

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

<http://www.tmca.nu>

October 2013



At the Helm

Steve Lee, Commodore

[email: comm@tmca.nu](mailto:comm@tmca.nu)

It was October 1978 that the very first unofficial meeting of TMCA was held at Vince's Boat Shop in Watergate Marina. From the first meeting where there were 19 people in attendance to the 500 plus members we have now, there has been a rich history of boating where we all have enjoyed an untold number of exciting experiences. On the water cruising to many local destinations and at our many social gatherings and educational seminars, TMCA members have enjoyed each other's company and have learned many things along the way. I am very happy to have found such a great organization to be a part of. More history of TMCA can be found on our website www.tmca.nu.

October, it has to be my favorite month of the year. The hottest time of the year is behind us and the fall weather is the best boating weather we have all year. I hope everyone has an opportunity to get out on the water and enjoy it. November brings with it the cruises where we head over to the east side of the bay to enjoy Double Bayou and all that that area has to offer. I hope everyone has their boat ready to go so you can join in the fun on the Pasture clean-up trip, the Chili Cruise and the French Picnic cruise.

I also hope you had a chance to watch some of the America's Cup 2013 racing action. This Cup proved to be a very exciting challenges with the AC 72 boats reaching speeds of over 48 knots, a speed that most go-fast boats don't reach! And talk about an exciting two weeks of racing! The Oracle Team U.S. was able to make an amazing comeback after being behind by seven races. For a week, the Emirates Team New Zealand only needed to win only one race and the Cup would have been headed to Auckland.

In my last couple of articles I have talked about mechanical issues dealing with the batteries, to having a pry bar on board to tighten up your alternator belt. There is one other topic I would like to mention... when was the last time you changed your antifreeze? Just like the engine oil, the antifreeze is a life blood of your engine and should be changed from time to time. Don't wait until you split a hose and have to find out where all that rusty water is coming from! Some people you talk to would recommend changing it every two years and some would say longer. Now that I have all the rusty water stains cleaned up off of my engine I plan to change it every two years. Also, you might consider using full strength antifreeze and dilute it with distilled water. There are also some good

radiator additive treatments to add to the mix. It was recommended to me by the best diesel mechanic I know to use WIX brand additive. Another good practice is to replace your radiator cap whenever you change the fluid. After changing the antifreeze and a couple of hoses my little Perkins 4-108 purrs along, running 10 degrees cooler and it even sounds quieter and smoother. You take care of your engine and it will take care of you.

I hope nothing else breaks on s/v Waltzing Matilda for a while so I can write about something other than things that either leak oil or make noise!

*Steve Lee,
Commodore*



The Corner of Vice

Jerry Grooms, Vice Commodore

Email: vcomm@tmca.nu

Susan and I were in a mad dash to leave the boat and get to Dallas for some meetings when all was too quiet -- suddenly the air conditioners went down. The dreaded high pressure Indicator was blinking and the temperature rising.

Darn! I thought I could wait until we be got back on Saturday to clean that strainer, but it just wasn't in the cards. So down into the bilge and pull the strainer (anybody know this routine?). But the strainer wasn't very dirty and now I'm perplexed. Open the thru-hull and no water coming in -- now what?

Turns out there were a large cluster of barnacles around the intake and it was blocked completely. But I just had the bottom cleaned a few weeks ago! It seems this time of year and the very low tides we're having is "cultivating" marine growth. Be aware and have those inviting intakes checked more frequently during the heat, humidity and lower water levels.

On a more exciting note: several boats are planning an ICW excursion to Port A during Harvest Moon Week. Stops along the way include (so far) Freeport, Matagorda, Port O'Conner and then the fabled Island of Port Aransas.

Harvest Moon Regatta is shaping up to be another fun and fast race for the 200 plus sailboats and like other boaters and land yachters we plan to help them enjoy the event, but at a more leisurely pace and not stressed by the vagrancies of the wind!

SPECIAL ALERT: Because of scheduling late last year: the October TMCA Meeting will be early this month. October 4th. Plan to attend as we have a presentation by the Coast Guard concerning markers and other safety devices they monitor. The officer nominees for 2014 will explain their plans for the coming year. It's an opportunity for anyone interested in participating as an officer or official of our club - please volunteer!

*Jerry Grooms,
Vice Commodore*



At The Port Report

Pam Gasper, Rear Commodore

email: rcomm@tmca.nu

Wow! October is going to be a great month for social events with TMCA. Our October dock party will be a Disco Dancing Inferno, on Friday, October 11 at Legend Point Marina. A big thank you to hosts Jerry Simoneaux and Christopher Bown for rescheduling this event. Dig out your polyester suits and platform shoes!

After entering the marina gate, turn left and park anywhere. The clubhouse will be at the end of the short road. As with all dock parties, the bbq pit will be hot at six if you choose to grill. Bring a dish to share, your beverage of choice, and chairs. Pools, hot tubs, and a tented disco dance floor with disco ball all ensure a most entertaining evening. Contact Jerry for the gate code. His contact info is Jerry@simoneaux.com or 713-577-9587.

October 19th is the big Harvest Moon Regatta party in Port Aransas. Regardless of how you get there....racing or arriving by boat on a leisurely cruise or coming by land yacht.....TMCA has always had a great turnout and the party is phenomenal.

NEW for Saturday, October 26. Oktoberfest! Bruce and Jayne Dannecker will be hosting an evening of German food and beverage. The hosts are going to provide the meat and German beer on tap. Guests are requested to bring a German dish or dessert to share and German wine. The party begins at 7 pm and will end when the food and liquor run out (this is a quote from the hostess). The address is 2930 Port Rose Lane in League City; the subdivision is the Lakes at South Shore Harbor. Jayne does ask that you RSVP by Saturday, October 19, so that she can plan the meat. You can reach her at jedannecker@yahoo.com or 281-549-4550 (home) or 903-520-0500 (cell). Directions from Highway 96: Take South Shore Blvd north to Austin Street. Left on Austin Street to Shallow Springs Lane. Left on Shallow Springs Lane to Port Rose. Go right and their home is the second house on the right.

Directions from FM 518: Take South Shore Blvd south to Austin Street. Right on Austin Street left on Shallow Springs Lane, right on Port Rose Lane.

If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please call me at 832-444-4751.

Pam Gasper
Rear Commodore



[The Cruise Corner](#)

Pieter Wybro, Cruise Captain

email: captain@tmca.nu

October is here and we are in one of the best cruising months in Texas. This is the time of year we have all been waiting for...cooler temperatures, drier air and perfect winds. The Gulf waters are cooling and the probabilities for tropical storms are diminishing (but don't let your guard down because we are still in hurricane season). So get on your boat, cast off the lines and enjoy yourself!

We had three great cruises in September.

The Labor Day Cruise to Moody Gardens took place August 31-September 2 with cruise leaders Al & Kay Waghorne and social leaders Curtis & Dianne Eddington in charge. We filled up the marina, and we also had a couple of TMCA boats anchor nearby. Many boats came on Friday and most boats returned on Monday, making for a nice long weekend that was full of relaxation and fun activities. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

The Trinity River Wonderful One Day Cruise was held on September 7 with cruise Leader Philip Kropf and several dinghies and small boats. This voyage of exploration was a new event that took us to a beautiful destination in the Trinity River Island Recreation Area near Wallisville, Texas, click [HERE](#) for a detailed description.

The Gatorfest Cruise to Anahuac was held September 14-15 but with a change in venue. The Anahuac channel was silted up so much that only one shallow draft day cruiser powerboat could make it in. Undaunted, several of the other boats went to nearby Beason Park marina at Oak Island, and ventured up to Anahuac by land yacht.

The Smith Point Anchor-out Cruise on September 21-22 was rained out. Cruise Leader Jim and Doris Lee have rescheduled the cruise to October 12-13, see below.

October cruises in store for us:

Cruise the Chesapeake on October 3-11 led by Pete and Barbara Wybro. This 9 day venture will begin and end in historic Annapolis, and the last two days we will pick up a mooring at Annapolis harbor and dingy in to the United States Sailboat Show. This is the perfect time of year, being the cruising mid-season (lower rates and the crowds have thinned out), the weather is just perfect and we will explore some spectacular cruising grounds.

Cruise to Bayland with some Exploration on October 5-6 led by Philip Kropf. This is going to be a weekend cruise up to Bayland Marina with a bit of "Exploration" on Saturday, click [HERE](#) for details. Dinner at Bayland on Saturday will be "Pizza on the Docks". It has the makings of a great weekend to be out on the water, cruising to this fine close-by destination. Contact Philip Kropf 713-598-6454, pkropf@flash.net .

Smith Point Anchor Out Cruise October 12-13. Cruise Leader Jim and Doris Lee. We will be anchoring out, doing some afternoon dinghy exploring and dinner at A&D Restaurant. We are looking forward to the usual TMCA fun! A&D Restaurant is a new venue and this cruise is meant to be an adventure, and that will just be part of it! Contact Jim Lee at 281-559-1426.

Harvest Moon Cruise October 14-27 led by Josh and Barb Wallach. This cruise is timed around the Harvest Moon Regatta. It is for boats that are not in the regatta and want a leisure cruise south, and also for boats in the regatta that want a fun return home. We will head to Rockport for a few days, with 2 or 3 stops on the way. Then go to Port Aransas to join the Harvest Moon Party and on to Corpus Christi for more fun. We will head back from there and return to our home port by October 27th. Full details will be posted later, but put this cruise on your calendar. It should be fun! Contact Josh Wallach 713-206-8022 or email lasttrade@verizon.net .

That's it for now. Be safe and see you on the water,

*Pieter Wybro,
Cruise Captain*



Secretary's Report

Barbara Nickelson, Secretary

email: secretary@tmca.nu

Membership Renewal Time!

Membership renewal time is here, and you can do so by either mailing your check, or go to the TMCA web site and pay online.

Please update YOUR membership information!

Our membership is growing and to keep us all up to date, I urge each of you to make sure you are registered on the website and your profile information is up to date. We are asking that you check your address and phone number and update your boat information. This is the most current information we have for our membership and is our master "database" which we use to generate communications to all of our events. Also, we do plan to do an update on the membership directory shortly after the first of the year.

Welcome New Members

B. Jill Bebee
Laurie Sapp
Julie and Jerry Parker
Bo and Belinda Overeem
Bob Womble
Chris and Tammy Edwards
Philip Schutts

Thank you for your help in getting all of our membership information correct and current! We really do appreciate your help.

See you on the water!

*Barbara Nickelson,
Secretary*



Dollars And "Sense" from the Treasurer

Bob Nickelson, Treasurer

[email: treasurer@tmca.nu](mailto:treasurer@tmca.nu)

What a fast year – summer's about gone along with Hurricane Season – always a relief. Now we're ready for some fall trips and some boat maintenance. We normally start our preventative maintenance and repairs this time of the year – engine rooms are a little cooler and after the trips so far this year, we always have things that are in need of repair – usually we have a list that we accumulated by this time that we don't realize was so long.

Bean counting will pick up for me towards the end of the year with membership renewals for 2014 and budget planning for next year – keep those dollars coming – Bank Balance and 2013 Budget - all good !!

Have a great October.

*Bob Nickelson,
Treasurer*

[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2013 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Steve Lee, Waltzing Matilda	281-802-9838
Past Commodore:	Doug Chappell, Dock Trauma	281-330-1163
Vice Commodore:	Jerry Grooms, m/v La Vie Dansante	832-221-1962
Rear Commodore:	Pam Gasper, s/v Kefee	832-444-4751
Cruise Captain:	Pieter Wybro, s/v Marco Polo	281-635-0249
Secretary:	Barbara Nickelson , m/v Docktari	713-899-1098
Treasurer:	Bob Nickelson, m/v Docktari	713-826-7551

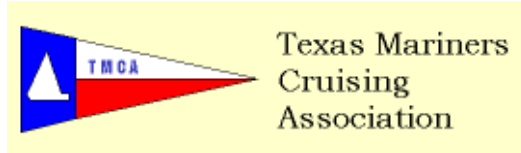
2013 TMCA Trustees

Trustee 2002 Commodore ~ Gloria Rooney, s/v *St. Somewhere*, 281-499-4413

Trustee 1984-85 Commodore ~ Wayne Christopher, s/v *Dolphin Dancer*, 281-761-4233

Trustee 1999 Commodore ~ J.J. Wallace, s/v *Gypsy Lady*, 832-347-6841

Trustee 2010 Commodore ~ Ron Eddleman, s/v *Stellar of Course*, 936-328-7361



Please send any articles you would like included in the TMCA Mariner to TMCA Mariner Editor at newsletter@tmca.nu

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