



September Report



(above) WSS Ward, DD-139, as a WIP. The injected molded plastic model is in 1/400 scale and is a mere 10 inches in length.

The September meeting of the NBMMG was called to order at 12 noon by Jim Gower with an attendance of 8 members. Attending were Jim Brode, Alan Welch, Roger Brown, Steve Mitchel, Andy Fulcher, William Prentiss and Jim Gower.

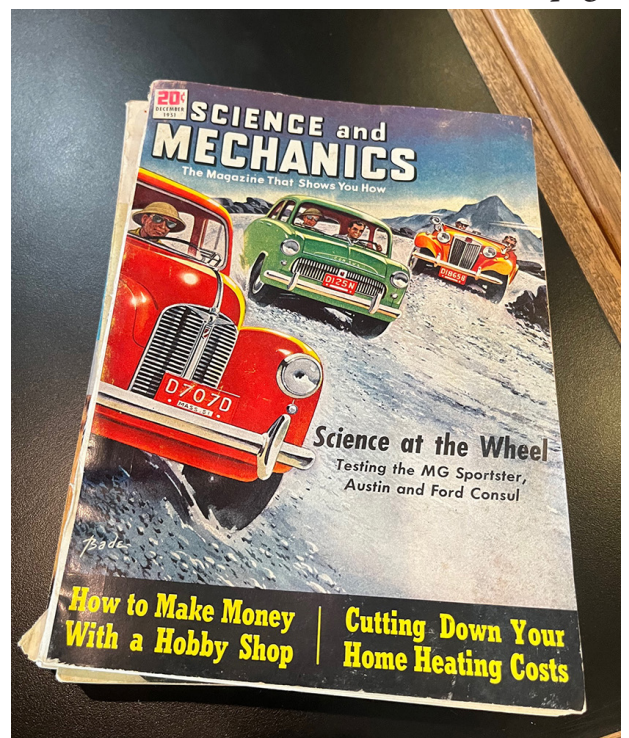
Alan Welch gave a brief update on our new web site as he is our webmaster and actually put this site online for us. We reviewed all pages of the site, with all members approving our layout and functions of each page. There were a few corrections to our member contact page (as I suspect some of us were already sniffing glue with our models). Here are the addresses of our Facebook page administered by William Prentiss and our new website:

www.facebook.com/nbmmgnc
www.nbmmg.net

Dave Mahoney presented a collection of 1950's Popular Science Magazines' that featured ship modeling, at a cost of \$0.25

cents per copy, A 1952 Polk's Hobbies Catalog showing all the model ship kits available during that era. Some of the model kits sold for as much as \$9.00 along with separate pricing for plans from \$1.00 to \$5.00.

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The most interesting item Dave presented was a glass bottle of the engine oils drained from the Graf Zeppelin airship in 1928. It seems that upon arrival to the U.S. on its maiden voyage, the engines were drained of the break in oil and refilled with regular oil. The date on the bottle was October 15, 1928.

Alan Welch presented a 1/400 injected plastic model of the U.S.S Ward, the famous WWII destroyer that fired the first shot against a Japanese midget sub trying to enter Pearl Harbor. The crew always maintained that they hit the sub and sank it, and this was later confirmed when diving explorers found the sub with a shell hole in the conning tower proving the crew claims of sinking the sub. Please read below a brief write up about the history of the Ward by Alan Welch.

It should be noted that Alan is President of the East Coast Plastic Modelers Society that meets in Fairfield Harbor each 3rd Saturday of the month. His models are very detailed with photo etched, accessories and rust paint here and there on his models.

Roger Brown presented several items from WWII, along with his progress of the U.S.S Springfield one of our first guided missile Cruisers from the cold war days.

A 20 mm Star shell from the Navy Ordnance Plant, in Baldwin Long Island, New York where his father worked, and two badges showing an entry badge for work at the Navy Yard in New York and a badge for an E for excellence at the ordnance plant.

Roger found a kit of the Springfield from Renewable which was named for the towns in Illinois, and Massachusetts. The Springfield was the Flagship for the 6th fleet in the Mediterranean Sea at the time that NATO was very young, with little

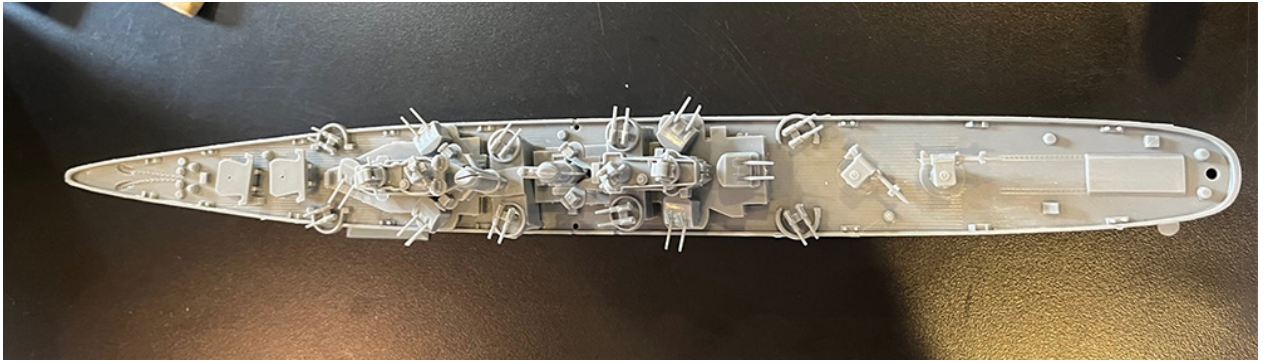
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resources and primarily there to keep Russia from establishing a warm water port.

According to Roger the Admiral did a lot of entertaining of the smaller counties each time they made port. Roger also served aboard the ship and showed photos of him on board as a navy corpsman. Damn Roger you sure have changed from 50 years ago! The Springfield continued its missions until the early seventies and was finally scrapped. So many of our ships that fought bravely during WWII, the cold war and the Korean and Viet Nam conflicts are long gone now. If it wasn't for members like Roger, we would not know the missions of some of these ships while on duty.

Steve Mitchel presented a boxed-up kit by Dumas from the 1980's he has had all these years and is getting ready to begin construction of the Shelly Foss, a harbor tug, along with the accessories such as electric motors and fitting for radio control functions. ■





3D PRINTING

A new tool for ship modelers - by Hank Strub

As many of you know (and probably fall into the same time frame) I've been ship modeling since the early 1950s. Plastic kits, then some wooden ones, and now a variation – 3D printed parts in resin. Most of us are used to the tried & true styrene plastic kits and those are fine...up to a point. Because of the method of production (injection molding), styrene parts are limited by today's standards in how detailed the parts can be made.

As a board draftsman and later 2D CAD draftsman, designer, engineer for 40+ years, I actually had no intentions of making a move towards 3D design & printing. I was content to "settle" for scratch building what I needed when bashing an existing kit into something a bit different using the normal modeler's methods, materials, and tools. I did a lot of 2D CAD drawings for all my models in preparation for making the parts needed. This was fine in 2019 when I began seriously working on a kitbash of the 1/144 scale Revell kit USS FLETCHER

However, as time progressed I noticed that arthritis in my hands was affecting my work and minute details were getting harder to make or make accurately. In the fall of 2020 another modeling acquaintance of mine in Fairbanks, AK (also a traditionalist ship modeler) emailed me that he was interested in looking into 3D design/printing. A bit surprised, I none-the-less went on an online search for either cheap or share-ware 3D design programs that were geared to mechanical drafting/design – not the artsy-fartsy drawing programs for making fantasy stuff!!! After a couple downloads & attempts at opening a couple of the low end programs, I found a shareware program called Design Spark (Mechanical) (Mechanical Software | CAD & 3D Modelling Software | DesignSpark (rs-online.com)). This freeware 3D Mechanical Design program is quite simple to learn the basics and after a few days of the

usual "new program" jitters, was able to get basic shapes drawn as solids and shared this program linkage with my friend. At this point I was still skeptical about anything really happening on my end that would result in actual parts being produced. And then the clincher of the deal came along – he had already ordered a low-end 3D printer online and when they sent it to him, 2 printers arrived. Go figure, right??? So, he offered the 2nd one to me for a song and how could I say no!!! So, in Oct. 2020, I began the journey of learning 3D design and then the setup and so forth required to actually print parts on an SLA 3D printer. I will get into the explanation of all this in due time. My friend also downloaded the program and began learning – now, I'll admit that I loathe self-learning online BS – I am used to having an instructor telling/showing how to learn something (yes, I know – old school, but tried & true!) – and at one point he was gaining on me in reaching the top of the "Bell Curve" while I was struggling to design basic simple parts.

One day however, about 6 months into this effort, the light bulb lit for me and it was a Eureka Moment. With the exception of hull design (which is NOT a function of this particular software program [but can be done in a sort of limited fashion]), this program has proved to be a really GREAT tool in designing all sorts of super detailed parts for ship models. I've even got an HO Gauge caboose in the wings that I'm working on for my own interest.

Since that winter of 2020-21 I've designed/printed everything for my destroyer model to replace the handmade items I started with. The results were unbelievably exceptional – minutely detailed, crisp & sharp

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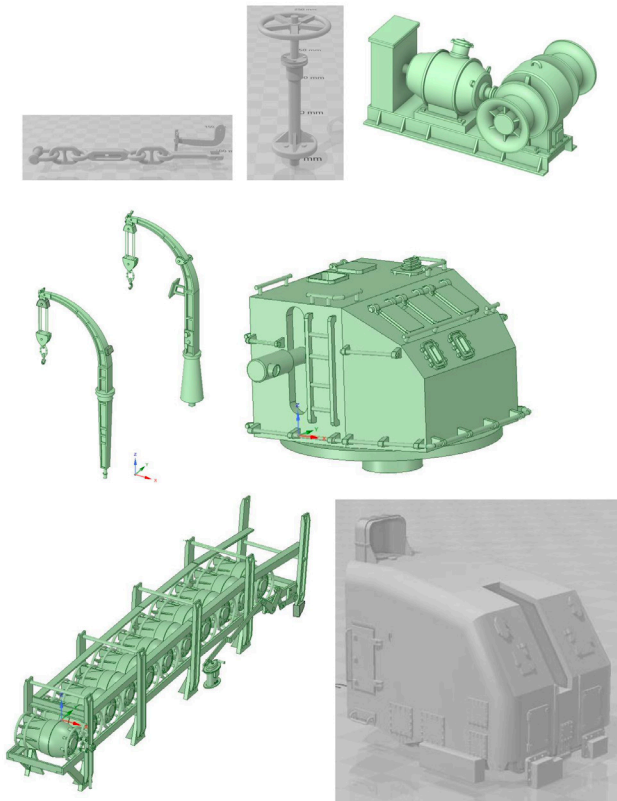
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in printing – I couldn't have asked for better results. And the kicker to this whole effort is that I'm using free software programs and began with a low end printer (less than \$400 in 2020). I've just this summer replaced the original small printer with a much larger machine and after a period of settings adjustments (also sharing info with my friend in AK who is also using the same larger printer) am now getting generally 98% successful results on a consistent basis. Here are a few design photos of some of the parts I've printed for the following models:

These are just a FEW of the many parts for this model in particular that I've produced myself.

1/144 scale USS Stoddard

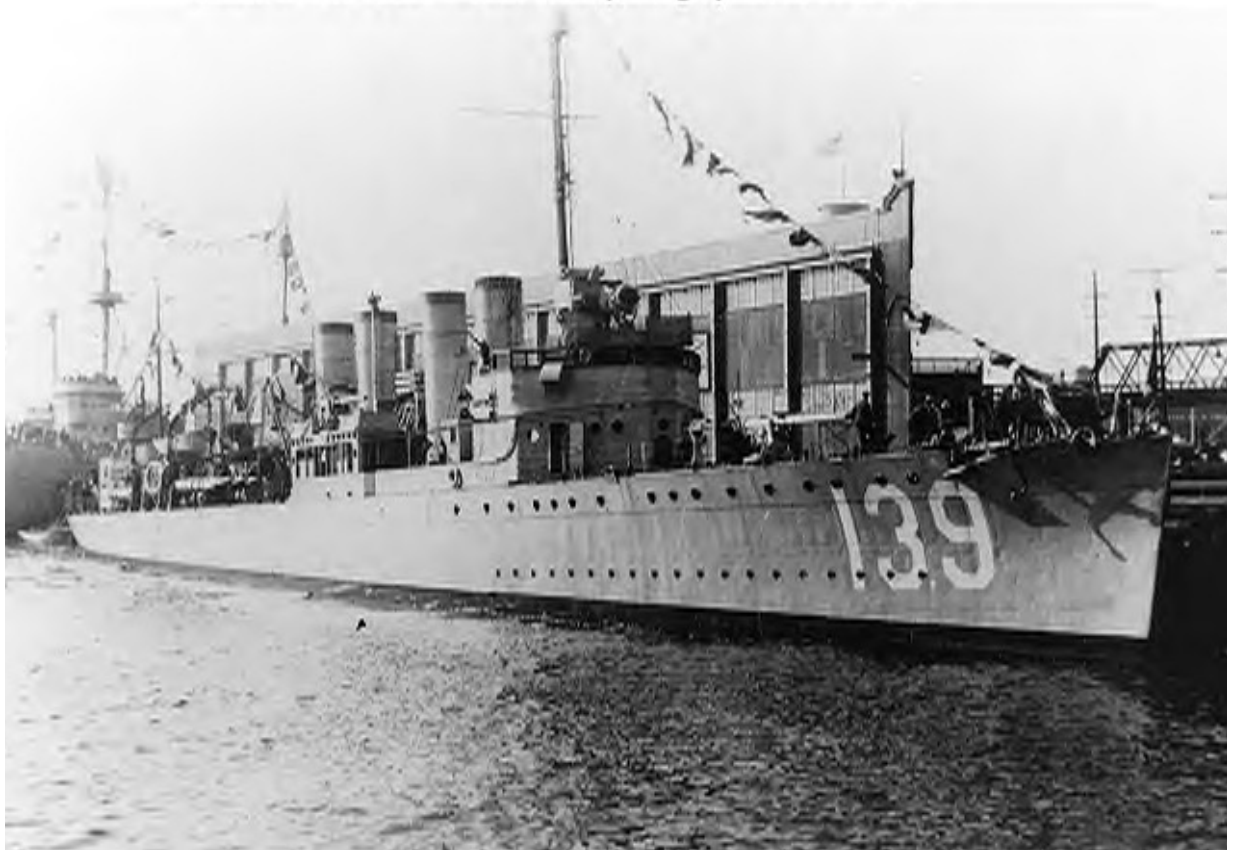


While I had initially purchased commercially available parts from various 3D parts vendors, once I got into this effort, it seemed natural to improve on what I already had on hand – mainly because these parts were not EXACTLY what I needed, or I had noticed lack of details that I knew I could add and thus end up with a more accurate model in the end.

Part II of this article will go into what is required of the modeler in regards to the designing of parts using the 3D design software. ■

1/200 scale USS New Jersey





USS WARD

A Study in Irony

-by Alan Welch

CLASS: - WICKES As Built.
Displacement: 1,154 Tons,
Dimensions: 314' 5" (oa) x 31' 8" x 9' 10"
Armament: 4 x 4"/50, 2 x 1pdr AA
(1 x 3"/23AA In Some Ships), 12 x 21" tt
Machinery: 24,200 SHP, Geared Turbines
Speed: 35 Knots on two screws,
Crew: 103.

The USS Ward, DD-139, was part of an emergency building program during the Great War. She belonged to one of three classes of flush deck, four stack destroyers totalling 274 ships in all. Ward set a record having been built, from laying the keel to launching, over a period of just **15 days!** Even so, she missed the conflict being completed too late to participate.

After a bout laid up in reserve status, the Ward served through the thirties and, as Jim mentioned earlier, was on duty outside Pearl Harbor on the morning of December 7th, 1941. Adroitly captained by Lt. William W. Outerbridge, (mere weeks into his first command!), attacked and sank a Japanese mini sub thereby claiming the first ship kill in the Japanese/American war.

During the Philippine invasion, *exactly* three years later, on December 7th, 1944, Ward was on duty as a converted APD. (fast transport) She was attacked and struck by a Japanese bomber and set on fire. Her damage was too severe to save the old lady and, despite help from other destroyers, she was sunk by friendly fire later that day after her entire crew had been taken off.

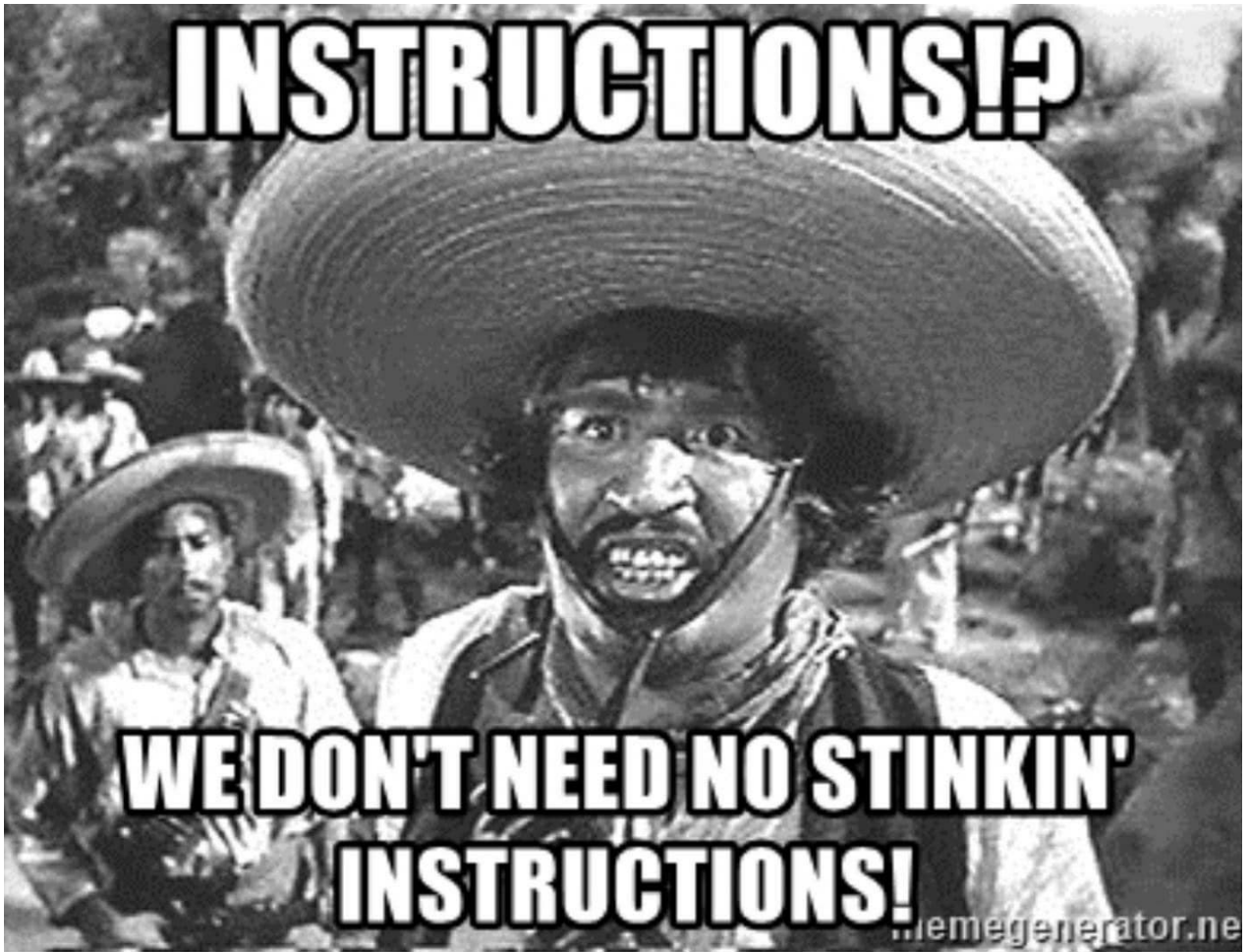
The sad chore of sinking her was given to USS O'Brien, commanded by Lt. Comdr W. O. Outerbridge, the same man who had commanded her off the entrance of Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. Ironically, this is recorded naval history.

I should have the build finished by next month's issue. ■



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Meeting Schedule for Carolina Maritime Model Society 2023

Schedule for the calendar year 2023:

October 28,
December 2
(combined November/December 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

October 14,
November 11,
December 9.
All meetings start at Noon, at the Shop
Class building, in New Bern.