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THE DEVICE

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DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



www.disproboats.ca

Photo: Mary Storey

GEORGE, a recently restored 1929 Lindsay Dispro owned by Ron Scott.



President's Letter • August 2018

As we continue with more exciting events in our 2018 season we want to thank everyone for a spring and summer filled with fast & slow dipping and wonderful camaraderie. June at the Lunge Lodge and French River was one tour we will not forget - just amazing! Don't miss any French River adventure. The return in July, after several years, to Lake Kawagama, our second UUMMT, was also fabulous for different reasons. Thank you Don & Dawn for your never ending hospitality.....those are our special members. The third tour – Point au Baril, the Ron Hill Memorial (his favourite run) was one unforgettable event. We had perfect weather, calm seas, 11 boats and the joy of many family and friends. A wreck, the Ojibway Club, a turn-of-the-century historic site and the Lighthouse were among a few of our treats. A special thank you to Mike Windsor for providing us with these superlative tours.

The other Dispro Event, a huge success, was the ACBS Boat Show. Our in water display and show of Dispros from all decades was enhanced by voice descriptions for all to hear. Dippies moving gracefully (or not) in the water is always a pleasurable sight. Meanwhile on land, Karen Boyer manned the Dispro tent. The site this year was ideal—just as you headed in the gate. You could not miss the two Dispros on display with photos, memorabilia, and also many members helping out. It was a place to stop and chat and describe our love of The Dippy. Thanks to Kerry Harmon/Karen Boyer for organizing the event with renewed enthusiasm. John Storey was our man for locating such a great spot.

The club's presence, with several Dispro's, at Muskoka Lakes Antique & Classic Boat Show was also appreciated by all.

The Regatta 2018, Patterson Kaye, September 14-16 All is ready to Dippy forward with lots of boats, excitement, and of course our many Dispro friends.

Call PK for available accommodations. **The Meal Plan is \$200 per person, fixed price including HST & gratuities. It is payable on arrival** (a little change & clarification). If you have forgotten to register for the event, call Barb Dickson. Those needing rides call Mary Storey for available space in boats. John and Mary Storey will be leading the pack on beautiful Lake Muskoka.

It's Auction Year! Don't forget to bring some great stuff for lots of fun!

Fall Workshop October 27, 2018, 9 am-3 pm at the Muskoka Discovery Centre. Registration forms available at Regatta (Barb Dickson). Ladies (or gents) bring your organization/decluttering ideas or samples as well as a tool or knife you wish to sharpen. Gentleman, have your questions ready for ignition and fuels for your dippy.

AGM 2019 will be on April 27.

We appreciate all of you for your support, your flexibility, your enthusiasm and your hard work.

Can't wait to see all of you at the 40th Regatta. Stay calm and dippy on.

Ann Verth



French River • June 16, 2018

We launched at Riverview Cottages and Dokis Reserve Marina some 20 kms west of Lake Nipissing on this beautiful 110 km river which outlets at the top of Georgian Bay. Mike Windsor organized this trip

and asked George and Betty Piper to lead the way up river to a beach that they liked at the mouth of the river.

Some of us (4 Dippys) stayed at Lunge Lodge, on an island, approximately 20 minutes north. On Saturday morning, President Ann and Captain Tom loaded their stuff into their Gravette with their passengers' assistance. As we departed the lodge, Eric and Cynthia Luks ignition switch failed. No problem, the Luks had Paul Doddington (with tool box) on board so their generosity was paid back big time! Now all of us were ready and the Verth's boat was hungry to get going.

After the shared greetings with all nine boats, the fleet was happily spread out cruising along the south side of this large river (drainage area 19,100 kms) with Captain Tom now leading and one boat, being a little slower, falling behind. When we passed a large unmarked rock we deferred to George and Betty as the leaders.

At about halfway along a whining noise accompanied by a significant burning smell developed in the Verth's boat. Captain Tom was concerned. Paul Doddington was hailed and asked for advice - he gave us a quizzical look and noted 'cause unknown'. Subsequently, to Tom's great relief, he discovered that his passenger had placed his zippered nylon lunch bag under the front seat (out of the sunshine) and that it was now wedged against the spinning flywheel!

Soon we were at the river mouth looking at the expanse of Lake Nipissing - a wonderful sight. All was well as we entered the bay for the lunch stop except that one boat was not in sight.



Photo: Mary Storey

This was a beautiful beach and everyone went ashore onto the warm sand. A few minutes later the 9th dippy arrived and to our amazement it was RAINA a beautiful newly constructed Dispro, built and operated by Wilf Cosby of Port Loring.

We all enjoyed our lunch (my lunch was somewhat shredded due to its encounter with the Verth's engine) and then to our delight we learned that George and Betty had camped here on the same date 62 years ago - their wedding day!

We all enjoyed a pleasant ride along the north shore of the river back to our launch sites. This was a good ending to a fun-filled UUMMT!

Robert Clipsham
Half Secretary

After being greeted by a lovely welcoming sign and helpful marina staff, twenty nine hearty adventurers and fourteen boats headed out onto Kawagama Lake.

Don and Dawn Able from Mountain Trout House Marina, were our gracious hosts and guides around the many bays of this beautiful lake. We seemed to be under the frequent threat of rain and umbrellas and hoods got a workout as we boated through sun and frequent light and then heavier rain showers.

As we arrived at Moorelands Camp for lunch, the sun shone warmly and we were able to dry out. Our unpredictable weather continued after lunch, but our flotilla was undeterred. Many cottagers were out on their decks and docks to welcome us, as Don had featured our boats and the event on Kawagama TV.

Many hands made for light work at the launch ramp and our boats were on their trailers in no time. The afternoon ended with many stopping at Boston Pizza in Bracebridge for an early dinner.

Barb Dickson



Photo: Mary Storey

A colourful display of nautically themed umbrellas helped to keep the Dicksons somewhat dry from the on and off showers of Kawagama Lake.

In the book *Wind in the Willows*, Rat says to Mole, "There is nothing- absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats".

Well on Saturday, August 18, we certainly did a lot of messing about in boats. Under overcast skies, 15 boats put in at Beacon Marine at Pointe au Baril. This UUMMT had been planned in memory of a passionate "dippier", Ron Hill. Ron had enjoyed many trips on Georgian Bay and it was one of his favourite places.

Three boats soon ran into various difficulties but the rest continued on as the skies cleared and we had the most perfect day with sun, a bit of cloud and a warm breeze. Our charts were well used as we meandered through the many tricky shoals and narrow channels of a portion of these 30,000 islands. We passed single file through the "hole in the wall" and circled the protruding boiler from the wreck of the *Metamora*. The *Metamora* was a wooden tug commissioned in 1864 for ferrying passengers and goods in the Georgian Bay area. It ran onto a shallow shoal in 1907 and sank.

Our lunch stop was at the Ojibway Hotel, built in 1906, on Ojibway Island. It is a formidable wooden structure with stone fireplaces, a large inviting veranda and a turret which towers over the bay. Inside many wonderful photos of days gone by grace the walls and one can only imagine the stories they would tell if they could speak. It was a lively spot with boaters having lunch on the veranda, enjoying an ice cream, pursing the gift shop or Dispro members eating our picnics on benches and chairs at dockside.



Photo: Mary Storey

Dispros docked at the Ojibway Hotel, Pointe au Baril.

After lunch with a couple of navigation glitches, redirection was required. With the kind assistance from a guide in a power boat, our boat and two others with us, were the last boats to finally find our way to the Pointe au Baril lighthouse and the recently replaced

wooden barrel beside it. Historic accounts indicate that the barrel once contained whisky and originated from French fur traders passing through the area by canoe. They had placed a barrel on the point as a navigation marker for the harbour in the 1870's and hence the name Pointe au Baril. A tradition started in which the first fisherman to safely return to port would light a lamp in the barrel to guide others safely home. No light was required for our return trip back to the dock, although we were tossed a bit by passing boats travelling at rather high rates of speed.

Ron's son, Jeff Hill, spread some of Ron's ashes on the bay and I'm hoping that the monarch butterfly that kept us company for a portion of the trip may have been Ron in spirit. It was probably one of the most enjoyable days I have ever experienced in a Dispro.

Barb Dickson

DOA Display at the ACBS Boat Show • July 8, 2018

The very excellent DOA display at the boat show, managed by Kerry Harmon along with many volunteers, included two boats, one early 1918 and one from the later 1950's era, set on the outside of the DOA tent. A collection of historic photos and other Dispro memorabilia were displayed inside the tent. The location being the first exhibit as visitors entered the show coupled with the close proximity to the in water display of five boats moored at dock C contributed to the success of the display. The ACBS kindly included our flotilla of Dispros in the 'boats in motion' which allowed people to see the style of the boats and to hear the engines.

Robert Clipsham
Half Secretary



Photo: Mary Storey

ATTENTION ALL! IT'S AUCTION TIME

AT THE
Annual Regatta

Attention all hoarders! Time to clear out the boathouse, garage, workshop and basement and bring those treasures, collectables and objet d'art along to the annual regatta.

It's time to put it all on the auction block. All donations, **NAUTICAL OR OTHERWISE,** will be gratefully accepted for the SATURDAY EVENING EVENT.

GOOD TIMES
Guaranteed

NO DEALERS PLEASE



BID EARLY & BID OFTEN

Upcoming Events in 2018

Sept. 14-16 – DOA Annual Regatta – Patterson Kaye Resort, Lake Muskoka

Please note that this is one week later than the usual time for our annual regatta. **It's Auction Year** so please start by gathering all those treasures you've been hoarding for years but can now finally bear to part with. This fun event is always a highlight of the regatta.

Sat. Oct. 27 The Fall Workshop – 9am - 3pm

Downstairs for the men – Dippy operation, theory and practice, ignition and fuels, and sharpening tools for your Dippy.

Upstairs for the ladies – Organizing, downsizing, decluttering, etc. Each participant to bring one tip for organization.



Elvis and Mary Storey at the Baysville Boat Show, August 2018.



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