



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

October 2008



Upcoming Events

October

- 2 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 5 Fun Float/**Springer Event**
12:00 pm, Bellevue Park
- 6 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

November

- 3 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 6 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 9 Fun Float
12:00 pm, CWB Lake Union
- 13-15 Pacific Marine Expo
Quest Field

December

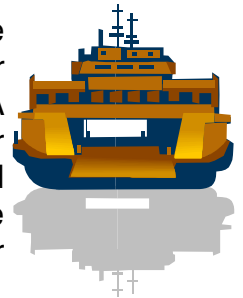
- 1 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 4 December Dinner Meeting
7:30 Martha Lake CC
- 7 Fun Float
12:00 pm, CWB Lake Union



Red Right Returning

By Randy Flodquist

Sorry to have missed the meeting on September 4 but I must say I was having more fun riding the 49 year old COHO to Victoria. The vessel was designed by the late Phil Spaulding and is the most proper modern ferry you could ask for. She has exposed wiring and plumbing and duct work and is stoutly built like a naval vessel. She is painted continually and her great shape handles the Juan de Fuca swells, well, swell. Built in Seattle in 1959, modified once, and repowered around 1999. I really miss the Cooper Bessemer direct-reversing Diesels but the EMDs get the job done. We plan to ride her on her golden anniversary year late next summer. It would make a great NWRCSM field trip. You can walk on and once in Victoria walk and ride on all sorts of public and private transport. Harrison Pond is a reasonable walk through a lovely neighborhood (though you wouldn't want to be carrying a fifteen pound model for a mile) and there are lots of museums, shops, and the cute little harbor ferries (we got to see their impressive ballet on Sunday) along with the double decker busses and the VIA railcar that still runs up island daily. The UTOPIA left while we were in town (she rents for \$695,000 a week plus fuel and food) and we missed a Seaspan log dumping barge dumping by just five minutes while on our way up to Ladysmith.



I've been pushing the social aspects of the club (seems the reason it was founded all those years ago) and field trips to things maritime seems a natural. Tualatin has become very popular and pleases people even if they don't run a boat. TIME LORD went to Victoria but the only trip it made was off the hood of the 4Runner to the ground. Thanks to stout construction all she needs is a little glue and paint. Linda heard the crash from out floor 6 unit!

Continued next page

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Red Right Returning continued

We've got Pacific Marine Expo coming up in November. Mark Freeman and Chuck Fowler have got a new book out on Puget Sound tugs. Mike Shaw wants you to bring in your new boats so he can award a prize for the best new build of 2008. And we need nominations for the Cliff Shaw Award. Both of these awards will be made at the dinner meeting which we'll be collecting for at the election meeting in November.

The second SPRINGER event of the year will be hosted by the Plueards on October 5. I may practice and I'll surely charge my batteries. See ya at Galaxy. And don't forget the Skagit meeting in Mt. Vernon. Opportunities are everywhere.



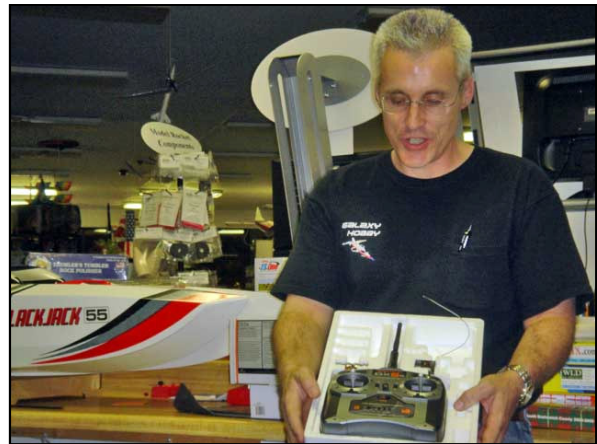
Bellingham International Maritime Museum

Bellingham International Maritime Museum will be holding the last 3 day event of the year on **October 10, 11, and 12**. The museum will be open from 10am each day to display models and run them in the pond. This event is open to all kinds of models with the emphasis on maritime subjects. Of special note is that there will be a prize awarded for the best NOAA vessel and hovercraft (working) models. There is no charge for the displaying of models. There will be a charge (donation) for the general public to come in and view the models. I do advise that anyone visiting wear comfortable clothing and remind folks that the museum is in a warehouse at this time and subject to cooler temperatures pending the weather. Besides the models, you will be able to see displays of some PBRs, a DUWK, local maritime history, a NOAA exhibit and more. We would also like to invite all those attending to check out the Boat Building exhibit that is going on at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art as well. So bring your models to the show and enjoy the company of other modelers and the public. For more information and a map, go to www.bimm.us call 360-592-4112 or contact Keith @ wscherm@fidsalgo.net . Hope to see you there!

Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By, Ed Maurer/Alan Kinsman

1. Started meeting at 1900 hrs
2. 18 members present
3. 2 New members in club Richard Krieger & Dave Lund
4. Money by Ed \$3,099.19 Checking & 1,042.88 Savings
5. The Springer event will be held in October; lots of members were gone for the 7 September weekend
6. Earl Anderson Springer event in Oct in Kilarney Circle pool will either be Oct 12 or 19
7. Spoke about elections. We need to ask the current President & Vice-President if they want to continue for next year.
8. Ed will stay on for next year
9. Chinn wants to be in charge of Polo events
10. Need to have in the newsletter about the Springer event for October
11. We need to have those who have built a boat this past year that is worthy to be Number 1, to attend the November meeting to be judged by Mike Shaw for the Best Boat Award given by him at the December Pig Out.
12. Cliff Shaw Award to be presented at the Pig Out. Please give your vote to Mike, Mel, Tom or Phil.
13. We voted to have all NWRCMSM equipment stored in Chinn's Storage place across from the Oriental markets. It was an unanimous vote. Full details to come later.
14. Mike Shaw showed his new Spektrum Radio 5 channel that cost \$100.00. This radio is not a computer radio.
15. Everyone signed a card for Leonard Bainter, whose wife passed away.



Pictures by Ron Bray

Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

The Skagit club had a little detour this month on the way to the meeting. We had rescheduled the meeting to the 15th as the first Monday was the holiday and a meeting was set for the 2nd one. So on the 15th, 12 regulars and guest, Doug Wilson, from Marysville came to partake in the events for the evening. A quick recap of the past events that included Foss Cup and Burnaby were discussed. 4 of the group (Keith, Kevin Dave and Ginny) made the journey to both events. All agreed that it was a fun filled 2 days of playing boat. We had a quick discussion on the boat "Oracle" that was built out in Anacortes for the Americas Cup Racing. Vic related a story of being out on his boat and tracking the Oracle boat on GPS. Noting that there was virtually no wind, the Oracle was doing over 9 knots! More info can be found @ sailinganarchey.com. Keith had also brought along some archival news letters from a couple of the local clubs that were going strong over 20 years ago. There was a quick reminder of the up coming events at Fisherman's fall festival, Model show at BIMM, and Pacific Maritime Fish Expo. Since we were on a roll we went right into the presentation of the evening being covered by Keith. The presentation was on spray painting techniques/tips for those that like to use spray cans. Tips included the use of Denatured alcohol, prepping the area, and making a make shift paint booth. Following the presentation, we were treated to a slide presentation by Steve from the Foss Cup. Lots of really great photos from the day. We all headed out to our home ports by 22:00 hours noting that the next meeting was just a couple of weeks away.

There was some sad news with in the group in the last month. We all gave our condolences to Len Bainter who lost his wife the week before. Len wanted to thank all those who had sent along well wishes from both clubs. Then earlier in the evening, we received word that Ken Styrickland loss his son in a tragic accident in Afghanistan. Our condolences go out to him and his family. Wayne's wife battling cancer and Jack was back in the hospital. We wish them all best for a speedy recovery.

Springer Polo in place of Thursday Coffee.

This past Thursday September 18 instead of meeting at Galaxy of Bellevue Pond we went to Dennis Chinn's house for a bit of Polo. Dennis had his pool set up with goals and has an excellent place to run Springers. We all went up to the balcony and drove with an overall view of the pool. Dennis had made polo Springers for his wife and son so we started with 4 players on a side. We had two 10 minute periods before attrition started to thin the ranks. It was a fun time and we look forward to doing again real soon.



This was posted on R/C groups. Good read that defines the terminology for the different tugs.

Tugboats 101 - With Pictures!

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showatt.php?attachmentid=1817475>

September Fun Float

By Allan Wing

It was a sunny and hot Sunday morning when I arrived at Bellevue Pond. I was surprised to find no club members at the pond. Within a few minutes I found out that many of the people that arrive early had stopped by Dennis Chinn's house to have a little polo fun in his pool. In the meantime, other members arrived and the boats hit the water. When the polo players arrived, we had a rather good turnout. Our ranks were somewhat lower than usual due to late summer vacations. With many of our members retired, early September is a good time to take a little trip and avoid crowds.

Dennis Chinn had his new boat the Powhatan our for its first fun float. It is a beautiful boat with a different sound from the motor sound system.

We seemed to have a larger than normal of spectators who had lots of questions about the boats. It is always nice to have people interested.



The Powhatan

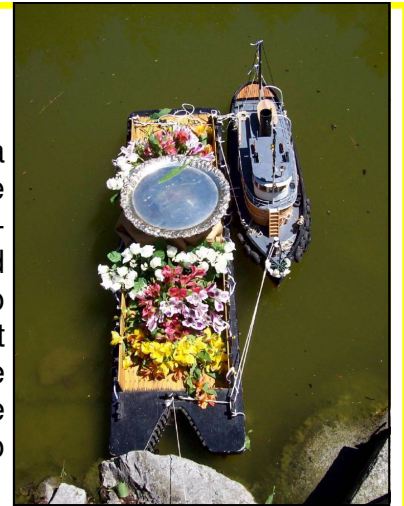


Check out the web edition of the newsletter for additional pictures.

Ring Delivery

By, Keith Schermerhorn

Here is a little adventure that some knew about. About a month and a half ago, there was a question posted on R/C Groups.com boat site about the use of an r/c boat for delivery of wedding rings. Now the surprising thing here is that the bride AGREED to this. Like most, I added my comments. Then the question was asked where this was going to happen and why not contact the local boat club for help. Well when it was known that the couple lived in Seattle and the ceremony was to be in LaConner, several people started pointing fingers my way. Seeing the post at the same time I got in contact with the groom and we began to make arrangements.

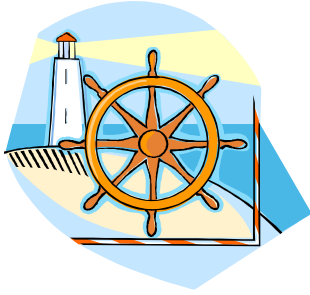


Well the big day for the bride and groom happened on Saturday, July 12th, in LaConner, WA. The secret location was at the home of a NW artist who transformed an old rock quarry into a beautiful garden for his sculptures. The weather was a bit warm (low 80's), no breeze and the water at the pond was in good shape for what was about to transpire. Now I have been in contact with the groom for the last month on this secret operation. The only ones that knew of this were bride/groom, best man/maid of honor, officiator, and property owner. All others were clueless as to why a model boat was there. Met with the best man where he informed me as to what the "signal" for the delivery was to be and I informed him as to where the delivery point would be. Once all communications had been established it was time to get the tug and barge all set up. The boat for the job would be my vintage tug "Liberty" delivering the rings on the lumber barge. Best practice for this was to take the barge on the "hip" so that the delivery would be as close to the shore as possible. With the tug & barge all dressed it was only a matter of time to wait for the ceremony to begin. Now the rings would not get placed on the barge until the ceremony started (as to make sure no one in the gallery figured it out or they got lost!). Now just for safety, I did tie a yellow float to the pillows/rings just in case of worse case scenario.

When the time came, the best man signaled by acting as if he had LOST the rings! The gallery bought it as the next thing they see is a tug and barge working their way over to the ceremony with the rings on a silver platter. The reaction was priceless. Gasp, giggles laughter, applause! Now just had to stick the landing. Did so on the first attempt and the delivery made. But the job was not done at that point. Rushed the tug/barge back to where I was (off to the side) for phase 2 of the operation. Untie the barge from the hip to take it on the wire. Clear the deck of all flowers and delivery

equipment to install a "just married" banner, fireworks (on the stern) and a couple of "cans" behind the barge. With every thing installed at Indy 500 speed, was time to set sail just after the "I Dos" and the couple presented to the gallery. As they made their way out, fireworks were lit and the banner began its tour around the pond to the sound of applause and laughter. All in all, it was a great time. It was rewarding to have people in the gallery come up and compliment on the great job of driving and creativity. The best compliment was from the bride and groom who appreciated all the effort for their big day considering that we had never met before. So here are a couple of the photos that I got before and after the ceremony.





Member Spotlight

By Dr. Ron

DAVE FERAY

Dave arrived on this planet in 1945 and grew up in Houston, Texas. He earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Texas A and M and launched his career in machinery engineering for the oil refining industry with his biggest project being a 25,000 horsepower air blower for a catalytic cracking unit.



It's not surprising that he is attracted to model boats as he has been around boating all of his life. His father had a 34 foot Chris Craft sedan cruiser which was destroyed by hurricane Carla in 1962. Dave owned small and large boats including a 42 foot Grand Banks and a 32 foot Albin. He chartered several times in the San Juan with friends. He was finally hooked on the Pacific Northwest while attending a refinery machinery meeting at the Cherry Point refinery. He decided to move to this area which he did after retiring last year after 24 years with Lyondell-CITGO. He spent 26 years with the Coast Guard Auxiliary doing search and rescue operations, with some of his time in education.

His modeling began 6 years ago with construction of a Model Slipways "Loyal Tender." While on a trip to Oregon he stumbled across the Tualatin Crawdad Festival fun float and was introduced to our club by Gordon Canney who let him run his tug. Because he lives in Lynden, he has been active in the Skagit R/C arm of our club and regularly attends their meetings. He has also become a member of the Burnaby club and is an active participant in their events.

His first project after moving to Washington was a Springer, the "Ginny D" which he constructed in his well equipped work shop. His most recent project is an LPG barge equipped with a pump in order to control ballast.

Dave was married to Ginny in 1968 and they have two children; a son 28 who is a sous chef in California and a daughter 37 who lives in Houston. Ginny has been very active in the culinary aspects of our regattas and The Foss Cup and always has a smile. Dave's other hobby is helping Ginny with their large flower garden.



Dave would like to see more of a pot luck food format for our functions. With a little planning this could be organized weeks ahead of the event. He suggested taking new members under the wing of one of our more seasoned members making sure that the newbie be contacted before meetings and events and to help them feel more welcomed to the group. Indeed, Dave and Ginny are great additions to our club and hopefully will remain involved for a long time in the future.

Fun Float September 7, 2008



Springer Polo Match September 19, 2008



Gracious hosts, Sandy and Dennis

