

July 2021 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

What a year!! After the heat and drought came the invasion of weeds on all ponds. Now smoke from forest fires in Canada! What next? Locusts, frogs? The weeds were bad enough that there was a notice on the EMYC forum to not bother coming down to the ponds. The ODOM racers also gave up on the south pond. Good news though, the park really had their contractor hit the weeds and they were all but eliminated. David Petrich ran his ODOM on the center pond and did not encounter one weed. No better test than that.

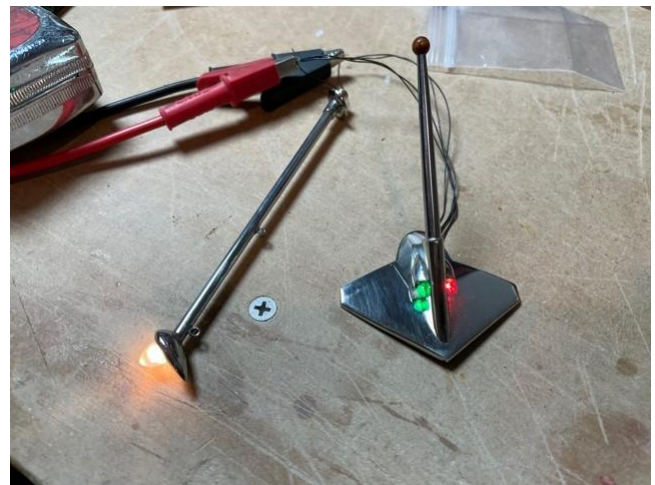
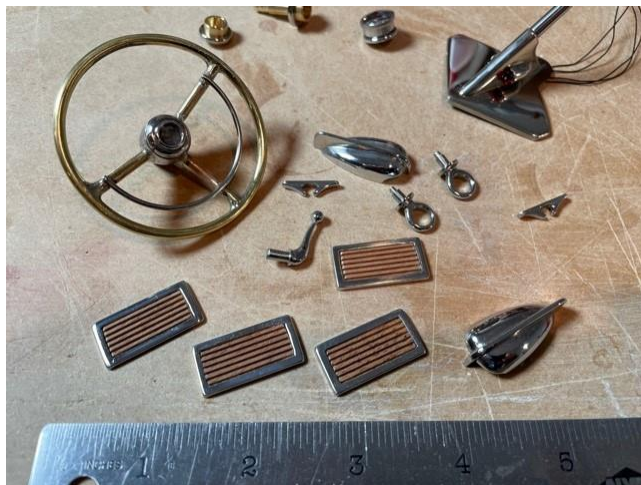
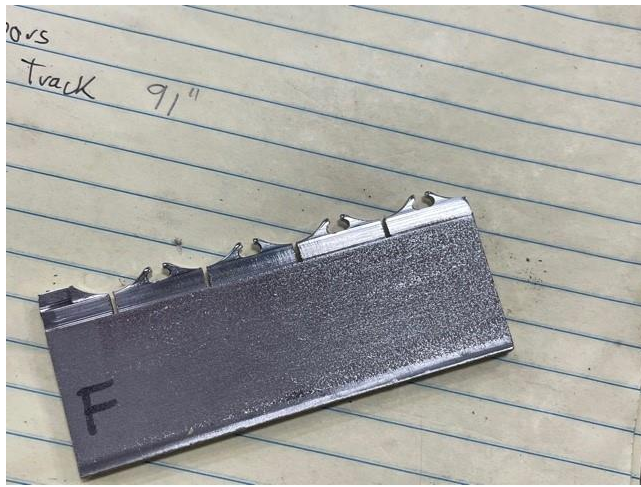
We have to start this newsletter with a report on the membership meeting. What a meeting!! First of all thanks to everyone that zoomed in and for being patient with the learning curve. Gary Tschautscher and I are making progress, but progress is not always in a positive way for the participants. I tried a remote camera during the presentations and I did not think that worked well at all. Plus it took too much of my time and attention so that I missed parts of the presentations. Alternate methods are being explored. I think by the end of the year Gary and I will have this sorted out.

So, how good was the meeting? Carolyn Walker sent this message about Dick's impression of the meeting: "Dick was over the moon when he got home last night! All that new information just recharged his boat building enthusiasm!" And what recharged his batteries? Four presentations by: Rob Segal, Tim Crain, Mike Corbett and John Bishop. Rob's presentation was an extension of last month's presentation on his 1964 Chris Craft Super Sport, this time with photos. If you remember from last month's newsletter Rob used all the wood in the kit but none of the trim. You will see why. But first I had Rob talk about his company and how that allowed him to make all the trim for his boat. After trying a couple of different careers he and some partners fell into a company that designs and builds interactive museum displays and experiences primarily for children. Rob is now the sole remaining partner. The website is kidzibits.com (ie kids exhibits), and I highly recommend you take a moment to go there to see what Rob's company does. It takes an eclectic group of people and expertise to create and build the exhibits, and Rob says that maybe his biggest satisfaction is the different expertise of the people that work together and the very creative culture within the company. As Rob described how the trim was made the big surprise was that despite all the equipment at the company the fabrication still required a lot of hand work. Hours and hours of hand sanding, filing and polishing, which Rob says he enjoys and for him is very therapeutic. Here is the finished boat from last month's newsletter, more than worthy of being included in the newsletter again:

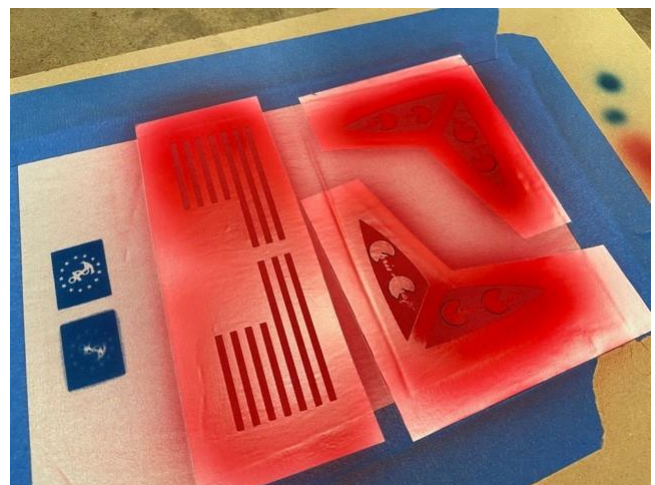
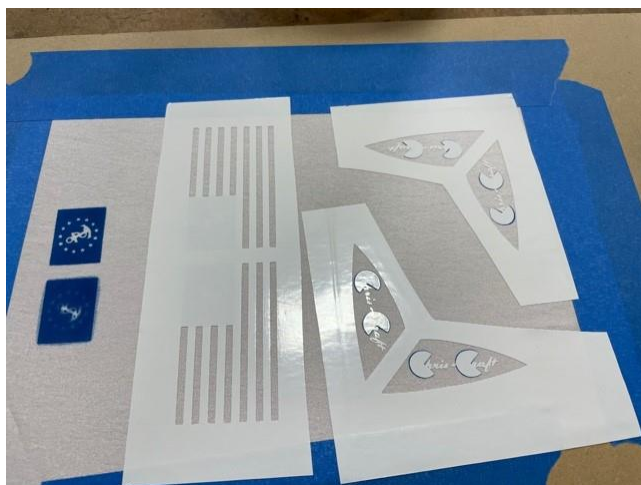


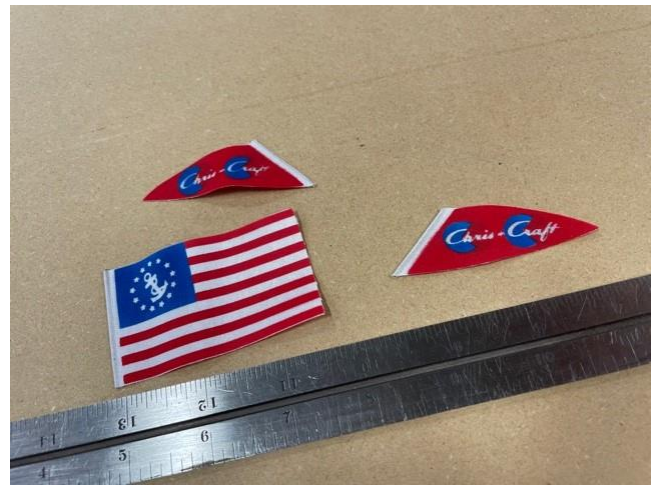
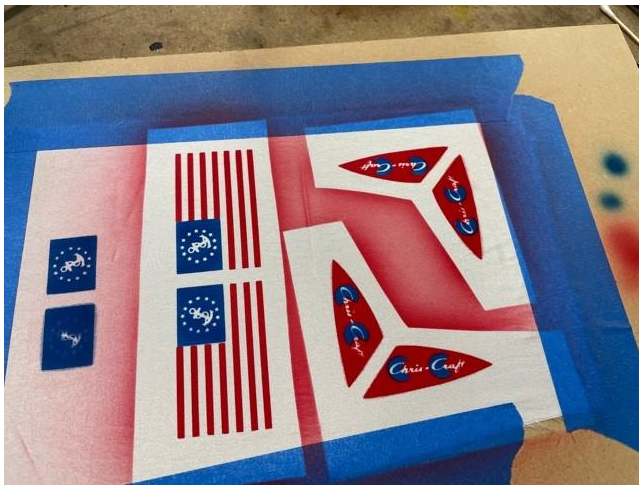
And here are some of the fabrication photos that Rob used in the marvelous presentation of his methods. The first photo illustrates the typical rough looking Dumas-furnished part and the Segal recreated part:





Several different types of metal were utilized for the various parts. In addition to the creation of parts is the fabrication of flags on fabric:





Absolutely top quality workmanship! A question from the members to Rob was how Rob attached certain pieces to the hull. The answer was 3M VHB tape, which Rob bought on-line as he was able to order .015 thick 4mm VHB tape rather than the thicker tape usually available locally. Here is the link:

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/121862958671?epid=1940636756&hash=item1c5f992e4f:g:KOYAAOSwBahVK~Xz> . John Bishop added that this same adhesive is used to join the top and bottom of airplane wings at the leading edge, and the adhesive will never fail.

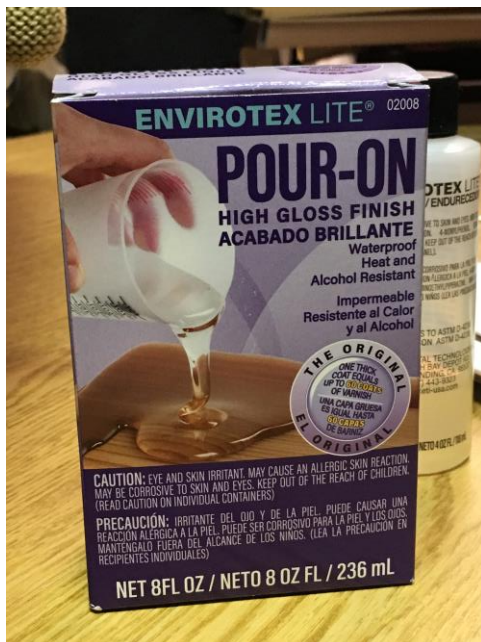
Next Mike Corbett gave a demonstration of plating metals. Mike used a Copy Chrome kit from Caswell Plating. The kit is available in many sizes to match the size of your project. There is huge variety of finishes available. Here is Mike showing the pack of AA batteries used for the plating process:



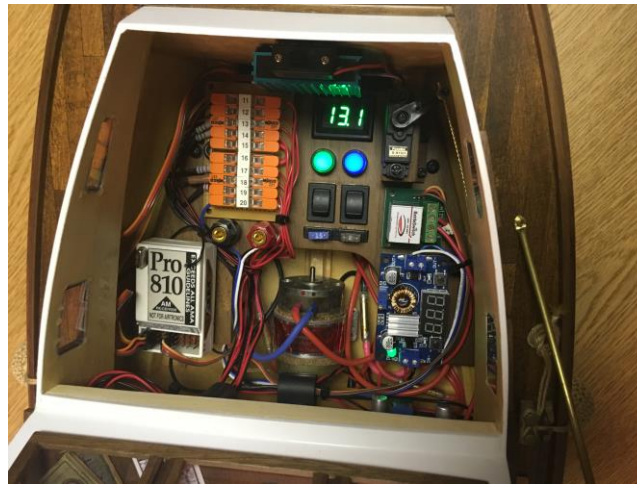
Fascinating process and staggering as to the types of plating available. Also amazing is that it is a fairly simple process. The plating is applied with an electrical charge and almost immediately “cures”, and is able to be polished out (see the yellow tube of Simichrome on the table). Also interesting is that in place of the AA battery pack Mike showed how the white cube that is used to plug into a wall socket, and provides a usb connection to charge a variety of devices, has a constant 5 watt output and can be utilized to provide the current for the plating process.

Tim Crain gave a great presentation of his current build in process. Unfortunately I was busy with the remote camera and did not get the information or pictures. Similarly Richard Dahlquist was taking pictures for the Facebook page and was so caught up in the presentations that he had a self-described “senior moment” and did not get photos or description of the presentation either. But we know Tim will bring the boat back at a future meeting where hopefully more competent staff will give the build the attention it deserves.

John Bishop was the last presenter and focused on one of those detail items that make his builds so amazing. This one in the just finished lobster boat, and just a small item, a bucket of water. Water, one of the features of model railroading that adds so much to a scale build. Here is the kit John utilized, and the finished bucket:



One of the interesting steps in the process is that this two-part product should have each part measured into their own container, then these two containers are poured at the same time into a third container and gently stirred. The combined mixture is then poured into the application and heat is carefully applied to bring the entrained air bubbles to the surface and out of the final mixture. A very interesting process and a flawless end product. Now we can't leave this boat without another look at the electronics:



Sweet.

There was also a presentation of the results of the requested preferences for the Dry Dock Party. We got an excellent response from 24 members, representing 39 people attending the party. It was a 50-50 response for people that preferred an afternoon luncheon to no preference of afternoon or evening. One person indicated a preference for an evening dinner but was flexible. Based on this information we are proceeding to plan for an afternoon luncheon with Famous Dave's, and Laura in the park offices has cleared us for use of the pavilion for an afternoon event. More information will be coming. We will take a final tally of people that will be attending at a later time. The purpose of the pole was to allow us to plan for the event, which will now proceed.

Shop #1, in a Series

I thought I would do an occasional look into the shop spaces of the club modelers. You won't find more reflection of a person's character than in their shop. Kevin Waldo kindly agreed to be the first to share his bachelor pad shop with the club. Kevin:

Well, here is what my shop looks like. I share it with the spiders and the centipedes. They stay on their side of the room, I stay on my side of the room. It started out to be the laundry room, but I needed a place to build my first boat, a P.T. boat, so the laundry room was moved. I have the old washtubs still there which became my workbench. The overhead lights came from the old model train layout at the State Fair. Wintertime gets a little cold down there since I have no real heat in the basement, but it works for me.



Would you be willing to share your shop with the club? Just send me a couple of photos and a brief description. I think it will be really fun to see how different the work spaces are. A big thanks to Kevin for being the first to let us peek into his shop.

Other things going on:

Vernon Bollesen had his Mississippi River tug with barges on the water for a complete shakedown cruise:



Extra nice!! Great build!!

And finally, from the files of “you can’t make this stuff up”, the ODOM racers were at Smith Park many weeks ago. Racing is from the top of a “T” shaped dock, and often the boats are set up on shore and the boat stand is left there while the boat and skipper head out to the dock for racing. At one session Kevin Kavaney’s boat stand disappeared while racing was going on. The guys noticed some kids nearby that were acting suspiciously and there was speculation of what might have happened. Fast forward to about a week ago, racing is underway when a rain shower forces the guys into the adjacent gazebo for shelter. Terry Mackey finishes the story:

“Another odd incident yesterday...a woman showed up to do some fishing from her wheel chair. As we spoke with her in the gazebo during the rain event, she mentioned she had this odd chair some kid gave her to sit in a couple months ago. Realizing it wasn’t a chair, she asked if it was ours...it’s Kevin’s boat stand that the kid took and gave to her...☺”. Like I said, you can’t make this up.

Coming up:

Sunday, August 8th, Light House Night #1 with the Sousa Band and a lot of sidewalk vendors. A must-do event. Light up your boat(s) and plan on getting there late afternoon as this event has huge attendance and parking becomes non-existent.

Thursday through Saturday, August 12-14, Military Flyin. RC airplanes you won't believe in Owatonna. A must see/bucket list event that will blow you away. Here is the website for more information: <http://www.namfifyin.com/>.

Ponds are weed free, temperatures moderating, into the last month of summer, time to get on the ponds!! See you there!

John Bertelsen
Commodore
Edina Model Yacht Club

