

NORTHWEST R/C SHIPMODELERS

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NEWSLETTER

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September 1995 Newsletter

SUMMER CALENDAR

Harbor Days	9/2	Capitol Lake
Contact Jerry Julian	360 943-7009	
North End meeting	9/7	Galaxy
North End float	Canceled	
South End meeting (Regatta organization)	9/14	Andy's
Foss Cup	9/17	Bellevue
Contact Mike Moor	206 838-3651	
Science Center	9/24	Seattle Cntr
Contact Mel Suelzle	206 486-1979	
South End float	9/28	L. Wapato

Send all news to **Steve O'Connell** for the next two months to Steve O'Connell

Meetings and Floats

August 3, 1995 North End Meeting

26 members including **Martin Zenge** showed up at "**GALAXY HOBBY**" for the August North End meeting. **Phil Northrup** had the helm.

Discussions included:

1. The need for a newsletter Editor.
2. Cancellation of the September North End Float.
3. Club Trailer. It sounds like we are going to acquire a hulk and rebuild it for a property trailer. **Ray Nelson** and **Tom Stevens** seem

to be in charge of this task. If anyone has trailer stuff or wants to help with this project, contact Ray, Tom, Phil or Andy.

4. **The Tidewater Regatta**
See Regattas section
5. **Burnaby Regatta "The Seaspan Cup"**.
See Regattas section
6. **Portland Fun Float**
August 26 & 27 Talwin Commons.
7. **THE FOSS CUP**
See Regattas section.
8. **Seattle Center Fun Float**
See Special Events

Show and Tell

Jason Milsom demonstrated a sound module chip removed from a Hallmark card. The chip will record up to 10 seconds, play back and amplify sounds input to it and sells for about \$4.00.

Robert Osmond brought in his carfloat and tug.

Keith Schermerhorn had several items including:

The DDG 54 fleet destroyer of the Arleigh Burke class,
a Beavis and Butthead patch from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk which was in Seattle for Sea Fair. and
A video of a kids regatta and tugboat show.

August 6, 1995 North End Float as reported by **Scott Baumann**

Anybody who saw the Sea Fair races knows it was WET! not really miserable, at least early in the afternoon, but definitely, slightly miserable.

The rain got worse as the afternoon went along, and you could tell who the serious

contenders for the Foss Cup will be. **Mike Lyon** with his fire boat and *Shelly Foss* maneuvering the pond. **Gordy's** superb little Lindberg tug, this is the little one, adapted from the Coast Guard tug not the bigger 14" Dispatch 9. Gordy deftly maneuvered the carfloat in and out of close quarters and moorages like a pro. **Robert Osmond's** hard-to-miss *Warwick* was showing off it's speed and kicking up enough wake to be a hazard to the mini-tugs. **Phil Northrup** with his new *Martha Foss* was out pacing Robert all the way.

All **Scott Baumann** had to show for this, his annual fun-float show up, was his tired old *Lindberg minesweep*. At least he finally figured out how to get it docked (sometimes).

Scott's contribution to the fun float was far more important than a mere boat. Scott brought a 5-poster rain canopy. It took about 20 minutes to set the thing up, by which time all were quite soaked.

NOTE:

Gordy Canney sent in a report on the float also. Gordy added **Mike Lyon** had a retrieval system for his *Shelly Foss* (preparation for the salvage event at the Foss Cup). Also, Gordy reported no candidates for the BPA at this float.

Thanks to **Gordy Canney** and **Scott Baumann** for their reports.

SPECIAL EVENT

Harbor Days

Northwest Tugboat "Funfloat" at

Capitol Lake in Olympia, WA

Saturday, September 2

This year The annual Harbor Days event will be a Fun Float, there will be some navigation and props set in the water. This event has historically brought folks from Spokane and Portland, so lets go. **Jerry Julian** said there is no plans for rain this year. Remember the float is just across the street from the Harbor Days events including displays, vintage

vessels of all sorts and tugboat tours dockside.

The Foss Cup

Preparation for the regatta is progressing very well with about 2 weeks to go. Here are some of the items accomplished:

The awards have been ordered, 1st, 2nd & 3rd place awards for four different tug classes, a **Sponsors Choice** award for the Foss management and judges to give at their discretion, and of course the take home award given for the **Foss Cup**. All skippers who register will receive a participation plate.

We have a chief judge, **Mr. Ray Crowley** (an unlikely name for a very senior Foss captain). Ray has been in the towing industry for over 30 wears and his commands included bringing the *Lindsey Foss* to Seattle from Louisiana. Ray is rounding up a few more Foss skippers to judge the salvage and barge towing, needless to say there will be no bs-ing these guys. Another judge, **Capt. Jim Martin** with 39 years of tugboat experience will be keeping score.

Steve Scalzo, Don Hogue and Pete Campbell are planning to attend the regatta. We hope we will be able to get these guys behind the sticks and try out the course.

The pond layout will include a breakwater made from a 50 foot section of oil spill boom borrowed from *Foss Environmental Services*.

Dan Sinstead of MCD will be on hand to run a boat or two, give moral support and provide one of his products for the door prizes. Also attending and providing door prizes is **Matt Lyon of Harbor Images**. Matt will be on hand taking orders for his 1996 tug calendars, and this year he has some special edition prints. Matt will have old calendars with great pictures for sale for \$3.00.

There are a few more door prizes in the works, but I don't have confirmation on them

yet. Remember, the door prizes are separate from the competition, anyone can win.

There will be some very interesting boats on hand this year. It will be worth it just to look at this years competition.

Leal Canstien from San Francisco will have several boats, the *Kuparuk River* and the *Snake River* are two well worth seeing. Jack Shetter from Spokane will have his big, highly detailed tug. This tug took second at Spokane in the big tug class, second only to Leal.

Ron Burchett and Brian Dean will have their two Z-Peller tugs *Seaspan Hawk* and the *Ruth M.* These tugs must be seen to be believed. Ron will also have the Seaspan log barge, he plans to do at least one log dump, two if time permits.

Who is doing What:

Here is a rundown of assignments for the regatta.

Judging Barge handling and salvage:
Foss Maritime.

In charge of setting up the waterfront: **Bud Lynn.** He will need help. If you have high waters please sign up.

Score keeping/ Registration & Freq. Control: **Steve O'Connell.** Very important and we could use several folks here.

Photography: **Phil Northrup.** Anyone can help with stills or video.

Set-up & take-down, as usual, if we all pitch in it will go much faster.

"SHIPS AHOY" Seattle Center Float

The Pacific Science Center is sponsoring a weekend event they are calling "SHIPS AHOY!". This event will be September 23-24 at Pacific Science Center. We are invited to hold a special fun float in the ponds near the Science Center buildings. They are having a number of boat oriented activities going on

and we are the featured event for Sunday the 24th. I'm told we have held a fun float here in the past and this will be an opportunity to do something different.

The fun float is scheduled from 11:00 - 4:00 and we need to have a respectable showing. The Science Center is making a healthy contribution to our treasury so we don't want to let them down. They plan to have R/C boats for public use (in another pond) so we could be a real big attraction and a chance to add significantly to our membership!!

This will be a fun event for the whole family. Some of the other events are:

Kayaking on the ponds
Knot Tying (some of us could learn something here)
Decoding nautical flags
Rubber Band Unlimited Cup (design and create you own milk carton race boat)
Center for Wooden Boats - building a boat on site
AG Industries - R/C sailboats demo (Saturday)
Seattle Canoe Club
Seattle Power Squadron - water safety information

The PSC will provided us with parking script for only 10 people as they want to encourage carpooling. I will have the parking script on a first come first serve basis.

The attached map (last page) shows the location where you can park and unload.

LETS KICK BACK AND RELAX WITH A NICE LEISURELY FUN FLOAT AFTER ALL THE STRESSFUL COMPETITIONS OF THE FOSS CUP. THIS WILL BE A NICE WRAP UP TO THE SUMMER AND NICE WEATHER IS GUARANTEED.

Mel Suelzle
486-1979

REGATTAS IN HISTORY

Tidewater Cup Tug Championships

The 1995 Tidewater Cup was a marked improvement from the 1994 Tidewater. The regatta was moved from Manitou Park to Medical Lake, a great improvement. Although there were a few weeds and the beach shore required wading to launch all boats, these were small problems.

The course was interesting, barges were provided for all tugs, judging was reasonable AND there was good food at the end.

From our club **Mel Suelzle, Joe & Mary Reidi, Wayne Martin, Vick Lanza, Jerry Julian and Mike Moor**. The distribution of brass was much more democratic than last year. Although we held our own, we did not sweep the field.

Vick Lanza took third place in the Medium size tugs with his *Shelly Foss*, **Mike Moor** took third in the Large tug class with the *Navigator*, and **Wayne Martin** took second in the small tug class with his *Isabel*.

The story starts here, **Leal Canstien** and his wife Jean strolled in from San Francisco with three tugs a comfortable shade tent. Lael's tugs the *Kuparuk River*, *Snake River* and a third and he swept the trophies in all three classes.

Leal if you are listening, you made your point.

Mr. Ray Hickey, CEO of Tidewater Barge Lines handed out trophies and participation pins. After the awards ceremony Tidewater sprung for a great B-B-Q dinner, delivered to the lake.

The whole day was very good, conversation, competition, good food and weather. A big thanks to Chief Parker and the boys in Spokane, who will be over in September for the Foss Cup.

Burnaby Regatta (Seaspan Cup)

It rained on Saturday, it rained on Monday, but Sunday was great, the weather and the event went very well.

The Burnaby scale event was mostly a funfloat, but the pond looked like it was set up for a regatta. Scale ships and boats of all descriptions were on the water, running buoys, passing through the swing bridge and parking at a variety of docks and warfs.

For the first year, Seaspan sponsored a tugboat competition, the **1995 Seaspan Cup**.

Ron Burchett and Brian Dean put together an interesting, innovative competition. Ron & Brian created a "low key" simple tug competition that was fun and challenging.

Tugs would be called by the dispatcher to do a job, moving a barge through a nav course and back to the dock. There was a plan to have single and team towing, however nobody tried the team event.

Because we were in Canada the favored method of moving the "scow" was by pulling on a short wire. One "Yank", **Jerry Julian**, with his little, old *Misuri* pushed a barge and placed first in his class.

Another of our boys bringing brass back from B.C. was Phil Northrup. Phil, with his nice, new *Martha Foss* (still in construction) pushed a barge through course and took 5th place. An interesting fact, Phil's tug had no bits, cleats or bollards installed at the time.

There was a Popular Choice Award which included all boats, the tugs and the scale boats. The winner was selected by vote of the skippers. And the winner is:

the *Tacoma*, built by **Jim Elder**. I don't know what the vote count was, but the *Tacoma* stood out on the lake like no other boat.

Also attending, but shut out of the winners circle was **Tom Stevens, Mike Moor** and **Keith Schermerhorn**. Keith had technical troubles pond side, I think it had to do with his ACE receiver. Tom spent all of Saturday fine tuning the *TeePee Creeper*, however a

steering problem decreased the tugs performance. **Mike Moor** left all of his boats at home and could be seen mooching transmitters from anyone who was not actively driving their boat.

Seaspan representatives who judged the competition also handed out awards for the winners. Seaspan caps and very nice sweatshirts with Seaspan Cup 95 embroidered on, were given away.

Two important lessons were learned about running a regatta that will be incorporated into the Foss Cup:

1. We will use a score sheet that does not require a computer to tally and total scores.
2. The "team" event was not popular, and will not be included in the Foss Cup as part of the formal judging. There will be opportunities for informal team operating.

Thanks for your efforts and your hospitality to **Brian Dean** and **Ron Burchett**.

ATTA-BOY

Have you seen the latest Scale Ship Modeler?

Notice any familiar names?

I'll make this quiz a little easier. There are feature articles and the entire cover devoted to **Andy Paris** and his work. Yea, I know Andy may be a little heavy handed on the throttle, but these articles were quite good. Lots of interesting facts about his Prinz Eugen and about some casting work he did for Bud Lynn. It isn't easy to write articles, much less to have them published in a nationally circulated Magazine.

Pick up a copy of Scale Ship Modeler and see for yourself.

Good article Andy, Atta-Boy.

BENT PROP AWARD

as reported by Robert Osmond

A nomination for **Tom "Abandon Ship" Stevens** was placed in the ring for his precision steering ability. Tom apparently drove his big tug into a concrete wall at high speed. Smooth Tom. Then some would-be rescue boat shoved Tom's boat under a locked boat house. I don't know how this adventure ended as Robert's notes stop here.

Also reported that **"Diving" Dave Basden** lost rudders, props and dive planes from one of his boats while at Bangor. How he lost these parts, and why Dave was at Bangor is also a mystery as the notes end here.

Not to, be to hard on Robert, but he didn't mention who (Tom or Dave) received the BPA.

WANT ADS

WANTED - A Newsletter Editor

FOR SALE- Amsterdam R/C boat kit with a plastic hull, 36 inches long. If your interested, contact Cliff Shaw.

THANKS

Newsletter contribution Thanks this month go to:

John Benthien, Ray Nelson and, Jerry Julian and of course Steve O'Connell.

Fair winds and calm seas