

## January Newsletter

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### January 2023 Membership Meeting, News and Other Things

The club received a Christmas card and note from Captain David Robb and his wife Linda. Captain Dave was the club's real ship captain and could not attend summer meetings because he was the Captain of the Minneapolis Queen operating out of the Bohemian Flats at the U of M Minneapolis campus on the Mississippi River. In the note Linda shared that last year they went to the International Shipmaster's National Convention in Cleveland Ohio where Captain Dave was, for the fourth time, selected as a delegate. For those of you who did not know Captain Dave, he was the real deal having been the Captain on a variety of vessels. You have to count yourself very fortunate if you were at the meeting where he told of having to bring one of the giant ocean going cargo ships into the Duluth Harbor under the lift bridge. David being David, and a ship's captain, I think it is expected that he is also a master story teller - complete with photographs. The story goes that he was filling in for the two harbor masters, who are never, ever, not on duty for the shipping season, except for this one time and they asked Dave to fill in. Out he goes to meet the giant cargo vessel and the Russian captain (the remainder of the crew were other nationalities, communication and language being a challenge on board). The Russian Captain (RC) says to Dave "you captain?", to which Dave replies "yes", RC: "you drive!". Dave: "captain of little boat, not big boat". RC: "you captain?" Dave: "yes, of little boat, not big boat!" RC: "you captain, you drive!". Dave: "ok". Now the boat is making a big turning arc to line up with the harbor entrance channel and there is a wrecked speed boat dead in the water very close to their path. A young man was out against his father's wishes impressing his girlfriend and another friend with his girlfriend on his father's boat. There were huge rain storms in the area and trees and other large debris were floating all over the lake and in the harbor area. The boat struck something at high speed and was now close to being run over by an ocean cargo ship. They just missed the boat and were on final approach to the harbor entrance channel at Canal Park when a sailboat entered the channel from the harbor heading out into the lake. The sailboat skipper got on the radio and shouted that he had the right of way and for the cargo ship to make way. Dave said that was not the correct response for the sailboat right of way versus a 1000 foot ship in the harbor. They didn't respond but just kept coming. A mishap was avoided and as the cargo ship went under the lift bridge the RC said to Dave to

put the ship in at the first dock where they were to pick up the large blades of a wind turbine generator. On the opposite side of the berth were three restored original Duluth Harbor tugs, and Dave put his foot down and said there was no way he was going to put the ship into the dock anywhere close to the tugs! The RC agreed and without any drama put the boat to dock. Now if you know Captain Dave, you know that there were tons more details on the length of the tug he took out to meet the ship, the motors it has, and on and on. A spell binding story - with photos! Dave had offered to do another presentation on his time at piloting a pusher tug with barges down the Mississippi but we never were able to set a date. Captain David Robb, one of the most colorful members the club has ever had. After retiring from the Minneapolis Queen, Dave and Linda moved to Tennessee where they are remaining quite active. Oh, and they also went to the Ark and Creation Museum in Kentucky, and if you recall Linda was quite the fisherperson so Dave bought an antique boat and motor for her fishing. A cheap and easy fix up project which of course was anything but that! We all wish them both a wonderful continued "retirement".

### January Board Meeting

The board met on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The attendees included the board members, all the special interest representatives for the club (see the list at the end of the newsletter), plus several other members attended. Here is a brief summary of the many items discussed:

- Expense and Income Summary - Julia Moen

This was an important discussion for later items on the agenda. The club bank account activity:

Starting balance 2022     \$4,168.35

Ending balance 2022     \$2,630.32

Income: Membership dues \$1,565.00, Boat and other sales plus donations \$1,446.00, for a total of \$3,011.00

Expenses: Parade of Boats \$544.56, Spring Breakfast \$1,241.28, Dry Dock Party \$1,300.77, signs and banners \$791.68, bank fees, zoom registration, website, printing \$670.74, for a total of \$4,549.03.

Net account for 2022 -\$1,538.03.

The high (for the recent history of the club) starting balance in the club account is due to covid preventing the dry dock party for one year and saving that expense, and the sale of a large number of boats and other items donated to the club from various estates. There were several onetime expenses such as the Spring Breakfast, and signs and banners, so that we have not had typical income or expenses recently or that can be anticipated to continue into the future. The plus and minus in the account activity has pretty much been equal for many years, but for 2022 there was a net deficit of about \$1,600.00. Primarily for that reason I proposed that we look at an increase in the club membership fee. In the 8 years I have been Commodore the membership fee has not changed, and I believe it had not changed for years prior to my time. Currently the fee is \$30.00 individual/adult, \$40.00 family. Proposed by others and adopted was to eliminate the \$30.00 individual fee and keep the one fee of \$40.00 per family, regardless of the number of persons in the "family".

We also discussed a charge per person to attend the Spring Breakfast and the Dry Dock Party, with a decision to be made in the future after hearing comments from the membership.

Historically the club has charged for the Dry Dock Party twice in the past so this is not a new concept. The format of the Dry Dock Party will not change, it will continue to be a catered event, but the format of the Spring Breakfast needs discussion. Last year we

catered that event due to the high balance in the club's bank account and to encourage people to attend to determine the interest in a season opening event. That breakfast event had an enormous number of extremely positive responses, with zero negative comments, so it will definitely remain on the schedule, but we need to decide what to do for the event. Catering in 2022 was about \$25.00 per person. (Poll #1) The discussion needs to be: event still catered with the club and participants sharing the cost, or NOT catered and the club furnishes coffee, rolls, donuts, or other items. Please respond to Terry Bertelsen at [REDACTED] with your thoughts on this event. We did not discuss the club fully paying for the event again as an option. Very important that we get feedback on the format for the Spring Breakfast as well as your thoughts on a per person fee to attend the breakfast and party.

- A PayPal account for the club will not be set up right now for several reasons. We will continue to work on setting that up in the future.
- A proposal to change the membership meeting day and time to Saturday morning was not approved after much discussion. We will continue as the third Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm, except for June, July and August at 8:00 pm. The Swap Meet permanently moving to Saturday morning was approved, especially since there was a lot of positive feedback from last year's event which was moved due to a snow storm. Regarding the change of the membership meeting day there was a Facebook poll set up with 66% supporting no change, and 33% supporting the Saturday option. However, despite Richard requesting only club members vote, it seems that some people find it funny, or just can't help themselves, there were about 100 votes cast despite there being only 25 members signed in to the Facebook group, rendering the results completely unusable. (Poll #2) Let me know what your feelings are regarding the meeting day/time. Options: leave the day and time as-is, change to the second or third Saturday from 10am - 12:00, other suggestions.
- Zoom meetings were discussed and Gary Tschautscher believes we can find a way to do zoom meetings without losing the signal. The proposal is to re-examine zooming based on the response from people who would like to see the zoom continue. If it continues it would be a watch and listen presentation, that is no interaction via zoom. We all have our cell phones with us so that if you wanted to ask a question or make a comment you could certainly text or email one of us in the room.
- There is a new enhanced membership form. The changes are the previously mentioned change in the membership fee, and I have added a statement of rules of boating for club members. This statement is added based on the rules of boating we developed with Centennial Lakes Park management team, and were subsequently displayed on the sandwich board. Last year we did a very poor job of letting everyone in the club know of the rules that had been established, and new members were not advised at all. The membership form will be used as an educational tool for all in the club to be aware of our agreement between the club and the Park management. There is also a place added to check off if it is ok to give out contact information to other members if requested through the Commodore.
- The calendar of events for 2023 was not completed and was not presented at the board

meeting. We did discuss the three Classic Boat Club events that we attended in 2022 and the possibility of doing one of the shows in the Brainerd Lakes area. Rob Segal will look into this. Also, at the State Fair there is often a display of a particular craft in the Creative Activities Building. Rob will also contact the State Fair people to see if we could do an RC boat display during the State Fair. What that would be exactly would need to be discussed with the State Fair people and whatever it is will take significant time to put together so lead time will be important. We discussed that for the club to host a fast electric event we would need club insurance, and since we will not do that we will not have these events.

- When we do the offsite Classic Boat Shows we use two 10' x10' awnings/tents, which do not fit together very well. We have been making them work out, but now that we are, and probably into the future will be doing, at least 3 offsite Classic Boat Shows every year it would be quite nice to have one 10' x 20' awning/tent. We discussed looking into the one tent setup and approved a budget of \$400 - \$600 nominal cost for Rob Segal to investigate the options and present his recommendations at a future members meeting.
- I requested help to introduce new members to the club by providing me a photo and the name of the member to be included in the newsletter. Richard Dahlquist took that on with Rob Segal agreeing to act as back up in Richard's absence. That assistance is much appreciated as the newsletter has not covered new members very well.

### At the Membership Meeting

A great start to the new year with excellent attendance at the first meeting of the year! This included new members, some actually joined last year but were not introduced through the newsletter:



Doug Johnson



Glenn Davis



Nate O'Connor

Stefan Silverman

We went through the minutes of the Board Meeting. Rob had already contacted the Minnesota Classic Boat Club and they would love to have us at a Gull Lake Show, more information on that to be presented, and he had also contacted the State Fair offices. His inquiry of a display has apparently been passed along to the correct person(s) with no feedback from them at this time. More on that event as it becomes available.

It was brought up that we don't issue a membership card anymore, and one person said that they had submitted a membership form and check for the member fee by mail, but did not get any acknowledgement/ receipt of the application. The check had been cashed. I said that my feeling was that the only purpose of the club membership card was that Hub Hobby used to give a discount to members of the club, but since they have changed that to a rewards program for all their customers the card has no function. We have boxes of unused membership cards in storage but unless there is good reason to utilize the card we do not need to take on an additional task for the membership coordinator. We do need to provide an e-receipt of the membership application and/or membership fee. Some renewing members just provide the membership fee alone without an application. The receipt would also include the rules of boating that were added to the membership form.

### Show and Tell

Always interesting and seldom do we know what will be presented. January did not disappoint with a real variety of things brought in to share with the club:

- John Bertelsen's "tube tug". Actually it has been christened the "King of Beers" and has
- really become in great part David Petrich's "tube tug" because he adopted, or maybe
- fostered is better, the boat at the Swap Meet last year after significant peer pressure
- was applied. It needed some touch up paint-wise and some very minor work, but it was
- just the type of boat that tugs (pun intended) at his strings. While it was already in
- pristine condition and only in need of a light hand, instead it got an upgrade to the
- next level or two. Running lights were added, a sound system/light show module, tug
- bumpers, a custom stand and a locking mechanism to secure the above cabin to the deck:



What is interesting about this boat is that it has a tube style receiver apparently from the 50's, and a citizens band operator's application was included with the boat purchase off of ebay:



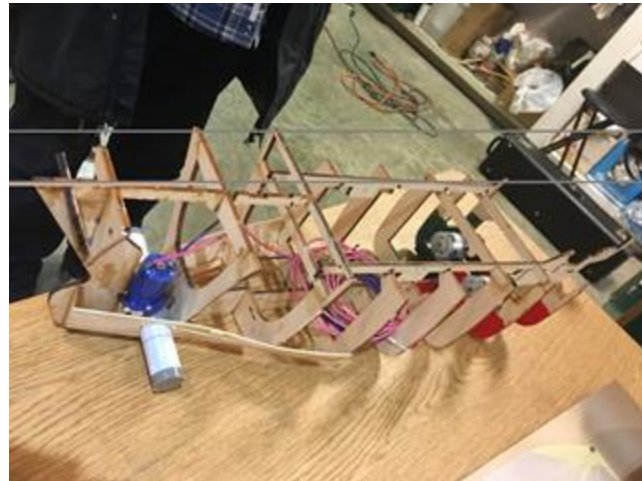
The bottom of the sound system can be seen on the underside of the cabin tipped off to the side, and the tubes are located in the bow of the boat. The tube radio provides for an on-off switch for the throttle with no modulation, and the steering servo was all left or all right. A modern receiver and servo were added but the original motor remains. This boat is really in pristine condition and while it has made a voyage in David's bathtub it is untested on pond waters. It is wonderful as-is or it can be taken to the next level, if desired.

- Rob Segal's count down timer. Count down timers have grown legs at Centennial Lakes
- as two have gone missing in recent times. Add to that the person making them has decided
- to quit doing so and options for replacement quickly become limited. But Rob took it as
- a challenge and came up with an astounding solution:



The unit is exceptionally constructed, provides the needed count down audible message, and concludes with a cannon shot! Absolutely first rate!

- Glenn Davis's Smit Rotterdam Tug in progress:



This is a Cornwall Model boat with laser cut wood pieces. The instructions were more of a suggestion per Glenn, basic construction instructions ended with a note that oh, if you want to make this an RC boat you need to make some adjustments! You can see the insertion of bow thrusters in the right photo. Glenn promises to bring this boat back as the build progresses (thanks Glenn - that would be just great!).

- Rob Segal's Diecast Outboard Motor Collection:  
Thank goodness I didn't know these existed! What great special interest items to collect! Rob has been fascinated with these for a long time, and marveled at the detail provided in what was intended to be a toy years ago. The display was of course built by Rob and allows for individual operation of each motor - sans one.



Rob has even fabricated some of the missing pieces. Apparently the hand turned bolts with steel cups that fasten the motor to the transom are frequently missing (see photos lower left and upper right) and Rob has fabricated these along with other pieces and completed necessary electrical repair to get the motor running. If you are interested in antique motors but don't have the space, the detail in these gems should completely satisfy your craving. Rob says he can bring them to the Parade to put on display in an area that can be monitored continuously as they are easy to go missing.

- Rob's Sails:

Rob just got in his EH? ODOM sails and brought them for ODOM skippers to see.





I don't think we have this make of sails in the club yet. For the sail material EH recommended 2 mil mylar and says:

"2 mil is Mylar drafting film used on most boats such as Iom and Df95s. Trispi is no longer available. However it is a two layer film with a crosshatch scrim in the middle. 505 is a single film with a unidirectional scrim on one side.

Cheers,

Brian Kerrigan"

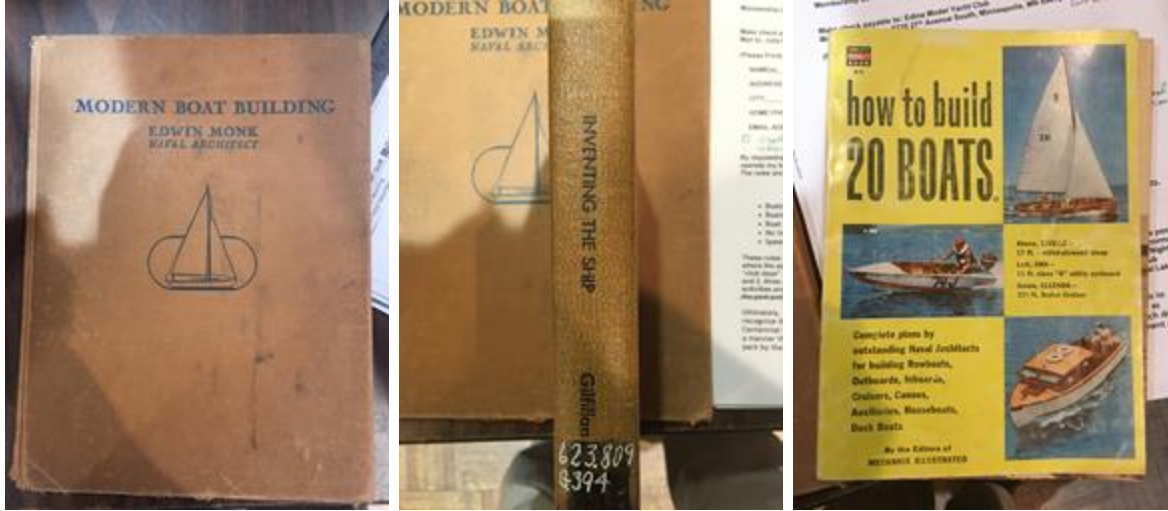
### Other News and Items

The cage storage area is in need of a clean-up again. We will schedule a Saturday morning in February. A shop vac is needed to vacuum the accumulated dirt from all surfaces, and the three-hulled boat needs a cleanup/out. Let me know if you are willing to help and we can agree on a time. Also, the two boats that were previously mounted on the wall in the pavilion suddenly appeared in the cage on the wall a few years ago:



We have permission to take these boats down and get them back on the water. Just let me know if you are interested in adopting a boat to get it water-worthy. The club can then decide what we would like to do with them.

We received a donation of three books at the meeting:



All looking for a home in someone's library.

A contact from our website: Kathleen O'Donnell is looking for a minor repair to a broken mast on a boat that has been in the family for some time:



Could someone help her out? I will be seeing the boat soon and can report more information. Please contact me if you would like to facilitate this repair for her. The club has helped many people in the past and it is a nice way to share the skills in the club with others. You are free to work out remuneration with Kathleen.

You may recall that Dorothy Zimmermann's oldest son, Jim, passed away last year, and may also recall that he was a great modeler himself. The basement shop in his modest south Minneapolis rambler was literally packed with tools, parts, and a lot of things RC. We placed and sold quite a few items at the Swap Meet last year and now she and her son Randy are nearing the end of the cleanout of the house - which also included over 200 1/18 scale diecast model cars. I thought a few photos of the (actually significantly cleaned out) shop might be interesting:



In the lower right photo there are actually four table saws there. Hand tools, chop saws, power tools, there is still a ton to find a home, but I did pick up the remainder of the smaller modeler items and will figure out how to present them to the club in the future.

Finally, I think most of us have spent hours on YouTube, it is really addictive. Recently, an I am not sure how, I became aware of the Harbor Cam at the Duluth harbor entrance at Canal Park. That led to a couple of websites by persons that provide video and information on the boats that are arriving and departing. One is “Vibe with Mike”. Here are two videos that really capture winter at the harbor:

The first is the ship American Century arriving at night on 12/16/22. This is a beautiful night scene:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wz6zD1ti038&t=2s>

This one is of the historic Steam Ship “Alpena”, a vessel of a time gone by and maybe not on the lakes for much longer. If you only watch one of these links, this is the one:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYimDhY6vzM>

Lastly, but still spectacular, the start of Sydney to Hobart sailboat race in Australia is unbelievable. Over 100 boats at the start line, 4 huge 60 footers mixed in with others from 30 feet, all jockeying for position. It is more than a bit tense and exciting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYagYLSyv9w>

Special Thanks to Julia Moen for taking over the treasurer and membership coordinator position for the club almost 2 years ago from Larry Wheeler. Julia has done an excellent job and her support of the club by taking these functions is very much appreciated! But life changes and though she would like to continue, family and career must take precedent and her submitted resignation has been accepted. She will continue to work on the Parade and Dry Dock party as well as other things. David Brinkman has decided that he would like to take over those roles and the transition has been started. Please hold off on mailing in your membership dues and applications until we get the banking changed over to David and some other things in place. A very big THANKYOU to Julia!!

Busy year already! Please get me feedback on the several items in this newsletter so we can proceed with plans for the year. Glad to have everyone aboard! Hope you can make the next meeting February 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday, 7:00 pm.

John Bertelsen  
*Commodore*  
*Edina Model Yacht Club*



Vice Commodores: Gary Tschautscher, Rob Segal, David Brinkman  
Treasurer and Membership: Julia Moen  
Sailboats: Tony Johnson  
Scale Modeling: Kevin Waldo  
Website: David Petrich  
Zoom Meetings, EMYC and ODOM Forums: Gary Tschautscher  
DF 95 forum: Burt Fischer  
Dry Dock Party: Terry Bertelsen, Julia Moen  
Face Book: Richard Dahlquist, Todd Moen  
Off site events: Rob Segal