



# Gale Tales

## Manatee Sailing Association

Volume 39 Number 5

[www.msasailing.org](http://www.msasailing.org)

May 2024

### Up Coming Events

May 2024

Event	Date	Time	Place
Cruise	May 2,3,4	4:30 PM	Marvista & Harts Landing
MSA Meeting	MAY 8	4:30 PM	Mean Dean's Local Kitchen
Social Event	May 14	2:00 PM	Tampa Bay History Center



### AHOY MSA MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY,

This month's sailing story –  
Sail to Boca Grande

### On the Horizon

Event	Date	Time	Place
DWBH	June 12	5:00 PM	Anna Maria Oyster Bar, Ellenton

“Dolphins off the port bow!” We went sailing in February 2022 on a 40 ft Fountaine Pajot Catamaran chartered from Burnt Store Marina in South West Florida. This awesome marina boasts 525 wet slips & 300 dry slips, along with 27 holes of golf, the athletic club, tennis courts, pools, plus the excellent dining at Cass Cay Restaurant, Linkside Cafe, and the Ship's Store, “The Trading Post”,) and belies its history as a spot of devastation.

The story goes that in 1839 the Seminole Indians were being pushed from their land. So one dark night, as the legend goes, an Indian Chief known as Billy Bowlegs, and his little band stormed the Trading Post and set it on fire. Some of the surveyors spotted the Indians on the run and fired at them, killing some. Several settlers lost their lives in the fire.” Thus, the name “Burnt Store”.

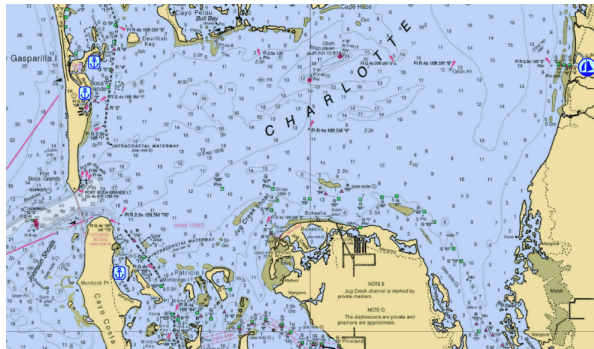
### SAIL AWAY TO MARVISTA AND HARTS LANDING



MAY 2, 3, & 4

RACE IN SARASOTA BAY  
MAY 3RD

This area is just north of Fort Myers on the edges of Charlotte Harbor. It is a terrific spot for a sailing charter since the opportunities for adventure are great, sailing is unlimited and it's all located in protected huge Charlotte Harbor where you can be sailing just minutes from the marina.



entered the Intracoastal waterway. Hailing the harbor master on the VHF we told him

we had a reservation for a slip for the night. He directed us to the northern point on the west most dock where we tied up for the night. Dinner reservations at the Cabbage Key Inn probably weren't needed but we were

welcomed to the Captain's Table at the Inn and had a delightful dinner of catch of the day - Triple Tail. The owner regaled us with the history of the inn and some stories of famous visitors. The bar is known for having > \$80,000 dollars stapled or tacked to the ceiling from visitors.

In the early 1500s, the explorer Juan Ponce De Leon is believed to be the first European to visit this harbor. Today,



*The entrance to Boca Grande Marina*

A day later the weather cleared, and we headed out into the Gulf of Mexico in a north wind. We got the catamaran up to 10 knots with full sails in a stiff breeze which kicked up white caps on the Gulf. More dolphins approached the boat and seemed to keep tabs on us from time to time. Due to the haze and relatively low visibility, we were out of sight of land at about 10 miles from Gasparilla Island. After a great sail, we headed back into Charlotte Harbor, furlled the sails, and

Sanibel, Captiva and Cayo Costa are a fabulous chain of islands to the south of Charlotte Harbour. Gasparilla Island is to the west and has been made famous by the exploits of the notorious Spanish pirate Jose Gasparilla. (1756 – 1821 reportedly)

Heading out of Burnt Store having just topped off diesel fuel and freshwater tanks, we encountered a light chop and winds out of the South East. We were able to set the main and jib sails and set a nearly beam reach course direct to Cabbage Key. After a few hours we reached Cayo Costa and



*S/V Running Higher*

motored into Boca Grande Marina for the night. We rented a 6-passenger golf cart to tour the island and visited the light house and a historical museum. We had a huge spaghetti and meatball dinner on the boat that evening and capped it off with a game of "Yacht Race". It's a 1960's board game from Parker Bros. that simulates a 6 boat sailboat race with wind changes and surprising events that can affect a single boat or the fleet. White knuckle skippers waited anxiously for the next turn.

We sailed Charlotte Harbor and visited Useppa Island for a night before heading back to Burnt Store Marina. All in all, it was a terrific trip, and a great time was had by all aboard. I can't recommend the area enough for a fabulous cruising area close by!

**Regatta** – The Terra Ceia Regatta on 4/20 was blessed with fabulous weather from the opening horn to the end of the evening. Sue Davidson and Clay not only got help from Zeus the God of Weather, but many MSA members who pitched in to make the whole event perfect. The drinks were plentiful at the Tropic Isles Clubhouse, and we all spent some time judging the best.

**New members** – Welcome to Rich and Tree Pereira – and thanks for attending the Terra Ceia Regatta. Rich sailed around the fleet while we were racing. They have a 30 ft Bombay Clipper 31 S/V La Paloma and live in Palmetto.

Thanks to Sue Davidson for asking them to join us! Welcome Rich and Tree!



*Sunset on Useppa Island*

**MSA Membership Meeting** – Our next Membership Meeting is 5/8/24 at 5PM at Mean Dean's Restaurant - 6059 26th St W, Bradenton, FL 34207 - We will have a quarterly membership meeting with updates from our officers and committee chairs. Tom Briggie has

arranged a guest speaker on the topic of Celestial Navigation. Please come out and mingle. (Mean Dean's Happy Hour ends at 5PM so arrive around 4:30PM to get a beverage and a table in the side room.)



*One of the Ninja Gopher Turtles at Cabbage Key*

**MSA May Sail away** – In March, we had a great time heading north to Ruskin and St Pete for a few days sailing. Those that drove up joined us for Happy Hour and then dinner at Little Harbor. Our next Sail Away is planned for May 2, 3, 4, 2024 with an anchorage at Mar Vista Bay the first night and dinner. The next day we will race to the Sarasota Bay Bridge and overnight in that area.

Please come by boat or by car, we will be looking forward to seeing everyone.

**Don't Worry Be Happy** – April 3rd – on short notice we were able to get a reservation in the back room at Modern Chop Restaurant. They had recently redecorated, and we had a very nice

dinner there with their wine special deal. Tom Briggie is setting up the next DWBH event on 6/12/24. We had a great turn out for RJ Gators, Modern Chop and the more the merrier. See you there!  
Fair Winds and following seas,

Jim

**MSA QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**MAY 8, 2024**  
**4:30 PM**



**6059 26<sup>TH</sup> STREET WEST**  
**BRADENTON, FLORIDA**

**JOIN YOUR FELLOW SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SAILORS FOR DINNER AT OUR QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING.**

**GET THE LATEST UPDATES ON OUR SAILING AND SOCIAL EVENTS.**

**SEE YOU THERE, CHEERS**

**Certified Health Coach**

**Betty Burton, RN, MSN**

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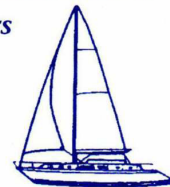


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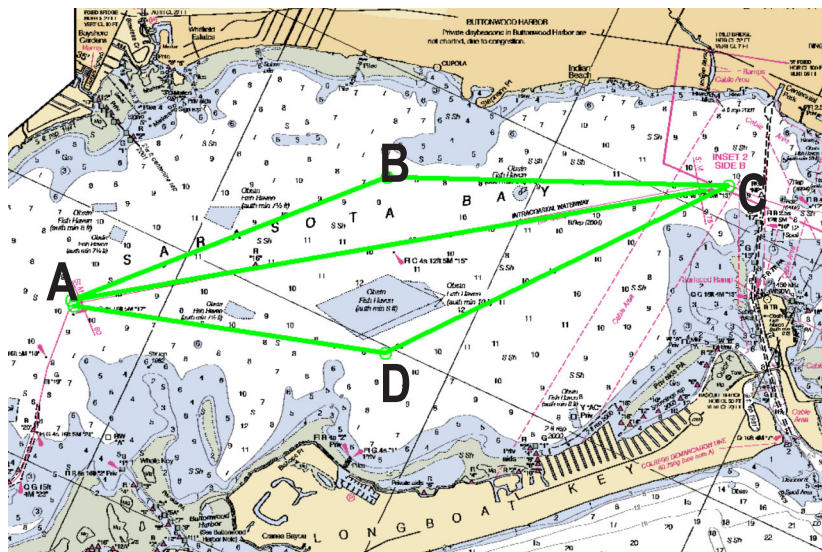
## CRUISING NEWS

Our next Sail-Away is planned for May 2, 3, 4, 2024 and the itinerary is to anchor in Mar Vista Bay the first night (Thursday) and have dinner at the Shore Longboat Key Restaurant (for you land yacht arrivals it's at 800 Broadway St. Longboat Key). Be advised this is an upscale restaurant and prices average between \$30 and \$50/entrée, but the views are to die for and your own boat will be part of the scenery. We are to be seated in the Gazebo area (inside) and they will do separate checks for couples and singles. Unfortunately breakfast on Friday will have to be on your own boat because the few restaurants in the area do not open until 11:00 am.

The next day we plan to have another unofficial race down Sarasota Bay with the goal of anchoring in Hart's Landing Cove next to the Sarasota Ringling Megabridge. It's a fairly roomy anchorage with room for perhaps a dozen boats and plenty of water

are open to suggestions for an alternative if you would prefer.

For the race we will use Marker G "17" for the start and Marker G "13" for the finish line which will take us down the center of Sarasota Bay and the tides that day will be half-high to high between 0800 and 1900 so we will have plenty of water on the race course. The course will be a trapezoid (see attached chart) with the start being Point A (27 24.58N 082 36.78W), next will be Point B (27 22.46N 082 36.05W), to Point C (27 20.79N 082 33.73W), to Point D (27 22.97N 082 34.81W), to Point A (27 24.58N 082 36.78W), to Point C (27 20.79N 082 33.73W) and finish. The total course distance is 14 NM which should be about 3 hours depending on your speed. Please keep your own times and extra points will be awarded for honesty (just kidding). Sailors, unlike fishermen never tell tall tales.



For breakfast we plan to eat at the Toasted Mango (430 N. Tamiami Trail) a short walk from Hart's Landing which if you haven't been to yet, prepare your taste buds for a heavenly experience. Suggestions and ideas for the trip are always welcome.

Please RSVP to Chuck so we can have a headcount for the restaurants.

Fair winds and smooth seas,  
Your Cruising Captains

up rather close to the shore of the bridge road with good wind protection from the East, South, and North, not so good from the west but then neither is Marina Jack's anchor field. For dinner that night (Friday) we are thinking of Patrick's 1481 restaurant in Sarasota (1481 Main St.) but

Chuck Fulton, 678-524-3545,  
chuckfulton7134@gmail.com  
Sal Alfonso, 941-705-4455,  
salfonso1958@gmail.com

## MSA SOCIAL EVENT

### **TAMPA BAY HISTORY CENTER** **801 WATER STREET, TAMPA**

Treasure seekers, conquistadors and pirates and members of MSA are invited to join me on an adventure at the Tampa Bay History Center located on downtown Tampa's Riverwalk on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 P.M. I have changed the date because I had



year old shipwreck artifacts on view for the first time. The cost for the museum and a docent led tour is \$15 with a minimum of 10. We will have lunch at 11:30 A.M. at the Columbia Café located in the History Center itself so it will be easy peasy to park just once for both food and tour at the same place. Please make your reservation by emailing me at [gailgordon56@gmail.com](mailto:gailgordon56@gmail.com) no later than May 6<sup>th</sup>.



Gail Gordon  
MSA Social Secretary

read that the Cross Bay Ferry schedule was going to be extended through May and I thought that would provide our transportation to Tampa. But no, the ferry service ends in April! I didn't want us to be driving around Tampa on a Friday, so I moved our visit to a Tuesday hoping for less traffic.

We will have a private docent tour guide who will lead us through interactive exhibits and theaters within the 3 floors of the museum. We will explore a full scale replica of an 18<sup>th</sup> century sailing sloop and discover 400





## **TERRA CEIA REGATTA AND PARTY**

Terra Ceia Regatta and Party put on their new face this year and heralded in a combination of past traditions and today's new look. The new look happened as a result of combination available resources, cost, or just "let's do something different this year". But whatever sparked the

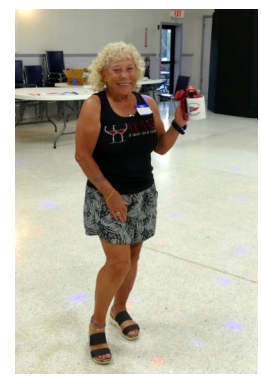


changes, the MSA Terra Ceia Regatta, Rendezvous and Party was a wonderful success. Sue Davidson, our 2024 MSA Racing Captain, not only officiated the regatta but designed a new look to how the day progressed.

As per tradition for over 25 years, the first Terra Ceia race started noonish with plenty of sunshine and favorable winds. It was a joy to see sailboats heeled over under full sails as they raced for the next buoy. After the races and as the sailors made their way back from the water later that afternoon, the Tropic Isles clubhouse

was busy with contest contenders setting up their favorite drink concoctions which were judged for taste, appearance and creativity. Thank you Mike Fauser and Elaine for judging the competition. Sailors and friends kept the contestants busy blending and serving as the competition proceeded.

Instead of slaving over a stove preparing a dish to share, we arranged for a gourmet food truck, specializing in Greek food, to provide our evening meal. After our drinking competition and with full bellies, we turned our attention to the awards. The winner for best blender drink was our newest member Rich and Tree Pereira. Adelia Jackson took the prize for the best blended drink plus the overall best drink as voted by the members and friends in attendance. Congratulations drink contenders.



Next was the coveted awards for the 2024 Terra Ceia Regatta. First place went to

Captain Marino Garci on s/v Zoom. Second place to Captain John Castellana on s/v Polyester. And third place to Captain Ed Hartung on s/v Zig Zag. Each participant received a photograph of their sailboat taken during the race that day.

The only thing left to do was Party as we kicked up our heels and shook our booties to the foot stomping music, as we enjoyed the rest of the evening.







# 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](mailto:msa@msasailing.org)  
PO Box 14482  
Bradenton, FL 34280

**Contact MSA at:**  
[msa@msasailing.org](mailto:msa@msasailing.org)  
or  
[www.msasailing.org](http://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  
Past Commodore - Patti Korn