



# THE BINNACLE

VICTORIA MODEL SHIPBUILDING SOCIETY  
Box 45083 Mayfair Postal Outlet Victoria BC V8Z 7G9

FEBRUARY 1998

## Canwest Show a Success!!

Jack Plummer and Bill Birch

The Canwest Mall Hobby Show was the scene of our largest exhibit of model ships in recent years. In all, 65 vessels were shown as follows: 11 military, 10 tugs, 6 fishing and 14 mini tugs/fish boats, as well as an extensive collection of other models. This year, 7 sail boats were included in the main exhibit representing our three racing classes. It appears that 20% of the models exhibited were new and interesting as witnessed by some 300 patrons who cast their ballots for spectator's choice on day one of the show. A special thanks should be given to Bill Barker and Ron Wild for their fairness and objectivity in judging and kudos to Julie Hillsden for the new judging format.

## Dates to Remember



Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting - 7.30 Royal Oak Lions Hall  
Entertainment - SWAP AND SHOP

Mar 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting - Royal Oak Lions Hall  
Entertainment - Romain Klaasen will give a talk on building model submarines.

Apr 9<sup>th</sup> - Meeting - 7.30 Royal Oak Lions Hall  
Entertainment - Styrene for Dummies - Scott and Dave

Apr 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> - Hillside Mall Show

## Regular Events

### Every Sunday

Harrison Pond 10.30-1.30

### Sundays 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sailing - Beaver Lake 10.30-3.00

### In this issue...

Dates to Remember .....	1
Regular Events .....	1
1998 Executive Committee .....	1
Canwest Results - Static Judging .....	2
Show Statistics .....	3
In Drydock .....	3
From the Bridge .....	4
Book Review .....	4
Sailing News .....	4
Tech Talk .....	5
Classified .....	5

## 1998 Executive Committee

President	Ron Hillsden	479-5760
Vice-President	Ron Armstrong	391-0101
Secretary	Paul Morrow	744-5406
Treasurer	Ray Bethel	474-7565
Binnacle	Julie Hillsden	479-5760
Directors:	Ron Wild	478-5430
	Derek Woollard	658-1150
	Scott Ringrose	744-3048



## Canwest Results - Static Judging

Larry Leboeuf	Brooklyn	103
Larry Leboeuf	Nostalgia	92
David Powell	Sandgroper	64
David Powell	Jenny	66
David Powell	Katie	76
David Powell	Un-Named	78
Fred Stolzenberg	Halcyon II	109
Fred Stolzenberg	Rita	109
Fred Stolzenberg	Hiawatha	66
Fred Stolzenberg	Punt	59
Jochem Bohle	Bamfield	82
Doug Allen	St. Mongo #11	103
Jack Plummer	Wolfe	96
Mike Gibson	Banckert Tug	73
Mike Gibson	Avon Sea Rider	69
Mike Gibson	Wet 'n Wild	67
Ed Boddaert	Zwarte Zee	100
Ron Wild	CFR Heatherton	113
Ron Wild	Laurier	105
Ron Wild	HMS Kent	106
Ron Wild	HMS Campbeltown	111
Ron Wild	Lifeboat 47-006	104
Ron Wild	Pilot Boat	107
David Seager	Bee	91
Rob Woodward	Woodwards Logging	99
Ken Lockley	Alice	106



## PLACINGS OVERALL

1 <sup>st</sup>	Ron Wild	CFR Heatherton
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ron Wild	HMS Campbeltown
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fred Stolzenberg	Halcyon II
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fred Stolzenberg	Rita

## STEERING COURSE

1 <sup>st</sup>	Ray Bethel	Diesel Tug
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ray Bethel	Tugger
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Gibson	Brenda Lee

## SPECTATOR'S CHOICE AWARD

Fred Stolzenberg Rita

## MODELER'S CHOICE AWARD

Jack Lenfesty Princess Kathleen

## Show Statistics

Larry Leboeuf's model, Nostalgia, was awarded maximum points in every category except superstructure - which it doesn't have.

A total of 1053 votes were cast by the public for the spectator's choice award!

29 members were represented by 65 models!

Ron Wild and Bill Barker did the honors for the judging. Derek Woollard assisted Bill Barker in judging Ron Wild's models - No, Ron was not allowed to judge his own boats!

Once again, the management of Canwest Mall sponsored our trophies for the show.

## In Drydock



Don McCord is recovering from a stroke. His wife and Glen brought him out to Canwest to check out the show. We wish him well.

Jack Lenfesty is back in the swing of things - and feisty as ever!!



## Editorial

Well, another Canwest Mall show has come and gone. Bravo Zulu to all the usual crew who turned out to set it all up on Wed. evening and take it all down again on Saturday. The display generated a huge amount of interest - as the number of spectator ballots indicated. The next big event is the Hillside Mall show in April. Let's hope we have as good a turnout for that one.

Thanks to this month's contributors. Keep the articles coming. The website is up and running - it still needs some work but it will keep improving as we have the time to play with it. We haven't had much news lately from the Basement Boatyards, is there any building going on out there? According to the groundhog, we have at least 6 more building weeks before Spring!

Don't forget the spouses and sweethearts on Feb. 14th

Julie

## From the Bridge

The Canwest display was the best we've done. A new table arrangement showed the models well and Derek's energy made it much more interactive with the public. It was nice to see some new models amongst the classics. We have some new members who are going to be stiff competition soon. Congratulations to the winners, and thank-you to all the volunteers who set up, took their turn with the public and tore down. It was very smooth from my perspective, and very professional from the mall's perspective. They consider us to be the jewel in their hobby show.

Looking ahead, come out and catch Romain's presentation in March, and Scott and Dave's story of their foray into styrene in April.

The Hillside show is April 18th and 19th. If you have a small boat close to being ready, this will be a chance to show it off. There will be some of the smaller boats available for all members to use in our pond as well.

I hope I am not premature in noticing that the weather is improving - so, see you pondside.

Ron

## Book Review

### "The Ship that Wrecked the Train"

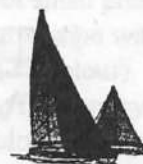
On November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1871, the Captain and Chief Engineer of the "George B. McLellan" were arrested when the ship struck the pivoting bridge over the Chicago River, causing the bridge to swing open as a train approached. The locomotive and tender, along with the occupants, plunged into the river. The coupling to the cars had broken, saving the passengers from an untimely death. In his defense, the Captain stated that when he saw the train approaching the bridge, he stopped his engines and went astern but found that the speed carried the ship into the bridge.

Excerpt from "True Stories of Shipwrecks and Disasters on the Great Lakes" by J.L. Donahue.

### Book Worm



## Sailing News



Ken Lockley

Recently, I needed a pair of hinges for a deck hatch application. The yacht called for a hinge strap about 9" in length, which worked out to be about 3/4 of an inch in my model scale. Using 1/4" wide brass of .030 thickness, I shaped the straps like the drawing #one. After cutting to the drawing shape, I then selected 1/16" O.S.D. Brass tubing and cut a 1/4 " length. Placing this piece across the widest end of the strap, I soldered it in place. Silver Solder is the way to attach the tubing to the strap. When satisfied with the solder joint, figure out the placement of screw holes, then drill and finish by polishing.

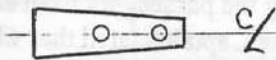
Now that you have a satisfactory proto type, make as many straps as required, two straps per hinge. When your straps are complete, select a diameter of a solid brass rod that will fit into your tubing. Start your hinge pins by peening one end of the brass rod in the vise. Fit your hinge straps together, cut the hinge pin 1/16" longer than required and gently peen the cut off end to close and complete your hinge.

Another hinge application that makes a rewarding project, is to take the same straps, cut and file appropriate slots so the two straps are in line with one another.



For those of you not familiar with silver soldering, go and see the folks at the Rock Hound Shop on Cloverdale Avenue. They sell all the supplies needed and will also give you good advice to get you started. There is so little materials used that one can experiment and practice and get your quality up at a low cost. Practice makes perfect with metal work.

DW #1



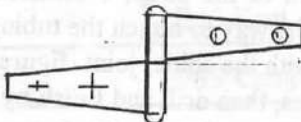
STRAP BLANK

DW #2



TUBING IN PLACE

DW #3



HINGE PIN

2 TYPES OF HINGES

## Tech Talk

### Paint Tips Cont.

Remember from last month that a good paint job won't hide poor workmanship, but a poor paint job will hide good workmanship. Preparation is the foundation of your paint job, and preparation will pay dividends in the final finish.

### Acrylics, Enamels or Lacquers?

The choice is yours, but don't mix them unless you know what you are doing. If you mix and match, you will get some very special effects, but not a glass smooth surface!

### Spray Bombs?

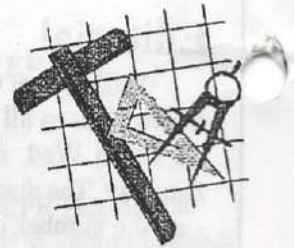
With a little care and proper technique, spray bombs produce excellent results. They work better when they are warm. Not hot, room temperature or slightly above. If you store them in a cool place, like your garage, take them into a warm place the day before you use them. You can also warm them in warm water. I know a guy who learned the hard way NOT to warm them on the top of his furnace. DO NOT use an open flame. It may be the last thing you do on this earth.

### Airbrush?

They're not necessary, but if you have one, use it. The secret is to keep everything absolutely clean. A friend gave me an airbrush once because it splattered. It turns out he used same jar of thinner to wash his brushes and thin his tins of Humbrol. The little chunks from cleaning the brushes went into the paint, and clogged the airbrush.

### What you need to buy

Get it all before you start. You will need 2 colours of primer (filler/surfacer). Choose colours your final colour can hide easiest, ie if you are going to paint a hull white, choose white and light grey primer. Primer is thick fast drying paint you sand off. Spray bombs are probably best, this stuff is a little thick for an airbrush. Also get a tube of spot (surfacing) putty. This is quick drying paint produced as a paste, so keep it in the same family as the paint. You will also need some sandpaper, a rubber sanding block, a plastic squeegee for the putty, and something to wipe your greasy fingerprints and dust off your hull before you paint - I prefer Methanol Hydrate (hardware store alcohol).





### Sandpaper

Wet-or-dry or Aluminum Oxide paper are suitable for sanding paints. I prefer wet-or-dry, used wet, because it gets rid of the dust and it's easy to feel and see your progress. Wet or dry comes in grades from 50 to 2400. For painting, you will need grades from 230 (rough) to 600 (smooth). Don't go any higher than 600 - those grades are for polishing.

### The Theory Part....

Paint needs something to stick to. If you are using a non porous material for your work, such as fibreglas or styrene. Paint needs roughness ('tooth') so it can hold on, so you stop sanding at 600 grit.. Then you apply the paint in such a way that the first step sticks to the model and subsequent applications stick to the paint.

### Painting Technique

When spraying paint, doesn't matter if it's primer or colour coat, use the 3 step method.

Wash it with alcohol.

The first step is getting paint to stick to the surface, not look pretty. It's a very light coat. It won't cover. Leave it blotchy.

Wait a few minutes until it gets very tacky. The second step is to cover all the blotches. It should be light enough that you can see through it

Wait a few minutes until it is very tacky, and apply a third coat which is heavier. Put it on until it looks wet or glossy. Then go have a cup of coffee or something - get away from it and leave it alone. If you get a bug, leaf or dust in the wet paint, leave it alone - it will sand out later. If you poke at the wet paint, you will have a mess.

It helps to get even coverage if you spray each step in a different direction, ie 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> coats from side-to-side, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> up and down. Remember also to spray past the end of the model on each pass so you don't get a big buildup (and runs) at the ends when you reverse direction.

### Priming

Priming fills scratches and other minor 3 imperfections and provides a surface for the colour coats. Short cuts here show. Wash your hull with the alcohol to get rid of grease and dust. A quick wipe. Fibreglas and styrene build and hold static electricity. Using the step method, spray one of the primer colours and go away while it dries.

When it's dry, give it a very quick sanding with 230 if it looks like it has 'orange peel' or runs. You just knock off the high parts, don't try to make it smooth. Then spray it with the other primer colour practicing the 3 step method. Go away and let it dry.

Put some water and a couple of drops of detergent in an ice cream pail, and use it to keep your work wet while you carefully sand the second coat of paint off using 230 on the rubber sanding block. Feel your work while it's wet - you will feel imperfections you don't see. As you sand down to the first colour, you'll see the low spots, pin holes and other imperfections as they will still be painted the second colour..

Rinse with a hose, and when the water is dry, apply spot putty to the pinholes and any small imperfections the next coat of primer won't get. You want to apply the smallest amount of spot putty to do the job, so squeeze it in with the squeegee. Remember you have to sand it off again, and if there is too much, you may damage the surrounding area while sanding the putty. If you see big imperfections the this point, go back to Bondo. Spot putty will only take care of small problems.

Wet sand the spot putty, wipe with alcohol and apply another coat of primer (2<sup>nd</sup> colour). When its dry, look at it carefully, spot putty if necessary and wet sand again with 400 on the rubber block.

If you are happy with it, sand lightly with 600 wet in preparation for the colour coats. If you are not happy, repeat the previous step until you are. Just keep sanding back to the first colour so you don't get a big build up which isn't doing anything for you

### Ah, Ooh, the Colour Coats!

You've been practicing the 3 step technique. Do it again, remove your masking and put your hull aside for a week to cure. Leave the bugs - you can polish them out when the paint is cured! Play with it at this stage and you'll ruin it!

## Classified

### For Sale:

Marblehead with winch and "A" rig, glass hull, wood and carbon fibre keel and Mica film sails.

Blue Devil - Fletcher class destroyer (from Lindberg kit). \$350 and \$150. For more information, contact Scott Ringrose at 744-3048.





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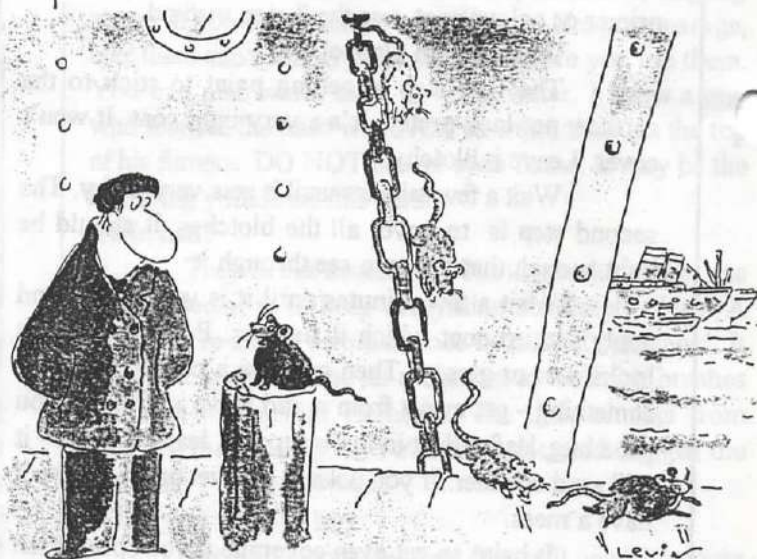
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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

The International Plastic Modelers Society of USA and Yakima Model Makers are having an Open Invitational Model Show at the Selah Civic Center in Selah, Washington on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> 1998

The San Francisco Model Yacht Club is having its Centennial Celebration on May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> 1998, featuring Static, Power and Sail models at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

The SS Moyie Centennial Radio Controlled Model Boat Regatta will be held at Kootenay Lake in Kaslo on August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> 1998.

See Ron Hillsden if you would like more details on any of these events.