



# The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers  
**August 2014**

## Upcoming Events

### August

- 16 NW Tug Championship  
Bellevue Pond 9:00 to 4:00
- 17 Burnaby Regatta at Central Park
- 23 Night Fun Float - Bellevue Downtown Park 8:00 PM

### September

- 4 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM
- 7 Fun float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to 2:00
- 14 Springer /Fun Float/ Barbeque/ Silent Auction at the Jacobsen's home on Lake Goodwin
- 18 Coffee/Fun Float  
Bellevue Pond 10:00-Noon

### October

- 3 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM
- 4 Fisherman's Festival  
11:00—6:00 PM
- 5 Fun float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to noon

**SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE SCHEDULE DETAILS**

## CALLING ALL TUG BOAT SKIPPERS!!!

## ITS TIME FOR THE 2014 PACIFIC TUG REGATTA



August is here and that means time to see who is the best tug skipper around at the 19th annual event known as **Pacific NW Tug Regatta**. This fun all day event is held on the 3rd Saturday of each August (16th

this year) at Downtown Park in Bellevue and open to anyone with a model tug or towing vessel. What is required of the day from the captains and their vessels? Glamorous tug work including barge handling through a navigation course and doing a salvage job of one of the derelict vessels all the while being judged by professional mariners. The person with the best combined score is the winner of the **Pacific NW Tug Regatta**.

How are boat classes decided you ask? Unlike other events, boats are divided into classes based on weight--not length (weight is ballasted with batteries--not light with no fuel).

Classes are: **Small** ( *under 15 lbs*), **Medium** ( *15.01 to 30 lbs*), **Large** ( *every thing over 30.01 lbs*), **Vintage** ( *long, skinny boat, open rudder, no bow thrusters or knozzels and usually not as maneuverable*), and a **Masters** ( *winners in the*

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# NW R/C Ship Modelers August 7th, 2014 Meeting Minutes

## By Cliff Elowson/Robert Osmond Photos by Allan Wing

Tom Stevens graciously accepted the post of Wellness Committee, this position will be the person to tell if you know of a member being ill or in the hospital or passing away. We will need to discuss what this covers at the next meeting. To determine how far from a current member we want to carry this. For example, do we want to keep track of spouses, off spring etc. Do we want to keep track of someone that was a member 15 years ago but has not come to meetings etc. since then. We also need to discuss what we want to do and how to handle the clubs response so it is even and consistent. Please think about this so we can discuss this a the Sept. Meeting/

**NIGHT FUN FLOATS** - We voted to have a night fun float Aug. 23, at 8:00 PM. Dave Green will inform the City Parks Dept. We will need to announce this to the club in the newsletter.

We already have a night fun float scheduled for Oct. 18th at 7PM. We will need to remind people closer to this date.

**DECEMBER DINNER MEETING** - Mel and Doc will be the selection committee for this Meeting.

**The Northwest Tug Regatta** this Saturday Aug. 16th will have a limit of 2 boats per captain. Tom Stevens is looking for help picking up the items from storage this Friday, and he wants help to put it all back this Saturday after the regatta. Ben Flodquist will be the salvage judge and Russ Shrewsbury will be the navigation judge for the regatta.

### **Northwest RC Ship modelers Regatta 1st in scale class and overall awards**

It was discussed and voted on that once a boat has taken the 1st place award in scale in any class at the Northwest RC Ship modelers Regatta it can no longer be entered in scale competition at future Northwest RC Ship modelers Regattas. We clarified that this also means that if you take 1st place in scale and do not win the Overall Best Of Show Trophy at that regatta then that boat will not be able to win the Overall Best Of Show Trophy at any future Northwest RC Ship modelers Regattas. This will be incorporated in the club rules and Regatta Rules for the future. It was this way in the past and over the years it was forgotten and not enforced. This it to give more boats a chance at winning 1st in scale in any of the classes we use for the future regattas.

### **Show and tell**



**Allan Wing** showed his new articulated wing powered sailboat.

**Tom Stevens** described how to use old automotive serpentine belts for slings to lift boats in and out of the water.

Tom showed designs and discussed the use of "Orville hooks" for use in the salvage event at the upcoming Northwest Tug Regatta. He pointed out that in the full scale tug scene they also use "Orville hooks" to retrieve loose tows and loose barges with



chain hanging down.

**Robert Osmond** showed some jumper cables/ test leads that he had made using the more finely built and with finer jaws electric meter alligator clamps. He said that these finer toothed jaws grabbed the wire better (stronger springs), had more texture for your fingers to control them with and also almost all of the metal is covered with hard plastic so they would not easily bump together and short circuit what you are testing. They were very easy to solder after using a little dab of tinning flux. (see photo showing these alligator clamps in their normal use on meter leads and then as jumper cables/flexible test leads).

## **SPECIAL NOTICES**

**June Regatta trophy winners.** If you take you plaques to C & M trophies they will engrave your name and your boat name and bill the club 75¢ per line. Robert Osmond

### **SPECIAL EVENT—Silent Auction Style Sale & Swap**

As extra bonus to the September 14th Fun Float and Springer Event at the Jacobson's, there will be a special silent auction. Attendees are encouraged to bring your old ,cool model stuff to sell silent auction style. Start gathering all your items now and be ready for this special event.

Linda Canney will be offering up much of Gordy's modeling items and a couple of his boats. So this will be a great auction. Don't miss out. More information is on the website and will be in the September newsletter.

### **John Benthein**

**John Benthein** passed away on 08/05 after a long battle with cancer in the last few years. He was a member of the club until he got together with a new group closer to Tacoma and formed the Commencement Bay Maritime Modelers. He is also the author of the book "The Forgotten 61". This contains the historical information of all the Miki Miki class tugs built during WW2 and last known whereabouts of each tug.



## TUALATIN REGATTA August 9th By Dr Ron



After a hot and congested drive, taking way too long, we arrived at the Century hotel to a wonderfully air conditioned room. Following a little libation we headed off to dinner with some of us dining at the Italian restraint across the lake and others at the hotel the Out-back or others. After a hearty breakfast we went to the pond to run boats and compete in some really unique events put on by **Amiee** and **Phil**. The weather was terrific and the raffle prizes outstanding with lots of prizes from

Raboesch, Loyalhanna, Dimension engineering, Hobby Lobby, Shafer tugs, Amiee and a few others. **Mel** came out as the winner of the ship in a bottle event and the crane barge event and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the navigation course. First place in navigation went to our Californian, **Troy Watters** and he was a co-winner in the crane barge competition. However, he entered all three of the crane barge competitions with a different boat for each of the three flights.

Following the events we packed up our tents around 4 pm and headed for the showers in order to get to the dinner table by 5:30. Following a very sumptuous meal we headed out again to the pond for the night float. The weather was balmy with a beautiful full moon and many lights from the surrounding facilities.

In the morning we headed out to our home ports after another great breakfast. This has always been a really outstanding venue due to all to the efforts of Amiee Eng and Phil McKinney who did an outstanding job. The Portland group was there in force and provided lunch and a loud speaker system which helped with the raffle. They have a number of great builds and many different boats such as steam operated vessels, war ships, pleasure boats, tugs, fast boats and submarines. Some of the subs were present at the night floats with lights which looked really cool under water.

All in all, the venue was a most rewarding and satisfying experience with great people, many beautiful models and great facilities. Hopefully those who didn't make it will consider this event next year. Some of us have already made our reservations and it would be a good idea to make reservations as soon as possible because it is a very busy time of year in this area with so many activities, wineries and the museum in McMinnville.





# NW R/C Ship Modelers Schedule 2014

- August 2 Blaine Harbor Days 10:00 to 4:00  
August 7 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
August 9 Fun float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to 2:00  
August 9 Portland Regatta in Tualatin OR 9:00 to 4:00 & 6-9 PM  
August 16 NW Tug Regatta at Bellevue Downtown Park 9:00 to 4:00  
August 17 Burnaby Regatta at Central Park, Burnaby B.C.,  
August 21 Coffee/Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to noon  
August 23 Night Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 8:00 PM
- September 4 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
September 7 Fun float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to 2:00  
September 14 Springer Event ~ Jacobsen's Fun Float & Barbeque at Lake Goodwin  
September 18 Coffee/Fun Float 10:00 to noon
- October 2 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
October 4 Fisherman's Festival 11:00- 6:00  
October 5 Fun float at Bellevue Downtown Park 10:00 to noon  
October 18 **Night Fun Float** - Bellevue Downtown Park 7:00 PM  
November 6 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
November 9 Fun Float Location TBD 10:00 to 2:00
- December 4 Year End Banquet 7:00 – 10:00

## 2015 (tentative)

- January 8 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
January 11 Fun Float Location TBD 10:00 to 2:00
- February 5 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
February 8 Fun Float Location TBD 10:00 to 2:00  
February ?? Northwest Model Expo Monroe WA
- March 5 Monthly Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7:00 PM  
March 8 Fun Float Location TBD 10:00 to 2:00



# FUN FLOAT REPORT

# Bellevue Pond July 17th, 2014



At the July Coffee Float we had 16 skippers. There were no mishaps or new boat christenings. We did have one visitor from the Burnaby Club Lawrence Reynolds with his scratch built Scout. The hull is plank on frame styrene. He says the real boat is in New Zealand. As you can see from the interior he has used all of the available space for the motor and battery. It was a very nice model and was very powerful. We hope he can come back for the Northwest Tug Regatta August 16th in the Bellevue Pond.

Thanks to all of the skippers and their support for these 3rd Thursday Coffee Fun Floats.





# FUN FLOAT REPORT

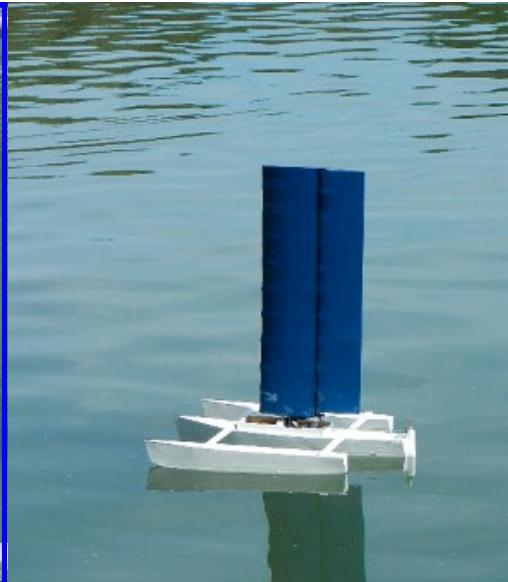
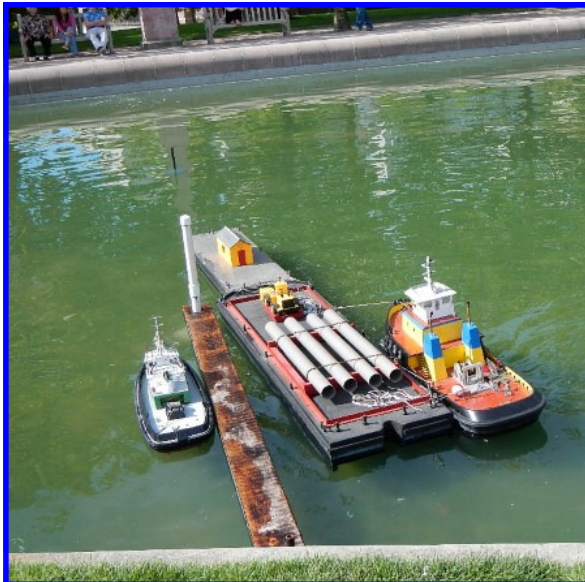
# Bellevue Pond August 9th, 2014

By Allan Wing



It was a sunny and warm day with light and variable winds. We had a good turnout considering the number of people that were at Tualatin. We had about 15 members and about 25 boats. The 9:30 start time worked well with many of the members at the pond by 9:30. Al Kinsman was practicing for the NW tug Championship. There were a couple of other people practicing. The experimental sail boat with the airfoil for a sail worked rather well. I was able to sail around the pond and make it back without a rescue. There was one quick gust that caught the boat sideways and caused it to capsize. Al Kinsman rescued it and the inside was still dry.

The early start time was good because by noon it was getting rather warm and many people were packing up and heading home. It was a good day and everyone had a good time in the sunny warm weather.





# 2014 Tidewater Cup - Mel Suelzle



July 26<sup>th</sup> was the date of the 2014 Tidewater Cup at the Avista pond in Spokane. Four members of our club attended this year. **Bob Wickham, Al Kinsman, Dave White**, and myself I rounded our West coast team for the event. Lee Stewart took a break from his motorcycle outing in Republic and spent a few hours with us as well. We had a cameo appearance by Ron Burchett who was traveling to Massachusetts to deliver a couple of very cool training tugs. They were high-end Z-drive tugs with very sophisticated drive and control systems to replicate real world training experiences for future skippers.

The event participation was smaller this year as the Spokane club had a couple of new members but continues to shrink as medical/domestic plumbing issues took its toll on event attendance. The events consisted of 2 separate competitions. One event is for Springer class boats that requires skippers to take a barge through a very complex course, weaving in and around 18 large and unforgiving boulders. The course complexity demands you have a navigator to allow the skipper to concentrate on navigation around and thorough rock lined passages some with only an inch or so to spare. This most challenging course is difficult to run without hitting at least one rock. It is timed as well to break any ties. This year's Springer event winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> Place Randy Seiser

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Mel Suelzle

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Al Kinsman

In the Tidewater event, the West side skippers also did well in this event.

Small Class;	1 <sup>st</sup> Place – Mel Suelzle	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place – Randy Seiser
Medium class;	1 <sup>st</sup> Place - Dave White	
Large class,	1st Place Al Kinsman	2nd Place Ron Hinton

Combined scores of all classes resulted in a tie between Mel and Al Kinsman. Elapsed time was used as a tie breaker. Mel's run was two minutes faster than Al's, so Mel Suelzle was crowned 2014 Tidewater champion.

As usual, the awards were followed by a nice meal in celebration of a most successful and entertaining day. If you have never attended the Tidewater event, you should seriously consider it in your future plans. It is normally held on the last Saturday of July. This is very fun model boat event in a park-like setting, nice weather and the best tug/barge navigation courses anywhere! Everything's setup and nicely hosted by a great bunch of guys (and wives) from the Spokane Model Boat Club.



## **Pacific Tug Regatta cont.**

past 3 years.. This includes those that won under the Foss Cup). All style tugs ( single or multi-screw, tractor style, enhanced tugs with bow thrusters or knozzels) compete against each other per class.

In **Navigation** with a barge, each captain is responsible for *on the wire, on the hip, in the notch/pushing*) so best to have your own lines ready or you can use the supplied ones. Barges should be 3 times the size of the vessel, so don't take a small little barge if you have a big boat. We welcome you bring your barge for others to use, but encourage you to take another one for the challenge.

**Salvage** you need to use a device to snag the line of the derelict vessel from out in the open water so that it is not a navigational hazard. This is towed behind the boat and will need to "grab" a line hanging from the vessel so you can tow it into the harbor where you will need to dock it for repairs. The thing here is that the docking is a precision docking--need to get the line on the derelict vessel to line up with marking on the dock. Like hitting a bulls eye in darts, points are higher if on the middle mark. caveat is once the vessel make contact with the dock, you must pin it in place--no sliding the vessel around. So planning is best when approaching this.



Now for those that want an extra challenge we have the ever popular **Team Tow** event. This event is separate from the scoring and has it's own award. You can use the tug that ran the other events or a different one if you like. The unique part of this event is that you will be paired with another boat by random drawing. We do this to make it a little more challenging to move the freighter around as more than likely, you may not have worked with the other captain before. This is a rather simple job of moving the freighter away from the landing, through a couple sets of buoys and back to the landing all the while maintaining control of the freighter. Be warned--the freighter is 9 foot long and weighs upwards of 600 pounds! Communication is key to this event as the freighter has been known to take down victims that were unprepared ( see markings on the bridge wings).

Entry fee is a flat \$10.00 and will include a lunch. We go with the 2 boat max for this event as it is a little more time consuming with the extra activities to be done, but encourage you to bring as many as you want for display or just to have fun in the open water. Registration will open as soon as we have it ready at 8 am and stays open until 10 am. There will also be a raffle with great donated prizes by our supporters of this event. Tickets will be sold through out the day and will have smaller drawings starting in the afternoon with the top items being done at the end of the event. Event is scheduled to be over at 4 pm if all goes smoothly and skippers are ready with their tugs. Lunch and refreshments will be provided around the noon time.

As with any event there is a need for help through out the day. Can use help in all areas but really need those that can spend some time helping move derelict vessels back out in the open water once done and in the barge basin with keeping barges at the ready. We appreciate all help when setting up and taking down as well.

So come on out to the **Pacific NW Tug Regatta**. Bring your favorite workhorse(s) to do the jobs of the day, display your boats, or just to catch the action. Good time to test your skills and share the comrade ship of other fellow modelers for the day. Any questions, feel free to ask me.

Hope to see you there Saturday the 16th! Keith Schermerhorn

**Pacific NW Tug Regatta Chairman 360-306-1165 [wscherm@fidalgo.net](mailto:wscherm@fidalgo.net)**



# CLASSIFIED SECTION

**BOATS FOR SALE!** Owner is getting out of the model boat business.

**PONO**—The boat was built by John Witt, This is an very nice model which Al Kinsman won the TOP regatta awards for scale and navigation. It has new batteries and new Pittman 3700 motors. Includes a new Spektrum DX6i system. It has a working winch, radar and lights. It is ready to go and the asking price is \$1500.

The Springer also has new batteries and is ready to run. Asking \$250  
 For more information contact Manuel at [Toneman4239@msn.com](mailto:Toneman4239@msn.com)



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**NEED WIRE??** Finding small stranded wire for mast wiring is often a challenge. One good source is Train Control Systems at [www.tcsdcc.com](http://www.tcsdcc.com). They offer a wide range of colors of 32 gauge stranded wire. It is available in 10' & 20' as well as bulk quantities up to 500' for those with really tall masts!!

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**Have something you want to sell or buy?** Send a brief summary of your ad to: [newsletter-editor@shipmodelers.com](mailto:newsletter-editor@shipmodelers.com) Include a photo if needed. Newsletter deadlines are the Sunday following the first Thursday of the month. Items received after this date will be published the following month. Be sure and include an email or phone number.

<h2 style="margin: 0;">CLUB INFORMATION</h2>	
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