

June 2012

From the President...

Hello Fellow Prop Riders,

We are in the midst of our race season for the MPR Club!

Walled Lake hosted their 5th event last month, the Gold Cup is fast approaching, followed by the Quake hosting the APBA World Championships! Many of our race loving friends began as volunteers at one of these race sites and then joined our club so they can continue to Be Part of the Action all year long.

As you go to the Gold Cup or Quake, either as a worker, volunteer or a fan, look around and notice those hard working individuals that have a passion for our sport and thank them for their efforts! But don't stop there – take a moment to invite them to join our club where they can share great stories and camaraderie amongst fellow fans. Remember, as we grow our membership, the club continues to be strong and steadfast in our direction!

See you at the races!

Best regards, Mary Anne Wilson

e: maryannewilson@comcast.net

cell: 248.798.3188



The RETT "A" Team - Richards, English, Tate & Thompson

Photo by Paul Poledink 2012 at Walled Lake

Marine Prop Riders - General Meeting - June 6th - Meeting Minutes

Meeting: At Bayside Bar and Grille, Walled Lake, MI. Called to order by Ray Dong @ 8:05 P.M. President and Vice President both unable to attend due to business commitments. 50-50 drawing this month conducted by John Bridge.

President's Report: Ray began the meeting by thanking Todd for helping to secure the meeting room at Bayside for our gathering. Thanks to Johnny Senna for his generosity. Recent passings were noted with tributes and remembrances from several members including Bill Rands: Fred Leland, Al Thorsen, and Ken Wright.

Approval of Minutes The minutes of the May meeting - as appearing in the MPR Newsletter - were up for approval. Motion to approve by Rick F., seconded by Sam A. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Mario Maraldo reported a deposit of \$191. Expenditures included \$12.51 and \$12.05 for postage. Balance: \$8551.77. Motion to approve by Andy G., seconded by Rick F. Motion passed.

Membership Report: Jennifer Grigg reported membership at 140, with a possible goal of 170.

Publicity: Brian Reed not present due to work commitments.

Entertainment: Ray Dong announced the presentation on propellers by Ron Jacobs of Wolverine Propeller to take place after the evening's meeting.

Race Reports

Dayton Testing John Bridge reported on the Dayton event, including the 22 school boat drivers and the 30 racing and vintage hydros in attendance. Sandy Ross commented on the excellent facilities and schedule.

Walled Lake Thunder Jim Sechler commented that the weed growth is being addressed both chemically and with the Swamp Thing mechanical weed eater. Also the need for turn judges for the race. Other wise, all is ready.

Gold Cup 103rd Annual Race July 13-15, 2012 Bill Rands updated plans for the race, thanking the **DYC** for their ongoing financial and moral support for the race. In addition to the Unlimiteds, there will be the SLT's, Vintage, and Offshore performing. U.S. Navy F 18 jets will be present again with their spectacular flyovers.

Sandy Ross announced the theme for this year's presentation on Gold Cup Week Friday at 11:00 at Sindbads. Chuck Thompson Sr. and Chuck Jr. will be featured, as narrated by Steve Garey and Chuck Jr. The presentation takes place right after testing and before the jets practice their flyover. Tour the pits afterward. Also, Andy G mentioned the DRRA kickoff party on June 14.

Waterford/ Quake on the Lake 13th Annual Race, World Championships, July 21-22, 2012. Bob Wilson reviewed the schedule, and announced that Mitch Ryder will be the featured entertainer this year.

Celina, Ohio. Aug. 25-26, 2012. Details deferred until next meeting.

Rocky Fork Still tentative September, 14-15, 2012. Seeking support and sponsors at this time.

Stony Creek Still on hold.

Tonawanda The week before Celina. Race venue very deserving of the support of all racers. All should make every effort to attend.

APBA News

IRC Racing News Jim Sechler reported that inboard racing is continuing its activities with Mark Weber as new chairman. **Vintage News** Paul Poledink deferred to Kevin McGregor who outlined the 5-7 vintage boat group invited to run at Walled Lake each day. Also, that discussions are taking place with Quake/Waterford organizers to arrange the vintage schedule and logistics for this event.

Old Business

Display Boat Is appearing at many locations and parades. Boat is prominently displayed at the Chrysler Jeep Dealership in Walled Lake this week. Dealership is also supplying three Jeeps as tow vehicles for the Walled Lake Thunder.

New Business None

Next Meeting: July 11, 2012, at Juliano's in Warren, 7:30.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn by Tim H. at 8:54 P.M. Seconded by Kevin M. Unanimous approval.

50-50 prizes this week included Cash, two tickets to the Tigers' game, and Indy 500 memorabilia.

Submitted by Paul Poledink

<u>THE NEXT MEETING IS JULY 11TH</u>

7:30 p.m.

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

Event Schedule – 2012

Race dates and upcoming events (** for MACH series events):

Detroit MI - APBA Gold Cup

Waterford MI - Quake On The Lake (WORLD's!)

Tonawanda NY - Thunder On The Niagara

Celina OH - Governor's Cup

Hillsboro OH - Rocky Fork State Park

Geneva NY - Hydrobowl

MPR Annual Awards Banquet

Region 6 Fall Meeting

July 13-15

July 21-22**

August 18-19**

August 25-26**

September 15-16 (tent.)**

September** (tent. ?)

November 10

October 20-21

WE'LL MISS YOU JOE TATE

WWWWWWWWWWWWWWWW

Dear Friends & Family of Joe Tate,

Our Family would like to let each of you know that our father's journey has ended. He passed away on Sunday, June 24, 2012 at 3:30 a.m. with the love of his family all around him.

Joe did not want a Funeral, so we will be having a Celebration of Life - Joe's Journey, at a future date after we have made all the arrangements that Joe had requested. (Ed. note: not in the immediate future.)

We are requesting NO FLOWERS. In honor of Joe, please remember that he was a PRIVATE PERSON (No Facebook Postings Please).

We would like to THANK YOU for being a very special part of our father's life.

With Love & Sadness, The Tate Family Charlotte, Teri, Mark, Sandy, Andrew & Brent



This 2012 edition of the *Walled Lake Thunder Journal* reports resounding success on the waters of Walled Lake by the regatta, spectators, and racers! Resounding? With the echoes of racing engines of today and yesterday, 48 boats exhibited their speed and skills before a large, sunbaked, enthusiastic crowd in downtown Walled Lake, Michigan during the weekend of 09-10 June 2012. All enjoyed themselves, centralized around the Bayside Grille, the pits, and the public beach. Viewers were in evidence around the lakeshore and on the lake itself, as this race is gaining a traditional label in these parts as the opening act for summer fun and frolic. Conversation with the Mayor of Walled Lake spoke of welcoming the racers and thanking them for bringing the event, as he stated that "the City of Walled Lake cannot buy this kind of positive publicity". Thanks to John Semma and his *Bayside Grille* team, the City of Walled Lake, the numerous volunteers, and Todd McQuade, Jim and Jules Sechler, with the race committee, this weekend can only be labeled a success and a must attend for next year!

The pits had a new look, while in the same area, much efficiency was gained through some planning and fore-sight. Sam Anspach, Tim Heuston, Ray Dong and associates (like young Rick Falcinelli, Rachel Anspach, and Matt O'Quinn) had boats craned into and out of the lake with smooth precision all weekend. Two big cranes were put to work handling the 2 GP's, 5 GNH's, and 4 NM's, justifying the crane size. These also handled the smaller boats without a whimper, leading to smooth sailing along the dock and water pit. The pit entrance was well manned, with Jim Garza watching close (and he ain't afraid to throw out a zinger or two to the unsuspecting person in the pits who thinks no one is looking when he changed his shirt), and others. Risk Management, while on everyone's mind, was very unobtrusive, a good job done by all. The judges stand was ably managed by Mike Weber, Mark Weber, Steve Spisak and crew, with Box 21 having very little to do (except for Jeff Maur, see below and a wee bit of fire in the GNH-777). We did have a spy from the office, when Dan Wiener attending his first Walled Lake Thunder, having a great time. His research was not done for the weekend, as he headed out to an Indiana Outboard Association modified outboard go-round on Sunday, so he was gonna have a lot to digest!

Last years weeds were long gone, it was obvious that great efforts had been put in ahead of time to get them out of the way. Southeast Michigan has had it's warmest May and June in a long time (maybe since recordkeeping began in 1875 or so), which means weeds grow like, well, weeds; with much less evidence of them, this speaks of the work accomplished.

We mentioned some big boats in attendance, we also had the smaller hydros, and some vintage hydros, and the outboard engined ThunderCats (SLT's or inflatables). The T'Cats put their boats in the water next to the beach, and utilized a Lemans start off the dock, a different show for the normal hydro event, all going smoothly.

Now for racing: the Vintage hydros led off each day and the after-break session with exhibition laps. The vintage hydro group is a great way to begin activities, as their water time is not shortened, it warms up the crowd, and leaves just a little extra time for the judges stand to finish getting ready for the racing. Five vintage hydros answered the call: T-2 *Li'l Miss Hillwinds* of Billy Noonan / Beth Gilday / Ron Snyder; Paul Poledink's *White Lightning* (CE-52), John Bridge II piloting; E-280 *Catapult* (Mike McDonald); F222 *Opechee* (Hal LeDuc); and *F100* (Bryan McGregor). Ron Snyder completed inboard hydroplane's version of the 'cycle' by driving the T-2, the first time he had driven a T-boat. That meant that Ron had (finally) driven a hydro in every inboard hydroplane class over the years! Later on, the pair of GP's put on great exhibition laps each day. Mario Maraldo's GP-59 *Baby Doll III* thundered around the course, with the Wanna Bee Racing GP-52 *Dad's Dream II* with John Grigg up (the middle one, the elder John was working the pit and observing, with the youngest, Scooter, working not far away!) blasting Walled Lakes clear water's high in the air, with the trademark 100 yard roostertail of a GP at full song. Soul stirring to say the least, as these supercharged Big Block Chevrolet powered craft charged up the crowd!

Thanks to Jennifer Grigg for these results!

S class (2.5L stock): Doug Martin (S-33) dominated. Tina Wilson (S-20) ran hard, keeping him honest, with Scott Thompson (S-41 *Second Choice*) and Keith Frickert in Joe Kreitzer's S-67 *Impossible Dream* pursuing. Frickert as a new rookie got in three heats and finished third twice, not bad at all. Joe's looking for some missing RPM's, when he finds 'em, they will be right in the hunt. Scott Anderson in the S-38 *Governor's Cup* entry (Celina, Ohio) finished two heats as a rookie, gaining valuable experience.

Overall: $1^{st} - S-33$; $2^{nd} - S-20$; $3^{rd} - S-41$;

Y class – we no longer say why the Y class, we now wonder how do they go so quick! Great show, the driving abilities of Dan Kanfoush and the race setup of Jim Sechler and crew are well known and once more exhibited. But, Sean Bowsher is breathing down their neck, rather heavily, too. Only a little bit separates them, it is now down to who gets the lane of choice. Two other boats hanging in there are Marty Hammersmith (Y-4) and Jeff Maur (Y-76); Jeff still fields a second Y-boat, the older orange Y-16 for his daughter Kathleen. That's commitment. Speaking of commitment, Jeff said

he kinda committed his turn into a hole in the first heat Saturday, barrel rolling the former Y-55. Results: right sponson removed, plus drying everything out. Oops. Somebody forgot to tell Jeff how often that hull gets upside down. Just ask Ann Fitzgerald and Danny Walls! Becky Wilson's consistent finishes bring her closer to the front spots, while Chris Ritz continues to battle some gremlins.

Overall: $1^{st} - Y-1$; $2^{nd} - Y-52$; $3^{rd} - Y-4$

E class – 5 L Stock – lightning struck. Jeff Sankuer came out of nowhere (actually, Marine City, Michigan) and did the deed on the class. Saturday's E final was a race of beauty, as Jeff overtook a leading-in-lane 1 E-97 (Todd Liddycoat, who won the qualifier) with a series of high, wide and handsome laps, to win going away. Lief Glasius's (no longer in Einar's considerable shadow) engine just hummed and purred for Jeff, with his older Jones (ex-*Chopper* of Nicki Pellerin) just haulin' the mail. Wow. Sunday had Tom Thompson in Tom English's E-75 take the qualifier, Tom English himself winning the final. Mark Manos ran three heats with his brand new Henderson E-51, good to see this Chicago denizen again! When the final points were tallied, lightning struck again, as first overall for the weekend is Doug Benyon's E-61, with Joe Sovie at the helm! Upsets all the way around! Good for racing, too!

Overall: 1^{st} – E-61; 2^{nd} – E-17; 3^{rd} – (tie) E-75,E-97

A class – Five boats took the challenge, Tom Thompson again dominating in the A-52 *Fat Chance*, owned by George English and Royce Richards. Tom Bergman in the A-8 Mike Cashin Racing entry and Joe Sovie in Debbie Welte's A-23 *Geozerboat* worked hard to keep the A-52 honest. Andrew Tate in the A-25 had rare poor luck, while the former Glenn Koutny A-7 *Southern Magic* with Washington state's Karen Toulouse earned a pair of second places in the two heats she ran, great job. We spied JP Squires helping in the A-7 pit, long way from home, eh?

Overall: $1^{st} - A-52$; $2^{nd} - A-8$; $3^{rd} - A-23$

NM's: Tom Thompson in the always impressive NM-81 Mike Weiner entry grabbed the qualifier on Saturday, but broke in the final, trailering this fine hull for the rest of the weekend. The Tom Newman owned and Tony Black driven NM-100 ran steady, with New Yorker Don Bursnick breaking in the NM-27 aquired this past winter. NM 93, Dennis Johnston's *Desperado*, with the Wolfe Racing Engines Randy Wolfe on hand dominated the rest of Saturday and all of Sunday, with Scott Blackwell (won the final) at the helm Saturday, and newly minted Mrs Elizabeth (congratulations!) running hard on Sunday (won both heats).

Overall: 1st NM-93; 2nd – NM-100; 3rd – NM-81

GNH's: GNH-8 is now GNH-43 as Jimmy Deel recently sold his *Deel Me In* to Jim Martin of Virginia. True to his word, Jim Martin came to race, had Jimmy in the pits for tips, advisories, and historical facts. Saturday's qualifier was shaping up for a good race, when the GNH-317 *Irishman* (Steve Kuhr and Stevie Kuhr) broke a piston ring, smoking heavily dropping out to the pits (scratch for the rest of the weekend). The GNH-777 (Pat Rankin / Alex Findlow), Dave Archiable up, looked good for awhile but ran into ignition breakup, slowing him down and out. Patrick Sankuer was up and running with the GNH-6, looking to give the GNH-43 (nee 8) a run for the money, when GNH-515 One Way's Joe Kreitzer grabbed lane one, made a good start, blasting into the lead, going away. That is, until about lap three, when the boat decided it was constipated and quit running. Jim Martin had his way after that, winning his first GNH heat in his new boat. The final had some unknowns, but the GNH 43 (8) or was it 8 (43) getting a good lead. Then the *One Way* found its direction again, with a burst of speed overtook the leader and went on to victory. GNH-6 was third. Sunday: The victory for GNH-515 was not without some cost, as an oil pan seal had blown out, with oil leakage such that Cadi scratched for the day. The GNH class raced once Sunday, with the final going to Jim Martin, with Pat Sankuer second and GNH-777 a DNF.

Overall: 1st – GNH-43: 2nd – GNH-6: 3rd – GNH-515

Two classes of ThunderCats raced the one mile oval on Walled Lake, both the T-1000 and Outlaw classes competing, with riders bouncing from position to position to gain advantage for their respective drivers. Thank you to Mark Hoderek for his help in bringing the T'Cats to the Thunder!

T-1000 class racers include Steve and John Heuninck in the fast #US-1, claiming three heat wins; Jeff Zeller and Bob Metcalf in #09, with consistency (four second place finishes) giving them first overall; Jeff Howie and Jacob Jerge in #24, garnering a final win on Sunday and second overall.

Overall: $1^{st} - 09$; $2^{nd} - 24$; $3^{rd} - US-1$

The Outlaw class was dominated by Mike Venier and Jimmy Robb in their #76, with Doug Hunter and Melissa Semak in #22 a close runnerup. Andrew and Chris Ashworth (#32) and Mark Hoderek and Gary Kowaleski (#77) kept the pressure on to make for good racing each heat.

Overall: $1^{st} - 76$; $2^{nd} - 22$; $3^{rd} - 32$;

Let's all look forward to next year's edition of Walled Lake Thunder!

Member Biography

Ray Dong

Personal Information:

Q: How long have you been involved with Marine Prop Riders? A long time, around 43 years or so. I participated in Soap Box Derby racing back then, and was fortunate to be interviewed on an afternoon radio show by Jimmy Launce on WJR. A man by the name of Ray Weber called in to the show and asked if I wanted to pursue a career in auto racing at some point. I said something like I'd rather get involved in boat racing and my goal was to win the Gold Cup. I had been hanging around the unlimited pits at the Detroit River. I guess I impressed him with my "goal", because later he invited me to attend a Marine Prop Riders meeting, which I did, and then joined the club — I was 15 years old at the time. Couldn't even drive myself to the meetings. Yes, that Ray Weber.



Q: What do you like about the MPR? Even though I did a lot of boat racing, I have come to value the people of the sport more than ever, like they're my extended family. MPR allows me to continue to be involved with all the current people of the sport more than ever, like they're my extended family.

they're my extended family. MPR allows me to continue to be involved with all the current and past people in the sport.

- **Q:** When did you start racing, as a driver? My first boat was Eldorado, a 48, which I got from Joe Tate. Never ran it though. My first driving experience was in Martinsville in 1972, in Tom LaClave's Y 4 boat. My claim to fame is that I qualified the first time I ever drove a boat. That's the way we learned to drive back then. Get in it and go.
- **Q:** You drove other boats also? One advantage I always had was that I was my light weight. When people wanted to see how a boat ran with little weight in it, they called on me. My size got me a lot of rides in some good and some not so good boats.
- **Q:** What do you consider your greatest racing accomplishment? I guess it would be winning the Inboard Nationals in 1985 in Super"J" Too in Dayton Ohio, with Jim Appley. We were running a Sunbeam in that boat, not a Crosley.
- Q: What do you think helped make you successful? It's got to be the people who helped me. I always sad that Muncey taught me how to drive, Willim taught me how to race, and Appley taught me how to win. The teams of people I worked with, and especially the people behind the scenes who make the races go are many times unthanked, they all made it possible for me to participate in the sport. Also people like Bill Wanderer, Joe Tate, Mario Maraldo, Rich Willim, Dave Sutton all mentored me and advised many young drivers as we grew in the sport.
- **Q:** You are also involved with the Unlimiteds? I've been a volunteer at the unlimited races since 1969, primarily with Pit Tower security, along with Red Mathis and others.
- *Q:* What's something that no one knows about you? Some may know this, but I was the last person to win a race with a Ford Flathead engine. It was in 1980 at St. Joes / Benton Harbor in Rich Willim's Snafu 6, I believe.
- **Q:** Your work background? I spent 30 years at Ford Motor Company as an Engineering Illustrator. I'm am now retired, live in Dearborn, but continue my career as a Sports Junkie.
- **Q:** Anything else? I think the unique thing about this sport of boat racing is that you can hang out with the big names, the heroes of the sport. You could call them on the phone, visit them at their homes. I don't think you can do that in any other major sport. Fred Alter, Bill Muncey, Tom D'Eath and so on. I find that very cool.



Ray Dong's Y-44 "Sophisticated Lady" in the early 80's.

Photos of Ray by Phil Kunz

Ray Dong's Y-1 "Super J Too" that he won the Nationals and Hi Points with in the mid and late 80's.





Mario Maraldo tears up the course

Photo by Paul Poledink 2012 at Walled Lake

WORLDS

July 20-22, 2012

Happy Hour Hydro HotLaps Friday night 4-6 pm



- World Championships Saturday from 10-5
- Second day of points Sunday from 10-5
- Possible testing session Friday 2-4
- Motor home parking (pre-registration required)
- Sanction to be finalized mid-June

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area Waterford-White Lake, Michigan

• Join DETROIT RACING LEGENDS

Honoring

Chuck Thompson



&

Chuck Thompson Jr.

Friday, July 13, 11:00 am
Sindbad's Sohar Room
Cash Bar
Hors-d'oeuvres
Slide Presentation





"Lightning
On The Water"

Mingle and meet the drivers, owners, crew and fans from across the country that have made the Gold Cup the oldest active Motor Sports Trophy in the world. For additional info contact Mary Dillon - marymdillon@gmail.com



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 Reason for sale: New boat. ----- Asking \$18K.

Ron Taylor: 269-926-8975, rjtaylor0134@yahoo.com

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

WANTED - for 2.5 Liter Stock:

Trailer, engine, prop, skid fin, and other equipment. Please contact Rich Falcinelli at 586-354-7903 or Jennifer Falcinelli at 586-242-5071.





U-64 Miss Vernor's Vintage Unlimited Hydroplane

Built by Fred Alter. Ran at vintage regattas in 2010. Complete package includes boat with recently rebuilt Allison engine and trailer. \$90k Also: spares: engine, Fairlane Tool gearbox, magneto, Holley carburetor, props & shafts, and misc. spare parts. \$30k





For more information e-mail: alterfred@gmail.net or contact marydillon@comcast.net 586-790-6144

Board Of Directors

President	Mary Anne Wilson	248-798-3188
Vice President	John Grigg	586-727-4069
Secretary	Paul Poledink	248-486-6986
Treasurer	Mario Maraldo	586-468-3204
Publicity	Brian Reed	586-751-3247
Membership	Jennifer Grigg	586-727-4069

Entertainment Ray Dong

Member at Large Eric Hindbaugh

Member at Large Eli Whitney 586-940-9869

Detro	INE PROP RIDERS it, Michigan pership Application	Single Membership\$20.00
Name Racing Men	nber	Home Phone
Family Members N	lames Non-Racing Member	ership
Address		Business Phone
City		Fax
		E-Mail
Occupation		Website
RACE AFFILIATIO	N: (Check) Driver □ Mech.	Website □ Official □ Media □ Other a race?
RACE AFFILIATIO	ON: (Check) Oriver □ Mech. nd your crew do to help at	□ Official □ Media □ Other
RACE AFFILIATIO Owner What would you an BOAT AFFILIATIO	ON: (Check) Oriver	□ Official □ Media □ Other



25999 Ballard Harrison Township MI 48045

