



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

July 2024

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

Commodore's Report



June 29, 2024 was the first anniversary of the fire. A fire that could have completely shut down yacht club operations for awhile, which would have been devastating for the membership and our loyal staff. But under the leadership of our Commodore Nicole McClendon and the volunteerism and contributions of members, The Board, our dedicated hard working staff and with the combined efforts of all we were open for business in approximately 54 hours. I have never seen a commitment like that from a group of people!! I have never been more proud of a group of people!! As Nicole's Vice Commodore I said to her many times " It's your boat Commodore you are the captain of this ship." I witnessed firsthand her determination, perseverance and tireless effort , usually under great personnel sacrifice, to navigate our club through some of the most difficult times in it's history. It was an exhausting stressful voyage at times but she stayed the course and steered the ship through stormy seas and into calm waters. Thank you Commodore for guiding "your boat" to safe harbor!!

The 2nd Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta was a big success! It was a great example of one of our focuses at The OSYC - family fun!! Thanks to all the young sailors who participated, their families and all their supporters. Also thanks to Jamie and his crew for organizing the race.

We have placed two more four-seat tables with umbrellas down by the pool. This will give us more shade and allow members and their guests more seating. New bar stools are now at the downstairs bar. We are trying to utilize this area more now that

summer is here. The tables on the upstairs deck now have umbrellas too.

The portable toilets now have casters on them and have been placed in their designated area downstairs. They are not operational yet. Tim, Kenny and Bruce are working to have them usable by the 4th of July. Fingers crossed.

Speaking of the 4th of July, if Mother Nature cooperates we are expecting a large crowd at the Club. There are activities planned and the fireworks will be shot later that night, which means PARKING PARKING PARKING. There will be a security guard at the entrance checking decals so make sure your decals are visible on your vehicles. This includes golf carts.

Be kind to each other and may we all have a safe and fun filled July!!

God Bless the USA!!

Carroll Kovacevich
2024 OSYC Commodore

2024 Flag/Corporate Officers:
Commodore - Carroll Kovacevich
Vice Commodore - Michael Ramsey
Rear Commodore - Tim Fortney
Fleet Captain - Amanda Romano
Treasurer - Meade Tyler
Secretary - Vince Smith



Board of Governors

2nd Year Board Member - Sandra Carter
2nd Year Board Member - Wendie Dana
1st Year Board Member - Nancy Duckett Allen
1st Year Board Member - Bruce Small
Past Commodore - Nicole McClendon



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

From the Vice Commodore,
Michael Ramsey



Ahoy!

I want to first thank our Social Committee and commend the excellent work they did for the new member welcome party. The party was a success and I was happy to see new and old members having a good time.

The Fourth of July is coming up and we have a great celebration planned at the club. Come on out and check out the fireworks and festivities.

On another note, I'd like to address some rumors and concerns about the property across from the Club. This property includes a parcel of land on our side of the beach where we park a number of boats, so it has always had the Board's attention. As long as I have been on the Board, however, the owner of the property has not been open to selling or leasing long term the beach side of the property to us. Recently, there has been some movement on the property - which many of you have heard about. A developer has shown interested in purchasing the property to build a large luxury condo development. They are still in the early planning stages but have met with the Flag Officers and the GM to discuss ways that the development can help the Club and ways that the Club can provide a benefit to future condominium owners.

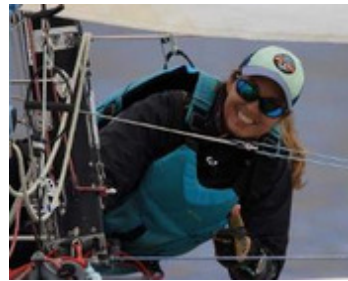
I am open to any proposal that will benefit the Club, but because of how impactful the development of this property is to the Club, most major decisions that will need to be made will require a vote by the general membership. Nothing specific has been proposed, but I will do my best to keep all of our members informed. Our goal is to maintain open communications with the developer to see if we can reach an agreement about the future of the beachside property. Keep in mind, however, that the development is still in the early stages and that there are a lot of things that may stop this project

from going forward - even if the project has earned the Club's support. If you have questions about this or you need some clarification, please ask one of the Flag Officers.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Mike Ramsey,
Vice Commodore

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



Dear OSYC Members:
As we embrace the summer season, I am thrilled to bring you some exciting updates and reminders!

50th Annual Horn Island Hop Regatta

We are eagerly anticipating our 50th annual Horn Island Hop Regatta, which will take place on July 6th-7th. Saturday's races will be from Biloxi Bay in front of OSYC and finish at the west end of Horn Island. Lunch will be provided on the island. After lunch, the return race will start at the west end of Horn Island and finish in front of OSYC. Sunday's race will be sailed around Deer Island.

Summer Sail Camps

Our summer sail camps have been a smashing success! Thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of our instructors, volunteers, and, of course, the young sailors who have shown incredible spirit and eagerness to learn. My favorite part of sail camp has been watching the junior counselors develop as great leaders while inspiring campers to follow in their



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footsteps, as well as our amazing counselors echoing the same example for our junior counselors. We've seen impressive progress and lots of smiles. Thank you to everyone involved in making this year's camps so memorable.

Stay Hydrated

As we continue to enjoy the summer activities, it's crucial to stay hydrated. The summer heat

can be intense, and dehydration can sneak up on us. Please make sure to drink plenty of water, wear appropriate sun protection, and take breaks as needed. Let's keep everyone safe and healthy while we make the most of these sunny days.

Smooth Sailing,

Amanda Romano

Fleet Captain / OSYC

One Year Fire Anniversary
Ocean Springs Yacht Club
From: **office@osyc.com**
Club Manager, David Dana

For those of you who do not follow the Club on social media, the following text is taken directly from an e-mail sent out on June 29, 2024, from our Club Manager, David Dana. The date and highlighting with bold italics have been added to enhance his original message.

Today [June 29th] marks the 1-year anniversary of the fire that came within a whisker of destroying our Club.

Looking back over the past year, it is humbling and remarkable what we have accomplished. The rebuilding and remodeling process was

truly a collaborative and team effort. It would not have succeeded otherwise.

While it is impossible to thank the many who were involved, there are a few that deserve special recognition and a well-deserved thank you.

First and foremost is the Ocean Springs Fire Department. If the OSFD had arrived five minutes later than they did, the whole building would have been completely burned to the ground.

Members Bruce Small, Kenny Watson, and Carl Adair. Within 24 hours of the fire, Bruce and Kenny had power connected to the downstairs so that we could operate in some capacity. Carl and his company, JEM, provided us with trustworthy and invaluable guidance involving HVAC systems.

The 2023/2024 Board. Faced with a daunting and unenviable task, the Board worked in concert and in unison in organizing, managing, and making the tough, difficult decisions regarding the direction and vision of the rebuilding process.

Our Employees. Enough cannot be said about how our wonderful employees responded and endured the brutal heat downstairs so that they could serve our members.

Our Membership. Our fantastic members continued to support the club and our employees at the downstairs bar even though the upstairs was going to be closed for months.

As a result of these efforts, we can be proud to have a beautiful, updated, and modernized Club.

There are shadows on the road behind, and there is sunlight on the road ahead!



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'Round Horn Island Race Report 2024 Past Commodore Joe Pocreva

50 miles, 4-8kts of breeze, 6+ hours ...

Flat water morning, you know the feeling. We had the skippers meeting at 0900. (I think we can wait til 10 next year). Weather reports said 5 knots at noon and that was the only prediction they got close. The start was promising. Doubled trapped and squeezing everything we could out of the South breeze, we led till the corner of West Horn as we jarringly heard Glen and Geoff "Wahooo'ing!!!" as they passed us on the approach to the end of the island. It took about an hour and a half to get to the west end which is typical however when we made the turn we were seized in the teeth of an East breeze. For ~14 miles we zigged and zagged desperately searching for any trim advantage. I grumbled as the youngsters (Robby and Matthew) got in our chili and eventually when in a solid third place we (I) fixated on my old nemesis, the evil (menacing music) Ken Altman and Jay Meeks, threatened to over take us as well.

Joey wisely reminded me, the sailor with least mistakes wins the day so "stay focused"! As we approached the East end of Horn island, Glen had his advantage but the youngsters went too far out to sea so we gained the lead into the shallows. After pulling up the dagger boards we hoisted the spinnaker and shot across the breakers blowing the rudders on the shoals desperately trying to gain an advantage as Glenn cautiously headed East to avoid running into the fishermen wading onto our course.

We desperately believed the downwind spinnaker run would be spectacular, however the wind continued to diminish and left us with 5 kts of pathetic homebound energy. We tried every trick with only feeble advantage making Glenn look a little larger but we needed more! Looking over my shoulder I saw Ken heating it up and having some success Joey said, "let her do what she was designed to do" So we heated it up!!

We went fast! We fell behind.

At this point, we going to lose this race with this strategy so it's time to go for broke. We zigged and zagged one more time but then headed off course for the shore. Everyone else settled for the middle of the bay and as we tacked at the trees we found that miraculous wind you pray will change everything!

We couldn't see another boat at the point we gybed, desperately we set out for home doubled trapped and sizzling at 15-17knots doubled trapped with the spinnaker straining. The shore breeze kept us alive and saved the day as we started the home stretch into the Biloxi bay with the rest of the fleet miles behind us. Distance racing is a beast all its own. I admit, I wasn't the fastest boat this Father's Day weekend but I'm happy with being the luckiest. This race is dedicated to my father, Bob Pocreva. He bought a boat and a book and changed lives forever. He taught his son how to sail and set forth a life full of joy and happiness.





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From Your Social Committee Chair,
Wendie Dana



We are half way through the 2024 calendar year and we have come so far. This time last year pool people were having to go upstairs to go to the restroom, and we were piecing together our Club after the June 29th fire.

Thanks to so many volunteers and hard work, we are getting back to normal

and even completing the new removable bathrooms downstairs. Thank you, again, to OSSS for going in with the Social Committee on purchasing the new portable bathrooms. And thank you to Kenny Watson, Tim Fortney, Bruce Small and Ocean Springs Lumber for the volunteering labor to get them going for us.

The Social Committee is also excited we were able to contribute and get the lifeguards new umbrellas and help with getting downstairs barstools. Remember the wooden barstools need a home, pick one up. We are almost done with re-hanging the burgees and will be completed soon.

On to the entertainment ... I have a lot of thank you's to give to my Social Committee. They did an amazing job with the New Member Welcome and the Cardboard Regatta events. I truly have an amazing team of volunteers and with as many events, decorating, flowers and entertainment we plan, it is like a full time job so please thank them when you see one of them, especially Ms Brenda Massimo for being lead with the Welcome event and Jamie Herring for being "commodore" for the Cardboard Regatta last month.

July 4th, we will have an all day celebration! The pool fun starts in the morning, our Burger and Hotdog Buffet will be from 11 am - 4 pm, followed by the Independence Celebration Buffet that will be available from 4 pm - 8:30 pm. Watermelon fun starts at 1pm. Get ready for some watermelon relay racing, watermelon eating contest and watermelon seed spitting contest, all ages are welcome. At 2:30

we will have the frozen T-shirt contest. Live music will start at 5 pm downstairs with The Bayou Troubadours, and the OSYC fireworks start at 8:40 pm. Bring your folding chairs or a blanket and enjoy with family and friends. We will also have family games placed throughout downstairs for you to enjoy like Cornhole, yard jenga, yardzee, beach volleyball and more.

We will continue with live music on the First Friday, which will be July 5th this month. We will have Brennan Roybal playing for us.

And lastly, join us for a Full Moon Members Mingle on the beach, Saturday night, July 20th starting at 7pm.

Enjoy your summer, enjoy the OSYC sunsets and make positive memories with us.

Best Regards,

Wendie Dana
Board Member





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The Ocean Springs Firefighter Association was presented a check this afternoon in memory of Mark Hare by JoLee Asher for \$1,815.00. Present are Mark Hare's OSHS Classmates of 1975 and friends. Mark Hare was a past Ocean Springs Fire Chief. June 30, 2005, was declared Mark Hare Day by then Mayor Seren Ainsworth.



The firefighters and guests in attendance were also given a complimentary meal in recognition of the Ocean Springs Fire Department's essential efforts early in the morning hours of June 29, 2023. Their rapid response to the Club's fire alarm, 911 calls, and use of the proper tools and chemicals to extinguish the fire saved the Club from nearly complete destruction.



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Club Event Photos From Your Social
Committee Chair, Wendie Dana

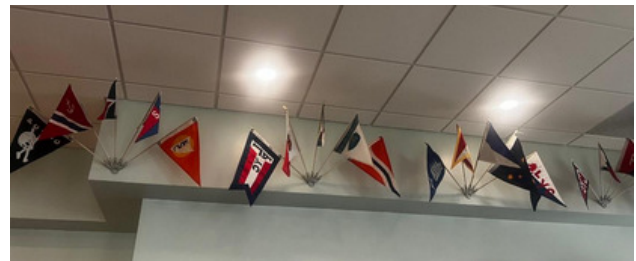


New lifeguard umbrellas

New Members Welcome Event



Burgee re-hangings



Portable Restrooms Installation





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Club Event Photos From Your Social Committee Chair,
Wendie Dana

Cardboard Boat Regatta





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

Greetings OSYC'ers!

Summer is in full swing at OSYC!

June was chock full of fun activities. Amanda and her team are doing their typical excellent job with the sailing camps (which, by the way, are always full!). The pool, as usual, is always busy with kids splashing around, regardless of the time or the day.

Other activities in June included the pole vault event, new member night, and the cardboard regatta.

On New Member night we welcomed new members and their families that were admitted in 2023 and 2024. Special thanks go to Brenda Massimo who was instrumental in making this event exceptional.

The Cardboard Regatta. Cardboard Commodore Jamie Herring. Wow! What else needs to be said! This event is rapidly becoming a top favorite!

We also launched a new menu in June. It features a nice variety of appetizers, salads, burgers, wraps and sandwiches. The menu is now available online on our private members-only website, members.osyc.com. After you log in, click Food and Beverage and then Menu.

Speaking of new things, we are in the process of revamping our merchandise. In the near future, we will be offering a new, updated, refreshed product line. We will keep you informed as more details become available.

Also, when you can, thank the members of our staff for their unceasing and unselfish hard work.

Please give a warm OSYC welcome to our newest members:

Marissa & Anna Coggin
Danielle & Don Frazier
Taylor & Sara Noel

Ellen Ruffin
Jaime & Joey King
Jim Carr & Raquel Bermejo
Bradley & Susan Frizell
Graham & Darlene Stuart
John Bagby
Diana Sekul
Steve & Donna Gentry
Erik Abbott
Amanda & Chris Deans
Steve & Tammy Sanders
William Schmitz
Valerie Brou
Christina & William Gonsoulin
Shawn & Kara Sparks

Please let us know if you have any questions, need any assistance with accessing your account, setting up your payment method, or scheduling your payment-call us in the office, 228-875-1915 or email us office@osyc.com.

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

David Danna
General Manager
office@osyc.com



2024 OSYC SUMMER HOURS

UPSTAIRS	
KITCHEN	BAR
Tue 12:00-8:00	11:00-9:00
Wed 2:00-8:00	2:00-9:00
Thu 12:00-8:00	11:00-9:00
Fri 12:00-9:00	11:00-10:00
Sat 11:00-9:00	11:00-10:00
Sun 11:00-8:00	11:00-9:00

DOWNSTAIRS

Sat 11:00-8:00 (bar only)
Sun 11:00-8:00 (bar only)
Mon 12:00-6:00 (bar & limited food service)