



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights

December 2009

● Scuttlebutt ●

Comodore **Sid Wotman** opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with 23 hands on deck - a good turnout so soon after the Tri-Club Symposium. ❖ The new Bylaws were discussed and suggestions for any changes requested. Bob Filipowski was asked to update the Bylaws and send to the members prior to a final vote at the December meeting. ❖ Nominations for the 2010 club President, Vice President and Treasurer positions were called for and Tim Riggs (Pres), Gus Agustin (VP) and Ken Goetz (Treas) were the only nominations received. If no further nominations are received, this will be the slate up for confirmation vote in December. The Club Staff were asked to return for another year and all accepted.

Bob Filipowski, Tri-Club Treasurer, reported a profit on this year's *Tri-Club Symposium*, thanks, in part, to a very successful raffle and to good attendance. Videos on the morning's presentations are now available (Carving, Half-hull Technique, Drawing Head Rails). If you'd like to borrow one of them, let Bob know. There will be the usual \$10 deposit fee, refundable on return of the tape(s).

Ken Goetz asks that anyone who didn't sign up for the December Pizza Party at our November meeting but would like to attend, please give him a call at **847-678-4249** and let him know you are coming. That way we can all get fed.

Gus Agustin is looking for a 4" Dremmel Table Saw. If you have one you'd like to sell him, please give him a call at **847-398-5208**. If you know of a source for a replacement motor for this saw, he'd also welcome that info.

The **Officers and Staff** of the *Midwest Model Shipwrights* would like to extend to each and every member, associate member and our many guests and fellow modelers with whom we correspond, our **Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season** and a very **Bright and Happy New Year!**

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2009 OFFICERS & STAFF

President (Commodore)	- Sid Wotman.....	(847) 680-1256
Vice Pres (Flag Captain)	- Tim Riggs.....	(847) 697-9552
Treasurer (Ship's Purser)	- Ken Goetz	(847) 678-4249
Secretary (Ship's Clerk)	- Jim Merritt.....	(847) 888-3882
Editor (Signals Officer)	- John Mitchell	(847) 392-2259
Photographer (M. Chief)	- Leon Sirota	(847) 541-6285

December Meeting Notice

"PIZZA & FLEA MARKET"

Bring your appetites and any good "stuff" you'd like to part with and join your mates at the annual PIZZA PARTY & FLEA MARKET; and be prepared to take home anyone else's "stuff" that you think you could use - after exchanging some "\$\$", that is.



We'll also have a vote on accepting our new BYLAWS drawn up by our officers - with our thanks to them for their hard work on completing this project.

Rounding out the evening, we'll install a new SLATE OF OFFICERS for the coming year.

All-in-all, a very important meeting for the Club and a lot of fun, too. Be on board for sure.

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday,
December 16, 2009
At the Community Presbyterian Church
407 Main Street in Mount Prospect

● Aircraft Carrier ●

The DVD

If you had been there and we had been able to get the video projector to work, you might have seen some of these sights. Unfortunately we didn't, so these photos will have to do. A future showing will be planned.

The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier *USS Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) shown (r) transiting the Atlantic Ocean on return to her home port of Norfolk, Va.. 11-10-09.



The aircraft carrier *USS George Washington* (CVN 73) shown (l) transiting the Pacific Ocean on 11-15-09. She is the Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier.

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Kurt Van Dahm has given us heads up on the following schedule of events:

- 12/17/09; 7 PM - Glenn Braun and Colman Seskind will give a talk entitled "Ship model builders combine talents" at the Chicago Maritime Center, 310 S. Racine-6th floor. For more information on this you can call Don Glasell at 312-421-9096.
- 01/21/2010; 7 PM - Richard Gross will give a talk on "Mystery of La Salle's historic ship", also at the Chicago Maritime Center. Same contact, as above.
- 02/27/2010; 10:00 AM—4:30 PM. "Chicago Maritime Festival" at the Chicago Maritime Center. Admission: \$10.00 Adults, Children 12 and under free.
- 05/14-16/2010; *34th Annual Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest and Display*, Manitowoc, WI. Saturday speakers will include Steve Wheeler and John McGann. There is a possibility that Mr. Halsey Herreshoff of the great Herreshoff yacht design family may be able to attend the event. More on this later.

Bob Filipowski has issued the following Errata Page for the Midwest Model Shipwrights Bylaws, December 2009:

Errata Page: December 2009

Page 2.

Article VI. Compensation

Officers and Support Staff members as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services or reimbursement for their expenses of attendance, **but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out their duties.**

Page 4.

Article XI. Amendments

1. These bylaws will be eligible for review and revision annually at the December meeting. Proposals must be submitted to the President **prior to the November meeting.**

Page 5.

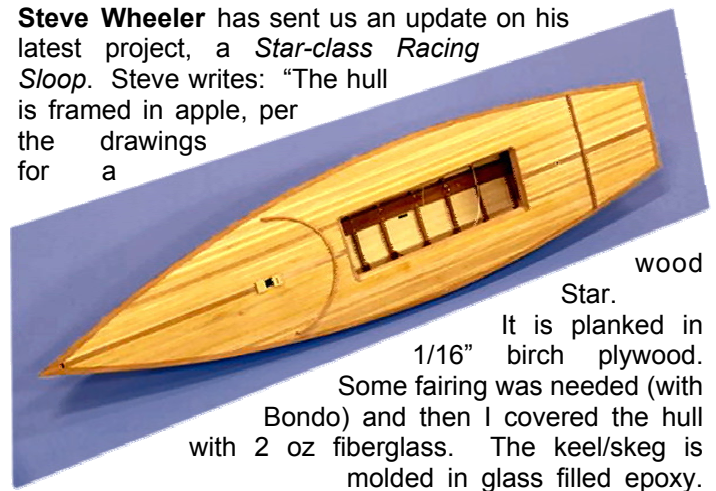
ADDENDUM 1; Annual Dues Schedules for New Membership

October - **\$5** (Regular Membership)

A complete, revised copy of the Bylaws has been sent to all email recipients. If you receive your newsletter by regular mail, we would like to ask that you make the above changes to the copy you were sent in November. Thanks very much, mates.

● Ships on Deck ●

Steve Wheeler has sent us an update on his latest project, a *Star-class Racing Sloop*. Steve writes: "The hull is framed in apple, per the drawings for a



wood

Star.

It is planked in

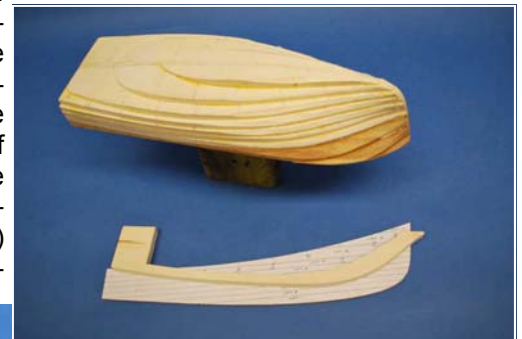
1/16" birch plywood.

Some fairing was needed (with Bondo) and then I covered the hull with 2 oz fiberglass. The keel/skeg is molded in glass filled epoxy.



The deck is tight grain cedar from a "Home Depot" fence picket (cost: \$2.10) and the covering boards and other deck trim are all apple. The model is just under 23" long (1:12 scale)." Can't wait to see her finished off, mate.

Bob Ivan brought in his *Lobster Boat* being built using the lift method of "Harold Paysons" (scale 1:24). Of interest was the technique of cutting out the lifts for a half-hull (R & L) and then join-



ing the two halves together to form the complete hull. This gave an inside contour and made cutting out the lifts somewhat easier. Great looking lines on her, mate.

See Ships-on-Deck, Page 3

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Ships-on-Deck, continued from Page 2

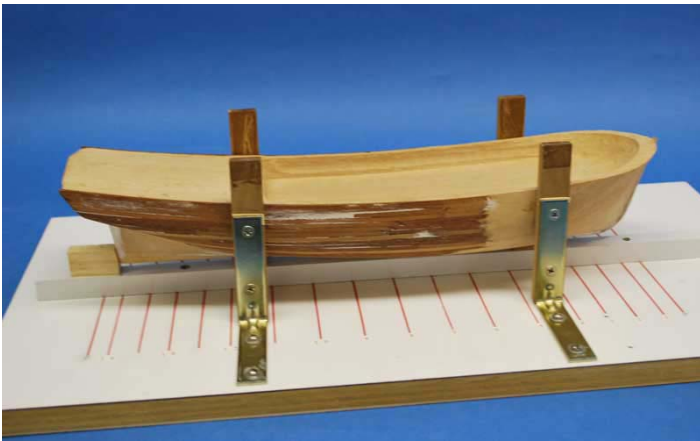
Gus Agustin has started a new project (1:384 scale) of a *Colonial American Sloop*. Since he plans on donating it to the "NRG 2010 Conference" for a raffle, that should give a lot of us a reason for attendance. This is a water-line model and fully rigged - a real collectors item, to be sure.



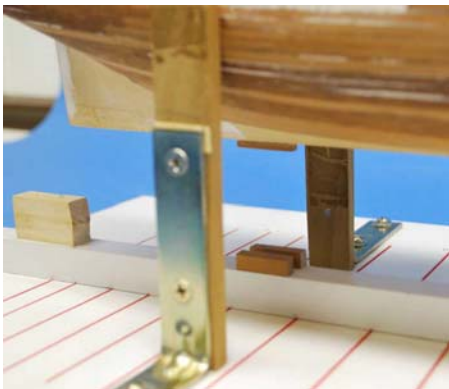
Not wanting to have too many idle minutes on his hands, Gus also started another version of the *St. George*, this time at a scale of 1:385 compared to his first effort at 1:192. 125 lower frames cut from 1/32" thick cherry wood have been installed to form the hull. This will be a fully rigged model - imagine the thickness of the sails on this one! Three cheers for Gus, mates.



Bob Filipowski not only showed us his latest project, the (1:64) Maine-built topsail schooner *Arrowsic*, but also the building board he devised to aid him in correcting deviations he found in the pre-carved hull. The building board



is one that everyone could duplicate when working on a solid hull model, as it makes it easy to align the bulkhead station templates and hold the hull in a fixed position. Great tips there, mate.

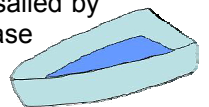


Bob Sykes had two ships to show, the *HM Bark Endeavor*, now complete, and the clipper ship *Flying Cloud*, an example of a much earlier effort. Both were very fine and it would have been hard to tell the old from the new, if we hadn't been clued in. Bob waxes his rigging lines, which helped account for the excellent state of preservation of the clipper ship. Beautiful work, mate.



Both were very fine and it would have been hard to tell the old from the new, if we hadn't been clued in. Bob waxes his rigging lines, which helped account for the excellent state of preservation of the clipper ship. Beautiful work, mate.

Pete Pennigsdorf has been emulating the elves at the North Pole. He has started a project to make a *Toy Boat* that can be "dropped in the pond" and sailed by young captains (Grandchild). To ease construction, and make it pond-worthy, he selected "Jelutong" wood. This is light like balsa, but will not become waterlogged as easily. Hopefully it will bob like a cork, too. Nice going, mate. And a P.S.: he found a good web site worth looking into, www.shipmodel.com. Sorry we had no photo - Editor.



Jim Merritt displayed an earlier model of one of Columbus' ships, the *Nina*, which he launched in August 2003 and, thanks to the really beautiful case he built, she still looks as good as she did back then.

She now joins all the other fine models in our club's web site "photo gallery". Be sure and visit our web site to see how your model(s) are displayed.

We know you will be proud of the results **John Pocius** has achieved with his efforts.



2009 Tri-Club

The 2009 edition of Tri-Club is history, but its legacy may have a lasting affect on the quality of models that we see in the future. There has never been a Tri-Club Symposium that offered the membership such a diversified selection of topics.

It started out with an excellent presentation by Gordon Stiller on carving. His helpful hints and tips for carving intricate scroll work made it seem too easy to be true. However, we all came back down to earth when he passed around some of his intricate miniature figures!



Tim Riggs' explanation on how to lay out head rails was concise and clearly explained. He stated that if your model requires these intricate assemblies, it's almost certain that the plans do not show their true shape. Thanks to Tim, using the "trial and error method" is no longer necessary!

Bob Filipowski's discussion on how he built his half hull of the *Staghound* contained many hints and tips that could be applied to any model. However, it was his procedure for stabilizing and cutting a full *Flying Fish* hull in half that seemed to stimulate the most discussion. Some members suggested faster and easier ways of accomplishing the same thing, but they certainly couldn't question the final results!



Probably, the most unique aspect of this Tri-Club was the number of round tables that were offered. Those in attendance were required to make choices since a total of seven different discussions were spread out over three sessions, and in some cases, they were offered only once. Consequently, it was not possible for an individual to participate in all of them. As sessions ended, the scene was reminiscent of high school students trying to make their next class! The rationale behind this was to provide as diversified a list of subjects as possible. The officers wanted to make sure that there was something of interest for everyone!



The round table topics included “Q&A on Carving” by Gordon Stiller, “Rigging Deadeyes” by Ray Oswalt, “Making Gears on a Lathe” by Sid Wotman, “Stropping Blocks” by Doc Williams, “Tips & Tricks” by Gerald Reed, “Threaded Wire Screws” by Bruce Hoff, and a group choice from six past Power Point presentations by Bob



Filipowski.

No Tri-Club symposium would be complete without a flea market, and this year's event had to have been one of the largest yet. There were several tables full of low priced kits, tools, wood, books and plans that made us feel like kids in a candy shop! This year's raffle also saw an upgrade in prize quality and quantity, as Kurt Van Dahm, Rita Berg, Gerald Reed, and the Chicago Nautical Research & Model Ship Society all donated some very nice items to help support the organization.

A very special thank you is in order to the Chicago Tri-Club Association officers and staff who put a lot of planning and effort into this event for the benefit of the membership. We're very lucky indeed to have such dedicated leadership in our organization!



**The Fully Framed Model
Building the *Swan* Class Sloop
Pegasus 1777**

VOLUME III

By Greg Herbert, DVM

Distributed by: Sea Watch Books, LLC, Florence, Oregon
www.seawatchbooks.com, seawatchbooks@gmail.com

In the last three years, two of the most popular model ship books to hit the market were David Antscherl's *The Fully Framed Model, HMN Swan Class Sloops 1767-1780, Volumes I & II*.

For many of us wanting to raise our modeling to another level, these two books provided a means by which this could be accomplished. These two volumes provide every detail required to replicate a scale late eighteenth century English man of war.

An individual who was a huge contributor to these books was Greg Herbert. Working in conjunction with David, Greg began building his *Pegasus* based on Antscherl's drawings and methods. Many of the illustrations in Volumes I and II come from the 1000 plus photos Herbert took while documenting his work.

Unfortunately, David Antscherl's ability to write outpaced Greg's progress on his model. This and the limited space available within the books impacted the number of photos that could be published. Many modelers, upon purchasing the set, noticed this, and expressed an interest in seeing more of Greg's work. This resulted in *The Fully Framed Model, Building the Swan Class Sloop Pegasus 1777, Volume III*.

The book is a remarkable photographic essay of every

step taken to produce a model that is portrayed in its completed state as a framed up vessel on the building slip. Fortunately for us, Greg incorporated many interior items on the model that probably would not have been installed at that stage of construction on a real ship. Herbert refers to it as "artist's license", but readers will look at it as a bonus, since it allows for additional documentation and photos.



Although Volume III could be used as a stand alone photographic reference for building a framed up 18th century model warship, it's main strength is when used in conjunction with Volumes I and II. Herbert arranged the book into twelve chapters, which corresponds to the layout of the first two books. Every photo in his book is accompanied by comments, which removes any doubt as to what the author is trying to convey. Many of these annotations also include a reference number, which helps the reader locate the corresponding chapter and section in Volumes I and II, if they need further information. This is a nice touch that ties all three volumes together, and makes them more user friendly.

Volume III contains nearly 500 photos of Herbert's *Pegasus*. Only a few of them are repeats from the first two books, and in each case they have been either enlarged, or cropped and enlarged for greater clarity.

An added bonus at the end of the book is the inclusion of four appendices. The first appendix features photos of other *Swan* class models that have been built, including the *Atalanta*, which is on exhibit at the National Maritime Museum in England.

The second addition is actually an addendum to Antscherl's Volume II. It features information on the binnacle, rudder housing and a tiller variation. Appendix 3 features a copper sheathing scheme for the hull, and a planking expansion used on *Hornet*. The book closes out with a series of historical documents pertaining to various vessels within the class.

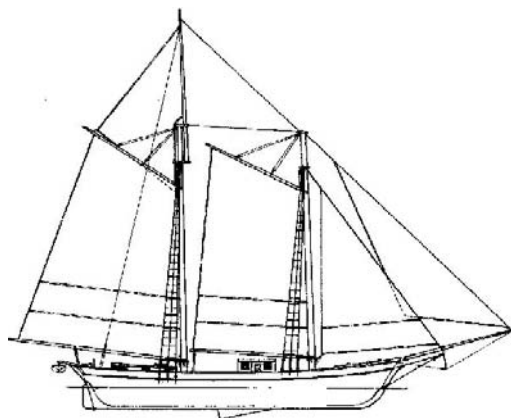
Bob Friedman, of Sea Watch Books stated that David Antscherl is hard at work on Volume IV, which will cover masting and rigging. This book will be ready in the second half of 2010, and will complete a series, which is sure to become a classic among model ship builders and maritime historians.



Reviewed by Bob Filipowski



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www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com