



The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

May 2017

3 Month Events Look Ahead

JUNE

- 1 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 3 Fun Float Location Hilton HOA 9am

JULY

- 6 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 8 Fun Float 9am
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond
- 22 **Regatta 2017** 9am-3pm
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond

AUGUST

- 3 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 5 Fun Float 6 pm
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond
- 12 **Model Boat Regatta** 9am-4pm
Tualatin, OR
- 19 **NW Tug Championship** 9 am-4pm
Derby Pond
- 31 Fun Float/Coffee 10am
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Meeting at Galaxy Hobby 7pm
- 9 Fun Float 6 pm
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond
- TBD Jacobsen's Barbeque 10-3 pm
Lake Goodwin
(Springer contest)
- TBD Fishermen's Memorial 11-6 pm
- 21 Coffee Fun Float 10 am
Bellevue Downtown Park Pond

Check for latest updates at
www.shipmodelers.com



From the Wheel House

Mel Suelzle

Finally some decent weather has arrived just in time for our spring events. Our recent outing at the Seattle Yacht Club and

Lake Hilton are good examples that the sun is still with us. It is time to lighten up on our building schedules and get ready to enjoy the nice weather and run our boats. Of course we may have some other nice weather chores to do as well, but a good balance in work and play is always a great plan.

We are getting well into the planning phase for our regatta. Many vendors have been contacted for our raffle prizes and some have already committed and even sent some items for our raffle.

While our regatta is the first of the three major competitive events, there is plenty of time and opportunities to get out and enjoy our hobby. Raboesch is one of the remaining suppliers of model boat props. Raboesch is also one of our consistent sponsors for the regatta so we should look to them for our prop needs. Here is a list of sponsors that have confirmed their support of our 2017 regatta.

We have solicited donations from several other companies and expect them to respond favorably as well. Members are encouraged to give favor to these vendors who support our activities.

- GALAXY HOBBY
- RABOESCH
- PACIFIC BATTERIES
- FREEMONT TUG
- FOSS MARITIME
- HARBOR MODELS
- M-TRONIKS
- AIMEE ENG
- LOYALHANNA DOCKYARD

Speaking of vendors, some may not have heard that last month, Prop Shop in the UK suffered a serious fire. Much of their documentation was lost and they are not accepting orders at this time. If you find any stock locally, you might want to grab it.

Coming up soon is the Memorial Day fun float at Tualatin that some may travel south for. **Randy and Linda Flodquist** were at our May meeting and promoted the Anacortes Waterfront Festival and invited model boaters to their home for a barbeque following the Festival on Saturday June 3rd. That is the day we have a fun float scheduled, but the festival extends to Sunday as well. Keith's north end report in this newsletter edition has more details as well.

And a final note. We all remember the sad news we received last January of the passing of **Mark Freeman**. Mark was a pillar of the maritime community and great supporter of our modeling hobby. He regularly supported our events and his photos were always popular with our members. A nice obituary is posted at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/obituary.aspx?n=mark-h-freeman&pid=184113911>.

Also, we have recently received news from Mark's wife, **Margie**. She has offered to continue support of our club and is now our newest member. We are pleased to have Margie as a member and appreciate her continued support.

From the North End

Keith Schermerhorn

Hard to believe that summer is just around the corner and time to be having fun outdoors. And that is what the members of the Skagit group discussed First up was **Wayne** letting us know the meeting dates for June and July have changed due to scheduling issues. So June's meeting will be on Monday, June 12th and for July on July 10 so as to not be interfering with the holiday. So same place, just different days. The bulk of the night's activities was setting up the display schedule for the upcoming Waterfront Festival in Anacortes on June 3 & 4. This is the 1 time a year that we set up a public display at the festival under the big tent to display our models to the general public. It is also a good time to get people interested in the hobby. Always a favorite display is what gets us invited year after year too. So, like last year, we will be over in the educational area away from the sound stage!! Plan on setting up tables around 8 am Saturday morning. Should have enough tables, but recommend bring an extra if one has one just in case we get over run. Can also drive up to the spot before 9 am. After that closes



off the access. We are close to the middle entrance behind the Harbor Master's office, so close by for load/unloading. Once set up, just put boats on display and enjoy the show. Half the fun is chatting with people who visit as they always have some interesting stories and questions. After the show on Saturday, **Randy** has indicated that we could have another gathering up at their place with a pot luck dinner as long as some can help Linda out! Let **Randy Flodquist** know if you are interested and coming. Sunday the show goes until about 5pm and can quickly load up and get out of there easier than in the past. We do invite anyone that wants to attend and show off their boats as there are other activities to enjoy including free boat rides, food, crafts, entertainment, and kids' activities. Fun float is still set for July 16th at the mobile home park of **Gordon's** as there is plenty of clean water to use so far this year. They are looking forward to us being there as they have missed it the last couple of years with the drought/weed issues. August 5th is the Drayton Harbor Festival up in Blain where there is another display along with all the other fun activities planned for the day. Displays are actually indoors, so it doesn't matter what the weather does as it is also air-conditioned! This is also the meeting dates for the NW Steam Society's gathering again. Lots of steam powered vessels on display and cruising around. Activities include

Plover rides, raft race, and pirates just to name a few. Time is 11-5 and all is free.

New is the Bellingham Seafood Celebration to be held at Squalicum harbor/Zuanich Park in Bellingham. This is the sophomore year of this event that celebrates the working industries of the waterfront/seas of the Pacific NW. So **Keith** checked into this and they were excited to have some models on display this year as one of the coordinators has seen the models at Pacific Marine Expo and knows what we can bring to a show. So they have set aside a 10x20 area for models to be displayed. Along with the model display, there will be food (last year free food even), vendors, educational displays, boat tours, and

entertainment just to name a few activities. More information to come as it gets closer, but should be a good time for a road trip to Bellingham to show off your models again.

Show and tell was real light with **Keith's** PBR updates and report on how it handled. Also, showed off the drawings for a 50 foot "table" purse seiner from the 1940's. This is a small boat but similar to the 58' limit seiners of the day with nice lines and some classic details that will be fun to model.

After that, we closed up shop and headed for our home ports for another month. Hope to see you at the Anacortes festival as we welcome all to participate, hang out, or just say hello.

April 6th Meeting Minutes

Dr. Ron Bray

Photos by Allan Wing & Robert Osmond

Twenty-two intrepid souls came through thunder, lightning and rain to attend the May meeting. Our commodore, **Mel Suelzle**, started the meeting promptly at 1900 hours.



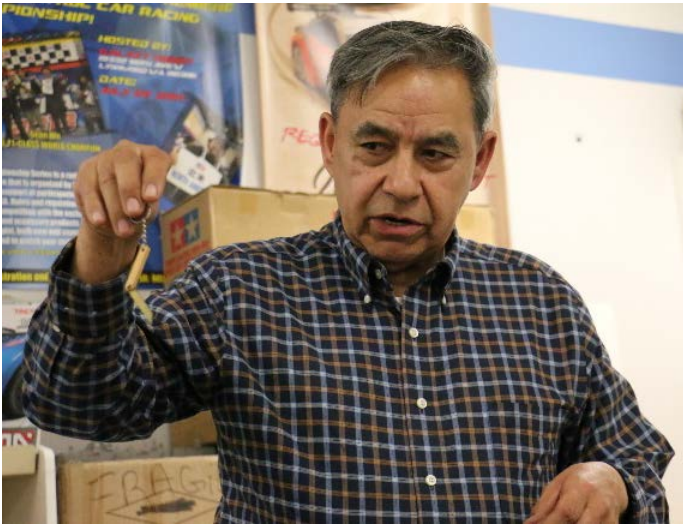
New guests included **Bill Boettcher** (a scratch builder and member of the Ventura Maritime Museum located in Oxnard, California) and **Jeff Levin**. The **Flodquists** came down from Anacortes to discuss the Anacortes Maritime Festival on June 3-4 and encouraged all to come and participate and enjoy the festivities. They will host a pot luck barBQ at their home Saturday night.

Show and tell started with **Dave White** who showed a small drone camera, which he purchased from Galaxy, and being suitable for mounting on



boats. **Phil Northrup** showed a nice Trumpeter model of the USS Arizona which splits at the waterline. Discussion evolved regarding what type





of tape could be used to seal the waterline even though the vessel was packed with foam to prevent it from going under in the case of water intrusion. He warned us to beware of unfinished projects as gifts as he recently acquired an 8 foot model of the Hood from a friend of Dave White's. **Tom Stevens** displayed a cool miniature plane from Germany and a handmade bevel square.

Robert Osmond gave a very interesting presentation regarding anchor handling techniques and various types of anchors used in securing oil drilling platforms in various water depths and how they are secured by use of anchor handling vessels. He passed around a book on the subject and numerous pictures of anchors and their deployment.

After the break the **Flodquists** gave their presentation on the Anacortes festival and



indicated that tables and chairs would be welcomed. **Mel** gave a report on our fun float at the Seattle Yacht Club and what a great venue it has become. We were very lucky to have great weather and use of their dining facilities. The new A sign with attached brochures seemed to be a success. **Mel** gave the treasurers report indicating we are still in a good financial position. However, there are still members who are delinquent in their dues for the year. It was voted to remove them from the roster and e-mail contact.

Mel gave a report on his progress on acquiring



donations for our upcoming regattas and solicited input from the members for any additional sources.

Mike Shaw asked what he could stock to better help us with our projects. So, if you have any thoughts on this, please let him know. It was mentioned that the Oregon Maritime Museum is offering excursions on a steam powered tug in mid-August for a mere \$75 fare. Unfortunately, this will most likely conflict our Tualatin regatta. At the end of the meeting, **Darlene Wing** and **Robert Osmond** won gift certificates for merchandise at Galaxy Hobby. We headed back out into the lousy weather and headed for home ports at 2030.

Lake Hilton Fun Float – May 6th

Mel Suelzle

Photos by Dain Webster and Tom Stevens

Only a few committed members ventured out to the shores of Lake Hilton for our May fun float. This is a beautiful setting in the Hilton HOA on a major roadway in the Everett Silver Lake area. While the temperature was cool, the periods of bright sunshine were most appreciated and made for a very pleasant day to run boats. Several residents gathered to watch our boats. A few youngsters wanted to try their hand at piloting my South Hampton. The density of water plants created a challenge for skippers except **Robert Osmond's**



Clyde Puffer that ran so viscously (like all his boats) it chewed pathways for others to follow. Robert's surf boarder ran well at times pleasing the spectators on the shore. **Bryan Morse** also ran his South Hampton and my Red Bull collected a good harvest of plant life. Even **Tom Stevens** brought our



his high bow fishing boat that ran very nice right up until I lost it in the weeds and the batteries died during recovery attempts..

Tom also provided some excitement when his makeshift seat on Robert's wagon collapsed and narrowly missed Roberts' gear. Tom had his foul weather gear on so he was unable to get out of the wagon without help from a couple of members while others stood by and enjoyed the humor of the moment. Tom stood up the rest of the time.

Rick Goodrich tested his new camera recently acquired from Galaxy Hobby. Gordy's old boat the Eula B made a showing as well.

Many thanks to **Dain Webster** for setting up this event' we are scheduled to return for our June fun float. Hopefully we can have a better showing next month.



Fun Float – May 3rd

Mel Suelzle



Photos by Allan Wing & Robert Osmond

May 3rd was the day in the middle of Opening Week of the 2017 boating season and the day which several of us spent displaying and running our boats at the Seattle Yacht Club. As usual we had an enthusiastic group of visitors that enjoyed our boat displays and operation on the water.



Dr. Ron had his usual impressive display of pleasure boats that drew a lot of attention from the SYC visitors.



Robert Osmond's steam launch ran well as usual even without a 4 hour prep time. He ran his new PBR and pleases the crowd with its fast performance.

Steven Sunich brought out his pristine tugs, the Andrew Foss and the brand new Stalwart. The winds were calm



enough for **Allan Wing** to show off the on the water performance of his nice Wawona. **Dave White** and **Al Kinsman** kept their pusher tugs on the water ready to lend a hand if needed. As it turned out no serious salvage work was needed save for one members pitiful performing steam(?) launch. **Scott Baumann** was unable to attend, but we appreciate his advance effort in coordinating this event with the Seattle Yacht Club.





April Polo Match & Alan Wing's Air Force Rescue Boat – April 22nd

Robert Osmond

Photos by Robert Osmond

April 22 we had a Polo match at Dennis Chin's house. There were eight intrepid skippers in the freshening breeze and threatening clouds ready to pit their skill and sense of mayhem in a game of Springer Polo. For the first time in quite a while we started with 8 running boats.



They were all working so well that the first round we played went to a final score of 8 to 7, which is a new record of points without any boat attrition. The bumping and spinning of propeller sounds was truly invigorating.

Alan Wing ran his fast plastic model Air Force Rescue boat. It was very quick, excuse the blurry photo. It was too fast for the camera to catch.

Denning had make 2x4 lumber pieces that filled in the corner to make all the corners 45 degrees in the pool. This made it so we did not end up pushing each other into a corner to stalemates. This sped up the play a great deal. Great Idea Dennis!



We played many 3 and 5 point rounds and had a lot of fun. Quite a few players were having fun pushing Mel's boat upside down. For some reason, possibly a loose battery it was easy to make turn turtle. After playing for 2 hours from 10 to noon we had pizza and packed up, just as it started to sprinkle.

Those that did not come missed a lot of fun. I still bring 4 polo boats so I can loan out a couple to those that do not have a polo boat, keep this in mind you can make the next outing.

2017 Club Information



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