



November Report



(above) *The full menace of the 5" 38 twin mount is evidenced by Hank Strub's 3-D printed reproduction. How does he do it? Hank explains all inside.*

NBMMG Meeting, Nov 2023

Meeting was called to order by Jim Gower with 8 members in attendance, Jim Gower, Jim Brode, Andy Fulcher, Dan Giffin, William Prentice, Roger Brown, Dave Mahoney, Denny Cole, and Henry "Hank" Strub from Mocksville, N.C. one of our out- of- town members, and who is our guest speaker. The Guild welcomed 2 guests from Sneads Ferry, N. C., Richard Schott and son Nathan.

Old and New Business;

The **Annual Auction** held at the Beaufort Maritime Museum on December 2nd, 2023 will serve as our meeting for December. Please make note of this schedule change, and let's support this Auction and the Beaufort Club. I will say that the great and famous Andrew Fulcher better known as "Andy" will be the auctioneer and, as usual, promises

to provide a most professional stature and knowledge of all items on sale. If you haven't been in a while there are tools, kits, books, plans, and maybe an ex- girlfriend or spouse who is tired of having a model kit sprawled across the dining room table.

The 29th Annual **John Costlow Christmas Train Show** in Beaufort, will be held at the Maritime Museum beginning Friday December 15th from 4-8 pm, Saturday the 16th from 10am -8pm and Sunday, December 17th from 11am -5pm. The admission is free, so let's support this show.

Speaking of shows, the Annual **New Bern Train show** will be held February 23rd (set up day), Saturday and Sunday the 24th and 25th. NBMMG will have a table with a few displays to try and catch some prospective members. We

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will finalize volunteers and times at our January meeting.

And lastly, the Eastern Carolina Plastic Modelers **Down East Con 2024** will be held July 20, 2024 at the Havelock Convention Center and we will also have a table to promote our club at this event as we did in 2022. More details as we draw close to the event date.

Our show and tell began with Roger Brown and his cruiser CLG 7, U.S.S. Springfield. The light cruiser was in action during WWII, and converted to one of our earlier guided missile cruiser during the beginning of the cold war with Russia. She served in the Mediterranean Sea. Roger is kit bashing a 1/500 kit to conform the missile cruiser which he served on during the 60's.

Denny Cole presented a 1950 model kit, (made in Japan) the Cervia, a harbor tug that has patiently waited to be built all these years. Denny got this kit from a friend and plans to modify it a bit and install new electronics and run it as a R/C model. The kit came with a real steam engine which he will use. Denny is our newest member and was featured last month on miniature outboard engines of the early 1900's.

Richard Schott brought a model of the Cutty Sark his grandfather past down to him. We figure the model is at least 50 years old complete with a case. Richard is looking for someone to re-rig the model as the lines on his model are the old linen type and break when repairs are attempted. The scale is somewhat small so some of us are considering taking on the commission. The model is currently at Jim Gower's workshop in case anyone is interested in looking at this project.



(above) Roger Brown's USS Springfield in the beginning of the revision to a CLG.



(above) The Cervia, circa 1950, Denny Cole really believes in taking his time so as to do a really good job.

(below) Here is the start of the Cervia. We look forward to an excellent finish. (No, no . . . no pressure here, Denny)



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(above) Richard Schott's grandfather's Cutty Sark, is another vintage kit at this time looking for restoration.

Jim Gower introduced Hank Strub who presented several pieces from his 3D printing set up. He has been learning how to set up and operate this new technology with a mentor friend all the way up in Alaska.

In order to have a complete brief of his presentation please read part 3 of 3D printing that Hank has so kindly written for us. We can start foaming at the mouth and dreaming this process will eventually replace our most beloved Photo Etched Parts. Don't think it will be a easy process for a number of years for us old modelers who are not technically savvy in CADD and 3D printing.

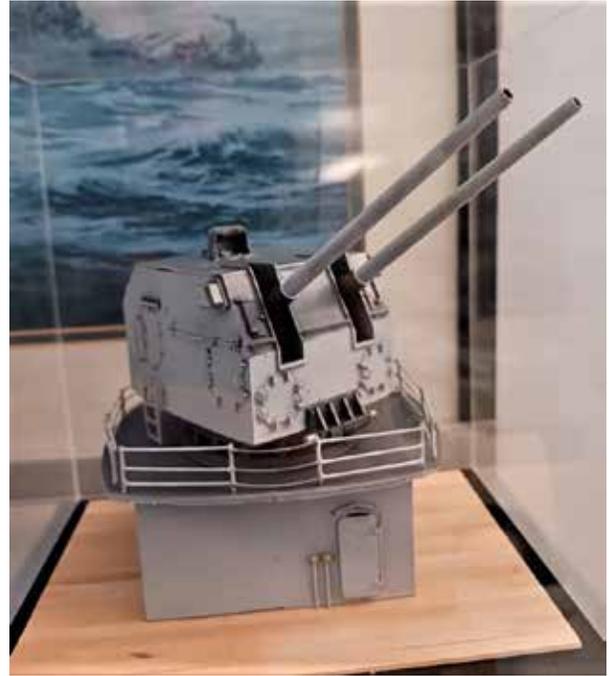
And Jim wants all of you to remember we have two (2) online resources to help the club grow and communicate with one another.. The facebook page can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/nbmmgnc>

And the official club website is:

<https://www.nbmmg.net/> ■

-Jim Gower



5"-54 Dual Gun Mount – Concept Design (never constructed) – MONTANA Class BB – late 1940's

5"-38 Dual Gun Mount – Mark 28, Mod 2 - as installed in IOWA, NORTH CAROLINA, and SOUTH DAKOTA Class BBs – 1940s





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Yes, it was another “Fun Run” hosted by the Rocky Mount R/C Sip Group. The monthly fun run was held at the Rocky Mount Lake located in Rocky Mount N.C. This R/C group builds 1/96 scale models. Most of the ships are warships, but they do have a few freighters, and harbor fire boats.

The group is located in the Rocky Mount and Wilson N.C. area and have been meeting for several years. They have in the past, hosted a national meet of 1/96 scale modelers from all over the U.S.





3D PRINTING

A new tool for ship modelers, part three - by Hank Strub

This is the 3rd and final chapter in my mini-series on 3D design & printing. This will talk about low end printers and the software needed to actually produce 3D parts.

As with using a shareware 3D mechanical design program, my friend and I were also interested in being able to print parts on the low end of expenses. His initial choice of a printer was actually a good one – I’ll confess at that point I knew NOTHING about this whole topic and everything since we have learned thru trial & error. So let us begin with printers and the slicing software that controls them.

Generally speaking to the novice ship modeler (and NOT to professionals, etc.) there are several types of 3D printers available, but I will discuss here only one – the SLA printing process – this stands for Stereolithography Apparatus. This involves the use of liquid resin to produce resin plastic parts. Again, on the low end of the market, there are quite a few manufacturers today who make quality printers. Most are made in Taiwan or China and can be purchased online at several vendors, including Amazon.com. I will discuss the printer I started with in 2020 as it is a good representative of an entry level printer.

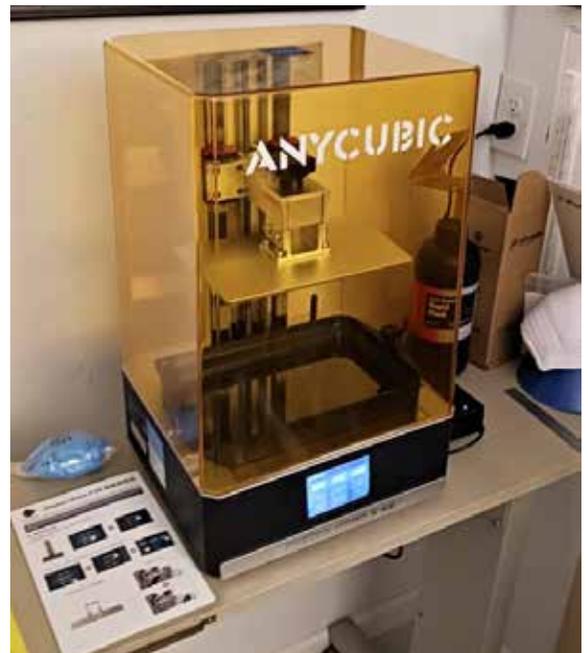
We purchased the Phrozen Sonic Mini 3D SLA Printer. I believe this is still on the market (at a lower price now) and does an excellent job for the modeler just beginning to learn this “art”. The printer comes with just about everything you need to produce parts and even has a well written English language manual included. It gives a step by step approach to setting up the printer and getting it ready for your first print. However (now you KNEW this was coming, right??) – you first need to have the design for your part completed AND translated to a computer file that the printer software can read.

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(above) Another view of the 5” 54 twin mount as might have been mounted on the Montana class BB – late 1940’s

(below) The AC Photon Mono X 6K Printer- which sits in Hank’s workshop.





This file is a (*your file name*).stl file that you create in the design file and then use for making your printing file. The only thing in this .stl file should be the design of the part – nothing else.

I know of a couple programs (also shareware [freeware]) used to create this printer file and the one that we used is compatible with most printers. This is Chitobox (CHITUBOX | All-in-one SLA/DLP/LCD Slicer | 3D printing preprocessing software). Once in their website, you'll see a link to sign up & download their FREEWARE version of their slicing software. I have not found the need to attempt to use the printer vendor's version of slicing software as Chitobox is sort of a standard slicer program and thus far has done a good job for my own use.

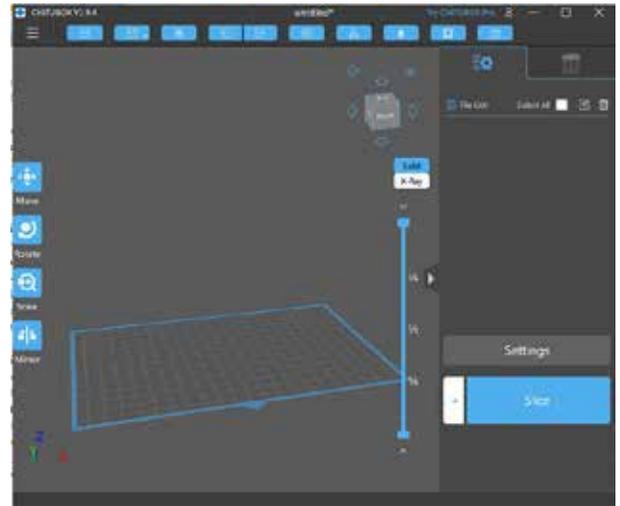
Open up the program and you will need to follow any instructions from either the printer manual or inside Chitobox for setting up your particular printer (this has to be done before using this program) parameters. You will then see a screen such as this:

You will then open your design file and begin to prepare it for printing. Here is what one of my design files looks like after adding supports, etc:

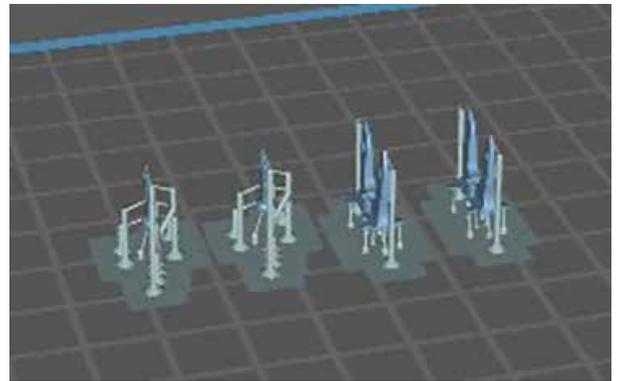
This pic shows 4 parts with their supports/bases. At this point, I will again point out that as I am not a teacher, the way you learn how to use this program is basically self-teaching, learning how to orient the part on the build area and how to add the proper supports for a successful print. The program website has a user guide that I would recommend downloading and printing out for your own use. It will come in handy, believe me!!!

Once your part is supported, you then click on "Slice" (see the blue box in the 1st photo?). This begins the program to create the file that you will copy to a flash drive and then put into the USB port on your printer. Again, this is all fairly well laid out in the manual(s). We will

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(above) The control screen looks delightfully simple.



(above) 3-D printed parts require a number of supports to maintain shape, especially until "cured".

(below) A "curing box" is an invaluable tool.





now return to the printer and further discussion about it, etc.

I will use my current (larger) printer as the example from here on. I purchased this printer earlier this year from Amazon as their prices are lower than other 3D printer vendors and why pay more, right? My printer is an AnyCubic Photon Mono X 6K SLA resin printer –

I normally use Phrozen (brand) Rapid Black Resin (also available from Amazon) for printing my parts, although I do have some gray colored resin (2 different brands) on hand, but each varies in the type of brittleness or hardness after curing. Thus, I use a resin that produces somewhat flexible parts.

Each type of resin requires the user to set up a printer setup file in Chitubox for that particular type of resin – and this can be difficult as settings vary from printer to printer, model to model. And, there is no std. catalog/table to go to for setting this up. Its trial & error. Making a notebook or log book is extremely helpful in keeping a record of your setup choices, etc.

After printing, and you remove the part from the build platform, you will need to clean and then cure the parts. I generally keep several jugs of 91% ISO alcohol on hand (what you don't use in cleaning, you can drink to try to kill the pain from all the wasted resin from the parts that didn't print!!!! LOL!!!!). Most resins are cleaned with either water or alcohol or both. Rapid Black, for example, is water cleaned, but I continue to wash in alcohol first, then the water bath.

Next, you dry the parts, usually on a small turntable & fan (again, check Amazon for these relatively cheap items) – I normally leave them overnight. Finally, you cure the parts under a UV lamp or direct sunlight. I have a small curing cube that I bought from who???? You guessed it – Amazon as I've found that direct sunlight only serves to agitate the aliens because they're not getting a cut on leasing sunlight!!! I've found this cube to be quite useful and reliable –



(above) 3-D printing is often an exercise in surprising results when you open up the curing box. I had wondered where these guys had gotten to.

Sunlu Resin Curing UV Box (check Amazon for this item) or similar type of curing station.

It would also be practical to have on hand a couple pairs of resin snips – they do last quite a while, but will eventually become worn and if you have a spare on hand, then you're in business! Again, Amazon has loads of these items.

Once you have cured your parts, they are ready to be removed from the supports, cleaned up if need be, painted, and installed on your model.

I hope this rather simplified explanation of SLA printing and what is required for the basics was hopefully useful and informative, if not also somewhat enjoyable. ■

-Hank Strub



New Bern Maritime Modelers Guild.

November, 2023

Meeting Schedule for Carolina Maritime Model Society 2023
 Schedule for the calendar year 2023:
December 2 (Nov./Dec. meeting)
 All meetings start at 2:10 pm, in the Museum's Auditorium.
 North Carolina Maritime Museum
 315 Front Street
 Beaufort, NC 28516

Meeting Schedule for the New Bern Maritime Modeler's Guild 2023
December 9.
 All meetings start at Noon, at the Shop Class building, in New Bern.

ECPM Proudly Presents the DownEastCon 2024 Theme:
K*O*R*E*A
THE FORGOTTEN CONFLICT
 Anything used during the time of America's participation in the "Police Action" June 25, 1950 – July 27, 1953



20 July, 2024
Rules and details on the next pages!!

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FEBRUARY·24-25,·2024¶

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