

## January Newsletter

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### January 2024 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

Here we go into 2024! But we are not quite done with reporting on 2023. Things were still going on after the last newsletter, specifically with the ODOM group. Bragging rights

for last day on the water has this photo of Terry Mackey which presented the last date that everyone is shooting for:



This picture is of legend in the sailing group, date: 12-5-16. The group is always looking to squeeze the last day out of the sailing season and this was a memorable day for doing just that! The November 2023 newsletter closed with a photo of the boats on the water at the south pond on November 22, 2023, and a final photo of a frozen over pond dated November 29, 2023. That was seemingly the final nail in the box for 2023.....right? Well no, it wasn't:







Left to right: Gary Tschautscher, Tom Weigel, Kevin Kavaney, Greg Stinson, Terry Mackey.  
Photo by Heike Tschautscher.

*From Kevin: “6 crazy sailors showed up at Centennial on this date (12-29-23) and sailed in the partially open South Pond with sunny conditions and enough wind to sail for an hour. Believe it or not, surprisingly comfortable conditions. You can see that most of the South Pond to the south had ice yesterday and we were very timid at first for fear of getting stuck out on the water...the longer we were there in the sun, the more the pond opened up to nearly half of it...what a day..!!!”*

Note that there are six boats in the pond photo and five sailors in the group photo, that is because Rob Segal was also there but had to leave early. Also, Harvey Freeman came down to just watch minus his ODOM. Kudos to Rob and Harvey for coming down to support the event!

That is going to have to be a very difficult date to beat in the coming years!  
Congratulations to all those that didn't give up and stretched the season to the absolute limit!

### 2024 Board Meeting

First of all, I want to assure everyone that we have one terrific group of members that

make up the “Board” meetings. This includes the board members plus all those that take responsibility for various parts of the club, all are listed at the end of the newsletter. We had a wonderful meeting with excellent discussions and decisions for the coming year. Just a few highlights that we all should be aware of:

+ Treasurer’s report - Dave Brinkman reported that the bank account started and ended in 2023 with about the exact same balance, \$2,100.00. That is important as we use this data to set the membership fee and this indicates we are right on the money with what we are doing. The number of members was down 14 that did not renew from the previous year, but up 20 for new members in 2023, net gain of six. That is very good news! If you recall we have been looking into getting PayPal as an option for paying dues, but ran into a major snag with the IRS in reestablishing our non-profit status, which the club did not renew/maintain after the non-profit status was originally set up at the onset of the club in the early 1990’s. We currently maintain the non-profit status with the state of Minnesota. Reinstatement with the feds was determined by a couple of us to be almost an insurmountable task and we eventually gave up. But, Dave explored other options with our bank and we think we have solved the problem. Here is how you do it through PayPal:

- < Log into your PayPal account.
- < Where it asks for who to send money to type in “emycdues@gmail.com”
- < Input \$40.00 for the family membership fee (the only option)
- < Be very certain to indicate this payment is for “Friends and Family”!!!

There are the texted codes sent by PayPal you need to input to complete the transaction, but the above is the important input for the payment. I tried it out and it worked just fine.

+ The purchase of a new projector and a cover for the tri-hulled boat was approved, and by the membership meeting the cover was in hand and the projector in use. Thank you to Rob Segal for getting the new boat cover, and Dave Brinkman for tracking down and purchasing the new projector and finding a \$100 off coupon to boot!

+ Also approved was the purchase of a Vac-u-tug. Dave Brinkman has been working with the man that produces the boat on a pretty much as needed basis. More on the tugs later in the newsletter.

+ We discussed the spring season opener event and how to proceed this year. Two years ago we had a catered event, which was wonderfully provided by Pinstripes. This was as expensive as the Dry Dock Party but made possible as the pandemic canceled one of the season ending parties. Last year we did coffee and rolls on a much lesser budget. The decision was to continue with the coffee and rolls this year.

+ Similar discussion with the Dry Dock Party. We have used Famous Dave's for several years now and they do an amazing above and beyond job for us. I put it out that would we want to change the caterer for variety, and resoundingly the discussion was to not mess with the excellent service and food we have experienced in the past.

+ We discussed the Parade of Boats in its formatting. Everyone that has participated knows this is a very intense day. Action is pretty much non-stop, displaying boats, running boats, talking to people all day long. A big, big thank you to all that have participated in the past! We need to continue to emphasize that first and foremost we are putting on a show for the public. As we have continuously requested, we need to get as many boats on the water at all times, and we need to remember the show goes until 4:00, meaning if at all possible boats on display need to be at the pavilion until the show closes at 4:00. We were spoiled for media attention last year and we need to recognize that the club has a position of representing not only ourselves, but the City of Edina and especially the staff at Centennial Lakes Park. We are privileged to have the park and the relationship with the park staff, and our "show" needs to acknowledge this.

### At the Meeting

Predictably we were a few members down with the cold weather, but for those that did come it was an excellent meeting as usual. New member Rick Beutler was not bothered

by the temperatures and signed up with the club, and brought his first of two garage sale boats to the meeting for advice. Here is Rick:



And here is boat #1:



Yep, needs some work, and instructions would be nice too. Fortunately there is one of these boats (I didn't catch what boat that was, will need to see the finished product) in the club already so help is on the way. The second boat is in the category of what we call a big sail boat, and is much closer to water worthy. We can hope to see this boat as well when we get into boating season.

Also in attendance with Nate O'Connor was a friend of his, Steve, who is thinking of becoming a member. I am going to guess we will have Steve's photo in a future newsletter.

Next up was Tim Kowalik with an interesting display of the evolution of hull design.





That is Tim explaining the myriad of differences and evolution of the two hulls on display.

This photo helps to show the changes to the shape of the hull:

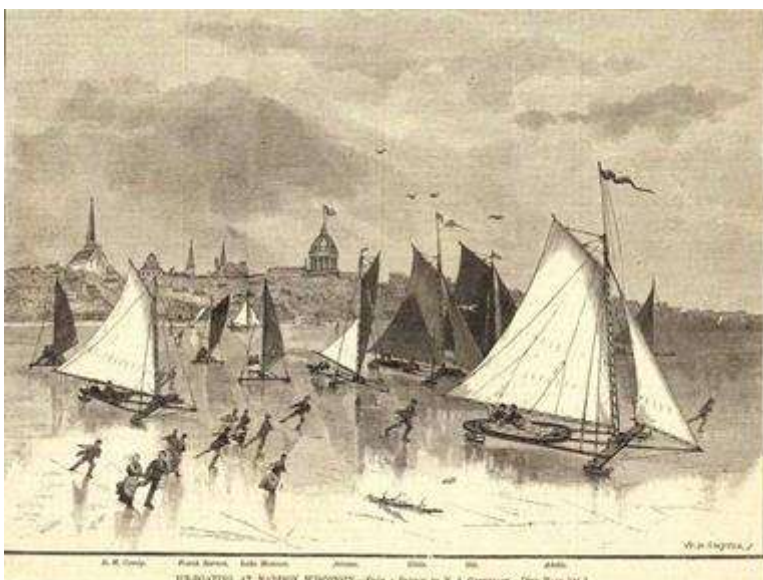


The hull on the left is actually two hulls, one over the other. Inside the left and right hulls

there are quite a few differences to the built-in mounting tabs for motors and electronics, and not shown is a major change in the motor shaft and propeller location. All very interesting.

The new projector was put to good use. I thought it would be fun to see if we could get it up and running for use in the future. One of the big differences between this projector and the older one, besides a much sharper and brighter image with the new, is the connections to receive files. The old projector paired with an older laptop I use at the office using the older pin style monitor connection, and the new projector uses the newer style connections. Tim Kowalik got the projector up and running in almost no time at all, and we successfully projected images from USB memory sticks and files from a smart phone via Bluetooth. There is also HDMI connections available.

Dave Brinkman used the projector to illustrate the vac-u-tug, and we also projected some photos supplied by Tony Johnson depicting historic winter scenes at Lake Minnetonka of full sized and RC ice sailboats. Tony indicates that some of the pictures are of a 1920 Minnetonka resident who scratch built model yachts and iceboats, and also included is a photo of an RC ice boat demonstration that is of a later date based on the trunk of the car in the photo.







### More on the Vac-u-tugs

The Vac-u-tugs have been very successfully utilized by another club in Georgia as reported in a previous newsletter. Here is a photo of the tug again to refresh your memory, this one being an EMYC club boat on display at the Parade:



The Georgia club took it to the next level by creating skipper stations with a ships wheel:



Rob Segal said it was very possible to create a skipper's station of our own so as a collaboration between Dave Brinkman, David Petrich and Rob, we should have a huge attraction and hit on our hands this summer. I can only imagine a line at the parade to try out the tug! More

information on the tug can be found at: <https://vac-u-boat.com/Vacutug>. But wait! There is more! See if I can explain this so it is understandable. Some things happen by amazing coincidence. Jeff McCabe was talking to Paul Olsen and mentioned about the Vac-u-tug purchase. Paul had been looking around some things that he had not seen for a very long time just the other day, and came across a complete Vac-u-tug kit in the box! The kit had been given to him by club member Dan Lewandowski years ago and had been put aside and forgotten! You can't make this stuff up. So it looks like we will have two Vac-u-tugs, let's call that a fleet.

### Update on Boat Repair

Previously reported is the repair and preservation of a boat the club adopted from a contact off of our website. The Kathleen O'Donnell boat was ultimately taken to the workshop of Dick Walker's son, JD. The boat had been knocked over by Kathleen's cat and the main mast broken, along with some of the rigging - of which there is quite a bit. We determined with Kathleen that the right thing to do was to clean it up and make the necessary repairs as a preservation rather than a restoration. JD reports that he has completed his work and sent this picture of the boat:





JD purchased new, historic style “rope” to do the rigging and it has all been replaced. Very nice job and a huge thank you to JD for taking this on! Now the concern is how to transport the boat from Owatonna to Kathleen’s home. The boat is 39” tall and all that square rigging makes it a challenge to transport. I had it in the back of our BMW X5 and it fit just fine, but laying it down with all the rigging I managed to break some additional rigging. All restored now it would be a shame for something to break in the transport home. Careful measures to transport need to be determined.

### For Sale

Kevin Kavaney took in this Fairwind from a friend. It is a solid boat and suitable for putting back in water-worthy condition or using for parts.



Looks like a very nice boat. Let me know if you are interested. The boat will be in the cage if you would like to see it in person. Both myself and Gary Tschautscher have a Fairwind (along with a lot of other people) and despite having several newer, more efficient, better sailing boats, we both love our Fairwinds. Call it the '57 Chevy of RC boats.

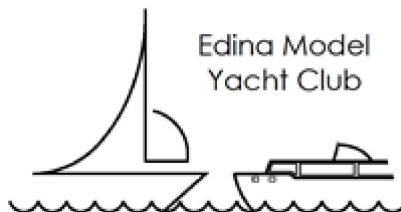
### Coming up

We are doing a cage cleanup on Saturday morning, February 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:00 and we are usually done by noon. The cleanup primarily consists of washing the tri-hull boat, which is for unknown reasons especially filthy this year, and a vacuuming and sweeping of the cage area. Bring a shop vac if you have one. We have the new cover for the boat to help keep it clean from the general dust and dirt in the garage, and progressively everything else is getting covered by plastic sheets to keep the dirt level down. Maybe we can do some

brain storming on more efficient or effective ways to keep this (we are fortunate to have)  
storage area a little cleaner.

Next membership meeting is February 20<sup>th</sup>.

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, DF 95 and ODOM Forums: Gary Tschautscher  
Dry Dock Party, Spring Breakfast: Terry Bertelsen, Julia Moen  
Face Book: Richard Dahlquist, Todd Moen  
Off site events: Rob Segal