

**February 25, 2021**

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

**Video Meeting Minutes**

**Model Shipwrights of Western NY**

Meeting Agenda:

○ Greeting and Introductions 5 min  
*Don, Bill, Mike, Rusty, Jim, Matt, Sam, Tim H joined into this month's session. Ron was to have joined us but had another video conference session.*

○ The Famous USS Missouri: Chuck B. 25 min  
*Chuck had not been able to present his recent windfall of donated models but has indicated by next meeting that he will have quite a lot to say about them. He has one in the museum and will transport the others to the museum early in March. **You will not want to miss this discussion as the models are in themselves unique and their origin may be even more so.***

○ A Group Project: Sam C. 15 min  
*We had quite a lively and engaged group discussion about the possibility of a group project or series of group technical activities aimed at improved model building. I have already had some feedback from members on topics of interest or suggestions for us to consider.*

***I will be sending a "start" list for your review and feedback. I would like you to suggest additions. From that compilation we will draw a candidate (or candidates) as a test case and implement it. Please participate, it's for your benefit!***

○ The Works of Rusty: Rusty J.

30min

*I know we all marvel at Bill and Rusty's prolific pursuit of this past time. It is obvious that they have been at it years and years. That experience is evident each and every time we witness their works.*

*When I work on a model I find I cannot let my focus wander too much, else I will be hopelessly troubled finding my way back to it's end point. Case in point my Cheerful!*

*Not Rusty though. He has been waiting patiently for the release of Syren elements for his Winchelsea as he is now caught up and finished all work to Chapter 4. So what does he do. He starts another model and in just 2 months was able to show us the work he has done on the Vanguard Duchess of Kingston. Having considerable scratch and semi scratch build experience he was able to compare this manufacturer's kits to others in terms of complexity, instruction and quality. Here are some of the salient points he offered:*

- ✓ *Extensive use of CNC machining to produce excellent part accuracy*
- ✓ *With the use of CNC techniques, elements such as deck planking is well simulated (in Rusty's case he will install his own deck planking)*
- ✓ *Again with CNC machining Vanguard has added many witness marks to aid part alignment/placement*
- ✓ *The kit features a double planked hull*
- ✓ *Pear and Box supplied almost universally*
- ✓ *MDF bulkheads are delicate but sand ever so easily and fit precisely*
- ✓ *A good deal of etched elements as this is a highly decorated model*
- ✓ *Includes a 3D printed/generated stern element*

- ✓ *Rusty was not too impressed with the rigging materials so will use other materials*
- ✓ *Characterized the kit manufacturer design intent for entry level modelers with some experience. Possibly this particular kit approaches intermediate in some respects.*
- ✓ *Not an inexpensive purchase, costing in the neighborhood of \$400 with shipping and purchased upgrades.*
- ✓ *All in all, a handsome model!!!!!!*



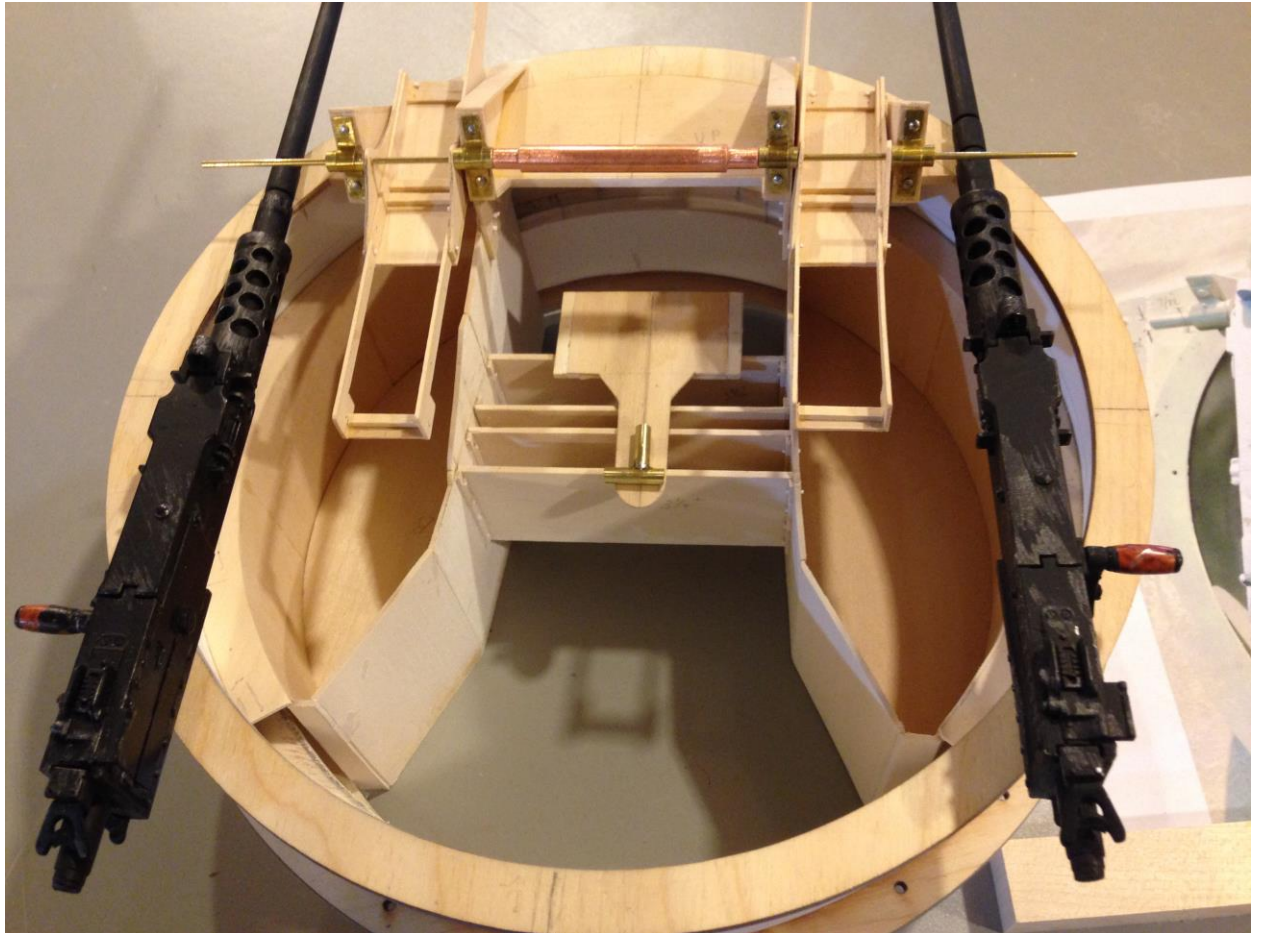


- The PBR Gun Tub: Jim O. 15min  
*Jim showed his work to date on the gun tub. He has done a marvelous job developing the many internal components from photographs translated to dimensioned sketches. His engineering discipline is evident throughout.*

*As he develops the elements I have been posting the progress on MSW. Very recently that has led to feedback from authoritative sources about the genesis of these craft and even a recent acquisition of NAVORD 3741, a Navy design manual. That has helped in determining how ammunition was fed, cast shells and retainers. That in turn has caused Jim to pause as the "trays" are not large enough to hold the model shells. If that were not enough there is discussion swirling around about the style of gun tubs used at the time and if the Patriots Point tub is an original configuration.*



*This does not diminish the fine work Jim has done and shown below is the current state of His work*



- Joining The NJ Ship Model Society: Joe L. 15 min  
The NJ Ship Model Society is quite a large and distinguished group with members near and far. One member is from Trinidad. Others also belong to the Philadelphia and Hampton Roads modeler groups. In number at one time there were at least 40 attendees to the session.

The feature event of this meeting was a review of the models at the Hudson River Maritime Museum in Kingston NY (recall we were trying to get them to speak with our group). They have a varied collection of models related to maritime activity on the Hudson River. In addition, they have had donations of interesting craft built by “locals”. It was quite

a mix. Some were definitely museum worthy especially the river paddle wheels because of the historic nature. Others were not and recognized as such by the speaker Mark Peckham but still held as worthy display elements. There were sailor's models (as I call them), pond models and he classified some as "toy" models.

All in all, it was an interesting talk. I was especially interested in their "Solaris" a launch built at the museum, powered entirely by solar generated electricity that he states can run all day.

The museum seems well worth a visit, but presently has limited access and hours. They are hoping to open up a bit more this summer.



- New Topic: Sam 5min

As some of you may be aware Syren Ship Model Company will no longer be marketing rigging line. Syren will still manufacture rigging blocks and dead eyes. Sam reported that he has come across a very good alternative. A German company which will soon market through a representative in Canada will supply high quality rigging line in many sizes and excellent blocks and dead eyes. This site can give you some idea of the quality of product:

<https://www.rigging-ropes.com/https://www.rigging-ropes.com/shop/cottonropesanchorstays/d-30-mm-kabelschlag-baumwolle/>

<https://shipsofscale.com/sosforums/members/dry-dock-models-parts.12215/>

- Next Meeting 5min

We will return to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month for the future sessions. Any NJ modelers group info will be passed on from the previous month.

We spoke briefly about when we will be able to meet in person again. In taking a poll of how many of the group has had their vaccination it appears about ½ have or soon will have. As the vaccine supply opens in the next few months and the people qualified to receive the serum increases it is not unreasonable to project a fall return to in person meetings. We will continually monitor that progress to predict when that will be possible.