

Northwest R/C Ship Modelers February 2011



A Cold Day at the Pond



The Excitement of Children can make it warmer



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

February 2011

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From the Quarterdeck

By Allan Wing



Now that we have all survived Christmas and New Years, it is time to get working on our winter projects so we can have a new boat for the summer. To help you with your new boat projects, Mel Suelzle has started a Tips and Tricks column that will appear in the Newsletter starting this month. Look in this column and learn something new. Also to help Mel, please send us your tips at tips@shipmodelers.com so that we can all learn something new. I am sure we all have a special trick or knowledge about some part of the building process that could help others.

We have had 2 very cold winter Fun Floats at the new South Lake Union pond. It is a nice pond but access is a bit difficult and we are concerned about the city charging for Sunday Parking. Also with the impending of tolls being added to the 520 bridge, we have been scouting out other places to have our winter Fun Floats. I mentioned at the last meeting that we would like to have a short technical discussion each meeting to help each of us get a better insight into aspects of boat construction. I presented a short segment on selecting wire size. I got several suggestions for new topics and even a couple of people that will present subjects. This should go well with the Tips and Tricks column.

Since it now after January 1st, it is time to nag our delinquent members to pay their dues. It is easy to forget and I had been asked to put the list of delinquent members in the Newsletter. I think at least for this month I will send an email to those who have not paid yet.

(Continued on page 3)





Upcoming Events

February

- 3 NWRC SM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 6 Fun Float
12:00 CWB, Lake Union
- 7 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 11-13 Hobby Expo
Monroe Fairgrounds

March

- 3 NWRC SM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 6 Fun Float
12:00, to be determined
- *14 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

April

- 4 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 7 NWRC SM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 10 Fun Float
12:00 to be determined

*change from regular schedule

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The Northwest Hobby Expo is February 11, 12 and 13. I don't think we will be able to get any members in free like we have in years past. They have been losing too much money. It seems right that we pay admission even though we are part of the entertainment. If means keeping the Expo afloat then we should pay admission. We will discuss who will be at each day during our February meeting.

We have discussed ideas about what we can do during the Expo to entertain or attract people. This is a goal of the organizer to help generate a greater interest in the Expo and the various hobbies. Bring your suggestions to the meeting.

Mike Shaw's wife suggested that we change our first page to include picture about our activities so that when people see the newsletter either on line or printed it catches their eye. She felt our traditional opening page was interesting to members but possibly not as interesting to non-members. So I took a couple of pictures from the Fun Float and made a opening picture page. I would like to hear from the members to see how you like it.

As I said in my opening remarks, keep working on your boats and we will look forward to seeing them at a Fun Float soon.



Northwest R/C Modelers

January, 2011 Meeting Minutes

By Lee Stewart

Allan Wing, our commodore, began the meeting at 1900 hours. There was one guest in attendance who introduced himself as **Jon Steensland**.

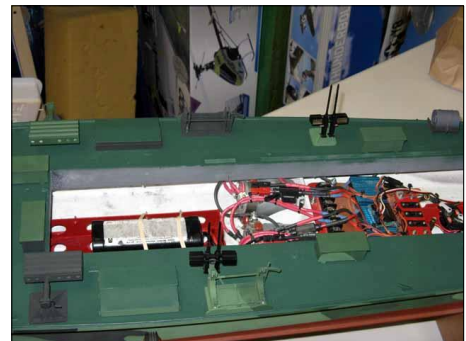
Allan asked for comments about the December dinner. Anyone who wishes to make suggestions for the future dinners is welcome to send him their thoughts.

Dues are now due for the 2011 year and those in arrears will be reminded with their names published in future club newsletters.

The Northwest Hobby Expo will be Feb. 11-12-13. The club will have a booth by the indoor pond. We will have some Springers available for individuals to skipper to get a feeling for their handling. We were warned there will be **NO** passes available this year. The show needs the admission revenue to remain viable.

Mike Jones has been doing recon on water bodies in the area to use for Fun Floats. He feels that Lake Ballenger would fit our needs. The only apparent negative is the wind which can blow there. Allan announced that he would like to have a session in each meeting to demonstrate some knowledge of a topic which would be of interest to our hobby. He passed around a sheet of paper to received volunteer demonstrators and subjects for a session. To start the year Allan gave a talk about wire sizing and their current capabilities. He had a handout from **Loyalhanna** which was a table of wire sizes and their current capacities.

Returning from a short break,
Bob Wickham talked about the two years-worth of work he had recently completed on his PT boat. He began with a fiberglass hull and everything else was scratch-built. The boat has three motors which are 12 volt drill motors. The camouflage paint job must have taken nearly one of the two year build.



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Mike Jones showed us his Springer, which is rapidly nearing completion. He started with one of Dr. Ron's fiberglass hulls and added a scratch-built superstructure from styrene. His detail in the wheelhouse is extensive. He has a chart table, binnacle, GPS, communications equipment and overhead lights for the skipper to use to see his equipment at night. It will be very impressive on the water, also.



Earl Anderson showed us his new hull, from the **Bray** foundry, which he will build before us. He promises to show us every step so that we all will be able to compete with him in the polo matches. Was that a smile on his face as he threw down the gauntlet?

As an additional benefit for our members who read our website and newsletter, **Mel Suelzle** is going to edit a new section called **Tips & Tricks**. He would like to receive submissions from our members of ways and methods they use to do various tasks as they build their models. This might be like Earl's sanding the styrene along the glue line so that bonding is stronger. These do not need to be original, but do give credit where it is due.

The meeting was a good start for the New Year, which we hope will bring some interesting new features to our club. The meeting was concluded at 2046 with a fair amount of buzz among the attendees as they headed out the door. Way to leave them Allan!

Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

Happy New Year was the first order of the night for the 8 members that gathered at the PUD building in Mount Vernon of the Skagit R/C Shipmodelers. Being the new year and a little white outside made this meeting fairly casual. Thanks again to all who attended the December meeting/pig-out as it was well attended and a lot of fun. Not much of old business to discuss so we went right into the events coming in the next couple of months. The February meeting will be the same first Monday as usual. This will be the meeting before the big NW Hobby Expo in Monroe on February 11-13. This for all that have been there is the annual all r/c show/swap/buy/trade event featuring all that is good in the hobbies. Plenty of fun stuff to see, good buys to be found, treasures to be discovered in the swap meet, and gathering of those who enjoy the hobbies. there will be a larger pool for the boat crowd and we encourage model boaters to display their models in the pond and static displays. And if you think you have a really nice model that is a competitor--enter it into the static show as it could bring a special award. Also in February is the Performance Modeling Club annual show at the Cotton Tree Inn in Mount Vernon on Sunday the 27th. This is a all plastic model car club that holds a show/completion that is open to all models including model boats (don't have to be plastic). A great show to see if looking for extremely detailed models and ideas about weathering models!

Next was the notice for the **change of date for the March meeting**. It will be the **second Monday the 14th** with special presentation by members of the r/c combat club. It will feature an explanation of what they do as well as show and tell. April's meeting tentative for the 4th and will be looking at doing some thing different and fun that night. More to come later.

We now have the dates for the annual show with the Anacortes Waterfront Festival being set for May 21 & 22. This is our groups big annual display in conjunction with the festival. A big for the festival are the models and will be looking to have even more there this year.

The sailboaters are still sailing on Tuesdays and Saturdays out at Cranberry Lake at Deception State Park. Lately the numbers have been high with 7 IOM racing one day and the 15 Soiling racing on the other! They did change the start time to 11:00am to allow for the water to be a little softer and the chance for a breeze to develop. Apparently the wind doesn't cooperate much until after 11:00 so go with the later time. And they sail despite what ever conditions they have. Recently sailed to the point where the sails were freezing up with the cold.

Show and Tell featured Larry showing off a few different hand warmers/ transmitter covers that he had been working on to keep hands warm and the radio protected from the elements. 3 different designs so far with each getting better more comfortable and usable each time. Len showed us the one that he has for flying his model aircraft in the winter that had several great ideas incorporated in to it such as the visible window to see the radio. Don brought along a little model of the famous 41' Coast Guard utility boat he has been working on. Had some questions about the gunnels that doesn't show on the plans, yet is in a photo with the plans. Radio gear will be one of the next things to be looked at for the installation.

After some light hearted discussion, we packed up our stuff and headed back home to our frozen home ports. Until the next meeting on the 4th of February and remember to bring along those show and tell projects.

TIPS 'N TRICKS

A new feature of our newsletter highlights member suggestions for making modeling easy and more fun.

Trilogy ESCs - Allan Wing reports that he has tested the new Trilogy ESCs, and found that the integral switch can be relied on to fully power down both the battery eliminator output AND the output to the motor terminals. These new ESCs are proving to be a favorite choice for many model boating applications.

Tool Tip - Often a round file is used to make radius corners in an openings such as cabin windows. Typical round files are tapered which makes it difficult to keep the radius uniform. A good solution is to use chain saw files for this purpose. They are usually good quality, inexpensive and come in various sizes from 1/8-3/16+in diameter and are uniform size along their entire length. Mel Suelzle

Small Clamping Aids - I often use small sections of 1+aluminum angle to hold pieces square during assembly of cabin sections. They keep joints square when combined with small spring clamps. Also CA or epoxy does not glue well to the smooth aluminum and any glue seepage can be easily broken free. Mel Suelzle.

Gluing Styrene Tip comes from Earl Anderson. When gluing Styrene, lightly sand the areas to be joined with coarse sandpaper. By removing glossy surfaces, the adhesive bond the joints better and they become as strong as material itself.

Members are encouraged to share their tips and tricks for publication. Please keep you submissions brief and to the point. Include your name so members can contact you for more information. Please submit your information via email to tips@shipmodelers.com

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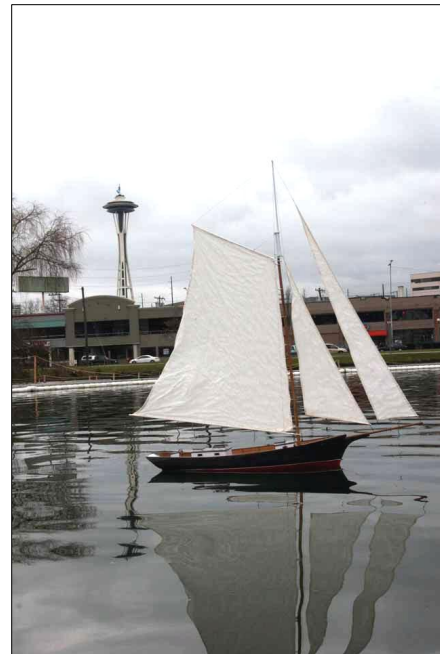
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January Fun Float at CWB

It was very cold with light rain when we arrived just before noon. Bob Wiickham and Al Kinsman had arrived early and left because of the rain. The pond looked empty and cold.

We met Dain Webster and we decided to run our boats. By noon several members had shown up so we had a real but very cold Fun Float. By about 1 PM the wind had started to blow and our hands were getting so cold that we could hardly hold the transmitters. Mike Jones brought his new Springer and a miniature video camera. He was able to mount the camera on his boat and Mel & Morgan Foss. He managed to get over 1/2 hour video from the deck of the two boats as they navigated the pond.



January Fun Float



January Fun Float at the Bellevue Pond

Meanwhile Jim Sisley is *wishing for water* at the Bellevue Pond. Jim says the pool is %60zen over+ necessitating wheels for R/C model %Washington.+



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

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