



The St. Louis Admirals R/C Model Boat Club

<http://stlouisadmirals.com>
BROADSIDE



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NOTICE:

**The next meeting will be held on September 9, 2013 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
33 N. Clay Ave, Ferguson, MO 63135**

NOW HEAR THIS

FROM THE BRIDGE



After a recent Club meeting, member Father Tom and I were discussing various things of interest for discussion. One that keeps coming up concerns

understanding electricity and electronics. I mention both because, although related, to me they require separate understanding. Although we have discussed this at meetings, I'm going to give you my try at understanding how this all works.

One of our modern day marvels is electricity. We rely on it to provide many things in our lives, and we count on it to nearly always work. When the power goes off, count how many times you walk into a dark room and hit the light switch, even though we know that the power is off. We expect it to be there and to work. Well, electricity is really simple to understand if we know just some basics.

For electricity to do something, we must have a power source – a wall plug, a

battery – something from which the electricity comes. And the easy part about electricity is that it ALWAYS runs in a loop. It just goes around and around. Get a break in that loop and the electricity does not flow. The loop has a power source on one end and a ground on the other. That's how the electrons flow in the loop.

Look at a battery it has a + terminal and a – terminal. Wire something between these two terminals, like a motor, and the electrons move in the loop and cause the motor to spin. Cut the wire and the motor stops – the loop has been broken. That's the simplicity of electricity. If something isn't working, you either have a bad power source or a break in the loop somewhere.

Now look at your boat. Everything inside that's electrical works on the loop principle. Take a battery, pass the wire through a speed controller (an electronic gizmo that does something to the amount of electrons flowing) run the wire to a motor, and then return a wire from the motor to the battery ground. The motor not only runs but has

speed control. But note that everything here is still in the circuit loop.

To me, electricity is something that WILL ALWAYS WORK, whereas electronics deals with a device that is more complex and MAY work, if all goes well. But keeping the loop principle is the simple way for me to understand what to look for when I get an unexpected result from my wiring. Power source, something next that does something (motor, light bulb, horn, whatever), and a ground that completes the loop to the power source.

Now here's a neat trick for inside your boat – a common buss wire. EACH power source MUST be separate from another, but some of the wiring used to run things may use part of the same wiring, as long as each power source has its own unique loop.

So let's say I want to run a small radar antenna motor at 6 volts and a light bulb at 3 volts. I wire the power to the motor from a 6 volt battery source and the light bulb to a 3 volt separate battery source. Now I connect the grounds from both the motor

and the bulb together, and run that ONE wire back to each of the batteries. This is a ground buss.

Although the ground buss connects into both circuits, the individual loops from each power source are still separate. Each device can be separately controlled (on-off), but instead of running a separate pair of wires to every device, I can use one wire (the ground buss) for a whole bunch of devices – BUT I MUST KEEP THE POWER SOURCES SEPARATE. I am just saving room and spaghetti inside my boat by using a common buss ground wire. I have saved lots of wires in the boat but yet have each thing working separately – at different voltages even!!!!

While this may sound somewhat complicated, it really isn't, as long as you keep each device on its own separate loop, even though the ground buss wire is common to both. Try it – you'll like it. Happy boating.

Commodore Jim

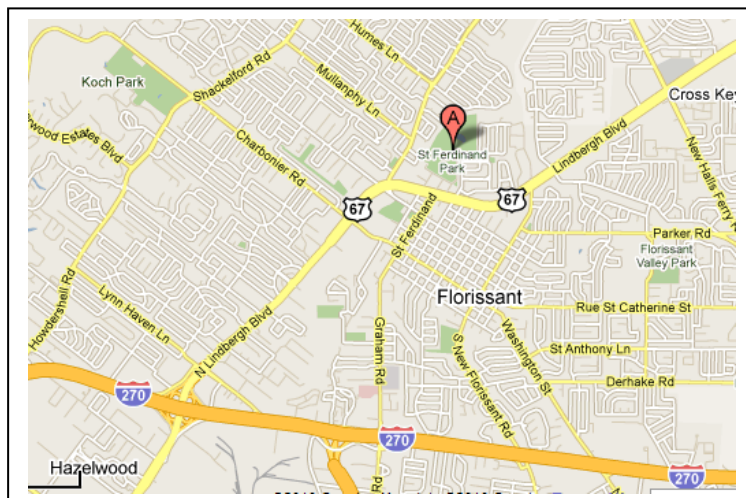
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**Tentative 2013 meeting dates are:**  
**REGATTA – September 28-29, 2013**

|                                                 |                         |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>November 4, 2013</b>                         | <b>October 7, 2013</b>  |
| <b>SWAP MEETING</b>                             | <b>December 2, 2013</b> |
| Subject to availability by St. Stephen's Church | <b>CHRISTMAS SOCIAL</b> |



Sailing on afternoon prior to meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month, and if interested Third Sunday


every month – except November – March Sailing at St Ferdinand Park, Florissant, MO – weather permitting



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St. Louis Admirals RC Model Boat Club  
Meeting August 5, 2013

Commodore Jim called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM with the pledge of allegiance. Bob Chapman's absence was noted and all members present signed a card of good wishes. A new prospective member, Kirk Kerkman, introduced himself and was warmly welcomed by all hands. George Kirby gave the Treasurer's report and the July minutes as published in the Broadside were approved.

A brief update was given on the plans for the Club's Silver Regatta at the end of September. T J Mueller made a motion that the Club should give public recognition at the Regatta for all the contributions made by those members who can no longer attend the event. Dave St. Clair suggested one way would be to post a plaque with the members names. Fr. Keller suggested a digital photo frame that would display snap shots of those members

participating in past regattas. Bob Keeler seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

As a follow-up to the discussion at the July meeting on the future of the Club, Commodore Jim said he was establishing a committee that would meet after the Regatta set for September 28 & 29. Initial members will include Mike Alligood, Bob Keeler, and T J Mueller. Fr. Keller suggested that the committee have access to fiscal information including revenues, expenses, and the budget. This would help the committee as it looks at what we do and how to do it differently, e.g., have a business meeting separate from a meeting focused on how to build and operate boats. John Ziemer agreed on this last point.

A sign-up sheet and directions were passed around for the sailing event on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 PM at the private lake of Tom and Alice Woods, 2175 Oberhelman Rd., Foristell, MO 63348. The Mark Twain gift card raffle was won by Paul Kirby and John Ziemer. Commodore Jim gave a quick quiz related to submarines and Dave St. Clair displayed items that members could examine and purchase if interested, including a Pro Boat small speedboat, police sirens, water cooling systems, a light bar, battery monitors, and search lights.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Minutes as presented by Chris Kunz, Secretary

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Membership Dues ## Please take note of the following: ##

Dues for new members will be prorated on a per month basis based upon our beginning of **May 1<sup>st</sup> dues.**

Please make checks (no cash) payable to "St Louis Admirals R/C Model Boat Club" in the amount of \$30.00. Send checks (no cash) to

George Kirby  
1146 Alyssa Ct  
O'Fallon, MO 63366

PS If you would like to have your e-mail address included for receipt of the Broadside and other publications please include it on a separate sheet of paper, to my attention. If you have moved since your last renewal, please note change of address, etc.

Thank you, George Kirby

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# **ST. LOUIS ADMIRALS RC MODEL BOAT CLUB**

## **THE SILVER REGATTA**

### **INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS**

**September 28-29, 2013**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The St. Louis Admirals are proud to announce their 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Regatta, again this year at the Boat House in Forest Park, St Louis. This event is open to the public and anyone interested in model boating at no charge. The only cost for registered Regatta participants is for the display and/or trophy competition for their boats at the show. As usual, we are inviting electric and sail (sorry, no gas powered or live steam boats) to join in the fun.

#### **REGISTRATION AND DISPLAY**

Registration starts at 0900 hours (9:00 a.m.) until noon Saturday, September 28. The Registration Fee remains the same as it has been --- \$10 for the first boat, \$10 for a second boat, and all additional boats will be FREE. The fun will begin at 10:00 a.m., last all day, and end in the evening until 2100 hours or (9:00 p.m.). On Sunday, September 29, we will start at 0900 hours (9:00 a.m., or start earlier if you like) until 1300 hours (1:00 p.m.). Awards will be presented at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.

A Regatta Committee Official will be present at registration to assist in explaining this year's Regatta information and rules. That Official will determine in which of the three assigned table areas your boat will be placed:

- Kit or Scratch Built To Be Judged
- Kit or Scratch Built To Be Displayed But Not Judged
- Ready to Run / Purchased (No Judging)

A participation plaque will be given to each registered boat Captain.

Once a boat has been assigned to an area by a Regatta Official, the boat must stay in that area. There are no boat classes.

Ready to run boats are welcome for display and sailing on the lake. Our objective is to encourage all Captains to run boats and have a good time. We want a lot of boats out on the lake and also to share information with the public to put on a good show.

We will again have our display area under the big tent on the north side of the Boat House Annex building, as we did last year.

## **RADIO CONTROL**

Only valid radios per FCC Regulations will be able to operate a boat. For all frequencies other than 2.4 GHz, please be sure your correct frequency is marked on your transmitter with a flag and that you have attached a name tag with phone number. There will be no transmitter impound. A frequency board for 75MHz will be provided. Captains must determine if their frequency is in use. If not, he will mark that channel as being used on the frequency board. Upon completion of sailing, he will remove his marker, thus making that channel available for the next captain. **Boat captains will be responsible for protecting their own transmitters.**

## **JUDGING**

The following trophies will be awarded:

- Best of Show
- Boat House Award
- Skippers Choice (by popular vote)
- Five (5) Regatta Craftsmanship Awards.

**Each boat must qualify as a fully operational R/C Model, as determined by club officials. Only boats that have been scratch built or kit built by the Regatta participant will be eligible for a trophy. You must sail your boat with a Regatta Committee member observing to be eligible for a trophy.**

Boats will be judged by the Regatta Committee, except for the Skippers Award and the host award (Forest Park Boat House). Boat classes have been eliminated. The Regatta Committee will be looking for quality of construction, engineering design, research, detailing, and other model attributes. The Committee will discuss the above items with each skipper who built the boat. The Boat House Award will be selected by the Boat House management. The Skippers Choice Award will be selected by those registered who have entered boats for judging. If you have entered a boat to be judged, place your chip with its number on your boat where it can be seen! Anyone who has previously won a trophy for his boat may display the trophy. The awards are for amateur builders, not professional builders.

## **PLEASE USE ONLY THE OFFICIAL 2013 REGISTRATION**

All inquiries regarding this year's Regatta should be made via email to Chris Kunz at:

[chrskunz@yahoo.com](mailto:chrskunz@yahoo.com)

## **HAVE A GREAT TIME AT THE REGATTA!!!**

The Regatta Committee:

- Jim Schwinkendorf – Commodore
- Dave St. Clair – Vice Commodore
- Chris Kunz – Secretary
- George Kirby - Treasurer



# ST. LOUIS ADMIRALS R/C MODEL BOAT CLUB

TWENTY FIFTH ANNUAL REGATTA  
SEPTEMBER 28 and 29, 2013

## OFFICIAL 2013 REGATTA REGISTRATION FORM

Regatta Information and Regulations are on a separate sheet.  
Please read them FIRST, before filling out your Form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Each boat must qualify as a fully operational R/C Model, as determined by club officials. Only boats that have been scratch built or kit built by the Regatta participant will be eligible for a trophy.

| Boat Name & Description | Scratch (S)<br>Kit (K)<br>or RTR | Judged<br>Y or N | Chip # |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------|
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |
| _____                   | _____                            | _____            | _____  |

**REGATTA REGISTRATION FEES:** \$10 one boat. Two boats \$20. Additional boats FREE. Make checks payable to ST. LOUIS ADMIRAL R/C BOAT CLUB.

Lighthouse guard in Mare, France must be one of the most courageous people on the planet!  
Not everyone will have a smoke in such weather, and in such a place!



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2415 Silver Lake Est. Dr.  
Pacific, MO 63069