

ISSUE 27

THE DEVICE

AUG 2014

DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



www.disproboats.ca

Photo: Mary Storey

Beautiful scenery, the warm summer sun, the soft putt-putt of a Dispro motor and a fine cigar. A picture of contentment as Ron and Jeff Hill enjoy cruising the Pickerel River at the June UUMMT.



President's Letter • August 2014

I sincerely want to thank all those members who took the time to send in their surveys. About 10% of the membership responded. If you can still find the yellow sheet we would like to hear from you. We are in the process of analysing the information for future planning.

Some of the early findings are as follows:

The average age of respondents so far is 71.5 years, suggesting that in the next ten years there will be many Dippys looking for new custodians.

Everyone loves the Device and it is likely what holds the membership together.

The events are popular as ever but some are concerned about costs. The leadership is very aware of this and we continue to look for the very best venue and value. The regatta costs have been stable for the past decade and most UUMMT's are at no cost except for fuel for the Dippy and tow vehicle.

The plan is to continue with the traditional annual regatta notwithstanding that registrations are down this year. Next year the regatta will be held at Cleveland's House on Lake Rosseau and the good news is that costs are again in the same range as in the past decade. As many Dippys reside on the Muskoka Lakes many owners can forego lodging costs and only sign up for the meal plan to participate.

So far this has been a great year for the DOA. We had two fabulous UUMMT's, the first at Pickerel River. This event was organized by Robert Clipsham with Betty and George Piper. It was a two day event with some 22 boats participating and the bugs only came out after dinner. The July UUMMT was again set up by Robert Clipsham with help from Mary Storey on the Muskoka River. Again the weather cooperated and there were 14 boats. Mike McGarrell had arranged for Cottage Life Magazine to do a shoot of this event and the crew were present for the whole day, so I expect that we will see the result in a future issue.

More good news; the Antique and Classic Boat Society is proclaiming the Year of the Dispro for their 2015 Boat Show in Gravenhurst next year. The official boat show poster will feature the Dippy as well. This is not a happenstance but as a result of the diligent work of John Storey and Ian Dickson. Some sad news is that we failed to receive acceptance to our postage stamp application, despite the great efforts by Paul Jenner in the production of the elaborate presentation.

More good news; the Muskoka Steamship and Historical Society has seen fit to award the DOA with the "well deserved" Stewardship Award, in that we continue to keep the history and culture of the Dippy alive for future generations. This award will be presented at the MLA boat show in Port Carling August 9th at 2:30 pm. Mike Windsor will accept the award on behalf of the DOA.

It has come to the attention to the leadership through the survey, that we have members who at times would like a ride at our venues when their boat is in capacitated or for other reasons. In any case, members have traditionally shown up at the launch destination and have found a ride with any of our friendly captains. This still works, but some might be shy to just show up, so we have a plan. A member seeking a ride should email Mary Storey and she will try to connect you with a participating Dippy who has advised her that there is room for guests. As we don't register UUMMT Dippys, we encourage those boats willing to accommodate guests to so advise Mary. This is a trial program and if there is participation we will expand it to our web site.

The Stoney Lake Regatta is not over subscribed and if you have not been there before I urge you to attend. This year we will have a different tour going through two sets of locks at Burleigh falls to Buckhorn and Lovesick lakes. We will again be escorted by the Peterborough Boat Club to avoid the many rocks in the area. Prior Smith of Canada Calling is our local arrangement Chairperson for this event. A reminder that this is an auction year so those coming should bring some appropriate stuff! Hope to see you there and keep your copper jacket polished.

Eric Luks

Regatta Costs

For comparison purpose, here is a chart to show the per person costs for the Annual Regatta over the past dozen years.

Year	Location	\$ Cost per person
2002	Stanton House	250.00
2003	Patterson Kaye Lodge	286.00
2004	Opinicon	241.94
2005	Fern Resort	260.00
2006	Severn Lodge	359.11
2007	CNIB	269.00
2008	CNIB	350.00
2009	Hidden Valley	346.52
2010	Hidden Valley	346.52
2011	Delawana Inn	318.00
2012	Delawana Inn	318.00
2013	Viamede	319.85
2014	Viamede	299.15

Pickereel River and the Lost Channel

The Pickereel River UUMMT was held on the weekend of June 21-22 with 22 boats in attendance. Many thanks to George and Betty Piper for their assistance in setting up accommodation at Lost Channel and Tornado resorts. All of the boats were launched at Lost Channel with the assistance of the staff and their 4 wheeler on a wooden ramp. Inside the dining room was a great collection of photographs of pickup trucks and other vehicles that had managed to launch themselves at the ramp. This made the sign by the ramp make sense, which stated "let us help, we don't mind"

John Cooper has to be credited with his ability to pilot his Dispro during both days of the trip, steering with just an oar. He had managed to leave the rudder back in Aurora, and persevered without it. Great weather on both days, and a wonderful picnic hosted on Jane Buttler's lawn on Saturday.

Mike Windsor



Approaching the Lost Channel Inn.

Photo: Mary Storey



Who needs a rudder anyway?

Photo: Gary Campaigne

Muskoka River to Bracebridge Falls

On Saturday July 19, 14 Dispros cruised the interesting Muskoka River from its outlet at Lake Muskoka to the falls at Bracebridge, a good spot for lunch.



Photos: Mary Storey

The Remaining Event for 2014

Sept. 5-7 36th Annual DOA Regatta at Viamede Resort

Don't Forget - it's auction year. Please see the auction notice on page 7.

Full details of all events can be found on our website: disproboats.ca

DOA Booth at ACBS Boat Show

Gravenhurst, July 2014

In the new location of the central square at Muskoka Wharf during this busy boat show, the Dispro Owners Association was very evident and vibrant.

The Dispro tent shaded Barb and Ian Dickson's 1924 Dispro Puddin'. Seventeen club members volunteered by talking to the public about Dispros and attempting to sell memberships.

New this year, were four easels built by Dennis Howchin, Art Clarke and Ian Dickson. These easels held pictures showing the history of our boats. Many of the photos are in the book: *The Greatest Little Motor Boat Afloat*. They were great conversation starters as we chatted about the upcoming centennial year for our boats.

Mary Storey



IT'S AUCTION TIME

AT THE *Annual Regatta*

Yes, it's time for the every-other-year DOA Regatta Auction.

ATTENTION ALL REGATTA ATTENDEES!

Bring your new, gently used, or used **STUFF** to the Regatta

NAUTICAL OR OTHERWISE

• Crafts • Jewellery • Food • Boat Parts • Collectables •

All donations, gratefully accepted for the

SATURDAY EVENING EVENT.

Good Times Guaranteed



*** Auction will be held in the same room as the wine & cheese event, where all items will be on display**

Upcoming Events in 2014

June 21-22 – UUMMT 28 – Pickerel River ‘The Lost Channel Dippy Ride’

This somewhat remote and pristine waterway comprises the Pickerel River and Lake Kawigamog providing over 40 miles of boating!

Contact: Betty and George Piper george.piper@sympatico.ca
Robert Clipsham rec@clipsham.com cell 905 703 0377

Sat. July 5 – ACBS Boat Show – Muskoka Wharf, Gravenhurst

DOA tent and display will again be featured at the show

Sat. July 19 – UUMMT 29 – Muskoka River ‘From Outlet at Lake Muskoka, to Bracebridge Falls’

Depart: George Street Ramp, Bracebridge at 10:00 am

We will explore this interesting river and adjoining channels from its outlet into Lake Muskoka to Bracebridge. We will see the huge South Falls and the hydro generating station from our Dispros. Lunch stop will be at the park in Bracebridge, near Silver Bridge, with lots of docking and washrooms. Bring your own lunch.

Contact: Mary Storey mstorey@cogeco.ca
Robert Clipsham rec@clipsham.com cell 905 703 0377

Sat. Aug. 16 – UUMMT 30 – Severn River, Sparrow Lake to Swift Rapids (Lock 43)

Depart: Sopher's Landing, McLean's Bay at 10:00am

The Severn River from Georgian Bay to Sparrow Lake flows through a very beautiful part of the Precambrian shield with rock outcrops and treed shorelines. During a previous Regatta and UUMMT 27 last summer we travelled in our Dispros from Severn Falls to Swift Rapids. This UUMMT route will complete our travels on this section of the Trent Severn waterway.

Our guests will be George and Jean Page who cottage at the Swift Rapids. George will tell us some of the history of the early electricity generating power plants first constructed at Ragged Rapids in 1902 and later at Swift Rapids in 1917. Also the construction of the canal will be explained at Sparrow Lake Chutes and at McDonald Rapids.

We will tie up at Lock 43, we will see the 47 foot high lock (1965), the power plant and have our lunch on the grassed area (washroom facilities available). Bring your own lunch.

Contact: Robert Clipsham rec@clipsham.com cell 905 703 0377

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*Full details of all events can be found on our website: **disproboats.ca***

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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