



SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

April 1999

Volume 8, Number 4

Commodore's Corner: The ICE is off the lake as of March 27th, so the 1999 open boating season has officially begun. On Sunday, March 28th, I was joined by George Pfeifer, Dan Proulx and new member Don Smith at the central pond to open the season. Don had his triple cockpit barrel back and it looked beautiful and it ran quite well. The weather was cold and windy but it felt great to get out on the water again.

April looks to be a busy month for the club. Check out the enclosed flyers for a variety of planned events. The April meeting will be held in the Centrum building and will feature boat finishing as a topic.

We have just received our information brochures and printed flyers for the parade of boats. I will have them at the April meeting.

I hope to be seeing you often at the lake. *Dale*

Where's the Meeting: Spring has sprung! With any luck at all, we should be meeting in the comfort of the Centrum building from now until November.

What's Up? (at the Meeting): Painting and finishing. Dave Bros will give us the run-down on sanding, filling, priming and air brushing.

Ice Out: The ice went out at Centennial Lakes on Saturday, March 27th. The geese arrived the next day.

Pay-Back Time: Only twice during the year, do we give back just a little something to the city in return for all that they do for the club. Saturday, April 24th is one of those times. We will meet at the Centennial Lakes garage at 10:00AM, for Park Clean-Up Day. Bring a plastic yard bag, a pair of work gloves and a smattering of enthusiasm. Our job will be to rid the park of cigarette butts, paper cups, burger boxes and other miscellaneous trash that accumulates over the winter months. Be there! Show your appreciation! If we get the work done in good order, we'll set the buoys out for the season, too! We should be finished in time to squeeze in a late lunch at Fuddruckers.

Circumnavigation: Around the World Sail Race at Centennial Lakes! The Sail Committee will host a unique event, the 'Round Tshe World Poker Run, on Sunday, April 25th at 1:00PM. "The main point, here,"

says Tony Johnson of the Sail Committee, "is to just have a lot of fun!"

The race will start in the North Pond, proceed through the channels & Central Pond, to the South Pond and return. At various points along the route, each skipper will receive a playing card, and the one with the best poker hand at the end of the race wins! As you can see...it's all very technical.

Everyone is invited to attend, as the more participants we have, the better the competition will be. Meet at the North Pond and take a walk to the South Pond, come rain or shine. *Alex*

Video: On April 27th, we'll view a sail tuning tape from Bob's Boatyard which will show rigging & sail tuning on a typical yacht. Unfortunately, we don't know the length, but we'll start at 7:00PM. *Alex*

Clinic: The Sail Committee will host a sail tuning clinic on May 2nd at the North Pond from Noon until 3:00PM. We will have a workbench laden with tools, line, glue, equipment and hardware to help with as many issues as we can. Feel free to bring your own tools & equipment to make sure we have enough to go around. If there is rain, this event will be postponed. *Alex*

Boating in Little Italy?: It is interesting to note that with the opening of the new Macaroni Grill in the Centennial Lakes south complex, we have all of nine Italian restaurants within about one half mile of our sailing site. Two Guys from Italy, Circus Pizza, Rossini's, Sidney's, Ciatti's, Uno, Ciao Bella and Olive Garden fill out the list. Mangiare! Mangiare!!

Disappointing!: It is sad to note that growing old is mandatory, while growing up is optional.

Admirals: Since our web site is presently stagnant, you might be interested in surfing over to the site run by Bill Zumwalt for the St.Louis Admirals club at:

< www.ktis.net/~wzumwalt/admirals.htm >

Turning, Turning: There are several new lathes spinning their gears in member's workshops. Perhaps a look at this web site may be worthwhile. *Dave Bros*
<http://155.217.58.58/cgi-bin/atdl.dll/tc/9-524/Ch7.htm>

Membership Meeting, 3/16/99: 29 members and guests in attendance. Commodore called meeting to order at 7:05PM, and asked for Committee reports.

SAIL: Raupp – A Round-The-World rally is planned for Sunday, Apr.25th.- Sailboats will run from one end of Centennial Lakes to the other, and back, picking up playing cards along the way. A “poker run”, if you will. Class and/or boat speed will have no bearing on the outcome of the event. Apr.27th.- Sailboat tuning video. May 2nd.- Sailboat tuning clinic. Possibility of some type of AMYA regional, but since AMYA events have already been announced, perhaps a combination race with sailboats combined with fast electrics may be an alternate event.

FAST ELECTRIC: Proulx – Committee has chosen three “official” classes. A newcomer class of strictly stock, out of the box, Vipers running on six cells. A modified Viper class using any legal ROAR motor and running on seven cells. And, an open mono hull running on six cells and adhering to IMPBA rules. All racing open to anyone on Tuesday evenings at 6:00PM. Committee has printed up racing posters for all area hobby shops.

SCALE: Brust – Will sponsor the Big EEEEasy sometime in July and Lighthouse Night following the last Sousa band concert of the season, probably Aug.22nd. Will also put on soldering demo and painting, finishing seminar at regularly monthly meetings.

MARKETING: D.Johnson – Posters have been designed for the Parade of Boats and 1500 flyers have been printed – courtesy of Dale’s employer. A press release package is ready for distribution to local media. A 3 by 6 foot Tyvek banner has been designed and will soon be printed. This can be used at all club functions to let folks know who we are. We will have a table at the Toy Boat show on May 1st. A new member package is in the design stage. Will include basic club info, contacts for assistance, hobby shop list, etc.

MEMBERSHIP: No report. Commodore noted that a floating fountain will be installed in both the North and new South ponds. The bases will be about five feet in diameter and they will spray up to 40 feet.

D.Proulx stated that he had been in contact with Andy Zbikowski and that he (Dan) would be taking over the club web site in the near

future. Dan is hoping to be able to get the City of Edina to host the site on their server.

J.Bishop noted the heavy bookings in the Centrum, and booked the building for the Parade of Boats for next year (June 11th. 2000). John announced an early planning session for the Parade, next Monday, Mar.22nd at 7:00PM. John has contacted Mpls/St Paul magazine. A 1/2 to full page article is planned for the June issue, which hits the news stands during the second week of May. The city will provide two employees to help with set-up for Parade. There will be a wedding reception in the Centrum the previous evening so set-up will commence at 9:00AM to make sure that we have sufficient time. Will attempt better crowd control (model security) this year. John is trying to get Todd Warner of Bristol Classics to bring a full sized, restored boat for outside display.

T.Johnson gave a presentation on building and operating a 1/4 scale, radio controlled “DN” ice boat.

Show 'n Tell: J.Bishop showed his in-process tug. It is springing from a Paul Olsen glass hull and is complete up to the deck, which has recently been planked with india ink stained basswood. This boat is supposed to look fairly “beat-up”. A tough assignment for John. The innards and electronics are immaculate, however the casual viewer is not going to see that! This baby has been in the works since about 1995. It’ll be ready about the time that the famous “Bart” boat wears out.

G.Pfeifer showed his recently started, recently completed (a two week project, said George) pile driving barge. It’s steam engine runs (hidden electric motor) and sounds tired. There’s even a fire in the boiler. The weathering is terrific. If this was a full scale barge, you’d hesitate getting on board without a current tetanus shot.

D.Walker displayed his Dumas Barrelback. For a first model, this is a beauty. Heck! For a tenth model, you couldn’t expect better!

W.Freeman showed and operated his scratch built steam turbine. He ran it on compressed air for us and demonstrated that the 80:1 reduction output shaft could not be stopped by hand. Unfortunately, Warren stated that his “flash” boiler turned out to be slightly too large for his planned boat. A bit more work must yet be done.

Jim Smith

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
Apr.	15 th (Thur.)	Income Tax Due	Federal & State Before - 11:59PM
	20 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 6:30PM - 9:00PM
	24 th (Sat.)	Park Clean-Up & Buoy Set	Centennial Lakes 10:00AM - 2:00PM
	25 th (Sun.)	Whitbread Poker Run	All Three Ponds 1:00PM - 4:00PM
	27 th (Tue.)	Sail Tuning Video	Centennial Lakes Garage 7:00PM - 9:00PM
May	1 st (Sat.)	Toy and Model Boats Show	Hopkins House Hotel 8:00AM - 2:00PM
	2 nd (Sun.)	Sail Tuning Clinic	North Pond 12:00PM - 3:00PM
	18 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 6:30PM - 9:00PM
Jun.	13 th (Sun.)	Parade of Boats	Centennial Lakes Centrum 9:00AM - 4:00PM
	15 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Detroit News: Tony Johnson gave a presentation on designing, building and sailing a radio controlled ice-boat at the March meeting. His model is a 1/4 scale (3 inches equals one foot) scratch built version of the popular "DN" ice-boat. Approximately 15,000 full sized DN boats have been built world-wide since the design was promoted by the Detroit News newspaper in 1936.

In order to be able to change various dimensions easily during the design phase, Tony found it advantageous to teach himself Turbo Cad. Using that program he could easily vary dimensions as he saw fit. Although the hull is truly 1/4 scale, other proportions had to be changed to facilitate a satisfactory model. For example, the mast height and sail area had to be reduced and the length of the cross plank increased to reduce the tendency of the model to tip over (capsize?). Tony said that after sixty years, the full sized boats are still being changed incrementally to improve performance. So too it seems, are the models.

Cold rolled steel was the original choice for runner material. Rapid wear, requiring sharpening after 2-3 hours of operation and rust caused that material to be abandoned. The boat now glides on highly polished, 1/8 inch thick stainless steel, ground to a 90 degree vee. One sharpening per season now seems satisfactory. The boat runs noticeably slower if the edges are not polished. Apparently, a merely ground edge cuts along on the ice while a polished edge rides on a microscopic layer of lubricating water...ice melted by the runner.

Several materials have been tried for the 4 foot mast. The latest is a cut down fiberglass fishing rod blank. Tony is looking for something just a bit stiffer at the top end. Bill Frank is working on a new mast cut from a carbon fiber ski pole.

Tony runs his boat at about 3 to 4 pounds in a light breeze, adding 4 to 5 pounds to the hull (fuselage? - ice boating is described as being somewhere between sailing and flying) when the wind picks up. By adding a longer cross plank equipped with Dave Brown light weight foam model aircraft wheels, the ice boat converts to a parking lot land sailer. The land version, being considerably slower, might be a less stressful way to "get your feet wet" in the sport before venturing out on the ice.

A standard Futaba S-148 servo, mounted with the shaft protruding through the bottom of the hull operates the forward mounted steering runner or aircraft wheel using a pull-pull system. Since the sail only has to be sheeted in and out about five or six inches, a Futaba S-125 arm type sail winch servo has proven more than adequate. So, electronically, there's nothing unusual to anticipate.

The full sized DN boat has been clocked at upwards of 70 mph. Tony believes that the model easily hits 40

in a 10 to 15 knot wind. Wow! Most of us have trouble when our *Fairwind* exceeds four!

A 1/4 scale RC model of the Skeeter class, a larger boat, is available...as are several static models such as Dumas' 19 inch example.

If you are interested in building an ice-boat for next season, give Tony a call [REDACTED] and either he or another frostbitten sailor will be happy to get you started in the right direction. There are presently six or seven boats either operating or under construction by club members.

For more information on the full sized boat, see the DN web site: < www.paw.com/Sail/ice/ > Jim

Victoria Resource Center: While browsing the World Wide Web, I have come across a great site for all of us Thunder Tiger *Victoria* owners. And, we are not alone, as there have been approximately 12,000 models sold in the last two years (Who says that there's no interest in R/C model boats. Ed.). In 1997, the *Victoria* became an AMYA sanctioned one-design class.

The site includes a lot of information on the class as well as tips and tricks on how to improve the boat. See the site at: < www.intellisys.net/VRC >

Alex Raupp

Sail CAD: Has anyone checked out this sail cutting site? It may only work for full sized boats. <<http://users.bart.nl/~jmlaine/sailcut/en-index.html>>

Holy Toledo! I flew to Detroit and drove down to Toledo for the Weak Signals R/C Show this past Friday, April 9th. Usually, at these events one finds primarily model aircraft vendors, and that's the way it was at this event.

Hidden among the 225 vendors were barely ten displaying more than a minimum of boating items.

Midwest had an example of their soon to be released, 47 foot (30in.) USCG lifeboat. The ungainly looks of the prototype vessel result in a model that is also rather homely. Kit price is expected to be about \$250, including hardware.

I did enjoy visiting The Scale Shipyard and Microglass booths and being able to see their fiberglass hulls outside of a catalog. I purchased two of the latter's Great Lakes tug hulls.

SubTech's twin throttle transmitter remains under development by four independent dealers. Since their's is the only one which will operate on 75mHz, they have little input in the process and must just wait it out. "It's not dead, yet!", said Skip.

Ace's Nautical Commander delivery date has slipped once again. "Maybe, by Christmas!", was what I was told. I have a negative feeling about the possibility of this unit ever reaching the market.

Next year's show dates are April 7th, 8th & 9th Jim

April Meeting Notice:

(Third Tuesday of the Month)
Tuesday, April 20th
7:00 P.M.

(Board Meeting at 6:30)
Centennial Lakes
Centrum Building

Commodore:	Dale Johnson
Vice Commodore	Kirk Brust
Vice Commodore	Doug Campbell
Vice Commodore	Jeff McCabe
Vice Commodore	Doug Person
Vice Commodore	Alex Raupp
Treasurer	Gary Phillips

Newsletter Editor Jim Smith

Web Page: <http://www.ringworld.org/emyc>

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