



November 2013

Hello Fellow Marine Prop Riders,

Thank you all for attending last month's meeting and electing next year's board. I'm very humbled to be elected and asked to represent the finest boat racing club in the land. I'd also like to thank Paul Poledink for his service and also welcome Wayne Shagena to the board. Last, but not least, I'd like to thank Mary Anne Wilson for her years of dedication to the Marine Prop Riders, Quake, and Region 6. She set the bar high for the club and continued the tradition of being the best club in the world. Look for bigger things to come at Quake now that she's laser focused.

Where did the summer go? We had 3 great races in Region 6, followed by a great event "on the border" of Region 6 in New Martinsville. I claim the race half ours as half the course is in our region. If you haven't been, you should mark it on your calendar for 2014. This is a first class event that promises to be even bigger and better in 2014. The whole town rolls out the red carpet and is a snapshot out of a time capsule.

Now we're all preparing and making plans for 2014 – including the club. What do you want out of YOUR club? We have a display boat, three races we support, growing membership, and an increasing social media presence. Have some ideas? Bring them to the next meeting to discuss. The board will be assembling an hour before the regular club meeting at Juliano's to discuss the future. You're invited to come and listen.

November is also a busy month of celebration for the Marine Prop Riders. First, our own Fred Alter is being inducted into the Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame in Mt. Pleasant on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Second, our Annual Banquet is on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't RSVP'd yet, please let Mario or Kathy Maraldo know if you'll be coming. It's always a great evening celebrating our distinguished members and champions. We also have a few surprises planned. Brush up on your MPR and racing trivia...

Regards,

Chris



## ***The Next Meeting Is November 6<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

## ***Save the Date!***

The **2013 MPR Awards Banquet** will be held  
Saturday, November 16 at the Concorde Inn.  
See page 4 for details.



# MEETING MINUTES

## Marine Prop Riders - General Meeting October 2, 2013 - Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:** At Juliano's in Warren. Called to order by MaryAnne at 7:32 P.M. John Bridge will be selling the 50-50 tickets again this evening. ALSO, Wayne S. will be promoting the Prop / Pitch game board, which stands at \$145. Visitors include Charley Rose, organizer of Old Car Show at Gold Cup. Welcome back to Andy G, and best wishes to Bob Knolls who is doing very well.

**President's Report:** Mary Anne discussed her resignation as MPR President. She will be assuming the Chairpersonship of the Quake, with Dale Hampshire retiring from that position. MaryAnne hopes that the December Potluck at APBA Headquarters, the Budget reformation, and the Vintage recognition, will continue, as well as support for existing Region 6 races. Achievements over the years of her Presidency include the Display Boat, increased membership, and a healthy financial balance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve September Minutes by Andy G., seconded by Rich F. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** As reported by Mario Maraldo - Disbursement of \$137.54 for postage and printing leaving a balance of \$9848.76 Motion to approve by Mike W., seconded by Brian R. Motion passed.

**Membership** Jennifer F. reported we are stable for the month at 212 members. Memberships for 2014 are beginning to come in, with reminder letters being sent out for MPR renewals. Banquet flyer will be included with these applications.

**Publicity:** Vallery R. had a few extra copies of the minutes available for those in need. Ray Dong guessed the date of the old minutes published in the last newsletter, as 1983.

**Entertainment:** Steve Wolski, historian of the old Motor City Speedway in Detroit. Will discuss and show slides of this famous Eastside Detroit auto and motorcycle racing venue.

### Race Reports

**Mach Series** Ray Dong again explained the rationale for the format, as "Change or Die".

**Dayton Testing** Reported on previously.

**Walled Lake Thunder** Reported on previously.

**Gold Cup** Reported on previously.

**Waterford/ Quake on the Lake** MaryAnne emphasized the extent to which the Quake has benefited the charity work of the Rainbow Connection – and that the recognition of these charitable outcomes of our racing activities should be recognized and celebrated.

**Celina, Ohio.** Reported on previously

**Rocky Fork** Canceled for 2013. New efforts in place for 2014

**Alum Creek** Canceled for 2013.

**Decatur** Working on 2014.

**New Martinsville** Sept. 27-28. **23 (twenty-three)** new straightaway speed records were set. 1L Mod and GNH classes ran successfully. More classes may be invited to run in 2014.

### APBA News

**IRC Racing News** Commissions are meeting regularly. Eastern Divisionals are open to a new bid.

**Region 6** The Fall Region 6 meeting in Perrysburg, Ohio, October 19-20, 2013. Important election of Region 6 leadership will take place. Some new rules will be discussed.

**Vintage** Relatively quiet. Mention of vintage participation at Celina and in Region 6 summary noted.

## Old Business

**Display Boat** Was present at Hooters Car Show /Display on Sept. 7. \$1516 was raised by the event according to Ed M. Thanks to the Falcinelli's, MaryAnne W. and others for their support.

**Insurance** Premium quotes for liability were discussed. Motion to table the discussion until spring passed. Approval to expend \$250-\$275 for premiums passed.

## New Business

**Annual Banquet** Is in final planning stages. Save the date: Nov 16, 2013. Same location: Concorde Inn in Mt. Clemens.

**Recognition** Sandy Ross reminded MPR that Fred Alter will be inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame on Nov. 3, 2013 in Mt. Pleasant, MI. All are invited to attend.

**Elections** For 2014 Club Officers and Directors took place. Elected by acclaim were Jennifer F. for Membership, Mario M. for Treasurer, Wayne S. for Secretary, Ray D. for Entertainment, Valery R. for Publicity, and Mike W. for Vice president. Rich F. was elected Member at Large, and Chris R. was elected President. Past president will also serve as Member at Large.

**Next Meeting:** November 6, 2013 at Juliano's in Warren. 7:30 pm.

**Adjournment:** Moved at 8:39 by Jennifer F, seconded by Judy R.. Motion passed.

50-50 cash prize of \$50, won by Earl Stilson. Tigers Poster donated by Ray D won by Andy G.

Submitted by Paul Poledink



## Welcome to New Members in 2013

In 2013, 69 new members joined the Marine Prop Riders. These members are new for 2013 but not necessarily new to MPR per previous years.

Carl Adams	Andrea Denka	Gina Hunter	Tom Pakradooni
Karen Adams	Debbie Dennig	John Jenkins	Barry Pray
Dean Armstrong	Tom Elston	Jake Jerge	John Pulbratek
Jerry Bell, Jr.	Alex Findlow	Kent Keogh	Tim Ries
Shelley Benner	Steve Fischl	Henry Kosciuszko, III	Russ Schulte
Robert Blamlage	Leif Glasius	Hal LeDuc	Kathleen Schulte
Joey Blamlage	Kelli Glasius	Helene LuDuc	Tom Swindling
Lisa Blamlage	Boden Glasius	Joe Marshall	Kimberly Ann Urbano
Justin Blamlage	Einar Glasius	Jeff Maurer	James Weier
Sean Bowsher	Gretchen Glasius	Kathleen Maurer	Jon Weier
Tanya Bowsher	Stephanie Greene	Julie Maurer	Faith Weier
Devyn Bowsher	Jayson Greene	Kristina Maurer	Michael Wiener
Shelby Bowsher	Carl Haas	Jack Meyer	Joanne Wiener
Pingree Conflitti	Jack (Jon) Hines	Bill Miller	Marty Wolfe
Andy Denka	Nancy Hines	Ross Molinaro	Randy Wolfe
Lynn Denka	Shane Horton	Stefanie Nettke	Elizabeth Wolfe
Sara Denka	Christina Horton	Matt O'Quinn	Rebecca Wolfe
	Shane Horton, Jr.		





# 2013 AWARDS BANQUET

*Saturday November 16, 2013*

*6:00 PM until midnight • Dinner at 7:00 PM  
"Evening Attire"*

*ConCorde Inn (Same place as 2009-2012)*

*44315 Gratiot Ave • Clinton Township, MI 48036 • 586-493-7300  
<http://www.concordeinns.com>*

*\$25.00 per person: Buffet style, cash bar*

*Hors d'oeuvres*

*Chicken Piccata, London Broil and Farfalla Marinara*

*California mixed veggies, salads and roasted red skin potatoes*

*Dessert, coffee, tea and soft drinks*

*RSVP to Mario or Kathy Maraldo*

*586-468-3204*

*Bring a gift basket and receive 20 raffle tickets*

## APBA Region 6 Fall 2013 Meeting

Eli Whitney reporting

25 October 2013

Racing business was the focus at the APBA Region 6 Fall Meeting October 19-20, 2013, in Perrysburg, Ohio. PRO, Stock Outboard, OPC, Mod Outboard, Vintage, and Inboard facet members plus club representatives met in the comfortable surroundings of the Holiday Inn French Quarter (US Route 20 and I-75, just south of Toledo, Ohio) to review 2013 racing, elect officers and commissioners, and plan for the future. On Saturday, we learned of the passing of the long time racing gentleman of APBA racing, Hank Wendt of New Jersey. APBA Region 6 extends condolences to Peggy Wendt and the family, we will miss his timely observations and dedication to our sport of boat racing. Let us also take a moment to remember all our friends and relatives who may have passed on since we last met, and extend support to any that are ailing.

Safety Capsule Training took place each morning under the auspices of Box 21 Emergency Support Services (official name now with their successful reorganization), with 14 of 14 candidates graduating (drivers are smart after all, 100% grad rate!).

The various committee meetings met Saturday, with Club Committee reports taking center stage. Quake on the Lake (Waterford, Mi) raised \$10,000 for the Rainbow Connection, which enables the granting of the wish of two seriously ill children. Celina, Ohio awarded their Governor's Cup again, with late arriving community support greatly appreciated by the racing community. Walled Lake, Mi.'s Thunder Regatta resounded with success, looking forward to 2014. J-hydros raced at every SO, Mod, and Inboard regatta this past year, continuing to be a building block for APBA's racing future. The Marine Prop Riders Awards Banquet will be held Saturday evening, November 16, 2013, at the Concorde Inn (just north of Mt Clemens, Mi. on Gratiot Ave.), \$25 gets you great food, awards, company, and times! **Chris Ritz** is the new MPR president, announced by current president **Mary Ann Wilson**, who is not vanishing into thin air, but concentrating on the 2014 Quake, which will be the APBA Inboard Nationals scheduled for July 19-20, 2014 (watch for details next spring). The Inboard driving school is again tentatively planned for sometime in May, 2014 in Dayton, Ohio (at the famed Hydrobowl, of course!), along with testing. Mark Wheeler was elected chairman of the Club Committee, while **Jennifer Falcinelli** was chosen Director.

Inboard Officiating Committee Chairman **Rick Falcinelli** led a serious discussion of the need for more scorers in the region, driver rep selection, and improved turn judge procurement for races, especially the latter, to avoid race morning delays. **Rich Falcinelli** was acknowledged to have completed his inspector training.

The Vintage meeting found a fair number of attendees, with this year's proceedings and possible plans for next year, including activities at region inboard races, being discussed.

The Region 6 Officiating Committee meeting went smoothly, ably managed by continuing Chairman Mary Williams. **Rich Evans** was elected Director.

Elections - fall business for each APBA region, and these proceeded efficiently by each facet. Of note, current APBA Region 6 Chairman **Billy Noonan** reluctantly announced his resignation from the office, as a new job does not allow time to fulfill the duties of region chairman. APBA Region 6 extends thanks to Billy for his long time service to boat racing and the region, recognizing that he has not gone away, just cut back on responsibilities. Tom Johnston was elected by the region BOD to the office, Tom's experience and expertise will make the transition seamless. Inboard elections went like this: Inboard Chairman: **Don (Eli) Whitney**; Director: **Steve Spisak**; Alt Director: **Rich Falcinelli**; IRC Commissioners: Marty Hammersmith, **Jim Sechler**.

Future - what's next? The **APBA Region 6 Spring 2014 Meeting**, of course! The Awards Banquet is planned for Saturday evening, February 22, 2014, with the always fine food and dining experience supplied by the Holiday Inn French Quarter, followed by the recognition of Region 6 racing champions of 2013, with awards presented for class Hi-Points, Rookies of the Year, special achievements, and MACH (Mid American Championship Hydroplanes). As always, facets and committees will meet to discuss news from the national meeting, learn of rule changes, and set the 2014 racing schedule. A special feature for Inboard will be discussion and final vote on a bylaw change regarding prize money requirements for Region 6 Inboard race sites. Inboarders, take note: ya gotta be there to vote, no proxies!

# Vintage Views

## The Helter Skelter Saga

### Introduction

Machines built to race have a defined shelf life – and it's usually quite a short one.

They live as long as they are competitive with the other racing machines they compete against. Once they are judged as being uncompetitive – because of technological developments, design innovations, rule changes, or powerplant upgrades, these machines are put to rest. Raceboats - and in particular wood hydroplanes from the '50s, '60s and '70s - enjoyed their relatively brief time in the racing spotlight after which most of them became obsolete, unable to compete anymore.

Some of these boats were sold off or carefully stored. Others were haphazardly covered up, abandoned and forgotten about in the back of barns or behind garages. Still others were cannibalized for useful parts and then destroyed, sometimes in a Viking Funeral. A few did end up in boat museums or collections, or can be seen hanging on the walls or ceilings of sports bars. Many just seemed to cease to exist, their whereabouts unknown. Recently, however, the belief that these old warhorses held some value has emerged in the race boat culture.

Here's the story in four parts of one of those racing machine survivors, a three point 280 hydroplane by the name of **Helter Skelter**. It was designed and built, raced and then sold. It eventually disappeared, was unexpectedly discovered, underwent rebuilding and restoration - and now lives and performs on the American Powerboat Association's Vintage Circuit. The story is told through the eyes of the original owner and drivers, the discoverer, the restorers, the current owner (who happens by chance to also be the original owner), and the boat's current drivers. The saga involves a time span of over 45 years, and is a case study of friendship, expertise, persistence, and a whole lot of luck and coincidence.

### Part 1 The Discovery by Rich Willim

"I have a friend, who has a cottage on Wolf Lake which is near the Michigan International Speedway. The Jackson, Michigan area. About seven years ago, he told me about a hydroplane which his buddy Erik got from an elderly lady whose husband had passed away. It was in a garage. Upon first contact he wanted \$15,000 for it. Well, here's the hitch. I asked for some pictures of it and was e-mailed pictures of George English's *Lloyd 135*. Nope, ain't gonna pay that much, no way, for that boat.

So every once in a while I would ask Tom, my friend, to check with Erik about the boat. Over the year's time the price kept coming down as Erik realized he probably couldn't afford to restore the boat. It was supposed to be a father/son deal, but unfortunately his father passed away. Tom called me and said Erik would now take \$5,000 for the boat. I figured there would be negotiation room at that price so I made an appointment to see the boat.

I drove up to Wolf Lake and met with Erik at a small factory in the area. Covered with a canvas, the boat was now sitting on an old trailer in a yard behind the factory. As soon as I saw the canvas, I knew there wasn't a *Lloyd 135* underneath it. We uncovered the boat – but I was stumped as to what make it was. I knew it was a 280 because you could see **E6\_ \_** faintly bleached into the top of a sponson. But, I couldn't identify the builder of the boat. It looked like a *Lauterbach*, but it had *Farmer* influences. I took a dozen or so pictures of the boat, and considered buying it if the price was right. Erik and I wheeled and dealt our way to a price I was sort of willing to pay, an amount he seemed willing to accept.



The yet-to-be -identified hydro as found next to the fence in a shop's back lot. I just removed the tarp.



That Friday night I e-mailed the pictures to my friend Phil Kunz, who has a large historical archive of hydroplane pictures he has taken over the years, and asked him to identify the boat if he could. Early the next morning I got a call from Phil. "That's my old boat, **Helter Skelter**" he said. "It's my old *Cunningham*. Where is it, and is it for sale?" Although the boat was in rough shape, Phil recognized it from the details in the pictures I sent him. I told him where it was and how much the owner was asking – the agreed upon price. Phil asked me if I would buy it for him and bring it home.



The name Lauterbach is cast in the rudder, but the boat itself does not call out Lauterbach design and construction.

I agreed to do this, and drove up to Wolf Lake a couple of days later. I met with Erik, and some further discussions lowered the price somewhat, and he did throw into the deal a lot of extra engine parts. I very carefully and slowly towed the boat back to my home on rotted tires and a jury-rigged taillight bar which I brought along. Poor Phil did not sleep for a couple of nights until I called him and told him it was safe in my garage. All in all, I was happy to be instrumental in getting Phil's old race boat back to him. I guess luck is being in the right place at the right time."



The mechanicals as seen in the boat's cockpit all seemed to be there. She hadn't been cannibalized when stored. A good sign.



The aluminum cladding on the sponson was in place. Looks like there might be patch or modification on the bottom.

Next Month: Part 2 **The Beginnings**

Submitted by Paul Poledink



The cowling has been butchered and half the deck gone. Not the best of signs.



# A Blast From the Past. . .



## NEWS -N- RUMORS

Congratulations to the following for being inducted into the Hall of Champions at the National Meeting in St. Louis.

Mark Tate  
Tom D'Eath  
Brad Mosier  
Dave Villwock

Dave Villwock was also recently named as the new team manager for the 'Circus Circus' Unlimited team.

In 1989, you can expect to see...

- ... Chip Hanauer driving either the 'Circus Circus' or 'Mr. Pringles'. The Miller American Unlimited team is no more.
- ... Scott Pierce driving the 'Mr. Pringles' if Hanauer opts for the 'Circus Circus'.
- ... the Nationals at Littleton, New Hampshire.
- ... the Eastern Divisionals at Raleigh, North Carolina.
- ... the Western Divisionals at Phoenix, Arizona.
- ... Jim Kropfeld back in the cockpit of 'Miss Budweiser'.
- ... A new Grand Prix owned by Bernie Maduri, and driven by Vinnie DuBuc.
- ... Bernie getting his license in Vinnie's 7 Litre 'Ruffian'.
- ... Einar getting his GP license in Vinnie's GP - 'Genuine Risk'.

Could you follow all that?!

- ... Jim and Bob King with a second 'Orange Crush' both will be GP's, with two different paint jobs.
- ... Another new GP: the 'Frisch's Big Boy, Shopsmith, Long Gone' owned by Huey Newport, Ron Brunner, and Les Brown. Driven by Bo Schide. It would have to be a GP just to get that name on the hull.
- ... A safety cell driver test in Toledo, prior to the race there in June. This will involve drivers strapped into a cell, and dropped into a pool to test reaction. This will benefit both the drivers, and Box 21.

Einar appears to be headed to Florida this December to test his new 6 Litre.

Valleyfield will bid on the 1990 Nationals.



## NEWS -N- RUMORS

In 1989, you can expect to see...

- ... Norm Phillips with a new GP - the former 'Long Gone'
- ... A new driver of the 'Lucy Baby'. Dick Harris has retired, and at last word, 7 drivers have sent letters to Don Kemper.
- ... Mike Weber, our President, with a brand new Staudacher 5 Litre, 'My Way', complete with reinforced cockpit and air supply. Mike took SCUBA lessons to learn to use the air supply properly, and, at this moment, is expecting to see something in print about how he almost hacked up the cockpit when he went to cut it to fit. But I wouldn't do that, Mike.
- ... Jackie Meyer driving a new boat - Mark Burghardt's old 'X-ray'
- ... James Jackson in a new, home-built 5 Litre (?!).
- ... Alan Vordemeier with a new double-engine unlimited hull. (Shades of Jerry Schoenith? Will it have Nitrous?)

### ALSO:

In 1989, all 2.5 Litre stock and 5 Litres will be weighed. This will be for reference only. The intent is to set a minimum weight for the 1990 season at the next National Meeting. More details as they become available.


## Event Schedule – 2013

*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



Happy Thanksgiving!



**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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**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

☐ Single Membership...\$20.00

☐ 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





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