



Sysco

News

FEBRUARY 2004

Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon ♦ P. O. Box 5502 ♦ Portland, OR 97228

Commodore:

Alan Boguslawski
(360) 737-2689

Vice Commodore:

Phil Campagna
(503) 735-0902

Treasurer:

Steve Moshofsky
(503) 293-0833

Secretary:

Robyn Thomas
(503) 655-4915

Rear Commodore:

Larry Johnson
(503) 661-7199

Membership:

Robyn Thomas
(503) 655-4915

Program:

Bob Waldron
(503) 359-5514

Newsletter:

Mike and Sandy
O'Bryant
(503) 281-9102

Protests:

Sue Burns
(503) 239-4339

Trophies:

Jim Shaw
(503) 636-3816

Cruising:

Bob & Pat Brown
(503) 543-5475

PIYA Rep:

Open

PHRF Rater:

Bill Brennan
(503) 286-9374

PHRF Rep:

Phil Campagna
(503) 735-0902

Commodore's Comments

ALAN BOGUSLAWSKI

Well, another Groundhog Day has come and gone. It was another steely gray day in a long line of steely gray days, so I presume the great rodent was not frightened by his shadow – at least not here in the Northwest – but I'm not sufficiently optimistic to believe we won't have another six weeks of winter anyway. That will bring us into March. So at least we're on the downhill side of winter. It's time to do some planning.

A truly successful racing and cruising season requires some advanced planning. I can state this with authority only because I have so often failed to plan ahead myself.

How many years have I read an article in Freshwater News about the Oregon Offshore results and exclaimed, "Next year I'm going to find myself a crew position for that race?" Come daylight savings time the following spring, it dawns on me that sailing season is here and...oops...too late. I didn't schedule vacation time. I didn't list myself on the Sail Portland web site. I didn't get on a boat.

And I'm a planner for a living.

So, take it from a professional. Begin by sitting down with the OCSA Race Calendar. Pick your events and list them in your DayMinder, your Palm Pilot, or whatever it is you use to organize your life. (You don't have your 2004 OCSA Race Book yet? Come to the next General Meeting on the 16th. Phil will have a batch for sale.)

I notice that the OCSA Race Calendar begins with the month of February. Now that's optimistic! Anyway, the race calendar tells me our sisters in OWSA have already

begun their very popular basic sailing class series. (Oh, you didn't get enrolled? The class is full? See what I mean?)

Hmmm. Some club even has races scheduled in February. If there are sailboat racers that serious, I can only hope they aren't on any of my opponents' boats this summer!

Race Calendar says March 24 is the OCSA Race Management Clinic. Now there's one I expect all of you SYSCO members to be penciling in on your Palm Pilot. We need you out there competently serving on your race committee this summer.

The first SYSCO event listed is the SYSCO Race Clinic, beginning April 1. No fooling. Let's get prepared.

Well, I'll let you read the rest of the 2004 Race Calendar by yourselves. But I'll expect a complete report.

General Membership Mtg.

Make sure to attend SYSCO's General Membership meeting **Monday, February 16, 7:00 p.m. at Mars Meadow restaurant** (Hayden Meadows). Come at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and socializing.

Arden Newbrook, former Vice-Commodore of SYSCO, active racer and leader in the racing community will be our featured speaker at the General meeting. Arden will present information relevant to numerous SYSCO members about proposed changes in PHRF rules. This information will especially be of value to PHRF fleets and race captains.

P.S. The SYSCO Board meets the first-Mon. of each month. Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Barley Mill Pub, 1629 S.E. Hawthorne. All members are welcome.

Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

We are down to 60 days to the beginning of SYSCO Spring Evening Series and I have a lot to do to be ready. Putting together a team to race the boat and bring everyone up to speed to avoid those mistakes that are like shifting the boat into reverse can be overcome with just one word, "Practice." That's what Buddy Melges said during his last trip to Portland when asked what it takes to do well. He went on to say that if he were to do a regatta he would get ready by spending two weeks or more sailing everyday in that boat. Most of us don't have that kind of time, so we pick up what opportunities we can.

I know that during a maneuver when I am busy with what I need to do, but when something still needs to be done, I don't verbalize very well, and so pointing or one-word descriptions work for crew that know the boat and have sailed together. "Release spinnaker" is an example versus "release the

spinnaker halyard. No, that clutch right there. The one by your foot... no, with the black line.... Yes. No, move the lever all the way forward.... Thanks."

We are always faced with changes as crew move to other boats, buy boats, or for any number of reasons move on, and as new sailors come on board we need to give them the opportunity to sail on the boat and become familiar with its operation. When I come on as crew on a new boat, I like to rig the boat and study the deck layout so I have a feel for how things are done. Then, during the sail I can do the job I am assigned, and will also be able to assist other positions without a lot of conversation. The race mode can be intimidating and if they know how the boat works and what their jobs are and if they know the routes to use moving from position to position as conditions change, maybe they will like it enough to furnish the beer.

One of the conditions of racing on the River is taking your turn to help with the Race Committee. OCSA will again have the Race Management Clinic, where in one evening on March 24th they will review what you need to know to do it right and remind you of what has been learned that didn't work.

April 1st is the SYSCO Race Clinic and April 2 SYSCO On the Water Clinic. Both are a chance to review what it takes to race, what the Course Board and flags mean and how to committee a race, along with a review of local knowledge and a quick review of the rules.

Just a plug for the Catalina 25/250 Nationals being sailed here July 15, 16, & 17. SYSCO will be helping with committee and generally helping Fleet 94 pull this off. We have several boats here, plus out of town boats and some might be looking for crew. It might look good on your resume that you sailed in a Catalina 25/250 National's.

Racing Ahead

PHIL CAMPAGNA

As some of you may know, I sailed from Malaysia to India and on to Thailand during the holidays and that's not a bad way to beat the Northwest winter. Thank goodness for having a friend provide the opportunity to see some of this globe on which we reside.

Thanks Karen!

But now I'm happy February is here. It's time to wake up from the annual Portland sailing hibernation and being SYSCO race captain allows me the opportunity to start planning and, more importantly, thinking of racing as early as this month. For now, the important



Remembering the race season...coming soon.

job of finding volunteers or of appointing fleet race captains is at the top of my priority list. As your race captain, the first duty of the year is establishing a new group of SYSCO fleet captains who serve as our Principal Race Officers for each of the weekly evening series of races starting

April 20 & 22. Establishing this list with volunteers who respect the importance of fun, fair, and challenging Columbia River racing has always been key to SYSCO's racing program. I felt we achieved this in 2003 and am asking members who couldn't volunteer last year to step up and be your fleet's race captain. We will be providing SYSCO race captain training in mid March. Please call me at 503-735-0982 or email bitemej24@hotmail.com and say, "I want experience in running races!"

Help us to help you. Delta Cruise meeting is July 24 at Martin Island.

My Sailing Adventure

BILL SANBORN

Those who know Vicki know that she quilts, and does a lot of patch and piecing to make the quilts. Over time my job has been to help when finishing a big one by holding up the extra material and to help her guide it through the machine as she is finishing the project. Several years ago she told me about an “Adventure Quilt,” a limited edition quilt block of the month series. The first month’s block was a “Anchors Away” and the third month was a “Sailboat”. So, she bought me the series of instructions with templates and fabric, which got filed with lots of other stuff.

Our house has a high narrow wall above the stairway that I always figured needed something hanging there. So, while poking around through stuff looking for family photos for another project I was working on before Christmas I happened across those quilt instructions, and Vicki had not used the fabric elsewhere that had to be purchased for the Adventure Quilt.

When I finished the photo project, I measured the wall and figured out that I could use some of those quilt blocks to tell a Sailing story. I began cutting out pieces and sewing them together

on her fancy Quilting Sewing Machine. (I have some experience at making mistakes sewing material, as I had redone the interior in UPSTART. Vicki says that is why she has this fancy machine as I wore her old one out doing that job.)

This has become my winter sailing adventure for this year. The quilt tells the story of every sailing adventure I recall hearing about. It begins with a “Sailboat” and “Anchor Away” to “Ocean Waves,” then hits with a “Whirlwind”, causing waves like “Hills and Valleys” and leading to the confu-sion of “Rocky Mountain Puzzle.” Finally, there’s the “Lighthouse Beacon”. Each time I go down the stairs I can see the Story and am reminded of all our Sailing Adventures — past and future.



The Adventure Quilt

Attention Readers

Apparently sailors are electronically plugged in. Most SYSKO members have access to the Internet and e-mail. As a way to save the club money (the savings could be more than \$100 per month) and to get the newsletter out as quickly as possible, the bulk of SYSKO members are receiving a notice by e-mail that the full-color SYSKO newsletter is ready to read in PDF format (members will need a recent copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader) at <http://www.sailpdx.com/sysko>.

Members without e-mail will continue to receive their newsletter by snailmail.

Dates to Remember...

- SYSKO General Membership Mtg Feb. 16
- SYSKO Fleet Captain Training March 18 & 22
- OCSA Race Management Clinic March 24
- SYSKO Race Clinic -- classroom April 1
- SYSKO Race Clinic -- on water April 2
- CYC/RCYC Opening Day Race April 17 & 18
- SYSKO Spring Series April 20 & 22
- SYSKO Spring Regatta April 24 & 25

Memories of summer and the Delta Cruise



The Delta Cruise meeting place is Martin Island on July 24.



February Board Meeting Minutes

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2004

Present: Alan Boguslawski, Steve Moshofsky, Bill Sanborn, Mike O'Bryant, Larry Johnson, REBT, Brigg Franklin, Gary Whitney, Phil Campagna, Sandy Smith and J.R. Cash. Tonight's meeting was brought to order at 6:32 p.m. by Commodore Alan Boguslawski.

Commodore Alan Boguslawski received an inquiry from Eric Rimkus who volunteers to serve as PHRF representative on behalf of SYSCO. Alan has yet to appoint Marv Dunn's replacement for this position, an unresolved topic recently discussed by the Board. Eric pointed out that he is the PHRF representative for RCYC and hoped that that would not preclude his serving as SYSCO's representative as well. However, the Board felt that each club should have its own representative and declined Eric's generous offer. Alan will contact Eric about the Board's decision. It was further determined that Phil Campagna will serve as SYSCO's PHRF representative.

Vice Commodore/Race Captain Phil Campagna recently obtained 20 OCSA 2004 Race books from Dee Turner, but has sold all. He will obtain ten additional Race books for sale to SYSCO members. Phil said that he was still working on appointing Fleet Captains and expected to finalize the line-up very soon.

Treasurer Steve Moshofsky presented a proposed budget for 2004. The Board amended the budget, including a motion and second to include \$250 for Fleet Captain Training. The 02/02/04 budget worksheet is attached to the original minutes, and marked "Attachment A." The balance in

the checking account is \$5,520. That does not include the renewal checks handed to Steve this evening.

Secretary/Membership Robyn Thomas: The minutes of the last meeting were approved. We welcome the return of two members – Alice Patten and Bob Reynolds (Catalina 25 "Tybreaker") and Gail O'Neill and Bob Gales (Catalina 30 "Imagine"). Their applications were considered and approved by the Board. REBT reminded the Board that the current deadline set by the bylaws for renewal applications is February 28, 2004, after which all applications for membership must be presented to the Board as new applications, which could cause a delay in processing the application.

Program Committee: Members at last month's General Membership gathering enjoyed a very entertaining presentation by Rich Jones. Rich recounted, with great props and slides, his recent South Pacific adventure.

Annual Awards Banquet Committee Sandy Smith outlined the plans for this year's banquet at the Water Resources Center on the Columbia River in Vancouver – a truly wonderful location. Her plan includes catering by Capers Café. The raffle must be modified to meet the venue's restrictions on certain forms of cash receipts by a nonprofit entity. Sandy will keep us apprised of her progress.

OLD BUSINESS: Bill Sanborn reported that the local Catalina 25/250 Club continues to prepare for the Nationals in Portland in July. SYSCO will lend its support by supplying Race Committees and the use of Poncho during the events. It is hoped that the event

will involve 25 to 30 boats.

Brigg Franklin has been researching available computerized navigation programs and reported on his progress. He hopes to have his research complete within the next couple of months and assemble a presentation for a General Membership gathering where he will review a few of the more popular Nav programs.

The Board talked about the Fleet Captains' Clinic, which is open only to SYSCO fleet captains, or a designate. The dates are Thursday evening, March 18, and Saturday morning, March 20. The location and starting times will be confirmed and Phil will notify the fleet captains as soon as possible. Pizza and beverage will be supplied.

The Board also discussed the SYSCO Race Clinic which is scheduled for Thursday evening (chalkboard) and Friday evening (on the water), April 1 and 2. This important instructional clinic is open to all skippers and crew. In 2003, about 50 people attended the clinic. Phil will take the lead in organizing this clinic.

The Board talked about the problems with Poncho's insurance coverage. REBT and Steve Moshofsky will follow up on this and secure coverage prior to splash, which appears to be some time in late March.

NEW BUSINESS:

Phil Campagna asked that his email address be corrected on the SYSCO web page to show bitemej24@hotmail.com. The Webmaster has been so advised.

Upon motion and second, tonight's meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
REBT, SECRETARY



SYSCO
P.O. Box 5502
Portland, OR 97228

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

SYSCO Meeting
February 16, 7 p.m.

Dinner begins
6 p.m.

The Afterguard

BOB WALDRON

Last month's program by Rich Jones was a real gem. Rich recounted his trip aboard a Morgan 31 transiting from somewhere in the Southern Pacific to Hawaii.

His article in last month's newsletter is a good retelling but the pictures he presented in the General Membership meeting filled in the many details.

SYSCO from time to time presents some great opportunities to live vicariously – if only briefly – through the experiences of fellow sailors. You gotta come to the meetings, though, to hear the stories. Perhaps I am being self-indulgent by pursuing a collection of these stories in anticipation that someday I may have my own to

tell. Still, even my own stories are sometimes best presented from a different point of view. You may have been the one to run aground, but the view of those who saw you do it often makes for a better tale! So with some earnest hope, this month's program will be finalized and there will be another view presented to us of what we may think of as a familiar topic.

Our sailboat "Courtship" seems to have come to this mid-point of winter none the worse for wear, a little damp in some places the Chairman and I are acquainted with and some other unfamiliar places. Today being the first day of intermittent sunshine for some weeks, I found myself looking for those new and familiar places and also did some general

clean up. With the passage of vessels in North Portland Harbor, the resistance to the idea of the short trip to the River and taking advantage of the weak breeze was too much to bear. The Honda started on the third pull. The lines were slipped and I nosed the boat into the current and throttled up. The sun played hide and seek and a few other souls raised their sails hoping to find enough breeze to pull against the relentless flow of water. It was not to be so this fine day, but it did not matter. It was just good to hear the hull slide through its element if only to drift down river, the sails' efforts futile against the unremitting rush of water.

See you on the River.