

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

September 2014



At the Helm

Martin Clark, Commodore

email: commodore@texasmariners.com

September ushers in the fall boating season. TMCA members enjoy several premier boating and social events during the fall. Heading the list are the Allen's Landing Cruise and the Harvest Moon Regatta. The Windemere Mansion Wine Tasting Party is a very popular event. Our calendar is full of cruises and socials to enjoy. Please check out the monthly calendars on our website. If you attend any of the big national boat shows (e.g. Newport, Annapolis), let us know what impressed you about new boats and boating equipment.

Speaking of the website, if you have not done so already, why not take a few minutes to visit our new website, TexasMariners.com. If you have been a member for a while, and used the old TMCA website, logging on is as simple as entering your old user name and the generic tmca2014 password. If that does not work, use the first letter of your first name and your full last name for a user name. If you are still having trouble getting on, our webmaster, Linda Schoene (admin@texasmariners.com), and our secretary, Barbara Nickelson (secretary@texasmariners.com) have a list of the user names from the old website. We can get you on the new website with little effort. Contact either person for assistance. We are proud of this website and we hope you will find it very helpful.

We would like to have your demographic and boat information to help us plan for cruises. Please log on to the Membership link and select My Account to update your information. Adding a photograph would be a great way for everyone to be able to identify you on the dock or on the water.

What better way to show off your membership in TMCA than to deck out in our new logo clothing and hats! We are offering t-shirts for men and ladies, rainwear, embroidered fishing shirts and polo shirts, and caps. Members made purchases at the last two monthly general meetings. Shortly, we will have a catalog page of items available for purchase or for special order (with your boat name) in the Membership section of the website. Take a look and let your boating friends know about your club. Be safe and have fun on the water!

***Martin Clark,
Commodore***



The Corner of Vice

Mary Lou Clark, Vice Commodore

Email: ycomm@tmca.nu

Ahoy TMCA! Happy Labor Day!

It is hard to believe that it is already September. TMCA has had a truly busy year and the time has flown by. We have many more exciting events coming up so I imagine the rest of the year will move swiftly as well. I want to, once again, encourage all members to become active in this wonderful organization. We have so many opportunities for fun, meeting new people and learning more about boating; please try and sample some of the great events that TMCA has

to offer!

A great way to get involved in TMCA is to attend the monthly meetings or a Dock Party. Monthly meetings have a social hour/dinner hour where you can meet and visit with other members and perhaps team up to go on a cruise. The business meeting tells you about upcoming events and how to sign up for them, and the program has helpful information about boating or boating related subjects. Our Dock Parties are just plain fun! You can dress casually, bring a dish to share, a dish to grill, your beverage of choice and a lawn chair and then let the enjoyment begin. You will meet and visit with lots of other members, enjoy some delicious food, visit different places around the lake and have a lovely Friday evening. Both the Monthly Meetings and the Dock Parties take place each month on Fridays. The Dock Parties take place on the first Friday of each month and the Monthly Meetings on the third Friday of each month. There are exceptions to this occasionally, but we will keep you informed about this so that you can make your plans accordingly. These two regular events are a great way to “get your feet wet” with TMCA. After you’ve done them a time or two, then jump on in with the rest of the events and have a wonderful time!

Our next Monthly Meeting will be on September 19, 2014 at the Kemah Elks Lodge at 623 Hanson Rd. in Kemah, Texas. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., dinner orders begin at 6:30 p.m., the business meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. and the Program at 8:00 to 8:15 p.m. Our speaker this month will be Captain Bob Webbon, a Houston Pilot. We have tried for years to get a Houston or Galveston Pilot to speak to TMCA so we are extremely proud to be able to have Captain Webbon on our September agenda. The Pilots are those very capable individuals who board the large vessels and bring them safely in to the Ports of Houston or Galveston. Their job is not an easy one so we will hear some interesting information and stories from Captain Webbon. I look forward to seeing many of you at our September meeting.

Have a wonderful and Safe Labor Day! I’ll see you on the water or at the dock!

***Marylou Clark,
Vice Commodore***



[The Social Scuttlebutt](#)

Bronwyn Lee, Rear Commodore

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

My article this month is being composed at an altitude of 37,000'! Steve and I are returning from five wonderful days in the Pacific Northwest, in Leavenworth, WA, where we attended our son's wedding. With them being rather non-traditional, Charlie and Stacia opted for an outdoor wedding at the lodge where we all stayed, next to the Wenatchee River, with the magnificent Icicle Ridge as the backdrop. It was a spectacular location and we had wonderful weather! Hopefully many of you will meet them later in the year at the Commodore's Ball. OK – back to Rear Commodore business!

As part of the Labor Day cruise to Moody this weekend we've planned several social events. Boaters and land yachters alike are very welcome to attend.

The Moody marina slips are full; however there is slip availability over at Pelican Rest (call direct to reserve at 409-744-2618).

For the social events, just call or email me and let me know if you would like to join us for:

1. Buffet dinner at the Monarch room/Café in the Park at Moody on Aug.30th at 7pm.
It is \$20 per head, plus tax and gratuity. Cash bar. RSVP requested, to get an idea of numbers.
2. Galveston Island Brewing Company tour/tasting on Sunday afternoon Aug.31st at 1pm.
3. Hawaiian Luau on the dock, Sunday Aug.31st at 7pm. Bring dish to share, your drinks and chairs.

Our September dock party will be hosted by Camille & Ernie Rogers at Portofino Harbor marina on Friday September 05. The grills will be hot at 6:30 pm, so bring something to grill, a dish to share, your swimsuits and chairs. Remember NO glass around the pool. The gate code is **0905**, just for this event. This dock party will be a great opportunity to send off all the "Going East" boats and crew; they will be leaving sometime in the week right after this dock party.

Another great party coming up is the Sangria and Sunset cruise to Bayland marina on September 13. Even if you are not bringing your boat, Bayland is an easy drive, so just let Don & Debra Fast know you're coming. They are providing fajitas and sangrias, please bring fixin's or something complimentary to fajitas, drinks and your chairs. More details are on the calendar.

The Wine Tasting at Windemere will be held on Saturday September 27. Be sure to sign up on the new website registration area, where you will see much more information on what to bring and how the actual wine tasting and judging is conducted. Windemere Mansion is a beautiful historical home adjacent to Bal Harbor Yacht Club, behind the Hilton Hotel on NASA Rd. 1. Don't forget your chairs.

Then our October dock party will be hosted by Doc and Monica Mulloy, and friends, at Taylor Crest Park in El Lago. This venue overlooks Taylor Lake and small boats can tie up to the docks. Ben Reyna will be playing old and new favorites for us, along with a mystery performer. This is a lovely time of year, with pleasant evenings, so come out, grill and enjoy a potluck meal with friends.

As a warm up for the Commodore's Ball, Steve and I are leading an overnight cruise to Pelican Rest on Saturday October 04, which we are calling "**The Fall Ball**". We have arranged a buffet dinner on the Terrace, which is adjacent to Number 13 restaurant, for 6:30 pm on Oct. 4th.

The cost is \$25 per head plus tax and gratuity, and a cash bar will be available.

IMPORTANT: For dinner reservations please call or email me at 281-844-0667 or bronlee.tx@gmail.com

In keeping with the theme, wear your fanciest T-shirts & deck shoes, like a tux and tennies gala!

For really 'elegant' T-shirts, check out www.tuxedo-tshirts-online.com

For all kinds of deck shoes, check out www.westmarine.com ! (Or wear your comfy, every day ones)

For slip reservations please contact Pelican Rest direct at 409-744-2618 or Bryce@pelicanrest.com

I hope to see many of you at some or all of these parties!

*Bronwyn Lee
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!*



The Cruise Corner

Jim Lee, Cruise Captain
email: captain@tmca.nu

Wow! It's Labor Day already - where has the summer gone? TMCA has had a great cruising summer and we are not slowing down. Get out and enjoy some TMCA cruises before this fantastic cruising season is over.

The website is coming along, check out the Cruising tab and then click on Cruising Destinations and also 2014 Cruises. Let me know what you think and, as we continually improve the website, we are always looking for member suggestions <http://texasmariners.com>

We had these fives cruises in August

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|-----------|---|
| Aug 9-10 | Bayland Cruise - Catfish Fry |
| Aug 16-18 | Harborwalk Cruise – Wig Out Cruise |
| Aug 23-24 | Galveston Art Walk Cruise to Harbor House |
| Aug 29-31 | Labor Day Cruise to Moody Gardens |
| Aug 29-31 | Freeport Blues Festival Cruise |

We have these cruises in September and October:

Sep 6	Open Cruise Week-end after the Friday night dock party
Sept 13-14	Sangria and Sunset cruise to Bayland Marina
Sept 20	Voyage of Exploration on Trinity River
Oct 4-5	"Fall Ball" at Pelican Rest Cruise, Galveston
Oct 9-12	Harvest Moon Regatta
Oct 17-19	Cruise to Allen's Landing on Buffalo Bayou
Oct 31 – Nov 2	Double Bayou Halloween Cruise & Pasture Clean

To see full cruise details and sign up go to <http://texasmariners.com> and make sure you are watching Yahoo Groups at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/tmcamariners/info>

And plan for these in cruises November and December.

November 14-16	Chilly Chili Cruise at Beason Marina at Oak Island
November 27-30	Zee French Picnic Cruise at the Double Bayou Pasture
December 6-7	Dickens on the Strand Cruise to Harbor House in Galveston
December 15	Christmas Boat Parade

That's it for now. Be safe, stay cool, hydrate and see you on the water.

*Jim Lee,
Cruise Captain*



Secretary's Report

Barbara Nickelson, Secretary

email: secretary@tmca.nu

Excitement is building in the Nickelson household as we are preparing to put our home on the market. Plans to move aboard Docketari are under way. It is a rather frightening thing to sell your home and either sell or store all of your furnishings. But the thought of a simple life of cruising and relaxing for a few years is enough to get me through the fear. As I talk to our live aboard members, I realize what a different way of life it is. We look forward to traveling to new places and giving our children opportunities to visit us in places that they might not otherwise get to go. I think it is going to be fun and adventurous.

Due to our crazy schedule this summer, we have not been able to make the last several trips or parties. We missed the Catfish Fry at Bayland and we missed the Harborwalk cruise. I have heard nothing but good things about both of these cruises as well as several other events. Really sorry we

could not make it. However we are looking forward to the Freeport cruise. We have never been to this marina so we are anxious for a new place to spend a long weekend and hear some great music. Should be a lot of fun!!!

Our membership has been slowly growing. We have several new members to welcome to our club. They are as follows:

- 1) John and Marcia Lutostanski
- 2) Sam and Pat Crowder
- 3) John and Diana Wilson
- 4) Kevin MacNeill
- 5) Jim and Jacqueline Picone
- 6) Ronald and Songa Gremillion

Hope you are cruising a lot and enjoying this fabulous summer. When you look around the world and see the different things that are going on you just can't help but to feel blessed that we live in a country where we can live the lifestyle that we all live and feel safe to do the things that we love to do. Be safe, be strong, be smart, and be venturous!!!!

As always,

***Barbara Nickelson,
Secretary***

Dollars And "Sense" from the Treasurer

Bob Nickelson, Treasurer

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



Where has the year gone? When I was young, my parents often said the older you get, the faster time goes by – I'm really seeing that coming true. (Not that I'm getting old) I complain sometimes about having too much on our plate, and then I realize how lucky we are to have full plates with all of our boating activities and TMCA friends.

Barbara & I started thinking about 35 years ago (see how time flies) about retirement on a boat – we are now in the "Red Zone" and can see the goal line – we plan to move aboard by the end of the year and are looking for more adventures – I feel sorry for people that have to say, "I wish I would have done that".

For those new to boating, use the experiences and knowledge of TMCA members to expand your horizons – there are no "new" mistakes that occur on the water – the important thing is, by learning from others is, how do you handle the mistakes – best example, "you think you're going slow – go slower"

Happy Boating – Be Safe.....

***Bob Nickelson,
Treasurer***

Community Liaison Committee Chair



Philip Kropf
PKropf@flash.net

It's September, and cooler-weather fall cruising will soon be with us! In the meantime, here is both some continuing and some new information...

1. The **Barbours Cut** deepening project is now underway. As previously noted, there is no impact on recreational boaters since that waterway is a USCG Security Zone and thus off-limits. And there are no dredge pipelines crossing any of our cruising routes. The **Bayport Channel** deepening and widening project will be getting underway very soon and, even with my various contacts, I am having some difficulty in getting specific *advance* information from the Port of Houston Authority on planned pipeline routes to the dredge spoils placement area on the east side of the HSC. On a POHA website it now says:

Q: Will dredging activities impact sailing circles in Galveston Bay?

A: The project will be in and alongside the channel. Dredge pipelines that extend to the placement areas will be well marked when floating, or will be submerged below the channel or laid along the bay bottom with appropriate markers. The dredge pipeline route can be expected to be similar to previous federal dredging jobs that have used the PA 15 dredge material placement area. PHA will work closely with Orion Construction, L.P., to ensure safety precautions are taken throughout the duration of the project and to provide information and a drawing of the final location where the pipeline is placed on this website, once available. Any recreational boaters with additional questions should call the PHA Community Information Line at 713-670-1000.

I am working to get more information for you, and if some more detailed information becomes available between now and the October newsletter, I will of course get it out there to the membership.

2. As has been noted previously, there is a place on the **Lone Star Harbor Safety Committee** (www.lonestarhsc.org) website where I have placed certain very important information of interest to recreational boaters. Some of this information has previously been available on the old TMCA website, but is not currently on the new website, and one of my "jobs" as the Recreational Boater Representative to this committee is to maintain this section of the LSHSC website. To access the list of 9 articles and weblinks go to the "Resources" tab of the website and then scroll down to the section entitled: "For the Recreational Boater", or you can just click this link directly: <http://www.lonestarhsc.org/resources.php>. (You still do have to scroll down.) Please read and become familiar with these important documents!!!.

3. As mentioned last month, I actively pursue interesting and knowledgeable people whom I meet in various meetings which I attend and then suggest them to Vice Commodore Marylou as potential TMCA speakers! So in August we had as our guest

Captain Brian Penoyer, USCG Commander of Sector Houston-Galveston and Captain of the Port, and all who attended I think will agree that he gave an entertaining and also very informative presentation!

It has been quite a few years since we have had a Houston Pilot come talk to us, and so for the September 19th meeting we have signed up **Captain Bob Webbon** of the **Houston Pilots**. (<http://houston-pilots.com/>). In addition to being a harbor pilot, Bob is also a sailor, and he should have some interesting insights on the interactions between recreational vessels and commercial vessels on the Houston Ship Channel. (A *very* informative video about the **Houston Pilots**, which you might wish to take a look at ahead of time, can be found by clicking [here](#), and a second equally-interesting video about **Texas Harbor Pilots** in general is accessible by clicking [here](#).)

4. The next monthly lecture at the **Houston Maritime Museum** (<http://www.houstonmaritimemuseum.org/>) will be on September 9th and is entitled “**The Bicentennial Project of the Port of Houston: A Pictorial History of the Port**” presented by artist Judith-Ann Saks. For more information on this program click [here](#).

5. The 4th annual **Maritime Youth Expo** is coming up on the morning of September 6th at the Bayport Cruise Terminal. For information on this event go to: <http://www.txgulf.org/maritimeyouthexpo.php> . If you have a child, or grandchild, who is maybe looking for *great* career opportunities, then this event is for them!

6. And once again, this will be the same day and same location that afternoon for a major public event, the **Centennial Family Festival** celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Houston Ship Channel. There is some information about this event that you can access [here](#), and there is also more in the scanned image below.

If any readers have comments, questions, ideas, or information on events that I may not know about, then I would definitely like to hear from you!

Philip Kropf
Community Liaison Committee Chair

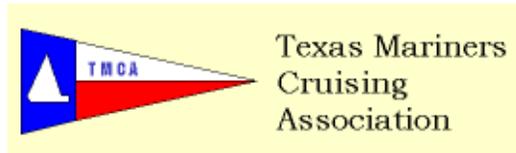
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2014 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Martin Clark, m/v Impulsive	281-435-1253
Past Commodore:	Steve Lee, s/v Waltzing Matilda	281-802-9838
Vice Commodore:	Marylou Clark, m/v Impulsive	281-435-7428
Rear Commodore:	Bron Lee, s/v Waltzing Matilda	281-844-0667
Cruise Captain:	Jim Lee, m/v Almost Paradise	713-828-5133
Secretary:	Barbara Nickelson , m/v Docketari	713-899-1098
Treasurer:	Bob Nickelson, m/v Docketari	713-826-7551

2014 TMCA Trustees

Trustee 2011 Commodore	Doug Chappell	Dock Trauma	281-330-1163
Trustee 2008 Commodore	Marion Herndon		281-703-9322
Trustee 2010 Commodore	Ron Eddleman	s/v Stellar of Course	936-328-7361
Trustee 2002 Commodore	Gloria Rooney	s/v St. Somewhere	281-499-4413



Please send any articles you would like included in the TMCA Mariner to TMCA Mariner Editor at newsletter@tmca.nu

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