



Gale Tales

Manatee Sailing Association

Volume 40 Number 4

www.msasailing.org

April 2025

Up Coming Events

April 2025

Event	Date	Time	Place
DWBH	Apr 9	5:00 PM	Motorworks
Terra Ceia Regatta	Apr 19	Noon	Terra Ceia Bay
Regatta Party	Apr 19	4:30 PM	5315 Commonwealth Road, Palmetto

On the Horizon

Event	Date	Time	Place
Kentucky Derby Party	May 3	5:00 PM	Roger's Home 7304 19 th Ave W Bradenton
Membership Meeting	May 14	5:00 PM	Modern Chop Restaurant
DWBH	June 11	5:00 PM	Anna Maria Oyster Bar Palmetto

TERRA CEIA REGATTA



APRIL 19TH



AHOY MSA MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY,

The Cortez Nautical Swap was held 9-1 PM on March 8th 2025 and we raised \$350 for the club after the \$25 booth fee. We had excess boating items and gear donated from Jacksons, McGinnis, Morgans, Lunds, Capella, Jacobs, Briggles and Vittons. We also had a booth for Knot Tying with a focus on gaining new members. Tom and I talked to quite a few people and passed out lots of trifolds. A guy that tried to challenge me to a bowline tying contest with one hand in 10 seconds. But I beat him, Just sayin'.



Tom has a DWBH set for April 9 at Motorworks in Bradenton on April 9 at 5 PM and Anna Maria Oyster Bar Ellenton on June 11 at 5 PM. See you there!

MSA Membership Meeting – Our next Membership Meeting will be May 14th at 5PM at the Modern Chop Restaurant. They did a very

nice job for us last time. We will have a quarterly membership meeting with updates from our officers and committee chairs. We are working on a guest speaker.

The Terra Ceia Regatta is set for 4/19/25. Race Commodore Sue Davidson is working on the event for us! Lynne and I have rented a Catalina 30 "S/V Latitudes" for the race and will be anchoring out the night before at the Cross. Maybe you can motor/sail by?



Zane Grey - "I need this Wild Life this Freedom"

My sailing story this month is from when I took a trip to New Zealand in April of 2023. I was determined to cross one item off the bucket list and to see a part of the world below the Equator. It was a great visit and I stayed at a variety of AirBnb's and Hotels on the North Island. I flew into Auckland and then drove around the island for a week visiting museums and beaches, parks and a sailing center. The people were very nice and I made some good contacts because I was traveling alone, just renting a room in their house on AirBnb. One family I stayed with invited me to join them for dinner. We had fresh sushi the man had caught that morning.

New Zealand is an island nation of 5 million people. More than 50% are of European decent and 15% MŌori Indians. It is about the size of the United Kingdom. The earliest Indians traveled by boat from Polynesia to New Zealand around 1400 AD. I visited Mercury

Beach where Captain Cook landed on November 9th, 1769, to witness the planet Mercury's transit of the Sun. Interesting tidbit for those into Celestial Navigation. They predicted the transit and knew how to view it when Mercury crossed in front of the sun. Cook sailed around the world on the HMB Endeavor.

My sail originated in Paihai, which is a small town at the "Bay of Islands" A beautiful sailing/charter ground popular with cruisers named by Capt Cook. Zane Grey, the Western

author, used to visit the Paihai area for offshore billfish fishing. There is a seafood restaurant there in his name.

I took a day sail on the S/V Gungha II to Cook's Island where we had an opportunity to swim in tidal pools and hike the hills of the island. The 65 ft boat was crewed by a couple from Vancouver who had sailed another boat across the Pacific from Canada and settled in New Zealand. They now lead sailing adventures in the summer season. It rained lightly in the morning of our trip, then the clouds lifted, and the wind took over giving us a great sail on the return trip.



Gungha II

GUNGHA II Designed by B Birdsall in New Zealand she is a fractionally rigged 65 foot sloop, overall length 65 feet, draft 6 feet and displacing 23 tons.

Jim McGinnis
Commodore
s/v Brewester

**A SPRING TRADITION:
MSA TERRA CEIA REGATTA AND PARTY**

**Save the date: Saturday April 19th,
2025**

When the weatherman stops talking about arctic cold fronts dipping deep into the south and the temperature begins to climb well into the 80's we know that spring has finally found its way back into our lives. We pull out the shorts and flip-flops, open the windows and get back to cooking on the BBQ. We celebrate having made another revolution around the sun. And yes, it's time we get back on the water!

You are cordially invited to participate in an annual spring tradition of MSA's Terra Ceia Regatta and Party. Mark your calendar for **Saturday April 19th** for one of the great club events of the year. Although this regatta has become part of our club history, the details of this event continue to change year by year in order to make the day more fun and exciting. The Terra Ceia race will start again at noon within the course that has been the tradition for years. For more race information and to register your sailing vessel and crew for



the regatta please contact our Racing Captain, Sue Davidson, at sue@starboardmedia.com.

We will have a new place for our "after race" party directly on Terra Ceia Bay at **5315 Commonwealth Rd. in Palmetto**. There is a huge backyard area in the rear of this private home where we can enjoy some food, fun and camaraderie. Plan to arrive around **4:30 P.M.** and be greeted with a frosty glass of festive Captain's

punch. Bring your competitive spirit with you as there will be games and contests and prizes during the course of the day for both sailors and non sailors. Dinner will be

provided by the "Simply Greek Food Truck" (same as last year) which will be parked on the side of the house. They will take cash or credit card for your food purchases. And of course, the Terra Ceia Trophies will be awarded to winners of the regatta race. A small entrance fee of \$5 cash (which includes a bottle of cold water and a brand new MSA Koozie) will get you into one of the best parties in town. Please email me at gailgordon56@gmail.com if you will be joining us. Hope to see you there.

Things to remember:

- The new party address 5315 Commonwealth Rd, Palmetto
- Bring \$5 cash for entrance fee, water and koozie
- Non-sailors bring a beach chair for relaxing and watching the sunset
- Bring a happy spirit and a fun loving attitude

Ahoy Terra Ceia Regatta Racers

***We will Rendezvous on Saturday, April 19th in Terra Ceia Bay.
Racers meet mid-bay by our start line prior to the 12 noon start.***

Monitor VHF 05 for course and information.

Please advise Sue if you will be racing ahead of the 19th, if possible.

NON-Racers are urged to join

MSA's Terra Ceia Treasure Hunt!!

By land yacht or (preferably) by SEA.

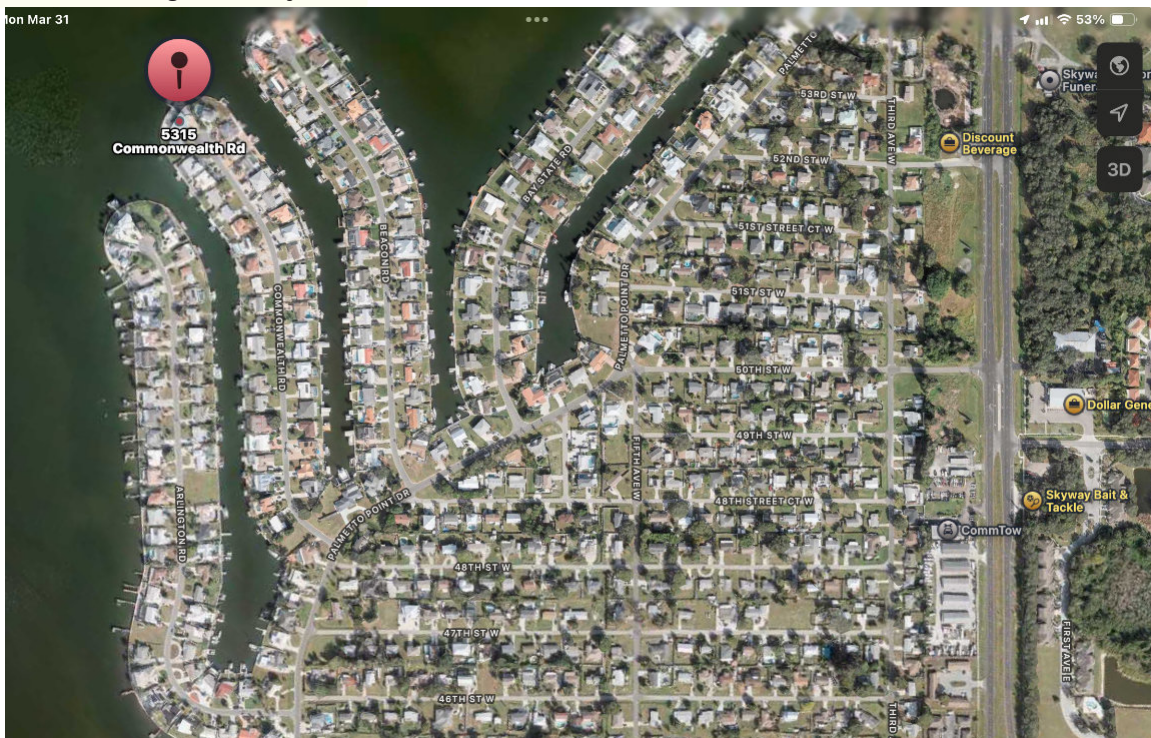
***Create a team and find the Clues while visiting
neighborhood docks, etc.***

***Details (Treasure Maps!) for this FUN event will be provided as we get closer to
our day in TC.***

Prizes for the winning Treasure Hunters and Racers will be awarded at our TC Party.

Don't miss this year's Terra Ceia Rendezvous!

Terra Ceia Regatta Party



Terra Ceia Regatta Race Entry Agreement

In consideration of the acceptance of my race entry by Manatee Sailing Association (MSA), I agree as follows:

1. Representations. If I am the Skipper, I represent that I own, or have permission of the owner to skipper, the boat entered. I certify that my boat is equipped to conform with U.S. Coast Guard, US SAILING and Class/Fleet safety requirements, including a personal flotation device for each crew member. I am fully responsible for the operation and safety of my boat. I represent that I and my crew are physically fit to participate in the race. If I am crew or Skipper, I represent that my participation in this recreational activity is voluntary and for my enjoyment, that I am free to withdraw at any time I deem prudent, that I acknowledge that sailboat racing involves risks, and that I freely assume all risks, including the risks of serious personal injury, death or permanent disability from accident, drowning, exposure, overexertion, adverse sea or weather conditions, loss or damage of my boat or equipment, as well as all unforeseen risks.

2. Rules. I will comply with all US SAILING rules, the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing and all other rules that govern these events.

3. Insurance. MSA is not my insurer. If I am the Skipper, I maintain insurance policies sufficient to protect myself and my property, including liability, medical and property coverage, which insurance is primary and non-contributory.

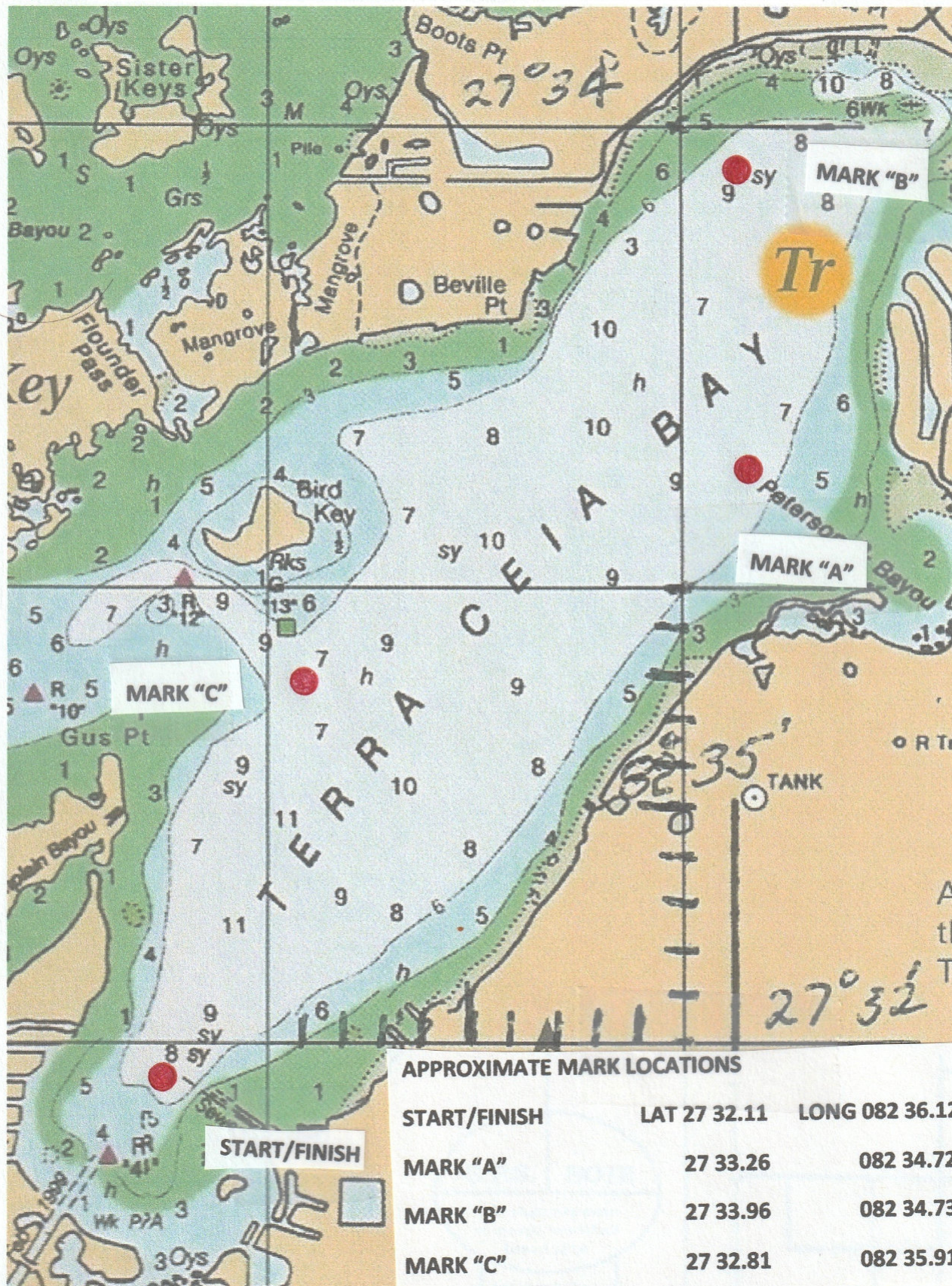
4. Liability Waiver and Release. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I waive the right to sue and I forever release MSA from any and all liability for personal injury or property damage arising from my participation in the race, and if I am the Skipper, I agree to indemnify and hold MSA harmless from any claim, damage, liability, lawsuit, cost or expense, including attorney fees, arising from my or my crew's acts or omissions and from any lawsuit brought against MSA in violation of this agreement.

Today's Date: _____

Signatures (Skipper): _____

Email signed document to **msa@msasailing.org**

TERRA CEIA REGATTA



**A FLASH FROM THE PAST
IN MT. DORA, FLORIDA
AN MSA WEEKEND FIELD TRIP
MARCH 21ST TO MARCH 23RD**

by Gail Gordon

Never had I thought I could actually pull off a long distance 3 day MSA Social Event and if I could, I wondered if anyone would even sign up to go. At the very least,



"I" wanted to attend the Antique boat Show myself and spend time in historic and beautiful Mt. Dora. I had run across the boat show in my travels about 10 years

ago but was not able to attend. So in December 2024 I started researching the possibility, found out the "who, what, where and when", got some prices and put a preliminary article of invitation in the January Gale Tales. Surprisingly within days, I had 8 members make a commitment to participate. Over the course of the last few months, my sign up sheet list grew to as many as 20 people. But in the end a fun group of 14 MSA members were able to spend a glorious spring weekend in central Florida enjoying a bit of historic elegance on the water. I must say, I had the time of my life!

After weeks of making plans and reservations, Friday March 21st was finally here. I had rented an AirB&B and invited our friends Rick and Adelia Jackson to join Chuck and myself to stay in our 1930's

bungalow a few streets from the center of Mt. Dora. They in turn drove the 4 of us in their



new SUV for the 2 hours and 45 minute journey to our destination. As we arrived in Mt Dora, we met some traffic in front of the famous **Van Gogh house** on Lake



Dora. The story has been told that artists lived in this house with their autistic son. The child loved Van Gogh and the parents painted the concrete wall around their house with some of the famous renderings. City ordinances were broken and lawsuits followed. The city insisted that the wall or fence of a residence was required to reflect the style of the house, not conflict it. So....the artists complied! After more court battles ensued, the owners finally won their case and now we all get to enjoy the beauty they have created. The home is a tourist attraction.

Charming was just one of the adjectives we used as we wandered through our little bungalow to unpack. The cottage included modern conveniences but still reflected the characteristics of the historic area. We were pleased. At 5 P.M. Friday evening, our guests started to arrive for a scheduled Welcome **Happy Hour** (or two) gathering. We were all here and accounted for so I was relieved. We enjoyed wine and beer and



munched on appetizers as we chatted and laughed abundantly in fellowship. Other than a few restaurant reservations, I had made a point to leave most of the hours of our weekend for members to enjoy at their leisure. On Saturday morning however, Rick, Adelia, Chuck and I did not waste time and we headed for the Antique Boat show at around 10. The 3 day boat show was held in the next town, Tavares, located at the other end of Lake Dora. We parked the car in the huge Tavares city garage (free) where shuttle service back and forth from the marina was provided. Easy Peasy!

Acting like a kid at the state fair, my eyes scanned over the large area that the boat show encompassed as I tried to select the best approach to insure that we would not miss a thing. We started at what was referred to as the “**Field Of Dreams**”.



This landside area included restored boats for sale and boats for sale that needed to be restored. It was fun reading the history of each vessel as we appreciated the age and the price. But the excitement grew when we began our walk across the little bridge of the marina that led to the docks

where gorgeous wooden and fiberglass boats sat in their slips glistening in the sunshine beckoning us to admire them. We stopped almost immediately when we realized we could go out on some of these boats for a spin around the lake. Our first adventure was on a new **Electric Legacy**



boat by Lancer Craft. We took off from the dock in total silence but once out on the open water the electric motor revved up and sliced into the surface at around 35MPH! We were surprised at the speed and handling. When we got back at the dock in total silence again, a hand reached out to help me out of the boat and I looked up in shock. It was **Rosie the Riveter!**



We were reminded once again that this show was supposed to be a Flash from the Past! We wandered on each and every “T”

dock and stopped to chat with the proud owners. There had to have been over 200 boats in the water and many on land to explore so we decided that taking a ride in them was a luxury we did not have time for. We reprimanded ourselves for not allowing more than one day to experience the show. After a while, we strolled toward the **paddleboat** in search of a cold drink and a



quick respite. We ran into friends with the same idea. I was thrilled to find out that this was a working vessel and it went out daily for sunset cruises. Maybe next time we could arrange to include that fun adventure.

I could talk about the many gorgeous antique boats that we were privileged to admire but that would take a long time. I

will mention a few of our favorites instead. There was only one cute little sailing vessel at the show. It was a **1947 12-foot BB Swan**, the first production fiberglass sailboat ever built created by Carl



Beetle and named "Tangerine". I was told that this little vessel never gained popularity because the public was not ready for a boat to be made of fiberglass. Not far from this dock was for me the "best in show"! It WAS the "best in show" in 2023. This gleaming wooden beauty was a 1918 Fay & Bowan 26-foot launch built in Lake Geneva New York. The engine was a Red Wing 36 Hp. More astonishing was that this "oldie but goodie" has been owned by the same family for the entire time! It was long and slender and spectacular! A lot of folks were gathered around the boat named "**Jenny**"! I snuck in front to get a gander



of a 1929 American Car and Foundry Wason Triple Cockpit Runabout. She was hull #102 and 18 feet long and was mahogany planked. She was a significant part of the outboard boat design evolution with the engine set inboard creating an after plane that improved performance. The engine was a 1931 model 808 electric start Evinrude Big Four developing 40 hp @ 4,000 RPM's. Phew! That was a mouthful! The last glamorous antique boat

I want to mention was aptly named **Miss "B" Haven**. She was out of the water so



we could get a glimpse of her bottom and her glamorous prop. She was sleek, sultry and very sexy, too. She looked like a bullet full on. She was hand built as a replica of the 1924 and 1925 Gold Cup winner, "Baby Bootlegger" to celebrate her 100-year anniversary. Sounded like she had a sordid past but she was lookin' good today! We couldn't keep our hands off her. Although this was the largest show of classic wooden boats in the USA, there was a lot more to see. So we moved on.

After a quick lunch, the 4 of us walked over to the other side of the bridge to see what else was on display. We were not disappointed! Here stretched out on the concrete were several **classic automobiles**



built in the 40's, 50's and 60's, all shined up and showing off. Chuck and Rick had their heads under the hoods giving them a once over. But the highlight of the day was what came next. We happened to be in the right spot at the right time. Over 30 colorful **Amphicars** were lined up on the boat ramp



waiting for the flag to start their engines. The production of these cars was short lived as they indeed were a car that could go for a ride on land and in the water. But the vehicle/vessel didn't do either really well. It was made in West Germany from 1961 to 1968. A total of 3878 amphicars were produced and most were imported to the US. Two propellers were activated for propulsion when the car entered the water and the front wheels acted as rudders for steering. The collection of crazy cars were filled with excited folks looking for a flash and splash from the past. We watched as one after the other crashed into the water and floated away. It was weird seeing a sea of cars slowly cruising in the harbor. However, that wasn't all one could do at the boat show. If you wanted to you could purchase a ticket to ride in one of several seaplanes that took off on the Lake Dora for a Birdseye view of this gorgeous lake country. We were happy to just watch them take off and land. By about 5 P.M. we had seen as much as our tired feet could handle. We headed back to the bungalow for a short rest before dinner.

After cleaning up a bit we walked down the hill to the center of Mt Dora. As quiet as our

little cottage neighborhood was, the downtown was popping. I had made a reservation at one of the many top restaurants in town for Saturday night dinner, at **Pisces Rising**. We were all



gathered around a large table inside but we still had a view of the sunset on the water just across the street. We were

loud and raucous as this was a celebration of friendship. It was **also Charles**

Birthday! He enjoyed a spectacular fish dinner and even had a birthday dessert! After filling our bellies, most of us walked back to our respective hotels under a delightful evening sky.



After just a cup of coffee on Sunday morning, we gathered our belongings for an 11 A.M. checkout. All 4 of us were not ready to go home. I had half a mind to call

the owner and ask for another nights stay, but sadly I didn't. We drove the car down



the hill and found parking at the historic **Lakeside Inn** where we would have brunch/lunch in the famous Beauclair Restaurant. I was surprised when our group was seated in a private dining room on the other side of the lobby. I guess our reputation preceded us. We were having way too much fun for the classy 1883 Inn. Several of our group enjoyed unlimited Mimosa's and by mid afternoon there were several empty bottles of champagne resting on the table. At about 3 P.M. we all reluctantly prepared to make our leave. I don't know about the others but on our drive home, old MSA stories flooded out of our memory banks. We laughed until our eyes were filled with tears. We now had another great MSA adventure to add to the collection. Thank you for joining me on

one of the most fun weekends ever. I will be looking for more of these outings to do in the future.



**[CLICK HERE
FOR PHOTO
ALBUM](#)**

**THE RESCHEDULED AND NOT QUITE KITE
FESTIVAL THAT ALMOST WAS!
MARCH 9TH**

After packing the car with a picnic lunch, blankets and beach chairs, we started our short drive on a quiet Sunday morning not knowing what we would find on the beach at Treasure Island. The weekend festival “Sand and Kites and Coastal Delights” was a culmination of several events, which had been previously canceled



due to the severe damage suffered in the community by the recent hurricanes. Only a few of the famous 1950's hotels were in operation. The Thunderbird Hotel where the kite festival usually took place was in ruins. We parked the car on one of the



side streets and walked a few blocks toward a beach access. There was a lot going on and we started to explore. The wide white sandy beach was studded with several rows of

kiosks selling crafts, artwork and clothing. A third row of tents closer to the beach offered hot BBQ, beer, cocktails and all sorts of Carnival type street food. At the south end was a huge blown up jumping house for kids to play in. And just north of that was a large covered bandstand with rockin' live music. But past the crowds up the beach near the old Thunderbird it was

wide open with a flat beach area where we could see kites soaring in the sky. That was where we wanted to be.

There was no serious competition and no groups doing difficult kite routines choreographed to music but we couldn't complain or be disappointed. It was a gorgeous day at the beach and kites were flying all around us. Not long after we arrived, some MSA members joined us and by the afternoon we had a gathering of 8. We enjoyed our lunch together and some MSA camaraderie all the while we were being entertained by talented amateurs



and professionals. It was not a bad way to spend a few hours with little or no monetary investment! If anything, the event celebrated a renewal and just whetted our appetite for next years Annual Kite Festival

on newly restored Treasure Island Beach. We plan to be there! I hope you will too!



Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary

ON THE HORIZON
SATURDAY MAY 3RD 2025
THE 2025 MSA KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

Gather your gloves and most outrageous hat to celebrate the running of the 151st Kentucky Derby. Enjoy watching horse racing's elite groups compete for the Roses and Lilies on a dirt track at Churchill Downs via a big TV screen. No crowded airplanes or expensive hotels needed! Roger Cappello has graciously offered his new home to host the 2025 MSA Kentucky Derby Party.



Plan to arrive at 5 P.M. on Saturday May 3rd to Roger's home at 7304 19th Ave NW, Bradenton. You will be greeted at the door with the traditional drink of the race, a Mint Julep. If you have forgotten your chapeau, there will be a table where you can choose one to wear for the day's exciting festivities. However, if you have created a Kentucky Derby hat masterpiece for the party, you will be rewarded with a special honor and prize. Go wild and have fun with your creations. Both ladies and gents are requested to participate. The Kentucky Derby has always offered trendsetting fashion statements so be sure to wear bright colored apparel and plenty of florals to celebrate the arrival of spring.



Please bring an appetizer to share with your MSA friends and your own favorite personal beverage. Wine and beer, however, will be provided at the party. Approximately, at 6:30 P.M. the exciting race will commence. Please remember to bring plenty of \$1 bills to place your wagers. (Maximum bet- 3 horses) Please RSVP to gailgordon56@gmail.com if you will be joining the time-honored tradition of attending the MSA Kentucky Derby Party. Hope to see you there!

Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary

Certified Health Coach

Betty Burton, RN, MSN

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

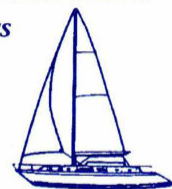


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P.O. Box 4101
Anna Maria, FL 34216



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