



Sysco News

JUNE 2001

SMALL YACHT SAILING CLUB OF OREGON ♦ P. O. BOX 5502 ♦ PORTLAND, OR 97228

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June Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars for SYSCO's June membership meeting, Monday, June 18, 7:30 p.m. at Mars Meadow restaurant at Hayden Meadows. All meetings are on the third Monday of each month, except for July when the entire club takes a month off to cruise. Come early Monday for dinner and socializing.

This month Nancy Kirk will talk about the upcoming weeklong Six Pac event that begins July 28. This event includes two

races on the way to Astoria and bay racing when you get there.

July 16 – No general membership mtg.

August 20 – Steve Rander will talk about Ocean Planet, his Open 60 creation that could compete in the Vender Globe single-handed race.

P.S. SYSCO Board meetings are the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. All members are welcome. **Location:** Barley Mill Pub, 1629 S.E. Hawthorne.



It's all fun and games at the Martin Island Cruise.

Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

Spring Series is in the record book and Summer Series will be started by the time you read this. Some folks are not happy with the Committee's course selections and we support the grass roots effort that they are putting forth to bring change and improve our racing. There is always room on the Committee boat for another volunteer, plus we are looking for a Vice Commodore for the 2002 season.

On another subject — Crew and Communication — you need to go back to last month's newsletter and reread the "The Afterguard," the Commodore's column. Saturday I took four Oregon Women's Sailing Association women who were taking the OWSA boat handling class out on the water. All four are boat owners with their spouse and all had terrifying stories of near-death experiences on their boat. The instructors for the class had given me an outline of what we were to do: docking alongside, docking in a slip, anchoring, being able to hold a position in the water against the wind and current, crabbing and just steering the boat under power.

In my experience these are the times when the "WHAT IN THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?" or those near-death experiences are most prevalent. These students had spent time in the classroom, with good study aids, and now was their opportunity to put a scratch on a dock. To start with we put a couple of race marks out for them to get the feel of the boat approaching a dock, to get the feel of the helm, to power on and off, and to reverse for braking and the effects of prop walk.

What I started to tell you was that before leaving the dock we assigned positions for the docking. The skipper was to be the only one in the cockpit with room to move the tiller. Bow and stern line persons were to be stationed at the shrouds, lines in hand to advise the skipper of distance away from dock and ready to step off and secure the boat. The fourth person was damage control and was to be stationed at the mast to be available to help anywhere. Each student did four dockings — two alongside and two into a slip from each position. The point is that for each docking the crew went to their stations, readied the equipment, and were able to support the skipper who had her hands full trying to maneuver the boat in the wind gusts and through other traffic. They were not all pretty and a couple of times we had to abort and realign, which is part of the process of knowing that it's not right and being able to escape. What I learned is, that in a teaching situation with new crew, we talked through what needed to be done, but with regular crew and especially family members we often don't talk through a plan. When the skipper begins to carry it out, it takes everyone a minute to realize what is happening and they are behind and it all becomes one of those near-death experiences.

We also practiced anchoring and discussed how to keep the rode away from the keel. They then rigged the boat for sail and we had a great sail and talked about how to control the boat and how to set it up for the conditions of the day.

While we are on this communication tack I would like to see Dr. C come back with his dog and pony show about crew selection.

Cruising

VICKI SANBORN

May's weather made for a couple of great cruising weekends. Ladies Cruise May 19 and 20 was a well-organized weekend hosted by the St. Helens Sailing Club at Sand Island. I counted 28 boats and over 100 women. It gave us a chance to take our boats — without the normal skipper on board — and prove that we can handle the boat without their input. We enjoyed some great potlucks, games and just had a great time.

The SYSCO women on the cruise as a group voted to be the host for 2002 and the Ladies Cruisers accepted our proposal. Our plan is to meet at Coon Island May 18 and 19, 2002. We will be talking with the Executive Board and will be looking for other Lady members to get involved and assist with the planning.

The cruise to Martin Island Memorial Day weekend was a very relaxing time. There were 9 yachts, 6 kayaks, 4 rubber tenders, 2 sailing dinghies, 1 Hobie Cat and 1 radio-controlled sailboat.

We are still open for a cruise in June or early July, so give me a call if you have a destination in mind. Also, don't forget to check your calendars and mark off the week of July 28th for the Delta Cruise or the Six Pac.

SYSCO Fleet Captains

Fleet	Captain
A/B	Randy Bauer
C1 (J-30)	Rod Dawson
D	Bill Barton
D2 (J-24)	Douglas Schenk
E	Toby Elliott
F	Alan Boguslawski
G - G4	Bob Rouse
G5 (Santana 20)	Scott Sabin
H	Bob Brown
J1 (Catalina 22)	Dennis Thomas
J3 (Cal 20)	Mike Pitarresi

Calendar of Events

- June 12 – SYSKO Summer Series begins
- June 18 – General Membership Mtg.
- June 29 – SYSKO Beer Can – Western Night
- July 27 – SYSKO Beer Can – Formal Night
- July 28 – Delta Cruise/Six Pac
- Aug. 11 & 12 – SYSKO One-Design Regatta
- Aug. 20 – General Membership Mtg.
- Aug. 24 – SYSKO Beer Can – Pirate Night
- Sept. 15 & 16 – SYSKO St. Helens Race
- Oct. 13 – SYSKO Awards Banquet

Race Captain

ALAN SCHAMP

With the 2001 race season in full swing, I'd like to thank all of the Fleet Captains for organizing the race committees for the Spring Regatta and Spring Series. The Fleet Captains are the ones who bear the most responsibility for organizing and conducting any given race and their efforts shouldn't go unnoticed.

We've been getting a lot of feedback from some of Thursday night racers on running the weeknight races. I think that these suggestions are extremely beneficial to the club and I thank Kerry Poe for taking the initiative in getting the dialog started. Since SYSKO is largely organized around a federation of fleets, it makes it difficult for the views of the general membership to be addressed at the board level. If you want your opinions to be heard, you can express them to your Fleet Captain, or address the board directly. I think that e-mail provides us with an excellent forum for some of the issues that we as a club need to address.

I hope you're all having as much fun as I am racing this season. I feel really lucky to be involved with this community and sport.

See you all in the Summer Series.

SYSKO Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 4, 2001

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary/Membership: The new Associate Member application for Daryl Laube was reviewed and approved.

Newsletter: Deadline for submission of material is Saturday evening, June 9, 2001.

Cruising: Vicky Sanborn reported on the annual Memorial Day Cruise, and announced that there will be no organized cruise in June. She confirmed the start of Delta Cruise to be Saturday, July 28 at Martin Lake.

New Business: Bob Waldron led a discussion about the concerns of many Thursday night Spring Series racers with respect to course settings, course length, increasing the number of evening races, different courses for the slower boats, better educated Committee members, start sequence, etc. Kerry Poe presented a written proposal, along with correspondence from several Thursday evening racers, specifying the problems and suggesting remedies.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
R. E. B. THOMAS,
SEC./MEMBERSHIP*



SYSKO 2001 Race Committee Assignments

Event	Date	Day	Fleet	Captain
Summer Series	12-Jun	Tu	J1	Dennis Thomas
	14-Jun	Th	E	Toby Elliott
	19-Jun	Tu	J3	Mike Pitarresi
	21-Jun	Th	A/B	Randy Bauer
	26-Jun	Tu	D2	Douglas Schenk
	28-Jun	Th	C1	Rod Dawson
	3-Jul	Tu		Dennis George
	5-Jul	Th	D	Bill Barton
	10-Jul	Tu	G-G4	Bob Rouse
	12-Jul	Th	Open	
One Design	11/12-Aug	Weekend	P	Gib Colistro
St. Helen's	8-Sep	Sat.	Rauzer Two	Alan Schamp
Beer Can	29-Jun	Fri.	J1	Dennis Thomas
	27-Jul	Fri.	J3	Mike Pitarresi
	24-Aug	Fri.	C1	Rod Dawson



SYSCO
P.O. Box 5502
Portland, OR 97228

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

It's Six Pac Time!

**SYSCO June Mtg.
June 18th, 7:30 p.m.**

The Afterguard

BOB WALDRON, COMMODORE

A few months ago the Chairman and CEO of the insurance company I represent decided to send all agents, district managers, staff, etc. a book titled "Who Moved My Cheese." It is written by one of the guys who brought us the "One Minute. . ." pop management tripe that was so popular in the eighties. Well the CEO figured that by sending us the book he would be helping us understand that change is unavoidable, profound and too stressful for many to handle unless you are willing to be constantly doing what made you successful in the first place. That is, continually looking for the cheese so you always find new cheese and never end up without cheese. Cheese in this little fable is the only sustenance for its citizens. This is really an oversimplified review, but that is all this simpleminded book deserves.

You see it was really the opening salvo from the company to tell us that we must adapt or be left behind.

SYSCO's cheese is being moved and we are moving other people's cheese. This year we raised entry fees and moved fleets to enhance membership and balance committee assignments. In recent issues of the newsletter there have been discussions on PHRF and a new conversation has emerged over criticism of the courses on Thursday nights during the Spring Series. I do not want to make too much of this criticism as the principle issues — course length and setting windward leeward courses — can be managed by educating the fleet captains; I will leave this in Alan's capable hands. Can't do anything about the weather and wind, but we can always strive to do the best we can. There are other ideas that have been raised as a result: upcoming rules changes for the start, giving committees the option of running two races in the

evening, setting finishes on the opposite side of the committee from the start line and starting another race before the last boat finishes the first. All worthy of consideration, all manageable, and all cheese-moving events.

None of the above can be implemented before the Summer Series except the education and we can discuss the others this winter before the 2002 season. Some may be forced upon us as the start sequence (our cheese gets moved) and others may be ones we wish to implement (we move other peoples cheese.)

I would like to emphasize the value of conversation about racing and ideas for improving the program. No need to get shrill and no need for general attacks on the program. Get specific and get constructive. SYSCO can and will continue to provide a quality race program as it was chartered to do.

Any thoughts?

SEE YOU ON THE RIVER!