



THE FOGHORN

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

2017-- Our 28th Year!!

April 2017

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

Upcoming Meetings

Friday-Sunday, April 21-23: Woods Hole Model Boat Show. We will have a club table with a variety of models on display. If you are going to attend, make sure you send in a registration form, and also let Ed Arini know what you're bringing so we get enough club tables.

Sunday, April 30: 11am – 3pm: Icebreaker Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon.

Sunday, May 21, 11am-3pm: Fun Float at Silver Lake in Wilmington.

Membership Renewal Time!

It is time to pay 2017 membership dues. The form is posted on the club website, and you can pay using the “Paypal” button on the club website. Dues are \$25. Contact Club Treasurer Ed Arini if you have any questions.

Note: If you are going to use Paypal for your dues, please select “donation” or “send money to friends or family”-- this way, we won't be charged a service fee. If you pay by picking “purchase”, then we lose 3% of your \$25 to the service fee!

March Club Meeting

The meeting was held at the UCC Church hall in Medfield. Members attending included: Mike Hale, Ed and Linda Arini, Bill Michaels, Gaspar LaColla, Bob and Johanna Okerholm, Alan Beeber, Shaun Kimball, Harold Cohen, Bob Prezioso, and John Cooper.

A couple of months ago, the Officers had been contacted by a widow who wanted to donate her late husband's ship modeling items. She wasn't looking to sell them- she wanted them to go to a good home. After some back and forth, Mike Hale was finally able to connect with her and go pick the items up a couple of days before the meeting. We had a big pile of tools, supplies, and materials that we gave away.

The widow also gave Mike a couple of plank on frame kits of the HMS Victory, one started, one not, and a couple of power tools. We decided we would save the tools for use as door prizes at the Holiday Dinner, and that we would sell the HMS Victory kits in the consignment sale at the Woods Hole Model Boat show. They charge a commission, so we are helping the Historical Society, and we'll use our share of the proceeds to buy some more RC-appropriate items for the Holiday dinner. Mike Hale sent the widow a nice Thank You note on the club's behalf...



We had a visitor at the meeting- Ned Watts, from the Charles River RC airplane club. He brought along a Brooklyn tug that he has having ESC troubles with (reverse didn't work). He came to the right place-- Alan Beeber was able to sort out the problem.

Ned had let us know he was coming, so Mike Hale brought in his Brooklyn so Ned could examine it.



Above: Ned's Brooklyn in the foreground, Mike Hale's Brooklyn is behind it.

Bob Prezioso brought along a model of an Ultra Yacht-- a small ship really. Bob is scratch building the model-- I think he said there no right angles anywhere! Looking at the model so far, I'd say that is easy to believe! The yacht had been in the maritime news a a couple of times, as it seems to have a tendency to bankrupt the owners! Hopefully the RC version won't do that to Bob!



Willi Zankel brought in the newly-refurbished Noddle Tugs. At the Providence Boat Show, Willi volunteered to take the four club-owned tugs home to refurbish them. He did a thorough maintenance on each one, updating the wiring and switches, installing new 2.4 GHz radios (no more worrying about kids and antennas!), and renovating the cabins. He also added retaining bolt to keep the cabin in place, and moved the on/off switch to the top of the stack, so we don't need to open the boats up to turn them on/off. Finally, Willi painted each cabin to match the color of the hull, to make it easier for the kids to identify which model they were in control of!



Willi donated all the materials, including the new radios, to the club. Next time you see Willi, be sure to thank him for the excellent and generous work!

Your Editor s brought in his Dumas USCG 36' Motor Lifeboat 36500. The 1/16 scale model is built from the Dumas kit, but with some changes to backdate the boat to the configuration it had during the SS Pendleton Rescue in 1952 off Chatham during a winter Nor'Easter. This is the boat from the USCG's "Greatest Small-boat Rescue", as told in the book and movie "The Finest Hours". I am crewing the boat with a trio of 3-D Printed figures I got from a designer on Shapeways. Once painted, the figures look very good-- certainly better than a steroid-enhanced "Action Figure" from the toy store would!



Woods Hole Model Boat Show 2017

The 2017 show will be held on the weekend of April 21-23, 2017. Setup is on Friday afternoon, with the show open to the public on Saturday until 5pm, and on Sunday until 3pm. Model boats will be on display all along the main street through town, including the Historical Society, Library, Community Center, Meeting House, and the lobbies of some of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute buildings. All sorts of model boats will be on display, static and RC, from sailing ships to modern subjects. There are also RC sailboat races all weekend on Eel Pond by the drawbridge. As usual, we'll have a club table for our model displays, in the MBL Center.

Editor's Notes

3D Printing: I mentioned above that my USCG crewmen came from Shapeways. Shapeways.com is an on-demand 3-D printing service, based in New York. You can upload your own designs, and they'll print them, and also put them in a "shop" so others may order them as well.

Many designers are flexible, and can customize items to your request. For example, My figures come from a shop named "Panzer VS. Tanks". The designer Luis, who lives in Spain, offers a variety of US Navy crewmen, in scales ranging from 1/144 to 1/16. I bought a set of his 1/24 scale PT Boat crewmen for my Elco PT-141 a year ago, so when I went looking for crew for my USCG lifeboat, I contacted Luis. I wanted sailors in dungarees and Navy kapok life jackets-- but without the steel helmets. Luis scaled up a couple of figures, changed the headgear, and added them to his shop. I bought two guys, and later went back for a third, with separate arms so he could match up with the boat's wheel.

The designers can offer the figures in a variety of materials. As you might expect, the better the quality, the higher the cost. I went with "White Strong and Flexible" material, which is one of the least expensive, and thus a little grainy at times. The key to using this material is to prime them before painting. After priming, I brush painted the figures using my modeling acrylics. Once painted, my guys look great, and really bring the boat alive. The 1/16 scale figures are about 4.5 inches tall, and cost between \$18 and \$24 each- a little expensive perhaps, but they are perfect for the model. The figures for the smaller scales were much cheaper-- my PT boat crewmen in 1/24 scale (3 inches high) were between \$9 and \$10 each. (A big factor in the cost is how much printer material is used.)

Finally, I'd be remiss if I didn't also mention club member Eric Bertelsen and Homeport Model Ships. Eric is doing a lot of work with 3D printing, and has a lot of 1/96 scale warship fittings available. One of Eric's latest creations is a US Navy Natick-class tug. The hull, cabin, stack, and pilothouse are all 3-D printed. The one piece hull is incredibly light, and includes bulwarks with scuppers, rub rails, and a recess for the plastic deck.



Above: Eric Bertelsen's Natick-class tug, nearing completion. Some topside details parts and the rotating radar antenna have yet to be installed..

Below: The basic 3D-printed hull looks like-- all 13.5 inches of it:



2016 – 2017 Spring Schedule

(updated 28 March 2017)

DATE	EVENT
Friday-Sunday, February 3-5	Providence Boat Show, Rhode Island Convention Center
<i>Friday-Sunday, February 24-26</i>	<i>AMA Expo East (Formerly the WRAM Show), Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, NJ</i>
Sunday, March 12, 1-4pm	Indoor Club Meeting UCC Church Hall, Medfield, MA.
Friday-Sunday, April 21-23	Woods Hole Model Boat Show
<i>Saturday, April 29, 9am-4pm</i>	<i>Northeast Joint Club Ship Model Conference and Show, New London, CT</i>
Sunday. April 30, 11-3pm	Icebreaker Fun Float, Memorial Park Beach, Sharon
Sunday, May 21, 11-3pm	Fun Float at Silver Lake, Wilmington, MA
Saturday, June 17, 12-4pm	Fun Float at Redd's Pond in Marblehead, MA
<i>Sunday, June 25, 8am – 6 pm</i>	<i>Empire State Model Ship Club Regatta, Flushing, NY.</i>
Sunday, July 9, 11am - 3pm	Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon
Saturday-Sunday, Aug 5-6	Salem Maritime Festival weekend.
Sunday, August 20, 11-3 pm	Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon
Sunday, Sept. 17, 11am-3pm	Fun Float at Silver Lake in Wilmington
Saturday, Oct. 14, 2-7pm	Day/Night run and Club Picnic at Memorial Park Beach
Sunday, Nov.12, 1-4 pm	Indoor Meeting at UCC Church Hall in Medfield, MA
Sunday, December xx	Holiday Dinner, location and date TBD

Note: Items in *purple italics* are not club-sponsored events- they are listed here because we felt they may be of interest to our members and friends.

Check the club website for the latest version:

www.marinemodelers.org