

Conowingo Models

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CONOWINGO HYDRO FLECTRIC PLANT

About Me – Chris Coarse



- Air National Guard C-130H Loadmaster
- Married with two daughters
- Residing in Conowingo, MD 3 miles from the dam
- Tyco Silver Streak train set as a kic
- Returned to model railroading in 2012 thanks to Polar Express Conowingo Models was started in 2019
- Logo is Pentaquod from James Michener's novel "Chesapeake' which references Conowingo
- Will eventually model the Rutland Railroad



RUTLAND



909



Qty

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO BRING WITH YOU

Item

- Hobby Knife with new #11 blades
- Bottle of glue. We recommend Aileen's Tacky Glue or Gorilla Glue Ge
- Bottle of clear drying glue (canopy glue)
- Small hobby paint brushes Sized 0/1, 4/5 and 8
- Self-healing cutting mat
- Paint pallet
- 3-2-1 Blocks
- Small plastic spring clamps (minimum)
- Pencil
- Pair of sprue cutters
- 1 Roll of masking tape
- 1 Sanding sponge (400 grit is good, more abrasive is ok too)

Bottles of the following acrylic paints

- off-white (Apple Barrel Antique Parchment recommended)
- Flat black
- Silver (optional)
- Detail colors (optional)
- Rust/orange

** Required stains will be provided



Conowingo Models Til Maid Oyster Boat Clinic



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The boat you are about to build is semi-fictional. The *Til Maid* was a boat that was once owned by the Tilghman Oyster Company of Tilghman Island, MD. We did some modifications to simplify the design so that it can be easily built in the time allotted.

What historical information available was provided by the Tilghman Island Watermen's Museum – In the period 1940-1945, the US Government commissioned 5 to 7 barges made entirely out of wood (no metal) to transport ammunition up and down the Chesapeake Bay. These boats were built on Solomon's Island. After the war, they were sold to various watermen in Crisfield, Tilghman and Cambridge, MD. Most had engines installed, among other modifications.

These boats picked up the names Til Maid, Tommy Lew and TA Anderson.

The last boat in service was used on Tilghman as an oyster tender.





Conowingo Models Til Maid Oyster Boat Clinic

Why do a boat clinic at a model railroad convention?

- 1. Many people, myself included are intimidated by the idea of building a model boat. Boat kits are often expensive and we're afraid that we won't do them justice.
- 2. Many model railroaders incorporate boats into their layouts. The Gorre and Daphetid, Franklin and South Manchester, Piermont Division, Loon Lake and Navigation Company, just to name a few, all have a few boats incorporated into their layouts.
- 3. This kit design incorporates a flat bottom boat into an oyster boat arrangement with simplified rigging











PAINTING OPTIONS

- You should make your color choices prior to starting this boat.

- There are laser-etched lines that are intended to show the wood planks on the boat. This adds character. If you want the boat to have tons of character, use less paint, so the laser etching shows through.

- We assume from the model in the Tilghman Island Waterman's Museum that the boat was painted white. Unless your boat is fresh out of overhaul, you probably want it to be off-white. Normally, white paint fades or becomes worn off the closer it gets to retirement.

- To age the roof, we used a faded grey because we assume that some form of asphalt or rubberized material was used for roofing.







BEGINNING HULL CONSTRUCTION

1. Remove the hull sides and hull supports from their carriers, along with one end piece



2. The hull sides with the etching are the outside.Flip them over, so you are looking at the insides.

3. Using the end piece to indicate spacing, locate where the ribs will go.

- The ribs need to be centered on the hull sides, with no overlap.
- Use your pencil to mark where the ribs need to be glued into place.

4. Glue the ribs into place

5. Apply 3-2-1 weights to bond the two pieces (4 total) together.



DETAIL PART PAINTING PAGE 1

PAINT THE FOLLOWING PARTS OFF-WHITE

- 2x Large, front windows (except for cleats)
- 2x Round, door windows
- 2x Small, engine room windows
- 2x Running lights (we'll paint the navigation lights in a few minutes)
- ***DO NOT PAINT THE HULL YET***

PAINT THE FOLLOWING PARTS BLACK

Mix a small amount of off-white and a larger amount of black on your paint pallet 2x Outrigger ends 1x Outrigger attachment 1x Mast base

1x Smoke stack









DETAIL PART PAINTING PAGE 2

PAINT THE FOLLOWING PARTS SILVER

2x Cleats

2x Cleats on the front window

STAIN THE FOLLOWING PARTS GREY/ BROWN

1x Mast

2x Outriggers

1x Hold cover

2x 1/32 x 3/32 stripwood (Gunwales)

NAVIGATION LIGHTS

Left Light - Red

Right Light - Green





PILOT HOUSE BRACING

1. Take the six pieces of the pilot house walls and brace them as shown on the right using CA.

- Ensure you brace the INSIDES, not the OUTSIDES.
- The areas in hash marks are not to receive bracing due to conflicts you will see during construction.
- The pieces shown in red are 1/32 x 1/16 stripwood.
- The pieces shown in blue are 1/16 x 1/16 stripwood.





HOLD CONSTRUCTION

- 1. Cut out the parts shown on the right.
- 2. Glue and stack the two center square pieces together.
- 3. Glue the four walls into place, ensuring the side walls have no edges sticking out. You want it nice and rectangular. We recommend only adding glue to where the arrow points. (Only one side shown for clarity)
- 4. Secure in place with 3-2-1 blocks.
- 5. Round the corners of the hold cover, utilizing a sanding block. You may also want to sand off the laser cut edges. Personal choice.





WINDOW PREP

- 1. Cut out the acetate for the windows
- 2. Apply a small amount of clear-drying glue to the inside of each window frame, from the rear. (Two of each window)
- 3. Fit the window glass into place on each of the parts shown on the right.





PILOT HOUSE CONSTRUCTION PART 1

- 1. Glue the brace base to the base itself as shown on the right.
- 2. Add the rear wall, ensuring it is vertical.
- 3. Glue the two front walls into place on the base. Ensure they are even, vertical and touching.
- 4. Add a little glue to the inside seam where the walls fit together. This helps keep everything even.
- 5. Glue the reinforcing piece to the pilot house front walls.



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PILOT HOUSE CONSTRUCTION PART 2

 Glue the two side walls to the base one at a time, ensuring they are even. The photo to the right only shows one side.







2. Glue the upper rear wall of the pilot house into place. It should fit evenly between the two side walls and even with the top. Use spring clamps to get the tightest bond possible.

3. Fit and glue into place the piece of $1/32 \times 1/32$ stripwood between the two front pieces of the pilot house.



HULL CONSTRUCTION PART 1

- 1. Gather the two sides and both end pieces.
- 2. Flip the sides pieces over so that the deck drains are on the bottom.
- 3. Arrange the pieces as follows-
 - Sides have the ribs in the middle with the bigger ends on the same end
 - The larger piece goes on the front end. Arrange it so that it fits between the two bigger ends.
 - The smallest of the four hull pieces goes on the rear end and goes between the two smaller ends of the sides.
- 4. Proper alignment is critical!
- 5. When happy with the arrangement, glue the corners into place.
- 6. Hold the corners together tightly until the glue sets.







HULL CONSTRUCTION PART 2

- 1. Flip the boat over so that it is right side up.
- 2. Fit the deck into place, ensuring the notches align with the ribs and that the ends fit evenly.
- 3. Holding the deck in place, flip the boat over.
- 4. Add glue to the underside of the ribs, where they contact the deck.
- 5. Add more glue to the underside of the deck, this time where the reinforcing piece will contact the ribs.
- Add the reinforcing piece. It doesn't need to be perfectly centered- it's for support.
- 7. Clamp the reinforcing piece to the deck using the plastic spring clamps. Using stripwood for temporary bracing is advised.





RUBRAIL INSTALLATION

1. Fit, cut and glue into place a 1/16 x 1/32 piece of stripwood on each side of the hull.

- Use the laser etching as a guide to keep the stripwood straight.
- Exact length of the rubrail is up to you. The Til Maid appears to have had one
- that reached around three sides.
- (Bottom photo shown with gunwale installed)







HULL PAINTING

We've listed color recommendations below, do as you please

- Stain the interior of the boat, ensuring that it doesn't warp. Lighter, quicker applications of stains seem to help. We used Vetero Aged Barnwood on one pilot model and Hunterline Raw Sienna and Driftwood on another.
 - If it does warp, use 3-2-1 blocks to straighten warpage.
- 2. While you have the stain out, stain the hold cover.

3. Paint the exterior of the hull using an off-white color. Ensure you cover all four sides and the inside of the deck drains. The less paint you apply, the more character that shows through.







PILOT HOUSE PAINTING/ PREP

1. Paint the following items off-white (your choice again)

- pilot house

2. Using the sanding sponge, round out the edges of the top and sides of the roof. This should be a very quick process.

3. Paint the two roof pieces grey. Feel free to use another color. Ensure you paint the sides and undersides. The example shown was painted before sanding to show what was sanded.

4. When dry, glue the roofing pieces into place, ensuring they are even, right to left.
- On the pilot house roof, you want only slight overhang at the rear, with a majority of the overhang on the front side. This serves as a rain shield. It helps to let the pilot house dry upside down.
- On the engine compartment roof, ensure the hole is against the pilot house and that it too is centered.

5. On the exhaust stack, you will notice there is an end with a rounded edge and one without. The rounded edge goes up.

- Add glue to the bottom edge.

- Insert the exhaust stack in the hole over the engine compartment
- The exhaust stack can be set in place vertically, or at a slight angle.

6. Glue the pilot house and engine room windows into place, except for the front two windows.







Gunwale Installation

- 1. Fit, cut and glue into place the 1/32 x 3/32 stripwood onto each side.
 - The stripwood should be even with the outside of the hull.
 - We recommend small drops of glue on the tops of the ribs.

2. Fit, cut and glue into place the 1/32 x 3/32 stripwood onto the front and rear.

3. You may choose to lay the hull upside down to allow the gunwales to dry flat.

4. Glue the two cleats into place on the gunwale as indicated by the arrow. (Only one side indicated for clarity.)







MAST CONSTRUCTION PART 1

*** DO NOT GLUE ANY OF THESE PARTS TOGETHER YET *** ** BE CAREFUL WITH THESE PARTS, THEY CRACK EASILY**

- 1. Take the mast mount and ensure it fits on one end of the larger piece of dowel. Lightly sand it with the sanding sponge if required.
- 2. Sand the top of the mast to slightly round it.
- 3. Fit the outrigger ends as shown. Lightly sand them with the sanding sponge if required.
- 4. Fit the outrigger attachment as shown. Lightly sand the mast with the sanding sponge if required.









MAST CONSTRUCTION PART 2

- 1. Identify the area shown on the top right and mark it with a pencil. You are looking aft in the boat. Notice there is a centerline.
- 2. Glue the mast mount and mast into place as shown on the lower right, centered on the pencil mark.
- 3. Slide the outrigger attachment to just above where you want it. (You want it to end up little above roughly 1/3 of the way up.)
- 4. Add a little glue to the mast and slide the outrigger attachment into place. You want the "Y" to face aft, so the outriggers will be symmetrical.
- 5. Glue the outrigger ends to the outriggers.
- 6. Place, but do not glue the outriggers in the mast mount.











POPULATING THE HULL

- Follow the centerline back from the mast to where it meets the second small board. This is where the front corner of the pilot house goes.
- 2. Test fit the pilot house into place, ensuring it is center. It does fit along a board line on each side.
- 3. Glue the pilot house into place.
- 4. Center the hold between the pilot house and mast, looking at the sides as well. It is longer than wide, so take that into account.
- 5. Glue the hold into place.
- 6. Glue the hold cover onto the hold, ensuring it sits squarely.







MAST RIGGING PART 1

- 1. If you have two pieces of thread in your kit, skip to step 3.
- 2. Cut the single piece of thread into two, roughly even, pieces.
- 3. Do the following steps for each side.
- 4. Put an overhand knot in one end, close to the end.
- 5. Thread it through the cleat as shown. The knot should be on the inboard side.
- 6. Cut the excess.
- Wrap the thread reasonably tightly around the cleat similar to a cleat hitch as shown on the right. Essentially figure-8s. 2-3 wraps is good. The free end should be on the outboard side.
- 8. Lock the thread into place with a drop of CA.
- 9. Glue the window into place on the pilot house. Add some glue behind the cleat as well, otherwise it will come away from the pilot house.
- 10. Repeat for the opposite side.











MAST RIGGING PART 2

- I. Thread each piece of thread through the ring on the outrigger on the respective side. It should be routed aft to forward.
- 2. Pull the thread snug enough to remove the slack. You may need to rotate the outrigger. Remember that position.
- 3. Remove the outrigger and add a drop of glue into the outrigger attachment.
- 4. Insert the outrigger back into the position you found in step 2.
- 5. Thread the thread through the cleat as shown on the right.
- 6. Gently remove slack.
- 7. Wrap the thread reasonably tightly around the cleat similar to a cleat hitch as shown on the right. Essentially figure-8s. 2-3 wraps is good. The free end should be on the outboard side.
- 8. Lock the thread into place with a drop of CA.
- 9. Repeat for the other side.





The Cleat Hitch



FINISHING TOUCHES

Glue the two running lights into place as shown on the right. 1.

Cut out and apply the boat name and home port to the aft of the boat. 2.

- Cut as close to the lettering as possible for the best results
- Drop in a small amount of water to activate
- When ready, carefully slide the decals from the sheet to the boat

3. Weather as desired. This is how we did it-



Hunterline Concrete Entire model

ited Apple Barrel Orange Mast mount Outrigger attachments **Outrigger ends Exhaust stack Running lights Door handles** Windows with streaking below

4. Add details to your boat. See the following websites-

https://seaportmodelworks.com/product-category/parts-fittings-etc https://frenchmanriver.com/HO-187-Scale-Nautical-Detail-Parts c 38.html https://woodlandscenics.woodlandscenics.com/show/item/BAL-LG - Medium ballast to use as oysters



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