

# ERCU

## THE NEWSLETTER

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- April 30... Skyward Construction Cup  
*Horseshoe Lake Park, Woodland, Wash.*
- May 7 . . . . . Seafair Trophy Race  
*Twin Lakes Park, Marysville, Wash.*

### On the Web

- Lewis River Valley Information  
[www.lewisriver.com](http://www.lewisriver.com)
- Galaxy Hobby  
[www.galaxyhobby.com](http://www.galaxyhobby.com)

### Stat of the Month

= **Nels Enquist** became one of a handful of rookies to make the final heat in their first-ever ERCU race when he drove the 1972 Lincoln Thrift in the final of the Champion Spark Plug Regatta.

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## RENEWING A 30-YEAR WOODLAND TRADITION

For nearly three decades, model hydroplane racing has been a part of Woodland's community fabric, with the exception of a three-year break between 2008 and 2010.

This season, ERCU brings hydroplane racing back to Horseshoe Lake, and it's the next race up on the Red Dot Championship Series presented by Peters & May.

The Skyward Construction Cup presented by Minuteman Press of Longview will be run Saturday, April 30. This race is an open-prop event for the vintage class, and with plenty of room to run, the course will be similar in length to the course at Lake Wilderness. A regular racing schedule is on tap, beginning with set up of the pits, setting the course, and event registration at 7:30 a.m. The water will be open for testing and practice as soon as boats are registered.

Last-minute inspections and rules tests will also be handled prior to the the mandatory drivers meeting, which will be conducted at 10:30. Modern heat 1A will begin five minutes after the drivers meeting.

The shelter at Horseshoe Lake Park is available to racers for a pit area, as is the grassy area in the park, to the west of the boat launch and bleachers. The park has electricity available, and racers are welcome to bring a generator if they prefer.

The Skyward Construction Cup is the second event on the 13-race Red Dot Championship Series presented by Peters & May. Most of the races occur in the Puget Sound area, though along with the Woodland race and two in Tualatin, nearly a quarter of the season's races occur in the Southwest Washington region.

Additional sponsors of the Skyward Construction Cup include LewisRiver.com, Loves Street Playhouse, and DKM Studios (all of Woodland).

Established in 1997, Skyward has built a reputation for performing high quality work and delivering successful projects. Skyward strives to hire and maintain exceptional people who are continually challenged to achieve excellence.



## BIG BOAT NEWS: DETROIT YACHT CLUB SPONSORS GOLD CUP

The Detroit Yacht Club, one of the oldest and most prestigious clubs in North America, has been named the presenting sponsor of the 2011 Detroit APBA Gold Cup, scheduled to take place July 8-10 on the Detroit River. The announcement was made by the Detroit River Regatta Association (DRRA), host organization for the race and representatives from the Detroit Yacht Club.

As presenting sponsor, Detroit Yacht Club will lead the fundraising efforts for the event in July, including seeking businesses, individuals and clubs to help preserve one of the oldest, ongoing events in the city.

"This is a tremendous honor for the Detroit Yacht Club to team up with the DRRA in such a special, uniquely Detroit event," said **Dr. AJ Telmos**, the commodore of Detroit Yacht Club. "Just like the DYC, the Gold Cup Races have a long history with Detroit and southeast Michigan."

Additionally, the Detroit Yacht Club is hosting a fundraising dinner party and silent auction to benefit the 2011 APBA Detroit Gold Cup Races on Friday, May 6. The event is open to the public and any other private club member. For tickets or more information, contact the Detroit Yacht Club at 313-824-1200 ext. 279.

### Perkins escapes injury

**Kayleigh Perkins**, one of hydroplane racing's top up-and-coming stars, escaped injury during a very scary moment while testing her UL-72 at Lake Washington in mid-April.

While idling the boat back to the dock, a fire started in the engine and Perkins quickly began getting out of the boat.

Just as she was emerging from the capsule, the right side of the boat exploded, damaging the hull significantly.

Perkins was able to get into the water and swim to shore, with some assistance from her husband and crew members and once she was checked out by paramedics and deemed to be OK, she deftly handled media interviews and had a chance to survey the damage to her boat.

### Bartush has two-boat dilemma

U-13 Spirit of Detroit owner **Dave Bartush** is busy preparing for the season at his Hydroplane Museum building in Detroit. The current hull has the aft decking off to make repairs and upgrades.

The team's second hull, the former Trendwest built in 2003 by **Ron Brown** and **Jim Harvey**, waits in the wings, with work expected to alleviate the boat's balance problems.

Which hull will run depends on work



*Kayleigh Perkins was uninjured during a scary fire and explosion onboard the UL-72 while testing at Lake Washington in mid-April. Repairs to the boat are already underway. (photo courtesy SnoValley Star)*

completed by the start of the season and, of course, sponsorship. **Cal Phipps** is expected back as driver.

### Hydro Museum to Honor Wood, Chenoweth

Legendary boat racers from different eras will be inducted into the Hydroplane & Raceboat Museum Hall of Champions on May 14 joining previous inductees **Bill Muncey** and **Chip Hanauer**.

**Gar Wood** was the superstar of the pre-World War II era, winning five Gold Cups, eight Harmsworth Trophy Races and setting six world water speed records.

**Dean Chenoweth** won four Gold Cups and four National Championships from 1970-1981, and ranks third all time with 25 unlimited hydroplane victories.

The event at the museum begins with a social hour at 6 p.m. Dinner is at 7 p.m. with videos and the induction ceremony at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$75 each. Please RSVP by calling the museum at 206-764-9453..

### Tidbits

- **Stan Hanauer** passed away last week. Condolences to Chip and family. First word on a public memorial for Stan Hanauer has it at 1 p.m. on May 11 at the Seattle Yacht Club. Keep an eye on [www.hlunlimiteds.com](http://www.hlunlimiteds.com) for more information.
- **Scott Carson**, **Frank Hauenstein** and **Doug Bernstein** have all been added to

H1 Unlimiteds board of directors.

- **Scott and Linda Carson** will be presenting sponsors for **Mike Webster's** U-22 team in 2011.
- San Diego Bayfair is confirmed for 2011 date.
- H1 Unlimited has a redesigned website, still listed at [www.hlunlimited.com](http://www.hlunlimited.com).

### H1, Bulldawg Marketing work together

H1 Unlimited recently announced its new strategic partnership with Bulldawg Marketing, a Mooresville, NC based sports marketing agency specializing in creating successful programming for Fortune 500 companies and delivering positive ROI on its clients' sports sponsorship investments.

Bulldawg Marketing has been successful in working with sports properties, race teams and Fortune 500 companies in the NASCAR arena for over a decade and has a staff of executives with experience dating back to Winston Cup Racing in both NASCAR and Hydroplane events.

Compiled by **Rick Lentz**, big boat reporter; with special thanks to Unlimited News Journal for contributions



## 2011 ERCU SCHEDULE

APRIL		
Date	Event	Location
16	Champion Spark Plug Regatta Winners: Bill Smiley (M); Gerry Bordon (V)	Centralia
30	Skyward Const. Cascade Cup CD: Nelson Holmberg	Woodland

MAY		
Date	Event	Location
7	Seafair Trophy Race CD: Steve Dumanis	Twin Lakes
21	Diamond Cup (with ESU) CD: Doug Brow	Friday Harbor

JUNE		
Date	Event	Location
12	Peters's Cup/MV Days Co-CDs: Scott Fetterly & Judy Fenton	Lake Wilderness
25	Oregon Emerald Cup CD: Nelson Holmberg	Tualatin, Ore.

JULY		
Date	Event	Location
9	Stan Sayres Memorial CD: Monte Steere	Bellevue Pond
16	ERCU Columbia Cup Co-CDs: Nelson Holmberg & Mick Shutt	Tualatin, Ore.
23	Bernie Little Memorial CD: Craig Mullen	Lake Tye

AUGUST		
Date	Event	Location
14	Silver Cup (with ESU) Co-CDs: Gerry Bordon & Mike Gossler	Twin Lakes
27	Apple Cup CD: Ben Keller	Waughop Lake

SEPTEMBER		
Date	Event	Location
17	Peters & May Gold Cup CD: Contest Board	Lake Wilderness
25	Roger Newton Memorial CD: David Newton	Cherokee Bay

Season high points for boats and drivers will be based on the 10 best finishes for the year. This schedule is always subject to change. See [www.ercu.org/schedule.html](http://www.ercu.org/schedule.html) for the most up-to-date schedule.

### NAMBA REGIONAL EVENTS

For 1/10-scale unlimited hydroplanes

Date	Host	Location
8/21	Ron Daum/ERCU	Waughop Lake, Lakewood
10/16	Classic Thunder	Woodland Creek Park, Lacey

The NAMBA Regional Events will be scored in a series of their own, and points from these events will not be included in the Red Dot Championship Series presented by Peters & May standings.

## ERCU RUMOR MILL

Craig Bradshaw is just about finished with the 2010 Miss Peters & May at the West Coast Custom Boats shop. The plan is to run it himself a few times this season, and then refine the mold. West Coast Custom Boats has already had interest in buying this boat when it's finished . . . Mick Shutt, home after a couple of months in Hawaii, has his 1975 Oh Boy! Ober-



ready to go for the Skyward Construction Cup presented by Minuteman Press of Longview. It still remains to be seen if the 1978 Miss Budweiser will be ready after a long winter . . . Gerry Bordon, at one of the winter meetings commented that his boat hadn't had a lot of winter preparation work, and it looked good in Centralia. We could see why Gerry didn't do much to it . . . Jesse Shehan didn't have much good luck at the Champion Spark Plug Regatta, seeing one ESC burn up in the Beacon Plumbing in the first modern heat of the day, and some rudder trouble with the 1977 Squire during the open water period. No one blamed him for taking off early.

## GALAXY HOBBY SUPPORTS SEFAIR

Galaxy Hobby of Lynnwood has agreed to sponsor the ERCU Seafair Trophy Race, said Contest Director Steve Dumanis.

The Seafair Trophy Race is set for Saturday, May 7 at Gissberg Twin Lakes Park in Marysville.

Galaxy Hobby is a full line hobby shop and winner of national "Hobby Store of the Year". Serving the Lynnwood, Wash., area, Galaxy Hobby offers a wide range of collectibles to match the unique interests of individual hobbyists. Galaxy Hobby carries RC planes and boats, cars and trains, plastic kits, rockets, supplies and parts and supports racing and contests.

The store is open seven days a week, located at 19332 60th Avenue West in Lynnwood. The professionals at Galaxy Hobby can be contacted by phone at 425-329-6678 or by email at [info@galaxyhobby.com](mailto:info@galaxyhobby.com).

## RULES REMINDER OF THE MONTH

As a result of some concerns from members regarding very large lakes where we share the water with others, the following safety actions shall be followed strictly.

- The chief referee will (as always) have the duty to politely remind [via the PA system] boaters who get too close to the race course that they should move away from the course.
- All hydros will be stopped in place if a safety compromise should come up.
- A board member will scrutinize any boat seen to have radio troubles throughout the day, and a thorough range check will be done after repairs are completed by the boat owner/crew, who will alert the CD BEFORE running his or her boat again after a radio problem.
- Any boat that has questionable radio control connectivity will remain on the bench until it is repaired with confidence, and inspected by a board member, before being allowed back into the race.

## CLUB CLIPPINGS

Bill Smiley lamenting bad luck . . . Ben Keller too . . . Nelson Holmberg meeting with Woodland big-wigs . . . John & Dianne Earnest checking around . . . Steve Dumanis securing sponsorship . . . Ron Daum itching to race . . . Nels Enquist making the final at first ERCU race . . . Doug Brow promoting.

## BORDON CLAIMS FIRST CAREER WIN AT SPARK PLUG REGATTA

CENTRALIA, Wash. – Even chilly winds and a little drizzle now and then couldn't stand in the way of **Gerry Bordon** and his 1970 Parco's O-Ring Miss.

Bordon claimed his first career victory at the season-opening Champion Spark Plug Regatta at Centralia's Fort Borst Lake on Saturday, April 16, piloting the U-8 to the win in a final heat that included a number of very fast boats.

**Bill Smiley** claimed his fourth career win in the modern division, guiding his 1977 Charlie's Girl to the win in the modern final.

It was the first race on the 2011 Red Dot Championship Series presented by Peters & May.

A day that started out mostly overcast, was still a good day. Inspections were handled over the boats in the pits that hadn't been previously inspected during the offseason. A total of 24 boats were in the pits for the season opener, so the race day moved along nicely.

The first race of the season did see some boats fall victim to attrition due to

mechanical or electrical issues. The 2010 Graham Trucking, which was due to be driven by **Mark Gran**, treated its new driver really nasty during the morning's testing and when steering gremlins were discovered to be the true problem, it was

decided to leave the U-7 on the trailer for the day. **Jesse Shehan's** boats had their troubles too. The Squire was scratched first when it had steering troubles of its own. Later in the day, the Beacon Plumbing also had troubles when a speed control burned.

With three modern boats dropping out through the course of the day, just eight boats were left running, so no modern connee was run. Rookie **Nels Enquist** ran his 1972 Lincoln Thrift in the final as the trailer boat after **Gary Hansen** chose to scratch his Miss Cott's Beverage from the final in order to drive Campbell's Executive.

Smiley won the modern final at the Champion Spark Plug Regatta with his 1977 Charlie's Girl.

In the modern final, it was the Charlie's Girl, the Boat, and the Miss Circus Circus that jumped out as early leaders. **Nelson Holmberg's** 2010 Formula Boats was also in the mix, with the inside lane, but when the Formula missed the apex buoy in the right turn on lap number one, its race was more-or-less over. The race ended early, too, for the Circus Circus and the Boat, when both of them blew over.

Smiley held on to the lead wire-to-wire and finished the modern final in first, followed by Hansen with the Executive, Enquist with the Lincoln Thrift in third



*Bill Smiley had a good day with his 1977 Charlie's Girl, which finished third, third, second and first. The first place finish came when it mattered most, in the winner-take-all championship final, which Smiley led wire-to-wire. (Photo by Nelson Holmberg)*



*Gerry Bordon drove his 1970 Parco's O-Ring Miss to his first career victory Saturday, April 16 at the Champion Spark Plug Regatta. (Photo by Justin Lentz)*



(from the trailer position), **Craig Bradshaw** with the brand new 2010 Oh Boy! Oberto in fourth, and **Holmberg** with the 2010 Formula in fifth.

The vintage class had enough boats to run a first connie, which would have been an eight boat affair had Bradshaw been able to run two boats simultaneously. But seven boats made the first connie, including **Dawn Holmberg's** brand new 1957 Miss Wahoo, **Dave Reiser's** Breathless II - both of which scored zero points in the prelims - and **Enquist's** Maverick all running as trailers. **Smiley** won the vintage connie with the 1957 Miss Thriftway, followed by **Holmberg's** Miss Wahoo in second and **Bradshaw's** Coral Reef in third.

When it came time for the vintage final, a very even field brought boats to the water. Just after the second lap started, the fast seven-boat field was reduced to five when **Ryan Opfer's** 1975 Miss Vernor's



*Bettie Bradshaw's brand new 2010 Oh Boy! Oberto performed very well at the Champion Spark Plug Regatta in Centralia, finishing fourth in the modern final. (photo by Mark Gran)*

flipped and landed upside down and **Ben Keller's** Hawaii Ka'i III - driven by **Nelson Holmberg** - was involved with a racing collision with **Smiley's** Thriftway and rolled upside down. From there, it was a drag race. **Bordon, Smiley, Hansen, Steve Dumanis** and **John Earnest** gave it their all. When **Dumanis's** Thunderbolt flipped in the left turn and landed without its cowling, it was dropped to the last finishing position due to the rules for

final heats.

When all of the spray settled, **Bordon** had claimed his well-deserved first win, followed in second place by **Hansen's** 1954 Muvalong, **Smiley** in third with the Thriftway, **Earnest** in fourth with the Gale V and **Dumanis** in fifth.

Special thanks go out to **Gran**, who stuck around all day to help with turn judging - perhaps setting an unofficial ERCU record for the number of heats served as a turn judge - to **Campbell** for all of his appreciated assistance, to **Rick Lentz** for pulling the trailer and helping out with everything from chief refereeing to packing up the trailer, to **Reiser** for helping out as a chief referee, and to everyone who attended and took their appropriate turns as race officials to make sure the day went as we all had hoped.

It was a great race indeed.

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER: 2011 SEASON IS OFF TO A VERY GOOD START

As you read this, we have our first event under our collective belts and the next race is the Skyward Construction Cup presented by Minuteman Press at Horseshoe Lake in Woodland, Washington. For those of you who have not ventured to this site, it is well worth the trip.

On another front, I am pleased with the member participation in the operation of the club and its' events, and hats off to **Steve Dumanis** for getting a sponsor for the Seafair Regatta.

This is the sort of activism that we need. The Club and the Contest Board cannot succeed without your continuing input. Please communicate your concerns to any board member by phone or e-mail.

If you as a member feels' there is an issue or concern affecting the club, please feel free to share that with myself or any board member.

Your concerns are not complaining. We can't get better and put on a better show without your help and input, so keep those cards and letters coming in.

Happy roostertails to you all  
Ron Daum,  
ERCU Chairman



## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*In 2005, Jerry Courtway completed a beautiful Newton model of Bill Wurster's Llummar Window Film (the former Miss Budweiser T-4) and while he had nothing but trouble with the original, he eventually sold it to Ron Daum who reworked the geometry of the sponsons and raced it for one season before it became the plug for the mold that Daum, Howard Price and Craig Bradshaw put together that became the basis for the current molds that make the modern boats we now see on ERCU race courses around the Pacific Northwest.*



## VINTAGE BOAT POINTS – 2011 (THROUGH ONE RACE)

No.	Boat	Year	Owner	CSP	SKY	SEA	DC	PC	OEC	SSM	CC	BLM	SC	AC	GC	RNM	Total	Drops	High Points
1.	Parco's O-Ring Miss	1970	Gerry Bordon	1,425													1,425		1,425
2.	Thunderbolt	1962	Steve Dumanis	1,227													1,227		1,227
3.	Muvalong	1956	Gary Hansen	1,094													1,094		1,094
4.	Miss Vernor's	1975	Ryan Opfer	969													969		969
5.	Gale V	1962	John Earnest	963													963		963
6.	Miss Thriftway	1957	Bill Smiley	925													925		925
7.	Hawaii Ka'i III	1957	Ben Keller	900													900		900
8.	Maverick	1959	Nels Enquist	683													683		683
9.	Coral Reef	1958	Craig Bradshaw	634													634		634
10.	Miss Smirnoff	1964	Kirk Pagel	619													619		619
11.	Miss Burien	1960	Robbie Roberts	600													600		600
12.	Miss Spokane	1960	Rick Lentz	554													554		554
13.	Miss Wahoo	1957	Dawn Holmberg	150													150		150
14.	Breathless II	1958	Dave Reiser	48													48		48

## MODERN BOAT POINTS – 2011 (THROUGH ONE RACE)

No.	Boat	Year	Owner	CSP	SKY	SEA	DC	PC	OEC	SSM	CC	BLM	SC	AC	GC	RNM	Total	Drops	High Points
1.	Executone	1982	Mike Campbell	1,500													1,500		1,500
2.	Boat	1986	Mike Campbell	1,200													1,200		1,200
3.	Charlie's Girl	1977	Bill Smiley	1,150													1,150		1,150
4.	Miss Circus Circus	1978	Mike Gossler	900													900		900
5.	Formula Boats	2010	Nelson Holmberg	877													877		877
6.	Oh Boy! Oberto	2010	Bettie Bradshaw	732													732		732
7.	Lincoln Thrift	1972	Nels Enquist	648													648		648
8.	Miss Cott Beverages	1974	Gary Hansen	525													525		525
9.	Graham Trucking	2010	Nelson Holmberg	0													0		0
10.	Squire	1977	Jesse Shehan	0													0		0
11.	Beacon Plumbing	2007	Jesse Shehan	0													0		0

## VINTAGE DRIVER POINTS – 2011 (THROUGH ONE RACE)

No.	Driver	Year	Boat	CSP	SKY	SEA	DC	PC	OEC	SSM	CC	BLM	SC	AC	GC	RNM	Total	Drops	High Points
1.	Gerry Bordon	1970	Parco's O-Ring Miss	1,425													1,425		1,425
2.	Steve Dumanis	1962	Thunderbolt	1,227													1,227		1,227
3.	Gary Hansen	1956	Muvalong	1,094													1,094		1,094
4.	Ryan Opfer	1974	Miss Vernors	969													969		969
5.	John Earnest	1962	Gale V	963													963		963
6.	Bill Smiley	1957	Miss Thriftway	925													925		925
7.	Nelson Holmberg	1957	Hawaii Ka'i III	900													900		900
8.	Nels Enquist	1959	Maverick	683													683		683
9.	Craig Bradshaw	1958	Coral Reef	634													634		634
10.	Robbie Roberts	1960	Miss Burien	600													600		600
11.	Rick Lentz	1960	Miss Spokane	554													554		554
12.	Dave Reiser	1958	Breathless II	48													48		48

## MODERN DRIVER POINTS – 2011 (THROUGH ONE RACE)

No.	Driver	Year	Boat	CSP	SKY	SEA	DC	PC	OEC	SSM	CC	BLM	SC	AC	GC	RNM	Total	Drops	High Points
1.	Mike Campbell	1986	Boat	1,200													1,200		1,200
2.	Bill Smiley	1977	Charlie's Girl	1,150													1,150		1,150
3.	Mike Gossler	1978	Miss Circus Circus	900													900		900
4.	Nelson Holmberg	2010	Formula Boats	877													877		877
5.	Craig Bradshaw	2008	Oh Boy! Oberto	732													732		732
6.	Nels Enquist	1972	Lincoln Thrift	648													648		648
7.	Gary Hansen	1974	Miss Cott Beverages	525													525		525
8.	Mark Gran	2010	Graham Trucking	0													0		0
8.	Jesse Shehan	2008	Beacon Plumbing	0													0		0



