

WSBA *News and Other Stuff*

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February 2007

From the Editor:

The big boat show is all done. Thanks to all who helped make it a success again this year. Our club had a nice looking display and was populated with enough boats to keep things interesting. Chuck Steffen's modified Bristol Bay was a big hit, and is the featured boat this month. I would ask everyone who made it out to the show to tell us about your experience and offer any suggestions on how we can keep it interesting. Also note that we had the new TV/DVD unit in use for the show. I heard some positive comments on how big and bright the set looked. Now we need to look at converting our old VHS tapes to DVD so we can be all digital. If anyone has any ideas on getting that done let me know.

The show attendance report is as follows...

Ten days; Jack Dietz, Ron Riendeau, Mike Schaefer

Nine days; Bob Dobbin, Rich Sterle

Eight days; Bill Pelky, Ray Wolf

Six days; Joe Frischmann, John Sells

Five days; Bob Dallman, Jim Shander, Jim Taddy

Four days; Dave Blake, Joe Dembiec, Chris Saggio, Chuck Steffen, Tom Thelen

Two days; Gordy Kjer

One day; Rich Mundt

Again, thanks to all who participated.

The last meeting proved to be a bit chaotic. I can only say that I was rather overwhelmed with all of the new things I needed to be ready for and I can only imagine that Joe was in the same boat. Please be patient as we work through our new responsibilities. This is, after all, a club that thrives on helping fellow members. If you can help in any way please let us know.

Dave Blake

Last Meeting Highlights:

President Joe Frischmann called the January meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

The new officers (President Joe F. and Secretary Dave B.) were introduced during the meeting. Joe said one of his biggest ambitions as president will

be to increase publicity for the club. Another rally point will be more model talk at the meetings, so bring in your projects, your problems or your successes.

Bob Dobbin gave the financial report for the month of December. A starting balance of \$3,340.01 with income of \$66.98 and expenses of \$350.00 leaves the club with an ending balance of \$3,056.99. A full fiscal review of 2006 is available on request. A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report as read.

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

Two guests were introduced who are interested in joining the club.

20 members were in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Old Business:

With the election complete there was nothing new to add.

New Business:

A motion was made and seconded that \$125.00 will be made available to members who want to be reimbursed for their boat show parking fees. That money will be divided by the requests for reimbursement.

A new TV with DVD player will be purchased before the Milwaukee Boat Show.

Bob Dobbins offered to let the club use his 20" TV for the boat show if needed.

Ron R. and Rich S. will be the point people to contact West Marine about a spring time static show.

Good of the Club:

Tom Thelen reminded everyone of the clubs' plan archive. He will also donate his Cutty Sark plans to the archive. Copies of the plans can be made at several local printing shops. Tom also mentioned that he has a handy CAD program on

his PC and could make computer files from hand sketches if anyone needs it.

Dave will buy a new TV/DVD unit before the show. Cost will be \$130.

Jim Shander brought up a safety concern with regards to certain types of batteries. A lively discussion followed. Should the club limit the use of the new exotic batteries? The subject is still open.

Chuck S. mentioned that some of his hull molds are being sold. If you would like to obtain a hull before they leave, please contact Chuck ASAP.

The Feb. workshop will cover soldering. Meet at Greenfield News and Hobby at 1:00pm on Sunday,

Feb 18. We should be done by 3:00pm. Presenters will include Jim Shander, Bob Dallman and Tom Thelen. All types of soldering will be discussed. Brass to brass fabrication as well as electrical connections.

Update: Jim Taddy's new phone number is (920)-553-8332.

Club Calendar:

Club dues: Due by Feb 8th meeting.

Workshop on soldering: Feb 18th (1:00-3:00pm)

West Marine: no date yet

Feature Item:

Coastal Cargo boat by Chuck Steffen.

This fantastic Coastal Cargo boat started life as the ready to run Bristol Bay fishing trawler. Although it's hard to tell until you place them side by side as we did in the photos.

The changes that Chuck made include trimming the super structure and adding a visor over the windows. The windows were tinted and some doors added. A bigger, natural draft smoke stack was fabricated. The gunwales have been cut amidships to



facilitate unloading her cargo and a new deck hatch was added to make it easier to access the inside. The two masts have been shortened and re-rigged as cargo cranes. A deck full of crates and barrels and old tires hanging on the sides were added to give the impression of a busy work boat. A new auxiliary boat sits on a cradle on the aft deck. The entire boat was repainted and then heavily weathered. All the original running gear is still in place.

This is one of the best examples of how far you can take a "ready to run" boat and change it's appearance. The boat has already changed hands and rumor has it there was an offer to purchase the boat at the show for \$500.

Keep up the good work! Ed.