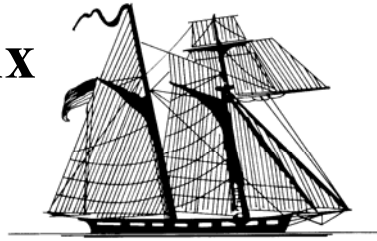


# The Lynx



---

Monthly Newsletter of the Washington Ship Model Society

Washington, DC

Volume 78, Number 2

July 2005

## Skipper's Corner

### **Change of Command**

By Joe Miller,  
WSMS Commodor3

This is my last Lynx submission as your skipper, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all your patience in what has proven to be a somewhat difficult time. I most want to

thank you for all your support of the club. An excellent example was the fine showing of models from the club at the model expo held at the Maritime Museum at St. Michel's on Maryland's scenic Eastern Shore. As you all know, a maritime festival used to be held there yearly at this time - unfortunately, that festival fell on hard times and o several years we were not able to go there, a trip many of us badly missed. Happily, the ship model exposition, which was the best part of the festival, was resurrected by a local club, and we were invited. As usual, the membership responded splendidly, and some really great examples of the workmanship of our members appeared. For example, Harry Ohanian brought his fabulous *Yamato*, and Jack Goldstein's fleet of incomparable miniatures worked their inescapable magic on the visitors to the Steamship building. All the other exhibitors covered themselves with glory as well. In addition, we met several other model builders there and signed up for associate membership at least one who had just completed a remarkable large scale model of *Sultana*.

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 12, 2005**  
**At 8 P.M.**  
**At**  
**Bethesda Naval Medical Center**

Dr Joel Labow will give a presentation on modeling ships boats.

Bethesda Naval Medical Center is located on left side of Wisconsin Boulevard approximately one mile inside of the beltway. It is across the street from the National Institutes of Health. After going through the guard gate, take the first right and proceed to the first street on your left. Turn left and make an immediate right into the outpatient garage. Proceed to the second floor, and take the skyway to the hospital. A member will meet you as you enter.

Please be sure to bring your parking pass or military ID, and that all persons in your vehicle have photo identification. Vehicles may be searched by the Marine Guard contingent before entering the grounds, so try to leave extra time before the meeting.

**Regardless of whether you have a parking pass or not, PLEASE contact Vince McCullough at [Vincent.mccullough@ngc.com](mailto:Vincent.mccullough@ngc.com) and we will get you on an access list , or you may be turned away at the front gate.**

We were also very impressed indeed with the remarkable RC models on display and in action - all were excellently executed, and some really rivaled the best static display models, and were loaded with operating features. A model of a late 19th century destroyer was simply the most realistic looking model I have seen in a very long time. With the right background, I think a photograph of her would have been very difficult to distinguish from one of the real thing. The days of stand-off scale are receding. At the same time

the weather was perfect and we all had a great time, as we did when we came to the old maritime festivals. The meeting will be held again next year, and everyone there agreed it is something we will all look forward to.

I recommend in the strongest possible terms as many as possible of the club make the trip. It will be REALLY worthwhile. (Incidentally, there is a FANTASTIC marine book store, Crawford's, on nearby Tilghman Island - also itself a place worthwhile visiting. That bookstore is a treasure trove of used and new books, a place like Brattles in Boston, on West Street (just off the Commons.) Finally, the seafood around St. Michaels is to die for.

The only thing to make next years meeting better yet would be yet more of the WSMS membership. You really should try it- it is worth the trip.

We are looking for the best times and places to hold meetings. Saturday Virginia meetings offer a choice, but the Maryland Tuesday meetings are much more difficult to arrange. The Naval Hospital at Bethesda has been a useful place, but increasing security requirements are making it difficult to assure adequate access. As attendance is variable, access lists are very difficult to set up, and the guards simply cannot plow through the list of the entire membership of the WSMS. It is apparent that recently each meeting has seen at least one member turned away, and that is unsustainable. Dashboard ID cards continue to be honored, but how long that will persist is unclear. Yet, trying to find other meeting sites is apparently quite challenging - on weekdays libraries, etc. close by 9 PM, have other users, and want money. It may be needful to move to Saturdays in Maryland as well, where greater flexibility is available. Regardless of my status in the future, I will continue to try to contribute a solution. I ask our general membership to do so as well.

I cannot finish this column without taking the opportunity to "wax philosophical" about our club. That is the point - it is our club, and it is

what we ALL make of it. The Bridge cannot do it by itself. Beside the issue of a meeting site in Maryland, the club must make a definitive decision soon about the Langley project, be it go or no-go. Seeking a broader membership, and bringing back those who have left are other priorities the whole Club will have to face. Ultimately the future of the Club is in the hands of the whole club.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for your support and patience during difficult times. That support is the strongest aspect of the club, and I am confident will successfully carry it forward.

### **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:

July 12 (Tuesday) 8 PM - Regular Meeting, Bethesda Naval Hospital. Topic: Joel Labow will give a presentation on small boats.

July 30 (Saturday) 10 AM – Steel Navy Special Interest Group – Location TBD.

August 13 (Saturday) 10 AM – Regular Meeting, Meteor Productions, Springfield, VA. Topic TBD.

August 27 (Saturday) 10 AM – Steel Navy Special Interest Group – Location TBD.

September 13 (Tuesday) 8 PM – Regular Meeting, location to be announced.

## 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 will be held on Saturday, July 30 at 10 AM. The location has yet to be determined. The location and 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).

Photo # NH 102746 USS MacKenzie steaming at high speed, 1899



**Torpedo Boat USS MacKenzie ca 1899. US Naval Historical Center photograph**

## Pictures from St. Michaels



**One of Jack Goldstein's 1/16 scale jewels**



**Ferdinand Frank's *Pride of Baltimore***



**Ferdinand Frank's Coastal Tuna Boat *Carmen II***