



# The Lighthouse

## Marina preps for the boat show

The Southwest International Boat Show, the largest in-water boat show in the southwest, and the premier sail and power show for new and pre-owned vessels, will take the stage April 6-9 at South Shore Harbour Marina.

This Spring show, will feature boats ranging in size from 10-feet to 100-feet, both freshwater and saltwater, ready for boarding and viewing.

“This is a perfect venue to see these incredible vessels up close and in their element,” President of the Southwest International Boat Show Peter Bryant says. “Being able to see how a yacht or sailboat performs in the water allows interested buyers to learn so much more about the vessel.

Onshore, live music will provide entertainment and more than 200 vendors will offer a variety of services and products for the boating and outdoor lifestyle, including fishing gear, apparel and outdoor equipment, in addition to a full range of marine elec-

### — Member reminders —

As we all prepare for the South West International Boat Show, April 6-9, remember you will be affected.

The parking lot will be fenced off and closed Sunday, April 1 and reopening Wednesday, April 12. Be sure to have your vehicle out of that area by Saturday, March 31. Parking will be available for marina members in the underground parking, and the lot at the northwest end of the marina, between piers 1 and 4. Remember to hang your Tenant Parking Permit from the rear view mirror. Boat owners who will be required to move their boat will receive notification directly from the marina office as to when you will have to move and where and when you can return. Tenants will receive a discount at the gate with member ID.

tronics, accessories and hardware.

Show highlights include:

- Texas boat debuts including Cape Fear Catamarans of the South East, the Taiwan-built Horizon PC60 Powercat, the Aquila 44 Powercat and a new generation of RIBs from Italian manufacturer ZAR Formenti.

- *Take the Helm* on-water boat handling lessons for all experience levels, taught by U.S. Coast Guard

licensed captains and hosted by Carefree Boat Club.

- A comprehensive seminar program, featuring free hourly seminars for attendees. Offered across all four days of the show, and hosted by industry experts, radio hosts and world travelers.

Event information and registration details can be found at [www.southwestinternationalboatshow.com](http://www.southwestinternationalboatshow.com).

## Women sailors — this regatta is for you

The Women’s Sailing Association of Houston Yacht Club is working to promote women on the water. This year they have planned the Mermaid Regatta Saturday, April 1. The regatta is sponsored by Babs Bukowski, the original founder in 2003. They also have a women’s Sailing weekend planned for June 10-11.

The schedule includes a pre-sail yoga warm-up at 9:30 a.m. for all crew and non-sailing ladies as well. The Skippers’ Meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. There will be one pursuit-style race, beginning at 1 p.m. One hour after the

last boat finishes, there will be an awards banquet.

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the winner and to the second and third place winners. There are prizes for the first four boats to register.

To register, visit the HYC website and under the Racing Information you will find a link to the Regatta Network. The entry fee is \$50 and includes dinner for the skipper, crew and their guests.

# Regatta

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The regatta is a one race pursuit style, non-spinnaker race and all boats must be at least 30-feet long and the skipper and crew must all be female. A non-participating male may be onboard but only for safety reasons. A male boat representative may provide verbal helming guidance to a helms woman classified ABSA B1, B2 or B3 Three Person Format. It will be a wonderful celebration of women on the water.

**Tenants** Payments just got easier

The Marina Office is now accepting credit/debit cards for all payments as well as auto pay.



# Feeling lucky? Sign up for this marathon

Join the City of Seabrook, Friday, March 17, for the Lucky Trails Marathon, the luckiest marathon in Texas.

The race is held on the Seabrook nature trails. The course consists mainly of crushed granite surface. Starting at Meador Park, proceeding to Pine Gully Park and returning to Meador Park. The first mile, approximately, will be on city streets. These streets will be closed to vehicle traffic for 30 minutes. The remainder of the course is run on the Seabrook trails which are open to the public. There will be police crossing guards at the three main street crossings, E. Meyer,

Red Bluff and Todville.

Roads on the race course will be closed by 6:45 a.m. Parking is available at the following locations: Seabrook Intermediate School, Seabrook Sports Complex. Additional overflow parking is available at Miramar Shopping Center approximately 5 blocks from the start. Please do not block driveways and be courteous to the residents. Only official and local vehicles are allowed on the race course. No bicycles or baby joggers are allowed on the course.

For complete details, map and registration visit [www.seabrook-marathon.org](http://www.seabrook-marathon.org).

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# The Lighthouse

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**ATTENTION!**

**See us at the  
Southwest International Boat Show!  
April 6-9 2017**

# Shopping tips for the boat show

Courtesy *boat.com*  
by *Craig Ritchie*

With the Southwest International Boat Show just around the corner and your looking to shop . . . a little planning can make the experience much smoother.

Boat shows are a lot of fun and they can be great places to pick up incredible deals on everything from accessories to yachts. But with so many distractions and exciting attractions, it's important to have a good game plan and to stick with it in order to make sure you don't miss out on the best deals.

How you shop at a boat shop depends on whether you're going there to buy something specific, or if you're just trolling for deals. In either case, the best place to begin is by visiting the boat show's official website.

The boat show's website can be your best tool for organizing a show visit, by letting you pre-plan everything. You can confirm the show hours, and often, pre-buy your tickets at a discounted price. This doesn't just save you a few bucks, it lets you bypass the lines and saves you time on-site.

If you're going to the show to buy a boat, you can check the exhibitor list to see which manufacturers will be there, then find their booth locations on the show map. Many larger boat shows will also have a *products and services* listing, which organizes products together by category. If you want



to see all of the pontoon boats at the show, for example, you'll find all the exhibitors who have them listed together in one place. This makes planning a snap.

Do a bit of online research, read boat reviews, and you should be able to narrow your search down to three or four possibilities. Now it's time to head to the show.

Boat shows let you compare a number of different boats side-by-side, under the same roof, so they're perfect for helping you decide which one to buy. By pre-planning your visit, now you can go visit the manufacturers that interest you the most, and see how their products compare. Climb aboard and check out the seats — are they as comfortable as they look? When you sit at the helm, can you reach everything you need, or do you need to stretch? Or is it too tight for your comfort? Some boats have sliding helm seats that let you adjust your driving position, while others don't. This is the time to find out first-hand how everything fits and feels.

With your prospective purchases all so close at hand, it's easy to compare

the fit and finish of each, the different standard features and options, and get a sense of which boat is right for you.

Not really looking for a new boat this time? The process is exactly the same if you're looking for accessories, like a new GPS, new rain gear, or even just new fenders and dock lines.

Apart from being great places to find new boats and gear, boat shows are also incredible spots to find boat services — and again, to compare them side-by-side. Whether you're looking for boat insurance, financing for a boat loan, yacht club memberships, winter storage or mechanical services, chances are you'll find local suppliers at the show who are all offering deals.

If there's one thing you do when you go to a boat show, make sure you grab a copy of the official show guide, and bring it home. Show guides include a ton of great information that can be helpful throughout the year, normally including the full exhibitor list with contact information.

Six months from now when you'd like to get two more of those lifejackets that were such a good buy, you can find that dealer who sold them to you, so they match the others. Best of all, because the show guide is printed on paper, you can tuck it into your boat's glove box so it's available whether you have internet access or not — which can be a good thing if you have a breakdown on the water and need to remember the company that offered towing services.

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# South Shore Harbour Marina

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an optimist, but an optimist has  
more fun, and neither can stop the  
march of events."

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