



Gale Tales

Manatee Sailing Association

Volume 39 Number 1

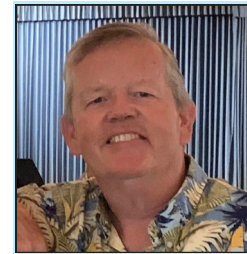
www.msasailing.org

January 2024

Up Coming Events

January 2024

Event	Date	Time	Place
Sport Kite Competition	Jan 13	10:00 AM	Treasure Island Beach
Installation Dinner	Jan 14	6:00 PM	Terra Ceia Bay County Club



Happy New Year MSA Members, Friends, and Family

Hopefully you are all enjoying a safe holiday season – we seem to be avoiding some of the larger traffic snarls and airport delays of previous years. I wish you all safe and speedy travels for family and friends for those that traveled to and from the north country.

On the Horizon

Event	Date	Time	Place
Frank Lloyd Wright Architectural Tour	Feb TBA	TBA	Florida Southern College
Polo	Mar TBA	TBA	Sarasota Polo Club

I am honored to become the MSA Commodore for 2024 and thrilled with the slate of Officers who have accepted the roles required to keep our organization humming. Significantly, we have benefited from the work of those in prior years like Past Commodore Patti Korn who has held multiple MSA Officers positions, LuAnn Zajackowski as Vice Commodore, Claude Solomon for multiple years as Secretary and John Castellana our Race Captain who kept our Annual Regatta sailing along. We are very fortunate to have Gail Gordon returning as our Social Secretary, Linda Briggie continuing as Treasurer and Tom Briggie (Past Commodore) taking the role of Vice Commodore. New Officers for 2024 are Lynne McGinnis as Secretary, and Deana Boydston for Membership. Sue Davidson



will lead the MSA Annual Regatta, Sal Alfonso and Chuck Fulton will team up as Cruising Captains. As always, we are deeply indebted to Gary Morgan for managing the Website, the "Gale Tales" Newsletter and the Membership Roster. Also I would like to thank Roger Cappello, Carla and Gary Morgan and Adelia and Rick Jackerson for having hosted numerous MSA events at their homes. It really is awesome to step back and summarize the contributions of our members. A big Thank You to these folks and many others who have contributed during this past year.

Please make a reservation by January 7th to attend the 2024 Installation Dinner at Terra Ceia Bay Country Club on January 14th to support our new Officers and recognize the efforts of the past. We expect a delightful evening with a dinner buffet and live entertainment. "La Vie en Rose"

I will call the new officers and committee leaders together this month to plan our calendar for the year. We hope to increase cruises, as we are no longer limited by COVID. Please let Sal or Chuck know if you have any ideas for Cruises we should take. Gail is always successful in adding to our coverage of the local area and maybe stretching our legs for some more distant venues. The Officers are very interested in your ideas for this year's activities – If you have any recommendations let us know.

For yourself, consider a New Years Resolution! They say the best resolutions are ones that are aligned with your personal priorities. So far I've found that within MSA you can learn new skills (pickleball), improve on existing ones (sailboat racing) while making new friends and deepening relationships.

Many of us enjoyed the MSA trip to the James Museum in St Petersburg last month. The entryway (a canyon with a waterfall) is unforgettable and sets the tone for the whole facility. The exquisite artwork boggles the mind. We look forward to going back with family when we get a chance. Thanks Gail!

Lynne and I took a personal trip to New Orleans this month and we highly recommend it. We toured the town with a knowledgeable bus guide, took a ride on the Steamer Natchez and spent a whole day at the World War II Museum. We stayed in a residential area (Marigny) and took the Streetcars everywhere. Food is spicy and amazing and every place has Dixie Land jazz in some form or fashion.

My Sailing Adventure of the month – One idea I had for people to get to know me better is to describe a sailing adventure I have had. Maybe you'll ask me for more details one day. My first was when I was 7 years

old on Cape Cod Bay MA, when my father bought one of the first fiberglass Alcort Sunfish sailboats for himself and my older sister. My family sailed that boat for 40 years and we replaced every part on it to keep it going. As a young teen, I sailed the Sunfish seven miles across Cape Cod Bay from East Brewster to the "target" ship in Wellfleet and back - when the tide only provided deep enough water for the daggerboard 3 hours before and after high tide. I was grounded by my parents for that sailing trip but undeterred. A Sunfish still might be the best boat for a learner at any age.

Fair Winds and following seas,

Jim McGinnis

Commodore



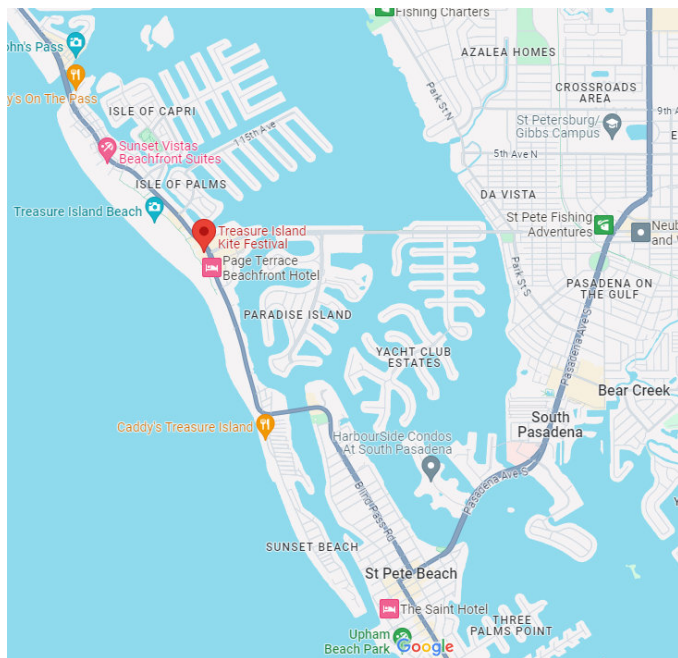
UPCOMING MSA EVENTS IN JANUARY 2024

THE 27TH ANNUAL TREASURE ISLAND SPORT KITE COMPETITION & FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13TH 10 A.M.

Last year on a cold Sunday morning in January 2023, Chuck and I decided to check out a kite festival advertised to be in St. Pete for the weekend. We didn't know what to expect but we did share the idea with Adelia and Rick Jackson who said that they were curious and might just show up as well. We advised them that we were packing a lunch and grabbing some beach chairs just in case the outing proved to be interesting.

I must admit that finding a parking spot around Treasure Island was a challenge and most places charged a hefty fee. We found out later that Rick somehow found available free street parking a short walk away.



Daily 10am-5pm

**Show Kites - Kite Demos - Hot ticks Competition
Free Stunt Kite Lessons - Kite Ballet to Music
On Treasure Island Beach Behind the Thunderbird Beach Resort**

We arrived to the beachfront a little after 10 A.M., and had no idea what was going to happen as the event was slow to start. Yet we were amazed at the number of stationary complex, colorful and humungous kites anchored to the ground blowing in the wind along the beach. We pulled up a chair on the sand with the aquamarine surf within our sight a short distance away and sat close in front of the cordoned off open beach area where competition would take place. What a gorgeous scene if nothing else.

Rick and Adelia came shortly thereafter. We all settled in, got comfortable and waited. Suddenly there was music playing out of huge speakers along the beach. And within seconds competing kite teams filled the air with dynamic movements, all choreographed to the music. The

formations created stunning images set against the cobalt blue sky. Team after team showed their talents which reflected hours of rehearsal and training. Some performances were dramatic and slow and some were exciting and fast. Some consisted of a single performer and some had more than 20 members in the presentation. It was such a delightful and surprising day that we stayed until the very last song was played and the very last kite was airborne. We didn't want the magic to end.

So I have been waiting for the possibility of attending the 2024 kite festival to try to revisit this lovely outing. Yes, I know it falls on the weekend of our installation banquet which is Sunday evening January 14th. But that leaves Saturday completely open for a trip to the beach to see some crazy kites swoop, swivel, dip and dance in the sky. You are all invited to be amazed, too. There is no fee for attendance other than perhaps parking. I just might see you there.



La Vie en Rose



THE MSA ANNUAL INSTALLATION BANQUET AT TERRA CEIA COUNTRY CLUB SUNDAY EVENING

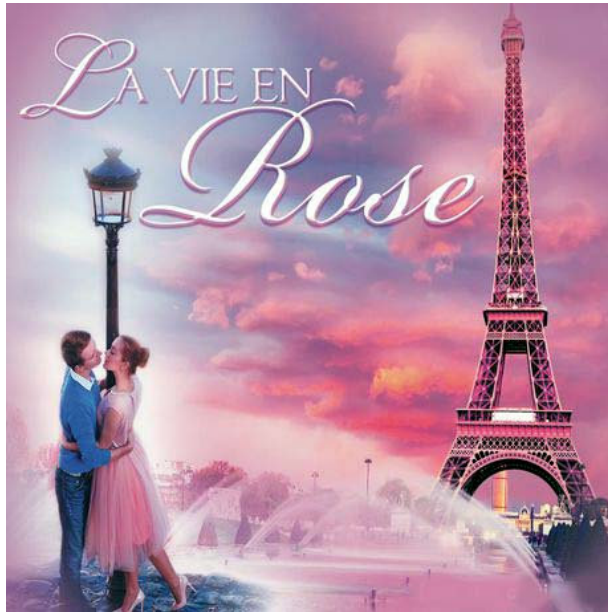
JANUARY 14TH AT 6 P.M.

During a fall board meeting your MSA board members discussed possibilities of where, when and how we would conduct our traditional parties and banquets in the near future. We took into consideration that we did not have abundant cash resources to support extravagance. So instead of enjoying the luxurious surroundings and culinary specialties of the Bradenton Yacht club as we have done in years past, we searched for other possible venues that would be more financially friendly. After much thought, the board chose to move our MSA banquet to the

Terra Ceia Country Club. For those of us who have been in MSA for decades, this would not be the first time we have walked through those doors for such an occasion.

Once we had a place and a date, I was approached to come up with a theme for the evening's festivities. I drew a blank! Nothing inspired me until..... one night while I was watching an old movie set in Paris that suddenly there it was floating in my head. I could hear a familiar song that personified Paris, romance and elegance. It was introduced to the world by a tragic French Torch singer, Edith Piaf, the same year I was born, 1947. Since then many famous singers such as Louis Armstrong and Andrea Bocelli have crooned that soulful melody. And one of my favorite renditions of this song was done beautifully

by Lady Gaga in the 2019 movie, "A Star is Born". The theme of our MSA Installation Banquet is "La Vie en Rose". The lyrics talk about how life can be as wonderful as when you first fell in love. The melody transports you to a romantic French Café on a quiet back street in Paris. So on the night of our banquet not only will we enjoy dinner and music and the company of dear friends, we will escape to Paris for a few stolen hours.



it a night to remember! Ladies, put on a black lacy dress or a red satin gown; and gentlemen wax your mustache, slip on your top hat and grab your cane and dress for a night in gay Paris. Mark your calendar for a not to be missed event to a different time and place. Bonsoir, mon cheri! See you there!

ON THE HORIZON:

February date TBA: Florida Southern College, Lakeland Frank Lloyd Wright Tour

March date TBA: Sunday Brunch at the Polo Matches

Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary

Yes, there will be the exchange of MSA Board Members from 2023 to 2024. And then there will be awards presented to those members who have earned the recognition as well. But ooh, la, la! Make



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MANATEE SAILING ASSOCIATION
2024 INSTALLATION DINNER



	Number	Amount
Installation Dinner		
6:00 PM Sunday, January 14, 2024		
Special Dinner Buffet & Live Entertainment	_____	_____
\$40 per person		



Dinner Attendees Names:

Make check payable to:
Manatee Sailing Association

Mail to:
MSA
PO Box 14482
Bradenton, FL 34280-4483

RSVP by January 7, 2024

SAILING; A DIFFERENT WAY!

By Gail Gordon

We just happened to pick a week of crazy weather to go camping and kayaking! Well, we didn't pick it exactly! You have to reserve state park sites just about a year in advance and even then you are lucky to actually get in. So the weather was not a consideration. We were going if only to meet up with the other members of Chuck's kayak club. It had been 2 years since we had enjoyed this adventure due to Chuck's unfortunate car accident. I was a little nervous myself since this kind of sport kayaking was not my forte especially after such a long hiatus. But I loved the camping or should I say "glamping"? Staying in an Airstream camper is not roughing it by any means. Yet, high winds and probable rain were forecast to be a part of the deal. But surprisingly, these avid kayakers found streams and rivers that were calm and protected from the elements. I did notice that there was very little visible wildlife which was not normal for this sort of activity. Maybe the critters knew something we didn't.

So one windy day in south Florida at Jonathan Dickenson State Park the small group left for a nearby creek for a short paddle. As we were driving I noticed a large assembly of people, campers and cars along the



shoreline of a lake across the divided highway. I strained my neck to check out what was going on. Out of the corner of my eye, I could make out little white things flying along the surface of the white capped water. I told Chuck, I thought they were small sailboats! Hmmmm!

So after our quiet hour or two on the creek and a picnic lunch we drove back toward the campground making a detour to check out what was happening on the lake. After

struggling to find the entrance road, we were met with a long row of International Flags. This looked like a big deal! And it was! We, by accident, found a sailing event! In the middle of nowhere in south Florida, the International One Meter 2023





North American week long Championship was in full swing. 14 countries were represented from all over the world, some as far away as New Zealand. We didn't know much about this kind of sailing activity so we asked lots of questions. The boats were amazingly complex and were radio controlled by competitors stationed on the shore. Both sails and rudders could be adjusted very much like it's grown up versions. Each sailing vessel had 3 sets of sails which were used depending upon the force of the wind and the skills of the operator. As in any kind of sailing, this was an expensive hobby. These one meter sailboats went for \$5000 and up.

The wind gusts this week, sometimes 30 to 40 MPH, blew the vessels hard over on the rough lake water but we never saw one go under. And we noticed that the competitors were just as serious about winning these races as in the America's Cup. We spent several afternoons as the weather deteriorated watching the one meter sailboats perform in challenging conditions. The lesson here was that sometimes the journey can be more exciting than the destination. This sailboat races were the big deal of our kayaking trip. Look what we would have missed!

Certified Health Coach

Betty Burton, RN, MSN

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HappyHealthyYouCoach@gmail.com





Manatee Sailing Association

2024 Membership Renewal

Name(s): 1. _____ Date: _____
2. _____

Other members in household: _____

Mailing address: _____

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

Home Phone: _____

Cell 1: _____ Cell 2: _____

Email #1 _____ Email #2 _____

Boat Make and Size _____

Boat Name _____ Sail # _____ PHRF _____

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 a household plus \$25 for each additional member of the household

Manatee Sailing Association
PO Box 14482
Bradenton, FL 34280

MSA@MSASailing.org

MSA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

LET IT RAIN!

The year 2023 could not finish successfully without us having an MSA Christmas Party somewhere, somehow at sometime! Being made of Superhero material, Gary and Carla Morgan stepped forward and offered to host this beloved MSA event. Their home although far out



into the hinterlands was ideal for such an occasion. Even though we all brought our favorite culinary offerings to share with our MSA friends, setting up for such an occasion was a lot of extra effort. And to add insult to injury, one of the superheroes was slightly broken at the time. But faithful MSA members stepped in per usual to lessen the burden. Thank you, thank you and thank you to Carla and Gary and to all those secret Santas that lent them a hand. As a result the evening was unforgettable!

However, the weather that evening was less than cooperative! As most of us had a bit of a drive to get to Parrish, we left early just about the time the skies opened up and deluged buckets of rain onto the roads. The front hit us broadside at 4:00 PM and didn't let go

until about 6. At 5, the scheduled time of the party, it was nothing short of dark and stormy. As most of us had platters of food to bring in from the car along with our beverages, holding an umbrella proved to be a challenge. We all seemed to huddle our vehicles as close to the house as possible. Leaving would be a bigger challenge but at least it wouldn't be raining anymore.

But as we gobbled up yummy homemade food and toasted the Holidays with our spirits, we took the time to look around the welcoming surroundings and realized just how lucky we were. We were invited to spend the evening with over 40 of the best people in the world, while in a place that could not be dampened by the inclement weather or with the conflicts in our world. We found ourselves reflecting on the years of MSA memories that we have gathered and the possibility of all the good times ahead that this amazing organization will present. Personally, I feel more than grateful, I am truly honored!

Gail Gordon



MSA CHRISTMAS PARTY





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 2024 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