



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

December 2017

**100 Front Beach Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564**

From the Commodores & the OSYC Board

Greetings, Members!

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving has come and gone, and that December is here! Even harder to believe that Christmas will be here soon! As always, there is still a lot going on up at the Club, and we hope you will be able to make it by to spend some quality time with friends and family!

The biggest news from November was the Annual General Membership Meeting, held on November 6, 2017 at the Club. A special thanks to those of you who were able to attend. The level of interest and support shown by your attendance and engagement demonstrates why the OSYC is so special — it is because people care, and want it to be the best possible club it can be! For those that were not able to make it, the Board presented an overview of the current status of the Club, and a projection forward to next year. Without going into the details in this article, suffice it to say that the Club operations have stabilized under Chris Walton's guidance and leadership, and the Club is moving forward in a positive direction after absorbing the challenges presented with the series of management transitions from early 2017.

Looking ahead, there will likely be a special general membership meeting called in the spring to reassess where the club stands at that point in time, but more on that to come. In addition to the general report, the new slate of officers for 2018 as presented by the nominating committee was approved unanimously. Thanks to Ron Haaf for his guidance as chair of that committee. Also, the standing committees set forth in the Club By-Laws were amended slightly to more accurately reflect the current reality of Club needs. Thanks to Chris Minke for his efforts in recognizing that need and seeing it through. Looking towards 2018, a number of committees were discussed. Thanks to those of you that volunteered to serve the Club in one role or another. As was discussed at the meeting, it is critical that more members engage and contribute to the Club—there is a spot for everyone to match your skill sets and interest! Reach out to any board member or Chris Walton to get involved. Your Club needs you!

By the time this article goes out, final plans for our 2017 Drawdown will be in place. Special thanks to all who worked

hard to pull off our biggest fundraiser of the year! Our Social Committee co-chairs Patti Hughes and Robin Cooley, and our decorator-in-chief, Helen Effinger, are due extra recognition for all their work to make "Sailing Through the Holidays" such a successful event!

We would also like to thank Tommy Burrell for his contributions to the grounds at the Club. In particular, he has worked tirelessly weeding, planting, and tilling the front flower bed as part of the clean up effort post Hurricane Nate. Mike Murray has also worked almost daily to maintain and clean up the grounds and much of the exterior of the Club. Also, two new members, the Dianne and Donald del Cid, who are landscape architects, have offered to donate to the club a professional landscaping plan, and the Garden Club has offered to undertake the planting and has also dedicated \$400.00 towards putting that plan in to reality—thanks to all involved in that as well! Additionally, as you may have noticed, the Eisenglass is back up at the Club. Thanks to Cyndi Moncreiff and Chuck Power, Carleton Campbell, and Patton and Peter Gentry among others for their efforts — which resulted in the panels going up in near record time!

These types of contributions and the generosity and support of the members are crucial to the Club's success, and will be all the more critical following Hurricane Nate. After assessing the damage and reviewing repair estimates, the Club's insurance carriers have advised that insurance coverage will not be available to cover the repairs. As a result, the Club will need to undertake these repairs internally, as schedules and resources allow. This will take time, but will go faster the more people contribute and offer to help. Again, please volunteer!

Last note—due to the increased interest in sailing at the Club (which is due no doubt in large part to the tremendous efforts of the OSSS and Fleet Captain Jay)—the Club is going to make available a limited number of Club boats during what has traditionally been the "off season." Of course, all normal restrictions and certification requirements will apply. Please check in with the Manager to sign out a boat. We are glad to see the high level of sailing, and hope it continues year-round!

Moving forward, please continue giving Chris and our staff all the help you can and be assured your Board of Governors is working tirelessly to provide 'Fair winds and following seas!' We look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Your 2017 Board of Governors



Ocean Springs Yacht Club ~ <http://www.osyc.com>

P.O. Box 821, Ocean Springs MS 39566 (228) 875-1915

From the Fleet Captain, Jay Shuman
FleetCaptain@OSYC.com



Greetings Current and Future Sailors!

2017 was a great year for the sailing program. Our regattas were well attended; our sailing schools were full of kids who actually learned things, Friday Night Races were popular and we made it thru Hurricane

season (relatively) unscathed. Those are all excellent things and I am grateful to all of you who made them possible!

Speaking of people who make things possible: The OS High School Sailing Team, hosted and supported by OSSS, held their season end dinner/fundraiser at the Froghead Grill. Owner and OSYC member Joshua Welch donated a sizable portion of the proceeds back to support the team. Between good attendance and highly favorable rounding we ended up with a large enough donation to rebuild the team boat dollies. Thanks to all who attended and special thanks to Josh and the Froghead Grill for hosting the event and sharing the proceeds. If you haven't eaten at Froghead you need to – it is tasty, reasonable and friendly – check it out!

We have plans to make next year even better. We are instituting a 1-week Sailing Adventure Camp as a follow up to the 2-week youth instruction sessions. The concept is to spend 2 weeks learning how to work the boats and then reinforce that with another week of going out on the boats and playing. The activity plan is still in development but we may have kids-only races, there could be picnics on Deer Island, there might also be sailing trips up and down the Ocean Springs waterfront – how cool would it be to arrive via sailboat at Ft. Maurepas for a quick jaunt thru the splash pads? Be on the lookout for more info if this might appeal to your sailors.

For 2017 we tried to allow a good deal of flexibility in scheduling Adult Group Lessons but were stymied by competing priorities. For 2018 we are going back to picking dates, advertising those dates and adding

more dates if demand says we need to. I am tied to the school calendars of my college-age instructors but hope to get some dates set up as soon as April. We'll get the word out via e-blast, newsletter and perhaps even Facebook.

We are still sorting out the details for 2018 Beach storage. The city of Ocean Springs has taken an interest in the overall state of "rustic-ness" in the boat storage yard that will probably necessitate some changes in how we run things down there. They really hate the trailers parked along the sidewalk and the weeds that grow around the boats. We are looking into an off-site storage location but if that doesn't pan out expect trailer storage prices to go up to offset additional lawn maintenance costs around them.

The storage yard was at capacity last summer and hopefully will be again this coming summer. To all who registered and paid for their storage I thank you. To those who did not I will deal aggressively with squatters this year. Beach Storage is not one of the perks of your membership – please do the right thing by registering and paying. The Beach Storage year begins again on January first. Returning customers get first dibs for 2 weeks then the remaining spots are wide open. Be on the lookout for e-mails announcing the start of registration.

This is my last newsletter. 2018 rings in a Changing of the Board - even the Fleet Captain this year. I go back to being a regular member as our good friend and excellent sailor Joe Pocreva takes on the Fleet Captain responsibilities. Please give him the same support I enjoyed over the last three years and help us keep sailing at OSYC great.

Thanks for putting up with me and I'll see you on the beach!

Jay Shuman
OSYC Fleet Captain
H16, H20, HGetaway

fleetcaptain@osyc.com





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**From Your General Manager
Chris Walton
OSYachtClub@cableone.net**



Happy Holidays from your OSYC Club Staff!

We hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. All of the staff wishes you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and joyous New Year.

Please help our OSYC staff members to have a merrier Christmas season by donating to our OSYC Staff Holiday Fund. Your generous contribution will be divided among all of our OSYC staff members to help them make their own families' holidays more memorable. We ask that you consider being a part of this extra special way to let each one of our staff members know how much you appreciate everything that they do for us all year round. Your name will be added to a holiday card that will be presented to our staff, along with the total donations received. A donation form is included in this newsletter, and is also available at the Club. Thank you!

Reminder: We have changed internet providers. Our new email address is: OSYachtClub@cableone.net
The WiFi Password is "password" ☺

We will be partnering with the Waitr app very soon.

December events on the calendar:

- The annual OSYC Drawdown is on Dec 1st
- The Club is now closed on Mondays
- The 24th is Christmas Eve; the Club will close at 6 pm
- The 25th is Christmas, the Club will be closed

We are floating the idea to have a New Year's Eve party at the Club; stay tuned for more information, and please let me know if this would interest you. We may partner with Uber to provide rides home. The club will be closed on New Years Day.

- Coming Reminders: "Grill Your Own Steak Night" will be on December 30th, so make your reservations now!

"Happy Hour" at OSYC is from 3 – 6 pm Tuesday through Friday, offering house wines, well drinks, and domestic beers at half price. The Café Grill is open on Tuesdays,

Thursdays and Fridays from 3 - 8pm, Saturdays 12 - 8pm, and on Sundays from 1 - 8pm. Please don't forget about our Sunday Breakfast from 10:30 am -1:00 pm. Our Club Hours are: Tuesday thru Thursday, 10:30am – 9:00pm, Friday and Saturday 10:30am – 10:00pm, and Sunday 10:30 am – 9:00pm. Weekly Bar Bucks Drawing every Saturday at 6:30 pm (must have a minimum of 12 members present). If the name drawn is not present, we have a consolation drawing of \$50 in Bar Bucks.

The menu continues to evolve. Please let us know how what you would like to see added to the menu. As always, when you have an issue, a concern, or a question, please let me know so I can work to resolve any concerns for you in a timely manner.

Thank you to all of your support as your Club Manager, I appreciate all your kind words and suggestions. Please let me know how I can make your club better for you. Looking forward to seeing you all at your OSYC, "Your Other Backyard"!

Chris Walton
General Manager



OSYC Special Events Reminder

Please RSVP for all advertised Club events to

OSYachtClub@cableone.net



or by phone at 875-1915

Our staff wants to ensure that you have the best Club experiences as possible and we want to know to expect you!

Thank you!



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Thank You from the Social Committee

As the year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of our OSYC Social Committee. We also thank all of our volunteers for your efforts in making our Club a fun place this year.

When times were "less than perfect", we stood together as a united team, providing fun activities for members of all ages. We also managed to keep the Club decorated for each season, and we had success in raising funds to benefit the Club due to the efforts of everyone involved in each event.

Many, many thanks from us to not only the volunteers, but also to our Club members for each of you who participated in our activities. It has been our pleasure to work with each of you this year.

Merry Christmas!

Your Social Committee Co-Chairs,

Robin Cooley & Patti Hughes

If you wish to have the OSYC Newsletter mailed to you on a monthly basis, please fill out and drop by the Club or mail it to the OSYC office to the attention of our OSYC Manager, Mr. Chris Walton:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Attn.: OSYC Manager Chris Walton

Thanks to all of you who read and appreciate our Club newsletter in digital format. If you receive the Club newsletter through the mail, please consider changing to viewing on line at OSYC.com.



"Holiday Cheer" for our OSYC Staff

Please help our OSYC staff members to have an even merrier Christmas season by donating to our OSYC Staff Holiday Fund. Your generous contribution will be divided among all of our OSYC staff members to help them make their own families holidays more cheerful and bright. We ask that you consider being a part of this extra special way to let our staff know how much you appreciate all that they do for us all year for all of us. Your name will be added to a holiday card that will be presented to our staff, along with the total donations received. Thank you!

Member Name(s)
(Please print): _____

Membership Number: _____ Date: _____

Donation Amount (please circle):

\$5 \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100

Other Amount \$ _____

Payment Method (please circle):
Cash Check Charge to Account

You may also send the above information in a message to our Manager, Chris Walton, at OSYCYachtClub@cableone.net

Again, thank you!

Happy Holidays from your OSYC Staff
and your OSYC Board of Governors!





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“Member’s View”



“Now Serving Moonshine” (Submitted photo – Bob Effinger)

For additional pictures from events at the OSYC, including a video of our very own Rear Commodore Chris Minke performing as a part of this year’s Halloween festivities, please visit the OSYC Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/OceanSpringsYachtClub/>

Photographs from past events can also be seen on the OSYC website in album format:
<http://www.osyc.com/index.php?module=pictures>

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING
BAR BUCKS:**

As of October 1, 2017, Bar Bucks are no longer be available for sale or purchase at the Club. Bar Bucks will still be available for their original purpose of rewarding volunteerism and contributions above and beyond the call of duty.