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# NAVIGATOR

A publication of the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association

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## Boating & Fishing Fest continues to thrive

The visitors at this month's North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest hailed from many different parts of Northeast Ohio, but they all shared a single emotion after taking a free boat ride: joy.

"I've always felt that your worries melt away when you get out on the water," said LEMTA president and event volunteer Ken Alvey.

The festival, which was held for the 11th consecutive summer June 5-6 at Voinovich Park on the Cleveland waterfront, featured family-friendly boat rides, fishing trips, giveaways and live entertainment.

Boats from LEMTA members Ivancic Marine and Riverfront Yacht Sales, along with B-About Sail Ministry's 65-foot schooner Journey and the Cleveland Rowing Foundation's 20-person dragon boat canoe, took more than 1,000 people out for half-hour cruises inside the breakwall.

East 55th Marina members and the North Coast Black Bass Anglers Association also helped out and the charter Holiday left the dock each hour to take kids fishing.



*Visitors board a Formula from Ivancic Marine at the 2010 North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest.*

“There’s no other event like it in the region,” said Alvey. “It really is a community effort that, at least for one weekend each year, brings everyone together to celebrate boating.”

The Boating & Fishing Fest was funded entirely through grants from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Watercraft and Neighborhood Connections (a program of the Cleveland Foundation); and donations from the Greater Cleveland Safety Council, ODNR Division of Wildlife and Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.

Other partners included the Greater Cleveland Boating Association, North Coast Black Bass Anglers Association, Samsel Marine Supply, U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary, Sea Scouts and various U.S. Power Squadrons.

## Clean Marinas update

By Colleen Wellington, OSU Extension Educator and Ohio Sea Grant Clean Marinas Coordinator

It is hard to believe that 2010 marks five years since the first certifications of Ohio Clean Marinas. We now have 42 certified marinas and 30 pledged marinas in the program. Combined, these marinas make up just over 20 percent of all Ohio Lake Erie marinas -- far more than any other Great Lakes state.

Many of the Clean Marina participants are LEMTA members, and many LEMTA members are among the program’s strongest supporters. Thank you for your continued dedication! To those who may be affiliated with a marina not currently participating in the program, I encourage you to consider joining. Likewise, I encourage those who are already participating to help spread the word.



Beyond the obvious benefits of the Clean Marinas Program -- providing for a healthier coastal environment and positive public recognition for the marinas -- we are always striving to provide additional opportunities to our marinas.

For example, in the nearly two years since I have served as the Ohio Clean Marinas Coordinator, we have been able to offer workshops to marinas on topics such as storm water management and nuisance wildlife control. We have also recently begun a fish habitat improvement project at several Clean Marinas, which is already drawing some favorable public interest.

Looking to the future, we will soon be receiving funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) for a multi-state Clean Marinas project geared toward improving educational opportunities for Clean Marinas. The educational materials will cover a range of topics, including a module on boat power washing.

We are also always open to new ideas of ways to better serve you and the environment. So if you have any ideas, questions, comments, etc., or are interested in joining the program, please feel free to contact me at (419) 609-4120 or [wellington.28@osu.edu](mailto:wellington.28@osu.edu). Thanks! Have a wonderful summer!

## **New LEMTA boat sale a success**

The first Vacationland Boat Sale, organized by LEMTA June 11-13, went off without a hitch and attracted a fair amount of interested visitors.

The event was staged in the Bassett's Market parking lot off Southeast Catawba Road in Port Clinton.

There was no charge for admission and five exhibitors (Clemons Boats, Islander Marine, Lakeside Marine, MarineMax, and Skipper Bud's) lined the lot's north end with boats on trailers.

Members interested in putting together multiple-dealer sales in other locations should contact the LEMTA office at (440) 899-5009.

## **Golf Outing & Fishing Tournament one month away!**

Since 1998, the LEMTA Educational Foundation has given away more than \$90,000 in scholarships to local students interested in the marine industry.

The annual Golf Outing & Fishing Tournament, which will be held July 20 this year at the Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton, is the main fundraiser and all members are asked to participate.

The \$100 complete golf or fishing package includes a continental breakfast, beverages, CIC polo shirt, steak or chicken lunch and 18 holes with carts for golfers or outfitted boats for fishing teams.

If you are not able to attend the event, but would still like to help out, there are many sponsorship opportunities available.

Contact the LEMTA office at (440) 899-5009 if you are interested.

## NMMA to reboot Grow Boating effort

Earlier this month, the National Marine Manufacturers Association Boat Manufacturers Divisional Board agreed to end the 85 percent redirection of Grow Boating assessments to manufacturers.

The assessment will be reduced temporarily through Dec. 31, 2010, while industry leaders determine how they want to relaunch the Discover Boating campaign.

Prior to the redirection, more than 19,000 boats had been purchased by consumers who received the initiative's "Get Started in Boating" DVD and approximately 14,000 boats had been sold to first-time boat owners, according to NMMA.

"When we developed the Grow Boating Initiative, we realized it would require long-term support in order to see real growth. In its first three years, Grow Boating efforts accomplished exactly what we set out to do -- increase participation to help spur increased sales over time," said NMMA President Thom Dammrich. "It will be critical for our industry to make a decision on how to move forward as we look to rebuild coming out of the recession."

A new research and marketing campaign proposal is expected to be ready by fall of this year.

## Upcoming industry events and deadlines

### [Great Lakes Fishery Commission Science Transfer Program](#)

Proposal deadline: July 15

### LEMTA Educational Foundation Golf Outing & Fishing Tournament

July 20

Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton

### [North American In-Water Boat Show](#)

Sept. 15-19 (contracts due Aug. 6)

Cedar Point in Sandusky

### [BoatUS Recreational Boating Access Award](#)

Application deadline: Oct. 1

[Marine Dealer Conference & Expo](#)

Nov. 15-17

Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla.



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