



# THE SCUTTLEBUTT

The Scuttlebutt is the official newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Shipwrights. Its objective is to promote, develop and further scale model shipbuilding, as well as study maritime subjects, including art, history and traditions.

June 2025

## **Ships, Ships, and more Ships (plus some ropes)**

### **Monthly Meeting**

Shipwrights meet the THIRD Saturday of the month at Rockler Woodworking and Hardware. The store opens at 9:00 am and the meeting starts at 9:30.

**2553 S. Colorado Blvd. Denver, CO 80222**

**Next meeting: June 21, 2025**

### **June Presentation**

Confederate Submarine H.L. Hunley by Jay Phillips. A brief look at the history of the ship, and the design and building of a paper model.

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### **Arvada Workshop**

The workshop is on the FIRST Saturday of every month, beginning at 9:00 am at the Arvada City Hall, Police entrance.

**8101 Ralston Road, Arvada, CO 80002**

**Next workshop: July 5, 2025**

### **Officers**

**Commodore**.....Martin Jelsema  
**Skipper**..... Phil von der Heydt  
**First Mate**..... Jay McKeown  
**Purser**.....Scott Shilling  
**Clerk**.....Doug Graham

### **Committees**

**Events Chair:** Erik Collett  
**Photographer:** Jay Phillips  
**Historian:** Roger Hanson  
**Scuttlebutt:** Hugh Long  
**Webmaster:** Rob Cuscaden  
**Workshop Chair:** Ralph Buckwalter

### **Website**

<http://rockymountainshipwrights.org>

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## Skipper's Log

As we celebrate summer solstice and a new trip around the sun, exciting new times for the Shipwrights unfold! The train show led us to discover a cache of new model kits. Those of you who attended the last workshop got a first opportunity to browse the inventory and many of you took one and more kits home. We were able to recover our investment in these kits and have many more available which we will be able to see and purchase at our meeting on June 21. Elsewhere, in the [Scuttlebutt you will find a listing of the available models](#). We anticipate an increase in our inventory shortly, as we continue to support the widows of our deceased colleagues.

If you're interested in purchasing one of these model kits, please bring cash as we are in transition with our purser Scott Shilling, who as many of you know has acquired a 50-foot sailing vessel, "Salty" which he will board right after our meeting for a couple of years sailing on the East Coast and the Caribbean. We will miss Scott's enthusiasm and contributions to the club. This [creates a vacancy for the purser role](#). If you are interested, please inform me or Scott promptly. Thanks so much to Scott for his support and we look forward to hearing of his adventures and his return sometime way out in the future.

Our friends in the Woodworker's Guild reached out to us and opened the door for expanding our friendships. They invited us to their annual barbecue on July 20. Apparently, they have a talented pitmaster! Please note that the event will take place from noon to 4 o'clock on that Sunday.

They have also opened the opportunity for us to learn the audiovisual technology. I am looking for a group of three or four Shipwright members who would be interested in learning how to use the close-up cameras and audio system for our meetings. Please let me know if you are interested and we will schedule a short training session for each of you.

Our boat show will take place on October 18-19. Assistance is requested in organizing the event. I have reached out to the Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts to encourage their attendance by offering rain gutter regatta kits to Cub Scouts who visit. I also hope we can enrich the Sea Scout's program by inviting them to attend our meetings and supporting the boat show.

We will again have a Skipper's lunch at BoHeoPho after the meeting. Another great opportunity to enjoy each other!

Fair winds and following seas.

Phil von der Heydt, Skipper

Bvdh@aol.com

817 832 7631

## Looking for a Purser

As some of you have heard, our Purser, Scott Shilling, recently retired, and has now decided to move onto greener pastures, or more appropriately, calmer seas.

Scott and his wife Beth are in the process of purchasing "Salty," a 50-foot sailing vessel with the plan of spending at least the next couple of years sailing up and down the east coast of the United States.

Please join us in wishing Scott and Beth - "Bon Voyage!" as they launch into this next chapter of their life. And while congrats are definitely earned (and probably a bit of jealousy too), it leaves the club looking for a Purser. Feel free to reach out to [him](#) directly with your words of wisdom.

The Purser is the club's treasurer, business manager, and membership chairman and we need a volunteer to step up and into the wake that Scott is leaving us.

Scott leaves the club in a very good financial state, so how about grabbing the wheel and steering us forward? Please let us know if you are interested in stepping up.





## May 17, 2025 Meeting Notes

There were a number of people out of town for the May meeting, but thirteen members, one new member (Duane Holmes), Carol Phillips from the Women's Auxiliary, and a father and his young son for a total of seventeen in attendance.

The attendees were: Michael Caramia, Joeseeph Carroll, Terry Duffin, Bob Fivehouse, Duane Holmes, Steve Lofshult, Jay McKeown, David Niss, Marv Olson, Carol Phillips, Jay Phillips, Bob Rushforth, Alice Sampson, Scott Shilling, and Mike Untiedt plus the un-named father and son.



(Left to Right): Steve Lofshult, Father & Son, Marv Olson, Terry Duffin, Duane Holmes, Bob Rushforth (partially hidden), Mike Untiedt, Alice, Joeseeph Carroll, Scott Shilling, Michael Caramia, Bob Fivehouse, and David Niss

Our Skipper was out of town so First Mate Jay McKeown started the meeting at 9:35am and lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.



(Left to Right): Marv Olson, Mike Untiedt, Joeseeph Carroll, Michael Caramia, Scott Shilling, Bob Fivehouse, and David Niss

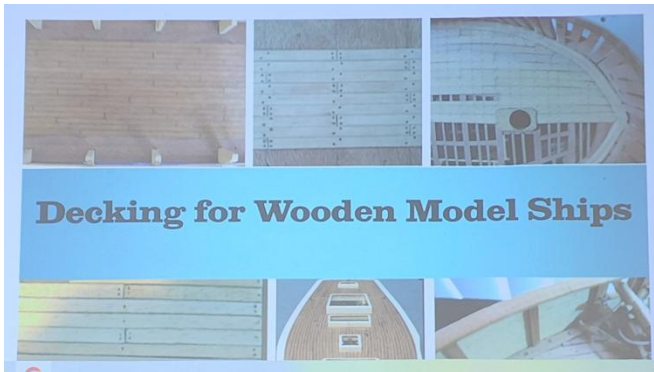


(Left to Right): Jay McKeown, Bob Fivehouse, David Niss, Michael Caramia, Duane Holmes, Mike Untiedt, Alice Simpson, Steve Lofshult, Marv Olson, Terry Duffin, Joeseeph Carroll, and Bob Rushforth





(Left to Right): Duane Holmes (new member) and Mike Untiedt



Jay M. told the group of “The Last Gentleman of War,” a story of the German fleet in East Asia during WW I. Admiral von Spee and Captain von Mueller both had interesting stories at the outbreak of hostilities in 1914.

Admiral Maximilian von Spee was a prominent figure in the German Imperial Navy, particularly known for his leadership during World War I. He led the East Asia Squadron, which was tasked with disrupting British shipping in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. His squadron achieved notable victories, including the Battle of Coronel, but was destroyed at the Battle of the Falkland Islands, where Spee was killed.

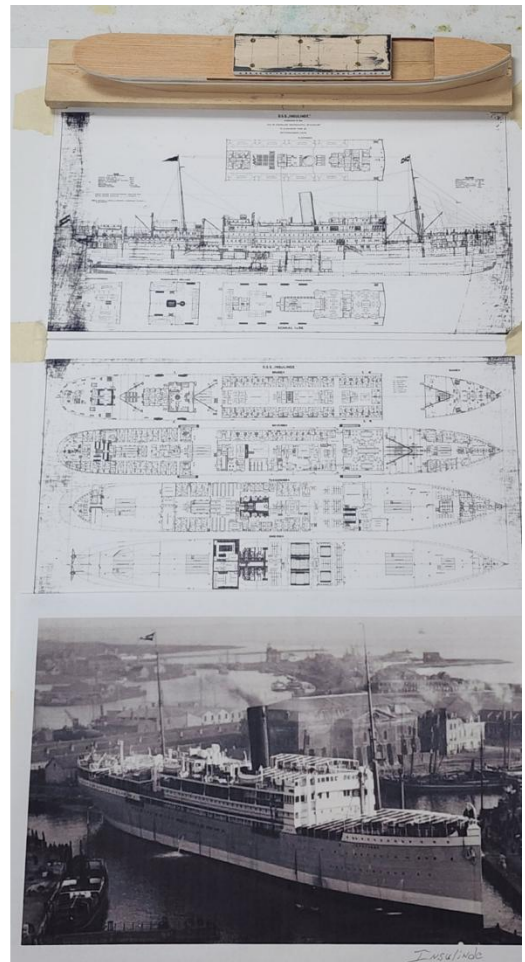
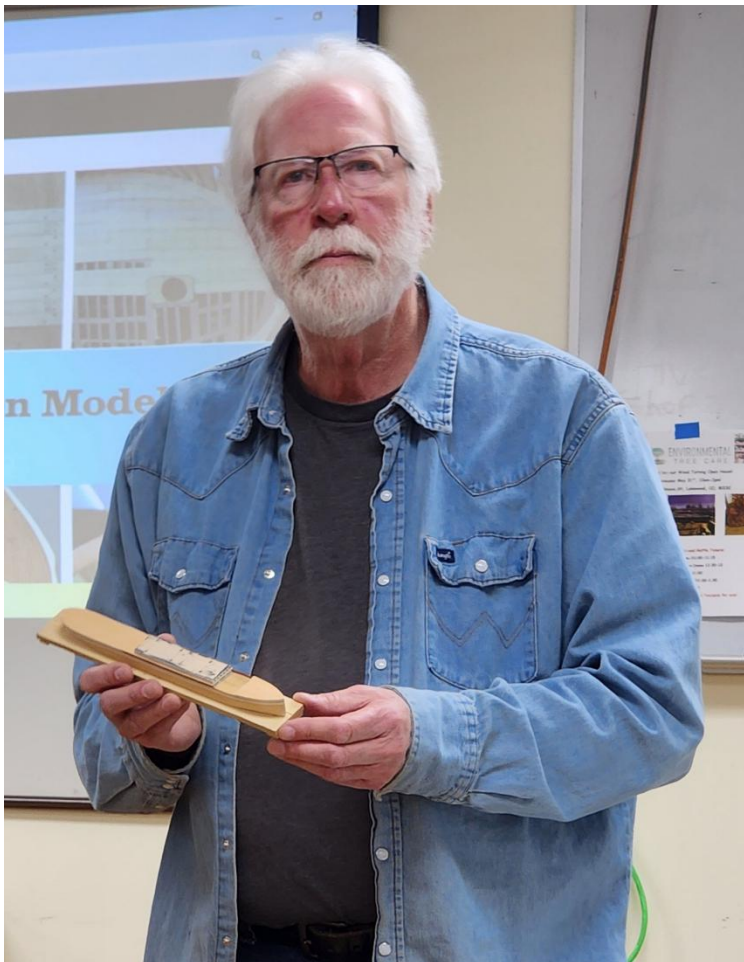
Captain Karl von Müller, also known as Karl Friedrich Max von Müller, commanded the SMS Emden, a light cruiser that was part of Spee's East Asia Squadron. The Emden was a successful commerce raider, causing significant problems for British shipping lines during the early stages of the war. Von Müller's actions with the Emden were highly regarded, and he became a national hero in Germany.

Jay M. then presented a practicum on various methods of planking a ship's decking. His discussion included:

- Basic deck from kit with false deck
- Introducing camber and shear
- Deck beam construction
- Waterways/margin planks
- Laying planks and caulking
- Butt patterns
- Nibbing/joggling
- Deck furniture
- TreeNails/finishing



After the planking presentation was complete, Jay M. lead a Show & Tell on his build of SMS Emden.



Bob F. presented his current build, SS Insulinde.



The SS Insulinde was a Dutch steamship built in 1914. It served as a passenger and freight ship between Rotterdam and Jakarta. During World War I, it was laid up and later sold to the Fabre Lines of Marseilles and renamed "Banfora". It was used on routes from Marseilles to West Africa. In World War II, it served as a British troop and supply transport.

The model is built in Bob's usual method, with a basswood hull and holly decks. The scale is 1:600 (1"=50'). It is a waterline model and will be set in a carved sea and cased. He has almost all of the fittings built and hopes to have the assembly finished within the next two months.

Everyone was invited to eat lunch at the restaurant next door to Rockler's (BoHeo Pho), and the meeting was adjourned.



(Left to Right): Scott Shilling, Jay McKeown, Jay Phillips, Carol Phillips, and Michael Caramia

Club lunch at BoHeoPho.

## June 7, 2025 Workshop

Fifteen club members and two guests turned out for Saturday's workshop. They were: Fred Bell, Jim Brooks, Ralph Buckwalter, Brian Davies, Terry Duffin, Doug Graham, Dan Hart, Duane Holmes, Martin Jelsema, Hugh Long, Del Milne, David Niss, Jay Phillips, Scott Shilling, and Phil von der Heydt. The guests were Ken & Kian Foy, clients/friends of Alice Sampson. For those that did not know, Alice offers private woodworking classes to families that want hands-on traditional instruction. She recommends Rocky Mountain Shipwrights to her students.

In addition to coffee, donuts, and conversation, some work was conducted. Here's what everyone is working on:

- Fred Bell; Willie Bennett Skipjack
- Jim Brooks: Remaining mentally balanced
- Ralph Buckwalter; Berbice Baltimore Clipper
- Brian Davies; Brig Eagle 1814
- Terry Duffin; Scottish Maid
- Doug Graham: Spirit of Mississippi Stern Wheeler
- Dan Hart: Chinese Junk Restoration
- Duane Holmes:
- Martin Jelsema; Rattlesnake Frigate
- Hugh Long: Bluenose & Molino/Buccaneer
- Del Milne; Fair American & DD418
- David Niss: Cutty Sark
- Jay Phillips; Ancient Egyptian Cargo Ship Research
- Scott Shilling; San Felipe
- Phil von der Heydt; Donuts





(Left to Right): Jim B, Del M, Ralph B, Phil vdH, Duane H, Dan H, Terry D, Scott S, and David N



(Left to Right): Terry D, Dan H, Doug G, Hugh L, Phil vdH, and Brian D



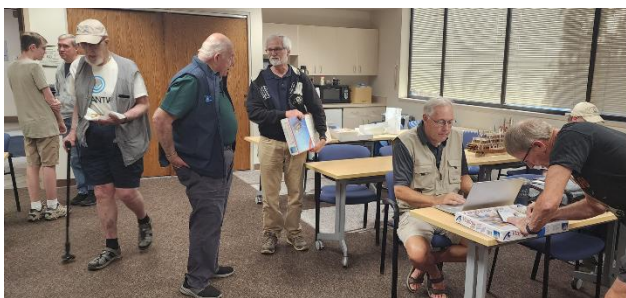
(Left to Right): Dan H, Del M, Doug G, Hugh L, and Ralph B



(Left to Right): Hugh L, Doug G, Ralph B, Ken F, Kian F, Duane H, and Terry D



(Left to Right): Phil vdH, Kian F, and Ken F



(Left to Right): Kian F, Ken F, Del M, Phil vdH, David N, Scott S, Dan H, and Brian D



(Left to Right): Ralph B, Phil vdH, Del M, Dan H, David N, Scott S, Jim B, and Brian D





Doug G's Spirit of Mississippi Stern Wheeler



Dan H's Chinese Junk Restoration

### We still have kits!

A couple of weeks ago the club was able to purchase 31 models ranging from very easy to very very challenging (see email on email on 5/27/25). The objective was to purchase these kits so that members could purchase a kit at a heavily discounted price and for new members to not be shell shocked when purchasing their first model.

Twelve of the kits were purchased at the workshop in Arvada on June 7<sup>th</sup>, but that leaves nineteen kits remaining.



(Left to Right): Del M, Ralph B, Kian F, Ken Foy, Doug G, Phil vdH, David N, Scott S, Terry D, Dan H, Brian D, Jim B, and Duane H

The kits listed below are still available and will be at the club meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ship Name	Vendor	Retail Max	Suggested Price	Discount	Scale	Comment	Estimated difficulty
Cutty Sark	Sergal (Mantua)	870.00	200.00	77%	1:78		Expert
Cutty Sark	Sergal (Mantua)	870.00	200.00	77%	1:78	Big Model - Box is crushed - model ok inside	Expert
Royal Caroline 1749	Panart	769.00	175.00	77%			Very Expert
HMS Bellona	Corel	495.00	105.00	79%			Expert
Puritan Coppa America 1885	Mamoli	350.00	75.00	79%	1:50	Length 35	Advanced Intermediate
Canadian Fishing Schooner (blue nose) 1921	Model Shipways	300.00	75.00	75%	1:64	Length 32 Nice looking boat	Intermediate
New York Pilot Boad (Phantom - 1866)	Model Shipways	250.00	70.00	72%	1:96	Small basic boat	Basic - advanced Beginner
New York Pilot Boad (Phantom - 1866)	Model Shipways	250.00	70.00	72%	1:96	Small basic boat	Basic - advanced Beginner
Lancia Armata 1803	Panart	219.00	60.00	73%	1:16	length 24 cool looking boat (row and sail)	Advanced Beginner
King of the Mississippi	Artesania Latina	180.00	50.00	72%	1:80	Length 26	Advanced Beginner
Independence 1775	Artesania Latina	130.00	35.00	73%	1:35	length 29 - nice boat for sure	Advanced Beginner
Steam Towboat (Taurus 1900)	Model Shipways	130.00	35.00	73%	1/8" = 1 ft	length 9	Beginner
Steam Towboat (Taurus 1900)	Model Shipways	130.00	35.00	73%	1/8" = 1 ft	length 9	Beginner
Muscongus Bay Lobster Smack	Midwest	70.00	20.00	71%	1/2' = 1 ft	Length 15	Beginner
Baltimore Clipper Schooner Dapper Tom	Model Shipways	125.00	15.00	88%		Length 16 partially built !!! Mistery	Beginner
North Atalantic Fishing Trawler	Lindberg	45.00	12.50	72%	Plastic	Length 17	Easy Beginner
North Atalantic Fishing Trawler	Lindberg	45.00	12.50	72%	Plastic	Length 17	Easy Beginner
Tuna Clipper	Lindberg	38.00	10.00	74%	Plastic	length 14	Easy Beginner
Tuna Clipper	Lindberg	38.00	10.00	74%	Plastic	length 14	Easy Beginner

## June 21, 2025 Meeting Agenda

Please join us on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> at Rockler Woodworking and Hardware for our monthly meeting. The store opens at 9:00 am and the meeting starts at 9:30 am. Rockler is located at 2553 S. Colorado Blvd. Denver, Colorado 80222.

- Flag Ceremony
- Skipper's Report
- Purser's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Break
- History and mystery (40 minutes)



- The history and demise of the Confederate Submarine H.L. Hunley. Jay Phillips shares the fascinating history of early attempts at underwater warfare.
- Break
- Shipwright Technology
  - Scott & Phil demonstrate a Carrick bend and anchor knot
- Show and Tell
- Adjourn
- Skipper's Table Lunch at [BoHeo Pho Kitchen](#) (next door to Rockler's).

## Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest May 16-18, 2025

On May 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>, the Midwest's longest-running model contest was held at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, WI. For those of you that are not aware, our club both participates in and supports the show.

Judging criteria included general impressions of the model and research, historical accuracy, and construction value based on written papers. In addition to GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE awards in each category or class, there are a number of special awards.



- F.K. Bemis Best in Show Award for the single entry judged to be best in show.
- Badger Air Brush Best Paint Finish Award for the single model with the best paint finish.
- Roger Jaekel Award for the single best entry that represents vessels of the Great Lakes. Sponsored by Midwest Model Shipwrights
- Dana McCalip Best Miniature Award for the single best model 3/32" = 1 ft. or smaller. Sponsored by Nautical Research & Model Ship Society of Chicago
- Best Novice Builder Award for the single best entry at the novice level. Sponsored by the North Shore Deadeyes
- People's Choice Award selected by Museum visitors. Sponsored by Wisconsin Scale Boating Association
- Modelers' Choice Award for which each contestant will be allowed one vote. **Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Shipwrights**
- Gordon Stiller Best Maritime Carving Award Within the category of nautical crafts we are highlighting a call-out for maritime carvings (figureheads, fish, water creatures, waterfowl). This award is for the single best carved nautical craft or for exceptional wood carving on a ship model.

## Awards



Over the years we have had a number of our modelers not just display their work but also win awards. And that continued this year with Ralph Buckwalter bringing home a Silver Award in Category I for Scratch-Built models in Class B (vessels at any scale larger than 3/32" = 1 foot) in the Advanced group for his Gjoa!

Congratulations Ralph!

Ralph has been going to Manitowoc for 22 years, and in about twenty of those years, he has received awards. In other words, he is pretty good.



Silver Award in Category I for Scratch-Built models in Class B (vessels at any scale larger than  $3/32'' = 1$  foot) in the Advanced group - Ralph Buckwalter, Gjoa





Gold Award Category II Kit Models Class B, Plastic of any scale, Advanced: Samuel Parent, USS Katadhin

Special Award:

- Dana McCalip Best Miniatures Award Sponsored by the Nautical Research & Model Ship Society of Chicago



Gold Award Category II Kit Models, Class B Plastic of any scale, Junior: Roland Hu, USS Missouri

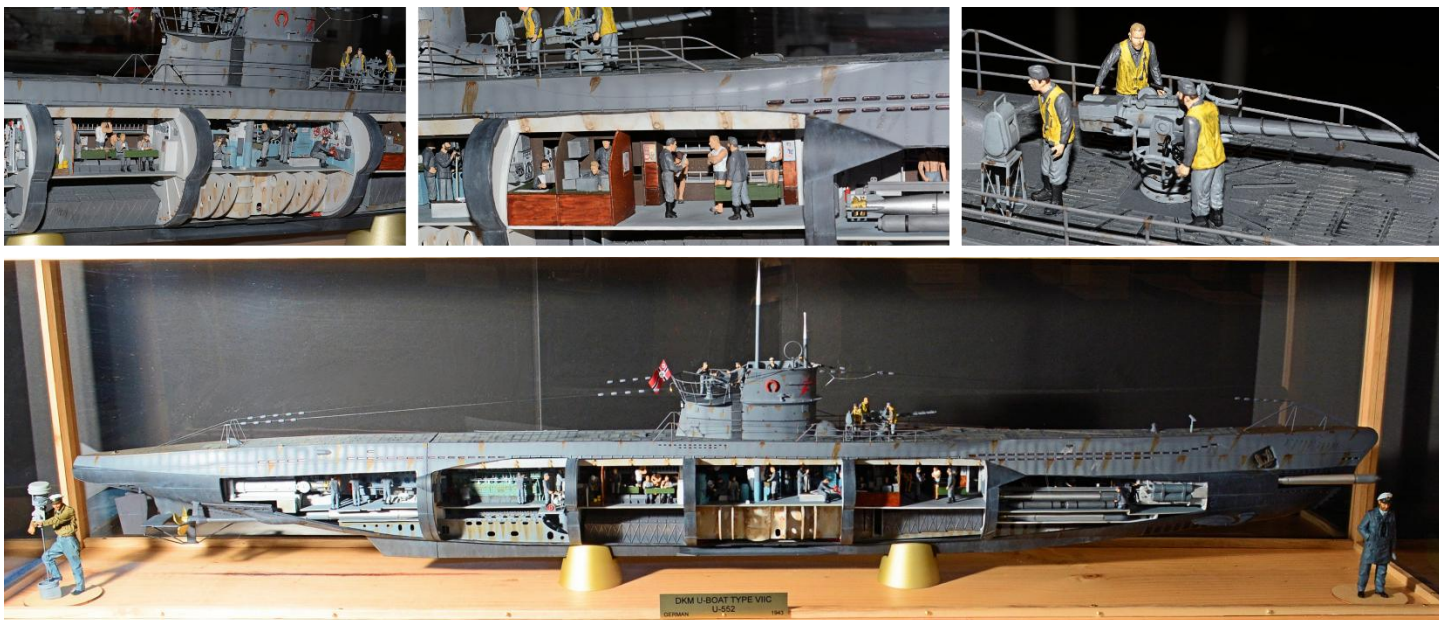
Bronze Category II Kit Models, Class A  
Wood of any scale, Advanced: Jim  
Huebener, La Couronne

Special Award:

- People's Choice Award selected by Museum visitors. Sponsored by Wisconsin Scale Boating Association



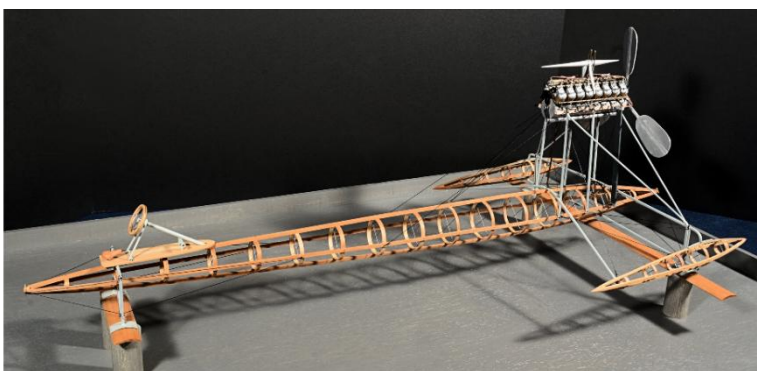
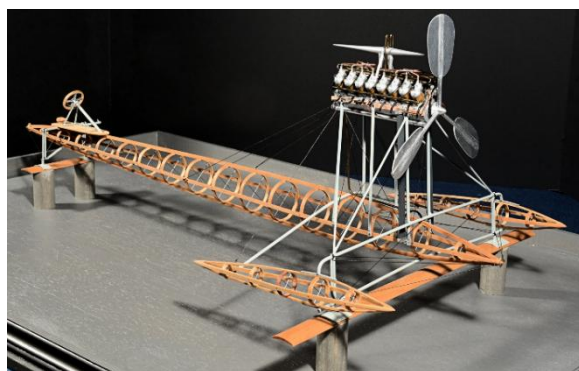




Gold Award Category II Kit Models Class B, Plastic of any scale, Advanced: Gary Kosiorek, DKM U Boat Type VII-C U-552

Special Awards:

- Badger Air Brush Best Paint Finish Award for the single model with the best paint finish.
- Modelers' Choice Award Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Shipwrights



Gold Awards Category I Scratch-Built Class B, Vessels at any scale larger than  $3/32" = 1$  foot, Advanced: Gregory Davis, Santos-Dumont No.18 Hydroplane

Special Award

- F.K. Bemis Best in Show Award for the single entry judged to be best in show



Bronze Category I Scratch-Built Models Class B, Vessels at any scale larger than  $3/32" = 1$  foot, Advanced: William Nyberg, Margaret Olwill

Special Awards:

- Roger Jaekel Best Great Lakes Award Sponsored by Midwest Model Shipwrights



## Naval Training Vessels

Many countries have naval training vessels, but what exactly are they? A naval training ship is a vessel, either a sailing ship or a powered ship, specifically used to train sailors, particularly future officers, and cadets, in the practical aspects of seamanship, navigation, and naval life. These ships serve as floating classrooms and training grounds, where trainees learn essential skills at sea.

Key features and functions of naval training ships:

- Practical Training
- Seamanship and Navigation
- Discipline and Teamwork
- Sea Familiarization
- Examples of Naval Training Ships
  - Sailing ships
  - Powered ships

In summary, naval training ships play a vital role in preparing future naval personnel by providing them with practical training and experience at sea. In addition to being training ships, many of these ships also serve as ambassadors for their home countries and cultures.

### ARM Cuauhtemoc BE-01

The Mexican Naval Training Vessel ARM Cuauhtemoc (built in Spain in 1981; launched in 1982) has recently made the news, and unfortunately, not for a good reason.

On May 17, 2025, ARM Cuauhtemoc, after spending 3 days in port conducting tours and such, struck the Brooklyn Bridge. This accident is under investigation, but it is important to remember that at least twenty-two crew members were injured in the allision, and two perished due to their injuries. In total there were 277 people on board, including 175 naval cadets. The two cadets that perished were cadet América Yamileth Sánchez Hernández, 20, and a sailor, Adal Jair Maldonado Marcos, 23. No one on land or on the bridge was injured.

New term for me: an allision is a maritime term for when a vessel strikes a stationary object, such as a dock, pier, or another ship that is not moving. It is distinct from a collision, which involves two moving vessels striking each other.

As of May 30, 2025, the allision is still under investigation. I've been following Sal Mercogliano's, a maritime historian and former merchant mariner, YouTube channel, [What's Going on With Shipping](#) since the accident. Sal has released a number of videos that are excellent video narratives of the allision. I recommend his channel, but when watching any of his videos (or any other item related to the allision), please note the date of release as this is a breaking new story and we will not know the full story until the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) releases their report.

I will let the experts figure out what happened, but [ARM Cuauhtemoc](#) is a majestic sailing vessel.



In the August 2024 issue of the Scuttlebutt, I detailed a trip that I took to the Naval Museum of Mexico called the Museos Historico Naval, located in Puerto Vallarta. One of the models on display was the ARM Cuauhtemoc. The model and specifically the name of the ship was one of many that stood out to me, so much so that when I first heard the name of the ship involved in the allision, I knew it was one of the models I had seen.

**ARM Cuauhtémoc BE-01**  
*Sailing School Ship*



Regardless of the outcome of the investigation, I do hope the ship is repaired, and more importantly, please remember the two young people who perished, América Yamileth Sánchez Hernández and Adal Jair Maldonado Marcos.

## USCG Barque Eagle WIX 327

In early May, while out running errands in Puerto Vallarta, I saw a rare site, at least for me... a tall three masted ship in the marina. After a quick search, I found out that the U.S. Coast Guard Barque Eagle was in town for a couple of days and it could be toured.

The Eagle is ninety meters (295 feet) in length, making it the largest tall ship flying the US flag. It is the only active square-rigger in United States government service. It was built in 1936 in Hamburg, Germany for the German Navy. After World War II, it was given to the United States as a war reparation. The Eagle is a three-masted barque with more than 6,797 square meters (22,300 square feet) of sail and 9.7 kilometers (6 miles) of rigging. It has served as a classroom at sea to future Coast Guard officers since 1946.

Much like ARM Cuauhtemoc, the Barque Eagle is beautiful and majestic ship.





## The Cold Case of Scattered Man John Doe

If any of you have wondered, putting the Scuttlebutt together is a continual process. Yes, there is a form of a template that I use (that is always evolving), but the articles each month come from a hodgepodge of sources. Throughout the course of the month while scouring the web I end up running into articles that I feel would be a good fit for the Scuttlebutt. I copy and save links to these articles in a file and then as I begin putting the Scuttlebutt together, I look at the list and try to come up with a theme for the overall issue, or at least see if I can somehow tie a couple of the articles to the topics of "Mystery", "History", or "Knots". Sometimes I feel that I was successful while other times I feel it could have been better.

And one of the things that always make it better is when I get a suggestion from one of our members. This is one of those times.

Earlier this month Alice Sampson forwarded me a link to an article from NPR about the "Scattered Man John Doe" cold case from New Jersey. Here is the [link to the article](#) plus if you are interested, Google "Scattered Man John Doe" and see what comes up.

Here is my take on the story...

In 1995, in Longport, New Jersey a skull washed ashore, and then about two miles away 4 years later in 1999, additional bones were found in Margate. Although the remains were old, the New Jersey State Police were able to use traditional DNA testing and revealed that the remains came from the same individual. But they could not identify who it was. I have no doubt that if the bones were found near Philly that Lily Rush and Scotty Valens would have been able to determine who the bones belonged to, but this is not TV, so the case turned cold.



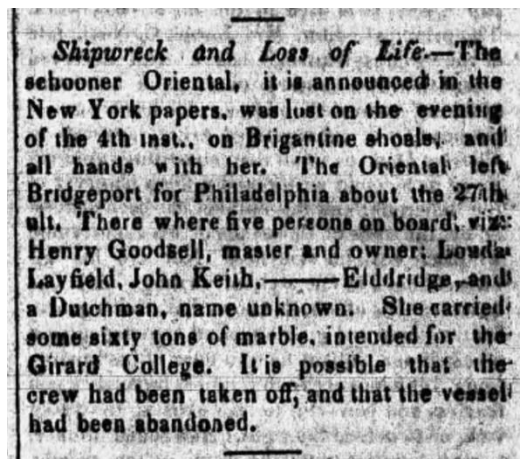
In 2013, additional remains were found in Ocean City, New Jersey about four miles away from where the skull was found. Again, using traditional DNA testing, the New Jersey State Police were able to tie these new remains to those found in Longport and Margate – but they still could not identify who they belonged to, and the case remained cold.

In 2023, the [Investigative Genetic Genealogy \(IGG\) Center](#) at Ramapo College (NJ) was consulted and students in undergraduate field studies as well as the IGG certificate program began performing IGG research in the case.

In the fall of 2023, the New Jersey State Police partnered with the [Investigative Genetic Genealogy \(IGG\) Center](#) at Ramapo College (NJ) to see if they would be able to use investigative genetic genealogy to solve the mystery of the bones scattered along the NJ beaches. Genetic genealogy uses DNA analysis and traditional

genealogical methods to understand family relationships and ancestry. It involves comparing DNA samples to databases to identify genetic matches to infer the nature and depth of relationships between individuals.

When the semester ended, a group of IGG volunteers continued to try to identify "Scattered Man." They found ancestry dating back to the 1600s, with genetic relatives hailing from Litchfield and Fairfield counties in Connecticut. They also began looking into shipwrecks off the coast of New Jersey. They discovered clips from two newspaper articles from 1844 detailing the wreck of the schooner Oriental.



SCHR. ORIENTAL.—The Bridgeport (Conn.) Standard has further accounts from this ill-fated vessel, which render it certain that all on board must have perished. It appears that she was stranding for the shore, having probably sprung a leak, and that she suddenly went down head foremost, at the distance of half or three quarters of a mile from the beach. Five or six persons (so says the Absecon Postmaster,) were seen on board just before she sunk. The storm was so tremendous that no help could be given from the shore. After the vessel had broken to pieces, the boat came ashore, stove and hanging to one of the davits. A corpse was thrown on the shore some five miles below—it was taken up and decently buried. From marks on the arm, it was ascertained to be the body of John Keith. No other bodies have been discovered. There was no insurance upon the vessel or cargo, and probably but a small portion of the latter has been picked up. Capt. Goodsell, and Layfield, leave families to mourn his untimely fate. The widow of Capt. G. with three young children, has been left in very embarrassed circumstances.

The students learned that five crew members were aboard the Oriental, which departed from Connecticut heading to Philadelphia, PA, to deliver sixty tons of marble for use by Girard College, a college preparatory boarding school that opened in 1848. The ship was wrecked off the coast of Brigantine Shoal in 1844. It was

reported the ship likely sprung a leak and went down less than one mile from the shoreline, and all crew members died.

Given both the schooner hailed from Connecticut and there was genetic evidence that relatives of the “Scattered Man” in Connecticut, the team felt they were on the right track. One by one they researched the five crew members until they found their match with the captain of the ship, 29-year-old Henry Goodsell.

The IGG team told the NJSP that the mounting evidence pointed towards Henry Goodsell.

NJSP then contacted the closest living relative of Captain Goodsell, a great-great grandchild, and collected a DNA sample. The sample resulted in a positive identification and on April 8, 2025, the identity of “Scattered Man” was confirmed. More than 180 years after he perished, a death certificate was issued for Captain Henry Goodsell.

If you would like to know more about this type of work, in 2020 there was a short reality TV show called the Genetic Detective. The show detailed actual examples of where police departments partnered with genetic detectives using actual crime scene DNA to solve cases. If you can find these episodes, they are an interesting watch.

## Ropes

I recently ran across two tips related ropes that I thought I would pass on. More tools for my toolbox for when the need arises in the future.

### Tie off a Rope

While rummaging around on Ships Of Scale, I found the following tip for tying off a rope and thought I would pass it along. The tip was shared by Manuel León from Sevilla, Spain. He uses the handle of mleonc. It can be found [here](#).



1. A regular fork is used to create the diameter of the rope. Both larger and smaller forks can be used to get the desired size. And if you use plastic fork, you can break off one of the outer tines off to make wrapping smaller hanks easier.
2. Cut off the desired length of rope.
3. Wrap the rope around the tines that create the size of rope you want. Continue wrapping around these tines until you get the desired length of rope.



4. Loop the rope between the tines and around the rope a couple of times.
5. Tie off using a clove hitch knot.
6. Varied sizes can be created by using different tines.





7. Wrap the rope around the tines that create the size of rope you want. Continue wrapping around these tines until you get the desired length of rope.
8. Tie off using a clove hitch knot.
9. Hang on ship.

An option to using only the clove hitch knot is to use a quick release clove hitch with an overhand knot to create a handle to carry or hang the rope.

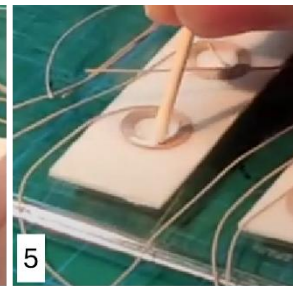
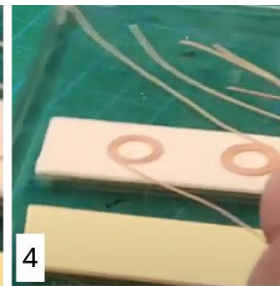
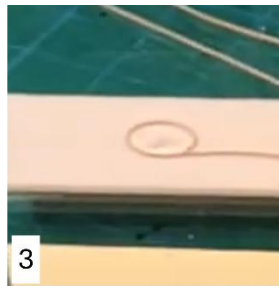
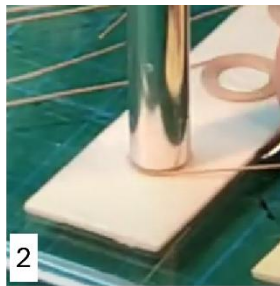
1. To create the handle, instead of passing the end of the rope through the loops, leave a longer tail, create a loop, and pass the loop through instead.
2. Leave a longer tail.
3. Tie an overhead knot on the end of the tail and tighten up.
4. Rope with a handle.



A good video tutorial can be found [here](#).

## Coil a Rope

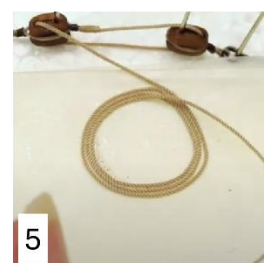
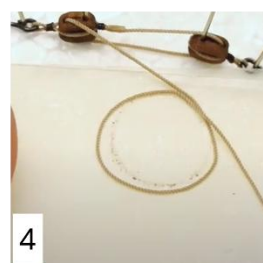
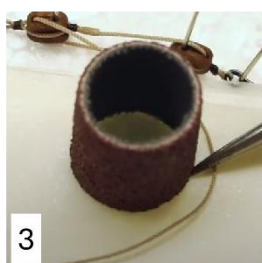
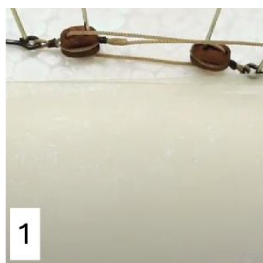
On the same post on Ships Of Scale, our own member Jeff Potter (aka Corsair) asked about tips for coiling rope. He suggested the following:



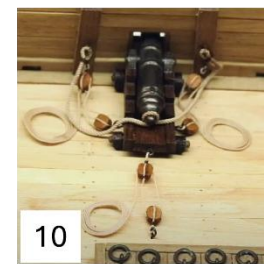
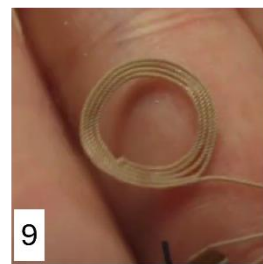
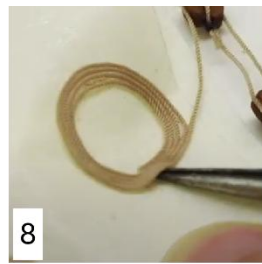
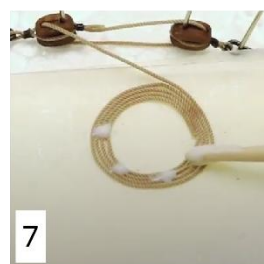
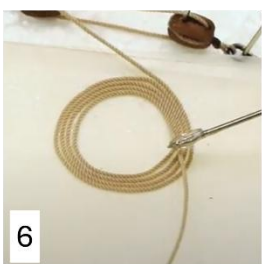
1. Place a round object (a hobby knife in this example) on the sticky side of the tape.
2. Coil the rope around the knife handle and push the rope down to stick on the tape.
3. Remove the knife.
4. Coil the rope outward until the coil is the desired size, leaving a tail of rope as long as needed.
5. Place a 50/50 mixture of white glue and water on the coil.

Once glue mixture is dried, carefully remove the coil from the tape and place it on the ship.

[Olha Batchvarov](#) (a phenomenal ship builder on YouTube) uses a variation of Jeff's suggestion but coils the rope inward.



1. Place tape down, sticky side up.
2. Place a round object (a Dremel sanding drum in this example) onto the tape.
3. Coil the rope around the drum and push it down to stick on the tape.
4. Remove the drum.
5. Coil the rope inward.



6. Continue until the coil is the desired size.
7. Place a 50/50 mixture of white glue and water on the coil.
8. Once glue mixture is dried, the carefully remove the coil from the tape.
9. Completed coil.
10. Completed coils place on ship.

Olha's videos are amazing. If you have not seen any of them, you should. Coiling a rope is detailed in her YouTube video titled [Model ship building #19 - Gun tackles and breeching - RAGUSIAN CARRACK XVlc - KIT \(MarisStella\)](#) and starts around the 11 minute mark.

If you have any tips you would like to share, please let us know and we can either have you demonstrate it during a meeting or write it up and put it in the newsletter.

### What's Everyone Working On

Here is a list of what I know our members are working on. I know the list is incomplete and would love to hear from you about what you are working on. And pictures are ALWAYS welcomed.

- Fred Bell: Willie Bennett Skipjack
- Ralph Buckwalter: Berbice Baltimore Clipper
- Brian Davies: Brig Eagle 1814
- Terry Duffin: Swift Pilot Boat & Scottish Maid
- Bob Fivehouse: Britanna - 1896
- Doug Graham: Spirit of Mississippi Stern Wheeler
- Dan Hart: Titanic 1:400 & Chinese Junk Restoration
- Martin Jelsema: Rattlesnake
- Hugh Long: Molino (Buccaneer) & Bluenose
- Del Milne: Fair American & DD418
- David Niss: Cutty Sark
- Jay Phillips: Ancient Egyptian Cargo Ship Research
- Scott Shilling: San Felipe & Salty
- Daniel Siemens: Armitage McCann Spanish Galeon



## Get Your Swag

- For polo shirts, caps, and vests, ask **Scott Shilling** at any meeting.
- For name badges, ask **Rob Cuscaden** at any meeting.



## Website Password

Club members have access to the archive of the Scuttlebutt on the website. This portion of the [website](#) is locked to members only. If you cannot access them, please let me know and I will get you your password.

## Sources of Tools, Supplies & Services

Rocky Mountain Shipwrights is not affiliated with any of the companies in the lists below (other than the fact that we meet on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at Rockler**).

The first list is of selected on-line suppliers. The second list is of local suppliers of goods and services that could be of value to ship modelers. And the third list is of additional resources. **Think of these lists as incomplete.** If you use or have discovered others, please email them to [hlong222@comcast.net](mailto:hlong222@comcast.net) and they will be added to the lists. With your contributions, we can make these lists a more comprehensive and valuable resource.

### Online Suppliers

#### **Nautical Hobby Shops**

##### [Ages of Sail](#)

Kits, parts, plans, supplies, and tools.

##### [Blue Jacket Shipcrafters](#)

Kits, parts, plans, supplies, and tools.

##### [Cast Your Anchor](#)

Kits, supplies, and tools; based in Canada so shipping is a little longer.

##### [Model Expo](#)

Nautical hobby shop, extensive ship kits, parts, tools, and supplies

##### [Modelers Central](#)

Kits, supplies, plans, and tools

##### [Seaworthy Small Ships](#)

Kits are geared towards new and younger modelers.

##### [Syren Ship Model Fittings and Supplies](#)

Ship model kits, parts, and scale fittings.

##### [Wooden Model Ship Kit](#)

Ship model kits, parts, and scale fittings.

#### **Tools**

##### [Byrnes Model Machines](#)

Top of the Line micro-saws, sanders, and other tools

##### [Contenti Jewelry Supply](#)

Jewelry tools, fair prices on hand tools, cheap and quality versions of most tools.

##### [MicroMark](#)

Small tool specialist; a small selection of ship kits, and ship modelling supplies.

##### [UMM-USA](#)

Modeling tools for plastic and wood models

##### [Razor Blade Company](#)

Cutting blades and handles

#### **Materials**

##### [Cards of Wood](#)

Thin veneer and plywood

##### [Constantines's Wood Center](#)

Wood veneers plus Rockler-like tools and supplies.

##### [National Balsa](#)

Wood supplier, airplane centric but good stock of dimensional strips, sheets, and substantial number of blocks in diverse types of wood. It may have a \$50 minimum order.

##### [Northeastern Scale Lumber](#)

Wood and fabricated wood for models, doll houses and railroad layouts

##### [Saunders Midwest Products](#)

Balsa, basswood and more – strips, sheets, and dowels. Also, beginner boat kits

#### **Parts**

##### [Flags of the World](#)

Info about all types of flags but not a source of nautical modeling flags

##### [I.T. Sitek Props](#)

Scale model ships propellers.

#### **Graphics**

##### [Shapeways](#)

3d printing company with parts for units ranging from complete ships to figureheads. Also does custom work.



## Local Sources

### [ABC Imaging](#)

77 Klamath St. Denver  
303-573-5757  
Large & small format copying, B&W printing

### [Art Parts Creative Resource Center](#)

3080 Valmont Road, Boulder  
720-379-5328  
Contributed used arts stuff you get for cheap, from chalk to sewing machines, and more.

### [Austin Hardwoods of Denver](#)

975 W Mississippi Ave, Denver  
303-733-1292

**Colpar/Hobbytown** – two locations

#### [Aurora Location](#)

1915 S Havana St, Aurora, CO  
303-341-0414

#### [Lakewood Location](#)

3355 S Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO  
303-988-5157  
These are good local hobby shops that have a selection of wood ship kits, supplies, and tools.

### [Guirys](#)

Multiple locations  
303-412-6522  
Art supplies and house paints

### [Hobby Lobby](#)

Multiple locations  
Arts and craft supplies

### [Laird Plastics](#)

10004 E 45th Ave, Denver, CO  
866-292-9090  
For plastic case covers ask for Tracy

### [Meininger Art Supply](#)

499 Broadway, Denver  
303-698-3838  
Paints, brushes, tools, paper, and more

### [Michael's](#)

Multiple locations  
Arts and crafts supplies

### [Plasticare](#)

4211 S Natches Ct Suite K, Englewood, CO  
303-781-1171  
Plastic supplier/resin with customer shop. can do acrylic fabrication & laser engraving.

### [Reynolds Advanced Materials](#)

3920 Grape Street, Denver  
303-399-0202  
Clays, resins, silicone, and more

### [Rocky Mountain Train Supply](#)

6060A W 55th Ave, Arvada, CO  
303-456-6702  
Only model-train store in Denver, broad selection of supplies, strip wood, details, scenic supplies.

### [Rockler Woodworking and Hardware](#)

2553 S Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO  
303-782-0588  
Home base for wood, tools, and supplies

### [Thinker Tinker Workshop](#)

3735 Ames St. Wheat Ridge, CO 80212  
303-748-9180  
A building and creative space for all ages

### [Woodcraft of Colorado](#)

6770 S Peoria Street, Centennial  
303-290-0007

## Selected Informational Resources for Model Builders

### [Model Ship Builder](#)

This website has a popular forum with over 1900 members and an extensive group of building logs. They also sponsor group builds and provide an opportunity for members to place articles. The site also has archived issues of "Warships and Workboats" and "MSB Journal."

### [Ships of Scale](#)

This website provides a forum and build logs from around the world, though it is an English language site headquartered in the USA. It was never associated with the now-defunct *Ships In Scale* magazine; those are the intellectual property of the Nautical Research Guild.

### [Nautical Research Guild](#)

Official website for this premier ship building organization. There are articles, links, and NRG news.

### [Model Ship World](#)

The Nautical Research Guild operates this large comprehensive site. It is a major forum with build logs and responses to modeler's questions. Also access shop notes, tips, techniques, and research.

### [John's Nautical & Boatbuilding Page](#)

This site includes mostly life-size boat building material, but its self-proclaimed "Mother of All Maritime Links" can be helpful.

### [Bottled Ship Builder](#)

This is a forum that is all about ships in bottles and miniature buildings. Information for anyone interested in ships in bottles and miniatures.

### [Model Ship Building Secrets](#)

This is an English blog with a directory, "50 of the Best Model Ship Building Sites".

### [DeAgostini Model Space](#)

A British commercial site selling kits and tools with a forum filled with build logs of large models.

### [Arsenal Modelist](#)

Olivier Bello's ship modeling site features forty-three short tutorials, closeups of his fine work and building logs.

### [Wooden Ship Modeling for Dummies](#) (aka Naval Model Making for Dummies)

The site contains illustrated photos (three thousand) and videos (two hundred). However, unless you pay to subscribe, you may only access a limited amount of this instructional material. Those unrestricted tutorials are certainly worth exploring.



## THE NAUTICAL RESEARCH GUILD

"ADVANCING SHIP MODELING THROUGH RESEARCH"

Annual membership includes our world-renowned quarterly magazine, *Nautical Research Journal*, which features photographs and articles on ship model building, naval architecture, merchant and naval ship construction, maritime trade, nautical and maritime history, nautical archaeology and maritime art.

Other benefits include discounts on annual conferences, ship modeling seminars, NRG products and juried model competitions which are offered exclusively to Guild members. We hope you will consider joining our ongoing celebration of model ships and maritime history.

For more information contact us at: [www.thenrg.org](http://www.thenrg.org) or call 585 968 8111

