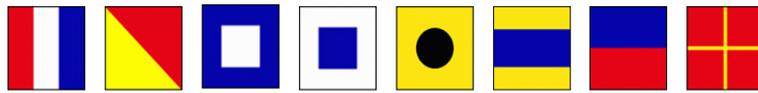




# TOPSIDER



**August - 2019**

**From the Commodore, Jay Leggett**

## Board Report

It is with great pleasure that I report from the July board meeting the election and induction of Joanne Moschella as Social Director. Joanne is not a new face to our TASS Social Director position as she has served on the board several terms in the past since becoming a member of TASS in 2012. Joanne brings with her passion for sailing and enthusiasm for all things TASS tirelessly preparing outstanding events and keeping our social train rolling. Her recent retirement from a successful career affords her the opportunity to give back to our organization and we are grateful to once again welcome Joanne back to the board. We look forward to her creative contribution to upcoming event.



## Greetings from Provence



Tropez and Monaco, and now in Provence with our "land base" in Aix en Provence. We're at the tail end of the lavender season, but have been fortunate to see some spectacular lavender fields still in bloom. We were standing in the middle of one yesterday and the bees were literally buzzing around us in every direction like 360-degree surround-sound.

*Next month we will share a photo album link for members to enjoy.*

This year the summer sail trip took off with 2 boats and 16 people for the shores of southern France. The group was met by Doug and Barb Schindler as they navigated Plankton from their home base in Greece to rendezvous with TASS friends. So much to report in the abbreviated version of the trip. We're having a great time sailing for a week between Saint



## TASS Burgee Selfie Summer

Planning to travel this summer and looking for a great way to share TASS with your new friends, why not exchange a TASS Burgee! You can ask any board member to get you a burgee. The cost is \$30.00 and we will have them at our Meet & Mingle events and meetings.



While you are traveling, take a selfie with the TASS Burgee. Snap a pic of you or a group at a cool location. You can even stop some nice people on a lovely waterfront dock or beautiful city street, memorable monument and take a selfie with the burgee.



Now WHAT you ask, Post your **TASS BURGEE SELFIE** to our [Facebook page](#). Let's see how many Burgee Selfie's we can add to Facebook this travel season. What a way to make memories in 2019.

### From the Vice Commodore, Urs Rathgeb

#### Explorers Race

August is upon us and the 4<sup>th</sup> race of our season takes place on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The road to the Commodores Cup 2019 is shaping up to be quite interesting to say the least. Thus far the previous three races have produced a different winner for each race. Participation points COUNT so prepare your crews and jump into the mix. You might well be the 4<sup>th</sup> different winner this year. [Private Boat Registration HERE](#). While you are signing up your boat, be sure to let us know you will attend the race awards and after race party fun – [Register for the party HERE](#). TASS will have the charter crew boat on the water and spots are still available for those wanting to race on the TASS boat. [TASS Crew Boat Registration HERE](#). During the last couple of races participation was great enough for us to have 2 TASS Charter Boats in the race! Let's continue this positive trend and register early.

#### Carol Becker Woman's Regatta



I would like to fast forward to September as this is just around the corner and will be here before we know it.

TASS will hold the **Carol Becker Woman's Regatta** featuring a Woman at the Helm in September. This race celebrates the love, life and joy that Carol Becker found in sailing and her friends in TASS. Carol Becker and Buzz Lay tragically lost their lives on July 28, 1995 in a boating accident on Clear Lake. The following year TASS friends wanted to do something to memorialize these two amazing friends and sailors. Hence the **Carol Becker Woman's Regatta** was established and carries forward our love and respect for an amazing, accomplished woman. Buzz on the other hand was always the initiator of everything FUN about TASS and was well known for his outrageous Neck Ties. It was deemed that our after-race party would appropriately be named **TIE ONE ON for BUZZ** and encouragement to wear a crazy tie to the party continues today.

**September 28th, 2019, we celebrate the running of the 23rd annual Carol Becker Woman's Regatta and Tie One On for BUZZ party.**

TASS promotes and support women in sailing and Carol was the epidemy of a skilled woman sailor.

The race is open to all sailing boats [non-spinnaker]. Of course, you must have a woman at the helm throughout the race [co-ed crew] is permitted. TASS club handicap rules apply.

We are encouraging all sailing organizations through the Galveston Bay and beyond to participate in this race supporting **WOMEN IN SAILING**.

To register your boat, go to the race day event **PRIVATE BOAT REGISTRATION**. Fee for non-TASS members is only \$20.00.

Following the race, TASS will host an after-race awards dinner and party at the Houston Yacht Club.

You will find more information about the **Tie One On for BUZZ** after-race party at the Houston Yacht Club in the Social section of this topsider, and in short order on our website.

**By Fleet, Michael Vaughn**

Explosive activity during the month of July has filled the boats for leisure sailing. Gavin has been active in picking up the slack of the vacationing skippers and getting our sailing enthusiast out on the water. Much to any conversations you hear around TASS about "NO WIND" in July, *Eurus* the god of southeast winds has been generous with robust winds during the month. August is shaping up well and several of the leisure sails have crew members already signed up. SO, the word is, get aboard a leisure sail EARLY so we don't leave you on land.

New member KIRK DUNHAM said of his first leisure sail "*Sail Saturday was great despite a little rain. I'm so glad to have been introduced to TASS and only wonder... where have ya'll been all my life?*"



**REGISTRATION REMINDER** –Normally, sign-ups for sails end at midnight on **Thursday** night. If we do not have enough people registered by midnight on Thursday, it is likely that the sail may be cancelled. In the event the sail registration

is closed because it is reached its capacity, we have a waitlist feature. When in doubt, add yourself to the waitlist if the boat is full. If for some reason we can procure a larger boat or someone has to resend their registration, we will do our best to clear the waitlist. Waitlist people are not charged for a sail until you clear the list and then receive an invoice to pay. Our policy is no refunds, so once you register and pay refunds are not issued unless the skipper cancels the sail. So, please sign-up early so that we can all spend more time on the water. All sails are posted to the [EVENTS CALENDAR](#) making registration simple and easy.

**Social by Joanne Moschella**

Well, I am back and so glad to be on the board and serving the club! I have officially retired and finally have some spare time, at least right now, to give more time and attention to this position.

That being said, we have a pretty busy calendar and about to get busier in the next few months! We miss our fellow crew members who have been sailing the French Riviera coupled with a land trip inland and ending in Paris. What an adventure!

With a large part of our group gone, some of us enjoyed seeing the documentary, "Maiden," a fantastic and inspiring movie about the first, all female crew, to enter and complete the Whitbread/Volvo Race back in 1989. These women displayed a tremendous amount of courage, grit, and determination sailing this grueling race for over 90 days. I highly recommend that you see it if you can.

Our next race after party is on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at Sundance Grill. The usual time, 5:00 p.m. begins the activities and hope to see you there. Please sign up for a headcount. [REGISTER HERE](#)



Our annual Pig Roast hosted by Charlie Holcomb is on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 2:00- 9:00 p.m. All of the food and fixings will be furnished for a fee of \$25.00 members/ \$30.00 for guests. You are requested to bring a lawn chair, your bathing suits (Pool Party starts at 2:00), and B.Y.O.B. This event had a huge turnout last year and expect an encore for this one. Please sign up online for this event. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Labor Day is around the corner and have several members headed to the East Coast and West Coast for other sailing adventures which I will write about in the upcoming issue.

Our annual **Carol Becker Woman's Regatta** and dinner will be on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. We take great pride in this race and want to see a much larger participation than ever before. Our **"Tie One On for Buzz"** dinner celebration and awards ceremony will be hosted at Houston Yacht Club thanks to one of our members, Babs Bukowski. Babs is a true promoter of "women on the water." She created and hosts the Mermaid Regattas at HYC and is assisting us to enlarge the **Carol Becker Woman's Regatta** for greater participation. I am working on the details for the dinner and will have them posted shortly. Please plan to attend this event and decorate a tie in honor of Buzz. We will have prizes for the Tie Contest.

I am in the process of making additional social events for the upcoming fall. Please let me know if you have a request or idea for the club. As usual, any and all help is more than welcome. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming events.

## **MEET & MINGLE / MEETINGS UPDATE**

Meet & Mingle continues to be well attended on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. We have served up a variety of locations and it seems our members are enjoying the diversity in locations. It has been so positive to see new people attending and interested in becoming part of our tribe. August will bring us to a new location, Cyclone Anaya's located at 5761 Woodway Dr, Houston. This venue will reunite us with our friend Naim, the bartender from a past meeting location. We are told he looks forward to welcoming the TASS crew again.

[Thursday – August 1<sup>st</sup>](#) – Seabrook Meeting at Iguana Rajas

[Thursday – August 8<sup>th</sup>](#) – Cyclone Anaya's

[Thursday – August 14<sup>th</sup>](#) – Houston Meeting at Barry's Pizza

[Thursday – August 22<sup>nd</sup>](#) – Cyclone Anaya's

[Thursday – August 29<sup>th</sup>](#) – Cyclone Anaya's

It is greatly appreciated if you RSVP to all events and meetings free or otherwise. It really helps us plan our space and allows us to tell our host location what to expect to make us most comfortable.

**Membership by Patricia Gumbs**

Hello TASS what a great summer we are having leisure sails and races have been filled every weekend. I want to thank everyone for your participation. We have quite a few upcoming events in the next 2 months, remember to check the Blast and the website for current details and don't forget to register for events as this gives us an accurate headcount in advance which helps the planning committee.

The Kemah meeting was well attended with 20 members and 4 guests. A great big thank you to Richard Perkins he is doing a great job recruiting new members. I encourage all of you to bring a friend along and introduce them sailing.

Kudos to Gavin Gerondale our latest skipper, he has really stepped up with the charter sail and we have heard great comments. Thank you, Gavin, great job.

Membership is currently at 149 active members and another 18 are due for renewal. We have quite a few members who have not renewed their membership and we would like to allow you to get back on board, we will send out another email as a reminder.

We would like to Welcome our new members this month.

DOUGLAS ASHBY      KIRK DUNHAM  
 TERRI MCCAHLAIN      RON JACKSON

***LAST BUT NOT LEAST A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED BIRTHDAY TO OUR AUGUST MEMBERS***



Birthday Babies		Date
Douglas	Ashby	1
Henry	Pine	7
Joanne	Moschella	8
Lee	Morgenthaler	11
Michael	Burrous	16
Karol	Hutson	19
George	Golden	22
Suzy	Rogers	26
Barbara Ann "Babs"	Bukowski	30
Steve	White	30

On July 11<sup>th</sup> at our Seabrook/Kemah meeting guest of TASS Mr. Robert Meiland shared his original writing of "To Catch the Wind". Members enjoyed his eloquent words reflecting our passion for sail and by request I was asked to share Roberts poem. Thank you Robert and we do hope to see you often around all our TASS events.



### To Catch the Wind

The golden evening light is approaching, and the sun will soon be kissing the horizon

A soft, salt laden breeze, fills the air.

Three sailors set sail, to catch the wind, to take them to see the magic of a

Light spectacle in the Sky, for it's the fourth of July

The jib is unfurled, and soon it catches the wind, on a trip to see the magic of Giant

Sparklers in the Sky. The rush of the wind and the sound of the waves fills our

Hearts with Anticipation and Delight. Soon the low thunder of Bursts of light,

High in the Sky, fills our hearts sights and ears with childish wonder. The Red,

The White, The Blue, for it's the fourth of July a day we celebrate in honor of

our fallen, the men of days past who gave us Independence, Freedom, and the

right to pursue Happiness. We thank them, and bring this night to a Beautiful Close.

Next year, again, we hope to do the Same, go revisit our youth, to be like children,

And again to catch the wind

*Robert Maillard* (ROBERT MAILLARD)

### Web Master Social Media by Thann Dauterive

#### Tip of the month to navigate the web

Throughout a given month I receive emails and calls on how to find something on the TASS web. It is understandable that most people do not actually "SURF" or click on all the different pages on our website. Although when the new site was under construction, we tried to organize the pages like the index of a book, *Home, Join Us, Events and Calendar, Sailing, Library, Contact*. Most likely you only use one of the popular pages being *Events & Calendar*. Turns out each of these pages have sub-pages with valuable information. Simply mouse over the page name and it will reveal the sub-page for viewing.

So, my ideas for writing the Tip of the Month comes from this month's question. My moto is if one has a question many follow and never ask.

The question of the month is

**Question:** *"I don't think you sent me the Topsider last month, can you email it to me again".*

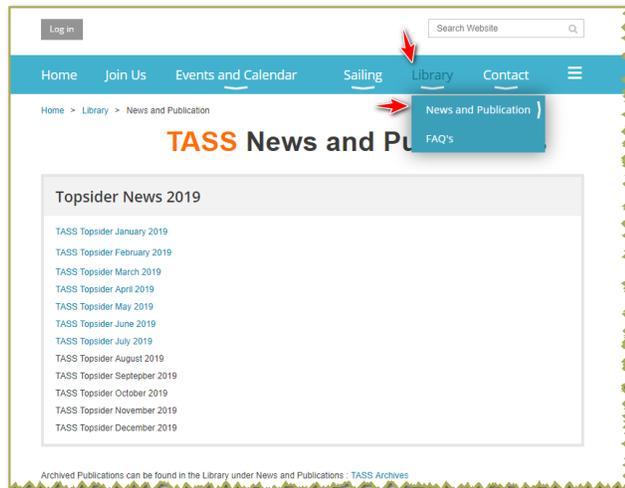
Good question and the best answer I can give is to teach you how to fish.

**Short Answer:** All Topsider monthly newsletters are archived and posted in the **LIBRARY** on the web.

**Question:** Great, but where is this **LIBRARY**?

**Answer:** Here is a picture of the home page of the web. You will see all the pages that have content information by title in the blue bar across the home page. To the far right are 3 lines stacked on top of each other. This is referred to as the *hamburger stack* and if you mouse over the stack there are evermore page titles.

Under some page titles is a line or what looks like a long arrow. This indicates there are sub-title pages related to the title subject and they can be opened and viewed just like a title page.



So, to answer the question where is the **LIBRARY** page, it is simply in the title bar. But where are the **Topsiders** for the current year, well under the **LIBRARY** arrow you find **News and Publications**. If you click on **News and Publications** you get a page that looks like the example. All of the **PUBLISHED** **Topsiders** are a hyperlink to the corresponding month published. You can open the link and read the **Topsider**. **EASY** and thanks for the question.

**Bonus points** Some pages are for member viewing only, so best to log into your **TASS** account and surf so you don't miss anything.

*Thanks for reading the **Topsider News**. Feedback and questions can be sent to [secretary@sailtass.com](mailto:secretary@sailtass.com)*