



# ***THE FOGHORN***

***Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club  
of New England***

**2014-- Our 25th Year!!**

**May 2014**

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Note: Use [officers@marinemodelers.org](mailto:officers@marinemodelers.org) to reach all the club officers as a group.

## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Sunday, May 18, 10am - 4pm.** On the water at Silver Lake in Wilmington. Theme of the day is “Warship Day”, hopefully we’ll have a quite a fleet on display. Non-warships are also welcome, of course!

**Sunday, June 8, 10am – 4pm.** On the water at lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA. We’ll be at the Community Center Beach, which is off Dubinsky Drive. This is the spot on the east side of the lake—we will not be at Memorial Beach at the north end.

## **Could this be your Last Foghorn??**

It will be, if you haven’t paid your dues by the end of May. The Membership Form is posted on the club website. You can also contact Ed Arini for more info. Another option is to bring your payment to the Fun Float on May 18<sup>th</sup>. 2014 dues are \$25.

## April Meeting Report

Sometimes your editor just never learns! On Sunday, April 27, it was cold and raining all day, at least here in Acton. I figured no one would be at the lake, so I stayed home. Of course, I was wrong! Fortunately, Ed Arini, Eric Bertelsen, and Shaun Kimball sent me some notes and pictures.....

The following people were at the meeting: Ed and Linda Arini, Shawn Kimball, Gaspar LaColla, Mike Fioretti, Mike Hale, Don Murray, Paul Phinney, Eric Bertelsen, Arthur Perlmutter. And a special salute goes out to our newest member, Greg Evers!

It was a cold day, especially when the wind picked up. The “Icebreaker Meet” almost lived up to its name! There were problems with more than the weather—some of the boats had the usual “start of the season” problems. Arthur's boat worked fine on the workbench but was dead at the lake, and Eric Bertelsen’s Patrol Boat *Cyclone* ran fine until it decided the water was too cold, forcing Eric to wade out in water up to his knees to get it.



Mike Hale brought along his Surfer and his RTR Tug Atlantic.



Shawn Kimball brought along a model of Jacques Cousteau's Calypso. Shaun bought the model from a guy in Rhode Island, and doesn't know much about its origins. (Maybe the Billings kit? -Ed.)

New member Greg Evers brought along a model of an Evarts class Destroyer Escort.



Greg sent me the following info about his model:

It is a model of the lead ship of the class, the USS Evarts, hull number 5. I inherited the model from my Dad who scratch built it quite a few years ago. It is a somewhat uncommon scale of  $1/76$  or  $5/32'' = 1$  foot. The model is 45 inches long with a 5-1/2 inch beam. The construction of the hull is  $3/4''$  pine bottom with balsa planked sides and shaped balsa block for the bow and stern.

The deck is fully removable  $1/8''$  plywood just after the forward 3 inch gun and hedgehog launcher. The superstructure is primarily made from balsa sheet. The prop shafts were installed.

The model had been sitting un-protected in an attic for a long while so it was very dirty and had sustained some damage here and there. I am in the process of restoring the model and finishing some areas that my Dad did not get around to finishing. I installed two Dumas #2004 6 volt motors, speed control and radio. The model moves pretty well through the water. I have installed a number of additional details such as hand rails on the deck houses, more watertight doors, hedgehog launcher, railings, ladders, depth charge arbors, fire hoses, gun directors, and vent pipes to dress it up some. The dual 40mm gun was missing along with the 26' motor whaleboat and davits so I replaced all those. I also need to complete the bridge and mast details. Because the model is  $1/76$  scale I have been using available  $1/72$  scale fittings which are slightly oversize but do the job. I am also repainting the topsides in 5-0 Ocean Grey.

Eric Bertelsen brought along a big freighter and a small Patrol Boat, both in  $1/96$  scale. He sent the following report:

The day was a cold raw day on the North Atlantic on Sunday, but it didn't rain much. But a great day for sailing! The water was very calm and cold. I know because I had to go in to get my Cyclone. Special thanks for Shaun for helping me out.

The Cyclone is a US warship out of Norfolk, but is in Bahrain now. It's the USS Firestorm. I did have engine trouble in the water so it only ran for a very short time. I am planning on reworking the engine configuration using gears but would love some help if anyone has any.





The Freighter is the Oneida Princess II, a Handy Bulk freighter that carries dry good. She is Ukrainian (I think) as far as the TBS Company that she is owned by. The ship is about 6 feet long and about 10 inches wide. It took about 80 pounds of weights to get her to the waterline, or at least close. She is slow and steady, but can handle almost any weather conditions.

### **Editor's Notes**

**New Member:** Welcome to our newest member, Greg Evers.

**1/24 scale Figures:** I've been hunting for some sailors for my PT-Boat, and may have finally found some. I found this in a post on the RCGroups.com Scale Boats forum—Ulrich Models “mini-men”. Quoting the description on the website:

Each Package of Mini-Men comes with enough parts to make two mini-men in two different positions. These mini-people are the correct scale for most model car projects. Assemble the various parts into drivers, pit crews, spectators or almost any person imaginable. Once assembled, the joints can be filled and the figures custom painted for exciting results. The Mini-Men kit comes with a standing and sitting hip, parts for two complete people and even a helmet.

While the figures are aimed at model car builders, I think you could easily use some sculpting epoxy to add lifejackets, rain slickers, etc. Each package is \$5.95. Here's the website:

[www.ulrichmodels.biz](http://www.ulrichmodels.biz)

The company is primarily a model train outfit, but they have lots of other neat stuff that might appeal to us boaters. Things like speakers and speaker boxes, mini surface mount LEDs, and a variety of other LED lighting kits all caught my eye. I have ordered a couple of sets of the mini-

men, so maybe you'll see an update in a future newsletter. (Assuming Ed Arini says you've paid your 2014 dues!)

**More Figures:** I also found some nice Fishing Boat and Merchant crew sets from BP Mouldings in the UK. These are maritime figures, cast in resin. They have figures in 1/24, 1/32/and 1/48 scale. They look nice, but they are more expensive: For example, it costs 15 UK Pounds for a set of three of the 1/24 sailors. You can check them out here: [www.bpmouldings.co.uk](http://www.bpmouldings.co.uk)

**Improving your Photography:** Lou Hills sent along a note about dealing with the effects of lens distortion in digital photography. He said that distortion was present in my book title and cover shots, so he has been using DxO's Viewpoint software. They have a series of tutorials on how to fix images on their web site: <http://www.dxo.com/intl/photography/tutorials>

They have a number of tutorials that are fun to look at, including one of a lighthouse at sunset. They make it look like different types of film. I took a look and it seems that at least some of these techniques would apply to other software packages as well and not just DxO.

If you're interested in the subject, check it out!

**Homeport Model Ships Open House:** I attended the Open House held in Lowell on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Eric tells me that the Open House was quite successful- that we had a mini-meeting going on, with 5 club members stopping by.



One of the neat things I saw was a steel shaft with multi-blade prop for use in a water jet for Eric's USS Freedom (LCS-1). The entire thing was one piece, made on a 3-D printer!

Homeport occupies a studio at the Western Avenue Studios in Lowell. There are a couple of hundred artists' studios there, and they hold an Open House on the first Saturday of every month.

If you're ever looking for something to do on a rainy first Saturday of the month, the Western Avenue Studios would be a great place to go!

## Marine Modelers Club of New England

### 2014 Events and Meeting Schedule

(Rev. 3 March 2014)

Date	Event
Sunday, March 17 1 - 4pm	Indoor meeting at UCC Church Hall Medfield, MA
Sunday, April 27 10 am - 4 pm	Icebreaker: On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, May 18 9 am- 4 pm	Warship Day: On-the-water at Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA.
Sunday, June 8 10 am - 4 pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Saturday, July 13 10 am - 4 pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Saturday, August 2 8 am - 5 pm	Salem Maritime festival, Salem , MA (tentative- to be confirmed once the Festival is announced)
Sunday, August 17 10 am - 4pm	On-the-water at Community Center Beach (Off Dubinsky Dr.), Lake Massapoag in Sharon, MA.
Sunday September 7 9 am - 4 pm	On-the-water: Silver Lake in Wilmington, MA.
Saturday Sept 21 10 am - 4 pm	Float Fly-in, Fun Float and cook-out: Lake Scituate , town Swim Beach , Wayland , MA (Co-located with the Charles River RCers Floatplane Fly-In)
Saturday, October 4 2 pm - 7 pm	Day/Night run: On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, October 19 10 am — 4 pm	On-the-water at Memorial Park Beach, Lake Massapoag at Beach Street, Sharon, MA.
Sunday, November 9 1 - 4 pm	Indoor meeting at UCC Church Hall Medfield, MA
Sunday, December 7	Holiday dinner, location TBD

**Visit us at [www.marinemodelers.org](http://www.marinemodelers.org) for updates to this schedule and for directions.**