



The Lynx

Monthly newsletter of the Washington Ship Model Society

<http://www.dcshipmodelsociety.org/>

Volume 82, Number 11

Washington DC

November, 2010

Next Meeting

Saturday, November 13, 2010 At 10 A.M.

At

Fairfax County

Sherwood Regional Library

2501 Sherwood Hall Lane

Alexandria, Virginia 22306-2799

703-765-3645

Directions:

- Coming from the Beltway (I-495), take Exit 177A South ("Fort Belvoir").
- Travel south on Rte. 1 for 4.1 miles, passing Beacon Mall, South Valley Mall and Golds Gym (all on the right).
- After passing Golds Gym, turn left at the second traffic light, opposite WalMart, onto Sherwood Hall Lane.
- Travel through two traffic lights (0.5 Miles), past the Fire Station at Parkers Lane.
- The library parking lot will be immediately on the right, after crossing Parkers Lane.

Skipper's Corner

For those who were unable to attend the Sultana Downrigging was a great event. The high point was to sail on our club logo the Lynx. We presented one of our mugs to the captain and discussed the possibility of working with them at events when they come back north next spring. The Lynx will be in east coast waters for the next few years as part of the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

Many thanks to Rick Yorczyk for organizing our attendance at the event. We were approached by several prospective members whom I hope we see at our meetings. In this issue we have a philosophical look at our hobby by one of our associate members.

See you at the next meeting.

Bruce

Next Meeting

At the Sherwood Regional Library in Alexandria on Saturday the 13th, usual room

November 13, 2010 WSMS MEETING AGENDA *Sherwood Regional Library*

- Ψ 1000 – Skipper’s Remarks
 - Recognition of any New Guests or strikers
 - Recent Events participation
- Ψ Treasurer’s Report - As of November 1st 2010 our current Bank balance including CDs is: \$9296.
 - Reminder - Dues became due in July. The dues have been reduced to \$10.00
- Ψ 1015 - Show & Tell
 -
 - Member projects, etc.
- Ψ 1130 - Old business
 - Future meeting with Annapolis SMS - Vince
 - Fall Auction - Vince
 - Arrangements for November trip to visit USS Olympia - John Reeder
 - Coin Medallion status - Bruce
 - Association with the U.S. Naval Museum - Lou
 - Newsletter revitalization committee (To meet in October) - Lou
 - Committee members – Rick , Joel, Vince, Bruce, Lou
- Ψ 1055 - New Business
 - None
- Ψ 1100 - Adjourn

Upcoming Schedule of Events

Events WSMS has voted to participate in:

- a. Nothing scheduled

WSMS Discussion & Focus Group Meetings

- November – Joel
- December – Lou
- January – Vince
- February - ??

Other Area Nautical Themed Events

None

Minutes of Last Meeting

This document presents the minutes of the Washington Ship Model Society meeting held at the Bethesda Naval Hospital on October 9, 2010 and conducted by the Skipper, Bruce Buchner.

Rick presented a very interesting display of his use of automated drafting to develop the hull and frames of the Clipper Ship "Sea Witch." This was accompanied by a discussion of the pros and cons of various software tools for use in developing drawings of ships.

A discussion was held concerning the previously approved (*September meeting decision*) bus trip to Philadelphia to visit the Independence Seaport Museum to tour the Olympia before her demise. However, the small number of members signed up (John Reed, Bruce Buchner and Lou Husser) raised the issue of a need for a bus. Depending on the chosen date early in November 2010, the trip may replace the regular meeting in November. John Reeder is coordinating the arrangements for the trip in conjunction with Bruce. These arrangements must be completed in a week or so.

Lou will provide information regarding the Army-Navy Club Naval Heritage evening 22 October 2010, so that those wishing to attend may do so. Also, the theme of the meeting is naval activities in the Civil War with emphasis on the Monitor-Virginia battle. Appropriate models have been offered for a WSMS display. These include 10 paper models by Carl Erickson, a USS Princeton-related display by Doug Beatty, 3 Monitor and Virginia models by Bruce Buchner, and a Hunley model obtained by Lou Husser.

Rick Yorczyk is coordinating our participation in the October 30 & 31st Sultana down rigging event in Chestertown, MD, which will also include a trip on the Lynx. We have five tables for displaying ship models. Rick has arranged for those members attending the event to participate in the Lynx's 2PM sailing. A charge to participate applies. Rick will also present WSMS mugs to several of the Lynx's officers.

Business matters were addressed:

Lou has made contact with the Naval Museum at the Navy Yard, and they seem interested in developing a relationship with the WSMS. It was decided that Lou should pursue this in the name of the WSMS, and use information about the Annapolis Ship Model relationship with Naval Museum at the Academy as appropriate (e.g., MOUs). As it was judged that such a relationship would be important, members are requested to assist Lou as may be needed. This matter is in work and Lou has made progress in starting the process of establishing a relationship.

It was noted that there are new several members without name tags and mugs.

The October Focus Group meeting has been cancelled and replaced by our participation in the Sultana Downrigging event.

Outstanding Actions

| <u>Actions</u> | <u>Due date</u> | <u>Member Responsible</u> |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|
| • Contact Gene Larson to obtain mugs and name tags as needed. | NLT 29 October | Bruce |

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|
| • Coordinate a future meeting with Annapolis SMS | November meeting | Vince |
| • Develop plans for a Fall Auction | November meeting | Vince |
| • Obtain WSMS Coin Medallions | November meeting | Bruce |
| • Convene the Newsletter Revitalization Committee | November meeting | Lou |

Ship's Clerk Doug Beatty 10 Oct 2010

Member Thoughts

*Perceptions of Model Ship Collecting
Reactions to an Arcane Interest
Thoughts and Observations*

The old match books I have are never viewed as an extension of my personality; similarly, neither are my historical stamps, my presidential coins, or my military history library. All of these interesting items are generally ignored.

Not so my model ship collection. Granted the ships are much larger than the stamps or coins (indeed some of my ships are VERY large). But it is their nature, not their size or number that draws comment.

Because of my collection I have been called everything from (the disheartening) "an odd duck", to (the somewhat romantic) "mysterious". The girl at the copy center where I print my plans, called me a "boat nerd". The plans always seem to interest her though, maybe only because boats are so different from the bulk of her days work.

Have you been labeled because of your collection? How accurate was the label? And who was the labeler? Ever thought about it?

I once had a neighbor who would bring his guests to my home, simply to show them my model ships; that was flattering. I had a friend who for years sought to copy my life and lifestyle, I watched him analyzing my ships and contemplating how he might build one of his own; that was creepy.

Interestingly, I have never heard any comments on the names chosen for my ships. I am glad, as the names were carefully considered, and are more revealing than the ships they belong to. I have often wondered how other builders name their ships. Perhaps most modelers build prototypes, and thus the responsibility of naming the vessel has never fallen to them.

I once wrote a story about a boy headed for a high and honorable office, in his bedroom was a model of the USS Constitution. I liked the symbolism. The story got a "B-".

Norman Rockwell painted For a Good Boy, which depicts a father crafting a model ship for his eager young son. The image is one of his most endearing.

Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy collected model ships; several are seen in old White House photographs. What did the ships say about the Commanders in Chief? An awful lot probably, but most observers assumed the models were part of The White House décor, and not a consideration of the man in the office.

Popularly, model ships have meaning. In the 2006 movie, The Good Shepherd, the protagonist is seen constructing ships in glass bottles. His feelings about his father, an admiral who committed suicide, are all bottled up.

On the HBO television show In Treatment, a sharp psychoanalyst examines his patients. In one episode a challenging patient turns the questioning on the doctor, he motions to the several model ships in the office, “And what do your boats say about you?” he demands. The doctor has no response.

It’s an interesting question though.

And do my ships say the same thing about me, as yours do you? Is there disconnect between how you feel about your collection, and how your collection is perceived? Are you open about your collection, or is it something you keep private? How long have you been collecting, and have your ways of collecting changed?

Things to think about next time you’re at the work bench.

W. Richards 2010.

Lynx links:

<http://www.dcshipmodelsociety.org/>

<http://www.cnc-models.com/>

<http://mysite.verizon.net/ELLshipmodeler/index.htm>

<http://www.papermodel.jp/english/>

<http://wmunderway.8m.com/home/home.htm>

<http://www.modelslipway.com/>

<http://www.boatnerd.com/>

<http://www.billingboats.com/>

<http://mysite.verizon.net/vzepsy9w/sealaunchcommander2/>

<http://www.greatlakesmodeling.com/>

<http://www.jdproduct.com/>

<http://www.micromark.com/>

<http://www.joesmodels.com/>