



August 2023 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

Summer events move towards the end of the season in August, but we had a very nice surprise from Channel 9 and their on the scene reporter Shayne Wells, who lives in Edina and recently discovered the Edina Model Yacht Club. She got in touch with me to do a story on the club and as a promotion for Light House Night #1. We had our choice of two live broadcasts for the morning show or a recorded segment. I chose the live broadcasts, which were to air at 6:45 and 7:35 am. Once again the weather was remarkably in our favor for the broadcasts. The forecast was rain, no rain, rain, no rain and winds in the 7-17 mph range. What we actually got was perfect temperature, no rain, sun came up, and the wind was perfect for Kevin Kavaney's ODOM on the water. It just could not have been better. The participants met on site ahead of the broadcasts to discuss where to set up: we would set up a couple of tables just south of the pavilion, we could move under the pavilion roof overhang if needed, and if the weather was really not good we could move inside the pavilion. We also discussed what we were going to do for presentations, though Shayne and her camera guy were obviously used to showing up and winging it! I was going to lead off with background on the club and a discussion of sailboats for the first segment, and power boats in the segment(s) thereafter.

The first segment went like this: Shayne - "three minutes!", then Shayne to John right before the camera went on air - "tell a good story!". Uh, thanks for the notice Shayne, but fortunately I had a good one about how there is a sailboat for everyone and told about the time Dorothy Zimmerman first emailed with me looking for a boat. We determined it was a sailboat she was looking for, then special requirements for size and weight? Dorothy - "Yes, not very big or heavy because I am 92 years old!" I then pointed to the DF 65 the club has for sale and I had on display with a DF 95, ODOM, Paul Olsen Marblehead, and the Mighty Mary, and noted there is a size for everyone: 3 pounds, 5 pounds, 7 pounds, 25 pounds, 55 pounds. No link for this video but I heard from a lot of people that it went well. There was originally going to be two segments live videoed, but there were at least 4, maybe 5 filmed. Here are a couple of the segments:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k36W4soJjYI>

https://www.fox9.com/video/1262526?fbclid=IwAR3BXcO5P_QtdEmiXh2wg13lov52KnulwghFqYvt482XwDGDiu6kbJC-Wk

Could not have been better planned to promote the club, the park, and Light House Night if we had planned it ourselves. However, Light House Night proved to be the end of our lucky weather streak this year, fortunately it was just the forecast that kept a lot of people away. The weather actually cooperated by not raining so that the concert went on without a problem, just fewer people attending than normal. Most boats were gone by sometime during the concert, and the iconic light house built by Jeff McCabe never made it on the water because it was dropped on the concrete floor in the maintenance garage (by me) and though there was surprisingly little damage, the bulb was broken and would not work. Sometimes you just get one of those nights.

At the ponds

Another casualty at the ponds in the form of Mark Nickell's Chris Craft Cobra, gold finned boat, which took on water backwashing over the stern and into the boat, putting it on the pond bottom. Unfortunately we have not found a good way to recover a sunk boat unless it was sunk close to shore, the water was relatively shallow, and the exact location pretty much pin pointed. Very unfortunate, and the recent incidents of sinking bring forward that many boats have components (cabins, decking) that are not well attached to the hull so that they detach on the way down. There is also inadequate (if any) flotation provided within the boat, and no locator device to float to the surface to allow the boat to be located under water. Maybe there can be some ideas along these lines, and maybe we just need to take a quick look of each of the boats in our fleets to see what upgrades can be done to lessen the pain in the event of a catastrophic sinking. I am reminded of the time that Paul Olsen sunk one of his Marbleheads, fortunately it went straight down and remained upright so that the top 6 inches or so of the mast were above the water surface! The only sailboat I can remember sinking, and talk about a convenient recovery!

At the meeting

A nice discussion of the events described in the newsletter previously and the events coming up. But show and tell continues to be amazing as has been the case all year long. Tim Kowalik started out with his change of direction from computer printing to give us an update on the barrel back he is putting together, his first wood kit model.



Some helpful tips from the members in attendance, but clearly Tim is very capable and the boat is well on the way. Hopefully we will be seeing some further updates on the construction to come.

Next was a continued development of the Pontoon Boat kit being developed by Ryan Butler that we first saw last month.



Ryan with the boat, computer renderings of the outboard motor and various configurations of the boat package.



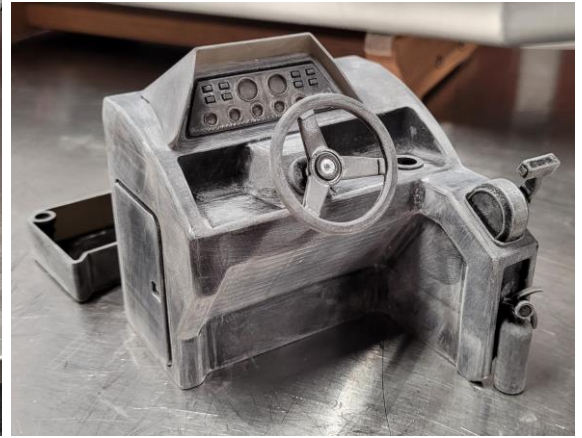
Closer look at the boat and the interior finishings. On the left is a larger pontoon that illustrates the sanded and ready to paint lighter colored pieces, and in the middle a darker colored off the printer section ready for light sanding.



A printed “sheet” of propellers, Ryan says changing the pitch of the blades is easy.



Canopy and ladder added after the meeting.



Amazing detail in the cockpit!
The gauges are backlit!

Ryan is intending to sell the boat and motor as a kit on line, and not only are the details of the boat astounding, the assembly is extremely well thought out. All parts will be available except for the finished floor material of the deck which can be easily purchased by the modeler and be anything they want. The choice of a pontoon boat is excellent. At the meeting no one could think of another pontoon boat available today in kit or RTR form. Ryan’s concept is that the boat configuration, on-deck furnishings, even the number of outboard motors (1 to 3!) are modular and therefore the final look of the boat is greatly flexible. The photos are from the meeting and from a large number of photos posted on Facebook. Note that the boat was operating just fine on the ponds before the meeting.

The kit is not quite ready for sale, but very close. Ryan says that at the next meeting he will have two more boats so that there will be a model with one, two and three motors. You really need to see these boats in person to appreciate the details and clean, logical design for assembly. Oh, and Ryan also shared that the boat is close to 1:10 scale and that he will be making a trailer so that the boat can be pulled behind 1:10 scale trucks! Thanks very much to Ryan for sharing this development process with the club at our meetings.

Coming up

- Saturday, August 26th, Gull Lake Classic Boat Show at Bar Harbor in Nisswa, Minnesota. Here is a report I received about this show: “The boat show at Bar Harbor is run by 2 local billionaires to basically show off their collections. John Allen owns Bar Harbor and Lee Anderson owns everything else around here and the country. I have

been going to the show for years early in the day to do photographs.” It is a nationally recognized show and since this is our first year there it should be very interesting.

- Quick on the heels of this show is Saturday, September 9th, two events, the Lake Minnetonka Classic Boat Show at Lord Fletchers during the day, and then Light House Night #2 in the late afternoon in conjunction with the Fall into the Arts Festival. We have participated in both shows previously and they are both really a fun time. All four of the classic boat shows we are participating in have their own flavor or style, and each is a very fun day. Think about participating in one of the shows next year.

For Sale

Burt Fisher is leaving the scale boat experience for full size boats as he is involved with the Minneapolis Sailing Center as a Dock Master and Sailing Instructor. He has both of his DF 95's up for sale:



Both are in very nice condition and have seen moderate sailing. Let me know if you are interested and I will put you in touch with Burt.

Still some things going on this year that you could join in the activities to round out the end of summer!

John Bertelsen
Commodore
Edina Model Yacht Club



Vice Commodores: Gary Tschautscher, Rob Segal, David Brinkman
Treasurer and Membership: David Brinkman

Sailboats: Tony Johnson

Scale Modeling: Kevin Waldo

Website: David Petrich

EMYC and ODOM Forums: Gary Tschautscher

DF 95 forum: Burt Fischer

Dry Dock Party, Spring Breakfast: Terry Bertelsen, Julia Moen

Face Book: Richard Dahlquist, Todd Moen

Off site events: Rob Segal