



# ***THE FOGHORN***

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

**2014-- Our 25th Year!!**

**September 2014**

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## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Sunday, September 7, 11am – 3pm.** On the water at Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA. Note: while our official hours for the event are 11-3, the permit from the Town covers us from 9 am to 4 pm, so if you want to get there early or stay late, you are OK.

Note: We're reducing the "Official Hours" for our regular Fun Floats to a 4 hour span, so that our attendance isn't spread out all over the day. Instead of having a few people present at any given time, hopefully we'll have more people all there together.

**Saturday, September 21, 10 am – 3 pm: Potluck Picnic and Fun Float at the Wayland Town Swim Beach on Lake Cochituate.** Once again, we'll be sharing the beach with the Charles River RCers and their RC Float Planes. See the article on Page 4 for more information.

## **August Meeting Report**

This has been a tough summer for your Editor—I missed another one. Fortunately, Bob and Ed covered for me!

Ed Arini reported that the following members were in attendance: Ed and Linda Arini, Bob and Johanna Okerholm, John Cooper, Shawn Kimball, Eric Bertelsen, Mike Hale, Gaspar La Colla, and Arthur Perlmutter. Ed also sent along a couple of photos, which appear below.

Bob Okerholm sent the following report:

The day started out bright and sunny. Someone though forgot to tell the swimmers, so they didn't show. However, the modelers showed up WITH BOATS. They came about 11am and left about 3:30pm. The waves were not a problem until later in the day.

**Bob Okerholm** tried out a new rescue tug. It the Hartman tug he bought last fall. Two others Bob brought were the Eastie and the red SafeSea, both sporting new motors. **Gaspar La Colla** had his USCG 47 foot Motor Lifeboat (MLB) on scene to supervise Bob's tug boat on its maiden voyage test. He said it passed!



**Eric Bertelsen** brought his 1/96 scale USCGC Mellon, a Hamilton class US Coast Guard Cutter. The model features a complicated mast structure, that Eric created using a 3-d printer. Very impressive!

Left: Eric launching the Mellon, using his handy cradle.

**Mike Hale** brought his fleet of boats which now includes a new full-size kayak/ rescue boat? **Shaun Kimball's** Calypso was the most impressive; it handled the heavy afternoon waves like its namesake, and came back to safely to port.



Above: Eric's USCGC Mellon and Shawn's tug underway.

**George Gargano** made a video of some of the boats that day; you can see it on youtube. Thanks George!

Editor's note: You can access the video here: <http://youtu.be/SFjm20Ljqt4>



Above: Shawn's tug, nicely making way.



## **September Picnic**

After last year's success, we are planning to hold another BBQ/Cookout pond side. The date will be Saturday, September 21, at the Wayland Town Swim Beach. Spouses and families are invited. Additionally, we've invited the members of the Charles River club to join us for lunch.

This is a cookout and potluck picnic—the club will provide the burgers, dogs, and paper goods. We're asking members to bring other dishes and drinks to share.

Just like last year, the picnic will be held in concert with the Charles River RCer's RC airplane float fly. We'll be set up at the same end of the beach as we were at last year, with shade and BBQ grills adjacent to our operating area.

We're going back to this site as it is a central location, and the presence of the airplane guys gives us (and our family members) something interesting to watch. We're planning on putting some buoys in the water, and of course there is always the possibility that we'll be needed to rescue stalled planes if we want.

This is our third year doing this—both previous times we had a terrific time. With about 30 people attending, it was our best-attended event of the year! Bill Michaels will be coordinating the potluck side—he'll send out an email shortly so we can figure out how many people are coming. **If you are planning on attending, let Bill know how many are coming, and what you'll be bringing to share.**

Below: Bill Michaels' Springer Tug pushing a floatplane back to the dock after it nosed over on landing at last year's event.



## **Editor's Notes**

**Scale Figures:** Many people think that a model boat looks better on the water with some scale people on board—especially small craft. But finding the appropriately sized figures can be a challenge. In need of some figures myself, I was hunting around the internet, and found a lead for another source for scale figures:

Figures by Height: This is site that has a variety of figures, and you can sort by height/scale. [http://www.peoplescale.com/FIGURES-BY-HEIGHT\\_c212.htm](http://www.peoplescale.com/FIGURES-BY-HEIGHT_c212.htm)

I also found GardenTrucking.com—they are primarily in the business of 1/16 scale trucks and construction equipment. But they also have a few figures in 1/16 scale- workmen that might make suitable crewmen, perhaps?

**Krylon Paints:** There has been discussion (some of it anguished) on the internet model boating forums about the change in formulation of Krylon paints. (This happened back in 2008.) Krylon changed the formulation of both their spray colors and their clear coats-- but the problem is that the two aren't compatible anymore—even though the labels and the store displays lead you to think they are. I've read a number of tales of people painting their model with a Krylon spray, then later applying the Krylon clear coat, and having it react badly (crackling/peeling, etc.)

It turns out that the old Krylon is still available—only the consumer products version was reformulated. (To reduce the VOCs and make it more environmentally friendly.) You can still get the old formula, from Industrial suppliers. You can identify the old formula by the “5 ball logo” can. You can get it from places like Grainger. An online source is [www.globalindustrial.com](http://www.globalindustrial.com). I haven't used it, but I understand that the old line had more colors than the new line does.

It probably isn't worth the trouble to go search this out if you're painting a new model. But this info might come in handy if you need to repair or recoat an older model that was originally painted using the old formula.

**Anyone Interested in a Road Trip?** As I travel about, I am always on the lookout for new places to run our models, and I've stumbled across a few that caught my eye. Also, we have membership scattered all over the place- from NH to RI and CT. Holding a float at the ends of our “territory” could make for a fun day trip, and bring out some members and other boaters in the area that we normally don't see....

I'm just tossing out the idea for people to think about and maybe to discuss at one of our winter meetings. For the purposes of discussion, here are a couple of examples of places I've been recently that led me to say to Kaja “This would be a great place for the boat club!”.....

Lake Sunapee, NH. Kaja and I spent a weekend up there in the middle of August- first time we've ever gone there. We were surprised at how clean and weed-free the lake is, and that it wasn't very crowded. Lake Sunapee is about a 1 hour and 45 minute drive from our house in Acton—it is close to the New London, NH exit on I-89.

There are a couple of places that would make great locations for a Fun Float. At the south end of the lake the Town of Newbury has a little park with parking, a small beach, restrooms, low docks, and a nifty gazebo that overlooks the water, right at the water's edge, and about 12 feet up. Also, there's a nice seafood restaurant across the street.

The village of Sunapee Harbor is another nice location. We rented Kayaks there, and paddled about to explore. The quaint harbor area has floating docks, a bath house, a boat launch ramp, plenty of parking, and a small beach and grassy area about 20 yards down the shore from the marina area.

These places would make a lovely site for a Fun Float of some sort, especially in the spring or fall. I'm sure there are similar places close to RI or CT, too.....

**Peabody Ship Model Show:** Saturday and Sunday, October 18 and 19, from 9am to 3pm daily. Sponsored by the George Sippel Modeling Group, at the Torigian Community Life Center, 79 Central Street, Peabody, MA. Last year they had 214 models on display, and welcome members from outside their group to join in.

**New Technologies:** Is anyone playing around with some of the new technologies? If so, I'd love to publish any sort of write-up on what you're doing here in the Foghorn. Some examples:

**Telemetry:** Modern radios (Hobby King, Futaba, and Graupner come immediately to mind) have built in support for telemetry these days. This allows the radio gear in the model to send info back to the transmitter for display. On board battery voltage and temp monitors are popular with the RC airplane guys. You can get micro GPS units, to log where you've been, too.

**First Person Video:** This is another area that is becoming popular in RC planes. FPV uses a camera to send back video from the plane, allowing the pilot to fly it as if he was in the cockpit. This has tremendous potential for boats; especially given we don't need as high quality of a feed (speed, range, cost) as used on planes. Imagine how much easier it would be to rescue a stranded boat if you could see if you are lined up properly on it! And imagine how much fun it might be to sail down a channel in a Nav course using FPV!

**3-D Printing:** This is another area of rapid growth in the hobby. Our own club mate Eric Bertelsen is doing some amazing stuff with this technology. If you are at all interested, you should stop by HomePort Model Ships during one of their open houses at their shop in Lowell.

HomePort is located at the Western Avenue Studios in Lowell. There is an Open House for the studios on the first Saturday of every month. The next Public Open House is Saturday, 6 September, from 12-5pm.

## **Marine Modelers Club of New England**

### **2014 Events and Meeting Schedule**

(Rev. 7 August 2014)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
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 11 am – 3 pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Sunday September 7 11 am - 3 pm	On-the-water: Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA.
Saturday Sept 21 11am - 3 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 3 pm - 7 pm	Day/Night run: On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, October 19 11 am — 2 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 12 – 3 pm	Holiday brunch, at the Holiday Inn Taunton.

**Visit us at [www.marinemodelers.org](http://www.marinemodelers.org) for updates to this schedule and for directions.**