



# The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

February 2018

## Three Month Look Ahead

### MARCH

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

### APRIL

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

### MAY

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

Check for latest updates at  
[www.shipmodelers.com](http://www.shipmodelers.com)



2018 dues are  
past due!

## From the Wheel House

*Mel Suelzle*

We are off to a good start for our new year. Our first major event at Hobby Expo is in the books and we can feel good about our participation in this major event. We had good member participation for setup, teardown and support all three days of the event.



Many thanks to everyone for their help throughout this event. Plans are being made for the 2019 event so the organizers must be satisfied with the attendance levels and plan to continue. Since all of the key parties for the regattas were on hand at the Model Expo event, we could coordinate our vendor solicitation for raffle prizes on the three regattas in June and August. **Keith, Aimee** and I will share the duties for those vendors that support all three events, local vendors will be the responsibilities of each organizer as was done last year. **Dave Green** is poised to get our pond permits in order as soon as Bellevue Parks Dept. is able to accept reservations.

Since it has been over 10 years since we last purchased hats and jackets, it may be time to once again make them available to our members. **Bryan Morse** has agreed to head up plans to obtain club hats and jackets. He will be checking with vendors and matching up member's preferences with what is currently offered by a wide variety of vendors.

I have long been a fan of the show 'n tell part of our meetings. We offer incentives to promote this feature as a main purpose of our meeting that rightfully takes time away from more boring business matters. Our special mini-presentation program was started last year. **Tom Stevens** got the new year off to a good start at our

January meeting with a good presentation of the different hull designs and their effects on boat stability. We need more of this type of presentations. If you have something you would like to present or something you would like to see someone present, please let me know. I would like to see at least one of these special presentations scheduled for each of our meetings.

Tom's presentation took advantage of our new video projector. He had his drawings projected on the screen that allowed everyone in the room a good view of his drawings. We should take advantage of this new projector to enhance our meeting presentation. Set up of this projector is quick and easy. If you have some photos that will enhance your presentation or help better explain a procedure or project, you can use the projector in a similar manner. The projector accepts photos in JPEG format and videos in AVI or MP4 format directly. You can plug in a USB flash drive and the projector will display photos individually or automatically as a slide show. The projector also has HDMI input for direct connection to a laptop or notebook computer. If you need help, let me know. We want to maximize our use and benefit from this new tool and really jazz up our meetings.



## February Meeting

Ron Bray

Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



Our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, welcomed 28 rain drenched members and guests and opened the meeting at 1900 hours. Three guests were introduced; **Peter Dunsford**, **Lee Fjellenger** and **Justin Nelson**. Our newest member, Jim Johnson was recognized. He is the brother in law of **Bill Heath**.



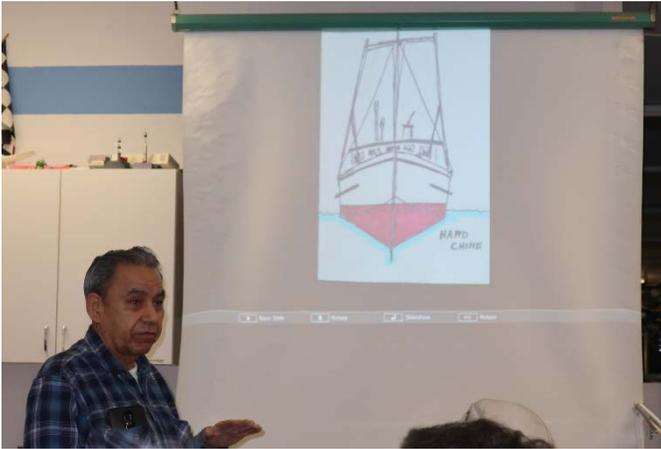
Show and tell began with **Robert Osmond** acquiring a very large fiberglass hull of the Nanuq provided by **Bob Jacobsen**. **Mike Shaw** showed the latest jet boat from Horizon Hobbies which sells for \$90. A very detailed and highly modified excellent

build of a Lindberg minesweeper was shown by **Robert Wickham**. Nano lights were acquired from



Evans Design and added to the aura of the model. **Bryon Morse** demonstrated his saw table for his Proxan saw which he fabricated from his 3-D printer. **Phil Northrup** brought in his recent build of the German battleship, Bismarck. This model was built and modified from a Trumpeter kit and





had its maiden voyage at Hobby Expo. He passed around some stainless steel universal joints which he picked up at the swap meet last weekend. Apparently, they are available on E-Bay.



**Tom Stevens** gave a detailed dissertation on the shape of hulls as related to stability concerns. Such factors as the curve of the hull, its depth, rolling chocks, boom stabilizers, and gyro - controlled fins are

important factors.

Following the break Mel announced that we have 71 members of which 39% are delinquent in dues payments. The subject of club jackets and hats was brought up and discussed by **Bryon Morse**. A hand vote seemed to indicate some interest and various sources were mentioned. **Dave Green** announced that paper work relating to our use of the Bellevue pond won't be available until February 15 instead of the usual first of the year. Mel provided a picture recap of our involvement at Hobby Expo and the party for **Tom Stevenson**. He also reminded us of the fun float at Seattle Yacht club this weekend and the polo match at **Dennis Chinn's** pool on the 10kth.



Door prizes were drawn, chairs stacked, and we headed out the door at 2025.



## Fun Float – February 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Mel Suelzle**



*Photos by Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond*

While the weather could have been better, we still had a good turnout for our fun float at the Seattle Yacht Club. Everyone appreciated the close parking and shelter of the canopy that was available to provide a dry place to run our boats. **Steve Sunich** again had his Invader Class tug running very well aside from it taking on some water from it's shaft logs. Looks like a bilge pump is the next feature for this nice tug. **Bill Heath** and **Jim Johnson** had nice boats as well. Bill left his big

tug at home and run his fishing boat. Jim showed



off his beautiful new Lord Nelson tug which he recently finished. It looks and runs great. Jim has done some creative work on this build to allow

access to the interior cabin areas. **Al Kinsman** and **Paul Williams** were on the water for much of the



time while **Bob Wickham** provided rescue services during the meet and kept watch on my Red Bull so it was not blown away by some of the stiff breezes. **Ron Bray** showed up without a boat just to give us all some moral support and keep us well socialized. **Robert Osmond** tried out his new hydroplane he

bought at Galaxy recently. It ran very fast and was quite stable in the choppy water. With Roberts's surfer and new hydro he had a good day that got even better at the end of the fun float. The MONSTER tug hull Robert was given by **Bob Jacobson** was transferred from Roberts Suburban to Bill Heath's pickup. It will be fun to see what plans Bill has for this new SUPER sized hull.



## 2018 DUES ARE PAST DUE

Annual dues are \$30. If you have not paid yet, please forward your dues payment to Paul Williams:

645 Manaco Beach Road,  
Camano Island, WA 98282.

Make checks payable to NW R/C Ship Modelers



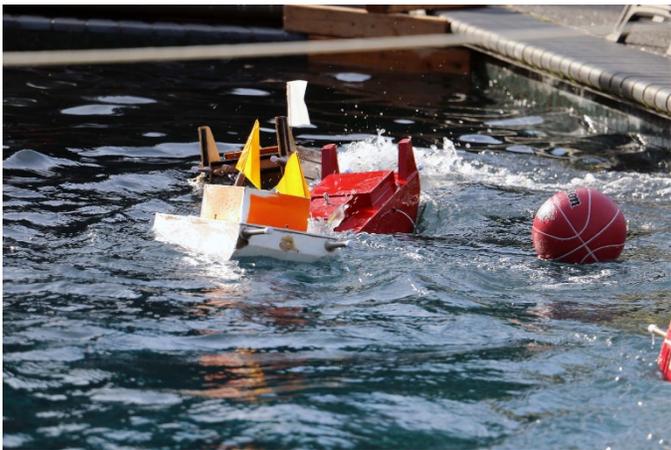
## Polo Match – March 25<sup>th</sup>

*Mel Suelzle*

*Photos by Darlene Wing*

The first polo match of the year was held on February 10th at **Dennis Chinn's** pool. The crowd started small but eventually grew to a good turnout. The weather was beautiful and dry thanks to **Robert Osmond's** Rain God which he keeps in a bag of water so there is no need for any more moisture. The hot polo action took its toll on several boats. Broken rudders, lost door springs and defective





motor control switches required use of **Robert Osmond's** spare boats to see lots of action. **Bill Langjahr** joined in the action for the first time and checked out many of the boats for ideas on the boat he is building. **Dennis Chinn** got some lessons on why you need heavy duty switches to control motor power without an ESC. The white team proved to be superior in all respects having the best boats and driving skills of the day's competition. A great time was had by all (even the losing yellow team) and we capped off the event with refreshments and nourishment of pizza provided by our host, **Dennis Chinn**.



## Hobby Expo - Monroe

*Mel Suelzle*

2018 Hobby Expo is history and our club was well represented during the entire event. On Thursday before the start, **Ron Bray** and I made the trip to the fairgrounds to help **Kevin Klocke**, **Morrie Robinson** & **John Pineau** set up Kevin's pond. Set up of the pond went smoothly and was filled and ready for Friday's opening in a couple of hours. Our booth was the best of the bunch thanks to **Robert Osmond**'s professional booth that he again let us use. Kevin was pleased the next morning when the floor was dry and no leakage was

detected from the pond.

The turnout of club members was low Friday but so was the crowd so we had lots of time to check out the swap meet for bargains. **Rich Goodrich** made a great deal for a couple of boats from Doug Taylor.

Doug used to be a member of our club, and donated all his model boat supplies to our club several years back. He currently lives in The Dallas, Oregon comes up for the show each year. **Kevin Klocke** also bought the Sandy J from **Bob Jacobsen**. The Sandy J was also built by Doug Taylor.

The Saturday crowd was much larger. We had plenty of skippers and boats on hand to show off to the many attendees. Our junior skipper runs were very popular as well. The timing of 30 minute periods every 2 hours seemed to be about right. Some junior skippers managed to show up for all 4 time periods to run boats. It was amazing how quickly they caught on to the skills necessary to drive the model boats. We did have a little

excitement on the pond as **Rich Goodrich** was testing his new small scale tug. He was having intermittent radio problems. While trying to troubleshoot the problem the radio lost lock and the boat went full speed reverse and circled in the middle of the pond until the stern took on too much water and started to sink. Unfortunately it was sinking in the very middle of the pond out of reach of any nearby poles that could get it to the side of the pond. Soon it was on the bottom of the pond and there was no need to hurry and find a longer pole. Rich was not the only skipper having radio problems that day bringing thoughts of perhaps there are radio issues with all the radios in the vicinity even if they were 2-4 GHz frequencies.

Sunday's crowd was low but better than previous years. We had plenty of time to run boats and even offer runs to some of the youngsters on hand. The scale modeling contest had much fewer entities than in previous years.

There were no entries from our club. The only boat entered was one simply built hydroplane, the rest were airplanes.

While a small leak showed up on Saturday, it was well contained by towels and did not raise Kevin's blood pressure to excessively high levels. The same cannot be said for the fireboat spray that got the floor very wet posing a slipping hazard to the spectators. Being as guilty as any, all of us fireboat operators need to take care to keep our spray inside the pond least we create a slipping hazard to the crowd. It is hard to resist the youngsters that urge us on, but we need watch this more carefully.



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