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NAVIGATOR

A publication of the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association

May 2010

New LEMTA boat show to be held June 11-13

In an effort to give boat dealers an inexpensive platform to sell to weekenders traveling up to Lake Erie and Ohio Bike Week participants, LEMTA will stage the first Vacationland Boat Show this summer at Bassett's Market in Port Clinton.



The show, which will be held June 11-13 in the parking lot near the intersection of Southeast Catawba Road (OH 53) and East Harbor Road (OH 163), will feature boats on trailers and tented spaces on land.

Admission will be free and plenty of parking will be available on site.

If you are interested in exhibiting, please call the LEMTA office by May 21.

Make an investment in our future - Contribute to the Boat Ohio Foundation PAC!

By Carolyn Towner, LEMTA's lobbyist in Columbus and president of Towner Policy Group

The Boating Associations of Ohio's legislative involvement can only be successful with the dedication and help of its members. A contribution to the Boat Ohio Foundation Political Action

Committee (PAC) will help our association impact on important legislative and regulatory issues that affect our recreational boat dealers and the recreational industry.

2010 is an important election year. All statewide political offices, all seats in the Ohio House of Representatives, and all seats in the odd-numbered Senate districts are up for election this year. The Boat Ohio Foundation PAC contributions assist the recreational boating community in fostering relations with members of the Ohio General Assembly and assist our friends in being elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate.

We need all of the members of the Boating Associations of Ohio to get involved. There are many ways for a member to be involved in legislative activities and contributing to the PAC is one of the easiest ways. The Boat Ohio Foundation PAC enables recreational boat dealers to assist in the election of public officials who will be accessible and responsive to our boat dealers and the clients we serve.

A contribution to the Boat Ohio Foundation PAC is a sound investment in your profession and the future of recreational boating in Ohio. A contribution to the Boat Ohio Foundation PAC will help assure that recreational boat dealers, boaters, and their friends will have an impact on important legislative issues that affect recreational boating in Ohio.

Please consider donating to the Boat Ohio Foundation PAC. Any contribution would be greatly appreciated and put to good use. Send your “personal” check made payable to “Boat Ohio Foundation PAC” to:

Boat Ohio Foundation PAC
1269 Bassett Road
Westlake, OH 44145
(440) 899-5009

(The Boat Ohio Foundation PAC is a voluntary, non-partisan political action committee formed to raise funds to assist the Boating Associations of Ohio to be more effective in the state political arena. The Boat Ohio Foundation PAC is a separate segregated fund established by the Boating Associations of Ohio. Voluntary contributions to the Boat Ohio Foundation PAC must be written on “personal” checks – Ohio law prohibits corporate contributions. Checks from limited liability companies are permitted. Contributions are not deductible for federal or state income tax purposes.)

Help out at the Boating & Fishing Fest

Volunteers are still needed for this year’s North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest.

The free annual event in downtown Cleveland will be held June 5-6 and will offer powerboat rides, sailboat rides and fishing trips to visitors as a kickoff for National Fishing & Boating Week.

Boats this year will include the 65-foot schooner Journey, operated by B-About Sail Ministries; a 20-person dragon boat canoe piloted by the Cleveland Rowing Association; and the Holiday, a longtime city charter boat.

The event will also include giveaways, food, live music and educational exhibits.

Last year's festival attracted thousands to the waterfront and was perhaps the most-attended ever.

Boats from Ivancic Marine, Riverfront Yacht Sales & Services and East 55th Marina members ran continuously on both days of the event and Capt'n Willie the Great Lakes Pirate entertained families on land.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the LEMTA office.



Visitors line the pier at the 2009 North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest.

CIC show continues to shine, even if weather doesn't

The sixth annual Catawba Island Boat Show fared well earlier this month, despite consistently overcast skies and even a few rain drops.

The show, which was held April 30-May 2 at the Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton, featured a Firelands Winery-sponsored wine tasting that raised several thousand dollars for the LEMTA Educational Foundation.

“This is just a winning show,” said LEMTA President Ken Alvey. “Exhibitor prices are low, it’s easy for Lake Erie dealers to get to and the area is full of early season boaters. It does a lot of good for a lot of members.”

Admission was free and most of the club's grounds were open to the public.

On Friday, several members met over lunch with Ohio Rep. Dennis Murray of Sandusky.

The group talked about many issues - including financing, ethanol and the promotion of regional tourism - and Murray (who owns four boats and lives in Sandusky) said the boating industry can count on him as a partner.

The Catawba Island Boat Show will return April 29-May 1 next year.

LEMTA well-represented at ABC

The recently completed American Boating Congress attracted more than 150 industry leaders to Washington, D.C., to meet with legislators and discuss marine-related issues.

LEMTA members Kent Joy of Lakeside Marine and John Sima of Sima Marine made the trip with LEMTA President Ken Alvey.

The trio set aside a whole day for Congressional visits, meeting with Marcy Kaptur, D-Toledo; Dennis Kucinich, D-Cleveland; representatives from Bob Latta's (R-Bowling Green) office; Steve LaTourette, R-Bainbridge Township; Zach Space, D-Dover; and Republican Sen. George Voinovich.

Topics of discussion ranged from financing, during which the group pushed for enhanced SBA lending programs, to the ethanol problem and even ranged into large-scale issues like ocean management.

At the end of the day, ABC attendees had completed hundreds of meetings with various members of Congress.

LEMTA encourages all of its members to stay involved in the political process and will likely send multiple representatives to next year's event.

Golf Outing & Fishing Tournament to be held July 20

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 interested in attending the event, but would still like to help out, there are many sponsorship opportunities available.

Please see the attached flier and registration form for more information.



Marina rules meeting May 19

A public input meeting regarding the Ohio Department of Health's new marina rules will be held May 19 at the Erie County Health Department building in Sandusky (420 Superior St.) from 6 to 8 p.m.

Recent changes to the rules include new regulations for backflow prevention devices (1024 models are required if the water is coming from a potable source) and electrical repairs near water.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Mary Clifton at mary.clifton@odh.ohio.gov.

Brownback amendment needs support

If boat dealers want to be included with auto dealers and be exempt from Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection regulations, they need to contact their Democratic senators as soon as possible.

According to the National Marine Manufacturers Association, the newly-created BCFP will have the authority to regulate almost all financial deals.

Marine dealers could be regulated as banks are and the already-reduced flow of recreational lending credit could be further slowed, even though dealers are already subject to multiple federal and state regulations.

Fortunately, Republican Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas has filed amendments to exempt auto, RV and boat dealers.

The amendments could be voted on as early as Thursday night and need support from the marine community and Democratic senators.

Sherrod Brown, Ohio's lone Democratic senator, can be reached at (202) 224-2315 or through brown.senate.gov/contact.

MRAA pushes for relaunch of Grow Boating

In a recent meeting with the national Grow Boating campaign's board of directors, Marine Retailers Association of America representatives asked that the program's funding be completely restored.

It has been more than 18 months since NMMA announced it would redirect funds originally set aside for Grow Boating back to boat builders.

Though NMMA officials said in 2008 that funding had dropped to ineffective levels due to the boating industry slowdown, the MRAA representatives claimed 17 percent of people requesting Discover Boating DVDs went on to purchase boats.

That high success rate could mean the program worked and it could be a viable way to promote the boating lifestyle and increase participation in boating, as its original mission was.

Leukemia Cup Regatta accepting donations

The Cleveland Yachting Club will hold the 17th annual Leukemia Cup Regatta fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society July 15-18 this summer and its members are asking local marine companies to donate goods for a silent auction.

Last year's Cleveland event raised more than \$70,000 to support patients and their families.

If you would like more information, please contact event manager Lorie Tobik at (216) 910-1220 or lorie.tobik@lls.org.

Please update your roster book listing

The 2010-2011 LEMTA roster books will be printed later this month and all members are asked to update their listings by submitting the form attached to this e-mail by May 21.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Upcoming industry events and deadlines

Ohio Dept. of Health Marina Rules Public Meeting
May 19 at 6 p.m.
Erie County Health Dept. building in Sandusky

[North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest](#)

June 5-6
Voinovich Park in Cleveland

Vacationland Boat Show
June 11-13
Bassett's Market in Port Clinton


[National Marina Day](#)
June 12

[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
Cedar Point in Sandusky

[Marine Dealer Conference & Expo](#)
Nov. 15-17
Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla.

	
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