



THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England*

2018-- Our 29th Year!!

November 2018

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

Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 10, 8am to 11am. Merrimac Valley Ship Modelers annual club auction, in Newburyport, MA. This is not an MMC event, but one that is likely to be of interest to the membership. (Some of our members are also members of the MVSM.)

Sunday, November 11, 1-4 pm. Indoor meeting at UCC Church Hall in Medfield, MA. We need to elect Officers for 2019, confirm the details for December, and talk about member's projects in "Show and Tell"

Sunday, December 2, 12 – 4 pm. Annual Holiday Dinner at Prezo Bar and Grille in Milford, MA. Cost is \$25 per person.

Friday-Saturday-Sunday, April 12-14, 2019: The WOODS HOLE MODEL BOAT SHOW. We have been notified by the Show organizers that the 2019 show will happen on Patriot's Day weekend.

Breaking News: The RIMTA, the Rhode Island Maritime Trade Association, informed us that RIMTA has sold the Providence Boat Show, so there will be no Providence Boat Show in February 2019. See below for more information.

October Day/Night Run Report

Charlie Tebbetts provided the following report, and a bunch of photos... The October 13, 2018 Day/Night Sail event on Lake Massapoag in Sharon took place on a calm sunny late afternoon. This was especially nice after the rainy wet morning that looked questionable at noon.

Members in attendance: Mike Hale had his Atlantic Tug, Vietnam Patrol Boat and Jet Ski. Bob Okerholm had his Trawler, and Frank Cook had his Sail Boat. George Gargano and friend Tom Dargan had the South Hampton Tug and the amazing LED illuminated RC Sail Plane. Charlie Tebbetts, with his son David Tebbetts, and grandsons Noah and Matthew Callahan had the Tug Star Fuel Chief, the three DE Lobster Boat fleet, and the new RC creation – a 1:12 scale USCG 9x32 LHR Bell Buoy.



The bell buoy has a LED controller for 2.5 second ISO flashing and a MP3 trigger for authentic bell buoy and horn sound – all controlled on a 3 channel radio. The electrical power is supplied by a 12 volt SLA battery. The buoy body is constructed from a 3 gallon plastic carboy jug (as in home beer brewing) and laser cut 1/8” thick birch plywood super structure. The 3 gallon carboy jug was cut down to conform to the 1:12 buoy scale. The internal battery and electronics box is 1/4” birch plywood and surrounded by poured place foam to maintain buoyancy integrity – should the

thin plastic shell become cracked or ruptured. The ballast counter weight (skeg) is 2” PVC with 3” PVC cap end - filled with 7.5 lbs. of lead.





Above: Lobsterboats at Sunset.

Below: Mike's PBR making a high speed pass by the buoy.



Below: George Gargano's sailplane making a pass over Bob's Trawler and Mike's tug.



George Gargano posted a Youtube video of the event- Here is the link:

<https://youtu.be/QNyPy9PKJNl>

Providence Boat Show Update

We were recently advised that the Rhode Island Maritime Trades Association was in the process of selling the Providence Boat Show. Because the sale was taking a lot of time to close, there was not going to be enough time for the new owner(s) to hold a show in February, 2019.

We were also told that there is another boat show that will be in Providence-- the "Rhode Island Boat Show". This show is being run by a new group, and will be held at the same convention center the weekend of January 4 – 6. The club officers have reached out to the organizers of this new show, but they don't seem to be very interested in having the club as a participant. While no one has said so explicitly, we suspect that this new show is a one-time event being organized by some other group to capitalize on the opportunity presented by the cancellation of the usual February show.

The Officers are hoping that the PBS will return in 2020-- it makes sense, as it doesn't make sense to buy the show and then not hold it anymore...

This does mean that we will need to plan another activity for February. One of the ideas being explored is to rent a pool and hold an indoor Fun Float. We are looking for leads for a possible location- if you know of any possible locations, let the club officers know. (We would also welcome any other ideas for a February activity!)

A Case Study

Or-- The USS Wichita, a 1/96 scale warship, takes to the air!

- by Eric Bertelsen

WHY

Every year I plan a trip to Rocky Mount, NC, for a fleet run of 1/96 scale model ships. This event has been going on for more than a decade, and it grows bigger and more popular every year. It is truly a great event.

October 5, 2018 - Salem/Beverly MA

This year will be different. Typically I drive to the event with a good friend and fellow ship builder Paul. We take his large SUV and pack it full of ships to run at the lake. The drive takes about 13 hours, so we usually stop over in Annapolis, MD, and take in the Navy traditions and museums. Unfortunately this year Paul couldn't make it which brought me to question: Do I want to drive 13 hours solo and bring a few ships in my SUV? I decided my best option was to fly to Raleigh (2 hours) rent a car, and drive (1 hour) to the lake. With that decided, I needed to figure out how to bring a ship.

My latest build is the USS Wichita, a Freedom Class Warship with 4 jet drives, laser-cut structure, and 3D printed parts. This model is about 4 feet long and 16 inches tall. But how to transport this ship on an airplane?

I contacted Case Technology in Ipswich, MA, to see if they could make a TSA-approved case. They didn't see a problem, so I dropped the ship off and one week later I had a hard shell case with foam specifically customized for this ship. It also had bracer foam in the upper case to hold the ship in place. I tested this by holding the case upright with the ship inside and it held in place without movement.

October 10, 2018 - Salem MA - In my garage

It's the day before the event and I'm ready to go. I've been testing and adding details to the ship to give the USS Wichita the best looking silhouette possible. The last thing I need to do is add stencil lettering to the case. I laser cut the stencil to show the ship class and my company name, Homeport Models, to help anyone who would handle the case know this was a fragile model. She's ready to go.



October 11, 2018 - Boston, MA - Logan Airport

Well, today is the day. My Delta flight is at 11:47am from Boston. I plan to arrive three hours early to explain what's in the case and make sure it arrives with minimal damage.

I walked into the airport, got my boarding pass and checked in with the ticket agent. The gentleman was concerned and explained that TSA was required to open the case to inspect the model. I asked if I could take the ship through TSA myself, and he said I could not. However, he offered to walk it down to TSA personally to explain that this is a one-of-a-kind model and ask them to be gentle opening the case. He put "Fragile" stickers on the case and had me write a note to TSA that explained how to open the box. I was promised that they would read the note and open it accordingly.

We walked the case to TSA, I thanked the agent who was going to open it and then it was gone. <sigh...> From there I went to the gate to wait and wonder. There was nothing I could do until I got to Raleigh to see how the USS Wichita holds up.

October 11, 2018 - Raleigh, NC - Airport

The flight was a rough one. I flew into a tropical storm so the plane was jumping around. I'm sure the case got tossed around in the hold.

Baggage pick up was easy. I had to go to a special door where a nice lady was waiting with my ship. She was nervous and wanted to make sure that the case hand delivered to me and that it was undamaged. The case looked fine, no scratches or dings that I could see. So far... so good. But I didn't open it there, in case any parts might fall out. I picked up my rental car and drove to Rocky Mount.

October 12, 2018 - Rocky Mount, NC

Here I am, at the event and excited to see how the ship fared. I asked that people not get too crazy if the ship had some critical damage. OK. here we go.

Opening the case and it was much better than I expected. A dome, some ammo boxes, and an exhaust stack fell off, and there was a minor crack in the structure — otherwise she was good. It looks like there was a little weight on the top of case that pushed the foam into the ship. I will look into this to see about making some adjustment to correct his.

The minor damage was no worse than transporting the un-crated ship by car to the lake. I'm very pleased with the results.



October 14, 2018 - Raleigh, NC - Airport

It was a terrific event and now I'm all packed up for the trip home. The ship is with TSA and I'm waiting for the flight back to Boston. I can't wait to fly with a ship to shows in San Francisco, Portland, and even Norway. This has been well worth the investment.

Editor's Notes

My thanks to Charlie and Eric for their contributions to the Foghorn this month!

Just a reminder-- we have an indoor meeting next weekend-- hopefully we'll have some projects brought in for "Show and Tell"!

New Member: Welcome Aboard to Luis d'Oliviera of Richmond, RI. We hope to see you at the November meeting!

Beverly Magazine: The cover article in the Fall 2018 issue of Beverly Magazine is a profile of clubmembers Eric Bertelsen and Paul Phinney of Homeport Model Ships. You can see the article online here: <https://beverlymagazine-cnhi.newsmemory.com/>

Classified Ads

For Sale: Flyzone Tidewater Electric RC Seaplane. This is a RTF foam 4 channel seaplane with a 41 inch wingspan. Model needs a little bit of repair-- the last time I flew it, I caught a wingtip on the takeoff run and spun out. (TIP: make sure your aileron channel isn't reversed BEFORE you start the takeoff run!)

There was some minor damage-- the fuselage cracked on one side by the wing saddle, I repaired that with some foam-safe glue. The hinges on the rudder let go-- I have new ones, but never installed them. Finally, the ESC the plane came with got wet, and may not work now. The rest of the plane is in fine shape-- I didn't use it all that much. I am also including two LIPO batteries for the plane.



The plane sells new for about \$225-- I'm asking \$100 for mine. You get the plane with the motor and servos, a questionable ESC, and two 7.4 volt LiPo batteries. You add a 4 channel radio, an hour of your time to fix the rudder, and maybe a \$40 ESC.

I'm selling it because I don't have a convenient place to fly it anymore since we moved to NH a couple of years ago. Contact Bill Michaels if interested (my contact info is in the header on the first page.)

One last shot from the Day/Night run.....

