



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers
Seattle, Washington, USA
www.shipmodelers.com

February 2020

Events Look Ahead

March

- 5 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 7 Fun Float - Bellevue Pond 9 am

April

- 2 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 4 Fun Float - Bellevue Pond 9 am
- 29 Seattle Yacht Club Fun Float 10 am – 3 pm

MAY

- 7 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 9 Fun Float – Bellevue Park 9 am
- 21 Coffee/Fun Float – Bellevue Park 11 am

JUNE

- 4 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 6 NWSM Regatta Bellevue Park 9 am-3pm
- 18 Coffee Fun Float - Bellevue Park 11 am

More events information on calendar page latter in newsletter and,
Check our website for latest updates at www.shipmodelers.com



2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE



Annual dues are \$30. If you have not paid yet, please forward your dues payment to:

Bryan Morse
703 N 105th St., Apt 7,
Seattle WA, 98133

Make checks payable to: NW R/C Ship Modelers

From the Wheelhouse

2020 has gotten off to a very interesting start. Our first major event of the year was Hobby Expo at the Monroe Fairgrounds was a very positive start to the new year. We had excellent member participation for setup, teardown and support for both days of the weekend. The two day format was a big improvement. The crowd was huge on Saturday and Sunday was lighter but still enough people there to make it feel worthwhile. I think the organizers put in effort to help freshened the event with new features and club participation. This year another large building was added for car events only. The three buildings were filled with models of all types. New vendors attended but the number of vendors seemed about the same. I was very pleased with the level of club participation for this event. We had lots of boats and members there throughout the event keeping plenty of boats on the water. Noddle boats were very popular with the youngsters. While the planned junior skipper schedule was not



followed, junior skippers were on the pond virtually the entire day. Thanks to **Robert Osmond**, **David Zanzig** and **Richard Bizier** for bringing their "Noddles". Thanks To **David Zanzig** for introducing these to the club. We will see them often at our other running events.

Special thanks go to **Robert Osmond** for demonstrating the durability of the Noddle boats. He very expertly showed how his surf boarder can accelerate from a full stop to warp speed to inflict a broadside hit on with his super powered surfboarder. By jumping the foam bulwarks of the Noddle, the surfer easily dislodged the cabin that fortunately had sufficient buoyancy to remain afloat before sinking to the depths of "Lake Kevin". (and we thought the junior skippers would be a problem). During the event we received membership applications from **Jim Shaffer** and his wife, **Bonnie**. Bonnie & Jim both retired from Foss Maritime. Jim recently retired as a tug captain. We welcome them to our club and hope to see them at our future events.

Many thanks to all who helped make the 2020 Hobby Expo a successful event for our club. I appreciate everyone's support with their attendance as well as the many boats they brought to display and/or run on the pond.

Ron Bray and **Bill Heath** both entered models in the scale judging event. Bill Heath's nice Darby class tug, the Nor 'wester was successful in winning BOTH 1st and 2nd places for the boat category. I suspect a clerical error was made and 2nd place was intended for Ron Bay's new Coho ferry boat as the 2nd place award to Bill's Nor 'wester had Ron's name as the owner of the Nor 'wester. In any case, congratulations to both Bill and Ron for entering two fine models and representing our club in this event.

Again the year, **Dave Green** is ready to work with the Bellevue Park Department. Our plans and necessary insurance documents are ready as we await the opening of the registration system. As with last year we plan to reserve only the regatta date and not the fun float dates. Only the regatta is when we need exclusive use of the cemented area for our setup and more structured event. For fun floats we will not reserve any specific area. Rather, we will use the walkway area and the cement area if it is not in use by another group. The Parks Department is aware of our full schedule and will alert us if any areas are reserved on our fun float dates. Also the Parks Department has given us the lower non-profit group rate for our regatta. There are some changes to the administration group for this park and we hope that they will not adversely affect reservations for this year. We appreciate Dave's work with the Parks Department and hope we can continue our close working relation.

I think all would agree that the "meat" or our meetings is the time we spend on show 'n tell topics. While we no longer have the award for the most frequent show 'n Teller, our activity is been strong so far this year. To augment these presentations, we have excellent video facilities at our Makerspace meeting location. Photos are easy to project as well as physical objects can be projected on the dual projection screens. These tools can help make these presentations easier and more effective. Set up of the projector equipment is quick and easy. If you have some photos that will enhance your presentation or help better explain a procedure or project, you can use the projector in a similar manner. The projector accepts photos in JPEG, PDF format and videos in AVI or MP4 format directly. You can plug in a USB flash drive and the projector will display photos individually or automatically as a slide show. The projector also has HDMI input for direct connection to a laptop or notebook computer. If you need help, let me know so we maximize our use and benefit from these new tools.

And finally, while we have our 2020 schedule firmed up, I have been unable to update our website calendar as my passwords no longer work for making changes. Goggle is slow to respond with any help. I don't feel the goggle calendar is worth the hassle and offers any benefits. I feel the link can just refer to our printed schedule that is easier to read and does not change all that often. Let me know if this change has any issues. *Mel Suelzle*

Meeting Minutes -- February 6, 2020

By Ron Bray

Photos by Robert Osmond



The meeting began at 1900 hours under direction of our commodore, **Mel Suelzle** at the The Facility, 6606 196th Street SW, Lynnwood, WA.

At the suggestion of **Rich Goodrich**, **Glenn Douglas** came back to the club after a 20 year absence and is now a newly recruited member. **Jim Schafer** accompanied by his wife **Bonnie**, were introduced and welcomed to the club. **Jim** is a retired tug boat captain and now lives in Tacoma.

Show and tell began with **Mel** bringing back two boxes of nautical books that didn't disappear at the last meeting. Those not taken will be given to **Paul Williams** who will donate them to a local library.



Tom Edwards showed progress he is making on his tug. He has installed a working radar and winch. A big screen TV was added to his Canadian springer boat just above the hot tub and he is looking for a picture to place on the screen. Perhaps a pretty lady is next? He brought back a box of **Tom Steven's** items available for the taking.

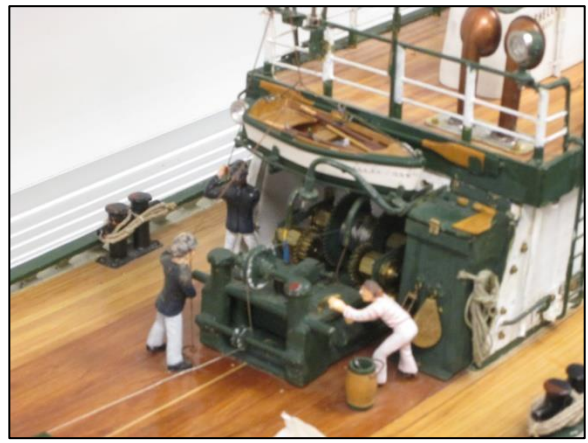


Our new old member, **Glenn Douglas**, brought in his 20 year- old model of the Jolly Jay which is in need of considerable repair due to damage from many moves. It is equipped with a sound system and lights and should be up and running in no time.



Bryan Morse picked up a sail- boat kit, Bon Rotour, which he picked up at the Burnaby Hobbies shop, in Burnaby, Canada.





John Legate described the novel method he employed in order to retrieve the anchor chain without tearing up the deck of his beautiful model of the Shelly Foss. He was able to add power to raise and lower the anchor and showed how the winch was modified to be functional.



Richard Bizier showed the great job he did in planking a Graupner outboard run about kit and how he is able to remove the receiver and speed control from under the back deck by removing one screw.



A small colorful rowboat with a functional small outboard motor was shown by **Bill Heath**.



Robert Osmond purchased a partially assembled Krick steam powered stern wheel river boat kit at Hobby Expo. Since the plan details were not clear or partially absent, he called Mr. Krick for advice and more pages of instructions.



After the break and the chance to pick up a nautical model books and ogle over the great models the meeting resumed.

Mel announced that he got a call from **Gordon Canny's** wife **Linda**, stating she would like to sell his fantastic Shelly Foss tug and that if anyone is interested they should contact **Mel** for her contact number.

Business items were discussed, and upcoming events were mentioned. Club members that helped at NW Model Hobby Expo were given kudos for their attendance and help setting up and taking down the pool and exhibits.



Mel announced that **Keith Schermerhorn** is looking for someone to take over the 2021 Pacific NW R/C Tug Regatta event in August as he has been orchestrating this event for 20 years and is interested in abdicating this responsibility after this year's 25th anniversary event. (More information in Keith's "Skagit Ship Modelers Meeting Report" in below pages.)

After a successful evening the meeting concluded at 2015 and 21 of us headed out into a wet, rainy evening.

Fun Float at Seattle Yacht club -- February 8, 2020

By Robert Osmond

Photos by Robert Osmond

February 8th dawned dark and cloudy with rain in various part of King County. So of course all the members of the club hastily got dressed and loaded their boats, raincoats and hats for another "winter fun float in Seattle". Those that braved the early Saturday morning traffic (I am kidding there is not early morning traffic on Saturdays in the winter.), were greeted with coffee and donuts at the Seattle Yacht club, all seven of them. The rest presumably were stuck in traffic and decided to return home without running their boats.



Kevin Nolet was running his new Coast Guard rescue boat which he had just finished to the sea trials state. It ran very well and handled like a good rescue boat should.



Richard Bizier had his tried and true European style tug which I think was his first boat? **Tom Edwards** had his Canadian style log boom pulling boat with his new details. He is always adding more details and improving his finishes, and he is a very exuberant, relatively new model boater and "takes to RC boating like a duck to water".

Fred Row had his highly polished and varnished run-about with the crew saying "how fast does it go"? Run-abouts are not dock queens, but splashing roaring speed machines. This one has an unintended water pump around the rudder post which likes to add water ballast in the stern of the boat. **Steve Sunich** was offering moral support before he went to work on Saturday. Being your own boss is a lot of work. **Bill Heath** had his trawler with very nice embroidery designs on all of his sails. His trawler is a little tender when the wind gets up and he had to take in a couple of reefs in the main and stay sails. **Mel Suelzle** had his "never fail" Red Bull out which ran very well. I wonder how much Red Bull pays him to advertise for them?

I had my Surfer cutting doughnuts and making tiny ripples in the water. I also brought my new Riverine boat, this time with a Li-Po battery which helped with the weight distribution. Now on to the details. I also have to find out how all the water gets inside?



While we were all having fun running our boats, I pointed out that the skies were clearing, with more blue sky and sunshine showing all the time. See by the one photo of the blue sky and sunshine on the boats and water.

New returned member **Glen Douglas** came by towards the end of the float to check things out. As we were packing up the sun was starting to be covered by the clouds and the weather was returning to normal Northwest Winter Weather. Those that the traffic discouraged missed a beautiful day of boating, no wind, no rain, and warmed by the sun. See you next month.

40th Annual North West Model Hobby Expo

By Fred Row

Photos by Fred Row and Robert Osmond



On January 25 and 26, 2020, club members turned out to participate and attend the 40th Annual NW Model Hobby Expo on the Monroe Evergreen State Fairgrounds. A huge thank goes to our esteemed leaders **Mel Suelzle**, **Richard Bizier** and **Robert Osmond** who spent hours on the morning of January 24th setting up the makeshift pond.

Saturday found around 16 club members in attendance and 35 boats on display. Members participating in the event included: **Mel Suelzle**, **Richard Bizier**, **Robert Osmond**, **Brian Morse**, **Richard Goodrich**, **David Green**, **Fred Row**, **Paul Williams**, **David Zanzig**, **Tom**



Edwards, **Dave White**, **Sam Stout**, **Jeff Parker** and **Keith Schermerhorn**.

Scale model competition was open to members for an additional entry fee. Two members entered boats in the Expo Wide Scale Model Competition. **Ron Bray** entered his

Coho and **Bill Heath** his Nor' Western Darby tug. (And they won awards and money!)



The Noodle boats were a great hit with the "junior captains" and **David Zanzig** and **Richard Bizier** had a fun time talking with parents and helping the young captains run their Noodle boats on the pond.



While we had traditional RC Model Boats running and Noodle boats, we also had two "unique boats" that drew some crowd attention. They were **Robert Osmond's** surfer and **Tom Edward's** amphibian pickup truck. Tom had a great time showing off the unique amphibian mode of transportation and doing wheelies across the pond.



As in our January club Float, our day wasn't complete without one minor "hiccup". In the morning when **Robert** ran his surfer, he cut the speed down to 40%. However, In the afternoon



he mistakenly turned the surfers setting from 40% to 100%. The surfer flew across the pond, jumped up and knocked the top off a noodle boat owned by Tugboat Skipper, **David Zanzig**. While **Robert** felt this wasn't worth mentioning, this reporter couldn't resist ending the write up about the club's participation in this year's Hobby Expo without the "dangerous surfer story".

More pictures from 2020 Hobby Expo ...



Skagit Ship Modelers Meeting Report -- February 1, 2020

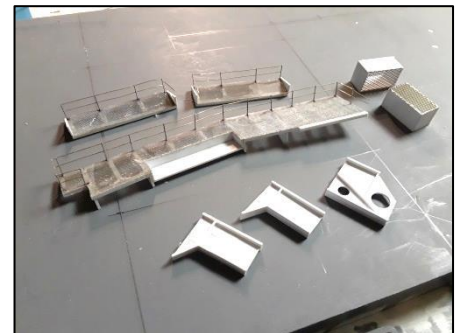
By Keith Schermerhorn

A wet and windy Friday night gave way to a calmer Saturday morning where 8 members of the Skagit Ship Modelers gathered together for the morning breakfast meeting at the Mount Vernon Denny's. It was nice of **Randy Flodquist** to pick up **Wayne Martin** and bring him as he had been missing the meetings with a health issue.

Most notable discussion was about the NW Model Hobby EXPO show from the previous weekend. The boat area and number of people and boats were nice to see with an over flow of models present. The new show layout was an improvement for the flow of people and what they saw. Having the contest models display moved towards the front entrance was a nice change as there were also more boat entries this year than has been seen in the past couple of years. The fact that a boat won the best of show was a nice bit of news as well. Swap meet was bigger and even things for the nautical minded could be found. I went down with a couple of large boats and even took the time to put them in the water for a while. Those of us that went, commented on the noticeable missing man in **Tom Stevens** being gone, but his boats were still there with his friend **Tom Edwards**. Bringing them made it a nice to see. The rest of the show was good and always a nice welcome break in the middle of winter. A side note was mentioned as there was a post from the organizers of the show that there will be a mid-summer swap meet for the hobbies coming this summer on July 11th at the fairgrounds! This may be a chance to either get a table and clean some stuff out or find some interesting things. More information to come in the future.



Another item discussed was to maybe have a fun float at a friend of Kevin Klocke's, who lives nearby him and has a pond. He runs his boats there and the guy is a model fan as well as a retired tug captain! Hopefully, get more on that in the very near future. Also noted that the Anacortes Waterfront Festival is on June 6 & 7 and NWR/CSM's regatta is on Saturday June 6, the same weekend. **Keith Schermerhorn** will be splitting the shows, but will have boats in Anacortes for both days and be present on Sunday. **Larry Stiles** informed us the sailing group has still been floating at their usual space out by Deception Pass, but has slowed due to the poor weather.



Show and tell consisted of Keith's continued work on the CVE aircraft carrier and showing some of the small work on the ship platforms being made that attach to the sides of the flight deck. These parts are made of plastic, metal mesh, brass wire, and etched stanchions. Small details on a small scale ship make them tough to do, especially the railings.

The other show and tell was a little easier to see. It was some of the brass work on the railings and mast parts of the larger Miki Miki tug LT147, a very large ocean going tugboat of wooden construction originally commissioned by the United States Army during World War II. Being in 1/32nd scale makes it easier to work with and not so taxing on the eyes! The main railings were made using commercial stanchions and strung with brass wire running through them. The Gun tug railings were all made from



brass tube and rod since they are shorter and a bit different than the regular railings. A note to bending brass wire/tube/strips is to heat the metal with a torch so that it changes color a bit (a red glow can be good momentarily) as this "softens" the metal and makes it more pliable for bending without binding/resisting the tension. Made the tug's gun this way as well as the forward railings. The rings for the parts on the mast and boom were made of brass tube cut to size and details soldered on. The mast and boom are made from old recycled fishing rods. These make for a great tapered mast since they are stiff and hollow for allowing wire to be run down inside for lights.

A few more discussions of various topics were heard, breakfast enjoyed, and time was coming to a close as Denny's restaurant was getting busy. So we paid our checks and headed to our home ports for the day until we convene again next month.

Skagit Ship Modelers Club Meetings -- As always, we have our meetings the first Saturday of each month, starting at 9 AM, at the Mount Vernon Denny's restaurant at 100 E College Way, Mt Vernon, WA and all are welcomed and encouraged to join in with conversation and show-n-tells.

Looking for New Organizer of Pacific NW R/C Tug Regatta in 2021

By Keith Schermerhorn

Welcome to winter weather. With all the water on the ground, I couldn't help but think of all the opportunities in some flooded areas where one could play tug with a barge and not have to travel far.

This is also a notice that the Pacific NW R/C Tug Regatta event for 2020 is only 6 months away now. This year will be the 25th annual event to be held Saturday August 15th, at the Down Town Park in Bellevue, Washington, USA.

Never in the wildest dreams of the original creators of the event, back in 1995, did they assume it would last more than 5 years. It was then known as the "FOSS CUP" Regatta. In 2000 they were looking for someone else to take over and I stepped in thinking it would be just a couple of years. But in 2020, it will be my 20th one as the person with the plan and responsible for coordinating this event.

It is always a lot of work and was fun to do. Thankfully, I do have a good group of people (individuals, friends, club members) who have been there to help with a lot of the work and organization to the point they need no instruction as they know what to do. I can't thank them enough for all that they do.

That being said, the 2020 year 25th annual event will be the last one that I will be organizing. I have enjoyed (most of the time when not worried about it happening) the experiences that this event has created. One year we had to move the entire show 24 hours before the event because the pond was filled with weeds and we could not even run a paddleboat! And to complicate things even more, we had 2 different cable news media crews coming to capture the event for a national audience.

There have been the times when we have had to move it because the Bellevue pond was dry for construction or a drought and pond wasn't going to be refilled in time. In 2004 we had the rain storm half way through the day. Other days it has been just plain *hot* (well it is August).

We have had contestants from all over the West Coast of the US and Canada. We also had people from as far as the east coast come. Internationally, we have had contestants from Australia, England, New Zealand, Japan, and South Africa attending. Winners of the event are just as varied in location

as the people winning (USA, Canada, and England) with youngest being 14 years and up with both women and men winning!

But the best thing about this event is that it is more like a family gathering with model tugs thrown in. That is the way I like to look at all this. Having fun is paramount for a seasoned veteran or a novice. We have fun, compete, and learn some new things when doing this (or any event). And, it is another great way to promote our hobby. So I am hoping that those with tugs, that have never tried this will be there along with the seasoned skippers. Hope to see a large number of friends from the North come down as well as those from the south of the Pacific Northwest and from overseas. Looks like we might just have a returning champion from England again! We will plan on doing some special things for this one-- after all not many clubs or events get to make it to a 25th annual anything!

If anyone is interested in taking over after this year, please let me know. I will be willing to stay along and help where needed. Just need someone with more energies and maybe even new ideas that would like to take it on now. But first—WE HAVE A 25th Annual event that will happen on August 15th, 2020 at Downtown Park pond in Bellevue, Washington, USA, where it all began.

More info to come and start making plans to attend!

Keith Schermerhorn

February 3, 2020

2020 Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Events Calendar

JANUARY

2	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
4	Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club	9 am
25/26	NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe, WA	9 am – 6 pm

FEBRUARY

6	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
8	Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club	9 am

MARCH

5	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
7	Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club	9 am

APRIL

2	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
4	Fun Float - Bellevue Pond Springer Model Event	9 am 10 am
29	Seattle Yacht Club Fun Float	10 am – 3 pm

MAY

7	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
9	Fun Float - Bellevue Downtown Park	9 am
21	Coffee Fun Float - Bellevue Park	11 am-1 pm

JUNE

4	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
6	NWRCSM Regatta - Bellevue Pond	9 am – 3 pm
18	Coffee Fun Float - Bellevue Park	11 am-1 pm

JULY

9	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
11	Fun Float - Bellevue Downtown Park	9 am
18	Coffee Fun Float - Bellevue Pond	11 am-1 pm
31	Twilight Fun Float - Bellevue Pond	7 pm

AUGUST

6	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
8	Fun Float – Bellevue Downtown Pond	9 am
8	Portland Regatta – Tualatin, OR	9 am – 4 pm
15	Northwest Tug Regatta Bellevue Pond	9 am – 4 pm
16	BAMM Regatta - Burnaby B.C.	

SEPTEMBER

3	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
5	Fun Float – Bellevue Downtown Park	9 am
12	Lake Tapps Barbeque	10-3 pm
26	Fishermen's Memorial – Ballard	11 am – 6 pm

OCTOBER

1	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
3	Fun Float - Bellevue Downtown Park Springer Model Event	9 am 10 am

NOVEMBER

5	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
7	Fun Float - Seattle Yacht Club	9 am

DECEMBER

3	Christmas Dinner Old Spaghetti Factory - Lynnwood	6:30 – 9 pm
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*The Facility

Our meeting location is part of the Everett Community College buildings (Monroe Hall) located at 6606 196th Street SW. More information on this facility can be found at <https://facilitymade.com/>

Check our website for latest calendar updates at www.shipmodelers.com

2020 DUES WERE DUE IN JANUARY



2020 member dues were due during January. Annual dues are \$30. If you have not paid yet, please forward your dues payment to





Bryan Morse,
703 N 105th St., Apt 7,
Seattle WA, 98133

Make checks payable to: NW R/C Ship Modelers

Club Meeting Location

The Facility – Makerspace at 7 PM
6606 196th Street SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036

2020 Club Officers

	President: Mel Suelzle	Webmaster: Allan Wing
	Vice President: Ron Bray	Skagit R/C Meeting Contact: Keith Schermerhorn
	Treasurer: Dave White	Newsletter Editor: Paul Williams
	Membership Database: Bryan Morse	