

News and Information

Confirmed Autograph Schedule for the Detroit Boat Show:

Mark Tate - Feb 16th 6pm-9pm

Danny Foster - Feb 20th 1pm-4pm

Mark Tate - Bio

Mark Tate is a two-time APBA Gold Cup Winner. Mark won both his Gold Cup's here in his hometown on the Detroit River in 1991 as "Winston Eagle" and in 1994 with the "Smokin' Joes". Mark is a Five (5) time National High Points Unlimited Hydroplane Champion and he still holds the record for the fastest lap on the Detroit River - 170mph on a 2.5 mile course. These days, Mark is kept busy with his corporation headquartered in Canton, MI, Sun Coatings, an industrial teflon coating supplier for automotive, food packaging and molding manufacturing. Spare time still belongs to boating with his two sons now actively racing in limited classes and making them the 4th generation in hydroplane racing.

Danny Foster - Bio

Danny & his childhood buddy Dan Arena, drove Dan's mother's 1935 Ford coupe towing their boat on a wooden trailer across the US from California to compete in his first Gold Cup in 1938. WWII intervened and Danny flew over 6000 hours as a fighter pilot. Danny Foster was unlimited powerboat racing's first post-war superstar and its most prolific winner of the 1940s and 1950s. He won the first unlimited race he ever entered, the 1946 President's Cup. He won the Gold Cup in 1947 and 1948 and season national titles in 1947 and 1950. Between 1946 and 1955, Foster won 14 races in boats such as the Miss Pepsi V and Guy Lombardo's Tempo VII. Danny will be inducted into the National Motorsports Hall of Fame this summer.

General Info -

The APBA (American Power Boat Association) Gold Cup is officially called the APBA Challenge Cup. Designed by Tiffany's at the turn of the Century, it is the oldest motorsports racing trophy in competition today. The first time it was awarded in competition was 1904; this year's race, which will be held July 15- 17th. The race is presented by the Detroit River Regatta Association (DRRA) which was formed in 2003 to rescue the Gold Cup for Detroit. The trophy has been expertly restored by Tiffany's Jeweler's, funded by the DRRA and the Historic & Vintage Division of the APBA .