

Volume 2017, Issue 12

December 2017



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SAILORS - FOUNDED IN 1984

TASS Topsider



Commodore by Jay Leggett

Happy New Year 2018. If you missed our December Holiday 5-Star Gala it was a fabulous weekend event, not just an evening party. We started the evening with our traditional Pre-party hosted by **Joanne Moschella** in the TASS Suite. We made our way to the ballroom for a wonderful dinner followed by dancing to live entertainment by Claudio and his son. The post party continued in the TASS Suite to wrap up the evening. Sunday morning started with a great breakfast buffet in our reserved dining area, followed by \$1 shuttles to Dickens on the Strand - what a great weekend.

Shirley Nicola conducted a detailed survey of our members at all May 2017 meetings, regarding the 2018 Holiday Gala location - Galveston, Kemah, Houston Downtown, Houston Galleria, Doesn't Matter; and venue Hotel, Country Club / Marina or restaurant. The results were mixed as you'd expect -

LOCATION -

Galveston (15)

Kemah (17)

Houston Galleria (9)

Houston Downtown (0)

Either is OK (14)

VENUE TYPE -

Hotel / overnight (23) - safer to stay overnight and not drink & drive

Country Club / Marina (7)

Restaurant (0)

So Shirley Nicola has researched these various locations and secured detailed bids from numerous venues. What we learned is as follows:

the Houston area is much more expensive, pushing the member cost to \$110-135 pp at 3-4 star hotels, the Nasa Hilton is almost as expensive at \$95.34 pp and is an older 3.5-4 star hotel. South Shore is in the same range as Houston. Your Board has reviewed all the bids and compared the pros and cons of each. We've concluded that Moody Gardens which is a 5-star facility with many additional amenities, gives us far more than just a three hour party, it's a weekend event AND at \$16 pp LESS cost with Holiday parades, Ice Sculpture Event, Festival of Lights, Dickens on the Strand, free garage parking, plus boats slips if desired; so we've booked it for December 1st, 2018.

The other hotels require 10% at up front at contract signing (now), 50% additional at 90 days prior to the event and the balance PRIOR to the event. Our long history and great relationship with Moody Gardens affords us a much more flexible payment schedule, with \$0 at contract signing and balance at the completion of the event.

Our 2018 TASS Board nominations will occur at the January TASS meetings, followed by the election later in January. All positions are open for nomination, with only a few caveats - Commodore needs to have served in another TASS Board position and Vice-Commodore should be a TASS Skipper (current or past). Please consider running for a position; it's a great way to get to know your fellow TASS members and serve the Club. Any of our current or past Officers will be happy to answer any questions about what's entailed with any position, as well as help you learn the ropes if you choose to serve.

Vice Commodore by Jim LeBlanc

2017 turned out to be a great year for both racing and training.

Seven races were originally scheduled but the March race was cancelled due to severe weather. Based on the results of the remaining six races, with one throw out be allowed for each boat entered, Astarte was awarded the Commodore's Cup Perpetual trophy for the third year in a row. The trophy presentation took place at the Christmas Party which was held at Moody Gardens. A total of 11 different TASS and guest boats participated in the races which were held. Many thanks to the skippers and crews of the boats which participated in making the racing program a success.

A total of 7 different training courses were held throughout the year. These ranged from knot tying to engine maintenance to intermediate sailing skills.

TASS was also able to qualify two new skippers during 2017 to the appreciation of the Fleet Coordinator. This allowed the leisure sails to continue, while removing some of the pressure of finding available skippers for each Saturday.

Seven races have tentatively been set for 2018, with races being started in March. No training sails or courses have been scheduled yet, but I am sure we will come up with some good ones.

See you on the water soon!



Cheryl Morvillo receives the Commodore's Cup trophy



Michael Vaughan receives his Skipper Flag.

Membership Corner by Thann Dauterive



Well, here we are and it is 2018 already. Another great year of TASS memories behind us and with anticipation we look forward to what TASS will bring in 2018.

Membership in 2017 welcomed 29 new members. To each of you we hope you have found TASS to be your new sailing home port and thanks for joining our tribe. Also in 2017 it seems that our renewal base of members hit a rogue wave. Perhaps you experienced systems issues in renewal, maybe you forgot and somehow overlooked your renewal date, Harvey displaced some and a few vacated the greater Houston area for other ports. Whatever the reason, we want you to know you have a home port with TASS and we are here to assist you in your renewal. If you moved beyond the 75 mile membership radius, please contact us about our non-local membership rate. If you ran into systems issues, drop us a note and we will be more than happy to assist you in overcoming any systems registration issues you experience.

Bottom line is, you were once a TASS member and we value your participation. Come join us again as we set our sails for some fun experiences in 2018.

Anyone with issues, questions, concerns, or feedback, please feel free to contact me, Thann Dauterive, Membership Director, membershi@sailtass.com and I will be happy to help. Or call 602-418-0095.

Happy New Year TOGETHER, let's make this a prosperous 2018, Thann

Membership Corner by Thann Dauterive



Sending Birthday Wishes To Our TASS January People

Happy Birthday	Your Day
John Bajorek	2
Malcolm Jones	3
Bruce Rose	20
Ben Miller	24
Denise Hanrahan	27
Yvette Perry	31
Charles Hanson	31

Social Report by Shirley Nicola

Our Holiday Social Event on December 2nd was a very successful gathering. Our Pre-Party was heavily attended by all of our Sailor and guests. Once we headed to our ball room for the evening "Claudio" was already playing music while we got our drinks and waiting in the Buffet line to begin our dinner.

Around 9:00 that evening our Commodore came to the Stage and announce our drawing for the Sailing Quilt designed by Babs Bukowski will be drawn and everyone gathered. Babs drew the winning ticket and it was announced that Richard Perkins won the "Quilt" and Jay Leggett quickly called him since he was in Dallas. Richard immediately told Jay to please auction it off to the crowd which Jay did a very exciting auction started with Barb Schindler making the winning bid. Wow! TASS was able to collect close to \$1,000 for the "Quilt" which will benefit TASS Training Sails and \$250 being donating to "Sailing Angels" here is Kemah.

Sunday morning TASS met for Breakfast at the Hotel and many of our Sailors got on the Trolley and headed to Dickins on the Strand for a great day watch the parades and costumed characters. Our TASS Gala really was a fund weekend.

Happy New Year!

ANNUAL BLACK-EYED PEA CONTEST

Cook Up Your Best Black-Eyed Pea Recipe And Enter! Bring enough to share with everyone! Prizes for: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place - Best Tasting Black-Eyed Pea **DATE:** New Year's Day, 1/01/2018

TIME: Noon

LOCATION: Lois and Neil Geyer's home
3856 Armand Drive

Dickinson, TX 77539 **Event Coordinator: Lois Geyer**
Email: loismgeyer@gmail.com

BYOB & COVERED DISH - PLEASE REGISTER ON THE TASS CALENDAR!

Calling all TASS Sailors to join us on January 14th at Jim & Meade LeBlanc's home to help plan our 2018 calendar water activities . Bring your ideas and we'll have suggestions from other meeting that have taken place. Please sign-up on the TASS Calendar.

Kemah Christmas Boat Parade Pictures

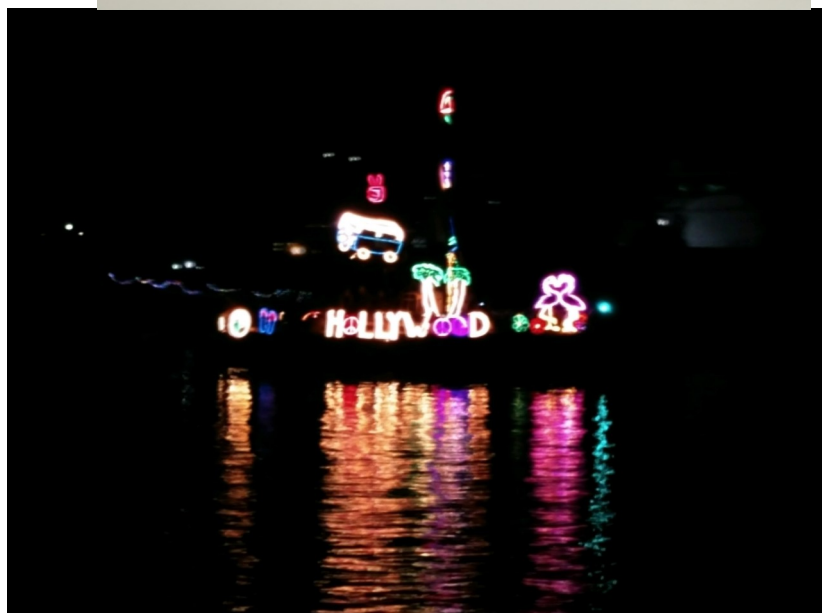


Astarte, decorated in an outer space theme.

Two TASS boats were decorated by the Girl Scouts for the Kemah Christmas Boat parade this year. The Girl Scouts won several awards, including the Mayor's Award for California Dreaming.



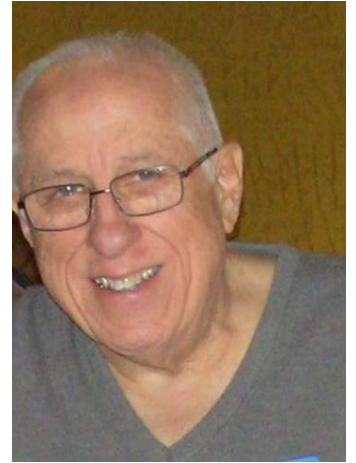
Reflection, decorated with California Dreaming theme, with over 80,000 lights.



Christmas Party and Dickens on the Strand Pictures



Christmas Party and Dickens on the Strand Pictures



TASS Officers

February 2017—January, 2018

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TASS Topsider—Editor Meade LeBlanc
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TASS Membership Fees

New \$65.00
Renewal before expiration \$60.00
Out-of-town/state \$15.00

TASS Sails

Leisure Day & Moonlight sails

\$50/members; \$65/Guests

Day sails depart at 12 or 1 pm till 5
or 6 pm

Moonlight sails depart at 6 pm till 11
pm

Crew Training Sails

\$60/members; \$75/guests

We're on the web:
www.sailTASS.com

Meetings

Every Thursday Night

6:00 pm—Social Hour

7:00 pm—Meeting

Check the calendar at
sailtass.com for details