

ISSUE 23

THE

DEVICE

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DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

LAKE
~
NIPISSING



Photo: Mary Storey

www.disproboats.ca



President's Letter • August 2013

What a wonderful summer has evolved for the enjoyment of all Dispro owners. Hopefully the oppressive heat of June and July has subsided as it was too hot to handle.

So far this boating season we have had 2 well attended UUMMTs; on Lake Nipissing and the Bay of Quinte in Picton, with good reports of enjoyment for all who attended these events.

The final UUMMT will occur August 17th on the Severn River between the Big Chute Marine Railway and the locks at Swift Rapids. If you are able, please plan to come out for a great cruise on this lovely portion of the Trent Severn waterway (details on the website under events). Thanks to Gary Campaigne for arranging the 2013 UUMMTs.

In July the Club presented a display at the ACBS Boat Show and it was decided this year to be more visible and engage visitors in a more pro-active manner. The positioning of the display was changed this year and we had a much better opportunity to talk with patrons as they entered the Field of Dreams and we were successful in signing 1 new member. Thank you to Eric Luks and all of the volunteers who manned the display.

Our Annual Regatta September 13-15 at Viamede Resort is coming together nicely with an interesting cruise set for both days lead by Prior and Allana Smith who reside on Stoney Lake. Thus far we have 57 people and 27 boats registered. If you have not already registered for this event please send in your registration as the larger the group the more fun and camaraderie we can all experience.

The final official event for 2013 is the Fall Workshop, November 2nd at the Grace and Speed Museum. This year the ladies have decided they want in on the fun as well and are planning a gal's only event on the same day. Details for these Workshops will be included in the next issue of the Device.

I say thank you repeatedly in my updates as it takes a lot of personal time and commitment by club members to ensure that we all enjoy the events offered and all of those efforts are appreciated.

I would like to encourage all members to take advantage of the balance of the events for this year as the boating season is way too short.

Safe travels to you all.

Mike McGarrell



Lake Nipissing and Trout Lake

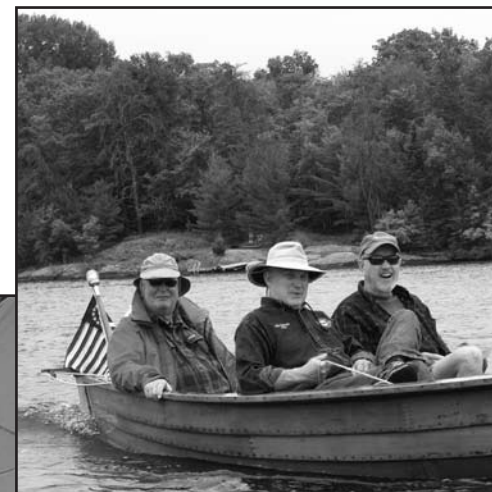
Northern Hospitality

The ingredients of a great boating experience are: great weather, lots of boats, and lots of people, fabulous food and calm waters. The June 22/23 UUMMT had all of these in buckets. Huge thanks go to Betty and George Piper and their family members for fantastic hospitality and arrangements.

A lively wine and cheese was held on Friday evening at the Terrace Suites Resort. Saturday found 16 boats putting in at Fish Bay Marina, Lake Nipissing. A circuitous route around many islands, a few weeds and a broken down boat found us at relatives of the Pipers on Hlnchberger Bay for lunch. The afternoon had more boating with the circling of two large rock islands covered with seagulls and cormorants. We wove among more islands to arrive at the Piper's Cottage where family greeted us warmly and George treated us to a true Northern Fish Fry. Appetizers and wine were offered before the pickerel fish was fried in butter in large pans over an open barbeque. Dessert was homemade, handpicked blueberry pie. It just doesn't get any better.

Sunday morning we travelled into the city of North Bay and launched on Trout Lake. This was a very different experience with many large homes, some islands and a new lake to explore for a few hours. We were truly treated to northern hospitality.

Mary Storey



A great time was had by all.



Photos: Mary Storey

Gracious hosts George and Betty Piper organized a wonderful June weekend UUMMT on Lake Nipissing and Trout Lake.



Photo: Mary Storey

Vegetation in Lake Nipissing can toss a veritable salad of greens your way. With the help of a rather large accumulation weeds, this boat definitely had a disappearing propeller.



Picton / Bay of Quinte

Lucky Thirteen

Lucky number thirteen, yes, thirteen Dispros and not one broke down! This is the first time that the Dispro Owners Association has held an event in Prince Edward County with its rolling farm country and many lovely towns and wineries. The town of Picton and the surrounding waterways were an excellent venue for this July UUMMT.

Some DOA members arrived early to visit the wineries and search for antiques while others enjoyed the waterside location for relaxing and chatting. During Friday night's dinner at the Picton Golf Course, a storm passed through leaving clear skies for the weekend of boating.

The Picton Harbour Inn supplied great accommodation and docking for the Dispros. Picton Bay, Hay Bay and Adolphus Reach provided sheltered boating. We enjoyed our picnic lunches at a couple of small parks and a few visited a Loyalist church, one of the oldest in the province. We passed by a large cement factory as well as the Glenora Ferry.

Many thanks go to Gary and Rachel Campaigne for all the arrangements and to new member John Clarke of Picton for guiding our boats to the all sites.

Mary Storey



The boaters and their boats gather at the docks in Picton.



Photos: Mary Storey

The Picton Harbour Inn was an ideal base from which to explore the area around the Bay of Quinte.



Dispros line the shore of the Bay of Quinte.

Gaining a Little Perspective on Speed

Imagine the call of the regatta announcer nearly 100 years ago: "Would all the steamboats gather at the starting line" (or something similar). With the regatta weekend around the corner, there have been a lot of changes in the races over the decades.

Where once motorized boats were part of a race schedule, everything today is powered either by wind or muscle. Some of the canoes entered in the races may have seen several generations of use, while some of the skiffs may be the race-specific Butson designs.

In the 1910s and 1920s, there were special categories for the different powered boats, but the most amusing from a modern perspective is trophies for some of the smaller, definitely slower boats.

Who would expect that the Greatest Race Boat Show in Canadian History would include a Dispro. Never a group to allow themselves to be left out of a party, the Dispro Owners Association proudly displayed the 1925, Muskoka Lakes Association trophy for the Disappearing Propeller Boat race. No matter how slow you go, it is still possible to find competition.

It is even possible to find that wind-in-your-hair speed in a Dispro, provided you are pointed up within a gale.

Barb Dickson, on hand at the Dispro display at the boat show, demonstrated the finer points of gaining speed in a Dispro, while surfing big waves. Who knew that the prop could be lifted out of the water to provide less drag when running the surf of Georgian Bay? I know from experience that it is almost possible to keep up with a Dispro while riding its wake in a kayak. Yes, they go that fast.

So, amid all the excitement of the regattas next weekend, imagine a lineup of Dispros and steamboats, vying for the trophy to show who is the fastest.

On another note, there was much anticipation of the arrival of the bronze Harmsworth Trophy coming to the Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre this weekend. Unfortunately, circumstances are such that the trophy could not make the trip to Canada and events planned have had to be cancelled.

Tim Du Vernet

This article originally appeared in the July 26th issue of The Muskokan. It has been reformatted and reproduced here by the kind permission of Tim Du Vernet

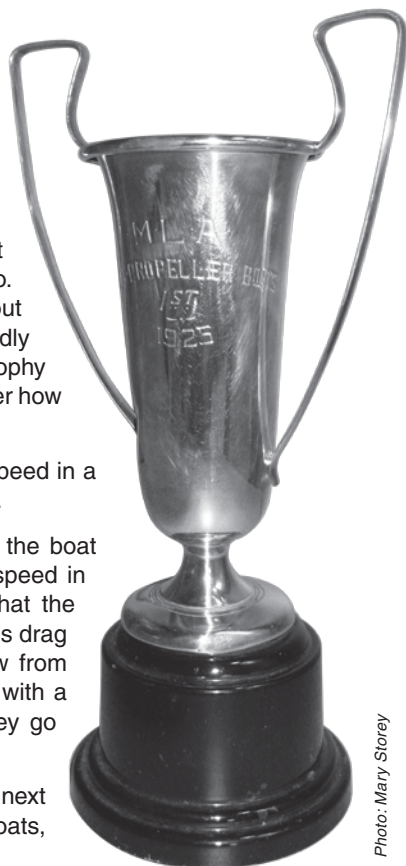


Photo: Mary Storey

The 1925 MLA Dispro Trophy for the fastest Dispro, was proudly displayed at the boat show..

Upcoming Events for 2013

September 6 - 8 – Join the Club in Buffalo, NY

The Buffalo Launch Club and ACBS Niagara have invited members of the DOA to join them at their annual boat show Sept. 6 - 8. If you have not signed up, you may wish to join at least eight other couples who have confirmed they will be bringing their boats.

Please contact John or Mary Storey 705-684-9560 or mstorey@cogeco.ca for details.

Weekend of September 13 - 15 – The 35th Annual Regatta – Viamede Resort

Enjoy a weekend of fellowship and boating on Stoney Lake in the Kawarthas. Viamede Resort, the Grand Lady of the Kawarthas, will be the venue for this annual event. Cruises for both days will be lead by local members Prior and Alana Smith. Accommodation, meals, mooring and launching is included in the weekend package. Register now to make sure you don't miss out. Contact President, Mike McGarrell for further information at 905-880-1474 or mmcgarrell@millicare.net

Saturday, November 2 – Dispro Owners Association Fall Workshop

Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre, Gravenhurst. Details to follow in the next issue.

Ladies Card Making Workshop

Ladies, please join us for a card making workshop in the Rendezvous Room at the Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre on Saturday, November 2, 2013. While the men are learning about carburetors etc. we will make an assortment of at least six cards, along with some gift tags, incorporating a variety of themes and techniques.

Reservations for our card making group have been made for lunch at the Blue Willow Tea Shop on the Muskoka Wharf. Each person will order from the menu and will be billed individually. Coffee/tea/water along with goodies will be supplied at the workshop.

Additional details, including time, cost and registration for the workshop will follow in the next Device. Hope you can join us.

Rachel Campaigne & Barb Dickson



WILL THE REAL CAPTAIN STAND UP: Eric Luks (L) said he likes to create a little fun by having a mascot on board his 1926 Ditchburn named "Chickadee." Luks has owned the boat for ten years.

LOOKING BACK

Eric Luks, the DOA's current vice-president, can be seen here in a photo that accompanied an article covering the 1985 Port Carling Boat Show that appeared in the Bracebridge News, July 24, 1985.

From the Archives

Ode to a dippy

oh little boat, how can you endure
the life of speed and noise and such?

You ply the waters unperturbed
with no steering wheel, tape deck or clutch

the answer is not hard to fathom
your qualities transcend all time.
your countless beauties will unfold
in this little rhyme of mine.

the tree that forms your noble hull
did in peaceful forests thrive.
It did not die when it was felled,
for in your sleekness, it's alive.

a skilled and ancient art it is
with human touch and nature's hand,
to take a tree that's made by God
and form a vessel just for man.

the pod-shaped structure in this case
can weather storms on Georgian Bay.
its steadfast courage gets it through
the four foot waves, winds, the spray

but it's most at home in the quiet
and the calm
in a world seen by few.
most tend to whizz past, don't see
what is there,
miss the frogs, the muskrat, the view

to guide 'neath the branches of
wind-swept red pines,
softly back-lit by evening's moonlighting,
is to have the feeling you've
stepped out of time
and taken flight on an angel's wing.

you putt-putt with plodding conviction,
but can tend to be tricky to start.
are able to hit underwater debris
without actually falling apart.

it's the feature that makes you so special.
your propeller will disappear
up into the housing that shields it,
until underneath all is clear.

oh Dippy, the people who
love you are special.

we're lucky to have them around.
for without those who fathom your beauty,
on our lake you would never be found.

**for bill thompson
p.m. cowan 1989**

from scott cowan:

others may zoom passed at 80 plus
but your noble speed is more precious

from brad cowan

you may be quite old
but you're still running bold
cutting waves that are four and ten,
when waters come in the side,
you still gracefully glide
on rough water all over again

from glenn cowan

it is quiet, it is fun
i listen to the engine run,
putting along on lake muskokun,
it can even keep up with the Segwun.

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.



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