



Connecticut Marine Model Society

December 10, 2022 Newsletter



Minutes

December 10, 2022 meeting of CMMS was our Annual Holiday event. Our Club got together for breakfast at the Twin Pines Diner in East Haven from 10 am to 12 pm. Seventeen members and two guests were present. The only official Club business was voting for the Wisner award, won this year by Mike Jantsch. In keeping with tradition members brought non-nautical related models to share.

Left: John Fisher

Center Aisle: Fred Kerson, Barbara Kerson (guest)

Center Row, Front to Back: Tom Szabo, Rick Abramson, John Adriani (Sr.), Jon Meiers, Pete Carlin, Ed Petrucci, Al Saubermann

Rt. Row, Front to Back: Howard Williams, Tom Linton, Bob Siegler, Dave Dinan, Justin Camarata, Mike Jantsch

Photo taken by: James McGuffick

Absent from photo: Tom Kane, Robert Kerson(guest)

Officers

President: Fred Kerson

Vice-President: James McGuffick

Treasurer: James McGuffick

Secretary: Mike Jantsch

**Wiser Award Winner
2022
Mike Jantsch**

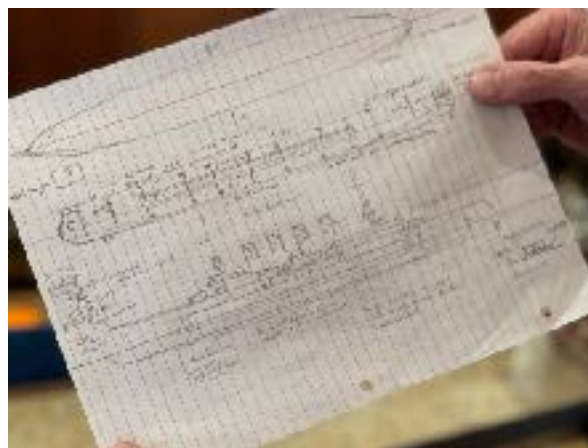


***Corsair*, 1807**
Bermuda Boat
Scratch Built, Scale 1:32



most remarkable is that John builds these models so they can remain floating after a barrage of BB's. This unique passion of John's was developed with his brother when they were quite young and decided to have a contest to see whose models would sink first when shot with a BB gun. This led to an effort to design models that were hollowed hulled but unsinkable according to rules that John and his brother agreed upon. John showed us his design used on the **Scharnhorst** revealing a series of sealed compartments. A really fascinating hobby with amazing models. It's difficult to imagine building such a beautiful model and then trying to sink it!

Jon Meiers brought in two very impressive remotely controlled military models (note the wires on the right). The **M1 Abrams tank** (top photo), the US Army's main battle tank, and the **Panzerkampfwagen V Panther**, intended to replace the Panzer III and was known more commonly as the Panther tank (lower photo) was a mainstay of the German Nazi army. Jon talked about the tanks' history, development and some military history as well. Both models can be operated by remote control - delightfully demonstrated - and showcase Jon's remarkable craftsmanship.



John Fisher presented his model of the **Scharnhorst**, an Imperial German Battle Cruiser built before WWI. The scale and detail of this model can be appreciated from comparison with lettering on the shoebox upon which John's model is sitting. What is



Fred Kerson showed several tools - from his collection - used to fire Civil War artillery including a wooden gunner's quadrant used to calculate the vertical firing angle and several examples of friction primers used to fire the cannons. Fred explained that these friction primers would be filled with fulminate of mercury, $\text{Hg}(\text{CNO})_2$ a highly explosive substance easily ignited by friction, placed in the 'touch hole' and then spun using a lanyard attached to the ring and wrapped around the 'match'. When pulled the friction would ignite the mercury and the gun powder to fire the projectile.

Ed Petrucci brought in a scratch built **English Coach** that he made many years ago using plans he found in a magazine. Ed used basswood and other material as needed. Remarkably, everything on the model works! The doors open and close, the steps unfold, the wheels spin and the front wheels turn. Ed told us he glued the umbrellas into their holder so they wouldn't fall - leaving the question of whether or not they could actually open unasked and unanswered! Ed's model building skill's and artistry created an amazing model of this **Coach** that looks like something right out of a Dickens' novel.





Howard Williams showed a model based on **Leonardo Da Vinci's Carro Falcato** (scythe cart) that was designed to take a little too much off the top! Variations of this idea are thought by some to have been used by the ancient Greeks, Romans, etc. Many of Da Vinci's ideas were, however, never built. If this model had been built it would probably have needed to be drawn by horses. No doubt that would have presented problems for both horses and driver!



Rick Abramson brought in his spectacular model of the **Southern's Crescent Limited 4-6-2 HO gauge steam locomotive** that he built. Rick gave a fascinating history of this locomotive that was in service from the mid 1920 until the early 1940's. This is one of those models that is truly esthetically pleasing to look at, and accompanied by Rick's meticulous attention to detail makes it very special to see close up. The photo's really doesn't do it justice.

