

# THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club  
of New England*

**2021-- Our 31st Year!!**

**May 2021**

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

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, May 16, 10am - 2 pm. Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA.** The theme for the day is "Sailboats", so if you have one, bring it along! (Other models are always welcome at our themed events.)

**Sunday, June 13, 1-4pm: Fun Float at Redds Pond in Marblehead, MA.** The theme for this one is "Warships".

**Sunday, April 25, 10am – 2pm: Icebreaker Fun Float at Memorial Park Beach in Sharon, MA.**

## Welcome Aboard!

We have two new members who were attending their first club event at the April Fun Float - Bruce Murray and Tim Logan. Tim is working on an RNLi Lifeboat, while brought along his German Battleship Bismarck for its maiden voyage.

Welcome aboard, gents!!!!

## **Club Business Notes**

**2021 Dues:** Because our expenses were way down in 2020, we agreed that we should reduce our dues for 2021. So, **dues for 2021 will be \$10.** We expect this will be a one-year change, but a lot will depend on how the year 2021 goes.

An updated membership form has been posted on the website. Renewals can also be made using PayPal-- [clubdues@marinemodelers.org](mailto:clubdues@marinemodelers.org). (If you mark it as Friends and Family, we won't be charged a service fee.)

## **Icebreaker Fun Float**

The event was originally scheduled for Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, but the forecast called for miserable weather, so we pulled it forward a day to enjoy lovely weather on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. Your editor wasn't able to attend, as Kaja and I were getting our second shots that day. Fortunately, Frank Cook provided a report and some photos:

On a day better suited for “ice melting” than “ice breaking” the 2021 boating season launched on Saturday, April 25 at Sharon’s Lake Massapoag. The event was originally scheduled for the next day, April 26; however, due to predicted stormy weather, the club officers rescheduled a few days prior.

The mariners trekking to Sharon were met by a beautiful, cloudless blue sky featuring a bright sun, a light breeze, and temperatures in the mid-70s. In short, it was one of the best days for sailing the club has experienced in the last several years! Later in the day the wind came up with occasional strong gusts.



L-R: Tim Hogan, Mike Hale, Charlie Tebbetts, Linda Arini, and Bonnie Tebbetts.

Since the club's last sailing in October many members had been busy in their workshops building new vessels or tweaking existing ships. Due to these efforts at least three new ships made their club debut.

Charlie Tebbetts launched the latest addition to his fleet, a 1:9 scale model of a steel hulled USCG Utility Boat that began service in 1952. His 53.5-inch vessel, built during the winter, is modeled after CG 40583, which was the last such boat decommissioned in 1983. Charlie's two crew members and sound system are wonderful additions to this beautifully crafted boat!

Similarly, Shaun Kimball introduced the club to his new addition, the Forrest Sherman, a US Navy destroyer. Shaun had recently purchased this ship and plans to correct existing construction errors. Nevertheless, the ship handled quite well in its debut launch!



(Tim Logan photo.)

Newcomer Bruce Murray began his MMC sailing career with the Bismarck, a Trumpeter 1/200 scale kit of the famed World War II Kriegsmarine ship, that he too built over the winter. The electronics were quite impressive and featured rotating turrets, a signal lamp, and a workable radar array! Bruce added the first two of a complement of 30 men who will be stationed above deck, including the ship's captain on the bridge.



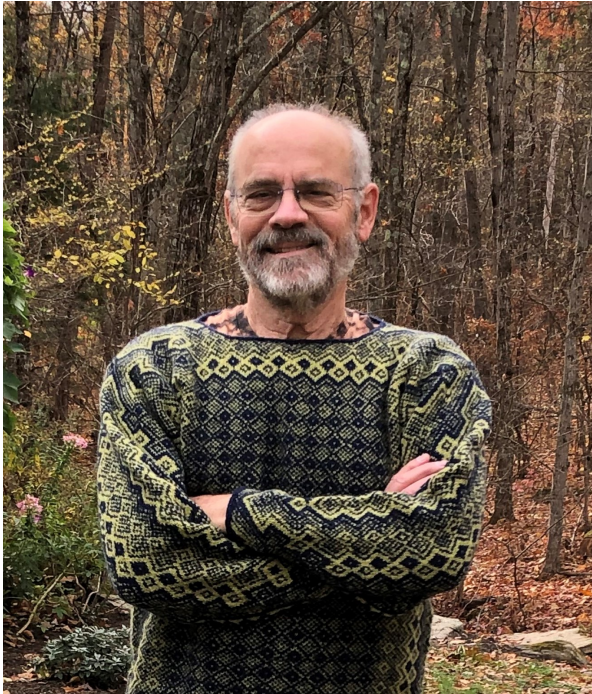
Mike Hale's continuing work on his Dusseldorf fireboat, Rescue 17, was both on display and in the water. Mike has added a sound system that includes voice commands to the ship's personnel and a realistic diesel engine. Very impressive!

Boats returning to the lake included Linda Arini's beautiful Green Ripper, Bob Prezioso's sleek yacht, Charlie's 30-inch lobster boat, and Mike's Miss Geico and the yacht, M&M.



Lake Massapoag almost claimed another sailing vessel when Frank Cook's 18-inch sailboat, Westward, pushed by a strong gust, strayed into the middle of the lake. Frank received tacking advice from Charlie Tebbetts and Mike Hale, while seasoned sailboat skipper Linda Arini took the controls. The ship was so far from shore that it was difficult to see and adjust the position of the sails, though the rudder was still responding.

Fortunately a Good Samaritan, a local teenager who was among several spectators at the event, volunteered to retrieve the wayward vessel with his kayak. Upon his return to shore the reason why the sails failed to respond became clear ... the wind had torn the main sail loose and it lay crumpled on the deck.



In addition to Bruce Murray, the club welcomed newcomer Tim Logan to the event. His first boat, a 1:12 scale Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) Waveney-class lifeboat, is still under construction. He plans to follow this boat with a Model Slipway 1:16 RNLI Tamar-class lifeboat, and then a scratch built 1:12 RNLI Liverpool-class lifeboat.

Also in attendance at the 2021 inaugural event were Bonnie Tebbetts, Bob and Johanna Okerholm, and John Cooper.

(L: Tim Logan)



Shaun Kimball and his tug Goliath.