



THE BILGE PUMP

The Official Log of the
Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

October 2010

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Allan Wing

Vice Pres

Lee Stewart

Sec / Treasurer

Ed Maurer

Webmaster/ Newsletter Distribution

Gordon Canney

Newsletter Editors

Darlene & Allan Wing

Skagit R/C Meeting Contact

Keith Schermerhorn

Website::

www.shipmodelers.com

Email:

info@shipmodelers.com



From the Quarterdeck

By Allan Wing



Summer is almost over and we are still getting a few sunny days. We have had many of our major events this year but there are still a few yet to come.

Keith Schermerhorn has provided us with the results of the Foss cub and you can read about it this month. We also have the results of the Fall Springer event at Lake Bob and some more Springer Polo Pictures of polo matches at Dennis Chinn's pool.

The Big news this month is the update to the club Web site. **Mike Jones** has returned from Hawaii and he volunteered to update the site. He has shown lots of energy, knowledge and creativity. The new site is up and running and is so much better than our old site. For all of you that like me saved our web site in our favorites by going to the site and then saying save, we need to edit your bookmark. To edit the bookmark right click the link in your favorites and click properties. Then change the URL to <http://shipmodelers.com/>. This will give you

a bookmark that will not need updating as we get the new site in its permanent domain.

www.shipmodelers.com is used to direct you to the club web site. The old site was on Free Yellow and the new site is on a new domain. To reach the new site just use www.shipmodelers.com and you will automatically be taken to the new site. It has a new look

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Upcoming Events

October

- 4 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 7 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 10 Fun Float
12:00, Bellevue Park

November

- 1 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon
- 4 NWRCSM Meeting
7:00 pm, Galaxy Hobby
- 7 Fun Float
12:00 CWB Lake Union
- 11-13 Pacific Marine Expo
Quest Field

December

- 2 **December Dinner Meeting**
7:00 pm **Martha Lake Community Center**
- 5 Fun Float
12:00 CWB, Lake Union
- 6 Skagit R/C Ship Modelers
7:00 pm PUD, Mt. Vernon



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and is much easier to navigate. We welcome any comments and inputs. A great big hats off and big thanks to Mike for a fantastic job in a short time. You can see a biography of Mike in this newsletter.

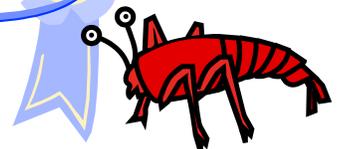
The next major event is the Pacific Marine Expo on November 11-13 at Quest Field. Then the final event of the year the December dinner on December 2. We have agreed on a menu and everything is proceeding well. I guess I better get to work on the end of year presentation.



Crawdad Festival Winners



Congratulations!



NW R/C Ship Modelers Meeting Minutes

By, Dr. Ron

Pictures by Dave White

SEPTEMBER 2

The meeting started promptly at 1900 hours and was admirably orchestrated by our commodore, Allan Wing. Two visitors introduced themselves.

Jerry Edelstein, MD, a colleague of mine, and his neighbor, retired Boeing engineer, **Amos Szpiro**. Jerry bought a Midwest lobster boat later at the break and intends to be active in our club. Allan announced that Mike Jones had agreed to update our website.

Bob Jacobson accepted life membership and will host the Lake Bob Springer event and fun float on the 19th of September. Directions to his home on Lake Goodwin will be e-mailed to members.

Dennis Chinn will host another polo match at his pool on the 18th at 1000 hours. Everyone has a great time at this event and has initiated considerable discussion on how to make the boats run longer and more efficiently. Earl Anderson and Vern Ren still seem to have an edge with their well performing Springers, raising the bar for competition. Many kudos to Dennis and Sandy Chinn for promoting the polo competition and providing their great pool for us to play in. They graciously supply coffee, lemonade and pizza.

The menu for the Christmas dinner was presented and the choice of entrees between pork loin and beef ended up with a tie vote, but decided by the toss of a coin with beef the winner. **Mike** has placed a large order for mtronic viper escs and they should be arriving shortly, barring any delays at customs.

After a short break it was show and tell time. First off was **Barry Bertran** with his ongoing tug progress. He was given help with trying to get the right size props for his cort nozzles and where to place them. He is looking for plans for a stern wheeler like the Black Prince which plied the Snohomish and Skagit rivers as well as Puget Sound. He received many suggestions.

Mel was next demonstrating his great varnish job on his Typhoon. So far he has 12 coats and is contemplating a couple more. He feels he has sanded off at least eight



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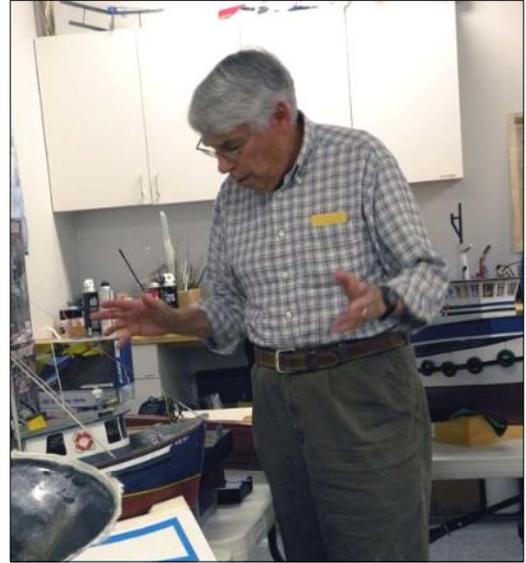
coats to get the smooth finish he desires. He has learned a lot from internet chat groups and can advise anyone desirous of using varnish finishes. He has also failed to pass up the opportunity to purchase several large motors from e-bay but thinks he may not build a big enough boat in which to install them. Give him a call if you have a desire to purchase some of these great motors.

Jeff Wilson brought in his Springer and demonstrated very poor rudder travel despite changing servo arm travel, etc. The gurus scratched their heads and didn't come up with a solution, but felt it may be in the radio or servo.

Tom Stevens brought his fishing trawler, Heidi, which he is refitting. He brought and distributed some clear plastic sheets for making windows and discussion ensued regarding the best methods of fixing them in place. Canopy glue and silicone were endorsed with advice to keep the protective plastic coating in place until glued into position to prevent smudging. The Foss cup was discussed and critiqued.

Al Kinsman brought a large hull recently constructed as well as one for the Claudia Foss. Imperfections were noted and discussed with several recommendations noted. **Dennis Chinn** brought his Atlas Van Lines hydroplane and tried to muster enthusiasm to build these fast boats and run with him. He has a brushless motor and lipo battery and is considering replacing the flexible shaft with a solid straight shaft. He brought in a working prototype for fiber optic lighting which he plans to install below the water line in his coast guard build for night time illumination. **Phil Northrup** brought five blade props he has been working on for his Pro Boat, Arliegh Burke, and discussed his methods of construction.

The meeting concluded at 2025, chairs were stacked and everyone headed back to their docks.



Dr Ron

SPRINGER POLO



We had two Polo events at Dennis Chinn's pool. One on August 28 and one on September 18.

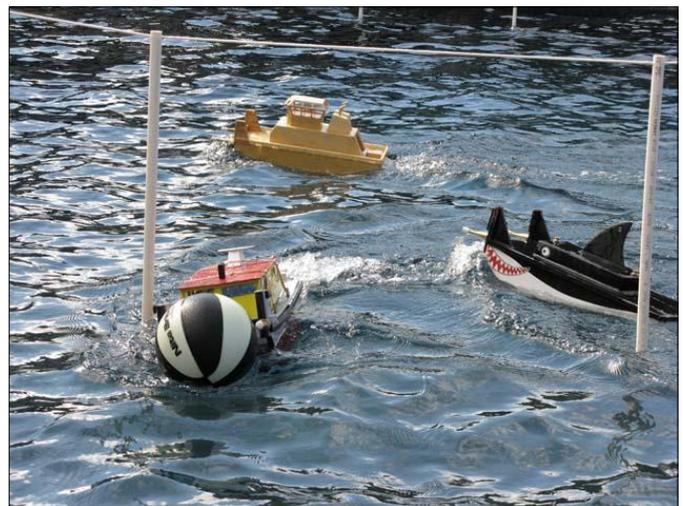
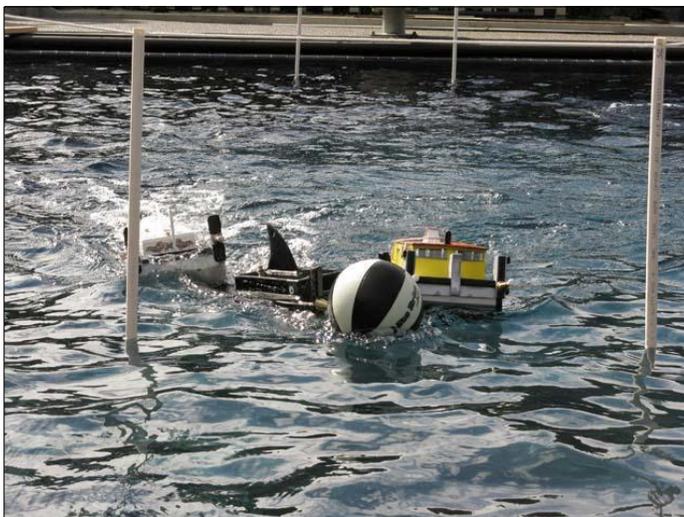
The **August 28** event had a good turnout and we had good teams till attrition reduced our numbers after an hour.



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September 18 was the day before our Fun Float at Lake Goodwin and threatening rain so we had a small turn out. We had 5 boats. With the limited number of boats, we decided to play free for all with each boat trying to score when they could. After about an hour and a half, we found that running constantly without breaks every 15 minutes or so really takes its toll on batteries. We were lucky in that it stayed clear and sunny the entire time. It was a good time and we hope that we can get a larger turn out for the next time.



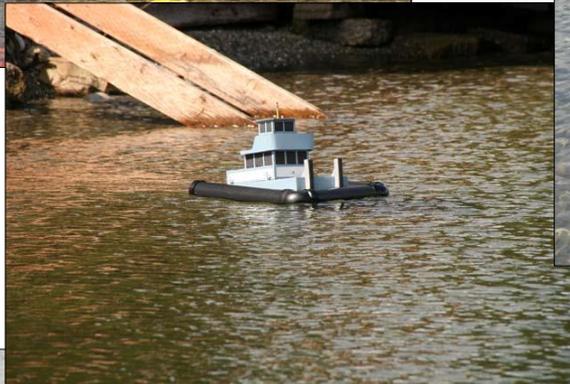
Fun Float Barbecue and Springer Event

It is September and that means it is time for our Fall Springer event. Bob Jacobsen once again graciously invited the club to his house on Lake Goodwin for a Fun float and barbecue. We all drove through a driving rain storm on our way to Bob's and we figured we would spend most of the time inside. When we arrived there was a light shower and the skies cleared for a very nice afternoon.



Randy prepared a challenging Springer event. It consisted of pushing a U shaped PVC pipe out and around a buoy. The trick was how to get off the beach and then not to ride up on it while pushing. Springers were paired and it was a contest to see who could do it the quickest. After several heats the **Winner was Scott Wilson and his Springer, Suzie.**

Now Scott will have to design a contest for next April.



Fun Float Barbecue and Springer Event

We had several boats that we have not seen at Bellevue. Mike Gullikson had a large sailboat that draws more than the pond at Bellevue. Norm Hayatt had two paddlewheel boats. Mike Jones had his model of a Vosper PT boat. It is a large boat that has 3 18Volt drill motors for power. Bob Jacobsen also ran a small Hydroplane.

The festivities lasted until about 3:30. When we finished packing up, the weather was changing and promising more rain.

Our thanks to Bob and Laurie for a very nice day!

Thank You 



Foss Cup

On behalf of the Foss Cup Committee, just wanted to thank all those who attended this years event. We had 29 competitors registered, 7 teams formed for team tow, and a whole lot of tugs of all types there. The weather was quite comfortable with warm temperatures, light breeze, and no rain. Competitors came from as far away as Northern California, Portland Oregon, and British Columbia.



Congratulations to Doug Gunter for winning this years event with 207 points. Second over all was Mel Suelzle with 205 and Tom Stevens with 204 points. New this year was an event called Team Tow. This is where 2 captains were randomly paired up to take a barge from the dock, around a buoy, and back to the dock. Sounds simple enough. But as most of their teams found out, communication was key in order to move that big old barge around and into the dock!! Not as simple as it looked, but good fun to watch.

Of course, have to thank all the people who help in any way from bringing items to the park (food, goodies, prizes, equipment) to those that donate some time (in the water moving vessels, setting up, computer work, tearing down, etc..). Special thanks to Linda and Randy Flodquist for the active galley that kept everyone fed with the nice breakfast and lunch. All the help behind the scenes before, during, and after all makes the Foss Cup what it is--a good fun event for all. Special thanks goes to our 2 judges Mr. Jim Martin (Foss captain retired) on the navigation course and Mr. Mike Moore (one of the original founders of Foss Cup) on Salvage.

One special event for the day came at the end when we had Mr. Steve O'Connell help hand out the trophies. The reason this was special was Steve was the other founder of Foss Cup and the first time in almost 10 years that we had all three originators (Steve, Mike, and Ron Burchett) at the event.

The winners are as follows:

Large Class (over 30.01 pounds):

1. Keith Lingsheid--Defiance
2. Les Cade--Centurion
3. Rodger Lyons--O'Foss

Medium Class (15.01-30.0 pounds):

1. Mel Suelzle--Mustang
2. Tom Stevens--Claudia Foss
3. Dave White--NNY (no name yet)

Small Class (0- 15.0 pounds):

1. Doug Gunther--Duck
2. Kevin Klocke--Sea Imp 10
3. Larry Stiles--Hairless Joe (Springer)



Picture by Tom Stevens

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Vintage:

1. Rodger Forlines--Ropanch
2. Bill Bull--Zulu

Masters:

Alan Burchet--Allan B

Team Tow:

Ron Burchett/ Mike Claxton

Sponsors award:

Phil Northrup--Betsy L

Judges Choice:

Les Cades-- Crowley Centurion

Farthest traveled:

Keith Lingsheid, California

Youngest:

Darcey Pineau (9 years old)

Foss Cup Champion:

Doug Gunter--Duck

Congratulations to all our winners.

Thanks also goes out to all our supporters in the tug and hobby communities who graciously donate items for the raffle:

Foss Maritime--Foss Gear

Western Tow Boat -Western gear

Freemont Tug--Photo packs of tugs

Loyallhana Dockyard-- Lindsey Foss semi kit and a whole lot of glue (for all competitors)

RAM--Gift Certificate

Dumas--motors

Vantec--Gift certificate

Ron B and Gary King--Tug hull with other goodies

Scale Shipyard--small steam tug

visitor--barge

Kulshan Marine- tug hull

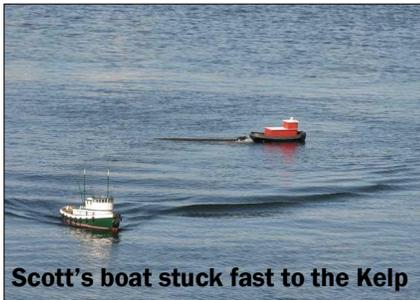
That is it for the 2010 event. Make plans for the 2011 event that will be held August 17, at Downtown park in Bellevue.



FISHERMAN'S FALL FESTIVAL



Once again, the weatherman smiled on one of our events. The Fisherman's Fall festival is a good place to show our boats to a large public audience. This year was no exception. Our booth was located near the west entrance and the bouncing pirate ship. This meant we had people stopping all day. With the sun and easy access to the water, it was a fun event. The PT boats were a big hit with the crowds. There was one tense moment. A fishing boat had a piece of kelp that it had brought in from the sound. Scott tried to push the kelp away from the boat and became tangled and could not drive away. He was firmly stuck and 50 or 60 feet away from any dock. The Henry Foss was the only other Tug in the water at the time. After several attempts to push Scott's boat away from the kelp, the Henry ran between the kelp ball and the stern of Scott's boat knocking the boat loose and cutting any strands of kelp. Once Scott was free, no one ventured near the kelp again. We stayed and ran various boats till we had run out of batteries and had too much sun.



Scott's boat stuck fast to the Kelp



A hard Push to Break him free



Freedom





Member Spotlight

By Dr. Ron

MIKE JONES

Mike started life in Shelton, Washington in 1946, then moved to Seattle for a brief period and then on to Edmonds in 1953, where his father ran a plumbing business. He graduated from high school in 1967 and attended Everett Community College and Seattle University. After two years he joined the Army and was trained to fly helicopters. He spent time in Viet Nam with the air cavalry division and rescued several downed pilots. One of those he rescued turned out to be the son of the base commander at Sembach, Germany, where he was assigned after his tour in Viet Nam.



In 1970 he returned to finish his degree in marine biology and science education at Seattle University. He taught science in the Shoreline district for 22 years and then moved to Hawaii to pilot tourist submarines which carried 48 passengers to a depth of 328 feet. Soon after arriving in Hawaii he earned his captain's license. While in Hawaii he became the director of education for underwater research. He was a volunteer at the Bishop Museum, producing NASA funded nationally distributed, planetarium shows that revealed epic voyages of star navigation by ancient Polynesians and futuristic flight to Mars. Under clear evening Hawaiian skies Michael captured peoples imaginations conducting star parties ranging in size from one inquisitive stargazer

eager to stay up all night just to see and hear more of the unfolding story overhead, to 1200 visitors a week lying on their backs, watching and hearing about our place in the cosmos. He also held the job of district manager of several small boat harbors and recreation.

As director of education for Pacific underwater research, he developed and produced the world's first electronic field shipwreck studies at the Edmonds marine park so that students across the country could take a voyage to the bottom of the sea without getting their feet wet. To finance this project he arranged a once in a lifetime rendezvous with Halley's comet in 1986, where he took 820 excited guests on six flights to view the comet's return. He was selected as Washington State's NASA teacher in space finalist, an adventure that ended with the tragic loss of the space shuttle, Challenger. This was an experience of a lifetime, meeting many dignitaries, even dining with president Regan, and forming lifetime friendships.

In 2002 he got a call from Vulcan Enterprises to be the deputy project manager and build (test) pilot for a new submarine destined to be attached to Paul Allen's large mega yacht, Octopus. After the build in Shelton he returned to Seattle to continue his work. In 2005 he moved back to Hawaii and soon after was asked to be part of the crew primarily as a submarine pilot. He had considerable good fortune to travel all



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over the world until last month when he retired and returned back to Edmonds,

Mike's enthusiasm for boat building began when he was around eight years old being encouraged by his father who supplied him with blocks of cedar from which he carved several sailing boats, one of which was a three master. While in high school he built a five foot steam powered sternwheeler. During his 1969 service tour in Germany he purchased a Revel kit of a Vosper PT boat, took the parts and scaled them up to 60 inches or a 1/14 scale. This

was powered with a gas engine. After being mothballed for 30 years it was resurrected in 2004 and repowered with electric motors and he is currently creating a functional torpedo system.. His next project is to build either a 1/24 or 1/32 scale model of the Preston and hopes his cousin, a master machinist, will produce the steam plant. Mike joined the club in 2005 after Cliff Shaw helped him with the propulsion system for his Vosper. He recently worked with Gordy and Mel to create a new website for the club which is a great improvement over the previous one.

On a personal note, Mike has been married to his high school sweetheart, Laura, for 43 years and they have a 36 year old daughter, living on a beach in Hawaii, working as a professional ice skating instructor. Other interests are numerous, including photography, kite flying, scuba diving and working with preserving Bible times. He has researched and established relations with film archives in England. His efforts gained access to the Vatican Museums and Pontifical library in furthering PBT's quest to build the finest film and video archives in the world revealing lands of the Bible as they existed in the first century.

Mike is a creative thinker, writer and dreamer who aims at things no one else can see and hits them. We are indeed privileged to have him in our midst, and we look forward to many of his innovative ideas and active participation in the club.

