

# THE BINNACLE

JUNE 1988.



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Treasurer.	Don McLeod.	478-5380.
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Director.	Chris Preston.	385-4507.
Director.	Stan Jacobs.	479-3989.

# COMING EVENTS.

Just a reminder about the Boat Show at the Inn on the Water at Cowichan. Show Time is from 9am to 8pm. Boats are required for both static display and operating in the pool.

June 12th 1988.

Yes folks, the next day there will be a regatta in Nanaimo. Details elsewhere in this issue.

SHAS Summer Fair...June 18th and 19th 1988.

Come out and support the Artifacts people and have a good time as well.

July 10th 1988. Saanich Strawberry Festival. This event will be held at Beaver Lake from 9am to 11am. This will allow us to have the sailboaters with us at the same event for a change.

August 13th and 14th 1988. Static Display at the Maritime Museum. This event has not been firmed up yet but make your preparations now.

September 18th 1988. VMSS Fallgatta. Plans are well along for this annual event. More details elsewhere.




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## Lynnwood Regatta.

Doug Atkins.

Although the weather failed to co-operate - it being cold and windy, the Lynnwood Regatta was an interesting show. Cliff Shaw, the president of the Lynnwood club and his wife Betty, did their utmost to make everyone feel welcome. Their new pond was clean and crystal clear and sufficiently large enough to handle manymore craft at a time than were actually there. Being in the centre of a large field, there was no protection from the elements keeping a number of the smaller craft in port. There also were no launching wharfs or ramps resulting in a few damp feet.

One interesting innovation was the installation of a series of locks in the steering course with gates operated from the shore.

There were many interesting and beautiful boats on display ranging from tugs to yachts, and warships to cargo boats.

Ten VMSS members attended with Chris Preston, Harry Crosby, Fred Haire, and Moe Holden all taking trophies of some kind in various categories, as did Don Ferguson (what else is new?)

A few of our members had radio problems which cost them points but that could happen anywhere.

As this was their first year at this new site, the few minor inconveniences can be forgiven. Let's hope that next year, the weather will be better and they will have a coffee stand in order to stave off the "hypothermia" suffered by some.

All in all a good regatta. Well done Cliff and your helpers.

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## Mid Vancouver Island Marine Modellers Assn. Regatta.

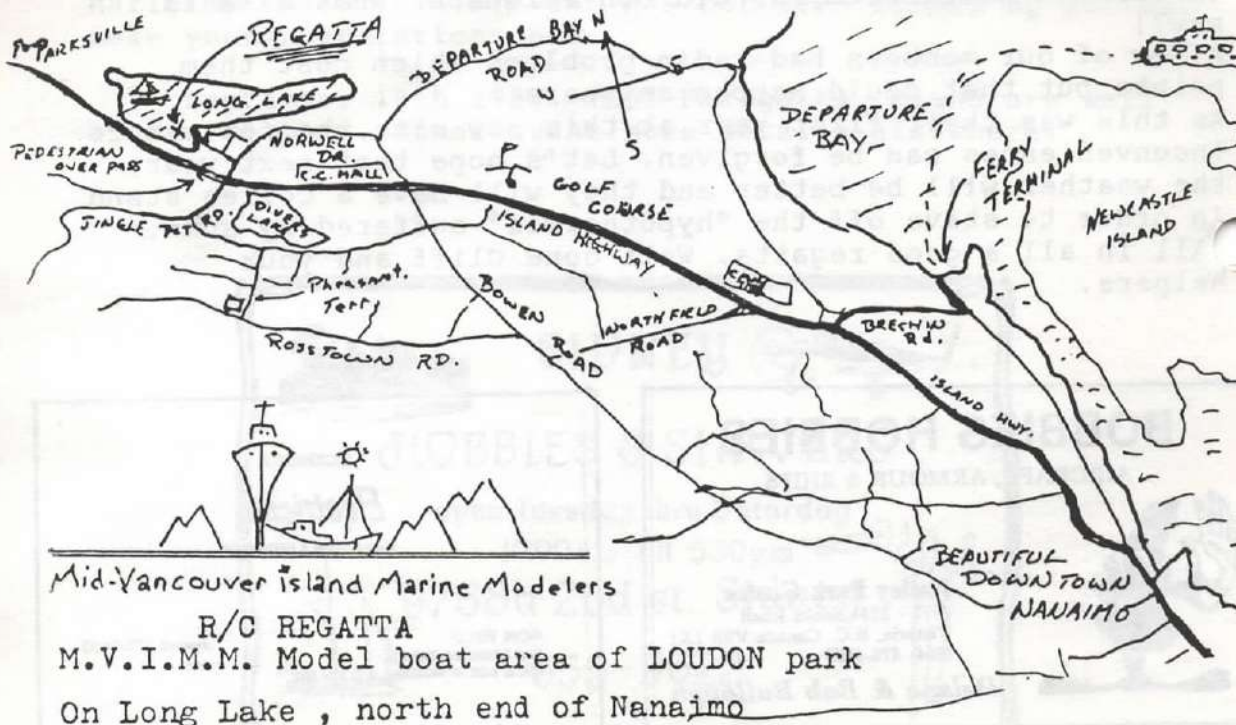
This will take place at Loudon Park on Long Lake at the north end of Nanaimo. Registration will be from 9.00am to 11.00am with the official opening and sailpast at 10.00am. Mayor Frank Ney will open the event.

There will be a navigation course which will be judged on seamanship and knowledge of the buoy system. There will be more than one boat on the course at a time.

Other event include a sailboat race( they will supply the boats), Tugboat races (two classes), and a boomboat log push (again they will supply boats.)

The free running area will be open at all times.

Directions as to how to get there...Head north towards Parksville. After passing the Country Club Mall, (the second Mall on the right) turn right at next traffic light on to Norwell Drive. (Chevron gas station on the corner), then immediately turn left on to Corunna Ave. There is a sign on the corner to Loudon Park.





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### Treasurer's report.

As of 25th May 1988, we have  
\$1656.00 in the kitty. We made  
\$26.00 from the last door prize.

Membership now stands at  
approximately 62.

I am presently involved in a 25th year refit on my RC harbour tug and am finding a lot has changed since I originally "laid the keel."

In late 1962, I eagerly ripped open a brown envelope from "Model Shipways" and had my first look at a single sheet plan for an 85ft harbour tug. While the hull lines and cabin details were given, no construction method was suggested, so I decided on the "bread and butter" method and after redrawing the plans to produce a 3ft model, I started building, making fittings as needed since the local supply left a bit to be desired. I assume I finished the construction in 1963 (I should have put a builder's plate on it!) and started to fit my radio equipment to it.

I had a single channel radio set but wanted proportional control and a horn. The solution for those of us who couldn't afford \$1000.00 for the then new "Space Control" radio sets that would give proportional control off the shelf was to build a circuit called a "kicking duck" that converted the pulsing single channel radio signal into the equivalent of several channels. Servos for this kludge had to be home made and while it all worked amazingly well, the costs for 135 volt dry cell packs for the tube type transmitter and a selection of 30 volt and 1.5 volt dry cells for the receiving end and 6 volt lead acid wet cells for propulsion made it all costly and bulky.

As seagulls and ducks took over Harrison's boat pond on Dallas Rd, and the RC Club seemed to lose enthusiasm, a career choice forced putting the tug up on the ways. Then suddenly one day, my co-worker Tony House showed up at work with the premier issue of "US Boat and Ship Modeler" which featured a construction article for an 85ft harbour tug, that he was interested in. To my surprise it was the same boat, redrawn to be built with a frame and planking method. Immediately, I felt the urge to re-launch the old girl, but the use of the old radio gear was out of the question due to battery availability.

Suddenly I had to learn about new types of radios, servos etc. and consider ni-cads and gel-cells while sprucing up the 25 year old tug. Close inspection turned up



cracks in the bottom finish, and since I could no longer remember what finish I had originally used, I decided to strip it off and investigate some of the modern finishes, including coating epoxy and newer paints. Suddenly this had turned into a bigger project than simply fitting new servos and dropping in a modern receiver! 25 year old oil in the stuffing box had gotten very gummy, but to my relief, the music wire shaft in a brass stuffing box had not corroded so a good cleaning and oiling got the propeller turning again.

Soon the old tug will be ready to slip out of the drydock again and after taking on a bit more ballast to make up for the old batteries removed, it can join her modern sister ships built from the new plans.



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### Fallgatta 1988

The Fallgatta this year will be held on September 18th at Sandhill Lake on the grounds of the Saanich Historical Artifacts Society. Plans are well along for this annual event and looks as though we will once again have an event second to none. Registration will be from 9.00am to 11.00am and the fee will be \$5.00 Canadian (\$4.00 American) for the first boat and \$1.00 (Canadian and American) for any others. There will be a refreshment stand on site serving hotdogs, coffee, chips and other culinary delights so bring your appetites as well as your boats (we need the money!) More details as time progresses.

The July 1988 meeting will be declared an Extraordinary General Meeting in order to put forward to the membership some proposed changes to the bylaws. These amendments are those discussed at the last Annual General Meeting concerning the succession of officers in the event of not having any nomination for the post. Bring your bylaws with you.

### FOR SALE

North Sea Coastal Freighter "Nordic Star" \$100.00 (no radio or motor.) Contact Ron Wild...478-5430.

Harry Chudyk of the Valley Boat Club has for sale Aristocraft electronic speed controls. These are fully proportional and have a voltage range of 6 volts to 7.2 volts. They will not tolerate 12 volts. Price is \$40.00 each plus postage. If interested contact Harry Chudyk at 20143 43rd Ave, Langley BC. V3A 3B9. Tel 530-6373.



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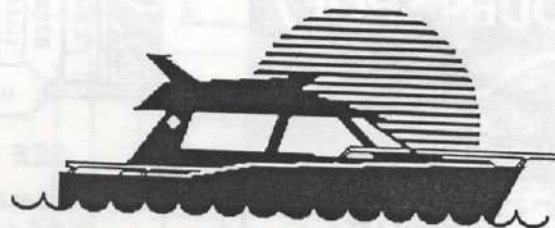
Articles for the Binnacle for July should be submitted by...Doug Atkins and Orval Wilson.

For August they should be submitted by...Geoff Walton, Mike Claxton and Moe Holden.

By the way, you do not have to wait for your name to appear to submit anything. If you have something, no matter how short, or long, let me have it and I will use it at the first possible opportunity.

#### Club Caps.

We are now taking orders for the new club cap. This is a blue cap with an embroidered club badge on the front. The cap itself comes in two styles..winter style and summer style the difference being the back of the cap. The summer one has a mesh back whilst the winter style has a solid back. They cost \$15.00 and Fred is taking the orders. Money with order please!!! Buy one and show off the club colours.



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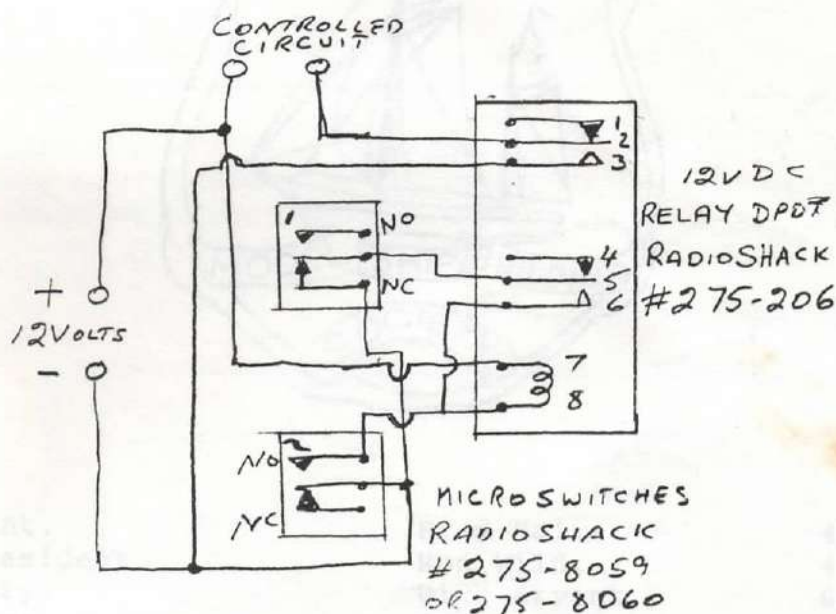
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# Latching Relay Circuit

Kent Miller.

When microswitch #1 is operated, relay coil is energised. This closes relay contacts 2 and 3 and allows current to flow from the battery to the controlled circuit. Contacts 5 and 6 are also closed which shunt the contacts on microswitch #1 allowing Microswitch #1 to be released. The accessory will now operate until the microswitch #2 is operated which allows relay to drop out turning off the controlled circuit. Microswitch #1 can be nudged with a servo and turn the circuit on nudge microswitch #2 and the circuit will turn off



NO = NORMALLY OPEN  
NC = NORMALLY CLOSED