

Meeting: Combined APBA Region 7 meeting and MRC/BSOA meeting/awards banquet

Date: Nov. 4, 2023

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: The Brat Stop, 12304 75th St., Kenosha, WI 53142

Secretary: Michael Mackey

Attendees: Dee Berghauer, Michelle Brokish, Ryan Burdick, Kristi Ellison, Chris Fairchild, Bill Gohr, Pat Gorchals, Tyler Graves, Dustin Hipkins, Grace Hipkins, Julie Hipkins, Ray Hipkins, John Hoffmann, John Hoffmann, Chuck Homuth, Cooper Jess, John Korbus, Darrel Ludwig, Holden Mackey, Lauren Mackey, Michael Mackey, Cassandra Olson, Tad Olson, Brandon Ortlieb, Paul Ortlieb, Brian Palmquist, Bill Pavlick III, Karsten Pavlick, Mark Preidis, Tom Preidis, Jennifer Przybyla, Roger Przybyla, Callie Shensky, Kris Shepard, Michael Shepard, Dominick Trolan, Robert Trolan, Tracy Trolan, Brent Walbrun, Mike Wienandt.

Meeting was called to order at 4:48 p.m. sharp by Region Chair Bill Pavlick III. Previous R7 meeting minutes (Nov. 12, 2022) and MRC meeting minutes (April 15, 2023) were not read. Like all R7 and MRC meeting minutes, they were distributed via email and posted in perpetuity on the [Marine Racing Club meetings webpage](#).

Region 7 — Bill Pavlick III

- R7 hosted 13 races in 2023. Categories represented were Stock, Modified, Junior, OPC, Inboard and Offshore.
 - BSOA ran a successful Stock/Modified/Junior national championship in Wakefield, Michigan (technically in Region 6).
- R7 Safety Fund discussion:
 - Brent Walbrun reports \$2,526.88 in the fund.
 - Money comes from sanctioned days of racing in R7 (\$25 per sanction day per race).
 - Kris Shepard proposed using some of the Safety Fund (as well as help from BSOA, MRC and the APBA Historical Society) to replace BSOA's two 15hp, 2-stroke Mercury pickup boat engines with 15hp 4-stroke Mercury engines. Ballpark cost is \$2,500-\$3,000 per engine.
 - Motion was made to solicit \$1,000 each from the Safety Fund, BSOA, MRC and APBA President Chris Fairchild personally; motion seconded, voted and unanimously approved.
 - Fairchild insisted on 20hp engines instead of 15 hp, which was agreed.
 - Kris Shepard will attempt to work with Lake County, Illinois, to purchase the engines for a lower cost than retail.
 - Ryan Burdick volunteered to sell the old 15hp 2-stroke Mercury engines with the proceeds going to make up the cost difference and any extra going back to BSOA and MRC as they are the clubs tasked with the financial responsibility of servicing and repairing the engines.

- Roger Przybyla questioned the progress of the Stock Outboard 4-stroke project.
 - Fairchild reported that Joe Pater and Mike Schmidt have been continuing testing, including using a racing A-class gearcase.
 - The racing gearcase is yielding results slightly faster than the stock gearcase.
 - The CSH they tested with was reported as “big,” but also “OK” for the engine.
 - The availability of brand-new, A-class racing gearcases is very limited.
- Mark Preidis questioned what are the rules that allow current production engines to race and what, if any, classes are open to accepting new engines.
 - Discussion ensued about the B class which allows the Yamato, Sidewinder and 25XS Mercury and the confusion surrounding multiple engines allowed in a single class.
 - Mike Wienandt ended the discussion saying, “Stock needs to get back to stock” indicating the Stock category should steer back to using readily available, new engines that can be purchased over the counter.

Commissioners and the 2023 Region Election — Bill Pavlick III

- Stock Outboard: Ryan Burdick.
- Modified Outboard: Brian Palmquist.
- Pro Outboard: Kristi and Kevin Ellison.
- Dee Berghauer brought up issues with the 2023 region election in that there was no option for write-in candidates and no option to abstain from voting.
 - A lengthy, at times heated, and most certainly circuitous discussion ensued. This issue was recognized and acknowledged, determined to be a form error at the HQ level and ensured to be rectified for the next election cycle.

Club Business — Bill Pavlick III

- Thanks to Del Snyder and Michelle Brokish for looking after the club truck and trailer these many years.
- Thanks to the Hoffmanns, who will be the custodians of the equipment moving forward.
- A club equipment day will be held in the spring.

Race Schedule — Bill Pavlick III

- **Phantom Lake, Wisconsin (BSOA).** We cannot do anything with this until after Jan. 1, 2024 and Roger Przybyla needs help. The meetings with the town of Mukwonago are three times a week (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday). The community likes having us there, particularly the parent/child interaction they see with our racing families. This race is scheduled for the weekend before

Memorial Day (we cannot race at this site between Memorial Day and Labor Day due to the public boat launch, traffic and the inability to control the water from fishing and pleasure boats during the traditional boating season).

- **Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin (USTS)**. May 24-26.
- **Danville, Illinois (MRC)**. June 29-30 with setup and testing Friday, June 28.
- **DePue, Illinois (USTS)**. Pro Nationals. July 24-28.
- **Rock Falls, Illinois (MRC)**. Aug. 3-4 with setup and testing Friday, Aug. 2.
- **Kankakee, Illinois (CPLBC)**. Aug. 30-31 and Sept. 1 (Labor Day weekend). This will be an OPC race with a Yamato Special Event TBA. This is **not** the OPC Championships.
- **Decatur, Illinois (USTS)**. Sept. 6-8.
- **Beloit, Wisconsin (MRC)**. Sept. 7-8.
- **Antioch, Illinois (SMRC)**. Sept. 21-22.
- As always, race committee volunteers are in short supply and greatly appreciated. So please take your risk manager, referee, chief scorer and inspector tests over the off season so we're prepared for 2024.
- The Three Rivers Outboard Racing Association (TRORA) posted the entire Midwest racing calendar on their [webpage](#).

2023-2025 Club Elections — Bill Pavlick III

- The MRC nomination, voting and election process is complete. The 2023-2024 club officers are: Bill Pavlick (commodore); Ryan Burdick (vice commodore); Kris and Michael Shepard (sergeants-at-arms); Michael Mackey (secretary); Michael Mackey (treasurer). Although not a club officer, the elected position of race director is open and accepting volunteers.
- The BSOA election will be held at the next BSOA club meeting scheduled for 11 a.m. Nov. 11 at Chris Algiers' house.

Roundtable Discussion — Open Floor

- BSOA Commodore Darrel Ludwig thanked everyone for their help with the 2023 Stock/Modified/Junior Nationals in Wakefield, Michigan. He reports the race had a positive impact on the club's financial situation which will allow them to produce local racing for the next few years.
- The city of Wakefield enjoys our company and would like the ABPA Stock/Modified/Junior Nationals to be held there every two years. To that end, BSOA will submit a bid for the 2026 Nationals (Cassandra Olson volunteered to enter the bid at the upcoming national meeting). The planned date for 2026 is the weekend before the Topo Michigan marathon.
- Dee Berghauer asked if there is a report on the Nationals three-blade propeller testing for the 300SSH class. There appears to be no new testing data since the

test session from the 2023 Nationals in Wakefield, and that test proved there are several inconsistencies in the data.

- Ryan Burdick will accept input and thoughts on the three-blade use in the 300SSH class.
- Berghauer asked if there are any graduating high school seniors to remind them they may wish to take advantage of the “Doc” Wilson Scholarship (more information and the application is located on the [MRC Links webpage](#)). Brent Walbrun will report back with the amount in the fund.

6 p.m. Meeting adjourned for cocktails, supper, awards presentations, and general camaraderie and merriment. Next meeting: TBA.