

**Anchor Bay Yachting Association  
Clinton River Watershed Council  
Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative**

**Press Release**

**'CELEBRATE THE LAKE' DAY' SCHEDULED  
JUNE 11 - 13 AT MACRAY HARBOR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
May 28, 2010**

**CONTACT:**

Lois Conte – ABYA Commodore (586) 463-5952, (e-mail [commodore@abya.org](mailto:commodore@abya.org))

Lynda Marek - Bruley ABYA Rear Commodore, (586) 463-6464 (e-mail [rear@abya.org](mailto:rear@abya.org))

Dan Keifer - Community Outreach Director, Clinton River Watershed Council, (248) 601-0606 (email: [Dan@crwc.org](mailto:Dan@crwc.org))

Brad Simmons – Executive Director, Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative (734) 207-0300 (email [simmons.company@sbcglobal.net](mailto:simmons.company@sbcglobal.net))

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP, MI** – Three area non-profit organizations with strong ties and commitments to Lake St. Clair are hosting a major celebration of the lake and its assets Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 11-13, with activities to take place at MacRay Harbor on North River Road in Harrison Township. All events and activities are free and open to the public.

The celebration kicks off Friday with exhibitors presenting a “show and tell” at an Exhibit Hall from 4 to 8 p.m. in MacRay’s Member Events Facility. Here, participants with any questions about the lake or activities on it or in it can get those questions answered by the experts. These exhibits will promote clean recreational boating practices, clean marina programs, green products you can use on the boat or at home, marine safety statutes, local watercraft controls, administrative laws and the scientific research being done by the Sea Cadets through the Great Lakes system. The exhibits will be open again Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m., also in the MacRay’s Member Event Facility.

The event also marks the announcement of several developments being implemented by the Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative, a new non-profit organization formed solely to promote the Lake, its assets and resources to the 8 million people who live within an hour’s drive of its shores. Southeast Michigan and Lake St. Clair represent the gateway to the Great Lakes, and sitting astride the Lake Huron to Lake Erie water corridor, an incredible freshwater resource that is ready to explore with interests that include boating, swimming, fishing, rich local history, bird watching, dining, entertainment and much more. The Lake St. Clair Event coincides with CRWC’s annual River Day event, as well as National Marina Day.

On Saturday evening, the Anchor Bay Yachting Association will hold a Charity Spaghetti Dinner between 6 and 9 p.m. at the MacRay Banquet Center. All proceeds will be donated to the tri-county Marine Sheriff Divisions and the Sea Cadets. Cost of the event is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. A cash bar will be available. Advance tickets are available, contact Matt Barrells at [treasurer@abya.org](mailto:treasurer@abya.org). Tickets also will be available at the door.

-more-

Sunday, from 9 to 10 a.m., events continue with a Annual Rubber Band Boat Race, sponsored by the ABYA, at the MacRay Swimming Pool on the east side of the Banquet Center. These boats are entered by many of ABYA's member boat/yacht clubs with the winner having bragging rights for the next year. This is not an event for the timid, as these hydroplanes reach incredible speeds (their operators must wear protective gear), despite their means of propulsion. Attendance at this event is limited to space availability; please contact MacRay Member Services at (586) 468-1900, ext. 443, for more information.

Exhibitors participating in the "Celebrate the Lake" Event include:

- Anchor Bay Yachting Association
- Clinton River Watershed Council
- Michigan Clean Marina
- Noble Odyssey Foundation – Pride of Michigan Sea Cadets (Tour the 81' *Pride of Michigan* ship, depends on water depth in the marina)
- The Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative
- Metropolitan Beach/Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Coast Guard Aux (schedule boat inspections for Saturday)
- U.S. Border Patrol
- U.S. Customs
- Macomb County Sheriff's Department – Marine Division
- Michigan Sea Grant
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- National Weather Service (NOAA)
- Thetford Corporation
- SoyCleaning
- Labaido Cleaning Supplies
- South Channel Range Lights Association

The "Celebrate the Lake" Event is sponsored by the Anchor Bay Yachting Association, the Clinton River Watershed Council and the Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative, which will be officially launching its programs that weekend.

*Anchor Bay Yachting Association* is a charitable organization founded in 1967. Its primary goals are to educate boaters, encourage clean waters, increase safe boating on our lakes, and assist the local sheriff marine divisions in their education and safety efforts. The ABYA also supports water clean-up, and promotes youth organizations that encourage education and safety on the water. ABYA consists of 32 member clubs and over 4,000 members. At monthly meetings, members discuss problems relating to boaters, are updated on community events, and listen to speakers talk about boating related issues.

*Clinton River Watershed Council* is a 40 year old organization comprised of individual, business, civic and municipal members whose mission is to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair.

*Lake St. Clair Tourism Initiative* is a non-profit that was formed to stimulate the economic vitality and growth of the Lake St. Clair region by increasing awareness of the rich and diverse assets offered by its adjacent communities and businesses. The group's mission is to create awareness of the lake and its assets, and encourage residents of the region to discover the Lake St. Clair area as a top destination in which to live, play and shop.