



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

August 2007



Upcoming Events

August

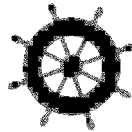
- 2 NWRCSM Meeting
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 5 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond
- 7 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 11 Crawdad Festival
Tualatin, Oregon
- 18 Foss Cup
Bellevue Park

September

- 4 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 6 NWRCSM Meeting
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 9 Galaxy Fun Float
Lake Bob
- 22 Fall Fisherman's Festival
Fisherman's Terminal

October

- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 4 NWRCSM Meeting
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 7 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond



From the Wheelhouse

By Mel Suelzle.

Now that that our regatta is behind us, it is time to turn our attention to other boating events that are scheduled for July and August. As you receive this newsletter, several members will be in Spokane for the Tidewater Cup. Preliminary reports indicate that 8-10 from the west side will travel east for this event. The Tidewater Cup is always fun and the Spokane bunch are good hosts. Rumors have it that they have been putting in extra hours of practice to make sure that more of the awards go to the locals this year. Soon after Tidewater, we will head South to Tualatin for the Crawdad Festival and fun float with the Portland group on August 10th&11th. If are looking for a nice place to relax and run you boats, this is hard to beat. It's a good time to get in some "wheel time" to get ready for the Foss Cup the following weekend



Some traveling to Tualatin will have a special task while they are in Oregon. Club members, **Doug & Sandy Taylor**, who recently retired to Dallas, Oregon are planning to do a lot of traveling. They sold their home and moved to a retirement community. With space limitations, travel plans and lack of local boating enthusiasts, Doug and Sandy have decided to dispose of their boats and related parts and boating materials. They have very generously offered all of their equipment to the club for disposal with the proceeds going to the club treasury. This is a hugely generous offer and benefit to the club. Doug and Sandy have some very fine model boats. Their large riverboats are expertly designed and built and would be a great addition to anyone's fleet. Doug and Sandy have been club members for a long time and have supported the club well considering they lived over 100 miles away. They have always appreciated the support of the club and the help given to them to get them started in model boating. This donation is their way of

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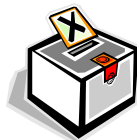


Skagit R/C Meeting Contact

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showing their appreciation for the club. **We sincerely thank Doug and Sandy** and we hope their plans work out well and they have long and enjoyable retirement.

Our initial task is to pick up the items during our visit to the Crawdad Festival and bring them north. We plan to rent a storage unit to use as a base to sort and stage the items as we dispose of them. We are considering ways that will give members first chance to buy at a fair price before offering them on the open market. We will be putting together a plan to make best use of the items that Doug and Sandy have donated to the club. We will have more details on the process in the September newsletter.



As we are well into the second half of our year, it is not too early to think about the officer group for 2008. We need nominations by the October meeting in order to hold elections at our November meeting. Current officers should give consideration to their continued roles for next year. ALL members should consider if it is their turn to step up to a great role in setting the direction of the club. I am happy to discuss this further with anyone considering a new role in the club.

Mel Suelzle



The weekend after our August 6th fun float in Bellevue, is the annual **Crawdad Festival** in Tualatin, Oregon on August 11th. This is a fun festival and a great pond to run boats. The local Portland club will be on hand as well starting at 9:00 AM and going as late as 10 PM for the die hard boaters from the Puget Sound area that like night floats. Most of us stay at the Century Hotel that sits right on the boat pond. This is a popular spot, but rooms may still be available. The hotel phone number is 800 240-9494.

POLO MATCH PLAY



We are still needing boats to get our polo matches off and running. We had real exciting match play at our July fun float and the need for watertight designs became readily apparent. We had a great time with 3 boats per team and two were quickly sidelined after repeated capsizing. Some great photos were taken by Darlene Wing and I am sure they will appear elsewhere in this newsletter. We are planning a special polo event at the swimming pool in October. More details will be in the September newsletter.



Please note that the Vice President and Newsletter Editor have new E-mail address.

Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Randy Flodquist

Mel called twenty-one familiar faces to order at 1934. Regatta results were handed out. He asked for critiques. This writer gave a brief report on the Wooden Boat Festival navigation/rules presentation. Ben told about his and Al's adventures in San Francisco. Lake Jack was a mostly indoor luncheon this time.

TIDEWATER is on July 28 and we'll send a small contingent.

FOSS CUP will see you tying your barge to your boat yourself.

We were invited to the Fun Fest in Port Ludlow but there were no takers.

The TAYLOR DONATION will be picked up in the Wing's trailer and PU following Tualatin. Club members will get first shot at purchasing following cataloging. We hope Doug can write a description of REBEL and all her systems.

The Anderson's got their SALTY DOG from last month and Bill McGee got the BENT PROP.

Financially we have \$2008 and are doing fine. Linda Canney is finally retiring and our BILGE PUMP production costs will rise to around \$30 a month. Thanks to Linda for all those newsletters over the years.

BURT and RANDY got a co-Bent Prop for not being the best ferryboat operators on the coast. Following the BREAK, Mike Shaw had a box of his Dad's plans for those that would like them. Many did. Ben showed his 42"X10" 3/8th scale bread and butter hull he got from Mark Freeman. It is an FS and is the same as the PACIFIC YELLOWFIN that charts out of Vancouver BC. The nicest b&b we've ever seen. It'll become a plug for a mold and then be cleaned up and varnished as a display piece. Mel had his Dolphin hull with the motors and belts installed. Long belts.

And with that we stacked the chairs and snapped out into the warm Summer evening at 2045.

Foss Cup

By Keith Schermerhorn

Well, it is now time for the other big model boat high light of the year in the Pacific Northwest--FOSS CUP. Have you got your batteries charged? Practice with a barge and maybe even some salvage? If not, you have until the 18th of August to do so. As in the past, we will get started at 7:00am with set up, registration at 8:00am and starting with the event at 10:00 with the 1st boats on the water. There will be a raffle with great prizes, food, and plenty of activity for all to see. Awards will be in 4 main categories as well as a master's class. The winner will be the one with the highest combined score from the barge and salvage events. Some of the changes this year will be your responsibility to connect up to the barge. If you are not sure what you need to do, ask someone to lend a hand. Another change this year will be the escort rules. If you need and assist tug, they must start with you and follow the entire time you are going through the course. If your vessels is unable to complete the run, you will receive a score to the last point you passed through.

As with any event, there are always opportunities to help out to keep things moving. Help with registration, harbor master, computer scoring, setup/clean up, and raffle ticket sales. Please contact me if you would like to help out with any of the mentioned positions.

Reminder to all: This is a skills contest that is meant to have FUN (we're not playing for a million \$\$-just bragging rights!) Hope to see you there as a competitor or spectator.

Now if you didn't get enough boating action on Saturday at Foss Cup, you can always go north to Burnaby and partake in the Burnaby Association of Marine Modelers annual regatta at Central Park. This event is always fun to attend (no work to do) as the good folks there are always welcoming. The nav course there is a real challenge as it is set in a lot closer than what we usually see with the June Regatta. The events there will include: sailboat and go fast races, tug parade, scale judging, and navigation. If you are planning on going, let me know and can help get you there.

SKAGIT R/C SHIP MODELERS

. . . . Dusty Graham

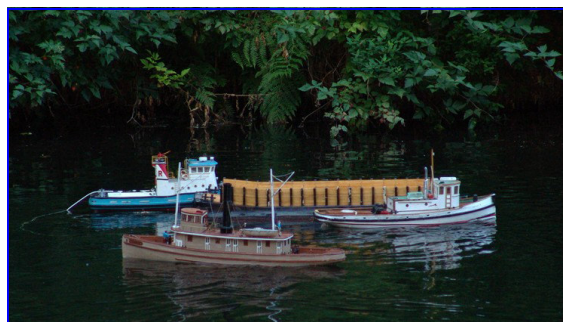
Tuesday - 3 July 2007 – 1900 hrs. Lake Jack

Members present – **Wayne, Leonard, Dusty, Dave Feray**, (back for the second time) **Jack, Kevin**, (haven't seen him for awhile) **Keith, & Shawna**.

It was decided at the June meeting that if the weather was right we would all bring our boats and have a night of fellowship, while running our boats. The night was good and the bugs were at a minimum. **Kevin** brought the **Zoller**, **Leonard** the **Denny R**, **Dusty** the **Seguin**, **Keith** the **Wedell**, and **Wayne** the **Sony** (camera that is). We had a great evening of fun with no candidates for the bent prop award.



WayneNote the duct tape protection from the bugs.



Some of the boats

After running the boats for some time the group gathered and presented **Captain Jack** a card and wished him a HAPPY BIRTHDAY! We then went into the shop where we shared coffee and juice (thanks **Jack**) and homemade cookies (thanks **Nancy**).



Keith reminded us about the Bayfest at Squalicom Harbor in Bellingham. The event will have model boat display, Coast Guard air/sea rescue demonstration, ferry rides, marine related vessels open for tours. This is the second year and will happen before this issue is out. Look for a follow-up in the next newsletter.

Again, it is with great sorrow that we close the article in the memory of **Tamisa Daisy Terrell**, of Moyock North Carolina. (**Shawna's** little sister). **Tamisa**, age 29, passed away very unexpectedly of a heart attack on July 5th. There was a memorial service on July 12th in Bremerton, WA. Our thoughts and prayers go out to **Shawna, Keith**, and their families.

Fun Float and Polo Match July 7, 2007

By Allan Wing

It was a very warm afternoon but we had 6 polo boats ready to go for a match. Doug Wilson had a new boat and Gordy Channey had his original Springer, the Oden, that he had outfitted for polo. They were joined by Earl, Vern, Mel and myself. After a short warm-up, we chose flags and set up to play. Each team was organized with an attacker, a defender and a goalie. Play started and proved rough and tumble from the start. Just after the first goal Gordy got turned over. Then Gordy got turned over again!. Fortunately Gordy had sealed his boat well with duct tape so he kept running even though he got turned over two or three more times. Then Mel got overturned and took on a lot of water. He retired after emptying out the water. Then my boat got turned over. Since I had my waders on, I recovered the boat quickly. When I emptied the water out, I had no speed control so I too had to quit. By this time Earl and Gordy were running low on battery so things slowly wound down. We managed to score three or four goals in about 20 minutes and disable two boats. It was great fun but we need more boats to take care of attrition. A word of advice to anyone building a new boat be sure and seal the top so you can get turned over and still run. We are looking forward to the next match.



More Pictures on the photo page in the Web edition.



Thanks - These vendors supported our 2007 Regatta. We appreciate their support and hope that our members support those that support us.

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Wooden Boat Festival

By Randy Flodquist

Ben and Randy Flodquist, Darlene and Allan Wing, and Paul Marlow in cooperation with the USCG and encouragement from the Northwest Yacht Brokers Association put on a narrated demonstration of rules of the road, operating near ferries, tugs, and other vessels and boats under sail at the Wooden Boat Festival on June 30th.

Ben and I set out our nifty home-made buoys on Friday from his kayak and Saturday morning checked out the show. We had a nice tour of the 92' 1909 LOTUS, saw several new wooden boats to the show and continued to enjoy our old favorites like the LORNA FOSS and FATHOM.

The demonstration went OK with the exception of a "discussion" between Allan whose schooner had a run-in with a snotty bright finished runabout and its owner. Sunday's performance got cancelled when the coasties didn't show up (semper paratis?). Ben showed his skills by retrieving the buoys with MAGGIE. The visitors enjoyed watching the RC tug do a very successful deep water (20+') salvage.



San Francisco

By Randy Flodquist

The boys left in Al's heavily loaded new Matrix for the city by the Golden Gate around 10am on June 20. They stopped at the Foss yard at Rainier, Oregon on the way down before getting to the Marina Motel (a delightful 1937 time warp stucco affair covered with vines and flowers on Lombard street close to Golden Gate Park and Spreckles Lake) on the 21st. It also has a lockable garage for each unit. They checked in and went straight to the lake with TOOKIE and LITTLE TOOT.

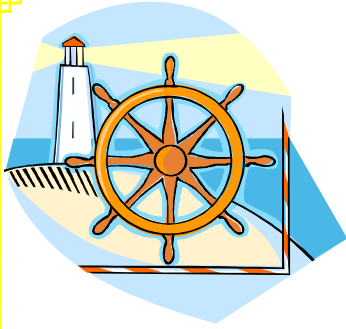
Friday was practice day (hit a lot of buoys) and sightseeing the San Francisco waterfront.

Saturday was "team contest" day. Al got Ben up at 0530 and they were first to arrive at the pond at 0630.

They placed third in "freighter adrift" and Ben teamed up with a Californian and took first in the same event. The boys took third in "team towing" (head and tail boats taking a freighter through the course).

Sunday was individual events. A bigger crowd but still half the size of our Regatta. Barges and bare boat handling. They didn't place Sunday but Al got 2nd place skipper for the weekend. The San Francisco Model Yacht Club (since 1898!!!) has a very elegant clubhouse which includes storage, shop, test tank, meeting area and displays.

Monday they started the drive up 101 with stops in Eureka, Crescent City, Coos Bay, Tillamook, Seaside, Astoria, and home on the 26th. Plans are already afoot for 2008.



Member Spotlight **By Dr. Ron**

KEITH SCHERMERHORN.....
a R/C combat event at Lynden, WA. was Keith's first introduction to R/C model boats. However, he was not new to RC modeling since he had built model cars and airplanes prior to his interest in model boats. He joined the club after visiting our booth at the Puyallup Expo in 1987. His first effort was the Dumas Thompson trawler followed by some 20 or so boats, mostly scratch built. His current project is the Wedell Foss which has egg beater drives as well as a Z drive.



Keith has been a very active member of our club having done the newsletter in the mid 90's and then became president after Tom Stevens for 4 years until 2002. He has won numerous trophies and awards including best of show at the Puyallup Expo in 1996 with his Moon Shadow and again in 2000. He has participated in numerous competitions and events including five trips to San Francisco, several trips to Canada (Nanaimo, Vancouver, Burnaby), the Tidewater cup in Spokane, Anacortes (where his sailboat suffered), and of course, our spring regatta and the Foss Cup of which he is the director.

Other interests include air shows, fishing, the Whatcom Maritime Historical Society and the Bellingham International Maritime museum. He is known as the "mad logger" of the Chuckanut Chillers, a group that runs a haunted house each Halloween to raise funds for the local food bank. He is a regular contributor and commentator for rcgroups.com.

Born and raised in Bellingham and having worked in retail (K-Mart) for 17 years, he now works for Alpha Technologies since 2002. As for his vision of the club, he feels the RTR boats are a real boon to attracting youthful new members, sort of a springboard to more sophisticated projects. He sees the club going in a positive direction with more diversity and enthusiasm.

We look forward to many more years of Keith's enthusiasm and wisdom in this realm and hopefully the members will be able to learn skills from his large knowledge base.



Check out the Photo Page on the web edition of this newsletter

July 7, 2007 Fun Float and Polo Match or the Poseidon Adventure Revisited



Gordy's Boat



Vern working on another Casualty
Allan's Boat



Earl taking care of Mel



Job done. Play continues



Even Bert's Ferryboat joins the fray



Earl shows
how to
Launch



Fearless Editor
getting the shot

Al Kinsman and Ben Floodquist at San Francisco Regatta



Demonstrating Navigation Rules at the Wooden Boat Festival

