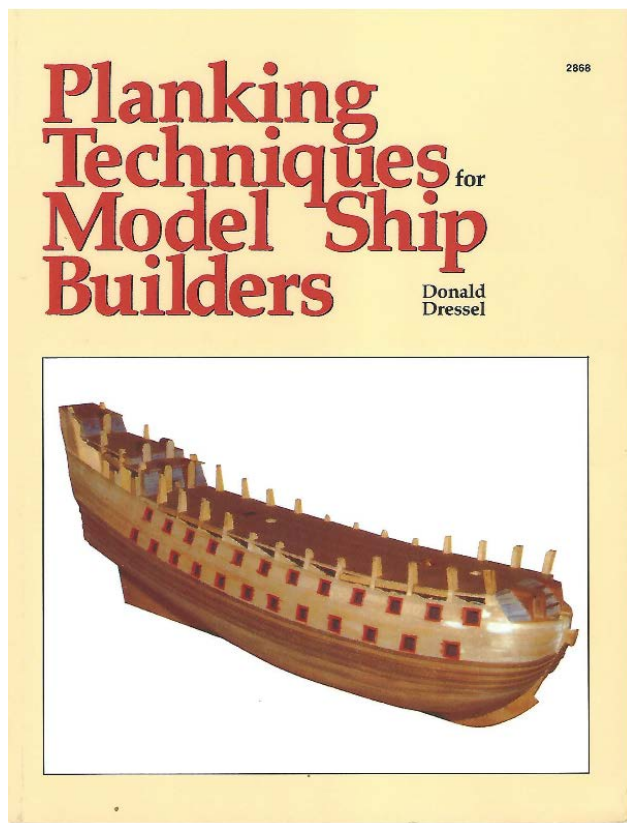


Book Review Nr 21

Happy New Year to you all. The two books which are subject of this review are, as last month, on model boating and are recent donations to the library.



Planking Techniques for Model Ship Builders, a TAB publication by Donald Dressel. This book is based on material and knowledge gained over a period of 15 years by the author and members of the Ship Modelers Association of Fullerton California. This is a 1988 edition running to 140 pages with 167 illustrations.

There are five chapters: Planking Materials & Tools, Hull Structure, Planking the Ship's Hull, Planking the Deck and Planking a Ship's Boats. The author points out that you do not have to be an expert wood craftsman or require an elaborate workshop or an extensive line of tools or power tools.

Whereas this book concentrates on the techniques to construct frames for hulls and superstructures and would apply to many craft, the majority of illustrations of finished models are 17th & 18th ships of the line. As with last month's book, *Historic Model Ships From Scratch*, this book also concentrates on the static model, but there is no reason why the finished hulls can't accept radio controlled sail equipment.

The second book is **Model Marine Steam** by Stan Bray. This is published by Special Interest Model Books in 2006. The book is in A4 format and runs to 140 pages in 17 chapters with many photos, drawings and diagrams.

The main intention of the book is to encourage readers to make their own steam engines rather than buying the finished article. Five chapters cover boiler design and construction, four dealing with various engines and three referring to the drive gear. The last chapter, Automatic Control, is short - two pages. One subject not covered is the incorporation of radio-control, but reference is made to successful development of automatic control by Malcolm Beak.

The drawings and diagrams appear more comprehensive and easier to follow than other books I have reviewed and see this book as an essential read for any starting on marine steam.

These two books will be available to peruse at the January club night.

If you want to borrow this, or any book in the library, please contact me.

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Remember we would welcome members' views on any books they borrow.

Clive Reynolds January 2023

