



## Skipper's Corner

### **WSMS "SPRING FEVER"**

*By Joe Miller  
WSMS Skipper*

Spring is springing up for the WSMS and its time to treat "cabin fever" from the long winter. The good news is that this ailment is treatable, and the therapy is at hand - a trip to St. Michaels, Maryland for a weekend of ship modeling. As I have mentioned in past newsletters, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ship Model Exposition will be held at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum on the weekend of May 21-22, and we are hoping that

the WSMS will turn out in force. This promises to be a really great show. Harry Ohanian will bring his fantastic IJN *Yamato* to the show, Jack Goldstein will be bringing some of his work, and I know many of you will want to display your latest creations. Ferdinand Frank has contacted us to say that he and his wife Patti will be traveling from South Carolina for the event, and long-time member Hugo Mellace has indicated that he is planning on attending. I have spoken about this before, both in these columns and the last meeting, but I need to emphasize again how much fun this has been in the past, when this was a part of the annual Mid-Atlantic Maritime Arts Festival held by the Maritime Museum there. The festival fell on hard times several years ago, but now local ship model builders of the National Association of Steamboat Modelers Association have reinvented the ship model display portion of the celebration, which was one of the very main attractions of the old festivals. The good news continues - we will be displaying our work in the "Steamship Building", the site we had before, and which was ideal for our purpose. It would be best for your work to be in a display case if at all possible.

As you know, St Michael's is on the Eastern shore, and getting there does take time. There is a solution for this - as I mentioned at the last meeting, there is a Holiday Inn nearby, in Easton MD, about 15 miles away from the exhibition, and on the direct route to the show.

Vince McCullough has sent an e-mail message to all asking who wants to go - so that we can

**Next Meeting  
Saturday, April 9, 2005  
At 12 P.M.**

**At  
Fairfax County Public Library  
George Mason Branch**

This will be a "Show and Tell" meeting.

The meeting will be held at a special time and location. Our customary meeting location, Meteor Productions, will be closed on the regular meeting date, so we have moved the meeting to Fairfax County's George Mason branch library, and the only open time slot available is noon until 2 P.M. Directions from I-495 follow:

- Exit 52B (old exit 6 East) to Annandale, on Little River Turnpike, Route 236.
- The library is approximately 7 traffic lights from the beltway on the right.
- After passing Popeye's Fried Chicken, look for the library on the right at the corner of Hillbrook and Route 236.

have a headcount of participants. If you have not responded, please do so! He needs to get a head count for people who wish to stay at the Holiday Inn in Easton so that a block of rooms can be set up. And if you plan on exhibiting, please let him know which models you will be taking, and provide a brief description of each, identifying the scale of the model and a brief history of the ship, if available. If you have exhibited a particular model in the past, either at St Michaels or at the NRG conference here in 2001, he already has this information on file.

The Langley project is still simmering out there and lots of good ideas have been generated, but to date this has not gelled into a process. It is time for that effort to gain a solid footing. We will be calling for a formal "kick-off" meeting in the next several weeks. If you are even remotely interested in the project you should plan on attending- you don't know if the water is nice until you at least put in your toes. There will be ample opportunity for all levels of involvement from all aspects. The time and place for this meeting will be a subject for discussion at the April meeting. Please bring your suggestions and ideas for the agenda!!

In the meantime, our scribe Vince McCullough is making progress towards finding a site for the long-awaited auction, and again by the time of our next meeting on 9 April we hope to have things nailed down. Speaking of that we are going to meet at the George Mason (Fairfax County Public) Library, NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH George Mason University. The address is

7001 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, VA 22003

Directions are on the front of the Lynx. Charles Huet is also looking for sites in Maryland, at public libraries, for potential replacements for the Naval Hospital.

Last but not least, as I mentioned in the previous

Lynx, the time has come for election of the Bridge membership. Consistent with the Bylaws of the WSMS, the Skipper has a two year "tour", and mine is over in June, as are those for First Mate, Scribe and Purser. . Although you may hear that so-and-so is going to be the new such-and -such of the Bridge, in reality the truth is known only when the votes are counted. If you think you want to be a Bridge member, please run for the office. At the April meeting, we will be calling for an election committee of several persons to solicit nominations and manage the (not complicated) election process. Even should you feel you are not quite ready for office, consider being a striker for one of the positions. A "striker" in Navy parlance is someone who gets on the job training for a new position, and gives that individual a definite advantage when running for the office.

### **WSMS Officers**

Officers for the Washington Ship Model Society are elected in June of each, and serve one-year terms. The following members currently comprise the "Bridge" of the WSMS.

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Clerk/Newsletter – Vince McCullough  
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Historian – Rick Yorczyk  
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## Steel Navy Meeting

The Steel Navy special interest group meets the last Saturday of the month in one of the members' homes. The group focuses largely on post-*Monitor* powered ships, with particular interest in steel hulled warships, though merchants and passenger liners are also fair game. Models may be wood, plastic, resin, card stock, metal or "virtual" (i.e., computer generated). Discussions of models, modeling techniques, research and reference material are always lively, with virtually everyone taking home some new ideas to use on their own models.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held at the home of Bill and Sally Burdick in The Plains, Virginia. The meeting will be held on Saturday, April 30 at 10 AM. Directions will be emailed to members homes. For information or directions, please contact Vince (703) 345-8644 (daytime) or by email at [vincent.mccullough@ngc.com](mailto:vincent.mccullough@ngc.com).



**USS *New Jersey* (BB-62) bombarding enemy targets near Tuyho, on South Vietnam's central coast, during her last line period, late in March 1969. *US Naval Historical Center photograph***

## Upcoming WSMS Meeting Schedule

Regular monthly meetings alternate between Virginia and Maryland locations. Virginia meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month, and Maryland meetings on the second Tuesday. The current meeting plan is:

April 9 (Saturday) 10 AM – Regular Meeting, George Mason Branch, Fairfax County Public Library, Annandale VA.

April 30 (Saturday) 10 AM – Steel Navy Group, Home of Bill and Sally Burdick (tentative), The Plains, VA.

May 10 (Tuesday) 8 PM – Regular Meeting, Bethesda, Naval Hospital.

May 21-22 Maritime Model Expo, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, St. Michaels, MD.

June 11 (Saturday) 10 AM – Regular Meeting and Auction. This will be our election meeting, and we will hold the long awaited auction at this time. The location of the meeting will be announced in the May newsletter.

June 25 (Saturday) 10 AM – Steel Navy Group, location TBD.