

EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2012

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 10

2012 River Cruise

By John Bertelsen

Wednesday, September 26th we all boarded the paddle boat "Miinneapolis Queen" for the annual tour

of the upper reach of the Mississippi River. To say the weather was favorable would be a huge understatement. The conditions could not have been better. With 125-person capacity we couldn't quite fill up the boat and shared the voyage with a group of Red Hat ladies (what do they do in this club anyway?)

(continued on page 4)



Downtown Minneapolis skyline from the Minneapolis Queen riverboat - Photo By Todd Moen

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

October 16, Tuesday	7:00 p.m- 9:00 p.m.	Membership Meeting
November 10, Saturday	6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m	Drydock Party
November 20, Tuesday	7:00 p.m- 9:00 p.m.	Annual Swap Meet Meeting

COMMODORE'S CORNER



By **Wayne Snyder**

Another boating season comes to an end soon and the building season starts. In Minnesota we

have two seasons for model boating, building and boating. Cold blustering winds driving snow and sleet causes us to leave the Centrum lake to the skaters and we hunker down in our shops building and dreaming of next summer when the latest creation will be on the pond! The second annual outing on the Minneapolis Queen was a great success. Getting to pilot the boat was a nice added treat for me. It was interesting to experience how the boat reacted to steering inputs. Thanks to captain Dave for that treat. November will be our yearly swap meet so bring projects that have been languishing in the shop and the never used models to the meet and get some spare cash or a different project to work.

November is also Dry Dock party month so far we have no one to do a power point show as Tim is unable to do that this year. We need to nominate next years board of directors and Commodore so we can vote on them at the November meeting.

A special thanks goes to Gordon Hughes for his great Centennial Lakes history presentation last meeting. Wayne Snyder - Commodore

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Special Thanks...To members that contributed to this issue: John Bertelsen, Dale Johnson & Wayne Snyder.



NAUTICAL KNOW-IT-ALL - OLD SAILING SUPERSTITIONS FROM A SHIP'S CAT-A-LOG

October is the month that we are reminded of superstitions and witchcraft surrounding the Halloween season. Throughout history, maritime sailors had their own set of superstitions. Many sailors believed the adage "What the sea wants, the sea will have." and were so in awe of the ocean, they never bothered to learn to swim. (Answers to last month's question on page 6.)

Take this quiz before the hex-piration date of All Saint's Eve.

1. Which day of the week is considered the most unlucky to launch a voyage?
A. Monday B. Tuesday C. Wednesday D. Thursday E. Friday
F. Saturday G. Sunday
2. Many passengers are considered unlucky. A captain should think twice before allowing any Finns, women, or redheads on board. Clergymen are also bad news. Why?
A. The presence of a Christian minister is an affront to Neptune, the true god of the sea.
B. Clergymen are all descendants of Jonah, the original bad luck passenger.
C. Clergymen put the kibosh on the gambling, swearing & drinking that makes travel tolerable.
D. Priests attract the souls of the drowned.
3. Some types of animals were considered good luck to seafarers. Which of these animals is NOT traditionally lucky to have on or near a ship?
A. Dolphins B. Cats C. Rats D. Penguins
4. On the same topic, what animal is so unlucky that sailors will not even speak its name on board?
A. Snakes B. Cats C. Pigs D. Elephants
5. A sailor with no tattoos is certainly a new sailor. But tattoos are not mere decorations, they have meaning. For instance, what is the significance of the anchor many seamen wear on their arms?
A. It will give them the strength of steel in any fist fight.
B. It prevents them from drifting away if they should fall overboard.
C. It insures they will always have a berth on a ship somewhere.
D. It prevents them from ever getting married.
6. Sailors would never perform a certain action. What action listed below is taboo for a sailor?
A. Spitting B. Whistling C. Smoking D. Wearing green
7. What must a sailor never do when eating?
A. Throw leftovers into the sea B. Cross his knife and fork on his plate
C. Allow the ship's dining crystal to ring D. Eat every scrap of food he's served
8. What should be poured across the deck before each voyage to ensure a safe trip?
A. Fresh (not salt) water B. Wine C. The crew should urinate on the deck
D. A drop of the captain's blood
9. What would witches sell to sailors in the British Isles and Europe?
A. A good luck amulet or ring. B. Witch's brew C. A book of incantations.
D. Magic hawsers to summon the wind
10. It is common knowledge that you should never step aboard a ship with your left foot first. What else should you never do to the left while boarding?
A. Spit B. Carry a rope with left hand. C. Sneeze D. Cough

2012 River Cruise (cont.)



and a few other folks. At roughly 6:00 pm we departed the dock at Boom Island Park and headed upstream. Dodging a few deadheads that have been stuck in the river bottom all season and a rock pile, we were soon headed under the Plymouth Avenue Bridge (how many spiders do you think live under that bridge anyway?). Another deadhead or two and we passed under the Broadway Bridge and the BNSF railroad bridge as the entire gathering of passengers really started to relax with beverages and appetizers - which were getting hit pretty hard as not everyone knew there was pizza coming in just a bit.



Next came the nearly completed new Lowry Avenue bridge which was starting to take its final handsome form. Just north of the new bridge and on the east bank is Xcel's Riverside power generating plant. This plant runs on natural gas and the heat generated by the turbines is outlet into the river, revealing the location by swirling water at the river surface midstream. Adjacent to the power plant are two small islands that contain 10's of Great Blue Heron nests. The Heron rookery is actually a transplanted location with the original site just upstream having been destroyed by a tornado in May of 2011. The scrappy birds that survived quickly set up new quarters next to the Riverside plant where they enjoy the isolation from predators and the year round fishing thanks to the warm water from the plant keeping the river open, once again proving that wild life and industrialized man can co-exist.

2012 River Cruise (cont.)

Shoreline highlights kept coming this time on the west bank with the controversial EMR metal shredding/ recycling facility, where they shred metal and steel like diseased elms through a chipper.

For part of this upstream journey yours truly was at the helm of the mighty vessel, thankfully unknown to the vast majority of the patrons on board, but being cheered on by fellow club members who also got a turn at the wheel. My confidence soared and I soon found out that piloting this craft was very similar to piloting a friend's 30-foot C & C sail boat on Superior. The same lazy motion on the water and response to steering inputs are very soothing.



John Bertelsen at the helm



As we were at the head of the navigable waters (depth 10 - 12 feet), we coaxed the boat to turn back downstream as the sun began setting and the pizza arrived. Back under the Lowery, BNSF, Broadway and Plymouth bridges, past our starting point and under the BNSF #2 bridge where the railroad had parked a locomotive for our viewing pleasure. Now nearing Upper St. Anthony Falls we again turned back upstream and paused cross-wise in the stream to observe and admire the lights of down town Minneapolis coming out.

Almost too good to end, we eventually could no longer avoid making our way back to Boom Island Park where all departed in a much better frame of mind, with memories of idyllic life on the river and the company of good companions. I need to make a note to do this again next year. - *John Bertelsen*



All Photos By Todd Moen

AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING By Todd Moen



Gordon Hughes was the special guest at our September meeting. He presented brief history of the Centennial Lakes Park and the surrounding area.

Gordon's involvement with city planning goes back 36 years starting out as Edina's environmental planner in 1974. He then was promoted to city planner in 1977, and then became the assistant city manager in 1985.

He then was promoted to city manager in 1988 and held that position until recently retiring.

His knowledge of the early origins of the park, from the Hedberg gravel pit site to the park we now know, kept the questions flowing. Thank you, Gordon!

THE WAVE ADAPTIVE MODULAR VESSEL (WAM-V)



boat. The Wave Adaptive Modular Vessel (WAM-V) skims across the water's surface like a fast-moving insect.

Because it doesn't slap or pierce the waves, it's incredibly efficient and provides exceptional stability. This characteristic combined with a flexible superstructure gives the vessel a shock-absorbing, stress-less structure that minimizes movement. It is currently located in Richmond, California.

By switching out the payload module for an alternative module, this boat can go from luxury cabin for two to twelve passenger transport to oceanographic lab to emergency response unit - each swap taking less than one hour.

More information about the wave shock absorbing design is on the YouTube video titled **Ugo Conti's Spider Boat KOED QUEST**.

Inspired by the desire to be on the ocean without the sea-sickness, Ugo Conti used his engineering expertise to design what some are calling the spider

DRY DOCK PARTY - NOV. 10TH

Mark your calander for the 21st Annual Dry Dock Party set for November 10th from 7:00 - 10:00 pm. Please R.S.V.P. **no later than November 1st** or let Larry Wheeler know at the October meeting if you and a guest will be attending. Because of a shortfall in the club's funds, you will be asked to pay a small amount per person this year to help defer the cost.

Also, we are looking for digital photos or movie clips you have taken over this past year. Please have them on a CD and bring to the October meeting. We are still looking for a person to create the powerpoint presentation! Can you help?



2012 Fall Reflections



All photos by Todd Moen





EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

Centennial Lakes
Hughes Pavilion
7499 France Avenue South
Edina, Minnesota 55435
www.emyc.org



OCTOBER MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2012 7:00 P.M.
CENTENNIAL LAKES GARAGE BAND ROOM

AGENDA:

- Election Of 2013 Officers
- Mike Burk - building airboats
- Show 'N Tell: Bring your building projects

Special Interest Contacts:

Scale Boating:

To Be Determined (Anybody Intersted?)

Sail Boating:

Tony Johnson (952) 470-8818 tjohnson@emyc.org

Fast Electric:

Dan Proulx (763) 551-4953 dproulx@emyc.org

2012 Board Members

Commodore: Wayne Snyder (952) 831-7434
Vice Commodore: Bill Lundholm (952) 832-9267
Vice Commodore: Bill Koester (714) 273-0549
Vice Commodore: Dick Dahlquist (651) 459-8377
Vice Commodore: Robert McDonald
Secretary: To Be Determined
Treasurer: Larry Wheeler (612)-926-5295

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