

Newsletter of the Washington Ship Model Society



THE NEWS IS IN!!



A Record Number of WSMS Members made the Nice List!!!

SKIPPERS CORNER

Say it ain't so, 2016 already!?!?

As I write this I hope one and all are basking in the largess of Santa, having been good little boys and girls this past year. And with the long winter nights you have been getting in some serious bench time. All of that will be necessary as we soon will be going on the road! First up will be the Old Dominion Open Model Show 27 February. This is held at the Richmond International Raceway complex in Richmond. It is an easy drive down there. The Richmond IPMS puts on a good show, well attended with many good models and modelers in attendance. And the vendor section is first rate: time to fill that hole in your stash or pick-up needed paints, tubing, and other supplies.



The WSMS has become a much appreciated feature at the Show, along with the crew from Hampton Roads. To that end I need a show of hands from those planning to attend or, if unable, might loan a model or two for the display table. So mark your calendar and plan for a very enjoyable day. Attending model shows is one of our outreach activities; others include our website and Facebook page. Many thanks to Carl Erickson and Brion Boyles for keeping our presence fresh and current. But they need material to post. We have some very clever fellows who produce amazing items for their models. Keep your camera/phone near the bench and document your work. Send that and a few words describing what you are doing to Brion and Carl for posting. Our followers/audience will appreciate the knowledge and encouragement you provide.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Saturday, January 9 2016

The meeting location is: Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Meeting Directions:

- . From the beltway go south on Route One. Turn left onto Fort Hunt Rd. Head south about 3.5 miles to Shenandoah Road. There will be a Shell Gas station on the near corner and the Hollin Hall Shopping Center sign on the far right corner.
- . Turn right on Shenandoah Road and proceed to the driveway on the right just beyond the 7-11. Enter the center by the door under the green roof. Turn right; take elevator to 2nd floor, turn left, go to end of hall, turn right and go down the corridor to room 213 or 217.
- . From the south turn off Route One to the right at Sherwood Hall Road. Continue past the Library about a mile to Fort Hunt Road. Turn right on Fort Hunt Road and head south to the gas station noted above.

Santa & Visitor's Always Welcome!

The Old Dominion Show will replace the Focus Group meeting for February. In January, the 23rd, Lou will be hosting. His home may seem to be a bit of a drive, but well worth it. We all can envy his lovely work space and marvel at the sad, sad models he brings back to life. The Focus meeting for March, the 26th, will be replaced by a field trip to the National Archives in College Park. I'll host that. We'll go over the general layout and organization of the collection, look at a few of the finding aids, as well as see examples of the sorts of materials

available (plans, photographs, text records). As we get closer to the date I'll ask for information that will facilitate registration and obtaining your Researcher Card.

But that takes us only to the beginning of Spring. We need potential hosts for April and May although the latter may be taken up by the Model Expo at St. Michaels.

So everyone to their benches!

Doug

Minutes 12 December 2015 Meeting



This document reports the minutes of the Washington Ship Model Society, which was held at the Hollin Hall Senior Center on 12 December 2015.

The meeting was led by the Skipper, Doug Wilde. There were 8 members present.

The Nominating Committee is still looking for candidates, but should be able to present a slate for the bridge in January or February.

We agreed to continue to investigate the possibility of a Regional Workshop.

Brion Boyles agreed to present a discussion on electrical lighting for models.

We agreed that we should not accept commercial advertisements for in the Lynx or on the website.

We are looking for donations for a future auction and raffle. Contact the 1st Mate or our Lynx Editor if you have something to contribute.

Be careful when sending group-addressed e-mails. If necessary, use the BCC line so as to not compromise individual addresses.

Lou will hold the focus group on 23 January. The Focus group for February will not be held as it coincides with the Richmond IPMS. Doug Wilde is considering a March visit to the Archives.

Attendees

Doug Wilde

Lou Husser

Tim Rulon

Doug Beatty

Warren Yaun

Rick Yorczyk

John Downing

Scott Allen

Submitted;

Ships Clerk, Doug Beatty, 28 Dec 2015





Bridge Announcements

Skipper - WSMS Elections Past Due

1st Mate - Volunteer Hosts Needed!

Although Lou will host the January focus meeting, we need more of you to step up. December is open and every month from February on as well. These informal sessions are always great for seeing where our members create their models, discover an individual's interesting tools and jigs, as well as never before seen models. So

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Cabin Fever Expo 2016 Model Engineering Show & Auctions

January 15-17, 2016
Lebanon Valley Expo Center
80 Rocherty Road
Lebanon, PA 17042
The Largest Show Of Its Kind in The Country!
Includes Auctions, Vendors, Exhibitors, Consignment Sales Area

Please, step forward! Previous hosts can testify that we're all housebroken.

Treasurer - Dues Reminder

If you have not yet paid your annual dues please send them to:

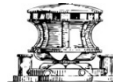
John Reeder, WSMS Purser
PO Box 770 Great Falls, VA 22066

Or pay by Paypal: JFR1945@gmail.com

Ship's Clerk - WSMS Badges & Coffee Cups

We are putting a list together and checking it twice!. If you are a member and need a badge please contact Lou Husser and he will add you to the list for ordering. Also if you never received your WSMS Coffee Cup also let Lou know.

LBHusser@verizon.net



Old Dominion Open

February 27th, 2016,
Richmond International
Raceway complex
www.ipmsrichmond.org



Model Show

FROM THE "LOG OF THE WASHINGTON SHIP MODEL SOCIETY"

- ❁ **1933 January 10th**, Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt elected Honorary Member. Parchment membership certificate prepared by President Harold Cook and accepted by Mr. Roosevelt.

MEMBERS NOTES

A column where members can contribute any notes or recommendations pertinent to ship modeling

Send comments to Lou Husser at LBHusser@verizon.net

Two Book Reviews by Doug Wilde

“Unmanned Systems of World Wars I and II” by H.R. Everett.

This 750+ page hardcover book takes a fairly in depth look at all manner of unmanned systems. The chapters cover Tethered Torpedoes, Unmanned Surface Vehicles, Wireless Submersibles, Unmanned Air Vehicles, Unmanned Ground Vehicles, and Postwar Transition. I purchased a copy to learn more about the TDN-1 and TDR-1 from World War II. The former were flown off the USS Sable in August 1943. Many photographs of the vehicles as well as drawings and close-ups of components are included. Mostly secondary sources were used but a full bibliography is provided. Not a Friedman book but still pretty interesting and I’m glad I have a copy. It is not cheap so look around (not just Amazon) to find the best price. I have great luck at Caution-www.bookfinder.com.

“Warship International” published by The International Naval Research Organization, Inc.

Warship International comes out four time a year. It pretty much deals with steel navy topics although occasionally going further back in time. The current

issue, (Vol. 52, No. 4, December 2015) includes Part 6 of “From Ironclads to Dreadnoughts: The Development of the German Navy 1864-1918”. This series is a profusely illustrated look at all major vessels, with drawings and especially photographs of vessels through their various refits. This particular part looks at the Nassau class. Also in this issue the Part 2 of “Capital Ships of the Italian Royal Navy, 1860-1918”. Again, many photographs of the vessels under discussion.

But perhaps the greatest feature of Warship International is “Ask INFOSER”, where members posit questions to the general readership. This issue they range from: Austro-Hungarian WWI Danube River monitors to details and career information on the US floating workshop YR-25 to the function of a hollowed-out area at the base of the starboard side of HMS Rodney’s bridge structure. More often than not an interesting answer, often with drawings or photographs or references, is provided.

The INRO needs new members in order to keep publishing. Regular membership is \$35 (IIRC) and a bargain at that price

Schooner Isolda

By Carl Erikson

October 10, 1910: The schooner *Isolda* was ready for departure. The crew had said goodbye to family and friends. But their 32 year old batchelor Captain was not there.

Sea Captain Carl Julius Ahlgren (1878 -1975) soon came, but this time with a young lady. A few hours earlier she had said “I do” before the priest. A while later, the white schooner set sail, bound for South Africa.

The newlyweds embarked on a 32 year sailing honeymoon not ending until World War II required them to buy a home on land. Over the oceans, to many countries and ports, wife Ellen Ahlgren (1887-1960) accompanied her husband on board. The *Isolda* was Ahlgren’s home.

Four children were born at sea, without assistance of doctor or midwife. Children were given names corresponding to the port where the ship was at the time:



Carl Bolivar – 1911 born in Venezuela, named after South American freedom fighter Simon Bolivar.
Carmen Isolda - 1912 born by the island of Isla de Carmen in Laguna de Terminos Mexico.
Swanhild Magnolia - 1914 in Swansea bay when the magnolia trees were in bloom.
Gote Cicero - 1916 born in the entrance to Goteborg, (Gothenborg) Sweden.

Isolda was built in 1902 at Lödöse Iron Works in Sweden. Ahlgren bought her in 1909. Gradually increasing competition from more efficient modern vessels made it impossible to compete and she was laid up in 1951. In 1960 Captain Ahlgren sold *Isolda* after 51 years as captain and owner. He had been at

sea for 66 years.

She is now owned by a non-profit in Sweden which is restoring her.



Kit: Swedish paper models by Gunnar Sillén at www.bildrum.se

See the picture of Carl's model of the *Isolda* using Mr. Sillen paper kit. It is on the Member' Model page.

On Adding Flags to Your Model

By Lou Husser

Nearly All of us ship modelers as final touches add a flag, or two, or three, or....so what's the problem, looks really nautical, right!? Well too often I have seen an otherwise excellent model lose credibility because the builder is apparently unfamiliar with the maritime rules pertaining to the use, meaning and display of flags. This holds true for virtually any era and whether the model is of a naval or merchant vessel.

Starting with the basics...., recently on one of the internet shipmodeling sites, I ran across a picture of a Radio Controlled U.S. Navy warship underway with an US Ensign flying from the stern flagstaff and a Navy Jack from the bow; a combination only used when moored alongside or when anchored. Conversely, I have also seen a picture of a model with the ensign hoisted on the gaff but is apparently anchored with boats alongside and an accommodation ladder and boat boom rigged, indicating that it is anchored. (Note: there are also rules governing how and when a ship's boat alongside should display the ensign).

Moving to the intermediate level...., there are rules governing when a commissioned naval vessel can "dress ship" and "full dress ship" including the pattern in which the various ensigns, flags and pennants are arranged. Too, there are various flags and pennants regularly flown such as; battle flags, commissioning pennants, flag officer pennants, squadron officer pennants, Senior Officer Present Afloat (SOPA)pennants and command pennants as well as its specific call letter signal that a naval ship may display.

At the advanced level..., every naval ship foreign or US, has to be prepared to read and interpret flaghoists. The US Navy uses a set of flags and a maneuvering publication in common with other NATO nations to facilitate joint operations. Other nations such as Russia use flags that share many of the same designs and are used for similar purposes except that the flaghoist arrangements and meanings are not in common. However there is also an international signals code book that all maritime nations use. This way, signals can be exchanged between non-allied navies as well as with merchant vessels. The NATO publication is ATP-1 and I believe expired copies of it may be available on the internet.

So..., with a little research you can not only more accurately display the various flags required for certain scenarios such as moored, underway, national holiday observances, maneuvering in company, etc., you can inject more meaning into the displayed model. Recently I had occasion to research the topic for my model of the pre-World War I Russian Cruiser Varyag. I was pleasantly surprised to be able to come up with the following information which I hope will give you more specific insight into the foregoing narrative.

Russian Navy Code Of Signals

The current Russian Navy Code of Signals is basically the same as those used by the Imperial Russian Navy and the former Soviet Union Navy. The Russian Federation following the dissolution of the USSR reverted to using the old imperial jack. For communication with foreign or civilian vessels however, the international set of signal flags are used.

The Russian Naval Flag bag is composed of 59 flags:

- ⚙ 32 flags corresponding to letters in the Russian Cyrillic Alphabet
 - ⚙ 10 numbered flags
- ⚙ 4 flags termed substitutions
 - ⚙ 13 flags each representing a specific function

Letters

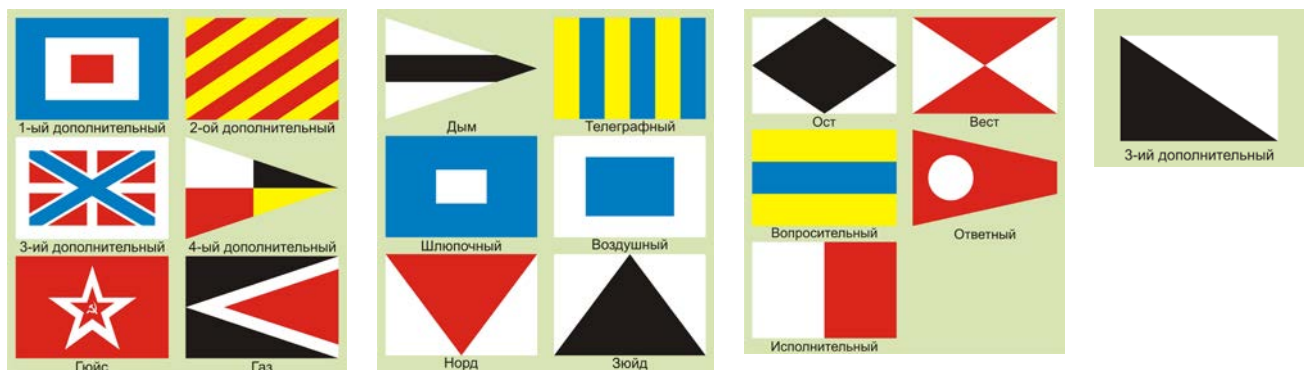
Flag	Meaning	Description
A,	Negative Answer	red swallowtail with white rectangle vertically centered at the hoist
Б,	“Hoist anchor”, “full speed”	white pennant with red disk
В,	“Your course leads to danger”	red pennant with blue white-triangle set to the hoist
Г,	“Enemy in sight”	blue pennant
Д,		yellow flag.
Е,	“To act independently or according to instruction”	blue pennant with yellow triangle set to the hoist.
Ж,	“half speed”	white flag with red lozenge
З,	“motion astern”	checkered blue and white flag. Identical to the
И,	“Anxiety”, “the alert”	yellow over red horizontal bicolor pennant
Й,	“found mine”	white swallowtail flag with black disc
К,	“I am going out of order”, “I am not	blue over red horizontal bicolor flag

Flag	Meaning	Description
	under control"	
Л,	"I turn to the left"	white flag with red cross throughout
М	"slow speed"	checkered red and white flag
Н,	I "conduct fire", I " load ammunition"	red swallowtail
О,	"To follow me", "I request permission..."	yellow pennant with vertical red stripe
П,	"To turn to the right"	yellow and blue vertical bicolor
Р,		horizontal triband of blue, white and blue
С,	"All stop (engines)"	blue flag with white saltire
Т,	"To have speed on... (knots)"	yellow and black quartered flag
У,	"I suffered a calamity"	red pennant with two white vertical stripes
Ф	"Cancel"	yellow flag with black disc
Х,	"The end of the exercise"	white flag with red coupled cross
Ц,	"To return to its connection"	red, yellow and blue horizontal triband
Ч,	"Person(s) overboard"	blue flag with small yellow lozenge
Ш,	"full speed"	white flag with five blue rectangles, spaced evenly and set per saltire
Щ,		white pennant with red Scandinavian cross
Ъ,		black over white triangular flag, divided horizontally in two equal part
Ы,		black flag with white ascending diagonal stripe
Ь,		blue and white pennant, divided vertically
Э		flag with five horizontal stripes; blue, white, red, white and blue.
Ю		white flag with red saltire
Я	"dead slow"	red flag with yellow cross



The 4 Substitutes and 13 Special Flags

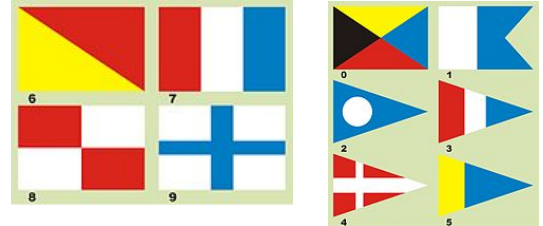
Flag Name	Meaning	Description
1-ый	1st Substitute	Red rectangle with the white border against the dark-blue background
2-ой	2nd Substitute	Red slanting strips against a yellow background
3-ий	3rd Substitute (Soviet Era)	Russian navy jack with white border
3-ий	3rd Substitute (Modern)	White over black flag divided per bend dexter (from top-hoist to bottom-fly)
4-ый	4th Substitute	Pennant quartered white, black, red and yellow
Гюйс	Soviet Navy Jack	Red flag with white hammer and sickle surrounded by white outline of a star
Газ	Poison Gases	Black flag with the white-bordered red triangle
Дым	Smoke Screen	White pennant with the black horizontal stripe
Телеграфный	Telegraphic Code	Yellow and blue vertical strips
Шлюпочный	Lower Boats	Dark-blue flag with the white rectangle in the center
Воздушный	Airplanes	White flag with the blue rectangle in the center
Норд	North	White flag with red inverted triangle
Зюйд	South	White flag with black triangle
Ост	East	White flag with black lozenge
Вест	West	Red/white quarters divided per saltire
Вопросительный	Interrogative Flag	Yellow, blue and yellow horizontal stripes
Исполнительный	Executive	Vertical bicolor white and red



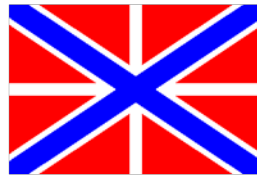
Numbers

Flag Description

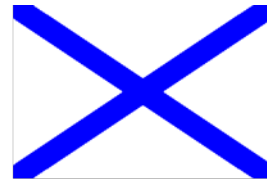
- 1 White beside blue vertical swallowtail bicolor.
- 2 Blue triangular pennant with white disk
- 3 Pennant divided vertically into red/white/blue.
- 4 Red pennant with white Scandinavian cross.
- 5 Pennant divided vertically into yellow and blue.
- 6 Red over yellow divided from top-left to bottom-right
- 7 Red/white/blue vertical triband
- 8 Red/White counterchanged quarters per cross
- 9 White with blue cross
- 0 Four colors divided per saltire consisting of yellow/blue/red/black



Masthead Pennant



Russian Naval Jack



Russian Naval Ensign

MODELING TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Tip #1 - "Mark Twain" Riverboat - Courtesy of Burt Goldstein, member of the Ship Models Association, CA

A free cardstock model depicting the riverboat in Frontier land at Anaheim's Disneyland is available at www.dinseylandexperience.com it includes the model parts and instructions. The detail is considered amazing and that the model will hold its own with any other type of model. The riverboat has three decks, 12 stairwells, as well as the control room and anything else you can see on the actual steamboat located at Disneyland.

Tip #2 – Bending and forming brass – Courtesy NRG's Model Ship World

Anneal the brass first. Heat to red hot and let cool. It'll soften it and make it easier to bend.

Tip #3 - Handling Photo etch parts – Courtesy - Art Braunschweiger, Titanic Research & Modeling Assoc.

Use two different tweezers: one pair with very sharp, fine points, and another pair with flat points. The fine-pointed tweezers are used to pick up the parts and move them or put them in place on your model. The flat-pointed tweezers are better for holding parts when you're trimming them with a pair of shears, because the flat points clamp the brass in between them without risk of the piece twisting between the points, or the points offsetting under pressure and flicking your piece of brass into the air. For handling the extremely fine windows, a second fine-pointed pair in a smaller size is helpful.

WSMS MEMBER FEATURED MODEL PHOTO OF THE MONTH



FIGURE 1 CARL ERIKSON'S RECENTLY COMPLETED "ISOLD"

Classifieds

None submitted

Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may submit as many ads as they choose for printing in the Lynx. They may be either want or for sale ads and should normally be limited to a 100 or less words. Non-members may also submit one ad to a monthly newsletter