

Summer events lure boats to state harbors

Boaters won't have to cruise far to find tempting summertime festivals at Michigan's state-sponsored facilities, generally no more than 15 shoreline miles from a Great

Lakes harbor.

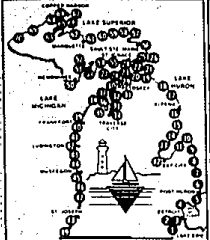
Boaters can kick back in front-row seats for a fireworks display in downtown Detroit or view a passing parade of lighted vessels in

Charlevoix. They can stretch their sea legs during bridge walks in Mackinaw City and Sault Ste. Marie or stroll among Michigan-made arts and crafts in St. Clair.

Most activities, listed on the AAA Michigan 1991 Harbor Guide, are within walking distance of the harbor, a few require land transportation. In addition to the events, restaurants, grocery stores, beaches and picnic areas are a short walk from most harbors.

Boaters will be able to dock at two new state-sponsored facilities this summer in Bay City and Barabosa.

Festivals Dock Near State Harbors



HARBOR	EVENT-DATE
12 Bay City	Bay City Boat Show June 22-23
13 Benona	Benona Boat Show June 23
14 Berrien	Berrien Boat Show June 24
15 Boardman	Boardman Boat Show June 25
16 Charlevoix	Charlevoix Boat Show June 26
17 Cheboygan	Cheyboygan Boat Show June 27
18 Cheboygan	Cheyboygan Boat Show June 28
19 Cheboygan	Cheyboygan Boat Show June 29
20 Charlevoix	Charlevoix Boat Show June 30
21 Charlevoix	Charlevoix Boat Show July 1
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100 Cheboygan	Cheyboygan Boat Show Sept 20

But it will cost more to tie up for the evening at all state docks. The Michigan State Waterways Commission's new fee schedule ranges from a flat rate of \$15 for boats less than 24 feet long to \$1.09 per foot for boats 60 feet and longer. Last year, rates were \$14.50 and \$1.04, respectively.

Also new in 1991 is a \$5 charge for temporary daytime moorage. Pumpout charges remain \$1 per connection.

Dock space is rented on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, Detroit's St. Aubin Park will accept reservations on a trial basis this year. If successful, the reservation system could be expanded to other sites in 1992.

The majority of harbors maintain pumpout facilities, restrooms, showers and fuel docks. Other services can be obtained at commercial marinas.

For a copy of the festivals near state harbors, write to AAA Michigan, Public Relations Dept., One Auto Club Drive, Dearborn, MI 48126.

One-horse towns offer more than you know

Continued from back page

Compared to Augusta, Marietta is a metropolis with a population of nearly 17,000. It's Ohio's oldest town, home of Marietta College, founded in 1835, and Rossi Pasta.

Rossi Pasta? This is one of Marietta's surprises: a factory producing handmade, all-natural pasta for Nieman-Marcus, Williams-Sonoma, gourmet cooks and, of course, the rest of the world. (Visitors can check out the pastas in the wonderful-smelling retail shop. Others can order by mail.)

Spinach-basil, saffron, black olive, jalapeno and garlic are a few of the selections, and the company is generous with recipes and cooking tips written in a light-hearted style. (Ask for the Rossi Pasta Prima; "A (Simple) Guide for the Kitchen Frail.")

MARIETTA, NAMED for Queen Marie Antoinette of France, was founded in 1788 by veterans of the Revolutionary War and became the gateway to the Northwest Territory (and which later became Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and part of Minnesota) and its first permanent settlement.

The town survived the bloody battles of the last Indian wars (1790 to 1794) and became a busy and prosperous ship-building center and steamboat port.

This part of Marietta's heritage is reflected in the popularity of the Valley Gem, a sternwheeler providing hourly trips on the Muskingum and Ohio rivers, and

melodramas presented during the summer on the show-boat Becky Thatcher.

Sternwheelers from around the country will race on the river during the Ohio River Sternwheel Festival the first weekend after Labor Day. The festival features live entertainment, fireworks and craft booths along the riverbank.

Marietta is an appealing tree-shaded town in a pleasant countryside of hills, valleys and river views. There are two museums, the Ohio River Museum and the Campus Martius, fine old Victorian houses and some remaining brick streets and alleys.

TROLLEY TOURS of Marietta are conducted regularly, beginning on Green Street near the historic Lafayette Hotel.

Tours are also offered free at the Fenton Art Glass Company, in nearby Williamstown, W.V., where glass is blown and hand-shaped by craftsmen.

The Middleton Doll Factory is another popular place. The dolls, created by Ohio artist Lee Middleton, have faces sculpted from images of real children and are prized by collectors. (An outlet with near-perfect dolls is at 268 Front St. in Marietta.)

For more information, contact the Marietta Tourist and Convention Bureau, 116 Third St., Marietta, OH 45750 or telephone toll-free (800) 285-2577. The Rossi Pasta Factory is at 114 Greene St., Marietta, OH 45750 or call toll-free (800) 227-6774.

Blasting through the white water

Continued from back page

The most important thing is teamwork. Keep paddling at all times, even if someone falls out. Getting the person back in the raft is priority number one, but you can't do it until you're past the wild waters.

Don't wear jeans, even if it's cold. You get drenched when you walk into the water to reach the raft, and you haven't even started yet. Soaked jeans are impossible to get off. Most companies will rent wet suits, but you won't need one unless it's really cold.

I had canoed before, but rafting is very different. The raft moves, bends and rolls with the waves. You can feel the rocks scraping under you.

After we conquered several rapids without a scratch, we lost one of our crew, Don VanSickie of Canton, a close friend. Before I knew what happened, he was gone, nowhere in sight.

ALL I could see was white froth with an occasional rock jutting out of the violent water. No sign of Don.

Having heard rumors of someone dying on that very river years ago made us forget paddling to find Don. The guide plunged his paddle into the water to see if Don would grab it. No luck.

After what seemed a lifetime, Don's head poked up through the water. All of our safety instruction came in handy as we tried to rescue him. The sound of the water was so loud he couldn't hear us screaming to keep his feet in front of him, although he knew to do it anyway.

Don came out unscathed. When we hauled him into the raft, we sighed with relief and headed for the next set of rapids.

Even though white-water rafting can be dangerous, it's great fun. There's always the anticipation of what lies ahead, like on the uphill trek of a roller coaster. You feel a sense of vulnerability and power at having conquered the waters. I went rafting again this year on a tougher river, the Cheat in West Virginia, and it was more exhilarating. Who knows what lies ahead for next year? The cost of white-water rafting varies from \$50 to \$150 depending

on the river, the day of the week and time of year. Mountain Streams offer a group discount. If 19 people pay, one goes free.

THERE ARE some minimum age requirements. On the Lower Youghiogheny River, it's 12 on the Cheat, Gauley, Upper Yough, and Tygart's Valley River and the Big Sandy Creek you must be 16 years old. The Middle Youghiogheny is the easiest; run, open to anyone 6 or older.

The difficulty level of each river is indicated by "class." Class I for youngsters and families and Class VI for experienced rafters.

The river rides run during certain times of the year. For example, Cheat River trips are in the spring while Youghiogheny trips are May through September.

Four-man rafts are common, but 10-man rafts are used if the water is high. Lunch is served halfway through the trip. For more information, contact Mountain Streams and Trails: PO Box 106, Ohiopyle, PA 15470 or call toll-free (800) 245-4090.



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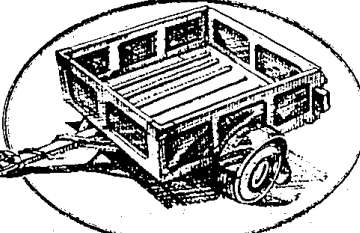
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