

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

January 2017



At the Helm

Charles Parette, Commodore

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

2017 has started with lots of activities. The planning meeting went great, thanks to all of the volunteers who helped set up, cleanup, and to those who agreed to lead cruises, hold dock parties, or plan other events.

The Spring Fling Committee has already started the planning for our big Memorial Day cruise to Port Arthur. Be sure to check the TMCA calendar, and get dates blocked on your calendars. If you're interested in helping at any of our events, or have some time to volunteer for any committees, please contact any officer.

If you're a new member, or an old member getting back into our club's activities, wear your name tag to our events. Walk up to someone you don't know, and say hi, find out what kind of boat they have, or want, and you'll have a new friend. Some folks want to sit quietly by themselves, but I've found that the bulk of our members love running in a pack. We have lots of members who've been out cruising, chat them up, and learn the ins and outs of "living the dream".

Please pay your dues for 2017, and update your profiles for your boats which will make it easy for you when registering for a boating event www.texasmariners.com

Our members can get information about what's going on with the club via

www.facebook.com/groups/TMCAgroup

And <https://groups.yahoo.com/tmcamariners>

**Charles Parette,
Commodore**



[The Corner of Vice](#)

Larry Friemel, Vice Commodore

Email: ViceCommodore@TexasMariners

What a great month we had in January! The planning and member orientation meetings were very successful with excellent attendance and member participation. Our guest speakers from the Galveston Bay Foundation provided us with interesting information on important water quality programs that affect our local waters. Including, how our members can participate to help keep our bay waters in good shape for the future.

TMCA cruising season will soon start and I took advantage of the mild weather to complete many of the annual maintenance task on our boat. One of the items was inspection of our shore power connections. I inspected the entire length of the cables for cuts, cracks and overall condition. This included the plug connectors, to make sure they were clean with no discoloration from getting hot. Dirt and salt can cause plug connectors to run hot which can lead to overheating problems and possible failure. Also, this is the time of the year I check those signal flare expiration dates and wouldn't you know it's time to buy new ones again!

I want to thank everyone for their suggestions on interesting topics for our monthly meeting presentations. Please keep sharing your ideas with me and I will do my best to find knowledgeable speakers in those areas. We have a busy month of parties and cruises planned for February so check the website and weekly notifications for all the latest details.

Be safe out there and I hope to see you soon!

***Larry Friemel,
Vice Commodore***



[The Social Scuttlebutt](#)

Lori Friemel, Rear Commodore

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

Being with friends on a cruise to Moody Gardens was definitely the way to bring in the new year. An exhilarating (read cold) tour of Ice Land with ice chairs and ice slide (Go Vicki!), festival of lights and lighted bottle drop at midnight made this a celebration to remember. This event was so much fun it was added to the cruise calendar at the Planning Meeting!

January was an active month with the Planning Meeting, Member Orientation and Bunko! I hope everyone was able to attend an event or two.

The Planning Meeting was very well attended. We added many cruises and social events to the calendar. Thank you to all that came and participated and especially to those that volunteered to

host an event or cruise. There are still some available dates on the calendar so if you would like to add an event please let me know.

Wow, Bunko was an event not to miss! Everyone enjoyed the delicious soups, food, socializing and dice playing. Marylou Clark did a fabulous job as MC and helping coordinate the event. To all the volunteers, game helpers, table lenders and those that help in so many ways a big thank you, all efforts were appreciated. There were requests for another Bunko party later in the year; if anyone would like to host this event later in the year please let me know!

We have some fun events coming up so step out and join in the fun. Friday, Feb 3rd at 6:30pm **Sailor's Valentine Dock Party** at the Kemah Boardwalk Marina. Bring a gift for your Sailor Valentine and enjoy an evening under the stars. A special toast to all Sailor's Valentines at 7:30pm.

Women on the Water at the Elks Lodge is February 11. This is a class for women, taught by women. Learn the basics and so much more! This is a fun, relaxed class with lots of hands on instruction. Meet other women members and talk in a comfortable setting. Sorry, no boys allowed!

Saturday, Feb 18 at 7pm the **18th Annual Yachty Gras Boat Parade**- the nautical version of Mardi Gras and "America's largest Mardi Gras Boat Parade." Decorate your boat and join the parade or enjoy the decorations and catch some beads!

Saturday, Feb 25th at 4:30pm **Mardi Gras Party** at Fish Tales, Galveston. Super special TMCA price for the VIP party upstairs with live music & wondermous buffet! Toss beads and view the Grand Momus parade from the balcony. This is such a fun event every year and even better to be upstairs!

We have a fun filled month ahead so come socialize and make some memories. Don't forget to check the website for event details and to register for events and cruises. And remember, I will not lead you into temptation, however I will show you where temptation is should you wish to seek it!

Lori Friemel

Rear Commodore

TMCA Knows Fun!!



[The Cruise Corner](#)

Ken Ekenseair, Cruise Captain

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

I cannot tell you how excited I was at the turn out for the planning meeting. We had 80 people there! The calendar has been updated and waiting on you to put your info about the cruise on the calendar. If you chose a marina please get with that marina to book the slips you need. If you have one of the Moody Cruises, it has already been taken care of. For those that have Job Beason or Moody and do not have the calculator please get with me. It makes a world of difference to get the boats in the right slips.

We still have room for a few more cruises, and we can have more than 1 on weekend also. With 800 members we have plenty of people. I was so impressed with all the new members that attended the planning meeting and that got involved!

The first cruise will be February 24-26 for Mardi Gras at the Galveston Yacht Basin. It's that weekend that we have an event at Fishtails also. If you want to play on the Strand for a day or two, eat at some great restaurants and meet up with our TMCA friends at Fishtails, this is the cruise for you! Saturday morning we will do a breakfast to share with Bloody Mary Bar! At GYB we have a special TMCA slip fee of \$1/foot. Sign up on the website and you will get further info.

First Cruise of the YEAR!

So let's start having some FUN!

Ken Ekenseair

Cruise Captain

TMCA – Cruising The World



Secretary's Report

Kathy Houser, Secretary

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

Hello Cruisers!

Well now that I am retired, I'm never sure what day or time it is and do I care.....not really. Neil and I get up in the morning, get our coffee and sit with our two cats on our laps watching the morning news. After a while, we look at each other and say "What do we want to do today?" And of course, our response is "Any darn thing we want to." It is such a great feeling and I love having the extra time to spend with the love of my life.

Well February is here and Neil and I are getting ready for Mardi Gras in Galveston. TMCA is planning a great weekend so I'm hoping you all will join in on the festivities. "Throw me some

beads mister!"

Now for TMCA business. Dues are due so please go on line and pay by any credit card via the PayPal payment system or send a check to TMCA, P.O. Box 946, Kemah, TX 77565-0946.

February 28 is the date where you can renew without having to pay a reactivation fee.

We have several new members in January, so please help me welcome them:

- Michael Brenneman and Sandy Watson
- Wesley McNeely and Laurel Spence
- Linda Hill
- Donna and Travis Fuller
- Stephanie and Joel Turner
- Itsy Vandenburg
- Michael and Maggie Joplin
- Jack Davis
- John Bartges and Lisa Speer
- Jason and Laura Thomas
- Richard and Mary Fisher
- Ney and Debbie Greene
- Carmen Fitzgerald and Sterling Carothers

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,

Kathy Houser
Secretary



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

Cookie Johnson, Treasurer

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

From the Treasurer!!

Happy February TMCA clan! Our first party and cruise is underway and we have seen lots of members utilizing the PayPal feature. There have been just a handful of issues with PayPal, and I would encourage you to check your registrations and renewals to be sure it went through. I had at least one member who thought she was renewed and then the Paypal charge did not show up on her credit card, so she called and dropped off a check. You can call or come by my office if you have any issues or need help resolving them. My office is located in Watergate Marina on Pier 4 in the West Yachts and Brokerage kiosk.

The February budget tip: Organize your budget! I use a great app called Good Budget that allows up to two people to access on mobile devices! Set your categories and record your purchases! For example we have a dining out budget each month. When the envelope in Good Budget is empty....no more dining out! I do not use it to track the balance in my checkbook, but it can be used for that. The best way to save so you can go cruising is to not overspend! A good budget app can help with that....don't forget to budget for monthly cruises with TMCA!

Happy Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras! See you in Galveston I hope!

***Cookie Johnson,
Treasurer***

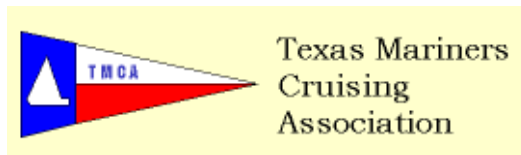
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

2017 TMCA Officers

Commodore:	Charles Parette, m/v Andiamo	713-817-8263
Past Commodore:	Jerry Simoneaux, s/v Rainbow	713-577-9587
Vice Commodore:	Larry Friemel, m/v Seascope	281 832 0361
Rear Commodore:	Lori Friemel, m/v Seascope	713 826 7998
Cruise Captain:	Ken Ekenseair, s/v Imagine	832-563-7116
Secretary:	Kathy Houser, m/v Attitude Adjustment	281-804-4122
Treasurer:	Cookie Johnson, s/v Cool Change	970-486-0192

2017 TMCA Trustees

Trustee 2011	Commodore	Doug Chappell	m/v 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

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