



The Bilge Pump

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

March 2020

Events Look Ahead

April

2 Meeting at The Facility **CANCELLED**
4 Fun Float - Bellevue Pond **CANCELLED**
29 Seattle Yacht Club Fun Float 10 am - 3 pm

MAY

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

JUNE

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

July

9 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
11 Fun Float- Bellevue Pond 9 am
16 Coffee Fun Float-Bellevue Pond 11 am
31 Twilight Fun Float Bellevue Pond 7pm

Please note the changes to our May fun float and July Coffee Fun Float dates.

More events information on the calendar page later in newsletter and,

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

2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE OVERDUE



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

Mel Suelzle

Like every other event these days, we too are victims to the COVID-19 virus that is disrupting virtually every business and social event. Our meeting of March 5th was one of our lightest attendances for a meeting I can remember. Trying to set a policy for the current situation is most challenging as local, state and city governments react and conditions change daily or even hourly. Given the more recent events, our gatherings are greatly impacted. This week, the Mountlake Terrace Senior Center, where we meeting for coffee on Thursdays is now closed due to the COVID-19 virus. Yesterday, the Bellevue Parks department closed its park community centers and facilities through April. I feel it is only a matter of time before similar actions are announced at the site of our meetings, The Facility, which would be subject to any actions taken by the Edmonds Community College.



Since most of our members are in age group considered at higher risk and everyone is urged to keep “social distance”, it seems only prudent that we follow these advisories by canceling our activities for the near future. **Therefore, I am announcing that our April meeting and fun float events are cancelled.**

Currently the Seattle Yacht club has not announced any change to their opening day plans. So for now, the scheduled all day fun float scheduled for April 29th will remain on our schedule for now. As we get closer to this date and receive further information we will consider if our participation is in the best interest of our members, we will advise all members by email as soon as possible. Please check your email regularly for any updates.

While our club 2020 Regatta may be in jeopardy if Bellevue Parks virus response policy is extended to June. However, we still need to plan for this event. Some early actions need to begin and assume the event will be allowed by the Bellevue Parks Department. Some of elements of the planning phases of the regatta need to begin soon. We are eagerly awaiting **Robert Osmond’s** devilish creation for this year’s course. It is not too late to let Robert know what you like and dislike about last year’s course. He may not listen to your suggestions, but then you retain the right to complain about his design. Also I will be starting to solicit vendor donations for our Northwest regattas. Aimee Eng has opted out of this process for the Portland event, so Keith and I will share the solicitation process for the Bellevue regattas like previous years.

These early efforts and later support by many more members will serve to make our 39th Regatta a great success. Every member can turn their attention to sharpening their navigation skills.

While our fun float for April will not happen, neither will the Springer contest that was planned for this fun float. Hopefully, we can have a fun float on May 9th as planned and add the Springer event to the May’s fun float.

So, in these crazy times, with the absence of personal contacts, members are advised to keep close tabs on their emails for updates and changes. We will watch for the latest information and the mandated actions, relative to the virus, that might affect our new schedule. Stay tuned for more late breaking developments. I will keep you up to date with changes as they occur that will affect our club events.

Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2020

By Ron Bray

Photos by Robert Osmond

Fourteen members braved the threat of the corona virus (COVID 19) epidemic to attend the meeting which began at 1900 hours under the baton of our commodore, **Mel Suelzle** at The Facility, 6606 196th Street SW, Lynnwood, WA. There were no guests.



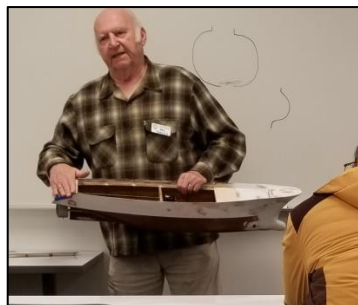
Show and tell started with **Dave White's** Calder craft tug which he recently purchased for \$400 and is in the process of repainting and repairing. This should be a stunning model when finished.



Misaaki Seki

showed what can happen when too much of the gluing tabs are removed which leaves a void in the hull. However, he plans to obviate this by placing a layer of fiberglass on the inside of the hull in order to help hold it together.

Rich Goodrich is almost finished with his strong Springer hull with reinforcement of the floor with layers of thin plywood and then epoxied. His new top is adorned with a red duck but he has had trouble with it fitting properly. He purchased a radio at Goodwill. He fashioned a fish tail rudder out of brass which he put together with lots of solder. (Picture is from Fun Float)



Mel is making progress with his 1962 Dumas tuna clipper which he bought from **Doug Wilson**. He made a steerable Kort nozzle from an ABS plumbing fixture and added a bow thruster and one of his magic motors which he had to place to the side and above, connected to the shaft with a belt drive. He needed to do this because of the low angle of the shaft and inability to line the motor up in a direct mode.

After a short break **Mel** announced that **Norm Hiatt** is in poor health and not to be expected to live much longer. So, his wife is desirous of finding a home for his models and perhaps some tools. Good news for **Roger Lyons** as he is expected to be able to return home as he has made remarkable improvement.



Mel made a pitch for those who haven't paid their dues to do so. He also questioned the necessity of the Google calendar since so few of us are electronic gremlin savvy. However, a couple of the members thought it OK to keep it.

Mel announced we would have lunch on Wednesday the day before our monthly meeting so the members living far away won't have to make two trips on the meeting day. We will meet at 11 o'clock for jibber jabber and will continue to have coffee and donuts on Thursdays at 10 o'clock all taking place at the Montlake Terrace Community Center.

Discussion regarding our club's upcoming Northwest Model Boat Regatta and fun floats took center stage. It appears that we are now going to be dinged for our fun float times on the Bellevue pond and pay more for the regatta and tug fest as well.

Mel encourages participation at the Tualatin event in August as it may be the last or near to the last one as **Amie and Phil**, after 20 years, have decided to pursue greener pastures. The meeting concluded at 2010 hours and we headed into a cold and rainy night hoping to avoid acquiring the corona virus.

Pictures from 2020 North West Model Hobby Expo:



Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club March 7, 2020

By Robert Osmond

Photos by Robert Osmond



The March Fun Float was typical for Washington; it came in like a wet duck. There was a light sprinkle in the air, no real rain just a few tiny drops of our liquid sunshine.



Seven intrepid skippers showed up. **David Kentala** brought his wife's tug boat to check it out for the upcoming season.

Bill and Judy Heath brought Bill's Orange and White fishing trawlers. He is getting quite a fishing fleet of finely made boats. Judy does the nice embroidery on the sails of Bill's Boats. The Orange one tried to make a break for the water from his carrying sling, but he caught it.

Dave White offered commentary and moral support, but not his steam tug which would have looked great chugging in the cool air.



Richard Goodrich had his new Angry Red Rubber Ducky Springer, for its first wetting of the feathers. He decided he needs to move the batteries further back in the boat, but it ran fine. His boat is made of $\frac{3}{4}$ " ply and with the Angry Red Duck diffidently has Attitude!

Kevin Nolet was working on his rudder system for his Coast Guard Rescue Boat. I was there with my dapper cold weather chapeau with 3 eyes so the third Eye can keep track of my surroundings. My surfer was a little erratic; it kept stopping for a few seconds like the M-Tronic speed control was overheating. I will have to check this out in the tub.

~~Next month, April we will be back at the Bellevue Park Pond.~~ **CANCELLED**

(The April fun float was cancelled because of COVID-19 concerns on 3/13/20. Email updates will be sent out by Mel.)

Skagit Ship Modelers Meeting Report

The Skagit Area Ship Modelers Meetings are on 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. All are welcomed and encouraged to join in with conversation and show-n-tells. Contact Keith Schermerhorn for more information.

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 (3/15/2020)**JANUARY**

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

FEBUARY

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*	CANCELLED
4	Fun Float - Bellevue Pond	CANCELLED
	Springer Model Event	CANCELLED
29	Seattle Yacht Club Fun Float	10am – 3pm

MAY

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

JUNE

4	Meeting at The Facility*	7 pm
6	Northwest Model Boat Regatta at 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
16	Coffee Fun Float - Bellevue Pond	11 am -1 pm
31	Twilight Fun Float - Bellevue Pond	7pm

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's Regatta - Burnaby B.C.	??

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

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

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 are 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	