



# THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the  
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

October 2007



**Upcoming Events**

**October**

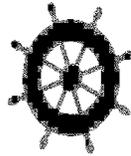
- 2 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 4 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 7 Fun Float, Bellevue Pond

**November**

- 1 NWRCSM Meeting  
7:30 pm Galaxy Hobby
- 4 Fun Float  
CWB Lake Union
- 6 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 15-17 Pacific Marine Expo  
Quest Field

**December**

- 4 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers  
7:00 pm Lake Jack
- 6 Northend Pig Out  
Martha Lake CC
- 9 Fun Float  
CWB Lake Union



## From the Wheelhouse By Mel Suelzle.

Each year we think there is no way to top the latest Fun Float at **Bob and Laurie Jacobsen's** home on Lake Goodwin. However, EACH YEAR it seems to only get better. Bob and Laurie managed to arrange for a gorgeous day with temperatures in the mid 80s. We had a great turnout, due in part to the planned silent auction of **Doug & Sandy Taylor's** donation of all their model boating supplies and materials. Bob arranged for a nice location that allowed bidders plenty of opportunity to hover around their favorite item to make sure no one slipped in a higher bid just before time ran out. EVERY item was sold to a good home with the top item, the Renegade riverboat going to **Pat Plueard**. **Dr Ron** latched onto the Tito Nero to add to his vast collection of model boats (some of them are actually finished!) With everyone packing their new found treasures home, Ed Maurer banked \$4,380 to the club treasury. What a great response by everyone in attendance. This activity was a fun addition to a day full of fun, great food and even a little model boat running in between speed runs of Pat's gas hydro while he refilled the gas tank.

The auction was a great success. Many thanks to everyone that supported it with very active bidding. Special thanks to **Ed Maurer** who kept the bids/payments straight and all who help collect, sort and label the goods we picked up during our trip to Tualatin last month. Allan and Darlene for hauling and storing the goods for a few weeks, **Allan Kinsman, Gordy Canney** and of course Darlene's horses, that loaned us the use their trailer.



*Check out the Photo Page on the web*

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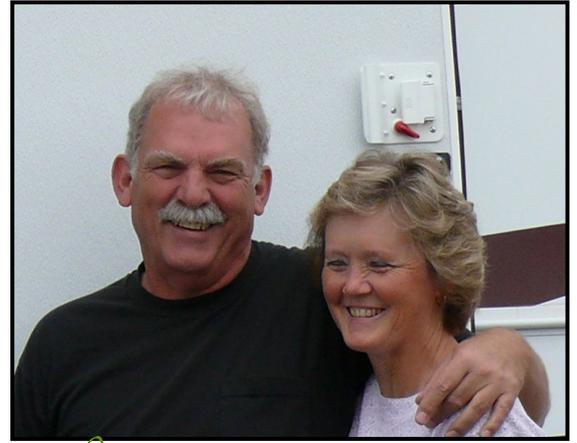
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Least we forget to express our appreciation to **Doug and Sandy Taylor** that made it all possible. We thank them for this generously donation to our club. It is now incumbent on us to come up with some innovative, worthwhile way to use the proceeds from their donation. We will spend some time at the October meeting to brainstorm some ideas, so give it some serious thought in the meantime.



**Bob Jacobsen** shared some personal news for the group as well. Bob is no longer in the ranks of the unemployed. He has assumed a high level position with Horizon and will be responsible for their worldwide distribution programs. Seems like Horizon really wanted Laurie, but it was a package deal so Bob got a nice cushy job out of the deal. Kidding, aside, Horizon made a smart move and we congratulate Bob as he moves to another phase of his career in the hobby industry. We are happy that he is staying in the modeling profession and we look forward to the many benefits of having a highly placed representative that will insure a consistent flow of products tailored to the all important model boating customers.

**Fall Fisherman's Festival** – This years festival is on Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is always a fun and relaxed event with nearby water to run. New this year is the new floating docks. This should give us more and better access to the water and eliminate some of the risks of getting lost under the elevated old docks. If you have never attended this event it is one of the more fun events of the year. This festival is at the Fisherman's Terminal in Ballard and is largely attended by those working in the marine industry. The crowds are always eager to talk about our boats and of course we enjoy that too. We will be there around 9AM to setup. This is an all day event that begins at 11AM and will run to dusk.



## December Pig-Out



Everyone so enjoyed last years Pig-out we have decided to repeat the affair at the same location and using the same caterer. We will select the menu from list of options that looks unchanged form last years selection. While we haven't made the final details yet, it is time for you to block out December 6<sup>th</sup> and plan to attend. The cost will be about the same as last years \$25/person. I think everyone felt the meal and service quality was well worth the extra cost. Having the full catered event ensures that none have to be burdened by setup/clean up and all can enjoy the evening. I am starting to review my photo files for the best of the best, so if you have some "interesting" ones, send them my way, please. MFS

## Cliff Shaw Award

At the December Pig-out, we will be presenting the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Cliff Shaw Award at this dinner. Send your nominations to Mel Suelzle for review by the committee comprised of Mel, Mike Shaw, Tom Stevens and Gordy Canney.

The winner of the award will be the person who has shown throughout the year the principles that Cliff Shaw embodied. Namely; Innovation in boat design, engineering design or workmanship, helpfulness to others in the club and the hobby in general and active in the sport. The winner will be someone who really enjoys what they are doing and loves figuring out new and fun ways to accomplish this. Helpfulness to others and participation in club events are also a must

## MEMBERSHIP DUES PAYABLE IN OCTOBER

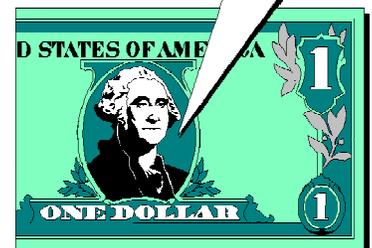
The following members dues are expired or will expire during October – December 2007. Dues for the rest of 2007 are \$5 and DUE NOW! Everyone's dues expire in January, so you might want to consider paying \$25 and be paid up until January 2009.

Jim Sisley	Ingvar Sjong	Truxtun Craven
John Nygaard	Robert Wickham	Bill Protero
Mark Freeman	Bob Jacobsen	

*Please submit  
your payment  
promptly to  
Ed Maurer.*

The following members dues expired in July-September and are over-due. Dues for remainder of 2007 for these folks is \$10

Jerry Anderson	Leonard Bainter	Ron Bray
Willie Bunce	Linda Flodquist	Michael Finnely
Dusty Graham	Jim King	Bud Leupold
Robert McCalab	Russ Shrewbury	



## Fall Springer Event

October 7<sup>th</sup> is our last fun float of the season at the Bellevue pond. This will also be the date of our fall Springer contest coordinated by Earl Anderson. Earl was unable to attend the Lake Goodwin event so the Springer contest was postponed until October. I am sure Earl will come up with a fun and challenging contest for us.

## Northwest R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By Randy Flodquist

At 1935 on 6 September Mel called twenty-six to order including Phil's oldest, Mike. The treasury has \$1700 and that includes having sent a \$300 deposit for the December Dinner. Bent props ( misspelled and all ) went out to Burt and myself for our ferryboat adventures and misadventures. Mel mentioned the new Foss Maritime book by Mike Stork which is available from Amazon for about \$14.

Lake Bob is coming up Sunday but the usual Springer event will be missing as well as Earl who will lead us on an adventuresome task in October. A silent auction for items in the Taylor gift will be held that afternoon.

Fisherman's Festival on the twenty-second.

Cliff Shaw Award needs nominations. Put it in writing. Criteria will be in the next newsletter.

NOMINATIONS are also needed as the election is in November. If nobody steps up we'll be rudderless. No Bent Prop. Salty Dog to Darlene Wing for saving Bob McCaleb's battleship in Tualatin. I gave pitches for the Soapbox Derby on Fremont Avenue the 29th and the Kinetic Sculpture doings in Port Townsend on October 6-7. Also our requested presence at the HD Diesel doings at the CWB on October 20. More info on that at the next meeting.

We moved to send a sympathy card to the San Francisco club; their member Ken Reilly died on 24 August. He did a good job increasing the joy of Springers.

Tom gave a report and led a discussion of the recently completed FOSS CUP. Only complaint was that it started a little late. Tom says the committee would welcome more members.

Following the break it was time for the Word Game!!! Make that SHOW 'N TELL.

Ed had some nice compact fuse blocks. Allan had the wheelhouse for Darlene's Polo Springer and a tato a mano jig for cutting narrow plywood strips safely.

Dave Green has his project of 52 years, a lovely USCG tender. All scratch. Some of the innards came from a cannibalized fax machine. We're glad he decided to build it instead of burning it.

Mel's Dolphin hull is moving slowly toward the water. Solving problems as he goes. From Galaxy he got a "slow servo" system that will reduce abuse to the Z drives.

I took the door prize and following the stacking of the chairs we zipped out the door at 2102 to swap stories and make plans in the crisp almost Autumn air.

## BAMM Regatta

By Dave Feray

Ginny and I went to the rain-delayed regatta in Burnaby today. We were the only Yanks there, but there must have been 20 BAMM members. We brought home **3rd place** in the tug category. They had a challenging steering course, with 4 dockings, 4 narrow channels, and 2 passages through a narrow swing bridge. They are a nice bunch of folks.



# SKAGIT R/C SHIP MODELERS

By Keith Schermerhorn

It was a night like any other night. The usual suspects were seen gathering at Lake Jacks for another evening of boats, models, and picture discussions. There was Jack, Wayne, Larry, Len, Leonard, Keith, Shawna, and blow boat man Vic and his lovely companions (sail boats and friend). Noticeably missing was Dusty, although he had made a brief appearance earlier in the evening.

The meeting started out side with Vic modeling the new "Cats-sass" to-shirts from the tippee-fast-canoe he races on ( story from last year-- catamaran going fast, then sudden stop/capsizing, all caught on film). Then Vic had a couple of blow boats that needed some work or just good homes. Larry indicated that he can probably help him with that situation. Keith then brought out his newest project to get it's inaugural water test. Now it was not a boat or a plane. No, it was a hovercraft that found in the swap meet at the hobby expo this past March. Some of the crew decided to go down to the water to see if this thing would actually work. Well it did and proceeded to run around over the water and objects init quite well. Even able to make a couple of landings up onto the dock deck. We all decided to go inside since the battery didn't last long and bugs were starting to feed. Awaiting inside were some goodies and the rest of the group.

Discussed some events from the past month. Keith brought up the reminder that there will be another all model event at the Bellingham International Maritime Museum the second weekend in October. Next, we proceeded to look at photos ( professional photographer) taken at a sailboat races Vic had brought. Small boats, lots of color, and even a collision. Then we saw the that Larry had taken with his wife on their trip to Italy. Some really interesting pictures of buildings that are several hundred of years old and still lived in. narrow streets, arched ways, steep hills, and even boats by the sea shore. A voice was heard from the back of the room saying with a sigh "I could be there for hours taking pictures just at that location.....". After enjoying our brief trip through Italy with Larry, we all noticed it was getting late and left this destination headed to our home ports for the evening.

Next month, will be meeting in the shop as it will be too dark to run boats at the pond.

## BIMM Radio Control and Scale Model Exhibition & Swap Meet

Bellingham International Maritime Museum will be holding it's first all r/c model show on the weekend of October 12-14 from 12-4 on Friday and 10am-4pm on Sat. (3pm on Sunday) at 800 Cornwall Avenue in Bellingham, WA. This will feature r/c model boats/ships, planes, cars, swap meet, raffle, and model demonstrations. Local clubs will be there to help answer any questions that people have on the hobbies. There is no charge for displaying a model, but the addition price for all others is by donation at the door. This will be a display/demonstrator event ( no contest ). The museum will also feature the following displays: NOAA-100 years, Vietnam era PBR & hovercraft, local maritime history, large scale models (10-20'), other vessels under refurbishment, and the "anchor recovery" programs with one of the recovered anchors. Snack food and coffee will be available at the museum. Other eateries are within a couple blocks of the museum including the open market and brewery. For more information, people should contact me at [wscherm@fidalgo.net](mailto:wscherm@fidalgo.net), 360-734-1843 in the eves., or go to [www.bimm.us](http://www.bimm.us) to see what the museum is about. Hope to see you there for a relaxing day of chatting about models and history.

This will be an all inclusive show featuring radio controlled model aircraft, boats, and cars on display and in action for 3 days. Also a modelers swap meet, hobby vendors, refreshments, raffle, local club information and a full size demonstration pool. This is not a competition although models of local interest are encouraged to be shown.

BIMM, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, exists to honor, celebrate, record and preserve the rich maritime history of Bellingham, Whatcom County, and Puget Sound, with a special emphasis on the Pacific Northwest regional trans-border nautical heritage shared by Washington State, British Columbia, and Alaska.

For more info contact:  
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Website - [www.bimm.us](http://www.bimm.us)

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PORT OF BELLINGHAM

# Foss Cup Review

By Keith Schermerhorn

On Saturday, August 18th, 26 competitors from all over the Pacific NW converged on Downtown Park in Bellevue for the 2007 Foss Cup. This year's competition was as good as ever. The weather was warm and comfortable with a breeze most of the day. The rain was absent until late in the day afterwards. The event got started with a nice breakfast before the meet to ensure that everyone was starting on a full stomach. New this year was the assigning of positions to start with. 1 person was chosen from each of the 4 main classes one at a time and added to the posting board to make sure that we didn't double up on the barges per class. This process was repeated until the board was filled. The nice thing about this arrangement was that you knew exactly where you were in line and what part of the competition each had completed. After the skippers meeting, the tug/barges started out into the course and salvage derelicts were being retrieved. Many good scores were posted keeping the competitors on their toes watching what others were doing. Our judges Mr. Jim Martin and Andy Andrews (both former Foss captains) had their work cut out for them as the barges were maneuvered around the course and into the docks (sometimes literally). Both of these gentlemen were quick to offer advice and question the reasons for maneuvering the way you did. Every now and then they could be heard saying " That might have worked here, but I wouldn't have done it that way." Well at least they commented that dispatch wanted to see me in the office after I moved a buoy around the course and lost my load coming into the final docking.

Club member Mike Moore graciously offered to do judge the salvage event. This event has fun to watch as each boat had to go out and "catch" derelict vessels anchored out in the bay. The real challenge here was after catching the salvage was to get the vessel into the dock in the 2 minute time limit once you passed the "gate". Most did well, but some couldn't finish within the time allotted. Some thought that if they used their underwater winches that it would help them. Problem was that they had no power to maneuver into position.

When all was done, Al Kinsman was the overall winner running his small tug " Lil Toot." The youngest competitor, Mathew Plueard was a close second. Congratulations to all the top finishers and those who finished. The long distance award this year was given to Mr. Darrel Kline of Wisconsin who had come out to see the cup and ended up running a boat for the first time in any competition. The raffle had some great prizes to be won again. There were goods from tug companies (Foss, Western, Island Tug and Barge {Canada}, Seaspans) and various hobby vendors (Great Planes, Horizon Hobbies, Dumas, RAM, Ron Burchett, Gary King, Flodquist). Thanks to Gehard, Dr. Ron and Leif for selling of the raffle tickets.

I can not begin to thank all those who helped out before, during, and after the day was over but I will try: Linda Flodquist and crew in the "galley" (Ruth, Jackie, Mrs. Farey) Gehard Ericson and Shawna ( registration), Dave White (harbor master), Randy Flodquist (board man), Ben (salvage/barge help), Tom for transporting a lot of stuff that gets used, Kevin for bringing the barges/docks, Mel for equipment and barge, and any one else who's name I didn't mention. Really need to thank all those who helped to scramble and get things cleaned/packed away just before a storm moved in when every thing was over at about 5:00pm. Just as we were getting Toms trailer down and mine strapped up, the rain came down with a vengeance. Glad we were done. And thanks to Foss Maritime for their continued support of this event and the hobby.

As with any event, there are a few things we will work on to improve the event. So start thinking about doing some barge and salvage working the next year to get yourself prepared for Foss Cup 2008 on Sat., August 16.



## Member Spotlight By Dr. Ron

KEVIN KLOCKE

After bringing his go-fast boat to the Anacortes festival three years ago he became acquainted with the NWRC model boat club and was “hooked on tugs”. He bought Gordy Canney’s Dumas Brooklyn (Gotham) tug and added multiple bells and whistles. He first became interested in the world of RC modeling at the age of 15 with cars, planes and go-fast boats. Currently he has 7 tugs, 2 gas go-fast boats 11 barges, a 1/8<sup>th</sup> scale monster truck and a helicopter. He says his passion is not so much in the building aspect of modeling but modifying those already constructed.



He has participated in many club functions, winning a 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall at the Foss Cup last year and 1<sup>st</sup> in vintage class at the June Regatta. He also obtained a 1<sup>st</sup> at the Burnaby event and attended the Tidewater cup in Spokane. He “loves to talk about the hobby of radio controlled boats”. He feels the future of the club lies in promoting interest and comradery among present past and future members.

Kevin was born in Buffalo, N.Y. and came to the Northwest via the US Navy being first stationed at the Whidbey NAS in 1988. He then spent two years on the USS Nimitz and saw action in the Persian Gulf. After leaving the Navy he was a dairy and potato farmer then drove logging and dump trucks before ending up with the DOT as a “maintenance grunt” for the past six years. He was elected fire commissioner for the community of Day Creek along the Skagit River building confidence in the reliability of the department as well as being instrumental in upgrading the facility and equipment and acquiring a new fire engine.

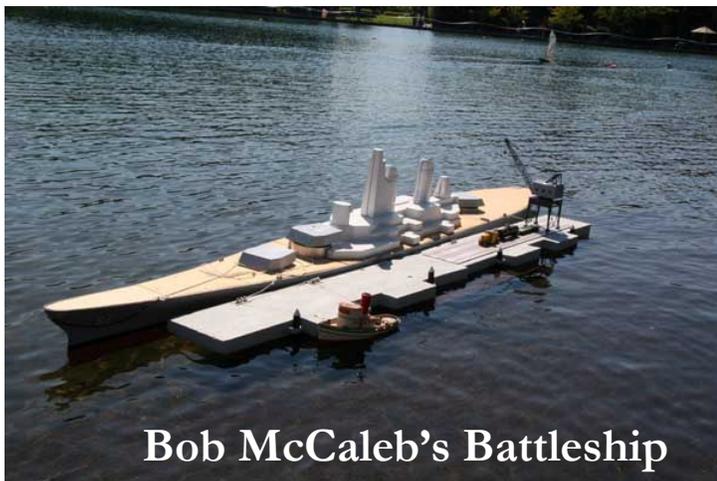
He collects 1/64 – 1/24<sup>th</sup> scale die cast semis and has around a thousand in his collection. He has been married to his wife Dena for the past five years, has no children ( other than 4 legged ones ) and they don’t plan on any since she feels she already has a 39 year old kid. Kevin’s greatest concerns are how he can inform Dena of his new acquisitions without getting the roller pin across his brow.

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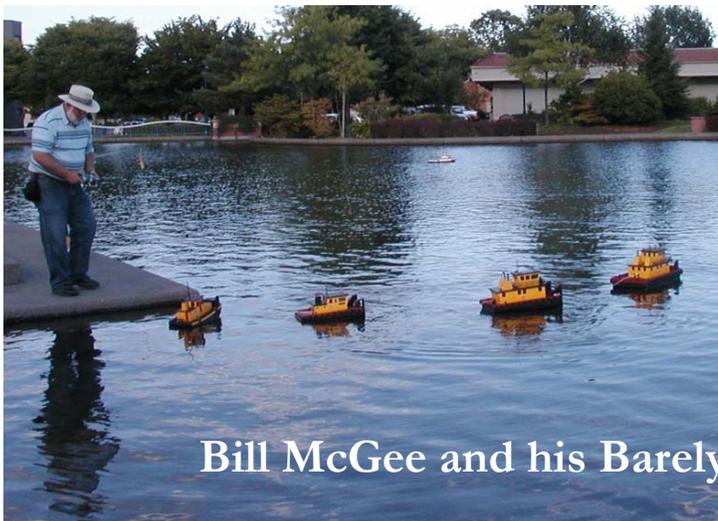
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Bill McGee and his Barely Able Towing Fleet

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# Lake Bob and the Auction

