



The Bilge Pump

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

November 2024

Look Ahead Events

2024

DECEMBER

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 5 Meeting at The Facility | 7 PM |
| 7 Fun Float at SYC | 9 am |

2025

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
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See more details in the expanded calendar section at the newsletter end.



Read more about members' projects.

From the Bridge

Steve Sunich

This club shows the rest of the country how it is done. Our regattas are well attended with challenging courses, great raffles and super friends. From what I can tell, NWRCSM puts on the best regattas and has the most expertise available to share. We help new members just getting started and try to involve youngsters. I am proud to be part of it and would really like to share with the rest of the world what we are all about.



To continue on, we also need volunteers to take on the bridge positions so we don't get stale there. Please think about becoming a bridge member for a year. It is simple and does not require a ton of time because of the great help we get from all of our members.

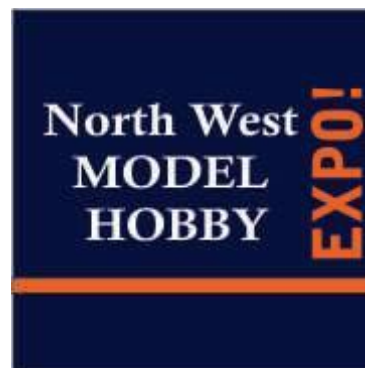
This winter will not slow us down. Even though some days can be cold and/or rainy we have a spot at Seattle Yacht Club from which to run. I would encourage members to not be discouraged with the weather as we can run there with shelter if needed. It also has a large running area

outside with clean water and great access from the parking lot. Fun floats will be held there through March.

Since this year is coming to a close, special thanks need to go to Bill Heath. He stores all of our crap (which is a lot), helps load all of it for regattas and drives his truck to get those supplies to those regattas. All of our members contribute something different and have been a great help in making this club successful.



**2025
Northwest Model
Hobby Expo
3 Days in April**



April 11, 2025 – Friday	Noon to 6 pm
April 12, 2025 – Saturday	9 am to 6 pm
April 13, 2025 – Sunday	9 am to 4 pm

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

For more information see EXPO's website www.nwmhe.com

Mark Your 2025 Calendars!

Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2024

By Chris Merrill and Steve Sunich

Photos by Robert Osmond, Paul Williams and Steve Sunich

Steve Sunich called the meeting to order around 7 pm with 20 members present at The Facility Makerspace, part of the Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood, WA.



There was a little hiccup with the venue as the building was shut down and locked. Through the efforts of Bob Brown, security was contacted and they had no problem letting us in the building.

We had a quick treasurer's report. A new member, **Paul Lowe**, was introduced. Welcome to the club Paul. He has a steam boat he is working on and decided to join the club.

We are still looking for a President for next year as Steve would like to be more active with the SSMANA. (Please join SSMANA and send your membership number to Bryan and Steve).

Robert Osmond had brought up that we, possibly consolidate regattas next year. In other words, combine the June and August regattas into one in August and have a course for both navigation and tugs. This would simplify the set up and would only require one hauling, setup, etc. It would also simplify judging and be a lot less work. A few things were discussed about this, as there are some disadvantages but the membership seemed to like the idea. It was brought up that we consider bringing back the holiday party. A straw poll was taken to see who might be interested in attending again, with spouses, and there was some interest. We may resurrect this.

Robert Wickham reported on his efforts in getting a pump for the pond next year. He acquired one for no cost. It is 90 gallons per minute. He is modifying the piping to make a 90 degree turn so it fits the pond better. There are other members that can supplement with smaller pumps. He has also stepped up, big time, and repaired two of the three salvage vessels that we use at the tug regatta. All three are falling apart. He replaced the bottoms and rebuilt the cabins. See photos below. They are beautiful, like new! Thanks so much Robert!



The pond can be used again at the Hobby Expo but will need some small modifications. Robert Wickham has found sources for better strapping that will hold the shape of the pond better. Chris Merrill has carpet padding from his house that we can use for the pond.

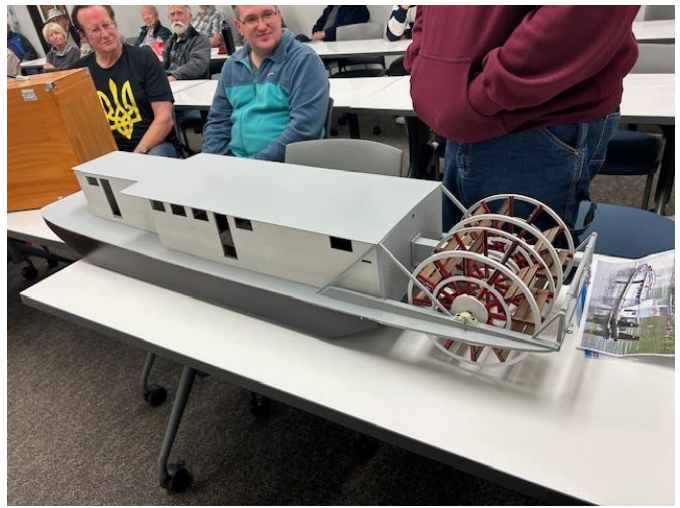
Richard Lenington donated two R/C controllers for noodle boats. We will need noodle boat builder volunteers. Allan Wing mentioned that there are springer boat plans on our website also for anyone interested.

Chris Merrill reported on the 3D printing class provided through the Edmonds College. One class was full with 3 or 4 more persons interested. He is also working with a drone camera that is stabilized so that good videos can be taken for the night floats. Thanks Chris!

Show and Tell:

We went on to Show and Tell. The Show and Tell portion of the meetings has been great. We have had many projects shown to us with helpful hints, tools, parts, etc.

David Zanzig kicked us off with his sternwheeler he has been working on and has brought to us at previous meetings. It is progressing. It is a kit from China so is in metric. It was complete with electronics with limited instructions but great diagrams. It looks great and we can't wait to see it run.



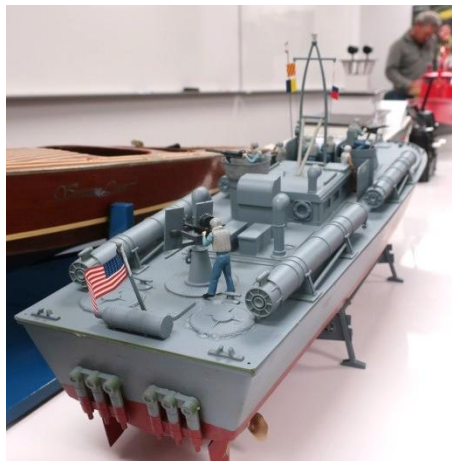
Bryan Morse presented a tool box that is awesome. It has multiple drawers and was only \$80 at Harbor Freight.



Next up was **Robert Osmond**, as usual he showed us multiple things. He had a new motor mount in an old runabout model and a tool that removes stuck shafts from stuffing boxes. He also had a clamping stand, from jewelers and suggested using box cutters instead of Exacto knives. He also mentioned that you can get K&S metal shapes from McLendons Hardware in Renton.



Bob Brown was next with a report on his completed Lindbergh Model PT boat kit. It has speed 500 motors and he is trying to get it to run at a better scale speed. Subsequent to the meeting Bob experimented with different voltages and batteries. He tried a new battery. He got a couple 11v LiPo batteries on Amazon. Since they're 3000 mAh vs the 5000 mAh 7.4v he was running, they're lighter as well. They solved the speed problem. The PT boat runs faster while still retaining a realistic look. It is a handsome vessel touting an SYC burgee, which I don't think any PT boats were SYC members.

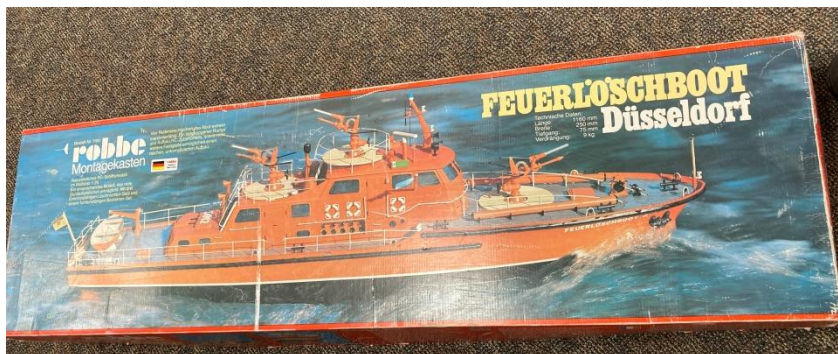
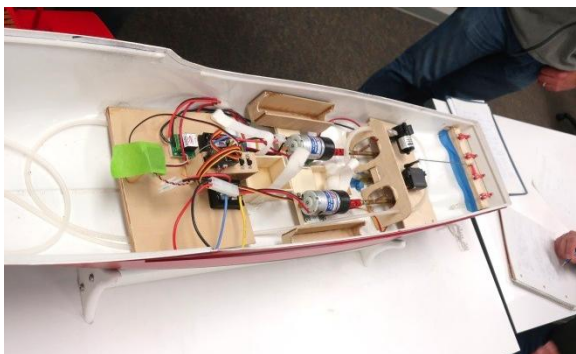
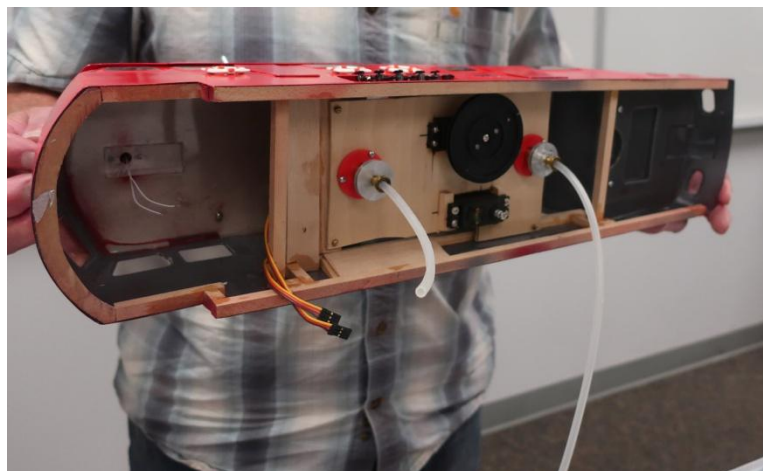


Allan Wing, our motor expert, showed us a sophisticated system he came up with that adjusts speed of motors on port or starboard in a Springer type boat. It is an Airtronic controller from rock crawlers. He did the programming himself and when it was explained, eyes glossed over in the crowd. With a lot of trial and error he got it to work. It was run at the subsequent fun float and worked great.



Mike Gullikson brought a fireboat that he completed from a Robbe kit aquired at one of our regatta raffles.





Fun Float November 9, 2024

By: Chris Merrill

Photos by: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond, and Steve Sunich

The Northwest RC Ship Modelers held the first Fall Fun Float at the Seattle Yacht Club on Saturday morning, November 9, 2024. Despite the rainy weather, we had a good turnout of 15 members and spouses. A few folks tried to set up on the outer dock but the rain came in waves, so they moved to the covered dock area where the small sailboats are kept. The rain let up for about 20-30 minutes and then came back, so it was kind of off and on boating. Some members were there to do some test runs or fine tuning, so the weather did not matter much. There was just enough covered space for everyone and some just enjoyed talking tech and making new acquaintances.





Robert Osmond brought his portable 3 pier floating dock and set it out for those that wished to get in some docking practice. I arranged to carpool up from the Renton area with Dave Kentala and he sprung for some mini blueberry muffins and donuts holes to share along with a tin box of sugar cookies brought by another member.

Kim Lorenz who is a past Commodore for the Seattle Yacht Club came as a new member, recently signed up. He was running his Southampton tug.



Bob Brown brought his WWII PT109 model which he showed at the 11/7 meeting. He was testing to see about scale speed and wake. It did pretty well as it is a twin prop and rudder setup. He had taken it out of the water (and rain) before I got my similar WWII PT model in the water for comparison, maybe next time.



Cedric Wong was here with his Springer boat for a test run and also a sail boat.



Robert and Marge Newell had their 2 scratch built boats on the water – beautiful white cruiser and the Cool runabout.



Bill Heath came with his *Invader* class tug.

Dave Kentala came with his tugboat to test after he had made some earlier adjustments which looked like they turned out well.



Since our fun float was so close to Veteran's Day, I chose to bring my small navy of models – WWII PT boat, WWII Japanese PT boat and Viet Nam era River Patrol boat. They were all able to run fine and no steering or prop gear got fouled up like what had happened at the Bellevue Pond fun floats. As the waterway was not heavily filled with many model boats due to the rain, I put in the larger 3S LiPO 11.3 V batteries rather than the 2S 7.4 V batteries to do some fast "patrolling". Things were going well with 2 of my models and the twin screwed River Patrol boat did a nice job planing and cutting through a few wakes made by some other fast models like Rober Newell's white cabin cruiser.

But when I got the Japanese PT boat up to full speed in a straight run I really was flying as it is a very light 37" Robbe plastic model with a single screw and twin rudders. Making turns required some letting up on the throttle or it would try to ride on its side. A turn to port was not as risky as a turn to starboard because of the clockwise spin of the single propeller. As I was returning back down the water way I made an avoidance turn at too high a speed and the boat tipped on its side long enough to drop the upper superstructure into the water. The wires for the running lights (which are always on) were what kept that part from sinking, but made the boat go in circles and it was hard to navigate to the nearest dock about 4 or 5 feet away. The boat was recovered at that point with the superstructure still attached by those wires. When Steve Sunich lifted it out the only thing missing was the aft deck cover and gun mount. Steve said he could see it from the end of the dock in 5 or 6 feet of water. Since he is a SYC member and has his boat moored there, he was able to get a fishing net on a long enough pole to retrieve those 2 pieces. I was very grateful to have his assistance and plan to make some adjustments to my model either in servo steering linkage or maybe some controller programming. My thanks Steve! I am looking forward to the next fun float in December here at the Seattle Yacht Club.



Scanning Class on November 14, 2024

By Paul Williams

Four club members, **David Kentala, Richard Lenington, Paul Williams, Nat Brace**, and his son attended the 3D Scanner class. It was mostly an introduction to the technology. We got to do test scans with both our Next Engine and Artec scanners.



FYI ... from Robert Osmond

Here is a chance to see a YouTube video of this 44 rowing RC Battleship.

Link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiZWfqyN6ko>



2025 Northwest Remote Control Ship Modelers Events Calendar

Remaining "???" dates and times will be listed as the year progresses. (Updated 12/2/2024)

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

- 1-2 Miniature Show - www.seattleminiatureshow.com
- 6 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 8 Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

APRIL

- 3 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 5 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park (?) 9 am
- 10 NW Hobby Expo - Pond Setup 9 or 10 am
- 11 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe Noon to 6 pm
- 12 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 6 pm
- 13 NW Model Hobby Expo, Monroe 9 am to 3 pm
- 30 Seattle Yacht Club Opening Day Fun Float 9 to 3 Wednesday

MAY

- 1 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 3 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am

JUNE

- ?? Anacortes Waterfront Festival 10 to 6
- 5 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 7 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am

JULY

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

AUGUST

- 7 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- ??? **NWRCSM's Navigation/Tug Boat Regatta** 8 am – 4 pm
- ??? Twilight Float at Bellevue Downtown Park Sunset Only boats with lights can run after dark.
- ??? BAMM Regatta. see www.bammrc.com for details.
- 29-31 Olympia Harbor Days

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 6 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am
- 27??? Fishermen's Fall Festival 11 am – 6 pm
- 27-28 Bellingham SeaFeast (See their website for times)

OCTOBER

- 2 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 4 Fun Float at Bellevue Downtown Park 9 am
- ??? Lynden Lions Club Model Train & Toy Show (See their website for times)

NOVEMBER

- 6 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 pm
- 8 or 9? Fun Float at Seattle Yacht Club 9 am

DECEMBER

- 4 Meeting at The Facility Makerspace 7 PM
- 6 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

Meetings are the first Thursday of the Month. More information on this facility can be found at

<https://facilitymade.com/>







2024 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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