

BIG FISHING FLEET AT BOAT SHOW

While the boats will range from kayaks to motor yachts, avid anglers will appreciate the wide variety of fishing machines on the docks of the Progressive North American Demo Boat Show at Cedar Point, August 23-16.

While the bigger boats always garner the publicity, this year's show will boast fishing models in every size category ranging from sleek center consoles to triple-engine duel consoles.

No name is bigger in Lake Erie fishing boats than Happy Days Boating Company (Port Clinton), the dealer for Robalo, Sport Craft and Parker. In the case of the latter two brands, they are recognized for specializing in fishing models. For example, the Sport Craft 272 and 302 Express models are mainstays of the Lake Erie fishing fleet and, while providing some accommodations, feature a host of angling amenities.

The same is true for Parker and Robalo. Parker boats, from 23 to 28 feet, are pure fishing workhorses with minimal cabin space and maximum fishing area. Robalo, on the other hand, offers a large lineup of center consoles from 18 feet up to a more luxurious 30-foot Walkaround.

The Sea Fox 266 Commander will lead the Beaver Park Marina (Lorain) display. This center console model, powered by twin Yamaha 150's, is appropriately loaded with fishing features like: a large tackle center on the console accommodating multiple tackle trays; two dozen rod holders installed all around the boat from gunnels to overhead on the T-top to the rocket launcher and across the transom; and under cockpit fish boxes and forward companion boxes provide plenty of equipment storage, too.

Buddy Davis Boats, with their distinctive flair and hull design, are known world-wide by the serious fishing community. The Davis 28 Center Console will be showcased at Cedar Point by Lake and Bay Yacht Sales (Marblehead), and while it boasts all the built-in fishing amenities and angler could want, it also features surprisingly comfortable passenger seating for just cruising around. The Davis 28 CC boasts twin Yamaha 300 outboard power.

Outboards are the name of the game at Clemons Boats (Sandusky) too, powering the full line up of models from Boston Whaler, Nautic Star and Albemarle. The latter brand has proven to be a popular addition to the Clemons dealership just this past winter. While the majority of the models in these brands are center consoles, the twin-outboard Albermarles from 25 to 29 feet feature some nice cabin accommodations, as do certain larger Boston Whaler models.

Center console models also reign supreme in the lineup of Regulator and Key West boats, and Catawba Moorings (Port Clinton) will display them at Cedar Point. They'll also be introducing the latest model from World Cat, 280 DC-X duel console, as well as a new brand to Lake Erie, the Mystic M4200 Center Console.

More fishing models will be found in the exhibits of MarineMax (Port Clinton) showing Sailfish; South Shore Marine (Huron) displaying Grady White and Pursuit; and Pier 53 (Port Clinton) showcasing new 2019 models from Cobia and Black Fin.

More than 10,000 boaters from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Pennsylvania annually attend this event. For all show information and advance e/tickets go to: www.cedarpointboatshow.com

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