



# THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the  
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

May 2010

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## From the Quarterdeck

By Allan Wing



With May and hopefully better weather, it is time to dust off your boats and get out on the pond. The May Fun Float will be a perfect time to practice. Earl and Al will have docks and buoys set up at the next fun float. Mel and the guys that meet at Galaxy Hobby on Thursdays are talking of taking that meeting to Bellevue pond the third Thursday of the month. They did this last year and it provided a way to do testing, practicing and get advice on building techniques.

The year seems to be flying along. Plans for the Regatta are proceeding well, thanks to help from many people. We have asked several vendors for donations for our raffle. We have gotten four responses so far. I asked at the last meeting for members to ask businesses they know for donations. I would like to ask the members if you have a hull, kit or tool that you got and had planned to build or use but have not gotten around to it, think of donating it to the raffle. I will send out an appeal to the membership.

We decided to serve sandwiches at the Regatta. The lunch will be informal and running on the course will continue at the discretion of the Judges. The course will remain open from the first boat until everyone has run. The only exceptions will be when the judges desire a break.

I have asked Ron Burchett about specifics on his plans for the Tug and Salvage convention in Vancouver. I know he plans to have his pond set up in front of the

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## Upcoming Events

### May

- 1-2 BIMM Spring Model Show  
Bellingham Museum
- 3 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 6 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 8 Seattle Tug boat Races  
Seattle Waterfront
- 9 Fun Float, Springer event  
12:00, Bellevue Park
- 15-16 Anacortes Waterfront Fest  
Cap Sante Boat Haven

### June

- 3 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 5 Northwest Regatta  
9:00am, Bellevue Park**
- 7 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon

### July

- 1 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 5 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 11 Fun Float, Springer event  
12:00, Bellevue Park
- 24 Tidewater Cup  
9-5pm Spokane, Avista Pond



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Westin Bayshore Hotel hosting the convention and also that he wants our club to participate. He has not given me exact dates or times. I have asked for more details so those who want to attend can make plans. I will send out an email to all club members as soon as I hear anything.

Aimee Eng is proceeding with plans for the Crawdad Festival in Tualatin on August 14. She plans to have much the same events as in years past. We should have a good turnout.

Our fearless Vice President Lee Stewart is riding his motorcycle through a good portion of South America. By the time you read this he should be on his way home.

Scott Baumann has been working to get mention of our Regatta and the Foss Cup in the Seattle Times Summer Guide. Mel Suelzle is also working to get mention of the Regatta in other papers. This should help get some of the added visibility I have been hoping for.

One final note Mel or Lee will chair the May meeting. I will be in dry dock for about a month and hope to return for the June meeting.

## Membership Form

Dues are \$25.00/ year

Make checks payable to:

N.W.R/C Ship Modelers

C/O Ed Maurer, 22309 54th AVE. W., Mountlake Terrace,  
WA. 98043

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



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**Tom Stevens** shared his practice of using adhesive backed sandpaper on a flat surface to keep items from sliding around. A piece of plate glass is an excellent flat surface and can be used as a sharpening plane for woodworking tools.

Robert Wickham showed off his Amsterdam tug renamed "Jezebel" or something similar. He has a pair of huge props driven by a 5:1 gear reduction motor drive that puts this tug on a serious plane. He is getting carried away with lighting and so far is up to 32 lights. With this many lights he can join the Christmas parade on Lake Union next December.

Marvin Walden brought in his rejuvenated Yamamoto model that has been a mantelpiece for several years. It has a solid carved hull and has been refitted a number of times and often used to harass ducks.

Tim Justice brought in the cabin of his new YTB navy tug he is building. This is a 1/16" scale model and keeps with Tim's tradition of building very big model boats. The cabin is larger than most boats in the club. While it is a navy tug, Tim promises that it will not have navy colors! or is that "color"

Earl Anderson outlined his plans for the Springer contest on Sunday. He will have the course set up for practice at 10 am and encourages all to come out and give it a try. Earl has planned a contest that promises to be fun and challenging to all.

The meeting was adjourned and chairs were stacked at 8:15.



# Skagit R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

## By Keith Schermerhorn

With April comes the Tulips in Skagit Valley and so do the smiling faces of the members of the Skagit Scale Shipmodelers to this meeting. For this meeting on the 5th, saw a larger than normal crowd in attendance with 19 of all ages. First order of the night was to remind all that boating season is now upon us and that the first of the events will be on May 1 & 2 in Bellingham at BIMM. Fun indoor show with a pond, good people, and unique chance to get rid of those "dumb thumbs" just weeks before the regatta!

The next big event, especially for this group, will be the Waterfront Festival in Anacortes on the 15 & 16th of May. This is always a really big show with several boats and a lot of spectators coming by to see the models on display and in the water. Need people to bring tables if they have them just in case we do not have enough.

The NW regatta is coming up fast in June. The club is looking for donated items for the raffle and for members to help bring water and soda. Get your boats ready as this is always a good time to attend.

We will be having a fun float on July 11th at the mobile park in Mt. Vernon. Last years day was a little under attended, so we have set the date early. This is a private park that we have been invited to run in their pond and it is really nice for running boats with some high sides for viewing. More information to come.

Larry said the sailing is still going strong and anyone is welcomed to join them on Tuesdays and Saturdays for some fun racing action.

Vic Childs was kind enough to give us an update on the recent tragedy at the refinery (where he is employed) and the speculated events of that fire. Was a tough one to have to deal with as it did happen while he was working ( he was out on the pier away from that zone). As a big family, Vic thanked everyone for their support and concern.

Show and tell was short as it showed the update to the new yacht that Keith is working on. Particular interest was the decking and hull construction as to some new material that will hopefully work as planned.

Once all other business was completed, it was time for the main event of the evening. This has been building for several months with much fan fare and anticipation. So without further ado, we presented Wayne Martins slide show of past event as photographed by the founder of this group, the late Ed Harris. The photos were scanned to a computer from Ed's old color paper photos ( yes before there was digital there was paper for the younger kids) from events that he attended around the NW back in 1985-89. Some great moments captured on film showing the progressive of what was done then that was great modeling. There were even pics of various members that we all recognized that were skinny, had hair, had color in their hair, and actually looked really young. It was a good evening of reminiscing and seeing/remembering some of our friends that are no longer with us and the ways they touched us with their spirit in the hobby. Some of their models are around and sometimes even make an appearance at the waterfront festival. Some of the photos were of Wayne's own personal family from around the Mt.Vernon area that really showed changes from then to now. All in all it was a great presentation with lots of insight and memories for the members that also showed us how this all started for us. With the show being over a little later than normal, we packed the place in and headed for our home ports until next time.

# April Fun Float and Springer Event

By Allan Wing



The April Fun Float got off to a cloudy start but the sun soon came out and we had a great Springer event. There were 11 Springers entered. The event consisted of going out from shore getting a specially designed barge and returning back to shore. The return to shore included maneuvering the barge through a set of goal posts. It was set up as a race between four boats with the first and second place boats moving to the next round. With 11 boats we had three first round runs. Two runs with four boats and one with three boats. Mel Suelzle, Al Kinsman, Tom Stevens, Randy Flodquist, Darlene Wing and I placed either first or second and advanced to the next round. The second round consisted of two runs of three boats each. Al, Tom, Randy and I advanced to the final round. The final run of four boats determined the first and second place winners.



Randy showed great poise and control and won easily. Tom took several tries and came in second. Al and I could not seem to get lined up with the barge and failed to place. Our congratulations go to Randy and Tom. In addition to winning the April Springer event Randy received a \$50 gift card to Galaxy Hobby and Tom got a \$25 gift card for second. The gift cards were compliments of Galaxy Hobby and Earl Anderson. Our special thanks to Galaxy Hobby. We urge everyone to patronize Galaxy Hobby as much as possible. The event was designed and run by Earl Anderson. He did a fabulous job and it was a great event.



Jon Andriesen had his steam tug at The Fun Float. He was testing some modifications he had made to make it more reliable. He had had problems last year with the fire going out after only a short bit of running. He had much better luck and was able to run 24 minutes. This should provide plenty of run time to compete in the June Regatta

