

Regatta Review

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THE 2005 GOLD CUP: JULY 15TH TO 17TH

We are happy to announce that the 2005 Gold Cup race is on! It will be a 3-day event, with Chrysler Jeep Superstores continuing their title sponsorship.

Besides the race for the Gold Cup we will again host a Silver Cup sweepstakes race for automotive-powered hydroplanes including the Grand National, Grand Prix and Unlimited Lights (the Lights can be entered as GNH). Of course, the Vintage class will continue to be a big part of our event.

Additionally, we are looking at hosting smaller inboard classes such as the Stock 1.5 Litre, 2.5 Litre and 5 Litre classes, possibly holding their National Championships. More details as they become available.

The Race Chairman for 2005 is Tom Bertolini who is very active as a Vintage Racer and DRRA volunteer.

DRRA ACQUIRES ASSETS OF UNLIMITED HYDROPLANE TOUR

(Detroit, MI) - The Detroit River Regatta Association (DRRA) today announced that it has acquired the assets of the Unlimited Hydroplane Tour, Inc. of Orlando, Florida.

The DRRA will acquire both the physical assets, including safety, technical and rescue equipment as well as contractual and intellectual property rights and trademarks including rights to the terms: hydros, HYDRO-PROP, Hydros Gold Cup, Unlimited hydros, Unlimited hydroplanes and Gold Cup.

"It is important that these assets be acquired in order to help unify the sport and preserve the Gold Cup tradition," said Tom D'Eath, President of the DRRA.

"The teams and race sites need technical and safety equipment for the 2005 racing season. The trademarks for the Unlimited name are important for the branding of the sport. Now, we can work to make an agreement with the teams and race sites for their use of these assets."

"Detroit's primary incentive in acquiring these assets was to secure the rights to the Gold Cup race which is of special value to our fans and sponsors," said D'Eath.

Headed by Trent Ling, a Florida attorney and businessman, the Unlimited Hydroplane Tour, Inc. acquired the assets of HYDRO-PROP from former series head Gary Garbrecht following the end of the 2004 season.

"The sport has gone through a very difficult time," said D'Eath, who helped lead the

renaissance of the Detroit race after founding DRRA in 2003. "Now, the third parties are gone. It is back to the race sites, like Detroit, and the team owners. We have the tools, the trademarks and the Gold Cup secured and can start working together to rebuild the sport."

THE AMERICAN BOAT RACING ASSOCIATION

- Hydroplane Owners and Race Site Promoters Formalize a New
- Organization and Announce 2005 Event Schedule

Seattle- The world's fastest racing boats have a new governing organization, the American Boat Racing Association (ABRA), and representatives announced a seven-event schedule for 2005 following an inaugural meeting in Seattle in October.

The 2005 racing season will kick-off in Evansville, Ind. June 24-26 and conclude the weekend of September 16-18 in San Diego. The schedule also includes stops in Madison, Ind. (July 1-3), Valleyfield, Quebec (July 8-10), Tri-Cities, Wash. (July 29-31), Seattle (August 5-7) and Nashville (Sept. 9-11). July 15-17 has been reserved for Detroit and the Detroit River Regatta Association's annual event.

Finalizing the schedule highlighted the day-long organizational meeting which included adopting the name of the new organization, election of a Board of Directors and officers, and appointment of several key committees to prepare for an exciting season of racing. Citing an ongoing commitment to the sport's fans and a passion for continuing the tradition of powerboat racing, hydroplane owners and race site representatives unanimously supported the creation of ABRA. The entity will be the administrative authority responsible for sanctioning events, marketing the series and managing the sport. Team owners elected to the 2005 Board of Directors were Jim Harvey (Seattle), Ken Muscatel (Seattle), Ed Cooper (Evansville) and Bill Wurster (Seattle). Race site representatives elected were Tom Sawyer (Evansville), Todd Blackman (Tri-Cities), Eric Radovich (Seattle), and John Daley (San Diego). Sam Cole (Sacramento) was elected as Chairman of the Board for 2005. In his role, Cole will only vote in the case of a tie during Board meetings, as Board membership is limited to boat owners and race site representatives.

Immediate priorities for the new association include obtaining national television coverage, putting the operational structure of the organization in place and procurement of series sponsorships.

"This was a defining day for the future of boat racing," said Bob Hughes, President of the Miss Madison/Oh Boy Oberto team "To experience the spirit of cooperation between our owners and race sites working together towards preserving this great tradition was exciting and should be rewarding."

DRRA VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP FORM NOW AVAILABLE

See the Volunteer page on our web site or contact the offices for a copy of the sign-up form. Sign-up early and get a \$10 discount! Through December 31st you can join for just \$25,

starting January 1st it goes up to \$35. <http://www.gold-cup.com/volunteer/>

THE MARINE PROP RIDERS - DETROIT AREA INBOARD RACING CLUB

MPR is the Detroit area club for APBA limited inboard racing and celebrated it's 50th anniversary recently. Members past and present read like a Who's Who of Hydroplane racing at all levels.

The Marine Prop Riders members are deeply involved with the APBA and the Gold Cup race, as well as Quake On The Lake in Waterford the past five years and a potential event at Stony Creek in 2005.

Everyone is invited to join the Marine Prop Riders, it's just \$20 a year and a membership form can be found at the club's web site: <http://www.marinepropriders.com>

The club meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at Pampa Lanes on Van Dyke in Warren (North of 13 Mile Road), in the basement meeting room. NOTE: The December meeting is an exception, most likely it will be held December 8th (8:00 PM), but watch the MPR web site for the details once they are final.

Stop by and see the MPR booth at Autorama in March!

HANAUER ELECTED TO INTERNATIONAL MOTORSPORTS HALL OF FAME Hydro Hero to Join Waltrip, Amato, Glidden and Mansell in Class of 2005

(Seattle, Wash.) - Chip Hanauer, the most successful driver in American Power Boat Association (APBA) Gold Cup history will be inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in Talladega, Alabama in 2005 it was announced today.

Hanauer, an honors graduate of Washington State University and lifelong resident of the Seattle area, won 11 APBA Gold Cups, seven Unlimited hydroplane national titles and 61 races in his Unlimited hydroplane career.

Hanauer broke the legendary Gar Wood's record of five consecutive Gold Cup victories winning seven consecutive years from 1982-1988.

He becomes only the second powerboat racer ever to be inducted into the IMSHOF.

The late Bill Muncey, inducted into the IMHOF in 2004, was an eight-time Gold Cup winner and won 62 races in his career.

"This is a tremendous and unexpected honor," said Hanauer.

A 120 member IMHOF panel of international motorsports media selects participants from all forms of motorsports. There are no categories. All nominees appear on a single ballot with

only the top five elected for induction.

Joining Hanauer in the class of 2005 will be three-time NASCAR champion Darrell Waltrip, drag racing stars Joe Amato and Bob Glidden and former Formula One and CART champion Nigel Mansell.

The 2005 IMHOF Induction ceremonies will take place on April 28, in Talladega, Alabama and broadcast nationally by Speed TV.

JACK LOVE REMEMBERED

For those of you who knew him, Jack Love, former Commodore and one of the original founders of the Spirit of Detroit Association (later renamed SODT), passed away recently. Below is his obituary as well as a story by Fred Farley.

--- John W. (Jack) Love, of St Clair Shores, Mich
--- November 24, 1923 - October 30, 2004

The founder and Chairman of Love Brothers, Inc, a local warehouse and trucking company, Love was a fixture on the powerboating scene for over 40 years.

One of the founders of the Spirit of Detroit Association, Love served as an officer, Commodore, Race Chairman and later the only Chairman Emeritus of the former 900 member volunteer organization. The crusty and often outspoken trucking executive helped to organize other Unlimited hydroplane race sites to share experiences, best practices and work to increase promotions.

In 1975, Love led Detroit's bid to host the 1976 American Power Boat Association (APBA) Gold Cup, which became the largest single day sporting event of the Bicentennial.

Love pushed through a 1976 Unlimited rule change from the traditional total points formula to a "winner take all" event where the winner of the final heat of racing wins the race. The "Love Plan" has been used for all Unlimited hydroplane races since then. Most other categories of APBA racing subsequently adopted the plan.

Love introduced corporate hospitality to the Detroit races and brought the popular automotive powered Grand Prix hydroplanes to Detroit in 1977. He added a national series APBA Offshore event on the Detroit River and Lake St Clair to the program in 1979-81 creating a week-long festival along the Detroit River which became known as "Thunderfest".

Through Love's efforts, the 1976 APBA Gold Cup was nationally televised by CBS Sports. He also facilitated NBC Sports broadcast of the historic 1982 "Battle of Belle Isle Beach" between Chip Hanauer and Dean Chenoweth. His friendships with key media like J.P. McCarthy, Bob Reynolds, Al Ackerman and Joe Dowdall helped make sure that the latest news about boating, Unlimited hydroplanes and even the Harsen's Island ferry was well

reported.

In 1998, Love became the first representative of the Spirit of Detroit Association to be inducted into the Michigan Boating Industries Association Hall of Fame. He was later named a Pioneer of Powerboating.

A member of the International Shipmasters Lodge #7, Love was a commercially licensed captain. He owned and operated Yacht Charter Service, a corporate hospitality and event resource.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Bernice, children Bill, John, Donna (Bookwalter), Mark, Greg and Helene (Love Snell); 14 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Mariners' Church in downtown Detroit on Monday, November 1st, at 11:00 am. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Mariners' Church of Detroit, 170 East Jefferson Ave. 48226.

--- JACK LOVE REMEMBERED

--- By Fred Farley

I was greatly saddened to learn of Jack Love's recent death. For three decades, he was one of my favorite people.

Over the years, he contributed greatly to the successful administration of Unlimited racing in Detroit. Love was one of the founders of the Spirit Of Detroit Association in 1962.

Jack enjoyed telling stories. One of them in particular stands out.

As a youngster, back in the 1920s, he attended a test session on the Detroit River. Gar Wood--the proverbial "Babe Ruth of Boat Racing"--was trying out one of his MISS AMERICA boats.

Jack walked boldly up to Gar and said, "I sure would like to go for a ride with you." Wood replied, "Okay, Sonny." Gar then put Jack in the riding mechanic's seat and the two of them went off around the river, the V-12 Packard engines thundering and belching black smoke.

That hooked him.

Jack Love was a boat racing fan for the rest of his life.

But there's more to the story.

That evening, young Jack hurried home and excitedly related to his family the incredible experience of riding with Gar Wood. There was only one problem. His parents didn't believe him.

Mr. Love sternly told Jack. "All right, young man. Tomorrow, we'll go back down there and we'll ask Mr. Wood about this so-called 'ride.' And you'd better be telling the truth, or you are in SERIOUS trouble!"

So, the next day, father and son trekked down to the Detroit River where Mr. Love asked Gar, "Did you take my son for a ride in the boat yesterday?"

Wood immediately sized up the situation. Without saying a word, Gar picked Jack up, stuck him in the boat, and took him around the river once again, while Jack's father watched with disbelieving eyes.

Many years later, Jack met Gar Wood again. "I was the little red-haired kid you took for a couple of rides back in the 1920s."

This is a good example of how important it is for boat racers to make a good impression with the fans to get them "hooked" on the sport.

I'm reminded of a similar story.

At the 1961 Seattle Seafair Regatta, "Wild Bill" Cantrell was there with GALE V. A 7-year-old youngster was gazing longingly at the boat, but didn't have a pit pass to get up close to it. Cantrell reached over the fence, picked the kid up, and took him on a personally guided pit tour.

Years later, Cantrell met that same youngster again. He was Chip Hanauer, the boat racing superstar, who treasured the memory of that once-in-a-lifetime pit tour conducted by his hero.

DANNY FOSTER EVENT - DENNIS AND RUTH FOSTER MEMORIAL DAY
From Jeff Dunn, Unlimiteds Detroit

The Detroit area hydroplane community met on a great Saturday afternoon for the Dennis and Ruth Foster Memorial Day event in Marine City, Michigan, a benefit for the American Diabetes Foundation. In addition to a silent auction of hydroplane memorabilia, attendees met with Danny Foster and saw the Miss U.S. 1 restoration project, the 1969 Notre Dame replica under construction. Also present was the Schaller's Gold Cup class hydro built by Ron Jones, Jr.

Event photos are on the Unlimiteds Detroit web site at:
<http://www.unlimitedsdetroit.com/images/2004Season/DannyFosterDay/>

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer