



Breezes AND Blows



Ocean Springs Yacht Club

February 2026

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

Commodore's Report



The 2026 Change of Watch was truly a special and memorable day. Seeing such a wonderful turnout and feeling the support of so many members meant more than I can adequately put into words. That ceremony represents more than a change in leadership — it reflects the strength of our traditions, our friendships,

and the pride we share in the Ocean Springs Yacht Club.

I am deeply grateful to everyone who attended and helped make the day so meaningful. Your presence, encouragement, and camaraderie reminded me why this club is so special and why serving as your Commodore is such an honor.

As we move forward, we are actively working on forming our committees for the year ahead. These committees will play an important role in guiding positive improvements, supporting the day-to-day success of the club, and planning fun, engaging events that bring us together. Member involvement is the heart of our club, and I look forward to working alongside so many dedicated volunteers.

Our plans include discussions for a range of upcoming events, including Valentine's Day, the Commodore's Ball on March 21st, and hosting the

Chamber of Commerce's After Hours event in March. These events are wonderful opportunities to bring members together and showcase the energy and hospitality of our club.

I am excited about what lies ahead and confident that, together, we can continue building a welcoming, vibrant club that honors our traditions while embracing new ideas. Thank you for your support, your energy, and your commitment to the Ocean Springs Yacht Club.

Warm regards,

Sandra Carter

2026 Commodore, Ocean Springs Yacht Club

2026 Flag/Corporate Officers

Commodore - Sandra Carter
Vice Commodore - Vince Smith
Rear Commodore - Bruce Small
Fleet Captain - Cynthia Moncreiff
Treasurer - Robert Dalgo
Secretary - Drew Demboski



Board of Governors

2nd Year Board Member - Jenn Kimmerly
2nd Year Board Member - Dawn Smith
1st Year Board Member - Casey Hill
1st Year Board Member - Connie Moran
Past Commodore - Michael Ramsey





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

From the Vice Commodore,
Vince Smith



Ahoy, OSYC Crew!

As we continue on course into another exciting year, the winds may be brisk, but our club's spirit is full sail ahead. February and March promise lively ports of call—Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, and St. Patrick's Day are just a few festive destinations on our horizon.

Committees & Championship: All Hands on Deck

Our 2026 committees are hoisting their flags and beginning the year's work. Coordination with OSSS for the Hobie16 International Championship is well underway—think of it as preparing our fleet for a grand regatta. If you want to get the most out of your membership, consider joining a committee or supporting the sailing squadron. Sign-up sheets are in the club office, ready for new crew members.

Board Updates: Navigating Toward Transparency

The board is steering toward clearer communication and smoother sailing for all. Financial reports and board minutes through December are posted on the website for your perusal. Deck repairs are nearly complete, ensuring our vessel remains seaworthy. We're also emphasizing fair and consistent observation of club bylaws and house rules—our ship's code. You've likely received communications about membership status and club accounts; following our agreements ensures every sailor enjoys the voyage.

Decoding the Rules: OSYC's Social Contract

Ever joined a new crew and wondered, "What are the real standing orders here?" Not just the fine print, but the guiding stars that keep our ship on course.

Think of our House Rules as the club's compass—a social contract that provides an "equitable and reasonable basis" for every member to maximize their enjoyment of our "Backyard on the Gulf." It's the

bedrock that keeps our harbor safe, fair, and fun for all. To make navigation easier, let's break the rulebook into three simple headings: **Money, Members, and Manners.**

1. Money: Keeping the Ship Afloat

In club life, being a "member in good standing" isn't about popularity—it's about keeping your ship's hold well-stocked. Financial health is our ballast; if dues fall behind, it's like taking on water. Here's how we handle rough seas:

- **30 Days:** If your account is 30 days overdue, charging privileges are suspended, and a 10% late fee is applied—think of it as patching a leak before it spreads.
- **60 Days:** The storm intensifies. You're suspended from all club activities—no sailing, no pool, no lounge, no voting. It's like being confined to quarters until the weather clears.
- **90 Days:** The Board must consider immediate termination of membership and possible legal collection actions—this is the point where a sailor risks being cast adrift.

2. Members: The Ship's Manifest

Our guest policy is the ship's manifest, ensuring the value of your dues is protected:

- **In-Town Guests:** Residents of Harrison or Jackson County are welcome aboard, but not on a recurring basis. If local friends love the club enough to visit often, it's time to sign on as crew!
- **Out-of-Town Guests:** Houseguests from outside the local area can dock for less than a month, provided they follow ship's orders.

3. Manners: The Crew's Code

This is our compass rose—the code that keeps our voyage smooth:

- **Respect the Crew:** No member may harass, abuse, or instruct employees. If you spot trouble on deck, report it to the General Manager or a Flag Officer.



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- **Dress Shipshape:** Shoes and shirts/tops are required inside the Clubhouse. Wet clothing is for the changing rooms, accessed via exterior doors.
- **Supervise Young Sailors:** Children under 12 must be with a parent or guardian at all times and are never permitted at the bars. Safety first on this ship.

Zone-Specific Orders: Deck by Deck

Just as each deck has its own watch, different areas of the club have unique standing orders:

- **Waterfront:** Only “qualified sailors”—those known to the Fleet Captain and who’ve passed a competency test—may take out club boats. Safety is our anchor.
- **Pool:** No bead necklaces or Styrofoam—these break apart and clog the filters, causing maintenance squalls. Absolutely no glass in the pool or pergola area.
- **Pets:** Dogs are welcome on upper decks and grassy areas if leashed, vaccinated, OSYC tagged, and cleaned up after. But pets are not permitted inside the building or pool area—sanitation keeps our ship tidy.

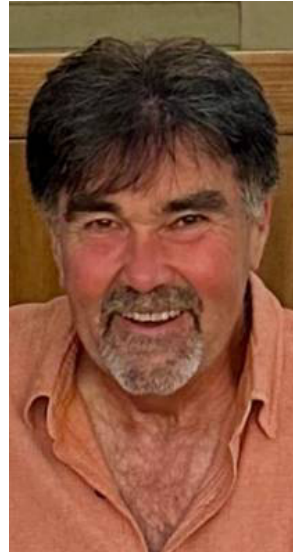
The Bottom Line: Sailing Together

Our rulebook is the club’s logbook, showing that OSYC values safety, financial responsibility, and mutual respect. By following this social contract, we ensure every member enjoys the facilities to the fullest. A well-run club is like a well-commanded vessel—when every sailor knows their role and respects the rules, we chart a course for fair winds and smooth seas.

Fair winds, and see you at the Club!

Vince Smith
2026 Vice Commodore

From the Rear Commodore,
Bruce Small



As everyone should see be able to see by now, we have moved forward with the Club's handrail and deck repairs. This includes replacement of some of the rotten wood in the structure, posts and handrails, and attaching framing under the deck. I've provided a few photos of the work in progress to show what is being done.

Things have gone well, even with the cold weather, and we should be able to use most of the whole new deck in the next couple of weeks. Any volunteers who would like to come on weekends and pick up nails and screws plus any material that needs to be cleaned up would be well appreciated.

Regards,

Bruce E Small
2026 Rear Commodore





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Deck repairs and addition



Completed handrail replacement



Setting the new deck area posts

**From the Club Treasurer,
Bobby Dalgo**



February is here and as you can surely see, things are progressing at our Club! As promised last month, all our 2025 financials have been finalized. The financials as well as monthly board meeting minutes are always made available to you online in the members

section of the OSYC website. Just to make it a little easier for you to access the login page you can use your phone camera to take a picture of this QR Code and it will take you there directly:



Our first Finance Committee meeting was held on January 20. We had a lot to discuss. Our Finance Committee consists of the following Club members:

- Bobby Dalgo, Treasurer
- Sandra Carter, Commodore
- Vince Smith, Vice Commodore
- Casey Hill, Board Member
- Connie Moran, Board Member
- Meade Tyler
- John O'Shaughnessy
- Dannie Williamson

If you have any questions or ideas, please reach out to any one of our committee members.

As you will read in the Rear Commodore's article, great progress has been made in a very short period of time regarding the club's repairs/modifications. We still have more to do and we are looking for ideas to raise money for specific projects. We are currently evaluating a few good ones but if you have something in mind that would generate excitement and participation in the club, please let us or Sandy know.

Striving for an even keel and staying on the right tack -

**Bobby Dalgo
Treasurer**



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



Greetings, Members -

We're having a run of extremely cold weather so far this year, and I'm beyond ready for warmer temperatures and our 2026 sailing season to

arrive! We're asking our members to volunteer to help host our regattas, and to work with the Ocean Springs Sailing Squadron (OSSS) on and off of the water to have our regattas be safe and memorable for our members and guests.

Registration for catamaran spaces on the beach continues for current and new occupants of beach slips and for users of sail tubes. Space is limited, and organization of the beachfront is critical for some of our upcoming events. Thirty beach slip users are registered for the 2026 sailing season. If your boat is on the beach and you haven't registered yet, now is the time.

We are hosting an official U.S. Sailing Small Boat Level 1 Instructor course at OSYC beginning on May 23, 2026 (Memorial Day weekend). This three-day long (30 hour) class is the in-person training that follows and completes a computer-based learning course; focus is on water safety and teaching of small boat sailing skills.

We have seven regattas on our 2026 schedule, beginning with April and May buoy racing events in the waters to the south and west of the Club and continuing with our two distance races (Slip to Ship and Horn Island Hop), and then another buoy racing event in August prior to hosting the Hobie 16' International Championship in September 2026. Details for this event have been released by the Organizing Committee through Regatta Network:

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30678>

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/30677>

A final round of buoy racing in October, the Shearwater Regatta, will complete our 2026 sailing season.

OSYC has two formal sailing-oriented committees that provide assistance to the OSSS: (1) the Race Committee, which per our by-laws includes a current Flag Officer, the Fleet Captain, the Sailing Committee Chairman and the Club's GYA coordinator, and (2) the Sailing Committee, which also has a current Flag Officer and the Fleet Captain as members.

This year our Club will be center stage as a catamaran sailing destination when we host sailors from around the country and the world for the H16 International Championship. Some of the main reasons for this are the tireless efforts of our Sailing Squadron to promote the Ocean Springs Front Beach as one of the best places on the Gulf Coast to put a sailboat on the beach and on the water. The OSYC is a big part of this due to the friendliness of our members, and your willingness to help out wherever needed with our sailing events. We thank all of you for your help with establishing the OSYC as the "go to" venue for catamaran racing!

Please look for invitations from the Club to participate in Sailing and Race committee meetings and to be a part of this year's regatta crews. Your participation truly is what makes it happen!

In sailing -

Cyndi Moncreiff
OSYC Fleet Captain

2026 Regatta Schedule ~ Dates & Events

April 10 - 12: Midwinters East: An April Fools Regatta

May 2 - 3: 1699 Regatta
(GYA Formula Wave Championship and
Rashka-Lancaster Perpetual Trophy Event)

May 23 - 24: 41st Slip to Ship Regatta

July 11 - 12: 52nd Horn Island Hop Regatta

August 22 - 23: Katrina Memorial Regatta
OSYC Club Wave Championship

September 12 - 25:
2026 Hobie 16 International Championship

October 17 - 18: Shearwater Regatta



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From Your Club Manager, Sandy Rogers
srogers@osyc.com



Greetings, Members!

I'll get right to it: it is **bitterly cold** out there! I think I speak for everyone at the Club when I say we are officially ready to package up this arctic blast and ship it right back to Greenland where it belongs. While the Gulf might look beautiful, it has certainly lost its "Southern hospitality" lately.

Thankfully, the atmosphere inside the clubhouse has been much warmer. January was the scene for our **Change of Watch**,

and it was an honor to officially welcome our new Commodore, **Sandra Carter**, to the helm!

Sandra has hit the ground running with impressive discipline- she successfully conquered "Dry January." Now that we've turned the page to February, if you see her at the bar, please do the neighborly thing and buy her a glass of Prosecco. She's certainly earned it!

🔧 Clubhouse Construction Update

Our facility improvements are moving along at breakneck speed! It is exciting to see the progress every day, and we are nearing the finish line. Very soon, we will be looking for member volunteers to help with painting and other finishing tasks to get our space looking its absolute best.

I don't have a formal task sheet ready just yet, but stay tuned - we will post the specific "when and what" for these volunteer opportunities shortly. We can't wait to see the membership put their personal touch on the Club!

📌 On the Horizon

- **Valentine's Waterfront Dining:** Join us on **Saturday, February 14th**. We'll have the heaters cranked up and the bubbles chilled. You can now conveniently book your table through your "**Member Dashboard**" on our website!
- **Lenten Season Dining:** With Ash Wednesday falling on February 18th, we are excited to feature our popular **Friday Fish Specials** throughout the Lenten season. Enjoy the freshest local catches every Friday night.

- **Mardi Gras Headquarters:** From the night parade to Fat Tuesday, there is no better place to celebrate than OSYC.

📅 February Key Dates

Date	Event	Details
Feb 6	First Friday	Live music and Chef's specialty gumbo to warm your soul.
Feb 13	OS Night Parade	The parade rolls tonight! Join us for the best atmosphere in town.
Feb 14	Valentine's Dinner	Book your romantic evening through your Dashboard .
Feb 16	Monday	Club Closed
Feb 17	Fat Tuesday	Celebrate the peak of Carnival—let the good times roll!
Feb 20	Lenten Special	Our first Friday Fish Special of the season.
Feb 24	Monthly Board Meeting	Scheduled for Tuesday evening.

A Final Word

While we wait for the Mississippi sun to find its strength again, I want to thank you all for making the club such a vibrant place to be, regardless of the temperature. Let's keep the spirits high and the glasses full (especially Sandra's!).

Stay warm and see you at the Club!

Sandy Rogers General Manager, OSYC



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January 2026 Change of Watch Photos



Change of Watch Flag Ceremony



Commodores Carter and Gardner



Swearing in of 2026 Board of Governors



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**Additional January 2026
Change of Watch Photos**



Cutting of the Change of Watch Cake



Our flower lady and the chilled menu items



Presentation of weather station to
Past Commodore Mike Ramsey



Flag officers relaxing after ceremony