



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

August 2018

Upcoming Events Look Ahead

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 8 Twilight Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 7pm
- 15 Fishermen's Memorial— Ballard 11am – 6pm
- 22 Lake Scott Barbeque & Fun Float 11am-4pm

OCTOBER

- 4 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 6 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am

NOVEMBER

- 1 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 3 Fun Float @ Seattle Yacht Club 9am

DECEMBER

- 6 Christmas Dinner
Old Spaghetti Factory - Lynnwood 6:30 – 9pm

Check for latest updates at
www.shipmodelers.com



From the Wheel House

Mel Suelzle

With the newsletter deadline being before the Portland Regatta, we will have both the upcoming regattas in Tualatin and Bellingham reported in the September issue.

As of this writing, many of us are busy charging batteries and checking our boats getting ready for the trip to Tualatin. Since this regatta fills the day and the evening after the group dinner, our lighting systems need to be in good working order. **Aimee Eng** will have her lighted gates set up for our entertainment. The lights make it very obvious when an errant boat hits one of the gates. For those not attending this event will have more time to get ready for the Bellingham Tug Regatta formerly known as the Foss Cup. This is a very popular event that tests the tug skills in barge handling and docking of a derelict vessel.

As reported last month and repeated at the meeting we only have two more meetings before we need to elect officers for next year starting in January. No one has stepped forward for the club president position to assume the slot that I will vacate after the December dinner meeting. The club is running well, with several new active members and excellent attendance at our events. It would be disappointing to lose our momentum due to a lapse in leadership. Again, I urge you to consider serving the club in this capacity. It is often been described as a lot line "herding cats", but they are very friendly cats (for the most part) and are always ready to assist and support leadership to the benefit of the club.

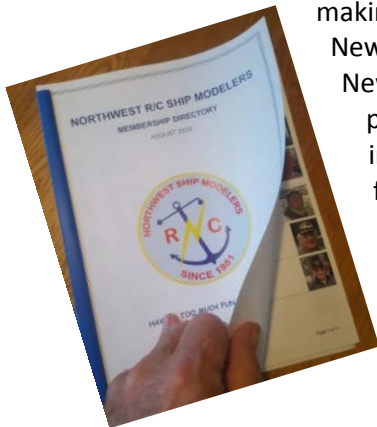
Equipment Storage

As reported previously we have decided to take advantage of member **Bill Heath's** offer to use a facility on his property and avoid the \$2400+ annual cost of a commercial storage unit. A visit to Bills home north of Snohomish found a very good 8X10 storage unit that Bill was willing to make available to the club. Even more less

protected space was available for bulky more weather resistant items. We need only to build a short set of two steps to move in later this month. We have agreed to compensate Bill on a monthly basis for use amounting to less than 50% of what we are currently paying. While the facility is available to us at all times, we must consider this is private property and as a courtesy to Bill and his family, we should inform him of any plans to access our equipment. We thank Bill for making this available and supporting our club in a very significant way.

New Membership Directory

New Membership Directories were distributed at our August meeting. Members seemed pleased to have photo directories to help put names to faces and vice versa. These are not inexpensive to produce so addendum updates will be limited to a couple times a year. PDF file format of this directory are available by email and updates and revisions will be made each month. If you would like a PDF file version, please email me. If you would like any changes your listing please sends the information to mel123@frontier.com.



Mel Suetzle



July Meeting

Ron Bray

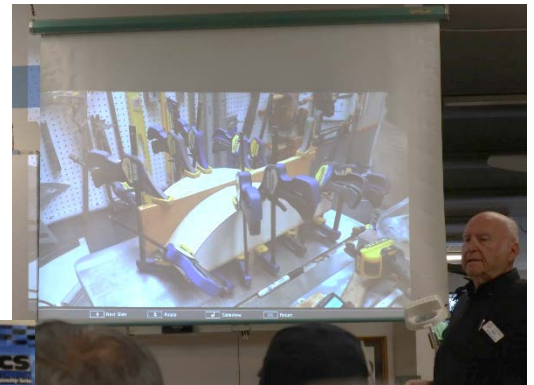
Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



After a long hot summer and a badly needed cool off, 20 members were called to order by our commodore, **Mel Suetzle**. Show and tell began with **Tom Stevens** bringing in a sea imp hull which he wishes to sell for \$150. The hull is finished and the model needs a superstructure and propulsion gear. He also showed how to obtain a battery from a Dewalt power tool. **Mel** showed some of **Cliff Shaw's** unique

treasures such as large blocks, a huge eraser, and a retrieval device.

Robert Wickham brought in two battery packs he constructed



for Zenith Transatlantic AM tube radios which can deliver 90 volts with 64 AA batteries.

Marvin Walden brought in a Shelly Foss kit to be taken by anyone interested in building it. He also brought in a sailboat to donate but it was decided to auction it off to the highest bidder.

Rich Goodrich was the lucky recipient. **Robert Osmond** uncovered an old Krick kit of one of the first forward Z-Drive models he built many years ago. **Jon McCool** demonstrated how he was able to secure the bottom of his Zipp Kit springer with the help of **Tom Stevens**.





After the break and slide show of the recent night float and coffee float, **Mel** gave out membership directories with pictures and contact data. This was a monumental project and really appreciated by the members. Thanks **Mel** for a great job. **Bill Heath** has

offered a 8x10 garden shed to store our regatta gear with plans to clear out the storage space at Armadillo by the end of the month. Hopefully we can cull out our unwanted items and take them to the dump.



Bill will transport the remaining items back to his



place. Volunteers will be needed to help in this endeavor. The upcoming schedule was discussed and the only change will be a night float on the 8th of September

replacing the morning fun float. Details of the remaining events are listed elsewhere in the letter.



Mike Shaw offered an AR6000 receiver for sale and was purchased by **Dave White**. **John Legate**,



Darlene Wing and **Jim Johnson** had the lucky tickets. The meeting concluded at 2020 and we all headed out the door after all the chairs were stacked. We owe a great debt of gratitude to **Mike Shaw** for hosting us not only for the monthly meeting but also for the Monday and Thursday morning coffee meeting



From the North End

Keith Schermerhorn

Hot August nights and we still find 5 people gathering for boat meetings at the PUD building. Of course, it is air conditioned comfort. So the evening started with a recap of an event over the weekend in Blaine's Drayton Harbor where Keith was part of the model boat display with r/c vessels along with Mike Dodd, a local craftsman who has a large fleet of fishing vessels made of paper and card board. Mikes models are all made to look like the vessels that have visited/ worked out of the fish station that his family used to own over the last 60 years or so. We had the boats on display with the Drayton harbor Maritime festival that was well attended for a small community affair. Steam boats and tall ships were also in attendance. Good day to relax and chat with people.

The next part of the evening was discussing the upcoming events for the season. Tualatin was mentioned, but it will be covered by others. The tug event in Bellingham and the BMM regatta in Burnaby will be the next exciting event to attend. Some of the goings-on to be expected at both events were discussed. The opportunity for another public display of the models will be on [Saturday, September 22nd](#) at the 3rd

[annual Bellingham Seafest celebration at Squalicum Harbor from 11 am to 6 pm.](#) Static display in a prime location again should make this a fun event for all that attend. Parking passes will be

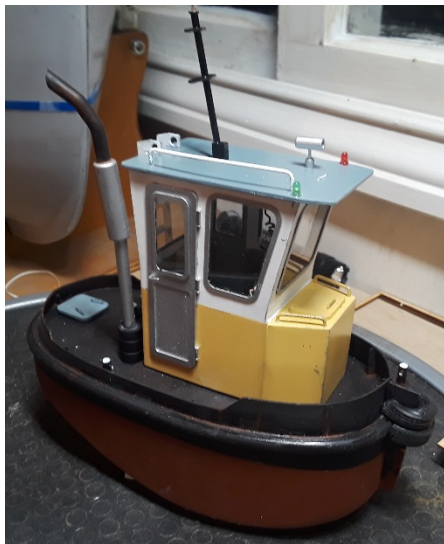


available for those that bring a model(s) for the display. This celebration of the working waterfront features one of my favorite things—free food! Fresh local seafood and demonstrations made a great event last year. Contact Keith if interested in attending.

The last note of the evening was the discussion of moving meeting dates to Saturday as it will be easier for some to make it and create some better opportunities to see other things. Making these more of a luncheon type deal so we can meet at a eatery with private room. This will start in October. The next meeting will NOT be in September, but on Monday, [August 26th at the PUD building](#) as the holiday falls on the first Monday. So we will meet twice this month.

Show and tell consisted of Keith's little micro tug (8 inches long) that can be found on E-bay by different sellers. All set to go, just needing the fuel cells (battery) and it can do some work. Randy showed of his little Go-pro type camera that he got of the net for \$30 some dollars. Takes nice photos and short videos.

With that being done, we all headed home to our home ports once again until we meet once more. We invite anyone that would like to attend our meetings to do so and even show us what you are working on.



July 21st Fun Float

Mel Suelzle

Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



Our Saturday night twilight was a great success. The nice weather brought out lots of model boaters and many park visitors that lined the pond perimeter and enjoyed the well-lit boats on the water. With members and guests, we had over 20 persons in attendance Great turn out.

Dave Green had his new large scale Coast Guard boat out and wowed the crown with its size and craftsmanship. **Dain Webster** again brought his special buoys out and set up a nice course to challenge the skippers. Thanks to Dain for this extra effort that took every bit of his concentration and resulted in

him forgetting to bring his transmitter so he could actually navigate his own course. He took out his frustration

on all others by resetting the gates closer when darkness set in around 9 PM.

All the skippers were eager to show off their lighting systems. **Richard Bizier** even upped the ante by showing off his new barge WITH RUNNING



LIGHTS! **Rex Olsen** had his springer and newly figured South Hampton out for the event. After working through some binding issues they both ran very well. **Robert Osmond** brought his great dock with its USCG approved lighting system. The dock offered some refuge while his terrorized the water



with his Red Ryder. Pleas from fellow skippers claiming he was creating white water in a no wake zone went unheeded of course! To make a

great fun float even greater, we were treated to some very fine nourishment as well when Bryon Morse's friend, Amanda served up some excellent cupcakes.





THANKS MARV!



At the August meeting **Marv Walden** brought in some model boats he was looking to donate to a deserving club member. His sail boat got a lot of interest from several members. To best resolve the matter, it was suggested it be auctioned off with the results going to the club coffers. A lively auction ensued with three members. The winning bid was \$47 by **Rich Goodrich**. Rich is an avid sail boater and will put this new acquisition to good use. This is combined with another \$50 donation to the club donated in Marv's name.

Similarly, Marv has offered a Springer hull to someone in the club. This is a very good start on building a Springer. It is well built using premium plywood, and fiber glassed OUTSIDE and INSIDE. Marv also has a nice shaft, prop and geared motor for the hull. Someone will take this home from the September meeting. The only stipulation is it goes to someone that will finish it and bring it to Show 'n Tell at a meeting in the not too distant future.

We very much appreciate Marv's thoughtfulness and generosity in supporting our club.

July 26th Fun Float

Mel Suelzle

Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



Some of our members are unaware of the regular coffee meetings on Monday's and Thursday's each week. In the summer months we occasionally move from our usual venue, Galaxy Hobby, to a more event oriented coffee at the Bellevue Pond. July 26th was one of these special fun floats. This fun float was very well attended.

Rex Olsen brought out his new Zippkit Springer with a unique white tiger for a skipper. It ran very well and was enjoyed by the younger spectators. This is Rex's first Springer. Good job Rex!

Ed Maurer had his Victory Tug out and it ran great as well.

Robert Osmond had his supercharged Invader class boat churning up the water and keeping all aware of his presence. He demonstrated his new motor sound system that generates something resembling a loose rod at high speeds. The design is extremely simple and has only one moving part. Robert has yet to identify which moving part is causing the "rod knock".





BILL HEATH TAKES ON THE MONSTER TUG

Mel Suelzle

For a few years now, someone donated a huge tug to one of our Regattas. This tug must be close to 6' long and 24" beam. It was "won" in a regatta raffle by a member who stored it for several years. Not having inclination to actually building a tug of this size, his problem was solved by arranging for **Robert Osmond** (who else) to take possession of this huge tug. After Robert stored it amongst his vast hull collection, even Robert found it too large for



his fleet. Finally it landed in the capable hands of **Bill Heath**. Bill, being a man of action actually decided to make it into a complete boat. During our visit to view our new storage area, we got to

see the great progress that Bill has made on this huge project. It is close to being ready for launching and installation of a control system. It has a unique drive system consisting of an electric trolling motor that Bill has ready for radio control. The launch of this monster will draw both a big crowd of spectators and require more water depth than Bellevue pond has. Stay tuned for

further information on when Bill will be ready to unveil this giant model.

August 4th Fun Float

Jon McCool

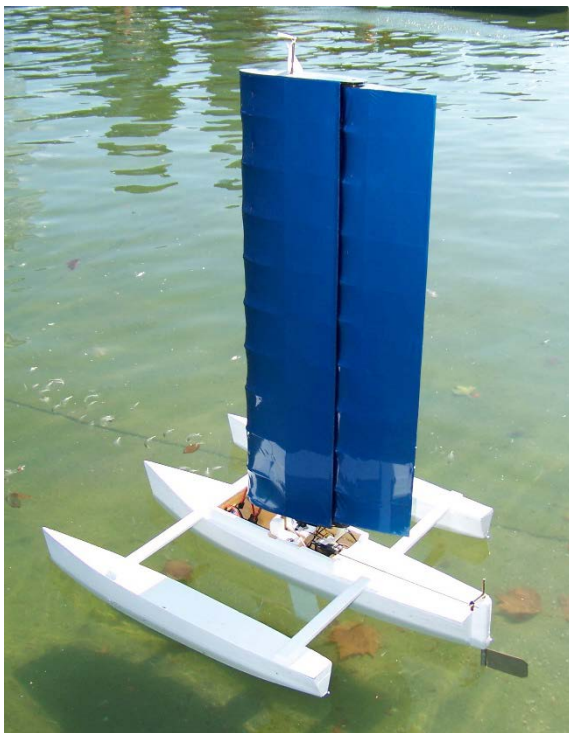
Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



It was a mild-mannered show on the first weekend of August. A small group of club members enjoyed a sunny day at Downtown Park in Bellevue. At 10:30 am there were nine boats on the water. The event went for about two hours.

Dave White brought three boats including the Springer Tug featured in the the Tugster Build Log on the club's Web site. He patrolled the site with the scale model of the US Coast Guard Cutter *Cuyahoga*.

Allan Wing brought a distinctive vessel. His



white trimaran featuring a tall, blue sail built like the wing of an airplane, smoothly and quietly found the light breeze and cut across the water.

Robert Osmond brought the speedy surfer. **Richard Bizier** brought his *Work Tug* and the stately *Atlantic* tugboat.

Our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, made a dramatic entrance with a big pleasure boat called *Genevieve*. *Genevieve* was fast and



playful with entertaining sound effects.

Mel, Fred Row and Ron Bray all brought Southampton Tugs. **Ron** also brought the *PT 109*, the World War II torpedo boat made famous by John F. Kennedy.

FOR SALE

Roger Lyons has a DX9 transmitter for sale. It sells for \$450 and he is asking \$300.

If you are interested, contact Roger at 206-981-7100



John Nygaard was the last captain at the pond. He brought three boats. His big, scratch-built fireboat provided the finale, delighting children and startling passers-by as the powerful monitor sprayed pond water onto the sidewalk.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the captains who let me take the helm for a bit. I appreciate the open and accepting attitude of the club. As the newest member of the club, I look forward to getting my own boat finished and on the water.



2018 Club Information



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