995 Mariners' Museum competition announcement. The group concurred that it is a good one. [Aw, thanks, guys! It was slightly amplified over the 1991 version as a result of Gene's exercise.]

### Sharing

1. John Cheevers showed a nice pine lift hull for the 165' Coast Guard Cutter ATALANTA, from the estate of Bill Hoeke. He noted it is slightly short of correct length, possibly due to shrinkage in the original linen plans as reflected in Mr. Hoeke's copies. If you are working from such linen plans, John suggests you check them carefully.
2. John Ferebee brought several well-done models including a half-hull model of schooner WILLIAM A. GRAVES, a dory in a hurricane lamp, a whaleboat and a kayak. John Cheevers recalls seeing them in 1979. (Maybe we can entice Mr. Ferebee to re-up?)
3. Bob Moritz showed a very small (1:1200?) model of a Liberty Ship, with extremely fine and delicate photo-etched parts.
4. Finally, we shared a fantastic spread, including a great crab dip, by hosts Harvey and Mary Ellen Williams. Thanks!

From the Purser: Please report any errors in the new Roster that was delivered with the October Newsletter.

Next Meeting: We will trot out new Constitution and Bylaws on Friday, November 12, 2000 hrs, at the home of Heinz and Mareke Schiller, 337 Green Spring Court, Hampton, phone 851-7387. Please call by Thursday night if you are coming. East on Mercury Blvd. to left on Fox Hill Road (at Shell station after King Street overpass). At far end of Willow Oaks Shopping Center, turn right on Bromley Drive, cross bridge and right on Elizabeth Lakes Drive to Green Spring Court, the 5th little cul de sac on left.

### On the Bridge

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

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

HAMPTON ROADS SHIP MODEL SOCIETY  
c/o Alan D. Frazer  
108-G Indian Summer Drive  
Yorktown VA 23693

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**NOVEMBER 12**

**TO:**