

Emailed March 11, 2010

# NAVIGATOR

A publication of the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association

March 2010

## CIC show filling up

Space is limited at the Catawba Island Boat Show, to be held April 30 - May 2 at the Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton, so be sure to contact the LEMTA office in the coming weeks to secure your spot.

The event will be free for the public to attend and feature a wine tasting conducted by Firelands Winery of Sandusky.

All money raised by Firelands will be donated to the LEMTA Educational Foundation to be used for scholarships.

The event attracts people coming up to the area for the weekend to get their boats ready for summer and club members returning for the first time after the winter.

It is centered in a region that has one of the highest numbers of boats per capita on the entire Great Lakes.

A luncheon with regional legislators, similar to last year's meeting with state Sen. Mark Wagoner and state Rep. Dennis Murray, is scheduled for April 30.

LEMTA encourages all members to attend and share their points of view about the boating and tourism industry.

The 2009 boat show was warm and sunny for the first time in years and visitors responded by spending hours walking the docks and eating on the club's deck.



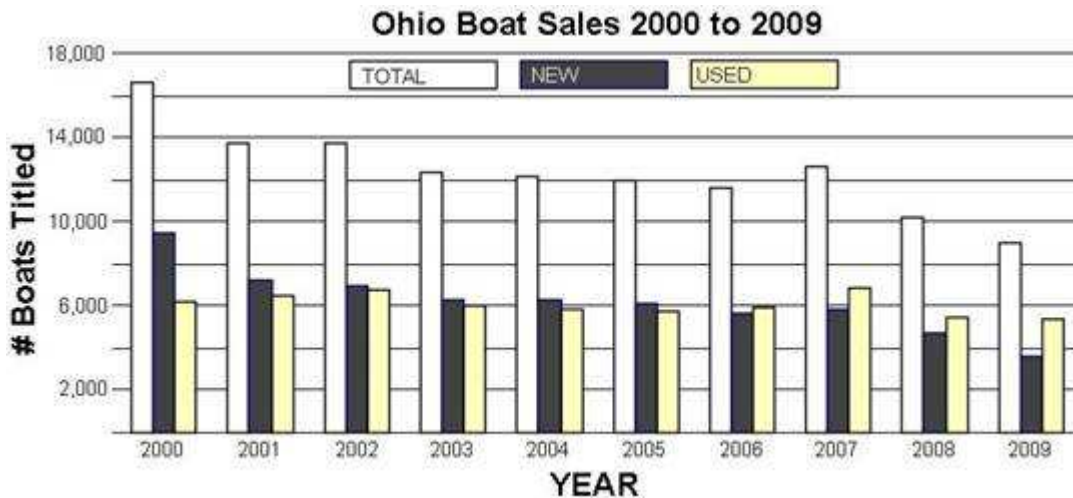
*The Catawba Island Club from Lake Erie*

## Useful tool for tracking boat sales in the works

An easy-to-read, graphical representation of boat sales in Ohio could be available for dealers in the coming months thanks to an effort from Ohio Sea Grant.

Data would be broken down by month, season and possibly region, similar to the Ohio Boat Sales Reporter that was discontinued in the late 1990s.

Sea Grant would regularly update the publication as new information becomes available.



## Cleveland ramps to be renovated

Renovation work on the Gordon Park boat ramps at East 72nd Street in Cleveland is scheduled to start April 15.

According to Jim Seikel of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, new floating docks will be installed and a cement overlay will be placed on the six existing concrete ramps.

The ramps will likely be closed that day and reopen on May 28, when the work is scheduled to be completed.

East 55th Street Marina dockers wishing to launch before the closure will be able to access their slips starting April 1, but water and/or electricity may not be available.

Nearby ramps at Edgewater and Wildwood state parks will be open throughout the spring.

## **New location for planned Lake Erie Boat Week**

At a public forum on March 8, Lake Erie Boat Week organizers outlined their plan to host powerboat races, a regatta, lighted boat parade and other boating-related events Sept. 7-12 in Huron.

It is the group's second attempt to launch the festival, which was scheduled to take place in September last year in Port Clinton before being postponed for economic reasons.

Lake Erie Boat Week would include Powerboat Superleague Formula Three and SST 45 tunnel boat races at speeds of up to 90 mph.

A course would be laid out on the river with turns in front of the Huron Boat Basin office and at its mouth to Lake Erie.

In the days prior to the races, a "racer's village" would be set up on land to house vendors and visitors.

The group also plans to host a "fastest boat on Lake Erie" race that would be open to the public.

Janie Vogel, the event's creator and director, estimated the event could make a \$5 million economic impact in the area.

Sponsors and volunteers are currently being sought; for more information, visit [lakeerieboatweek.com](http://lakeerieboatweek.com).

## **Clean Marinas workshop scheduled**

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program will hold a wildlife control workshop for certified and pledged clean marinas on Wednesday, March 31.

The workshop will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health building in Parma (5500 Venture Road).

If you have any questions, please visit [osu.edu/cleanmarinas](http://osu.edu/cleanmarinas) or contact coordinator Colleen Wellington at (419) 609-4120 or [wellington.28@osu.edu](mailto:wellington.28@osu.edu).



## Letters seeking support for dredging sent to Congress

On behalf of the Ohio Shallow Harbor Coalition, the LEMTA office recently sent letters to Ohio members of Congress urging them to increase funding for dredging.

The OSHC was created last year to support and complement the Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition, a group that represents 120 federal harbors throughout the Great Lakes system.

The mission of the OSHC is to ensure dredging and infrastructure maintenance programs receive funding necessary to sustain the state's harbors.

In the letter, it was noted that Michigan successfully obtained regional budgeted appropriations for dredging in both 2009 and 2010 (receiving \$6 million for it this year).

Ohio harbors have continually been overlooked and now account for more than 50 percent of the backlogged dredging on the all of the Great Lakes, according to Michael O'Bryan of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

If you operate on or have close ties with port authority boards in charge of Rocky River, West Harbor, Put-in-Bay, the Portage River, Cooley Canal, or Toussaint River, please get in touch with the LEMTA office to sign a letter of support for the OSHC.

The Vermilion Port Authority and city of Huron both signed on late last year.

LEMTA and the OSHC can argue much more effectively with personalized input from community members.

## Register online now for ABC

This year's American Boating Congress conference will be held May 5-6 in Washington and attendees can secure a discounted rate if they register before March 31.

The special "early bird" price of \$130 is available at [mma.org/abc/register](http://mma.org/abc/register).

The conference will feature supplemental meetings on Wednesday, May 5 and a full-day's worth of sessions (including visits with congressional representatives) on Thursday.

Many LEMTA members have attended in the past and taken advantage of the face-to-face meetings with government officials.

For more information about the conference, visit [nmma.org/abc](http://nmma.org/abc).

If you would like to carpool or room with another member, please contact the LEMTA office at [lemta@aol.com](mailto:lemta@aol.com) or (440) 899-5009.

## New members!

LEMTA has welcomed several new members over the past year, including:

[Great Lakes Publishing](#) of Cleveland  
[Intercoastal Financial Group](#) of Port Clinton  
[Marine Tech Concepts](#) of Port Clinton  
[Pier 53 Marine](#) of Port Clinton and Sandusky  
[Zito Insurance](#) of Mentor and Rocky River

## Upcoming industry events

LEMTA General Membership Meeting  
March 23  
Elyria Holiday Inn

Ohio Clean Marinas Program Wildlife Control Workshop  
March 31  
Cuyahoga County Board of Health building in Parma

[Catawba Island Boat Show](#)  
April 30 - May 2  
Catawba Island Club in Port Clinton

[American Boating Congress Legislative Conference](#)  
May 5-6  
Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington

[North Coast Harbor Boating & Fishing Fest](#)  
June 5-6  
Voinovich Park in Cleveland

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



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