ISSUE 69

THE DEVICE

AUG 2025

DISPRO OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

For latest news and updates please regularly visit our website at

www.disproboats.ca

Photo: Gary Campaigne

Bill Otton keeps a watchful eye on the group as he leads the flotilla of Dispros enroute to the Otton island in Georgian Bay. A wonderful day was had by all on Saturday, June 14, 2025.

President's Letter • August 2025

Hello Members

The Dispro Owners Association has provided valuable information to assist us in operating and maintaining our boats and at the same time many long lasting friendships have evolved. At this year's regatta we can renew and extend these.

Many thanks to the Ottons, Butlers, and Jacksons for hosting UUMMTs this past summer. This year's regatta lodgings are at the Jolly Roger Inn near Parry Sound, Hwy 400 at exit 217.

We will launch our boats at Point Pleasant Marina near the swing bridge to Parry Island. Saturday will feature a trip south along the South Channel with a lunch stop at the Massassauga Provincial Park and then on the Sunday tour, we will head north of Parry Sound. In the event of windy conditions, boating on inland lakes has been arranged. In the event of rain there are other activities close by that will be of interest to dippy people.

The lodge also has indoor and outdoor pools, a sauna and mini golf, plus more to enjoy. As of August 1st, there are rooms available in the courtyard but they will go fast. So get the room while you can.

Bill Otton

Ian Dickson

Ian has headed the docking crew at the Antique & Classic Boat Show (ACBS) in Gravenhurst for over 20 years. Ian was recognized for his efforts and received the Volunteer Recognition Award 2025 at this year's boat show.

Ian Dickson shows his much deserved award as Mary Storey looks on.

Device Submissions:

Please send all written and photographic submissions for The Device directly to the editor at:

paul.jenner@sympatico.ca

Ebb & Flow

Social Events, Milestones and News About DOA Members

Barbara Otton

Barbara Otton passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, on August 15, 2025, at the remarkable age of 98½. To the world, she was Barbara. To us—Tim, Barry, and myself—she was simply Mum.

She devoted her life to our family with quiet strength and endless care, always planning our weekly cottage trips with enthusiasm. In the early years, she stood side-by-side with our father, John, helping to build our cherished Island Cottage. She shared his love for boats of all kinds, though her heart was especially drawn to the "dippies" and the sailboats. And if there was ever an opportunity for a spontaneous ride across the water, Mum was ready in an instant.

Mum and Dad encouraged us to excel not only in our schoolwork, but also in the many tasks that came with caring for our home and cottage. They believed in teaching us practical skills—carpentry, mechanics, and even the careful handling of dynamite for blasting the stubborn rocks around the cottage. I still remember how it was stored with great care under the dining room table, far from the blasting caps kept in the outhouse—a quiet reminder of the hard work and resourcefulness that built the life we shared.

One evening at the condo, Mum confided in my wife, Valerie, that after 60 years and roughly 33,000 meals prepared, she was simply tired of cooking. But in true Mum fashion, that never stopped her. She continued to prepare meals with love, especially when it meant bringing the family together.

Mum was always happiest when hosting or joining family gatherings, celebrations, and get-togethers with friends, colleagues, and loved ones—especially at the cottage during the summer months.

She was a gentle and caring woman, yet could be firm when the moment called for it. Beneath that strength was a heart of pure gold. She was always there for us boys, and she treasured her grandchildren—John, Mark, Nicole, Howard, and Hannah—as well as her step-grandchildren, Krista and Scott, and their children, Daniel, Logan, and Breanna. Mum was a true lady in every sense of the word—gracious and dignified, yet always open and accepting of everyone who came into her life.

We will always remember her smile and her big heart, her loving and guiding words, and the many memories we will all share. She will forever be remembered as the matriarch of our family—the one who held each of us together.

We love you, Mum, and you will be truly missed.

Bill Otton

UNOFFICIAL UNAUTHORIZED
UUMMT Nº 55
MINI MISERY TOUR

Honey Harbour • Georgian Bay

Saturday June 14

Thank you to all that attended the Otton's Dippy Day. The weather was perfect with sunshine and a light breeze.

The Tour took us from Honey Harbour through numerous channels and past many islands to the open water east of Giants Tomb Island and finally to the Otton's cottage. Valerie prepared a chili lunch with Caesar salad and garlic bread. Many thanks to the people who brought sweets, fruit and helped with the prep work.

Everyone received a raffle ticket and everyone was a winner, receiving a hand carved duck as a memento of the day.

After lunch there was an afternoon tour that took us back to Honey Harbour via the east side of Beausoleil Island and around Robert's Island. It was a great day by all.

P.S. Come back soon

Valerie Otton
President for the Day

Photo: Ottons

The large deck provided plenty of room for socializing and the ample docking provided a safe harbour for the Dispros to tie up.

Photos: Gary Campaigne

The group shot of everyone who attended, minus the photographer.

UNOFFICIAL UNAUTHORIZED
UUMMT № 56
MINI MISERY TOUR

Kahshe Lake

Saturday July 26

UUMMT 56 was held on Saturday, July 26 on beautiful Kahshe Lake. We were greeted at the dock by our hosts Jim Butler, his sister Janie and their mother Alison. Jim, wearing his official dock crew ball cap, was of great assistance getting us all in the water and Janie kindly offered us her indoor washroom facilities, which as we all know is always greatly appreciated.

Jim, with the enormous flag on his boat, along with his Dispro boat top, was a very visible leader as eight boats and nineteen attendees departed the dock. The weather gods gave us a hot day, but with a lovely breeze and puffy white clouds. It was the perfect day to be on the water. Many local cottagers came out to wave to us or take photos as we passed. Dispros always seem to be welcome on any lake. As we passed the Howchin island, Dennis came out to greet us and to report that they were still without power after a storm a couple of days earlier. Later in the day we saw a convoy of hydro trucks near the launch ramp, so hopefully power was restored shortly after.

Jim planned an interesting route among the many bays, inlets and islands of Kahshe and with his many years of knowledge of the lake, skillfully avoided the numerous rocky shoals.

With our stomachs beginning to rumble, we all funnelled down a very pretty channel into Bass Lake heading to our lunch stop. It was a lovely spot with a sandy beach, picnic tables and even an outhouse.

Photo: Gary Campaigne

Our afternoon run took us past a most interesting sculpture of a naked woman clinging to a rock. There must be an interesting story attached to it, but you will just have to use your imagination.

With everyone helping each other, we soon had all the boats back on their trailers for the journey home. Our day concluded with Janie doing an emergency Seadoo run for a pair of sandals left on the beach. Janie, I won't tell the name of the forgetful person, if you don't tell!

Thanks to the Butlers for hosting a great day. ***Barb Dickson***

Eagle Went to Quinte

Of late Kathleen and I have been frequenting Prince Edward County for family reasons and refreshing holiday jaunts. In early July I thought to bring the Dispro Eagle with us to test the waters.

I consulted with my old friend Ken MacStephen on where to put in and what to see. We were staying at his home town harbour in Picton and he recommended we head out from there to Napanee for lunch, about a four hour trip. With lunch that would have made a nine hour day at least. We didn't need to worry about that for after the first hour out of the harbour we found ourselves with scenery that hardly seemed to change, our movement nearly undetectable. It became daunting, then a bit scary to be in such large waters. Here in Muskoka we navigate around islands and through channels, much like around Glen House in the Thousand Islands. Things look different every five minutes. Then it occurred to us, what might happen if our little engine failed or if our rudder fell off. These things often happen to Dispros and one must have options, or at least company. What would happen if the wind blew up or a storm came upon us?

In short we turned around and better spent the rest of the morning meeting George Publow In his boat shop and John Cowle next door who was working on his 50' ELCO motor commuter from 1928. The following day we found a more reasonable size lake near Tweed where we could boat with less fear and get weeded (twice).

There's good Dispro-ing all over the province and I can't recommend it highly enough. I regret not being able to be part of the UUMMT tours very often but that shouldn't discourage one from striking out on one's own. One last point, always listen to the advice of locals when they come welcoming a Dispro and then when hearing your plans, are quick to point out "you can't do that". Dams and rapids don't show on Google maps necessarily.

Stan Hunter

Photos: Stan Hunter

Upcoming Events in 2025

Fall Workshop – Saturday October 25, 2025 – 9:30 - 3:30
Coldwater Legion, 2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater, Ontario

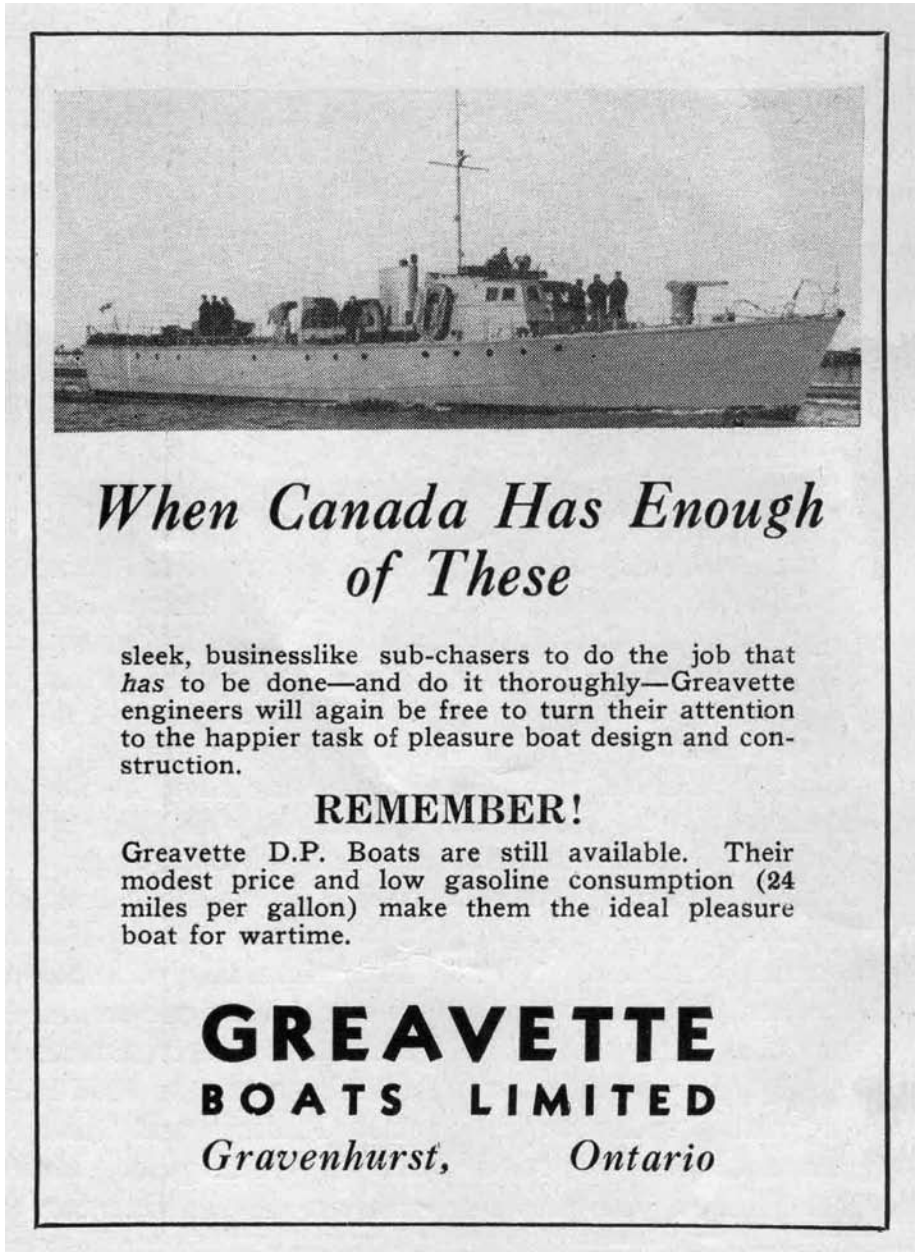
Dippy Quick Fix Tips and Tricks – Stuffing Boxes, Packing and the Outboard Bearing Coventry Victor Rebuild – and much more.

The Fall Workshop is a great learning experience and always well attended.

See the enclosed Fall Workshop sheet for full details and how to register.

The DOA Display at the ACBS Summer Boat Show

Photos: Ronda Turner



When Canada Has Enough of These

sleek, businesslike sub-chasers to do the job that *has* to be done—and do it thoroughly—Greavette engineers will again be free to turn their attention to the happier task of pleasure boat design and construction.

REMEMBER!

Greavette D.P. Boats are still available. Their modest price and low gasoline consumption (24 miles per gallon) make them the ideal pleasure boat for wartime.

GREAVETTE
BOATS LIMITED
Gravenhurst, Ontario

DOA Archives

Greavette Boats in Wartime

This advertisement was found in a 1942 magazine titled Boating Magazine. The message is trying to be upbeat during World War II by reminding readers that Dispro boats are still being manufactured by Greavette Boats of Gravenhurst and that they are a fuel saving means of boating.

Mary Storey

ATTENTION

OLDER DISPRO OWNERS

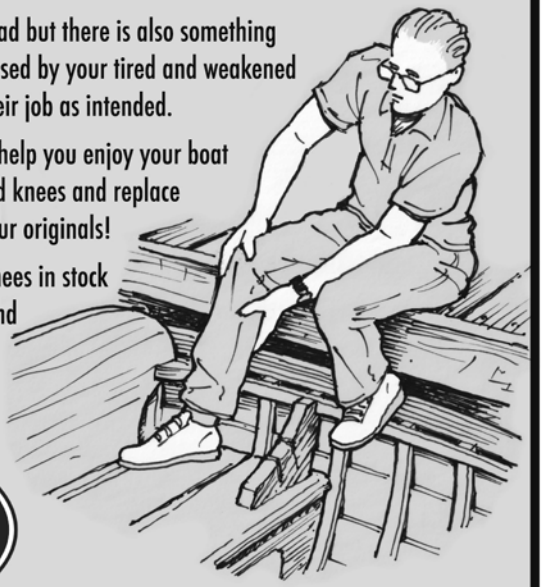
If your knees are making it hard for you to use and enjoy your boat, you may want to consider

KNEE REPLACEMENT

We all know about middle age spread but there is also something called old age spread. It's often caused by your tired and weakened knees that are now unable to do their job as intended.

We offer you a painless solution to help you enjoy your boat once again. We can remove your old knees and replace them with new ones, better than your originals!

We have all sizes of replacement knees in stock so come by for a free assessment and in no time we'll get you up and running again.



QUARTER-SAWN WHITE OAK
NEWKNEECO

A Division of Genuinely Fictitious Corporate Enterprises Limited

I hereby offer my sincere apologies to anyone who is suffering with or has suffered with knee pain. It's certainly not a laughing matter.This is just my tongue-in-cheek attempt to instill a little humour into the subject after suffering with my own recent knee problems.

Paul Jenner

EPIFANES

Gordon Laco

Epifanes North America Inc.
411 Hannah Street
Midland, Ontario
Canada L4R 2G4
mainstay@csolve.net
PH/FAX705.528.1629 CELL705.937.0694
www.epifanes.com

DISPRO OWNERS ASSOC.

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

© Dispro Owners Association 2025