

# EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

## SAIL & SCALE NEWSLETTER

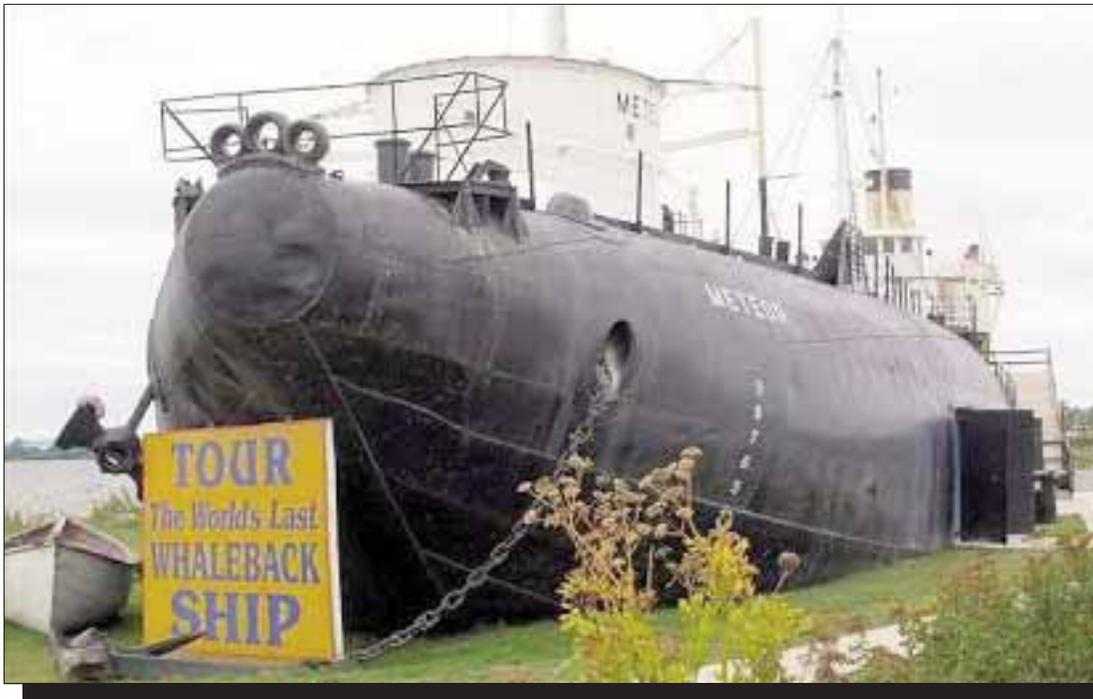
# The Whaleback Ships

By Bill Hamelink

I suspect that most, if not all, of the EMYC members are acquainted with, or have visited the S.S. Meteor whaleback exhibit just east of Superior, Wisconsin. Thus this description may be a little old to you. Hang on, I'll try to refresh your memory and add a little new information you may not be aware of.

The whaleback ship was the invention of Captain Alexander McDougall, a Scotsman with a very fertile

mind and a maritime history. He wanted a steamship with a hull that would minimize the effect of the wind and the battering of the waves. He achieved this with a shape that rode deep in the water, looking like a whaleback, and had rounded gunwales that would let the seas ride smoothly over the deck. He established a shipyard near the current museum and in 1888 he produced the first  
(cont. on page 4)



The S.S. Meteor, a walk-in exhibit on display in Superior, Wisconsin

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

**-Open Boating every Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. and every Sunday 4:30 - 9:00 p.m.-**

June 10, Sunday	9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Parade Of Boats
June 19, Tuesday	7:00 p.m- 9:00 p.m.	Membership Meeting
June 28, Thursday	4:00 p.m- 8:00 p.m.	The Draw at Ramsey, Minn

# COMMODORE'S CORNER



By Wayne Snyder

This year's three pond race was won by Larry Wheeler, the wind gods were very evident in his sails

as he sprinted far ahead of us all. However several others closed on him but to no avail as he succeeded in winning. Great job to all. As for yours truly, well he hadn't recharged his transmitter batteries so they succumbed to the eventual failure in the North pond, ho hum better luck next year! Thanks to Fred Ferris for running it again.

June is the Parade of Boats month. Let's all bring our boats so we have lots to show and also get ready to skipper them so there is a show on the water at most if not all of the time. Also the Ramsey visit is this month which is scheduled for the 28th. On Tuesday the 29th of May we had a great time with the young ladies from the Edina Patch newsletter, a daily "what's happening in Edina" e-mail. Thanks to all who showed up as we had a good representative group from the club to talk to the young ladies and even let them run the boats. It was windy and cloudy but we made a good impression for the newsletter. The Parade of Boats is advertised on the Edina Magazine web site this year. I have yet to get a firm date for Rick's Hobby

Farm, will work on that soon.

A reminder for the Dry dock party. Take lots of pictures of your activities, especially those that are not at the Centennial Lakes area so that Dale will have a good representative group to make his yearly show for us. -Wayne

## At the May 15 Meeting

Discussion related to the 2012 Parade of Boats planning was the main topic at the meeting Dick Walker reviewed the schedule for that day. -Todd Moen



Karl Bottemiller answering questions about his boat

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OPEN...MON-FRI, 10:00-9:00...SAT, 9:30-5:30...SUN, 12:00-5:00

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**NAUTICAL KNOW-IT-ALL - MILITARY BOATS** By Warren Peaze

**Test your military boat knowledge with this quiz:**

1. If a ship has a hull number beginning with DDG, what type of ship is it?  
 A. Guided Missile Destroyer    B. Frigate    C. Minesweeper    D. Battleship
  
2. Which of the following distinctions does the current USS Enterprise (CVN-65) hold?  
 A. Fastest ship in the US Fleet    B. First to handle jet aircraft  
 C. World's first nuclear powered aircraft carrier    D. Only aircraft carrier to survive Pearl Harbor attack
  
3. What was the first US nuclear submarine?  
 A. USS Red October    B. USS Rubicon    C. USS Seawolf    D. USS Nautilus
  
4. Which US President depicted on Mt. Rushmore does NOT have a US aircraft carrier named after him?  
 A. George Washington    B. Thomas Jefferson    C. Theodore Roosevelt    D. Abraham Lincoln
  
5. What is the oldest commissioned US Navy ship?  
 A. USS Constellation    B. USS Constitution    C. USS Enterprise    D. USS Intrepid
  
6. Who was the 'father' of nuclear propulsion in the US Navy?  
 A. Admiral Rickover    B. Admiral Calavicci    C. Admiral Hopper    D. Admiral Halsey
  
7. What is the crew size (with embarked airwing) of a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier?  
 A. 555    B. 10360    C. 5680    D. 1024
  
8. How long did the Nimitz go between its launch and its first refueling?  
 A. 26 years    B. 2 years    C. 5 years    D. 13 years
  
9. The Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force is run by this organization.  
 A. Military Sealift Command    B. US Naval Reserve    C. US Coast Guard    D. Boy Scouts
  
10. Which of the following is NOT a type of US Navy ship?  
 A. Cruiser    B. Missile Barge    C. Amphibious Assault Ship    D. Dock Landing Ship

**Answers to the May Know-It-All Questions about movie boats**

1. Boat in "Hellcats of the Navy" was the *USS Starfish*
2. Sub in "Down Periscope" was the *USS Stingray*
3. Sub in "Run Silent, Run Deep" was the *USS Nerka*
4. Boat in "White Squall" was the *Albatross*
5. Boat in "To Have and Have Not" was the *Queen Conch*
6. Boat in "Key Largo" was the *Santana*
7. Boat in "The Caine Mutiny" was the *USS Caine*
8. Boat in "Showboat" was the *Cotton Blossom*
9. Boat in "King Kong" was the *SS Venture*
10. Boat in "Pirates of the Caribbean" was *Black Pearl*
11. German Boat in "African Queen" was the *Queen Louisa*
12. Boat in "Jaws" was the *Orca*
13. Sub in "Gray Lady Down" was the *USS Neptune*
14. Ship in "Ghost Ship" was the *Antonia Graza*
15. Russell Crowe's boat in "Master and Commander" was the *Surprise*

## The Whaleback Ships (cont.)



ship, a barge I believe. Total production of the whalebacks (1888 - 1898) was 44 ships, 23 barges and 21 steamships: produced in Superior, Duluth, Brooklyn, NY, and Everett, WA.

The museum ship, the S.S. *Meteor*, was built in 1896 in Superior as the *Frank Rockefeller*, and was an iron ore carrier. It was the 36th whaleback built. She is 380' long, 45' beam and 26' depth. She had a few mishaps, a number of ownership changes, and had name changes to *South Park* and *Meteor*. In 1969 she was taken out of service after running aground and she was moved to her present site in 1971. She is now the last of the whalebacks, but not the most famous; that is reserved for the steamship S.S. *Christopher Columbus*.

The *Christopher Columbus* was the only passenger ship of the whaleback design; built in Superior in 1892-1893 in the boatyard near the *Meteor* resting site. She saw 40 years of service on the Great Lakes from 1893 to 1933. Her dimensions were close to the *Meteor* at 362' length, 42' beam and 24' depth. Her initial assignment was to ferry visitors to and from the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. She was the largest Great Lakes vessel at that time. In a ferry configuration, she carried 5000 passengers on four decks. All appointments were high end luxurious for a ferryboat shuttling passengers to a fair, even to the electric lighting. Power was from one 4 blade, 14' diameter propeller, driven by two steam engines, driven by six boilers. This could drive her at



The S.S. Christopher Columbus



## The Whaleback Ships (cont.)

20 MPH.

Like the cargo whalebacks, her superstructure was built atop circular turrets (6 for this ship). In the launch picture you can see these turrets prior to installing the superstructure.

When the exposition terminated, the ship entered into scheduled transportation and excursion services. The first scheduled service was Chicago to Milwaukee and return.

One infamous event tarnished the long history of the ship. In 1917, while on an excursion to Milwaukee, and in the Milwaukee harbor, and being turned by tugs; the bow swung over the shore and struck two legs of a 100 foot water tower. This brought the tower down on the pilothouse demolishing the pilothouse and flooding the staterooms etc. with water. People were crushed by the debris, washed overboard, or jumped to safety in the water. The toll to the 500 passengers was sixteen deaths and 30 injured. The ship was repaired and put back in service.

The S.S. Christopher Columbus continued to serve and was finally scrapped in 1936. She was one of the most popular pas-

senger ships on the Great Lakes and pictures of her abound. She is reported as carrying more people than any other ship on the Great Lakes.

In the event you are at all turned on by this ship, it would make an interesting and novel model. Here is the effort of one unknown modeler.

The ship features good stability with it's flattened whaleback style hull bottom and ample propulsion gear down near the keel. - Bill Hamelink



The S.S. Christopher Columbus, all four photos



**EMYC NEW MEMBERS**



**Larry Klick**



**Bill Uhl**

**THE AMERICAN QUEEN (CONT.)**



**Aerial View of the *American Queen* from the Gateway Arch**



**The Gentlemen's Card Room complete with barber chair**

**Special Thanks...**To members that contributed to this issue: Dale Johnson, Bill Hamelink & Wayne Snyder.

**"THE DRAW" IN RAMSEY, MINN.**

**CLUB SHIRTS HATS ETC.**  
**Contact:**  
 Kevin Waldo [REDACTED]

**Cub Burgees and Stickers**  
**Contact:**  
 Mickey Kirihara [REDACTED]

**T**he City of Ramsey has invited our back to their pond to run our boats this year on June 28, 2012, from 4:00-8:00pm. The Ramsey Park known as the Draw is located near the City Hall. From Highway 10 heading West, go North on Ramsey Blvd. N.W. 1/4 mile to E. Ramsey Pkwy. and turn left, heading West. Continue on E. Ramsey Pkwy. to Rhinestone St. N.W. Let's have a good representation of our boats at this show! -*Todd Moen*

## AMERICAN QUEEN ON TOURS AGAIN Compiled by Todd Moen

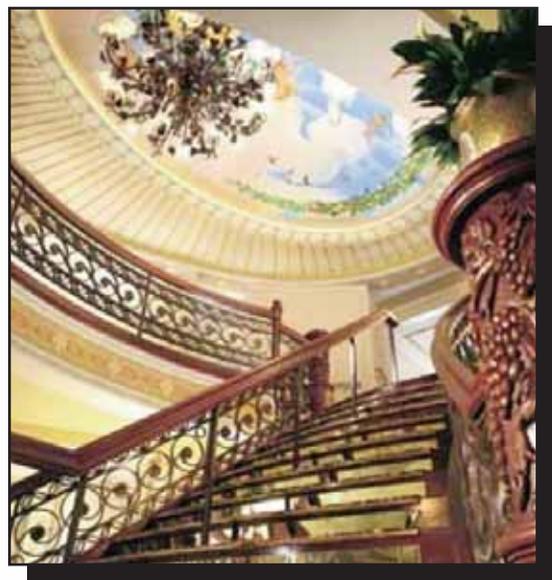
The *American Queen* is the largest river steamboat ever built. The ship was built in 1995 and is a six-deck recreation of a classic Mississippi riverboat, built by McDermott Shipyard for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company. Although the *American Queen's* stern paddlewheel is indeed powered by a genuine steam plant, her secondary propulsion and much maneuverability comes from a set of diesel-electric propellers, known as Z-drives, on either side of the sternwheel. She has 222 state rooms for a capacity of 436 guests and a crew of 160. She is 418 feet long and 89 feet wide.

The *American Queen* was retired to the reserve fleet in Violet, Louisiana, on 20 November 2008. Due to the failure of Majestic America Line (her owner) she was returned to the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) who held her \$30 million mortgage. With new owners in April 2012, the 436-passenger *American Queen* began a season of three- to 10-night voyages out of a variety of southern and Midwest home-ports, including New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Natchez, Vicksburg, Pittsburgh, Louisville, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Memphis. In 2012 the *American Queen* participated for the first time in the Great Steamboat Race, coming in second place.

(continued on page 6)



**The Chart Room**



**The Grand Staircase**



**EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB**

Centennial Lakes  
Hughes Pavilion  
7499 France Avenue South  
Edina, Minnesota 55435  
www.emyc.org



## JUNE MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2012 7:00 P.M.  
CENTENNIAL LAKES GARAGE BAND ROOM

### AGENDA:

- Topics will include:
- Parade of Boats Wrap Up
- "The Draw" at Ramsey, Minnesota
- Picnic At Rick's Pond
- Show 'N Tell: Bring your building projects

### Special Interest Contacts:

#### Scale Boating:

To Be Determined (Anybody Interested?)

#### Sail Boating:

Tony Johnson [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

#### Fast Electric:

Dan Proulx [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

## 2012 Board Members

- Commodore: Wayne Snyder [REDACTED]
- Vice Commodore: Bill Lundholm [REDACTED]
- Vice Commodore: Bill Koester [REDACTED]
- Vice Commodore: Dick Dahlquist [REDACTED]
- Vice Commodore: Robert McDonald [REDACTED]
- Secretary: To Be Determined
- Treasurer: Larry Wheeler [REDACTED]

The **Edina Model Yacht Club Sail & Scale Newsletter** is published monthly except for December.

- Newsletter Editor: Todd Moen [REDACTED]
- Webmaster: Dale Johnson [REDACTED]

Please send articles by email to:  
[REDACTED]  
Deadline for articles to be considered for the  
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