



THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England*

2023-- Our 33rd Year!!

May 2023

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

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 20, 10am to 2pm: Fun Float at memorial Park Beach in Sharon,MA. Theme is "Sailboats". Rain date is Sunday the 21st.

Saturday, June 3, 11am - 5pm: Piscataqua RiverFest. We'll be manning a static display at this "Boat-focused" event in Portsmouth NH. Event is held at the Strawberry Banke Museum, which is across the street from Prescott Park. (Setup is 9-11 am). The organizers are trying to get us a portable pool for us to use, for Noddle Tugs and maybe larger models, too!

Sunday, June 11, 10 am to 2pm: Fun Float at Tuscan Village, Salem NH. Tuscan Village is a major re-development of the old Rockingham Race Track. It features shopping, restaurants, etc. We have gotten great support from the Shopping Center owners as well as the folks at LLBean, who are delaying their usual "Kayak Demos" until after our event.

Once again, we'll have exclusive use of the pond behind the LL Bean store. We are doing this a month earlier than last year to avoid the heavy weed growth.

Dues Reminder

Dues are \$25per person (\$30 family) for 2023. You have multiple options to pay:

1. Pay in person at the meeting.
2. Mail a check to Linda Arini (form is attached to this issue)
3. Pay via Paypal. (Link is on the club website, or you can just send the money directly from your Paypal account to clubdues@marinemodelers.org. (If you send it as a "donation" we don't get with the processing fee.)

Piscataqua Riverfest

The Piscataqua RiverFest will be held this year, on Saturday, June 3rd, from 11am to 5pm, in Portsmouth, NH. This will be our third time we are exhibiting at the event. It is a static display-- think Salem Maritime Festival without the pool or Noodle Tugs. The other exhibits and the audience are a bit more “boat oriented” than we typically get at Salem- with a focus on and appreciation of craftsmanship in boat-focused works and maritime history.

The event is held on the large open area adjacent to the parking lot at the Strawberry Banke Museum. Setup is 9-11am, and we have access to unload very close to our exhibition spot.

The event's website is here: <https://piscataquariverfest.wordpress.com/>

Here's a photo from 2022:



Sunny Start Despite a Cloudy Day

By Frank B. Cook, Events Officer

Saturday, April 29, dawned sunny in southeastern Massachusetts. However, this phenomena was short-lived as the clouds crept back in, accompanied by an at times brisk wind, as the Marine Modelers Club of New England gathered for their annual “Icebreaker” season opener.



Everyone came properly dressed for the weather!

Lake Massapoag reflected the grayness of the morning sky and the onshore breeze was a reminder that pleasant weather for sailing was not in store for this day. Still - despite the seemingly gloomy conditions - a positive sense of excitement and anticipation for a marvelous sailing season prevailed!

The Club had, in recent memory, not only its largest turnout for opening day, but also for an on-the-water event! Perhaps most importantly there were several new members and visitors, thanks in part to the Club’s recently revised Facebook Page that is attracting a lot of attention in the scale ship modeling world. Add to the mix new boats built during the winter season, as well as those brought by new members, and interest continued to build. In addition, members Linda Arini and Johanna Okerholm provided a variety of hot, grilled sandwiches and hot tea that helped take the chill out of the air.

Mariners gathering at the lake shore also included Ted Correia, George Gargano, Steve Fifield, Mike Hale, Shaun Kimball, Tim Logan, Bill Michaels, Bruce Murray, Bob Okerholm, Arthur Perlmutter, Charlie Tebbetts, Jerry Trahan, and Frank Cook. It was also great to see long-time member John Cooper in attendance! John spent time renewing old acquaintances and meeting new members, while also making available miscellaneous boat model supplies to his fellow modelers.

New members joining in the season opener were Richard Magee, Tim Malarkey, and Mark Sarofeen, accompanied by his brother, Steve. Mark brought his USCG Lifeboat, a Dumas kit, along with a spectacular sailboat. Richard has the large “Shelly Foss” tugboat and all are looking forward to seeing that fine vessel underway! Among the numerous visitors was Peter Hunt, a old shipmate of Bill Michaels.



Because the sailing conditions were a bit challenging, many skippers of smaller vessels opted to remain shore-bound. Larger vessels, such as Mike Hale’s “Atlantic” tug, Charlie Tebbetts lobster and USCG boats, and Shaun Kimball’s 6-ft. “Titanic” were among those putting to sea. Mike’s “Miss Geico” power boat found open seas and little boat traffic ideal for high speed operation. Of course rough seas are nothing out of the ordinary to the USCG and Ted Correia and Bill Michaels effectively demonstrated the capability of their 1/16 scale 44-foot. and 36-foot Coast Guard lifeboats.

Bruce Murray's magnificent 45-in. Edwardian Steam Launch "Topaz" made its debut, a beautifully crafted steam-powered river launch, another fine example of Bruce's skill!



Bruce Murray's Models. (F. Cook photo.)

Tim Logan completed his first RC scale boat, the RNLI Waveney Class "St. Patrick," over the winter and it is impressive! Tim modified the kit and added spectacular detail.





(F. Cook photo.)

Steve Fifield spent the off-season researching and building a 36-in. Gundalow, a shallow draft barge that once sailed the rivers of northern New England carrying precious cargo. The boats carried a large lateen-type sail on a stub mast. This enabled the boats to quickly drop the sail so they could coast under a low bridge. (Some of the Gundalows later were converted to power.)



Steve spent some time searching for plans of a Gundalow, and finally found a small set of drawings at the Floating Drydock. The *Fanny M* was the last working Gundalow on the Piscataqua, as the expansion of the railroads in the early 1900s made the type obsolete.



(F. Cook photo)

Steve's model has both a sail and a motor. Steve made a few changes to his model, with some “best guesses” at some of the details not shown on the plans- so he named his model the *Fanny M. II*. He made two sails for the model – one furled, and one set. It was far too windy for a sail this time, so he just ran the model under power alone. It is sure to be a big hit at the Piscataqua Riverfest-- at which the Club will be exhibiting at in June!

So thus began the Club’s 33rd season ... a time of renewing friendships after a long winter, a time of returning RC scale ship models to their natural habitat, and a time to welcome new members.

Frank Cook provided some additional photos:



Shaun Kimball and his fleet. The Titanic handled the wind pretty well, despite being hamstrung a bit by a broken prop blade.



Bruce Murray, Jerry Trahan, and Bob Okerholm with Bob's *Eastie*. That's new member Mark Sarofeen in the background, behind Bruce. (F. Cook photo.)



Bruce Murray and Arthur Perlmutter, with Bruce's *Topaz*. (F. Cook photo.)

2023 Club Events Schedule
(rev 2/10/23)

Date	Time	Event/Theme	Location
Sunday, 19 March	1pm - 4pm	Indoor Meeting Cameo4 Cutting Machine Demo	UCC Church Hall Medfield, MA
Saturday, 29 April	10am - 2pm	Icebreaker Fun Float	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Saturday, 20 May	10am - 2pm	Fun Float/ Sailboats	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Saturday, 3 June	9am - 5pm	Piscataqua RiverFest	Portsmouth, NH
Sunday, 11 June	10am - 2pm	Fun Float at Tuscan Village (LL Bean pond)	Salem, NH
Sunday, 9 July	1pm - 4pm	Fun Float/ Warships	Redds Pond, Marblehead, MA
Saturday, 26 August	11 am - 3pm	Fun Float/Club picnic/ Tugs and other Workboats	Memorial Park Beach Sharon, MA
Wednesday, 20 Sept	10am - 4pm	Joint Fun Float with Maine Club (rain date 21 Sept)	Scarborough, ME
Sunday, 1 Oct	10am – 3:30pm	“Sharon Day” Exhibition	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Saturday, 21 October	4pm - 7pm	Day/Night run	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Sunday, 12 Nov.	12pm - 3pm	Indoor Meeting	UCC Church Hall, Medfield, MA
Sunday, 3 Dec.	12pm - 4pm	Holiday Dinner @ Prezzo Grille	Milford, MA

Note: Check the club website for address info/maps and any changes to the schedule. Most (but not all) Saturday events have a rain date of Sunday.