



Sysco News

APRIL 2003

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

Commodore:

Larry Johnson
(503) 661-7199

Vice Commodore:

Phil Campagna
(503) 735-0902

Treasurer:

Alan Boguslawski
(360) 737-2689

Secretary:

Bill Moshofsky
(503) 293-0833

Rear Commodore:

Alan Schamp
(503) 292-0511

Membership:

Robyn Thomas
(503) 655-4915

Program:

Bob Waldron
(503) 359-5514

Newsletter:

Mike and Sandy
O'Bryant
(503) 281-9102

Protests:

Bill Barton
(503) 227-3451

Trophies:

Jim Shaw
(503) 636-3816

Cruising:

Bob & Pat Brown
(503) 543-5475

PIYA Rep:

Open

PHRF Rater:

Bill Brennan
(503) 286-9374

PHRF Rep:

Marv Dunn
(503) 235-1457

Commodore's Comments

LARRY JOHNSON

Racing season has begun! RCYC's Frostbite and SYSCO/PYC's Opening Day Regatta are over and, by the time you read this, SYSCO's Spring Series will have begun.

This month SYSCO hosted its annual Race Clinic. As in years past, it was very well attended. Thanks go to Alan Schamp, Gary Whitney, Bill Sanborn and Bill Brennan for their efforts to make the Chalk Talk evening of the Race Clinic a success. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate Friday night. While the winds never showed up, the rain certainly did.

There were a number of people looking for rides for the Friday on the water session. All those looking for rides were assigned to boats. This was an opportunity to get folks that might be hesitant about racing, to come out and get a feel for what it is all about. Sail Education week was another means to introduce racing to new folks in a non-racing, low-key environment. Racers have another opportunity throughout the year to do this. Other than bribing the race committee, beer can racing every Friday during the summer is just like real racing, but without the pressure.

A new sailor could do several beer can races on a host boat. That may be enough to get that sailor comfortable enough to try a real race on their boat or it might give that person the opportunity to get a ride on someone else's boat. If you know someone that has been thinking about racing, invite them out for a beer can race. SAILPDX.com has a list of sailors looking for rides. I'm sure there are plenty of sailors that are

looking for the opportunity to go racing. Beer can races just might be the way to do it!

Dave and Marili Reilly from RCYC will be speaking at April's general meeting. They had the opportunity to sail from the Galapagos Islands to the Margueas with another RCYC member. Marili spoke of their adventure at a recent OWSA meeting. Come listen to Dave and Marili talk about their trip. Don't forget, April's meeting starts at 6 p.m instead of 6:30 p.m.

The planning for SYSCO's 25th Anniversary Regatta continues. Thanks to Brad Howton from Columbia Crossings, the party will be held in the open area at Columbia Crossings. Brad also said he would provide slips for out of town boats and for staging the event. Lets make this the largest on the water event of the year. If you own a boat, sign up for the event. If you are crew, get your skipper to sign up.

SEE YOU ON THE WATER.

General Membership Mtg.

Make sure to attend SYSCO's General Membership meeting Monday, April 21, 7:00 p.m. at Mars Meadow restaurant (Hayden Meadows). Come at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and socializing.

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.

Thoughts From the Rear

BILL SANBORN

One of the sailing events that always gets the adrenaline going for me each spring for the last 20 years is the SYSCO Race Clinic. We walk into the always full room for the meeting and think we are in the wrong place from all the new faces. We always find a lot of eager folks wanting to find out about racing sailboats, and try to give them an overview, in a very short time, of just how it is done and what some of us have learned about the sport and the local conditions. There is always a feeling of excitement from the attendee, and I can say that some of those new faces of years ago have become familiar sailors. While a lot of the faces have disappeared for whatever reason, there

seems to be a continual pool of new faces finding us each year. Larry and I have talked about how we can involve you into this training process to take it to the next level, and are thinking that, during a Friday Night Beer Can, having a pick up crew night.

Well, the check, application, and copies of Certificates from a US Power Squadron Class that we completed in 1977 are in the mail for our Boater Education Cards. I read an article in the Oregonian about the Boater Education Card, and was surprised to learn that if the person operating the vessel is required by age to have a Card (30 and under for 2003), but does not have one, the person supervising them (31 years plus for 2003) must have a Card even though they are not yet due to have one. And the fine is \$77. While on the subject, is the sticker on your boat current?

Given budget problems, the Marine Patrols will be looking harder for violations to issue tickets to help pay their department expenses.

25th Anniversary plans are coming along in next month's SYSCO Newsletter. It will have an order form for T-shirts. Other folks are working on Burgees and planning the Saturday Party. We have already chosen a Course for the Friday Night Beer Can to kick off the weekend with the "1978" sailing theme. We are also planning courses for the Regatta that will be good for performance boats and courses that will be fun for cruising classes. We hope that everyone has marked August 8, 9, and 10 on their planners.

July 26th is the beginning of both SixPac and Delta Cruise; plan that week to be going downriver, because that is where all your sailing friends will be.

The Afterguard

BOB WALDRON

So many projects and so little time. During dinner with Captain Tweak and his first mate the other evening he commented that he wished it was July 26th already, obviously looking forward, with relish, to the annual trip down the river this summer, frequently referred to as the Delta Cruise. My captain cautioned him to not wish his life away, and I shuddered at the thought of the state of neglect gracing Courtship and definitely not wanting July 26th to be here yet.

Our colleagues racing this spring are probably saying you started too late, you must take boat preparation and maintenance more seriously. Well, duh! And none of us suffers from a lack of apprecia-

tion for the costs, the time, and the labor (of love) for the sport/activity. With the hope that a trailer has been located for loading Courtship for the brief trip inland to the Grove, the Captain and I plan on having a pretty spiffy little rig by the time Delta Cruise rolls along, if not sooner. The planning makes me want to set the goal of living nearer the River and work even more. That too takes more than a little bit of commitment to reach that goal. That is the point. Goal setting for anything – retirement, boat maintenance, race results – all require setting our sights on what it is we wish to achieve and developing a plan towards that end. NOW WE ALL KNOW THAT, right?

What usually happens is we set unachievable goals and, when they are not reached, give up on achieving anything related to them. When

we watch others reach success on the race course, or anywhere else, we often fail to appreciate that goals were set and a plan put in place and, voilà, they achieve something. The perplexing thing is that the person we have watched may not have consciously set down goals and made a plan and, if questioned, would admit that. The goal was never-the-less there.

What are you planning on this summer? Moving up in the fleet, finding more boats to race against (expanding your fleet), cruising more with your family, introducing someone to the game, or perhaps buying your own boat? SYSCO members are pretty talkative when cornered. Ask them what they are doing to achieve their on the water goals. Perhaps you will gain the seed to plant you own.

SEE YOU ON THE RIVER!