



# The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers  
[www.shipmodelers.com](http://www.shipmodelers.com)

September 2023

## Look Ahead Events

### OCTOBER

- 5 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 7 Fun Float at Bellevue Pond 9 am

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 4 Fun Float at SYC 9 am

### DECEMBER

- 2 Meeting at The Facility 7 pm
- 4 Fun Float at SYC 9 am

More events information and updates on calendar page later in newsletter and check our club's website for latest updates.



Read more about members' projects.

## From the Bridge Steve Sunich

First, I need to apologize for the late newsletter. Things have been hectic and I needed to spend some time on my "one to one" and do some fly fishing with some R&R.



Next month might be the same as I will be in and out all month. So, I can't believe we are almost out of the regatta season already. The September fun float is long gone and the only big thing left is the Fisherman's Fall Festival which will be over by the time this newsletter comes out.

We have one more fun float at the Bellevue Pond and then we move over to Seattle Yacht Club for the winter floats starting November 4.

I still am amazed with the boats that have been coming out of the woodwork. As seen in this newsletter, there are many members participating in many events. I will definitely add them to my calendar for next year.

Thanks to all that write articles, submit pictures and attend the events. August and September were great R/C boating months!

Our meetings are continuing with great show and tells. I would encourage anyone with any kind of project to bring something to talk about at the meetings. I have learned so much and got so many ideas from members presenting their boats and tools and tricks and tips. Remember, there is a computer projector if you just want to show pictures.

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## Meeting Minutes 9/7

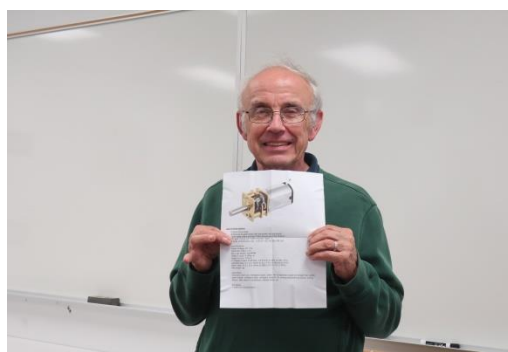
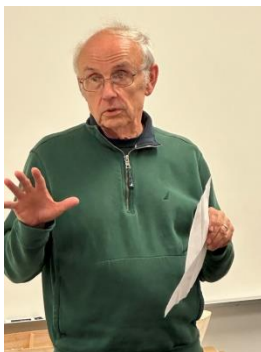
By Steve Sunich

Photos by Allan Wing and Robert Osmond



Once again, a great meeting on September 7th at The Facility Makerspace at Edmonds Community College's Monroe Hall in Lynnwood, WA. **Steve Sunich** gave a quick financial recap and dates for the next events. He took a poll of who might attend the Fall Fisherman's Festival for September 30. Name tags and business cards were discussed and, hopefully, we can get some soon.

We went on to Show & Tell.



**Alan Wing** kicked it off with the noodle boats that were built and available for kids to use at the last regatta. He explained how they were governed with a wood block so they can't go too fast. He is working with batteries. Right now they are 7.4 nickel. He also talked about props and boat speed. Double the prop size or RPM does not double the speed. Steve mentioned that on his one-to-one that getting another knot doubles the fuel consumption. Show and Tell dependable

**Dave Green** brought frames from a light ship he showed us last fall. He decided to finish it. It is mostly balsa and he will fiberglass inside with one coat of resin outside. He showed us some fiberglass matt that goes on with no bumps and was giving it away to the lowest bidder.



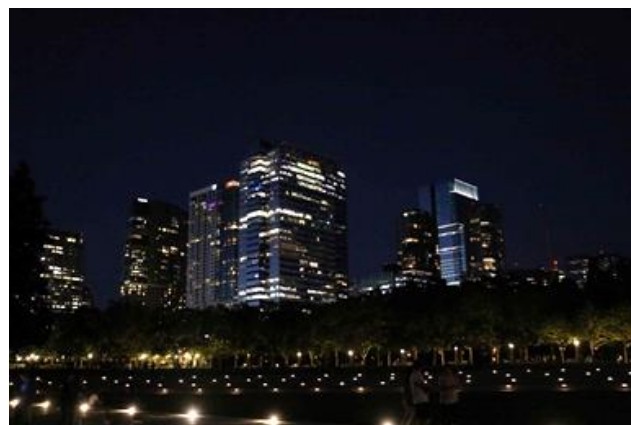
## Twilight Float at Bellevue Downtown Park

(Chris Merrill and Allan Wing each submitted an article.)

Photos were by Darlene Wing, Allan Wing, and Robert Osmond

### Night Float Wednesday August 16, 2023

By Chris Merrill



The Northwest RC Ship Modelers held a Night Fun Float on Wednesday August 16, 2023 at the Bellevue Pond in Bellevue, Washington. We had quite pleasant weather by the evening as the tree shade came before sunset. No popup tents were required. Our member turnout was smaller than daytime floats since this was a mid-week event, but we had the bonus pleasure of a large dance group using the Pond plaza at the same time with music for all to enjoy. Our activities went well and there were many park visitors stopping by to ask questions and see our models in action.

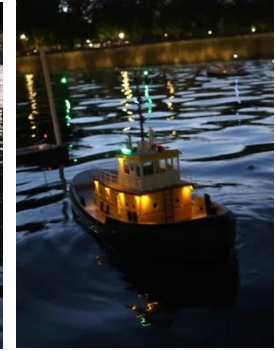




**Robert Osmond** brought a lighted docking pier with son John assisting. I brought and set up the club's buoys so there was navigational fun to be had. The noodle boats were also available to attract interested folks. One boat was dry docked for propulsion issues. We had plenty of battery power for this event. Many members came with more than one ship and people enjoyed the display of lighted models on the pond and asked questions. Everyone was busy driving their models, so no official group photo was taken. I kept my waders on all evening and never climbed out of the pond until after closing the event down. Pictures were taken by Robert and the Wings. Thanks to them all!



There were different types of models being driven by our members, most were tugs. New member **Robert Newell** came with his hand-crafted *Soul* speedboat with Joe as the driver which amazingly he modified since the Regatta on August 5th into a cabin cruiser with running lights and inside cabin lighting through some portholes. It was very nice looking and quite quick on the water. **Allan Wing** had his tug and **Dave Green** brought his Coast Guard ship. There were two of the RTR River Patrol boats and I shared the larger battery so he could see how much faster the twin motors ran. I also had my Harbor tug boat to spray water if needed.



I had put in a new motor with heat sink fins in my blue PT boat and hoped to “hot rod” around before it got dark (as it did not have running lights yet). The testing was very brief when the nylon propeller split on one side and left the boat dead in the water. That was just one of the reasons I kept the waders on! Oh well, it is always something and should be an easy fix.



I admit to hauling many more things than may be needed for a Fun Float event and was glad to have the help of some members to haul everything back to my vehicle after retrieving the buoys and boxing things up. We were the last to leave after about 9:30 pm.

In summary, the weather was comfortable, fun was had by all who had a model in the water and the park was full of friendly folks from the dance group. Looking forward to our next event on the water and monthly meeting in September.

## Night Float Wednesday August 16, 2023

By Allan Wing

Wednesday night the Northwest RC Ship Modelers had a scheduled Night Float where we run our boats into the after dark hours in Bellevue, Washington. All the boats running after dark have lights so they can be seen. It was a very warm evening and we had

several of our members who showed up before dark. We had a good turnout with both lighted and unlighted boats running before sunset. We had the Noodle Tugs available and a few kids enjoyed running one of them.



There was a large group of people gathered to do group salsa dancing, this provided entertainment and a large crowd of people with more interest in our boats and people asking many questions.



Robert Osmond brought his lighted dock and we had lighted buoys. This provided a great display and allowed us to run our boats well into the darkness and practice navigating in the dark.



The lights on the boats ranged from extra lights that showed off the boats to minimum navigation lighting. The people watching from the shore were fascinated by both.

The float lasted until 9:30 pm. Even at that time of night it was still very warm. We all packed up our boats, docks and buoys. The crowds started to diminish, the Salsa dancing had stopped and we were all getting tired. It was a nice float with lots of public interest.

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## Fun Float and “Springer Polo” Event at Bellevue Downtown Park September 16, 2023

By Robert Osmond

Photos by Darlene Wing, Allan Wing, Robert Osmond



Thirteen brave skippers braved a perfect summer day to run boats and play Springer Polo at Bellevue Downton Park, WA. We really should call it Springer Rugby. I think we will in the future.

**Fred Row** had his new lobster boat out and was having a little drive problem, **Richard Bizier** said he had an idea on an operation from the outside of the bottom of the boat to fix this. The boat was a raffle prize partly finished.

Richard had his sternwheeler boat, an RC duck (minus quack and poop), and a very fast new red, green and blue springer. **Lee Buse** had his half scale springer that he 3D

printed and a barge out at the pond. They both looked very nice on the water. I did not get any photos before he quit running them, "next time".



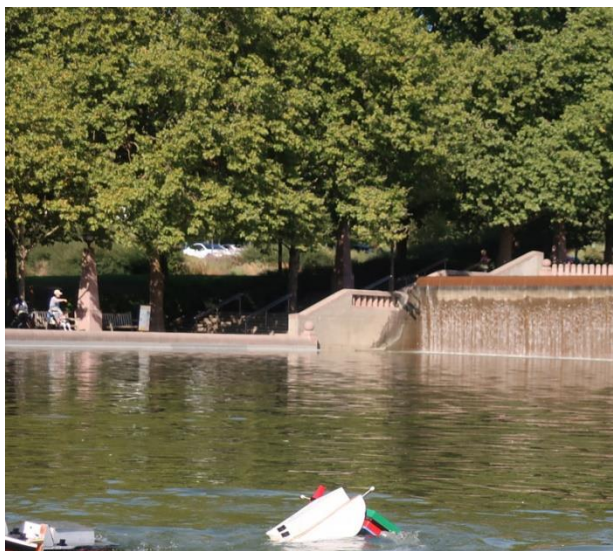
**Robert Newell**, his wife **Margie** and their friends **Greg** and **Lisa** had Robert's *Soul* and a brand new 1/25 scale car ferry out on the pond. It is a very nice-looking ferry with (3) plastic model cars on the deck, a 1960 custom Ford, a 46-48 custom GM car (no emblems left) and a Studebaker Hawk, all made by a friend of his.



**Dan Limon** was there with his *Fairplay* tugboat. **Richard Goodrich** had his angry duck, a new twin drive springer with twin Kort nozzles and Becker rudders. **Allan and Darlene Wing** brought the noodle boat for kids, a Foss Tug and a red springer. **Bill Heath** had his



*Li'l Flame* large tug out. This has a very striking and attractive and creative paint scheme; he took First at Hobby Expo with this boat. **Kevin Nolet** had his *Sarah E* out on the pond. He has just made some wiring changes where he is using spring loaded contacts for the wiring in the superstructure. This is a great idea; they save having to plug wiring from the hull into the superstructure and are easier to use than the multipoint plugs used on some boats in the club.



We had 7 springers playing soccer, soon to be renamed rugby. The competitors were, **Kevin, Richard B, Allan, Richard G, Dan Lemon, Klaus Bellon, John Osmond, and Dave Green**. Richard, Allan, and Dan made most of the goals, but others made some daring goals also. There were many "scrums" and many clunks and bangs with twangs of door stop springs mixed in. Kevin helped set up the gates and take them down. We even had eight people along the pond cheering at each goal for a while. Everyone that ran said it was a lot of fun.

Several competitors say they "are going to make themselves a polo springer for next year".

# 50<sup>th</sup> Olympia Harbor Days – September 1st to 3<sup>rd</sup>.

By Robert Osmond

Photos by Keith Schemerhorn and Robert Osmond

*Note: I showed these photos and the Burnaby photos at the meeting and talked about the photos and events.*

Olympia Harbor Days (OHD) is an annual non-profit festival celebrating the maritime heritage of the Puget Sound in Olympia, Washington for a weekend of entertainment, food, art, history and a last farewell to summer. In 2023 it was also their 50th year.

I do not recall anyone ever saying that they had been to Harbor Days except Keith Schemerhorn, who has been there two times before.



We really should try to get more members to come down to this next year. Keith Schemerhorn is the person that coordinates for our tent placement. There is no fee to set up his tent for the event. It runs Friday afternoon and evening, all day Saturday and most of Sunday every Labor Day weekend.





**Vick Lanza**, a member that passed on quite a while ago, built all the boats under the 3 large tents. His family brings his boats out each Harbor Days and sets up the pond and runs quite a few of them. The fire department fills it for them. Keith mentioned in his newsletter write ups for several months that he was going and suggested other members might enjoy coming to this event.



I went and shared Keith's tent with him, we ran our boats in the Lanza's pond. The Lanzas only run their boats at the Harbor Days each year. It was 89 degrees, and they had 3 boats that squirted water. They were very popular the kids and adults to cool off.



The Harbor Days event is quite large. It runs along the shore for about 1/2 a mile, with food and craft vendors. They have many full-size vintage boats that the public can visit. They also have a tugboat race, unfortunately it is so far north it cannot be seen from the

Harbor Days event. You can donate and go on a short cruise on the *Lady Washington* a replica sailing ship, and the *Virginia V* the last surviving Mosquito boat. At one time there were many of these craft delivering people and goods up and down Puget Sound and the area before there were roads and State Ferries.



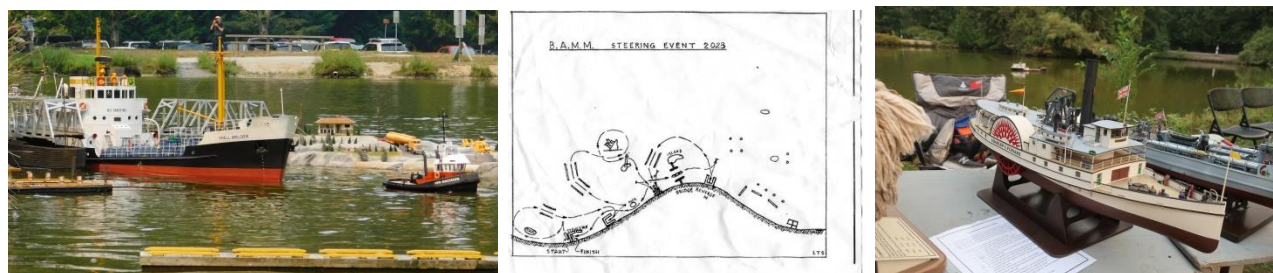
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## Burnaby Association of Marine Modelers Annual Regatta

By William K Schemerhorn

Photos by Keith Schemerhorn and Robert Osmond

On Sunday August 20th was the 64th annual Burnaby Association of Marine Modelers Regatta held at Central Park in Burnaby B.C., Canada. This regatta features many great models, navigation, team towing, sailboat races, and fast electric racing.



The navigation course is spread out and has many nice features to navigate in and around including a swing bridge, harbor, large rocks, and even a sinking ship.



Robert Osmond and I were the USA contingent. Ray Malone was there from England, as well, making this an international event. Robert and I did the team towing of a large freighter, but had issues when the towline got caught in the underwater winch going through the bridge. But it was fun to do.



My model of the *Misty Moon* won first place for work boats in the judging, so the yanks did at least take some hardware home.



The company at this event is always friendly and the event fun to attend. Recommend a trip over the border to check it out next year if you can as long as they still have it. Note: Their park department up there may be doing restoration work to the pond and shoreline in the next year or two that may affect the event location. Will keep you informed as that project develops.

There is a very good video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVe6Zuinj00>



## Other Events in the North End

By Ken Schemerhorn

Well, boating season is in full swing and with the weather being so nice I hope you are getting out to the fun floats and more.

August and through October will be busy with many opportunities to play with and display boats available to us.

**October 7th & 8th** -- Now if that isn't enough fun for you, there will be two more events up here in the north sound. The first one will be the annual **Lynden Lions Club Model Train and Toy Show** where I get a 20 foot long table space to display model boats to the public as well as train people. This show happens the weekend of October 7th and 8th at the fairgrounds in Lynden, WA. It is indoors and always has a lot to see. ***Contact me if interested in participating one or both days.*** LOCATION: Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Henry Jansen Agricultural Bldg., 1775 Front St., **Lynden, WA. 98264.** Website [www.lyndentrainshow.com](http://www.lyndentrainshow.com)

**October 14th and 15th** -- The last event for the summer/fall season up here will be the **Bellingham Seafeast** celebration in **Bellingham, WA**, at **Squalicum Harbor**. This event showcases the food and the people who make a living from the sea. I am hosting a model display once again and welcome anyone that would like to come up and join in. This is an outdoor event and I will have the canopies set up along with tables.

Enjoy the summer and hope to see you at any of the above events.



## New to RC Boating?

Overview of RC Boat Electronics -- Mr. Dave Milbourn wrote an article called "**But I Don't Understand Electronics!**" for Model Boats magazine in 2013. There is a lot of information packed into this article and may require more than one reading to allow it to sink in. The article is free to view at website: [www.modelboats.co.uk/news/article/but-i-don-t-understand-electronics/18054](http://www.modelboats.co.uk/news/article/but-i-don-t-understand-electronics/18054)

Robert Osmond provided information about the Virginia V ship fundraising drive, if you are interested. He reported that the ship was at both the Olympia Harbor Days event and at the Fisherman's Festival event. The ship help to draw people to those events and to walk past our club R/C boats display. Their fundraising ends Oct. 20th, although they would take donations after this date.



The Virginia V Foundation's  
101<sup>st</sup> Birthday Cruise Fundraising Event  
October 20, 2023

To a friend of maritime heritage,

Hello! I'm writing on behalf of The Virginia V Foundation. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the Puget Sound's maritime heritage through the restoration, preservation, operation, and interpretation of the National Historic Landmark vessel S.S. VIRGINIA V. As the last passenger-carrying wooden steamship in the United States, we aim to provide access to this unique piece of history through public tours and cruises, school field trips and student internships, and educational and cultural programs. We operate primarily from Lake Union Park's Historic Ships Wharf, but work with an ever-growing group of heritage partners to reach wider audiences and connect to new communities.

On October 20, 2023 we will celebrate the ship's 101<sup>st</sup> birthday with our annual Birthday Cruise fundraising event. To help us ensure this ship is around for her next 100 years, we need friends like you to donate items, gift certificates, and experiences for our Birthday Cruise silent auction.

We hope you'll consider our request and are able to support the S.S. VIRGINIA V this year! Attached, you'll find our auction item procurement form. If you're interested in contributing to our fundraiser this year, please fill out this form and return it to [alicia@virginiav.org](mailto:alicia@virginiav.org). Physical forms and items can be sent to The Virginia V Foundation at PO Box 9566 Seattle, WA 98109.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,



The Virginia V Foundation's  
101<sup>st</sup> Birthday Cruise Fundraising Event  
October 20, 2023

Thank you for making a contribution to our 2023 fundraiser's silent auction. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit (TIN 91-0989160) and can provide you a donation receipt if requested. Please complete this form and email or mail to: [admin@virginiav.org](mailto:admin@virginiav.org) or PO Box 9566 Seattle, WA 98109.

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description of the item you are donating:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Please provide an approximate retail value for this item: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2023 NWRCSM Events Calendar

The rest of the calendar with ?? marks will be determined as the year progresses. (Updated 10/2/2023)

### JANUARY

5 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
8 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

### FEBRUARY

2 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
4 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

### MARCH

2 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
4 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

### APRIL

6 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
8 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am  
14 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe Noon to 6 pm  
15 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 6 pm  
16 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 2 pm

### MAY

3 Seattle Yacht Club Opening Day Fun Float 9 am to 3 pm Wednesday  
4 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
6 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am  
20 Twilight Float at Bellevue Downtown Park Sunset Only boats with lights can run after dark.

### JUNE

1 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
3 **NWRCSM's Model Boat Regatta** 8 am

### JULY

6 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
8 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am

### AUGUST

3 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
5 **NWRCSM's Tug Boat Regatta** 8 am  
16 Twilight Float at Bellevue Downtown Park Sunset Only boats with lights can run after dark.

### SEPTEMBER

7 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
16 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am  
30 Fishermen's Fall Festival 11 am

### OCTOBER

5 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
7 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am

### NOVEMBER

2 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm  
4 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

### DECEMBER

7 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 PM  
9 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am





### The Facility Makerspace

Our meeting location is in part of the Edmonds Community College buildings (Monroe Hall) located at:

6606 196<sup>th</sup> Street SW.  
Lynnwood, WA. 98036

More information on this facility can be found at <https://facilitymade.com/>



2023 Club Officers		
	<b>President: Steve Sunich</b>	<b>Webmaster: Allan Wing</b>
	<b>Vice President: Richard Lenington</b>	<b>Skagit R/C Meeting Contact: Keith Schermerhorn</b>
	<b>Treasurer: Dave White</b>	<b>YouTube &amp; Meetup Master: Klaus Bellon</b>
	<b>Membership Database: Bryan Morse</b>	<b>Newsletter Editor: Paul Williams</b>

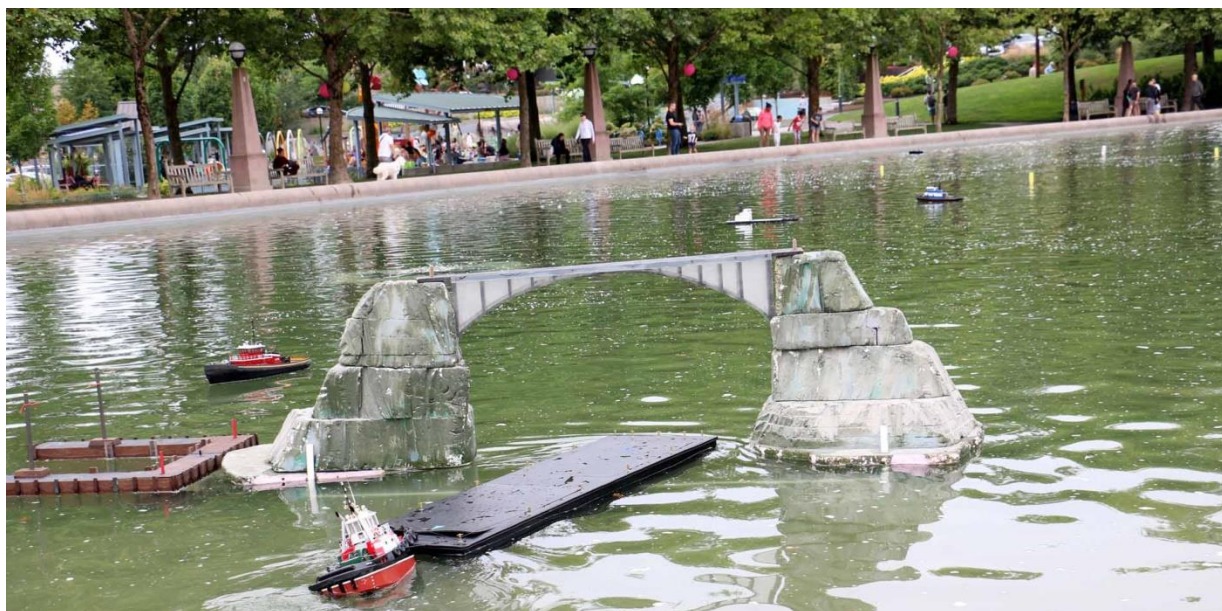


Photo by Allan Wing

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