



The Starting Line

NOVEMBER 2007

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

Commodore:

Rod Dawson
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Vice Commodore/**Race Captain:**

Karen Anderson
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Treasurer:

Al Calcagno
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Secretary:

Sandy Smith
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Rear Commodore:

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Bill & Vicki Sanborn
(503) 286-9257

PHRF Rater:

Dave Hickman
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OCSA/PHRF**Representative:**

Phil Campagna
(503) 735-0982

Save the night on your calendar

The next SYSCO General Membership meeting is Monday, **November 19, 2007, 7 pm**, Elmer's at Delta Park. Come early at 6 pm for dinner and socializing. This is a busy and important meeting and will include election of officers, a discussion of an interesting and controversial change to the way our races are run, and a program.

The program will feature a video of canal traveling and chartering narrow boats in Europe. If you have ever considered taking a canal trip in Europe, this is the video for you.

Be prepared to discuss the idea of having a paid Principal Race Officer who will oversee the race committee work for each race. The idea is to provide consistency to the race committee work and, for those fleets who desire, allow more than one start each evening.

HERE IS THE SLATE OF OFFICERS:

Commodore — Karen Anderson

Vice Commodore/Race Captain — open

Secretary — Sandy Smith

Treasurer — Al Calcagno

As a SYSCO member, you will have the opportunity to nominate others at the meeting, as well.

P.S. The SYSCO Board meets the first Monday of each month. Time: 6:30 pm.
Location: O'Conner's Restaurant in Multnomah Village, 7850 SW Capital Highway.



From the docks at Hadley's Landing on the ABC cruise in October.

Thoughts From The Rear

BILL SANBORN

You have a very good reason to follow what goes on during this off-season regarding the Race Committee work next year, then review and make your comments by attending the Monday General Membership meeting. Your Board has a proposal before it to improve the way we do Race Committees, and I am sure there will be both pro and con arguments during the debate. Changes that are made could involve a By-Laws change and a possible surcharge with your race entry. You will have an opportunity to debate the issue Monday and to vote on it, probably at another Special Meeting prior to the first Spring races. Watch for this and make your views known.

Voting: Nov. 19th is our Annual Meeting and we will be voting for the Officers that will take SYSCO through our 30th year. Plan to attend and vote.

Cruising: We had a couple of great weekend gatherings. First, was the Fall Colors Cruise to Coon Island. Our eight SYSCO boats shared the west side of the Coon Island docks with seven boats from the Rose City Yacht Club. Because of the rain and wind earlier in the week, lots of the leaves were already on the ground and the second phase was just starting to turn. Yet, the weather for our Cruise was nice and the sun was out after the fog burned off.

The following weekend was ABC. Twenty Bundy Pirates, macho non-leg warmer wearing SYSCO Sailors Lumber Jacks all, in a fleet of 12 boats ventured to Hadley Landing for the Annual Potato Planting. This year brought out some new and improved planting devices and again the Suave Hair Spray took top honors. Our long running string of Always Bright and Cloudless continues at 14 years. This year's All Boys Cruise, as always, featured plenty of sea adventures being retold and embellished, laughs, great quantities of manly food, and even a taste of beverage. "NO MA'AM"



Spring Series Tuesday (Part 1)



Spring Series- Thursday 2007



Spring Series Tuesday (Part 2)



SYSCO Spring Regatta 2007

SYSCO Board Meeting – 11/5/07

The meeting was called to order by Commodore Rod Dawson at 6:30 pm.

Board member present were Rod, Al Calcagno, Pat O'Bryant, Mike O'Bryant, Thomas MacMenemy, Mary & Mike Stainsby, Karen Anderson, Phil Campagna and Sandy Smith. Also present were Frank Bocarde, Bill Sanborn, Mark McCuddy, Robin Christensen, Doug Schenk, John Hatch, Steve Estes and Dave Hickman.

First on the agenda was a recap of the Awards Dinner. There was great food and music, a big turnout and everyone felt this was one of the best ever.

Racing: Thomas reported that Poncho is now resting comfortably after having had carburetors rebuilt and "dead man's switch" re-attached. He also bought a new fuel tank as that was suggested as one of the possible problems.

Programs: Frank reports there will be a DVD and talk on chartering narrow boats in the canals at the next meeting.

Elections are coming up. The nominating committee for next year's officers will be Rod, Bill Sanborn, Bob Brown and Karen Anderson.

Cruising: The Fall Colors and ABC cruises are over now. That wraps cruising up until next season.

Mary made some suggestions regarding next year's Awards dinner. She thinks we may have better participation if we move it to a later date – perhaps February. After discussion, the board decided to leave it as is.

Boat Show: Phil reports that "sailing" has been moved to the west wall. Dates for next year are 1/5-1/13.

Looks like we will have a new fleet for racing next season. Dave Pelego has located 4 Merit 25's to race. The fleet is having their first meeting this month and will be racing on Tuesday nights.

Mark McCuddy announced that OCSA is purchasing a super duper starting system. Then he explained that a number of the racers are interested in looking into hiring a Professional Race Officer (PRO) to run the evening series' races next year. Since SYSCO puts on the majority of the races they are asking us to consider this possibility (along with CYC). There was a great deal of discussion and mostly positive response. He said using a PRO (but still volunteer race committees) would bring consistency to the races; and we may be able to run multiple races instead of just one per night. SYSCO's by laws may need to be changed and there may be issues with regard to insurance. A motion was made, seconded and passed that a committee be formed to look into the insurance, by laws and other possible roadblock issues and report back. The committee will be Rod Dawson, Frank Bocarde, Doug Schenk, Bill Sanborn, Phil Campagna and Karen Anderson to look at this more closely and report back. A presentation will be made at the next general meeting in hopes of getting feedback from the membership.

Dave Hickman is currently our PHRF rater as well as our representative for PHRF. He says he doesn't mind doing this but since he is the rep for two other clubs as well, it cuts down the number of votes we have. He said if anyone would be interested in helping out he will happy to mentor them.

Speaking of Dave...since he missed the Awards Dinner, Rod presented the Rotten Tiller Award to him at this board meeting. Dave was, understandably, "thrilled."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
SANDY SMITH, SECRETARY*



Commodore's Comments

ROD DAWSON

AWARDS BANQUET

Thank you all for making this year's awards banquet such a terrific party. The turnout this year was amazing; 20% more than we had planned on. The great turnout of members and guests was what made this banquet the huge success that it was. The music from Tall Jazz was terrific, as was the food from Azteca. I had a wonderful time giving away door prizes and introducing people, and I hope all of you enjoyed the banquet as much as I did.

Special thanks goes to Mary Stainsby, who did most of the organizing for the banquet, coordinating with PYC, contracting with the caterer, and collecting all of the reservations. She did an outstanding job and we all need to extend our special thanks to her. **THANK YOU MARY!**

I also want to thank Bill and Vicky Sanborn for staying until the very last and bussing all of the tables until there was nothing left on them but table cloths.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Shane St. Clare told us about his adventure crossing the Pacific to Hawaii in a VERY small sail boat – a Catalina 18 – at the Oct 15 General Membership meeting. Shane is a nice young fellow (everyone is young to me anymore) who gave a very interesting and humorous talk, while showing pictures

of his adventure. Especially interesting was that he did the last week or so of the trip without a mainsail, after breaking his boom irreparably.

The Nov 19 General Membership meeting this coming Monday is jam packed and is the most important meeting of the year, mostly because we will elect the new SYSCO Board officer's for 2008 (see slate of officers elsewhere in this issue), but also because we will discuss a new and, perhaps, controversial change in how we run the Spring and Summer Evening series of races.

There will be a brief discussion of a presentation made at the SYSCO Board meeting on Nov 5, that suggests a change in how SYSCO races are run. There are those who believe that the race committee work is too inconsistent, sometimes very good, sometimes not so. The idea is to have a paid Principal Race Officer, who would be present and oversee the race committee work for each race. This could likely raise race entry fees to cover the cost, while providing consistency for races. It would also allow those fleets who want more than one start each night to do that, as well. If you have an opinion on this, come to the meeting and share it.

The program for the Nov 19 meeting will feature a great video of canal traveling in Europe. If you ever thought about taking a canal trip you need to come join us and enjoy this video.

As usual, if you have any comments or questions for me, please let me know. rodawson@comcast.net



2007 SYSCO Board and Committee chairs



One-Design Regatta 2007



U.S. Sportsmanship Award



Sailor of the Year



Commodore's Trophy

