



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

April 2010

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From the Quarterdeck

By Allan Wing



Time seems to be flying and we are getting ready for the Regatta. We have discussed having two different entry fees, one for members and a slightly higher one for non-members.

We have been discussing food options and the consensus appears to be split between having everyone brown bag+it or just a simple sandwich tray. We feel that a simpler lunch will have less disruption on the actual running of the boats. I have gotten two responses from vendors so we have started to accumulate raffle prizes. Al and Earl have gotten very serious about designing the course. I thought they were finished but Al took several measurements and they are going to refine the course design right down to the foot. That will help relieve Mel's concern that a published course map will not look like the actual set up.

Earl checked with Bellevue parks and Sunday April 11 is open. **So we will move the Fun Float/Springer event to Sunday April 11.** The Calendar last month showed April 4 but that is Easter. The calendar I was using did not show holidays so I made a mistake.

Speaking of the Springer Event, Earl had a couple of the barges that will be used for the event at the March Fun Float. Moving the barge is a little tricky but with a little bit of concentration you can maneuver them quite well. I think it will be much more difficult under the pressure of competition. It will make for a fun and challenging competition.

As Promised there is a list of members who have yet to pay their dues in this edition of the newsletter.





Upcoming Events

April

- 1 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- *11 Fun Float/Springer event
12:00, Bellevue Park**
- 5 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

May

- 1-2 BIMM Spring Model Show
Bellingham Museum
- 3 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 6 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Seattle Tug boat Races
Seattle Waterfront
- 9 Fun Float, Springer event
12:00, Bellevue Park
- 15-16 Anacortes Waterfront Fest
Cap Sante Boat Haven

June

- 3 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 5 Northwest Regatta
9:00am, Bellevue Park
- 7 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

***Fun Float date has been changed from the April 4th to April 11.**

It will be a *Springer* competition.



Members who have not paid their dues. I had made up an e-mail list to help communication and I will remove anyone who is not current. We have also been talking about what can be done to provide special benefits to members.

The List.

BARRETT	BERTRAN
ROD	BINDON
TRUXTUN	CRAVEN
CLIFF	ELOWSON
BEN	FLODQUIST
RAY	HARRIS
TERRY	HUFNAGEL
JIM	KING
KEVIN	KLOCKE
PHIL	KOON
SCOTT	LEE
PATRICK	PLUEARD
BILL	PROTHERO
GERALD	SAGER
LARRY	STILES
KEN	STRICKLAND
STEVEN	THOMPSON
SCOTT	WILSON



Doug Gunter placed 3rd in the static judging at the Hobby Expo.

(Sorry Doug we left this out of last month's newsletter)

NW R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By, Dr. Ron Bray

MARCH MEETING

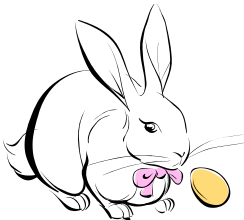
The main deck crew was called to order by our quarter deck captain, Allan Wing at 1905. A new member, Marvin Waldin from Snohomish was introduced and a guest, Frank Smith, introduced himself and promptly joined by paying his dues on the spot. Frank is a radiofrequency engineer and has been building steam plants for a number of years. Tim Justice reappeared after a long hiatus.

Allan announced that active delinquent members will be listed in the next newsletter. There are currently 25 or so members who are delinquent. Lifetime certificates for Bob Jacobson, Lou Mag-nabosco and Gerhard Erickson were displayed and will be presented to them.

Tualatin is a go for the 14th of August despite the absence of the Portland group who will have their fun float the week before. No specific organized function is planned except for a fun float during the Crawdad Festival. So, make your reservation at the Century Hotel ASAP. There most likely will be informal get togethers for dinner and socialization both Friday and Saturday nights. Aimee and Phil may possibly organize some sort of competitive event but we will just plan to have a fun fun float and try to work around other organized activities of the festival

Financially we remain solvent according to Ed. Thanks were given to Expo participants and to Ron Burchett for supplying his pond for the event. It was announced that Ron would like participation by as many as possible for the Vancouver Tug and Salvage Expo as he plans to have models running in the pool during the cocktail reception and then in his pool which will be in the outside lobby of the Westin Bayshore Hotel. He indicated that this may be a three day event for us and an opportunity to meet some of the major players in this industry. Be sure you get and updated passport, enhanced driver's license or Nexus card.

Allan has sent solicitations for raffle prizes to numerous vendors for the upcoming June regatta and welcomes the names of any other vendors you may consider. Raffle prizes will be drawn and posted before the end of the competition. However, a few of the bigger prizes will be drawn at the conclusion of the competition. Al and Earl have designed the course which will be similar to last year's except that the backing up maneuvers will be at the end of the run instead of being at the beginning. Best of show will be awarded on a combination of scores for static and navigation, but otherwise awards will be similar to last year's judging. Consideration is being contemplated regarding higher entry fees for non members and lunches may be brown bag or purchased sandwiches. Protocols will be worked on and presented at the next meeting. .



Since the April fun float falls on Easter this year, Earl will contact the Bellevue parks department to see if the pond will be available on the following Sunday, April 11. The annual Springer event, hosted by Earl Anderson will be held at this time and he plans to have an Olympic style event with non-tethered Barge pushing.

During the break a video by Wayne Martin of past events was shown.

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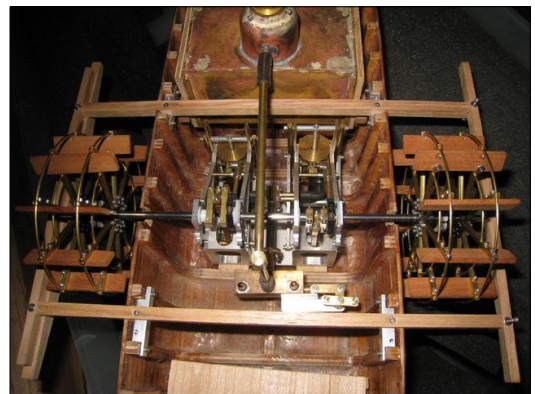
The show and tell followed. First, Mel showed progress on his new Typhoon build and discussed problems with his torpedo and future modification. Then Tom cleverly presented a CRS trophy to Mel with a series of rolled up lists of how not to forget things.

Tom then displayed a fishing trawler which was started many years ago by a friend who recently passed on. Tom finished the model and plans to present it to his widow. A job well done. (See page 8 of this newsletter for an article and pictures)

Doug Gunter purchased an Albacore sub at Expo and brought it in for all to see. He plans to get it operational soon.



Our newest member, Frank Smith, displayed a beautiful model of the steamboat Beaver, the first steamboat in the northwest. The steam engine and mechanics were extraordinary and a lively discussion regarding boilers, burners, etc., followed.



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Finally, Tim Justice discussed his newest project, a six foot YTB tug which he has started from the top down while obtaining a good set of offset hull drawings from Jensen Marine. He also showed pictures of his exquisite wood carved pictures. He plans to power his tug with a 24 volt radar motor with a belt drive which will be quieter than the chain drive he has in his eight foot Dominion Tug.

The meeting was adjourned at 2035 and after lingering a bit we hit the home stretch.



Membership and Renewal Form

Dues are \$25.00/ year
Make checks payable to:
N.W.R/C Ship Modelers
C/O Ed Maurer, 22309 54th AVE. W., Mountlake Terrace, WA. 98043

(Please Print)

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
E-mail _____
Phone _____

Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

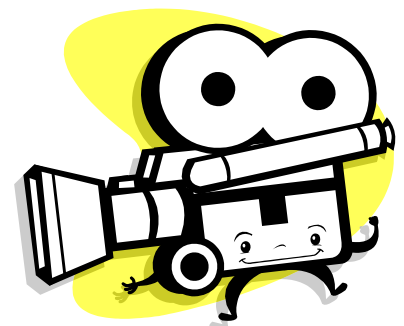
It was a warm and sunny evening--(hold it this is March and that's not correct) when we gathered for another meeting of the Skagit group in Mt.Vernon with great anticipation for the screening of Wayne's memory photo show. Red carpet (well the brown rug could have been) and paparazzi (Wayne and Dusty) were at the ready for the group of 16 in their finest meeting attire (they were clothed and that is good enough!) as we began the meeting recapping the events of February. That pretty much was the coverage of the hobby expo that most attended. Those that went had a good time watching all the different models performing and some even found some great deals.

Kevin let the group know that the new season of the "Deadliest Catch" starts April 13th. Should be an interesting and emotional season with the passing of one of the favorite captains, Phil Harris of the Cornelia Marie. Kevin also made the announcement of a movie night in the future at the PUD on a Friday night for those that like to watch model aircraft. Come watch airplanes crash and burn on the big screen and be reminded of why we do boats.

Larry reminded all that there is still plenty of sailboat racing going on Tuesdays and Saturdays out at Cranberry Lake . He also mentioned that there will be a big sailboat regatta at Coulhune Park on Lake Washington March 13/14 with the major groups from the Pacific NW hosting. As we still waited for the premier of the new show (waiting for the projector to arrive) we got into the show-n-tell session of the evening. Keith showed of the 1/48th scale hull of the Avenger Class minesweeper by the Scale Shipyard. Hull has some nice lines with shaft, struts, and bow thruster locations molded in. Also on hand was the progress of the house for a Miki Class tug being built on a Gary King fiberglass hull/deck. The structure is being built on a wood frame and covered in Sintra.

The last of the show-n-tell belonged to Tom and the finishing job on a troller model that was built by another person. Tom had seen this model while visiting with the deceased modelers widow and had offered to finish the model for her. Tom has added a lot of parts he needed to make including :bucket for lures, grunions, fish holder, and other assorted fittings. There was also new paint, weathering, new lines for the rigging. The lines for the rigging was crochet thread-strong, yet soft enough to hang and not look to stiff. So now he had the work done and had planned on presenting it to the widow and her family so that they would have a lasting family keepsake. They were to be here at the meeting to receive this, but had fallen ill and had to cancel. So it will be delivered in person later.

Now the time had come for the big premier. Crowd ready and waiting with great anticipation, beverages served, music playing and.....projector was still missing. Calls were made to locate the missing piece, but no luck. It was not until later that night that the mystery of the missing equipment was solved. Have now got the issue resolved and the long awaited premier is going to happen in April! Until the next time, we will wait with great anticipation.





March Fun Float

By Allan Wing

Once again we moved the Fun Float to the shallow waters of Bellevue Pond. Saturday and been warm and sunny but Sunday dawned cold and windy. I should have brought my sail boat. We had a large turn out. Al and Earl brought docks and buoys so members could practice navigation skills.



Earl brought two of the barges he plans to use for the Springer event next month. It was a dry run test to see if his plan for the event would work. The barges consisted of a sheet of thick foam with a hole in the center. He had a plastic pipe with a square of concrete on one end. The pipe was inverted so the concrete was on top of the foam. This provided weight. He then used a small cable with some weights that would drag on the bottom of the pond to help provide resistance. This allowed the barges to be placed in the starting position and anchored in place. It also provided stability when the barges were pushed. Several of us tried pushing the barge through the goal posts. The barges worked very well. With a bit of care and careful driving one could maneuver the barges rather well. I think with the pressure of completion it will be a fun and interesting challenge.



Earl also set up a Polo field. We had about 6 boats and we played until we ran out of batteries. It was cold enough that at times I was worried about dropping my transmitter in the water.



We had a good turn out but we packed up our boats and went home before the normal ending time of 3 PM because it was getting very cold.



Fellow Boaters,

In the late sixties, I met a nice fellow about my age that had the same interests as I did. His name was David Sherman. I lived in Anacortes at the time. I soon met his sisters and parents. I was accepted into the family and remained friends with all, since then. I rebuilt the engines in two trollers for the Jim, Dave's father, that summer. One in Anacortes and another engine in a troller in Ketchikan. About the following summer, Jim carved a little troller which was what he thought would be the boat of his dreams., if he had a full-sized one. The family recently told me that he had carved a smaller version, several years before and it was lost in a house fire.

Jim had done a pretty good job on the 19-inch troller. It was straight, the guards were parallel to the deck line etc. The only thing was, he didn't complete it. He carved the hull, cabin and made a mast, boom and trolling poles. The inside of the cabin was carved out and windows cut. I had observed the model through the years and thought that it should be completed. Jim passed-away on 2007. Visiting his widow, Roberta, I asked if she would like the little troller completed. She stated that she always wanted it completed and would love to have it done. I was busy building the new garage, so didn't start on it until about three weeks ago. It took two weeks to complete. The many hours of work was all worth it, when I saw her face, while looking at the completed model. The project was special, since I knew Jim and had worked on his full-sized ones, that summer, way back then.

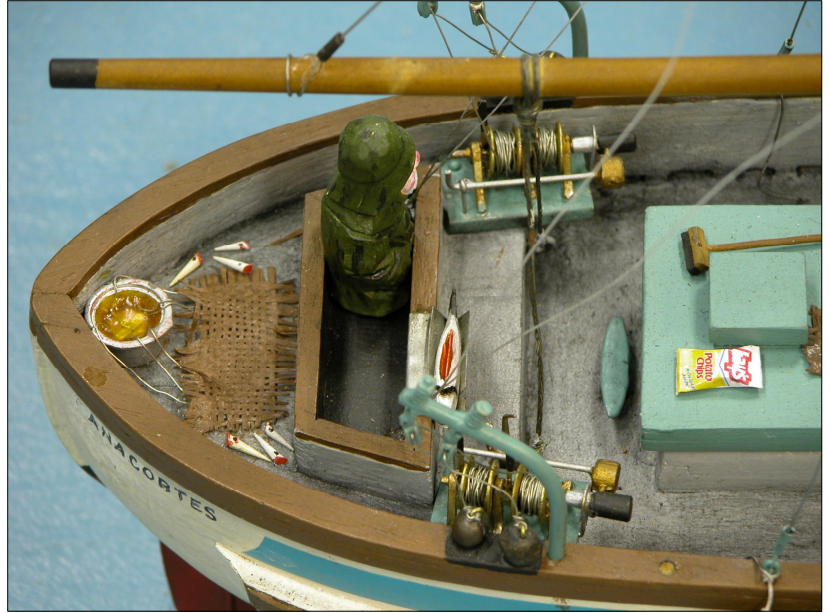


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I found a few little %icks+while doing the model.

Wanting to %eason the boat a little, and show slight green, due to the conditions we see here and especially in Alaska, I found I didn't like a %wash+(paint thinned a LOT), so purchased a big variety of chalk. To do the seasoning, simply do this: Take a self-sticking DA sander disc and stick it to a smooth surface or a thick piece of plate glass, sanded to remove the sharp corners etc. Twist the tip of the chalk on the sanding disc. Use a SMALL disposable paint brush, with the bristles cut short and rub the brush into the chalk powder created on the disc and apply to the needed areas. Wipe and blow-away any excess. LIGHTLY coat with a spray flat clear model paint. Even though the lacquer is over enamel it won't wrinkle the enamel, ONLY if you shoot a VERY light mist on the surface to seal-in the chalk. (Experiment on another surface, FIRST, to be sure)



I had tiny things that needed to be glued with CA and I HATE the smell of the %activator+, especially when the spray bottle is used, as there then is an EXCESS of activator on everything. To rectify this, I simply used a crochet needle (tiny one) to dip in the activator bottle and then wiggle or tap the needle to drop the activator in the exact spot needed.



A word of caution: NEVER allow a soldering iron or wood burner to heat CA glue! It makes a very dangerous gas that you don't want in your eyes or to breathe!

I needed tiny Button Zincs for the rudder. For that, I simply positioned the rudder flat and dropped a drop of medium CA on the rudder. I then quickly applied activator. With the application of silver paint, it made a perfect little zinc anode!

I also found great items for tools and pieces to build items for the model at a Jewelry Supplier. (Where jewelers get their supplies) A great place to get various ranges of Silver Braze sheets, etc.

Tom Stevens

BIMM Spring Model Show

By Keith Schermerhorn

The Bellingham International Maritime Museum (BIMM) is proud to announce the dates for the Spring and Fall Model Shows to be held at the museum in Bellingham, WA.

The Spring event will be held on the Saturday, May 1, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, and Sunday, May 2, from 11:00 am to 3:00pm.

The fall show will be held on Labor weekend September 4 & 5th with the same times as the Spring event.

Modelers from around the Pacific Northwest and Canada are invited to come display their boats as a static display or have fun running them on the 40x20 foot pool. Model boats of all types are invited including: scale, sail, steam, combat, racing, submersibles and more. A special interest for 2010 will be working hovercraft models. These can be of scale or sport. Looking for examples of working craft for the Spring show with a contest to follow at the Fall event. There is no charge for those bringing models in for the display for 1 day or 2. There is a general donation request of the public to attend that is used as a fund raiser for the museum.

The museum is home to a growing number of displays that include vessel restorations, local maritime history and industry, NOAA exhibit, models, and educational displays. Some of the vessels under restoration include a PBRmk2, NOAA 32 foot survey vessel, assorted small fiberglass pleasure craft, wood planked sailboat, and the recovery/preservation of a tall ship anchor recovered from the waters of Puget sound. Come check out the anchor locker where the search continues for 1 of the missing anchors from Captain Cooks expeditionary vessels to the area and the progress made. See displays that celebrate the Coast Guard, Long Shore men, Pacific American Fisheries, United Boat Works/Uniflite, and builders of small personal boats.

The museum is a non-profit organization with that exist to honor, celebrate, record and preserve local maritime history of Bellingham, Puget Sound, and Pacific NW regional heritage shared with Alaska and British Columbia, through education and displays. The museum is open to the public Saturdays from noon to 3:00pm and for special occasions/tours. Located at 800 Cornwall Avenue, it is close to the downtown center of Bellingham with many fine eateries and other attractions including waterfront, shopping and museums.

For more information on this event and the museum go to www.bimm.us or contact Keith Schermerhorn wscherm@fidalgo.net for the model event.