



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

March 2010

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From the Quarterdeck

By Allan Wing



Since the Bellevue Pond was filled early and with construction at the Center for Wooden Boats, we decided to move our February Fun Float to the Bellevue pond. We had a good turn out and I hope everyone got the word of the change in location. Take note with water in the Bellevue pond, we are planning to have the March Fun Float at Bellevue.

We had good number of club members at the Northwest Hobby Expo. With the pond next to our booth, I think we got a better response from the people attending the Expo. We had 4 or 5 people express interest in joining the club. Time will tell how many actually join but it is encouraging.

Ron Burchett was at the Hobby Expo with his pool. He gave pointers on driving techniques particularly when towing or tied to a barge. He also was asking if our club would want to participate in Tug and Salvage Convention and Exhibition. He plans to have his pond set up at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. He would like to have boats running to entertain the Convention participants during breaks. The convention is May 17 to 21. We would probably set up one of the days for our club to be there. It would be a chance to show our boats to some of the big names in the Tug and Salvage world. We will work out the details and discuss this at the meetings.

For those of you thinking of attending the Crawdad Festival at Tualatin, we have decided that we will be there the weekend of August 14th. Our August Fun Float will

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Upcoming Events

March

- 1 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 4 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 7 Fun Float
12:00 Bellevue Park

April

- 1 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 4 Fun Float, Springer event
12:00, Bellevue Park
- 5 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

May

- 3 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 6 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Seattle Tug boat Races
Seattle Waterfront
- 9 Fun Float, Springer event
12:00, Bellevue Park
- 15-16 Anacortes Waterfront Festival
Cap Sante Boat Haven

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be August 8th. The two Portland groups are still split on what day to hold their event. Amie Eng and her club are planning to have their event on August 14th so that is why we decided to be there that weekend.

It now time to start planning for our Regatta. We started by asking the vendors at the Expo for prizes and I will send out letters to vendors and suppliers in the next two weeks. We have made changes in the Raffle to make it easier and run much quicker.

Earl Anderson has promised that the Springer event he is planning for April will be based on piloting skill and not speed. Earl won the October event and is in charge of the April event.

May will be a full month. The Seattle Tugboat races are on the 8th. I don't know if Ron Burchett will be attending with his pool or not. The Anacortes Waterfront Festival will be held the 15th and 16th. Wayne Martin has warned us that there will be very low tides that weekend so if you plan on running a boat in the salt water pick one that has a shallow draft.

For anyone who still has not renewed their membership or for anyone wanting to join the club, we have included a membership form in this newsletter. Just print it out fill in the necessary information and send it in.



Have you paid your dues yet?

NW R/C Ship Modelers January Meeting

By Mel Suelzle

Meeting was called to order by Captain Allan at 7:05 with 22 mates in attendance. Allan welcomed Sam Stout to our meeting who is to become our newest member. Welcome Sam. Allan said that Scott Bauman advised by email of the upcoming Northwest Scale Modelers show at the Space and Flight Museum on February 13th & 14th. This is the same weekend as the Hobby Expo show, but promises to be a great exhibit of some excellent models.

Allan outlined the plans for the club participation at Hobby Expo. Setup will be Friday around noon prior to the show opening at 2 pm. Some help is still needed for booth support on Sunday. The list was circulated for signup. No club passes were being offered, but the admission is lower on Sunday, with the biggest crowd expected on Saturday.

Members lists were distributed to the attendees. Allan asked that the information be kept to members only and not distributed to vendors that might use the list for marketing mailings.

No new information is available on the plans for the annual trip to Tualatin. General feeling of our group is that we will plan to attend the Crawdad Festival on August 13/14 and have a fun float of our own and participate in any model event organized by the locals. None indicated a preference in attending the week end of the 6th/7th as it conflicts with other plans and the Festival was an attraction for non boating spouses.

Since the Bellevue pond is full of water, it was proposed and approved that we move our February 7th fun float to this location.

Tom Steven and Allan Wing have put some effort in organizing our storage unit. They installed shelving and Tom is taking inventory and getting into his new roll as our club "Quartermaster".



After a break it was show 'n tell time and several members shared their latest projects with the group.

Earl Anderson, brought his new Chris Craft again with a newly installed 700 motor to replace the 600 that failed to satisfy his "need for speed". This is only his 2nd step in a futile attempt to keep up with the PTs on the pond. He was happy with the tank tests of the new motor as it was a much more efficient match to the prop and boat drawing only 6 amps compared to 22 amps on the smaller 600 motor. Sunday's fun float will be the real test. He achieved a very nice finish with 7-8 coats of high quality marine varnish applied with a foam brush. He sanded in between coats with 320-600 grit sandpaper. The first couple of varnish coats were thinned 50%. He plans to do a few more coats.



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Mike Gillikson brought his Dumas 44' Coast Guard boat and covered the many enhancements he made to the standard Dumas design. He is using a 6V Dumas motor controlled by a ProBoat ESC.

Barrett Bertran brought in a "boat in a box" for someone needing a challenging new project. Needless to say the offer was quickly taken by a member who must have been desperate for a new project. We will look forward to seeing the results of his rebuilding and restoration effort at some future meeting.



Barrett also made pitch for a vintage boat display at the Heritage Museum where he works. This display is part of the Seattle Boat Show.

With the light business agenda and fewer boats at show 'n tell, Allan adjourned the meeting at 7:55! This is perhaps a record short meeting. With this kind of focus and brevity, he is assured of many more years at the helm of this organization.



Futaba Navy 14 dual stick radio for sale, w/ long life battery. It has a multi sw prop module installed and comes with a multi decoder sw & prop. and receiver. Asking \$250

Contact
Roger Lyons 206-243-9771

ON SALE
For a limited time purchase
the F-14 Twin Throttle Radio
for only **\$299.95**
Click Here
for order info

A photograph of a Futaba F-14 Twin Throttle Radio. The radio is black and silver with two large knobs and a central display. The text "F14" and "TWIN THROTTLE" is visible on the front panel.

Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

Once again, 9 members of the Skagit R/C Shipmodelers gathered for another interesting night of model boat discussions and then some. We were happy to see that our good friend Len Bainter was feeling better after a short visit to the hospital. In fact, he was feeling so much better that he is now cleared for a long over due vacation out to the islands in Hawaii. He was warned that he is should not be doing any kite surfing for now in the big waves. The evening discussions included the up coming hobby show and who all was going and what might be expected there. Reminder of the new contest rules and prize payout for those that wish to enter their models.



Waterfront Festival was discussed as we start to get ready and plan for this years event. Saturday should feature a lot of the scale modelers and Sunday a lot more of the sail boaters with some racing in the harbor. The only issue might be the lack of water in the harbor since there are a couple of big minus tides that weekend in the middle of the day. Also looking at revitalizing the night float if there is enough interest and the weather cooperates. Has been fun in the past and that is about the time there will be the most water to run in. Need to remind those with tables to please bring them as we will have a few of them for displays.

Keith brought up the dates for the BIMM shows in Bellingham for 2010. The Spring event will be the weekend of May 1&2 while the fall event will be Labor day weekend again, September 4 & 5. This is a fun indoor show that features a large pond for running boats, displays, and is free to modelers that bring a model for the display. Of special interest this year is the hovercraft competing. We will be looking for builders of hovercraft models to show in the Spring event and hope to have a contest at the fall show. Uncertain what the contest will entail, but the museum is working on awards/prizes for this and other vessels.

Larry reminded us all that the sailboats folks are still doing their racing out at Cranberry Lake twice a week and invite others to come on out to partake in the racing or be spectators. This group keeps growing and is getting bigger all the time!

Newer member Bill (apologies for missing the last name) gave a report on a special project that he and others are working on. It is a team robotic sailboat contest to sail a model sailboat using nothing but robotics and tracking across the Atlantic. The race will be having test trials in Ontario, Canada for the 4 meter boats that they are developing for this. Lots of technical information at they are researching and incorporating for this daunting challenge. More information can be found at www.sailbot.com . Best of luck as we will be keeping track of their progress with interest.

Had a quick discussion of some possible topics for the learning presentations that were popular last year. They included: Difference in building materials and best practices, Adhesives and their uses, and drive systems for your model. Looking for more and anyone that would like to present one would be appreciated.

Show and tell started with Keith showing a great buy found at Wal-Mart in the video section. For those that like the old series "Victory at Sea" that featured a lot of old film footage from WW2 of people and ships from that area, there is/was a 2 DVD pack with all 44 episodes on them for only \$5.00!!!! Heck of a deal for the navel and history enthusiast. Also revealed was a new secretive

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project that is out of the norm for Keith. A new yacht is on the way and should be a real eye catcher out on the water.

Larry had both the new/old sailboat of the Marblehead style along side his soling 50 racing boat for size comparison. the older vessel is now all hooked up and ready to go. Of noticeable difference is the displacement and weight between the 2. the smaller one is easy to pick up by the mast out of the water, where as the larger one --well just not thinkable with the mass it has. Both boats looking good.

With that, we put the chairs away as we all headed towards our home ports again for this month. Next meeting will be on March 1st at the PUD building in Mt. Vernon as all are welcomed to attend. Remember to bring your projects for show and tell.

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

(Please Print)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____



February Fun Float

It was reported at our meeting that the Bellevue Pond had water in it so we voted at the meeting to move the February Fun float to the Pond. The weather promised to be sunny and warm but it turned cloudy and cool. We had a good number of people attend and it seems like everyone got the message about the location change. The water level was rather low but nobody had any trouble with their boats being grounded. We made more use of Al Kinsman's launcher to help with the longer reach to the water.

Earl and AL had docks and buoys set up to practice our navigation and docking skills. This is something they plan to do for every fun Float so we can practice for the Regatta and Foss Cup.

While we were running, we had a request from Northwest Thunder Hydroplane group to use part of the pond to run their boats. We said it was Ok but they had not started to run before most of us got cold and were packing up to go home.



A long reach to low water



Earl setting up buoys



One of the two fast Coast Guard Boats



Vern's new polo Springer



Docks all set up for practice



Practice makes perfect

Northwest Hobby Expo

This year we got a booth next to the sailing pond. With this setup we were able to attract people who were interested in boats to our booth. We had a number of people who were interested. The pond was 20 ft by 30 ft and right in front of the tables where they were displaying additional boats. The Hobby Expo had the usual swap tables where a few people bought boats. There were a limited number of vendors.



Mel and Ron Burchett entered boats in the judging. Ron got a first and Mel got a second.



Mel even got a chance to test his torpedo. The first launch was a success with the torpedo running most of the length of the pond.



Pictures by Wayne Martin



Member Spotlight

By Dr. Ron

CLIFF ELOWSON



It was my pleasure to introduce Cliff to RC model boating. He was living in Placerville, California, came up for a visit about two years ago and sorta got hooked on the idea of model boating. A year later he was again up for a visit and we attended our 55th Ballard High School reunion. I

almost got him talked into a Pro Boat PT but he felt he would soon be in the process of moving to San Diego. Last spring he attended a fun float, bought an Atlantic RTR tug and entered it in the Foss Cup. He found out, like so many others, that it would not back up when attached to a barge. So, we switched out the speed control and added a Spectrum receiver.

Since last spring, he has attended several polo events which led to design and fabrication of a new polo boat with a 600 motor, 3/16 shaft and 3 bladed Octura racing prop. The motor is water cooled with a pickup just above the prop and an outlet on the port side above the water line. Unfortunately, the weather turned sour and activity dwindled before it could be entered into competition.

A harbor tug RTR was purchased from e-bay and the running gear didn't survive the first outing. So, a Proboat speed control, a new servo for the rudder and another for the water monitor were added and the receiver replaced with a Spectrum. It was noted that the positive wires were black instead of red which really caused massive head scratching in trying to get the LEDs operational. Ballast was added to achieve more stability and the boat bath tub tested with good results. This boat was originally for his grandson, but we'll see. A Bristol Bay motor sailer was ordered from Mike and finally arrived last fall. The receiver was replaced with a Spektrum and the boat is ready for the water.

Cliff was born in Spokane, Washington on 12/8/35. He moved to San Francisco at the age of 1 ½ and after 10 years moved to Ballard. I first met Cliff in church and we grew to be fast friends and finally fraternity brothers. After three years at the U.Dub, he entered the Air Force and ended up in the Strategic Air Command as a navigator . bombardier for B . 47s. After 7 years of service, he moved to Sacramento and raised a son and daughter. He ended up as a regional credit manager for a large plumbing supply company and retired in 2005. His current residence is San Diego, California but he spends the majority of time in Seattle and Palm Springs.

In 2006 he bought a 21 foot Northriver Seahawk off shore fishing boat and has used it in many places such as Lake Tahoe, Newport, Oregon, Puget sound and Lake Washington, or wherever I can find water % Other than his boat he enjoys collecting and running G scale model trains, traveling, reading and hiking. He has a passion for BMWs and has been a member of the BMW club for the past 8 years.

I can personally guarantee that Cliff will be hardworking and supportive of our club and hobby, and it's great to be close to him again after being apart for so many years.