



# Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

July 2023

100 Front Beach Drive  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

## Commodore's Report



First and foremost, I want to thank all the members who have supported us throughout the week. I have been a small business owner for many many years and the club is not the Club without you! Without you, we have no income but most important, we would have no employees! Our OSYC employees put their heart and soul into our Club.

They are the foundation of the OSYC. We were crushed the first 6 hours after the fire, but the first to come back at 10 AM to pick up the pieces were our employees. They serve us to make the OSYC a place for us to enjoy with our families.

There is a lot of blood and sweat that goes on behind the scenes to keep our Club up and running. We've had employees get overheated, but keep on moving. The insane dedication to our Club makes me proud to be their "Mommadore". We've also had a few members who have stepped up and went above and beyond to get us electricity downstairs so our employees would have a job to return to.

I am asking you as a small business owner and as your Commodore ... please bring your family for a pool outing, have a business luncheon under the deck, have a birthday at the pavilion, a picnic on the lawn, a guys/ girls night out ... don't stop spending money at your Yacht Club because we had a small hiccup. We kept rolling for you!

The biggest question I have been asked is "What's next?" Well, the first thing we do is put on our big girl/ boy britches and move forward without looking back!

Next thing we've done is call a mitigation company to fight for every nickel we lost. Our managers have been busy making inventory lists of everything we lost and had to put into place to keep us up and running. We lost the electrical panel, air conditioning units, and portions of our roof and decking, as well as smoke damage. But we didn't lose our integrity and love for our Club! I keep telling everyone to look at the bright side, we get a brand new commercial AC unit that will keep us cool all summer! Monday we have a scheduled inspection with the insurance adjuster and we are moving right along. I will continue to keep everyone posted on the status or new developments of the fire. I will also answer any questions to the best of my knowledge and if I don't know the answer, I will find it.

I have one more important subject to touch on and it has a lot to do with the future of our Club: our new general manager. Our search committee narrowed down a candidate to join our team during the aftermath of our crisis. We are finalizing the process and hope to introduce you during our special general membership meeting. Our original plan for a meeting was July 17th but after our unfortunate event, I decided to push it back a couple of weeks. You will be hearing from the board for all the above soon.

In closing, I would like to ask all our members to support our Club through thick and thin for the sake of our employees. They are working endless days in the heat for you! They are not making the money they did when we were a 100% and most work from paycheck to paycheck. I plan to make a QR code flyer to those who would like to "Support Our Employees!" I will post it through email and around the Club. It will be a dedicated fund that will be distributed evenly through our club employees to include general operations, bartenders, and food runners.



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

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

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

XOXO

Nicole

Nicole McClendon  
[commandore@osyc.com](mailto:commandore@osyc.com)

From the Vice Commodore,  
Carroll Kovacevich



The Fourth of July is upon us!! Summer is in full swing, and activities at the Club have picked up. The pool is going strong, sailors are on the water, sailing classes are in high gear, events and parties are happening, and people are visiting. The Club is busy!! Which brings me to my yearly subject....PARKING. As we all

know, parking is limited, so I ask all to be aware of where you park and how you park. Golf carts park in the back on the lawn. Any spots we make available by parking responsibly will be appreciated by all.

I want to thank our membership, their families and their guests for cooperating with our pool wrist band policies. They have prevented the overcrowding by those who do not belong there which allows for a better time for those who do. It also helps the lifeguards, bartenders, food runners and our ops crew to do their jobs better.

Please be respectful and courteous to our staff. They are working hard to make your stay fun and enjoyable. If you have a problem, contact a manager or one of the flag officers.

Remember..... In a world where you can be anything.....BE KIND!!!!

Enjoy the summer!!

Carroll

From the Rear Commodore,  
Michael Ramsey



Ahoy!

This Club has a history of facing adversity head-on and becoming stronger and better for it. When Hurricane Zeta flooded the downstairs of the Club and caused immense damage to the Club grounds and pool and building, we had dozens of volunteers show up the next day and we rebuilt better and stronger. We could not have done so without the support of the members and without a spectacular staff. Similarly, when the staff and members of this Club heard about the fire, they immediately sprung into action. Because of our volunteers and our staff, we were able to: continue to host Sail Camp, install a temporary power pole, get the pool running, arrange for outside (and air conditioned) bathrooms, and open up the downstairs bar – all in time for the Fourth of July. We even have cold beer on tap! Despite the damage to the Club, our Fourth of July event went smoothly. Carl's fireworks display was amazing as always and the kids looked like they really enjoyed the watermelon games. Our members have an amazing ability to come together and support the Club when it needs us the most.

We are still trying to assess what it will take to get the club back up at running at 100%, but rest assured that we are hard at work. Insurance will cover the damage to the Club, and the Board is looking for ways to use this downtime as an opportunity for improvements to Club, including looking at seriously increasing our air conditioning capacity. There is no doubt in my mind that when the dust settles, our Club will be better than ever and ready to face the next challenge.

So come on by to check out the daily progress that we are making to the Club. While you are in, please consider being a little bit more generous with your tips. Our staff has done some tremendous work at the Club and we cannot thank them enough.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Thank you,

Mike Ramsey, Rear Commodore

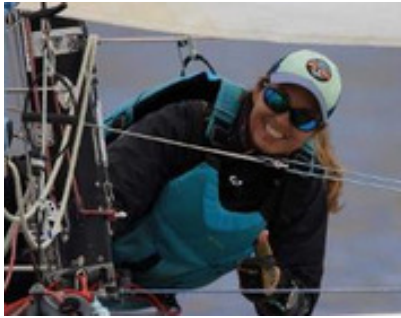




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From the Fleet Captain, Amanda Romano  
FleetCaptain@OSYC.com



Dear OSYC,

I am honored to be a part of this fleet! I am amazed at all of the teamwork and hustle that has gone into the aftermath of our little setback. I am

very thankful to be carrying on with sail camps and have enjoyed sharing the bottom of our Club with all of the members. It's nice that you can observe our wonderful camp while relaxing at the downstairs bar while 25-30 campers are learning to sail. We are in our third two week session camp. We have amazing counselors and well behaved children that we never want camp to end. In 3 weeks we will be holding a parents' sailing camp for those that have children in sail camp. They will be 3 nights a week from 5-7. This idea really tugs on my heartstrings as this is how my husband and I got into sailing, (our child attending sail camp). This is a lifetime sport and a new hobby that we started together, we are loving every minute of it!

This weekend we are holding our famous Island Hop Regatta. We have 24 boats registered to race out to Horn Island to enjoy some famous fried chicken and refreshing beverages and then a race back to the Club for a nice dinner under the stars. The second day consists of a race around Deer Island. I want to extend a huge thank you for all of those volunteering for being support and chase boats. Speaking of chase boats, please reach out to me to join our Power Squadron if you would like to volunteer at any of our regattas, or if you just want to be a member of a group, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer and if you would like to learn to sail, please hit me up!  
Best,

Amanda Romano  
OSYC Fleet Captain/ Camp Director

Remaining 2023 Regatta Schedule

July 8 & 9 ~ Island Hop Regatta

August 26 & 27

Katrina Memorial Regatta /  
OSYC Club Wave Championship

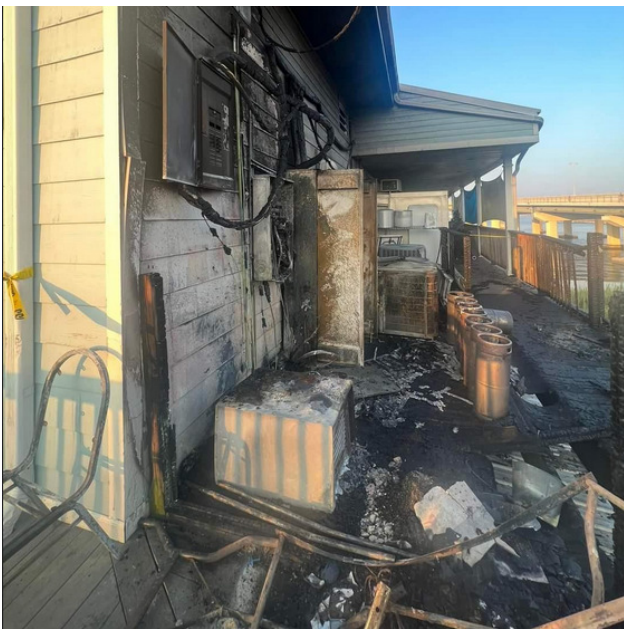
October 14 & 15 ~ Shearwater Regatta







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**From Your Social and Future Sailor  
Committee Chair, Wendie Hilliard**



Dear OSYC Members,

June has come and gone so quickly. June has come and gone so quickly. Our Father's Day brunch was a success. The Pole Vault event was a crowd pleaser. Our cookbook fundraiser is being extended and you can still get your favorite recipes to us through September 1. Please, submit your recipes

to [social@osyc.com](mailto:social@osyc.com).

I want to thank our staff and members that stepped up during the last few days, you guys are amazing and reminded me the reason I volunteer and go the extra miles for each of you everyday. We want to continue as normal as possible, please, be patient with hiccups and event changes.

July is here and that means Independence Day celebrations, fireworks and more outdoor fun. We had a firework show on July 4th and watermelon games. Due to the fire, we had Grilling on the Lawn on the Fourth. It was a fantastic turnout.

To back up a few days, the Future Sailing committee postponed the Kids' Olympics on the first of July. We will give the new date soon.

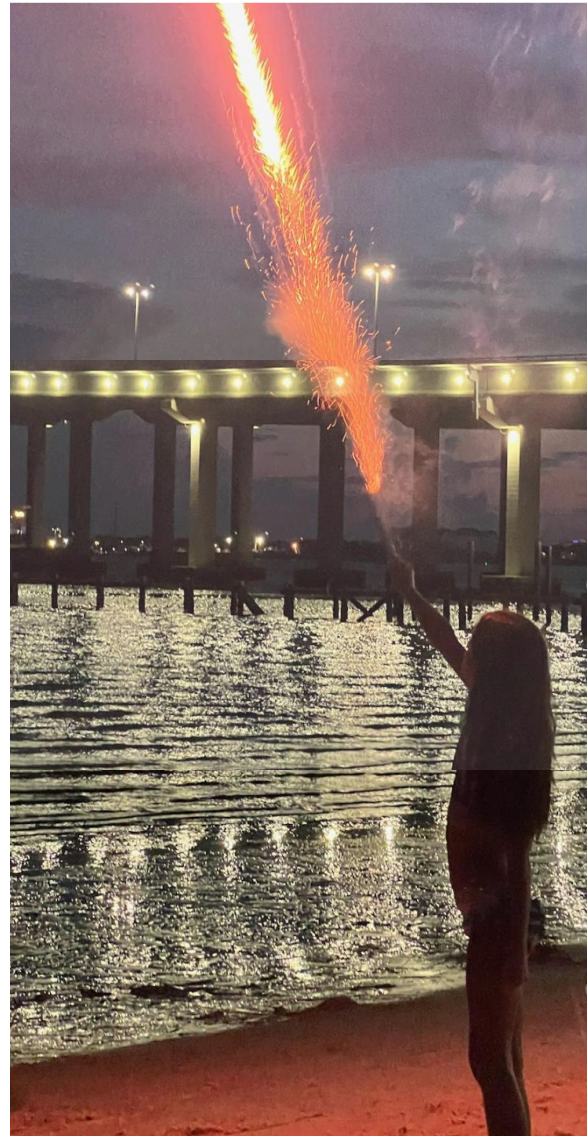
Later in the month we will have movie night on the lawn during Grill Your Own Steak Night. We are planning an Adult Only Pool Party Night and will post in our weekly calendar and on Facebook once the date is set.

We have other events in the works for this month and will post on social media and send emails as each are confirmed.

If you want to volunteer with the social or future sailors committees, please, email me at [social@osyc.com](mailto:social@osyc.com). We have many more events coming soon! If you have an idea for an adult or child activity or event, please, email me and let's see if it is possible.

Sincerely,

Wendie Hilliard, Board Member



**2023 Flag/Corporate Officers:**

- Commodore - Nicole McClendon
- Vice Commodore - Carroll Kovacevich
- Rear Commodore - Michael Ramsey
- Fleet Captain - Amanda Romano
- Treasurer - Gian Motta
- Secretary - William Buchanan



**Board of Governors**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member - Kristen Grizzard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member - Dos Hetrick
- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member - Sandra Carter
- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member - Wendie Hilliard
- Past Commodore - Lloyd Hebert

