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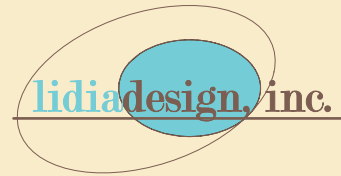
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Make the most of a day at the *Lake*

Water becomes the center of attention when the temperature climbs because of the cooling relief it can provide. Making a day of splashing through sprinklers, swimming laps in a pool or horsing around with friends at a waterpark is part of the summertime experience.

Even though most people equate summer fun with ocean escapes, those who do not live close to the coast often turn to other bodies of water to cool off and chill out. Lakes can be great places to spend summer afternoons and evenings. Discover how to make time at the lake even more fun with these ideas.

FISHING

Cast your line right into the lake and take a shot at catching some fish. Bass, trout, perch, and pike may be interested in the bait hanging off of your hook. Be sure to check local fish and game ordinances to see if you need a license for fishing for the season, as well as the recreational size limits, possession limits and fishing seasons if you plan on keeping your catch.

WATER SPORTS

Water sports and lakes often go hand-in-hand. Certain water activities are easier on the calm waters of a lake than in the waves and swells of an ocean and particularly for beginners. Canoes and kayaks are one- or two-passenger vessels that can be launched from just about anywhere. They make areas of the lake



explorable that may not be accessible to large boats. Plus they require no fuel other than the power of rowing. If you prefer more speed, personal water craft like jet skis may be used on lakes in certain areas. Waterskiing or wakeboarding behind powerboats are some additional options for thrill-seekers.

TUBING

Although tubing is often enjoyed on rivers where the rapids carry people along from a starting point to the end, those who desire a more relaxing day may opt for tubing on a lake. Tie several tubes together

and create a fleet of friends or family floating leisurely under the sun. With the addition of a floating cooler full of drinks and snacks, you can stay out on the lake for hours.

LAKESIDE CUISINE

If you're lucky to have a lodge or restaurant dockside, you can enjoy a delicious meal overlooking a sunset on the lake. Time in or on the water can build up an appetite, which can be satiated by a meal while you listen to the water lap against the shoreline.

(METRO CREATIVE)

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above: Days at the lake can be memorable ways to spend summer vacations.

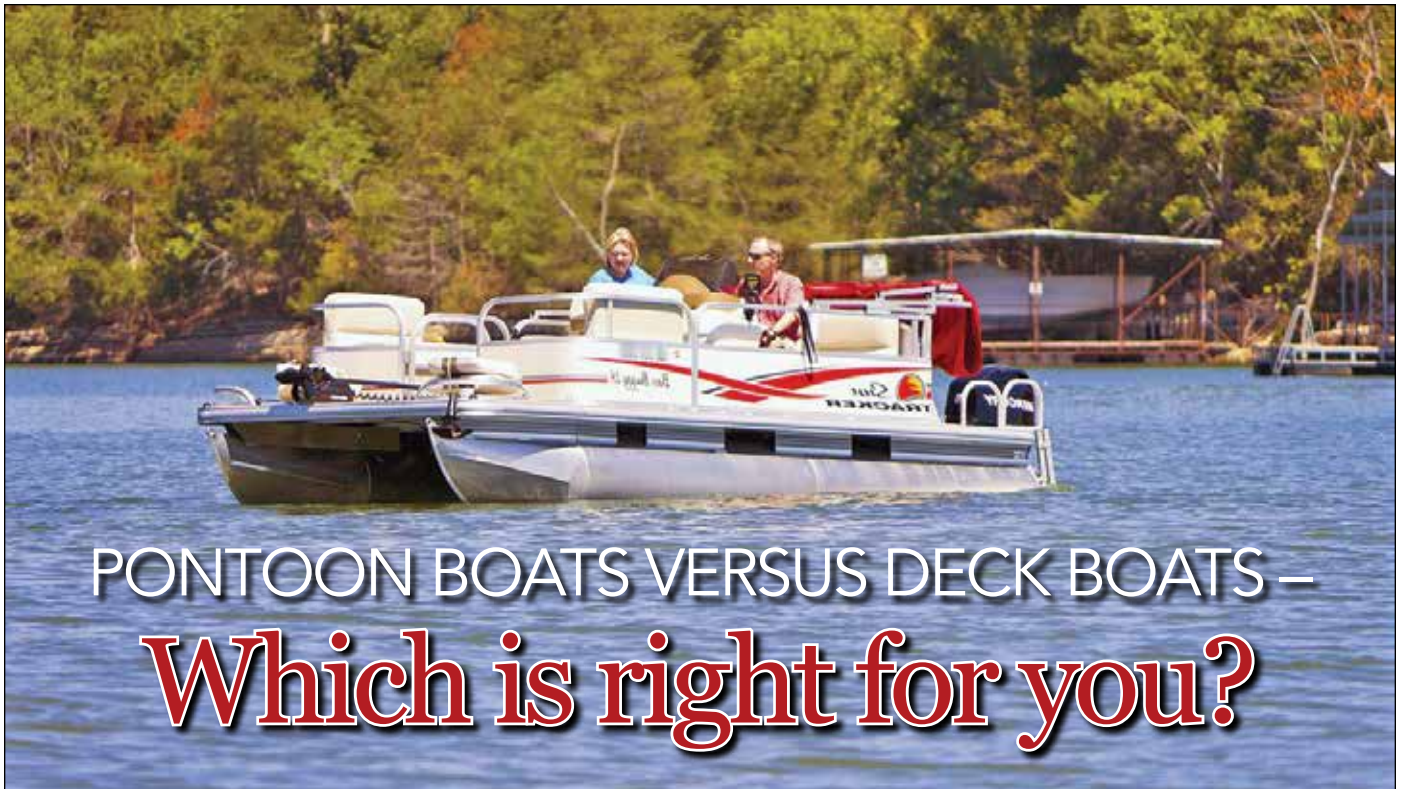
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on the cover: This home is at N7729 Laura Lane, La Grange, is an active listing with @properties. The home is priced at \$3,899,999 and has six bedrooms, 5-1/2 bathrooms on Lauderdale Lakes "Gold Coast." It's a gated lakefront estate on 142 feet of sand frontage and boat house. The home is situated on manicured 1.28 wooded acres completely fenced and gated. That's just the start to this lakefront dream. The lake greets you as you walk into the four bedroom, 4-1/2-bath main house with open foyer to eat-in kitchen and lakeside dining room, living room with fireplace and slider to screened porch with vaulted ceiling. Master en-suite lakeside with private deck. Family room walk-out to cement patio. Brick fireplace and wet-bar plus fourth bedroom and bath. Rare wet boat house with two bedrooms, one-bath guest cottage above with full kitchen, living room and screened porch, all vaulted. This gets even better with a 36-by-30-foot storage garage with four finished rooms all vaulted heated and cooled. Plus, another 3-1/2-car heated detached garage.



PONTOON BOATS VERSUS DECK BOATS – **Which is right for you?**

Pontoon boats are incredibly popular all across the nation, as are deck boats. In fact, these two boat types share many of the same features and advantages, and if you're in the market for a new boat it can be incredibly hard to choose between the two.

So, which will be best for you and your family? Will you pick a pontoon boat, or do you think a deck boat would be delightful? Truth be told, in many regards you can't go wrong either way – both types of boats are loads of fun. But as you try to determine which would be ideal for you and yours, Discover Boating encourages you to consider the following:

VERSATILITY AND CUSTOMIZATION

One of the great things about pontoon boats is that they're available in virtually countless different deck layouts, shapes, and sizes. In many cases you can pick and choose between where you want a lounger, versus a sofa, versus a pair of fishing chairs. You can also choose to add activity-specific features, like a tow pylon for watersports or integrated cooler compartments for day cruising. So, you can make a pontoon boat just as versatile – or specialized – as you'd like.

Deck boats, on the other hand, are generally fiberglass boats with rigid hulls and decks. As a result, many of the features are molded in and the floorplans usually aren't as customizable. This may seem to

put deck boats at a bit of a disadvantage, but there's also an up-side. With the fiberglass construction the builder can mold in things like steering consoles, ski lockers, and seat bases. That can give the boat a very clean look and a solid feel.

PERFORMANCE AND SEAKEEPING ABILITIES

There was a time when deck boats would have been the hands-down winner in this category. Generally speaking, a single fiberglass hull can accept more horsepower and ride through the waves better than a pair of aluminum "logs" can. These days, however, triple-log pontoon boats, often called "tri-toons" are quite common. And having that third log makes a huge difference in a pontoon boat's performance and sea keeping abilities. Today, it's not unusual to see tri-toons with huge outboards or even twin outboard engines, which go fast enough to whip the hat right off of your head. And they do quite well in choppy waters, as compared to the pontoons of yesteryear.

That said, all other factors (like size and weight) being equal, most people would still say that the monohull deck boats have a bit of an advantage when it comes to handling rough seas. Most also benefit from having less windage, so they may be easier to dock or load on a trailer in a stiff breeze.

COST OF THE BOATS

No matter what your boating budget may be, cost is a consideration most people will take into account when comparing pontoons and deck boats.

In smaller, less expensive size ranges, pontoons usually win out in this regard. There are plenty of relatively small pontoons with low-power outboards, which are very inexpensive. There are some small and inexpensive deck boats, too, but there are far fewer are on the market and foot for foot, the pontoons generally cost less.

When it comes to larger model boats, however, this advantage usually evaporates. Many of today's pontoon boats are exceptionally well equipped with luxury features, accessories, and powerful engines, and they can get every bit as expensive as a comparable deck boat – sometimes even more so.

THE BOTTOM LINE

So, what's the bottom line? That will depend on how you prioritize the above factors, personally. In some cases the pontoon boat will prove to be the better pick, while in others a deck boat will be the right move. And this is a call that only you can make. We do know one thing for sure, though – choosing either will be a major lifestyle upgrade. Make your final call and then get ready for endless fun out on the water.

For more information, visit discoverboating.com.

When considering between a pontoon boat and deck boat consider the available versatility and customization options, performance and sea-keeping abilities and the cost before making a purchase.

STOCK PHOTO *Lake Living*

Adventure awaits



Ways to soak up summer on the water

Summer fun is right around the corner, and boating is the perfect addition to your bucket list. No boat? No problem. There are plenty of ways to get on the water and enjoy the unique adventures only boating provides, in addition to its many wellness benefits. Studies show being on the water boosts creativity, happiness, relaxation and mental health.

“Americans today prioritize experiences, work-life balance and outdoor recreation. There’s no better way to do that than spending time on the water with loved ones,” said Ellen Bradley, Discover Boating senior vice-president. “Boating delivers fun, freedom and relaxation in a special way you can’t get on land - and we’re seeing more people giving it a try than ever before as they learn about the proven benefits of time on the water.”

Whether you’re into fishing, watersports, riding personal watercraft, sailing or simply cruising around the open waters, boating offers something for everyone, and it’s more accessible than you may think. Boaters come from all walks of life, backgrounds and areas of the country, with an estimated 100 million Americans going boating each year, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

Discover Boating, the leading resource for all things boating, helps people find easy ways to get on the water and provides tools and articles to get started. Check out these tips to start planning your next on-water adventure and make the memories of a lifetime this summer.



top: Water sports are a big draw to local lakes, from jet skiing to water skiing to wake boarding to boating, the lakes are buzzing with activity in the summer. **above:** Boating in Wisconsin starts in spring and doesn’t wrap up until fall.

STOCK PHOTOS Lake Living

RENT OR SHARE A BOAT

Rental options are available on most waterways and provide hourly, daily or weekly access to a variety of boat types. Rental outfitters should provide tutorials on operating a boat, share safety instructions and offer suggestions on destinations. Another option is peer-to-peer boat sharing, which allows you to rent boats near you directly through the boat owners and offers the choice to hire a captain.

JOIN A BOAT CLUB

Boat clubs offer access to a variety of boats. You’ll pay a monthly fee and be able to book your time on the water online. Most boat clubs take care of docking, cleaning, maintenance and boat training courses.

TAKE A CLASS

Take the helm and become a confident boater. Sign up for a boating lesson to hone your powerboating, sailing or watersports skills by mastering the basics while having fun along the way. On-water training courses, watersports camps, youth boating programs and more are offered across the U.S.

FIND YOUR DREAM BOAT

Chart a course to boat ownership by visiting DiscoverBoating.com, where you’ll find resources such as the boat finder and loan calculator to help you find a boat that fits your budget, lifestyle and interests. Use the social media hashtag #SeeYouOutHere to share your boating .

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N7729 Laura Lane, Elkhorn, WI 53121 \$3,899,999

Lakefront estate on 142' of sand frontage on Lauderdale "Gold Coast" situated on manicured 1.28 wooded acres completely fenced and gated. That's just the start to this lakefront dream. The lake greets you as you walk into the 4 bed, 4.5 bath main house with open foyer to eat-in kitchen and lakeside dining room, living room with fireplace and slider to screened porch with vaulted ceiling. Rare vaulted wet boat house with 2 bed, 1 bath guest cottage above with full kitchen, living room and screened porch.



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Take trip back in time



Black Point Estate offers a glimpse into a bygone era

By **Sandra Landen Machaj**

CORRESPONDENT

Visitors to Black Point Estate, the summer cottage of Chicago beer baron Conrad Seipp and his second wife, Catharina, and their children, arrive just as visitors to Black Point did back in the 1800s and 1900s – by boat. They then climb the more than 100 stairs to the house.

While visitors back then arrived by the Sepp's private launch, to enjoy time at the cottage, today visitors arrive on a Gage Boat Lines boat, usually the Geneva, after having toured a large portion of Geneva Lake.

On the cruise, they enjoy the stories of the wealthy Chicagoans who built lavish summer cottages along the shores of Geneva Lake to escape from the hot, dirty air of the city. These cottages can be more correctly described as mansions, since many were as large, or larger, than their

mansions in Chicago.

When Black Point comes into view, a large, three-story Victorian mansion in the Queen Anne style with a large turret set high on the shore, visitors are often overwhelmed by its beauty. Built in 1888, Conrad was only able to enjoy this summer cottage for two years as he passed away in 1890. His family would continue to enjoy and care for this property until 2005.

Catharina continued to bring the family up each summer. They would spend the entire summer at Black Point enjoying the fresh outdoor air, the lake and the home.

While it was a summer home, a place to relax and enjoy, Catharina kept the children busy. They had a tutor brought in who gave them lessons each day in subjects such as Latin, German and the sciences according to the book "The Black Point Legacy," published by the Black Point Historic Preserve, Inc. Everyone had chores

to complete before being allowed to swim, boat, and play with siblings and friends.

Who was Conrad Seipp?

Who was Conrad Seipp and how was the Seipp family able to afford to build and maintain this summer home?

"Conrad Seipp was one of the largest beer barons in Chicago," Black Point Estate Site Coordinator Dave Desimone said. "He came to America as an immigrant from Germany and worked hard to build his dream. He became among the most successful brewers, fifth in the United States."

The Seipp brewery survived the Chicago fire, in part because they had earlier had a fire and rebuilt the brewery out of brick and in part because he was far enough south to avoid the fire. The brewery continued to grow until prohibition, when, like many

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

The Black Point Estate features balconies and a tower. Custom stained glass windows along the tower to let in some light as visitors climb to the top.

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breweries, it was shut down.

“This year, Lauren Mack, a great-, great-, great-, great-granddaughter of Conrad Seipp has started making beer under the Seipp label,” Desimone said. “We have the Seipp’s beer on site for sale in the gift shop only to be consumed on site.”

After a visit to Kaye’s Park, a popular upscale resort on Geneva Lake, Seipp knew he had found the place to build his summer home. He purchased a bluff on the south shore of the lake known as Warwick Park and there he built his summer home.

Construction on the lake

To build the house, all materials had to be shipped to Williams Bay, transported by boat to the building site and hoisted to the top of the bluff. Building the 17-room house was a massive job.

The first floor contained the public rooms. A dining room which could seat up to 40 at a time was usually full at meal times as the Seipp family enjoyed sharing their summer home with family and friends. Meals were served in formal style and visitors dressed for dinner. Interesting since the home was built without a kitchen. The kitchen was a separate building where the staff cooked the elaborate meals served here.

The other rooms on the main floor were a formal living or greeting room, a pool room, and the music room. Music was part of the daily evening activity and several of the Seipp children were accomplished musicians. After dinner the entire Seipp’s family would retreat to the music room and participate in playing and singing.

The second and third floor contained the bedrooms – 13 of them. Some had two beds so more guests could be accommodated. There was one bathroom, located on the second floor that it was believed was used primarily by the older women. Chamber pots were used in these early days.

The home was truly meant to be a summer cottage and did not have a full-house heating system.

There were fireplaces throughout the home to help take out the chill on cool fall days. A coal stove was occasionally used to heat the second floor. The home was used through mid-October then shut down for the winter and the family returned to Chicago.

The most impressive part of the home, both from the outside and the inside, is the turret. It was impressive when viewed from across the lake and even more so up close. From the turret there was an unobstructed view of the entire lake from above the tree line. At the top of the turret the American Flag would fly from the time the family arrived until they left in October to return to Chicago.

Visiting the estate

The majority of visitors to Black Point arrive by boat. Partnering with the Gage Boat Lines, visitors board the Geneva in downtown Lake Geneva, and enjoy a 45 minute tour of Geneva Lake while they learn of the history of the lake and the summer cottages that were built by the wealthy Chicagoans who made Lake Geneva their summer destinations.

After arriving at Black Point just as the Seipp family did, they climb the more than 100 stairs from the pier up to the house. Here they are greeted on the wraparound porch with its view of the lake and are met by a docent who shares the history of the Seipp family and of the beautiful home.

Visitors are then taken on a tour of the first two floors of the home. The first floor consists of the public rooms, the billiard room, the music room, the formal living room, and the formal dining room. On the second floor they will view some of the family and guest bedrooms.

Outside the beautifully landscaped gardens will be enjoyed. The lintel from the old brewery is on display on the garden. It has recently been reset to better enjoy, with new plantings surrounding it.

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



top: One of the many bedrooms with its heavy Victorian furniture remains in the Black Point home today. **at right:** The billiard room on the first floor at the Black Point Estate was a favorite family and guest gathering place.

Upon completion of the tour, the boat will return you back to the Lake Geneva docks. The entire tour takes about 3.5 hours and is recommended for those older than 12 years of age.

Order tickets at www.cruiselakegeneva.com. Cruises are held throughout the summer at 10:30 a.m. daily with an additional cruise on weekends at 12:30 p.m. Price is \$49 for adults.

Special programs

“Our goal is to continue to encourage people to come and enjoy Black Point, not just for one visit but to return and learn more about it. Each time one visits, they discover things they didn’t notice before,” Desimone said. “To encourage people to visit more we also offer a number of special events held on site. These include two separate beer programs.”

Summer on the Veranda programs include two separate beer programs. The Spectrum of Beer studies the variety of beers from

light to dark, or from Pilsners to Stout. Only 20 people are included in each program. It is held three times each summer. This year’s dates are June 22, July 20 and Aug. 17. Tickets may be purchased on the Black Point website.

The other beer program is a boat program, Beer Barons of Lake Geneva, which must be booked through www.cruiselakegeneva.com.

There are three dates this year, June 17, July 15 and Aug. 12. They will share the history of the beer barons from the area

Summer on the Veranda will also include a visit by renowned author, Agatha Christie, as portrayed by local actress and historian, Chris Brookes. Tickets may be purchased on the Black Point website.

Are you interested in Paranormal Parlor Games? This event will be another event of the Summer on the Veranda events. Joe Diamond will share paranormal adventures and Victorian Spiritualism. Tickets can be purchased on the Black Point



The Black Point Estate gardens remain well kept with the help of volunteers.

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Open to the public

While taking a boat tour around the lake, the beauty of all the beautiful summer homes is impressive. Unfortunately, they can only be viewed from the boat, except for Black Point.

For four generations, the descendants of Conrad and Catharina Seipp owned, maintained, and enjoyed the property and way of life.

In 2005 that all changed when William O. Petersen, great-grandson of Conrad Seipp turned over the title to the house, all of its furnishings, along with 8 acres of land and 620 feet of lake frontage to the state tourism secretary with the understanding that the home would be used as a museum. There is a limited conditional use permit which only allows 50 guests at a time.

The home provides a unique look into life at Black Point not just in the late 1800s but throughout the years the Seipp family and their descendants made this their summer home, the only summer cottage of the era that is open to the public to tour.

“Our goal is to increase the number of people who are able to visit and learn more about Black Point,” Desimone said. “The house was turned over to the Wisconsin State Historical Society in 2013 and we have increased the number of visitors from 3,000 a year to the current 10,000 yearly by becoming more involved in local community partnerships. We are sponsoring not only tours here at Black Point but partnering with local hosts for programs.”

These partnerships include a movie series with the Lake Geneva Library which Desimone attends, tours of the local cemetery, the downtown Lake Geneva Historic District, known as Maple Park, and a winter book club which are held offsite.

This May, in conjunction with the Geneva Lake Museum, there will be a display of some of the clothing owned and worn by members of the Seipp family and on loan to the museum.

Fundraiser set

A special fundraiser is planned for Thursday, June 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Geneva Lake Museum, 255 Mill St. Lake Geneva. “The Gilded Age Clothes and the Stories They Tell” will be hosted by the Geneva Lake Museum, Black Point Estates and Gardens and the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra.

Step back in time and enjoy a summer evening of elegant entertainment by the string quartet of Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra while enjoying wine, Sepp’s beer, soft drinks and water. Light bites will be provided by Tarts and Truffles. Purchase tickets from Geneva Lake Museum 262-248-6060. Cost is \$65.

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

top: Arriving at Black Point by boat, passengers disembark and begin the walk and climb of more than 100 steps up to the Black Point summer cottage. **middle:** The formal dining room at Black Point is set ready for dinner. Family dinners were served here nightly. **at right:** The main living room at Black Point as it looked when the Seipp family made their home here.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY/BLACK POINT ESTATE *Lake Living*



BLACK POINT

• CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Caring for a property as large and varied as Black Point requires much maintenance and expense. According to Dave Desimone, they have a long-term plan in place to keep the building and grounds in excellent shape.

“We will never be done taking care of the property. Currently we are continuing to restore and improve the gardens including expanding these gardens. Fortunately, there is an endowment for the landscape. We continue to improve them with an eye to easier maintenance,” DeSimone said. “And we appreciate the volunteers who help keep the gardens in shape.”

He went on to share that both interior and exterior maintenance are ongoing concerns.

“We will need to restore rotted wood, probably next year. The goal will be to restore the home while keeping to the original look as much as possible,” Desimone added.

The third stage will be a longer-term project, the restoration of the interior. Because of the historic status of the house and its age, they will probably start with a comprehensive Historic Structure Report. This will determine what needs to be repaired or replaced. Then of course funding will have to be obtained. Cost will determine where they will begin and how much can be accomplished at one time.



above right: This purple jacket with its fine detailing was very stylish and on display at Black Point. **above left:** Much of the high-end clothing archived at Black Point Estate includes the label of whom it was made for and who made it. The date it was made is also included on this label.

SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ *Lake Living*

Black Point is a unique look into history. Unlike many museums that focus on one time period, Black Point is a story of the life of the home. It does not focus on one period of time but moves through the time and changes of the home through the years of the family's tenure. It was a wonderful gift from the Seipp Family to not only donate the

home to the Historical Society but to donate it intact giving future generations a look at life at Black Point through the years.

Visit Black Point this summer and enjoy all it has to offer. Visit www.cruiselakegeneva.com for tours and prices or visit www.wisconsinhistory.org for more information about the museum.



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Hook a kid on fishing

STOCK PHOTO Lake Living

15 quick tips to make their day

As the weather warms, the desire to go fishing is undeniable. And if you love fishing, there's only one thing more enjoyable than catching a big fish – watching a kid catch a fish.

This fishing season, the folks at Rapala fishing lures encourage adults to take a kid fishing. Why? Because kids represent the future of fishing. According to the American Sportfishing Association, kids who are introduced to fishing at an early age by a trusted adult are more likely to fish as an adult.

Here are 15 quick tips from the folks at Rapala on how you can introduce a kid to fishing this year:

START THEM ON BLUEGILLS AND SUNNIES

The easiest bites tend to be panfish - bluegills, sunfish and bream. As your kids watch you catch bass, walleye and other gamefish, they'll want new challenges. Keep a panfish pliers handy to remove hooks from small panfish.

GET THEM ON GOOD BITES

The number one thing you can do to hook a kid on fishing, says legendary angler Al Lindner, is to get lots of bites for your child. "Taking kids fishing between the ages of 8 and 12 years old is a critical

time. Try to get them on good bites. Their attention span is short. You will quickly know if fishing will be a part of their life in the future. They are either going to like it or not. But they have to get bites. I can't say how important that is. You gotta get 'em on a bite."

A SMALL FISH CAN BE A MONSTER FISH!

To a child, a small sunny can be a trophy. Don't downplay a small fish. Every fish caught is a huge accomplishment.

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Start your kid fishing with a single hook. They're much easier to remove from fish. It could be a hook and a bobber or a single hook soft bait, such as the Storm 360GT Searchbait. As your kids get more experience, let them graduate to a lure such as an Original Floating Rapala.

BRING THE SNACKS

Whatever your kids like for snacks, such as chips, cookies or fruit chews, bring them! You're sure to work up an appetite catching all those fish. And don't forget the wipes for sticky, slimy little hands.

KEEP IT SHORT

With younger kids, especially, avoid overdoing it. Start out with short trips - a couple hours at most, and if the fish just don't seem to be cooperating, cut it short and go have an ice cream cone. Gradually increase your time out on the water and trying different types of fishing approaches,

such as fishing with soft baits or trolling with crankbaits.

CREATE TRADITIONS

One of the best things about fishing with a kid is creating little traditions to which they can look forward in the future. For example, stopping for a donut on the way to the lake, or giving fish pins whenever your kid catches a new species.

BRING A FRIEND

If your child has a good friend, invite them along on the fun, too. That kid may turn into a lifetime fishing buddy for your kid.

TAKE PICTURES

Don't limit yourself to just fish photos! Take photos of the entire experience - stopping for donuts on the way to the water, eating snacks, collecting rocks or seashells, feeding the ducks. Turn your photos into a photo book or create a slide show with music that the kids can watch later. When fish are caught make sure the most important people in your kid's life see their fish photos.

WATCH THE WEATHER

Sometimes the weather doesn't always cooperate. You may think the fishing is best on an overcast, windy day, but that may not be the case for kids. Instead, watch the weather and choose a warm, clear day and get out early when the fish are most likely to bite.

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- Saturday, May 27 • Wednesday, May 31
- Saturday, June 3 • Wednesday, June 7
- Saturday, June 10 • Wednesday, June 14
- Wednesday, June 21 • Saturday, June 24
- Wednesday, June 28 • Saturday, July 1
- Wednesday, July 5 • Saturday, July 8
- Wednesday, July 12 • Saturday, July 15
- Wednesday, July 19 • Wednesday, July 26
- Saturday, July 29 • Wednesday, Aug. 2
- Saturday, Aug. 5 • Wednesday, Aug. 9
- Wednesday, Aug. 16 • Saturday, Aug. 19
- Wednesday, Aug. 23 • Saturday, Aug. 26
- Wednesday, Aug. 30 • Saturday, Sept. 2





Great summertime leisure activities

A warm breeze on a summer day embodies the spirit of this beloved season for millions of people. Seen by many as a season to relax and recharge, summer, not coincidentally, goes hand in hand with leisure.

With more time on their hands due to vacations from school and work and less hectic activity schedules, particularly for families that include school-aged children, individuals often find summer affords more time for leisure. With that in mind, people from all walks of life can consider these summertime leisure activities.

RELAX BY THE WATER

Whether it's a pool, lake or even the ocean, the water beckons each summer. Simply sitting on a beach or beside a lake or pool is a great way to pass the time without much stress. Nothing needs to be scheduled when relaxing poolside, lakeside or on a beach; simply enjoy some time to relax by the water.

PADDLEBOARDING

Paddleboarding is another leisurely way to spend a summer day. Paddleboarding

requires physical exertion, so this might not be the ideal activity for those looking to relax without lifting a finger. However, paddleboarders typically take to the water when it's at its most calm, making this a great activity for those who want to capitalize on peaceful, serene summer vibes.

FISHING

Few activities may be more relaxing than fishing. Though there are many different ways to fish, some of which require considerable physical effort, casting a line and waiting for a fish to bite is a relaxing way to spend a day in nature. That might not seem like much to novices, but spending time in nature has been found to reduce stress and lower heart rates, which the U.S. Forest Service notes are both risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

READ

Books make for great companions on warm summer afternoons. Reading is such a popular summer pastime that many bookstores set up displays featuring books that make for great beach reads, providing

inspiration for individuals who aren't sure which book or books to dive into this summer. And much like other summertime leisure activities, reading has been linked to reducing stress.

A 2009 study from researchers at the University of Sussex in England found that reading can reduce stress by as much as 68%.

VISIT A MUSEUM

On summer afternoons when it's raining or too hot outside or individuals simply want to spend some time indoors, a museum makes for the perfect place to visit. Museums do not typically draw crowds in summer, making this an ideal season to visit. Many offer discounted prices to individuals like seniors and students, so this is a great way to relax without breaking the bank.

(METRO CREATIVE)

Summer is a season of leisure, and there are many activities that align with that spirit of relaxation.

STOCK PHOTO *Lake Living*

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New at the helm

Area cruise line appoints new general manager

By Jason Arndt

STAFF WRITER

As a college student, Ellen Burling spent summers working at Lake Geneva Cruise Line, ranging from ticket taker, tour guide and mail boat jumper.

"I was 19 when I started there. Between my freshman and sophomore year of college, I was hired and worked in the ticket office and as a tour guide to start with," Burling recalled. "Then the big was story was I wanted to be a mail jumper and the first year I was an alternate."

In the second year, she experienced a sprained ankle, but she continued her loyalty to Lake Geneva Cruise by working in the office.

Now 40 years later, Burling recently earned a promotion to general manager from assistant general manager.

For Burling, it was only a matter of time, considering her predecessor was set to retire after more than 30 years of service.

The discussions, she said, began last summer.

Burling said in a news release that the promotion carries high importance since she has been part of Lake Geneva Cruise



Ellen Burling

Line for most of her life.

"Being part of the Gage family of businesses and leading the cruise line division is something I have been a part of for more than half of my life," Burling said. "I look forward to continuing the legacy and bringing some new ideas to the

role."

Lake Geneva Cruise Line, founded in 1873, was purchased by the Gage family in 1958 and has continued to offer narrated boat tours, meal cruises as well as private parties, weddings, and corporate events.

Bill Gage, third-generation owner of parent company Gage Marine Corporation, believes Burling's promotion was well deserved since she has shown a stellar work ethic since she began as a young college student.

"Ellen's hard work and loyalty to the company over the past 40 years has been outstanding," Gage said in a news release. "Over the years moving from mail jumper to general manager shows her dedication and passion for this company. This promotion is well deserved, and we are excited to see what she does next."

Burling said Lake Geneva Cruise Line looks to bolster its staffing levels, including new captains to guide tour boats, with a

look the future.

"We have quite a few new staff this year, we are kind of hoping to increase the number of captains that we have because some of them have been there many, many years," she said. "Not that we want them to leave us at all, but we know at some point they will. A couple of them were my grade school teachers and I am almost 60."

FAMILY AFFAIR

Burling, married to Eric and mother to three adult children, said the entire family has worked or is currently working at Lake Geneva Cruise Line.

Sons Ben, who graduated from Burlington High School in 2011, and Brad, a 2015 BHS graduate, as well as daughter Jessa have worked in multiple capacities for Lake Geneva Cruise Line.

As for Eric, who recently retired as principal at Burlington High School, he works part-time at Gage Marine serving in maintenance and valet services.

"My whole family has worked at the cruise line over the years," Burling said.

Burling attributes a strong staff for her loyalty to Lake Geneva Cruise Line.

"I think what has kept me here for so long is the staff," Burling said. "We have so many people who have been here 20 plus years, so I have really grown yep with a lot of these people. We also have an influx of young people."

For more information, visit cruiselakegeneva.com.

Lake Geneva Cruise Line boasts multiple boats in its fleet designed for touring Geneva Lake. The cruise line offers a variety of tours, cruises, and other features.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS Lake Living



Ski Team announces 2023 schedule

above:
Southern
Wakes United
Water Ski
Team

The Southern Wakes United Water Ski Team has announced its show schedule for this year. Schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date show information, follow the ski team on Facebook or visit SouthernWakesUnited.com. Exhibitions include:

Whitewater Lake
Scenic Ridge Campground
All shows 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

- Saturday, May 27
- Saturday, June 3
- Saturday, June 17
- Saturday, July 8
- Saturday, July 29
- Saturday, Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 2, 6 p.m.

Lauderdale Lakes
Lauderdale Landing, Elkhorn
All shows at 6 p.m.

- Friday, June 9
- Friday, June 30
- Friday, July 14
- Friday, Aug. 4
- Friday, Aug. 11
- Friday, Aug. 25

Turtle Lake
Turtle Lake Tap & Grill
• Friday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m.

Elkhorn Lake
Babe Mann Park, Elkhorn
All shows at 6 p.m.

- Thursday, June 8
- Thursday, July 13
- Thursday, Aug. 10



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Life jackets, vests and PFDs – How to choose the right fit

Life jackets, life vests, ski vests...they're all common names for PFDs, or personal flotation devices. Their job, as the names imply, is to keep the wearer alive and afloat should they unexpectedly end up in the water or elect to participate in watersports such as skiing or wake surfing. Although the goal might be simple, life jacket styles, fit and method of use can all affect whether your PFD does the job it's intended for.

Here's a guide to selecting, fitting and using various life jackets, vests and PFDs.

- Select the proper type based on activity

or boating conditions.

- Check for a proper fit.
- Examine the outlined size and weight requirements.
- Ensure the life jacket is in good condition—look for holes and tears.
- Don't forget to wear it!

LIFE JACKET TYPES

Personal flotation devices come in various types, and ideally should be chosen to best match your activity or boating conditions.

- Type I jackets offer the greatest buoyancy (more than 20 pounds) and are designed primarily for offshore use. They're bulky to wear but have the distinct advantage of turning an unconscious person face up in the water.

- Type II jackets are likewise designed to turn an unconscious person face up in the water. They offer a minimum 15.5 pounds of buoyancy and are typically chosen for near shore boating excursions. Though not exactly fashionable, their inexpensive price and often simple construction make Type II life jackets a longstanding favorite for boaters looking to satisfy U.S. Coast Guard safety requirements.

- Type III jackets likewise offer 15.5 pounds of buoyancy. Often referred to as "ski vests," their comfortable, formfitting style makes them an excellent choice for

watersports as well as general passenger use. Type III jackets typically feature a front entry and buckle, or buckle-and-zipper closure. The catch with Type III jackets is that they are designed for conscious wearers with an imminent chance of rescue; a Type III jacket is not guaranteed to turn an unconscious wearer face up in the water. Type IV personal flotation devices are designated as "throwables," and typically take the shape of a ring or flat cushion that can be thrown to a person who lands unexpectedly in the water.

- Type IV PFDs are designed to be held onto, rather than worn, by the user. They offer a minimum 16.5 pounds of buoyancy. Tip? Though some might look the part, don't use a designated throwable as a seat cushion. Over time, the practice will degrade the foam and reduce the amount of flotation.

- Type V jackets are special-use PFDs, often combined into flotation coats, whitewater rafting vests, even sailboard harnesses. They should be used only for their intended purpose.

CHECK FOR A PROPER FIT

Once you select the proper type of PFD for your conditions and/or activity, make sure it is in good condition, with no holes or tears, and fits properly. A jacket that is too large can slip off the wearer. One that is too

above: Life jackets only work when you wear them. Everyone on the boat needs their own life jacket and the boat shouldn't leave the dock before all boaters have donned their personal flotation device.

STOCK PHOTO *Lake Living*

small might not offer sufficient buoyancy to keep the wearer afloat.

- Look for the manufacturer’s labeling that details the size and weight the jacket is intended to fit.

- Once you have the proper size, put on the jacket, fasten any closures (buckles, zippers, etc.), then lift your arms up straight over your head and ask a friend grab the top of the jacket above the arm openings and pull upward.

- Ideally, the jacket should not rise any higher than the wearer’s chin. If it rides up as high as the ears, it’s too large and could slip off in the water; size down to get the proper fit.

- Don’t overlook the crotch strap found on life jackets designed for young children. This additional strap runs between the legs from the back of the jacket to the front and offers added assurance the jacket will not ride up or slip over a child’s head.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR IT

Don’t make the all-too common mistake of having a life jacket available for every passenger aboard, but having those jackets stowed in a difficult-to-reach location. Accidents might be rare, but they happen – and when they do, they typically happen quickly. In the majority of cases, they happen too quickly to find and don a life jacket.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, drowning is the cause of death in the vast



TYPE I



TYPE II



TYPE III



TYPE IV



TYPE V

majority of recreational-boating accidents. Of those fatalities, more than 80% of the victims were found not wearing a life jacket.

That’s why the best life jacket available just might be the one you’re willing to wear...every time you’re out on the water.

Worried that a life jacket will feel constricting and hot on a warm summer day? Try the comfort and freedom provided by a suspender-style inflatable PFD. In their non-inflated state, bulk is minimal. At the opposite end of the spectrum, “float coat” jackets combine flotation with the insulation of a jacket when it’s cool. They’re a favorite of fishing enthusiasts.

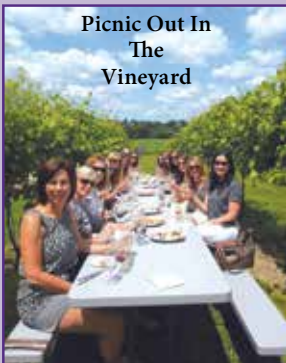
Source: discoverboating.com.

above: Different types of personal flotation devices exist for every water activity need.

STOCK PHOTO Lake Living

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Brunch on a boat

Tips for planning your brunch cruise

Are you looking to take your boating excursions up a notch? Pack brunch! Having brunch on a boat is something that should be on every boater's bucket list. And today's blog post reveals precisely how to do it:

Ready to set sail on a brunch boat cruise? Here is everything you need to know:

PERFECT FOOD SELECTION

When it comes to a successful boat brunch, planning is everything. We recommend choosing dishes that can be prepared ahead of time or with minimal work. Think of brunch on a boat like camping - preparation is key!

We recommend packing a cooler with brunch staples like eggs, cheese, and bread. Then, load up on general condiments and spices like salt, pepper, and hot sauce. And if you plan on catching some fish to eat, ensure you have the space and the tools to prepare it onboard.

Salads are some of our favorite brunch dishes to bring on board because they're super easy to prepare and require minimal ingredients and supplies. (And any fresh fish you catch will taste delicious on top.)



top: From simple to elaborate, eating brunch on the boat is a special event. Serve your guests family favorites such as Eggs Benedict or French toast. Don't try a new recipe for a boat brunch, there will be enough to do with just cooking on the water.

above: Brunch on the boat with nautical-themed food like these deviled eggs.



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The top **7 BEST BOATS** for families

For many boaters, boating is a family tradition – a way of life that includes shared experiences like the first time you take the steering wheel, catch a fish or trim a sail. Not only are moments like these fun for the whole family, but they also bring parents and kids closer together as the family becomes a “crew” through teamwork and shared responsibilities.

For every family member to join in and participate, however, you’ll naturally want to choose a type of boat that everyone can enjoy to the fullest potential.

Which is ideal for you and your family will depend on several factors: what type of boating does your family enjoy? How large does it need to be, and what accessories should it have? As you ask yourself these questions, remember that for most families, one of these seven boat types is likely ideal.

Discover Boating says these are the best starter boats for families:

BOWRIDERS

If joyrides across the lake or bay, towing water toys, swimming at the beach, and

generally kicking back on the water sounds like good times to you and your kids, a bowrider may be your perfect choice.

Bowriders are one of the most popular family boats, thanks to their high versatility, copious seating, and easy access to the water.

Bowriders are available in a vast range of sizes that match just about every budget, from small 16-foot runabouts to 30-plus-footers with every comfort feature imaginable ranging from enclosed head compartments (full bathrooms) to complete outdoor kitchens (though we call them galleys, on a boat). And while they may not be the ideal platform for activities like fishing or overnighting, bowriders can be used just about any waterborne activity you can dream up.

CABIN CRUISERS

Cabin cruisers are larger than many other boats and can cost quite a bit more. Still, they also expand your abilities to include adventures like visiting distant ports, weekendening aboard, or even taking a family

vacation on the water. They’re more or less like having a mobile home that floats, and most come with everything you need for adventures that last days at a time.

FISH-AND-SKI BOATS

Fish-and-ski boats are designed to be just what their name infers. They have all the essential accouterments you need to chase those finned critters in the morning, then enjoy water skiing, wakeboarding, and similar watersports in the afternoon.

Most have a layout similar to that of a bowrider, but with the addition of fishy features like livewells, rod holders, and an electric trolling motor, plus tow-sports goodies like a ski-tow pylon and ski lockers.

Although some trade-offs must be made for a boat to be designed for multipurpose use (that livewell could be a drink cooler on a dedicated watersports boat, and that bow seating might be a casting deck on a boat meant purely for fishing). But on the whole,

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Choosing the right boat for your family will require some research. Before you buy, consider how your family will use the boat.

STOCK PHOTO *Lake Living*



BEST BOATS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

the fish-and-ski is perfect for families that want to participate in both activities.

JET BOATS

Though the range of available choices is a bit less expansive when it comes to jet boats, and jet propulsion tends to be slightly less efficient than more traditional choices, they have one perk that many family

boaters love: there's no propeller.

Propeller injuries are exceedingly uncommon in any case, but the mere thought of doing away with the prop and instead propelling the boat with a powerful jet of water gives many parents invaluable peace of mind. Plus, jet boats have excellent handling, minimal draft, and all the other features and accessories found on

runabouts.

PONTOON BOATS

Pontoon boats are incredibly popular, and it's no wonder why: the stable, comfortable platform they provide is ideal for kicking back and lounging on the water. But don't think for a moment that today's pontoons can't be downright thrilling, too.

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Music by the Lake is presented by George Williams College of Aurora University on its Geneva Lake campus, just seven miles from downtown Lake Geneva in Williams Bay, Wisconsin.



Many come with potent engines that provide exciting performance and the ability to enjoy watersports. And while they may not be as apt at handling large waves as monohull boats, many of the larger pontoons and “tritoons” (boats with three pontoons instead of just two) are surprisingly capable in choppy waters.

SAILBOATS

Sailing is, of course, a very different experience than powerboating. Speeds are significantly reduced, and operating a sailboat is far more complex than pressing down a throttle and turning a steering wheel. Yet these “drawbacks” are, in some ways, what makes sailing so appealing – it takes skill and teamwork to sail a boat from your dock to your destination, and every family member has a role to play.

Plus, modern sailboats are available in all different sizes and comfort levels. Added bonus: since sailboats don’t require huge, powerful engines, compared to powerboats on a foot-to-foot basis, they generally cost significantly less.

WALKAROUNDS

Walkaround boats can be ideal for families that enjoy fishing and day cruising yet also want overnighting abilities. They usually have large, open aft cockpits where you can swing a rod or set a trolling spread, but the bow is enclosed and provides both sleeping accommodations and weather protection.

And while it’s true that many types of fishing center consoles may be the most



top: Kids love boating and all the fun it offers, from swimming to watersports. **above:** Fishing is a popular activity in the state. Fishing boats offer anglers advantages when out looking for where the fish are biting. **opposite:** Pontoon boats are the ultimate family boat. Family members of all ages can enjoy the lake on these watercrafts.

STOCK PHOTOS *Lake Living*

effective design, many angling families with young children – especially those who may go fishing in chilly or rainy conditions – choose walkarounds mainly because of that added protection.

CONCLUSION

In most cases, one of these seven boats will prove ideal for you and your water-loving family. Of course, there are other, more highly-specialized boats that you may find tempting.

If bass fishing is your true love, bass boats will be impossible to beat. Speed demons will naturally gravitate toward high-performance boats. And if wakesurfing is your sport of choice, then getting a dedicated ski boat/wake boat may be in the future.

But in every case, remember one thing: find a boat that makes you and your loved ones happy, and spending time on the water will draw your family closer together – and that’s one thing we can guarantee.

Source: discoverboating.com.

BRING A LIFE JACKET

It only takes a second and you may find a kid in the water. When on a boat, kids should always wear a life jacket that fits properly (in many states, it's the law). Use caution when fishing from docks, piers and shorelines, too.

AVOID SUNBURN

Make sure your kid is wearing a comfortable fishing cap and together, apply your sunscreen to ears, noses and other exposed skin.

HANDLE FISH GENTLY

Fish are slimy, prickly and wiggly. With young kids, adults should handle fish at first and let kids gently "pet" them before they're released. As they become more experienced, show kids how to carefully land, hold and release their catches.

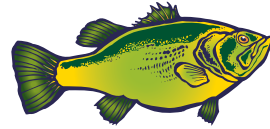
FISH WITH TOPWATER

Watching a fish explode on the surface for a lure gives young anglers an exciting visual that will keep them coming back for more. An X-Rap Pop or Skitter Pop are

amazing baits to throw from shore or the dock for heart-stopping topwater action.

KEEP A FEW

If your kids want to try eating fish, keep a few fish and cook them up. Don't make an entire meal out of it though, as eating fish is an acquired taste. Use a trusty batter recipe and serve with French fries.



(BPT)

BRUNCH • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

If charcuterie is more your thing, pack a box of your favorite crackers and some blocks of cheese. Also, boxes of fresh berries make scrumptious desserts.

Whenever possible, it's easier to prepare meals ahead of time and reheat them on board.

GET THE RIGHT SUPPLIES

Preparing brunch on a boat might seem like an impossible feat; unless you have the proper supplies. We recommend investing in a boat grill or a small Coleman stove if you need to cook your food. Additionally, you'll need to bring a cooler on board to stow your perishables.

Remember to bring enough cutlery, plates, cups, and napkins for everyone on board. However, stay away from any glassware. Broken glass threatens to cut both upholstery and skin – and either will likely end your boating excursion early.

SET THE MOOD

Half the fun of planning a brunch for your friends or family is perfecting the ambiance. We recommend curating a killer boat playlist in advance to elevate your boat brunch to the next level. Then, stock up on plenty of games/cards, waterproof cameras, and anything else you think would make the day successful!

BRUNCH BOAT CRUISES

Don't have a boat? And don't necessarily feel like renting? The Lake Geneva Cruise Line offers Sunday brunch tours and other dining tours.

For more information, visit www.cruiselakegeneva.com or call 262-248-6206.

THE BOTTOM LINE

If you haven't yet had brunch on a boat, we hope today's blog post inspired you. As your one-stop shop for boating resources, how-to guides, and excursion ideas, Discover Boating has everything you need to make the most of the nautical lifestyle. Source: discoverboating.com.



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Karen Ostermeier is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Keefe RE agents are now licensed with Compass.

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