



Gale Tales

Manatee Sailing Association

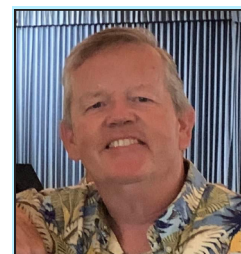
Volume 40 Number 7

www.msasailing.org

July 2025

Up Coming Events

Event	Date	Time	Place
DWBH	July 9	5:00 PM	Mean Deans Local Kitchen
Membership Meeting	Aug 13	5:00 PM	Modern Chop
Mini Golf	Aug 13	7:00 PM	Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf
DWBH	Sep 10	5:00 PM	Mr & Mrs Crab
DWBH	Oct 8	5:00 PM	Hickory Hollow
Beach Party	Oct 18	11:00 AM	Bayfront Park AMI



AHOY MSA MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY

Lynne and I are back in NY, S/V Brewster is in the water, and we've just started to get some nice weather. In fact, the last 3 days have been over 90F and we have seen the wind raging from over 30 knots and rising 3 foot seas on the lake to less than a whisper.

I got a new mainsail over the winter made by Tony Peelle of Bay Sails in Sodus, NY (the old one was ripped last summer and was really baggy). The new sail is loose footed and has 5 full length battens vs the old sail that had 4. So the shape should be good, more adjustable and stay that way longer.

This past weekend we had a sailboat race to Geneva NY with Seneca Yacht Club. 4 boats made the trip to Watkins Glen from SYC in Geneva on Friday for the race. Eleven boats joined from our Finger Lakes Yacht Club, and we all

HURRICANE SEASON



JUNE 1ST TO NOVEMBER 30TH

headed North in light air that died by noon. Our efforts to fill the asymmetric spinnaker were foiled by changing wind direction and unexpected jibes. But we finished the distance shortened race and made it to the party before the keg was tapped – so no harm, no foul. Sunday morning, we arose to head back south to 30 knots out of the west. But that breeze also was short lived.

We are teaching the USPS Boat Handling Class this summer and have engaged a number of people in our membership with small and large boats, sail and power to

teach different sections. Six students are in the class.



Two weeks ago on a chilly Father's Day weekend, the Town of Watkins Glen hosted the Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta. Two of the competitors are shown here. These are made of cardboard, duct tape and paint but some are pretty robust as you can see.

MSA Membership Meeting – Our next Membership Meeting will be August 13th at 5 PM at

the Modern Chop Restaurant. We will have a quarterly membership meeting with updates from our officers and committee chairs.

Jim McGinnis
Commodore
s/v Brewester



We had a lot of damage from Hurricanes Helene and Milton last year. This year is predicted to be worse. Hopefully not for our west coast region in FL.. I thought it might be useful to add a few thoughts on preparing boats from Microsoft CoPilot:

Jim

Boats can avoid hurricanes by taking several precautionary measures to ensure safety and minimize damage. Here are some key steps:

1. **Stay Informed:** Regularly monitor weather forecasts and hurricane alerts from reliable sources such as the National Hurricane Center (NHC) or local weather stations. Apps like NOAA Weather Radar or Hurricane Tracker can provide real-time updates 1.
2. **Create a Hurricane Plan:**
 - **Know Your Evacuation Routes:** Have a plan for where to go and how to get there.
 - **Select a Safe Location for Your Boat:** This could be a hurricane hole, a secured marina, or a dry dock.
 - **Notify Family and Friends:** Ensure they know your plans and whereabouts..
3. **Prepare Your Boat:**
 - **Inspect and Maintain Your Boat:** Ensure all equipment is in good working condition. Check your bilge pumps and batteries. Replace any worn-out lines or rigging.
 - **Remove or Secure Loose Items:** Take down sails, biminis, and other removable gear. Store any loose items inside the cabin or remove them entirely.
 - **Use Proper Tie-Down Techniques:** Use heavy-duty lines to tie your boat securely to the dock. Consider using chafe gear to protect lines from abrasion.
4. **Stock Up on Supplies:** Gather essential supplies such as non-perishable food, water, flashlights, batteries, a first aid kit, a portable phone charger, duct tape, and tarps for temporary repairs,
5. **Secure Your Boat Ashore:** Boats that are hauled out are far less likely to be damaged during a storm than those left in the water. Use straps to keep boats from toppling over or floating away. Ensure your boat has extra jackstands, at least three or four on each side for boats under 30 feet, and five or six for larger boats.
6. **During the Hurricane:**
 - **Stay Updated:** Keep monitoring weather updates and storm progress. Use a battery-powered radio if the power goes out.
 - **Secure Your Boat:** Double-check all lines and fenders. Remove any items that can become projectiles in high winds.
 - **Evacuate if Necessary:** If local authorities advise evacuation, follow their instructions immediately. Your safety is paramount.

By following these steps, boat owners can mitigate the risks associated with hurricanes and protect their boats and loved ones.

1: Boat Owner's Guide to Hurricanes: Preparing for the Storm

2: Where To Keep Your Boat During A Hurricane | BoatUS

Acknowledgments: This article was created with the assistance of Microsoft Copilot.

**A JAPANESE EXPERIENCE IN SARASOTA,
FLORIDA
MSA SOCIAL EVENT FOR JUNE 2025**

Scheduling MSA Social Events in the summer is not for the faint of heart. First of all, anything that requires outside



exposure does so at a high risk of failure. In addition, it seems like there was a mass exodus of residents fleeing to anywhere up north to spend time with family and friends

with the underlying purpose of somehow cooling off. In other words, participation would be of a smaller percentage during the summer. But that didn't scare me when I scheduled an afternoon at the Sarasota Opera House to see an opera! (Well, maybe just a little bit!)

I actually had about 12 courageous members sign up to see a recording of Puccini's great opera, "Madame Butterfly" filmed during a production at the Royal Opera House in London. I have just recently experienced for the first time seeing a few operas myself and this was the one I liked the best



so far! I guess I just thought something a little different than the norm would be fun. The story line was a classic drama. Arrogant American sailor on leave meets beautiful but poor Japanese girl. She falls in love, he promises the moon, then after the affair, he goes home to marry his American sweetheart and leaves the girl of course with child. A few years later, he returns with his wife, meets his son, feels a bit guilty but not much and offers to bring the son back to the states for a better life. Madame Butterfly, soon to be



very alone, decides there is nothing else for her to do but end it all. Oh boy, although this was a fabulous production, it was quite depressing. Again, what was I thinking?

It was a very good thing that the next segment of our social event was a bright spot in the day. I thought that in order to continue the Asian theme we should visit a Japanese Restaurant within walking distance from the opera house. I chose to have our dinner at a place I had never been to, Kojo's Asian Fusion

Restaurant. We were early, just before 5 p.m., so the place was not busy on this hot summer Sunday afternoon. As we walked in, we were greeted with cool air and beautiful, almost Zen surroundings.

Gorgeous raw wood furnishings and lush garden greenery decorated the spaces throughout the large facility. Our table was beautifully set with delicate Japanese fixtures. Our menus were a bit of a mystery and few of us knew what to order. All of us tried something different so once served each one of us sampled the others food. All the dishes were not only beautiful to look at but outstandingly delicious. Yes, this was Sarasota and as expected, food

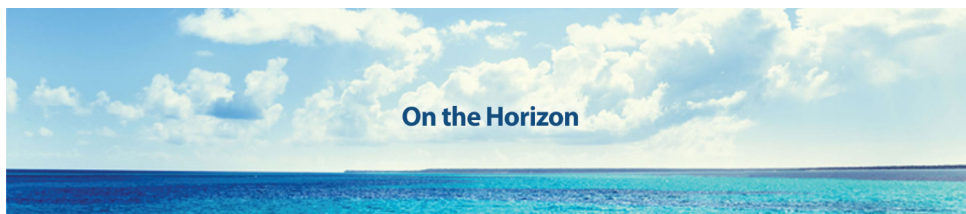
was a bit pricey but I think worth the extra for something unusual and good. The highlights of the meal were edamame with

lemon and sea salt, Blue Crab California Maki Rolls and roasted Brussel sprouts with garlic kabayaki glaze. The Brussels sprouts were the favorite item on the entire table. What a delightful surprise! I had no idea that the afterthought of this restaurant would be the big deal of the day! We all would recommend it for a special evening out. Thank you MSA members for joining me on another MSA Social Event! You never know what you might find on the journey!



Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary





UPCOMING MSA SOCIAL EVENTS A WORK IN PROGRESS!

To be honest, I have been a bit overwhelmed lately with the idea of planning new and exciting MSA Social Events for the next year or two. We have seen and done so much in the last 15 years and I just do not know where else to go from here. I have expressed my concern over this problem and as a result, bits and pieces of information, ideas and thoughts from you have sparked my brain enough to get me moving and start planning. Although I have almost no dates attached to these possible events, I thought I could at least present them to you so you can be ready when I do.

First, I am going to take the month of July off from scheduling any social events to hopefully, restart my creative engines, so to speak. Plus, so many of you are out of town or will be going on vacation that I believe there would be little participation. Also, it is so darn hot outside that I'm afraid anything other than being in an air conditioned environment, the event would

be immediately vetoed. So let's move on to August! I will plan an easy-peasy evening after our General MSA Meeting at Modern Chop on August 13. After our dinner and our business meeting, let's drive over to Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf located at 2000 Cortez Rd. We can divide into teams of 4 and play mini golf when the sun is down and the night air is cooler. I believe the cost is about \$18 per person and no reservations are required.



Now this is where things get a bit fuzzy! In September, it is still too

hot for outside activities but I was thinking it has been a very long time since we have been at Siesta Key Rum Distillery for a tour and sampling. I could ask for a mid afternoon time. Then afterwards we could have Happy Hour/dinner at one of the fine restaurants located in the UTC mall like my favorite, Seasons 52. Then in October, I would love for us to gather a group together to have a tour of the brand new Mote Marine SEA at the UTC mall. The facility looks spectacular and humongous! I am not sure exactly when the doors will open to the public, but I believe it will be in early fall. I will keep checking and try to set up a



workable date when we can plan a meal before or after. We do have a date for our almost Annual Beach Picnic Party scheduled for October 18th. Fingers crossed we will not have to cancel it again due to any bad weather. That has always been one of my favorite events and although BayFront Park received a great deal of hurricane damage, it is still a



gorgeous beach. It's probably the last cook out of the season and probably the last swim as well. November is another question mark. In the past, the Florida Orchestra has presented a free Pops Concert at Vinoy Park around Veterans Day. But as far as I have researched, the date has not been set yet. We had a great time last year when a few of us joined the crowds, sipped wine, enjoyed some food sitting under the night's stars while listening to a world class concert for free! If we can get this on the calendar, I hope we can double our attendance. Christmas seems far away but I already have some information about a Holiday Chorale Group Concert. In any event (pun intended), I will find a festive activity to put us in the Holiday

spirit. In the New Year 2026 I will plan another weekend getaway. I have several in mind but the one closest to my heart is a weekend in the Ocala area. There is more to see and do than we have time for. Again it would be about a 3 hour drive from home but I will make it well worth the effort. And to top off some of my thoughts, I'm ready to try to book another Sarasota Polo Event. The process changes every year but I think I am up to the challenge. In addition, I was thinking of an airboat ride outing near Arcadia. Chuck and I did it a few months ago and it was a hoot. We had lunch after at the Linger lodge and music on the water at Jiggs Landing. So it was a full day of backwoods Florida. Another idea was a visit not far out of town to Solomons Castle. I went out there about 15 years ago and found it a bit run down. But a reputable source has convinced me that that was not the case anymore. It might be fun to enjoy a day of fantasy and whimsy not far from home!

So folks, these are my ideas and now I have to make them a reality. Not everything will work out as planned but I am excited about the possibilities. Please be patient with me but get ready to explore our nearby world together as a group of fantastic people who have made MSA their family.

Gail Gordon
MSA Social Secretary



WHAT IS THE RABBIT ON THE MOON?

The legend of the rabbit in the moon is common to many ancient cultures, including Japanese, Mesoamerican and Chinese traditions. In Native American folklore, long ago the moon felt lonely watching over Earth each night. One evening she noticed a small rabbit hopping alone in a meadow. The moon decided to visit Earth disguising herself as a weary traveler. When she met the rabbit she pretended to be hungry. The kind rabbit having nothing else to offer decided to jump into a fire to become food for the stranger. The moon was so touched by this selfless act that she rescued the rabbit and revealed her true identity. As a reward for such kindness she took the rabbit back to live with her in the sky. That's why today if you look carefully at the full moon you can still see the shape of a rabbit.



Look for the rabbit on Full Buck Moon on July 10th. The Full Buck Moon occurs when the new antlers of buck deer push out from their foreheads in coatings of velvety fur. It was also often called the Full Thunder Moon, thunderstorms being now most frequent. Sometimes also called the Full Hay Moon.



Certified Health Coach

Betty Burton, RN, MSN

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

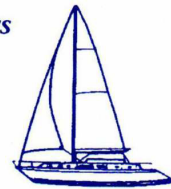


Spice Sailing Charters

Half Day & Sunset Charters
Sailing Lessons
Boat Detailing

Cell: (941) 704-0773
www.spicesailingcharters.com
ed@spicesailingcharters.com

Ed Hartung
USCG Licensed Capt.



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