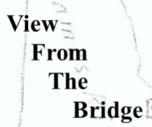


Hampton Roads Ship Model Society

No. 472 Newsort

WWW.HRSMS.ORG

October 2025





Meeting Notice

The meeting will take place at 10:00 hours

October 11, 2025



Captain's Log 10.11.25

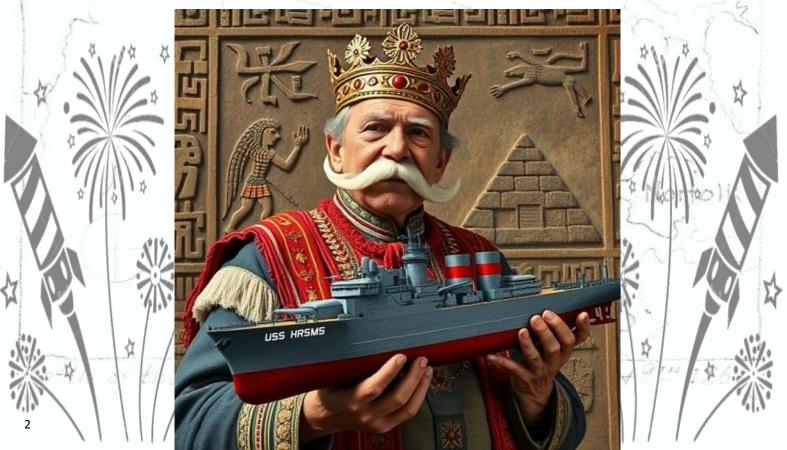
Fifteen Minutes of Fame

Winning a model contest was a peculiar kind of achievement. For about a quarter of an hour, I was a star. People nodded with admiration, someone asked whose paint I used, and I briefly wondered if I should hire an agent, maybe the cat. For those 900 seconds, I was no longer just a man with glue on his fingers—I was *the* man with glue on his fingers.

I thought winning would change everything. Maybe a book deal. Maybe Netflix calling for *'The Crown: The Model Ship Episode.'* At the very least, I figured I'd be autographing someone's instruction sheets.

Au contraire. The applause faded, the awards went on a shelf, and I was back in the workshop, muttering at tweezers and looking for the part I'd dropped on the floor. Fame, it turns out, doesn't stop photo-etch from bending the wrong way. For those glorious minutes, I was the toast of the modeling world—or at least the three people who congratulated me before heading to the vendor tables.

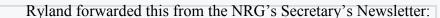
But those 15 minutes were grand. For one shining quarter-hour, I was a modeler in the spotlight. When the limelight faded, I discovered it was just a flash-light—and the batteries ran out. And that's all the celebrity I need... until next year's contest.—SD



More on Gene's (and others) Fifteen Minutes.....sorry, Craig



Spreading the NRG Word: Directors Dan



IPMS NEWS!

Ordinarily, we would send out a newsletter in October, but we just couldn't wait to let the membership know about our successful foray to the International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS) National Convention!

The IPMS National Convention occurred this past August 6-9 in Hampton Roads, Virginia, and the Nautical Research Guild was in attendance for the second year. This annual event attracts thousands of model builders from around the world. The NRG is a Chapter Club in Region 13, the virtual club region. Not only did we have a table in the vendor's area, but four presentations were given by NRG members, including three of your Directors.

Just like last year, our goal was to make IPMS members and visitors aware of the diversity of model ship building and, of course, the existence of the Guild. We met a lot of interesting people and gained six new members. We also had a great time socializing with the Hampton Roads club.

This year we were able to convince the IPMS to start a new category for their model contest: wooden sailing models. Guild members David Chelmow and Ryland Craze were awarded second and third in that category. Members Theodore Fazio and Mike Wheaton took first and third in the plastic sailing ship category. But the modeling star of the Convention was NRG member Gene Berger! He took first place in several categories with *Olympia*, *PT-117*, and *SS United States*. Gene's *BB -39 USS Arizona* not only won the best ship award but also the Grand Award for best of show. Way to go Gene! There are hundreds of categories in the competition, so if we missed your model, be sure to let the office know.











Letters to the Editor



From: Don Good
To: Editor

Sat, Sept 27

Editor,

No good deed goes unpunished. I assisted with a weeklong local summer kids' program that was maritime based. My part in the program was the building of a model boat with the kids. Any small boat kits that we found were too costly and well above the kid's skill sets, or they rest were just way too basic just a tiny boat shaped slab and stick mast a 3 minuet build at best. I thought about what type of watercraft would be an easy build and a simple pull ferry was my choice. I developed a kit for our ferry. The hull and all parts were precut and packaged. The kits were ready to build. No sharp tools would be involved safety first. Just some glue. What could go wrong.

On the day of our build 23 kits were handed out to the kids I had four adult helpers so far so good. I had a bag of small glue brush but the library wanted to use their brushes. That was mistake number one we would find out the brushes were too big. Mistake number two was when the glue was poured into paper plates this act may have caused a shortage of white glue in the Eastern United States. Number three happened when I instructed the budding builders to take out the kit parts and sort the parts in front of them. That act alone resulted in bags of wood being up ended and parts flying in every direction. Number four happens after I instruct the kids that we will only need small amounts of glue. IT ALL GOES TO HELL at this point when the young modelers start applying copious amounts of glue with the

brushes that were too large. We have kids painting with the glue one young man has rolled his arm through the plate and holds his arm up for all to see. Now back to mistake number three all of those parts that were strung to the four winds are now co-mingled and we have severe material shortages. I was prepared as I had cut so many extra parts. Now we have a course of, I am missing this part or that part. I saw the fear in the eyes of my adult helpers and thought oh my god what have I done.

Two things I learned kids have a different definition of how ling 30 seconds is and "you only need just a little bit of glue".

Well, it all ends well. We struggled through and the kids had a good time and I would do it again but with 3 adults to 1 child ratio. We did have a couple of outstanding model builders one young lady and a younger little guy. I learned several lessons about working with that many kids that day and I survived. And now I had so many leftover parts I can build myself a ferry boat.

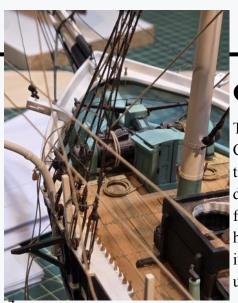
Thank you!

Don

From: Bill Gass To: Editor Mon, Sept 8

Editor,

Thanks for sending me the latest addition of the Logbook. And a super congratulations to your club members for their awards at the nationals. It's about time ship modelers got the credit they deserve. I live in an area where there aren't many ship modelers. But I continue to hold down the fort. By the way, does Eugene Berger model 24/7? Thanks again for the response. I hope you will continue to send the Logbook and maybe some pictures of your projects. Thanks Bill Gass



October Cover:

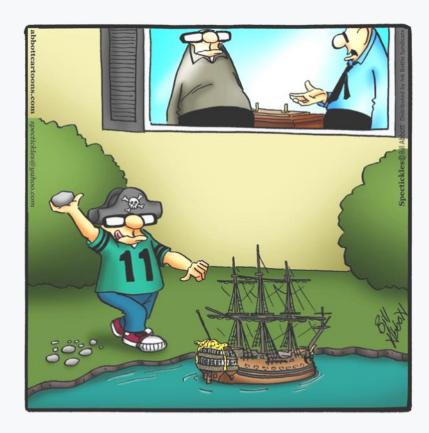
This month's cover shows the foredeck of a model of the whaling bark Kate Cory as it nears the end of construction. The model was built, almost to completion, by the late Bill Tuttle of Roanoke, Virginia. If you remember, or if you don't know, we took on the task of finishing the model for his wife in exchange for her generous donation of the tools and equipment from his shop—that gear has fueled two auctions. The model is nearing completion and a photo collage of it will appear in a future issue of the Logbook. The model is scratch built in 1:48 using the Model Shipways plans.—Ed.

The Jape

I'll do algebra.

I'll do trig.

But geometry is where I draw the line.



"It took me ten years to finish this ... where's my ship model?"

Scuttlebutt



Nautical term for October

Ratlines 1. Ropes used as a ladder for scaling the rigging.



2. Orderly rows of well-behaved rodents preparing to disembark from a sinking ship.

—Tim.



"I don't care how traditional it is. On this ship, it's women and children first!"

Minutes



Meeting Minutes, 9-13-25

News

While Stewart continues to mend, your minutes are being compiled by your tireless Logbook Editor as he sits, high atop the mast, looking down on all. Please refer all complaints and issues to Stewart.

There was no formal meeting for September as we were enjoying a leisurely outing at the Newport News City Park. Following a call —or whistle, really—to order the Skipper had two brief announcements concerning model related events or shows before he called us all to lunch:

- 1.) The 12th Annual Model Boat Show, Saturday, November 15, 2025. Yes, it's the show in Oxford, Maryland that Gene and Greg have been going to for the last several years. The show runs from 10AM to 4PM and you can do it all in one day, if you wish. (see flyer on The Wall for more details.)
- 2.) PaxCon 2025. This is an event held by the Southern Maryland Scale Modelers, so think of the IPMS show only smaller and very regional. Also, as the name suggests, this model show is held near the Patuxent River Naval Air Station in beautiful Southern Maryland. That's a general location. More specifically, the event will be held at the Hollywood, Maryland Volunteer Fire Department in Hollywood, Maryland. It will be on October 4, 2025 and run from 9AM to 4PM. And you can also do this vent in one day. (see flyer on The Wall for more details, or https://somd-scalemodelers.club/paxcon-2025/directions-to-venue/.)

After this, there was the usual cueing up to the serving line where we all enjoyed hotdogs, Hamburgers, and great side dishes and deserts along with some very great fellowship.

Sadly, as your photographer got so cougt up in the merriment that he forgot to record the event for posterity, he is being exiled with the Captain's mast.—Ed.



Our October Event The Auction!

This is a highlight list of some major (and some minor) things on offer:

Wood—Degame billet (2) 31.5 x 4 x 2.5.

sold separately

Boxwood (2) 28 x 5.5 x 1.

sold as a bundle

Holly (2) 40 x 5 x 5. sold separately

R/C kits—Dumas ocean going tug, about 46"

Elco 80' PT boat, about 48"

Scarab speed boat. About 50"

4-pipe Destroyer hull, about 52"

Unimat 3 lathe with accessories	Value -\$1200	starting bid\$300.00
Rope walk, homemade on track, m	issing tail piece and	bobbin
Shop lights (4), various types		
Makita blade sharpener	Value -\$560	starting bid\$20.00
Lathe duplicator, Penn-State. fits l	arger wood lathe	
Preac thickness sander, with lots of sanding drums.		starting bid\$30.00
Smith micro torch with gas.	Value -\$175	starting bid\$25.00
American Beauty Resistance solder, w/ accs V- \$577		starting bid\$50.00
Microscope w/ accessories	value-\$500	starting bid\$30.00
Disc sander, Marvin Bryant (2)		
Router bit sets (3)		
Perfect handle screwdriver sets (2)		starting bid\$5.00
Soft touch pliers (set of about 10)		starting bid\$20.00
Foredom rotary tool Model TX w/ foot pedal. V-\$360		starting bid\$40.00
Foredom rotary tool, older model		starting bid\$20.00
Foredom foot pedal		Ü
Foredom dust collector	value –\$250	starting bid\$25.00
Nakanishi evolution FC-64 rotary	tool value –\$1000	starting bid\$100.00
Ram Moto torch II, needs power cord		starting bid\$20.00

This is the highlight list of what will be on offer (cont.):

Model kits

Scientific Constitution

Woodenboat Catspaw Dinghy

Seaworthy small ships Coaster

Model Shipways Norwegian Sailing Pram

Corel Leida

Chesapeake Light Craft Bevin

Bluejacket 1/2 hull of Endeavor

Bluejacket 1/2 hull Belford Gray

Hand Planes

Veritas 05P45.01 skew rabbet plane	value –\$302	starting bid\$30.00
Lie Nielsen #7 plane	value –\$500	starting bid\$40.00
Bailey #6 plane	value -\$300	starting bid\$30.00
Stanley #113 banjo plane	value -\$250	starting bid\$25.00
Radius plane	value - \$20	
Bridge City Tools HP-8 plane	value –\$89	starting bid\$10.00
Lie Nielsen medium shoulder plane	value -\$285	starting bid\$28.00
Lie Nielsen skew block plane	value -\$385	starting bid\$38.00
Lie Nielsen small chisel plane	value -\$175	starting bid\$17.00
Lie Nielsen small shoulder plane	value -\$235	starting bid\$23.00
Lie Nielsen #1 plane	value –\$285	starting bid\$28.00
Woodcraft mini lathe tools (6)		

And more....

Frog mini lathe tools (8)

These are great deals that don't come around everyday. So, plan your startegery, break open the piggy bank (or get an advance from Santa), and show up willing to spend, spend, spend! If you don't spend, you don't buy. You don't want to see this stuff show up on Marketplace because you were afraid to meet the minimum... Show your support for the HRSMS by opening your wallets and letting the moths fly.

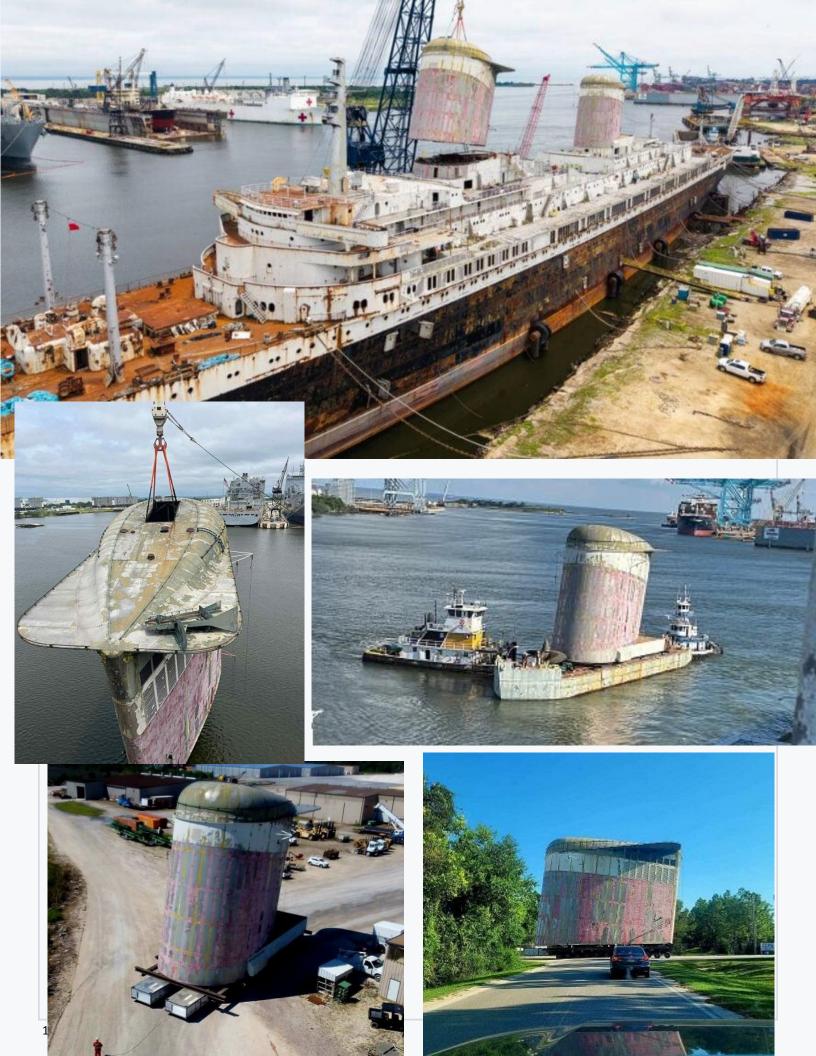
Its Deja-Vu, all over again! The transatlantic liner S.S. United States has begun the transformation from a ship into to reef and diving attraction. Her most iconic and visible features, her stacks and mast, were removed last month in preparation of the vessel's final configuration. The stacks and her mast will form the basis of a land attraction and museum. The facility, in Okaloosa County, Florida, will feature the 65-foot funnels and the mast (you can see how in the architect's renderings). The following page shows images of the de-construction and transport. —Ed.











What's Happening at The Museum



DOUG MOST

October 2025

This month, in lieu of a "What's Happening" at the Mariners' Museum, Ron has supplied information from the SS United States Conservancy. The conservancy follows activity and events related to the famous liner. If you are interested in this, then please join the conservancy at **www.ssusc.org**. I think you'll find it worthwhile. Meanwhile, here are some things gleaned from their newsletters:

- Special Supporters Lecture (on Zoom). Topics related to shipping, ship building,. This past month they hosted journalist Doug Most who spoke about his new book Launching Liberty: The Epic Race to Build the Ships that Took America to War.
- The band Jimmy and the Parrots paid homage to SS United States at a recent concert in New Jersey. And, no, it's not that Jimmy. This lead singer is none other than Jimmy Maraventano. The song "Symbol of America" can be found on YouTube.
- County Roads magazine featured the SS United States and former passenger Pam Paflas in a trave-

log about maritime attractions in Mobile, Al. Paflas showed her collection of old dinner cruise menus.



 A blog called "The Captain's

Table" recently focused on classic liners and the golden age of ocean travel. In addition to recounting William Francis Gibbs naval architect career, much attention was paid to the "Big U's exceptional engineering", her state-of-the-art propulsion system and extensive safety features.

• The SS United States inspires artists: A gallery in Philadelphia opened a show featuring paintings of the ship done by Brooklyn based Kelly Micca.







• Big U model steals the show. Nuff said.



A United States
Lines advertisement from 73
years ago. Time
magazine, August
4, 1952 edition.

There is a lot of neat information to be found at the Conservancy. Check it out. — 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.





Mystery Photo Explained

They were a group of ships called predreadnoughts—but that descriptive came after the fact. As a group, the first eight armored capital ships in the US Navy, while called battleships, were not very engaging. In the grand scheme of things, they were little more than monitors and are considered a mere evolutionary step toward a true ocean-going battleship. In fact, Congress authorized these vessels as "seagoing coast line battleships." In their time, they could probably hold their own against an adversary, but technology was changing so fast that they were quickly outclassed. These eight ships were built so close together that it was difficult if not impossible to incorporate operational experience into the followon ships. They seem more like test beds to demon-



strate differing design philosophies in how and where these ships would be used in battle. The first two are now classified by the U.S. Navy as Second Class Battleships, the next six are now classified as Pre-Dreadnought Battleships.

This month's Mystery Photo shows one of a class of two that would be numbers seven and eight in this group. Their design, with the long row of casemated guns, represents an almost anachronistic throwback to a previous era of naval ship design. That is not entirely true but its appearance says so to me. While the viewer sees this, they also see an unusual double stacked tur-

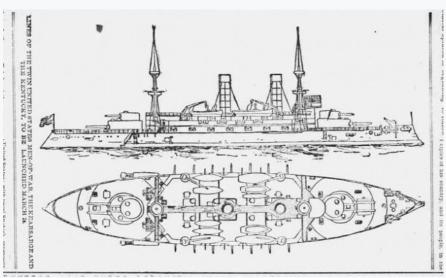


ret arrangement, that combined with the long casemate, produced an odd-looking, unusual ship.

But that is not why we have this month's Mystery Photo, it is merely an introduction to the vessel and its history. The vessel you see (above) bears little resemblance to its original configuration and, apparent-

ly, fooled everyone. There were no "real" comments or answers to the Mystery, only a musing from a dedicated civilian who pondered about the large flat bridge face and the round structure located just aft. At least they looked.

The ship does look very much like an anachronism—not unlike the battleship that I mentioned above. To the trained and un-trained eye, you can see an old style hull with a prominent ram bow fitted with an unremarkable bridge and very large crane and boom pedestal. The vessel is tied to a pier, and at the next pier there appears—to the trained eye—the back half of a U.S. Navy 4 stack destroyer. The destroyer offers scale to the floating crane. And calling it a floating crane should give the Mystery away.



Because that's what it is. Officially designated as *USS Kearsarge AB-1* in 1920, the vessel was renamed *U.S. Crane Ship No. 1* in 1941 to free up the name for new construction. The vessel, *USS Kearsarge BB-5*, was built at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company and commissioned in 1900.

As a battleship, the vessel was probably thoroughly obsolete before commissioning, but nevertheless served in a front line capacity, off and on, for about 20 years. In 1920 she was taken in hand by the Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard for conversion into a crane ship. As such, she was stripped to the main deck, had



gines and was able to move herself to a limited degree to where needed. Later, her main engines were disabled and her propellers were removed. (There is an interesting, undated photograph of her transiting the Panama Canal with the aid of two tugs on the next page.)

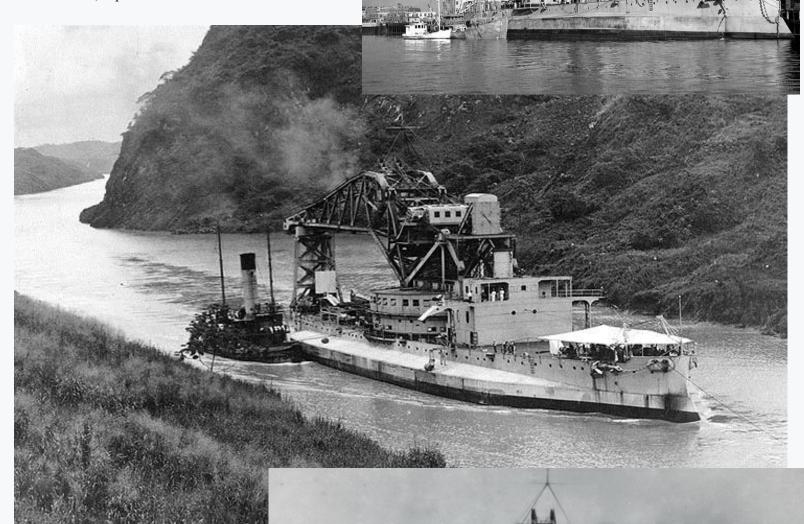
her armor and turrets removed, was structurally rearranged a bit internally, and huge blisters were added to the hull for stability. Atop the main deck a huge rotating, 250 ton capacity carne was added along with a resting pedestal for the boom, and a crude, rudimentary bridge was added for navigation.

The ship retained her power plant and en-



The vessel performed heavy lifting for the Navy on the East Coast for the next 25 years. Some of her notable events included "the raising of the submarine USS Squalus in 1939 and handling guns, turrets, armor, and other heavy lifts for vessels such as Indiana, Alabama, Savannah, Chicago, and Pennsylvania."

In 1945 she transited the Panama Canal for the San Francisco Naval Shipyard to perform heavy lift operations in support of aircraft carrier construction, repair and conversion.



"In 1948 she left the West Coast for the Boston Naval Shipyard. On 22 June, 1955 her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register, and she was sold for scrap on 9 August."

Very steam-punkish. An interesting model she would make.—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.



Caelan's Corner



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...



Time for ...



The weather is turning and we are starting to enjoy the cool Autumn evenings. That means it's time to break out the bourbon. This month I'd like you to enjoy a Whiskey Sour.

the Whiskey Sour.

Ingredients:

- 2 oz Bourbon whiskey
- 1 oz Lemon juice (freshly squeezed)
- 2/3 oz Monin Pure Cane Syrup (65.0°brix, equivalent to 2:1 rich syrup)
- 3 dash Angostura Aromatic Bitters
 - 2 drop Saline solution 4:1 (20g sea salt to
 - 1/2 oz Egg white (pasteurised) or 3 dashes Fee Brothers Fee Foam cocktail foamer or Aquafaba (chickpea water) or Egg white replacement (vegan)

Prepare:

Select and pre-chill an OLD-FASHIONED GLASS. Prepare garnish of skewered lemon slice wheel and Luxardo Maraschino Cher-

ry (sail).

How to make:

SHAKE all ingredients with ice.

STRAIN back into shaker.

DRY SHAKE (without ice).

FINE STRAIN into ice-filled glass.

Garnish with skewered lemon slice and cherry (sail). Garnish:



Mess Call



Fall means we start to feel a chill in the air—mostly at night. TO combat this this, a nice Warm soup is in order. Here is the Crab and Shrimp Seafood Bisque.

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons chopped green onion
- 2 tablespoons chopped celery
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 8 ounces of crab meat
- 4 to 8 ounces small cooked shrimp or other seafood
- 2 tablespoon sherry wine

Melt the butter in a Dutch oven or large saucepan over medium-low heat; add the chopped green Directions:

Blend the flour into the butter and vegetables until well incorporated. Continue cooking, stirring, onion and celery. Saute, stirring, until tender.

for about 2 minutes.

Warm the milk in another saucepan over medium heat. Slowly stir in the warmed milk and continue cooking and stirring until thickened.

Add the freshly ground black pepper, tomato paste, and heavy cream. If desired, puree the soup in a blender or food processor** at this point and then return it to the

Stir in the crab, shrimp, and the sherry. Bring it to a simmer. saucepan.

Serve hot.

Feel free to add small cooked bay scallops or lobster instead of the shrimp. Tips and Variations

If desired, garnish the soup with thinly sliced green onion tops, cilantro, or parsley. Or add a Replace the green onions with finely chopped shallots. spoonful of sour cream and swirl it.



The Wall (Bulkhead)



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Free Indoor/outdoor event

Regional Model Boat Builders Exhibit & Sales

Oyster raw bar & craft beers and bloody mary's

LIVE Music by Jenz Frenz

Kids Crafts

Tour Cutts & Case Shipyard - Oxford's prestigious wooden boat builders!

OXFORDCC.ORG







October 4, 2025

The Wall can also be used to post things you want to sell, or things that you are in need of...It is your page for announcements!



Entry fees: Juniors (17 & under) - \$10 / 10 models, Adults \$15 / 10 models. Only 5 will be judged. Contest information & forms are at paxcon2025.org Just to browse (no models) \$10 individual or \$15 for family



All we are is just...

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 14π 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."

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

JULY 2025

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

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

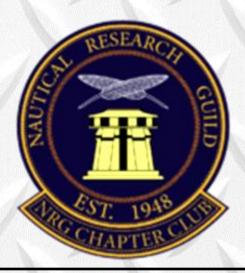
11 HRSMS Monthly Meeting: Mariners' Museum Presentation: Auction...part two!

NOVEMBER 2025

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

DECEMBER 2025

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



Visit us at our webpage:

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