



# THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the  
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

## January 2009



### Upcoming Events

#### January

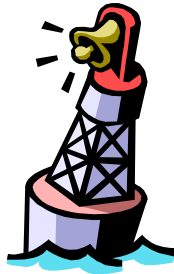
- 5 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 8 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 11 Fun Float  
12:00 pm, CWB Lake Union

#### February

- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 5 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 6-8 Hobby Expo  
Monroe Fairgrounds
- 8 Fun Float  
12:00 pm, CWB Lake Union

#### March

- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 5 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Fun Float  
12:00 pm, CWB Lake Union



### Red Right Returning

By Randy Flodquist

It's into my second year at the tiller of this outfit. I'd like to thank everyone who helped make it a good year. Our celebration on the fourth of December did much of that. Ben did a great job of adding to and narrating Allan's slide show. Linda did a great job of organizing, decorating, and greeting. Chef Bert and his crew provided a great meal. Thank you for coming. We're already planning for 2009.

Our fun float at the CWB on the seventh was a success despite the rain that got us at the end. We'll continue our association with the Center For Wooden Boats and with the Discovery Modelers. A committee exploring the direction we should go in scale judging ; maybe a joint venture with the Discovery Modelers and the Puget Sound group and a big event in connection with the Wooden Boat Festival is something to think about.

Another committee is needed to figure out the Regatta before it happens on the sixth of June. Issues of scale or no scale or popular judging of scale, food or no food or just breakfast, and , of course, the course need to be addressed. Costs are always an issue and last years' personalized framed certificates while economical weren't everyone's cup of tea. Awards is the area where the most money is spent for the smallest group of people. What kind of bail out do we need?

If lots of members show up at NW Hobby Expo at Monroe on February 6-8 a lot of casual discussion could get the pot boiling on these and other issues. And, certainly, it's time to get started on your "best build of 2009" and on that Polo Springer you've been promising yourself. Happy New Year!

## CLUB OFFICERS

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## Special Request

As we start the new year we ask each of you that receive a printed version of this newsletter to review your continued need for the print version. Since Gordy's wife Retired, the club has had to pay for printing. The cost of printing is averaging \$48 per month. Also postal rates have increased. We are currently sending out over 55 newsletters each month. We have added picture pages to the version of the newsletter published on the Web site. So please review your need for a printed version and if you no longer need or want a printed version please contact Gordy and ask to be removed from the mailing list. You can still read the newsletter each month on the Web and it is in living color!



## Call for Input

Each month as we assemble the newsletter, we search for articles to fill the 8 pages. We have added the biography articles so well written by Dr Ron. In some months when there is lots of things happening, we have enough to fill the pages but all too often we find that we are very short of material. This month is a good example. Without these two notices, we would have a blank page. So we ask for contributions from the members. Or possibly if anyone has a special topic they want covered, we would like to hear from you!



# Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

## By Allan Wing

We had our annual December dinner meeting at the Martha Lake Community Center. The turnout was good and the food was great. Linda made table decorations to add some holiday cheer. Ben narrated the presentation that highlighted the events of the year. It was a busy year and it was good to see all the events. During the dinner, there was a slide show of many more pictures. These two presentations allowed any of us who missed events to get a nice chance to see what happened. Mel made the presentation of the Cliff Shaw Award. The winner this year was **Keith Schermerhorn**. Keith has been an active member of the club for years, past president of the club, current leader of the Skagit Club and a major organizer and driver behind the Foss Cup. Congratulations Keith you earned it. Then Mike Shaw presented the award for the best new build of the year. The entrants were judged at the November meeting. Mike reviewed the list and then made the awards. **Second place went to Dr Ron for his LA Fire boat. First place went to Mel for his dolphin, the Morgan Foss.** Mel's boat is a fine example of detailed workmanship and attention to detail. We all ate our fill and said farewell to another year.



Cliff Shaw Award given to Keith Schermerhorn

Best New Build Awards

## Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes By Keith Schermerhorn

2008 was a year of many exciting things and challenges for the members of the Skagit R/C Scale Ship Modelers. So the meeting on December 1st was more about catching up with the happenings of the past year and enjoying the company of all the club members and their guest with the annual Pig Out.

We were visited by a special guest, Mr. Ron Burchett of Canada on his way to New Orleans. With a minimum of past and future business discussed, we turned to the main event of the evening---eating. Thanks to all who shared their favorite dishes that included pulled pork sandwiches, clam chowder, chicken, cookies, and other various eats. We chatted about the best of the year in boating and were all looking forward to what 2009 will bring.

So on behalf of the north enders, we want to wish all the best for safe and fun model boating in 2009.

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR



### REMINDER

ALL MEMBERSHIP DUES EXPIRE THE END OF DECEMBER AND MUST BE PAID BY THE END OF JANUARY! ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW \$25. Make your checks out to NWRCSM and give to Ed Maurer. If you prefer, mail to Ed at 22309 54th Ave. W, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

**Mark you calendar, the 2009 Northwest Model Expo is scheduled for Feb. 6,7 & 8th at the Evergreen Fairgrounds in Monroe.**





## December Fun Float By Allan Wing

It was a cool and wet Sunday at the CWB. We had a small turnout of the most diehard members. We also had Barry and a few of the younger boaters on hand with their boats. The rain held off for the first hour or so but then started up and chased away most of us. Bill made it from Cle Elum. We had few onlookers so it was rather quiet. It is a good thing the snow did not come earlier. We are hoping for better weather for our **January float** which will be on **January 11** to avoid a conflict with New Year's weekend.



Check out the web edition of the newsletter for additional pictures.



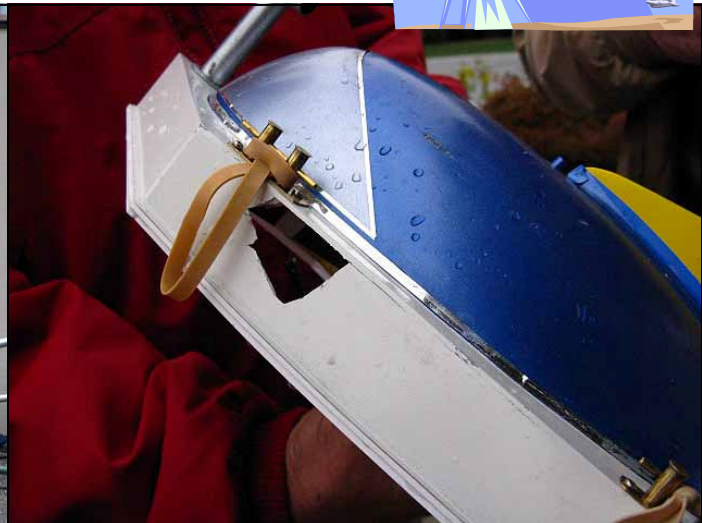
## Polo Event at Dennis Chinn's

By Allan Wing

On December we had a polo event at Dennis Chinn's pool on December 10. Even though it was a Thursday, we had a record turnout of 11 boats. This allowed us to have several matches and substitute boats to cover failures and allow people to change batteries. We set up with 4 on a side and had several games. We then changed boats to allow everyone to play. We were able to do this a couple of times before attrition set in. Once again Earl Anderson and Vern had the fastest boats. Both direct drive with two batteries. Darlene's boat was about third and she was able to run for a long time on a single battery with her brushless motor. It is clear that with any motor it takes lots of power to be the fastest. Dennis had competitive boats using a 55 turn motor with an aggressive propeller. With Earl being the fastest with his plastic boat that was light enough to carry two 4 1/2 amp hour batteries, we were thinking that we were all thinking that plastic was the building material of choice. Then Dr Ron noticed that he had a hole in the side of his plastic cabin. It looks like one of the other boats punched a hole in the side of the cabin with a door stop. We had a great time and a big thanks to Dennis and his wife for having us all over for a game.



Mel Suelzle and Bill McGee



Dr. Ron's polo boat damage



Polo boat match group with 11 boats



Dennis Chinn's Polo Fleet



## **Member Spotlight**

**By Dr. Ron**

ROBERT MAXWELL

Robert began his ship modeling 35 years ago with a Sterling Emma C Barry which he radio controlled and still possesses. About 25 years ago, he began a Billings Nordkap trawler which is currently on display at the Bellingham International Museum. Over the years he has been building a Sterling American Scout freighter but has put it on the back burner since intrigued by the bread and butter method of model shipbuilding. His first effort 12 years ago was a navy ATR tug from scratch and has won the judges choice twice at the 2003 and 2005 regattas.

Currently he is working on a 1912 John Alden yacht and the Princess Norah, a 1928 coastal vessel run by Canadian Pacific. The Canadian Pacific Princess liners were coastal vessels whereas the Empress liners were ocean going. An army freight supply vessel of the world war two vintage is also under construction.

Robert was born in Oklahoma City in 1936 and graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1958 having earned a mechanical engineering degree. He was married in 1959 and has two children and seven grandchildren. For many years he worked for the Garrett Corporation which fabricates aircraft engines, (turboprops and fanjets). In the middle of this career he went back to school to get his masters degree in counseling. After three years he found this not to be the career he had envisioned so he returned to his previous employment retiring in 1991. After moving from Santa Rosa, California in 2001 he was attracted to our club and joined. He moved to Bellingham 8 years ago and is now active in the Mt. Vernon arm of our club.

His other interests are volunteer peer counseling and Hospice activities, gardening, landscaping and writing his memoirs. He believes the secret of getting new younger members is to wait until they get older.



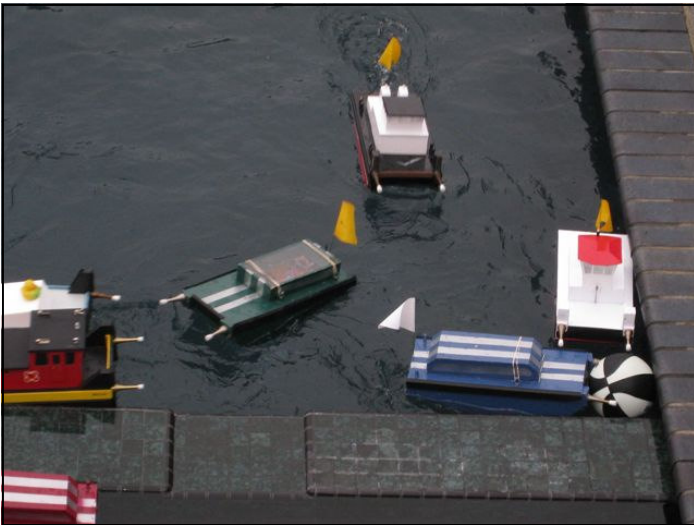


# December Dinner





# Polo Match



# December Fun Float

