



# E-RCU News

www.e-rcu.org

Volume 1, Issue 4

DECEMBER 2005

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 1 .Memberships and boat registrations begin for 2006
- Jan. 1, noon . . . . .Fun Run, Shady Lake
- Jan. 8, 2 p.m. . .Members Mtg. HARM
- Feb. 3-5 . . . .NW Hobby Expo. at Puyallup Fairgrounds
- Feb. 5, noon -5 p.m. . . .ERCU Swap Meet HARM
- Feb. 5, 2 p.m. . .Members Mtg. HARM

## YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!



For those who didn't see it at the member meeting on Dec. 4, here's a picture of Ron Homung's Hurricane under construction.

## FEATURED WEBSITES

Newest ABRA Race Site  
[www.regates.ca/](http://www.regates.ca/)

## Happy Holidays to all

Let me begin by wishing you all Happy Holidays.

Allow me to also extend heartfelt thank you and well done to our outgoing Treasurer/Registrar, "**Big Dave**" Lilly. We will all be looking forward to seeing your new Coral Reef in the coming season.

Also, welcome aboard to our new Contest Board member, **Henry Marvin**.

This is the time of year that we are preparing our boats, old and new, for the coming season of racing. As we do this, let us also look to the future of ERCU. We have taken a step this year with regard to batteries. I expect that our next challenge will be motors. The AstroFlight 325 is a great motor for us

but it is not an off the shelf item at the local hobby shop, nor are the parts to maintain it. Brushed DC motors in the 500-600 watt range with adjustable timing and just the right speed constant for our props are few. In fact at this point just the Astro 325 is just right. This motor defines the 1/10 Scale Unlimited class so to speak. The time is fast approaching when we need to begin looking at the power plants (motors) we use in terms of performance specifications not unlike what we do with our energy sources (batteries). The bottom line is that we need to start consid-

ering alternatives that are acceptable to us as a group.

Whatever decisions we ultimately arrive at, your Contest Board is chartered to act on the consensus of the membership and within the purpose of the club to "emphasize scale accuracy and quality workmanship as well as enjoyable competition on the water" as



Chairman's Chatter  
Ron Daum

stated in our by laws. To help us determine what that consensus is, members must voice their opinions at the meetings and by e-mail to your contest board members. Voicing your opinion after decisions are made is too late. Don't be bashful.

## 2005 comes to an end at December member meeting

**Roger Newton** opened the meeting in the absence of Chairman **Ron Daum** with 21 members in attendance. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as submitted. Treasurer **Dave Lilly** was not present, but it is understood that there is no substantive change from the November meeting report.

Ballots for the 2006 board member voting were distributed. The results of the voting show that the members elected for 2006-2007 are **Roger Newton, David Newton** and **Henry Marvin**.

A new logo will be designed for the club, incorporating both roundnose and pickleford hulls. **Jim Lilly** will be assembling ideas, so if anyone has any thoughts they are requested to send them to Jim before the January members meeting.

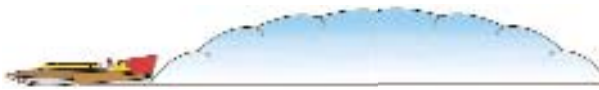
**Jerry Courtway** will be heading up a



After the December 4 member meeting, many members spent some time bench-racing, socializing and comparing stories of their plans for the offseason.

sponsorship committee that will seek prospective sponsors to help promote the club. **Jim Clark** prepared a sample poster that showed various boats in action with space available to identify the sponsor. A primary season sponsorship would be \$1,000,

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### 2006 Contest Board elected at member meeting

The new ERCU Contest Board was elected at the December 4 member meeting, and those elected are: **Henry Marvin, Roger Newton, and David Newton.**

### Electric R/C Scale Swap Meet Scheduled

There was a unanimous show of hands vote at the December ERCU meeting to include a swap meet before & after the February ERCU meeting. That meeting will be held at the H.A.R.M. on Sunday, Feb. 5.

The swap meet will give any and all members an opportunity to bring surplus parts, motors, batteries, speed controls and other electronics to the meeting on that Sunday. Members would be urged to bring their own tables, as the Museum has only a limited number and we use them for our meeting.

Photos, decals, boat covers and anything else pertaining to the hobby can be brought in to sell or swap. We can start at noon, break for our meeting at 2 p.m. and resume at 3:30 or so after the meeting.

### Jim Clark organizing another speed control order

Once again **Jim Clark** will be putting together a group buy of speed controls. The controls will sell for \$85 each (a \$14 savings). Jim needs payment by January 14, and delivery will be by the end of February. Payment can be by sending a check or you can PayPal Jim the funds but the you need to add the 3 percent for PayPal fees so if you are paying by PayPal the price is \$87.55 per control. To contact Jim, call (206) 937-5080 for mailing address and PayPal account name.

#### V90-1032/Opto Features —

- Watercooled & waterproof;
- 10-32 cells or 3S-9S LiPo (40V max input);
- 1.5" x 2.5" x 0.5" thick (40 x 65mm x 13mm);
- Programmable for pistol-grip or stick transmitters;
- Programmable low-voltage-cutoff (LVC) to save your LiPo cells;
- Programmable PWM to match your motor's inductance best;
- Weighs only 1.5oz (44g) with wires;
- 6-FET design for very low on-resistance (.0005 ohms!!);
- 450A surge current, 90A continuous with water cooling;
- Three-color LED shows OFF, PARTIAL, and FULL POWER settings;
- All adjustments are done on your transmitter — no pots to fiddle with;
- Opto-Isolated to reduce radio interference;
- No BEC — BECs carry noise directly into your radio;
- Universal JR-style servo connector (compatible with Futaba, Multiplex, Hitec, and Airtronics Z;
- 12-inch servo leads allow flexible positioning;
- Fail-safe powers down on radio signal loss (but doesn't glitch);
- Safe-on feature prevents glitching on power-up;
- 12AWG wire for minimum resistance; and
- Recommended for all 10-32 cell racing configurations.

## News & Rumors



The Miss US5 has a new owner — **Kirk Pagel**, who bought the boat from **Rick Lentz** just recently. It was Lentz, also, who sold the '73 Red Man in November. He's planning on having at least one, and perhaps two new boats this spring.

**Ron Hornung** is working on a new Hurricane. **Roger "The Czar" Newton** has the plug from **Nigel Steere** to start on a U25 hull

In 2006, Czar will run either the Hawaii Kai, or maybe a new '68 Bardahl.

**Jerry Johnston** should have the '72 Timex ready for the start of the season.

**Robbie Roberts** is working on the Shanty.

**Jerry Courtway** has a Thriftway Too under way, and would like to start on both '70 and '71 Atlas Van Lines hulls.

**Bob VandenAkker** will have the '63 Notre Dame for the coming year.

**Jeff Campbell** has hulls No. 12 and 13 in the mold, and continues to be a huge support to the club members.

**Gary Hanson** should have the Cotts Beverage and the '72 Vans PX added to his fleet.

## Big Boat News

The offseason is busy in the U-1 Ellstrom Manufacturing/Miss Elam boat shop as **Jeff Minar** and other crew members do a load of work to ready the team for its title defense. While the backup boat (E-1), painted in the old white scheme, is ready for the season, the primary hull is undergoing a few changes. The crew is also building parts and fabricating props . . . Another team doing significant work to its hull is the new U-21 Freedom Racing Team. **Jeffrey Johnson** and **Kevin Aylesworth** are the owners of this new team, made up of lots of **Dr. Ken Muscatel's** equipment, purchased last season. The team is redesigning the aerodynamics of the former U-25 and developing an engine program prior to the 2006 season . . . Rumors regarding the rest of the Budweiser equipment (T-6 & T-7 along with all the gear) — that hasn't been sold yet — have begun to fade away since the reported deal with **Bob Hughes** (Miss Madison) failed to go through. Nothing more has been heard from **Fran Muncy** and her folks since the TV broadcast of the San Diego race when there were a few cryptic messages that she still might be interested in some of the Bud equipment . . . As we heard at the banquet, **Dr. Ken Muscatel** is out of racing, unless he can find a sponsor and a boat for this season. We're keeping our fingers crossed.

## A Moment With . . .

### RON DAUM



Family: . . . . . Wife Phyllis, daughter Erinn (25) and son Alex (23)  
 City he calls home: . . . . . Seattle  
 Job (when not boating): . . . . . Port Engineer for NOAA  
 College Football Loyalty: . . . . . UW Huskies  
 Favorite Current Unlimited Hydro: . . . . . None in particular. Boats that whistle lack the special fascination for me.  
 Favorite Unlimited Hydro of the past: . . . . . WILDROOT Charlie  
 Boats he races in ERCU: . . . . . Such Crust III & Miss Pepsi  
 What was your first car? . . . . . 1951 Chevy  
 What was your first job? . . . . . Clearing trails at Bridal Trails State Park  
 When and how did you get involved in scale racing? . In 1973, I saw Roger & Monte's 1/8 Scale Slo-Mo's race with the Seattle Model Yacht Club 60 Hydro Class. I was hooked and started building my Wildroot Charlie soon after. My first race was in 1975. Back then you started them with a rope. Really ugly!  
 Have you ever had a manicure/pedicure? (Come on manly-man . . . admit it!): No — but I did wake up after a night of bar-hopping in Yokasuka with my fingernails painted bright red, no tattoos thankfully.  
 Coke or Pepsi? . . . . . Pepsi of course!



## Minutes of the December 4, 2005 Membership Meeting

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and additional associate sponsorships could contribute to offset the costs of a specific race.

The club will obtain insurance coverage from APBA again this year. The cost for a season membership is \$45 if paid before February 28, and \$50 afterwards. There are also provisions for single event coverage at \$10 per race. All drivers will need to confirm coverage at races requiring insurance, which is likely to be most of the sites under consideration for the 2006 season.

Twelve races are being considered for the 2006 season, with the best 10 counting for season high points. Contest Directors are still needed for several of the events, so anyone interested should contact Race Coordinator **Roger Newton** with that information.

**Dave Gardner** is assembling an order for the AstroFlight motors. He needs to order at least ten to secure a price reduction. Anyone interested in purchasing a motor should notify Dave by the January meeting, with payment due in February.

Availability of motors and possible alternates were discussed. A brushless motor and speed control may become available for a cost of

around \$100, and cordite motors were also mentioned. For 2006 the approved motor will remain the AstroFlight 25-5 turn motor as specified in the rules. Investigations and tests will be conducted over the next year to study comparable alternatives for future consideration.

The order for the club-supplied lithium polymer battery packs has been submitted and will arrive sometime around mid-January. A list of those who wished to order packs is being maintained by the club, and those individuals will be notified when the packs are available.

The feedback from the joint banquet with R/CU was generally positive, although it will be three more years until the opportunity arises again, as R/CU rotates its banquet around the state to respect those living out of the Puget Sound region.

It was approved to continuing the monthly newsletter for 2006. A thank you to **Nelson Holmberg**, who assembles the information and puts the letter together. Anyone with items or ideas for adding into the newsletter should get the information to **Rick Lentz**. The newsletter will be sent out approximately mid-month throughout the year.

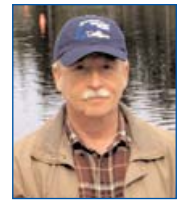
At the last meeting it was decided that the club would purchase a good computer and printer. Additional items mentioned for consideration at this meeting include: softer buoys, a first aid kit, a generator, a fire extinguisher and reinforced ladders for the scaffolding. Some study is being made into Nerf football buoys, with updates to be made at the next meeting.

**Kirk Pagel** is making preparations for a swap meet, to be held at the museum at the February 5 members meeting. Members can bring tables and offer items for sale. The swap meet will start at noon, break for the members meeting at 2 p.m., and then after the meeting continue until about 5 p.m.

**Jim Lilly** is preparing dashes and steering wheels — contact him if you are interested in either.

**Jim Clark** is preparing an order for Victory speed controls. These can be set to operate with the li-po batteries. Anyone interested can contact Jim for ordering or additional questions.

Following News and Rumors, the meeting was adjourned.



From the  
Secretary's Desk  
Rick Lentz

## Statistics — End of Season

### Vintage Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Miss Thriftway/Maverick	David Newton	13,113
2.	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	12,014
3.	Miss US 1	Mike Campbell	10,311
4.	Notre Dame	Bob Vandemakker	9,568
5.	Such Crust III	Ron Daum	7,979
6.	Miss Exide	Henry Marvin	7,946
7.	Hawaii Kai III	Roger Newton	6,240
8.	Miss Bardahl/Miss US 5	Miss Wahoo Rick Lentz	5,997
9.	Muvalong/Timex	Jason Hartley®	5,809
10.	My Gypsy	Jim Lilly	5,619

### Vintage Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	1970	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	13,014
2.	1960	Miss Thriftway	David Newton	12,319
3.	1957	Miss US 1	Mike Campbell	10,311
4.	1965	Notre Dame	Bob Vandemakker	9,568
5.	1956	Slo-mo-shun IV	Grady/Monte/Nigel Steere	8,079
6.	1955	Such Crust III	Ron Daum	7,979
7.	1964	Miss Exide	Henry Marvin	7,946
8.	1954	Muvalong	Jason Hartley/Gary Hansen	6,711
9.	1957	Hawaii Kai III	Roger Newton/David Newton	6,640
10.	1959	Miss Pay 'n Save	S.Twardus/G.Whitstine/M.Hansen	6,340

### Modern Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Pride of Pay 'n Pak	Jeff Campbell	12,125
2.	Country Boy	Mike Campbell	11,748
3.	Miss Vernors/Country Boy/Olympia	David Newton	8,284
4.	Squire	Mike Gossler	7,228
5.	Twardus Fleet	Steve Twardus	5,429
6.	Red Man	Rick Lentz	4,785
7.	Notre Dame	Mark Hansen	4,390
8.	Pay 'n Pak	Gale Whitstine	4,363
9.	Squire Shop/Vernors	Gary Hansen	3,936
10.	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	3,442

### Modern Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	1971	Country Boy	Mike Campbell	13,348
2.	1970	Pride of Pay 'n Pak	Jeff Campbell	12,125
3.	1973	Red Man	R. Lentz/N. Homberg/M. Steere	8,417
4.	1978	Squire	Mike Gossler	8,222
5.	1976	Olympia Beer	David Lilly/David Newton	7,071
6.	1976	Miss Vernors	D. Newton/Marvin/Twardus/Hansen	6,854
7.	1977	Squire Shop	Twardus/Vandemakker/Newton/Hansen/Hartley	5,720
8.	1972	Notre Dame	Mark Hansen	5,490
9.	1971	Pay 'n Pak	Gale Whitstine	4,683
10.	1977	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	4,136

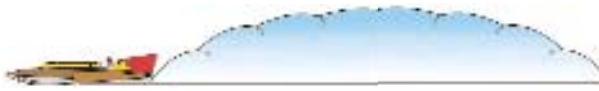


photo by Jim Clark



## January 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
FUN RUN @ Shady Lake Memberships and boat registrations begin for '06						
<b>8</b> Members Meeting HARM, 2 p.m.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				