



THE FOGHORN

***Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England***

December 2007

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Note: Use officers@marinemodelers.org to reach all the club officers as a group.

Visit our club Web Page at: www.marinemodelers.org

Next Event: Our annual Holiday Dinner. **Sunday, December 2, 12-3 pm.**
See inside for the details.

January Meeting: There will be an indoor meeting in January, at the Church. Date will be announced. This is a new addition to the annual schedule—we'll be starting our year in January instead of waiting until February.

Club Officer Election Results:

Please note the changes on the masthead—the new Commander for 2008 is John Cooper. Our new Events Officer is Mike Hale, and Dave Mainwaring is our new Publicity Officer.

December Dinner: Time is Running out for Sign-ups!

Our annual December Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 2, from 12-3 pm.

The dinner will be held at **Zio Paolo's Trattoria** at 112 Main Street in Medway. Dinner will be a nice Italian buffet, consisting of salad, rolls and butter, chicken parmigiana, chicken marsala, teriyaki steak tips, baked haddock, Italian roasted potatoes, mixed vegetable medley, rigatoni, cake and coffee and tea. There will be a cash bar for wine, beer and mixed drinks.

Cost will be \$20 per person. You must RSVP to Arthur Perlmutter by Wednesday, November 28 if you'll be attending, and how many will be in your party. (The sooner you can respond, the better- don't wait until the last minute!)

We would prefer that you mail Arthur a check (payable to the club) before the 28th, to confirm your spot. Arthur has to confirm the number of attendees with the restaurant by the 30th. The club will be charged a fixed price based on the number of people that Arthur gives them.

You can pay in advance (preferred), or at the door. Just keep in mind that if you say you're coming and then don't show, you'll still owe the \$20 per person, as the club will have to pay if you don't show up.

We'll also have a number of door prizes available—everyone attending will be given a ticket upon entry.

International Model Boat Show Report

I missed the November indoor event, but I had a good excuse—I was in the UK, attending the International Model Boat Show. The show was held in the Warwickshire Exhibition center—which was about an hour and 10 minute train ride north from the London area.

The organizers bill the show as the world's largest RC Model boat show, and I believe them. The show is a three-day event, (Friday through Sunday, Nov 9-11) and is packed with club displays and vendors alike. There were two pools set up, with models on the water all day long.

There were 23 club stands – each typically consisted of 2-4 tables filled with club members' models on display, with a couple of club members standing by to talk about the club and the models. There were also two pools set up, and there was something running on one or both of the pools nearly continuously.



An overview of the show. You can see about two thirds of it in this view.

Also present were about 30 vendors' stands. All the major kit makers from the UK were there, as well as a number of smaller outfits I was unfamiliar with.

Though I was surely tempted, I didn't get any big kits this visit, in part because the exchange rate between the Dollar and the Pound is very bad right now, making things very expensive. I did, however take advantage of the PropShop booth to get a few small diameter props and shafts for use in future Lindberg tugs and other small projects.

Speaking of Lindberg, it was interesting to see a number of Lindberg tugs at the club stands around the hall. Apparently, the little tug is popular over in the UK, too!

One item that really caught my eye was a new 1/72 scale USS Monitor kit by Speedline Models. The model was about 26 inches long, and was made from laser cut plastic, with resin and metal detail parts. All of the plating and rivet detail was etched into the surface, and the turret included a nice set of cast resin guns. A full review will be appearing on the SteelNavy (www.steelnavy.com) website in the near future.



The new Speedline Models USS Monitor. Model can be built to represent the Monitor in three configurations: (1) as she appeared in her battle with the CSS Virginia; (2) After the battle, as part of the Hampton Roads squadron (pictured); and (3) configured for ocean transit, when she foundered in a storm of Cape Hatteras.



USS Monitor kit components



The turret interior is fully detailed.

Another of the many highlights was the table full of large rowing models. There was a large model (about 3 feet long) of a Roman bireme that was rowing around the tank. It featured two banks of oars, and a deck full of armed Romans, with galley slaves below decks.



One of the most impressive rowing models was the open boat that appeared to be rowed by a skeleton- with no visible mechanism driving the oars, and no sign of RC equipment. This model was particularly ingenious—the oarlocks were actually powered—they were what moved the oars back and forth. The motors and electronics were hidden under the inner hull- the model had a double bottom.

The Skeleton crew out for row...



The inner shell of the Skeleton Rowboat removed, to show the clever way the electronics and mechanicals are installed out of view. Each oar is independently controllable in speed and direction. You can see the orange outer shell in the background.



A full scale teapot out for a trip around the pond. If you look carefully, you can see that the model(?) has a full head of steam...

One final observation-- I had always gotten the idea that the level of models produced by the British modelers were generally of a higher quality than you'd typically find over here. (I probably got that idea from the pictures of all the super models you see in the British model boat magazines, and the fact that the hobby in general seems to be more vibrant over there.)

While I did see a lot of fine models, I also saw a lot of average ones, too. I am pleased to say, that if the MMC had had a club booth at this show, that we would have fit right in. The models created by our members compare very favorably to the models produced by the big UK clubs. All in all, it was a great day, and I'm glad I made the trip!

USS Constitution club's Annual Model Show

The USS Constitution Model Shipwrights Guild will hold its 29th Annual Model Show from February 5 - March 8, 2008 at the USS Constitution Museum in the Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston. This is a juried show for those who wish to compete, or enter just to display your work. The show is open to all modelers; you do not need to be a member of USSCMSG. Entry forms must be received by December 14, 2007.

Go to the Guild's web site under "Annual Show" for a show flier and entry form.

<http://www.constitution-modelshipwrights.org>

Message from Mike Hale

To: all members
From: departing Commander

I want to thank all my fellow officers for all their help for the last 2 years and for all the input and ideas from them and many other members.

Two years passed quite quickly, but with many good and enjoyable events and meetings. The club does need all members to help in the effort to bring in new and active members.

I look forward to working with our new commander- John Cooper over the next 2 years and as the event officer, I hope I can come with challenging events like-- tug races. Please let me know what type of activities you would like to do at water meets beside free sail.

Thanks and look forward to seeing everyone at the holiday dinner December 2nd for a real good time.

Thanks,

2007 Commander Mike Hale

November Meeting



While I was unable to attend the meeting, I understand that it was reasonably well attended, and that special thanks should go to Ridge White. Ridge donated a large sailboat to the club, which was purchased by Ed Arini, with the proceeds going to the club treasury. Bob Jones provided these pictures.

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News from Larry: Since the publication of catalog #207 in January 2007, PSME has added the full line of plastic materials from "EVERGREEN SCALE MODELS" and the full line of wood, plywood, cellfoam 88, carbon fiber and kits from "MIDWEST PRODUCTS CO., INC." A visit to their respective web sites or a call to me will provide additional product information.

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