

January 2019

From the Front

From the Rear

Pray for Wind
and Bring a Friend

SYSCO Grow the Sport Race

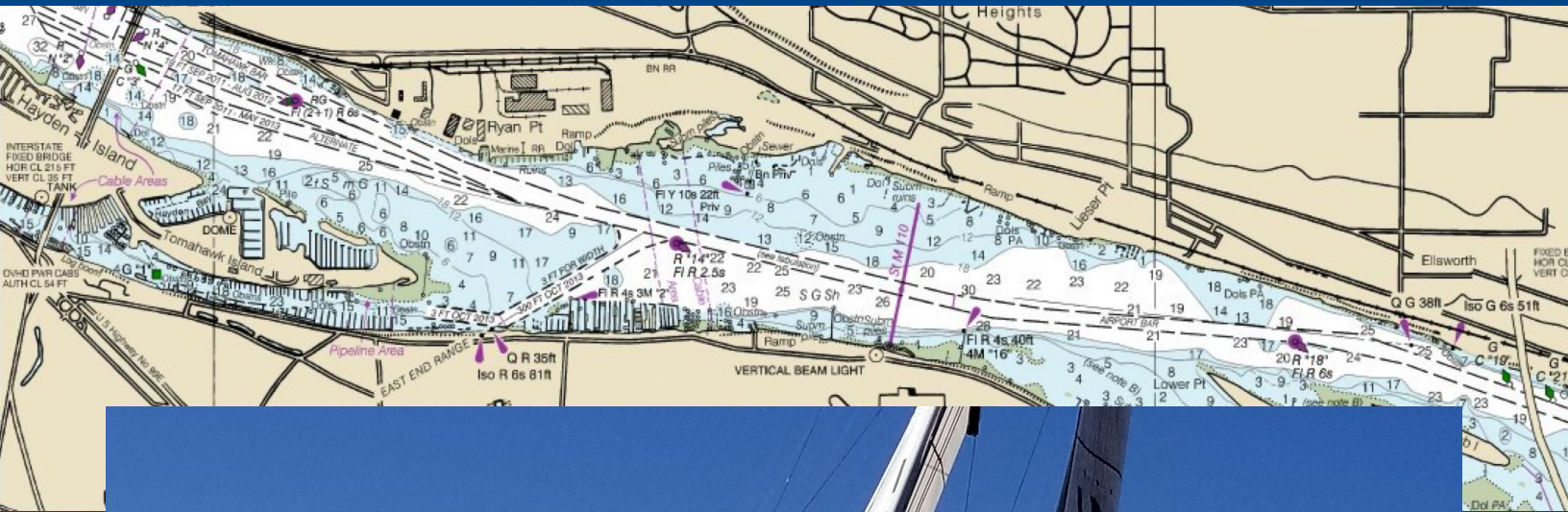
Racing Report

Jan 2019 SYSCO Board
Meeting Minutes



Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon

STARTING LINE



Wy'east crossing the finish line on a sunny Sailing on Sunday Jan 13, 2019. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dewes.

From the Front

Anna Campagna, Commodore

Happy new year, and warm greetings from your SYSCO Commodore for 2019. By some sleight of hand I managed to land in this lofty position without the trials and tribulations of being Race Captain first! I am so proud to take the helm of this amazing club. Without an edifice to occupy, we operate on a lean and mean budget—they call SYSCO a “paper club”, but I prefer to think of it as origami. What SYSCO accomplishes year after year (this our 41st) we can only do by the grace and hard work of our multitude of volunteers. The amazing teamwork done by old-timers and newbies fuels the racing, cruising, workshops and social events that we do on the water and on the banks of the mighty Columbia river. I thank you all for your volunteerism, and your deep commitment to sailing with a Corinthian spirit in Portland.

I have sensed that the 2018 Board has laid the groundwork for SYSCO to grow the sport of sailboat racing and cruising on the river. There are several changes to the format of some of our annual events, and some new races on the schedule, that show a deliberate commitment to invite new people to our community. (See Bruce Newton’s Grow the Sport Race story later in this newsletter.) Since I started sailing in Portland, it has been my personal mission to bring new people to the sport that I love. Now I feel empowered to ramp it up, because I know I have the backing of the ranks of SYSCO members who I’m sure will step up to lend their time, their creative ideas and expertise to get the word out—get those kids off their electronic devices, get those potatoes off their couches, and get more folks to come out sailing with us. If you want to join the new SYSCO Marketing Working Group, or simply have some ideas to pass along, please drop me a note.



Incoming 2019 SYSCO Commodore, Anna Campagna, at home on the bow of the J/24 Bite Me (aka The Shark Boat). Photo courtesy of Maria Swearingen.

As I write this, several weeks of gloomy rain have given way to a weekend of glorious sunshine, and I'm already looking forward to that moment when we will prep our race boat (and polish up her teeth) for the splash in spring. January and February are important months in preparation for the racing season, and SYSCO is here to assist you. SYSCO Fleet Night is February 26th at Willamette Sailing Club, and every skipper should plan to attend (see more in the Racing Report below). The Pray for Wind / Bring a Friend Party has been re-branded and re-vamped to encourage sailors to expand our ranks by inviting old racers/new racers and the curious to what will be a fun and social event at Portland Yacht Club on February 17.

US Sailing Safety at Sea has a few slots left if you are free on the weekend of February 9th.

Looking ahead to spring, the SYSCO Race Clinic will be held on April 11. All of these events are in the 2019 Racebook that is now posted at sailpdx.org.

Along with Fleet Captains, these are the folks who will play key roles in running SYSCO in 2019:

Gregg Bryden, Vice Commodore & Race Captain
Michael Morrissey, Rear Commodore
Scott Stevenson, Treasurer
Jan Burkhart, Membership
Lynn Eastes, Secretary
Jacqueline Pitter, Newsletter Editor (Position to be open 6/19)
Phil Campagna, Pancho Engineer
Randy Poff, Thursday Night Coordinator,
Denny Damore, Tuesday Night Coordinator,
Dale Mack, Webmaster (Position soon to be open)
Social Committee (Positions open)
Gary Whitney, Race Scoring Guru
Gary Bruner, Pinch Hitter
Jim Shaw, Trophy Czar
Bill Sanborn, Club Historian

Board meetings are held the first Monday of the month at Elmer's Delta Park restaurant and are open to all. The meeting starts at 7 pm and rarely exceed one hour. Several folks come at 6:30 to order food and socialize. You are always welcome to participate. Naturally, I would love to hear from you about how we could make SYSCO and racing on the Columbia even better. You can email me at commodore@syscosailing.org or text or call me at 503-789-0586.



Finish line beat after the wind lightened up on the Jan 13 Sailing on Sunday race. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.

From the Rear

Michael Morrissey, Rear Commodore

We are all looking forward to another exciting year of spring and summer racing on the Columbia. The new SYSCO team is gearing up to bring new events and enhance some of the great racing that occurs during the year. As Rear Commodore, one of my first duties is to help organize the Club's participation in the Portland Boat Show. Happy to say that all of the Boat Show time slots were filled with 2 weeks to spare and a big thanks to all the volunteers. A shout out as well to Jim Severs, Gary Bruner and Jeff Eastes who all helped set up the SYSCO booth which includes an eight-ft. high sailboat table with the SYSCO logo built by Jim a few years ago. The booth also includes a rolling slide show of Dena Kent's photos as well as information to entice new sailors into trying their hand at racing on the Columbia. There is an increased interest in growing the sport this year in SYSCO and Gary has enlisted 17 boats who will volunteer their services in giving free sailboat rides to interested newbies who sign-up at the Boat Show. There is a lot of new activity this year in SYSCO and the focus is to increase membership and bring in new sailors to the organization. Bruce Newton has agreed to run a "Grow-the-Sport" event the week of May 5th with boats doing their Tuesday – Thursday races with want-to-be racers who want to experience the sport. Bruce explains the general format later in this newsletter.

It's time to start thinking about the 2019 SYSCO sailing season and there are a few details to get out of the way.

- Renew your SYSCO membership. Don't wait for Jan Burkhart to start nagging you. Just go to sycosailing.org/membership.php. A late fee of \$10.00 will be added to your renewal membership fee if you don't renew by February 15. Members can enter all the SYSCO racing events such as the Spring, Summer and twilight series as well as special events such as the Dual Bridge Duel, St. Helen's Race/Cruise and Crew Overboard Challenge and social events. SYSCO will also be holding two new racing events in September this year. Membership is \$120.
- Renew your OCSA membership. OCSA is the coordinating organization that supports the clubs (like SYSCO) that put on the races. OCSA manages the website sailpdx.org, publishes the Racebook, runs the Protest Committee, develops the local rules, holds the awards banquet at the end of the season, and organizes training events. You can renew for \$20 at sailpdx.org and rely on the website for Racebook information; or renew for \$30 and get the hardcopy Racebook. You can also purchase the Columbia River Course Chart for \$2. Remember, you must be a member of OCSA to race on the Columbia.
- Put the following dates in your calendar:
CYC Pray for Wind/Bring a Friend Party, Feb. 17 – PYC.
SYSCO Fleet Night – Feb. 26, Willamette Sailing Club, pizza for purchase and BYOB.



Michael Morrissey's OB1 spinnaker run during the Jan 13th's Sailing on Sunday race. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.

Pray for Wind and Bring a Friend!

Dennis Damore

Portland Sailors

Let us pray...FOR WIND! ...And PARTY! Oh, and do it with a FRIEND!

Time to gear up for the upcoming sailing season and to bring new blood into the sport!! This year's PRAY FOR WIND PARTY adds the tag line AND BRING A FRIEND because we want to build Portland's sailing community. We know you know people and have friends who say, "Golly gee that sailing stuff looks fun!" or "Yeah, I went out sailing once a bunch of years ago, but who knows how to get on a boat?" Well, now's your chance to show them how much fun all us sailors can be by bringing them to the PRAY FOR WIND PARTY at Portland Yacht Club after Sailing on Sunday, February 17.

The bar will be open. The kitchen will make food. The clubs and fleets will have tables set up to answer questions about J/24s, Rangers, Merits, Cal 20s, other fleets, SYSCO, OCSA, PYC, RYC, CYC, Island Sailing Club, other YCs, and on and on. Music playing. Videos running. Fun. News. Connections. Networking. Crew lists. No time to lose. Bring your friends, relatives, co-workers, anyone and everyone who's shown any interest in sailing in Portland in the last, oh say, 5 years. They will see that we don't bite (except for a certain J/24 which will remain un-named), and that there are opportunities to get on boats and go sailing. And, help us Pray for Wind,* kick off this year's sailing season, connect with your sailing buddies, and bring new folks into the fold!

Date: Sunday, February 17, 2019

Where: Portland Yacht Club

Time: 3pm – 7pm

Who: Sailors and wannabe sailors

Food: Kitchen is open

Bar: Drinks available

*Bring prayer beads, but leave your flares at home.



Misty must know how to pray for wind, because this spin-skying gust helped them cross the finish first in the level fleet on the Jan 13 Sailing on Sunday. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.

Notifications and Upcoming Dates to Remember

SYSCO has open positions! Consider volunteering!

As a completely-volunteer run organization, our volunteers are the heart blood of our continued success. There are currently three positions needing to be filled who will be working closely with the SYSCO Board.

SYSCO Webmaster
Social Chairperson
Newsletter Editor

If you, your crew, spouse, or anyone you know would be a good match for any of these positions, we would love to hear from them!

Please have any potential volunteers contact Anna at commodore@syscosailing.org or text or call her at 503-789-0586. Thank you!

Sailing on Sundays

Sundays Oct 14 – Mar 4

Safety At Sea Sailing Foundation Seminar

Feb 9 – 10

US Sailing Workshop

Feb 16 – 17

CYC Pray for Wind (and Bring a Friend) Party

Feb 17

SYSCO Fleet Night

Feb 26

OCSA Race Management Clinic

Mar 9



The SYSCO booth attracts all sorts at the Portland Boat Show!

This year we offered 12+ free sailboat rides for any novices interested in seeing what sailing on the river is like, in our ongoing effort to Grow our Sport! Thank you to the skippers and boats who volunteered to participate in this prize offering!

SYSCO Grow the Sport Race - May 7 & 9!

Bruce Newton, Rear-Rear SYSCO Commodore and OCSA Commodore

How do we get sailors interested in racing? There are many sailors in the area who are curious about racing but have not had the opportunity to experience it. Some are even sailboat owners. How can we get these folks on boats to see what racing is like?

As you know, the week before the Oregon Offshore is traditionally a rest week for the Spring Series. Rather than having lots of boats idle and wasting a perfectly good week of sailing we are holding special races on that Tuesday and Thursday. These races will look just like the regular Spring Series races with similar classes, starts, and courses. But the one twist is that each boat entered must agree to take at least one novice racer as crew.

How will this work? As soon as event registration is set up in Regatta Network I will start pestering skippers to register. Early registration will be key to this thing working. When you register you will indicate how many novice racers you can take on your boat. Don't think of these novice racers as simply passengers – we want them to get a meaningful experience as crew. In the meantime, we will be working with several organizations to collect novice sailor nominations. These organizations are the Oregon Women's Sailing Association, the Island Sailing Club, the Willamette Sailing Club, RCYC and PYC. Also, I will be happy to take suggestions of anyone who has some sailing experience and wants to experience racing. Then a week or two prior to your race, we will connect you with your assigned novice racers' contact information so you can work out meeting at the boat for the race.

By providing this opportunity we hope to encourage sailors to join teams, start racing their boat, or even purchase a sailboat.

Please support this effort and register your boat for this event. Please contact me with any questions or suggestions at bruce97212@gmail.com.



Defiant making a move on the finish line for the Jan 13 Sailing on Sunday race. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.

Racing Report

Gregg Bryden, Race Captain

Welcome to the 2019 race season! I admit having more than a little trepidation about becoming your Race Captain given the high bar of excellent quality river racing SYSCO always provides. However, my fears were quickly assuaged by the strong support I have already received from former Race Captain Jeff Eastes, Tuesday and Thursday night Race Coordinators Dennis Damore and Randal Poff, and, as always, the stalwart support and wisdom from Rear-Rear Commodore Bruce Newton. Thanks guys for making the transition so easy. And thank you in advance to all the volunteers that it takes to put on our races.

I am very excited about SYSCO's efforts to bring fresh faces into our boating community through various Grow the Sport events this season. Gary Bruner spearheaded a successful effort to sign folks up for sailboat rides at the Boat Show and we now have a jar full of sign up cards from potential new sailors to show for his efforts (and the plentitude of skippers that offered up rides).

Also, please encourage family, friends, and race-curious skippers to participate in the new Grow the Sport races on 7 and 9 May—more about this next month.

Speaking of volunteers, SYSCO's well-oiled machine is starting up with training and events that will insure another year of fun, safe, and competitive racing. Please attend and support these opportunities to learn and grow:

- Fleet Night 26 February – New Location: Willamette Sailing Club's new clubhouse (very nice place!). Meet your fleet and elect Fleet Captains and Race Committee reps.
- OCSA Race Management Training 9 March: Willamette Sailing Club 10am – noon. Learn how easy it is to run a race.
- SYSCO Race Clinic 11 April – Food Innovation Center (1207 NW Naito Pkwy # 154, Portland). Learn the secrets to winning races on the Columbia. New racers will especially benefit from this introduction to racing on the Columbia.
- Mark Boat (Pancho) Training 13 April—at McCuddy's on Marine Drive at 33rd. Come for hands-on training to operate our intrepid Boston Whaler mark boat.

You can find more about these events on the SailPDX website or in The Race Book.

All this is a prelude to what will be another exciting season of racing, starting with Crew Overboard Challenge on 20 April, then Spring Series racing begins 23 April!

Thank you SYSCO Members for your faith and support. With your help, I'm sure this will be another season of excellent race events. I welcome your comments and feedback-- feel free to contact me at race_captain@syscosailing.org.



Cando on a spin run during on the Jan 13 Sailing on Sunday. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.

January 2019 SYSCO Board Meeting Minutes (January 7, 2019)

Lynn Eastes, Secretary

Attendees: Anna Campagna, Lynn Eastes, Jeff Eastes, Jacqueline Pitter, Michael Morrissey, Warren Dalby, Cheryl Watson, Dennis Damore, Scott Stevenson, Bruce Newton, Gary Bruner, Gregg Bryden, Bill Sanborn

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Commodore, Anna Campagna at 7:00 pm

Membership

For 2019, SYSCO currently has 16 regular members and 3 associate members paid for 2019 so far.

Financial

Scott Stevenson presented the 2019 proposed budget. Projected income is up \$295.00. The reserve fund contains, as of January 3rd, \$5127.60 and checking has \$1052.14. Money is coming in daily from registrations.

Action: Anna Campagna proposed an expenditure of between \$300-500 for marketing SYSCO & sailing in general in Portland. The Committee approved this as a new line item in the budget. A Marketing Subcommittee will be convened and will propose an exact amount to be spent on this project.

Action: The budget was approved, as presented by Scott Stevenson with the addition of the Marketing line item

SYSCO Website

Discussion about website hosting with Michael Nance, which costs \$200 per year. The website is fairly static and is not amenable to easy updating by someone not well versed in HTML. Our Webmaster, Dale Mack, is moving north and will be resigning. The group had much discussion about a new platform, however, many popular platforms have new security vulnerabilities found all the time and require frequent patching to stay secure. More thought and research needs to go in to this move.

Action: A Web working group will be convened to include Nat, Anna, Jacqueline, and Denny. Need to identify replacement for Dale Mack.

Racing Report

Gregg Bryden is just getting oriented to the process on January 8th, so there is not a report yet. At the present

time, Denny Damore and Randy Poff are still the Tuesday night and Thursday night Race Coordinators respectively. Fleet Night is on Feb. 26 at Willamette Sailing Club. Pizza will be ordered. Beer is possibly BYOB. (Anna will call the Manager and inquire about their OLCC obligations). SYSCO wants to help promote the OCSA Race Management Seminar on March 9.

SYSCO will also promote the SYSCO Race Clinic (mostly for new racers) on April 11.

The "Grow the Sport" race will be a new race to try to recruit new people into racing. Participants will be recruited from OWSA, Island Sailing Club, Willamette Sailing, PYC and RCYC. Flyers will be posted around at various yacht clubs, West Marine, etc. The Marketing budget will be used for this.

Newsletter

Jacqueline is Vice Commodore of OCSA this year and will be Commodore next year and, therefore, will be transitioning out of the role as newsletter editor by no later than this summer. She spends 4 to 8 hours per month working on the newsletter. She will be able to help the new editor transition over several months.

Action: Need to identify a replacement for Jacqueline.

Social Events

SYSCO needs a new Social Chairperson. Naomi needs to retire from this position. We will send targeted emails to people who mentioned Social Chair in their registration. Jeff suggested assigning the Social activities to each fleet on a rotational basis. Anna is worried that fleet captains are not always reliable, and is concerned that the ball may easily be dropped. Plus, creating more responsibilities for fleet captains can make that job less desirable, and we don't want to discourage Fleet captains from volunteering these important leadership positions.

Action: Bring this Social Chair/rotational Fleet Captain system up for discussion at the Fleet Night in February. The assigned social events would be: Fleet Night (pizza), Dual Bridge Duel, 2 Summer Series barbeques, St. Helens Race & Cruise, Awards Dinner.

Pray for Wind/Invite a Friend Party on Feb 17th at PYC

Denny is coordinating this event. We need to send out a blast email to the SYSCO mailing list. Anna will design a flyer with copy from Denny. The Marketing budget will be used for printing flyers.

As an aside, on Feb 15th, there is a Chairs Baum Project

Steely Dan Revue at PYC that is open to the public. Spread the word, buy tickets, and bring your dancing shoes to show our support for this new effort by PYC to have more events open to the public and bring new people into their club.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.



Apex making their way to the finish line on Sailing on Sunday on Jan 13. Photo courtesy of Kelly Dews.