



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

December, 2012

OUT WITH OLD IN WITH THE NEW

Dates of interest

January

3rd Club Meeting

6th Fun Float

7th Skagit Meeting

February

4th Skagit Meeting

7th Club Meeting

8th -10th NW Model Expo

10th Fun Float

The December meeting has been completed and the old administration is moving over to make way for the new.

The meeting was a very pleasant affair, held at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites. The dinner was very plentiful and there was not a great amount of talking, once the plates were placed in front of us. The service was very attentive and the friendship most pleasant.

Congratulations to Gordy Canney for receiving the Cliff Shaw Award. Certainly over the many years he has been a member he and Linda have added a great deal to the club.

Mel received the Galaxy Hobby Shop "Best Built" Award from Mike Shaw. It is most difficult to compete with this craftsman, only Ron seems to keep him on his toes.

A new award was presented this year, The Spark Plug Award. It was given to a very hard working member, Dain Webster, who planned and executed several new activities for the club this year as well as being a working participant in most of the regular events. It may be possible to continue this award and work it in along side the Cliff Shaw Award, saving the Shaw award for "special" circumstances.

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We had a very busy year, again, with all the activities and it could not happen without the “working” members of the club. Most clubs have a core of members who seem to be in the forefront of the work. They do it because they want the organization to be successful. However, they get burned out, over time, and it is vitally important that others step forward to serve in the harness too. It is most gratifying to see two members step forward to take the helm for next year who know the club but have not been in the harness for some time. I know they will welcome anyone who would like to assist in any way during the year.

We gained several new members this year and Bob Wickham initiated a program of sending the new member a packet of information to assist in allowing them to know the activities we are doing, the officers and other helpful facts. It is very important, in order to keep these members, that a program of personal contact with them be started. A mentor, so to speak, should be identified to get them to the meetings and the activities. In this way, they would have at least one contact with whom to identify within a group, which at times can be most daunting.

A survey of the membership, regarding the activities we do, has been proposed in the past. Hopefully this could be accomplished this year, to get the opinion of many members who do not choose to speak up in meetings. Days and times of fun floats, participation in activities such as the Seattle Yacht Club and the Fisherman’s Festival are some of the questions which could be addressed.

As 2012 comes to a , this olde scribe and past president wishes to send you all the blessings of the Holiday Season, good health, safe travels and a very Happy New Year!



Photo supplied by our Portland friend Aimee Eng

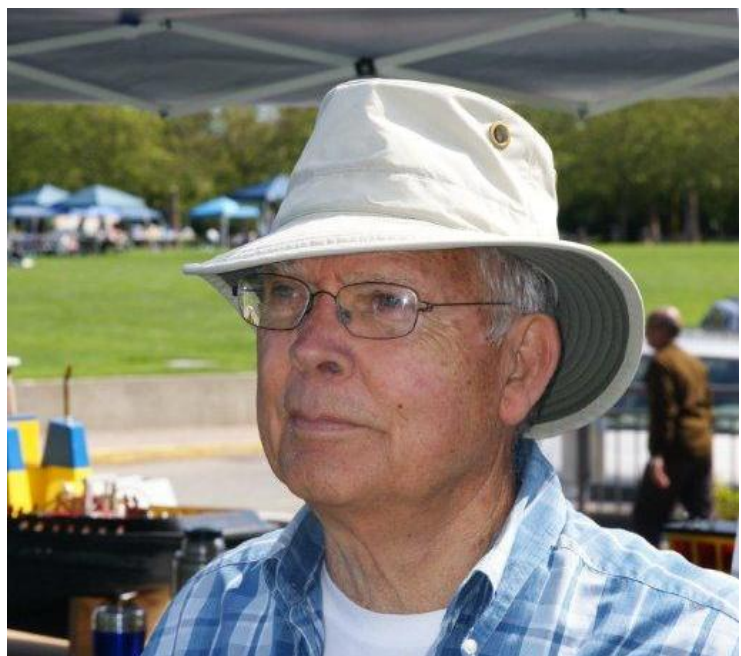
IN MEMORIAM by Ron Bray

Earl Anderson left us on November 9th after a relatively short course of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). He first became interested in model boating after observing the activities at one of our events at the Bellevue pond. His first model was a Model Shipways kit of the *Aziz* followed by several Springers and a Dolphin class tug. He made a mold using only pictures to create the plug. Several fiberglass hulls were produced, a few of which were acquired by club members. He became a very active member of our club and created numerous buoys and light houses to be used as props and navigational aids for our events. Earl could be found in his hip waders helping to set up the course for competitive events. A very detailed and intricate barge crane was constructed, a feat reflective of many years in engineering and construction. An RTR Dickey tug was totally taken apart, remodeled, repainted and refitted with new and better electronic gear. His last endeavor was building a Dumas triple cockpit Chris Craft speedboat. He spent a great deal of effort in creating the ultimate varnished finish and proudly displayed its progress at our monthly Show and Tells.

His interest in model boating obviously culminated from his many years in boating which started by racing flatties from the Laurelhurst Beach Club, when growing up. He proceeded to acquire and operate several sailboats, his last being a 40 footer. After parting with his sailboat he purchased a 42 foot *Grand Banks* and later a 49 foot *Grand Banks*. He enjoyed cruising the San Juan and Gulf Islands with his family and friends. In addition to boating the Andersons enjoyed traveling to all part of the world.

Earl's interest in the Springer boat design led him to devise some very competitive Springer Polo boats and to promote competition. There were many polo matches which he hosted at the Killarney pool in Bellevue where he resided for 40 some years. Gardening and remodeling were passions he enjoyed while living there. His red top Springers were extremely fast and maneuverable and most competitive. No one could figure out his secrets even though he was quite open to many inspections by the members. Quite a bit of research was accomplished in his test tank, measuring current draw, drive train function and floatation characteristics. Earl was always willing to help those struggling to complete their polo boats. When he learned of his illness and the dire prognosis he donated his boats, tools, radios, electronic devices and building materials to the club to be auctioned in order to raise funds for the club, a most generous gift which was truly appreciated.

We will definitely miss Earl, his smiles, sense of humor, humility, leadership, expertise, love of polo matches and his contribution to the betterment of our hobby and club. In recognition of these attributes he was presented with the prestigious Cliff Shaw Award at our last Christmas dinner. We extend our condolences and sympathy to Jan, his family and friends, who realize what a special person he was.



View From The Bridge – Bob Jacobsen

Wow! I just returned from the annual club dinner which was very nice. Had about 30 in attendance, good meal with fun had by all. Thanks to Allan Wing for a great slideshow/movie that ran throughout the evening and was great to watch. Included was a movie from the 1998 regatta that Gordy found and somehow transferred to DVD. It was great fun to see some boats that have not been seen for a while! Also extra congratulations go to Gordy for winning the Cliff Shaw award this year. In my opinion very well deserved and a great choice by the committee. Mel took the honors for the best new build and his boat, along with others on display really caught the eyes of the hotel staff!!



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There have been a lot of questions about the NW Model/Hobby Expo in Monroe and yes it is on. Much more in next month's newsletter but for now save the dates of February 8th – 10th. A great place to run you boat inside where it's warm and dry, with crowds to watch as a bonus!!

Finally special thanks to Lee Stewart and Robert Wickham - their leadership of the club over the last year has been super!! Looks like the club has money in the bank, membership is solid, and is poised for a continued great future. I am humbled to be your new president and will try my best to help us *HAVE FUN WITH MODEL BOATS!!* Don't forget to send in your dues!! Have a great Christmas Season and see you all in 2013.



Minutes of the DECEMBER MEETING by Ron Bray

Our December dinner meeting was held at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites Hotel. Following happy hour and conviviality, a sumptuous dinner was enjoyed by all. Our president, **Lee Stewart**, started the meeting after dinner offering thanks to all who contributed in making 2012 a fabulous year.

Awards were presented to a number of members. First off, **Dain Webster** announced the winners of the buoy building contest who received gift certificates to be redeemed at Galaxy Hobby. **Bob Wickham** won first and second place in the member judged contest and **Brian Morse** was third. The buoys were displayed for all to view.

Mel Suelzle was presented a gift certificate by **Mike Shaw** of Galaxy Hobbies for the "Best Built" boat of 2012. His NY *Fireboat 343* is truly a work of art requiring considerable research and scratch building the model, from pictures and internet downloads. The model was brought to the dinner for all to see this great work.

Lee gave **Dain Webster** the new **Spark Plug Award** for his efforts in securing Hinton Lake for a fun float, spearheading the buoy building contest, heading the committee to review several sites for our Christmas dinner meeting, promoting club participation on Veterans' day at the Children's Imagination Museum and for his very active participation in club activities.

The **Cliff Shaw award** was presented by **Allan Wing** and Mike Shaw, along with a gift certificate to Galaxy Hobbies to **Gordon Canney**. Gordon has been a long time member and has kept track of the membership and mailed out the newsletter to our member for many years. He has participated in numerable events and has won several boat handling awards at our competitions. He and Linda have provided a great opportunity to chit chat on Monday mornings supplying coffee, donuts and cookies. He is always filled with enthusiasm and deep concern for the club.

Following the award presentations Allan Wing provided a slide show of the activities for 2012 along with some great commentary. Prior to the formal program he provided a continuous slide show of past events dating back to 1998. A tribute to last year's Cliff Shaw award winner, **Earl Anderson**, was presented and homage given to a great member who will be truly missed.

Lee introduced our new slate of officers for 2013, **Bob Jacobsen** as President and **Robert Osmond** as Vice President. Undoubtedly, next year will provide many opportunities to enjoy the art and science of model boat building and to compete in our events. Many thanks are due to Lee's leadership for the past year and for formatting and editing our monthly newsletter. Thanks also to Robert Wickham who took over the reins in Lee's absence and for his contributions to the club regarding his building skills and innovations. .



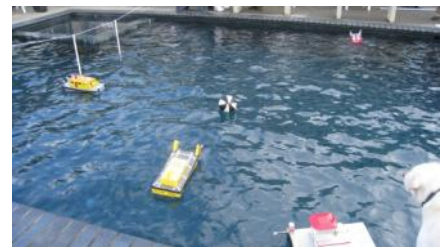


Springer Polo, November by Ron Bray

After a fairly long hiatus, Dennis Chinn again hosted a polo event at his home which was enthusiastically welcomed by those that attended. After getting the kinks out of a couple of boats that were running erratically, the competition and fun began. As in previous encounters the *Shark* was still remarkably competitive when teamed up with Earl Anderson's *Red Top 1*. The duo were impossible to beat. A lot of research will be needed to climb to the ranks of these two competitors.

The weather broke and the sun came out with minimal wind. To offset the chill before getting warmed by the sun, Dennis provided some hot coffee to keep our fingers warm. Later on a pizza appeared and satiated our hunger pangs. Despite the turkey feast two days prior, the pizza got devoured. The contestants that showed up were: Vern Ren, with the *Shark*, Mel Suelzle, with Earl's *Red Top 1*, Allan Wing, Dr. Ron, Dennis Chinn, with the *Yellow Peril* and Carolyn driving one of Dennis's other boats. Later, Carolyn's son, Ian visiting from Corvallis, Oregon joined in the fun. As in previous competitions the *Red Top 1* performed flawlessly and outran and outperformed the others. When the rest of us ran out of battery power, the *Red Top 1* continued on like the Duracell Bunny. Another surprise contestant was Jack, Carolyn's dog, who went into the water several times, going after the ball.

Our many thanks go to Dennis and Carolyn for hosting the event and for their gracious hospitality. Also, many thanks to Dennis for sparking a resurging interest in this fun competition. Hopefully more of our members will take up the gauntlet and partake in the fun. Anyone interested in getting help building a polo boat will be gladly given assistance by those of us who have taken the leap.



For Sale: 1/96 Scale Battleship “Alabama”

Included are: [\(See Bob Jacobsen if interested\)](#)

Complete hardwood and epoxy hull. All from US Navy drawings (included)

Hand Laid Scale Decks. Removable in sections with concealed breaks.

Fiberglass superstructure with most modifications complete.

10 5” Twin guns, barrels elevate and turrets rotate.

Three 16” turrets with mechanisms that elevate and rotate same. Wired to fire 22 blanks.

4 Screws and extra props

Twin motors with reduction gearings in oil bath transmission case.

All twin 20mm Bofors nearly complete. Think there were 12 not sure now.

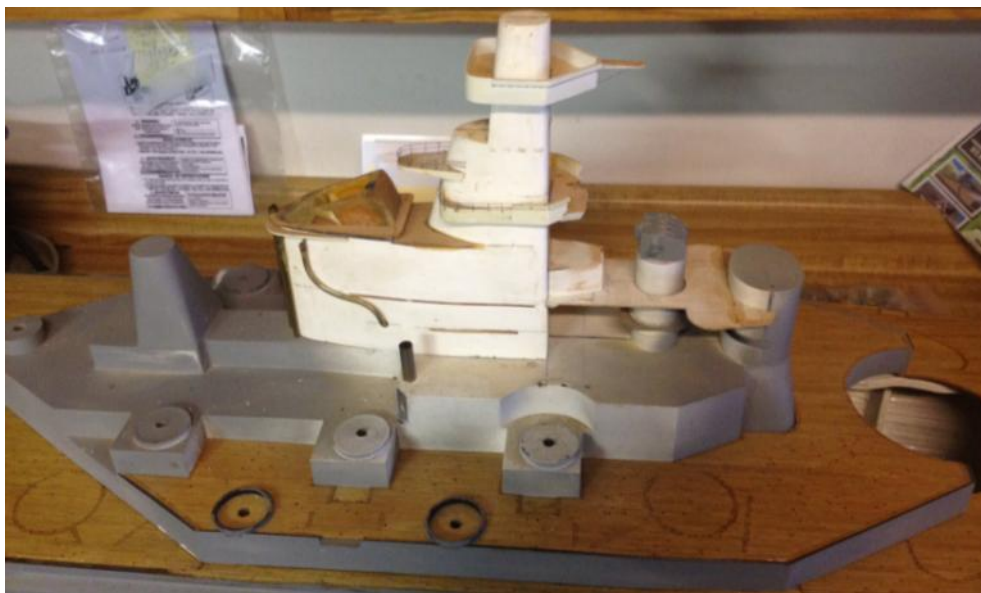
Many pictures from actual ship in Mobile.

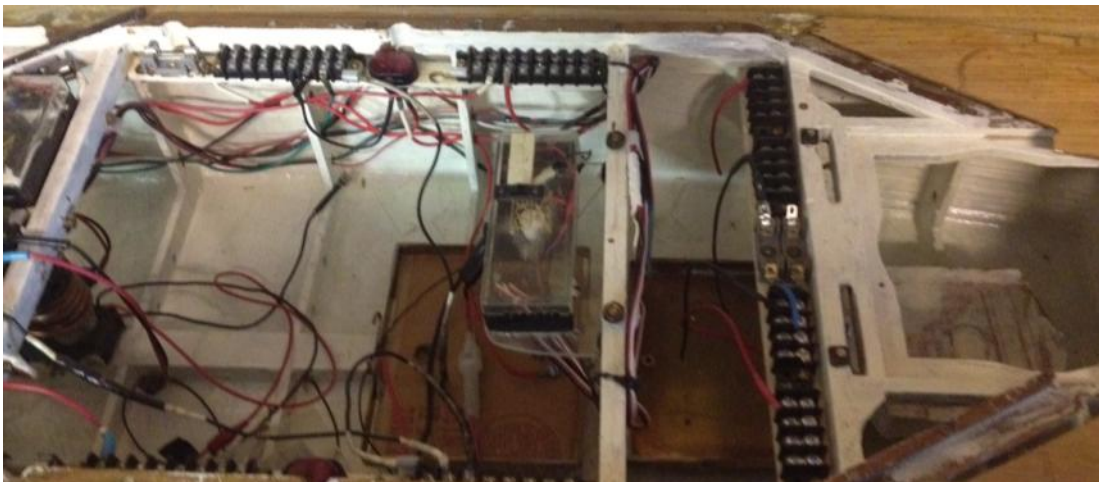
Big box of “goodies” which I have not been through in years.

Nautical Commander radio which Cliff Shaw worked on to give me extra channels.

This model has made one voyage. It’s about 80% complete in terms of hours to build. Lots of fine details have yet to be done, but I got you started. It was fun but it’s too big for my home and I need help getting it in the water. I’m really a builder and not a ship captain. Take the whole thing from my house in Kenmore, WA. I want \$1,000 for it. Please don’t make me an offer for less. Or, we could start at \$1,500 and settle for \$1,000 (tell your wife what a great negotiator you are).









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Website:

www.shipmodelers.com

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196th & Hwy 99 - In James Village Shopping Center
www.galaxyhobby.com

Membership and Renewal Form

Dues are \$25.00 per year

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