



# THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club  
of New England*

**2023-- Our 33rd Year!!**

**November 2023**

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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, November 12, 1-3pm:** Indoor Meeting at the UCC Church Hall in Medfield, MA. The address is 496 Main St, Medfield. (aka Route 109). We'll have a lot going on-- look for an email later this week with the details....

**Sunday, December 3, 12-4pm:** Annual Indoor Holiday Dinner at Prezzo Bar and Grill, located at 229 1/2 E. Main Street, Milford, MA.

Cost is \$25 per person. We'd prefer you pay in advance--an email with the details will go out shortly after the November meeting.

We need responses by Sunday, November 26-- we have to commit the number of meals to the restaurant by the next day.

The Social Hour starts at noon, with some appetizers (provided by the club), and dinner is served about 1:30pm. Menu will be similar to previous years'. You'll have a choice of a couple of entrees and the meals typically include salad, desert and coffee/tea. Adult beverages are available for purchase.

As always, we will have some door prizes to give out to the attendees-- let the club officers know if you have anything you'd like to donate.

## **Club Shines at Sharon Day**

By Frank B. Cook, Events Officer  
Photos by Tim Logan, Publicity Officer

Sparkling seas and magnificent weather set the tone as the Marine Modelers Club of New England again participated in the town of Sharon's annual civic celebration on Sunday, October 1. The club's assigned area, directly on the beach of Lake Massapoag, provided ample space for our boat display, a designated area for the Noodle Tug flotilla, and, of course, plenty of open water for scale ship sailing.



Above: Mark Sarofeen and his big Chris-Craft

One of the highlights was our "Model Boats on Parade" presentation, the first time the club has attempted such an event. Interested members were directed to sail just offshore, keeping about 20-feet apart, as introduced by Event Officer Frank Cook. Despite never rehearsing, the parade went off without a hitch and is a fun action we can build upon in the future. The Sharon Rec Department provided a megaphone for our use but consideration should be given toward a better amplifying system.

Commander Mike Hale's 52-inch tugboat, "Sarah B" led the parade, followed by First Officer Charlie Tebbetts with his 30-inch Thames River tug, "Westbourne." Next in line was the 50-inch auxiliary rescue vessel "USS Gear" skippered by Jonathan Enos. He was followed by the 42-inch tug "Atlantic" piloted by Jerry Trahan. Bill Gibson III was next with his 27-inch "78," a Vesper Standard Motor Torpedo Boat. The 48-inch Chris-Craft Corvette "Tranquility" built by Mark Sarofeen, and Glenn Williams' "Willow," a 30-inch USCG buoy tender followed. Tim Logan, the club's Publicity Officer, was next in line with his new 46-inch tug "Nancy L." Ted Correia and his 33-inch USCG Motor Lifeboat, along with another Vesper Standard MTB, "74," operated by Bill Gibson IV concluded the parade. The parade was well-received by the event attendees!

The teamwork of the club was quite evident all day from set-up to tear-down ...answering questions, teaching future skippers how to pilot a Noodle Tug, and demonstrating how model ships actually sail. Treasurer Linda Arini supervised the club tent, a much needed shady spot on the sunny beach, where club information was distributed. Additional members helping to ensure success were Mike Hale, Charlie and Bonnie Tebbetts, Tim Logan, Frank Cook, Bill Gibson III, Bill Gibson IV, Mark Sarofeen, Rich Magee, Jonathan Enos, Bob Prezioso, Ted Correia, Jerry Trahan, Glenn Williams, and Jason Chenard. Visitor Matt Sullivan also assisted, while return visitor Bob Violanto demonstrated his recently restored Marblehead Yacht. Teamwork was also present when Mike Hale's jet skier ran into trouble far beyond walking retrieval range. Using Mike's rescue equipment, Charlie Tebbetts and his large tug were able to rescue the distressed craft. This rescue effort provided a demonstration of the capability of RC boats and was well-received by event attendees!



Above: Rich Magee's "Harbor Hut".

Also receiving rave reviews was the breakwater and lighthouse built by Glenn Williams which was in use. Similarly the smiles on the faces of the little skippers (and their parents too!) running the Noodle Tugs made the day exceptionally worthwhile. One mother, on her third visit to our site with her 6-year old son, commented that virtually every day since last year's event the boy had talked about the fun he had sailing our Noodle Tugs. He couldn't wait to again be sailing with us!



Our participation was well-received by the event organizers. Linda Berger, the town's recreation director, in an email sent to the club's Events Officer noted, "You and your organization are wonderful to work with and such a fun part of the day. People of all ages enjoyed seeing you operate the boats on the lake. I could hear kids and parents talking about it as I walked through the event." Pictures of our club in action were subsequently posted on the recreation department's Facebook page. When you get your 2024 calendar set aside the first weekend in October. We have already been invited to participate in next year's Sharon Day!



Above: The "Noodle Tug harbor"

Below: The Display Area





## **Sun Sets on Successful Sailing Season**

By Frank B. Cook, Events Officer



One week after wet and wild weather forced yet another postponement of a planned sailing event, the Marine Modelers Club of New England bade farewell to the 2023 season on an incredibly perfect late Autumn afternoon. The sunset Day/Night Run is one of our annual highlights, providing the perfect opportunity to see the working lights of so many vessels in all their glory. Forced to sail on the last weekend of October - the latest date in recent memory – raised concern about how cold it would be when the sun dipped below the horizon. Fortunately such concern failed to materialize as the temperature soared into the low 80s, accompanied by a mild occasional breeze.

Another strong turnout by the club membership, their numerous scale model ships arranged on tables adjacent to the walking path, drew the attention of local residents taking advantage of the unseasonable weather for a lakeside stroll. Members found themselves answering numerous questions about their boats, our club, and the hobby. More than one person inquired about joining the club!

Members in attendance included Mike Hale, Charlie and Bonnie Tebbetts, Frank Cook, Bruce Murray, Rich Magee, Bill Gibson III, Jerry Trahan, Glenn Williams, Jason Chenard, Shaun Kimball, Stu Gralnik, Ted Correia, Bob Prezioso, Mark Sarofeen, George Gargano, and Bob Okerholm. Since the club picnic in August, interest has been growing relative to building piers and associated harbor structures. Glenn Williams has been taking the lead for a lot of this effort and he brought his wonderfully made breakwater. Stretching more than 10-feet in length from the

shoreline it includes a working lighthouse at its farthest end. This was the perfect accessory, especially for the Day/Night Run!



Stu Gralnik has also been working on this project and he brought his pier complete with some features, including mock fuel storage tanks. His pier is about 4-feet long and was installed near, and perpendicular to, Glenn's breakwater. Many members enjoyed sailing their ships around and between these two man-made structures, as well as attempts at docking.

Among the new boats seen on the water were Bruce Murray's seemingly turbo-powered airboat, Mark Sarofeen's 36" Miss Geico, Glenn Williams' Staten Island Ferry, and Jerry Trahan's "Antje", a fishing cutter typically seen on the North and Baltic seas. At

one point, Jerry shared operation of his new boat with a young boy who was among the many shore-side spectators watching the spectacle of model boats afloat. The boy's father thanked Jerry, noting he didn't speak much English. Jerry replied, "the big smile said it all" ... and indeed it did! This interaction speaks volumes of the type of impact our hobby can have on people, especially the next generation of modelers.

As the sun began to set, more than a dozen members gathered at the shore, their boats sailing fairly close by. It was a very impressive scene, the lights of many ships reflecting on the calm surface, all skippers taking advantage of the the final moments of the sailing season.





Above: Mike Hale's well-lit boats. Frank Cook photo



**2023 Club Events Schedule**  
**(rev 2/10/23)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event/Theme</b>	<b>Location</b>
Saturday, 26 August	11am - 3pm	Fun Float/Club picnic/ Tugs and other Workboats	Memorial Park Beach Sharon, MA
Saturday, 9 Sept	11am - 2pm	Fun Float and Steering Competition	Memorial Park Beach Sharon, MA
Wednesday, 20 Sept	10am - 4pm	Joint Fun Float with Maine Club (rain date 21 Sept)	Scarborough, ME
Sunday, 1 Oct	10am – 3:30pm	“Sharon Day” Exhibition	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Saturday, 21 October	4pm - 7pm	Day/Night run	Memorial Park Beach, Sharon, MA
Sunday, 12 Nov.	1pm - 4pm	Indoor Meeting	UCC Church Hall, Medfield, MA
Sunday, 3 Dec.	12pm - 4pm	Holiday Dinner @ Prezzo Grille	Milford, MA

Note: Check the club website for address info/maps and any changes to the schedule. Most (but not all) Saturday events have a rain date of Sunday.