



NEWS RELEASE

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Suncoast Super Boat Grand Prix Festival Celebrates 25 Years

Sarasota, FL. – May 27, 2009 –The Suncoast Super Boat Grand Prix Festival will soon celebrate its Silver Anniversary, bringing with it a wide variety of events for the entire community to enjoy. Spearheading this year's Grand Prix Festival is Festival Director, Lucy Nicandri, along with Festival Co-Chairs Bob Soran and Tom DeLong.

As the race prepares to launch into its 25th year, Sarasota can proudly claim the title for having one of the longest continuously running race sites in the country and is one of the few race sites which has raised money for a charity since the race's inception. Special guest Capt. Keith Colburn will once again be a part of this year's Festival. Colburn is regularly featured on Discovery Channel's number one television show "*Deadliest Catch*".

Over the past 24 years, the Festival has contributed more than \$14 million towards the construction of facilities that provide programs and services to physically and mentally challenged children and adults, thanks to the efforts of the Suncoast Foundation for the Handicapped. Charities assisted by the Suncoast Foundation include Loveland Center, Special Olympics, United Cerebral Palsy, Community Haven and Adult Center, The Florida Center and Oak Park School.

Proceeds this year will benefit the Suncoast Foundation for the Handicapped earmarked for maintenance and upkeep of over 57,000 square feet in facilities occupied by The Florida Center for Child and Family Development in Sarasota, Venice and North Port.

Helping to make all this possible are the Festival's 2009 Major Festival Sponsors which include Budweiser, FCCI Insurance Group, Sarasota Ford, Hyatt Regency Sarasota, SNN News 6, Comcast, Herald-Tribune Media Group, Bright House Networks, AT&T Yellow Pages and 4sarasota.com Official Festival merchandise is available at select Walgreens store locations in Sarasota and Bradenton.

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Schedule of Events June 27 - July 5

www.suncoastoffshore.org – (941) 371-8820 ext. 1800

Full details on all events can be found at the URL address above.

For Race Team Information: www.superboat.com

Saturday, June 27th	Golf Tournament and Kickoff Party
Sunday, June 28th	Car Show
Wednesday, July 1st	Capt. Keith Colburn Welcome Reception
Thursday, July 2nd	Fishing Tournament for Physically and Mentally Challenged Festival Parade of Boats and Block Party
Friday, July 3rd	Meet and Greet Who's In the Driver's Seat World's Largest Offshore Party Powerboats by the Bay Motorcycle Patriotic Souvenir Ride and Bike Show
Saturday, July 4th	Powerboats by the Bay Bayfront Fireworks
Sunday, July 5th	Grand Prix Super Boat Race Public Race Awards Ceremony at the Hyatt

*Note - The race will also be televised live at *Powerboats by the Bay* on a JumboTron under a large tent and the public is invited to attend free of charge. Bus service will be provided to Powerboats by the Bay from Sarasota High School parking lot on U.S. 41 July 3 through July 5 (\$1 each way children 12 and under free).

Grand Prix Race Presented and Sanctioned By:



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