

# EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

## SAIL & SCALE

## NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 3

### The Baltics Adventure

**By Vern Grimes**

In August of 2012 my wife, Helen, and I embarked on an overseas adventure in form of a cruise on the Baltic Sea that was round trip from Amsterdam on board the *Celebrity Constellation*. Ports of call included Warnemunde, Germany-

Stockholm, Sweden-Helsinki, Finland-Saint Petersburg, Russia-Tallinn, Estonia-and Copenhagen, Denmark. We arrived in Amsterdam three days early and used the "Hop on Hop off" Boats through the canals to visit the Anne Frank House, Vincent Van Gogh Museum, even the infamous "Red Light Districts" , and other sites. The canals have many

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Helen Grimes in front of the *Celebrity Constellation* cruise ship.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

March 19, Tuesday	7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.	Membership Meeting
April 16, Tuesday	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m	Membership Meeting
April sometime	To be determined by the open water	Three Pond Race

## COMMODORE'S CORNER



By Wayne Snyder

Spring, today March 1st, is the "Meteorological start of spring" I am not sure what

that means save its a time when weather patterns change. Astronomical spring is March 21st. At any rate spring is about to happen and a new boating season will soon be here.

I like winter but am always glad to see the first signs of spring. The anticipation of sailing at the pond rests front and center on my mind and gets me at the spring tune up of my boats.

Who will be first ON the pond this year, I am not sure that a boat lying on the ice qualifies but its fun to speculate what may qualify for the honor!

John Kessler from Control Freaks gave a very interesting presentation and its great to see their emphasis on community involvement. Ramsey is scheduled for June 27th this year--save the date!

The commodore is short on ideas for programs and I would like discussion on not having a program for the sailing months, just a short business meeting and then sailing for the rest of the evening. Bring your ideas and lets have a good discussion on this at the March meeting. - *Wayne Snyder*

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# Thank You EMYC!

Thank You EMYC,  
for inviting us to your meeting for a night of laughter and sharing. It was great to get to know you all!

Control Freaks RC



**Joe Steele  
and his Volans**

Editor's Note: If you have not been receiving e-mails from the club on events, please be sure that your e-mail address is current with the club. I know I have several incorrect e-mail addresses of members . - *Todd Moen*

## NAUTICAL KNOW-IT-ALL - IT'S A BOAT.... IT'S A PLANE....

By Aaron Water



For April, name the designer and manufacturer of this 4 seat sailboat/plane.

## ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY'S KNOW-IT-ALL QUESTIONS

1. The Chicago River is a system of rivers augmented by canals with a combined length of 156 miles. The Chicago River is the reason why Chicago became an important location, the link between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Valley.

2. There are five rivers in New York City are the Hudson River, the East River, the Harlem River, the Bronx River and the North River.

3. There are 3,000 rivers in Alaska, more than there are in Washington state, Minnesota and Louisiana combined.

4. You'll find the Red, the Assiniboine, the La Salle and the Seine flowing through parts of Winnipeg, the capital of the Province of Manitoba. The La Salle and the Seine are tributaries of the Red, which flows north into Lake Winnipeg, while the Assiniboine, when it is frozen solid in winter, is the location of the longest outdoor skating rink in the world.

5. There are nine rivers forming part of the Canada-US border. They are: Rainy River, Pigeon River, St Marys River, St Clair River, Detroit River, Niagara River, St Lawrence River, St John River, St Croix River.

6. The city of St. John, New Brunswick lies at the mouth of what river?

The Saint John River (aka Fleuve Saint-Jean in New Brunswick's other official language) is approximately 418 miles long. It rises in the province of Quebec and passes through the U.S. state of Maine on its way to New Brunswick.

7. The longest river in Mexico is the Rio Bravo (called the Rio Grande in the United States), which forms the natural boundary between Texas and Mexico for about 1300 miles.

8. The Columbia River begins its 1,243-mile journey in the southern Rocky Mountain Trench in British Columbia, Canada, and empties into the Pacific Ocean just west of Astoria, Oregon.

9. The Mackenzie River, is the longest Canadian river and the largest river system in the country. It flows from North America to the Arctic Ocean, running 1,080 miles in a northerly direction.

10. There are over one-and-a-half million lakes in Canada, and since Canada is the second largest (by area) country in the world, it isn't surprising that 50% of the world's rivers are in Canada.

## The Baltics Adventure (cont.)



looks like an old time life boat. Many larger crafts have been converted into stationary house-boats. The Dutch were a prominent naval power in the world and had a long and competitive history with the English and others. One floating display there is a replica of an armed 18th century trading ship named the *Amsterdam*. After boarding our cruise ship in the Amsterdam Harbor, we saw the *De Pannekoekenboot* from our cabin veranda. A cruise on this boat includes all the pancakes you can eat. Because Amsterdam was some 22 feet below the sea and we had heard so many stories of the dikes and the



The *Amsterdam*, an 18th century trading ship



The *De Pannekoekenboot* cruise boat

ocean, we were looking forward to seeing the locks. Unfortunately, we missed that whole experience because we were having such fun at our first meal on board and meeting our new friends and table mates.

Have you heard of the *Vasa*? In the 17th century Sweden was a great military power, but it was said that her navy was not up to par with her neighbors and so they embarked on a naval building project. A key to that improved navy was to be the mighty *Vasa*. Part way through the building it was decided to add another deck of guns thus giving the ship 64 guns. This ship, displacing 1210 tons with a spar length of 226 feet and 13,720 square feet of sail, and with a crew of 145 sailors and

private boats of just about any description. One of the most common types

ship, displacing 1210 tons with a spar length of 226 feet and 13,720 square feet of sail, and with a crew of 145 sailors and

## The Baltics Adventure (cont.)



The *Vasa*, a 17th century Swedish ship



The *Aurora*, an armored cruiser



The *HDMS Peder Skram*

300 soldiers to man the cannons, was built to the Glory of King Gustavus Adolpus and was certain to impress both friend and foe. In addition to the sailors and soldiers, the crew included an admiral, a captain, 2 lieutenants, a clergy, a flogging master and others. On Sunday August 10, 1628 with some of the crew, dignitaries, and a few women and children on board the mighty ship set sail in the Stockholm Harbor with thousands looking on. After traveling 4000 or so feet it listed and sank. Many drowned. It was a tragic day. The *Vasa*, almost forgotten, lay on the bottom until 1961 when it was salvaged, eventually preserved, and housed in the Vasa Museum.

It was in Saint Petersburg that we saw the *Aurora*. The armored Cruiser *Aurora* was built in 1900 and was part of the Tsar's Baltic Fleet. This ship has an incredible story that I don't have the space or talent to tell, but here is some of it. In 1905 war broke out in the Far East between Russia, and Japan. The war seemed to have something to do with the leasing of Port Arthur by Russia. At this time the Trans Siberian Railroad had not been completed and thus Russia had difficulty transporting men and supplies. The war went badly for Russia on land and sea. To reinforce their forces and fight the Japanese, the Tsar's Baltic Fleet including the Cruiser *Aurora* was sent to the Far East. Due to a dispute with England they could not use the Suez Canal. We can only imagine the hardships of sailing all the way around the Cape of Africa, through the Indian Ocean and then past Japan to reach Port Arthur or Vladivostok. With fouled bottoms and in need of repairs the ships sailed into their fate. In the body of waters between

## The Baltics Adventure (cont.)

Japan and Korea, the Tsushima Straits, the Japanese engaged the Russian Fleet in one of the most one sided naval battles in history. This Japanese victory had a profound and long lasting effect on Japanese naval strategy which they carried with them all the way through WWII. This is getting off the subject, but some think that the Japanese hoped to repeat history and were seeking one decisive battle at Midway Island to destroy the American Fleet. Of the 38 Russian ships, the Cruiser *Aurora* was only one of three to escape and eventually returned to the Baltic. During the Russian Revolution, its guns were fired to signal the storming of the Winter Palace. During WWII its cannons were removed and used elsewhere for the defense of Leningrad (now Saint Petersburg). The ship itself was used as a floating anti aircraft battery, but was sunk. After the war, due to the *Aurora's* impeccable revolutionary credentials, it was raised and preserved as a museum. As our tour boat turned around in a canal, I managed to take a picture.

On a tour boat in the Copenhagen Harbor we saw the *HDMS Peder Skram* which is now a museum ship. It was a cold war era frigate that served in the Danish Navy from 1965 to 1990. Its one claim to fame was the 1982 accidental launch of a

Harpoon Missile that destroyed four cottages without any human injuries.

The Royal Yacht *Dannenberg* was also observed in the Copenhagen Harbor. As of February 2013 this 259 ft.



**The Royal Yacht *Dannenberg***



yacht built in 1931 still serves the Danish Head of State - 72 year old Queen Margrethe II.

Along with other photos and to complete the visit to Copenhagen, a picture of The little Mermaid has been included. -Vern Grimes



## AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING

**J**onathan Kessler from Control Freaks RC Hobby Store in Long Lake, Mn. was our guest speaker at the February meeting. New products for the RC hobby were presented as well as an overview of the many fantastic services that this unique hobby store has to offer, for both beginning and advanced radio control hobbyists. The folks at this store always welcome feedback from everyone about their radio control experiences. - Todd Moen

BUILDER'S CORNER

PROGRESS ON MY TUGBOATS by Bill Uhl



Photo taken in Portland, Maine



Tugboat is based on photo at left



Photo taken in Costa Rica



Tugboat is based on photo at left

**Special Thanks...**To members that contributed their time & talents to this issue: Vern Grimes, Bill Uhl, John Bertlesen, Dale Johnson & Wayne Snyder. - *Todd Moen*

**Thank You** to David S. Holman's law office for free newsletter printing.. David specializes in Estate planning, Business, Real Estate & Creditor Representation, located in Burnsville, Minnesota. - *Todd Moen*



**EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB**

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www.emyc.org



## MARCH MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013 7:00 P.M.  
CENTENNIAL LAKES GARAGE BAND ROOM

### AGENDA:

-Topic to be determined.  
Show and Tell - Bring your winter building projects!

### Special Interest Contacts:

#### Scale Boating:

To Be Determined (Anybody Interested?)

#### Sail Boating:

Tony Johnson [redacted] [redacted]

#### Fast Electric:

Dan Proulx [redacted] [redacted]

## 2013 Board Members

Commodore: Wayne Snyder [redacted]  
Vice Commodore: Bill Lundholm [redacted]  
Vice Commodore: Bill Koester [redacted]  
Vice Commodore: Dick Dahlquist [redacted]  
Vice Commodore: Robert McDonald  
Secretary: To Be Determined  
Treasurer: Larry Wheeler [redacted]

The Edina Model Yacht Club Sail & Scale Newsletter is published monthly except for December.

Newsletter Editor: Todd Moen [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Webmaster: Dale Johnson [redacted]g

Please [redacted]  
[redacted]

Deadline for articles to be considered for the April publication will be Friday March 29, 2013

