

THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England*

2017-- Our 28th Year!!

October 2017

Commander: Gaspar LaColla	781-396-6462 commander@marinemodelers.org
1st Officer: Mike Hale	508-880-3051 1stofficer@marinemodelers.org
Events Officer: (vacant)	
Publicity Officer: Charlie Tebbetts	508-404-5987 publicity@marinemodelers.org
Treasurer/Membership: Ed Arini	781-640-2625 (cell) treasurer@marinemodelers.org
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster: Bill Michaels	978-760-0343 newsletter@marinemodelers.org

Note: Use officers@marinemodelers.org to reach all the club officers as a group.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 14, 2 – 7 pm: Our annual Day/Night run and cookout/potluck, at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA. The club provides the burgers, and members bring side dishes, desserts, etc. Mike Hale is coordinating the event- so let him know if you'll be coming, and what you'll be bringing. Send your response to the officers@marinemodelers.org .

As of press time, here is what we have so far:

- Charlie and Bonnie will bring hot dogs, buns and potato salad.
- Gaspar and Joanne will bring cookies and pastries.
- Eric B will bring some type of dessert.
- Ed and Linda will bring a grill.
- Bob and Johanna will bring coleslaw.
- Jean and Mike will bring paper plates, silverware, condiments and little bags of chips.

We still need hamburgers and buns and everyone to bring their own drinks.

Sunday, November 12, 1 - 4 pm: Indoor meeting at the UCC Church Hall in Medfield, MA. We'll have election of officers for 2018 and a swap meet, along with the usual Show and Tell.

Sunday, December 3, 12-3 pm: Annual Holiday Dinner at Cafe Prezo Grill and Bar in Milford, MA.

September 17 Fun Float in Wilmington

I wasn't able to attend the event, so I don't have much info to report. Ed Arini reported that the following members attended: Bob and Linda Okerholm, Ed and Linda Arini, Shaun Kimball, Gaspar and Joanne LaColla, Arthur Perlmutter, and Charlie Tebbetts. Shawn Kimball took a few photos.....



Shaun brought along his modular dock system. Here we see Gaspar's USCG Point-class cutter, Ed's pleasure boat, and Shaun's Burke-class USN Destroyer. It is a nice, modular system. When I was in the Seattle club long ago, we made up some aluminum angle brackets with pre-drilled holes, to use as a common connector. That allowed everyone's dock to interconnect....

Editor's Notes

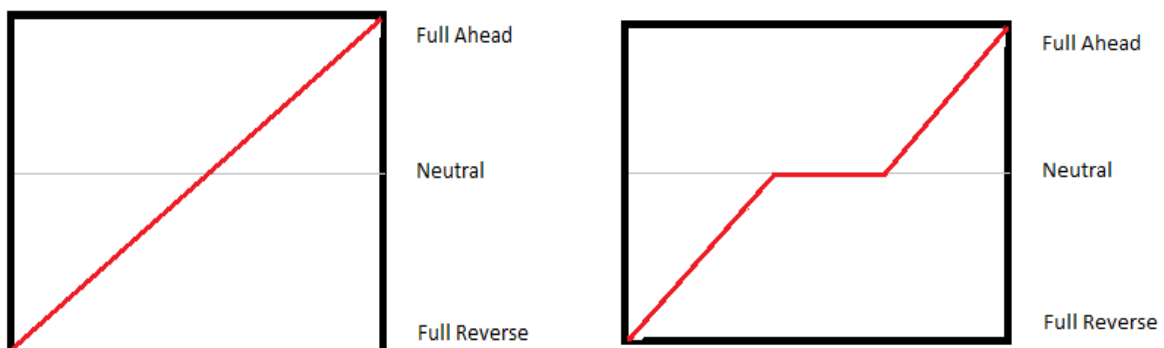
Day/Night Run: Our annual day/night run is this coming weekend-- I hope you all can make it. It is always a good time-- we have traditionally been blessed with good weather, and usually as dusk falls the lake is very calm. Sunset is early at this time of year. So we get to have our night run and still be home early enough to get some time in at the workbench! The potluck picnic part of the event is fun, too. Send an email to officers@marinemodelers.org to let us know how many are coming, and what you are planning on bringing. The club provides the grilling supplies, and the membership brings the food.

SSMA Journal: If you are an SSMA member, the next issue of the Journal you receive will include an article by yours truly on converting plastic models to RC. (I will also run it here in the Foghorn after the Journal comes out.)

Computer Radios: I recently upgraded to a computer transmitter-- one of those units where you can store up to 20 models' worth of settings. I have been using 2.4Ghz gear for years, but had a low-end "no memory" transmitter. With a couple more recent additions to the 2.4GHz fleet, I was getting tired of having to manually reverse the servos here and there as I used different models. It sure is nice to now have all the settings saved in the radio, so that all I have to do is pick the model I want from the list!

The reason I mention this here is because of an added benefit I recently discovered while reading the 20+ page manual. I discovered I can program a custom throttle curve for a given model. While this feature was designed for the fliers of fuel powered airplanes, it has some handy applications for us boaters, too.

My little Landing Craft is converted from a plastic model, and uses a couple of disassembled servos for a combined motor and ESC. (Classic Lindberg tug setup.) One downside to this is that using the servo circuitry yields a very sensitive neutral spot-- the stick has to be *just so* to stop the motors. But with my new transmitter, I have created a custom throttle curve for that channel, with a big flat spot at the neutral. I couldn't get a good photo of the LCD screen, so here is a simple drawing that shows the standard linear response curve on the left, and my custom curve on the right:




2017 Schedule

(updated 9 Sept 2017)

DATE	EVENT
Saturday-Sunday, Aug 5-6	Salem Maritime Festival weekend.
Sunday, August 20, 11-3 pm	Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon
Sunday, Sept. 17, 11am-3pm	Fun Float at Silver Lake in Wilmington
Saturday, Oct. 14, 2-7pm	Day/Night run and Club Picnic at Memorial Park Beach
<i>Saturday, Nov. 11, 8-11am</i>	<i>Merrimac Valley Ship Modelers annual Auction, Newburyport, MA</i>
Sunday, Nov.12, 1-4 pm	Indoor Meeting at UCC Church Hall in Medfield, MA
Sunday, December 3, 12-3pm	Holiday Dinner, Prezo Grill and Bar, Milford, MA.

Note: Items in *purple italics* are not club-sponsored events- they are listed here because we felt they may be of interest to our members and friends.

Check the club website for the latest version:
www.marinemodelers.org

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<p>PSME 33 HARDING ST. MILFORD, MA 01757-2215 PHONE: (508) 478-3148 FAX: (508) 478-3590 E-MAIL: psme@psmescale.com WEB: www.psmescale.com</p>	