

WSBA *News and Other Stuff*

www.wimodelboats.org

July 2010

From the Editor:

The fun run at my house went very well. Attendance was around ten to twelve people, and we had lots of different boats running. The bad weather held off and we all had a good time. Thanks to all who pitched in to make this event very relaxing. It is really turning into a great social event. Don H brought two new boats, both built from Pat Trittle plans, for ballasting tests. One was the wooden cabin cruiser from the movie *Father Goose* (one of my favorites!). That boat was surprisingly nimble on two tiny 280 sized motors. The other was the Orca from the movie *Jaws*. Orca is easily recognizable and will be a head turner at any boating event. Now where did Gordy's r/c shark end up? The only casualty, I believe, was the esc in Scotts Sport Fisherman. We also got a look at the mine sweeper HMS Bramble that John C obtained from England. See the feature section for an update on the work being done.

The next event, Kohler, is our big event. It rivals the picnic for attendance and has been a flagship event for many years. And it's not due to the home made pies, although that is a great reason to go. So let's get our boats ready and get up there so we can put on an impressive display. For those newer members who have never been there, take I 43 North to Kohler, exit at HWY 23 west for a short distance, then go south on Co Rd Y (Highland Dr) about a mile or two. The shopping center is on the right, and the pond is on the west end. Plenty of parking all around.

I would like to start talking about photography at some of the meetings and events. There are lots of tips and tricks to getting good shots, and they don't all require five thousand dollars of camera equipment. If you enjoy taking pictures, bring in some examples, both good and bad, so the rest of us can see your work and learn from it. This goes for video as well.

I hope everyone had a pleasant holiday.

Dave Blake

Last Meeting Highlights:

President Rich Sterle called the June meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Treasurer's report: An May starting balance of \$1,673.34 plus income of \$49.00 and expenses of \$207.92 leaves the club with \$1,514.42. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read.

Secretary's report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter.

Vice Presidents report: None

President's report: None

18 members and no guests were in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

General Business:

Three more tables were ordered for the Wis. Maritime Museum, per a vote from the membership. A donation from Eugene Steffen for more tables is greatly appreciated. We will work with the museum to make sure all is well. Our park fee has been paid.

Good of the Club:

The membership decided not attend the Manitowoc River Walk event, citing river boat traffic and no good place to launch models. We will review the event in the future. The timing is also very close to the WMM event.

The club boats have been reported to be in operational condition. Let's see them in action at the Kohler event.

I will be looking for Harbor Master volunteers at the Kohler event. Remember, the Harbor Master will maintain order on the water, reminding skippers of the rules of navigation and etiquette policies so we can avoid collisions and swampings. I figure if we can get several guys to each take a 30 minute watch it won't be such a sour pill to swallow. You can't run a boat during your watch, but I think you could bring your camera, as that would be a great time to get some pictures.

Fleet Review:

Joe Dembiec had some neat glue spreaders and a WEST System DVD; Don H had a Dumas Andrea Gail; Terry B talked about model judging; Gail had a CO2 powered simple skiff; Scott C had his Sport Fish; Bob Dallman and the finished Liberty Ship; Jack D is wrking on a 6 foot (yes, foot) paddle wheeler; Jim S handed out some electronics flyers and sample model mags; John S is working on the f/g Dauntless; Chuck is working on the Cranberry Isle plug.

Club Calendar:

Wood Lake, Kohler, July 17

Picnic, Cudahy, Aug 15, 10:00 am

Pewaukee Lake, Pewaukee, Aug 21

Feature: HMS Bramble

By John Constable

The real HMS Bramble was completed in 1939 and is a member of the Halcyon class of minesweepers. They were 245 feet long and displaced 1,350 tons loaded.

She performed both minesweeping and convoy escort duties on the Western Approaches, but she met her fate in Russian waters. Returning from a convoy patrol she encountered the German battleship Hipper and was badly damaged, later sunk by the German destroyer Eckholdt.

Now, this model has an interesting story as well. First, let me say that when you buy something that will get shipped overseas, one would think that great care will be taken in securing the item in the shipping container. The same goes for items inside the item, just like real ships must prepare before going to sea!



Well, John can tell you a story about the model of HMS Bramble. It seems that the lead ballast weights and the battery packs were not secured very well, if at all. And on its journey across the Atlantic the box may have gotten jostled a few times by the velvety gloves of every shipping clerk from here to London.
More to come as the project continues...