



The Binnacle

Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society
Victoria BC Canada
vmss.ca



Yahoo! Newsgroup : VIRCB
Vancouver Island Radio Control Boaters



Canada at War
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Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society

Minutes not available for Publication



2012 Executive Committee

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

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



Apologies for the delay in publication. The VMSS 2012 calendar has an error in it. It lists the November Meeting on the 15th. Imagine my shock when **Mike Creasy** calls me at 7:40pm this past Thursday and asks "Are you coming to the meeting?"

Your humble Editor

BC Shaver & Hobbies

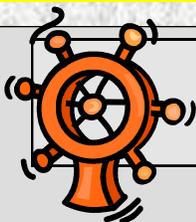
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The Prez Says...

Prez Sayz,

One more to go after this one. Yippee!!!
You know what my first theme is going to be, don't you?

So far we don't have any candidates for a few of the Executive positions. Specifically, President and Vice President. So look in the mirror and talk the person you see and ask them to get involved and help keep VMSS moving forward.

The good news for anyone stepping up is that most all of the current Executive is going to stay on doing the excellent job they have done for years, coordinating events, keeping track of the Club assets (not just the money) and helping put up and take down our various displays throughout the year. Some of them are people you might not even recognize as being responsible for the clubs success but you will recognize their work if you look a little closer.

So look inside, come out to the next meeting and step forward. It isn't hard work. It can't be, I've held one of those positions for 3 years now. What's coming up?

You don't want to miss out on the annual Christmas and Awards Banquet. It will once again be at the Gorge Vale Country Club and will undoubtedly provide another great night out, wonderful food and maybe a bit of fun. That will also be when the awards for the club will be given.

Get your tickets on Thursday night or contact Bill or Mike for yours.

One set of awards will be for best new builds of the year. And you all get a chance to vote for your favourites at the November meeting as well. More reasons to be at the meeting.

And into December we will also be having our annual Christmas Lighted Boat Sail past on



ON THE RADAR

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

December 20th: Christmas/Awards Dinner
December 22nd: Christmas Light Parade



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 November 18th



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

December 22nd. Get those strings of lights strung and get down to Harrison Pond to participate and take in the show.

And then the year will end and we will charge into 2013 with what I expect will be another terrific year of model boating.

See you all next to the water.

-Barry





THE SUB SUBJECT

(NOTE: ARTICLE ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED MAY 2004)

Prologue

In my new, not-so-fun bachelor life, I set foot and drop money in places I either haven't been to in decades, or ever—barbershops among the former: laundries among the latter. It's in the latter that this – and next month to be reported strange encounters with “Sam” happened.

Much of what Sam told me was way over the top, and much of that was dropped. But some of it passed the humour test, and included anyway. At the end, come the June or July Binnacle, I'll give a personal view on Sam's creditability. And by the way, I tried sundry ways of indicating where expletives were deleted. I gave up on that. Too many dashes, stars, and other symbols detracted from readability. So please read in every feasible four-letter word and curses where colloquially or linguistically possible. And why did I bother with Sam? Because Sam laid claim to 19 years of submarine service – most of it the Med, so he said.

I went to pick up my laundry a tad early. Shirts and peejays tops were still being ironed. Would I call back, or wait 10 minutes? I waited, taking a seat in one of the plastic jobs that line a wall in the outfit's Laundromat section.

I picked up a crossword, but before I'd digested the '1_Across' clue, in barges a guy, shouldering the glass door, carrying one bulging garbage bag and dragging another. “Hell-loo! Hell-loo” he cried to no one's response – save, perhaps, for my nod and light smile.

“Big load today” he said, opened the bags, produced great-grandmother of all flashlights, laid that on the chair to my right, and loaded three washers whop-whop-whop fast – but not so fast I didn't notice the revolting state of what he'd fed into those Maytag's. Filthy rags.

He must have read something on my face. After he'd slammed shut the washer's portholes, he spoke thus: “Oily skin. My 19 years in submarines did it.” Then he picked up the flashlight, and plopped himself down beside me.

“Submarines, uh?” I said, and dropped the crossword.

“Yup. Nearly two decades on'em. That did it to me. According to a medic, oil and diesel and sweat get into juh. Deep as from five-eighths to three-quarters. Depends on how long you hung around.”

He evaded questions and specifics, but it took no prodding to hear he'd been born on Malta, in Cospicus near Valetta – son of an onion grower and mule raiser. He'd gotten onto a sub in Valetta in less time than it takes to say, “Hi”. Once invited aboard he was asked if he'd care for a ride and a dive. He accepted. Then he was shown a few simple things, and asked if he'd care to sign up. “I was about 17 then, and asked about the pay' n' the grub, where they went to and more. We-ell, it was 1938 or so, an' said 'sure'. Theys put me through some swearing was told 'the rest can come later.'”

(continued on page 5)



“No schooling...no training...?” I said.

“They was hard up,” he said, and introduced himself as Astro Alonzo Mordekai Geiger-Despins. Said he had a Heinz 57 ancestry – reaching back, at least, to Nelson and Napoleon. Then he said everyone called him ‘Sam.’ But ‘Astro’, he clarified, had been his pappy’s favourite liqueur, made from figs. “Used a beer glass,” Sam claimed. “Knocked off two, three bottles a day.”

Turning to Sam’s looks and attire, he’d have made HMYP’s Wally Anderson look as if Wally could of sashayed down the runway in a Paris fashion show. On this warm November afternoon, Sam wore a ski jacket that spilled its kapok lining in perhaps 27 places, two pairs of clapped out jeans through which his bony right knee still saw daylight, a faded, plaid shirt and, no kidding, a necktie with a shiny pin in it – just below the tidy knot. All of this crowned by a tam that looked as if were sprouting moss. Then his face.

Skin wrinkled and grooved like a kewpie dolls, horn rimmed glasses sporting lighthouse-strength lenses, and a sparsely whiskered, mid-chest length mandarin-style beard. Well, you had to be there.

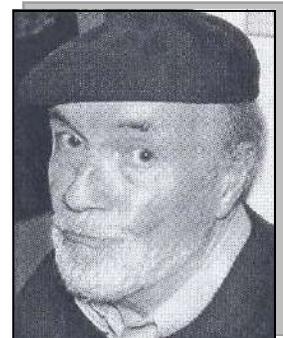
As mentioned in the Prologue, he told me lies big and small, with nuances and details that had to range from the impossible to the improbable to the marginally believable and I dropped a lot of it – even some of his ‘on good authority’ and ‘I was there,’ and ‘I saw stuff’. Barring that, Sam would have filled four Binnacles or more. Further, much of it slipped my mind. I don’t take clipboard and pencils along to the laundry.

“Sailed under three flags,” he said, but evaded my ‘which ones’ very smoothly, “four if you count the outfit I went back to for second go. So now them all pay me pensions. One of ‘em still recognizes the fact I married this Portuguese bimbo one night after a binge in Gibraltar.” (He paused here and elsewhere to play his yard-long flashlight on the washing machines, for “quality control,”) Then: “You wanna hear some funny stuff?”

I was as ready and as willing to suspend disbelief as in the days of James Bond, and Sam set out to tell me that, on one of his first boats, he’d befriended a crewmate, Angelo Angelini – an Italian, Sam guessed – and this guy was a prankster. Angelo, in collusion with the cook, wrote a letter to HQ, proposing that the hydraulic fluid in all systems be flushed out and replaced with extra virgin oil. Once ashore, he had his draft typed and mailed.

Sorry. Out of Binnacle space. The unexpected epilogue to Angelo’s letter and much more will have to hold till next month. Quite a bit more to come.

Romanus Unicum





Powell and Denton Cup Day

A good group of sailors and boats arrived at Beaver Lake on October 28 to take part in the Powell Cup and the power boat version, the Denton Cup.

After getting everyone signed up, Harbour Masters trained and first ports of call assigned, we were off. Ten power boats of virtually all shapes and sizes ripped around Beaver Lake on pretty flat water to contest the Denton Cup.

The quest for points was carried out for about half an hour and then everyone had to settle up with the shipping company to see who had the most successful day of shipping.

The Denton Cup results are:

1 st	Ron Armstrong	53 points
2 nd	Dave Nelson	51 points
3 rd	Frank (guest)	49 points
4 th	Richard Nicholson	44 points
5 th	Scott Munford	37 points
6 th	Dave Taylor	36 points
7 th	Tie- Dave Denton Bob Rainsford	31 points
9 th	Jim Cox	25 points
10 th	Dave Habetler	20 points

After the compiling and announcement of those results we had a change of Harbour Masters and sent the sail boats out on the lake to start their version of the same game, the Powell Cup. Seven boats contested this round.

The signal was given and they were off. Luckily, by the time they were up so was the wind so that they could get around the course and get to a good number of ports of call. The contest of wind and sailing skills lasted another half hour and then the points were counted.

The Powell Cup results are:

1 st	Dave Taylor	34 points
2 nd	Colin Bussanich	31 points
3 rd	Dave Nelson	25 points
4 th	Bill Smith	22 points
5 th	Fred Herfst	18 points
6 th	Adrian Harrison	12 points
7 th	Steve McGlade	10 points

Following the events we were treated to the usual excellent hotdogs and hot chocolate courtesy **Bill Andrews** and **Mike Creasy**.

A pretty good turnout for a fun event where anyone can win. Trophies will be presented at the Club Christmas and Awards dinner so get your tickets and cheer on the winners.

Barry Fox

(EDITORS NOTE: Pictures of this event can be found on pages 7 & 8)







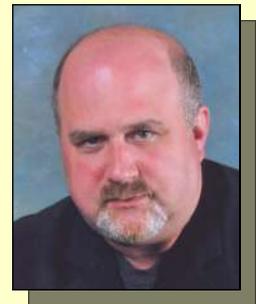
Shelbourne Shipyard

It's been awhile but the shipyard is open for business. As this boating season ends, yes I'll admit I am fair-weather boater, comes time to finish the Happy Hunter (it's only been 4 yrs since I started it), some repairs & upgrades to existing models and I think Santa might be dropping off a new sailboat as well.

We all hear the stories about how water temperature can change the buoyancy of your model. I had a first hand experience with this. After running in the Denton Cup at Beaver Lake, I decided to run my sub while the sailors had their Powell Cup. During the summer I ran the sub at Harrison with a camera mounted on the bow. I added some foam blocks to counter the added weight. It dove very easy. I took the same set-up to Beaver. I discovered with the foam added to the sub it would not submerge to save its life. After removing the foam, it did dive but would only stay down while under almost full power and even then would occasionally break the surface.

This might bore you surface dwellers but I hope you can appreciate just what a delicate balance is required for us bubbleheads to operate our submarines.

Yardmaster
Scott Munford



Christmas Dinner / Awards Night

Just a reminder that the Christmas Dinner / Awards Night is scheduled for December 20th at the Gorge Vale Golf Club. Ticket prices are \$27.50 for a single or \$50 a pair. The deadline has passed but if you would like to go, please contact **Mike Creasy**.



This month one of members, **David Marryatt** passed away. He was always eager to help out events like the Pirate School, Westshore Hobby Show and most recently for our entry into the Victoria Day Parade earlier this year.

The following notice was taken from McCall's website.

David Colin Marryatt

Born on September 14, 1941 in Prince George, BC. Died on November 3, 2012 in Victoria, BC. Pre-deceased by his brother, Ainsley and his parents, Cecil and Dorothy. Survived by his niece, Deanna Maxwell and nephews, David and Robert Marryatt. David served in the RCAF from 1960 until 1975. He was an industrial arts teacher, a pilot, inventor and volunteered his skills to help design assistive devices through Tetra. He was most proud of his association with the 89th Pacific Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets. He was loved and will be greatly missed.

Contributions to the Binnacle are welcomed.

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

Editor: *newsletter@vmss.ca*