

ISSUE 24

THE DEVICE

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DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

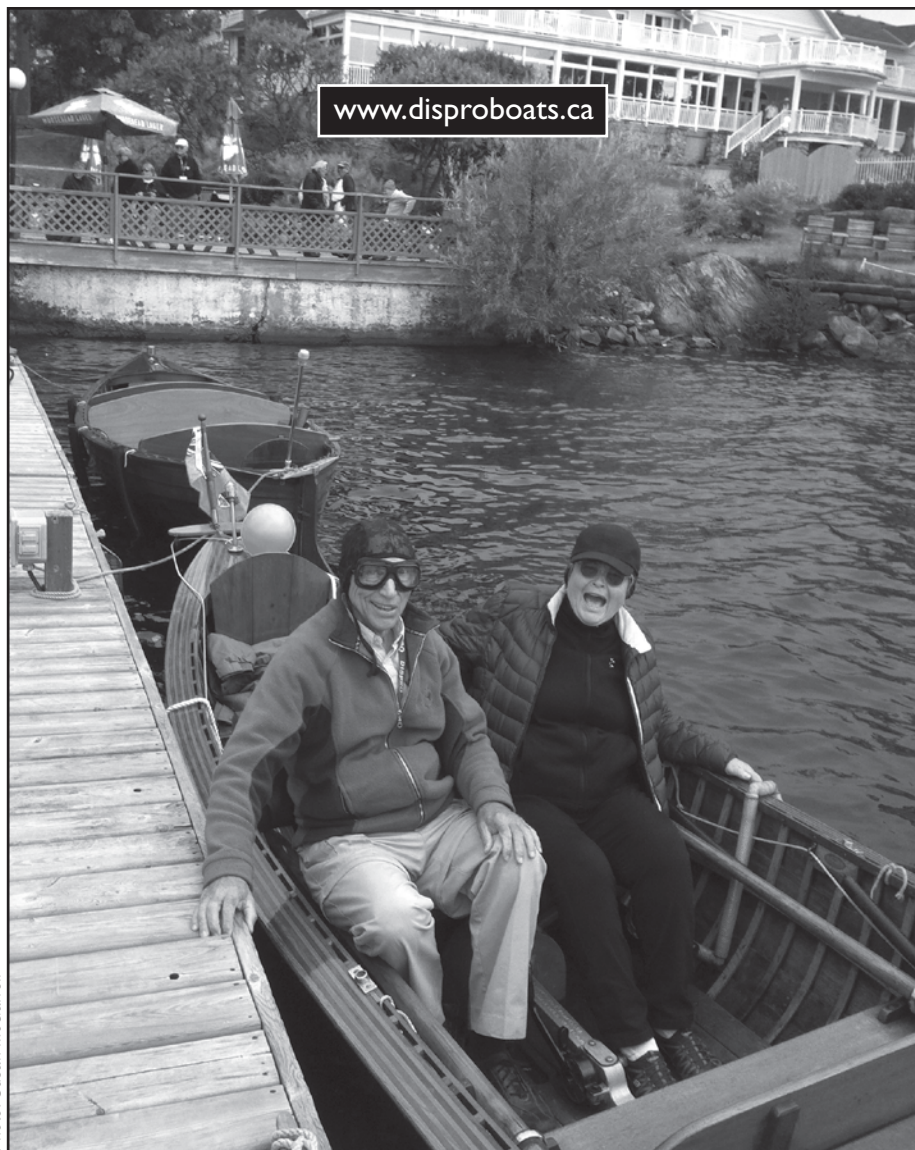


Photo: Susan McGarrell

Dennis and Nancy Howchin really got into the spirit of the Dispro race re-enactment, originally scheduled to take place in Buffalo, but run as an added highlight of the regatta on Stoney Lake.



President's Letter • October 2013

As I write this letter, the seasons are changing from Summer to Fall and I am reminded how short but thoroughly enjoyable the Dippy season really is.

Three well attended UUMMTs at Lake Nipissing, Bay of Quinte and the Severn River gave the attendees the opportunity as a group to explore more areas of our great waterways not normally enjoyed on an individual basis. Our boat would not start for the Severn River tour but we were invited to ride with Eric and Cynthia Luks and it was a sunny, enjoyable outing.

For 2014, Past President Robert Clipsham has arranged the UUMMTs which are June 21-22 on the Pickerel River, July 19 on the Muskoka River and August 16 on Sparrow Lake, so please mark these dates on your calendars. The June tour requires accommodation and the details will be posted on the website in January.

This year Ian Dickson and the Centennial Committee are working hard to prepare a memorable year in 2015 for the members and as this event draws closer we anticipate a full event calendar of celebrations.

Also this year, our new website, www.disproboats.ca was developed to have a more informative and useful resource available to members and Dispro enthusiasts in general. The site will be a continuous work in progress as we populate the information for all.

The 35th DOA Regatta was held September 13-15 at Viamede, on beautiful Stoney Lake. Tours on both days were arranged by Prior Smith and members of the Trent Severn Antique Boat Club who not only kept all of us on the straight and narrow, well almost all, but were poised to help if one of our boats decided it was time to take a rest.

The final officially planned event for this boating year is the Fall Workshop, on November 2 at Grace and Speed in Gravenhurst. We have planned a full slate of presenters to review areas to help Dispro owners operate the boats and present ideas on how to keep them looking as good as they run. The ladies have also organized a card making workshop, with limited space, so a quick receipt of the registration form for this new event will be on a first come, first served basis. The registration form for both of these events is enclosed in this issue of The Device.

Although this is the last scheduled event of 2013, I would hope we are all able to get out in our Dispro boats a few more times in warm, sunny fall weather to wonder at the colour display that Mother Nature prepares for us at this time of the year.

As we prepare to put our boats away for the winter, recollect all the fun we had this year with friends old and new and the anticipation for a new boating season ahead.

Safe travels to you all.

Mike McGarrell

Shuffle Off To Buffalo: The Good and the Bad

The good news story is that 8 Dispros were in attendance at the Buffalo Launch Club site attending the Niagara Frontier ACBS Boat Show on the weekend of September 6-8. The variety of Dispros was exceptional from a 1921 Disappearing Propeller Boat Co, to a Tonawanda and a couple of Greavettes. More good news is that our little boats

got a great deal of attention and our club flag flew proudly. The organizers created a wonderful old trophy to re-enact the 1922 race and even a special oar with an inscription for the slowest boat.

The bad news is that the actual race was cancelled due to rain. As the skies opened up just after lunch, the 3 pm starter's gun seemed unlikely. After a couple of hours of heavy rain, the disappointed DOA members finally made the call to postpone. The race was re-scheduled to take place at the 2013 Regatta on Stoney Lake.

Mary Storey

Rules for The Great Dippy Race Buffalo Launch Club 2013

- 1) Two people in each boat.
- 2) Course starting at Buffalo Launch Club with drop of flag and horn blast.
- 3) Each boat to have pennant and pole with designated number to be flown at all times for spotters to determine position in race.
- 4) Course as shown in 1912 race course program from BLC up river and around Motorboat island and back to BLC.
- 5) Single cylinder boats to circle island once and two cylinder boats to circle island twice.
- 6) Race to start approximately 3PM.
- 7) Flying start acceptable as long as boats do not cross starting line ahead of starting horn. In event they do they have to circle around and cross starting line again.
- 8) In case of a tie, race to be determined by skipper who gives judge the best bottle of scotch.

Photo: Mary Storey



Heavy rain kept the Dispro racers in their berths and postponed the re-enactment event.

The Severn River



Photo: Gary Campaigne

On a perfect weather day, August 17th, a dozen Dispros ventured 13 kilometres down a river and 13 kilometres back.

The river was the Severn, with a heavily forested shoreline in an area pierced by rocky granite outcrops of the Canadian Shield. This well marked route took us through constantly changing vistas with everything from blue water bays, narrow passages, to manmade cuts and small islands.

We shared the river with large cruisers, wake boarders, canoeists and kayakers and even a few large wooden boats. At times our little Dispros looked mighty tiny among the large craft on this section of this important waterway.

We travelled from the Big Chute marine railway to the Swift Rapids dam. This full day of cruising included a side trip to Tea Lake, lunch at an A-frame cabin and getting lost in Lost Channel. The 'dippyng' doesn't get much better.

Dinner at a local restaurant completed the day. Many thanks to Gary and Rachel Campaigne for organizing this great event.

Mary Storey

35th Annual Regatta

Viamede Resort • Stoney Lake • Sept. 13-15, 2013

It has been 21 years since the Dispro Owners Association has held their regatta at Viamede Resort on Stoney Lake in the Kawarthas. The 35th regatta was held there the weekend of September 13-15, 2013. Viamede Resort has seen many changes and improvements including larger dock facilities for our boats. Members were assured that all the rocks on Stoney Lake were still in the same place just to make all those who returned feel more comfortable.

Friday night's dinner was followed by an informative and humorous presentation titled "Can I Canoe You Up The River? Explorations in Paddling Romance". John Summers, General Manager of the Canadian Canoe Museum, Peterborough was the presenter and informed the audience that this is the research behind a future exhibit at this famous museum.

Saturday brought bright sunshine, blue skies and wonderful boating. Lead by members of the Trent Severn Boat Club, the thirty one boats made their way to various locations on Stoney and Clear Lakes. The tour took us to Burleigh Falls and past glass homes before a visit to the St. Peter's on-the-Rock Church. Being warned by the leaders that this lake gets its name from the dangerous rocks, the boats proceeded in single file through the buoys and rocks of Hell's Gate. The entire group was entertained at the home of Alana and Prior Smith where lunch was served in a nautical setting on their lawn. The afternoon found the 'little boats' returning to the lodge via Juniper Island where the pavilion displays pictures of the steamers that once plied these waters.



Photo: Mary Storey

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Photo: Mary Storey

Lunch, served up in nautical style, was hosted by Alana and Prior Smith at their home on Clear Lake.

Vice president Eric Luks and his wife Cynthia provided a classy wine and cheese party. Dinner was a pig roast. During the evening we intently listened to Prior Smith explain how the Peterborough area of Ontario produced the most wooden boats in Canada. The Peterborough and Lakefield boat companies lead this manufacturing from the mid 1800s until 1960s with numerous models and sizes of boats.

Sunday found the group out on the lake again, with guidance from Prior Smith, in his Lakefield outboard; everyone avoided the rocks on the east part of the lake called Stoney Lake. The culminating activity was 'The Race' rescheduled from Buffalo a week earlier. Six boats took part with lots of joking and cheering as the boats went around Hurricane Island and a buoy with Gary and Rachel Campaigne in *Crumpet* finishing first and receiving the B. Phillips Trophy. Nancy and Dennis Howchin in *Shore Runner* also received a trophy, in the form of an oar, for having the slowest boat.

As usual, awards were the theme of the Sunday lunch. Gary and Rachel Campaigne received the Hard Luck Award for both falling in the water at the June UUMMT. Happy Thomson presented a can of Epifanes varnish to people who had created humorous and notable events over the weekend. The traditional plaques were presented to each boat in attendance for both days.

Thanks to President Mike McGarrell and Susan for organizing and those who assisted in making this another fun and eventful Regatta.

Mary Storey



Photo: Gary Campaigne

The Race

Lots of action in the starter's boat as the racers await the drop of the flag and the blast of the horn to set them on their way.



Photos: Mary Storey



The trophy for the fastest Dispro was presented to Gary and Rachel Campaigne in their speedy boat 'Crumpet'.

Workshops — The Final Events for 2013

November 2 – Every Other Year Fall Workshop
Grace & Speed, Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre
10:00 am

The final DOA event for 2013 is the fall workshop. This very informative event will cover such topics as: selecting varnishes and finishes, magneto operation and maintenance, propellers and more. The workshops are always well attended so be sure to register now with the enclosed Registration Form.

This year, the ladies will have their own agenda as follows:

DOA Workshop – Cardmaking
Grace & Speed, Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre
10:00 am

Attendance will be by **ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY** and limited to 18 people. A registration fee of \$20 to be paid with the enclosed registration form

Attendees will learn some card-making techniques and make at least **SIX** hand-made and unique cards plus hand stamped gift tags. Snacks and beverages will be included. Lunch has been reserved at the Tea House on the Wharf at each individual's expense. The workshop will reconvene after lunch.

*** Please note: Registration Form is two sided with forms for both workshops.**

For the Archives: A Request

Members Jim Onions and Mary Storey have noted that the following items are not included in the Dispro Archives, housed at Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre, Gravenhurst.

Regatta Plaques from: 1979, 1987, 1993, 1997, 2001, 2003 and 2007.

Regatta Group Photos: 1993, 1996, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005

If anyone would like to donate these items to the archives, please call Mary Storey at 705-684-9560.

Race Extras



The trophy for the slowest Dispro . . .

. . . and the trophy for the fastest Dispro.



Photos: Mary Storey

There's nothing in the rules that say you can't use a little manual assistance, as Mike Windsor tries to get a little more speed during the Dispro race.

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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