



E-RCU News

www.e-rcu.org

Volume 1, Issue 1

SEPTEMBER 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 10-11 GOLD CUP
Lake Wilderness
- Sept. 26 BERNIE LITTLE
MEMORIAL
Location TBA
- Oct. 2 APPLE CUP
Exhibition race
Chelan, Wash.

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!



Exciting racing included flips and spills throughout race day at the Stan Sayers Memorial in Bellevue.

FEATURED WEBSITES

U-25 Unlimited Hydroplane
www.superior-racing.com

Hydroplane & Raceboat
Museum
www.thunderboats.org

Campbell, MiniCzar claim Seafair victories

Eighteen vintage and 11 modern boats came to the shores of Lake Washington at Renton's Gene Coulon Park on

Sunday, Aug. 21 to compete in the third Annual E-RCU Seafair Trophy Race. The weather cooperated with a stunning bright sunny day in the 80's. As usual for this venue, the water conditions varied through the day from calm to turbulent. With the Detroit River course set by 9 a.m., testing continued until the 10:30 a.m. drivers meeting where it was decided to use the full course mill with the one minute starting gun instead of the usual parking and waiting for the 30-second mark. This new wrinkle made for some spectacular starts. Racing began at 11 a.m., and continued through the day with much close competition in quest of the new perpetual trophies.

Advancing to the modern final was **David Newton**

Driving **Jerry Courtway's** Olympia Beer, **Jeff Campbell** and his Pay 'n Pak, **Mike Campbell** and the 1973 Country Boy, **Steve**

Twardus and the Miss Vernors, **John Williams** with the 1980 Miss Budweiser, rookie **Mark Hansen** and the Notre Dame with **Mike Gossler** and the 1978 Squire Shop

starting in the trailer position having won the first consolation heat.

After a spectacular start, the water conditions soon took their toll with three boats silver side up. The final order of finish was the Olympia Beer holding off the Pay 'n Pak with Notre Dame third and the Squire Shop fourth.

In the vintage class, **Bill Smiley** and his 1955 Miss Thriftway won the second consolation with **Rick Lentz** and the Miss US V taking second. Newton, driving

Kerry Kjos' 1960 Miss Thriftway won the first consolation heat and advanced to the final as the trailer boat. **Bob Vandernakker** driving Notre Dame and **Ron Hornung** with Skip-a-Long took second and third in the first consolation heat, respectively.

This set the stage for a hotly contested final featuring Vandernakker and Such Crust IV, **Roger Newton** and Hawaii Kai III, **Jeff Campbell** driving Lil' Buzzard, Hallmark Homes driven by rookie **Jason Hartley**, **Ron Daum** and Such Crust III, and **Mike Campbell** with Miss US I. Another spectacular start saw the Lil' Buzzard, Miss US I and both Such Crust's literally flew into the Belle Isle turn with the remainder of the field in tow.

The big Such Crust III took over the lead down the back stretch and held on for a lap or two.

Miss Thriftway blew over in the back stretch trying to catch up. Buzzard got inside of the wide turning Such Crust III in the roostertail turn and regained the lead

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What is this thing??

A new newsletter, *E-RCU News*, has been introduced, thanks to **Rick Lentz**, who decided to take it upon himself to find a vendor who would put together a monthly newsletter for the club — something that would serve as a supplement to the website and another tool for communication among the membership.

It could also be used as yet another place to recognize sponsors of the club and the race sites.

The work on this newsletter is really a team effort, and it will only be as good as the club wants it to be. If people have information they'd like to see in print, it should be sub-

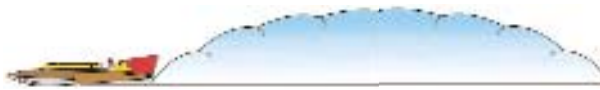
mitted to Rick, who will pass it along to the editor.

To be perfectly clear, the newsletter is not intended to be something that replaces the value of our awesome website.

Thanks go out to Jim Clark for most of the photos used in this inaugural version of the newsletter.

We'll produce four of these newsletters — one a month for the rest of the year — and then evaluate its value and popularity to the membership. After that, we'll decide if it should go on, or go away.

So, please feel free to contribute any feedback you might have.



NEWSBRIEFS

Observations from a pro

Mike Weber, driver of the unlimited U-5 Formula Boats hydro this year, visited our Seafair Cup past weekend along with **Jim Bakke** of the U-25 crew. The two stayed for several heats. Weber said he was very impressed with our group as a whole, and loved the quality of the workmanship. He was impressed by how organized we were, and especially liked the competition on the water. Kind of makes you feel good doesn't it?

Bernie Little Memorial rescheduled

Due to milfoil that had overtaken the pond at Fort Borst Park in Centralia, the Bernie Little Memorial has been postponed to September 25 at a site yet to be determined. Keep an eye on your e-mail and the website for news on the site for this year's Bernie Little Memorial.

New Seafair Trophies here

If you haven't yet seen the new perpetual trophies built for the Seafair Regatta, they're something to see! The picture gives you an idea of what the hardware from **Ron Daum's** race look like. Thanks Ron!



Thriftway Too coming soon

Progress continues on **Jerry Courtway's** Thriftway Too, which is being built from wood. Photo updates of the project are available online.

Vandernakker makes generous gift to club for donation to PAWS

Bob Vandernakker deserves a huge thank you for his donation of \$500 to the club to be disbursed to the person who hauls the trailer to each race. In return, he wanted a link from the club's website to Paws in **Marti Newton's** memory

Banquet details being worked out

Details for the 2005 E-RCU Awards Banquet are currently being considered. The event is scheduled for November 12 at the museum. It will be held in conjunction with the R/C Unlimiteds awards banquet at the same site. **Dr. Ken Muscatel** is expected to be the event's special guest, and will speak about his hydroplane career and his experiences. Keep an eye and ear open for more details as they become available.

A Moment With . . .



ROGER NEWTON
(a.k.a. "The Czar")

Family: Son David and Daughter Debbie.
City Called Home: . . . Renton
College Football Loyalty: . . I

guess it has to be the Huskies although I won't be advertising it this year.

What Was Your First Job: . . . My first job was as a boxboy at Safeway in downtown Renton in 1960.

Coke or Pepsi?: Diet Pepsi

Favorite Current Unlimited: U-25 (naturally)

How did you get involved in scale racing: . . I built my first R/C 1/8 scale while still in high school in about 1960-61. Didn't get to run it until I got back from the Air Force around 1966. Won my first race with it.

Have you ever had a manicure/pedicure (Come on manly-man . . . admit it!): . . Real men, especially real R/C men do not get manicures or pedicures!

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A big thank you to all of our sponsors, especially this year's E-RCU title sponsor, Twardus Iron & Wire Works.

Big Boat News

Life is undoubtedly about to get much better for the sport of unlimited hydroplane racing, which is taking baby steps toward renewing its respectability this year under the American Boat Racing Association.

Several rumors are circulating about new ownership, new boats, and more, as the season draws to a close.

At the same time the positive rumors are in the air, there's news in the air, as well.

Among the rumors:

The Miss Madison Racing Team is currently looking into the possibility of building a new boat and either selling the current U-6, or putting it out to the display pasture.

Bob Hughes made an offer on one of the remaining Miss Budweiser boats and gear, but the offer wasn't enough, and U-6 team has turned its attention toward purchasing the current backup Miss Elam.

There's interest on the part of former "Miss M" driver **Charley Wiggins** to get back into the U-boats. Reports say that had Hughes been able to buy one of the Bud sleds, Wiggins would have bought the 8806 from Miss Madison Racing Team, and run that as a new team, beginning in 2006.

There's even talk that the Madison team might even build themselves a new boat this winter, voicing their commitment to stepping up to the elite level of the sport.

With **Mike** and **Larry Hanson** on the team, there's no doubt a new boat would be a fast ride for **Steve David** next year.

We all already know that **Kim Gregory** seems to have been happy enough with what he's seen from ABRA to invest in the T-3, and commit to getting it ready to race in 2006. With that being the case, it brings to mind the thought, what other former owners are candidates for comebacks in 2006? **Mike Jones** has been seen in the pits, and has commented that he could be ready if a sponsor was found; The fact that the price keeps going up any time someone puts an offer on the T-5 or the T-6 is starting to stir up the idea that **Joe Little** may be planning a comeback in 2006; and last winter, it was no secret that **Fran Muncey** was looking at the Bud equipment, but couldn't close a deal. Is she on the comeback, too?

2005 E-RCU Schedule

| April 10 | April 24 | May 22 | June 11-12 | June 26 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Champion Spark Plug Regatta | Harmsworth Trophy | Diamond Cup | President's Cup | Puyallup Thunderboat Regatta |
| Shady Lake | Shady Lake | Bellevue Pond | Lake Wilderness | Bradley Lake |



Gold Cup schedule is announced

The next race to be held is the Gold Cup, which will be run over two days at Lake Wilderness this year.

The race is scheduled for September 10-11.

Our race sponsor this week is Hilltop Battle-packs. Our gratitude goes out to them for supporting E-RCU.

The event schedule is as follows:

Saturday Sept 10:

Noon — Course and equipment setup

1:30 — Course open for testing & qualifying

5:30 — Course Closes: Potluck Social in the Pit Area

Sunday Sept 11:

8 a.m. — Course open for qualifying.

10 a.m. — Registration Closes

10:30 a.m. — Drivers Meeting

11 a.m. — Heat 1A of Modern Class and run until we're done.

Remember, qualifying is required and each boat will be given at least three opportunities to better its time within the time scheduled for qualifying. Boats needing to qualify will have priority over those testing or making a second qualifying attempt. There is no minimum time required, just three penalty free laps. The top qualifier in each class is awarded the Bill Muncey Memorial Trophy.

We will also be using the mill start like the Seafair Trophy, the rules are as follows:

1. All boats must be on plane and running at the 30-second mark. The one minute clock does not start until all contestants are in the water.

2. All boats must go around the right and left turns

once before entering the infield. Cutting directly across the course from the pit area is a one lap penalty.

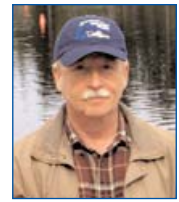
3. The infield can be entered prior to the start from the front stretch only between the exit buoy of the left turn and the entry buoy to the right turn. Entry into the infield at any other point on the course is a one lap penalty.

4. Boats entering the back stretch must do so between the exit buoy of the right turn and the entry buoy to the left hand turn. Illegal entry is a one lap penalty.

5. Boats entering the course from the infield must yield to those on the course. Failure to do so is a one lap penalty.

The Gold Cup is four elimination heats rather than the usual three and a new wrinkle this year: 13th through 18th in the point standings after four elimination heats will race for the Bob Gilliam Memorial Trophy. Seventh through 12th will race for the Ted Jones Memorial Trophy with the winner having the option (as always) to be the trailer in the Gold Cup Final. Opting to be the trailer in the final forfeits only the consolation points and not the trophy. The Gold Cup Final is of course the top six point boats and the trailer.

Let's all get out to Lake Wilderness and make this the best Gold Cup ever.



From the Secretary's Desk
Rick Lentz

— Rick Lentz, E-RCU Secretary

Apple Cup exhibition is scheduled for Chelan

For the first time this season, R/CU and E-RCU will mingle at the same race site.

Chelan is the traditional site for R/CU's Gold Cup and Norm Evans Memorial races, and the races mark the end of the season, running concurrently over the first weekend of October.

The same weekend is normally the Crew Days for the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum. It's a time when the volunteers at the museum are recognized and rewarded for their hard work and dedication to the history of the sport.

The Apple Cup is intended to be an exhibition race for the vintage boats. We'll have three preliminary heats, a connie, and a final.

This is a no-points race, and there's only time to have three heats of four boat races, and the

top six make the final. The next six are in the connie, with the winner of the connie advancing into the final as the trailer boat.

A total of 12 boats will be the limit on this year's race, due to the tight timeline we'll be under, racing between the heat sections of R/CU's biggest race of the year.

Participants will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis until the field is full. To participate, please contact **Rick Lentz** and "reserve" yourself a spot in the first Apple Cup.

The schedule for Chelan is:

Friday

Noon-6 p.m. — Open water for testing & practice

Saturday

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — R/CU Testing & practice

1:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m. — R/CU Drivers Meeting

2 p.m.-TBA — R/CU Heat racing. Two sections of 3-lap sprints

Sunday

8-9 a.m. — E-RCU Testing & practice (tentative; Pending R/CU board approval).

9-10 a.m. — R/CU Testing & practice.

10 a.m.-TBA — R/CU Heat racing. Four sections of 5-lap heats.

■ After Heat 3, Heat 4, and Heat 5, E-RCU boats will race in preliminary heats.

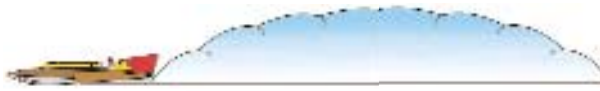
■ After Heat 6, E-RCU boats will race in a connie

■ After R/CU Second Connie, E-RCU boats will race for the Apple Cup

■ R/CU will then run the Norm Evans Memorial (field is boats 8-13, and the winner of the second connie); and the Gold Cup, which is boats 1-7 throughout the preliminary heats.

>> 2005 E-RCU Schedule

| July 9 | July 24 | August 21 | September 10-11 | September 26 | October 9 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Leo Vanderberg Challenge | Stan Sayres Memorial | Seafair Regatta | Gold Cup | Bernie Little Memorial | Lilly Brothers Brewers Cup |
| Coulon Park | Bellevue Pond | Coulon Park | Lake Wilderness | Coulon Park | Shady Lake |



Statistics — Through Stan Sayres Memorial

Vintage Boat Points

| Place | Boat | Driver | Total |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------|-------|
| 1. | Miss Thriftway/Maverick | David Newton | 8,888 |
| 2. | Lil Buzzard | Jeff Campbell | 7,400 |
| 3. | Miss US I | Mike Campbell | 6,241 |
| 4. | Notre Dame | Bob Vandernakker | 6,116 |
| 5. | Such Crust III | Ron Daum | 4,657 |
| 6. | My Gypsy | Jim Lilly | 4,456 |
| 7. | Miss Exide | Henry Marvin | 4,256 |
| 8. | Miss Bardahl/Miss US V | Rick Lentz | 3,953 |
| 9. | Hawaii Kai III | Roger Newton | 3,782 |
| 10. | Miss Bardahl | Jim Clark | 3,691 |

Modern Boat Points

| Place | Boat | Driver | Total |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. | Country Boy | Mike Campbell | 7,910 |
| 2. | Pride of Pay 'n Pak | Jeff Campbell | 7,600 |
| 3. | Squire | Mike Gossler | 5,184 |
| 4. | Miss Vernors/Country Boy/Olympia | David Newton | 4,257 |
| 5. | Twardus Fleet | Steve Twardus | 3,964 |
| 6. | Pay 'n Pak | Gale Whitestone | 2,969 |
| 7. | Red Man | Rick Lentz | 2,872 |
| 8. | Natural Light | Jerry Johnston | 2,346 |
| 9. | Atlas Van Lines | David Gardner | 1,901 |
| 10. | Squire Shop | Gary Hansen | 1,832 |

Vintage Driver Points

| Place | Year | Boat | Driver | Total |
|-------|------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1. | 1960 | Miss Thriftway | David Newton | 7,694 |
| 2. | 1969 | Lil Buzzard | Jeff Campbell | 7,400 |
| 3. | 1957 | Miss US I | Mike Campbell | 6,311 |
| 4. | 1964 | Notre Dame | Bob Vandernakker | 6,016 |
| 5. | 1955 | Such Crust III | Ron Daum | 4,657 |
| 6. | 1956 | Slo-mo-shun IV | Grady/Monte/Nigel Steere | 4,485 |
| 7. | 1966 | My Gypsy | Jim Lilly | 4,456 |
| 8. | 1959 | Miss Pay 'n Save | Steve Twardus/Gale Whitestone | 4,389 |
| 9. | 1964 | Miss Exide | Henry Marvin | 4,256 |
| 10. | 1957 | Hawaii Kai III | Roger Newton/David Newton | 4,182 |

Modern Boat Points

| Place | Year | Boat | Driver | Total |
|-------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1. | 1971 | Country Boy | Mike Campbell | 7,910 |
| 2. | 1970 | Pride of Pay 'n Pak | Jeff Campbell | 7,600 |
| 3. | 1974 | Red Man | R. Lentz/N. Holmberg/M. Steere | 5,941 |
| 4. | 1978 | Squire Shop | Mike Gossler | 5,184 |
| 5. | 1976 | Miss Vernors | D. Newton/Marvin/Twardus/Hansen | 3,999 |
| 6. | 1977 | Squire Shop | Twardus/Vandernakker/D. Newton | 3,791 |
| 7. | 1971 | Country Boy | Twardus/D. Newton/R. Newton | 3,166 |
| 8. | 1971 | Pay 'n Pak | Gale Whitestone | 2,969 |
| 9. | 1977 | Natural Light | Jerry Johnston | 2,346 |
| 10. | 1974 | Olympia Beer | D. Lilly/D. Newton | 2,044 |

Seafair results prove high turnout and great fun

Continued from page 1

with Miss US I successfully making a similar move later to move into second.

The race ended with Lil' Buzzard way out front, Miss US I in second holding off the third place Such Crust III and **Jason Hartley** a close fourth driving Hallmark Homes with Such Crust IV and Hawaii Kai III fifth and sixth, respectively.

Other attendees were **Rick Lentz**



with Miss Pay 'n' Save, driving Miss Vernors, Muvalong with **Jason Hartley, Craig Bradshaw's \$**

with the 1975 Red Man, **Gary Hansen** and the 1977 Squire Shop, **Gale Whitestone** and his 1972 Pay 'n' Pak and **Howard Price** with the 1973 Miss Budweiser, **Henry Marvin** and Miss Exide, **Steve Twardus** and **Robbie Roberts**

Bill, **John Williams'** Miss Madison and **Howard Price** with Wildroot Charlie.

A big thanks to all who attended and helped out during the day making this a truly great day of racing for all.

Special thanks to **Rick Lentz** who hauled the club trailer, **Jeff Campbell** who set the course, Steve Twardus who brought the recovery boat, **Howard Price** and the U-25 Silver Dollar Casino team for furnishing T-Shirts, buttons and drink holders as prizes and **Bob Vandernakker** who donated two "Speed-N-Spray: The Art of Bob Carver" books for prizes also.

— Ron Hornung & Ron Daum

Three-dot notes ...

THE GOLD CUP is this weekend at Lake Wilderness. The Czar says there is a high school cross country event scheduled, that will run by the shoreline, which limits us to entrance no earlier than 11 a.m. on Saturday. It will be OK for our members to stage in the upper parking lot until the event is finished. The parks department has also asked that we unload our cars by the water and then move all of our cars up to the parking lot . . . **THIS YEAR'S BANQUET** will be held November 12 at the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum in Kent. It will be in conjunction with R/CU's banquet. More to come . . . **THE RUMOR MILL** has it that **Nelson Holmberg** has reached an agreement to purchase **Rick Lentz's** Red Man, and will become a full time member of E-RCU next season. Nelson lives in Portland, and will become a part of the group hoping to get the Columbia Division up and running next spring, too. His experience in boat racing includes six years in R/C Unlimiteds, and a

handful of races with our club, running the Red Man. Despite running in just two races this season, Nelson is 11th in driver points in the modern division . . . **ANOTHER PAIR OF** Portland-area guys, **Mick Shutt** and **Grant Miller** are also looking to get involved with E-RCU. Shutt, of Vancouver, Wash., and another six-year veteran (2000 Rookie of the Year) of R/CU already has a hull, which he'll be putting together and finishing this winter. Miller, who lives in Washougal (east of Vancouver) is looking to purchase his first fast electric. They'll both likely continue racing the 1/8-scale boats themselves . . . **JERRY AND ZANE Courtway** continue to make progress on the Thriftway Too . . . **RON DAUM HAS** finished the Miss Pepsi. See it soon on a pond near you . . . **DON'T FORGET THAT** "Madison" will be out on DVD on September 13. The Museum is selling advanced copies through its website, and gets a cut of the pre-sales made through the site.