

December 2012 Volume 34, Issue 12



# The Binnacle

Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society  
Victoria BC Canada  
[vmss.ca](http://vmss.ca)



Yahoo! Newsgroup : VIRCB  
Vancouver Island Radio Control Boaters

**Merry Christmas & and a  
Happy New Year to Everyone**





## Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society

### Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society

General Meeting – November 8th, 2012

Call to order: 7:45 pm

1. Welcome: There were no new members or guests
2. Outreach: Unfortunately club member **Dave Marryatt** has passed away
3. Club finances: **Mike Creasy** presented the club finances for the fiscal year. The club has \$10,538.16 as of September 30, 2012, roughly \$884 more than 2011. The club generated funds of approximately \$1,269.00 in the sale of donated boats. **Bill Sturrock** motioned to approve the report. Seconded by **Bob Rainsford**. Carried.
4. Upcoming Events:
  - Christmas Social to be held on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gorge Vale Golf club. Contact **Mike Creasy** for tickets.
  - Lighted Boat Parade will be on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at the pond.
  - There will be a club meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>, which will primarily be a “show and tell” event.
5. Business from the Floor:
  - Elections for the 2013 executive resulted in the following positions being filled:
  - **Ron Armstrong**: Public Relations
  - **Scott Munford**: Binnacle Editor
  - **Bill Andrews**: Show Coordinator
  - **Bob Rainsford**: Quartermaster
  - **Dave Denton**: Plans Librarian
  - **Mike Claxton**: City Parks
  - **Jim Briante**: Director at Large
  - **Barry Fox**: Membership Director
  - **Mike Creasy**: Treasurer
  - **Graham Smith**: Secretary
  - **Jim Cox**: Vice President
  - **Mike Claxton**: President

*(continued on page 3)*

## 2012 Executive Committee

<b>President:</b> Barry Fox	294-0350
<b>Vice-Pres:</b> Ron Armstrong	385-9552
<b>Secretary:</b> Graham Smith	477-8234
<b>Treasurer:</b> Mike Creasy	888-4860
<b>Show Coordinator:</b> B. Andrews	479-2761
<b>Binnacle Editor:</b> Scott Munford	382-1673
<b>Quartermaster:</b> Bob Rainsford	383-2256
<b>CRD Liaison:</b> Barry Fox	598-4619
<b>Parks Liaison:</b> Mike Claxton	479-6367
<b>Sailing Director:</b> Fred Herfst	652-8445
<b>Librarian:</b> Dave Denton (Plans)	478-1800
<b>Publicity:</b> Ron Armstrong	385-9552
<b>Director@Large:</b> Jim Briante	590-5708



*Your Executive meets the last Thursday of every month!*

*All above (250) area code*

**The Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society is a non-profit club, open to all, established in 1978 under the Societies Act of B.C.**

Mailing address:

106-4480 West Saanich Road  
Box 55  
Victoria, BC V8Z 3E9

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**Barry Fox** motioned for acceptance of the election results. **Glen Newmeyer** seconded. Carried.

- **Bob Rainsford** introduced the idea of a club build for the junior members. There were 4 interested youth.
- 6. Adjourn and Break: The 50/50 was won by **Steve McGlade**.
- 7. Entertainment:

Best New Build Presentations were made by the following individuals:

- **Norm Higgins**: Springer tug
- **Rick McCrea**: Springer tug
- **Ron Armstrong**: Miniature tug
- **Glen Newmeyer**: Tug
- **Dave Denton**: Tug (unfinished)
- **Dave Taylor**: British RNLI lifeboat
- **Jim Briante**: Rescue barge
- **Graham Smith**: PT Boat
- **Dave Taylor**: MTB 743

Results were tallied by **Scott Munford** but not announced.

Respectfully Submitted  
**Graham Smith**, Secretary



## Best New Build Voting Results

Following is a list of the boats that were eligible for the "Best New Build" Award.

Under the 'Military' Class;

- 1) Japanese PT boat by **Graham Smith** (photo 7)
- 2) Fairmile D MTB by **Dave Taylor** (photo 8)

Winner -- **Dave Taylor**

Under the 'Work' Class;

- 1) Springer by **Norm Higgins** (photo 1)
  - 2) Springer by **Rick McCrea** (photo 2)
  - 3) Maple Crest by **Ron Armstrong** (photo 4)
  - 4) Doug A by **Glen Newmeyer** (photo 5)
  - 5) Lifeboat by **Dave Taylor** (photo 3)
  - 6) Rescue Boat by **Jim Briante** (no photo available)
  - 7) Union Jack by **Dave Denton** (photo 6)
- \*\*NOTE: Model not complete, ineligible for award\*\***

Winner -- **Glen Newmeyer**

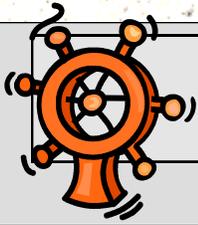
There were no entries for either 'Sail' or 'Pleasure' Categories

Thanks to all who participated.

Special Thanks to **Glen Newmeyer** for supplying the pictures.

Winning ships featured below, see back page for rest.





## The Prez Says...

### The Last Prez Says,

Well, it better continue but someone else will be the author and that someone else will be **Mike Claxton** who let his name stand for the President's position at last month's meeting.

Joining Mike as new to the team is **Jim Cox** who will be assuming the role of Vice President for the coming year.

The two of them will be accompanied by virtually everyone else returning in one capacity or another so there should be good continuity going forward when it comes to operating the club.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help the club keep running and growing.

By the time you are reading this it will be the last chance to come to the annual Christmas dinner and Awards Presentation. The news I hear is that ticket sales are a bit on the slow side. Hard to understand why as it is a chance to have a nice evening out with your fellow modellers, a great meal and a chance to just enjoy good company. So if you are on the fence about coming out, please get to the meeting on Thursday to get your tickets or contact either **Mike Creasy** or **Bill Andrews** and make the necessary arrangements.

It turns out the club finances are even better than anticipated last year as an unexpected cheque arrived just after the last meeting and it really belonged in last year's business. Elsewhere you should see the updated financial report.

Some discussion has been going on about what we might do with the surplus we are carrying in the bank. Some good ideas have been brought up from time to time. If you have any ideas on thing we might do, acquire, build, for the club that will enhance our boating (as they like to say these days) "experience", let someone on the Exec



## ON THE RADAR

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 20th: Christmas/Awards Dinner**  
**December 22nd: Christmas Light Parade**  
**February 1st-3rd: Westshore Hobby Show**



**Meetings: Second Thursday 7:30-9:30**  
**4050 Carey Road**  
**Next is January 10th, 2013**



**POWER: Sundays 10 – 12**  
 Harrison Model Yacht Pond (HMYP)  
**Dallas Road at Government Street**



**SAILING: 1st and 3rd Sundays 1 – 3 PM**  
 Beaver Lake  
**Next is December 15th**



**LANGFORD LAKE NAVY**  
**Wednesdays 9:30**  
 Langford Lake, Leigh Rd at Trillium

know. There are lots of good ideas knocking around I am sure, but you need to let somebody know.

We saw some nice new boats at last month's meeting as well. I'm sure Scott will report on that elsewhere in this issue. Quite a variety of boats entered and I know there are a lot of others (a dig at my sailing cohorts) that didn't show. This is/was your chance to show off your newest handy work and let the rest of the club see what you can do. You've got a year to get it done!!

See you at the meetings and at the pond side.

-Barry





## THE SUB SUBJECT

(NOTE: ARTICLE ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED June 2004)

According to Laundromat Sam, Angelo's letter to HQ "musta landed on the desk of a 'jockey' with lots of time." And he went on.

"Months after mailing the olive oil letter, during a courtesy visit with the French Navy at Toulon, a bulky, official looking envelope awaited my buddy." Sam said it was a three-page effort, in which it said the suggestion had been warmly received but, as the attached reports from Engineering, Environmental Vigilance, from the Laboratories Branch and from a prominent olive oil producer would indicate, there were great difficulties: like how much oil would the kitchen seek to draw from the expansion tank? And also, tests concluded at HQ, while not fully conclusive, cast doubt on how neoprene seals would stand up to pressurized olive oil. Still HQ indicated they'd follow up. Three of us had a good laugh, and ordered another bottle of the Frenchman's Beaujolais."

Back in Malta, long after he'd 'surfaced for good,' he'd met an RN submariner in a bar in Valetta that catered to the Brits. Sam thought it was in about the mid 80's – just around the time the RN was planning its state-of-the-art diesel-electric Upholder class boats. The Brit told him that some P.R. 'chap' in the Admiralty had sprung the idea of a 'Name The Boats' contest – open to all hands of all NATO nations. Simple rules: proposed names had to start with a "U", preferably "UP". The winners, at the RN's expense would, from wide and far, be invited to the boat's launchings, and attend the reception to follow if they could still handle their legs.

According to the Brit, some entries were photocopied dictionary pages, with the suggestions marked with a highlighting pen. No mind was paid to those. The best, he said, were the tongue-in-cheek anonymous entries. Sam claimed to remember all those he was given, but I don't. This is what memory salvaged: Uptight, Uptick, Uproar, Upwaff, Upshot, Upadaisy, Upholsterer, Upstairs, Uppetty, Upchuck and Upyours.

"Now that the RCN has one of 'em here, "Sam said, gesturing towards Esquimalt, they should give a try as well. Victoria, you said?"

"Yeah, right," I said, and Sam's mental list went something like this: Vibrator, Viscous, Vile, Viscious, Vinter, Vomit... and many more. Sam laughed a good laugh through his brown teeth, shifted his rags from washers to dryers, played his flashlight on the ceiling, shut his eyes as far as I could tell and, suddenly less agitated said this: "it wasn't all fun 'n' games, you know. Uh-uh."

At a slower pace and lower voice Sam said that, while his WW II boats hadn't seen any real combat action to speak of, danger was ever present and accidents did happen.

*(continued on page 6)*



At one time, late in his career, through some electronic glitch, they had a “hot-run” torp in one of their tubes. But quick-thinking officers and a smart skipper had pulled a U-turn so fast Sam thought he was on a merry-go-round. After, he’d been told by one of the crew’s ‘techies’ that their fish had cleared the stern by, at the most, 10 or 15 feet. “That IS close,” Sam said – illustrating his words and feelings by showing me a thumb and index finger spread inches apart.

Sam Carried on in his dreamy tone, talking about a young (but experienced) sailor who’d gone berserk hours after they’d pulled out of Alexandria. “He musta weighed 240 lbs., stood closer to seven than six feet. They guy got hold of a universal hand crank and smashed the glass in all dials near him. ‘Air! Air!’ he hollered, and we were still surfaced – all vent shafts wide-open...balmy breeze. Yup, it took all four or five of the men who piled up on him to let go of the crank. Looked like a scene in a ball game. A whole heap of em’...anyways, our boss heads back to port, an’ we gets an extra days leave, while he an’ his brass fill out reams of forms and draft reports.”

Next, Sam talked about something not too believable but possible. Perhaps.

The Chief of the Boat had been on the scope’s ocular for ages (“Looking at mermaids,” Sam quipped) when suddenly and very violently, an electric glitch gave the wrong command to one of the servos. The scope had rotated so violently that it had broken the Chief’s nose and, worse, had wiped off both his eyebrows. Going by what Sam been told by a sailor who’d seen the (former) Chief years later, one eyebrow hadn’t grown back at all, and made his face look like a rhino’s afterbirth. “Not pretty,” Sam suggested, and also suggested that “a transplant of pubic hair could’ve dome some good. Yup that scope did him a job.”

There was no need for Sam to tell me he was or had been a sauce in B-Major, but did anyway. He said he’d never tried to hide that. Still, on board, ‘discretion’ was the watchword. But how he went about such discretion must wait till next month.

## Romanus Unicum

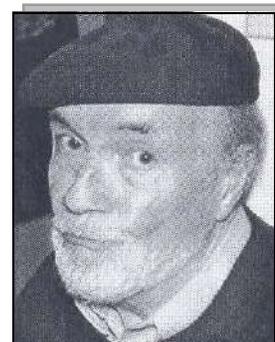
Dear Sub Subject readers,

By now, most of you know that Romanus Unicum is no longer what he used to be. Bunch of physical things that now bear on mental stuff. Tough going: thinking ‘n’ writing.

I hope it is still a temporary predicament and that the re-publication of archival columns will fill that gap for now. There should be no shortage. I estimate thaty some 150 to 200 are out there in cyberspace. Scott will pick and edit whatever he chooses.

Best regards you all,

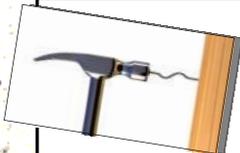
Romanus Unicum





## Up for Auction

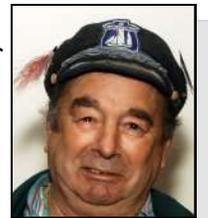
WW2 Liberty Ship (Carol Lombard) built by former member **Nels Combe**. Opening Bid starts at \$50. The auction will conclude at the February General Meeting.  
Thanks to **Bill Andrews** for supplying the photo.



Hi there Gang, I am writing this from a hospital bed. You probably notice that I walk like Frankenstein, I went to get this checked out at 11:00am, Thursday and by 12:30pm I was shipped upstairs to find out the problem. Don't know yet.

One of the fellas on Wednesday is getting interested in steam power, it seems to be contagious. **Craig Paterson** is getting re-energized, as is **Jim Cox**. I have been falling by the way side lately and this is stirring the creative juices. Now then, a while ago there was a lot of steam equipment dispersed through the club. I have not seen or heard any steam ships surface within the club. If you are sitting on some of these and willing to pass them along to someone, well then, give me a call. Possibly, this will give the club a little push out of the doldrums that seem to be hanging around. I will be out of stir very soon. See you at the lighted boat parade.

**Dave Denton**



**Contributions to the Binnacle are welcomed.**

**Deadline for submissions: Sunday before the monthly meeting.**

**Editor: [newsletter@vmss.ca](mailto:newsletter@vmss.ca)**



### 'Twas the Night.....

'Twas the night before Canwest, when all through the house  
 Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;  
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
 In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;  
 The boaters all nestled up snug in their beds,  
 While visions of clean water danced on in their heads;  
 And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
 Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,  
 When down on the pond there arose such a clatter,  
 I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.  
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.  
 The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
 Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,  
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
 But a big flock of geese, with barge-load of gear,  
 With a little old driver, so lively and quick,  
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.  
 More rapid than hydros, those big geese they came,  
 And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;  
 "Now, Dasher! now, Dumper! now, Pooper and Vixen!  
 On, Comet! on Dropper! on, Plopper and Blitzen!  
 To the top of the pond! to the top of the wall!  
 Now poop away! poop away! poop away all!"  
 As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,

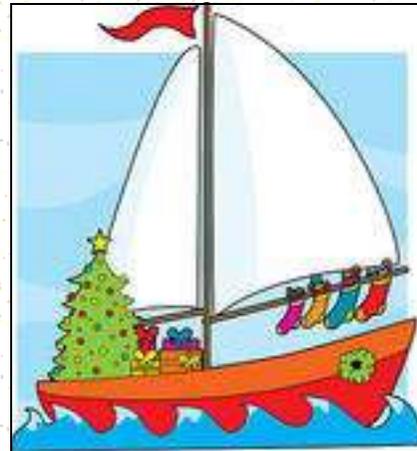
When they see a clean sidewalk, they pile it high,  
 So up to the house-top the big geese they flew,  
 With the barge full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.  
 And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
 The thumping and bumping of each little loaf.  
 As I drew in my hand, and was wiping it down,  
 Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.  
 He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
 And his clothes were all tarnished with feathers and poop;  
 A bundle of boats he had flung on his back,  
 And he looked like a modeller just opening his pack.  
 His eyes -- how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!  
 (He'd been sniffing the glue on his workbench a low),  
 And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow;  
 A blown out fuse he held tight in his teeth,  
 And the smoke from short-circuits rose up like a wreath;  
 He had a broad face and a little round belly,  
 That shook, when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.  
 He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
 And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;  
 A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,  
 Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;  
 He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
 And filled all the stockings; then he turned with a jerk!  
 And laying his fingers aside of his nose,  
 He sprang to his sleigh, ere that stench it arose.



And then to his team he gave a great honk,  
And they let fly all with more droppings, kerplonk!  
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,

*"Happy Christmas to all,  
and to all a good-night."*

(submitted by Mike Creasy)



## Christmas Awards Banquet

Don't forget to get your tickets for our annual awards dinner at Gorge Vale Golf on Thursday, December 20. Tickets are only \$27.50 each or 2 for \$50. Includes a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings and dessert, as well as tons of door prizes. We have to give the final ticket sale number to Gorge Vale on the Friday before the event so the December General meeting is **YOUR LAST CHANCE!!!**

If you can't make the meeting but still want tickets, please call **Mike Creasy** at 250-999-4860 or [m\\_creasy@telus.net](mailto:m_creasy@telus.net) to make arrangements.



The Annual Lighted Boat Parade at Harrison Pond is scheduled for Saturday, December 22nd at 5pm. Recommend arrive a little early for parking and to get your boat ready while there is still some daylight. So throw some lights on whatever you can and come join us.

See Everyone there.



## Shelbourne Shipyard

Happy Hunter Update:

Work is progressing at a feverous pitch at the Shipyard. Though it may not seem like it but the Westshore Hobby Show is just around the corner. Also I can see the light at the end of the tunnel so I want to finish this year. Once my main mast is installed, that just leaves some minor detail work left.

Speaking of the main mast, I discovered a small problem. After installing all the LED lights, running the wires, and painting it, the next step was to glue the lamp covers in place. The first couple went great. Then I noticed an issue with the last two. The LED light was too high. It left a gap between the cover and the mast (photo A). What to do? The light was solidly in place. Maybe cut the wires and have no LED?

I came up with the idea of making a spacer. Gluing a small piece of styrene to the lamp cover (photo B), then sanded it round and drilled out the bottom (photo C). Looks great on the mast. Now if you really look, you can tell two are a smidge higher than the rest, but I belong to the 5ft club.



Photo A



Photo B

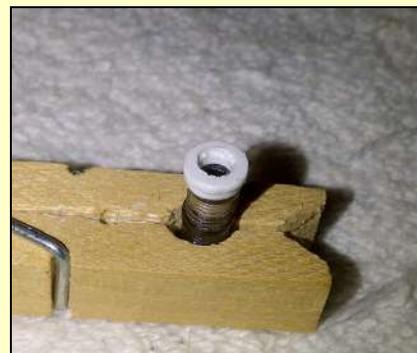


Photo C

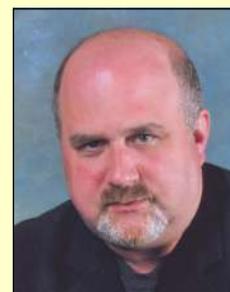
What's that you say? Well, our club has some builders who do museum quality boats. I admire and respect that skill, ability and patience it takes to do that, but also know it's a level I will never attain. But, 5 feet off shore, my boat looks just as good.

Next up, replacing the speed controllers, but that's for another article. Time to put away the tools for awhile as I understand there's some kind of Pagan holiday approaching so my wife wants the dining room table back.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Yardmaster  
**Scott Munford**

FYI: While researching some related boat information on the web, I stumbled across a forum that was discussing the fact that **Robbe**, (the makers of my model Happy Hunter kit), are discontinuing their marine model production. I'm speculating here but **Robbe** does make nice kits but somewhat pricey though. Tough to compete with kits coming out of China, at least that's my take on it. So if were thinking of getting a **Robbe** kit, now is the time.





## Best New Build Runner's Up





**Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society**  
**Financial Position**  
**As of September 30, 2012**  
**(amended)**

**Sep 30, 2012**

**CASH ASSETS**

<b>Cash &amp; Accounts</b>	
<b>High-interest Savings</b>	1,762.05
<b>Petty Cash A</b>	132.10
<b>Petty Cash B</b>	45.64
<b>Term Deposit - GIC</b>	7,841.69
<b>VMSS Chequing</b>	1,156.68
<b>Total Cash &amp; Accounts</b>	<u>10,938.16</u>

**TOTAL CASH ASSETS** 10,938.16

I certify this to be an accurate representation of the Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society's financial position on September 30, 2012. This report was amended to reflect late cash receipts.

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**M. Creasy, Treasurer**

This amended unaudited report was reviewed and accepted by the Executive Committee of the Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society,

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**M. Claxton, President**