



SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

September 2001

Volume 10, Number 9

Commodores Corner: Good September to you. A chill is in the air and we are loosing daylight rapidly. This can mean only one thing...our days of fun are numbered! Please pay close attention to the article on elections; it is important that we receive some volunteers in a short period of time to fill some rather important positions at EMYC. One such position would be key in developing this newsletter next year. Please join me in thanking Jim Smith for an excellent job during his long run as Editor. Thanks Jim!

At this month's meeting I will give a short demonstration on our current Fast Electric boats. What we call our SPEC classes and how they are set up. Two great entry points for someone considering a start in FE. See you on the 18th.
Andy

Whazzup?: Traditionally, September is the time and the monthly meeting is the place when and where we nominate club officers for the upcoming year. If an election is required, it occurs at the October meeting.

Do a little poking around among your friends and see if you can come up with a nominee. If your "guy" is not going to attend the meeting...please obtain his or her permission to nominate them in their absence.

Club bylaws preclude anyone from serving as Commodore / Board member for more than two consecutive yearly terms. Since Tim Smalley and Terry Spletstoeser have been on the Board for two years, they will be ineligible in 2002.

Welcome: Here are a couple of new and renewed guys to add to your membership list!!

Len Lindeke	Robbinsdale
John Miller	Edina
John Paul Miller	Edina
Tom Watkins	Edina

Officers: With club nominations in the offing, a comment from the *New York Times* might be in order. The newspaper reports that your government in Washington, DC sports an *Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Administrator for Administration of the General Services Administration*. Now, that's a mouthful! And, the position actually exists!

Adios: When I assumed the position of club newsletter editor in 1994, I had little idea of what I was getting myself into. Nor, did I expect to maintain the position for so long. At year's end, I will have published a total of 80 issues.

In the past, I have asked for someone to come forward to pick up the editorial reins, to no avail.

Recently, Don Swain has expressed an interest in stepping into the position. If someone else is interested, let him come forward now or "forever hold his peace!" Don and this unnamed person can "duke-it-out" for the job, or perhaps, share it.

Over the years, the task has developed into much more than writing and editing. If several members would share the bulk of the ancillary duties, I am sure that the new editor would be more than appreciative.

Following is a list of what I have been doing as your editor:

- Write and edit the club newsletter
- Take minutes at monthly meetings
- Print newsletter at Mail Boxes, Etc.
- Print mailing labels
- Insert flyers, fold, staple and label newsletter
- Deliver newsletters to Tom Shirley (on Monday, one week [8 days] prior to the meeting)

In addition, I have assumed responsibility to:

- Check club mailbox for renewals / new members
- Maintain a current roster of members
- Maintain a current frequency usage list
- Maintain a current mailing label list
- Print and distribute annual membership cards
- Print and maintain name badges up to date

Most of these extra functions should be performed by someone other than the editor. It would, however, require some amount of coordination and planning in order that the newsletter "get-out-on-time"...every month! That's mostly how I originally got suckered into doing it all myself. It wasn't too tough when we had sixty members, but now that we have over twice that number....you get the pretty-BIG picture!

I have enjoyed "doing" the newsletter over these past seven years, but have experienced some amount of burn-out recently as it has become increasingly more difficult to find articles of interest to model boaters.

I will be pleased to hand over the keyboard to a new guy and melt back into the crowd.

Thanks for your support!

Jim

Membership Meeting, 8/21/01: Commodore called meeting to order at 7:00pm. 28 members in attendance. T.Splettstoeser handed out awards to F.Ferris and P.Olsen for their performance at the Steering Regatta. He acknowledged and thanked those who assisted him at the event. Terry said that 12 members showed their boats at the Treasure Island show in Red Wing on 8/18. Threat of rain kept the turnout low...even though it did not rain in Red Wing. Turnout and weather was better on Sunday. He stated that we need more participants. Lighthouse Night had a great turnout. The location of the lighthouse toward the northern end of the pond was a good idea. The roped off area for members worked out very well. We had 15 boats on the water during most of the event. Lots of tangling of props in the monofilament connecting the floating candles. Suggest that they be floated individually next year.

Fireworks were a bit disappointing. Thanks to L.Wheeler for handling the big frequency board. Commodore thanked R.Johnson for his newsletter cartoons and those members who submitted articles. Tentative date for Last Blast FE event is Oct 6. Columbus Day Regatta will be two days...Oct 6 & 7. Fairwinds only will race on Sunday, everything else on Saturday. Commodore announced that nominations for a new Commodore and 4 vice-commodores will take place at the September meeting. Valentine and Splettstoeser will be unable to run for 2000 because of business and family commitments. Club also looking for a new newsletter editor and helpers to pick-up the ancillary duties. T.Smalley handed out tickets for the drawing of "left-over" Parade door prizes. A dozen members took home books, gift certificates, drive units, etc. No Show-n-Tell Jim

Schedule Of Upcoming Events

	Every Sunday	Open Boating	4:30PM - 9:00PM
	Every Tuesday	Open Boating	5:30PM - 9:00PM
	Every Thursday	Open Boating	5:30PM - 9:00PM
Sep.	15 th (Sat.)	St.Louis Admirals Regatta	Union Station, St.Louis, MO 9:00AM - 5:00PM
	16 th (Sun.)	St.Louis Admirals Regatta	Union Station, St.Louis, MO 9:00AM - 5:00PM
	18 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 7:00PM - 9:00PM
Oct.	6 th (Sat.)	Last Blast Before The Snow	South Pond 11:00AM - 3:00PM
	6 th 7 th (S&S)	Columbus Day Regatta	North Pond 10:00PM - 3:00PM
	16 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting	Centennial Lakes Centrum 7:00PM - 9:00P
Nov.	10 th (Sat.)	Dry Dock Party	Centennial Lakes Centrum 6:00PM - 11:00PM
	(Sat.)	Toy and Model Boats Show	Hopkins American Legion 8:00AM - 2:30PM
	20 th (Tue.)	Membership Meeting (Swap)	Centennial Lakes Garage 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Coolin' Down: Perhaps the recent drop in outside air temperature from the nineties in August has tempted you to stay in your comfy digs, put your feet up and read a book.

A friend recently loaned me his copy of a fairly new volume entitled "The Night the FITZ Went Down." It is a short, 175 page book which might easily be sub-titled "Reminisces of Capt. Dudley J. Paquette, Master of the SS Wilfred Sykes."

Paquette and the Sykes sought shelter in the lee of the Sleeping Giant in Thunder Bay on the afternoon of November 10, 1975 when the Edmund Fitzgerald went down. Paquette had been plotting the approaching storm for several days prior to its arrival on Lake Superior and was willing to "waste" the time in Thunder Bay to avoid the worst of the weather.

Although Paquette was on the water during the storm, he was never called to testify at the NTSB hearings. He was outspoken in his belief that the wreck was a result of negligence. The NTSB, USCG and the owners apparently didn't want to hear from anyone with that point of view!

The book is published by Lake Superior Port Cities, Inc., Duluth. A good buy for fifteen bucks.

Retrieval boat: I took the liberty of picking up a new battery and battery maintainer a couple weeks ago. When done using the battery be sure to plug it into the maintainer. This will charge at a slow rate, then maintain it at a full charge for long periods of time. Hopefully this will keep anyone from charging it like a regular car battery and boiling it at the 50-amp starter setting. We are having a boat dolly built for moving the Pelican around. For those familiar it will work in similar fashion to a snowmobile dolly. Large rubber wheels, bearings and an axle on a steel tube frame. This will allow for easier launch at all three ponds thus putting it to better use on a regular basis. We believe it will offer better steering control without the wheels hanging off the back. This will come at minimal cost to the club. Andy

Thirty Years Make A Difference!:

1971 Long Hair

2001 Longing for hair

1971 Moving to California because it's cool

2001 Moving to California because it's warm

1971 Keg

2001 EKG

1971 Killer weed

2001 Weed killer

Elections are coming: In October we will be holding annual elections for several positions. I will be stepping down as Commodore as my future status as a Minnesotan remains in question. There remains a good chance I will be transferring to Denver, CO through my job. Terry Spletstoeser will be vacating his position on the board to dedicate more of his time to his kids. The board was informed at our last meeting that Jim Smith will retire his "electronic pen" as it were to fall back into the crowd and enjoy the hobby after many years of good hard work on the newsletter and many other tasks. This all brings us to a very important decision process in October.

We would like to see some folks come forward, and run for these positions. Contact me or any board member and let us know what position you would be willing to take on for 2002.

Commodore

Vice Commodore

Secretary

Newsletter Editor

Newsletter Team

A past Vice Commodore, a person with a few years experience in the club or someone familiar with its operations would do well as Commodore. The experience will help come decision times or in obtaining help from key members in planning events. You should be willing and able to be present at the majority of club meetings. Keep in mind that all positions remain open to all members. Don't count yourself out too soon, so feel free to speak with any of us about your interests.

The Vice Commodore's role is to assist the Commodore in deciding votes, selecting committees to head up events and lead our four major groups of R/C boats. An active role in monthly meetings and developing event ideas is a big plus.

Secretary is a noted position in our By-Laws and duties include taking monthly meeting minutes to be published in our newsletter. Jim Smith has filled this position by default in the past. We should keep it separate from the Editor role, not just assume someone else will do it. Breaking up the tasks will lighten the burden on any one member. The Secretary is a member of the board.

Newsletter Editor should be someone willing to compile articles for our monthly newsletter, campaign members for their contributions, generate articles about the hobby in general, and develop the final print copy. More than one member could help in this role.

A Newsletter Team will need to be formed to off-load some of the effort. In the past it has been assumed the Editor would Compile and Edit articles, provide final print, copy, fold, insert, label and deliver the final product to the park for mailing. The "Team" would take the final product from the Editor and perform the remaining tasks to get it delivered. One way the club could save a good amount of money would be to begin sending the general membership their newsletter electronically. This is also a way

members could do their part in disbursing some of the effort required to get the newsletter delivered. Distribution via email or publishing to a secure portion of our web site would allow a member to obtain a color version of the newsletter.

In addition to these key roles the club is in need of support at other levels. Head up one of the boat groups such as Sail, Scale, etc. In this role you would help organize some events during the year. Organizers of events could be provided awards paid for by the EMYC. The events can be strictly organized or loosely assembled to keep the "fun" factor going. During these events (EMYC managed or otherwise) participation alone is greatly appreciated. The more time people spend planning an event only to obtain a small handful of participants the less likely it becomes EMYC will have the event in the future.

This club is run by volunteers with the same interests as yours, R/C boating. The amount of effort put forth by a select few in planning events or organizing meetings needs to be reflected in the amount of participation by membership. Without a level of participation equal to that of the planning efforts, the volunteers start to loose interest. Let's all do our part. Volunteer when you can or participate if you can't.

In conclusion, the board would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone interested in the positions listed above. For that matter, if you feel there is something you want to take part in next year let us know as soon as possible. We can answer your questions and help you find a role that would fit your needs. Volunteering is what keeps this group going. *Andy*

Website: A few may have noticed a big change on our website. The separate groups and articles have been removed with the entire site being condensed into a handful of pages. The major focus has become the R/C Forum we have. Lack of contributions left the site a bit thin in many spots, with the forum available it will become the major function of the website.

The ability to upload photos is a nice feature and is relatively easy to do when following the format instructions on the website. Some may have noticed it appeared to be down for a short while. This occurred due the host yanking the plug (literally) after loosing major financing for the following year. They have sold all of their accounts to a new host where we will remain until the end of our contract. If new pricing appears to be within reason we shall remain there for the long term. Bottom line...the website is there folks. Let's start using it! *Andy*

Why: is "abbreviated" such a long word?

Why: does sun lighten hair, but darken skin?

Why: is it that rain drops, but snow falls?

Why: is bottled lemon juice made with artificial coloring, while dishwashing liquid is made using real lemons?

September Meeting Notice:

(Third Tuesday of the Month)
Tuesday, Sept. 18th
7:00 P.M.

Centennial Lakes
Centrum

Commodore:	Andy Valentine
Vice Commodore	Fred Ferris
Vice Commodore	Paul Olsen
Vice Commodore	Tim Smalley
Vice Commodore	Terry Spletstoeszer
Treasurer	Gary Phillips
Newsletter Editor	Jim Smith

Web Site: www.emyc.org

FOR SALE

Dumas Coast Guard 40' Utility Boat
Unbuilt Kit, \$70 new, asking \$40
(Or trade for unbuilt Dumas 41' Utility)

Freedom Song "Arnold S" Tugboat
Unbuilt Kit, with Power Package
\$100 new, asking \$50.00

Kyosho Harbor Star Cabin Cruiser
Operating Lights, Cockpit Figures
with Futaba Attack SR Radio
Quiet, Smooth Running Boat
\$300+ new, asking \$125

I need to create some room in the
'harbor' for winter building!

Greg Gilbert

EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB
CENTENNIAL LAKES CENTRUM
7499 FRANCE AVENUE SOUTH
EDINA, MN 55435

First Class