SYSCO

The Starting Line

March 2009

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

2009 Officers & Committee Chairs

Commodore:
Rich Jones
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Rear Commodore:
Karen Anderson
(503) 806-0945 (work)

Vice Commodore/ Race Captain:
Alden Andre
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Secretary:
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Membership:
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Newsletter Editor:
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Cruising:
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Historians:
Bill & Vicki Sanborn
(503) 286-9257

PHRF Rater:
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Phil Campagna
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Commodore's Comments:

from Rich Jones

Are We Ready for the Sailing Season... Heck Yes We're Ready, Bring It On!

I don't think we've ever been more ready. With the new Racing Rules of Sailing coming out, there have been a number of powwows and summits to review what's changed. Mark room anyone?

With more boats joining the Cruising Armada every day, the *poobahs* of the fleet have been forming syndicates and racing almost every Sunday as a way of having fun, train new crew and hone boat handling skills in preparation for racing and cruising this year.

With a strong desire to **GOTB**, the local boat-rating *potentates* are putting the finishing touches on the newly minted Portland Regional Speed Potential Ratings PR-SPR's). These ratings will be used by North Sails of Oregon for a new handicap racing program; which SYSCO is helping to unveil with the Spring Series.

With an eye toward the future, SYSCO has been working on getting all of its information into a new database that will help the organization manage its membership and communication programs. The first fruits of this effort will be a new and spiffy way of distributing SYSCO's monthly newsletter, and the speed with which new and renewing members are welcomed and added to the roster... **And speaking of rosters**... we really want to get the 2009 SYSCO Membership Roster published and distributed before the first race of the SYSCO Spring Series. As a result, if you haven't already, PLEASE become a new member or renew your lapsed membership by April 1 so you can be included in the new member book.

Our next General Membership Meeting is at Elmer's in Delta Park on Monday, March 16. That would be a good time to turn in your membership stuff. The meeting will also feature a presentation by Larry Brandt, who will talk about cruising in the South Sound north of Olympia.

We will also be getting together on March 26 & 27 at Rose City Yacht Club for the annual SYSCO Race Clinic. This will be a fun one to attend because we want to keep the ball rolling from last year, talk about the new racing rules, and hear more about the new North Sails of Oregon Handicap Racing Program.

Lastly, this is a year when SYSCO co-presents the Opening Day Regatta with Portland Yacht Club on April 18 & 19. A nice way to kick that event off is by attending the Sailors Dinner at PYC on April 17.

Are we ready for the sailing season to start? Yep, born ready! See you on the water.

SYSCO Racing News

Get your crews lined up, review the new Racing Rules for Sailing and send in your Race Entry Forms because we're ready to go.

March 26 – SYSCO Race Clinic at 6:30 pm at Rose City Yacht Club. A "chalkboard" session will include updates on the 2009 OSCA Course Charts, discussions of the basic rules and the changes to the racing rules, and local conditions.

March 27th – SYSCO Race Clinic "On the Water" session. Meet at 6 pm in the vicinity of mark "C" as designated by the OSCA Alphabetic Course Chart. The evening will feature several practice starts and a short round-the-bouy practice race.

April 18/19 – PYC & SYSCO Opening Day - A two-day regatta consisting of two or more races each day. Awards will be presented after the last race on Sunday at the Portland Yacht Club Clubhouse.

April 21/23 thru May 26/28 – SYSCO Spring Series. These are the races you've waited all winter for. It's time to get back out on the water for head-to-head weekly competition in the best spirit of sailing sportsmanship.

SYSCO Cruising News

If you didn't mark your calendars last month, here's another chance. Don't miss these opportunities to get together with your fellow cruisers for great food, fun times, and many great stories.

This year's cruising schedule includes:
Spring Shake Down - March 21st to East Dock Government Island
Memorial Day - May 23rd to 25th to Martin Pond
Just Because! - June 20th to the Gilbert River
Independence Day - July 3rd to 5th Martin Pond
SYSCO's Annual Delta Cruise – starts July 25th at Martin Pond
SYSCO's Annual St Helens Race/Cruise - August 29th/30th (NOTE the earlier date this year)
Labor Day - Sept 5th to 7th to Coon Island
Fall Colors Cruise - October 24th to Hadley's Landing

SYSCO Membership Roster DEADLINE is March 31, 2009

Member Forms & payments must be received by 3/31/09 to be included in the Roster. The 2009 Roster goes to print in early APRIL.

If you have not renewed, or would like to Join SYSCO Please go to:

www.sailpdx.com Open (click) the SYSCO Small Boat Sailing Link in left column. Open (Click) Membership Information. Application Form is page 2.

Print Application, Fill out, SIGN!, and send with check to:
SYSCO
P.O. Box 5502
Portland, OR 97228

ALL SYSCO Members are sent Confirmation of '09' membership via e-mail.

Any Questions: Jan (503) 701-5706

Thoughts from the Rear

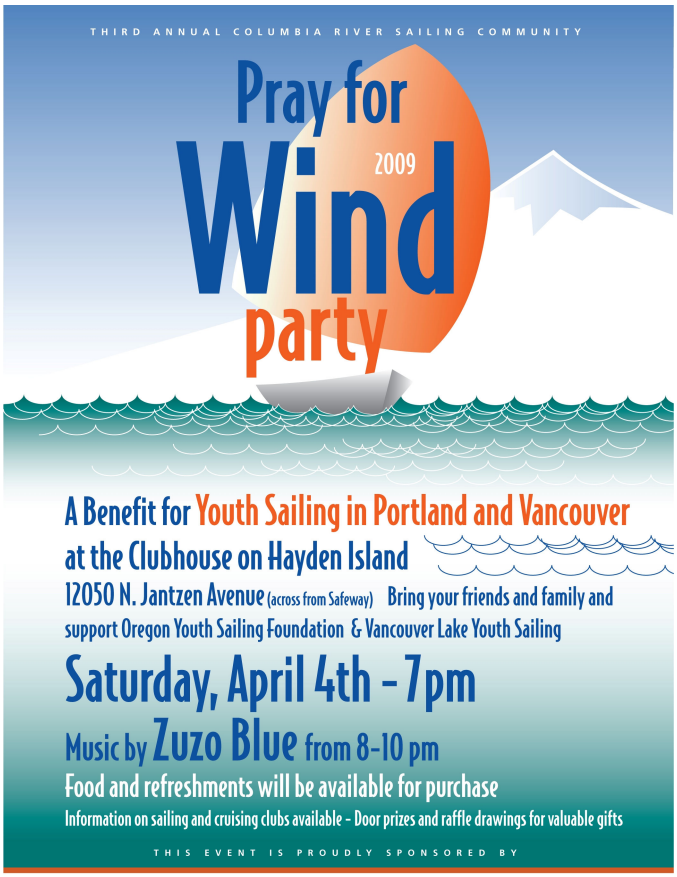
Bill Sanborn

How involved are you in SYSCO? I ask because when the flags begin to drop and those who have sat on their hands rather than raise them to volunteer always begin the "how come?" Those who have put together a program with limited help can only shake their head a say under their breath "next time". I guess the bargain in SYSCO Racing is VOLUNTEERS. A few hours of time from each of us pays big dividends in the success of the entire program.

Couple of events on the Social side had a good turnout, Château SYSCO, and the Cruise Fleet meeting. Racing has been going on all winter with the Sail-on-Sunday events drawing 10 to 15 boats each week. And the first Cruise is scheduled for Saturday March 21 at Government Isl. East Dock.

Around the Buoy racing will be kicking off within the month, and for those needing a quick refresher SYSCO Novice Clinic is on 3/26 at RCYC, and on the water 3/27.

Support Youth Sailing and have a Great Evening Out…



COLUMBIA CROSSINGS

Are you an armchair sailor?
Ever dreamed of sailing out the mouth of the Columbia, turning left, and keep going?

You may have done it, or know someone who has, but now you can follow along with one of our own. Check out fellow SYSCO member Sandy Smith's adventures on her Morgan 41 *Faith* as she basks in the warm waters of Mexico. Look back in the blog to see how she planned and prepared and finally set out on the big adventure. And by all means, send her an email to tell her how much you enjoy reading about what we all wish we were doing!
http://travelswithfaith.blogspot.com/

Meeting Minutes for the SYSCO Board Meeting Held March 2, 2009

Board Members Present: Rich Jones, Alden Andre, Scott Ferre, Jan Burkhart, Mary Stainsby, Karen Anderson, Dave Hickman

Reports

Finance: Approximately 50% of membership dues for 2009 have been received and are still coming in. It's expected that many members will include dues checks with race entry forms as we get closer to the race season.

Membership: 2009 Membership book is tentatively planned to be sent out by the 1st race of the Spring Series in April.

Racing:

-The SYSCO Race Captain (Alden Andre) is unsure of who the Fleet and Race Captains are for B-Fleet and F-Fleet and would like for these individuals to please identify themselves.

-New race flags were ordered; however, it was discovered the company they were ordered from went out of business. Race Captain is waiting to determine if the check sent for the flags was cashed or not, and is actively seeking a new company to order the flags from.

Cruising: A SYSCO member cruise has been planned for March 21st to the Government Island East Dock.

Next Membership Meeting Program: Larry Brandt will present on cruising south Puget Sound and using radar for cruising.

Old Business

Social: Chateau SYSCO was a successful event and several attendees commented on how much they enjoyed it.

New Business

Poncho: Race Captain would like to launch Poncho a few weeks prior to the first race Poncho is needed to ensure everything is working and ready to go.

Racing Rules Seminar: Scheduled for March 9th at PYC.

SYSCO Racers Clinic: Gary Whitney and Dale Mack will be presenting the annual racers clinic chalk board session on March 26th. An on the water session will be held near Buoy 14 on March 27th at 6:00pm.

Pray for the Wind event: SYSCO Board approved $100 donation to the event.

Meeting Adjourned

Board Meetings – 1st Monday of Every Month

Next Meeting Location: Mac's Deli (In Lake Oswego on Bangy Road)

Time: 6:30 pm