



Forecastle Report

Newsletter of the Midwest Model Shipwrights

♦ www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com

♦ July 2017

● Scuttlebutt ●

COMMODORE, Bob Filipowski, opened the June 2017 meeting at 7:30 with a fine turnout to welcome our guests for the evening. Russ Hannula was welcomed back to our meeting night after an extended absence. Russ is thinking about getting back into active modeling and we're looking forward to having him as a regular again. Jeff Mattson was a visiting guest from the Nautical Research and Model Ship Society club and we're glad to have him share in the evening's presentations with us. Jeff is building a "Model Shipways" USS *Constitution* and is now working on the rigging. We'd love to see her when she's finished, mate.

Kurt Van Dahm gave us a quick summary of the Manitowoc contest and reported that there were 19 Gold Medals awarded, 14 of which went to NRG members. Nice going there gang.

Kurt presented Gus Agustin with a Gold Medal from the Manitowoc contest for Best Carving. This was the first time it had been presented in the contest but, unfortunately, it was erroneously given to another contestant at the show (who later returned it to Kurt). Kurt sorted this all out with tonight's presentation.



The NRG National Meeting in St. Petersburg, FL is coming together in fine shape. A tour of the Coast Guard station, the Florida Institute of Oceanography and a Pilot Boat tour are all part of the planned activities. However, hotel rooms are going fast, so don't wait too long to book or you could miss the meeting rates (word to the wise).

Bob Filipowski has given us a preview of one of next month's features by advising that he has received a new book from "SeaWatch" entitled: *Volume II - Modeling the Extreme Clipper Young America* by Ed Tosti and plans to do a review. We'll look forward to it, for sure.

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July Meeting Notice

Scratch Building *Le Hussard* 1845 A Tutorial By Norio Uriu - The Rope Tokyo

Our loyal friend from the Rope Tokyo club in Japan has sent us an excellent presentation on his methods for scratch building models. This is a tutorial you won't want to miss seeing, as Norio - San is one of the very best modelers on any continent and his work is sure to motivate you to achieving new levels of success.

Our next meeting will be at 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

At: **The South Church**
501 S. Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL

● Modeling in Australia ● By Kevin Hudson

Kevin was a fine ambassador for all the modelers in Australia. He showed us a quiet confidence in his art and relaxed presentation manner that made the evening thoroughly enjoyable. We were led smoothly through all of his preparations and methods so that, in the end, the stunning results he achieved came as no surprise.



The evening's presentation could be broken down into three phases: 1) Tools either purchased or invented to do specific tasks. 2) Work being done on the "fantasy" ship *Pamelia* that was a true masterpiece and included animated elements. 3) Past work of a more conventional nature on several ships and brass hardware, including a HMS *Victory* of monumental proportions. This last phase was very professionally done with an excellent sound track, to boot.

Kevin and Pamela Hudson

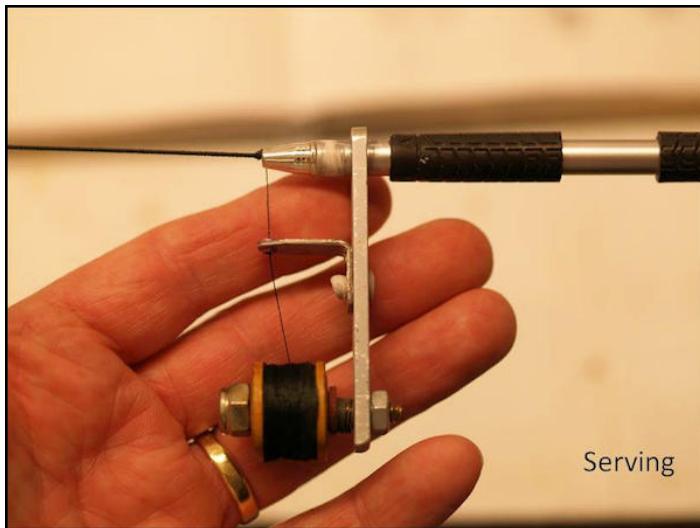
"Australia", continued on Page 2

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"Australia", continued from Page 1



Drum sanders were essential to framing his models.

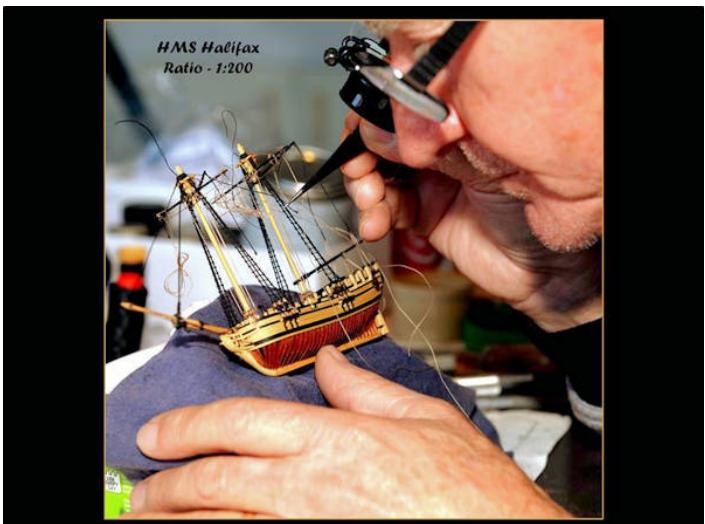


Serving

Cleverly designed tools aided Kevin in performing tasks that would have been quite tedious, like serving a great number of lines. Below, turning parts on a lathe was easy.



Crow's Nest Tops



Kevin's work also turned to miniatures, which he mastered thanks to a steady hand.



HMS Beagle

Machining brass parts was a skill he learned early on with stunning results.

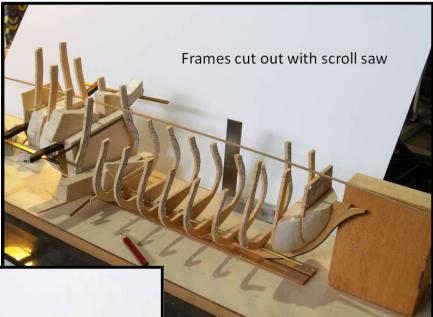


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"Australia", continued from Page 2

The fantasy ship *Pamelia* was built on conventional lines with frames, planking and fillers at the bow and stern.



The model's embellishments were a tour-de-force of woodworking art and allowed Kevin to fully exercise his imagination and skills to produce just the kind of result that pleased him most.

Everywhere you look on this model you see a showcase of the great beauty in wood decoration. Interior cabin details were added to please the eye and a portion of the hull was left open to reveal two crew members enjoying a mug of grog. This was electrically animated so the figures would actually tip their



mugs up to drink. Other electrical additions were various lights throughout the ship to illuminate details.



The ship's poop deck was decorated with inlays of great beauty and added to the fantasy theme.



Stern lanterns were lit using LED lights and the main deck was decorated with a fantastic compass rose around the capstan.

Kevin's work on the HMS *Victory* showed equal skill and attention to detail, while staying true to the ship's authentic layout.



What would otherwise seem like a tremendous task to install all the intricate rigging on this great ship, was made easier thanks to his use of the special tools he created to do this work.



We were truly honored to be able to hear Kevin describe his modeling techniques and see the results of his efforts on this special evening. We sincerely thank Kevin and Pamela for taking time out from their visit to America to spend the evening with us and we wish them a most enjoyable visit and a safe return home.

● Ships on Deck ●

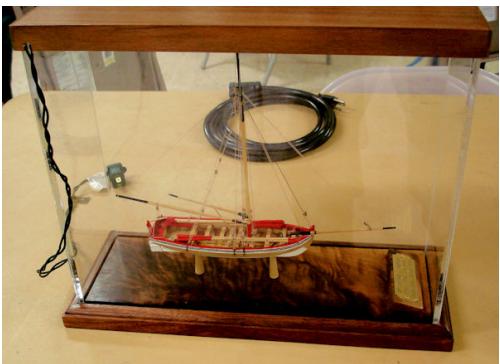
Gus Agustin showed a *Royal Yacht* complete with a very fine banner at the stern.



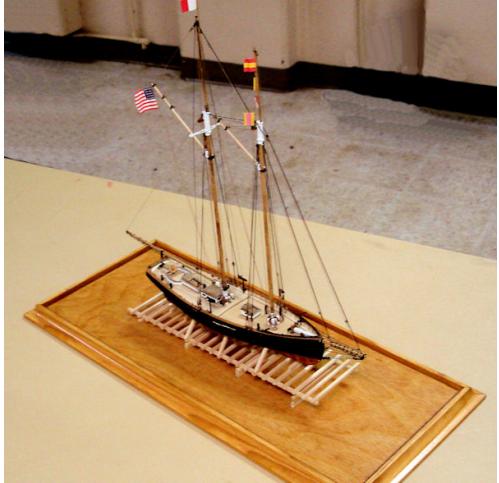
The **Sykes** brothers finished their very beautiful *HMS Bounty* that had been on the ways for some time. A very fine result, mates.



John Hirsch's 1:48 *English Long Boat* now has a very fine case complete with lighting. A very nice touch to a fine model.



Elijah Jennison has finished his 1:96 New York pilot boat *Phantom* and she looks very ship shape. Authentic looking flags and banners really add to the interest and the base will support a fine case.



Elijah Jennison's work on the *Philadelphia Gun Boat* kit.



Allen Siegel's *Half Moon* was a Gold winner and really looks good in the finished case with its very clean lines.

Bob Filipowski's *English Long Boat* was also a winner and the overall display with oars mounted on racks and the multi-level base really round off the job.



Bob also brought in his beautiful half-hull model of the Extreme Clipper Ship *Staghound* with her very finely coppered hull.



Tim Foster's work on his ore ship has just begun.

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"Ships-on-Deck", continued from Page 4

We love to see **Richard Romaniak's** model of this French warship with the long boat alongside her and the simulated water level. A visually intriguing model.



Doc Williams did up a charming fishing boat with very fine sails and an excellently made case.

Norio Uriu sent us these photos of his work on making a



1:150 half-hull model of the USS *Constitution* based on the Revell plastic kit. He inserted a wooden keel and



frames on the plastic shell and the bow and transom were heavily modified. 0.5mm wood planks cover the plastic surface in a "plank on plastic shell" method. Fine start, mate. A new technique is under way.

MODERN SHIP PROFILES

● USS Illinois (SSN-786) ●

The USS *Illinois* (SSN-786) is a *Virginia*-class submarine built by Electric Boat, a division of General Dynamics. *Illinois* is the third of the Block III *Virginia*-class subs, which feature a revised bow, including some technology from *Ohio*-class SSGNs. Construction formally began with a keel laying ceremony that took place on 2 June 2014 in Groton, CT. First Lady, Michelle Obama served as the ship's sponsor. *Illinois* was christened by Michelle Obama on 10 October 2015 and the vessel was commissioned in Groton on 29 October 2016.

Michelle Obama, as the sponsor, attended the ceremony, is considered to be an honorary member of the crew, and in line with her interest in supporting military families intends to be involved with the *Illinois* crew and their families.

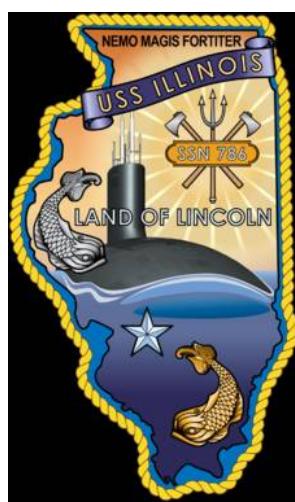


United States

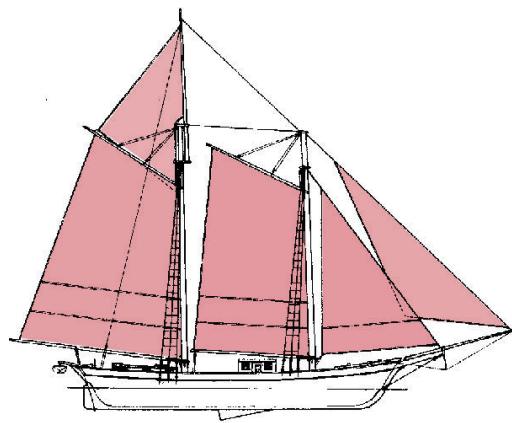
Name: USS *Illinois*
Namesake: The state of Illinois
Builder: Electric Boat
Laid down: 2 June 2014
Launched: 8 August 2015
Commissioned: 29 October 2016
Identification: SSN-786
Homeport: Groton, Connecticut
Motto: Nemo Magis Fortiter ("None more brave")
Status: In active service

General characteristics

Class & Type: *Virginia*-class submarine
Displacement: 7,800 tons (light)
7,800 tons (full)
Length: 377 ft (114.9 m)
Beam: 34 ft (10.3 m)
Draft: 32 ft (9.8 m)
Propulsion: S9G reactor
Speed: 25 knots (46 km/h)
Range: Essentially unlimited; 33 yrs
Complement: 134 officers and men



The official ship's crest was designed by Christopher Durdle of Roseville, IL and accepted by the Navy at an unveiling ceremony at the Union Club of Chicago on 2 April 2015. First Lady Michelle Obama congratulated the contest finalists and crew via video at the ceremony.



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