

MORE THAN 140 FREE SEMINARS FROM KNOT TYING TO TREASURE DIVING!

TORONTO: January 9, 2012 – With over 1,200 boats and hundreds of booths showcasing the latest in engines, electronics, marine gifts and accessories, the 54th Annual Toronto International Boat Show is a winter wonderland for boaters. With boating authorities from around the world sharing their experience and expertise on every topic from boating basics to spellbinding nautical adventures, the hourly seminars at Canada's biggest Boat Show offer something for everyone.

This year the Toronto Boat Show has added an additional Seminar Stage to complement more than 140 FREE seminars featuring an exceptional line-up of guest speakers! Whether you're an expert sailing around the world or a novice reeling in the big one on the Great Lakes, there's always something new to learn and discover.

Seminars will take place at the Presentation Theatre Seminar Stage or Salon 107. Visit www.torontoboatshow.com for seminar topics, bios and schedules.

Must See Seminars:

Around the World at 16 – **Zac Sunderland** learned how to sail when he was four years old, and at 16 he embarked on the adventure of a lifetime – setting sail into the Pacific Ocean on a quest to see the world and become the youngest person to circumnavigate the globe alone. For 13 months he weathered perilous storms, threatening pirates and the unique loneliness experienced by solo sailors who for weeks at a time have no direct human contact. He embraced new cultures, learned new languages and made lifelong friends. And in July 2009, Zac realized his dream: he became the youngest solo sailor to complete his round-the-world journey *and* the first under 18! Zac's most recent adventure has landed him on the hit reality series *The Amazing Race* – globetrotting around the world with his dad to compete for one million dollars.

Unsinkable: A Young Woman's Courageous Battle on the High Seas – After **Abby Sunderland** watched her older brother Zac successfully sail around the world alone in 2009, she realized that with hard work and persistence, her own dream to solo circumnavigate could become a reality. In March of 2010, at the age of 16, Abby became the youngest person ever to sail solo around Cape Horn, considered by many to be the Mount Everest of sailing. Over halfway around the world, her boat was hit by a rogue wave. Rolled, dismasted and out of communication, Abby had to be rescued from the middle of the Indian Ocean. Her lessons from the sea have taught her a lifetime of wisdom on having passion and purpose in your life. She has chronicled her trip in the book *Unsinkable: A Young Woman's Courageous Battle on the High Seas*, and was the subject of the documentary *Wild Eyes: The Abby Sunderland Story*.

The Search for the Atocha and Beyond – Discover the fun, romance and adventure of treasure hunting. Listen to **Sean Fisher** share stories about his renowned grandfather Mel Fisher's hunt for the Atocha's treasure and the technology used to locate the wrecks. The Atocha was a Spanish Galleon that sank in a violent hurricane in 1622 off the coast of Key West, Florida. She was laden with treasure, and remained undiscovered until treasure hunter Mel Fisher persevered through a 16-year search to discover nearly half a billion dollars in gold, silver, emeralds and artifacts. Hear from the pros about what it's like to find 400-year-old treasure.

Paws on Board – Boating and Cruising with Your Four-Legged Crew – Nearly three years ago, **Wally Moran** was 'adopted' on a dock in Cuba by a starving, two-month-old street puppy named Aduana. To get her out of the country, Wally hid her in the v-berth of his boat to safely return to the U.S. Aduana is now an old hand, with three Gulf Stream crossings under her. She will be premiering this year at the show, helping boaters learn how to safely and enjoyably cruise with their four-legged pal during short adventures out into the local lakes or long-term voyages across the oceans of the world.

.../More

One Girl's Ocean Challenge – Diane Reid's first memory is of a distance race with her family. It was blowing 25 knots, and the leeward rail was buried in the water. What a rush! She hasn't looked back since. In 2013 Diane will race from France to Brazil in a 21-foot Mini Transat sailboat, single-handed – 30 days and 4,300 nautical miles. To qualify, she needs to complete 2,000 training and qualifying miles. Hear Diane's story of winning the Bermuda Ocean Race and her training run – in squall after squall and tornadic waterspouts through the Gulf Stream – and find out what it's going to take to win the 2013 Mini Transat race!

The Great Canadian Fish Tank:

A must-see for both experienced and novice anglers, the Great Canadian Fish Tank is a 40-foot aquarium filled with 5,000 gallons of water and stocked with native Ontario marine life. A unique teaching tool for pros to share their tips with anglers of all ages, the Great Canadian Fish Tank literally provides a fish-eye view of how various species react to different lures and techniques.

This year's lineup of Fish Tank speakers and topics presents a wide range of tips and tricks for perfecting techniques on waters near and far, including:

- **Choosing the right equipment – rods and reels:** presented by **Leo Stakos** and **Ron James**, co-hosts of one of Canada's most popular shows, *Fish TV*.
- **Fishing top to bottom:** presented by **Italo Labignan**, professional angler, author and host of *The Canadian Sportfishing Show* on TSN.
- **Walleye – Tactics that work all year long:** presented by **Big Jim McLaughlin**, two-time Canadian Classic Champion and publisher of the *Just Fishing* newspaper.

For times, dates and locations on the above speakers, and the complete seminar schedule for both the Presentation Theatre and Great Canadian Fish Tank, go to www.torontoboatshow.com/features/seminars/

SHOW DETAILS:

WHEN: January 14 – 22, 2012

Saturdays 10am - 7pm

Sundays 10am - 6pm

Weekdays 11am - 8pm

Special Preview Night: Friday, January 13

WHERE: Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place
100 Princess Blvd., Toronto, ON

TICKETS: \$18 – General Admission (17 – 64 yrs.)
\$15 – Seniors (65 yrs. & better)
\$20 – Unlimited weekday evening pass (4pm – 8pm)
\$25 – Two-day Adult pass (17 – 64 yrs.)
\$19 – Two-day Senior pass (65 yrs. & better)
FREE – Kids 16 years & under

Special Preview Night tickets available online or call 905-951-0009

***Buy online and save \$3 off regular admission (valid to midnight January 13, 2012, www.TorontoBoatShow.com)**

Media Contacts:

Tran Nguyen
416-628-5607
tnuyen@hccink.com

David Holmes
416-628-5605
dholmes@hccink.com

Toronto Boat Show Media Office:
Direct Energy Centre, Hall A, Room A2
416-263-3182

