

ISSUE 30

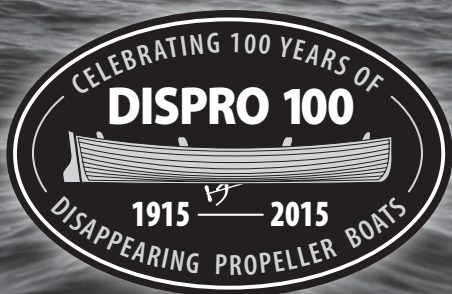
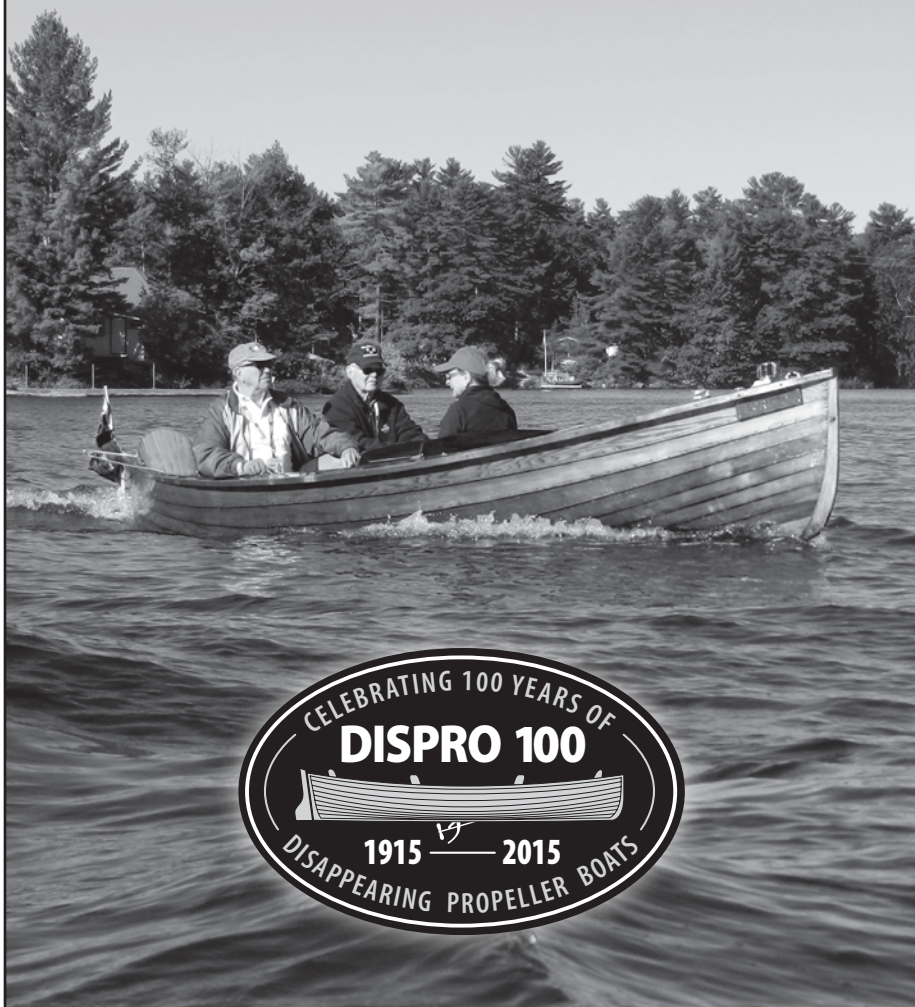
THE DEVICE

JUNE 2015

DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.disproboats.ca





President's Letter • June 2015

It is my pleasure to serve you as President of DOA, especially for this historically significant year. It was good to see many of you at the Annual General Meeting in April. What a day full of fun, socializing and catching up after the long winter! By now you will have your boat in the water and will be doing all those little jobs to get it ready for the many events this summer.

Your Centennial Committee had been working diligently to arrange the many events for this special summer. I encourage you to take part in the UUMMT in Haliburton, the Antique and Classic Boat Show in Gravenhurst, including the Friday Poker Run and the many social events, the cruise to Port Sandfield on August 9th and the Regatta at Cleveland's House in September.

We very much need you to bring your boat to the highlight event of the Centennial Year in Port Carling on August 8th. Your invitation, so kindly made by volunteers Barb Dickson and Rachel Campaigne, has been mailed to you. We continue to work with Ontario Heritage Trust for the ceremony to dedicate the Provincial Plaque in honour of the Dispro that afternoon. This will be the event of the year, maybe the century!

Dispro boats and our Dispro Owners Association have been featured in many publications in recent months: Muskoka Magazine, Classicboat, The Real Muskoka Story, Classic Boating, Rudder, and Cottage Life in an upcoming issue, just to name a few. With all this publicity, we expect many people to attend the Port Carling event.

Your executive has been considering how to bring more youth into the club. For those of you who could not attend the AGM, the results of a spontaneous survey are interesting. President Eric asked the audience to indicate how many people had a Dispro passed down from a family member and of all the attendees, there was only one hand that went up. It seems the majority of us bought our boats from someone outside the family when we were older.

As I write this message, we have just moved three Dispros in two days. The 1922 John Bull, *Bull's Eye* was lifted by forklift and with the help of six volunteers, from the second storey of Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre to the main floor. A group of eight members and friends lifted the 1922 Dispro back into the Muskoka Lakes Museum in Port Carling, and of course John and I launched Muggins into the water during this very warm May weather. I know my muscles are stronger than they were a few days ago!

I look forward to meeting you all, from near and far, at the DOA events of 2015. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. (mstorey@cogeco.ca or 705-684-9560)

Mary Storey

Centennial Report

Now that spring is finally here, plans are in full swing for the Dispro Centennial Celebrations on August 8th in Port Carling.

Your President and Past President made a Centennial presentation to the Township of Muskoka Lakes Council, which was very warmly received.

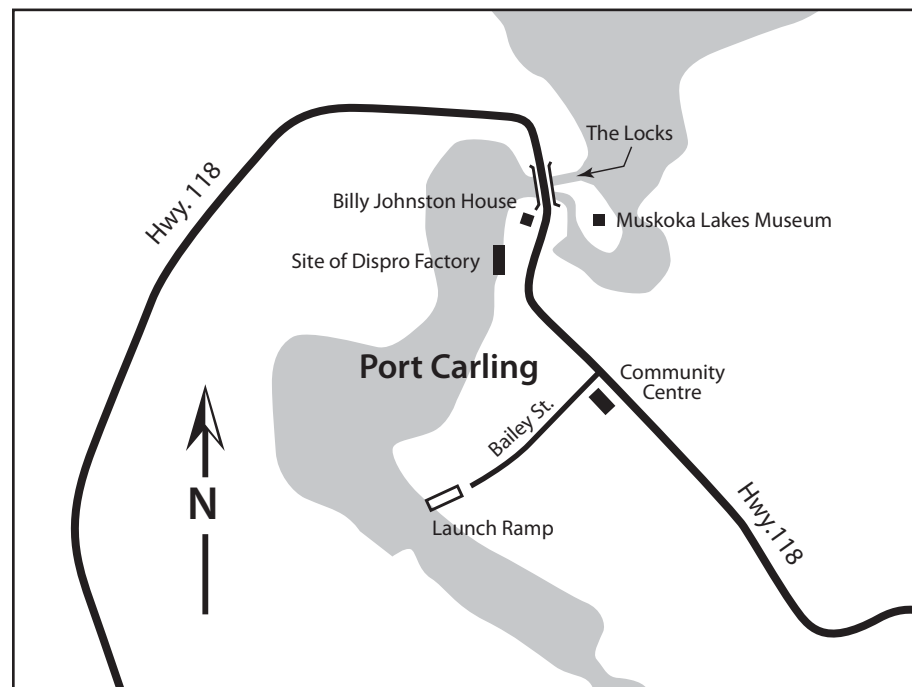
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The members of the Centennial committee are getting together in the next week to complete final plans. Many exciting developments are in the wind and our press coverage has been extremely good. Word is out in the community and many people are looking forward to the celebration.

Just a reminder to keep working on getting together a period costume for the event. Bow ties, suspenders, the striped Dispro shirts, boater or bowler hats and white pants would work well for the gentlemen. A cream or ecru skirt, blouse or dress, straw hat, and parasol would be very appropriate for the ladies.

See you in Port Carling in your period costume!

Ian Dickson



Event sites and launch ramp location for Centennial Celebrations in Port Carling on August 8th.



2015 Annual General Meeting

Dispro Owners Association – Sunday April 26, 2015
Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre, Gravenhurst, ON

- The meeting was called to order by President Eric Luks.
- Motion: Approval of the minutes of the 2014 AGM. Moved by Sandra Turnbull and seconded by John Storey. Carried
- In the absence of the Treasurer, Eric Luks presented the treasurer's report. Motion: The financial reports for 2014 be accepted as printed. Moved by Paul Gockel and seconded by Sandra Turnbull. Carried.
- Motion: In future, a condensed treasurer's report will be read at the Annual General Meeting with a full report available to the membership on request. Moved by Robert Clipsham and seconded by Jim Domm. Carried unanimously.
- Membership report read by Valerie Otton: The club has 284 members and 32 boats registered for the regatta at this time.
- Because of the number of centennial events this year, there will be only one UUMMT in Haliburton on Saturday, June 27th. It is organized by Mike McGarrell.
- Mike Windsor shared an award, a wooden box, presented to the DOA by Muskoka Steamship & Historical Society for the preservation of Dispros.
- Mary Storey announced that the 2015 regatta would be held at Cleveland's House, Muskoka, Sept 11-13 and registration numbers, at this time, are above average.
- Vice-President, Mary Storey and Centennial Chairman, Ian Dickson presented a Power Point with the details of all the events for the Centennial Year.
- New Business:
 - Dick Bell suggested a letter be sent to Ray Prophet thanking him for his contributions to the club.
 - Ronda Turner asked that the next AGM start earlier in the day.
- Elections of new executive: Moved by Robert Clipsham. Seconded by Jim Domm. Carried

Eric Luks – Past President
Mary Storey – President
Mike Windsor – Vice-President
Dennis Howchin – Secretary
Valerie Otton – Membership
Sheila Burk – Treasurer
Paul Jenner – Device Publication

- Motion to adjourn by Mary Storey, seconded by Paul Gockel.

During the coffee and dessert time, a fashion show featuring appropriate attire for this year's 100th Anniversary Celebration Events was held.



Photo: Paul Jenner

New president Mary Storey honours the outgoing president Eric Luks with a gift at the April AGM.

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Upcoming Events for 2015

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- Fri. Sept 11- Sun. Sept 13** DOA Annual Regatta at Cleveland's House, Minett, Muskoka

Mark the dates!

Join us as we celebrate 100 years of Disappearing Propeller Boats.



Photo: Heather Cooper

Barb Dickson, Mary and John Storey, Lorraine Human, Les Rue and Launi and Art Clarke got all dressed up in period fashions to inspire us all to do the same for the Centennial Celebrations.

Putting New Life Back Into Old Sparkplugs

I've used the pipe thread style of spark plugs since my Dispro Zero Day and early on, I was fascinated by the way in which they are made. It seemed that they could be taken apart. Well, one day I did exactly that – I put the plug in a good sized vice and firmly and smoothly undid the plug.

The first picture shows the plug before disassembly.



The next picture shows the plug after I had unscrewed the upper portion of the plug body.



The ceramic insulator can be removed by carefully and gently rotating it while sliding it out of the threaded retainer part.

You'll likely find that the tip of the ceramic body which is exposed to the combustion chamber is black with carbon buildup.



You now need to carefully and gently wipe the black stuff off the ceramic tip, but **DO NOT USE** any kind of abrasive, no steel wool, no Scotch Brite etc. – just a clean cloth and patient, rotational wiping.

The ceramic body has a very thin layer of glazing. The ceramic material underneath this hard thin layer is porous. You **DO NOT** want to remove the glazing layer. If that glazed layer is removed (e.g. by using an abrasive), the small oily carbon particles in the combustion chamber will be absorbed by the porous material and then will start to become a secondary path for the high voltage spark current degrading the spark across the electrode gap. Once absorbed they cannot be removed.

You may not be able to get the ceramic tip area totally clean and white, but you will have removed most of the carbon build up layer.

Now, carefully reassemble the plug, making sure not to overtighten the threaded retainer part.

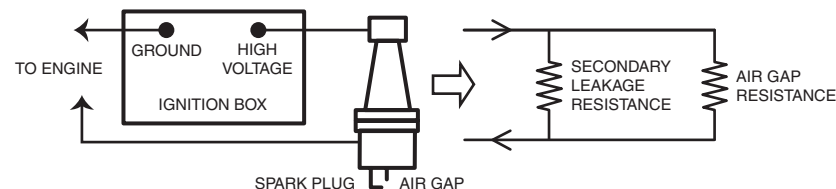
I suggest that you start with your dirtiest plug, so that in the unlikely event that you damage it, you have not lost too much, but have gained the "learning experience" to prevent it from happening a second time.



Photos: Miro Forest

By cleaning the layer of carbon particles on the ceramic tip, you have removed the secondary path for the electric spark current, and your spark plug will perform better.

The spark current has two paths – the air gap between the electrodes and the path over the surface of the ceramic insulator. The resistance of the secondary path must always be much higher than the air gap resistance so that the air gap is the path of least resistance.



If your spark plug cannot be disassembled, then your only real option is replacing it with a new one.

Sand blasting the plug may help initially, but that will remove the thin layer of glazing and eventually you'll be worse off than before.

Happy cruising, **Miro Forest, P.Eng.**

The Dispro Group is Up and Running on Facebook

To join the group, you have to be a Facebook member. Then go into groups and search for *Dispro Group*. Even Dennis is a member so he can post. Have fun and please post.

The group is intended for Dispro owners and friends to discuss events, conditions, news and to celebrate our amazing boats. There is no soliciting of any kind. Those that spam or abuse this group will be blocked. Dispros are the most magnificent boats on earth. If you agree or understand this you'll want to be apart of this fabulous group.

Nancy Howchin



Photo: Paul Jenner



Photo: Mary Storey

So that's how they get those boats down from there! Using a forklift, the team gently brings a Dispro down from the upper level to the main floor of the Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre.

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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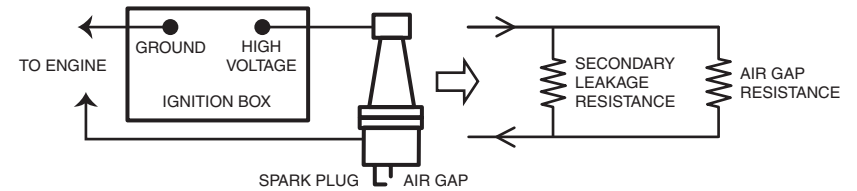
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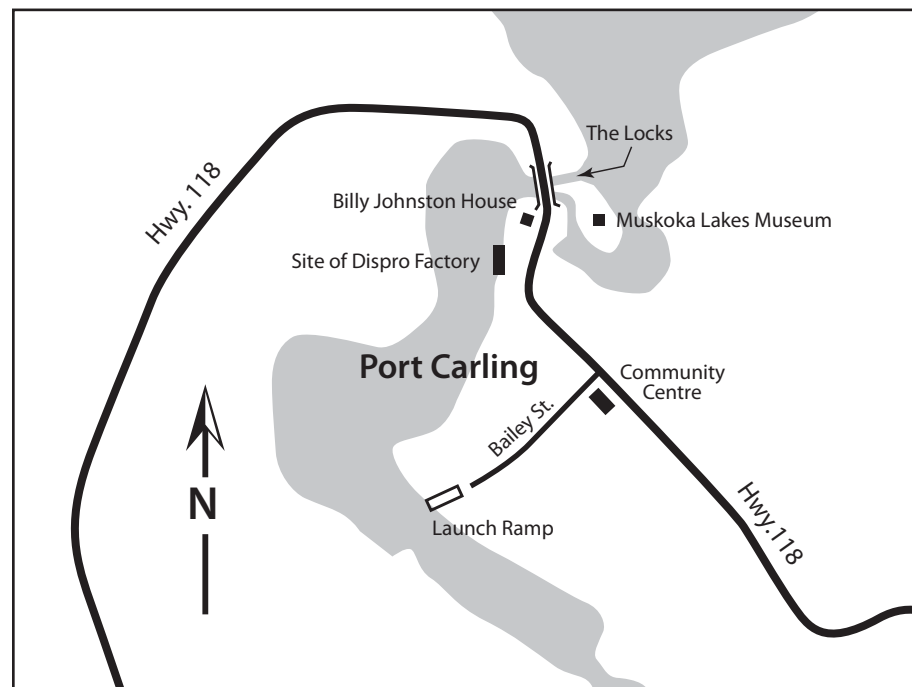
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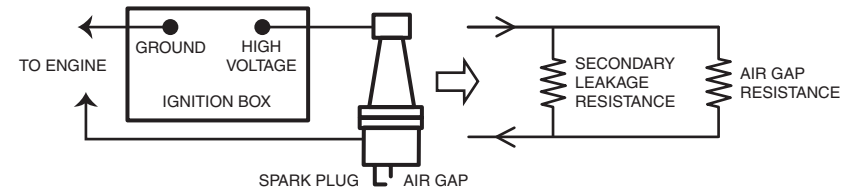
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