



THE FOGHORN

*Newsletter of the Marine Modelers Club
of New England*

2023-- Our 33rd Year!!

December 2023

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

Upcoming Events

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.

BREAKING NEWS: Indoor Fun Float!

Saturday, March 9, 2024, 1-4pm: Indoor Fun Float at the pool at the Linden Ponds Senior Living complex in Hingham. This is a new venue for us-- an indoor pool. Thanks go to (resident) Arthur Perlmutter for getting the ball rolling with the people in charge there, and to Events Officer Frank Cook for working out the details with the management there.

Annual Meeting Marks Start of Club's Indoor Season

By Frank B. Cook, Events Officer

It was rather fitting that a sunny but blustery day was the setting of the MMCNE traditional start of the indoor season, Sunday, November 12, at the UCC church hall in Medfield.

Commander Mike Hale welcomed the gathered members and provided details about the next event on the club calendar, the Christmas Holiday Luncheon on December 3.

Treasurer & Membership Officer Linda Arini delivered an update on the solid financial standing of the club. 2023 witnessed an increase in membership, the second consecutive year of growth! Active membership now stands at 37.

Speaking of membership ... Clerk/Newsletter Editor Bill Michaels praised Tim Logan, who took over the long vacant Publicity Officer position earlier this year, for his outstanding work leading the effort to improve the club's Facebook page and creating a club presence on the online RC Groups Forum. These efforts had a major, direct impact not only in increasing our membership but also expanding our following on social media!

Looking ahead to 2024, Events Officer Frank Cook stated that discussions are in-process with Linden Ponds, a retirement community in Hingham, to have an indoor sailing session at their pool. Tentatively, the event will be held on a Saturday afternoon, most likely in March. Arthur Perlmutter initially brought our club to the attention of the facility's activity director and they are quite excited about having us sail at their facility!

Members were also advised to set aside the first Sunday in October for the 4th Annual Sharon Day event. Our club was once again a big hit at this annual civic gathering and garnered rave reviews from both attendees and the program directors. Although the exact date has not been set, we have been invited back for 2024!

A key component of the annual meeting is the election of club officers for the coming year. Mike Hale announced the proposed slate of officers, there were no nominations from the floor, and the election was unanimous. Elected for 2024:

Commander: Charlie Tebbetts; 1st Officer: Mike Hale; Treasurer & Membership: Linda Arini; Clerk/Newsletter Editor: Bill Michaels; Events Officer: Frank Cook and Publicity Officer: Tim Logan.

As we all know, it has been challenging to find a suitable location for sailing during June and July. Several members have been seeking new locations and in 2023 such searches became more active. During the "New Business" portion Linda Arini distributed a handout with pictures and a map of Fellsmere Pond in Malden. Her research and discussion with town officials revealed the pond is in an established residential area and features a pond with a fountain. There is a granite

retaining wall around much of the pond, similar to Redds Pond, but there are good access areas. It appears the required permit fee would be waived.

Bruce Murray spoke about two lakes where he often sails, one in Wakefield, the other in Winchester, Upper Mystic Lake. Bill Gibson III added Johnson Pond, located on Route 104 in Raynham, as another possible candidate. The club officers are following up on alternative locations.

Club Presentations Showcase New Initiatives



Above: Stu Gralnik

Following adjournment of the meeting portion, and a refreshment break courtesy of Linda Arini, Stu Gralnik was the “featured presenter” with a marvelous and informative presentation on barges and piers. Stu is a marvelous builder who has created several amazing, elaborate barges! At numerous events this year Stu’s tugs could be seen pushing or towing these vessels. His enthusiasm for barges has spread to Jerry Trahan, Tim Logan, and Frank Cook, all of whom have built or are currently building barges for their tugs. Stu invited all members next year to use his barges - just simply ask him when we’ve gathered for sailing! It would be nice to have a “Tug Towing Exhibition” at next year’s Sharon Day.

Stu also showed his marvelous floating pier that saw use at the Day/Night Run. This pier has structures and tanks and is anchored by a pair of aluminum rods. Stu distributed a handout with details on materials needed, cost, and construction instructions. Since August many club members have been involved in the effort to create a waterfront scenario for club events. It is hoped that during the winter months interested members can continue this effort.

Stu brought along a handout for the materials he uses- it is attached to this issue of the Foghorn.



Above: Some of Stu's scratch built docks, along with a waterline model tug. Stu originally built these to go on an O-scale (1/48) model RR layout.



During the “Show and Tell” portion, Shaun Kimball presented his “K.I. Hercules” deep sea multi-purpose super tug. This 3D printed plastic boat is 26-in. long by 5-inches wide, weighing in at 4 to 5 lbs. Shaun decided to build it because he needed a tug with the potential to push and/or tow a 1:96 Nimitz class aircraft carrier, which successfully occurred during the Fleet Run in North Carolina. In addition, he wanted to learn more about 3D printing and model boat construction, as well as create a unique ship.

Also making a presentation was Mark Sarofeen with his 50-in. fast cargo schooner. He aims to complete construction in time for the April Icebreaker event. Mark provided many details about the long masts he has made, the type of sails proposed, and the tar-coated string he uses. He also referenced his prior experience with planes and trains and his love of building large models, as demonstrated by his “Flying Dutchman”, a 52- inch English Gaff Cutter that debuted earlier this year.



In addition to those who involved in making announcements or presentations, members present included Alan Beeber, Harold Cohen, Bill Gibson III, Bill Gibson IV, Lou Hills, Bruce Murray, Arthur Perlmutter, Charlie Tebbetts, and Jerry Trahan.



Shaun Kimball brought along his new lobster boat “Sea Pearl”. Boat was a product of the Arthur Perlmutter Boat Yard. Below: Bill Gibson III had his Elco 80' PT Boat open for inspection. Bill has gotten great results with his conversions of these 1/35 scale plastic models.





“ANTJE” - Jerry Trahan built this nice German Fishing Boat from the Krick kit.