

# ***THE FOGHORN***

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club  
of New England*

**2010– Our 20<sup>th</sup> Year!!**

**February 2010**

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Note: Use [officers@marinemodelers.org](mailto:officers@marinemodelers.org) to reach all the club officers as a group.

**Visit our club Web Page at: [www.marinemodelers.org](http://www.marinemodelers.org)**

## **Next Events:**

**Sunday, February 28, 1 pm-4pm:** Club meeting at UCC Church in Medfield, MA. Bring in your new projects for Show and Tell! **Note the late date**—a scheduling conflict at the church forced us to push the meeting back to the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday, March 21, 1 pm – 4pm:** Club meeting at UCC Church in Medfield, MA.

## **2010 Membership Dues: \$25**

It is time to pay your 2010 membership dues— Bob Jones will be collecting dues at the February meeting.

## Question of the Month

**Winter check-in:** What model projects are you currently working on, and how are they going?

**Arthur Perlmutter:** I built a World War I English torpedo boat that is called Bloodhound. It is constructed of bass wood and plywood. I got the plans from Marine Modelers magazine of Great Britain and built it from scratch. Now I am working on a 30 inch freighter that I am building from scratch. I built the hull but did not like how it came out so I am rebuilding a new hull. I have done the ribs and am starting to plank it.

**Mike Hale:** I'm working on the Robbe Sea Jet kit. I had to make a few changes—the rudder system was really bad, and I'm adding a water spout like the real ones. Also, the driver came with two left legs, so Robbe had to send me a new one. The boat should be fast with two brushless motor systems and blade surface piercing props, running on 8.4 volts instead of the standard 7.2 volts. I will be bringing it to the February meeting.

**Stan Barnes:** My current project is building the Dumas "Osprey" kit. This is a 24.5" model of an older fishing boat in 1/12 scale using plank-on-frame construction. I started just before Christmas and have just finished painting. Next comes installation of the radio and running gear. So far it has gone well, but my biggest challenge is dealing with dust in my small work area. Normally I do my sanding and painting outdoors but with temperatures averaging below freezing I decided to stay inside. Now I have a nice coating of dust and overspray on everything in my work area. After the ice on my little pond melts I will begin ballasting and "sea trials".

**Bill Michaels:** I don't have anything major underway right now. With all the time I spent on the road before the holidays, I didn't have much time to spend at the 'ole workbench. In January, I've been puttering about a bit—finishing up a couple of plastic models that were underway. I'm also in the "Mental Design Phase" for a possible project—a Japanese WW2 Seaplane Tender. So far, I'm just collecting some basic info, and thinking about different ways to approach the project. (I'm leaning towards converting an existing hull/model, as opposed to designing from scratch.)

My major accomplishment so far this winter is completing Part 2 of my article on RC Model Shiphandling. That article is scheduled to appear in the March/April issue of Seaways Ships in Scale magazine, and will hopefully include some photos I took of club members' models.

**Kevin Ryan:** I continue to bash about on a partial Dumas Half Pint kit I found at a garage sale for \$1.00. I brought the hull with major decking completed to the last meeting. It is actually pretty wood so I've kept it all natural sealed in polyurethane. I've installed the running hardware I got from Dumas and a mounted smallish brushed motor (Dumas 4.8v) because it came with the \$40.00 package. Now that I have the Dumas package, I realized I could have assembled the same package for at least half the price. I guess this is part of the learning curve for a newbie building model boats.

After looking at power trains on various club members' boats, I have diverged from the Dumas installation directions to make it simpler and lighter. I had planned on it being just a mule hull and deck to learn how to build a boat, install a motor, running hardware and R/C then launch it

and have some fun. Now, I'm going for "Standoff-Squint Hard-And-It-Looks-Almost-Real scale.

I plan a different design for a removable cabin/decking assembly. Hopefully, that will all be done by the February 7th meeting so I can bring it and solicit experienced minds' for ideas on receiver/ESC/servo/battery selection and placement. Having been a free-flight model airplane guy for many years, I own no R/C gear....my dumb thumbs discouraged any such investment in flying models and probably saved some lives as well! Now that I am pursuing pond scale models with speeds unlikely to cause eleven-o'clock newsworthy carnage, I need to buy into R/C. I keep hearing different advice on whether to stick with bargain surface frequency gear or start off with a 2.4 GHz set up. I'd love to open that to discussion at a meeting!



**David Goodline:** I am working on my Seawind racing Yacht at the moment. I need to rig the sails, and when the weather warms up, take it out on its maiden voyage. I do not have heat in the basement where I keep it, which is making things a little tough. (I hear you there! -Ed.)

**Eric Bertelsen:** I have 3 Projects that I am working on:

1. LCS1 USS Freedom, I am just about done with this ship. I am waiting for the Gun to come in which I should have in February. I also will be selling this kit which will have the hull, plans, and lasers. Fittings and running gear will have to be purchased.
2. USS Cleveland, I am building the structure, and saving for fittings.
3. USS DeWert, I am building this Perry for a friend that is in the Navy that was onboard.

**Bob Jones:** I have three projects underway.

1. I'm still struggling with the Sharpie Schooner. I have been working sporadically on it, but it is not done yet. I have to redo the keel bulbs and get the hull repainted. The real hold up is finalizing the steering linkage. I still plan to get it done for sailing this summer.
2. A matched pair of V36 sailboats is now framed up and the sides and bottom patterns are under construction. I bought the frames from the same guy who laser cut frames for the Sharpie.
3. I dusted off the 2nd EC12 that has been in the basement for at least 15 years. I taped the hull beam to size and am ready to pour the keel lead. Yes I own 2 EC12's, the blue hull I sail regularly hull #1661. Then there is this one which is hull #040 and is

an original Dumas kit #1111, complete with all the old brass Fisher fittings. This is obviously not a rush.

My wife's health has taken my normal focus off projects over the past year. To maintain my mental health I need to get back to work. So let's hope I get my mojo back soon.

**Steve Levesque:** This part time job of mine turns out to be 24/7, so my free time is short. I finally got over the "writers block" of bending mahogany for the cabin sides and cockpit of the "Altered Image"! So after talking with Al Hubbard on how to boil the crap out of the wood, it bent like a wet noodle. "Altered Image" is almost complete. The deck and cabin are finished bright, the sails are made and the sail winch works great. The only thing left is to paint the bottom, do you think anybody will notice? (*No, except for everyone in the club who reads this. -Ed.*)

While waiting for glue to dry on "Altered Image", I've started a "footy" Cat Ketch scow patterned roughly after one of Bolger's "cartoons".

### **For Sale**

ProBoats Cup Yacht. This is a 39 inch long sloop rigged sailboat. Model stands almost 70 inches high from the base of the keel to the top of the mast. Model is designed to use a standard two channel radio. Boat includes the original Kevlar sails as well as a set of homemade nylon ones. \$75, or \$100 with the 2 channel radio, one regular servo, and one heavy duty servo. Contact Bill Michaels if interested.

### **Editor's Notes**

**Vacuum Forming:** Modelers have treasured the old Mattel Vacu-former for years—it is an easy way to make your own lightweight plastic parts. Here are a couple of websites that may come in handy if you're looking to do some vacuum forming of your own:

[www.vac-u-form.com](http://www.vac-u-form.com) carries a line of parts to repair/upgrade an old Mattel unit. For about \$20, you can get a kit to put your old Mattel unit into "better than new" condition.

[www.warmplastic.com](http://www.warmplastic.com) offers five different vacuum formers, as well as other supplies and accessories.

[www.vacuumformerplans.blogspot.com](http://www.vacuumformerplans.blogspot.com) is a good site if you want to make your own vacuum forming unit. Simple units use the oven as a heat source, and a shopvac for the suction.

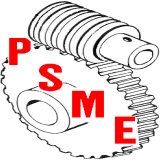
**Wanted:** Foghorn Feedback. I'm looking for feedback on any and all aspects of the newsletter—for example: Are things missing that you'd like to see? Thing you don't want to see? Too many typos? Not enough typos? Is it published at the right time each month? Is the paper used absorbent enough to line a birdcage or wrap fish? (Or a virtual birdcage for the email version?) Too many pictures/ not enough pictures? Please send comments to the editor using the address on the masthead.

### WRAM Show 2010

As a reminder, the WRAM Show is the weekend of February 19-21. The show is one of the country's largest hobby trade shows, and the biggest on the East Coast. The show is held by the Westchester Radio Modelers in White Plains, N.Y

Occupying all three floors of the Westchester Country Center , the show has been held continuously since 1968. In addition to exhibits by some 150 or more manufacturers and organizations, the show is a magnet for modelers who compete for prizes in a huge static competition.

For more information, go to [www.wram.org](http://www.wram.org).

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## **2010 Meeting and Events Schedule**

Here is our proposed schedule for 2010—to be discussed at the February meeting. Check the club website for the latest information.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b> (revised 10 January 2010)
Sunday, February 28 1:00 -4:00 pm	Indoor Meeting, <a href="#">United Church of Christ, Medfield</a> Show-and-Tell for member's projects
Sunday, March 21 1:00- 4:00 pm	Indoor Meeting, <a href="#">United Church of Christ, Medfield</a> Show-and-Tell--member's projects
Sunday, April 25 10am - 4pm	Spring Icebreaker: Our first on the water event of the season. Choate Pond, Medway, MA
Sunday, May 16 10am - 4pm	On-the- Water Session: Choate Pond, Medway, MA\ Sailboat Day
Sunday, May 31 or June 6 10am- 4pm	On-the-Water Session at Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA Actual date is pending approval from the town.
Saturday, June 19 10am – 4 pm	Static Display and On-the-water: Town common, Cohasset, MA
Sunday, June 27 10 am - 4 pm	On-the- Water Session: Choate Pond, Medway, MA Informal race day
Sunday, July 11 10 am – 4 pm	On-the- Water Session: Choate Pond, Medway, MA Tugboat pull
Date TBD 8 am – 5 pm	Salem Maritime Festival, Salem, MA Club will be setting up the portable pond with mini-tugs
<b>Saturday, August 21 10 am - 4 pm</b>	<b>Annual Regatta – Choate Pond, Medway, MA</b>
Sunday, August 29 10am- 4 pm	On-the-Water Session at Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA
Sunday, September 13 10 am - 4 pm	On-the- Water Session: Choate Pond, Medway, MA
Saturday, October 2 2- 7 pm	On the Water: Choate Pond, Medway, MA Special Event: Annual Day/Night run.
Sunday, October 17 10 -4 pm	On the Water: Choate Pond, Medway, MA
Sunday, November 7 1 - 4 pm	Indoor Boat Show/Swap Meet <a href="#">United Church of Christ, Medfield</a>
Sunday, December 5	Annual Dinner

## **2010 Other Events of Interest**

Here's a listing of non-club events that may be of interest to the membership:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b> (revised 1 January 2010)
January 31 – March 20	<a href="#">USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild</a> Annual model show at the Museum in Charlestown, MA.
February 19-21	WRAM show, White Plains, NY.
April 11	Middlesex County RC Fliers annual <a href="#">RC Auction</a> Marshall Middle School, Billerica, MA
April 24	Northeast Ship Model Conference Location TBA
June 25-27	Wooden Boat Show, Mystic Seaport <a href="http://www.thewoodenboatshow.com">http://www.thewoodenboatshow.com</a>
July 22-25	US Vintage Model Yacht Group- National Regatta Mystic Seaport Museum
August 8	Sub Committee Regatta
August 15	Task Force 50 Regatta York, PA
TBA (August?)	Salem, MA: 28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Antique and Classic Boat Festival