

For Immediate Release

CEDAR POINT SHOW OPENS THURSDAY

SANDUSKY, OHIO --- The 2018 Progressive North American Demo Boat Show will dock at Cedar Point for four days, August 23-26, with more than 10,000 boaters expected to look over a fleet of 300-plus power and sailboats.

It's more than just a showcase of many new models from the nation's major boat builders. Marking its 46th year as the Great Lakes largest in-water expo, it's designed to be a hands-on event. Show attendees enjoy a variety of activities ranging from docking challenges on a high-tech simulator to actual demonstration rides aboard many of the boats in the show.

"It's really all about enjoying time at the show," explains Bryan Ralston, president of the Lake Erie Marie Trades Association. "We want the show to be more than just boarding new 2019 models, leftover 2018 boats at special model-year end savings, and select pre-owned and brokerage boats. What sets this show apart from others is our ability to give boaters an active experience while they are here."

Among the most popular experiences is the "Discover Sailing" feature. Two sailboats will be used to take wannabe sailors out for an under sail experience. Provided by Harbor North, the "Discover Sailing" boats will leave the show docks and cruise Sandusky Bay. It gives participants the opportunity to man the helm for a true hands-on experience of controlling the vessel under sail. For many years, Harbor North, a Hanse Sailboat Dealer, has offered "Discover Sailing" opportunities at this boat show to literally hundreds of people desiring to sample sailing.

Similarly, the "Kayak Experience" is a special hands-on feature from the Akron Power Squadron. After a short briefing about basic safe kayaking techniques, visitors can cast off in one of a fleet of kayaks and paddle around in a special kayaking area.

After walking the docks, visitors can look over the adjacent land space with its accessory tents featuring a range of boating products and services. It also boasts the display of smaller trailerable boats. For a break in the action, a stop at the show "Party Barge" for refreshments and love steel drum music daily compliments the overall show atmosphere.

The ability for many dealers to offer demo rides and sea trials is something unique to this show. "No other major in-water show in the country has the demonstration capabilities of our show," Ralston points out.

The show attracts boaters from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Ontario. Attendees get one free adult admission with the purchase of Cedar Point Parking (exchange parking receipt at show box office). There's free parking in downtown Sandusky at the Barrel House from which show goers can take the Boat Show Ferry (\$2.00) every hour on the hour.

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. Admission: Adults (over 12) \$10.00; Seniors 60+ \$8.00

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

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