

# NORTHWEST R/C SHIPMODELERS

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## March 1994 Newsletter

### WINTER CALENDAR

#### March 1994

North End meeting	3/3	Innis Arden
North End float	3/6	Bellevue
South End meeting	3/17	Andy's
South End float	3/20	L. Sawyer

### President's Notes

Steve O'Connell

#### Puyallup Show

Big attaboys to a lot of people for making this a great event for the club. First, many thanks to **Ray Nelson** for organizing and running the club's involvement in this show. Ray did the setup and takedown supervision as well as providing a running demonstration of planking techniques while in the booth.

Special thanks also go to **Ray, Gene Lemon, Dave Basden, Burt Maxwell and Keith Schermerhorn** who provided the excellent models that were on display in the booth. Thanks also to **Don Nicklas** who provided the

TV-VCR for the videos as well as everyone else who brought videos and photo albums.

Our club dominated the awards given that night by judges Cliff Shaw, Steve O'Connell and Bob Cozart. Results as follows:

#### Warship Class:

1st Place    Dave Basden    Type VII U-Boat  
2nd Place    Peter McCowin    SSN589  
3rd Place    Bob Cozart    Tromp

(Bob Cozart did not judge this class)

Honorable Mention:

Dick Small, Andy Paris & John Collins

#### Workboat Class:

1st Place    Wayne Martin    Tug, Isabel  
2nd Place    Jerry Julian    Fishing Trawler  
3rd Place    Ray Nelson    Tug, Paterson

Honorable Mention:

Dave Basden & Keith Schermerhorn

#### Pleasure Class:

1st Place    Roger Stalcup, Classy Lady  
Classy Lady also won "Best of Show"

Best of Show is quite an honor since it must be agreed upon by both the scale and go-fast judges. Each group of judges picks its favorite and we must look at them both and pick the one that is truly "The Best".

A few other notes. Many fine trophies went unawarded because there were no entrants in some classes. In particular, not enough sailboats and plastic ship models were entered. I know for a fact that this club has several of both and it is really a shame when these trophies don't find a good home.

Another note, if you bring a boat to enter in a competition of this caliber, you should spruce it up a bit. If your model has dings add a little paint and by all means DUST your model. Nothing worse than fingerprints and streaks in that carefully rendered dust layer.

#### February Funfloat --Newcastle Beach Park

Stormy, wet, cold, but run and well covered elsewhere in this issue. We spent as much

time at Denny's drinking coffee as we did at the lake.

Oh well. We will schedule another float at this location in the near future.

### Vantec Speed Controllers

I know I told you we would have an order form in this issue for the next batch of Vantec speed controllers, but something else has come up this month. It appears that Vantec has raised the price on the RET-44 control that we normally order from \$52. to \$62. I have not confirmed this yet, but I will in time for the next meeting.

In addition, we may be able to order speed controllers and multiple function switchers from MCD if we put together a large order of \$2,000. This sounds like a lot, but we have placed \$1,700. orders from Vantec for speed controllers alone. The added incentive of mixing an order for speed controllers and function switchers from MCD is very attractive. Look over the ads for MCD and Vantec and let me know what you think.

### Northwest Regatta May 1st

This seems like an early date, but its more or less traditional for the club to hold its regatta on the first Sunday of the month. Besides, yours truly will be out of town on the only other available weekend in May, and nobody else has stepped forward to run the event.

So, May 1st it is. More later.

### **From the Editor**

Mike Moor

If you will recall the Bollard pull results from last month's Polar Bear, you may remember **John Benthiens** *Russell Foss* pulled a respectable 3.2 pounds. Since then John purchased a set of Prop Shop wheels, and at the South End Float *Russell Foss* pulled 7.1 pounds. No other changes were made and the same scale was used for the pull.

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor;

I am writing to express my concern over the new format of the newsletter. I don't like this new, fancy format, with columns and lines and boxes, etc. What was wrong with the old format? I thought it was great! (Besides, this new format makes the former editor look bad!)

Anonymous  
Boston, MA

Dear Anonymous:

If you hadn't moved, this wouldn't be a problem.

## **Meetings and Floats**

As reported by **Steve O'Connell**

### **February 3**

### **North End Meeting**

We had another great meeting in February with 21 members and guests in attendance. Business discussions included preparation for the Puyallup show. Show and Tells were great with **Cliff & Bob Shipyards** showing off and selling their latest motor offerings. **Jim Sisley** got big yucks with his red and green "Port and Starboard socks". These new club uniforms were sold for \$1. a pair, with all proceeds going to the club coffers. Thanks Jim. (How about some matching mittens?)

### **February 13**

### **North End Float Newcastle Beach Park**

So, how do you calculate scale wind speed?

Real wind speeds were 20 to 25 knots with gusts to 30 from the Southwest across the East channel of Lake Washington. Besides the rain and hail, it was a pretty good day. Considering the poor weather, sizable a group of boaters showed up, and a few even put boats in the water.

First in was **Robert Osmond's** Clyde Puffer. The spunky little boat plowed through the seas like a champ. Even daring to traverse under the pier into open water.

Now.....open water in this case was rough, more than rough, with a mile of fetch to the

Southwest the seas rolled into the shallows and against the pier and seawall.

Anyway, Robert's puffer the *Brigadoon* passed under the pier and returned to the relative "calm" in the lee of the pier. On the second passage under the pier, a gust of wind and a steep wave turned the puffer sideways and against the seawall. Before Robert could steer off of the seawall a second, larger wave raised the Brigadoon out of the water, inverted the boat and dropped it back in the water upside-down. In the choppy seas, the Brigadoon soon lost buoyancy and disappeared.

Back on top, Robert was noticeably concerned at this point and was questioning **Dick Sackville** about the depth of the water under the pier. Everyone else stood around staring at the water under the pier except **Steve O'Connell** who grabbed Robert's Video camera, Film at 11:00.

The Brigadoon was salvaged by Robert who waded in up to his goose bumps and located the puffer by touch.

Not to be daunted by the mere weather conditions Robert grabbed his second boat, the ocean going tug *Warwick*. The Warwick ran around the lee side of the pier with impunity until Robert was too cold to continue.

I was second to go to sea with the Naupaka, this was a little scary because of the big aft hatch which tends to take water even in the Bellevue pond. I did practice some prevention with narrow strips of duct tape. Considering how much water was on the stern deck of the Naupaka, the tape helped. After about 30 minutes of running I noticed my waterline was getting higher pulled Naupaka out. There was considerable water in the bilge.

The *Foundation Franklin* came out of retirement for this occasion. Franklin's high bow and full beam road over the large waves. If you squinted a little you could picture her namesake charging through the North Atlantic heading for a disabled steamer.

I took a lot of telephoto pics of the action. Getting Franklin out of the water was a trick. Because she is so big, removal at the steps

wouldn't work, so Ray opted for a beach removal. Considering the onshore wind and waves, it was tricky, but successful.

The only other daring skipper was **Mike Jordan**. Mike figured there was enough wind to sail his Emma C. Berry. There was.

Emma went out, got knocked down four or five times, jibed, got knocked down four or five more times and Mike pulled her out after she submarine. The whole voyage took about 3 minutes.

I called Robert on Sunday night, the Brigadoon was dried out and OK except for the speed control. It seems to have gained independence (from commands sent by the transmitter) with its christening.

All things considered, a good float, cold and wet but good. Newcastle Beach Park will be a dandy float location until the swimmers show up.

## February 17      South End Meeting

The South End Fleet gathered at **Andy Paris's** house once again. Andy went to great lengths to tidy up his shop for the meeting. If we could just get him to get rid of the plastic rug runner "booby trap".

Attendance hit 14 folks, and Louise out did herself with munchies. We want to take a minute to say **THANK YOU LOUISE** on behalf of the Southenders, your snacks are the only reason attendance stays high.

Show & Tells included **Brad Young** displaying one of **Chuck Hough's** slick little Battery Eliminator. **Josh Perry** brought his Lindberg Shrimp Trawler. This is Josh's first R/C model, and it's looking good so far. **Mike Moor** brought his R/C WOODS transmitter carrier (in-work), and photos from the Newcastle Beach Float.

We had a guest from Olympia, **Earl Jensen** rode up with **Jerry Julian, Jim Elder and Vick Lanza**. Earl spent 50 years on tugboats around San Francisco Bay and his Son is a tug skipper for Crowley. Must be a nice guy!

Other attendees included **Jim Larsen, Dave Smith, John Benthien, Ray Nelson, Bud Lynn & Gerald Sager**.

The rest of the evening was spent talking and finishing off snacks.

## February 20              South End Float

The South End visited a new lake for our February float, Lake Wapato Park in Pierce County.

Many of the modelers in the South are from the Olympia area, Lake Wapato will be more convenient for them.

Lake Wapato Park in Pierce County is about 4 blocks East of I-5 and under the final approach to McChord AFB. We were treated to our own air show including C-141s, F-18s and a flight of A-10 "Warthogs".

Park facilities include an "L" dock about 4 feet above the water and a separate floating dock inside the "L". The floating dock is low to the water and provides easy launching even for big boats. These docks make an interesting scenario for scale boating. Adjacent to the dock is a two story building with an open porch on the second floor.

**Vick Lanza** and **Gary Vermaas** were on the water sporting the green and white. **Brad Young, Ray Nelson, Dave Smith, Gerald Sager, Andy Paris and Mike Moor** were on hand.

An unusual day!

The wind was blowing about 20 knots from the South and it was cold. Seas were choppy, but not bad. All boats took water and had very wet decks.

**Brad Young** had the first and second problem. His fire boat quit twice requiring towing from Foss. Then while standing on the floating dock, the right lens of **Ray Nelson's** glasses fell out of the frame and disappeared into the cold water. The remainder of Ray's operations were quite close to the dock.

As we were packing to leave, I heard a loud "Thud" and **Andy Paris** holler "O My God". I

was sure he dropped my 24 Amp battery from the Navigator.

When I turned around, I saw a pair of cowboy boots sticking straight up out of the water, then slowly sink out of sight.

When I got to the dock, **Gerald Sager** came sputtering to the surface and we hauled him out. It took a couple of minutes for Gerald to catch his wind. Fortunately, his car was close so he could get out of the cold.

Gerald was lifting his boat from the lake and lost his balance. In a second, he was in the pond. Gerald was OK, but it took two of us to haul him out of the water, and he was exhausted.

Let's all learn from this accident and be careful around the water.

By the way, Gerald didn't find Rays lens and he did earn co-ownership of the Broken Propeller for February.

## SPECIAL EVENT

### Puyallup Show Thanks

**Ray Nelson** sends his thanks to all members who shared the efforts to make our display a success.

Our thanks to you Ray for taking on the responsibility for organizing our participation.

## REGATTAS

### 1994 regatta schedule

Northwest Regatta, Sunday May 1, 1994  
Bellevue Downtown Park

Anacortes Waterfront Festival  
May 21 & 22

The Crowley Cup,  
Spreckels Lake, San Francisco, CA  
Sunday June 12

Tidewater Cup Tug Championships  
July 24, Spokane, WA

## Lake Sawyer

Burnaby Regatta  
August 6 & 7  
Fast Electrics on the 6th  
Scale boats on the 7th

Northwest Tugboat "Funfloat" at Harbor Days  
Olympia, WA  
Saturday, September 3

### Annacortes Waterfront Festival

Hosted by Skagit R/C Shipmodelers

Looking for a pleasant family outing laced with some scale R/C? Look North. The Annacortes Waterfront Festival & Model Boat Show is a R/C activity you can bring your whole family to. R/C activities are Sunday the 22nd including static scale judging and fun running in the harbor. A reminder to all of you lake sailors, the harbor is *salt water*. Oh yea, the Contest is FREE.

Other attractions at the festival include:

- An in the water boat show
- Vintage tug boats
- Army Corps of Engineers vessel "*Puget*"
- Tours of the sternwheeler "*W.T. Preston*" also food booths, maritime exhibits, boat building demonstrations, kids activities, a fisherman's yard sale.....

Here are the details:

When: Saturday & Sunday May 21 & 22  
Where: Cape Sante Marina in Annacortes  
Driving Instructions:

From I-5 take **Exit 224** to Hwy. 20 West. Follow Hwy. 20 to Annacortes and take the first exit down to the marina.

**Note:** Hwy. 20 turns to Oak Harbor, don't go that way.

If you want to know more about the festival contact:

**Keith Schermerhorn** at (206) 855-0396 or  
**Wayne Martin** at (206) 424-1308

The March 20 South End funfloat will return to Lake Sawyer at Sunset Resort in Pierce County. This is a nice lake with a bridge, a small island and a canal. All the skippers who attended last years Lake Sawyer float had a great time.

### Driving Instructions:

From Kent go East on Kent-Kangley Road (Hwy. 516) for 5 or 6 miles. Turn South on 216th Ave. S.E. (Right turn), go 2.3 miles. This road curves and changes names, just stay on it. Look for 302nd place, Sunset Resorts is after 302nd on the left. Stop at the gate and show your badge or boat or just tell them you are a member.

## FOREIGN PORTS

Our South end roving reporter **John "Scoop" Benthien** has a travel report for us this month, Take it away "Scoop".

### Today is Thursday, this must be Bremerton

The boat tour of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard mothball fleet begins on May 31. Tickets are purchased at the bookstore and the boat tour begins and ends alongside the Turner Joy.

The USS Turner Joy has a new gift shop and book store which opened in mid January. Now the naval history buffs in the club will have a new place to look for their next book. Presently the store has about 25 books to choose from, however they are expecting another shipment in February that should double their inventory.

Thanks for the effort John. Bremerton is still on our list of remote meeting sites for the summer. Maybe we can combine the tour of the T.J. with a boat tour of the mothball fleet.

## GOOD IDEAS

One of the many interesting booths at the Hobby Expo was RC WOODS. Greg Earnst and Joe Topper are fabricating a variety of wooden accessories for the R/C hobby. Their products include Glue Stands, Transmitter Totes, Tool Stands and Adjustable Work stands to name a few. All items are in unfinished kit form and are very reasonably priced. I purchased a double transmitter tote for \$15. The glue stand had various holes milled in the top to accept different glue containers and an ingenious disposable mixing area consisting on cash register tape that can be dispensed and used on the stand. When the gluing is finished, the sticky paper can be pulled off and discarded, at the same time exposing new paper ready for the next use. The glue stand costs \$10.

The most expensive item in RC WOODS inventory is an adjustable work stand for \$35. Although the stand is originally intended for aircraft work, the length and width adjustment could easily accommodate a boat hull.

All flat parts are N C routed and look and fit nicely. I watched Greg assemble a Transmitter Tote, all parts fit smoothly and snug. Workmanship is excellent.

The following is a list of items and prices:

Transmitter Tote	\$15.
Tool Stand	\$10.
Glue Stand	\$10.
Adjustable Work stand	\$35.
Work sand	\$25.
Flight (Float) Box	\$27.

Postage and handling add another \$4.00. Anyone interested in purchasing from RC WOODS speak up at the next meeting, or contact Steve O'Connell (your welcome Steve) or Mike Moor and maybe we can at least save money on shipping.

## ATTA-BOY

This month's selection was a toughie. First consideration went to **Robert Osmond**. Anyone who can build a boat as watertight as *Brigadoon* deserves some credit.

However, after reading PRESIDENT'S NOTES I realized I had forgot about all the work **Ray Nelson** did for the Puyallup show. So, this ones for you Ray.

## BENT PROP AWARD

Before the South End float, **Robert Osmond** had the BPA "in the bag". However, **Gerald Sager** snatched co-ownership. See the story in the report from the South End Float.

**Brad Young's** double fireboat breakdowns were wholly out classed by Robert and Gerald. You lucked out Brad.

## BOAT OF THE MONTH

DD-951 USS Turner Joy, named after Admiral Charles Turner Joy. Admiral Joy was a highly decorated veteran of W.W.II and Korea.

TJ statistics:

Displacement	2800 tons standard 4050 tons fully loaded
Length.....	418 feet
Beam.....	45 feet
Speed.....	32.5 knots
Crew.....	19 officers, 300 enlisted

The Turner Joy was built right here in Puget Sound at Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging of Seattle. Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging later became Lockheed Shipbuilding.

The TJ is the last of the Forrest Sherman class destroyers which was the last of the "gun" destroyers. The TJ's keel was laid in 1957, she was launched in 1958 and commissioned in 1959.

Turner Joy was active in the Gulf of Tonkin in 1964 and exchanged fire with North Vietnamese torpedo boats.

Today the Turner Joy is in retirement at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The TJ is open to the public, along with the naval museum near the TJ and the harbor tour of the mothball fleet.

More info about the TJ can be obtained from Bremerton Historic Ship Association, 300 Washington Beach Ave. Bremerton WA 98310, or by calling (206) 792-2457. ☺

## PRODUCT REVIEW

As reported by **Mel Suelzle**

As usual, the January newsletter was full of interesting material. However one topic was of special interest to me. Being always alert for sources of parts and materials for my boat project, the item regarding the relocation of the Electronic Mall caught my attention. The fact that they relocated to Lynnwood made it even more interesting as I live and work in the north end.

I visited the new location at 19502 56th Ave. West in Lynnwood. For those of you more familiar with the Lynnwood area, the address is basically behind the Seattle Lighting store on 196th.

This store might be more accurately named the Electronic mini-mall as it is not a large store. However they do carry a fairly complete stock of components and tools in typical blister packages on peg boards which is great for us browsers. While much of their stock is directed at personal computer products I found a good assortment of semiconductors, ICs, switches, connectors and general electronic hardware. They had one section devoted to consumer product service parts (VCR's, stereos) which had a nice selection of drive belt and pulleys which can be of interest to modelers.

I was hoping to see more surplus type stock with lots of opportunity to dig around for great treasures. Unfortunately, there was very little of this and what they did have was almost totally computer related items with little application to model electrical or mechanical systems.

But, it is another source for electronic components. A much better selection than what you find at Radio Shack, but not what I would call an electronic supermarket. They do have room for more stock in their surplus area and perhaps it will be filled with the type of goodies modelers prefer.

Store hours are 9:00 - 6:00 M-F and 9:00 - 5:00 Sat.

## WANT ADS

### WANTED -

Your old copies of Scale Shipmodeler, R/C Boatmodeler, U.S. Boat Modeler, Ships in Scale, etc. etc.

New in the hobby and would like to read them and pass them on.

Contact: Randy Petre 941-3543 Mornings

### FOR SALE-

USS PATRICK HENRY

Complete and assembled, with radio \$1,500.00 obo.

Contact: Doug Simon, (509) 884-7470  
Wenatchee, WA

## THANKS

Newsletter contribution Thanks this month go to:

John Benthien, Mel Suelzle, Keith Schermerhorn, Randy Petre, Bud Lynn and, of course Steve O'Connell.

*Fair winds and calm seas*