

September 2022 Newsletter

Minutes

September 10, 2022 meeting of CMMS was held at the Christ and the Epiphany Church in East Haven from 10 am to 12 pm. Twelve members were present. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President James McGuffick. James reported that Dave Dinan, who was unable to attend, created a QR Code taking users directly to our website. Dave is requesting members provide material for posting. Tom Szabo noted that our prior website is still active and needs to be taken down. We discussed growing our membership, and everyone was asked to think of ideas for further discussion. James announced that Frank Crohn from Sea Fever Books will take all or some of the remaining Dick Dewitt's sellable books. Proceeds will be donated to our club by Fred Dewitt in his father's honor. Mike Jantsch was contacted by someone seeking to have a model repaired. Tom Kane will follow-up.

Officers

President: Fred Kerson
Vice-President: Jame McGuffick
Treasurer: James McGuffick
Secretary: Mike Jantsch

Notes from our June CMMS meeting

Pete Carlin is making great progress with his beautifully crafted whaleboat model. Pete discussed the intricacies of building oars and finishing details needed to complete the rigging - including lanyards for each oarlock.



September Meeting

Tom Szabo brought in his scratch built Charles W. Morgan. Using both Model Shipway and original plans, his 1:96 model shows stunning detail. Tom has just completed coppering the hull using copper foil on paper that he glues to the model. This technique was demonstrated at last year's Annual Conference in New London. The copper foil is not too expensive and "ages" on

the hull. At the 'right' patina, Tom seals it making the 'aging' permanent. Tom visited the Morgan to make sure details are correct since he observed that Model Shipway plans can lack some details.



Mike Jantsch is scratch building the *Saucy Jack* a well-smack typical of those that operated out of Barking, England (1836). Mike is building a 1:64 model from Vanguard (<https://vanguardmodels.co.uk/product/saucy-jack-barking-well-smack/>). Mike's careful craftsmanship is visible in his model. It should be an amazing ship model when he's finished as well as a very interesting example of this type of live-well fishing boat. This kit comes with sails and Mike discussed his thoughts about rigging it with those sails or using one of the various alternative methods for sail making.



Howard Williams showed his completed model of the *Epping Hall*, a 1914 English ocean going tug boat. Howard's model is scratch built at 1/54 scale. The actual Epping Hall can be viewed at the San Francisco Maritime Museum, sadly in deteriorating condition. The ship was named after the Lambton family's ancestral home. It was built as a collier to carry coal to and from Newcastle on Tyne. After being sold for scrap in 1967, she was rebuilt sufficiently to sail to San Francisco as a museum attraction. Howard's cat has generously supplied the fur showing smoke rising from the smoke stack. The ship is built from styrene and other materials. Howard's

extraordinary creativity and workmanship has captured the Epping Hall in her heyday!

Epping Hall -1914

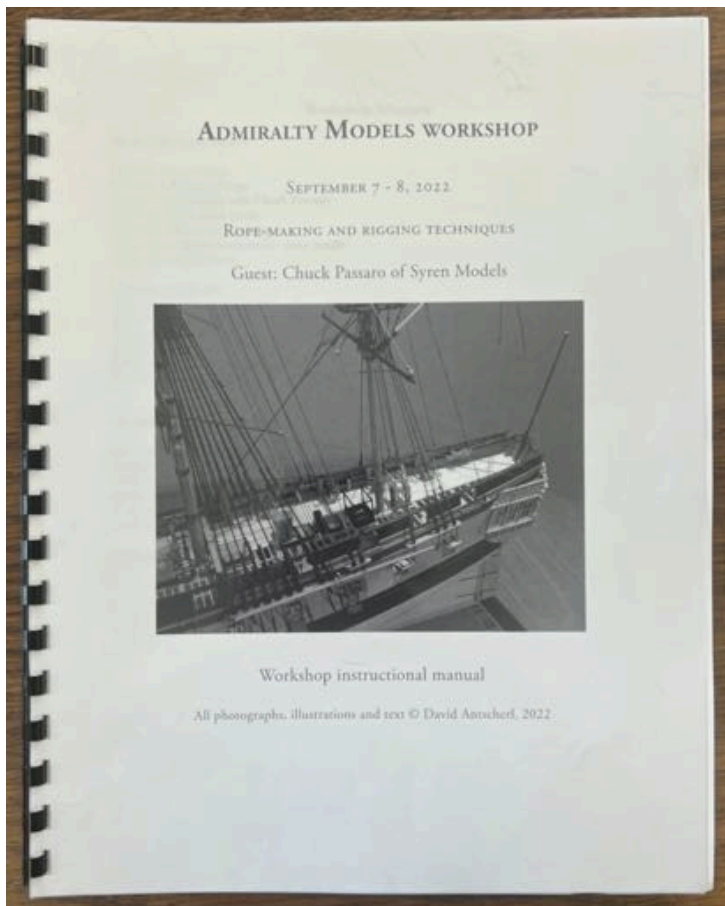


Jon Meiers presented an Artesania Latina model of a French cutter that he is building called *Le Renard*. The scale is 1:50. *Le Renard* was a privateer cutter, launched in 1812 at a time that was ripe for privateering! Interestingly a full scale replica of *Le Renard* was built in 1991 and is rented for excursions (not for privateering). Jon discussed his interest in naval armament and how he depicted *Le Renard*'s guns. Although he expressed concern about the scale of the carronades he mounted on his model, they are beautifully done and shown with the normal tools needed to operate the guns. Any deviation from scale is not noticeable. His model is shown with sails and it looks particularly good that way.

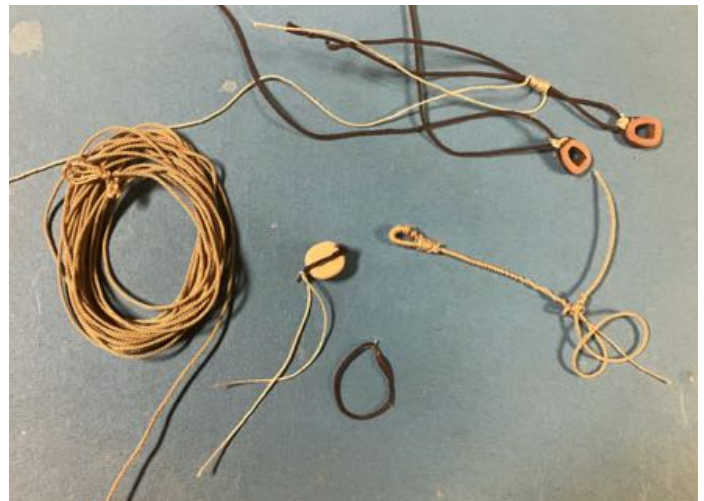


Justin Camarata discussed his nautical painting *Storm Passing*. In creating this work of art, Justin has described to us how he used simple ship models to help him develop lifelike perspective and movement. As this painting developed, we learned from Justin that careful use of color tone gives the illusion of distance. He has also experimented with color to simulate post-storm atmospheric conditions. It was interesting to learn that he achieved this through carefully layering his paints to evoke feelings of this moment in time and place. His framed painting is truly beautiful and underscores Justin's artistic talent that is also characteristic of his model ships and dioramas.





James McGuffick attended the Admiralty Models Workshop September 7-8 in Annapolis Maryland. The workshop covered Rope-Making and Rigging techniques. It was hosted by David Antscherl and Greg Herbert with special guest Chuck Passaro of Syren Models, all three expert ship modelers. He learned methods of making rope with poly and with cotton. David then took us through methods of serving and rigging. One highlight of the workshop was a private tour of the Naval Academy Museum. Vince McCullough and John Didonato arranged the tour, both are Museum Restoration Shop volunteers.



Philip Reed's *HMS Centurion*, 1732, 1:192
Model from the Rogers Collection

**Next Meeting
October 8, 2022**