



*American Ethanol*, a 51-foot Mystic catamaran owned by Don Onken, took home the overall Top Gun honors with a 208-mph top speed.

# ANOTHER SUPER SHOOTOUT

The 27th annual Lake of the Ozarks Shootout in Missouri continued to improve upon its status as a can't miss event.

words Jason Johnson photos Pete Boden

**T**he majority of the news stories we produce don't create "controversy"—and that's never our intent—but our coverage of Debbie Bull running 180 mph in her husband Bob Bull's 52-foot MTI at this year's Lake of the Ozarks Shootout in Sunrise Beach, Mo., seemed to do just that. Within moments of the story going live on speedonthewater.com, high-performance powerboating message boards and Facebook pages around the country lit up with discussion on the merit of her achievement. But the

fact remains that Debbie Bull became the fastest woman to run a boat in the 27-year history of the Central Missouri event.

And that did absolutely nothing to diminish the astounding solo effort by Summer Richardson who ran 147 mph in her 2,000-plus-hp DCB F32 catamaran to shatter the previous solo female driver top speed of 80 mph established in 2014 by Tristan Collins. The best part of it all? This year's Shootout brought a ton of attention to the female speed enthusiasts in the performance boat community.

In fact, despite impressive speeds across the board, the women stole the show. Veteran Shootout participants Carrie Sixkiller and Carolyn Dorris showed up and won their classes with top speeds of 66 mph and 64 mph, respectively. Longtime Shootout spectators and first-time participants, Nikki and Ricky Amos teamed up in the *Early Detection Racing*

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**Bob Bull and Randy Scism completed an exhibition drag race in Bull's 52 MTI against a stunt plane that wowed the crowd with aerial feats during breaks in the action each day at the Shootout.**



# Lake of the Ozarks Shootout

bat boat and ran 81 mph. Another husband-and-wife team, Andy and Lacey Miller of Wichita, Kan., drove its 32-foot Aerotek raceboat *American Outlaw* to a 70-mph top speed.

Whether it's a woman in complete control, at the wheel or handling navigator duties along the one-mile course, it is all remarkable considering this sport is dominated by men.

"Whenever I see a woman driving a boat, whether it's with her boyfriend, husband or by herself, I think it's so awesome," said Richardson, who hails from Southern California and hopes her runs at both the Lake of the Ozarks and the Desert Storm Poker Run shootouts inspire other women to be more than just passengers on a boat. "Obviously I grew up around the sport and have been running boats for a while, but you don't need a lot of experience to give this a shot. It's about as safe as it gets."

Beyond the "girl power," the 27th annual event had an incredible amount of stories and highlights. From a writer's perspective there just wasn't enough time to cover, let alone even see, everyone I had intended—my apologies to Michael Pierce and the XXX Outerlimits crew and Michael Arces of the *Ruffled Feathers Skater* (although I did spend a few minutes talking with his father, Frank Arces).

You can imagine the challenge of squeezing everything into a single magazine feature, which is I'm choosing a journalist's go-to—a Top 10 list of what I'll remember from the 2015 Lake of the Ozarks Shootout.

## 1. MYSTIC TOP GUN DOMINANCE

In the 13 times Mystic Powerboats Inc. or John Cosker has competed at the annual Lake of the Ozarks Shootout, the Top Gun trophy has been taken 11 times by a Mystic model. The



From top: Summer Richardson of Southern California, drove her 32-foot catamaran from DCB to a record-setting solo driver top speed of 147 mph. Taking part in the Shootout for the first time, husband and wife Ricky and Nikki Amos drove the *Early Detection Racing Reindl Powerboats One Design V24* up to 81 mph. Michael Holford and Keith Holmes recorded a 176-mph speed on their last pass of the weekend in the *Cat Can Do Skater* from CK Motorsports. Debbie Bull, who is married to offshore racer Bob Bull, drove the *CMS 52-foot catamaran* from MTI to a 180-mph top speed with MTI owner Randy Scism handling the throttles.





Longtime Lake of the Ozarks Shootout participant, Dennis Parvey ran his 42-foot Black Thunder (above), which is powered by twin 1,675-hp engines, to a remarkable 145-mph top speed with his son, Jason (below, right), by his side.

Shootout roll started in 2003 when Cosker and Dave Callan piloted a 48-foot Tencara cat to victory after being defeated the previous year by the *Miss Budweiser* hydroplane. Cosker throttled or drove Mystic cats to Top Gun fame in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2011 and this year, where he reached 208 mph with Myrick Coil in *American Ethanol*, a 51-foot Mystic cat owned by Don Onken and powered by four 1,700-hp engines.

But that is, quite literally, just half the story. Driver/owner Dave Scott and throttleman John Tomlinson piloted *Nauti Marine*, a 50-foot Mystic to Lake of the Ozarks Shootout Top Gun prominence in 2008, 2009 and 2010. In 2013 driver Bill Tomlinson and throttleman Ken Kehoe pushed Tomlinson's turbine-powered 50-footer called *My Way* to a sensational 224 mph—a mark most longtime Shootout observers thought would never be eclipsed until driver/owner Sheikh Hassan bin Jabor Al-Thani and Steve Curtis raised the bar to



244 mph in another turbine-powered 50-footer dubbed *Al Adaa'am 96* the following year.

We have no idea what speed next year's Top Gun winners will achieve on the liquid-mile course on Central Missouri's famed waterway. But based on what's happened so far, the odds are good it will happen in a Mystic.

## 2. A PARVEY CONQUEST

In impressive fashion, the father-and-son team of Dennis and Jason Parvey rattled off the fastest V-bottom top speed at this year's Shootout—a

145-mph mark in their 42-foot Black Thunder V-bottom with twin 1,675-hp engines. On Saturday the Parveys reached top speeds of 139 and 143 mph then followed that up on Sunday with runs of 144 and 145 mph.

"We were a little nervous for our first runs because of the crosswinds so we kept the drives and tabs all the way down and hit 139 mph," said the younger Parvey. "After the first run, we felt more comfortable so we lifted the tabs and drives a little more—and we'd burned a little fuel—and went to 143 mph. That was the fastest we've gone



at the Shootout until, of course, we came out and upped that speed on Sunday. My dad has been on his game. I have to give him a lot of credit.”

### 3. PERFORMANCE BOAT CENTER DIGS IN

Between stepping up as the event’s title sponsor and hosting an over-the-top Shootout welcome party on Thursday evening, Performance Boat Center is a major reason the status of the event has elevated over the last couple of years. Mark Waddington and Brett Manire—the owners of Performance Boat Center, which opened its new facility in 2013 in Osage Beach along with the Redhead Yacht Club and the accompanying Redhead Lakeside Grill that opened this summer—put a ton of energy into supporting the Shootout as well as the boaters who came into town from as



From left: Mark Waddington, Brett Manire, Myrick Coil, Don Onken and John Cosker posed with the Top Gun trophy won by Coil and Cosker in Onken’s Mystic.

far away as California, Florida and New York.

“We’re thrilled to have Performance Boat Center involved with the Shootout,” said Ron Duggan, the main organizer behind the event and the owner of Captain Ron’s, which has hosted the Shootout for the last eight years. “They’re helping us take the event to the next level. The meet-and-greet over there on Thursday night was unbelievable. We

had the auction there this year and raised three times as much as past years. It’s easy to see why Performance Boat Center has become the go-to place for powerboaters in the area and for those coming in from out of town. We’re glad to have them involved and hope to work with them again next year.”

Although the accolades didn’t fall directly on the title sponsor because the Top Gun-winning Mystic is owned by Onken, Performance Boat Center played a huge role in getting *American Ethanol* across the finish line to tie the 208-mph piston-powered record ran by Nauti Marine. Coil, the Top Gun-winning driver in *American Ethanol*, joined Performance Boat Center in the merger with Scott’s Nauti Marine shop and is integral to its service facility and its upcoming offshore racing program. Other Performance Boat Center crewmembers assisted on Onken’s team, too.



Performance Boat Center’s Rusty Williams made a 139-mph pass in the company’s 52-foot Outerlimits (left). Randy Kent in his MTI (bottom, far left) and Kenny Mungle in his Skater ran an exhibition drag race on Sunday.



The two *Predator Skater* catamarans took to the Shootout course this year.

#### 4. PREDATORS ATTACK

Caravanning across country with his good friend Vern Gilbert of West Coast Drives, who recently lost his wife after a lengthy battle with cancer, Gary Smith of Tucson, Ariz., established a personal best at the Lake of the Ozarks Shootout in *Predator*, his stunning 40-foot Skater Powerboats catamaran, by running 184 mph with twin Brummett Marine engines under the hatch.

Not to be outdone by Smith, Gilbert posted a respectable top speed on 167 mph in *Predator 1*, his 1991 40-foot Skater also powered by Brummett Marine engines.

“Overall it was a good event with a great showing from the West Coast,” Smith said. “I can’t say enough about the guys who made sure the boat was ready to go. AJ Barrett and Carson Brummett were so helpful.”

#### 5. NOR-TECH CENTER CONSOLE TOPS 90 MPH

In the newly formed center console class, Canadian performance boater Ryan McClay posted a memorable 93-mph pass in his 39-foot center console with quad Mercury Racing Verado

400R engines from Nor-Tech Hi-Performance Boats. That speed was plenty good to claim the new center console class Top Gun award besting class-winner Adam Carpenter, who ran a very respectable 86 mph in his 34-foot *Sunsation* with triple Mercury Verado 400R engines.

McClay—who moved into the 39-footer from a pair of Nor-Techs, a 34-foot center console and a 40-foot catamaran—said he’s reached 96 mph in the 39-footer, but that it’s more about the enjoyment of running the boat with a group and a cooler full of drinks than it is about trying to hit some big number.

“This event and this place is absolutely incredible—I’ll definitely be coming back here again,” said McClay, who lives in Southwest Ontario and has put 160 hours on the center console since taking delivery in March. “I’ve never done anything like this in my life so it was quite an experience.”



Canada’s Ryan McClay reached 93 mph in his 39-foot Nor-Tech center console.



# Shoot 2 Thrill

- PIX -



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## 6. MUNGLE SHOWS OFF AGAIN IN GONE AGAIN

While they might have wanted a bigger number, no one can deny that Kenny Mungle and Lee Lockwood didn't give it their all for several days during the Shootout. Mungle, a fan favorite from Texas, posted six runs in *Gone Again*, his 32-foot Skater, and finished with the second fastest speed of the weekend—188 mph.

He also participated in the crowd-pleasing exhibition drag race with Randy Kent in his Performance Boat Center-sponsored Speed Racer-themed MTI, which clocked a top speed of 165 mph after three runs in the Shootout.

### FULL COVERAGE

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Mungle made the final pass of the weekend and closed the event with a couple of back-and-forth passes on the course to show his appreciation for the crowd that cheered him all weekend. Of course it cost him a ticket from water patrol, but what did he care? It was a send off for the old girl as he has a new 368 Skater coming called *Gone* that he'll be focused on for 2016 events.

## 7. OUTERLIMITS REPRESENTS IN FIORE'S HONOR

Of course the organizers of the Shootout did the right thing by honoring Mike Fiore and inducting the Outerlimits Offshore Powerboats founder into the Hall of Fame a year



Featuring twin Teague Custom Marine 1,025-hp engines, George Ogden's 29 Luxury Cat from E-Ticket got up to 146 mph along the one-mile course.

after he died following an accident at the top-speed event. Yet it was the support from various Outerlimits customers that caught our eye.

Between Vinnie Diorio's 41-foot V-bottom (read about it on page 87) and Burton Kirsten's jaw-dropping canopied 39-foot catamaran—neither of which ran in the Shootout but instead did the poker run and other events throughout the week—were two of the many Outerlimits standouts in town to honor Fiore and have a great time on and off the water.

"We are keeping Mike's legacy alive and keeping his company going—it's what Mike would do, he would never give up," said Dan Kleitz, the Bristol, R.I., company's production manager, adding that Outerlimits V-bottoms took top honors in five classes, a feat that would have made Fiore proud. "Overall it was a nice showing. They handed out black ribbon pins to all the participants in the Shootout, and the event T-shirts had 'In Memory of Mike Fiore' printed on them. Those were nice gestures. They showed that the performance-boat community is a tight-knit family."

## 8. WEST COAST SPEED DEMONS

Along with the efforts of Summer Richardson and Gary Smith, the West Coast was well represented at this year's Shootout thanks to several others, including DCB's Tony Chiaramonte, who ran *Lickity Split*, JP O'Donoghue's M35 Widebody with twin Mercury Racing 1350 engines, to an impressive top speed of 165 mph. Chiaramonte was on hand to support a sizable fleet of DCB catamarans that came into town for the Shootout and Super Cat Fest.

Two other DCB owners—John Chilton of Arizona and Carlton Bass of Oklahoma—ran their 35-foot cats with twin 1,350-hp and 1,100-hp engines up to 160 mph and 150 mph, respectively. Another Californian, Lawrence Coehlo of Tulare, laid down a 125-mph top speed in his DCB F29 to win his class.

Once again Ivan "Buck" Stracener of Southern California trailed his 28-foot catamaran from Nordic Boats to the Shootout, but the talk among the West Coast contingent was about the top speed ran by Lake Havasu's George Ogden in his



## Lake of the Ozarks Shootout

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E-Ticket Performance Boats 29 Luxury Cat. In the 29-foot deck boat, which is powered by twin 1,025-hp Teague Custom Marine engines, Ogden ran impressive 146-mph pass.

### 9. SHOOTOUT ON THE STRIP GOES OFF

With the idea to move the Party in the Park from Laurie Fairgrounds back to the Bagnell Dam Strip, the Wednesday evening public display of boats became the Shootout on the Strip and gained immediate interest thanks to the efforts of Justin Wagner of Waves and Wheels, Jeff Carroll of Old Kinderhook and Mark and Tiffany Madsen of Poly Lift Boat Lifts.

Wagner stepped up to sponsor the Shootout on the Strip and ran with the idea of bringing the party to the street. He rallied a few jaw-dropping MTIs with Waves and Wheels installations to connect their audio systems together with a DJ spinning the tunes from the deck of his 46-foot

Skater project boat, which he announced that evening will feature a Transformers theme and be named *Optimus Prime*.

All said and done, nearly 100 boats crowded the Bagnell Dam Strip and the weather turned out great, which led to thousands of spectators frequenting the historic hot spot that seems to be enjoying a bit of a resurgence.

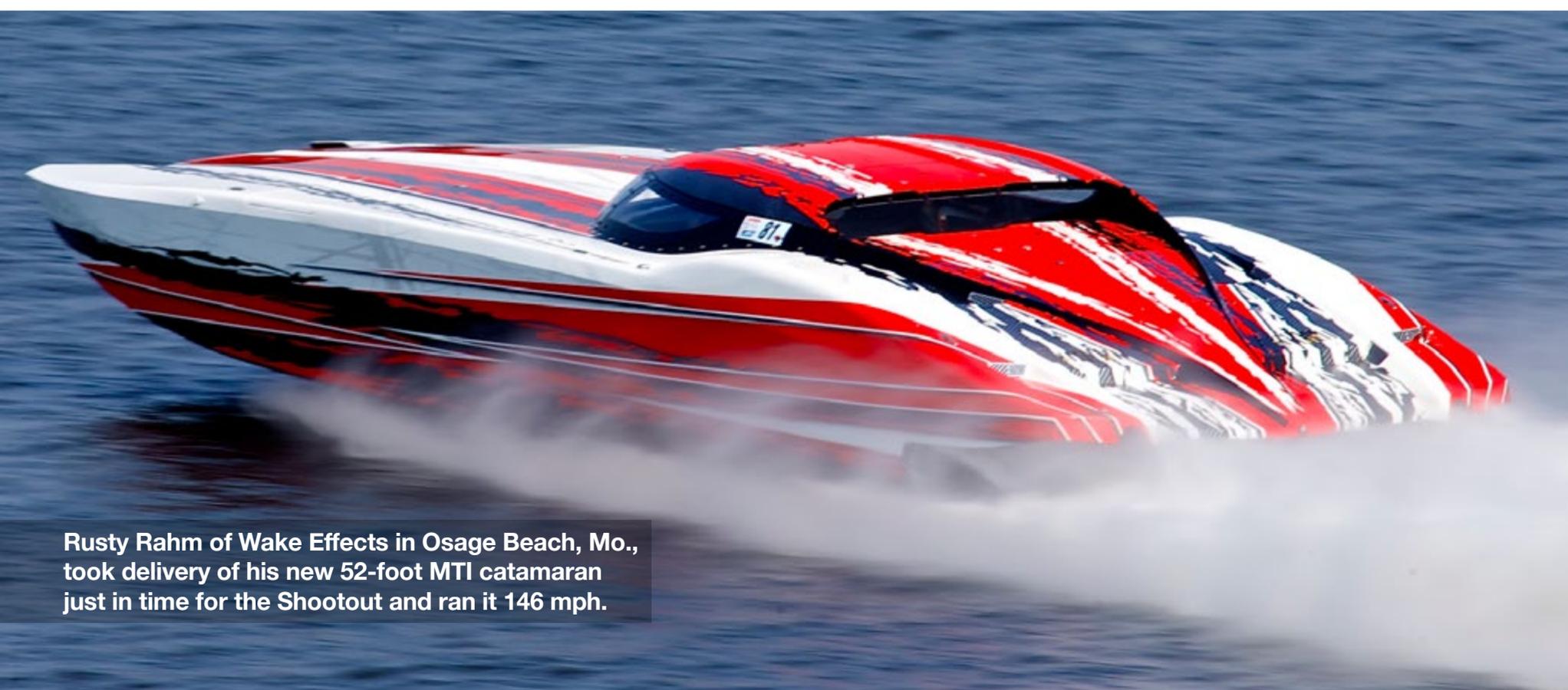
### 10. HEAVY-HITTING HARDWARE

Each year, thanks to new activities and associated events such as Super Cat Fest, the Lake of the Ozarks Shootout has become a premier place to showcase some of the newest and coolest high-performance boats in the country. Between the removable canopy 52-foot MTI with twin Mercury 1350 engines that was delivered the week of the Shootout to the stunning new 50-foot Mystic catamaran also powered by 1350s, there were plenty of showstoppers running around the lake.

There were also new boats from the likes of Cigarette Racing, DCB, Skater, Statement, Sunstation and more. What's cool about the Shootout week is at one of the docks, whether it's Dog Days, Coconuts or Camden of the Lake (the host location for Super Cat Fest), you can get an up-close-and-personal look at most any of the boats. And chances are if you were interested in a new ride for next year's Shootout, you could find a representative from the company and have your questions answered on site.

If you're planning to go to the Shootout next year, we highly recommend attending Super Cat Fest for the Saturday evening showcase—dollar for dollar, the event could rival the Key West Poker Run in terms of serious hardware on display at the docks.

Speaking of next year, we're already working on ideas for how to enhance our 2016 coverage immediately. If next year's event is anything like this year's, we're going to need it. **SOTW**



Rusty Rahm of Wake Effects in Osage Beach, Mo., took delivery of his new 52-foot MTI catamaran just in time for the Shootout and ran it 146 mph.