



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

May 2018

Upcoming Events Look Ahead

JUNE

- 7 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 9 NWRC Regatta @ Bellevue Pond 9am- 3pm
- 21 Coffee/Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 11am

JULY

- 5 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 7 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 21 Twilight Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 7pm

AUGUST

- 2 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 4 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 11 Portland Regatta – Tualatin, OR 9am – 4pm
- 19 NW Tug Regatta – Bellingham 9am – 4pm

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 8 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 15 Fishermen's Memorial – Ballard 11am – 6pm

OCTOBER

- 4 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 6 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am

NOVEMBER

- 1 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 3 Fun Float @ Seattle Yacht Club 9am

DECEMBER

- 6 Christmas Dinner
Old Spaghetti Factory - Lynnwood 6:30 – 9pm



From the Wheel House

Mel Suelzle

The month of June brings us to our most important event of the year.

Preparation for our regatta is in high gear and we hope to have a great turnout for this event. If the turnout at our recent events is any indication, we should have a record turnout. Our last meeting was standing room only, the Opening Day and May fun floats were both very well attended. It is nice to see the enthusiasm and support of our membership. By the time you read this we will be about three weeks from the regatta. Plenty of time to get you boats ready and tackle the challenging course that Robert Osmond has created. Remember one of the unique aspects of our Regatta is that is open to any and all type of boats as long as it is not gas powered. Speed is becoming somewhat of a factor at the Bellevue Pond, but the twists and turn of Roberts's course keeps that element under control. Our goal in designing the course is to keep it compact so to not overly stress the depth perception for the skippers while still being possible to navigate by the larger boats. Larger boats are very popular as they look great on the water and often provide lots of room for special features. We do not want to discourage skippers from entering them in the regatta. Any skipper can enlist the aid of a tug to help negotiate the tighter turns. However, some practice is suggested before the day of the regatta to avoid and confusion and arguments that may lead to fisticuffs!!

We have a great bunch of raffle prizes for the regatta. Many of our vendors have contributed nice prizes to support our

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www.shipmodelers.com

club and help fund the regatta. Additionally several members have donated items to the regatta as well. We appreciate everyone support and hope that our members will look to those vendors that support us for their modeling needs. A list of our supporters is elsewhere in this newsletter.

As we are still learning the full impact of the new park regulations that we need to follow, we did have a productive meeting with the park management at our April fun float. This meeting was positive and helped us better understand their position. Of interest during our meeting was their sensitivity they have or high speed model boats. Due to an unpleasant incident a few years back, one of the hydro clubs were banned from using the pond as a spectator was injured when a boat hit the wall at high speed. They specifically spoke positively of our lower speed models and absence of a threat to spectators. With that in mind, we need to be more cautious on running our boats at excessive speeds. While no one wants to run at true scale speeds, there is a compromise that allows a decent running speed but well below higher speed some of our models are capable of. We will be watching out for excessive speeds at our future sanctioned club events. Those skippers with a severe NEED FOR SPEED will have to seek other times or locations to satisfy this need.

May Meeting

Ron Bray

*Photos: Darlene Wing,
Robert Osmond*



On a warm spring evening, 27 members and guests filled the room and our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, called us to order at 1900 hours. Two guests, who are interested in model boating, were introduced; **Tom Nelson** and **Richard Newlund**.

Show and tell started with **Mel** announcing that he received a couple of e-mails from persons interested in selling their model boats, one of which is seven feet long. Next, **Paul Williams** stated that he has a book for anyone to borrow who has an interest in the container industry, titled "The Box".



Roger Lyons brought a display case he built, using scrap material and a plexiglass sliding front. **Phil Northrup** demonstrated progress he is making on his Hornet aircraft carrier. Motors are mounted, and shafts secured with Gorilla glue. **Al Kinsman** provided a Navy sound system and a geared 3:1 Robbe motor drive unit which wishes to sell.

Robert Osmond has 1 mil plastic material, which can be used to cover models in the shop to keep them free of dust and offered some to anyone with interest. He displayed several different mesh materials which can be purchased from Galaxy. These materials can be used for a number building needs, such as grating and steps. He also showed a head lamp, requiring 3 triple A batteries, for lighting up difficult to see areas of construction.



Mel discussed small flashing LED units, both red and white, which are available at Galaxy. Our guest and potential new member, **Tom Nelson**, showed his build of a Midwest tug kit which he hopes to bring to the fun float this Saturday.

After the break, **Mel** recapped our very successful fun float at the Seattle Yacht club. The weather was great and brought out many participants and onlookers. We owe many thanks to **Steve Sunich** for orchestrating this event and arranging for tables on which to place our models. A model of the Virginia V was displayed by one of the Seattle Yacht Club members along with pamphlets describing events surrounding this vessel. It was

suggested that we might have a display of our models on this vessel at times when it is not actively engaged in tours and outings. We now have 62 active members with a few hold outs regarding dues. It was moved and passed that active duty service members should have their



dues waived since they are often away for long term deployments.

Considerable discussion revolved around the upcoming spring regatta. The course is set and jobs volunteered by many of our members. However, a plea was made for help transferring items from the storage facility and returning them on Sunday after the event. **Tom Stevens** has several items he would like to sell if anyone is interested. He mentioned a table saw, mill, and lathe items.

Raffle prizes were won by **Tom Stevens, Noel Holley** and **Dave White**. The meeting concluded at 2010 as we stacked the chairs and headed out into a warm spring evening.



From the North End

Keith Schermerhorn

Sunny days have arrived and so did a half dozen of the members for our monthly meeting. The evening started with most of us watching an unedited video of **Tom Stevens'** interview. Once that was done, we proceeded to discuss the Waterfront Festival in Anacortes, namely who will set up tables and boats early Saturday morning before they close off the drive up option. Ensuring we will have information for the upcoming events, banner, and people to talk models are the main issues. It is possible we may have a dinner afterwards, we'll know more when **Flodquist** comes back. We are always welcome others to come on up/down to display their craft either or both days. A tent is provided and if power is needed—we can get some. We mentioned the Regatta in Bellevue the weekend after and hope for a good turnout. Power boat members are having issues with Parks and water to run. It is getting tougher for access and permission. Sail boaters are having lots of visitors and sailing going on locally.



Discussed the issues of the hobby and getting people involved. This is kind of an ongoing subject for all clubs.

Show and tell started with **Keith's** fiberglass cuts on a Titan Class tug hull. A secret revealed to mark the line cutting with dark tape to help use as a guide. Another project was the Zip kit Springer build and how this one will be mostly stock so people get a good idea how easy and affordable they are to build. Tom had his first model that he wideled there of a troller in small scale (fits in hand) as a young man. Shoe the upgrades to it as an adult. He had also brought the fish buyer boat to show off the parts Keith made and the seasoning he did to them to make them fit with the rest of the finish. He also took a moment to thank all of us for our friendship and the times he had with us. A few other stories shared before we called it a night and headed for our home ports. Remember we'll see you at the Waterfront Festival or the regatta and keep having fun.

May 2nd Fun Float

Mel Suelzle

*Photos: Darlene Wing,
Robert Osmond*



This year, the weather could NOT have been better. Bright sunshine and dockside visitors once again made for one of the nicest model boat outings that we enjoy. We had an excellent turnout to take advantage of the great hospitality of the Seattle Yacht Club. The SYC provided good cover from the sun and extra tables to display the many boats brought by our members. We had a very wide variety of boats on display and on the water. **Rich Goodrich, Alan Wing** and **Robert**



Osmond had sail boats taking advantage of the gentle breezes. **Ron Bray** had several pleasure craft on the water as well. Steam boats were also present. Robert's boat ran flawlessly and easily



Baumann ran and displayed their boats. Our newest member **Rex Olsen** enjoyed his first club event and is enthusiastically looking forward to next month's regatta. Many thanks go to **Darlene Wing** who provided all the photo's to document what is rapidly become one our most favorite model boating events. Special thanks to **Steve Sunich** for not only coordinating the event with the Yacht Club, but bring his beautiful tugs that run so well.



violated the "no wake" zone. Conversely, the Mel's steamer Lady Lorraine is likely to be rechristened Lady Disappointment as it once again failed to run at this or any other event! However, that was the norm of the day for Mel's boats. Z-Drive problems continued to plague the Morgan Foss and the Genevieve had to run silent as Mel did not bring a charged battery for the sound system. **Dave White, Richard Bizier, Stan Babcock and Scott**



May 5th Fun Float

Mel Suelzle

Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



Capping off a very full week of model boating was a great fun float at the Bellevue pond. A beautiful opening day of boating season brought out a great turnout for this fun float. **Dave Green** had his huge new Coast Guard boat out for sea trials as he puts the final details on this beautiful new model. Also a newer boat of similar size was **Haslan Winslow's** giant container ship.

Not sure of its length but it has to be 7-8' long. The nice red paint job ran and looked great on the water. Haslan is considering running it through the regatta course if he can find an assist tug boat skipper he can trust. Should be an interesting run to watch. . It was great to see **Tom Stevens** out to enjoy the nice day and



run his Teepee Creeper. Tom even let me run the Teepee Creeper and deal with an erratic and somewhat uncontrollable craft at times. This can be a BIG problem for a tug as big and powerful as the Teepee Creeper. Later Tom found the problem was due to limited radio range as the receiver antenna was not plugged in.



Allan Wing's Wawona was out and performed very nicely as usual.

A special event for this fun float was the Springer boat contest. As the winner of the previous event of this type, **Everett Evans** got to design the course for this event. Everett fresh of a tour of duty for the US Navy, came up with a challenging event. Unlike many other events, this was not a speed or power event. Rather it required a steady hand, on the throttle and vast amounts of skill at the rudder to avoid losing the barge and spilling its liquid cargo from the water filled cup in the barge. It was a time event but speed was a real enemy. My Let's Roll



Springer turned in the shortest time of qualified contestants. The time keeper (Everett) claims a 10 second faster speed, but refused to take the official credit (and responsibility for the next event).

While we expected visitors from the Park department, none showed up. This was a great example of the popularity of our events by the locals who were also out in abundance. The overflow from the busy children's park brought lots of children by the pond to watch and even run some of our boats.

This was a great fun float on a special opening day of boating season. We can only hope for an equally nice day for our own regatta on June 9th.



2018 NWRC REGATTA

Please check out the back page for our amazing sponsors who've made this possible!



April 14th Polo Match

Mel Suelzle

The second polo match of the year was held on April 14th at **Dennis Chinn's** pool. The turnout was excellent and we were able to field a minimum of 8 boats in loosely defined a 2 teams. The promise of rain did not occur until it was time for everyone to leave anyway. As usual the action was hot and it took its toll on a few of the boats, but **Robert Osmond's** fleet of spare boats kept a full complement on the water. **Dave Green** brought his grandson along to join the fun and show us all what

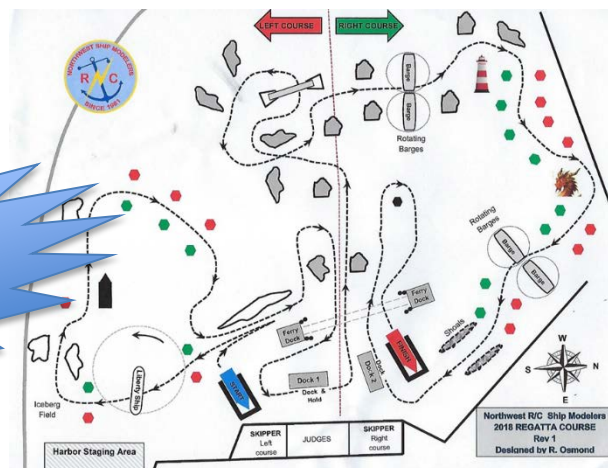
can happen if you actually have good hand to eye coordination. As usual, the white "team" proved to be superior in all respects having the best boats and driving skills of the day's competition. A great time was had by all (even the losing yellow team) and we capped off the event with refreshments and nourishment of pizza provided by our host, Dennis Chinn. Those without polo Springers are missing out on one very fun aspect of our club events. Time to get started building your own polo Springer boat.



2018 NWRC REGATTA

Our 2018 regatta will be held on June 9th. Pictured is the preliminary copy of the course layout planned for this event.

Are YOU Ready?



2018 REGATTA SPONSORS


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