



December 2019

At the Helm

Bryan Austin, Commodore

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



This is your Commodore speaking, Congratulations to the newly elected 2020 TMCA Leadership Team. The 2020 Board of Governors includes Bryan Mason (Vice Commodore), Cindy Austin (Rear Commodore), Meade LeBlanc (Treasurer), Cyndi McDermott (Secretary), Lori Grissom (Port Captain) and Jean Mason (Cruise Captain). I was re-elected as Commodore and look forward to continuing to guide the Club through next year. My Trustees for 2020 include Gloria Rooney, Steve Lee, Bob Nickelson and Doug Chappell. Larry Friemel will continue with the Board as the Past (past) Commodore. Thank you to each of you for volunteering your time to keep TMCA great.

As we approach the end of 2019, I'd like to reflect on the accomplishments of our Board. We created a new tagline and banner for the Club. "Boating, Learning, Friendship, Fun" exemplifies the best of what TMCA offer its members. We also

created the TMCA Boater Best Practices which establishes guidelines, techniques and ideals the TMCA boating family should strive to implement. We had an outstanding Spring Fling event and celebrated the 40th anniversary of the birth of our Club. We created a separate Harvest Moon Regatta TMCA Trophy for the winner to keep. We will be giving those to the past several winners as well. As for the business of the Club, we made some changes to the Bylaws and we are aggressively working on Board Manuals and New Member Handbooks to be ready for the 2020 cruising year. Whew! We've been busy.

As we prepare the Club for next year, we will once again be relying on volunteer members to join the many committees we have. Our more visible committees, each chaired by a Board member, include the Special Events Committee (Rear Commodore), Social Committee (Port Captain), Cruise Committee (Cruise Captain), and Education Committee (Vice Commodore). We also need volunteers to head up the Boutique Committee, Newsletter Committee and Internet Committee. If you would like to give some of your talents and time back to TMCA, please contact me or one of the 2020 Board members about joining one of the committees.

I look forward to seeing each of you at this year's Commodores Ball at Lakewood Yacht Club. We still have a few events in December and then, with a blink of an eye, it will be 2020. We will hit the ground

running in January with our annual Planning meeting and Member Orientation meeting along with the traditional Bunko night. Stay tuned for more specifics on the actual date for these January events.

See you on the water

Bryan Austin
TMCA Commodore, 2019 (and 2020)



From the Commodore of Vice's Navigational Table

Ken Hutchinson, Vice Commodore

Email: VC@TexasMariners

2019 has been an active boating year with 102 TMCA events. Times to meet with new and old friends that all have a common interest in boating. 2020 will be something to look forward to. We encourage you to add your suggestions at the upcoming planning meeting. Happy holiday season and we will see you on the water.

Ken Hutchinson,
Vice Commodore

kchutchinson@gmail.com

713-539-5217



The Social Scuttlebutt

Kelly Hutchinson, Rear Commodore

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

Bringing up the Rear...

The Commodore's Ball is upon us coming up Saturday night December 7. It will be the last social event of the year and the most formal and is heavy with TMCA tradition. I can't wait for the awards presentations. It's always a fun surprise to see who the awards will go to.

Up and coming – January is an important month for TMCA. We have the New Members Orientation and also our exciting annual Planning Meeting. We gather at the Elks Lodge for donut and coffee and we go through the lists of the types of activities we have done by month and choose what we want to do plus come up with new ideas of things to do. You don't want to miss this.

We will be looking for hosts for parties and socials and to lead cruises. Think you don't know how? We will show you how and back you up!

TMCA has a new Social Committee in the works and if you want to be a part of this please email or text me. I might be calling you up and asking you to join even if you are brand new. Fresh ideas and opinions are greatly welcomed as well as seasoned experience from those who have been in the club a long time. Be a part of what it takes to perpetuate the boating, learning, friendship and fun that makes TMCA.

I have had a rewarding experience this past year as Rear Commodore. It was very cool learning how to do it and what it takes to keep the club's big wheels turning. It's a living machine and I was honored, happy and proud to be a part of it.

In 2020, think hard about getting involved in at least one event. You will be glad you did, and we will look forward to seeing you.

Happy Holidays and New Year! Signing off, with love, from Kelly Hutchinson

Kelly Hutchinson
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!



On Plane with the Port

MaryAnn Tillson, Port Captain

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

Hope everyone had a blessed and heartwarming Thanksgiving, Friendsgiving, Cruisegiving, whatever you celebrated. Let's give thanks for our TMCA family, as well. If you're not too full from the turkey, stuffing or octopus (we do things a little different down here), then read on for some fun events where you'll definitely need to come with an empty tummy!

Let me just start by saying THANK YOU to Quantum Sails for being so gracious and hosting the November dock party at their sail loft in Seabrook. Those who came enjoyed some wonderfully tasty brats along with artisan rolls and an amazing array of condiments you'd only find at the grocery store. Our hosts - Farley Fontenot, Alan Woodyard and their helpful staff – were fantastic! We totally enjoyed their stories and passion for the art of sailing. What a great evening!

The December Dock Party is the Weenie & Smore's Roast hosted by Jill Taylor and Dan Spradley at Blue Dolphin Marina on Friday, December 6th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. It's the last dock party of the year so let's go out with a BANG! Weather permitting, we'll have a cozy wood fire just beyond the docks and will be able to roast and toast the night away! Please see the monthly calendar for details on this event since it's got a bilge full of fun going on and there's definitely stuff to bring so check it out. You absolutely positively don't want to miss the final dock party of 2019!

And please don't forget the Commodore's Ball on the 7th and the Kemah Boat Parade on the 14th. What a great way to round out the year; there's lots going on social-wise so hope you can squeeze some TMCA into your busy holiday schedules. Ho Ho Hope to see you at something fun!

Ciao for now!
MaryAnn Tillson
Port Captain



The Cruise Corner

Lamy Chopin, Cruise Captain

email: Cruise@TexasMariners.com

As our year on the water comes to a close I have many fond memories from my term. The highlights of the year for me were Spring Fling, Phil Geren's anchoring clinic, and Allen's Landing, but there were many more small events that will live on in my log book. Wendy and I cruised our boat together in the fog back in the spring and learned to feel comfortable relying on the radar and autopilot to keep us clear of obstacles. The many bonfires out on Red Fish Island run together in memory but each one had unique moments and different friends to share with. Exploring new ideas like Sylvan Beach with the kids has given us a new appreciation of the wealth of destinations that we have on the Bay. Oh yeah and winning our division in the Harvest Moon wasn't bad either.

Overall this year we had 34 cruises as a club, with over 400 registrations logged. The cruises went to 15 unique destinations under the direction of 14 cruise leaders. One thing that stands out is that we had over two cruises per cruise leader on average. To me that means our members are not stepping up enough to volunteer for leading trips, with a few people shouldering the burden for everyone. Cruise leading can be as simple or complicated as you want to make it, but the club doesn't get onto the water without leadership.

The last cruise of the year is traditionally New Years weekend at Moody Gardens. So far I don't have a cruise leader for that one. If nobody volunteers in the next few days I will let Moody know that we are not going to make it so they can free up the marina for other guests.

I'm looking forward to several fun and adventurous cruises in the coming year under our new Captain Jean Mason. First off I plan to lead a cruise over to the Pasture (we were once again put off by the weather for the November French Picnic—so look on the calendar for a January Cajun Cochon de Lait party on the other side of the bay!)

Lamy Chopin

Cruise Captain

TMCA – Cruising The World



Secretary's Report

Dawn Gibler, Secretary

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

Happy Holidays fellow mariners! The last year has been a whirlwind for me and I cannot believe the holiday season is once again upon us. Where does the time go? I thoroughly enjoyed my two year tenure as TMCA secretary and will miss the friendship and comradery of the board. We have a fabulous club and being part of the inner workings was enjoyable and a wonderful opportunity for me. I look forward to working on various committees in the upcoming year and encourage each and every one of you to join me.

It is renewal season, so please log onto the website and renew your membership. Feel free to email me at dawngibler61@gmail.com if you have any issues.

Please help me welcome the following new members that have joined in the last month:

Orlando & Kathi Cruz
Cletus & Melanie McMurtry
Erik & Jonnie Harris
Julie & Claude Signori
Jacob Hardgrave

Happy Holidays!

Cheers!
Dawn Gibler
Secretary



[From Your Bean Counter's Calculator](#)

Cookie Johnson, Treasurer

[Email: Treasurer@TexasMariners.com](mailto:Treasurer@TexasMariners.com)

From the Treasurer

I cannot begin to tell you how much I have enjoyed being your treasurer these past 3 years! Getting to know many of you better has been such a blessing. If you are new to TMCA, I would suggest you get involved somewhere! You will get to know the greatest group of people in the area!! It has been fabulous and I am looking forward to a few less responsibilities.

I was on a cruise at the last meeting and did not get to wrap up the year. We still have the Commodores Ball to get through and I have several outstanding expenses still. If you led a cruise or event and you want reimbursement, please get it to me in the first two weeks of December. I will have the checkbook with me at the Commodores ball so we can get year-end loose ends tied up. We are in the black as of 10/31/2019 \$5328.44 for the year. I think after final expenses are in, we should be in the black by between

\$2,000.00-\$3,000.00. The past few years we have been in the red, but the increased membership dues has helped with that and Spring Fling was in the black too!!

Thank you all for making me feel so welcome in TMCA!! Merry Christmas and a very prosperous 2020!!!

***Cookie Johnson,
Treasurer***

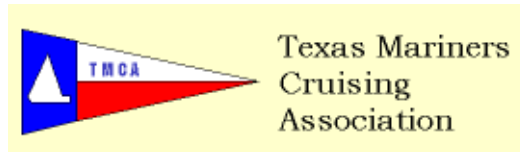
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2019 TMCA Officers

Commodore	Bryan Austin, s/v Austintatious	832-221-5416
Past Commodore	Larry Friemel, m/v Seascape	281-832-0361
Vice Commodore	Ken Hutchinson	713-539-5217
Rear Commodore	Kelly Hutchinson	281-830-9747
Port Captain	Maryann Tillson, m/v Luv-N-Life	409-761-0411
Cruise Captain	Lamy Chopin, s/v Nocturne in Sea	832-579-4070
Secretary	Dawn Gibler, m/v Amanhecer	832-423-0617
Treasurer	Cookie Johnson, s/v Cool Change	970-486-0192

2019 TMCA Trustees

Commodore 2002	Gloria Rooney, s/v St. Somewhere	713-805-0843
Commodore 2011	Doug Chappell, m/v Koastal Kabana	281-330-1163
Commodore 2016	Jerry Simoneaux s/v Rainbow	713-577-9587
Commodore 2012-2013	Steve Lee, s/v Waltzing Matilda	832-267-4500



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

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