



### August 2025 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

This month we get to start with everyone's favorite, a ship wreck brought back to life. This story is by Mark Nickells who sent me a lot of documentation and narrative about this boat. There was also a wonderful presentation by the parties involved with the rescue and the beginning of restoration at the club meeting. What follows is an edited and compiled story of the boat to bring together all that has gone on.

### *The saga of the Chris Craft Cobra*

*History: Dumas released the Chris Craft Cobra kit in 1992. It was a replica of the classic 1955 boat. This kit was purchased and built sometime during the 1990s. The original owner remains unknown. The boat has gone through multiple owners over the years until 2022 when the boat was gifted to me via a fellow club member. It was briefly in the water and then was given to another club member who kept it safe in storage. Then in the summer of 2023 the boat was returned to me and it appeared at the Parade of Boats and went back on the shelf. It also appeared at Light House Night #2 where at 8:45 P.M. it took on water and sank while reversing.*

*The rescue: Thursday, August 7th, 2025 Mark (Wolf) and I were standing together talking (apparently about the sinking of the Cobra - JB) at the pond for a bit when Mark (Wolf) departed to the parking garage and returned with a fishing pole complete with 40 pound test line and a 4 inch treble hook. Mark made a few casts into the pond, letting the hook sink to the bottom, and retrieved clumps of leaves and some other debris. I told him "You need to cast 5 feet further south." Mark (Wolf) cast again and exclaimed that he hooked something big, and it was not coming in. Carefully keeping pressure on the line and eventually whatever it was broke free. Imagine our surprise when we saw the bow of the Cobra emerge from the water dangling from the line. It has been nearly two years since it sank. It came up a little less pristine than it went down but it was back. Huge Kudos to Mark W. for rescuing the boat.*

*The restoration begins: Here it is. On my table, not quite as pristine, and in a desperate need of a bath and a paint job. The original builder did an amazing job on the boat, the hull is intact, and the interior is in good shape. NO leaks. I actually have most of the necessary electronics and may be able to get by with a new receiver only. None of the running hardware is salvageable. The main missing part is*

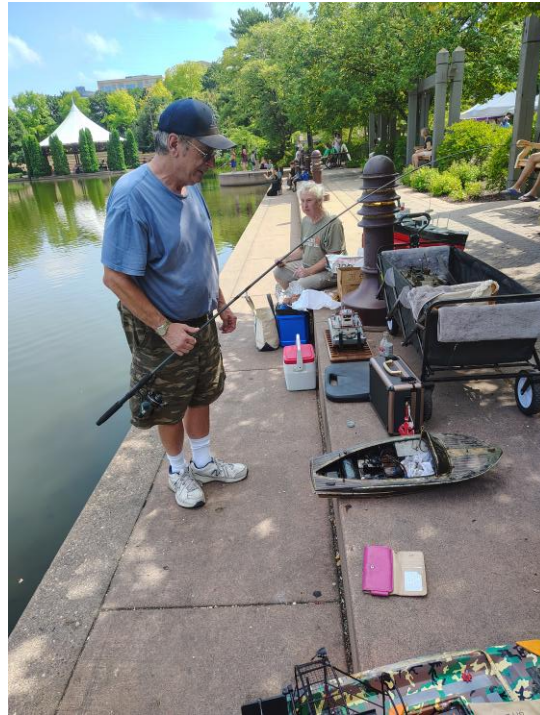
*the canopy which would cost me close to \$70.00. I was stuck, trying to get the Cobra back to factory condition and use all original parts. And then I asked why? This is not the same boat that sank two years ago, so why should I treat it as such? New boat, new look. Turns out my spare Traxxas M-41 (Catamaran hyper boat) canopy is nearly a perfect fit. Just needs a small amount of trimming. I also have the Traxxas 80 AMP speed controller that already has the wiring done, the power plug just needs to be changed from a Futaba plug to a standard JR. connection.*

*- Mark Nickells*

I am sure, much more to come.



On the surface!!



On land!!



Needs some work....



And in the same idea of boats can capsize, Tony Johnson posted this photo on the ODOM forum with a helpful message on the transom of a boat:



#### Light House Night #1

Once again, we had perfect weather for an event!! And what an event it was! Ryan Butler commented that the participation from the club might be bigger than at the Parade! It might have been, at least there were so many boats there, and early on, that there was no need to flag off the "Skippers Only" area. This is my favorite event because there is very little preparation required (with Rob and myself still in wounded condition John Bishop and Jeff McCabe really stepped up to help with flagging off the pond, setting up three light houses and setting up the Captains Stations), and we get the chance to see and visit with members that are not able to participate in club events as they would like to. Special recognition to Bob Glass, Dan Lewandowski, and Dorothy Zimmerman. I am sorry if I am missing someone, I manned the Captains Stations all afternoon and into the evening and could not get away to visit - 2 minute limit at the controls again due to the lineup of skippers! Band concert was excellent as usual, and the fireworks went off this year - I think they were especially excellent and made up for last year's no-show.





Dan setting up his amazing pirate boat in the garage



.....and on the water



Shoreline was packed





Two light houses on the water, the third is on the wall next to the pine tree, far left.

The preliminary to this event was a Channel 9 broadcast to preview Light House Night and the Torch Light Concert. We had great participation from the club with lots of boats on the water and both Captains Stations in operation! Three segments were videoed and these were edited to create 5 segments broadcasted throughout the morning. We are thankful that Shayne Wells at Channel 9 has taken an interest in the club. Talking with Shayne I suggested we could put together a special show on sailboats, which would take some extra planning and preparation, and Shayne said to just let her know. I think a show to preview the Parade next year would be wonderful, and save the sailboat special for another time.



Videoing the segment with John Bishop and Shayne Wells.





My opening segment



The Captain's Stations from one of the broadcasts, operated by John Withrow's daughters - Katie (lt) and Kristin (rt). I really appreciated both stepping in at the last minute.



### At the Meeting

Another meeting light on business items. We briefly discussed the Light House Night and the upcoming events:

Gull Lake Classic Boat Show, Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Bar Harbor Restaurant. Rob previewed the show. Last year we participated in the National Show, which was one of the top shows in the country, and this year's show may come close to that same stature as it is featuring racing boats. If you can make it, this is going to be one that will not be duplicated anytime in the near future.

Fast on the heels of Light House Night #1 and the Gull Lake show is the double event on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>: Light House Night #2 and the Lake Minnetonka Classic Boat Show at Lord Fletchers. Setup for all classic shows starts at 8:00 am as the show starts at 9:00 am. Light House Night #2 is in conjunction with the Fall into the Arts Festival at Centennial Lakes Park and every year we have a bigger audience during the hours the Art Festival is in operation. You can bring your boat and participate all afternoon long as well as into the evening. The Art Festival goes until 6:00 pm on Saturday. If you are energetic, you can join us at Lord Fletchers and then at Light House Night #2. Busy but very fun day, and what a way to wrap up summer activities and welcome fall!

Final announcement was a repeat of a request that the club be part of the Woodworkers Guild show at the State Fair Progress Center, on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 4 pm. They have offered to waive the participation fee to make it easier for the club to participate, and they would really like to have us there. Let me know if you have an interest in representing the club at this event and I will get you the registration information.

### Show and Tell

Tim Kowalik brought his portable soldering kit that he designed and put together.



The case is 3D printed and he choose all the items that are in the kit. The battery pack is capable of powering the soldering gun as well as any other USB device, including a laptop. In the top half of the case is a metal plate, under which is the battery, and in the tray just below the battery are four alligator clips with magnetic bases so that you can attach them to the metal plate and hold wires or whatever else you might be soldering. The soldering tip contains a gyroscope so that when you pick it up it heats instantly. Tim thinks he has between \$150 and \$200 invested. Not at all unreasonable for this very smart setup.

Tim Crain brought some chargers, motors, tubing, and a bucket of lead weights for anyone that would like them.

Next was the real entertainment for the meeting, Mark (Nickels), Mark (Wolf) and David (Petrich) telling the story of reclaiming the Chris Craft Cobra for restoration:



It got very animated and we all enjoyed the enthusiasm that these three had in participating in the rescue operation!

David Petrigh stayed for the next presentation of an in-progress Dumas Coast Guard kit he is working on for Jeff Dunbar:





There is something about Coast Guard boats that are so interesting. This boat (the real one) was the subject of a lot of discussion after the formal meeting as to how it functions and can withstand being tossed about and even flipped over during rescue operations in storms.

Next, we were fortunate to have Jackie Carlson bring one of her glass creations to share with us:

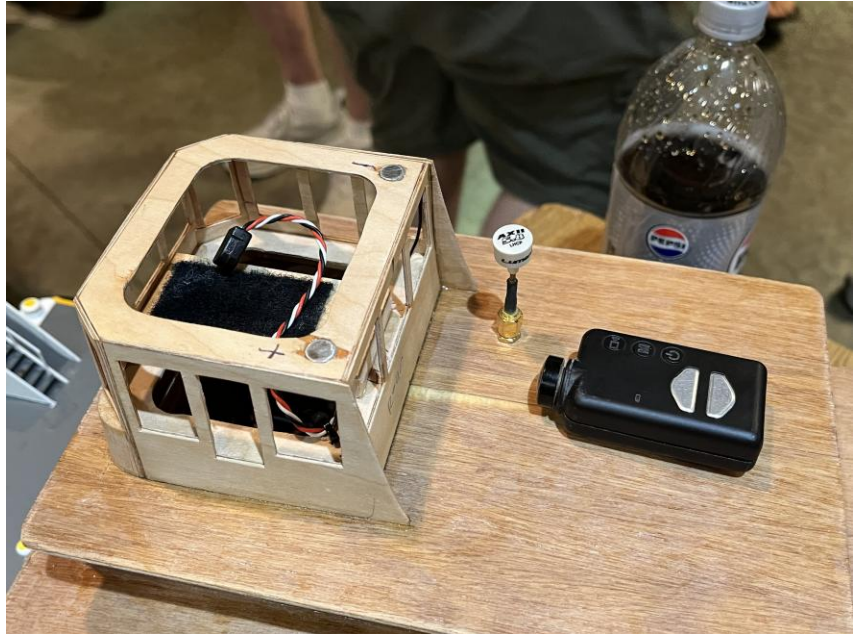


This is an all-glass creation from Jackie's glass works studio. The story that went with it was extremely entertaining. Jackie is a friend of Dorothy Zimmerman and they have both been extremely involved in sailing real sailboats for a good portion of their lives,



and have participated in sailing events across the country. Jackie explained that this is a depiction from a photograph of a real event she attended on the east coast. She went on to explain that the east coast sailors are used to the close quarters and lots of traffic on the waters that is east coast sailing. The same east coast club came to Minnesota and sailed the Apostle Islands which they thought was too boring, unable to appreciate the natural beauty of that area. The story was highly entertaining and we all could appreciate the skills that our members have in areas other than model boats.

Last was Cris Haert, who is getting known for his very interesting boats. This time he brought his Dumas kit of the American Beauty, which is well and good on its own, but he is fitting it with FPV, first person view.



The camera (right photo on the right) fits in the wheel house and Cris has had it working, and while it needs some further development it is functional. Cris also shared something interesting about his electric connection you can see on the right side of the top of the wheel house. There are two magnets, one in each corner. Power was to flow to each magnet and then the top is held on by the magnets as well as providing power to the underside of the top (within the wheel house). Cris discovered as soon as you heat the magnet to solder on a wire it loses magnetism. Solution, let the magnet be a magnet and solder the wire to a washer and let that be attracted to the underside of the magnet which allows the power to flow through. Then a washer in the underside of the top provides for continuation of the electricity as well as holding the top on. Slick!

The meeting concluded with the usual gathering around the items on the table from show and tell, and since Rob is restricted to lifting under 10 pounds for some time in the future, several members moved on to the storage cage where they got all the items needed for the Gull Lake show and loaded them into Rob's truck for delivery to the event. Team work at its best!



For Sale  
From Doug Johnson:



Billing Boats, U.S. Coast Guard 100 static kit. Opened box with all parts present. \$30.  
Contact Doug at:

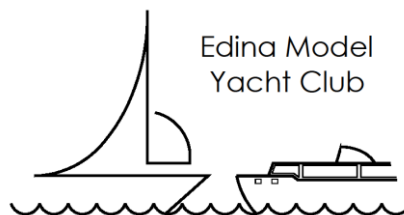
### Reminders

- Got things for sale? Boats, tools, other? Send me a photo and description plus price and contact information and I will include it in a newsletter.

### Coming Up

- Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Gull Lake Classic Boat Show, Bar Harbor, Niswaw, Minnesota. Set up at 8:00 am, show starts at 9:00 am.
- Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Light House Night #2 with the Fall into the Arts Festival, afternoon into the evening hours boating.
- Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Lake Minnetonka Classic Boat Show, Lord Fletchers, Spring Park, Minnesota. Set up at 8:00 am, show starts at 9:00 am.
- Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, Membership Meeting at 7:00 pm.

John Bertelsen  
*Commodore*  
*Edina Model Yacht Club*



Vice Commodores: Gary Tschautscher, Rob Segal, Tim Kowalik  
Treasurer and Membership: David Brinkman  
Sailboats: Gary Tschautscher  
Scale Modeling: Kevin Waldo



Website: David Petrich

EMYC, DF 95 and ODOM Forums: Gary Tschautscher

Dry Dock Party, Spring Coffee: Terry Bertelsen, Julia Moen

Face Book: Richard Dahlquist, Todd Moen, Dave Brinkman

Off site events: Rob Segal

Newsletter: John Bertelsen