

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

<http://www.tmca.nu>

April 2013



At the Helm

Steve Lee, Commodore

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

I hope April will be as good of a month for us as March has been. We are getting into the active season for both boating and socials with something planned every weekend. When do we ever find time to work on the boat?

I wanted to give a special thank you to Wayne Mulloy and Luke Sterling for all the hard work they put in to make the annual Marker 17 Fish Fry a great success. Also, thank you to my dear wife Bronny for spending countless hours figuring out where to park 28 boats for the event!

Another big success was our participation in the Southwest International Boat Show at South Shore. Many thanks to Kelly & Ken Hutchinson for their leadership in coordinating TMCA's participation, and to all of the volunteers who worked together to man the booth for four days. I know we spread the word about our club and Spring Fling to the many people who visited our booth during the course of the show. Thank you again to all who helped to make this event such a success. To all of the new members who joined TMCA at the Show, Welcome Aboard! You are now part of a great organization and I am sure you will gain much from our club and contribute to our future success.

As far as the business side of the club, things are running very smoothly and we are doing very well. No drama to report on! The 2013 budget has been approved by the board and be copies available at the monthly meeting in April.

Don't forget to send in your Slip Request for the Memorial Day cruise to Moody Gardens, to the club's Post Office Box. We will have the drawing for slips at the monthly meeting on April 19th. If you don't get a slip, Offats Bayou is a great place to anchor out. Don't miss the party!
See you on the water,

***Steve Lee,
Commodore***



The Corner of Vice

Jerry Grooms, Vice Commodore

Email: vcomm@tmca.nu

TMCA's April 19 general meeting at the Elks Club will feature a presentation by Mr. Bruce Bramlett, Executive Director of the Battleship Texas Foundation. The Texas has received quite a bit of publicity over the last year concerning her condition and even some conservation about relocating the ship to another site. As I'm sure you know she resides within the San Jacinto Battleground Park just inside the Port Of Houston.

Each time Phil leads us up to Allen's Landing we cross under the shadow of this historic ship. A couple of weeks ago the Houston Chronicle ran a story about a World War II sailor who visited the Texas for the first time since the War ended.

We all have a vested interest in this historic part of Texas and the United States. Come out, meet with your sailing friends and hear about more the Battleship Texas!

*Jerry Grooms,
Vice Commodore*



At The Port Report

Pam Gasper, Rear Commodore

email: rcomm@tmca.nu

Looking Forward from the Rear

The Easter cruise to Moody Gardens is ready to set sail, and Bron Lee and Barbara Montagnino have planned a nice selection of activities. It's all on the website calendar, so check it out if you haven't already, and give the organizers a call or email if you have any questions. Sounds like a great getaway, and remember that you can drive down to join in the festivities.

The April dock party is Friday, April 5, at the home of Bill and Carolyn Jenko. Their address is 41 Lazy Lane in Kemah. Grills will be hot at 6 pm. Remember to bring a dish to share, chairs, and your beverage and meat of choice.

You will want to get an early start the next morning, Saturday, April 6, as TMCA's annual flea market will be held at the Elks Lodge. The bargaining commences at 0700.

Saturday, April 27 is a day you won't want to miss. There is a raft-up cruise to Noah's Ark, followed by dinner at Noah's upstairs dining area. The party on land begins at 4 pm, and Ben Reyna will be entertaining. We will be eating from the menu so members will be responsible for their own food and bar tabs. The staff at Noah's will need a headcount, so watch and listen for more information on reservations and deadlines.

We are early into 2013, but all of our parties have been really well attended. A very sincere thank you to all of the organizers (and the party-goers, too). If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please call me at 832-444-4751.

Party on!

Pam Gasper
Rear Commodore



The Cruise Corner

Pieter Wybro, Cruise Captain

email: captain@tmca.nu

March had some great cruises with plentiful wind, and there were several on-water events:

The Buffalo Bayou Kayak Trip led by Linda Schoene was a great success. This is the third year for this adventure, which is a really cool and different TMCA trip. The weather was equally cool with a strong north wind, but all 18 TMCAérs who signed up participated in the 7 ½ mile course starting at Memorial Park and ending at the Sabine Street Lofts. The cruisers then topped off the morning in good fashion at Ninfa's on Navigation.

The legacy annual TMCA Fish Fry and St. Patrick's Day at Oak Island led by Doc Mulloy was a fun-filled cruise. There were 24 boats, including several first-timers, that participated, and several TMCAérs came by car and land yacht, filling up Beason Park and the overflow at Marker 17. The blustery SE winds that prevailed during the weekend made for lively voyages over and back but did not dampen the revelry and camaraderie that was had by all who came. Although water levels were unusually high, some boat groundings occurred due to the high winds blowing them outside the normal channels. In true TMCA fashion, they were quickly unstuck and sent on their way by the rescue team ably led by Capt. Ross Heard.

The March Madness Cruise to Bayland Marina was postponed to a later date due to forecasted high north winds and the in-water boat show at South Shore harbor. Stay tuned for a new date to be advised shortly.

At the time of writing this newsletter, the Easter cruise to Moody Gardens is upcoming. All slips have been filled and there is a waiting list and a few boats are planning to anchor out. A fun-filled extended weekend with activities at the marina, and Galveston venues are planned, and the weather forecast is good with moderate SE winds and slight rain chance.

My prognosis is April will bring us plenty of good weather and lots of cruising time. Here is a preview for the April cruises:

The **Walkabout Cruise to Freeport and Army Hole** will depart April 6 and return April 14. This is a great new cruise led by Steve and Bron Lee, and is the first extended cruise of the year. At writing, ten boats are signed up to go to marinas at Freeport, Matagorda, and Costa Grande, and then anchor at Army Hole. Some boats then head further west, and the rest return via Matagorda and Harborwalk and then home to Kemah or join Rick Stewart's cruise anchoring at Bubbas for dinner. Sign-up for the cruise by calling Steve or Bron at 281-802-9838, or email at steve.lee371@gmail.com or a message on Yahoo.

The **Bubbas anchor for dinner cruise April 13-14** will be led by Rick Stewart. This will be an afternoon sail on the bay, anchor and dingy in (or hitch a ride) for dinner at Bubba's Restaurant on Eagle Point in San Leon. Bubbas is well known for its scrumptious all you can eat shrimp and catfish. You can moonlight sail home or enjoy a night at anchor and shared breakfasts on host boats. Contact Rick Stewart at rstewart@argonenergy.com or 832-492-2450.

The **Galveston Art Walk Cruise April 20-21** will be led by Phillip Kropf. At present, all 5 slips have filled for Harbor House, but a waiting list has started. Also, boats can go to Galveston Yacht Basin and then join up at the Strand for a late-afternoon docktails, and then the ArtWalk. There is also the land yacht option. ArtWalk on The Strand is a fun event, and also on Saturday afternoon is another event "Saint Arnolds Brewery Returns to 1877 Tall Ship Elissa For History On Tap". Lots to do! Contact Philip Kropf 713-598-6454 or pkropf@flash.net

The **Lake Charles Cruise April 26 to May 5** will be led by Ron and Linda Gerdes. Ten boats have signed up for this cruise. This cruise will be to the Lake Charles Municipal Marina which is on the lake and near the restaurants and town. The cruise will also coincide with the Contraband Days festival and activities, and because of these events, slips fill up fast and there are no slips available at the time of writing. Cruise Leader: Ron Gerdes rgerdes3211@msn.com

The **Noah's Ark Anchor Out April 27th** will be led by J.J. Wallace. This is a "CRUISE/PARTY" to Noah's Ark open to everyone. At writing, about 25 boats are signed up. Reservations are requested for a Head-Count only. You can come by boat or car. Noah's Ark is located in Baycliff right on the water. Contact J.J. Wallace jhw Wallace@aol.com

Finally, you need to start thinking about the **Memorial Day Weekend at Moody Gardens May 25-27.** We have reserved all the slips at the marina for a fun-filled weekend! This has always been one of the most popular cruises of the year. Slip assignment will be made by the new lottery system. The cruise leaders Barb and Josh Wallach will have slip request form available on the website, and you will need to complete the form, mail it with a check for \$130 to the TMCA Post Office box or bring it to the April 19th TMCA general meeting, and then the lucky winners will be drawn at the April 19th TMCA general meeting!

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](mailto:secretary@tmca.nu)

Spring has arrived and everyone is so excited to get back out on the water. We have had a few cruises and parties already and the attendance has been phenomenal. The In the Water Boat Show was a huge success. We signed up quite a few new members but we talked to literally hundreds of people about our club. That is potentially many new members!!!! Thanks to Kelly and Ken Hutchinson for all of their hard work in setting up the booth and thanks to all the volunteers who manned the booth. It was a fun show.

Our membership numbers are looking great. At last count we had 415 paid members and that number does not count the new members from the boat show. It would be awesome if everyone could invite someone to our next meeting which will be on April 19. Invite your dock slip neighbor or a boating buddy. Let them see what a fun group we have and the educational aspects of what we have to offer. We should also be able to sign up more new members thru Spring Fling which will be coming up the middle of May. By the way, there are still slips available for Spring Fling. If you have not made a reservation, there is still time.

See you at our next event or hopefully on the water!!!!

*Barbara Nickelson,
Secretary*



Dollars And "Sense" from the Treasurer

Bob Nickelson, Treasurer

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

DOLLARS AND "SENSE" from the TREASURER

Boating from the accountant's eye.... Ever thought on what it cost to run your boat and most of us DON'T even want to know – like the fisherman calculating the cost per pound of trout – we all would do our boating or our pleasures of life no matter what the cost.....but just a couple thoughts to ponder.

This is also from the eye of a power boater – I record all my repairs & maintenance costs along with the amount of fuel I purchase. At the first of the year I record my engine hours and then again at the end of the year. All my costs & my engine hours give me how much each hour on the water cost – a surprising number sometimes, of course the more you use your boat the better the number. I use my number for certain tax situations to substantiate write offs for business. This recording also provides a good record of maintenance for your boat.

"Money is like manure. You have to spread it around or it smells" – J. Paul Getty

*Bob Nickelson,
Treasurer*

[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2013 TMCA Officers

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|------------------------|--|---------------------|
| 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 |

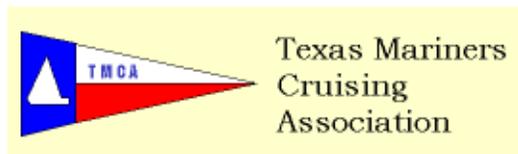
2013 TMCA Trustees

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