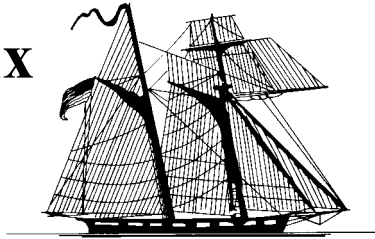


The Lynx



Monthly Newsletter of the Washington Ship Model Society

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Skipper's Corner

The WSMS "SHOWS ITS STUFF"!!

By Joe Miller
WSMS Skipper

The WSMS July meeting was held in the Executive dining room at the National Naval Medical Center, and was well-attended. As the first order of business, elections were held for the Bridge. We have the good fortune to have Charlie Huet as the First Mate again, John Reeder will continue as Purser, Vince McCullough will again serve as Clerk, and I have the privilege and honor of serving as your Skipper.

That having been completed, we discussed the

schedule for September, and Joel Labow offered to speak about reduction gear drives for ship models. For the August 14 meeting, several members have asked about a presentation on planking technique, and I will discuss a simple method for spiling planks on any size ship model. Harry Ohanian also tentatively agreed to discuss the method he used to represent overlapping hull shell plating strakes on his model of *Yamato*. This was invented by the famous professional ship modeler Don Preul, and is without doubt the best available for solving this otherwise knotty problem. I will also endeavor to discuss the method of eight-siding a tapered spar.

The Club then turned its attention to the Show and Tell items brought to the meeting. Wayne Wilson brought a very nicely executed model of a late 19th century Thames (England) river steamboat, called *Elider*. It is a kit (sorry, I neglected to get the manufacturer's name), and Wayne as usual did a superb job in bringing the ship to life. (We all speculated that it might have taken him as much as a whole day to do something that nice. Wayne is of course a remarkably prolific builder.) The kit is plank and frame and some bulkhead, and is built over a form. Wayne left the hull bright, and of course beautifully detailed the cabin. The model is equipped with a detailed steam engine, (although it does not actually operate). Wayne comments that he did have to adjust the cabin doors a bit to get the cabin to fit. All-in-all, the model is quite spiffy, and in the mind's eye, you could see this little craft steaming up the Thames with the Houses of Parliament in the background.

Next Meeting
Saturday, August 14, 2002
At 10 A.M.

At
Meteor Productions,
Suites H & I
7401 Fullerton Road
Springfield Virginia

Directions to Meteor Productions

- 1: From the Capitol Beltway, merge onto I-95 S via exit number 57A toward RICHMOND.
- 2: Merge onto BACKLICK RD/ VA-617 S via exit number 167 toward FULLERTON RD.
- 3: BACKLICK RD/ VA-617 S becomes ALBAN RD/ VA-790 S.
- 4: Turn RIGHT onto BOUDINOT DR.
- 5: Turn LEFT onto FULLERTON RD

Joel Labow brought in a thickness sander to wish for. From "Model Machines", it was equipped with a 1/3rd horsepower motor, much stronger than in comparable machines, and well able to handle Holly (a very hard wood), and Joel reports that it DOES NOT stall. One of the unique features of this neat sander was the sanding drum itself - it is split in two, so that two different grits of sandpaper can be used at once. Much more significantly, as those who have used a thickness sander can testify, the drum is very well centered, and Joel proved it by balancing a small object on end on top of the machine - while running full throttle, the action was so smooth the object did not fall over. Space does not permit a full description of this gem, which will cost you about \$340, well worth the price if you are going to do serious planked hull modeling. (Incidentally, Joel's dedication to the Club is remarkable - despite a very painful broken toe, he came to the meeting and carried the 25 lb sander from the car to the meeting site. Thanks, Joel!!).

The indefatigable Harry Ohanian brought two more plastic kits, one of *Prinz Eugen* and the other a 1/350th USS *Enterprise* (No, it is not the spaceship!) from Tamiya. As is usual for Harry, the kit was far below his standards, and he is busily engaged in detailing the hanger deck (despite the fact that it will be visible only from a

certain few angles). Harry's attention to detail is typical of the classical boulders - lots of the famous Navy Board models have completely invisible interior detailing). The other bit of good news from Harry is that he IS writing an article for the *Nautical Research Journal* about his big *Yamato* project.

A final thought - it is probably still not too late to secure a spot at the NRG meeting in Portland Maine this September. It promises to be a great meeting, and best of all (at least from my viewpoint) it is being held in Maine!!! See you Saturday 14 August at Meteor!

Steel Navy Meeting

The Steel Navy special interest group meets the last Saturday of the month in one of the members' homes. This group focuses on post-civil war powered vessels. Plastic, wood, cardboard, metal and computer models are all discussed. Members are encouraged to bring their latest kits, models, tools or reference materials.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 28 at 10 AM. If you would like to host the meeting please contact Vince McCullough (703) 345-8644 (daytime) or by email at vincent.mccullough@ngc.com. I will notify group members of the meeting location by email. If I do not have your email address, please contact me the week before the meeting for details

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:

August 14 (Saturday), 10 AM – Regular Meeting, Meteor Productions, Springfield, VA.
Topic: Planking, Plating and Sparring

August 28 (Saturday), 10 AM - Steel Navy Meeting. Location TBD.

September 14 (Tuesday) 8 PM – Regular Meeting, Bethesda Naval Hospital



Battleship *New Jersey* ca. 1918. National Archives photograph.

