

If boat show's on, isn't spring near?

By Lem Meese
staff writer

Winter seems less frigid when you attend something like the Greater Michigan Boat and Fishing Show, which opens Saturday in Cobo Hall.

Some 750 boats, with a retail price tag of \$11 million, will be exhibited by 225 dealers. They range in size from wind surfers to canoes to 48-foot yachts to cruisers.

And if you fear the economy is dampening boat-buying, figure again. Their

outdoors

1981 sales were \$6.2 million, 18 percent above the 1980 level, say members of the Michigan Boating Industries Association.

Tickets at the door are \$4 general admission and \$2 for children and senior citizens.

Hours are noon to 11 p.m. Saturdays,

noon to 9 Sundays, 4-10 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday.

Among the show features are a fly-tying seminar, demonstration of casting techniques, a gourmet gallery, a water-skiing squirrel, fashion displays and the more usual assortment of booths.

THE RODCRAFTERS will hold their third annual regional seminar Feb. 13-14 in Botsford Inn, Grand River at Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

They'll swap ideas on building custom fishing rods, both graphite and fiber glass. Anchorman will be Dale Clemens, author of two books on rod-making.

Price for both days is \$85, according to Jim Richardson, who is accepting reservations at 455-7595.

OAKLAND COUNTY Extension is offering a series of six seminars for landowners who may be interested in reforesting their property. They run from 7:30-10 p.m. six Wednesdays, Feb. 3 to March 10.

"Vast acreages of farmlands have been subdivided," says Wayne Nierman, director of the extension service. "These small land units often lay idle because they are too small to farm productively. An appropriate alternative for small parcels is reforestation."

"Reforestation stabilizes the soil, enhances rainfall penetration, impedes water runoff and erosion, enhances the value of the land, and can provide a renewable energy source."

Show up at Lakeside High School, 1630 Bogie Lake Road, Milford, with \$3 for each session you plan to attend.

If you can't beat winter, you might as well enjoy it. That's the philosophy behind the many winter festivals going on in Michigan during February, and of the smart people who will enjoy them.

The Second Annual Winter Carnival will be celebrated Jan. 30-31 in Boyne City as will the winter carnival at St. Ignace and at Vandenberg. Fort Austin's winter bash runs Feb. 1-3.

Feb. 5-7: You can attend Winter Fest at various sites in Lansing; Perchville USA and ice sculpture in the Tawassee; the 36th Annual Winter Carnival in Lewistown; and the Gladwin County Ice Carnival in Gladwin.

Feb. 6: Winter Blitz, Central Park area, Saginaw. Feb. 6 and 7: the Lions Snow Carnival at Au Gres.

The Senior Winter Olympics are in Flint, Feb. 8-10. Snowmobile racing is in Harrison, Feb. 12-14; the Seaboard Sugar Snow Festival in Seaboard, Feb. 13; the Winter Sports Carnival, Hanson Hills, Grayling, Feb. 13-14. Mackinac Island hosts the Island Winter Festival, Feb. 16-18. Oscoda has its Snow Fun Weekend in Huron National Forest, Feb. 20-21.

The first Frozen Cherry Festival will be hosted by Traverse City Feb. 19-20, at the Miracle Mile on East Bay, between Acme and downtown Traverse City.

There's sled-dog racing Feb. 27-28 in Mount Morris, and the annual Winter Folk Festival in Frankenmuth, Feb. 26-27.

— Iris Jones

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KENSINGTON Metropark, on I-96 in western Oakland County, has two nature center programs this Sunday, Jan. 31.

A "Nature Cross Country Ski Tour" starts at 9:30 a.m., with naturalist Julie Carbus leading a 2½-hour trek across park trails. There will be stops to examine plants and animal signs.

"Winter Wildlife Survival," a family program, starts at 2 p.m. Naturalist Bob Hotelling will lead a 90-minute

walk in search of wildlife and the ways they search for food, warmth and escape from predators.

They're free, but register in advance by calling the nature center at 685-1561.

The nature center is worth visiting. It's on the west side of the metropark. Take the Kensington Road exit and follow the signs.

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Nathaniel Branden, one of America's foremost psychotherapists and the author of the bestselling *Psychology of Romantic Love*, will be at iBrowse on Friday night February 5th to talk with you about love - to explore what love is, to define the conditions under which it flourishes, or perishes, to discuss the daily problems, struggles, confusions that men and women encounter in their efforts to make love work.

You're invited to join us for this special evening at which Dr. Branden and his wife, Devers, will talk about their new book, *The Romantic Love Question and Answer Book*. Here, finally, is a book that addresses the practical issues of love, and gives each of us ideas and suggestions on how to improve our loving relationships. It is more than just a how to book, *The Romantic Love Question and Answer Book* is an inspiration to all. It presents not only the means by which romantic love can be achieved and sustained, but a wonderful vision of what romantic love can be.

The Romantic Love Question and Answer Book is something for all of us, and you won't want to miss the opportunity to meet the Brandens and talk about the "most exquisite and challenging adventure" in each of our lives.

Come to iBrowse, on Northwestern Highway at Orchard Lake, Friday, February 5th, at 7:30 p.m.

Giftscrip: When you buy hardcovers at iBrowse (except sale titles), you receive coupons worth 10% of your purchase. The coupons are called *Giftscrip*, and you can trade them the next time you're in or save them up.

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