



# The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

April 2018

## Upcoming Events Look Ahead

### MAY

- 2 Fun Float @ Seattle Yacht Club 9am – 3pm
- 3 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 5 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am

### JUNE

- 7 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 9 NWRC Regatta @ Bellevue Pond 9am- 3pm
- 21 Coffee/Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 11am

### JULY

- 5 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 7 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 21 Twilight Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 7pm

### AUGUST

- 2 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 4 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 11 Portland Regatta – Tualatin, OR 9am – 4pm
- 19 NW Tug Regatta – Bellingham 9am – 4pm

### SEPTEMBER

- 6 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 8 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am
- 15 Fishermen's Memorial – Ballard 11am – 6pm

### OCTOBER

- 4 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 6 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond 9am

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 3 Fun Float @ Seattle Yacht Club 9am

### DECEMBER

- 6 Christmas Dinner  
Old Spaghetti Factory - Lynnwood 6:30 – 9pm



## From the Wheel House

*Mel Suelzle*

Opening day of the boating season is very much on the horizon as we plan for our major model boating events of 2018.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> we will hold our annual fun float at the Seattle Yacht Club. This is always a popular event that kicks off our season as well as that of the 1:1 boat community. This event is a popular one and a fun day of casual model boating with lots of visitors and spectators from the local boating community. Having this event during week helps us enjoy the preparations for the big opening day celebrations without having to endure the hubbub of the weekend. This is a great way to show off your best boats to other boating enthusiasts and checkout your own fleet for our upcoming model boating season. This is also a way to show our appreciation to the Seattle Yacht club for allowing us to use their facility during the winter when the Bellevue Pond is unavailable. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate. More details are provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

Following the Opening Day fun float at the SYC is our fun float at Bellevue on May 5<sup>th</sup>. This is a great time to get your final runs in as you prepare for the June Regatta which will only be one month away. Also, we will hold a competition for our Springer models. This is always a challenging event as all boats are of the same size and differ by power systems and of course the skill of the SKIPPER!

It is time to get your Springers in Tip Top shape for the May Fun Float.

Right after the May fun float, our Regatta Planning will get in high gear. Some of the major elements are completed including a new challenging course creation from Robert Osmond. Robert has mercifully included only 2 dockings, but, has included no less than 6 ferry route crossings in very plain view of the judges. We plan to consolidate the course to minimize the problems of distant eyesight issues, but it will further test the ability of large boats to navigate in tight quarters. Skippers of larger boats are encouraged to enlist the aid of a small tugboat to make the tight turns. A preliminary copy of the course is included elsewhere in newsletter.

Our regatta donations prizes are arriving with items from **Raboesch, M-Troniks, Loyalhanna Dockyard and Pacific Power**. We also received some great donations from members, like **Paul Williams** who recently donated a great Ken McKenzie Tug Boat hull complete with kort nozzels. Of course we welcome other donations from member's vast stocks of modeling items.

As the spring events conclude we hope to have a final working arrangement with the Bellevue Parks Department. At our fun float on April 7th, we were joined by Jon Wilson, the Community Services Supervisor who is responsible for managing the reservation and permitting necessary for the many Bellevue Parks. With the major changes to the Downtown Park, it has been a very desirable location for events of all types in the community. Jon and his organization are trying to set policies that are consistent for the wide variety of requests for usage. We had an excellent meeting with Jon and were encouraged by his attitude to find a reasonable approach to granting our type of use while still complying with city regulations. His current thinking for fees is similar to what we had prior to the renovation, albeit with a somewhat higher fee structure. Jon's task is further complicated by learning to use a new park reservation computer system as well. We concluded our meeting with agreement to continue to assist Jon where we can and to work more closely in the future to ensure our events remain flexible enough to accommodate other needs for the parks popular uses.

## March Meeting

*Ron Bray*

*Photos: Darlene Wing,  
Robert Osmond*



On a wet and cold evening, our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, called a packed room of 24 members to order at 1900 hours. **Peter Dunsford** was introduced as our newest member. He had a career as a boat designer and is working on a new Springer design.

Show and tell began with **Allan Wing** commenting on progress he is making on his half hull section model of his Trumpeter Cuty Sark sailing vessel.



Since all instructions were in Japanese, he used Google translator for guidance. **Robert Wickham** discussed progress he is making on his five-year super springer build. Since he deemed it underpowered at the tug regatta last year, he



installed larger five bladed Prop Shop props, necessitating routing out the hull bottom to accommodate the larger size. At full power he noted that the motors were only slightly warm.

**Phil Northrup** showed his new

aircraft carrier Trumpeter model of the Hornet noting that in the absence of a major superstructure he will probably need to make part of the flight deck removable in order to access the inner workings of this model to make it operational. This is the carrier from which the B-25s were launched in a raid over Tokyo during WW 2.



**Robert Osmond** brought in a huge cabin cruiser hull he obtained from **Tom Stevens**. It will be a single screw model with the top side design left to his imagination. He had placard holders to be given to those who desired them.

**John Legate** promoted the use of a small battery-operated soldering device which he used to solder eye bolts to his metal mast.

Apparently, this is a miniature resistance soldering tool.

**Dave Green** suggested using a product called Corrosion X as a penetrant,



**Tom Stevens** showed his detailed model of the fishing boat Norwester which **Keith Shermerhorn** helped him finish. He advised using a small plastic bottle with a needle point for applying ca accelerator in order to avoid overspray and waste. This is available at Tap Plastics and is normally used to apply liquid plastic adhesives. Tom also discussed methods of applying diluted rust spray to simulate ageing, which launched a discussion among the audience.



lubricant and rust preventative, a product similar to WD 40.

**Dave White** was the winning bidder for a DH6 receiver provided by Mike Shaw.

After the break, **Mel** gave a financial report and stated that we now have 59 active members with



11 more who are delinquent in paying their dues. He initiated a discussion regarding the upcoming regatta. The course is designed by **Robert Osmond** and appears a little simpler than last years course. Solicitations for raffle prizes are arriving from several vendors. **Mel** reminded us of the fun float this Saturday at the Bellevue pond, depending on weather conditions which are stated to be wet and blustery. He also suggested we get our best boat models ready for opening day festivities at the Seattle Yacht Club.



**Mel** mentioned the possibility of acquiring new members at the Seattle Makers Fair to be held sometime in September. Flyers were available from the Portland group regarding a Memorial Day fun float at the Tualatin pond.

Before closing the meeting at 2025, prizes were awarded to **Dave Kentala** and **Ed Maurer**.



## From the North End

*Keith Schermerhorn*

Spring has sprung and model boating abounds with opportunities. So on April 2, 4 members of the Skagit club were able to convene at the PUD building for information sharing in the model boating world. Topics included upcoming schedules for events that we may partake in, updates on NW R/C Ship



modelers running schedule, updates for the sailing crews, and Waterfront Festival in Anacortes. Meetings for now will continue to be at the PUD building on the first Monday of the month through the first part of summer. But starting with the fall schedule will be changing dates and time to a more convenient schedule for those that have a tougher time getting around once dark outside. Road work has begun on Sharps corner (way out to Deception Pass/Whidbey Island) and people should expect long delays if going out to the sailing events. This

shouldn't really effect then traffic going to the waterfront festival in June. Of course, the Waterfront Festival is our biggest event that we participate in with a static display of boats over in the educational section of the event. This will be the first weekend in June on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have tables set up and the festival supplies a large covered tent for us to display our craft. Always a great time showing them and interacting with the public. Everyone is invited and we love to have you come join us for a day or two with your craft being displayed. While there, you can enjoy music, crafts, food, boat rides, car shows, and even see what is happening down at the harbor.

Other topics for the night included the show and tell of some scale fish processing gear that **Keith** made as a second set to what was built for **Tom's** boat made mostly of plastic materials and painted in aluminum. Not finished, but the idea behind the pieces was shared and the different glues used to hold it all together. Other show and tell was Ralph counting the days now to retirement and the possibilities to do more model boat stuff! Congratulations **Ralph** on 40 years at Pac Car! With that, we closed up the building and headed to our home ports until next month.

With regatta season coming on soon and the busy summer schedules, I thought I would take a moment and remind people there are several events that one can attend. In the model world that we all like we are all very aware of the clubs big regatta in June, Tualatin in August, and Tug Regatta in August in Bellingham. Now these are the big "3" that most think of and rightfully so. But back in the late 80's-mid 1990's there used to be an event almost every couple of weeks between Canada and Seattle alone. Now when you throw in San Francisco...well even more opportunities to see, partake, and learn from. Not so much anymore. So I would like to encourage those that can, try and visit another event outside the "big 3" and see what others are building and doing. The best of the close events is up just on the other side of the border is with the Burnaby Association Marine Modelers. They have a regatta held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in August (day after tug event) that is fun with many different models and activities. The people are friendly, great models of every type, nice background and harbor, and several activities that allow one to partake in and or be a spectator. Experience one of the few clubs lucky enough to have a pond in the park and a clubhouse there as well. And crowds of people coming by is never an issue! But if you would like to go there, you will need either an enhanced driver's license or passport to get back over the border both ways. When possible, have some info on your models and equipment going with you. If you bring an armada of boats, you may be asked to show them. My recommendation is always have enough to have fun with, like say 4 different boats. Bring chairs, table, cover, and even a cooler with drinks and food (just no fresh food unless grocery store purchased with receipt for proof). Parking is close to the pond, and the park is also easy to find. So make plans if you can to check this event out and you will also be able to now say you partook in an international event!

## March 3<sup>rd</sup> Fun Float

*Mel Suelzle*

*Photos: Darlene Wing,  
Robert Osmond*



The weather forecast for our fun float day was very dire to say the least. Only the very dedicated and adventurous members braved the wind and cold to

show up for the fun float. After surviving the early sprinkle, then down pour, we actually had some decent weather to run a few of the boats. Given the weather, our turnout was actually very good. We met one of our newest members **Rex Olsen** who made his maiden voyage of his South Hampton. Evening meetings are difficult for Rex, but he will likely show up on our Galaxy coffee meetings on Monday and Thursdays.

**Bryan Morse** and I had South Hamptons on the water as well. **Dave Green** and **Alan Wing** brought



out their sail boats and did well given the gusty nature of the winds. **Alan Wing's** Emma C Berry was knocked down once but recovered with no water getting in the hull due to his excellent combings and screwed down hatches. **Bill Heath** and **Jim Johnson** attended, but Bill forgot to load his transmitter. Someone suggested this was poor excuse for escaping the foul weather.



**David Zanzig** had his tug out running well. I ran the Red Bull after damaging one of my Z-drives trying to launch the Morgan Foss. (Hopefully no serious damage). Late comers to float included **John Nygaard** running his fast runabout, and **Marv Waldon** was on hand offering his support and of course his opinions, welcome and otherwise. Our planned meeting with the Park Department was in doubt but Jon Wilson, Community Services

Supervisor, arrived just in time as we were packing to leave. Our informal meeting with Jon was positive and encouraging. Jon being a good host brought a period of sunshine for his visit. However, as the meeting wrapped up, the high winds and rain returned causing everyone to scramble for more comfortable environments. More comments on this meeting elsewhere in this newsletter.







## 2018 SYC BOATING SEASON OPENER FUN FLOAT

On **May 2<sup>nd</sup>**, our club will hold our annual fun float as part of the opening day celebration at the Seattle Yacht Club. This is always a great place to display and demonstrate our models to a Yacht Club members actively preparing for the huge celebrations that will peak on next weekend. Our models are of special interest to

this group. While many own full size pleasure craft, they fully enjoy fine models of all types. We hope that many of our members can attend this event and bring their best models for a great day of boating of all sizes. Our participation is scheduled for 9AM to 3PM. Please plan to attend. Arriving early will insure a good parking spot. Driving directions are below:

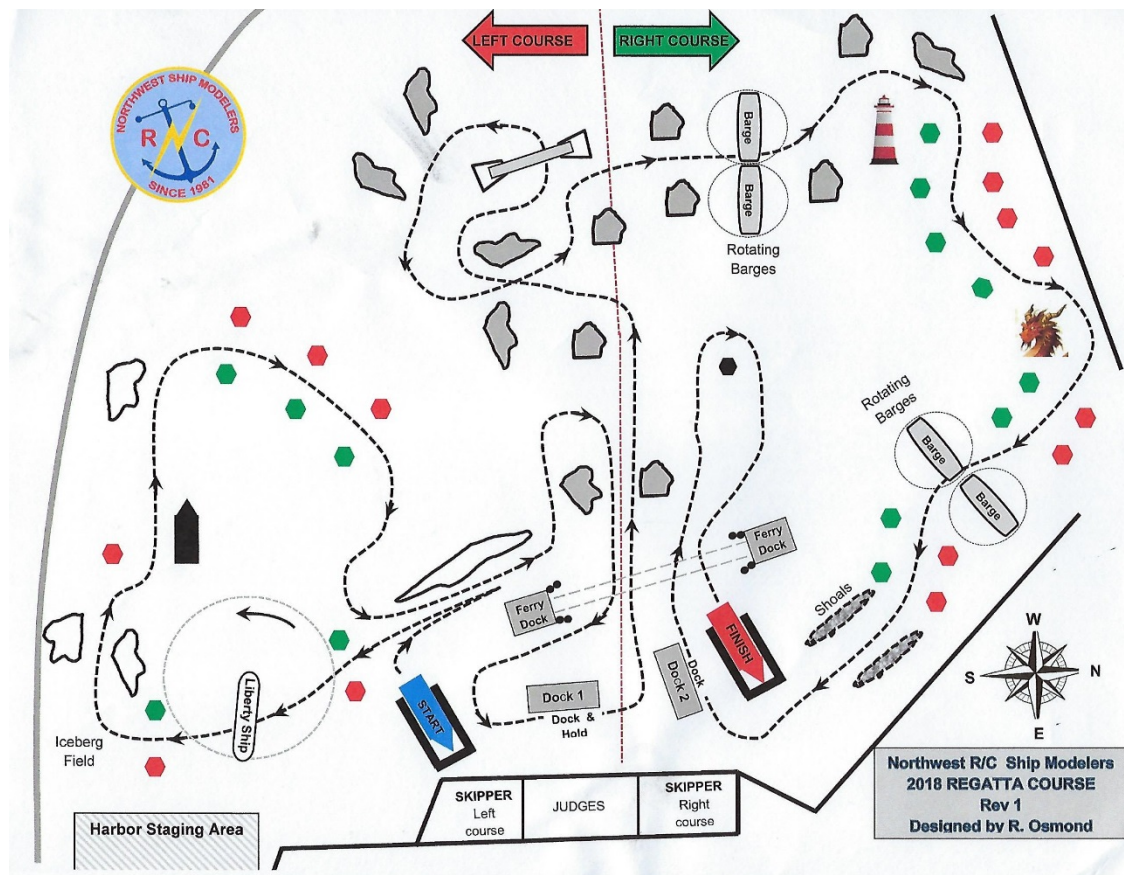
The SYC is located on Portage Bay at 1807 East Hamlin Street, Seattle WA, 98112, just north of the 520 bridge across Lake Washington and south of the University of Washington.



Those arriving via Highway 520 (either East or West bound), should exit at Montlake Blvd and head north. Turn left (west) on East Hamlin at the traffic light which is the first left past 520. For those exiting from 520 westbound, you probably cannot turn directly westbound onto Hamlin, because you are in the right lane and there is not time to get over to the left turn lane. If so, turn right (eastbound) onto Hamlin, go around the block, to the left, then turn left onto Montlake Blvd, and an immediate right onto Hamlin. It's a long way around, but it works!

## 2018 NWRC REGATTA

Our 2018 regatta will be held on June 9th. Pictured is the preliminary copy of the course layout planned for this event.





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## 2018 Club Information



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