

ISSUE 20

THE DEVICE

OCT 2012

DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

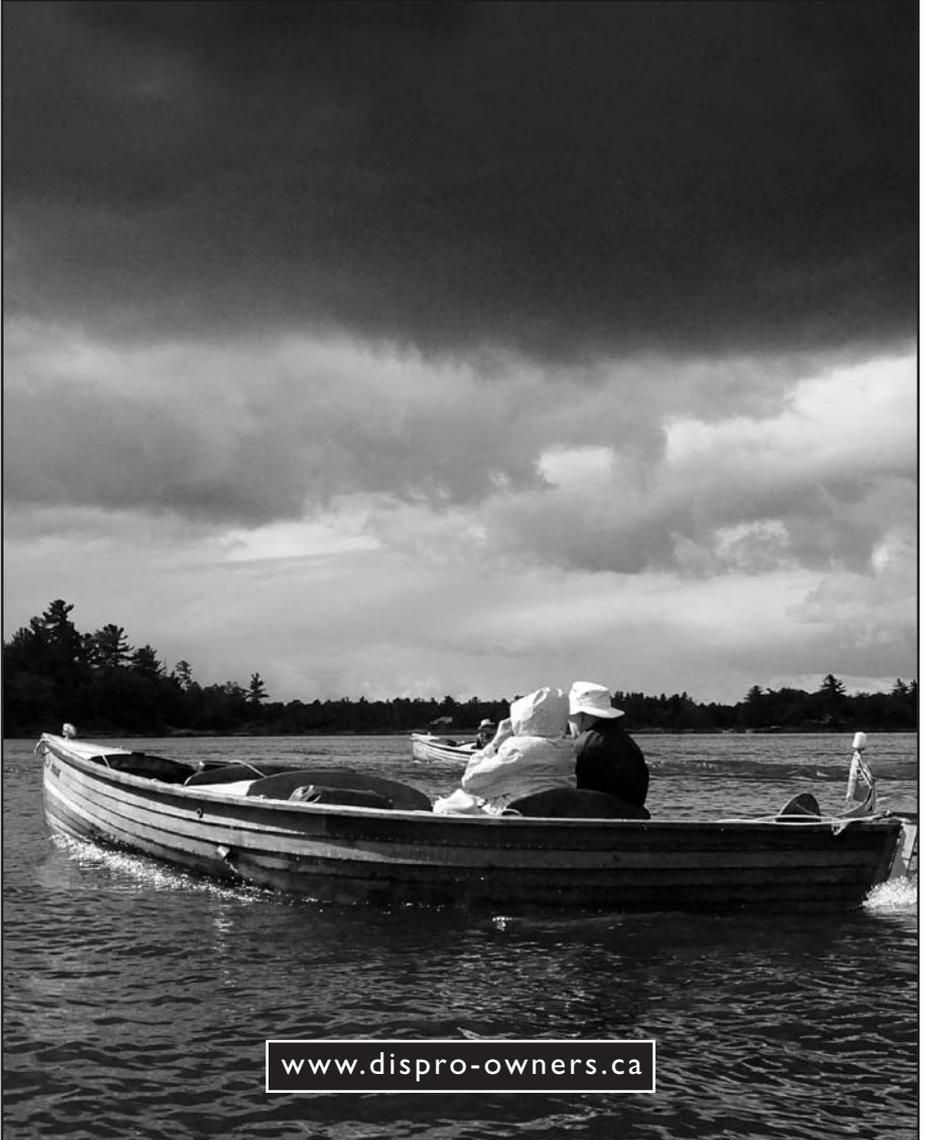


Photo: Gary Campaigne

www.dispro-owners.ca

It took more than a dark, menacing sky and cool temperatures to deter intrepid Dippy owners from getting out in their boats at the 34th Annual Regatta on Georgian Bay. Sept. 7-9, 2012.



President's Letter • October 2012

DOA 1979 - 2012 (34th year)

That was a lot of fun! What a delightful boating season we had this year...gorgeous weather and so many opportunities to float our Dippies. But the picture was not always rosy. The UUMMTs in June on Lake Rosseau, and in July on Six Mile Lake were sunny and bright. But the August day on Lake Kennisis was indeed a different scene. The pictures show the diehards who participated, sheltering from wind and thunderstorms!

These trips once again allowed me to learn more about operating our Dispro, even at the cost of being towed! I now know more about fixing the engine while on the water. Then of course there was the incident of a near sinking. Poonamalie was rescued from such a fate by Ian Dickson and crew while goin' down, tied to the docks at Delawana. I guess that boat doesn't take up quite as quickly as I thought she would. The drama never ends!

It was wonderful to see many of you during the very successful 34th Annual Regatta held at the Delawana Inn. This regatta provided us with the opportunity to explore the many Georgian Bay protected channels and islands and then to go to the outer islands in the archipelago to experience "the views beyond" – of course we all remember the unique opportunity afforded us to experience a severe squall on Georgian Bay, mostly from inside the warm (not so dry) cottage with great hospitality provided by Doug and Janet Hahn. Thank you to the team that made the Regatta run so smoothly—the executive members, Joe Fossey and his launching team, and the Otton family who organized the boating trips. We also thank our sponsors—Strewn Winery for providing some of the wine for our party, and Epifanes Canada for providing cans of varnish for our awards on Sunday.

The members of the executive are meeting in early November to finalize the three UUMMTs for next season and to make preparations for the 35th Annual Regatta. This regatta will be held at Viamede Resort on beautiful Stoney Lake. This lake forms part of the historic Trent Severn Waterway which stretches from Lake Ontario to Georgian Bay. The regatta information and registration details will be sent to you early in the coming year.

Now that the brilliant colours of this year's Autumn season are upon us, Poonamalie has been winterized and comfortably stored, but... is ever on the ready for exciting and interesting times ahead!

Robert Clipsham

The 100 Mile Cruise

On August 18th, five Dispros were spotted among the 150 antique wooden boats and two Muskoka steamships during the re-creation of the famous 100 Mile Cruise. Although the Dispros did not go the complete route, it was a wonderful sight with club members in attendance.



Photo: Mary Storey

Vice President Mike McGarrell and Susan in their Dippy can be seen among the cavalcade of wooden boats on Little Lake Joe, the terminus of the 100 Mile Cruise.



Photo: Gary Campaigne

Follow that steamboat!



Georgian Bay Fails to Daunt Intrepid Dippy Owners

Every Dippy regatta is unique and differs from all that have gone before...and the 34th D.O.A. Regatta at the Delawana Inn, Honey Harbour, Georgian Bay, once again did not fail to deliver the goods. In fact, we can report that dippy owners adjusted to conditions, overcame challenges and prevailed overall...how very Canadian! (honorary Canucks from the USA included)

Arrival day Friday September 7th was warm, sunny and calm, promising a repeat of the gorgeous weather of last year's regatta. All boats were superbly launched by pros Shelley Scarlett and Joe Fossey with only one airborne launch (H. and J. Thomson love to please the crowd) and unhitching/parking trailers was ably undertaken by three ladies – only one got grease on white pants – until the real crew showed up.

But...GB weather turns on a dime and a few of us were sent scrambling from the pool and hot tub as thunder, wind and lightning suddenly appeared. Skipper Pamela Gibson, doubling as first mate to President Robert Clipsham, was quietly asking if anyone had brought board games as a substitute Saturday activity?

Umbrellas were a necessity to get us all over to an excellent buffet dinner, followed by the skippers meeting. President Robert Clipsham introduced the Regatta sponsor, Gord Laco, from *Epifanes Canada* who was attending his first Dippy event and was so impressed that he decided to restore the full complement of donated varnish to our event. Hurrah! You can never have too much of the good stuff! Gord in turn introduced our guest speaker, David Brunelle, project director for the *Southern Georgian Bay War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee*, historian and reenactor who regaled us with the details and little known history of the War of 1812. Dressed to kill in full officer's uniform, David concentrated on the events of the war that took place as far north

as Wasaga Beach, the Nottawasaga River and the Mackinaw Valley. Twelve brave volunteers came forward from the audience and David dressed them in a wonderful and diverse assortment of British uniforms of the period. These were explained in detail – soldiers were required to purchase uniforms and rank at that time – and most were red as that was the least expensive dye at the time. First prize goes to John Storey elaborately attired in a winter uniform of fur, skins and hide, closely resembling a grinning sasquatch.

Saturday morn dawned dark, wet and dreary and the group photo was taken inside for the first time. President Clipsham made a very astute executive decision, after conferring with associates in the washroom, to send the boats off in two groups, given the threatening weather – one at 9:30am (full tour) and one at 11:00am (shorter tour to lunch stop). This edict was welcomed with cheers and all dispersed to rooms and boats. Both groups were heroically led by local experts who are the Horatio Nelsons of GB, the Otton brothers, Bill and Barry. Intrepid Group 1 visited two islands...hosted by owners Joy and Bill Sayers, Fern and Dave Winlo and Heather and John Eland. They were able to enjoy magnificent views of GB from the island crowns. Intrepid Group 2 had a shorter tour to the wonderful cottage of Janet and Doug Hahn for lunch on their large outdoor deck. Then the drama began to unfold. A sudden severe squall blew in with horizontal rains and high winds stirring up the water which made landing at the Hahns a nightmare. Lights! Action! Camera! A mad dash for the cottage ensued en masse. Intrepid Group 2 arrived in the full blast of the storm. To their credit, the Hahns remained calm and provided the Intrepids with bouillon and a warm fire in spite of a now soaked interior. Kudos to the Hahns and a huge thank you! All dippys and contents made it back safely to the Inn and everyone had recovered sufficiently to attend a fabulous wine and cheese party at the Grise cottage hosted by Vice President Mike McGarrell, his wife Susan and their two daughters.

Another great dinner was followed by the famous bi-yearly Dippy auction. Well organized by the event planning group of Marilyn Shaver, Barb Dickson, Sheila Burk and Dorene Jenner, the auction was great fun for all. Garnett Shaver as auctioneer with Ian Dickson as support staff did a superb job – over \$1700 was extracted from bidders.

Continued next page . . .



Day two dawned cloudy but rain free and we set out again about 9:30 am for a wonderful two hour cruise to enjoy some beautiful GB scenery. The sun even made a welcome appearance . . . rain occurred only during docking.

Topped off by the lunch banquet and Awards ceremony, the regatta was proclaimed a great success and President Robert Clipsham extended sincere thanks to all those involved and to the staff at the Delawana Inn.

Hard Luck Award:

Happy & John Thomson for reasons best forgotten.

Epifanes Awards:

- Paul Jenner for greatest number of mishaps.
- Pamela Gibson for not saving her sinking boat.
- Lanny Staples, Alison Butler, Peggy Skinner & Ann Verth: intrepid troupers.
- Garnet Shaver & Ian Dickson for a great auction.
- Eric Luks for most items acquired at auction.
- Bill & Barry Otton for best Tour Operators.
- Rachel Campaigne for super-trouper status.
- Dick Bell for best pratfall into mud.

Happy Thomson and Robert Clipsham gave out the coveted Regatta plaques to the boats by name that braved the event and these were gratefully accepted by the owners. Thank you to Ray Prophet – we missed you!

Loading up and heading home was accomplished smoothly by the same wonderful crew plus Gary Campaigne. NO RAIN!

An event to remember – air launched dippy, heroic rescue of half-sunk Dippy by white knight Rue and Co., deluge and shelter, 1812 and sasquatch, auction finds, good food and friends. What more could you ask! See you all next year at Stoney Lake!

Cynthia Luks (from Eric's notes)



Photo: Gary Campaigne



Commemorative Stamp Proposal—Update

For those members in attendance at the AGM way back in April, you will recall our idea to present a proposal to Canada Post to issue a stamp marking the 100th anniversary of the invention of the Disappearing Propeller Boat which will occur on March 16, 2015. At that time we enlisted the assistance of the members in attendance to garner support for our cause from politicians and other dignitaries.

In total, we obtained 14 letters of endorsement. It would have been nice to get a few more but as we all know, things tend to move slowly across a politician's desk and it was imperative to get the proposal in sooner rather than later. Nevertheless, we managed to get a few big names on side. A big thank you to all those members who managed to get letters of endorsement for our cause.

With the valuable assistance of Mike McGarrell and Ian Dickson, I composed and designed the proposal that was duly submitted to Canada Post. A letter of acknowledgement, dated September 5, has now been received from Canada Post. The stamp program for 2015 will be announced in 2014 so now we wait for a decision from the stamp selection committee.

Paul Jenner

What's Up for 2013



June 22

On the third Saturday of June, George and Betty Piper have arranged a UUMMT to take place on Lake Nippissing. Anyone wishing to stay overnight can make reservations at the Terrace Suites, 2363 Hwy. 11B, Callander, ON by calling (705)752-5552 or (866)552-5525. Mention the Dispro Owners Association at time of reservation and please book early to ensure a spot. Approximately 2 hours from Muskoka.

George asks those coming to call or email him so he can arrange for enough launching and parking space.

Email: george.piper@sympatico.ca
Phone: (705)724-2717, after May 10 cottage (705)752-1728

July 20 & 21

Everyone is invited to cruise the Bay of Quinte on the third weekend of July. Rooms have been reserved for July 19th and 20th at the Picton Harbour Inn, on the water in downtown Picton. A group rate of \$110.00 per room/per night has been arranged. Your stay can be extended if desired. Ample parking and free launching are available, but there may be a charge for docking. Phone (613)476-2186 or (800)678-7906 to reserve and be sure to mention the Dispro Owners Association.

August 17

Saturday, August 17th boating will take place along the Severn River in the section between the Big Chute (Marine Railway) and the locks at Swift Rapids.

Gary Campaigne



Dippy Musings

Here's a couple of photos of interest. As Dippy owners, we never take ourselves too seriously and we can always see the funny side of situations – well, almost always. Fortunately, Dippy owners are constantly taking photos and these days it's so easy to share. I invite everyone to send in your interesting or funny photos for future issues.



Photo: Mary Storey

Dippys and 'gators Who said that you have to take your Dippy way down south if you wanted to boat with the 'gators? Here Eric Luks and his John Deere 6x4 Gator is seen retrieving Ian Dickson in his Dippy while Barb Dickson looks on.

Dippy Dozing This year's tour on Georgian Bay proved to be a little challenging. There was no sun, cool temperatures, driving rain and rough water to deal with. When we finally made landfall, we were all welcomed with a mug of delicious, hot bouillon and were able to warm ourselves and dry out by the log fire. Marty McClure and Anne Porter superbly demonstrate just how comfortable we were made to feel by all the cottagers at our stops on the Saturday tour.

Taken in the cottage of Janet and Doug Hahn.

Paul Jenner



Photo: Paul Jenner

The Device is published 4 times a year in **March, June, August and October**. Deadlines for the submission of articles and photos is normally 2 weeks prior to the first day of these publication months.

