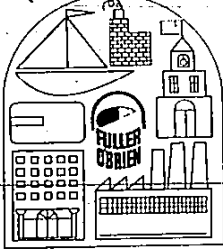
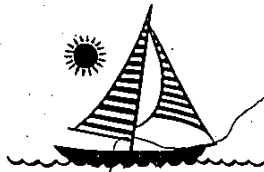


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THE CUPPETILLI'S own four boats which service their diverse water pleasures. From left to right, Mark, Vic, Alice, Lauri and Rick who will head en masse for the water come the spring. (Evert photo)

**Livonia Family Anticipates
Myriad Of Water Activities**

By JUDITH BERNE

With their four snowmobiles slated for hibernation, the Cuppetillis of Livonia are looking forward to spring, summer and fall on the water.

At their summer home on Horseshoe Lake about halfway between Brighton and Ann Arbor, the five Cuppetillis make full use of four boats which serve their diverse water pleasures.

Sixteen-year-old Rick and 12-year-old Mark use their 15-foot speed boat primarily for water skiing. Rick, who has been skiing since he was eight, feels "it's a sin to use two skis." Both he and Mark do trick and slalom skiing on weekends during spring and fall, and "all day every day" when the family moves out to the lake for the summer.

"They do a heck of a lot of skiing," their father reports. "I know. I pay for the gas."

Rick, a junior at Bentley High School, has both his safe boating and scuba diving certificates. When he is not skiing, he is scuba diving.

"We do have sort of an unwritten rule on the lake that there is no water skiing before 10 in the morning," Cuppetilli notes. That gives the sailors and fishermen a little time to pursue their pleasures unhampered by the roar of speedboats. "Sailing's not the greatest thing in the world with water skiers around."

Alice Cuppetilli is looking forward to many hours in a new paddle boat which the family purchased over the winter. Paddle boats are usually eight to 10 feet long, about six feet wide and have two seats, her husband explains. They are propelled by bicycle-type pedals which make an underwater paddle wheel turn and the boat go.

comes complete with an orange survey convertible top -- the epitome of style and comfort. She enjoys both the exercise of paddling it and just being on the water.

Cuppetilli and his second-mate, Lauri, a fifth grader at Roosevelt Elementary, most often head for their sailboat. "I used to really enjoy the speedboat for the very power of it," Cuppetilli relates. "If anyone had ever told me I'd love a dinky sailboat, I would have told him he was crazy."

"But I went to sailing for the relaxation. I only have a small 14-foot boat, but I love every foot of it. The feeling that you get from sailing is so different from the sensation of a speedboat. It is more sophisticated somehow."

"I had a chance to sail on the ocean in Florida this past winter. It was a real thrill."

The Cuppetillis' "fleet" is completed by a 14-foot aluminum boat with an electric motor used to fish for bass at night. Mark, also a student at Roosevelt, is their most enthusiastic fisherman. Although Cuppetilli says that Horseshoe Lake is not the greatest fishing lake, "there is an abundance of small panfish."

"WE HAVE A LARGE DOCK, and when the four boats are tied up, our lake neighbors jokingly refer to it as 'Cuppetilli's Marina,' he continued. "I do believe that if they came out with something new for the water, we'd buy it."

"But we wouldn't have anything to do with a swimming pool," he cautions. "There was one when we bought our Livonia home and we had it taken out."

"The kids were scared of the water when we first came to the lake. Now it's hard to imagine a life without it. I do believe it has kept our family together and will continue to, even as the children grow up."

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