

LEMTA SALUTES SUPPORTERS OF BOAT SHOW

While Progressive Insurance is the title sponsor of the 2017 Catawba Island Boat Show that will be held April 28-30, this year the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association is also recognizing organizations and individuals who are important supporters of the event.

“This boat show is unique in many ways,” says LEMTA president Bryan Ralston. “Besides our long-standing main sponsor, Progressive Insurance, there are three other important organizations that have partnered with us to support this boat show and activities connected with it.”

These supporters include: Charles Miller and the **Baumann Auto Group** in Port Clinton; Chris Arnold of **Fitzgibbons Arnold & Company** in Westlake; and John Dierksen of **First Federal of Lakewood, Marine Lending Group**, in Port Clinton.

“While the public gets to see an impressive boat show at the Catawba Island Club, a truly prominent setting,” Ralston emphasized, “other important activities and events are taking place surrounding the show and our supports make those happen.”

Ralston specifically cited two events as examples. First, there’s a special reception for all exhibitors after the show closes to the public, a time in which dealers can network and learn about various boating issues being addressed by the Ohio marine industry.

Second, there is a meeting and tour of the show for legislators from the region in which they learn and see first-hand the economic significance of the boating industry to Ohio’s and the contribution that good boating facilities make to the quality of life for the state’s more than 450,000 boat-owning families.

“There is a lot of work that goes on year round to help keep boating an appealing activity,” explains Ralston, “and much of what we can do and accomplish is because we have this direct support from willing partners.”

Finally, while it seems like it wasn’t that long ago that the first Progressive Catawba Island Boat Show was held in CIC’s marina, the show will actually mark its 13th anniversary when it opens. Over the years, it has grown to more than 100 boats and dozens of accessory tents to become anchored in the mind of northern Ohio’s boaters as a great kick-off to summer.

Moreover, dealers from the area will be bringing a variety of new 2017 models, along with some carefully selected pre-owned boats. The show’s uniqueness stems from its prestigious surroundings, the fact that virtually all the boats can be undocked sea trials, and dealers will be able to showcase many new and bigger models they’ve received from manufacturers since the last major boat show in Ohio (Cleveland) 4 months ago.

For more show details, visit: www.catawbaislandboatshow.com