



SYSCO

News

MARCH 2007

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

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The good, the bad and ugly in boats

Plan to attend the March General Membership Meeting, March 19, 2007, 7 pm at Elmer's at Delta Park (please notice the change in venue). Come early at 6 pm for dinner and socializing.

This month's program is Alison Mazon, one of Oregon's best boat surveyors, who will talk about "What to look for when buying a boat and how to prepare a boat you are selling for survey." Alison will give great information about what to look for or avoid when buying your dream boat. She will have lots of photos to illustrate the good, the bad and the ugly in boats, so this SYSCO meeting will be both instructional and interesting. The April 16th General Membership Meeting will feature Gail O'Neil and Bob Gale's trip to Chile.

P.S. The SYSCO Board meets the first Monday of each month. Time: 6:30 pm. Location: O'Conner's Restaurant in Multnomah Village, 7850 SW Capital Highway.

Cruising season is coming

BOB BROWN

Cruising is always a good time: there is lot's to eat and lot's of great stories. Some of them might even be true. Here's a lineup of our early season cruises:

Saturday, April 21st is our first cruise to Grandma's Cove, which is on the south side of the Columbia River between the I-5 Bridge and the railroad bridge. This should be close for most of you, so come and have a great time.

Our next cruise will be on **Memorial Day weekend** at Martin Pond. This is a three day weekend and is always a great time. Bring all the water toys and the grand kids or kids if you have them. There will be a pond full of boats, so look for the SYSCO raft up.

Looking forward to seeing you there.



Looking forward to spring sunsets on the water.

Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

For those with small diesel engines, I have a word of advice. Our fuels are changing and I believe ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel is ok to use and that is what I bought last time. The other option is to buy B20 (80% diesel and 20% bio-fuel), which I feel will cause problems in an engine that really never gets fully warmed up. The gel point of Bio-diesel is much higher than straight diesel and will tend to plug filters. For applications where long run time is the norm and return fuel is heating the fuel in the tank B20 works OK, but the way most of us use our engines the temperature of the fuel stays at ambient or below and the higher viscosity will plug a low micron filter. For engine injector protection we need the extra level of filtration. I support the changes to Bio-Fuels, but it has problems in some applications and a sailboat engine is one of them.

The calendar is closing fast on the beginning of the 2007 racing and cruising season. We are in the process of putting together a crew for the races and have done a couple of winter time cruises, one over-night, and a trip to St Helens and back via the Multnomah Channel.

Delta Cruise will start July 28 at Martin Island Pond.

2007 Cruising for Women

To find out more about the 2007 Ladies Cruise, go to the new website — www.LadiesCruise.com — for a brief sail through all the news you need to know. There's a calendar, directions, dates, contact list, ship's store and even a photo page. So enjoy!!

If you have any questions, e-mail Chris Gaare at c_gaare@msn.com or call 603-240-8656.

Oregon Women's Sailing Association (OWSA) will hold its first cruising event the weekend of June 29 and 30, and July 1. The event includes a classroom session for instruction and cruise planning on Wednesday and Thursday nights, June 26 and 27. On Friday, June 28, the boats/crews will gather in Tomahawk Bay, anchor for the night and share a potluck dinner. Boats sail Saturday to Martin Pond, spend the night and return to Portland on Sunday. OWSA decided that although they offer a lot for beginners it was time to do something for the intermediate sailors as well as giving them an opportunity to find out what cruising is about. This is open only to women and only to OWSA members. Anyone interested can contact Karen Anderson (503-806-0945) or check out the OWSA website through sailpdx.com.



Ready to Race?

KAREN ANDERSON

Although the rain is still coming down, we know spring is coming because we set our clocks ahead last weekend and because boats are hitting the water for the sailing season. The 172 Fleet launched four Martins on Saturday, including my new Martin baby Dragonfly, a totally revamped and exceedingly beautiful Martin 241. The RYC Frostbite is just around the corner and SYSCO launches its racing season with the PYC and SYSCO Opening Day Regatta April 14 and 15. SYSCO Spring Series begins April 17 and April 19.

Lots of activities are on the agenda to help prepare for the season and I hope to see you at many of them: OCSA Race Management Clinic, March 14 at PYC; SYSCO Race Clinic at Rose City on March 29; and the always fun PYC Sailor's Dinner April 13.

The SYSCO Series race committee schedule follows:

April 17:	Cal 20 Fleet	April 19:	172 Fleet
April 24:	J-24 Fleet	April 26:	A Fleet
May 1:	Ranger 20 Fleet	May 3:	B Fleet
May 15:	Cruising Fleet	May 17:	E Fleet
May 22:	Cal 20 Fleet	May 24:	F Fleet
June 5:	J-24 Fleet	June 7:	172 Fleet
June 12:	Ranger 20 Fleet	June 14:	A Fleet
June 19:	Cal 20 Fleet	June 21:	B Fleet
June 26:	Cruising Fleet	June 28:	E Fleet
July 10:	J-24 Fleet	July 12:	Catalina 25 Fleet

Thanks to the folks who have already sent in their entries for the entire year! Yeah! It is always easier to plan events when we know early how many and who are attending. And for the Fleets, I still do not have names of fleet captains for several of your organizations. See you on the water.

P.S. OCSA Race Books are available for pickup for \$20 at Schooner Creek Boat Works.

SYSCO Board Meeting Minutes

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2007

Meeting was called to order by Commodore, Rod Dawson, at 6:30 pm. Board members present were: Rod, Al Calcagno, Thomas MacMenemy, Pat O'Bryant, Mike O'Bryant, Karen Anderson, Bob Brown, Mike & Mary Stainsby, Sandy Smith. Frank Bocarde was also in attendance. Bill Sanborn called to say he had had an accident on the way to the meeting and wouldn't be attending.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have money in the bank. Al received a bill for moorage from McCuddy's.

MEMBERSHIP: Pat reports he still has membership applications and renewals trickling in and will be sending out one more notice and/or calling people who haven't renewed. He & Sandy are hard at work on the new Membership Directory. A membership application from Gib Elliott (J-24) was approved.

RACING: Karen states she is already receiving entries for upcoming races – some people have submitted their entries for the entire year and that makes her very happy. She still doesn't have fleet captains for the J-24's, Cal 20's or J-30's (though it appears the J-30's may not have enough for a fleet this year so will be in B Fleet). Phil is still working on the mark and they are going to change the flags to make them a bit easier to use.

SOCIAL: Mike & Mary have Elmer's ready to go for the March meeting and have not burned bridges with Mar's in case we decide we want to go back there in the future.

CRUISING: Bob reports the first cruise will be April 21/22 at Grandma's Cove. The Memorial weekend cruise is at Martin Pond. The Delta Cruise is 7/28-8/5, There also are a Labor Day cruise St. Helen's Race/Cruise and Fall Colors Cruise. He may schedule a rendezvous at Martin Pond the first weekend of the Delta Cruise for those who are new to cruising or who would like to participate but can't commit to a whole week.

Karen brought up the new OWSA Women's Cruise at the end of June. This is different from the annual Ladies Cruise in May and includes some classroom time.

NEW BUSINESS: Karen reported that she is selling her Martin "Bob" and will be racing her new Martin 241 "Dragonfly," this year. Eric Rimkus is selling "Gladiator," also a Martin, and has purchased a Cheetah 30 that he is racing in Puget Sound.

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAMS: Alison Mazon, local boat surveyor, is on board for the March meeting. Gail O'Neil and Bob Gales will be at the April meeting to give a program on their trip to Chile. Sandy's Dad knows a man who served on a large sailing ship in WWII. She also volunteered to get a bar pilot to come and speak. Rod received a letter from River City Sailing about one of their employees who sailed an 18' Catalina across the Pacific. Rod would like to alternate technical and entertainment programs so we have something for everyone.

INCREASING MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION: Karen encourages board members bring a guest to each meeting. Sandy suggested a BBQ or picnic following one of the beer can races that SYSCO sponsors.

WEBSITE: Phil (through Rod) suggested we consider our own website. Rod asked if anyone knows how to post stuff on the website. Gary does that on sailpdx. Most of the board members are satisfied with the sailpdx website with its well-done "one-stop shopping." It was suggested that we re-vamp and make sexier what we already have. Rod will ask Gary to for a report on the website at the next board meeting.

Sandy said the Power Squadron would be happy to offer a class for people who don't have their Boater Education Card card. A decision was made to go ahead. Sandy will find out how long the class will take (likely one full day) and what the cost per student will be. We will see about the possibility of using RCYC. Mike & Mary said they would take care of refreshments. The class will be open to non-SYSCO members as well. We'll try to set it up for April.

Rod says we still need a program chair. We also need someone for publicity. New member Clayton Spencer indicated on his application that he was interested. Rod will contact him about this chairmanship.

RACE BOOKS: Karen still has a couple left. She will pick up a few more for the March general meeting.

Karen mentioned that few Fleet Captains attend meetings, so she is going to send personal invitations asking them to join us.

Newsletter distribution was brought up again and at this point we will leave it as is. The Board really likes Bill's idea of changing the name to the "SYSCO Starting Line." Mike will ask Sandy to put a graphic together for it and bring to the next meeting for vote. We talked about how to increase readership. Karen

Commodore's Comments

ROD DAWSON

Ah, another racing season is nearly upon us. For me, that has been the best part of the year every year for a long time. I've had a very loyal crew for a long time, too, and even though we haven't won a lot, we've always had fun. That has been the only rule on my boat: have fun. When I stop have fun racing, I'll stop racing. Alas, though, due to a number of reasons, and much to the dismay of the other J/30's and my wonderful crew, I will not be racing my boat this year. For an old retired guy I seem to have an overflowing plate. I'll be back out there next year; you can bet on it.

That's the bad news. The good news is that things are definitely coming together for the SYSCO Board. We've got a terrific Race Captain, Vice-Commodore Karen Anderson, again this year to make sure things run smoothly on the race course. And, we've got some great programs lined up for the General Membership meetings for the rest of the spring and are even already discussing fall programs. That doesn't mean that we don't still need a Program Chair, we do. If you are willing to help with these programs, please step forward. If you do, you will not be working alone, as

the Board already has shown that everyone on it is willing to pitch in to make this a great club for the membership.

At the March 5 Board meeting, which, by the way was held at a great new venue, *O'Connors Restaurant* in Multnomah Village (a terrific restaurant anytime), our Cruise Director, Bob Brown, outlined the cruises he has planned for the year. He has some really fun things planned, so remember we are not just a racing club; get out there and do a bit of cruising, just for the fun of it. Hopefully, this will just be the tip of the iceberg as far as future SYSCO social gatherings are concerned.

This is the watershed year for the **Oregon Boater's card; every boat operator will need one this year.** I've had mine for a number of years already, even though I really didn't need it until now. Do you have yours? If not, maybe SYSCO can help. If things go as planned, we will be sponsoring a training session in April for anyone who still needs the card. The location and date have not been locked in as of this writing. When we get this finalized, a message will be sent out to all our members via our email list.

As usual, if you have any comments or questions, please let me know at rodawson@comcast.net.

SYSCO Board Meeting Minutes

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suggested the Cruising Committee submit some photos, article and possibly a program on the cruises.

Thomas reports that keeping Poncho under cover last year helped keep it in good shape. That said, the electrical system is apparently in need of help but he thinks he can fix it fairly easily. Phil has the moorage deal with McCuddy's worked out again for this year and Al was instructed to pay the whole year of moorage.

Frank stated he was present at the meeting because he has been asked to serve as one of two laypersons on an Inter-agency River Safety group with the Coast

Guard, Sheriff's office, Homeland Security and a variety of others who police the River. They are tasked with setting protocols regarding how to coordinate the different agencies to work together to keep the community safe. If anyone has suggestions or input, please contact him and he will take it to the group.

Business finally being completed and dinner delivered, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The board was quite happy with the arrangement to meet at O'Connor's instead of Barley Mill, so they will continue here.

Respectfully submitted,
SANDY SMITH, SECRETARY