

Mississippi Bend Model Boaters "in the water" meetings are held Saturday mornings 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon Middle Park Lagoon Bettendorf, Iowa. In addition, November through March we meet on the second Monday of each month at: Bettendorf Community Center 2204 Grant Street Bettendorf, Iowa 7:00 – 9:00 PM



## October 2006

# From the Pilot House

### The Newsletter of the Mississippi Bend Model Boaters

#### A Look Back at the 2006 Season

Overall it has been a good boating season for MBMB. We had a full schedule, a variety of venues and some good exposure to the public. All of that was in addition to being able to run almost every Saturday morning at our usual site. (Of course, one notable exception was August 26 – the day originally scheduled for our Regatta.)



Executive Board David Krohn, George Turnquist, Steve Ebel, Matt Engebretson, Howard Hansen

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### **Our special events:**

May 11 (Thur) "Salute to Seniors", Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Starlight Ballroom.  
May 21 (Sun.) Fun Run, Westlake Park, Davenport  
May 26 (Fri.) Memorial Day Weekend Concert, Vander Veer Park, Davenport  
June 8, (Thur) Concert in the Park, Vander Veer Park, Davenport  
June 11 (Sun.) Fun Run, Sunset Park Marina, Rock Island  
July 4 (Tue) Cardboard Boat Regatta, Sunset Marina, Rock Island  
July 13 (Thur) Concert in the Park, Vander Veer Park, Davenport  
July 29 (Sat) Bix Fest Concert, Vander Veer Park, Davenport  
Aug. 10 (Thur) Concert in the Park, Vander Veer Park, Davenport (rained out)  
Aug. 19 (Sat) Prospect Park Re-Dedication, Moline  
Aug. 26 (Sat) MBMB Regatta, Middle Park Lagoon, Bettendorf (rained out)  
Sept. 17 (Sun.) Fall Festival, Vander Veer Park, Davenport  
Sept. 24 (Sun.) MBMB Picnic and Regatta, Middle Park Lagoon, Bettendorf

I'm sure each of us has our own memories of those events. Many of us could tell stories of our adventures. What I think is most remarkable is that when you add those (10 in the water) special events to the approximately 30 Saturdays (April through October) . . . . .

***we met together 40 times to put our boats in the water this season!***

And I think it's safe to say that most of us were present most of those times!

Any group that comes together for a common interest 40 times in 7 months is pretty dedicated! (Maybe the word is addicted!) And apparently there's nothing motivating us to do so, except simply the enjoyment of the hobby.

Even more noteworthy is that basically this same group of people will meet monthly through the winter just to look at and talk about and learn about boats. Wow!

Most amazing of all is that we all seem to enjoy each other's company! You have to admit, that is a great accomplishment in itself. ***Congratulations!***

Thanks to each and every one of you for making MBMB what it is – a real success story!

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## **More Thank You's**

This past season we have had the help and cooperation of a number of people we need to thank:

- + Jeff Sybil at Vander Veer Park has been very conscientious about notifying us in advance about the condition of the water for every Vander Veer event, so we could get the word out to you.
- + Justin Brandt of Moline Parks and Recreation met with board members on site and communicated back and forth many times about the event at Prospect Park.
- + George Turnquist was "the voice of MBMB" many times throughout the season to get the word out to you with his timely phone calls about various events.

"THANK YOU!" "THANK YOU!" "THANK YOU!"

## **Regatta 2006**

Joining the Regatta with the picnic seemed the best way to reschedule the event this year. The only problem was that beginning as we did after lunch (1:00) on Sunday, there was not enough time to run the sail boat events. Special thanks goes to Matt and David who served as judges for the propeller and paddlewheel events and did not have a chance to compete in any sailing events. Our apologies to them and to all who intended to compete in the sailboat races. Thanks to all who came and brought family members for both the social and the competition events. The winners were as follows:

### Predicted Log:

1. Robert Pulse
2. Steve Ebel
3. John Carter

### Precision Steering:

1. Robert Pulse (Wave Chopper)
2. Fred Lorscheider (Caito Bros.)
3. Howard Hansen (High Roller)

### Conning:

1. Dave and Janet Wendel
2. Robert and Roberta Pulse
3. George Turnquist and John Carter

Captain's Choice: Robert Pulse: Dusseldorf

People's Choice: David Wendel: Sweet Pea

Best Performance: Robert and Roberta Pulse

All who entered are winners!

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## **Winter Season Meetings**

As in past years, our winter meetings take place at the Bettendorf Community Center, 2204 Grant Street, Bettendorf, at 7:00 PM, usually on the second Monday of month: November through March. **Mark your calendar for November 13<sup>th</sup>.**

For the winter meetings, please plan to bring a nautical project (at any stage of concept, design, drawing or construction) for Show and Tell. It would be interesting to bring the same project each time we meet, so we can all observe it's progressive development. In order to make our meetings interesting and helpful we also need ideas and presenters for programs. What would you like to learn about? What could you show the rest of us how to do? Do you need help with soldering, or can you show us how you do it? Please let any of the board members know your area of interest or expertise.

After our shared experience of struggling to back into the slip at the Regatta, it seems to me that it would be a good idea for us to explore the design, installation and operation of flanking rudders. What are "flanking rudders" you ask? In addition to the standard (stern) rudder, they are the rudders on full-size tow boats which are mounted ahead of the propeller(s) in order to provide steering in reverse. There is information about flanking rudders on Old River Bill's website. Look under "Rudders and Korts." This might be a good subject for you to investigate and prepare as a presentation to the club.

### **Winter Meeting Dates:**

November 13<sup>th</sup> (Monday)  
December 11<sup>th</sup> (Monday)  
January 8<sup>th</sup> (Monday)  
February 13<sup>th</sup> **NOTE!!** (Tuesday)  
March 12<sup>th</sup> (Monday)

We have the meeting room reserved from 7:00 – 9:30 PM. The meeting itself lasts usually an hour and a half, but you are welcome to stay and talk boats until 9:30.

### **Dues and Election:**

October is the month we all pay membership dues for the next year. Dues are as follows:

Junior Membership Fee (17 and under) . . . \$10.00  
Individual Membership Fee . . . . . \$25.00  
Family Membership Fee (at same address): \$35.00

Send your dues to treasurer, Matt Engebretson, 5510 Hillside Ct., Davenport, IA 52806, or give them to him in person at the lagoon, or at the meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

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All those who have paid their dues will be eligible to vote for Executive Board members at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. So far, the nominees on the ballot are:

Steve Ebel  
Matt Engebretson  
David Krohn  
George Turnquist

Since our by laws call for six Executive Board members, you can see that we need some more names on the ballot. Every MBMB member should consider the opportunity to serve the club on the board. If you have ever said to yourself, "There must be a better way. . ." or "Why don't we. . .", then you may be ready to be one of the navigators who direct our course. After the Exec. Board members are elected, they decide among themselves who will serve as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

If you would like your name on the ballot, please notify any of the board members: President, David Krohn: 563-785-6938; Vice President, George Turnquist: 563-391-3840; Secretary, Steve Ebel: 563-349-4033 or Treasurer, Matt Engebretson: 563-386-0134

Don't forget. If you have not done the "self-interview" for **Nautical Tales**, we will be asking you to do so sometime soon. We'll hand out the list of questions at the November meeting. We want to hear your story of how you got involved in RC model building.

One last note: Cam and Mercedes Beert, our friends (and members) who lived in the white house across the pond, have moved. Their new address is: Villa d'Este Condominiums, 1717 Via Fontana, Davenport, IA 52807: phone: 563-355-7231.

Fair winds and following seas,  
Steve Ebel, Secretary

Executive Board David Krohn, George Turnquist, Steve Ebel, Matt Engebretson, Howard Hansen