



A Message from Ray

This newsletter is to help stay in touch with Members while we in the southern Ontario area, and others with a similar climate, put our “inside” modelling aside to allow us more time to enjoy our “outside” activities during our ever-so-short summer.

The Newsletter has changed over the years since the Club was formed. Originally, I put together an occasional edition in Word that contained bits and pieces of a modelling and nautical nature, issued in preparation and notification of our upcoming monthly meetings. In 2017 Alan developed the Website, and Newsletter items were then included in the Monthly Meeting Log. From time to time, he made small but important changes to the format, resulting in a very professional on-line publication. He has done a sterling job in its production. Now however the time has come when he has decided to pass it on to others. I’m sure you will all join me in thanking Alan for all the work he has done.

When the COVID pandemic required us to implement remote meetings, to be followed by hybrid meetings when restrictions were relaxed, we began conversations around the need to introduce paid club membership. This was required to cover the expenses resulting from moving our in-person meetings from the facilities that Pat and his wife Monique had graciously provided for us at no cost at their house, and the major expansion of the membership of the club that followed with “distant” members joining us on the ZOOM platform.

Following the success of these changes we recognized the need to ask for volunteers to take on Alan’s responsibilities as Webmaster and Editor of The Log. Bob Erhard and Ralf Schnurbusch, both “distant” members, have agreed to take on Alan’s functions.

Further, Pat Portelli, our IT guru, volunteered to fill the position of Treasurer in addition to continuing to manage the technology required for our hybrid meetings and email software. Pat also arranged for the use of the Church Hall, with access to its associated car parking, for our in-person meetings. Payment for their use, the running costs for the “ZOOM” remote facility, and other costs as they arise, will be covered by the newly introduced club membership fee which will become effective in the new modelling year in September, following our summer hiatus.

I am sure you all join me in supporting Pat, Bob and Ralf as they take up their duties. While there may be some initial hiccups both Alan and Pat have assured us they will be on hand to help in the transition.





The Club news below covers the first of several sailing evenings that Ron has organized. Join him if you can at the Canal site where you will be entertained by those members from the Dark Side who deliberately get their boats wet, an activity that will continue on alternate Tuesday mornings (see the website for the location and specific dates) until the water becomes too hard.

I was reminded by the discovery of the wreckage of Sir Ernest Shackleton's ship "Quest" in the Labrador Sea in June this year, that his death on board in January 1922 while taking him back to Antarctica marked the end of what historians describe as the "Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration". The event brought to mind the number of famous, and some lesser-known ships associated with those Explorers, so I will introduce an article on the subject at the September meeting that might help fellow modellers in the selection of their "next subject to model".

Best wishes to all and enjoy the summer!

Ray

CLUB NEWS

Summer is here and we hope you all enjoy some sunny days. One way to do so is to join Ron at the Welland Canal site where you can watch and even learn the quite simple techniques of radio-controlled (R/C) sailing. These "Summer Sails" will continue on alternate Tuesday mornings (see the website for the location and specific dates) until the water becomes too hard. Below are some photos of the first evening's event.

I hope you still have time to do some **model** building. Don't forget to take pictures for sharing at our next meeting in the "**On the Workbench**" section





ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alan has still some free stuff to give away. These are items that no one has claimed in a year. Have a look at them on the “Members Only” section of the website and contact Alan to arrange to pick up any of them.

While you’re in the “Members Only” section check out the lists of modelling magazines and books Ray has received as a large donation – more than 100 books!

The books are generally in “Very good” and “Good” condition and are FREE at Ray’s house in Oakville. Contact Ray at ray@mainmast.ca to arrange to pick up your selection. Grab them while you can - “First come first served”!

RC Boating on the Welland Canal

Alan took these pictures at the event on June 25th.

The gentleman in the first photo is Ron Campbell, our Special Events BOATING CAPTAIN. He organizes all the summer boating events. In the picture, he is assembling his motorized replica of the ORCA from the movie JAWS.





In the second photo is Pat Portelli and his nephew on the left. He had just purchased this sailboat after sailing one of James Dockrill's three sailboats on the 11th June. Pat is a long time R/C power boat enthusiast. He had built a rescue tug boat that he uses to push stranded boats back to shore.



The other gentleman was a surprise, Richard Lilley, who sails with a group out of "50-Point" in Grimsby. Although his expected sailing buddies didn't arrive, he spent some time sailing with us. His boat is a scratch built circa 1850 gaff cutter. He has added a helmsman with his hand on the





wheel, and as the R/C rudder is turned the wheel turns and so the helmsman's hand and arm also move.



The controls are quite simple. First you dial in the proper frequency to match the boat's receiver. There are two paddles on the hand-held controller. One paddle operates the throttle of electric motor powered boats, or the sails of wind powered boats, hauling them in or letting them out. The other paddle operates the rudder, turning it left and right, port or starboard. Then you simply co-ordinate the rudder and sail positions.....!





THE MSON

Helping to keep fellow
modellers on course since
2008

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, 15 September 2024
Forum opens at 1:15 PM Eastern Time
Meeting commencement at 1:30 PM Eastern Time.
This will be a HYBRID meeting.
Local members can meet face to face (F2F) on site in NOTL.

Those not able to attend F2F can do so via ZOOM.
Meetings and membership are open to all!
Notices will be e-mailed.

Note: if attending the meeting F2F please stop at the hall first to pickup a
free parking pass for the church parking lot.

Our scheduled September meeting presentations:

- **History and Appearance of HMS Perseus of 1776** - by *Daniel McKelvie*
(30 minutes presented in two 15-minute sessions)
- **Update on Building the Hayling Hoy** - by *David Rogozinski* (15 mins)
(Dave's presentation will be in between Dan's two segments)

Followed by our **On The Workbench** segment (members build progress update reports)

Have you anything you would like to share at a meeting?
If so please send us an email: modelshipwrightsofniagara@gmail.com

MSON Volunteer Executive Committee as of May 2024



CHAIR - Ray Peacock
PAST CHAIR - Ray Peacock
TREASURER - Pat Portelli
EDITOR of the LOG - Ralf Schnurbusch
WEBMASTER - Robert Erhard
I.T. MASTER (ZOOM meeting host) - Pat Portelli

SPECIAL EVENTS CAPTAIN - R/C Boating - Ron Campbell
SPECIAL EVENTS - Alan O'Neill

The MSON was established in 2008 as the Maritime Modellers of Niagara(-on-the-Lake) by Bill Short with three
other founding members: John Hatch, Jim Towndrow and Ray Peacock.

