

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

July 2017



At the Helm

Charles Parette, Commodore

[email: Commodore@TexasMariners.com](mailto:Commodore@TexasMariners.com)

Is it July already, where did the first half of the year go?

We had a water pump replaced on our port engine, and now it's running great. I did an oil change on each engine, so now we're ready for the summer season. I'll replace our fuel filters this week. We also changed out our chart plotter screen, and we're really pleased with the results. We just had our boat waxed, and it looks great, now I just need to do a better job of washing it every week or so.

We just got back from Harborwalk Marina for our July 4th celebration. We had a great trip up and back, and love cruising along the Galveston waterfront, seeing dolphins, the Elissa, the commercial traffic, and all of the other sights and sounds. Dr Ron did a great job planning this awesome trip. We had every slip on the "A" dock full, and boats spread to other docks. The hat and boat decorating was fun, and a highlight was the grog contest. We entered ours, but I have to admit, that the creative members of our club came up with some absolutely great offerings. Of course we sampled them all.....a few times. As usual, a great time was had by all.

We enjoyed the dock parties, and other June events, and are looking forward to TMCA's version of summer fun. Be sure and keep track of the activities on our web site, and sign up.

Keep track of TMCA events several ways, weekly updates, monthly newsletter, and our [TMCA website calendar](#). If you would like to join the TMCA Yahoo Group, go to <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/tmcamariners/info>.

Another way to share stories, pictures, and videos is on our Facebook group. Go to our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TMCAgroup>, we broadcast our general meetings live in our Facebook group. Our next general meeting is Friday, July 21st, 6pm at the Elks lodge in Kemah.

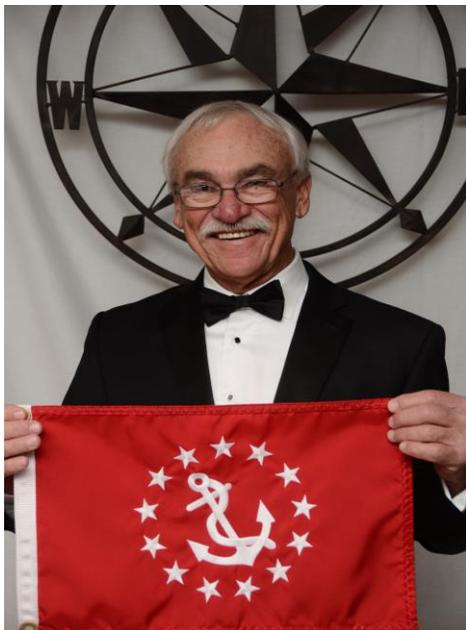
Remember, our goal is to provide a way for us to all go out and use our boats, learn from each other, and have a great time along the way. I'm amazed at the fun and intelligent folks that we get to hang out with. We have such a good time, and are learning new stuff every day.

Our organization and activities are all managed via volunteers. We always need help, and volunteering is a great way to get involved and meet new people.

I'd also like to remind you that while we are a boating club, you don't have to own a boat to be a member, and you can drive to most of our events. If you want to be around a bunch of like-minded boaters, who use their boats, come to some of our events and meetings - I'm sure you'll have a good time.

Let's go boating, and we'll see you on the water.

**Charles Parette,
Commodore**



[The Corner of Vice](#)

Larry Friemel, Vice Commodore

Email: ViceCommodore@TexasMariners

The summer cruising season is upon us and what a busy bunch we have been. With the dock parties and cruising to various locations, there was something for everyone to enjoy time on or near the water.

Our June guest speaker, Joanie Steinhaus, from the Galveston Sea Turtle restoration project, did a wonderful presentation about Sea Turtle nesting activities on our local beaches and the gulf coastline. It was very informative and provided all kinds of facts about sea turtles and their habitat. I always wondered how to spot a sea turtle nest and now I know what to look for the next time Lori and I are walking the beaches! It's great to know there are some very dedicated folks out there working hard to help the sea turtle populations continue to grow for future generations.

The water is getting warmer, and all eyes are on the tropics now days for the big storms, but those pesky gulf tropical depressions can form fast and are always a threat,

as we recently experienced. On that subject, I did a quick inventory of my extra lines and fenders to make sure all were in good shape just in case they are needed if something comes our way again.

As usual, our bay water temps are rising and that means more algae build up in sea water strainers, heat exchangers and hull bottoms. Our AC strainers will need cleaning more frequently these days which tells me the build up in the heat exchangers are increasing as well. So I'll keep a sharp eye on those temp gauges just to make sure all is running as it should.

Also, as most of you know, I'm a strong believer in preventative maintenance and made my monthly check on our dinghy motor just to make sure it was running properly. I pulled on the cord and off comes the handle. A new cord and handle was installed and after some clean up and fresh fuel, it cranked right up. (It sure was a lot easier to fix on the dock than out on the bay somewhere). So we're ready for that dinghy poker run and those Double Bayou sightseeing cruises!

Please check the website calendar for a cruise or activity you would like to participate in and come join us in some great summertime boating fun. Maybe even consider volunteering to help with one of the many planned activities. It's a lot of fun and that's what our club is all about!

Be safe, have a great July and hope to see you soon.

**Larry Friemel,
Vice Commodore**



[The Social Scuttlebutt](#)
Lori Friemel, Rear Commodore
[email: RearCommodore@TexasMariners.com](mailto:RearCommodore@TexasMariners.com)

Many of us have been able to enjoy some fun travel destinations, both near and far. Weather an exotic island or local destination, each offers some unique opportunities for fun. Thank you for sharing your tales of adventure, I love hearing them. In sharing, we learn about each other, from each other and sometimes get a great boating idea!

Welcome to all of our new members. You have joined a great group of adventurers. Come to a meeting, join a cruise and meet some new friends. I look forward to

seeing you! What a great month we have ahead. Check the website for more information on all of these activities and more!

Several TMCA ladies participated in the [Windward Bound Sailing Camp & Sailing Weekend](#), both sponsored by HYC. What great learning experiences, and from what I heard, a lot of fun. Thank you for representing TMCA so admirably and for being an inspiration. Great job, ladies!

We filled the swings at the June [Swing into Summer at TopWater Grill](#) dock party. After a rainy day, we had a beautiful evening to dine by the water. What a wonderful way to enjoy the day. Good food, good fun, and good friends. Great job putting this together Ladye!

While I was off with the girls, sipping wine along the California coast. Larry, Bridget and Ladye were here toiling at the TMCA booth. TMCA donated a basket (which included a TMCA Dual Membership and some fun merchandise) to the Kemah Boardwalk Marina raffle. While talking about TMCA and showing merchandise, they recruited several new members. Fantastic job by each of you! Thank you for all your hard work.

Later that evening, TMCA and Kemah Boardwalk Marina hosted the [Deepwater Horizon Movie Night and Dock Party](#). This event had so many extra fun and unexpected additions. Great job putting this entertaining evening together Charlene Lim. Two thumbs up!

Get out and celebrate the 4th all month long! Choose a long or short cruise, fireworks viewing and/or a dinghy adventure. For a big, fun party, the [4th of July Cruise to HarborWalk](#) will include hat decorating, grog making, a pool picnic and the local golf cart parade. Or, go to the small town with a big celebration, the [Oak Island Double Bayou Bash](#) with live entertainment, petting zoo, fishing tournament and a boat parade. Both are sure to be fun filled adventures.

For a great view of the Kemah Boardwalk fireworks, come to the [Fireworks Dock Party!](#) Our hosts, Dana & Gayle Dale, invite you to Clear Lake Shores for a festive dock party and first-rate view of the fireworks. Bring a dish to share and your beverage of choice. Come and enjoy the fun and fireworks!

Grab some paper lanterns and boats and take them out to Redfish for the [Howl at the Moon Hungry Ghost Festival](#). Release your lighted lanterns in the sky and paper boats into the water. Celebrate the traditional Chinese holiday representing the connections of earth and heaven.

Cool off at the [Super Soaker Dinghy Poker Run!](#) There are some great stops and adventure along the way. Bring your water weapons and prepare to blast the competition! Dry off and have dinner while the results are tallied.

As with any experience that we share, each of us will perceive it differently and take from it a different lesson than every other participant. And in these experiences, you will recognize friends as those in your life that make you smile broader, laugh louder and live better. This is why we are stronger and better together.

Lori Friemel
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!



The Cruise Corner

Ken Ekenseair, Cruise Captain

[email: Captain@TexasMariners.com](mailto:Captain@TexasMariners.com)

If you have blinked it is already JULY! Coming up we have the Harborwalk 4th of July Cruise. It has been confirmed the pool has had a double shock and cleaning since the Outlaw Poker Run. I know they have some great activities planned and this is always a fun destination to attend. The Oak Island 4th of July cruise is a more laid back, home town cruise. That area is always relaxing to have as a destination. The fireworks display is more of a large explosion than a drawn out show! That should be exciting.

Then the very next weekend July 8th is the Howl at the moon Hungry Ghost Festival-Cruise at Redfish. Charlene has gotten 50 of those floating

lanterns that you light and let go and watch them float away. The festival is a traditional Chinese holiday celebrated on the seventh lunar month.

July 15th we have the Super Soaker Dinghy poker run. Poker stops at Opus Ocean Grill, Sundance 2, Outriggers and Kemah Boardwalk. Sounds like a fun wet day for the middle of July.

July 29th we have the Hotter than July Cruise to Sea Star Base in Galveston. Jerry our past commodore just got approval and is working on the plans and actives for this event. We will have registration up within the next week.

June and July are always busy months for us. With TMCA events, family events and even attempting to take a trip ourselves to the Virgin Islands it gets overwhelming. With

TMCA, between the Social Events and Cruises, we almost have something every weekend. We still have several months of exciting trips and social events to come. So keep the boats in order and throw off the dock lines and come play.

Ken Ekenseair
Cruise Captain
TMCA – Cruising The World



Secretary's Report
Kathy Houser, Secretary
email: Secretary@TexasMariners.com

Hello Cruisers!
Well starting off the summer for me was falling and fracturing my ankle. What a setback for it truly limited my getting around. But it did not prevent us from taking our RV for seven days to the Hill Country and exploring many small Texas towns: Palestine, Crocket, Montgomery, Tennessee Colony, New Waverly and Huntsville. We always love finding places to explore and learning the history of each town. We also like spending time looking for and finding treasures at antique stores. We camped at Cagle campground in the Sam Houston National Forest. This campground is situated on Lake Conroe and is very peaceful and relaxing.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2017 please go on line and renew your membership. You will have to add a reinstatement fee of \$20 but remember how much you receive out of being a member and we certainly do not want to lose you. You can pay by PayPal, credit card or send a check to TMCA, P.O. Box 946, Kemah, TX 77565-0946. Don't miss out on all that TMCA offers.

If you need a badge please email me at kphouser@comcast.net with your name, boat name, and whether your boat is sail or motor. I will have them ready for you at the next TMCA General meeting.

We have many new members to introduce; please help me welcome them:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Darren & Janice Hendrickson | 3. Blaine & Lisa Fortin |
| 2. Jamie & Marisol Florez | 4. Robert & Rebecca Shilling |

5. Geoffrey Gregory
6. John & Peggy Coster
7. Ron & Annette Davis
8. Steve & Tracy Singleton

9. Robert & Patti Fortier
10. Al Mays
11. Michael & Karen Costallos

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Kathy Houser
Secretary



[From Your Bean Counter's Calculator](#)
Cookie Johnson, Treasurer
[Email: Treasurer@TexasMariners.com](mailto:Treasurer@TexasMariners.com)

I have been having so much fun already and we are really looking forward to July! We will be kicking off July at Moody Gardens for the 4th with some other TMCAer's! Nothing official, just taking our boats there to have some fun! Of course I cannot wait for the Super Soaker Dinghy Poker Run that I and Charlene have put together!! This is my first time organizing an event and I have such a HUGE appreciation for all of you who put so many great events together! It is a lot of work!!

Well, it wouldn't be from me if I didn't give you some piece of financial or budgeting advice so you can spend more time cruising! Let's talk about vacations since this is the season for them. It is extremely easy to overspend on vacation and I would like to give you some tips to help control that spending. The first tip is to plan a budget ahead of time. If you commit to only spending \$X per day for dining out, and \$X for entertainment etc., then it is much easier to stick with than if you go without a plan! The second tip is souvenirs. Souvenirs can be a really big drain on vacation funds and let's be honest, many of those souvenirs end up collecting dust once you return! The experience and pictures of the experience are far more valuable. Agree ahead of time if you want souvenirs and what they should be. My third tip is regarding excursions. My first trip to Hawaii we had an excursion about every day, not only was it expensive but it was exhausting too. Once again, planning ahead can make all the difference. Checking out the excursions and looking for good deals on line can help lower costs too!!

Guess that's all for now! See you on the water.....

Cookie Johnson,
Treasurer

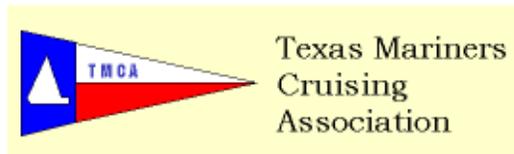
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2017 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Charles Parette, m/v Andiamo	713-817-8263
Past Commodore:	Jerry Simoneaux, s/v Rainbow	713-577-9587
Vice Commodore:	Larry Friemel, m/v Seascope	281 832 0361
Rear Commodore:	Lori Friemel, m/v Seascope	713 826 7998
Cruise Captain:	Ken Ekenseair, s/v Imagine	832-563-7116
Secretary:	Kathy Houser, m/v Attitude Adjustment	281-804-4122
Treasurer:	Cookie Johnson, s/v Cool Change	970-486-0192

2017 TMCA Trustees

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Trustee 2008	Commodore	Marion Herndon		281-743-4230
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Trustee 1984-85	Commodore	Wayne Christopher		281-761-4233



Please send any articles you would like included in the TMCA Mariner to TMCA Mariner Editor at Newsletter@TexasMariners.com

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