



Minutes

February 11, 2023 meeting of CMMS was held at the Christ and the Epiphany Church in East Haven from 10 am to 12 pm. Sixteen members and two guests were present and one member was present online. The meeting was called to order by President Fred Kerson. Vice-President James McGuffick gave an update on the The Northeast Ship Model Conference on April 30, 2022 from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Port 'n' Starboard Convention Center in New London. Registration forms were handed out. Rick Abramson announced that he was giving his talk on Classic Ocean Liners at the Trumbull Library on March 5th. As there was no further agenda items the business portion of our meeting was closed and we proceeded to the show and tell portion of our meeting.

Officers

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

Rick Abramson brought his 1/225 ('Box') scale, ITC model of the **USS Oregon** from the Spanish-American War. Beautifully constructed and enhanced by Rick's attention to historical details (note the railing) and artful painting to capture original color. Rick uses an airbrush and his own approach to painting to achieve his spectacular effects. He notes that he can spend hours masking for a 10 minute airbrushing. His models are best appreciated when viewed in person.



Ed Petrucci showed a vintage **Navy Yard Tug** that he scratch built. Ed carved the hull by hand - using his well known carving talent - and carefully added the details using his creativity to portray this small tug as a waterline model. Ed noted that the cabin was made from cardboard. Constructed a number of years ago, Ed guesses the scale is 3/16 - 1/4. The aft mast-stay came away from the mast top during transport to the meeting, but Ed will repair it making the model perfectly shipshape again.



In addition, Ed brought in some examples of small scale, exquisite dead eyes that he made. You can get a sense of their scale from the size of the lettering on paper showing under the plastic container. The type is about 12 - 14 points or about 1/8". Ed will be demonstrating how he makes blocks and deadeyes at the upcoming New England Ship Modeling Conference in April.



Jon Meiers gave a progress report on his build of the ***U.S.S Rattlesnake*** a 1776 American privateer. Jon is constructing a 1979 Model Shipways kit and adding extensive detailing for both esthetic and historical accuracy reasons. He is currently working on adding sails to this beautiful model. Solving the problems of both accuracy and esthetics is a challenge, and Jon's careful attention to accurately modeling those details are clearly paying off. Jon is collaboration with his wife who is helping by sewing the sails from Bluejacket's sail material (Silkspan) using Jon's patterns. Each sail is then dyed in tea to give it a feeling of age and wear. These realistic sails both look good and they are mounted so their running rigging appears ready to function exactly as intended. Taking one sail at a time and working in an orderly fashion permits Jon to reach the various lines involved. This is not an easy job, but Jon's careful approach, skill and dexterity is clearly working. Jon also plans to place a figure to add a sense of scale and realism.





John Elwood shared his spectacular HO scale **Waterfront Diorama** finished in 2006 using a Sierra West Kit and a scratch built model using the Emma C. Berry's framing. The diorama depicts an Essex Massachusetts shipyard from the late 1800's. The main building took 11 months to build! John is a nationally known model railroader and using his considerable skills and artistry constructed this as a standalone diorama designed to be viewed from all sides. Each time one looks at this amazing scene the eye finds, and the imagination captures, something new and fascinating to experience. What are those two guy discussing over the ship plans? John noted that he used a method that enabled each plank and roof shingle to be separately dyed to get that weathered feeling.

Special Notice:

For your information, Rick Abramson will be giving a presentation about ocean liner travel - a passion and special interest of Rick's that he's spoken about on a number of occasions. He is an excellent, knowledgeable and entertaining speaker.

Rick Abramson

Speaker

Floating Palaces, The Classic Liners

Sunday, March 5th

2 PM

Trumbull Library

33 Quality St.

Trumbull, CT

The power point presentation will cover the origins of trans-Atlantic travel beginning in the 1830s to the present.

Registration is required

Call 203-452-5197 and ask for Kathleen to register.