

Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

No. 37

NEWSLETTER

May 1989

The April meeting and annual society banquet was held at the James River Country Club on Saturday the 8th. Thirty-one members, spouses, and guests attended the dinner meeting.

Evenings activities started with a social hour during which members had an opportunity to meet guests and admire the ship models displayed by members. Guest included Ed and Louise Mallory from the RSMS, Carol and Marty Ischinger, friends of the Hesses from Washington, DC, and Liz and Roy Alexanderson of Hampton. Everyone attending marveled at the very fine model making skills demonstrated by Jack Bobbitt (VIRGINIA), Paris Akins (VIRGINIA) and John Cheevers (twin-screw VIRGINIA).

The social hour was followed by a delicious dinner which was enjoyed by all. Our thanks and compliments to Jean Bobbitt who once again did an outstanding job of making arrangements for the evening.

Following dinner, Skipper John Cheevers opened the business meeting with a proposal that next year's banquet again be held at the James River Country Club on the 2d Saturday in March. Members supported the proposal unanimously. Next, membership certificates were presented to new members David Tagg, Bob Moritz, Alan Frazer and Jim Tyree. The Founder's Award for 1988 was then presented to Tom Tragle in recognition of his tireless devotion to the art of ship model building, to the society, and to the principles for which it stands. Congratulations Tom! Finally, Bill Clarke was recognized with an engraved plaque commemorating his just completed three year tour as skipper of the society.

Following the presentation of awards, Commodore Roy Alexanderson was introduced and spoke on his career at sea, emphasizing his experiences as the last skipper of the SS UNITED STATES. Attendees marveled at the complexities of commanding such a great ship, laughed at humorous events encountered by the commodore, and learned about famous personalities who frequently traveled on the luxury liner. The commodore concluded his remarks by saying that the future of the UNITED STATES remains uncertain, but he as we, of course, hope to see her sail proudly once again.

Following the commodore's remarks, the meeting was adjourned and members, spouses and guests visited with each other and admired ship models before declaring the evening a total success.

The May meeting will be held at the home of Bill Clarke, 196 Odd Road, Poquoson (868-6809), on Friday, the 12th, at 2000 hrs. Plan to attend and bring something to share with your fellow members.

Skipper: John Cheevers 875-0732
Purser: Tom Hesse 722-8853

1st Mate: Tom Abbott 220-0987
Historian: Tom Tragle 826-4290