



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers
www.shipmodelers.com

November 2023

Look Ahead Events

DECEMBER 2023

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

JANUARY 2024

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------|
| 4 | Meeting at The Facility | 7 pm |
| 6 | Fun Float at SYC | 9 am |
| 6 | Fun Float at Port Madison | ? am |

FEBRUARY 2024

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------|
| 1 | Meeting at The Facility | 7 pm |
| 3 | 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



Well, we are well into another fall/winter season and are still running in the great Northwest. Even though we have had some wind and rain, the fun floats continue and so does building boats. That is a good combination for me so I don't get tired of either activity.

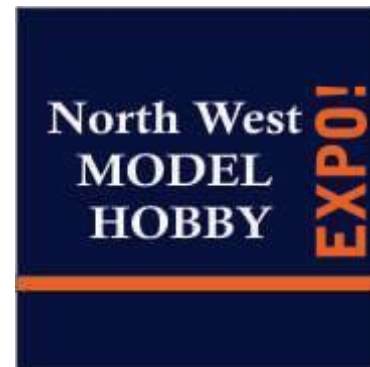
And, I was proven correct again. I have always said that the rain tends to subside when we have our fun floats at SYC. The November 4 fun float was no different. It was destined to have wind and rain. True to form, it rained until I got there and then quit. There were three hours of great run time and then it dumped again. So, don't forgo the winter floats because you never know. See the article later.

Again, I am impressed by the boats I am seeing at the meetings for show and tell. What a turnout and keep it going. Keep building and keep sharing your knowledge and tricks of the trade. The building methods are limitless and I always learn something. Remember, there is a computer there that is capable of showing pictures of your projects along with any Powerpoint you would like to create.

Also, coming up on a new year, remember to join or renew your membership to SSMA. We get our insurance through them and need a minimum number of members to qualify. They also provide an excellent quarterly newsletter that includes what the rest of the clubs in the United States are doing.

P.S. The 2024 Hobby Expo dates are set.

**2024
Northwest Model
Hobby Expo
2 Days in April**



April 12, 2024 – Friday	Setup Only
April 13, 2024 – Saturday	9 am to 6 pm
April 14, 2024 – Sunday	9 am to 4 pm

Evergreen State Fairgrounds located at
14405 179th Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272, USA

More information at EXPO's website www.nwmhe.com

Mark Your 2024 Calendars!

Meeting Minutes Nov. 2

By Steve Sunich

Photos by Robert Osmond & Paul Williams

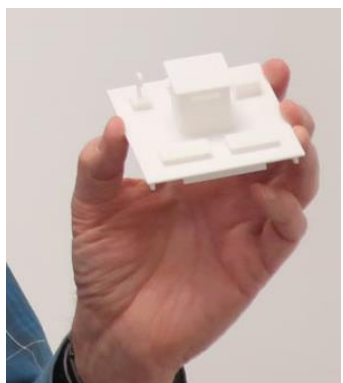
Steve Sunich kicked off the meeting with 13 in attendance at the Edmonds Community College's Facility Makerspace. There was some very brief business and summary of the last functions. It was asked if there were any persons wanting to take a club bridge position. One had previously mentioned to me he wanted to stay on the bridge. However, it is open to whomever is interested.



Show and tell was great again, with some very neat projects in the works. Great presentations were made on the full size screen.



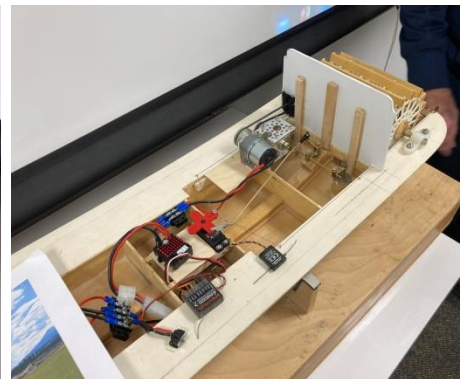
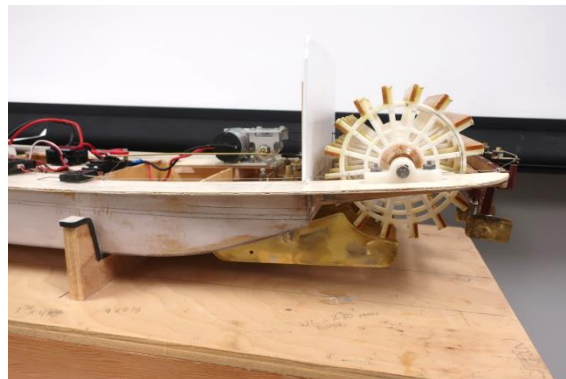
Paul Williams showed us his third version of a 3D printed landing craft. He thought that because the sides were a little thin there would be some distortion so he needed to reinforce it. Model now has thicker sides.



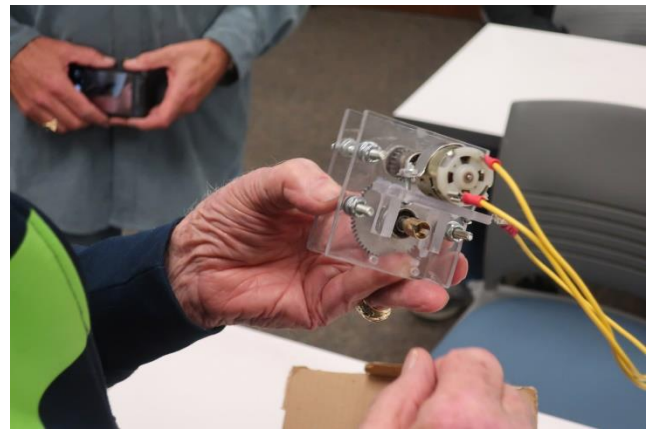
He also made a screen presentation of the San Diego Maritime Museum that he visited that displayed post cards, ferry models, Swift Boat exhibit, and they offer Swift Boat rides.



David Zanzig brought his beautiful sternwheeler that is under construction. It is modeled after the Creole Queen and the Klondike that is beached in Alaska. He explained the workings of the propulsion and the steering mechanism for the monkey rudders. He has great line drawings to get the scale to 1/4" to the foot.



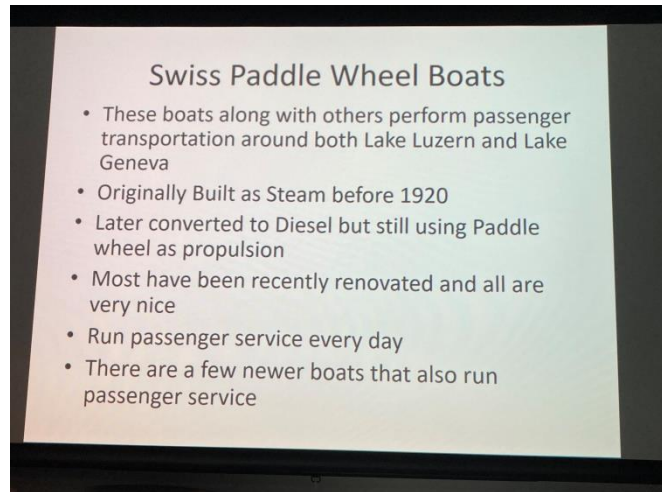
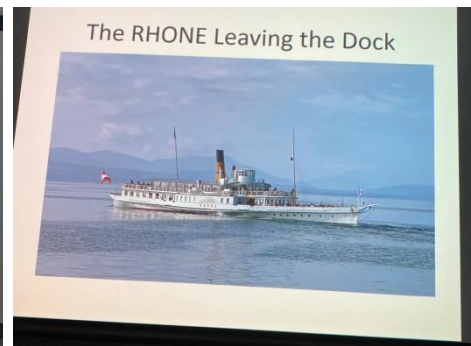
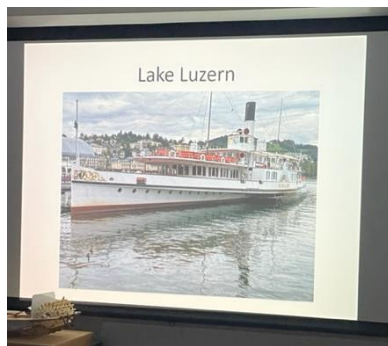
Show and tell dependable, Dave Green, brought his 2-1/2 to 1 drive mechanism that is going in his new lightship model. Talked about using 60 year old gears and ball bearing parts that came from an old WWI CG ship gun aiming "calculator". He got the part when he attended the Coast Guard Academy.



Robert Osmond, another frequent show and teller, brought his Billings tug. He built this boat plank on frame and then glassed the hull. The design was a Billing tugboat up to the deck. From there up he designed and scratch built the boat out of styrene, cherry rail on cabin, mahogany in the pilot house and brass railing and stairs down into the deck house. It has microscope slide cover glass windows, which is what most of his boats have for windows. It can be cleaned and does not scratch easily when you clean them. He turned the top of the stack out of acrylic 2" clear rod. It has a Robbe 3 to 1 gear drive and a 2" prop in a steerable Kort nozzle.



Allan and Darlene Wing made an interesting trip to Switzerland where they spent some time on the sidewheel boats on Lake Lucerne that have been there for many years. He presented many photos and engaging facts about these fascinating vessels built just for the lake in the mountains of Switzerland. Their history is incredible and they still are in excellent condition, being used on a daily basis. He was able to get line drawings and many photos. Maybe there is a build in that one day? We'll expect that one will be started by the next meeting. Personally, I think it would be an awesome build.



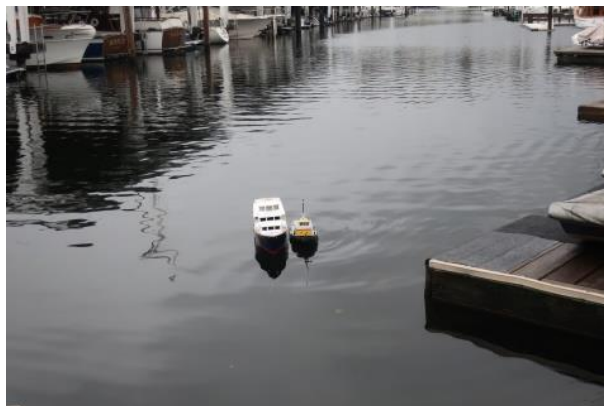
Steve Sunich brought in his "super yacht" model that is still in slow progress. He explained the decking that is custom cut from teak and individually fit onto the model. He said the decking will take months to complete. He also explained that he was disappointed in the speed result with 2:1 belt drives that he originally installed. It now has smaller Pittman motors with direct drives. The trial run at the fun float showed that this new setup is perfect now. It now runs with a nice bow wave at a nice scale looking speed. This thing is a monster, being 5 feet long with quite the square footage of teak decking.



November 4th Fun Float-SYC

By Steve Sunich

Photos Robert Osmond



Well, as mentioned before the weather was good to us. It seems that the fun floats at SYC always get a break in the weather (knock wood). That held true again on November 4. That week was miserable and forecast to be even worse on Saturday. I figured nobody would show up so I came prepared not to run and just be satisfied to work on my 1:1 in the moorage. It rained hard on my way and surely nobody was going to show. I arrived a little after 8 am and behold, the weather broke. I figured that won't last long so I brought out my partially built and repowered yacht so I could at least take a few minutes to see how she performs. Three hours and low batteries later I was still running! **Robert Osmond** showed up just after me along with **Klaus Bellon** a little later but, that was it. However, running was great. The rain subsided and the water was calm. We socialized with the SYC sailing team a little. Robert ran his Pacific tug and Klaus forgot to charge a battery so did not have any run time. Then, the rain came down and we gathered our boats and went home but, it was a great run. So, don't forgo the winter floats because of the weather. As we know, it always changes.

October Events From The North End

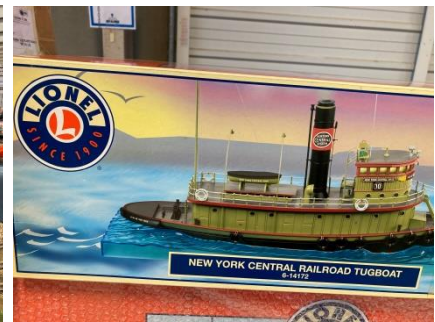
By Ken Schemerhorn

Photos by Paul Williams

Winter building season is now here and time for a little rest after the busy end of season displays with the model boats. Of course, it started at the end of September with the Fall Fishermen's Festival in Ballard (covered in previous newsletter).

The weekend after that I was part of the displays at the annual **Lynden Lions Club Model Train and Toy Show** held the first weekend at the NW Washington Fairgrounds. This

annual 2 day show features model train layouts and other toy displays. I bring along a selection of model boats that I have to display and introduce others to our hobby. This year I displayed the usual tugs and fishing boat, but also brought along the 1/96 scale battleship Alabama. All the models generated a lot of interest, especially those that had historical ties to Whatcom County.



I was joined by **Paul Williams** on Saturday in talking about model boats to the visitors. It was great to have another modeler there to talk to people. He also had the chance to check out all the other interesting stuff as well. His 3D printed landing craft boat generated some interest amongst those that are doing that with the trains. My display was awarded 1st place in the non-Train category. Days of fun in the barns and hope to be back again next year.

The weekend after that, another 2-day display in Bellingham during the annual **SeaFest Festival**. This 2-day event celebrates the food and people who make a living from the ocean. Crafters, music, educational booths and of course fresh cooked seafood all featured. I set up a model boat display inside of the fisherman's pavilion that had windows behind the displays creating a nice back drop from the waterfront. The display featured: tugs, fishing boats, local boats of historical interest, and a couple of other boats could be seen to bring our smiles. Lots of people came by to see and learn about the hobby. Even did an interview with a local college person whose interest in journalism had her doing stories from the event.



One additional part of the festival was taking part in the Passport contest. This is where the visitors to the event had a passport book, they needed to get stamped by participating booths. They would either do some action or answer a question. For my stop, I created a choice between 3 questions to test their maritime knowledge. They were:

- a) can you find the sein skiff?
- b) what side of the boat is the port side?
- c) which of these boat(s) was built in Bellingham?

Most people chose a or b. Choice c was a little trickier but set up with the answer in front of them as it was the LT157 and the PBR. It was fun to do on top of just chatting about models and boats. Thankful to be inside on day 2 as the weather wasn't so user friendly being mid-October. Overall, another fun 2 days of boat stuff conversations with people.

Now I know this all sounds like a lot of work, and it is to some extent. And probably asking why do it. Well I enjoy talking with people about our hobby. I enjoy educating people on the history of these boats we see around our harbors and what they do. And, I hope there is some inspiration for others to join in the fun, join the club, or at least check out our website and get a spark for the hobby. I want to encourage others in the club to participate in these events as you never know how much your efforts and talents are appreciated until other people enjoy

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

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New Function - Seattle Yacht Club R/C Derby

In addition to the Fun Float, at SYC, on January 6, 2024, NWRCSM has also been invited to their Port Madison R/C Derby!. The Fun Float at SYC will still be held, but there is an added opportunity for something new. SYC's Port Madison outstation is on Bainbridge Island in a calm bay. You would be running off of nice docks in the salt water. The clubhouse provides warmth and shelter in case of weather. Our own NWRCSM member, Bob Brown, is heading this up. Below is the actual invitation containing pertinent information about this event. We will need some boats, dock and barge so please let Steve Sunich know if you are interested in attending so we can start gathering the necessities.

Hello fellow model boaters!

I would like to invite your members to join us at our Port Madison Outstation for our 2024 Remote Control Derby. It's the same plan as last year. We will set up a day where your members will demonstrate your vessels during at various times, and we will have a lovely complementary BBQ for you to enjoy. Please save this date on your calendars and pass the word to your memberships.

From PNMYC, we'd love to see an exhibition race, as well as allowing interested SYC members to try out your vessels under supervision. Please feel free to bring boats under construction or boats you'd like to display. At this event I plan on having one or more tables set up in the Clubhouse for you to have a display, and where you can perhaps even recruit new members!

From NWRCSM, I'd like to see your vessels participate in a 'Fun Float'-like event where they 'strut their stuff', perhaps even demonstrate a regatta event like an exhibition docking or barge pull (?) event. Also, if you would allow SYC attendees to try maneuvering your boats under supervision, that would be great. You will also have tables available for you in the Clubhouse for static display and promotion of your organization.

As we get closer to the event, I will share with you a schedule with the specific events of the day.

When you are able, please let me know about the amount of interest, and how many of your members we may expect (so we lay in a proper supply of goodies for the BBQ!). We hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

*Bob Brown
Co-Chair, 2024 Port Madison Remote Control Derby*

2023 NWRCSM Events Calendar

The rest of the calendar with ?? marks will be determined as the year progresses. (Updated 11/11/2023)

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 196th Street SW.
Lynnwood, WA. 98036

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



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

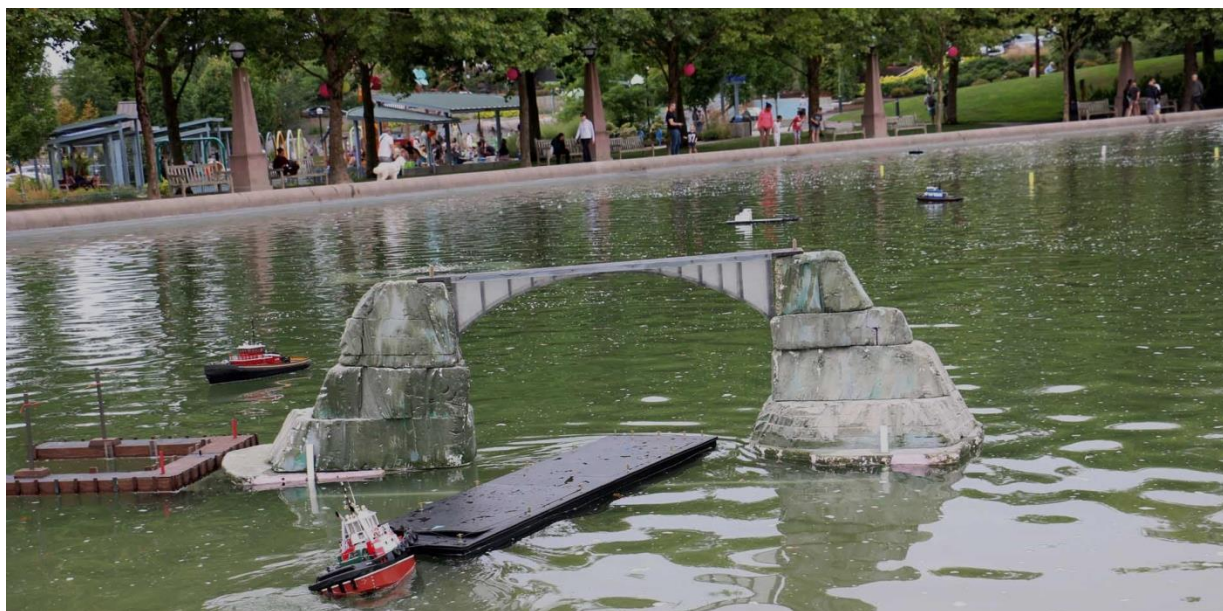


Photo by Allan Wing

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