

The Bilge Pump

The Official Log of the Northwest R/C Ship Modelers

September 2018

Upcoming Events Look Ahead

SEPTEMBER

22 Lake Scott Barbeque & Fun Float	11am-4pm	
OCTOBER		
4 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby 7pm		
6 Fun Float @ Bellevue Pond	9am	
NOVEMBER		
1 Meeting @ Galaxy Hobby	7pm	
3 Fun Float @ Seattle Yacht Club	9am	

DECEMBER

6	Christmas Dinner	
	Old Spaghetti Factory - Lynnwood	6:30 – 9pm

Check for latest updates at www.shipmodelers.com



From the Wheel House

September is proving to be one of our most active months of the year. Coming on the heels of a very busy August, we are turning our attention to which of our projects that

we have been putting off will we tackle first as the cooling days of October loom on the horizon. While we still have some excellent running events, many of us are looking for indoor activities which of course will be heavily focused on building and renovating our model boats. I know of more than a few members (including myself) that are looking for ways to enhance the performance of our trusted and most favorite ready to run models, the Southampton. I suspect we will see a number of "new" boats on the water that look suspiciously like the Southampton with a different of color scheme and/or enhanced performance features. More than once have I been frustrated on how my Southampton is misbehaving only to find out I am trying to drive some else's Southampton. No more, mine will have a very different look soon (I hope). Ready to run boats are an excellent way to get started in our hobby with a nicely performing boat out of the box and then look to ways to improve the performance with our new found knowledge and skills. I caution against making changes too quickly. I find it best to get used to its idiosyncrasies before making big changes. More than once I have made changes only to find the performance never matched the stock configuration. My own Southampton is always my extra boat to all events. It's a good practice to follow least your main boat has a problem; you have a boat to serve as a rescue boat. That way you can retrieve your broken boat without having to suffer the embarrassment and ridicule of asking someone to push you in.

I must sound like a broken record, but I won't give up. Once again I need to bring up the need for our members to step forward to take

on a leadership role for the coming year beginning in January. Most of our current officers have served 2 or more years and deserve a break from these important administrative tasks necessary to keep our club interesting and active in meeting member needs.

Always the most difficult task to fill is the President position. We seem to get in a cycle of rotating this position within a few dedicated members. I had hoped to break that cycle and get some new ideas and leadership for the club so we can build on the momentum to keep our club interesting to our current members and new members as well. Unfortunately we have none willing to step up at this time.

At the September meeting I offered to continue as President IF and only IF we had a significant group of members willing to take on smaller tasks that are important to the long term success of the club. I outlined key positions as follows:

Membership Chair - Head functions that relate to members. Database management, dues collection and tracking, new member welcoming, membership lists & reports recruit help as needed.

Treasurer - Track and report receipts and issue checks, report finances at meetings

Newsletter Editor - Amos Aarsvold has been our newsletter editor for two years now and plans to resign at the end of the year. We thank Amos for his work in creating a new fresh image for our newsletter and hope he continues to support the club in other ways.

Newsletter Contributors Chair - Responsible to coordinate writing of fun floats and event for newsletters (ideally this would be a team of 3-4 writers assigned to report on events they attend)

Communications Chair - Responsible to maintain brochure, schedules, manage A-sign for events, external publications

Vice President - Bryan Morse has been our Vice President for two years and wishes to resign at the end of the year. We have at least one possible candidate for this position and invite others to throw their hat in the mix as well. There are other special functions already being filled by members. Often they are taken for granted but they provide important services and I very much appreciate their support. They have offered to continue service to the benefit of the entire club.

Dave Green	Bellevue Park Liaison
Steve Sunich	Seattle Yacht Club Liaison
Tom Stevens	Membership Wellness
Paul Williams	Specific position undetermined now
Robert Osmond	Chief Special Events Organizer and Promoter

I am very appreciative of those who have served in the past and deserve a break. Those include our VP **Bryan Morse** and newsletter **Amos Aarsvold**. I have received a couple of offers to fill these positions and I am very grateful for these offers of help. BUT more is still needed. Some of these tasks are very basic and take only a few hours a month. Not a big deal unless ONE person has to do them all. I am no longer willing to assume the President position in 2019 without more folks picking up some of the tasks outlined above. Perhaps our tag line should be changed to read **EVERYONE having fun since 1981!** My goal for 2019 is to join the fun too!

Please give some serious thought to stepping up your contribution to the club. I am flexible; please call me so we can discuss which task or part of a task you willing to do for our club.

And finally, we need to remember the two members we have lost recently. Les Cade and Marv Walden were two members we will miss a great deal. Marv was a newer member but was very active and generous with his support to our club. Les Cade was one of our Portland members and often attended our regattas and Foss club events. More information is on Marv and Les is elsewhere in this newsletter. Les Cade's obituary can be viewed at https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/portland-or/leslie-cade-7968462

Mel Suelzle

July Meeting

Dave Green Photos: Darlene Wing, Robert Osmond



Mel Suelzle opened the

meeting with very sad news of the passing of Marvin Walden and Les Cade during the past month. Marvin has been very active in recent years and certainly was a fountain of knowledge in a variety of subjects. Les Cade actually lived in the Portland area and until restricted by failing health been active in our regattas.



Lead-off for show and tell was **Bryan Morse** with "Tiny Tug" It is a cute little guy, similar to log boom boats. It was from a kit he found on internet. Next

was **Dave Green** to show partially built "George W. Washburn". It is a plank on frame, Dumas kit being built by his grandson **Alec Green**.

Out of the past **Allan Wing** presented a "cabin cruiser" originally built from a 1950s vintage kit. It had rested in an attic for an unknown number of



years and Allan has cleaned it up and refurbished as necessary—a nice job. **Tom Stevens** offered Southampton which he recently acquired that has been

modified to include independently steerable rudders. They all move right now but the challenge of systematic control is yet to be solved. He also



presented different techniques for attachment of tire fenders to tugboat hulls. This included drilling hole in the tire and wiring (tying) to hull, and insert discs or other detail inside to attach and clamp the tire to the hull.

Mel Suelzle wound up S &T with a photo of Western Tow Boat's "West Point" taken earlier in the week. He is planning to convert a "Southampton" to a "West Point" configuration in consideration of all the consistent support they have given the club over the years. He briefly discussed his initial plan to modify the entire superstructure.



Following our usual break, two new transmitters, given to the club by Marvin Walden (as well as a \$50.00 cash contribution) were auctioned off along with the models of a rescue tug and sedan cruiser. After several discussions in recent months, the club has vacated the Armadillo locker. **Bill Heath** has made a suitable shed available on his property. In



the process of moving, all material was screened to eliminate un-used or non-club material. In the future access to the shed will only be as authorized by Mel Suelzle (or successor). We will pay Bill \$100/month which is a good savings over the previous locker.

It is not just election time nationally, it is club election time. Mel summarized his position



relative to continuing as our leader-I need help to spread the load if I am to continue another year. Think about it folks-If you will continue a present

task, let him know, if you identify with other things going on during the year, volunteer or otherwise volunteer willingness.





From the North End

Keith Schermerhorn



September's meeting of the Skagit club was held on Monday,

August 27th (a week earlier due to holiday) with 5 members in attendance. This will be the last Monday meeting that we will have as we are changing things up for the fall and future. Discussions have been going on about changing date and times for our monthly meetings due to



work and other restrictions we have been facing. So, starting in October, we will be going to a Saturday mid-morning meeting/breakfast. This will allow for not just gathering to talk, but the availability to enjoy food and field trip type gatherings. It will also make it a bit easier for those that have limitations on driving. So our first meeting will be held at the Our Diner on the Guide in Bellingham then a visit to the Model Train Show in Lynden for those that want to go. November will be back in Skagit County and December's holiday meeting will be at the Flodquist residence as an afternoon affair. We still encourage show and tells and others to join us. Still going to be covering events and happenings in the model world we live in and enjoy.

The remainder of the meeting was used to talk about the past events that had just happened that included the Tug Event and the visit to Burnaby Association of Marine Modelers regatta. Show and tell was a couple of items Keith had won at the

September 8th **Fun Float** Mel Suelzle



Photos: Darlene Wing

Our September fun float was rescheduled to an evening twilight fun float. These evening events are rapidly gaining in popularity with our members. This fun float was also successful and had a great turn out. No official headcount was made, but we easily had 15 skippers and plus a few spouses. The



weather was great and most comfortable in short sleeves. Only toward the end did a few jackets emerge. As is the norm these days, the park had a lot of visitors and they enjoyed watching our boats. The new LED underwater lighting eventually came on and looked great from the right viewpoint.

regattas. So a short meeting we did have. But we are looking forward to the new format and events that follow.





They only took up a couple of inches of water and posed no navigation hazards to any boats. The sail boaters had to dust off their power boats even though there were large areas without any special lights and reduced water depth. Roger Lyons took care of setting up a nav course of lighted buoys. Roger had to do it all this time as his usual helper, Dain Webster was in route to Arizona. Thanks!



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Roger. There was a great assortment of boats showing off their lighting systems that looked even greater with the park lighting reflections and the new underwater lighting systems. **Dave Green** had his new large scale Coast Guard boat out and again it drew a lot of attention from the crowd. **Steve Sunich** had the Stallworth on the water and



kept the small boaters aware of his presence least they get run over. Fortunately, there were no

mishaps on the water. Several South Hamptons were on the water and like many others, fell victim to duck feathers and heavy doses of leaves on the pond. Most boaters had more than



one occasion to stop and clear their props of debris. **Fred Row** had his South Hampton on the beach more than once plucking feathers from this prop shafts. We had a special occasion to celebrate as it was also **Ed Maurer's** birthday. Unfortunately Ed was unable attend, but we celebrated by enjoying his birthday cupcakes for him. We didn't totally miss the occasion as there were still plenty of cupcakes left over for the Monday morning coffee ritual which Ed was able to attend. It turned out to be most pleasant evening. Darkness came a little sooner and everyone was packed and on the way home shortly after 9pm.

Lake Scott Fun Float and Barbeque

Saturday, September 22nd is the date of the 16th annual fun float/barbeque. With Bob & Laurie Jacobsen's relocation to Boise, We need to find a new spot for this event. Fortunately, Scott and Claudia Baumann have stepped up and offered to host his year's event at their new home on Lake Tapps. This is always a fun event and I hope everyone will plan to attend. I am sure we can count on Chef Scott to cook a mean burger host a great event too! Many spouses and significant others attend this event and are always welcome. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or desert to share. So please plan to attend to support Scott and Claudia and enjoy some great food. Yes it is a little farther than the north end guys are used to, but the South guys have put up with locations to the north so it is our turn to give them a driving break. I am sure the Baumann's will make it worth our while to drive a few minutes longer.

HOW TO GET THERE

- Take I-5 Southbound
- Merge onto I-405 N via EXIT 154A on the left toward Renton.
- Then 1.98 miles, merge onto WA-167 S via EXIT 2 toward Auburn/Kent.
- Then 15.75 miles, take the Stewart Rd/8th St E exit toward Milton/Pacific.
- Turn left onto Stewart Rd.
- Follow this road for about 7 1/2 miles, it changes names many times. (Stay left at the fork at Sumner Tapps Hwy)
- Turn right at Tapps Island sign. (Just past 29th Street East)
- Give our name to the guard at the stop sign.
- Our house is half a mile from the gate on the left.
- We have a large driveway, so you may park there or on the gravel on either side of the driveway. Do not park on the golf cart lane.



Wellness Committee

Tom Stevens



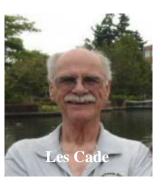
I am writing this for several reasons. One, I was given the title of "Wellness Committee" during the term of my good friend, Robert Osmond. On that note, it is sad to announce the passing of two of our members. The first, Les Cade,

who was one of our members for several years, although he resided in the Portland Oregon area. He has attended the Foss Cup on several occasions and our NWRC Regatta. Those who have attended the Tualatin Oregon Event have seen him arrive with his HUGE wagon, with his Invader Class, model tug. The second Member to pass, was my best friend Marvin

Walden. Marv and I had a lot of common interests, which probably is why we became so close in a relatively short period of time. We both had interests in electronics. (Mine just basics, as I worked on all of the battery operated warehouse equipment in our big warehouse at GTE in Everett). But Marv was an

Electrical Engineer. He studied his craft to an extreme, as he did with all of his interests and hobbies. He was the lead Tech at Phillips, where he installed and repaired MRIs in Hospitals, all over the country. He flew a lot, to repair a unit that others were unable to fix. Talking to Marv would always enrich your knowledge of the topic that you discussed. He read a LOT and even listened to books on recordings when

driving on long trips or picking berries etc. He took his trade to another level. He created complex circuits that he was able to create at home. He even had a \$14,000.00 CHIP (these were NOT potato chips, by the way) BURNER in his dining room! He built tiny circuit boards, where he would use a microscope to see the components! He LOVED creating things for others, as well. If you mentioned an idea of an electronics idea that you may have in your head, he may show-up at your doorstep with a



fully functional item that previously was only in your head. He was gifted in MANY phases of life. He enjoyed machining metal projects. His lathe and mill were modified by him to offer him digital readouts for easier use. His metal machining was BEAUTIFUL. Marv had interests in astronomy and thus had big telescopes etc. He had recently made a portable observatory

> room. He had not completed it, before he passed. It was complete, on wheels on the outside but not finished on the inside yet. In talking with him, one day, I had mentioned that a friend in school was building a big telescope and spent months, grinding the lens for his huge telescope. I told Marv that looking through my friend's telescope that my friend already had at the time, was

interesting. Sure enough, one day, Marv showed-up at my door with a big telescope that was eight or ten inches in diameter and almost as tall as me! That was how Marv was. Marv was heavily involved in HAM radio. If someone had an antenna matching problem, he was in his car and headed their way. It may be in

> Montana or Eastern Washington or Oregon. Distance didn't make any difference to him. All he needed to know was that you were in need of his knowledge. Again, that was just how Marv was.

He owned a full-sized sailboat. It was finally, a topic that I had a little more technical knowledge than him. Not the sailing, but the boat construction and stability, barrier coating, epoxy painting

etc.

larv Walden

He also did canning and freezing of food, raising a garden, growing figs, plums, berries etc. He also made wine. He admitted that ALL of his wine was NOT GOOD! His neighbor told me that he would come over to their house and have a bottle of wine that he had created, to test. They said that sometimes, it was TERRIBLE, but it was known that he often made EXCELLENT wine, as well.

If you did not converse with him, you missed a GREAT opportunity. He had a strange sense of

humor. He LOVED to find someone like Mel, who he could "get going", easily. From the time that Marv found out that he had cancer, until the day he passed, was about eight weeks.

Marvin was born in 1944 in Australia, as his father was in the military. He later joined the Navy and worked on the ship's radars. After the military service, he became an electrical engineer and installed and repaired the MRIs. He retired from there, at the Phillips Corp. If you did not come to know him personally, you missed a great opportunity to take in some sort of knowledge and "have your chain pulled"!

If you know of a club member, or their spouse, who is in the hospital or very sick, let me know with a phone call, text or e-mail. My contact info is in the club roster. THANKS!

30th annual Fishermen's Fall Festival

Jon McCool

Our club represented well at the 30th annual Fishermen's Fall Festival. Thirty boats were on display at our booth, arranged for by Bob Wickham. Several members put boats in the water alongside full-scale fishing vessels for a lovely juxtaposition in size. The weather was helpful and did not rain (hard) until it was time to leave the booth.



Rex Olsen's English-style "Solent Marine Service" tugboat, S. Milford, seen at the pier. In the background, Tom Steven's and Bryan Morse's modified Southampton tugs are underway at the Fall Fishermen's Festival, September 15, 2018. Photo by Jon McCool.



Mel Suelzle's *Morgan Foss* takes to the water at the Fishermen's Fall Festival in Seattle, September 15, 2018. Photo by Jon McCool.

The booth was well stocked with a variety of boats. Kieth Schermerhorn brought more than half a dozen

from his collection, including a wonderful scale model of the fishing vessel *Misty Moon*. There were several magnificent scale models from Ron Bray. Mel Suelzle had four of his most appropriate boats. The booth was consistently staffed with friendly club members busy answering questions from the crowd.



Keith Schermerhorn's radio controlled scale model *Misty Moon* motors past the fishing vessel *Julia Kae* at Fishermen's Fall Festival in Seattle, September 15, 2018. Photo by Jon McCool.

Visitors to the event also saw boat demonstrations on the water, near a conveniently empty slip right behind the booth. Early in the afternoon, there were four tugboats on the water. Jim Johnson was piloting the *Peggy Sue*. Bryan Morse and Tom Stevens teamed up on the water with their modified Southampton tugs. Rex Olsen's newly-finished English-style "Solent Marine Service" tug bearing the name *S. Milford* really stood out. Later, Mel Suelzle took out the *Morgan Foss* for a solo show when the sun came out. The last boats on the water were Bryan's sailboat and Keith's *Misty Moon*. This model fishing vessel was very well suited to the occasion and looked right at home with the big boats alongside her.

The festival was a successful outing for the club. We had many great conversations at the booth, answering questions, handing out brochures and cards, and

introducing people to our hobby. The booth was quickly cleaned up at the six o'clock hour, just as the weather turned and the rain let loose. There were lots of people, plenty of boats (big and small) and great participation.

Fellow Boaters

Tom Stevens

It has been a considerable time since I have written one of these, as I wasn't very active in Club events, as I was working on the boat house in Friday Harbor for a couple of years and then I got sick. Tug regatta in Bellingham. I never dreamed that I was going to be able to be there, but I was! Attendance was low but none - the - less, it was a great event. Marv gave me his South Hampton. I was determined that I was going to compete with it. He had it on the water, only a couple of times and I had not had it on the water - at all. On the first portion, I had a perfect run. I then went on to the salvage portion. I got the derelict, promptly to the landing dock, but the little tug didn't have enough rudder angle and power to drag the towline that I borrowed, as it had a piece of chain on it. I finally made the landing, but I missed getting in the center of the target. I watched the scoreboard throughout the remainder of the day, as there was only one score, higher than me, by

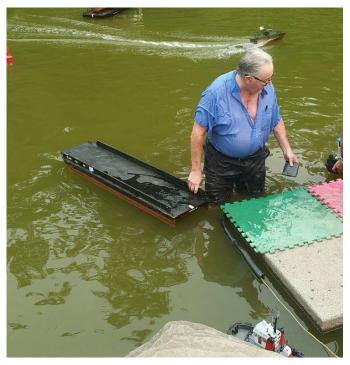
five points. I was in anticipation of a first or second place. As the trophies were handed-out, my name wasn't called out. I lost track of who won what as I was looking at the board, trying to figure – out what just happened! It turned out that the person that was posting the scores on the board, didn't complete the job. Thus, there were many scores NOT posted on the board.

The weather was PERFECT!

The following day Sandy and I went to Vancouver BC and stayed with Gary King. That night, I bought a big scale superstructure kit co complete the fat tug that I had purchased from Roger Lions. It will be a Sea Imp. We went to the Burnaby Event and they had new management and did a LOT of GREAT changes. We had all of our models across the driveway, which cleared the spectators from around our running area. They could just walk by and observe them easily, right by the driveway. We also were able to just park our vehicles behind our models, which really simplified things. They had NUMEROUS events to participate in. They had sail boat races, FAST boat races, navigating through the course with just your boat, navigating through the course with a barge, team towing and finally a tugboat race. No one sank! A little Springer – type tug came in SECOND! You could run your boats in

his leg for the procedure. As he squatted down, his right knee bent, but his left would not bend enough, thus he just toppled to his right, which was

various events from morning until night! The judges were **REALLY NICE!** I was really impressed with their patience. I was just ready to start the barge event. I had it all tied up and ready to start. I was on the cement launching dock. Ron was just to my right, to tie a tug to a barge. He was just recovering from an extensive heart operation. They had used some veins from



just the water. He landed on his back and COMPLETELY disappeared under the water! They were attempting to drag him backward over the cement landing and a couple of us hollered to turn him around and let him stand on the bottom of the pond. Fortunately, he didn't get injured from the incident. He ruined his cell phone, but other than that, he was OK. He won the "Wet tee-shirt contest", but he was the only participant!

2018 Tug Regatta

Keith Schermerhorn

Saturday, August 18th had 13 skippers from the US and Canada with several boats show up at Whatcom Falls Park in Bellingham for the 23rd annual Pacific NW Tug Regatta. The temperatures were comfortable as the smoke had cleared for the day making the park setting a nice place to spend the day. The contestants and guest got settled in and began the show with the customary skippers meeting. Events explained, contestants thanked, judges introduced, questions answered, and contest was underway on schedule. All who wanted to run at least 2 boats would have their chances while navigation judge Ron Burchett and salvage judge Keith watched the every move made. Lots of good scores posted and traffic was consistent in both parts of the contest creating cross traffic coming out of the "channel". Only 1 underwater winch incident was reported and that was after the run. A few people got in extra running time by using their boats to push the salvage vessels out into place during the day. Lunch was served to all who were hungry and raffle prizes started to be given away for the day. There were a lot of spectators this year that spent a good amount of time watching and enjoying the activities. Once the last boat had run, we gathered up the scores and had the awards ceremony where **Aimee Eng** of Portland was the big winner this year. The difference in the big wins—salvage as she was the only person to hit the bulls eye almost dead on! After the awards was the final raffle where the "top 10" prizes are given out. This year it included the "Mystery Box" where you had the option of the prize won or the mystery box and its contents. **Robert Osmond** chose the mystery box and won the contents inside. After all the prizes were awarded everyone did a great job of helping to clean up the place and get packed up.

As with any event, there are always a lot of people who do work to make it happen. So let me thank them here:

- Registration/scores/paper work/raffle –Shawna McClellan, Jessica Monroe, Linda Flodquist
- Food—Randy and Linda Flodquist
- Score board—Randy Flodquist
- Boat navigator—Tom Stevens (rowed the boat with all the dead weight)
- Navigation judge—Ron Burchett
- Raffle prizes collect by Mel Suelzle and Aimee Eng
- Tom, Lauren, Tony, Kevin, and others who moved salvage vessels throughout the day
- Thanks to all the companies that donated items for the raffle from the marine world and the hobby. Without their support, we have nothing to raffle off. Please remember to give them support when looking for parts or projects in the future and tell them you saw their support at the regattas.

Thanks again to all who came to the event and we look forward to the 24th annual event in 2019!

Small class

- 1. Aimee Eng
- 2. Mike Claxton
- 3. Lauren Reynolds

Medium class

- 1. Tony Peraclenic
- 2. Aimee Eng
- 3. Mike Claxton

Large class 1. Robert Osmond 2. Kevin Klocke 3. Bill Heath

Vintage class 1. Bra Young 2. Bra Young

Jr skipper Carlton Young

Mark Freeman Memorial

(past winners top finisher) Robert Osmond

<u>Judges Choice</u> Tony Peraclenic: unnamed Ken MacKenzie

<u>Champion</u> Aimee Eng



2018 BAMM Regatta

Keith Schermerhorn

Sunday, August 19 found a few members of the NW R/C Ship Modelers (**Keith**, **Pam**, **Tom** & **Sandy Stevens**, and VP **Brian**) up at the annual BAMM regatta in Burnaby's Central Park. This was the 58th annual event and it had some changes from the past. I look forward to this event as first off—I don't have to do anything but have fun. Secondly, seeing old friends that I have made over the years up there and the friendly people of this organization. This year the boats were all on display on one side of the pathway and the water side was opened up for the spectators



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to get a better viewing of all the action on the water. The nav course was on one half and the other half was the towing and team tow completion with all of them crossing through the bridge in the middle. The harbor is always busy with boats so there is always traffic here. The team towing included moving the large scale Shell Welder model (9 feet in length, 420 pounds and powered) around the pond and buoys. Navigation was based on the number of "hits" you had in the course. Towing was basically pushing the barge and a precision docking at one point. While all this was happening, they also threw in some sailboat racing and go fast racing as well. One of the highlights late in the day was the tug race with 13 boats that was a one way sprint to the end. No sinking's, but some paint was swapped..... The lunch this year was pizza and sandwiches as the parks department said no to the bbg with fire danger so high. I was able to run a couple of my boats as well as the

opportunity to run the Shell Welder for about 15 minutes. It is a big model that requires one to think about every move you are going to make in advanced!! Scale judging was done and at 3:00 they handed the awards outs. **Tom** won an award for the towing and in Navigation. I won an award in scale with the fish boat. All in all it was a good day to relax, have fun, and see what other modelers are doing.





2018 Club Information



President Mel Suelzle president@shipmodelers.com



Vice President Bryan Morse vice-president@shipmodelers.com



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Newsletter Editor Amos Aarsvold <u>newsletter-</u> <u>editor@shipmodelers.com</u>



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