

FANNIE-A OPEN WATER CHALLENGE

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "FANNIE-A"

MARINE ADVENTURE OF 1914

July 5, 2014

Overview

The Fannie-A Open Water Challenge is a circumnavigation of Grass Island in Thunder Bay from the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary approximately 7+ miles. Participants row or paddle small boats in open Lake Huron waters in Thunder Bay, and conditions can vary dramatically though out the event.

Occasionally the water can be very rough, with strong winds and high waves. While we have some powerboats on the course to monitor checkpoints, we do not provide boat escorts – you should expect to be out of their sight and fully independent most of the time. Unless you have solid experience in difficult conditions with the boat you plan to use , you may not want to consider entering this event. Always plan an "escape" path to safety, and if you encounter any problems along the way, pull out and call us to let us know. The orderly, safe and sportsmanlike conduct of this event is your personal responsibility.

We have no rain date; there is always an event. One of the most thrilling marine adventures in Alpena history occurred on March 21 1914. The "Fannie-A" was a fish tug working out of Alpena and left Alpena to deliver the lighthouse keeper and his assistants to Thunder Bay Island to ready the lighthouse for the shipping season. After dropping the crew on Thunder Bay Island the "Fannie-A" headed north to set fishing nets. It got trapped in two separate ice flows and became frozen fast in a huge mass of ice. Late in the afternoon the four crew members of the "Fannie-A" left the stranded "Fannie-A" in a twelve foot skiff in a desperate attempt to reach Sugar Island only $\frac{3}{4}$'s of a mile away. They struggled through icy water and large sheets of ice making it impossible to row the boat. They ended up hacking their way through the ice progressing inch by inch. Five hours and 15 minutes after leaving the "Fannie-A" they stumbled ashore on Sugar island. If these hardy souls could survive this ordeal then some of you can survive the Fannie-A Open Water Challenge. This open water challenge is open to all seaworthy oar and paddle powered craft.

FANNIE-A OPEN WATER CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 2014

Thunder Bay River – National Marine Sanctuary/Rotary Island

Registration Information

All participants must register for the event. Registration is not complete until waivers have been signed by all participants. Pre-registration is preferred. Please return completed forms with payment to : Dork Brothers, P.O. Box 301, Alpena, MI 49707

EVENT: 7 mile Open Water Rowing/Kayak/Canoe Race– Thunder Bay River – Start at Rotary Bridge

REGISTRATION: Complete registration and mail with fee to Dork Brothers or register race morning 7:00 – 8:00 am
Race starts promptly at 8:15 a.m.

EQUIPMENT: PFD Type III (required). **Open Kayak Canoe Kayak-Sea or Touring Rowboat**
Please Circle class of vessel

AWARDS: Special Awards for Overall male and female winners in following age classes: 18 – 25;25-39, 40-59; 60 and over in each vessel category

ENTRY FEE: Early Entry received by 7/1 - \$10 per entrant All entrants must be 18 years of age or older
After 7/1 & Race Day Entry –\$15 per entrant

T-SHIRT: A limited number of special design t-shirts will be available for cost of \$12.
Pre-entry is recommended to secure a shirt

Entry Form: Name _____ Sex M F Age _____

Address _____

City/ State/Zip _____

Early entrant: T-Shirt Small Medium Large X-Large 2XL
(Please circle)

DISCLAIMER AND RELEASE: The undersigned participant in the Fannie- A Open Water Challenge acknowledges that he/she is a participant in a sporting event and in consideration of being allowed to participate does release, acquit and discharge said, City of Alpena, Dork Brothers, Friends of the Marine Sanctuary, National Marine Sanctuary, UCG and all their employees, sponsors, agents, officers, directors, shareholders, representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns and all other persons, partnerships, firms , sponsors, corporations of and from any and all actions, causes of actions, damages and demands of whatever name and nature in any and all actions and matters arising from the undersigned's participation in the Fannie A – Open Water Challenge. I attest and verify that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the competition of this race. I am completely and solely responsible for my own safety. I understand that the race will be covered using general photographic, film, and/or digital video cameras and may be televised. By signing this entry, I release all rights or proprietary claims for the use of my image or voice to be photographed, videotaped or filmed for commercial or any other purpose. I authorize the unconditional use of my image or voice in any form while participating in this event, unless other wise noted below.

Signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO : DORK BROTHERS: Pre-entries mail to: Dork Brothers, P.O. Box 301, Alpena, MI 49707

(Official Use) RACE NUMBER : _____

Sponsored by: