

EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER

February 2025 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

Here we are at the end of winter already. Sure, tired of it and ready to get summer temps and activities but that will take a bit longer. The February club meeting was like the January meeting - cold, below zero, but now we are having temperatures in the 40's - Indian summer?! No matter what weather throws at us now winter is over and looking forward to a new boating year. Lots of things going on and to report as winter tapers to a close.

Membership Meeting

As in January cold weather had no impact on being at the meeting. We had a great turnout. Not much for news and a lighter version of show and tell, but there was a lot of discussion during and after the meeting about building and problem solving.



The meeting and.....



The meeting after the meeting

Each meeting took just over an hour. Always a lot of different conversations going on after the formal meeting as you can see in the photo on the right.

Wayzata Library Exhibit Case - I can't really explain why it has been fun and satisfying to put this display together. This is our second year and both years we just showed up with some boats and the display was spontaneously assembled to perfection. When we are done and the case is full it is like we did some careful planning, which we didn't; it just ends up perfect.



There was an excellent variety of boats on display and how Mark got his boat in on the bottom of the case I don't know. We are not allowed to remove the glass doors or adjust the shelves. He already had it in when the rest of the crew got there. This year's participants were: Paul Wyatt, Mark Wolf, Kevin Waldo, John Bertelsen and Doug Johnson, with Todd and Julia Moen offering the Toon-pontoon also for display. When we were all done we all just stood back and admired what a great display it was!

There were some reflections on our participation in the Minneapolis Boat Show and for a first year, with a lot of things to be learned, we have to conclude it was a success. Next year we will be better prepared, but overall I don't see how we can improve on our presentation, just maybe can improve on the overall operation.

Show and Tell

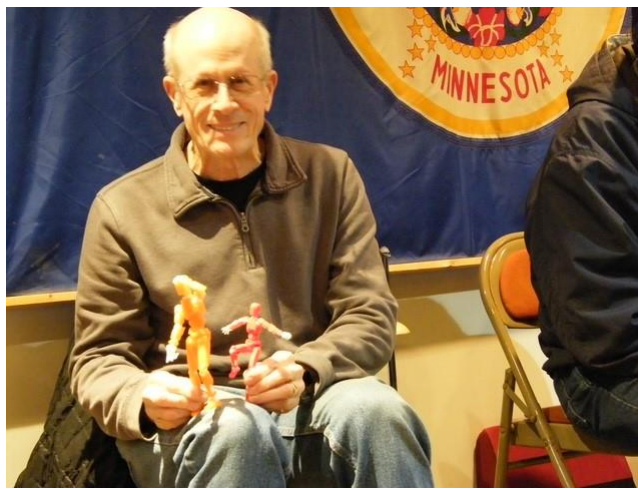
Coming from the boat show experience I shared how I was both surprised and disappointed when running the vac-u-tugs on the pond that my skills for steering right and left when the boats were coming towards me were very rusty. I felt a little better when Kevin Waldo said he experienced the same thing! To show what I do in the winter to keep the directional skills sharp I brought these to the meeting:



At a meeting a few years ago, when drones were cheap and popular, I brought a small drone I used to keep radio skills sharp. John Bishop suggested these small coaxial rotor

helicopter models. Purchased on line for the mid \$20 dollar range (really! Includes everything you need!) they are very well made and take some skill to fly as they are completely without any “Safe” programming, are very sensitive to indoor currents of air and do not work well outdoors at all. If you are running power boats then any rc vehicle will do nicely to keep your directional skills up, but if you are doing sailboats, especially racing on the south pond where the winds are hugely unpredictable and changing all the time, these small ‘copters will really keep your left thumb in great condition for quick reflexes. Syma has many different models and colors available. Highly recommended. (Post meeting report!!! Jeff Kuhs picked up one of the standard helicopters for \$25 less a 5% off coupon, and reports lots of crashes but getting his thumbs to start to coordinate. He promises to let me know if it actually helped when he gets his first (ever) sailboat on the water this spring!)

David Petrich found a 3D printing store in the Eden Prairie Mall Center that does these bot figures to any scale and of course many colors are available. You can tailor the size to fit specific scale boats that you have. 1-Stop 3D Print Shop says they have ready made printed items, will do custom 3D printing, has classes, and sells printers and filament. They are located on the second floor next to the food court.



Next, Kevin Waldo brought his new kit that he recently acquired in trade with Jeff Dunbar:



Kevin was even so bold as to say when the kit was going to be completed - bad karma Kevin! I won't repeat the prediction here as that is really tempting fate. About 22.5 inches in length, this will be a very nice size on the water.

Final presenter was Gary Tschautscher. Gary is working on a 1/5th scale P 51 Mustang and he brought a specific scale feature of the model that I didn't even know existed on the real airplanes. That feature is three lights on the underside of the wing that were lighted in different combinations to signify that they were part of the Allied Airforce.



These lights are part 3D printed (right in container) with LED lighting and electronics. Per Gary the cost of the components is minimal, just the time to figure it all out, print and assemble. Attaching to the model itself are scale-sized screws of 1 mm diameter purchased from a specialty supplier in China. If you have a different application it looks like Gary has some extra parts and I know he would help with the electronics. It is all about the details sometimes, isn't it?

What Else Is Going On?

The most famous boat in the club has undergone a complete refurbishment by David Petrich. Dave has done work for several people in the club on their boats that have been featured in the newsletter, and the Minion Boat, as we know, has had a rough life being piloted authentically by Todd Moen as if the Minions were actually in control. That coupled with being on the water for years all season long the boat has lead a hard life. David took on the project knowing the wood hull has had some deterioration. Here is his summary of the major part of the work that was done:

The Minion Tug Boat fiberglass only came up to the waterline. A bit of damage had occurred above the waterline from boat collisions. Todd wanted the fiberglass

to come up the sides to the bumper. Also take a look at the motor mounts as it seems to get loose and the belt slips sometimes.

- 1. The boat was inspected and I found the motor mount was broken. A wood section had cracked. That part was epoxied together, however there was more. The two screws (holding the motor mount to the base) had compressed into the wood mount making the mount weak and floppy. I added a 1/4 inch wood spacer to replace the washers. I made a larger aluminum 'washer' to spread out the contact force for less compression into the wood. The motor electric connectors showed signs of overheating and were improved and new heat-shrinking was added.*
- 2. After removing the hull paint and cracked fiberglass wood rot was discovered. This looks like it is from water through the cracked fiberglass or lead acid battery leakage as the damage is under the battery holder. The area is too soft and weak to salvage.*



- 3. The rotted section was removed. Wood hardener was used to stabilize minor rot areas. I replaced the sections with 1/8 x 3/4 inch spruce planks to match the hull.*



- 4. The sides (red area) have three layers of 2 oz. fiberglass. The keel was scuffed so five layers cover the keel. Two Layers cover the bottom.*

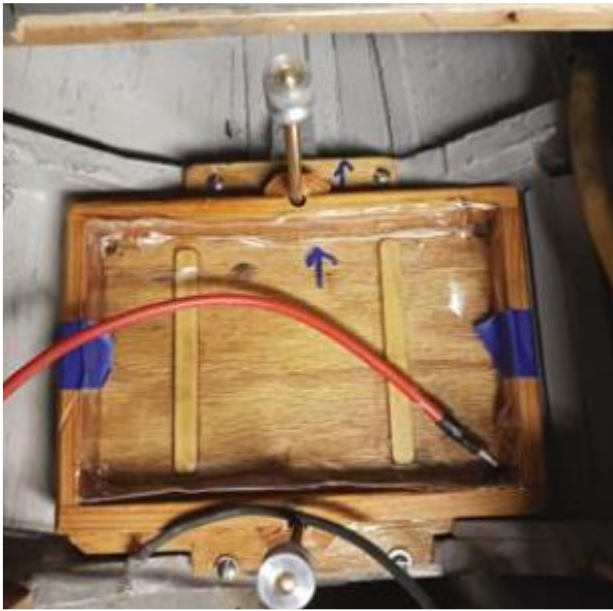


5. Two coats of gray paint were applied.
6. Two coats of red paint were added.



7. Assembled the battery holder, bumpers, motor (loosely) with bolts and t-nuts, propeller and rudder.





Todd reports that the boat looks brand new! Another challenge met, diagnosed and repaired - very well done David!!

Meanwhile, Todd's other well-known boat, the Gravy Boat, has been back at the Paul Olsen shop for minor repairs, and Paul has been training in a new assistant:

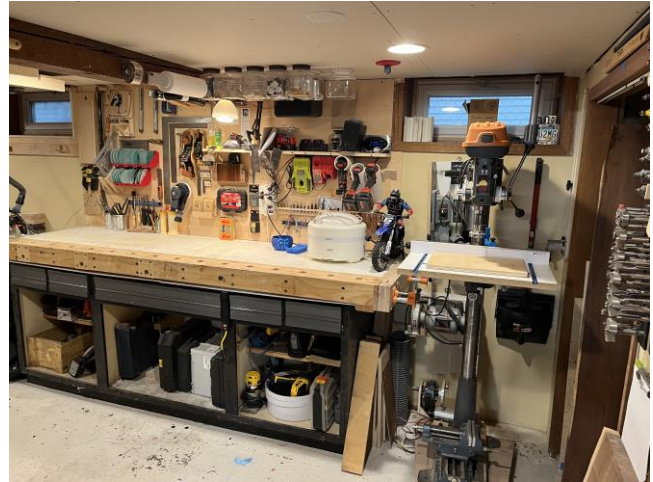


Sometimes a guy just has to hand down some of the skills he has to a younger generation.

Speaking of in the Shop

It has been a while since we have looked into a members shop at home to see where the work is being done. Last summer I was invited to see Tim Kowalik's shop at his home. Tim was smart, when he married Char she already owned a home. Now that there were two people living in the house a modest addition was added onto the rear of the existing home expanding the footprint, but not the basement space. As Tim said

that it was just too much extra cost at the time, but now he wishes he had done it. That is a familiar thought in retrospect when it comes to home or many other projects. Budget considerations have to take precedence at the time and in retrospect you wished you had done it differently, usually meaning you wish you had spent the money, but retrospect cannot take the place of hard planning at the time. Tim and Char's home is filled with creations by Tim, who has many talents beyond his machining skills, including building furniture.

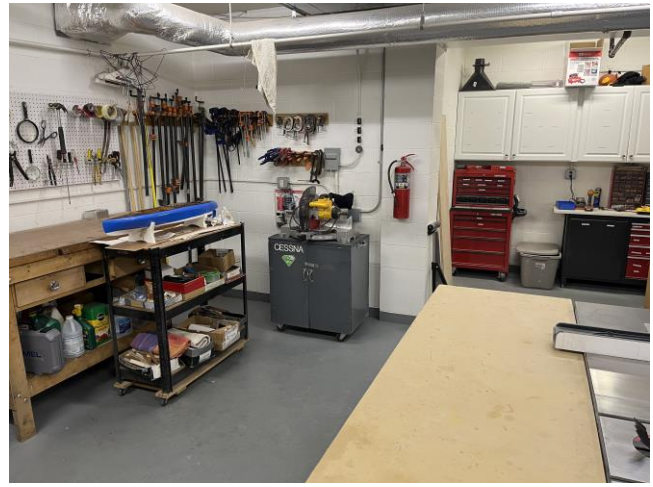
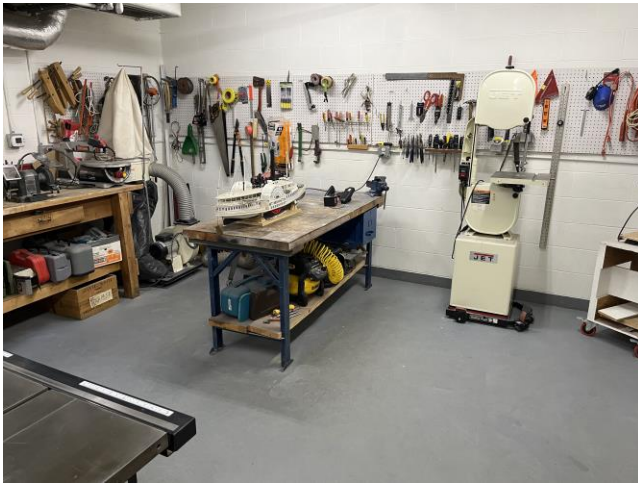


Notice the window to the left in the right picture. Very cleverly Tim has it rigged with four computer box fans so that the window can be opened and the fans swing down into place to provide ventilation when he is painting. Tim says it works great!

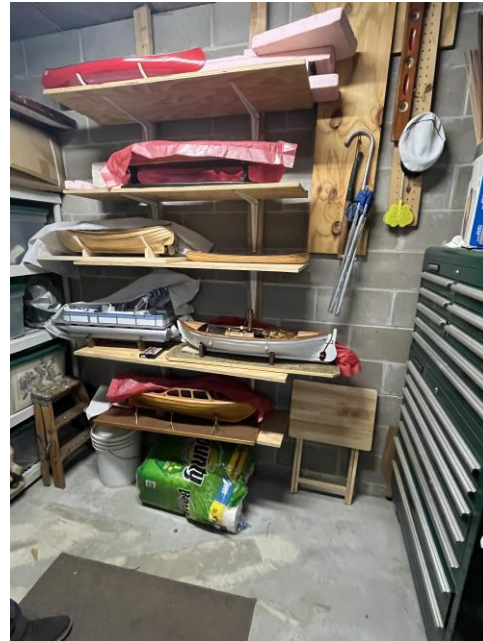


A very complete shop indeed! Photo on the right is a collection of tops that Tim has made over the years and they are custom displayed in layers inside a clear cake enclosure to keep off the dust. Their home is a very impressive display of Tim's talent.

I also dropped off the Mt. Washington boat that was donated to the club a bit ago, at Dick Walker's senior building. Dick is going to complete the running gear and get the model all fixed up cosmetically. Like all senior residence that we have visited there is always a wood shop area located as part of the underground parking. Since Dick and Carolyn were some of the first residents in the complex, he also secured a storage space just 5 cars down from the shop, right in front of his parking space!



A very impressive shop, well lit, epoxy floor, plenty of tools, good ventilation. Our experience in looking at senior facilities is that the shop is either extremely well used and packed with people (7500 York Coop right next to Centennial Lakes Park) or not used at all (everywhere else). At his shop Dick says that he is the only user. He keeps it immaculate and is planning on refinishing the floor yet this winter.



That is Dick walking into his storage space in the left photo, and a better view of his storage room on the right. That room was very impressive and obviously put to good use!

Not a shop area, but Jerry Jones lives in an apartment complex just a few blocks from Centennial Lakes. This is a huge complex of buildings, hallways, and parking lots, an older development with mature trees and landscaping. Jerry's unit was one of the nicest I have seen. Jerry was a commercial artist so while you can say he has a bachelor pad it is also one of the classiest homes I have been in. Also a former employee at Hub Hobby, in addition to his fleet of rc boats are other static models of boats and airplanes amongst the original works of art and artifacts on the walls.



That is probably the nicest Fairwind hull (on the right) that I have ever seen.



Jerry's own art work is on display, he is a most talented artist. Jerry has also lived in many locations around the country and is an accomplished sailor of real sailboats, which are his passion.

For Sale or Parts Wanted

Kevin Kavaney sold a Fairwind that needs the jib sail and the vang. Let Kevin or me know if you can help out.

We are preparing for an anticipated move to senior housing and I am needing to part with some boats. I have two for sale at this time, both are in excellent condition.



The first is one of the first boats I purchased. The Fairwind was “The” boat in the early years of the club back in the 1990s. It is simply a beautiful classic boat with classic styling. Just installed mylar sails by Tony Johnson, I love this boat. Spectrum receiver included if that helps you out. I would like \$150 for the boat and stand.



The second is my DF 95. Hot pink stickers on the hull with black accent stripe, turquoise lines - sharp. One of my wife's, Terry, favorite boats in our fleet. Original 'A' sails. Spectrum receiver if that fits with your radio. Boat and stand only \$290 (\$435 new), if you need a Flysky radio and receiver add \$50. I also have never-opened 'B' sails and rigging (rigging sold out) for the original purchase price of \$125.

Tim Kowalik is selling one of his one-off 3D printed battleships.



The boat is a replica of the HMS Daring. Everything is included: electronics, radio, 1 set of batteries, and the transportation cart. Dimensions: 48" long x 8.25" wide x 20.2" high. Other specifications:

- Entirely 3d printed
- 263 hours in the build, 157 printed parts, 111 non-printed parts
- 12 channel radio link transmitter and receiver with battery voltage monitor
- Single 775 brushed motor
- 4 blade brass prop
- Water pump for front cannon which also turns
- 2 Motorized radar panels
- Multitude of led lights controlled via remote switches
- Removable electronic trays for easy service

Price is \$1200. If interested I will put you in touch with Tim.



This is one of the two boats that for years graced the entry of the Pavilion. The Park relinquished both boats to the club to get them back on the water. Rob Segal updated the one boat and this is the “other” boat. John Bishop recalls: “The other sailboat (that is the one at the left) that the city had was from a Robbe kit. Both were built and painted by a professional model builder, the same model builder that had built a detailed layout of the Centennial Lakes development.” This boat is a motor-sailor, and would be only the second of its type in the club. A historic model in the annals of the Edina Model Yacht Club, it is in good condition and needs the running gear reinstated and painting updated. The boat can be purchased or updated and put up for sale by the club for a donation.

Here is a really nice boat donated to the club by Ron Laabs:



That is Ron making the delivery in my garage. Ron built this boat, and quite a few more, a number of years ago and was looking for a good home for one of his final boats. As he described several of the boats he has built over the years it was a very impressive list. He said he was done with building and running model boats, at least until he got the nickel tour of the Bertelsen fleet. As he was leaving the garage to return home he said "I don't know, I think I am getting the bug again!" So maybe we will see Ron in the future. The boat is in my garage as it is much, much too nice to be stored in the cage. It is in working order, really needs nothing unless you want to update the electrics. For sale as a donation to the club, contact me if you would like to see it in person.

Reminders

- You can pay your 2025 dues by check in the mail, cash in person, or PayPal. Please remember when using PayPal you need to use the "friends and family" option otherwise a handling charge is deducted from your dues payment. The amount for the calendar year remains at \$40 for a family membership.
- Let me know if you would like to attend a seminar on the introduction to sailboats and sailboat racing and/or overview of wood model kit building. Let me know if there is some aspect of building or sailboats you are particularly interested in and we will include it in the seminar.
- 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.
- Calendar of events for 2025 is attached.

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 Breakfast: Terry Bertelsen, Julia Moen
Face Book: Richard Dahlquist, Todd Moen, Dave Brinkman
Off site events: Rob Segal
Newsletter: John Bertelsen