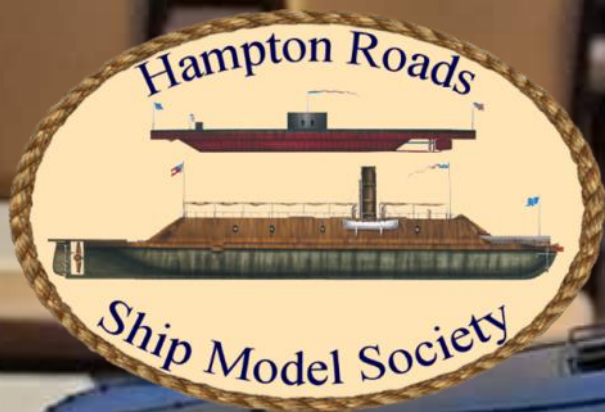




Logbook!



No. 471

September, 2025

Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

No. 471

WWW.HRSMS.ORG

September 2025

View
From
The
Bridge



Meeting Notice

The meeting will take place
at 10:00 hours

September 13, 2025



Captain's Log 9.13.25

Once again, HRSMS ruled the ship modeling waves at the IPMS National Show in Hampton, Virginia. Congratulations to Craig Moore, Dave Chelmow, and Ryland Craze who swept the Sailing Wood-based kits sponsored by the Nautical Research Guild. Craig placed First, Dave Second and Ryland Third in this category. Great job, all, at the premier scale modeling event on the continent.

In addition to the medals won by our colleagues, I contributed to the club's bounty. As Charles so eloquently stated to me during the awards ceremony, "Nobody



likes a trophy hog." However, it is what it was. I was fortunate to place First in four categories and one each in Second and Third. Additionally, I placed Best Ship and Judges Grand Award for the show. I was honored and flabbergasted that a ship had achieved this recognition. It really is downhill from here. Here are my results:

I'd like to thank those who came out to man the rails at our outstanding table display. Kevin's rope making exhibit attracted notable interest. I was impressed with his demonstration.

See "minutes" for more...Ed.

Best Ship and Judges Grand Award



Letters to the Editor



From: Mike Pelland

To: Editor

Fri, Aug 8 at 6:15 PM

Joke:

Police officer stops a man and looks at his hands. Ask the man, why don't you have any fingerprints, Are you a safe cracker, burglar, hiding your identity?

No sir officer, I am a ship modeler, Sandpaper and CA glue sometimes wipeout my fingerprints.

Mike

From: Mike Pelland

To: Editor

My right index finger opens my phone. Try to avoid getting CA on it. Sanded my left thumb making deck beams for my model this week.

Mike

From: Jim Gower

To: Webmaster

Mon, Aug 11 at 7:05 PM

Greg,

Really enjoyed your latest newsletter from Hampton Roads.

Could you please put me on your mailing list for future issues?

I'm forwarding this copy to my members for their reading enjoyment.

Hope you survived the Exhibit this past weekend. I

was unable to attend which was really a very big bump in the road for me.

Regards, Jim Gower NBMMG

Jim,

I am glad you enjoyed it, but all credit goes to John Cheevers, our editor.

I'm glad you asked about getting the newsletter, as it pointed out to me something that disappeared from our website (that's my job).

I don't know how it happened, but the form for getting notified of new newsletters disappeared. I've reinstated it. If you don't mind being a guinea pig, please enter your email address where indicated. Each time I post the newsletter, you'll be notified and you can download it from our site. If you want to get it ASAP, direct from John, he can send it to you. I've copied him on this email so he has your address.

Regards,

Greg

Jim,

Thanks for the interest in our club newsletter. I've added you to my mailing list.

John

Thanks John

Maybe one day soon we will meet in Hampton or here in New Bern.

Do you guys ever attend the 1/96 R C scale warships meet at City Lake in Rocky Mount, N C?

They are having the annual fun run Oct 9-11.

Never could find the block to enter my email. Maybe to quick for Greg 😊

We have a small group averaging 8-10 at our monthly meetings.

Regards

Jim NBMMG



September Cover:

This month's cover stacks up with the best of them as we take a detailed look at Gene Berger's excellent model of the SS United States. What makes this picture so poignant is the fact that on 5 August of this year, a large floating crane removed the forward stack of the famous liner as she's readied for her final voyage. Its reported that both stacks will form part of a museum honoring the ship. I like this image as it appears that the model's stack spans three chairs while a famous photograph shows the stack to actually span about ten cars. See the October Logbook for a photo essay and more.—Ed.

The Jape



This is “talk like a Pirate” month so don’t be shy or bashful in practicing your salty, nautical, pirate lingo.



ARRGH!

“Pi what squared? Long John, you should be able to get this.”

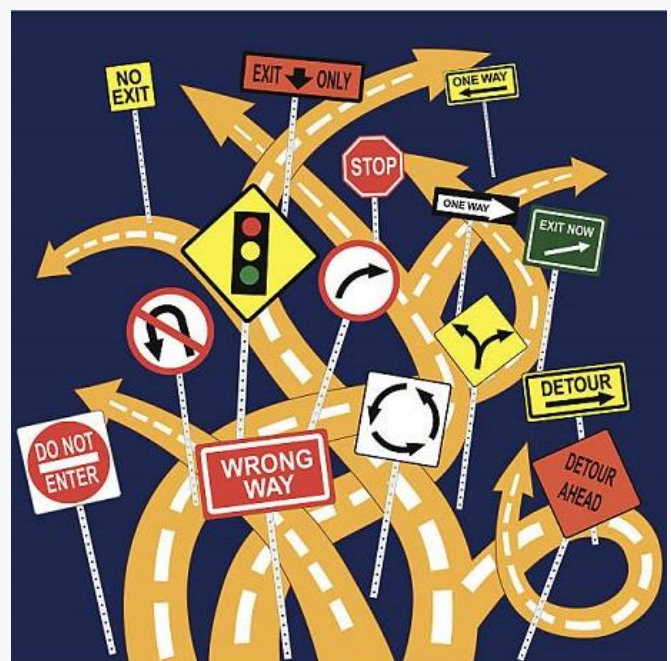
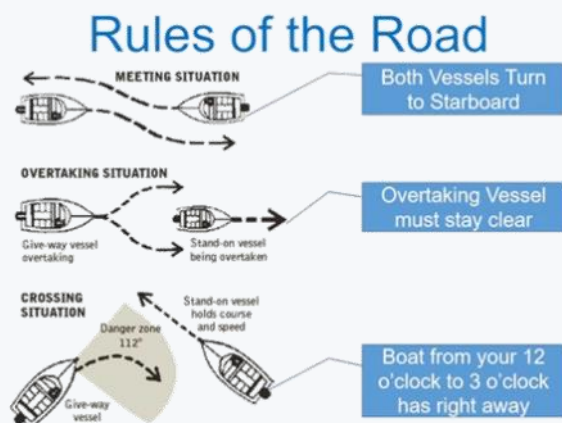
Scuttlebutt



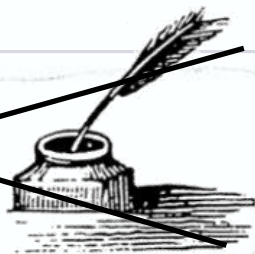
Nautical term for September

Right-of-way Nautical legal principle that establishes whether or not a particular boat has the right to ram or the duty to dodge in any given marine encounter.

—Tim.



Minutes



No wonder it tasted so good.

Bridge (cont.) 8-9-25

...More from the Skipper:

The event included banquets and vendors galore. Perhaps it was the largest hobby shop in existence where one could find anything imaginable. It took a couple



And finally, the show culminated in the evening contest banquet hosted by the Tidewater Modelers Chapter, who also ran the 2025 IPMS contest. From stern to stern, front to back, top to bottom, or nose to tail, depending on your genre of modeling, it was a fantastic experience.

Made new friends and reconnected with old ones. "I'll be Bach."

of days just to venture through the maze of merchants and displays. The NRG was there recruiting new members and selling the virtues of ship modeling.

IPMS held a dinner at the Air and Space Museum to benefit the Tunnel to Towers Organization, T2T.org. We had the opportunity to tour the museum and eat a wonderful BBQ dinner...from of all places...Smoke.



Kudos to the moving crew and all who attended our display. Next year's event is only an 11-hour and 18-minute drive to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and scheming has already commenced. So, it's time to plan to take the show on the road.

Don't forget that this is picnic month. Bring your appetite and stories to share.—SD.



March 8th + 9th 1862

2025 IPMS USA National Convention High Honors

There you have it, the Skippers recap of the recent IPMS National Convention. As you can see he almost ran the table in all ship model categories...its a good thing he doesn't venture into sticks and strings where our other members rightfully and deservedly cleaned up. Look at all the Awards! I guess that, when it comes to Gene and his modeling, you could quote Patton: "Lead me, follow me or get out of my way." I say this to hopefully quell rumors and disgruntled talk of his disbarment. Yes the workmanship is first rate,

Sailing
408 Wood based kits
Sponsor: Nautical Research Guild



David Chelmow- Richmond, Virginia
Colonial Schooner Hannah 1775

2nd Place



and I say to all the detractors out there, "up your game!"

The HRSMS had quite a presence in a space called the Tiger Meet (meat?) area. We occupied the entire back

Early Steam and Sail
410 All entries
Sponsor: Hampton Roads Ship Model Society



1st Place



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
C-6 USS Olympia

Sailing
408 Wood based kits
Sponsor: Nautical Research Guild



1st Place



Craig Moore- Hampton, Virginia
USS Constitution

wall of the space, and our presence was more than sufficiently marked by the Emperors New Clothes. Our new banners were very impressive and clearly visible clear across the hall.

Up close you got to see models under construction and completed models. About 15 members or so manned the display and had 4 fantastic days meeting people and explaining the intricacies of wooden ship model-

Sailing
408 Wood based kits
Sponsor: Nautical Research Guild



3rd Place



Ryland Craze- Midlothian, Virginia
Medway Longboat of 1742

ing from the kit to the scratch perspectives.

At the end of the show most of our wallets were bare, our feet hurt from walking the giant display and vendor halls, and our cameras were full of great pictures of some fantastic work. I know the judges had a difficult time picking winners, but judging from our (Gene's mostly) hall, we made out great.

Did the skipper say something about taking it on the road? — ED.

More 2025 IPMS USA National Convention Award winners from the HRSMS

Boats, Speedboats, Motor Torpedo Boats, Motor Patrol Boats
415 All entries

Sponsor: Memory of GM2 James H Kelley Sr., PT466, Ron 31. 1943-1945, South Pacific



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
Scratchbuilt PT-117 "Munda-Morn"

1st Place



Submarines
414 1/72 scale and larger
Sponsor: Roscoe Turner Chapter - Indianapolis



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
Japanese Type "A" midget submarine



And this little fella witnessed the entire spectacle.

Battleships, Battlecruisers, and Cruisers
403A 1/350 Scale, U.S.
Sponsor: Bathtub Admirals



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
BB-39 USS Arizona

1st Place



Conversions and Scratch-Built
425 All entries
Sponsor: Hampton Roads Ship Model Society



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
SS United States

1st Place



Other Surface Ships, smaller than cruiser-sized
405 1/350 Scale
Sponsor: Squadron / Scale Colors



Eugene Berger- Hampton, Virginia
DE-443 USS Kendall C Campbell

3rd Place



And other fine and interesting models from the Convention

Your editor has license and uses it here to showcase some very fine model work, even though some of the models do not depict ships or nautical artifacts.

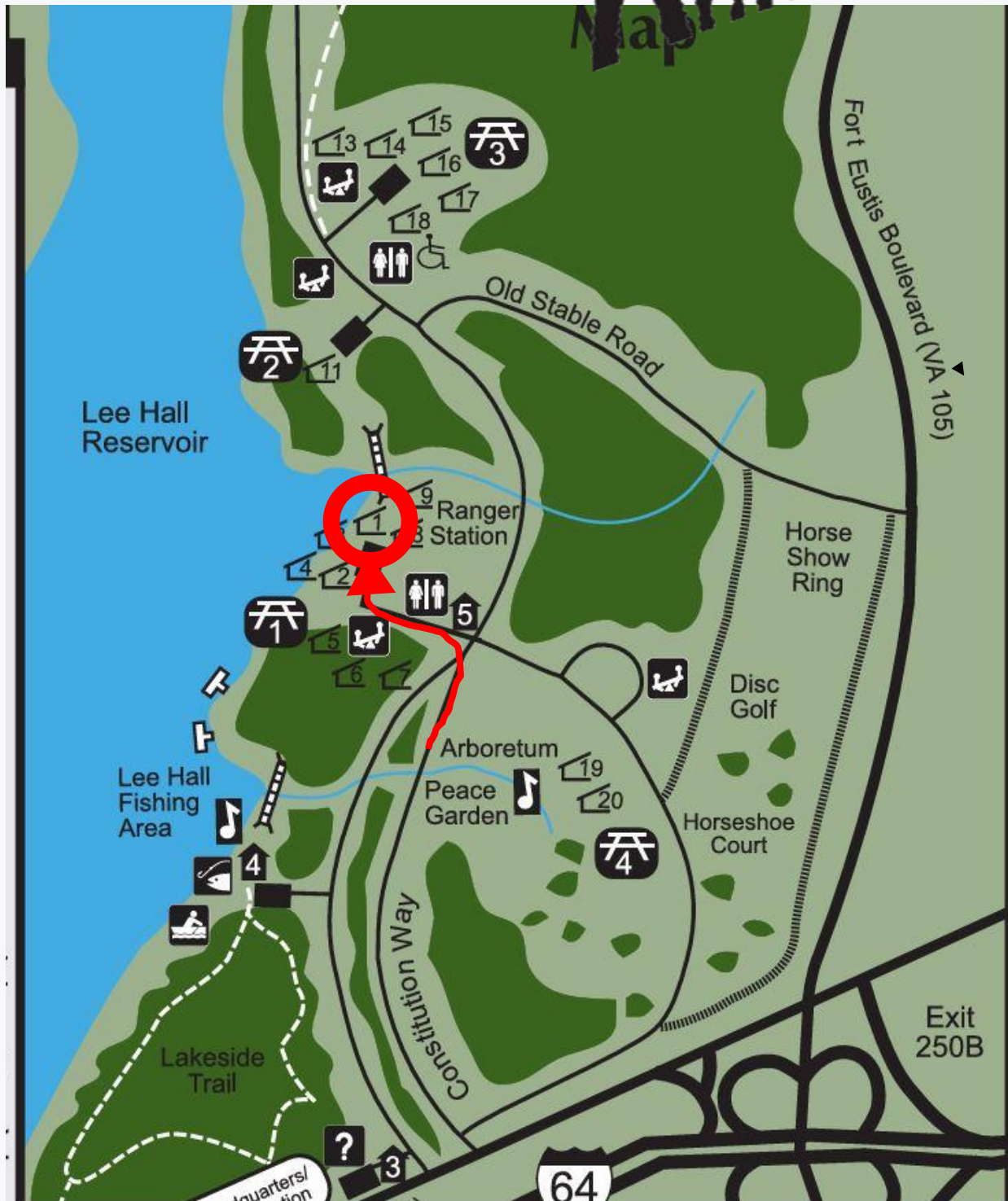


Our September Event

The Picnic!

Its time for a picnic!!! The picnic will be at Newport News City Park, but in **Shelter 1**, not our usual shelter (see map). You will turn left just where the divided entrance road ends and park were available.

Don't forget your dish and appetite. Cooking starts at 11, we eat at noon. But get there at 10 to help with all the fellow-ship. If you have questions or forgot what you signed up to bring, contact Ryland.—Ed.

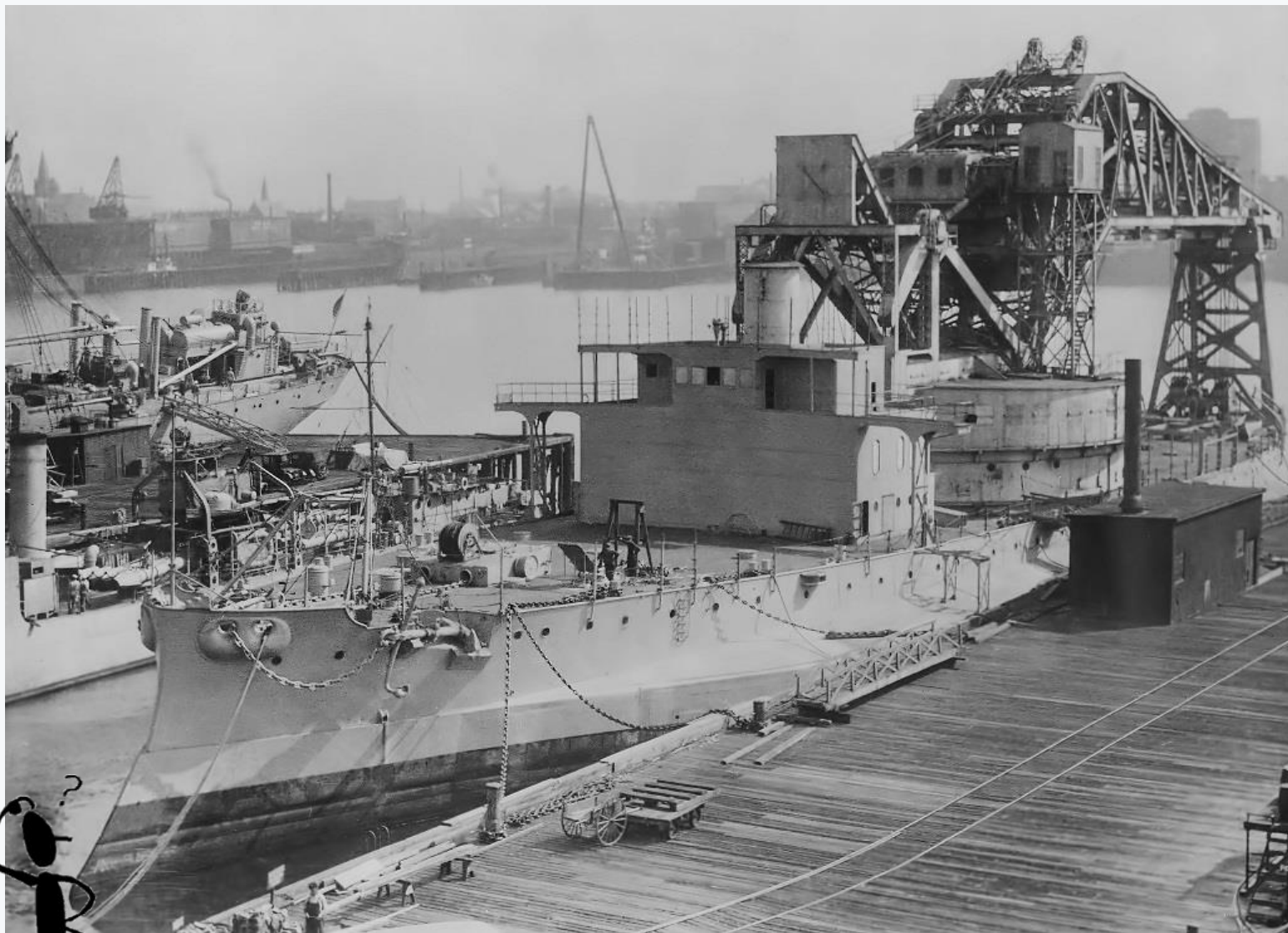


Mystery Photo

If you know the answer, contact John Cheevers by mail, text, or Email

Your opportunity to talk about the photograph. If you know anything about the image, sent that information in to the Mystery Photo. All replies will be blended into an interesting essay.

Also, If you have a photograph that asks these questions: who, what, when, where, and why, send it on to the Logbook editor for consideration as a future Mystery Photo. Do not send an explanation with the photograph as I like to play the game too. After it is published in the Logbook, you can send in your explanation for inclusion in the defining essay.—Ed.



Books for the Ship Modeler
www.seawatchbooks.com

Mystery Photo Explained



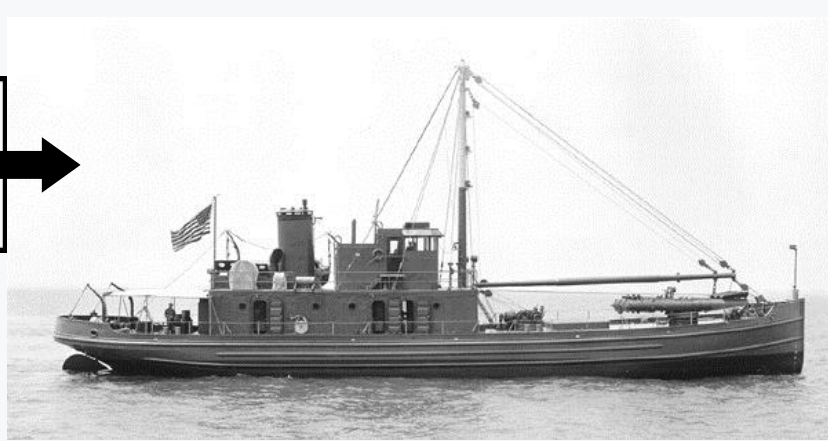
If you know me, you know that I like to build in 1/48 scale. I also like to be able to carry my models up a flight of stairs by myself, and I like engine powered vessels. That really limits what I can effectively model...or does it? Because of my self imposed limits and boundaries, I have been sometimes called a tugboat modeler. That is not true, even though some of my models have been of tugboats. What I like are vessels that offer unique challenges to modeling while not requiring the need to make parts and fittings in great quantity—modeling twenty-two identical lifeboats is not by bowl of burgoo.

So, because of my proclivity, you are treated this time to something that might be a one-off in the Naval world of tenders and small craft. And that's funny because there are so many one-offs to choose from; from purpose-build to requisitioned vessels. Finding them is easy, identifying them can be very hard. So hard, in fact, that there were no replies to this month's Mystery, not even a SWAG. That's a shame because the vessel's profile should have gotten you somewhat in the ball park had you consulted NavSource.net.

The U.S. Navy in its infinite wisdom, calls this type of vessel a lighter, and they perform very similar duty to the once ubiquitous lighters found in New York harbor in its heyday. According to most dictionaries, a lighter (referring to the vessel, not the torch) is "a type of shallow-draft, flat-bottomed vessel used to transport goods, particularly in situations where larger ships cannot access ports or terminals directly." In the Cruising world you can lighter from ship to shore for an excursion when the cruise ship cannot use a pier and must anchor off shore. They call it "lightering."

Some lighters have an unglamorous look about them, while most tend to look much like light house tenders or fishery vessels. The majority have their deck and pilot houses aft, leaving the foredeck open for cargo. And they often sport a large derrick crane with a prominent boom.

Our Mystery vessel began service in 1941 carrying the naval identifying



two-letter code of "YF" which in their parlance stands for "Covered Lighter (self propelled)." That should be easy to remember—YF = covered lighter. Actually it means "Yard Craft—Freight." Of course that was back during simpler times before the navy became designation specific, or crazy. This particular vessel and others that served in the same function were later re-designated as YFRT, because they were being used as range tenders. (I'm not sure we really benefit from all this alphabet soup but I bet the budget counters and accountants really like it.)

If you studied the photograph, you might have noticed a piece of equipment on the foredeck that looks like it doesn't belong, and you might be correct—but not this time. What you see is, indeed, a torpedo tube mounted up there. Now I can't tell for sure but it looks for all the world like a triple mount. Were we that desperate to combat the enemy during World War Two (WWII) that we had to arm yard craft?

Well, no. What you see is a typical YF fitted with a triple torpedo tube mount while assigned to the U.S. Navy Torpedo Station: Goat Island, near Newport, Rhode Island. During WWII. The facilities on Goat and nearby Gould and Rose Islands were used by the U.S. Navy to research and test "underwater weaponry through World Wars I and II." Part of the "YF's"

Photo # NH 102830 Steam Lighter Commerce, which became U.S. Navy Freight Lighter # 123



duties, in addition to torpedo retrieval and range maintenance, were act as testbeds for surface launch mounts and torpedo modifications. That's why you see the triple tube mount on the vessel in our Mystery Photo. A much better view of this arrangement, and its changes, can be seen in the images of YF-411 on this page.

By now you should have consulted NavSource.net for the listing of vessels designated "YF". If you did and nosed around, you would quickly learn that our Mystery Photo features YF-287. This vessel was assigned to the torpedo station from 1941 to sometime after 1965. By then her des-



(Official USN Photo) YF-411

ignation had changed to YFRT-287. She was struck from the Naval Register in 1998.

While researching the vessel and the station, I found a really interesting aerial image, DTD somewhere between 1941 and 1943, of the Gould Island facility. That image shows one of these vessels at the quay. A cropped portion of the image appears to the left.



So you may be wondering how I happened upon this image. Odd story, really. Several years ago, my brother who volunteers on his local water rescue team, sent two images of a marina head boat that sank at her mooring. He didn't know the name of the vessel and asked if I could identify it. I found her name at the time of her sinking to be "River Dogs"; the son of the owner claimed that she had a rather dubious occupation but was "out of commission" when she sank. The vessel is still there, slowly sinking into the ooze. At the time of my investigation, I found a photo of the ship from an earlier time. Sadly, the vessel was not identified and now I cannot find the photo for this essay. Anyway while searching, there were many returns of similar vessels: Net tenders, fishing boats, Menhaden boats, tug boats, and of course the "YF" lighters.

Since the YF type vessels had the closest physical resemblance to my Brother's sunken vessel, I looked deeper into the type. That's how I happened upon our Mystery Photo. Not until I saw the image did I think that torpedoes were tested in any way except by using



land facilities and special built torpedo testing barges. One such barge operated out of a facility on the Chesapeake Bay near Piney Point, Maryland—but that's fodder for another Mystery Photo.—Ed.



PTSD All hands; Lend a hand...

Member John Jones is making these small hand carved birds for veterans who are in need as anti suicide support items. They are a tactile reminder to those in trouble that help is just a phone call away. On the bottom is the phone number for the **suicide and crisis hotline**. Help is just three easy numbers away—**988**.



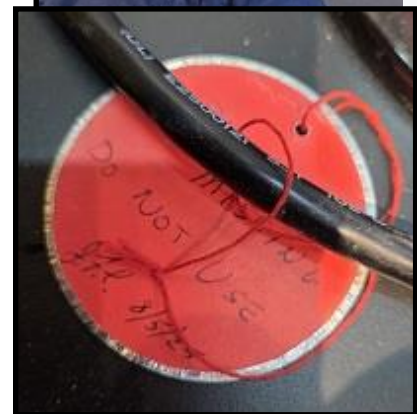
I hope you all continue to help John Jones make these birds —Ed.

A message from your Taco Stand



The LOTO or Lock Out, Tag Out

Several weeks ago there was an issue with the Proxxon band saw where a part was waylaid during maintenance. As such, the saw was left unassembled and unplugged with the hope that no one would use it. The following week it was noticed that the saw was reassembled, plugged in, and used. While it was safe to use, the saw it should not have been used due to the missing part. It was our mistake in not leaving a note. This time we secured a red tag (like you see on the right) and on it was noted to not use the saw as a part was missing, and it was dated and signed. The saw was unplugged and the tag fixed to the cord. Came in last Monday and found the tag laying on the bench, the saw plugged in, with the inference that it was used. We know its an inconvenience to come in and not be able to use a tool, but for your own safety, you must follow the red tags when you find them. See next page...



Lock Out, Tag Out

Lock out, tag out or **lockout–tagout (LOTO)** is a safety procedure used to ensure that dangerous equipment is properly shut off and not able to be started up again prior to the completion of maintenance or repair work. It requires that hazardous energy sources be "isolated and rendered inoperative" before work is started on the equipment in question. The isolated power sources are then locked and a tag is placed on the lock identifying the worker and reason the LOTO is placed on it. The worker then holds the key for the lock, ensuring that only that worker can remove the lock and start the equipment. This prevents accidental startup of equipment while it is in a hazardous state or while a worker is in direct contact with it.



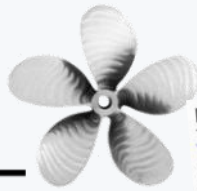
Club gear:

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...



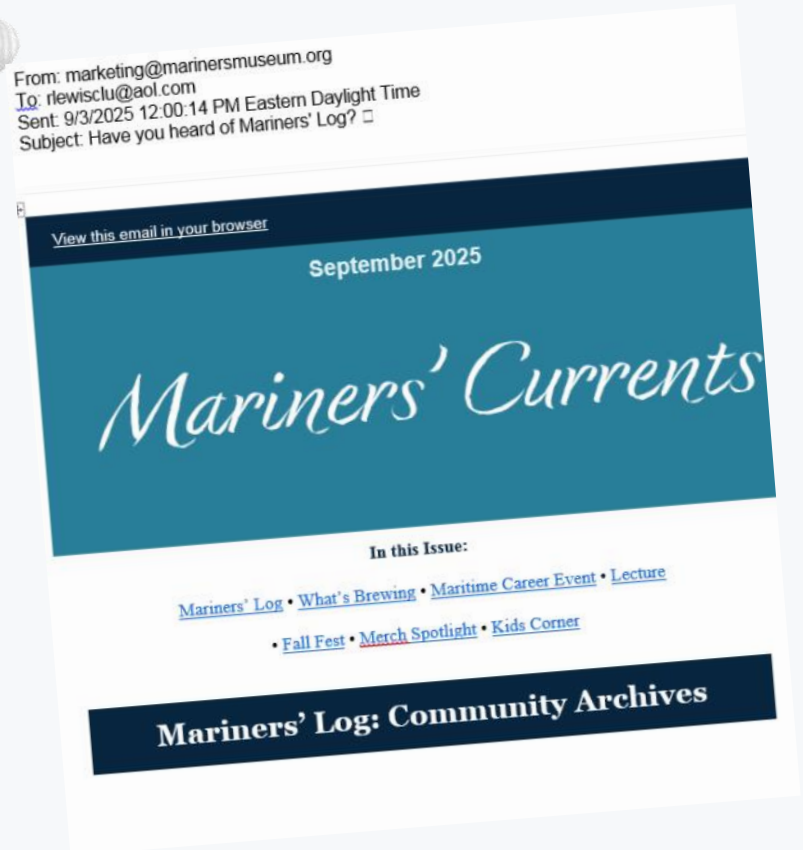
What's Happening at The Museum



September 2025

This month, in lieu of a “What’s Happening” essay which will return next month, Ron provides an interesting change of pace. It’s a link to the Museum’s monthly email nudge called “Mariners’ Currents,” and it’s a publication from the Museum’s marketing department. It’s full of great information about the Museum; snippets really, of all the great programs and activities to can be found at the Museum and on their Website.

Unfortunately to access it, you will need the link that is in Ron’s email (separate attachment with this month’s Logbook mailing.) If that doesn’t do it for you, then go to WWW.marinersmuseum.org and do some nosing around. —ED.



American Naval History World War II

September 2025

1941

July 1: American coastline is divided into six ‘sea frontiers’.

July 30: The Yangtze River gunboat Tutuila is attacked by Japanese planes at Chungking, China.

September 4: Greer incident. Patrolling south of Iceland, the DD Greer (DD145), is attacked by the submarine U-652. The subs torpedoes miss, whereupon the Greer drops depth charges, also without effect.

September 27: The first liberty ship, the Patrick Henry is launched.

October 17: The destroyer Kearny is torpedoed but not sunk by a U-boat. Eleven crewmen are Killed.

October 20: The carrier Hornet (CV 8) is commissioned.

October 30: The oiler Salinas (AO-19) is torpedoed in mid-Atlantic but reaches port safely.

October 31: Sinking of the Rueben James. The destroyer Reuben James (DD-245) is torpedoed and sunk with the loss of 115 lives by the U-562. She is the first naval vessel destroyed by the Axis Powers.

End of 1941 Part 2

Bob



Time for



It's Pirate time and we need to be more like pirates. So let's have a Caribbean inspired drink to celebrate our salty talk. "The term "rum runner" has two main meanings: a person who smuggled liquor during Prohibition, and a tropical cocktail."

I present the **Rum Runner**. It is rumored to have originated in the Florida Keys during prohibition—ARRGH!

Ingredients

- 1 ounce light rum
- 1 ounce navy-strength rum
- 1 ounce banana liqueur (such as Giffard Banane du Bresil)
- 1/2 ounce blackberry liqueur (such as Giffard Creme de Mure)
- 2 ounces pineapple juice
- 1 ounce lime juice, freshly squeezed
- 1/2 ounce grenadine
- Garnish: brandied cherry
- Garnish: pineapple wedge

Steps

1. Add the light rum, navy-strength rum, banana liqueur, blackberry liqueur, pineapple juice, lime juice and grenadine into a shaker with ice and shake until well-chilled.
2. Strain into a hurricane glass filled with crushed ice. Garnish with a skewered brandied cherry and pineapple wedge.



Mess Call



It's rumored that Coconut Shrimp pairs well with the Rum Runner—I'll take that as fact and good advice. But for a bit of a twist, we're going to do it Chinese style.

Chinese Fried Shrimp with Coconut Sauce

ingredients:

- Shrimp
- Coconut cream
- Sweetened condensed milk
- Mayonnaise
- Salt
- Coconut milk
- Cornstarch
- Green onions (optional)
- Oil

Tempura batter and frying shrimps

First, whisk together egg and chilled soda water in a medium bowl. Pour it over flour and corn starch. Keep mixing until all combined. Skip this step if using a store-bought tempura batter.

Next, add the shrimp to a large bowl, and sprinkle with salt and black pepper. Pour tempura batter on the shrimp; make sure every shrimp is coated with the batter.

Then, add oil to a large skillet on medium-high heat. Fry battered shrimp in hot oil on each side for 3-4 minutes until crispy.

Finally, place cooked shrimp on a paper towel to drain excess oil.

Coconut Sauce

First, in a sauce pan, combine coconut milk, coconut cream, sweetened condensed milk, mayonnaise, corn starch, and salt. Mix until all combined.

Next, cook the coconut sauce on medium heat while constantly whisking until you have a silky smooth sauce.

Assembly

Place fried shrimp in a large bowl, pour coconut cream mixture on top, and mix until shrimp are coated with the sauce. Finally, garnish with green onions, and enjoy.



The Wall (Bulkhead)



The next auction will be at the October meeting; meanwhile, buy them books—on line!!!



Mathews-built deckboat Peggy of New Point is turning 100!

The Mathews Maritime Foundation is raffling off this beautiful painting of the Peggy by John Barber.

Tickets can be purchased at www.mathewsmaritime.com. All proceeds benefit the Peggy of New Point Endowment Fund. Drawing will be held 9/20/25. Winner need not be present to win.



The prize, "The Peggy Off New Point Comfort" by John M. Barber, is an original oil painting on linen canvas, measuring 10 x 18".

It is fitted with a museum quality, custom-made frame, overall measurements of 18 x 26". The frame bears a hand-lettered nameplate and painting light. Value \$8,000

TICKETS: \$25 EACH OR
5 FOR \$100

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
WWW.MATHEWSMARITIME.COM



The Deckplate

JANUARY 2025

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

FEBRUARY 2025

8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
7 National Fettuccine Alfredo Day
Election of officers
Presentation:

MARCH 2025

8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
14 π Day
9/10 Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend at the MM
Presentation: Auction

April 2025

12 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
22 Earth Day / 26 Arbor Day
26 Model Boat Show, Deltaville
Presentation: Bill Fox—"A Century on the Jamestown Ferry."

MAY 2025

10 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
21 Talk like Yoda Day
Presentation: Dave Chelmow...Using and Sharpening chisels

JUNE 2025

14 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
22 Sips and Trips at the Museum
Presentation: Kevin Ritton—"Making your Own Rope; and That extra Level of Detail."

JULY 2025

12 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: Hank Ghittino—"A Sailmaker's Process."

AUGUST 2025

9 HRSMS Monthly meeting:
Presentation: Ron Lewis—"Let's Take it from the Bottom: Building the iconic Chesapeake Bay Skipjack."
6-9 IPMS-USA National Convention
Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton
28 National Bow Tie Day

SEPTEMBER 2025

13 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Picnic Newport News City Park
19 **Talk like a Pirate** Day
Presentation: **Picnic At Newport News City Park....Shelter #1**

OCTOBER 2025

11 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: Auction...part two!

NOVEMBER 2025

8 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: Charles Landrum...TBA

DECEMBER 2025

13 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum
Presentation: Greg Harrington...TBA

WATCH, QUARTER, AND STATION BILL



Skipper: Gene Berger (757) 850-4407
1st Mate: Greg Harrington (757) 218-5368
Purser: Ryland Craze (804) 739-8804
Clerk: Stewart Winn (757) 508-9881
Historian: Tim Wood (757) 639-4442
Logbook Ed.: John Cheevers (757) 876-7466
Columnists: Ron Lewis
Bob Moritz
Tim Wood
Webmaster: Greg Harrington (757) 218-5368
Photographer: John Cheevers (757) 876-7466



Visit us at our webpage:

WWW.HRSMS.ORG. You'll be glad you did!