



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers
Seattle, Washington, USA

August 2019

Look Ahead Events

New Meeting Locations & Time!

AUGUST

- 10 Portland Regatta 9 AM to 5 PM
- 17 Tug Championship, Bellevue 9 to 4
- 31 Twilight Fun Float, Bellevue 7 PM to 9 PM

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Meeting at Senior Center, Mountlake Terrace 7 PM**
- 7 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond (Springer) 9 am
- 14 Lake Scott Barbeque & Fun Float
- 21 Fishermen's Memorial 11 AM to 6 PM

OCTOBER

- 3 Meeting at Senior Center, Mountlake Terrace 7 PM**
- 5 Fun Float at Bellevue Pond 9 AM

NOVEMBER

- 7 Meeting at Senior Center, Mountlake Terrace 7 PM**
- 9 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9:00 AM

DECEMBER

- 5 Holiday Dinner at Spaghetti Factory

More events information is provided on calendar page later in the newsletter and,

Check our website for the latest updates at www.shipmodelers.com



From The Wheelhouse

Mel Suelzle



The summer months bring our most active period for model boating. Appropriately, our busy time started with the Opening Day Float at the Seattle Yacht Club in May. June kicked off with our own Regatta and a busy July of local events at the Bellevue Park

Pond. Our activity ramps up significantly in August as many are participating in in the Portland Regatta on August 10th. This event has been well attended by our members since the beginning, 19 years ago. After Portland, we rush home to prepare for the Tug Regatta on the 17th which returns to Bellevue after several years in Bellingham. After this event on Saturday, some will pack and head to Vancouver, B.C. for the Burnaby regatta on the very next day. **See the flyers on pages 9 & 10 for more information on these events.**

These inter-club events have a special place in our schedule and we should encourage full attendance of our members. Our hobby is undergoing fundamental changes. Hobby shops such as Galaxy Hobby were once a place for members to meet and share experiences and build comradery within the group. They also served as locations for potential new members to meet club members. This provided an informal method to introduce future members to our hobby helping our clubs grow in number and enthusiasm. As these brick and mortar stores disappear and more commerce becomes web-based our personal interaction also diminishes. Therefore, our special events gain in importance for our clubs to grow and survive in the future. With our members participating in other clubs events, especially in the Pacific Northwest, we can build relationships that benefit the long term success our all our

clubs. Experiencing how other clubs operate and celebrate their hobby can only help each club improve in ways that will enhance their own club operations to benefit our hobby and its members.

I believe we need to further strengthen our relationships with all other similar clubs in the Pacific NW. I would like to initiate a position within our club that would be responsible to liaise with all other NW clubs. The primary focus of this function would be to keep tabs on what is going on in other clubs and share key information within our club and likewise share our club information with them. Once we have the function better defined, we could suggest the other clubs consider a similar function within their respective clubs. I plan to raise this subject at the September meeting and get member feedback on this concept. If someone would like step forward to further define the role of this function, please let me know.

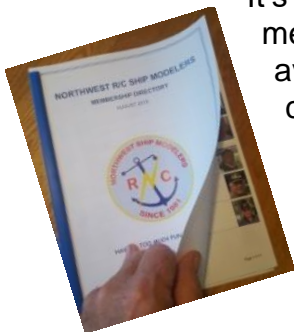
Finally August finishes with a Twilight Fun Float at the Bellevue Pond. It this event we get to show off all those lights we've spent so much time installing on our boats. Previous twilight events have proven to be very popular for park visitors enjoying a pleasant evening at the Bellevue pond. Plan to be there on August 31st from 6-9 pm.

August does not end our summer activity. In addition to our usual meeting & fun float, we will have our annual Fun Float and Barbeque on September 14th at the home of Scott & Claudia Baumann. Scott & Claudia live on Lake Tapps, near Puyallup, WA. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this fun event. The following weekend, our club will participate in the Fisherman's Festival at the Fisherman's Terminal in Ballard. This show and go event is always a popular venue for members to show off their boats, both on the tables and on the water if they choose. The attendees always enjoy our boats and ask lots of questions. This is a full day event so please plan to attend.

As reported previously we only have two more meetings before we need to elect officers for next year starting in January. No one has stepped forward for the club president position to assume the slot that I will vacate after the December dinner meeting. The club is running well, with several new active members and excellent attendance at our events. It would be disappointing to lose our momentum due to a lapse in leadership. Again, I urge you to consider serving the club in this capacity. It is often been described as a lot like "herding cats", but they are very friendly cats (for the most part) and are always ready to assist and support leadership to the benefit of the club.

Membership Directory Updates

It's been a year since we have distributed our membership directory with full member information and photos for the first time. A full new issue will be available to members in electronic (PDF) format before the end of the year. In consideration for member privacy, this information will not be published on our website. Hard copies will not be available as members can print their own copies locally. If members would like to make any changes to their information or photos, please send the information (photos in JPG format) to mel123@suelzle.com.



Mel Suelzle



June 11th, 2019 Meeting Minutes

By Ron “Doc” Bray and additional notes by Robert Osmond

Photos by Robert Osmond

AUGUST 2019

On a very warm, balmy night, our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, called 13 of us to order and showed videos of the Thursday fun float at the Bellevue pond. **Robert Osmond** brought in a fan which he placed near the rear door to help cool it down.

Show and Tell started with Mel showing some period ship model kits he acquired from a person who donated three unbuilt or partially built models along with books, tools and a tool caddy. Mel encouraged someone to take them home and organize them as pieces and parts were all together in one box.



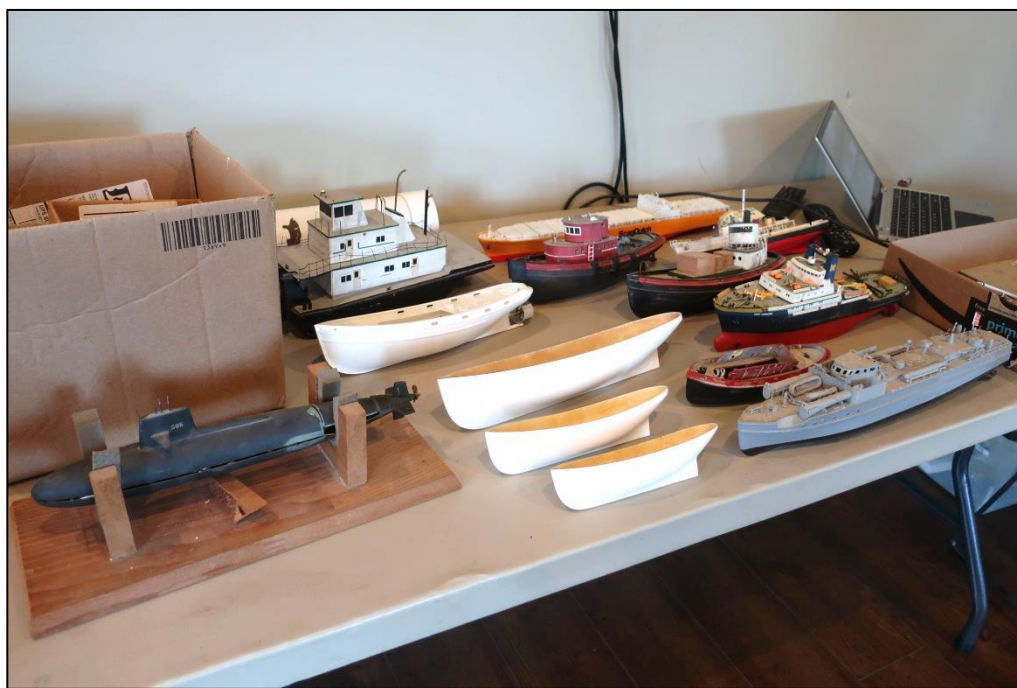
Next, **Rich Goodrich** showed plans of a motor run about, a sternwheeler push tug, a Carole Moran tug and a Brooklyn tug which he stated that they were up for grabs. He showed a clever way of storing his sailboat rigging in a 4 inch plastic plumbing tube with a hook on the end so he can hang it from the ceiling. He presented his $\frac{3}{4}$ inch Springer and the progress he is making. It is very stout. If he had 3 more he could use them for jack stands for his pickup, just kidding. When we play polo after Tualatin and the Tug Regatta, watch out for his “Dreadnaught” springer which could use ramming speed like a Roman Trireme and sink opponents!



Jon McCool just finished applying epoxy to his Zipkit’s Tugster twin screw kit and is celebrating his first-year anniversary with the club.

Robert Osmond brought a box full of miniature tubs and hulls he has built over a lifetime. Among these are a small skipjack submarine, tow boat made from thin marine plywood, a Smit Rotterdam, Calypso, Japanese container ship, Schnell boat, a new Lindberg tug kit, a Revel harbor tug kit and three fiberglass tug hulls from Microglass. He fashioned a functioning semisub from ladies’ hose containers.

(Additional notes by Robert Osmond) -- I am showing nine small radio controlled model boats that I built from 1983 through 1989. They range in sizes from the container ship and Schnell boat at 18", to the 11" Skipjack submarine, and down to the 8 ½" Harbor tug. Eight of them were plastic models that I converted to RC operation. The Tow boat is my design made of thin aircraft plywood, I used to push 2" x 4" barges with it. I also showed 5 new tugs I am building; they are all white in the photo. Back in 1983 you could buy a Futaba 2 channel stick radio which came with a receiver, two servos and a receiver battery pack with an on/off switch all in a box for \$49.00. I would take one servo apart to use as the motor to drive the boat and make a small modification to the wiring by adding an adjustable pot to give variable forward and reverse speed. In some of the boats I would buy the smallest servo available to use for the rudder since a standard servo was too large and heavy. I made stuffing boxes and shafts and on some of them I made my own propellers. On others I used the plastic prop from the kit, and several have Kort nozzles I made. Some of these boats needed tiny batteries to float and fit, some have 1/3 AA batteries and some have ½ AAA batteries, all were NiCad batteries. I put high combings on the tugs and tow boat so that even waves that washed over all of the deck did not get inside. The boats in the photo are: A Skipjack submarine, Schnell boat twin screw, orange container ship, a small lighter, two red tug boats, Smit London tug twin screw, tow boat, and the Calypso which had a small helicopter suspended above the landing pad on a thin wire and a shark on a wire following the boat in the water. I used to also have a Gato class submarine and a custom modern tug but they were too broken (all the boats were broken when we had a flood and the movers just dumped them in a box). I used to loan the tugs to children to run, they had a great time at regattas and run for 3 to 4 boats all day on one set of batteries. Tiny boats are "good", you can also run them in the tub when you are tired. The smallest tug can run inside my 9' liberty ship and make "U" turns. (Thanks Robert for the notes.)



Following a break, **Rich Goodrich** volunteered to take the unfinished kits that Mel acquired and organize them into their respective kits and then bring them to a future meeting for someone to build or offer them as door prizes. The treasurer's report was given and accepted by the membership. Mel then proceeded to update upcoming events with this Saturday's fun float, Portland Regatta, the tug regatta, night float, Fisherman' Festival, and the BBQ at **Scott Baumann's** home on Lake Tapps on the 14th of September.

Before adjourning, raffle items were won by: **Brian Morse, Dave White, Jon McCool (twice), Robert Osmond and Rich Goodrich**. The room was reorganized and the chairs stacked and stowed before heading out the door.

NWRCSM's New Club Meeting Location**Dates: Thursday, September 5th****Starting time: 7:00 PM****Location: Senior Center at Mountlake Terrace,
23000 Lakeview Dr.,
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043.**

Directions - The MLT Senior Center is located at 23000 Lakeview Drive. This facility is located in the northwest corner of Lake Ballinger just west of the park on the northeast corner where we often held our fun floats when Bellevue was closed for the winter.

-The best access to the Senior Center is off of highway 99, turning eastward on 228th. 228th turns into Lakeview Drive. From 99 the entrance is on the right about a ¼ mile from highway 99.

-From I-5 Southbound, Take the 220th street exit, continue west to highway 99 turn south and then left at 228th.

-From 1-5 Northbound, take the 236th Street off ramp, turn left head west on 236th. 236th becomes Lakeview drive. Go past the first park entrance to the west park/ball field complex.

The Senior Center is within the park complex. Entering off of Lakeview Drive, turn left after the entrance driveway and continue to the rearmost building. Parking should be plentiful. Enter up the stairs and continue to the rear of the building. Our meeting room is at the end on the right side with the great view!

Check club website calendar for
future monthly meeting locations.

Fun Float – August 3rd

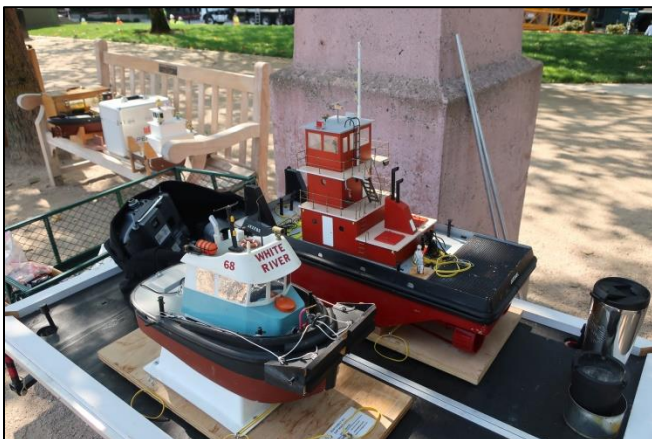
By Robert Osmond
Photos by Robert Osmond

We had a very good turnout with fourteen showing up (Doug and his son missed the photo Op).

It was good to see **Bill McGee** running boats again. He also came over last month from Cle Elum, WA, to run boats.



We had **Dave Green** running his sailboat and tug boats. **Doug** and his son running a fast white speed boat, **Fred Row** and **Richard** under their red umbrella running their boats, **Dave White** with his tug boats, **David Kentala** running his tug, **Mel** with his tug and Red Bull towboat, **Richard** with his Atlantic, **Steve O'Connel** with is tugs and his friend **Dan** who seemed to like running rc boats for the first time. **Norm Mayo** came by to check out the action and visit, and I had my surfer and Pacific Tug boat.





No boats needed rescuing and there were no attacks by the rowdy group of ducks which stayed on their side of the pond. It was sunny and warm but not hot. There were parking spaces in the lower parking lot all morning! There must have been other family activities to occupy the local people that usually fill the parking lots, which was good for us.



I brought bricks and a dock and one gate for people to practice their navigation for the upcoming events. I met a grandfather and his grandson and let the grandson run my Pacific (with the speed turned down to 30%) it was amazing how quickly he learned to run the boat, he spent most of his time practicing



steering through the gate and got quite good in just a little while. The grandfather said that they might build a boat since his grandson had so much fun running the boat. He does know how to work with tools and has worked with robotics and CNC machines. Who knows, maybe we will have a new young member. They live so close that they walk to the pond.



Time to start checking your list for Tualatin and the Tug Regatta, **we would like to see a large turnout for the Tug Regatta, since it will be back at our pond for the first time in several years! Hooray!**

Skagit R/C Ship Modelers -- North End Report ...

By Keith Schermerhorn

With the summer time events and holidays, you won't see a lot of news from the Skagit club's breakfast meetings until this fall. But a couple of reminders of the events coming up:

Tug event on the August 17th in Bellevue for all the tug skippers. It is an all day tug and salvage work to see who has the skills to be the best for the year.

And for those that didn't get enough fun—head up to the BAMB (Burnaby, BC, Canada) event on Sunday the 18th. For those that have never been there it is nice to see a parks department that works with a long time club and has a great place for them to play and have a meeting space pond side!

Pacific Northwest Tug Regatta – August 17th

Well, for all the tuggers in the Pacific NW, August 17th is your day to come and compete to see who has the skills to take home the coveted award and bragging rights for the next year. The event will be back at the Downtown Park in Bellevue, WA, and will be all day long with events starting at 10 am. Registration should be opened by 8:30, so everyone will not need to be in a big rush to get registered before the start. The events of the day will feature navigation and salvage with your favorite tug(s) and if we can get everyone's cooperation—a tugboat parade of models to start with! You will be able to register up to three boats for the cost of \$10.00, but we will not be advancing through the second and 3rd boats until all the first boats have finished. Boats will be broken into the following classes: Small—under 15 pounds, Medium— 15 to 30 pounds, Large— over 30 pounds, Vintage— old boats/long and skinny open rudder/props (not modern), and Masters (previous winners — 1 award only). Navigation is done with a barge taken any way the skipper is comfortable with (on the wire, pushing, notched, on the hip). The skippers ARE RESPONSIBLE for tying up their own vessels and may ask for assistance if needed. Salvage is done by capturing a derelict vessel of appropriate size and returning it to the dock after navigating through some obstacles. And if that isn't enough, you must make a precision landing at the dock by pinning the vessel on the bullseye in first try! Now there will be raffle prizes, lunch, and plenty of fun for all. We welcome all barges of all sizes to be used, but it is recommended to take a barge that is much bigger than your boat, preferably 3-4 times its size if available. Like any event, there are always opportunities to help the day of. Particularly at salvage, returning boats back to their moorage, set up/tear down, and assisting others if needed getting boats in and out of the water. We will be there at 7 am to get the work part started and secure parking for the event. Many thanks to those that support this event and we hope to see a lot of tugboat skippers, tugs, and people out to have fun and at least try this. If you have any questions, please contact me at the numbers below.



Here is the list of the events we are participating in in 2019 in the North End:

- Pacific NW Tug Regatta, August 17, Downtown Park, Bellevue, WA – Start time 10:00 am
- BAMB Regatta, August 18, Central Park, Burnaby, B.C. Canada
- Sea Fest, Sept. 21, Squaticum Harbor, Bellingham

Keith Schermerhorn, 360-306-1165 (leave a message), wscherm@fidalgo.net

Please join us! This event is free to the public and all are encouraged to come and enjoy the day

Events begin at 10:00
August 17th, 2019
Downtown Park
Bellevue, WA

24th Annual Pacific Northwest R/C Tugboat Regatta



Pacific Northwest R/C Tugboat group will be hosting the 24rd annual tugboat regatta on August 17th at Downtown Park in Bellevue, WA. This is one of the premiere events in North America with contestants coming from Washington, Oregon, California, Canada and other locations to operate and show their model boats. This daylong event requires skippers to run r/c tugboats in a scale like manner performing tug work, which includes barge handling and salvaging derelict vessel. The event is a friendly competition to show off your skills and to find out who is the best skipper around! Skippers will be judged by actual tugboat captains, who have been in the business for years.

Contact Information

Keith Schermerhorn
Phone: 1 (360) 306-1165
E-mail: wschrem@fidalgo.net

GOODIES

Lunch for skippers and guest will be provided. There will be raffle drawings throughout the day with grand prizes given out near the end of the event. Prizes donated by maritime companies and hobby supporters.



Burnaby Association of Marine Modellers

60th Annual Regatta



BAMM 2019 Regatta
Sunday August 18 2019 9am to 3 pm
Burnaby Central Park Pond
Steering Course, Towing Course,
Pleasure Boats, Work Boats, Steam
Boats, Sailboats.

2019 Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Events Calendar

MARCH

7 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 6:00 PM
 9 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9:00 AM

APRIL

4 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 6:00 PM
 6 Fun Float at Bellevue Pond (Springer) 9 AM to Noon

MAY

1 Opening Week Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 AM to 3 PM
 2 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 6:00 PM
 4 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9:00 AM

JUNE

6 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 6:00 PM
 8 39th Annual Model Boat Regatta
 at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9 AM to 4 PM
 20 Coffee Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 11:00 AM

JULY

11 Meeting at Senior Center, Mountlake Terrace 7:00 PM
 13 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9:00 AM
 25 Coffee Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 11:00 AM

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3 Meeting at **"To Be Determined"** 7:00 PM
 5 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Pond 9:00 AM

NOVEMBER

7 Meeting at **"To Be Determined"** 7:00 PM
 9 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9:00 AM

DECEMBER

5 Holiday Dinner at Spaghetti Factory 6:30 to 9 PM

Check our website .at www.shipmodelers.com for latest calendar updates, address, and maps to events, and other past newsletter issues, and other club information







NWRCSM's Club Meeting Location Change:

Dates: Thursday, September 5th

Starting time: 7:00 PM

Location: Senior Center at Mountlake Terrace,
23000 Lakeview Dr.,
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043.



2019 Club Officers		
	President: Mel Suelzle	Treasurer: Dave White
	Vice President: Ron Bray	Webmaster: Allan Wing
	Newsletter Editor: Paul Williams	Wellness Committee: Tom Stevens
	Membership and Database: Bryan Morse	Skagit R/C Meeting Contact: Keith Schermerhorn