



Sysco News

FEBRUARY 2002

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

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Columbia River videos feature of February meeting

Grant McOmie of TV channel 2 will bring some of the video stories he has done about the Columbia River, including footage of SYSCO races and the annual SYSCO Delta Cruise at the next general membership meeting. He is the author of "Grants Getaways," which was published last Fall about facilities in Oregon for overnight stays, activities and who to contact.

Grant will speak to SYSCO's members February 18, 7:30 p.m. at Mars Meadow

restaurant at Hayden Meadows. Meetings are always on the third Monday of each month. Come early for dinner and socializing.

This should be an entertaining program and an opportunity to view old races and get psyched for the July Delta Cruise.

P.S. The SYSCO Board meets the first Monday of each month. Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Barley Mill Pub, 1629 S.E. Hawthorne. All members are welcome.

Race Captain

LARRY JOHNSON

All fleets now have captains. I want to thank each of them for helping me this year. Their efforts will affect the success of the racing season as much as anyone will.

The fleet captains for 2002 are:

John Apelt -----Fleet A
Mike Finch -----Fleet B
Rod Dawson-----Fleet B1
Bill Barton-----Fleet C
Phil Campagna -----Fleet D
Stan Heil -----Fleet E
Bob Rouse -----Fleet F
Joe Kaliszewski-----Fleet G
Dennis George -----Fleet H1
Mike McGrath -----Fleet H2

For all you racers, when the fleet captains contact you, help them out. Without race committees, racing does not happen!

Fleet assignments for this year will be published in next month's newsletter.

SYSCO will put on two seminars — *for fleet captains only* — to review the entire race committee function. For the rest of the club, our Annual SYSCO Race Clinic in April will cover the new starting procedures.

Times and locations for the fleet captain seminars are:

Thurs., February 21st, 6:30 p.m.
Papa's Pizza Parlor
16321 SE Stark, Gresham, OR

Sat., February 23rd, 8:30 a.m.
Elmer's Pancake House
3455 SW Cedar Hills Blvd., Beaverton, OR

Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

As I reflect back to when we were racing our Catalina 22 and did some traveling to other venues, it sometimes would take a couple starts to figure out what was going on. Every location had a different format that they followed for announcing the course, what fleet started next, how the flags were displayed, and all the local rules. We would pull into town, splash the boat, make the skippers meeting, "look" at the handout and go racing. As you make final adjustments while sailing the boat is not the time to try to figure out "What are they trying to tell us? What does that mean? How much time is left?"

I can tell you from experience that it is very frustrating when you want to sail well in a 5-race regatta and after the second race you are way down the list because you haven't figured out the course marks or the Committee's signals and are late at the line. Or worse, your are in the wrong start and are protested for being a nonstarter in the starting area.

As we implement the new starting system, most racers are going to have a lot of questions until we get used to the new look. Lots of folks have put a good number of hours into getting this ready and will be doing training for Committees, skippers and crew to show everyone how it works. You need to attend one of the training sessions so when your Committee assignment arrives you will be ready, or just so you know what's going on. The new fleet assignments will cause confusion for some so ask those questions now. Just prior to the start is not the time to try to figure out what is

going on. That is when you need to be getting the boat and crew ready and making final adjustments for the sailing conditions.

And while we are talking about what happens just prior to the Start, don't plan on showing up with a last minute race registration and expect the committee to take it and to score you for that race

(unless your know that it is a Beer Can Race). I don't know all of the limits, but the Race Captain must have your signed form and fee and have added your name to the committee's score sheet before the committee can score you. That deadline is printed in the Race Notice. Put it in the mail early. (Period, end of discussion).

Commodore's Comments

ALAN SCHAMP

Thanks to everyone that helped out with the SYSCO booth at the Portland Boat Show. Gary Whitney did a great job in laying out the booth and organizing the volunteers. The booth was quite fetching and well organized. I think that this event is important to the club in the long run since it provides some visibility to people that are new to the Portland sailing scene. It was also fun to man the booth and mingle with those who passed by.

Larry Johnson is really moving ahead on organizing the fleets for this year's racing season. He's recruited all of the Fleet Captains and organized race committee clinics to be held this month to introduce the new starting system and cover the bases on how he wants

the committees to operate. Gary Whitney and Sue Burns have helped in putting together the program to be covered at the clinic. This clinic will be a big help to our Fleet Captains in implementing the new system and it will help bring consistency in the way SYSCO Race Committees perform throughout the season.

The off-season is rolling by really fast. I've started a list of boat preparations for the coming season and, as usual, it looks pretty daunting. At least the preparations for the Offshore won't be as bad as it was two years ago when we did it for the first time. Anyway, the work will be worth it once the sailing season gets under way.



Board Mtg. Minutes

FEBRUARY 4, 2002

Commodore Alan Schamp called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

COMMODORE:

Alan S. confirmed that preparations for the (closed) Fleet Captain clinic are securely underway. This is a clinic open only to the 2002 Fleet Captains. Gary is assembling a special clinic packet for the fleet captains. Alan also talked about the possibility of offering online registration for SYSCO races. After some discussion, we decided that a printable PDF form from an online site would be acceptable, but that SYSCO is not prepared to process online registrations at this time.

VICE COMMODORE/RACE CAPTAIN:

Larry Johnson confirmed the 2002 Fleet Captains. Bill Huseby will moderate an informal discussion series that is open to anyone. The group will meet on four consecutive Wednesdays at 6 p.m., beginning February 13, in Bill's office in Vancouver. See www.sig-madzn.com for more information. Larry downloaded some race committee software from the US Sailing site. He will customize the format and hopes to put it to use in

place of the race sheets used by race committees. The Board again talked about the "no on-the-water registration" rule this year. This rule appears in the OCSA Race Booklet, and will be enforced by our Race Captain and by the SYSCO race committees.

A reminder to skippers: this rule will be strictly enforced.

REAR COMMODORE:

Gary Whitney opened discussion about using a small cannon and whistle, in addition to the "traditional" air horn and flags, that some committees use during start sequences. Most of the Board felt that this would be unreasonably burdensome on the race committee. It would require yet another committee person to manage those starting sounds and, of course, the wind, rigging and sail noise, not to mention yelling, would drown out the sound of a small starting cannon and/or whistle. We will continue with the current flag and horn signals.

TREASURER:

Alan Boguslawski reported a \$5,770 bank balance. We talked a little bit about the \$300+ increase in Poncho's annual insurance premium for 2002. We will revisit this at a later meeting.

SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP:

The minutes of the last

meeting were approved. Second (final) membership notices were mailed to members on January 30. Membership renewal forms and checks not received at the P.O. Box by March 1 are at risk for termination of membership, and the member would have to reapply for membership. I presented two new members for approval: Rich Freeman, of Vancouver, owns Raven's Dream, a Catalina 36; and, Eric Rimkus, of Portland, owns Slightly Naughty, a Santana 22. Upon motion and second, both applications were approved. I have obtained a small supply of Past Commodore burgees and will contact former Commodores to find out if anyone is in need of a replacement.

CRUISING:

There is no planned cruise for February. Vicki confirmed that this year's Ladies' Cruise will be held May 18 and 19. She also announced that there is a Ladies' Cruise prep meeting on February 16 at 9:00 a.m. at the Elmer's at Delta Park.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alan Schamp, Larry Johnson, Gary Whitney, Alan Boguslawski, Bill Sanborn, Vicki Sanborn and Traffic.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m., without objection.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
REBT, SECRETARY*

Upcoming events

Feb. 18	SYSCO General Membership Meeting
Feb. 21 & 23	Race Management Clinic for Race Captains
March 18	SYSCO General Membership Meeting
April 4 & 5	SYSCO Annual Race Clinic
April 16	SYSCO Spring Series begins
April 27 & 28	SYSCO Spring Regatta
May 9 - 12	CYC Oregon Offshore
May 18-19	2002 Ladies Cruise
July 27	Delta Cruise

Ladies Cruise: 2002

The SYSCO ladies are planning for this *always-fun* event May 18 & 19. Arrangements have been made to use the new McCuddy's Landing docks next to Brown's Landing in the Multnomah Channel. Questions, additional information, or volunteers call Vicki Sanborn or Pat Brown. Mark your calendar.

DELTA CRUISE – WEEK OF JULY 27.



SYSCO
P.O. Box 5502
Portland, OR 97228

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

**February's
Membership Meeting**
*Grant McOmie of
TV's Channel 2*

The Afterguard

BOB WALDRON, REAR COMMODORE

Yikes! Another month is passed, which means another month closer to sailing season. Although from the comfort of a thirty-nine foot Bayliner the River in winter is still a great place to be, that was last month and traditionally anything the "Boys" do is left unpublished. That trip was followed on the heels by a trip to the Seattle Boat Show. We stayed in a great B&B owned by Pat Brown's brother and sister-in-law and the trip was another great adventure. Sanborn said adventures all start when you slip the dock. They also frequently start when you turn the key in your car.

We had a good turnout for Commodore Alan Schamp's first meeting last month and an interesting program. Grant McOmie will give us another great program this month. He said he would bring video of the various stories he has done about the Columbia River. In March Vice-Commodore Larry Johnson will make an abbreviated presentation on the new start sequence. By then two training sessions will have been conducted with the Fleet Captains, so most questions should be resolved. April will be another race-oriented program and we will see what happens in May and June. Man, I love to think about those months with longer and warmer days.

A couple of sidebars: Did anyone catch the History Channels program Modern Marvels featuring

boats? It was the week before Super Bowl. Frank Butler from Catalina Yachts was featured as well as Ocean Planet. Most of the story was on those Italian Mega Yacht builders, though, which made me wonder why the History Channel helps perpetuate the notion that boating is for the rich. I don't know any rich sailors. Do you? Today seemed to be a favored day for sailing (at least before the rain settled in.) I had visited Courtship to measure the boom for EzJacks, with the help of Bill, and quite a few boats were out working with the light SE wind. My crew was ensconced in her office catching up on paper work, so I guess that is the lame excuse I can give for not being out there with them.

SEE YOU ON THE RIVER!