

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

February 2016



At the Helm

Jerry Simoneaux, Commodore

email: Commodore@TexasMariners.com

What a January we had! Whether you wanted to party and meet new folks, dream along with other members on a vicarious escape to clear blue waters, or plan fun for the upcoming year, there was something for everyone last month. And there is no sign of us slowing down as you will read in this newsletter. I am happy to announce that state of the club is FUNtastic!

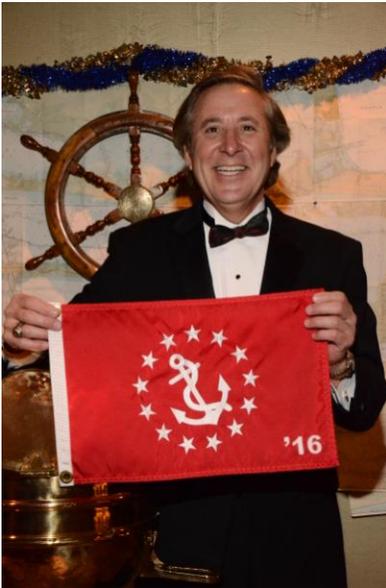
TMCA offers so much for its members. Great dock parties and special events, cruises near and far, and all kinds of other opportunities to enjoy boating with new and longtime friends. But, probably the most important thing we offer is the ability to leave behind our normal routines and our work-a-day lives. We become our true selves

interested in just having a great time. It's like a mini vacation each time we get together.

If you haven't participated in an event, meeting, or cruise in a while—or ever—I encourage to look through our calendar, pick something that interests you and go. Even if you don't know very many folks, just go! You will be warmly welcomed and you will leave with sore smile muscles.

Until next time, throw off those bowlines...catch the trade winds.... Explore! Dream! Discover!

***Jerry Simoneaux,
Commodore***



The Corner of Vice

Charles Parette, Vice Commodore

Email: ViceCommodore@TexasMariners

Wow! January flew by! In this area, it's always boating season, as long as we don't have a big north wind. This is the time to complete your boat maintenance, get your Clean Water decal, and prepare for your boating safety inspection. Make sure your lights work, and your flares are in date.

We had a great member orientation meeting, and for our January general meeting, a great program from Tom and Deb Taylor, giving us the highlights from their 7 month cruise in 2015. For our women on the water, 19 TMCA women members signed up for women's engine course conducted by the Galveston Bay Sail and Power Squadron.

The February meeting will be February 19 at the Elks Lodge, 623 Hanson Road, in Kemah. Socializing begins at 6:00 p.m., dinner orders start to be taken at 6:00 p.m., business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the program starts at 8:00 p.m. Our speakers will be Iris and Terry McMahon. In Oct 2002 they sailed from Texas and made it to Australia. They sold the boat in 2007 and went to France, purchased a canal barge, spending 4 years cruising the canals. They have a book titled "You go, I'll fly to meet you". This will be a very interesting presentation. Come enjoy dinner and drinks at great prices. Be sure to bring your name badge.

If you have a topic of special interest, or know a person would be an interesting speaker, please let me know.

***Charles Parette,
Vice Commodore***



The Social Scuttlebutt

Ladye Jane Stone, Rear Commodore

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

January was very active with the Planning meeting, Orientation and Bunko! While *Pier Pressure* was adjusting to her new slip in Portofino, I was learning various aspects of my new role.

The Planning meeting was well attended and Christopher and I were able to place many social events and cruises on the calendar. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to host an event and please enter info on the calendar even if it is several months out. There are still several

open dates that we can fill with some fun activities, so please contact me to discuss any ideas you might have.

The Bunko party was a blast! It was my first time to play and I can see why it is a favorite and has become an annual event. It is a great way for old and new members to socialize and Karen Chappell did a great job as MC and helping coordinate everything. Everyone enjoyed soup and deserts and there was even some dancing with the disco ball.

Saturday, Jan. 30th was the annual Yachty Gras parade – Kemah's boat version of a Mardi Gras parade complete with festive decorations and bead throwing. If you weren't able to experience it, I highly recommend joining in the fun next year.

February starts off with Brady's Landing on Friday 5th at 6:30pm for cocktails and dinner and then Mardi Gras at Fish Tales in Galveston on Sat. 6th at 3:00pm. Good food, beads, revelry and our own King & Queen will be crowned at 5:00pm, so you don't want to miss it. Sat. 13th is the rescheduled Cupid Christmas Boat Parade – I think this may be a mix of decorations from Christmas, Yachty Gras and Valentines ... should be interesting and festive viewing! But, we're not done yet! Another event appeared on the calendar for Sat. 27th – a Motown 60 Party at Portofino! 'Mercy Mercy Me!' that should be a fun celebration! Hope to see you there.

Registration is open for all of these events, so please log in on the website to get more details and sign up.

We are working on the TMCA Cook Book and have already received several recipes. We hope to have the title, cover, categories and additional info ready to present at our next meeting. Please send your favorite recipes, along with a brief story, your name and boat to lfriemel@airmail.net

I am looking for volunteers for the Social Committee and various events, so if you have interest in helping with any, please contact me! It's more fun when you get involved!

Ladye Jane Stone
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!



The Cruise Corner

Christopher Bown, Cruise Captain

email: Captain@TexasMariners.com

Well, we did it again. January's planning meeting was one of the best that I have attended. We had suggestions from everyone along with lots of new volunteers. We're starting with 32 cruises scheduled for 2016, and more will be added throughout the year. All the favorites are back on the calendar and we have added a couple of new ones.

Spring Fling is scheduled over Memorial Day weekend in Port Arthur, and this year it's bigger and better. The Spring Fling committee decided that since so many people showed up early last year that they would extend Spring Fling to an additional day. We will have classes and vendors on Friday and Saturday, plus a lot of fun activities. Stay tuned!

This will be the first year that TMCA has scheduled a cruise to Cuba. The dates are June 16th to June 23rd. If you are interested in going you need to contact me soon. We will be departing out of Stock Island Marina in Key West. We are also being allowed to stage other TMCA boats at the same Marina. This is going to be a truly exciting cruise for TMCA and it will probably end up being a yearly event.

Our February cruise will be a one day cruise titled Margarita Day Cruise to Redfish. Jill Taylor and Dan Spradley will be leading this cruise on the good ship "Mr. Happy". It will be on Saturday, February 20th. Check the TMCA calendar for more details.

One additional note. The TMCA Board decided to change the registration rules for signing up for cruises. This year, registration for cruises will open approximately 60 days in advance of the cruise. The only cruises affected will be special holiday cruises to Moody Gardens or marinas with a limited number of slips. We are returning to a first-come, first served registration for these cruises. The drawings were implemented to resolve the issue of registration by mail when it was not easy to determine the order when multiple envelopes arrived at the same time. Now that we have a way to register online and be able to know in an objective way who signs up first, we will no longer need to hold drawings for slips. This change will also help our members make their holiday plans well in advance of the cruise date. We will try to open registration on a Saturday mornings at 8:00. That way if you don't get a slip reservation you will be able to make other plans. Our group is growing and the Board felt that we needed to make it as fair as possible.

Don't forget that you can always make suggestions for additional cruises or social events.

Our next monthly meeting is Friday, February 19th at 6:00 pm at the Elks Lodge.

Christopher Bown
Cruise Captain



Secretary's Report

Kathy Houser, Secretary

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

February...what a fun month we have ahead of us! Dock party this Friday night, Mardi Gras Saturday in Galveston, and Valentine's Day. I hope you all will be taking advantage of these fun events.

Membership Renewal: Since last month we have been receiving many renewals for membership but we still need to hear from many of you. If you have paid, thank you and if you have not, I encourage you to go online, update your information, renew your 2016 dues by PayPal, or send me a check along with the renewal form below to Texas Mariners Cruising Association, P.O Box 946, Kemah, TX 77565 before the **"Grace Period" ends on February 29th**. Dual Membership is \$50 and a Single Membership is \$35. After February 29th you will be charged a reinstatement fee of \$20 so please send in

your dues.

We have several new members this month so please join me in welcoming them:

- Peggy Youtz
- Mike Williams
- Randy and Katherine Martin
- Ryk and Doreen Williams
- Lamy and Wendy Chopin
- Chip Demers and Ruth San Luis
- Tom Benson
- Ty and Tracie Keeth
- Greg and Susan Istre
- Jackie Garrett
- Lloyd and Kate Francis
- Rick Slan
- Paul and Lana Floyd
- Rick and Julie Comeaux
- Stacy and Sherry Jones

If you would like a TMCA badge, new or old please let me know and I will make one for you. They will be ready for you at our next monthly meeting. If you need a Burgee, I have those too!

Look forward to seeing you sometime this month

Kathy Houser
Secretary



Dollars And "Sense" from the Treasurer

Neil Houser, Treasurer

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

Greetings and Happy 2016! This has been an amazing month for me as your treasurer. This past month has been one of the busiest, most challenging and fun times that anyone can have. TMCA has planned a fascinating year of social events, both on land and sea. We have a strong membership base and the financial reserve to exceed our expectations. I hope you enjoy this year as much as I will.

Thank you from your humble bean counter.

***Neil Houser,
Treasurer***



TMCA Membership Renewal

Type of Membership: Single Membership Dual Membership

Captain: _____ Co-Captain: _____

Address: _____

Captain Email: _____ Captain Cell: _____

Co-Captain Email: _____ Co-Captain Cell: _____

Home Phone: _____ Boat Name: _____

Length: _____ Make: _____ Marina: _____

Dues are \$50 for Dual Membership and \$35 for Single Membership.

Your check should be made out to TMCA and mailed with this Completed Form to TMCA, PO Box 946, Kemah, TX 77565 or brought to the monthly meeting at the Elks Club in Kemah. You can also pay through PayPal by going through the TMCA website in the registration area (See instructions below). All credit cards are accepted.

Please include this form with your dues. Make sure all information is included before mailing your check and this form. We will be updating our membership database with this information. It is also extremely important that you also register your information into the website data base. Thank you for your help!

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

The undersigned, hereinafter referred to as Member(s), by completing and executing this application *enters* into a Membership Agreement with Texas Mariners Cruising Association, hereinafter referred to as TMCA. Accordingly, Member(s) understands and agrees that *one of the* primary purposes of TMCA is to plan and conduct cruises along the coast and inland waters of the Gulf of Mexico, adjacent waters and occasionally to and in other locations designated by TMCA. The TMCA Cruise Committee may, from time to time, plan such cruises and designate member(s) as coordinators of such cruises. Member(s) understands and agrees that during such cruises, TMCA, its officers, committee members, designated cruise leaders, and others shall not, under any circumstances, be responsible for the safety of Member's passenger(s) or vessel(s). During such cruises, Member(s) agrees to hold harmless TMCA, it's officers, committee members, designated cruise leaders in their capacity as officers, from and against all damages to Member(s) vessel(s) and/or injuries of whatever kind to Member(s) and/or Member's passenger(s). Member further understands and agrees that during such cruises, Member(s) is solely responsible for the safe passage of his/her vessel(s) and for his/her full compliance with and observance of all applicable rules, regulations and laws of all applicable organizations and governments.

This application and Agreement shall constitute a binding agreement between the parties hereof and shall remain in effect until its expiration and/or termination of the membership, in accordance with the bylaws of TMCA.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Captain _____ Co-Captain _____



Renewing Dues via TMCA Web Site

www.TexasMariners.com

Log on to the TMCA web site

Go to **Membership** → **My Account**

Click **Edit** → **Update Your Profile** to update your information. You can update your user name, profile photo, contact information, change your password, and add/update your boat photo. When completed, scroll to bottom and click **Save**.

Renewing Membership

Once you're logged in, click **Membership** → **My Account** → **Membership** Tab. Select **Renew Now** to keep your current membership status (keep current single or dual membership), or **Upgrade** to change your current membership level (switch to different membership level).

You now have the choice to renew now by any credit card via PayPal (click **Subscribe**) or mail in a check (click **Pay Offline**)

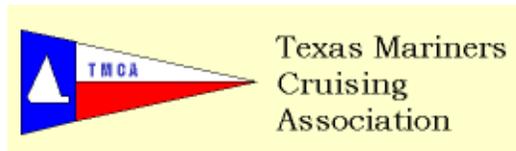
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2016 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Jerry Simoneaux, s/v Tradewind	713-577-9587
Past Commodore:	Bob Nickelson, m/v Docketari	713-899-1098
Vice Commodore:	Charles Parette, m/v Andiamo	713-817-8263
Rear Commodore:	Ladye Jane Stone, s/v Pier Pressure	713-724-3535
Cruise Captain:	Christopher Bown, s/v Tradewind	713-577-9583
Secretary:	Kathy Houser, m/v Attitude Adjustment	281-804-4122
Treasurer:	Neil Houser, m/v Attitude Adjustment	281-772-4838

2016 TMCA Trustees

Trustee 2011	Commodore Doug Chappell	Koastal Kabana	281-330-1163
Trustee 2008	Commodore Marion Herndon		281-743-4230
Trustee 2012-13	Commodore Steve Lee	s/v Waltzing Matilda	281-802-9838
Trustee 1984-85	Commodore Wayne Christopher		281-761-4233



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