



THE FOGHORN

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

2014-- Our 25th Year!!

July 2014

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

Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, July 13, 10am – 4pm. On the water at lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA. We'll be at the Community Center Beach, which is off Dubinsky Drive. This is the spot on the east side of the lake—we will not be at Memorial Beach at the north end.

Saturday, August 2. TBA. We just found out that we are not invited to participate in this year's Salem Maritime Festival. The reason is that they are doing a special theme this year—"the War of 1812".

The club officers will be looking at alternatives for an event for this date. If you have any ideas, please let us know!

June Meeting Report

Sunday, June 8th was a beautiful day, but it turned out not to be a good day for a Float. We were in the middle of pollen season, and the green stuff was everywhere. The light prevailing on-shore wind had blown a lake's worth of floating pollen down to the Community Center beach. As a result, the beach had a 12-foot wide band of floating green stuff all along the shore.



The green stuff, combined with a number of kids playing in the water just beyond it, resulted in members being reluctant to launch their models, though a couple did carry their boats out beyond the scum to launch. Bill Michaels and Shaun Kimball both got in some nice runs.

Ed Arini had brought along some items from the late Steve Levesque's shop, to sell on the behalf of his widow. Several members picked up items to add to their

collections at home. (Your editor picked up a couple of airplane motors and a sail winch.)

Attendance was light, perhaps because we were in the heart of graduation season. Members in attendance include: Harold Cohen, Lou Hills, Shaun Kimball, Bob and Johanna Okerholm, John Cooper, Ed and Linda Arini, Bill Michaels, and Mike Fioretti.



Lou Hills (standing) chatting with Bob Okerholm. In the background, Linda and Johanna are getting the lunch supplies ready, while Ed carefully monitors the situation, while also manning his sales table.

Editor's Notes

Simple Sound System: “BenVK”, a modeler from the UK, posted this idea on the RCGroups.com Scale Boats forum. He took a small wireless (bluetooth) speaker and mounted it in his model. He then used his smartphone to play his music and audio sound effects files through this remote speaker. Bluetooth typically has a range of about 20-30 feet, which should be fine. If the model is close enough to the shore to hear it, it should be in range of the broadcasting source in your pocket! These remote speakers are widely available and cheap. Here's an example—it is a 5 watt system that is 2 ¼ inches in diameter, and 2 inches tall.



Editorial: Why don't more members attend our events?

It seems to me that turnout at our events is down—we have fewer members bringing fewer models, and the boats that are there don't seem to spend much time in the water. Why is that?

Is it the location, the schedule, or the conditions at the site? Is it too much of the “same-old-same-old” every month? Is it something else?

I'm not asking this to be critical of my fellow officers— rather, I'm looking to spark a discussion amongst the membership to find out what we could do to increase participation. What can we do to improve this?

Please send me your comments/ideas, and I'll run a feature in a future issue of the Foghorn.

Foghorn “Light” this month:

My apologies for such a small newsletter this month. June was a “Perfect Storm” of events for me— my daughter got married, and then my 91 year old mother passed away in Vermont a few days later. With the wedding and then the funeral, coupled with the fact that not much happened at the June float, I didn't have much to write about this month, nor any time to go look for extra content.

Marine Modelers Club of New England

2014 Events and Meeting Schedule

(Rev. 7 July 2014)

Date	Event
Sunday, March 17 1 - 4pm	Indoor meeting at UCC Church Hall Medfield, MA
Sunday, April 27 10 am - 4 pm	Icebreaker: On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, May 18 9 am- 4 pm	Warship Day: On-the-water at Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA.
Sunday, June 8 10 am - 4 pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Sunday, July 13 10 am - 4 pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Saturday, August 2	TBA
Sunday, August 17 10 am - 4pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Sunday September 7 9 am - 4 pm	On-the-water: Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA.
Saturday Sept 21 10 am - 4 pm	Float Fly-in, Fun Float and cook-out: Lake Scituate , town Swim Beach , Wayland , MA (Co-located with the Charles River RCers Floatplane Fly-In)
Saturday, October 4 2 pm - 7 pm	Day/Night run: On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, October 19 10 am — 4 pm	On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, November 9 1 - 4 pm	Indoor meeting at UCC Church Hall Medfield, MA
Sunday, December 7	Holiday dinner, location TBD

Visit us at www.marinemodelers.org for updates to this schedule and for directions.