



The Binnacle

Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society
Victoria BC Canada
vmss.ca



Yahoo! Newsgroup : VIRCB
Vancouver Island Radio Control Boaters

Fun Day at Harrison



Photo by Glen Newmeyer



Photo by Glen Newmeyer



Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society

General Meeting – September 13, 2012

Call to order: 7:45 pm

1. Welcome: Guest **Gordon Cruise** and new member **Lukas Papaloucas** were introduced to the group
2. Upcoming Events:
 - **Glen Newmeyer** invited the membership to his home for a run in his pond on the upcoming weekend
 - Although the Terry Fox run is on the same morning, the fun run at Harrison Pond is to be run on September 16th. Hot dogs will be available.
 - The swap and shop will be held at October's general meeting.
 - Barry announced that there will be a new position on the executive next year being that of a membership director. There has been a volunteer for the position but it will be up for election along with other positions in November.
3. Business from the Floor:
 - **Bill Andrews** announced that the club generated \$400.00 from the Saanich Fall Fair plus another \$173.00 in donations.
 - **Dave Denton** indicated an interest in steam power and asked if anyone in the group had a steam boiler for sale.
4. Adjourn and Break: The 50/50 was won by **Norm Higgens** with second prize going to **Steve McClade** and the rare third prize was won by **Glen Newmeyer**.
5. Entertainment:
 - The magnetic board was presented by **Rick McCrea**. It appears to be an excellent way to work with styrene.
 - **Alex James** provided a presentation on scratch building.

Respectfully Submitted
Graham Smith, Secretary



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.

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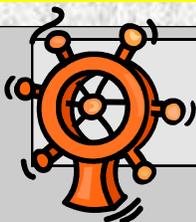
Meeting Moments



Rick McCrea (above)



Alex James displays his dredger (left) and harbour ferry (above)



The Prez Says...

Prez Sayz,

A different look for me this month as I get to write this after the meeting instead of before.

We have had our swap meet now. Some interesting things changed hands but a bit surprising that more people don't have a little something to bring along. Maybe a few more next time.

The monthly plea for candidates to run for Executive positions was given at the meeting and once again, not a single response. I need to emphasize that there are a few people that are not going to continue in their current positions next year. I can't speak for others but I will completely assure you that there is a vacancy for President. I've done one more term than I wanted to do already and another one is simply not in the cards. My observation is that there are lots of very capable people in the club. So if you are one of those you should step forward and help your club move forward.

So without laboring over the election part, next month will be our AGM which will be quite short as far as the formal part of the meeting is concerned. It is also the night when everyone should bring their new builds completed this year so that the members of the club can vote for their favorites. Let's see a good turnout for that part of the meeting. I think there should be a reptile like device on one table.

What that means is there is a fair bit of time available for Show & Tell. So bring along your favorite tip or technique and let's have a good sharing session.

After that the next big thing is our annual Awards Night and Christmas Party. Tickets will have to be purchased ahead of time so the caterers know how many are coming. Tickets will also be available at the November meeting so bring along your cheque book and join us for a very nice evening



ON THE RADAR

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 21st: Powell & Denton Cup's
Beaver Lake**

November 15th: AGM

December 13th: Christmas/Awards Dinner



Meetings: Second Thursday 7:30-9:30
4050 Carey Road
Next is: November 15th



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 **September 21st**



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

of friendship, dinner, awards and maybe some entertainment.

Short column this month,

See you at the edge of the water.

-Barry





THE SUB SUBJECT

(Article originally published in January 2004)

Another year: another 12 “Sub Subjects” to write in, (it is hoped) a wink-and-a-shrug style but somewhat seminal all the same.

The plan, this year, as mentioned in December, is to conduct and report several interviews with sub modellers, one plan drafter, and individuals retired from stints as well as careers in the Silent Service. That will take care of five or six (not necessarily consecutive) months, and circa mid-year, an updated index will be offered.

For this issue, we stay close to home. Closest on the radar screen was J.R. Plummer’s blip -- widely known as “Jack”, in V.M.S.S. circles and beyond. Two reasons:

- Jack is both a prolific and versatile modeller and, model sub venture reaches back to the mid 80’s
- His ”But, to me, so far, the challenge is that most cub reporters”, i.e. what questions to ask? Let’s hope that, not unlike Jack’s merlot wine, time/age will be a benefit. The results of the initial stab taken follow.

Romanus: (Just “R” below)

“What, Jack, between steam, sail, patrol craft, sundry other skimmers and Navy ships sucked you into subs?”

Jack: (“J” below)

Curiosity did it! Back then I was a member of the Hamilton-Wentworth club, and I’d found this neat little bay of the Niagara River – a hop skip’n’jump upstream from the Falls. What a place! Clear, quiet, cozy...and then, in a hobby shop I’d been eyeing the Krick kit of *U25*. The more shelf dust it gathered, the more it intrigued me. Some \$130 later, I took it home. “The kit wasn’t meant for greenhorns. Bread and bitter hull, you know. Had to laminate the boards first, then shape and contour the hull according to the included plans and templates.”

R: (lifting a first glass of merlot) “Was it a good model?”

J: “Yes and no. The darn thing wouldn’t dive, and her pressure hull’s lid wasn’t any too watertight. Too narrow a crutch for an adequate seal, and the lid wasn’t transparent, so I never knew where the water came in. A bit of a bugger, really. More wine?”

R: (nodding a ferocious “yes”) “And the good points?”

J: (pouring wine with a steady hand) “For one thing, as a dynamic diver, it was technically simple, and her extruded or cast plastic superstructure was both very light and very strong. It stood up well. Then, after about 10 years, as you know, I gave her a major refit. More battery power...a new (transparent) lid...”

R: (accepting more merlot) “And then you sold it...a gift, really, at \$350?”

J: “Shelf space, you know. And I wanted to build the Victoria/Upholder model.”

R: (reaching out empty glass) “Why Victoria? To spite the RCN or something?”

J: “No. Not really. But I like it cause it’s a ‘local’ boat—same reason that made build the Calgary frigate.”

R: (waving another empty) “And again you built a dynamic diver. Why?”

J: “After U-25, I had a bit of a handle on that system of submergence. No ballast tank to worry about, no gas to use...and much faster and less expensive to build. Also, dynamics surface when stopped. Less to worry about—somewhat less anyway.”

R: “I’m always amazed, Jack, that so few local modellers seem drawn to subs. How come that now?”

J: (thinking his best thoughts and sipping) “ Couple or more things, I’d say. For one the likes of you and Len [Gibbs] intimidate more than encourage would-be modellers. You’ve got ballast tanks, sonar’s, pumps: you launch missiles, release torpedoes... you scare ‘em off.”

R: “Tough. It was supposed to work the opposite other way ‘round. But, hey, we’ll live with it. And you next submarine plans, Jack?”

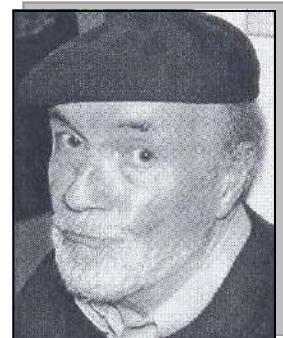
J: “Too much on my plate to think about that now. A brig on the ways...Coast Guard job in the planning stage...another sub’s a year out, at least.”

R: “Last question: Any advice for someone thinking of going for a first model sub?”

J: “Sure have. Couple of things. First, keep it simple. Go dynamic and save money on the fancier electronics. Next, don’t pick a complicated prototype. Pick a nuke. Last, upon completion, don’t give up during the often exasperating trimming trials. Add foam. Add lead. Take out foam, take out lead. Shift ballast or foam back and forth, and so on and on. You’ll learn. You won’t regret it.”

R: (glass raised) “I’ll drink to that, Jack.”

Romanus Unicum





Sailing School in Monaco

Christmas Dinner / Awards Night

Just a reminder that the cut-off for purchasing tickets to our Christmas Dinner / Awards Night, scheduled for December 13th at the Gorge Vale Golf Club, is November 15th.

Ticket prices are \$27.50 for a single or \$50 a pair.

Please see **Mike Creasy** at our AGM for tickets.



Glen Newmeyer's Pool Party



Photo by **Bill Andrews**



Photos by
Glen Newmeyer