

EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER

February 2026 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

At the Park this winter

Ice skating is the main activity at the park and is extremely popular. The period of winter break for schools provides substantial income for the park which helps to offset the effort to groom about 10 acres of ice every day. Ice thickness is checked almost daily, especially at the beginning of the season to monitor what equipment is safe to operate on the ice. It takes 6 inches to operate the smallest tractor and the electric golf carts to get the season of preparing the ice for skating started, then the medium sized equipment can operate at 8 inches, and finally the larger tractor with the “Zamboni” unit gets on at 10 inches. The Pavilion is transformed for the ice skate rental including a concession area in the foyer and rubber floor overlayment for walking with ice skates throughout. The floor gets completely cleaned every day so that the building looks really classy all season long. Unfortunately, the season is now over with the period of high unseasonable temperatures, but it has been fun being part of the crew that makes all this happen.

A very small sideline of the ice skating maintenance involved these guys:



They hung around all winter long in the small bay at the north end of the south pond, just south of the 76th Street bridge. Possibly some of the park patrons were feeding them as you might find remnants of cracked corn in the area. When the park staff would drill a hole in the ice to check thickness some pond water would come to the surface and the

boys would run over to get a drink! They seemed to have come through the winter just fine and are still in the same area. A lot of the park users were worried that they would not make it through the winter but so far so good.

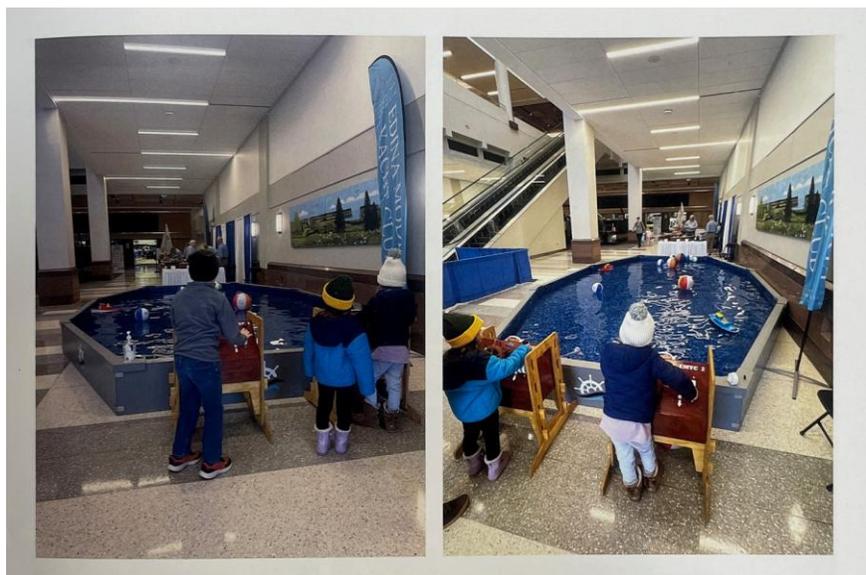
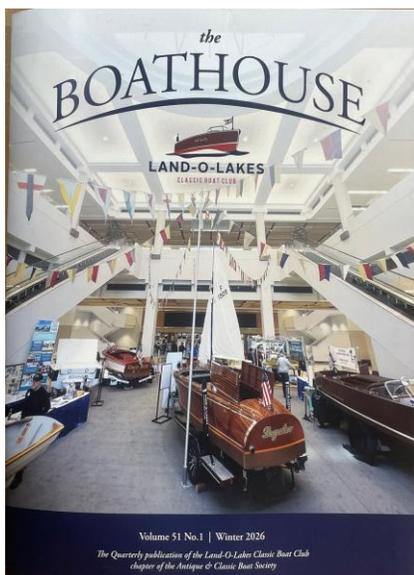
When not working on the ice I have a lot of interaction with the park users who are just an extraordinary group of people. Every day (and I mean every day) 2-5 people will thank me for keeping the park looking so nice and that it is one of the few places that they can walk all winter long almost completely free of icy sidewalks. Of course, that complement is not due to me as I am essentially the rookie who got drafted to an all-star team, but it is nice to know that your work is so appreciated. And then there are all the dogs. The park is beautiful and the dogs make it fun. In particular Theo, Rocky, Louie, Soda Pop and Joey are amongst the regulars. It is 1.4 miles if you walk around all three ponds, plus each arm of the promenade are another .35 miles in length. Many people do several laps around the ponds all winter long. You can enjoy the park all winter and remember summer on the water at the same time!

Paying dues or other amounts with PayPal

Members have had the option of payment using your PayPal account for a couple of years now. For your first payment to the EMYC (it comes up as an option of where to send money after the first time) you need to use the email address in the membership application form of: . This is not a link for payment, it is the address of where to send the money. When paying use the “friends and family” option so that the club does not get charged for the transaction (otherwise a small amount is deducted from the amount you send). If you send the money from your linked bank account, PayPal funds or PayPal cash, there is no charge to you. If you send using a debit or credit card or using PayPal credit your account will be charged a 2.9% fee. You can still pay with cash or check too.

At the Meeting

We got a nice writeup in “The Boathouse,” the publication by the Land O Lakes Classic Boat Club for our participation in the Minneapolis Boat Show.





You can expand the article to the left to read their write up. In the article they indicated they were proud partners with the EMYC and our display at the show. We also got a very complimentary note from Al Lundquist in the Classic Boat Club about our participation. The Classic Boat Club has been very good to the EMYC and attending their shows at four locations around the state, in addition to the Boat Show at the Auditorium, has added a great dimension to the club for activities members can participate in and provides another dimension of exposure for our hobby.

Next on the agenda was a presentation of the proposed changes to the club's Bylaws. John Bertelsen explained the Bylaws were developed by a retired City of Edina City Attorney and on the initial reading seem very legalistic and more written for a real "corporation" than our club. But to comply with state and federal requirements for non-profits we are, in fact, a corporation, and when you start looking at the legal requirements for these types of corporations on the Secretary of State and the IRS websites you begin to understand the language in the original document. The goal of the changes to the original Bylaws are to clarify some of the positions/duties/responsibilities within the club and to conform the operation of the club to the way it has been operating for quite a few years now. It is not that extensive a document, nor is it very difficult to read through so if you have an interest in the workings of the club, and especially if you plan on voting at the March meeting on accepting the amended version, drop me an email and I will send the document to you for your review. Remember, to vote on the revised document you must attend the March meeting and your dues for 2026 must be paid at the latest at the meeting.

Following the review of the changes to the Bylaws we had a unanimous vote by the members at the meeting to elect the incumbent Commodore: John Bertelsen, and Directors: Gary Tschautscher, Tim Kowalik and Rob Segal. This vote is out of the proposed sequence we will be following per the amended Bylaws but prior to adopting the changes it gets the club back on track with proper procedures that we need to start following.

Show and Tell

+ Tim Crane brought back what he called the worst kit ever at the January meeting. The impetus for this build was that he had an outboard motor and the motor needed a boat. Here is the boat as it was at the January meeting:



The problems of dealing with a kit made of balsa wood have continued but Tim is now into the mechanics of fitting control lines for the motor. Discussion centered on Tim's use of fire wire run through plastic tubing. It was suggested that the line be run through metal tubing instead as fire wire (fishing line) is actually capable of cutting into the ceramic guide rings on a fishing pole. Then came the surprise when Steve Meyer came up to the table with a computer printed outboard motor gas can that Tim had requested, but was not expecting:



This computer printing is really making a lot of things possible for modeling.

+ David Petrich next brought a boat that was so different from all the different boats he has worked on for himself and for others in the club. Originally purchased from an estate sale it has a lot of parts, body and mechanical, missing. Stored in a garage it was quite dried out and parts were separating. New parts were fabricated where needed, old parts were restored when possible, the motor from his Chris Craft Cobra was decommissioned from that boat (Dave said it was too big for it after all) and transplanted into the refurbished hull - which has now been fiber glassed, LED lighting for running and cabin lighting have also been added. The most striking feature is the mottled paint finish that you will not be seeing on any other boat making this an especially unique and fun boat:



Chris Haert brought his river tug in progress. In and of itself the boat is looking excellent! Chris has been prolific with his model builds he has brought to meetings, and this one illustrates what seems to be becoming infectious within the club that the whimsical is becoming more and more part of the scope of builds. But first, the tug build:

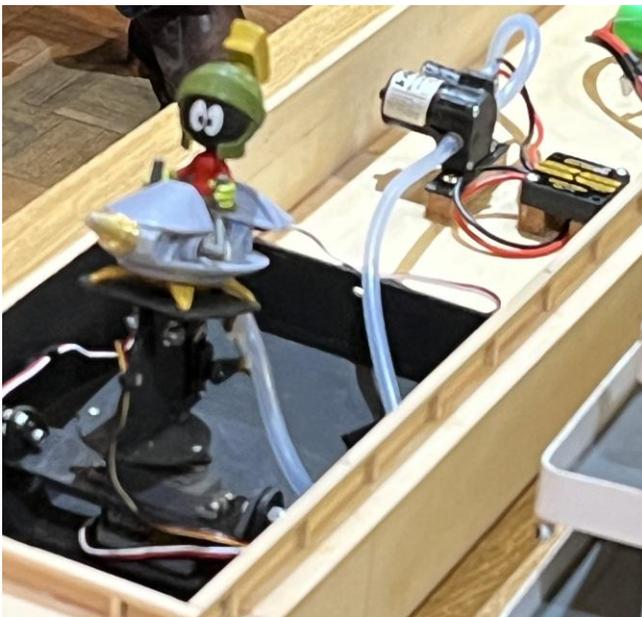


Chris explains that this model is nearing completion, but since it is a tug boat it needed something to push around. A barge is the natural accessory, but Chris stated that with a lot of boats on the water, especially at our bigger events on the water, he felt this boat

needed a way to defend itself. Completed to a point of display literally just before the meeting is the barge:

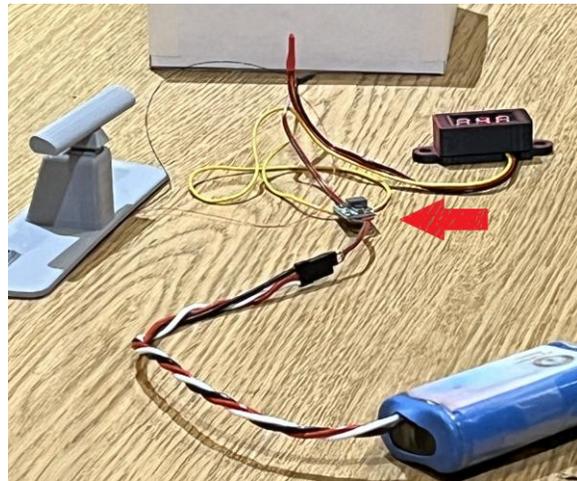


Barely perceptible above, and only if you know what is coming, is the defense device:



Still in development stage, the water cannon will deploy in the fully upright position and have about 270 degrees of rotation to cover threats from almost any direction. The moveable hatch cover is yet to be developed but will keep this a stealthy/hidden threat until needed!

Gary Tschautscher brought in a spinoff of his RC airplane building with regard to the development of LED lighting and controls.



The very small device at the red arrow on the right adjusts the voltage output from any battery, regardless of the charge, to a set voltage. The gray device to the left of the voltage adjuster contained an LED that was 1 mm x 0.5 mm and Gary was able to adjust the light output from intense bright and white to a very soft yellowish glow. Gary explained that he likes the lighting on his airplanes to be noticeable and soft and not glaring, which is not realistic. This applies directly to our boat applications. John Bishop had a very interesting comment in this regard. He is just finishing lighting on a boat with Jeff McCabe and they found that they needed different voltage to the red and green navigation lights to achieve even lighting from them both. Gary's device would do just that in minimal space. Gary indicates you can purchase them on ebay for less than \$1.00 each.

Final presentation was by Jeff Marzolf who was visiting the club meeting looking for some help.





Jeff saw the club at the Minneapolis Boat Show and was hoping we had someone that could help him with a very important model of historic importance in his family. Jeff is hoping someone would take on getting his sailboats into display condition so he can gift them to his brother. The second boat is essentially a smaller version of the above hull and is seen in the plastic bag under "2#". The boats are Class E boats. As shown in the photos they have beautiful patina and probably need no refinishing, maybe some touchup, but really they are in very good condition and most parts are there including masts, booms rudders. He has prints of the original plan for the boats from Johnson Boat Works in White Bear

Lake to add to the authenticity. If you are willing to take this on for Jeff drop me a note and I will get you in touch. This is a very worthy project and the boats are very interesting and of historical interest for Minnesota.

More History

Still going through things this winter and came across some photos from somewhere about 10 years ago.

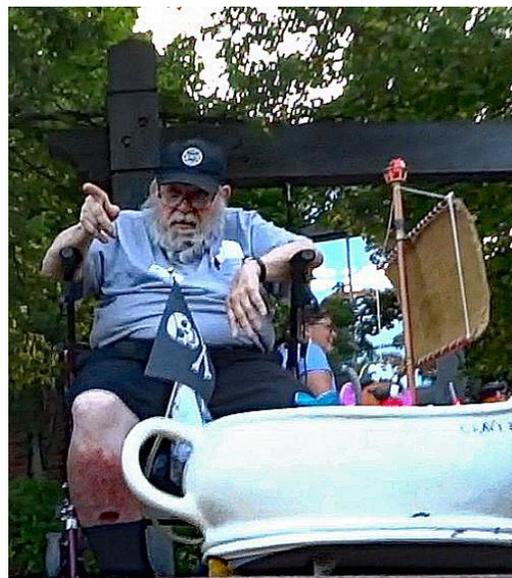


That is former Commodore Joe Steele in the top photo, my mentor into the club, and myself launching the Mighty Mary after I purchased her from Joe (I believe that was the event), with Bill Uhl on the right of Joe. Not sure who took the pictures but definitely a blast from the not-to-distant past. Also, some other big boats on the pond: an EC 12 and Joe's 10 Rater flank the Mary.

In Memorium

This from Todd Moen and his facebook posting:

Recently found out about the passing of Cy Svobodny earlier this year. Cy has been a member of the club in past years and he always participated in just seeing the boats at our major events. He was a friend of Kevin Waldo for around 25 years.



Kevin and Cy go way back to when Kevin was doing model railroading. In recent years Cy was a greeter at the reception table at the Parade of Boats as well as supporting other events as Todd mentions. Todd believes that Cy was in his 80's and from his recent years at club events he had been dealing with several health issues.

Coming Up

- Membership meeting, Tuesday, March 17th at 7 PM.

John Bertelsen
Commodore
Edina Model Yacht Club



Directors: Gary Tschautscher, Rob Segal, Tim Kowalik
Treasurer and Membership: David Brinkman
Secretary: John Bertelsen
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, Matt Wyatt

Off site events: Rob Segal

Newsletter: John Bertelsen