



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

September 2025

100 Front Beach Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Commodore's Report



Ahoy!

Twenty years ago, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast and destroyed our Club. At the time, I was a 17-year-old high school senior in Bay St. Louis. My family evacuated to Mobile for the storm and when we returned, we

returned to devastation. My home on the bayou was destroyed and the sailboat that my grandfather gave me was ripped from its moorings and nestled on what was left of my neighbor's roof. Our neighborhood looked like a landfill of debris, boats, vehicles, and collapsed houses. It is a memory that I will never forget and the lessons I learned will stick with me forever. When people ask me where I am from, I tell them "I spent the first fifteen years of my life in Atlanta, but I grew up on the Coast."

For those of us that were here, the storm took a lot from us. But we all learned important lessons about hope, resiliency, and human compassion. In the wake of the storm, I saw communities and people caring for one another and helping each other rebuild. People are stronger together than we are alone. A club – especially this Club – is built on this principle. This year has been rough and I have seen a lot of division at the Club, but at the end of the day, I trust that the members of this Club will come together to help each

other. And just like after Katrina, after other storms, after Covid, and after the fire, we will become stronger and better by working together.

While this newsletter article may have started on a sad note, I do have some hopeful news to share. The Search Committee has made a recommendation for a new General Manager of the Club and the Board has approved. After several interviews and a long vetting process, I am pleased to announce that we have hired Sandra Rogers. Sandy lives in Ocean Springs and has decades of experience as a chef, as an event planner, and as a general manager. She has worked in yacht clubs, golf clubs, casinos, and restaurants. She is friendly and social but is also a driven and serious leader with a track-record of success. I am confident that she will skipper this Club into a new era of prosperity.

This Club owes a huge debt of gratitude towards Gina Welch. Gina stepped up when the Club needed her to and guided us to this point. She did a job that she did not sign up for and did it well. She will be leaving us on a positive note and will always be welcome as my guest. Sandy will begin working this week and we will hold a meet and greet on Friday, September 5. I encourage all of you to come out and meet her as she gets to know our Club and starts to put her experience to work.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Michael T. Ramsey, 2025 Commodore



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

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

**From the Vice Commodore,
Sandra Carter**



Happy September,
OSYC Family!

August kept its promise of scorching heat and soggy humidity, with many days of triple-digit Heat Indexes and nearly no daytime breeze, the air heavy as like walking into a hot-rinse washing machine. Hopefully the

last couple of days are harbingers of an early Fall.

Our Katrina Memorial Regatta packed the Club with sailors and patrons, taxing our workers to the max. As always, they “got ‘er dun” with great food and drink, served with a smile. Please stop and thank an employee for their sincere efforts to serve your meal in a timely and courteous manner, observing the Golden Rule for an unusually long wait.

As you read this, the Labor Day weekend is upon us, and we give thanks that we’re clearing the 101 Days of Summer mostly without mishap.

On a lighter note, September is once again chocked full of events for members to enjoy. Be sure to check the weekly calendar messages for updates to the monthly schedule.

As we continue to navigate through 2025, please consider sharing your skills and talents by volunteering to serve on a committee. As in any organization, a fresh look at things is essential to healthy growth and value. Contact a committee/ Board member to offer a modest bit of your time and experience. Until next time...see you at the Club!

Sandra Carter

Vice Commodore 2025

**From the Rear Commodore,
Wendie Dana**



We are stepping into our fall months; it is crazy how fast 2025 sped by us.

A lot has been in the works and I am one of many that are excited to finally get to say we think we have found our GM. We are sad to see Gina move on but she will visit us and I, thank you, for

your help this year. A few months ago I put together a GM Search Committee and brought it to the Board for approval. It included members from different groups, brilliant minds and strong opinions. This group was chaired by our Vice Commodore, Sandra Carter. The group included our Commodore, Michael Ramsey, former Commodore Shannon White, who held the GM spot during her Vice year, Billy Nix; owner of AC-Man and President of OSCA, Lynn Smith; Business Owner and VP of Finance for the University of Mobile, Kenny Boudreaux; Ocean Springs Sailing Squadron Treasurer, Amanda Romano; OSSS and Past Fleet Captain, and myself. All are family-oriented members as well. After many discussions, interviews, and more discussions we narrowed the search and passed it on to the Board. The board then did an intense and detailed interview with our suggested candidate. I want to thank all that helped in this process. I would like to invite all members to join us this Friday, September 5th, for a “meet and greet” of our new GM. Let’s welcome this person with open arms and work to get us back to the amazing club we know we can be for our members.

Best Regards,

Wendie Dana, Rear Commodore



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**From the Rear Commodore
and Social Committee Chair,
Wendie Dana**

Happy September Members,

The first Thursday is always our Paint & Sip class in the dining room. This month will feature turtles, grab a friend and rsvp.

The first Friday is Live Music and this month we are adding our GM Meet & Greet.

Join us for the 50th anniversary of the movie "Jaws" by the pool on Saturday, September 6th, at 6pm.

ring your float and swimsuit or your best shark outfit. The Social Committee is putting on the movie in and by the pool. There will be chances to win OSYC BUCKS.

Sunday, September 7th, we are kicking off for FOOTBALL and the SAINTS. Check your emails for details.

We have new and old things in the works so be on the lookout in emails and on Facebook for fun events.

Best Regards,

Wendie Dana, Social Chair

**From the Fleet Captain, Cyndi Moncreiff
FleetCaptain@OSYC.com**



We continued to sail through our official list of regattas that are planned to take place on the water in front of the Club and beyond during the month of August.

We were again faced with a lack of wind during the fifteenth annual Katrina Memorial Regatta and Club Wave Championship. A lack of wind led to race postponement and a late afternoon start to sailing, but we were able to complete three races on the first day of the regatta. Day Two's racing got off to an equally slow start, with little to no wind. Sailors eventually opted to sail just for fun, which inspired the Race Committee to begin official sailing for the day and to set a course. A north-south shortened course barely lasted through one race before the wind completely died and the water turned to glass. After a tow back to the beach for nearly all of the competitors, the overall race and the 2025 Club championship winners were determined for this one-design event. Congratulations go to Ron Gaston as the overall regatta winner, and to youth

sailor Kirsten Horton as the OSYC Club Wave Championship winner!

As always, if you want to be involved with helping to host any of these sailing events at the Club, please reach out to any of our sailors, members of the Sailing Squadron, or any of our flag officers or OSYC Board members. We are the yacht club for beach-based catamaran sailing on the northern Gulf, and our members are the reason we're known for being one of the most welcoming, friendly and fun venues for it.

In Sailing,

Cyndi Moncreiff, 2025vOSYC Fleet Captain
FleetCaptain@OSYC.com

WLOX TV covered the 2025 Katrina Memorial Regatta and Club Wave Championship. You can view the story at

[https://www.wlox.com/ Katrina Memorial Regatta honors recovery at Ocean Springs Yacht Club /](https://www.wlox.com/Katrina_Memorial_Regatta_honors_recovery_at_Ocean_Springs_Yacht_Club/)

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From Your Interim Club Manager,
Gina Welch, office@osyc.com

September 2025 Events at the OSYC

Hello, OSYC'ers -

This will be my last contribution to the OSYC Newsletter, as my time as the Interim General Manager has almost come to an end. As many of you may know, I was hired almost two years ago as a part time office administrator. I started at the OSYC after the fire, but before the office or upstairs was open or remodeled...and we had no central AC.

About 6 months ago I was asked to step in as Interim General Manager, and I'm not sure I knew what I was getting myself into. It has been a roller coaster, but I am thankful for the opportunity to have led the staff in this role. I'm proud of the work we have done to try and make the club a great place to be. I couldn't have done it without Ryleigh, she has been my partner in chaos, and she has worked so hard these past months.

There have been many changes and challenges along the way, but the staff has worked hard and done their best to roll with the changes and give you all their best! I will miss you all but I'm sure I will see you again, as I'll remain on call if I'm needed during the transition.

Gina Welch
Interim General Manager 228-875-1915
office@osyc.com

September 1st – Labor Day Potluck
12pm-whenever

September 3rd - Trivia 6pm

Sept. 4th - Paint & Sip 6pm

Sept 5th - Meet & Great the new GM/ Live Music

September 6th - Jaws Pool Party 7pm

September 7th - Saints Party 12pm

September 17th - Trivia 6pm

September 18th - Board Meeting

September 19-21 - Deep South Regatta

September 27th - Grill Your Own Steak Night

2025 Flag/Corporate Officers

Commodore - Michael Ramsey
Vice Commodore - Sandra Carter
Rear Commodore - Wendie Dana
Fleet Captain - Cyndi Moncreiff
Treasurer - Meade Tyler
Secretary - Vince Smith



Board of Governors

2nd Year Board Member - Nancy Duckett Allen
2nd Year Board Member - Bruce Small
1st Year Board Member - Robert Dalgo
1st Year Board Member - Drew Demboski
Past Commodore - Carroll Kovacevich

Sailing / Regatta Extra!

The first Con Lancaster Memorial Regatta was held at Singing River Yacht Club on August 30 and will be held at OSYC in 2026. Our youth brought home the trophy – congrats, junior sailors!