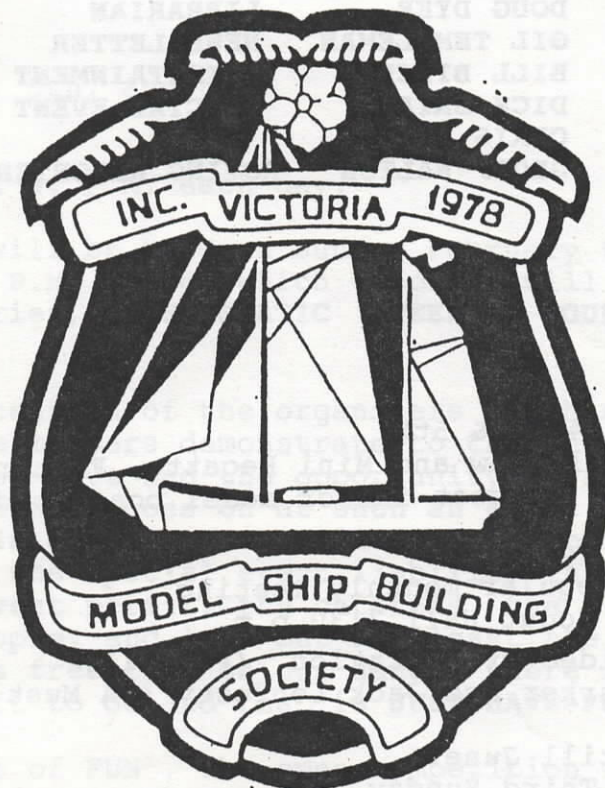


THE BINNACLE

January 1994



Next meeting Febuary 10, 1994 7:30 p.m.
Royal Oak Scout Hall

VICTORIA MODEL SHIPBUILDING SOCIETY
BOX 45083 MAYFAIR POSTAL OUTLET
VICTORIA, B.C.
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Executive Committee 1994

PRESIDENT	BILL HUCKIN		652-5264
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	BILL BIRCH	ENTERTAINMENT	592-6456
	DICK BRYANT	SPECIAL EVENT	656-9908
	CHRIS TAYLOR		652-1331
	GEOFF WALTON	ROVING REPORTER	592-5874

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3rd. - 4th, & 5th,
Canwest Mall Show and Mini Regatta, Featuring!
WestCom 's Largest indoor model boat pond.

February 10th, 1994.
V.M.S.S. Regular monthly meeting
Royal oak Scout Hall 7:30 p.m.
Special Video Presentation (Part II)
by Bill Barker and Jack Lenfesty (A Must see event.)

Winter months till June.
First and Third Sunday
Sailing South end of Elk Lake. 1: p.m. - 3: p.m.

Every weekend (weather permits)
R.C. Power / 1m R.C. Sailing
J. de. F. Pond Colwood Center

V. M. S. S.
CANWEST MALL
1994
MINI REGATTA

Date:

February 4th, 5th. and 6th.

Time:

10: A.M. till 4: P.M. each day.

Competition will be held on Sunday February 6th, from 12: noon till 2: P.M. after which trophies will be awarded in three categories, **BEST STATIC STEERING COURSE** and **PEOPLES CHOICE**

It is the intention of the organizers of this regatta, to have you, the members demonstrate to the general public who may or may not have had the opportunity to attend our annual regatta, just what goes on at such an event. On a mini scale of course, In doing so, we will forgo, the media advertising, the special event liability insurance policy, the C.R.D. event permit, the caterers, the P.A. system, the FIRST AID people, and last but not least the judges. So with all this free time on our hands, there is really only one thing left to do and that is **JUST-HAVE-FUN.**

In the spirit of FUN , the open competition will be for the little guys, I mean the small boats, the 30cm and under class. these are the boats which always seem to come up **short** (no pun intended) at our annual regatta due to wind. This time the wind in the Canwest Mall should be at a minimum, so may the best Captain Win

G. Templeman

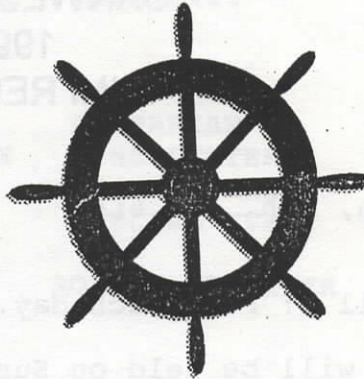
Maritime Museum gets catalogue aid

The provincial Archives Assistance Program has given \$8,500 to the Maritime Museum of B.C. to catalogue thousands of ships' plans donated by one of B.C.'s oldest shipyards.

Versatile Pacific, formerly Yarrows, gave the museum more than 20,000 plans of ships built and repaired at the yards since the start of this century.

The plans give the museum one of the most complete collections in North America.

However, extra staff had to be hired to sort through the plans to put them in order and list what is available for researchers and model builders.



The provincial grant program will pay half the cost of an archives project up to \$10,000 limit to make records available to the public.

ANNUAL DUES

Dues are now due for 1994. This year, the same as last, the single membership will be \$25.00. We will be offering a family membership for \$35.00, this could be husband and wife, mother and daughter father and son etc. or in the case of my Mother-in-law with 17 brothers and sisters, that works out to about \$2.00 a head (such a deal). If you have a friend or know a friend, bring them down to one of our meetings, get them involved. Make your cheques payable to. **V.M.S.S.**

THE ANCIENT PILOT

The art of piloting a ship is an ancient skill. In the Old Testament we read "Thy wise men, O tyre were thy pilots". The dictionary defines a Pilot as "one who steers ships along a coast, or into or out of a harbour where navigation is dangerous". From time immemorial local men have offered their services to guide ships through safe channels into harbour. Many men depended on this for their livelihood, and in the early days their lives depended upon their efficiency. It is even recorded in an ancient document that in the event of a pilot's carelessness leading a ship into danger, mariners were at liberty to behead him without answering to a court of law. Rather a severe form of disciplinary action!

The pilots worked as individuals or in small groups from sailing cutters in which they patrolled off the approaches to a port. With them worked apprentices, whose job it was to row them across to vessels calling for their services, and to pick them up from outgoing ships. The sailing cutters had two very sea worthy craft, and often had to be sailed singlehanded - features which made yachtsmen keen to buy them when they came up for sale.

The pilots had to buy their own craft and run them themselves on the fees received, the scales for which were laid down in the local dock regulations. In the British Isles there are some 120 pilotage districts, each with its own system over which the Board of Trade assumed control by Act of Parliament in 1913, thus bringing to an end the individual activities of the pilots.

ADMIRAL GEOFF

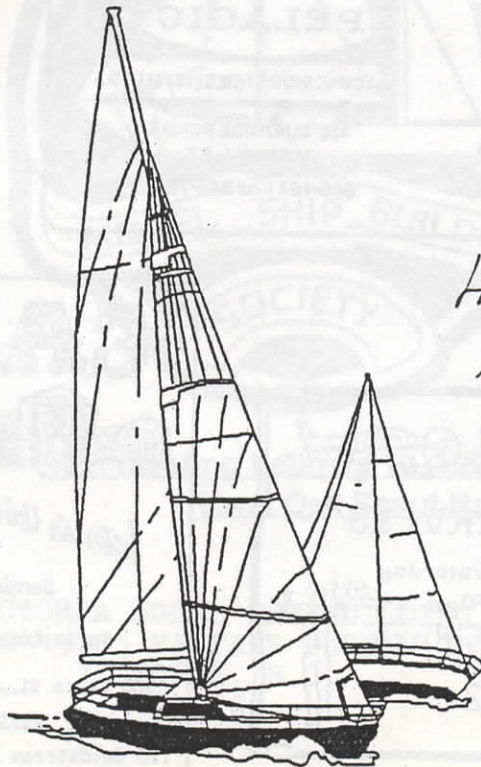


Library Report

An inventory of the club's collection of books has been completed and there are many books still missing. I Urge all members to check their bookshelves at home for any of the club's missing books. Books may be returned at the next meeting or dropped off to any member of the executive.

The new loan period will be for one month at a time, If you need a book for longer, that is fine, just bring it to the next meeting to have it renewed. Steps will be taken to make it easier to check books out. Also an inventory of magazines will be completed next month to make them more accessible. Later in the year the club will consider purchasing books to add to the collection, Your suggestions are welcome!

Doug Dyer - Librarian



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