



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

May 2007



Upcoming Events

May

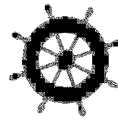
- 1 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm, Lake Jack
- 2 Pre-Opening Day Demo
9-4, Seattle Yacht Club
- 3 NWRCSM. Meeting,
7:30 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 6 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond
- 12 Seattle Tug Boat Races
- 19-20 Anacortes Festival
9:00 am, Anacortes

June

- 3 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond
- 5 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 7 NWRCSM Meeting
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 10 Northwest Regatta
9-5, Bellevue Pond
- 16 Father's Day Fun Float &
Pot Luck, 10:00 am Lake Jack

July

- 3 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 5 NWRCSM Meeting
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 7 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond
- 28 Tidewater Cup, Spokane



From the Wheelhouse By Mel Suelzle.

I wish I could say that Spring has arrived just in time for our boating season, but our weather in the Puget Sound has been very unpredictable lately. We have not experienced the severe storms as the East but yesterday as I watched the hail plummet my back yard, I was wondering if Spring will ever arrive.

Our April fun float was very well attended, and the "average" weather was no too bad. Unfortunately this "average" included some periods of rain and cold before the winds subsided the sun peaked out for a little while. But most persevered and we got in the Springer event, crowned a new champion and saw some new boats on the pond. I got a strong sense of enthusiasm for the coming model boating season.

Before we launch into new events, I should comment on the highly successful Hobby Expo held at the Evergreen fairgrounds at the end of March. This was a great event, well attended by vendor and model enthusiasts. Our club was, as usual, well represented. Our club booth was well staffed throughout the 2 day event. The model boat display was great. We outnumbered the airplanes by 2:1 with over 30 boats and all except 2 were from our club. Thanks to all of you that went into making our club a key contributor to this event. Special thanks to **Ben Flodquist**, **John Witt** and **Tom Guglielmo** who did an excellent job judging the boat entries. Congratulations are in order for the 1st Place winners as follows:

Category	1st	2 nd	3rd
Work Boats	Jeanette (Tom Stevens)	Mustang (Mel Suelzle)	Martha Foss (Phil Northrup)
Pleasure	Thea Foss (Ron Bray)	Chris craft (Ron Bray)	Manhattan (Ron Bray)
Sail	Emma Berry (Allan Wing)	Revenge	No Entry
Military	** Illustrious (Cliff Turnbull)	Schnellboot (Mel Suelzle)	What's the Point (Phil N)
Race	Skidoo (Ron Bray)	No Entry	No Entry

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Mel Suelzle
melz.mail@verizon.net

Vice Pres.

Allan Wing
allanwing@prodigy.net

Sec / Treasurer

Ed Maurer,
marthaed606@verizon.net

Webmaster/

Newsletter Distribution

Gordon Canney
wb7okg@gte.net



Newsletter Editor

Darlene Wing
darlenewing@prodigy.net

Skagit R/C Meeting Contact

Keith Schermerhorn
wscherm@fidalgo.net



SEATTLE YACHT CLUB EVENT A few days after you read this newsletter, we will be enjoying a new event at the Seattle Yacht Club. There is still time for you to join in for a day fun float at the docks. This event is on May 2nd from 10-4PM and is part of the preliminary activities for the Opening Day festivities the following Saturday. During this time many visiting boaters will be arriving at the Yacht Club and we expect a lot of spectators for our model boats. This is a test to see if we want to make this a regular part of our Spring boating activities. Let's have a great turnout of our very best boats to make a good impression and form a solid basis for evaluating any future participation.

Model boaters are asked to arrive by 9:30 AM. Our location is at the docks very close to the rear of the club located at 1807 East Hamlin Street in Seattle. This location is just South of the UW campus and on the South side of the Montlake Cut. We will wrap up promptly at 4PM to avoid the worst of the commuter traffic.

Bent Prop Award – At our last meeting, **Tom Stevens** nominated **Ed Maurer** for a BENT PROP Award. It seems that Tom's payment for 4 Vantec speed controls was not logged properly and the order to Vantec did not include any for Tom. Fortunately Tom, (with Sandy's help) was able to produce a cancelled check that he indeed had paid Ed \$200 for the speed controls. The "error" was discovered just in time to add 4 speed controls to the order to Vantec and Ed had to cancel his planned trip to Hawaii.

Tom's nomination of **Ed Maurer** was unanimously approved by the members at the April meeting.



The Shelton Scale Ship Modelers is having their annual regatta on May 6th at Lake Limerick which is 8 miles north of Shelton. NWRCSM members are invited to attend. The club president Roger Forlines has recently joined our club. This is a small group and only their second event of this type and ask for our support in this event. If you would like to attend please let Roger know by May 1st so he can plan for extra food. Roger can be contacted by email at ropanach@comcast.net or phone at 360-427-4207. The best time to call Roger is from 1:30 – 6:00 Mon-Fri.

Directions: From I-5 take exit 104 to Hwy 101 toward Aberdeen/Port Angeles. Go 17 miles to Hwy 3 toward Bremerton. Wind your way through Shelton area keeping on Hwy 3. About 4 miles from Shelton turn left onto Mason Lake road, travel 3 miles to Lake Limerick. Go past the Club House, stay to the right at the fork in the road. Take the first right (way to Tipperary), go about 300 yards. On the right is a boat launch and parking area. Park to the right after unloading your boats

2007 Regatta Update

Our 2007 Regatta is coming up quick. At the April meeting I outlined some of the plans for this years regatta including my hope to get more people involved. We have much of the preliminary planning well underway. Regatta raffle prizes solicitations are out and some responses already are in hand. Those receive so far are listed in the table below. I will be sending follow up letters out soon to remind vendors that have not responded

<i>Vendor</i>	Donation
Galaxy Hobby	Full Ready to run Majestic Work Boat
RAM	50% Merchandise Discount Coupon
Midwest	50% Discount on Boat Kit
PBR Hull	Al Kinsman

At the May meeting I hope to get firm commitments from members for tasks:

Registration
Raffle Ticket Sales
Score Tabulation

A change this year will the way we handle our food. Previous years this task has grown to be a big job for a few. Linda Flodquist and several others have always done a great job providing a super menu. This year in the interest of simplifying things and getting more people involved so everyone can enjoy more of the boating event, we will try having a more simple menu with sub sandwiches brought in. Drinks, chips etc. will be provided by members being asked to bring the necessary items to round out the rest of the menu. The club of course will reimburse members for costs. This change is intended to promote membership involvement and let more members feel involved and contribute to the work involved in putting on an event of this type. I will have a sign up sheet for members who want to help bring specific food items.

This change has NOTHING to do with cost savings or any displeasure with our previous food or food service and EVERYTHING to do with fostering more commitment and involvement from a larger segment of the membership.

Welcome New Members

So far in 2007 we have 5 new members in our club. We welcome them to our group and look forward to seeing them at our meetings and fun floats.

Aurel Kajlich - Woodway

Roger Forlines - Shelton

Noel Larsen – Port Orchard

Dave McMullen – Shoreline

Robert Vanweezendonk - Everett

April Meeting Minutes

By Randy Flodquist

1930 hours on April 5 saw President Mel call a crowd of about thirty people to order. The crowd included a new fellow with (be still my heart) a model made with FG on cardboard and many found materials/parts. The usual review of recent events included a VERY GOOD REVIEW FOR EXPO AT MONROE! As good as Puyallup. Just wait for next year!!!

Getting ready for SYC on May 2. Should be fun and we'll have boats in the water. We voted to take a bye on the invite to Edmonds as it is just a week before the Regatta.

Speaking of the Regatta: Mel's simplified planning for the Regatta includes relieving Linda, Ruth, Shawna, Sandy, and other female help of their food responsibilities. As they weren't involved in the "decision making" they weren't very happy. Even more interesting was when Mel suggested that they could help with the serving and cleanup. Linda said they would be at lunch.

SHOW N' TELL included Mel's Schnellboot (new motors might let it live up to its name) and his Sea Imp hull which is for sale (no point in building the same boat twice). The FG/cardboard special made by our newest member Robert Vanweesendonk that was made using an imaginative array of parts from toys. Welcome to the club Ron. And, Ken had his lovely PACIFIC ROSE with its superior sound system. Sounds like a big Enterprise or Washington.

Then it was CAKE AND CELEBRATION TIME as we celebrated Tom Steven's retirement!!! All those years. All those trucks. All those interruptions. Now it's all that time. Maybe his hat will go back in the ring.

All full of cake and good cheer we stacked the chairs and drifted out the door a little after 2100.



SKAGIT R/C SHIP MODELERS

. . . . **Dusty Graham**

Tuesday - 3 April 2007 – 1900 hrs. Lake Jack

Members present – **Larry** (good to see him back), **Lon**, **Jack**, **Wayne**, **Dusty**, **Nancy**, **Leonard**, **Shawna**, **Keith**, and **Shawna's** daughters **Jessica** and **Jackie**.

Jack reported on his latest trip to Reno. Had a lot of fun but did not break the bank.

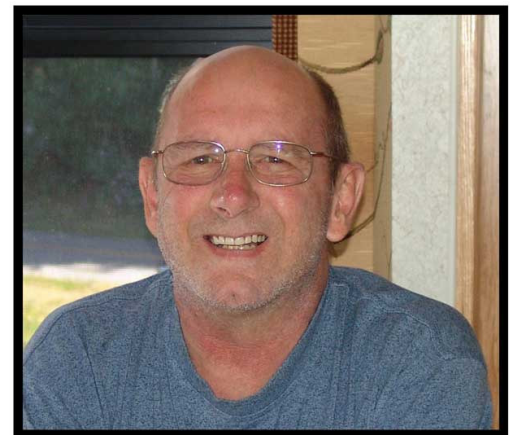
Keith brought the **Coho** and a second yet to be named model to the meeting to show the progress since the last meeting.

Larry brought his **Halo 30 kit** (his secret Christmas present that all the club knew about except him) to show the progress. The kit was purchased from **Vic** which explains the sail thing.



On the way to the NW Hobby Expo in Monroe, **Leonard - Dusty - Jack - Wayne**, met **Gerhard** and **Ruth Ericksen** at Denney's in Monroe for breakfast and then went to their house for a tour. We were escorted to the back yard where **Gerhard's** boat house (model shop) was located for a look see. We all then went over to the fair grounds where we enjoyed a great expo. Everyone agreed that it was one of the best in the past several years. Our compliments and congratulations to all who planned this event.

We close this article in memory of our R/C Shipmate **Charlie Pfeifer**. **Charlie**, **Ed Harris**, & **Dick Boss** founded the Skagit Club. They started meeting at a restaurant in Anacortes in 1986 to talk about R/C boats and building them. **Charlie** was very active in our club until sickness caused him to move to a drier climate. In the past several months it appeared that he was getting better - but we lost him on March 28, 2007.



Calm Waters and Safe Ports, Friend

BURT MAXWELL

Burt first became interested in tug boat models, working at Western Gear, while watching a tug boat traveling back and forth, pushing logs, etc.. However, he started modeling railroad stuff as a kid and then scratch built a steam tugboat which he sold to buy locomotives. The model tug he first built was described by Cliff as the ugliest tug he had ever seen. He gave it to his grandson but isn't sure of its whereabouts. With that tug he joined the NWRC Shipmodelers club in 1988. He built a Brooklyn tug kit, then considerably revamped it, and runs it today as the Active. After the revamp Cliff complimented him for his uncanny eye for scale, not relying on plans for these projects. He has built a really cool operational crane and barge and recently finished a ferry boat and functional dock.



Construction projects are accomplished in the 2nd bedroom of his apartment in Arlington and he often has difficulty navigating the hallways, which are loaded with his many projects. One of his other hobbies is painting and displays a lovely picture of the Lady Washington which hangs in his living room

Burt was born in Bremerton in 1929, attended Bremerton schools and joined the Navy serving aboard the USS Princeton (an aircraft carrier). Since he played the trumpet in the high school band it was a no brainer that he became the ship's bugler (a lot better duty than in the mess hall).

He had a knack of being able to play by ear – anything he heard. After the Navy he worked for the navel ammunition depot in Bremerton, had numerous jobs off and on moved to Seattle to work for Boeing (3 years), spent a month or so traveling in Europe with 20 friends, worked for Disston Saws and then got laid off which led to his job at Western Gear where he worked 25 years in the assembly and testing departments before the company dissolved. He was married in 1961 and widowed in 1997, prompting his move to Arlington. After 20 years, he continues to work for Avis Rent a Car ferrying cars from one location to another.

In the future he would like to see the club acquire a pond like the one at Bellevue for testing, fun floats and events. Burt has been a very loyal member and rarely misses a meeting on event.

Dr. Ron

These Vendors donated to our 2006 Regatta - Support those that support us




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April Fun Float and Springer Event

By Allan Wing

The Fun Float at Bellevue Park was marked by gentle April rain and a good turnout. There were several boats running while Tom Stevens set up the course for the Springer event. The event consisted of requiring each skipper to push a 4 x 4, about two feet long, endways down a narrow course without hitting the walls or any dolphins. It was a difficult task but not impossible. There was a 5 minute time limit and points deducted for hitting Dolphins of the wall. Several boats failed to make the time limit and others of us took most of the allotted time. Earl Anderson showed us all how it should be done with a good eye and a steady hand. He won the event by a good margin, congratulations Earl. Also our special thanks to Tom for an excellent and challenging Springer event.

Bill brought a new boat to add to his yellow and black fleet. Mel ran his Schnell boat which he had completed the detail work. It ran well and showed a good looking bow wake. I tried to run the air boat that I showed at the last meeting. I learned that a small brushless motor is not ready for prime time in the boating world as Dr. Ron passed me with his Springer when I was going full speed. Our young guest at the last meeting and new member Robert Vanweesendonk ran his boat that he showed at the meeting and was looking for tips on how to make modifications and get longer running times.

Earl spent several minutes wading around the center of the pond trying to find the propeller that had come loose from his boat the Eraco. He found it after a while and boat and prop will be re-united.

It was good to see Vern back at our fun floats he was looking chipper and ready to compete. He ran in the Springer event and was just a frustrated as the rest of us. Welcome Back Vern!!

April Fun Float/Springer Contest – Mel Suelzle

Our first Springer event of the year was at the fun float at Bellevue Pond on April 7th. On a rainy and cool day, **Earl Anderson** turned in the winning time for the event created by last fall's award winner **Tom Stevens**. Tom's challenge required skippers to push a 3' 4X4 in a 40' loop. Sound easy, but the "log" had to be pushed from the END. Earl Anderson turned in the fastest time of just under 2 minutes. **Gordy Canney** was a close second. I did real well on the straight a ways, but took forever to turn it around. Earl already has the next event designed and it will surely be a challenge for all.



Earl accepts the Springer Award from Mel
(Tom left early)

John Witt has found an interesting web site and he thinks many members would enjoy seeing all the different photos of workboats. The website is run by a female tug skipper and there are lots of nice photos. Check them out at www.phototiura.com