



The Starting Line

DECEMBER 2007

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

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Treasurer:

Al Calcagno
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Secretary:

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Rear Commodore:

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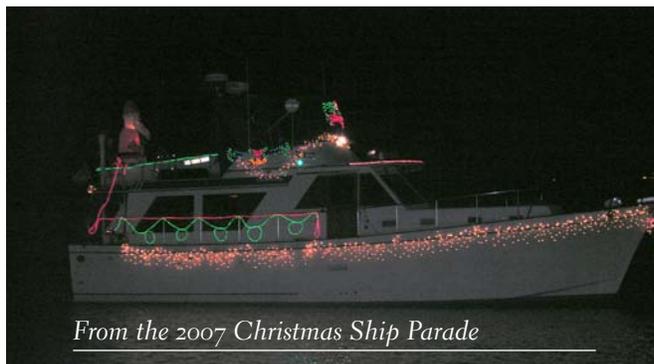
No Membership Meeting in Dec.

There is no General Membership meeting this month. Join us again **January 21, 2008, 7 pm**, Elmer's at Delta Park. Come early at 6 pm for dinner and socializing. More about the January program in the January 2008 SYSCO *Starting Line*.

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.

Sunday Sailing on the Columbia River

Wy'East is sailing every Sunday this winter and is looking for other sailors, particularly cruisers, to join in the fun with some informal races. Frank Calistro of Wy-East says that racing begins about noon. Set your VHF to channel 73 and join in.



From the 2007 Christmas Ship Parade

SYSCO Officers for 2008

Commodore — Karen Anderson
Rear Commodore — Rod Dawson
Vice Commodore/Race Captain — Rich Jones
Secretary — Sandy Smith
Treasurer — Al Calcagno

Portland Boat Show

The 48th Annual Portland Boat Show is making waves at the Portland Expo Center January 5 – 13, 2008!

Please help your sailing club by staffing the SYSCO booth in exchange for FREE entry to the boat show. No experience or training is necessary. We'll provide information and instructions at the booth. We need volunteers for all sessions. Contact Phil Campagna at: bitemej24@yahoo.com, or (971)246-2603.

CHOOSE YOUR TIME FROM AMONG THESE DATES:

Saturday Jan. 5, 2008 11 am – 2 pm,
2 pm - 6 pm, 6 pm - 9 pm
Sunday Jan. 6, 11 am - 2 pm,
2 pm - 6 pm
Monday Jan. 7, 3 pm - 6 pm,
6 pm - 9 pm
Tuesday Jan. 8, 3pm - 6 pm,
6 pm - 9 pm
Wednesday Jan. 9, 3 pm - 6 pm,
6 pm - 9 pm
Thursday Jan. 10, 3 pm - 6 pm,
6 pm - 9 pm
Friday Jan. 11, 3 pm - 6 pm,
6 pm - 9 pm
Saturday Jan. 12, 11 am - 2 pm,
2 pm - 6 pm, 6 pm - 9 pm
Sunday Jan. 13, 11 am - 2 pm,
2 pm - 5 pm

We would also like to update our SYSCO booth slide show. Everybody please select a couple of sailing or racing action shots from your collection of digital photos and e-mail them to Gary Whitney at ka-sl@comcast.net.

Making a List and Checking it Twice

KAREN ANDERSON, VICE COMMODORE/RACE CAPTAIN

Winter is the time for lists. Boaters use the break to check out their boats and ready them for action when the sun shines again and we break out of the wintertime blahs. The Martin 24 fleet recently got together for the annual boat takeout exercise and compared notes about repairs and improvements planned over the winter. My Dragonfly is in pretty good shape (and well it should be after just one season of racing), but some new hardware and lines are on my list. And then there are those few dings from slightly close encounters with other fleet boats.

SYSCO board meeting news: the description of the SYSCO spring and summer evening series has been changed in the OCSA Race Book to allow "one or more" races per evening for the 2008 season. We welcomed members of the new Merit 25 fleet to Tuesday night racing. They indicate they are looking forward to the possibility of several races per night if it works out. The SYSCO One Design/Level Fleet Regatta will be co-sponsored in 2008 by Columbia Crossings. It will be a fundraiser for the Columbia Riverkeepers and will include music and food provided by Columbia Crossings.

Boat show sign up information for the SYSCO booth is in this newsletter and we welcome your help. Please contact Phil Campagna at 971 246-2603 and let him know when you want to be scheduled.



Did You Know?

SANDY SMITH

Do you have a vessel that is Documented? If so, do you know the in's and out's of the requirements for this status? You might be interested to know:

1. Certificates of Documentation (COD) used to be issued and maintained by the Coast Guard, but that is now a function of the Department of Homeland Security.
2. The official number issued to your vessel on the Certificate of Documentation, preceded by the abbreviation "NO." MUST be marked in block-type Arabic numerals at least 3" high on some clearly visible interior structural part of the hull. The number must be permanently affixed so that alteration, removal or replacement would be obvious and cause some scarring or damage to the surrounding hull area.
3. For RECREATION vessels, the name and hailing port both must be marked together on some clearly visible exterior part of the hull. All must be at least 4" in height, made in clearly legible letters of the Latin alphabet or Arabic or Roman numerals. NOTE: Hailing port marking must include BOTH a place (city) AND the state. Commonly known abbreviations are acceptable (such as OR).
4. The COD is not valid for operation if any of the information shown, other than the address of the managing owner, changes. The COD is to be returned to the National Vessel Documentation Center. The penalty for operation of a vessel with an invalid document is \$10,000 per violation. EACH DAY of continuing violation is a separate violation. The Certificate is valid for one year unless it is required to be exchanged, replaced or canceled.
5. Annual renewal of the endorsement is REQUIRED. The Coast Guard sends a notice of renewal (CG-1280) to the managing owner approximately 45 days prior to the expiration of the document. If there is no response to the Notice of Renewal a warning notice indicating that the document has expired is sent to the owner approximately 10 days after expiration. Operation of the vessel with an expired certificate may result in a penalty of up to \$500.00 per day. There is no fee for the renewal of the certificate if it is accomplished prior to the expiration date. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENEWAL IS UP TO THE VESSEL OWNER, WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE.
6. Vessels may be required to be registered by the State in which they are moored; however, while the registration decal must be affixed to the hull of the boat, the registration numbers are not. Further, it is against federal law to have registration numbers on the boat when operating at sea.

So, friends, that is the long and the short of it. I hope you all knew this already and all your documentation certificates are current!

SYSCO BOARD MEETING

12/03/07

The meeting of the SYSCO Board of Directors was called to order by Commodore Rod Dawson at 6:30 pm on 12/3/07. Others present: Karen Anderson, Sandy Smith, Mike O'Bryant, Pat O'Bryant, Al Calcagno, Rich Jones, Frank Bocarde, Michael Golden, Dave Palego and Neil Orange.

Rod introduced Rich Jones who has stepped up and accepted the position of Race Captain/Vice Commodore.

Al passed out copies of the proposed budget for next year. The Board will take a month to look over the budget and discuss it at the next board meeting.

Karen reported that the deadline for the OCSA book is tomorrow morning. There are a few changes to next year's instructions, which include:

When using windward/leeward courses the start/finish marks may be set on either side of the committee boat. There had been discussion about restricted start and/or finish lines but that is not workable.

With regard to collisions with the committee boat the offending boat will be "subject to protest" rather than have an automatic disqualification and it will be up to the RC to make the decision whether they will protest or not. Whenever there is damage involved a protest is required by the Racing Rules.

Karen also said that included in the instructions will be the option for "one or more race" per night. Fleets may make the request for multiple races but the Race Committee will have the final word. All requests will be honored whenever possible and all races will be counted.

Karen also reported that PYC has been reserved for the same weekend next year for our Awards Dinner.

Pat said he spoke with Terry Annis recently and Terry asked him to bring to the board his thoughts regarding having a Paid Race Officer. He feels that since there is apparently concern about our volunteer committees' abilities to run races that perhaps we need to do something to get the fleets to attend the race management trainings we hold each year. Attendance at those educational evenings has not been stellar over the past few years.

Pat reported that membership renewal notices will be going out shortly. Also, the membership directories are expected to be more expensive to print this year.

Frank has spoken with the manager at West Marine regarding the SYSCO day on Dec 15th. The

offer has changed from the original conversation and W.M. is now saying that anyone who shows their SYSCO membership card on the 15th will receive a \$20 coupon to be used on any purchase of \$100 or more.

Dave Palego, Michael Golden & Neil Orange were representing the new Merit 25 fleet that will be racing in '08. They have had their first meeting and are in attendance tonight to request that their fleet compete on Thursday evenings instead of Tuesday. This is partly because they thought the multiple starts would only be available on Thursday but that is not the case. Also, Dave states the Merit 25's were developed to compete with J-24's and they would like the opportunity to test their mettle against those boats. Discussion followed and the decision was made to keep the Merits on Tuesday evenings. Karen says the Martins have invited the Merits to start with them.

Ken McLarty from Columbia Crossings was supposed to attend the meeting to discuss the possibility of combining the SYSCO One Design with the Columbia Crossings Cup but he was unable to make it. Rod & Frank explained that Columbia Crossings is interested in a joint event with SYSCO running the race and Col Crossings giving support. The board discussed pros, cons and possibilities and then Frank called Brad Howton (from Col Crossings) and an agreement was made that SYSCO will retain the One Design and Columbia Crossings will provide the after race activities (picnic, music, etc) as well as providing the awards. They will also be holding a raffle or some sort of fund raiser since their event was intended to raise money for the Riverkeepers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
SANDY SMITH, SECRETARY*



From the 2007 Christmas Ship Parade

Commodore's Comments

ROD DAWSON

These will be my last comments as Commodore of SYSCO. It has been a great year and we've accomplished a number of things that were important for me, such as improving the attendance at the General Membership meetings by reinstating programs (still need better attendance), adding a couple of picnics at the end of the SYSCO Summer Series, and improving the Awards Banquet attendance. The organization of our club racing was handled so well by the Race Captain/Vice Commodore Karen Anderson that I did not need to worry much about that aspect of our club, which made it easy for me to concentrate more on the social aspects. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

General Membership Meetings

At the Nov 19 meeting the new Board officers for 2008 were elected.

Karen Anderson will be the Commodore next year as I move to Rear Commodore.

Pat O'Bryant, Mike O'Bryant, Sandy Smith and Al Calcagno were reelected to the same positions they held during 2007.

Fortunately, at the last minute, an extremely good candidate, Rich Jones, agreed to become the nominee for Vice Commodore/Race Captain for 2008 and was elected to that position. Rich will do a great job; thank you Rich.

The program about canal traveling in Europe was extremely entertaining. It made me want to book one immediately.

Race Committees

There was a presentation made at the Board meeting on Nov 5, suggesting a change in how SYSCO races are run. Two of the larger one design fleets came to the Board with the idea to use a paid Principal Race Officer (PRO), who would be present and oversee the volunteer race committee work for our races. Apparently there are those who believe that the race committee work is too inconsistent, sometimes very good, sometimes not so good, and could use some improvement and consistency, and this was their suggestion on how to do that.

Due to a number of reasons, it was decided that the idea of a paid PRO was not something that SYSCO could do at this time and we will be continuing to use all volunteer race committees. However, the concerns of the folks who brought the issue to the Board have some validity.

Part of the problem, as I see it, is the lack of participation of many members of this club. Many seem to be very willing to be serious racers and simply pay their dues so they can race SYSCO races with no entry fee, but expect others to step forward to do the race organization, race committee work, and other club work. Note the difficulty we had this year to find a candidate for 2008 Race Captain/Vice Commodore. Also note the lack of attendance of the Fleet Captains at the board meetings; they are, after all, voting members of the Board. And note the lack of attendance at the Race Management Clinics, put on every year to help improve the Race Committee work — these should be attended by EVERY fleet captain EVERY year, as well as by all the other volunteers for committee work. I sincerely hope that the member participation improves in 2008, particularly with regard to the race committees.

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