



# SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

February 1996

Volume 5, Number 2

**Commodore's Corner:** Greetings from the frigid North! As I sit inside with temps setting record lows outside, I want to remind everyone that the ice will soon be gone and we will be enjoying the waters at Centennial Lakes again.

This month, we'll be talking about foam hulls. How one is made, step by step, and some helpful hints. I have been working on a new project with this process and will relate this info. It's been easier than expected.

I was reading some old English boat modeler magazines and came across an item of interest. It is a mechanical mixer. A simple electrical circuit for twin screw boats that when activated, reverses one motor for a sharper turn. I will have mine at the meeting to show and have a hand out for anyone interested. Easy to build.

February's show & tell special guest is the largest model ever to visit Edina. This project has been under construction for several years and is almost finished. The builder, George Pfeifer has chosen the 1942/43 era for his 1/8" scale (almost 10') battleship Missouri. This is a must see project. George says, "only if the weather is good", so start praying.

Show & tell is always open for new projects and in-progress projects, so bring them along. See you in February. In the garage. *Jeff McCabe*

**Thanks, guys!** Twenty eight members have already responded to the notice of the change in club year as mentioned in the January newsletter...and have sent in their ten dollar membership supplement. Thank you!

**Where's The Meeting?:** No change! Our Winter meeting location remains the Band Room in the Centennial Lakes Garage. The entrance is 300 feet north of the Centrum Building on the lake side.

**What's The Meeting?:** Hulls. Specifically, one off fiberglass hulls formed over polystyrene foam plugs, which are then melted away with solvent. Relatively quick and practical, if a bit smelly!

**Bring 'n Brag:** Please bring your winter building project to the February meeting for perusal.

**Play Time:** The 5th annual, "Toy & Model Boats Show • Swap Meet" will take place at the Eisenhower Community Center in Hopkins on April 20th from 9:00 AM until 3:30 PM.

**Buyer Beware!:** The inclusion of "Cleanline Hulls" of Calgary, Alberta, in the listing of suppliers at last

month's meeting was greeted with boos. Apparently, they cash checks...but do not deliver the goods!

**Builder's Corner:** In a note enclosed with his membership extension, Ken Stoltenberg admonished me for neglecting mention of his favorites when it comes to gluing plastics. Ken states: "You didn't mention MEK (methyl ethyl ketone) or Ethylene Dichloride which weld plastics nicely when applied in small quantity with a fine needle & syringe. The latter now comes with more warnings than you can print in a news paper but then most everything is dangerous if you don't use a little common sense."

**Information, Please!** While 'surfing the net' I came across the homepage of The Floating Drydock at [<http://www.usbusiness.com/drydock>]. If you have any interest in Naval ships or operations, this is an intriguing spot. As a result of the web page, I felt compelled to purchase their catalog ...60 plus pages listing 450 books, models, plans, props, paint chips, etc. (they have drawings of WW II catapults, Ken). Send \$4.50 to: The Floating Drydock, c/o General Delivery, Kresgeville, PA 18333

**Ready Cash?:** Give me a call with a list any surplus hobby gear, and your desired price. I'll be happy to print it all. No charge for members!

**Hopeful Transition:** Sterling Models has been purchased by Estes, the model rocket company. Sterling has had several interesting boats in their inventory over the years. Perhaps the new owners will clean up the old dies, add some good wood and give us modelers another boat kit or two to choose from.

**Dull, tedious and boring!:** Frankly folks, I've run out of ideas. According to the recent survey, the newsletter rates pretty well. But that may not hold true in the future unless you help me out. Please submit hints, tips, articles or anything of potential interest to your fellow boat modelers. Thanks to John and Ken for their input this month.

**Frequencies:** The channels in use chart is enclosed as requested by several members. Unfortunately, most folks have not upgraded their numbers lately, but it's the latest information that I have at hand. If you will include your current radio information with your membership extension, I'll get the list updated.

**March Newsletter Deadline:** March 5th.

(An up to date membership list is due, so send in your renewal)

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**Membership Meeting, 1/16/96:** Commodore McCabe called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Five Board members plus 19 additional members and guests were present. Commodore noted the schedule of events for 1996 published in the January newsletter and asked for any input from members present. Dick Kjellberg suggested more sailing regattas. Dan Proulx discussed membership poster. Poster will have a photo of different boats. Posters will be up in the hobby stores in about 2 weeks from the meeting date. There will be a place for info cards on each poster with a few member names to contact. Dan will also put together membership packets for new members. Jim Smith

brought up the Toy Boat show. EMYC has not been contacted yet about the show. Jeff McCabe suggested members contact him on what kind of boat they have so they can be informed to when an event pertains to their type of boat. Publishing frequencies in the newsletter was brought up. Jim Smith noted that it may not be worthwhile to publish frequencies. Jeff noted that meeting in February will be a military theme. Business part of meeting adjourned, 7:25 PM. Doug Campbell led a discussion on glues. Jim Smith and Gary Phillips handed out information on supply sources. *Doug Campbell*

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## The Power of Communication

*by John Bishop*

In today's world, there is so much to choose from. From paper towels to fine furniture, there are plenty of manufacturers out there, each eager to make money by selling you something. Competition forces each company to focus on its own strategy, whether it be the quality, value, or cost of a product.

In purchasing products over the past several years, I have found that with increasing competition, companies will do almost anything to make their consumers happy. Did you ever notice all of the toll free numbers on products labels? There's a reason for that. Competition is stiff and many companies find that they can't afford to lose customers. After all, that's what has made them big and successful in the first place. They love to field your comments and watch what happens when you do respond. First, before we start, it's important to keep in mind that when you want serious results, it is almost always better to contact the manufacturer directly. This seems to be more effective than contacting the dealer, supplier, or store representing the product. And second, you'll always get fatter if you treat people courteously and with consideration. Leave other options as a last resort.

Recently, I decided to test this philosophy by "cleaning up shop" and making contact with several companies that I either wanted to commend or criticize. My first contact was with a hobby manufacturer that produced an electronic speed controller. I had originally ordered it from Jomar and ever since the beginning it had an unusual intermittent cycle of operation. Sometimes it worked, other times it did not. Joe Utasi from Jomar sold out his hobby interests to another company, Electronic Model Systems (EMS), which continued the rights in manufacturing the speed controller. I spoke with David Bros who gave me the new company's address and phone (there really are great benefits to this club). After contacting the company, I spent \$3.50 to send the unit away. After having the unit 1 1/2 years I didn't quite know what to expect but I was pleasantly surprised when, boom, a brand new unit arrived, no questions asked. Value-\$75.00. Wow, this is great.

Item number two. I had a pair of Timberland shoes which I originally purchased from Dayton's. After one year, the stitching was coming loose on the side of the shoe in several places. I thought this was unusual for an expensive pair of hiking shoes so I returned to Dayton's to see what could be done. They were willing to restitch the areas at no cost, but that was all. I returned home, boxed the shoes, and sent them back to Timberland and boom, two weeks later, a brand new pair of shoes arrived. Value-\$155.

Item number three- a General Electric Convection microwave oven door panel. I called GE to let them know that a two-year-old handle/door assembly didn't appear to be manufactured to its usual high standards. The paint was chipped in one small area and the vinyl covered handle scuffed easily. The customer service representative took the necessary information and boom, three days later UPS arrives with a \$200 part free of charge. Even the call to the 800 number was free.

Item number four involved a 32 oz container of Era laundry detergent. I called Proctor and Gamble's 800 number listed on the rear label and told them I liked their product and that I had been using it for several years. They all like the stories of brand loyalty. This time I received a coupon for a free (value-\$7) 64oz container of ERA. Not bad for just picking up the phone. Oops, I almost forgot. Boom!

The last item concerns a Telex Communications headset used for aviation. A Pilot magazine I subscribe to had a readership survey to evaluate headsets used in the aviation industry. I responded along with 400 others, and in December the magazine printed the results and quoted me on comments I had made about my Telex headset. I figured the comments were free advertising for the company and they might be interested in the article. I sent a copy off to Telex (headquarters in Bloomington, MN) and I'm anxious to see if I get a response. I'll keep you posted.

In summary, I'd like you to know that I don't just pursue companies in my free time. But I have found that if you do contact manufacturers and express your concerns, you'll almost always be amazed at the outcome. With all of the various products we order in the hobby-related industry this may come in handy from time to time.

**EMYC Frequencies in use by members:** Number in ( ) indicates number of boats operated.

NOTE: The 53 Mhz. Ham band is not shown since no members currently operate on that band.

Feb.7,1996

**27 Mhz. Band** (identified by a single colored flag)

26.995 <b>Brown</b>	Flint(1)	27.145 <b>Yellow</b>	VanVoorhis(1),City(1)
27.045 <b>Red</b>	Jester(1)	27.195 <b>Green</b>	Phillips(1),Pfeifer(1)
27.095 <b>Orange</b>	Ulmer(1)	27.255 <b>Blue</b>	Horan(1),Frank(1)

**75 Mhz. Band** (identified by Channel number)

75.41 Channel <b>61</b>	Lund(1),Miller(1)	75.71 Channel <b>76</b>	Peter(3),Wheeler(1),McCabe(1),Prolux(1),Pfeifer(1)
75.43 Channel <b>62</b>	McCabe(1),Bros(1),Campbell(1),Horan(1),Midtbo(1),Meyers(1),Cooke(1),Foster(1),Sigvertson,J(1),Olsen(1),Metz(1),Post(1)	75.73 Channel <b>77</b>	Phillips(1),Johnson,T(1),
75.45 Channel <b>63</b>		75.75 Channel <b>78</b>	Smith(1),Anderson,R(1),Bottemiller,C(1),Bros(1),Burmeister(1),Hjelmstad(1),Pfeifer(1),Brentrup(1)
75.47 Channel <b>64</b>	Remer(2), Edge(2),Cooke(1),Trutwin(1),Lund(1),City(1),Olsen(1),	75.77 Channel <b>79</b>	
75.49 Channel <b>65</b>	Phillips(1), Lund(1),	75.79 Channel <b>80</b>	Bros(1),Campbell(1), Metz(1),Lund(1)
75.51 Channel <b>66</b>	Kjellberg(1),Bottemiller,K(1),Klausler(1),Ulmer(1),Phillips(1),Young(1),Olsen(1),Pfeifer(1),Jacobsen(1)	75.81 Channel <b>81</b>	Kirihara(1),O' Connor(1),
75.53 Channel <b>67</b>	Wheeler(1),Flannigan(1),	75.83 Channel <b>82</b>	Kirihara(1),Johnson,R(1),Kartes(1),Flannigan(1),Stafford(1)
75.55 Channel <b>68</b>	Anderson,R(1),Campbell(1),Johnson,T(1),Proulx(1),Stoltenberg(2)	75.85 Channel <b>83</b>	Anderson,G(2),Bottemiller,C(2),Field(1)
75.57 Channel <b>69</b>	Simenson(1),Kirihara(1),	75.87 Channel <b>84</b>	Phillips(2),Anderson,G(1),Pfeifer(1),Stoltenberg(1)
75.59 Channel <b>70</b>	Johnston(1),Stevenson(1),Ballantyne(1),Gowdy(1),Jester(1),Post(1),Edge(1)	75.89 Channel <b>85</b>	McCabe(4),Kingstedt(1)
75.61 Channel <b>71</b>	Lund(1),	75.91 Channel <b>86</b>	McCabe(1),Bottemiller,K(1),Bros(1),Kingstedt(1),Brentrup(1)
75.63 Channel <b>72</b>	Smith(5),Campbell(1),Lund(1),Brentrup(2)	75.93 Channel <b>87</b>	Wood(1),Hjelmstad(1),Jester(1)
75.65 Channel <b>73</b>	Rusk(1),Sigvertsen,J(1),Sigvertson,D(1)	75.95 Channel <b>88</b>	Bishop(3),Phillips(1),Crouch(1),Jester(1),Brentrup(1)
75.67 Channel <b>74</b>	Proctor(3), Harvey(1), Solberg(1), Edge(1),Lysne(1),Olsen(1),Brentrup(1)	75.97 Channel <b>89</b>	Johnston(1),
75.69 Channel <b>75</b>	Kjellberg(1)	75.99 Channel <b>90</b>	Sigvertson(2),Anderson,R(1),Trutwin(1),Wood(1),Olsen(1),Proulx(1)

**50 Mhz. Band** (identified by Channel number) For use by licensed amateur (HAM) operators only.

50.80 Channel <b>00</b>	Kjellberg(1)	50.90 Channel <b>05</b>	
50.82 Channel <b>01</b>		50.92 Channel <b>06</b>	
50.84 Channel <b>02</b>		50.94 Channel <b>07</b>	
50.86 Channel <b>03</b>		50.96 Channel <b>08</b>	
50.88 Channel <b>04</b>		50.98 Channel <b>09</b>	

# February Meeting Notice:

(Third Tuesday of the Month)  
**Tuesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 P.M.**

Centennial Lakes Garage  
(Band Room)

Commodore:	Jeff McCabe
Vice Commodore	Dave Bros
Vice Commodore	Doug Campbell
Vice Commodore	Mikio Kirihara
Vice Commodore	Dan Proulx
Treasurer	Gary Phillips
Newsletter Editor	Jim Smith

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