

Regatta Review

Issue #16 - July 14 2004

WELCOME TO GOLD CUP 2004 - FROM TOM D'EATH, DRRA CHAIRMAN

To all Detroit River racing fans:

Welcome to the 2004 Chrysler Jeep Superstores Detroit APBA Gold Cup races.

This year marks a special occasion, the 100th Anniversary of the Gold Cup. The magnificent trophy, recently restored to its original luster by Tiffany and Company, represents the crown jewel of powerboat racing, the most important single powerboat race in any year.

It is only fitting that our Detroit River is the site for this historic event. Our challenging River has seen some of the most exciting Gold Cup races ever run, dating back to its first appearance here in 1916. Even more relevant, it is fitting because Detroit race fans are the most supportive boat racing fans in the world.

Someone once said "Teamwork beats hard work every time." It is teamwork that makes it possible to bring this great race to Detroit. Mayor Kirkpatrick and the City of Detroit are the best teammates one could hope for. Likewise, the title sponsorship provided by the team of Chrysler Jeep Superstores combine with other great sponsors like Budweiser, DTE Energy, Pepsi and more to give our Detroit River Regatta Association the resources needed to support this great event. And when it comes to teamwork, our volunteers are the best in the world.

We all owe this remarkable team a big "thank you" for all that they do to make it possible for the DRRA to present the 100th Anniversary of the APBA Gold Cup.

"The Race of the Century" is going to be a event to remember. Thanks for joining our team and giving us your support. We couldn't have the race without you.

Sincerely,

Tom D'Eath
Chairman, Detroit River Regatta Association

ON SITE BOX OFFICE - WILL CALL, CREDENTIALS, ETC

The location and hours for the Box Office trailer were in the last Regatta Review. They're up and running now, and the direct phone number is (313) 823-1474.

CHRYSLER JEEP SUPERSTORES APBA GOLD CUP - COVERAGE

Be sure to see the Coverage link on our home page for a listing of all the Gold Cup coverage! Streaming audio, a web cam, more!

A full listing of the Events and Schedule is also posted.

DETROIT RACING LEGENDS CELEBRATE "DANNY FOSTER DAY" - FRIDAY

Meet... Photograph... Talk To... Mingle With... DETROIT'S RACING LEGENDS and honor Racing's Oldest Living Gold Cup Driver DANNY FOSTER.

Friday July 16th at 12:00 in Sindbads' Sohar Room (upstairs). Sindbads is a short walk from the Dodge Pits.

APBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY BENEFIT PARTY - SATURDAY

Please join us at a party for the benefit of the American Power Boat Association Historical Society.

The Final Presentation of the J. Lee Schoenith Award
Recipient: Bernie L. Little

Saturday, July 17, 2004 The Roostertail
Strolling Supper - 7:00 PM

RSVP: 313.885.2582 - Lori
Dress: Summer Cocktail Attire
\$50.00 per person

UNLIMITEDS DETROIT - PIN, CALENDAR, NEW KIDS ON THE COURSE

Be sure to stop at the Unlimited's Detroit trailer and pick up your own UD / Gold Cup 100th Anniversary pin - they're awesome!

They plan a return of the UD calendar after missing out last year because of the short lead time for the event. However, the last word is that there was a printing problem... hopefully that is ironed out and one of my favorite race souvenirs will be available.

We'd like to send our kudos to UD, Bruce Cowen and his whole crew for the job they do giving pit tours to local schoolkids. On Thursday morning of race week, they hold "New Kids on the Course" and take about 700 kids through the pits explaining the sport to them.

DRRA 100TH ANNIVERSARY GOLD CUP PIN

The DRRA also has a very nice looking 100th Anniversary pin. It should be available at the Friday and Saturday events listed above, as well as in Water Works Merchandise Mart, but I'm not sure where yet.

"WI-FI FRIDAY"

Take the day off work, bring your wireless-enabled laptop, and still stay in touch with your office and clients! The WiFi area covers most of the blacktop area of the Dodge Pits as well as a good part of the bleachers. Remember, admission to the bleacher area is FREE on Thursday and Friday. The WiFi is available all days of the event.

MINIVAN SUMMER GAMES BY CHRYSLER AND DODGE

Are You a Contender?

You're invited to compete in the Minivan Summer Games-brought to you by Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan!

Can you run the 100-meter dash in under 10 seconds? Swim the 200-meter freestyle in 1:45.35? Toss a 16-lb. shot put across your neighbor's yard?

NO?!? Then this is an event you won't want to miss.

The Minivan Summer Games is the fun-for-the-family competition that recognizes excellence in executing the every day activities that are an essential part of American family life. The action takes place in Detroit, Michigan at the APBA Gold Cup, where families are invited to compete in the Minivan Summer Games Semi-Finals. One talented family will win a trip to the National Games in New York City-and compete to win a new Chrysler Town & Country or Dodge Grand Caravan minivan plus a dream vacation.

Before you can compete at the live event, however, you must first register online as an official Minivan Summer Games Contender and win the online competition. Visit our Web site at www.minivansummernames.com where you can register to enter The Games or just have fun playing the online version.

Not the competitive type? You'll still have fun watching-and cheering for-the families who do compete in the Minivan Summer Games at the APBA Gold Cup. Who's the quickest cargo handler in the Stow `n Go Bonkers Game? Who will win the Water (cup) Polo Relay? Be there to find out! Who knows, maybe your family will be the one to set a new world record in the Minivan Summer Games.

Remember, the only loser is the one who never tries.

[Editors note: This event will be held Saturday in Henderson Park. There is still space for a few more competitors but you will have to hurry! Cut-off for qualification for the Detroit event is sometime Today or Thursday.]

REMEMBERING STANDARD: THE FIRST GOLD CUP WINNER (1904)

By David Greene - Associate Unlimited Historian

Around the turn of the 20th Century, Eugene and Carl Riotte started the manufacture of the Standard marine engine in New York City. After a couple of years, they moved to Jersey City and in 1902 built the STANDARD to publicize their marine engine.

The Standard engine was a six-cylinder job with 3015 cubic inch piston displacement and developed somewhere between 100 and 200 horsepower.

The STANDARD measured 59 feet long and 8-1/2 feet wide, which made it a member of the top racing class of the time, since it was generally agreed that the longer a hull was the faster it went. Unfortunately, since the boat was over 40 feet, it was not eligible for the Harmsworth Trophy.

In 1903, STANDARD established herself as the top boat in America by winning three of four races. The next year, STANDARD won regattas sponsored by the Columbia Yacht Club and the Atlantic Yacht Club.

Its most memorable victory was in the first APBA Gold Cup, which took place on the Hudson River in New York.

In those days, the boats plowed through the water rather than skim over the surface of it. The heat races had more to do with today's Offshore tradition, consisting of 16 nautical miles up and down the Hudson, turning at Piermont. STANDARD won all three heats and defeated Frank Seaman in WATER LILY and C.H. Tangeman in FIAT II. STANDARD's average speed for the 96 nautical miles was 23.160 land miles per hour.

During the fall of 1904, the Riotte brothers sold their boat to Price McKinney of Cleveland. McKinney decided to take the boat to the 1000 Islands area. On its way up the Hudson, the rural population lined the banks of the river to watch her go by. In the small towns, the boat created as much excitement as the circus coming to town.

Throughout 1905, STANDARD did not race as she was being strengthened to handle her new double-acting Standard engine. This engine developed 300 horsepower and had a cubic inch engine displacement of 4715.

In 1906, STANDARD set a new mile record of 28.390 miles per hour to maintain her reputation as the fastest motor boat in America.

STANDARD closed out her career in 1907 by running from New York to Albany at 27 miles per hour.

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer