

The 35th Annual Midwestern Model Ships and Boats Contest

by
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As you would imagine, the 35th Annual Midwestern Model Ship & Boats Contest was a landmark event for the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, and the quality was consistent with the significance of this particular anniversary.

The forty-plus models on display represented a level of diversification rarely seen in previous contests. The Chicago Tri-Club Association did very well as our Richard Romaniak scored top honors with his appropriately named, French Ship of the Line, *La Superbe*. This beauti-



ful miniature took home a gold medal, as well as the **Dana McCalip Best Miniature** and **Best of Show Awards!**

In what has to be one of the most unique developments in the history of this contest, Bruce Hoff's split example of the colonial schooner *Chaleur* won a gold medal and

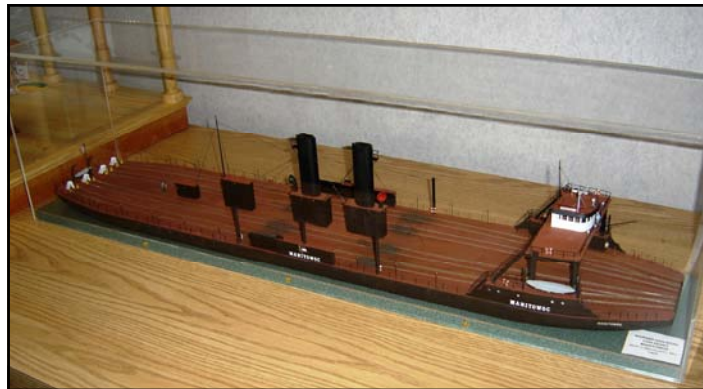


Modeler's Choice. Although truly deserving, what made this so noteworthy was the fact that Bruce had not entered the models in the contest! They were for display only, but the judges and fellow contestants felt otherwise about these remarkable pieces, and acted accordingly.

The **Best Novice Builder Award**, which is sponsored by the Chicago Tri-Club Association, went to Ed Leviker of Golden, Colorado. The coloration of the sails and deck were very realistic, and made for a most unique model.

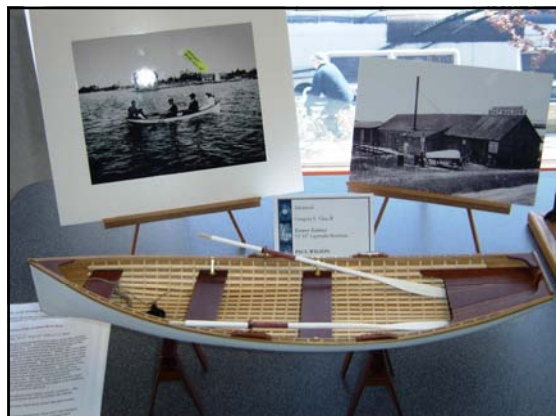


One of the more desirable awards given out is the **Badger Airbrush Best Paint Finish Award**. The reason for this is, in addition to the traditional plaque, an airbrush, compressor, and various painting supplies go to the lucky winner. This year's recipient was Don Manlick of Manitowoc, Wisconsin for his Rail Road Car Ferry, *Manitowoc*. In addition to an impeccable paint job and custom made



decals, the model possessed some very subtle antiquing, which added to its realism.

The **Roger Jackel Best Great Lakes Award**, was taken by Paul Wilson of Hessel, Michigan for his *Kramen*



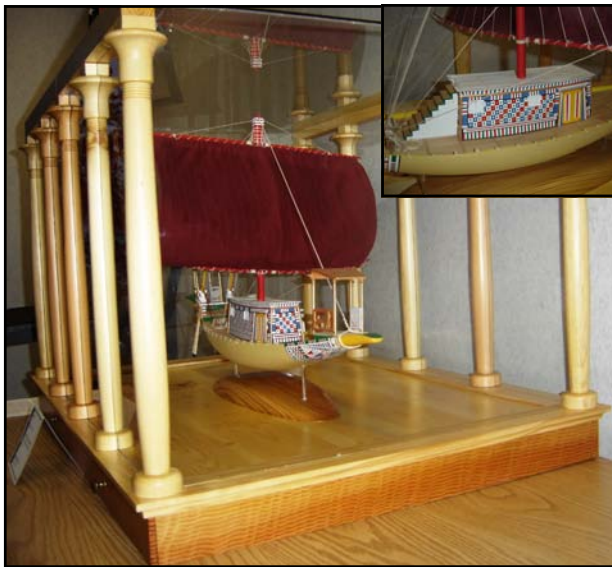
Rowboat. The lapstrake construction and attention to detail on this beautiful little model was truly amazing!

As part of the closing ceremonies on Sunday afternoon, the **People's Choice Award** was presented to Gordon Stiller for his remarkable USS *Missouri*, which also took a gold medal.



Award winners from the Tri-Club Association were not confined to those previously mentioned. Gus Agustin for his *Saint George*, Steve Wheeler for his *Pierce Engine*, and Kurt Van Dahm for his *African Queen* all received gold medals. Jim Merritt accepted a silver plaque for his *Yacht Mary*, Tony Serigos' *HMS Bounty Launch*, and John Hazard's *America* also took home silver awards.

Here are some other noteworthy entries that made this competition very special.



Barge of King Tut by John McGann of Arvada, Colorado—Gold Medal



Confederacy—Bone Model by Larry Pulka of Canton, Ohio—Gold Medal

Other Tri-Club members who attended the conference included Rita Berg, David Botton, Bob Filipowski, Ken Goetz, Ed Urbanczyk, and Doc Williams.



SS Republic by Ralph Buckwalter of Lakewood, Colorado—Gold Medal



La Licorne—Bone Model by Larry Pulka of Canton, Ohio—Gold Medal



Noah's Ark by David Hunt of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin—Certificate of Merit

An old friend paid a visit to Manitowoc during the weekend. The *St. Marys Challenger*, better known as the *Medusa Challenger* to Chicagoans, looked like a ghost from the past as the old laker steamed through the heavy fog into Manitowoc. This vessel is the oldest ship still operating on the Great Lakes. She was launched in 1906, six years before the *Titanic*!

