

Wickett aims to make cruise 'Success Boat'

By Susan Steinmetz
staff writer

First there was the "The Love Boat," in which bikini-chasing characters set their minds on a new romance. But now the "Love Boat" will be transformed into the "Success Boat." It's not a television series, but a real adventure where real people set their minds on success and change, in addition to getting tans and meeting fellow sun bathers.

Setting sail Nov. 5-12 will be the 686-passenger "Island Princess," the same boat used in the "Love Boat" series. Birmingham's Michael Wickett, a leading motivational speaker, will help 50 of those passengers chart a new course for their future on his "First Annual Sail and Soar" cruise seminar.

Guests will learn to "make their dreams come alive," said Wickett, while cruising on the Caribbean "under the warm blue skies and through turquoise seas," and making ports of call on Mayreau, Martinique, St. Maarten, St. Thomas and San Juan.

"It will be a life-changing experience," Wickett said. "If you're going to change your life, and really take quantum leaps, you have to get away from your environment, where you can become peaceful and relaxed and get a new vision."

The cruise is being arranged by Sterling Heights-based Creative Cruises, which specializes in self-enrichment boating vacations.

It will be the first for owner Peg Ostby, who left her post as executive director of the Church of Today in Warren to form the company.

"PRINCESS Cruise Lines is very excited about the idea and very excited about having Mike aboard," said Ostby.

Ostby calls cruises that combine a vacation with self-enhancement a "wave of the future." She has several

more cruises scheduled, including a cruise for the Yoga Association of Greater Detroit and a whale-watching cruise.

"The response has been just overwhelming," she said. Those embarking on the cruise will be all ages, and from all over the country. Many were sent cruise information after buying one of Wickett's tapes.

They will include Judy Jacobs, 39, of Troy — one of those whose life changed after hearing Wickett four years ago. She was inspired to form her Madison Heights company, Business Health Promotion Consultants, which reviews medical health records for attorneys.

"I love Mike Wickett. I've been to all his talks at the Unity Church for the last four years," she said. "He is just a dynamite speaker."

"First of all, we're going to have a lot of fun," she said of her reasons for going on the cruise. "Plus the fact that you get to have seminars on board. How can you not come back all enthusiastic and refueled and motivated and ready to go again?"

"I'm really excited," she said — and so is her dad who will be accompanying her.

WICKETT'S own success story is an inspirational one. Ten years ago, Wickett said he was broke, unhappy and had had a low self-image all his life. Then, he read a book called "Think and Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill. That led him to make a commitment to a better life.

Today, he travels all over the country giving seminars for companies such as IBM and GM.

Nightingale-Conant Speakers Bureau, the largest seller of audiocassettes in the world, recently signed him on as a speaker and produced an audiocassette program he authored, called "It's All Within Your Reach."

Married, he and his wife, Valerie, have a young daughter, Kristen Renee. Wickett calls himself one of the "happiest, most excited people" on the planet.

But anyone can change their life as he did, he said. And, on the cruise, he will share some of the "success principles" he used in his life.

Wickett got the inspiration for the cruise from an annual goal-setting Christmas dinner he takes with former Dale Carnegie colleague Don Tocco of Rochester. The two have held the dinners since 1975, when Wickett was struggling and Tocco treated him to a Christmas dinner.

In recent years, their goal-setting dinners have been held in such faraway places as Salzburg, Austria. The two also have weekly "support meetings."

SUPPORT IS one of the "success principles" about which Wickett said he feels most strongly.

"If you can find one or two people to support you unconditionally, your potential just explodes," he said. Mutual support, in fact, will be the "foundation" of the cruise, Wickett said.

"Life is about believing in yourself. And the best way to believe in yourself is to surround yourself with people who can believe with you and for you."

For details on Creative Cruises, call 288-4500.



Blues return

The Moody Blues, who have endured every fashion or trend with their consistently appealing pop/rock style, are coming to Detroit for one night as part of the second leg of their U.S. tour. This marks 20 years since the British rock group first came to America, performing at the legendary Fillmore East and Fillmore West. Always a charismatic live act, the Moody Blues spice their set with

tunes ranging from their first album, "Days of Future Passed," which included their hits, "Nights in White Satin" and "Tuesday Afternoon," to their current release, "Our La Mar," which features the hit single, "I Know You're Out There Somewhere," and the just released "No More Lies." The Moody Blues will be appearing at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Masonic Auditorium in Detroit.



JOHN B. STOFAZAND/Staff photographer

Guests will learn to "make their dreams come alive," while cruising on the Caribbean. And it will be "a life-changing experience," says motivational speaker Mike Wickett.

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WINNERS CIRCLE

BY LAURIE KIPP

MPL

Players will soon see new Michigan Lottery terminals being installed at their favorite retailer locations. The following talks about this change.

Q: Why is a change being made?
A: In order to maximize net revenues for the state, the Lottery recognizes that it must replace its outdated computer terminals with state-of-the-art equipment which will allow for growth, as well as improved service for players.

Q: Who will provide these terminals?
A: GTECH, a leader in the worldwide lottery industry, won the contract to provide this equipment to the state.

Q: When will we see these new terminals?
A: The Lottery will begin the conversion process during late October.

Q: When will the process be complete?
A: By early 1989, all 3,800 on-line retailers throughout the state will have the new equipment.

Q: What's new that players will see?
A: A revised Lotto bet slip, as well as a new Daily Game bet slip will make game play easier. Players will also enjoy the new computerized message screen—much like a mini TV screen—that retailers have the option of using with their new terminals.

Q: What other differences are there in the new system?
A: We're very excited about a new security feature. Ticket sales will be simultaneously recorded at two locations on three separate computers to safeguard wagering activity in the event of a disaster such as fire, tornado, etc.

Q: Are there new games on the horizon?
A: The GTECH system includes an extensive library of games and features. We will certainly explore all possible options, but no new games are in the works at present.

For asking the question which led to this column, Irene Ondrasak of Warren will receive 50 free "Fall Cash" instant game tickets.

If you have a Lottery question not yet covered in these monthly columns, send it to: "Winners Circle," Michigan Lottery, P.O. Box 30077, Lansing, MI 48909.