



January/February 2014

Hello Fellow Prop Riders,

I hope everyone had a great Holiday and Santa brought them that extra 10 HP they've been wanting. In my case, I think it was 10lbs. It's 2014 and we have a great year to look forward to.

By the time this reaches you, the National Meeting will be history and the Region 6 Spring meeting is fast approaching. There will be an Awards banquet during that meeting, along with some key issues voted upon. This could have a great affect on Region 6 racing in the coming years. Get out and vote! Also, be sure your 2014 APBA membership is paid-up before the meeting.

In addition to APBA happenings, we have some great Marine Prop Rider events coming up - the Detroit Boat Show and Autorama! We're looking for volunteers to represent the club during these events. See Jennifer Falcinelli if you'd like to help. It's really fun working these events and talking to the people.

During our Christmas meeting, there was a lot of talk about the Marine Prop Riders exploring the idea of helping bring another race to the area. Now's the time to explore for the 2015 racing season. Let us know how you can help. We're not promoters, but we ARE part of the best racing club in the country.

The next meeting is February 5<sup>th</sup>. Come on out, get an update on the National meeting, and be a part of the action.

Chris

***The Next Meeting Is February 5<sup>th</sup>***  
**7:30 PM**

— ***Juliano's Restaurant at 27380 Van Dyke in Warren*** —

On the East side of Van Dyke about 1/4 mile North of I-696  
<http://www.julianosrestaurant.net>  
(586) 754-8383



**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MPR MEMBERSHIP!**

Renew now before you forget so you can keep receiving the newsletter!

The membership application is on page 11.



# MEETING MINUTES

## Marine Prop Riders - General Meeting December 4, 2013 - Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:** At APBA Headquarters in Eastpointe. Called to order by Chris Ritz at 7:38 P.M. John Bridge will be selling the 50/50 tickets again this evening. Visitors include Chris Szymanski and Mike DuBay. Best wishes to Jimmy Deal who recently suffered a stroke and Huey Newport who recently suffered a heart attack.

**President's Report:** Chris Ritz discussed the MPR 2013 Banquet thanking everyone for supporting the event. We were at max capacity at the event location. A special thanks to Judy Roberts for the pictures for the slide show.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve November Minutes by Eli Whitney, seconded by Rick Falcinelli. Motion passed. Paul Poledink complimented Wayne Shagena for a great job of the minutes last month.

**Treasurer's Report:** As reported by Mario Maraldo – Deposits \$580.00, \$565.00, \$1,995.00, \$1652.00 Refund of \$25.00 Expenses - \$16.00 postage, \$145.44 postage and printing, \$729.00 trophies, \$389.80 cakes and center pieces, \$3,211.73 Concorde Inn. Account balance is \$9,366.85  
Motion to approve by Eli Whitney, seconded by Sam Anspach.

**Special note:** Shelley Bridge and Stephanie Walczak did a great job selling raffle tickets at the banquet.

**Publicity:** Vallery Ritz mailed out 79 newsletters. She asked that members fill out the member bio. Ask Vallery for the template. Next newsletter will be at the end of January. Please submit by January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Entertainment:** Ray spoke about his accident and urged everyone to wear belts while driving. No entertainment for the evening. Future entertainment includes Rosie the Riveter, Mike Brown from the Free Press and Mark Hooten, PR for Oberto Team.

Awards were given to Paul Poledink for participating in the Gold Cup, Hal & Helene LeDuc received the Jim & Elise Edwards Award for the Opechee.

**Membership:** Jennifer Falcinelli reported 97 members to date. Almost half of the newsletters that are being sent out are electronic.

### **Race Reports:**

MACH Series – No report  
Dayton Testing – No report  
Walled Lake Thunder – No report  
Gold Cup – On track  
Quake on the Lake – All good  
Celina, OH – No update  
Alum Creek – No update  
Rocky Fork – No update

### **APBA News:**

**National Business** – Mark Weber got re-elected to Inboard Chair

**IRC News** – Commission will be looking into the driving school and its assets. Considering added a boat in the Northwest and in the Southwest. Kyle Bement passed away over the weekend at a race in Arizona. They will learn from Kyle's passing in the hopes to make racing safer. The IRC has money in the bank and is looking into using some of the money for the driving school.

**Region 6 News** – Eli reminded everyone of the spring meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Inboard meeting will be on Sunday at 8:30 A.M. Will be voting on prize money bylaw number 5. There is a committee being created to modify the bylaw and provide two options. Mario Maraldo is the chair of the committee. Todd McQuade, Tom Swindling, Jeff Sankuer are also on the committee. They are looking to add one more member from the Ohio area. The committee will communicate via conference call. Will report more on the bylaw at the February MPR meeting. He encouraged people to come to the spring meeting.

**Vintage News** – Paul Poledink discussed an article out on Phil Kunz and there will be two more parts coming. He plans on doing more vintage articles in the future and asked if anyone knows of any good boat stories that he can get information on please contact him.

**Display Boat:** Looking for two more race boats to be in the Autorama. Jennifer Falcinelli will send an email blast to find interest. There was an email to Lori Weber about insurance for the display boat and it will have insurance coverage by Autorama.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**New Race Site** – Members have been talking to different organizations. We should try to work together to get another local race instead separately. There will be a group put together to start looking at new race sites. This group is open to new ideas to get outside people and businesses interested.

**Stoney Creek Race Site** – There are meetings happening with them and there is interest on their part. They are trying to find a date. Last discussion was six weeks ago.

**U of D** – Ray Dong announced their Christmas party on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM at Total Sports and there will be a silent auction.

**Next Meeting:** February 5, 2014 at Juliano's in Warren at 7:30 P.M.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Peggy, and seconded by Rich Falcinelli. Motion passed. Did not record the adjournment time. 50/50 cash prize of \$76 won by Chris Ritz and donated back to the club. Many other miscellaneous items were raffled off by Ray Dong.

Submitted by Jennifer Falcinelli

## **Event Schedule – 2014**

*Race dates and upcoming events are tentative.  
Planning is taking place for the following events:*

APBA Region 6 Spring 2014 Meeting, Toledo, OH	Feb 22, 2014
Quake on the Lake (APBA Inboard Nationals), Waterford, MI	Jul 19-20, 2014
Inboard Driving School, Dayton, OH	May 2014
Walled Lake	June 14-15, 2014
Celina	August 23-24, 2014
Rocky Fork	September 20-21, 2014

## **Board Of Directors 2014**

President	Chris Ritz	248-840-3430
Vice President	Mike Weber	770-330-8559
Secretary	Wayne Shagena	
Treasurer	Mario Maraldo	586-468-3204
Publicity	Vallery Ritz	248-421-4760
Membership	Jennifer Falcinelli	586-242-5071
Entertainment	Ray Dong	313-575-6670
Member at Large	Mary Anne Wilson	248-798-3188
Member at Large	Rich Falcinelli	586-354-7903





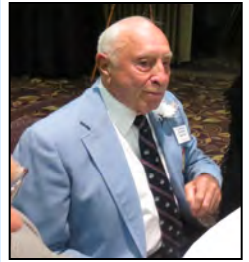


## *Congratulations to Fred Alter*

Fred was inducted into the **Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame** in Mt. Pleasant on Sunday, November 3, 2013.

Several MPR members were on hand to celebrate this momentous occasion with Fred.

Photos compliments of Ray Dong.



Fred Alter, Man of the Hour.



**APBA REGION 6 SPRING 2014 MEETING  
FEBRUARY 22-23, 2014**

**PLACE:** HOLIDAY INN - FRENCH QUARTER  
10630 FREMONT PIKE (US20 AT I-75)  
PERRYSBURG, OHIO 43551

**PHONE:** [1-888-874-2592](tel:1-888-874-2592) or [1-419-874-3111](tel:1-419-874-3111)  
**EMAIL:** [www.hifq.com](http://www.hifq.com)  
**RATES:** \$83, \$109

**DIRECTIONS:** Exit 193 I-75; east on US 20; hotel on left (north) side at traffic light. Exit 193 is 1 mile south of the Ohio Turnpike (I-80) / I-75 interchange.

**NOTES:**

1. Please inform the Reservation Desk that you are attending the APBA Region 6 Meeting. There are 20 rooms being held for Friday night; 40 rooms for Saturday night. The hotel will hold our rooms until **February 8, 2014**. Call today!!!
2. The Region 6 Inboard Safety Team will have the "Test Cell" at poolside each morning for anyone wishing to complete driver restraint capsule training requirements.
3. **Inboard will be voting on a modification to Bylaw 5 (prize money requirements for races) on Sunday morning. Be there to exercise your membership rights!**
4. Awards banquet and presentations will begin with cocktails (cash bar) at 5:00 p.m. in the Upper Atrium. **The buffet features Swiss Steak Jardiniere, Chicken Marsala Red Skin potatoes, Sugar Snap Peas with Red Peppers, house salad, desserts, coffee, tea, and milk**, with seating poolside. The presentations will take place in the nearby Track 4-5 rooms. Dinner cost is \$26.00 per person, reservation deadline February 18, 2014; **please pay in advance**, make checks out to Don Whitney; mail to 26580 Ballard, Harrison Twp., Mich., 48045; cell phone 586-940-9869; email [donalddeli.whitney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donalddeli.whitney@sbcglobal.net)
5. Pizza party for kids (cost – free) will be held in the Club Car Room; advance notice needed; contact Don Whitney (above). Chaperone needed to hold this function!!!!!!
6. **Winners of awards: Please attend. In person acceptances give credibility to yourselves, your competitors, your class, and the awards themselves!**

**AGENDA – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2014**

7:00 a.m.	SAFETY CELL (until 9:00 a.m.)	HOLIDOME POOLSIDE
9:00 a.m.	TECHNICAL SEMINAR	PANETELA ROOM
9:30 a.m.	INBOARD RACE CHAIRPERSON MEETING	FORUM
12:00 noon	SLT MEETING	GRENADIER ROOM
12:30 p.m.	INBOARD OFFICIATING MEETING	FORUM
	<b>IF YOU INTEND TO BE A SCORER, INSPECTOR, OR REFEREE IN REGION 6 THIS YEAR, BE THERE! THIS IS A REGION 6 INBOARD BYLAW REQUIREMENT! TAKE YOUR TEST TOO!</b>	
	GNH MEETING	PANATELA ROOM
1:00 p.m.	VINTAGE MEETING	CORONA ROOM
2:00 p.m.	OFFICIATING MEETING	FORUM
3:00 p.m.	CLUB MEETING	FORUM
4:00 p.m.	PRO MEETING	FORUM
5:00 p.m.	FACET CHAIRPERSON MEETING	TRACK 4-5
6:15 p.m.	PIZZA PARTY	CLUB CAR ROOM
5:00 p.m.	COCKTAILS	UPPER ATRIUM
6:30 p.m.	DINNER	ATRIUM
7:30 p.m.	AWARDS PRESENTATION	TRACK 4-5

**AGENDA – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014**

7:00 a.m.	SAFETY CELL (until 9:00 a.m.)	HOLIDOME POOLSIDE
8:30 a.m.	OPC MEETING	CORONA
8:30 a.m.	INBOARD MEETING	FORUM
9:00 a.m.	MODIFIED OUTBOARD MEETING	GRENADIER ROOM
10:00 a.m.	STOCK OUTBOARD MEETING	GRENADIER ROOM
11:20 a.m.	ALL MEETINGS ADJOURN	
11:30 a.m.	GENERAL MEETING	FORUM

**Plan on attending; your input is always needed! Fall 2014 meeting dates: October 18-19, 2014!**

***Tom Johnston*                      (517) 451-9120                      *Region 6 Chairman***



# Vintage Views

## The Helter Skelter Saga

### Part 3 The Restoration by John Jenkins and Tim Settle

“The phone call from Phil came out of the blue, sort of, in late 2010. ‘John, I want you to restore my old race boat **Helter Skelter**’ Well, now. I first met Phil in 1979 at a meet, and got to know him really as a photographer of limited inboard raceboats and the people in the sport. His racing career as an owner/driver ended back in 1972, and I was just beginning my racing activities in ‘79. After a few more discussions, I agreed to undertake the boat’s restoration (or more accurately, its rebuilding) as you will see, for one significant reason.

“I came to realize what this boat meant personally to Phil and its discovery by Rich Willim after being lost for so many years. I had begun my work and my company, *Hydroplane Ltd.* in 2006 here in Kingston, Ohio and had some experience restoring, repairing and building race boats. This project struck me as a little special though. I believe it’s a rarity to give up a major focus of your life for four years, never expecting to experience it again, and then having it reappear as a neglected hulk. Phil and Tim Settle had retrieved the boat from Rich Willim’s shop up in Michigan and started to take a closer look at its condition. As Jack Hines removed part of the deck and much of the hardware, they realized the extent of the deterioration of much of the wood. Then I was brought into the picture. They brought what was left of **Helter Skelter** to my shop and my work began in December, 2010.

“The first thing I did, as I do with all my projects, was to determine how much of the wood in the boat was re-usable. Well, not too much. It appeared that the boat was stored on an angle, bow up, so a good deal of the deterioration was in the bottom and back of the boat and in the backs of the sponsons. The front part of the boat was not as bad. So, the project became a rebuilding effort – new frames, new keel, new battens, new skin on the deck and new rear frames on the sponsons, using the old parts as patterns. The sides of the boat were fairly solid, but scarred and rough, so I covered them with an overlay of 1/8 inch plywood. The new decks are 1/4 inch Okume, covered with a layer of glass. The pictures show this process in some detail.



New frames, new transom, and covered sides of **Helter Skelter**.



New keel, new bottom battens installed.



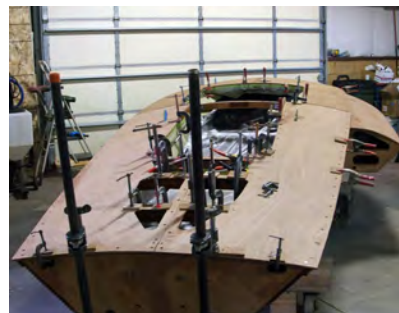
New battens installed in sponson bottoms.



Completed bottom, ready to turn over.



Right side up, ready for deck skin installation.



Skin installed with many c-clamps.

“The only interruptions to the work schedule through the winter were the frequent visits by Phil, along with either Ron Snyder, or Jack Hines, or Tim Settle, or John Kovach, to check on the progress and, of course, to take pictures. Didn’t seem to mind these visits, which usually included an extended lunch and much story-telling. All in all, things went somewhat according to plan.



Jack Hines and me glassing the deck.



Glass sanded and ready for paint.

“I then went through all the boat’s hardware, cleaning and polishing it as necessary. I painted **Helter Skelter** according to its original color scheme with the stars on the cowl, and awaited the arrival of the engine – from Rich Willim. While Phil originally ran it with a 265 Chevy, we decided to install the 273 Chrysler which Rich got along with the boat, along with assorted 273 parts and a spare parts engine. John Kovach and Phil brought the engine complete with Rich's newly fabricated and fitted oil pan down from Michigan to my shop, and I proceeded to install it in the completed hull. We had to relocate the engine rails, modify the linkage and plumbing set-up, and fabricate some new parts– which went smoothly, thanks to the machining expertise of Jack Hines. I (thankfully) completed all the restoration/rebuilding/ reinstalling/repainting work in time so it could be taken to Dayton for the *Test and Tune* event in May of 2011 for its initial trial runs. We used a trailer which was supplied by Tim Settle – but that’s another interesting story in itself.



Rich Willim loading the “new” 273.

### **Trailer Restoration** by Tim Settle.



Painting the trailer in my yard.

“So how did I get involved with the **Helter Skelter** project? Well, I became acquainted with Phil one day when we met by accident – and he began discussing the story behind a boat my father bought when I was about 5 years old. **Barracuda**. I was unaware of the historical importance of this 1947 Wickens raceboat and its racing pedigree. Following this and many more conversations with Phil, I began the restoration of ol’ **Barracuda**, and have since regularly run it at may vintage events around the Eastern part of the country – enjoying it immensely, thanks to Phil's information and advice.

“When Phil mentioned around November, 2010, that he thought he found his old *Cunningham* raceboat and needed some help in bringing it down to Dayton from Michigan, I was glad to help. We rented a flatbed trailer, and headed up to Rich Willim's shop in Carleton, Michigan. He had told us the trailer was not really roadworthy, and would need some attention before any traveling of any distance. We loaded the trailer holding the remains of **Helter Skelter** on the flatbed, and took it to Phil's house. Phil had already contacted John Jenkins about his doing the restoration work, so we hauled it down to John's shop in Kingston. I agreed to see what I could do with the trailer, perhaps put a new tongue on it and so on, and took it back to my house.

“The more I looked at the trailer, the worse it looked. It was, in a word, *nasty*. I had told Phil I would restore the trailer, but the more I looked at it, and realizing the restored **Helter Skelter** would become a 'thing of beauty', I decided to build the boat a new trailer and trash the old – but kept Phil in the dark. The pictures of **Helter Skelter** in its racing form showed it sitting on a *Lauterbach* trailer, built I believe, by Henry's son, Hank. I decided to replicate the original *Lauterbach* trailer, and surprise Phil. Keeping him away during that winter was not easy – he kept wanting to see my progress and take pictures, of course. And, I believe he thought I was procrastinating, and might not have it done by Spring. Finally he came by and was obviously pleasantly surprised at my decision. The new trailer matched the “new” boat.

Submitted by Paul Poledink



Completed trailer, ready for **Helter Skelter**.

# Capsule Training Sessions

From: *Andy Guaresimo*

There will be two safety cell certification sessions:

**DATES: SATURDAY MARCH 8, 2014**

**SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2014**

**COST: \$35.00 FOR APBA MEMBERS**

**\$40.00 FOR OPA MEMBERS w/ SWIM TEST (offshore only)**

**\$20.00 FOR SWIM TEST ONLY (offshore only)**



**Note \* There will be No Capsule Testing @ the Walled Lake Race site this year.**

**\*NEW LOCATION:** LANSE CREUSE HIGH SCHOOL POOL  
38495 LANSE CREUSE ST.  
HARRISON TWP, MI 48045

**TIME:** 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM SHARP

**DIRECTIONS:** from Detroit: I-94 TO METRO PARKWAY ( EXIT #236 ), right TO THE FIRST LIGHT (CROCKER), TURN LEFT UP 2 BLOCKS, RIGHT ON REIMOLD ST, 600 FEET ON THE RIGHT  
From west: East on Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd.) to Crocker, left on Crocker, etc.  
From Port Huron: I-94 to Metro Parkway (EXIT#236), left on Metro Parkway, left at 2<sup>nd</sup> light (Crocker), etc.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR APBA # WITH YOU (IF YOU ARE A MEMBER)  
(OFFSHORE OR O.P.A. MEMBERS # NOT NEEDED)

**TESTING INSTRUCTOR:** ANDREW C. GUARESIMO ( aka BLUEWATER ANDY )

**RSVP to Andy:**

CELL #: 586-242-0673

E-MAIL: [BLWTRDVR@msn.com](mailto:BLWTRDVR@msn.com)

IF NO ANSWER PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE & SPEAK CLEARLY. WE WILL RETURN ALL PHONE CALLS & E-MAILS.

**PLEASE BRING ANY CAPSULE JACKETS OR AIR SYSTEM HELMETS FOR CHECK OUT & TESTING IN THE POOL. (IF YOU WISH)**

**WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING ANY DONATIONS OF OUTDATED & USED CAPSULE JACKETS.**

**OTHER CAPSULE TESTING SESSIONS WILL ALSO BE DONE IN 2014 @ :**

**LAKE HOPATCONG, NEW JERSEY - MAY 3RD**

**ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY - JUNE 21ST**

**ST CLAIR, MI. - JULY 26TH - 9:00 AM TILL NOON**

**LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK - AUGUST 23RD**

**SOLOMON ISLE, MARYLAND - SEPTEMBER 13TH**

**OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND - OCTOBER 4TH**

OTHER SESSIONS MAY BE DONE @ SPECIAL REQUESTS (TBA).

**\*\*MINORS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MUST HAVE A PARENT OR GUARDIAN WITH THEM TO SIGN A MINOR RELEASE CONSENT FORM.**

**\*POSTING OF THIS WILL BE ON Facebook PAGE: BLUEWATER RESCUE AND SALVAGE**





The Marine Prop Riders have two shows coming up that we need your help with. We need members to volunteer their time to man the displays at the following shows.

### **Detroit Boat Show**

February 15<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Saturdays & Monday 11:00am – 9:00pm

Sunday 11:00am – 6:00pm

Tuesday – Friday 3:00pm – 9:00pm

### **Autorama**

March 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

Friday 12:00pm – 10:00pm

Saturday 9:00am – 10:00pm

Sunday 10:00am – 8:00pm

We also need help with the set up and tear down for each event.

Please contact Rich Falcinelli at [586-909-7424](tel:586-909-7424) if you are interested in helping out and provide the dates and times you are available. There will be an official sign-up sheet with dates and time slots at the next MPR meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

## *Did You Know . . .*

- ◆ Did you know you can follow the MPR on Facebook? Just search Marine Prop Riders and like the page!
- ◆ Did you know that you can follow MPR on Twitter @MarinePropRider?
- ◆ Visit the MPR web site: <http://www.marinepropriders.com>
- ◆ You can receive the MPR newsletter electronically and save the club print and postage costs.

## *Take the Membership Challenge . . .*

“We ask that every member get one person to join the club that is brand new to the club or hasn’t joined in several years.”



**Vintage "Happy Buddha"** - 1968 Lloyd hull, Ford 302 (Five Liter) fully race-prepared, new out of the box in 2005 (less than 5 hours total running time). Hull completely restored over four-year period - 2000 to 2003. Includes excellent trailer, great boat cover and misc. bits and pieces. Turnkey, ready to run - just add gas and go. Boat is located in S.W. Michigan. See:

<http://www.vintagehydroplanes.com/happybuddha.html>

**MPR members: Be sure to submit your classified ad for free listing.**



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**WORLD-RECORD INBOARD BOAT RACING**

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The Marine Prop Riders boat racing club welcomes you to join our club.  
Memberships are just \$20 individual and \$30 for a family.  
So many ways to get involved!

owning/racing a boat | race team crew | race day volunteering | turn judging  
racer hospitality | show publicity | event planning | safety team | so much more!



[www.marinepropdrivers.com](http://www.marinepropdrivers.com)



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Steger, IL 60475

**Attention all MPR Members!**

Put the MPR display boat to work! It's available to all members! It had a very busy summer, but IS AVAILABLE! Contact Rich Falcinelli at 586-354-7903 today to reserve your time to take the display boat to your club, school, church, special event, etc.!

Help promote our sport, the MPR club and our upcoming races!





MARINE PROP RIDERS  
Detroit, Michigan  
Membership Application

- ☐ Electronic Newsletter Single Membership...\$20.00      ☐ Paper Newsletter Single Membership...\$25.00  
☐ Family Membership...\$30.00

Primary Member Name: (Required for drivers and MPR board members)		
Family Member Name(s): (non-voting member(s))		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone #	Cell Phone #	
E-Mail Address:		

**RACE AFFILIATION:** (Check All That Apply)

☐ Owner    ☐ Driver    ☐ Crew    ☐ Mechanic    ☐ Official    ☐ Media    ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOAT AFFILIATION:**

Class/Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the boat part of the vintage category?      Yes / No

Class/Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the boat part of the vintage category?      Yes / No

**NEWSLETTER:**

Please check how the primary member would like to receive the newsletter. (Check one only)

- ☐ Email: A color version of newsletter (You must provide an email address above.)  
Or  
☐ Regular mail: A black and white version of newsletter

Marine Prop Riders can share my contact information with other MPR members.    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

Checks should be payable to: Marine Prop Riders  
Mail application & payment to: 34110 Garfield Circle, Fraser, MI 48026





34110 Garfield Circle  
Fraser, MI 48026

 [www.marinepropriders.com](http://www.marinepropriders.com) 