



The Starting Line

JULY 2007

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

Commodore:

Rod Dawson
(971) 219-5517 (cell)

**Vice Commodore/
Race Captain:**

Karen Anderson
(503) 806-0945 (work)

Treasurer:

Al Calcagno
(503) 539-1885 (cell)

Secretary:

Sandy Smith
(360) 600-6503

Rear Commodore:

Phil Campagna
(971) 246-2603

Membership:

Pat O'Bryant & Sandy
Westbrook-O'Bryant
(360) 694-3257 (pat)
(503) 281-9102 (sandy)

Newsletter Editors:

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

Protests:

Sue Burns
(503) 239-4339

Trophies:

Jim Shaw
(503) 636-3816

Cruising:

Bob Brown
(503) 543-5475

Historians:

Bill & Vicki Sanborn
(503) 286-9257

PHRF Rater:

Dave Hickman
(503) 288-0062

OCSA/PHRF

Representative:

Phil Campagna
(503) 735-0982

Skip the meetings, Explore the Delta

There is no General Membership meeting this month or in August. **Join us again September 17, 2007, 7 p.m., Elmer's at Delta Park.** Come early at 6 p.m. for dinner and socializing.

In the mean time, turn your sites on cruising and join the crew for the **23rd Annual Delta Cruise, July 28.**

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 Hwy.



Bill and Vicki Sanborn on the 2005 Delta Cruise. Come along this year for sailing fun and laughs.

SYSCO Board Meeting Notes

JULY 2, 2007

SYSCO Board meeting was called to order by Commodore Rod Dawson at 6:35 pm. Present were Karen Anderson, Mike & Mary Stainsby, Sandy Smith, Bill Sanborn, Frank Bocarde and Al Calcagno.

Rod received a pamphlet on the Boat Show for the upcoming year which he gave to Karen to pass along to Phil.

Karen stated the J-24 Fleet is proposing that all races be run by OCSA beginning next year. Discussion followed. Karen reports that at this point it is just a proposal and she is just alerting the Board.

Rod began discussion on the upcoming BBQ's the Board decided to hold after the last races of the Summer series. Columbia Crossings has given us free use of the grassy picnic area at Tomahawk Bay as well as their BBQ. SYSCO will be providing all the food and drink. The Thursday fleets will be expected to take care of the set up, preparation and clean up on Tuesday and vice versa. Rod will be helping with both. Rod and Frank will do the shopping. Bill will make sure the tables are there. It was decided to purchase beer by the case rather than kegs. Rod will ask Mike to send out an email notice to all and to remind all that the BBQ's are open to all SYSCO members as well as the racers and their crews.

Bill brought up the problems that have been occurring with the windward/leeward courses. There has been a much higher incidence of collisions with committee boats because of the way the starts are set. Karen says the committees have gone back to the old starts for the balance of the season and that should correct the problem for now. There are several suggestions: going back to using the previous start system permanently, changing the start/finish to opposite sides of the committee boat and setting an offset mark so there is a buffer between the start line & committee boat. Next year the powers that be will be deciding how to correct this problem. Rod asked if there had been a lot of protests this year and Karen states there have been none. There were a couple incidents but the parties involved sorted things out before a protest was filed. Very cool!

Al reports the bank account is in good shape. He didn't have exact numbers as he is having some computer issues, but we have plenty of money.

Karen asked if we have a band lined up for the Awards Banquet as she knows someone who may be able to get Pink Martini to play. Rod states we have already committed to having Tall Jazz perform but

if we could get Pink Martini for 2008 that would be great.

Karen reported that Poncho is in need of some serious maintenance. She states the sparkplugs are being replaced every week and there are still problems with fouling and engine performance. It was agreed that after the last race Poncho will be hauled out and taken in for servicing. Karen also states Mark McCuddy has asked that Poncho be moved out to the end next year.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
SANDY SMITH, SECRETARY



Thoughts from the Rear

BILL SANBORN

SECOND THOUGHTS: Last month I liked the Alphabetic Courses, and still do, but would like to see the Finish and Start Lines swapped, and would hope that OCSA will do this for 2008. With our typical NW wind there some advantages to having the Start line as far South as possible to allow for more RH side going toward the weather mark.

The major problem is that the Committee Boat becomes the Starboard pin, and a "Sitting Duck." For several reason this profile works well in other areas, where water current is not a major factor, but this year I am aware of several boats hitting the volunteer Committee Boat during Evening Races. You will usually bounce off a buoy or push the floating balls out of the way and not hang up on the ground tackle. But with the Committee Boat anchor rode running up to the deck it will catch and hold tight.

The answer is to find a lane mid Starting Line and go for it, but once in a while we find that Starboard pin advantage and if the lane fills up you don't always have time to bail out before the current sweeps you into harms way. OCSA needs to address this issue, or maybe we need to start smarter.

SYSCO is looking for a 2008 Vice Commodore/Race Captain, and if you feel that you would like to pay back the sailing community for the effort others have put forth to make your racing possible, this is your opportunity.

We have had great weather for cruising and I have seen several boats out with the SYSCO Burgee enjoying the local cruising areas. Speaking of cruising:

I'll see you at Martin Island July 28 for the Delta Cruise.

Commodore's Comments

ROD DAWSON

General Membership Meetings

Again we had a terrific speaker at the June General Meeting and I hope you all enjoyed the meeting with our own Cruise Chairman, Bob Brown, talking about cruises of the past, present and future. Unfortunately, I could not be there myself, but, knowing Bob, I am sure that it was a great evening.

I hope to see you all in September for our next General Membership meeting. I'm betting that our Program Committee will have something really interesting for us. Don't forget there will be no General Membership meetings in July and August.

Picnics

By the time you read this the two SYSCO sponsored picnics on the last days of the SYSCO summer series, Tuesday, July 10, and Thursday, July 12, will already have taken place. I hope you didn't miss them. However, if you did, it may have been due to the weather. As I write this the temperature is predicted to be near 100 both days. A bit hotter than I like, but I plan to be there hobbling a bit, but moving again. You can bet I'll have plenty of sunscreen.

I'm short on comments this month, but as usual, if you have any comments or questions for me, please let me know. rodawson@comcast.net

Racing Notes

KAREN ANDERSON, RACE CAPTAIN

Now that the 4th of July has passed, we are truly in the summer season, and the heat is upon us. The SYSCO summer series is winding up this week, with Tuesday and Thursday races followed by a barbecue at Columbia Crossings.

Friday the 13th finds the Oregon Food Bank Beer Can Race on the river followed by music and fun at Tomahawk Bay. Hope you will come out for the cause.

They say the best days of our lives are the ones on which we buy "the boat" and "sell the boat"! One of my best days was the day I found BOB, my Martin 242. When I was ready to let BOB go, I was looking for the best possible new home for my sweet baby. When BOB left my slip last weekend, it was a great day because BOB's new owner, Steven Weir, is a sailor looking to race. He had the boat out three days running and met the "learn the new boat in high winds" challenge. We welcome Steve and his capable crew to the 172 Fleet.



Sailors raft-up on one of the fun-filled SYSCO cruises.