



Model Shipwrights of Western New York

Meeting Log

DECEMBER 1, 2022

TOPICS



Year End Summary

In brevity we covered the topics enumerated below.

Yearend treasury summary

The treasury as noted has been turned over to Jim O'Connell and Jim reports we have just above \$250 in the bank. He further stated that we will postpone any dues collection for 2023 as we

are paid up into 2024 for the web site domain name and web site as well as material purchases for the Mark I PBR for the museum.

Soliciting agenda candidates for the 2023 season

Time did not permit a detailed coverage of the 2023 season solicitation for topics as we did in the 2022 season. It was stated that as of December we have only 3 topics on the books and are seeking at least 7 more. If you can cover a model build (such as the one Rusty did for our December meeting), a technical subject such as laser printing or fabricating parts or a museum you visited or a research project you are working you are encouraged to share your work.

Along this line of presentations Ryland will be including us in a Zoom presentation on “photo etching” this December by Gene Berger of the Hampton Roads group. You will not want to miss this topic as Gene is an incredible modeler.

New member induction

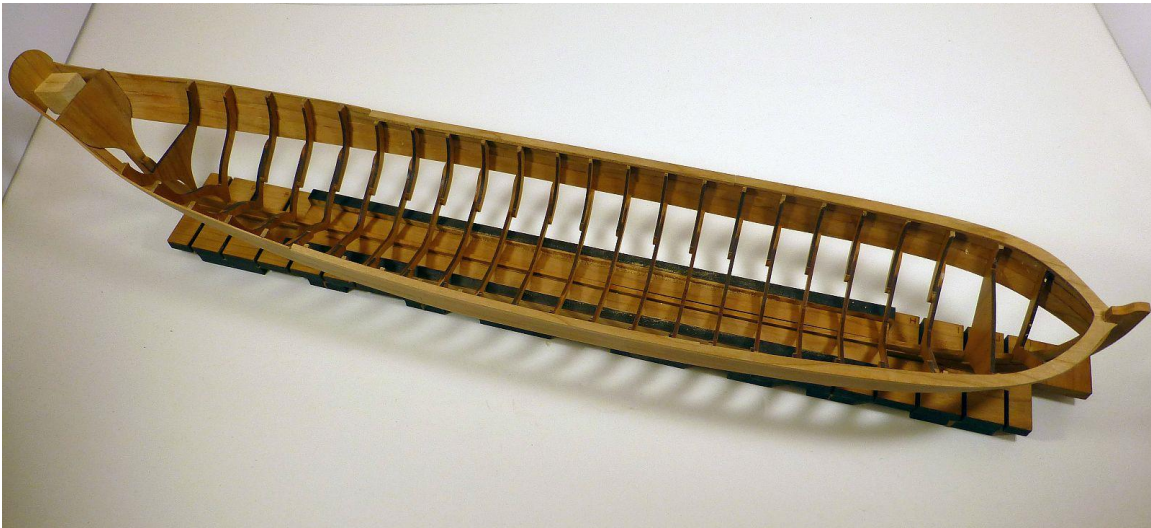
As we indicated prior any guest who visits our meetings and wishes to become a member after 3 sessions is automatically enrolled. It so happens that Bill Sorrelis joined our group semi formally at the meeting. Welcome Bill!!!

Models on Deck

One never knows what will be presented at this segment of our meeting and I think I speak for all that we were pleasantly treated to an array of builds, both in process and completed.

Carmen started us off with his 9' half hull model he has just started of Reliant, one of the America Cup legends. Yes I did say 9' and he freely admits that it is a problem to build because of it's length.

Ryland showed us his work on the Queen Anne Barge from Syren. He covered the removing the frame forms, the beginning of the rail cap install and refinement which apparently is a very delicate step in her construction. Delicate and fine work indeed Ryland!



Bill S. from Pultneyville surprised us all with a tour of his completed models of Constellation, a British launch, The Bounty long boat and Fair American. Unfortunately, the tour with his lap top and lighting conditions precluded a more intimate viewing. I will be trying to get some photos.

Bob Dowd brought us up to date on his work on Confederacy. He has completed all the hull planking, has added the stern

detail and appears ready to work on the deck detail. He expressed it has been a long journey and is relieved to reach this milestone.



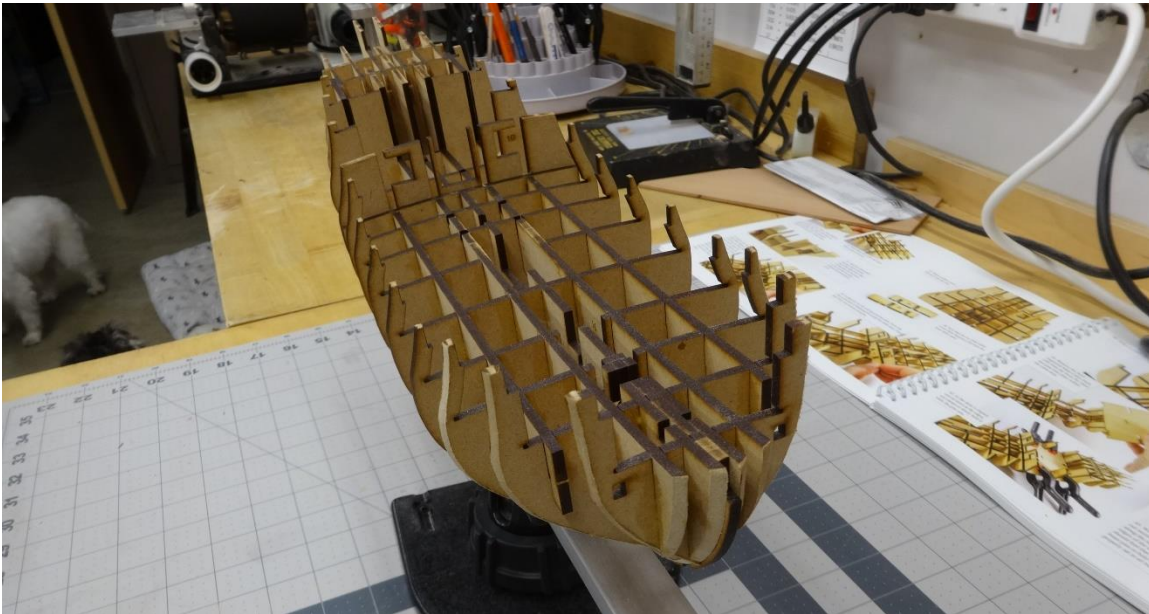
Special Presentations

Royal Yacht Duchess of Kingston

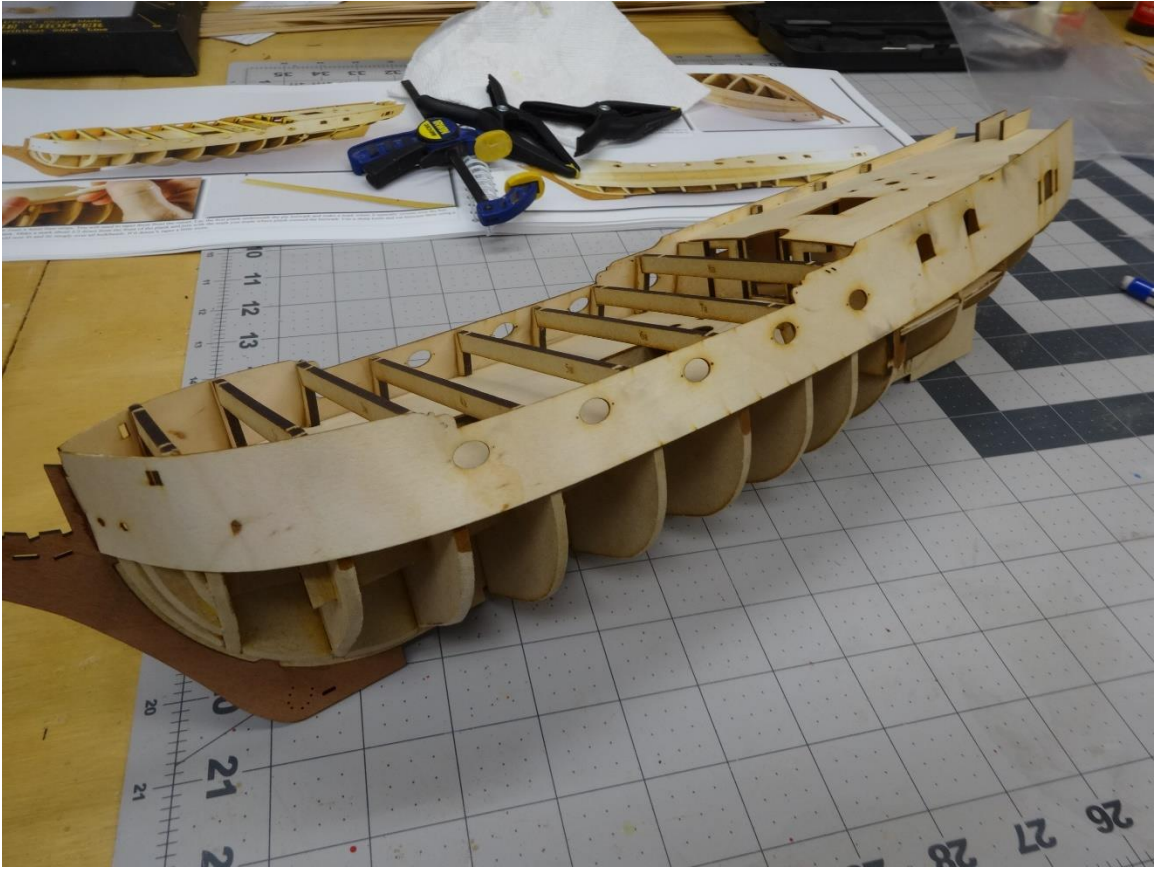
Rusty turned in a captivating coverage of the subject model from framework to finish. This Vanguard model represents one of the finer decorated barges of the 1700s. The kit itself is framed with MDF forms and by appearance is quite formidable and stable. His one caution was that MDF sands too easily so the 80 grit paper is out! The kit is double planked with the outer strakes of pear wood. Interestingly the area above the wales is pre cut laser parts both inboard and outboard that fit amazingly well if all else is done correctly. Etched metal parts abound on the finished model that required a paint finish. They

are cleverly applied with alignment guides. Rusty deviated by adding his own decking and rigging line from Syren.

The model is 1:64 scale and is classified at a Level 3 difficulty. It is a handsome colorful model. He states he undertook the project just to see what the results would be. He concluded that the experience and product were quiet pleasing. He related it took 8 months to complete. Photos here are just a sample. More will be posted on our web site.



The MDF Framework



First layer above wales of precut underlayment



Starting to look like a handsome model



Above photo showing the beginning stages of rigging shrouds and stays.



Birds eye view of the deck detail evolving



A 3D Printed Astrolabe

Developing an Astrolabe via 3 D Printing & More

We take for granted that there are very accurate ways to navigate in unfamiliar waters given modern day devices such as electronic chart display and information systems known as ECDIS. But what of ancient times? The instrumentation was primitive at best and relied heavily on constant readings of celestial bodies that aided in determining latitude and if you were fortunate enough to live in the area of accurate time tracking one could determine longitude.

The instrumentation of times past was the astrolabe and its successor the sextant. Alan O'Neil of the Niagara modelers group was captivated by this former device and its use. Captivated is the correct word here to describe his work. He designed one in Fusion 360 and built it using 3D printing on his home system. He may not have realized at the time but that was the easy part.

Delving into its use, practical application and celestial calibration was another matter. Alan took us through a rather comprehensive lesson in calibration of the device using government tables instead of his sun dial method. This brought him pretty close or so he thought when compared to his GPS function on his cell phone. He still came up with a 0.46 degree error which translated to a 31 plus mile error. That would not work out well for a mariner now would it. He then went on to usage at night and sighting off the North Star which eliminated some of the inaccuracy creep and of earth orbital tilt.

He then covered the longitudinal consideration and the use of a stable clock to determine the exact point on the globe where one was in global surface travel. Harrison's clock was the key to a new era of ocean travel as a result.

Finally, Alan developed and built a companion instrument for navigation called a quadrant that aided a mariner to easily determine the angle of a celestial body from his position. A very simple but useful tool.

Both these instruments have been mounted for display and I have to assume ready to be applied on his next voyage. Right Alan???



Building The HMS Winchelsea (Troubles, Triumphs & Tips)

This item will be moved to January as the meeting time had expired.