



Gale Tales

Manatee Sailing Association

Volume 40 Number 10

www.msasailing.org

October 2025

Up Coming Events

Event	Date	Time	Place
DWBH	Oct 8	5:00 PM	Hickory Hollow
Beach Party	Oct 18	11:00 AM	Bayfront Park AMI
Pops in the Park	Oct 25	7:00 PM	Vinoy Park
Halloween Party	Oct 31	TBD	Jackerson's Home
Boomers Dance Night	Nov 9	6:00 PM	88 Live Piano Bar
Member Meeting	Nov 12	5:00 PM	Modern Chop Steakhouse



AHOY MSA MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY

Cruising the Maine Island Trail: A Late Summer Sail in Belfast, ME

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of joining my brother for a short sailing escape out of Belfast, Maine aboard his 36-foot Gulfstar Center Cockpit sailboat. With the summer season winding down, we were lucky to encounter classic New England conditions—light morning fog, crisp air, and steady afternoon breezes that filled the sails from 2 to 4 PM each day.

Our route took us along the Maine Island Trail, a network of wild coastal islands. Many of the islands are privately owned and allow boaters to camp overnight. We moored overnight at two idyllic spots: Warren Island in Islesboro, ME which

BAYFRONT PARK, AMI



OCTOBER 18TH



Gulfstar 36 ft Center Cockpit S/V Hooligan

offers 11 mooring balls, 5 campsites and a peaceful forested shoreline, and Holbrook Island Sanctuary State Park, a quieter spot with just three moorings, no camping and a more rugged charm. Both locations provided calm anchorages and sunset views. \$20 donation is all they ask.

One night we grilled swordfish on deck as the sun dipped below the horizon, casting a stream of light across Penobscot Bay. The Gulfstar's center cockpit made for comfortable cruising and the combination of the wind and water reminded us of why we enjoy sailing the coast of Maine.

Whether you're planning a northern charter or just dreaming of your next voyage, the Maine coast offers a perfect blend of adventure and tranquility. I highly recommend it for anyone looking to explore



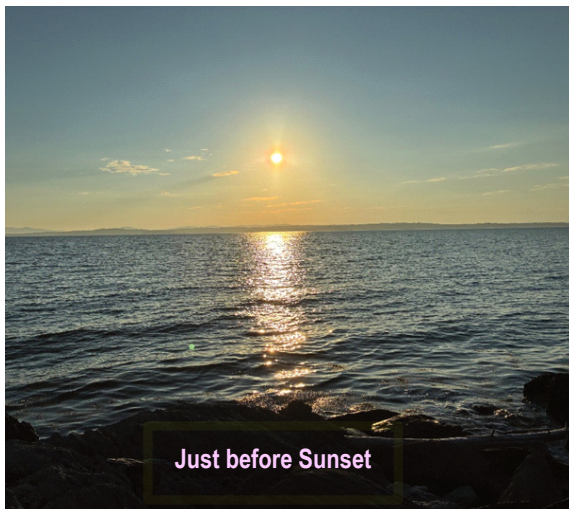
Holbrook Sanctuary

northern waters.

Learn more about the Maine Island Trail at www.mita.org. Download the MITA app for maps and mooring info.

Lynne and I will be back in Florida on October 16th. See you for the AMI beach Party on 10/18. Our next MSA Membership Meeting is 11/12/25 5PM at Modern Chop.

Fair winds,
Jim



Just before Sunset



A classic wooden schooner in light air overnighted at Holbrook Island

MSA REVISITS A LOCAL SUCCESS STORY THE DRUM CIRCLE DISTILLERY

On September 30th 2025, MSA members made the trek through the back roads of an industrial park hidden just off University Parkway in search of the now famous Drum Circle Distillery which was house and home to the production of Siesta Key Rum. This was not a first time for some of us as the distillery has just celebrated its 18th anniversary. And through the years, MSA has toured and tasted the progress of our local gem and listened to its story more than once.



Drum circle Distillery is a craft distillery located in our back yards just down the road in Sarasota. It is here that the production of Siesta Key Rum takes place. Over the years, the rum has won many international awards and has received praise from the Caribbean Journal, Forbes, Wine Enthusiast, Cooking Light Magazine and several other publications. The small batch rum is a true gem in the industry capturing the essence of the Caribbean in every sip.



For starters, the distillery uses only real ingredients beginning with the highest grade of Florida molasses available. Never using pre-fab flavor packets,



Siesta Key Rum is made with fresh ground spices and honey. And it doesn't take a professional to taste the difference. In addition, Siesta Key Rum takes great pride in using locally sourced ingredients to create their flavorful spirits. By supporting local farmers and producers, Siesta Key Rum not only delivers a delicious product but also contributes to the sustainability of the surrounding community.



At the heart of Siesta Key Rum is the visionary distiller, Troy Roberts. With a passion for crafting top-notch spirits, Roberts has dedicated his life to perfecting the art of rum-making. He is the driving force behind the success of Siesta Key Rum with his relentless pursuit of excellence and unwavering commitment to quality. One of the things that sets Siesta Key Rum apart is



its commitment to small batch production. Unlike mass produced rums, Siesta Key Rum is meticulously

crafted in limited quantities to ensure that every bottle meets the highest standards. This attention to detail combined with Roberts expertise results in a rum that is truly exceptional.

Siesta Key rum seamlessly blends tradition and innovation. Roberts incorporates techniques that have been passed down through generations of rum makers ensuring that the spirit stays true to its Caribbean roots. Yet, he also embraces modern innovations to enhance flavors. One of the standout features of this distillery is its aging process. Through the "solera process" of multi level barrels, new rum is added to the top and older rum is gradually moved down and eventually bottled from the bottom level. This fractional blending creates a consistent and complex flavor profile by continually mixing rums of different ages ensuring that a small

portion of very old rum remains in the system with each bottling.

We heard the history of this success story from 3 charming guides who filled our heads with facts and figures all while telling amusing tales of mishaps and failures. But the proof was in the taste tests and we tried almost all the different rums from Spiced to Toasted Coconut to Coffee flavored that the distillery produced and offered. We visited the distillery tasting room on arrival, at first to awaken our curiosity and at the end, to savor their accomplishment. This was my third visit to

the Drum Circle Distillery and although a lot has changed over the years, I felt privileged to have personally witnessed this hometown success story.



Thank you for taking the journey with me.

Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary



MSA SOCIAL EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2025

Happy Fall everyone! Are you ready to get busy? We have an extensive line up of favorite social activities and some new and exciting adventures for members to participate in and enjoy.

Wednesday October 8th at 5 P.M. Hickory Hollow DWBH

Gather for drinks and dinner at a Bradenton tradition, Hickory Hollow located at 4705 US-301 Ellenton. Enjoy East Carolina style BBQ and seafood in simple homey digs! See you there!



Saturday October 18th at 11 A.M. MSA's Almost Annual Beach Picnic

It is that time again for MSA's Almost Annual Beach Picnic scheduled for 11 A.M. on Saturday October 18th. We will gather at Bayfront Park Pavilion on Anna Maria Island for a short and sweet MSA



meeting before our traditional picnic lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers grilled to perfection by Gary Morgan and crew.

Please bring an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert to share and a personal beverage of your choice. Please remember that glass containers and alcohol are prohibited from the beach so be careful and be creative.

Water will be provided by the club. Please wear a swimsuit, bring a chair, sunscreen, a hat, a towel, water toys and a playful spirit. The temperature should be milder and the water perfect for a swim or a soak. Spend the afternoon relaxing at a beautiful gulf beach with your best MSA friends. You won't want to miss this event as we have a few surprises up our MSA sleeves!!! See you there!

Saturday October 25th at 7 P.M. The Florida Orchestra "Free Pops in the Park"

It's really happening! I am so excited to invite you to the Vinoy Park on Saturday October 25th for a "Free" open air Pops Concert presented by the world famous



Florida Orchestra. A small group of us attended this new event last year not exactly knowing what to do or what to expect. But this time we are a bit wiser. Chuck and I will arrive mid afternoon and rope off a section of the park area for our group. Look for an MSA burgee on a pole to mark the spot, hopefully somewhere in the middle near the orchestra. Try to arrive no later than 5 P.M. as the concert is extremely well attended. Bring a folding chair, a small folding tray table, a picnic basket filled with your favorite cold

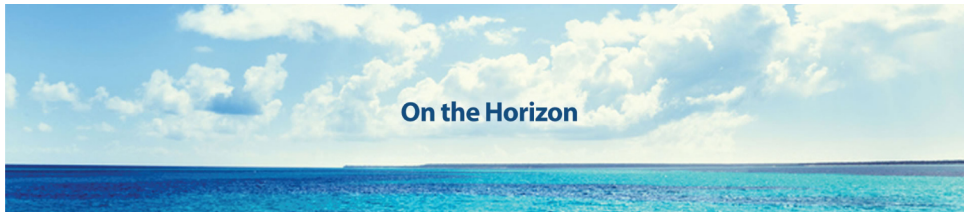
food, and wine, beer or champagne or personal beverage and maybe bug spray just in case. OR if preferred, food trucks will be available with food and drinks for purchase. Portable rest rooms will be available as well. The city of St. Petersburg has set up a free trolley service running every 15 minutes from 2 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. to assist with getting back and forth from Second Street South between Central Ave and First Ave. South (under the pedestrian bridge) to Vinoy Park at the north side of 7th Ave N.E. just west of Bayshore Dr. More info is available online. This is an incredible opportunity to see and hear a world-class orchestra at no cost to you. To sit under the stars with a glass of wine in your hand and listen to fabulous music with your best friends is truly a gift. Don't miss out! Please email me with your **RSVP** at gailgordon56@gmail.com so I will be able to set aside enough room for our group. See you there!

**Friday October 31st Time TBA
The MSA Halloween Costume Party**

I received word this week that the Almost Annual MSA Halloween Costume Party might become a reality this year thanks to

the upcoming return of our great host and hostess of MSA fame. Rick and Adelia Jackerson have volunteered to add another party to their extensive repertoire and we are truly thankful. Please come "dressed to impress" the Halloween judges as there will be prizes for the top three Halloween costumes. Rick and Adelia have not finalized all the details yet so watch for an email coming your way soon with times and directives. This MSA party has always been a fun and festive welcome to the beginning of the Holiday Season. So let's bring it in with a bang! Be creative with your costumes and get a bit crazy! See you at the Jackerson's at 313 Bryn Mawr Island on October 31st for the 2025 MSA Halloween Bash!





**November 9th at 6 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Boomers Dance Night**

Dig out your dancing shoes from the back of the closet, join your friends for a drink and some snacks and dance the night away with live music playing the sounds of Classic Rock, the Beatles and 60's Beach Rock. I will have a table reserved for our group so we can visit and enjoy some music from another time and dance if the spirit moves us. The cover charge is only \$5 and the memories are free. Come enjoy a



nightclub experience in a 5000 foot venue just down the street from our back yards. 88 Live Piano Bar is located at 6640

Cortez Road near Sage Biscuit. It is a family owned business that serves up top shelf drinks, great pizza, sandwiches and salads. 88 Piano Bar features the finest live music, vocalists, musicians and entertainment in the area.

Pull yourselves away from the TV and Sunday Night Football and relive a bit of your youth! LET'S DANCE!

Certified Health Coach

Betty Burton, RN, MSN

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Manatee Sailing Association New Membership Application

Name(s): 1. _____ 2. _____

Other members in household: _____

Address: _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell 1: _____ Cell 2: _____

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____

Boat Make/Size _____ Boat Name _____

I voluntarily assume all risks of participating in Manatee Sailing Association events, on land or water, and agree to hold harmless against any and all losses and/or claims incident thereto, the Manatee Sailing Association (a 501(c) nonprofit, all volunteer, organization), its officers and members. If I have a vessel, I certify that my vessel complies with U.S. Coast Guard requirements and that I maintain insurance policies sufficient to protect myself and my property, including liability, medical and property coverage, which insurance is primary and non-contributory.

Signature: _____

Annual Dues: \$100 for first member of household plus \$25 for each other members of household.

Please mail or email application to:

Manatee Sailing Association or msa@msasailing.org
PO Box 14482
Bradenton, FL 34280

Contact MSA at:
msa@msasailing.org
or
www.msasailing.org



MSA 2025 Officers

Commodore - Jim McGinnis
Vice Commodore - Tom Briggie
Cruising Captains - Chuck Fulton and
Sal Alfonso
Racing Captain - Sue Davidson
Secretary - Lynne McGinnis
Treasurer - Linda Briggie
Social Secretary - Gail Gordon
Membership - Deana Boydston
Past Commodore - Patti Korn