



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

July, 2011

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

DATES OF INTEREST

July

- 6** Skagit R/C Group
7 pm PUD, Mt Vernon
- 7** NWRCSM Meeting
7:00PM, Galaxy Hobby
- 10** Fun Float - Bellevue
- 23** Tidewater Cup -
Spokane

August

- 4** Fun Float - Bellevue
- 7** NWRCSM Meeting
7:00PM, Galaxy Hobby
- 13** Crawdad Festival,
Tualatin, OR
- 20** Foss Cup - Bellevue

The summer is upon us, even if the weather does not seem to know it. Captains are polishing up the final details on various boats to be ready for the activities ahead.

July will bring us to another Fun Float on the Bellevue pond followed by the ever favorite Tidewater Cup in beautiful downtown Spokane. A number of our skippers intend to make the jaunt this year to compete with the proverbial winners from our club. (We have all heard about them)

Our Fun Float in August is before our monthly meeting as the Crawdad Festival in Tualatin, OR follows the meeting. I encourage all club members to consider making the trip down to our neighbors to the South as they put on a very fine show. Having the Crawdad Festival activities at the same time, brings out a large crowd of spectators who are very interested in the proceedings. We are usually joined by other clubs and that adds a wonderful depth to the event. There are submarines, twelve foot battleships and many other types of water craft filling a wonderful venue.

As in years past we will have a dinner on Friday and Saturday nights to which all attendees are welcome. Allan will be asking for names and numbers very soon, so we will have enough seats and food for all who wish to attend. This is a pay as you go so you set the budget.

There are a number of places to stay near the pond so plan now to attend.

The Saturday following the Crawdad Festival will be the Foss Cup at the Bellevue Pond. This is put on by the Foss Cup Committee and the information about the sign ups and course layout will be forth coming when the committee prepares it.

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FROM THE QUARTER DECK

As I write this Darlene and I have just returned from 3 weeks in Scandinavia. It was a wonderful trip and we saw much of the nearly 2500 year history of their love of the sea. We visited several museums several of which showed their boating History. In the town of Roskilde we visited a Viking ship Museum that had 5 ships that had been sunk to block one of the approaches to the harbor. Of the 5 ships only 2 were equipped with oars. It appears that many of the Viking ships were only powered by sail. We saw other museums that showed later shipping all the way up to their present container shipping and oil work in the north sea.

I found a hobby store in Bergen but being Sunday it was not open. While there was a few boats in the window it appeared that they dealt mostly with cars. I did not go back to see what they really had because almost everything in Norway costs at least twice what it does here.

As I look Forward to the up coming events the first is the Tidewater Cup in Spokane. Mel sent me some information on the event.

“TIDEWATER CUP” - JULY 30 TH 2011, 10:00 AM (SATURDAY) - REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM - AVISTA REFLECTION POND E. MISSION AVE. SPOKANE, WASHINGTON - THERE ARE THREE TUG CLASSES: CLASS # 1, TUGS 24” AND UNDER— CLASS # 2, TUGS 25”TO 38” - CLASS #, 3 TUGS 39” TO 60” - CLASS SPRINGER 18 “ - REGISTRATION FEE IS \$5.00 FOR FIRST BOAT AND \$ 3.50 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOAT. REGISTRATION FEE FOR SSMA MEMBERS: \$ 4.00/ \$ 2.50

This is always a challenging event and the pond is beautiful. The main competition comes from our club members that travel to Spokane with our club taking home most of the ribbons the last several years.

The Crawdad Festival at Tualatin is coming up on August 13. Amie and Phil are trying to organize a dinner for Saturday night. They are trying to have the Dinner at the Century Hotel and possibly get the hotel to provide security for the clubs boats during the dinner. In addition I am sure that Amie will have a couple of very interesting events to challenge the skippers skills.

Next up is the Foss Cup on Saturday August 20. It is not too late to practice during the July and August Fun floats. The Foss Cup will be held at the Bellevue pond. There had been some talk of trying to hold the event at the new pond at the south end of Lake Union but that does not appear to be happening.

Right now I am trying to get back on Seattle time, Scandinavia is 9 hours ahead of us so at our meeting time of 7 PM it will seem like 4 AM the next morning.



Morrie's museum as told by Dr. Ron

We were invited to view the museum created by Morrie Robinson on the 24th of June, just off the south Skagit highway near Sedro Woolley. Those of us who made the trek up there were rewarded by an opportunity to examine an incredible collection of vintage tractors and engines along with a collection of working miniatures which Morrie had restored, all of which are in working condition. There were collections of toy tractors, old tools, fishing gear, bicycles, an antique apothecary, model boats, model railroad cars, a locomotive which he built, oil lamps, a weaver's loom, a blacksmith forge, a full sized caboose and an old fashioned display case filled with antique minutia. His workshop adjacent to his collections was filled with projects under way and a myriad of tools.

In one corner of his museum was a fully operational kitchen from which bar-b-q d chicken and hot dogs were served along with pot luck salads, baked beans, and deserts. Kevin Klocke provided popcorn prior to dinner while Morrie was demonstrating the workings of a couple of his antique engines. These engines would fire every few seconds, aided by large fly wheels and counter weights which triggered the firing as the rpm's slowed down.



This truly was a great event and an opportunity to mingle with the guys and gals from up north and to learn about some of our historical relics from the past. We were fortunate to have super weather for the drive and the event. A hardy thanks to the Robinsons for hosting this wonderful event.





July Meeting Minutes by Dr. Ron

Liftoff occurred at 1900 hours with Commander Wing at the controls. Two guests were introduced; **Harve Mclemore** and **John “Delta Da” Giesl**. Allan announced that **Wayne Martin** from the Skagit group recently had surgery and was doing well. Hope you get well soon Wayne! The Skagit group sent an invitation to participate in their 1st fun float to be held this Sunday from 1– 4 PM at the Park Village pond in Mount Vernon. This falls on the same day as our fun float at the Bellevue pond. **Dain Webster** encouraged anyone with military craft to display them at the Imaginary Children’s museum in Everett on Veterans’ day. **Mike Shaw** announced the arrival of many model boat kits from the Brooks estate, delivered by his widow. These are all for sale, most untouched and a few which are partially built.

Allan has been queried by **Phil McKinney**, of the Portland Club, regarding the Tualatin Saturday night dinner which could be held at Haydens, adjacent to the hotel. Allan will send out info regarding choices of either a buffet or plate type dinner. If enough sign up and the total bill is \$750 there will be no charge for the room. If the bill is between \$500 and \$750 the room will be half price.

Nominations for the **Cliff Shaw Award** should be considered and presented to Allan to be voted on by the committee, so it can be awarded at the Christmas dinner. **Mel Suelzle** brought in the remaining hats for sale and **Mike Jones** will have info about logo jackets by the next meeting. Upcoming events were announced and are presented in another section of the newsletter. **Tom Stevens** announced he would not be coming to **Foss Cup** this year and that arrangements should be made with him to pick up the derelict vessels and docks.

After a break and inspection of the Brook’s model kits for sale, show and tell commenced with **Dr. Ron Bray** leading off with his recently completed **Lindsey Foss** tug. Many of the features were discussed but could not be demonstrated because the radio was at Harbor Models for repair. The tug has not seen water except for bath tub testing. **Norm Hiatt** demonstrated the progress he has made with his scratch built **Kitty Hawk** aircraft carrier at 1/200 scale. The plans he obtained are for her sister ship, the **Constellation**. He presented a great discussion on the dynamics of these steam driven carriers. He seemingly has a passion for this project since he served as a machinist on her and since her keel was laid on his birthday. The next class of carriers (**Nimitz**) are nuclear powered.

Mike Gullickson brought in his Coast Guard, Dumas Swamp Buggy powered by an aircraft brushless motor. He has successfully operated this buggy on Lake Goodwin and is very pleased with its performance. Apparently the Coast Guard actually has a few of these craft commissioned and have been used in the Midwest during the flood season. **Harve Mclemore** brought in his 8 year, 1st build, fiberglass hull, **Amsterdam**, which has been recently fitted with a larger 4 bladed brass prop, hoping to obtain better performance. **Phil Northrup** showed his **Chrysler Sea Mule** build, consisting of 2 separate hulls, each with an engine and rudder. These craft were originally designed for use by the Army. They could be easily shipped and readily assembled where needed. They came without houses but the Army men used the shipping crates to create a house and confiscated vehicle windshields, etc. to complete the project. Mel showed the progress he has made with the New York fireboat, which is scratch built without the use of plans since none are available. He used foam to create the hull form and then cut it to create the stations. He demonstrated how he uses his **DX6** transmitter and **Switch 8** to amplify the operating functions of the model. His trials and tribulations were discussed. He also presented a sheet of vinyl letters and hull markings he obtained from **BECC**, which are self-adhering and not rub-on letters.

Splashdown was at 2050 and everyone boarded their transportation and headed for home.



Dr. Ron talks about the **Lindsey Foss**



Norm Hiatt



Mike Gullickson



Phil Northrup



Mel Suelzle



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