



Gale Tales

Manatee Sailing Association

Volume 41 Number 10

www.msasailing.org

October 2026

Up Coming Events

Event	Date	Time	Place
Beach Party	Oct 17	11:00 AM	AMI Bayfront Park
Pops Concert	Oct 24	7:00 PM	Vinoy Park, St Pete
Halloween Party	Oct 31	5:00 PM	Jackerson's House
MSA Meeting	Nov 4	5:00 PM	Mean Deans
Sail-a-way	Nov 11	4:00PM	Gulfport and Don Cesar



Ahoy MSA,

Adelia and I recently came home from a three month long trip. After unpacking, cleaning and yard work, we realized I have many projects to do. Two of which are getting the old Grady White motorboat working and get the sailboat fixed up and running. But there are some other more immediate projects that need my attention. This means we will be boat-less for a while.

A few years ago, Adelia and I headed down to the keys with our old Catalina 30. We went on this trip with another couple who were traveling on a large 36 foot twin engine trawler. This turned out to be a mismatch that caused some frustration. For one thing, our cruising speed was only 4 to 4.5 knots. Their cruising speed was about 6 to 7 knots. When we are heading into the wind, we can no longer keep going in that direction when the wind is 20 and above. So, there were times when our friend thought he

October 17



Bayfront Park, AMI

was going extremely slowly to accommodate us, and we thought he was forcing us to go faster than we could go.



Historic Rod & Gun Club Resort

Another problem that cropped up was the fact that they could close up their large cabin and turn on the A/C. This turned out to be a huge problem for us poor souls who had no A/C and no window screens because we were in Everglades City in the summer. This location has the highest concentration of man eating mosquitos found anywhere on this planet! A friend of mine who spent the night there on a large screened-in cabin sailboat, told me he woke up one morning, got himself a mug of coffee and looked through the screening of his cockpit, and was surprised to discover that it was still so dark outside. Being a very inquisitive fellow, he leaned over to the screening and touched it. To his surprise that spot let in more light, and he could now tell that the darkness was caused by a million mosquitos on the outside of the screen. We of course did not have any problem with too many mosquitoes on the outside of our screen because they were all inside our cabin keeping us company all night long. After staying there one night and realizing that we were on the verge of needing a blood transfusion, we were asked to stay there one more night. That night we

kept the cabin closed all day and stayed in the nearby “historic” Rod and Gun Club restaurant until after closing and made a mad dash to the boat. We got into our nice hot cabin, and I turned on the tiny fan. Adelia screams, “I need air, open the windows”, I scream, “The mosquito bites are killing me”. We haven’t sailed the boat since then, but we are still together and if I get the boat fixed, I bet we will sail again.

Luckily our co-commodore, Chuck, as well as other MSA members, have been keeping things going in our absence. They have planned events for three Saturdays in a row in October. On the 17th we will have the annual Anna Maria Island beach party, on the 24th there will be Pops in the Park at the Vinoy and on the 31st will be the Halloween Party at the Jackson’s.

We will resume monthly meetings November 4th at 5pm at Mean Deans. Chuck has secured a speaker named Randy Runnels, PhD. Manager

Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserve, and there is a “Sail Away” starting in November 11.



Very Old Store

As I type this article, we are experiencing some great weather, so let’s all get out on the water, if possible, and if not, then let’s party party party.

Rick Jackson
Co-Commodore
s/v Free Spirit

A CHANGE OF PLANS

by Gail Gordon

There is something comforting about having an organized schedule and

knowing that every detail is in place and that there will be no surprises. But folks, that seldom happens.....at least for me. I had my summer planned out to a "T". I had a few MSA Social events scheduled in

between a little surgical procedure and even managed to plan a getaway just before the busy fall season started. It was all going to work out just right.

Wrong! My big end of summer trip was cancelled just days before I was to leave. So, I quickly tried to find an alternative adventure to fill in the void on the calendar. I did! As a result, travel dates were changed and I sadly



would miss being home for one of the MSA Social Events.

Thank goodness for MSA members that jump into action when needed. Linda

Lund volunteered to execute the Friday September 4th Classic Dinner and a Movie event in downtown Sarasota at the opera house. A group of 10 MSA film enthusiasts signed up to see "The Princess Bride" on the big screen. I was sad

to miss this movie as it was one of my favorites. MSA members met at Patrick's on Main Street about 4:45 p.m. for some good food, spirits and MSA camaraderie

prior to the movie.

Patrick's has always been most welcoming to have our club gathered in their restaurant and we always appreciated it. At about 6:30 the group walked to the opera house for the main event. As usual, a Looney tunes cartoon

started the show off. And then, I heard that the fun began! Linda texted me the

Certified Health Coach

Betty Burton, RN, MSN

941.518.4493
www.facebook.com/betty.h.burton
HappyHealthyYouCoach@gmail.com



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next day and said: "We had so much fun at the movie. There were so many people there and they were so participatory. I've never been in a theater where there was so much laughter, so

much clapping and cheering! At the end, everyone stayed for the credits and cheered Rob Reiner and Mandy Patinkin and Billy Crystal.... everyone was so

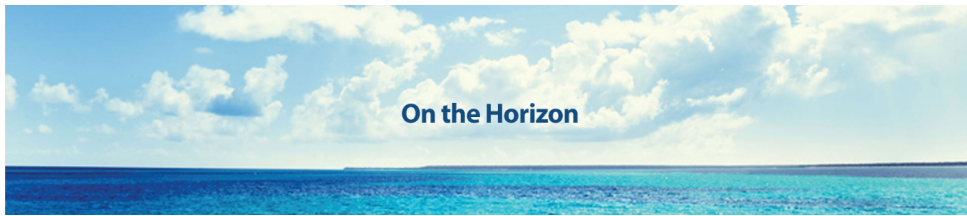


joyful in the lobby afterwards. Sorry you missed it!"

Thank you, Linda, for managing the event and even sending me a follow up report. Yup, I was sorry I missed it! But

all I can do is shrug my shoulders and say, "at the last minute there was a change of plans." Glad my MSA friends, that you enjoyed the evening!



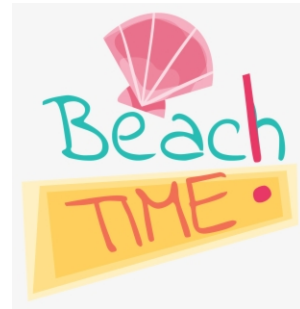


MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2026 MSA SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS START YOUR ENGINES

October 17th at 11 A.M. The MSA Annual Beach Party and Picnic

Grab a towel, a hat, some sunscreen, a chair, something to drink, (no glass or alcohol please), a dish of your choice....an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert to share and meet your MSA friends at Bayfront Park on Anna Maria Island for a day of sun, surf and best buddies. Don't forget your bathing suit either because the water will be just right. The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers plus all the fixings. Invite members you haven't seen in a while and make the day even more special. There will be games like spin the bottle (not what you are thinking), corn toss and cards if you get tired of soaking in the aqua marine water.



You can play cards or just chitchat with your friends under the shade trees. You can stay and watch the sunset at the end of the day. Take your shoes off and feel the sand between our toes and enjoy great MSA camaraderie all with a view of the gorgeous Gulf. See you there!

October 24th at 7 P.M Florida Orchestra Free Pops Concert at the Vinoy Park

This is one of the reasons we love living in this area! Pack a picnic, bring some champagne, grab a chair or blanket and head out to the Vinoy Park in St. Petersburg for a night under the stars listening to music that lifts the soul, all while hearing the gentle waves from the bay water as they hit the shore just steps from where you sit. The famous world class Florida Orchestra will thrill us with blockbuster movie themes, Broadway favorites and the best of Classical music. All this for free! I know you want to jump up and cheer, but we have been asked to save



our voices for the grand finale when we and the thousands of spectators will be asked to join in to sing Beethoven's Ode to Joy! (I will print up the words to assist singers in our group). I know parking is a challenge and it's quite a walk to the park from everywhere but it's worth it. I will be there in a central area in the park marked just for us so look for the anchor flag and MSA posters. Please note: There has been confusion about shuttle service in the past, but I will include the information that I got off the website. Hopefully this year, the service will be up and running, but you can always call an Uber if all else fails. See you there!

Buses and Trolleys (Downtown Looper) will be providing free shuttle service on October 24th, 2026, from 4 P.M. to 10 P.M. approximately every 15 minutes!

Pick up stop 1: Second Street South (between Central Ave and First Ave South under the pedestrian bridge connecting the Office Tower and the parking garage. Motorists may park in the garage by entering from 1st Ave South between 1st and 2nd Streets.

Pick up stop 2: Vinoy Park (7th Ave NE and North Shore Drive NE)

October 31st at 5 P.M. The Almost Annual MSA Halloween Costume Party

Don't get left out in the dark, search the back of your closet or check out the thrift shops because it's time to think about a costume for this year's MSA Halloween Party. Club members have the market cornered on great costumes but let's add some pizzazz to the party mix..... a theme! Get a little creative and get dressed up as a favorite character of movies, TV or theater.....live or dead.....fantasy or real. You could be King Kong or Faye Ray; you could be Abbott or Costello; you could be Butch Cassidy or the Sundance Kid; you could be Mickey Mouse or Donald Duck! The sky, my friends is the limit! Knock yourselves out! Well, not too much because we want you to come to the party. Please bring your personal beverage of choice and a dish to share (appetizer, entrée, side dish or dessert). Don't wait until the last minute! Greatness takes a little time.

Prizes will be awarded for creativity and execution of the theme. Once again, the Jackersons have been so gracious to open their home to us (313 Bryn Mawr Island). See you there!



November 4th 5 P.M MSA Quarterly Meeting at Mean Deans Restaurant

Randy Runnels, manager of Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserve, will be our guest speaker for the meeting. He will discuss future plans for Terra Ceia Bay. (Please note change of date for this meeting.)

November 11th – 14th MSA Sail-A-way to the Don Cesar and Gulfport

Non-sailing members are invited to meet at The Don Cesar at the restaurant “Society Table” on Thursday November 12th at 5 P.M. and Pia’s Trattoria in Gulfport on Friday November 13th at 5 P.M. for camaraderie, food and spirits. For more details check the article in this issue of the October MSA Gale Tales or contact the Cruising Captain, Jim McGinnis.

IN THE DISTANT FUTURE.....

February 21st, 2027 at 1:30 P.M. The Sarasota Opera production of HMS Pinafore

I have reserved tickets at the Sarasota Opera house for the live production of Gilbert and Sullivan’s HMS Pinafore for February 21st 2027 at 1:30 P.M. I have selected a matinee so that we can have an early dinner afterwards at one of downtown Sarasota’s finest and be back on the way home early in the evening. The seats are located together in the first few rows of the balcony and are \$55 each. Please mark your calendar and save the date. I will be taking reservations in December so stay tuned.

The famous 1878 comic opera satirizes the rigid British class system and the pompous bureaucracy of the Royal Navy. The story follows a lowly, high minded sailor named Ralph Rackshaw who falls deeply in love with Josephine, the daughter of the ship’s commander, Captain Corcoran. But the Captain wants Josephine to marry the arrogant Sir Joseph Porter, the First Lord of the Admiralty. Oh my, what could possibly go wrong?

March 2027 date TBA Sunday Brunch at the Polo Match

Details of the outing available at a later date

Remember for all those who purchased tickets for last year’s rained out polo match, this outing will be a free event.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary

CRUISING EVENT

Ahoy all,

Planning is underway for an MSA Cruise to the Don Cesar Hotel and Gulfport Nov 11 to 14, 2026. Should be a fabulous event for boaters and non-boaters alike.



Wednesday 11/11/26, MSA cruisers will rendezvous at 4PM at Desoto Point "The Cross" for a night on anchor. Dinner will be a pitch in. The park closes at 5 so that won't include cars.

Thursday 11/12/26, we will sail/motor to a small anchorage behind the Don Cesar Hotel. Gary Morgan

tells me we've stayed there before. Boats should arrive before 4 PM for the anchorage and then meet the MSA members piloting land yachts at the Don Cesar for Dinner at 5PM! The restaurant is called "**Society Table**". Their menu is online. Yes - it's

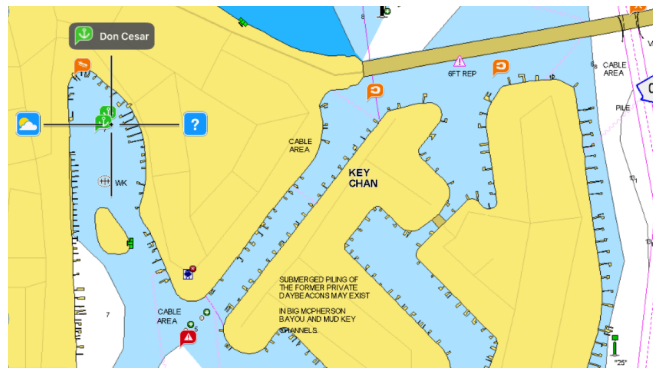
pricey but there are reasonable burgers and salads.

Friday 11/13/26, we will sail/Motor to Gulfport and anchor (free) or pick up a mooring ball for \$22 with the Municipal Harbormaster Denis Frain at [\(727\) 893-1104](tel:7278931104) or dfrain@mygulfport.us. Land yacht Captains and crew can meet us at **Pia's Trattoria** <http://www.piastrattoria.com> 3054 Beach Blvd S, Gulfport, FL 33707 (727) 327-2190 at 5PM. The dinghy dock is questionable at Gulfport so we may need to pull dinghy's up on the beach like we did in downtown Sarasota last year.



Saturday 11/14/26 Return to Home Ports! Let me know if you are interested. jmcginni@stny.rr.com. Thanks!

Jim McGinnis
Cruising Captain
S/V Brewster



ON THE HORIZON

October 17th: MSA Annual Beach Picnic

11 A.M. Bayfront Park Pavilion Anna Maria Island

October 24th The Florida Orchestra

7 P.M. Free Pops Concert in the Park, St.Pete Vinoy Park

October 31st: Almost Annual MSA Halloween Costume Party

5 P.M. Rick and Adelia Jackerson's home

November 4th: MSA Quarterly General Meeting

5 P.M. Mean Dean's Restaurant

November 11th to 14th Cruising

The Cross, Don Cesar, and Gulfport

December 9th: DWBH

5 PM Rocco's Italian Kitchen, Bradenton



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 2026 Officers

Commodore - Rick Jackerson & Chuck Fulton
Vice Commodore - Tom Briggie
Cruising Captain - Jim McGinnis
Racing Captain - Sue Davidson
Secretary - Claude Solomon
Treasurer - Linda Briggie
Social Secretary - Gail Gordon
Membership - Deana Boydston
Past Commodore - Jim McGinnis