



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers
www.shipmodelers.com

October 2021

Look Ahead Events

OCTOBER

- 30 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe
9 am to 6 pm (no pond to float boats)
- 31 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe
9 am to 5 pm (no pond to float boats)

NOVEMBER

- 4 Meeting by ZOOM 7 pm
- 7 Fun Float at SYC (*New Date!*) 9 am
- 18-20 Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle, WA

DECEMBER

- 2 Annual Holiday Dinner Meeting at Spaghetti Factory, Lynnwood, WA
 - Appetizers at 6:15 PM
 - Dinner at 7:00 PM
- XX Fun Float → Canceled

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



Read more about members' projects.

November fun float will be Sunday, November 7.

From the Bridge

Robert Osmond

Greetings, I have had a little trouble getting this "From The Bridge" written due to Mel's passing.

It was a shock to us all when our good friend and Past President passed away Friday Sept. 24th in the early morning; Mel Suelzle left us to be with the Lord. He passed away at home surrounded by his family. Mel had been a member of the Northwest RC Ship Modelers for many years and was invaluable as its President for 11 of its 40 years. He will be sorely missed as a driving force with a steady hand on the helm and always willing to help members with technical and building problems. We remember him as a builder of immaculate, highly detailed RC boats, an aggressive Springer boat water polo player, and, of course, for his witty December dinner meeting slide presentations which everyone enthusiastically enjoyed. *We will miss you, Mel.*

(Editor – Please see the article about Mel's boats in the July 2021 issue of The Bilge Pump. It is available from the club website.)





This photo of the First Northwest RC ship Modelers meeting at Galaxy, it was taken at Galaxy Hobby, two weeks before it opened. Mel is in the third row right end.

We had a Zoom meeting October 7th with 10 attending. You are invited to show up for the next Zoom meeting. There will be Show and Tell, so bring your projects, new tools and ideas. Allan Wing will report on his ongoing experiments with his 2" and 3" propellers with a brushless motor and powered tunnel hull test bed boat. If time allows I will be showing photos that John and I took when we were in Bristol England and toured the SS Great Britain which was the longest passenger ship in the world until 1854. She was powered by both a large inverted "V" steam engine and alternately by sails.

Our fun float was attended by 13 captains and there were times when we had 13 boats on the pond at the same time. The weather was dry and the temperature was 57°F and sunny.

This is the last time we run in Bellevue this year since they are draining the pond to make the ice skating rink again this year. We will be running our boats at the Seattle Yacht Club on Sunday **November 7th** at 9:00 AM and January through March.

Upcoming Events:

Hobby Expo is October 30 and 31 from 9:00AM to 6:00 PM at the Monroe Fairgrounds. There will not be a pond, due to Kevin having prior commitments, but there will be vendors, tables to display boats on and all of the other RC hobbies will be in attendance as well as vendors, and swap meet. Plan on coming out, displaying your boats and entering them in the Model Judging.

Fair winds and following seas,
Robert

November fun float
will be
Sunday, November 7th

Club Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2021

By Fred Row

Photos by Robert Osmond

Robert Osmond, Lee Buse, Richard Bizier (currently in Maui Hawaii), **Bob Spiger, Alan Wing, Dave Green, Chris Merrill, Jonathan McCool, David Kentala** and **Fred Row** were present for the regular monthly meeting. Richard was attending from their timeshare in Maui.



This month the club returned to the Zoom meeting format, after trying an in person meeting at The Facility, a part of Edmonds College, in August and September.



Robert reported that our Bank account is right around \$3,000 and he is still trying to collect dues from a few members.

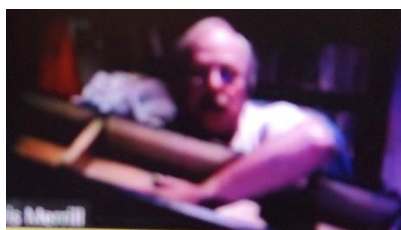
New Business: Robert reported that he and Dave Green are getting the permits for the Bellevue Pond for next summer. He is also planning to have springer polo events in 2022. This Saturday is the last fun float at the Bellevue Pond. Starting in November the club will meet at the Seattle Yacht Club for our monthly fun floats. Robert pointed out a schedule change in November. Because of a conflict at the Yacht Club, the **November fun float will be Sunday, November 7.**

Show and Tell began with Robert showing his little tugboat project. A first, for him, is that he finished the stand before he has finished the boat. In constructing the boat, he shared that he made a Kort nozzle from a Scotch tape roll center. He also turned a hatch for the rudder access, which uses a gasket made from very thin neoprene. He fabricated a motor mount from aluminum angle which bolts to another aluminum plate epoxied to the hull. He made a saddle to go over the motor to hold the speed control, all due to access constraints to be able to maintain the boat. He also made a Samson post on the lath for towing. He is still working on the deck. Because of the boat's small size the test tank is a plastic shoe box. He has already attached the lead sheet ballast in the stern of the boat. He has put an oiling tube in and is working on how to install the speed control on top of the motor. The boat will be powered using (2) 3 AA nickel battery packs. He also showed progress made on the cabin, which is still a work in progress.



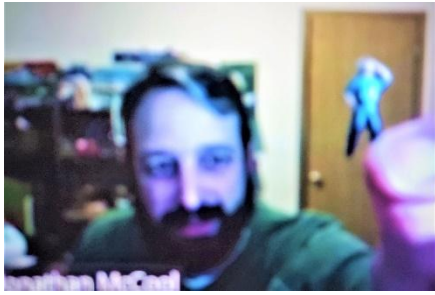
In addition, Robert shared that he has gotten a new submarine hull made of resin that is an exact replica of the Disney Nautilus. The man who made the Nautilus for the movie designed this model.

Discussion ensued about the use of weights.



Chris Merrill shared the barge on which he is working. He explained that he has built it out of scraps of plywood and is enjoying the project. He asked about weights and a discussion ensued about the use of several types of weights. He has sealed his barge hull both on the inside as well as the outside. It was pointed out that water is also a good weight and the advantage of it is that you can dump it out when leaving the

float, thus making the barge much lighter to transport. Robert also indicated that he has a significant roll of 8 lb per sq. ft. lead for model boat weight, so if anyone needs weight, let him know.



Jon McCool showed several figures on which he is working. He indicated he is trying different scale figures and enjoying the challenge of painting them. He indicated he found sets of sailors on Shapeway's website:

<https://www.shapeways.com/marketplace/miniatures/figurines?type=product&q=1%3A72+navy>

Following members shared projects. Robert indicated that for the next meeting he will share more pictures and information about boats they saw on their trip to

the Bristol England.

No further business. The Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.



(Sometimes quite a few club members like to go see the real equipment for boats and ships.)

Thursday, Nov. 18, through Saturday, Nov. 20, at Lumen Field Event Center in Seattle, Washington. The largest commercial marine trade show on the West Coast, serving commercial mariners from Alaska to California. More than 500 exhibitors including equipment companies, propulsion, builders, and suppliers.

Registration for Pacific Marine Expo will open in August at www.pacificmarineexpo.com

2021 Northwest Model Hobby Expo is now set for
Saturday, October 30th 9 AM - 6 PM &
Sunday, October 31st 9 AM to 5 PM.

Please see their website for current information at
www.nwmhe.com



Fun Float – September 4, 2021

By Robert Osmond

Photos by Darlene Wing and Robert Osmond

We had very good attendance for an October fun float. There were 13 captains enjoying the mild fall day and at times there were 13 boats on the pond, which is a new October record. The weather was dry and the temperature was 57°F and sunny.



Harlan Winslow ran his beautiful burgundy tug of his own design; Harlan comes all the way from Port Angeles. Thank you Harlan for coming so far to run with us.



Both Lou Magnabusco and our newest member, Chris Merrill, had their new tugs, which are Horizon Hobbies, Horizon Harbor 30-Inch Tug Boat RTR. This seems to be quite powerful and has many good features, such as steerable kort nozzle propulsion. They were comparing notes and possible changes they will make to their boats.



David Zanzig who is actually a licensed pilot and tug boat captain, had his tug with his highly detailed barge on the hip running around the pond. He also had his orange snoodle boat to loan to children who wanted to try running a boat without the risk of damaging anyone else's boat.



Bill Heath and his wife Judy were running his very realistically detailed Crowley Tug.



Dave White was there with his indescribable boat (Because Allan and I cannot find any photos of Dave with this boat to describe them.) having fun on the water.

Lee Buse was running his Zip kit springer. He has slowed it down to a scale speed.

Dave Green was there with his very large Coast Guard Cutter, Coast Guard Buoy Tender and 95' Coast Guard boat. All of these are completely scratch and beautifully finished.



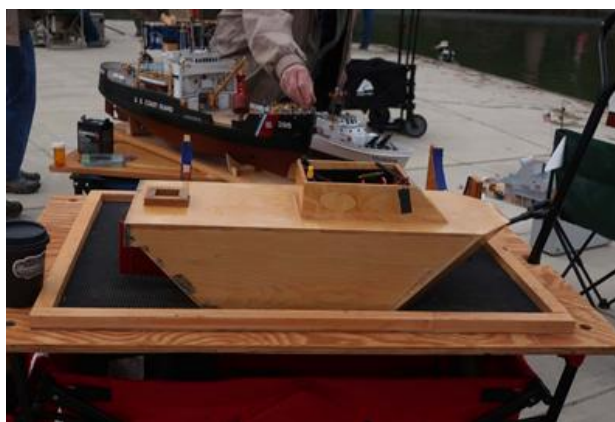
Kevin Nolet was running his large Carol Moran based tug which he named Sarah E, which I believe is his daughter's name. It is very impressive on the water due to its size and well done finishes.



John Nigard was running his beautiful mahogany Chris Craft runabout and his large fireboat which was busy squirting the public on the shore.



Allan Wing was running his Foss tug and his testbed tunnel hull boat. See article about this elsewhere in the newsletter.



Bryan Morse was there with his sailboat, springer and Southampton. Bryan and Amanda brought his mother, nephew and sister here from Oregon to the fun float to try out his boats.

I had my surfer which was running a little erratically by stopping and then starting again for several minutes. While he waxes his board for the next "Boss" set of waves, I will be reworking the motor and checking the commutator for possible brush debris caused arcing. My Tow Boat would not start. The motor seem to have rusted from the years of getting too wet playing springer polo. I replaced it with a new Graupner speed 600 motor. It should be back at the next fun float to loan out to interested or boat challenged members. I also ran my Pacific (reworked Atlantic RTR tug).



Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves and ran until 11:30 which is a long fun float.

News from the Northend (Bellingham, WA and more area)

By Keith Schermerhorn

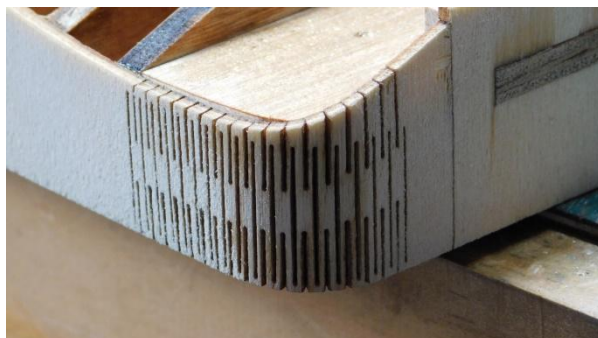
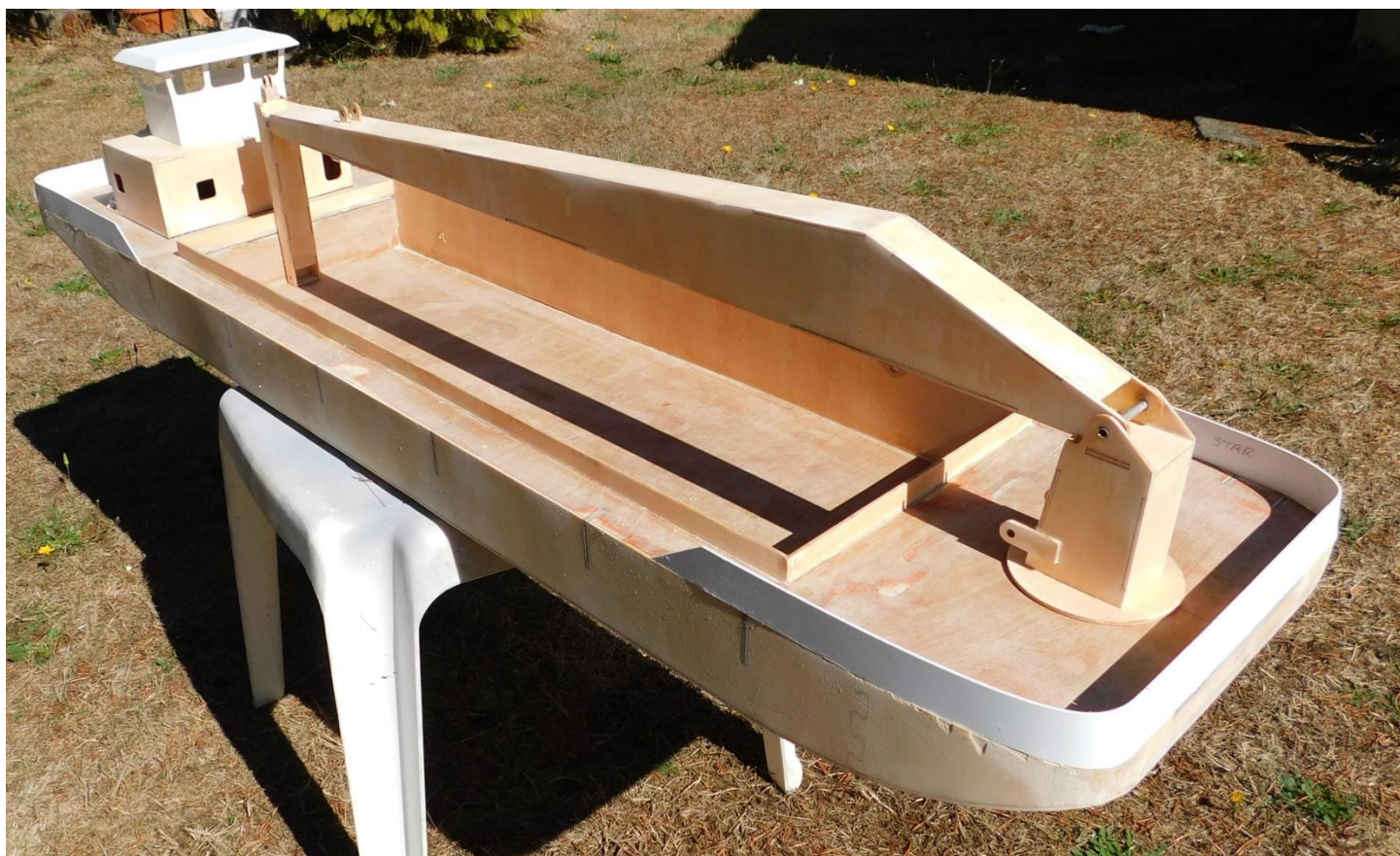
Photos by Keith Schermerhorn

Well Fall has arrived, leaves are falling, and most events for the year have come and gone. But recently, I had the opportunity to participate with a display of my models at the annual Lynden Lions Clubs Train and Toy Show at the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds in Lynden, WA on October second and third. Now I have attended it several times in past years and always find interesting things at this show. So I was excited to represent the model boat clubs and see what kind of response and or reception would be encountered. With 13 of my boats, I made the short trip to the fairgrounds to be put on display on the tables. Well, the people at the show liked the boats very much. The train guys were very supportive and enjoyed having them there. It even won Best Static Display award. Lot of conversations with history buffs, train people, curious as well as interested in boats, and I even found displays with boats in them. Looking forward to going back again in 2022 with different models and even having others join me. Here are some pictures from the show.



My shipyard work has slowed a bit but continues on a couple of projects. Most notable is the work I am doing for a company named Barracuda Model Boats and a new kit of a 1/32nd scale Power Barge vessel. The model is a bit over 47 inches (1.2 meters) in length. I have hull number one, the prototype. I am building it up, providing some instructions and build guides for the upcoming kit

release. This new kit is mostly high quality plywood construction that is laser cut and also includes some plastic sheeted parts. There will be a fittings kit also to help make this a little more detailed. The main hull and house are fully constructed and went together really nice and easily. The hull has been sealed, sanded, and painted along with the large detail of the crane on board this vessel. Since this is the prototype, some issues have been addressed to make things better. I will be doing some modifications to make it easier to add R/C equipment. But for now work continues. Here are a few photos to give you an idea of what it looks like so far and some of the construction work. With a little luck, I will have a good majority of the work done in time for the hobby show. Keep watching for more updates.



A New Experimental Boat

By Allan Wing

As many of you know I tend to experiment with boat designs. I was looking around and I saw that many of the motors especially for our larger boats were getting harder to find. As the model world moves to new technology I see a greater portion of the motor suppliers switching to brushless motors. I wanted to find a brushless motor that could be used on a boat with a larger propeller. Since I had a 3 1/2 inch (85 mm) propeller, (I had won at a regatta raffle) I figured I would start with this big propeller. The propeller has 4 blades with a 3 1/2 pitch. If I could find a motor that could run this propeller it would run almost anything. I looked around for a simple hull to use as a test bed. I chose a box boat design.

With that as a starting point, I decided to look at some of the shortcomings of the basic box boat design. The first problem is the bow tends to submerge as the speed increases. Also flat bottom boats will drift sideways in the slightest wind. I chose a design that had a much different bow angle and a shallow center section that made it look a bit like a catamaran. This would eliminate the diving bow and the semi catamaran would reduce the drift.



Boat hull showing semi-catamaran design.

View of original large propeller

I then looked for a motor. Brushless motors are rated in KV. That is the RPM per volt. A 1000 KV motor would run 6,000 RPM with 6 volts. A large propeller runs best at less than 2,000 RPM so I needed to find a motor with a low KV. A 470 KV E-Flite motor is the lowest I found. I chose to match it with a 2S Lipo battery that is rated at 7.4 volts. I found a Castle Sidewinder 3 speed control that had full forward and reverse. The big E-Flite motor was designed to run up to 22 volts in airplanes but runs very well at either 6 or 12 volts. This would result in almost 3,500 RPM. This is too fast but at least it is a starting point.

I tested this combination at the September Fun Float. The results were interesting. The motor was powerful enough to run the big propeller direct drive. At full power the motor drew just over 11 amps (this works out to about 3500 RPM). It was clear that this combination supplied more power at full speed than would ever be needed. However in a large boat it could perform well at low throttle settings of 1/3 to 1/2 throttles. An alternative would be to use a reduction gear box or belt drive. This motor would work well with a 2:1 reduction at 7.4 or 6 volts and 3:1 reduction at 12 volts. Either of these reductions it would use much less current. This could be a good setup for some of our largest boats of over 3 to 4 feet.



Full speed with large propeller



Full speed with 2 1/2 inch propeller



Becker Rudder

Since smaller propellers tend to run faster I got a 2 1/2 inch (65mm) three blade propeller with a 2 inch pitch. I tested this combination at the October Fun Float and the result was very good. The boat had lots of power and only 4.5 amps at full speed (This works out to be about 3800 RPM). This would provide a very powerful for a 3 to 4 foot boat and would give good run times with a 5000 MAH battery. At 1/2 to 3/4 throttle the battery drain was 2 to 3 amps so you could run all afternoon. (My Henry Foss boat, running a very efficient brushed motor, draws 4.5 amps. Running a similar propeller at 1875 RPM is about the same speed as running the brushless motor at about 2/3 throttle.) Again a gear reduction of possible 1.5:1 would provide plenty of power for a 3 foot boat and draw less current.

A final test was low speed operation. Since the motor was sensor less it was not setup for slow speed operation. I found that the slowest operating speed was good for docking and other slow speed operation.

I also added a Becker Rudder for smaller turning circle. With this setup the boat would turn in just over a boat length.

In conclusion, many of the larger brushless motors will make good replacements for the dwindling supply of larger brushed motors. There is now a large selection of brushless motors that are rated from 195 KV up to 800 KV that could fit almost any need. With this variety you can choose for realistic speeds or more power and speed. With motors rated about 200 KV running direct drive or higher KV rated motors running with gear drive a setup can be found that will provide good performance and less than 2/3 the current draw of the most efficient brushed motors.

Items for Sale:

Keith Schermerhorn is selling some items for a friend in Canada that were left in my shop. I can bring them down to Northwest Model Hobby Expo at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe, Washington at the end of the month (October 30 & 31) if you are interested or you can make other arrangements. For more information contact me at Wscherm@fidalgo.net or call 360-306-1165 in the evenings.

** 1/24th scale fiberglass hull/ deck of an SDM (ship docking module) tug. Complete with molded in access points in the deck for easy access to the interior and the drives. This is a big model when completed and very unique. \$250.00 US.



** 1/32nd scale Ken McKenzie fiberglass hull/deck with nozzles and rudders already installed, house with cut outs all complete, and extras. \$250.00 US.



2021 NWRCSM Events Calendar

The rest of the calendar will be determined as the Year progresses and our activities increase and return to normal. (Updated 10/17/2021)

JANUARY

7 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

FEBRUARY

4 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

MARCH

4 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

APRIL

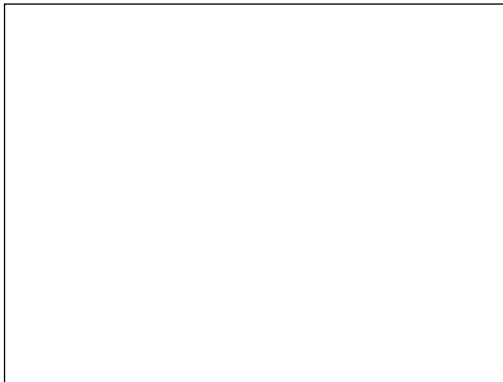
1 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

MAY

~~1 Seattle Yacht Club's Boating Season Opener --- cancelled~~

6 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

8 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 am



JUNE

3 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

5 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond and *Springer Event by Dave Green* 9 am

JULY

1 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

10 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 am

17 NWRCSM's Regatta, Registration 8 to 8:45 am, running boats begins 9 AM, all day.

31 Night Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 7 to 10 pm, Sunset 8:45 pm

AUGUST

5 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm

14 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 am

21 Tug Boat Regatta Registration 8 to 8:45 am, running boats begins 9 AM, all day

SEPTEMBER

2 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm

4 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 am

~~12 Bauman's Cook Out & Running Cancelled~~

25 Night Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 7 to 10 pm. Only boats with lights can run after dark.

OCTOBER

7 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

9 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 am

30 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 6 pm (no pond to float boats)

31 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 5 pm (no pond to float boats)

(Check their website for updates WWW.NWMHE.COM)

NOVEMBER

4 Meeting by Zoom 7 pm

7 Fun Float at SYC 9 am Sunday -- new date!

18-20 Pacific Marine Expo at Lumen Field Event Center in Seattle, WA



DECEMBER

2 Annual Holiday Dinner Meeting at Spaghetti Factory, Lynnwood, WA

- Appetizers at 6:15 PM
- Dinner at 7:00 PM

~~XX Fun Float~~ Cancelled



NWRCSM 2021 Club Officers		
	President: Robert Osmond	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	

Currently we have resumed having only Zoom club meetings. (October 2021)

When we resume in person meetings, they will be at The Facility location.

**The Facility – Makerspace
6606 196th Street SW
Lynnwood, WA. 98036**