

November Newsletter

John Bertelsen

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November 2021 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

Here we are once again at the end of another boating season. And what a year it was!! If you weren't entirely clear on what went on during the year Todd's video that is played at the Dry Dock Party is the perfect reminder of all things. Maybe the one thing that will linger in my mind is the horrendously hot weather all summer long and the absolutely gorgeous weather from the end of summer to the end of the season. All of our end-of-season events went off in perfect conditions:

Three Pond Race

This is such a special event, and it is always a very intense event for all participants. We start in the center pond and proceed south to the end of the south pond, turn around and back through the channel to the center pond, through the north channel and into the north pond. Round the buoy north of the sidewalk circle way out in the pond and head back south through the channel for the last time and cross the finish line in the center pond. Were you doing really well heading into the south pond but lost all wind in the channel going back north? Were you doing really well rounding the marker in the north pond only to lose it to someone that took a completely

different route back out of the pond and lucked into a much better wind? Was your boat headed perfectly under one of the bridges but when you ran to the other side there was no boat? Ah, well, that is the beauty of Centennial Lakes. There is no sure thing. Actually Gary Tschautscher is usually in the lead or close thereto for most of these recent races so skill still has plenty to do with it, as Gary won this year. Kevin Kavaney's wife Debbie took some excellent pictures of the races. She obviously has a talent for photography:





Swap Meet

A much more subdued event this year, especially compared to the past two years.

Todd and

Julia Moen's Coast Guard boat went home with Dave Brinkman to his "island for misfit toys"

as he calls it. No plans for refurbishment. But just a couple of days later Dave emailed that he

found out the history of this particular off-the-shelf model and some of the common problems

from a forum and there seemed to be an interest kindled. Maybe we will see it some day at a

meeting. Always a good thing to see a boat that has fallen on hard times brought back to life.

Here are some of the items for sale or looking for a home:



Dry Dock Party

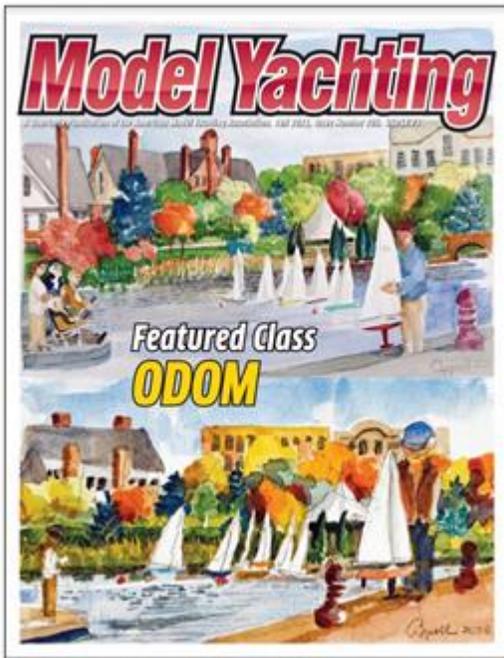
Maybe the biggest reaction all evening was after welcoming everyone to the first ever Dry Dock luncheon! The timing was a big hit with everyone there! Famous Dave's catered the event again this year and their food was simply excellent - as usual. I thought the ribs were perfect while others voted for the chicken or brisket as their favorites. The same two women provided service as for the previous two times and they confided they look to see if the club is on the schedule and quickly sign up as they enjoy the Hughes Pavilion, the park area, and the people in the club. Their service is simply outstanding and goes well beyond a usual caterer's function. Left overs went home with many as well as a bit of the cake. John Bishop's lobster boat added the perfect touch to the cake table:



The program included a couple of notable events that took place this year. The first was

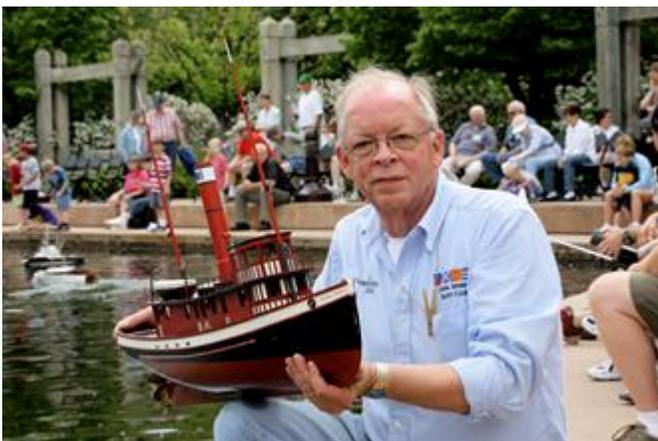
recognizing the fantastic article on ODOM racing in the EMYC published in the fall issue of the AMYA magazine, and written by Gary Tschautscher:

Model Yachting Magazine



With cover art by Fred Appell. Both article and art are very classy.

The second on the agenda was recognizing a very special boat. We have many amazing boats in the club, and several boats where the current owner is just the caretaker, using and preserving the boat to be passed on to a new caretaker in the future. Then there are boats with special history and stories. We recognized one of those boats at the party. The story starts with former Commodore Al Bickford,



and his amazing electronic cargo boat. Jeff McCabe and I visited Al's house in June of 2019 to help the people settling up Al's estate after Al's passing. Al was an electrical engineer and his shop, his notes and wiring diagrams left us with no doubt as to his profession. Then the question became who would be able, or desiring, to complete such a complex project. That was answered by Jim Pennoyer.



Jim was a new member to the club, full of enthusiasm and energy, he gladly took on the task.

Most unfortunately Jim, one of the nicest guy I have ever met, passed away unexpectedly and suddenly in 2019. Once again I was working to find the boat a home, this time with Jim's wife.

Who could take this project on? Enter newer member Ken Gowey, enthusiasm flowered again!

Ken took on the boat and also gladly volunteered to recondition the seats on the Pelican boat to help get it ready to sell.



We were not aware that Ken was in the final stages of cancer, but met his goal of getting the

boat operational and on the water before passing in 2021. Now I am helping Ken's wife find a home for this boat. Who will be able and wanting to take over the care and maintenance of this complex boat? Thank God again for new members, in the form of David Brinkman this time. Dave, along with some help from Gary Tschautscher took on the upgrading of many electrical components to further the final development stage of the cargo ship. I believe this boat has 12 channels of operations and Dave is still figuring out some of the final operational features of this boat.



The main feature in the program is Todd Moen's video slide show. At about 30 minutes long and 3 seconds per photo that makes somewhere around 500 photographs to summarize the year. It goes fast! This year the video ended with a really nice tribute to one of our Corgis, Katy, who passed away this summer. All three of our dogs are elderly in the 13 and 14 year range, but I guarantee you that no one, and I mean no one, enjoys their time at the ponds or a club function

more than any of our dogs! Katy was one of the sweetest and easy going dogs ever. You may know that Corgis are perhaps best known as the Queen of England's dogs, and Katy was a direct descendent of the Queen's kennel. A princess through and through. Here is Katy holding court at the ponds and patiently waiting for more attention:

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Update

David Petrich and I had an excellent meeting with Park Manager Tiffany Bushland and Assistant Manager Chris Rotty on the "Rules" for operating rc boats at Centennial Lakes. Both had a good understanding of the situation and also explained additional changes that will be happening with park security. David and I presented some suggestions for bringing order to boat operation so that everyone can look forward to operating their boat and not need to worry about careless operation by others. Tiffany and Chris are taking our input into consideration and will get back to us in the future with what will be put in place for next season. Both Tiffany and Chris are new to the Centennial Lakes positions but both have previous experience in Edina Parks and indicated to me they are really happy to be at Centennial Lakes. As you can imagine, Centennial Lakes Park is a plum assignment within the City, heck, probably in just about any park system. I have worked a lot with both Tiffany and Chris and it has been a complete pleasure! Very professional and conscientious, they are bending over backwards to help the club with anything. This holds true for the rest of the staff at the park as well and we are truly fortunate to have such a supportive group to work with at all levels.

Winter

Now that we are free of outdoor activities, what are your plans for this winter projects? Mike Corbett offered to give us a glimpse into the shop at his house. In Mike's own words: *"Here are some pictures and a link to a 6 or 7 minute YouTube video of my shop/hobby area. I am lucky that my wife, Kandy, has let me take over the two downstairs bedrooms and turn them into a shop."*



Mike has mentioned at club meetings that he has a big interest in scale rockets as well as boats:





YouTube link for the full tour: <http://youtu.be/UuLfexnBRWw>

For those of you lucky persons with rc ice boats I spoke with park person Jay at the party and he said they groom the pond ice from 8 am to 3 pm each day on all three ponds to get it ready for skaters. He thought we could probably get on the new ice on the south pond at 3:00 before the skaters get there - just a thought that it might be worth trying out.

- Jerry Jones sent the following note: *“Here's some information on the Canterbury J class boat kit I'll be getting from England. I'm ordering the Nottingham version which is gaff rigged flying 2 headsails. The kits includes everything pictured from the stand on up: finished hull and rudder, all interior framing including mechanical and electronic platforms, mast/rudder mount tubes, a birch deck with a yacht style plank pattern etched deep into the wood. Deck hatches are covered by water tight deck cabins. All fittings, except for the rig, are included. The Nottingham offers a choice of several topside and bottom colors glassed in. The boat is 4 ft long with a 5 ft mast and weighs 14 pounds.”*



2022

A preview of next year: Next year is the 30th anniversary of the club. Well it is and it isn't.

The club was started in 1991 and officially registered as a non-profit group in 1992.

We will

celebrate the 30th year of the club next year either as the official celebration or as a delayed

celebration as with so many things. We will also be having a breakfast to kick off the boating season in late April, hopefully to be followed by the first ever spring three pond race. This too as a delay from last year. The three pond races are too special an event to just have once a year and it is the perfect bookend for the boating season.

It has been my distinct privilege to have been the EMYC Commodore since 2014. 2022 will be my last year as Commodore. The club has been through transitional times and it is in a perfect place for someone else to take over and lead the club into the future beyond my stint at the wheel. I will not be pulling completely away, and would like to continue writing the newsletter as well as being involved with many other things, although if someone has ideas for the newsletter and would like to take that over I would make the transition. The reality is I don't know how to do anything without getting involved so becoming a static member is not in the cards.

If you have an interest in stepping into the Commodore position please get in touch with me. It would be very nice to be involved with the position and learn the ropes along the way throughout 2022 rather than starting the position cold in 2023. I have greatly, greatly, appreciated the help, assistance and contributions of many members that made it possible for the club to move forward through my time, respond to changes, try new things, try the same things in a different way, and in general make it one of the best, and most fun clubs anywhere.

I sincerely wish you a joyous, happy and healthy holiday season! See you in 2022!

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www.emyc.org

