

**March 25, 2021**

**7:00 to 9:00 PM**

## **Video Meeting Minutes**

### **Model Shipwrights of Western NY**

#### Meeting Agenda:

○ Greeting and Introductions 5 min  
*Signed in participants; Chuck, Don, Mike, Sam, Jim, Bill, Rusty, Matt & Joe*

○ A Brief Bit of News: Joe 3 min

There were 2 noteworthy items that were discussed:

1. The Model Shipwrights of Niagara have been receptive to a joint video conference sometime in the near future as they have also started to communicate this way via Zoom.
2. Jim discussed the current state of the Mark I PBR project. His recent acquisition of the detailed drawing set/manual of the specific deck elements and gun tub have been a windfall of information. We met recently to review this at a top level and discussed how to best put this information to work towards a completion of the project. Jim and Joe reviewed the itemized list of sub projects unfinished and completed and presumptuously added names for people who might be willing to finish these elements. Guided by the new drawing set of course. **That list has been attached as an addendum to these minutes.** In addition Jim has released the drawings to facilitate this activity to involved members.
3. Jim has also uncovered the correct color of the vessel and has order sufficient spray paint to paint the model. It should be here in time for the good weather and painting out of doors.

- New Acquisitions at Museum: Chuck B.

25 min

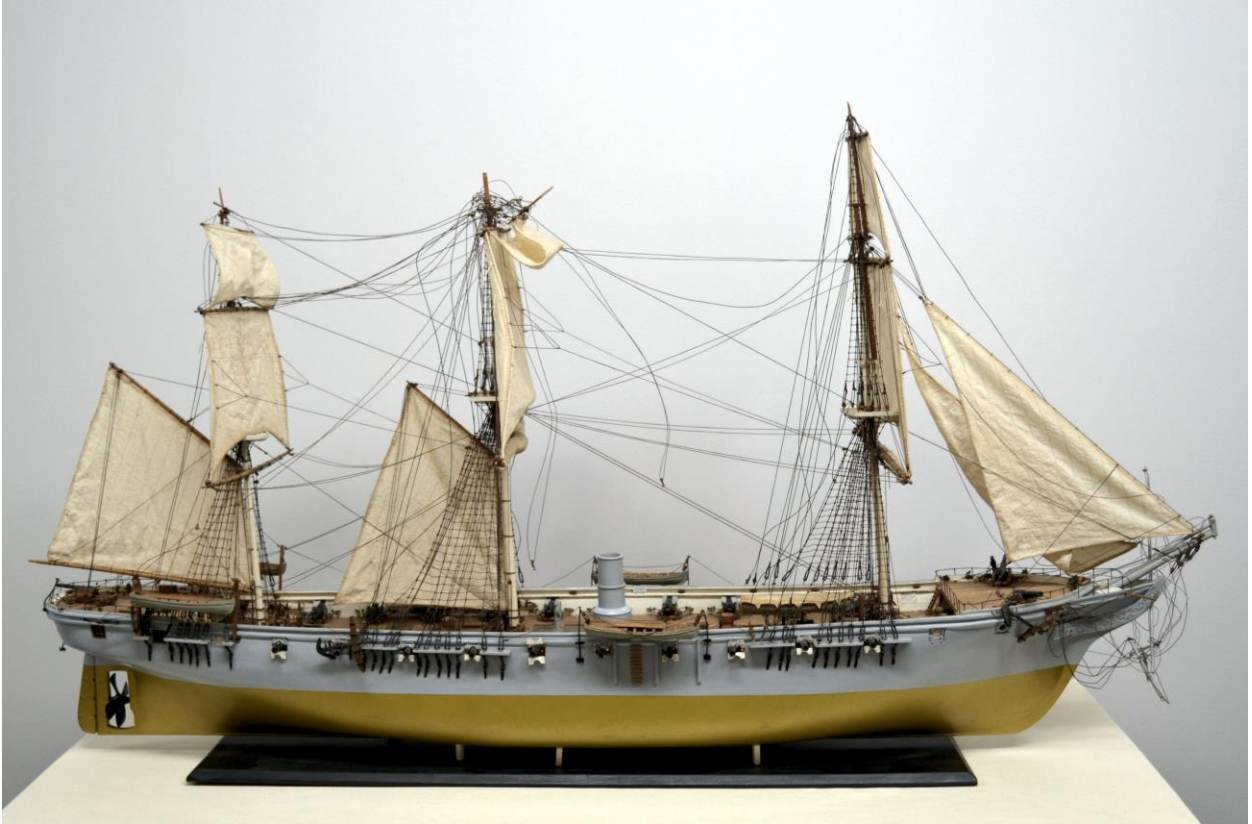
*Chuck treated us to a rather fascinating disclosure concerning 4 recent model donation to the Military History Society Museum. The models were commissioned by David Neiss who was stationed in Madagascar and built within the “cottage industry” there. It is a fascinating story in itself since this country has been in a state of disarray for sometime. To think amongst all the strife a model ship building industry could thrive there is just astounding!*

*Four models were donated. Three of which are 1:55 scale and 1 is 1:64 scale making for rather large models. The models are:*

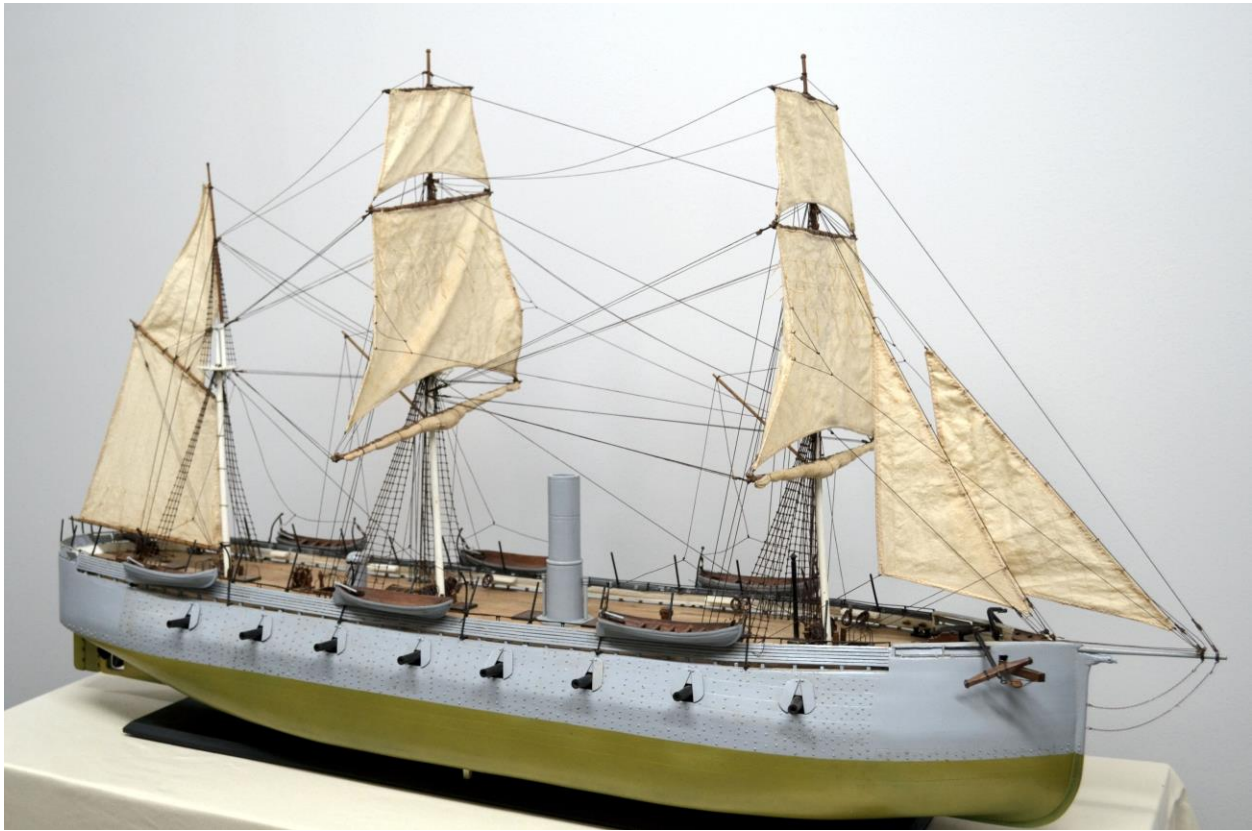
1. *USS Kaersarge*; *Kearsarge* was built at [Portsmouth Navy Yard](#) in Kittery, Maine, under the 1861 [American Civil War](#) emergency shipbuilding program. The new 1,550 long tons (1,570 t) steam [sloop-of-war](#) was [launched](#) on 11 September 1861; and was [commissioned](#) on 24 January 1862, with [Captain Charles W. Pickering](#) in command. Soon after, she was hunting for [Confederate](#) raiders in European waters



2. *USS Hartford*; **USS Hartford**, a [sloop-of-war](#), [steamer](#), was the first ship of the [United States Navy](#) named for [Hartford](#), the capital of [Connecticut](#). *Hartford* served in several prominent campaigns in the [American Civil War](#) as the flagship of [David G. Farragut](#), most notably the [Battle of Mobile Bay](#) in 1864. She survived until 1956, when she sank awaiting restoration at [Norfolk, Virginia](#).

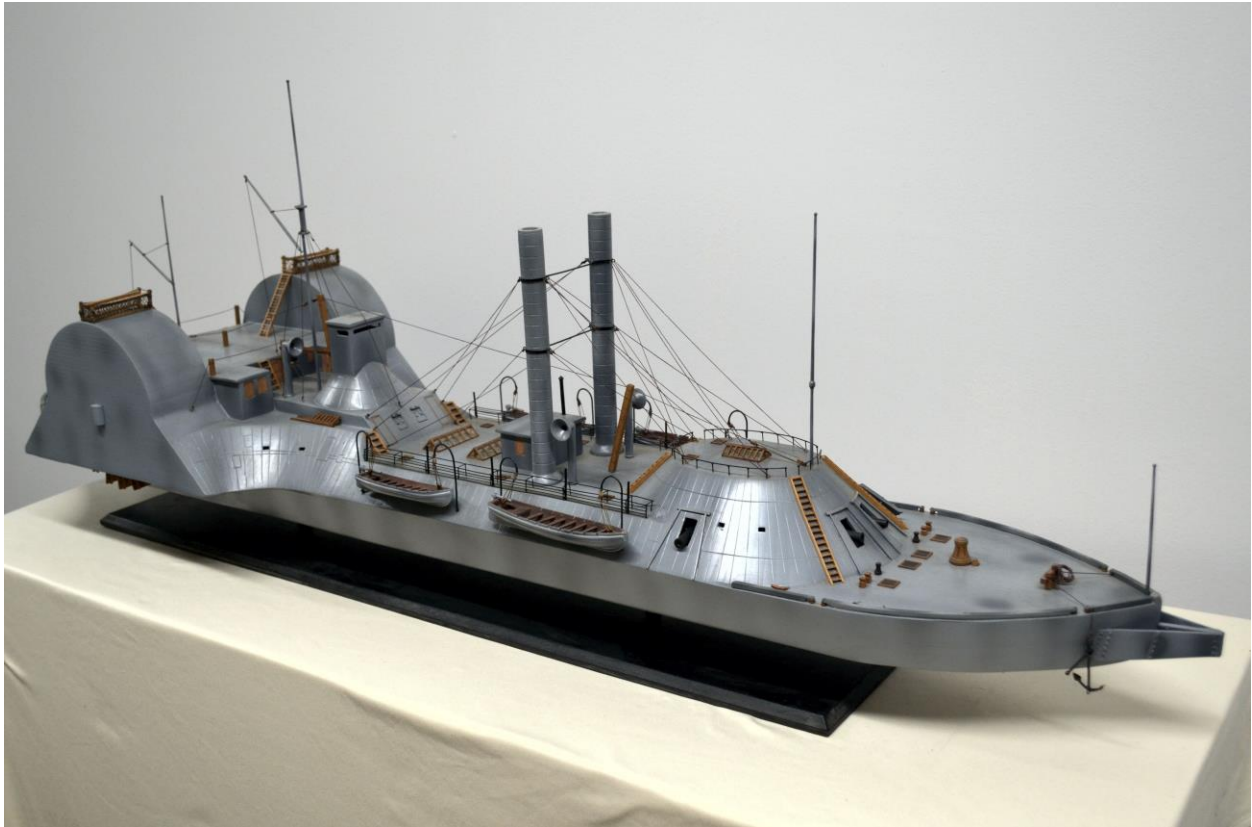


3. *USS Ironsides*; *USS New Ironsides* was a wooden-hulled [broadside ironclad](#) built for the [United States Navy](#) during the [American Civil War](#). The ship spent most of her career [blockading](#) the [Confederate](#) ports of [Charleston, South Carolina](#), and [Wilmington, North Carolina](#), in 1863–65. *New Ironsides* bombarded the fortifications defending Charleston in 1863 during the [First](#) and [Second Battles of Charleston Harbor](#). At the end of 1864 and the beginning of 1865 she bombarded the defenses of Wilmington in the [First](#) and [Second Battles of Fort Fisher](#).





4. *USS Choctaw*; **USS Choctaw (1856)** was a large (1,004-ton) [steamer](#) built for the merchant service, but acquired by the [Union Navy](#) during the second year of the [American Civil War](#). *Choctaw*, with her crew of 106, was outfitted by the Navy as a ram with heavy rifled guns and was used both as a [gunboat](#) and as a [ram](#) on the rivers of the [Confederate States of America](#)



- A Group Project: Sam C.

25 min

*We have heard from nearly all active members concerning their thoughts about a group project. Recall we specified 2 categories, one in which a common model or two might be built and the latter category was skills improvement.*

*Naturally there was a relatively wide range of feedback and personal responses. Given that the general response did not favor, at this time, a build project or two it was suggested that we start by developing a series of skill building/tutorials that we all could benefit from. It was further suggested that we record them and store them in a repository for future reference for group members.*

*I would add that this did not preclude a project or two simultaneously run at a future date when we all are more able to take on such an endeavor.*

- The WWII Tug Is Done: Bill E. 30min

*In a conversation with Bill just today he relates that he has completed the model build and is now working on the interesting detail that are a trade mark of his models.*

*We did not cover this topic as time did not allow. This will be on the April agenda.*

- Portugal Maritime History: Mike K. 25min

Mike redid a wonderful picture presentation of his trip to Portugal, his tours of many of the ancient sites, his museum tours and of course Carlo's shop during the build of the baghla and the Sultanha.

It certainly was refreshing and quite honestly a look backwards to a better time. Lisbon and Portugal in general is such a wonderful place to visit and I become recently aware that one of our donors liked it so much that he has decided to retire there. I will surely tell him to look up Carlos when he settles in.

Hello out there Carlos!!!!!!

- Next Meeting 5min

We spoke briefly about when we may meet in person once again. Right now we are shooting for early Fall. Speaking with Mike he has graciously offered his conference room venue and speaking to Chuck recently he anticipates he will have his staging room ready to accept meetings before the Fall. All in all, that is good news. Thank you so much Mike and Chuck!