

BOAT SHOW DOCKS AT CEDAR POINT

SANDUSKY, OHIO --- The Great Lakes' biggest floating showcase of power and sailboats, the Progressive North American Demo Boat Show, is set to drop anchor at Cedar Point Marina, August 22-26.

For 46 years thousands of area boaters have had a love affair with this in-water boat show that began in 1973 with less than 75 boats on display. This year more than 300 boats will pack the marina and adjacent land display area.

While show goers cite the enjoyable atmosphere and entertainment included in the show, they most often say that seeing the newest models, in this case boats for 2019 displayed for the first time, is what keeps them coming back.

Catawba Moorings (Port Clinton) is a good example. In addition to being the dealer for Regulator and Key West boats, they will also unveil two new brands at the show. The Mystic M4200 Center Console sporting quad 350 h.p. outboards is expected to be a show stopper. She boasts contemporary styling from a unique hardtop to luxury appointments throughout and will be easy to spot along the docks.

World Cat is the second new brand slated for Catawba Moorings. The newest addition to the World Cat line is the 280 DC-X duel console that will be on display. It combines the smooth ride of a cat hull with the versatility of the popular dual console design.

South Shore Marine (Huron) is another exhibitor unveiling models for 2019. Making headlines as the first Chris Craft dealer in Ohio in many years, the South Shore display will boast 5 models from the venerable builder including: outboard-powered Calypso 30' and 26' and Catalina 30' and 26' models, along with the unique Launch 27. But, there's more.

Other new models slated for the South Shore display will include Regal's new 33 SAV (sports activity vessel); the new Pursuit 288 Sport; Grady White's 325 dual console Freedom; the 30' Back Cover cruiser; and topping the South Shore fleet, a Sabre 38 Salon Express.

Show visitors are bound to spend a lot of time climbing aboard models displayed in a large exhibit by MarineMax (Port Clinton). While models from traditional brands like Sea Ray, Sailfish, Galeon and Aquila will command lots of attention, MarineMax will be unveiling the new Azimut 40 Verve. It's the first outboard-powered weekender offered by the renowned builder of motor yachts. Powered by triple Mercury 350 h.p. Verados, the accommodations throughout the boat reflect the trend-setting designs known worldwide from this Italian builder.

These are just a few of the many new powerboat models that will line the boat show docks. Virtually every major brand will be represented by exhibiting dealers from Ohio and Michigan. A random sampling includes: Formula, Boston Whaler, Sport Craft, Robalo, Buddy Davis, Nautic Star, Cobalt, Tidewater, Carver Tiara, Four Winns, Bennington and more than a dozen others power boat brands.

The sailing side of boating is led at the show by the "Discover Sailing" special feature. Two sailboats will be scheduled to take both accomplished and wannabe sailors out for an under sail experience.

Provided by Harbor North (Huron), the “Discover Sailing” boats will leave the show docks and cruise Sandusky Bay giving participants the opportunity to take the helm and get a hands-on experience of controlling a vessel under sail. For many years, Harbor North has offered “Discover Sailing” at this boat show and literally hundreds of people have taken advantage of the opportunity to sample sailing.

Harbor North is also a dealer for Hanse sailboats that are designed and hand built to order on the Baltic coast of Germany. The all-new Hanse 348 will be unveiled at the show, accompanied by a Hanse 455.

Specifically, the new Hanse 348 reflects trend-setting engineering with a streamlined hull design to increase performance under sail. Other notables include a standard self-tacking jib, and all the lines lead to the helmsman so sailing short-handed without leaving the cockpit is easy.

The regional dealer for Jeanneau Sailboats is Riverfront Yacht Sales (Cleveland). The Jeanneau lineup includes large models offering virtually thousands of possible combinations in deck plans and interiors.

Depending on availability, pre-owned sailboats on display may include brands like Hunter, Tartan, Catalina, Sabre and others.

But Riverfront also is the dealer for power boats from Eastern Boats and Seaway Boats that feature distinct down east seaworthy designs including sweeping sheerlines and teak accents. The design roots are clearly New England fishing but today’s modern versions from 18 to 35 feet with outboard power and smooth rides makes them very popular family boats.

A trademark of this in-water show is the pre-owned power boats on display each year. “These are carefully selected boats being shown by the area’s top boat brokers and dealers,” Ralston described. “They are primarily cruisers and large sailboats, late models and most are ready for immediate sea trials.”

The boat show runs for four days, Thursday thru Sunday, August 23-26. Show hours will be: Thursday and Friday (Aug. 23-24) – 12 Noon to 7:30 PM; Saturday (Aug. 25) – 11 AM to 7:30 PM; Sunday (Aug. 26) – 11AM to 6:00 PM

For all show information and advance e/tickets go to: www.cedarpointboatshow.com

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