

Texas Mariners Cruising Association

The Texas Mariner

We are All about having Fun on the Water

March 2017



At the Helm

Charles Parette, Commodore

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

TMCA is such a fun club, and we have lots of activities for everyone, you don't even need to own a boat to be a member.

Keep an eye on the web site calendar, we have lots of events every month, some boating, some social. Don't forget, you can always drive to all of our events, if your boat isn't ready.

This club is more like a family, everyone is so welcoming, just be ready to talk about boats.

It's funny, when you get fishermen together, they end up talking about what they caught recently, and what kind of rods, reels, and bait they were using. When you get boaters together, they end up talking about maintenance, routes, radios, and boats in general. If you have any interest in boating, this is the club for you.

The Kayak trip down Buffalo Bayou from the far side of Memorial Park to Downtown is always a treat. Linda does a great job setting it up, and the views of Houston from the Bayou are something you'll never forget. Having a beverage and lunch at El Tiempo on Navigation is fun as well.

The Mardi Gras cruise to Galveston Yacht Basin turned out great. A wonderful boat ride, the afternoon docktails, the group breakfast, and participating in Mardi Gras at Fishtales was super fun. I loved throwing beads, and watching the parade from the balcony. I have to admit that my bead throwing arm was really sore the next day. We had a fun ride down and back, and next time, we'll take the west bay route. Linda drove us out of the slip, thru the south boater cut, down to GYB, and backed right into our slip on D dock. Our goal is for both of us to be able to run the boat from point to point, including navigation, AIS, and radio work. If you're not comfortable doing that yet, start small, and add skills each time you're onboard. That's the only way to get better.

For our boat, it's time to get the boat hauled to check our zinc's, shafts, rudders, props, trimtabs, and inspect the bottom paint.

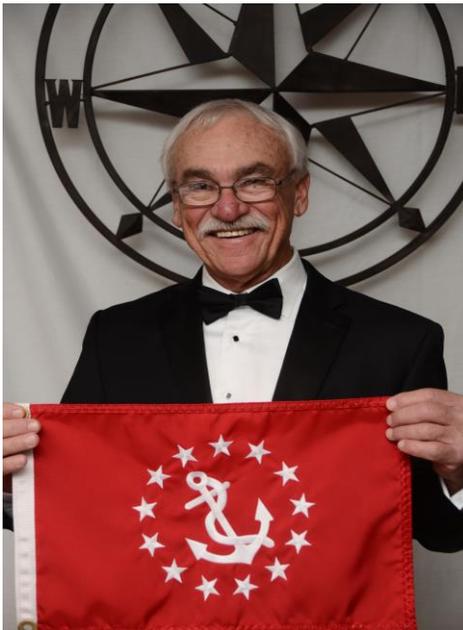
If you haven't paid your dues for 2017, you need to log into the web site, and take care of that, remember, all club funds go toward the membership activities.

The SouthWest International Boat Show is April 6-9, at South Shore Harbour lots of boats to see, great speakers, and a fun party on Saturday night. Come and visit at the TMCA booth. We also need volunteers to man the booth and help with the Saturday night party. The Boat Show is also looking for speakers. Chris McMurray is coordinating all of the volunteers. If you can donate a few hours of your time, please contact her cmc@pdq.net

Remember, our club needs lots of volunteers to make our events special, week after week. Talk to an officer, or send us an email. We Need You!

See you on the water.

**Charles Parette,
Commodore**



[The Corner of Vice](#)

Larry Friemel, Vice Commodore

Email: ViceCommodore@TexasMariners

Our February guest speaker Darrin Lewer from Land, Sea and Sky did a great job sharing his knowledge on binoculars, compasses and naked eye astronomy. I've already used the app. he showed us to learn more about the stars seen from our location on the bay. I can't wait to use it at our next Double Bayou pasture cruise.

I've really been enjoying this fantastic weather we had the last few weeks! Between the fun TMCA social activities and sunny warm days running Seascope on the bay, I'm a little behind on my annual maintenance task. I've accomplished a lot but still have a few things to do. What fun it's been squeezing into those tight spaces in the engine compartment changing oil, filters, impellers, etc. Something I always do while in the engine compartment is to take a little extra time and visually inspect hoses, belts, seacocks and grounding connections.

One thing that I found this time was a severely cracked sea water hose. When I installed them last time I wrote the date on the hose and it had been 8 years! So replacement will be complete by the time you read this. This got me to thinking about my bilge high water alarm and after a quick test I determined it could only be heard when we were on the bridge. So another alarm speaker was easily installed in the main salon breaker panel, just for those times when we are staying aboard overnight. Hopefully it's a sound we will never hear!

March looks to be another very busy month with lots of fun social events and cruises planned. I continue to get great suggestions from our membership on guest speaker topics so check the website often for details on upcoming speaker topics, social events and cruises.

Hope to see you soon, have fun and be safe out there!

**Larry Friemel,
Vice Commodore**



[The Social Scuttlebutt](#)

Lori Friemel, Rear Commodore

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

February began with the Sailor's Valentine dock party. While heaters kept the chill away, we exchanged a Sailor Valentine (some very creative) and had a special Valentine toast to all. It was a beautiful evening to spend with my sweetheart and friends. Kemah Boardwalk generously provided a \$25 gift certificate which was presented to Mary Ann Tilson. Charlene and Steve Lim did a great job as our hosts.

Women on the Water (WOW) is always such a great learning environment for both the attendees and the instructors! I know I always learn so much every time I participate in these events. Thank you to our instructors, Vicki Berkebile, Linda Schoene, Jean Mason and Ladye Jane Stone for all of your hard work. With such great participation and excellent feedback, we may want to add more WOW events to the calendar. Maybe some classes with a bit different format to cover fewer topics, but a bit more in depth. Let us know what you think and what you want in future classes.

Mardi Gras upstairs at Fish Tales was the party of parties! This VIP party had a live band, super amazing buffet and a great balcony to see the parade and throw those beads. I had more fun throwing the beads this year than I ever had catching them! After a dramatic drawing by Logan Chopin, our past King Kevin Berkebile (who was reluctant to abdicate the throne) and Queen Diane Voll ceremoniously passed their crowns and capes on to the new King Michael Harrison and Queen Jacque Kaspic. Our Cajun co-hosts Jerry Simoneaux and Dee Latiolais did an amazing job putting this event together and making it a wondermous event!

March has many fun events that you will want to attend. The "inside dock party" is on **Friday, March 3rd, 6:30 pm at Brady's Landing**. This centrally located restaurant has great food and is setting up a special buffet just for this event. There is an amazing view of the ship channel so sit back and watch the ships pass while you dine and socialize with your friends.

Saturday, March 4th Kayak Buffalo Bayou and see Houston in a new way! See all the changes and renovations as you move downstream. Don't forget to bring a camera for this adventure. This is always a fun time and so amazing to see the city from this angle. Afterward, lively socializing, refreshments and a well-deserved lunch at El Tiempo.

Doc Mulloy's St Patrick's Day Marker 17 Fish Fry is Saturday, March 18th Get ready for the big fish fry party at Oak Island. Come by boat, RV or land yacht- make your way over and don't miss the fun. Wear something green and eat some excellent fish with all the fixings. Entertainment will add to the festivities.

Saturday, April 1 Mermaid Sail at HYC All women skipper and crew. If you want to register your boat and need crew or want to crew on a boat; register and we will help you get set to sail.

Saturday, April 15 Funny Bunny Sock Hop Dancing @ the Docks Registration is open for this event. Start shopping now for those funny socks or slippers, if you have trouble finding just the right pair the website has links to help.

Information and registration for these events and more is available on the website. And, remember if you volunteered to host a dock party or event, please enter the information on the TMCA Calendar, even if it is several months away. This helps with our planning and publicity activities. If you need help adding or editing this information, please let me know and I will be happy to help.

Rowing is like life. We don't know where we are going, but we have a clear view of where we have been. So, don't forget to check the calendar to see where we are going!

Lori Friemel
Rear Commodore
TMCA Knows Fun!!



The Cruise Corner
Ken Ekenseair, Cruise Captain
email: Captain@TexasMariners.com

We just finished up with the Mari Gras cruise to Galveston, and let me tell you something! WOW! This cruise had 29 boats and one heck of a time at Fish Tales. Plans are already underway for next year. My arm hurts from throwing beads all night.

March arrives with WIND and we have a lot of cruises lined up. March 4 we have the Kayak Buffalo Bayou, what an opportunity to see Houston from a different level. You will kayak down Buffalo Bayou and travel thru Memorial Park, past River Oaks and into downtown Houston. It is a 7 mile course, so not too strenuous.

March 11 we have a Red Fish Full Moon Raft Up. Everyone can have a day of sailing on the bay and anchor at Red Fish Island. We can boat hop, and head ashore to build a fire and roast peeps. Then we can howl at the full moon. This is a great opportunity to test out your systems for the upcoming year.

March 17th we have the famous St. Patrick's Day Cruise to Job Beason park and the Fish Fry at Marker 17. The cruise is FULL, however several are going to Double Bayou and we are working on some alternate spots for you. Pay close attention to the website for updates. You can register for just the Fish Fry and drive over. All hotels are full also.

March 26 we have the Cedar Bayou Cool Channel Cruise. Join us for a unique cruise up Cedar Bayou. All welcome, both power & sail since there are no height restrictions this time. We've discovered there's plenty of depth in the cooling channel for both entering & anchoring, prior to reaching any bridges or power lines. This is a neat trip up a winding channel in an isolated part of the bay. We'll be either rafting and/or anchoring, gathering on one of the larger boats for cocktails & potluck or then enjoying the night at anchor.

In March you have no excuse not to have some fun. With a cruise every weekend, dock parties, and our exciting monthly meetings we can keep you busy. If you are new or never been to these places, reach out and we can help you gather the info you need to using your boat. Anchoring out really shows you how your systems work, and what upgrades you may want to upgrade for more cruising. Every upgrade we have made to our boat for fulltime cruising we have tested this last year cruising with TMCA. So far we are heading in the right direction. Sometimes we have to tweak the system to make it work even better. So untie those dock lines, and come out with TMCA!

Ken Ekenseair
Cruise Captain
TMCA – Cruising The World



Secretary's Report

Kathy Houser, Secretary

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

Hello Cruisers!

Ok, where did February disappear too! I know I'm getting old and they tell me time goes even faster but come on, I wish the days would just slow down a little.

So, do you all remember what happened in February - let me remind you. It started with a Sailor's Valentine Dock Party. It was a little chilly but we all huddled together and drank a little to keep us warm. Maybe we drank a little too much but we were warm! Thank you, Charlene, and Steve for always providing us with a fun event. Next, we had a very well attended General Meeting at the Elks with a great speaker from Land, Sea and Sky. It was very educational. Lastly, if you missed it, shame on you!

Cruise to Galveston and Mardi Gras at Fish Tales! This was an outstanding event. The food, service, planning, new and old friends....what a time was had by all. Thank you, Ken Ekenseair, Jerry Simoneaux, and Dee Latiolais

Now for TMCA business. Dues are past due but please go on line and renew your membership. You will have to add a reinstatement fee of \$20 but remember how much you receive out of being a member and we certainly do not want to lose you. You can pay by PayPal, credit card or send a check to TMCA, P.O. Box 946, Kemah, TX 77565-0946. Don't miss out on all that TMCA offers.

I just love this part of my letter to you all. We have several new members in February, so please help me welcome them:

- Jim DeForest and Royce Walker
- Mark & Cari Vandiver
- Eric & Summer Rice
- Jean Erwin
- Dana & Alan Gabbert
- Mike & Carolyn Payne
- Todd Balsley & Sandy Troff

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)

2017 is off to a fantastic start! We certainly had a good time at the February dock party and the Mardi Gras Cruise. I had no desire for beaded necklaces until I got to one of the parades and the pirate in me came out screaming for booty!!

TREASURER's TIPS: Need some extra cash to pay down debt? Dig through your closets or attic and look for items you no longer use that may have value then sell them on eBay or Craigslist. You can then use the money you bring in to pay down debt and put it behind you once and for all!! Now begin using the 30 day rule and wait 30 days to decide on a purchase! Quite often, after a month has passed, you'll find that the urge to buy has passed as well, and you'll have saved yourself some money simply by waiting!

Tax season is here for me and that means I work all the time....but I still hope to have time for a dock party or meeting now and then! May not see many of you till April, so till then, happy cruising!!!

Cookie Johnson,
Treasurer

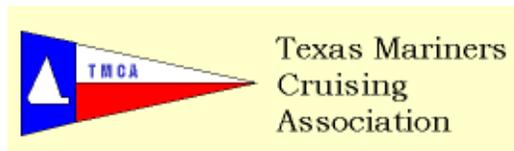
[Click here for TMCA Calendar](#)

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

