

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

<http://www.tmca.nu>

May 2013



At the Helm

Steve Lee, Commodore

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

This year is really flying by very fast for me. I guess what they say about time flying when you're having fun must be true. It seem like I hardly finish writing one newsletter article before it's time to sit down and hammer out another one. This is my third year of writing articles and I hope everyone isn't getting tired of them. I will try my best to be entertaining and informative with my attempts of amateur journalism.

I would like to touch on something that we all do every time we get on our boat... go down the companion way. Since it is something we do so often it is very easy to get careless and step incorrectly or slip on the first step. About five weeks ago I slipped going down to get something that I thought I really needed at the time. It all happened in slow motion with plenty of time to think about what you're going to break this time; you're arm, leg, both, or your skull! I caught hold of the lip of the opening with my left hand as I started my descent down the stairs. This stopped me from knocking a hole through the bottom of the boat with my butt but didn't do my wrist any good. I thought at first I had broken it and had not had anything hurt so much since having knee surgery. At least they give you good pain killers with surgery. For the next couple of weeks I had to be really careful about moving it the wrong way causing great pain. It seems like the older I get the longer it takes to heal. Why didn't I go to the doctor you might ask. I'm a guy and since there wasn't any blood and no bones sticking out I didn't think it was necessary. I guess my point is that it is very easy to have an accident if we get careless. I would ask everyone to refocus on the little things we do and be careful doing things we do without thinking about.

I hope to see everyone at the Spring Fling. This is going to be a great event and I am sure everyone will have a fantastic time.

***Steve Lee,
Commodore***



The Corner of Vice

Jerry Grooms, Vice Commodore

Email: vcomm@tmca.nu

Bruce Bramlett gave a great presentation on the Battleship Texas. Several members plan to take the "hard hat" tour of this historic ship.

The Texas fought in both World War I and II with great honor. The battleship is a national treasure and located within our local area. Go see her and tell Mr. Bramlett how much we appreciate his work to keep her afloat!

Next month we plan a spirited presentation on new electronics for your boat. Yeah I know, how do you do 'spirited' presentations about electronics? Well you just come and see! There is a lot going on in the electronic field and all of us need to know what is happening.

*Jerry Grooms,
Vice Commodore*



At The Port Report

Pam Gasper, Rear Commodore

email: rcomm@tmca.nu

Looking Forward from the Rear

It's here....the long-awaited party at Noah's Ark upstairs under the new palapa. On Saturday, April 27, come by land or by sea, chow down on some tasty food, and listen to the great sounds of long-time TMCA friend and entertainer Ben Reyna. Action starts at 4, but this party is on island time, so get there when you can, and know that you are always welcome! If you raft-up in the Bay, be sure to follow all of the latest reports and postings for getting ashore safely.

May's dock party is Friday, May 3 at Harbour Island on Enterprise Avenue, hosted by the Glascocks and Bertrams. Grills will be hot at 6; bring a dish to share, your beverage of choice, chairs, and, according to the organizers, your smile! If you need more information, contact Lorna Glascock at lornaglascock@yahoo.com or Sue Bertram at susanbertram@hotmail.com.

May's monthly meeting at the Elks is the SECOND Friday, May 10, because Spring Fling is the following weekend. This year's Spring Fling promises to be another great activity! Seminars, raffles, food, and fun.....what more could you want? Be a part of the festivities at Bayland Marina May 17-18. Check the website for details and contact info.

Coming up:

- May 24-26 – Memorial Day weekend at Moody Gardens
- June 7 - Dock party at the Wharf, hosted by the Clarks and Volls
- June 14-16 - Allen's Landing cruise to downtown Houston

TMCA has lots of new faces this year. Come on out and introduce yourself to someone you don't know.

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](mailto:captain@tmca.nu)

Last month we got out of our winter cocoons, got our boats ready for the start of the cruising season, and we have had four cruises last month, some of which had to be altered to accommodate the weather.

The Easter cruise to Moody Gardens, with 15 TMCA boats including two boats that anchored out, had great weather and lots of food, drink and merriment. All boats except one made it back home on Sunday before the storm hit, and the last boat came home safely with a lot of lessons learned about heavy weather tactics that was shared with all of us.

The Walkabout Cruise to Freeport and Army Hole was a new cruise and the first extended cruise of the year. Nine boats started on the venture to Freeport, Matagorda, Costa Grande, Army Hole and Harbor House. Our ultimate destination to the Army Hole anchorage had to be abandoned due to weather, but the group hunkered down and had a great time together, sharing jokes, life experiences, and sea stories.

The Bubbas anchor for dinner cruise was planned as an afternoon sail on the bay and, anchor and dingy in for dinner at Bubba's Restaurant on Eagle Point in San Leon. Unfortunately the strong easterly winds prevented the anchor out, but a great time was had by many who navigated by land yacht.

The Galveston Art Walk Cruise to Harbor House had great weather. The group had a good time at the Art Walk on The Strand and the bonus event "Saint Arnolds Brewery Returns To 1877 Tall Ship Elissa For History On Tap".

The Five Cruises that are “on tap” for May are:

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 to the restaurants, town, and casinos. The cruise will coincide with the Contraband Days festival and activities. 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. 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 jihwalace@aol.com

The **May 4-5 Cinco de Mayo Cruise** at the Beason Park marina on Oak Island is a new cruise event by cruise leader Ken Hutchinson. Some boats will arrive on Friday and some on Saturday and we leave Sunday. The cruise will include a tour of Oak Island by local tour guides followed by Margarita docktails hour with piñata pounding followed by Mexican buffet dinner by local Tita's Mexican Restaurant. Sunday morning is a group breakfast before departing this little paradise. Contact Ken Hutchinson 713-539-5217 and kchtexas@gmail.com .

Spring Fling is May 17 – 19 at Bayland Marina in Baytown. This is shaping up to be another outstanding event with exhibits, demonstrations, great educational sessions, and partying. Some slips are still available; read more about all the activities at the [end of this newsletter](#).

The drawing for slips for **Memorial Day Weekend at Moody Gardens May 25-27** was held at the April 19 TMCA general meeting and the lucky winners were announced. We have reserved all the slips at the marina for this fun-filled weekend, however there is a waiting list started in case there are cancellations! This has always been one of the most popular cruises of the year. Cruise Leaders Josh and Barb Wallach.

The **Cajun Cruise de Lune May 24-27** is a new exploratory cruise led by intrepid adventurers Christopher Bown and Jerry Simoneaux of s/v Tradewind. This cruise destination in the heart of Texan Canjun country will be the magnificent newly refurbished Port Arthur Yacht Club and Marina. It has been a while since TMCA organized a cruise to Port Arthur, so this one will be a familiarization cruise to seek out options and identify hazards along the way. Contact Jerry Simoneaux at jerry@simoneaux.com, 713-577-9587.

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)

Another busy month has flown by. TMCA has had lots of cruises, lots of parties and lots of fun. This spring so far has been crazy - windy, wet and wild. Spring Fling is right around the corner and should be a fun time for all. We still have a few slips available so if you haven't made reservations consider joining us. We have had a lot of new members over the last month or so. Help me welcome the following:

- 1) Brent and Lisa Barnard
- 2) Daniel Doke and Dawn McGee
- 3) Jerry Talley
- 4) John and Catherine Thomas
- 5) Clifford Antonini
- 6) Todd Doster
- 7) John Klumb
- 8) Jeff and Jacqueline Kaspic
- 9) Greg and Keisha Heck
- 10) Ross and Kerri Wenum
- 11) Steve and Susan Muck
- 12) Jimmy and Linda Jones
- 13) Jerry and Melanie Dugat
- 14) Scott and Tamera Buckley
- 15) Bruce Spears
- 16) Ladye Jane Stone
- 17) Josh and JoSue Hernandez
- 18) William and Wendy Pope
- 19) Larry and Zandra Keast
- 20) Adrian Vuyk
- 21) Stuart and Gaye Lynn Zarrow

Our membership is really growing. We now have 470 paid members this year and hopefully Spring Fling will bring us more. We need to encourage our new members to get plugged in. We need their fresh new ideas on things to do and places to cruise. Let's all make it a point to find out who they are and what they like to do.

***Barbara Nickelson,
Secretary***



Dollars And "Sense" from the Treasurer

Bob Nickelson, Treasurer

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

Although we are only four months into 2013, TMCA has seen a lot of financial activity – all for the good. We are ahead on revenues due to memberships being ahead of projections and expenses are in line with our budgeted costs. Cruises, Parties and getting geared up for Spring Fling – pass the word, slips at Bayland Marina are still available – we can always use more guests and members.

Barbara & I are preparing for our latest boat adventure – we leave May 30th to learn the locks on The Erie Canal – with another couple, we have a boat chartered for 10 days – should be quite a learning experience and we will be anxious to fill everyone in when we return.
'Til then.....safe boating to all.

Bob Nickelson,
Treasurer



The Funnest Boating Weekend Of the Year

The **FUNNEST BOATING WEEKEND** is rapidly approaching! Plans are underway for the third annual TMCA Spring Fling May 17-19. This year's event will be at the newly reopened and close-by Baytown Marina, just before the Hartman Bridge.

Spring Fling once again offers exhibits, education sessions, live music, and tons of fun! **New** for this year:

Free Boat Safety Inspections by Coast Guard Auxiliary (at event)

Free Dive Service to inspect the bottom of your boat and zincs by Stonefish Marine (at event)

40% off Quick Haul Service at Seabrook Shipyard. Available now, show your Spring Fling Registration receipt

Exhibits, Seminars, and Demonstrations such as a life sling demo and dinghy repair. Baytown Marina is also by Goose Creek which is perfect for dinghy exploration or a great nature walk.

Entertainment:

Friday

Hotline

Saturday

Mark Morales, Steel Drums

The Navigators

Some slips are still available. Reserve **NOW** at www.TMCASpringFling.com Price for the slip is \$130 which includes two nights slip rental with power, water and 2 free tickets into the event. Additional admittance and meal tickets may also be purchased online.

See You There!

[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2013 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Steve Lee, <i>Waltzing Matilda</i>	281-802-9838
Past Commodore:	Doug Chappell, <i>Dock Trauma</i>	281-330-1163
Vice Commodore:	Jerry Grooms, <i>m/v La Vie Dansante</i>	832-221-1962
Rear Commodore:	Pam Gasper, <i>s/v Kefee</i>	832-444-4751
Cruise Captain:	Pieter Wybro, <i>s/v Marco Polo</i>	281-635-0249
Secretary:	Barbara Nickelson, <i>m/v Docketari</i>	713-899-1098
Treasurer:	Bob Nickelson, <i>m/v Docketari</i>	713-826-7551

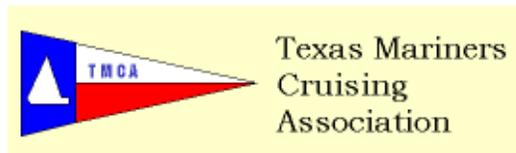
2013 TMCA Trustees

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

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