



# Logbook!



No. 449

WWW.HRSMS.ORG

November, 2023

## From The Bridge



## Meeting Notice

The meeting will take place  
at 1000 hours

**November 11, 2023**



### Captains Log 11.11.23

#### Victory of Sea

At some point, I hit upon the bright idea of building a waterline model set in, wait for it...water! How in the toothpicks was I going to do that. Well??? I set out blissfully ignorant of any ideas on the subject and put it out of my mind as I continued to progress headlong to the day I would have to face the inevitable. And that day came. No, I'm not Mañana Man, I'm the Supreme Dude, and by golly, I can do this. I thought?

The first thing I did was go to "school." Actually, not real school, but Google school. I've seen the work of others and admired their results. In particular, I relished Ron Neilson's artistry of waterscapes supporting his equally stunning period ship models. His seas are dynamic and flowing with authenticity. I hate him! I want to emulate him!

Having steeled myself with all the "how to" YouTube videos and Ron's NRG online workshop on the subject, I was ready? I dwelt on this for a fortnight, and after

many sleepless nights, set a course for Amazon to procure all the necessary tools and artistic weaponry to face the challenge of making water. It probably would have been easier to take two hydrogen atoms...and voilà!

As promised, mere days later, my arsenal of accoutrements arrived at my doorstep. I unpacked my artists' ordnance of brushes, acrylic paints, glazes, gesso and mediums. I had no clue! Back to school. I was channeling Rodney.

Having the right tools can certainly improve chances of success, but an artist it doesn't make. Success depends on a combination of factors, including skills, knowledge, effort, and sometimes even luck. I made the rookie mistake of assuming that acquiring the same tools as another would somehow convey their expertise, talent and vision. Now, I was getting nervous. Sometimes, I may not have access to the ideal tool, or circumstances may change. Being able to adapt and make the best of what I have is an important part of achieving success. In fact, I created my own "brush"

tool out of a stick and piece of kitchen sponge to compensate for poverty of painting skills. It worked! Think outside the Amazon box to unleash your creative self. Bob Ross would have been proud.

"One learns from books and example only that certain things can be done. Actual learning requires that you do those things."—Frank Herbert

SD

There are more happy bits of water elsewhere in the Log —ED.



# Letters to The Editor



**On Tue, Oct 17, 2023 at 2:07 PM Stewart Winn wrote:**

Hello, Michelle:

I'm just dropping you a line to let you know that all of the material you donated to the Hampton Roads Ship Model Society was sold at auction on Saturday, even the model printing press which I didn't think anyone would want! You may rest assured that everything wound up in the hands of our model makers who will use them and appreciate their value.

Again, thank you for this generous donation. I'm sure your father would have been pleased.

Stewart Winn

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 8:41 PM

**To:** Stewart Winn

**Subject:** Re: Ship Model Supplies

Hello Stewart,

It is so good to hear from you. Thank you for letting me know how the auction went. I'm so glad that everything sold, including the model printing press. I guess you never know what someone might want! How wonderful there were model makers that found they could use the items in their craft.

I can't thank you enough for everything you have done to make this happen. It really means a lot to me. It is exactly what I hoped for.

I hope you are doing well and we will look for you at the museum on our next visit!

Warmest Regards,

Michelle Dill

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## And we have a call to arms:

**Ron Lewis**

**To:** The crew...

Tue, Oct 17 at 9:33 AM

Okay, guys. Show us your talents! We need presenters for December, February, March and April. Send me your topic and anything you need to produce a power point, slide show or whatever. Your talents and specialties can add to our overall knowledge of modeling man's experience with the sea! (It's the right thing to do!)

Best,  
Ron

Keep the poppy  
going please...for  
Veterans!



# The Jape



“Thank heavens we survived this latest round of layoffs.”



“Something from the beverage cart?”

**Traveling in the modern era be like...**

**Win, Win!!!  
Sometimes a model move just makes sense...**



VETERANS DAY



# Minutes



the Smoke restaurant, on him. It was delicious Heinz, thank you very much, and many more happy returns!

## MEETING MINUTES 10-14-23

The meeting was called to order on 10:09 by the skipper, who then recognized three guests: Joe Yorke (?) who has moved from Ohio, has been a sailor, and now wants to start ship modeling; and James Fair and his brother –in-law Juday \_\_\_ from California who have recently begun careers at the NNSY, and are interested in joining the Society.

Bill Fox was then recognized for 50 YEARS membership in HRSMS. So what are you going to do now, Bill?



John Cheevers told us that Tim Wood is recovering from his surgery slowly but steadily, and his spirits have been greatly lifted by the calls and cards from fellow members. (We're waiting for you to come back and get to work, Tim!)

The skipper announced the model boat show to be held in Oxford, MD on Saturday, 11/11/23 (Veteran's Day, and the same day as our next meeting) and asked for anyone planning to attend and show a model to let him know so they can plan for the space.

Upon his arrival, Heinz Schiller was honored for his recent 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Heinz kindly reciprocated by inviting the entire group to join him for lunch after the meeting at



**Purser's Report:** Ryland Craze reported on transactions for the month, and that there was a closing balance of \$XXXX and change. We then voted to make our annual contribution to the Museum of \$1000, and for a \$100 contribution to the USS New Jersey foundation for maintenance of their ship.



**Webmaster's report:** Greg Harrington announced that in order to upload photos to the HRSMS website it will be necessary to use a password, which can be obtained by emailing or calling him.

After this abbreviated business meeting, the floor was turned over the auctioneer John Cheevers for distribution of the loot. We had a slight pause to eat cupcakes in honor of Heinz's birthday.

The meeting was adjourned about 12:30 after clearing about \$900 for the Society. Everyone left with their hands full and smiles on their faces.

Stu



March 3<sup>rd</sup> + 9<sup>th</sup> 1862

# Scuttlebutt



I guess it's fitting to use this term for November as I ran out of those supplied by Tim and he is definitely feeling under the weather.

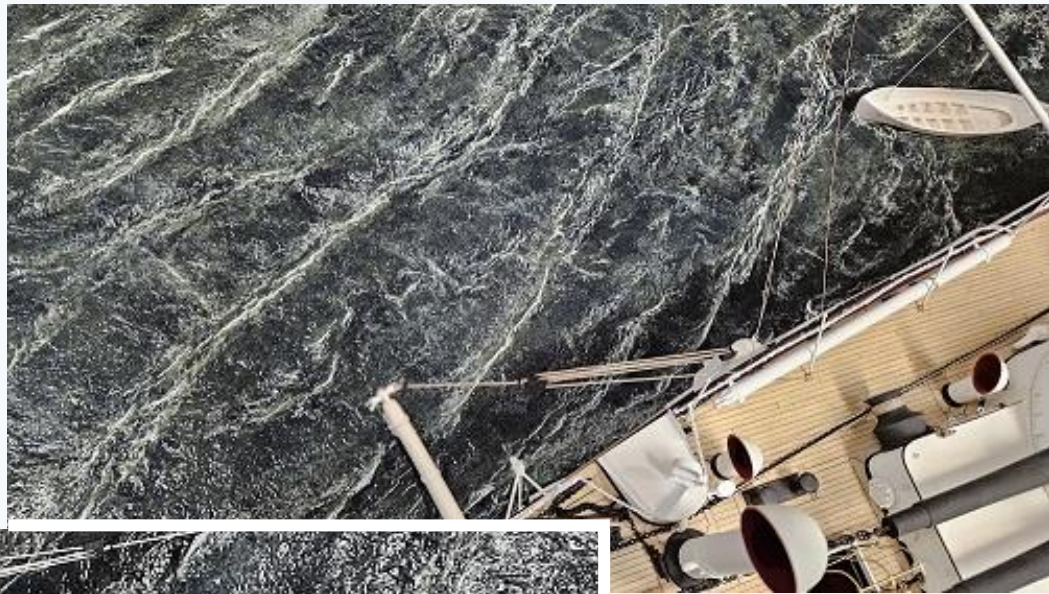
## Nautical term for November

**Under the Weather:** To be feeling ill, not yourself.

History: On an early naval vessel, various watches were assigned to crew members to keep an eye out for danger. Often considered the worst watch station one could be assigned, the 'weather' side of the bow was often subject to the pitching and rolling of the ship, as well as the numerous waves that would break over the bow. The crewmember assigned this watch would end their shift drenched and described as having been 'under the weather.—Ed.



Water, water everywhere,  
and not a drop to drink



# The Next Scene



book we return to The Scene with an image that highlights the transfer of goods back before we had a National Highway System. Tell me what you see and why? Also, if you can, try and locate the scene and give an approximate date.

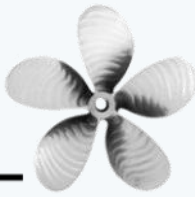
What in the world? With the November Log-



Keep the poppy going please...for Veterans!



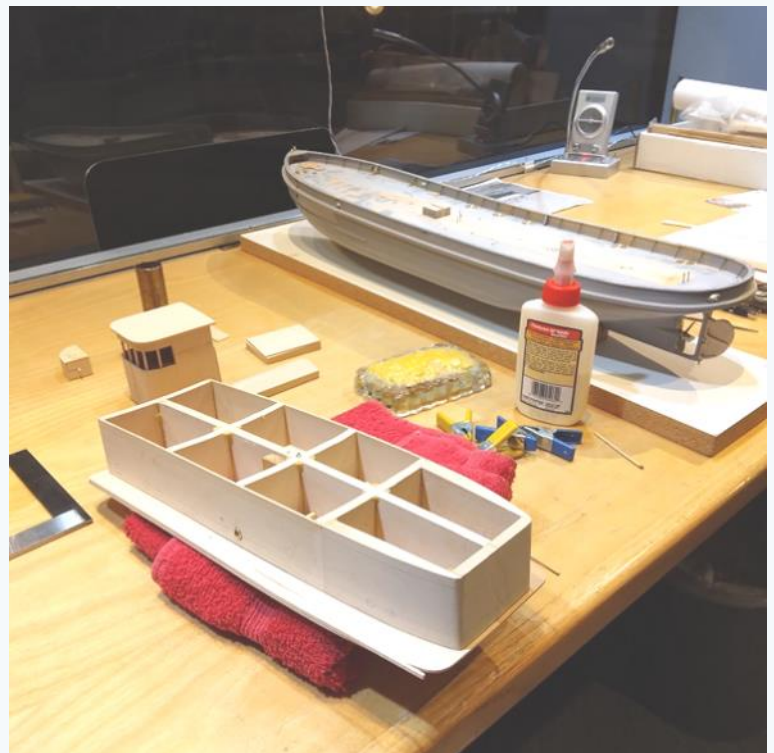
# What's Happening at The Museum



November 2023

No column this month. But there is a reminder to visit the Museum over the Holidays. Talk it up with your friends and family. If you have out of town visitors, by all means bring them by and show them what the Museum has to offer. Who knows, you may even catch a ship model maker at work! —Ed

PS – Don't forget the Museum's website!  
[marinersmuseum.org](http://marinersmuseum.org)

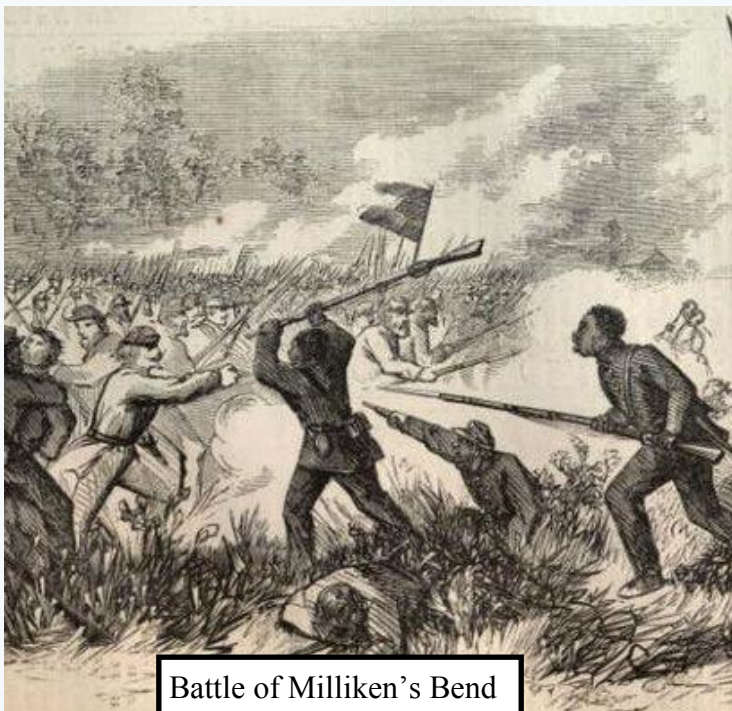


## American Naval History The Civil War

June 8: The steam tug Boston is captured at Pass a l'Outre on the Mississippi by a Confederate boat party. Putting to sea in their prize, the Confederate's capture and burn the barks Lenox and Texana before running the blockade into Mobile on June 11.

THE CIVIL WAR 1863

June 7: A Confederate attack on Union forces at Milliken's Bend on the Mississippi is repelled with support from the ironclad ram Choctaw and gunboat Lexington.



Battle of Milliken's Bend



June 17: The Confederate ironclad ram Atlanta runs aground and is captured while engaging the monitors Weehawken and Nahant in Wassaw Sound, Georgia.

End of part 6 of 1863 of the Civil War.—Bob

Time for .....



## Hot Buttered Rum

Of all the rums we tried for this recipe, we liked Myers's best. But Oronoco, a new white rum from Brazil, also made a beautifully balanced drink.

Makes 4 drinks

2 cups water

1/2 stick (1/4 cup) unsalted butter

1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

1/8 teaspoon salt

2/3 cup dark rum

Bring water, butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and salt to a boil in a 1 1/2- to 2-

quart saucepan over moderately high heat. Reduce heat and simmer, whisking occasionally, 10 minutes.

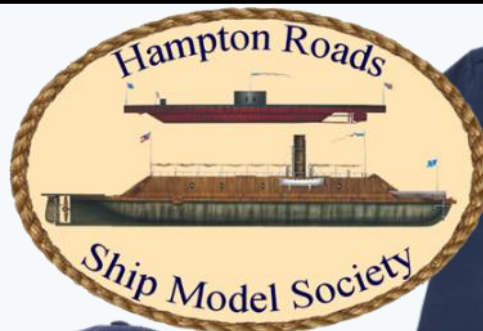
Remove from heat and stir in rum. Serve hot.



### Club gear:

If you need a shirt, hat, or name badge, be sure to see either Ryland Craze or Tim Wood. They have all the details on what's available; pricing and so forth. And I will say that most of the gear comes with our embroidered logo

Or you can search the website for info. Simply type "hat" in the search window...





# Mess Call



## Fall Charcuterie Board

Meats and Cheeses to Use on a Charcuterie Board

Meats and cheeses for a fall charcuterie board are key to it being the best of the best! These are going to be what bring that savory taste and texture to the board. Here are the meats and cheeses that I used:

**Meat:** Italian Dry Salame

Peppered Salame

Prosciutto

**Cheese:** Cranberry Goat Cheese

Dutch Spicy Kaas Red, green and white square cheese

Creamy Toscano Cheese

Beemster Cheese

If you can't find these meats and cheeses at your grocery store then talk to your butcher. They should be able to suggest other options that will work and that are available. A few others that you could use are ham, pepperoni, calabrese salami, or genoa salami.

### What Fruit Should I Use for My Charcuterie Board?

Now, for the fruit. It's going to add the most color to this fall charcuterie board. You want to pick out fruit that is different in color and texture. You can pick out fruits that are seasonal, or you can just use your favorites! For this board I used the following fruits:

Strawberries

Red Globe Grapes

Green Apples

Blueberries

Blackberries

Depending on the occasion I am making this board, I will switch up these fruits.



# Mess Call

Some more,

I Gawr-on-tee!!



But there are so many options of fruit that you really can't go wrong no matter what you choose to use. Go ahead and try it!

## Choosing Cookies, Crackers and Dip

Here is where you bring in ALL the sweet things. I love to add flavored crackers that are sweet to balance out all of the savory that I have already put onto this fall charcuterie board. Plus, if I can find cookies or crackers that are shaped for the occasion, that makes it all the better! Then, add in some sweet dip for everything and you will be all set. Here is a list of the crackers and dip that I used on this board:

### Crackers and Cookies

On this board, I included some caramels because they were the perfect fall color!

Cranberry Pumpkin Crisps (Trader Joe's)

Pumpkin Flavored Sandwich Cookies

Pumpkin Spice Batons

### Dip

Add any dip that you love and will make this a delicious board! I love spinach and artichoke dip or [Pumpkin dip](#). (Don't forget the schleck.....ask Gene)

## Let's Put it ALL Together!

Now comes the fun part! This fall charcuterie board will come together easily once you have all your ingredients ready to go. This is such a fun and delicious way to make any season or holiday special. Change it up to make it just what you need.

**Cheese first:** Start assembling your board by adding the cheeses.

**Start adding meats:** Next add the salami, and prosciutto.

**Finish the meats and add in the fruit:** Add in the meats and fruit.

**Cookies and crackers:** Fill the board in with crackers and cookies.

After you add in all of these amazing foods, then you can decorate or add more to make it your own! I used tiny pumpkins in it to add some visual interest. But depending on the occasion or holiday that you are doing this for, you can change that up.

D'ye hear, there.



## Auction Recap:

If you didn't walk away from this auction with something that you wanted, shame on you. There were bargains galore. In fact, there were so many bargains that you had to look hard and long to catch one of the few times we really had a bidding war. Such is the case with auctions, you never know how they are going to go.

I have to be honest and say that I was a bit apprehensive before the auction. For two reasons: When I loaded up the car with what I had on hand and I added in the pledged items that I knew about, I didn't think we had enough "kit" for more than an hour's worth of auction time. And I wasn't sure how it would go at the venue because of the distance from the cars to the meeting space. I also wanted to end the event no later than 12:30 because of the birthday luncheon for Heinz.

Turns out I shouldn't have worried. The items that were pledged, but not in my possession, more than filled the allotted auction window (I forgot to add in some of the stuff that was stashed in the Taco Stand). The trek to bring the stuff in was not that bad because of a bit of

prior planning (like adding air to the Taco Stand dolly's tires several days before). The auction's time was better controlled by the order that we offered the items—kits, tools, material, books, misc. That kept things organized and moving. The folks who jumped in to run the stuff to bid winners helped as well. Someone added afterward that the smaller amount of books helped in controlling the time. Maybe.



We brought in a decent amount of money, moved a lot of surplus goods into new ownership, cleaned out a lot of work space in my workshop, and I'm sure we made many an Admiral happy with the resulting de-clutter. Ha, ha!

Anyway, to close this chapter on the auction, I guess Gene would like to find a good home for the many boxes of balsa he won (unknowingly, he claims). If you need any of that lighter-than-air wood, see him on your own time. —Ed.



## Modeler's Corner



### Separating the men from the boys.

One aspect of ship model making is learning and developing the skills to replicate in miniature what the shipwrights of old did in full scale. And one of those trades was wood carving—probably the bane of many ship modelers. But if you're going to hang out in the 16th, 17th, or 18th century and build model ships of that era, you have to accept that those ships carried ornamentation in the form of friezes, wreaths, and figureheads. If you fancy yourself as a craftsman-in-



learning, an apprentice really, then you will take the steps to closely study surviving examples of maritime carving, and learn and practice the skills necessary to build a true miniature.

While almost all of us will never reach the level of craftsmanship demonstrated by August Crabtree with his miniature carvings, we can make the effort. That's why wood carving workshops like the one just held in Annapolis, Maryland in early October are important. It was hosted by David Antscherl and Greg Herbert at the United States Naval Academy Museum. At least four of our members attended to learn the basics of miniature wood carving. The featured carvings were wreaths, quarter badges, and figured transoms.



Now I know that no one comes away from these workshops as an expert in the artistry, but you should come away with a clear understanding of the elements and



steps involved in the making the carvings, and you should have a good list of suppliers of tools and mate-



rial to continue and practice what you learned.

## Separating the men from the boys.

Carving wood, and I have done some in my time, is virtually the same regardless of the scale involved. You need good sharp chisels, a means of holding the blank, and a good medium to work in. Most carvers of miniatures will chose a good, dense hardwood that can stand up to the forces involved in cutting with a chisel or grinding using a roto tool of some sort. For the relief style of carving, the style most prevalent on a model, you want to mount your carving blank to a sacrificial backing board that can be clamped into a holding device.

Let's begin with the holding device. As you know, when I carve a hull I like to mount the hull block on a multi-positioning tool. I use a Wilton Pow-R-Arm. They are not cheap and really are too large to use for miniature carving, but they are worth every penny you spend to get one. The lesson here, though, is to get a good positioning vise. You want a tool that allows for positing the work in any attitude you desire. In the carving workshop, I noticed that someone had a GRS Microblock Engraving Ball Vise. On line you can see they retail for about \$385.00. There are other, cheaper vises available, including homemade. Just remember



that you want a holder that retards or eliminates the moment arm you impart to the blank when you apply cutting pressure. You do not want the carving to move when you work on it.

As for carving tools, I suggest you get what feels comfortable to you. For full size carving, I like to use Lamp Brand carving chisels. For miniature carving I

have a set of palm handled micro chisels that came from Lee Valley Tools. But they are even too large for micro detail work and that is where I switch to my re-worked dental tools. I recommend you use the kind you can sometimes get from your dentist, they don't bend. The cheap dental tools from across the pond are not worth the money; they don't hold an edge and the shanks bend under pressure. Now Ryland Craze made note of his having a set of micro chisels from Dockyard. You can find them on Amazon. I tried them, but



found the handles to be uncomfortable. That is neither an endorsement or critique of the tool, it is just my personal preference. Warren Garcia likes to use the Mikisyo PowerGrip micro chisels. I liked them better because of their larger handles. Now if you want, and if you are able, you can try and buy the "Cadillac" of micro chisel sets that is getting rave reviews on Model Ship World. They are made by a fellow in Russia but I think they are embargoed at the moment. Search 'Micro chisel set' on MSW for more info, including how to contact the maker, he has no website.

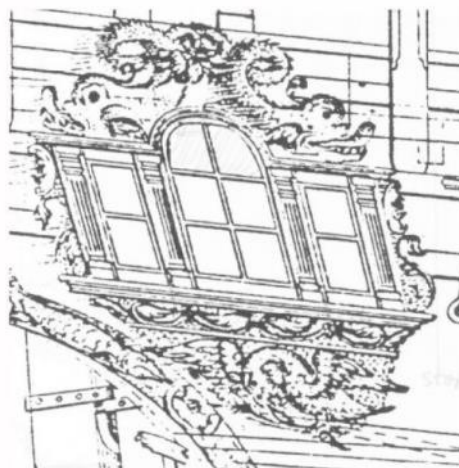


## Separating the men from the boys.

In addition to carving tools, you should also look into good task lighting and some form of magnifying optics. Get the kind that you like and are comfortable using. And you might want to have a box of bandages and some ointment handy as well. Safety first!

This leaves us with material. Most of us are inclined to look at Boxwood as the material of choice for small carving—English Boxwood, if you can get it, is the best. But almost any dense hardwood that doesn't have a discernable grain should work. I remember reading that August Crabtree used something called Hawthorn, but I think he called it Whitethorn. You can find it online, look under Crataegus. It seems to me that dogwood and scrub fruitwood trees may work in this application.

So now you have your tools, fixtures, and carving medium. What do you do next? Start with a simple project and practice. As mentioned previously, most of what you need to carve falls into the category of bas relief. Bas relief is simply sculpting a 3D appearance into a 2D plane. The method is simple. Trace or somehow fix a copy of the intended sculpture onto your carving medium and, using a saw, cut out the perimeter to shape and then fix the blank onto a sacrificial backing board. Fit the backing board onto your rotating holding vise and carefully carve the required shapes into the medium. Go slowly, apply light pressure as you work, and make multiple passes over the medium to get to the final depths of cut needed to reveal the sculpture. You'll be amazed how easy it is.

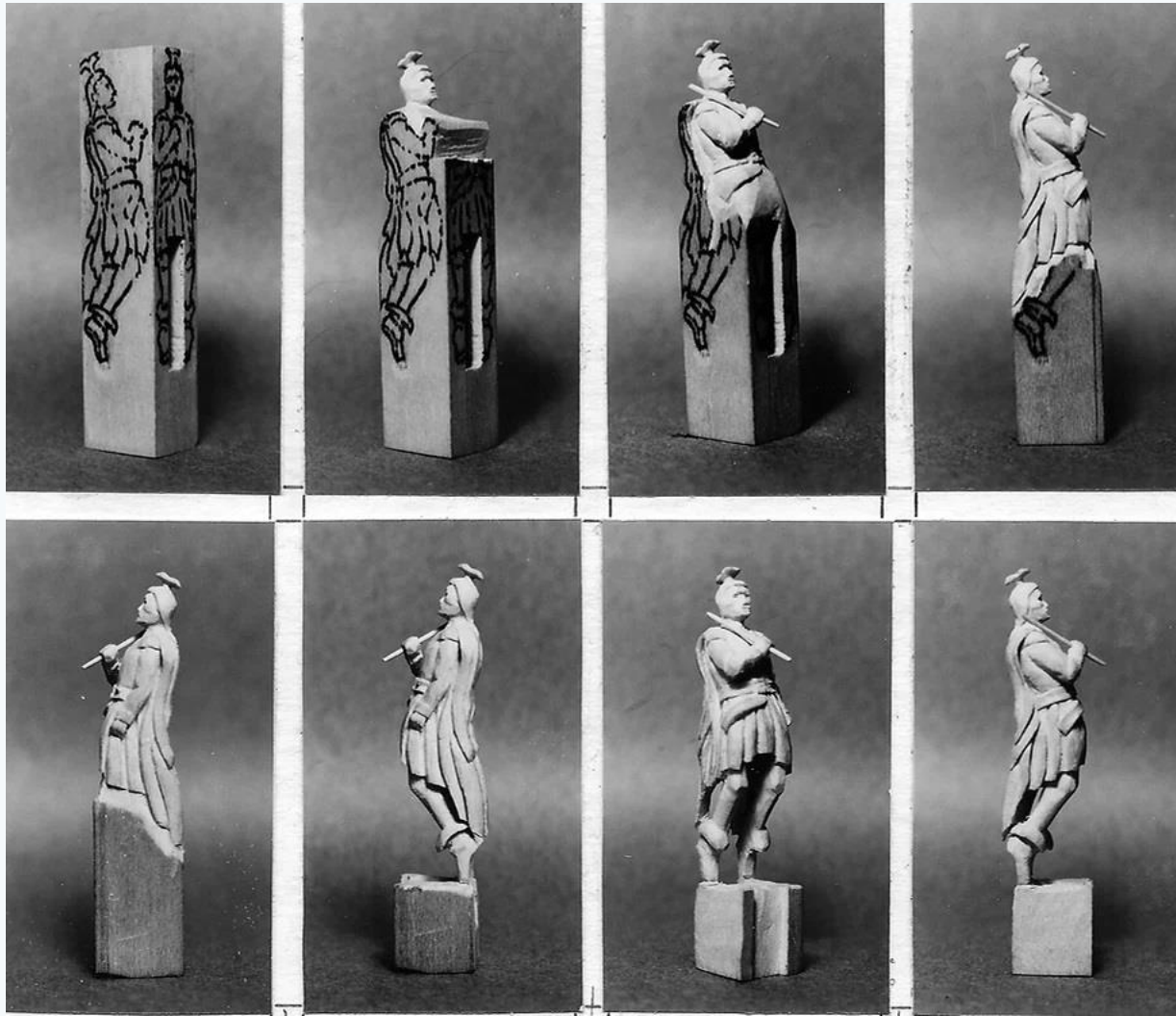


## Separating the men from the boys.

The harder objects to carve are human and animal figures. This is true 3D sculpture and you need to familiarize yourself with the component forms involved or you run the risk of having your figures all looking blocky. This is where we really separate the men from the boys—us versus Crabtree or Hahn in this case. But if you go slow, and you're very stingy in removing material, you can achieve acceptable results. Again, practice carving on a larger scale until you have an understanding of how to blend the forms into a pleasing sculpture.

Master carving, and ship modeling can be your oyster. That is, until you realize how many other things are out there for you to engage in and master: like rope making, machining, painting and weathering, watering, planking....the list of chal-

lenges can be endless if you're willing to embark on this hobby.—Ed.



## Events:

If you find yourself out of town on Veteran's Day, I hope you are in a position to attend a nautical flavored event. In November the Skipper and Webmaster will be in Oxford, Maryland for their Model Boat Show and Fall Festival. If you remember, last year they telecommuted into the club meeting and gave a virtual tour of the exhibit.

Also: we have notice of an art exhibition up in Newburyport, Massachusetts—details below. Don't miss an opportunity to view some truly great renderings of historic sailing yachts, and meet the artist.



**From: Rob Napier**

**To: All**

Fri, Oct 27

Hi, All,



Once again, I am pleased to be having an exhibition of images at Middle Street Foods in Newburyport. The show is now open and will be up until early December.

The images are profile renderings of historic sailing yachts. The drawings were made either as studies before I built models of the vessels or as records of how models were built. There are also detail images of some of the drawings.

An open house for the event will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 5:00-7:00pm at Middle Street Foods.

I hope you enjoy the show!!

Rob Napier



# The Deckplate

## JANUARY 2024

14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Nomination of officers  
Presentation: Ron Lewis - Restoration Do's and Don't's

## FEBRUARY 2023

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

## MARCH 2023

11 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation:  
Battle of Hampton Roads weekend-

## April 2023

8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation:

## MAY 2023

13 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation:

## JUNE 2023

10 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation:

## JULY 2023

8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: John Wyld - 3D Printing for Fun and Profit

## AUGUST 2023

12 HRSMS Monthly meeting:  
Presentation: Ryland - Review of Modelcon 2022

## SEPTEMBER 2023

9 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Picnic Newport News City Park  
19 Talk like a Pirate Day  
Presentation: Picnic

## OCTOBER 2023

14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: Live Auction at the Museum

## NOVEMBER 2023

11 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation: Ron Lewis - August Fletcher Crabtree; The Artist and His Work  
11 Oxford Model Boat show

## DECEMBER 2023

9 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum  
Presentation:



## WATCH, QUARTER, AND STATION BILL



Skipper: Gene Berger (757) 850-4407  
1<sup>st</sup> Mate: Greg Harrington (757) 218-5368  
Purser: Ryland Craze (804) 739-8804  
Clerk: Stewart Winn (757) 565-9537  
Historian: Tim Wood (757) 639-4442  
Logbook Ed.: John Cheevers (757) 591-8955  
Columists: Ron Lewis  
Bob Moritz  
Tim Wood

Webmaster: Greg Harrington (757) 218-5368  
Photographer: Ron Lewis (757) 874-8219



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