



THE BINNACLE

Victoria Model Boats Victoria, BC



# This is posted on the Willow Tree at Harrison. Scratch one off our Wish List.



# http://www.vmss.ca

### **The Binnacle**





Well, here we are into fall! The postponed Summer Fest will now be held on September 24, and be called Autumn Fest! There will be the second running of the Denton Cup and Mark Giles' steering courses are better than ever! The Harrison Pond should be cleaned by then. Yea!

Saanich Fair was fun for all that attended. We had to buy a new liner for the pond, as there was a small stream coming from it which necessitated our having to top it up each day.

The collection for Romain's Bench is coming along well. All donations big or small are welcomed. Everyone will appreciate an additional bench. Some newer members of the club may be wondering who Romain was. He was a stalwart member of the club! He wrote an article for the Binnacle entitled The Sub Subject, and hosted many submarine gatherings at Thetis Lake. He was the "Sub Guru" of the club!

So dust off your boats for Autumn Fest and I'll see you Thursday at our next meeting at St. Peter's Church.

Jim Cox



### **2017 Executive Committee**

President: James Cox	382-3266
Vice-Pres: Pascal Smyth	508-1016
Secretary: Bev Andrews	479-2761
Treasurer: Mike Creasy	888-4860
Director @ Large: Terry Gerard	384-0604
Show Coordinator: Bill Andrews	479-2761
Binnacle Editor: Scott Munford	382-1673
Quartermaster: Terry Gerard	384-0604
CRD Liaison: Adrian Harrison	592-4232
Parks Liaison: Mike Claxton	479-6367
Sailing Director: Peter Stevens	656-8999
Membership: Bev Andrews	479-2761
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(0.5.0)

All above (250) area code



ON THE RADAR INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

### Fall Fest: September 24th November 9th: AGM December 14th: Christmas Dinner/Awards



Meetings: Second Thursday 7:30-9:30 St. Peter's Anglican Church, Lakehill 3939 St. Peter's Rd. Upcoming Meetings: September 14th, October 12th



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



SAILING: 1st and 3rd Sundays Beaver Lake



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

# Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society Monthly Meeting - August 10th, 2017







2

### **NEXT BUILD:** by KEN LOCKLEY

Over the next six to eight months, I will be building a model of the Fairmile "B". This versatile craft was a huge success for the allied forces doing all sorts of duties, Gun boat, Torpedo boat, Mine layer and Troop carrier as well as being Ambulance ships. It was conceived as a kit boat and 700 were successfully built in eight countries. They were active in the English Channel, Mediterranean, East and West coasts of Canada as well as the hostilities in South East Asia.

The West Coast had 10 of these vessels doing general patrolling duty.



**Fairmiles of the RCN** 

This picture and write up is taken from the Museum of Manitoba's web site.

The versatile 112 foot "B" class Motor Launch (M.L.) was designed in England by the Fairmile Company and the boats were accordingly known as Fairmiles. Eighty were built in Canada, 59 of them in Great Lakes boat yards. Fourteen of the remainder were built on the west coast and seven at Weymouth, Nova Scotia. They were numbered Q 050 to 129.

The Fairmiles played a vital role as escorts in the St. Lawrence River and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and as escorts to convoys between Newfoundland and the mainland. They also carried out A/S patrol, port defence and rescue duties, releasing larger escort craft urgently needed elsewhere.

In 1942 it was decided to send two flotillas for the winter to the Caribbean, where the U-boats were enjoying great success owing to a shortage of U.S. escorts.



Displacemen Length: Beam: Draught: Propulsion; gas motors Speed: Range: Fairmile A motor launch Fairmile C motor gun boat 85 tons 112 ft (34M.) 17 ft. 4 ft. 10 inches two 650 hp. Hall Scott Defender

20 knots or 23 mph 1500 mi. at 12 knots.

### **The Binnacle**

The Peterborough Examiner writer, Brendon Wedley, has written an interesting article on how Hunter Boats Co. of Orillia Ontario, on Lake Simcoe built seven Fairmile "B". The 112 ft (B)'s were small enough, with 2 feet to spare, to transit through the 41 locks of the Trent Severn Waterway to reach Trenton on Lake Ontario and eventually Halifax, NS.

Also interesting is the fact that Hunter Boats Co. was a pleasure craft builder and had never built boats as large as 112 ft vessel before.



# When warships cruised the Trent-Severn Waterway



Page 7

### A BIT OF HISTORY

During the Siege of Malta, in 1942, the "B's" were used for many duties, including working along with Minesweepers.

Recently Malta issued the postage stamp shown here, to commentate the role these vessels played in "Operation Toadstool"



The Fairmile B on the right was built by Bill Murray of the Langford Navy. Bill Andrews has been the custodian of this excellent model for many years and has recently sold it. I was fortunate enough to get many pictures of the model before it left Bill' home. Thanks Bill,





On the left is a model of Q-O69, which was started in 2010 by Ron Turner and now is a nearly a completed project. Ron is an extremely talented modeler, mostly in aircraft. But in this case he built the boat because his father served on Q-069 during the war years out of Esquimalt. Thanks Ron.

### Page 9

2

# **Saanich Fair**





# <text>



# **The Binnacle**

2







.



2

### Page 14

# Shelbourne Shipyard

Well as promised two issues ago, I took the Boomer to the Saanich Fair to use the pool for trimming. My initial goal was to set-up the submerged trim, then I'd play around with the ballast tank for surface trim. That didn't go as planned. Fully loaded, it sank to the bottom. I finally stuffed enough foam in the bow for her nose to rise but the stern was a problem. I figured out how much foam I would need but I was not even close to having the available space for it.

Plan "B". Set-up for surface trim. Once I kept the ballast tank full of air, it settled nicely, not perfect, but nicely. I was able to manoeuvre around. The bow thruster worked extremely well. At full power, it will torque the sub over a bit but under minimal thrust, it swings the bow around nice. So if it can run in this pool, Harrison should be no problem. Since I do only have 4-channels to play with, I used a Y-connector so the rudder & thruster run on the same channel. When I turn the rudder to port, the thruster also engages and swings the bow around. I should have a small turning radius with this set-up.

Using surface trim will also extend my run time. Because I will only need a small amount of water to drop it down of few inches in the water (missile launching depth), correspondingly it should require less Propel to expel the water and raise her, giving me more time between reloads.

The final trimming will occur at Fall Fest. At the Fair, I just shoved loose foam in everywhere. Now I have foam glued every open space. If it goes right, I should have too much foam and will only require a knife to cut away the excess.

I'll let you know how it goes.

See you at the pond.

Scott Munford Yard Master



2

# Government House (photos supplied by Bill Andrews)







**The Binnacle** 

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







## **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SPONSORS**