



# SAIL & SCALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE EDINA MODEL YACHT CLUB

February 1997

Volume 6, Number 2

**Commodore's Corner:** Greetings all! Well, I must say I finally discovered the merits of sailing. I recently acquired an ice-boat. I could hardly believe anything with a sail could be so much fun!

The ice-boat is proving to be a worthy distraction for the winter blues. If you are hankering to blow the dust off the ol' transmitter, consider building one of these. Several people in the club have the plans to scratch build the model.

I mentioned at the January meeting that I would like to have people step forward and "adopt" a hobby shop in an area that was close to your residence. The point of doing so is to keep the membership boards that we put up at local hobby shops stocked full of our club cards. The two boards that I personally keep stocked with cards usually generate several phone calls from people that are interested in our club. A few people have already volunteered to watch over the membership boards. I will need about 10 more members that would be interested in helping out the club. Call me at 551-4953 if you would like to help.

Hope to see you all at the February 22nd meeting!

Dan

**What's The Meeting?:** We are pleased to be hosting Mr. Dean DeRusha, President of Model Marine Corporation, Menomonee, MI. Dean's company is the maker of the miniature Harken style sail-boat fittings that you may have seen advertised in various publications (see below). Along with his fittings, Dean will be displaying various hulls that he manufactures including sail-boats, tugs, commercial / work-boat and even a few speed boats.

If the ice on the pond is still safe, we will be demonstrating ice-boats as well.

The meeting starts at 12:00PM (noon), and should last 3 or four hours, depending on ice conditions.

Dan

**Where's The Meeting?:** Centennial Lakes Garage, Band Room. Go 300 feet north (left) from the Centrum Building. Enter the door on the rear of the retail complex adjacent to the large overhead garage door.

**When's The Meeting?:** No...Not Tuesday evening! In order to accomodate our guest, the meeting will be held on Saturday, February, 22nd. at Noon. Please make note of this change, and come on out...on Saturday!!

**Hertz, but Not Rent-A-Car:** Sufficient space should be available next month to publish an updated frequency chart. Please call your editor with the channel number of any newly acquired radios.

**Disappointing!:** I spent several days in southern California in mid-January. The visit with my daughter's family and the sixty-five degree, sunny days were grand. However, the IMS hobby show in Pasadena and the Long Beach hobby show were both a severe disappointment from a boating viewpoint. Aside from the two new servos mentioned on page three, there is little worthy of mention. Hobby Lobby was a "no-show", MRP had the usual line of "fast electrics", Ram showed a couple of new sound modules, and Dumas had a couple of new...airplanes!!! Other than that, nothing!!! Is scratch building in your future? *Jim*

**Question of the Month:** What US Navy ship had the largest bore guns aboard?

Last month's answer: Teddy Roosevelt...was the first president of the United States to travel in a submerged submarine. (The SS-2, USS Plunger, Aug.25,1905)

I received only one answer to last month's question. Unfortunately, it was an incorrect reply, so the caller will remain unidentified.

**Tables, Tables!:** If you are interested in renting a table (\$35 - 40) at the "Toy and Model Boats Show" in April, contact Paul Mikkelsen [REDACTED]

**Bye, Bye, South Pond:** According to Tom Shirley, our beloved, South Pond is soon to be no more! A contract is about to be let for a second building in the complex south of 76th street. This will trigger the requirement that the real "South Park Pond" be built by the developer. So, by the end of the Summer, we will be boating at the newly named, "Central Park Pond". Same ol' place...new name!

**Membership:** The list of new and renewed members for 1997 is now standing at 59.

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## 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

All of the above are tentative, and subject to the whims of "Mother Nature"...how about April 1st.?

<b>Feb.</b>	22nd.(*Sat.)	Membership Meeting (Harken Products Display)	Centennial Lakes Garage	12:00PM - 3:00PM
	22nd.(Sat.)	Ice Boat Demonstration	North Pond	2:00PM - 3:00PM
<b>Mar.</b>	22nd.(*Sat.)	Membership Meeting (Building Projects)	Centennial Lakes Garage	10:00AM - 2:00PM
<b>Apr.</b>	4th,5th,6th	Weak Signals R/C Show	Seagate Center, Toledo, OH	9:00AM - 6:00PM
	12th.(Sat.)	Toy and Model Boats Show	Hopkins House Hotel, MN	8:00AM - 3:30PM
	15th.(Tue.)	Membership Meeting (Painting)	Centrum Building	7:00PM - 9:00PM
* Don't forget! Both of these meeting dates are on <u>Saturday</u> !				

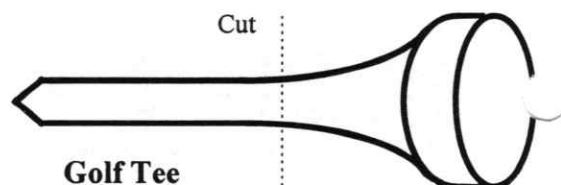
**Details, details, det....Modern Air Horns:** You can make modern day air horns from a golf tee and a craft peg.

Craft pegs are available in several sizes from any craft store such as Michael's or Frank's as well as from the craft department at Walmart. Golf tees can be bought by the bag at any discount store with a sporting goods department.

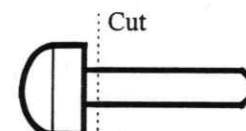
Determine the length of the air horn to best suit the boat you are working on, and cut the tee to match this length. Cut the knob end off the craft peg and glue it to the narrow end of the golf tee. A short piece of the stem of either the tee or peg can be added to the horn to provide a stand for the horn, or used as a connection for a nest of more than one horn. Usually, a nest of two to four horns are seen on most modern day ships.

The following steps will make the horns look more realistic: 1. Sand the knob end of the craft peg to a more rounded shape and get rid of any sharp edges. 2. Drill out the bell portion of the golf tee so that it looks more like a horn. This takes considerable care, as the tees split easily. I found the best method is using a cone shaped router bit for my Dremel tool. Using this bit, I was able to first drill straight down the center of the tee and then widen it out toward the edge. When you have completed this step, sand the tee to remove gouges and give it a nice smooth finish.

*George Pfeifer*



Golf Tee



Craft Peg

**Lettering Your Project:** Very inexpensive, black on clear images such as print and miniature graphics for your boat can be produced by attaching clear packaging tape to discarded backing sheets from laser writer labels. Run these through your laser printer and you've got instant stick-on lettering. This procedure is limited by the width of the packaging tape. I have used 3M's Scotch Super Strength Mailing Tape (2" wide) laid right down the center of the label backing sheet. This gives you a printable strip 2" wide and 11" high. If you print in the landscape format, the strip becomes 11" long and 2" high. It might take a bit of experimenting

to get the graphics on the tape. Do not attach the tape to the backing across the page. The resulting short (2") lengths of tape might come loose in the printer causing a big and sticky problem. In my attempts, I have folded the tape over the top and bottom of the backing sheet about 1/4 inch to preclude any possibility of the tape coming loose in the printer. I'm sure that 3M has clear tape wider than 2", so the limitation noted above is not critical. A spray coat of Testor's, *Dull Cote* #1260, kills the surface gloss of the tape. But, I'll bet that 3M also makes a flat-finish, clear tape. I just haven't looked hard enough to find it!

*Jim Smith*

**Hobby Items Around Town:** It's funny how you can be out and about and find things when you're not even looking for them. Such is the case with the following hobby items that I have found in non-hobby environments.

Item number 1- Wood for our boating projects. Knox Lumber stores carry Midwest Products wood from a project center display. They have balsa and basswood in a variety of shapes, sizes, and thicknesses. Also available are very fine thickness plywood sheets in various sizes. The prices are all very reasonable and I'm sure their supply will satisfy your needs. Also, Knox and Home Depot stores have an excellent supply of wooden dowel rods in all sizes. Almost all diameters in 36" lengths are under one dollar. Not a bad deal for the price of things in 1997. Knox has eight local locations and Atlanta-based Home Depot will have 15 stores in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area within two years.

Item number 2- Clamps for construction. I use many of the full size Quick-Grip brand (American Tool Companies, Inc.) clamps for heavy duty holding in a variety of applications. The clamping device operates effortlessly along a black steel rail and holds objects firmly between two bright yellow rubber pads. You've probably already seen them at building and hardware stores; Sears and Radio Shack stores have a licensing agreement with the original manufacturer and sell the same product under their own labels. The clamp is available in a miniature 8" size as well (product number 53006). They are small enough to get into tight spaces and the versatility and high clamping force would be ideal for boat construction projects. Although it's not cheap (at around \$8-\$10 per clamp), I believe it's one of the best small project tools around. The Woodworkers stores in Burnsville, Maplewood, Minneapolis, and Ridgedale carry them as well as Home Depot in their "tool corral" area.

Item number 3- Small screw drivers. These small tools come in handy for our small scale boats. Regular size screw drivers won't adjust electronic speed control units nor will they fit into tight spaces below deck. Some of the better small size screw drivers I have seen are manufactured by Wiha of West Germany. Their entire line, some 30+ sizes, are available individually from 7 Corners Hardware, 216 West 7th Street, in St.

Paul [REDACTED]. They sell sets of these precision screwdrivers and have other products from Wiha such as small ball, hex, and nut drivers. A similar, high quality type of miniature drivers are sold at all Sears stores. I have purchased a complete set of eight, 3 phillips and 5 slotted, for \$29.99 (Sears product number 41489). They have gray handles, pastel colors on the handle tops, and are imported from France. Sears also sells less expensive types individually. A characteristic of all of these screw drivers is that the top rotates freely, allowing you to exert force on the screw and rotate the tool simultaneously while using only one hand.

Item number 4- Small wooden objects. In building my tug, I'm always on the prowl for accessories. I found great scale versions of 55 gallon oil drums and barrels at Shaw Lumber in St. Paul--217 Como Avenue, 488-2525. They're turned from solid maple, have relief detail on the top and sides, require no sanding, and are manufactured by S&S Wood Specialties. My best guess is that they represent 1/24 scale. For example, the drum measures 1 and 5/8 inches in height by 1 and 1/8 inches in diameter. At 45 cents each you couldn't afford to make them yourself. Other high quality small wooden parts are available by the same manufacturer at Shaw Lumber.

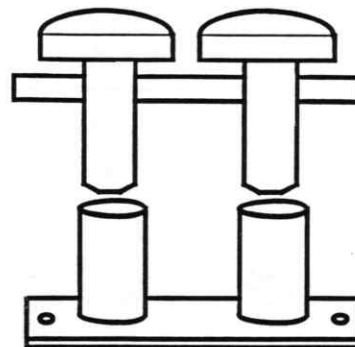
Item number 5- Parts for the creative hobbyist. If you haven't been to an Ax Man Store it's time to treat yourself to something special. Ax Man is a surplus store that has a bazaar supply of all sorts of things. It's the type of place where you will go in to just "look around" and you'll exit with a bag of things that you can't describe to someone else. The pricing structure is unreasonably low and most of the items are brand new. Ax Man serves as an excellent source of wire and electric motors for the experimental boat building members of our group. One example- brand new Mabuchi 12 Volt DC motors for \$2.50. All I can say about the shopping experience is plan to give yourself plenty of time. The adventure begins in Bloomington.

These are only a few examples of Hobby parts out in the wild. If you have found other items of interest please let me or Jim Smith know so we can print them for the rest of the group.

*John Bishop*

**Bits and Bollards:** Craft pegs, available from craft stores, make nice bits and bollards. A single peg can make a bit. Just drill a hole through the peg and insert a short piece of dowel, rod or tube through the hole. Then paint and glue the bit to the deck. Two pegs connected by a dowel, form a nice bollard. If you intend to use the bit or bollard to tie lines to, I recommend that they be mounted thru the deck and not just glued to it. To make really strong units or for a nice finish, I recommend using brass tubing into which the peg will be a snug fit. Solder the tube(s) to the brass plate, insert the peg(s), drill holes in the plate, and then screw the brass plates down to the deck. Polish the brass for a nice finish, or paint.

*George Pfeifer*



**More New Sail Winch Servos:** Several new Marblehead boats are in the works this winter. Sail winch servos have been difficult to find in the past, perhaps one of these newly released Hitec servos would fit the bill for those bigger boats. They'll fit Futaba, JR and Hitec radios.

Hitec	HS-715BB	Wt. 4.0 oz.	Torque: 189 oz.in.	Speed: 0.6 sec./ 160°	Arm Type with Ball Bearing
Hitec	HS-815BB	Wt. 5.1 oz.	Torque: 280 oz.in.	Speed: 0.5 sec./ 160°	Arm Type with Ball Bearing

# February Meeting Notice:

(Fourth Saturday of the Month)

**Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**12:00 (Noon)**

Centennial Lakes

**Maintenance Garage**

Band Room

Commodore:	Dan Proulx
Vice Commodore	Dave Bros
Vice Commodore	Doug Campbell
Vice Commodore	George Pfeifer
Vice Commodore	Joe Hjelmstad
Treasurer	Gary Phillips
Newsletter Editor	Jim Smith

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