

A monthly newsletter from the world's largest
1/10-scale fast electric unlimited hydroplane
racing club



December member meeting recap

If you weren't able to make it to our first membership meeting of the winter, we missed you, and wanted to provide a bit of a December update.

The meeting went really well, with 14 members in attendance, including at least one new member. There's already lots of activity going on in many of the boat shops across the club, and that's exciting stuff.

At the members meeting on Saturday, Dec. 8, the club was updated about this year's winter meeting

schedule. The remaining meetings are as follows:

- Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the King County Library in Burien
- Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Hydroplane & Raceboat Museum during the Roger Newton Memorial RC Boat Show
- Saturday, March 9, at a site yet to be determined. This meeting will include time spent cleaning up, maintaining and organizing the

trailer.

Please put all of those dates on your calendar so you can be around to participate and keep in tune with what's happening across the club all winter.

Nels Enquist, this year's registrar/treasurer reported that registration renewals are currently being taken and that more than 25 boats (including those he received prior to the meeting, and those taken in during the meeting) had already been registered for 2013. The renewal period continues

upNEXT: member meeting (Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-noon @king county library, burien branch)

statGEEK tidBit: in the modern class, just two boats scored points in every season from 2006-2012, both with the same hull and same owner: 1974 miss cott beverages, and 1972 notre dame, both owned by gary hansen.

insideTEASE: chairman's chatter ... big boat news ... the mill ... updated stats



bigBoatSTUFF

With the upcoming UIM World Championship Dryx Cup still just less than a month away, the big boats have arrived in Doha. At this printing, the boats have been unloaded from the vessel that carried them over the Atlantic and were awaiting clearance through customs before being moved to a QMSF storage area before the race in mid-July.

The boats will remain in Doha after the Dryx Cup for the 2013 season opener, which will be run in mid-February before the boats are shipped home to get ready for the domestic part of the schedule starting in Sacramento.

Nothing new has come out regarding **TED PORTER's** appeal of the appeal of San Diego's race win.

The 2012 San Diego Bayfair race television broadcast is scheduled to debut on Christmas Day on Root and FSN channels. Airtimes will be announced soon on HI's website and Facebook page.

until midnight, January 1, 2013. After that, all registrations become available on a first-come-first-served basis. Nels said he will break ties based on the date/time stamp on the postmarks.

Statistician **Ben Keller** said he's been busily working on updating and auditing stats. His latest project was to update the 2006 stats, in which he caught several errors that were made that season, that resulted in some changes to the heat efficiency ratings and career points standings. Ben said he's going to keep updating stats and hopes to work toward creating a book of the club's statistical history.

Race Coordinator **Ron Daum** reported he's working on a 14-race schedule for the coming season, and already has at least four events confirmed. He's planning for ERCU to host a NAMBA Triple Crown event this year at Cherokee Bay. Ron said he will finish up the schedule and then ask for more Contest Directors to step

up if and when needed.

Scale Inspector **Kirk Pagel** shared information about the inspection process for this year, which is changed a little. Completed inspection sheets will be kept by the club secretary in a binder that will "live" in the trailer during the season. There will also be a mark made in the race scoring software to indicate boats that have been inspected. Finally, waterproof, encoded stickers will be placed inside each boat when inspections are complete.

Chairman **Nelson Holmberg** said this year's theme will be safety, sportsmanship and bringing the fun back. Steps are already being taken to improve safety for racers and spectators, including new signage and some sort of crowd control device that could include steel stakes and erosion control fencing that can be used in the places where swimmers and waders have been a problem over the years.

The club was also given an update on sponsorship, where

the club has reached out to Peters & May with a formal offer to be the club's exclusive title sponsor in 2013.

Under new business, the board introduced its discussions regarding the annual review of the rule book. The major areas of focus include the motor rule, where three options were presented for review before a vote on the rule at the January meeting. Those options are:

- Switch to the NAMBA motor rule effective immediately
- Switch to the NAMBA motor rule effective in the 2014 racing season, but allow members to run the NAMBA legal motors (other than Himax), for no points, in competition as a test bed during the 2013 season
- No change to the ERCU motor rule

Boats will also be checked for safety shut off during inspections this year. If your boat keeps running at the loss of signal, the inspection will be failed until it shuts off at loss of signal.

We'll continue to keep in touch with you and provide updates as they come, but the next membership meeting will be the place where many of our next decisions are made as we get ready for the 2013 season.

We hope to see you there.





Chairman's Chatter: Focusing on fun

Those of you who attended the December Membership Meeting earlier this month heard me say my focus as chairman this year was going to be on safety, sportsmanship and bringing back the fun.

And I plan on leading by example.

Recently, I read the column, "A Gentleman's Sport" by Alan Hobbs in the November 2012 issue of Propwash, NAMBA's newsletter, and it was a bit of an epiphany to me.

While reading about Mr. Hobbs' experiences racing with clubs all around our nation, it donned on me that every single one of the concerns he noted were happening right here in our club. What I realized is I don't want to be "that guy" anymore, and even more, I don't want ERCU to be "that club".

So this year, it will be the mission of not only myself and the rest of the Contest Board, but I'm hoping also that each of you will make a personal pledge to yourselves and to the club that you'll be leaders in making sure sportsmanship, and keeping a fun atmosphere at our races as a top priority.

Specifically, some of the things I don't like seeing — and I admit I've been guilty of some of these things at one time or another — are arguments between members, accusations of cheating or somehow "bending the rules"

from member-to-member, yelling at officials, swearing in the pits, arguing calls, or ignoring penalties you may have committed, that went uncalled by the officials, in order to gain a competitive advantage.

Over the last couple of years, we've seen an increasing number of guys calling penalties against themselves, and that's refreshing to see.

Unfortunately, though, we've also seen an increase in guys arguing calls, making unfounded accusations without utilizing the club's protest rule, or providing solid evidence on which to base their argument.

It's disruptive, and it takes away from the fun of this Gentleman's Sport of ours, and its time for it to stop.

This year, while it's important to keep safety in mind, and we will be taking steps to make our race sites even safer than they already are, we're going to work harder than ever to encourage [and perhaps even reward] excellent sportsmanship and positive attitudes.

Guys, it's no secret that people watch each of us when we're racing across the state. Little kids look up to us. Adults think what we do is really cool. They don't want to witness us yelling and cussing at one another. They get discouraged about our presence at their parks when we do stupid things or act like jerks.

It's time to clean this up,

and I'm going to be the first to make that commitment.

If you haven't yet read the column in the NAMBA newsletter, I hope you will.

Rules in 2013

As we said at the December Member Meeting, the board is taking a look at the motor rule. This isn't much different than when the club brought the Himax motor in during the 2006 season.

Several guys — including Ron Daum and Rick Lentz — sacrificed points in order to test the Himax motors in competition. It worked well.

The options we've put on the table for the members to decide on at the January meeting are good options, and the question of whether we change our motor rule is a good question and it deserves some consideration.

In other rules work, we're not proposing much in the way of changes. We will soon post to the website a synopsis of the rules we are considering changes to, but most of our work will be clarifications and interpretations of the rules we already have, as well as reorganizing the book so its easier to find things.

I wish each of you, and yours, a very Merry Christmas.

Yours in racing and fun,
Nelson Holmberg
Contest Board Chairman

theMILL

KERRY KJOS has his 1960 Miss

Thriftway ready for 2013 and is finishing up an 8255 hull, building the American Speedy

Printing ... **JIM DOTSON** is rebuilding his 2010 Peters & May, which hit the rocks at Silverado ...

ROBBIE ROBERTS has put new sponsors on his 1984 Executone ...

ROBERT ROBERTS has submitted his 2000 Znetix as a plug to West Coast Custom Boats, expect a carbon fiber Znetix in 2013 ...

KIRK PAGEL has sold the Miss Smirnoff ... **JOHN EARNEST** is nearly finished with a beautiful new Miss Supertest, which he brought to the meeting ...

BEN KELLER reported the Ka'i is mechanically solid, and is going to have the boat painted this winter ... **RON DAUM** is building a new 1955 Such Crust III, which will be his primary vintage boat in 2013 ...

GARY HANSEN is re-registering the Miss Cott's Beverage, the Muvalong and has purchased Mark's 1972 Notre Dame.

2012 MODERN BOAT STANDINGS

(FINAL, including drops)

#	Boat	High Points
1.	2010 Formula Boats	14,263
2.	2010 Oh Boy! Oberto	11,290
3.	2003 Llummar Window Film	9,988
4.	1972 Lincoln Thrift	8,860
5.	1999 Miss Madison	8,715
6.	2000 Znetix	5,545
7.	1976 Miss Vernor's	4,985
8.	1979 Miss Budweiser	3,623
9.	1977 Charlie's Girl	3,485
10.	1993 Miss Circus Circus	2,790

2012 MODERN DRIVER STANDINGS

(FINAL, including drops)

#	Driver	High Points
1.	Nelson Holmberg	14,263
2.	Craig Bradshaw	11,290
3.	Ron Daum	9,988
4.	Nels Enquist	8,860
5.	Ron Forister (R)	8,715
6.	Robert Roberts (R)	5,545
7.	Mick Shutt	4,985
8.	Mike Schultz (R)	4,848
9.	Bill Smiley	3,485
10.	Scott Fetterly	2,790

CAREER STANDINGS VINTAGE

#	Driver	Career Points
1.	Jeff Campbell	93,361
2.	Mike Campbell	84,175
3.	Bob Vanden Akker	72,259
4.	Bill Smiley	64,652
5.	Ron Daum	57,192
6.	David Newton	50,223
7.	Rick Lentz	47,193
8.	Gerry Bordon	45,522
9.	Craig Bradshaw	41,863
10.	Gary Hansen	38,144
11.	Nelson Holmberg	37,215
12.	Craig Mullen	34,814
13.	Ryan Opfer	34,432
14.	Robbie Roberts	34,114
15.	Roger Newton	31,413

CAREER STANDINGS MODERN

#	Driver	Career Points
1.	Mike Campbell	110,381
2.	Mike Gossler	77,109
3.	Nelson Holmberg	64,665
4.	Jeff Campbell	51,655
5.	Rick Lentz	40,762
6.	Gary Hansen	40,596
7.	Craig Bradshaw	37,717
8.	Bill Smiley	31,314
9.	Steve Twardus	27,766
10.	Ron Daum	26,131
11.	Henry Marvin	25,125
12.	Mark Hansen	24,763
13.	Craig Mullen	23,641
14.	Mick Shutt	21,999
15.	Jerry Johnston	21,349

2012 VINTAGE BOAT STANDINGS

(FINAL, including drops)

#	Driver	High Points
1.	1957 Hawaii Ka'i III	11,989
2.	1969 Pak Outrigger*	11,922
3.	1959 Maverick	9,797
4.	1960 Miss Burien	9,246
5.	1971 Miss Madison	8,350
6.	1970 Parco's O-Ring Miss	6,375
7.	1958 Wildroot Charlie	5,347
8.	1957 Miss Wahoo	4,663
9.	1968 Gale's Roostertail	4,314
10.	1962 Gale V	4,008

* — Steve Dumanis' boat

2012 VINTAGE DRIVER STANDINGS

(FINAL, including drops)

#	Driver	High Points
1.	Nelson Holmberg	11,989
2.	Steve Dumanis	11,922
3.	Nels Enquist	9,797
4.	Robbie Roberts	9,246
5.	Ron Forister (R)	8,350
6.	Ron Daum	7,432
7.	Bill Smiley	6,411
8.	Gerry Bordon	6,375
9.	Craig Bradshaw	5,201
10.	Ryan Opfer	4,608

CAREER RACE WIN STANDINGS — VINTAGE

#	Driver	Race Wins
1.	Jeff Campbell	34
2.	David Newton	18
3.	Mike Campbell	15
4.	Bill Smiley	8
5.	Jesse Robertson	5
	Nelson Holmberg	5
7.	Gerry Bordon	4
	Roger Newton	4
	Bob Vanden Akker	4
10.	Steve Dumanis	3
	Gary Hansen	3
	Mark Hansen	3
	Jason Hartley	3
	Craig Mullen	3
	Nigel Steere	3

CAREER RACE WIN STANDINGS — MODERN

#	Driver	Race Wins
1.	Mike Campbell	51
2.	Jeff Campbell	19
3.	Mike Gossler	10
4.	Nelson Holmberg	9
5.	David Newton	7
6.	Bill Smiley	6
7.	Gary Hansen	4
8.	John Williams	3
	Ron Forister	3
10.	Rick Lentz	2
	Craig Bradshaw	2

APRIL

14 Champion Spark Plug Regatta
Centralia, Fort Borst Park
CD: Nelson Holmberg
Winners:
(M) Formula; (V) Parco's O-Ring

28 Apple Cup
Lakewood, Waughop Lake
CD: Ben Keller
(M) Cott's Beverage; (V) Muvalong

MAY

5 Atomic Cup
Elma, Vance Creek Park
CD: Ron Daum
(M) Formula; (V) Hawaii Ka'i

JUNE

2 Seafair Trophy Race
Marysville, Twin Lakes Park
CD: Nels Enquist, Scott Fetterly
(M) Formula; (C) Boat; (V) 'Rigger

10 Maple Valley Days/President's Cup
Maple Valley, Lake Wilderness
CD: Scott Fetterly
(M) Charlie's Girl; (V) Outrigger

16 Woodland Hydroglobe
Woodland, Horseshoe Lake
CD: Nelson Holmberg
(M) Formula; (V) Outrigger (Cole)

30 Oregon Emerald Cup
Tualatin, Lake of Tualatin Commons
CD: Nelson Holmberg
(M) Formula; (V) Island Security

JULY

14 Columbia Cup
Longview, Lake Sacajawea Park
CD: Mick Shutt
(M) Oberto; (V) Hallmark Homes

AUGUST

11 Bernie Little Memorial
Marysville, Twin Lakes Park
CD: ERCU Contest Board
(M) Oberto; (V) Miss Burien

19 Roger Newton Memorial
Maple Valley, Cherokee Bay Club
CD: David Newton
(M) The Tide (Dillard); (V) Parco's

SEPTEMBER

15 Stan Sayres Memorial
Kirkland, Juanita Bay Park
CD: Monte Steere
(M) Madison; (V) Hallmark Homes

16 Gold Cup
Kirkland, Juanita Bay Park
CD: ERCU Contest Board
(M) Formula; (V) Hawaii Ka'i

22 Governor's Cup
Adna, Silverado Ski Pond
CD: Craig Bradshaw
(M) Miss Madison; (V) Miss Burien

OCTOBER

6 Oryx Cup
Woodland, Horseshoe Lake Park
CD: Nelson Holmberg
(M) Miss Madison; (V) Hawaii Ka'i