



# The Starting Line

SEPTEMBER 2008

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

**Commodore:**  
Karen Anderson  
(503) 806-0945 (work)

**Rear Commodore:**  
Rod Dawson  
(971) 219-5517 (cell)

**Vice Commodore/  
Race Captain:**  
Rich Jones  
(503) 706-2541 (work)

**Secretary:**  
Phyllis Brennan  
(503) 546-2008 (work)

**Treasurer:**  
Al Calcagno  
(503) 539-1885 (cell)

**Membership:**  
Pat O'Bryant & Sandy  
Westbrook-O'Bryant  
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**Newsletter Editors:**  
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**Protests:**  
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**Trophies:**  
Jim Shaw  
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**Cruising:**  
Bob Brown  
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**Social:**  
Anna Pagliarulo  
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**Historians:**  
Bill & Vicki Sanborn  
(503) 286-9257

**PHRF Rater:**  
Dave Hickman  
(503) 288-0062

**OCSA/PHRF  
Representative:**  
Phil Campagna  
(503) 735-0982

A night to celebrate with our local "World Class" sailors

Address of Hayden Island Yacht Club: 12050 N. Jantzen Ave. • Portland, OR 97217

## RainDrop



*RainDrop at the finish line.*

NOTE VENUE  
CHANGE



## Congratulations Raindrop

Monday Sept 15, 08 @ 7 PM

Hayden Island Yacht Club

SYSCO is pleased to have Joby Easton and Bill Huseby Fresh from their Pacific Cup victory to speak at our general meeting. Everyone is invited (all sailors, any club)

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.



## A season of First Class accomplishments

As your humble race captain writes this article, preparations are underway for the last SYSCO race of the season. Once again Mother Nature is poised to provide a wonderful weekend for the St Helen's Race & Cruise. More than 30 boats are expected to sail for wine glasses. And, for an additional touch of glamour, "Rain Drop" will be the committee boat...how cool is that? Very!

Which leads to the subject of this article, A season of First Class accomplishments.

SYSCO's Spring & Summer Series of races were very successful. First class fleet captains, first class volunteer RC's, first class weather all combined to provide first class skippers and first class crews with plenty of first class competition. What's with all the first class stuff you ask? Because some things happened this summer outside of SYSCO's realm that point to just how first class our sailing community really is – first class, and world class actually.

From the ranks of the Martin 24 Fleet, we have Dragonfly winning her class AND the overall award at this year's Whidbey Island Race Week. Dragonfly is sailed by a first class crew that includes this year's SYSCO commodore, Karen Anderson, and three other very active SYSCO members: Phil Campagna, Kari Dapp and Edie Felix, who is also the Oregon Women's Sailing Association commodore this year...a fact worth noting seeing as how 3 of the 4 crew on Dragonfly are women and active members of the OWSA as well.

But the accolades for Dragonfly are not complete until mention is made of the driving force behind building the Martin 24 fleet in general and rebuilding Dragonfly in particular...Bill Brennan. Bill's enthusiasm for racing sailboats, his love for the Martin 241 (and 242's) and his skill as a first class craftsman when it comes to boat building, rebuilding and re-rebuilding have been key ingredients in helping the Portland sailing community achieve first class and world class status...yes, Dragonfly's performance at

WIRW put the boat and her crew on a larger stage that includes an invitation to compete in even larger venues.

And while Dragonfly was achieving great things up north, another first class Portland boat and her first class crew of two were on their way toward accomplishing things that were first class, world class and other worldly as well. The tale of Rain Drop is a storied one. It starts with the late Jack Gainer and his role in helping to make our sport what it is. And the tale continues with Joby Easton and what he and Bill Huseby accomplished this summer by taking everything but the Family Trophy at this year's Pacific Cup Yacht Race. Like Dragonfly, Rain Drop was renewed and made ultra-competitive thanks in large part to another local first class craftsman, Tommy Becker.

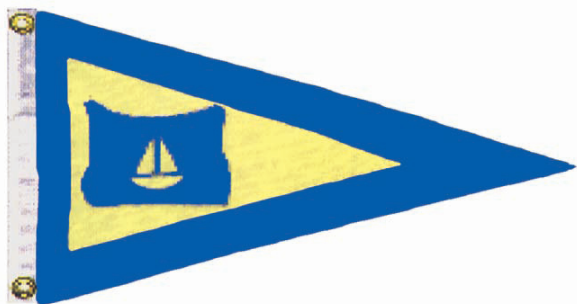
With their skill and mentoring, Joby and Bill have been instrumental in helping to make our buoy and offshore racing first class experiences for everyone. So too, have other members of other organizations. For example, Joby and Rain Drop hail from the Rose City Yacht Club, home for a growing number of active SYSCO members and active participants in SYSCO events. SYSCO benefits greatly from the support of members from the Portland Yacht Club (SYSCO's commodore is a member of PYC, too), from Portland's Corinthian Yacht Club, from Oregon Women's Sailing Association, Oregon Corinthian Sailing Association, Island Sailing Club and just about every other organization listed in this year's Race Book.

All of this point to one unalterable fact: SYSCO is part of a first class sailing community that enjoys and derives great benefit from a broad range of interdependent relationships that have come together this year to produce a season of first class accomplishments that we can all be proud of.

So, as the season ends and we prepare to celebrate, let's think about ways to make next year even better. One way is for people to volunteer to serve as members of SYSCO's board. Nominations are now open for Race Captain, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Newsletter Editor and Poncho "Engineer." And don't forget Fleet Captains are members of the SYSCO board, too. So, raise your hand...it's the season to run, get nominated and elected.

That is all....

*Your Humble Race Captain,  
Rich*



## Commodore's Comments

BY KAREN ANDERSON

As we approach the end of another wonderful sailing season, I again marvel at the success of our wholly volunteer organization. SYSCO provides more racing days on the water than any other local organization, and our membership continues to grow each year.

Our officers are committed to sailing and to our organization, and it shows in the quality of the program we provide to our members and to the local sailing community.

As we start the search for new officers for next year, I want to take this opportunity to thank our current board for their service and dedication to SYSCO and sailing:

- Vice Commodore/Race Captain: Rich Jones
- Rear Commodore: Rod Dawson
- Treasurer: Al Calcagno
- Secretary: Phyllis Brennan
- Membership: Pat O'Bryant and Sandy O'Bryant
- Newsletter: Mike and Sandy O'Bryant
- Program: Frank Bocarde
- Social: Anna Pagliarulo
- Cruising: Bob Brown and Jim Sinclair
- Trophies: Jim Shaw
- Historians: Bill and Vicki Sanborn
- Poncho: Thomas MacMenemy

A hearty thanks also to our fleet captains, who helped keep the racing program healthy, and to Gary Whitney, who keeps track of our results.

See you at the program next Monday. Bring your friends, some drinks, and a chair if you think of it!



## SYSCO Board Meeting Minutes

- *Place: O'Conner's Restaurant, Multnomah Village*
- *Sept 3, 2008 6:30 pm*
- *In Attendance: Frank Bocarde, Anna Pagliarulo, Al Calcagno, Rich Jones, Mike O'Bryant, Karen Anderson, and Edie Felix*

### CALL TO ORDER: 6:45 BY KAREN ANDERSON

Karen summarized several big events SYSCO is planning and officer positions needing candidates: newsletter editor, membership, race captain, and treasurer.

**Secretary:** Absent due to illness

**Race Captain:** One Design Regatta was a great success. Thanks to our co-sponsor Columbia Crossings for a great barbecue social and music event. Funds raised went to Columbia Riverkeepers.

The only race event left is the SYSCO St. Helens Race. With boat registration going well; over 20 boats entered to date. RAINDROP will be the committee boat. Rich will remind fleet captains to secure door prizes for the October Awards Banquet and solicit names for race captain.

**Treasurer:** Al passed out current financial statements. Membership dues are up from last year by \$1425. Expenses are within budget. Budget for annual banquet was discussed. Columbia Crossings will again donate the cost of the band.

**Social:** Anna talked about plans for the general meeting Sept. 15, with featured speakers Joby Easton and Bill Huseby at Hayden Island Yacht Club. Invites will be sent to other sailing organizations. Karen will rent chairs and Anna will solicit cookies and goodies for the event.

The October Awards Banquet music was arranged by Frank Bocarde. Plans for the 30th anniversary celebration were discussed. Anna is working on finding a caterer within our budget and will keep the board updated. Invitations will be sent out to all past commodores. Phil Campagna will update our history from the 20th year event and each table will have a copy.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

MINUTES TAKEN BY KAREN ANDERSON

# Thoughts from the Rear

*BILL SANBORN*

Things are happening. SYSCO has gotten through 30 seasons of racing on the river and now is the time to celebrate that. Mark your calendar for October 18, and come out to support those who have done well this season, and to show appreciation to those who followed the vision of advancing the sport of sailboat racing on the Columbia River.

On September 15 SYSCO will present Joby Easton and Bill Huseby to talk about their Pacific Cup victory. And while not a part of that program we have Karen Anderson, Phil Campagna, Kari Dapp, and Edie Felix who took all the honors at Whidbey Island Race Week. SYSCO can in part take credit for offering them a venue to hone their skills.

We also have a very successful cruising season and still have some Fall cruises to go. Nine boats made the

Labor Day Cruise and ended up at Hadley Landing. Coming October 25th is Fall Colors Cruise in the Multnomah Channel.

Lessons Learned: When you fall in the water with a cell phone in your pocket, especially. salt water, rinse the phone in fresh water and then pack it in rice. I was at least able to recover the phone book.

The time to step up has arrived. Many have stepped up over the years to make SYSCO the success it has become over these 30 years and the opportunity for someone new to step in and do some of the jobs to keep the membership in the loop, equipment in good repair, and most important run the Racing program. These jobs are all well documented and for the most part just need someone to be accountable and see that things are done. Someone once observed that “No one could fail in a position at SYSCO, because he knew of no organization that had so many folks willing to help and support”.

