

ISSUE 60

THE DEVICE

JUNE 2023

DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



AGM 2023

For latest news and updates
please regularly visit
our website at

www.disproboats.ca

The Coldwater Grill House was the venue for the first in-person Annual General Meeting to be held since 2019. Attendees enjoyed the camaraderie and a delicious lunch. Here Ian Gibson, the incoming president, is presented with the official badge of office, 'The Corroded Connection', by outgoing co-presidents Ian Dickson and Robert Clipsham.



President's Letter • June 2023

I would like to begin with a salute to the two outgoing presidents – Robert Clipsham and Ian Dickson. Not only did they double up in 2022-23, but they doubled down with each already having served a prior term as head of the DOA executive. With such exemplary dedication and commitment to our Association, it is no wonder that we are now entering our 44th year as an organization.

2022-23 has been a brilliant success as members re-committed themselves to a full slate of activities following two years of COVID related setbacks. Led by co-president Robert Clipsham's clarion call that it was time "to get the boats back in the water", we are hitting 2023-24 at full stride. Please keep abreast of the plans this year for 3 summer UUMMTs, a September Regatta and an October Workshop through the forthcoming issues of the Device, or alternatively, through the DOA website (www.disproboats.ca).

Nor should we forget the non-elected stalwarts of our Association's executive, who year-in and year-out give their time and energy to make things proceed smoothly. Namely, Sheila Burk (Treasurer); Barb Dickson (Membership Secretary); Paul Jenner (Device/Trader); Gary Campaigne (Website) and now Jim Butler (permanent Recording Secretary). AND, there are truly many, many others who support the organization, through volunteering for committee assignments. We are blessed and thank you!

In conclusion, I would like to welcome Bill Otton back to the executive. We are delighted when Bill made himself available to complete our 2023-24 executive at our recent April Annual General Meeting. Thank you, Bill!

And now members, 'To THE BOATS'

Ian Gibso

West Parry Sound Health Care (WPSHC) Foundation Fund Raiser

The WPSHC Foundation are raising funds for much needed new equipment through auctioning rides in antique wooden boats. Here's a great opportunity to showcase your Dispro and help a local community with a bonus of possibly attracting new potential DOA members.

You pick the time, date and place, possibly a UUMMT, for a boat tour of a minimum of 1 hour that works for you, provide this info along with a picture of your boat and it will be uploaded to the WPSHC website for bidders to choose from.

As a thank you there will be an appreciation Cocktail Party on August 13th on Lake Joseph.

If you are interested in investing some of your time for a very worthwhile cause and would like full details, please contact:

Mike McGarrell at 647-232-5152 or mikedavidmccgarrell@gmail.com

Thank you.



Name Change

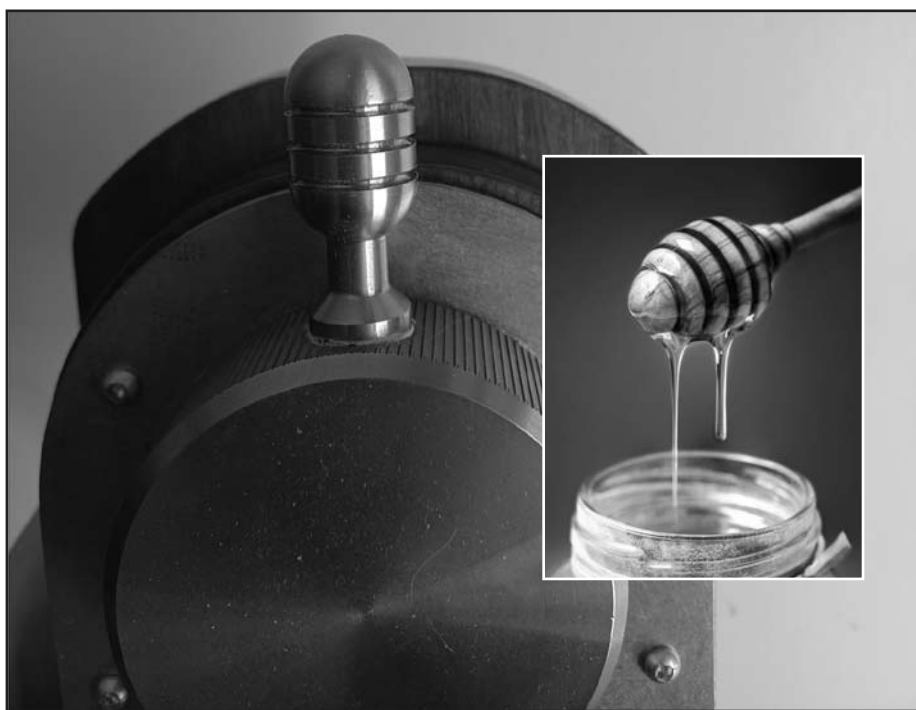
After much thought and consternation, my husband and I are changing the name of Birch Barque to Honey Dip.

I just had a quick read through the 2022 Membership Directory and did not see any others so named, so I am hoping that all will find it agreeable.

A quick reason behind our thinking here. First, our last name is Bird (well mine is Thomas Bird or T-Bird, but that's beside the point) and my grandfather's last name was Birch. We had toyed with Bird's Birch Barque, but it's too long for such a wee boat. Then we thought we could just call it B.B.B. but didn't want to be associated with the Better Business Bureau.

At one point I thought of "In Hairy Dance" (a nod to Charlie Farquarson and what he might call an inheritance) but that went over like a lead balloon with my family. Then I looked at the power controls of our new electric yacht motor we put in. Kinda looked like a honey dipper. So... Honey Dip it is, and truly it fits. The boat was mostly based out of Honey Harbour for many, many years. It had been traded for something else at Birch Marine on South Bay Rd. in the 70's if my memory of my uncle's telling is correct. And then it eventually got restored. When I asked what was under that boat mold along the side of the hill next to Le Château Bouleau, as the 4-storey red roofed building was called until it sold in 2021, it was a Dippy, so Honey Dip.

Charity Thomas Bird



DOA Annual General Meeting 2023

April 23, 1:00pm, Coldwater Grill House

Robert Clipsham, Chair

Ian Dickson, Co-President

Jim Butler, Recording Secretary

Sheila Burk, Treasurer (regrets)

Gary Campaigne, Web Site Coordinator

Ian Gibson, Vice-President

Karen Boyer, Past President

Barb Dickson, Membership Secretary

Paul Jenner, Newsletter & Trader Editor

- **Call to Order and Welcome**

- **Approval of Agenda**

The 2023 AGM Agenda was presented and approved

Moved: Rhonda Turner Seconded: Jim Butler Motion carried

- **Approval of the DOA April 24, 2022 AGM Minutes**

The minutes from the April 24th, 2022 AGM were approved

Moved: Ian Gibson Seconded: Gary Campaigne Motion carried

- **Financial Report**

Financial Report presented by Karen Boyer on behalf of Sheila Burk, Treasurer

The Financial Report was presented and approved

Moved: Sandra Turnbull Seconded: John Storey Motion carried

- **Membership Report**

Membership report was presented by Barb Dickson

For the 2023 Membership, 204 payments have been received to date

8 new members have joined this year

Membership remains at approximately 220

- **Device/Trader Report**

Report presented by Paul Jenner

4 Devices scheduled for this year (up from 3 through the Covid years)

Thanks to Karen Boyer and Mary Storey for their continued contributions of articles for the Device

- **Website Report**

Report presented by Gary Campaigne

- **Historian Report**

No report as Paul Dodington did not attend the meeting

- **Archives Report**

Report presented by Mary Storey

- **2023 Events**

UUMMTs

June 17th and 18th – Trout Lake, North Bay.

Options to boat on both Saturday and Sunday (10 – 12). Details as published in the Device. Jenn Matthews organizing.

July 15th – Lake Chemong , Peterborough Area

August 21st – Lake Joseph / Little Lake Joe, Muskoka

Joe Fossey proposed that Baysville (rained out in 2022) would be a good spot to go to again. Good parking, good launch ramp, good boating.



Workshops

Presented by John Storey

October 21st, Coldwater Legion. John Storey is leading the committee to organize the workshop

ACBS Boat Show Committee

Presented by Jim Butler, DOA will have a display at the July 8th ACBS show in Gravenhurst

• Regattas

Regatta Research Committee, presented by Karen Boyer and Mary Storey
Discussed planning criteria and shrinking number of locations that meet all the requirements

2023 Regatta

Presented by Ian Gibson

September 8-10, 2023 - Glen House near Gananoque.

Package includes 2 nights, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, wine & cheese

Double room \$511 per person, single occupancy \$677

Package available without accommodation

Target number of rooms 35 (no minimum room number)

Deposit on booking \$200 per person – balance owing 30 days out

Planning 2 half day cruises with lunch at the Glen House on Saturday

• Nomination of 2023/24 Executive

Slate of Officers

- President: Ian Gibson
- Vice President: Jim Butler
- Director: Bill Otton
- Past Presidents: Robert Clipsham & Ian Dickson
- Treasurer: Sheila Burk
- Membership Secretary: Barb Dickson
- Newsletter Editor: Paul Jenner
- Website Coordinator: Gary Campaigne
- Recording Secretary: Jim Butler

Motion that the 2023/24 Executive be accepted as presented.

Moved: Sandra Turnbull Seconded: Art Clarke Motion carried

• Mike McGarrell presented an opportunity to assist in fund raising for the West Parry Sound Health Centre who are conducting an auction for people to bid on a ride in an antique boat and are looking for 25 boats

Non-profit – proceeds will go towards buying new equipment

Looking for volunteer boats and captains to offer rides for auction to raise funds

Location and date option by the captain. Please contact Mike McGarrell if interested in participating

• Presentation to incoming President

Ian and Robert made the presentation of the “Corroded Connection” and President’s gavel to Ian Gibson

• Presentation to outgoing President(s)

Ian Gibson made a presentation to Ian Dickson and Robert Clipsham

• Adjournment Motion that the 2023 DOA AGM be adjourned.

Moved: Robert Clipsham Motion carried

Jim Butler



Beached Dispros at Kawagama Lake UUMMT, August 2002





Melba Smith

Melba Smith: as of March 12th, a centurion whose original boat is now also 100+ years old. And both of them still in working condition!

We spent a delightful afternoon, reminiscing with Melba at The Manor in Gravenhurst. She recalls that Jim purchased their boat in spite of the fact that it needed extensive work – a 1922 D.P. Boat Co. Waterford. They used it primarily on Lake Couchiching – which means lake of winds - where they still have a family cottage. She remembers more than one excursion when the motor stopped and they had to paddle from Orillia back to the cottage. They joined the Misery Tours only for day cruises and recall having to be towed. They trailled to take part in all the early Regattas.



Gravenhurst mayor Heidi Lorenz presented Melba Smith with a plaque recognizing her 100th birthday.



Melba and Mary

She shared that she gets sea sick having a bath, but acknowledged that it takes the two of you and went even when she didn't particularly enjoy the outing.

Club executive meetings were held in members' homes, usually at Joe and Irene Fossey's and she remembers Irene's tasty scones. There was often a social time after an event hosted by the Fosseys. Women of the club occasionally got together for lunch. Perhaps that was the impetus for the fundraising cookbook, which contains a couple of Melba's recipes.

Melba recalls that everyone got along. This sense of camaraderie that our founding members cultivated has certainly prevailed and flourishes still. Her assessment is that the club is pretty successful for what it has been. She feels the younger generation is not interested in old wooden boats that go slow, leaving an uncertain future.

Melba's husband Jim, along with Joe Fossey chaired the inaugural meeting of the Dispro Owners Association in April 1979 and Jim continued as the secretary/treasurer. After Jim's passing in 2000, their boat was sold and is now enjoyed by Sylvia Sumner and Rudi Burgen.

Mary Storey & Karen Boyer

Brown Sugar Scones

Recipe by Irene Fossey

3 cups all purpose flour	1 cup raisins	1 cup brown sugar
2 tps baking powder	1 cup milk	1 cup butter

In a bowl mix flour, baking powder and brown sugar. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. Mix in raisins. Add milk and stir until sticky dough forms. On a floured surface and with a floured rolling pin, roll dough into a circle approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. With a sharp knife, cut into 6 or 8 pieces. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in 350 F oven until golden brown – approximately 20 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

From: The Greatest Little Cookbook: A Boatload of Recipes, page 95.

Murph's L'il Ship

As Spring 2000 was starting to bloom and my Sweetie, the late Gord Sumner, was retiring from his day job, we engaged the late Patrick Wren to find us a Dippy. Patrick put us in touch with Melba Smith who was interested in divesting herself of some of her late husband, Jim Smith's stuff, one item being a 1922 Scout Model Disappearing Propeller Boat. It turned out there was another couple interested in the same Dippy and after a few phone calls and a small 'bidding' war, Melba declared, "I promised this boat to Sylvia and Gord Sumner, and I stand by my word!" The deed was done. We met with Melba at her cottage on Lake Simcoe and became the proud owners of a Dippy! I'm not sure if we were the winners!!!!

The next task was to give our new acquisition a name. Since our youngest daughter, Murph (Meredith) Sumner was graduating from the University of Guelph, I got the brain wave to christen the boat "Murph's Li'l Ship" and when we were finished with her, she would become Murph's. What 21-year-old graduate wouldn't want a Dippy as a graduating gift?

In the June of 2001, Gord was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer but being the trooper he was, he was determined to enjoy this new acquisition. With Dennis Howchin's help we were able to get the Dippy running and entered her in the ACBS Boat Show, Gravenhurst in July 2001. She showed well and was the only Dippy in the show that year! We should have had her judged. The end would come far too soon as Gord passed away early April 2002.

The years passed and the Dippy sat idle in our newly constructed boat house on Lake



Muskoka along with several other boats which had been the love of Gord's life, behind me and the kids of course!

After years of reconstructing a new life through healthy grieving and hard work, an old high school flame of mine came into our lives, Rudi Burgen. Rudi was interested in the boats, got his boating license and we reactivated our membership in the Dispro Club. Our first outing was to attend the regatta at the CNIB being held on Lake Joseph that year. I swear when the boat was loaded onto the trailer at Hanna Park, she was working. When we offloaded her at the Regatta site, there was not even a glimmer of life! How very humbling. Many expert eyes peered under the box, but she would not cooperate. We were fortunate that Mary and John Storey invited us to share space in their Dippy for the outings so Rudi and I weren't left sitting on the shore.



One cannot say that Dippy ownership is for the faint of heart! We have enjoyed sitting on top of a rock in Lake Rosseau and being rescued by Jim Butler. Another time, she needed attention and the captain went under the hood and the first mate nearly wiped out Ann and Tom Verth! This was on Georgian Bay. There are many times we have enjoyed an uneventful ride and even had the privilege of being towed!!!! We will not admit defeat and the Dippy Doctor, Paul Dodington comes to our rescue often and after his work, we always hear the Putt Putt again! What a beautiful sound! However, were there a prize for being “under tow” the most, Murph’s Li’l Ship would most certainly win.

Murph’s Li’l Ship has been fully restored by Mike Windsor in the winter of 2017/2018 and gleams when she’s had a proper bath so even if we wanted to, we can’t use her for firewood! She has been invited to the MLA Show in Port Carling twice. Rudi and I are pretty proud of that fact and my Sweetie would be pleased as well! He would think it was ok to have spent the \$\$\$ on Mike’s refurbishment of the vessel. Gord was an Accountant being groomed for the Presidency of the ACBS when he was diagnosed and our lives changed direction drastically.

Most importantly, our lives have been enriched by the folks we’ve met through our Dippy adventures and membership in the Dispro Club. We are hoping to make the first UUMMT of 2023 in North Bay as long as Rudi’s hernia surgery goes well. See you there!

Sylvia Sumner

Upcoming Events in 2023

We remind members that UUMMTs (Unofficial Unorganized Mini Misery Tours) are unorganized and unauthorized and as such the DOA leadership is not in any way responsible for any misadventure that might accidentally occur during any such event. These “mini tours” are fun and we look forward to them each year, but please exercise caution and be safe.

For first timers, come prepared for all possible weather and lake conditions. Bring your own lunch, water and supplies to be self sufficient. Your fellow Dispro boaters will be happy to guide and assist you.

Sat. June 17 - Sun. June 18 – UUMMT 49 – Trout Lake, North Bay

Accommodations: My suggestion for a hotel is the Ramada Inn Pinewood Park. This has always been the place to go in North Bay, but I will say it’s now a little tired and not quite what it used to be. Having said that, given the logistics of having boats on trailers for the night, this seems to be the best bet. Other hotels in town just don’t have the parking space, or seem a bit vulnerable to leave the boats unattended for the night.

www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/north-bay-ontario/ramada-pinewood-park-resort-north-bay/overview

Day 1: Saturday, June 17

Tour of Trout Lake. Departure time 10:30am.

Boat Launch is at the east end of the lake, at 1025 MacPherson Drive, Corbeil, Ontario. Port-a-John, lots of parking. Picnic lunch at Armstrong Beach, North Bay

Group Dinner on June 17 will be at the Beef n’ Brand, and it is a quick jaunt across the street from the Ramada Inn.

Day 2: Sunday June 18

Voyageur route Mattawa River to Turtle Lake. Departure 10am, return 12-ish

Chip truck at Corbeil Corners on the way home is recommended for a bite to eat before heading home.



I have a few people interested in having a ride in a boat. If you can take a passenger, please let me know.

Please RSVP to jennmatthews226@yahoo.ca or text 705-477-4906 if you plan to attend a group dinner, and I will make reservations. We can discuss a specific time for dinner when we meet up for the tour.

Sat. July 8 – ACBS Boat Show – Muskoka Wharf, Gravenhurst

Sat. July 15 – UUMMT 50 – Lake Chemong – Ian Dickson/Terry Philpot

Here is a brief description of our place and a map for directions.

The address is: 715 Alexander Drive, Ennismore, ON. K0L 1T0

Ennismore is located approximately 10 km north of Peterborough on the west side of Chemong Lake. The lake is 10 miles in length and connected to the Trent system. The nearest lock is at Buckhorn which is about 22 miles by water. (Seems like a long run!) The property is 1-1/2 acres and will accommodate both docking and parking a dozen vehicles and trailers. There is a washroom available and accessible from the outside and also from inside the building. The old dance hall will be open. I have a collection of about 20 small wooden boats inside and people and food can be sheltered inside in case of rain. We have lots of tables and about 14 chairs. Those who are looking for overnight (or weekend) accommodation in this area should know that they are welcome to leave their boats and trailers on our property. They won't be left unattended as we live on the premises and the property is fenced and gated.

No need to bring lawn chairs, we have enough.

A few places to stay:

The Village Inn

39 Queen St., Lakefield ON

1 800 827-5678

approx. 10 minute drive from Ennismore

Viamede Resort on Stoney Lake

595 Mt. Julian Viamede Rd.

Woodview ON.

1 800 461-1946

approx. 35 minute drive from Ennismore

Westwind Inn

37 Fire Route 21,

Gallery on the Lake Rd.

Trent Lakes ON (Buckhorn Lake)

705 657-8095

approx. 30 minutes drive from Ennismore

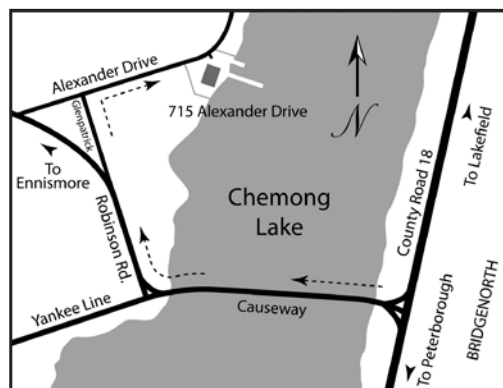
The Holiday Inn

150 George St. N.

Peterborough ON.

1 877 660-8550

approx 20 minutes drive from Ennismore



A few places of interest, perhaps for the ladies:

The Barn at Fowlers Corners.

This is a large antique/flea market venue with a Craftworks store on the second level. Craftworks has a little bit of everything...furniture, clothing, giftware, some locally made items etc. 10 minutes from our house.

The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, for those who haven't made it there yet, is fantastic!

continued . . .

Mon. August 21 – UUMMT 51 – Lake Joseph / Little Lake Joe, Muskoka

Hosts: David & Gwynneth Simpson

(east side of Lake Joseph, about half way up across from Chief's Island)

Start time: 10:00am Launch location still to be determined at time of printing.

Please check website for updates.

Sept. 8-10 – Annual Regatta – Glen House, Thousand Islands

We return to the welcoming Glen House Resort in the heart of the Thousand Islands on the historic and picturesque St. Lawrence River.

Glen House reservation information and the DOA registration form have been mailed to all members. Book early to avoid disappointment. Be sure to visit the DOA website at: disproboats.ca for the latest information or updates.

Sat. October 21 – Fall Workshop – Coldwater Legion

2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater, Ontario

John Storey is organizing this event so please contact John with offers to help out and also with suggestions of possible topics to cover and/or speakers of interest. Mark this date on your calendar.

Details will follow in upcoming issues of the Device and also on our website.

mstorey@cogeco.ca



When They're Gone, They're Gone!

This is your last chance to get a replacement or spare Universal Joint for your Dispro.

Act now as there are only 3 left!

Contact Sheila Burk at:

burkbshe@csolve.net

Cell - 705 715-1897

Home - 705-835-6489

A Call for Photos

Gary Campaigne, the DOA webmaster is looking for photos for our website. If you have any photos of past DOA events, UUMMTs or regattas that you wish to contribute to making our website more entertaining and informative, please email Gary at:

gary.campaigne@sympatico.ca



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