



# Sysco News

APRIL 2002

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

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*Racing and mark roundings. SYSCO Spring Series begins April 16 and 18.*

## It's time to race! *Have you thought about crew preparation?*

Our own Frank Colistro will speak at SYSCO's April general membership meeting about crew selection, training, and preparation. Of course, the yarn factor may intrude, so who knows where the discussion will really go. As with all things, no matter what turns up it will be a huge learning opportunity.

Be there April 15, 7:30 p.m. at Mars Meadow restaurant at Hayden Meadows. Meetings are on the third Monday of each month. Come early for dinner and socializing beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**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.

## SYSCO Race Clinic and What I Learned!

The SYSCO Race Clinic was a great success and I learned something, too! Over 40 people attended Thursday night, many I did not recognize. It is always great to see new people interested in sailing and racing.

Alan Schamp, Bill Barton, Bill Sanborn and Gary Whitney discussed those things you need to keep in mind when racing on the river: The rules, new starting procedures, tactics and local conditions. On Friday, we practiced starts on the river using the new procedure.

Gary Whitney, Mike Finch and myself manned Poncho Friday night's. We agreed to leave the dock at 5:15 p.m. for the 6 p.m. start. I thought that would be a piece of cake. Wrong! Traffic played its part. Poncho had no air horns. So off to Boaters World. When I got back to Poncho, Mike was waiting. About 5:15, Gary called. He was stuck on Marine Drive. We sent Gary to Rose City Yacht Club. Mike and I motored to RCYC and found Gary, but where were the flags? We left them at Mars Meadows Thursday night. It's now 5:35 p.m. Gary flew to Mars Meadows to recover our

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**SYSCO RACE CLINIC,**

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

flags. Shortly after 6 p.m., Gary arrived with flags in hand and off to the race course we went. There were four boats patiently waiting for the race committee to get our act together. One person on a Kalik 30 queried us about some kind of sailing event that night! It was about 6:15 p.m. before we got our first sequence started.

After the initial comedy of errors, we did 5 starts using the new starting procedures. The winds were light for the first start but filled in by the time we were done. And the rain held off.

So what did I learn? You can never be over prepared and you can never have too much time. Build in

some extra time for those unexpected surprises.

Thanks to Alan, Bill, Bill, Gary and Mike for their help in making the SYSCO Race Clinic a success.

Do you still need an OCSA Race Book? SYSCO has a few books left that will be available at the April general meeting.

**Race Committee Assignments for SYSCO Spring Series:**

Tue, April 16	Phil Campagna	Fleet D
Thur, April 18	John Apelt	Fleet A
Tue, April 23	Bob Rouse	Fleet F
Thur, April 25	Mike Finch	Fleet B
Tue, April 30	Joe Kaliszewski	Fleet G
Thur, May 2	Rod Dawson	Fleet B1
Tue, May 14	Dennis George	Fleet H1
Thur, May 16	Bill Barton	Fleet C
Tue, May 21	Mike McGrath	Fleet H2
Thurs, May 23	Stan Heil	Fleet E

**Upcoming events**

**April 12** — PYC Sailors Dinner

**April 13 & 14** — CYC/RCYC  
Opening Day Regatta

**April 16 & 18** — SYSCO  
Spring Series begins

**April 27 & 28** — SYSCO  
Spring Regatta

**May 9-12** — CYC Oregon  
Offshore

**May 18-19** — 2002 Ladies  
Cruise

**June 3-6** — Sail Education Week

**July 27** — Delta Cruise

**Thoughts from the Rear**

*BILL SANBORN*

PANCHO III is back in the water and ready to support our racing. It is moored at the East End of Tomahawk Bay. Our thanks to Columbia Crossings for allowing us to use that spot. Thomas MacMenemy led the effort to clean up and service the boat this year and saw that it was launched. I am not sure who else was enlisted, but I had heard Bill Thomas helped. Tom, the Club thanks you for your leadership.

Anyone needing keys for access to the boat or instructions on its operation can contact the Race Captain or myself. Also, report as soon as you can to the Race Captain or myself any operational problems with the boat or Race equipment failures that you are unable to resolve so we can get it straightened out before the next

event. Our plan is to keep the boat ready with enough fuel to do a typical evening event. We also store the racing flags, course board and other race committee information on board PANCHO III. We will be working on the Course Board to make it easier to read. By the second race we will have the fleet start order established for the course board.

**SYSCO has some rule regarding the boat:**

- #1 The operator must be a member of SYSCO in good standing for insurance reasons.
- #2 PFD's will be worn when setting or picking up marks. Suggest you bring your own because the boat is equipped with the May West style.
- #3 Leave the boat in the condition that you find it. Take off your garbage and empty cans and

bottles, put the tarp back on the consol and hook up with bungee, run the fuel out of the engine and tilt engine up, then turn off all the power, both master and engine switches.

- #4 While the water is low be cautious turning the boat at the dock area to keep the prop out of the sand.

I sailed the Starting Practice Evening and think I like the new system. You need to know and watch what class flag is up and when it is your turn you need to be ready to go. But the biggest help to me was the sound at the 4 minute mark, confirming to me that 1 minute was left without needing to keep a constant watch for maybe 30 seconds on the committee for a flag change. I was able to watch other things around me and look at other boats, and then with the sound have a confirmation that my count down was accurate.

## Board Mtg. Minutes

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2002**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **PRESENT:**

Alan Schamp, Larry Johnson, Alan Boguslawski, Robyn Thomas, Gary Whitney, Bob Rouse, Mike O'Bryant, Bill Sanborn, Vicki Sanborn and Sgt. Pepper.

We wish more Fleet Captains would attend the Board Meetings to have the benefit of their ideas and comments.

### **COMMODORE:**

Alan Schamp led tonight's discussions, as follows:

### **VICE COMMODORE/RACE CAPTAIN:**

Larry talked about preparations for the race clinic later this week, including the number of practice starts on Friday, the number and placement of marks, information to be presented at the chalkboard session Thursday night, and equipment readiness. Larry also led a discussion about preparing for the Spring Regatta — organizing the

starts, anticipating the number of entries, etc. Friday night before the Spring Regatta, Larry will organize the fleets and prepare the paperwork for the Race Committee. We also talked about the readiness of the course board. Bill Sanborn said he has arranged for a set of printed numbers and that the board will be ready for Spring Series.

### **TREASURER:**

Alan Boguslawski reported the bank balance to be \$5,043. He led a lengthy discussion about the proposed budget for the 2002 season. He handed out a draft budget and led us through a line-by-line review of each entry. Upon motion and second, a revised budget was approved by the Board.

### **SECRETARY:**

I presented two membership applications: Don and Carolyn Bateson ("Crocus," Catalina 22); and Michelle Matraw, an enthusiastic applicant for Associate Membership. Both applications were approved. I asked the Board how to account for two-boat memberships. We talked about the possible problems tracking the

boats during the race season and decided to take no action at this time.

### **CLUB EQUIPMENT/ PONCHO III:**

Bill Sanborn reported that Thomas MacMenemy volunteered to work on Poncho. REBT reported that Poncho was launched tonight by Thomas, with help from Bill Thomas, and moored at Tomahawk Bay.

### **CRUISING CHAIR:**

Vicki reported that those who did not attend the cruise to Government Island the weekend of March 23, missed terrific Spring cruising and excellent weather! There is no planned Club cruise for April due to the beginning of the race season, but this is an excellent time to take an evening or two away from the dock and enjoy the warming April weather.

Upon motion and second, tonight's meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED  
REBT, SECRETARY*

## Commodore's Comments

*ALAN SCHAMP*

We had a full house for the chalkboard session at SYSCO's Race Clinic. It's great to see so many people show an interest in learning more about the sport. Thanks to everyone who participated in putting on a fine clinic including: Bill Barton, Mike Finch, Larry Johnson, Bill Sanborn and Gary Whitney.

The 2002 SYSCO racing season kicks off with the Spring Series on April 16th/18th. Larry Johnson is doing a great job of organizing

and preparing for the events.

Well, I'm not the handiest guy for doing boat maintenance. The clock is ticking and it's less than five weeks until the Offshore. All of those little things have to be fixed by then. It's a lot of work but I suppose I'd never get around to fixing most of this stuff if it weren't for the offshore races. It'll be great once May 9th rolls around... beating up the coast against the current, or floating backwards waiting for wind.

One last note... remember, with the new starting system there's only five minutes from the first gun to the first start. If you're in the second start, set your alarm for 10 minutes (not 15 minutes, as with last year's system). If you're interested in learning more about the new system, check out the following page on the US Sailing website: [tp://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/rule%5F26%5Fstarting/index.htm](http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/rule%5F26%5Fstarting/index.htm)

*See you at the Spring Series.*



SYSCO  
P.O. Box 5502  
Portland, OR 97228

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Membership Meeting

*Tax Day - Mon., April 15*

*Dinner — 6:30 p.m.*

*Meeting — 7:30 p.m.*

## The Afterguard

*BOB WALDRON, REAR COMMODORE*

Sitting at my keyboard I keep banging into stuff moved from my recently closed agency into the house and this is only one room! Hopefully, we'll get this under control soon as it appears number two daughter will be moving home in preparation for her next stage of life. These transitions can sometimes appear to be overwhelming, when in fact it is only our perception and not the reality. As Ed Harris said while playing Chris Craft in the movie *Apollo 13*, "let's work the problem, people!"

This is the advice I would have to give racing skippers when preparing their crews for the upcoming racing season, as well as the race committee PRO's and fleet captains. While attending the first

couple of hours of OCSA's race management clinic, it became clear there are a lot of concerns about the new start sequence as they relate to other issues, like general recalls, over early and restarts. These concerns seem rooted in what I would call a basic refusal to see what really amounts to a greatly simplified system.

SYSCO has decided to use numbers (flags) to designate each start. We traditionally have had four starts for Evening Series as well as the weekend regattas. The course board designates which fleet(s) are in each start. There is no change here. Each start will be designated by the "P" flag and a number flag and that is the only real change. Other rules still apply.

For committees you will need a couple of extra bodies. The equipment is in place for you and one

excellent suggestion was made to attach "class" flags to each end of the pole. However this may imply that the committee will always maintain rolling starts. **THEY DO NOT HAVE TO DO THAT.**

There could be a lot of reasons not to. Tugs with barges, for instance.

As with all events, refer to the race instructions, prepare your committees and crew, make instructions clear and insure all are understood. PRO's – don't feel you are under pressure to maintain rolling starts. If a delay is needed, do it. **THERE WILL BE MISTAKES** while we all learn, so for all — be patient.

As with everything in life there is always something to be learned. See you there.

**SEE YOU ON THE RIVER!**