

# NORTHWEST R/C SHIPMODELERS

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## January 1994 Newsletter

### WINTER CALENDAR

#### January 1994

North End Meeting	1/6	Innis Arden
POLAR BEAR	1/9	Bellevue
South End meeting	1/20	Mike's
South End float	1/23	Fenwick

#### February 1994

North End Meeting	2/3	Innis Arden
N.W. R/C Model Expo.	Feb. 5th & 6th	
Puyallup Fairgrounds, Expo Hall		
North End float	2/13	Newcastle
South End meeting	2/17	Andy's
South End float	2/20	Wapato

### President's Notes

Steve O'Connell

#### VP ELECTIONS

My requests for some help with the administrivia of this esteemed body of modelers have finally been heard. At the December meeting, **Andy Paris** was elected (?) to the position of Vice President. This will be a major help to me and the club in general. Make sure you give Andy the congrats and thanks he deserves. (Private note to Andy: remember, you are just a heartbeat away. . .).

#### DECEMBER MEETING

I can't really improve on what Mike Moor has already said about the December meeting except to thank everyone that helped make it happen, and that is the 37 members and guests that brought goodies and made this a really special time.

### The Very Nearly Famous POLAR BEAR FUN FLOAT

Major yuks will be had at the Polar Bear fun float this January 9th at the Bellevue Downtown Park. Rumor has it that Cliff has a truly devious course for the go-fast boats. Does anyone know if Dick Crowe will be there? The tug races are shaping up well with the owners of several speedy little tugs already "talking trash" to each other on the telephone. We will also do some bollard pull testing for anyone interested in trying out my new digital display fish scale. Remember, we will be handing out new winners plaques this year, so tune up those boats and get out to this fun annual event.

#### FEBRUARY FUNFLOAT (North End)

It is my intention to have the February float at **Newcastle Beach Park**. This is a new facility that has been offered to us by the City of Bellevue to allow for a change of scenery. I visited the site last summer and it looks ideal. There are large concrete steps going right into the water and a large "L" shaped dock to operate from. This is an excellent site for large models and submarines. Be sure your boat is seaworthy as the park is right on Lake Washington.

#### VANTEC SPEED CONTROLLERS

Even though we handed out the last Vantec order at the December meeting, several members have already approached me about another order. I will have an order form in the next newsletter as well as an explanation of how the Vantec order program works. Be thinking about your speed control

needs as I will put this order on the "fast track" to get everything paid for and ordered by late February / early March.

### From the Editor

Mike Moor

**Hey.....**at the next meeting or float you attend take a close look around at the boats. Detail, ingenious problem solving and craftsmanship are abundant. Our club holds a wealth of talented modelers.

If that doesn't convince you, pick up a copy of *Scale Ship Modeler* magazine, Jan/Feb 94. Northwest R/C Shipmodelers are well represented in the cover story TIDEWATER PACIFIC NORTHWEST MODEL TUG CHAMPIONSHIPS. The following summary will help you sort out the misspellings and incorrect captions when you read the article.

On the cover is a half page, full color photo of the Erie Railroad tug "**PATERSON**" by **Ray Nelson**. The cover caption on the next page is incorrectly spelled 'Patterson'. None the less an excellent photo of a fine tug.

The article begins on page 29 with a nice shot of Brad Young's fire fighting tug FEARLESS. The caption is wrong, Ray didn't build this one.

Pages 32 and 33 include 4 great full color photos, Two of the boats belongs to club members. Brad Young's **Duwamish** (not Fearless), and **Ray Nelson's** (not Ray Wittkoph's) **Seguin** (not Sequin) Anyway, **Ron Burchett's Seaspan Regent** is captioned correctly.

Page 34 brings us **Jerry Julian's Misuri**, now if they spelled Misuri wrong, I'd understand, but they didn't even try. **Ray Nelson's Edward L** is sitting in the background. There is another photo of the **Edward L.** with his sawdust barge in the water. Page 35 shows the Edward L., with sawdust barge, the Misuri and, Ray Nelson's **Foundation Franklin**. This article would be quicker if I had a Ray Nelson key on my keyboard.

Check out the **Navigator, Mike Moor's** (Moor **without** an e) tug on page 36. Fine looking tug, fine looking. Also, sneak a peek at **Dave Sullivan's Nimitz** framed by the booms of **Ron Burchett's** log barge. So, as I was saying, nice boats, and good publicity.

For the last two **Northwest Regattas** and the **Olympia Tugboat Regatta** we have submitted articles and photos to several magazines which were not published. We will try again this year.

### Politically Correct Scale

How do you define scale when discussing your models? For discussion purposes, would you say, 3/8 inch to the foot or 1:32 scale?

Here are some definitions:

#### 3/8 inch to 1 foot:

A simple ratio, fraction of an inch to a foot. Each foot of length on the "real" vessel is equal to 3/8" on the model.

#### Model Math, 101 Decimal Equivalent

$3/8 = .375$  divide the numerator of the fraction (3) by the denominator (8) =.375. Works for any fraction, try it.

How long is a 100' tug in 3/8 to the foot scale?

$$100 \times .375 \text{ inches} = \underline{37.5 \text{ inches}}$$

#### Now what about 1:32 scale

Again a ratio, the 1 represents (in this case) a foot, and the 32 is how many 3/8" or .375" are in that foot.  $.375 \times 32 = 12$ ".

If you know the fraction scale, say 1/8 to the foot:

First find the decimal equivalent.

1 divided by 8 = .125, the decimal equivalent of 1/8 inch. Next, divide 12 (as in how many inches in a foot) by .125.

Right **96** or 1:96 scale.

I know you knew that, I just wanted to be sure.

One last thing,  
IF YOU DON'T GET NEWSLETTER  
MATERIAL TO ME BY THE **15TH OF THE  
MONTH**, IT PROBABLY WILL NOT MAKE  
THE NEXT ISSUE.  
That includes you O'Connell.

**Meetings and Floats**

**December 2 North End Meeting**  
The annual Christmas meeting / pig out was quite the success, but I probably don't need to tell you cause most of the club was there. As planned, **Captain Webb** had the museum open prior to the meeting. Models and memorabilia on display kept everyone busy well past 7:00 PM. If you have an interest in building a Coast Guard vessel, the museum keeps a sizable collections of builders plans available. I purchased a set of plans for the 44 foot Motor Life Boat for **\$6** and **Jim Larsen** bought the plans for the Snohomish (\$10). Both sets of plans are extremely detailed and of very high quality. Attendance was great, 37 people including one new member **Bud Lynn** and one perspective member **John McDowell**. There was no shortage of food either. Pastries, hot snacks and pizza covered the serving bar and despite our valiant attempts to decimate the larder, there was food left at the end.

**Steve O'Connell** began the meeting with Nominations, Elections and Railroading of **Andy Paris** into the office of **Vice President**, Congrats Andy. Other topics included: Club membership which stands at 93. Distribution of the Vantec speed controllers. Upcoming events including the "Polar Bear" float in January and the Puyallup show in February. **Bob Jacobsen** and **Cliff Shaw** reported on their trip to Chicago, see SPECIAL EVENTS.

**Show & Tell**  
**Bob Jacobsen** gave us a preview of his next submarine, 1:1 scale, powered by twin diesel electric motors and sleeps 6. Huh, just wait till you try to put that in your attic.

**Jerry Julian** brought his newest tugboat project. Based on **Ron Burchett's Storm Force** hull with highly modified hull and house structure. Jerry has incorporated aircraft plywood saturated with S1 resin for decks and bulkheads. **Richard Small** brought his model of the USS Carr, FFG52. The Carr took second in static display at the Western Washington Fair and brought Richard commissions for two more models. Rich also gave an interesting history of the Carr's namesake. Also, Richard's search for another FFG hull and a DE hull were solved when **Bob Jacobsen** and **Dave Basden** announced they had those hulls. Dave actually had the DE hull with him. Your "FULL SERVICE" boat club.

**Mike Garcia** showed off his *Radio Shack* sound board. Hey Mike, thanks for changing the message since the last meeting. **Keith Schermerhorn** displayed his new *Billings* 44 foot Motor Surf Boat. Keith, if you need some details, I have the drawing. **Mike Moor** brought one of the two matched 3 3/8" dia., 4 blade, counter rotating propellers from the *Prop Shop* in England. **Cliff Shaw** brought his working torpedo and prototype torpedo launch system. The launch system is very ingenious, opening torpedo doors, arming and launching the torpedo and closing the door all with one servo. Cool. **Lou Magnabosco** took names and collected money for the *Vantec* raffle. The winners were **Mel Suelzle** and the club. Mel got the speed controller and the club netted \$53.

**December 5 North End Float**  
As reported by Steve O'Connell

The December funfloat was marked by good (cold) weather and great member turnout. The event was held as usual at the Bellevue Downtown Park and was uneventful except for the unfortunate sinking of **Scott Baumann's Dispatch 9** while his son was at the helm. Seems he was playing "bumper tugs" with my son and got rolled over. These kids now days, you just can't take

Comment [M1]:

Comment [M2]:

Comment [M3]:

them anywhere. There were no other tragedies as the German Heavy Cruiser did not sortie this far North.

#### December 18 South End Meeting

The South End Fleet met at Andy Paris', and a good time was had by all. The Christmas Spirit was abundant and so was the food. **Louise Paris**, once again prepared a table-full of snacks including some tasty frosted pumpkin muffins. Ray Nelson, Jim Larsen and Dave Smith added to the feast with pastries and beverage. Needless to say nobody left hungry. Show & Tell included a sneak peak at a section of **Jim Elder's** current project, the *Tacoma*. Jim is scratch building his replica of one of the Puget Sound "Mosquito Fleet". If the rest of the boat is of this same quality Jim will have a winner.

**Roger Stalcup**, another Olympia modeler brought his *Classy Lady*. The name fits, the *Classy Lady* is a 3/4" to the foot model of a Washington Coast charter fishing boat. The craftsmanship of the *Classy Lady* is first class and the attention to detail includes deck wash spigots and rigged fishing poles with reels.

With luck, we will see both boats at the Expo in Puyallup even though the builders can't be there.

Attending his second club meeting **Bud Lynn** added some interesting stories of shipbuilding and ship operating. Bud lives in Tacoma and will be doing some "pond recon" in Pierce County. Good to have you aboard Bud.

I found out that Bud has other hobbies including skydiving. Bud has made more than 3,100 jumps including filming for the old TV program "*Ripcord*" and has exited such aircraft as B-17s and P-51 Mustang. Bud said he gets nervous when he has to land 'inside' the airplane.

The South End is planning the Second Annual 5 Mile Lake Invitational for this spring. You North end guys break out your hiking

boots, lower your antennas and come on down. Details next month.

#### December 21 South End Float

The weather was cold and clear with no wind and sun low in the sky. This made for great boating conditions. Calm seas with low sun angle Provided great light for photography, and the cool weather kept the crowds, fishermen and park rangers away.

**Ray Nelson, Andy Paris, Mike Moor, Dave Smith and Bud Lynn** braved the cold to enjoy a leisurely run. Ray brought his son-in-law and a friend from the Des Moines Yacht Club.

**Dave Smith** brought his "never ending project", the kit Amsterdam which he is modifying to his own design.

The three tugs on the water did some close maneuvering and the "infamous" German heavy cruiser patrolled at a safe distance after being abused by a small tugboat.

#### SPECIAL EVENT

#### THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL, NORTHWEST RADIO CONTROL MODEL EXPOSITION for 1994

February 5th & 6th

Sat. 9 AM to 6 PM, and Sun. 10 AM to 5 PM.

Correction to last months newsletter  
Boats can be picked up **AFTER** 5:00 PM on Sunday.

#### The BIG Chicago Hobby Show

On November 4 the largest hobby show in the United States opened and **Cliff Shaw** and **Bob Jacobsen** were there. The boys arrived at the show at 1:00 PM and their "retailer passes" and name tags were waiting for them. The show was open to retailers for the first two days with the public was admitted on the third day.

Bob had been to the Chicago show last year, but this was the first time for Cliff. "This place is big, REAL BIG" Cliff was quoted as

saying. The Chicago show had 22 aisles of displays compared to the 4 aisles at the Puyallup show.

Manufacturers represented at the show, included Futaba, Airtronics, JR, Ace and Dumas. Our discriminating reporters were prepared for the countless salesmen and high gloss hype.

On Saturday, the hobbyist models were on display. Cliff said it was a pleasant surprise to see many more boat models than airplane models on display. The local hobby clubs really got busy and brought out their models. there was also a large, indoor pond (plastic tarp over frame) and a program of demonstrations.

On Sunday, Bob and Cliff found their way to The **Chicago Museum of Science and Industry** to take in the historic ships section and especially the U-505. The U-505 is a W.W.II era German Type IX submarine captured by the Navy and brought to Chicago. Because of the layout of the display, Bob and Cliff were unable to photograph the deck of the sub, but took many photos from other angles. Visible in the fairing around the conning tower, battle damage from the submarines final action.

There was quite a lot of repair work done to the sub with many layers of paint covering the sins of decay.

Thanks to Cliff and Bob for the roving article. Keep adding to those frequent flyer miles.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

First, a little equal time for last months Bookstore article.

**Armchair Sailor Books and Charts**  
2110 Westlake Ave. N.  
Seattle, WA 98109

I received a copy of Armchair Sailors mailer last week. Some titles advertised included:  
**Speedboats and Launches of the Golden Age of Boating**, *Robert Bruce Duncan*  
**Understanding Boat Design, 4th Ed.**, *Ted Brewer*

Armchair featured Mr. Tom Walko, a model ship builder working on his models and answering questions on December 4th and 5th.

*Now the book.....*

**Model Boats and Ships**, *D.J. Herda* \*1/2  
63 pages, black and white photos and illustrations, mostly "box art".

Probably a good book for beginners, a variety of information on maritime history, kit models and tools and materials. All information is superficial and mildly interesting. The author also wrote

Model Railroads, Model Cars and Trucks, and Roller Skating?

You be the judge.

If you are still interested; King Co. Library System, J623.8201.

**ATTA-BOY**

Continuing on the group "feelgood" theme, a blanket atta-boy to the modelers who participated in the

**Tidewater Pacific Northwest Model Tug Championship** and thanks to **Chief Parker** from **Spokane Sail, Scale and Steam** for the article and the press. We will assume all of the typos were made by the editors at *Scale Ship Modeler* magazine. A little extra atta-boy for Ray's cover shot.

By the way Ray celebrated his notoriety by going out and having surgery for a double hernia and breaking two ribs. That's about all the fame one guy can stand. Get well soon Ray.

**BENT PROP AWARD**

And the winner is.....*Mike Moor?*.. me??

First of all let me thank some *Special* people, **John Benthien** who selflessly turned his Foss tug across my bows while adjusting his rudder trim tab, and I can't forget **Steve O'Connell** for bringing it up for discussion. A **Big Thanks** to both of you.

Oh, for next month's B.P.A., I'd like to nominate Mr. Steve O'Connell and Mr. Scott Baumann for the tug rollover incident at the December float. Being as their sons are minors and are the responsibility of their parents.

### BOAT OF THE MONTH

Finding a well crafted, operating scale vessel with interesting operating features in our club is very easy.

Finding a well crafted, operating scale vessel with interesting operating features that isn't a tugboat or warship takes a bit more looking.

Fortunately we have several vessels in this group, and one of the nicest is the **F/V Moonshadow** built and skippered by **Keith Shermerhorn**. For the record the **F/V** prefix stands for Fishing Vessel..... I know, you knew that.

The model is in 1:24th scale or "half inch = one foot" of a 74 foot purse seiner typical to the fisheries of the Northwest United States and Southeast Alaska.

The *Moonshadow* is built on the *Dumas, Thompson Trawler* fiberglass kit. The propulsion system includes a 12 VDC *Pittman* motor fitted with a *Dumas* 3:1 gear reduction. The speed controller is a (Ah ha, here's one Steve) *Vantec*. The main power battery is a 12 VDC gel cell. Keith uses a *Futaba* 4 channel radio.

Take a close look at the *Moonshadow* and you will see the scratch built mast which includes booms, antenna array, lights. The lights and radar are operational, lights are R/C controlled.

The fishing gear is not only scratch built, but it is R/C operational. Keith is able to roll the **15 foot long** purse seine off *Moonshadow's* transom with the help of the "seine skiff" also scratch built. A seine skiff is a small, but very powerful boat used to pull the seine to encircle the fish, or "close the purse". Then *Moonshadow* can retrieve the purse seine by R/C.

Other scratch built features include the handlaid planked deck, and boat fenders (ping pong balls).

The **Moonshadow** has racked up an impressive list of awards including:

- 2nd place, Scale competition at the Northwest R/C Regatta 1992.
- 2nd place, Navigation competition at the Northwest R/C Regatta 1993.
- 2nd place, in class at the Anacortes Festival 1993.
- 1st place, Workboat class at the Valley Model Boat Club.
- 1st place, Workboat class at the West Vancouver Regatta.
- 1st place, Workboat class at the Valley Model Boat Club.
- 1st place, Workboat class at the Puyallup Model Expo 1992.
- BEST OF SHOW, Puyallup Model Expo 1992.

Nice job Keith, maybe we can talk you into doing a set and retrieve demo at the Polar Bear.

### PRODUCT REVIEW

**NEW....NEW....NEW....NEW....NEW....NEW**  
**Evergreen Scale Models**  
12808 N.E. 125th way, Kirkland WA 98034

You have all seen the display in the hobby shops with the structural styrene shapes:

I-beams, T-beams, corrugated siding.....if you look closely at the structural shapes, you have probably noticed they are very thick for their size. Well that is changing, at this writing "thin profile" structural shapes are being made. Channel and "I" sections are now available, with "H" sections available in March of 94 and angles and "T" sections near the end of the year.

The structural shapes on display looked much more proportional for scale building.

*Evergreen Scale Models* is right here in Kirkland, WA. Brian Ellerby, the Owner of *Evergreen* was manning a booth at the Model Railroad Show at Pacific Science Center. Brian said if your local hobby shop doesn't get the new shapes they can be ordered by phone or mail.

Phone: 823-0458, ask for Linda

Mail: Evergreen Scale Models

12808 N.E. 125th

Kirkland, WA 98034

*Ask for their November 1993 Price list*

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Remember UNITED PRODUCTS, the small electric/electronics surplus store previously located at the South end of Lake Union. Right, they are closed, however The owners have opened a new store.

**Electronic Mall**

19502 56th Ave. West

Lynnwood, WA 98036

According to Jerry Julian their inventory hasn't changed. You should find motors, batteries and other neat stuff. If anyone visits the place, call me with a report I'll put it in the newsletter.

**WANT ADS**

**FOR SALE**

Ready to Run, 61 inch gas powered, deep-V

Dumas kit, w/ 20 cc "weed eater" motor.

Cox 2 channel radio. Built by Cliff Shaw.

Asking \$800.00 OBO.

Contact Lou Magnabosco ph. 258-4649

If you are buying or selling scale boat stuff, place an ad in the news letter. Call or write me with the information.

Mike Moor (206) 838-3651

Note: South End Fleet Meeting on Jan. 20 will discuss Lofting and blueprint reading at Mike Moor's.

Newsletter contribution Thanks this month go to:

Jerry Julian

Keith Shermerhorn

Bob Jacobsen

Cliff Shaw

Bruno Faccini

and

Steve O'Connell

*Fair winds and calm seas*