



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

August 2023

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

Commodore's Report



I just want to start off with a simple "Thank You!" Thank you too all of you. We have weathered many storms, but this has been the first of its kind. Thank you for being patient and most of all, very supportive. We have a large group of captains with different ideas but at the end we seem to always put our differences

to the side and join forces. We all have positive intentions to make our Club the best it can be for our families.

I also appreciate all the affirmations, but I can't take the credit. Our employees have worked their rear ends off to make our Club run smoothly. Our goal was to pick up and go like nothing happened and they certainly achieved that! Our Fleet Captain Amanda Romano had our sailing school open the same day as the fire. Carl and his group had the dining room brought downstairs in working order. Chris Davidson was already making progress to set up our downstairs bar for the summer. Thank goodness our bar faucets were already installed. Bobby and his gang set up our outside kitchen in the scorching heat. Ms. Cyndi and Carl did an excellent job making sure the pool stayed clear until Bruce Smalls and Kenny Watson could get our temporary poles up and running. This was all done in a matter of a few days of the incident. This wasn't for their own gratification. This was all for the love of our Club!

Our Club is in the second phase of its rehabilitation. The paperwork has been filed to receive an advance payment from our insurance company. And to those who have questioned why we didn't put our Club back together immediately with the funds we already have in the bank ... we absolutely could have done that but in order to receive the maximum amount from our insurance company, we needed the insurance adjuster and our hired adjuster to do a thorough exam of the Club, as well as, gathering ALL the supporting documents of what exactly was lost to get a full and complete refund. Having done this personally for my business during Katrina has helped me to understand the process, and also for the Club after this fire, we are right on target. Carl and his crew will be pulling down the ceiling tiles and insulation in the next few days. This will be done in preparation for the cleaning crew to remove any remaining smoke residues and for a crew of electricians to rewire our Club. Look for a lot of garbage to be removed in the following week, with an additional dumpster on the property.

There was talk of having a special called membership meeting to vote on some proposed changes to our bylaws. While I do think this is very important, I think rebuilding our Club is more important. However, I would like to have a "Town Hall" style meeting. Communication is very critical in running a business, and a lack of it a detriment, and I would like to hear from you all. I have been warned that an open forum could be harsh. I disagree! It's important for the future of our Club to be on the same page and to understand everyone's thoughts. I also have thick skin and can take constructive criticism. Please join me Monday, August 7th at 6:30 PM. There will be no voting; just a question and answer forum.



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I am a firm believer that everything happens for a reason! When a difficult circumstance happens, stop and absorb it. Think of all the good that can come out of this difficult time. In our circumstance, there were a couple of great things that worked in our favor. New commercial equipment that was initially planned prior to the fire will now be paid for by our insurance. Also, togetherness as one! As far as I can remember our Club has always been segregated by age. Our elders seem to congregate upstairs while our young families mostly stay outside with their children by the pool. Our difficult situation has changed the dynamics of our Club and it hasn't been as difficult as we thought it could be! It makes my heart happy! Absorb the difficult times because someone out there has it worse off. In the end it will make us more resilient and stronger!

XOXO

Your Commodore

Nicole McClendon
commodore@osyc.com

**From the Vice Commodore,
Carroll Kovacevich**



July was a challenging month, and August is going to be just as challenging. With the support of our members and the hard work and dedication of our staff we are more than prepared to meet the challenges ahead.

I cannot say enough about our membership. Our members stepped up and contributed ice

chests, generators, and all the resources it took to get up and running so quickly, but most importantly their time. Thanks to all of you!!

I do want to recognize two young men who through their efforts were responsible for getting the power restored so quickly: Kenny Watson and Bruce Small. We lost power approximately 3:30 am on Thursday the morning of the fire. Because of their efforts, power was restored downstairs at approximately 6:45 pm Friday night. This allowed us to keep the pool open and get the downstairs open for business. Thank you Kenny and Bruce!!

The Flag Officers and Board of Governors have been committed through this ordeal to keep all our staff on payroll, and we have been able to accomplish this.

Our staff has done an OUTSTANDING job keeping the Club open for business. They have worked long and tiring hours in the heat and limited space to achieve this. Some have taken a major hit to their income because gratuities are down. I would ask all to be as generous as you can when tipping or any financial donations you make. It will be greatly appreciated!!!

Hopefully very soon work should get started to repair and restore the Club. Please be careful when moving about the property. As always thank all of you for your support, patience and understanding. We will do our best to keep the membership updated as work progresses.

In closing let me say I have never been more proud of the The OSYC as I have doing these challenging times!!

Carroll

**From the Rear Commodore,
Michael Ramsey**



Ahoy!

While the building has suffered damage from the fire, the Club is intact. A club is not just a place. It is the people. The people of this Club have shown resiliency in the face of adversity and have made the best out of a bad situation. If you have not been to the club

since the fire, I strongly encourage you to come visit. Our bartenders are making full use of our downstairs bar and mobile beer taps and Bobby is cooking up some innovative creations in our improvised kitchen. If you have not tried his pot roast, you are missing out! Personally, I have been trying to get more involved in sailing – coming back to the roots of the Club and embracing what first interested me in OSYC.



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I know that there are a lot of questions about the progress of repairs and the status of our insurance money. The Flag Officers and the Board are working to get answers to those questions as quickly as we can. Please understand that there are a lot of variables with insurance and repairs. We intend to host a town hall meeting to discuss this progress and other issues facing the Club. As I stated in my last report, we intend to use our reconstruction as an opportunity to build back stronger and better than ever. We want your input on how to do just that.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Thank you,

Mike Ramsey
Rear Commodore

From Your Past Commodore,
Lloyd Hebert



Per our bylaws, every year, a committee is established to make a recommendation to the Board of Governors for the next year's Board members. As the immediate Past Commodore, it is my duty this year to head up this committee. In

addition to myself, the committee will be comprised of one other past commodore, one current Board member, and two Clubmembers in good standing.

I invite anyone that is interested in serving on this committee to contact me directly via my cell phone at 228-365-3160 or my email lloyd@theheberts.org.

I would like to have the committee in place by the end of August so any potential Board members can be interviewed.

Until I see you at the Club....

Lloyd

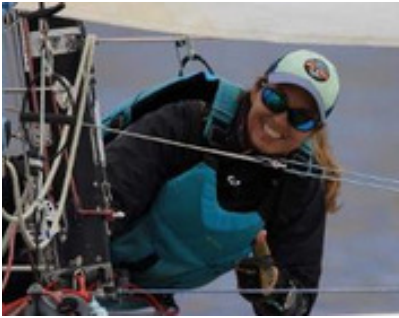




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From the Fleet Captain, Amanda Romano
FleetCaptain@OSYC.com



Ahoy, OSYC!

As the sun sets on another unforgettable summer, we find ourselves bidding farewell to the glorious days of sail camp adventures at the

Ocean Springs Yacht Club. Throughout the summer, we witnessed over 100 young sailors grow and thrive, honing their skills, and embracing the spirit of the sea. Their enthusiasm and passion for sailing were truly inspiring to all of us, reminding us why we are so passionate about nurturing the next generation of sailors.

For those of you returning to school, we wish you the best of luck in your studies. Remember, the resilience and determination you've shown on the water will be just as vital in your academic and vocational pursuits. Parents, now it's your turn to learn how to sail while your student is in school, let me know if you would like to take a lesson. While sail camp may be over, rest assured that the OSYC will continue to be a hub of activity throughout the year. We have exciting events and three more regattas planned.

As we embark on the new school year, whether on the open sea or in the classroom, may you carry the spirit of adventure and determination wherever you go.

Best,

Amanda Romano
Fleet Captain, Ocean Springs Yacht Club

Remaining 2023 Regatta Schedule

August 26 & 27

Katrina Memorial Regatta /
OSYC Club Wave Championship

October 14 & 15 ~ Shearwater Regatta





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From Your Club Manager, David Danna
Office@osyc.com

There's a shadow on the road behind. There's sunlight on the road ahead.

David Danna

General Manager



Greetings OSYC'ers!

First, I want to thank everyone for warmly welcoming me as your new General Manager. I was told before I came here that the people at OSYC are very friendly and make you feel like family. Boy, that is so true! I am very happy to be here, and I firmly believe that the future is bright for us!

In my short tenure, many members have told me that I started at the "wrong time," the "worst time," that the "fire has set us back." Well, I strongly disagree. Yes, the fire and the collateral damage have certainly temporarily put a damper on our operations. However, there is a silver lining; for example, we have the opportunity to upgrade air conditioning, kitchen equipment, replace ceiling tiles, etc. Unfortunately, we cannot provide a date as to when the upstairs will be up and running again. It is a process. We will keep you updated with progress as we become aware. We appreciate your patience.

We have a wonderful staff at OSYC. I am impressed with their dedication, commitment, and adaptability despite the challenging circumstances we are facing. I am asking you to continue to support the club, and to please contribute to our employee relief fund via Venmo, check, or cash. Let's show our staff how much we value them!

Our membership has continued to grow as we now have 559 members, and approximately 100 on a waiting list! We will be forming an ad hoc committee addressing future expansion so that we can better accommodate our growing membership.

Finally, the Board and I want to sincerely thank the membership for volunteering their help and services as well as your continued support for our wonderful

Club! We are a family, and we will emerge from this temporary setback better and stronger!

It is my sincere desire to make our club better. Please feel free to contact me or talk to me about any issue so that I can assist.

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

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





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From Your Social and Future Sailor
Committee Chair, Wendie Hilliard



Dear OSYC Members,

School is back in for most kids and “summer” is coming to an end.

We will have an Adult Only Pool Party on Friday night, August 11th. The time will be posted on Facebook and sent out in our weekly calendar soon.

We are also excited that the month of August has two full moons and we will have a Blue Moon celebration on the beach August 30th. We hope you come out and celebrate and mingle with members.

We are planning a First Responder Appreciation Cookout and will post the date once it is set. It will be not only to just say thank you for what you do daily in the community, but to say thank you for saving our Club.

And last but definitely not least... thank you to all that participated in our Venmo fundraiser for the staff. July was a good turnout and we are extending it through August. We will post the QR (quick-response) code throughout the downstairs area, social media and via email with more opportunities to help as we build our club back.

We are working on more activities and entertainment and we will post as we finalize them. If you have ideas, please, email me at social@osyc.com.

Best Regards,

Wendie Hilliard, Board Member

