



SYSSCO News

DECEMBER 2003

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

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West Marine Night

Once again West Marine at Delta Park will host an after-hours shopping night for SYSCO Members only. The date this year is Thursday, December 18th from 1800 to 2000 hrs (that's 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for anyone mystified by military time). Bring your favorite sailor's Christmas list and take advantage of 5% off electronics and 10% off other items.

Fruit of the Grape and other refreshments, along with trays of items containing cellulose, grains, and dairy products, will be available for consumption. Do not miss out on this once a year shopping opportunity or come just to kibitz!

West Marine Night replaces SYSCO's December General Membership meeting.

The next General meeting will be January 19, 2004, 7 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.**

Portland Boat Show

For free tickets to the Portland Boat Show, call me. You do a shift in the SYSCO booth and I'll reserve free tickets for you.

The 44th Annual Portland Boat Show will be January 3-11, 2004. SYSCO will have its booth again this year and we need your help in the booth to talk sailing in the dead of winter. We'll have materials there to show prospective SYSCO members. All you need to do is show up on time, answer questions about the club and, of course, talk about your passion for sailing. There still are time slots available. Please email (rauzer@comcast.net) or call me — (503) 292-0511 — if you can help the club. . You can pick up your free tickets at West Marine Night or at Will Call at the show.

For you trivia buffs, did you know that the Portland Boat Show is the largest off-the-water show west of the Mississippi? I didn't. That explains why it is hard to cover all that ground in one afternoon.

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW,
ALAN SCHAMP

Your Commodore's Final Report

LARRY JOHNSON

This is my final report as SYSCO's 2003 Commodore. First, I would like to wish all the SYSCO members a Safe and Happy Holiday. May it be all that you wish for. Alan Boguslawski will assume the role of Commodore at the January board meeting.

I was pretty excited to be the Commodore for 2003. After all, it was the year we celebrated SYSCO's 25th Anniversary. We began the year with the general meeting presentation by Frank Bocarde, when he spoke about 'the how and why' of SYSCO's beginning. He and a group of small boat sailors wanted a club that catered to their need. I remember his story about how the other clubs would send boats all the way upstream to Buoy 18 in their races. By the time the small boats completed the course, the race committee had gone home.

Racing for 2003 finally got underway in April. To me, it always seems to take forever to get from January to the first race of the season. In those first two evening series of races, there were nights when the winds were strong and nights when you couldn't buy a breath of air.

Then there was the preparation for the 25th Anniversary Regatta. We wanted to expand SYSCO's One Design Regatta to be SYSCO's 25th Anniversary Regatta to include cruiser participants as well as racers. Sue and I were in the Gulf Islands on our boat that weekend and could not race in the Anniversary Regatta, but about 25 other boats did participate. Bill Sanborn created the winning design for the 25th Anniversary T-shirt.

As I said, we sailed our boat to the Canadian Gulf Islands this past summer, our first time taking our boat up north. The trips up and back were uneventful, although we lost our alternator a couple hours out from the bar and used only running lights and binnacle lights on the trip. While in the islands, we watched a sailboat get its mast torn off by a powerboat that drifted into it because of strong winds. The time up in the Islands had little in the way of wind, but it was still way cool! But of course, the trip out to Neah Bay definitely had the winds — 25 – 30 kts, all on the nose. All the new toys we installed for the trip sure earned their keep.

Finally, other than board and general meetings, emceeing SYSCO's Annual Awards Banquet was my last official function as Commodore.

Thanks to all the members that helped make 2003 a successful year.

See you next year.

New web site, great pics

The Portland J-24 Fleet #27 is one of the most competitive one-design fleets in Portland, with some of the hottest racing on the Columbia River. The fleet included 13 boats racing in the Thursday night series in 2003 and expects 15 boats this year. Find out more at www.fleet27.com.

Thoughts From The Rear

BILL SANBORN

I am sitting down to write this, believing for a moment that it is Tuesday evening (Race Night), it's 1850 hrs (4th start flag is just down). But there's a small problem: it's been dark for 2 hours, cold enough to snow and it is raining. Only good thing is there is a nice wind. We did sail a couple of weekends ago and the wind was gusting up to 20+ out of the South and we reached up to the East end of Government Island and back with a jib and reefed main and most of the time showed over 6 knots except when the wheel would come out of the water, and much of the trip was water over the rail. In those conditions you forget about the cold and wet, and hand over an "E ticket" to enjoy the ride. By my calculations, in about 130 evenings we'll be hitting the line as our Class flag goes down.

I hope that this report is not premature. When we bought UPSTART in 1994 we scrapped all the layers of miscellaneous bottom paint off, prepped and put on two coats of VC17. Three more times we prepped and applied more coats of VC17, and during the off-years hired a diver to clean the bottom each spring. The VC17 did what we asked, and probably had we applied it each year, would have had better antifouling protection. This last spring we applied Pettit SR-21, which is advertised for use in freshwater. SR-21 goes on similar to VC17, and has many of the characteristics and about the same price as VC17. To date I think the bottom has stayed cleaner and hope that the coverage will require only a Spring cleaning for another season of good performance. I would be interested if anyone else has experience with this bottom paint, and report your review.

After a great summer of sailing and fun on the water, and as we hole-up for the winter, we can rejoice in time with Family and Friends during the Holidays at any of several celebrations as part of the season. We look forward to seeing you at West Marine night, along the river for Christmas Ships, or at the New Years Day raft up.

Happy Holidays and Fair Winds