



The Binnacle

Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society
Victoria BC Canada
vmss.ca



Yahoo! Newsgroup : VIRCB
Vancouver Island Radio Control Boaters

Hobby Show Winners

Kevin Hamilton accepting his prize
for **Modeller's Choice** from VMSS
President **Mike Claxton** for his
Pleasure Boat *RIVA*

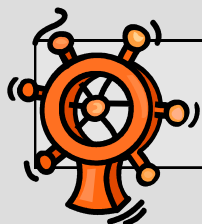


Frank Lohner's Pirate Ship *KING'S RANSOM*
was named **Public's Choice**









From The Bridge

Good Show! An old expression to describe the Westshore display. We had a large number of boats on display including fishing boats, submarines, tugs, pleasure boats, naval vessels and of course our favourite alligator. We missed a number of boats – Bryon from Nanaimo and Glen & Sue from Crofton were unable to attend and always have very nice models to display. It was nice to see boats as well from non-members – we should encourage them to join the club but I realize that everyone lives busy lives and that extra time is not always available. Thanks to all that came out to help – I know some members put long hours in at the show – including the set-up and take down of the pond.

When I left the parking lot on Sunday afternoon I thought I should make a resolution to complete a boat before the next show rather than bringing a number of almost finished boats – not thinking that the next show could be only a month away. At the upcoming meeting we will be presented with an opportunity to decide on participating in a show at the Esquimalt Heritage Afloat day later this month. This must have the support of the membership to be a success. **Ron Armstrong** will give us all the details on Thursday.

I went out to Beaver Lake the other Sunday to present **Peter Stevens** with the Powell Cup award and **Fred Herfst** with the Sailing trophy for last year and nearly froze! It was incredibly cold but a good breeze so I stayed until I lost the feeling in my fingers watching at least five very quick sailboats on the water. The trick I learned is to only expose a minimum amount of your body to the elements and you'll enjoy this part of the hobby. The boats are very quick, turn on a dime and it looks like the sailors enjoy the competitive nature. I understand each day's sailing ends with a small presentation to the winning boat thus increasing the fun of the sport.



ON THE RADAR

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22: Heritage Afloat
February 23: Sailing Invitational
March 22-23: Beaver Fever



Meetings: Second Thursday 7:30-9:30
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Lakehill
3939 St. Peter's Rd.
Upcoming Meetings: February 13th
March 13th, April 10th



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



SAILING: 1st and 3rd Sundays
Beaver Lake



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

Don't forget there are a couple of sailing events coming up (Binnacle, our website and Barry's IOM site have all the dates) – we provide drinks and hot dogs for these days and it is worth coming out to see the boats perform.

Last – please don't forget that dues are due – please see Barry or Mike at the meetings or send a cheque in the mail.

An interesting year awaits, see you at the pond.

Mike





Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society

January 9, 2014

Minutes taken by **Jim Cox** –

Call to order

Guests/New Members: **Peter Stergenbach, Marion Denton, Noel Crawford, Daniel Lacey**

Thanks to **Bill & Bev Andrews** for their work making the Christmas social a success

Treasurer – **Mike Creasy** reported we are in good shape – remember to pay dues.

President presented **Ron Armstrong** the award for Best Build – Military – still has two awards for sailing to be presented. Will take them to the lake when they are sailing.

Barry Fox reminded everyone to have a look at the new Coastal IOM Sailing website – has a blog on there so sailors can discuss times to be at the lake, etc. Dates of upcoming events plus links to other sites are there.

Westshore show – Friday 31st, Sat & Sunday – Bill has sign up sheets – reminder to tidy up your boats for display.

Show and Tell – **Dave Taylor** brought his Thames Barge under construction, **Arnold McCutcheon** showed his new build of a Footie using Depron; **Harold Lacey** brought his North Sea trawler hull to show his progress.

Bill sold the small tools & wood that he had acquired

Respectfully submitted
Jim Cox

2014 Executive Committee

President: Mike Claxton	479-2258
Vice-Pres: James Cox	382-3266
Secretary: Jim Briante	590-5708
Treasurer: Mike Creasy	888-4860
Director @ Large: Pascal Smyth	508-1016
Show Coordinator: B.Andrews	479-2761
Binnacle Editor: Scott Munford	382-1673
Quartermaster: Bob Rainsford	383-2256
CRD Liaison: Barry Fox	294-0350
Parks Liaison: Mike Claxton	479-6367
Sailing Director: Peter Stevens	656-8999
Publicity: Ron Armstrong	385-9552
Memberships : Barry Fox	294-0350

All above (250) area code



Your Executive meets the last Thursday of every month!

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

Contributions to the Binnacle are welcomed.

Deadline for submissions: Sunday before the monthly meeting.

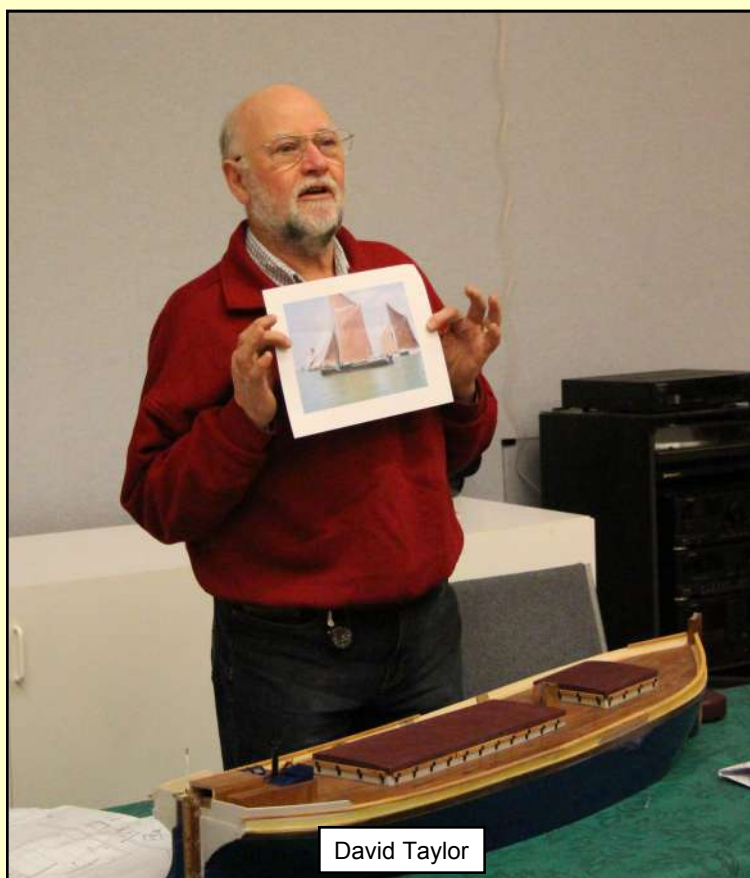
Editor: newsletter@vmss.ca



Meeting Moments



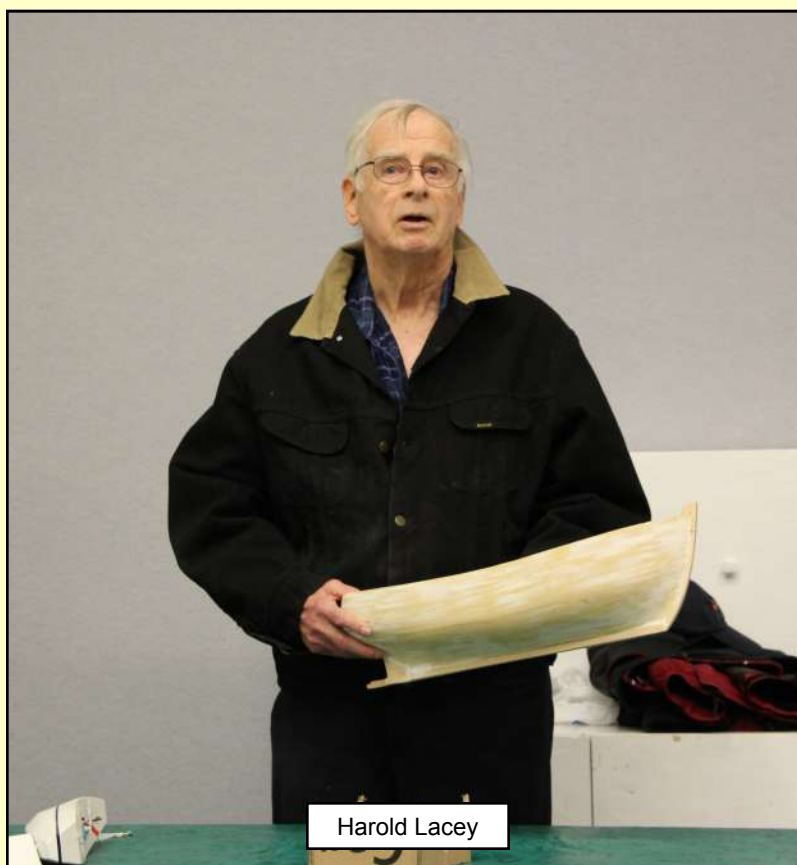
Mike Claxton & Ron Armstrong



David Taylor



Arnold McCutcheon



Harold Lacey



The Sub Subject

Dear friends;

Contrary to popular belief spread in the binnacle I was not down with the flu. I have never had the flu in my life, but I have a few other things that totally make up for it. You know, you may have noticed a difference in my behaviour for the last two or three years. A lot of that was caused by dizziness. We let that dizziness go and I fell the odd time and hurt myself and sometimes I got off scott free.

Now in early November, I fell again and I had my friend Sandra Tweed with me. She said “Romain I am calling the ambulance” and she did. Two Herculean women walk in, picked me up and I said, “I don’t want to go to the hospital”. They said “hey buddy that is where you’re going”. They bundled me up and stuck me two days in the emergency unit and then I had a short week on the fourth floor. Finally, with the aid of the super machine MRI, the diagnosed me with an enlarged Pituitary gland.

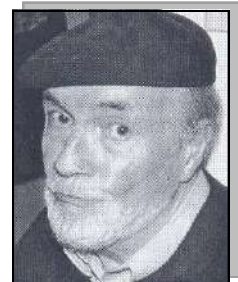
The pituitary is about the size of a coffee bean and is located between the eyes. I am told I have a non-malignant tumour of the brain. Most likely this can be cured with medication. If that fails then they’ll put me under the knife. They do that in the strangest way. They go in through the nose and take out the tumour.

In the meantime with the medication, I feel stronger, my mind seems to function again. I am kinda hoping for the best. I keep telling the medics I don’t need a long-term patch up because I won’t be around that much longer but who knows?

That fairly wordy explanation does not deal with my disappearance as a regular at H.M.Y.P. That boils down to money for taxis. I am no longer driving (gave up my license) and a round trip costs about \$27. I find that expensive to sit on an iron bench from which both my cushions have disappeared, while missing a sub to put into the water.

To quote General McArthur “ I shall return.”

Romanus Unicum





A Novel Kit

by

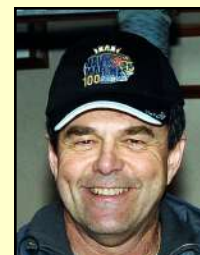
Ron Armstrong

During my poster visit to the Hobby Shop I was perusing the back section where all the kits are racked. I discovered a new kit of a Great Lakes bulk carrier, the classic type with bridge house forward and engine house and funnel aft. At scale 1:96, the finished model would be 45" long. Despite the length, the boxy hull makes this is an ideal beginner kit. The scale means any fittings not included are readily available. And the finished model should fit crosswise in most cars. Despite the American flag and colours, it can be easily made a Canadian version----the same type plies waters on both sides of the border.

It sells for \$199, without motor or radio control.

Should a new member want an interesting challenge, I can supply a Mabuchi motor to suit for \$3 and a gel-cel battery for nothing. Minimum 2 channel radio control sets are available for much less than \$200.

I would consider buying the kit myself were it not for my 1:48 obsession (meaning a 90" or 7 and a half foot model!).



2014 Race Schedule

The Sailing members of VMSS have settled on the following dates for the Winter and Spring sailing days at Beaver Lake.

Informal Race Days: January 5
February 2
March 2
April 6
May 4
June 1
Informal Race Days start at 1:00 pm

Winter Series: January 19
February 16
February 23 Invitational
March 16

Spring Series: March 22-23 Beaver Fever
April 27
May 25
June 22



Sailing Corner

Sailing has been excellent pretty much each Sunday since the last bulletin. Good winds, no weeds, and lots of good racing. The first race day of our winter series was held on January 19 and **Peter Stevens** took the day, but it ain't over yet!

In the ranking list below, the first number after the name is the sail number. The design of the boat, then the total score for the day follow. There were seven races held. Your point count is simply the sum of your placing for each race. One point for first, two for second etc.

- 1 Peter Stevens 21 Ska 8 points**
- 2 Fred Herfst 96 Ska 11 points**
- 3 Adrian Harrison 23 Ska 14 points**
- 4 Barry Fox 34 Reggae 16 points**
- 5 David Seager 62 Kite 20 points**
- 6 David Taylor 30 Trinity 26 points**
- 7 Mike Pednault 19 Ska 33 points**

The winter series schedule and details about our activities can be found at coastaliom.webs.com. We're especially excited about and working towards Beaver Fever, March 22-23, our annual open regatta. This year, the results count towards national rankings so we expect a good turnout. If you want to see adrenalin on full display, come and watch some of the races. It's a complex sport, and pretty competitive.

Wait.. I did write sport, but the dictionaries insist on a sport being "an activity involving *physical exertion* and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment". There is some exertion, occasionally, when the wind is up and you have to walk fast to keep up with the boat, or when you have to launch and retrieve the dinghy, but I guess it isn't technically a sport.

Well, however it is to be categorised, it is a complex, and yet elegantly simple activity - complex in that you need to be aware of multiple variables all the time, process them on the spot, and make the right decisions within a set of rules which govern any sailing race. That's assuming you have a reliable boat, tuned properly for the conditions. Yet what could be complicated about steering a toy boat around with only two controls, sails and rudder? For me the elegance is in seeing a beautiful well-tuned boat at one with the wind and the waves, flying upwind and in the groove. Sheer joy.

In the next articles, I hope to shed some light on the various aspects of our hobby and hope to convince some of our non-sailing club members to "Get with the Wind". One of my favourite of the comments we get from passers-by at the lake is "Do they have motors? They must have motors! Look, the water is flat, there's no wind and yet the boats moving pretty fast!" Well, actually, there is wind, but these little speedsters don't need much wind.

A few of my favourite pictures:



Beaver Lake shoreline Feb 9, 2014 – yes the ice came back for a while



A windy day at the Lake (2012) Boats are running their #2 or “middle sized” mast and sails.





Fred Herfst



Disclaimer

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HERITAGE AFLOAT AT ESQUIMALT

As part of Heritage Week the Esquimalt Municipal Archives have invited us to be part of their display Saturday February 22. It takes place in the Atrium of the Esquimalt Recreation Centre on Fraser Street between 10 and 4:30.

We intend to have our pool set up so smaller models can run to entertain the public. Four 4 X 8 tables will be available for larger models to be displayed.

This is a chance to show our hobby to a different part of the city."



Belated Awards



Peter Stevens accepts the **Powell Cup** trophy from VMSS President **Mike Claxton**



Fred Herfst accepts the award for the 2013 **Overall Sailing Champion** from VMSS President **Mike Claxton**



DUES ARE DUE!

RSVP

(Regular Sailors Volunteer Payment)



*To keep enjoying the benefits of the club, like this newsletter,
please ensure you have paid your 2014 membership dues.*



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How would you like to
win \$200 cash
& a free membership?

Every member who brings an item for **"Show & Tell"** will get an entry into the draw. Bring an item every meeting and you can have 12 entries in it. At the end of the year, one lucky name will be drawn.

So dust off your projects, tips & ideas and bring them along.