



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

December 2009

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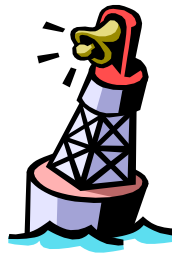
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Red Right Returning

By Randy Flodquist

Well, here we are following the buoys cruising safely back to port. My two years herding the cats has passed quickly. But, we're about back; stand by the lines. You can still come to the dinner meeting on the third (give us a call so we can keep the galley aware) and on the sixth we have a float at the CWB. The final Skagit meeting is pot luck on Pearl Harbor day. Enjoy.

This is being written during and shortly after Pacific Marine Expo where Thursday we had nice visits with Ron (gee, it's his pond and all), Jim Elder and Jerry Julian, Ken and Nick Strickland, Ric Shrewsbury, some modelers from Idaho and California, and the president of Color Light from Sweden who will supply us with drawings so we can model his modern state of the art searchlights like his company supplied for the new Robert Allan designed fireboats (I'm setting him up with Aimee and Dr. Ron). Friday Mark and Margie came for awhile and enjoyed. Kevin demonstrated his annual helicopter crash into the drink. Saturday Dave Springer showed up! It was a real waterfront museum (there's a Freudian slip if I ever saw one and a good reason why I shouldn't do this at the keyboard). Make that waterfront reunion. And we got to see the drawings for a new small tug which will be built shortly and I'm sure modeled too.

So as I come to the end of my second term I can look at successes such as getting the club insured and having combative tee-shirts at the Regatta. Going on-line only with the BILGE PUMP has saved a bundle but I miss it coming in the mail. Some have suggested a twice a year photo type issue that could also be distributed at

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**December 3rd
Dinner Meeting
7:00 pm
Martha Lake
Community Center**



Upcoming Events

December

- 3 **December Dinner Meeting**
7:00pm **Martha Lake Community Center**
- 6 Fun Float
12:00 CWB, Lake Union
- 7 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

January

- 4 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 7 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 10 Fun Float
12:00 CWB, Lake Union

February

- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 5 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Fun Float
12:00 CWB, Lake Union
- 12-14 Northwest Hobby Expo
Monroe Fairgrounds

Reminder

Club Dues are payable in January \$25



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festivals and events. The storage facility has been an expensive mixed bag. During these precarious times we might want to discuss the wonderful world of what to keep and where to keep it.

I'd like to thank Allan for being such a great VP. He didn't have to run many meetings but he did yeoman duty on his computer creating flyers, pictures and projects and the like. I wish him well in 2010.

Finally, I'd like to thank my family. Ben (why we joined in the first place some twelve or so years ago) who has become an excellent modeler, good raconteur, soon to be AB sailor, and a good man who makes his parents proud every day. (At Expo Dave Springer and I agreed that when our young sons joined they were treated with warmth and respect and that older modelers took the time to help and direct them and that that made NWR/C Ship modelers one of the best places for a kid to be. Thanks folks.)

And my bride and love all these years; Linda. She loves family, people, and feeding them. Within two years of joining, the Regatta and Foss Cup had lunches that were wonderful. And breakfast too. Picnic family style lunch means bring the wives, girlfriends, kids, and friends. The Friday dinner in Tualatin and the continuing of the "special" December dinner that Mel urged for the twenty-fifth shows that the social aspect of the club may be as important as the modeling side. What it boils down to is that our club is a good place to be. The more the merrier. Linda came up with a good idea that we would suggested for this year if she had thought of it sooner. And that idea is to turn the December Dinner into a December Brunch or Lunch and have it on Saturday. More people could come. It would be cheaper. Change we can believe in. And we'd be having just as much fun. See ya around. Especially the waterfront.



Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Allan Wing

The meeting started right on time with a small group of 18. Poor weather and the Flu limited attendance. We had no visitors or guests.

The first order of business was the election of President and vice-president for next year. With only one candidate for each it went quickly. I was elected president and Lee Stewart was elected vice-president.

Randy talked about the December dinner and sent around a sign up sheet. We were requested to pay Ed Mauer \$35 for each attendee. Several people signed up. The December meeting will be at the Martha Lake Community Center and will be catered the same as the previous year.

Randy talked about our fun Floats at the Center for Wooden boats. They still welcome us for our winter Fun Floats but there may be some disruption because of working being done on the South Lake Union Park. Some of the Docks may be moved or missing. We talked about alternatives including Killarney pool near Earl's house. After some discussion, it decided that we probably would have access to docks at the CWB but having the pool as an alternate was a good idea. Randy also talked about the pond that is being built as part of the South Lake Union Park. In future years it may be a good place for Fun Floats depending on parking and what time of year it is open.

Randy then reminded us of the Pacific Marine Expo on November 19-21. Ron Burchett will have a pool and the pool will be in an area of high traffic so we should be able to get good visibility.

I announced that we had reserved a booth at the Northwest Hobby Expo February 12-14. The booth will be located next a pond so it should work well. We will set up a schedule to man the booth in the January meeting.

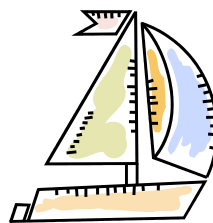
The first item in show and tell was Mike talking about his contest for Best New Build. Mike purchased a ship's wheel that will become a perpetual trophy with the name of each winner of the Best New Build added each year. There were three entries this year; Norm Hiatt's Viking ship, Ron Bray's LA Fireboat and Dave White's river tug, Jezebel.

Norm's Viking ship is a historically correct replica of a Viking long boat. He has researched many facts about the ship and incorporated these in the design. He even has operational oars with each side operating independent so it can go forward reverse and turn. Ron's Fire boat is a model of the new LA Fire Boat. He has fully operational monitors and 4 independent pumps. Dave's river tug, Jezebel was built and shown by Phil Northrup. It is a twin engine boat with Kort nozzles. It has fully operational lights and radar. Phil pointed out a number of things that can be changed to improve performance. The winner will be announced by Mike at the December dinner meeting.

Barrett Bertran showed a model WW II Corvette he is building. He has the hull together and is now working to fit the motor and R/C controls.

Then I showed a new Springer. I had used a CAD program to layout the skeg, motor and battery placement. I had also incorporated a hollow rudder shaft with slots to pick up cooling water. This is the first Springer in the club to use a speed 700 motor.

With that we stacked the chairs and called it a night.



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Best New Model Entrants



Viking Boat



LA Fireboat

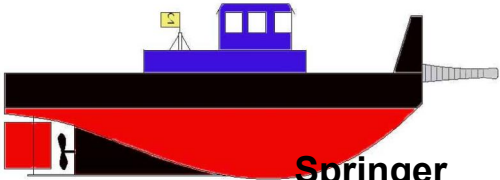
**River Tug,
Jezebel**





NEW

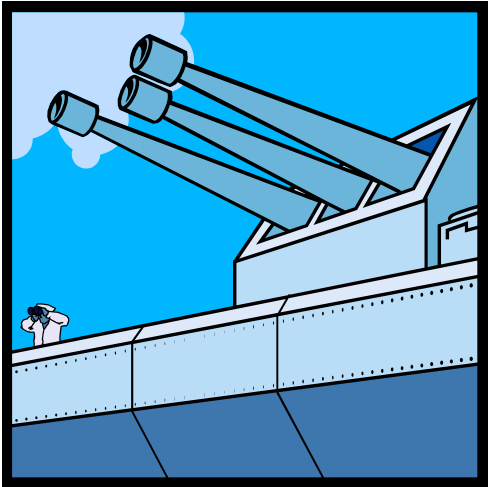
Best New Build Trophy



Springer modifications



WW II Corvette



Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

Once again, the members of the Skagit Club gathered at the PUD building in Mt. Vernon for another interesting meeting of modelers. We were happy to see Gerhard and Ruth Erickson up for a visit and thanked them in person for the items donated a few months ago for the auction that benefited the Alger Food Bank. We were a small group this time with just a little business and a presentation by Larry Stiles. Most notable for discussion was the December pig outs, with this groups being on December 7, Pearl Harbor Day. Asking all that plan on attending to bring a dish or treat to share as this night is all about sharing the past events of the year, projects either working on or finished, and possibilities of slide show to look at photos from various events of the past. This is the one meeting where all are encouraged to bring their significant other or families to join in the events to close the year. We also covered the time and date for the main clubs dinner at the Martha Lake Community Center.

Touched on the next big event, Hobby Expo in Monroe at the fairgrounds in February. This is set to be a week later than normal--the 14th. Might create some interesting scheduling issues for some seeing how that is Valentines weekend. Might even create some interesting stories on how some managed to go with the blessing of a significant other.

Larry comment that the sailing group is still sailing twice a week out at Cranberry Lake in Deception Pass State Park. Been some good sailing with some heavy breezes at times. More people have been coming out to watch and even more taking an interest. If this group keeps growing, they will have quite a site to behold come the Waterfront Festival in Anacortes next Spring! Larry also commented that the rescue tug acquired from Len is working great despite some extra crew that were on board doing their best impressions of pirates and ghost.

The main presentation of the evening was servo modifications by Larry Stiles. He had a oscilloscope to demonstrate the band width or communication range of the signal to the receiver. Also had a voltmeter to help test the voltage of the receiver and power going to the servo motor. This was all done to show how he came up with the idea to help get 140 degrees of throw out of the servo. By experimenting and adding resistors to the potentiometer ends, he was able gain more throw. The higher the value of the resistor, the more gain in travel. This required dismantling the servo first, doing the modifications, then reassembling it to go into the boat. Found the best resistor to be a 1.5k. The advantages of doing this was of course to get more throw out of a servo that is used to sheet in/out the sails on one of his boats. This makes it easier to gain that extra few degrees of travel when the space inside a hull is too tight. After that presentation, we set things back in place better than we found it and headed for our home ports. Until the next time on the 7th of December when we gather again for more.



November Fun Float

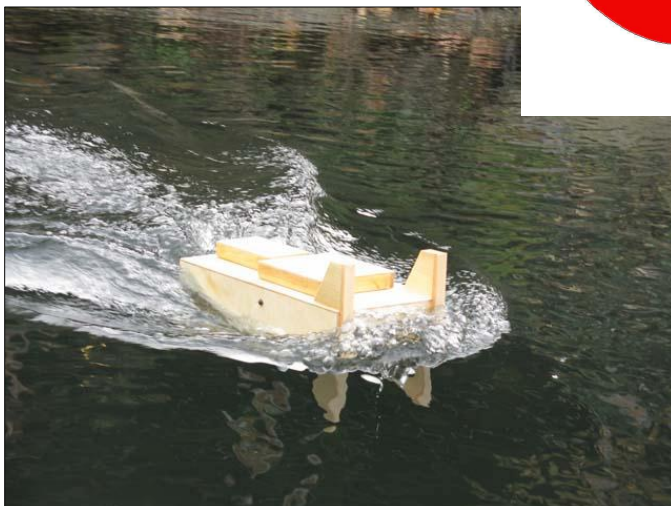
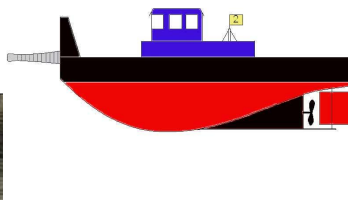
By Allan Wing

It was a cold and wet typical November day for our Fun Float. We were lucky in that we had a nice break in the weather and were spared rain. We has a small but energetic group. Norm Hiatt showed with his Viking ship. He had made the blades of the oars larger to improve performance. The ship was very maneuverable and was able to row around the area we were sailing quite well.

Dave White had his new boat, Jezebel. This was the maiden voyage and it worked very well. He ran it by alone and then with a barge. It was very smooth with plenty of power.

I ran my new Springer. The water cooling worked well and the motor remained cold to the touch. While it ran well, it was slower than I had expected with a big propeller and a speed 700 motor. It has more power that other Springers but still will not be as fast as Earl Anderson's Springers.

Al Kinsman tried our a padded pipe arrangement that fit to the front of a Springer that would work well for rescuing other boats. The padding and shape would help in pushing a boat in without worrying about damaging the boat being rescued.



Pacific Marine Expo

Pictures by Randy Flodquist

