

## SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

November 1998

Volume 7, Number 11

Commodore's Corner: Following the October meeting there was a discussion among several members about the club doing a promotional event at the "World of Toy and Model Boats Show" being held at the Hopkins House Motel on Nov 21st. 5-6 members volunteered to man a display during the show. I spoke with Paul Mikkelson and determined that we could still get a table at the event. As a result, I registered the Club for a display table. Dale Johnson and I will set the table up with promotional material about the club and we will be signing up new members. If anyone else in the club wants to participate in the event, just show up at the door and pay the \$3.00 entrance fee, or call Dale or me prior to the show.

As this is my final "Commodores Corner" I want to thank the Board and members for their support during the past year. It was a tough year with the pond being drained about five times during my tenure! Dale; do you want to know where the drain plug is located?

Where's the Meeting: The Band Room in the Centennial Lakes maintenance garage.

What's Up? (at the Meeting): Swap Meet! This has historically been one of our better attended meetings. Bring along your best junk for sale. One man's junk is another's treasure! Of course, just as in the stock market, every sale needs a buyer, so don't forget your check book (Yeah! Cash is good too!)

Who's In, Who's Out? At the October meeting, graciously agreed to Dale Johnson serve as our Commodore for 1999. He will be assisted by a Board of Directors consisting of: Kirk Brust Jeff McCabe Doug Person , and Alex Raupp

Searching!: Dave Bros is looking for back issues of Scale Ship Modeler and/or Ships in Scale to borrow and read during the winter. Does he have some inside information on the severity of the upcoming season? Anyway! Call Dave if you are willing to part with some of your library for a couple of months.

Sailing, Sailing: Jeff McCabe's impromptu sailing gathering which he announced at the October meeting was very well attended on October 25th. Fifteen members gathered at 3:00PM and ran eight sailboats, three tugs and even a fast electric. The weather was perfect (for late October) and all went well until about five o'clock, when the wind died. Standard time had returned at 2AM, so it was getting dark anyway. We all got home in time to see 60 Minutes!

Dry Dock Party: Our annual 'bash' is coming up this coming Saturday. I hope that you have called Jeff McCabe to make your reservations.

Look Spiffy: There may yet be time to improve your appearance for the New Year, and Santa might be able to help out. Leave this newsletter in a conspicuous place and your 'significant other' might take the hint. Team Mates, Inc. has a large selection of apparel which they can embroider with either the club sailboat or signal flag logos. Give them a call.

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MIKE LITTLE SHARON MOLINE

**Building Season:** It's that time of year when we model boaters are confined to the basement of our homes, working on something new for next season. Why not share some of your insights and ideas with your fellow modelers. Give the editor a phone call or send a note detailing those tricks and tips that you use to solve building problems. I'd like to have an expanded Builder's Corner during the next few months, and you can help (Please!). My address and telephone number are both on the cover page.

Membership Meeting, 10/20/98: 31 members and guests in attendance. Commodore called meeting to order at 7:10PM. Commodore reported that the pond liner is finally in place and that the ponds are filling naturally (rainfall). After the 2 inches of rain received during the week of 10/10, we have about 6" at the shoreline. City will pump ponds full if necessary before the big freeze. D.Proulx commented on low turnout for events and the reluctance of members to take charge of those events. He said that the only way to get the membership out seems to be to telephone the whole membership list. That led into the problem of finding a new Commodore for '99. After much discussion, Dale Johnson agreed to undertake the task, while Jeff McCabe and Doug Campbell agreed to serve on the Board to give it some "old blood". McCabe stated that as a result of the excellent weather forecast, he would run a sailing event at 3:00PM on Sunday, Oct.25th to make up for the cancelled Columbus day event. D.Bros mentioned that Don Pearson would be willing to give a talk on ships-in-bottles at a winter meeting. Commodore mentioned that Scale Ship Modeler magazine

has ceased publication and has merged into an RC Scale magazine containing about 95% airplanes. He's cancelled his subscription. Show-n-tell: Doug Campbell showed the new Graupner "Red Rocket" racer and its 480 outboard motor, an old IMP wooden kit (probably from Japan) and a Lindberg "Flash" kit(?) from the 50s. It's difficult to imagine that tiny boat remaining upright for more than a few seconds with its .049 glow powered outboard roaring away. Karl Bottemiller showed his Billing Danish tug/icebreaker - under construction. After planking both halves of the hull, Karl noticed that the 3/4" chipboard base had warped against the bending of all the planks. All those little pieces of planking add up to a lot of accumulated force! Dan Proulx showed a steerable Kort nozzle unit built by Marx of Germany. It will turn over 180 degrees when driven by a standard 60 degree servo. Cost, about \$50. Dale Johnson displayed a twenty page booklet which describes building the Dumas Mahogany boats and promotes the club as well. He'd like to see booklets on other subjects such as sailing, electronics, general Jim Smith construction techniques, etc.

## Schedule Of Upcoming Events

Every Sunday	Open Boating	4:30PM - 9:00PM
Every Tuesday	Open Boating	5:30PM - 9:00PM
Every Thursday	Open Boating	5:30PM - 9:00PM

<b>Nov.</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> (Sat.)	Dry Dock Party	Centennial Lakes Centrum	6:00PM -11:00PM
17 <sup>th</sup> (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Garage	7:00PM - 9:00PM
	(Swap Meet)		0.00
21st (Sat.)	Toy & Model Boats Show	Hopkins House Hotel	8:00AM - 3:30PM
Dec.	No Meeting, No Newsletter		

Jan. 20th (Tue.) Membership meeting Centennial Lakes Garage 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Builder's Corner: This idea from Warren Freeman solved a problem that I've struggled with for a long time. How to mark the water line prior to painting? Usually, I build the boat, fill up the bath tub and then try to place my eye as close as possible to the water, along side the hull and try to see where the water line falls. Warren suggested putting a waterproof flashlight under the water aiming toward the water line. Bingo! The water line is beautifully illuminated. Use a soft pencil to make a mark at the bow and at the stern on the easily seen waterline.

Place the hull on a flat table, right side up or down and shim the hull to level the pencil marks. When all four marks are the same height, carefully draw a pencil line all around the hull. A light line is all that is needed.

Now you ask, how do I hold the pencil? Start with a base of a 1x3x3 piece of wood. Attach a vertical piece of wood about 1x2x12 to the center of the base. (A piece of plastic card glued to the bottom of the base helps the base slide smoothly). Attach a pencil to the vertical at the appropriate height with a "c" clamp or stiff rubber band. Now point the pencil away from the direction that you move the base and lightly drag the pencil along to mark the water line all the way around the hull. If it is only a water line that you want, narrow pin striping tape can be used. If you wish to paint a different color below the water line, mask the hull above the line with 3M plastic tape #471 if your hull is very curvy or with 3M #218 if the hull is easy. Paint away!

(If your plans have a waterline marked on them, measure the distance from the deck or other prominent points, forward and aft, down to the illustrated water line and then proceed with the above mentioned second step...that avoids the "wet" portion of the procedure. Ed.)

More Builder's Corner: Have you ever tried to get the peel-off backing off sheet acrylic that you have purchased at a surplus store only to find that it's old, dried out and impossible to remove? Lacquer thinner works well, but it is messy, smelly and tends to cause the surface to become crazed after a period of time. Instead, place the sheet acrylic in hot, soapy water. After the backing paper becomes wet, scrape it off with a dull putty knife or piece of thin plywood. Some paper and the adhesive will remain behind. Run hot water over the adhesive side of the sheet and the glue will become quite rubbery and easily removed. When it becomes reluctant to peel, run it under the hot water again. I have used this method successfully on Plexiglas over ten years old.

Jim Smith



Plans: Gleason Enterprises of Austin, MN has a list of over three dozen boat plans from modeling magazines dating back to the 50s (Yeah, they do have my Coast Guard Picket boat). Some are full sized prints, others are blown up directly from the magazine articles. I have ordered a couple to see what they are like and hope to have them by the swap meet. I'll bring the plan list to the swap meet too, in case you'd like to look it over.

A Bargain: I have come to the conclusion that the Axman doesn't usually give away the good stuff. Most items of any value seem to be priced very close to retail. Only occassionally does a good thing slip by, and I think that a friend of mine found one.

The Bloomington store (at least) is selling unused ten cell, 800mAh nickel-cadmium batteries for \$3.95. They are built from Sanyo 800AR, rapid charge cells which carry a date code of ZL (Dec.'95) and AA (Jan.'96). In the battery section - look for a 4x4x1 inch, plain white cardboard box. The enclosed pack is labeled:

"Alexander Batteries, 71-0187, 12.0v 800mAh"

There is what appears to be a thermal cutout device built in (easily removed) and a one ohm resistor in the negative output lead (which should be removed for our use). I took a random four cells, charged them only one time and got an indicated 850 mAh on my battery tester. That's pretty darn good for three year old cells.

These cells are about .linch larger in diameter than AA cells, so they probably will not fit in most transmitters. They will work great for receiver packs however and as power batteries for small boats such as Polo Tugs. Unfortunately, they do have spot welded tabs...but for 42¢ a piece, you can not beat the price.

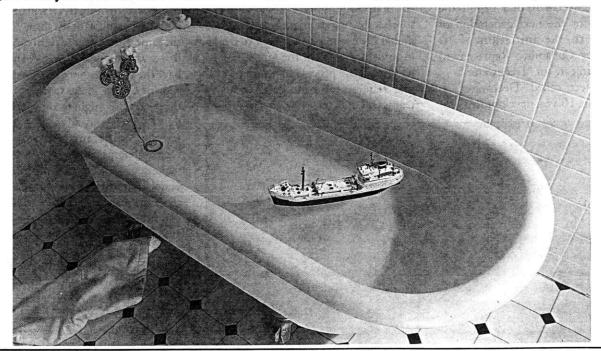
If you would like me to pick a couple of packs up for you, (\$4.25 cash, including tax) give me a call. I will deliver them at the Dry Dock Party or at the Swap Meet. Just be sure that you show up 'cause I don't want to be stuck with more of these than I already have.

Jim

**Wow!:** According to an article in the New York Times, the Natural Resources Board in California has determined that one jet ski personal watercraft produces as much pollution in seven hours of operation as one 1998 model automobile produces in 100,000 miles of driving. I guess it's good that we don't run gas boats.

**Photo:** Below is a picture of what R/C boating is going to be like around here for the foreseeable future!

Or is it Dave Bros' latest boat looking for a water line?



## **November** Meeting Notice:

(Third Tuesday of the Month)

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>
7:00 P.M.

Centennial Lakes **Garage Band Room** 

Commodore: Vice Commodore Vice Commodore Vice Commodore Vice Commodore

Treasurer

George Pfeifer Kim Hershey Dale Johnson Bob Larson

Erwin Stevenson Gary Phillips

Newsletter Editor

Jim Smith

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