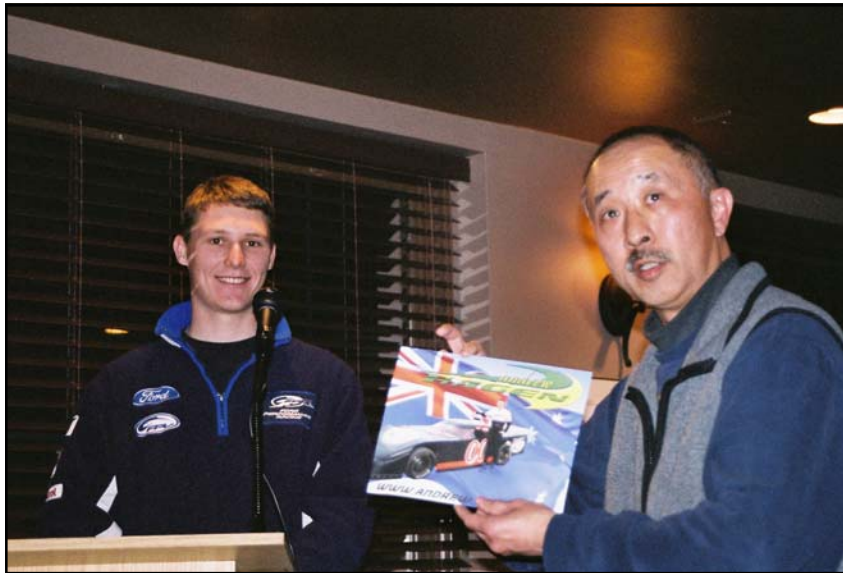


April 2010



Thanks to Ray Dong for the great entertainment portion of the March meeting.

Ray invited racer *Andrew Hagen* to be our speaker for the evening.

Australian driver Andrew Hagen is currently living in the Tri-County area and pursuing a career as a stock car driver. He has been racing at Toledo speedway in the Late Model series and in October 2009 had the opportunity to get his first laps in a NASCAR Nationwide Series car.

Brian Keselowski, brother of Brad Keselowski who Hagen competed for in the Super Late Model series in 2009, was preparing his cars to race at Memphis on the weekend. After working on both cars throughout the day, Brian stepped out of the car to let Hagen run the final session in the 92 car. The test took place at Toledo Speedway in Ohio, a familiar location to the young Australian after almost winning a Gold Cup round there earlier in the year.

Follow Andrew's progress at <http://www.andrew-hagen.com>



MEETING MINUTES

Marine Prop Riders – General Meeting – March 3rd 2010 – Meeting Minutes

Meeting at Crash Landing called to order by Eli Whitney at 7:45 pm.

Moment of silence for Mrs. Josephine Vollmer, mother of Joanne Vollmer and Gloria Urbin of APBA Headquarters.

Announcements: Congratulations to Lori Weber for climbing the RenCen stairways for an American Lung Association charity function, raising significant cash for the charity. Congratulations to Jennifer Grigg, 2009 APBA Inboard National Scorer of the Year, as she received her award at the recent APBA Region 6 Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet.

Minutes – January 2010 minutes - print copies are at meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as printed, Royce Richards; second, John Grigg; Passed. February 2010 minutes – Ray Dong asked to add Bill Rands talk as the entertainment at the February meeting. With the addition, motion to approve, Ray Dong; second, Rich Falcinelli; passed.

Treasurers Report – Mario Maraldo: expenses \$477 for promo cards, \$185.63 for newsletter; balance of \$11,868.30. Motion to accept, Todd McQuade; second, Brian Reed. Passed.

Membership Report – Cadi Reiss: 61, includes 4 obtained at Region meeting.

Website – Brian Reed: Reworking website for ease of use, another 20 hours to complete, worked about 70 hours to date.

Entertainment: Ray Dong – Andrew Hagen, Australian stock car racer, now holds record of longest distance traveled to attend MPR meeting! Well, from his origins. He is racing a local super late model stock car circuit: Toledo Speedway (Ohio), Auto City and Dixie Speedways (Flint, Mich.) and Owosso Speedway (Mich.)

Race Reports – Dayton Testing – drivers school and testing; May 22-23, 2010.

Walled Lake – June 13-14, 2010; per Todd McQuade, on track.

Gold Cup – Finances still being worked.

Quake – July 17-18, 2010; On track; new parking scheme for racers being developed. Have submitted bid for 2010 Eastern Divisionals to IRC.

Stony Creek – 2010 postponed to 2011. Still working on service club backing.

Alum Creek – May vintage / test postponed to 2011, race is on for September 25-26, 2010.

IRC news: Conference call soon to decide bids, GNH/NM issue, flat bottom issue

Region 6 News: Spring meeting and awards banquet 27-28Feb2010 at Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg, Ohio successful, banquet fed 70, awards 150 attended. Mach Series awards were handed out and Region 6 hi-points Champions honored, among others. New race for 5L only at Marietta, Ohio with APR Superleague (tunnel boats) July 10-11, 2010.

Old Business – 1. Autorama – Eric Pomber reported 26,27,28 Feb2010, same weekend as Region 6 meeting. Two boats were displayed, Ed Barko's S82 and John Grigg's GNH 52 Wannabe, thank you from the club. Successful display weekend. Flyers authorized last meeting were made available for Autorama, thank you Mary Anne Wilson. Paul Poledink led a varied group of members who volunteered time; besides anybody noted above, some include Tina and Jim Wilson, Racer Bob, and too many to list here.

2. Banquet – Mario requested authorization to place a money deposit for a November 13, 2010 date at the hotel; motion to authorize \$500 made by Royce Richards, second Andy Guaresimo; passed.

3. Andy Guaresimo's team will conduct safety cell testing March 27 and April 17 at EDHS (9 and Gratiot) 11:30 - 1:30. These are Saturday's.

New Business – 1. Jim Sechler discussed bylaw change for Region 6 to include Region 7 inboard for Region HiPoint Championships, not in favor. Vote will take place at Region 6 Fall meeting. 2. Todd McQuade is organizing a display at the Rock Prudential Center in Novi's Boat Show, mid March. Discussion. 3. Tim Huston is home, starting chemo next week.

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 PM by Todd McQuade seconded by Ray Dong.

50-50 winner: Jim Gannon; other drawing, Jim Sechler.

Submitted for Tony Kallio

THE NEXT MEETING IS April 7th!

7:30 p.m.

— *Crash Landing, on Dequindre between 11 Mile and I-696 in Warren* —

Take I-696 to Dequindre, then go North on Dequindre a short distance

From the North or South: I-75 to 696 East to Dequindre, then left/North on Dequindre a short distance

26620 Dequindre Road — Warren, MI 48091 — 586.751.4444

Dayton Testing - Driving School

The dates for Dayton Testing are May 22 & 23! Again the Driving School will be held at the same time, beginning with safety cell dunk tests Friday evening.

Gold Cup Dates - Moved back to July

The Gold Cup has been moved back to the dates of July 9, 10 & 11 due to city issues with the date.

Upcoming Events Schedule

Race dates and upcoming schedule:

Alum Creek OH - <i>Vintage and inboard testing</i>	(postponed to 2011)
Dayton OH - <i>APBA Driving School</i>	May 22 & 23 2010
Walled Lake MI - <i>Walled Lake Thunder</i>	June 12 & 13, 2010
Detroit MI - <i>APBA Gold Cup</i>	July 9, 10 & 11, 2010
Waterford MI - <i>Quake On The Lake</i>	July 17 & 18, 2010
Cambridge MD - <i>APBA Inboard Nat's & World's</i>	July 22 - 25, 2010
Hampton VA -	August 13, 14 & 15, 2010
Celina OH - <i>Ohio Governor's Cup</i>	August 28 & 29, 2010
Wheeling WV - <i>Vintage</i>	September 3, 4 & 5, 2010
Stony Creek MI -	(postponed to 2011)
Hillsboro OH - <i>Rocky Fork State Park</i>	September 18 & 19, 2010
Alum Creek OH - <i>(race)</i>	September 25 & 26, 2010
Perrysburg OH - <i>Fall meeting - Region 6</i>	October 23 & 24, 2010
MPR 2010 Awards Banquet	November 13, 2010
Detroit MI - 2011 APBA Annual Meeting	January 26-29, 2011



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

March has been a somewhat variable month this year. Our weather has been rather springlike, without snow to date, at least here in the Detroit area. But even within that, the temps have been up and down, so far as to make the average look OK, but what mood swings. Warm, cold, warm, cold. Add some wetness, too. And some breezes. But, weather changes are normal.

Our boat racing activity is seeing its share of changes:

The controversial IRC adopted rule change for NM/GNH was withdrawn, leaving both classes intact and separate. More below.

The Gold Cup changed race dates back to July 9-10-11, 2010, due to city budgetary constraints. I am sure we'll hear more at the next MPR meeting.

Pit pass sales expectations at races will find some adjustments needed, as a rule across all APBA Racing categories requires closed toe footwear for anyone entering an area requiring signing of the waiver sheet. Races need to pay attention here.

2010 Eastern Divisionals awarded to Syracuse and Hampton, within the rebid process used by the IRC.

2010 North American Championships for Y,A,NM, and GNH classes are awarded to Celina.

These aren't earthshaking changes, but each affects plans of somebody, somewhere. Knowing them let's us all deal with them. Check the APBA (apba-racing.com) and Inboard (www.goboatracing.net) websites regularly.

For the second consecutive year, Todd McQuade has organized a display at the Novi Boat Show (Prudential Town Center). The display took place March 11-12-13-14, 2010 and featured two club boats, the DRRA Gold Cup Unlimited Hydro, our club sign, a wall picture and trophy display (Tina and Jim Wilson), some superlight tunnelboat info and video, and a cast of various club members interacting with the public. The layout was great, and all activity was positive. Thanks: Todd McQuade, Paul Poledink, Tina and Jim Wilson, Andy Guaresimo, Jim Gannon (who towed the unlimited to and fro), Eric Pomber, Jeff Howie and family, and Mark Hoderek (SLT's), and most definitely John Grigg and team (GNH-52 Wannabee) and Ed Barko (S-82) – these were the display club member boats. Good job, lots of info was available about races and about our club.

I indicated more info on NM/GNH. Well, there is no need to add to the controversy. With the decision made, each class has no changes from last year. End of controversy.

I can speak for GNH, and that is to say that efforts are being made by class members to put together a class schedule to maximize participation at those events which the class can support properly. The process has begun; it is the business of the class members; it has the support of the IRC Chairman and various IRC commissioners; and it will be communicated with race committees as appropriate. The class intends on surviving and growing, and this work will be accomplished together. We will figure it out.

Similarly, NM members will figure it out together, with the IRC.

As I stated above, end of controversy. None of us need any further blasting by outsiders. Worthy input is always welcome, but these groups need time and privacy to allow the process to work.

Come to think of it, APBA's real problem facing us all (and our club follows this same trend) is dwindling membership. We all need to realize the significance of the trends, and how will we reverse these? What are the answers? I must say that the answers will not be found in petty bickering. It might be found in working together, might be found in mentoring new members and include them in our activities instead of tending to exclude them. Some of these new people can do many things within our club or racing, and we need to tap that potential. What can they do? Maybe they can be additional officials, maybe they can be on a crew to learn to race, maybe mentors can be found to make this happen.

Nuff said for this month. eli

Christina Wilson

Boat Racer, and Aged to Perfection



When you think of an inboard hydroplane driver, you usually picture a young athletic male. This 2009 season overall highpoint champion for region 6 Marine Prop Riders club for all classes and champion of the 2.5 stock hydroplane class for region 6 is Christina Wilson, wife of Jim Wilson, Director of Total Assurance Programs.

Not only is Christina the first woman ever to win the overall highpoint championship for the Marine Prop Riders, she is also the first woman and grandmother to have her name added to the 45 year old trophy. Christina also took fourth place in the National High Points out of 49 boats.

Christina started driving when she was a young 56 years old. And, now at 58 she is a seasoned driver with 60 heats under her belt just for the 2009 season. The 2009 season was also when Christina was christened with her first 1st place win at the Syracuse NY race. Beginning with a fabulous start, Christina took first in a 12 boat heat qualifier. Upon her return to the dock, and by tradition, she was thrown in the lake by her fellow racers.

The 2009 season was also the first major accident that Christina encountered with a blow-over (360 degree backflip, landing upside down) at Kent Narrows MD. She was airlifted to the Boston Trauma Center where she was ok except for some bruising. When her husband Jim got to the emergency center; Christina's first words were "how bad is my boat, can I race tomorrow?" Her boat had substantial damage and was in the shop for a few weeks. She lost points on two races as a result. Christina got back in the cockpit and finished well the rest of the season.

The 2009 season was also a bit of a love story. Jim after realizing the total support that his wife has given him over the years; decided to park his own hydroplane for the season and devote all his energy in supporting Christina's race effort. Jim races a 1 liter modified hydroplane. Both boat numbers are 20 and their team name is "Team 20".

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Christina is the oldest woman inboard hydroplane driver in the history of the APBA and the only woman driving in the S class in America for 2009. Christina resides in White Lake, Michigan with her husband Jim, they have 3 children and 12 Grandchildren.

Christina intends on racing again in the 2010 season and beyond. You will find her at most all of the 2010 races. She will be racing every heat that she can and in between heats, you will find her doing her usual activity, crocheting and watching the races.

Good luck and congratulations Christina.

Specifications on Christina's boat:

2.5 liter stock class

Engine: Ford 2.3L four cylinder – all stock except for stronger valve springs, balanced, and compression ratio increased within allowable limits.

Normal speed: 100 MPH+ on straight-a-ways

Speed record for class: 110.5 mph

Average speed record 1 mile oval course: 90.6 mph

Minimum weight with driver: 975 lbs

Hull length: 16.5 ft



Autorama and Region 6 Meeting

Photos by Ray Dong





Novi Boat Show

Photos by Todd McQuade



Jim Wilson and Paul Poledink



APBA Region 6 Spring Meeting – February 27-28, 2010 In Review

Well, it's almost spring. Phil of Puxatawney, Pa. had promised us 6 more weeks of winter, and it showed up across much of Region 6. While in the midst of this weather, the Region 6 Spring Meeting displayed a bit of "springtime" at the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg, Ohio. Members gathered for a fine weekend of meeting, greeting, celebrating, and dining.

Inboard wise, meetings were a big focus. The Inboard Race Chairman's meeting was a huge success, with each Inboard race in the region represented, along with region officers, region safety/rescue partners of Box 21, Marine Prop Riders and Southern Ohio clubs, and some racers, 32 persons in all, at what historically is a pretty sparsely populated session. This attendance shows the concern of many regarding our racing shows, how we approach the event, how we grow the events, and how we mentor new sites. Billy Noonan followed his long agenda, with discussions on sanctions, insurance, judges stand, race course, patrol boats (quantity, duty, and do's and don'ts), turn judges, rescue, safety, fire, salvage, pits, registration, inspection, radio communications, among others. Told you it was long, but necessary, as each subject is important to running a successful boat race event. Took the whole allotted time, too, nobody left early.

Next, the Inboard officiating meeting followed by the region officiating committee meeting discussed various subjects led by Don Melillo. He urges each race committee to hold a race management meeting on race day to make sure everyone knows who is doing what to run the event, so that time delays (not to mention unneeded extra efforts) are minimized. Scorers are urged to check for club membership cards at registration, which is often forgotten (club member forms will be at scoring so that those who aren't can join, at least in region 6, the Prop Riders or Southern Ohio). Remember, the heart of APBA is the clubs, after all it is essentially an association of clubs, and the heart of the clubs is its membership. Quite a bit of discussion came about on turn judges and driver behavior. Copies of the Region 4 Turn Judge article were distributed to attendees, following which various aspects of turn judging were discussed, including finding them and how to encourage volunteers (pay, food, etc.). Driver behavior centered around not only red and yellow cards, but rude behavior, behavior to officials, blatant unsportsmanlike conduct, and communications. Breathalyzer testing was discussed, and it will be used if appropriate. This meeting also took all the allotted time, another good meeting with excellent attendance. Also, it was announced that closed toe footwear is now required for anyone signing the waiver sheet, all categories. Effective for 2011 (actually, November 1, 2010), ¼ mile straightaway time trial (similar to the kilo's, only shorter distance) will be recognized as record setting trials, which could open up some new events or opportunities.

Saturday night activities were first, the Awards Banquet, and then the Awards Ceremonies. Seventy diners explored culinary delights from the HIFQ kitchens (entrees of Chicken Marsala and Beef Tips Burgundy), with a delicious carrot cake or chocolate cake desert. A successful free kids pizza party ran simultaneously (courtesy of Region 6 Inboard, thanks Steve Spisak); must have been successful, no leftovers! And, many thanks to the chaperones, I am probably getting names wrong, Ashley and Jennifer, without these volunteers, no pizza party (sorta like turn judges, no turn judges, no racing).

Following the dining in the atrium, next to the pool, the awards ceremonies took place in front of an absolutely packed house (it was SRO, 150 chairs were filled). This is great attendance and shows the support of the membership for our champions. Ray Dong mc'd efficiently, with the help of Tom Johnston, Tracy Trollian, Dudley Smith, Larry Gottschalk and Donna White. J rookies of the year, Junior class champions, hipoint class champions, Top Gun awards, MACH series awards were all featured, along with several special trophy awards.

Hipoints: T class, Becky Wilson; S class, Tina Wilson; Y class, Jim Sechler; A class, Royce Richards and George English; E class, Royce Richards and Tom English; NM class, Mike Wiener; GNH class, Patrick Sankuer; GP class, Mario Maraldo.

MACH Series (26th year): T class, Brandon Kennedy; S class, Keith Anderson; Y class, Jim Sechler; A class, Royce Richards and George English; E class, Jim Martin; National Modified class, Wahnita and Doc Yinger; GNH class, Jimmy Deel; MACH official of the year: Todd McQuade; Best Promotion, Celina's Ohio Governor's Cup; Best Race, Waterford's Quake on the Lake Eastern Divisionals.

Rookie of the Year, Andrew Cristopher

Ray Weber Memorial Trophy (most points, all classes), Jim Sechler

C. A. "Joe" Kreitzer Spirit Award (Kreitzer family), Dean Davis

The Inboard meeting Sunday morning found a nearly packed Forum room to hear Billy Noonan's gavel bring the meeting to order at 8:30 AM, and stayed through to adjournment at 11:30 AM. Most of the info from the race chairman's meeting and officiating meetings (above) was discussed for the general membership attending. Region equipment is in good condition, per Steve Spisak, with the winter maintenance for the PWC's and other equipment ongoing and under budget. Also procured under budget is a new laptop for the scorer. Box 21 announced 21 drivers dunked on Saturday morning, with a bunch more doing so on Sunday as the meeting went on. Race management was discussed, with the usual "be ready, be on time" theme. It was announced that both the 2011 APBA Inboard Nationals and the 2011 UIM Inboard World's Championships will be in Region 6: Nationals at Waterford, Michigan's *Quake on the Lake*, and the World's Championships will be at Celina, Ohio's *Ohio Governor's Cup*.

Also occurring were discussions regarding the alarming downward trends nationally, regionally, and locally regarding APBA membership and racing participation. Ideas put forth included promotional activities at boat shows, mentoring new members and participants, enticements for new members, etc. There is no one magic answer to combat this trend, it will be a combination of many factors and actions.

Inboard Region 6 race dates were formally announced: Dayton Testing and APBA Drivers School – May 22-23, 2010; Walled Lake (Mich) June 12-13, 2010; APBA Gold Cup (Detroit, Mich) June 25-27, 2010; Waterford (Mich) July 17-18, 2010; Celina (Ohio) August 28-29, 2010; Rocky Fork (Ohio) September 18-19, 2010; Alum Creek (Ohio) September 25-26, 2010. It is expected that each of these races (except the Gold Cup) are also MACH events. A brand new event for 5L stocks is July 10-11, 2010 at Marietta, Ohio, in conjunction with the APR Superleague. Tentative events in May at Alum Creek and late summer at Stony Creek (Mich) have been postponed until 2011 (wish someone could bite the economy instead of vice versa). On the plus side, organizers representing a possible new site at Gun Lake (Hastings, Mich area) have made some inquiries regarding holding a race event next year.

New business discussed was a bylaw proposal regarding clarification of determining Region 6 Inboard Hipoint Champions. The proposal was introduced by motion and will be voted on at the fall Inboard meeting (Sunday, October 24, 2010).

The Fall APBA Region Meeting will take place October 23-24, 2010, at the same place, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, Ohio. We are booked in through 2011, and Tom Johnston is going to extend the bookings for three more years after that, pending agreement with the hotel. It's great to have a known site for our meetings that meets our needs now and in the foreseeable future. eli

SAFETY CELL TESTING

SAFETY CELL CERTIFICATION
SATURDAY, APRIL 17 2010

EAST DETROIT HIGH SCHOOL POOL
(11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM SHARP)
9 MILE ROAD JUST WEST OF GRATIOT AVE
ENTER FROM 9 MILE ROAD SIDE OF BUILDING
EASTPOINTE MICHIGAN 48021
(2 MILES WEST OF I-94, EXIT #227)
NORTHEAST OF DETROIT
PLEASE HAVE YOUR APBA NUMBER WITH YOU

TESTING INSTRUCTOR:
ANDREW C. GUARESIMO (BLUEWATER ANDY)

COST: \$35.00 for APBA members
\$40 for OPA members w/Swim Test (offshore only)
\$20 for Swim Test only (offshore only)

Please bring any capsule jackets or air system helmets for check out and testing in the pool.

RSVP PLEASE - THANKS, ANDY

EMAIL: blwtrdvr@msn.com CELL: 586-242-0673 HOME: 586-779-4632
IF NO ANSWER PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE & SPEAK CLEARLY
WE WILL RETURN ALL PHONE CALLS



New MPR Web Site!

A new web site for the Marine Prop Riders is under development, and should be online by the time you read this. It is being built using a Content Management System for easier updating and maintenance. We'll be looking for volunteers to help post new team info and event photos.

ATTENTION MPR TEAMS! PLEASE collect 4 to 7 of your favorite recent photos of your boat, driver, crew, etc and contact Brian Reed for an email submission form so we can get all your details. Email Brian at moreinfo@marinepropriders.com.

Board Of Directors

2010

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\$20.00
Active Club Racing
Membership

Marine Prop Riders
Membership Application
c/o Mario Maraldo
25999 Ballard
Harrison Township, MI 48045

\$30.00
Family
Membership

Only one active driver per family membership! List all, indicate driver.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Occupation: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Fax: _____

Affiliations: Owner / Driver / Mech. / Official / Media / Other _____

Boat: Class _____ Boat Name and # _____

What can you or your crew do to help at races?

Check here if this is a correction or address change. _____



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