

THE FOGHORN

***Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England***

2011-- Our 21st Year!!

November 2011

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Note: Use officers@marinemodelers.org to reach all the club officers as a group.

Visit our club Web Page at: www.marinemodelers.org

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, November 6: Indoor meeting at the UCC Church Hall in Medfield. (1:30 -4 pm).

There will be a lot going on that day:

- Club Officer elections for 2012
- We'll have our indoor boat show and flea market.
- Show and Tell
- Last chance to sign up for the annual dinner.

Sunday, December 4th: Our annual Holiday Dinner. See the next page for more info.

October Day/Night Run

Well, this year's event turned out to be a bit of a bust. Due to a mix-up in the calendar, some members thought it was on Saturday, while others thought it was on Sunday. Only a couple of people turned out on Saturday, and then it rained on Sunday.

December Holiday Dinner

Mike Fioretti provided the following:

Hi all, our annual banquet will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4th at the Piccadilly Pub at 25 Foxboro Blvd. in Foxboro, MA, from 12noon to 4pm. The Pub opens at 11:30am.

We must confirm the number of guests by our Nov. 6th indoor meet.

The cost is \$20.00 per person which includes a 3 course meal as well as soda and coffee.

Starters: Choice of cup of soup of the day or garden/Caesar salad

Entree selections (choice of 1):

Hot Turkey Dinner
Haddock w/Lobster Sauce
Hot Roast Beef Dinner
Chicken Parmesan over Pasta

Dessert Selections:

Brenda's Bread Pudding
Pecan Pie w/Vanilla ice cream

Please confirm your reservation by paying \$20.00 to Bob Jones at the Nov. meet, or mail it (checks must be made out to Robert Jones) to Bob @ 19 Butternut Dr., Sutton, MA., 01590 to arrive no later than Nov. 5th. Bob can also be reached at his e-mail address:

bobjones@gmail.com

2012 Club Officers

One item of business that we need to take care of is electing the Officers for 2012. As of press time, we have one volunteer running for each office. Here's the slate:

Commander: Bob Okerholm
1st Officer: Mike Hale
Events Officer: Mike Fioretti
Treasurer: Bob Jones
Equipment Officer: John Cooper
Newsletter Editor: Bill Michaels

The term limits in our Bylaws says that Ed Arini must step down as Commander. Please take a moment to thank him for his service next time you see him. (And maybe the other officers, while you're at it!)

Wheeler Class Sailboat Regatta

Bob Jones sent the following report:

Over the weekend of Oct 15-16, I officiated at the National Regatta for Wheeler class sail boats. It was held on Lake Quinsigamond. A Wheeler is 80" weights 32 lbs and carries 2000 sq inches of sail. Steve Levesque also came up to view the demolition derby.

We sailed 15 races during the 2 days in extremely windy weather. The wind blew a steady 18 knots and had very regular gusts over 30 knots. We started with 14 boats and ended the 2nd day with 3 boats sailing at the Regatta end.

Wheeler sailed at 6 knots and surfed down wind at 8-9 knots. Collisions occurred often and caused serious damage often forcing the boat out of racing. Hulls collided hard enough to crack both fiber glass hulls. 80 Lbs Sheet lines snapped like sewing thread. Threaded stainless fitting were stressed enough to strip the threads out pulling pieces apart. Stainless steel spreaders were broken like toothpicks. 9' carbon fiber masts were twisted apart. Bolted Boom fittings were ripped through the carbon fiber mast and lost overboard.

All in all it was a great series of sail races to watch. None of that watch the grass grow in this series! It was EXCITING but sad for the boat owners. These are expensive big boats, running in the \$2000 range. 2 guys flew out from California to endure the breakage. Just think \$600 in crating and freight plus your ticket to watch the boat self destruct!



Here's a shot of a few of the boats jockeying for position at the start.



Here's a Wheeler planning as it races downwind in the strong, gusty winds. Look at the wake it is making!

Editor's Report

Since not much has happened in the last month, I'm going to take some space to report on some hobby-related news.

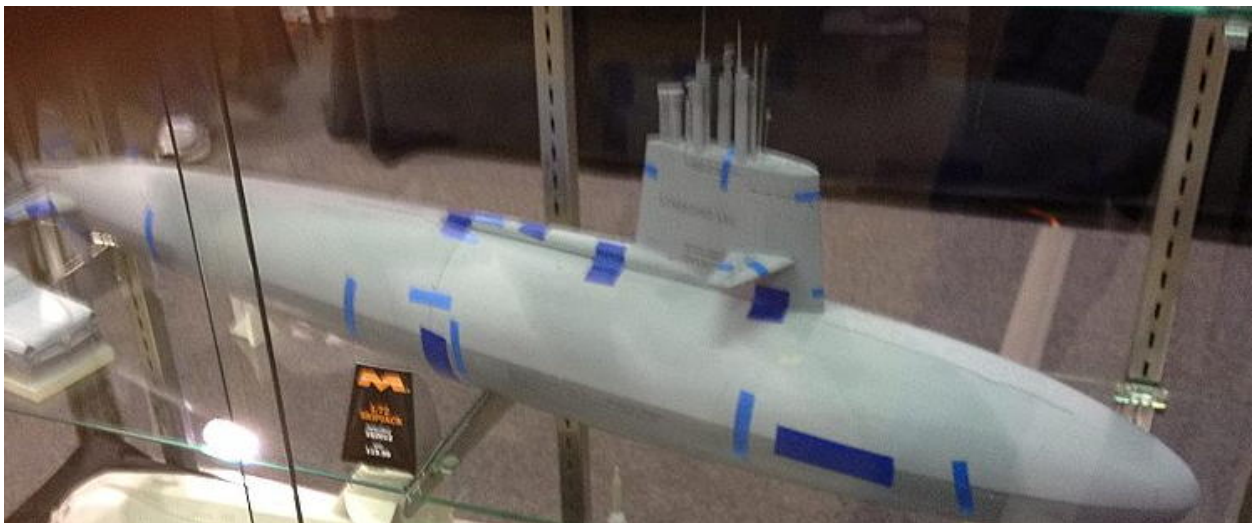
The Lindberg Yacht Constellation kit might finally be coming out! Twenty to thirty years ago, Lindberg used to make a pair of large plastic boat models (about 30 inches long). There was a Sport Fisherman and a Chris Craft Constellation. The "Connie" was first announced at the 2008 Chicago Hobby Trade Show, and a lot of RC boaters were eagerly awaiting the kit's release. Then the economy went south, and the kit never came out.

Well, at this year's show, Lindberg was back, and the kit was on display again. The kit is supposed to be available in early December of 2011. (A couple of internet dealers are already taking pre-orders.) The kit retails for about \$190, and includes an electric motor, and is supposed to be easily adaptable for RC.



The 30 inch long Chris Craft Constellation.

Also announced at the Chicago Show for 2012 was a big 1/72 scale USS Skipjack class submarine model, by Moebius Models. This is a big plastic model, and one that is designed for easy conversion to RC. The RC sub suppliers are apparently already working on running gear kits for it. This kit is expected to be out in the first quarter of 2012, and will retail for \$120.



Here's a shot of the test bed model. Not a great shot, but it was the best I could find online.

Finally, Italeri has announced a 1/35 scale Vosper MTB kit. This is a model of the British WW2 torpedo boat, to go with their US PT-Boat and German Schnellboot in the same scale. The model will be a little over 2 feet long. I know a bunch of the US and German kits have already been converted to RC by enterprising modelers—I'm sure this one will be, too.

Scale Ship Modelers Association (SSMA) Dues Increase: Effective January 1, 2012, the annual individual membership in the SSMA will be \$25. This will be in effect for any membership started or renewed after the January 1 date. (This is a small increase, and I think it is the first one in a long time!)

Please consider joining SSMA— without them, we wouldn't have the insurance needed to hold organized events at the local town ponds.

Upcoming Events

January 13-15, 2012: “Cabin Fever Expo 2012” Model Engineering Show and Auction, in York, PA. The show includes displays of all types of model engineering:

Gas & Steam Engines; Hot Air Engines; Airplanes; Steam Boats (running on a large indoor pond); Trains; Cars; and Live Steam Trains.

There is also a vendor sales area with over 100 vendor spaces selling: Kits, Tools, New & Used Machinery, Books, Plans, Trains, Boilers, Software, Fasteners, Lubricants, etc....

Check out www.cabinfeverexpo.com for more info.

February 24-26, 2012: 44th Annual WRAM Show, in Secaucus, NJ—the largest RC Hobby show in the Northeast. The show is moving to the Meadowlands Exposition Center this year. For more info, go to www.wram.org.