



September 2019



[At the Helm](#)

Bryan Austin, Commodore

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

This is your Commodore speaking,

We are just past the halfway point in our 2019 cruising season. From daysails, boat parades and overnight anchorages at Redfish Island to the Spring Fling journey to Port Arthur, TMCA provides boaters of all levels of experience an opportunity to get out on the water and better your boating acumen. We also have a little friendship and fun along the way. We are finally heading back to Harborwalk marina with a newly dredged 7-8' channel entrance. We also have our annual Allens Landing cruise in October which is truly unique. If you aren't a club member or know someone looking to buddy up with another boater(s) to get out on the water, a TMCA (www.texasmariners.com) membership is your gateway to cruising.

Another important tenet of TMCA is giving back to the community. Sailing Angels (www.sailingangels.org), founded by Dave McCabe, provides "hydro-therapy" to disadvantaged, disabled or chronically ill persons as well as our wounded warriors and military veterans. This is an opportunity for each to experience the freedom of getting out on the water. TMCA members graciously offer room on their boats for a short day sail in the bay. Take a minute to register with Sailing Angels to get notified of upcoming opportunities. A big event upcoming is the November 2 "Heroes Cruise" honoring Military Veterans and First Responders.

This is also the time of year the club begins looking ahead to forming the 2020 TMCA Board Members (Leadership Team). If you are a current TMCA member interested in one of the leadership positions or possibly contributing on a committee (cruising, social, historical, education, etc), please send an email to Gloria Rooney (gloria-rooney@usa.net) or talk to one of the current Board members. We will identify the nominees (and open the floor for others) at the September monthly meeting. This can be a very entertaining process when we get multiple volunteers running a friendly campaign for the same position. Contrary to the outcome in recent years, the Nomination Committee does not anoint the next Leadership Team. Rather, they are tasked with canvassing the membership for those interested in giving back to the club. By the way, the stump speeches during our October monthly meeting are entertaining and something to behold.

Here's a link to the club By-Laws including the Board Member and Committee duties:
http://texasmariners.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=29&Itemid=204

See you on the water,

Bryan Austin
TMCA Commodore, 2019



From the Commodore of Vice's Navigational Table

Ken Hutchinson, Vice Commodore

Email: VC@TexasMariners

Wow! It has been a fun-filled month and it doesn't look like it will be slowing down any. Last month's calendar was full with: a Happy hour at Railean Rum, a cruise to Bayland, a sail to watch the Perseid meteor shower, a monthly meeting, women on the water, Clear Creek dingy trip, The Sandcastle building in Galveston and Labor Day festivities. Like I said, WOW! Make sure and check the TMCA calendar for September and join in the FUN.

Our main speaker at our monthly meeting on September 20th will probably look familiar. Jerry Simoneax has an excellent presentation about tablet or computer navigation. Either will work for your primary navigation tool or as a backup. This is useful information for any boater to understand.

We hope you can make it to the meeting.

Ken Hutchinson,
Vice Commodore



[The Social Scuttlebutt](#)

Kelly Hutchinson, Rear Commodore

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

Bringing Up the Rearin September

Hello there. School started and its still hot as fire out there...but nothing stops TMCA from Boating, Learning Friendship and Fun (love the new brand statement Bryan instigated this year)....

LAST MONTHS BEACH PARTY - If you missed the AIA Sandcastle Contest watching Beach Party, plan for it next year, I envision it being on the TMCA party calendar again next year too. Beautiful day at the beach, with a TMCA tent, strolling along the contestant booths watching them build and then miraculously finish on time with incredible results. We brought fried chicken and cold beer for lunch and there was watermelon for all. A unique different way to hang out with TMCA friends. I learned how to do it better next year.

40TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY - It's here! Saturday September 21 is TMCA's 40th Anniversary Party! Can you believe 40 years? The invitations were mailed to everybody. Please register on the website so there enough goodies for everyone—its free, except for the cash bar.

The event venue is a beautiful place and will be a memorable experience. Come and celebrate the history of this great boating club! Dance to the Modulation Band, door prizes, eat, drink, hear from some of our original members—as far back as from the beginning! It will be sad if you are not there.

SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS GIFT BOXES - Every year TMCA members, that means each and every one of you, make gift boxes for the men on the ships at the ship channel who are away from their families or alone...The Port of Houston Port Ministry organizes this. Please check facebook and the table at the September meeting for a list of the items to put in the boxes. Bring them to the meetings and we will set up another collection spot too. This will happen this year way before Christmas so please start now. A list of the items is in my post on TMCA facebook page already, go to the dollar store and buy a plastic shoe box to put the stuff in...the box itself is also a gift.

REFLECTIONS - I can remember being anchored out, multiple times, in Offats Bayou as long as 20 years ago and there was a group of boaters (TMCA) at Moody Gardens Marina partying their behinds off....I was involved with a different active boat group of friends back then...I got to TMCA as soon as I could.

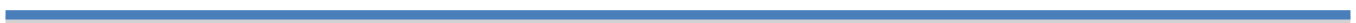
FUN FACTS - When TMCA started, it was sailboats only AND a “boys only” club!!! Well dinosaur died, didn't it.

See you out there!

Kelly Hutchinson

Rear Commodore

TMCA Knows Fun!!





[On Plane with the Port](#)

MaryAnn Tillson, Port Captain

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

On Plane with the Port Captain

Yay – it's September! Autumn is just 3 weeks away and you would think the days would be getting cooler and more...well, seasonal. But NO! Still hot, still humid and we're still cramming as many fun events into the calendar as we can so let's take a minute and recap the last month and see what's coming up, shall we?

A couple big THANK YOUs go out to some FABULOUS people who really stepped up and hosted some recent fun events that we thoroughly enjoyed. First, Heather Williams knocked the August dock party out of the park at the Railean Rum Distillery & Buccaneer Bar in the chic and sophisticated seaside village of San Leon. Thanks to all who came in traditional pirate attire - you ROCK! - and for partying the night away like the true swashbucklers we are (at heart!)

Thanks, as well, to Vicki & Kevin Berkebile for hosting the Moodyritaville Labor Day Cruise to Moody Gardens. Cheers to them for an awesome party weekend beginning with stern-gating (or bow-gating if you didn't back in) and continuing with the lyric writing contest (good luck to our brave singers), the HUGE Jimmy "Buffet" of song-inspired foods, the groovy concert film AND for the tickets to chill at the hotel pool and lazy river. Everyone came in their best island-inspired outfits (was that really Matt in a coconut bra and grass skirt?) and the games were hysterical, from Passing the Cheeseburger in Paradise to Bra Pong to hula hooping – I need a week off to recuperate from it all. Can't wait for Return to Moodyritaville 2020 – woo hoo!

Next up, we have Jill Taylor and Dan Spradley hosting the Inuendo Dock Party on Friday, September 3rd, at Blue Dolphin Marina along with their great big Johnson, Mr. Happy. See...there's an inuendo right there! It promises to be a wild & crazy time so let those naughty nuances and double entendres fly all night as we begin another month of groovy events. Don't forget to bring a yummo dish to share, beverage of choice and a chair. And please check the club calendar for info on where to dock if you're arriving by boat, dinghy or some other form of water vessel. Be there or be square!

Also in September, Connie & Jim Ferguson are hosting the Back to Harborwalk Cruise from September 13-15 and there are a couple of awesome parties associated with it: the Defying Superstitions Docktails on Friday, the 13th and the pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm on Saturday. Please bring a dish to share on Saturday, as well as your beverage of choice and that all-important chair! Activities on Saturday also include pool time throughout the day at Harborwalk's gorgeous pool and the first-ever Dinghy Duck Shootout! Registration may be full by now so please get on the waitlist and have a fantastic time!

Our October dock party will be on Friday, October 4th at Carlos' Beer Garden in Webster. Directions are on the club calendar and no dish to share at this event since they have a great assortment of grub: half-pound (and one pound – yikes!) burgers, fish tacos, salads, shrimp, several types of po-boys and more! Plenty to drink as well so come party and, hopefully, we'll all toast to the cooler weather!

As always, please check the calendar for up-to-the-minute info on parties, cruises, seminars and other club activities.

Ciao for now!
MaryAnn Tillson
Port Captain



[The Cruise Corner](#)

Lamy Chopin, Cruise Captain

email: Cruise@TexasMariners.com

The dog days of summer are nearing an end. Hurricane season is about to reach its peak months for the Gulf. And in spite of the heat and the threat of storms we've continued to have a busy cruise calendar. We began August with a cruise over to Bayland, where one-and-a-half boats made it up to enjoy O'Neals pub (more on this below). A far more attended cruise was the Perseid Meteor Shower at Red Fish, which saw 13 TMCA vessels and very few meteors. The most attended event for August was the dinghy cruise up Clear Creek, with 14 adventurous crews braving the lovely lazy water (and sometimes shallow depths) of the creek. If you haven't done that yet I highly recommend it.

The cruise committee has been meeting to discuss details around Allen's Landing and ways to get people to actually go to Bayland.

We've attempted 3 cruises to Bayland this year and I think only one boat has stayed the night. While there is some concern about depths getting into the marina, most boats should have no trouble and it's a nice place to stay, with a good pub and a walking trail and plenty of places to drop a line in the water. We're going to try to flesh out a cruise up there before the end of the year that will include good educational opportunities to see if we can't get some interest. Also added to the calendar are the Sylvan Beach event (which will have happened by the time this gets out) and the Back to Harborwalk trip next month. October will see some additions as cruise leaders have come forward to lead events around Harvest Moon Regatta for those who aren't racing.

A big part of safety prep for the Harvest Moon Regatta, or any offshore sailing, is consideration of man-overboard (MOB) procedures. The first time someone unexpectedly leaves your boat is not the time you want to learn these. In fact every time you go out as a skipper you should mentally review what you need to do to take control of such a situation and save a life. Specific details are too much to get into here, but a few things need to happen immediately: crew alert, floatation and tracking devices deployed, lookout assigned, MOB buttons mashed. That should all happen within 5-10 seconds of an incident—making way at 6 kts you are already more than a hundred feet away in 10 seconds. After that its best to slow down, both the boat and your brain, and plan a safe reciprocal course back to your floating crew. Then you need to sort out how to get them back on board, which you should also have worked out well before you head into open water.



Secretary's Report

Dawn Gibler, Secretary

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

Hello fellow mariners. I hope you all are having a fantastic labor day weekend. I've read that we've got blue water in Galveston bay again. Yeah! Ed and I are visiting our daughter and family in the Florida panhandle for the long weekend and thankfully it looks like we are going to be spared by Dorian. On the personal front, I've got an exciting September ahead of me because I will be retiring from Harris County after 22 years and 9 months of service! I decided it was time to leave the IT world and focus on several volunteer opportunities in the Clear Lake area in addition to beefing up our travel schedule. I'm also looking forward to the TMCA 40th Anniversary party which will be an epic event for sure. I hope to see everyone there and be sure to bring your dancing shoes!

Please help me welcome the following new members that have joined since the last newsletter:

Jim & Nancy Brown

Brian Dixon

Orin Snook

Lorelei Fredericks & Jeffrey Yates

Courney Tucker

Cheers!

Dawn Gibler
Secretary



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

Cookie Johnson, Treasurer

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

From the Desk of the Treasurer

Hard to believe that we are already in September!!! The finances are in good shape, but your treasurer is a little behind this year!! If we need to reconcile a cruise still, please let me know!! See you on the water.

***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 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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