

May 13, 2022 Newsletter

Minutes

May 13, 2023 meeting of CMMS was held at the Christ and the Epiphany Church in East Haven from 10 am to 12 pm. Fifteen members were physically present and 5 additional members attended by Zoom. The first order of business was the election of new officers. In the absence of President Fred Kerson, VP James McGuffick called for nominations for Club officers. A vote was held and following new officers elected.

President: James McGuffick

Vice-President: Tom Szabo

Treasurer: James McGuffick

Secretary: Rick Abramson

Next, a question was raised of the value of Peoples' Choice model awards given-out at the Joint Conference. Specifically questioned were voting processes, what, if anything, the awards meant and what should be done going forward. The consensus clearly felt that there was little value to these general award and they served to incentivize the wrong things. It was agreed to consider this further and to develop a plan going forward for next year's Conference.

President: Fred Kerson

Vice-President: Jame McGuffick

Treasurer: James McGuffick

Secretary: Mike Jantsch

<https://ctshipmodels.org/index.html>

Rick Abramson brought two Arizona models, one of the USS Arizona, the WWII battleship sunk at Pearl Harbor that is part of the iconic memorial there, and the



other the newly commissioned USS Arizona a Virginia Class submarine.

Rick discussed the emotional and ethical conflict raised about re-using the Arizona's name for the new submarine and also the Navy's decision to go forward with it. Rick's models of these two (one a ship and one a boat!) are built to the same scale of 1/350.



His model of the battleship was built and

painted as she was on December 7, 1942. To achieve the detail and accuracy that Rick wanted for his battleship model required scrapping all the superstructure and replacing it with photo-etched parts - a very difficult undertaking but one with remarkable results and well worth the work. Rick also replaced the decking with wood adding more realism.

We are looking forward to following Dave's progress on this impressive model.



Dave Varholy showed his model of Nelson's flagship HMS Victory. Dave told us that he had started his Corel model in 1976 but had to put it aside until recently - a story well known and appreciated by so many of us. He noted that instead of trying to carve the bow and stem pieces he used a

Dave also brought in his model of a brass 20 pounder he turned. His machining skills are impressive!



Tom Szabo gave us a progress report on his 19th century whaler model of the Morgan. Tom is working on the rigging and he described how he's doing as much as he can off the model. He is carefully labeling all of the lines and working from the centerline out. Tom has taken extensive photos of the



'waterline' construction technique to draw and then successfully model those structures.

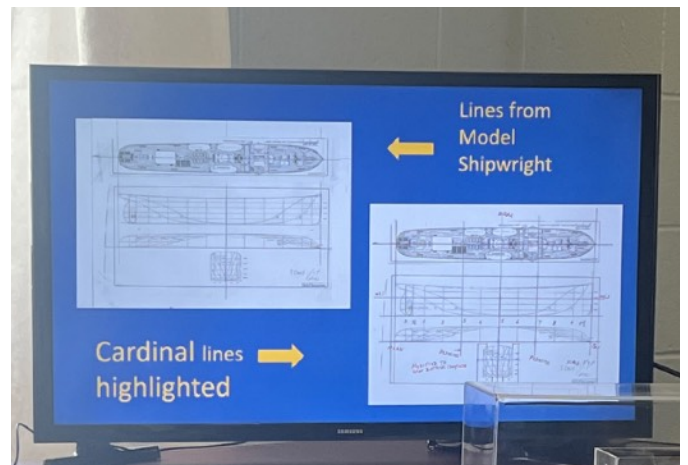
Morgan at Mystic to make sure he gets the rigging right. In addition to the rigging, Tom



has begun building the Morgan's whaleboats, by using a 'waterline' construction method - basically a 'bread & butter' construction technique - often used for half-hull models. Tom layers tranches taken from the whaleboat's waterlines, glues the layers together and then fairs and finishes them by sanding. This technique reduces the likelihood of uneven bulwark thickness. Tom is doing a beautiful job and his attention to detail and accuracy is evident - notice the vise on the workbench (white circle)!

Dave Dinan used PowerPoint to discuss both process and his progress on his scratch-built model of the *St. Ola*, an Orkney Island Ferry that operated from 1892 - 1951 sailing from north Scotland to Orkney Island. Dave's solid hull model is 1/192 (1/16"=1') in scale. It was interesting to learn how he starts each new build with a new notebook that he uses to store references and details of his research. In his presentation he spoke about how he builds a solid hull model using

Azek a plastic construction material that carves like wood. He showed how he gets a true centerline by longitudinal quartering a block and re-gluing the four pieces together. Dave is a master at carving these miniature model hulls and has used this material and technique for his Canadian corvette models. Dave gave an excellent presentation that worked well for both our Zoom participants and for those that were present in-person at our meeting.



CMMS Members Attending
the
40th Annual Northeast Joint Clubs
Ship Model Conference and Show
April 29, 2023



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