

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

January 2019



At the Helm

Bryan Austin, Commodore

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

Happy New Year! 2019.

And so begins 2019 and what should be another great year for boating. I'm excited and extremely grateful to represent TMCA as your Commodore in 2019. Your TMCA 2019 Officers includes several new members. Please welcome Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore Ken and Kelly Hutchinson respectively, Cruise Captain Lamy Chopin and Maryann Tillson Port Captain; a new position on the Board in 2019. Dawn Gibler returns as Secretary and Cookie Johnson will continue as our Treasurer.

I'm also pleased to announce our 2019 Trustees will include Gloria Rooney, Steve Lee, Capt. Doug Chappell, and Jerry Simoneaux. These four past Commodores will provide a good mix of club historic perspective. I look to them to help us

maintain the vision and spirit of the club. One of my freshman social studies professors at Texas A&M said about a city, "if it's not growing, it's dying". I believe that applies to our club as well. So we will explore new ways to grow TMCA while continuing to make your experiences as enjoyable and educational as possible.

We finished out the year with what many have said was one of the best Commodore's Ball at Lakewood Yacht Club. Great friends, food, music and dancing. We may need additional bubblewrap next year to better protect one of our members on the dance floor! The special recognition awards presented were well deserved by all. A special thanks goes out to all of those who volunteered their time and energy to help make this such a memorable event! Volunteering is at the very heart of creating and maintaining a great club like TMCA.

Cruising is a year round sport around here. In addition to boating in Galveston Bay and around the upper Texas coast, we also have monthly dock parties and several special events throughout the year. Our big "Spring Fling" cruise is back this year too. Hopefully you will consider joining us at an event or cruise and learn what makes TMCA such a great boating club.

Our club and these events are only as successful as the volunteers who step up to support them. Volunteering is an outstanding way to expand your boating community, increase your boating

experiences and just get your boat out of the slip and on the water. It all starts in January. We have three events this month at the Elks Lodge in Kemah. Please plan to attend our annual Planning meeting, Saturday morning January 12th. This meeting is a great opportunity for you to share your ideas and help fill the 2019 calendar with the great cruises and activities we will do this year. I challenge those of you who have not lead one of our events to step up in 2019.

The following Friday, January 18th, is our first TMCA Monthly meeting. Socializing begins at 6:00pm and the program activities start at 7:00pm.

Finally, you are invited to attend the Member Orientation meeting Jan. 20 to meet the new Officers, learn what these volunteers do to keep TMCA running, a summary of our 2019 cruising and events schedule as well as a presentation of all the cruising destinations around Galveston Bay and up and down the Texas coast.

Please visit our website www.texasmarines.com for information on all the fun activities we will schedule for 2019. Your feedback and ideas are always welcome.

Special Reminder: It's time to renew those memberships and update all your boat and contact information.

See you soon...

Bryan Austin
Commodore



[From the Commodore of Vice's Navigational Table](#)

Ken Hutchinson, Vice Commodore

Email: VC@TexasMariners

Let me start off by saying that I appreciate your votes and trust in me to handle all of TMCA's Vice's. That's quite a load, but I can handle it with your help. I will do my best to have interesting and entertaining programs that will help further our boating enjoyment and safety. TMCA is an interesting mix of boaters. Some have crossed oceans and have years of boating knowledge they are willing to share and some are new to boating and anxious to learn and experience all that their boat can provide. To be honest, we all have a lot we can learn about the sea and boats that travel on her, let's learn together.

Our first monthly meeting will be Friday, January 18 at the Elks Lodge, 623 Hanson Road, in Kemah. Socializing and dinner orders will begin at 6:00 pm, business meeting begins at 7:00 pm and the presentation to follow. Ever wonder what are the waters that we boat and swim in are like? We are fortunate to have Sarah Gossett, the water quality manager speak with us about the efforts of the Galveston Bay Foundation to keep our waters a safe and fun environment for all. Find out what we can do to help in the effort. Come early, enjoy dinner and visiting with members and guests. Be

sure to bring your name badge and hope to see you there!

An important event takes place on Saturday, January 26th from 9:00 – 11:00 at the Elks Lodge. If you've just joined TMCA, or have been a member for a while, this is the meeting to attend! We will talk about and plan upcoming cruises and parties, and how to sign up for them. If you have an idea for a party or cruise, bring it to this meeting. It's a great event to meet new friends that all have similar interests.

If you have a subject for a presentation at one of our meetings that you feel would be beneficial to the group, I would love to hear from you and will appreciate your input. One of my favorite saying is "None of us are as good as All of us".
I hope to See you at the next meeting

**Ken Hutchinson,
Vice Commodore**



The Social Scuttlebutt
Kelly Hutchinson, Rear Commodore
[email: RC@TexasMariners.com](mailto:RC@TexasMariners.com)

Title: Bringing up the Rear

Ladies and Gentlemen...hoist your sails and start your engines! It's a new year, and an anniversary year for TMCA at that, bright horizons are ahead. This impressive group of like-minded water-loving boaters are going to make new friends and play hard this year at the extreme sport we call boating.

And good grief, I'm the 2019 Rear Commodore. It's going to be a different kind of year for me. Thank you for this honor to serve the club. My husband Ken and I have been members since 2009 and we are now ready to "give back", and fortunately (finally) we have the bandwidth to take this adventure on. Over the years we have watched and admired in awe the efforts of those who have made TMCA what it is today.

So I'm currently in Rear Commodore crash course 101, and I'm being advised by some of the finest social planners in the world-TMCA's former Rear Commodores. During this I'm wondering...why is the position called "rear" commodore? At TMCA it is defined as The Special Events Coordinator. But the title has a historic origin from the Navy. Why "rear"? So I Googled it.

- Funk and Wagnall says "rear" means the buttocks and farthest from the front...
- The definition from the Navy simply states the last one in rank.... still no specific reason for the word "rear" other than being at the end, and simply said, this person has the least dangerous job.
- Another definition of the word "rear" is when you "rear" someone you care for and tend to them--so I choose this. So I'll be bringing up the rear ya'll, like a border collie of sorts.

FUN FACTS: This year for the first time TMCA has added a new position to the rank and file of officers. It is called Port Captain and Maryann Tillman is at the helm. Rear Commodore became too big a task for one person to handle so there are now two people for the job. Although Maryann and I didn't choose each other to work with, the Board did, serendipitously Maryann and I had already naturally gravitated to each other during boating events so already we click. I love it when the Universe does things like that.

Lastly, and most importantly, to "click" with TMCA, the best way to get to know each other and make new friends is to volunteer to take part in an event. It is no fun without YOU. The calendar for 2019 events will be set on Saturday, January 12 at the Planning Meeting. Even if you don't come to this it will never be too late to get involved.

JANUARY 2019 EVENTS: Log into the TMCA website and check the calendar to read details about these briefly listed events for January. Note you gotta register ahead of time for Bunco. It's a game that requires a seat at a table for you:

- January 12 – 9 AM Annual Events Planning Meeting @ Elks Lodge
- January 26 - 9 AM New Members Orientation @ Elks Lodge
6:30 PM Crockpot Soup Potluck and Bunco Game Night

See you out there! (referring to the "out there" Captain Ron was talking about)

Kelly Hutchinson
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!



On Plane with the Port
MaryAnn Tillson, Port Captain
[email: PC@TexasMariners.com](mailto:PC@TexasMariners.com)

Happy New Year and cheers to a fantastic boating year for all!
First off – thanks to all who made the Commodore's Ball an outstanding event. What an amazing evening; your efforts are so appreciated!

While I'm not new to TMCA, I am new to this new position so let's jump in together and see what fun stuff we can get into! I'm sure everyone had a wonderful holiday and maybe overindulged a little on tasty food and even tastier libations. Here's an awesome way to burn off those extra holiday calories – host a TMCA social event! From the Bunco Party in January to the Moody Gardens New Year's Cruise in December, there are a plethora of events to

host so pick something that sounds cool and turn it into something great.

We've have ten dock parties coming up that are just looking for a place to happen so don't hold back...you KNOW you wanna do one! Plus, there are tons of other social activities on the horizon that are oldies but goodies (Yachty Gras Party, Mardi Gras Party, Spring Fling) or maybe you want to bring something new to the table. Either way, being active in the club is the best way to meet new friends or reconnect with those who share your passion for cruising, parties and all things groovy in TMCA. No matter your boat – a dependable dinghy or a custom megayacht – remember, the best ships are friendships.

Ciao for now,

MaryAnn Tillson
Port Captain



[The Cruise Corner](#)

Lamy Chopin, Cruise Captain

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

Welcome to TMCA cruising for 2019! I am excited to step into the role of Cruise Captain and set the agenda for our busy 2019 cruise schedule. While we have lost a few favorite haunts like Harbor Walk and Outriggers during 2018, there are still a huge number of opportunities for us to explore this year. Expect to see more emphasis on anchoring up, and more events that are day-only to keep some of the weekend free for your boat maintenance duties! Please come to our January 12th planning meeting to get your ideas onto the calendar.

In addition, we want to encourage more direct TMCA participation in the local community cruises: Yachty Gras, Blessing of the Fleet, and Christmas Boat Lane Parade. These events are important to the local economy and show off the exact spirit that TMCA was founded around, and I want to see several TMCA burgees flying in each during 2019. We will also be adding Sailing Angels cruises to our calendar where appropriate, like the November Heroes Recognition Cruise. And our big Spring Fling event is back this year and promises to be a great chance to go to a marina far, far away! Get your dingy sailing practice in now.

January is a great time to get critical maintenance done on your boat. I always make time during this month to change my engine oil, fuel filters and impeller, and check my alternator belt. These are tasks that any boat owner should be able to do on their own—and if you do them at the dock it's a lot less likely that you'll have to do them "out there..." If you need some help on how to get started, please feel free to ask a TMCA member.



Secretary's Report

Dawn Gibler, Secretary

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

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend them with friends and loved ones. My husband and I were lucky to have both of our kids in town along with our three year-old granddaughter who made our Christmas day extra special and fun.

I'm looking forward to another year as the TMCA Secretary and working with the new executive board. This year will prove out to be another exceptional year with plenty of fun and an abundance of educational opportunities. The January calendar is jam packed starting off with the planning meeting and ending with the popular bunco night. I encourage all of you to step out of your comfort zone to host a dock party or volunteer to be part of a committee; two great ways to get to know the other members of our club.

Membership renewal time has started. To renew online, please go to Membership → My Account and click on the Membership tab. You'll be able to pay by any credit card thru the PayPal payment system. Remember dues have increased this to \$45 single membership and \$75 dual membership. Feel free to email me at Secretary@TexasMariners.com if you have any problems logging on.

We're off to a good start, currently we have 112 paid members have renewed including 23 new members. Please help me welcome our most recent new members to the club.

John & Darla Berg
Scot & Sheryl Berg
David & Lori Brown
Rob & Betty Heverly
Tommy & Kristi Watters

Dawn Gibler
Secretary



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

Cookie Johnson, Treasurer

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

Happy 2019! I ended 2018 by burning up a list of negative emotions and thoughts! Most important is the word "can't"! That word has got to go! If you hear me say "can't" remind me that I banished the word from my vocabulary!! What a great way to start 2019, with negative emotions and thoughts banished!!

I like to give a Treasurer's tip in each newsletter, yet I must be careful that I am compliant with all the rules I need to follow as a licensed financial planner and as an Enrolled Agent with the IRS. For that reason, I try to give simple money saving tips or budgeting tips!

I think the most important tip I can give anyone is to keep track of your income and your expenses and to get some financial education!! It's just not taught in schools and most people never take any kind of formal training, so they just float along hoping they are doing things right! Knowing the difference between an asset (a true asset produces income)

and a possession is very important. Most of us think we have assets, but we actually have possessions that are worth much less than we think, and which cost us money in maintenance and upkeep (sorry our boats and our homes are possessions). Banks will call our possessions assets, however a true asset puts our money to work making money!

Can't wait to see you all at a party or cruise! It's going to be a legendary year!!

***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 Seascope	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 Amanahecer	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	281-802-9838



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

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