

With New Members' Club, Hall's Offers Ownership-Free Boating on Lake George

By Mirror Staff

Lake George's boating population is a diverse one. There are people for whom a family wood boat is a legacy to be preserved and transmitted in good condition to the next generation. Others enjoy a new boat in the same way that some people enjoy the latest model of an expensive car; it's fast, prestigious and a technological marvel. But there are still others for whom owning a boat is one more time-consuming responsibility in a life already overbooked.

For those stressed souls, Hall's new Boating Club offers a way to savor the lake without the trouble of purchasing, berthing, maintaining and storing a boat.

Members have access to six boats. This year, Hall's made available three wood boats (two Chris-Crafts and a Hacker), an Elco electric launch, a Hunter sailboat and a 2010 Chris Craft.

According to Cynde Smith, the variety of boats available to members makes the boating club an attractive option for every segment of the boating population.

"Owners of new powerboats may want access to a wood boat; wood boat owners may want the option of using an electric boat or a sailboat," said Smith. "Here's a chance to try different types of boats without the commitment of a purchase."

This past season, Hall's offered memberships at introductory rates of \$3,500 for 15 half-day outings;



Mike Reagan demonstrates the operation of a triple cockpit Hacker, one of the boats available to members of Hall's Boating Club.

25 outings cost \$4,500.

That's less than the cost of berthing a boat for the summer, said Hall's general manager Nick Lamando.

And while rates may rise next summer, they'll still be far less than rates at similar clubs in New England, where five outings cost as much as \$4000.

According to Mike Reagan, the Boating Club manager, the member's first outing is devoted to orientation, where he makes certain that the member is comfortable with the boats and familiar with Lake George's navigation rules.

All boats are equipped with communications systems that make it easy to stay in touch with the

marina in the event that any assistance is required.

"Our primary goal is to make boating as comfortable and safe as possible," said Smith.

The club's other goal is to make getting out on the lake as easy as possible. Members call in advance to reserve a boat; when they arrive, the boat is at the dock and ready for use.

"We want people to be able to maximize the amount of time they have to enjoy Lake George," said Cynde Smith.

For more information about Hall's Boating Club, contact Mike Reagan at 668-5437.



Chrissy's Chairs, Adirondack chairs customized by local artists and craftsmen, will be auctioned to the highest bidders at a reception at Sweet Pea Farm in Bolton Landing on Saturday, August 21 at 4 pm. A benefit for High Peaks Hospice in memory of Christine M. Perry, the chairs have been displayed throughout Bolton Landing for much of the summer. The Christine Nicole Perry Memorial Trust was founded in 2003 by Mark and Linda Diehl-Perry in memory of Chrissy. Photo from last years auction by Clea G. Hall.

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