

Southern Oregon Lakes Lend Themselves to Pleasure of Group Cruising

Group Activities Add To Pleasure Of Outboarding

When you get a boat, you'll have no difficulty in making friends on the water, because boating people are famous for their friendliness to other boaters.

Once you've made cruising friends, you'll probably find yourself taking part in a group cruise or in other group activities, all of which add immeasurably to the fun of outboarding.

The Evinrude "Guide to Outboard Cruising," published by the Evinrude Boating Foundation, says group cruising falls into two categories, the informal group cruise of from two to six or eight boats, and the mass group cruise in which dozens of boating families may take part.

Southern Oregon's wealth of beautiful boating lakes lend themselves perfectly to group cruising, either on extensive or single day outings. The informal group cruise involves no special advance planning and may be arranged as casually as you would arrange for a Saturday afternoon golf game or a few hands of bridge.

Usually, those who take informal cruises either keep their craft at the same anchorage, or trailer them to and from the water. They simply get together and decide to make it a group cruise, all of them running together to an agreed destination.

This type of cruise may be a one-day affair or a week end outing, depending upon the types of boats available and the wishes of those involved. It might include a picnic lunch or an exploratory expedition to some area where members have not cruised previously, or to some favored spot of the group.

The mass cruise is usually organized through a boat club and involves a cruise of from a week end to a full vacation period. These families enjoy a long week end, or a week of eating out. They sleep aboard or pitch tents along the lake or river. They might include barbecues, fish fries and square dancing among their activities.

On either type of cruise, according to the "Guide to Outboard Cruising," rafting is a popular pastime. Rafting is a simple procedure which involves a few fenders and securing of fore and aft lines to one another in pairs, three or any number. In this way it is easy and fun to organize a waterborne "house party."

A cruising club in Milwaukee stages "Smorg-Aboards" in which the outboard owners shove off on a cruise and end up rafting craft together for one of those fun-filled meals popularly termed "pot-luck" where everyone passes a dish for others to sample.

Whichever way it is done, cruising in company is perfect for the naturally gregarious skipper who likes company and wouldn't dream of being on the water unless he made it a party.

Clear Signals Advised On Turns With Trailer

When you're planning a left turn with a boat trailer, hang the left arm "way," way out and wave it vigorously, says the Evinrude Boating Foundation. This builds better muscles and also keeps the driver behind you from plowing into your trailer and prettily painted boat.

If you don't need arm muscles, or are driving at night, be sure the trailer comes equipped with both braking and turn signal.

The sloop "Rainbow," successful defender of the America's Cup in 1934, carried approximately 7,550 square feet of sail on a mast 160 feet high.



CHANCE FOR FUN—Group cruising offers many chances for families to enjoy companionship and fun. This group is anchored off a sandy beach, where everyone can enjoy swimming, sun bathing, beach games and even a picnic together.



OUTBOARD NEIGHBORS—Rafting is the way outboarding neighbors get together during days of cruising and fun on local waters. A simple procedure requiring a few fenders and securing fore and aft lines to one another, two or three craft can be rafted in minutes for a waterborne "house party."

Companies Offer Cruising Guides

A number of petroleum companies specializing in supplying fuel for recreational craft offer cruising guides which are helpful as supplements to official government charts in planning a cruise or when visiting strange waters. The guides depict general courses of interest, indicate points of historical or educational value and show the skipper where to obtain gas, fresh water, ice and other necessary supplies. They do not provide accurately, the navigational information contained on government charts and should not be used alone to navigate, particularly in shoal or rocky areas.

Among the companies that offer guide service on a nationwide basis are Gulf, Texaco, and Socony. Copies of their cruising information and aids may be obtained by writing: Gulf Oil Co., Marine Dept., Gulf Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Texaco Waterways Service, The Texas Co., 135 E. 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y.; and Small Craft Division, Socony-Mobil Oil Co., 150 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y.

Esso Standard Oil Co. maintains a similar service on a regional basis covering a number of eastern and southern states. Copies of their guides may be obtained by writing to the Esso Bldg., 15 West 51st Street, New York 19, N.Y.

Have stowage problems on a small boat? Some skippers have found it convenient to provide plastic pillow covers with zippers for each crew member's gear. Available in almost any department or specialty store, they will keep clothes separate in the same locker and also keep them dry and free of mildew if you use a package of the anti-mildew compound in each bag.

Safe Boating Week June 29 to July 5

The second annual National Safe Boating Week will be observed in thousands of waterfront communities on salt and fresh water from coast to coast June 29-July 5 under the sponsorship of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The week commemorating healthy enjoyment of America's number one family sport and sparkplugged by the Coast Guard's civilian arm is supported by countless clubs and organizations engaged in the sport and industry of pleasure boating.

Boat and yacht clubs, national, regional and local trade associations, the U. S. Power Squadrons and the CGA's individual flotillas all take an active part in setting up and carrying out activities to make this week a salute to "safe fun afloat."

For details on Safe Boating Week write: Chief Director Auxiliary, U. S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington 25, D.C.

The newer types of synthetic rubber make good chafing gear for boom crotches on sail boats. Available in shoe repair stores, this rubber provides the same smooth surface as leather and wears just as long.

Good Grade Gas Ups Performance of Motor

You'll get the best performance from your motor if you use a good grade of regular gasoline, according to the Evinrude Foundation. The lubrication of working parts of your motor is supplied solely by oil which you mix with the gasoline.

SAE 30 motor oil is your best lubricant, in a ratio of one half-pint of oil for each gallon of gasoline. Thorough mixing of the oil and gasoline is more important than the exact ratio.

LINES CAN CHAFE

If a boat has to be left untended on dock or mooring lines for any period of time, it is a smart move to wrap the lines in an old piece of cloth or canvas at the point where they pass through the blocks. Lines can chafe through at this point in a few days under certain conditions.

SWIMMING MUST

Every boatman should be an accomplished swimmer. Here in our area, anyone needing swimming lessons, should contact the YMCA and also some of the other commercial swimming pools at which lessons are given. See the swimming exhibitions at the Crater Lion's Sportsfair this week end.

Marathon Racing Gains Popularity

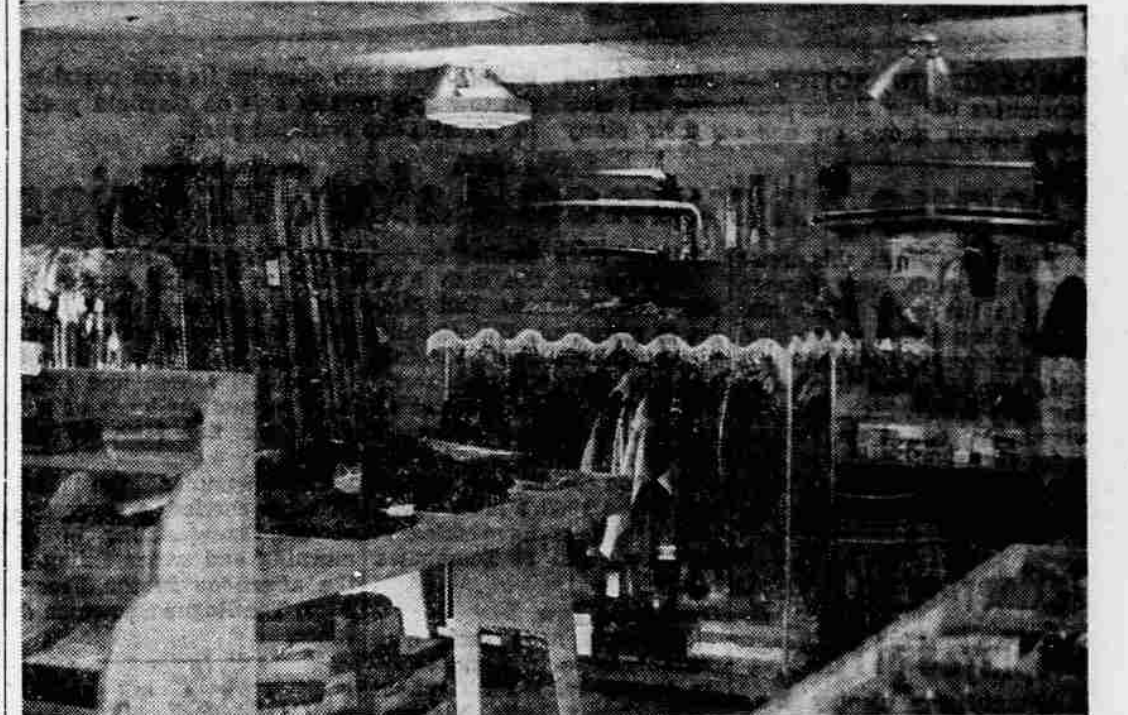
Competition in outboard marathons racing has become increasingly popular with the owners of the lively little stock outboard motor boat racing in the United States reports a constant gain in this type of racing activity during the past 10 years.

The 4,000-member group has even instituted a special marathon membership permitting drivers to sign up as APBA members for just a single race. If they wish to compete in more than one, then they must become regular racing members.

Open to five stock outboard runabout classes on APBA rolls — AU, BU, CU, DU and 36 class — these marathons vary anywhere from 40 to 300 miles in length. The biggest

single event on the national circuit is the annual Milwaukee Sentinel-Winnebagoland marathon starting and finishing at Fond du Lac, Wis., on the last Sunday in June. More than 200 boats have started in this race for the past several years.

The first lighthouse in the United States was built at the entrance to Boston Harbor in 1716.



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Boatmen Advised To Check Propellers

A faulty propeller can damage outboard motors and the Evinrude Boating Foundation advises boatmen to check the prop periodically. A bent or nicked prop will set up vibrations in the engine which may have damaging effects on the operating parts. Blades should be kept in proper pitch with all nicks removed or repaired.

Don't Miss the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce-Sponsored

PEAR BLOSSOM FESTIVAL PARADE

SATURDAY at 11:00 P.M.

Bring the youngsters to enjoy this colorful parade, starting at the Library, down Main Street to Hawthorne Park. Floats . . . Bands . . . Marching Groups. The Pear Blossom King, Queen, Princes and Princesses will be there.



And Enjoy the Crater Lions Club's First Annual

SPORTSFAIR

Medford Armory—Saturday, Sunday

The Medford Crater Lions have a wonderful show planned for you, including skin diving tank, casting pools, live trout fishing, helicopter rides, pony rides, contests and prizes. It's a gala event for ALL the family.

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Prizes Awarded

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Medford Armory - - April 12th & 13th