

SYS CO

News

JANUARY 2007

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

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Secretary:

Sandy Smith
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Rear Commodore:

Phil Campagna
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Phil Campagna
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“Rich & Edie’s Pacific Adventure”

Andy Evans of Victoria raced his Olson 30, Foolish Muse, in the Single-handed TransPac that started on June 24. But he needed a delivery crew to get his boat home and Rich and Edie raised their collective hands. It wasn't easy, it wasn't always pretty and Foolish Muse was without motor, but the 22 day journey was one of Rich and Edie's best adventures.

You'll find out a lot more – running commentary and pictures – at SYSCO's January General Membership Meeting, January 15, 2007, 7 pm at Mars Meadow restaurant (Hayden Meadows). Come early at 6 pm for dinner and socializing.

P.S. The SYSCO Board meets the first Monday of each month. Time: 6:30 pm. Location: Barley Mill Pub, 1629 SE Hawthorne. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.



SYS CO's booth at the Portland Boat Show 2007. The show runs through Sunday, January 14th.

Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

Boating is alive and well, and within that I mean all types of water-related craft. I was setting up our booth for the Portland Boat Show and took a short walk around to see what was going on. On any summer weekend or evening you will see the same sailboats that are on display at the Boat Show trading tacks between the bridges. Take a run up or down the river and you will encounter great numbers of folks fishing from boats like those offered for sale. Pass any dock and you find where all the large cruisers gather for the weekend. Any weekend morning on I-5 you see any number of cars with kayaks on top headed toward an outing. And lots of folks this year are showing us gear to make our boating more exciting, user friendly and safer.

Housekeeping Items: Time to visit the boat and

check for any damage from the recent wind and rain. Check mooring lines for chafing, that fenders are in place, the sail cover is secure, the boom tent is still hooked up and the head foil and halyards are secured from rattling in the wind (we lost one hand rail cover). Check that cockpit drains are free of leaves and debris, and pump any water out that has accumulated in the bilge. And I trust you have a plan for protection of plumbing and the other machinery during freezing weather.

Looking at the Race Schedule I see that the Six Pac has not been scheduled for 2007, so those looking for a down River sail are always welcome to join the SYSCO Delta Cruisers. We will be meeting Saturday July 29, 2007 at Martin Island for those needing to schedule vacation time.

See You at the Second Annual CHATEAU SYSCO PARTY on February 17, at RCYC.

How to Change Oil in Your Boat

BY: A. GIRL

It is generally accepted that men are the more mechanically inclined of the species and I have no qualms about using the occasional "feminine wiles" to take advantage of that stereotypical role. Once I moved to the "big" boat, however, I decided that it was time for me to take responsibility, so off I trundled to a local engine maintenance class. Following the lesson on "lubrication systems" it was time to make my first attempt at changing the oil. I was pretty sure I could do the job, but I still wanted a "supervisor" in attendance so something really unpleasant didn't happen. My friend David volunteered and promised he wouldn't do the job for me – he would just advise.

So...here we go. Just a few easy steps:

- 1) Drive to a marine supply store to purchase the required equipment: oil, filter, "oil sucker-outer thingy", filter wrench, shop towels, "diapers" for any possible spillage. If supervisor is not included in this step it will likely require two trips as I usually get the wrong items when left to my own devices.
- 2) After returning to the boat, put the "oil sucker-outer thingy" together and read instructions (men can dispense with this step) on its use while the engine is running to warm up the oil.
- 3) Once the engine is sufficiently warmed up, it is time to shut it off and crawl into the engine room

to begin work. Remembering to bring everything along is not an option so this is where having a supervisor is quite handy.

- 4) Now to begin: pump up the pressure in the "o.s.o.t". Next, remove the dipstick (making sure to put it someplace where it won't fall or be knocked into the bilge) and stick the plastic tube down, down, down until it is all the way at the bottom of the oil pan. Once the old, icky oil starts to be sucked out I can crawl out of the engine room to have coffee (I suppose beer would work as well) and visit with my supervisor until the "o.s.o.t" has completed its work and starts gurgling.
- 5) Crawl back into the engine room. Remove the tube from the engine being very careful not to drip oil on myself (or anything else) and replace the dipstick. Then open the oil fill opening on top of the engine ("Oh, look! There is the camshaft!") and pour the new oil very slowly and carefully into the engine.

"Now I start the engine to circulate the new oil?"
 "No. First you check the dipstick (twice) to make sure there is enough oil in it."
 "Looks good. NOW I start the engine?"
 "Now you can start the engine."
- 6) Start & run the engine for a few minutes. Very cool! I have changed my own oil! It was so easy even a guy could do it!

Oh...shoot....I forgot to change the filter.....sigh....

January 2007 SYSCO Board Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, BARLEY MILL PUB

PRESENT:

Rod Dawson, Karen Anderson, Sandy Smith, Mike O'Bryant, Bill Sanborn, Steve Moshofsky, Al Calcagno, Phil Campagna and Alan Boguslawski.

Due to the "changing of the guard" there were no reports from the Commodore, Secretary or Treasurer.

Mike reminded all the new officers that their articles for the Newsletter are due by Sunday and Bill was kind enough to point out that because of the holiday we have two less days to edit.

Phil reported that the 2007 Race Books will be finished and available at the Boat Show. As in the past, SYSCO will purchase 10 to be sold to members at the January general meeting. Al noted that the price has increased from \$15 to \$20 per book.

Phil then stated that Edie and Rich will present a program about their experiences delivering an Olson 30 from Hawaii to Seattle at the Jan. meeting. The February meeting will be the Wine Social at RCYC. Since no one has come forward to be in charge of Programs everyone is asked to help with that. Mike and Sandy will be sure the word gets out via the newsletter and emails so we have good turnouts. Bill might be able to get a guy who sailed on a square-rigger to give us a presentation and Sandy is still attempting to reach Alison about a program. The hope is that with a program at each meeting we can increase our member turnout. Karen reported that beginning with the January meeting we will also be giving out door prizes.

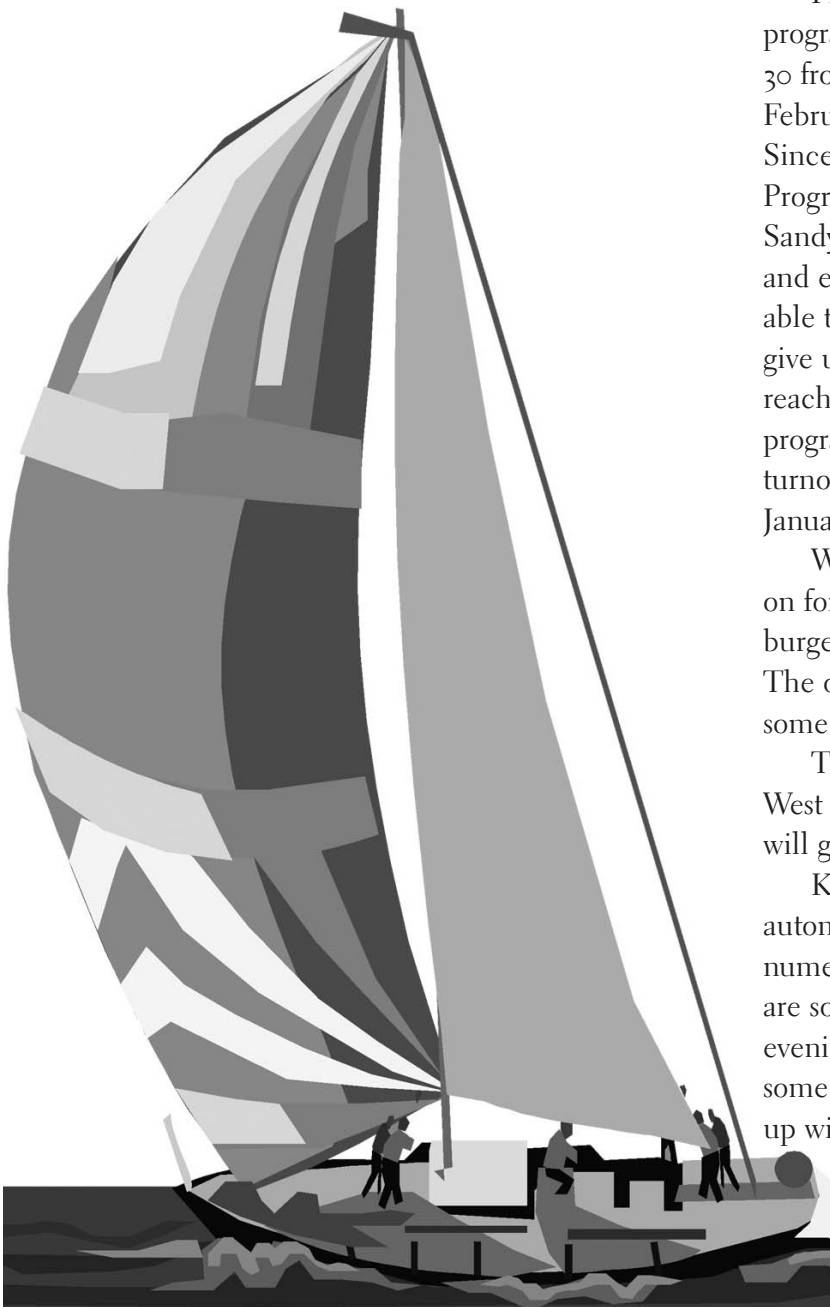
With new officers in residence the search has been on for the burgees. Phil presented the Commodore's burgee to Rod and Steve had the Treasurer's for Al. The others have not yet been located though there was some mention that Sue Johnson had found some.

There was a question raised if anyone attended the West Marine night. No one who was present did. Phil will go by and thank them.

Karen asked about the possibility of getting an automatic timing device for use at races instead of the numerous air horns we go through (many of which are sounding pretty sickly at the end of a Thursday evening). Phil said OCSA was going to contribute some money back to member clubs so he will bring it up with them since the item costs around \$300.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
SANDY SMITH, SECRETARY



Commodore's Comments

ROD DAWSON

SYSCO is a great club. I joined a shade over 20 years ago, in the fall of '85. Or maybe it was in the spring of '86; I'm not really sure. Lannie Perkins may have been the Commodore that year.

I do remember going to general membership meetings in the banquet room of one of the Chinese restaurants downtown. The place would always be packed with folks and it was difficult to find a chair. There was always something interesting going on for a program; someone talking about a trip they had taken, with slides, or someone talking about boating safety or maybe boat repair. Great social events. I made some life long friends when I joined SYSCO.

The newsletter was a lot simpler then. Analog (as in real paper), perhaps two full size sheets folded in half, sent through the USPS. I didn't always read it immediately, but it laid on the coffee table or kitchen counter and didn't get put aside until I did. THAT has sure changed! The newsletter is now very professional and posted on the web for everyone to see, but, I hate to admit it, I do not always read the newsletter.

I haven't been very involved with the club the last few years and haven't attended many general membership meetings. I was fleet captain once or twice, I raced and did the occasional race committee thing, and I helped at SYSCO's booth at the PDX boat show.

Apparently I'm not the only one that has stopped going to the general membership meetings. When I was asked if I would be SYSCO's Commodore for 2007, I went to the October meeting. There were maybe a dozen folks there – the board members and a few of the old guard. The November meeting,

probably the most important general membership meeting of the year where the club officers for the upcoming year (2007) were elected, was the same – about a dozen folks.

What has happened? These meetings used to be fun; the room was packed with people. Well, one of the obvious answers is that there haven't been many programs at the meetings for quite awhile. One of the reasons folks came to the meetings, other than to eat and socialize, was to be entertained a bit by the evening's program. In fact, as I understand it, there hasn't been a Program Chairman since Bob Waldron some years back. Well, the Board has already decided that we are going to have a program at each of the general meetings in 2007. I hope to see more of you there.

Perhaps there may be other reasons for the low attendance to the general meetings. One that comes to my mind is, like myself, maybe fewer folks are reading the newsletter than before, and thus, not as aware that a meeting may be coming up soon. When the newsletter arrived by USPS, I always read it. When it was first switched to digital, and came as an attachment to an e-mail message, I read it. Then, it was changed in the e-mail to a web link where the newsletter was posted. With this change, I often found myself thinking, when I got the e-mail, that I would come back to that and read it later. Sometimes I didn't.

So, I'm curious. How many of our SYSCO members go to the web and read the current newsletter? No way to really find that out, is there? Well, let's do a "straw" count; if you read this, send me an e-mail note with something like "Read Newsletter" on the subject line (so I know I'm not being SPAM'd). Comments are welcome. rodawson@comcast.net

Chateau SYSCO Party and Open House

Bring a friend, a potential member, an appetizer and drinks to the Rose City Yacht Club, for some fun and socializing at SYSCO's Second Annual Social and Open House.

Saturday, February 17th — 7:00 pm

Rose City Yacht Club

3737 NE Marine Dr.

