



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

March 2018

Upcoming Events Look Ahead

APRIL

5 Meeting 7 pm
@ Galaxy Hobby

7 Fun Float 9 am
@ Bellevue Pond

MAY

3 Meeting 7 pm
@ Galaxy Hobby

5 Fun Float 9 am
@ Bellevue Pond

JUNE

3 Meeting 7 pm
@ Galaxy Hobby

9 NWRC Regatta 9am – 3pm
@ Bellevue Pond

21 Coffee/Fun Float 11am - 1pm
@ Bellevue Pond

JULY

5 Meeting 7 pm
@ Galaxy Hobby

7 Fun Float 9 am
@ Bellevue Pond

21 Twilight Fun Float 7 pm
@ Bellevue Pond

Check for latest updates at
www.shipmodelers.com



From the Wheel House

Mel Suelzle

The signs of spring are everywhere. The biggest indicator is not only the warmer temperatures, but the lower participation

in club events. Our most recent meeting and fun float were good examples when new springtime projects begin to infringe on our model boating activities. Gardening, travel and honey dos really pick up steam these days and will continue to make their impact on model boating time.

But we can't let these boring tasks get too much of our attention. Of course we need to keep up with at least the minimum expectations of others while preserving time for the really important, more satisfying tasks of model boating.

Some of us are well into the planning phases of our special events of 2018. **Robert Osmond** is feverishly dreaming up new challenges for our June Regatta. He has even revealed his preliminary version under the pretense that he is actually willing to make changes that may be suggested. As usually he is coming up with new and demanding course for us all to "enjoy". **Dave Green** when not dueling with the Bellevue Parks Department on our behalf, is working on a huge new model of a Coast Guard ship he once served on. Dave has discarded the more common practice of sizing models that are inversely proportional to the age (and some would say IQ) of the modeler. Dave is working on a ship that is almost 6 feet long. He is planning to enlist a "tug assist" teammate to navigate the crazy course creation that is sure to come from Robert's plan for the Regatta.

Our March fun float was the end of the winter season. We greatly appreciate the excellent job that **Steve Sunich** has done to arrange

these events with the SYC since last November. The SYC has in turn been very supportive and welcoming to our club. This winter venue has been a very positive find for our club events.

We will return to the Seattle Yacht Club on May 3rd for our usual all day fun float and model boat display. Previously **Scott Baumann** has been the point man on this event. However with Steve's SYC membership and his coordinating the winter events, it was agreed by all involved that these functions should be consolidated with Steve being the designated liaison with the Seattle Yacht Club. We thank Scott for doing a great job in coordinating this event for the past decade or so. We will have to find another meaningful task for Scott to perform so he doesn't get too detached given his recent relocation to Lake Tapps located in the southern hinterlands.

Next month we return to our summer venue at the Bellevue Downtown Park. The renovation is complete and we need only to work out the new reservation system which continues to evolve with the new park configuration. So far we have reservations through our June regatta. The remaining portion of our schedule will be addressed pending a visit by park personnel to gain a better understanding for our club needs. So to the extent possible, members are asked to be on their best "behavior" during the April and May fun float events. That means we don't even THINK of harassing a duck.



March Meeting

Ron Bray

On a clear full moonlit night, our commodore,

Mel Suelzle, brought 14 of us to order at 1900 hours. Mel made a plea for some of us to make presentations at our monthly meeting to help with the minutia of model boat building.

Show and tell began with **Mel** discussing difficulty he was having with plastic liquid glue fogging the clear plastic lenses for his tank model. Apparently,



the vapors seemed to be the culprit here. He mentioned that trees of parts are available online from Tamiya.

Marv Walden brought in his hull of an ATF Fleet Tug with plans to chain drive the propulsion and utilize a fishing reel to make a functioning winch. **John Legate** showed his Sanson tug in its locking cradle and modifications. He asked about how and



where he could install a sound system. He bought a lot of cool tools from Micro-Mark and showed them to us.

Dave Green's Coast Guard cutter was a hit. Originally it was a Navy seaplane tender and then turned over to the Coast Guard after the war and served as a weather patrol station in the North Atlantic. He had the pleasure of serving on her.



The original was built at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard which was located at what now is Carillon Point. The model is built in $\frac{1}{4}$ scale and is 61/2 feet long.



Robert Osmond showed his mast details and radar motor assembly for his Warwick model. **Mel** encouraged using a pump dispenser for alcohol and other liquids to avoid spills and for the convenience of smaller containers. They are available at Tap Plastics.



After the break, **Dave Green** expounded on the Bellevue Bureaucracy as relating to our use of the pond for our fun floats and Regatta. **Robert Osmond** passed around a preliminary design for the course set up for our upcoming Regatta. **Mel** passed around a new member list with phone numbers and e-mail addresses and noted that 30% of our members are delinquent in their dues for the year.



Ed Maurer and **Robert Osmond** were the lucky recipients of the raffle drawings before the meeting concluded at 2020.



March 3rd Fun Float



Mel Suelzle



Our March fun float could not have had better weather. The sun was bright and the winds were gentle. Unfortunately the turnout was disappointing only 4 members and a prospective new member Peter Dunsford took advantage of this beautiful day to run in the wide open spaces afforded by the open waters devoid of any full scale boat traffic. However what we lacked in quantity, we made up in QUALITY. Ron Bray brought out his South Hampton and twin drive Springer. Allan Wing had his Arthur Foss running well. While I brought a South Hampton as backup, it was not needed as the Red Bull ran well as usual. Robert Osmond did laps round everyone with his speedy surfer. Peter Dunsford picked up some suggestions for the Springer he is planning to build and took a turn running some of the boats on hand. Peter has experience with a new rudder design on 1:1 scale ships that may cause us to revise the specs for the Springer boats.



Steve Sunich was unable to attend due to his travel, but he made the arrangements with the Seattle Yacht Club to expect us. We appreciate Steve's effort.

Around 1100, our batteries gave out and we packed up and left to enjoy the rest of a beautiful spring day.



2018 DUES ARE DUE IN MARCH

Annual dues are \$30. If you have not paid yet, please forward your dues payment to Paul Williams:

645 Manaco Beach Road,
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Make checks payable to NW R/C Ship Modelers



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