Canadian Boating Federation
Vintage Division Rooster Tales

Spring 2010 Vol: 1 Issue: 2

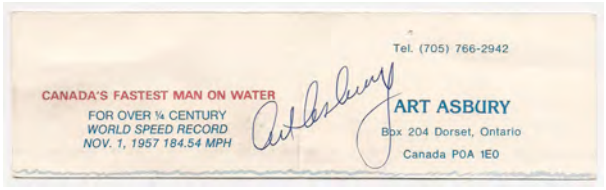
Welcome to the second issue of the CBF Vintage Division's Rooster Tales.

A special thank you goes out to all who sent along feedback and words of encouragement. The mailing list tripled since the first edition went out in January. This means there will be more to photos to share and stories to tell.

Over the past two months I have received numerous emails and news from vintage fans looking to share their passion. One email in particular caught my attention and that was a note from Gary Boothby who has acquired a very special hydroplane that will make its way back onto the vintage circuit in 2010, Miss Canadiana CF-11. Gary has previously spent time on the vintage circuit with his uncle Art Asbury and felt that there is no better time to get this historical hull back on the water.

Here's a little shot that actually sits in a frame on my desk. Art Asbury with the CF-11 along with my friend Gilles Bouchard and myself in the pits, St-Timothee1986.





A little souvenir from that day in the pits.

In addition, we have made a huge step forward with the translation of the newsletter into French so the audience is that much larger.

I hope you enjoy the 2nd issue and please be sure to send along your feedback and project updates so that we can keep the newsletter fresh and as interesting as possible.

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CBF News

Vintage Membership: Please note that membership forms are available on the official web-site of the Canadian Boating Federation for both owner/drivers in addition to crew members.

http://www.cbfnc.ca/files/2010__racing.pdf

The rules for the 2010 season have been submitted to the CBF office to be published. As we discussed in Brockville at the annual meeting in November, the CBF will follow the lead of the APBA for consistency. The engine and boat specs for the two exclusive Canadian classes (CM-3Litre & CQ- 360) will be issued as an addendum to the Canadian rules.

Still looking for old CBF rule books and if you have some hiding in a box somewhere please think about sending them over so that we can start to build a nice archive for the Vintage Division.



PROJECT UPDATES

Since January much progress has been made on a number of different projects. Again, if you have any project updates, please feel free to send them my way so I can include them in the next newletter. You can email me at

vintagehydroscanada@hotmail.com

If you don't have photos, no worries I'll dig some up off the hard-drive that I've taken or will find on the internet.

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IRISHMAN GP-317: Bill Fisk sent a note letting us know that he was heading over to check out the progress on the the Irishman and it will see the water in 2010. This is great news.



The Irishman is featured in one of the coolest hydro photos I've ever seen, literally flying over the water.



Photo Credit – Phil Kunz 2003©

You can check Phil Kunz's web-site at;

http://www.philkunzphotography.com/

If you're looking for photos of your hull Phil is the man to be able to help you out.

MISS DYNOMITES GP-1001
Roger Lapierre had the GP-1001 Miss Dynomites in the shop for a complete overhaul and she was back in the water at a couple of vintage event in Florida this Spring.



Valleyfield - 2009

Now let's jump into some Canadian workshops to see what's happening.

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L'il LIGHTNING

Bob Abbott is making significant progress on the L'il Lightning and with a few touch-ups on some woodwork, the decks will be ready for sanding then paint. Bob recently picked up a Pinto 2000 motor and is in process of getting ready for the summer.





JENALURE

Alain Primeau and Francois Lesperance have been plugging away at Jenalure. Alain writes in to tell us the sponsons were in worse shape than originally thought, but he is taking it in stride. Better to find out now and fix it before you blow a hole at speed. It looks like one of the old stringers was a Sher-Wood P.M.P 7000 hockey stick. A little on the heavy-side, I would go with CCM, but then again I'm a little biased working for the brand. Alain and Francois were featured in the local Valleyfield newspaper (Le Soliel) with a full page and half story on the hull, the project, their friendship and the dozen cases of Pepsi they've gone through to date. This was excellent exposure/PR for the Vintage division as we head into our first year. Way to go guys!





MISS DANASH II

Michael Hill sent a note to let us know that the Danash II is coming along nicely. Like Alain on Jenalure, it looks like they have taken it down as far as they need to go and will now start the re-building process making construction

improvements along the way. This hull took a beating over its long championship career, and it will be nice to see the GP-929 on the vintage circuit in the coming seasons. Michael & Wain is looking to have her ready in 2011.



Trotter-Hill racing recently added Jason Pomerleau's The Specialist to their fleet of vintage hydros. Look for it in the pits this summer.



PIXIE

We jumped back into the shop for the installation of the hardware. Bob Abbott located an oil pan for the Pinto engine and we will get that dropped in over the next couple of weeks. Francois Lesperance did an excellent job of shaping the frames for us. Steering and rudder are almost completed. And we are just waiting for a few parts that are out getting machined and we will be good to go for rigging, plumbing and then decks.

It will be three years by the time she hits the water this summer. From what we thought would a small restoration project, it turned into a complete rebuild. The learning we've made over the length of the project will only make the Long Gone H-4 project that much easier. In the mean-time the gang of us can say we built a boat. Let's hope it floats!



Frank doing what he does best!

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Check out the fin on the left!

ROYAL CANADIANA

Don Payne wrote in to update the vintage group on his progress in building the Royal Canadiana. Don's father was part of the CANADIANA RACING TEAM back in the 60's and was quite the craftsmen. The Lady Payne was campaigned in the Canadian 360 Class (CQ) by Mike Scherf back in the late 70's and '80s. Restored and run on the vintage circuit by Jackie and Tom Bertonlini it now resides in Italy.



The Royal Canadiana will make a nice addition to the Canadian circuit when completed. Don promises to keep us updated on his progress.

Paul Barber sent along some images of his most recent acquisition, a 6 Litre home-built that campaigned on the CBF circuit back in the 80's. While Paul is busy working on the history his younger brother Mike does all the hard work. Just kidding Paul, they look to have it ready this summer with Mike running the 6-Litre and Paul running the CM-32 3-Litre. Excellent!



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A VISIT WITH SYLVAIN DEMERS

One of the great things about living in Quebec is the proximity to so many historical race sites, hulls and former drivers. I paid a visit to the shop of Sylvain Demers who's been a fixture in the vintage division for many years. I wanted to see first hand where the magic happens. Sylvain has quite the shop and one can't help but notice the Lauterbach, Desourdy Special GP-1, parked in the back when you come through the door, truly a work of art.

Racing legend Robert Cabana stopped by to share in the chatter and some of the nicest albums I've ever scene that tell the story of his career, from action photos, pit passes, trophies, crew shirt patches and press clippings, they're something to behold.



If you're ever at a vintage or inboard event and Mr. Cabana is there, be sure to take the time to view these albums. I will have to head back again soon, with more time, to sit down and enjoy!



Robert Cabana beside the Desourdy Special that he drove to a Canadian GP Championship

Another former racer, champion and record holder, Andre L'Heureux stopped by to say hello and brought along his own photos to share. Known for his Canada Maid hulls through the 60's & 70's, Mr. L'Heureux is having Sylvain restore his last hull, Canada Maid III the 6-Litre Jones.

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Andre L'Heureux beside the Canada Maid III that sat in his garage since the late 70's.

Sylvain is also working on a Y-Class hydro that he picked up at one of the Clayton Vintage Raceboat Regattas. He's in process of transforming it back to a conventional from a cab-over.



We'll be heading back to Sylvain's shop soon to spend more time soaking in the décor, the chatter and above all the history. Thank you for taking the time!

Now back to our friends in the APBA…

Patti Morsheimer of the Morsheimer Racing family sent along updates on three projects. While they are based out of New York they have been a fixture on the Canadian vintage scene for years.

LONG GONE GP-7/ El Bandito GP-33



In process of fitting patterns to rebuild the sponsons. This hull was a dominant player on the GP circuit back in the early 80's driven by Kent MacPhail as the LONG GONE GP-7 and eventually became El Bandito campaigned by Norm Phillips.

SCORPIO F-107

Built by Watson-Lewis and just waiting for paint and the engine from the builder.



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COUNTRY BOY H-77 / J3 VAGABOND

Built by Ron Jones and now requires a total rebuild. In the process of building a jig in order to begin the restoration.



I believe this boat sat in the same field as the LONG GONE H-4. Nice to see that it will be brought back!

White Lightning CE-54

Paul Poledink picked up what looks to be a vintage Lloyd 5-Litre that raced up here in Canada as White Lightning CE-54 and is in process of finishing up her restoration down in Minnesota. He's looking for some help from the Canadian Hydro Historians for any history, photos, owners/drivers etc so if anyone knows anything about this hull please let us know so we can help Paul with his pit display board.



That's for the project updates. For those who shared their stories, thank you.

Stay tuned for more next edition. If you would like to share please send photos and text over to me and I will make sure it gets into the next issue.

Coming to bookstores soon…

Paul Reid is in the process of putting together a book on the history of boat racing in the 40-50's and has sent along a little teaser .

"On a recent fact finding travel day, I had the privilege of meeting and interviewing Mr. Marcel Piette, a famous local Berthierville hydroplane racer from the early 50's who built his own copy of a famous race boat and named her " Meteor ". She was campaigned locally. He later bought Mr. Gamache's "Typhoon" and his brother purchased and campaigned Wilfred Daoust's D runabout named "Pierot"."



"Meteor" Photo Copyright Paul Reid

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Paul is always on the lookout for photos, clippings and contacts related to racing in the 40's and 50's. If you are able to help him out please don't hesitate to get in touch with him.

HYDROPLANES – ONLINE

For those of you who are on Facebook there are a number of different groups related to vintage hydroplanes. There are literally hundreds of photos that are being shared within these fan groups and a great source for those of you looking for pictures of your own hull back in the day. Check them out;

Vintage Hydroplanes – Canada
Lauterbach Custom Boats
Vintage Hydroplane Lovers
The "Miss Supertest" Unlimited Hydroplanes
The Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum
Blue Water Special Racing
Miss Canadiana Racing

Links

www.cbfnc.ca Canadian Boating Federation
www.vintagehydroplanes.com
www.hydroplanequebec.com

As mentioned last edition Art Smith recently put together footage from Region 3 and has the DVD available for those of you who like vintage race footage, I've watched it I don't know how many times! The footage is great!

If you are interested please contact Art directly at the following; Art Smith hydroplaneart@yahoo.com

Group Campaigns for Miss Supertest Stamp

A great article written by Norris McDonald appears on the wheels.ca website. The deadline to write in to show support for the campaign is March 31, 2010.
http://www.wheels.ca/reviews/article/784594
Here is a link to a video on the history of Miss Supertest from the 2005 Induction video for Bob Hayward and Jim Thompson into the London Sports Hall of Fame. Some great footage is included.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BgkAYbHB8aU



EVENTS

The event schedule for 2010 is updated and available at the following link;

http://www.vintagehydroplanes.com/2010events.html

Be sure to check it out prior to making your plans for the summer. Web-site and contact info is available with each listing.

VALLEYFIELD – July 9 to 11

Ben Lemay has been in touch concerning Valleyfield to confirm invitations for larger hydros and display space for smaller hydros. This is a huge step forward for vintage at the premiere inboard event in North America. Pixie will be there!

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GRAVENHURST– July 10 to 11
Gary Getson and Ron Stevenson have been in touch with me regarding their interest in having vintage hydros participate in the famous Gravenhurst Boat Show. While the weekend is the same as Detroit & Valleyfield the location is prime and the distance is significant from the other venues. If there is interest on the reader's part to learn more please let me know. I know Andrew Fralick is working diligently on behalf of the outboard category and I have inquired with the CBF office on next steps so we'll keep you posted.

CLAYTON – August 12 to15
Dave Richardson and Marv Hart from the Antique Race Boat Regatta have reached out to us in the CBF and offered to provide space for a hospitality tent that we can use to promote the CBF-Vintage. This venue and event is 1st class so be sure to include it in your summer plans.

EVENT PROMOTION/VOLUNTEERS
We are here to support all local efforts but we really need local volunteers to maximize the potential of future events. Venues of interest include;

Hayward Long Reach – Picton, ON
Beauharnois – Quebec
Cardinal – Ontario
Belioel - Quebec

If you, or someone you know has an interest in promoting an event please let us know. Just look at what Wheeling has done in such a short amount of time. An awesome event & great for the local economy too!

Scenes from the Clayton ('06)







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WANTED/FOR SALE

I know there are many of you looking for things related to your project(s) so I will start this one off and let me know what you are looking for and I'm sure there will be many people willing to help in your search.

A lot of people just have stuff in boxes so maybe a little incentive to share it wouldn't hurt…MASSIVE PAY-OUT for…

WANTED- PIXIE CS-5 related photos, film, video, programs, pins, crew uniforms or t-shirts. Ross McCracken – vintagehydroscanada@hotmail.com

WANTED- LONG GONE H-4 / MISS OTTAWA GP-21 related photos, film, video, programs, pins, crew uniforms or t-shirts. Ross McCracken – vintagehydroscanada@hotmail.com

The Archive Project

One of my goals for 2010 is to establish an archive that once it takes it shape will allow the information that is out there to be collected, sorted and available to share. If you have photos that you want to share but don't have a scanner, no problem. Send them our way, we'll scan and upload to the various web-sites and then send the photos back.
If you have anything collecting dust please consider donating them to the cause.

What's out there?

Paul Barber found a nice 6-Litre that will end up on the vintage circuit. What else is out there hiding that we can find for a new participant and get them out on the water?

I know of a 6 litre in Michigan that is looking for a new home. It has lots of history and was a strong competitor through the 80's. Interested? Send me an email and I will put you in touch with the seller.



The CBF – Vintage Division

If you have any questions regarding the Vintage Division please do not hesitate to contact me. Sylvain Demers is also an excellent resource and official inspector, so if you have questions regarding your hull and motor running the vintage circuit please let Sylvain know.

Ross McCracken – VP CBF Vintage Division
vintagehydroscanada@hotmail.com

Sylvain Demers – Inboard Rep
sylvaindemers@sympatico.ca

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Next Heat (Edition)

Vol.: 1 Issue 3 (May/June)

- More Project updates!
- I'm putting together a Q&A for Kent MacPhail, former Champion in the Grand Prix Class.
- Testing photos…hopefully

On February 21st, my wife and I had a little girl, so I'm now officially outnumbered 3-1. I suggested some names but there was no convincing my wife. If any of you know of any women with the first name PIXIE, please let me know. I can't change it now, but there's no harm in proving a point is there? In all seriousness, Macy now joins her big sister Meaghan as part of the official crew on PIXIE. Engine classes begin at age 5! Macy actually sent her CBF form in @ 4 weeks of age.

See you in the pits!

Ross McCracken
CBF-VP Vintage Division
PIXIE CS-5 LONG GONE H-4

As Scene in the Pits…





