



SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

March 2002

Volume 11, Number 3

Commodore's Corner: For those club members who were unable to attend last month's meeting, you did not miss much. My first (and hopefully my last) attempt to teach others about electronics, and the workings of radio transmissions was quite forgettable. I allowed myself to get sidetracked, and I soon found myself delving into a depth that I had not properly prepared for.

To those members who were able to force themselves to sit through it all, I would like to apologize for the agony you had to endure. I also wish to apologize to those members who were unable to endure, and left early. I don't blame you for leaving early, I only wish that I could have left with you. I especially wish to apologize to Bob, for doing such a terrible job of trying to answer your question. I hope that I will have the opportunity in the future to give you a more complete and proper answer. Next time just us two, one on one.

Originally that discussion was supposed to be the first of a series of discussions about the electronics that are so critical to our boats. I had hoped to be able to help other members gain a better understanding about how our boats are supposed to work, and why sometimes they do not work. Even though all of this electronics stuff is very simple to me, I am obviously not the right person to make it as simple for others. I am therefore asking for the assistance of any club member(s), who have a background in, and/or a working knowledge of, electronics to help out with this project. I feel that it is a shame to see an otherwise beautiful project flounder because of a lack of knowledge about elementary electronics. *Mike*

The Poker Run Rally: Terry Mackey has informed me that he is working with Fred Ferris to organize the EMYC annual "Poker Run Rally" this year. It is still in the planning stages, but at present it will be held on Saturday April 20th. The event is open to all classes of sail boats. This is the only event sponsored by the club, that awards a special prize to the person who finishes dead last. Fred Ferris is the defending champion, and he is desperately hoping to pass the prestigious 'DAL Award' onto anyone else this year. Fred earned the DAL Award last year, when everyone else behind him was forced to drop out. *-Mike*

Club Promotion: The club has been contacted by the "Crow River Christian Womans' Club". They have asked us to provide a member to give a short 15 Minute speech about radio controlled boating, at their April dinner meeting. The dinner is free to the speaker and their spouse. At present the event is scheduled for 6:30 P.M., Saturday April 9th. This event is to be held at the old Medina Ballroom on Highway 55, in Medina, Minn.

If anyone is interested in speaking at this event please contact me, and I will provide you with the contact information so you can finalize the arraignments. *-Mike*

March Meeting Seminar: Long time club member Doug Campbell will provide us with an introduction to foam and fiberglass boat building. This is an alternative to the typical plank-on-wood frame type of construction that many of us have been exposed to. He will bring materials and tools that are used in the process of crafting a hull using this approach. He has gained knowledge by building previous boats in this fashion and his thirty minute presentation should prove to be interesting and informative.

Doug's interest in the club has proven to be diverse. He is an active participant with the high speed electric group always building, reconfiguring, and attempting to go just a little bit faster. Years ago, he completed a German fireboat from the Robbe line of products. If you haven't seen it, it's very unique and highly-detailed, both in its appearance and operation. He also collects old antique model boats, the small metal ones that could be wound up with a steel spring and set on a predetermined course. But Doug may be best known for his private collection of boat kits waiting to be built; if it was ever produced or sold at any point in time, there's a good chance he has it in stock.

We hope you can come out and join us for the March "foam and fiberglass" seminar. *-John Bishop*

SAVE THAT SAWDUST! : The first question that I am asked when people learn that I am joining the "mad monk squad" is, "What are you using for filler?" My reply is, "Mostly sawdust and glue."

I already have the glue to put the pieces together anyway, and the sawdust comes free with the kit. I try to use old fashion wood glue whenever possible, but there have been a couple of places where I ended up using CA+ because of its resistance to water.

When using wood glue: I will pour a small bead of the glue into the area to be filled, and then I wait a minute or two before I start sanding over the area.

When I use the CA+: I will sand the area first, and then drop a couple of drops of the CA+ onto the sawdust that has collected in the area to be filled, and then sand a little more..

The sawdust adheres to the glue, filling the gaps. While at the same time the glue helps to strengthen the joint, or area that I am working on.

After I am done, the area looks ugly as sin. But after I put on two or three coats of primer, and four or five coats of paint who is going to know?

Sure the sandpaper fills up with glue real fast. But I use "wet / dry" sandpaper, so if I'm quick enough I can wash out most of the wood glue build-up. When using the CA+, I go through a little more sandpaper a little faster. But hey; I need the sandpaper anyway. I am building an Amsterdam after all! *-Mike*

Membership Meeting, 11/20/01: The Commodore called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. New member introduced Jack Schillinger who retired in 1984, a hull builder who joined the club to get advice. Doug Person will be at the March meeting to take orders EMYC shirts, hats. Asked if he could bunch up orders as it would be more cost effective. Sign up sheets were available to sign up for interest groups. Mike Ross said he will organize the upcoming Poker Run and a future sail regatta. The Crow River Christian Women's Club is looking for a speaker to talk about 15 minutes on model boats at 7:00 PM April 9th at the Medina Entertainment Center. Interested persons should contact Mike Ross. Discussion on what to do with America's Cup Posters. Voted to have a raffle for them during the Parade of Boats.

Andy V. talked about upcoming indoor pool event in Waconia on Feb 23 at the community center pool. No spring clean up this year is scheduled, but club may have the boat area clean-up that day instead. Mike Ross spoke to the Park board about a steering course in the middle pond. Park Board has approved provided it would not interfere with paddle boats. Featured speaker Mike Ross gave a presentation on the subject of radios. John Bishop encouraged members to volunteer to give a presentation for a meeting. Member projects: Doug Campbell showed an electric powered iceboat using two ducted fans. Warren Freeman showed a "Tesler Turbine" concept. Andy Valentine showed a small Graupner fast electric hydroplane. - D. Campbell

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Every Sunday	Open Boating ?	4:30PM - 9:00PM
Every Tuesday	Open Boating ?	5:30PM - 9:00PM
Every Thursday	Open Boating ?	5:30PM - 9:00PM
Mar. 19 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Garage (Band Room) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Mar. 23 rd (Sat.)	Greater Chicago Model Boat Show	Oak Brook Terrace Park District Health Club 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
April 16 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
April 20 th (Sat.)	Poker Run Rally	Centennial Lakes Center Pond 10:00 AM -
May 21 st (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

At the February meeting A number of members strongly objected to the term "Committee". It was suggested to replace the word "Committee" with the phrase "Special Interest Group".

Personally "Special Interest Group" sounds like another one of those big political "PAC's", that are used to hide political campaign contributions to me. But here it is by popular request.

Special Interest Groups

1. Sailing Enthusiasts
2. Scale Enthusiasts
3. Fast Electric Enthusiasts
4. Polo Tugs / River Tow Boat Enthusiasts
5. Submarine Enthusiasts

Sailing Enthusiasts

The Sailing Enthusiasts are to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the interests and concerns of the Sail boaters in the club. To help identify both programs and instructors that educate and respond to areas of boat building and construction that are of interest to club members.

- Topics for meetings

Scale Enthusiasts

The Scale Enthusiasts are to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the interests and concerns of the Scale boaters in the club. To help identify both programs and instructors that educate and respond to areas of boat building and construction that are of interest to club members.

- Topics for meetings

Fast Electric Enthusiasts

The Fast Electric Enthusiasts are to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the interests and concerns of the Fast Electric boaters in the club. To help identify both programs and instructors that educate and respond to areas of boat building and construction that are of interest to club members.

- Topics for meetings

Polo Tugs / River Tow Boat Enthusiasts

The PTRTB Enthusiasts are to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the interests and concerns of the PTRT boaters in the club. To help identify both programs and instructors that educate and respond to areas of boat building and construction that are of interest to club members.

- Topics for meetings

Submarine Enthusiasts

The Submarine Enthusiasts are to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the interests and concerns of the Submarine boaters in the club. To help identify both programs and instructors that educate and respond to areas of boat building and construction that are of interest to club members.

- Topics for meetings

The "Marketing, Promotions and Membership Committee", and the "Social and Special Events Committee" shall remain as before.

Reminder: Doug Person will be taking orders this month at the meeting. So be sure to remember your checkbooks.

Fast Electrics - 6 cell SPEC: After a few years of trial and error, and setting up many boats to try and find something that would give the best bang for your buck we have come up with a couple class specifications that would be perfect for the novice or experience boater. These are the core classes that each of us in FE participates in. For this discussion I'll describe our 6 cell SPEC.

Hull specs are simple and include an ABS mono hull of any length. Many different types are out there, but the group has settled on a couple more common designs. The DPI Lil Hummer and the BBY Oval Master. Each are of good design and have exhibited good durability. The Lil Hummer can be purchased with running hardware for approx \$160 from DPI on the web. The Blew By You boat works Oval Master can be purchased as a hull only for \$40 or with running gear for approx \$130. The Hummer is assembled, the Oval master requires assembly.

Motor specs are very simple and require use of the Trinity Chameleon motor. This is a common SPEC motor used in car racing, and is readily available for approx \$35 at many locations. It's a 19 turn motor with the timing locked at 24 degrees, and it's rebuildable. 4-6% silver brushes and 12-13oz springs (Trinity purple) are recommended for power and motor life.

The rest is up to you so long as you do not exceed 6 cells or 7.2 volts. Saddle packs or side-by-side packs are recommended for space concerns. Saddle packs are preferred for multiple layout options within the boat for better weight distribution. A surface drive set up is recommended and that is provided with the hardware sold with the suggested boats above. Most common hardware found in our group is a combination of Fullers and Hughey hardware with some making their own custom components.

Basic set up measurements are: center of gravity ear 30% of the boats length as measured from the transom. Prop leading edge 2"+ behind the boat. Rudder mounted between prop and right chine. Small turn fin mounted perpendicular to the hull bottom at right chine, about 1" deep and half inch+ long. Octura x632 or x637 prop. 632 requires an 1/8" shaft and the 637 requires a 3/16" shaft. Flex cable recommended for adjustability.

Radios most common are: Futaba FM pistol grip. AM is suitable for most purposes, but FM is recommended for the safety of your boat and others. Check with me for frequency availability. We have a list of known frequencies, and we commonly use one channel for all of our boats.

Best places to find FE equipment?

Boats, hardware - Hub Hobby in Richfield
Best Cells - Hill Top batteries @ <http://sjslhill.hypermart.net>
Best ESC - RC Hydros @ <http://www.rc-hydros.com>
Hardware, Boats, Elec - Fast Electrics @ <http://www.fastelectrics.com>
Hardware - Fullers Fast Electrics <http://www.drcwebservices.com/ffe>
Hardware, Boats, Elec - Fine Design <http://finedesignrc.com>
Boats, hardware - Blew By You boat works <http://bbyracing.com>

If you have questions or interest in joining us on the south pond for some light hearted competition, please don't hesitate to look one of us speed junkies up for assistance.
- Andy Valentine

For Sale: Jim Smith has asked me to inform everyone, that he has some large hunks of basswood (1 x 6, 3 x 6, 4 x 6...all 48" long) available at very reasonable cost. If anyone is interested, call Jim [redacted] and he will bring some to the March meeting.

Wanted: This is just an enquiry as to whether or not I can obtain a set of plans for a boat listed in the subject topic. I have been looking for quite some time here in Australia to find a set of scale plans but unfortunately have not been successful. Is there any way of obtaining a set from anyone in your Club. I noticed a very beautiful boat featured on your website. It gave a very good view from behind the boat looking into the cockpit and seeing the steering wheel and gauges. If anyone has plans for a boat similar to this would it be possible to purchase them or even if someone could send me a copy of the plans.

If you could let me know about my above request, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thanks and regards

Luke Copeland

Brisbane, Australia

Waconia: The club was recently invited to participate in the Waconia Winter Festival on February 23 sponsored by the city of Waconia. Andy Valentine was contacted about this and spoke about it at the last meeting. The city of Waconia has a brand new pool and indoor gymnasium attached to the high school called Safari Island. The pool area contained an exceptional 25 x 25 yard 8-lane pool that us club members used, with what looked to be almost as large kids pool with fountains and a water slide! About 8-10 members of the club attended from about 1:00 to 3:PM. Sorry, I don't have everyone's name who attended so I will refrain from naming individuals. Half of us were fast electric and half were sail boaters - yes that's right - sail boaters. The facility director was accommodating enough to even supply 2 large fans creating enough breeze to do some reasonable sailing. The one scale boat in attendance was my German fireboat which performed nicely spraying the kids with pool water when the skipper determined they needed to cool off. Bleachers were set up for a crowd of about 20 to 30 people at any given time. A microphone/headset device was provided to explain things about the club and what was going on in the pool. Kind of like a very mini-Parade of Boats. We staged about 3 wild and wooly fast electric races and had some kids participate in one of them as lap counters. Later, fast electric boater Mark Anderson found out inadvertently that a fast electric boat can also be a SUBMARINE! His particular hull was compact enough that he could launch it at a severe angle and the boat would dive down and stay under for quite a few seconds. (Look for a new fast electric sport this year - yes that's right - submarine racing.) The sailboats performed well with the fans supplying a steady, RELIABLE breeze. It looked like the crowd and our members were entertained nicely. The usual questions abounded; How fast do they go? How much do they cost? Do those sailboats have motors in them? All in all, a very fun event was had by all

- Doug Campbell

Winter: As everyone knows. We have just two seasons here in Minnesota. Winter, and road construction. This year winter has finally decided to make an appearance, just in time to launch the Minnesota State Boys High School Hockey Tournament. Throughout the years this tournament has been mislabeled "The Blizzard Tournament" because of all of the blizzards that we get whenever the tournament is in town, and this year is not going to help the tournament's reputation any.

So, what is really bothering me? Winter usually lasts at least six months here in Minnesota. If winter is just starting in March this year? That would mean that we will not see the road construction season start until September, and that could have a serious impact on sailing this year. -Mike

**EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB
CENTENNIAL LAKES CENTRUM
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**Edina
Recycles**

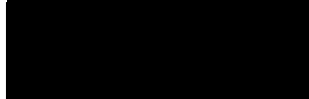


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First Class



**March
Meeting
Notice:**

(Third Tuesday of the Month)

**Tuesday, March 19th
7:00 P.M.**

**Centennial Lakes
Garage (band room)**

**Commodore:
Vice Commodore
Vice Commodore
Vice Commodore
Vice Commodore
Treasurer**

**Michael Ross
John Bishop
Paul Olsen
Gary Anderson
Doug Campbell
Gary Phillips**

Newsletter Editor

Michael Ross

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