

## Marinas & Yards

# MTA/NJ holds Bring a Buddy Boating week

*Boating Industry*

Friday July 1, 2005

BRICK, N.J. – New Jersey boaters can share their enthusiasm for boating by planning to bring their “buddies” to one of the many “Bring a Buddy Boating” events at marinas, dealers and dock ‘n dine restaurants across the state during “Bring A Buddy Boating” week, July 11-17.

“Bring a Buddy Boating” week is a campaign that focuses on encouraging current boaters to bring their friends, coworkers and others to participate in special events, open houses and boating activities at marinas and out on the water.

The initiative was created in 2004 through a collaborative effort among the MTA/NJ, Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation, New Jersey Department of Transportation Office of Maritime Resources, the New Jersey Office of Travel & Tourism and Creative Marketing Alliance. The goal of the campaign is to increase participation in boating and bring overall awareness to the general public that boating is an easily accessible and fun recreational activity for people to spend time together, travel together, vacation together and make memories together.

“We hope boaters will take advantage of this special week in July and share the excitement of boating with others,” said Melissa Danko, executive director of the MTA/NJ. “A strong and growing boating industry will benefit everyone that enjoys the beautiful waterways of New Jersey.”

Marine businesses that will be hosting events during “Bring A Buddy Boating” week to date include: (all events are free and open to the public)

- Baywood Marina, Brick, (732) 477-3322, will host an open house July 16 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Activities will include boat rides, entertainment, fishing seminars, electronics seminars, refreshments, free VHF & Fishfinder with new McKee Craft over 17' and Steiger Craft purchased that day, 20% off all store merchandise except electronics and sale items, drawing for \$100 gift card, free drawing for a dinghy, and a drawing for a 10 cents per gallon gas discount until October 31, 2005.
- BoatBoy Marine Training, Moorestown, (856) 273-7796, will take boaters and buddies for a boat ride to show first hand how wonderful the boating lifestyle can be.
- Causeway Marine, Manahawkin, (609) 597-3488, will host an open house July 16 from 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and July 17 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Activities will include boat rides, refreshments, and a raffle for a water sports tube.
- Compass Rose Performance Sailing Charters, Jersey City, (973) 378-8011, will give boaters and buddies a two for the price of one discount on performance sailing charters in New York Harbor from July 11-17. Those interested should call to arrange for a specific day and time for the charter.

- Grassy Sound Marina, Grassy Sound, (609) 846-1400, will offer a \$10 discount on boat rentals on July 12 and July 13.
- Irwin Marine Center, LLC, Red Bank, (732) 741-0003, will host an open house July 16 and July 17.
- Leamings Marina, Waretown, (609) 971-1514, will host an open house on July 17 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Activities will include boat rides, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary courtesy exams, refreshments and a raffle for a Big Bertha Watersport 2.
- Ocean Heights Marina, Egg Harbor Township, (609) 927-1585, will host an open house and demo day on July 16 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Activities will include boat rides, a live country band, face painting, a moon bounce for children and a cookout picnic.
- Pier 47 Marina, Wildwood, (609) 729-4774, will be host an open house July 17 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Sandy Hook Bay Marina and The Original Oyster Restaurant, Highlands, (732) 872-1511, will host a “Bring A Buddy Boating” event July 16 from noon to 5 p.m. with dinner and dancing available afterwards at the Original Oyster Restaurant. Activities will include an in-marina fishing contest with prizes for the three largest fish caught inside the marina and special discounts for contestants, a Tiki bar with refreshments and drinks and a band in the evening.
- Sheltered Cove Marina, Tuckerton, (609) 296-9400, will host an open house July 16. Activities will include three boats in the water for test rides, United States Coast Guard courtesy safety inspections, refreshments and raffling off United States Coast Guard safety kits.
- Waterfront Marine, Somers Point, (609) 926-1700, will host an open house July 16 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Activities will include demo rides, refreshments and discounts on the purchase of new and used boats.

In addition, a number of Dock ‘n Dine restaurants are supporting “Bring A Buddy Boating” week by offering boaters and their buddies special discounts if they Dock ‘n Dine. Participating restaurants are: Up The Creek Tavern and Restaurant, Keyport, which is offering boaters and buddies 10 percent off lunch and dinner orders; and Windows On The Bay, Bayville, which is giving boaters and buddies who mention that they are participating in “Bring A Buddy Boating” week 10 percent off.