



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

December 2024

100 Front Beach Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Commodore's Report



The Annual General Membership Meeting was well attended. Topic of conversation ... proposed dues increase. The discussions were passionate, very opinionated and hostile at times. By vote of the membership the dues increase along with other proposals were tabled until a Special General

Membership Meeting can be called in February of 2025. During the November Board Meeting steps were taken to have more information and a more accurate view of where the club stands financially. We should have that by the February meeting.

Transparency. The 2024 Board was accused by some members of not being transparent. Accused of hiding information. Operating in secret. I strongly and firmly take issue with these unsubstantiated and vile accusations. Any member can request information from the board and we will do it's best to get the information in a timely manner. However you must understand some information will not be sent by social media. The problem is some members do not make the effort to inquire about the information they seek. It is easier to complain. Make an effort and we will do our best to get what you are looking for. Remember board meetings are open to all members.

The 2025 Board has been elected. Having served with most of them I have the utmost confidence in there ability, dedication and vision to lead this club into the future. They will welcome your input and appreciate your support.

It was quite obvious to me during the discussions at the General Membership Meeting there is a great divide among the members. Old versus new. New versus old. The reality of change. I would ask that we try to see things from a point of view of the other person or persons. Try to be more receptive to what others are saying. I'm not asking you to agree. I'm asking you to listen and try to understand where others are coming from. We all have a voice in matters. Let's all do a better job of listening. The future of this club belongs to all of us. Going forward the will be trials and tribulations. Success and failures. Jubilations and disappointments. Disagreements and differences of opinion . And that's ok. But let's keep in mind we all want what's best for THE OSYC. We all have the same goal. Success for the club. Let's all do our part. Let's all work to close that divide. Let's work together not a part. Let's overwhelm the club with positive energy and eradicate the negative. Let's all do our best to make a positive difference.

I wish all of you a Happy and Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year!!

Carroll

Carroll Kovacevich
2024 OSYC Commodore





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

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

From the Vice Commodore,
Michael Ramsey



Ahoy!

I would like to begin my article this month by introducing myself for any new members or any members who may be curious about my background as your next Commodore. I am an attorney with a primary

focus in bankruptcy and consumer litigation. My law partner is Patrick Sheehan (Past Commodore, 1988) at our firm of Sheehan and Ramsey on Porter Avenue in Ocean Springs. I have lived in Ocean Springs for over eight years now with my wife, Christine Ramsey. I have served on the Board as treasurer for two years and as Rear and Vice Commodore. I have also served in the Air Force Reserve with the 403d Wing at Keesler Air Force Base for 17 years. I currently hold the rank of Master Sergeant (E-7), and my primary job duties include the management and supervision of avionics maintenance and my troops assigned to the 403d. While I enjoy sailing, I do not get out on the water as much as I would like to, but I hope to change that this year.

I believe that my experience is directly relevant to my role as your next Commodore. As an attorney, I advise and advocate for people and small businesses in need. While I cannot fix every problem that comes in my door, I can listen to people and put forth a plan to help them achieve the best result that the law will allow. As a member of the military, I have gained experience in leadership and management and I have also gained an appreciation and a respect for tradition. I believe that tradition is important for any organization, but especially a Yacht Club.

As I am writing this article ahead of Thanksgiving with my family, I reflect on what I am thankful for. I am truly thankful to be a part of the Ocean Springs Yacht Club and I am thankful to the members of

the Club that make this Club the place that it is. While we may disagree with each other at times, I believe that the passion of our Members is an important piece of who we are as a club and it is paramount to the future of the Club.

We held our Annual Membership Meeting on November 11. At the Meeting and leading up to the Meeting, there were a lot of concerns voiced by the Membership over management by the Board and by Club Management. I want to let you know that I am here to listen and I recognize the work ahead of me as your next Commodore. My goals are to address member concerns regarding communications and to get more members involved in the Club.

Per the Club Bylaws, committees are appointed by the Commodore and approved by the Board. If you have interest in serving on one of our standing committees, our ad hoc committees, or if you believe that a new ad hoc committee should be formed, please let me know. You can email me at mike@sheehanramsey.com or you can leave a note for me at the Club. I will maintain an inbox at the Club for any suggestions or comments. These may be kept anonymous or you may provide me your contact information. If it is something that I can address, I will do so or I will route it to the appropriate committee.

Lastly, on January 18 at 1PM, the Club will hold a Change of Watch ceremony to induct the new Board of Governors. This is an important tradition for the Club and all members are welcome to attend. Prior to the ceremony, we will have a luncheon with the Past Commodores. I hope that we can start the year on the right foot.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Mike Ramsey,
Vice Commodore





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



Dear OSYC Members,

As the year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on what a privilege it has been to serve as your Fleet Captain for the past

two years. This role has allowed me to connect with so many of you, share in the joy of our vibrant sailing community, and work together to celebrate the traditions and camaraderie that make the Ocean Springs Yacht Club so special. From early morning starts to sunset races, every moment has been a reminder of the passion and spirit that our sailors bring to the water. Thank you for trusting me with this position and for the countless memories we've created.

The last two regattas of the season captured the heart of this spirit. The **2024 Formula Wave Class Deep South Regatta** brought intense competition. Sailors from near and far converged for exhilarating racing, with shifting winds challenging even the most experienced skippers. Following that, the **2024 Shearwater Regatta** was the perfect way to close out the season. Its blend of tradition, skill, and fun showcased the best of what OSYC has to offer.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who raced, volunteered, and cheered from the shore. Together, we've made this season truly unforgettable.

Best,

Amanda Romano
OSYC Fleet Captain

From Your Social Committee Chair,
Wendie Dana



November was probably the fastest month we had in 2024. The Friendsgiving Potluck was a great turn out; so much great food and laughter.

December has a lot going on with Live Music, Paint Class, Trivia and Karaoke.

December also has the following:
December 3, Christmas Ornament decorating from 3-7pm in the dining room, Holiday Bazaar on the 7th from 10-6, Join us on the 8th to watch the Discover Christmas Parade; we have a float for some of our OSYC kiddos that will be participating, Christmas Party on the 14th from 6-10pm. Please, look for FB post and emails for details and added last minute events.

Do not forget to pick up a Duchess Club Toy & Doll Campaign tag and drop off gifts at the club by the 10th.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all of our members.

Best Regards,

Wendie





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Friendsgiving Photos
from Your Social Committee Chair,
Wendie Dana



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

Greetings OSYC'ers!

The years 2023 and 2024 have been a whirlwind and quite challenging at OSYC, to say the least.

In the past 18ish months, we have experienced a transition in management, a club-changing fire, a complete overhaul of business software and financial/accounting system, a sprint to rebuild and open in February, hold on through the craziness of the summer and early fall, and through the general membership meeting. All the while dealing with many unforeseen issues.

It is just now that we are catching our collective breaths and getting back on our feet.

We knew that 2024 would be a "learning" year. With **everything** being new, we knew that we needed to be flexible and adaptable in how we operated (*this needs to go here/that has to go over there/we have to purchase this...*).

Since 2018, we've had a 47% increase in total membership (445 vs. 655), and a 43% increase in A and AC's (330 vs. 473).

Taken all together, we are growing up. We are evolving. It's just the reality of today.

At the end of the day, we are beginning to settle in and figure out what works and what doesn't. And that includes...well...**everything**. This is a work in progress. In 2025, the new Board and I are committed to improve on...well... **everything**!

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 (**and if you are member #A01353, and are reading this, please come to David's office and claim your bar bucks prize**).

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

David Danna
General Manager
office@osyc.com



**2024 OSYC FALL / WINTER HOURS
CLOSED ON MONDAYS AFTER LABOR DAY**

UPSTAIRS ONLY EXCEPT FOR EVENTS

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

