

Results of the 6-13-2015 Spring Lake Wet Meet by Mark Suter

Weather & Attendance

It was unfortunate that we had a cool breeze and some sporadic light rain occurring during our day at Mill Point Park in the Village of Spring Lake. Just about the time that the meet was coming to an end, the rain stopped, the temperature came up and the sun started burning through the clouds. However, the weather seemingly didn't deter attendees from having a good time at this event. There were 38 registered attendees.

Water & Barrel Events

There were a number of people that tried to compete in a "How Slow Can You Go?" Contest but Jim Brizzolara was the only one that managed to get his motor running (a Scott-Atwater 3.6HP single). The weather conditions likely were adversely affecting the operation of the other contestant's motors. Thankfully, Jim's motor started, ran well and gave him an impressive lowest sustained idle speed of 315 RPM. Congratulations to Jim for such a fine showing and thanks to the others for at least trying to compete.

There also was a "Stop/Start" boating event where contestants would each try to turn in the fastest time in the following cycle using the same aluminum "rowboat" with a Mercury Super 5 motor. The boat was started at the dock and the driver ran out to the first buoy at top speed and then killed the motor. The driver then restarted the motor, completed a turn around the first buoy and ran at top speed to the second buoy. The time from the start to reaching the second buoy was measured with a stop watch. Due to the poor weather conditions, we only had two participants but it was a close race with Austin Smith getting the 1st Place ribbon and Jeanette Dykehouse taking 2nd. Congratulations to both contestants... it was quite exciting to watch.

Peoples' Choice Show Motor Competition

We had a great turnout of motors for this competition (21 entries) and that resulted in a very interesting display. This was enhanced by quite a few additional motors that were shown but not entered in the competition. Among these were two Blakely motors that were made in Muskegon, one owned and under restoration by Roger Dykehouse and the other a "Concours" restoration done by BJ Pawlaczyk and now owned by the Muskegon Historical Museum. The Blakely display included information developed by Roger when he research the history of the Blakely Company and that drew a lot of interest to the motors. Since our meet had been widely publicized around the Village of Spring Lake by our Chapter as well as the Village, we attracted a lot of "town-folks" who came by to see our display. And they were well-rewarded for stopping by. Some even participated in the Peoples' Choice voting. The results of the competition were as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Motor</u>
Orig. Ant.	1st	Jackie Palmisano	1926 Johnson A in Shipping Crate
	2nd	Amy Harrington	1946 Mercury KD4
	HM	Bill Bowers	1940 Champion S2F
	HM	Rog Dykehouse	1918 Evinrude RBM
	HM	Dan Soderstrom	1936 Champion 3B
Rest. Ant.	1st	Don Koopman	1927 Johnson K35
	2nd	Jim Brizzolara	1948 Mercury KE3
Conc. Ant.	1st	Mark Suter	1928 Lockwood Ace
Unus. Ant.	1st	Tom Palmisano	1913 Racine RBM

<u>Category</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Motor</u>
Orig. Clas.	1st	Dick Veurink	1956 Johnson 7.5
	2nd	Tom Palmisano	1967 Evinrude 3012E Folder in Carrying Case
	HM	Jim Wildgen	1965 Merc 110
	HM	Noel Harrington	1954 Mercury Mark 7
	HM	Ray Hilt	1956 Neptune Mighty-Mite
Rest. Clas.	1st	Jeanette Dykehouse	1952 Martin 60
	2nd	Dick Veurink	1951 Mercury KG4
Unus. Clas.	1st	Bill Cochrane	1965 Schnacke Mid-Jet 4
BOS Ant.		Noel Harrington	1938 Johnson MS-38
BOS Clas.		Dan Soderstrom	1958 Oliver K

Abbreviations: Ant. = Antique, Clas. = Classic, Orig. = Original, Rest. = Restored, Conc. = Concours, Unus. = Unusual "HM" = Honorable Mention and "BOS" = Best of Show. There were no entries in the Concours Classic and Electric categories. Our congratulations go out to the winners and our thanks go to all that brought motors and helped put together this great display. As a great additional touch, Noel Harrington made little individual trophies (profiles of an outboard motor) that went to each of the category and BOS winners in addition to their ribbons. Thanks, Noel!

Lunch

Marco's Pizza (which is located in a strip mall adjacent to Mill Point Park) set up a table in the park and was selling 3 varieties of pizza by the slice. They also were taking orders for other items off their regular menu. I tried one of their sub sandwiches and it was very good. The best part is that Marco's did all of the work and handled all of the money. Based on their manager's positive comments after meal, they would be willing to do this again.

Finances

There were total expenses of \$69.07 for donut holes, coffee, cups, napkins, spoons, plates, etc. (some of the serving items were unused so they will be used at future WC meets. There were no revenues raised at this meet so the funds to cover these expenses were taken out of the WC treasury. There was some discussion after the meet about the need to put out a can for donations in the future to help offset such expenses. The security deposit for our 2015 meet has not been returned to the WC yet but we are expecting the Village of Spring Lake to do so in the near future.

Wrap-Up

Although the weather didn't cooperate, it still was a fun day in a great site (we received many favorable comments about both the meet and the site). Mill Point Park is an ideal location for a Wolverine Chapter wet meet and our Meet Co-Chairs, Amy and Noel Harrington did a super job in putting together a great inaugural event at this site. A big thank you goes out to these first-time hosts for all of their efforts. Others deserving thanks for helping prepare for the meet and/or helping at the meet were Roger Dykehouse, Jack Gilbert, Austin Smith, Bill Cochrane, Jim Brizzolara, Nathan Harrington, Diane Hilton and the Village of Spring Lake. The Village put out a big sign announcing our event to local residents and that made us feel truly welcome in using their park. It was also interesting to hear some of the "townies" that visited our motor display commenting on their appreciation for the opportunity to do so. So recognizing the value of this site and the appreciation shown by the Village for putting on the event there, we have reserved the date of June 11, 2016 for the second annual meet here and have paid the necessary security deposit. Those that attended this meet are definitely looking forward to the 2016 meet... and are already putting in a good word for better weather!
