



October 2024 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

Dry Dock Party and Swap Meet Rescheduled

The Dry Dock Party was rescheduled to Saturday, November 9th, and the Swap Meet was determined at the last meeting to be rescheduled to Sunday, November 10th. Both are in the pavilion. The Dry Dock luncheon will be served by Famous Dave's at 1:00, but come a bit early to spend time with your friends. There are a couple of things on the program that you will not want to miss. We should be wrapped up around 5:00. The swap meet the next day is from 9:00 to noon, set up is from 8:00. You veterans of the meet know, and first time comers need to be aware, that we have absolutely no idea of what will be there. We set up a few tables and then just keep bringing them out as the items show up. Many of the good items are actually sold on the way into the pavilion before they get displayed. Get there early. Boats only please (no airplanes, cars, truck, drones), and all hobby tools and materials are welcome. Kits, projects, complete boats, you just never know what will be there.

In the Park



That is your club boat doing work at the ponds. I have recently become a City of Edina volunteer, specifically at Centennial Lakes Park. We are all aware that liability runs just about everything these days and whereas in the past we had a lot of freedom to use park equipment to help clean up the center pond where we primarily run our boats, that is not an option any longer. As I am in the process of retiring from my engineering company I have an increasing amount of time for other activities. Yes, I know many of you have told me I am going to be so busy once I am fully retired, but I still wanted to do something fun for a good cause. It came to me that if I volunteered I could really help to clean the ponds to: #1 help the club out, and #2 help out with keeping the incredible park we have looking tip-top! The photo is one of 9 loads of sticks and trash that I took out of the ponds (all of them!) over 5 days. I volunteer one day a week so it took a while to make it all the way around. Sometimes I am working from the boat on the water, sometimes walking along the edge of the sidewalk/retaining wall, in the boat along the boulders on the east side and sometimes in hip waders pulling the boat behind me through the cattails. I get a lot of appreciative comments from people walking by and a few admirers that said I was lucky to be scooting around the ponds in a boat. So while it is our boat that is being utilized it is very little to give to once again be able to help keep the ponds cleaner for our activities.

Fun fact #1: In 2022 the City had Barr Engineering look at 17 water bodies in the city to estimate the accumulated sediment. The north and south ponds were specifically examined. The north pond is 6.0 acres of open water and the south pond is 4.3 acres. The report summarizes that Centennial Lakes ponds were constructed in the year 1990 and that since that time the ponds are doing their job of treating storm water from the Southdale commercial/office area very well by removing sediment. Storm water enters the ponds by Pinstripes at the northwest area of the north pond and exits at the southwest corner of the south pond, then proceeds to Nine Mile Creek. Sediment collected has decreased the volume capacity of the permanent water in the ponds below the normal water level (the ODOM racers can tell you most of the spots) but accumulation is nowhere close to a reduction in volume requiring removal of the sediment on a pond-wide basis.

When not in the pond I am also swapping out bags in the trash containers:



Which leads to Fun Fact #2: That is the Galleria Shopping Mall in the background. Did you know the park extends all the way behind Target to 70th Street? That is accomplished by what is called the Promenade, which starts northeast of Pinstripes, and is a bikeway/walkway that also connects with one of Nine Mile Creek trails. Between Pinstripes and Macy's Furniture Gallery another arm of the Promenade extends east under York Avenue. If you have time I would definitely suggest that you take a walk along both arms of the Promenade. Just like the park itself these amenities are hidden behind commercial buildings.

ODOM Racing

We have not covered the ODOM sailboat racing part of the club for a while, and I am delighted to say that I am finally able to start joining the group again after being absent for the most part of several years. These sailors are very active and the group includes club members and non-members. The sailing occurs at either Centennial Lakes south pond or at Smith Park pond in Bloomington at roughly 10th Avenue and 82nd Street. Which location depending on wind direction and weeds. Both sites have their plusses and minuses and having the option of the two is a huge plus. Races are usually Tuesday or Thursday during the afternoon. The racing activities are coordinated through a Google forum that is very, very active. Here are some of the comments from the forum:

September 24th -

Today was probably the best Odom sailing we have had all season. You guys really missed out. Wish more of you had ignored the forecast and shown up.- Kevin Kavaney



Now you have to admit, even with just the three guys that showed up that is a beautiful scene.

From October 4th -

For those of you who could not join us, we had a great day of sailing at Smith and dinner afterwards. There were 8 ODOMS and one DF95. We had two newer sailors, Mac in an ODOM and John with a DF 95. John Bertelsen also joined us, great to see him. The racing was very competitive all day. If you got a good start you could get ahead of the pack. One bad tack and the pack ate you up. Winds were out of the North at NW 7 to 10, it was a great day. Terry got a little cold at the end. Just a reminder to dress for the weather. Hope to see you Tuesday. One additional thing, I think John is looking for an ODOM to buy. - Bill Coppage



(Archival photo from 2017 ODOM National races)

And this from just this last Tuesday. There is something very special about getting back into sailing season in the spring and the bonus days on the water in the fall -



Yes it looks a little chaotic, because it is! This is just before the start of a race and the race starts with a count-down where you cannot cross the start/finish line before the zero on the (audio) timer. So the boats mill around jockeying for position for the final chase to the start! We had 12 boats, 11 ODOMs and 1 DF 95.



There, does that look better? Boats heading to the upwind/windward marks. I have done competitive activities most of my life, most recently road racing motorcycles and shooting sporting clays. The motorcycle racing had to stop at age 51 and I have not shot clays for quite a few years, but racing sailboats is a great way to participate in something in a friendly competitive way and it never gets old. The wind is always different and even familiar venues take on a different perspective over time. And then there is always room for improvement, and help is available. You can't help but compare your boat's performance to the others, and this also gives a great way to see improvement in your sailing, whether it is tuning your boat or more than likely in your ability to read the wind and set a course. The rules are essentially the same as for real boats but to get started I found a very helpful video on YouTube:. Once you understand the basics you are really good to go, be functional in a race and then can get to the heart of the matter in improving you and your boat.

Big Boats

Too infrequently we get the big boats out on the water. What is a big boat? Generally over one meter, and there is a great variety in the club. I learned a lot about some different boat classes this time as we had more boats for the event than in previous years, this time back at Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska. I know the lake got renamed amid some conflicting viewpoints but I was born, raised, and live near the Minneapolis lakes and spent time around and on them all so it will always be Calhoun to me and not the tongue twister. I got used to Nissan from Datsun, but they will always be Dodge trucks and not Ram, and I can barely get Macy's instead of Dayton's so perhaps there is hope. Some of what I learned is that there are more than one J boat. Kevin Kavaney's incredible J boat is a 1/16 scale boat with a 90 inch hull, 75 pounds, +/- 12 foot sails.



The 'J' getting set up



The 'J' going in

There is always an element of scale with our boats and that applies to presentation and operation. Almost all of our boats look just fine on the center ponds at Centennial Lakes, but the larger sailboats look out of place there and more at home on the south pond - except for the J boat, which is really happy and perfect on Calhoun/BMK. This boat is not to be confused with a Canterbury J boat, two of which are owned by member Dave Giovannini in Aberdeen South Dakota. Dave wasn't able to be with us but we have featured his boats in the newsletter previously:



These are 48" hull and 14+ pounds.

Also confusing to me, but understood later, two boats had "12" on the sails, here is the difference:



EC 12



Newport 12

The EC 12 is a 48" hull where the Newport 12 is 1/12th scale with a 72" hull. Also a sharp eye will notice the 12 on the Newport is underlined.

A couple of the other boats there:



The Mighty Mary, International A Class - 72" hull and 55 pounds, 8 feet of sails.



Soling One Meter - one meter/40 inch hull

The skippers:



L-R: John Bertelsen, Greg Stinson, Heike Tschautscher, Gary Tschautscher, Kevin Kavaney, Stewart MacPhail (behind Tom), Tom Weigel, Tom's friend Dave trying out the hobby

And from the back so you get a better sense of the event:



We had a lot of visitors all day long and several of the real boats on the water came over to take a look:



Before this event Kevin had his Wheeler out on the south pond and I have to include a photo of this beautiful boat too:



For comparison the hull is 79" (two meters) and 30 pounds, sails maybe 10 feet(?).

Other News

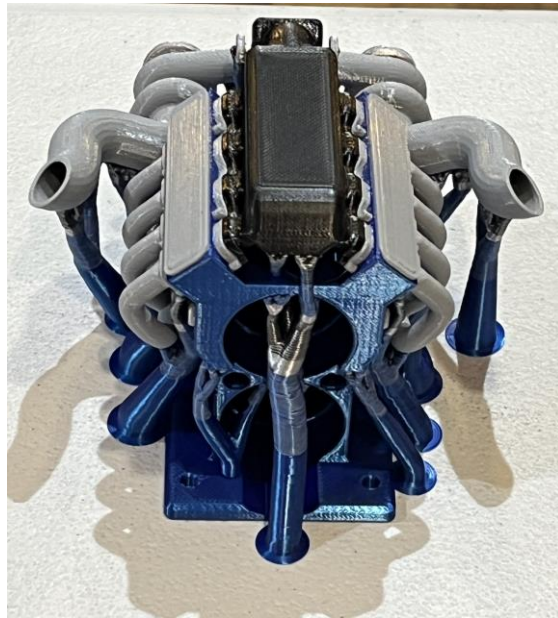
In the last newsletter I covered the smaller version of the Paul Olsen "Marblehead" boat, down from 50 inches to 36, and on loan to a church in Minneapolis for a year.



These boats are stunning no matter where you find them.

At the Meeting

We had quite a turnout, and a short meeting, but not without some special interest. Much of the discussion was about the changing of dates but we had a great show and tell. First up was Tim Kowalik with a boat we have seen before, but not quite like this:



Computer printed dual turbocharged Chevy V-8! Printed and modified to fit over electronics it is a very nice touch of realism added to the boat!

Former member John brought a Chinese junk boat, partially finished, that belonged to a friend of his, and he was looking for a new home for the boat. It went home with Patrick Morvant who will convert it into a pirate ship. More to come on this boat I hope.

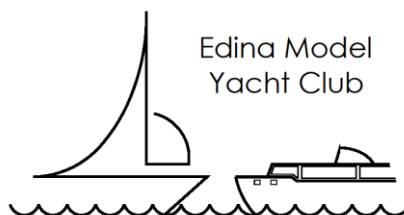


Coming up

Dry Dock Party, Saturday, November 9th, lunch served at 1:00 plus program, Hughes Pavilion. Very important that you call Terry at or send her an email at: by October 30th!!!!

Swap Meet, Sunday, November 10th from 9:00 to noon, Hughes Pavilion.

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, Dave Brinkman
Off site events: Rob Segal
Newsletter: John Bertelsen