

Edina
Model
Yacht
Club



**7499 FRANCE AVENUE SOUTH
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May 2021 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

The May membership meeting found a nice group gathering back together for the first time in a long while. The first in-person with zoom meeting came off very well with the expected adjustments during the meeting and the discovery that a second camera was needed in lieu of a cell phone, and an external speaker for the laptop hosting the meeting was needed. We used the club's projector connected to a laptop to project the zoom screen onto the pull-down projector screen in the meeting room. What was very satisfying was that an audio issue was resolved, we had interaction between the audience and zoom participants, and the overall experience proved the combination meeting platform is very successful. We even had participation by Dan Lewandowski who zoomed in from the north country, along with several others locally, to again demonstrate zoom will be a continued benefit to the membership experience.

In The News and Updates

- The farmers market is due to start back up on Thursday June 10th.
- On May 27th the City is lifting all restrictions on the numbers of people in a building up to the rated capacity of the facility. More later in this newsletter on the impact to the Parade.
- Tom Shirley sent us a nice thank you card: "Edina Model Yacht Club Members, Thank you all so much for the very generous gift card for my retirement. It was so good to see you at my send-off party at Braemar and I look forward to attending your summer events with my new free time! It was a pleasure working with you all these years. Tom Shirley"
- The boats refurbished for the Lake Minnetonka Shores Presbyterian Home were returned last Thursday. There were two, Stars and Stripes and Paradise. The Stars and Stripes is a very nice, substantial, real rc boat, the Paradise is toy grade. Mike Ross said that he thought this Stars and Stripes boat used to come down to the ponds with a father and son years ago. They never joined the club but frequently sailed the boat. Thursday had a stiff breeze and some gusts, too much for the Paradise, but Stars and Stripes handled it nicely. The Home is on Black Lake in Spring Park, and they have their own dock for a pontoon boat and room for one more. From their dock another dock takes off parallel to shore for several more slips. Before the group from the Home arrived on the dock for the presentation of their boats I had the time to put Stars and Stripes on the water to verify how it sailed and do some fine tuning. It did really nicely, even managed the gusts without a problem. The Lake/bay is maybe 4 feet deep for quite a ways out, then a waterway delineated with buoys, and more bay beyond. The keel is a nice design to minimize snagging weeds, but I did manage to grab some with the rudder. It cleared itself and sailed back to the dock with no further problems. Now the group showed up and after giving them the basics of care and feeding of their boats Stars and Stripes went back in. Things were going well, and I was sailing a bit further out to avoid weeds, until once again no rudder. The boat was on a beautiful solid and steady tack - heading across the bay. It kept getting smaller and smaller, and you could see the occasional gust slap the sails over to an "ohhhhhh!" from the onlookers. Just to show them how great a skipper I am I said "sometimes you can get it head to wind and in irons to

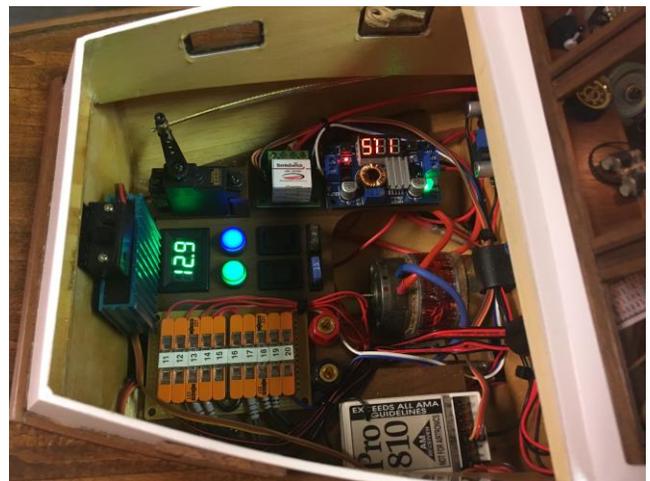
let the boat slip backwards and the weeds will come off”. Except it was hard to tell what direction it was going being so small and far off in the distance, and rudder control was only iffy at times. Now it is 400 feet or so out entering the navigation channel, still heading for the opposite shore some 1500 feet away. I said “I don’t know if we are getting this one back!! Any chase boat available?” “Not in the water yet” was the response. What can you do, keep sailing and hope for a miracle. Suddenly one of the guys shouted “Hey, I think it is coming back!!!” Sure enough, it was, slowly, slowly, slowly. Finally about 20 feet from the last dock slip I lost all control but the wind blew it to the dock and the boat was plucked out of the water. The (very exciting) re-christening voyage was at an end. Lots of fun, made more so because we got the boat back.



As the saying goes, “better to be lucky than good”. In the group photo Jerry Sicard is on the far right and he coordinated getting the boats refurbished for the Presbyterian Home. All were delighted that they had discovered such a nice boat.

Show and Tell

John Bishop brought his “Something Fishy” Lobster Boat for in-person viewing. John gave a further discussion of the process of building the boat with great detail as to materials used and where various building materials were acquired. There was a lot of discussion which was very helpful as a huge amount of information was provided. John used Callie Graphics, famously used for applied graphics by all types of rc modelers, and Rob Segal reminded us that his company can do stencils for painted application of graphics and text. Can’t see too many photos of this boat so here are a few more:



John also discussed the different types of wood used, the various finishes, that LED and incandescent lights were used to best affect, and that you should always, always, follow the instructions for building your boat - unless you have a better idea, then go with that. John further indicated that because he was building a lobster boat he learned a lot more about the lobster industry to keep the model authentic. Details abound that can only be appreciated in person. The boat will be at the Parade so plan on spending time to fully appreciate all that went into the build.

Jeff McCabe brought “Stubby”, his scratch built whimsical boat that was built around and scaled completely with respect to the size of the motors. For the most part this boat was built with materials on hand, starting with a foam carved hull, then overlaid with fiberglass (the foam disappears) and then it was finished with whatever seems right for all the details. Could not be more fun of a boat:



New members Dave Brinkman and Harvey Freeman were in attendance, Harvey having just completed his DF 65 build, and Dave just starting on the completion of a kit-in-progress he just purchased:



Dave picked up a few pointers on the boat and build and will be bringing the boat back as the build progresses. He is also picking up a ready to run boat in Wisconsin so the pressure is off the build. See, it is not possible to have just one boat for very long. The affliction comes on quickly.

Parade of Boats

The Parade is just about here, planning is in progress. The date is Sunday, June 13th, official hours 11 am - 4 pm. Help in setting up is very much appreciated, and don't forget there is take-down after the show is over. To help with set up plan on being at the Hughes Pavilion by 9:00, earlier would be nice. As noted previously there will be no limitation on the number of persons in the building so we don't have to keep count. All doors will be open, and no masks will be required outside the building. Plan on masks inside unless we have further word on that as we get to the date. We will need as many boats as you can bring for display, and do your best to get boats on the water during the official hours of the show. There will be a for sale area so bring anything you would like to sell. Todd Moen will make up name plates/tags for your boats, the current list of tags available is attached to the newsletter. Get in touch with Todd asap to order up new tags, or let him know if a boat on the list is no longer yours. A confirmation of what you are bringing would be very helpful. I also contacted Chris with Captain Jack Entertainment but he was already committed so we will have to do without Cap'n Jack this year.

Next month's newsletter we will start a new feature of showcasing members work shops/work space/wherever you get things done. A few pictures and description of what works, what doesn't work, history of your work area, whatever you want to share with others. Come on, you know you are curious so let me know if you would be willing to submit your shop for the newsletter.

Finally, traditionally we start membership meetings one hour later in June, July and August at 8:00 to allow members in attendance to run a boat on the ponds before the meeting. We will plan on continuing with that tradition unless I hear people would prefer to keep the meeting start at 7:00. Please let me know if you would like to change, otherwise the meeting will be starting at 8:00 pm.

I hope to see you at the Parade, and as always, see you at the ponds!!

John Bertelsen
Commodore
Edina Model Yacht Club

