



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

September 2009

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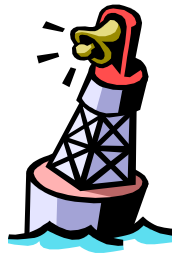
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Red Right Returning

By Randy Flodquist

Holy cow! I guess that would be India. We lift these expressions we use from all over the planet and from all times. It's deadline (another interesting term) time and I realize I haven't written my monthly scribble. I did a piece on Tualatin and one on Lake Jack. And then, oh gosh, another piece. What to say. Hmmm....

Well, it's September, my favorite month and the beginning of my favorite season, Fall, or Autumn if you will. The air freshens. And, being in the education racket for over forty years I still look upon this month as the start of the year; another season fresh with optimism. As model boaters in the Seattle area we still have Lake Bob on the twentieth and Fall Fisherman's Festival at the terminal on the twenty-sixth. Things are winding down.

We'll be back to the Center For Wooden Boats soon and it'll rain (we sure need it) and we'll have Pacific Marine Expo and a nice end of year dinner celebrating the year. And then it will be 2010. Seattle will have a new mayor and our club will have a new president. So September would be a good time to ask yourself if you'd like to spend a year or two trying to please some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time and promote the hobby we enjoy so much. I've kind of pushed the social aspects where we meet together to have fun. Soon it will be back to the twenty and forty hour rule. Hope to see you at the meeting on the third.





Upcoming Events

August

**31 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
(September meeting)*

September

- 3 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 20 Fun Float/ Springer Event
Lake Bob
- 26 Fall Fisherman's Festival
Fisherman's Terminal, Seattle

October

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

November

- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 5 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Fun Float
12:00 CWB Lake Union

**indicates a change in schedule*



Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Allan Wing

The August meeting started promptly at 7 pm with a small group of 18 in attendance. Vacations and a few people leaving early for Crawdad Festival in Tualatin . We had two guests who want to become members, Don Bowen and Mike Gullikson.

Randy opened the meeting with a discussion of last months meeting at Freemont Tug and Barge. It was a fun meeting and we all agreed that we should try and have more meetings like that in the future. Mel talked about the Tidewater Event in Spokane. His article appears in this months newsletter. Randy talked about the 4th of July event at the Center for Wooden Boats. There were a few models from our club but most were from others.

Bill McGee talked about the August Fun Float. There was a very small turnout and no one stayed too long because of the heat.

Randy said they expected about 20 club members and wives to be in Tualatin for the Crawdad Festival and that they would organize a group dinner.

There was a discussion of the Foss Cup. The entry fee will be \$5 per skipper and they were going to try and allow each skipper to run at least two boats. There will be a special raffle prize where the winner will get a ride on a Western Tug from Lake Union to the Duwamish for 4 people.

Randy announced there will be a memorial pot luck at Lake Jack for Jack Spore on Saturday August 22. There will be lots of leftover pop and chips from the Foss Cup.

Randy's final announcement before the break was that the date for the Fisherman's Festival will be September 26th not the 19th as previously reported in the newsletter.

After the break, we had our Show and Tell. First up was Bob Wickham and his boat, Amsterdam, he was showing his gravity davits. Next was Doug Wilson with his Coast Guard boat. He got it in Arizona some years ago and has reworked it to where it is ready to sail. Last was Dr. Ron with the mold he made for the fireboat Leschi. He described how he made the mold and how he plans to handle some sharp corners. Then he makes the hull. He then showed some work lights he made

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

by taking some small white LEDs and molding them in clear resin. Randy then showed a pair of small battery operated electric drills that Ben got for working on his boats. These drills were small but rather powerful.



Doug Wilson



Dr Ron



Bob Wickham

2009 Tidewater Cup - Mel Suelzle

July 25th was this year's Tidewater Cup in Spokane. Three members of our club attended this year's event, Al Kinsman, Zack Ripperger and yours truly. They joined about a dozen or so members from the Spokane Model Boat Club that hosts this event each year.

As usual, the event was held at a pond on the property of the local power company, Avista. This is a man-made pond that has many large rocks and a fountain that creates a most interesting and challenging event. The day's events included a Springer class event that required a skipper to take a barge through a complex course, weaving in and around a dozen or so large and unforgiving boulders. This course was the most fun and challenging navigation course I have ever run. It required precision maneuvering and anticipation in order to navigate smoothly and without leaving any paint on the rocks! I will likely take an extra Springer next year just so I can run this fun course twice! It's apparent I need more practice as I only managed a 4th place and all other awards for this event went to the locals. Al Kinsman did better by placing 2nd.

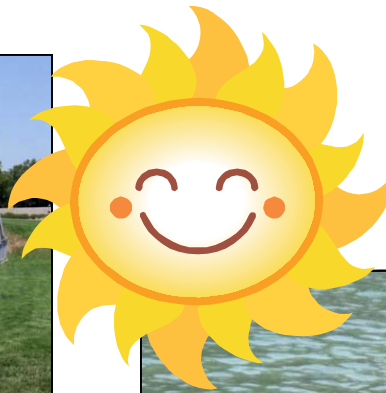
The Tidewater Cup event was a challenging barge navigation course and a salvage event that proved to be a little too challenging for all but the very smallest boats. Few boats were able to successfully complete it, so the Cup was largely determined by the navigation course. As usual, the crew from the West did well in this event. Al Kinsman took a 3rd and 4th place in the Large and Small Classes. 1st place awards went to Zack Ripperger in the small class with the Mustang. I took 1st place in the medium class with the Morgan Foss and Bob Barred of Spokane took 1st place in the large class. The scores were very close, but the highest score and the Tidewater Cup for 2009 was awarded to the Morgan Foss skippered by yours truly.



August Fun Float

By Allan Wing

Once again the August fun float was held the Sunday before the meeting to avoid conflict with the event in Tualatin. It was a bright and sunny day perhaps too sunny as the heat keep a number of people away and limited how long those did come stayed. I got a report from Bill McGee and Al Kinsman and pictures from Al. They arrived early as usual, There were about 8 members there shortly afternoon and left by about 3 because it was getting too hot. Doug Wilson had his reworked Coast Guard boat in the water for the first time at a fun float and it ran rather well. Next month the Fun Float will be Lake Bob (really Lake Goodwin at Bob Jacobsen's house)



Pictures by Alan Kinsman

FOSS CUP 2009

Dr. Ron

The Foss Cup this year was held on the 15th of August at the Bellevue pond with near perfect weather. Activity began very early in the morning with the erection of canopies and tables adorned with numerous models. While some were setting up, others were busy setting up the course. Our new member, Lee Stewart, loaded up his truck with items stored at Armadillo storage very early in order to get them at the site for those setting up the course. A number of items were brought by Tom Stevens, Keith Schermerhorn and the Flodquists. Ron Burchett, Ben Flodquist, Alan Kinsman, Lee Stewart, along with others set the course while Keith Schermerhorn and Randy Flodquist were setting up the nerve center for registration, frequency control, the raffle, and the computer system to tabulate the scores provided by the judges which were entered by Ed Mauer. In the meantime the galley was organized by Linda Flodquist and her crew serving breakfast featuring scrambled eggs, sausage, donuts, sweet rolls, juice and coffee. Following the skippers' meeting and several competitive runs lunch was served with chicken, baked beans, several salads, potato chip fruit, cookies and a variety of beverages.

While contestants were competing in barge handling navigation, docking maneuvers and salvage operations, Leif Bentzen was busy selling raffle tickets, which along with the generous donation made by Fremont Tug comprised the majority of the income for the day making the Foss Cup solvent. After the award ceremony the raffle was held. Lee Stewart won the huge Nanook hull and Alan Kinsman won the Gary King hull along with the brass bell and several other items. The Flodquists won the excursion with Western Tugboats.



After a great day of competition, chit chat and comradery the event concluded around 5:30 PM. Many stayed to help dismantle the canopies, tables, etc. and carry the items to the waiting trucks, trailers and vans. Some of the great barges were loaded into Tom Stevens's truck, Kevin Klock's and Keith Schermerhorn's trailers as well as a number of other vehicles. A fun time was had by all and it's a good thing no one obeyed their diet.

Winners

Foss Cup: Sue Newmyer from Chemanus, B.C.

Large scale

- 1st: Ben Flodquist
- 2nd: Mel Suelzle
- 3rd: Ian Cunningham

Medium scale

- 1st: Doug Gunter
- 2nd: Allan Kinsman
- 3rd: Mike Claxton

Small scale

- 1st: Sue Newmeyer
- 2nd: Doug Gunter
- 3rd: Pat Pluard

Vintage

- 1st: Keith Lingscheid
- 2nd: Roger Lyons
- 3rd: Kevin Klocke

Jr. Award

Matt Pluard

Sponsor's award

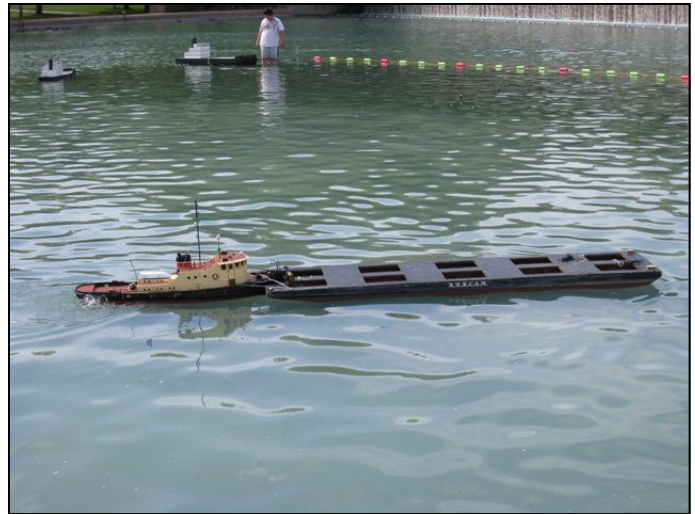
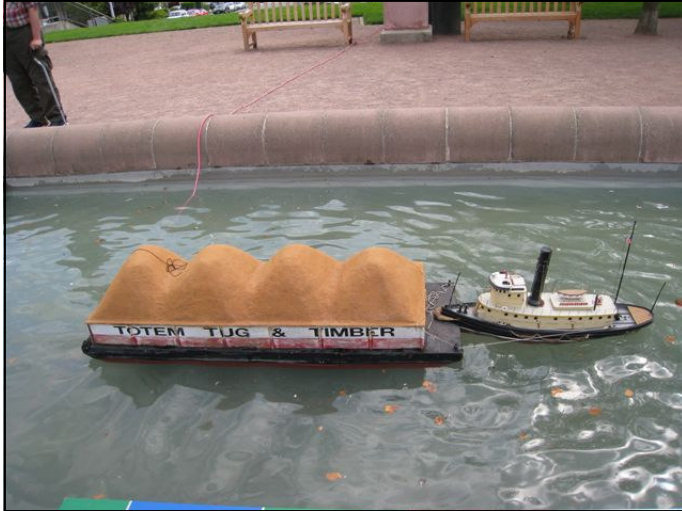
Mel Suelzle

Judges award

Ben Flodquist



Foss Cup 2009



Pictures by Dr Ron and Tom Stevens

The Winner



Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Keith Schermerhorn

Nice warm sunny evenings in the Pacific Northwest make it tough to be inside for a boat meeting. Never the less, we had 16 members in attendance for the shortened meeting. We began with coverage of the past months activities that included a fun float arrange by Gordon at the housing park he lives at. Len and Gordon were the only boats on the pond for the day, but they kept the crowd of 30 or more spectators entertained with their models. A few others were there minus their boats but still had a good time. Thanks to Gordon for making the arrangements and plan on doing another one there soon!

Wayne covered the workboat races that were held in Anacortes. Three classes of boats that included anything that works for a living. One of the better photos from this was between the Crowley tractor tugs racing. Kind of a dead heat as they raced at an equal pace. There was also entertainment and pirates to keep people amused.

Larry gave a quick up date on the sailboat racing that is taking place out at Cranberry Lake 2 times a week for the summer. More boats showing up all the time with some better and more organized racing going on.

We gave a quick rundown on the success of the auction at last months meeting that netted \$335.00 for the Alger Food Bank. Thanks to all that participated.

Looking forward, there was discussions on the upcoming Tualatin Crawdad Festival. For those going down, dinner on Friday and lots of boats to watch on Saturday. A call for some sailboats from the north was made if they would be interested in attending.

A bit of time was spent discussing the Foss Cup as it would be the bigger attended events for the month. Linda requested food items for the lunch. Keith reminded everyone to have their boats ready and that the set up was basically the same as last year. So there would be little change. And if this wasn't enough, there would be Burnaby the next day celebrating their 50th regatta. A date was set for the Captain Jack Spore Memorial fun float/ potluck to be held at Lake Jack on Saturday, August 22 at around noon in Alger WA. Brings boats to run in the pond, food items for the meal, and your memories of Jack to be shared with all there. Part of the discussion included having the cremated remains of Jack there. Was decided we would rather have photos to remind us of the smile that he shared with all when visiting. With that came a short, and amusing, conversation that included disasters with trying to spread a loved ones ashes out at sea and what you should and shouldn't do. Main thing to remember when spreading the ashes is to spread them down wind of where you are so that they don't "come back" to haunt you by "sticking" around. Be aware of the wave actions so that will not create an updraft either!

Going into September will be a few more weekends of fun before the indoor building season commences, starting with the BIMM show in Bellingham on Labor Day weekend, September 5&6. This will be the last show of the year at the museum, but is will not be the coldest show we have had there. This show moved to this particular weekend to make it easier for those that need to travel to come and get home with out needing to be in a rush. We will have the pool set up again for those that want to get some more practice in tight quarters. This is a static show/swap meet with no real awards (although we are working on that). Looking for models of Hovercraft, NOAA, and Vietnam area vessels to win some special prizes.

September 20th will be the return of the ever popular Lake Goodwin fun float at the home of Bob and Laurie Jacobson. Bob is one of the founders of the NW R/C Ship modelers over 25 years ago. Always a lot of fun on the lake and should be clear of the big power boats buzzing around that time of the year.

And for those that like to celebrate the working boats and the people who make a living from the

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

sea, there is the Fall Fisherman's Festival down in Seattle at Fisherman's Terminal. Tables and a canopy will be provided for those choosing to bring boats for the display and to run them in the harbor (fresh water). Lots of other activities to be happening that day as well with food, entertainment, and contest.

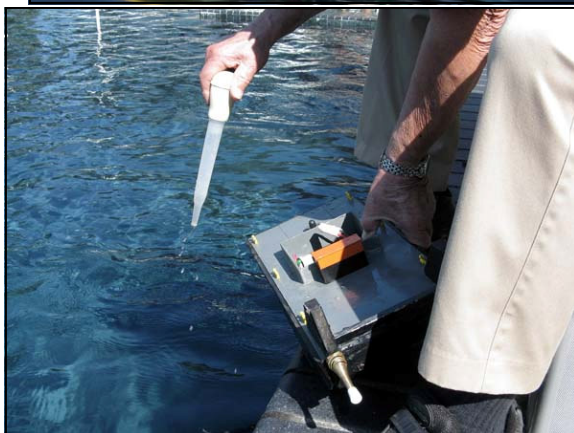
With no models to show off this month and all conversations exhausted, we packed up and called this evening over with and headed to our own home ports. Thanks to Dusty for providing the refreshments this month.

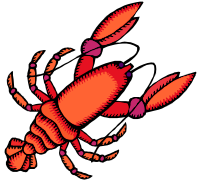
******Special note Septembers meeting at the PUD will be on Monday the 30th of August as there is a scheduling issue in September.*******



POLO EVENT BY ALLAN WING

Dennis Chinn had another Springer polo event at his house and pool. It was held Thursday, August 20, from 10 AM to noon. The weather was perfect and we managed to have eight boats. We had trouble finding 8 skippers till Lee Stewart agreed to try his hand at running a boat. We played several games and it seemed like we were starting to get some real team work. Earl Anderson's two boats dominated the field and when mechanical troubles reduced the number of boats running to 7, we decided that Earl should be on the side with only three boats. He still managed to score several points even when outnumbered. It is interesting that Mel and Dennis have built Springers with the same running gear and layout as Earl's but have been unable to get the performance. It was a fun day and we went till almost noon when most of our batteries started to run low.





CRAWDAD FESTIVAL

By Randy Flodquist

It grows. Randy, Linda and Ben, Phil, Gordy and Linda, Mel and Ginny, Dennis and Sandy, Scott and Claudia, Dave and Ginny, Al, Ron and Barb, Ed, Lee and Christy, Keith and Barb, and Roger represented NWR/C SM at Tualatin on the Commons at the Crawdad Festival on 8 August. Most of us arrived Friday and enjoyed an alfresco dinner at Hayden's like we did last year. The next morning the festivities got underway with the Portland club hosting and providing a nice lunch. Thank you Noel and crew. They invited in the high-speed hydro planers, sail boaters, including the Senior-Footie.com group, submariners, and all kinds of model boaters who demonstrated their skills for a crowd that continues to grow each year. All were well received and many were excited when two tugboats got to rescue the BISMARCK. Aimee and Phil worked very hard and ran great events including navigation and pulling a grounded barge off a reef. The latter got quite exciting.

The night float was fun and Aimee's buoy markers lovely but most of us being geezers with iffy vision, the competition was cancelled and we just ran around in the dark. But, it was a great day and we enjoyed it all, even the longer parade (next year I believe we could don our jackets and hats and join the parade doing close order drill carrying our transmitters). As we left for home or the coast the next morning we looked back on a pleasant weekend of perfect weather, nice friends, fun boating, and promptly reserved our rooms for 2010.



Pictures by Lee Stewart

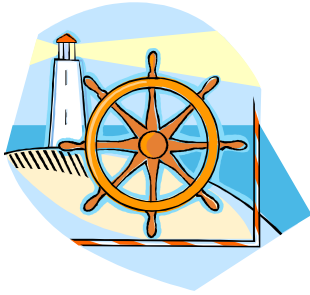
Jack Spore Memorial

By Randy Flodquist

Saturday, 22 August saw Denny and Bruce Spore welcome eighteen of us to the sylvan beauty of Lake Jack. The weather was perfect, the potluck lunch great, and the visits enjoyable. With INDY pulling hard Ben toured the pond in Jack's skiff. Larry sailed his lovely red sloop, Mel and Al navigated, and Tom and Wayne took lots of pictures. Everyone had such a good time it was suggested that we might do it again; indeed, put it on the calendar as a yearly event and tribute to remember our friends Jack and Jo Spore.



Pictures by Wayne Martin



Member Spotlight **By Dr. Ron**

LARRY STILES

Larry was born in 1946 and raised in Oakland, California. Following high school he went to Laney College in Oakland and graduated in electronic engineering. He went to work for IBM and retired after 28 ½ years. For four years he worked on boat repairs and then took a couple of years off. After 911, he went back to work as a maintenance technician for TTM (circuit board plating) and Advanced H2O (a bottling company). He next went to work building boats for Pacific Mariner, San Juan Yacht and Northern Marine until 2 months ago.

He ran into Leonard Bainter at the Anacortes festival 9 years ago, ran one of his boats and got hooked and reeled into the hobby of modeling and running small boats. He joined the club and started with a Dexter tug followed by a scratch built Hoga Tug with incredible detail from a great deal of research and a visit to the actual tug in the Bay area. Recently, he has been involved in sailing one meter sail boats and participates in weekly races on Cranberry Lake by Deception Pass.

His other interests include motor cycling and picture framing for his wife's paintings.



Picture by Ron Bray