



# ***THE FOGHORN***

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

**2024-- Our 34th Year!!**

**September-October 2024**

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## **Upcoming Events**

**Sunday September 29, 10am-4pm: Sharon Day!** For details, see article on page xx

**Saturday, October 19, 3 -6pm:** Day/Night run at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA.  
(Rain date is Sunday, October 20)

**Sunday, November 17, 1-4pm:** Indoor meeting at the Church Hall in Medway, MA.

**Sunday, December 8, 12-4pm:** Annual Holiday Dinner.

## **Club Clothing**

Get your Official Marine Modelers Club Clothing here: <http://www.cafepress.com/MMCNE>

## **Encore Performance: Sharon Day 2024**

By Frank Cook, Events Officer

Just a reminder that next Sunday, September 29, our Club will again be participating in the Town of Sharon's 4th Annual Sharon Day. The organizers have been very impressed with our participation the last two years and, in fact, invited us to return just moments after last year's event ended!

For your planning purposes....

- Please let me know if you are planning to attend. Sharon Day is a popular event and attracts hundreds (thousands?) of visitors. Our Club attracts a lot of interest and this is a perfect opportunity to share our great hobby. We need many Club members to make this day a success! Any assistance you can provide in setting up, assisting with the Noodle Tugs, answering questions, and of course, showing your boats underway on the lake is wonderful.
- The event runs from 11am to 3pm. We will not be able to leave the parking area until the event ends.
- The event is held regardless of the weather.
- We MUST be in the parking lot by 10:45 as Beach Road will be closed at that time and remain closed until the event concludes at 3pm.
- We have the same reserved parking area as in past years, namely, the boat launch area. The road into this area, and the lot itself, is in the process of being torn-up in preparation for repaving and is likely to still be in that condition the day of the event.
- Our location will be in the same place as last year, on the beach and just beyond the kayak storage area.
- In addition to displaying and sailing our boats, we will again (weather permitting) be running our Noodle Tugs for visitors. Any help you can provide in this operation is appreciated!
- At noon, and again at 2pm, we will be having a "Model Boats on Water Parade" exhibit. If you would like to participate in these parades please notify Frank Cook of your interest and include the name and description of your boat(s) by Saturday, September 28.
- In place of last year's megaphone, member Harold Cohen has graciously agreed to provide sound system services to us! This will be particularly useful in announcing the parade participants and their boat.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email or by phone (508-446-0954).  
Have a great week and I look forward to seeing you at Sharon!

## **Steering Course /Fun Float Report**

Our annual Steering Course/Fun Float was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> at the lake in Sharon. Because of the single dock layout at Lake Massapoag this year, the typical steering regatta layout needed to be changed from past years. To that end, Charlie came up with a plan to replace the usual “buoys and channels” course with a different event-- a rescue regatta.

The rescue regatta was a rescue operation with less maneuvering, using Mile Hale’s floating rescue cradle and Shaun Kimball's motor-less Downeast boat hull playing the part of the boat in need of a rescue. This was not a full-blown event- it was more of a test to see if it would be a viable option for future events. Five skippers tried the event: Mike Hale, Stu Gralnik, Bill Gibson, Jerry Trahan, and Charlie Tebbetts.

At the end of the day, the idea of a rescue regatta was a good thought, but using Mike’s floating rescue cradle crated a huge mis-match for the smaller vessels. The smaller vessels were unable to steer against the drag of the rescue cradle with it tied alongside-- larger propellers and rudders were needed to counter the drag resistance of the cradle. In the end, the feeling was that the event would work better as an demonstration than as in informal competition.

I was unable to attend the event. So I didn't get any photos or notes from the event, but I understand the weather was lovely. And there was a good turnout of skippers and models! Charlie reported that 17 people attended the Fun Float, and Shaun provided some photos of some of the models present that day...



Above: Sebastian Mulhern is making great progress on his fleet of HO scale (1/87) USN Destroyer Escorts.



Above: Shaun Kimball's docks are always popular and attract a variety of models!

Below: The Gibsons (Father and son) brought along just a part of their ever-growing fleet of plastic models converted to RC!



Ted Correia is building a US Coast Guard 41' Utility Boat. This work-in-progress was ready for initial testing at the event. She FAR out performed Ted's expectations. The trim was just perfect and she flies!

Ted is working on a brilliant system to keep the boat dry - including a bilge system, spray cover over the electronics, and eventually a cockpit lip, and drain ports. With a successful test, Ted will be working on the details next...



### **Subex 24 RC submarine event - outstanding!**

by Tim Logan, Publicity Officer

Club members Jon Eno, Tim Logan, Shaun Kimball, and Eric Bertelson attended the Subex 24 RC submarine event, Sept 6-8, at Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton CT. The event was nothing short of spectacular. The knowledge, experience, willingness to share, and camaraderie cannot be beat. This is an astounding group of individuals and the event is a combination of pure fun and education.

If you have never been up close to an RC submarine, you may want to leave all preconceived ideas behind. These are tremendously interesting, unique, and challenging vessels. They are

amazingly fun. The group of people who put on this event are due tremendous thanks and respect. (This was not just a submarine event-- surface ships were welcome too! -Ed.)

To top off this great weekend, 20 of the participants were given a rare and unusual opportunity to take a two hour tour of the USS South Dakota nuclear attack submarine. This was of course a jaw-dropping experience!

Here are a few of the many photos that were posted on the club's Facebook page....  
First is a pair of Disney-style Jules Verne Nautilus subs:



Here is a unique “Steam punk” style sub from an unidentified builder:



At the event, Tim Logan was able to take his tug “San Pedro” on its maiden voyage. Rumor has it that it ran well!



The happy skipper...



Below: Eric Bertelsen's 1/96 scale Type 45 Destroyer...



Here is Jonathan Eno with is big USS Jimmy Carter:



USS Jimmy Carter underway....



Thanks to Tim Eric and Jonathan for the photos!

### **For Sale: Sterling American Scout**

An old Sterling "American Scout" model. I think it was originally built by a former member (Steve Lieberman, maybe?) who passed away about 20 years ago. I acquired the model from his estate. The model appears to be a built-from-the-box rendition of the old, Sterling Models kit, with one key difference-- it was built using an aftermarket fiberglass hull instead of the Sterling Kit's balsa hull. The model is about 50 inches long, and represents a WW2 C-2 Cargo Ship in post-war merchant service. The model is 1/110 scale.

I bought the model with the idea of converting it to a 1/96 scale model-- it turns out the hull is just about spot-on for a C-1 class hull in that scale. (A smaller version of the C-2 ships.) My plan was to convert it to a WW2 US Navy PT boat tender-- there were some built on C-1 hulls. (I have a couple of 1/96 scale PT boats to go with it.) But I never got around to it....

What I have: A banged up American Scout in need of some repair/restoration. The fiberglass hull is in very good shape, but I'd think anyone restoring this would replace a lot of the old balsa superstructure parts with more modern materials. I also have a pair of Revell Higgins 78 foot PT Boat plastic models. I also have the old kit box, with some metal fittings and the Sterling instruction/build manual.

Asking \$100. (plus PT boats are \$20 for the pair.) (The American Scout kits haven't been made since the early '70s, and are hard to find and very expensive. The Fiberglass hull alone is worth at least this much! Pictures available on request.

-Bill Michaels

## **2024 Events Schedule**

**Note:** Here is our 2024 schedule as it stands today. A few of the items are Tentative, as we don't have final confirmation from the site owner(s) yet.....

### **Tuesday, June 18, 10am -3pm**

Joint Sailing Session with the DownEast Ship Modelers in Scarborough, ME.

(Rain date is Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>.)

### **Sunday, July 14, 1pm – 4pm**

Warships Day at Redds Pond in Marblehead, MA

### **Saturday, July 27, 10am – 2pm**

Fun Float at Fellsmere Pond in Malden, MA

(Rain date is Sunday, July 28.)

### **Saturday, August 24, 11am -3pm**

Club picnic and sailing session at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA. Theme is “Tugs and Work boats”. (Rain date is Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>.)

### **Saturday, September 14, 10am-3pm:**

Steering Competition at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA.

(Rain date is Sunday, September 15)

### **Sunday September 29, 10am-3pm**

Sharon Day at Lake Massapoag

### **Saturday, October 19, 3 -6pm:**

Day/Night run at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA.

(Rain date is Sunday, October 20)

**Sunday, November 17 1pm – 4pm: Indoor Meeting at the Church Hall**

**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 12-4pm: Holiday Dinner**