

TASS

OUR STORY

COMMODORES



TEXAS
ASSOCIATION
of
SINGLE
SAILORS



DEDICATION

This "book" is dedicated to all of the past and future Commodores of The Texas Association of Single Sailors.

We especially want to thank **Nell Parr Belanger**, our first Commodore, for setting the bar high and laying the groundwork for making this sailing club what it is today!

Also, this book is dedicated to all of the past, present, and future Board members and the many, many volunteers who have worked so hard to make this club a special part of our lives!

Thank you all for your efforts in making this club what it is today!

Chronological
Listing
of
TASS Commodores

LIST OF TASS COMMODORES

COMMODORE	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
1984 (1 Term) Nell Parr Belanger	218-367-6995	CnellB@comcast.net
Jan 1985-July 1986 (3 Terms) Jo Susa Nieves	405-760-4881	focuscmc@gmail.com
Aug 1986-Oct 1987 (2 1/2 Terms) Bob Simmons	936-333-7209	beamreach2@hotmail.com
Oct 1987-July 1988 (1 1/2 Terms) Kent Brotherton	713-851-6223	jkb@landmarkindustries.com
Aug 1988-Jan 1990 (3 Terms) Anne Raines Hayden	281-799-0294	annehayden@gmail.com
Feb 1990-July 1991 (3 Terms) Paul Medlock	713-823-8975	svconsort@hotmail.com
Aug 1991-July 1992 (2 Terms) Dale Culpepper	713-412-0798	deculpepper@sbcglobal.net
Aug 1992-Jan 1993 (1 Term) Jim Phillips	619-224-4801	jdp938@gmail.com
Feb 1993-Jan 1994 (2 Terms) Cheryl Morvillo	281-280-8090	cmorvillo@comcast.net
Feb 1994-July 1994 (1 Term) Richard Perkins	214-946-1544	richard_perkins65@yahoo.com
Aug 1994-Jan 1995 (1 Term) Jack Kolar	713-582-0825	jackoolair@yahoo.com
Feb 1995-Jan 1996 (2 Terms) Bob Timby	713-385-6926	rmtimby@gmail.com

LIST OF TASS COMMODORES

Feb 1996-Jan 1997 (2 Terms)		
Lourdes Coyle	713-823-9017 (only after 11:00am)	mesails@aol.com

Feb 1997-Jan 1998 (2 Terms)		
Cheryl Morvillo	281-280-8090	cmorvillo@comcast.net

Feb 1998-July 1998 (1 Term)		
John Zwiengel	713-882-0933	None

Aug 1998-Jan 2000 (3 Terms)		
Bob Arnette	281-216-6140	bobarnette@yahoo.com

Feb 2000-Jan 2001 (2 Terms)		
Tammy Vincent	713-416-3353 (cell)	tammy.vincent@sbcglobal.net

Feb 2001-Jan 2002 (2 Terms)		
Sean O'Brien	713-859-1649	seanobrien1981@sbcglobal.net

Feb 2002-Jul 2002 (1 Term)		
Jan Buskop	210-414-5168	tass@buskop.com

Aug 2002-Jul 2003 (2 Terms)		
John Klumb	713-412-7693	seadogjohn@hotmail.com

Aug 2003-July 2004 (2 Terms)		
Mark Monroe	281-474-9871	markmonroegcs@aol.com

Aug 2004-July 2005 (2 Terms)		
Ken Derbridge	832-654-6969	kendercan@hotmail.com

Aug 2005-Jan 2007 (3 Terms)		
Mark Langley	281-352-4779	seadognow@yahoo.com

Feb 2007-Jan 2008 (2 Terms)		
John Bemis	713-301-4998	jmbemis@gmail.com

Feb 2008-July 2008 (1 Term)		
Gail Lang	832-656-2300	gail@thelangfoundation.com

LIST OF TASS COMMODORES

Aug 2008-July 2009 (2 Terms)

Jim LeBlanc

713-884-9684

jimlebl@aol.com

Aug 2009-July 2010 (2 Terms)

Jay Leggett

713-459-0094

jrleggett@gmail.com

Aug 2010-July 2011 (2 Terms)

Cheryl Morvillo

281-280-8090

cmorvillo@comcast.net

Aug 2011-Jan 2012 (1 Term)

Hope Flynn Denicola

832-868-2220

fidelity183@gmail.com

Feb 2012-July 2012 (1 Term)

Mark Monroe

281-474-9871

markmonroegcs@aol.com

Aug 2012-Jan 2013 (1Term)

Lee Carpenter

281-212-4006

leecarpenter98@gmail.com

Feb 2013-Aug 2014 (3 Terms)

Jay Leggett

713-459-0094

jrleggett@gmail.com

TASS

COMMODORES



Nell (Parr) Belanger

FIRST TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (1984)

BIRTHPLACE: Titus County, Texas

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: The Woodlands, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Almost None

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I was an organizer of TASS and was elected first Commodore.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: We started TASS and it has lasted all these years. I would say that's quite an accomplishment.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Our first overnight sail.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: None

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Our first Halloween party

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Jo & Paulette

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Let's legalize our name.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Don't judge a good sailor by how strong he/she appears.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Giving it up and moving away to get married.

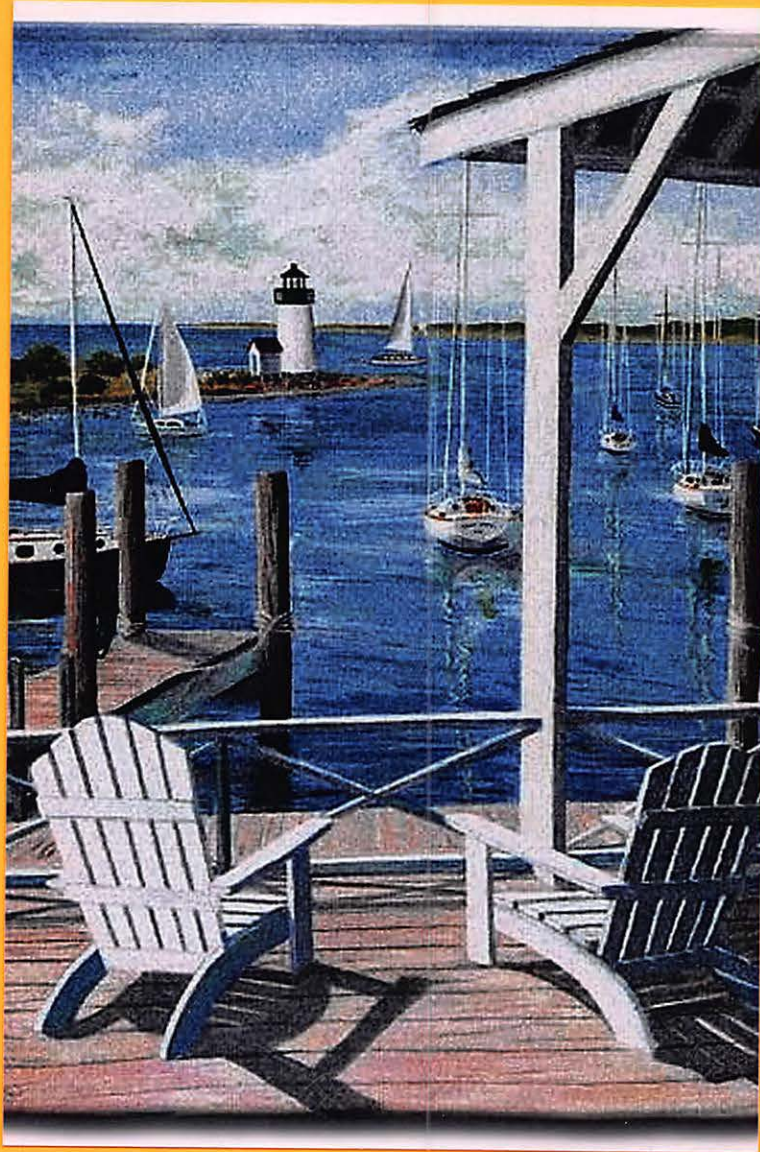
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: It provided a great opportunity for many that they might not have had otherwise, including some meeting their spouses there.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Paulette, Jack, Gary, Bob Simmons

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Participate at every

opportunity.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I'm so happy TASS has lasted 30 years.







Jo Susa

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms (Jan 1985 - July 1986)

BIRTHPLACE: Uniontown, PA

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Oklahoma City, OK

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Very little

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: One of my best friends (Nell Belanger) was a founder of TASS and the first Commodore. I attended the very first meeting at the Gallaria Roof. There were only a handful of people, so just about everyone got involved. I was the social chairman the first term and was coerced (encouraged) to step up as Commodore for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th terms. When I became aware of those that agreed to hold the other positions on the board, I thought OK, I can do this.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Getting the Club established, and helping set it up as more than just a sailing club but as a social club for people with a common interest in sailing. We became such a great group of friends that we included activities other than sailing like camping, bowling, dancing, trips to the Renaissance Festival, Scuba Diving trips, rafting on the Guadeloupe and Big Bend Nat. Park, and some terrific parties which usually continued on at my house until the next day.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: My proudest moment(s) were not while I was Commodore although there were a few during my tenure. My proudest moments actually happen at every TASS Reunion when I see how the club has thrived and how many long lasting friendships and relationships have been formed because of TASS. That's why I never miss a reunion.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: When Howard Vick passed away. We had set up around the clock vigil with different members spending time with him during his last few days. I happened to be there on

the night he died.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: On our first overnight sail, the weather was miserable and the seas were rough. We were heading out the jettys at Freeport and the boat was tossing and turning in the high waves. Those of us that were prudent were in our foul weather gear. Andy hadn't been prepared so he went below and a while later emerged with his version of foul weather gear made of trash bags and duct tape. Beverly spent the ordeal sitting on the floor of the cockpit saying the rosary. Eventually, the Coast Guard 'strongly suggested' we return to the harbor so we did. During one of our earliest offshore nite sails, a few less hearty sailors were overcome with seasickness. The sound carries at night and we could hear Bonny, who apparently was particularly ill, yelling from another boat, "Somebody, Please shoot me!" Then there was the Christmas Party where the chimney caught fire at Lois' clubhouse and we had to invite the fire dept. to our party. And the Halloween Party when Richard came as a wench and John Earl came as a wench handle. Wayne came as a Lobster and Bonny was a bunch of grapes. Everyone kept popping her grapes made of purple balloons.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: There were so many that I don't even know where to begin and I feel bad that I will probably forget several that worked really hard. Everyone stepped up and was so supportive. To list a few, I'd have to say Paulette Brooks, Gary Pollock, Wayne Simmons, Bonnie Garner, Johnnie Earl, Faye Hawkins, Marlene Earl, Howard Vick, Sharron Sims, Mike Wrightson, Jack Britton, and of course Lois Geyer.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: From Nell Belanger as she turned over the reins of Commodore "Let everyone contribute in their own way."

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: I know it sounds trite, but I learned not to judge a book by it's cover and the person responsible was Mike Wrightson. Back then, the meetings were held at the Black Swan, a

very sophisticated and classy setting. Mike came to his first meeting on his motorcycle and showed up in a black leather jacket with bike helmet under his arm. I mistakenly assumed that he was a rough, tough 'Biker Dude' and my first thought was that I didn't want "That type of guy" in TASS. I was so wrong on all accounts. Mike was not that at all and became such a great member and good friend.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: On our first Memorial Day weekend sail to Freeport we had about 8 boats chartered. Each boat had a theme and costumes. We all were excited about a terrific weekend. One of the boats thought it would be funny to bombard another boat with raw eggs. The other boats thought this was irresponsible and way out of line. Several were very angry, especially those on the victimized boat and when we arrived in Freeport I was overwhelmed with complaints. The hardest thing was that some of my best friends happened to be the offenders. I wasn't sure how to handle the situation. I made it clear that was unacceptable but didn't need to do more because the other boats ostracized them for the rest of the weekend which was sufficient punishment and after apologies, it was put behind us.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Because TASS is a great way to make lifelong friendships and it provides a host of sailing and other activities. Many have told me that TASS helped get them through tough times, gave them something to look forward to, and helped them enjoy life again.

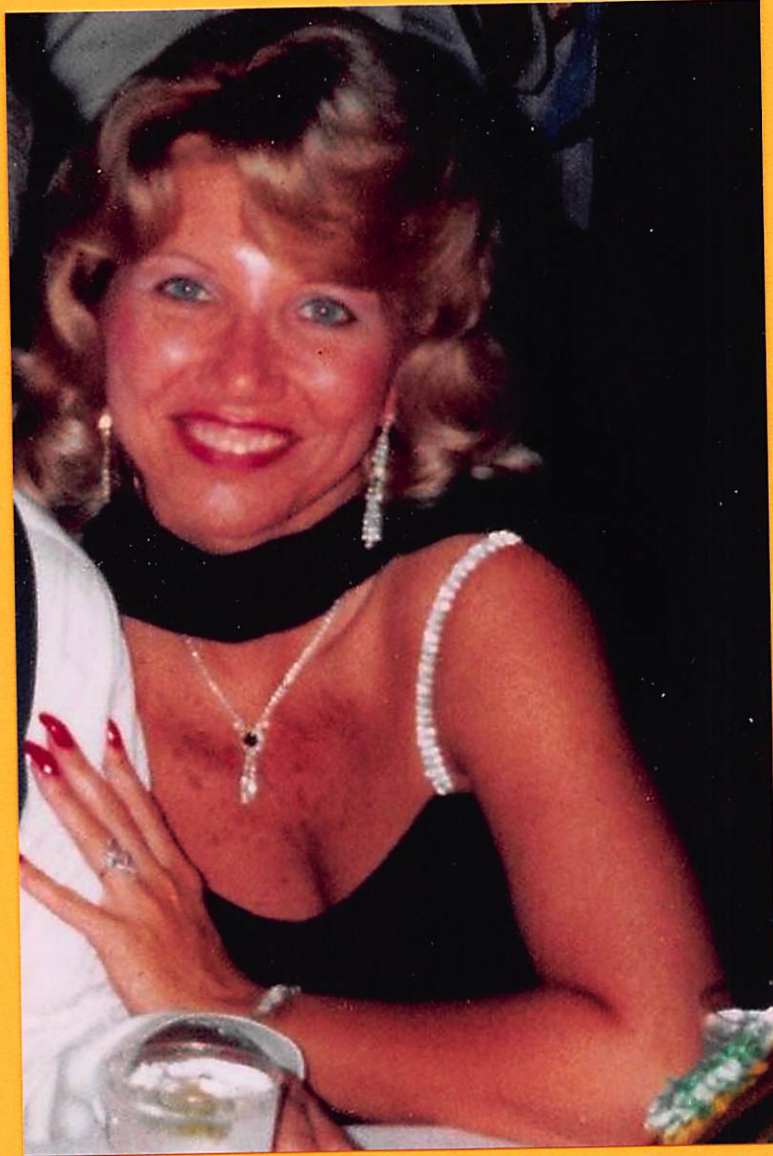
FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: I made dozens of friends because of TASS, Some I'm still close with and others I still have fond memories of. Back then, as I imagine continues today, we were all very close. Special friends include Sharron Sims, Wayne Simmons, Carolyn Prescott, Jim Shaw, Lourdes Coyle, Gary Pollock, Lois Geyer, and hubby, Rudy Nieves.

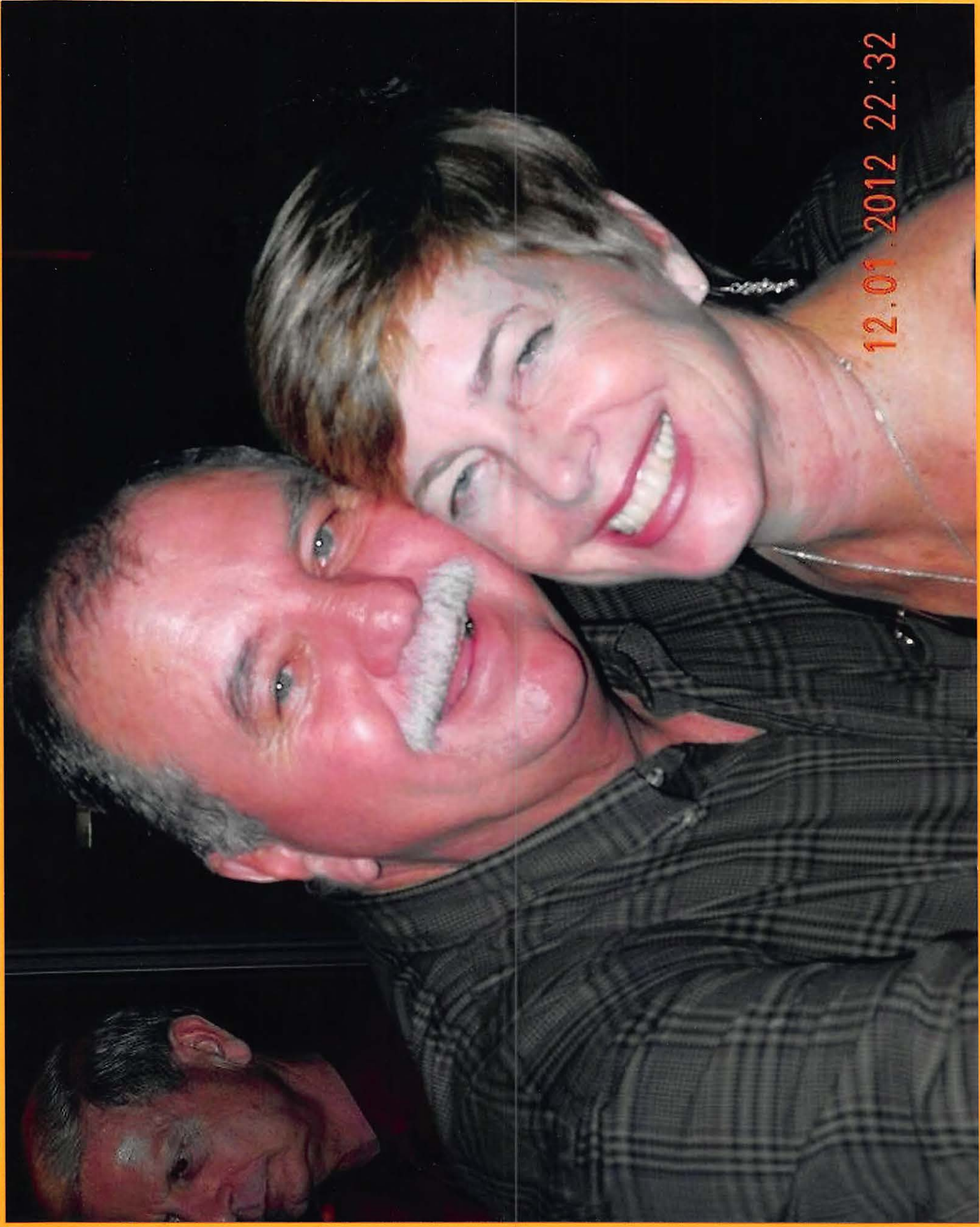
ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Go Sailing. It's the best way to get to know people. You'll find that after spending a day on a boat, strangers soon become new friends, and makes all the other activities

much more fun.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: Sometime during my term, the Houston Chronicle did a feature article about TASS in the weekend section. Turned out to be much bigger deal than we thought. Over 1000 people showed up at the very next meeting. Luckily, I had made arrangements to use the ballroom that nite. It was overwhelming. TASS has meant so much to me and so many others, and in so many different ways. I'm so very proud of the part I played, what the club has become, and what it provided and still provides to all the past, current, and future members. Long Live TASS. See you in May.







12.01.2012 22:32

Bob Simmons

TASS COMMODORE 2 1/2 Terms (Aug 1986 - Oct 1987)

BIRTHPLACE: New Orleans, La

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Punta Gorda, Fl

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Owned 30' sailboat for 4 yrs.
Now I have a 38' sailboat that we have cruised the Caribbean for the last
15 years

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: To find others that liked to sail

HARDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Writing the bylaws

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Winning the 1st Christmas
boat parade

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: None

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Every get together

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Me

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Go Cruising

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: There are others that like to
sail as much as me

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Having to leave in midterm
(went cruising)

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The people

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: My wife Susan and many, many more

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Sail as much as you can

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: Go sailing



KENT BROTHERTON

TASS COMMODORE 1 1/2 Terms (Oct 1987 - July 1988)

BIRTHPLACE: Charlotte, North Carolina

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Sugar Land, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Very little

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Bob Simmons can talk anyone into anything!

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Organized first TASS international sailing trip... eleven boatloads to the lovely British Virgin Islands.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Accepting the trophy for TASS winning First Place at the Clear Lake Christmas Boat Lane Parade aboard "Caribbean Christmas".

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Discovering we were out of alcohol aboard the first TASS day sail that we turned into an overnight sail.
☺

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Watching Rocky & crew aboard "Rocky & Friends" bombard the crowd of customers eating on the deck at the Flying Dutchman restaurant with water balloons..... It was ugly! The sheriff's department was at Rocky's slip waiting to "tie him up".

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Dale, Steve, Jackie, Paulette, Ann..... all of our skippers!

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Always carry a 12 volt blender and a supply of those colorful little drink umbrellas in your skipper bag.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Most people can't

remember ever experiencing their fourth “ flavor change”.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: How to get Mike W. back on board the boat during our docking maneuver at the Turtle Club.

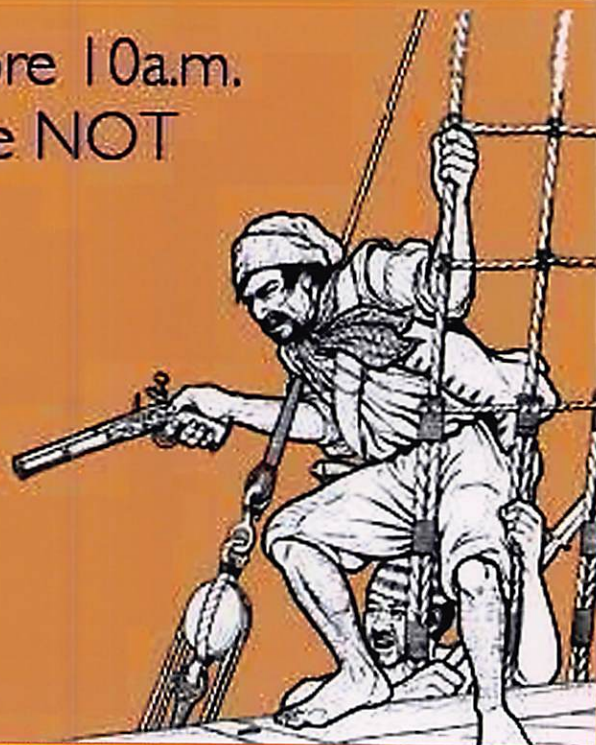
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Almost nothing has been as much fun!

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Way too many to list!

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Get involved its great!
Warning, if you do not want a lot more friends – TASS may not be for you!

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I believe it is very unusual that an organization of so many individuals can become such an amazing part of so many people’s lives.

Drinking rum before 10a.m.
makes you a pirate NOT
an alcoholic.



som^{ee}cards
user card





Anne (Raines) Hayden

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms (Aug 1988 - Jan 1990)

BIRTHPLACE: Brownsville, TX

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Spring, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Zero, Zilch, Nada, Nil

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I landed on top of the sucker list (I mean, to serve my beloved sailing organization).

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Keeping the sailing and social activities fun and simple.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Accepting the First Place trophy for the Christmas Boat Parade, dressed in an authentic astronaut's suit.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Hmm. I really can't think of any while I was Commodore. (Obviously, the tragic deaths of Buz and Carol, later.)

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Hmm. Waayyy too many!!!! Mike W. walking off the dock at the Turtle Club. Kent B. serving coffee on Sunday mornings in the local breakfast cafe, with a napkin draped over his arm. Dale C., au naturel, somewhere in the BVI, with teeny, tiny sea shells all over his ... The whole flotilla being mooned by Bob S. on a Fourth of July sail. All-girls sail (in the 80s) with Faye at the helm as we hoisted our undies up the halyards. Jimmy P. commenting on my dead reckoning skills: "We're within 50 feet of ourselves".

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Bob, Kent, Lourdes, Darlene, Margaret

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: (from Bob Simmons) Tell our members what they want to do and how much fun they will have while doing it.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: The right people on the TASS board make the Commodore look good. I always had incredible support. This applies to so many things in life.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: I don't think I made any decisions on my own; the board was always consulted, even if we disagreed on things.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The bonding that happens while sailing, whether a day sail on Galveston Bay or a week-long sail in the Caribbean.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Ron (hubby), Lourdes, Paulette, Bob and Susan, Dale and Nanci, Susan and Red, Sue and Dick, Mark, Richard, Trish, Darlene, Tal and Carolyn, Vickie, Buz, and many that I know I am missing on this.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Sign up for sails! Get involved!

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: My high school 50th reunion is the entire weekend of this reunion; we were a close class, and there simply won't be time for me to sneak over to TASS. TASS was an incredible, integral, positive part of my life: Recovering from a divorce. Learning to sail. Making new friends. Working our asses off on the Christmas boat parades. Becoming a skipper. Caribbean sails. Having so many great people to hang out with, and feeling comfortable whether with a date or just part of the crowd. Oh, and meeting my best husband, so far! I am truly, deeply saddened that I will be missing this party!!!





Paul Medlock, DDS

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms (Feb 1990 - July 1991)

BIRTHPLACE: Atchison, Kansas

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Gold Canyon, Arizona

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Had a captain's license with offshore experience

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I was elected

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Medlock's body sox!!!! A skit with Anne Raines Hayden's school's costumes.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: No Comment

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: No Comment

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: No Comment

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: No Comment

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: No Comment

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: No Comment

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: No Comment



Dale Culpepper

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Aug 1991 - July 1992)

BIRTHPLACE: Takoma Park, Maryland

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Learned to sail small boats when I was 16.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I wanted to help make TASS more fun.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Worked with the Board to establish better reporting to show a truer picture of our finances.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Can't think of one thing to be proud of, the Board did all the work.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Not winning the Christmas Boat Parade.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: On a trip to Freeport, Memorial Day Weekend, J. S. was trying to impress his new girlfriend with his knowledge of sailing asked the skipper if he thought we should "harden up and beat off". Still laughing about that one.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: The Board, Cheryl, Kay, Vicki, Lois.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Shut up.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: You can't please everyone.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: The Board made the decisions, I had it easy.

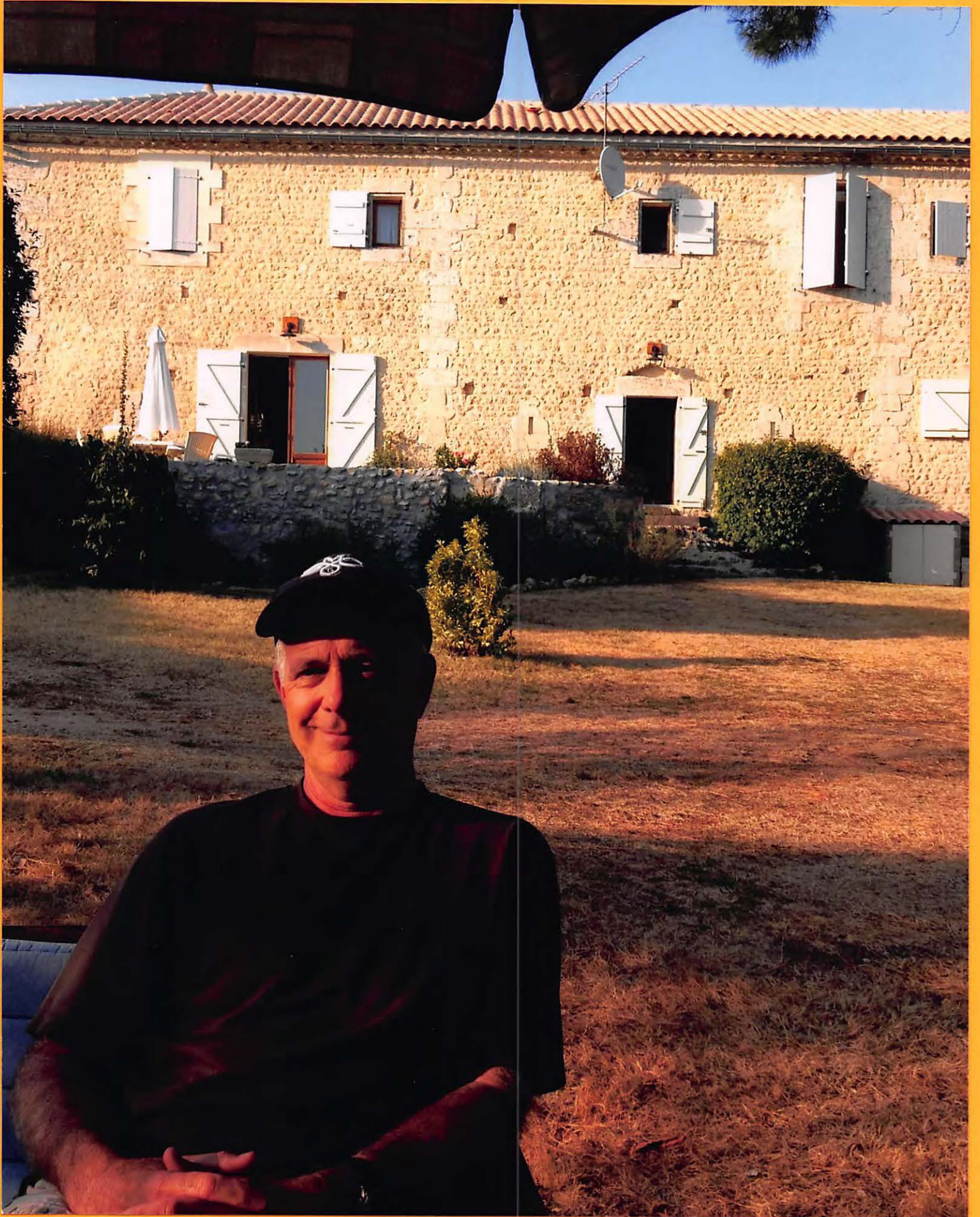
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: So much fun and sailing too.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to list.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Participate, TASS is what you make it.







James Phillips

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Aug 1992 - Jan 1993)

BIRTHPLACE: Asheville, N.C.

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: San Diego, CA

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Former owner of a Lightening class sailboat, some racing experience as a crew member on larger sailboats.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Paul Medlock asked me to run

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Developed training program for beginner sailors

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Finally balancing the budget

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No sad moments during my watch. Those came later with the deaths of Carol Becker and Buz.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Nothing particular. Most people had lots of laughs most of the time.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Cheryl Morvillo

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Don't sweat the small stuff...it's all small stuff.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Patience

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: How to deal with a Tass skipper who had mistakenly put gasoline in the diesel fuel tank of a charter sailboat

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Great way to meet other sailors.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to name

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Don't hesitate to go sailing just because you don't know much about it. We were all in that spot at one time.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I am very glad to see that Tass is still going strong. Let's hope it can thrive for many more years.







Cheryl E. Morvillo

TASS COMMODORE - 6 Terms

(Feb 1993-Jan 1994; Feb 1997-Jan 1998; Aug 2010-July 2011)

BIRTHPLACE: San Francisco, California

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Webster, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: 20 years of sailing

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: To give back to TASS

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Adding more fun races

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Serving with my daughter as VC

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No comment

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Too many to count

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: All the board members and skippers worked so hard to help the club

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Don't take anything personally

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Delegate, delegate, delegate

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Changing meeting locations

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The opportunity to sail once I didn't have a boat and to meet people who love sailing

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to name – TASS is my family

and friends

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: GO SAILING!!!!!! And go sailing often. It is the best way to make friends. Also volunteer to help out with things that need to be done for events. You will gain more than you will give.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS is a family (of course a little dysfunctional). It is a group of all types of people who come together because of their love of the water. There is always someone to give a helping hand, and someone to share things. I have enjoyed watching new people learn to sail and become better mariners. It is an honor to be a part of this supportive group.







Richard Perkins

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Feb 1994 - July 1994)

BIRTHPLACE: Dallas, Texas

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Dallas, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: None

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: A few "friends" kept pestering me to run for Commodore. I didn't want to run because my good friend Jack Kolar was running at that time. Finally, I relented under the pressure because I figured if I didn't ask for votes, I would not win. Jack must have campaigned hard for me because it is my understanding that I was elected by the narrowest of margins. Anyway, Jack became Commodore after me and is still a good friend to this day.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: We (the board) had a lot of controversy at that time. I felt we needed to concentrate on membership and budget...We increased membership while staying within budget and overcame the controversy (I think).

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Surviving!

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Don't remember any while Commodore, but later, the deaths of Buz Lay and Carol Becker were tough to bear. They are missed by all that knew them.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Oh, there were way too many to list here, but I always enjoyed the boat skits at Bridge Harbor.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Again, too many to list, but I appreciated the efforts of Ken Mason, Tal Rogers, Cheryl Morvillo, Vicki Mason, Lois Geyer, Margaret McCord, and especially John Zwiengel.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Kent Brotherton told me "if I had a telephone recorder, get rid of it...If I didn't have one, don't buy one". We didn't have cell phones or internet in those days (only beepers).

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: As Will Rogers said, "You can please some of the people all of the time...You can please all of the people some of the time...But you can't please all of the people all of the time".

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: We had planned a big race day with Sail La Vie. At the last moment, I had to cancel the race because of bad weather. Not knowing if I had made the right decision, an old sailor saw my worried face and asked me what was wrong. I told him I had to cancel a two-club activity and he said "I learned a long time ago that it is better to be on land wishing you were sailing than to be sailing wishing you were on land".

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The opportunity to learn to sail...The life-long friends you make...The experiences you have that become memories for a life-time.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Many from all walks of life and the memories are priceless.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Get involved, go sailing as much as you can, and attend the activities, parties, and meetings.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: Thanks you TASS for touching so many lives and making us all better sailors and better human beings.





Jack W. Kolar

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Aug 1994 - Jan 1995)

BIRTHPLACE: Washington, Missouri

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Cypress, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Had been on a sailboat once – didn't like it.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: It was my turn to do some work.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Changed by-laws so that the organization could include married couples as members.

PROUDEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Handing over the reins to Bob Timby.

SADDEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Losing two of our friends

FUNNIEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Getting elected.

HARDEST WORKER IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: John Zweigel

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: "Don't sweat the small stuff, and it's all small stuff" - Dale Culpepper.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: It really does take a village.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Moving the meeting place to a larger venue

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: TASS really is one giant extended family. Through thick and thin, there will always be someone who has your back.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Commodore Richard Perkins

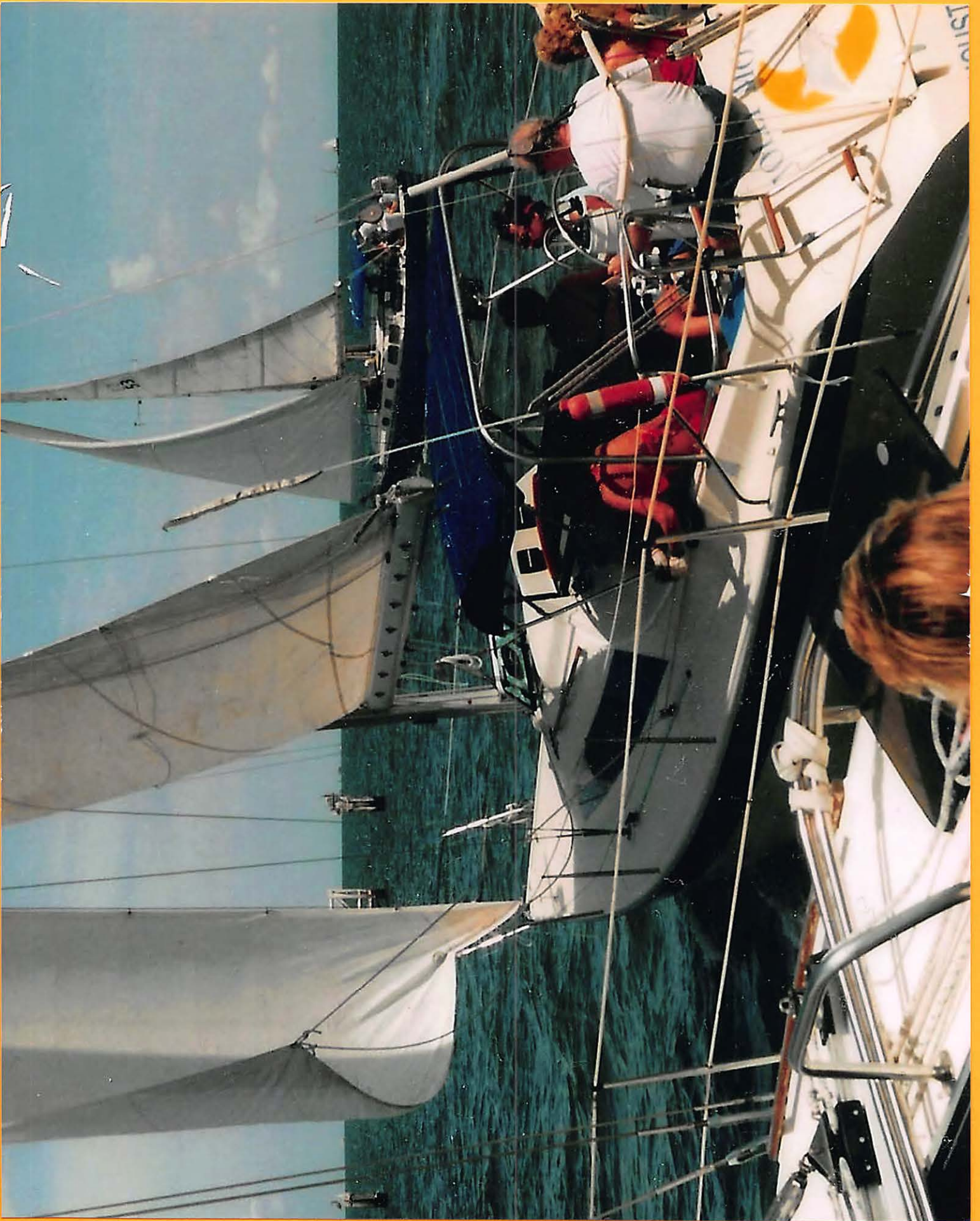
ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Respect the sea, and

she'll always be there for you.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: It's still too early for that.







Bob Timby

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 1995 - Jan 1996)

BIRTHPLACE: Trenton, N.J.

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: In process of moving to The Villages, Florida (no blue sailing waters within 100 miles).

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Learned to sail on my Uncle Al's 26' sailboat on Chesapeake Bay in '68 but no other sailing till I joined TASS

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: TASS membership was down to its lowest in years and I wanted to help the Board rebuild TASS

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Helping the Board get TASS back on a growth track

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Being there when TASS members from years before became active again

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Unfortunately, the loss of Buz Lay and Carol Becker occurred in the middle of my term

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Attempting to break balloons between my chest and Yvette Perry's bosom

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: All of my

fellow board members and activity volunteers

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Anne Raines Hayden told me in Feb. 1995 that I shouldn't sweat the small stuff and remember it's all small stuff, which I thought was good advice at the time - the tragic events of the summer of 1995 proved that it really isn't all small stuff

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: While it may seem that it is all small stuff, give humble respect to the people who do not think their problem is small stuff

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: The wording of the message to be left on the TASS Hotline after the loss of Buz and Carol

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The lifelong friendships made

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to mention, but Brenda Staton Laffoon will know why her friendship is so special to me

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Sailing requires team work and true lifelong friendships are forged from team work. Go sailing, become a team member and watch the friendships blossom.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS:

"There are good ships,
and there are wood ships.
These are the ships that sail the sea.
But the best ships are friendships,
And may they always be."





Lourdes M. Coyle

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 1996 - Jan 1997)

BIRTHPLACE: San Juan, Puerto Rico

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: None... And terrified!!!

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Because I love my TASS family and wanted yet another position in the board to help the group to evolve and grow.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: With a great board, we gave voice and vote to married members, and allowed them to run for the board.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Commemorating Buzz Lay and Carol Becker's lives with the tie one on for Buzzy party after the all ladies' crew race in honor of Carol. Helping to establish a safety boating group within the seven cities involved in the clear lake area.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Having to do the above because of the loss of two very dear friends.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Learning to do the macarena on top of a table at Joe's crabs hack during my first inaugural.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Cheryl Morvillo, Caren Mafucci, Kay Meyers, etc. all... I had a great board!

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Delegate!

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: We needed to keep our super valuable members who had married, so we gave them voice, vote and allowed them to be part of the board.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Having to accept an out of state work assignment in the middle of one of my terms. All club decisions were not mine, they were made with the board's agreement.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Although I do not know many of the new members of the last few years, the "long term" [not old!!!] members continue to be family... thru thick and thin and sick and sin. I learned to sail with TASS and have sailed many locations around the world. I could never put value on the outstanding friendships made in TASS.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to list!!! Tass friends are forever friends :)

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Realize you are joining a community, not just "a sailing club", get involved... sailing and participating in activities will bring you much more learning and enjoyment. Pass your knowledge forward.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: In spite of my poor health keeping me from sailing in the last few years, the joys, memories and experiences shared with my dear TASS mates for 28 years cannot be measured, and... they are treasured.







JOHN ZWIEGEL (Big John)

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Feb 1998 - July 1998)

BIRTHPLACE: Columbus, Texas

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Columbus, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Life time of power boating, but only 1 sail. Sail was a 1 day lesson with Houston Sailing Association. It was completely inadequate, but they said I could rent their boats (I did not).

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Thought I could give back to and help the club.

HARDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Finding meeting places.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Having someone who could and would take over Commodore when I became unable, namely Bob Arnette.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Not being able to continue as Commodore due to health.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No comment.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Bob Arnette and Cheryl Morvillo (as long as I have been in the club).

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Question advice.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Don't change what isn't broken. You will be forced to change enough as it is.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Where to meet. (As Vice-Commodore and Fleet Coordinator: the removal of 2 Skippers).

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: TASS has been a family and comes together to support each other during tragedy and hard times.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too numerous to list over 20+ years.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Become Involved, Go Sailing, Attend Events, and help when you are on sails and at events.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS has lots of things to offer...Socializing, Friendship, Companionship, a great way to learn to Sail and to go sailing, and Travel opportunities just to name the basics.

HOW I CAME TO TASS: After a disastrous partnership in a large power boat, I looked to Sailing. Houston Sailing Association proved to be (at best) inadequate. At the next Boat Show, I was talking with Gary Sacket Sailing and he recommended TASS. While we were talking, Paul Medlock and Sue Brooks walked up. Paul was the Commodore and Sue was a Board Member of TASS. I recognized Sue from the Dive Shop that I had an interest in. Sue was one of our students and a past employee. They directed me to the meetings at The Black Swan. The first person to greet me and make me feel welcome at the meeting was Richard Perkins, who had me at the Assistant Treasurer's (now Purser) table and signing up for the club. I have no regrets in signing up...It has been a great experience.







07/26/2013

KAGE
The Legacy of Exotic



BOB ARNETTE

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms

(Aug 1998 - Jan 2000)

BIRTHPLACE: Watertown, New York (Ft. Drum Military Base)

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: League City, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Two hours on a styrofoam Snark, when I learned sailing was impossible for me without help.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: It was probably alcohol related, but I think I was the only one who ran.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Finally learning to sail well enough to teach others.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Watching my Board Members (not me) correct most of TASS's financial problems by using computers, submitting timely reports and then acting on them.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: The funerals from various causes all brought tears as we laid our TASS family members to rest.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Before serious drinking had started, mistaking a shadow on a 45 degree support as a continuation of the rear boarding platform and taking a swim at the Turtle Club in February. I try to forget these things, but there were too many witnesses!

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Cheryl Morvillo, Jay Leggett, Don Dykstra, John Zwiengel, Capt. Dr. Bob Yohman, Capt. Bill Olson, Mark Woodall, and my Board.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: From Tony Turner..."Learn to run a board meeting in an hour by following a firm agenda and watching the clock." I actually did it a few times. From Bill Brenza..."Stop spending

TASS funds before they are in the bank and end free meals and sails as a reward for serving on the Board."

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Good people on the Board make the Commodore look good and leadership easy.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Asking two good friends to let computer experts take over their positions.

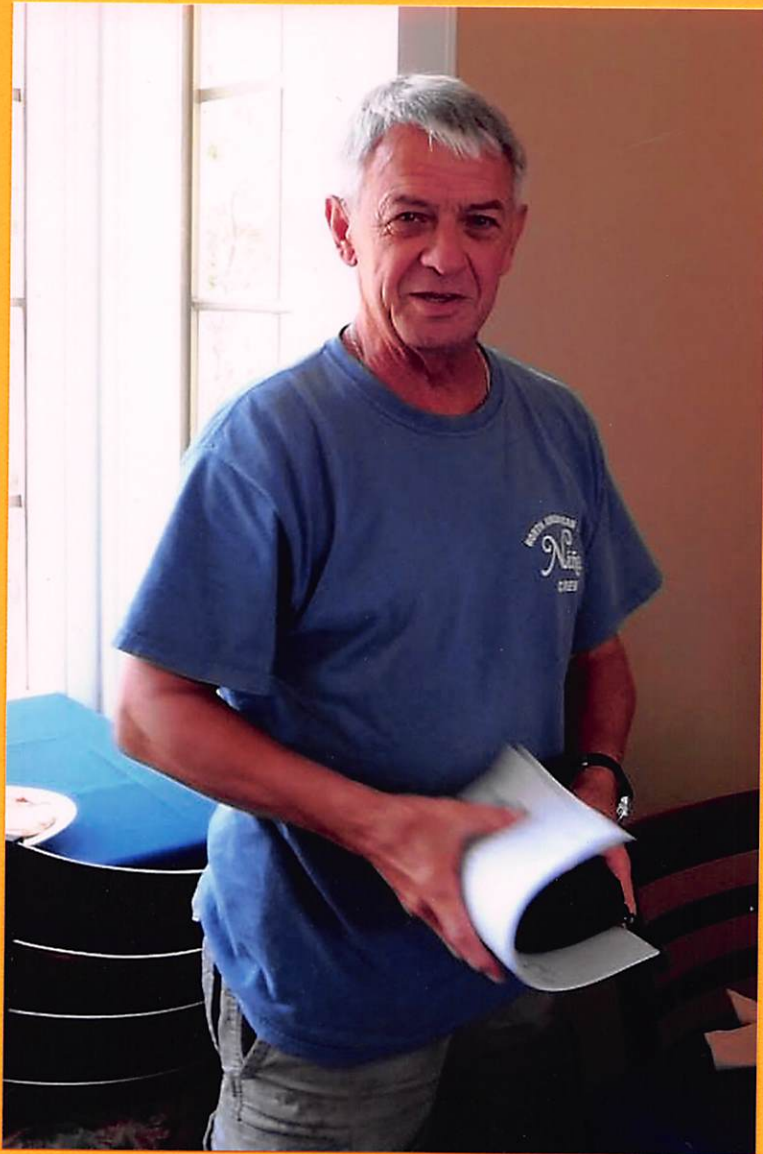
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: An extended family and so many diverse personalities brought together by an interest in being on the water.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Lourdes, The entire Pollock Family, Tal & Carolyn, Trey & Inga, Andrew, Marni, Lois & Neil, Joanne, Margaret, Gus & Laura, John & Ridley, Suzy & Dave, Sean, Don D., Nancy K., Nancy G., Mark M., Mark L., Lisa O., and Cheryl.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Get involved, sail, play, party, share,...We are family!

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I can't conclude without remembering my friend and sailing mentor Gary Pollock, lost tragically in Florida after heroically beating cancer. We spent many hours sailing Ocean Spirits . I miss him dearly.







Tammy Vincent

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 2000 - Jan 2001)

BIRTHPLACE: Austin, TX

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Beginner

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: To support TASS and to give back to a club that had given me so much – sailing and good friends

HARDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Keeping the meetings short

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Learning to dock a boat – I am sure I provided lots of laughter for those watching.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: There are way too many to only list one. However, I think some of the skits that were done over Memorial Day weekend are great treasures.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Board Members

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: “It is not personal!” and “Let’s go sailing.”

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: If someone complains about something, put them in charge of it.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: No comment.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Sailing of course, and all of the friends I have made along the way.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to list

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Go sailing and get involved.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS is a place for sailing, friends, and fun. There are so many opportunities for sailing and for different types of sailing. There is day sailing, racing, trips abroad, weekends, etc. TASS opened up a whole new world to me.







Sean O'Brien

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 2001 - Jan 2002)

BIRTHPLACE: Staten Island, New York, New York

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Pearland, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Very little, had been out a few times but did not know that much.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Great clubs succeed due to the willingness of those who volunteer. It was my turn to "step up to the plate" to volunteer for the club. I had served the prior 2 years as the club treasurer and it was the next logical step to take.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: First sail trip to Croatia; the club has since done many sailing trips in Europe.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Spinabifida sail with record TASS participation as well as record number of kids participating. Receiving 3 thank you notes afterwards signed by all of the kids and their families that participated was heartwarming.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: 9/11 occurred while I was Commodore

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Too many to mention

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: TASS Board and all of the volunteers.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Recognize that we are all volunteers

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Volunteers are wonderful.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Had to deal one year with a

difference of opinion between two hard working volunteers over the location of the annual Christmas party. Also, a write in campaign occurred during one election cycle for one the offices on the board and trying to treat all sides with respect and dignity during the process was tough.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: It took me about 6 years after I moved to Houston to find out about TASS. It looked like a means to do something else than work all of the time. At the first meeting I heard about a sail trip to San Francisco and signed up immediately because I had never been to California. I had a great time on the trip. I have since done close to 20 different sail trips with TASS members. The trips are great no matter the location. I sort of took over a role after leaving the officer ranks of planning sail trips in Europe.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to mention

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: If a sail trip is happening sign-up to go on it. It will be one of the best vacations you have ever had and you will develop great friends in the process.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: For those of you who have enjoyed the club but never volunteered, it is your turn to step up and volunteer to ensure the clubs continued success.







Jan J. Buskop

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Feb 2002-July 2002)

BIRTHPLACE: Jakarta, Indonesia

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Sailing on sv Cloud 9 in the Mediterranean

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Started sailing as a teenager in Tripoli, Libya

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I was asked (begged ?) by the board.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: We had some good races and parties.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Can't remember

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Can't remember

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Can't remember

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Can't remember

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Always bring a helmet to the board meetings.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Can't remember

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Can't remember

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Fun people, fun times.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: More friends than I can remember and a few that I wish I could forget.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Don't worry, be happy!



John Klumb

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 2002 - Jan 2003)

BIRTHPLACE: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston (Clear Lake area), Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: 35 years. In-land lakes, Great Lakes and Off-shore.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Lapse of judgement and peer pressure. Actually, I felt I needed to contribute to the group that I truly loved and attributed many good friendships.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Establishing consistent fiscal policy and control.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: The day I passed my flag to Mark Monroe.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Did not have any.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No Comment

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: The board.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Don't sweat the small stuff, don't let anyone get you down. Listen to what everyone tells you... You might find a jewel. Don't try to please everyone.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: You cannot please all the people all the time...Especially, when dealing with TASS members.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Cutting back on discounted sails to balance the budget.

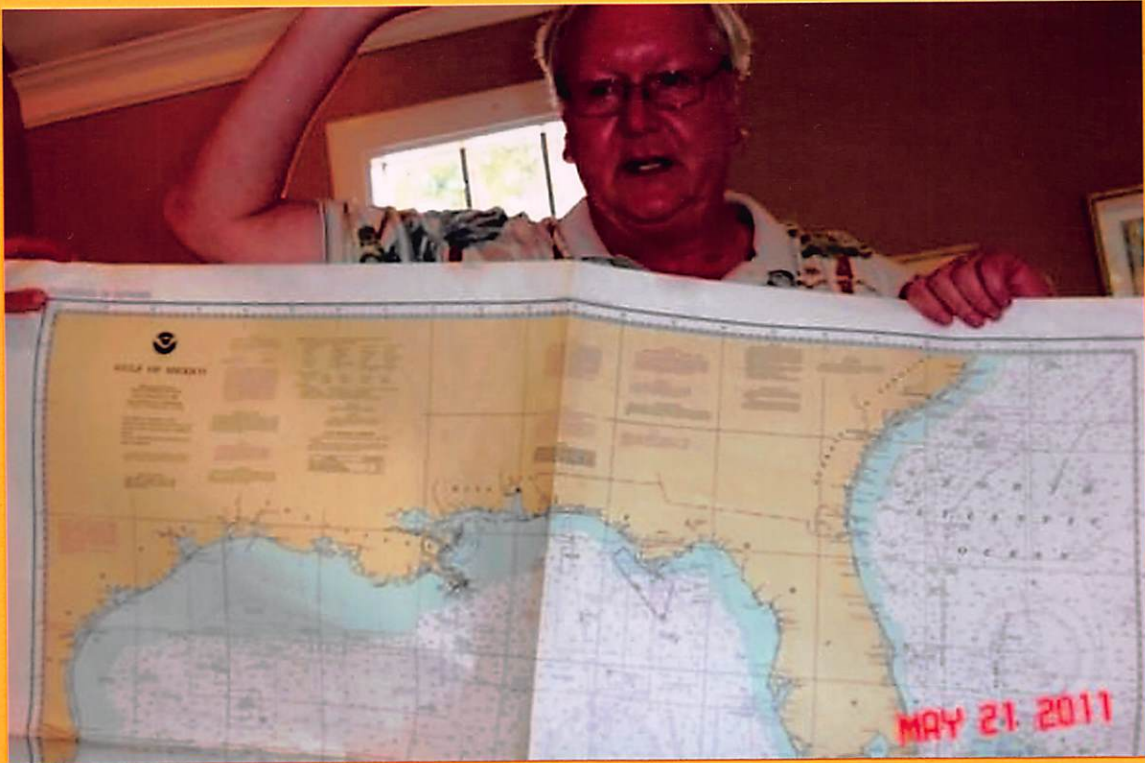
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: TASS has always attracted a diverse group of people that share a common interest in sailing.

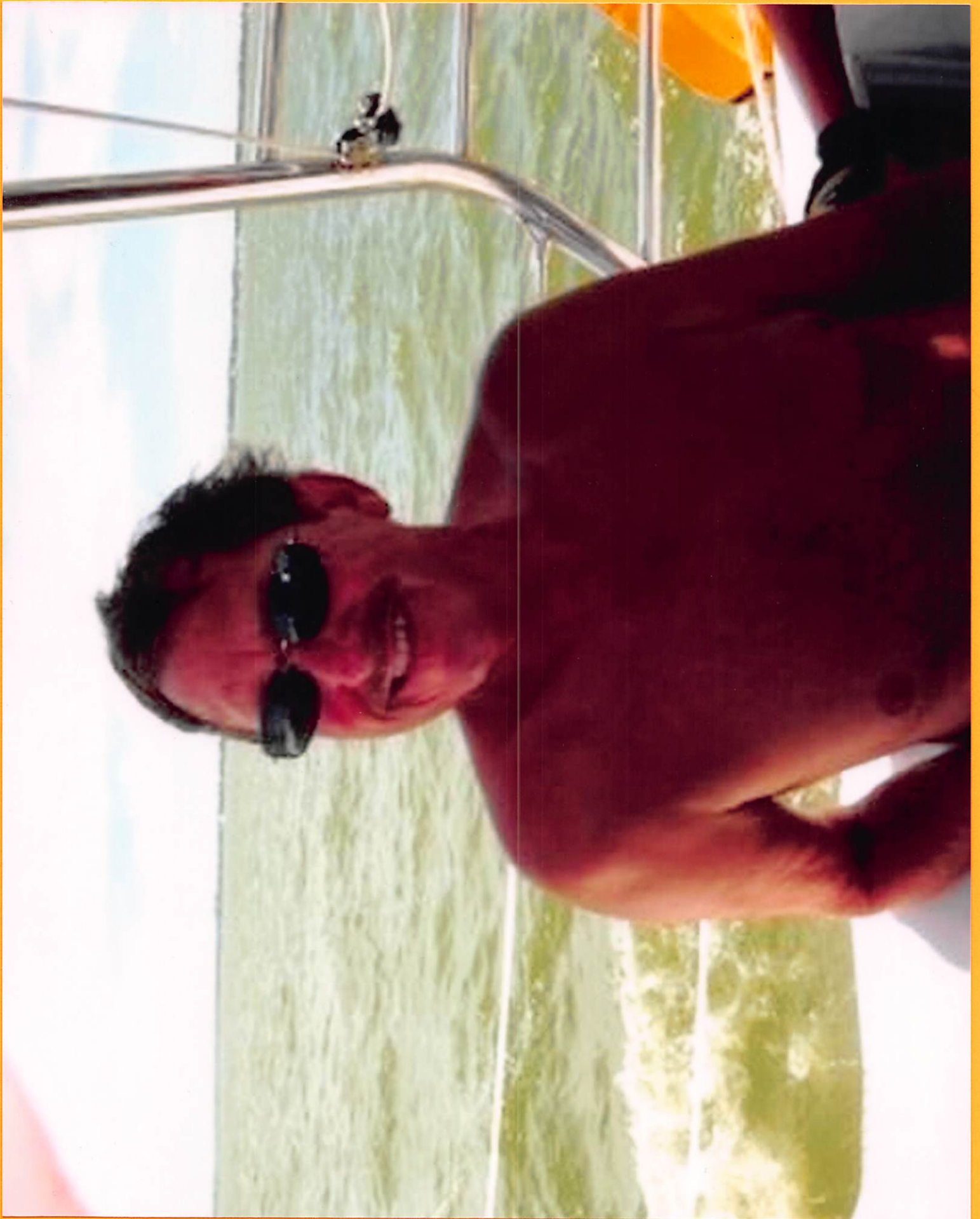
FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Could not fit the list here.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Go sailing a lot.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS is the most unique organization I have ever been a part of. I treasure every experience and all that I have shared and learned from fellow members.







Mark Monroe

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms

(Aug 2003 - Jul 2004; Feb 2012 - July 2012)

BIRTHPLACE: Longview, Texas

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Seabrook, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: 27 years in Dolphins and Wind Jammers.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I felt I owed TASS more than just being a member.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Weekly lottery. Skipped a sail to Belize. Skipped two to four charter boats with Gus Gustafsun.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: TASS races. Exchanging burgees with the Donna (the Prima Donna Commodore) of the Bayview Sail Club in San Francisco. (I did not have a burgee on hand so Cheryl Morvillo loaned me hers).

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: None I can think of.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Skippering with Ken Derbridge and his water wings. And the TASS Guadeloupe river camping trip with Roy Dykes shooting his water machine gun on the bus until the driver stopped the bus!

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Inga Birkenstock and Gail Lang.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: From John Klumb who was available any time I needed help.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: How to operate the Board of Directors and TASS with almost no funds and not loose money.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: The night City Streets closed down due to the Fire Marshall and we had to move to another location instantly.

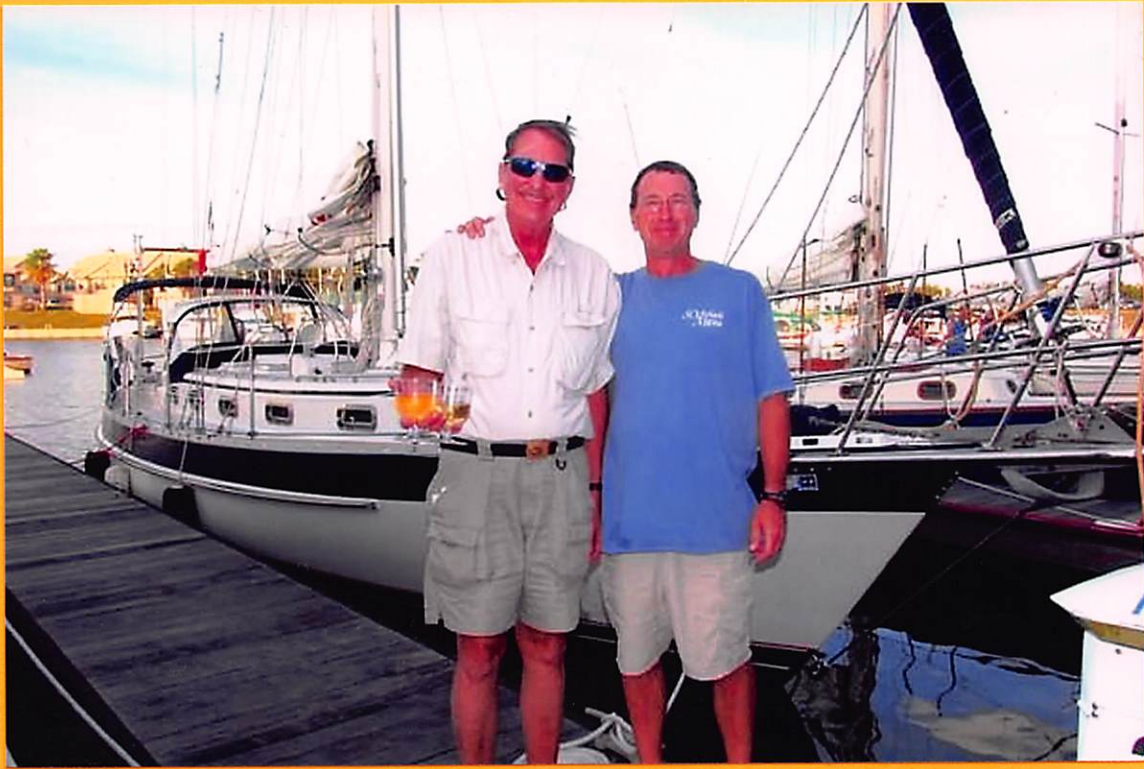
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Love to sail and TASS became family and taught me more about sailing than I knew before.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to mention all of them.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Join TASS, go on a sail and have fun...Give TASS a chance. "Remember, you never get a chance unless you take a chance."

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I continue to learn a tremendous amount about sailing because all TASS members help each other.







Ken Derbridge

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Aug 2004 - July 2005)

BIRTHPLACE: Montreal, Quebec, Canada

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Cypress, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Zero

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: After serving nine terms on the board as an Ad-Hoc member, Purser, Treasurer and Secretary, I was asked to consider running for Commodore. And being such a strong believer and supporter of TASS, I agreed to run.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: We were able to update for the first time our TASS website, thanks to some excellent board members. And also for the first time, we started the publication of a TASS Cookbook which I still refer to. Thanks to all of the members for their participation.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Having the opportunity to serve TASS as your Commodore for two terms, and working with great teams on both boards.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Having to ask a member to resign from TASS. It hurt me personally but it was done with the full backing of the board.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: It seems like the funniest moments were either me starting or ending as Commodore. A certain male having just joined TASS started hitting on a very pretty lady in a Yellow Bikini poolside before the start of our 20th Anniversary Inaugural. Someone told him that lady was the new incoming Commodore's wife. Yes, he was embarrassed and full of apologies. And of course we laughed about it for a long time. While turning over my leadership to our incoming

Commodore at the TASS Inaugural Party, I found out that Mark Monroe had secretly invited about 14 people to our just purchased motor home. My wife ended up making Caipirinhas (Brazilian Margaritas) for them all. Crowded? Yes! Fun? Yes!

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: There are too many to name, but I certainly include all of the Board Members I worked with, and there were also many volunteers that helped behind the scenes. Thanks to all of you for your contributions.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Just do your best. You cannot expect to please all every time.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: I continued to learn how great an organization TASS is.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: I was very fortunate that I was never forced to make a solo decision, thanks to the Board Members I was blessed to work with.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The sails, the socials and the parties. The friendships made over the years. How TASS welcomed Virginia (now my wife) and how they made her feel comfortable in a new environment, i.e., coming from Brazil into America.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: There are just too many to even think about naming, so I am not going to get myself in trouble by naming only some. And although we moved to Florida for a couple of years, these friends remained friends.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Get involved. It is your club, and it is not too much to volunteer to help out on the board or in the background. Surely you have a few minutes to spare your club.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS is now going to celebrate 30 years. Why? Because of a great bunch of members, both past and present.

Obrigado (thank you) TASS!





Mark Langley (Skipper Marco)

TASS COMMODORE 3 Terms (Aug 2005 - Jan 2007)

BIRTHPLACE: San Francisco

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Had already sailed across the Indian Ocean and could celestial navigate with a sextant. (Can't do that anymore – been too long, forgot how)

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: To serve the club

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Good question, ask others, I'm not sure. Maybe helping build camaraderie and interest in sailing.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: N/A

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: N/A

GREATEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: All the sails, in the bay, the races, the overseas trips and the parties.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: The entire boards. And particularly all those members who put up with my long narratives and still smiled knowingly and condescendingly.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Keep sailing

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: How worthwhile it is to take the time to give back to something you care about.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Whether or not to run for a second and third terms and not to run for the forth. That last one wasn't too difficult.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The people and the opportunity the club brings to

be together doing what is my favorite sport.

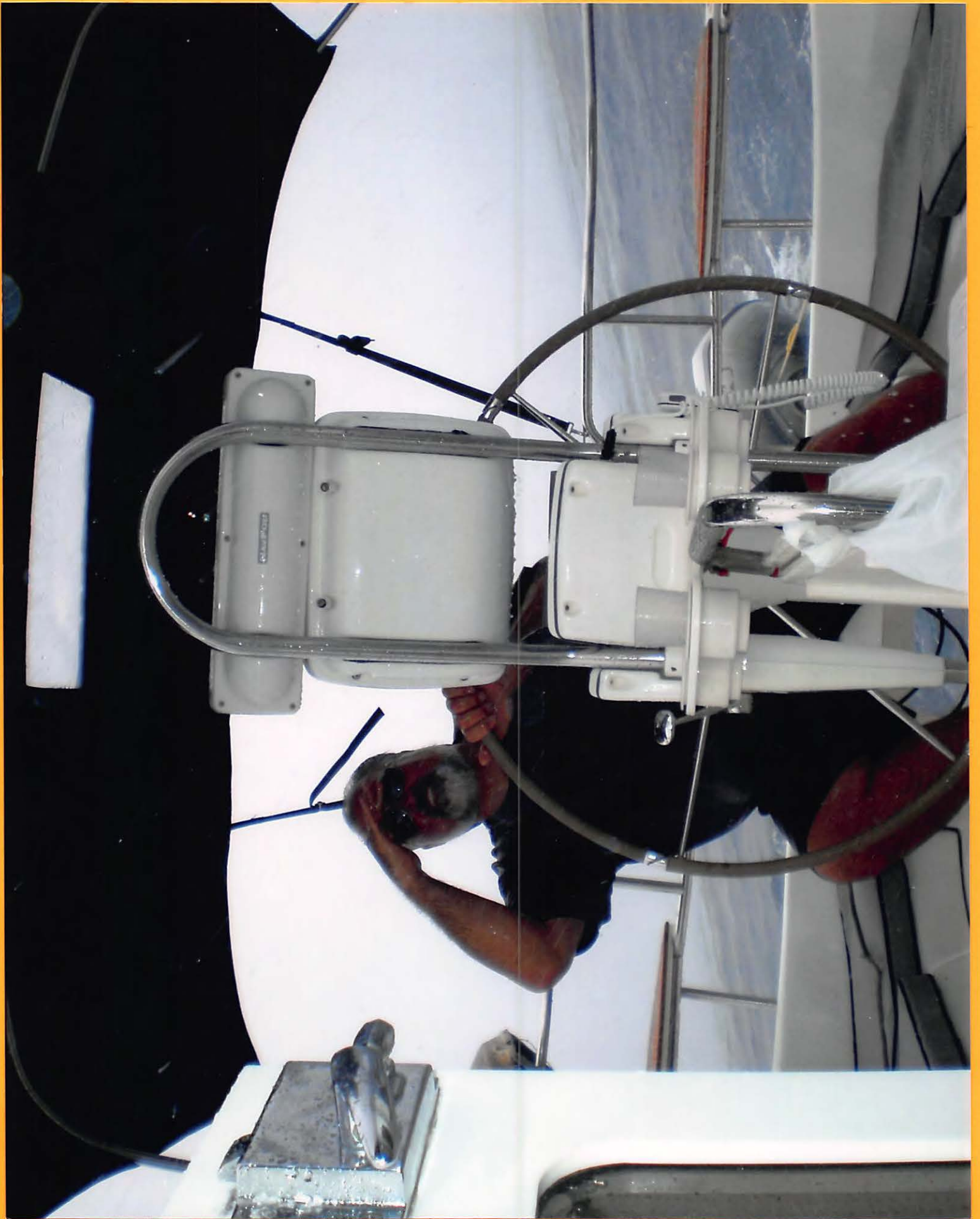
FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Not enough room on the paper.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Participate

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I hope the friends and members of TASS continue to support the club, keep active and take advantage of all the club has to offer. And that we continue to offer sailing opportunities both here and abroad.







John Bemis

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Feb 2007 Jan 2008)

BIRTHPLACE: Cleveland, Ohio

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Approximately 6 years of sailing, I was on the board of Captains for the Hoofers Sailing Club at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a founding member and Commodore of the Sailing Club at the University of Minnesota.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I had served in a number of the other board positions and I was asked to serve.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Growing the sailing and skipper instruction program.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Working with a great board and serving the club.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Board member, Membership director Amelia Cunningham Passing away in April 2007.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: All of them

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Dick Howard, Jim LeBlanc, Jay Legget among many others.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Put yourself in the other person's shoes.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: It's all about the people.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: With the great board I had, I do not remember the decisions being hard.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: So many people passionate about so many different

aspects of sailing, from racing to cruising to maintenance to teaching to safety to social aspects.

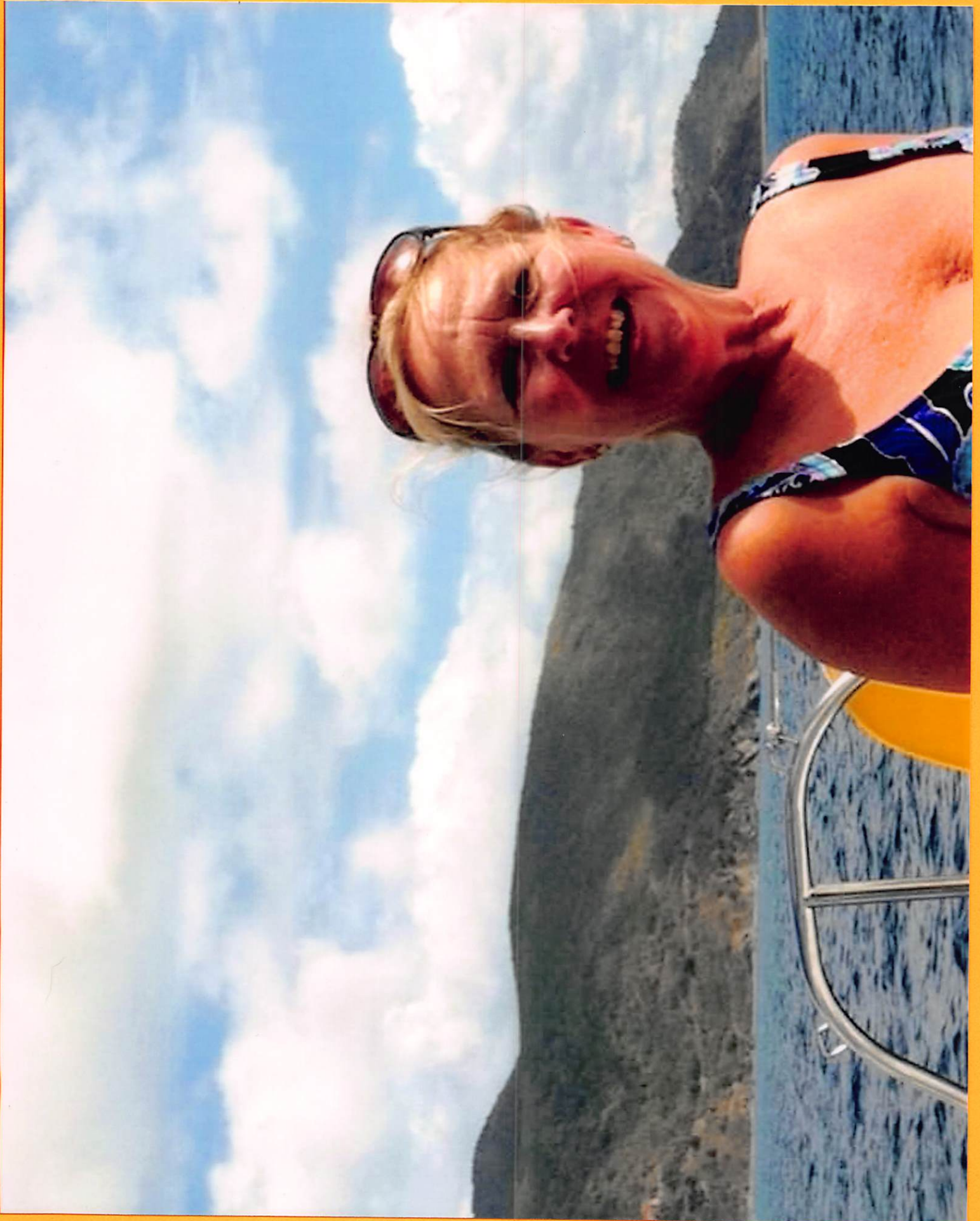
FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: My lovely spouse Ridley among many too numerous to list.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Take every opportunity to get on the water and don't pass up the out of town trips.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: I'd like to thank TASS and all the members for many great memories on and off the water.







Gail Lang

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Feb 2008 – July 2008)

BIRTHPLACE: Birmingham, Alabama

NOW LIVES IN: San Diego CA, and Houston TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: None. My summers growing up were spent boating on our family's Chris Craft cabin cruiser and water skiing with power boats. But nothing like sailing.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I was asked by past Commodore John Bemis.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Based on a tip from Jim and Belinda Wolfe, I asked the Board to consider upgrading the TASS website to utilize Memberize. Planting this seed led to later development, especially by Janet Cole, and resulted in our new, improved website.

PROUDEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE: Hosting, cooking for, and serving the TASS board members at our monthly meetings at my home.

SADDEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE; It was pretty much happy all the time.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: TASS members were hit pretty hard by the recession. Our social director, Meade Collard, had worked hard to plan a special after race party and dinner at Sundance Grill. We received so many responses from members that they could not afford to attend the party that we had to cancel at the last minute. As past Social Director (and party lover) this was hard to do!

FUNNIEST MOMENT WHILE COMMODORE: I'm gonna deliberately change this one to FUNNEST MOMENT, and it was while Social Director, not Commodore. I had booked a dinner/dance party at Waterford, with an Elvis impersonator providing the live entertainment. Well, not one, but

TWO impersonators showed up and put on a fantastic act that had everybody on their feet dancing. We thought the show was over, but they informed me that there was a surprise in store. The two left the room, changed costume, and returned to the party in full Blues Brothers regalia. They proceeded to put on a second show that brought the house down. Those were some golden days in TASS, and the source of many happy memories.

HARDEST WORKERS IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Jay Leggett and Janet Cole

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: I received a lot of guidance from both Mark Monroe and Cheryl Morvillo

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: How to conduct a short yet informative meeting.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The world of international travel that opened up for me, with special thanks to Dick and Sue Howard and their band of Impulsive Travelers.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to mention, but especially Jan and Terri Buskop , and Jim and Belinda Wolfe.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND PROSPECTS: It takes more than attending one or two meetings or events to establish the long lasting friendships that we value in TASS. Keep coming until you make the connections.





Jim LeBlanc

TASS COMMODORE 2 Terms (Aug 2008 - Jul 2009)

BIRTHPLACE: Houma, Louisiana

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Vista, California but plan to move back to League City, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Having grown up in South Louisiana, I had considerable experience in boating (including water skiing with snakes and alligators). I had also learned to sail when I lived in Connecticut and California and had owned a sailboat when I moved to Texas. I had over 25 years sailing experience when I joined TASS. TASS taught me about international bare boat chartering and being a good crew member on boats.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I had served as Purser for several terms and felt that it was my turn to step up to being Commodore.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Getting my future wife (Meade) involved in sailing. Attending virtually every TASS sponsored function as club representative. Keeping the Board Meetings running smoothly and ending on time.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Seeing everyone work together for the good of the club and to make our events a success.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Having to ask a member to resign when his behavior became too much to take.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Seeing the Fire Department appear at a pig roast when the bonfire got too big. Carolyn had to go make peace with the Fire Department when Tal would not go talk to them.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Lois Geyer (for special events) and Sean O'Brien (for international trips), plus the

Board Members (especially the Social Director). Several ad-hoc members who helped out in setting up and running special events were especially appreciated.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: There will always be controversy. As Commodore you are responsible for everything, don't take it personally!

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: You can't please everyone, do your best for the club as a whole.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Having to find a new location for the weekly meetings when Joe's Crab Shack on Richmond shut down.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: The people involved make the events very worthwhile. Everyone who joins wants to meet people and to enjoy sailing. The club provides many opportunities to do both, including international sailing experience which I had never done before joining TASS.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too numerous to list.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Get involved, do everything you can with the club, improve your sailing skills. This is a fun club to belong to!

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS is approaching 30 years and still going strong. Though it has changed over the years, it is the members who make it all worthwhile and will continue to do so in the future. Need to find a way to add younger members as we oldies pass on the torch.





JAY LEGGETT

TASS COMMODORE 5 Terms

(Aug 2009 - July 2010; Feb 2013 - July 2014)

BIRTHPLACE: Houston, TX

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, TX

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Had sailed 6-8 times in high school and college.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I have had the pleasure to serve several other TASS board positions over the past 15 years I've been a TASS member (wow, I had no idea it had been that long), and was asked to serve.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: The new TASS website with easier access to the main areas of interest to the members; revised charter contract with Windward (still tweaking it) which now clearly includes "pass through liability" from the boat owner's policy to any skipper and crew aboard; and finally fleet-wide commercial towing insurance policy extended to any skipper on a charter boat.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Moments like yesterday while aboard a TASS sail, one of our failed new members (1 ½ years) asked "what can I do to help the Club?" THAT is what has and continues to make TASS the great sailing and social club that it has been for now 30 YEARS. Secondly, to go with my "saddest moment" below, having two previous boards members come forward as we presented the slate of officers without a nominee for Social Director, "we'll share the workload and cover the position".

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Presenting the ballot of new officers to the membership without a Social Director nominee.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: No comment.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: The many

who have served as Board members and ad-hoc positions with me to make it all happen - my heartfelt thanks to you all, it's truly been an honor to serve with you.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Let others put "their own spin" on, whether it's a special event, dock party, trip or regatta - it's what makes TASS what it is.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: It's hard to find volunteers and treasure the ones you find.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Making decisions that a few don't agree with, but are the best for the Club.

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: TASS has become my extended family that I share dinners, races, vacations with, and I'm truly honored to be part of a great group of folks

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too many to count

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: "Jump in", whether it's helping sign people in at an event, or helping to clean up after one, to serving on the Board --- there's no better way to get to know your fellow TASS members, and make life long friendships.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: Thanks to all of the volunteers that have served, are serving and will serve TASS over the past 30 years and many years to come; for YOU are truly what makes TASS the great sailing and social club that it is.





Hope DeNicola

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Aug 2011 - Jan 2012)

BIRTHPLACE: Kentucky

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Houston, Texas

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: I began sailing in 1984 in Kemah with friends. Chartered from Sacketts with boats less than perfect! Caught the bug coming in one afternoon under sail with the sun shining around the #2 marker of the Clear Lake Channel. Sailed with boyfriends and friends, experiencing several "stories" to be told - especially the Harvest Moon Regattas. TASS enabled me to continue developing my sailing skills and feel confident that I can handle the boat in most any condition! (Weather condition that is!)

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: Cheryl Morvillo made me do it!

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Unfortunately nothing!

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Unfortunately I did not accomplish anything so I am not proud - it is the only time I did not feel as if I made a strong contribution to the Board. My proudest moments were actually when I was the social director for 2 years and the events grew as did the enthusiasm for the club grew as well.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Realizing that I wasn't going to accomplish anything.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: Seeing my husband's face when he walked into the Board meeting and realized it was all women! (Except for John Klumb!)

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: Social Director

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Just shut up!

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: Change isn't easy.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: Not to continue on the Board!

WHY YOU LOVE TASS: A bunch of stuff! When I joined in 2001 - the club was in full swing! Members welcomed me and we sailed and sailed. It was a safe venue for me as a single girl to get to sail since I no longer owned a boat. Everyone has had a "life event" which made you not feel so isolated and lonely - everyone had a story of their own. The fun, the parties and the family style friendships that I was fortunate enough to develop - along with all of the travel and sailing that we do!

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: My husband, Kevin of course is number 1. But Cheryl Morvillo, Jim and Belinda Wolfe, Ray Montello, Mark Monroe, Sue Cady, Mark Langley and Lisa Ottemiller as well as Lois Geyer and her family, Tal and Carolyn Rogers, Don Finney and Elaine Maspero (Windy's Godparents) along with so many others that are like family as well as friends. We celebrate so many holidays and special occasions together - I would not trade that for the world!

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Don't be shy! Jump in with both feet! Sail! Sign-up for the trips and get on the Board! You will meet everyone and develop great friendships! While keeping the club running with new ideas and hard work!

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: TASS has been the best thing I have ever done! I fought Sean O'Brien on joining - saying "I am not that desperate to join a singles club!" Boy was I wrong! It wasn't about being single - it was about a group of people that are kind, fun and enjoy sailing like me!





Lee Carpenter

TASS COMMODORE 1 Term (Aug 2012 - Jan 2013)

BIRTHPLACE: Madison, Wisconsin

NOW LIVES IN CITY, STATE: Kemah, Tx.

SAILING EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU JOINED TASS: Sailing and racing with numerous friends all around Clear Lake, Galveston, and Freeport. In my early years I was in the Merchant Marines on the Great Lakes. I fell in love with being on the water.

WHY YOU BECAME TASS COMMODORE: I saw that the club was starting to decline in races, membership, social events, and lack of young new members.

BEST ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: As a result of the Board members that I had the pleasure of working with, we increased membership, more sail boats in races, better technical races, improved racing requirements and a considerable increase in new members and enlisting old members to rejoin.

PROUDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: The Xmas party in 2012 in Galveston, when I was able to present roses to the female members of the Board that had worked so hard in making TASS a fun and enjoyable club.

SADDEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: When I decided not to run for a second term because of my new business that I had just started.

FUNNIEST MOMENT(S) WHILE COMMODORE: It would be without a doubt, the Amazing Races that were for four years an exciting part of the TASS schedule.

HARDEST WORKER(S) IN TASS WHILE YOU WERE COMMODORE: No question about this, they were my entire Board members.

BEST ADVICE RECEIVED WHILE COMMODORE: Never address any negative comments, emails, or hearsay. Only deal with positive inputs and suggestions.

THINGS LEARNED WHILE BEING COMMODORE: My idea was to try to please all the people all the time, but in reality you can only please most of the people most of the time.

HARDEST DECISION MADE AS COMMODORE: To ask the Board to vote to remove a long time TASS member because of that persons hurtful comments and emails.

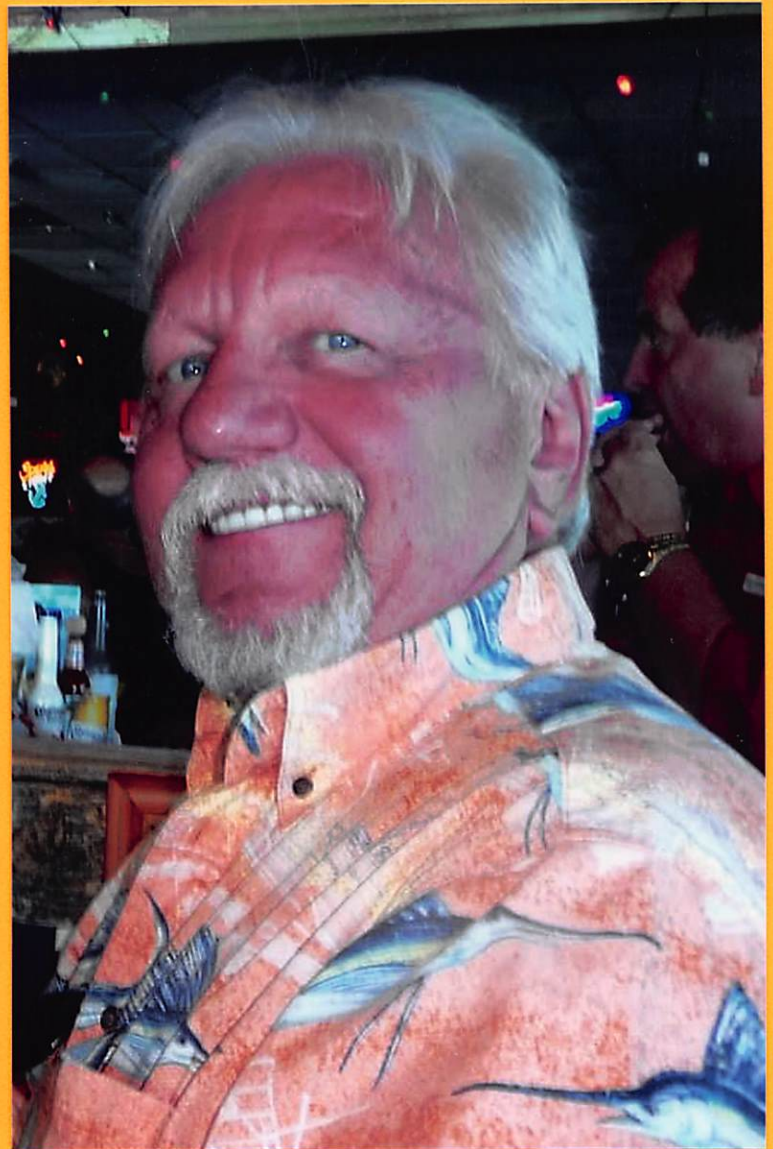
WHY YOU LOVE TASS: Sailing, adventures, racing, and meeting very intelligent and fun loving people most of whom are willing to teach others from their own vast experiences.

FRIENDS MADE BECAUSE OF TASS: Too numerous to mention.

ADVICE TO NEW MEMBERS AND NEW PROSPECTS: Deal with positive minded people, listen when given advise and help when asked.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS: My years with TASS have been a memory of exciting and challenging times, with help from my Board members we created a new logo for shirts and caps and gave skipper caps to all skippers past and present.

I truly wish to thank all of my Board members for their input, enthusiasm, and support.



To

Be

Continued

